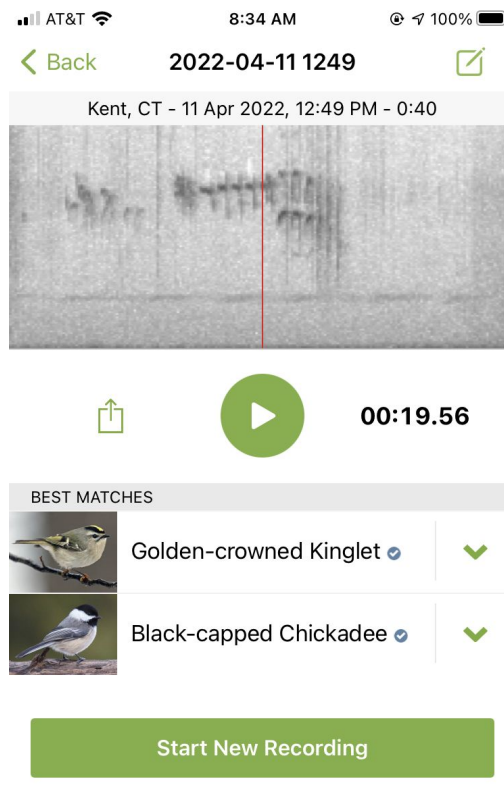


# Contributing Merlin Audio Identifications to the eBird Database

**"...records without recordings that only use "Merlin Sound ID" as the details should not be accepted."**

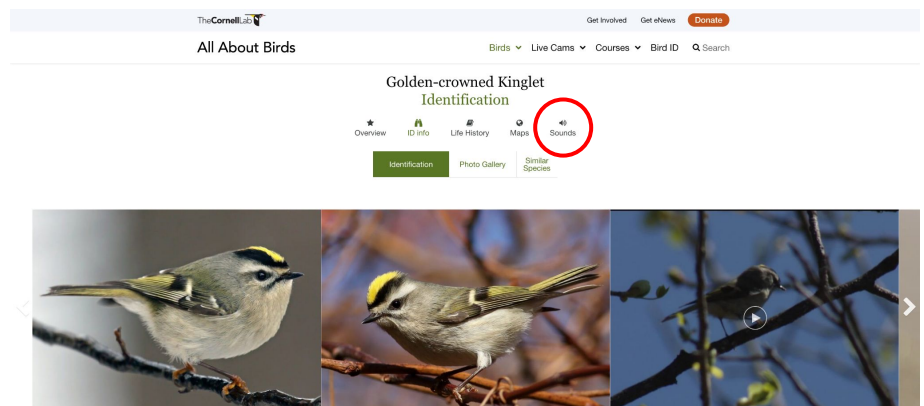
To ensure that your audio identifications in *Merlin* are correct you should take a few minutes to research your audio recordings using a variety of tools before submitting your data.

## Example #1 - Golden-crowned Kinglet - Recording in *Merlin* but no photo of bird observed



You record what Merlin tells you is a **Golden-crowned Kinglet (GCKI)** but you do not see the bird nor have a camera to take a picture if you do see it. What should you do with your observation?

- When you get home do an internet search for your [Golden-crowned Kinglet](#). *Cornell's All About Birds* is a terrific site.
- Select the Sounds Tab



c) In the Sounds Tab, listen to the recordings of GCKI. Does it sound like your recording?

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All About Birds Birds Live Cams Courses Bird ID Search

### Golden-crowned Kinglet Sounds

Overview ID Info Life History Maps Sounds

- Song**  
Quebec, June 21, 2007  
Recorded by Matthew D. Medler | Macaulay Library -0:38
- Song**  
North Carolina, June 07, 2020  
Recorded by Seth Buddy | Macaulay Library -0:31
- Song**  
California, June 06, 1986  
Recorded by Thomas G. Sander | Macaulay Library -0:32
- Song**  
New York, May 16, 2015  
Recorded by Bob McGuire | Macaulay Library -0:34

**SONGS**  
Golden-crowned Kinglets sing an ascending, accelerating series of up to 14 very high-pitched tsee notes lasting up to 3 seconds and sometimes ending in a musical warble that drops an octave or more in pitch. This is one of the first bird songs that people stop being able to hear as they age. Both males and females sing while constructing the nest, when other songbirds approach, and when predators are nearby, and males sing to proclaim their territory.

