



NH Audubon Nature Challenge

Quick Start Guide to iNaturalist

How to Sign up with iNaturalist

You can use iNaturalist as a mobile app (available for Apple and Android devices) or on a desktop or laptop. iNaturalist accounts and app are free to use, and there are no fees. You will need to create an account to submit observations or review/comment on another user's observations.

What You Will Need

- **An Email address** - Enter a valid email address that is not already associated with another iNaturalist account and that you have access to/check frequently in case you need to reset your password.
- **A Username** - You can make your username whatever you choose, as long as it is not already in use, begins with a letter, has not spaces, and used only letters, numbers, dashes, and/or underscores. This is the account name that will appear attached to your submitted observations or comments on other's observations.
- **A Password** – A password must contain at least six (6) characters, but the stronger the password, the better.

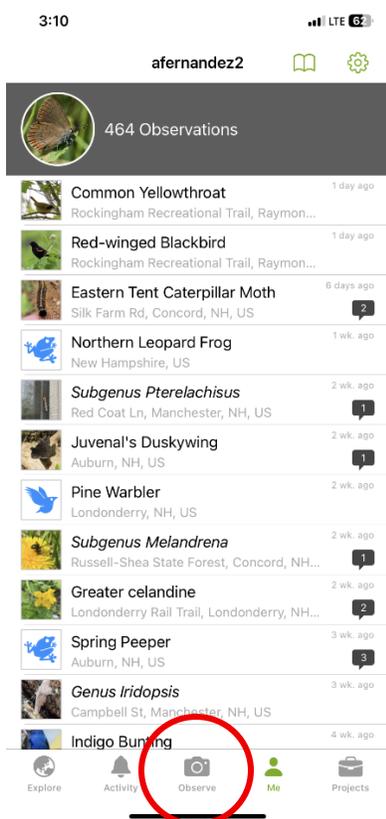
There will also be several checkboxes for you to view, that will appear as below.

- Yes, license my photos, sounds, and observations so scientists can use my data (recommended). **Learn More**
- I consent to allow iNaturalist to store and process limited kinds of personal information about me in order to manage my account **Learn More**
- I consent to allow my personal information to be transferred to the United States of America **Learn More**
- I agree to the **Terms of Use and Privacy Policy**, and I have reviewed the **Community Guidelines**.

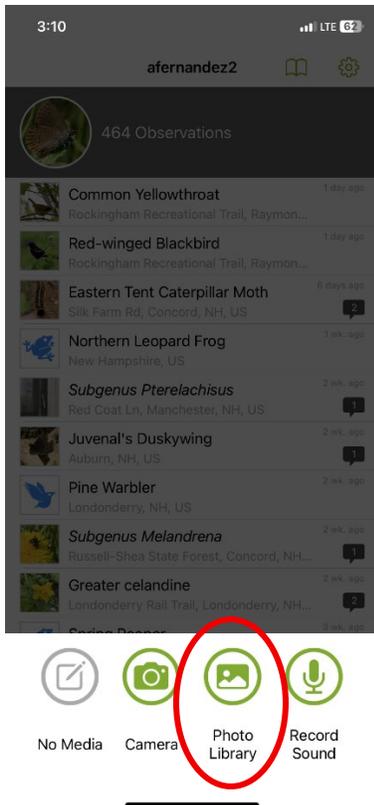
Tapping or clicking on "Learn More" will display more information about that item.

Although recommended, you do not have to consent to the first statement, but you will not be able to make an account without consenting or agreeing to the other three points.

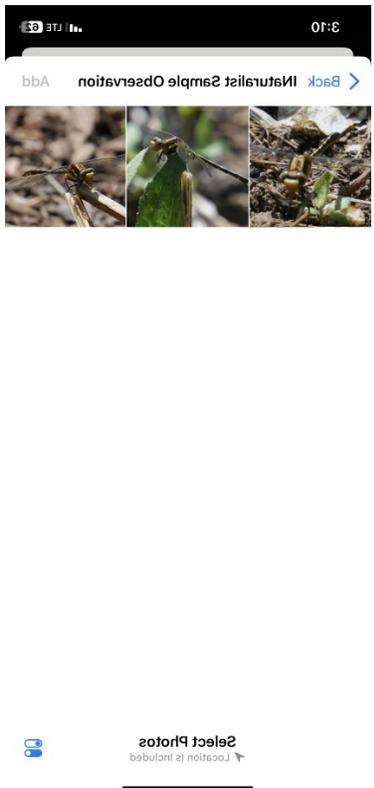
How to Submit an Observation



When you open up your iNaturalist mobile app, it will appear as the image to the left if you are using an iPhone. If you are on an Android device, it will be slightly different. Select "Observe" in the bottom center of the screen.



