Verification within the NBN Atlas - #Stage2

Background

The following paper leads on from the initial working group papers regarding data flow and verification within the NBN Atlas, in particular in relation to the flow of data from the NBN Atlas to iRecord.   It is critical that this data flow is started so that both verified and unverified data can flow to the NBN Atlas, and iRecord can be promoted primarily as a principle place for the Network to submit records in order for these data to flow to all members of the Network via the NBN Atlas.

At present, the functionality for the Atlas to hold records submitted directly through the 'Submit a sighting' interface has been disabled until such a time that the data flows with iRecord and verification can be resolved. Once these data flows have been enabled, with data flowing to the NBN Atlas from iRecord, and to iRecord for verification from the NBN Atlas, the submit a sighting functionality can be re-enabled.

Feedback from Initial Working Group Papers

From feedback on the previous papers circulated to the working group there was agreement that

1. Verified and unverified data should both be visible on the NBN Atlas, and appropriately flagged
2. All records entered directly into the NBN Atlas go straight to iRecord for verification and then updated on the NBN Atlas when verified, replacing the 'un-verified' record

Further discussion is needed around Point 3 in Paper 1

3. Unverified data are given a 'confidence mark' to show if the recorder's ID is generally accepted (i.e 98% of these records are correct and so all records are provided a 3* confidence rating before they are verified)

Feedback from the working group surrounding this statement suggested that in principle there is agreement that unverified records should be given a confidence rating until such a time that they are verified, however that this should not necessarily be directly correlated to the recorder's ID as originally stated in the papers. We need to flesh out the detail here and a meeting to discuss this is required.

Additional information from Dave Martin

- Data currently being ingested into the NBN Atlas from the NBN Gateway does not have a verification field associated with it
- The NBN Atlas is not currently indexing a verification field though this can be enabled
- Loading verification terms into the NBN Atlas will be relatively easy
- Enabling users to filter on verificationt terms will require a little development
- Records can be flagged as 'verified' on bulk if all records within a dataset have been verified
- The ability to flag a record with an issue has been enabled for all records in the NBN Atlas, users need to be logged in and can flag an issue from a record page (i.e. http://records.als.scot/occurrences/592199f6-8dfd-4415-a985-71511d6ba888) which will send an automated email to the owner of the record.

Next steps

A meeting should be arranged for the working group to come together either on the phone or in person. An agenda for this meeting is outlined below.

Before this meeting is arranged, we need to contact Martin Harvey to ask him if he can prepare, and bring to the meeting a list of the current verification terms used in iRecord which could be added to the NBN Atlas.

NBN Atlas Data Flow Working Group Meeting

Time and Date: To be confirmed
Invitees:

Name	Organisation	Email
Martin Harvey	CEH	kitenetter@googlemail.com
Tom Hunt	ALERC	tom.hunt@alerc.org.uk
Andy Musgrove	BTO	andy.musgrove@bto.org
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Catherine Jones	BWARS	catherinemjones7@gmail.com
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Simon Pickles	NFBR	Simon.Pickles@neyedc.co.uk
Michael Dodd	iSpot	michael.dodd@open.ac.uk
Dave Martin/NBN Developer		

Agenda

Purpose of meeting

Data Flows from NBN Atlas to iRecord for verification/

- It has also been agreed that both verified and unverified data should be visible on the NBN Atlas
- It has been agreed that all records from the NBN Atlas (individual sightings entered directly into the Atlas, and not datasets submitted by organisations to the NBN Atlas) should flow to iRecord

for verification. Once verified these records should flow back to the NBN Atlas, with an appropriate verification flag.
- This functionality will be developed once the NBN Atlas has gone live in April, and when developer time is available to take this forward.
- The following meeting is to discuss the following series of questions, and for the working group to give the NBN Secretariat steer with regards to the data flow into, and out of, the NBN Atlas

The NBN Secretariat ask the working group for guidance on the following questions
- For records which are entered directly into the NBN Atlas, these records will flow to iRecord for verification.
  - RS note: Martin Harvey to provide guidance to the working group on the current process for verification in iRecord for those who are not aware of the system, and to provide the working group with a list of the verification terms that are used in iRecord. Working Group to agree that these terms are suitable for use in the NBN Atlas
- How will be records be flagged as verified in the NBN Atlas
  - RS note: Working Group to advise which verification terms should be used in the NBN Atlas, and if the user needs to filter on these terms or whether knowing if a record is 'verified' or 'awaiting verification' is suffice. Once the working group has given some steer with what is required, NBN Secretariat to discuss with developer what functionality needs to be added to enable users to filter on verification status.
- For records that are currently in the NBN Atlas (added in 2015/2016), which were entered through the submit a sighting tool, what should we do with these records? Is the Working Group happy for these records to remain 'hidden' in the NBN Atlas database until data flows are enabled, or should these records be repatriated with their owners?
- For those records which have come from iRecord into the Atlas, how should these be stored in the NBN Atlas. Should they be in taxonomic datasets, or one iRecord dataset?

After this meeting
Suggest leave liaison between Dave Martin and David Roy with regards to data verification until after April 1st, at which stage the NBN Atlas will be launched. Once these discussions have been had, the costing for future development can be finalised for approval by the funders