



Amie MacDonald  
British Columbia Motus Coordinator  
Birds Canada  
4841 Delta St. #206  
Delta, BC V4K 2T9

18 April 2023

Board of the Peace River Regional District  
1981 Alaska Avenue  
Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8

Dear Board of the Peace River Regional District,

I am writing to request permission to install one temporary [Motus Wildlife Tracking System](#) receiver station at Blackfoot Regional Park. The Motus Wildlife Tracking System is an international collaborative research network dedicated to studying the movement and behaviour of small flying animals to inform conservation efforts. Motus is a program of Birds Canada, a non-profit organization dedicated to bird and habitat conservation, in partnership with many collaborating researchers and organizations. Motus uses coordinated automated radio-telemetry arrays with receiver stations distributed across the landscape that detect animals marked with uniquely coded radio-transmitters.

I am working on a project to build an array of Motus stations across northeastern British Columbia that will assist local researchers studying the movement and ecology of birds and bats in the region. Over the last two years, we have installed 15 Motus stations between Dawson Creek, Prince George, and Tsay Keh Dene. This year we aim to add another 5 long-term and 3 temporary Motus stations. I am requesting permission to install a temporary Motus station at Blackfoot Regional Park. This station would consist of a small omnidirectional antenna mounted on a pole, connected to a receiver and powered by a solar panel and battery. These temporary Motus stations are significantly smaller than long-term Motus stations. I have attached a general document about hosting a Motus station with more detailed information. If possible, I would plan to install the Motus station between July 4 – 7, 2023. I would also be happy to do some outreach about Motus and bird migration with park visitors.

This Motus station would support a project studying migratory connectivity of threatened bank swallows. This project is led by Environment and Climate Change Canada and will involve tagging bank swallows at breeding sites across Canada and tracking them on their southbound migration using the Motus network. The Peace River is one of the breeding sites in the study and Blackfoot Regional Park would be a strategic location for a temporary Motus station. My colleague at Environment and Climate Change Canada, Sydney Bliss ([sydney.bliss@ec.gc.ca](mailto:sydney.bliss@ec.gc.ca)) would lead the bank swallow tagging element of the project and would remove the Motus station in September 2023.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Amie MacDonald

National Headquarters/Administration Centrale  
P.O. Box/C.P. 160, 115 Front Road, Port Rowan, ON Canada N0E 1M0  
1-888-448-2473 | [BIRDSCANADA.ORG](http://BIRDSCANADA.ORG)

Charitable Registration No./No. d'enregistrement de bienfaisance 11902 4313 RR0001