LIGHT’S OUT, SAN DIEGO!
2024 COMMUNITY SCIENCE DATA COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

To better understand how birds may be impacted in the San Diego Region by light pollution and buildings, this community science data collection effort aims to collect presence and absence data for bird strikes during the critical period from April 15th through May 15th, 2024, during spring migration when large numbers of birds migrate through this area.

Survey Instructions

This survey effort is for San Diego County. Participants may survey any area within the county as frequently as once daily from April 15th through May 15th. As the majority of birds migrate at night, surveying areas first thing in the morning is recommended, especially in areas where ground maintenance may remove bird carcasses. When selecting a survey area, first identify buildings with glass windows or walls that may be bird strike hazards. When surveying, thoroughly search the area surrounding the building for bird carcasses on the ground, in vegetation, and on rooftops or awnings for bird carcasses that may have landed in these locations after a strike. There is no minimum or maximum survey area and we encourage participants to organize teams to cover larger areas.

*Please be respectful of private property and do not trespass where you are not allowed.*

Data Collection

Data will be collected using the ESRI application Survey123 which allows submission via smartphone or computer. Please use your smartphone camera with the location turned on to document bird carcasses and building locations. For all surveys, we collect your username, the date, the survey start and end time, the survey area, and if bird carcasses were present. If bird carcasses were present, we collect the number of bird carcasses, photos (the bird carcasses, the building, the location of the bird carcasses in relation to the building), notes, and if you submitted your data to the dead-bird project in *inaturalist*. Please submit one record for each contiguous survey area boundary that you surveyed. We encourage data submission to the *dead-bird project in inaturalist*, however, it is not required.
Helpful hints drawing the survey area boundary:

Survey Area
In the San Diego Region, please draw a boundary around the area you surveyed on the map.

Zoom into the area you surveyed on the map then select options 1 or 2, indicated by the black arrows. Option 1 will replace your initial drawing with an evenly drawn shape. Option 2 will retain your initial drawing. If you’d like to delete and redraw your boundary, select the trash can below options 1 and 2 (not pictured) to start over.

1. Register to participate in this project! You only have to register once.
2. Go out and survey then submit data via ✔ Survey 123 here from April 15 - May 15, 2024.

*Optional: Download the ✔ Survey123 application on your smartphone by typing “ArcGIS Survey123” from the App Store if you have an iPhone or Google Play if you have an Android. Open the Survey123 application on your smartphone and log in by selecting “Sign in with ArcGIS Online” for ArcGIS Online users or “Continue without signing in” for non-users. Click on the QR Code icon indicated by the black arrow 1 shown on the left below, then scan the following QR Code on the right to access the survey:

Thank you for your participation! We will post results for this survey following the data collection period.