

Update on data flow to iRecord and NBN Atlas

15 December 2021



Current progress

- For observations added in year 2015 and onwards, just under a million have been imported into iRecord
 - All UK records are imported if they meet these conditions:
 - are of research grade
 - match the UK Species Inventory
 - have been assigned a licence that allows sharing
- 23.4% of these had been reviewed by verifiers at 6 December 2021
- For reviewed records, on average 4.6% are rejected and 1.6% are redetermined (wide variation between taxon groups)

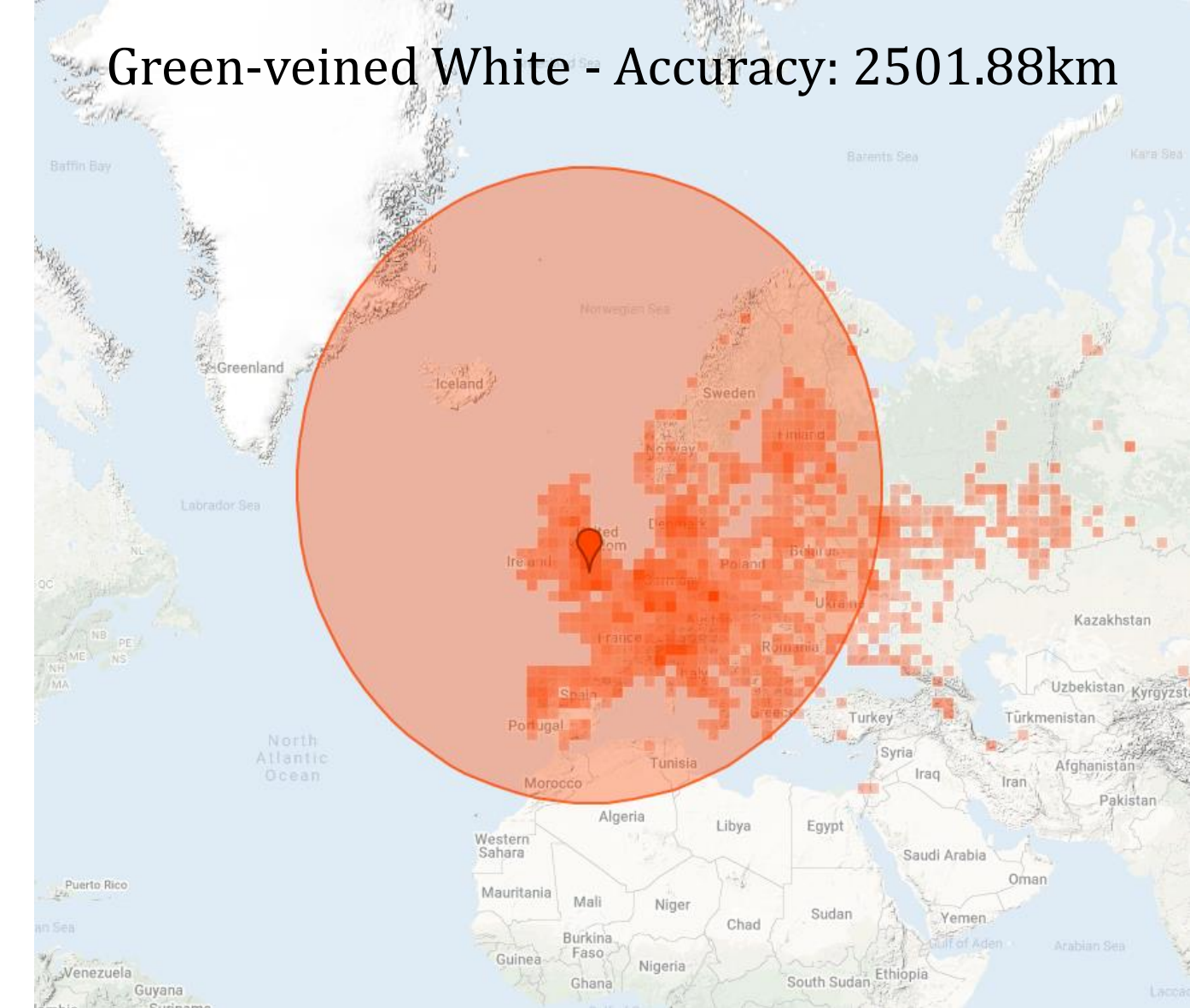
Verification in the ‘top 15’ species groups

