

# The Wikipedian in Residence Project of Naturalis Biodiversity Center

May – November 2015

## Report

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Project manager: Maarten Heerlien, Naturalis



*Hornbill (Rhyticeros cassidix), unknown author, Natuurkundige Commissie*

### **Summary**

Naturalis Biodiversity Center commissioned a Wikipedian in-residence project which ran from 1 May up to 1 November 2015. The aim was to make biological multimedia and knowledge available to a global audience via Wikimedia platforms and to stimulate their use. A total of 276,531 photos and videos (including some derivative works created by other Wikipedians, the volunteer editors on Wikipedia) were added to the Wikipedia image bank for about 21,000 biological species. As of May 2016, 3,170 media files have already made their way to 3,940 articles on Wikipedia's in 37 languages, which used 1.2% of the donation in articles. Wikipedia articles with an image from this donation obtained 5.0 million page views (clicks) worldwide up to 1 February 2016. The use of these free images outside of Wikipedia on the internet and other media has not been investigated, but will be considerable. Around 75 (non-unique) staff members were reached through meetings about Wikipedia and the donation from Naturalis. Tekla Boersma, staff member of Naturalis, was trained to continue the project. An overview of the activities and donated images can be found on the project pages within Wikipedia<sup>1</sup> and in the image library Wikimedia Commons<sup>2</sup>.

*All photographs in this report are part of the Naturalis donation or are released edits thereof. If no license is indicated, they are copyrighted under Creative Commons CC-0. This report falls under CC-BY-SA-4.0.*

## CONTENTS

Summary	
Introduction	2
Results	3
Software	3
Collecties transferred to the image database Wikimedia Commons	3
1. Method	3
2. Kawahara Keiga's Japanese flora and fauna (1823-1829)	4
3. Oudemans's mites	5
4. Icones botanical art	6
5. Herbarium leaves of types	6
6. Threatened and extinct birds	7
7. Bird drawings from the Nederlands Indies	7
8. Skins of songbirds	8
9. Molluscs	8
10. Small mammals	9
11. Museum photographs	10
12. Other photographs	10
User statistics	10
Education about Naturalis and Wikipedia	11
Edits on Wikimedia platforms	11
Recommendations	11
Collections to upload – Publicity – Contact with Wikipedia community	11
Acknowledgements	12
References	12
Comments on Wikimedia platforms	12



*Skeleton of an orca (Orcinus orca) hung from the ceiling of the Naturalis Atelier, Henk Caspers/Naturalis CC-BY-SA-3.0. This cut-out features in the Wikipedia article Killer whale which was viewed 121.357 times in December 2015.*

## ***Introduction***

In recent years, Naturalis has digitized millions of objects from its collection, to serve both their own collection managers and researchers and the general public worldwide. The resulting scans are made available free of charge via various platforms, including Bioportal.naturalis.nl. In order to further increase accessibility and reuse of these digital materials, Naturalis also wanted to offer files via Wikipedia websites (the Wikimedia Commons image bank). To this end, it commissioned a Wikipedian in-residence project from 1 May to 1 November 2015, which also provided information to staff and others about working on Wikipedia.

The project was supervised by Naturalis project leader Maarten Heerlien (Sector Public and Market) and further members of the Steering Committee Dr. Marian van der Meij (ICT Sector, Head of the IM Department), Caroline Pepermans (Sector Collection, Head of the Library, Media Library and Geological Collections) and Esther Herberts later Astrid Kromhout (both Sector Public and Market).

A similar Wikipedian in residence project was conducted in 2013/2014 at the Museum of Natural History and the Science Museum in London<sup>3</sup>. The emphasis there was placed on providing information on Wikipedia and providing Wikipedia writing courses for various target groups including external institutions.

## ***Results***

### **Software**

At the request of Naturalis, custom templates were written in Mediawiki software for biological-historical metadata (Template: Biohist) and for the easy changing of all links from Wikimedia Commons to original media files in the Medialib websites of Naturalis (Template: Naturalis-link).

### **Collections copied to the image database Wikimedia Commons**

#### **1. Method**

The procedure for the various collections was roughly the same. It entailed finding answers to the following questions first: which collections are recommended by the Steering committee of the project, what are the preferences of Wikipedians on the internet and of the curators of Naturalis, are digital images available in Medialib.naturalis.nl, preferably with metadata in Bioportal.naturalis.nl from Naturalis? For the Kawahara collection and Oudemans's mites the Wikipedian in residence made an export from the Naturalis Central Registration System (CRS). For the larger collections, Jeroen Creuwels, Tom Gilissen and Wilfred Gerritsen created an SQL query for data exports from Brahm's (Botanical research and herbarium management system for herbarium sheets) and the CRS (molluscs, songbirds and small mammals were considered in this project). For various special smaller collections, the starting point was an Excel file for the image files (collections Icones, bird drawings, Physics Committee, endangered and extinct birds) by Marjoleine Houben and Maarten Heerlien.

