

UC Santa Barbara

Data Descriptions

Title

UCSB Cheadle Center Bird observation data description (2018-2024) at North Campus Open Space (NCOS) and the Campus Lagoon (CL)

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This document describes the content, purpose, methods and uses of the UCSB Cheadle Center Bird survey data.

TITLE: UCSB Cheadle Center Bird observation data description (2018-2024).

CONTENT:

- Bird observation location coordinates
- Bird survey route
- Bird species details

DATE(S): Initiated in 2018, at North Campus Open Space (NCOS) and in 2019 at the campus lagoon bird surveys are taken monthly and uploaded to ebird. Similar surveys have been conducted since 2005, but this description is applicable to the 2018-2024 surveys). They are continuing to be taken throughout 2024.

STATUS: Ongoing

PURPOSE: Bird survey data is collected along the same route each month to document abundance and diversity of bird species and record rare and endangered species at UCSB Cheadle Center managed open spaces.

DATA LOCATION & ACCESS: Bird survey species and the georeferenced location can be found at arcgis online public repository and is downloaded separately for each month's survey. Individual surveys are searchable using location_bird_survey_data_YYYYMMDD (ex. NCOS_bird_survey_data_20190826) OR location_bird_observation_YYYYMMDD (ex. CL_bird_observation_20200113). The survey route is also available on arcgis online searchable by using location_bird_survey_route_YYYYMMDD.

Observation data is also available on ebird for location names: UCSB North Campus Open Space (formerly Ocean Meadows Golf Course) and UC Santa Barbara—Lagoon. Each checklist has a description of the route, time, observers, weather and water level. This data has been aggregated for NCOS to list the number of each species spotted, but the exact location is removed and only relevant to the site name- all four years of data that has been aggregated can be found at <https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.bvq83bkhz>.

REFERENCED IN:

- Year 1 Monitoring Report (escholarship.org/uc/item/0zc3n78c)
- Year 2 Monitoring Report (escholarship.org/uc/item/5sj929vh)
- Year 3 Monitoring Report (escholarship.org/uc/item/7bq618m8)
- Year 4 Monitoring Report (escholarship.org/uc/item/4mc6h09z)
- Year 5 Monitoring Report (escholarship.org/uc/item/4pb052gr)

METHODS: Each survey starts 45 minutes after sunrise, and lasts about 2 hours. The survey has at least 4 experienced birders- 2 that survey the eastern side and 2 that survey the western route (exact routes can be found on ArcGIS online). Surveyors use a combination of binoculars, scopes and listening for calls to identify species. A point is placed on the map to the best accuracy possible using the ArcGIS app field maps or collector. The survey is also set up to record the surveyors location every 30 seconds as a way to track the survey route. When there are large groups of birds 10 or more an approximate number is

decided between the two surveyors. If a bird is seen multiple times along the route it is labeled as a repeat. The two groups meet up after the survey and discuss what was seen and any birds that are expected to be a repeat are changed within the dataset. Environmental data such as cloud cover, water level and temperature are recorded at the beginning and end of the survey.