



## *Data Dashboard Scavenger Hunt:*

### *Student Handout (Sandhill Crane)*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In this activity you and your classmates will explore the Snapshot Wisconsin Data Dashboard and use it to study the detection rates and activity of different Wisconsin animals.

Data Dashboard: [datadashboard.snapshotwisconsin.org](https://datadashboard.snapshotwisconsin.org)

You have been assigned the sandhill crane as your species to study. On the left-hand side of the website you will see an area to “Select species of interest”. Select “sandhill crane” under the species list to begin your investigation!

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#### **INVESTIGATION**

1. In the blue box at the center top of the page, the number of “*Statewide sandhill crane detections*” for the selected species (sandhill crane) is reported. Use the slide tool in the lower left corner of the page to “*Select date range of data*”.
  - a. **How many statewide detections of sandhill crane are there from January 2018 to December 2023?** \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. **How many statewide detections of sandhill crane are there from January 2018 to December 2018?** \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. **How many statewide detections of sandhill crane are there from January 2022 to December 2022?** \_\_\_\_\_

2. In the center left of the page you will see a “*Presence Map*” of Wisconsin that displays the percentage of cameras which detected sandhill cranes by county. Use the key in the upper right corner of the map to determine the different percentages that sandhill cranes were detected in each county. You can also hover over each county on the map to see the county name and exact percentage.

- a. **Using the blank map handout provided, shade in the counties where sandhill crane are detected on 40% or more of cameras between January 2018 and December 2023.**

**For the remainder of the questions, keep the date range at January 2018 to December 2023.**

3. On the left-hand side of the page, under the species list, you will see an option to “*Select map mode*”. Select “*Ecological Landscapes*” to explore the different ecological landscapes of Wisconsin where sandhill crane are detected. Hover over each landscape on the map to see the names and specific percentages.

- a. **What ecological landscapes detect sandhill crane on over 60% of cameras?**

**Check all that apply.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Superior Coastal Plain         | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Lake Michigan Coastal  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Lowlands             | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Sand Hills             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Sands                | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Sand Plains            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Transition              | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Coulees and Ridges     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> North Central Forest           | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Prairie                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Highland              | <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Savanna              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast Sands                | <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast Glacial Plains       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Lake Michigan Coastal | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Lake Michigan Coastal |

- b. **What ecological landscapes detect sandhill crane on less than 20% of cameras?**

**Check all that apply.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Superior Coastal Plain         | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Lake Michigan Coastal  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Lowlands             | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Sand Hills             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Sands                | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Sand Plains            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Transition              | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Coulees and Ridges     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> North Central Forest           | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Prairie                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Highland              | <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Savanna              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast Sands                | <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast Glacial Plains       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Lake Michigan Coastal | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Lake Michigan Coastal |

- c. **What are possible reasons that sandhill cranes are detected in some ecological landscapes more than others? Explain your reasoning.**

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4. In the center right of the page you will see a line graph that displays "*Animal Activity*". Below the graph are two blue buttons that allow you to view activity "*by Hour*" and "*by Month*".

- a. **What 3 months are sandhill crane detected most often?**

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- b. **What 3 months are sandhill crane detected least often?**

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- c. **Why do some months have more sandhill crane detections than others? Explain your reasoning.**

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- d. **Within a 24-hour period, which two hours of the day show a *peak* in sandhill crane activity?** \_\_\_\_\_

- i. **Based on their peak hours of activity, do you think sandhill cranes are diurnal, crepuscular, or nocturnal?** \_\_\_\_\_

5. Now navigate to the "*Detection Rates*" tab to view a bar graph of yearly detections, comparing sandhill crane to other animals. You can hover over each bar on the graph to see detailed statistics.

- a. **Are sandhill crane detected at a higher or lower rate than coyote?**

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- b. **Do you think sandhill crane and coyote population levels impact one another? Why or why not?**

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