BTO/JNCC/RSPB
BREEDING BIRD SURVEY
MAMMAL SUMMARY SHEET

BTO Looking out for birds **JNCC** Joint Nature Conservation Committee **rspb** giving nature a home

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Observer name		Obs. code (office use only)	
1-km square reference (e.g. TL1234)		Year	y y y y

Did you look out for mammals? Enter 'Y' if you looked out for mammals or signs, even if you saw none. A nil return is just as valuable as a square with lots of mammals and signs recorded.

Visit (E, L or A)	Section (one per row)	Species name	Species code	Presence code(s) (up to five per row)	Count (live mammals)

Add extra sheets if necessary

Counts should always be made when using code C, and only when using code C. Do not count dead animals, field signs, or live animals seen on additional visits to your square. Do not use code S for live animals seen while carrying out your two core BBS visits (since these should always be counted).

All codes and guidance, overleaf.

Quick reference presence codes.
- **C** **C**ounts
- **D** **D**ead
- **F** **F**ield signs
- **L** **L**ocal knowledge
- **S** **S**een on additional visit

MAMMAL RECORDING

Although the main aim of the BBS is to record birds and habitats, it would be useful if you could record sightings or signs of mammals on your BBS square, as these are used to produce mammal population trends.

- While carrying out your bird surveys, please **count** all live mammals seen during your Early and Late BBS visits, and make notes of any signs of mammals.
- Any estimate of the numbers of a particular species you see on your survey visits (no matter how rough) is more useful than recording 'too many to count', 'present', etc.
- Note down mammal records on your Field Recording Sheets alongside your bird records.
- There is no need to make special visits to count mammals, nor to record them in distance bands.

Did you look out for mammals? Recording mammals is optional. Please enter 'Y' if you looked out for mammals/ signs, even if you saw none (a nil return is just as valuable as a square with lots of mammals and signs recorded), or recycle this form if you did not participate in mammal recording.

Visit and section. This form covers both your Early and Late visits, and any additional visits during the season. Enter the visit (E for Early, L for Late or A for additional) and one transect section (1 – 10), per row, for each mammal and observation. Up to five presence codes may be entered per observation.

Species codes. Please enter the following species codes overleaf:

Brown Hare	01	Roe Deer	08	Stoat	16
Mountain/Irish Hare	02	Fallow Deer	09	Weasel	17
Rabbit	03	Muntjac	10	Water Vole	43
Red Squirrel	04	Hedgehog	11	Mink	57
Grey Squirrel	05	Mole	13	Otter	58
Fox	06	Brown Rat	14	Domestic Cat	61
Red Deer	07	Badger	15	**For other species, enter name but leave code blank**	

Presence codes. Please indicate the method(s) by which the species was recorded, using one or more (up to all five) of the following codes:
- **C**   Live animals seen and **C**ounted by you during the Early or Late BBS visit (please enter counts).
- **D**   **D**ead animals recorded during any visit this season (no counts).
- **F**   **F**ield signs recorded during any visit this season, e.g. tracks, droppings, molehills (no counts).
- **L**   **L**ocal knowledge of presence (during this season only), e.g. from a landowner (no counts, section number may be left blank).
- **S**   Live animals **S**een by you **on additional, non-BBS visit(s)** during the season (no counts, visit = A).

'This season' denotes the period from January to July of the year in which you complete the survey. Field signs must be current, including active setts, dreys and fox dens. For example, for Badger setts, use the 'F' (field signs) code only if there are definite signs of recent activity, such as a clear sett entrance and spoil heap.

EXAMPLE

Visit (E, L or A)	Section (one per row)	Species name	Species code	Presence code(s) (up to five per row)	Count (live mammals)
E	2	Rabbit	03	C	10
E	4	Rabbit	03	C	18
L	8	Mole	13	F, D	
L	10	Mole	13	F, C	1
A	-	Red Deer	07	L	
A	3	Domestic Cat	61	S	

If you are not using BBS-Online, please return your completed forms to your RO, or to BTO if you do not have an RO.