Life Cycle of EDDMapS Occurrence Data

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Abstract

Most of the data submitted and contributed to EDDMapS is occurrence data; species that are observed in the field and data collected, often without a voucher specimen. Data collected in this manner flows through a decision tree that is partially automated through programming and partially directed on a case-by-case basis by local experts. Records come primarily from four pipelines: website forms, smartphone applications, API, and bulk data. From there, records are verified by local experts who evaluate all the information provided by the reporter, the verifiers are able to solicit more information, images, etc., as needed. If the verifier reviews the species identification and other information as correct and elects to release the record, it is made available to the public. Once it is publicly available, it appears on various maps, becomes available for download, and flows to API partners. From there, data and maps are reused by a variety of individuals and programs for modeling, research, decision making, outreach/education, and more.

Verification Methods

How verifiers make their decisions to Approve, Change Species, Mark Negative, or Reject:

- Based on the information in the record:
  - Expertise - Verifier is aware of the reporter’s education and/or training and confident in the reporter’s ability to identify the species reported
  - Photographs - Images are provided with the record and are used to review the record
  - Specimens - A sample of the species was collected and is available for examination
  - Voucher Photographs - photographs of a voucher specimen were used in verification
  - Voucher Specimens - Specimen was collected and is housed at a herbarium, museum, etc.

Diagnostic Lab Sample - Sample sent to Diagnostics Lab for verification

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Other - Includes methods that do not fit in the other categories, such as DNA, audio file evaluated, video file evaluated, etc.

Verified Record Usage Routes

Verified

- Publicly Available
- Data Feeds
- User Alerts
- Location
- County
- State
- Project
- Species
- API
- Recent Reports
- Value-Added Tools
- 3rd party uses
- Species State
- Species County
- Species Point
- Plaques
- Maps
- Graphs
- Custom Maps
- Advanced Query Tool
- Custom Query
- Data Partners
- Downloads
- Policy
- Research
- Data Sharing
- Analysis
- Education
- Publication
- Invasive Species List
- Modeling
- Model
- Policy
- Data Publish
- Outreach
- Education
- Publication
- Record to Verifier Lookup
- How to Submit an Online Report to EDDMapS
- Features of Reporting Apps
- How to Verify an EDDMapS Record
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