

Supplementary material

Appendix. Nest microhabitat measurements for song sparrow and yellow warbler nests at Mono Lake, CA.

Variable	Description
Patch width	Width of the nest patch at the widest point.
Perpendicular width	Width of nest patch perpendicular to widest point.
Patch area	Product of patch width and perpendicular width.
Max patch height	Maximum height of nest patch.
Plant height	Height of the individual plant the nest is in.
Height from ground	Measured from the ground to the top of the nest cup.
Plant species 1	Primary species the nest is attached to.
Plant species 2	Secondary species the nest is attached to.
Nest conceal 1	Primary plant species concealing the nest.
Nest conceal 2	Secondary plant species concealing the nest.
dbh	Diameter at breast ht. for trees and at 10 cm for shrubs.
Distance to edge	Distance to the closest foliage edge from the edge of the nest cup.
Conceal above	Percent of the nest concealed by vegetation from 1 m above.
Conceal below	Percent of the nest concealed by vegetation from 1 m below.
Lateral concealment	Average of 4 estimates taken at the nest site.
Compass direction	Orientation of the nest relative to the center of the patch.
Canopy cover	Average of four densiometer readings taken at the nest site.
Litter depth	Average of 10 measurements taken at the nest site.
Cover data	Percent of a 5 m radius centered on the nest covered by shrubs, forbs, logs, litter, bare ground, rock, and water.
Tree data	Presence/absence and count of trees within an 11.3 m radius centered on the nest. A tree is defined as being at least 8 cm dbh and at least 5 m in height.
Shrub data	List of all shrub species, low, high, and average heights, number of stems, and relative cover (% of total shrub cover) for each species.
Forb data	List of all forb species, low, high, and average heights, and relative cover (percent of total forb cover) for each species.
Width of riparian	Approximate width of riparian vegetation on a line perpendicular to the creek at the nest.
Distance to nearest perch	Distance from center of nest patch to nearest object (flora or anthropogenic), upon which a bird could reasonably perch, that is separate from the nest patch, at least 5 m in height, and in line of sight of the nest patch.
Nearest perch species	Species of perch or type of inanimate object.
Nearest perch height	Height of nearest perch (cm).
Overhead perch	Whether or not there is a perch present at >2 m directly above the nest.