

ReefWatch

Marine Life of Victoria
iNaturalist project

Guide to uploading images

www.inaturalist.org/projects/marine-life-of-victoria



VICTORIAN
NATIONAL PARKS
ASSOCIATION
Be part of nature

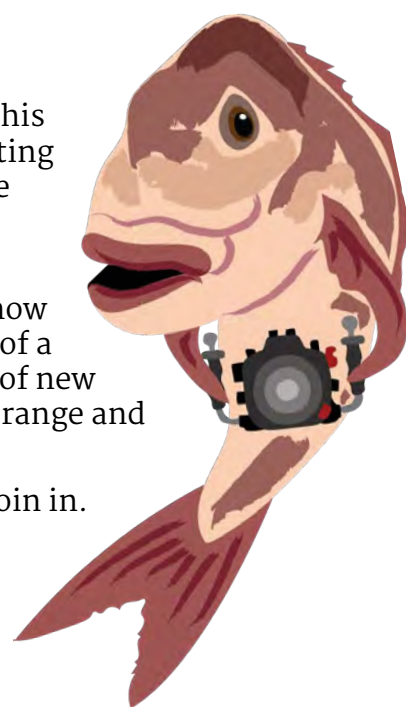
Guide to uploading images

About the project

By uploading and sharing your images on this project you will learn to identify marine life aided by some of the states/countries/world's leading taxonomists and people like yourself who have a keen eye. This will not only make your dives/snorkels/rock pool rambles more exciting as you search for new species to capture, it will provide an invaluable resource for scientists and people wanting to learn more about Victoria's unique marine life.

Each and every image you take has the power to improve what we know about Victoria's unique marine life (except maybe that blurry photo of a fish's tail). Images uploaded to iNaturalist have led to the discovery of new species, documenting numerous species moving beyond their usual range and used in hundreds of scientific papers.

Welcome to the project. Please encourage other happy snappers to join in.



Victorian National Parks Association



Our vision is to ensure Victoria is a place with a diverse and healthy natural environment that is protected, respected and enjoyed by all. We work with all levels of government, the scientific community and the general community to achieve long term, best practice environmental outcomes and help shape the agenda for creating and managing national parks, conservation reserves and other important natural areas across land and sea in Victoria.

ReefWatch

ReefWatch is the Victorian National Parks Association's marine citizen science program. It provides projects that engage divers, snorkelers, rock pool rambles and beach combers to contribute their observations, images and knowledge to expand our understanding of Victoria's unique marine life.

Illustrations by Nicole Mertens

All screenshots taken from iNaturalist, August 2020, <https://www.inaturalist.org/>

Joining iNaturalist & the Marine Life of Victoria project

Step 1.

Join iNaturalist

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

This is where you learn about options for use of your images

NB: The default is Attributional-NonCommercial – The image may not be used for commercial purposes and you will be credited for the use of your image. This can easily be changed once your account is created. This allows scientists to use your images in scientific publications.

Join the largest group of naturalists in the world!

reefwatch@vnpa.org.au

ReefWatch

☒ I'm not a robot



☒ 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 agree to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), and I have reviewed the [Community Guidelines](#).

Create an Account

The usual

More of the usual

Welcome! You have signed up successfully.

Step 2.

Read the **Community Guidelines** (found under the **Help** section) - or just be a nice person as that is all the guidelines are suggesting.

Community Guidelines

Help

Getting Started

Video Tutorials

Community Guidelines

Curator Guide

Managing Projects

Bioblitz Guide

Teacher's Guide

Help Us Translate

Welcome to iNaturalist! iNaturalist is a global community of people who record observations of other organisms and share them with each other so all of us can learn more about the natural world. We all want iNat to be a fun, helpful, and relaxed place to be, so we (Ken-ichi and the other site staff) have written these guidelines with [extensive input from the community](#) to describe what we consider good and bad behavior. These are not a replacement for our [Terms of Service](#), and with the exception of a few items marked with a (!), these are not hard and fast rules. They are guidelines and heuristics for how we should conduct ourselves on iNaturalist. These guidelines do not address our behavior beyond iNaturalist.

Suspendable Offenses

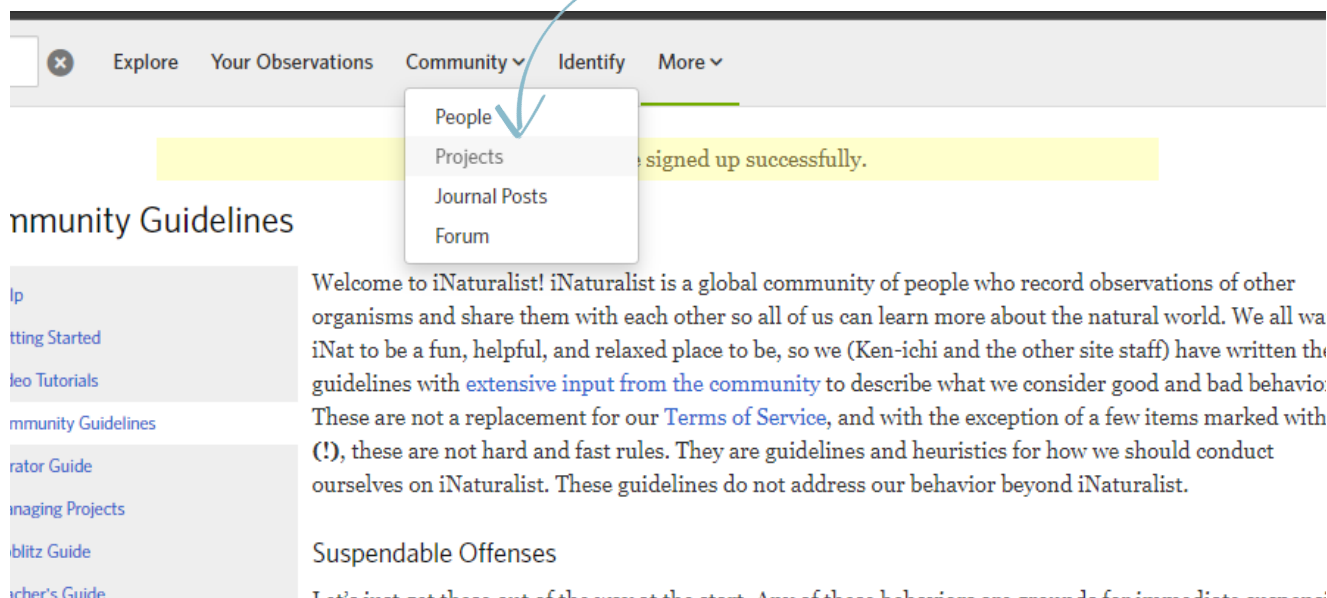
Let's just get these out of the way at the start. Any of these behaviors are grounds for immediate suspension without warning.