group	total records	% reviewed	% of reviewed that are rejected	% of reviewed that are redetermined
flowering plant	354374	21.8%	3.9%	2.3%
bird	157481	2.6%	0.9%	2.0%
insect - moth	83279	34.7%	17.2%	0.7%
insect - butterfly	55440	33.3%	1.7%	0.3%
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	41339	16.5%	0.1%	0.6%
fungus	31530	0.3%	3.6%	13.1%
insect - true fly (Diptera)	28818	69.8%	1.3%	1.9%
insect - hymenopteran	23618	22.1%	2.5%	3.2%
terrestrial mammal	18558	53.2%	1.2%	0.2%
insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	17138	67.0%	1.1%	0.2%
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	16184	81.4%	1.2%	0.4%
mollusc	14951	25.7%	10.7%	4.5%
spider (Araneae)	10954	2.2%	1.3%	2.1%
moss	10720	10.7%	3.1%	3.0%
crustacean	7134	77.1%	0.8%	2.2%

Some of these are rejected due to the records already having been received via other routes, and are not necessarily a result of records being incorrect

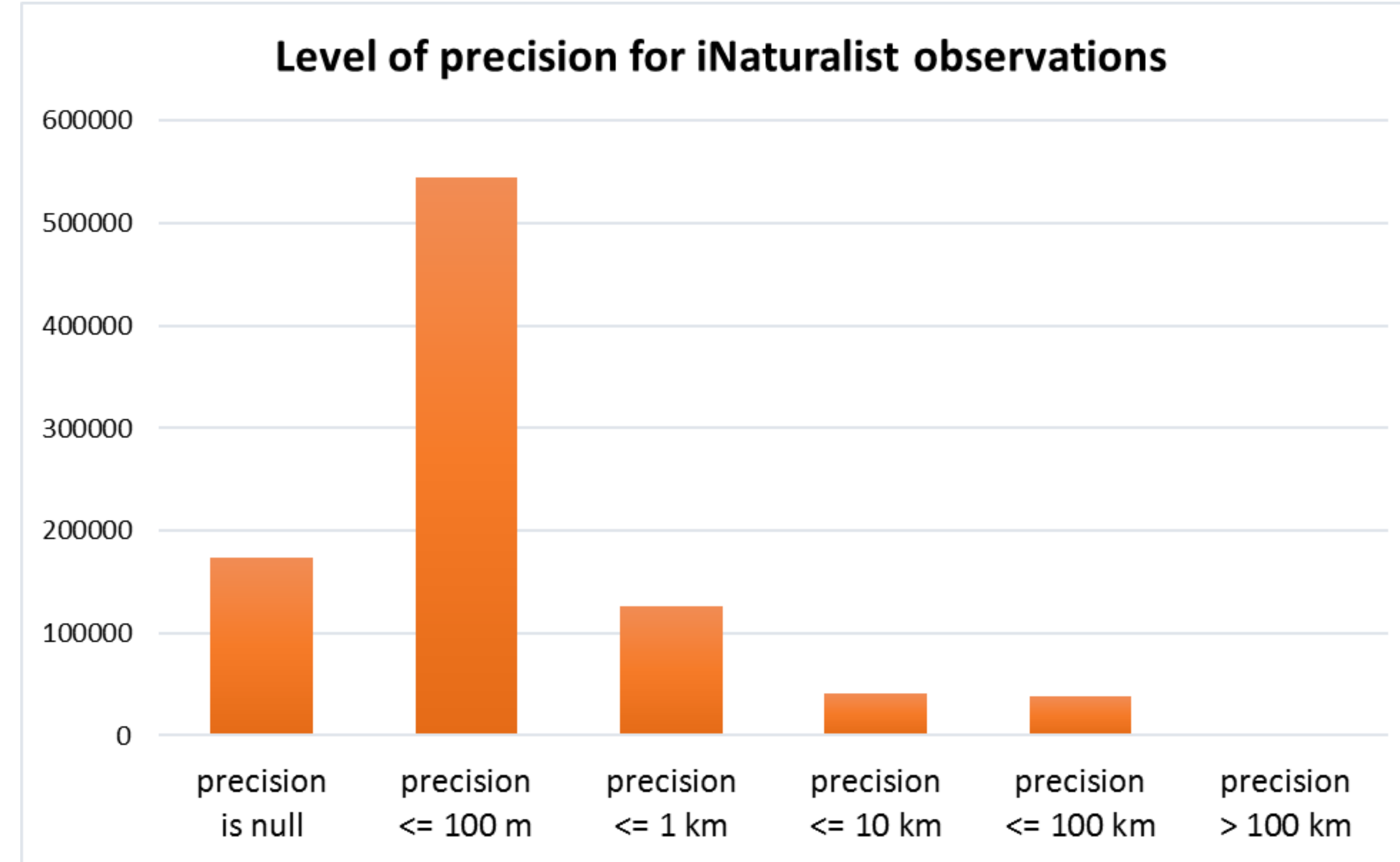
Imprecise locations

- Records on iNat may have very imprecise grid refs
 - Can be due to users adding records to a 'zoomed-out' map
 - Or users choosing to obscure their location
 - Or iNat applying an obscured location to sensitive species
- A record with a coordinate precision of 5,000 m or more is allocated a 100 km square code in iRecord
- If the coordinate precision is 50,000 m or more it is displayed with a ~ prefix to indicate the grid ref is approximate
- Original coordinates and precision values are stored with the record



Imprecise locations

- Most records on iNat are at 1km precision or better
- However, some are very imprecise and are not of much use to recording schemes and local environmental records centres
- We could exclude them, but there could be the occasional record of an unusual or rare species where a verifier may wish to contact the recorder for more detail
- We could encourage iNaturalist users to use “pinned locations” so that they can control precision and quickly re-use locations



Pseudonyms

- Some recording schemes are very reluctant to accept records from people who don't provide their real name
- However, there may be good reason why people do not wish to make their real name public alongside the location of their records
- If recorders are willing to share their name, it can be added as the “Display name”, separate to the user name

Settings

Profile

Account

Notifications

Relationships

Content & Display

Applications

Profile Picture

Upload new photo

Remove Photo

Username *

This is the username you will use to log in, and other users can use to identify you on iNaturalist

kitenet

Display Name

This is the name that will be displayed on your profile as well as for copyright attribution

