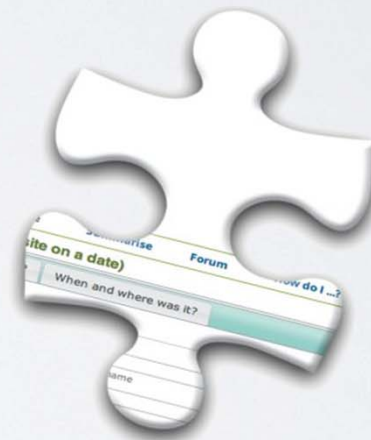# INDICIA AS A RECORDER 6 REPLACEMENT

OVERVIEW

- A toolkit for building web-based solutions which support wildlife records.

- Not a shrink-wrapped package.

- Focuses on the capture and reporting of observations and doesn't aspire to be the comprehensive database that Recorder 6 was intended to be.

- Using Indicia software does not commit you to adhering to BRC or the NBN's expectations of data flow. The software is free and without restrictions on how you use the data.

DATA MODEL 1

✔Simpler data model is easier to learn than Recorder .

✔Designed to be simple and flexible.

✖Therefore not so comprehensive and support for some database concepts from R6 must be added by configuration (e.g. sources/references) and others may be missing entirely.

✔Writing code for modules which support additional database entities is possible.

DATA MODEL 2

✔Can support varied recording methodologies, e.g. UKBMS transects, Seasearch.

✔Supports full audit trails on key tables.

✔PostgreSQL + PostGIS has excellent support for spatial data.

DATA MODEL 3

Example missing or additional entities:

✗References

✗Biotopes

✗Admin areas

✗Location features

✗Addresses

✓Groups/activities/events/bioblitzes

✓Samples hierarchical rather than events -> samples hierarchy = More flexibility

✓Can simulate most missing entities via configuration

FEATURES 1

✔Capable of holding millions of records

✔Robust support for record verification including integration with Record Cleaner.

✔Verification decisions are immediately available to recorders with notifications facilities.

✔Highly configurable.

✔Can be configured to support associations, species traits and other ecological concepts (see Pantheon).

✘No Report Wizard.

✔Reporting tools are fairly robust, powerful and flexible.

FEATURES 2

✓ Import CSV files of species observations.

✓ Can potentially code synchronisations or imports from other databases via API.

✗ Importer requires more up-front work to prepare the data.

✗ Importer is slower as it processes things in small bite-size chunks which don't overload the shared server.

FEATURES 3

✓Can generate alerts when records meeting any filter are input (e.g. non-natives, incoming records to verify).

✓Can build user interfaces allowing recorders to input their records directly from home.

✓Can build reporting tools for your recorders to get instantaneous feedback.

✓Integrates easily with web-mapping tools (Google Maps, Open Layers etc) and can provide standard web services to link to GIS/Google Earth etc.

✓Growing library of mobile applications, some of which are open source so could be leveraged.

INFRASTRUCTURE

✓ Web based - run user interface in a browser so no need to install on each client significantly reducing support costs.

✓ Possibility for centralising support costs and sharing.

✗ Needs a web server with support for PostgreSQL though this could be shared.

✗ **Database held remotely so implications for building tools and direct querying, though there are workarounds.**

SUPPORT

✔Well supported

✔Free and Open Source

✔A reasonable availability of tutorials and documentation

✔A bigger community of developers than Recorder 6

✖Getting started documentation could be better

✖Highly configurable but this requires expertise with a learning curve

QUESTIONS?