

Field Guide apps to Australian Fauna



Successes, lessons and great collaboration

Dr Elycia Wallis,
Manager, Online Collections, Museum Victoria
[@elyw](https://twitter.com/elyw)



Photo credits: Honeybrown Beetle Rodney Start/MV; Rainbow Lorikeet Steven Kuiter; Jewel Anemone Julian Finn/MV; Common Seadragon Mark Norman/MV

Inspiring Australia Field Guide apps project

Australia's major natural history museums working together to make a field guide app for every state and territory in Australia



- Introduce the project and results
- Interaction with ALA including gaps

Photo credits: Blotched Blue-tongue Lizard, Heath Warwick/ MV

85,000+ downloads

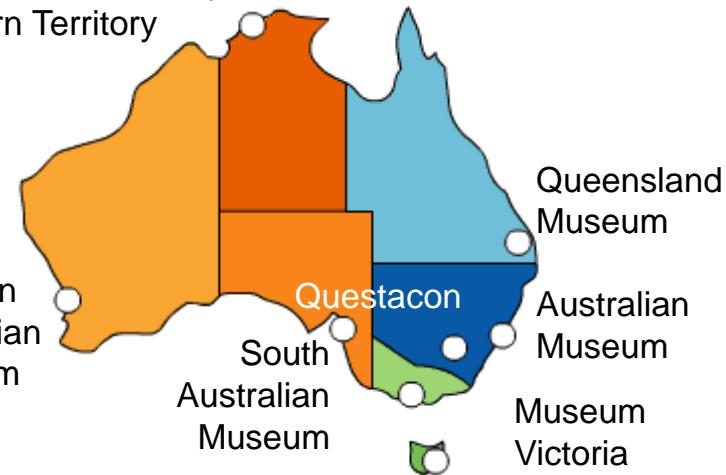
App Store > Education > Museum Victoria

The screenshot shows the app's interface. At the top is a large image of a bird in flight. Below it is the title "Field Guide to Victorian Fauna" and the developer "Museum Victoria". A "Download" button is visible. The main screen has tabs for "Details", "Ratings and Reviews", and "Related". Under "Screenshots", there are four iPhone/iPad screenshots. The first shows a menu with categories like Birds, Butterflies, Fishes, etc. The second shows a list of fish species under "Fishes" with "Common Seadragon" highlighted. The third shows a close-up image of a Common Seadragon. The fourth shows a detailed view of the Common Seadragon with its scientific name *Phyllopteryx taeniolatus*. At the bottom of the screenshots are navigation icons for "Images", "Details", "Distribution", and "Species".

Description

The animals found in the south eastern Australian State of Victoria are unique and diverse. Detailed descriptions of animals, maps of distribution, and endangered species status combine with stunning imagery and sounds to provide a valuable reference that can be used in urban, bush and coastal environments. The content has been developed by scientists at Museum Victoria, Australia's largest public museum organisation.

Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory



Tasmanian Museum
& Art Gallery

Inspiring Australia, Unlocking Australia's Potential project deliverables

- Six new free apps, for States and Territories around Australia, plus existing Victorian guide re-released
- Android and Apple devices
- Free



Photo credits: Maori Octopus by Mark Norman/ MV

Inspiring Australia, Unlocking Australia's Potential project planning

- Port code to Android
- Develop species master list
- Develop data repository to collate content
- Preload taxonomic data, conservation status from ALA
- Download map data and prepare maps
- Code new app features
- Compile and release each new app in two platforms



200 new species from each partner
Check species names against ALA
Partner museums write content, collect images and clear licenses
Edit, proof, check, confirm
Deliver completed species profile data back to ALA



[Home](#) → [Australia's species](#) → *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

Dromaius novaehollandiae (Latham, 1790)

[Record a sighting](#)[Alerts](#)**Emu****Name source**[Australian Faunal Directory](#)**Rank**

Species

Data links[LSID](#) [JSON / WMS / RDF](#)**Species presence**

Recorded In Australia

Terrestrial Habitats

Conservation status

IUCN Least Concern

NSW Endangered Populations

NT Vulnerable

[Overview](#) [Gallery](#) [Names](#) [Classification](#) [Records](#) [Literature](#)