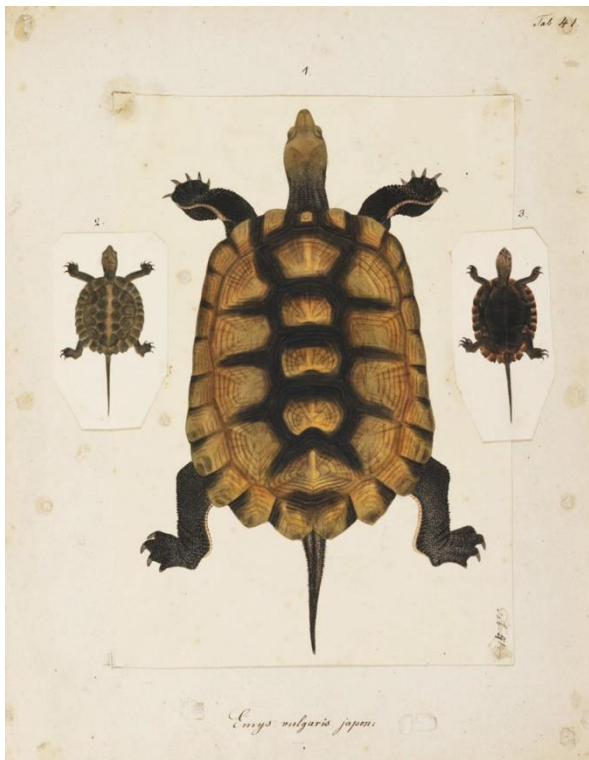
The metadata for all uploads were checked in Excel for (spelling) errors, malformed characters and inconsistencies, and sometimes enriched with data gleaned from inspection of the photos. After editing in Excel, the metadata could be exported with the so-called developer functions in xml format (PC, not Apple) and then uploaded to Wikimedia Commons with the GlamWiki Toolset (GWT) from Wikimedia. The speed of uploading with GWT varied erratically from 0 to 6500 files per day.

The uploads with the template for the metadata Biohist copied the original metadata as much as possible, with links to the Naturalis online Bioportal and/or Medialib. Once uploaded to Wikimedia Commons the images were classified there with the help of the community in the existing taxonomic system with correction of species and gender names, using taxonomic websites such as Gbif, WoRMS, Catalog of Fishes, Fishbase, Tropicos, Catalog of Life and so on and Wikispecies.

To simplify this process, a list of genera and species and hyperlinks to their categories in the image bank was

added to each collection on Wikimedia Commons. With most collections, the classification by many expert volunteers on Wikimedia Commons is still under way. In order to sort the images of biological species on Commons as much as possible in at least one relevant taxonomic category, they were put into categories for genus as well as for species. Often both categories did not exist yet, but if they did, this process led to over-categorization and a lot of work for volunteers to correct this afterwards.

Naturalis had decided that the bulk of the donation was released with the free public domain license statement CC-0 (Creative Commons Zero). This means that although the files were in principle protected by copyright, Naturalis waives its rights. Special images for which Naturalis or a well-known staff member has done special work, for instance the videos of rotating bird skins received the license CC-BY-SA-3.0 (Creative Commons - name of the author – sharing alike). Provided that the name is copied from the original files, everyone can use and edit these files, also for profit purposes, if only the same license CC-BY-SA-3.0 holds fort he new version as well. This license is used for photos and videos of extinct and endangered birds, museum photos and recent botanical works of art. Works by an author who died more than 70 years ago are in any case in the public domain by copyright law.



Japanese pond turtle (*Mauremys japonica*), Kawahara Keiga 1823-1829, RMNH.ART.276



Musk shrew (*Suncus murinus*), Kawahara Keiga, 1823-1829 with Japanese name in phonetic representation and Katakana characters. RMNH.ART.368.

## 2. Kawahara Keiga: aquarelle drawings of Japanese flora and fauna (1823-1829)

All available digitised photos of aquarelle drawings by Kawahara Keiga were uploaded (registration numbers RMNH.ART.1 - 892). The correctly spelled names of the species often had to be read from the nineteenth-century handwriting in the photographs and then converted to modern taxonomy. Before and after uploading of the images, the present-day accepted type names were added as much as possible. Unidentified creatures have been sorted in a special separate category. The Kawahara collection was particularly appreciated on Wikipedia and led to new derivative images through various edits by various independent Wikipedians. There were in total 611 species pictured by Kawahara within 524 genera. 106 unique images (11.7%) were included in 227 Wikipedia articles in 20 languages up to 30 March 2016. A large part of Kawahara's artistic work has thus become available on the internet.



