


NABat National Data Processing Laboratory (NDPL)

Mobile Transect Checklist 2023

BEFORE going into the field

- Set the detector prefix.** Recorded file prefix should be set to the detector serial number. Instructions for setting filename prefixes by detector type:
 - Song Meter Mini Bat pg. 6
 - Anabat SWIFT pg. 6
- Double check detector settings [here](#).
- Plan for metadata collection –Survey123 (preferred) and even if using Survey123, please complete the Excel spreadsheet.
 - *If using Survey123 for metadata:*
 - The Survey123 form for mobile acoustic surveys can be found [here](#) or via this QR code:

 - Ensure the form is downloaded to the Survey123 app on your field device.
 - *Excel metadata sheet:*
 - Print out a copy to take into the field.
 - Please be aware that if you don't take the Excel spreadsheet to the field and you plan to copy the data from your Survey123 form, the data *may* disappear once you submit Survey123 form.

WHILE in the field

- Update your time and location.
 - **Double-check that your time on the detector is correct** (this is a common mistake!)
 - Ensure your coordinates align with your GRTS cell, especially if you have moved locations since last year.
 - **Ensure the recording device is paired with a GPS device to embed coordinates for each sound file recorded** (this is a common mistake!)

- Fill out initial relevant metadata
 - Begin filling out the Survey123 form
 - ***Note: Submit the form only once your survey is complete and all fields have been entered and double-checked. You can save a Survey123 form as a draft within the app and return to edit it without submitting it.***

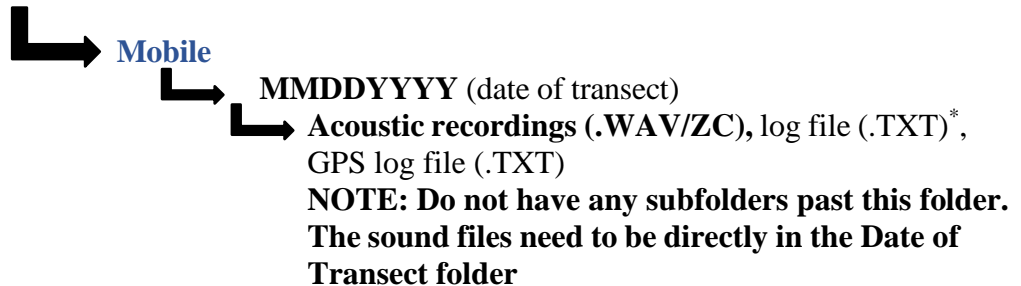
AFTER going into the field

- Save a backup copy of your raw data locally.

- Organize your data/recordings. To successfully process your NABat data, we need you to organize your external hard drive in the following way:

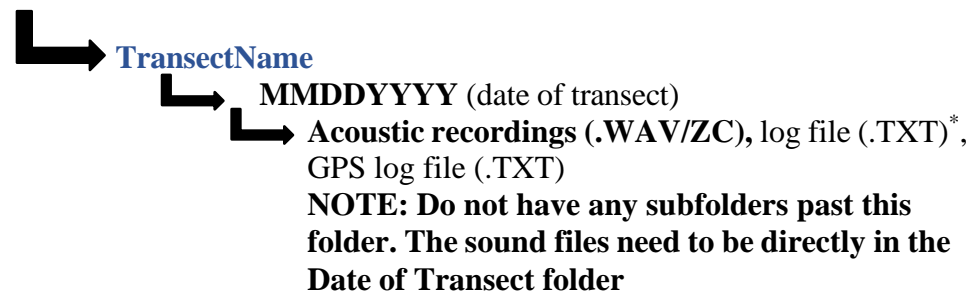
If your survey is for a GRTS_Cell:

