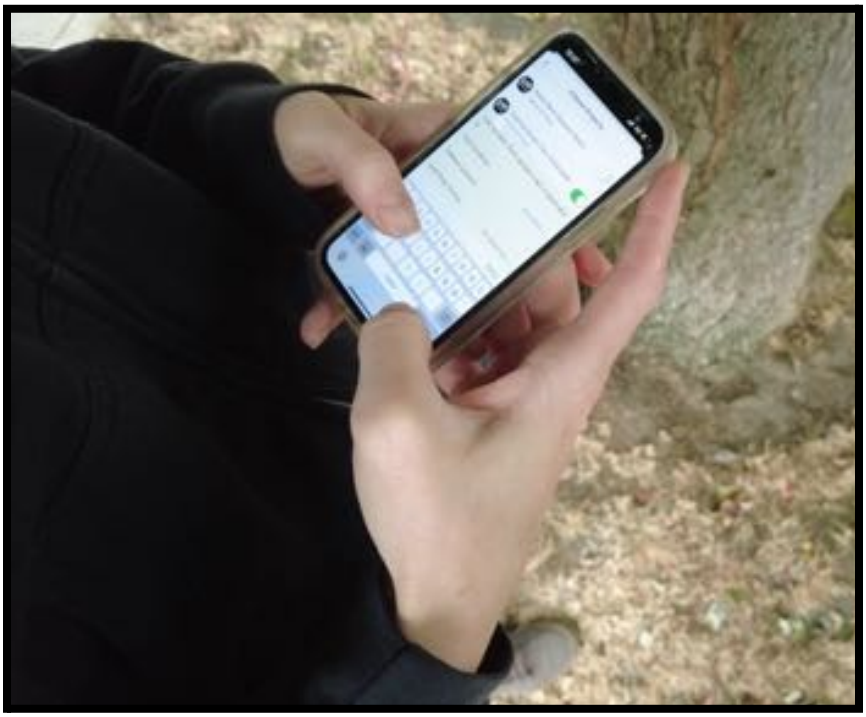
Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study

iNaturalist - Field Manual



FOREST HEALTH WATCH COMMUNITY SCIENCE

September 2022 version

More information available at https://foresthealth.org/tacoma

JM Hulbert, Washington State University

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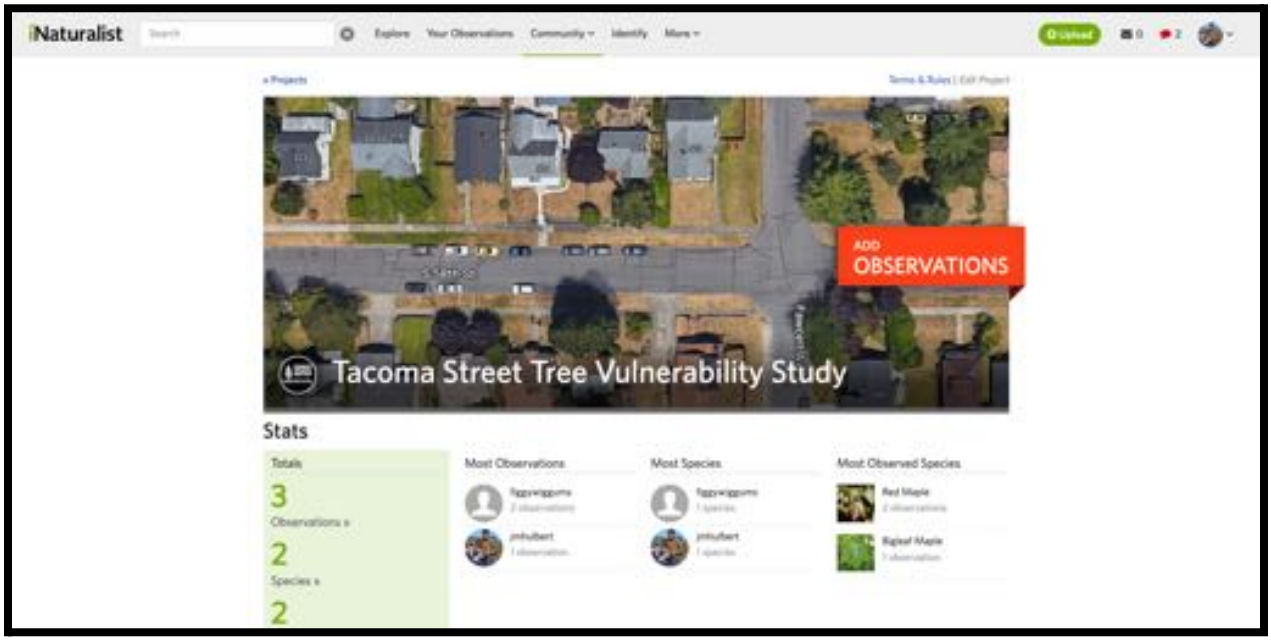
Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for adding observations to the Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study project on iNaturalist.org. Below you will find instructions and photos demonstrating the process for contributing to the project and research.

