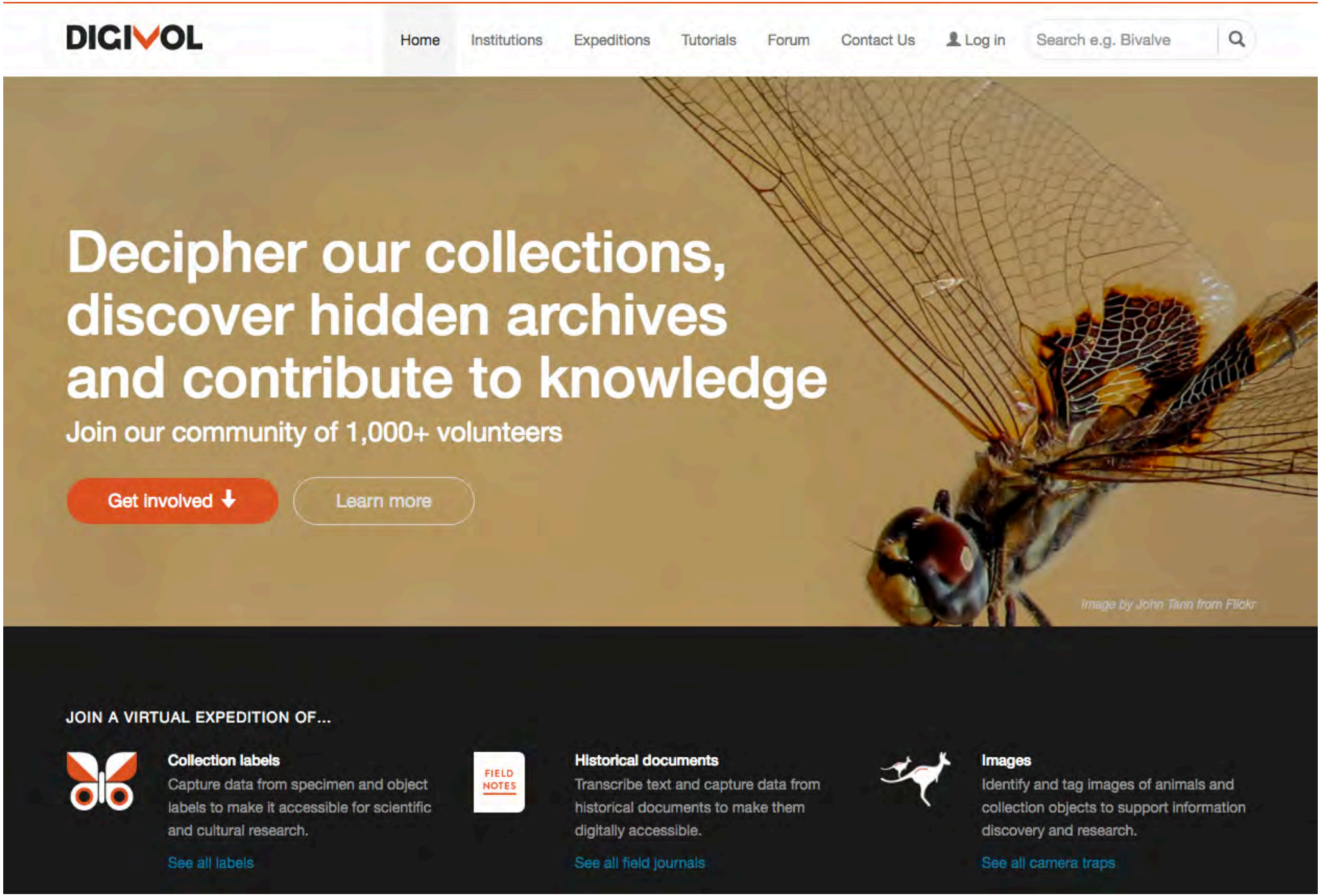
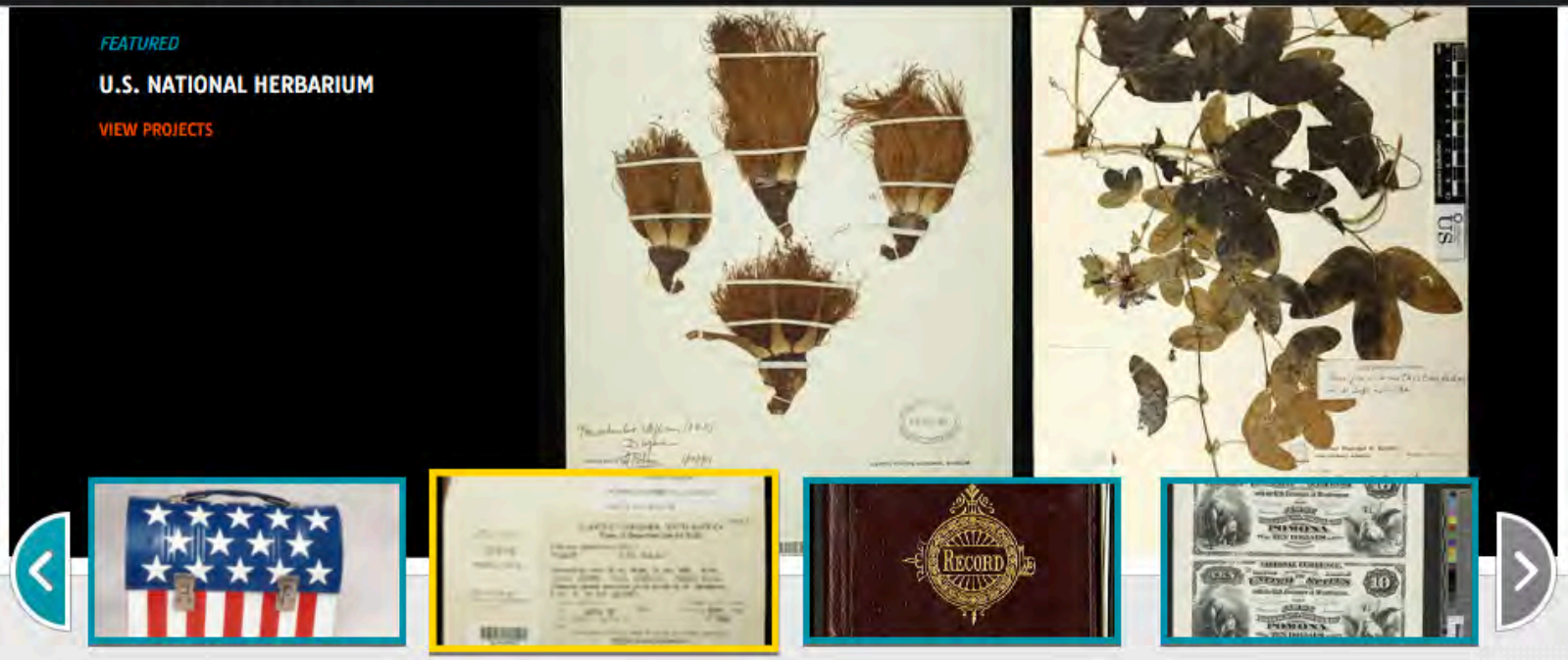
The Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) event—a global stage for your herbarium

Austin Mast

https://www.idigbio.org/content/sitch-stitch%E2%80%94-citstitch-hackathon



https://volunteer.ala.org.au/



JOIN US!

LEARN HOW TO TRANSCRIBE

Become a Smithsonian Digital Volunteer and help us make historical documents and biodiversity data more accessble.

Join 5,786 volunteers and contribute to field notes, diaries, ledgers, logbooks, currency proof sheets, photo albums, manuscripts, biodiversity specimens labels and more - Get started Now!

Follow us on Twitter and learn more about projects: @TranscribeSI

Partner on projects and ask your #volunpeers for best tips and tricks.

You'll also find updates on Facebook and behind-the-scenes shots on Instagram.

BROWSE PROJECTS

Select a category below to begin browsing projects.

Select a Category

LOG A LINE

Negative Log Book Number 21

302 CONTRIBUTIONS

In 1896, the first Smithsonian's first photographer Thomas Smilie began to document the work of the Institution. Transcribe this logbook captured almost 100 years later from 1992 and 1994 to recover information from our endlessly fascinating visual past!

LATEST UPDATES

Panasko marked for review a page from Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics DASCH project- Logbook AI #34

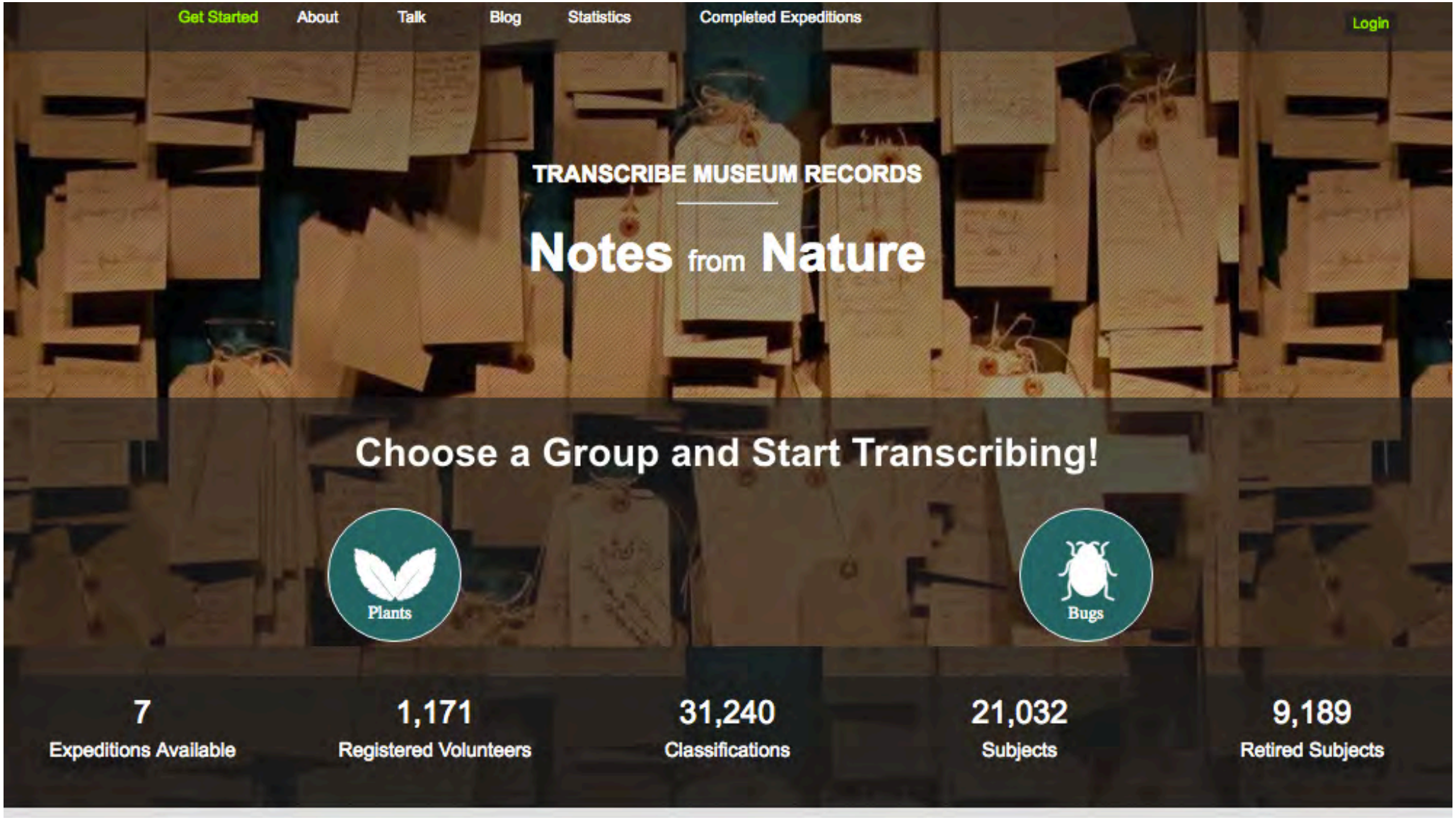
Panasko transcribed a page from Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics DASCH project- Logbook AI #34

Panasko reviewed a page from Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics DASCH project- Logbook AI #34

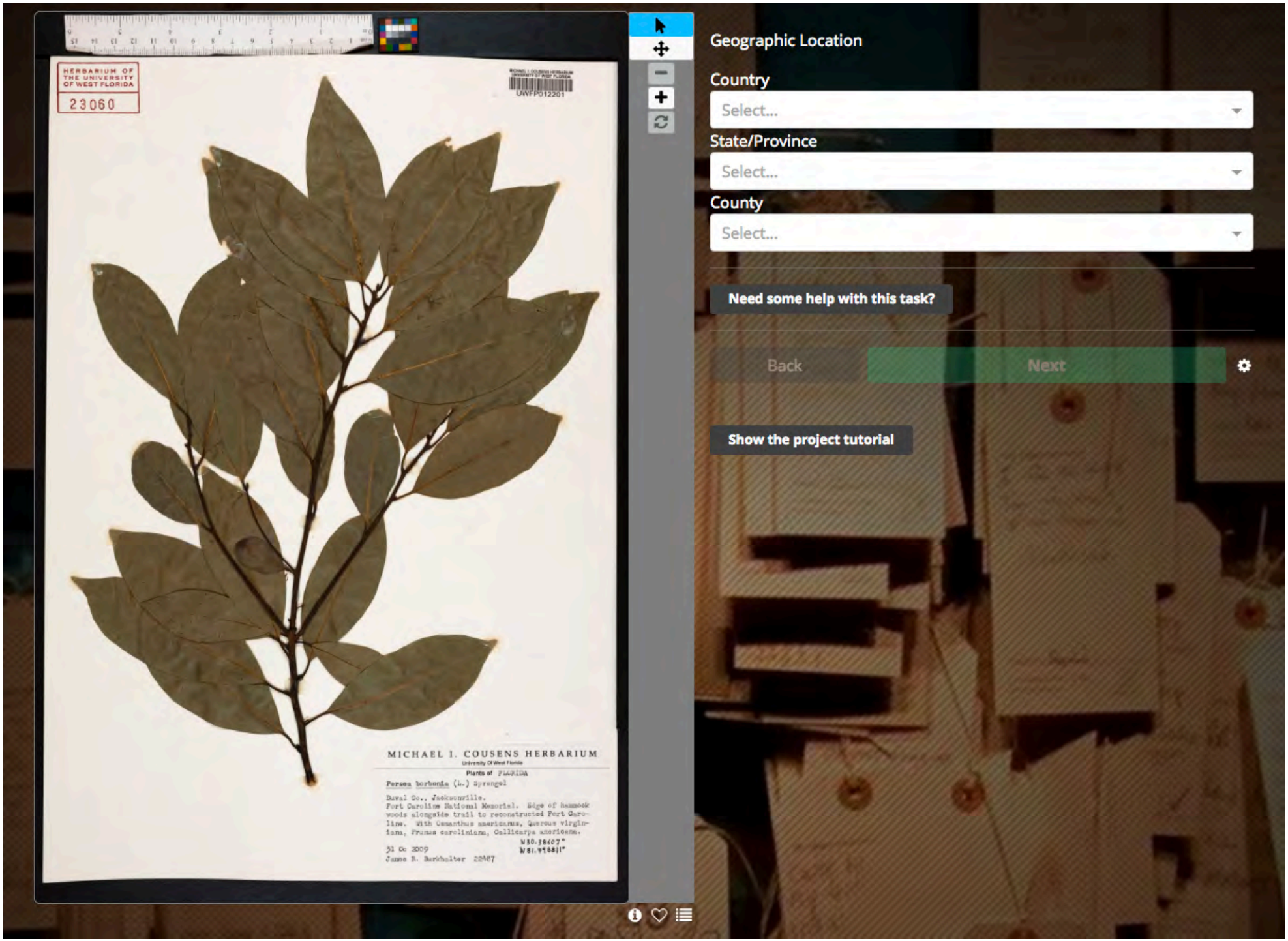
Panasko reviewed a page from Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics DASCH project- Logbook AI #34

