



# Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC)

## SUMMIT VI

**Larry M. Page, Director of iDigBio**

## **ADBC:**

**The overarching goal is to increase access, visibility, and use of natural history collections data to increase awareness and support for natural history collections – as a resource to improve our understanding of biodiversity.**

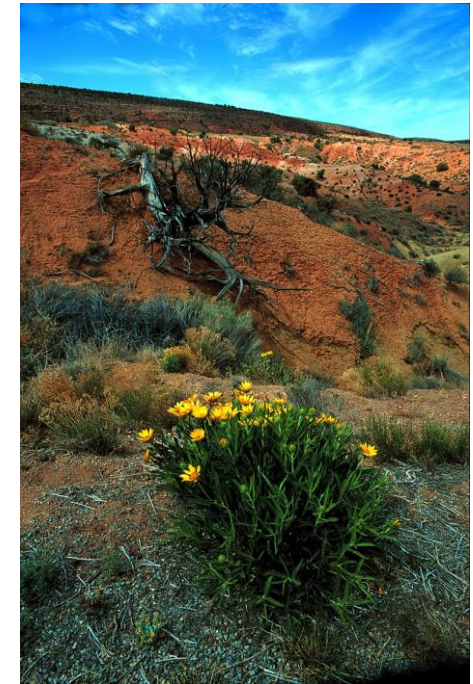
**The single largest source of information on biological diversity (outside nature) is our natural history collections.**

**1600 collections in USA**



**1 billion specimens  
in USA**

**3 billion specimens  
globally**



# Biodiversity Collections are used by:

**Taxonomists to study variation among individuals & populations to discover and describe species**

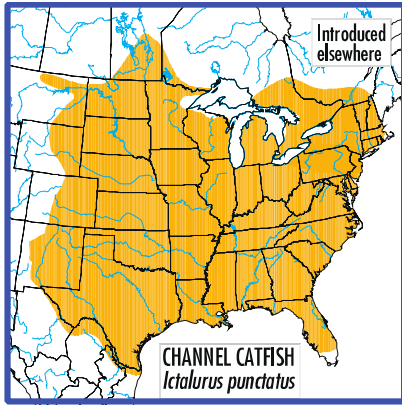
**Phylogeneticists and other evolutionary biologists to study history of life on Earth**

**Ecologists to understand Interrelationships among species**

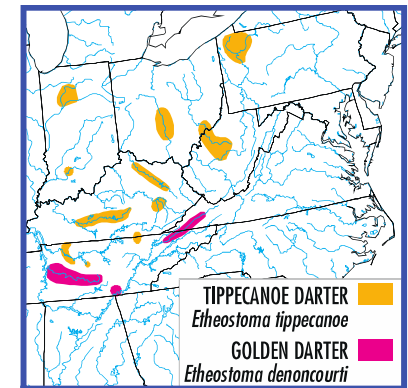
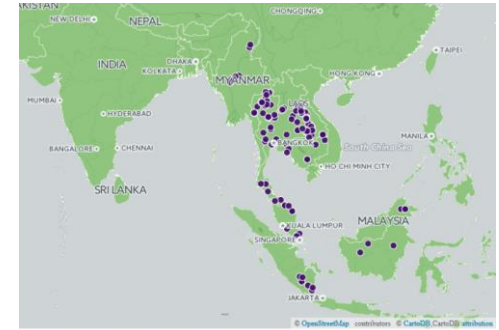