Root Folder: GRTS_ID#



If your survey is for WNS

Root Folder: WNS



- If you used a paper/Excel metadata sheet, transfer all handwritten metadata from the Printable form to the Mobile_Metadata tab of the digital Excel metadata sheet and save it with your data.
- Double-check all required fields are filled correctly. The required fields are:
 - **GRTS Cell Id:** **double-check you are using the correct GRTS ID and not the CONUS ID**
 - “WNS” if it a White-nose Syndrome (WNS) survey
 - **Contact Name and email**
 - **Location Name:** (no spaces or special characters, only letters, numbers, and underscores)
 - Should be “Mobile” for a GRTS Cell or a unique transect name for WNS survey
 - For mobile transects within a GRTS cell, put “Mobile”. If more than one transect within a GRTS cell, use “Mobile1” and “Mobile2”. For WNS surveys, provide a unique transect name (e.g., SNFLN1_Lake_MN)
 - **Survey Start Time:** local date and time when survey started
 - use the format in MM/DD/YYYY HH:MM
 - **Survey End Time:** local date and time when survey ended
 - use the format in MM/DD/YYYY HH:MM
 - **Detector:** manufacturer and model, use the dropdown menu
 - e.g., Wildlife Acoustics SM4BAT-FS
 - **Detector Serial Number:** **make sure to include this and that it’s correct!**
 - **Microphone type:** manufacturer and model, use the dropdown menu
 - e.g., Wildlife Acoustics SMM-U1
- If you did not use the Survey123 app to report your metadata and draw your transect, you will need to also upload a . KML/geoJSON (saved as a line transect and not a point transect, not a shapefile) that displays your mobile route. You can include a file that has been previously submitted in past years, but one needs to be included annually with the data submission.
- Send the following on an external hard drive, memory stick, or SD card to the relevant address on the following page:
 - Organized recordings and log files
 - Completed metadata spreadsheet (if not using Survey123)
 - Completed Information Form (pg. 5)
- Send an **email to rapid@batcon.org when you put your data in the mail.** Include:
 - Name and contact information (email) of the preferred point of contact
 - Agency/organization name and region/forest/park/etc.
 - Regional species list(s) and/or considerations (if desired/applicable).

* Include the log or text file associated with those WAV/ZC files within the same folder. These are .txt files associated with the recording files. Examples can be found at end of this document.

† If you don’t have any new 2023 site photos, you do not need to include old photos from previous years.

Below are common mistakes or missing information – please double check that these are correct when you send us your data and metadata!

1. **Serial numbers** – Make sure you record the correct detector serial number exactly as it appears on your detector.
2. **Sensor location is in adjacent GRT** – Check to make sure your survey location is actually within the boundary of your target NABat cell
3. **For mobile surveys** – Make sure your coordinates are embedded into mobile wavs and only kml is given, not gps/gpx.
4. **Metadata from Survey123 and excel sheet do not match** – When possible, please use Survey123! You don't need to submit metadata in both formats.
5. **Accidental metadata entries in Survey123** – Make sure you are only collecting one set of metadata and delete accidental or incorrect entries; if multiple get submitted, indicate which is the correct one as notes.
6. **Missing data** – Sometimes we receive metadata for a location that we didn't get data for – make sure you are sending in data for the locations you are submitting metadata for so we don't need to track it down.
7. **Files included that shouldn't be processed** – Don't include folders that say "failed attempt" or "do not process" – they can be onerous to weed through with our pipeline. Don't include data from prior years that have already been processed, or duplicated zipped files of data. Don't include T.Wav files in addition to a folder of expanded files – just one set.
8. **Metadata fields are entered in incorrect format in excel data sheets** - Certain columns call for a **single** specific standardized answer – use NABat specified categories for microphone orientation, habitat type, and clutter type.

If you are in California or Nevada, send to:

Jessie Bunkley
2265 Patrick's Point Drive
Trinidad, CA 95570

If you are outside CA/NV/NM/AZ, send to:

Bat Conservation International
145 McAllister Way
Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA

If you are in Arizona or New Mexico (SW Hub), send to:

Kathy Gerst
5198 N Camino Esplendor
Tucson, AZ 85718



NABat Acoustic Data Information Form
please print and include this form when mailing data to
the



NABat Data Processing Lab

Sender's Name:

Email address:

Agency or Organization:

Region/ District/ Forest/
Park (as applicable):

NABat Project Name:
(if known)

Return mailing address:
(please no P.O. Boxes)

GRTS cell #(s) included:

Primary contact info:
(if different from above)

Did you use Survey123?

Yes

No

Notes for specific detector models

Wildlife Acoustics

Song Meter Mini Bat

New ultrasonic transect mode allows the Song Meter Mini Bat to be used for mobile transects. In this mode, the Song Meter Mini Bat uses the paired mobile device's GPS location to embed an accurate location into each WAV file and to log the recorder's path to a .kml file.

1. The default "Recorder Name" is the Serial Number
2. If it needs to be changed: PAIR>Configure>
3. Edit Recorder Name

Titley Scientific

Anabat SWIFT

Prepare for a mobile transect

1. Press the yellow Settings button (gear icon), then press **Other**
2. Tap **Transect**, then **On** (selected option will be yellow)
3. Set the Time Zone: BEFORE starting recording **Settings>Other>Time Zone**
4. Record using Full Spectrum: **Settings>Recording>FS/ZC**, select **FS** (in yellow when selected)

Setting Filename Prefix

1. Turn on the detector and press the yellow Settings button (gear icon) in the bottom right corner of the screen.
2. Select the '**Recording**' menu.
3. Scroll through the first two 'Recording' menu pages until you reach 3/3.
4. Select '**Filename Prefix**' and ensure it is set to '**On.**'