

Project Scoring Sheet – Avian

Version 1.1

Notes

- This is a static document intended for reference only. It includes information the Reviewer sees while scoring an application.
- Questions relating directly to requirements are indicated with a red asterisk*.
- Checkmarks help reviewers focus in on key components of the scoring.
- The results of individual project reviews are available at the top of each project's page in the [Conservation Certification Website](#).
- Information about other aspects of evaluations (e.g. methodology used for scoring) is available in the [Certification Support Center](#).

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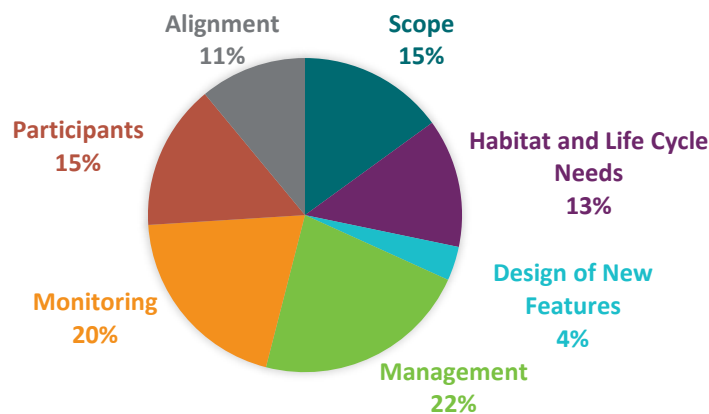
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Overview

Percentage of points achievable per section



Scope | 15% of points achievable

* Does the project exceed regulatory requirements?

If the applicant answered that no aspects of the project are done in relation to regulatory requirements, select N/A. If they answered that it was done in relation to regulatory requirements, select Yes or No depending on if it exceeds requirements.

N/A

No

Yes

* Is the project locally appropriate by targeting native species? | Up to 9.75 points

0 - Not targeting appropriate native species

1 - Targeting appropriate native species | 9.75 pts

* How long has the project been on the ground? | Up to 5.25 points

0 = Project started less than 1 breeding season ago (not long enough to have a measurable conservation outcome)

Score = Number of years | Points earned = score/5

* Is there a stated conservation objective?

✓ Applicant understanding

No

Yes

Habitat and Life Cycle Needs | 13% of points achievable

* Does the project address multiple habitat needs? | Up to 13.26 points

Addressing a habitat need means that the project either directly provides this habitat need (e.g. structures installed as part of the project) OR the applicant described how this habitat need is met elsewhere on-site or on a nearby property. For any needs counted, they must be locally appropriate for targeted species (e.g. nesting structures are within the breeding range of species targeted).

Habitat needs addressed = Breeding or Nesting, Foraging, Hibernating or Wintering, Migratory stopover, Movement corridors, Shelter, Water, Other.

✓ Applicant understanding

✓ Documentation

0 - No habitat needs addressed

1 - At least one habitat need addressed | 3.315 pts

2 - Half of habitat needs addressed (4) | 6.63 pts

3 - More than half/majority of habitat needs are addressed | 13.26 pts

Design of New Features | 4% of points achievable

Does a new installed feature (i.e. an artificial feature or a natural, planted feature) add value to the project? | Up to 3.51 points

Examples of projects that incorporate both good and flawed design considerations include: planting both native and non-native species, and installing nest boxes without predator guards. Projects with design considerations that are entirely valid and valuable might include planting 100% native or mostly native species that is modeled on a particular native plant community used by birds, choosing the right location for birds' habitat needs and safety, etc. Harmful design considerations for birds might include planting invasive species, installing nest boxes in an area of the site where birds will likely be harmed by site operations, etc.

✓ Applicant understanding

✓ Documentation is relevant

N/A - No new features have been added

0 - Harmful or no design considerations for the features for Avian species (or renewal with no new features)

1 - Good design consideration(s) but with some flaw(s) (e.g. lack of predator guards on nest boxes, or use of non-native plantings) | 2.457 pts

2 - All design considerations valid and valuable to Avian species | 3.51 pts

Species Management | 22% of points achievable

Does the project have regular or adaptive management? | Up to 11.7 points

✓ Applicant understanding (see monitoring section)

✓ Documentation

0 - Not actively managed (just monitored)

1 - One off or intermittent management | 2.34 pts

2 - Regular management performed (e.g. annual cleaning and repair of nest boxes) | 5.85 pts

3 - Frequent (more than once a year) management performed (e.g. protecting nesting areas from disturbance during appropriate season) | 10.53 pts

4 - Adaptively managed based on monitoring and other information gathered (must show evidence of implementing adaptations prior to submitting the application) | 11.7 pts

Is the population being managed in an appropriate manner? | Up to 3.9 points

Population management efforts are only evaluated if they are designed to maintain or improve the population.

0 - Not directly managing the population or harming the population through management

1 - Managing the population with no plan submitted | 0.78 pts

2 - Managing the population with an appropriate plan | 2.73 pts

3 - Managing the population with an appropriate scientifically rigorous plan | 3.9 pts

Does the project address a specific threat to Avian? | Up to 6.63 points

A threat will be a regional or site-specific threat to the target species of concern. By addressing a specific threat, the applicant seeks to reduce or eliminate the impact of that threat on the Avian species.

Examples of threats to avian species include: predation by invasive or feral species, disease, unsustainable or illegal hunting/fishing or bycatch, harassment, disturbance of nesting sites, and illegal wildlife trade.

