

PRIORITY HABITATS

FRESHWATER NATURALNESS UPLOADING LAKE SURVEYS

A step-by-step guide of how to upload lake surveys to the
cartographer mobile app.



Further guidance can be found online:
priorityhabitats.org

Accessing the Cartographer App

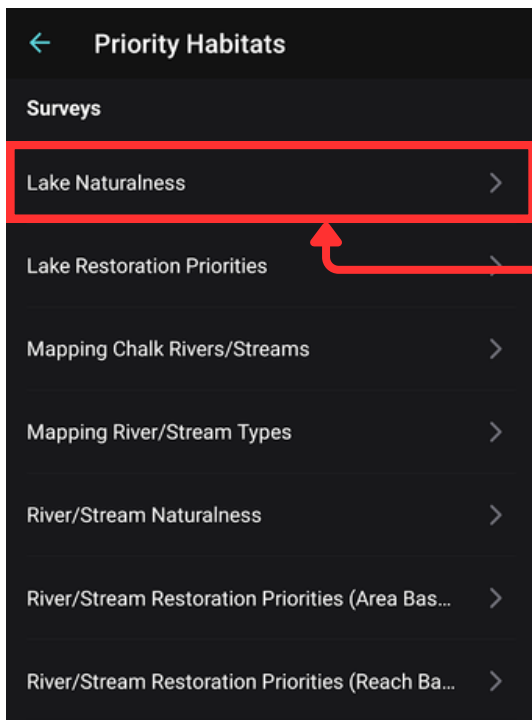
You can download the cartographer app onto any handheld device that supports the software e.g., android phone, iphone, tablets, etc. Surveys completed on the PC are identical in content.

You can then login with your cartographer account. If you do not have an account but have attended a training day, please contact priorityhabitats@fba.org.uk or fill out the form on our website.

You can save your survey in **draft** form and come back to it whenever you like. You can use both the PC and mobile applications to complete the same survey; they are saved to your account across devices. Please change the format to **complete** when you've finished surveying.

Surveys can be completed in offline mode in areas of low/no signal, but must be uploaded as 'complete' if you plan on logging out of the app (closing the app should not effect this).

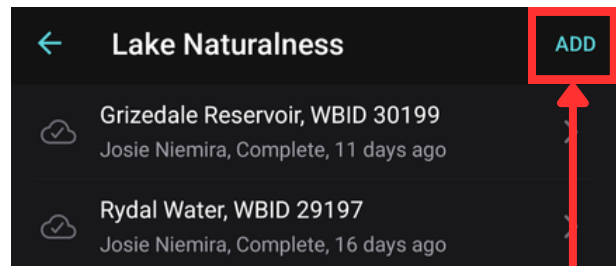
Completing a lake survey.



Step 1:

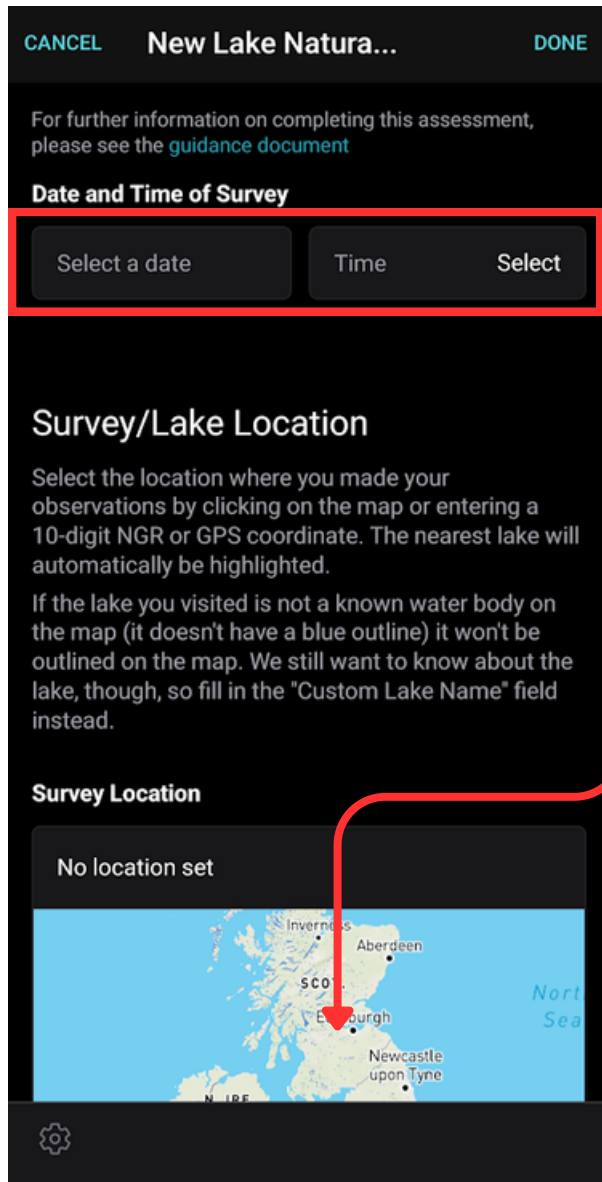
Open your cartographer app and access the Priority Habitats workspace. You may have access to a number of projects depending on your organisation, but for now we are interested in opening 'Lake Naturalness'.

