Resighting Individually Marked Birds Part 2









Rob Robinson

To refresh your memory, there are four species of birds we are targeting, can you identify them?



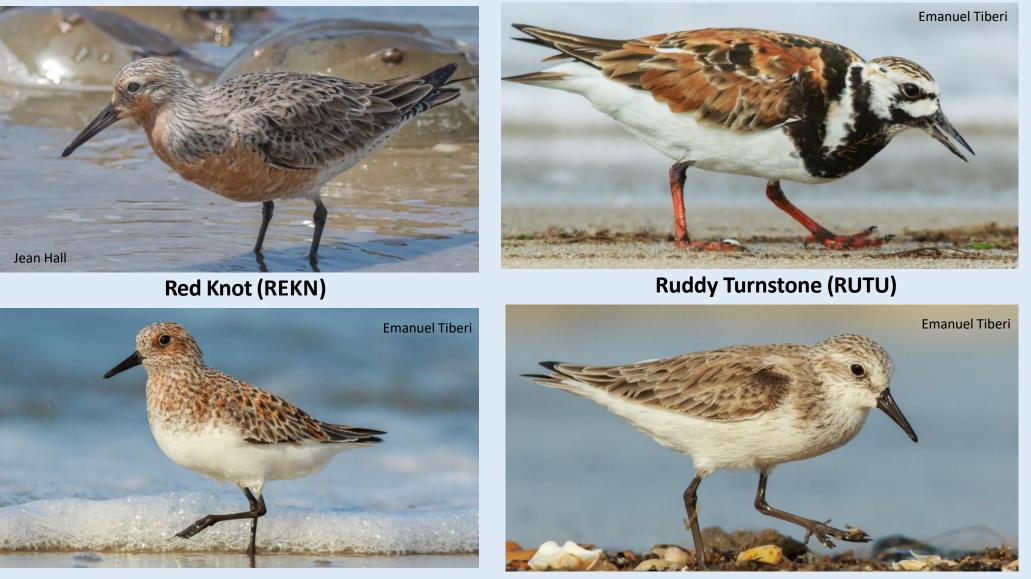






Note: Refresh your shorebird identification skills by taking the shorebird identification modules.

To refresh your memory, there are four species of birds we are targeting, can you identify them?



Semipalmated Sandpiper (SESA)

Note: Refresh your shorebird identification skills by taking the shorebird identification modules.

Sanderling (SAND)



This is a Ruddy Turnstone, with a flag colored light green (lime), inscribed with code XCM

Or more simply, RUTU lg(XCM)



Since this is a 3 character light green flag, this is all the information needed.

Recording the yellow band is not needed, but won't hurt: RUTU FElg(XCM) y

Note the full standard Pan American code would be: <u>FElg(XCM) | - : y | m</u>

> Upper Left-Lime flag (PLE) Lower Left-nothing (-)

Upper Right-yellow band (y) Lower Right- metal band (m)







Greg Breese

Note this is a Red Knot. Since this is a 3 character light green (lime) colored flag this is all the information needed, there is no need to check the legs for other color markers.

Note the full standardized Pan American code would be: FElg(C13) | - : - | m



REKN lg(XL) o

Since this is a 2 character light green flag you need to record the colored band as well as the flag.



Greg Breese

The full standard Pan American code would be:

FElg(XL) | - : o | m

The next 20 slides will give you practice

- Pretend you are in the field.
- Decide what to record (or not).
- Write down flag codes and other banding information.
- After every 5 slides you will see what should have been recorded.
- Accuracy is more important than speed.
- Mark birds with Geolocators (G) or geo if appropriate.
- If you notice a flag who's condition is irregular, report it using the codes:

Flag [color] Faded (FF), Flag Stained (FS), No Ink(IN), Faded Ink (IF), Flag Upside down (FU), Flag Open (FO), Flag Broken (FB), or Flag Dirty (FD).



