

Changes to the WA Museum Checklist from April 2020 (updated November 2020)

Reptiles and Frogs

Species name for the south-western long-neck turtle. After several years as *Chelodina colliei*, the south-western turtle is now back to its original name of *C. oblonga* after more taxonomic research to investigate the type specimens.

Shea, G., Thomson, S. & Georges, A. (2020). The identity of *Chelodina oblonga* Gray 1841 (Testudines: Chelidae) reassessed. *Zootaxa* **4779**: 419–437.

Change in type location of *Chelodina kuchlingi* and removal of *Chelodina rugosa*

Kuchling (2020) combed through naturalist Harry Butler's field notebooks and made use of other information to change the type location of *Chelodina kuchlingi* from Kalumburu to Parry's Lagoon in the eastern Kimberley. This raises the possibility the species may be of conservation concern, as the last specimens were collected in the 1960s.

The occurrence of *Chelodina rugosa* in Western Australia, which is more widely distributed in the Northern Territory and in the eastern Kimberley, was based on the publication of Kennett et al. (2014; as *C. oblonga*) and discussion with A. Georges (University of Canberra). However, the data points in that publication were not based on specimen or genetic records, hence we have not listed this species in the absence of stronger evidence for its occurrence.

Kuchling, G. (2020). Type locality and distribution of the Data Deficient *Chelodina kuchlingi* and a review of its status as a distinct species. *Chelonian Conservation and Biology* **19** : 48 – 57.

Kennett, R., Fordham, D.A., Alacs, E., Corey, B. and Georges, A. (2014). *Chelodina oblonga* Gray 1841 – Northern Snake-Necked Turtle. In: Rhodin, A.G.J., Pritchard, P.C.H., van Dijk, P.P., Saumure, R.A., Buhlmann, K.A., Iverson, J.B. and Mittermeier, R.A. (eds), Conservation Biology of Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises: A Compilation Project of the IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group. *Chelonian Research Monographs* **5**: 77.1–&7.13.

Revision of *Suta* and *Parasuta*, and a new species from the Pilbara. In a review of the snake genera *Parasuta* and *Suta*, Maryan et al. (2020) found that *Parasuta spectabilis bushi* a *P. s. nullarbor* were not different from *P. gouldii*, and were synonymised under *P. gouldii*. Furthermore, they found that *Parasuta* was not supported as a separate genus and synonymised under *Suta*. Pilbara populations of *S. monachus* were found to be a new species that they described as *Suta gaikhorstorum*.

In summary, all subspecies of *P. spectabilis* no longer occur in WA (*bushi* and *nullarbor* to synonymy; *spectabilis* restricted to the eastern states), *Parasuta* species transferred to *Suta* (*gouldii*, *monachus*, *nigriceps*) and one new species from the Pilbara (formerly *P. monachus*): *S. gaikhorstorum*.

Maryan, B., Brennan, I.G., Hutchinson, M.N. & Geidans, L.S. (2020). What's under the hood? Phylogeny and taxonomy of the snake genera *Parasuta* Worrell and *Suta* Worrell (Squamata: Elapidae), with a description of a new species from the Pilbara, Western Australia. *Zootaxa* **4778**: 1–47.

Birds

Changes and amendments to the previous checklists (April 2020) have been carried out with reference mainly to the International Ornithological Committee (IOC checklist Version 10.2). A brief explanation is provided for changes, incorporation of new higher-level classification and recent family, generic, specific and sub-specific changes as well as newly recorded species. Where necessary, reasons for departing

from the current IOC checklist are given, especially where the Western Australian Museum collection material and distributional data etc. differs. This information is given in the 'Comments' field of the spreadsheet and in the footnotes of the PDF version.

WA State checklist

Taxon family name change for Emu from Dromaiidae to Casuariidae.

Taxon name change for Radjah Shelduck to *Radjah radjah*.

Taxon name change for Eurasian Wigeon to *Mareca penelope*.

Taxon name change for Kerguelen Petrel to *Aphrodroma brevirostris*.

Trindade Petrel *Pterodroma arminjoniana* added.

Macscarene Petrel *Pseudobulweria aterrima* added.

Taxon name change for Tahiti Petrel to *Pseudobulweria rostrata*.

