In 2002 a project called eBird launched, giving bird watchers in North America a place to share their sightings. By keeping them in one place, it also turned those millions of bird records into raw information available to scientists. Over the last eight years eBird has really taken off (see box, below). And now we’ve gone global.

After expanding eBird into Central and South America, we realized that the world is just too connected a place to cover only part of it. Birders want to keep their sightings under one roof, regardless of what continent they were made on. So we expanded building global data entry into our new releases, eBird 2.0. It makes eBird one of the largest citizen science projects in existence. Kind of like a huge, worldwide Christmas Bird Count!

We now have the tools to track a gliding swallow across continents and political boundaries, and, as data flow in, for the first time to visualize worldwide bird migration. We hope you’ll join us at www.ebird.org, and make your own bird sightings part of the global eBird network, starting today.

Barn Swallow! is a great example of eBird global in reach. No matter where you live, you’re probably familiar—they occur on every continent except Antarctica. eBird shows displays worldwide sightings of any bird species. It will only take a click to access global data entry, and the range map showing actual eBird data is far from complete. But the spread of purple-tinted, barn swallow images across North America, Australia, shows the astounding coverage eBird has provided to the few months global data entry has been live.

Adaptability. As eBird became more and more birders have been able to continue data entry in most special areas. During the BP oil disaster, we eBird began allowing Gulf Coast birders to entry sightings of oil birds directly into eBird.

www.ebird.org

eBird goes Global
Connecting birders worldwide

Start eBirding in three easy steps

1. Go finding. Take notes.
3. Explore. Browse maps and graphs made with data from thousands of eBirders like you.

A warm welcome, in just its first three months, global data entry took offformerly inaccessible areas where some birders have been reporting it for years. Birders already share their locations across the E.U. With time, additional reports will fill in coverage and allow more experienced birders such as seasonal observations, just as you can now with eBird in North America.

Dual benefits. Global data entry is a dual purpose. It helps tracking birders by giving them a simple place to sample data from “Tips of a Lifetime”—and helping those field biologists when planning their trips. It benefits scientists and local conservationists, too. They can share and compare eBird data, data without having to build their own database infrastructure or compile sightings. Another goal for eBird is to help create conservation value out of everyone’s sightings.

**Barn Swallow!** is an eBird global example. No matter where you live, you’re probably familiar—they occur on every continent except Antarctica. eBird displays worldwide sightings of any bird species.

**eBird Facts**

- Started 2002
- Registered users: 50,000
- Site visitors last year: 300,000
- Total observations: 20 million
- Total views of the site: 13 million
- Total views as the top site: 700,000 times (81 years)
- As of December 2010: 2.5 million
- No. of countries represented: 200
- No. of species reported: 600
- Cost: FREE

Sighting Frequency

- 40-100% (25)
- 25-40% (20)
- 10-25% (10)
- 2-10% (5)
- 0-2% (5)
- No reports (5)

*www.ebird.org*