

Discover Ding App

What is it?

Discover Ding is a revolutionary iPhone and Android smartphone app that will educate and entertain users, using GPS to deliver information about wildlife and habitat in key places. This app allows the sharing photos and field tips that others can see. We hope to encourage visitors to look up, explore their surroundings, and learn about and connect to the natural wonders that surround them.

****In order to download the app users must search for “Discover Nature” in their app store search bar.****



Key Features:

1) Game – On wildlife drive users will be directed to 15 questions about wildlife, habitat and management strategies, with up to 5 clues per question. Clues are image and text based, and users receive points for each correct answer. Clues will start hard, but get easier making it satisfying and enjoyable for children and adults alike. The Discover Ding game has three layers, which means users can play up to three times without repeats. **The game only works on the drive!**

The game will automatically conclude after the last question at the end of the wildlife drive, and users will receive a score and virtual badge. They can post it to their Facebook, Google+ or Twitter accounts.

2) Field Tips – The Field Tip function allows users to post GPS-tagged sightings and attached photos. These field tips and photos are observable by other users who can see how far away they are and in which direction.

Important: Field tips have a ‘thumbs-up’ and ‘thumbs-down’ which allow other users to confirm a sighting, or to convey that it’s no longer relevant (eg, a flock of Roseate Spoonbills on a mudflat at low tide won’t be there at high tide). There is also a flag, which allows users to immediately remove a post they deem inappropriate.

3) Photos – App users can take photos within the app, which are also GPS-tagged, and can permit other users to see them. In the app, a user can review ‘nearby’ and ‘refuge-wide’ photos, the former showing pictures taken near to where you are. This is particularly useful for people visiting the refuge in the off-season, giving them a better sense of the abundant wildlife during the winter months.

Background Information & Fun Facts – The app also includes voluminous amounts of information about both the Refuge System and ‘Ding’ Darling. This information is accessible at any time and is not connected to the GPS delivery system.

Feedback is Welcomed – This app will continue to evolve and improve as time goes on. We want to hear from users about their experiences. What they like, what they don’t, where they experienced challenges, and what they’d like to see included. Please encourage users to send feedback, by tapping the ‘Settings’ button on the menu, scrolling down to ‘Report a problem/offer a suggestion’, which will then open a pre-addressed email where you can type their comments.