Summary of Steps to Participate

1. **Create an account on iNaturalist.org.**
2. **Join the Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study project.**
3. **Add an observation of a street tree via mobile app or internet browser.**
4. **Tag Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study project in the observation.**
5. **Answer required (and optional please) project questions about the observation.**
6. **Share the observation!**



Tacoma Community Science Methods

Trees can be added to the [Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study] project on iNaturalist following two methods.

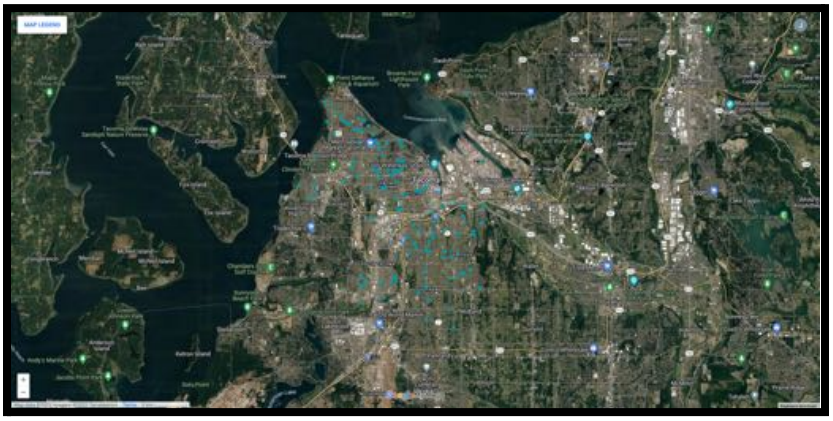
Method 1 - Visit these specific maple trees

Community scientists can contribute to this project after visiting specific trees around Tacoma. These trees were randomly selected from the Tacoma Street Tree Inventory. Participate by visiting one of these trees and adding it to the [Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study] project on iNaturalist.

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=189sdTG79V_W0xkEAW9_flr2K_BAlK3Q&usp=sharing

Method 2 - Are these streets vulnerable?

Community Scientists can contribute by walking these streets and adding all of the street trees to the [Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study] project on iNaturalist.



https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1BzKC-qlDEb8dVI_DmX5HhYq9C_h6pLE&usp=sharing

What do we mean by 'Street Trees'?

The [Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study]() is designed to only collect information on street trees.

Helpful links from City of Tacoma:

- [What is Right-of-Way?]()
- [Planting in the Rights-of-Way]()

Other iNaturalist Projects in Tacoma

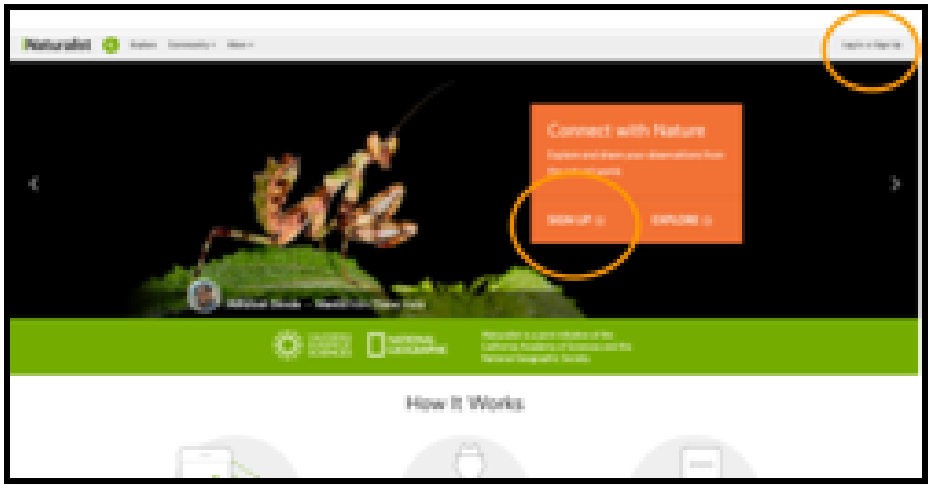
Trees from private properties or parks can be added to any of the below projects:

- [Sooty Bark Disease Watch]() **- Regional project collecting observations of sooty bark disease.**
- [Western Redcedar Dieback Map]() **- Regional project collecting observations of healthy and unhealthy redcedar trees.**
- [Tacoma Trees]() **- Local project collecting observations of trees anywhere in Tacoma.**
- [Tacoma Exceptional Trees]() **- Local project collecting observations of exceptional trees.**

