Ecological Monitoring System Australia

Datasheets: Fauna Ground Counts Module



Version 1

7 May 2024

Version control

Readers are advised that this datasheet will undergo revision as the EMSA Monitor app undergoes new refinement and updated versions become available. The names of the fields may vary slightly from the modules and the datasheet during this process.

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| **Datasheet version** | **Date** | **Version update overview** |
| 1 | 7 May 2024 | Release of the datasheet matching Monitor version 1.0.0 |
| 2 | 7 May 2024 | Minor update to delete unnecessary fields |

Instruction

This datasheet can be used if the Monitor app is not accessible at the time of a field survey. The datasheet has been designed to match the EMSA module manual and the Monitor app workflow. However, there are some minor differences, as capturing the quantity and complexity of the data in hard-copy form is difficult to replicate. At times some additional information or less information is collected on the datasheet. Examples of this are where the app would readily collect the location, date and time information of each input with minimal user input, but the datasheet version only collects the survey start and end location, date and time.

Surveyors must follow the EMSA module manual as though they are using Monitor, i.e. by following the Instructions and Procedures section of the relevant protocol, but instead of entering the data in Monitor, data is entered on the datasheet.

**Surveyors are reminded to check the module manual to ensure that the mandatory pre-survey and prerequisites have been completed prior to undertaking the module.** A key example is where the Plot Selection and Layout Module must be completed prior to undertaking all plot-based protocols.

This datasheet can either be printed and used in the field using a pencil or used digitally on a device.

**Regional Delivery Partners are responsible for manually entering datasheet-collected data into Monitor once the app is fully functional again. The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water require that digital scans of the datasheets be uploaded into MERIT.**

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| --- |
| Survey details |
| DateDate | Start time (24 hr) |
|  |  |
|  |
| Observer name/s | Observer role |
|  |  |
|  |  |

# Transect and survey set up

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Transect(New or existing) | Transect ID | Transect start location (waypoint or lat/long) | Route Type |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  | Transect length (m) | Transect spacing (m) | Transect alignment (°) | Habitat (major vegetion group) |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |

# Survey set-up

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Survey set up ID | Route Type Photo - Location/ID | Traverse Type |
| Transect ID | Survey Date |  |  |
|  |  |
|  |
| Survey intent | Equipment type | Equipment description |
|  |  |  |
|  |
| Sampling Type | Transect width (m) (If fixed width) | Sightability distance (m) | Survey Time |
| □ Distance sample□ Fixed width |  |  | □ Diurnal□ Nocturnal |
|  |  |
| Target species | Visibility Example Photo 1 - Location/ID | Visibility Example Photo 2 - Location/ID |
|  |  |  |

# Weather conditions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Temperature ˚C | Rainfall | Duration of Rainfall | Cloud Cover | Wind description | Moon Phase |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Conduct the survey

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Survey setup ID | Survey date (DD,MM,YY) | Survey start time (24hr) | Survey end time (24 hr) | Observer initials |
|  |  |  |  |  |

# Observations

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time (24 hr) | Location(Waypoint) | Species | Count | Observation Type | Distance (m) | Direction (compass bearing) | Sex | Age class | Cat coat colour | Comments |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Survey intent** | **Equipment used** | **Species** | **Rainfall** | **Wind description** | **Sex** |
| Once off measure | Binoculars  | Cat | Showers | Calm | Male |
| Repeated measure | Spotting scope | Fox | Rain | Light winds | Female |
| Linked to a pre-control activity | Rangefinder | Wild dog | Drizzle | Moderate winds | Unknown |
| Linked to a post-control activity | Spotlight |  - Dog  | Frost | Fresh winds | Mixed sexes |
|  | Torch/headtorch |  - Dingo | Mist | Strong winds | Not recorded |
| **Route type** | Thermal device |  - Dog-dingo hybrid | Thunderstorms | Near gale | N/A |
| Vehicle road | Camera – still |  - Unknown |  | Gale |  |
| Vehicle dirt track | Camera – video | Rabbit | **Duration of rainfall** | Strong gale | **Age** |
| Walking track | Vehicle | Deer | Intermittent |  | Adult |
| Off-track -no defined path | Vehicle – with observers inside of cab |  - Fallow deer | Occasional | **Moon Phase** | Immature (sub-adult) |
| Other-specify | Vehicle – with observers outside of cab |  - Rusa deer | Frequent | New moon | Juvenile |
|  | Other |  - Red deer | Continuous | First quarter | Unknown |
| **Traverse type** |  |  - Chital deer | Periods of rain | Full moon | Not recorded |
| Walked | **Observer role** |  - Hog deer | Brief | Third quarter |  |
| Driven | Spotter |  - Unknown  |  |  | **Cat coat colour** |
|  | Spotter outside of cab | Goat | **Cloud cover** |  | Ginger |
| **Survey Time** | Spotter inside of cab | Pig | Sunny |  | Black |
| Diurnal | Vehicle driver | Horse | Mostly sunny |  | Tabby |
| Nocturnal | Data entry | Camel | Partly cloudy |  | Tortoiseshell |
|  | Data entry only | Other (specify) | Cloudy |  | Other |
| **Observation Type** |  |  | Overcast |  | Unknown |
| Seen |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heard |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seen and heard |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **Habitat (major vegetation group)** |
| Rainforests and Vine Thickets | Mallee Woodlands and Shrublands | Hummock Grasslands |
| Eucalypt Tall Open Forests | Unclassified forest | Other Grasslands, Herblands, Sedgelands and Rushlands |
| Eucalypt Open Forests | Eucalypt Open Woodlands | Chenopod Shrublands, Samphire Shrublands and Forblands |
| Eucalypt Low Open Forests | Acacia Open Woodlands | Mangroves |
| Eucalypt Woodlands | Mallee Open Woodlands and Sparse Mallee Shrublands | Inland Aquatic - freshwater, salt lakes, lagoons |
| Acacia Forests and Woodlands | Other Open Woodlands | Cleared, non-native vegetation, buildings |
| Callitris Forests and Woodlands | Low Closed Forests and Tall Closed Shrublands | Unclassified native vegetation |
| Casuarina Forests and Woodlands | Acacia Shrublands | Naturally Bare - sand, rock, claypan, mudflat |
| Melaleuca Forests and Woodlands | Other Shrublands | Sea and estuaries |
| Other Forests and Woodlands | Heathlands | Regrowth, modified native vegetation |
| Tropical Eucalypt Woodlands/Grasslands | Tussock Grasslands | Unknown/no data |

