

Title	NSW BioNet Species Sightings Data Collection
Alternative title(s)	Atlas of NSW Wildlife; Atlas
Abstract	<p>The NSW BioNet Species Sightings data collection includes flora and fauna records maintained in the Species Sightings module of the NSW BioNet-Atlas application, at the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). This BioNet data collection consists of over 13 million observation records sourced from incidental sightings and systematic flora and fauna surveys. Observations include plants, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, some fungi and invertebrates (such as insects and snails listed under the Threatened Species Conservation Act) and some fish. The BioNet Species Sightings data collection covers all areas of NSW and also includes some records from neighbouring states. BioNet includes records from agencies and organisations other than OEH, such as the Royal Botanic Gardens, Forests NSW, the Australian Museum and the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme.</p> <p>ACCESS: The Species Sightings data collection can be accessed via the BioNet application <a href="http://www.BioNet.nsw.gov.au/">http://www.BioNet.nsw.gov.au/</a> or BioNet Species Sighting Web Service (an Open API) <a href="https://data.bionet.nsw.gov.au/">https://data.bionet.nsw.gov.au/</a></p> <p>The BioNet-Atlas application comprises a number of data collections including: 1. Species sightings; 2. Systematic Flora and Fauna Survey; 3. Species Names List; and 4. Threatened Entity Profiles (i.e. Species/population/ecological community profiles). A BioNet-Atlas Species Search will return relevant records from both the sightings and survey modules. Each record contains details including species name, information about the source of the record, geographic coordinates, accuracy of the coordinates and date of the sighting. BioNet Species Sighting data is made available in accordance with OEH's Sensitive Species Data Policy ; for species categorised as "sensitive", location information may be generalised or withheld depending on the species' status under the policy, and on the access rights of the user.</p>
Resource locator	
<a href="#">Show on SEED Web Map</a>	<p>Name: Show on SEED Web Map</p> <p>Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Display dataset on SEED's map</p> <p>Function: download</p>
<a href="#">Data Quality Statement</a>	<p>Name: Data Quality Statement</p> <p>Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Data quality statement for NSW BioNet Species Sightings Data Collection</p> <p>Function: download</p>
<a href="#">NSW BioNet</a>	<p>Name: NSW BioNet</p> <p>Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>BioNet home page</p> <p>Function: download</p>
<a href="#">WMS</a>	<p>Name: WMS</p> <p>Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Web Map Service (WMS).</p> <p>Function: download</p>
<a href="#">REST Service</a>	<p>Name: REST Service</p>

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

ArcGIS REST Services Directory - provides a variety of interfaces for web browsers, GIS users and developers, to view maps

Function: download

## Unique resource identifier

Code a9c2b9a7-004c-4531-a710-0430227a17ba

Presentation form Document digital

Edition Not known

Dataset language English

## Metadata standard

Name ISO 19115

Edition 2016

Dataset URI <https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/a9c2b9a7-004c-4531-a710-0430227a17ba>

**Purpose** Data from the BioNet Species Sightings data collection are used extensively in environmental planning in NSW and scientific research. For assessment and planning purposes, in most cases, a BioNet search will provide some indicative information only. As with any observational data collection, this collection is subject to biases in where observations have been made. The absence of an observation record at a site does not constitute evidence that a species is absent from the site. Presence of species at a site are best determined through thorough and well-structured field surveys.

Status On going

Spatial representation type None

## Spatial reference system

Code identifying the spatial reference system 4283

Equivalent scale 1:None

## Topic category

## Keyword set

keyword value ECOLOGY-Community  
ECOLOGY-Ecosystem  
FAUNA  
FAUNA-Exotic  
FAUNA-Native  
FAUNA-Vertebrates

	FLORA
	FLORA-Exotic
	FLORA-Native
	VEGETATION-Floristic
<b>Originating controlled vocabulary</b>	
Title	ANZLIC Search Words
Reference date	2008-05-16
<b>Geographic location</b>	
West bounding longitude	140.6947
East bounding longitude	153.7687
North bounding latitude	-37.6423
South bounding latitude	-27.9675
<b>Vertical extent information</b>	
Minimum value	-100
Maximum value	2228
<b>Coordinate reference system</b>	
Authority code	urn:ogc:def:cs:EPSG::
Code identifying the coordinate reference system	5711
<b>Temporal extent</b>	
Begin position	1770-05-28
End position	N/A
<b>Dataset reference date</b>	
<b>Resource maintenance</b>	
Maintenance and update frequency	Continual
<b>Contact info</b>	
Contact position	Data Broker
Organisation name	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Telephone number	131555
Email address	<a href="mailto:data.broker@environment.nsw.gov.au">data.broker@environment.nsw.gov.au</a>
Web address	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dcceew">https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dcceew</a>
Responsible party role	pointOfContact
<b>Limitations on public access</b>	
Scope	dataset
<b>DQ Completeness Commission</b>	