Taxon name change for Wedge-tailed Shearwater to *Ardenna pacifica*.

Taxon name change for Sooty Shearwater to *Ardenna grisea*.

Taxon name change for Short-tailed Shearwater to *Ardenna tenuirostris*.

Taxon name change for Flesh-footed Shearwater to *Ardenna carneipes*.

Taxon name change for Great Shearwater to *Ardenna gravis*.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* added.

Austral Storm Petrels genera *Oceanites*, *Garrodia*, *Pelagodroma* and *Fregetta* moved to family Oceanitidae. The Northern Storm Petrels genus *Oceanodroma* remains in Hydrobatidae.

Common Diving Petrel *Pelecanoides urinatrix* moved to family Procellariidae

Taxon name change for Australian White Ibis to *Threskiornis molucca* (species epithet treated as a noun in apposition, thus invariable).

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius* is now treated as a full species.

Taxon name change for Pied Heron to *Egretta picata*.

Taxon name change for White-faced Heron to *Egretta novaehollandiae*.

Taxon name change for Little Egret to *Egretta garzetta*.

Taxon name change for Eastern Reef Heron to *Egretta sacra*.

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris* is now treated as a full species.

Emend spelling of *ptilorhynchus* for Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*.

Emend subspecies gender for White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus leucomelana*.

Emend spelling of subspecies for Sooty Oystercatcher to *Haematopus fuliginosus ophthalmicus*.

Taxon name change for Broad-billed Sandpiper to *Calidris falcinellus*.

Taxon name change for Buff-breasted Sandpiper to *Calidris subruficollis*.

Taxon name change for Ruff to *Calidris pugnax*.

Australian Gull-billed Tern *Sterna macrotarsa* is now treated as a full species.

Grey-capped Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus regina xanthogaster* added.

Aerodramus "Nest swiftlets" *Aerodramus* spp. added for Kimberley sightings.

Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris chloris* added.

Taxon name change for Northern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo to *Calyptorhynchus banksii banksii* which includes former ssp. *macrorhynchus* as a junior synonym.

Taxon name change for Inland Red-tailed Black Cockatoo to *Calyptorhynchus banksii escondidus* formerly regarded as the western form of *C. b. samueli*.

Change of south-west ssp. of Regent Parrot to *Polytelis anthopeplus anthopeplus*.

Kimberley Honeyeater *Meliphaga fordiana* is now treated as a full species.

Quail-thrush *Cinlosoma* now separated to family Cinlosomatidae.

Shriketit *Falcunculus* now separated to monotypic family Falcunculidae.

Taxon name change for Mangrove Robin to *Peneothello pulverulenta*.

Taxon name change for Gouldian Finch to *Chloebia gouldiae*.

Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands checklist

Taxon name change for Wedge-tailed Shearwater to *Ardenna pacifica*.

Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis* added.

Taxon name change for Pied Heron to *Egretta picata*.

Taxon name change for White-faced Heron to *Egretta novaehollandiae*.

Taxon name change for Little Egret to *Egretta garzetta*.

Taxon name change for Western Reef Heron to *Egretta gularis*.

Taxon name change for Eastern Reef Heron to *Egretta sacra*.

Emend spelling of *ptilorhynchus* for Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*.

Change of vernacular name from Andrew's Rail to Cocos Buff-banded Rail.

Emend spelling of *opthalmicus* for *Haematopus fuliginosus ophthalmicus*.

Change of vernacular name from White-headed Stilt to Pied Stilt.

Taxon name change for Broad-billed Sandpiper to *Calidris falcinellus*.

Emend spelling of *annectens* for Crow-billed Drongo *Dicrurus annectens*.

Mammals

***Petaurus breviceps* taxonomic revision.** A recent genetic study of the Sugar Glider, *Petaurus breviceps*, has found that it is in fact three distinct species. The top end and Kimberley subspecies *Petaurus breviceps ariel* has been raised to species, *Petaurus ariel*, and a new common name has been selected for it, 'Savannah Glider'.

Cremora, T., Baker, A.M., Cooper, S.J.B., Montague-Drake, R., Stobo-Wilson, A.M. & Carthew, S.M. (2020). Integrative taxonomic investigation of *Petaurus breviceps* (Marsupialia: Petauridae) reveals three distinct species. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlaa060>