

Bark foraging bird study incidental observation protocol:

Thank you for your interest in this bark foraging bird study! We are interested in knowing how bark foraging birds feed in environments altered by landscape development within southern New England. By bark foraging birds, we mean any woodpeckers, nuthatches, and brown creepers. We have provided instructions for each section of the observation sheet below:

1. Name and email: please provide your full name (first, M.I., last) and email address so we can keep track of the data provided by each participant.

2. Date: please provide the date of observation.

3. Time: Because bird behavior changes with time of day, we would like information on what time you observed the bird, on a 24 hr clock.

4. Street address or latitude and longitude: providing your location via street address or latitude and longitude allows us to reference the Connecticut Bird Atlas for abundance data on species in each location. If you are able to provide latitude, longitude, please do so in decimal form. To learn how to find your latitude and longitude, visit this link:
<http://ctbirdatlas.com/Surveys-Incidental-observations.html>.

5. Species: on the bottom of the observation sheet you are provided a list of species within the study and their 4-letter code. In order to avoid potentially recording the same bird twice, at each location, we ask that you only record one observation per species unless you are certain it is a different bird (e.g. one is female and one is male). If you are unsure which species you are observing, you can send in a picture with your observation sheet.

For more information on the species of interest, visit: <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/>

6. Sex: if you are able to, please identify the sex of the bird, M for male or F for female.

7. Surface category (or description): because we are interested in how bark foraging birds are using their given environment to find food; we would like to know what surface they choose to feed on (i.e. tree, ground, etc.). Common categories are described on the data

sheet. If the surface your bird is on does not fit into any of the categories, please use this section to describe it. If your bird is foraging on a tree and you know the species of the tree, please write in that information.

8. Height: Please estimate the lowest (min) and highest (max) height of the bird off the ground to the nearest foot.

9. Where on the tree: The location of the bird on the tree helps us to also learn about how they are using their environment. On the observation sheet is a diagram of the places on a tree the bird can be found.

10. Additional notes: please use this section to write any notes about your observation (e.g., tree species). If you took a picture of your bird, please use this section to provide the name of the file for this observation.

Once you have finished filling out your observation sheet, email it to Danielle Schwartz at danielle.schwartz@uconn.edu (Subject: Bark foraging birds incidental obs).

The end date for this study is **August 9, 2020**

Thank you again for your participation, happy birding!