

Changes from the 2013 checklist (updated April 2014)

Reptiles and frogs (compiled by P. Doughty and R. Ellis)

Revision of the *Eremiascincus fasciolatus* species complex. Two species in WA were raised from synonymy with *E. fasciolatus* and redescribed: *E. intermedius* and *E. pallidus*. The species *E. fasciolatus* is restricted to coastal Queensland, and *E. phantasmus* is a new species from the eastern arid zone (not in WA).

Mecke, S., Doughty, P., and Donnellan, S.C. (2013) Redescription of *Eremiascincus fasciolatus* (Günther, 1867) (Reptilia: Squamata: Scincidae) with clarification of its synonyms and the description of a new species. *Zootaxa* **3701**: 473–517.

Revision of the gecko species *Diplodactylus polyophthalmus*. This paper resulted in the description of two new species *D. lateroides* and *D. nebulosus*. The range of *D. polyophthalmus* was found to be constrained to the sandplains from Perth to near Geraldton. The Darling and Stirling Range populations are now referred to as *D. lateroides*. *Diplodactylus nebulosus* is also restricted to the coast north of Perth, and was formerly referred to as *D. granariensis* from this area.

Doughty, P. & Oliver, P.M. (2013). Systematics of *Diplodactylus* (Squamata: Diplodactylidae) from the south-western Australian biodiversity hotspot: redefinition of *D. polyophthalmus* and the description of two new species. *Records of the Western Australian Museum* **28**: 44–65.

***Heteronotia spelea* revision.** A new species of *Heteronotia* gecko was described from the Pilbara region, *Heteronotia atra*. In addition, the Central Ranges *H. spelea* was described as *H. fasciolatus* (does not occur in WA).

Pepper, M., Doughty, P., Fujita, M.K., Moritz, C., and Keogh, J.S. (2013). Speciation on the rocks: integrated systematics of the *Heteronotia spelea* species complex (Gekkota: Reptilia) from Western and central Australia. *PloS ONE* **8**(11): 1–7.

***Aprasia* revisions.** Two different papers were published on *Aprasia* taxonomy.

A new species of *Aprasia* worm lizard was described from the mid-west, *Aprasia clairae*.

Maryan, B., Bush, B.G., and Adams, M. (2013). A new species of the *Aprasia repens* species-group (Squamata: Pygopodidae) from Western Australia. *Records of the Western Australian Museum* **28**: 30–43.

A new species of *Aprasia* worm lizard, *Aprasia litorea* and the synonymy of *A. fusca* into *A. rostrata*. *Aprasia fusca* is no longer recognized as a valid species in Western Australia and is now considered to be *A. rostrata*.

Maryan, B., How, R.A., and Adams, M. (2013). Morphological and molecular assessment of *Aprasia fusca* and *A. rostrata* (Squamata: Pygopodidae), with a description of a new species from the Lake MacLeod region, Western Australia. *Records of the Western Australian Museum* **28**: 144–163.

Revision of *Varanus pilbarensis* species complex. Maryan et al. (2014) recently examined morphological and molecular data in the goanna *V. pilbarensis*. They found evidence for two species in the Pilbara: *V. pilbarensis* that is in the northern Pilbara, and *V. hamersleyensis* in the southern Pilbara (largely on the Hamersley Range).

Maryan, B., Oliver, P.M., Fitch, A.J., and O’Connell, M. (2014). Molecular and morphological assessment of *Varanus pilbarensis* (Squamata: Varanidae), with a description of a new species from the southern Pilbara, Western Australia. *Zootaxa* **3768**: 139–158.

Kimberley *Uperoleia* taxonomy. Based on the result of an extensive genetic survey (Catullo et al. 2014b) and morphological and call analyses (Catullo et al. 2014a), several changes to *Uperoleia* taxonomy and distribution have occurred. These changes largely concern ‘clicking’ toadlets of the Kimberley region.