**Name**  
**Locality**  
**Date**



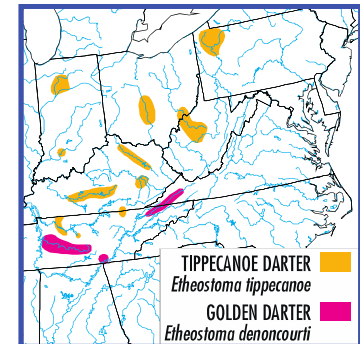
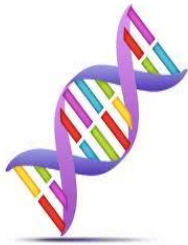
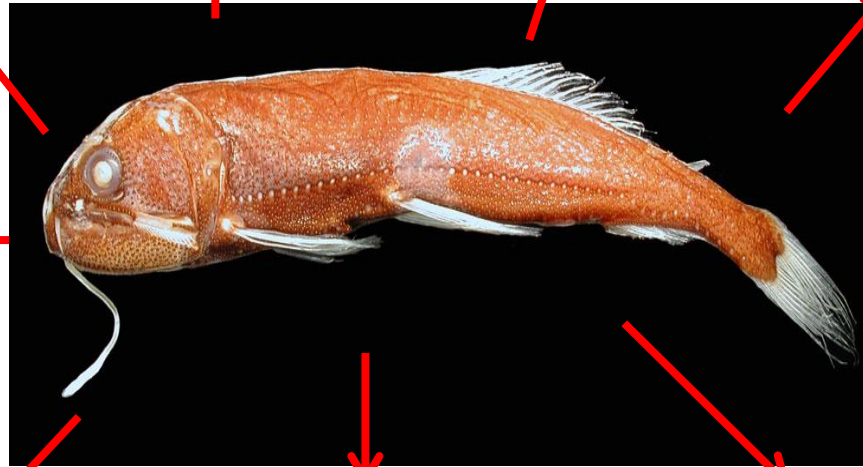
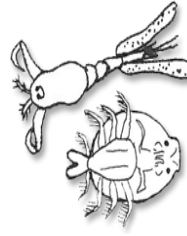


**Name**  
**Locality**  
**Date**





**Name**  
**Locality**  
**Date**





## Collections in U.S.A. are recognized as being extremely valuable





# U.S. National Science Foundation

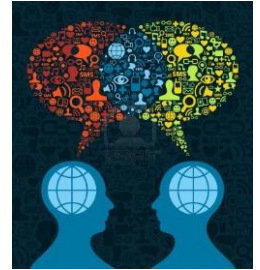
*In response to the scientific community*

## Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections Program (ADBC)

- The goal of **ADBC** is to remove the *inaccessibility of data* through **digitization**: information online -- for researchers, educators, policymakers, etc.



\$100 million over 10 years  
non-federal collections

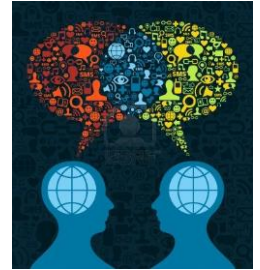


## Coordinating Center for the ADBC Program



- Engages the collections community
- Facilitates digitization and mobilization of data
- **3,084 participants from 482 institutions at 82 workshops**
- **2,486 participants at 74 webinars**





## Coordinating Center for the ADBC Program



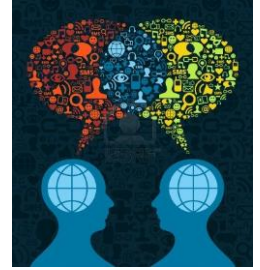
- Provides a search portal
- Facilitates research and outreach

**Portal has 842 datasets with  
73M specimen-based records  
≈220M specimens, and 16M  
associated media records**





## Thematic Collections Networks (TCNs)



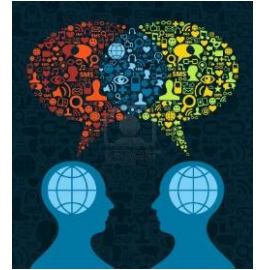
**Groups of non-federal institutions**

- **Digitize specimen-based data around a research theme**
- **Digitizing = databasing, georeferencing, imaging**
- **Provide data to iDigBio's search portal**
- **Collaborate on research and outreach**