Audrey DeRose-Wilson









<u>Answers</u>

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Example 4: REKN lg(3X7)
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Example 5: nothing to record for this Sanderling (SAND)

Example 6: REKN lg(EMP)

Example 7: REKN dg(CHY)

Example 8: REKN lg(UKV)



Greg Breese









<u>Answers</u>

Example 9: nothing to record for this REKN

Example 10: SAND lg(CJ3)

Example 11: REKN lg(TNH)

Example 12: RUTU lg(4LX)

Example 13: REKN w(V7)





Greg Breese







<u>Answers</u>

14: RUTU lg(KPN) IF (ink faded)

15: REKN o(NJ); dg

16: nothing to record on this REKN

17: REKN lg(CX5) IF

18: REKN r(HMN)











<u>Answers</u>

19: REKN o(H9S); -

20: REKN lg(U1Y)

21: RUTU nothing to report (flag code obscured)

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22: REKN lg(X4); dg FS
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23: SAND lg(PLK)
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Note that the orange flag needs to have any color markers recorded, or in this case, a dash to signify that a color band was not present/missing. Also the 2 character light green needs the additional color marker recorded too.













<u>Answers</u>

24: RUTU Dg(LAY) FD (flag dirty)

25: SAND flag is obscured and cannot be reported

26: REKN db(AB); y

27: SESA lg(YV1)

28: REKN lg(8AH) FS

29: SESA lg(5M4)

Note that the dark blue flag requires an additional color marker to be recorded.

Ratio Counts

Ratio of Marked: Unmarked

After you have gained experience and knowledge resighting, you may be asked to collect Ratio Scan data as well. The purpose of this data is to provide estimates of population size.

The protocol for collecting this data has been carefully worked out to meet statistical needs.

Further, it is not easy to do this as birds run back and forth across the beach.

It is important to get enough experience that you are comfortable and confident in your resighting data, before you begin collecting ratio scan data.

Ratio of Marked: Unmarked

Any bird without an inscribed flag is an unmarked bird and any inscribed flag of any color is a marked bird, for this purpose.

People typically record ratio scans in their notebook.

Make sure you record:

Species Number with inscribed flags Total number of birds scanned



Ratio Count Do's

- Do Ratio Scans for REKN, RUTU, SESA, and SAND for every site visit if possible.
 Be sure to record the species scanned for each scan ratio recorded. Do one species at a time; REKN is the top priority.
- Choose a representative portion of the flock and count in one direction to minimize double counting.
- Scan up to 50 birds, if you can.
- Record the total number of birds scanned. You must be able to see both legs to determine that a bird either has or does not have an inscribed flag.
- Record the number of birds that have an inscribed flag.
- Repeat this count every 30 min if you are there long enough.

Ratio Count Don'ts

• Do not count birds unless you are sure they have or do not have inscribed flags. This means that you will not be able to include every bird you see in this ratio scan, and in practice you will need more than 50 birds in a flock to get a 50 bird ratio scan. That is fine, what is needed is an accurate ratio.

- If you only have a small number of birds, do a scan when you first arrive, but do not repeat it on the substantially same birds multiple times.
- Do not include birds with a leg tucked up against their body, or that have a leg blocked from your view.



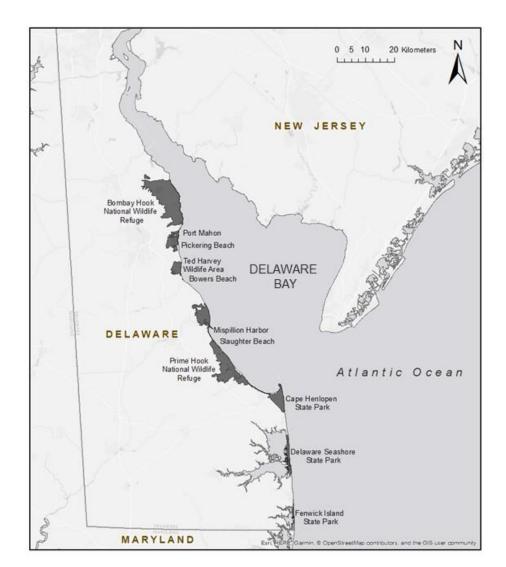
Simon GIllings



In the above photo, there are eight Ruddy Turnstones although both legs are only visible on two of them. To complete a ratio count on these Ruddy Turnstone, we would write:

RUTU 1 flagged, 2 scanned

Field Forms and How to Complete Them



12 Hour Time vs 24 Hour Time

Please record times on the data sheets in the 24-hour format

Standard Time		24 Hour Time	
8:00am	=	08:00	
10:15am	=	10:15	
12:00pm	=	12:00	noon
1:00pm	=	13:00	
3:20 pm	=	15:20	
4:00pm	=	16:00	
6:30pm	=	18:30	
9:57pm	=	21:57	
11:59pm	=	23:59	
12:00am	=	00:00	midnigh
2:00am	=	02:00	
4:00am	=	04:00	