feedback

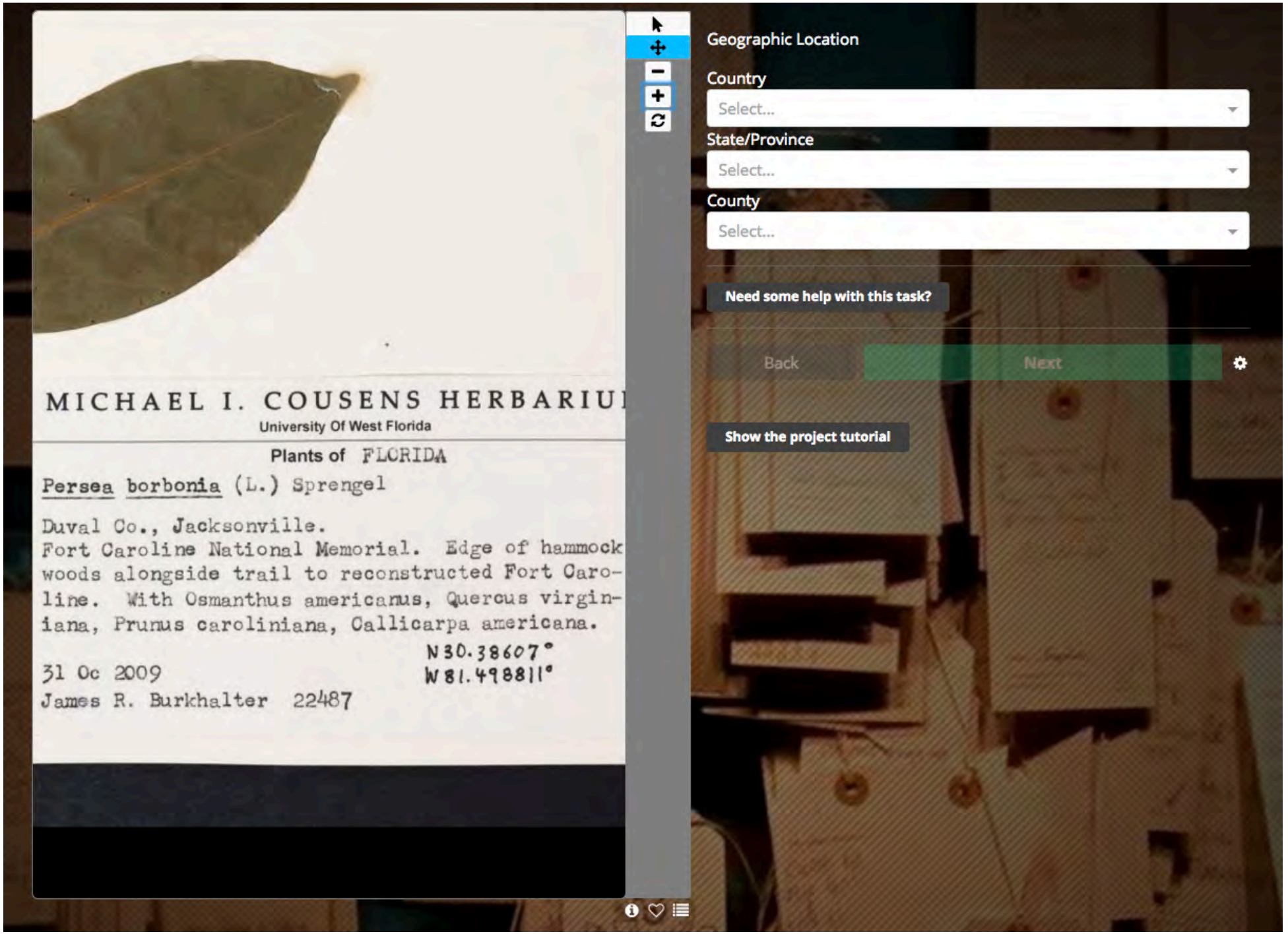
https://transcription.si.edu/



https://www.notesfromnature.org/



https://www.notesfromnature.org/



https://www.notesfromnature.org/

science

Evolved Science: Crowds Can Catalog Bugs Faster

MARCH 11, 2014 4:00 PM ET

STAN JASTRZEBSKI

from 88.9 wfsu

Listen to the Story

All Things Considered

4 min 25 sec

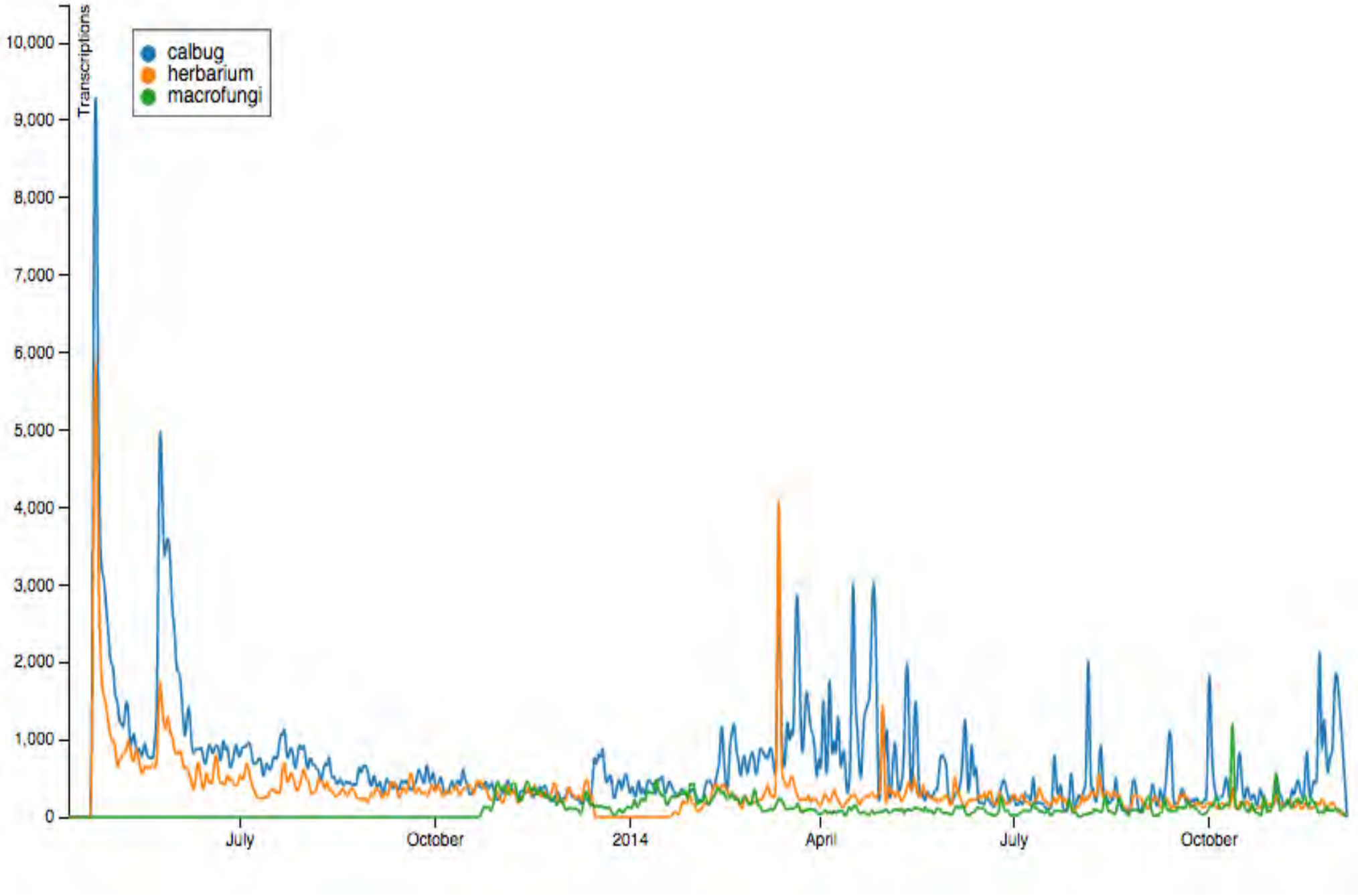
Playlist

Download

Transcript

SHARE

http://www.npr.org/blogs/alltechconsidered/2014/03/11/289064040/evolved-science-crowdsourcing-makes-cataloging-bugs-faster

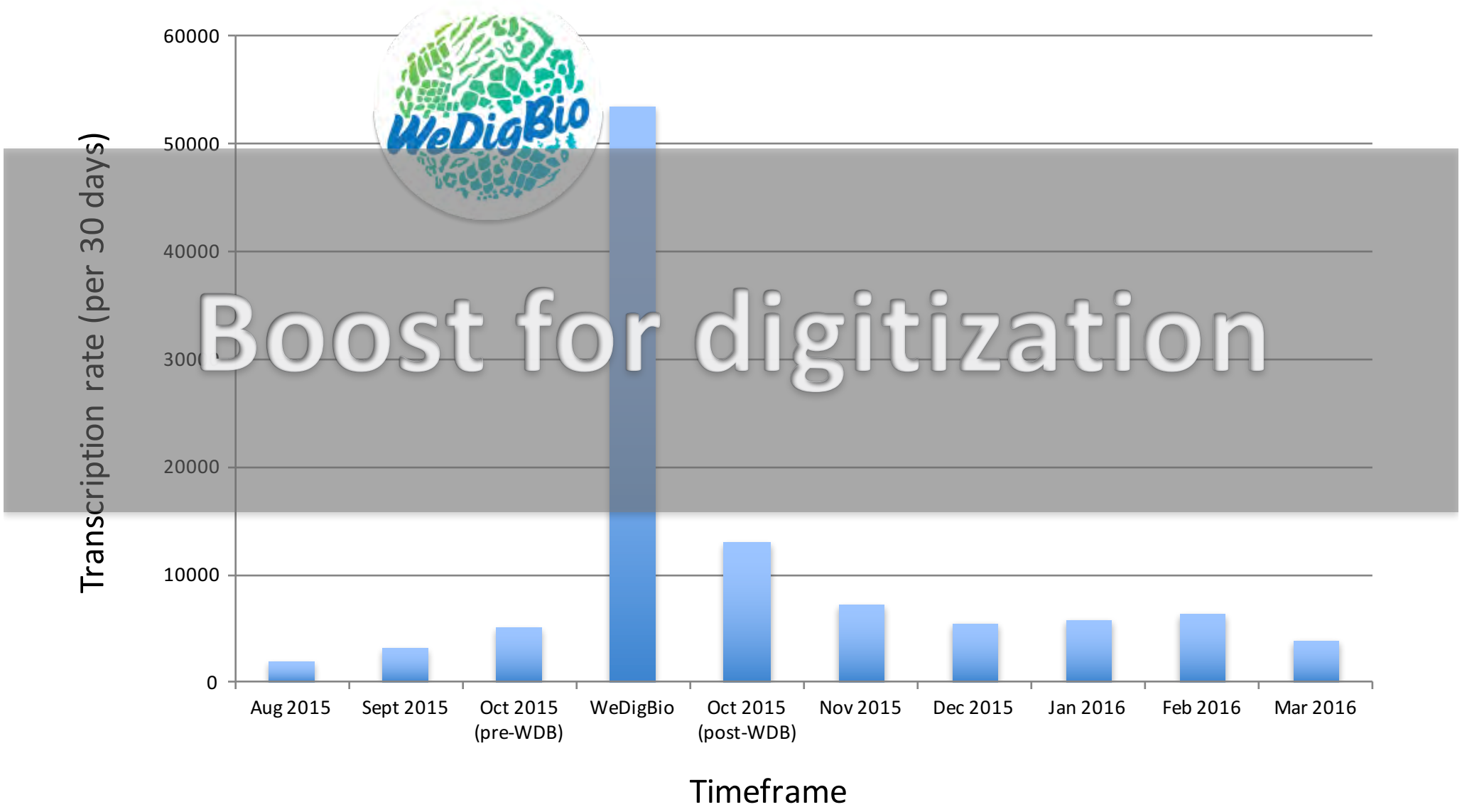


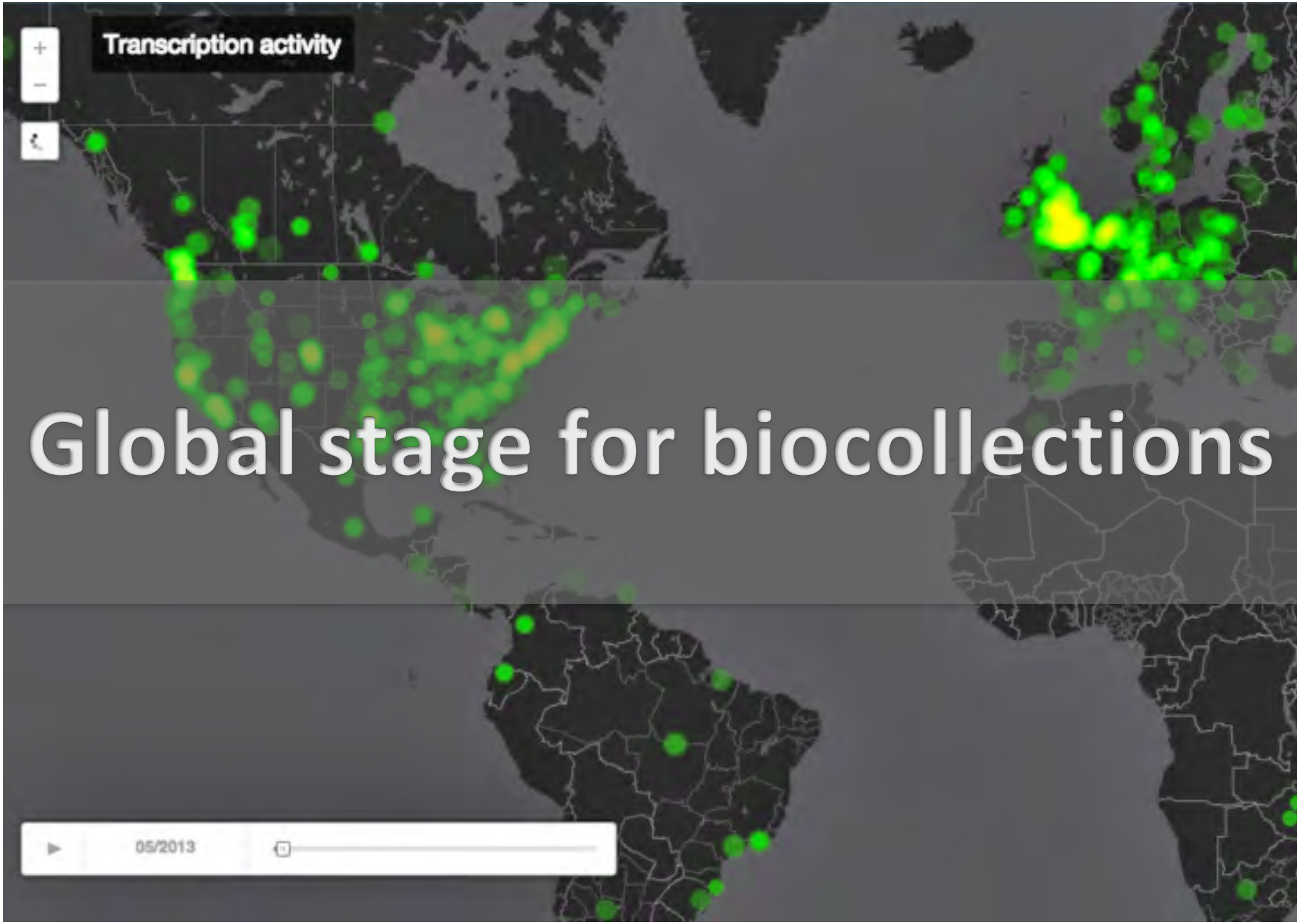
http://www.notesfromnature.org/


Worldwide Engagement for
WeDigBio
Digitizing Biocollections

What is it?


