

Raptor Nest Survey Standardized Data Sheet & Codes

2021 Raptor Symposium

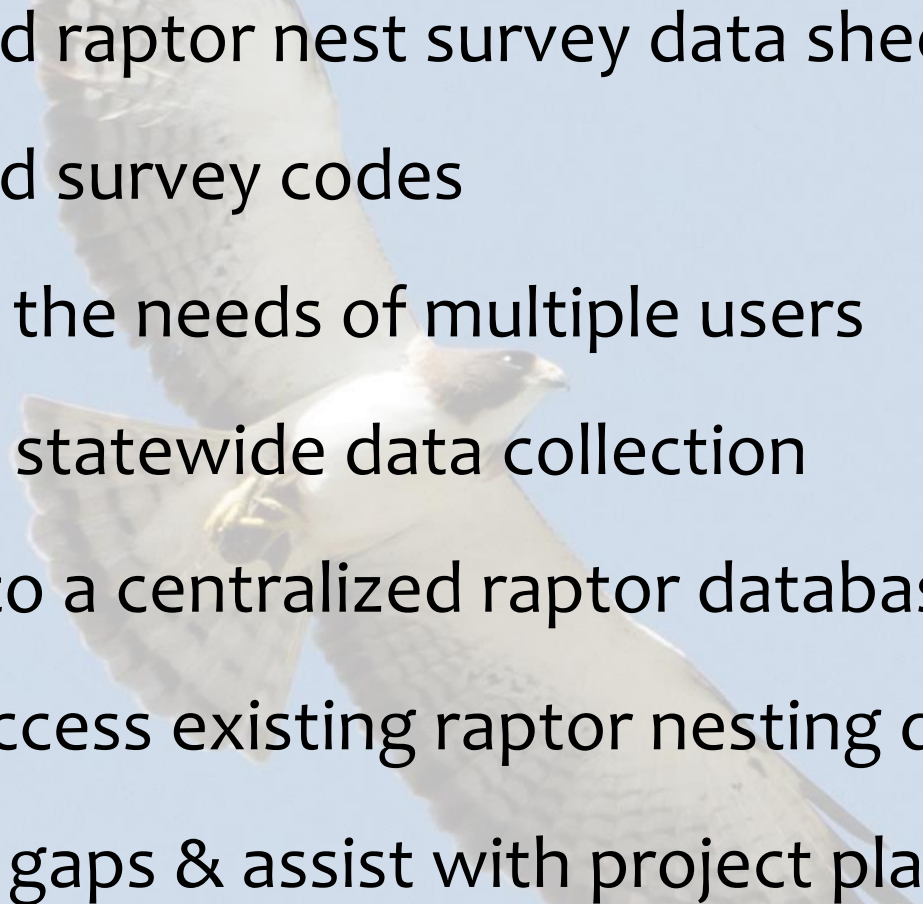
Presented by:

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Background – 2015, 2017, 2019

- Standardized raptor nest survey data sheet in Excel
 - Standardized survey codes
 - Incorporate the needs of multiple users
 - Standardize statewide data collection
 - Contribute to a centralized raptor database
 - Identify & access existing raptor nesting data
 - Detect data gaps & assist with project planning
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Goals



- 1) Regulating agencies & WYNDD receive consistent data for raptor nests across all WY projects.
- 2) Allow flexibility to record additional data for needs specific to agency or project.
- 3) Ensure standardization to eliminate speculation.
- 4) Include required fields and modify non-required fields per project.
- 5) Adapt the standardized approach to other forms of raptor data collection.

Species Code	Definition	Species Code	Definition
AMCR	American Crow	LEOW	Long-eared Owl
AMKE	American Kestrel	MERL	Merlin
BAEA	Bald Eagle	NOGO	Northern Goshawk
BANO	Barn Owl	NOHA	Northern Harrier
BBMA	Black-billed Magpie	NOPO	Northern Pygmy-Owl
BOOW	Boreal Owl	NSWO	Northern Saw-whet Owl
BUOW	Burrowing Owl	OSPR	Osprey
BWHA	Broad-winged Hawk	PEFA	Peregrine Falcon
CANG	Canada Goose	PRFA	Prairie Falcon
COHA	Cooper's Hawk	RLHA	Rough-legged Hawk
CORA	Common Raven	RTHA	Red-tailed Hawk
EASO	Eastern Screech-Owl	SEOW	Short-eared Owl
FEHA	Ferruginous Hawk	SNOW	Snowy Owl
FLOW	Flammulated Owl	SSHA	Sharp-shinned Hawk
GBHE	Great Blue Heron	SWHA	Swainson's Hawk
GGOW	Great Gray Owl	TUVU	Turkey Vulture
GHOW	Great Horned Owl	WESO	Western Screech-Owl
GOEA	Golden Eagle	othr	Other raptor species
GYRF	Gyrfalcon	unkn	Unknown raptor species