Visit Summary Form

The Visit Summary Form begins with general information that includes:

> Observers Date and time Location Number of attached flag sheets

Remember, - Please write clearly and legibly - Complete data sheets promptly after you return from the field

Site:	Did you	survey the entir	e site? Y/N			FOR OFFICE U Sheet ID: 2019	
Date:		Survey Tim	e (24 hr)			# ratio sheets	Γ
Day Mon	Start: 00:00	End: 00:00				# of flag sheets observer has no	
Did you check al	l legs for flags? (to b	e filled out by t	he Scribe)			Observers	# of flag shee
nearly all: you walk	ed entire site AND repeate	dly saw the same	flags (large floc	(s) OR vo	u saw	Scribe:	C
	birds (small flocks), OR yo						Г
about half: you only flock	walked about half the site	e, OR you saw leg	s of about half o	f the birds	in the		
	u walked less than half the ewer than half the birds in		not attempt to re	esight any	birds,		
Check the box to indi	cate the portion of the floc	k you checked for	lea flaos				L
Portion of legs chec		about half	fewer than	half			y completeness a
Red Knot						resighting effor	t/quality:
Ruddy Turnstone							
Sanderling Semipalmated Sandp	oiper						
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If over the course of counting you do some of each type record as the least accurate.

True Count (T): an actual count of each bird observed, usually done with small flocks, or when a flock is spread out along the waterline Estimate (E): systematic count of the number of birds of each species in a block, extrapolated to estimate flock size Guestimate (G): a guess, or nonsystematic count based roughly on flocks size and proportion of each species that comprise it, useful for very large flocks or when flocks are flying

Species	Total	Accuracy	Count (workspace)
Red Knot		TEG	
Ruddy Turnstone		TEG	
Sanderling		TEG	
Semipalmated Sandpiper		TEG	
Dunlin		TEG	
Short-billed Dowitcher		TEG	
Small Gull (laughing guli and similar)		TEG	
Large Gull (great black-backed gull, herring gull, ring-billed gull)		TEG	
American Oystercatcher			
Piping Plover			
Black-Necked Stilt			

Other rare or especially interesting observations

Report all sightings of sturgeon immediately to Ian Parks at 302-735-8650. Send photos if available to ian.park@state.de.us.

Entered by Checked by Corrected by

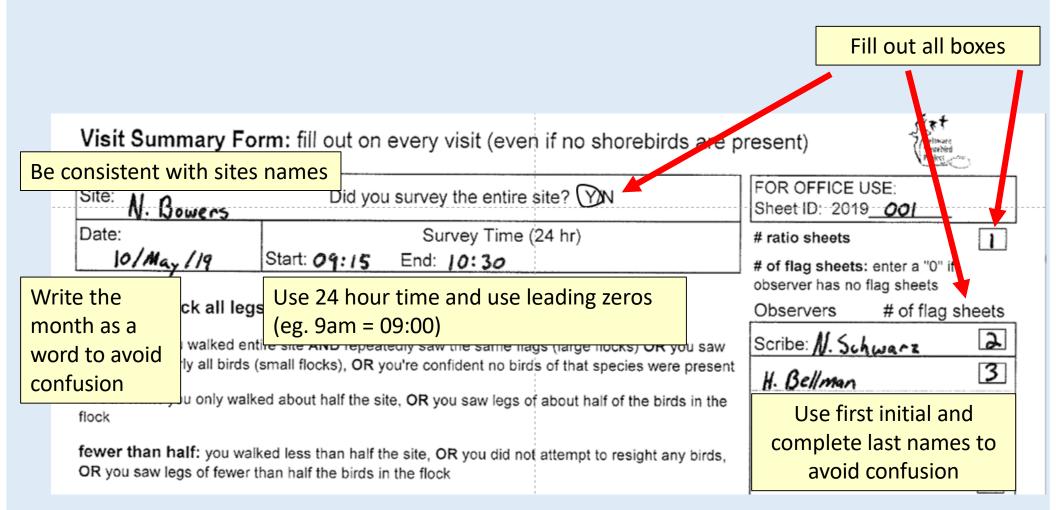
Visit Summary Form

Please double check and make sure you have filled out all parts of each form. This helps the people doing data entry and data error checking (quality control). If data is missing, there may be no way to get it later, potentially rendering the associated data useless.

