

## Atlas of Living Australia Newsletter February 2020

Director's message | Australian bushfires | Data Quality Project | Other highlights | Technical updates | Tips & tricks | Awards, conferences & events | Recent observations | Dashboard | Handy links & resources



King Fern (*Todea barbara*) observation uploaded to iNaturalist Australia by alpine\_flora\_of\_australia, February 2020 (CC-BY-NC 4.0)

### Message from Andre Zerger, Director, Atlas of Living Australia (ALA)

Dear Atlas of Living Australia community,  
The start of 2020 has brought many challenges for our nation as we continue to respond to, and recover from, the bushfire crisis. For the ALA, it's meant a very different January to the one we expected however we're proud to have been able to support communities, government and the research sector.

[Read more](#)

### Australian bushfires

#### Citizen science bushfire recovery

Following the recent citizen science bushfire forum, we're asking project administrators of bushfire related citizen science projects to use the 'bushfire related projects' tag in the Australian Citizen Science Project Finder.

[Read more](#)



### Data Quality Project

#### ALA Data Quality Project launched

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) has launched a Data Quality Project to develop products that improve access to data, and ability to assess fitness-for-use.

[Read more](#)



#### Data quality baseline survey

Take our survey and help us measure your current view on the quality of data available in the ALA. We greatly value your feedback.

[Take the ALA Data Quality Baseline Survey now](#)

( < 1 minute to complete)

### Other highlights

#### National Consultation Findings Report

In December, we released the findings from our national consultation. Thank you to everyone who contributed. We are now using the findings to develop a five-year strategy.

[Read more](#)



#### EcoCommons Australia

The Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC) announced in December that it will fund EcoCommons Australia to bring together biodiversity and ecology datasets and tools for researchers and decision-makers. QCIF is the lead agent and the ALA a key partner.

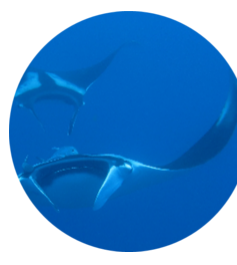
[Read more](#)



#### eDNA

Environmental DNA data is now available on the Atlas of Living Australia. From monitoring fish species on reefs, to mapping microbes in soils or searching for evidence of a monster in Loch Ness, eDNA based surveys are a scientific frontier.

[Read more](#)



### Technical updates

#### Names index update

We completed an update to the Atlas of Living Australia names and taxonomy index this month. Thank you to all the directories that provide us with authoritative names and taxonomy reference data.

[Read more](#)



#### We've added AAF authentication

You can now sign in to the Atlas of Living Australia with your organisational login details.

[Read more](#)



### Tips & tricks

#### How to download occurrence records

We've recently updated our support article explaining how to download occurrence records.

[Read more](#)



### Awards, conferences and events



[Calls for nominations for GBIF Ebbe Nielsen Challenge now open](#)



[Come along to RDA's 15th Plenary in Melbourne 18-20 March 2020](#)



[Take part in iNaturalist's City Nature Challenge Australia April 24-27 2020](#)

### Recent observations

Every day new images of Australia's amazingly diverse species are added to the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) by many different data providers.

This beautiful image of [Haekel's Jellyfish](#) (*Pseudorhiza haeckelii*) was taken in South Australia and uploaded by Peter Day. Image license: CC-BY.



### Handy links & resources



**Spatial Portal**  
Analyse species, location and environment data.



**Search ALA**  
Search species, datasets, and more.



**Explore your area**  
Enter your location to find out what species live near you.



The Atlas of Living Australia is made possible by contributions from its many partners. It receives support through the Australian Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) and is hosted by CSIRO.



Atlas of Living Australia | [www.ala.org.au](http://www.ala.org.au) | [support@ala.org.au](mailto:support@ala.org.au)

The Atlas of Living Australia acknowledges Australia's Traditional Owners and pays respect to the past and present Elders of the nation's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We honour and celebrate the spiritual, cultural and customary connections of Traditional Owners to country and the biodiversity that forms part of that country.

If you do not want to receive this newsletter, please opt out using the link below.



This content is licensed under a **Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia License**.

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

GPO Box 1700  
Canberra, | 2601 AU

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.