

Field Guide apps to Australian Fauna



Successes, lessons and great collaboration

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Manager, Online Collections, Museum Victoria
@elyw



Photo credits: Honeybrown Beetle Rodney Start/MV; Rainbow Lorikeet Steven Kuitert; 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

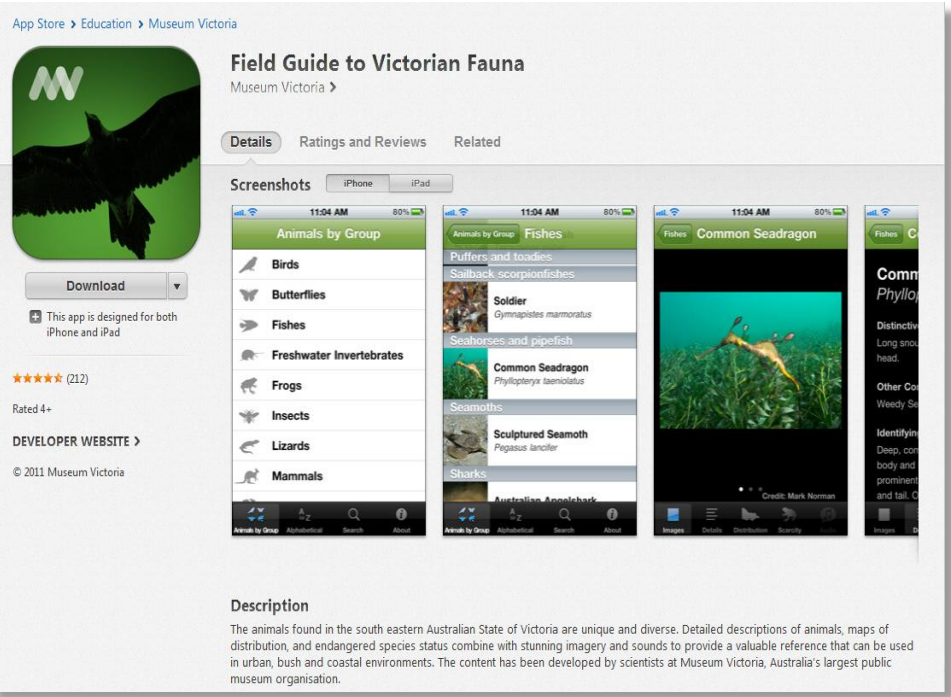


- Introduce the project and results
- Interaction with ALA including gaps

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

85,000+ downloads

App Store > Education > Museum Victoria



Field Guide to Victorian Fauna

Museum Victoria >

Details Ratings and Reviews Related

Screenshots iPhone iPad

Animals by Group

- Birds
- Butterflies
- Fishes
- Freshwater Invertebrates
- Frogs
- Insects
- Lizards
- Mammals

Download

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

★★★★★ (212)

Rated 4+

DEVELOPER WEBSITE >

© 2011 Museum Victoria

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



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



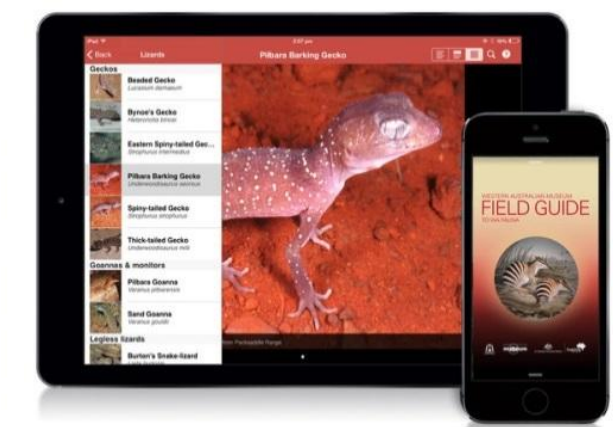
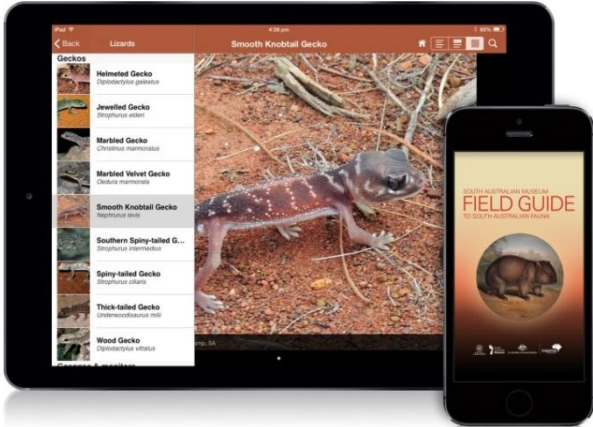
Compiled distribution map provided by [BirdLife International species range maps](#)

Occurrence records map



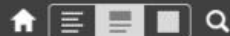
Source: Flickr EOL

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



enille Credit: Ian Morris

Distribution

Northern Australia.