Create login in iNaturalist

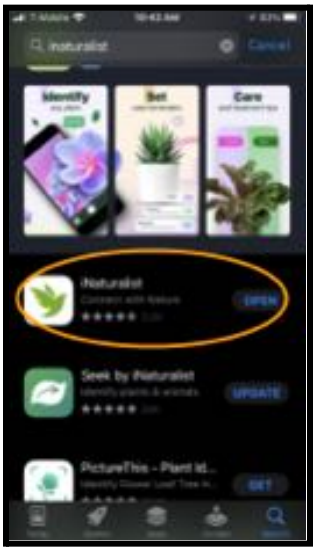
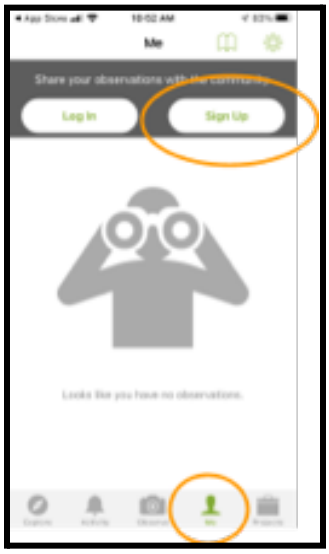
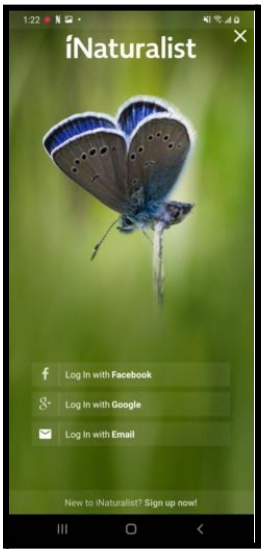
Using Desktop Computer (Internet Browser)

Browse to https://inaturalist.org on your computer, then click on the 'sign up' button or click 'Login or Sign Up' in the upper right corner of the page.



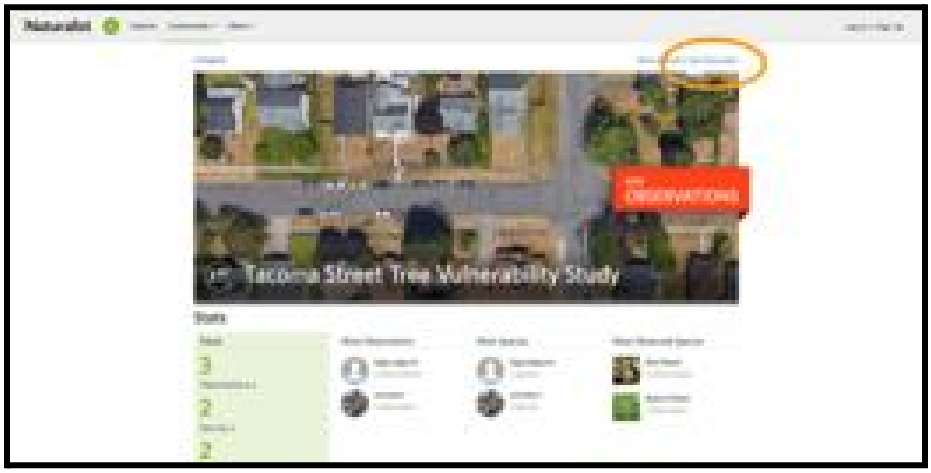
Using Mobile Application

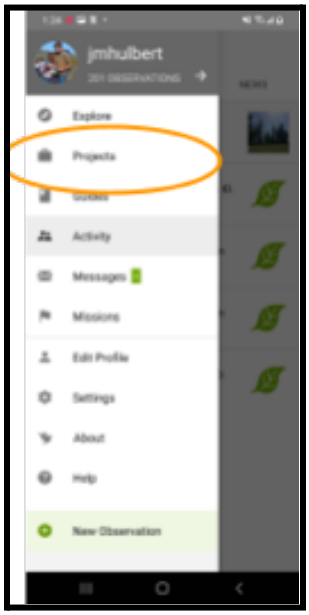
Download and open iNaturalist from App Store or Play Store. Sign up or login from the 'Me' tab at the bottom on iOS).

		
iOS	**iOS**	**Android**

Join the Project

Browse to the Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study (https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tacoma-street-tree-vulnerability-study) or search for 'Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study' in the projects tab of the iNaturalist mobile App, then click 'join this project' or 'join', respectively.



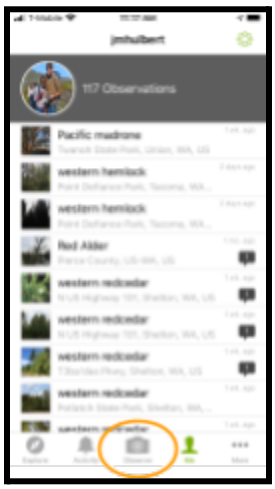
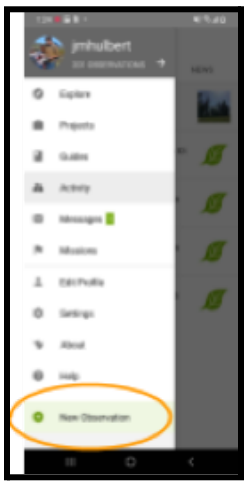
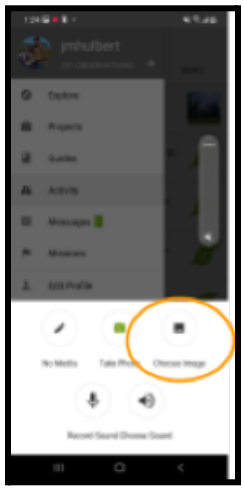
		
