

Sheffield Bird Study Group

Sand Martin Survey Year: 2018

Recording Form Sector: _____

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Observer (see note overleaf):		(buddy/ mentee/ solo)
Address:	Tel:	
	E-mail:	

Survey Method

You should make at least two visits to your sector of the River Don, one between 12 May and 16 June, the other between 24 June and 30 July, with your visits spaced at least 2 weeks apart. Each visit should last around two hours (ideally before 11 or after 5), allowing for thorough coverage of the whole stretch of river within your sector (see overleaf for sectors). A leisurely walk with regular stops to check sites and birds' activities should be effective.

Recording your sightings

Following the code descriptions below, record the 'best' level of breeding activity for birds present in your sector during the survey period, as well as the nature of any breeding colonies/ sites located (e.g. pipe, wall, bank), height above current water level and a six-figure grid reference (with photos if possible). Also note the max count of Sand Martins made on your sector on each visit, recording date and time, as per the sample line below. Please take the chance to record other riverine species below and don't forget to submit your records to the Group's website to ensure they enter the database. Once you have completed your survey, please scan and send your form to david.wood@sheffield.ac.uk or post to David Wood (23 Crimicar Drive, Sheffield, S10 4EF).

Code descriptions (full versions appear overleaf)

Po	ossible breeding	Probable breeding	Confirmed breeding
Р	Present	S Singing male/display	F Carrying food/faecal sac
		C Courtship/territorial	E Nest with eggs/yng
		N Nest building pairs	Y Fledged young

	Grid ref	Poss	Prob	Conf	Max count	Site type	above water
Sand Martin	SK255855	P x 8	N x 3	E x 2	17, 09:22, 18/5	stone wall	2-3 m
Sand Martin							
Sand Martin							
Sand Martin							
Sand Martin							

Other species	Р	S	С	Ν	F	Е	Υ		Р	S	С	N	F	Е	Υ
Little Grebe								Grey Wagtail							
Grey Heron								Dipper							
Canada Goose								Kingfisher							
Mallard															
Moorhen															

Code descriptions (full versions of shorthand versions overleaf/ below)

- P Present in suitable breeding habitat on more than one visit during breeding season.
- S Singing/displaying male in suitable breeding site at same location in tetrad on more than one visit during breeding season.
- C A pair in suitable habitat showing courtship or territorial behaviour.
- N Bird visiting probable nest site; nest building; anxiety calls; recently used nest.
- F Adult carrying food (beware male feeding female) or faecal sac.
- E Adult sitting on nest; nest with eggs/young; egg shells found away from nest.
- Y Recently fledged young.

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P Present	S Singing male/display	F Carrying food/faecal sac
	C Courtship/territorial	E Nest with eggs/yng
	N Nest building	Y Fledged young

Note to observers

If you are willing to take a mentoring role and 'buddy' with another observer on your sector, please indicate accordingly after your name and choose a sector; if you would like to be mentored by a buddy, please indicate as much after your name, and leave the sector blank: we will match you to a mentor and put you in touch. And if you want to go solo, indicate after your name and choose a sector. Whichever option you go for, let David Wood (david.wood@sheffield.ac.uk) know so as to coordinate coverage.

Sectors

Sector 1: Club Mill Road (junction River Don and Loxley) to Rutland Road

Sector 2: Rutland Road to Ladies Bridge

Sector 3: Lady's Bridge to Leveson Street

Sector 4: Leveson Street to East Coast Road

Sector 5: East Coast Road to Newhall Road

Sector 6: Newhall Road to Hawke Street

Sector 7: Hawke Street to Meadowhall Way

Sector 8: Meadowhall Way to Tinsley viaduct

Sector 9: Tinsley viaduct to Bessemer Way (loop south of Blackburn Meadows NR)

Sector 10: Blackburn Meadows Way to A630 (loop north of Blackburn Meadows NR)

Sector 11: Bessemer Way to Centenary Way (loop south of Blackburn Meadows NR)

Sector 12: Centenary Way to Bridge Street (Rotherham)

Sector 13: Bridge Street (Rotherham) to Netherfield Court

Sector 14: Netherfield Court to Aldwarke Lane (A6123)

The Five Weirs Walk covers much of this stretch of the Don: maps of the E and W halves of the walk can be downloaded from http://www.fiveweirs.co.uk/map.htm and http://www.gps-routes.co.uk/routes/home.nsf/openmap?openform&route=five-weirs-walk-walking-and-cycle-route Do ensure you stick to public rights of way and roads during the survey; any short sections where riverside access is not possible should be covered by scanning from the closest public access point/ bridge.