Be sure to complete this when you get back to the house and definitely before you leave the house for the day. Data on "orphaned" forms may have to be discarded or the data entered out of the normal sequence for error checking, increasing the chance of making mistakes.

Visit Summary Form: Header

This section is used to record who visited the site, who was the scribe (completed the site visit form), the date and time of the visit, and the location visited.



Visit Summary Form: Leg Check

This section provides a record of how thorough the site visit was and should not be skipped.

Did you check all legs for flags? (to be filled out by the Scribe)

nearly all: you walked entire site AND repeatedly saw the same flags (large flocks) OR you saw the legs of nearly all birds (small flocks), OR you're confident no birds of that species were present

about half: you only walked about half the site, OR you saw legs of about half of the birds in the flock

fewer than half: you walked less than half the site, OR you did not attempt to resight any birds, OR you saw legs of fewer than half the birds in the flock

 Portion of legs checked:
 nearly all about half
 fewer than half

 Red Knot
 Image: Checked:
 Image: Checked:

 Ruddy Turnstone
 Image: Checked:
 Image: Checked:

 Sanderling
 Image: Checked:
 Image: Checked:

 Semipalmated Sandpiper
 Image: Checked:
 Image: Checked:

Check the box to indicate the portion of the flock you checked for leg flags.

Visit Summary Form: Disturbance

Human and predator activity: Record number of stimuli present every half hour (if you arrive at 11:10, start at 11:30) even if NONE. For PEFA and MERL record time of each flight (must see falcon; don't record if suspected but falcon not seen).

ODOG: Off leash dog, LDOG: Leashed dog, HUMN: Human, CAR: Any type of vehicle, BOAT: Any watercraft, PEFA: Peregrine Falcon (exact time), MERL: Merlin (exact time), FOX: Red fox, OTHER: write in

	Time	Activity	Quanitity	Time	Activity	Quantity	Time	Activity	Quantity	
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	10:00	HUMN	2					·····		
	10:30	HUMN	3							
	1						seen, the	n merlin or p e exact time nce is record	of	e
		e is recorded re is none.	every ½ hou	ır,		L				
:he	e data is	n is completed entered into t and checked f	the		U			1		
					0					
			Black-Necked Stil		0		www.competition.competition.com			
					ting observations on immediately to Ian Park	s at 302-735-865	50. Send photos if	available to ian park@s	tate de us	
			Entered by		Checked by			Corrected by		

Visit Summary Form: Flock Count

Total numbers of birds are recorded on the Visit Summary Form.

Flocks Counts: Every cell must be filled. Record "0" if your count was zero. Record "-" for any species you did not attempt to count. Please indicate accuracy "T", "E", or "G" for all counts, even 0 counts. This is an If over the course of counting you do some of each type record as the least accurate. True Count (T): an actual count of each bird observed, usually done with small flocks, or when a flock is spread out along the waterline empty Estimate (E): systematic count of the number of birds of each species in a block, extrapolated to estimate flock size Guestimate (G): a guess, or nonsystematic count based roughly on flocks size and proportion of each species that comprise it, useful for workspace, if very large flocks or when flocks are flying needed Species Total Accuracy Count (workspace) 25 Red Knot ŒΕ G 250 Ruddy Turnstone ΤĒ G Sanderling 550 Ē Indicate whether it G Т **G** Semipalmated Sandpiper ΤЕ 10,000 is a True Count (T), Dunlin 37 € Е G Extrapolated Short-billed Dowitcher S 3 E G Estimate (E), or a Small Gull (laughing gull and similar) 45 (\mathbf{f}) Е G Large Gull Guesstimate (G). (great black-backed gull, herring gull, ring-billed gull) 18 ന E G American Oystercatcher 0 True Count: Each bird was Piping Plover 0 Ô Black-Necked Stilt counted Other rare or especially interesting observations diately to Ian Parks at 302-735-8650. Send photos if available to ia Enter a "-0-" in the block for *Extrapolated Estimate:* Checked by Correcte species not observed rather than Numbers were systematically just leaving it blank. This will estimated ensure that the person entering the data knows that species were *Guesstimate:* A guick estimate not present rather than not was done, basically a first counted impression

Mispillion Harbor Visit Summary Form

For Mispillion Harbor, there is a modified Site Visit form. This includes more detail for bird numbers at specific locations in Mispillion Harbor.

