

## **General Guidelines**

### **Survey Guidelines:**

- 1) ARU and point-count surveys are conducted from May 15 - July 15.
- 2) Survey locations are selected randomly within a contract. Once you have a list of contracts that have agreed to participate in the outcomes monitoring, email David and Sprih the list of accepted contracts and your maps. They will assign the survey points within the contracts, prioritise the list of points to receive point counts, and return gridded maps for the point count locations.
- 3) ARU surveys:
  - a) ARUs are deployed at all selected points.
  - b) If a contract is >48 acres, then ARU surveys should be done at 2 points within the contract. The locations of these 2 ARU points should have a buffer of 250 m.
  - c) ARUs are to be deployed for 5 days. If you can't repeat ARU surveys at some sites, then extend the duration of the ARU survey on that site to 10 days.
  - d) If a landowner is in the process of implementing any practice, go ahead and set up ARUs as long as the ongoing activity poses no risk of damaging them.
  - e) To cover each site more than once, you will need to rotate these ARUs among sites.
- 4) Point-count surveys:
  - a) Should be done at a minimum of 25% of all the sites. The point count locations will be randomly selected from the list of ARU points. If you have less than 7 survey locations, then please conduct point-count surveys at all the survey locations.
  - b) Should be conducted during the same time when an ARU is recording at the respective site. So you should conduct them during the 5 days that ARU was out recording at that site.
- 5) Both ARU and point-count surveys are supposed to be done 2-3 times at each appropriate point with a minimum of 7 days between surveys.
- 6) Vegetation surveys will be done from late July to early August. More information forthcoming.

### **Data Management Guidelines:**

- 1) ARU surveys:
  - a) Keep a log of date when the ARU was deployed, ARU was retrieved, and ARU was uploaded (use the respective excel sheet (ARU details) for maintaining your record.
  - b) Once ARU survey is completed on a site, all files (should be ~15 files, one hour generates one audio (8.wav file), so ARU running for 3 hrs per day for 5 days should be 15 files) should be zipped together using winrar as .zip file (it is a free available software) and named as siteid\_year. This file should be

uploaded to the website (<https://www.birdlocale.org/>). All uploads should happen as soon as they are retrieved from the field and on the same date.

- i) If for some reason, you can't upload these files on the date that it was retrieved, make sure that you don't overwrite the SD card when it was redeployed/reused.

2) Point-count surveys:

- a) After conducting point-count surveys, double check your datasheet to make sure that you have entered all the required information (Site ID, Date of Survey, Start Time, Temperature (F), Cloud Cover (%), Wind Speed (0-5), Disturbance, Coordinates of survey location, ARU serial number, Date of ARU deployment, Implemented Practice)
- b) Enter all your survey details in the given excel sheet (Survey details).
- c) You will also need to scan your sheets

For each of the biologists who are conducting these surveys, a folder exists with your name inside OneDrive Folder (will be shared with you) -> Year-> Season (choose Breeding) folder. Use your respective folder to upload your ARU sheet, point-count survey sheet and the scans of these sheets.