Recorded Observations



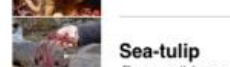
Bryozoans



Sea spiders



Sea squirts



Sponges



Worms



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

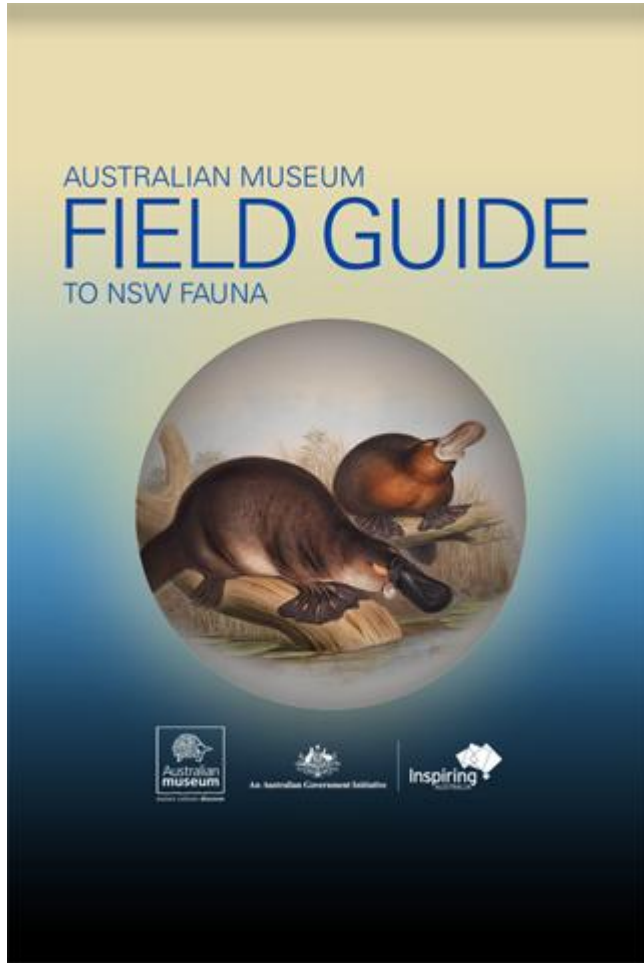


Photo credits: European Fan Worm by Julian Finn/ MV



Photo credits: Southern Bobtail Squid by Mark Norman/ MV

Scientific illustration and John Gould's images



Gould birds



Goold mammals



Apple App Store

The screenshot shows the Apple App Store interface on a Mac. The search bar at the top right contains the text "field guide fauna". The navigation bar below the search bar includes "Music", "Movies", "TV", "App Store", "Books", "Podcasts", and "iTunes U". The email address "ewallis@museum.vic.gov.au" is visible in the top left of the navigation bar. The main content area is titled "Showing results for 'field guide fauna'".

iPhone Apps

- Field Guide to Queensland... Education: Download
- Field Guide to Victorian Fauna Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to NSW Fauna Education: Free
- Field Guide to Tasmanian Fauna Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to South Australia... Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to Northern Territo... Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to Western... Reference: Downloaded

iPad Apps

- Field Guide to Queensland... Education: Download
- Field Guide to Victorian Fauna Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to NSW Fauna Education: Free
- Field Guide to Tasmanian Fauna Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to South Australia... Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to Northern Territo... Education: Downloaded
- Field Guide to Western... Reference: Downloaded

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

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.

