

# Breeding Evidence Codes

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## OBSERVED

- X** Species observed during their breeding season, but NOT in suitable nesting habitat (**no breeding evidence found**). Note that this code is rarely used as birds tend to occupy nesting habitat during the breeding season. Do not use for species known to be migrants.
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## POSSIBLE BREEDING

- H** Species observed in suitable nesting **Habitat** during their breeding season.
- S** **Singing** male or adult producing other sounds associated with breeding (e.g., calls or drumming) in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season.
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## PROBABLE BREEDING

- M** **Multiple** singing/calling/drumming individuals (7 or more) heard during one visit to a single square and in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season. Use with caution to avoid counting migrants.
- P** **Pair** observed in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season.
- T** Presumed **Territory** based on the presence of an adult bird (usually singing, but not necessarily so), in the same suitable nesting habitat patch on at least two visits, one week or more apart, during the species' breeding season. Use discretion when using this code. "T" is not to be used for colonial birds, or species that might forage or loaf a long distance from their nesting site (e.g. Turkey Vulture, and male waterfowl).
- D** Courtship or **Displays** involving a male and female (e.g., courtship feeding, copulation) or antagonistic behavior between two or more individuals (e.g., territorial disputes or chases), in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season.
- V** Bird **Visiting** a probable nest site in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season.
- A** **Agitated** behavior or alarm calls of an adult in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season.
- B** **Brood** patch or cloacal protuberance on an adult in suitable nesting habitat during the species' breeding season.
- N** **Nest**-building by wrens or nest hole excavation by woodpeckers (both may build dummy or roosting nests so nest-building alone is not enough to confirm breeding).
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## CONFIRMED BREEDING

- NB** **Nest building**, including the carrying of nesting material, by all species except wrens and woodpeckers.
- DD** **Distraction Display**, injury-feigning, or other displays attempting to draw attention away from a nest or young.
- NU** Empty **Nest Used** or identifiable eggshells from earlier in the same nesting season.
- FY** Recently **Fledged Young** (nidicolous species) or downy young (nidifugous species) incapable of sustained flight.
- AE** **Adult Entering**, occupying, or leaving a nest site (visible or not) or whose behavior suggests the presence of an occupied nest.
- FS** Adult carrying a **Faecal Sac**.
- CF** Adult **Carrying Food** for young.
- NE** **Nest** containing **Eggs**.
- NY** **Nest** with **Young** (seen or heard)
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