

# Stag beetle point count

## Survey Instructions



people's  
trust for  
endangered  
species

### All about your site

Your survey area could be a garden, a small park or any defined area of land. Select a place where you can see the whole of your survey area and stag beetles can be easily observed.

Record the latitude and longitude of this point. You can find coordinates from Google maps.

### When to do it

Carry out your count weekly, at least six times, during June and July when weather conditions are suitable: warm (>12°C) evenings with little or no rain and no strong wind. If the temperature doesn't rise above 12°C during one or more weeks, there's no need to do the count. If you're on holiday or unable to take part, please find somebody to replace you.

### How's it done?

Please start your survey 15 minutes before sunset and continue observing for 30 minutes.

Before starting the survey, please note on your **Stag Beetle Count Form**:

- Site name
- Date and starting time
- Name of surveyor
- Sunset time
- Wind speed (please use 0-4 as described below):

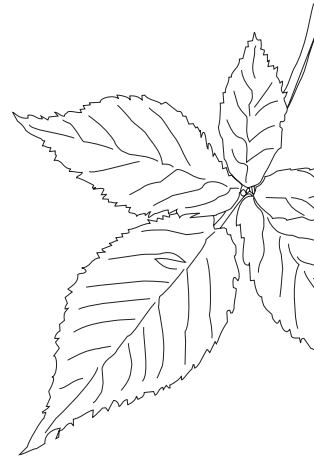
0 = no wind

1 = grass is moving

2 = small branches of trees are moving

3 = large branches of trees are moving

4 = trunks are moving



### Observations

For 30 minutes, record stag beetles within the boundary of your garden, or survey area. Only record multiple beetles if seen at the same time or where you are certain they are different beetles, for example if they are different sexes, obviously different in size, or have any identifying marks, like an injury to leg or mandible.

For each observation, note the time, number, sex and activity.

- Use M (male), F (female) or U (unknown) for sex
- Use DR (dead/remains), CO (copulating), NF (non-flying), FL (flying) and U (unknown or changing during observation) for activity.

Please take a photo of any stag beetles if you can.

### Yearly habitat assessment

To understand population trends, we ask you to assess the habitat annually in an area of about 200m surrounding your site. This assessment has only four questions and each is explained on the form. If you have any queries about the assessment, please contact [laura.bower@ptes.org](mailto:laura.bower@ptes.org)

### Results

Please either post your forms back to **Freepost RTJH-RBLR-AJCS, People's Trust for Endangered Species, 3 Cloisters House, 8 Battersea Park Road, London, SW8 4BG** or scan and email them to [laura.bower@ptes.org](mailto:laura.bower@ptes.org)

**Many thanks for taking part and I hope you see some stag beetles!**

