

BirdLife Cyprus

Roller Survey

Instructions



*Thank you for volunteering for the Roller Survey 2017. This survey aims to monitor the Roller *Coracias garrulus*, a species of conservation priority not fully covered by other monitoring schemes. For more information please contact Monitoring & Research Coordinator, Christina Ieronymidou, christina.ieronymidou@birdlifecyprus.org.cy, Tel: +357-22-455072*

WHERE TO RECORD

The survey focuses on the 12 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) of particular importance for breeding Rollers: ***Akamas & Ayia Paraskevi-Ayia Ekaterini Gorges, Karpasia peninsula, Xeros valley, Ezousa valley & Cliffs, Diarizos valley, Cha Potami, Pentadactylos mountains, Pentaschoinos, Koshi-Pallourokambos, Paramali, Saramas valley and Panagia Stazousa.*** The survey also covers non-IBA areas.

A survey route through one (or more) of the IBAs listed above will be chosen in consultation with the survey organiser. The **route chosen should be 10km long**, but can be shorter or indeed longer depending on what routes are available. The route needs to be easy to drive (good quality dirt track or secondary road) but should not be a busy road, to avoid traffic noise and to avoid the risk that would be involved in driving slowly on a busy road (max survey speed is 20km per hour). **If you have a GPS, please record a 'track' for your survey route.**

THE RECORDING FORM

Please use the Roller Survey Recording Form appended below and also available to download from the BirdLife Cyprus website (www.birdlifecyprus.org) or from the survey organiser. Make sure you write your full name and the **site reference** (relevant IBA & route) on the form, plus the **date** of the visit and the **start and end time** of your survey.

RECORDING METHOD

The survey method used is a **10km driven transect with point count stops every 2 km**. Surveys should take just over an hour to complete. **Drive slowly** along your chosen route (max speed of 20km per hour). Beginning at the starting point of your survey route, and then **every 2km along the route, stop**, turn off your engine and **observe and listen carefully for 5 minutes** ('point count'). Also record while driving slowly between point count stops.

Using the standard recording form, record individual rollers in the appropriate distance column by estimating how far from you birds were when first seen: **0-50m; 50-100m or 100m+**. The 'comments' column of the form can be used to add any further information regarding your Roller sightings you consider relevant, but also to record other species seen during the survey.

Try not to record the same individual Roller twice. Use your judgement to decide which individual birds you may have already recorded earlier in the survey. A precautionary approach is advised (under recording rather than over recording).

WHEN TO VISIT

The chosen route should be covered at least once and, if possible, twice during the period **May to mid-July** each year - with the two visits at least 2 weeks apart. Surveys can be conducted at **any time during the day** (starting at least 1 ½ hours after sunrise and ending at least 1 hour before sunset).

WEATHER

Please **do not survey birds in poor weather** - persistent heavy rain or strong wind. Weather conditions should be recorded on the form in the relevant box using the codes below, one code for each of the listed categories.

Code	Cloud	Wind	Rain	Temperature
1	0 -33%	Calm	None	Cool
2	33 – 66%	Light	Drizzle	Warm
3	66 – 100%	Windy	Showers	Hot

RETURN OF DATA

All completed forms should be returned to the survey organiser at end of the survey season. You may want to make a neat copy of your surveys before returning them to the survey organiser – please remember to transfer all visit information (date, times etc.) from your Field Recording Form.

If possible, please also use the standard **Excel template** file provided by the survey coordinator to enter up all your survey data electronically and then email this to the coordinator.

If you have any queries please contact the survey organiser:

Monitoring & Research Coordinator, Christina Ieronymidou, BirdLife Cyprus, PO Box 12026, Nicosia 2340
Tel: (+357) 22 455 072, Fax: (+357) 22 455 073, christina.ieronymidou@birdlifecyprus.org.cy

Thank-you for volunteering for the Roller Survey, and we hope that you enjoy taking part!

Data gathered by volunteers under BirdLife Cyprus recording schemes, while remaining the property of the person undertaking the survey, can be used by BirdLife Cyprus for the purpose of relevant reports and can be added to the BirdLife Cyprus database of bird records to be used for conservation purposes and may be provided to third parties, always under the terms & conditions of the BirdLife Cyprus data provision and access policy.

Roller Survey FIELD RECORDING FORM

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Area (IBA & route details)					
Recorder(s)		Start Time		End time	
Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	/	/	Weather (1,2 or 3 – see instructions)	Cloud	Wind Rain Visibility Temp
				_____	_____

Observation Number (if route was longer than 10km, use extra rows on page 3)	Roller registrations (in distance bands)			Comments/other species seen
	0 – 50m	50 – 100m	>100m	
Point count 1 (starting point - 0km) (5 minutes duration)				
Driven Route between point 1 and 2 (driving at max 20km/hour)				
Point count 2 (at 2km point) (5 minutes duration)				
Driven Route between point 2 and 3 (driving at max 20km/hour)				

Observation Number (if route was longer than 10km, use extra rows on page 3)	Roller registrations (in distance bands)			Comments/other species seen
	0 – 50m	50 – 100m	>100m	
<u>Point count 3</u> (at 4 km point) (5 minutes duration)				
Driven Route between point 3 and 4 (driving at max 20km/hour)				
<u>Point count 4</u> (at 6 km point) (5 minutes duration)				
Driven Route between point 4 and 5 (driving at max 20km/hour)				
<u>Point count 5</u> (at 8 km point) (5 minutes duration)				
Driven Route between point 5 and 6 (driving at max 20km/hour)				
<u>Point count 6</u> (at 10 km point - end) (5 minutes duration)				

Observation Number (if route was longer than 10km, use extra rows on page 3)	Roller registrations (in distance bands)			Comments/other species seen
	0 – 50m	50 – 100m	>100m	
Date:		Area:		

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