

Changes from the WA Museum Checklist from October 2019 (updated April 2020)

Reptiles and Frogs

***Tympanocryptis* taxonomic revisions.** Ongoing revisionary work by Melville and colleagues has revealed that *T. lineata* is a south-eastern species near Canberra. This results in the former subspecies of *T. lineata* – *centralis* and *macra* – being raised to full species: *T. centralis* and *T. macra*. This action was taken in the Melville & Wilson (2019).

Melville, J. & Wilson, S. (2019). *Dragon lizards of Australia: evolution, ecology and a comprehensive field guide*. Melbourne: Museum Victoria Press.

Revision of the *Gehyra australis-koira* complex. Further *Gehyra* gecko revisions have occurred, this time with the northern tropical species being examined. Based on genetics and morphology, Oliver *et al.* (2019) found evidence for nine species within the current taxonomy of *G. australis* and *G. koira* (with two subspecies). As a result of the work, *G. australis* is restricted to the Top End of the Northern Territory, and no longer occurs in WA. Instead, the WA and southern NT species formerly called *G. australis*, is now *G. gemina*.

Within the *G. koira* group, the species are: *G. koira*, *G. ipsa* (raised from a subspecies of *koira*), *G. calcitectus* and *G. chimera*.

Oliver, P.M., Prasetya, A.M., Tedeschi, L.G., Fenker, J., Ellis, R.J., Doughty, P. and Moritz, C.C. (2020). Convergence and crypsis: integrative taxonomic revision of the *Gehyra australis* group (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from northern Australia. *PeerJ*: 8:e7971. <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.7971>.

Raising of *Nephrurus wheeleri* and *Pletholax gracilis* subspecies. Each of these species contained a subspecies added by Glen Storr. Keally *et al.* (2020) used an integrated taxonomic approach to investigate the status of the subspecies, and raised both to full species.

Kealley, L., Doughty, P., Edwards, D.L. and Brennan, I.G. (2020). Taxonomic assessment of two pygopodoid gecko subspecies from Western Australia. *Israel Journal of Ecology & Evolution* **66**: 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1163/22244662-20191078>

Description of western *Emydocephalus annulatus* as a distinct species. The west coast populations of *E. annulatus* (which no longer occurs in WA) have been described as *E. orarius*, based on genetics, body size and morphology.

Nankivell, J.H., Goiran, C., Hourston, M., Shine, R., Rasmussen, A.R., Thomson, V.A. and Sanders, K.L. (2020). A new species of turtle-headed sea snake (*Emydocephalus*: Elapidae) endemic to Western Australia. *Zootaxa* **4758**: 141–156.

Miscellaneous taxonomic and spelling emendations.

- Following the Australian Society of Herpetologists' taxonomic list, no subspecies of *Varanus tristis* are recognised owing to this species' massive distribution and poorly-defined subspecific definitions.
- The specific ending of the colubrid snake *Dendrelaphis punctulatus* has been emended (from *punctulata*).
- The genera *Cerberus* and *Fordonia* have been moved to the family Homalopsidae from Colubridae.

Birds

WA State checklist

Taxon name change for Eastern Barn Owl to *Tyto javanica delicatula*.

Changes to vernacular name for Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross and Rose-crowned Fruit Dove.

Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) islands checklist

Tropical Shearwater *Puffinus bailloni* added to Christmas Island (based on photographs).

Mammals

***Petrogale lateralis* taxonomic revision.** For many years, the Black-footed Rock-wallaby has been known to have several distinct population. Recent work by Eldridge & Potter (2020) has finally given a name to two of those distinct populations, as distinct subspecies: *Petrogale lateralis centralis* for the Central Australian Rock-Wallaby, and *Petrogale lateralis kimberleyensis* for the West Kimberbey Rock-wallaby..

Eldridge, M.D.B. & Potter, S. (2020). Taxonomy of rock-wallabies, *Petrogale* (Marsupialia: Macropodidae).V. A description of two new subspecies of the black-footed rock-wallaby (*Petrogale lateralis*). *Australian Journal of Zoology*.

<https://doi.org/10.1071/ZO19063>