Changes to the WA Museum Checklist from May 2022 (updated November 2022)

Reptiles and frogs

Change of generic name to four nest-brooding *Geocrinia* species. The name *Anstisia* gen. nov. was proposed for the four former *Geocrinia* species that occur in the southwest; now – *A. alba*, *A. lutea*, *A. rosea* and *A. vitellina*. The only member of *Geocrinia* in WA is now *G. leai* (with two species in south-eastern Australia).

Webster, G.N. & Bool, I. (2022). A new genus for four myobatrachid frogs from the South Western Australian Ecoregion. *Zootaxa* **5154**: 127–151. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5154.2.2

Synonymy of *Uperoleia inundata*. A molecular and morphological analysis on the *U. borealis* species group revealed that *U. crassa* in the Kimberley region is a relatively recent invasion from populations of *U. inundata* from the Top End of the Northern Territory. The findings suggest that the calls of *U. crassa* in the Kimberley have diverged from the Top End because in the Kimberley *U. borealis* is also present, hence the evolution of fewer pulses to avoid mis-mating. *Uperoleia inundata* was synynomised with *U. crassa* to reflect the lack of morphological and molecular differentiation.

Jaya, F.R.Tanner, J.C., Whitehead, M.R., Doughty, P., Keogh, J.S., Moritz, C.C. & Catullo, R.A. (2022). Landscape genomics and sexual signals support reproductive character displacement in *Uperoleia* (Anura: Myobatrachidae). *Molecular Ecology* **31**: 4527–4543. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/mec.16597

Formal synonymy of two *Lerista* species published by Storr in 1991. Despite most of herpetology following a 2000 checklist that mentioned synonymy of *Lerista maculosa* and *L. talpina*, the paper that checklist referred to was never published. This short paper formally synonymises these two species.

Aplin, K.P., Cowan, M.A. & Doughty, P. (2022). Synonymy of two west coast *Lerista* (Reptilia: Scincidae) species. *Records of the Western Australian Museum* **37**: 22–25. https://doi:10.18195/issn.0312-3162.37.2022.022-025

A new species of *Ctenotus* skink. The molecular analysis of Prates et al. (2022) on *Ctenotus schomburgkii* revealed a cryptic, sympatric species within it. The new species, *C. kutjupa*, is know from very few specimens yet has a large distribution in the arid zone.

Prates, I., Hutchinson, M.N., Huey, J.A., Hillyer, M.J. & Rabosky, D.L. (2022). A new lizard species (Scincidae: *Ctenotus*) highlights persistent knowledge gaps on the biodiversity of Australia's central deserts. *Bulletin of the Society of Systematic Biologists* **1(2):8720** (18 pp). https://ssbbulletin.org/article/view/8720

Addition of *Ctenotus superciliaris*. This was an oversight to not list this new species of Ctenotus from the Kimberley region in Rabosky et al. (2014), despite the controversial and generally unaccepted synonymy of many species of Ctenotus described by Storr into *C. inornatus* (i.e. *helenae*, *severus*, *saxatilis*, *brachyonnyx*, *fallens*).

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1055790314001262?via%3Dihub

Elevation of *Varanus storri* subspecies to full species. A review of the *Varanus acanthurus* species group by Pavón-Vázquez et al. (2022) found that *V. storri ocreatus* was outside of the *V. acanthurus* group. This

necessitated raising both subspecies to full species. Hence *V. s. storri* from WA is now raised to full species. No other findings impacted WA *Varanus* taxonomy.

Pavón-Vázquez, C.J., Esquerré, D., Fitch, A.J., Maryan, B., Doughty, P., Donnellan, S.C., & Keogh, J.S. (2022). Between a rock and a dry place: phylogenomics, biogeography, and systematics of ridge-tailed monitors (Squamata: Varanidae: *Varanus acanthurus* complex). Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 173: 107516. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2022.107516

Synonymy of the subspecies of *Ctenotus pantherinus*. A molecular and morphological study of the *C. pantherinus* subspecies failed to recover consistent differences among subspecies. Accordingly, *C. p. acripes*, *C. p. calx* and *C. p. ocellifer* have been synonymised into *C. pantherinus* (with no subspecies).

