



NH Wildlife Sightings Database:
*A way to share your NH wildlife sightings online with
NH Fish and Game.*

What can I do at NH Wildlife Sightings?

- Report your observations of some wildlife species (see the website for list).
- Use a mapping tool to identify the location of your observation.
- Upload photographs with your observation to allow wildlife professionals to verify your species identifications.
- View town distribution maps for wildlife species.
- Track your wildlife observations for a particular area over time.

Getting started:

Go to <http://nhwildlifesightings.unh.edu/> and click on Request an Account. You'll be asked to fill in your contact information and also provide us with a bit of information on your current skills as a wildlife watcher. Don't worry if you aren't a professional, citizen scientists have been helping us for years by submitting wildlife observations. This new online database will make it easier to collect more of your wildlife sightings.



We created this in order to gather more information on the distribution of wildlife species across NH, a goal of the Wildlife Action Plan. Collecting observations from landowners, recreationists, birders, hunters and fishermen, foresters, and general wildlife enthusiasts brings in potentially useful information that supplements and even provides locations for more systematic surveys. Your careful observations are valuable to us. Please take the time to fill in as much information as you can about every sighting. The more data you provide to us, the more valuable it is. Each observation will be reviewed carefully by NHFG biologists for accuracy before any data is used. Photos, while not required, may allow us to confirm your observation with a higher level of accuracy.

Which species can I report to NH Wildlife Sightings?

Initially, NH Wildlife Sightings is focused on: (a) species identified in the NH Wildlife Action Plan as Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) and (b) taxonomic groups with existing reporting programs in NH. For example, all reptiles and amphibians can be reported through the NH Wildlife Sightings because NH Fish & Game has coordinated a citizen based

Reptile and Amphibian Reporting Program (RAARP) since 1992. Species may be added over time by NH Fish & Game as the need arises. If you already are involved in RAARP we encourage you to use this instead of the paper forms or emails you are currently using.



Participants in NH Wildlife Sightings must obey all local, state, and federal laws while collecting wildlife location data. Observers are strongly encouraged to get landowner permission before going onto private property.

What will happen to data after it is entered into NH Wildlife Sightings?

All data collected through this site will be forwarded to wildlife professionals at NH Fish & Game, who will review and verify the individual records. Following quality control, data will be used for conservation planning and implementation by NH Fish & Game and our program partners. For example, verified reports will be used to assess the distribution of wildlife species in New Hampshire, evaluate changes in distribution over time, and provide insights into the natural history of NH wildlife. Periodically, town level distribution maps for wildlife species will be generated and made available for viewing by the public. Verified records of rare species will be sent to the Natural Heritage Program and added to a database of ecologically significant features. These data may be used in a variety of conservation planning initiatives.

Thank you for participating in NH Wildlife Sightings!

