**British Ecological Society Citizen Science Hub page**

The aim of the British Ecological Society Citizen Science Hub is to promote Citizen Science projects from authors published in the BES Journals ([Functional Ecology](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/13652435/aims-and-scope/read-full-aims-and-scope), [Journal of Applied Ecology](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/13652664/aims-and-scope/read-full-aims-and-scope), [Journal of Animal Ecology](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/13652656/aims-and-scope/read-full-aims-and-scope), [Journal of Ecology](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/13652745/aims-and-scope/read-full-aims-and-scope), [Methods in Ecology and Evolution](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/2041210X/aims-and-scope/read-full-aims-and-scope),  [People and Nature](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/25758314/aims-and-scope/read-full-aims-and-scope) and [Ecological Solutions and Evidence](https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/26888319)) and BES members.

The page will also collate, training resources, case studies, and contact details for those interested in conducting Citizen Science projects.

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| **Name:** |
| **Affiliation(s):** |
| **Email Address:** |
| **The project title:** |
| **Plain English summary of the project (300 words, see below for full guidance):**  *This could include what your citizen science project is about, why it’s interesting, what’s novel etc* |
| **Project website:**  *Links to the project website, or how to get involved or details of who to contact for people to get involved* |
| **A list of academic publications from the project if applicable:** |
| **Other links:**  *news articles, blogs, or items that can illustrate your work visually.* |
| **Please provide photos or images of your project:**  Photos could include as images of your field sites, scientists at work, or perhaps something more lateral (with a description and details of the photographer to be credited) are all good– anything, in fact, to make your work more accessible and interesting. Please feel free to share as many pictures as you like, if you do share a large folder please indicate your top 3 pictures.  Please provide Use high-resolution images, caption and a photo credits. |
| **Plain Language Summary Guidelines**  To raise the profile of your work and make it accessible to the widest possible audience, please write a plain language summary of your citizen science project. The plain language summary should explain the importance of your work in a way any reasonably educated person on the street could understand- someone who reads the science and technology section in a newspaper, but not any scientific journals.  As well as making your work more accessible to non-scientists, plain language summaries can also promote your work to other researchers, from your own discipline and beyond. In simple terms: a good plain language summary will get more people reading your work.  ***Writing your plain language summary***  **The plain language summary is an important part of communicating your work to a wider audience**; writing it need not be tedious and should be given sufficient attention. Do give it some serious thought, and approach it as a separate and important piece of writing. It may help to think of writing for an interested undergrad, a friend you haven't seen since school or a someone from a different department—someone who is interested and genuinely wants to know more about your work, but who doesn't have any specialist knowledge of your specific area- as a general rule if you should be able explain your research to a stranger at a party or at a queue for the bus**.** Aim to write using clear and simple language to make your work accessible to a much wider audience than your usual readers, and easier to read for everyone.  **Avoid jargon, and don’t forget that what may not seem to be jargon to you, may well be to others**. Common terms for you may be unknown to a non-scientist, or those working in different fields. If you must talk about, for example ‘cross-reactivity’, then explain in clear and simple terms what that is. Better still, avoid the scientific term altogether and find a simpler way to say it.  **Think about including any important contextual background or findings that might make your work more relevant or interesting** to the layperson, ie. The sort of information makes your summary more interesting and memorable for a reader. |

Please send completed forms to [Simon@BritishEcologicalSociety.org](mailto:Simon@BritishEcologicalSociety.org)