- *Uperoleia stridera* is the new name of populations formerly attributed to *U. trachyderma*. The latter occurs in the Top End of the Northern Territory and Gulf Country of Queensland, and is not in WA. The new species occurs along the southern edge of the Kimberley region along the Northern Deserts Region.
- *Uperoleia minima* occurs throughout the Kimberley plateau (i.e. north of the King Leopold and Durack barrier ranges). It was formerly believed to be restricted to the Mitchell Plateau.
- *Uperoleia lithomoda* is restricted to the eastern Kimberley (i.e. not west of the Durack Range), occurring around Kununurra, Wyndham and the Ord region, and is widely distributed through the Northern Territory and across to Queensland.

Catullo, R.A., Doughty, P., and Keogh, J.S. (2014a). A new frog species (Myobatrachidae: *Uperoleia*) from the Northern Deserts region of Australia, with a redescription of *U. trachyderma*. *Zootaxa* **3753**: 251–262.

Catullo, R.A., Lanfear, R., Doughty, P., and Keogh, J.S. (2014b). Multi-locus phylogeny of toadlets (*Uperoleia*: Myobatrachidae) and ecological niche models of their current and palaeo-distributions clarify the biogeographical boundaries of northern Australia. *Journal of Biogeography* **41**: 659–672.

Removal of the frog *Litoria dahlia* from the checklist. This species in WA is only known from a single record near Wyndham in the Kimberley from 1969. The nearest record is 330 km WNW in the Bradshaw country of the NT, where it is generally associated with floodplains. As the collection data with record is suspect, we have removed this species from the WA fauna list as we believe it is unlikely to occur in WA. Confirmation of this species' occurrence in WA would be possible by collection of a voucher specimen or clear photograph from WA.

Changes to generic status of Australian blindsnakes. The formerly synonymized genus *Anilius* Gray, 1845 was raised from synonymy and now applies to all Australian blindsnakes, except *Ramphotyphlops exocoeti* (Christmas Island Blindsnake) which remains in the genus *Ramphotyphlops*. The introduced blindsnake *R. braminus* now belongs to the genus *Indotyphlops*.

Hedges, S.B., Marion, A.B., Lipp, K.M., Marin, J., and Vidal, N. (2014). A taxonomic framework for typhlopoid snakes from the Caribbean and other regions (Reptilia, Squamata). *Caribbean Herpetology* **49**:1–61.

Changes to the families of skinks. Several groups of Australian skinks have been elevated to family status. Scincidae no longer occurs in Australia, and the new families are Egerniidae, Eugongylidae and Sphenomorphidae.

Hedges, S.B. (2014). The high-level classification of skinks (Reptilia, Squamata, Scincomorpha). *Zootaxa* **3765**: 317–338.

Addition of *Chelodina oblonga*. A recent treatment of *C. oblonga* (formerly *C. rugosa*) by Kennett et al. (2014) included this taxon in the far north-east of the state. Although it apparently hybridizes with the more widely-distributed *C. burrungandjii*, other work supports its status as a separate species. Note the SW species is referred to as *C. colliei*.

Kennett, R., Fordham, D.A., Alacs, E., Corey, B., and Georges, A. 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, No. 5*, pp.077.1–13.

Changes from the 2013 checklist (updated June 2013)

Reptiles

Changes to sea snake genera. The molecular study of Sanders et al. (2013) found that microcephaly has evolved multiple times in the *Hydrophis* group recently. They

recommended the following genera be transferred to Hydrophis: Aclyptophis, Disteira, Enhydrina, Lapemis and Pelamis.

Sanders et al. (2013). Multilocus phylogeny and recent rapid radiation of the viviparous sea snakes (Elapidae: Hydrophiinae). *Molecular Phylogenetics & Evolution* **66**: 575–591.

Change to the species name of the south-west Oblong Turtle. The name of the south-western *Chelodina* is now *C. colliei* Gray, 1856. This follows from a decision on Case 3351 put to the ICZN, who took 8 years to reach a decision to not suppress the name *C. oblonga* Gray, 1841 in favour of *C. rugosa* Ogilby, 1890. The previous confusion was due to lack of consultation of the types in the Natural History Museum, London. The type of *C. colliei* clearly refers to the south-western species. The type of *C. rugosa* is from a northern form, and Georges and Thomson recommend current usage. The presence of a *C. oblonga-rugosa* type animal is not confirmed for WA, therefore the only recognized *Chelodina* from the Kimberley is *C. burrungandjii* Thomson, Kennett & Georges, 2000.