Click on the text/arrow to open up the surveys. You will see a list of previously completed surveys.



Step 2:

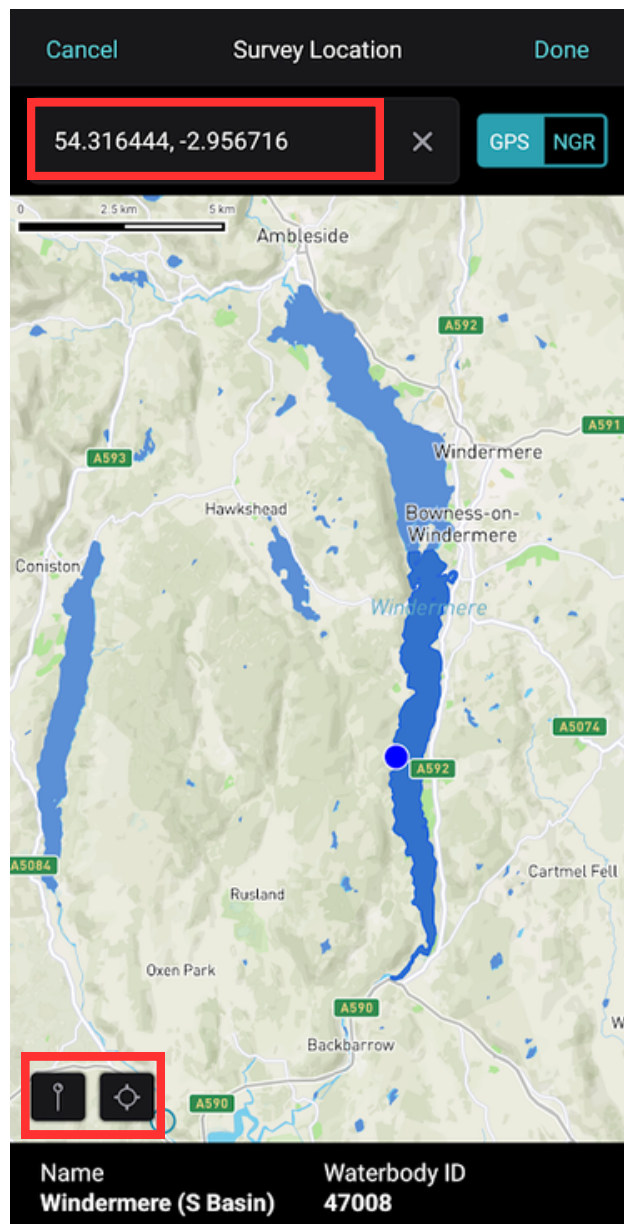
To upload a new survey, click 'ADD' in the top right-hand corner.



Step 3:

To start your newly created survey, please enter the date and time that you are surveying as this is relevant to the types of naturalness features you may see.

Click on the map to open up the lake selection tool.



Step 4:

Select your lake by clicking on on the map. The lake will become bold and your specific location represented by the blue dot. Try and click as close to your survey point as possible.

You can use the location finder in the bottom left-hand corner or enter a GPS/NGR location to find where you are.

Step 5:

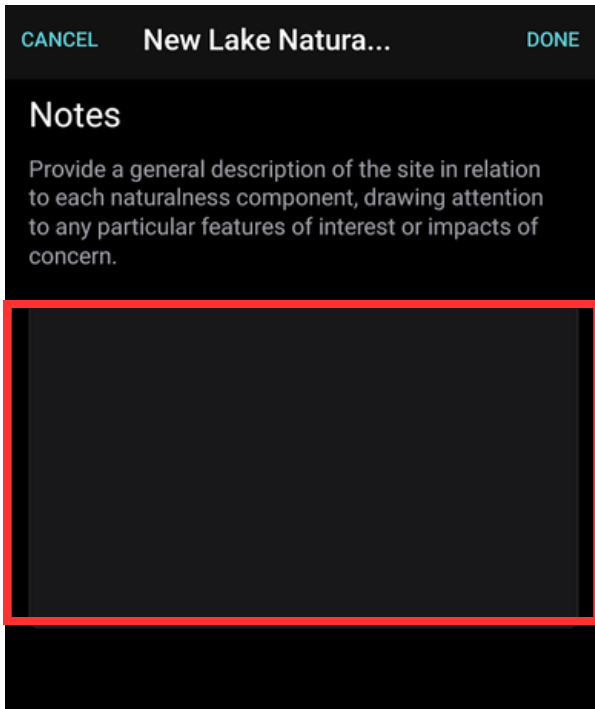
Complete the naturalness categories.

Enter your naturalness value of 1-5.

Enter your confidence class.

Assess your lake sub-categories using the 1-5 scale. Your overall score for each category should match that of the most unnatural sub-category. You are not required to assess all sub-categories in a section, but this may impact your overall confidence score.

Repeat these steps for Hydrological, Chemical, and Biological categories (and their related sub-categories).