- (!) **Hate speech.** Hate speech is content consciously designed to attack people based on age, race, gender, sexual orientation, income, physical ability, country of origin, religion, educational background, or any other attribute that people are unable to control.
- (!) **Insults or threats.** Insults are attacks meant purely to belittle or offend people. A threat is any content that indicates an intent to harm another person. Note that warnings about suspension or other regulatory actions on the part of site staff or site curators on iNaturalist are not threats.
- (!) **Sexually explicit content.** Observations of mating non-human species are fine, but common sense should still be used.
- (!) **Sockpuppet accounts.** A sockpuppet account is an additional account set up to evade suspension or to engage in other forms of bad behavior, like confirming your own identifications. This does not include multiple accounts set up for multiple roles, e.g. a personal account and a professional account.

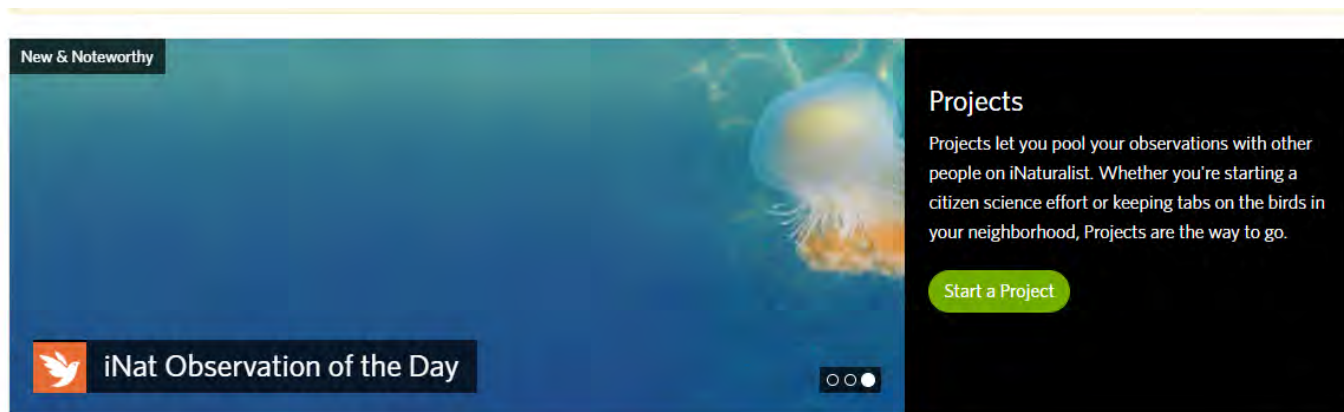
Step 3.

Join the Marine Life of Victoria Project (this is the big step)

Simply click on the **Community** tab and then **Projects**



You will then be redirected to the iNaturalist project page



Type in "Marine Life of Victoria" and **Go**

« Projects

Search Projects

marine life of victoria **Search** 1 - 1 Of 1 results

Click on **Marine Life of Victoria**



Marine Life of Victoria

There is so much we don't know about Victoria's unique marine life, each and every image you submit will enhance what we know. Grab a camera and go explore.

Click on **Join this project**

There are no **Terms or Rules** so
no need to worry about this

« Projects

Terms & Rules | Join this project



« Marine Life of Victoria

Join Marine Life of Victoria?

About this Project

There is so much we don't know about Victoria's unique marine life, each and every image you submit will enhance what we know. Grab a camera and go explore.

Project Curators



kade
176 observations



paul_isotope
317 observations

Other

☒ Receive updates from this project

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

Do you want to make your private/obscured observation coordinates visible to the project curators?

- ☒ Yes, but only if I add the observation to the project myself.
- ☐ Yes, no matter who adds the observation to the project.
- ☐ No.

Note: You can choose to share the hidden coordinates of observations in this project on a case-by-case basis. These are just the defaults for new observations added to the project.

Yes, I want to join Cancel

Click on the big blue **Yes, I want to join.**

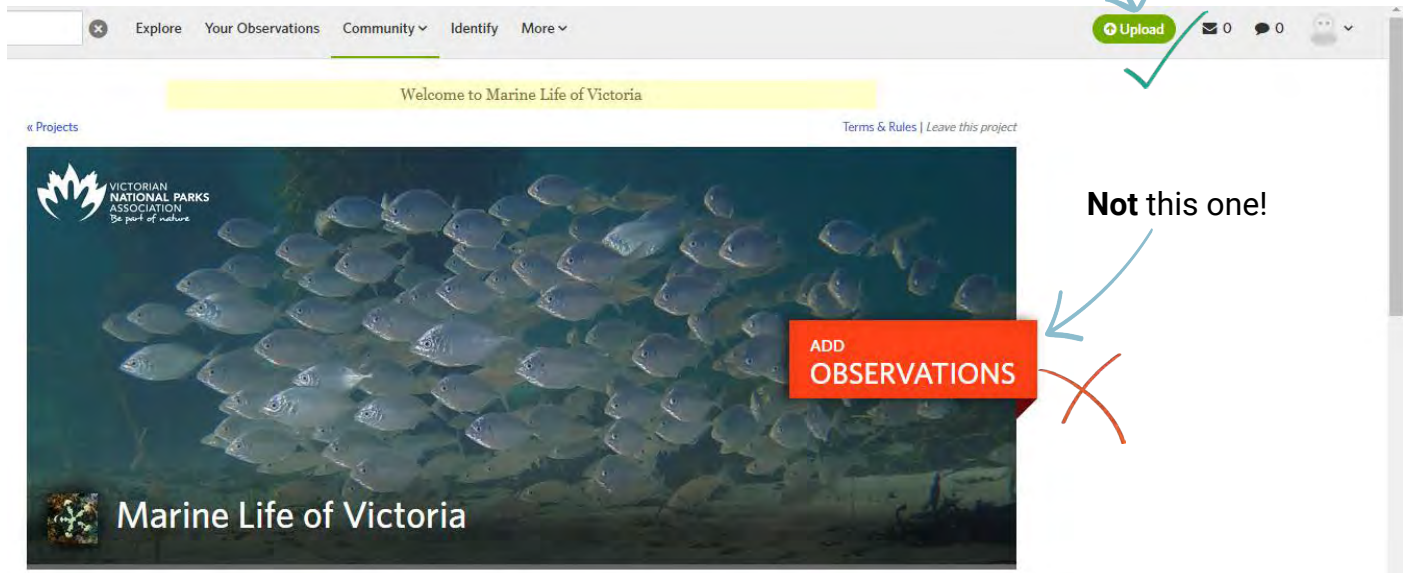
Hooray! Now all you need to do is upload your awesome images.

