KEY TO DATA TABLES AND CODES USED IN THE MAPS OF *THE ATLAS OF* BREEDING COLONIAL WATERBIRDS IN THE INTERIOR WESTERN UNITED STATES

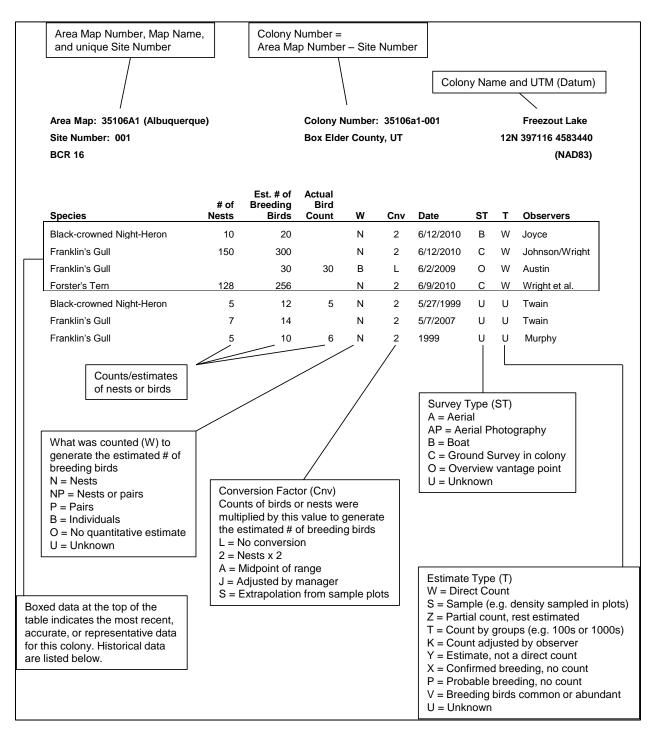


Figure 2a. Key to data tables and codes used in the maps in the Atlas of Breeding Colonial Waterbirds in the Interior Western United States.

Data Codes. Codes used within the site tables are defined below.

Universal Transverse Mercator.-The

geographic coordinates for each colony are presented as Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM). The format for each location is presented in zone number, letter, easting and northing.

What Counted (W).--What was counted, birds or nests.

Code Description

- B Birds: count or estimate of individual birds in colony.
- N Nests: count or estimate of nests in colony.
- NP Nests or Pairs: count or estimate of nests or breeding pairs.
- P Pairs: count or estimate of breeding pairs in colony.
- O No count or estimate: observer provided no quantitative estimate of colony size, only non-numeric data like "Present"" or "Rare".
- U Unknown: unexplained how the number was generated.

Conversion (Cnv).--This code describes how the count or survey data were adjusted to generate estimates of breeding birds. Counts of nests were multiplied by 2 and counts of birds were often adjusted by a conversion factor to account for non-breeding birds at the colony and breeding birds away from the colony.

Code Description

- L Literal count or estimate reported by observers; no adjustment.
- 2 Counts of nests were multiplied by 2 to estimate the number of breeding birds.
- A Midpoint of range (e.g., 500-1000 entered as 750).
- J Manager adjusted observer's data another way.
- S Extrapolation of data from sampling (e.g., nest densities in sample quadrats).

Survey Type (ST). -Survey method used to census or survey the colony. Codes were sometimes combined to indicate that more than one method was used.

Code Description

- A Aerial survey from fixed-wing airplane or helicopter
- AP Aerial photography
- B Boat
- C Colony, ground survey in the colony or on the island
- O Overview, ground survey from a vantage point
- U Unknown

Estimate Type (T).-Type of estimate or count made by the observer. Codes may be qualitative or quantitative.

Code Description

- W Direct Count
 S Known percent of colony. Exact count of birds, pairs, or nests in known fraction of colony area; count extrapolated to total number.
- Z Part estimated, part counted: exact count on part of colony area; remainder of colony and total number in colony estimated.
- T Count by groups: count of birds, pairs, or nests by groups (e.g., 10s or 1000s).
- K Count adjusted by observer: observer adjusted count of individuals, nests, pairs to give better estimate of total population (e.g., using study of attendance at nests).
- Y Estimate, not actual count: observer estimated birds, nests, or pairs by some other method.
- X Present, no count. Observer reported breeding birds of this species at colony, but no estimate of numbers.
- P Probable: observer reported breeding birds probably or possibly present at colony, but no numerical value.
- V Common or abundant: observer reported breeding birds common or abundant at colony, but no numerical estimate.
- U Type of estimate unknown: census method or accuracy of method unknown.

Figure 2b. Key to data tables and codes used in the maps in the Atlas of Breeding Colonial Waterbirds in the Interior Western United States.