

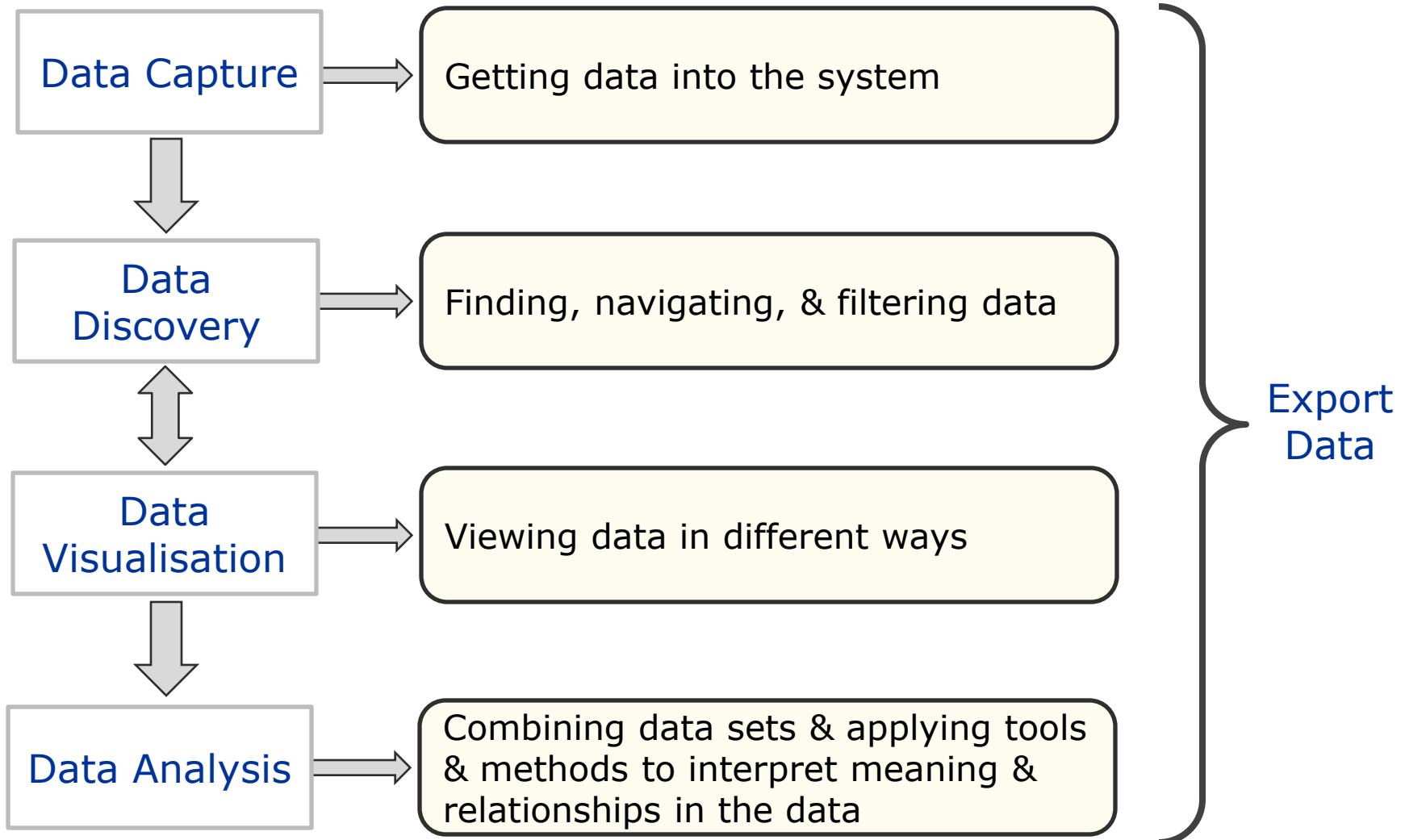
[www.ala.org.au](http://www.ala.org.au)

