



# Connecticut Trail Census

A statewide multi-use trail user study

[www.cttrailcensus.uconn.edu](http://www.cttrailcensus.uconn.edu)

## Manual Count Instructions

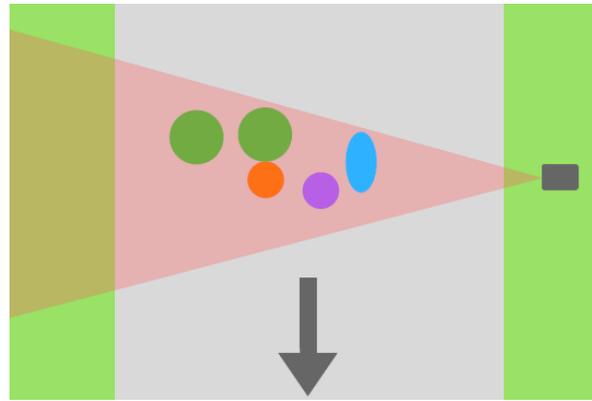
The infrared counters being used to record trail uses for the CT Trail Census are not perfect. They inherently under and over count in certain situations. For instance, users passing the counter at the same time will likely be counted as one user, and individuals stopping in front of the counter could 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 **10 hours** 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 – [www.time.gov](http://www.time.gov))
- 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 passive observer.
- Conduct counts independent of surveys.
- Make sure the counter is functioning before starting counts.
- Only count people 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 occupied strollers, etc. counted.

Questions? [cttrailcensus@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Enter trail and town, volunteer’s name, date, time and weather ([www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)) All times must be synchronized to official US Daylight Savings Time (DST) ([www.time.gov](http://www.time.gov)).

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 pedestrians

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](mailto:cttrailcensus@gmail.com). Send original using provided envelope.

### Connecticut Trail Census

Statewide multi-use trail user study

All times Eastern Daylight Saving (V Record groups on the same line. R 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

Date 6/2/2019

Location Hop River - Bolton

Name Aaron Budris

Time Start 11:00<sup>am</sup> Count 1 Hour

Weather 75 degrees, sunny

| #  | Time  | Ped | Bike | Other | Comment                   | # <18 | #  |
|----|-------|-----|------|-------|---------------------------|-------|----|
| 1  | 11:04 | 3   |      |       | walking                   |       | 41 |
| 2  | 11:11 | 1   |      |       | running                   |       | 42 |
| 3  | 11:15 | 1   |      | 1     | walking with stroller     | 1     | 43 |
| 4  | 11:17 | 1   |      |       | walking dog               |       | 44 |
| 5  | 11:18 |     | 1    |       |                           |       | 45 |
| 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 |
| 9  | 11:40 | 2   |      |       | running                   |       | 49 |
| 10 | 11:42 |     | 1    |       | teen on bike              | 1     | 50 |
| 11 | 11:45 | 1   |      | 2     | walking w/double stroller | 2     | 51 |
| 12 | 11:45 | 1   |      |       | walking                   |       | 52 |
| 13 | 11:49 | 3   |      | 1     | walking, 1 in wheelchair  |       | 53 |
| 14 | 11:51 | 1   |      | 1     | walking, scooter          | 1     | 54 |
| 15 | 11:55 | 1   |      |       | running                   |       | 55 |
| 16 | 11:57 |     |      | 1     | teen on skateboard        | 1     | 56 |
| 17 | 11:59 | 2   |      | 2     | 2 adults, 2 strollers     | 2     | 57 |
| 18 |       |     |      |       |                           |       | 58 |
| 19 |       |     |      |       |                           |       | 59 |
| 20 |       |     |      |       |                           |       | 60 |

|                     |    |    |   |   |   |    |  |
|---------------------|----|----|---|---|---|----|--|
|                     | 80 |    |   |   |   |    |  |
| <b>HOUR TOTALS:</b> |    | 20 | 8 | 8 | = | 36 |  |