A spot for biocollections on
global citizen science calendar


Herbarium Transcriptions on NFN
Transcription rate (per 30 days)
60000
50000
40000
30000
20000
10000
0
Aug 2015
Sept 2015
Oct 2015 (pre-WDB)
WeDigBio
Oct 2015 (post-WDB)
Nov 2015
Dec 2015
Jan 2016
Feb 2016
Mar 2016
Timeframe
Boost for digitization

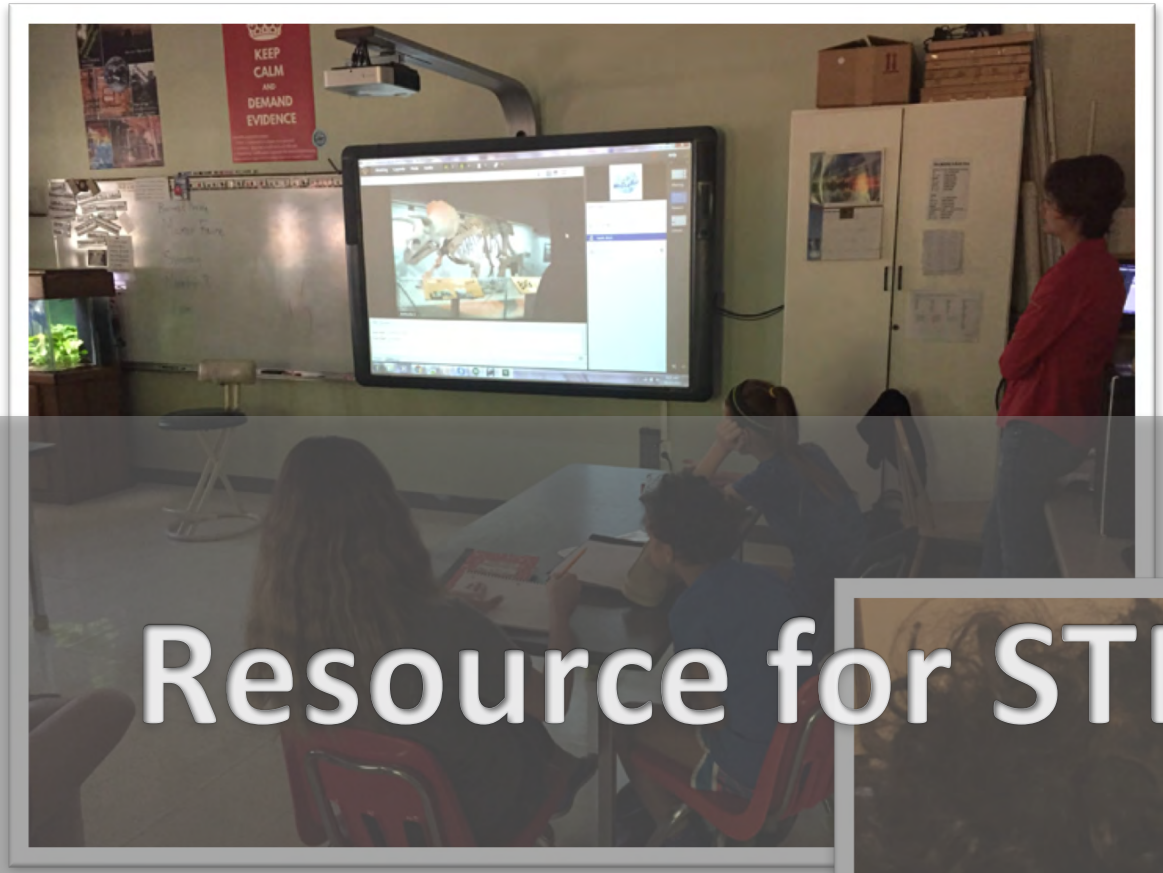


Global stage for biocollections

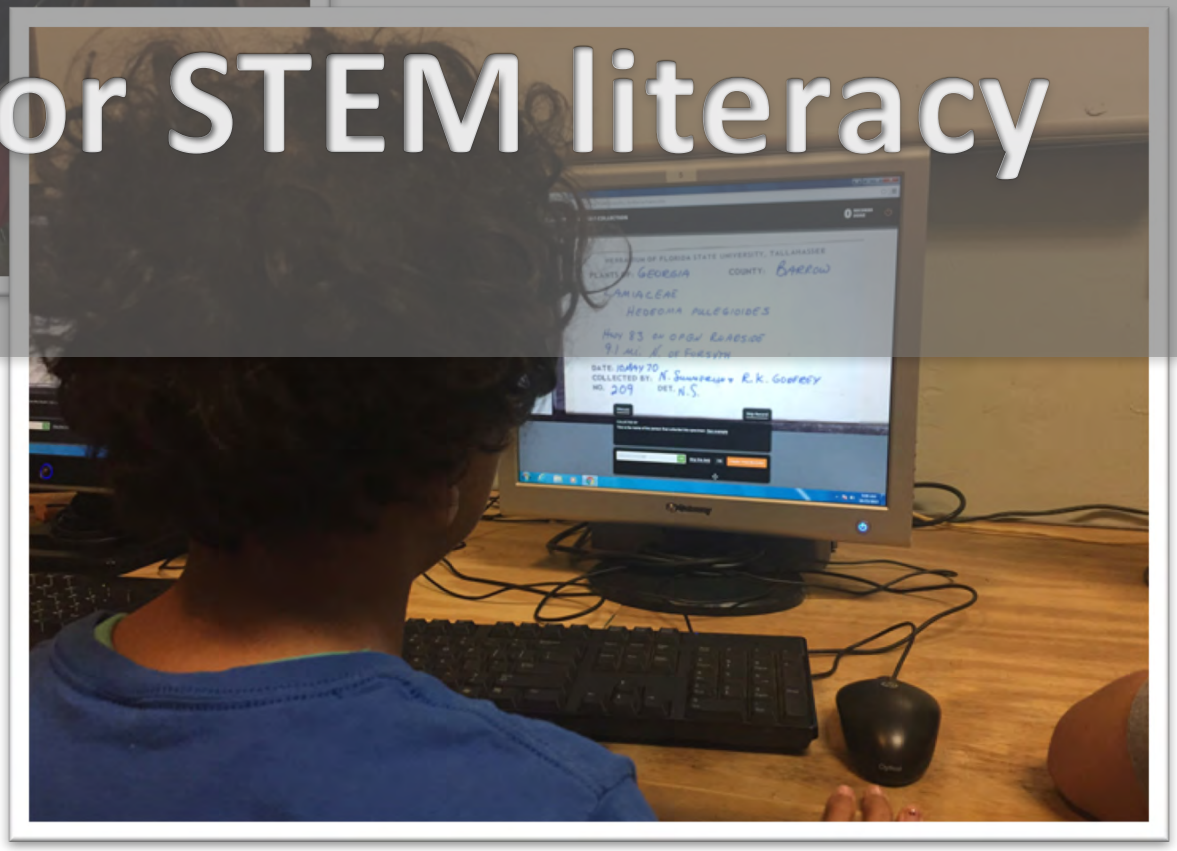
http://www.notesfromnature.org/

Local stage for biocollections

https://www.idigbio.org/content/simultaneous-transcription-blitzes-success



Resource for STEM literacy

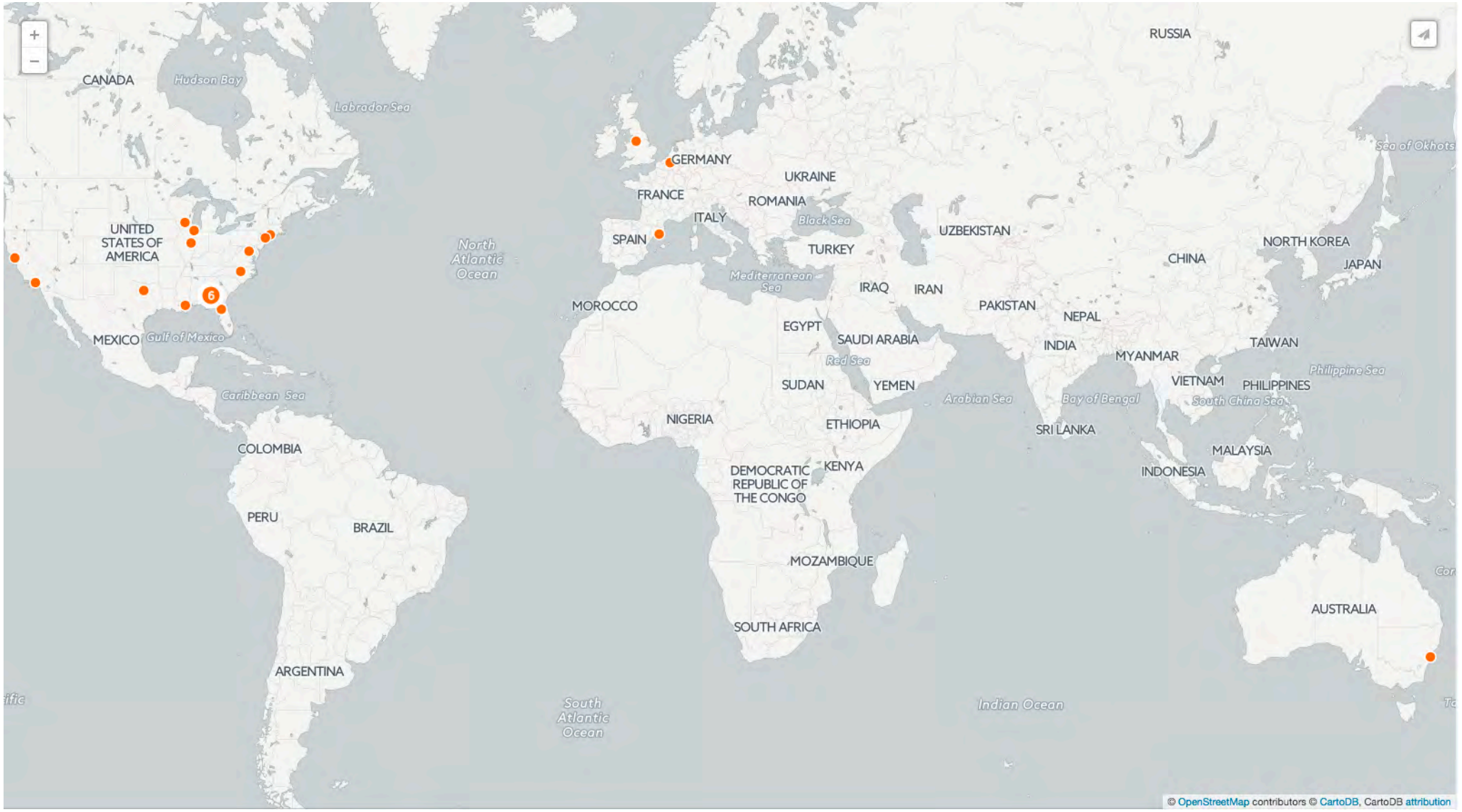


https://www.wedigbio.org/

Media attention

Your invitation

October 20–23, 2016



https://www.wedigbio.org/

https://www.wedigbio.org/

2. For the topics below, please rate your level of awareness now compared to prior to participating in the Blitz.

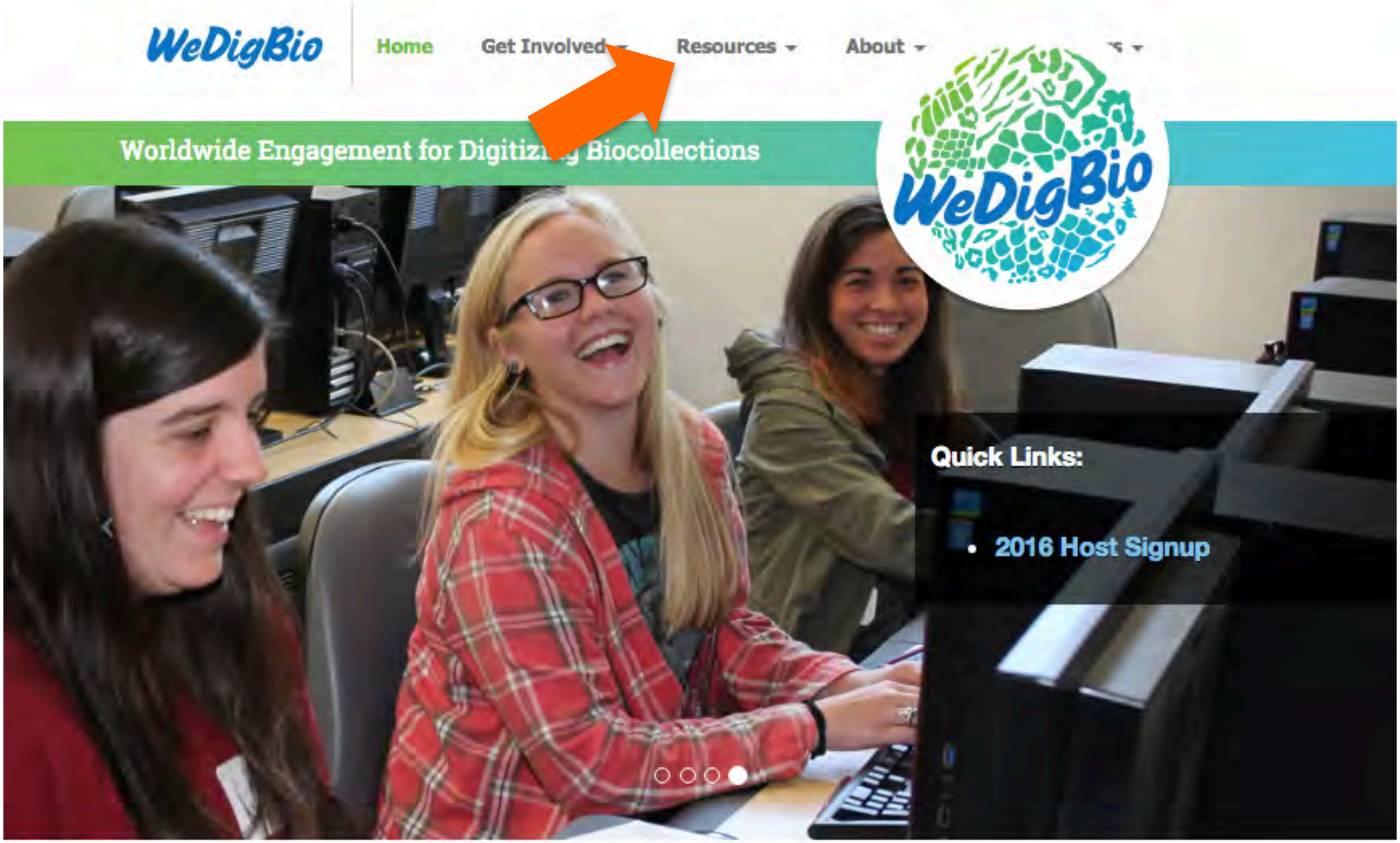
Question	Lower (1)	About the same (2)	Higher (3)	Much higher (4)	Total Responses	Mean
the number of biodiversity specimens held in collections	1	45	61	32	139	2.89
the kinds of biodiversity specimens held in collections	1	52	56	30	139	2.83
the process of transcribing specimen labels	1	35	47	56	139	3.14
the value of biodiversity specimens held in collections	1	41	53	44	139	3.01

Please rate the importance of each of the possible Blitz activities listed below to your overall experience.

Activity	Lecture	Collection Tour	GeoLocator or Timeline Games	Take-Home Item	Bingo Game
Very unimportant (1)	2 (1.9%)	7 (7.9%)	4 (5.8%)	8 (7.4%)	6 (6.5%)
Unimportant (2)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	9 (8.3%)	6 (6.5%)
Neither important nor unimportant (3)	10 (9.4%)	8 (9.0%)	18 (26.1%)	35 (32.4%)	35 (38%)
Important (4)	42 (39.6%)	22 (24.7%)	32 (46.4%)	32 (29.6%)	30 (32.6%)
Very Important (5)	52 (49.1%)	52 (58.4%)	15 (21.75%)	24 (22.2%)	15 (16.3%)
Average Response	4.34	4.26	3.78	3.51	3.46
Total # participants offered this activity	106	89	69	108	92

10. How likely is that you would participate in a Transcription Blitz in the future if given the opportunity?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Very unlikely		2	1%
2	Unlikely		1	1%
3	Neither likely nor unlikely		14	10%
4	Likely		50	36%
5	Very likely		71	51%
	Total		138	100%



https://www.wedigbio.org/

WeDigBio Tasklist and Timeline

Follow the steps below if you will be hosting an onsite event. The dates, tasks, and resources below are intended to serve as guidelines. Details of how you, as an event leader, choose to execute these tasks is ultimately up to you and we encourage you to personalize materials as you see fit.

Questions? Contact us at wedigbio@gmail.com.

	Date	Task Description	Explanations and Comments	Resources
0	Now	Register your event.	Go to wedigbio.org, follow the Host an Event link and fill out the short survey.	
1	Aug	Choose a transcription platform to use during WeDigBio.	Test and decide on an online transcription center: notesfromnature.org, volunteer.ala.org.au, lesherbonautes.mnhn.fr, herbariaunited.org/atHome, transcription.si.edu (or symbiota.org if you are part of an established TCN).	
2	Aug-Sept	Optional: Order event-branded incentive gift.	If a participant incentive includes an event-branded item.	Bran merc comp cafe

Developing and Implementing a WeDigBio Event

The intent of this document is to provide guidance for leaders of WeDigBio on-site transcription blitz events. Other materials are also available on the WeDigBio website, wedigbio.org. Feel free to edit or modify to suit the needs of your institution. This document can be used in conjunction with the Tasklist and Timeline.

Registering my event

- Go to wedigbio.org, follow the Host an Event link and fill out the short survey.

Recruitment

Ideas for how to recruit volunteers for your onsite event and information pertinent to hosting volunteers.

- Local media, e-mail listservs, and institutional communication methods. General Information found in the Media Kit document may be useful for this.
- Facebook, Twitter (@wedigbio), and other social media. Social media content is available in the Media Kit.
- Advertisement at local colleges and universities, senior centers, naturalist and environmental groups, etc.

https://www.wedigbio.org/

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2	Aug-Sept	Optional: Order event-branded incentive gift.	If a participant incentive includes an event-branded item.	Bran merc comp cafe

Budget 20 hours

Developing and Implementing a WeDigBio Event

[illegible] provide guidance for leaders of WeDigBio on-site transcription blitz events. Other materials are also available on the WeDigBio website, wedigbio.org. Feel free to edit or modify to suit the needs of your institution. This document can be used in conjunction with the Tasklist and Timeline.

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- Advertisement at local colleges and universities, senior centers, naturalist and environmental groups, etc.

https://www.wedigbio.org/

Your Name

MORPHOLOGY BINGO

Mark the word as you see it in the specimens you transcribe.