Like Follow Message

3,824 Likes

About · Suggest an Edit

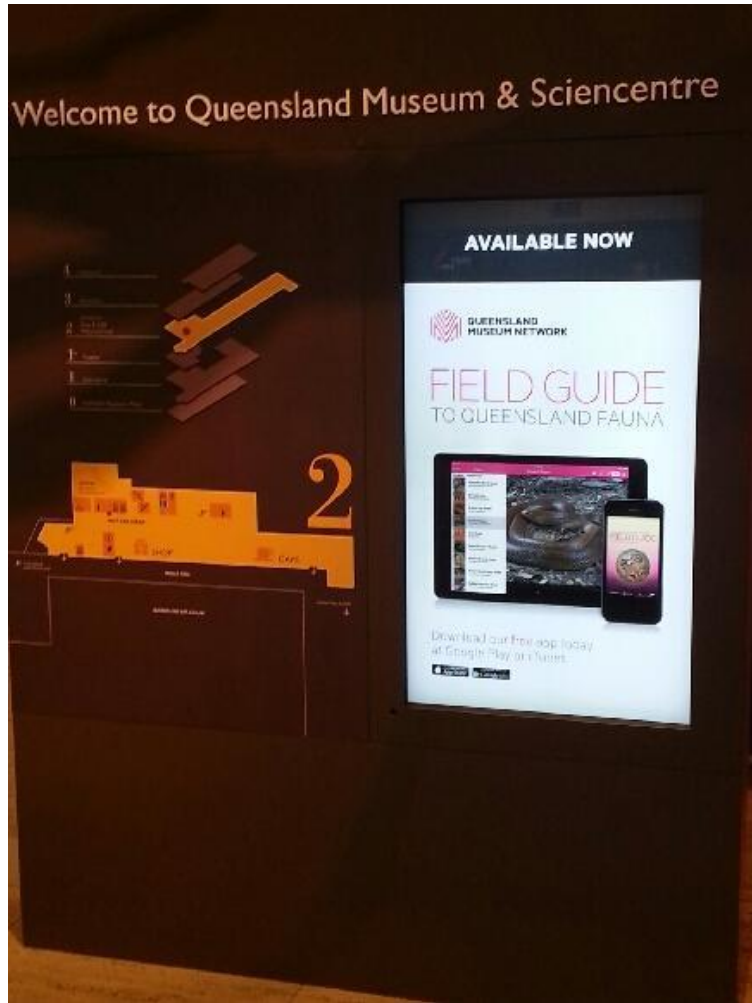


Northern Territory



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

Queensland



Victoria



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

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

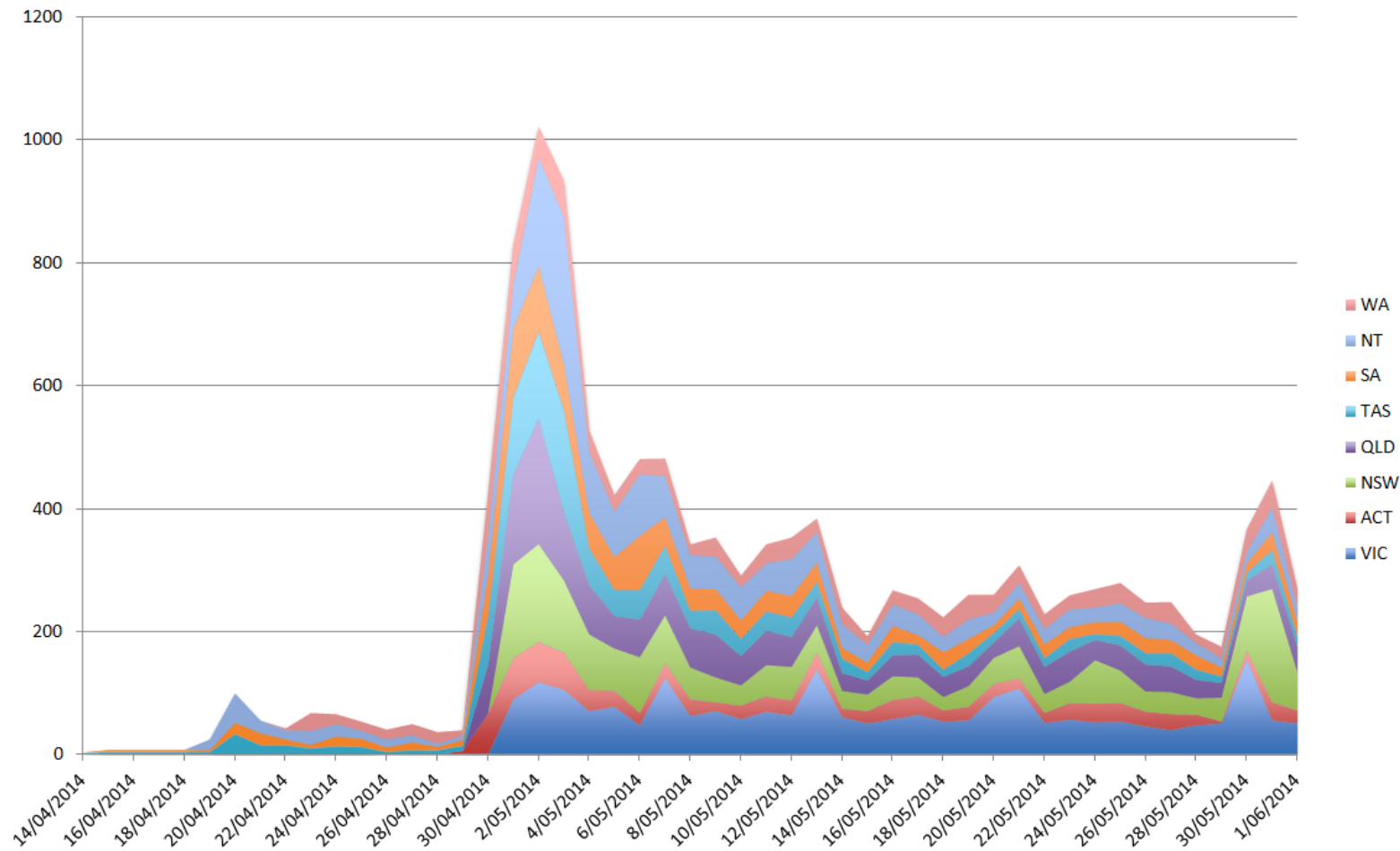


MUSEUMVICTORIA

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)

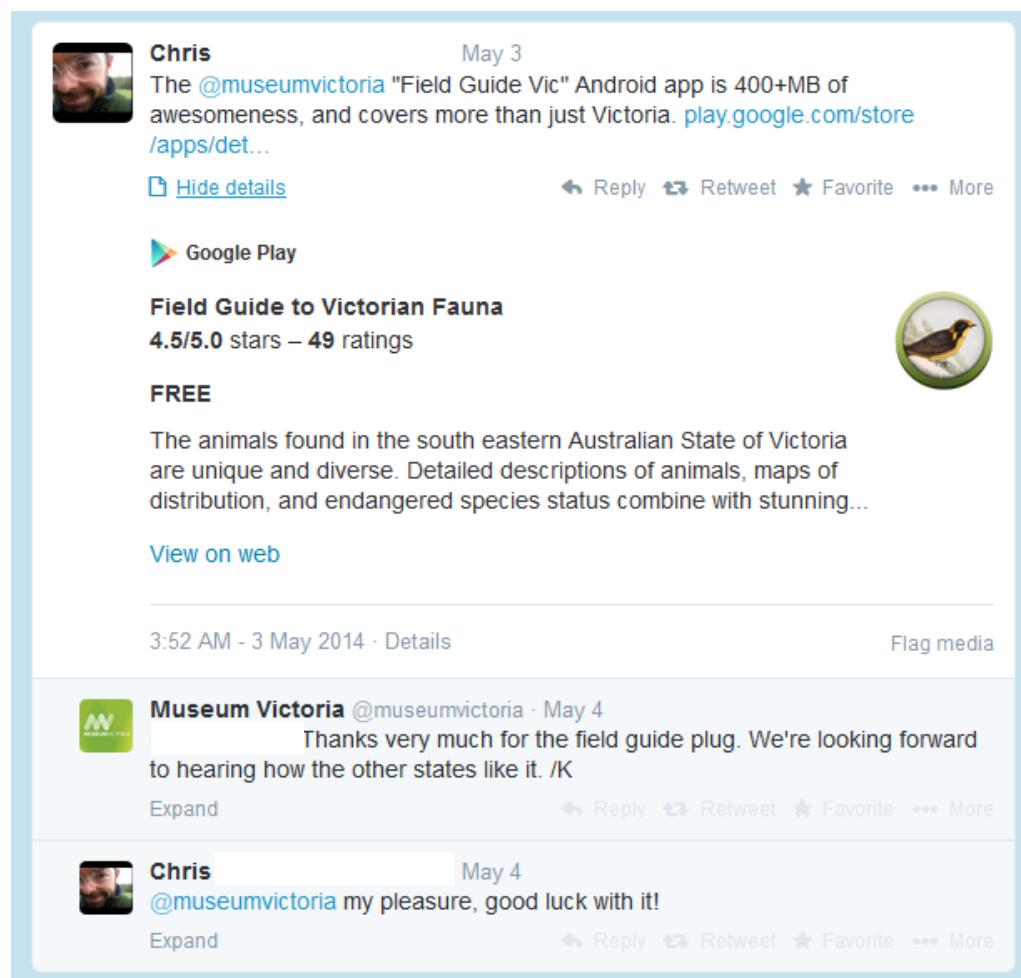
Great for family use (Qld)

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)



The screenshot shows a Twitter thread. The top tweet is from Chris, dated May 3, praising the @museumvictoria "Field Guide Vic" Android app for its size and content. Below it is a tweet from Museum Victoria (@museumvictoria) dated May 4, thanking Chris for the feedback. The bottom tweet is another from Chris, dated May 4, expressing pleasure and good wishes. The app being discussed is "Field Guide to Victorian Fauna", available for free on Google Play, with a 4.5/5.0 star rating from 49 users. The app's description mentions it covers unique and diverse animals in the south eastern Australian State of Victoria.

