

The 2011 Spring Statewide Bluebird Blitz

April 2-3, 2011

As part of our activities to determine where bluebirds live in the state, the Florida Bluebird Society (FBS) held the first Spring statewide data collection event on April 2 and April 3, 2011. This date was chosen to help us determine where bluebirds are during nesting season. Another Blitz is planned for Friday November 18, and Saturday November 19, 2011, that will provide information on diet and habitat used during non breeding season throughout the state.

We have chosen a Friday and Saturday in an effort to include schools and those who might be able to do surveys during work hours. All you have to do is look for bluebirds, and report what you find.

We thank all who participated in the Statewide Bluebird Blitz. We are pleased to report that there was participation from all of our seven regions. The sixty sighting reports submitted by forty-three participants documented 390 bluebirds. There were also many reports of eggs. We had reports from eighteen of Florida's sixty-seven counties. There were more reports from private than public lands.

We do appreciate the reports that were submitted where no bluebirds were found during the Blitz. We also appreciated those that reported the number of eggs.

What conclusions can be drawn from the inaugural Spring Blitz data? At this point, probably nothing definitive, but we are trying to compile data from Blitz and other sources that we hope to use to prove or disprove some theories about bluebirds in Florida. We will need data collected over time to form any valid conclusions, and truly help bluebirds in Florida. For those of you with nest boxes, probably the most important piece of data you can keep is the data the first egg is laid.