

Changes from the WA Museum Checklist from September 2018 (updated April 2019)

Reptiles and Frogs

Revision of the tree dragons. A taxonomic revision based on genetic and morphological comparisons resulted in several name changes for Western Australian dragons. These include:

- Resurrection of *Amphibolurus centralis* (Loveridge, 1933); included as belonging to the WA fauna based on a single specimen from near Wolf Creek at the Queensland Museum.
- Description of a new species from *Lophognathus horneri* Melville, Ritchie, Chapple, Glor & Schulte, 2018. This species replaces *L. gilberti* Gray, 1842 throughout WA, except for a genotyped record of an *L. gilberti* in the Kimberley from Anjo Peninsula.

Melville, J., Ritchie, E.G., Chapple, S.N.J., Glor, R.E. & Schulte II, J.A. (2018). Diversity in Australia's tropical savannas: An integrative taxonomic revision of agamid lizards from the genera *Amphibolurus* and *Lophognathus* (Lacertilia: Agamidae). *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* **77**: 41–61.

Taxonomic changes to turtle names (again). The recent paper of Kehlmaier et al. (2019) genotyped key type specimens to resolve taxonomic problems in freshwater turtles. They found evidence that *Chelodina kuchlingi* Cann, 1997 was a distinctive species. In addition, they found the type of *C. oblonga* Gray, 1841 possessed a genetic signature similar to that of *C. colliei* Gray, 1856, contrary to previous morphological analyses. They propose therefore to list *C. oblonga* as a *nomen dubium* and use *C. rugosa* Ogilby, 1890 for the Northern Territory species. There's a single genotyped record from A. Georges (University of Canberra), but more work needs to be conducted to unequivocally confirm this species occurs in WA.

Kehlmaier, C., Zhang, X., Georges, G., Campbell, P.D., Thomson, S. & Fritz, U. (2019). Mitogenomics of historical type specimens of Australasian turtles: clarification of taxonomic confusion and old mitochondrial introgression. *Science Reports* **9**: 5841 (8 pages).

Water python name. We follow the Australian Society of Herpetologists taxonomic checklist, and maintain *Liasis fuscus* (Peters, 1873) for the water python.

Birds

Alström *et al.* 2018 have proposed a major reclassification of the grassbirds and allies and these changes are being assessed as some species still have uncertain relationships.

Birds – State. Added – Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* – one photographed at Herdsman Lake, February 2019.

Birds – Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) islands. Added – Chestnut-winged Cuckoo *Clamator coromandus*.

Mammals

A new species of Pig-footed bandicoot. A taxonomic revision of the Pig-footed bandicoot, *Chaeropus ecaudatus* has uncovered that this species needed to be revised. A new species, *Chaeropus yirratji*, is described, and occurred in WA. *Chaeropus ecaudatus* is also split into two subspecies, with *C. e. occidentalis* occurring in WA.

Travouillon, K.J., Simoes, B. F., Portela Miguez, R., Brace, S., Brewer, P., Stemmer, D., Price, G.J., Cramb, J. & Louys, J. (2019). Hidden in plain sight: reassessment of the pig-footed bandicoot, *Chaeropus ecaudatus* (Peramelemorphia, Chaeropodidae), with a description of a new species from central Australia, and use of the fossil record to trace its past distribution. *Zootaxa* 4566(1): 001-069.

The Dingo debate. Two papers were published back to back discussing the status of the Dingo either as a separate species to Dogs, or as the same species as the Dog. Upon reviewing both arguments, the dingo is considered here a subspecies of dog, a compromise which hasn't been suggested by either paper.

Smith B.P, Cairns K.M, Crowther M.S, Adams J.W, Newsome T.M, Fillios M, Deaux E.C., Parr W.C.H, Letnic M., van Eeden L.M., Appleby R.G., Bradshaw C.J.A, Savolainen P., Ritchie E.G., Nimmo D.G., Archer-Lean C., Greenville A.C., Dickman C.R., Watson L., Moseby K.E., Doherty T.S., Wallach A.D. & Marrant D.S. (2019). Taxonomic status and nomenclature of Australia's native canid: the case to retain *Canis dingo* (Meyer 1793). *Zootaxa* 4564: 173-197.

Jackson S. M., Fleming P. J. S., Eldridge M. D. B., Ingleby S., Flannery T. I. M., Johnson R. N., Cooper S. J. B., Mitchell K. J., Souilmi Y., Cooper A., Wilson D.E. & Helgen K.M. (2019) The Dogma of Dingoes—Taxonomic status of the dingo: A reply to Smith et al. *Zootaxa* 4564: 198-212.