



WORKSHEET

FOREST HEALTH INDICATOR: WILDLIFE

The presence of a variety of wildlife is an indicator that a forest is vibrant and healthy. Actually seeing the animals may be difficult, but tracks, droppings, burrows, dens, nests, chewed leaves and pinecones, and other evidence or “signs” reveal their existence. You are more likely to see or hear the animals if you are quiet, respectful, and patient.

MATERIALS

Pencil, paper, binoculars or magnifying glass (optional)

METHOD

In your forest plot, look on the ground, under shrubs, and in trees for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, spiders, or insects, or for signs of those animals. Record your observations.

RESULTS

ANIMAL CLASS	SIGNS	SIGHTINGS
Mammals		
Birds		
Reptiles		
Amphibians		
Spiders		
Insects		
Other		

RATING

- | | | |
|-------------|--|----------|
| Good | Signs or sightings of 4 or more different classes of animals | 3 Points |
| Fair | Signs or sightings of 2–3 different classes of animals | 2 Points |
| Poor | Signs or sightings of 0–1 different classes of animals | 1 Point |

Overall Wildlife rating for plot: _____

