

FACT SHEET





# SEED Citizen Science Hub: Connecting people, projects and data

## What is citizen science?

Citizen science is public participation and collaboration in scientific research with, or under the direction of, professional scientists and scientific institutions. It produces meaningful data which can be used for scientific research and decision-making. When you contribute to a citizen science project you are a citizen scientist.

## What is the hub?

The SEED (Sharing and Enabling Environmental Data) Citizen Science Hub has been set up to support and grow citizen science in New South Wales. The hub provides many benefits for scientists and data users, project organisers and participants alike, including project registration and promotion, networking and data access.

Participants can **explore** projects and connect with like-minded people.

Project organisers can **connect** with citizen scientists and other project managers and access best practice resources using the project guide.

Data users can **discover** citizen science data seamlessly within the hub or through the SEED platform.

The hub is a one-stop-shop for citizen science across New South Wales.

- Explore projects that align with your interests, skills and availability.
- Join a project that interests you for example, join a field survey to identify birds or mammals, sample water quality, record local weather events, identify plants, assess air quality, identify wildlife captured on remote cameras.
- Connect with like-minded people involved with the project and learn new skills.
- Keep track of updates, upcoming events and announcements of projects that interest you with the hub notification system.



• See maps of the data you and other project participants collect and access live usage statistics to discover how the information is adding to environmental knowledge and how the data is being used by others.

#### **Project organisers register and connect**

- Access best practice advice and resources in the project guide, with guidance on everything from project initiation, to retaining participants, to maximising the ongoing impact of your project.
- Register projects and add search criteria to make them discoverable by participants suited to the project's focus, requirements and location.
- Connect with the hub community and make direct contact with other users to share tips, resources and find participants.
- Upload data so it is widely accessible, increasing the real positive impact it can have on the NSW environment and showing your participants how important their contributions are.

#### Data users download and share data

- Access and download data from the hub with ease or explore the dataset on the SEED platform.
- Use the transparent data quality rating to make informed decisions on whether the data is suitable for your research.
- Contribute, share and access environmental data through the SEED platform.

### Get in touch

If you would like to find out more or if you have a project you would like us to showcase on the hub, please contact:

#### Email

seed.citizensci@environment.nsw.gov.au

#### Photo credits

**Page 1:** People watching birds with binoculars at Warrumbungle National Park, Burbie Canyon track (Simone Cottrell/RBG); People enjoying a Discovery tour at Warrumbungle National Park, Canyon picnic area (Simone Cottrell/RBG).

**Page 2:** Children looking at picture on a mobile phone at Warrumbungle National Park, Burbie Canyon track (Simone Cottrell/RBG); People watching birds at Warrumbungle National Park, Burbie Canyon track (Simone Cottrell/RBG); Citizen science in OEH (Simone Cottrell/RBG).

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