Leaf longer than broad	Red fruit	Grass-like leaf	Tendrils	Tiny flower
Egg-shaped leaf	Red petals	White petals	Lobed leaf	Opposite leaves
Leaf broader than long	Tiny leaf		Yellow petals	Bark
Triangular leaf	Tiny plant	Huge leaf	Huge flower	Roots
Toothed leaf margin	White fruit	Alternate leaves	T	

iDigBio Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History UF

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Your Name

HABITAT BINGO

Mark the word as you see it in the specimens you transcribe.

sandy	swamp	creek	hammock	mesic
scrub	open	peaty	floodplain	woods
pond	lake		roadside	shaded
flatwoods	disturbed	wet	bog	river
ditch	forest	edge	loamy	dry

iDigBio Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History UF

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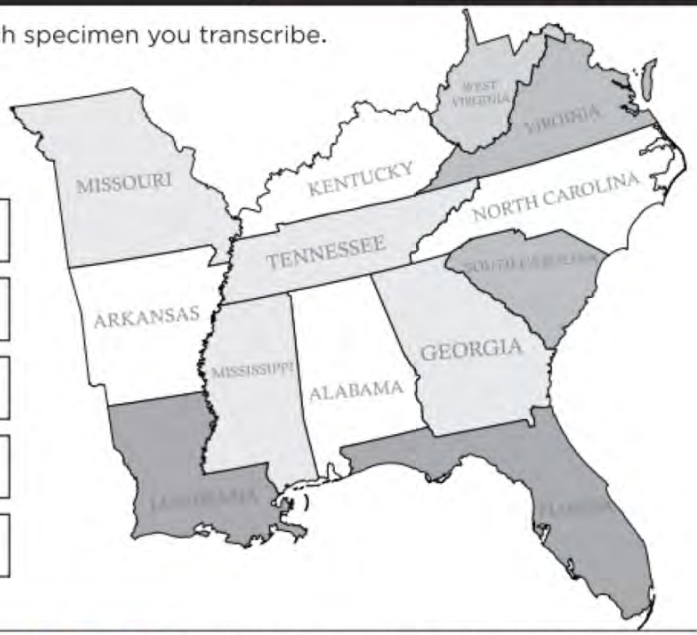
https://www.wedigbio.org/

Your Name

GEO LOCATOR

Mark the collection location for each specimen you transcribe.

Other Locations



iDigBio
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
UF FLORIDA
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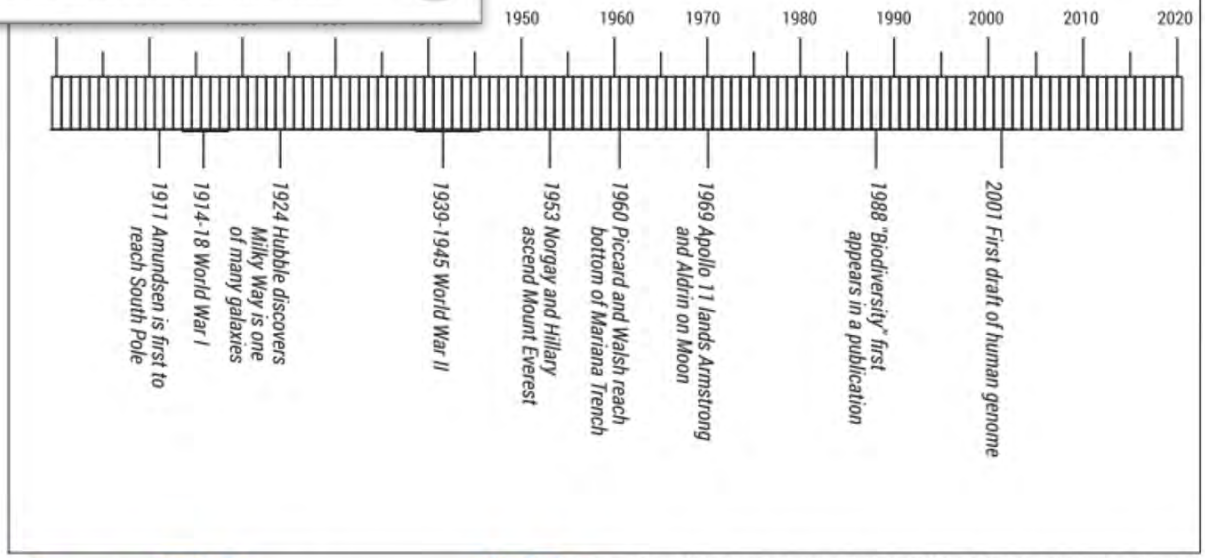
TIMELINE TRACKER

...ecimen you transcribe.



iDigBio
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
UF FLORIDA
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https://www.wedigbio.org/

Liberating Data for Biodiversity Research—the WeDigBio Event
An Undergraduate-level Classroom Exercise in Citizen Science

Learning Objective
The world's 3 billion biodiversity research specimens—bugs on pins, fish in jars, plants on sheets, fossils in trays, etc.—document the what, when, and where of the perhaps 9 million species on Earth. Each is a time capsule, a window to the morphological and genomic diversity for a species at a location at a particular moment in time stretching back several centuries for extant organisms and hundreds of millions of years for fossil organisms. By aggregating data from these specimens we bring into sharper focus historical changes to life on Earth with which to better predict future change. The objectives of this exercise are to familiarize you with the information content of biodiversity specimens and their labels, the breadth of that information across geographic space and/or time, a useful resource for finding biodiversity specimen information, and the value of citizen science contributions. Upon completion of this exercise, students will be able to interpret biodiversity specimen labels, differentiate among categories of label information, relate information on individual specimen labels to information collected by the nationwide community, and construct an aggregate picture of the temporal and spatial extents of specimens based on label data.

Timeframe
We will be contributing to a global event entitled Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) that runs from October 22 to 25, 2015. During those four days there will be many others contributing biodiversity specimen label transcriptions along with us, some in classroom settings, some at parties onsite at museums, and some at their home computers.

Exercise 1—transcribe label data from ten specimens and reflect on what you saw

https://www.wedigbio.org/

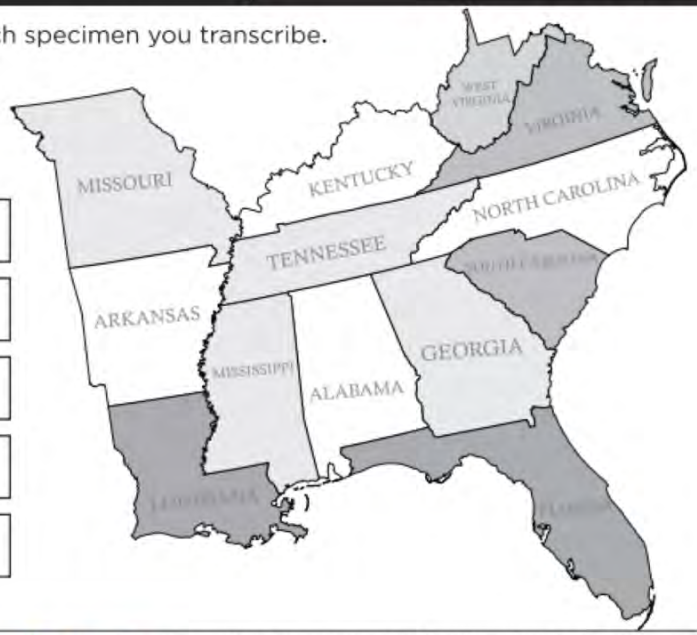
Species ID of Specimen	State/Province (or Country) in which Specimen Collected	Does iDigBio already have a specimen of that species from that location? (Y/N)
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

Your Name

GEO LOCATOR

Mark the collection location for each specimen you transcribe.

Other Locations



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https://www.wedigbio.org/

***** EMBARGOED UNTIL 6 A.M. EST, OCT. 15, 2015*****

Contact:
Austin Mast, Associate Professor
Department of Biological Science
Florida State University
(850) 264-2621
amast@bio.fsu.edu
http://www.herbarium.bio.fsu.edu

Paul Kimberly, Digitization Manager
Smithsonian Institution Natural History
NMNH Collections Program
(202) 633-1854
KIMBERLYP@si.edu
www.mnh.si.edu/rc/staff/kimberly.html

October 15, 2015

LOCAL MUSEUM JOINS GLOBAL 4-DAY EFFORT TO DIGITIZE CENTURIES OF DATA ABOUT LIFE ON EARTH

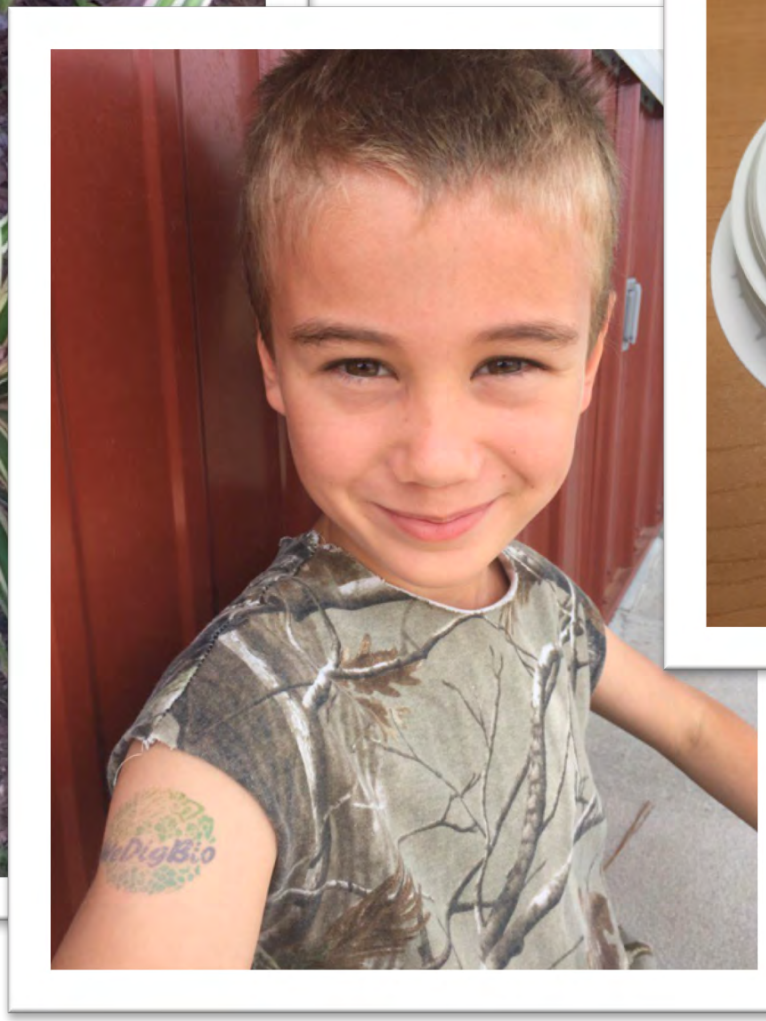
TALLAHASSEE, Fla.— For centuries, scientists have explored and documented the natural world, collecting the billions of specimens lodged in museums, universities, and field stations worldwide. And now, Florida State and other institutions across the globe want to help make that information available to the general public.

But they need your help.

Florida State University's Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium invites members of the public to one of the many transcription parties that will be held next week during the Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) Event. The WeDigBio Event will transform the often handwritten or typewritten data sequestered on the labels of plant, insect, fish, and fossil specimens into an open, globally accessible, digital resource with the help of the public.

https://www.wedigbio.org/

https://www.wedigbio.org/



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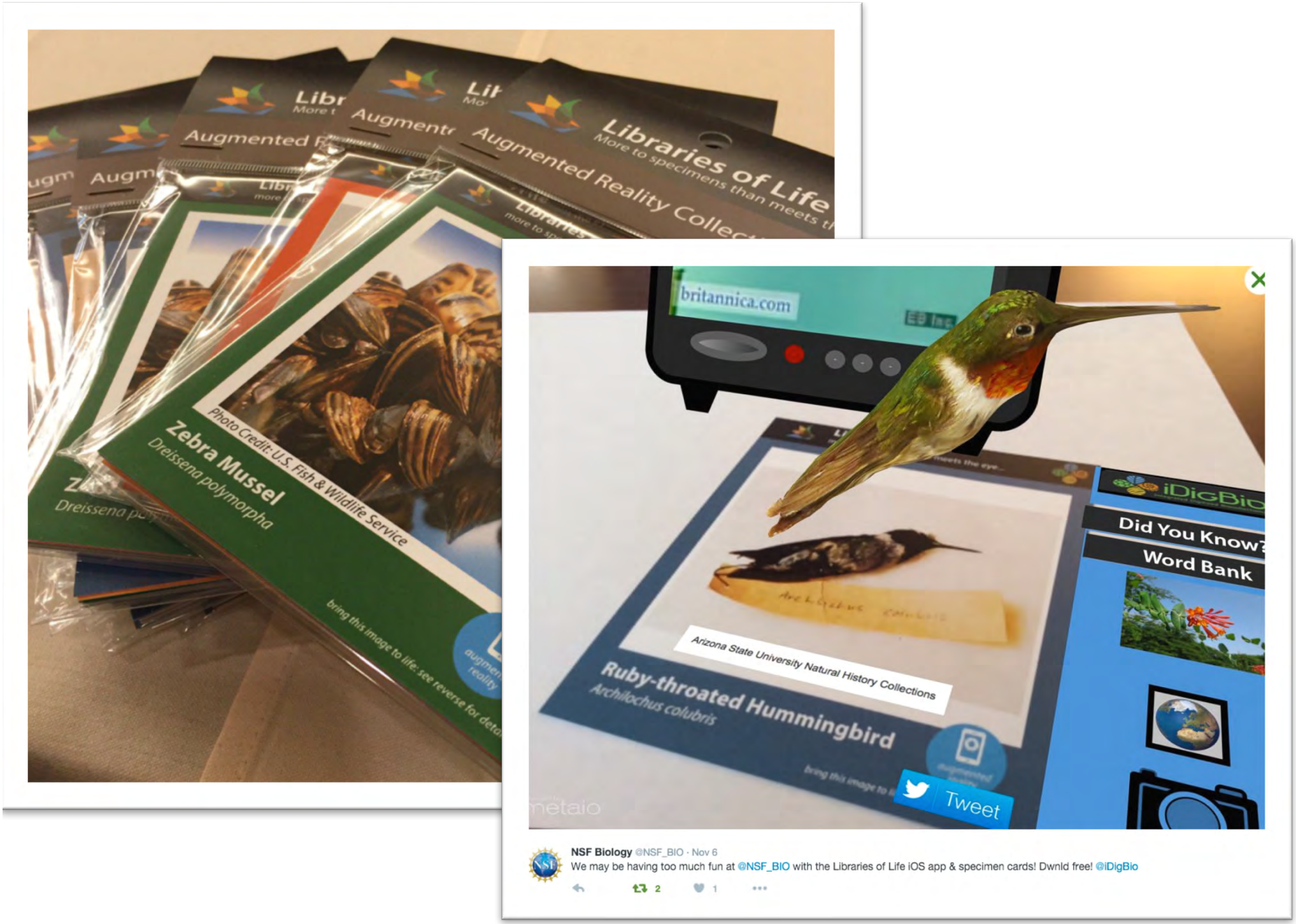
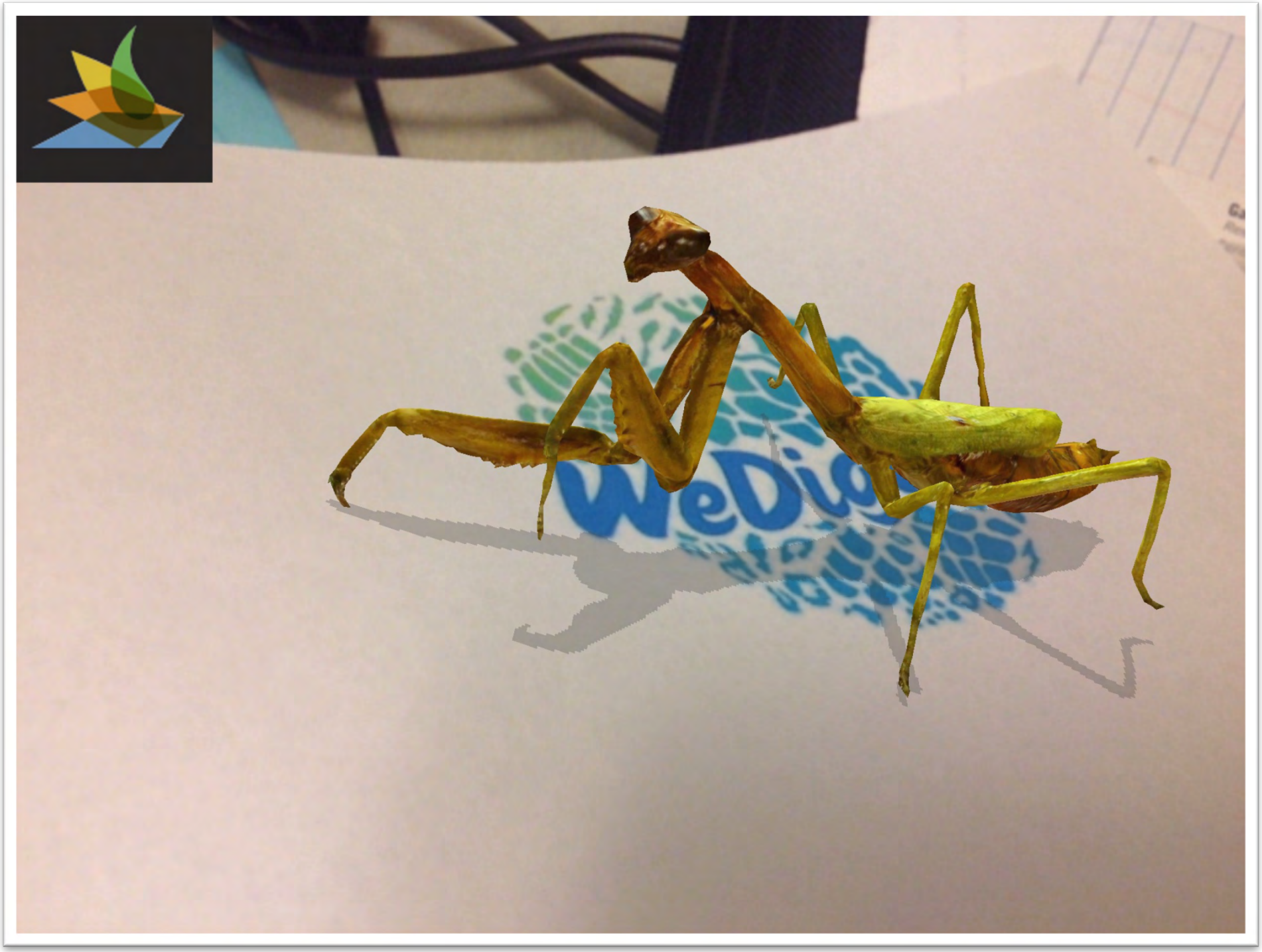


http://www.libraries-of-life.org/



http://www.libraries-of-life.org/

NSCAlliance and 3 others Retweeted

NSF Biology @NSF_BIO · Oct 24

And make sure you check out all the #WeDigBio events this weekend! wedigbio.org @WeDigBio

