Draft 1 p6.

A fortnightly interval [or monthly] ~~it~~ would work well; ~~it is~~ it is not so frequent that a busy week ~~in one's life will regularly exclude~~ in a volunteer's schedule will ~~[illegible]~~ preclude the chance of checking on a site. Rather, the idea of a fortnightly entry being 'high grade' data could encourage participation: If you can't get out on a particular Sunday it doesn't matter; next Saturday morning is fine, too. A monthly interval ~~could~~ also works but may start to lose some resolution regarding things like breeding times, breeding success, and turn-over of hollow occupation within a season. ~~Fortnightly observation is quite ambitious, but I suggest that as a best-practice guide, it could~~

Extended time observing a structure.

~~Closely~~ Related to the power of repeated observations ~~it~~ and continuity of data ~~across~~ the year is the ~~depth of the~~ quality of an observation. An example of a quality observation is the stag-watch technique for nocturnal ~~mammals~~ ~~[illegible]~~ mammals. This method is an extended survey over the usual period of emergence from a hollow. A focused stag watch ~~is a hi~~ gives a high ~~confidence in occupancy status for mammals~~, – but by no means certain – confidence in occupation by mammals. Repeated pass-by surveys ~~may indicate~~ during the day usually gives a pretty good idea of occupancy by birds. – But an absence of bird occupation could be ~~caused~~ ~~caused~~ [related] ~~by occupation by a possum~~ to occupation by a possum, ~~or even an animal like a cat.~~ A stag watch survey could therefore change the assessment of a structure ~~fr~~ at any one time from 'unoccupied by birds' to 'unoccupied'.

Rigorous observation ~~should~~ is possible in almost any situation. If you want to know if a hollow is being used, watching it for a whole day will capture this information ~~above and beyond the breeding season, fledgling season, when it is quite easy to detect activity~~. – in fact it is more than what's necessary for most parts of the breeding season, when ~~it is or is~~ there is ~~too~~ often lots of activity around ~~the~~ a hollow.

Enhanced Observation.

Seeing inside a hollow ~~is always~~ an advantage and can provide details ~~[illegible]~~ such as ~~[illegible]~~ clutch size, and fledgling success rate. ~~and so on,~~ These breeding measures are paramount: badly designed nest-boxes ~~could~~ ~~feasibly have~~ ~~theoretically~~ [could feasibly] have a negative impact on a population if ~~they~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~no nest~~ offspring survived. ~~Enhanced observations include having hinged lids~~ Enhanced observation includes pole-~~mount~~ [motion trigger] cameras, boroscopes, and hinged lids on nest boxes.

Generally speaking, the protocol ~~will~~ is built around method rather than technology. If one has resources to improve surveying, all the better. But ~~it is~~ [access to technology is] not assumed and ~~it is not a design philosophy.~~ the design philosophy of this protocol does not include technology beyond ~~photos.~~ ground-level photos.