*Haemogamasus hirsutus* Berlese by Oudemans RMNH.ART.1059 (left),  
adaptation by Wikipedian Mithril (right)

### 3. Oudemans' colour drawings of mites

The Dutch zoologist Antonie Cornelis Oudemans (1858–1943) bequeathed his collection of samples of mites and of beautiful microscopic drawings in 1942 to a forerunner institution of the present-day Naturalis. These drawings are often originals used in Oudemans's many publications on mites (RMNH.ART.893-2043). The photos of 1151 digitised drawings with a species determination were uploaded to Wikimedia Commons and classified as much as possible. In this collection, the species names could also be improved on the basis of the handwriting read from the photographs. Partly because Wikipedia does not have many volunteers specialising in mites, the taxonomic classification of the 215 genera and 677 species in the donated collection is still incomplete (many red categories yet to be created in the database Wikimedia Commons). 20 (1.7%) drawings were processed in 34 Wikipedia articles in five languages.

### 4. Icones botanical art collection

From a larger stock of botanical art, 1178 drawings of all kinds of mainly tropical plants were selected that were digitally available in Naturalis Medialib - often not (yet) in Naturalis Bioportal - and had a stable L. registration number (L.0933171 .. 2097179). For aesthetic reasons these beautiful images, which often provide an overview of various forms of a plant, are sometimes cropped with preservation of historical texts and original version. Again a list of the 760 species and 526 genera of the pictured plants was added on Wikimedia Commons. A list of 42 botanical artists with biographical data from the metadata and from elsewhere in the category was compiled and likewise included on Wikimedia Commons.. 46 unique works of art (3.3%) ended in 93 Wikipedia articles up in sixteen languages. It is not surprising that mainly images of consumable plants (banana, coffee, tea) received attention in the Wikipedias, as the page view (clicks) statistics indirectly shows.



Inflorescence of Panama hat plant (*Carludovica palmata*) by J. van Aken. Icones L.0939607.



*Helichrysum cremnophilum* Humbert subsp. *cremnophilum*. Compositae, Isotype, Madagascar, L.1312289

## 5. Herbarium sheets: old type specimens from the Leiden Herbarium

On public invitation, some Wikipedians stated in a forum on Wikipedia that the herbarium type specimens were interesting for the image bank Wikimedia Commons: not only the plant samples themselves, but also or even their labels alone highlighting the change of the taxonomy throughout the past centuries. This prompted the

upload of 1698 old plant types (definition specimens) from the Leiden Herbarium, including many algae (registration numbers L.1062604 .. L.4266510, U.1564932 .. U.1586023). There are 1152 species in 468 genera. The use on Wikipedias was 38 photos (2.2%) in 76 articles in fourteen languages.



*Rufous-collared kingfisher (Actenoides concretus concretus Temminck, 1825). ZMA.AVES.10025*

## 6. Threatened and extinct birds

The collection of 1507 photos and videos of these birds by Huub Veldhuijzen van Zanten was largely put on Wikimedia Commons by Tekla Boersma, who also converted the videos to the .webm format (most of the other common video formats have a patent, making them unusable for Wikimedia). These are registration numbers RMNH.AVES.107865 ... .RMNH.AVES.90733 (National Museum of Natural History, 468 photos and videos, digital order) and ZMA.AVES.10025 ... ZMA.AVES.9969 (Zoological Museum Amsterdam, 1039 idem) . There are 516 species in 335 genera. Devotees on Wikipedia quickly discovered these images and came up with corrections of generic names and other useful suggestions. 83 media files (5.5%) are included in 158 Wikipedia articles in eighteen languages.



*Crested serpent eagle (Spilornis cheela) by Pieter van Oort, Natuurkundige Commissie, before 1835*

## 7. Bird drawings by the Natuurkundige Commissie voor Nederlandsch-Indië

At the request of the project leader, 165 nineteenth-century color drawings of beautiful unidentified Indonesian birds from the Dutch Natuurkundige Commissie (Natural science commission) in Indonesia were uploaded to the Wikimedia Commons website, so that the species could to be determined in the volunteer project Vogelen (Birding) in the Rijksmuseum on 4 October (2015). These drawings were not available in Naturalis Medialib

and lacked a standard registration number. Afterwards, further determinations were done after appeals for help were made on Wikipedia, so that now 85 birds have been identified. The remaining unidentified 80 images are kept in a separate category. 24 drawings (14.3%) are used in 66 Wikipedia articles in eleven languages.



