



## Thank you for taking part in ECOECLIPSE!

ECOECLIPSE project aims to understand how soundscapes change during the upcoming solar eclipse on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2026. To achieve this, a network of collaborators has been established to deploy autonomous sound recorders at different locations across the Iberian Peninsula, thanks to the support of the Spanish Network for Ecoacoustics Research (REIE).

This protocol explains how you should carry out your sampling to be consistent with that of all collaborators. You can find more information about the project on the website: <https://www.eclipseespana.com/ecoeclipse/>

## How can I participate?

If you are interested in taking part in the ECOECLIPSE project, you need to fulfil these requirements:

1. You have at least one autonomous sound recorder with suitable batteries and a memory card.
2. You can deploy the recorder(s) in the field so that they record continuously from 10 to 14 August 2026.
3. The site where you deploy the recorder(s) has at least 98% eclipse coverage (check here: <https://visualizadores.ign.es/eclipses/2026>).
4. Please, complete the participation form if you have not already done so: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/102qdH4iiqMOWpS6NjeA-hFJffi4L-UpWHCxl7-aCpA/viewform?hl=es&hl=es&edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/102qdH4iiqMOWpS6NjeA-hFJffi4L-UpWHCxl7-aCpA/viewform?hl=es&hl=es&edit_requested=true)

## What type of recorder should I use?

There are no mandatory requirements regarding the recorder model. The most used models are AudioMoth (<https://www.openacousticdevices.info/audiomoth>) and Song Meter Micro 2 (<https://www.wildlifeacoustics.com/products/song-meter-micro-2>), but any other model is suitable if it:

- records sound autonomously and can be programmed according to the common protocol;
- stores complete audio recordings;
- records in the audible and/or ultrasonic frequency range;
- provides good sound quality and is properly calibrated.



## Where should I place the sound recorder?

The minimum requirements are:

1. The sampling site must have at least 98% eclipse coverage. You can check coverage at your site of interest using this app (<https://visualizadores.ign.es/eclipses/2026>) or this other one (<https://pyeclipsesimulator.streamlit.app/>)
2. Choose locations away from sources of noise pollution or areas with high human density. A clear view of the Sun is not required. Instead, choose a quiet location with as few people as possible.
3. If you deploy more than one recorder, the distance between recording sites must be **at least 1 km**.
4. There are no habitat restrictions. Any location where wild fauna is present is welcome. The project mainly focuses on birds and bats, but recordings from sites with orthopterans, mammals, amphibians and semi-urban environments are also of interest.
5. Record the coordinates of each deployment site.

## Do I need permits to record sounds?

Spanish legislation is strict regarding permits for sound recording due to privacy regulations. Avoid recording in areas with human presence, as the aim is to record animal sounds rather than human conversations.

If you are deploying recorders within a National Park or Natural Park, you will most likely need permission from the relevant authorities. **Each collaborator is responsible for complying with all applicable regulations when recording in protected areas or on private property.**

## How many days should I record?

**Record continuously from 10 to 14 August 2026, between 16:00 and 21:00 UTC each day (18:00–23:00 local time in mainland Spain).**



## How should the recorder be configured?

Configuration depends on the recorder model. Ready-to-use configuration files for AudioMoth and Song Meter Micro (1 or 2) are available on the project's website

**If you can choose, we prefer AudioMoth because it is both compatible with birds and bats.**

### Song Meter Micro (1 or 2):

- Keep the recorder configured in UTC (UTC+00:00). Do not change it to local time.
- After programming, the Status screen should indicate that the next recording is scheduled for 10 August at 16:00 UTC.

### AudioMoth:

- Uses a 250 kHz sampling rate to record bat ultrasounds.
- Use disposable alkaline AA batteries to ensure five days of operation

### Other models:

- Gain: Medium or 18 dB
- Recording duration: 60 s
- If pauses are required, use a 5 s pause and 55 s recordings.
- Sampling rate: 250 kHz (ultrasonic microphones) or 32 kHz (audible-only microphones).

## How do I share the data?



If you record at fewer than five sampling locations, we will send you a cloud link to upload the recordings. If you record at five or more locations, we will most likely send you an external hard drive.

If the project has lent you a recorder, please return it with the memory card inserted and without the batteries. We will download the recordings ourselves

## What are the benefits of collaborating in the project?

Besides contributing to a better understanding of how soundscapes change during a solar eclipse at a large spatial scale, collaborators will have the opportunity to become co-authors of the project's dataset and data paper, provided they actively participate in the publication process.

## Contact

Website : <https://www.eclipseespana.com/ecoclipse/>

Coordinators:

**Irene Mendoza**, Universidad de Sevilla: [imendoza1@us.es](mailto:imendoza1@us.es)

**Airam Rodríguez**, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales:  
[airam.rodriguez@mncn.csic.es](mailto:airam.rodriguez@mncn.csic.es)