

Using Your Smartphone for Spotting

We use a GPS *app* to record all our plant sightings, as *waypoints*, and *share* them. Hopefully you have an Apple or Android phone (or tablet). We recommend using Gaia-GPS, for which there are full instructions on our website [here](#). We used to recommend a different app in each case:

- *Android*: *GPS Compass Navigator*
- *Apple*: *MotionX-GPS*

The instructions below should tell you everything you need to know about how to install the app and how to use it.

Doing a Survey

- Record a *Waypoint* for each Hogweed location you find (or any invasive)
- Also record waypoints for places en route that you could *not* check, eg too overgrown
- So we know the whole area you surveyed:
 - Either: Record a *Waypoint* at both the start and end of your survey
 - And/Or: Record a *Track* between start and finish
- To avoid duplication
 - Delete all existing waypoints before you start a survey
- Email all your waypoints to us, as a file attachment
- Shortly thereafter they will get added to [the master map](#)
- You can view your own gpx files using [gpxviewer.1bestlink.net](#).
- If you have no smartphone, you can use a map & paper & pencil!
- Please note that:
 - GPS really drains the battery, so ensure your phone is fully charged before surveying
 - Showing a map can eat up your mobile data allowance. If this an issue (or you are on an iPad) maps may be downloaded – just ask
 - Below we describe one way to operate each app, but there are other ways
- Any problems just [email to let us know](#)

== Android Phone ==

- Install the App
 - On the *Play Store*, download & install:
[*GPS Compass Navigator*](#) (by Evgeni Ganchev)
- To Record a Sighting
 - Tap the big + sign in the blue circle
 - Wait until the *accuracy* stops improving (hopefully 4m)
 - If the plant is not next to you (eg its on the other bank)
 - Tap *Done* to hide the keyboard
 - Tap *Get From Map*
 - Move the cross-hairs to the plant's location
 - Tap *Save Point*
 - In *Location name* type
 - ☐ plant, count, size, bank, locator, initials
Eg GH x3 4ft S bank downstream A1 bridge DQ
(the date & time are saved automatically)
 - Tap *Save*
- To Check a Sighting's Location
 - From Menu, tap *My Points*
 - Tap the point
 - Tap little map between sunrise & sunset
- To Edit a Sighting's Description
 - Long tap on the Waypoint
- To Share Your Sightings (later at home)
 - Export them to a file
 - ☐ Tap *My Points*
 - ☐ Tap *Export GPX*
 - ☐ Choose a folder, eg *Download*
 - ☐ Tap *OK*
 - Email the file
 - ☐ Create an email to hogweed@elcv.org.uk
 - ☐ Enter Subject: *Survey of where & when*
 - ☐ Attach the exported file *Compass_Navigator.gpx* from *your folder*
 - ☐ Send it
 - ☐ Congratulate yourself!

Apple: MotionX-GPS (Obselete, as app discontinued)

- ◆ Install the App
 - On the App Store, download & install: [*MotionX-GPS*](#)
(Unfortunately nothing is free on Apple, but its only £1.99). Needs IOS 11 or later
 - To reduce battery usage, under Settings, change *Location* to *While Using*
 - Below we refer to the "hamburger" menu, it looks like this: ☰
- ◆ To Record a Sighting
 - Tap *Menu*
 - Tap *My Position* & wait till accuracy stops improving
 - Tap *Menu*
 - Tap *Waypoints*
 - Tap the big + sign
 - If the plant is next to you:
 - Tap *Current Location*
 - Tap *Edit this Waypoint*
 - If the plant is not next to you, eg its on the other bank
 - Tap *Use Tap tool on Map*
 - Move the map until the marker (likely named *Wypt xxx*) is in right location
 - Tap *Create*
 - Enter the details
 - Delete the existing text (eg *Wypt 003*) & enter:
 - Plant, count, size, bank, locator, initials
(date & time are provided in Notes)
Eg GH x3 4ft S bank downstream A1 bridge DQ
- ◆ To Check/Change a Sighting
 - From Menu, tap *Waypoints*
 - Tap *All Waypoints* or *Recently Added*
 - (Optional: hamburger menu to Sort By: whatever you want)
 - Tap the waypoint: the location & name are shown
 - To alter the text, tap the details
 - To alter the location, tap *Edit*
 - Drag map to correct location
 - Tap *Place*
- ◆ To Share Your Sightings (later at home)
 - From Menu tap *All Waypoints*
 - Tap hamburger then *Export Waypoints*
 - Tap *Select All*
 - Tap *Export*
 - Shows an email pre-filled with suitable text & all waypoint files attached
 - To field: enter *Hogweed@elcv.org.uk*
 - Subject field: enter *Survey of where & when*
 - Send it
 - Congratulate yourself