Compiled distribution map



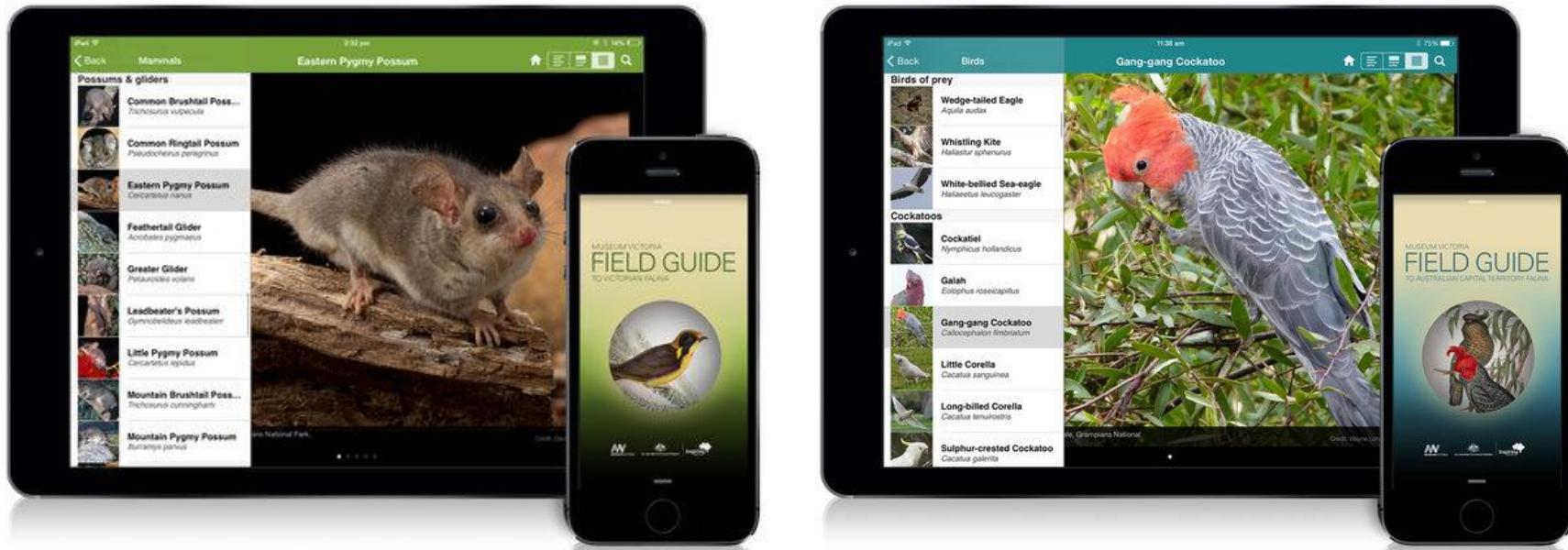
Compiled distribution map provided by BirdLife International species range maps

Occurrence records map

Source: Flickr EOL
Image by: Arthur Chapman



Victorian Guide rereleased plus...



Vertebrates

- Birds
- Mammals
- Fishes
- Frogs & toads
- Crocodiles
- Lizards
- Snakes
- Turtles

Terrestrial Invertebrates

- Ants, bees & wasps
- Beetles & bugs
- Butterflies & moths
- Cicadas & grasshoppers
- Other insects
- Slugs & snails
- Spiders & scorpions

Freshwater Invertebrates

- Freshwater insects
- Other freshwater invertebr...

Marine Invertebrates

- Anemones & allies
- Crustaceans
- Octopuses & nudibranchs



Credit: Ian Morris

Distribution

Northern Australia.

Recorded Observations**Bryozoans**

- Lace-coral
Triphyllozoon moniliferum

Sea spiders

- Pycnogonid
Ammothea australiensis

- Sea Spider
Pycnogonum aurilineatum

- Sea Spider
Anoplodactylus evansi

- Sea Squirt
Palleneopsis macneilli

Sea squirts

- Cunjevoi
Pyura stolonifera

- Giant White Flesh Ascidi...
Polycitor giganteus

- Sea Tulip
Pyura spinifera

- Sea-tulip
Pyura gibbosa

Sponges

- Ball Sponge
Asteropus sp

Worms

- Dark-marked Scale Worm
Lepidonotus melanogrammus



Credit: David Staples

Distribution

Southern and eastern Australia.

Recorded Observations



Female and Male Gang-gang Cockatoos, *Callocephalon fimbriatum*, sitting together on a building.

Credit: Mark Norman / Museum Victoria

Gang-gang Cockatoo

Callocephalon fimbriatum

Brief Description

Grey body, floppy crest (red or black).

