

## Video Script

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# Song Meter Mini Schedule Editor (Part 1)

Welcome to Wildlife Acoustics.

The Song Meter Mini 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 Mini Configurator app. Here is the Recorders screen and you can see my Song Meter Mini 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 Paired Configuration Editor can now be used to edit and update the Song Meter Mini recorder in real time. This includes editing and updating the recording schedule.

Recording schedules rely on Acoustic Settings to create audio files. Tap here to enter the Acoustic Settings screen. These are the settings the Song Meter Mini will use with its current recording schedule. For example, here is the Maximum Recording Length setting. This limits all recorded audio files to a specified number of minutes. For example, if a recording schedule is set up to record 24 hours a day, but the Maximum Recording 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 Mini 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 Mini 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 acoustic settings and recording schedule. Deployment start date, SD card size, and Battery Type can

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then either be manually specified, or based on the currently installed batteries and SD memory card. From that information the Configurator app will then calculate when the SD memory card will be full, and when the batteries will be depleted.

Show on Calendar is also powerful tool when working with schedules. When I open the calendar, I see a graphic display of how the Song Meter Mini will record today. The calendar can be scrolled left and right to display the full 24-hour cycle. Because the current schedule is set to record continuously 24 hours a day, you see the record graphic showing that activity.

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 programmed location. Remember that if you use a sunrise or sunset time in the recording schedule, the times will change daily, based on location and date.

Be sure to check out the next video in this series, which will show step-by-step customization of recording schedules.

Thank you for watching.