

## Help for reporting wildlife observations using a WDFW browser-based, (Geo)Form

Reporting wildlife observations with a WDFW survey form is a fairly simple, 3-step process: 1. Provide details of your observation 2. Report your location on the map 3. Submit your observation.

However, depending on the device you are using (phone or computer), the operating system (Windows, Android, iPhones) and the default browser for your device (Firefox, Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari, or no-name/OEM), there may be some complications to this submission process. Below are some details of these issues and some suggested work arounds if you are having problems submitting data.

### Data use charges:

- If your cell plan has limited data and you are charged for overtime data use be aware that this form can use a lot of data.

### Does this form work on iPhone, Windows and Android phones?

Yes. This is a browser-based form (no app to download) that should work well with most internet browsers, regardless of the operating system.

### Does this form work on both computers and tablets?

Yes. This form should work on most devices and is suitable for reporting a wildlife observation at the time of the observation (in the field) as well as back at your home or office on a personal computer.

### Trouble accessing the form or slow response and time-out:

- This form works best with good reception, so Wi-Fi or 4G will reduce slow load times, submission “timeouts” and other glitches.
- At this time, there is only limited “offline” (no cell reception) capabilities for these forms, so it is recommended that you wait until you have good reception to report a wildlife observation.

### When I click the "Locate Me" button I get an error message: "Location could not be found"

- Sometimes your browser gives you a pop-up and asks if you want to share your location. If you don't click this, an error will appear. Choose “Share your location” to continue. If you are given the option, choose “Allow Always” instead of “Allow Once” so that you won't have to choose an option every time you try to submit a new observation.
- If you are still having problems with the “Locate Me” option, then try going into the settings of your device and/or your browser and ‘allow’ your device to find your location. The actual location of this option may vary depending on your device, OS and browser.
  - For iPhones with the Safari browser: Choose Settings on your phone and then you should have an option in Privacy called Location. It may say ON, but if you expand

that list, you can turn on location services for individual apps/browsers. For example, for iPhones, the Safari browser must be turned on.

- For Android phones: Choose Settings, then Location and turn the option to “ON”
- For the Chrome browser: Choose Settings (not your device’s Setting but the menu options once your browser is open), then Location, then switch from “Blocked” to “Ask before accessing”.
- If you are unable to fix the issue with your current browser (especially no-name browsers that might come pre-installed on an Android phone), consider installing and using a different browser than what is the default on your device. Popular browsers such as Safari, Internet Explorer, Chrome and Firefox will all provide better results.

**“Locate Me” isn’t accurate:**

- The “Locate Me” accuracy will depend on your phone’s GPS quality and the cell reception.
- There may be also a setting on your device that allows you to switch to a higher degree of location accuracy (at the expense of more rapidly reducing the battery charge).
- If the location does not appear correct, try tapping “Locate Me” again to see if the location improves.
- You can manually adjust the location by clicking or holding down on the location icon and dragging it to a new location with your mouse or finger.
- In the right upper corner of the map you’ll see a small box that says “Imagery with Labels”. Click, or double click on this box to change the map to aerial imagery. It may be easier to see where you are on the aerial imagery and judge if the map location should be adjusted.