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/det...](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.museumvictoria)
[Hide details](#) Reply Retweet Favorite More

Google Play

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
Expand Reply Retweet Favorite More

Chris May 4
@museumvictoria my pleasure, good luck with it!
Expand Reply Retweet Favorite More

ALA gaps – species names

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

Life Science Identifier (LSID):

<urn:lsid:biodiversity.org.au:afd.taxon:54ea17ea-47df-4cf3-bf97-dd9da7f3ef7c>

LSIDs are persistent, location-independent, resource identifiers for uniquely naming biologically significant resources including species names, concepts, occurrences, genes or proteins, or data objects that encode information about them. To put it simply, LSIDs are a way to identify and locate pieces of biological information on the web.

Map gaps

ATLAS of LIVING AUSTRALIA
sharing biodiversity knowledge

My profile Log in Search the Atlas

Species Locations Collections Mapping & analysis Data sets Blogs Get involved About the Atlas

Home → Australia's species → *Endoxyla cinereus*

Endoxyla cinereus (Tepper, 1890)

Giant Wood Moth

Record a sighting Alerts

Overview Gallery Names Classification Records Literature Sequences

Occurrence records map

View records list Map & analyse records

Source: Australian Insect Common Names

Name source
[Australian Faunal Directory](#)

Rank
Species

Data links
LSID JSON / WMS / RDF

Species presence
 Recorded In Australia
 Terrestrial Habitats

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*.

ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA
sharing biodiversity knowledge

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Species Locations Collections Mapping & analysis Data sets Blogs Get involved About the Atlas ▾

Home → Australia's species → *Gryllotalpa australis*

Gryllotalpa australis Erichson, 1842

Australian Mole Cricket

Record a sighting Alerts 🔔

Overview Gallery Names Classification Records Literature Sequences

Occurrence records map

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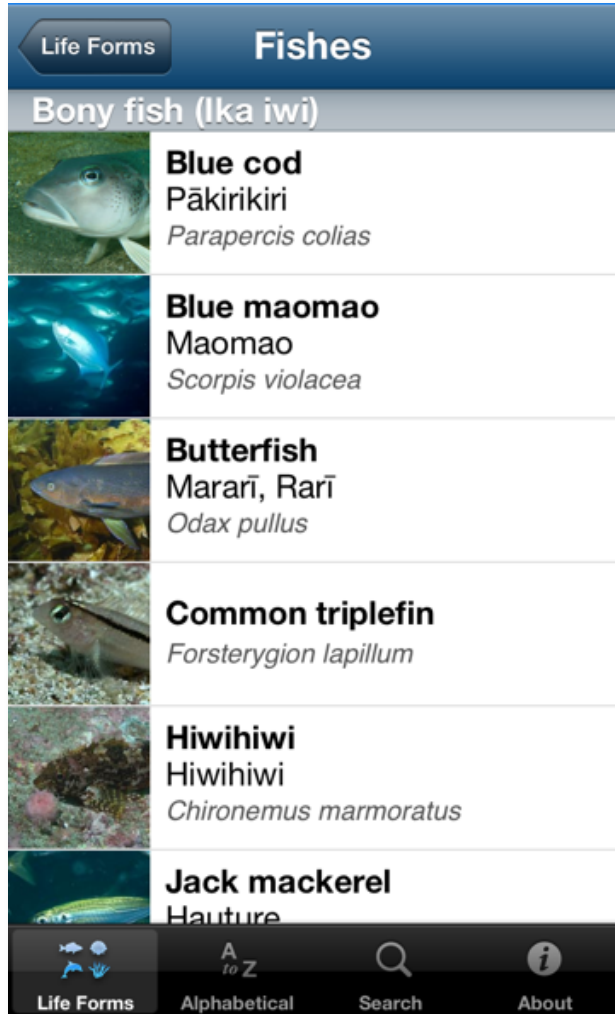
Name source
[Australian Faunal Directory](#)

Rank
Species

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Species presence
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Where to from here?



- 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

