2024–25

FrogID report

The Australian Museum's FrogID project continues to be a leading citizen science initiative, delivering impactful research and gathering valuable frog data across Australia. Frogs play a key role as bioindicators, helping us track the health of ecosystems. The data collected through FrogID supports important research into biodiversity and guides conservation efforts across Australia.

Between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025, a community of over **18,000 FrogID participants** gathered more than **191,900 scientific records of frogs**, representing **200 unique species** spanning the breadth of Australia. It was during this period that FrogID surpassed **1.3 million total frog records.** The dataset also expanded its spatial coverage, with frog records added from **73 new Australian grid cells**, increasing national coverage from 37.4% to 39.6%. These milestones highlight FrogID's essential role in filling gaps in frog records, enhancing our knowledge of frog populations and their distribution nationwide, while also providing important indicators of environmental change over time.

FrogID

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

Key statistics 2024–25

117,500+
audio submissions

15,700+
users submitted frog records

192,700+
Frog records

200
frog species

90,000+
app downloads

73
new grid cells with frog records (from 37.4% to 39.6% of Australia)

Scan for the latest FrogID stats

Research

During this period, FrogID data was used by researchers across Australia to support citizen science and biodiversity research. The FrogID team at the Australian Museum also published four scientific papers, adding valuable insights to our understanding of Australia's frogs.

1. Gillard, G.L, Flemons, P.K.J, Roslan, N., Woods, A. and Rowley, J.J.L. (2024). **What's That Frog? Evaluating a Crowdsourced Approach to Species Identification From Audio Recordings.** *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice* 9(1): 19, pp. 1–14. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5334/cstp.688

Through research supported by the Australian Museum Foundation, our team tested public participation in identifying frog calls submitted to the FrogID project. Using a custom-built acoustic identification tool on the DigiVol platform, citizen scientists listened to FrogID recordings from Greater Sydney and identified the calling species. Participants correctly identified all species in 57% of recordings, though accuracy dropped in multi-species choruses. The research revealed both the challenges and resources needed to support public involvement in frog call identification, informing future efforts for FrogID to engage communities in its frog call identification process.

2. Moon, K., Yates, S., Callaghan, C. T., & Thompson, M. (2024). **The relational nature of citizen science.** *People and Nature* 6(5). DOI: https://doi.org/10.1002/pan3.10709

This research explored how the FrogID project fosters deeper connections between people, frogs, and nature. Researchers found that FrogID citizen scientists don't just collect data – they enrich their lives through meaningful experiences that empower them to care for the environment. Interviews revealed that using FrogID increases awareness of local surroundings, especially through sound, deepening people's relationship with nature. The study shows that FrogID goes beyond science, encouraging genuine community engagement in biodiversity conservation.

3. Gallagher, R., Roger, E., Packer, J., Slatyer, C., Rowley, J.J.L, Cornwell, W., Ens, E., Legge, S., Simpfendorfer, C., Stephen, R., Mesaglio, T. (2024). **Incorporating citizen science into IUCN Red List assessments,** *Conservation Biology 39*(2). DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.14329

FrogID was highlighted as a best-case example of how citizen science can inform threatened species conservation. While some citizen science datasets lack the structure needed for extinction risk assessments – such as accurate distribution maps and population trends – FrogID provides high-quality, geo-referenced data that meets these needs. The study highlighted that with more direction and well-designed projects like FrogID, citizen science can contribute to conservation decisions and help shape biodiversity protection.

4. Purser, W.A., Doughty, P., Rowley, J.L., Böhme, W., Donnellan, S.C., Anstis, M., Mitchell, N., Shea, G.M., Amey, A., Mitchell, B.A., Catullo, R.A. (2024). **Systematics of the Little Red Tree Frog, *Litoria rubella* (Anura: *Pelodryadidae*).** *Zootaxa* 5594 (2). DOI: https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5594.2.3

Thanks to research led by the University of Western Australia, co-authored by Australian Museum scientists and supported by FrogID recordings, the widespread Red Tree Frog (*Litoria rubella*) has been split into three distinct species. Using genetic, acoustic, and morphological data, researchers showed these frogs are adapted to different environments across Australia. FrogID call data continues to clarify species boundaries and improve distribution maps, showing how citizen science can directly inform species discovery and conservation.