**CALLS**  
Both males and females give thin, threadlike tsee notes, often two or three in a row, to contact each other.

d) If so, scroll until you see Listen to more sound of this species from the ML archive.

All About Birds Birds Live Cams Courses Bird ID Search

### Golden-crowned Kinglet

Overview ID Info Life History Maps Sounds

- Song**  
New York, May 16, 2015  
Recorded by Bob McGuire | Macaulay Library -0:34
- Calls**  
West Virginia, April 08, 2018  
Recorded by Wil Hershberger | Macaulay Library -0:22
- Calls**  
New York, April 04, 2020  
Recorded by Chris Wood | Macaulay Library -0:17
- Calls**  
New York, October 28, 2017  
Recorded by Brad Walker | Macaulay Library -0:20
- Calls**  
Ciudad de México, June 10, 2020  
Recorded by Miguel Aguilar @birdnomad | Macaulay Library -0:21

Sounds provided by Macaulay Library.  
[Listen to more sounds of this species from the ML archive.](#)

e) See if you can find a spectrogram that looks like the spectrogram image your recorded. If it does, and it sounds similar to your recording, submit your data into **eBird** and indicate in your notes that you compared your recording in **Merlin** with those in the **Macaulay Library**

Golden-crowned Kinglet © Geoffrey A. Keller

The image displays a grid of spectrograms for the Golden-crowned Kinglet. A red box highlights a spectrogram in the bottom-left corner that shows a series of high-pitched, ascending notes, characteristic of the species' song. Other spectrograms in the grid show various other sounds and calls.

Mon 11 Apr 2022 12:45 PM [Edit date and effort](#)KLT Skiff Mountain South Preserve\_Marvelwood School [Litchfield County, Connecticut, United States](#) [Edit location](#)[Checklist tools](#)

Marvelwood School

[Share](#)

2

Species observed  
3 individuals

1

Species with audio

[Manage media](#)[Edit species](#)

Incidental Incomplete

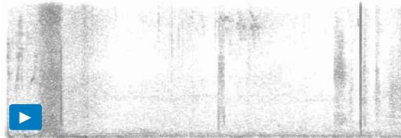
7

Exploring the audio feature in Merlin with my students. Detected a Black-capped Chickadee and a Golden-crowned Kinglet. When playing the call in my field guide app for the students to compare there recording the GCKI landed near us and all the students had a terrific view. I then had students compare their recordings to the recordings and spectrograms in Cornell's All About Birds Golden-crowned Kinglet for confirmation before submitting audio recording to eBird.

[Edit comments](#)

SUBMIT ANOTHER FOR...

Same location and date  
KLT Skiff Mountain South Preserve, Marvelwood School, Litchfield County, Connecticut, US on Mon Apr 11, 2022

[Same location](#)2 **Black-capped Chickadee** *Poecile atricapillus*[Remove](#)1 **Golden-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus satrapa*  
Heard and seen.[Remove](#)

## Example #2 - Brown Thrasher- Recording in *Merlin* & photo of bird observed


AT&T 8:35 AM 100%

[Back](#) 2022-04-23 0822 [Share](#)