Uploading your awesome images

Step 1.

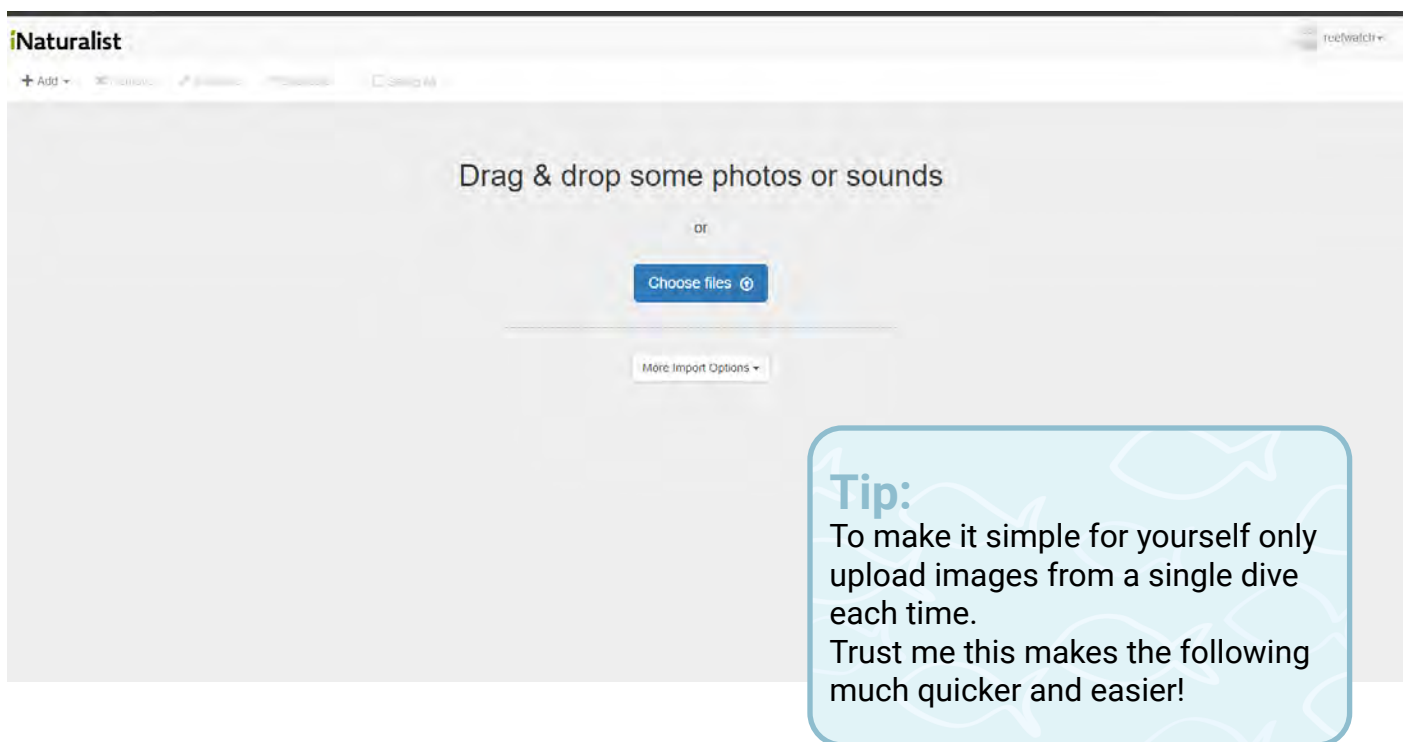
Got to
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/marine-life-of-victoria>

Click **this** button



Step 2.

