

Changes to the WA Museum Checklist from May 2025 (updated September 2025)

Reptiles and frogs

Major rearrangement of frog genera: breakup of *Litoria*. The pelodyadid frog genus *Litoria* has been split into 32 genera now, including New Guinea and Indo-Pacific taxa. For Western Australia, the relevant changes should be visible in the emended checklist. *Cyclorana* remains the same.

Donnellan et al. (2025). Phylogenomics informs a generic revision of the Australo-Papuan treefrogs (Anura: Pelodyadidae). *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* **204**: zlaf015. <https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlaf015>

Transfer of *Cryptagama aurita* to the genus *Ctenophorus*: *Ctenophorus aurita* comb. nov. Newly collected specimens of the rare Kimberley lizard, *Cryptagama aurita*, made possible a re-evaluation that made use of morphological and molecular genetic comparisons. The species is an early branching member of the large genus *Ctenophorus* and represents another independent evolution of the “pebble mimic” morphology (small, rotund body with thin tail that’s extremely camouflaged; does not flee readily).

Bruton, M., Melville, J., Sumner, J., Porter, J., Mahony, S. & Doughty, P. (2025). The last piece of the puzzle: Detection of an extremely rare lizard in the Kimberley completes the phylogeny of Australian dragons (Agamidae). *Australian Journal of Taxonomy* **94**: 1–15.
<https://doi.org/10.54102/ajt>

Two new species of legless geckos in the genus *Delma*. A genetic and morphological study of the *Delma tincta* species complex resulted in the recognition of two new species, with *D. tincta* remaining a WA species. *Delma hades* **sp. nov.** is a completely morphological cryptic species that occurs in the eastern Kimberley and possibly has more widely distribution in the Kimberley region; elsewhere it is widespread in central Australia. *Delma branchia* **sp. nov.** is the newly named Pilbara and Gascoyne regions species and is allopatric to other members of the complex; this species is distinguished by a repeating series of gill-like blotches on the neck and forebody.

Pepper, M., Doughty, P., Fletcher, J. & Keogh, J.S. (2025). Molecular and morphological assessment of the widely distributed legless gecko *Delma tincta* Kluge (Squamata: Pygopodidae), including a taxonomic revision. *Records of the Western Australian Museum* **40**: 1–46.
https://museum.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/WAMRecords_2025_40_01to48_PEPPERetal.pdf

Birds

Poodytes gramineus. The subspecies previously used on the checklist for WA was *P. g. gramineus*. However, the reason given to use this subspecies which is typically a Tasmanian subspecies, was not clear. As a result, following the IOC list, *P. g. thomasi* is used here for the checklist for WA instead.

Mammals

Revision of *Bettongia penicillata*: new species statues in WA, 2 new subspecies, and a new species of Bettong on the Nullarbor. The recent revision of *Bettongia penicillata* (Woylie/Brushtail Bettong) showed that the WA population was distinct from the east coast species and as a result should be its own species, *Bettongia ogilgyi*. Also within this species, two new subspecies are recognised, one in the forests of south west WA, *B. o. sylvatica*, and one extinct from Bernier Island, *B. o. odontoploica*. Also a new species of *Bettongia haoucharae* is described from mummified specimens from the Nullarbor Plain.

Newman-Martin, J., Travouillon, K.J., Warburton, N., Barham, M. & Blyth, A.J. (2025) A taxonomic revision of the *Bettongia penicillata* (Diprotodontia: Potoroidae) species complex and description of the subfossil species *Bettongia haoucharae* sp. nov. *Zootaxa*, 5690 (1), 1–69.
<https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5690.1.1>

Change of genus name for *Lagenorhynchus obscurus*. A recent study on Lissodelphine dolphin showed that the genus *Lagenorhynchus* was paraphyletic. As a result a new genus was erected for two species (*L. obliquidens* and *L. obscurus*), which are now called *Aethalodelphis obliquidens* (Gill, 1865) and *Aethalodelphis obscurus* (Gray, 1828).

Galatius, A., Kinze, C.C., Olsen, M.T., Tougaard, J., Gotzek, D. & McGowen, M.R. (2025) Phylogenomic, morphological and acoustic data support a revised taxonomy of the lissodelphinine dolphin subfamily. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* **205**: 108299.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2025.108299>