iOS	**iOS**	**Android**

Add an Observation to iNaturalist

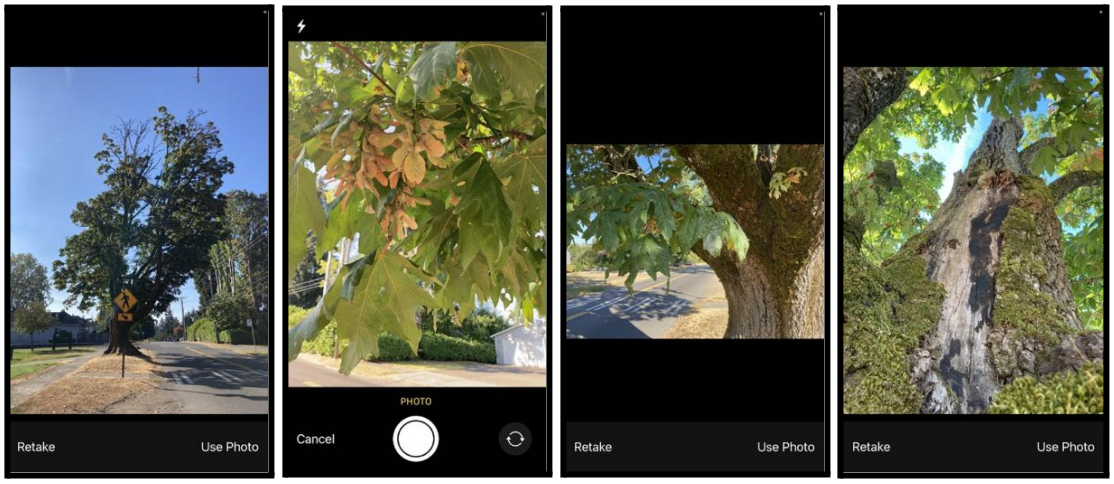
Add an observation to iNaturalist from your phone or internet browser. Note we recommend taking photos and then adding the observations from your computer, the 'Photo Library' (iOS) or 'Choose Image' (Android) options to select photos from your device.

Mobile App

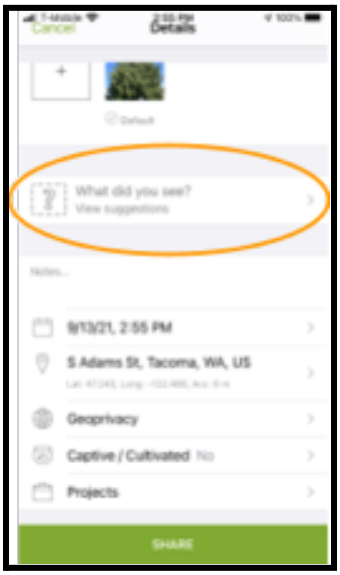
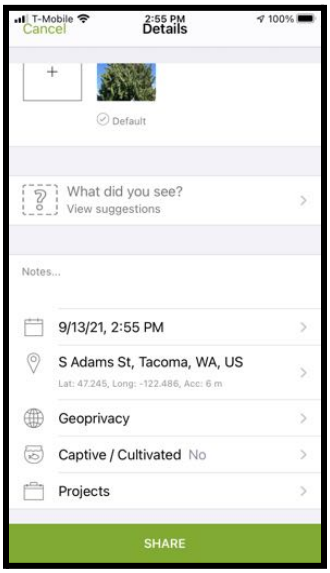
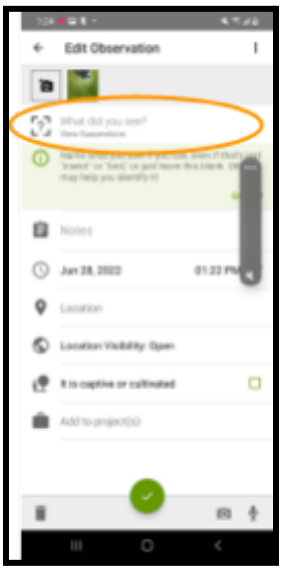
1. **Tap 'Observe' (iOS) or 'New Observation' (Android)**

