

My Marsh Cam Observations

Why Create an Observation Journal Entry?

Journal entries provide a record of what was seen and done on any given day. They often contain information such as the date, time of day, and observations of the weather. While journal entries are most often meant for the person writing the entry to reflect upon, they can also be used to learn more about history and even scientific concepts. For example, much of the early colonial history of Jamestown was informed by journals such as Captain John Smiths'. When observations about nature are included in journal entries, scientists can see how the plants, animals, and even climate has changed from the past to the present.

Documenting Wildlife Species

While viewing the Marsh Cam, place the types of wildlife species you observe in the correct habitat below. If you don't know the exact name of the wildlife species, describe it to the best of your ability and try to identify it later using a field guide (online or book). Many of the birds at Hog Island are migratory so keep that in mind when attempting to identify any birds you see.

Date: _____

Time: _____

Weather conditions: _____

Species Name	In what habitat did you see the species?	How many individuals of the species do you see?	Describe the Behavior of the Animal (feeding, swimming, resting, hunting, flying, walking, etc)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tidal water <input type="checkbox"/> Tidal marsh <input type="checkbox"/> Inland wetland impoundment <input type="checkbox"/> Shrub thicket <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
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Sketching your Observations

On a separate piece of paper, sketch something interesting you observed on the Marsh Cam today; add details and color if possible.

Summarizing your Observations

Write a few sentences below summarizing your observations for the day. Please include the date, weather conditions, total number of species you observed and the total number of individuals of a species.