*Andean cock-of-the-rock (Rupicola peruviana subsp.), Cotingidae, RMNH.AVES.121330*

## 8. Skins of songbirds

Almost all items in the large bird skin collection - as far as not already under 6. uploaded - were uploaded: only the samples of feathers between glass plates were omitted. Because in the first uploaded batches different views of one bird skin were collectively counted as versions of one image on Wikimedia Commons, the collection is even bigger than the statistics show, with a total of 136,228 photographs. There were 3,586 species - with many specimens per (sub) species in at least two views - in 1105 genera. On Wikimedia Commons, some expert Wikipedians have contributed very much to the categorization. Use on Wikipedias is 279 photos (0.20%) in 394 articles in 21 languages.

## 9. Molluscs

The large photo collections of shells and snail shells from the National Museum of Natural History (RMNH, Leiden, 68,182 photographs including some edits) and the Zoological Museum Amsterdam (ZMA, 43,344 photos) contain images of many species that were previously nowhere to be seen on the internet. Two categories were made according to their museum of origin, with an overview of genera and species. Wikipedian BartBotje placed more than a thousand Naturalis photos in Wikipedia articles about molluscs on the Dutch Wikipedia with his script ("bot"). A few experts made many cut-outs of photographs with retention of copyright and classification in the category of Naturalis donation.

In a subcollection of 13,000 photos on Wikimedia Commons it appeared that in a month 511 photos (4%) were edited by Wikipedians (especially categorization was done). The entire collection of Naturalis molluscs on Wikimedia Commons includes 15,565 biological species in 2952 genera, many of which had no image on the Internet before. 2,465 (2.2%) photos were used on 27 February 2016 in 2,755 Wikipedia articles in 22 languages.

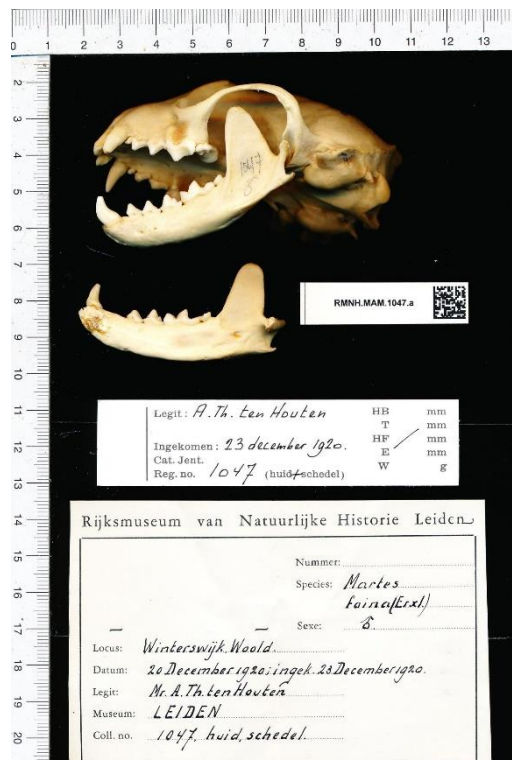




*Cymbiola imperialis* (Lightfoot, 1786), Volutidae, RMNH.MOL.233444

## 10. Specimens and bones of small mammals

As with the Mollusks, this collection of 21,927 photographs showing small mammals consists of contributions from both the Zoological Museum Amsterdam (ZMA, 8,804 photographs) and the Rijksmuseum van Natuur



Beech marten (subspecies *Martes foina foina*) from Winterswijk, 1920. RMNH.MAM.1047

Historie (RMNH, Leiden, 13,123 photographs), so that two categories are made on Wikimedia Commons. It concerns skeletons and prepared specimens of types of badgers, foxes, martens and especially many (tropical) bats and so on. A table of abbreviations for biological measures in the metadata was added. There are 147 genera with 373 species. 117 unique images (0.53%) are used in 156 Wikipedia articles in ten languages.



