

Eric Vanderduys grew up in a few locations in southern and eastern Australia. He could never decide what was more interesting out of fish, reptiles, plants, birds or mammals. Then there's spiders and butterflies – it gets difficult to keep up.



Old stomping ground: one of the remote locations Eric spent formative years on - the Upper Clarence River in northern NSW.

He saw a gap in the literature on the frog fauna of Queensland, which has more species of frogs than any other Australian state, and wrote *Field Guide to the Frogs of Queensland*, published in 2012.

He worked on and off in northern Australia from 1995 onwards, before moving to north Queensland in 2003, where he took up a position as a field ecologist with the (then) Qld Environmental Protection Agency. In 2006 he moved across to CSIRO, still working as a field ecologist on a variety of landscape scale projects – mostly regarding the effects of fire, clearing, grazing and weeds on terrestrial vertebrates.



*Strophurus congo*, a new species of gecko described from north Queensland by Eric in 2016.

Eric has published on reptiles, including describing new species from north Queensland (and there's more to come), amphibians, vertebrate ecology and mixed bird flocks. He orchestrated the rediscovery of the "extinct" lizard *Lerista allanae* from central Queensland in 2009.



Feral pig monitoring activities on western Cape York Peninsula.

He has been a member of the Black-throated Finch Recovery Team since 2006, written about the endangered southern Black-throated Finch, and maintains a database of records of this subspecies. He currently spends a lot of time catching and monitoring flying foxes, and trying to understand the ecology of feral pigs on Cape York Peninsula.

He has reviewed papers on terrestrial reptile spatial ecology, bat and freshwater turtle ecology, invasive species, birds, geckos, snakes and frogs for a variety of journals such as *Biological Conservation*, *Austral Ecology*, *Journal of Herpetology* and *Wildlife Research*, as well as conducting numerous internal reviews for other CSIRO staff publications.