Using the "Lost Cricket Project" App

The Lost Cricket Project is recruiting citizen scientists in Oklahoma to help find new populations of the rare prairie mole cricket during the months of March through May.

As you learned in the previous training videos, prairie mole crickets can be heard calling between mid-March and mid-May at sunset. This video will go over how to download and use the Lost Cricket Project survey app so that you can help find new populations of prairie mole crickets in Oklahoma! Before heading out into the field, we recommend practicing all the steps below (except for actually submitting the survey).

To help protect the fragile prairie habitat and to not disturb the prairie mole crickets, please stay safely off to the side of roads, or on trails while conducting surveys.

To help collect the most accurate location information we recommend using a compass app. iPhone and some androids normally include a compass app. On iPhones, the compass app is found in either the extras folder or utilities folder. On an Android phone, you can scroll through your apps or enter the word compass in the Search Apps field. If you do not have a compass app, we recommend downloading a compass app of your choice in either the Apple Apps store or Google Play store. These can be downloaded for free.



First please locate the Survey123 app for ARCGIS in the Apple App Store or Google Play store and download it onto your mobile device. Once the app has finished downloading, open the app. If you are using an iPhone, you will be asked whether Survey123 can access your location. Please select "only while using the app." (This will allow you to submit recordings and photos.) If you are on an android, you may be asked whether Survey123 can access files on your device and on your device's location. Please select allow for both. (This will allow you to submit recordings, photos, and the location of your survey.) Since this is a public survey, you will be able to bypass the login screen by following the next step.









Once you have the Survey123 app downloaded, you can access the Lost Cricket Project survey by using either the QR code or clicking on the link that is found on the ODWC website. This will open up the lost cricket project app that will be used to conduct the survey. Now let's proceed to use the app. When listening at sunset for prairie mole crickets, if you hear what you think is a call press the microphone icon which is located underneath the illustration of a prairie mole cricket. You will be able to take recordings of up to 2 minutes. To stop recording, press the stop icon.

Your current location should automatically populate. If the location is incorrect, press the map. This will allow you to manually move the pin with your finger. If you are in any area without a mobile phone signal, you can you use the offline map by selecting the menu located in the right corner of the screen.

Navigate to a map called layers. This will allow you to indicate your location. You will be able to submit the survey later once you are in a location that has internet or a mobile phone signal. Select the check icon on the bottom right of the screen to return to the survey. Next, navigate to your compass app to determine what direction the cricket is calling from (i.e., N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, or NW) with respect to where you are standing and listening. On an iPhone, you can double click the home button (the button with a square on the bottom of your phone). This will allow you to navigate between apps without exiting the app. On an Android phone click the circle button on the bottom of the phone to find and open your compass app. To return to the lost cricket survey app, press the square button on the bottom right of your screen.

If you are unable to download a compass app, you can estimate the direction in which the prairie mole crickets are calling by using the sun, since the sun sets in the West.

Please estimate the distance to the calling prairie mole crickets. The distance between the end zones of a football field is 100 yards. You can use this as a reference guide when estimated the distance.

Please indicate how many prairie mole crickets you may hear to help us determine the size of the population at the site. As you learned in the previous video, if only a few prairie mole crickets are calling it may be possible to tell how many individuals there are. However, this may be difficult if many crickets are calling at once.

Then scroll down and describe the habitat in the area where the prairie mole cricket(s) are located by selecting one of the following habitat types below.

If you are familiar with the area where the prairie mole crickets are located, please indicate what types of land management practices are used. If grazing is selected, please indicate whether the area has cattle, bison, or another type of animal.

Finally, take a picture of the area where the prairie mole cricket is calling with your mobile phone by selecting the camera icon.

Once the survey is received, your submitted recording will be analyzed to verify that it is a prairie mole cricket call. If you would like to receive confirmation, please select "Yes" below.

If you would like to participate in a short survey that will be used to help us make improvements for next year, please select "Yes."

If you answered "Yes" to either of the previous two steps, please enter your email address.

We are planning on publishing a report that discusses the results of the Lost Cricket Project and recognizes individuals for their participation. If you would like your name to appear in the report, please enter it below.

Once you finish your survey, press the check icon on the bottom right. If any required fields are left incomplete you will be notified.

How you submit your completed survey will depend on whether you are online or offline. If you are online, you will be asked if you would like to submit the survey later or now. Select send now. If you are offline you will receive a message indicating that the survey has been saved in the outbox. Once you are in an area with reception of Wi-Fi you can return to your survey and press the outbox button. You will be asked if you would like to continue and edit the survey. Select "Yes." You can then check the check icon on the bottom right corner to submit the survey. For future surveys you can access the "Lost Cricket Project" by just opening Survey123. Click on the "Lost Cricket Project" Icon. Then just select collect to start another survey.

Thank you for your interest in the "Lost Cricket Project." As you learned in the first video, the prairie mole cricket is listed as a Tier I species of greatest conservation need. By participating in this project, you are helping obtain information that will be used to manage this rare Oklahoma native species. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at LostCricketProject@ gmail.com.









