Sears Island Biodiversity Project: Collection of visitor and volunteer observations of nature - Submit on our website and Inaturalist.

To Learn: Species present over time, all taxa. 2 Ways to submit:
1- Log your animal and plant sightings on our website at http://friendsofsearsisland.org/explore-the-island
   - Please submit photos if possible!
2- Join our Inaturalist Project “Animals and Plants of Sears Island” at https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/animals-and-plants-of-sears-island
   *Handy picture guides and species checklists available at http://friendsofsearsisland.org/explore-the-island

FrogWatch: Volunteers follow the FrogWatch protocol in spring to identify frogs and toads present in wetlands.

To Learn: Presence and abundance of frogs and toads and changes over time.
To participate, contact Aleta at greenwayscenter@gmail.com
To learn more, visit https://www.aza.org/frogwatch

Additional Citizen Science Opportunities on Sears Island:
National Programs
- Nature’s Notebook - Study timing of events for various species - a nationwide movement that is active on the Midcoast. Collect data that may provide information about how climate change is affecting nature. BEGINNING SOON
- Journey North - Document movement and migration of species (also a phone app), monarch butterflies and others.
- Clean Swell - Record trash found along beaches
- Ebird - Keep lists of your bird observations, share with others. Many are doing this; Sears Island is now an Ebird Hotspot.

Other science activities on the island:
- BIRD WEEK AND OTHER COUNTS
- BIOBLITZES
- SCHOOL PROGRAMS
- INDIVIDUAL ACADEMIC PROJECTS
- NATURAL HISTORY SEMINARS
- ONGOING FORMAL MONITORING (Volunteers can help)
- SEARS ISLAND BIODIVERSITY PROJECT (above)

If you are interested in any of these activities, please contact Ashley Melquier at outreach@friendsofsearsisland.org

We need to know what is living here now, to know if we are losing biodiversity in the future.
Resources

**Friends of Sears Island Website**  www.friendsofsearsisland.org
*Guides and checklists for animals and plants found on Sears Island*

**Go Botany**  https://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/
*A great site for identifying plants including invasive plants*

**Inaturalist**  https://www.inaturalist.org/
*Explore and keep track of nature through user-created nature guides, create your own projects and guides, help with local citizen science*

**Natures Notebook**  https://www.usanpn.org/natures_notebook
*Help scientists track seasonal changes in animal and plant life*

**Ebird**  http://ebird.org/content/ebird/
*Keep track of birds you see, and explore bird lists for your area*

**Journey North**  https://www.learner.org/jnorth/
*Keep track of migrating monarch butterflies and other species*

**Clean Swell**  https://oceanconservancy.org/blog/2016/05/24/join-the-fight-for-trash-free-seas-with-clean-swell/
*Monitor ocean trash issues*

**Encyclopedia of Life**  http://www.eol.org/
*Explore and understand the world’s biodiversity*

**All About Birds**  https://www.allaboutbirds.org/
*A fascinating, extensive site for learning about and enjoying birds*

**Xerces Society**  http://xerces.org/
*Learn all about pollinators, bees, butterflies, and other insects*

**Bumblebee Atlas**  http://mainebumblebeatlas.umf.maine.edu/
*A program to study bumblebee populations and distribution in Maine*

**Phone Apps**

- Outsmart Invasives
- Clean Swell
- Imap Invasives
- Inaturalist
- Merlin Bird
- BirdsEye Bird Finding Guide
- Audubon Birds of North America
- Journey North