

To: Dr. Robert Pastel and Professor Stefka Hristova
From: Team Dead Birds
Date: February 21, 2016
Subject: Design Change Document #1

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to list the changes suggested to the team by the professors, the graduate students, and the scientist for the team. Not all changes will be implemented due to limitations of the application or for design reasons, but all feedback will be acknowledged and discussed within the team.

Design Feedback

The feedback the team received from the professors and graduate students was very helpful. The main concern seemed to be the dark colors chosen for the prototype, so the team has decided to go with a blue color schema. The team decided red would correlate too much with the purpose of the application and a blue color schema would be easier on a user's eyes.

Another design aspect the team is changing is the size of the photo function on the form view. The team decided that the photo function was taking up too much space on the form view, which would force the forms to either scroll or be set to another view, which is not ideal for the user. The size of the photo function will scale to the device being used, whether it is a phone or a computer.

One of our graduate students mentioned that the team should write a small 'about us' section to tell a user about the purpose of the application and why a user would want to utilize it. The team is unsure of where a segment like that would go, and there were a few suggestions to put it in our navigation bar as a separate page.

Function Feedback

There was a lot of feedback about the functionality of the application from both the professors and graduate students alike. The scientist for the team was pleased with how the forms and map would function. He agreed with the team that a regular map view (with points) should show up before the heat map, in case a user didn't care about the heat map. The team also discussed how a heat map would function with fewer data points and how the colors of the heat map would reflect that.

The idea of including a login screen was something the team had discussed but did not include in the cognitive walkthrough. Feedback suggested that the team include one, along with the ability to use a guest account if a user did not want to log in or did not have time to log in.

The team mentioned to the client a question about whether or not it was worth it to measure the age of the carcass. This is a change that the scientist was interested in seeing on the form and has elected to send the team information on what the client uses in his own classroom.

One of the team's graduate students suggested that there should be a 'back' or 'edit picture' button in the form view, as a user may select the wrong image and want to change it. This is not something the team has discussed just yet, but it is a function we will consider trying to add if possible.

Changes

The team will be making the changes to the design to incorporate something brighter so the screen will not be a hindrance to a user. The team will also be implementing the ability to log in and for users to check their past submissions. As of now, the team is only focusing on building one form for all users, as trying to incorporate three different types of user groups is more expansive.

For the map, the team will be including a search function, a way to organize tabs, as well as change the location from coordinates to city and state. The heat map view will have lowered sensitivity, allowing for denser, more saturated colors on the map even with fewer data points. The team decided that a regular map view as a default would be better suited for non scientific users or users who have little smartphone experience.

The team will also be implementing a short confirmation screen or alert to let the user know that their submission was successful. This ensures that the user can safely close the application without worrying that the submission would not be saved.