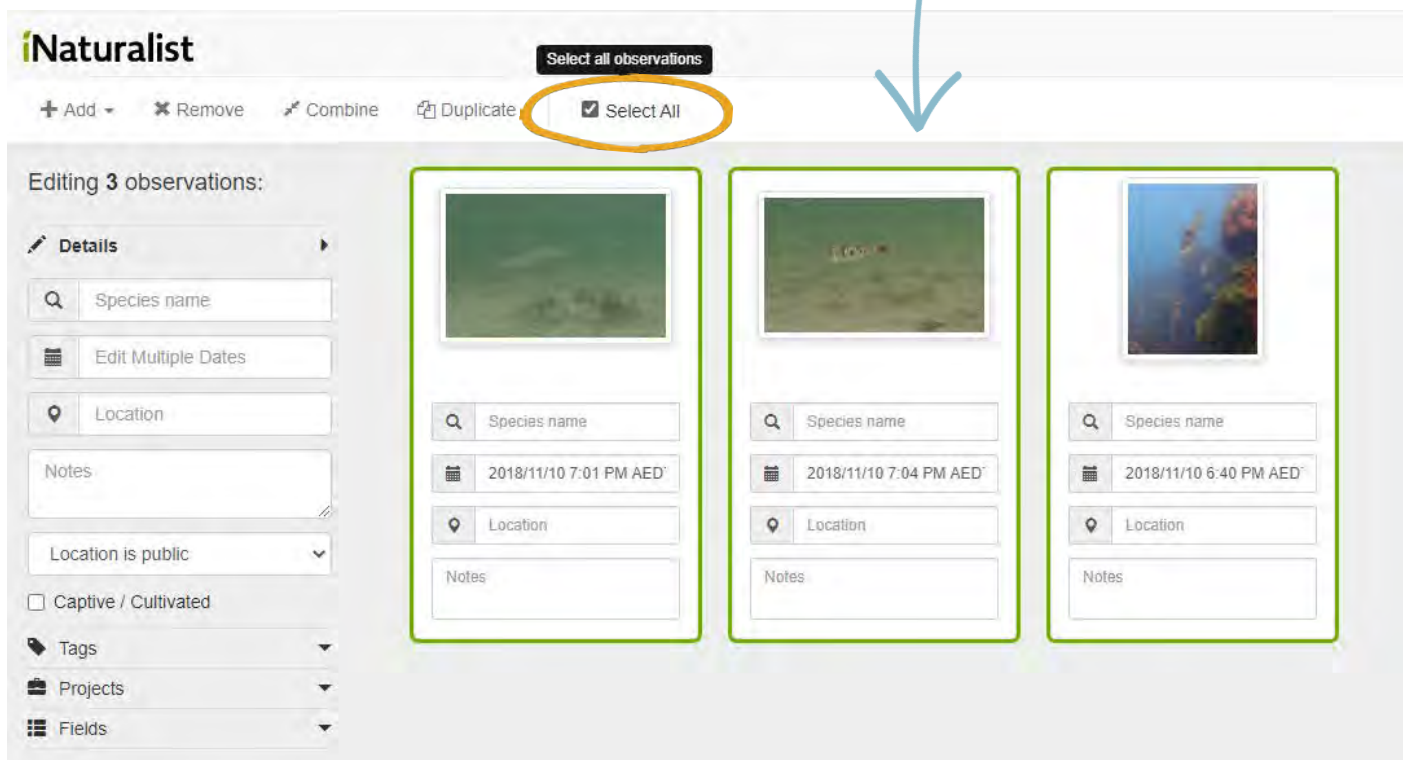
Drag and drop your photos or click blue **Choose files** button and navigate to your images.



Step 3.

Wait until your images have been uploaded and then click on **Select All**.

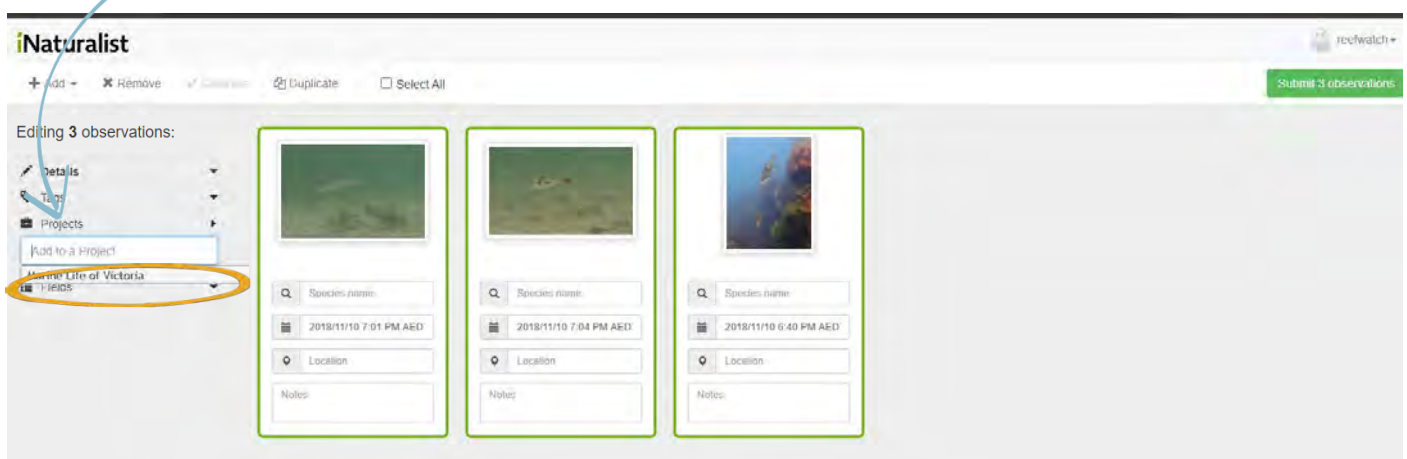
Each image will create what is called an image card.



NB: If you have multiple images of the same individual you can drag and drop the image cards on top of each other, then you end up with a single image card with multiple images of the same individual. This is often helpful for people to identify some species.