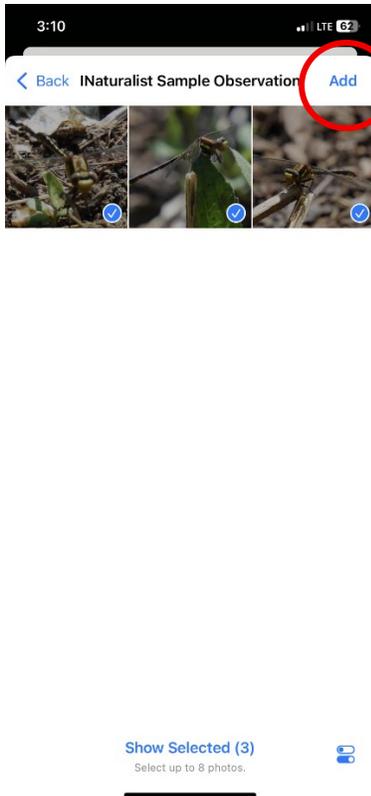
To make a live observation, choose “Camera.” To make an observation for a species you already have photos of, choose Photo Library, which is what we use for this example.



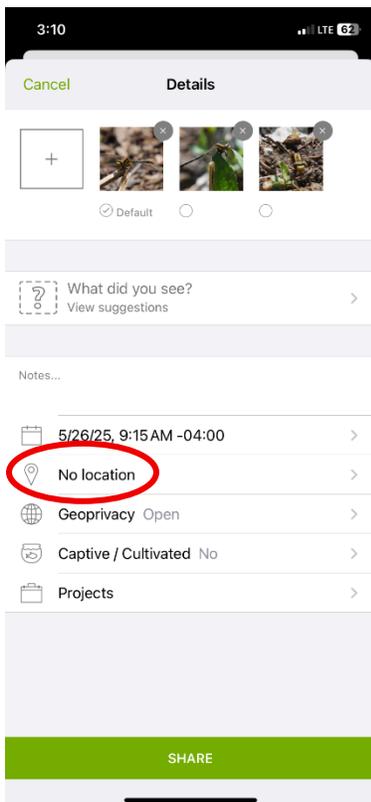
This will bring up your photos, where you can select which species photos you want to include in your observation.

Tips:

Make sure you are selecting photos that are all the same individual and try to select photos that show the submission from multiple angles.



As you select photos by touching them, you will see a blue checkmark appear at the bottom corner of each. To deselect a photo, touch it again. When you have selected all that you want to include in your observation, select “Add.”

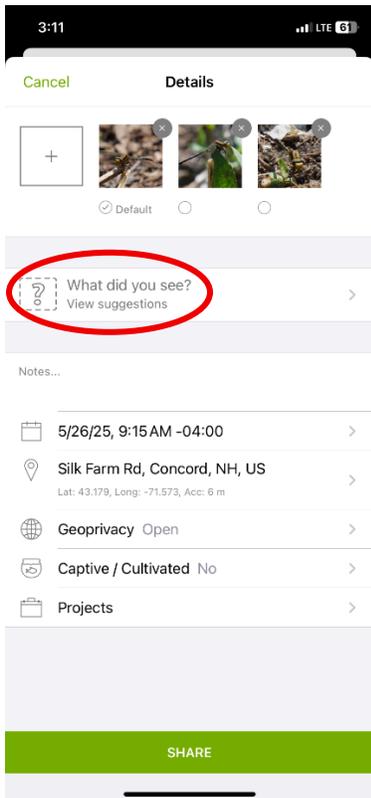


The first photo will be the “Default” photo that iNaturalist uses predictive technology to provide possible species suggestions. To change, just touch the empty circle below another photo.