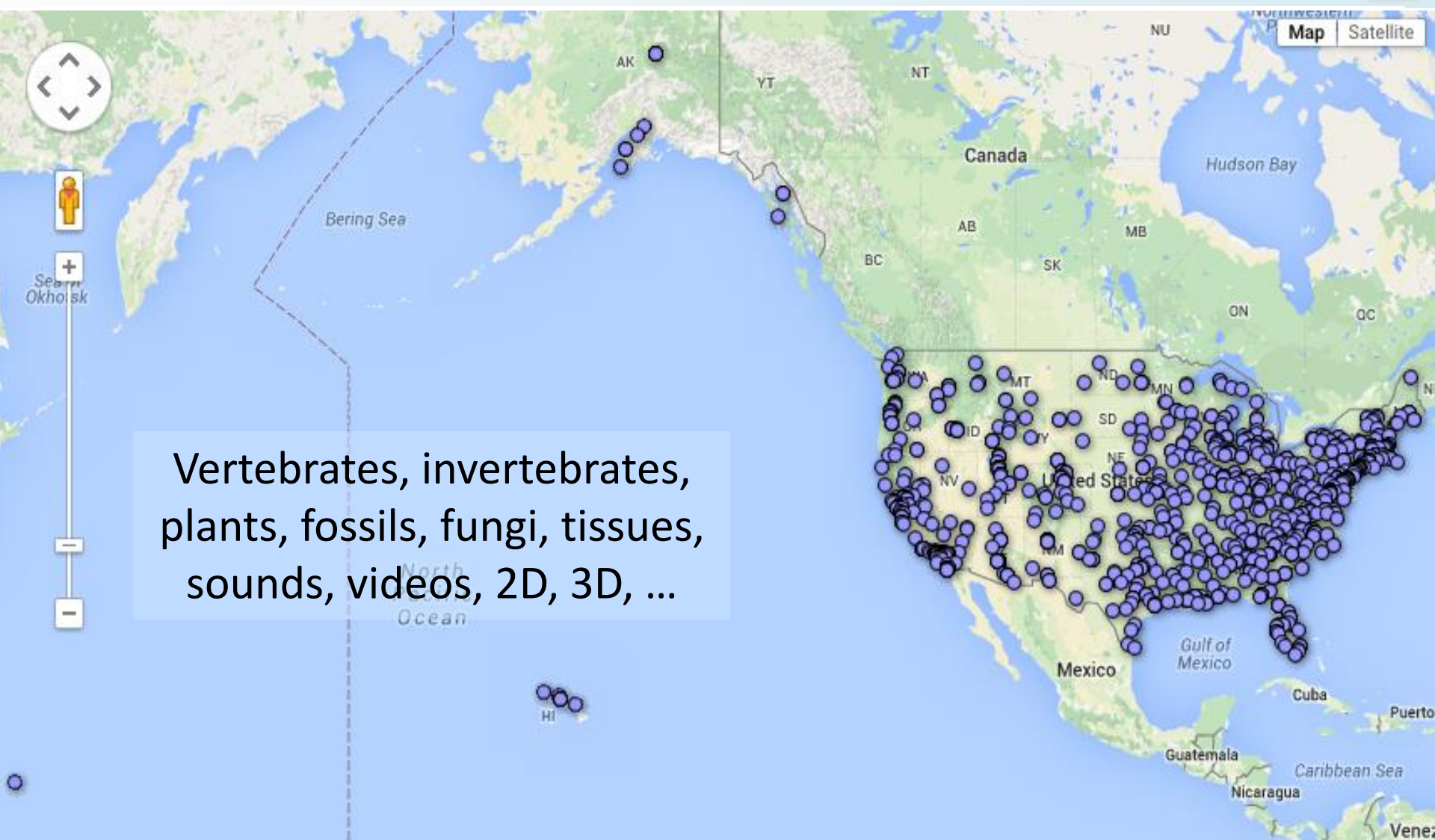


## Thematic Collections Networks (TCNs)



- **18 TCNs + 15 PENs**
- **450 collections at 289 institutions**





Vertebrates, invertebrates,  
plants, fossils, fungi, tissues,  
sounds, videos, 2D, 3D, ...

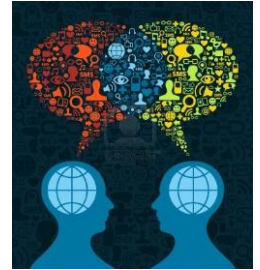
**495 collections in 289 institutions in 50 states (18 TCNs + 17 PENs)**

# BIODIVERSITY



Thank you!

Photos: M. Jeffords & G. Paulay



➤ **Roland Roberts,  
Program Director at NSF**

**Bright future for ADBC, CSBR, and the many programs at NSF that rely on data from natural history collections!**

