



Survey Instructions

Survey your allocated 1km squares as follows:

- Pre-survey visit to identify the edges of your square, paths, landmarks and best areas of habitat – you may want to mark these on your map
- Minimum of two survey visits, rising to three or four if Dartford Warblers are located
- The first two surveys to be done between 1st April–15th May and the third and fourth between 16th May–30th June, with a minimum of ten days between all visits
- Visits to be carried out between dawn and mid-morning, in calm, dry weather.
- All areas of the survey square to be visited, so all suitable habitat is checked
- Minimise disturbance by keeping to paths where possible and retreating when birds show significant alarm

Record the locations of all Dartford Warblers on the map on the Recording Form provided:

- Singing males, noting especially if singing simultaneously with neighbouring birds
- All other observations (including calling birds, birds carrying food and birds in flight).
- If you find several pairs breeding closely in a loose colony, try to identify all territorial pairs.
- Use a separate map/form for each visit.
- After your visits, put a cross at the centre of each territory you think you have found (see below for what counts as a territory)

Use the following notations when recording Dartford Warbler observations on the map:

DW♂ DW♀ 3DWjuvs	Male, female and juveniles with number if appropriate		
<u>DW</u>	Calls	<u>DW</u>	Alarm calls
DW♂♀	Pair	(DW)	Singing
*DW	Occupied nest	DW food	Carrying food
		DW mat	Carrying nest material
DW → DW	Bird moving between locations		
(DW) — (DW)	Same bird singing from two locations		
(DW) - - - (DW)	Two different singing birds		



Hampshire Ornithological Society

2023 Dartford Warbler Survey

What counts as a territory?

We will use the following national definition of a territory:

- Singing male (simultaneously singing males are regarded as separate territories as are further singing males recorded at least 200m apart)
- Pair exhibiting breeding behaviour (nest, mating, displaying etc)
- Individuals present on more than one occasion and/or two individuals present.

Habitat Assessment

Organisers will compare habitats in selected squares during the summer. We may also ask survey volunteers to provide some basic information about their 1km squares, in which case we would contact you again, and it would be optional.

Sending in your results

When you have finished your visits, take a photo of each Recording Form and send it to your lead survey organiser. You can do this either after each visit or all together after your last visit. Additional emails are welcome, to give survey organisers an idea of how things are going.

Please send in all your results by 7 July.

Additional information

If you are not familiar with the calls and song of Dartford Warblers, click on some of the recordings on the [xeno-canto website](#).

We are not recording recreational disturbance as part of the survey. However, if you see serious incidents please report them to Forestry England's Lyndhurst office by email, with location, date, time and details so they have a record of what happened:

southern.reception@forestryengland.uk or call 0300 067 4600 if it is in progress and immediate action is required.

Lead Dartford Warbler survey organisers

- The New Forest: Rob Clements, richard.clements3@virgin.net
- North and north-east Hampshire: John Eyre, john.eyre@ntlworld.com and John Clark, johnclark50@zoho.com
- Coastal areas: Keith Betton, keithbetton@hotmail.com