

## Details

### Animal Tracking Data (Movebank)

Movebank is a free online infrastructure created to help researchers manage, share, analyze, and archive animal movement data. The Movebank project is coordinated by the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, and the University of Konstanz. Movebank collaborates with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the United States Geological Survey. Movebank has long-term (>20 years) funding and is intended to become a global data archive for animal movement data. Movebank has over 1,400 users including people from universities, government agencies, and other research and conservation groups around the world. Movebank is a resource open to all researchers and organizations regardless of species, study area, or source of funding. Movebank users retain ownership of their data and can choose whether or not to make their data available to the public. We encourage collaborations between researchers, conservation groups, and government to re-use animal tracking data and give it a second life. The database is designed primarily for data sets that include multiple locations of individual animals, commonly referred to as tracking data. It also allows inclusion of a growing number of additional attributes, including descriptive information about animals and tags, manufacturer-specific measurements, and data from other bio-logging sensors attached to animals. In addition to the main database, the Movebank Data Repository allows researchers to submit data sets in Movebank for publication. Submitted data sets undergo a review process and if accepted receive a persistent identifier (DOI), are licensed, and are archived and made permanently available online by the University of Konstanz.

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### Host Institution

**Max Planck Institute for Ornithology**  
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78315 Radolfzell  
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Deutschland  
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### Scientific Domain

**Primary Subjects:**

- Biology

**Secondary Subjects:**

- Agriculture, Forestry, Horticulture and Veterinary Medicine
- Geosciences (including Geography)

### Category

Research data repositories

### Scientific Services

Information about animal movement is important to addressing environmental challenges such as climate and land use change, biodiversity loss, invasive species, and infectious diseases. Advances in technologies for tracking animal movement are allowing researchers to collect increasingly large amounts of animal movement data. However, working with these large data sets remains a challenge, and a large fraction of these data exist only on personal computers and are not professionally catalogued or archived. Movebank was designed to help researchers effectively use their collected animal movement data and to support permanent public archiving of these data. The Movebank project was started in 2007 by a group of researchers from the New York State Museum, Princeton University, and the San Diego Supercomputer Center funded by a grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation. Movebank is

currently funded by grants from the German Science Foundation and the U.S. National Science Foundation, and has long-term support from the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, the New York State Museum, and the University of Konstanz.

## Scientific Equipment

## Keywords

- animal tracking data
- animal migration data
- global biodiversity

## Networks

## Users per annum

**Internal Users:**

**External Users in total:**

**External Users:**

**External Users in the EU:**

**External Users outside of EU:**