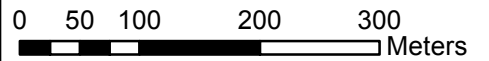# NBCI

National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative

Fall Covey Call
Covey Location Field Map

For each calling-covey location—mark X, COVEY ID and TIME DETECTED, and transfer this information to observer data sheet.

Notes

N

0   50   100   200   300
Meters

1 inch = 160 meters

Fall Covey Call
Observer Data Sheet
v1.10.1.15

Observer Name		Date	Start Time	Sunrise Time

Point ID		Latitude	Longitude

Cloud Cover %	Wind Code 0-3	Noise Code 0-3	Stimulation ☐Yes ☐ No	Replication 1-3

NBCI Fall Covey Call Observer Instructions

1. Make sure you know how to find listening point (i.e., post marked with reflective tape) in the dark. Prior to the field, record OBSERVER NAME, DATE, SUNRISE TIME & POINT ID.
2. Collect data 45 minutes before sunrise to sunrise. Record actual START TIME.
3. Weather: do not collect data if it is raining or snowing (fog is fine, but increases sound). Favorable wind speed is <4 mph, cloud cover <75% and <0.05 in/Hg change in barometric pressure [0100–0700 hr]. Bobwhite calling is positively related to high barometric pressure.
4. On covey location field map record location of each calling covey with an X, along with TIME DETECTED and COVEY ID. A calling covey is defined as a single or grouped series of "koi-lee" vocalizations coming from a fixed location.
5. Data fields:
   - CLOUD COVER, WIND CODE & NOISE CODE: Estimate immediately after calling tails off. If birds are not heard calling by 15 minutes before sunrise, measure immediately (don't wait until sunrise).

   Wind Codes:
   0=0 mph/still
   1=1-3mph/wind shown by smoke drift
   2=4-7mph/wind felt on face, leaves rustle
   3=8-12mph/leaves in constant motion

   Noise Codes:
   0=silent
   1=distant noise not interfering
   2=at times difficult to hear
   3=constant noise, hard to hear

   - For each mapped X (covey location) transfer TIME DETECTED and COVEY ID, indicate your CONFIDENCE IN COVEY LOCATION ESTIMATION, and if a covey was flushed, record the number of QUAIL IN COVEY. Estimated calling covey locations (Xs) ≤30 meters apart are classified as 1 covey. Be conservative.
   - Do not stimulate calling, except as specified in CIP, Table 3. Use of any stimulation (e.g., electronic call) significantly reduces capacity for estimating abundance. Check the box, YES or NO for STIMULATION.
   - Complete remainder of data as instructed by coordinator.

Covey ID	Confidence in Covey Location Estimation High, Medium, or Low	Time Detected	Quail in Covey #	Confidence in Quail Counted High, Medium, or Low