



CITY NATURE CHALLENGE 2018

SEATTLE METROPOLITAN AREA – RESULTS!

City Nature Challenge 2018

OVERVIEW

Woodland Park Zoo was thrilled to help mobilize people across the greater Seattle area to join a friendly nature observation competition involving 68 cities in 18 countries across the globe!

City Nature Challenge asked: **Which city in the world can find the most species of plants, animals and other living things from Friday, April 27 through Monday, April 30, 2018?**

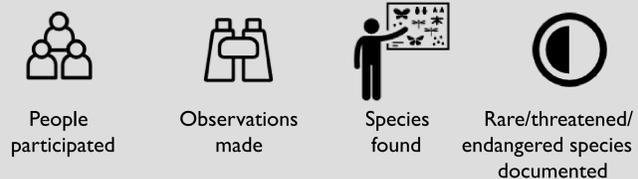
Any observation made anywhere within the **Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma-Everett metropolitan area**, which includes all of **King, Pierce and Snohomish counties**, counted towards our total in the City Nature Challenge.

Like many of the other cities, we used the free **iNaturalist** app to tally results. Participants took photos, identified what they saw and uploaded them to the project on iNaturalist. Participants also helped one another by identifying observations added to our project in iNaturalist.



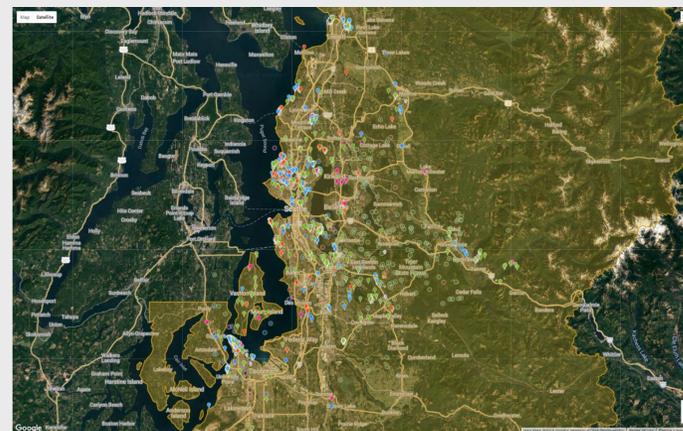
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GLOBAL RESULTS



Observers added **over 100 new species** that had not previously been recorded on iNaturalist EVER (half of these were recorded in Hong Kong!)

City Nature Challenge 2018 was the biggest week on iNaturalist EVER, by far!



Map showing CNC 2018 observations in the Seattle Metropolitan Area (includes Snohomish, King and Pierce counties)

NOTABLE OBSERVATIONS



We increased the number of species logged on iNaturalist in the Seattle area by 130



Ensatina (*Ensatina eschscholtzii*)
observed by mcallkrm
Photo © Kelly R McAllister
<https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/16675112>



Horned grebe (*Podiceps auritus*)
observed by lucasb.
Photo © lucasb
<https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/16457287>



Thick-horned nudibranch (*Hermisenda crassicornis*)
observed by hawnzd.
Photo © Zach
<https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/17157146>



Washington springbeauty (*Claytonia washingtoniana*)
observed by spacecowboy
Photo © spacecowboy
<https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/16846285>

HOW DID SEATTLE DO?

	PARTICIPANTS	OBSERVATIONS	SPECIES
Seattle Area	359	5841	1033
Rank out of 68 cities	14	23	20

Out of 68 participating cities, Seattle:

- **Ranked 11th** in verifiable observations (wild species with photo evidence) that made it to research grade (when more than two-thirds of identifiers agree on the identification)

Out of 6 participating cities of comparable size, Seattle:

- **Ranked 1st** in total participants
- **Ranked 2nd** in total observations and total species observed



We increased iNaturalist participants in the Seattle area by 239!

EVENTS & MEDIA

Several groups held City Nature Challenge events:

- Pt. Defiance Zoo & Aquarium BioBlitz in Pt. Defiance Park (Tacoma)
- SHADOW Lake Nature Preserve BioBlitz (Renton)
- Seattle Public Libraries – City Nature Challenge walks at Wallingford Branch and Green Lake Branch
- Seward Park BioBlitz (Seattle)
- Eastside Audubon publicized CNC on their Event Calendar

Press and Stories:

[Seattle Parks & Recreation – Earth Month Events](#)

[KUOW - Volunteers are counting every species around Puget Sound](#)

[The Nature Conservancy – City Habitats – City Nature Challenge 2018](#)

[Microsoft Stories Feature - Like taking a whole scientific team with you on a walk: iNaturalist helps spawn a generation of citizen scientists](#)

TOP CONTRIBUTORS FOR SEATTLE

RANK	INAT USER	OBSERVATIONS	SPECIES
1	ajwright	335	287
2	hawnzd	310	154
3	kathawk	258	205
4	zeidersbio	254	49
5	ewrunn1ng	223	141

Thanks to everyone who participated!



CITY NATURE CHALLENGE 2019

- April 26 – 29, 2019
- Woodland Park Zoo and Pt. Defiance Zoo & Aquarium partnering to broaden our reach and engagement
- Engage zoo guests in making observations on our zoo grounds
- Working with Seattle Public Libraries, looking towards their 2019 summer learning focus on citizen science