			
iOS	iOS	Android	Android

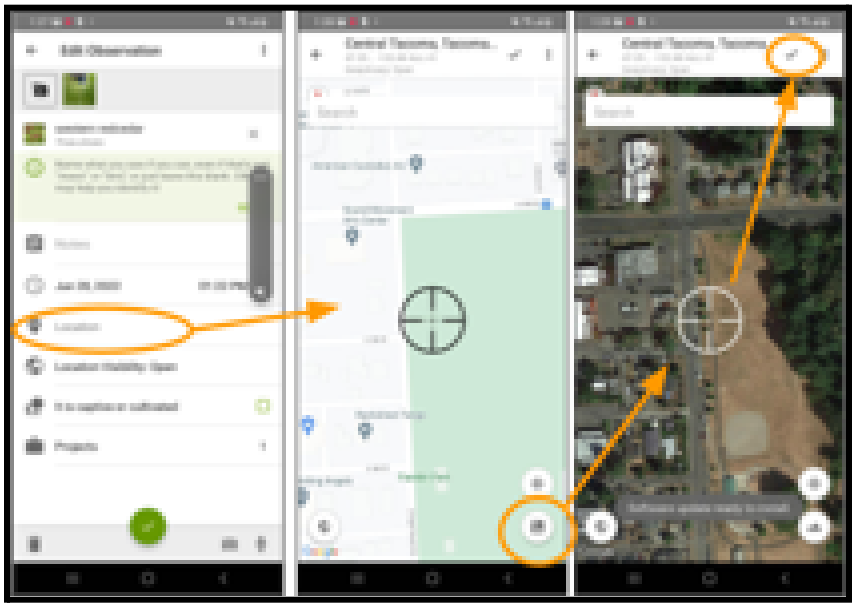
2. **Tap to select up to four photos**
   a. **Please include at least four photos with your observation: 1) whole tree, 2) leaves and seeds/flowers (if present), 3) bark, and 4) signs or symptoms.**



3. **Identify the Organism in the Observation**

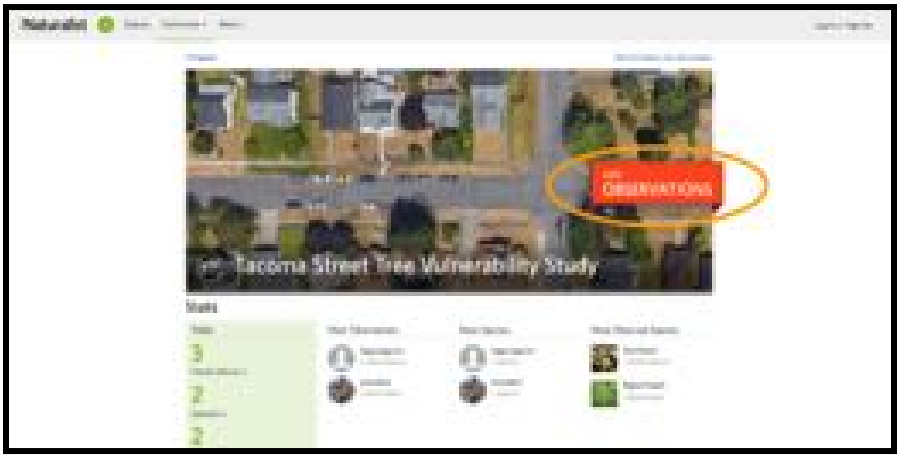
		
iOS	**iOS**	**Android**

4. **Record Location**
   a. **The location will be automatically added with photos if you give your phone permission to record location when you take photos.**
   b. **Otherwise, click on location, zoom in to the place on the map, and click the check box (Android) or back arrow (iOS).**

