

South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas 2

BREEDING STATUS & BEHAVIOR CODES

Status Code	Behavior Code	Description
Observed (O)	O	Species (male or female) observed during its breeding season (within safe dates), but no evidence of breeding. Not in suitable nesting habitat - examples are vultures, raptors, colonial nesters not at nesting colony.
	?	Species (male or female) observed in suitable habitat during its breeding season.
Possible (PO)	X	Singing male present in suitable habitat during its breeding season.
	M	Multiple males of a single species singing within a block in a single visit during their breeding season.
Probable (PR)	P	Pair observed in suitable nesting habitat during its breeding season.
	S	Song at same location on at least 2 occasions 7 or more days apart.
	T	Territory defense observed (chasing of individuals of same species) - presumed permanent territory.
	C	Courtship behavior, or copulation .
	N	Visiting potential nest -site.
	A	Agitated behavior or anxiety calls from adult.
	B	Nest building by wrens or eagles; hole excavation by woodpeckers.
	CN	Carrying nesting materials (sticks, grass, hair, etc.).
Confirmed (CO)	NB	Nest building by all species except eagles, wrens, woodpeckers.
	PE	Physiological evidence based on bird in hand: highly vascularized, edematous incubation/brood patch, or egg in oviduct.
	DD	Distraction display or injury feigning.
	UN	Used nests or eggshells found. CAUTION: these must be carefully identified to be accepted.
	PY	Precocial young . Flightless chicks of precocial species restricted to the natal area by limited mobility or dependence on adult.
	FL	Recently fledged young incapable of sustained flight, restricted to natal area by limited mobility or dependence on adult.
	ON	Occupied nest : adults entering or leaving a nest site in circumstances indicating an occupied nest. Use this code for nests too high or enclosed to view the contents.
	CF	Carrying food : adult carrying food for the chicks.
	FY	Adult feeding recently fledged young .
	FS	Adult carrying fecal sac .
	NE	Nest with eggs *.
	NY	Nest with young seen or heard *.

* Presence of cowbird eggs or chicks is confirmation of both cowbird and host species.