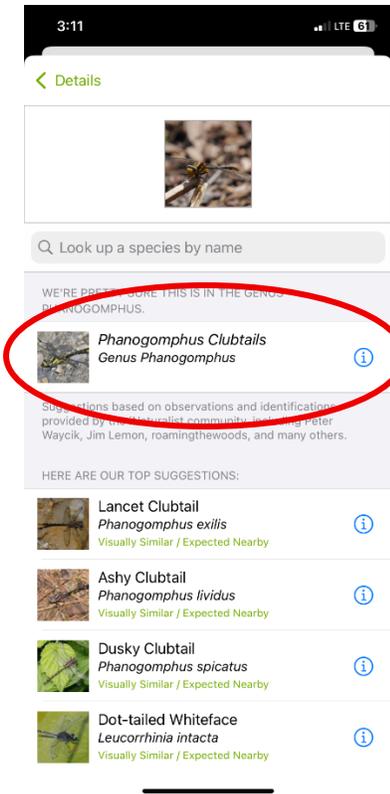
You will see that my submission does not automatically load a location. See next image for instructions.



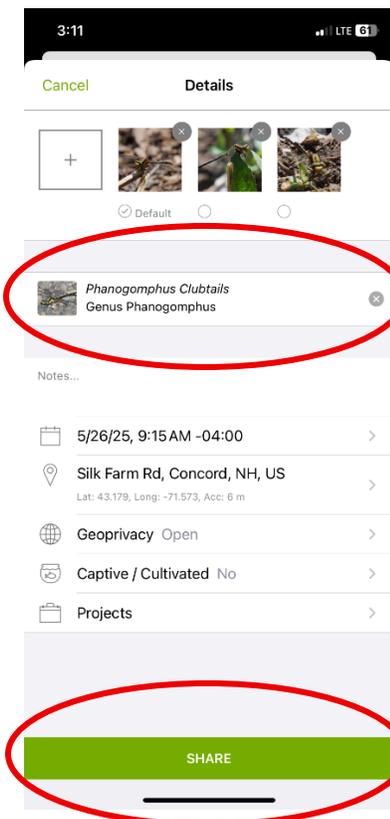
If you have location services turned off on your phone, or you use a DSLR or other type of camera to take your photos and it does not store location, you can manually select the location by tapping on “No Location” and zooming in on the map. These photos were taken at NH Audubon’s Silk Farm Sanctuary in Concord. Tap “Save”



You may already know what species you saw, but if not, iNaturalist will provide some suggestions to you based on your location and your photos, just tap on “What did you see?”



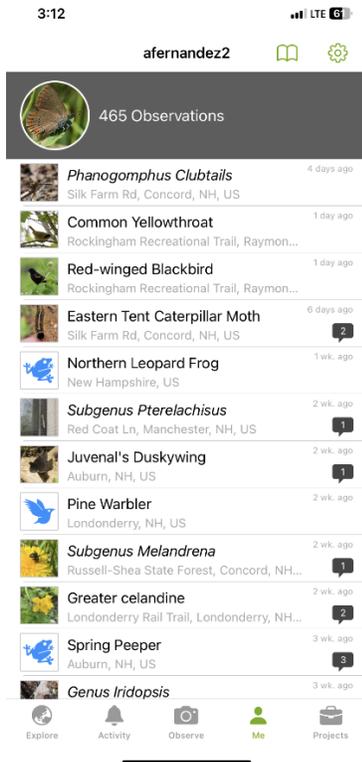
In this example, multiple species have been suggested based on what has been seen nearby and the photo. iNaturalist is becoming better and better as more observations are submitted, but if you are unsure, it is perfectly acceptable to select the genus level suggestion at the top and wait for other observers to submit suggestions.



Once you tap a suggestion, iNat will automatically fill in what you saw with that selection.

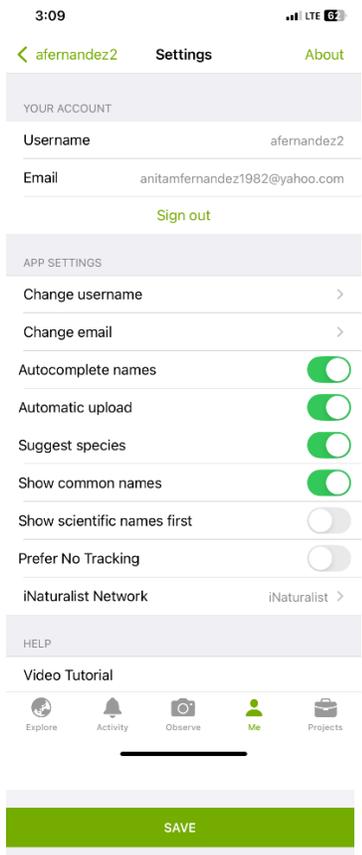
To see more information about a genus or species suggestion on the previous screen, tap the  icon.