NYT Science @NYTScience

Out of storage and onto the Internet: a guide to digitized natural history collections nyti.ms/1PHweLV

9 8

NMNH_Entomology and 2 others Retweeted

The Field Museum @FieldMuseum · Oct 24

Since Thursday, we've transcribed over 1,000+ records for #WeDigBio! Here's how you can help remotely: field.mu/TLyBb

4 5

SI Transcription Ctr and 1 other Retweeted

NMNH_Entomology @NMNH_Entomology · Oct 24

Follow along live as @NMNH hosts a live transcription event! #BeeByBee #WeDigBio

SI Transcription Ctr @TranscribeSI

LIVE on #Periscope: WeDigBio at Smithsonian Natural History - #BeeByBee periscope.tv/w/aPu05TF6WUti...

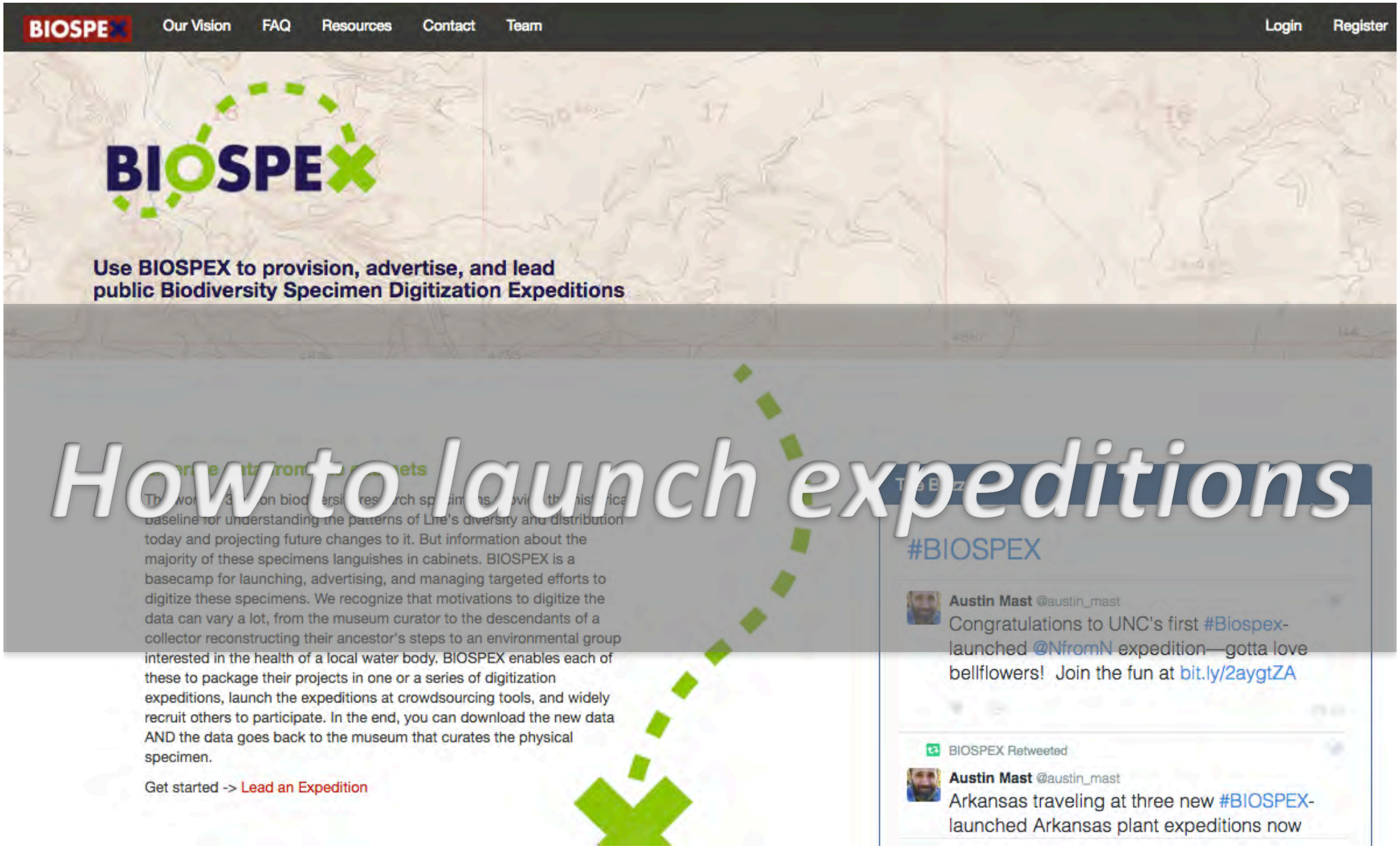
4 4

Higgs Boson4 and 3 others Retweeted

DigiVol @AMDigiVol · Oct 23

Rosie and Rex fighting over who is transcribing for @austmus @atlaslivingaust at #WeDigBio

7 9



http://biospex.org/

http://biospex.org/

Notes from Nature

Completed Expeditions

WeDigFLPlants' Mints of Florida—More than Mojitos
Completed: June 21 2016

WeDigFLPlants' Laurels of Florida—Fight Laurel Wilt
Completed: June 21 2016

CalBug Bee Flies
Completed: June 19 2016

New World Swallowtail Butterflies
Completed: June 28 2016

CalBug Bee Flies 2
Completed: June 26 2016

WeDigFLPlants' St. John's Worts of Florida—Diversity to Lift your Spirits
Completed: July 20 2016

WeDigFLPlants' Rose Gentians of Florida—Beauty from the Center of its Diversity
Completed: July 20 2016

CalBug Bee Flies 3
Completed: July 6 2016

http://www.notesfromnature.org/

WeDigFLPlants

Build the historical baseline for plant diversity and distribution in Florida.

WeDigFLPlants is a collaboration between professional research botanists, amateur naturalists, gardeners, educators, and citizen scientists to build the most complete picture possible of plant distribution and diversity in Florida over the past 200 years. The data for this historical baseline come from archived plant specimens curated by the world's 3,000 herbaria. Each of these specimens includes a label that answers the who, what, when, and where of the collecting event that produced it. Transcribing that label data into digital form and providing that data online at aggregators like idigbio.org and gbif.org makes it available to scientists, educators, natural resource managers, and policymakers addressing societal challenges today and in the future. Today, there are >4,700 species of plants native or naturalized in Florida. WeDigFLPlants is an inaugural interest group associated with the annual Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) Event.

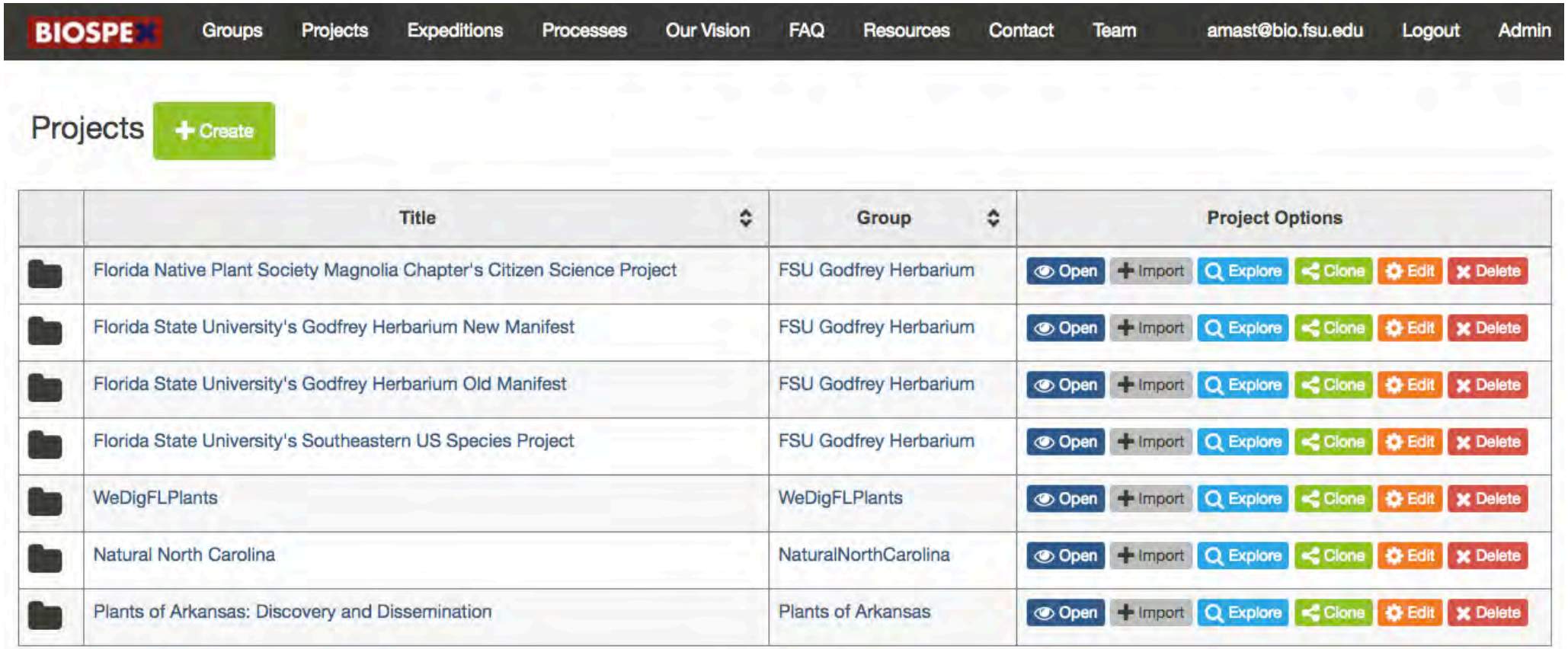
How to Participate

This project has the following active expeditions:

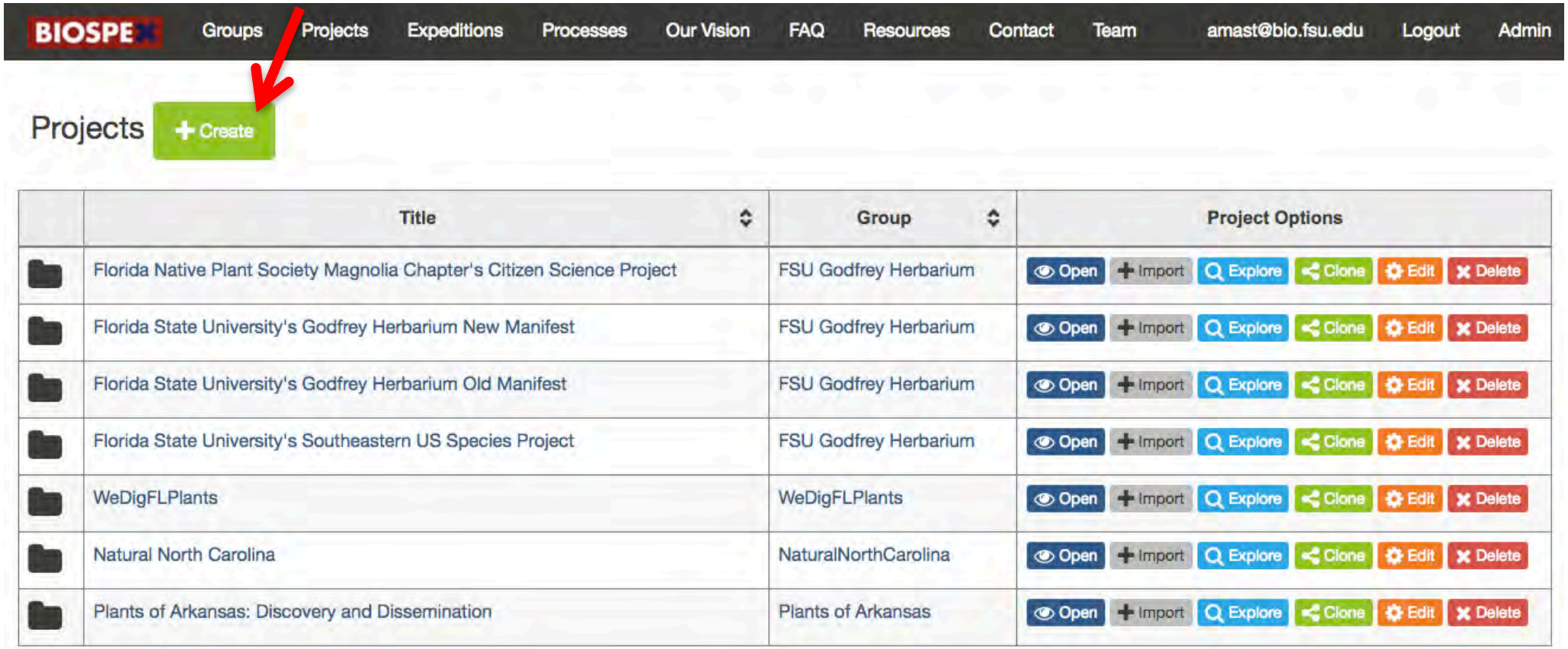
Expedition	% Complete *	Join In
WeDigFLPlants' Mints of Florida—More than Mojitos	100.00%	Notes From Nature V2

Organization
WeDigBio
Contact
Austin Mast
Contact Title
Chief Mobilizer
Organization Website
wedigbio.org
Project Partners
Florida Native Plant Society, The Southeastern Regional Network of Expertise and Collections, The Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) Event, and iDigBio, the US National Resource for Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections.
Funding Source
National Science Foundation under Cooperative Agreement EF-111520 and awards 1458550 and 1410288. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.
Incentives
Local WeDigFLPlants event organizers might provide incentive gifts, such as stickers and temporary tattoos.
Geographic Scope