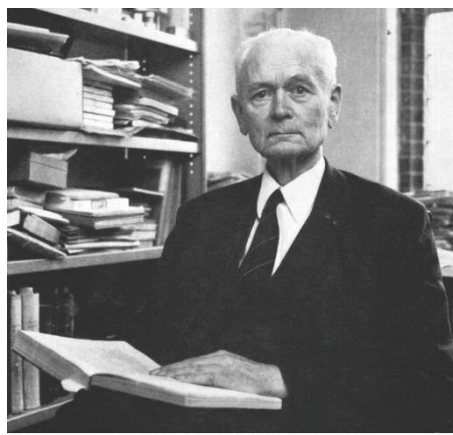
*Naturalis Museum Panorama of the Treasure Room including sulphur, fluorite, pyrite, copper, quartz, dodo, tantalum, salt, chalk, gold, gypsum, iron and alum, Henk Caspers/Naturalis CC-BY-SA-3.0*

## 11. Museum photographs

Henk Caspers, staff member of Naturalis, chose 196 (stereo) photos from his photo collection of museum exhibitions and the museum local environment which were free of copyright. Thanks to his comments, the Dutch-language wording of the frequently used CC-BY-SA license has been improved. These photos of exhibits are becoming historical fast because of the forthcoming make-over of the museum. Twelve (6.1%) images are used on 24 Wikipedia pages in five languages.



*Linnaeus in his Sami costume, Linnaea borealis flowers in hand. Martin Hoffman, 1737*



*Hilbrand Boschma*

*Hilbrand Boschma (1893-1976), director of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie. W.Vervoort/Naturalis CC-BY-SA-3.0*



*Han van Konijnenburg-van Cittert, professor of paleobotany, 2014. Naturalis CC-BY-SA-3.0*

## 12. Other photographs

Fourteen special photographs, mostly from Naturalis.nl, were brought to Wikimedia Commons, such as the oldest tomato in Europe from the En tibi Herbarium book, the dodos skeleton on display in the museum and the

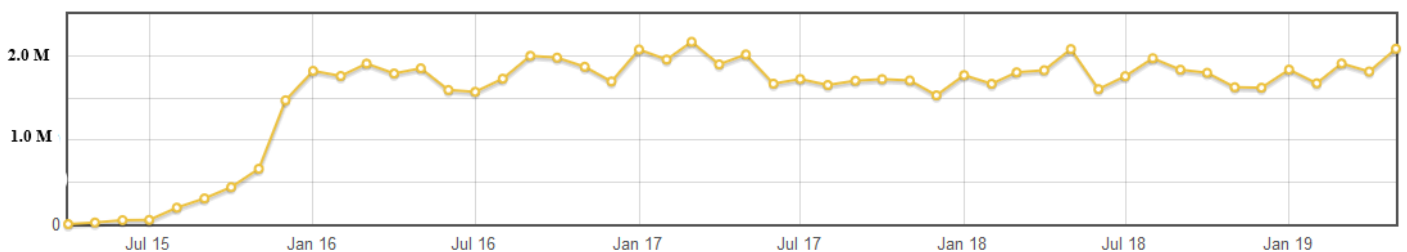
painting of Linnaeus in his Sami costume, which were included in frequently consulted Wikipedia pages. Eight photographs (57%) ended up in 41 Wikipedia articles in eight languages.

## User statistics

Using counters (Baglama2, Glamorous) on Wikimedia platforms, it turned out that in the period from 1 May to 31 January 2016, the media already available (photos and videos) had been clicked together altogether 5.0 million times (including mobile phone consultation since December 2015). After January 2019 the number of pageviews of Wikipedia articles containing a donated Naturalis image fluctuated around 2 million pageviews a month. Unfortunately, hasty click-and-go ("bounce") web page visits could not be eliminated from the page view tally. On 30 March 2016, 3170 unique media files had found their way to 3940 articles on Wikipedias in 37 languages, which used 1.2% of the donation in articles. See above for the statistics for each separate collection.

## Category details for Media donated by Naturalis Biodiversity Center

50 months have a data point, with 77,410,344 page views in total



## Providing education about Naturalis and Wikipedia

Various target audiences were informed and consulted about this project and the opportunities of Wikipedia in general. The staff of Naturalis was reached by ten messages on the institution intranet N = Share, an information meeting (27 participants), three workshops (14), contributions to four meetings of curators (~ 25) and a sector consultation (~ 40). Due to the lack of enrollment of course participants and illness of the Wikipedian in residence, three meetings were canceled (another workshop, a meeting in English and a writing afternoon for external parties in the Library). There were also various informative individual interviews with curators and other staff members of Naturalis. There was a meeting and contact with two staff members of Ecomare on Texel about the options of Wikipedia and image donations to it. Naturalis staff member Tekla Boersma was instructed how to upload Endangered and extinct bird skins so that she can continue the project.

## Edits on Wikimedia platforms

The Wikipedian in residence and course participants edited many Wikipedia articles and their discussion pages in various languages for consultation with Wikipedians there, insertion of donated media files and, if necessary, the creation of new articles in connection with the donation. The image databank Wikimedia Commons was consulted and overviews and many categories for (sub) types and artists were created.