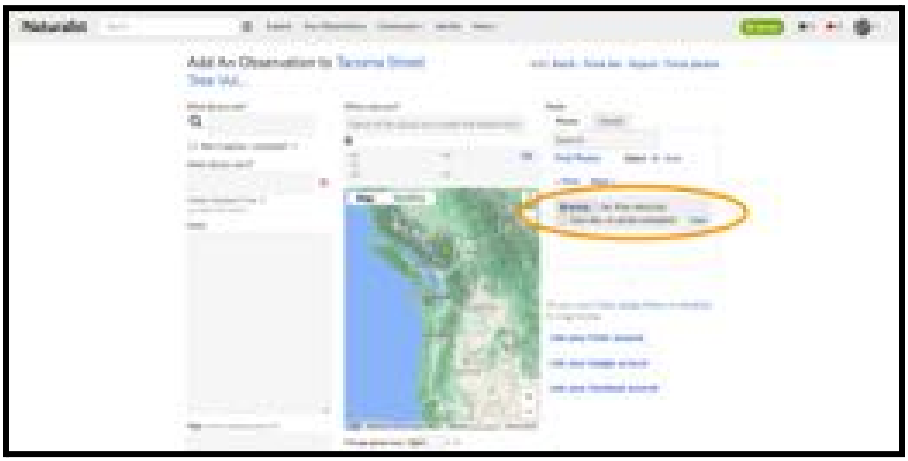

Android

Internet Browser

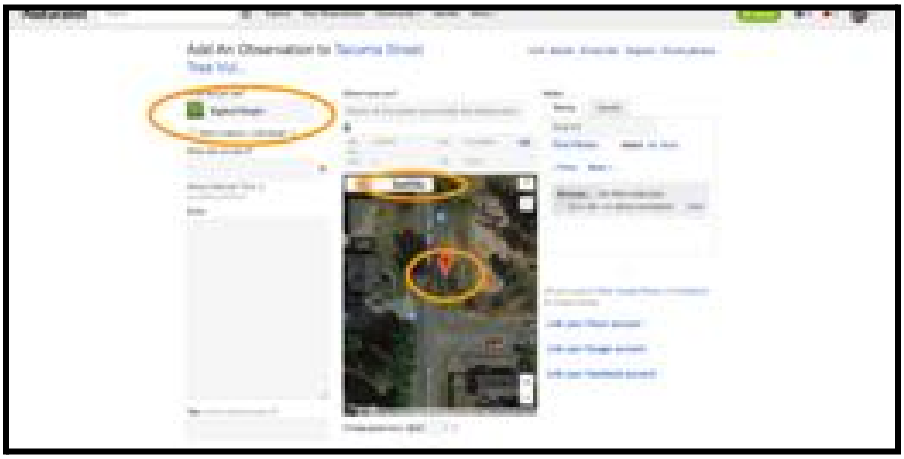
1. **Browse to Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Project (https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/western-redcedar-dieback-map) and click 'add observations'.**



2. **Select Photos from Computer**



3. **Identify the Organism in the Observation and Drop a Pin in the location**

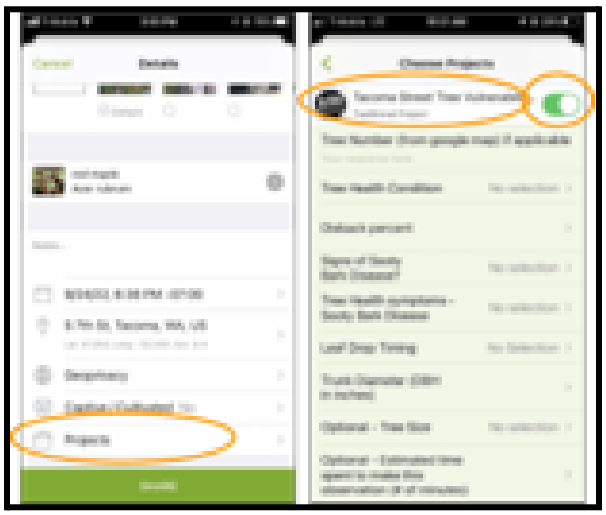
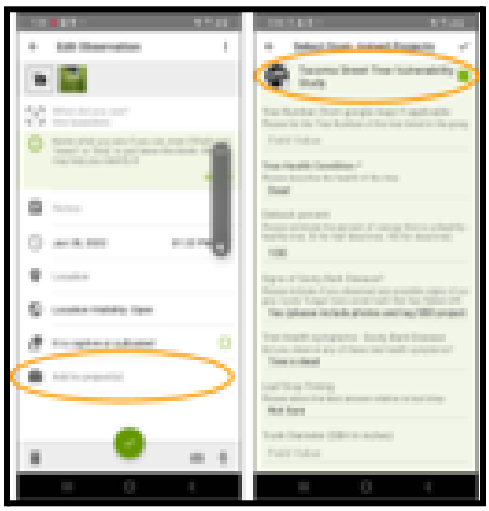


Tag Project and Answer Questions

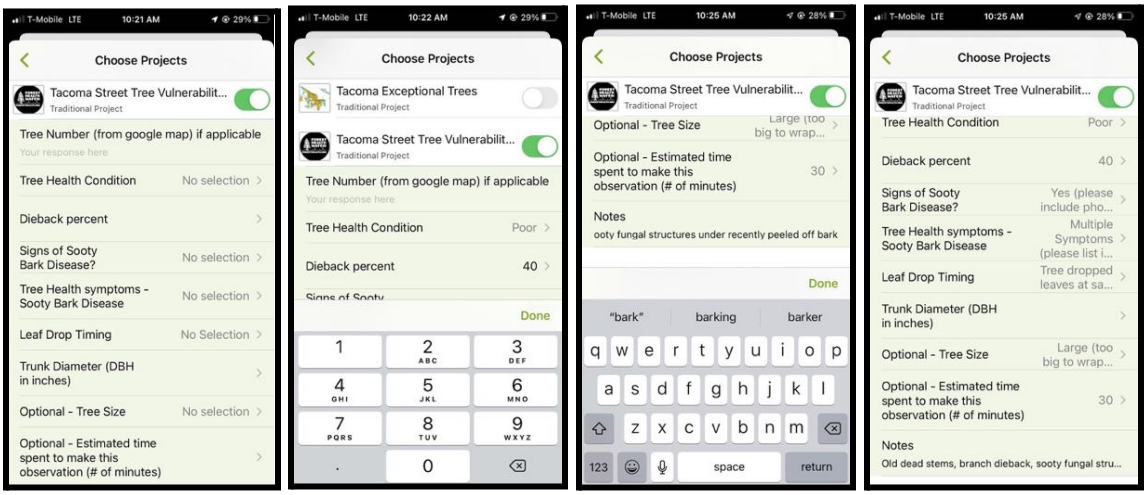
Mobile App

Tag the project in the observation edit field before hitting share. Otherwise, you can edit the observation after it has been shared.