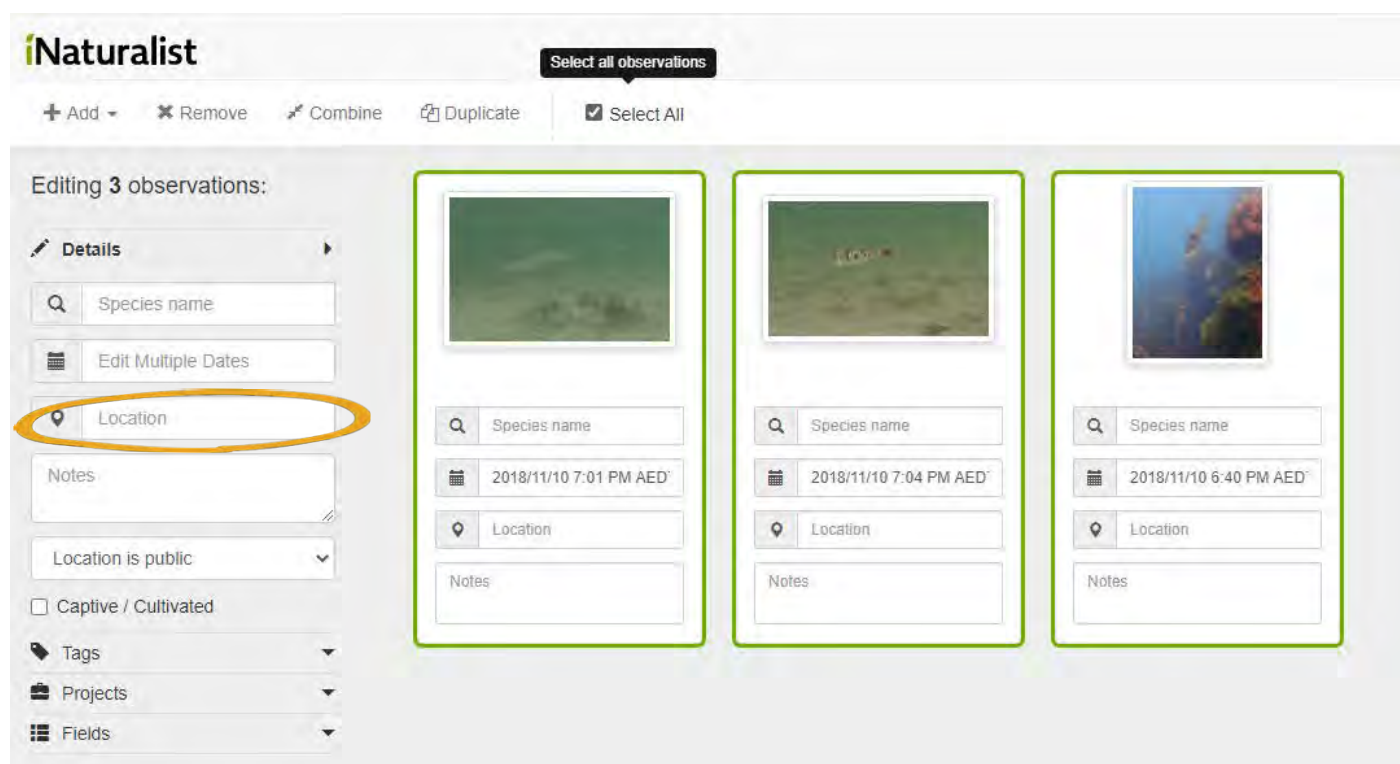
Step 4.

Select **Projects** tab and click on **Marine Life of Victoria**



Step 5.

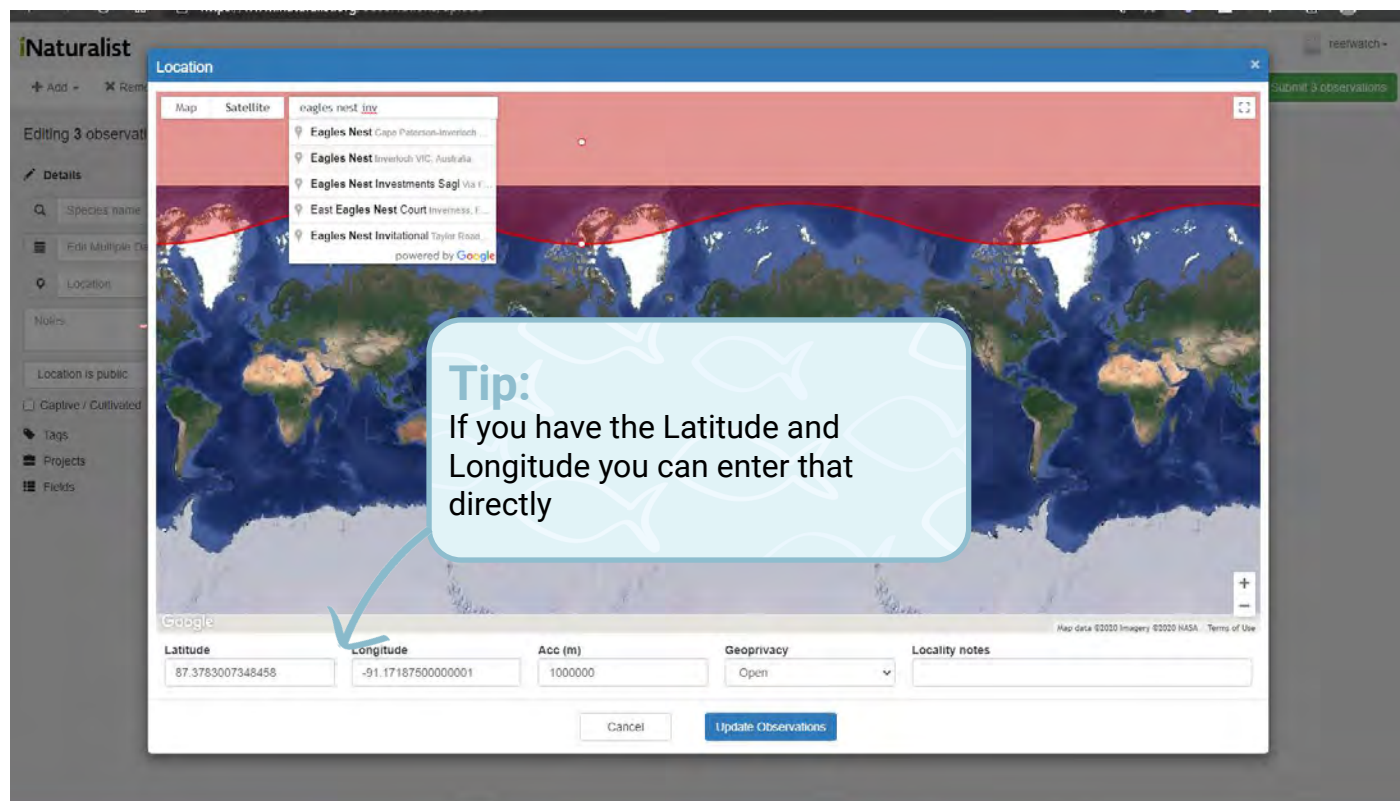
Click on the **Location** tab.