You can then tap Share to have the observation uploaded and appear on your list.



This will return you to your main page, titled “Me” on the bottom, that shows all of your observations.

However, if you do not want your observations to automatically upload after each one, you can select the settings icon to change this.



Move over the switch next to “Automatic Upload” and instead of “Share” on the bottom of the screen there will be a green bar that reads “Save” as shown below.

Geoprivacy

One of the options on your submission page is “Geoprivacy.” This is automatically set to “Open,” which we ask that you leave for the NH Audubon Nature Challenge, as all of your observations will be on NH Audubon managed property. You may wish to change this to “Obscure” or “Private” if you are making observations at your home or another sensitive location.

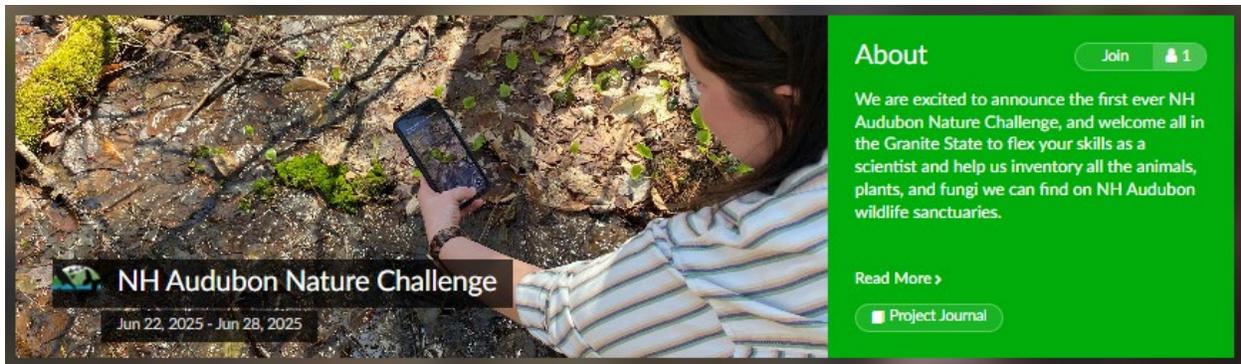
Regarding endangered or threatened species, iNaturalist will automatically obscure the location of those submissions. In order to provide NH Audubon with the accurate locations of threatened or endangered species on our properties, you can select that you trust this project when you join the NH Audubon Nature Challenge.



You can search for the NH Audubon Nature Challenge Project on a desktop/laptop under “Community” on the top of the screen, or through the “Projects” tab on the bottom of a mobile device.



Click on the project name to open the project and join it.



Click on “Join” to view information about the project, select if you want to receive updates from the project, and to choose whether you trust the project.

Other

Receive updates from this project

Receive updates about this project on your dashboard and in the daily updates email.

Trust this project with hidden coordinates?

Granting access to your hidden coordinates will allow the managers of this project to see the true, unobscured location of your observations in this project. This is extremely important in situations where scientists or resource managers need access to exact coordinates for analysis and decision-making.

No

Yes, for any of my observations

This includes observations where you have set the geoprivacy to “obscured” or “private,” e.g. observations from your backyard or spots you don’t want other people to know about.

Yes, but only for my observations of threatened taxa, not when I’ve set the geoprivacy

Many projects just need access to coordinates that are obscured because the observation depicts a threatened taxon.

Please Be Careful!

Coordinate access is important for scientists, but can also be abused by poachers. Make sure you trust all the project curators before trusting this project.

Yes, I want to join

Cancel

You can choose to share any of your observations with the project (only those that meet the parameter of the project and occur on NH Audubon sanctuaries, or you can choose to only share threatened species locations which iNaturalist would automatically obscure.

We do ask that regardless of the option you select, please keep you Geoprivacy “Open” for these observations.

For Additional Help

To review additional articles about creating an account, submitting observations through a desktop/laptop or Android device, or searching for observations in iNaturalist, please see the below link.

<https://inaturalist.freshdesk.com/en/support/solutions/folders/151000552105>