

# Exercise 2: Enter point count observations

**DoD Workshon Variable Circular Plot (VCP) Point Count** Pg. \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

Table Name                      Transect Name                      Month    Day    Year                      Visit

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Point #	Time			Species				≤ 10	10-20	20-30	30-50	50-100	> 100	Fly-overs	Behav. Obs
1	6	4	2	B	A	W	W			2V					
1	6	4	2	C	O	Y	E				1C				

Behav. Obs: AF = aerial foraging, CO = copulation, MC = material carry, FC = food carry, NF = nest found, FL = fledglings, FS = fecal sac carry, DD = distraction display, PA = pair, DI = display

Weather Information: Please estimate temperature, cloud cover (% of sky covered by clouds), and approximate wind speed.  
18 ° F of C (circle one)                      10 %                      3 mph (knots, or kmph (circle one))  
 Temperature                      Cloud Cover                      Wind Speed

ENTERED \_\_\_\_\_ PROOFED \_\_\_\_\_

1. Open **Biologists** (<https://data.pointblue.org/science/biologists/>) and log in if needed.
2. Select the project on the left **DOD\_DEMO**
3. Click on **“Point Count Surveys”** in the list on the right.
4. Find your Table and the Transect you created in Exercise 1 and click on it.
5. Under “Create a new visit”, select the protocols we added to the project:
  - a. Observation Protocol: **VCP10\_30**
  - b. Site condition Protocol: **WEATHER**
  - c. Click the **Start** button.
6. Fill out the screen using the information in the data sheet above:
  - a. Date
  - b. Visit
  - c. Data sharing level - set to RAW and cannot be changed.
  - d. Observer - you will see everyone in the project (all those in the class) can be selected.
  - e. Start time - when did your 1 point survey start? Note the End Time automatically is populated
  - f. Site conditions - look at the bottom of the survey form above for those data
  - g. Observations -
    - i. Search the species database - click to look up species by scientific name, common name, or 4 letter code
    - ii. Point - select the point you created. Notice the time is filled in.

- iii. Species - we enter using 4 letter codes - IBP/AOU list + unknowns + common uncertain ids (<https://www.birdpop.org/pages/birdSpeciesCodes.php>). Also some mammals.
- iv. Distance bins - enter Count and Detection together as collected on datasheet.
- h. Click **Save to Database** when finished.
  - i. If you made any errors or forgot to fill in a required field, you will get a red message at the top of the screen. Go correct the error and click the Save to Database button again.
  - ii. If you are successful you should see a green message at the top of the screen.
- i. After saving to the database, you will be taken to the proofing page. You can review what entered to make sure you didn't make mistakes.
  - i. If you find a mistake, you can double click on the field and edit the field to correct.
  - ii. Click the Add more button if you forgot to add a line, such as an entire species, to the event.
- j. When you are satisfied, click the **Proofing Complete** button near the top of the page.
- k. Your survey is complete. You will see your survey in the list of surveys, and the Data Sharing Level is set to CLEAN.