Kent, CT - 23 Apr 2022, 8:22 AM - 0:09

[Share](#) [Play](#) 00:04.72

BEST MATCHES

 **Brown Thrasher** [eBird](#)

[Play](#) Song

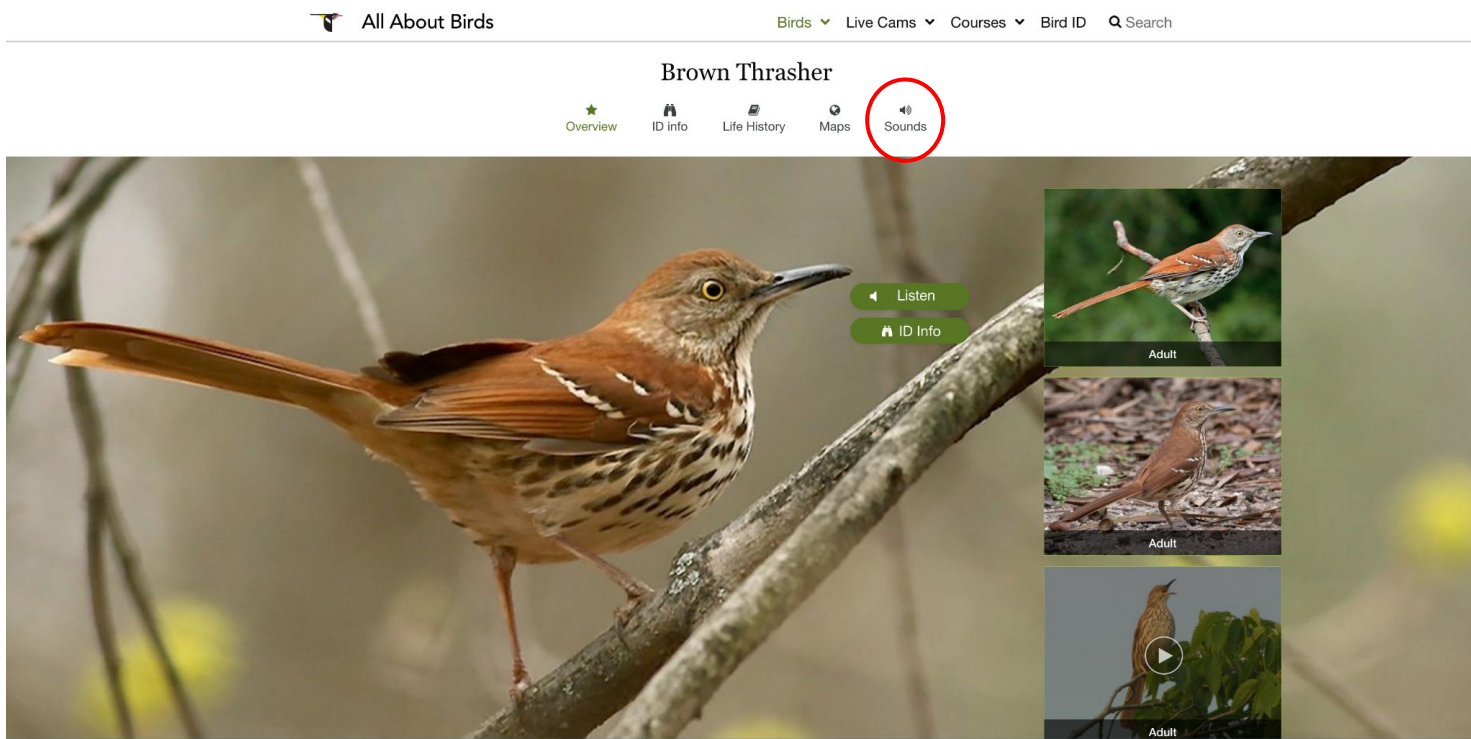
[Play](#) Calls

You record what Merlin tells you is a Brown Thrasher (BRTH), which is a species of Special Concern in the state of Connecticut. You locate the bird and are able to take a picture of the bird. What should you do with your observation?

- When you get home do an internet search for your [Brown Thrasher](#) *Cornell's All About Birds* is a terrific site.
- Select the Sounds Tab

You record what Merlin tells you is a **Brown Thrasher (BRTH)**, which is a species of **Special Concern** in the state of **Connecticut**. You locate the bird and are able to take a picture of the bird. What should you do with your observation?