The screenshot shows the iNaturalist web interface. At the top, there's a header with the iNaturalist logo and a 'Select all observations' button. Below the header, there are action buttons: '+ Add', 'x Remove', 'Combine', 'Duplicate', and a checked 'Select All' button. The main area is titled 'Editing 3 observations:'. On the left, a sidebar shows various tabs: 'Details', 'Species name', 'Edit Multiple Dates', 'Location' (which is circled in orange), 'Notes', 'Location is public', 'Captive / Cultivated', 'Tags', 'Projects', and 'Fields'. The main content area displays three observation cards, each with a photo, a species name field, a date field (e.g., '2018/11/10 7:01 PM AED'), a location field, and a notes field. The 'Location' tab in the sidebar is highlighted, indicating the current step in the process.

Step 6.

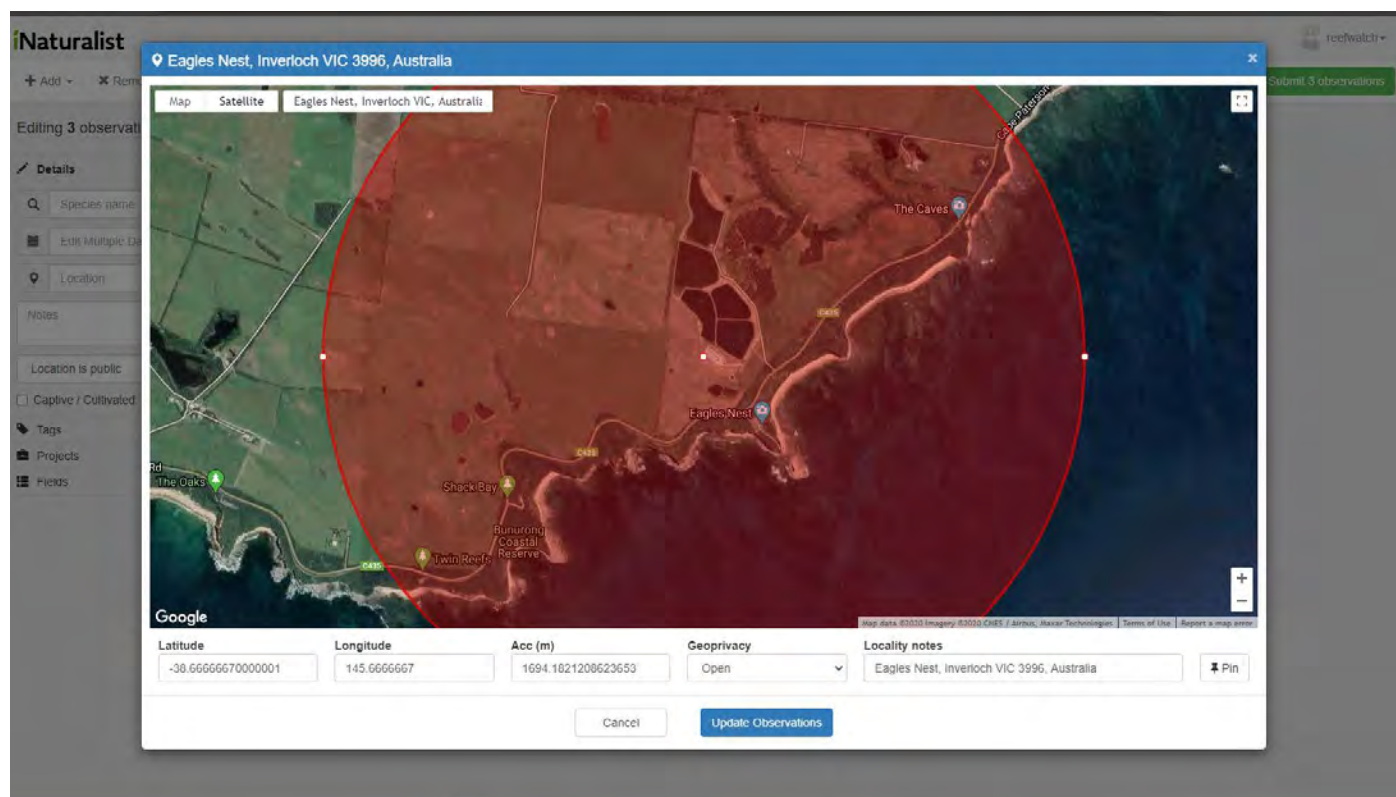
Type in the nearest location to your dive site.



The screenshot shows the iNaturalist 'Location' map interface. A map of the world is displayed with a red location pin. A search bar at the top left shows 'eagles nest inv'. Below the map, there are input fields for 'Latitude' (87.3783007348458), 'Longitude' (-91.17187500000001), 'Acc (m)' (1000000), 'Geoprivacy' (Open), and 'Locality notes'. A blue tip box with a white border and a blue arrow pointing to the 'Longitude' field contains the text: 'Tip: If you have the Latitude and Longitude you can enter that directly'. The 'Update Observations' button is visible at the bottom right of the map area.