Identifying Characteristics

Male body grey with the edge of feathers lighter green-grey, head orange-red with a small floppy red crest. Female has a dark grey head and crest with bars on the chest. Body up to 35 cm long. Their call is a distinctive screech that sounds similar to the creaking sound of an opening door.

Audio

Credits

Gang-gang Cockatoo call

Distribution



South-eastern mainland Australia.

Recorded Observations

Gang-gang Cockatoo

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Biology

Gang-gang Cockatoos pair for life. They nest in deep hollows in trees and pairs will usually return to the same tree every year. They begin breeding at four years old and breed between October and January. Females lay up to three eggs and both parents will incubate and rear the young. Gang-gangs are gregarious social birds and several pairs will often nest close together. The young often congregate while the parents are out foraging for food. Gang-gangs migrate seasonally, spending summer in high-altitude areas, generally tall mountain forests and woodlands, and winter in warmer lowland areas, such as open eucalypt forests and woodlands. They are sometimes also seen in urban areas in the winter.

Diet

Omnivore

Taxonomy

Phylum:

Chordata

Audio

Credits

Gang-gang Cockatoo call

Distribution



South-eastern mainland Australia.

Recorded Observations



Native Status: Native to Australia



Photo credits: Sulphur-crested cockatoos by Mark Norman/ MV



Photo credits: Echidna by Mark Norman/ MV



Photo credits: Dusky Antechinus by David Paul/ MV



Photo credits: Brown Tree Frog by David Paul/ MV



Photo credits: Scorpion by Heath Warwick/ MV



Photo credits: Bull Ant by David Paul/ MV



Photo credits: Wolf Spider by Heath Warwick/ MV



Photo credits: Scalyfin by Julian Finn/ MV

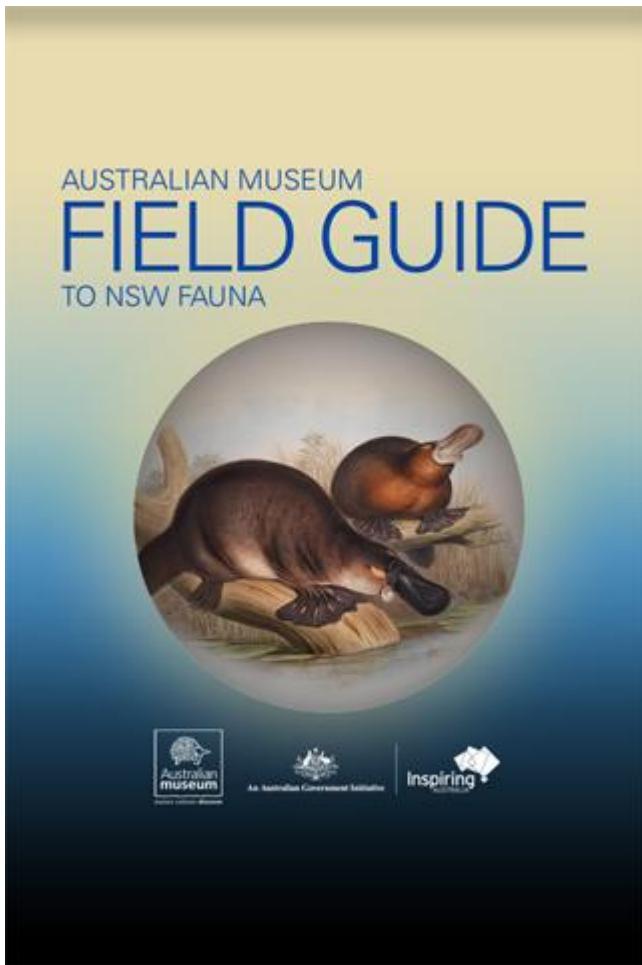


Photo credits: European Fan Worm by Julian Finn/ MV



Photo credits: Southern Bobtail Squid by Mark Norman/ MV

Scientific illustration and John Gould's images



Gould birds



Gould mammals



Apple App Store

File Edit View Controls Store Help

ewallis@museum.vic.gov.au Music Movies TV App Store Books Podcasts iTunes U Library

Showing results for "field guide fauna"

iPhone Apps

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iPad Apps

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All

iPhone Apps

iPad Apps

Books

ARTISTS AND MORE

Museum Victoria >
Software Developer

Australian Museum >
Software Developer

Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery >
Software Developer

Queensland Museum Network >
Software Developer

South Australian Museum >
Software Developer

Tasmania

 Elise Archer MP
25 minutes ago

I had great pleasure launching the Field Guide to Tasmanian Fauna App at TMAG today which is available free for Apple and Android devices at www.tmag.tas.gov.au



Like · Comment · Share

 Elise Archer MP

 Elise Archer MP
3,824 likes · 151 talking about this

Politician
Elise Archer MP, Liberal Member for Denison, stands up for our local community, jobs and the economy, and is currently the Government Nominee for Speaker.

