

Chimney Swift Surveys: Montana 2018

Objective

The Objective of this survey effort is to identify potential Chimney Swift Habitat and follow-up with surveys to determine if sites are being used by Chimney Swifts for either nesting or roosting.

Protocol

Once you determine an area you would like to survey please work with your regional Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologist to determine locations of chimneys to be surveyed. You will submit all completed Chimney Swift survey forms to this regional contact:

Region 5 please contact Megan O'Reilly, 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, MT 59105
FWP Wildlife Biologist: moreilly@mt.gov or (406) 247-2966

Region 6 please contact Heather Harris, 1 Airport Rd, Glasgow, MT 59230
FWP Wildlife Biologist: heharris@mt.gov or (406) 228 - 3725

Region 7 please contact Brandi Skone, 352 I-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301
FWP Wildlife Biologist: bskone@mt.gov or (406) 234 - 0948

- ✓ Please survey each chimney three times – Between June 1st and July 31st (if Chimney Swifts are detected prior to the third visit, repeat visits are not required).
- ✓ Please review the attached citizen science document to ensure proper identification of Chimney Swifts and chimney materials.
- ✓ Arrive at your chimney observation point at least 30 minutes prior to sunset, 45 minutes prior to sunset on cold, cloudy or rainy evenings because swifts often return to their roost early in poor weather. Surveys can be conducted in most weather conditions even if there is a light drizzle or light intermittent rain, but not during a thunderstorm or downpour. Observe the chimney until approximately 30 minutes after sunset or until a chimney swift is observed (the below link will take you to sunset times by county).
<http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=2&ved=0ahUKEwjf9J7TuobUAhWqwlQKHX8cDloQFggrMAE&url=http%3A%2F%2Ffwp.mt.gov%2FfwpDoc.html%3Fid%3D51450&usg=AFQjCNGpwDDipx6YYfzFMVzIO76mWbliw&sig2=e03tM-ShHzOa8HLJodGyEw>

At each chimney site and on accompanying form:

- Record the city name and site address and/or Lat-Long.
- Record the date, start and end time, visit number and weather data (*see datasheet*).
- Record the building type (School, Church, Commercial Building, Residence, Other) for each chimney.
- Record the chimney material (Bricks, Terra Cotta, Cement, Other) for each chimney.
- Record the number of chimney swifts seen flying overhead and the number of chimney swifts entering the chimney.

Please submit your completed data sheets to the Regional Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologist listed above for your region.