

Squares

After you selected your 50x50 km square you need to select two 10x10 km squares in the big one. You can ask for project coordinator's help if you need it. You need to consider habitat diversity in deciding 10x10 km squares it is important to select the ones that have the contrasting habitat types. Then you will select four 1x1 km squares in each 10x10. These 1x1 squares are the squares in which you will conduct your hourly transect survey and record all the data. Again, you need to consider the habitat diversity plus the logistics when selecting these squares.

How to record

In Turkey Breeding Bird Atlas study there are two main methods to record the birds;

- 1- Hourly transects in 1x1 km squares
 - a. Starting from any point, you need to walk for an hour in your 1x1 km square. During this walk you will record any bird you hear or see together with the highest breeding codes.
 - b. Please keep in mind that your main goal is to record the birds that are using the area. For the migrants you can use the code X
 - c. You need to control the UTM coordinates occasionally while walking in the square in order to prevent passing to the other square.
 - d. For the bird counts, if your count is less than ten you need to record the exact number of individuals, if it's greater than ten it is enough to note ">10".
- 2- After the hourly transect done
 - a. After you are done in 1x1 squares, we offer you to travel in the 50x50 square during the day in order to record as many bird species as possible
 - b. You can consciously visit a specific habitat to find a specific breeding species that you have known to breed in your square and that you have not recorded during your hourly transect
 - c. You need to record these birds in "additional breeding bird records" form together with the coordinates of the point that you observe the bird and with the breeding codes
 - d. You can continue to recording the breeding birds during your launch break, your drive or any time you want as long as you also record the coordinates

When

Bird species in different habitats and elevations start to breed in different times. Thus, yearly fieldwork should be conducted two times in a breeding season one for early breeders and one for late species. In Turkey, observers will be collecting the data two times between April and July.

- 1st visit : 01 April – 31 May
- 2nd visit: 01 June – 15 July

In the mountainous places where the elevation is relatively higher, these visits should be done later.

For the time of the day, observers are expected to start one hour after sunrise and finish at the sunset. For each square, the coordinators will be stating the starting and finishing hours if necessary. In the rainy weather, it is convenient to start the observation later.