

Package ‘natserv’

May 9, 2026

Title 'NatureServe' Interface

Description Interface to 'NatureServe' (<<https://www.natureserve.org/>>).
Includes methods to get data, image metadata, search taxonomic names,
and make maps.

Version 1.0.0

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URL <https://docs.ropensci.org/natserv>,
<https://github.com/ropensci/natserv>

BugReports <https://github.com/ropensci/natserv/issues>

LazyData true

VignetteBuilder knitr

Language en-US

Encoding UTF-8

Depends R(>= 3.2.1)

Imports crul (>= 0.7.0), jsonlite, tibble

Suggests testthat, knitr, vcr

RoxygenNote 7.1.0

X-schema.org-applicationCategory Taxonomy

X-schema.org-keywords taxonomy, species, API, web-services,
NatureServe, metadata, maps

X-schema.org-isPartOf <https://ropensci.org>

NeedsCompilation no

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natserv-package	<i>natserv</i>
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Description

Interface to NatureServe <https://www.natureserve.org/>

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nat_states	<i>A data.frame with 49 rows and 2 columns</i>
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Description

- state (character) state 2 letter abbreviation
- state_name (character) state full name

ns_altid	<i>Get taxon by uid, id, or elCode</i>
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Description

Get taxon by uid, id, or elCode

Usage

```
ns_altid(uid = NULL, id = NULL, el_code = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

uid	(character) A NatureServe taxon id (The taxon's Element Global UID)
id	The primary key value (ELEMENT_GLOBAL_ID) of the record within Central Biotics
el_code	The Biotics Element Code (ELCODE_BCD) of the record
...	Curl options passed on to verb-GET

Details

see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_taxon_data_model for details on the response data

Value

A list with lots of elements

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

Examples

```
## Not run:  
ns_altid(uid = "ELEMENT_GLOBAL.2.154701")  
ns_altid(id = "154701")  
ns_altid(el_code = "PDRAN0F010")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

ns_ecohier	<i>Get a summary of the upper level hierarchy for an Ecosystem record</i>
------------	---

Description

Get a summary of the upper level hierarchy for an Ecosystem record

Usage

```
ns_ecohier(uid, ...)
```

Arguments

uid	(character) A NatureServe taxon id (The taxon's Element Global UID)
...	Curl options passed on to verb-GET

Details

see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_taxon_data_model for details on the response data

Value

A list with lots of elements

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

Examples

```
## Not run:  
ns_ecohier("ELEMENT_GLOBAL.2.683060")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

ns_export	<i>Search exports</i>
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Description

Search exports

Usage

```

ns_export(
  text = NULL,
  text_adv = NULL,
  status = NULL,
  location = NULL,
  record_type = NULL,
  record_subtype = NULL,
  modified_since = NULL,
  format = "json",
  lang = "en",
  ...
)

ns_export_status(id, ...)

```

Arguments

text	(character) basic text search, equivalent to text_adv with matchAgainst="allNames" and operator="similarTo"
text_adv	(list) advanced search, must specify the following three elements: searchToken, matchAgainst, and operator. see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_advanced_text_search_parameters
status	(character) conservation status, one of G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, GH, GX, GNR, GNA, GU. case insensitive
location	(list) location, country and sub-country. specify either nation OR nation and subnation. each expects a two-letter ISO code
record_type	(character) limit results by record type, one of "species" or "ecosystem"
record_subtype	(character) limit results by record sub-type, one of: "class", "subclass", "formation", "division", "macrogroup", "group", "alliance", "association", "terrestrial_ecological_system"
modified_since	(character) search for records modified since a given time. value must be a date and time with a UTC offset in ISO 8601 format. optional
format	(character) output format, one of "json" or "xlsx"
lang	(character) language, one of "en", "es", or "fr"
...	Curl options passed on to verb-GET
id	(character) a job id, from output of ns_export()

Value

ns_export() returns a single character string (a job id) ns_export_status() returns a list of metadata concerning the status of the export

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

Examples

```
## Not run:
x <- ns_export(text = "robin")
res <- ns_export_status(x)
str(res)
res$state
res$data$errorMessage
res$data$url

w <- ns_export(text_adv = list(searchToken = "western",
  matchAgainst="allScientificNames", operator="startsWith"))
m <- ns_export_status(w)
head(jsonlite::fromJSON(m$data$url))

## End(Not run)
```

ns_id

Get taxon by uid

Description

Get taxon by uid

Usage

```
ns_id(uid, ...)
```

Arguments

uid (character) A NatureServe taxon id (The taxon's Element Global UID). required.
 ... Curl options passed on to [verb-GET](#)

Details

see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_taxon_data_model for details on the response data

Value

A list with lots of elements

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

Examples

```
## Not run:
ns_id("ELEMENT_GLOBAL.2.154701")

## End(Not run)
```

ns_search_comb	<i>Combined search</i>
----------------	------------------------

Description

Combined search

Usage

```
ns_search_comb(
  text = NULL,
  text_adv = NULL,
  status = NULL,
  location = NULL,
  record_type = NULL,
  record_subtype = NULL,
  modified_since = NULL,
  page = NULL,
  per_page = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

text	(character) basic text search, equivalent to text_adv with matchAgainst="allNames" and operator="similarTo"
text_adv	(list) advanced search, must specify the following three elements: searchToken, matchAgainst, and operator. see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_advanced_text_search_pa
status	(character) conservation status, one of G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, GH, GX, GNR, GNA, GU. case insensitive
location	(list) location, country and sub-country. specify either nation OR nation and subnation. each expects a two-letter ISO code
record_type	(character) limit results by record type, one of "species" or "ecosystem"
record_subtype	(character) limit results by record sub-type, one of: "class", "subclass", "formation", "division", "macrogroup", "group", "alliance", "association", "terrestrial_ecological_system"
modified_since	(character) search for records modified since a given time. value must be a date and time with a UTC offset in ISO 8601 format. optional
page	(integer) Zero-indexed page number; default: 0. optional
per_page	(integer) Records per page; default: 20. optional
...	Curl options passed on to verb-GET

