

Western Screech-Owl Survey Datasheet Definitions

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Contact pacificmegascops@gmail.com for modifications



Surveyor Institution: PMRA volunteer, other volunteer group or professional institution conducting surveys

Species - 4 letter species codes

WESO - Western Screech-Owl
BADO - Barred Owl
NSWO - Northern Saw-whet Owl
GHOW - Great Horned Owl
NOPO - Northern Pygmy-Owl
SEOW - Short-eared Owl
BANO - Barn Owl

Sex (M, F, U, J) Assumes M, F are adult

Direction of first detection (e.g., NW or SSW)

Survey Time of first detection in minutes and seconds from 00:00 through 16:59

Distance Bins

Distance to owl within time section of survey, represented in bins

- 1 - 0-50 m
- 2 - 50-100 m
- 3 - 100-200 m
- 4 - 200-400 m
- 5 - 400+ (rare for WESO)

Visual Detect - Owl seen during survey (Y/N)

Vocal Activity & Breeding Evidence

Courtship - counter calling or mating
Heard - heard vocalizing
Seen - seen only, silent
Courtship trumps Heard trumps Seen

Weather Conditions

Wind - Beaufort scale

Beaufort #	Speed in km/h	Description	Wind effects
0	<1	Calm	Smoke rises vertically
1	1-5	Light air	Wind motion visible in smoke
2	6-11	Light Breeze	Leaves rustle. Wind felt on skin
3	12-19	Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs in motion
4	20-28	Moderate Breeze	Dust and paper raised. Small branches move
5	29-38	Fresh Breeze	Small trees begin to sway
6	39-49	Strong Breeze	Large branches in motion, whistling is heard in wires

If winds exceed 6 on the Beaufort scale, stop survey

Precip - Precipitation level during survey

- 0 - No precipitation (none)
- 1 - Very light and intermittent (trace)
- 2 - Consistent, very light precipitation, *sprinkling or misting* (trace)
- 3 - Consistent, moderate precipitation throughout survey (*quiet, limited sound masking*) (rain)
- 4 - Consistent, heavy precip (*moderate sound masking*) (rain)
- 5 - Torrential downpour (*complete sound masking*) (rain)

Cloud Cover - Percentage of sky covered with clouds (to the nearest 10%)

Light and Sound Conditions

Moon Vis - Is the moon above the horizon and visible through clouds (Y/N)

Light Level - Light from anthropogenic sources except for cars (street lights, building lights, distant industrial light etc.):

- 0 - Pitch black, cannot see anything around you
- 1 - Dark, can't see without light under cover of canopy
- 2 - Limited visibility, can't move around without light
- 3 - Fairly good visibility, can move around without light, but need light to see details in forest
- 4 - Great visibility, can do most things without light, except see colours and read
- 5 - Bright enough to see colours and read writing

Noise - during survey that may interfere with detection of owl calls

- 1 - None or slight, relatively quiet, little interference
- 2 - Moderate, some interference with broadcast and/or listening (e.g., distant dog barking, frog chorus, creek noise, or occasional traffic)
- 3 - High, substantial interference with broadcast and/or listening (e.g., dog barking close to survey, nearby frog chorus, regular traffic)
- 4 - Excessive noise, extreme interference with broadcast and/or listening (e.g., roaring creek or constant heavy traffic)

Traffic Count - # of vehicles passed during survey