

Crowdsourcing: Available Resources

Paul Flemons

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nature culture **discover**



Crowdsourcing – definition



“Crowdsourcing is an online, distributed problem-solving and production model.”

Crowdsourcing Sites – Whats out there?



In the beginning

Mechanical Turk - <https://www.mturk.com/mturk/welcome>

Herbaria at Home: <http://herbariaunited.org/atHome/>

North American Bird Phenology Program:

http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bpp/transcription_mainv3.html

Other disciplines

Transcribe Bentham: [http://www.transcribe-bentham.da.ulcc.ac.uk/td/Transcribe Bentham](http://www.transcribe-bentham.da.ulcc.ac.uk/td/Transcribe_Bentham)

Old Weather: <http://www.oldweather.org/>

Single institution

Paris Herbarium: <http://lesherbonautes.mnhn.fr/>

Smithsonian Institute: <https://transcription.si.edu/>

Multi-institution

Symbiota - <http://symbiota.org/tiki/tiki-index.php>

Notes from Nature: <http://www.notesfromnature.org/>

Biodiversity Volunteer Portal: <http://volunteer.ala.org.au/>

So you want to get dirty with the crowd? What do you need?



Number	Date	Name	Locality	Collector
2315	24/11	<i>Trichostema</i>	Scrubland of Willamoon (Robinson)	1922
2316	24/11	<i>Crucifera</i>	Scrubland slopes on E. bank of Orange River	1922
2317	24/11	<i>Euphorbia futa</i> Mak	Stony creek (Lalaba) at Willamoon	1922
2318	24/11	<i>Passiflora</i>	Orange Hills	1922
2319	24/11	<i>Mesembryanthemum</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2320	24/11	<i>Geranium</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2321	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2322	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2323	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2324	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2325	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2326	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2327	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2328	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2329	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2330	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2331	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2332	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2333	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2334	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2335	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2336	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2337	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2338	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2339	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2340	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2341	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2342	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2343	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2344	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2345	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2346	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2347	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2348	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2349	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2350	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2351	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2352	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
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2365	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2366	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2367	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2368	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2369	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922
2370	24/11	<i>Convolvulus</i>	Orange Hills at Orange	1922

Southern Is.
... wrote to
... in a letter
... Editor 'N.Z
... Wellington
... drawing photos.
... afternoon in
... a kitchen
... garden plot, and
... in framing
... gardening letter
... Miss Spear to



Cavins 8 (agfa) 24/1/44
Looking at Eagle tree
from tree - like calyx, five
for smooth signal.
Banana rotom/cooked a row
Blossy grass left and
big of war by Army Capt.
Pony Creek Road
of 24/1/44 out of station

Cavins 9 (agfa) 24/1/44
Bamboo hills
Tare in creek. Stinkings
Bath scenes on way to
Mozzaman v Post Douglas
det. 5/10/44

Cavins 10 Cine 24/1/44
Lighting fire with low
stick. Round and tender.
covered fibres. Last glimpse
of fire (fade out).
Water vine on tree (vertical
stem)
Fruit (small, like solid)
tree contained with Pan damon
often exoskeleton called Bore
there - tree broad-leaf
in forest; mol. 1/44
Peaceful Dove on Nest
Aspateret 26/1/44

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, SYDNEY
Rhytida (Ptychorhyncha) bernieri
Dautzenberg, 1901.

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, SYDNEY
Rhytida bernieri Dautz,
Central Chain Mts, Hovailoo
N. Caledonia
Helms coll

Rhytida Bernieri, Dautz
Central Chain Mts, Hovailoo
New Caledonia; det. B. by 1903


How to get started?