Martin C. Harvey

Bio

Tell other users on iNaturalist about yourself

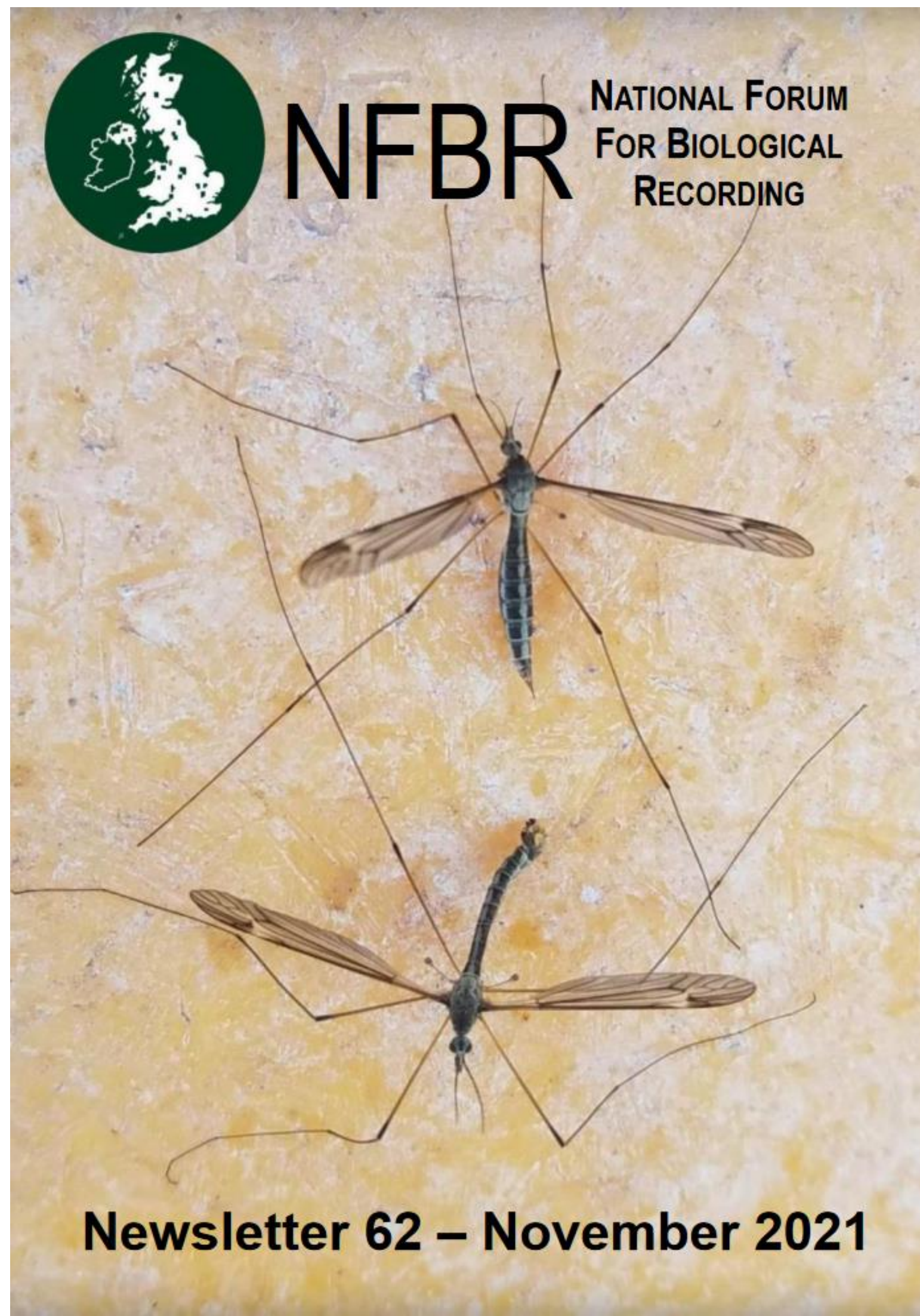
Where available, the “Display name” is used by iRecord as the recorder name

SAVE SETTINGS

Sharing guidance

Guidance is being circulated via iNaturalistUK, NBN website and iRecord; see also this article in NFBR Newsletter:

issuu.com/nfbr/docs/nfbr_issue_62/4



How iNaturalist users can help iRecord verifiers

There are a number of steps that iNaturalist users can take if they wish to make their records as compatible as possible with the UK recording schemes:

- Choose an open licence for your records: CC0 or CC BY will enable your records to be used as widely as possible; CC BY-NC (non-commercial) can prevent records being used by some schemes and records centres. Other licence choices (such as SA and ND) are difficult to interpret for individual records, and cannot be used in iRecord or the NBN Atlas (nor on GBIF). More info is on the iNaturalistUK blog (<https://uk.inaturalist.org/blog/58298-licensed-to-share>).
- Provide your real name if possible; this can be added as the “Display name” in your iNaturalist profile, and will then be used as the recorder name on iRecord
- Avoid obscuring locations unless absolutely necessary, as this can prevent them being linked to grid references of suitable precision for recording scheme use
- Now that the record import is in place, it is helpful if you can avoid adding the same record to both iNaturalist and iRecord, to avoid duplication of both records and of verifiers’ time