

## **Connecticut Trail Census**

A statewide multi-use trail user study

## Manual Count Instructions

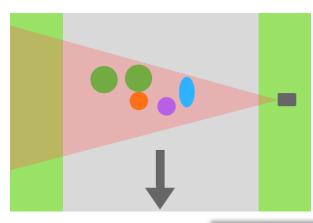
The infrared counters being used to record trail uses for the CT Trail Census are not perfect. They inherently under and over count in certain situations. For instance, users passing the counter at the same time will likely be counted as one user, and individuals stopping in front of the counter could be counted several times.

Trail Coordinators will be responsible for periodic in person manual counts of users on their trail. These counts will be used to develop correction factors to be applied to the IR counts to account for discrepancies, and will also offer insight into how the trail is being used, and ensure that the counters are functioning properly. Plan to conduct **<u>10 hours</u>** of manual counts each year.

Some general guidelines:

- All counts must be done in one hour blocks, one hour per sheet, beginning exactly at the top of the hour (Official US DST – <u>www.time.gov</u>)
- Counts should be done from a location with line of sight to the counter, but not too close to be disruptive of normal activity on the trail. You should be a <u>passive observer</u>.
- Conduct counts independent of surveys.
- Make sure the counter is functioning before starting counts.
- Only count <u>people</u> passing the counter location.
- Record groups on the same line.
- Estimate number of users under 18 years of age.
- Cyclists and pedestrians counted separately.
- Users in/ on wheelchairs, strollers, rollerblades, etc. counted as "other". Only <u>occupied</u> strollers, etc. counted.

## Questions? <a href="mailto:ctrailcensus@gmail.com">cttrailcensus@gmail.com</a>.



Enter trail and town, volunteer's name, date, time and weather (<u>www.weather.com</u>) All times must be synchronized to official US Daylight Savings Time (DST) (<u>www.time.gov</u>).

Record groups on same line. If it isn't possible to discern groups, record on separate lines.

People in strollers or wheelchairs, or on skates, etc. counted as "other" – explain in comments.

Distinguish between walking/running for pedestria

Users or groups passing counter simultaneously recorded on separate lines – same time.

Estimate number of users under 18

Enter totals, E-mail a scan/photo to cttrailcensus@gmail.com.

The Infrared counters used for the CT Trail Census record the temperature differential between trail users and the background within the counter's "line of sight". Record people passing the counter using the below examples as guidance. We are asking manual counters to collect information about group size, type of use, and number of children under 18 years old.

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mes must US			TY A		6/2/3	2019	All times Eastern Daylight Saving (v Record groups on the same line. Re		
r) ne. If it	Location Name Time Start Weather			Date 6/2/2019 Hop River - Bolton Aaron Budris 11:00 Count 1 Hour 75 degrees, sunny			Record strollers, skateboards, whe Record additional activity in comm Estimate the number of children (u (note that children should be inclu Send scanned completed forms to:		
oups, 🔨		#	Time	Ped	Bike	Other	Comment	#<18	#
		1	11:04	3			walking		41
		2	11:11	1			running		42
elchairs,	1	3	11:15	1		1	walking with stroller	1	43
as 🗾 🦯		4	11:17	1			walking dog		44
ents.		5	11:18		1				45 46
		6	11:23		4		group of cyclists		46
		7	11:26	1			walking		47
		8	11:33	2	2		adults with kids on bikes	2	48
trians		9	11:40	2			running		49 50
		10	11:42		1		teen on bike	1.	50
unter		11	11:45	1		2	walking w/double stroller	2	51
		12	11:45	1			walking		52
n –		13	11:49	3		1	walking, 1 in wheelchair		52 53 54 55 56 57
	7	14	11:51	1		1	walking, scooter	1	54
/		15	11:55	1			running		55
under 18		16	11:57			1	teen on skateboard	1	56
		17	11:59	2		2	2 adults, 2 strollers	2	
photo to		18	_						58
		8	ונ						П
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The CT Trail Census is funded by a CT Recreational Trails Grant and is being conducted in partnership with the Connecticut Greenways Council, UConn Extension, and the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments. You can learn more about the project at: www.cttrails.uconn.edu/ct\_trail\_census/