





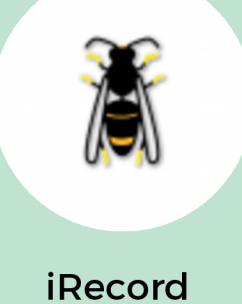





Recording App	Developer	Taxa Featured	Types of Record	Suitable Users	Identification Process	Verification Process	Data Flow & Licencing	Notes
 <p>iNaturalist</p> <p>App & Website</p>	Indicia iNaturalistUK managed by NBN Trust, BRC and MBA	Multi-taxa Natives and non-natives	Photos Audio recordings	New recorders, especially those looking to contribute to Citizen Science projects or connect with other recorders in their area. Must be 13 years or older.	AI image recognition software, Seek , suggests IDs based on similar observations on iNat in the same geographic area. Misidentifications can be flagged to help train Seek to make more accurate suggestions.	Tiered, community verification process, where other users suggest IDs. Once 2/3 users have reached a consensus, the record achieves ' research grade ' status. Records can undergo further verification if move through data flow to other platforms like iRecord.	Records attaining 'research grade' status <i>can</i> move from iNat to iRecord, if other requirements met. From here records <i>can</i> be downloaded by LERCs and are shared with the NBN Atlas. Therefore don't manually add records to iRecord. Regular sharing from iNat to GBIF . New user records automatically CC-BY-NC licenced , prohibiting movement to iRecord, but can be changed in the settings. Images and records can be licenced separately.	Provides additional species information and shows nearby observation on interactive map. Chance to comment and verify other records.
 <p>Seek by iNaturalist</p>	Indicia	Multi-taxa Natives and non-natives	Photos Audio recordings	No account required and quick IDs make it great for kids.	Provides real-time ID suggestions from live video, rather than from photos. No identifiable metadata like location or time is captured. No element of community discussion or feedback.	Nothing beyond initial ID suggestion unless records are shared elsewhere.	Records are stored locally on user's phone with option to sync with iNaturalist.	More gamified - chance to earn badges . No internet connection required for use. No community interaction requirement.
 <p>BirdTrack</p> <p>App & Website</p>	British Trust for Ornithology on behalf of the BirdTrack Partnership	Birds Selected other taxa	One-off sightings and complete lists. Live and deceased birds. No additional media.	Experienced recorders and birders wanting an easy way to store their sightings, plan birding visits around other sightings and contribute to research. No registration required.	No ID suggestions provided, but useful information can be found on the BTO website. No accompanying evidence, e.g. photos can be submitted with records. Follow BirdTrack guidance on auto-ID tools - don't solely rely on auto-ID tools.	The app has in-built 'sanity checks' which will flag rare species records or migrants appearing at unusual times to user who can then re-assess submissions. Bird records move from the BirdTrack app to the website where they can be verified by county recorders. Non-bird records verified on iRecord.	Bird data moves from the app to the website and then to the NBN Atlas , where it is CC-BY-NC licenced, which prevents its use by LERCs. Resolution at 2km grid square or less reduces utility of data. Accessing data directly from BirdTrack can also come at a cost . Non-bird records are shared on CC-BY licenced on iRecord, making them accessible to LERCs.	Records are deleted from the phone app once synched with the website, to help minimise the risk of duplication.
 <p>Merlin Bird ID</p>	Cornell Lab of Ornithology	Birds	Audio recordings Photos	New birders wanting and those wanting to improve their bird song identification. No registration required.	IDs suggested by AI model trained on Macaulay Library data to recognise spectrogram images of bird calls, showing changes in the frequency of an audio recording over time., Always try and verify Merlin IDs independently with an image or additional information.	Records shared with eBird are verified by local experts. Follow Merlin guidance on sharing good quality records with eBird to support verification and protect the integrity of eBird database, including sharing photos, additional recording notes and manipulating audio.	Data from eBird can be accessed by the general public, including county recorders following submission of a ' data request document ' to eBird. LERCs cannot download the data as it cannot be used for commercial purposes. Data also moves from eBird to GBIF . Data location references must also be transformed into UK grid-reference system.	Very user-friendly app and lots of fun!
<p>iRecord Recording Apps</p> <p>iRecord app</p>  <p>Flower-Insect Timed Count app</p>  <p>Asian Hornet Watch app</p>  <p>iRecord Butterflies app</p> 	Biological Records Centre (UK CEH & JNCC) in collaboration with a number of Recording Schemes Indicia	Multi-taxa Taxon-specific Natives and non-natives	Results from (structured) Recording Scheme surveys Photos Audio recordings	Experienced recorders wanting to use iRecord out in the field. Recorders taking part in structured schemes and wanting an easy way to log records in the field e.g. FIT-Count app managed by the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme or Asian Hornet Watch app for early monitoring of Asian hornets.	The iRecord app has image-recognition software which can help with selecting an ID. IDs come with percentage certainty based on neighbouring records and seasonality of records. Other apps do not have this feature. Most apps also come with field guides with good photos to assist with Identification e.g. the Asian Hornet Watch app provides detailed comparison between Asian and European hornets.	Records can move from app to the iRecord website, from where records can be accessed by county recorders and other expert verifiers to enable direct contact and communication between recorders and verifiers.	All non-sensitive species records are viewable by other users, but individuals can set their own preferred licence settings. From iRecord, Recording Schemes and LERCs can access appropriately-licenced records so that records can be used quickly where it matters - e.g. butterfly records added through iRecord Butterflies app are passed on to ' Butterflies for the New Millennium ' scheme run by Butterfly Conservation. Records from apps are also shared with the NBN Atlas.	Records created in the apps are synched with the iRecord website for edits and deletions. Verification update notifications are accessible through some apps but not all. Not all iRecord Activities are linked to the different apps so check if you want specific records to go towards specific Activities.
 <p>Mammal Mapper</p> <p>App & Website</p>	The Mammal Society Natural Aptitude	Mammals	One-off sightings, timed surveys and ' non-detection ' records. of both organisms and their field signs. Photos	All levels of recorder, especially pitched to people taking a 'journey' outside that can be timed and recorded as part of a survey.	The app doesn't suggest IDs but comes with useful ID guides for both IDing the animal and the signs of their presence.	The Mammal Society verifiers (often county recorders) access records through iRecord.	Records are shared with iRecord unlicenced, from where LERCs and National Recording Schemes can access them. Records are then passed on to the NBN Atlas under CC-BY licence.	Great way to learn field signs of native and non-native mammals. It's also worth checking out the Mammal Society's ' Ancient Animals ' app.
 <p>INNS Mapper</p>	INNS Mapper Steering Group Natural Aptitude	Multi-taxa Natives and non-natives	General and targeted surveys, one-off sightings and management actions. Photos	Recorders, the general public and managers of invasive, non-native species control.	ID guides are provided in the app but some are incomplete with information, following the app's release in 2023.	Only records submitted with photos can be verified within the app. Users verify photographs of other users. Once undisclosed agreement threshold has been reached, the record is considered a 'verified sighting record'. Unclear if there is other verification procedure.	All records are automatically CC-BY licenced and can be downloaded by LERCs directly. Data is also shared with the NBN Atlas.	Records can be submitted as areas, lines or points. To document management actions, you must register with Coreo and sign in. Available in Welsh.