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Short-billed Dowltcher	Semipalmaa Sandpiper																
Short-billed Dowltcher	Duniin																
Small Gull (wighing pull) <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>																	
Large Gull great black- backed gull, herreg gull, repealed American Oystercacher Piping Plover Black-hocked Stilt Cother Rare or Interesting Doc:	Short-billed (Dowitcher															
Namesian Supplication V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V * 0 V *																	
American Oysteroatcher Image: Constraint of the second se	ecked gull, herrin	reat black- g gull, ring-billed															
Black-necked Stit		er															
Other Rare or Interesting Diss:	Piping Plove	r															
265:																	
	Other Rare or I Obs:	nteresting															
		t all sightings	of sturney	Immediat	ely to lan P	Parks at %	2-735-885	0 (office) o	r 410-935	8742 (cm	II. Send of	intos if ava	lable to b	n.park@	state de un		
Entered by Checked by Corrected by	Entered	~1	-		STRUCT				-				Soneco				

Resighting Transcription Form

When you return to the Shorebird House at the end of the day, you will fill out a transcription sheet for data entry. Be sure to do this by the end of the day, so the data is not lost and all data sheets for a given visit are kept together.

Resighting Transcript	tion Form		FOR OFFICE USE: Top Sheet ID: 2020	Art .
Site/subsite:	Date:	Species:	Observer:	
	Day Mon	Sheet #:	Scribe (ir different):	

Record only ONE SPECIES per sheet. Work down the columns.

Indicate each half hour time block (e.g. 0830 for 0830 to 0859) in 24 hr time.

Group by flag color within each half-hour time period. Draw line down column for repeating entries for time and flag color. Use \$ for \$ and cross Z, 7, and 0. Make V, 5, G, B, and D very square/pointy

Record extra color on opposite leg for 2-character lime flags.

Geolocator: Note whether a bird is carrying a geolocator (Geo) or other additional tracking devices

Flag Condition: Record any irregular condition of the flag: Flag Color Faded (FF), Flag Stained (FS), Flag Upside down (FU), Flag Open (FO), Flag Broken (FB), or Flag Dirty (FD), or Flag Abraded (FA- top layer of flag wom through; rare). Note: generally ink fades not flags (i.e. IF not FF)

Ink Condition: Record partially or completely faded ink: Ink-None (IN), Ink Faded (IF), Ink (white) Stained (IS) Record the number of flag sheets on the Visit Summary Form to indicate you have completed your flag re-sighting sheets

Last person to fill in flag resighting sheets - order sheets by species, observer name, and time, and attach to Visit Summary Form

	Time (24 hr)	Flag Color	Flag Code		Flag Cond.	Ink Cond.	Geolo cator		Time (24 hr)	Flag Color	Flag Code	Extra Color	Flag Cond.	Ink Cond.	Geolo cator
1				1				26							
2								27							
3								28							
4								29							
5								30							
6								31							
7								32							
8								33							
9								34							
10								35							
11								36							
12								37							
13								38							
14								39							
15								40							
16								41							
17								42							
18								43							
19								44							
20								45							
21								45							
22								47							
23								48							
24								49							
25								50							
	Entered	by		Check	ed by			# er	rors to b		cted	Correct	ed by		

