

# The Image Is Not Decoration

A note on why images had to become part of the publishing workflow once observation itself became visual.

2026.03.21 16:31 DENNIS HEDEGREEN BUILD OPEN-NOTE

[HTTPS://HEDEGREENRESEARCH.COM/ARTICLES/THE-IMAGE-IS-NOT-DECORATION/](https://hedegreenresearch.com/articles/the-image-is-not-decoration/)

---

I was writing an article about the bio log system.

It was also the first time one of these articles could not rely on text alone.

That meant the publishing system had to change.

Until then, images were still outside the workflow.

That meant manual naming, manual sorting, and separate upload decisions.

That is how friction gets back in.

So images had to become part of the article flow itself.

Not something handled after writing.

Part of publishing.

The system now has a place for raw images and a place for public ones.

Raw files go in one place.

The terminal handles the rest.

Files are selected, moved, renamed, and returned as ready-to-use HTML.

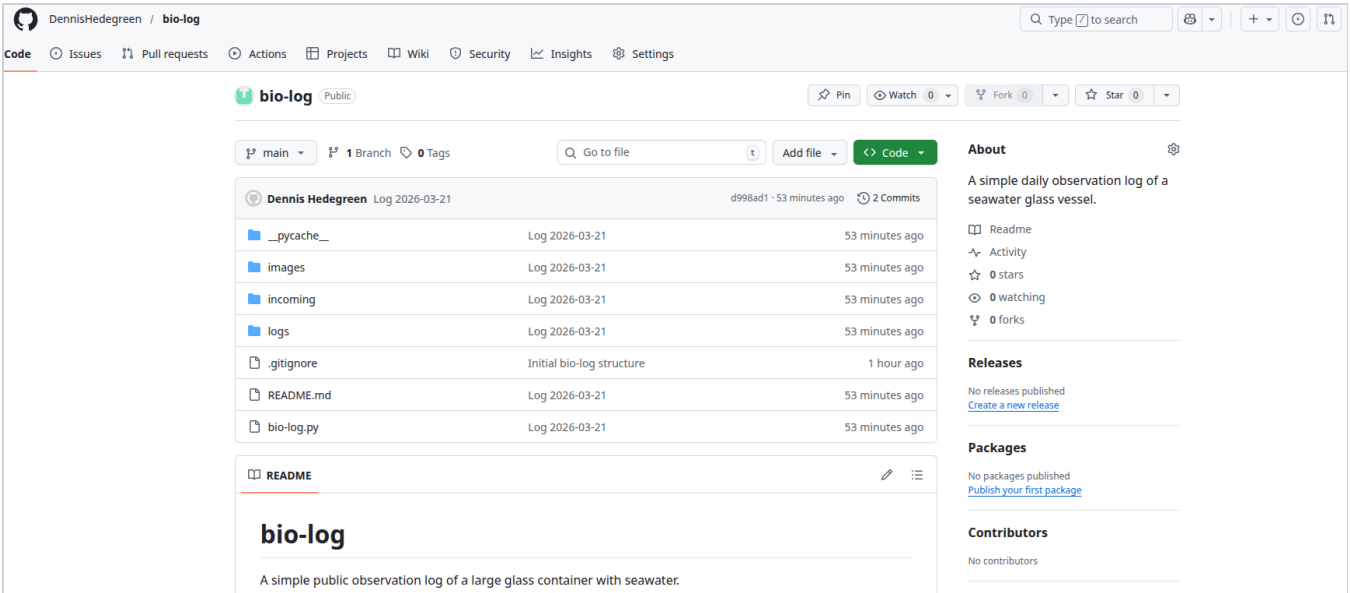
They upload with the rest of the article.

This is a small infrastructure change.

But it changes what the system can hold.

Text can describe an observation.

Images can document it.



The image pipeline became part of publishing instead of staying outside the workflow.

That is a different kind of record.

Especially for anything physical or slow-moving.

The image is not decoration.

It is evidence.

The system now handles images as part of publishing.

No extra steps.

No separate process.

The bio log article no longer has to be reduced to text.

— Dennis Hedegreen

RELATION MEMORY

SYSTEM REQUIREMENT [Publishing Became a Command](#) · The publish command has to carry images as evidence and observation record, not only as page decoration.

NEARBY [The Front Page Stopped Being Enough](#) · Image evidence adds pressure to the archive and article surface, not just the homepage.