

# Atlas of Wintering North American Birds: An Analysis of Christmas Bird Count Data

*Terry Root*

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**Terry Root : Atlas of Wintering North American Birds: An Analysis of Christmas Bird Count Data** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Atlas of Wintering North American Birds: An Analysis of Christmas Bird Count Data:

The Atlas of Wintering North American Birds represents the effects of thousands of people who have participated in the Christmas Bird Counts, an annual event sponsored since 1900 by the National Audubon Society. Unlike a conventional field guide, the Atlas doesn't show what birds look like, but rather tells where to find them in the winter months. Terry Root has used the data from the 1963-72 counts to provide the first large-scale biogeographical account of birds wintering in North America. Using sophisticated computer techniques, Root has translated the data into both traditional contour maps and innovative new maps that stimulate three dimensions. The maps show at a glance that, for example, the Baltimore Oriole winters primarily along the eastern seaboard, with the densest populations in Florida between Tallahassee and Gainesville and in North Carolina from Rocky Mount to the Croatan National Forest.

About the Author Terry Root is assistant professor in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan.