

Monitor Instructions

Questions? contact us at sparrowswap@ncsu.edu

Why be a Monitor? As a Monitor, you can provide valuable information on the degree to which removal and swapping of house sparrow (HOSP) eggs affects the native birds nesting near house sparrows. By monitoring the activities of neighboring nestboxes and documenting any observed conflict between HOSP and native birds, we can begin to understand which management strategy (swap or removal) best minimizes the damage done by HOSP.

Step 1: PERFORM REMOVAL OR SWAP- As a Monitor you must choose to do a swap or removal. Refer to the Swapper or Remover instructions and fill out the corresponding datasheet for this step.

Step 2: DETERMINE NEIGHBORING NESTBOXES- Locate the three closest nestboxes to the target nestbox in which you carried out the swap or removal. If you only have one or two neighboring nestboxes you can still be a Monitor. Skip any boxes that are currently being used by a HOSP or empty due to a recent HOSP nest removal. On the same day as the swap or removal, record a) what species are using the neighboring nestboxes, b) whether the boxes are attended or abandoned, and c) all other observations using the abbreviations found below and on the Monitor datasheet.

Abbreviations for Observations

PAR- Saw parent leave, enter, or on box	DEP- Dead parent in nestbox
NEA- Saw parents near the nestbox	DEC- Dead chick
NOP- No parents sighted	INP- Injured parent
MAT- Nest material	INC- Injured chick
EGG- Eggs (include number)	DAM- Damaged eggs
CHI- Chicks	AGG- Saw HOSP aggression towards native bird
EMP- Empty nestbox	OTH- Other (specify)

Step 3: FOLLOW-UP OBSERVATIONS – When you return to the target nestbox for follow-up visits, please also check on the neighboring nestboxes and repeat data collection of Step 2. Complete the same number of visits for the Monitor datasheet that you do for the corresponding swap or removal.

Step 4: PACKAGE & SHIP HOSP EGGS AND DATASHEETS – After completing follow-up visits, prepare all datasheets and HOSP eggs for shipping. See the packaging instructions at the bottom of the Swapper or Remover instructions.



[ID: _____] **MONITOR DATASHEET** [Lab Use Only: NCSM _____]

Your Name: _____ SciStarter Username: _____

Target Nestbox Name: _____ Circle: Swap or Removal Date of Swap or Removal: _____

<p>1. Nestbox Name</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Location: (Lat/Long or Address)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>HOSP DETERENTS: Halo__ Spooker__ None__ Other_____</p>	<p>Visit #1</p>	<p>Visit #2</p>	<p>Visit #3</p>	<p>Visit #4</p>
	<p>Date: _____</p>			
	<p>Species: _____</p>			
	<p>Do you think the Nestbox is... (circle)</p>			
	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended
	<p>*Observations: (list all that apply)</p>			
	<p>Comments:</p>			
<p>2. Nestbox Name</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Location: (Lat/Long or Address)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>HOSP DETERENTS: Halo__ Spooker__ None__ Other_____</p>	<p>Visit #1</p>	<p>Visit #2</p>	<p>Visit #3</p>	<p>Visit #4</p>
	<p>Date: _____</p>			
	<p>Species: _____</p>			
	<p>Do you think the Nestbox is... (circle)</p>			
	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended
	<p>*Observations: (list all that apply)</p>			
	<p>Comments:</p>			
<p>3. Nestbox Name</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Location: (Lat/Long or Address)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>HOSP DETERENTS: Halo__ Spooker__ None__ Other_____</p>	<p>Visit #1</p>	<p>Visit #2</p>	<p>Visit #3</p>	<p>Visit #4</p>
	<p>Date: _____</p>			
	<p>Species: _____</p>			
	<p>Do you think the Nestbox is... (circle)</p>			
	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended	Abandoned or Attended
	<p>*Observations: (see list)</p>			
	<p>Comments:</p>			

*Please use the following abbreviations for observations (list ALL that apply)

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|--|------------------------------------|---|
| PAR- Saw parent leave, enter, or on box | CHI- Chicks | INC- Injured chick |
| NEA- Saw parents near the nestbox | EMP- Empty nestbox | DAM- Damaged eggs |
| NOP- No parents sighted | DEP- Dead parent in nestbox | AGG- Saw HOSP aggression towards native bird |
| MAT- Nest material | DEC- Dead chick | OTH- Other (specify) |
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