

South Carolina Rusty Blackbird project - **Rusty Blackbird Data Form**

Instructions: Fill in this form on your PC, save it, and email the updated file as an attachment to: info@crbo.net

Or: Print this form, fill in the paper form, and mail it to: CRBO, PO Box 362 McClellanville, SC 29458

Location _____ Date: _____

Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ Total Time: _____ (hrs) Distance by: foot _____ motor vehicle _____

Temperature during census: Low: _____ High: _____ *Fahrenheit / Celsius (circle one)*

Weather: Sunny/Cloudy/Partly: _____ Precipitation/fog/etc: _____

Wind (direction + speed, early & late): _____ *mi/hr or km/hour (circle one)*

Number of census area participants: _____ Participants' name, telephone, email & address (use reverse side if needed):

Number of Rusty Blackbirds: _____ **Count Method** (circle one): *Estimate* -or- *Exact Count*

Sex ratio of Rusty Blackbirds (OK to approximate): # Males _____ # Females _____

Behavior (check all that apply):

____ feeding on ground ____ feeding in trees / shrubs ____ feeding while standing in shallow water

____ feeding on mats of floating vegetation ____ feeding by diving from emergent vegetation

____ feeding in shallow water while standing on root / log / fallen branch ____ feeding in isolated puddle

____ loafing / preening / singing ____ flying ____ staging to roost ____ roosting

Vocalizations: ____ call notes ____ song ____ call notes and song ____ none

Habitat types in the area surveyed (check all that apply):

1. hardwood forest____ 2. mixed forest____ 3. open impoundment____ 4. wooded impoundment____

5. standing grain impoundment____ 6. Drained or semi-drained impoundment____ 7. Agricultural field____

8. Pecan Orchard____ 9. Lawn____ 10. Creek____ 11. dirt road, paved road, path or dike____ 12. pond____

Ground wetness: ____ dry ____ moist ____ patchy wetness ____ fully flooded ____ deep water

Hydrologic characteristics (check all that apply):

1. moving water____ 2. still water____ 3. blackwater____ 4. clear water____ 5. freshwater____ 6. salt / brackish____

Habitat description (include significant plant species if possible): _____

Food items observed (very important): _____

Habitat in precise spot where **Rusty Blackbirds** found (use habitat designations to describe; ex: 4,11 or 5,6), followed by Latitude and Longitude if available. Mark each number on corresponding map location.

1. Habitat code: _____ Latitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec Longitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec

2. Habitat code: _____ Latitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec Longitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec

3. Habitat code: _____ Latitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec Longitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec

4. Habitat code: _____ Latitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec Longitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec

5. Habitat code: _____ Latitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec Longitude: ____ deg ____ min ____ sec

Notes and comments: _____