About – Suggest an Edit

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Top Female Leaders
www.arkgroupaustralia.com.au

Digital Communications: A

Northern Territory



The NT Government has launched a new technological app that identifies wildlife. Minister Matt Conlan tests the app with a Thorny Devil Picture: JUSTIN BRIERTY

What is that wild critter

Sarah Rohweder
ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

IMAGINE this: you're on a bush walk in the middle of the Australian Outback, you spot

in partnership with Museum Victoria.

"With the peak tourism season almost about to begin, the new Field Guide to NT Fauna is a great new addition to our

mal is that? It offers detailed animal descriptions with photos, maps and sounds at the touch of a button which will provide visitors and inquisitive locals with an immediate answer.

Central Australia and covers everything from colourful birds, iconic fish and mammals, dangerous snakes and crocs, through to butterflies,

"This is a great new app that can be enjoyed by anyone so I encourage everyone to head to the App Store and download it today."

Article in the Centralian Advocate, Friday 2 May 2014. Image shows Minister for Arts and Museums, Matt Conlan



Queensland



QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

QUEENSLAND MUSEUM NETWORK QUEENSLAND MUSEUM SCIENCENTRE THE WORKSHOPS COBB+CO MUSEUM MUSEUM OF TROPICAL QUEENSLAND

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NEW FIELD GUIDE APP Download our free Field Guide to Queensland Fauna app

QUEENSLAND MUSEUM NETWORK

Queensland Government

Corner of Grey & Melbourne Streets, South Bank, South Brisbane | 9:30am to 5:00pm | Public Holiday Opening Hours | Contact us

Victoria



Apps presented at *Smart Bar* at Melbourne Museum. Photo: Jon Augier

ICTORIA

An Australian Government Initiative

Inspiring
AUSTRALIA

ATLAS OF LIVING
AUSTRALIA

South Australia



Some of the contributors from the South Australian Museum(roughly from left) David Muirhead, Thierry Laperousaz, James Smith, Mark Hutchinson, Philippa Horton, Mike Moore, Cath Kemper, Alexis Tindall, Tony Robinson, David Stemmer, Peter Hunt and Archie McArthur

