

The Rusty Blackbird Blitz

Last year, birders throughout the country scoured the countryside for wintering rusty blackbirds to help us understand their distribution and find important local concentrations (hotspots).

We learned a lot - [see the 2010 blitz results](#)

But there is much more to learn. We want to blitz for several years to both locate more hotspots and determine how stable the already discovered hot spots are from year to year. Already, the information gained is being used to implement research and conservation efforts!

With your help the "Rusty Blackbird Third Times a Charm Blitz" will be bigger and better than Blitz One and Two.

When?

January 29 - February 13, 2011. This is when rusties become easier to find ([males sing!](#)) and the population is relatively sedentary.

What?

During a single 17-day period, volunteers will search for rusty blackbirds (particularly flocks or concentrations) in any potentially suitable locations or habitats. We will revisit areas of concentration in the future to determine if they are indeed rusty blackbird hotspots.

Where?

We focus on the following states known to comprise the rusty blackbird winter range: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio,

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Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas (east), Virginia, and West Virginia.