# The Atlas of Living Australia: field data capture – an **integrated future**

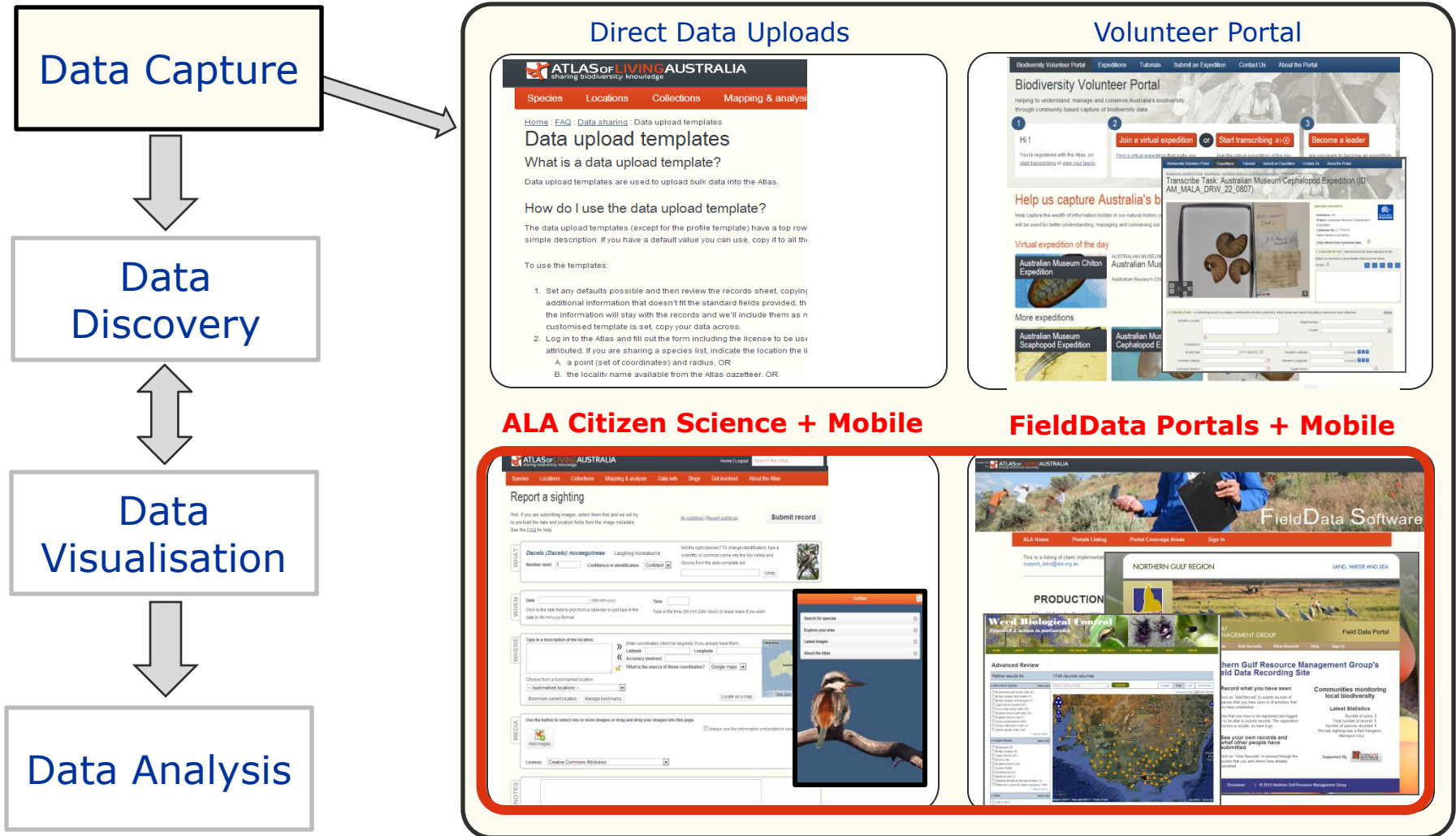
**Peter Brenton**  
**Atlas of Living Australia**



The Atlas is funded by the Australian Government under the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and further supported by the Super Science Initiative of the Education Investment Fund