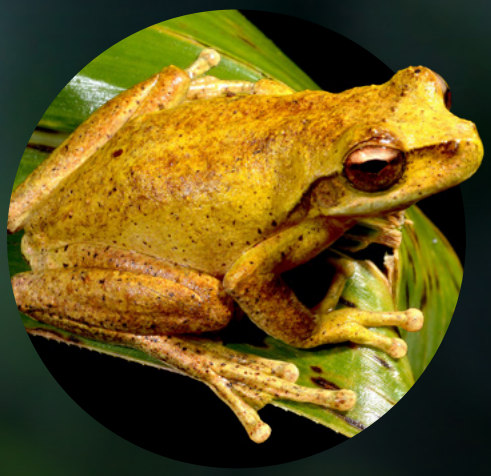
Discovering species as new to science

During the 2024–25 period, four species were described as new to science, in part informed by FrogID submissions.

Ruddy Tree Frog
(*Litoria pyrina*)

Western Desert Tree Frog
(*Litoria larisonans*)

Eungella Whirring Tree Frog
(*Litoria eungellensis*)



Atherton Tablelands Whirring Tree Frog
(*Litoria corbeni*)

FrogID dataset 6.0

Thanks to the incredible efforts of tens of thousands of FrogID citizen scientists, the sixth release of the FrogID dataset went live in June 2025 – featuring over **974,700 records** from **226 species**. That's nearly **one million frog records** and counting!

FrogID dataset 6.0 contains thousands of vital records of threatened species, from just three records of the Critically Endangered Kroombit Tree Frog (*Litoria kroombitensis*) to over 2,600 records of the tiny Endangered Sloane's Froglet (*Crinia sloanei*). But it's not just the rare and threatened species that matter. The vast number of records of more common frogs are equally important, providing essential data to detect changes in species distributions, seasonal activity, and population trends over time. These patterns help scientists monitor the health of ecosystems across Australia, as frogs are sensitive indicators of environmental change. Together, records of both common and threatened species make the FrogID dataset a powerful tool for understanding and conserving Australia's unique frog biodiversity and monitoring environmental health.

This public dataset is now freely available online via the FrogID website and the *Atlas of Living Australia*. In addition, the full dataset – including sensitive species records – is shared with every state's wildlife atlas for approved users to access, supporting informed biodiversity conservation and management efforts across the country.

Magnificent Tree Frog (*Litoria splendida*)

FrogID Week 2024

The seventh annual FrogID Week, held from 8–17 November 2024, once again delivered a vital snapshot for frog conservation, made possible by the dedicated involvement of more than 4,000 citizen scientists across Australia.

This year's event saw 4,175 participants submit over 18,700 frog call recordings, resulting in more than 34,000 frog records – accounting for around 3% of all FrogID records to date. On 12 November, a record-breaking 4,714 frogs were documented in just 24 hours – more than three frog records per minute!

A total of 112 frog species were recorded, representing 44% of Australia's known frog species. Highlights included the rarely recorded Kimberley Spadefoot (*Notaden weigeli*) from WA, the newly named Coastal Banjo Frog (*Limnodynastes superciliaris*), and several high-priority conservation species such as the Endangered Booroolong Frog (*Litoria booroolongensis*), and Critically Endangered Kuranda Tree Frog (*Litoria myola*).

FrogID Week 2024 also expanded its reach, with recordings covering approximately 12% of continental Australia. Excitingly, frog calls were received from two previously unsampled areas – Cook and Prairie in Queensland – helping fill critical knowledge gaps, especially in remote regions. Queensland saw a remarkable surge in participation, more than doubling its previous record and contributing 32% of all submissions.

This success would not have been possible without the support of our FrogID community. Thank you to everyone who took part – your contributions are helping shape the future of frog conservation with every FrogID Week submission and beyond.

18,700+
recordings submitted

4,175
users who submitted a call with the FrogID app

34,000+
frog records

122
species found

FrogID Week media reach:

1,195
media items published across the world

27,351,692
cumulative audience reach

482,915
social media reach

Green and Golden Bell Frog (*Litoria aurea*)

Thank you

We're delighted to celebrate another successful year of FrogID and extend a huge thank you to the thousands of participants, generous supporters, partners, and the incredible team at the Australian Museum who make it all possible.