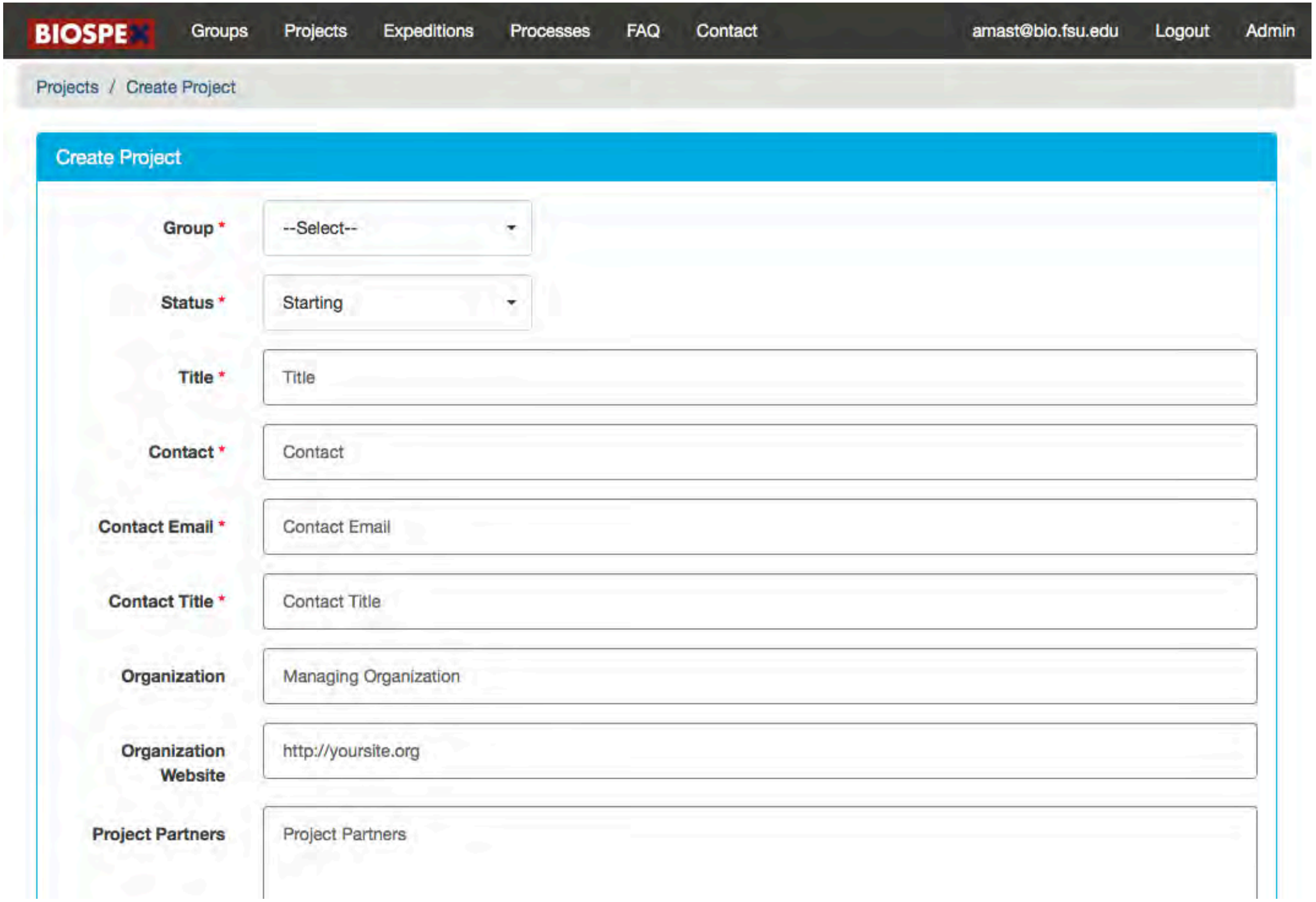
http://biospex.org/project/wedigflplants



http://biospex.org/



http://biospex.org/



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This project has the following active expeditions:

Expedition	% Complete *	Join In
WeDigFLPlants' Mints of Florida—More than Mojitos	100.00%	Notes From Nature V2

Organization
WeDigBio
Contact
Austin Mast
Contact Title
Chief Mobilizer
Organization Website
wedigbio.org
Project Partners
Florida Native Plant Society, The Southeastern Regional Network of Expertise and Collections, The Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) Event, and iDigBio, the US National Resource for Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections.
Funding Source
National Science Foundation under Cooperative Agreement EF-111520 and awards 1458550 and 1410288. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.
Incentives
Local WeDigFLPlants event organizers might provide incentive gifts, such as stickers and temporary tattoos.
Geographic Scope

http://biospex.org/project/wedigflplants

Notes from Nature

Completed Expeditions

WeDigFLPlants' Mints of Florida—More than Mojitos

Completed: June 21 2016

WeDigFLPlants' Laurels of Florida—Fight Laurel Wilt

Completed: June 21 2016

CalBug Bee Flies

Completed: June 19 2016

New World Swallowtail Butterflies

Completed: June 28 2016

CalBug Bee Flies 2

Completed: June 26 2016

WeDigFLPlants' St. John's Worts of Florida—Diversity to Lift your Spirits

Completed: July 20 2016

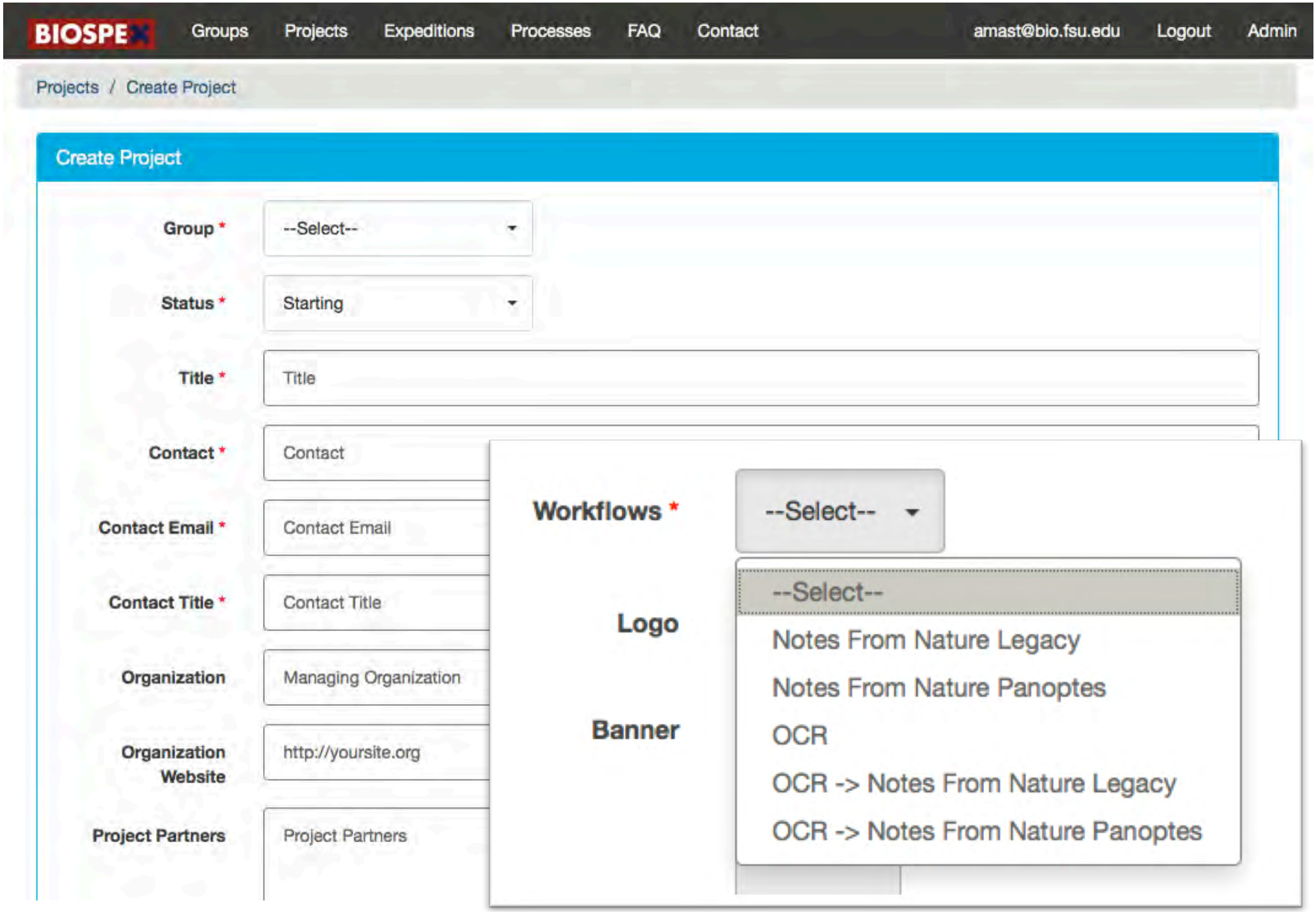
WeDigFLPlants' Rose Gentians of Florida—Beauty from the Center of its Diversity

Completed: July 20 2016

CalBug Bee Flies 3

Completed: July 6 2016

http://www.notesfromnature.org/



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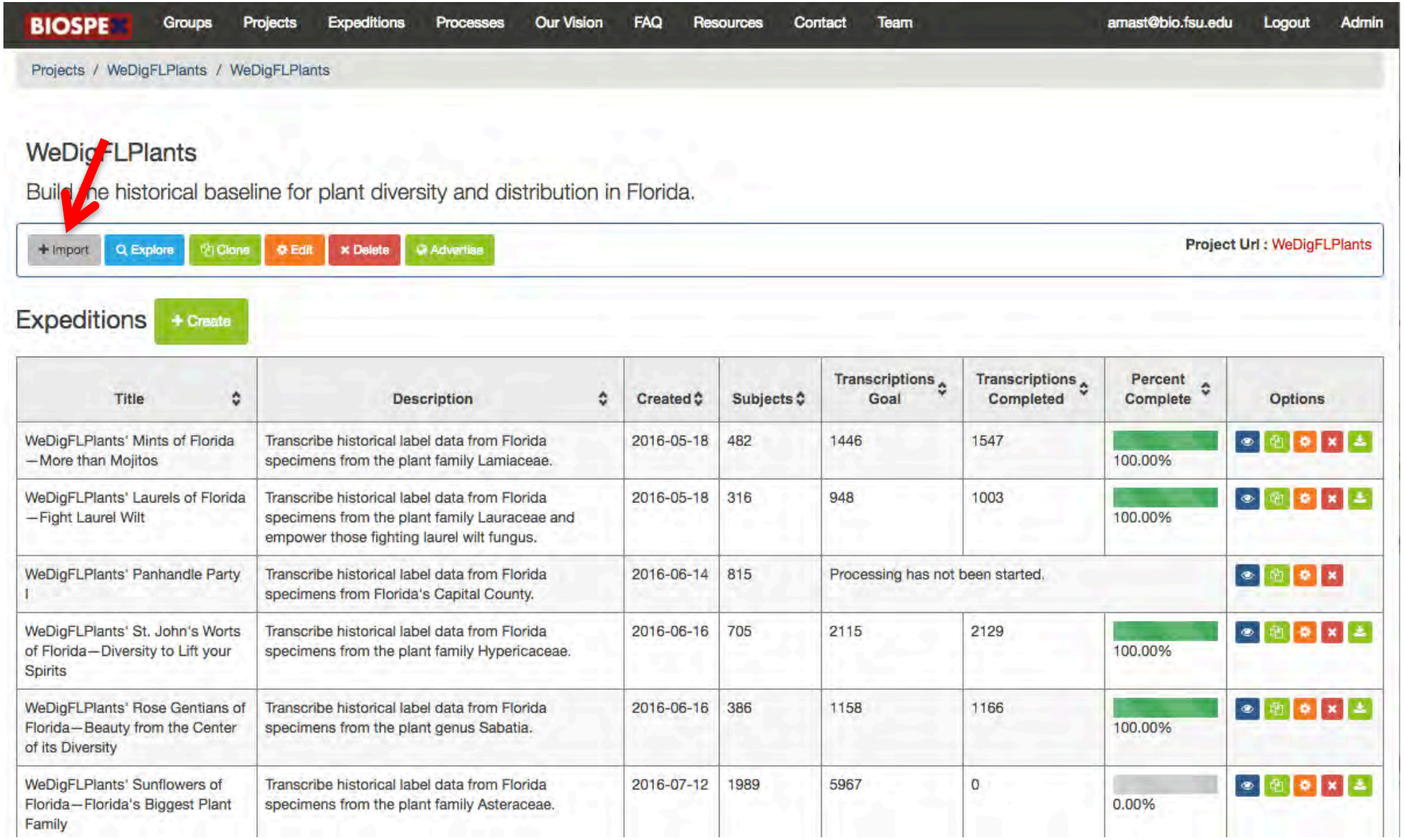

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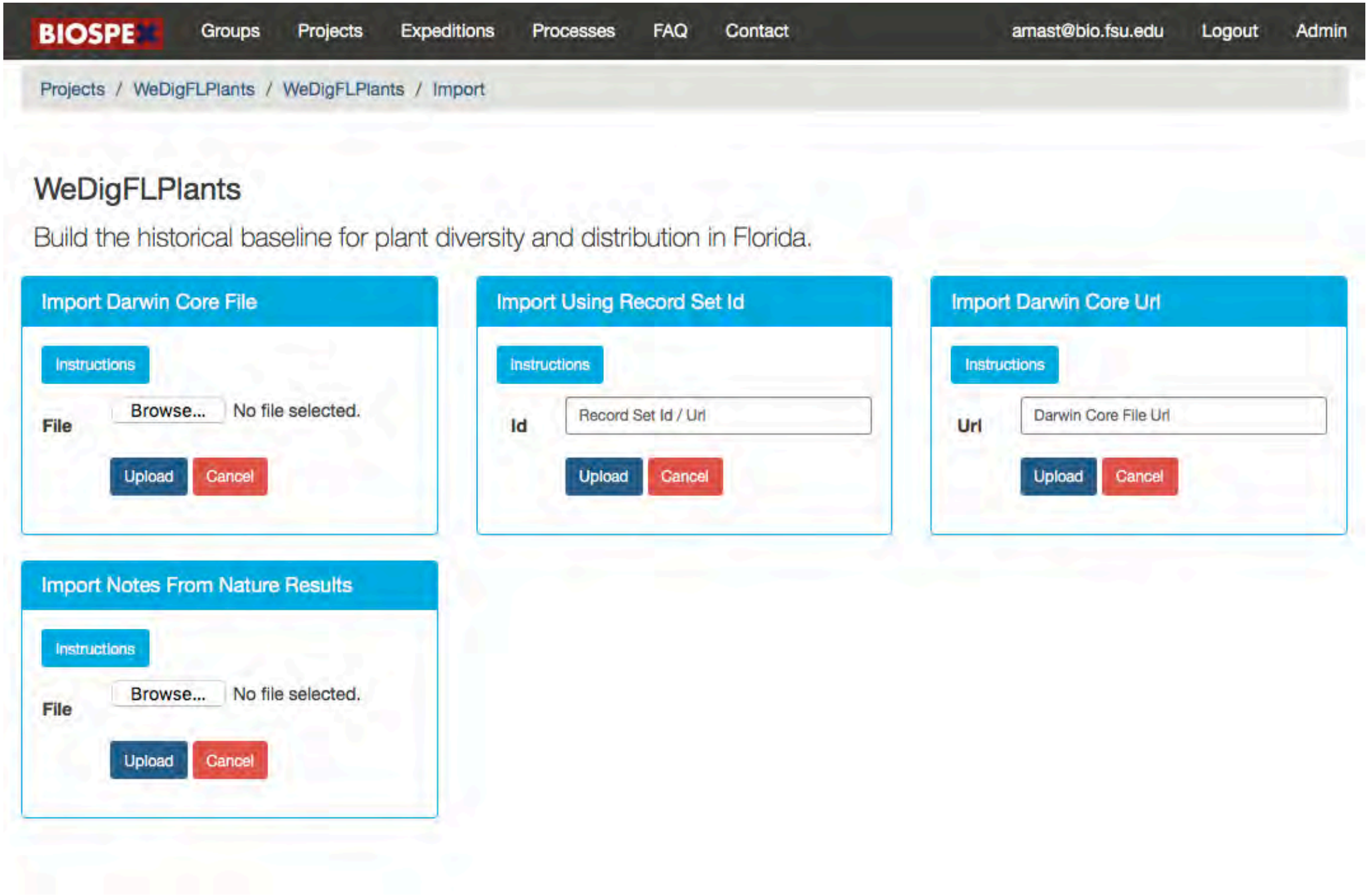

