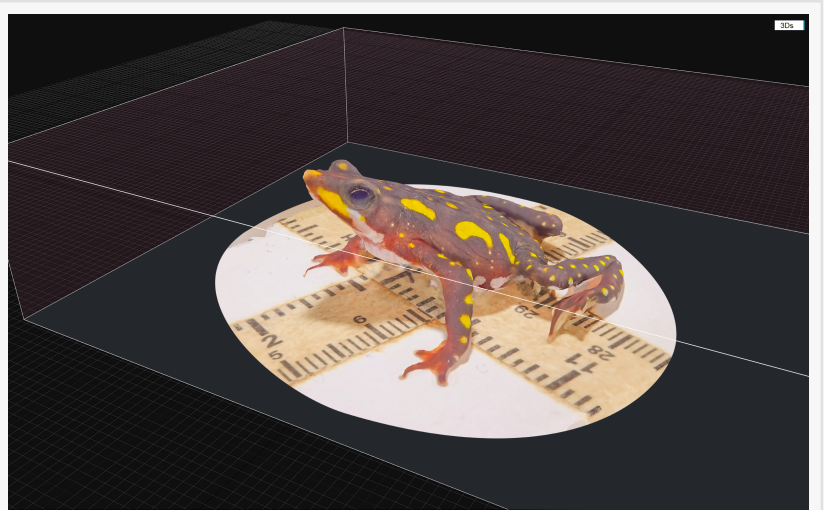


Revolutionary 3D Scanning System Developed in Partnership with Sony Changes Science and Saves Wildlife

For the 1st time in 300 years scientists can conduct museum research without euthanizing animals and we have forever changed how wildlife education is conducted

TUCSON, ARIZONA, USA, October 20, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- In a groundbreaking collaboration between The Biodiversity Group (TBG) and Sony Electronics, a revolutionary 3D scanning system has been unveiled, ushering in a new era for scientific research. For the first time in 300



Processing 3D scan of endangered toad

years, researchers can conduct taxonomic research without euthanizing animals. This innovative technology allows TBG to document the [lost species they rediscover](#), previously unseen for decades, or any threatened species, by simply scanning the individuals, taking noninvasive DNA samples, and releasing them unharmed.

“

When we rediscover a lost species, we might not know if it's the last female in the population, and euthanizing it for a museum would be highly unethical. Now scientists finally have an option not to.”

Scott Trageser

A Breakthrough in Biodiversity Conservation

Since the days of Carl Linnaeus, the scientific community has faced the ethical dilemma of sacrificing animal specimens for the sake of taxonomic research. With this cutting-edge 3D scanning system, that ethical challenge is now in the past. The portable system, which can be carried in a 25-liter backpack and operated by a single person even in the most remote settings, has the potential to reshape the fields of biodiversity conservation and wildlife education and outreach.

A Digital Evolution of Taxonomy

The heart of this innovation lies in creating accurate 3D models that are deposited into

[Morphosource](#), a freely accessible online database, instead of relying on siloed, physical museum specimens. These digital models open new avenues for research, enabling scientists to instantly explore species with volumetric morphometrics, precise color representation, and reducing inter-observer error.

Empowering Environmental Outreach and Education

The implications of this technology extend far beyond the research community. It provides numerous opportunities for environmental outreach and education, particularly for students and teachers. It will allow educators and any interested party to engage with wildlife in a far more immersive manner than traditionally allowed by mere photos or video. The models can be viewed through VR, AR, holographic project, 3D tablets, smart phones, or held in person by [3D printing](#) them.

Challenges and the Path Forward

While the potential of this system is immense, it currently faces technical limitations, making it a unique expertise that only Scott Trageser (Executive Director of The Biodiversity Group) can operate. His mission is to make this technology accessible to all researchers and conservationists by developing Version 2. To accomplish this, their nonprofit requires \$20,000 and technical expertise.

Get Involved in Revolutionizing Wildlife Conservation

If you are involved in 3D printing, AI agent development, mechanical engineering, or Android/iOS app development and wish to be part of this groundbreaking effort, please reach out to us. Together, we can better protect wildlife and reconnect our youth with the wonders of nature they're at risk of losing.

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3D Scan of Mud Turtle from Panama



3D Rendering created from a scan of a Horned Marsupial Frog

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