ICZN (2013). Opinion 2315 (Case 3351). *Chelodina rugosa* Ogilby, 1890 (currently *Macrochelodina rugosa*; Reptilia, Testudines): precedence not granted over *Chelodina oblonga* Gray, 1841. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* **70**: 57–60.

Changes from the 2012 checklist (updated January 2013)

Reptiles and Frogs

The species suffix of the arid zone frog *Neobatrachus sudelli* was emended to *N. sudellae*. Species names ending in *-i* are named for males, and *-ae* for females (and *-orum* for more than one person). The person who the species was named for was a woman.

Shea, G.M. (2012). Emendation of the specific name of the frog *Neobatrachus sudelli* (Lamb, 1911) (Anura: Myobatrachidae). *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum* **56**: 116–117.

Changes to *Diporiphora*. Three new species were described, and the species *D. winneckei* was found to not occur in WA and so has been removed from the list.

Doughty, P., Kealley, L. and Melville, J. (2012). Taxonomic assessment of *Diporiphora* (Reptilia: Agamidae) dragon lizards from the western arid zone of Australia. *Zootaxa* **3518**: 1–24.

Cyrtodactylus kimberleyensis is a new gecko species from an island off the northern Kimberley coast. It is the first record of the genus in WA, and represents a second invasion of Australia by this largely SE Asian genus.

Bauer, A.M. and Doughty, P. (2012). A new bent-toed gecko (Squamata: Gekkonidae: *Cyrtodactylus*) from the Kimberley region, Western Australia. *Zootaxa* **3187**: 32–42.

Two new species of *Gehyra* geckos from the Kimberley region were described.

Doughty, P., Palmer, R., Siström, M., Bauer, A.M. and Donnellan, S.C. (2012). Two new species of *Gehyra* from the north-west Kimberley, Western Australia. *Records of the Western Australian Museum* **27**: 117–134.

A new species of skink, *Ctenotus ora*, was described from the Swan Coastal Plain.

Kay, G.M. and Keogh, J.S. (2012). Molecular phylogeny and morphological revision of the *Ctenotus labillardieri* (Reptilia: Squamata: Scincidae) species group and a new species of immediate conservation concern in the southwestern Australian biodiversity hotspot. *Zootaxa* **3390**: 1–18.

Aipysurus mosaicus is a new species name for sea snakes formerly referred to as *A. eydouxii*. The new species occurs in northern Australian waters and southern New Guinea, whereas *A. eydouxii* occurs in the Gulf of Thailand, Cambodia, Viet Nam, West Malaysia, Singapore and Java.

Sanders, K.L., Rasmussen, A.R., Elmberg, J., Munpuni, Guinea, M., Bias, P., Lee, M.S.Y. and Fry, B.G. (2012). *Aipysurus mosaicus*, a new species of egg-eating sea snake (Elapidae: Hydrophiinae), with a redescription of *Aipysurus eydouxii* (Gray, 1849). *Zootaxa* **3431**: 1–18.

Birds

Accepted *Ardea alba modesta* elevated to full species, *Ardea modesta* (Eastern Great Egret)

Accepted revision of *Cuculus pallidus* (Pallid Cuckoo) to Genus *Cacomantis*.

Accepted taxonomic changes to Meliphagidae (Honeyeaters) as proposed:

Nyari, A.S. & Joseph, L. (2011). Systematic dismantlement of *Lichenostomus* improves the basis for understanding relationships within the honeyeaters (Meliphagidae) and the historical development of Australo-Papuan bird communities. *Emu* 111(3): 202 – 211

Cinclosoma castaneothorax marginatum elevated to full species, *Cinclosoma marginatum* (Western Quail-thrush)

Rarities and Vagrants added:

Limosa haemastica (Husonian Godwit)

Mammals

Inclusion of the recent discovery of a specimen of *Zaglossus bruijnii* (Western Long-beaked Echidna) from the Kimberley region of WA (Extinct):

Helgen, K.M. et al. (2012). Twentieth century occurrence of the Long-Beaked Echidna *Zaglossus bruijnii* in the Kimberley region of Australia. *ZooKeys* 255(2012): 103 - 132