

## **eBird and Merlin iPhone Settings for Vieques, Puerto Rico**

### **Initial eBird Set-Up**

Tap the eBird icon on your iPhone.

Tap the three dots (**More**) at the bottom right-hand corner of your screen.

In the search bar type **Puerto Rico** and install the **Puerto Rico** bird pack.

When installed, tap the three dots again (**More**) and select **Settings and Account**.

At the bottom of the screen choose **PR eBird** under PORTAL.

Select **Done** and press the **Submit** button.

### **eBird Day-to-Day Use**

Tap the eBird icon on your iPhone.

Confirm that the Date and Start Time are correct and that **Record Track** is enabled.

Tap **Start Checklist**.

Check your location at the top right-hand side of your screen. The default setting is auto-selected, using GPS coordinates. You will want to select (or create) a location using the brown plus (+) sign in the middle of the screen. You can also just tap **Auto selected**. Choose an appropriate location or create a Personal Location (recommended). You can update location information on a laptop or desktop computer with an eBird account.

At the bottom left-hand side of your screen, you will see a green box with a plus (+) sign. Tap the green box and enter your **Checklist Comments** (e.g., Hot and humid, winds from the east, overcast." Exit the screen by tapping **Done**.

Next to the plus sign, you will see three horizontal bars. Tap on the bar symbols to edit your **Checklist Settings**.

Starting at the bottom, select **Portal**. The default setting is eBird. Select PR eBird or eBird Caribbean, then select **Puerto Rico--Vieques** as your **Bird List**.

Select **Observation Types** and check one of the three, as follows:

**Traveling** - Observations made while birding over a specified distance (preferably <5 mi) and duration. Examples include most general field birding, walking a trail, or driving a refuge loop. For routes that return along the same pathway, either submit a different checklist for the return trip or enter the one-way distance. Duration should cover the entire time spent birding, regardless of whether you need to backtrack.

**Stationary** - Observations made from a specific location (moving <30 meters or 33 yards - about 1/3 of a football field) and duration. Examples include hawk watching, sea watching, or watching birds from your window.

**Incidental** - Observations made when birding was not your [primary purpose](#). Examples include a fly-over Osprey seen while driving to work.

<https://support.ebird.org/en/support/solutions/articles/48000967748>

If your birding activities are focused on waterbirds and shorebirds (e.g., a lagoon visitor beach walk), select **CWC Point Count** (stationary) or **CWC Traveling Count** (traveling).

If your birding activities are focused on woodland and urban birds, just select Stationary, Traveling, or Incidental.

Close the **Checklist Settings** window and happy birding!

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## Merlin iPhone Settings for Vieques, Puerto Rico

### **Initial Merlin Set-Up**

Tap the Merlin icon on your iPhone.

Tap **Settings**.

Tap **Bird Packs**.

In the search bar type **Caribbean** and install the **Caribbean** bird pack.

Under **How to Save Your Sightings** select **eBird**.

Tap **Identify** to return to the Merlin main page.

Merlin should now work within eBird, using the **Merlin Bird ID** button on the eBird bird identification screen.

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Please send suggestions and edits to [ycht.birding.team@gmail.com](mailto:ycht.birding.team@gmail.com).