

The Future of the Platypus Conference

29-31 August 2023

Day 1 - Tuesday 29th August

11:30am	12:45pm	Registration and light lunch	
12:45pm	1:00pm	Jenny Gray	Welcome
Keynote			
1:00pm	1:45pm	Euan Ritchie	Australia’s fabulous fuzzballs: why mammals matter and what must change for a brighter conservation future
Plenary 1: Advances in Platypus biology Session chair: Jenny Gray			
1:45pm	1:55pm	Peter Temple-Smith	Platypus photofluorescence: a fur-phy or a shining example?
1:55pm	2:05pm	Margaret Hawkins	Platypus play: A case study of individuality
2:05pm	2:15pm	Jessica Thomas	The Platypus nest; burrow structure and construction
2:15pm	2:30pm	Jess Whinfield	A retrospective review of platypus medical records from NSW and Qld
2:30pm	2:40pm	Max Boulton	Movements and burrow use by juvenile and adult platypuses
2:40pm	2:50pm	Matthew Chrulew	What can platypus conservation learn from the history of its keeping and breeding?
2:50pm	3:00pm	Questions	
3:00pm	3:20pm	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK	
Plenary 2: Human impacts on Platypus habitat Session chair: Josh Griffiths			
3:20pm	3:35pm	Melody Serena	Factors contributing to platypus mortality
3:35pm	3:50pm	Jose Mijangos	Fragmentation by major dams and implications for the future viability of platypus populations
		Diane Crowther	Managing impacts of large weirs as barriers to platypus dispersal
4:05pm	4:15pm	Jaime Gongora	The influence of dams in platypus populations; insights from genome-wide neutral and adaptive loci
4:15pm	4:30pm	Anne Musser	Movements of platypuses around instream structures and responses to major post-flooding de-sedimentation works in the Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve, New South Wales
4:30pm	4:45pm	Emily Armstrong	The impact of anthropogenic electromagenetic fields on wild and captive platypuses
4:45pm	5:00pm	Questions	
5:00pm	5:30pm	Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony with Wurundjeri Elder, Murrundindi	
5:30pm	9:00pm	Coranderrk Cultural Walk Dinner by <i>Mabu Mabu</i> at the Bush-hut beside Coranderrk creek Guided spotlighting	

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Day 2 - Wednesday 30th August

8:00am 8:15am Arrival

Keynote

8:15am 9:00am Peter Temple-Smith Platypuses: divining the future by linking the present with the past

Plenary 3: Methods of Detection

Session chair: Jessica Thomas

9:00am 9:15am Breony Webb The use of eDNA to understand spatial and temporal patterns of platypus occupancy in Kosciusko National park

9:15am 9:30am Meysam Khodaparast Development of LAMP assay for detecting platypus DNA in environmental waters

9:30am 9:45am Naomi Hodgins Locating active platypus burrows with Detection Dog-Handler Teams

9:45am 10:00am Simon Roberts Use of time lapse cameras for platypus monitoring

10:00am 10:10am Questions

10:10am 10:30am **MORNING TEA BREAK**

Invited Talk

10:30am 10:50am Tom Grant Spur/Age determinations, tail condition assessment (TVI) and recently cancelled stomach in the platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) – Why the confusion?

Workshops and demonstrations

Note: Delegates will split into two groups for the last two workshops and then swap

10:50am 11:00am Gilad Bino Anaesthesia in the field

11:00am 11:15am Doug Gimesy What makes a great wildlife or conservation image?

11:15am 11:30am Detection Dog team Training wildlife detection dogs

11:30am 12:15pm Melody Serena Geoff Williams Improving capture success with fyke nets

12:15pm 1:00pm Jess Thomas Jason Bell Telemetry

1:00pm 2:00pm **LUNCH BREAK**

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Plenary 4: Rehabilitation and reintroduction

Session chair: Darren Grover

2:00pm	2:15pm	Sam Bennett	Caring for wild conservation and rehab platypuses at Taronga: 2023 case study
2:15pm	2:25pm	Jess Thomas	The translocation of a rehabilitated juvenile platypus
2:25pm	2:40pm	Phoebe Meagher	Building a future for the platypus at Taronga
2:40pm	2:55pm	Sue Jaensch	Behaviours that pose a risk in a zoo setting - a case for function-based assessment and interventions
2:55pm	3:10pm	Patrick Giumelli	A royal return: reintroducing platypuses to the Royal National Park
3:10pm	3:25pm		<i>Questions</i>
3:25pm	3:45pm		AFTERNOON TEA BREAK

Breakout sessions

Note: Delegates will participate in one session each

3:45pm	3:50pm		<i>Move to sessions</i>
3:50pm	4:50pm	Helen McCracken	Health and disease
3:50pm	4:50pm	Sue Jaensch	Platypus behaviour
3:50pm	4:50pm	Naomi Dart	Engaging the community for conservation
4:50pm	5:00pm		Award presentation
5:00pm	5:30pm		Pre-dinner drinks
5:30pm	9:00pm		Gala Dinner in <i>World of the Platypus</i>

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Day 3 - Thursday 31st August

8:00am 8:15am Arrival

Plenary 5: Platypus habitat and populations

Session chair: Phoebe Meagher

8:15am	8:30am	Tamille Brunt	Habitat quality and water availability affect genetic connectivity of platypuses across an urban landscape
8:30am	8:45am	Michelle Ryan	The Hawkesbury-Nepean Platypus project - urban platypus in the Greater Sydney Basin
8:45am	9:00am	Josh Griffiths	Quantifying the impacts of key environmental variables on platypus population trends
9:00am	9:15am	Kat McMillan	Exotic versus Native: which vegetation variables influence platypus occurrence in the Greater Brisbane region?
9:15am	9:30am	Rosalinde Green-Brinkman	Variations in water quality and weather patterns as a platypus behaviour indicator; a preliminary study with the power of citizen scientists
9:30am	9:45am	Gilad Bino	Platypus rest and nesting burrow characteristics on the Snowy River
9:45am	10:00am	Jiaqi Li	Identifying historical and future climate refugia to inform conservation strategies for platypus populations
10:00am	10:10am		Questions
10:10am	10:30am	MORNING TEA BREAK	

Keynote

10:30am 11:15am David Karoly Update on climate change and impacts on Platypus habitats

Plenary 6: Impacts of climate change

Session chair: Ross Williamson

11:15am	11:30am	Justine Ohlrich	Effect of fire on platypus occurrence and food availability
11:30am	11:45am	Ryan Baring	Shifts in platypus distribution and diet after a calamity of extreme climatic events on Kangaroo Island
11:45am	12:00pm	Joanne Connolly	Platypus mortality event caused by starvation in winter during an extended drought
12:15pm	12:30pm	Sally Hladyz	Mapping threats to platypus to inform management decisions and support population recovery
12:30pm	12:45pm	Marissa Parrott	Emergency response to catastrophic events: learnings from the Black Summer fires and how they can help Platypus in the future
12:45pm	12:55pm		Questions
12:55pm	1:00pm	Ross Williamson	Student award and Close
1:00pm		LUNCH	
2:00pm	5:00pm	Symposium (invite only)	

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