#### **Supplementary Material 1: Survey questions**

The original survey was in Dutch; the translations as presented here were made by the authors. Only those questions that are discussed in the paper are included; the entire survey (35 questions) may be obtained from the first author.

When constructing the response scales for non-multiple choice questions, the decision was made to utilise scales with relatively fewer response options (running from 3 to 6). This choice was made for the following reasons (in descending order of importance):

- 1) A balance must be struck between giving respondents room to express nuance, and the added value of a larger scale. Expanding the scales used here would not add meaningful nuance to the existing answer options
- 2) Linked to the previous point, all response scale options must be given a label. Larger scales would not allow for meaningful differentiation in the labels attached
- Considering that our entire survey was relative large, containing a total of 35 questions with an estimated completion time of around 15 minutes, fewer response options also improved accessibility and likely reduced the number of uncompleted surveys

## Working method

We would first like to ask you a few questions about what exactly you do as a volunteer recorder.

#### For how many years have you been submitting sightings?

.... years

#### For which taxa do you submit sightings, and how often?

	Never	Yearly or less	A few times a year	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
Trees, shrubs and (flowering) plants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosses and lichens	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Algae and stoneworts	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Mushrooms and other fungi	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Mammals	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Birds	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Fishes	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Amphibians and reptiles	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Insects and other invertebrates	0	0	0	0	0	0

# What would you like to get more information about from the organisations or projects that you're involved in as a recorder?

	I already get enough information about this	I'd like more information about this	I'm not interested in information about this
Information on new or special sightings	0	0	0
Information on activities	0	0	0
Information on scientific research	0	0	0
Information on (new) relevant nature policy	0	0	0
Information on how best to do nature recording	0	0	0
Technical information on submitting and editing sightings	0	0	0
Information on ownership of submitteo records	0	0	0

### At which places do you record nature? (Multiple answers allowed)

A self-selected area (inventory)
 An area chosen in collaboration with an involved organisation (plot or sampling point)
 In my own garden
 Anywhere I see something
 Abroad

### With whom do you usually do your nature recording? (Choose up to 2 answers)

(Usually) alone
(Usually) in a group
(Usually) with my family

\* If (for instance) you record in a group just as often as alone, you may choose both answers

### What do you do when you doubt a sighting? (Multiple answers allowed)

I just submit the sighting
I don't submit the sighting
I consult a field guide
I look it up on the internet
I consult the forum of waarneming.nl

- I consult another recorder
- I consult an expert
- I contact a nature organisation
- Other, namely...

## How do you stay up to date on species and their distribution? (Multiple answers allowed)

I use self-study (using field guides, handbooks, the internet, etc.)
 I participate in excursions or training courses
 I participate in identification days
 I discuss it with other volunteer recorders
 I personally contact experts
 I don't
 Other, namely....

## **Motivations**

We would now like to ask you a few questions about what drives you to do nature recording, and how you view nature. We would like to know more about the motivations and experience of volunteer recorders. Don't think too long about each statement; follow your intuition.

For the following motivations for recording nature, could you choose those that are of importance to you (left)? You can then rank them (right), with the motivation that is most important for you on top.

Learning more about nature	
Being connected to nature	
Being attached to an area	
Gives meaning to my life	
Spending time outdoors	
Working together with people	
Determines who I am	
For future generations	
Taking pleasure in doing something I'm good at	
See as many different species as possible	
Contributing to science	
Contributing to nature conservation and management	

\* You may choose as many motivations as you like, whether that is 1 or 12

\*\*NOTE FROM THE AUTHORS: the 12 motivations were ordered randomly for each respondent

## How important do you expect your sightings to be for the following purposes:

	Not important at all	Not very important	Neutral	Important	Very important	I really don't know
For nature conservation in my own environment	0	0	0	0	0	0
For nature conservation in the Netherlands	0	0	0	0	0	0
For scientific research	0	0	0	0	0	0
For (spatial) policy	0	0	0	0	0	0
For my own knowledge about nature	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Along with recording

We would like to ask you a few questions about what you do during and after your nature recording.

## Which of the following actions have you ever carried out along with recording, and which would you ever be prepared to do?

	I've done this	I've never done this, but I might be prepared to	I've never done this, and I'm not prepared to either
Report offences in natural areas	0	0	0
Contribute to nature management (e.g. pollarding trees, pruning shrubs or pulling weeds)	0	0	0
Make a financial contribution to nature development or conservation	0	0	0
Participate in discussing nature policy	0	0	0
Take plants or animals with me for identification	0	0	0
Collect dead animals	0	0	0

## Sharing data

For the last topic, we would like to know how you feel about ownership and use of submitted data.

### When you submit sightings, who owns these data in your opinion?

- The data are my property
- O The data are the property of the organisation I submit them to
- The data are nobody's property (public good)
- OI really don't know

# (Optional) Are there certain goals for which you don't want your submitted records to be used?

# Under which conditions do you feel your sightings ought to be used by other users than the organisation that manages the data?

O My data may be used by anyone unconditionally

O My data may be used by anyone, but I, or the organisation managing the data, should always be attributed (when technically possible)

OMy data may be used by anyone, but with attribution as in the previous option, and not for financial gain

- OI leave that to the organisation managing the data
- O No opinion

Other, namely...

## (Optional) Does you answer to the previous question depend on the type of sighting?

## If your sightings are publicly accessible to anyone, how would you like to be visible as the recorder?

- OI want to be cited by name
- OI want to be cited by a nickname
- OI don't want to be visible as the recorder (anonymous)
- OI don't care

### If your sightings are shared and/or used by others, would you like to be able to see this?

<b>O</b> Yes
O No
🔘 No opinion

## **Demographic questions**

Finally, we would like to know a few background characteristics from you.

### What is your year of birth?

Are you...

O Male O Female

What is your highest education completed?

Primary school
 LBO / VBO / MAVO / VMBO
 MBO / HAVO / VWO
 HBO / University

\*\*NOTE FROM THE AUTHORS: these acronyms refer to Dutch levels of education, and are difficult to translate

(Optional) To be able to map the geographic distribution of all volunteer recorders, we would like to ask you for the four numbers of your postcode. If you prefer not to provide these, feel free to skip this question.

Aside from volunteer nature recording, are you employed in the nature/environment sector? (Multiple answers allowed)

🛛 Yes,	as a paid employee
🛛 Yes,	as a volunteer
🗆 No	