Resighting Transcription Form

One species per sheet

											Laurania				Same Million and
	Site/subsit	ie:			Date:	10/Ma	² y	Spec	cies: R	EKN	Observe	er: T.	Smith	5	
	5	Bowe	rs		Day	Mon	<i>'</i>	Shee	et #: 👔	fi 👘	Scribe (ii	different):			
	Record on	y ONE S	PECIES p	per she	et. Wor	k down	the colu	mns.							
	Indicate ea	ich half l	hour time	block	(e.g. 08	330 for (0830 to (0859)	in 24	hr time.					
Geolocator and	Group by f											ng entrie	s for time	e and fla	g
Flag Condition	color. Use \$								very sq	uare/poir	nty				
	Record ext							-							
notes at top of	Geolocato														
sheet, use	Flag Condi (FU), Flag (Open (FC	Cord any i	rregula roken (l	r condit	ion of th Flag Dir	ne flag:	Flag (Color F	aded (Fi	F), Flag St	ained (F	S), Flag	Upside	down
accordingly.	Note: gener	rally ink f	ades not f	lags (i.e	e. IF no	t FF)	ty (1 D),	01116	ag Abre		- top layer	or nag v	von uno	uyn, iai	e).
	Ink Condit	ion: Rec	ord partial	ly or co	mpletel	ly faded	ink: Inł	k-Non	e (IN),	Ink Fade	ed (IF), Ink	(white) s	Stained (IS)	
	Record the	numbe	r of flag s							, time			our flag r		ng
	sheets	n to fill in	flog rooid		• •										
	Last perso Summary F	form	nag resig	IIag	COIO		аке с	Jala	entr	y easi	er	e, and	attach to	o Visit	
	Time	-	Flag	Extra		Ink	Geolo		Time	Flag	Flag	Extra	Flag	Ink	Geolo
	(24 hr)		Code	Color	Cond.	Cond.	cator	1911	(24 hr)	Color	Code	Color	Cond.	Cond.	cator
	1 13:00		HYJ					26							
	3	0	NJ	DG				27							
Time is broken into 30	3	L	BL	06				28							
minute increments	4		CX5		If			29		<u>Do no</u>	ot rep	eat b	irds w	/ithir	the 2
			IJK					30		hr					
	· 13:30	<u>v</u> w	T8					31							
	7	0	NJ	DG				32				. .		- 1/ 1-	
	8	L	< X5		IF			33		Do re	peat	oiras	acros	s ½ r	ir
	9		LOL					34		segm	ents, i	for ex	xamp	le fla	g cod
	10	1	KAY					35		"NJ"	is in b	oth 1	3:00	and	13:30
	11		1. dear f		1			36							_0.00
A vertical line	12		i de la composición d		- Jetters			37			nour se	Sille	iits		
indicates		1		1	1	1	1	21			1		1 1	1	
repeated data															

Ratio Scan Form

Back at the shorebird house, fill out the Ratio Scan Form if you completed ratio counts.

Ratio Scan Form

FOR OFFICE USE: Top Sheet ID: 2020___



Begin scanning across a flock counting each bird you see and total number with inscribed flags of any color(use tally counter). You must see both legs to confirm that a bird is not flagged. Target sample for each scan is 50, but if there are fewer than 50 birds or birds fly before 50 are counted record counts to that point. Attach this data sheet to your cover sheet. Combine data from multiple observers who were at the same site at the same time.

Date Day	e: 17/Ma y Mon	,	Site: N. Bowers (enter Mispillion subs	ite below)			
	Species	Time (24 hr)	Total # Scanned	# w/ flags	# w/o flags	Misp. subsite	Observer
1	REKN	10:30	27	7	20		T. Smiths
2	RUTU	10:30	50	12	38		T. Smiths
3	REKN	11:00	5	I	4		T. Sm. ths
4	RUTU	11:00	31	11	20		T. Smiths
5	REKN	11:30	15	3	12		M. Addams
6	SAND	11:30	50	18	3 A		M. Addams
7							
8							

All observers from a site can put their data on one sheet. For example, if three observers did ratio scans for REKN, then all three can put their data on one sheet.

Tagged Horseshoe Crabs



Greg Breese

Found a tagged Horseshoe Crab? Record that too!

Record the following information on the Horseshoe Crab Resighting Data Sheet

- 1. Tag #
- 2. Telephone Number on the Tag Date
- 3. Location
- 4. Alive or Dead
- 5. Tag removed or not Observer
- 6. Notes



Horse	shoe Crab R	esigh	tings Data Sh	neet	 Year:	ř.
Fag#	Telephone Number (1-888-LIMULUS or 877-TAG-CRAB)	Date	Location	Animal alive or dead?	Observer(s)	Notes
						6
						1.1.

Occasionally dead sturgeon are encountered on the beach. Sturgeon are ancient fish, dating back at least 70 million years, and can be found along the entire Atlantic coast from Florida to Labrador, Canada. Currently rare, sightings provide valuable information for scientists and managers working to conserve them.

Sturgeon are a state protected species and if encountered, are reported to Delaware Fish & Wildlife.



Further Information

On arrival, you will be provided additional information in the form of verbal instruction, written instructions, and practical experience with more advanced team members.

Please ask questions when you are uncertain.

Remember, it is better to have only a few resightings that you are sure about, than a lot of uncertain resightings. Take time to be certain.

Credits

Prepared by:Delaware Division of Fish & WildlifeGregory Breese, US Fish & Wildlife ServiceJean Woods, Delaware Museum of Natural History

Technical Consultant: Simon Gillings, British Trust for Ornithology Photos credits given by photos

Updated April 2020







