



Zebra Finch (Taeniopygia guttata) © Nev Rowley (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0)

## AUSTRALIA'S BIODIVERSITY DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

### Message from our Director

Welcome to our September 2021 newsletter.

The critical importance of identifying, describing, conserving and restoring biodiversity is receiving increasing recognition due to the impacts of species loss, climate change, summer bushfires and increasing biosecurity threats.

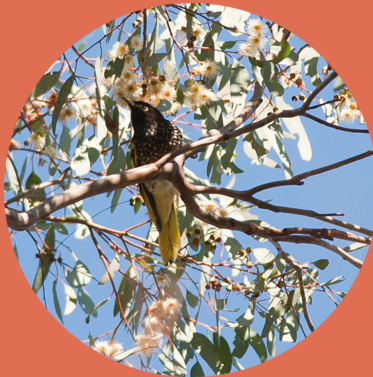
[Read more...](#)



### ALA Year in Review 2020-21

This week, we released our first annual impact report 'Atlas of Living Australia Year in Review 2020-21', showcasing our achievements and reflecting on the significant contributions made by our partners in supporting the mission of the ALA.

[View report...](#)



### Next ALA webinar 1pm AEST Tuesday 21 September

**Saving species at speed: Conservation and the science of animal movement**

Hear from three researchers as they share highlights of their recent research papers.

[Register now](#)

### Global partnership paves way for ALA systems upgrade

In June, we upgraded our ALA systems making them more reliable, more robust and equipped to manage increasing amounts of biodiversity data. Our close partnership with GBIF – the Global Biodiversity Information Facility – was critical to the success of this project.

[Read more...](#)



### New version of galah available now

We've released an updated version of galah, our R package for acquiring data from the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA).

[Read more...](#)



### Research impact

Recent research papers using ALA data or infrastructure



August Hao (The University of Melbourne) creates a pipeline for Australian fungi dataset.



RMIT's Holly Kirk uses the ALA for biodiversity sensitive urban design.



Marta Kolanowska (University of Lodz, Poland) researches threats to sexually deceptive orchids.

**Do you use the ALA for your research?**  
Visit [ALA-cited publications](#) and tell us about your research.

### Supporting bushfire science from home

Many people jumped online to help digitise insect specimens from our National Research Collections Australia. This was the perfect project for people in lockdown to participate in citizen science.

[Read more...](#)



### Great Southern BioBlitz

22-25 October 2021

The Great Southern BioBlitz encourages everyone in Southern Hemisphere countries to record organisms during Spring. All observations made on iNaturalist during the event will be automatically included.

[Learn more...](#)



### In case you missed it



Read about linking Indigenous ecological knowledge and Western science

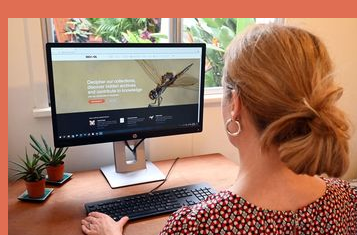


Watch our session at the recent 2021 environmental biosecurity webinar series

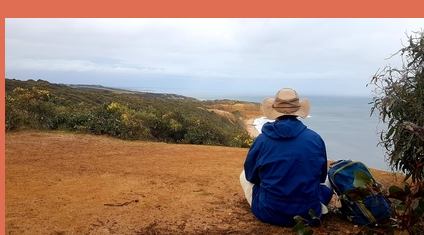


Use our new r package **galah** to analyse data in the ALA

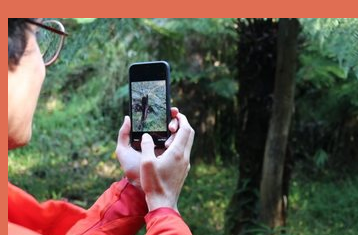
### Looking for lockdown activities?



Join DigiVol and transcribe museum specimen labels.



In September, make a pact to spend some time in nature  
#NaturePact



Use iNaturalist to explore nature and keep track of your observations.

### Follow our social channels for ALA news and updates



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