## Recommendations

It is to be hoped for the international public that Naturalis can continue its Wikipedia project of media donations. With many biological species, a Naturalis photo is now the only image on the internet, so that more contributions are welcome.

## **Collections transferred to Wikimedia Commons**

Due to the large size of museum property owned by Naturalis, only a fraction of the available collections have been used or even examined in this project. There is a problem of choice. A partly random selection of what I still wanted to do are the following:

- Herbarium sheets (already discussed with Dr. Jan Wieringa), using the better images from the Mellon project.

There was a lot of interest on Wikipedia for:

o (rare) Dutch flora, fresh specimens

o Idem: East Indian flora

o More type specimens, which Wikipedians were interested in

o Or: all 400,000 species

- More Icones botanical art (proposed by the library of the Herbarium)

- Insects

- Meteorites

- Minerals

- Archival collections. More images from the Natuurkundige Commissie (Natural science commission for the Dutch East Indies), Dubois, Bleeker.

### **Publicity**

If so desired, this project could get more publicity, in local, national and professional media.

### **Contact with the Wikipedia community**

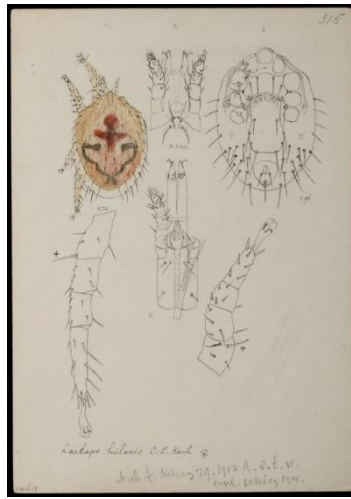
Wikipedians have shown a great interest in biological subjects on various Wikimedia platforms such as the Wikipedia encyclopedias and Wikispecies. Contact can be maintained through the various Portals for Biology and through targeted actions, such as writing weeks for well-defined topics. The Project Group Nature of the Dutch Wikimedia local chapter is a good entry.

### **Acknowledgements**

The Wikipedian in residence thanks the Steering committee, IT and PR staff, curators and other staff of Naturalis for their great help in many fields. The support of the Project Nature members of the Wikimedia Netherlands association was also very welcome, as was the stimulating commentary and the many improvements on Wikipedia by fellow Wikipedians internationally.

### **References**

1. [Project pages on Wikipedia](#)
2. [Wikimedia Commons: Naturalis Biodiversity Center](#) with links to statistics
3. [Wikipedian in residence-project Museum of Natural History/Science Museum 2013-2014](#)



*Happy lass Laelaps hilaris* C.L. Koch f. , a mite by Oudemans. RMNH.ART.1122.

### Comments on Wikimedia websites

At the beginning of the project, comments were solicited on various relevant Wikimedia websites by the Wikipedian in residence. In the course of the project many reactions, suggestions and corrections were offered by voluntary expert editors (Wikipedians) who greatly improved and supplemented the biological taxonomy pertaining to the donated images. A selection of various reactions follows here in original Dutch and English:

On [wikipedia.nl](http://wikipedia.nl):

- Ik wens je te bedanken voor de massale upload van foto's van Naturalis. Ik hou me bezig in de en.wikipedia met het beschrijven van de Gastropoda (= slakken). Ik heb bemerkt dat je van de Mollusca (waartoe de Gastropoda behoren) ongeveer 5000 foto's hebt geüpload. Waarschijnlijk zijn er heel veel soorten bij waarvoor er nog geen foto's beschikbaar waren. Het zal een heel werk zijn om dit uit te zoeken. Maar dat doe ik wel naarmate ik bepaalde soorten bespreek. In elk geval, dit is een hele steun in de rug die wij konden gebruiken. Jojan 18 sep 2015 17:16 (CEST)...Hoe meer foto's hoe liever, als je weet dat er ongeveer 100.000 soorten zijn in de Mollusca (en men vermoedt dat slechts nog maar een derde ontdekt zijn). Er zijn waarschijnlijk meer dan een half miljoen synoniemen. En bovendien nog vele tienduizenden slechts gekend als fossiel. In de en.wikipedia hebben wij er bijna 30.000 beschreven (meestal als beginnetje, maar ook een groot aantal in de categorie start en in hogere categories, waaronder één "featured article"). Dus er is nog een hele weg te gaan, genoeg voor een heel leven. Jammer genoeg is er zo goed als niemand op de nl.wikipedia die zich hiermee bezig houdt, zodat de vele wijzigingen in de taxonomie der Gastropoda, die wij aanvullen in de en.wikipedia, niet doorstromen naar de nl.wikipedia. Dus je kan begrijpen dat alle hulp welkom, ook als het foto's zijn. Daarom nogmaals dank. Jojan 21 sep 2015 15:16 (CEST)

