

BIRD NESTING

How to Protect Birds Prior to Removing Flammable Vegetation

How to Survey

- Check the area for bird activity a few days before vegetation removal. Do not survey when raining
- Survey early morning (sunrise to 11am)
- Walk slowly through the project area
- Detect birds by sight or sound
- Look for slight movements
- Be patient, still, and quiet
- Watch for prolonged period of time

What to Look for in Birds' Behavior

- **Alarm Calls** – quicker and harsher, repeated incessantly
- **Carrying Nesting Material** – sticks, feathers, leaves, string, etc.
- **Repeated Location Perching** – return in 30 seconds or a few minutes to same spot
- **Carrying Food** – feeding young
- **Guarding** – does not flush or fly away easily/at normal distance

When to Start Work

- Avoid working within 50 feet of active nests
- Ensure young have left the nest (could be weeks) before continuing vegetation removal

Further Information

- Book: *Sibley Guide to Birds*
- Apps: Merlin Bird ID, Audubon Bird Guide
- Websites: www.birds.cornell.edu, ebird.org/home

LOOK FOR:



Whitewash and Pellets



Feathers Poking out

NEST EXAMPLES:

