Changes to the WA Museum Checklist from June 2026 (updated November 2026)

Reptiles and frogs

Two new *Liopholis* skink species

Aplin et al. (2024) described two new *Liopholis* skink species (formerly in *L. inornata*), both with very small ranges: *Liopholis parva* – from the North West Cape; *L. purnululu* – from Purnululu National Park.

Aplin et al. (2024). Molecular and morphological assessment of the *Liopholis inornata* (Rosén, 1905) species group (Reptilia: Squamata: Scincidae), with descriptions of two new species from northern Western Australia. *Zootaxa* **5551**: 299–332. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5551.2.4

Reversion of Australian blindsnakes generic name

After 12 years as the genus *Anilios*, the generic name for Australian blindsnakes has reverted back to *Ramphotyphlops*.

Kraus, F. & Maddock, S.T. (2026). No justification for recognition of the blindsnake genera *Anilios* and *Sundatyphlops* (Squamata: Typhlopidae). *Zootaxa* **5768**: 250–260. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5768.2.5

Synonymy of subspecies of *Lerista planiventralis*

A morphological and molecular study indicated that the two additional subspecies of *L. planiventralis* (*decora* and *maryani*) represented geographic variants with non-matching genotypic structure or were based on erroneous counts.

Farquhar, J.E., Maryan, B., Prates, I., Rabosky, D.L., Doughty, P. & Chapple, D.G. (2026). On an even keel: Revision of Lerista planiventralis (Lucas and Frost, 1902; Squamata: Scincidae) in Western Australia, with synonymy of its subspecies. *Zootaxa* **5839**: 40-70. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5839.1.2

New species of *Egernia*

Egernia umbra was described using morphological and molecular data by Hamilton et al. (2026). The authors maintained the subspecies designations of *E. stokesii* (*stokesii* and *badia*) owing to introgression in the Shark Bay area (the subspecies *aethiops* from this area was also formally synonymised), and all non-WA population of large-bodied spiny-tailed skinks were assigned to *E. zellingi*.

Hamilton, Z.R., Doughty, P., Maryan, B., Ellis, R.J., Adams, M., Foster, R., Gardner, M.G., Pearson, D.J. & Donnellan, S.C. (2026). Revision of the *Egernia stokesii* species-group (Reptilia: Scincidae), with the description of a new saxicoline species from Western Australia. *Zootaxa* **5894**: 451–495. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5894.4.1

Birds

No Changes

Mammals

Change of status for the Kimberley long-tailed planigale

The Long-tailed Planigale, *Planigale ingrami,* has been shown to represent four species. The Kimberley population had already been named as a subspecies previously, but is now elevated to full species, as *Planigale subtilissima,* with the common name of Kimberley Planigale.

Umbrello, L.S., Westerman, M., Travouillon, K.J., Blacket, M.J., Cameron, S.F., Mulder, E. and Baker, A.M. (2026). Untangling the long-tailed planigale (Dasyuridae: *Planigale ingrami*) species complex: four species revealed using integrative taxonomy. Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society, 207(2), zlag082, https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlag082

Revision of the bandicoot genus *Isoodon*

A major revision of the bandicoot genus *Isoodon* found new subspecies for WA, including the Kimberley Golden Bandicoot, *Isoodon auratus bundilarri,* the Daw Island Quenda, *Isoodon fusciventer dawensis* and the Little Quenda, *Isoodon fusciventer halae.* The revision of the Golden Bandicoot also suggests that the subspecies *I. auratus auratus* is extinct.

Travouillon, K.J., Cooper, S.J.B., Bertozzi, T., MacDonald, A.J., Roycroft, E., Phillips, M.J., Dahl, S., Comer, S. and Stemmer, D. (2026). Genetic and morphological reassessment of the genus *Isoodon* (Marsupialia: Peramelemorphia) and description of new species and subspecies. Australian Journal of Taxonomy 136: 1-53. https://doi.org/10.54102/ajt.3ej9p