In the image database [commons.wikimedia.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org):

- A. C. Oudemans Collection [Mites] - Hello! I greatly appreciate you uploading all these files. You've probably noticed that I'm trying to categorize them in respect of current taxonomy. On doing it I found misspelling in the epithet: the caption of these two files (1, 2) is Periglischrus iheringi, not Periglischrus jheringi. So I've renamed the files hoping that won't make any obstacles for your work. Mithril (Overleg) 18:31, 25 July 2015 (UTC)
- Extinct bird videos - Hi, do you know if the other extinct bird videos from Naturalis that have not been uploaded yet are free too? FunkMonk (A) (Overleg) 16:40, 10 August 2015 (UTC) .....The passenger pigeon videos look really nice here[4], extremely cool that there are videos of both sexes and juveniles!

I'm polishing up the article for a future Wikipedia front page appearance. FunkMonk (A) (Overleg) 19:28, 30 December 2015 (UTC)

- Hi Hans - could you check these three, please: .....All three are cited at source as *Dendrocitta occipitalis cinerascens*, a taxon from Borneo which has now been split at species rank from *Dendrocitta [occipitalis] occipitalis* from Sumatra. I renamed the first two to reflect the updated taxonomy, and was about to do so with the third, but saw that its curation tag states it is *Dendrocitta occipitalis occipitalis* and is from Sumatra; for this, I renamed the file to remove the *cinerascens* attribution. The first two, I can't read the curation tags as they are text-side-down, but they need to be checked in the museum to see their source location. The third also needs checking with the museum staff to find out why they added the recent "D. o. cinerascens 180.016.002" tag: do they have good reason to believe that the Sumatra origin is incorrect, perhaps? Thanks! - MPF (A) (Overleg) 21:30, 5 October 2015 (UTC)
- @MPF Thanks for your interest. You ll find the flip side of the label on the previous version at the bottom of the page (in the first batch i didn't discriminate between say RMNH.AVES.101788 and RMNH.AVES.101788\_1, so the latest upload - other side of the label - is recorded as a new version). I ll ask a curator about your other point. Best regards Hansmuller (Overleg) 07:48, 7 October 2015 (UTC) Thanks! Renamed them per their curation tags - MPF (A) (Overleg) 19:41, 13 October 2015 (UTC)
- Dear HansMuller, I changed the determination of the drawing with the head of an eagle form *Spizaetus ornatus* to *Spilornis cheela*. The first is South American species the second is Oriental and has white lining in its crest. Greeting, --HWN 08:19, 16 October 2015 (UTC) — De voorgaande opmerking werd toegevoegd door Hwdenie (Overleg • bijdragen) 08:19, 16 October 2015 (UTC) Dear/Beste Hwdenie, welbedankt! I have put your determinations in the metadata fields (you can do that too for further determinations, if you like.) If you know more, please continue! Hansmuller (Overleg) 09:14, 16 October 2015 (UTC)
- Help! I can't keep up! - Hi Hans (and others on this project) - there's a gargantuan backlog of Naturalis Biodiversity Center files in need of recategorising, they are accumulating faster than I and anyone else dealing with them can cope. Would it be possible you could have a moratorium on new uploads, and spend time dealing with the backlog instead, please? What is needed is (a) a check of the name against current taxonomy (at IOC for birds) for updates, (b) creation of subcategories [[Category:Genus species (museum specimens)]] where needed, (c) moving the files to those categories, and (d) removing them from the genus categories. It would also be nice if future uploading of files could be done all of one genus at a go, instead of bit by bit mixed in with other uploads - I've had to empty e.g. Category:*Turdus* twice a day, every day, for the last ten days. It is getting very tedious to have to remember to revisit the same categories over, and over, and over; it further delays recategorisation. I do also find myself wondering, what is the purpose of uploading so many files? What possible use could Commons have for over 500 *Turdus merula* skins?? Thanks! - MPF (A) (Overleg) 13:34, 10 January 2016 (UTC) ....
- Thanks for the extra details! Yes, 8 more days is no problem, for all I knew they might be going on for another 8 months (or 8 years!!) yet :-)) but with a short time like this "the end is in sight"! If I think of a better way, I will, but I'm not sure there is; it is true that adding the genus category as well as species creates more work, but is very useful as an indicator of taxa which still have files for review so is worth keeping. Best wishes! MPF (A) (Overleg) 21:09, 10 January 2016 (UTC)
- ... Personally, I'd say that uploading images is more important than correctly categorising them. But if you've finished and have the means (and inclination!) to repair them, this can only improve things so go ahead. Optimist on the run (Overleg) 20:30, 23 January 2016 (UTC)
- Conus - Hello Hans, Thanks for the wonderful and useful pictures that you uploaded. But I discovered the situation of Category:Conus: it contains 2700 pictures. 2600 of these pictures are from you. A picture like that one is currently placed in 2 categories: the species cat (Conus\_*timorensis* for example) and the genus cat (Conus). They should not be in Conus ! In fact Conus should contain only pictures representing the whole genus, which is rare. How am I to move 2600 pictures out of Category:Conus ? If I do it with cat-a-lot, I risk to move pictures that are not placed in species cat. Cheers Liné1 (Overleg) 13:08, 19 February 2016 (UTC)