1. You have your images
2. Do you have funds?
 - a) Yes bucket loads – build your own site
 - i. Eg Paris or Smithsonian
 - b) No or not a lot – look at using an existing site
 - i. Biodiversity Volunteer PortalSymbiota, Notes from Nature,
 - a) Check out what each site offers
 - i. User interface
 - ii. Volunteer management
 - iii. Data management eg quality and output
 - b) What sort of activity is required
 - i. Correcting OCR
 - ii. transcribing
 - c) Ease of involvement
 - d) Managing the process

Blatent Promotion of the Biodiversity Volunteer Portal




ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA
sharing biodiversity knowledge

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Biodiversity Volunteer Portal

Helping to understand, manage and conserve biodiversity through community based transcription of archival and natural history collections

Virtual expedition of the day




SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Smithsonian US Herbarium - Bombacaceae and Malvaceae Part 3

Please join us in our effort to transcribe the Malvaceae and Bombacaceae.

[Start transcribing](#)


More expeditions [View all](#)

4%



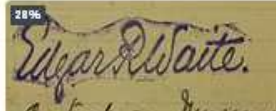
Australian Museum Dragonflies in Paper - 3

8%




Australian Museum Edgar Waite Diaries Expedition - Diary 53

28%




Australian Museum Edgar Waite Diaries Expedition - Diary 52

32%




Australian Museum Bivalve Expedition - 5

43%




Australian Museum Gastropod Expedition - 2

58%




Smithsonian US Herbarium - Bombacaceae

78%




Smithsonian US Herbarium - Bombacaceae and Malvaceae Part 3

81%



Australian Museum Edgar Waite Diaries Expedition - Diary 51

83%



South Africa - Acoods Collecting Register book 2

Honour Board

Day Tripper	View Top 20
Helen Woods	36
Weekly Wonder	View Top 20
Helen Woods	161
Monthly Maestro	View Top 20
Megan Edey	1546
BVP Legend	View Top 20
Megan Edey	14140

[View my tasks](#)

Expedition stats

71614 tasks of 82383 completed
 565 volunteer [transcribers](#)

News

21 Jan 2014

A new and better BVP!

Look for: A new honour Board A simpler front page that shows all of the currently available expeditions New transcription templates Improved validation work flow for validators The site dynamically resizes so that it adjusts to your screen size.

BVP – Expedition Creation



Creating an Expedition:

What you need:



Collection Event
Transcribe all label data into the fields of the relevant sections as outlined in the below examples of different labels.

Some examples:

Colours indicate which fields they correspond to:



Australian Museum Stiletto Flies Expedition

Therevidae are a family of flies commonly known as Stiletto Flies. The family contains more than 1,600 described species. They are diverse in arid and semi-arid regions with sandy soils. The larvae are predators of insect larvae in soil.

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/ppd/lucid/therevidae/austherevid/key/austherevid/media/html/opening_page.html

Admin – Expedition Creation



Steps in Creating an [Expedition](#):

1. Upload descriptive text and image
2. Link to tutorial
3. Choose template
4. Create upload file
5. Load images into expedition

Who is in the BVP crowd



What characteristics are typical of members of the “BVP crowd”:

- intelligent
- like order and are good with detail,
- particular,
- like to feel needed,
- like to be acknowledged,
- don't like their time being wasted,
- highly motivated,
- they like to feel part of something , not many specialists

Who we have trouble attracting:

- Specialists and professional taxonomists
- Enthusiasts in the groups we have represented on the BVP – only know of one

Volunteer stories – Joy, Megan, Jim, Teresa, Reiner

Reality Checks



Reality Checks – crowdsourcing is not an infinite resource ,

- Crowdsourcing volunteers are NOT paid employees
 - They are not obliged to work to deadlines
 - So beware of setting deadlines that rely on crowdsourcing
 - They can however be encouraged to increase productivity
 - They work the way they want to work – eg researching names
- Volunteers are NOT free
- Volunteering through Crowdsourcing does not appeal to everyone
 - Nichesourcing
 - Suits a particular Personality type
 - A small number will be very productive
 - There will be limits in terms of volunteers
 - Overall
 - Super productive ones

Thank you

www.australianmuseum.net.au

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