Prates, I., Doughty, P. & Rabosky, D.L. (2022). Subspecies at the crossroads: The evolutionary significance of genomic and phenotypic variation in Australia's wide-ranging Leopard Skink. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* **XX**: zlac076 https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlac076

The threatened species status has also been updated with *Lerista praefrontalis* now listed as P1, and *Crocodylus porosus* listed as migratory.

Birds

Minor changes and amendments to the previous checklists (May 2022) have been carried out with reference mainly to the International Ornithological Committee (IOC checklist Version 12.2). A brief explanation is provided for changes. 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

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica anadyrensis* added – confirmed visiting northwest WA via satellite tracking ref. Chan *et al.* (2022).

Antipodean Albatross *Diomedea antipodensis antipodensis* added – photographed off WA south coast 2021-2022.

IOC has accepted split of MacGillivray's Prion from Salvin's Prion based on bill morphology and other more subtle morphological differences ref. Harrison *et al.* (2021) and Masello *et al.* (2022).

Cook's Petrel *Pterodroma cookii* comment amended to read: One photographed at Bremer Canyon, off Bremer Bay, February 2020.

Pycroft's Petrel *Pterodroma pycrofti* added – one photographed at Bremer Canyon, off Bremer Bay, February 2018.

Schrenck's Bittern *Ixobrychus eurhythmus* added – dead bird found near Broome, December 2020.

Eastern Osprey *Pandion haliaetus cristatus* was formerly treated by OIC as a full species and is now re-lumped based on low genetic divergence and absence of strong morphological differences (Monti *et al*. 2015, 2018) – no change to WA Museum checklist as was not formerly recognised as a full species.

Following IOC, Campbell Island Albatross added as full species, Baudin's Cockatoo and Carnaby's Cockatoo are moved to the genus *Zanda,* Silver Gull and Black-headed Gull to the genus *Chroicocephalus,* and the Laughing Gull and Franklin's Gull to the genus *Leucophaeus. Diomedea epomophora* added following vulnerable listing in WA.

Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands checklist

Vernacular for *Ninox natalis* amended from Christmas Island Hawk-Owl to Christmas Island Boobook.

The threatened species status has also been updated with *Ardenna carneipes* as vulnerable, *Calidris canutus* as endandered, *Calidris ferruginea* and *C. tenuirostris* as critically endangered, *Charadrius leschenaultii* as vulnerable, *Charadrius mongolus* as endangered, *Diomedea amsterdamensis* and *D. dabbenena* as critically endangered, *Diomedea antipodensis* as migratory, *Diomedea sanfordi* as endangered, and *D. epomophora* and *D. exulans* as vulnerable, *Numenius madagascariensis* as critically endangered, *Phoebetria fusca* as endangered, *Procellaria aequinoctialis* as vulnerable, *Sterna paradisaea* as migratory, *Thalassarche carteri* and *T. melanophris* as engandered, *Thalassarche cauta cauta, T. c. steadi, T. chlororhynchos, T. chrysostoma, T. impavida, T. salvini* as vulnerable.

Mammals

Minor changes has been made to align with the AMTC (Australasian Mammal Taxonomy Consortium: https://australianmammals.org.au/publications/amtc-species-list) including changing *Sminthopsis fuliginosus fuliginosus* to *Sminthopsis fuliginosa fuliginosa* (The species and subspecies epithet are adjectival and need to match (feminine) gender of genus)*, Canis familiaris dingo* to *Canis familiaris* (no subspecies distinction between dingoes and dogs) and removing *Zaglossus bruijnii* from the list.

The threatened species status has also been updated. This includes listing *Neophoca cinerea* as endangered, *Macroderma gigas* as vulnerable, and several marine mammals listed as migratory.