- I have almost finished the birds. I am looking at all the genera ..... I am beginning the mammals. It smaller, but I came there a long time ago. Some my list of subtaxa are older. Might be a lot of work. Cheers Liné1 (Overleg) 13:13, 23 March 2016 (UTC)
- Thank you for your enormous work! You complete the Naturalis donation project by giving the (sub)species their correct taxon home categories - many red links in for instance List of species and genera in Category:Songbird specimens at Naturalis Biodiversity Center have turned blue. Thanks again for your invaluable work, Hansmuller (Overleg) 14:02, 24 March 2016 (UTC)

On [wikipedia.nl De Kroeg](http://wikipedia.nl/De_Kroeg), (the Dutch language Wikipedia Village pump) suggestions were solicited:

- Aan een afbeelding van herbariummateriaal (een gedroogde plant, vaak met beschadigen, meestal bruin verkleurd, zeker de bloemen nooit in de oorspronkelijke staat en kleur) heb je niet zo veel; hooguit kun je er de vorm van een en ander uit afleiden, en bijvoorbeeld hoe bladeren aan stengels staan. Wat mij betreft is het interessantste van die bladen wat er aan teksten, nummers, codes en namen op staat. Maar dan hebben we het bijna altijd over typemateriaal; van willekeurige gedroogde planten is de relevantie van zulke informatie meestal ver te zoeken. De Missouri Botanical Garden heeft veel afbeeldingen van type-exemplaren van planten in zeer hoge resolutie online gezet. Daar ben ik ze zeer dankbaar voor, en voor zulke afbeeldingen van types zou ik ook Naturalis zeer dankbaar zijn. Als Naturalis het handig vindt om daar niet zelf een website met extra informatie over te maken maar graag van de bestaande infrastructuur van Wikimedia Commons gebruikmaakt, dan moet Naturalis dat zelf weten. Met een CC0-licentie bestaat het risico dat de relatie tussen afbeelding en de donateur ervan bij hergebruik verloren gaat. Als ik Naturalis was, dan zou ik dat niet willen. Wikiklaas overleg 11 mei 2015 23:36 (CEST)
- Oh ja, daar wil ik nog wel aan toevoegen dat afbeeldingen ook van heel grote waarde kunnen zijn als ze niet in een artikel bruikbaar zijn. Zo zou ik niet snel een afbeelding van het holotype van een plant in het artikel plaatsen maar mijn ervaring leert dat het ongelofelijk waardevol is als dat materiaal wel op de een of andere manier te bekijken is. En daarvoor biedt Commons wat mij betreft al wel een heel behoorlijke infrastructuur. Wikiklaas overleg 12 mei 2015 13:15 (CEST)

Suggestions were also solicited on the Wikimedia website for biological species [Wikispecies](https://species.wikimedia.org/):

- @Hansmuller: In my opinion, every kind of type specimen is interesting, not only holotypes. I have started to add links to scans of type specimens at some pages, see e.g. *Blastemanthus gemmiflorus* subsp. *gemmiflorus*, and I will continue. So, usually it will be sufficient, when this scans are accessible at the respective collections. However, there are many species, where neither photos nor illustrations exist at Commons. In these cases, we possibly could use a scan of a well preserved (type) specimen as an image in our pages. ....Regards --Franz Xaver (talk) 09:25, 12 May 2015 (UTC)



*Japanese giant salamander (Andrias japonicus (Temminck, 1837))  
in twelve articles on nine Wikipedias.*



*Golden greenbul (Calyptocichla serina (J. & E. Verreaux, 1855)) on eleven  
Wikipedias. RMNH.AVES.126271 1.*



*Cooking banana (Pisang tandok) by A. Bernecker (~ 1863) in the  
Dutch Wikipedia article Banana with around 165.000 views in March  
2015. Icones L.2096518. Also on Pinterest.com.*