



Instructions for HOOT Project Data Sheet

The HOOT Project depends on your help to document the location of nesting raptors (and other large birds) in New Mexico. This information will be used to determine nesting hot-spots throughout the state, in order to protect these birds from electrocution by power structures. Through consultation with the NM Avian Protection (NMAP) Working Group and utilities companies, we will prioritize areas for installation of safety measures.

Species: Identify the bird. The HOOT page at www.hawksaloft.org links to the *Guide to the Common Raptors of New Mexico*.

Location: Record the UTM co-ordinates using a GPS is possible (in NAD 27 format)

Location address: The location of the nest site. Be as specific as possible.

Nest type: Stick nest (sticks and twigs), cavity (hole), or other (e.g. ledge)

Tree species: If known. If nesting on something other than a tree please describe here.

Habitat type: Best describe the immediate surrounding habitat. *Urban* (housing/buildings nearby), *Rural* (open country with little human habitation), *Other* (e.g. utility site).

Land use within 1km: Describe the dominant land use in a 1 km radius (eg urban, rural).

COHA only: This section only for Cooper's Hawk (COHA) observations:

Parent plumage class: Adult (*Ad*) and subadults (*Subad*) have different plumage types. If you are able, please document whether the male and female are *adult* or *subadult* birds, or state *unknown* if the bird was not seen. [*Adults* have horizontal bands on the chest while *subadults* have vertical brown streaking, and *males* are smaller than *females*].

Nestlings: Document the number of nestlings (young birds) in the nest.

Fledged: Document the number of nestlings that fledged successfully. Young birds initially 'branch' from the nest (perch on branches near the nest) when they are old enough, then finally fledge (fly away from nest).

Nest fate: *Successful:* At least one young fledged. *Failed:* No young fledged. *Unknown:* Unable to determine if young fledged.

Info on nest access: Useful information to enable someone to find the nest easily. (E.g. large cottonwood tree by fencing, two thirds up, on the east side of tree. Best viewed from south side).

Observer name: Your name.

Observer address: Your address. **Tel:** Your telephone number including area code [we will only call if we need to clarify something with your observation and will not share this number with anyone else].

Observation table: Please fill in this table every time you observe the nest.

- **Date:** Date of observation.
- **Observer:** Initials of observer(s)
- **Nest status:** This may change over time. *AT (Active Territory):* nest not occupied, or cannot locate nest, but bird is frequently seen in same area. *A (Active nest):* Nest occupied. *U (Unknown):* Not able to determine nest status.
- **# Parents:** Document number of parent birds observed.
- **# Young:** Document number of young observed.
- **Notes:** Describe observation more fully (e.g. Adult female seen in incubating posture. One branched young observed 5 meters from nest).