- a) When you get home do an internet search for your [Brown Thrasher](#). **Cornell's All About Birds** is a terrific site.
- b) Select the **Sounds** Tab



c) In the Sounds Tab, listen to the recordings of BRTH. Does it sound like your recording?

- Song  
New York, May 17, 2020 -0:33  
[Recorded by Matthew D. Medler | Macaulay Library](#)
- Song  
Maryland, April 21, 1998 -0:40  
[Recorded by Wil Hershberger | Macaulay Library](#)
- Calls  
New York, June 29, 2014 -0:20  
[Recorded by Matthew D. Medler | Macaulay Library](#)
- Calls  
Arkansas, October 03, 2009 -0:20  
[Recorded by Bob McGuire | Macaulay Library](#)
- Calls  
Arkansas, March 19, 2005 -0:18  
[Recorded by Benjamin Clock | Macaulay Library](#)
- Calls  
Maryland, April 13, 1997 -0:19  
[Recorded by Wil Hershberger | Macaulay Library](#)

Sounds provided by Macaulay Library.  
[Listen to more sounds of this species from the ML archive.](#)

**SONGS**

Brown Thrashers, like catbirds and mockingbirds, are mimics with extremely varied repertoires consisting of more than 1,100 song types. The male sings a loud, long series of doubled phrases with no definite beginning or end, described by some people as “plant a seed, plant a seed, bury it, bury it, cover it up, cover it up, let it grow, let it grow, pull it up, pull it up, eat it, eat it.” While mockingbirds tend to repeat phrases three or more times, Brown Thrashers typically sing phrases only twice before moving on. They include somewhat crude imitations of other species in their songs, including Chuck-will’s-widow, Northern Flicker, White-eyed Vireo, Tufted Titmouse, Wood Thrush, and Northern Cardinal.

**CALLS**

Their calls consist of one to a few repeated notes, the most common of which sounds like a smacking kiss. Other calls include harsh, slurred, whistles, soft chirrups, and hissing sounds.



e) Since you actually have a picture of the bird singing there is no need to find a similar spectrogram from **Macaulay Library**. Submit your data into **eBird** (audio and photos) and indicate in your notes that you confirmed your recording in **Merlin** with a photo of the bird singing.

**eBird** Submit Explore My eBird Science About News Help Donate Marvelwood School (Marvelwood Ornithology) Language

← Older | Newer →

CHECKLIST S107829962 f tw ln

**Sat 23 Apr 2022** 8:22 AM Edit date and effort

**8 Tennis Court Road Marvelwood School** Litchfield County, Connecticut, United States Edit location Checklist tools

**Marvelwood School** Share

**Incidental** Incomplete 1

In backyard preparing for a lab with one of my science classes. Thought I heard a Brown Thrasher singing. Used Merlin and it identified a Brown Thrasher. Found bird singing at top of a spruce tree. Ran inside to get camera to take photo. Edit comments

**SUBMIT ANOTHER FOR...**

- Same location and date**  
8 Tennis Court Road Marvelwood School, Litchfield County, Connecticut, US on Sat Apr 23, 2022
- Same location**  
8 Tennis Court Road Marvelwood School, Litchfield County, Connecticut, US
- Same area and date**  
Another location near 8 Tennis Court Road Marvelwood School, Litchfield County, Connecticut, US on Sat Apr 23, 2022
- Same area**  
Another location near 8 Tennis Court Road Marvelwood School, Litchfield County, Connecticut, US
- Same date**  
Sat Apr 23, 2022
- Different location and date**

MEDIA POWERED BY MACAULAY LIBRARY

**2** Species observed  
2 individuals

**1** Species with photos

**1** Species with audio

Manage media Edit species

**1** **Brown Thrasher** *Toxostoma rufum* Remove

**1** **Chipping Sparrow** *Spizella passerina* Remove



# MARVELWOOD

