

Bird Radio Tags

Specialists in Animal Radio Monitoring

The effect of the tag upon the bird you are trying to study is the most important consideration, followed by your project requirements of tag range and tag life. The tag types below enable Biotrack to adapt the attachment technique to your species, and the overleaf tables show how we can tailor the transmitter specifications to your project.

Tags shown 1/2 size – see overleaf for dimensions.

Safest
Self-detachable during moult.

Tailmounts

Tag lost during moult.
Can not be used on growing feather.

Glue on feather using groove to position.

Secure with strings.

Secure with cable-ties.

Thin antennas should be tied and glued to tail feather for protection.

Feather shaft position.

Long-life
Stays on during moult.
Higher load over centre of gravity can increase tag life.

Backpacks

Harnesses have many risks so should not be attempted without demonstration from someone with successful experience.

Tiny tags glued directly, or gauze to increase the surface.

With end tubes for harness material.

With side tubes for harness material (contact Biotrack for details).

Safe Alternative
When feathers are not developed enough for tailmounts or tracking is required through the moult.

Legmounts

Lower range (from shorter antenna).
Shorter tag life (weight of protection).

Raptors: fitted around Tarsus.

Secured with pop-rivet and washers.

Waders: position on tibia, above knee.

Secured with cable-tie (sometimes glue is sufficient).

Antenna protection must be strong.

Gamebirds
and other birds that do not fly much.

Necklaces

Leave sufficient room for swallowing large objects.

Cord cut to required length, knotted and secured with glue or stitch.

Tag Specifications

Weight (g)		Battery Life			Dimensions			Tx	Battery	
Basic	Legmount	Min	Std	Max	H	W	L			
90	n/a	4.3	6.5	11.1	Years	68	30	30	TW-3	C
70	n/a	3.2	5	9.2	Years	21	30	66	TW-3	AA (x2)
50	n/a	2.6	4.1	8	Years	21	30	60	TW-3	2/3AA (x2)
40	n/a	1.6	2.6	5.5	Years	21	30	40	TW-3	1/2AA (x2)
33	42-55	1.7	2.9	6	Years	21	20	66	TW-3	AA
23	36-50	1.4	2.3	5	Years	21	20	50	TW-3	2/3AA
17	19-45	0.8	1.4	3.2	Years	21	20	40	TW-3	1/2AA
11	12-21	4.4	7.6	18.4	Months	18	17	37	TW-3	10-28
7	n/a	2.1	3.7	9.3	Months	15	24	24	TW-3	CR2032
4.5	6.0-8.0	3.2	5.5	13	Months	7	13	32	Pip	Ag357
2.4	0	2.3	3.9	9.4	Months	7	13	32	Pip	Ag386
1.7	4.0-6.0	1.4	2.4	5.9	Months	7	9	24	Pip	Ag393
1.2	4.2-5.5	0.7	1.3	3	Months	6	8	17	Pip	Ag392
0.65	1.65-1.80	0.5	0.8	2	Months	5	8	17	Pip	Ag376
0.45	1.45-1.60	9	15	37	Days	4	7	14	Pip	Ag379
0.41	0.90-1.05	6	11	27	Days	4	7	14	Pip	Ag317
0.35	0.85-1.00	4	8	18	Days	4	7	13	Pip	Ag337
1.03	4.15-5.45	1.1	1.9	4.4	Months	6	8	17	PicoPip	Ag392
0.58	1.60-1.75	0.7	1.3	2.9	Months	5	8	17	PicoPip	Ag376
0.40	1.40-1.55	13	22	40	Days	4	6	14	PicoPip	Ag379
0.34	0.85-1.00	10	17	38	Days	3	6	14	PicoPip	Ag317
0.26	0.80-0.95	6	10	23	Days	3	5	13	PicoPip	Ag337

PicoPips are our new premium tags – smaller, lighter and longer lasting

The lives, weights and sizes of tags listed in the table can be modified to meet individual project needs. Standard (Std.) tags have a pulse rate of 50 pulses /minute and a pulse length of 20 milliseconds. Tags with maximum life have a pulse rate of 30 pulses/minute and a pulse length of 12 milliseconds, which give approximately 78% of the maximum range. Minimum life tags (Min.) have a pulse rate of 60 pulses/minute and a 30 millisecond pulse length, with maximum range. Other combinations of pulse length and rate may be more suitable for you (see More Information below).

Delivery Time

In order to supply our customers with what they want, when they want it, we need to plan ahead. It is best to give us as much warning as possible, allowing plenty of time to discuss the details. We are happy to take provisional orders, if you are unsure of funding. We can then schedule the work with no obligation for you to buy the tags if the funding is not granted. We will not build the tags until confirmation from you. Occasionally it is possible to build the tags at very short notice. Please contact us, even if you think it may be too late.

More Information?

We are more than happy to discuss any questions you may have about radio-tracking over the phone, by fax or by email. You may also like to use our website

www.biotrack.co.uk

to choose the tag most suitable for your project.

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