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| Vantage point and survey setup |
| Observer name | Date | Start time (24 hr) | End time (24 hr) |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |
| Vantage Point(New or existing) | Vantage Point ID | Vantage point location (waypoint or lat/long) | Vantage point type |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |
| Outlooks zone | Left boundary direction (˚)  | Right boundary direction (˚) | Habitat(Major vegetation group) | Outlook zonedescription |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |

# Survey information

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Survey set up ID | Survey Intent | Sightability distance (m) |
| Vangate point ID | Date of survey |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |
| Outlook zone photo/s | Target species | Survey time(nocturnal or diurnal) |
| Outlook zone | Photo ID |
|  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |
| Equipment Type | Make (optional) | Model (optional) | Description (optional) |
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|  |
| Observer name | Observer role | Responsible outlook zone/s |
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| **Weather details** |
| Temperature (˚C) | Rainfall | Rainfall duration | Cloud cover | Wind description | Moon phase |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Conduct survey |
| Survey setup ID | Survey start time (24h) | Survey end time (24h) |
| Vangate point ID | Date of survey |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Observations** |
| Spotter name | Applicable outlook zone | Distance (m) | Direction (1-360°) | Species | Count | Obs. type | Sex | Age class | Cat coat colour | Comments |
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| **Observer role** | **Age class** | **Rainfall** | **Habitat (major vegetation group)** | **Species** |
|  Spotter | Adult | Showers | Rainforests and Vine Thickets | Cat |
| Data entry | Sub-adult | Rain | Eucalypt Tall Open Forests | Fox |
|  | Juvenile | Drizzle | Eucalypt Open Forests | Wild dog |
| **Vantage point type** | Unknown | Frost | Eucalypt Low Open Forests |  - Dog  |
| View point |  | Mist | Eucalypt Woodlands |  - Dingo |
| Target waterpoint | **Cat coat colour** | Thunderstorms | Acacia Forests and Woodlands |  - Dog-dingo hybrid |
| Target food source | Ginger |  | Callitris Forests and Woodlands |  - Unknown |
| Other (specify) | Black | **Rainfall duration** | Casuarina Forests and Woodlands | Rabbit |
|  | Tabby | Intermittant | Melaleuca Forests and Woodlands | Deer |
| **Survey time** | Tortoiseshell | Occasional | Other Forests and Woodlands |  - Fallow deer |
| Nocturnal | Other (specify) | Frequent | Tropical Eucalypt Woodlands/Grasslands |  - Rusa deer |
| Diurnal | Unknown | Continuious | Mallee Woodlands and Shrublands |  - Red deer |
|  |  | Periods of rain | Unclassified forest |  - Chital deer |
| **Survey intent** | **Observation type** | Brief | Eucalypt Open Woodlands |  - Hog deer |
| Once off measure | Seen |  | Acacia Open Woodlands |  - Unknown  |
| Repeated measure | Heard | **Cloud cover** | Mallee Open Woodlands and Sparse Mallee Shrublands | Goat |
| Linked to a pre-control activity |  | Clear | Other Open Woodlands | Pig |
| Linked to a post control activity | **Sex** | Mostly clear | Low Closed Forests and Tall Closed Shrublands | Horse |
|  | Male | Partly cloudy | Acacia Shrublands | Camel |
| **Equipment type** | Female | Cloudy | Other Shrublands | Other (specify) |
| Bionoculars | Unknown | Overcast | Heathlands |  |
| Spotting scope | Mixed |  | Tussock Grasslands |  |
| Rangefinder | Not recorded | **Wind description** | Hummock Grasslands |  |
| Spotlight |  | Calm | Other Grasslands, Herblands, Sedgelands and Rushlands |  |
| Torch/headtorch | **Moon phase** | Light winds | Chenopod Shrublands, Samphire Shrublands and Forblands |  |
| Therma device | New moon | Moderate winds | Mangroves |  |
| Camera – still | First quarter | Fresh winds | Inland Aquatic - freshwater, salt lakes, lagoons |  |
| Camera – video | Full moon | Strong winds | Cleared, non-native vegetation, buildings |  |
| Vehicle | Third quarter | Near gale | Unclassified native vegetation |  |
|  |  | Gale | Naturally Bare - sand, rock, claypan, mudflat |  |
|  |  |  | Sea and estuaries |  |
|  |  |  | Regrowth, modified native vegetation |  |
|  |  |  | Unknown/no data |  |