

SOnerd's Ornithology Key: SSSS 2019

Total Points:

___/170

Station 1 (9 points)

1. (1 point) *Lophodytes cucullatus*
2. (1 point) Increasing
3. (1 point) F
4. (1 point) Freshwater
5. (1 point) 2 years
6. (1 point) T
7. (3 points) Female; Breeding males have white, fan-shaped, black-bordered crest; Black body with dull rusty flanks; White breast with 2 dark stripes down the side;

Station 2 (10 points)

8. (1 point) Greater Prairie-Chicken
9. (3 points) A, B, E
10. (1 point) Habitat destruction
11. (1 point) 3 weeks
12. (1 point) B
13. (1 point) F
14. (2 points, TB1) Pinnae; Males use them in mating displays

Station 3 (9 points)

15. (1 point) *Quiscalus quiscula*
16. (3 points, TB2) Rubbing ants on a bird's own feathers & skin; Done either to make the ants edible by removing distasteful compounds such as formic acids or to kill fungi/bacteria/parasites on the bird's body; This bird does display anting;
17. (1 point) B
18. (1 point) F
19. (1 point) ~50%
20. (1 point) D
21. (1 point) Areas with dense trees close to open areas (groves, woodland edges, parks)

Station 4 (7 points)

22. (1 point) *Regulus satrapa*
23. (1 point) Insects/spiders
24. (1 point) T
25. (1 point) B
26. (1 point) Crown
27. (1 point) Coniferous
28. (1 point) C

Station 5 (9 points)

29. (2 points) A, B
30. (1 point) A
31. (1 point) B
32. (2 points, TB3) Bird A avoids unbroken, mature forest and prefers edge habitats, which are created when forests are destroyed. Bird B prefers "full" forest habitats.
33. (1 point) The male's call is a fast, up-and-down song that's reminiscent of "warbling."
34. (1 point) Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*); Need common name only for credit
35. (1 point) F

Station 6 (9 points)

36. (1 point) *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*
37. (2 points) Brood parasitism; Advantageous because the bird doesn't have to spend time and energy caring for its egg, but another capable adult would, which ensures that the egg will survive.
38. (1 point) 5-6 days
39. (2 points) 4, 3
40. (1 point) Diurnal
41. (1 point) 11 years
42. (1 point) Pink with a slight brown hue

Station 7 (11 points)

43. (1 point) *Caracara cheriway*
44. (3 points) B, D, E
45. (2 points) Agricultural/commercial development in their habitat; Collisions with motor vehicles; Low reproductive rate & small gene pool
46. (1 point) T
47. (1 point) Tarsus
48. (1 point) T
49. (1 point) Northern part
50. (1 point) Carrion (also accept live prey)

Station 8 (8 points)

51. (1 point) *Himantopus mexicanus*
52. (1 point) Marshes, mudflats, ponds, drainage ditches, etc.
53. (1 point) Females have brown backs, while males have black backs.
54. (1 point) April through August
55. (1 point) Least Concern
56. (3 points) 1 brood; 2-5 eggs each; 24-29 days;

Station 9 (9 points)

57. (1 point) Barn owl
58. (1 point) They locate the prey using their sharp sense of hearing
59. (1 point) They serve as natural pest control, eating rodents
60. (1 point) F
61. (1 point) Scientists observe prey fragments in pellets that the owl regurgitates
62. (3 points) r-selected; Large # of offspring with a high growth rate; Offspring have a relatively low chance of surviving until adulthood; Generally short lifespan in the wild
63. (1 point) F

Station 10 (10 points)

64. (1 point) *Caprimulgus vociferus*
65. (2 points) Female; It lacks white tips on the outer tail feathers and has only a very thin stripe on her throat
66. (2 points) Better moonlight allows them to forage more easily, since they forage at night. They prefer to nest when the moon is more than half full.
67. (2 points) Temporary sleep; On the ground or in tree branches close to the ground
68. (1 point) F
69. (1 point) Both
70. (1 point) In an attempt to scare off a predator

Station 11 (8 points)

71. (1 point) *Sitta canadensis*
72. (1 point) C
73. (1 point) Their strong toes and claws allow them to climb down trees headfirst.
74. (1 point) F
75. (1 point) They wedge them into crevices in tree bark and breaking small pieces off or pry them open with their beaks
76. (2 points) Altricial young born in an immature state, incapable of finding food or defending themselves, while precocial young are born in an advanced state and can feed themselves almost directly after hatching. This species has altricial young.
77. (1 point, TB4) It puts resin globules around the entrance to its nest, which may keep out predators or competitors.