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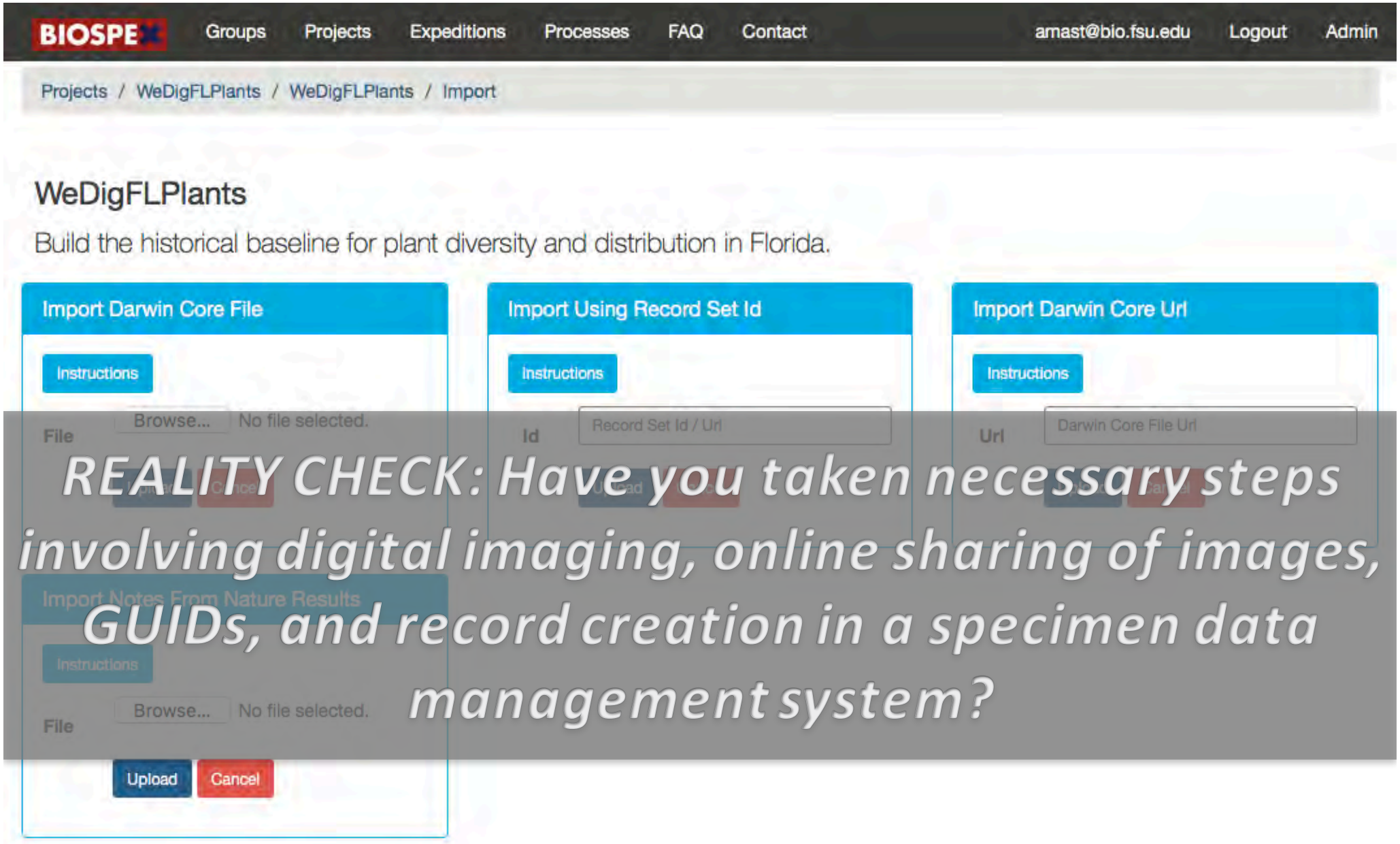


REALITY CHECK: Have you taken necessary steps involving digital imaging, online sharing of images, GUIDs, and record creation in a specimen data management system?

http://biospex.org/

SERNEC

Southeast Regional Network of Expertise and Collections

Home | Search Collections | Map Search | State Floras | Dynamic Tools | Images | Welcome Austin! My Profile Logout Sitemap

Welcome to SERNEC

Herbaria are not simply repositories of plant specimens, they are repositories of a tremendous amount of information. Current technologies provide an opportunity to access this information at an unprecedented scale. The real power of herbaria as research tools can be fully realized when both large and small collections within a broad geographic region are electronically available and searchable.

SERNEC (SouthEast Regional Network of Expertise and Collections) is designed to facilitate this process, by building partnerships, encouraging the utilization of the collective expertise of the network, and assisting herbaria in providing information to the public.

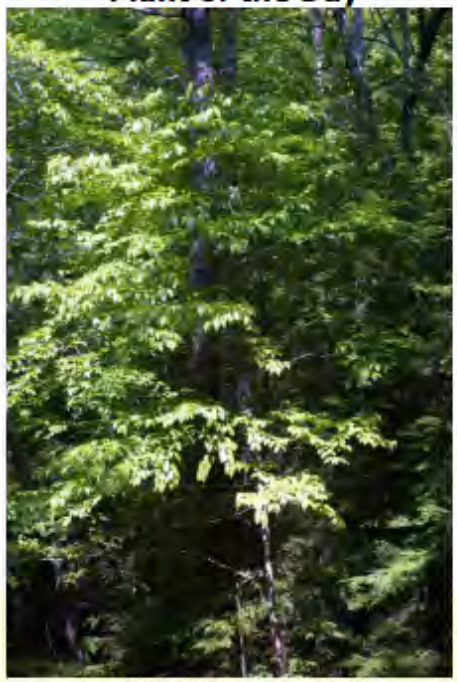
SERNEC is 1) networking the 230 herbaria in 14 states in southeastern North America, 2) developing a strategy for advancing each state's ongoing databasing effort, and 3) working to publish online botanical resources that will be available to scientists, land managers, state and federal agencies, educators and the general public. These data will provide a greater understanding of one of the most botanically diverse regions of the earth and will lead to better research, better management planning and a more well-informed public.

Development of a searchable collective database at a regional scale will provide a powerful research tool, and by combining 150 years of botanical information housed in herbaria in the Southeast with models of past plant migrations and current ecological parameters, we can revolutionize studies in biodiversity, evolution, ecology and systematics. We are also working to link our efforts with those of other regional herbarium groups through the US Virtual Herbarium and with the national biodiversity informatics effort, iDigBio.

Search Collections

General Data Usage Policy

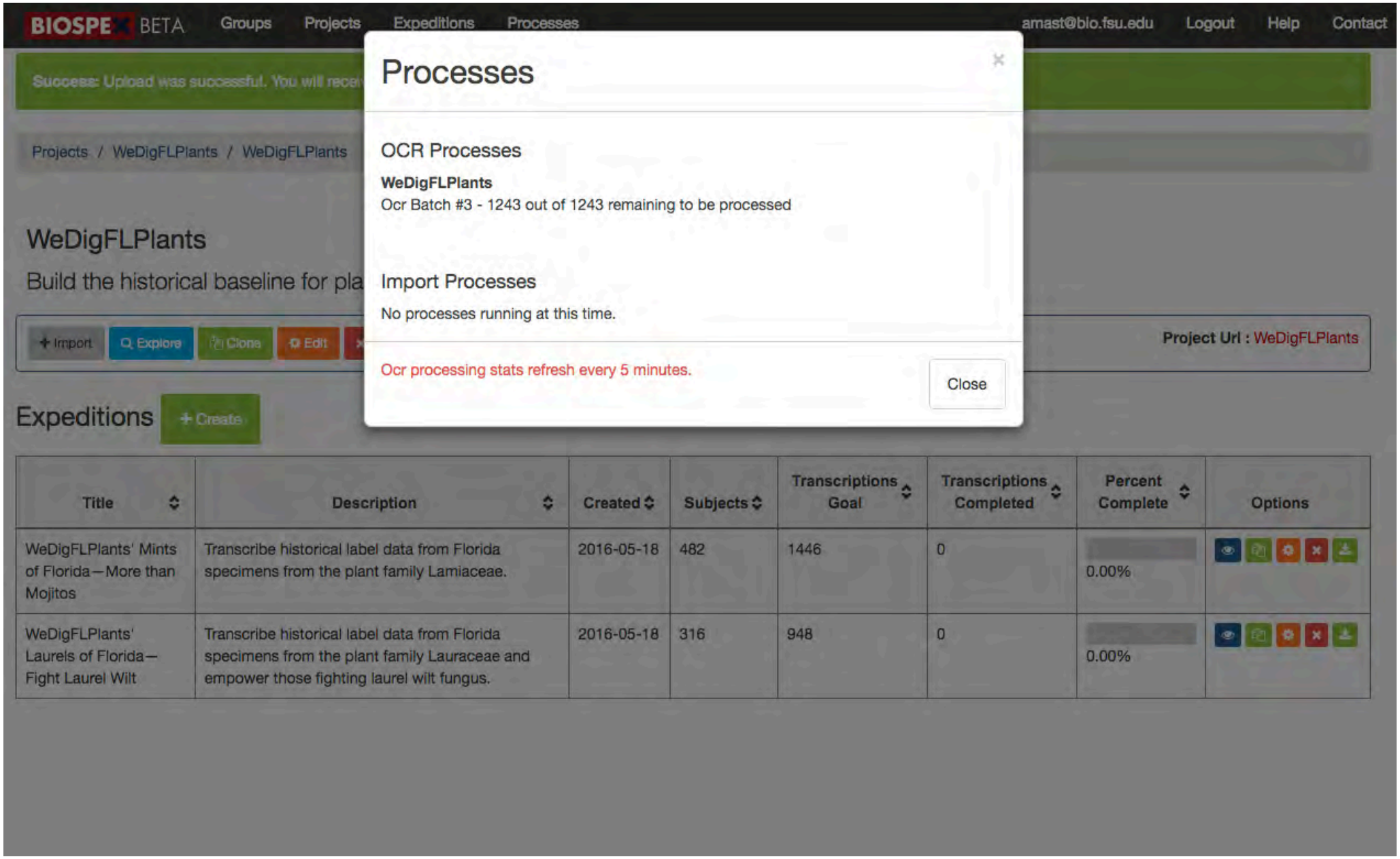
Plant of the Day



What is this plant?
Click here to test your knowledge

This project made possible by National Science Foundation Award 1410069

http://sernecportal.org/



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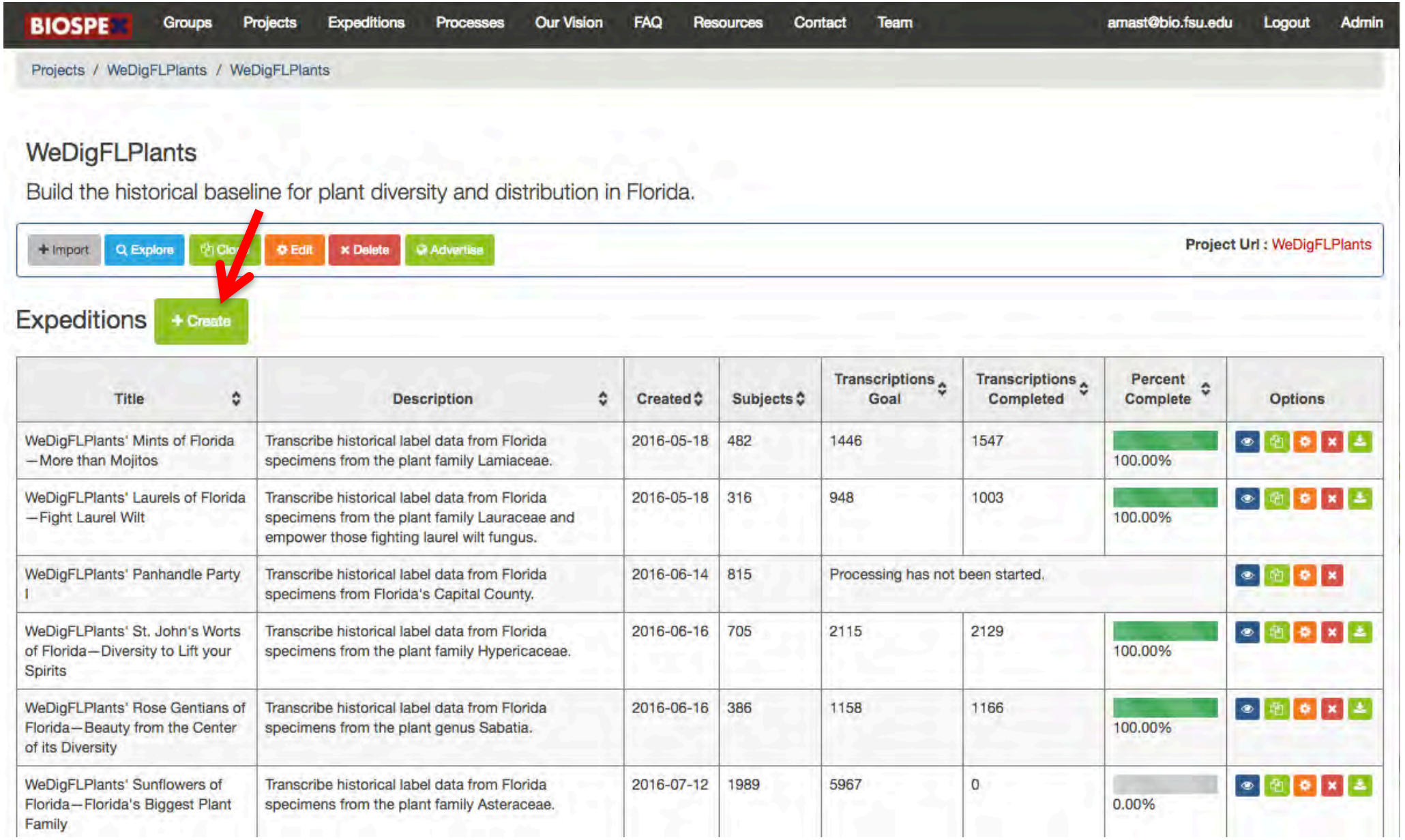

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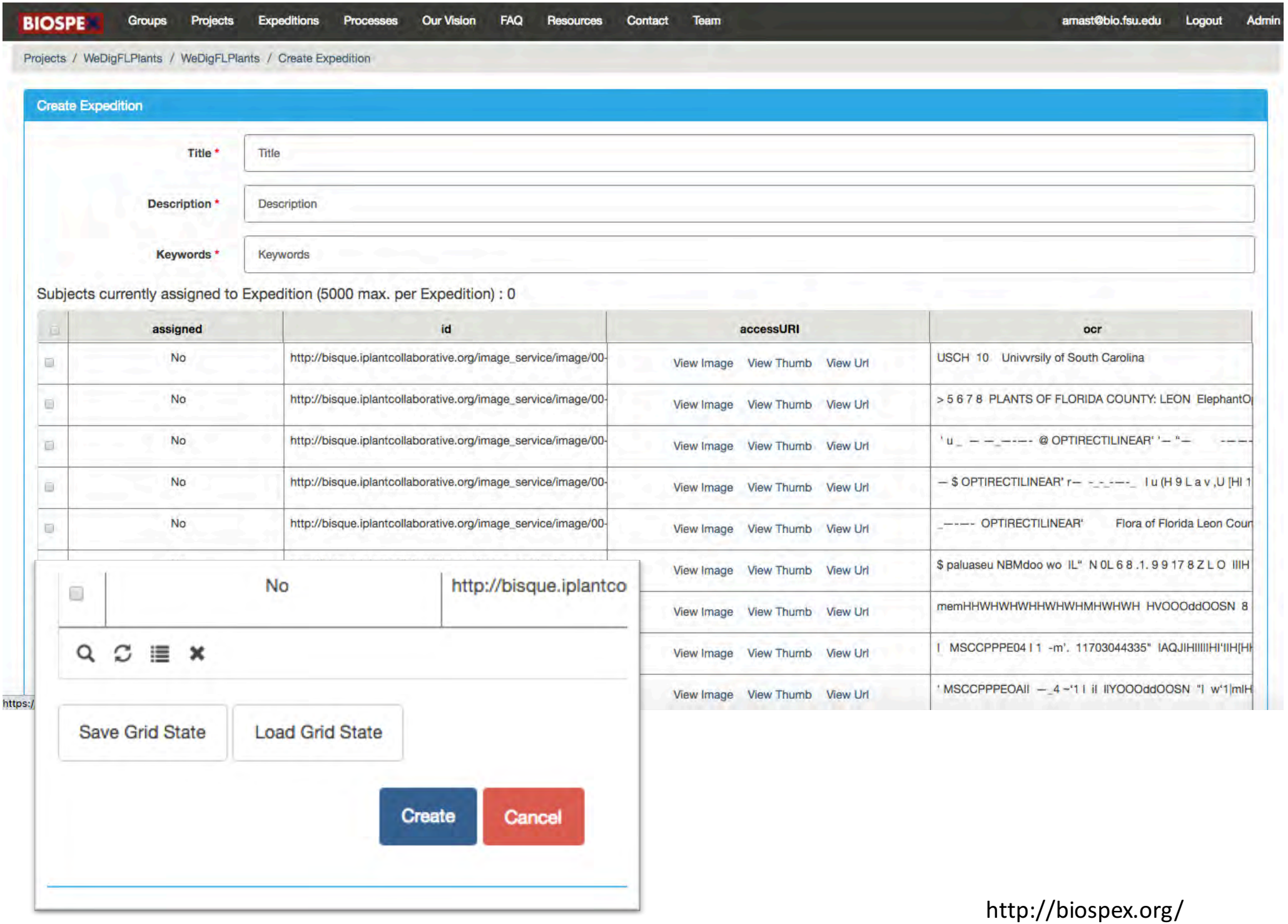

