

Pacific Flyway Shorebird Survey

SF Bay Datasheet: Survey Area Conditions



Please familiarize yourself with the relevant survey protocol. Begin the survey by recording the start time and survey area, then record bird observations on the following page. When the bird survey is complete, record the end time and fill in the survey area conditions below. Thanks for your dedication to shorebird conservation!

****Please mail, or email, all completed and entered datasheets to Dave Shuford, c/o Point Blue Conservation Science, 3820 Cypress Dr. # 11, Petaluma, CA 94954; dshuford@pointblue.org**

Survey Area Name (and Code) _____

Date _____ Start Time _____ End Time _____

Primary Observer _____ Other Observer(s) _____ Data Recorder _____

WEATHER		
Wind (0-6) _____	Precip (0-3) _____	Cloud (0-100) _____ %

Wind _____

- 0 (calm)
- 1 (smoke drifts; scaly ripples)
- 2 (air felt on face; no white caps)
- 3 (leaves in motion; scattered whitecaps)
- 4 (leaves lifted up; numerous whitecaps)
- 5 (small trees sway; many whitecaps, spray)
- 6 (large branches move; whitecaps common, spray)

Precip _____

- 0 (none)
 - 1 (light intermittent)
 - 2 (fog)
 - 3 (steady rain)
- If survey is a go, but rain at your area when or after you start, use code 3.

Cloud _____

Record percent of sky covered by clouds

SURVEY AREA CHARACTERISTICS		
Type 1 (>40% area) _____	Vis Area (0-100) _____ %	PercVeg (0-100) _____
Type 2 (>40% area) _____	PercFlood (0-100) _____ %	Veg Ht (0-5) _____
Type(s) Bird Use _____	PercBare (0-100) _____ %	

Types 1 and 2: Record code of any cover type(s) that comprises **at least 40% of the area**. If no cover type is $\geq 40\%$, describe the composition of cover types in the notes section below. See protocol for more detailed descriptions.

Bird Use: Record code of cover type(s) that best describes the dominant characteristic(s) of the survey location where birds are observed (e.g., a large roost).

Vis Area: Record the percent of the survey area you could see and subsequently count. Of that visible area, record the percentage of it that is flooded (**PercFlood**), open dirt or mud (**PercBare**), and vegetated (**PercVeg**). Also, record the average height of the vegetation (**VegHt**). The percentages for flooded, bare, and vegetated **should NOT sum to greater than 100%**.

Type _____

- 7 (Freshwater lake/pond)
- 9 (Wastewater/Sewage Pond)
- 12 (Developed)
- 13 (Salt pond)
- 14 (Tidal marsh)
- 15 (Tidal mudflat)
- 16 (Beach)
- 17 (Rocky shoreline)
- 19 (Bay/Ocean)
- 20 (Diked/Muted Tidal Salt Marsh)
- 21 (Levee)
- 22 (Island)
- 99 (Other: describe in notes)

VegHt (ave. height) _____

- 0 (bare)
- 1 (1-6 inches)
- 2 (>6-12 inches)
- 3 (>12-18 inches)
- 4 (>18- 24 inches)
- 5 (>24 inches)

Notes

SF Bay Survey Datasheet: Bird Observations

Survey Area _____ Date _____
 Primary Observer _____ Other Obs _____
 Data Recorder _____



Please record the numbers of all shorebirds and diurnal raptors in your area. For shorebirds, count and identify to species all individuals that are on the ground at some time during the survey; try to avoid doublecounting any birds that leave the area and later return. Record raptors that are within, perched adjacent to, or foraging over the survey area during the count. Add species names, tallies, and totals for any species not already on the list.

Species	Tally	Total	Species	Tally	Total
Black-bellied Plover			Western Sandpiper		
Snowy Plover			Least Sandpiper		
Semipalmated Plover					
Killdeer			Dunlin		
Black Oystercatcher					
Black-necked Stilt			Western/Least		
American Avocet			Western/Least/Dunlin		
Spotted Sandpiper			dowitcher spp.**		
Greater Yellowlegs					
Lesser Yellowlegs			Wilson's Snipe		
yellowlegs spp.					
Willet					
Whimbrel			Turkey Vulture		
Long-billed Curlew			Osprey		
			White-tailed Kite		
Marbled Godwit			Northern Harrier		
			Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Curlew/Godwit			Cooper's Hawk		
Mixed large shorebirds*			accipiter spp.		
Ruddy Turnstone			Red-shouldered Hawk		
Black Turnstone			Red-tailed Hawk		
Red Knot			American Kestrel		
Sanderling			Merlin		
			Peregrine Falcon		

*If you see mixed flocks of large shorebirds and are unable to obtain counts of individual species, record the species present and, if possible, their proportions in the flock (e.g., 600 large shorebirds: 50% Marbled Godwits, 40% Willets, 10% Long-billed Curlews).

**Because it is not possible to reliably identify the two species of dowitchers in the field in winter, except by call, please record those seen as dowitcher spp.

Notes