Western Australia

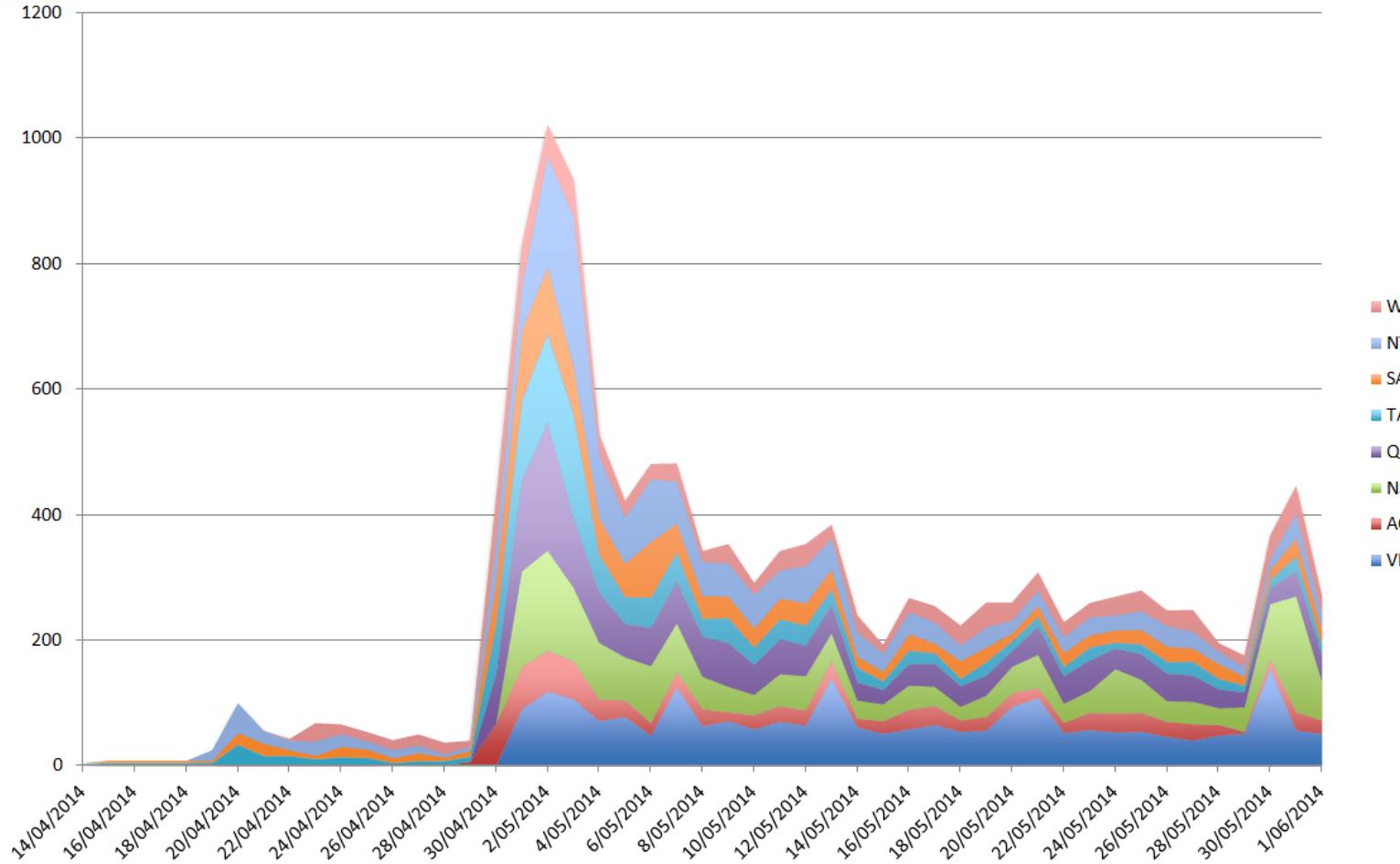


MUSEUM VICTORIA

An Australian Government Initiative



Download stats so far



And most popular award goes to...

	First fortnight	Latest Three Day Set
1	Rainbow Bee-eater	Rainbow Bee-eater
2	Australian Hobby	Australian Hobby
3	Salt-water Crocodile	Tiger Snake
4	Blue-faced Honeyeater	Australian Raven
5	Australian Magpie	Australian Magpie
6	Wedge-tailed Eagle	Barking Owl
7	Tiger Snake	Galah
8	Eastern Brown Snake	Superb Fairy-wren
9	Cat	Wedge-tailed Eagle
10	Carpet Python	Carpet Python
11	Assassin Bug	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
12	Short-beaked Echidna	Laughing Kookaburra
13	Barking Owl	Cat
14	Dingo	Brown Falcon
15	Common Eastern Froglet	Eastern Brown Snake
16	Redback Spider	Southern Boobook
17	Black-shouldered Kite	Short-beaked Echidna
18	Tawny Frogmouth	Grey Butcherbird
19	Superb Fairy-wren	Redback Spider
20	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Dingo

Best of its type. Best app on my phone. Thank you very much to the people who made it. (Vic)

Great for family use (Qld)

Awesome!!!! (NT)

Nerdtastic resource :) I had known about the museum victoria app, but so glad to see one for SA. I'm in schools doing science incursions all the time in SA, trust me I'll be spreading the word about this resource. (SA)

Great for birders, educators, kids, interested travellers, locals. (SA)

What an amazing gift. Over 600 species! Great detail of info, images and superb layout/design. I expected a few animals, but to cover even thing like marine in/vertebrates, these guys have really outdone themselves! And even audio on frogs!! So excited about that. I hope it continues to grow and develop. I've paid a lot for field guide apps and would gladly pay a lot for this! (NT)

 **Chris** May 3
The [@museumvictoria](#) "Field Guide Vic" Android app is 400+MB of awesomeness, and covers more than just Victoria. play.google.com/store/apps/details...

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Field Guide to Victorian Fauna
4.5/5.0 stars – 49 ratings 

FREE

The animals found in the south eastern Australian State of Victoria are unique and diverse. Detailed descriptions of animals, maps of distribution, and endangered species status combine with stunning...