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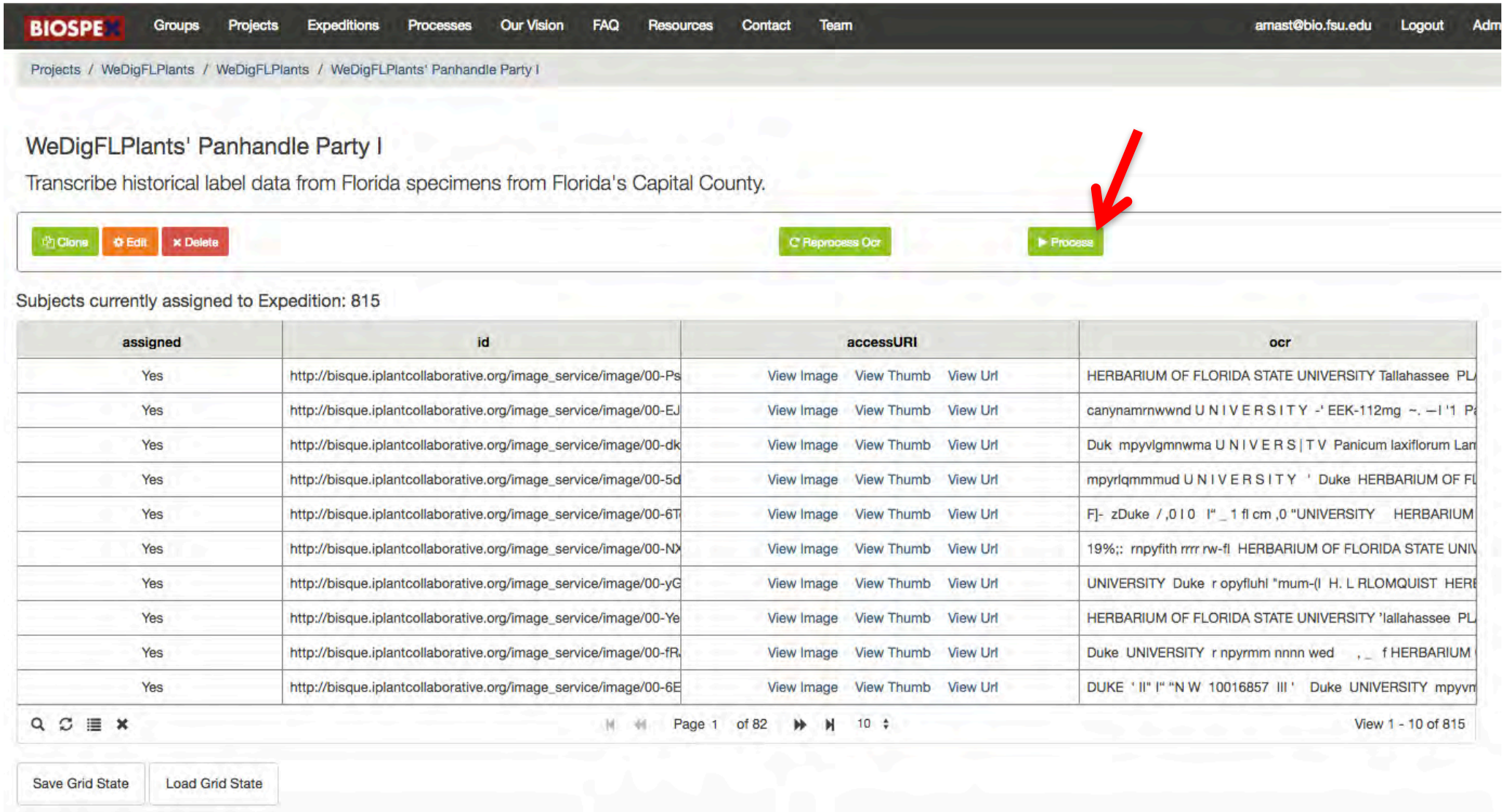

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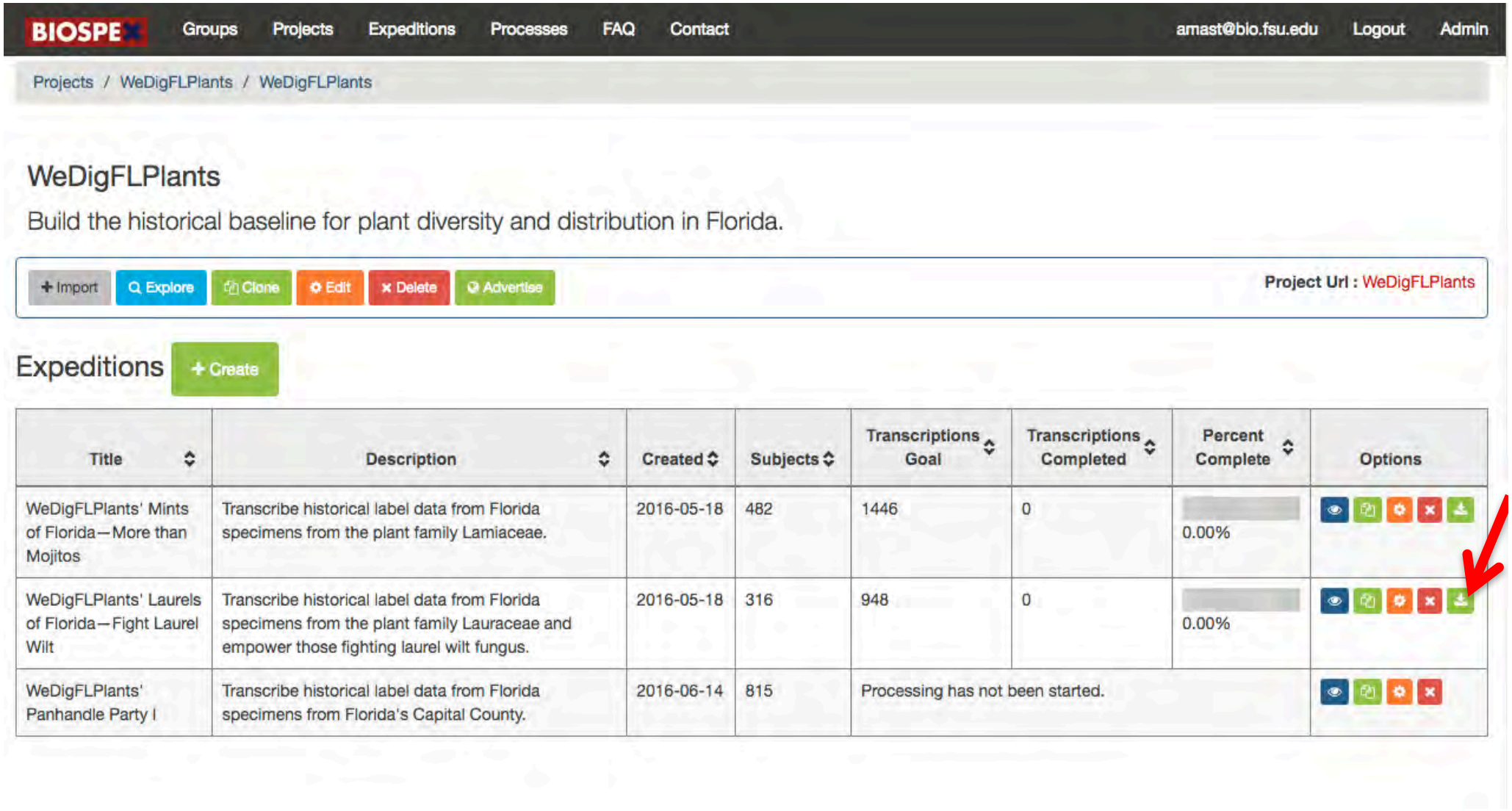

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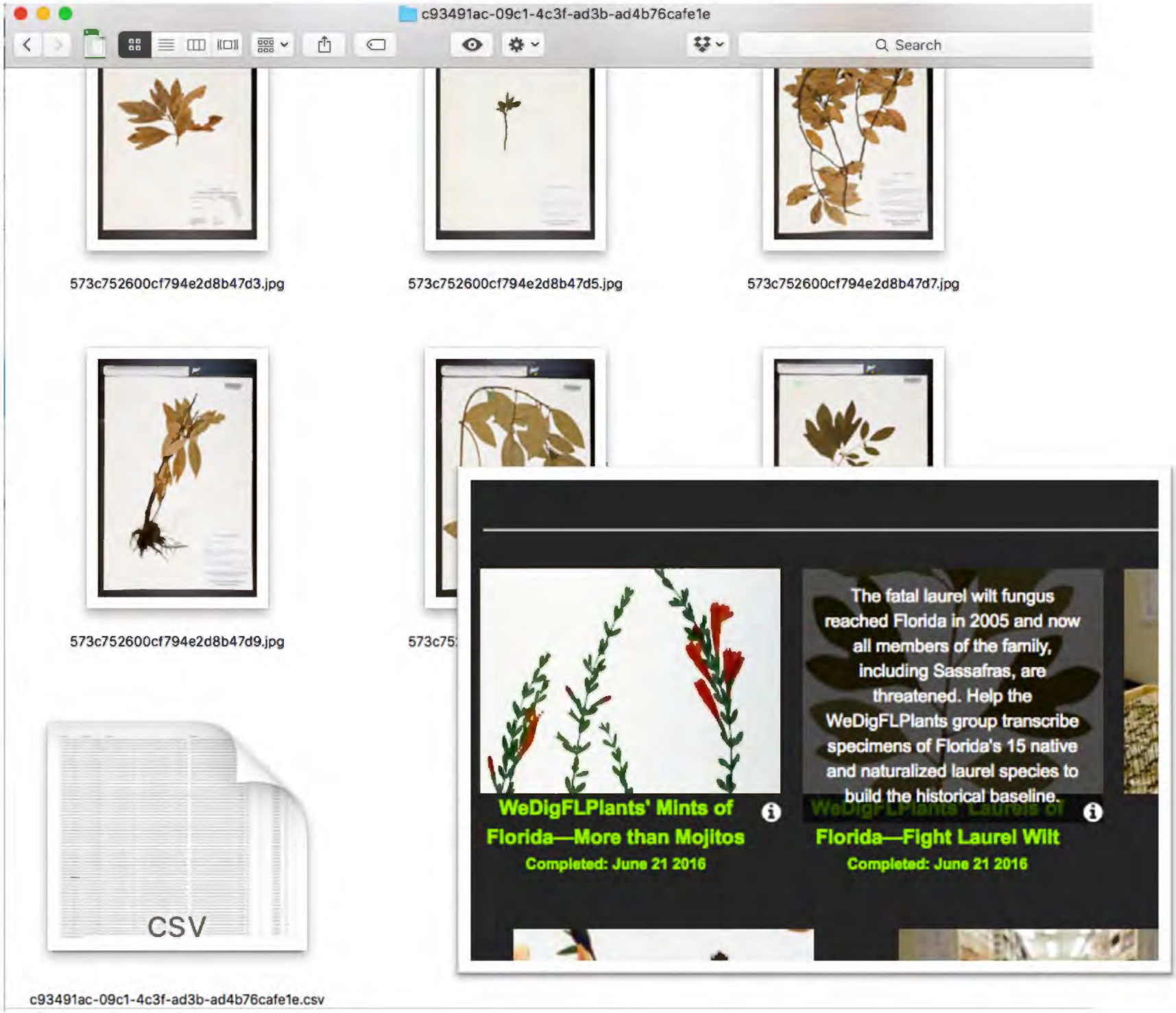
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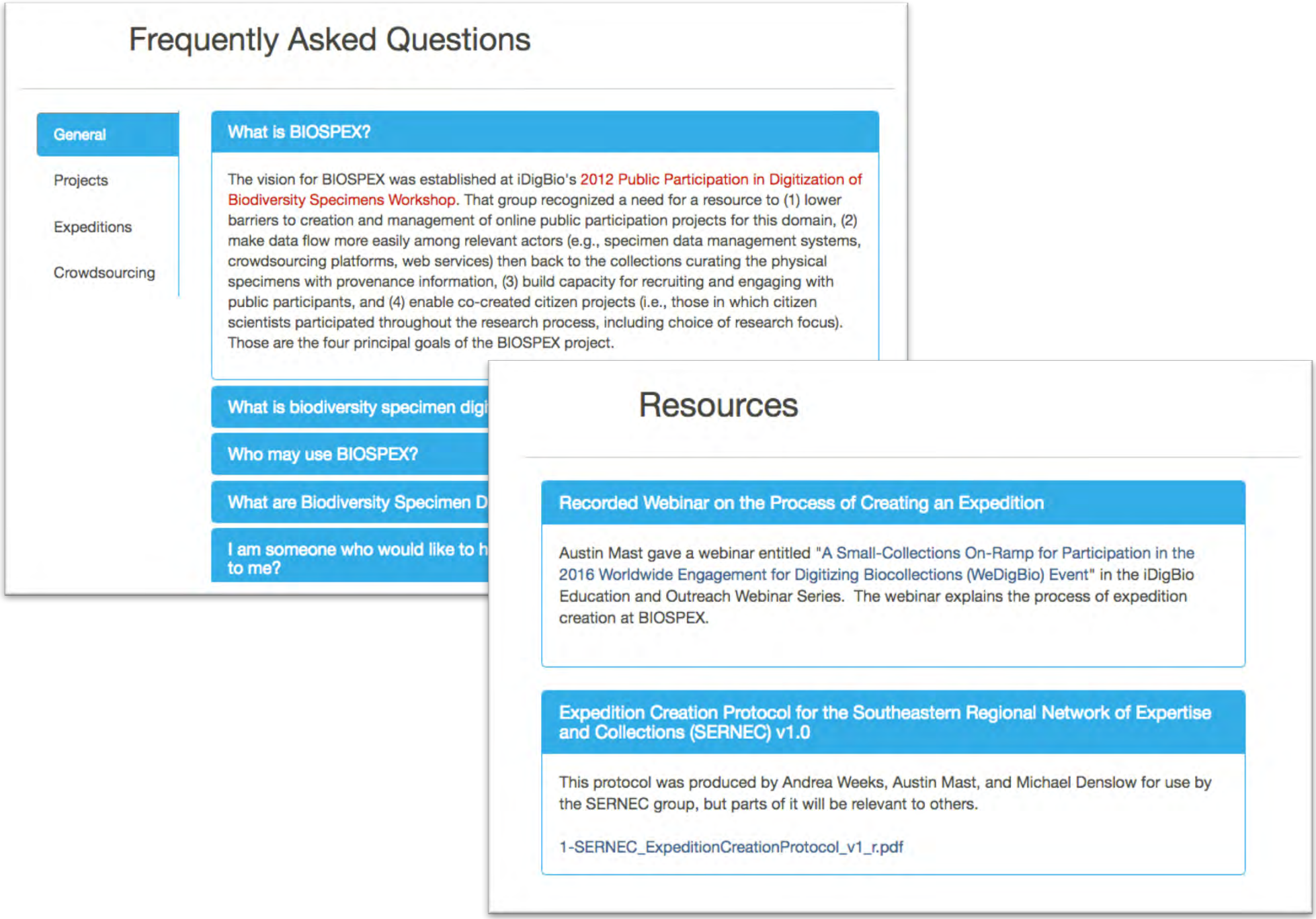
WeDigFLPlants' Mints of Florida—More than Mojitos
Completed: June 21 2016
The fatal laurel wilt fungus reached Florida in 2005 and now all members of the family, including Sassafras, are threatened. Help the WeDigFLPlants group transcribe specimens of Florida's 15 native and naturalized laurel species to build the historical baseline.
Florida—Fight Laurel Wilt
Completed: June 21 2016

My Suggestions

- Start by creating a BIOSPEX project focused on your herbarium.
- Define expeditions in ways exciting to your local community (e.g., specimens from your home county).
- Host a digitization party for your local community or a classroom exercise using resources at wedigbio.org. This would ideally happen during WeDigBio to benefit from that broader media push, but need not.
- Share any resources that you produce on wedigbio.org.



http://biospex.org/

A Small-Collections On-Ramp for Participation in the 2016 Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) Event

Austin R. Mast

Associate Professor, Department o

Director, Robert K. Godfrey Herba

Associate Director, Institute for Di

Scientific Communication

Version 1.0 - July 21, 2016 – Andrea Weeks, Austin Mast, Michael Denslow

Protocol for creating Notes from Nature Transcription Expeditions for the "Keys to the Cabinets" Curator Community

The protocol below assumes that you have made basic decisions about the circumscription of your volunteer engagement project (e.g., the specimens that you will target in collaboration with partner groups like your state native plant society). It makes sense to establish a single project for each partner or group of partners that have the same focus. For example, you might produce a project focused on all specimens collected in your state (irrespective of collection curating them) with your state native plant society and a project focused on your herbarium's specimens (irrespective of location they were collected) for your institution's volunteer corps.

The protocol also assumes that you have successfully uploaded your image files to CyVerse and updated the relevant specimen records in Symbiota with the url at which the corresponding specimen image can be accessed.

STEP A. Register at biospex.org and create a Group.

1) Click Register in the top right at biospex.org.

2) Fill out fields in Register New Account form. The Group Invite Code field permits a user to join a Group to which they were invited. Most of you will not be joining a Group immediately in this way. You would have received your group invite code in an email generated by BIOSPEX.


Worldwide Engagement for
WeDigBio
Digitizing Biocollections
Please join in!

Acknowledgements

I thank my collaborators Libby Ellwood, Rob Guralnick, Paul Kimberly, Paul Flemons, Michael Denslow, Kevin Love, Shari Ellis, Greg Riccardi, and Robert Bruhn, as well as participants in the CITStitch Hackathon, Smithsonian's WeDigBio 2015 Planning Workshop, iDigBio's WeDigBio2016 Planning Workshop, onsite hosts, and the thousands of WeDigBio participants.

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