✓ Applicant understanding

✓ Specific threat listed

✓ Action(s) described

0 - Not targeting a specific threat, or no action taken to target a specific threat, or not answered

1 - Taking an action to target a specific threat | 6.63 pts

Monitoring | 20% of points achievable

Does the project include project-relevant baseline documentation? | Up to 3 points

✓ Applicant understanding

✓ Documentation is relevant

0 - No baseline

1 - Mid-project baseline collected (collected after on the ground activities started) | 1.5 pts

2 - Initial baseline data collected (collected before the start of the project) | 2.25 pts

3 - Initial and new baseline data collected (collected prior to the addition of new habitat areas/features) | 3 pts

Does the project include a relevant, scientifically rigorous monitoring protocol? | Up to 5 points

Relevant = Monitoring that would inform assessment of habitat.

✓ Applicant understanding

✓ Includes methodology/procedure, timing and frequency

0 - No monitoring plan or protocol. Or, monitoring protocol is not relevant

1 - Monitoring protocol that is relevant but not scientifically rigorous (i.e. may not fully protect against bias) | 3 pts

2 - Monitoring protocol that is both relevant and scientifically rigorous | 5 pts

* To what level is monitoring implemented? | Up to 7 points

Adequate monitoring = providing data that can be compared over time to assess whatever is being monitored.

Initial programs ✓ Documentation is from at least the past year

Renewal programs ✓ Documentation includes each year since last applied up to date applied

0 - No monitoring or inadequate/irrelevant/harmful monitoring (monitoring that is not directly tied to the species)

1 - At least annual adequate monitoring not of the species directly but of associated factors (such as food sources) | 2.1 pts

2 - Adequate monitoring of targeted species | 5.6 pts

3 - Adequate monitoring of targeted species AND at least 1 associated factor (e.g. food sources) | 7 pts

Is monitoring data evaluated? | Up to 5 points

An evaluation of monitoring data involves examining how successful the project was in achieving desired outcomes and reviewing if changes need to be made to the project. Examples of evaluation of monitoring data include: assessing whether plantings successfully established, and if not, determining what changes can be made to improve the success of future plantings.

0 - No evaluation provided (or nonsensical/irrelevant)

1 - Evaluation provided (does not consider how correct the evaluation is) | 2.5 pts

2 - Use results of evaluation to create next steps for the project | 5 pts

Participants | 15% of points achievable

Do employees actively contribute to the project?

Yes

No

How many employee hours were spent on project specific activities each year? | Up to 3.5 points

Hours are calculated as: all planning + all implementation / # years of cert term with full data

0 = No employee hours

Score = Average number of employee hours/year over the course of the certification term (an entry with partial hours is acceptable) | Points earned = score/100

What was the depth of employee engagement in the project? | Up to 3.5 points

This criterion does not take into account the number of employees engaged.

0 - No employee participation

1 - One-off/ single event or irregular involvement of employees | 0.7 pts

2 - Regular involvement of employees in implementation OR development or long-term planning | 2.45 pts

3 - Regular involvement of employees in implementation AND development or long-term planning | 3.5 pts

Do any groups or partners actively contribute to the project?

Yes

No

How many partner hours were spent on project specific activities each year? | Up to 2.8 points

Hours are calculated as: all planning + all implementation / # Years of cert term with full data

0 = No partner hours

Score = Average number of partner hours/year over the course of the certification term (an entry with partial hours is acceptable) | Points earned = score/50

What was the depth of partner engagement in the project? | Up to 2.8 points

This criterion does not consider the number of partners engaged.

- 0 - No partner participation
- 1 - One-off/ single event or irregular involvement of partners | 0.56 pts
- 2 - Regular involvement of partners in implementation OR development or long-term planning | 1.96 pts
- 3 - Regular involvement of partners in implementation AND development or long-term planning | 2.8 pts

What was the level of technical advice used in the project? | Up to 2.4 points

✓ Applicant understanding

- 0 - No technical advice
- 1 - Technical advice sought (from partner or other resources) | 0.72 pts
- 2 - Demonstrated implementation of technical advice | 1.68 pts
- 3 - Ongoing regular use of technical advice (at least once per year) | 2.4 pts

Alignment | 11% of points achievable

Is the project designed to connect to Avian habitat on nearby property? | Up to 2.5 points

Can be adjacent or within a reasonable flight range also known as foraging distance.

✓ Applicant understanding

✓ Connecting habitat is off-site

- 0 - No
- 1 - Part of a named or known set of habitat patches or corridors where the species exists or is found | 1 pt
- 2 - Adds to existing habitat by connecting adjacent properties' habitat for that species | 2 pts
- 3 - Creates a connection between fragmented habitats to provide a large contiguous habitat area that would otherwise be unavailable | 2.5 pts

Is the project within or adjacent to a designated high priority bird conservation area? (e.g. Important Bird Area)? | Up to 2.5 points

✓ Applicant understanding

- 0 - No, or no alignment described
- 1 - Yes, with alignment described | 2.5 pts

Does the project tie to a corporate level commitment to Avian? | Up to 1.2 points

General corporate commitments to the environment, biodiversity, or education are not recognized.

✓ Specific to project type

- 0 - No
- 1 - Yes | 1.2 pts

Does the project align with a large-scale conservation initiative? | Up to 3.9 points

✓ Applicant understanding

0 - No stated alignment with an established initiative

1 - Alignment with a general plan (not Avian specific), or an initiative (without a specific plan).

Example of both types: State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), migratory pathway | 1.95 pts

2 - Managed in accordance with an established Avian specific plan | 3.9 pts

Does the project demonstrate success through a third-party Avian certification that meets WHC criteria? | Up to 0.9 points

0 - No

1 - Yes (one or more) | 0.9 pts