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

See Also

Other search: [ns_search_eco\(\)](#), [ns_search_spp\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
ns_search_comb(text = "robin")
ns_search_comb(text_adv = list(searchToken = "western",
  matchAgainst="allScientificNames", operator="startsWith"))
ns_search_comb(status = "G1")
ns_search_comb(location = list(nation = "US"))
ns_search_comb(location = list(nation = "US", subnation = "VA"))
ns_search_comb(record_type = "species")
ns_search_comb(record_subtype = "macrogroup")
ns_search_comb(modified_since = "2020-04-30T00:00:00+0000")
ns_search_comb(page = 0, per_page = 2)

## End(Not run)
```

ns_search_eco

Ecosystem search

Description

Ecosystem search

Usage

```
ns_search_eco(
  text = NULL,
  text_adv = NULL,
  status = NULL,
  location = NULL,
  ecosystem_taxonomy = NULL,
  record_subtype = NULL,
  modified_since = NULL,
  page = NULL,
  per_page = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

text (character) basic text search, equivalent to text_adv with matchAgainst="allNames" and operator="similarTo"

text_adv (list) advanced search, must specify the following three elements: searchToken, matchAgainst, and operator. see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_advanced_text_search_pa

status	(character) conservation status, one of G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, GH, GX, GNR, GNA, GU. case insensitive
location	(list) location, country and sub-country. specify either nation OR nation and subnation. each expects a two-letter ISO code
ecosystem_taxonomy	(character) the classification code of the higher level (ancestor) ecosystem. E.g.'s: "1" (Class code), "1.B" (Subclass code), "1.B.2" (Formation code), "1.B.2.Nd" (Division code), "M886" (Macrogroup key), "G206" (Group key), "A3328" (Alliance Key)
record_subtype	(character) limit results by record sub-type, one of: "class", "subclass", "formation", "division", "macrogroup", "group", "alliance", "association", "terrestrial_ecological_system"
modified_since	(character) search for records modified since a given time. value must be a date and time with a UTC offset in ISO 8601 format. optional
page	(integer) Zero-indexed page number; default: 0. optional
per_page	(integer) Records per page; default: 20. optional
...	Curl options passed on to verb-GET

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

See Also

Other search: [ns_search_comb\(\)](#), [ns_search_spp\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
ns_search_eco(text = "robin")
ns_search_eco(text_adv = list(searchToken = "bird",
  matchAgainst = "allNames", operator="similarTo"))
ns_search_eco(status = "G1")
ns_search_eco(location = list(nation = "US"))
ns_search_eco(location = list(nation = "US", subnation = "VA"))
ns_search_eco(ecosystem_taxonomy = "M067")
ns_search_eco(record_subtype = "macrogroup")
ns_search_eco(modified_since = "2020-04-30T00:00:00+0000")
ns_search_eco(page = 0, per_page = 2)

## End(Not run)
```

 ns_search_spp

Species search

Description

Species search

Usage

```
ns_search_spp(
  text = NULL,
  text_adv = NULL,
  status = NULL,
  location = NULL,
  species_taxonomy = NULL,
  record_subtype = NULL,
  modified_since = NULL,
  page = NULL,
  per_page = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

text	(character) basic text search, equivalent to text_adv with matchAgainst="allNames" and operator="similarTo"
text_adv	(list) advanced search, must specify the following three elements: searchToken, matchAgainst, and operator. see https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/#_advanced_text_search_pa
status	(character) conservation status, one of G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, GH, GX, GNR, GNA, GU. case insensitive
location	(list) location, country and sub-country. specify either nation OR nation and subnation. each expects a two-letter ISO code
species_taxonomy	(list) species taxonomy. either a list with level and scientificTaxonomy (a scientific name), or with just informalTaxonomy (a vernacular name). possible level values: "kingdom", "phylum", "class", "order", "family", "genus"
record_subtype	(character) limit results by record sub-type, one of: "class", "subclass", "formation", "division", "macrogroup", "group", "alliance", "association", "terrestrial_ecological_system"
modified_since	(character) search for records modified since a given time. value must be a date and time with a UTC offset in ISO 8601 format. optional
page	(integer) Zero-indexed page number; default: 0. optional
per_page	(integer) Records per page; default: 20. optional
...	Curl options passed on to verb-GET

References

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/api-docs/>

See Also

Other search: [ns_search_comb\(\)](#), [ns_search_eco\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
ns_search_spp(text = "robin")
ns_search_spp(text_adv = list(searchToken = "bird",
  matchAgainst = "allNames", operator="similarTo"))
ns_search_spp(status = "G1")
ns_search_spp(location = list(nation = "US"))
ns_search_spp(location = list(nation = "US", subnation = "VA"))
ns_search_spp(species_taxonomy = list(scientificTaxonomy = "Animalia", level = "kingdom"))
ns_search_spp(species_taxonomy = list(informalTaxonomy = "birds"))
ns_search_spp(record_subtype = "macrogroup")
ns_search_spp(modified_since = "2020-04-30T00:00:00+0000")
ns_search_spp(page = 0, per_page = 2)

## End(Not run)
```

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