

Information sheet

# iNaturalist Guide

How to set up an account  
and submit field observations

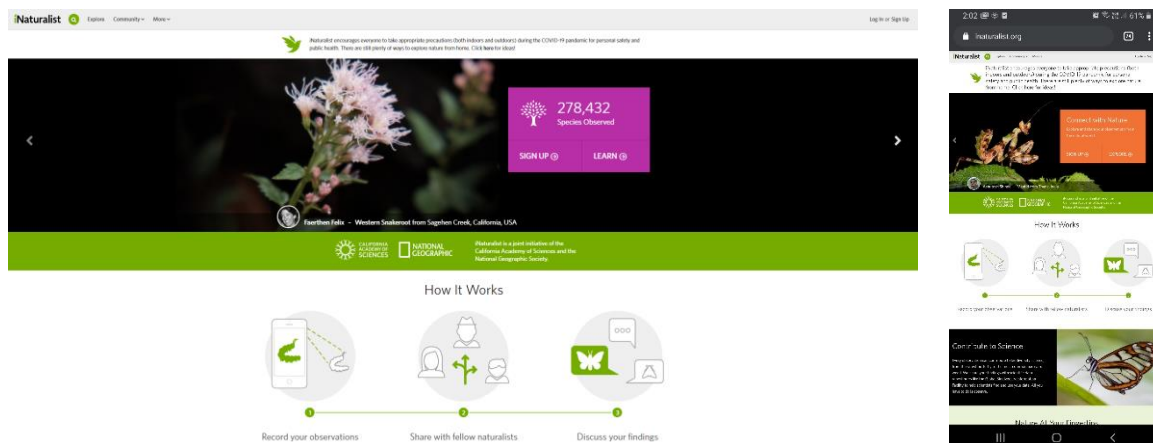


*Cortinarius archeri*, Frankston Conservation Reserve, Karen Thomas

## How to register an iNaturalist account

NB: there is also an [iNaturalist Australia website](https://www.inaturalist.org/au), but the login and submission process is the same.

1. Go to the iNaturalist website [www.inaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org).
2. In the top right of the page, click 'Sign up'.
3. Fill in the fields and click 'create and account'.
4. You will need to check your email inbox and verify your account before it is active.



### Some iNaturalist projects to consider joining:

- Wild Pollinator Count
- City Nature Challenge
- Environment Recovery Project: Australian Bushfires 2019-20
- Fungimap Australia
- Endangered Species Day

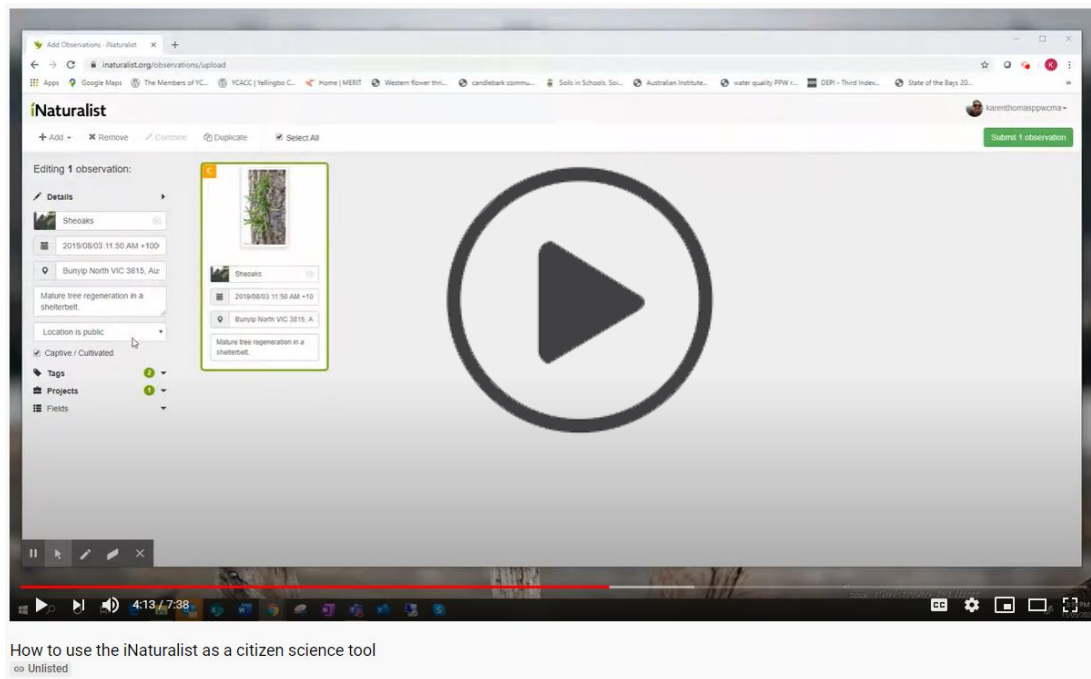
## How to submit and observation – desktop computer

1. Log in to your account and click on the 'Profile' tab to update any details.
2. Select the 'Community' drop down menu and select 'Projects'.
3. Search for the project you are wanting to join and select 'join' on the top right of screen. It will ask you to confirm you wish to join after you read over their observation rules.
4. Return to your dashboard page and select '+Add observations'.
5. Choose the photo file you want to upload.
6. iNaturalist will often select a category but you can change this to your own scientific name if you are confident in your identification.
7. Select the date of the observation, zoom in on the map to select a location and click update observations. Keep observation public if you want it to be searchable. Add some tags to make it easy for your observation to be included in searches. Link your observation to any relevant projects so the researchers have access to your data.

Fill in any additional fields such as describing the habitat where your observation was taken.

8. Click 'submit 1 observation' on the right-hand side
9. Other iNaturalist members can see your observation and will confirm your identification or suggest an alternative.

**Click the image below to view a video tutorial on YouTube**



## How to submit an observation - mobile device

The process is slightly easier, especially if you have network access in the field.

1. Open the iNaturalist app
2. Click the 'Observe' (camera) icon and take a photo of your field observation and click next.
3. Click on 'What did you see' a list of suggestions will appear, or you can search for your own species identification by typing into the search bar
5. Select the date, make some observation notes, leave your observation public so others can confirm your ID, link your observation to a project if this is relevant.
6. Click 'Share'
7. Other iNaturalist members can see your observation and will confirm your identification or suggest an alternative

**More information and to learn how to submit an identification for other iNaturalist observations, [go to the tutorials section of the iNaturalist website.](#)**



**Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority**

Level 1, Landmark Corporate Centre  
454-472 Nepean Highway  
Frankston, Victoria, 3199

Phone: 03 8781 7900  
Email: [enquiries@ppwcma.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ppwcma.vic.gov.au)

<https://www.ppwcma.vic.gov.au/>