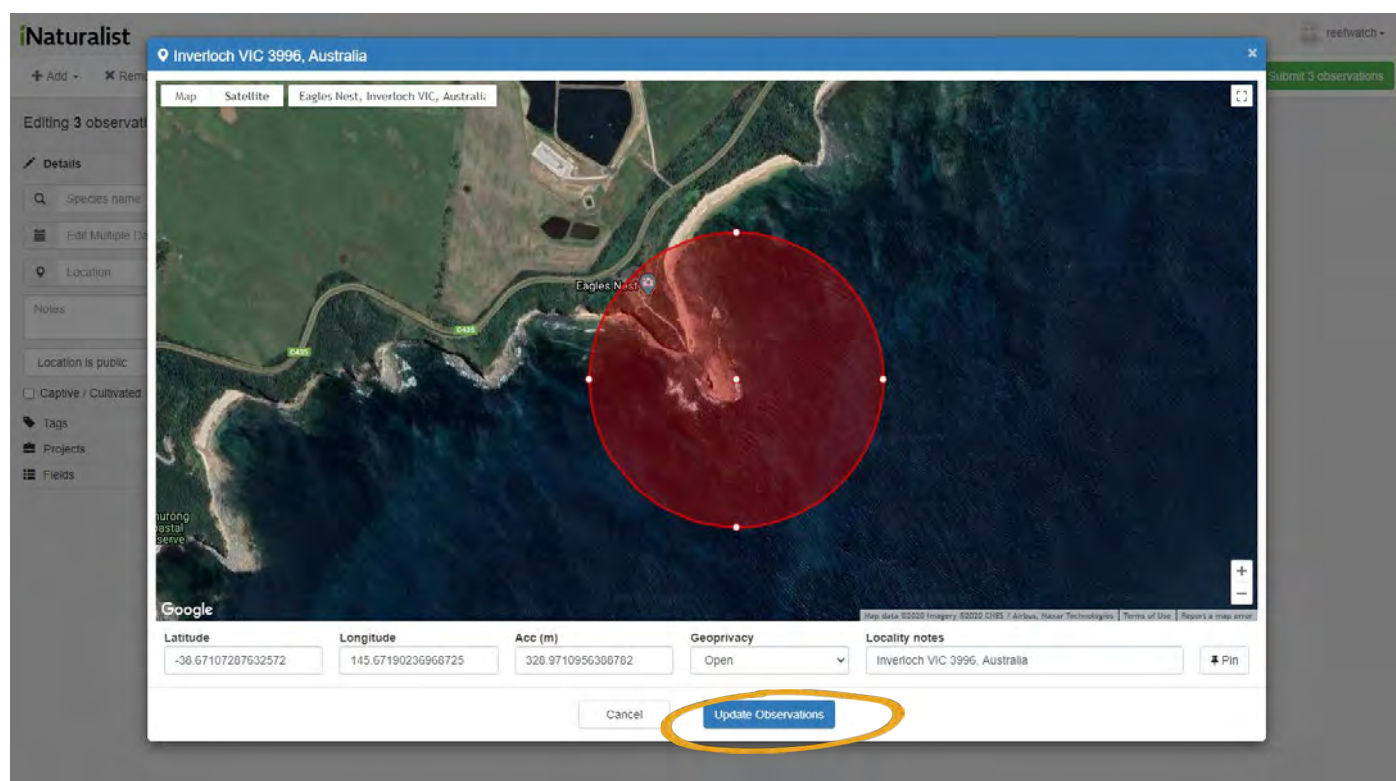
Step 7.

Check the location is correct, then adjust the big red circle to encompass your dive site.



Step 8.

When the red circle encompasses your site click Update Observations.



Step 9.

Now the fun begins! Click on any **image tile** to start.

Click in the **Species name** and wait before you start typing. As you can see it is pretty amazing, the software has correctly identified the **Genus** and the top suggestion is correct!

Select the correct identification and you are done!

The suggestions are not always right so don't get complacent- check carefully for each one. For example, sometimes the software might identify the seagrass in your photo as a top suggestion when you wanted it to identify the fish!

aturalist

Add ☐ Remove ☐ Combine ☐ Duplicate ☐ Select All

ting 1 observation:

Details

Species name

2018/11/10 7:04 PM AEDT

Inverloch VIC 3996, Austral

Notes

Location is public

Captive / Cultivated

Tags

Projects

Fields

Species name

2018/11/10 7:01 PM AEDT

Inverloch VIC 3996, Austr

Notes

We're pretty sure this is in the genus:

Tetractenos Genus [View](#)

Here are our top species suggestions:

Smooth Toadfish *Tetractenos glaber* [View](#)
Visually Similar / Seen Nearby

Common Toadfish *Tetractenos hamiltoni* [View](#)
Visually Similar

Scats Family Scatophagidae [View](#)
Visually Similar

Checkered Puffer *Sphaeroides testudineus* [View](#)
Visually Similar

Blacksaddle Toby *Canthigaster valentini* [View](#)
Visually Similar

Bullseye Puffer *Sphaeroides annulatus* [View](#)
Visually Similar

Tip:
If you don't know what it is but the suggestions look incorrect, identify it as best you can i.e. fish, shark, nudibranch, octopus

uplicate ☐ Select All

Submit 3 observations

Species name

2018/11/10 7:01 PM AEDT

Inverloch VIC 3996, Austr

Notes

Smooth Toadfish

2018/11/10 7:04 PM AEDT

Inverloch VIC 3996, Austr

Notes

Species name

Here are our top species suggestions:

Bluethroat Wrasse *Notolabrus tetricus* [View](#)
Visually Similar / Seen Nearby

Toothbrush Leatherjacket *Acanthaluteres vittiger* [View](#)
Visually Similar / Seen Nearby

