

Video Script

Song Meter Micro Schedule Editor (Part 1)

Welcome to Wildlife Acoustics.

The Song Meter Micro uses a programmed recording schedule to determine when it is in record mode and when it is sleeping.

The recording schedule is created and edited from the Song Meter Configurator app. Here is the Recorders screen and you can see my Song Meter Micro is ready to pair with the app. I'll tap the Pair icon, and then tap on the Configure icon to go to the Paired Configuration Editor screen. The current settings of the Song Meter Micro, including its recording schedule, are uploaded to the Configurator app. The Paired Configuration Editor can now be used to edit and update the Song Meter Micro recorder in real time. This includes editing and updating the recording schedule.

Recording schedules rely on these settings to create audio files. For example, here is the Maximum Recording Length setting. This limits all recorded audio files to a specified number of minutes. So, if a recording schedule is set up to record 24 hours a day, but the maximum record length is set to 60 minutes, 24 consecutive one-hour wav file recordings will be made each day over the 24-hour period.

The recording schedule also works in combination with the Delay Start setting. If there is a Delay Start date set, the Song Meter Micro will sleep until the Delay Start date, and then wake up to commence its recording schedule.

The Schedule Editor provides preset recording schedules, which represent typical deployment scenarios. In many cases, a preset schedule may be a good starting point for a customized recording schedule. For now, I'll select the Record birds and frogs 24 hours a day preset. This simple preset is designed to record 24 hours a day, every day. Below the preset menu are the schedule editor parameters. When a preset recording schedule is selected, its parameters are displayed so you can see how the schedule works. The preset schedule parameters are immediately available for editing, in case you'd like to create and further edit a customized recording schedule.

Recording schedules are based on schedule blocks. A schedule block has a start time, an end time, and a duty cycle.

Start and End times of the schedule block can be based on the time programmed into the recorder, or they can be based on sunrise and sunset times. For this preset, The Start Time is set to time plus or minus zero hours. Time zero represents midnight. The End Time is also set to midnight. That covers a 24-hour time period.

The Duty Cycle determines what will happen within the start and end times. Cycle means the record mode can be enabled and disabled within the start and end times. Always means the Song Meter Micro records continuously within the start and end times.

On the right-hand side of the screen there are icons for Estimate Battery and Card Life, and Show on Calendar. Estimate Battery and Card Life is a calculator which will take into account the current settings and recording schedule. Deployment start date and MicroSD memory card size can then either be manually specified, or based on the current date and installed card. From that information

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the Configurator app will then calculate when the MicroSD memory card will be full, and when the batteries will be depleted.

Show on Calendar is also powerful tool when working with schedules. I'll choose a new schedule preset, which is designed to record from sunrise to sunset each day. When I open the calendar, I see a graphic display of how the Song Meter Micro will record today. The calendar can be scrolled left and right to display the full 24-hour cycle. The color coding shows day and night, and the actual recording schedule.

The date display above the 24-hour graphic can also be scrolled. This will update the graphic to show the sunrise and sunset times for the currently displayed date and the programmed location of the recorder. When I scroll to a different date, the actual recording schedule is updated to reflect the new sunrise time.

Be sure to check out the next video in this series which will show step by step customization of recording schedules, including working with multiple schedule blocks, setting date ranges, and saving and sharing configuration files.

Thank you for watching