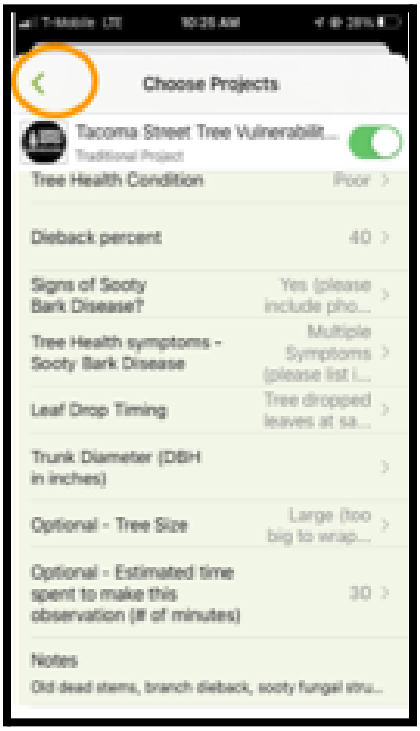
1. **Click on Projects and Search for Tacoma Street Tree Vulnerability Study, then click the arrow (iOS) or check box (Android)**

	
iOS	**Android**

2. **Answer project questions**
    a. **Note answers for the bold questions are required before the observation can be added. The other questions are optional.**
    b. **See the Tree Health Classification Field Guide for guidance on symptoms.**



3. **Tap check box (Android) or back arrow (iOS) after answering questions**

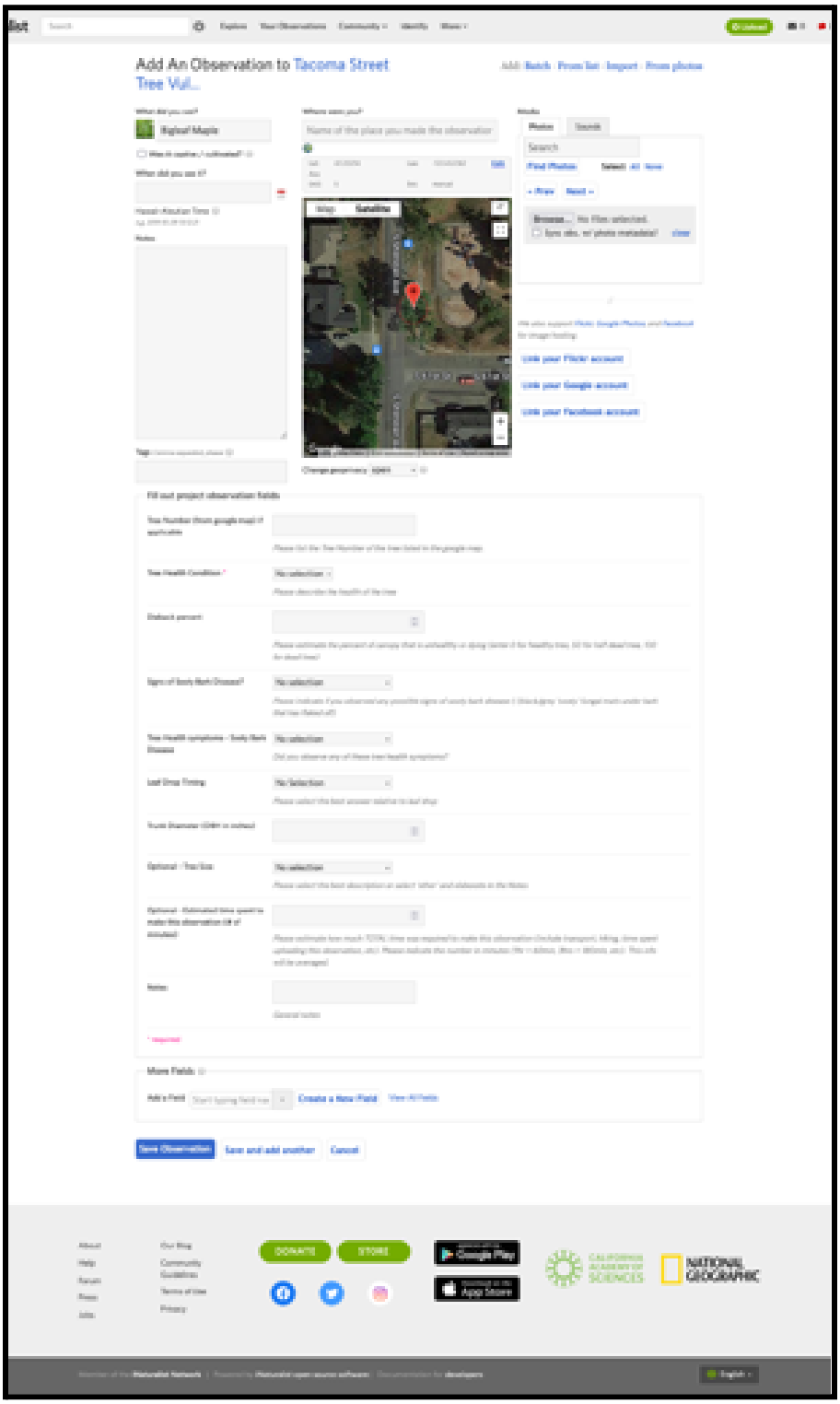


iOS

Android

Internet Browser

Note, if you clicked 'Add Observation' from the project page in your web browser, the project questions will be at the bottom of the page.