[View on web](#)

3:52 AM - 3 May 2014 · Details [Flag media](#)

 **Museum Victoria** [@museumvictoria](#) · May 4
Thanks very much for the field guide plug. We're looking forward to hearing how the other states like it. /K

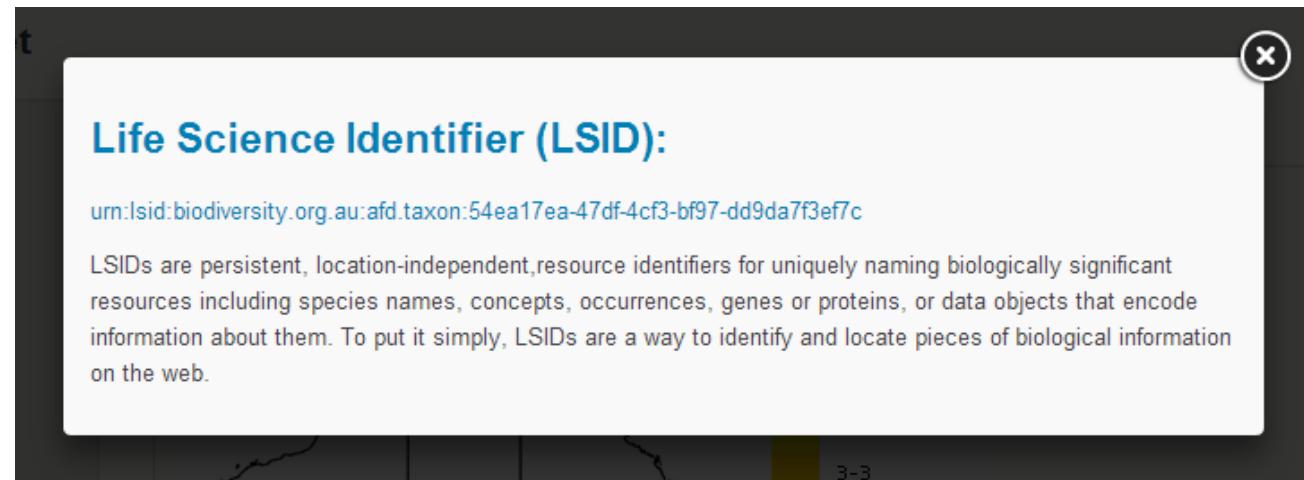
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 **Chris** May 4
[@museumvictoria](#) my pleasure, good luck with it!

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ALA gaps – species names

- Species was not found in NSL/ALA
- LSID in NSL changed – a disaster!



Map gaps

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sharing biodiversity knowledge

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Home → Australia's species → *Endoxyla cinereus*

Endoxyla cinereus (Tepper, 1890)

Giant Wood Moth

Name source
[Australian Faunal Directory](#)

Rank
Species

Data links
[LSID](#) [JSON / WMS /RDF](#)

Species presence
 Recorded In Australia
 Terrestrial Habitats

Overview **Gallery** Names Classification Records Literature Sequences

Occurrence records map



[View records list](#) [Map & analyse records](#)



Source: Australian Insect Common Names

Other map issues

Mole Cricket - Australian Museum

australianmuseum.net.au/Mole-Cricket ▾

Mar 30, 2011 - Mole crickets are found throughout Australia, but are most prevalent in well-watered ... Your specimen is probably *Gryllotalpa australis*.

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Home → Australia's species → *Gryllotalpa australis*

***Gryllotalpa australis* Erichson, 1842**

Australian Mole Cricket

Name source
[Australian Faunal Directory](#)

Rank
Species

Data links
[LSID](#) [JSON / WMS / RDF](#)

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View records list Map & analyse records

Where to from here?

Life Forms Fishes

Bony fish (Ika iwi)

	Blue cod Pākirikiri <i>Parapercis colias</i>
	Blue maomao Maomao <i>Scorpis violacea</i>
	Butterfish Mararī, Rarī <i>Odax pullus</i>
	Common triplefin <i>Forsterygion lapillum</i>
	Hiwihiwi Hiwihiwi <i>Chironemus marmoratus</i>
	Jack mackerel Hauture

Life Forms A to Z Search About

- Species profile text imported back into ALA
- Auckland Museum app – Maori names
- Sightings functions
- Open source code update
- Support for smaller organisations

Apps development team at Museum Victoria



Thanks



museumvictoria.com.au/national-apps