FrogID continues to make remarkable strides in frog research, conservation, and public engagement. With increasing submissions, new species discoveries – including some new to science – and published findings, the impact of FrogID is clear. As we work to keep FrogID freely accessible, we remain committed to empowering more people across Australia to help understand and conserve our unique frogs.

Dr Gracie Liu using the Australian Museum's FrogID app

Donate and help

Donate to FrogID and become an essential part of Australia's largest frog conservation initiative.

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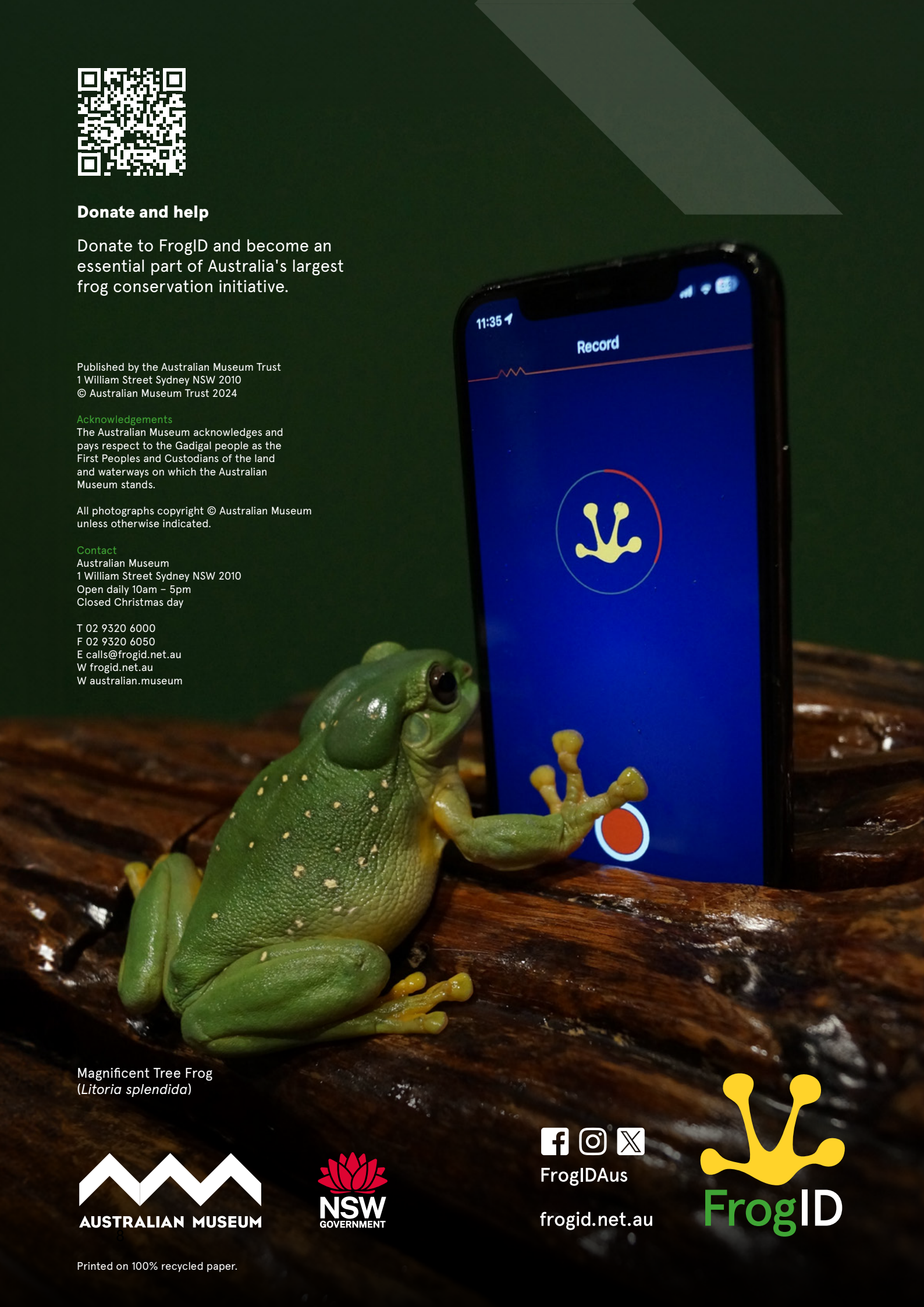

Magnificent Tree Frog
(*Litoria splendida*)

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