

Maryland Biodiversity Project Highlights

January 2018



Introduction

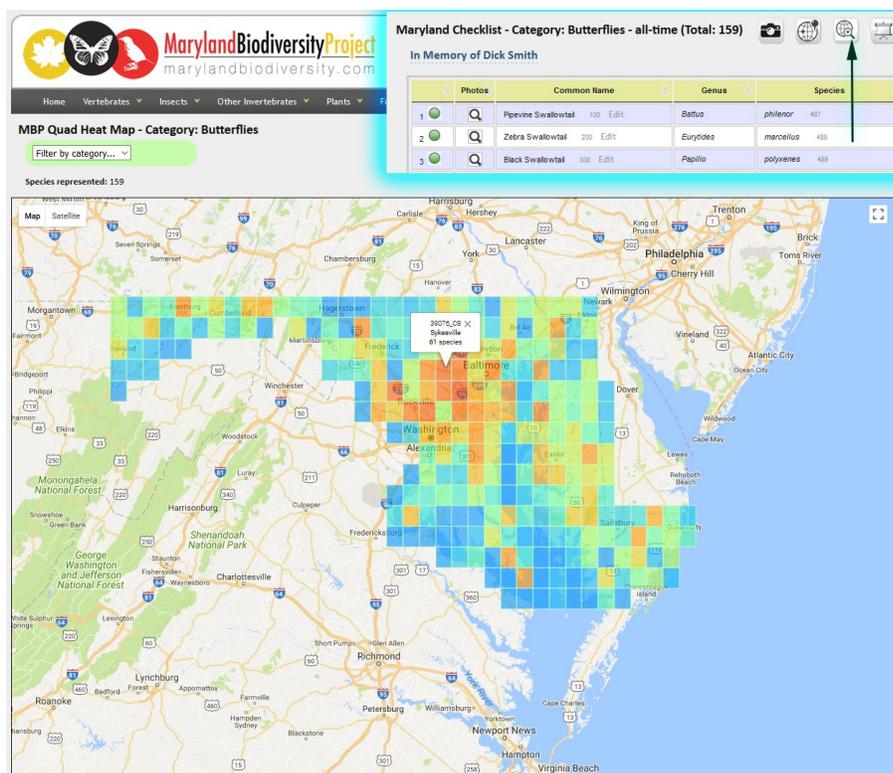
Thank you as always to our incredible team of [contributors](#) and [editors](#)! Below are our highlights from December 2017 and January 2018. We're excited about 2018 and all the good we can do together for science, conservation, and education.

Highlights

- Major milestone - MBP reached 100,000 images archived!
- MBP contributors documented 4,375 species for the project in Maryland in 2017!
- Major functionality addition - You can now explore quad heat maps for any taxonomic level. Where do we have the most data (and, more importantly, the least data) for butterflies, ferns, fishes, or fungi? Check it out (example shows butterfly data):

<https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/quadHeatMap.php?q=0&category=Butterflies>

This option is now available from every checklist and thumbnails page as well.



- Coordinated with Horn Point Laboratory about our 2018 MBP BioBlitz, which we expect to hold the weekend after Labor Day.
- Collaborated with Adkins Arboretum, providing an RTE tag look-up service for use in their Living Collections Database.

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- Collaborated with EDDMapS to make the MBP invasive species data export more useful.
 - Worked with Rick Borchelt to provide handy butterfly data export tools to facilitate compiling lep reports in support of his invaluable Lepidoptera outreach. Be sure to follow his [LepLog](https://leplog.wordpress.com/) this field season! (<https://leplog.wordpress.com/>)
 - We added 69 lichen records for Elk Ridge Native Plant Preserve in Garrett Co., representing 30+ new taxa (J. C. Lendemer, processed by Nancy Magnusson).
 - Completed improvements to page navigation, especially jumping to quad maps, and speeding up editor and final approval functionality.
 - Created a tag look-up service for use in ensuring MBP tags are in sync with the official state S-rankings and other sources.
 - Added the ability for contributors to view personal county and quad lists.
 - Improved security features of the Maryland Plant Atlas web site (SSL/HTTPS).
 - Added the date to Maryland Plant Atlas quad checklists for user convenience.
 - We're delighted to welcome new MBP editors Bill McAvoy and Dwight Johnson.
 - We created a page to honor Dick Smith's amazing contributions to the Maryland nature study community (linked from the all-butterfly and all-Lepidoptera checklist pages).
 - We processed 3,641 records and 2,204 photos, of which 719 photos were taken during the one-month window.
 - "New Stuff" for each month - new state, county, quad, and month records by observer. You can now click any contributor's name to filter by that observer: <https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/services/checkForNew.php?year=2018&month=1>.
 - We wrote daily Maryland natural history posts on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MarylandBiodiversity>) and regular posts on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/MDBiodiversity>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/mbiodiversity/>). Our Facebook posts reached over 40,000 people!

Stats (since last highlights report)

- Species/taxa featured: **17,614** (+126!)
- Species with photos: **9,667** (+165!)
- Total Records: **389,143** (+8,213)
- Total Photos: **100,529** (+6,490)
- Contributors: **920** (+43)
- Facebook Page Likes: **8,694** (+272)
- Twitter Followers: **332** (+47)
- Instagram Followers: **352** (+106)
- Photos in the MBP Flickr queue: **1,323** (-926)

Donations

Donations are greatly appreciated and help keep up project growth and momentum. Click "Donate" in the top-right corner of any MBP page.

Tags

#marylandbiodiversityproject | #marylandplantatlas | #winter | #january | #marylandbirds | #citizenscience | #marylandinsects | #marylandbirds

Suggested Citation

Hubick, William J., and James D. Brighton. 2012-present. Maryland Biodiversity Project. Website. Available at: <https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/>.

Photo Credit

This month's cover photo shows a Snowy Owl on Assateague Island by Scott Houston.