Station 12 (8 points)

78. (1 point) American robin
79. (1 point) 25%
80. (2 points) Any 2 of the following: Cats, ravens, American crows, common grackles, snakes, hawks, squirrels, blue jays
81. (1 point) West Nile Virus
82. (1 point) US Migratory Bird Act
83. (1 point) Worms & insects
84. (1 point) ~77g (2.7oz)

Station 13 (9 points)

85. (1 point) *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*
86. (1 point) *Agelaius phoeniceus*
87. (2 points) Species A; Species A is polygamous, so the "primary" female is the first female with which a male mated, and the "secondary" female is the second female with which a male mated.
88. (1 point) D
89. (1 point) A
90. (2 points) Group nesting, nesting over water, alarm calls, males on "watch" duty, mobbing of potential threats.
91. (1 point, TB5) They break down the waterproofing ability of the bird's feathers, which makes them vulnerable to low temperatures.

Station 14 (7 points)

92. (1 point) *Chaetura pelagica*
93. (1 point, TB6) Chimney swifts are incapable of perching and can only cling vertically to species.
94. (1 point) The entire eastern half of the US, as far east as western KS/NE. It excludes the southernmost portion of FL.
95. (1 point) When they're disturbed, they'll clap their wings loudly against their body. This creates a sound that is greatly amplified if many birds do it at once.
96. (1 point) 8-9 years, some evidence points to lifelong
97. (1 point) Regurgitated insects
98. (1 point) Vulnerable

Station 15 (7 points)

99. (1 point) *Sayornis phoebe*
 100. (1 point) 2 broods per year
 101. (1 point) It is primarily found in the eastern US, and its call sounds like "pee-bee"
 102. (1 point) Juveniles have white bars on their wings.
 103. (1 point) Females
 104. (1 point) It is one of the first birds to return to breeding grounds in the spring and one of the last to leave in the fall.
 105. (1 point) To announce/defend territory and attract a mate
 106. (1 point) These birds use man-made structures as nest sites, so human expansion provides them with more areas to nest.

Station 16 (7 points)

107. (1 point) *Aythya valisineria*
 108. (1 point) Wild celery (*Valisneria americana*): Only common name needed for credit
 109. (1 point) Rafts
 110. (1 point) 34in
 111. (1 point) 90 km/hour
 112. (1 point) Emergent vegetation above water or land close to water
 113. (1 point) T/F: This bird primarily uses visual signals in mating, as opposed to vocalizations.

Station 17 (7 points)

114. (1 point) *Falco sparverius*
 115. (1 point) This allows the bird to conserve energy
 116. (1 point) 1.2-1.4cm
 117. (1 point) In the summer, they eat small invertebrates such as insects. In the winter, they tend to eat larger prey such as mice, frogs, small birds, snakes, and shrews.
 118. (1 point) 1 year
 119. (1 point) 28-31 days
 120. (1 point) T
 121. (1 point) 4-6

Station 18 (8 points)

122. (1 point) *Asio otus*
 123. (1 point) They swallow it whole and regurgitate the parts that they can't digest.
 124. (1 point) 2000m
 125. (1 point) Females
 126. (1 point) Decreasing
 127. (1 point) F
 128. (2 points) They have large, sound-catching disks on their face and asymmetrically placed ear openings.

Station 19 (9 points)

129. (1 point) A
 130. (3 points, 1 point for # of chambers and 0.5 points for each name) 4 chambers; Right/left atria & right/left ventricle
 131. (1 point) Beta-keratin
 132. (1 point) Endotherms
 133. (1 point) Passeriformes
 134. (2 points) Semiplumes have more numerous plumulaceous barbs and provide mostly insulation, while filoplumes have fewer barbs and serve to send information to the brain about the placement of contour feathers.

Station 20 (9 points)

135. (4 points) State the common name of each of the following birds:
 a. Western Kingbird
 b. Vermillion Flycatcher
 c. Great Crested Flycatcher
 d. Scissor-Tailed Flycatcher
 136. (1 point) They are hollow, which makes them lighter.
 137. (1 point) T
 138. (1 point) B
 139. (1 point) Seabird/bat poop, used as fertilizer.
 140. (2 points) Excretion of waste, laying eggs, copulation.