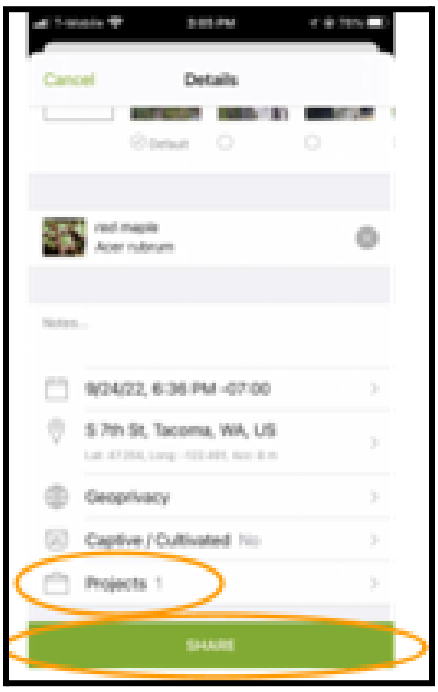
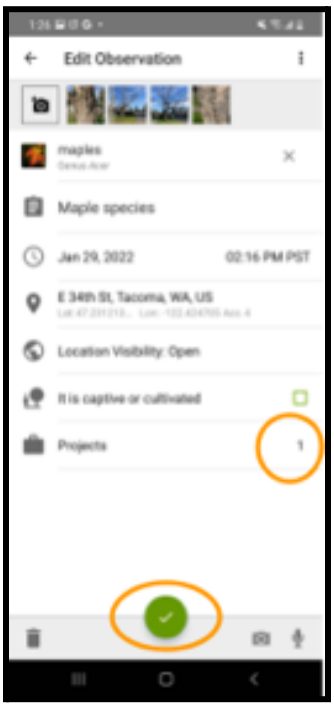


Share the Observation!

Check that all of the questions are answered and a project is tagged in the observation. Please check there is a '1' or greater listed in the Projects section of the observation.

Nice! Now you're ready to share the observation!

If you're using the mobile App, finish adding the observation by tapping 'Share' or the check mark (Android).

	
iOS	**Android**

If you're using your internet browser, finish adding the observation by clicking 'Share the Observation' at the very bottom.

THANK YOU for participating as a community scientist!

Sooty Bark Disease Signs

Sooty Bark Disease 'signs' are observations of fungal tissues. Keep an eye out for black 'sooty' looking patches and be sure to include photos if you observe them. Note the signs can look different depending on the tree species. Please include any photos that are potential signs in observations.

Bigleaf Maple	Red Maple	Pacific Dogwood
		
Horse Chestnut	**Water Birch**	**Vine Maple**
		

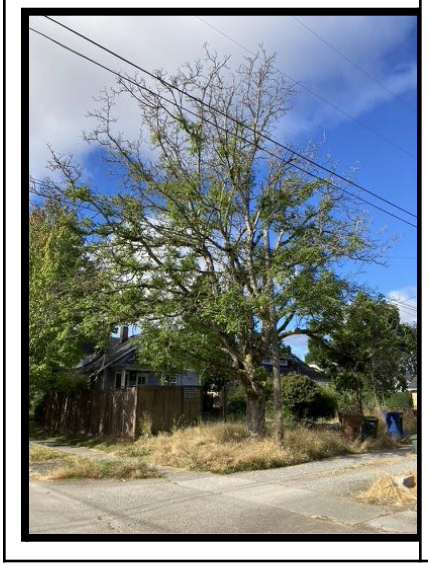
Sooty Bark Disease Symptoms

Below are some common symptoms of tree health issues on maples. Feel free to add photos of any other type of symptom you observe.

Stem sprouts	Bark peeling	Old dead stem
		
Branch tip dieback	**Thinning**	**Other - Bleeds**
		

Crown Dieback Percent

Do your best to estimate the percent of the crown that is dead or dying, but don't worry too much about the accuracy.

~5%	~15%	~20%
		
~30%	**~35%**	**~100%**
		

Additional Resources

Forest Health Watch Home Page: https://foresthealth.org/

Forest Health Watch Sooty Bark Disease https://foresthealth.org/sbd

Sooty Bark Disease, Washington State University: https://ppo.puyallup.wsu.edu/sbd