Nest Status Codes	Meaning	Definition
OCCU	Occupied	An occupied nest with one or two adults present at or near the nest and/or fresh lining material in the nest (this is the final outcome when no additional nesting effort occurs during the entire breeding season).
UNOC	Unoccupied	An unoccupied nest with no apparent recent use or adult presence at the time of the observation. This does not mean that a territory is unoccupied; it only means that the nest visited does not have apparent signs of nest maintenance or an adult observed near the nest at the time of the observation. This is the final outcome for a nest that was unoccupied during the entire breeding season and had no known alternate nests within a territory.
DNLO	Did not locate	A nest that was not successfully found at a known location.
GONE	Gone	A nest that is verified to be gone from its location (e.g., fallen from a tree or cliff, or substrate and nest were removed but not known to be relocated).
NOCH	Not checked	A nest that was not checked during the appropriate survey period.

Nest Condition	Definition
Good	Nest cup is present.
Fair	Vertical nest structure is evident.
Poor	A dilapidated nest in a state of ruin (e.g., no vertical structure) due to weather, natural aging, and/or neglect. Nest material is sloughing but an identifiable circular nest shape still exists.
Remnant	Only remnant physical evidence is present. Nest is in a state of disrepair and has degraded to the point that it is no longer useable without major reconstruction. However, nest material is still present and the nest can be rebuilt.
Destroyed	A nest that was located during a previous study but has completely disappeared and is not present during the current study. Although there is no physical evidence that the nest exists, historical data on the nest are present in files.
Refurbished	Nest has been recently built, repaired, or decorated, indicated by fresh greenery, sticks with fresh breaks, or a distinct layer of new material on top of older weathered sticks.
Muted	Fresh mutes (raptor feces) in or originating from the nest.
Unknown	Nests in locations such as cavities in trees or cliffs where none of the other nest condition fields apply because the nest itself could not be seen.

Nest Substrate Code	Definition
ANS	Artificial Nest Structure
ASD or ASL	Aspen Dead or Live
CKB	Creek Bank
CLR	Cliff or rimrock
CTD or CTL	Cottonwood Dead or Live
ERR	Erosional Pillar
GHS	Ground/Hillside
HFR	H Frame Power Pole
JUN	Juniper
LID or LIL	Limber Pine Dead or Live
LPD or LPL	Lodgepole Pine Dead or Live
MMS	Manmade Structure
OTH	Other
POL	Power Pole
PPD or PPL	Ponderosa Pine Dead or Live
ROC	Rock Outcrop
RUD or RUL	Russian Olive Dead or Live
SFD or SFL	Spruce/Fir Dead or Live
UNG	Underground
WID or WIL	Willow Dead or Live

Nest Location Category	Definition
Actual	A GPS point taken as close to the actual nest location as possible without interfering with nesting activity. The point should also be taken less than 5 horizontal meters from the actual nest.
Observer	A GPS point taken from where the observer is located without any interpretation of where the nest's actual location is in reference to the observer.
Projected	The actual location of the nest is estimated as close as possible using the observer as a point of reference in relation to the actual nest location and inferring actual nest location using aerial photographs, topographic maps, compass bearing/estimated distance, etc.

Note:

All GPS locations need to be taken within at least 10 meters accuracy.

All ground survey locations must be referenced as one of the following: actual nest location, observer location, or projected location.

Aerial survey locations will be assumed to be projected due to air speed and relative height of the observer to the nest.

Summary



- Single spreadsheet to meet all needs is not possible
- All highlighted fields must be completed
- Unhighlighted fields are discretionary based on needs
- Do not change any codes, modify the data sheet, or unhighlight any highlighted fields
- Do not reformat any cells, columns, or rows
- Additional data sheets in the Excel file are available
- Provide input for future fields or codes

Questions & Discussion



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