Effective date 2009-01-10

Explanation Sightings of fauna and flora are constantly submitted for entry into the BioNet-Atlas, and so the dataset will never be complete. ; ; It should be noted that the dataset may contain more than one sighting of the same individual organism. For example, a single plant at a specific location, may have been reported by several different observers, at different dates, or with slightly differing coordinates (depending on the method used to capture coordinates). Records will only be flagged as potential duplicates if they are for the same species, on the same date, with geographic coordinates within 100m of each other. These potential duplicates are then queried, to ensure that duplicate records by the same observer are not re-entered.; ; It is therefore important that fields such as date and location accuracy be taken into account when assessing individual BioNet-Atlas records.

#### DQ Completeness Omission

Effective date 2009-01-10

Explanation The BioNet Species sightings data collection was never intended to be representative of all species present at a particular location at a given time, and as such can never be complete. For areas where the results of detailed systematic surveys have been entered into the system, the Fauna Survey and/or Flora Survey modules can be interrogated for information about species presence/absence. However for other areas, BioNet Species sightings are only indicative of species presence (not absence). Whilst BioNet is the single largest database for flora and fauna sightings in NSW, it is not the only one. For more complete information it is recommended that Bionet sightings and survey records be supplemented with datasets from other Agencies and organisations, literature and on-ground surveys.

#### DQ Conceptual Consistency

Effective date 1900-01-01

Explanation All records entered into the Atlas require a minimum of fields to be populated (species name, date of observation, location description, coordinates, accuracy of coordinates, Datum, observer name and observation type). Records will not be accepted in the database if compulsory fields are missing, or if values are not valid.; ; Records undergo a further automatic validation check based on species distribution. If a record of a species occurs outside of its 'known accepted distribution', the record will be saved to a quarantine section of the database to be reviewed by OEH staff.

#### DQ Topological Consistency

Effective date 1900-01-01

#### DQ Absolute External Positional Accuracy

Effective date 1900-01-01

Explanation All records are assigned an accuracy (in metres) to indicate how accurately the coordinates represent the true location of the sighting. The accuracy can vary from 10m to occasionally as much as 100,000m, depending on the method used to capture the coordinates (GPS, topographic map, street directory or internet). ; ; Locations are also manually checked prior to import to ensure the location description matches the coordinates and Datum.; ; Supply of BioNet-Atlas data is governed by OEH's Sensitive Species Data Policy ; <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/policiesandguidelines/SensitiveSpeciesPolicy.htm>.; The locations of records for most species are made available at 'as-held' accuracy (i.e. with geographic coordinates as held in the BioNet-Atlas database). Some threatened species, however, are very sensitive to disturbance and exploitation. If precise locational information about these species was made public, it could increase the possibility of harm or loss. For species categorised as "sensitive", some or all locational information will not be disclosed depending on the species' status under the Policy (refer to the Sensitive Species Data policy for full details).

#### DQ Non Quantitative Attribute Correctness

Effective date 1900-01-01

Explanation Records cannot be entered into Atlas if compulsory fields are missing, or if values are not valid. Both manual and automated attribute checks are undertaken before records are entered.; ; Species names are checked to ensure the Scientific and Common names match. Each record is assigned a 'Source' (i.e. whether a species record is a standard sighting, a voucher specimen, a specimen held in a museum or herbarium collection, a probable identification from survey methods Anabat or hair tube analysis, or a questionable record). Locations are manually verified onscreen and all other fields are checked to ensure values are in the required format (for fields that have domains, these are as listed in the Atlas Field Data Book). Any fields with missing or potential errors are queried with the observer prior to import.; ; While care is taken to ensure details of all records are entered as accurately as possible, given the range of data sources and levels of experience from observers, and variation in recording methods, it is not possible to guarantee that all species sightings are correct.

### Responsible party

Contact position Data Broker

Organisation name NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Telephone number 131555

Email address [data.broker@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:data.broker@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Web address <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dcceew>

Responsible party role pointOfContact

### Metadata point of contact

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Responsible party role pointOfContact

Metadata date 2024-02-26T15:41:24.013961

Metadata language