Step 6:

Use the notes section to provide any extra information about the site. This can be anything you spot on the day or any background knowledge you may have about the site e.g., land use, historical changes, etc.

Step 7:

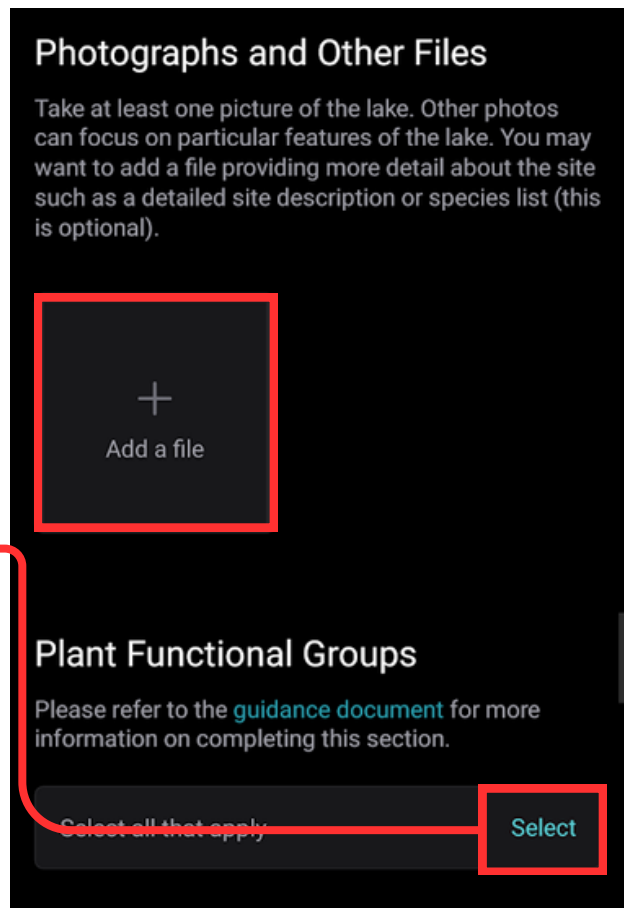
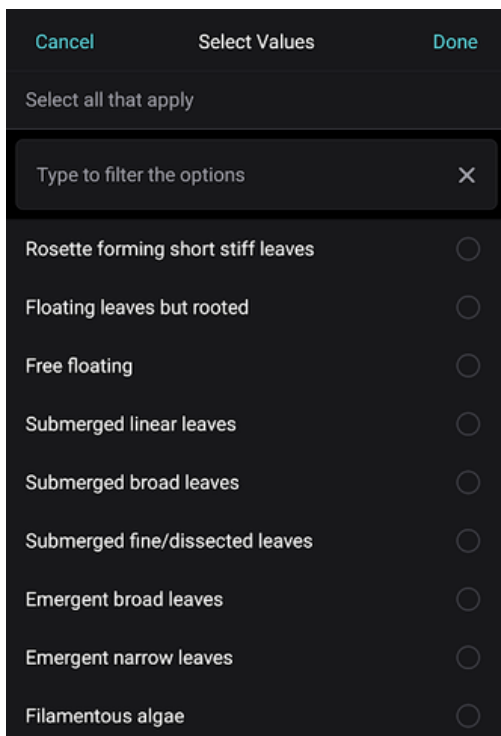
Upload photos of the site. Take as many as you can that cover the general features of the site, any information signs that tell you about the location, and any specific features that contribute to naturalness.

Step 8:

Record any plant functional groups you may have spotted while observing the marginal and aquatic zones.

This is not a requirement but helps to indicate the health of the vegetation in relation to naturalness features.

You can either upload a photo from your library or take a photo within the app after clicking 'Add a file',



Step 10:

Record any species of interest that you see in the area. If you see a species that you think is important but isn't included in these lists, please include it in your notes section.

Record any habitat features using the specific categories below.

Habitat Features
Please refer to the [guidance document](#) for more information on completing this section.

Shoreline modification
Select a value Select

Shoreline with fringing marginal emergent vegetati...
Select a value Select

Riparian zone (up to 10m from bank)
Select a value Select

Number of ditches flowing into the lake
[Input field]

CANCEL **New Lake Natura...** **DONE**

Species of Interest
If you happen to see any of the species below please tick the appropriate box. Please refer to the [guidance document](#) for more information about recording rare and threatened species, and use [iRecord](#) to make sure important sightings are captured in national species inventories.

Mammals
Select all that apply Select

Birds
Select all that apply Select

Fish
Select all that apply Select

Save Changes

Save as Draft

Save as Complete (Current)

Save as Approved

Save for Review

Save as Rejected

Cancel

Step 11:

Submit your survey by clicking 'DONE' in the top right-hand corner. This will bring up a new options menu.

You can use this menu at any time to save an incomplete survey in 'draft' form. If you have completed your survey, please submit it as 'Complete'. This will display your survey on the priority habitat maps.

Thank you for taking the time to read this guide. If you have any questions please contact your volunteer coordinator of the organisation you attended the training day for, or alternatively contact priorityhabitats@fba.org.uk.