Wildlife Survey Volunteer Opportunities

NH Audubon's Conservation Department

In order by Time of Year - beginning with January

Project Name	Brief Description	Time of Year	Where	Level of Activity	Time Commitment	Skills Needed	Training Available?	Contact
Mid-winter Bald Eagle Survey	watch on coordinated date	January	statewide	variable; driving routes and fixed points; snow and ice	1/2 day or full day	use binoculars; identify eagles by age class; record/submit observations	No - instructions provided	Chris Martin; cmartin@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x317
Backyard Winter Bird Survey	watch and count birds at your feeder	second weekend in February	statewide	none - stationary count	as little or as much as you want on the survey weekend	report only those birds you can identify	No - instructions provided	Becky Suomala; bsuomala@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x309
Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz	Coordinated international citizen science project to identify stopover habitat for migrating Rusty Blackbirds	Mar - Apr	statewide, emphasis on CT and Merrimack River valleys and Coastal watershed	variable; roadside surveys to bushwacking to remote wetlands	variable	Ability to identify birds by sight and sound; ability to document observation on data form and/or eBird	Yes, on individual basis as needed	Carol Foss; cfoss@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x 331
Phenological Monitoring	monitor timing of plant emergence and flowering and other events on NHA sanctuaries	Mar - Nov	Amherst, Concord, Deering	variable; usually not strenuous (done along established trails)	depends on volunteer	some identification of plants and animals, record data	yes	Laura Deming; ldeming@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x335
Peregrine Falcon Cliff Survey	search for presence at potential breeding sites	Apr-June	statewide	variable; short or long hikes; elevation gain	1/2 day or full day	use binoculars; identify falcons and other raptors; record/submit observations	Yes, on individual basis as needed	Chris Martin; cmartin@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x317
Chimney Swift roost watches	look for roosting swifts in your neighborhood or at pre-determined locations	May and August, with June/July option	statewide	variable	variable	use binoculars to count swifts	Yes	Pam Hunt; phunt@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x328
Marshbird Surveys	survey pre-selected wetland sites using playbacks at dawn or dusk	May-June	statewide	usually requires use of a boat	minimum of three half days, travel likely required	ability to identify marshbirds by call; access to a boat and playback equipment (latter available at NH Audubon)	Maybe, depending on interest/experience of volunteers	Pam Hunt; phunt@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x328

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Swallow CORE	search for and monitor breeding colonies of Bank, Barn and Cliff Swallows, and Purple Martin	May-July	statewide	variable	variable	identify swallow species; count birds or active nests.	Not presently	Pam Hunt; phunt@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x328
Project Nighthawk Nest Monitor	watch a nest site and record activity in the evening	May-Aug	Concord, Ossipee area, Keene	variable, both drive-to and walk-in sites	once/week preferred	use binoculars, identify C. Nighthawks, record observations	Yes	Becky Suomala; bsuomala@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x309
Project Nighthawk Watch	coordinated evening watch	May-Aug	Concord, Keene, Ossipee pine barrens	variable, stationary count, both drive-to and walk-in sites	1-3 nights	use binoculars, identify C. Nighthawks, record observations	variable, paired with experienced obs.	Becky Suomala; bsuomala@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x309
NH Bat Survey	acoustic surveys are conducted along 20-30 mile driving routs. Maternity roos surveys are conducted in the evening at barns and other sites	May-Sept	statewide	low	Driving routes require 1.5-2 hrs each, plus time to transfer equipment	ability to drive on backroads (but not 4-wheeling), minimal technology experience, tolerant of mosquitos	Yes	Laura Deming; ldeming@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x335
Olive-sided Flycatcher Surveys	survey pre-selected sites	June-July	northern & western NH	variable; some challenging sites	minimum of three surveys at a site; travel likely required	ability to identify Olive-sided Flycatchers; access to a vehicle	Yes	Pam Hunt; phunt@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909 x328
Raptor Migration Counter/Educator	Count and record migrant raptors at one of two NHA-run observatories; educators focus on outreach component and can work alongside a more skilled observer	September-mid November	Carter Hill (Concord) or Pack Monadnock (Peterborough) raptor observatories	variable, stationary count, both drive-to and walk-to (short) sites	minimum 1/day week commitment during Septebmer and October	ability to identify flying migrant raptors to some degree; willingness to learn more and follow instructions on data sheet	Yes	Phil Brown; pbrown@nhaudubon.org; 603-224-9909x334
Bird Reporter	Report bird sightings from any location at any time of year to a centralized database via eBird	any time	any place	reporters determine their own level of activity	no minimum required	report only those birds you can identify	No	go to: www.ebird.org/nh

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NH Survey Opportunities with Other Organizations								
Mountain Birdwatch	Vermont Center for Ecostudies project to survey for Bicknell's Thrush.	June	White Mountains and northern NH	strenuous	1 morning per route; typically requires overnight camping	identify high elevation birds by sight and sound, use specific protocol, good physical condition	yes	go to: www.vtecostudies.org/MBW/