Velvet Leatherjacket *Meuschenia scaber* [View](#)
Visually Similar

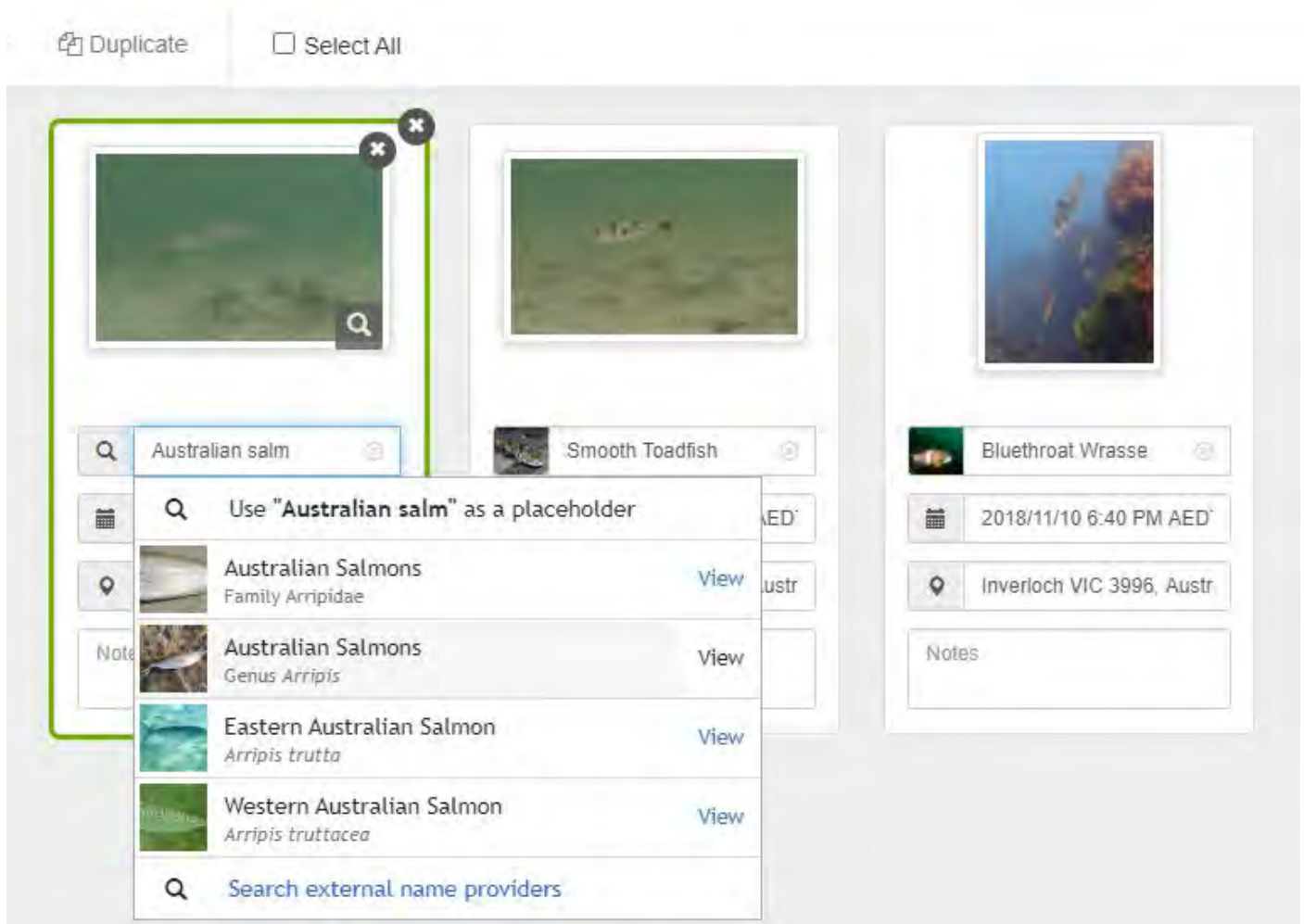
Sixspine Leatherjacket *Meuschenia freycineti* [View](#)
Visually Similar / Seen Nearby

Purple Wrasse *Notolabrus fucicola* [View](#)
Visually Similar / Seen Nearby

Yellowstriped Leatherjacket *Meuschenia flavolineata* [View](#)
Visually Similar / Seen Nearby

Rough Leatherjacket

Have fun with the remainder of your images. When you are done click the big green **Submit x observations** button.



Nerd Note!


Australian salmon can only be told apart by counting the number of 'bumps', or gill rakers, on the first gill. This is extremely hard/impossible to get a photo of you want to leave them in the water. Therefore the best they can be identified by photo is the genus *Arripis*.

FYI – The eastern species has 33-40 gill rakers, while the western species has 25-31.






Step 10.

Sit back and wait for the iNaturalist community to confirm (or deny) your identifications

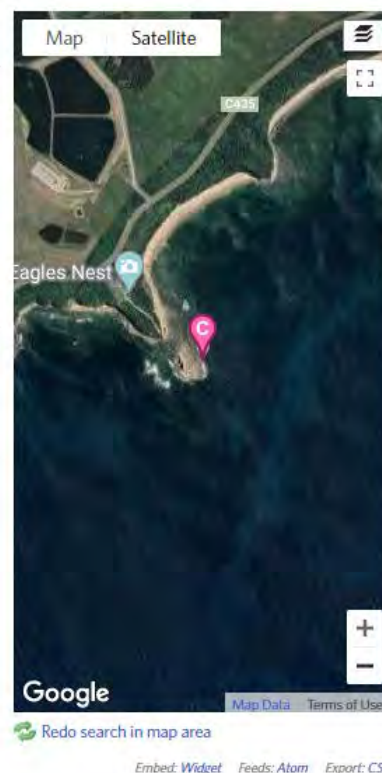
 Your Observations

[Home](#) [Observations](#) [Calendar](#) [Favorites](#) [Lists](#) [Journal](#) [IDs](#) [Projects](#) [Profile](#)


[Add Observations](#) [Batch edit](#) [Search](#)


Photos / Sounds	Species / Taxon Name	Date observed	Place	Date Added	
	Bluethroat Wrasse <i>Notolabrus tetricus</i>	November 10, 2018 06:40 PM AEDT	Inverloch VIC 3996, Australia (Google, OSM)	August 07, 2020 01:28 PM AEST	Needs ID Edit View »
	Smooth Toadfish <i>Tetractenos glaber</i>	November 10, 2018 07:04 PM AEDT	Inverloch VIC 3996, Australia (Google, OSM)	August 07, 2020 01:28 PM AEST	Needs ID Edit View »
	Australian Salmons Genus <i>Arripis</i>	November 10, 2018 07:01 PM AEDT	Inverloch VIC 3996, Australia (Google, OSM)	August 07, 2020 01:27 PM AEST	Needs ID Edit View »


Per page 30




Only 20 minutes after adding the observations they had been identified by **bushbandit**!


 bushbandit added an identification to an observation by you 02:07 PM

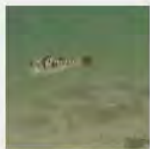
 **Bluethroat Wrasse** *Notolabrus tetricus*
reefwatch | November 10, 2018 | 1 | [Research Grade](#)
Inverloch VIC 3996, Australia (Google, OSM)
[View Observation](#)


 bushbandit added an identification 02:07 PM


 **Bluethroat Wrasse**
(*Notolabrus tetricus*)
[Agree?](#)

[View Observation](#) [Show More...](#)

 bushbandit added an identification to an observation by you 02:06 PM

 **Smooth Toadfish** *Tetractenos glaber*
reefwatch | November 10, 2018 | 1 | [Research Grade](#)
Inverloch VIC 3996, Australia (Google, OSM)
[View Observation](#)

 bushbandit added an identification 02:06 PM

 **Smooth Toadfish**
(*Tetractenos glaber*)
[Agree?](#)

[View Observation](#) [Show More...](#)

Step 11.

Go back to step 1 and repeat for all your old images!



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All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. ABN 34 217 717 593