



**Canadian Avian Society**

Calgary, Alberta

[www.canadianaviansociety.ca](http://www.canadianaviansociety.ca)

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## **Monitoring & Survey Protocol**

### **1. Purpose**

This protocol provides simple, accessible steps for community members to observe, document, and report bird activity in their area. Monitoring helps identify population trends, habitat changes, and welfare concerns.

### **2. Preparing for Observation**

- Choose a quiet location with good visibility.
- Bring a notebook or digital device for recording observations.
- Use binoculars if available.
- Avoid disturbing birds or entering restricted areas.

### **3. What to Record**

- Species observed (or best guess)
- Number of individuals
- Behaviour (feeding, flying, nesting, resting)
- Habitat type (trees, wetlands, grasslands, urban areas)
- Weather conditions
- Any signs of distress or injury

### **4. Ethical Observation**

- Keep a respectful distance from all birds.
- Never disturb nests or feeding parents.
- Avoid playback calls that may stress wildlife.
- Follow local regulations and protected habitat guidelines.

### **5. Photographing Birds**

- Use zoom instead of approaching closely.
- Do not use flash around sensitive species.
- Photos can help with species identification but should never compromise bird safety.

## **6. Submitting Data**

Observations may be submitted to CAS or participating community science platforms. Include:

- Date and time
- Location (general area is enough)
- Species list
- Notes on behaviour or habitat

## **7. When to Report Concerns**

Notify CAS or wildlife authorities if you observe:

- Birds showing illness or injury
- Nest destruction or habitat damage
- Large numbers of dead or distressed birds

## **8. Contribution to Conservation**

Community monitoring supports education, welfare programs, and long-term conservation planning. Every observation helps build a clearer picture of bird health across Canada.

## **Contact**

Questions or data submissions: [info@canadianaviansociety.ca](mailto:info@canadianaviansociety.ca)