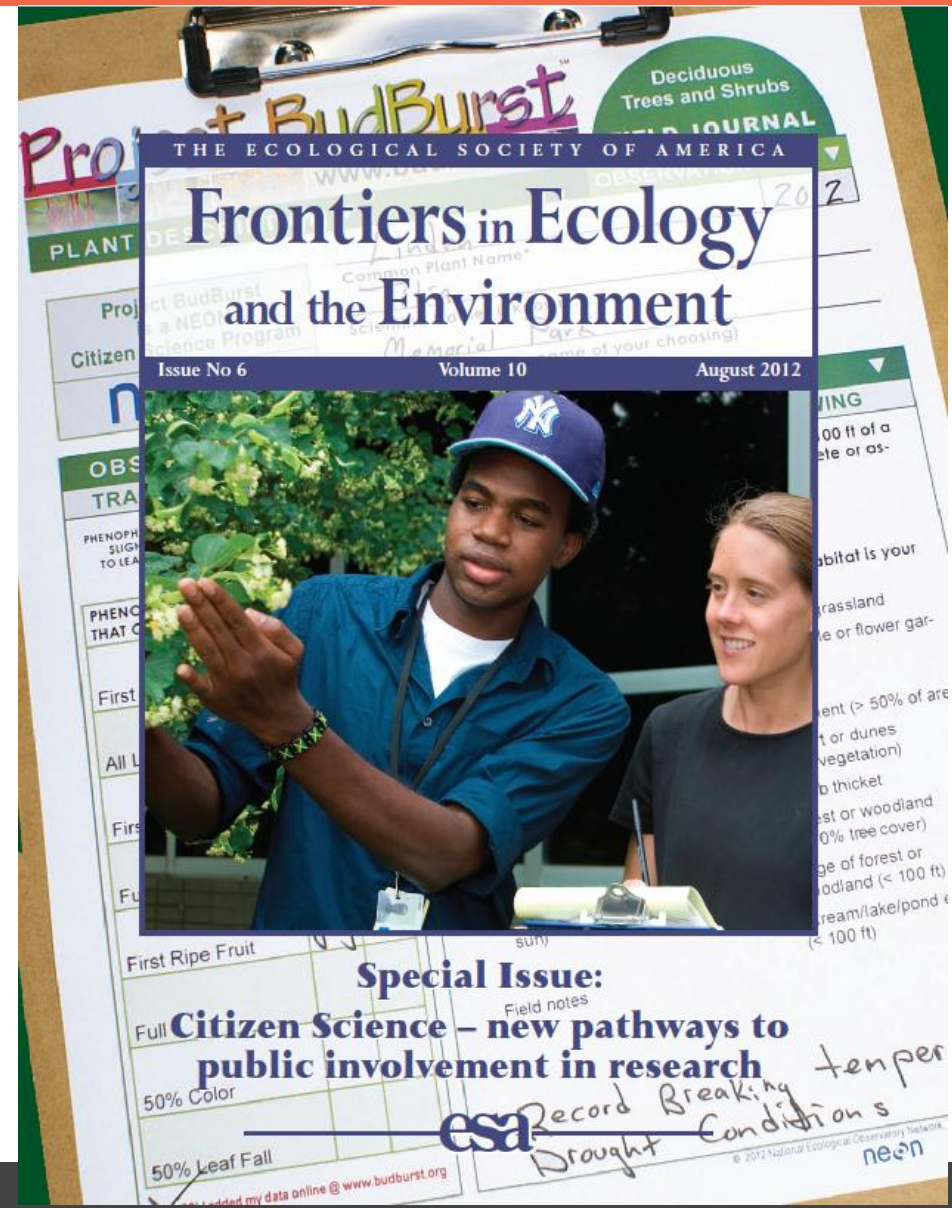


# Atlas Tools – Data Capture



# Tools for a Community Need

- Obvious need to support community efforts in biological data collection
  - Huge interest & capacity to collect quality data by **NRM sector, non-professional scientists, NGO's, community groups & public**
  - Participation → ownership & interest in science & nature
- Mobilisation of large community-based data holdings
  - Research opportunities
  - Natural assets management
- Found that they are seeking more comprehensive data collection capabilities.



# Improved Support for Citizen Science

## Citizen Science Central

Search & Sort

Build a CS data collection portal

Register a project

New projects on ALA fieldCapture

Project registration – any projects

Links to project site & mobile apps

This is a place where you can find out what is happening in citizen science in your area or by a topic of interest.

Click on a column heading to sort

### Citizen science projects

 Search

| Coverage  | ▼ Project name                          | Project description | Organisation       | Currency           | Web site  | Mobile app links                                      |
|-----------|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| NSW SE    | ACT & Southern Tablelands Weedspotter   | Project description | ACT government     | Active ongoing     | <a href="http://root.ala.org.au/bd">http://root.ala.org.au/bd</a> | <a href="https://play.google">https://play.google</a> |
| Canberra  | ACT BioBlitz                            | Project description | Molonglo Catchment | Temporary finished | <a href="http://root.ala.org.au/bd">http://root.ala.org.au/bd</a> | <a href="https://play.google">https://play.google</a> |
| NSW SE    | Atlas of Life in the Coastal Wilderness | Project description | ALCW               | Active ongoing     | <a href="http://root.ala.org.au/bd">http://root.ala.org.au/bd</a> |   |
| Canberra  | Canberra Ornithologists Group           | Project description | COG                | Active ongoing     | <a href="http://root.ala.org.au/bd">http://root.ala.org.au/bd</a> | <a href="https://play.google">https://play.google</a> |
| Toowoomba | Condamine Alliance                      | Project description | Condamine Alliance | Active ongoing     | <a href="http://root.ala.org.au/bd">http://root.ala.org.au/bd</a> | <a href="https://play.google">https://play.google</a> |
| Case York | Case York Peninsula Biodiversity        | Project description | CSIRO              | Active ongoing     | <a href="http://root.ala.org.au/bd">http://root.ala.org.au/bd</a> |   |



## Atlas of Life in the Coastal Wilderness

*exploring, learning, recording*

 Search

| Coverage | ▼ Project name                          | Project description | Organisation       | Currency           |
|----------|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| NSW SE   | ACT & Southern Tablelands Weedspotter   | Project description | ACT government     | Active ongoing     |
| Canberra | ACT BioBlitz                            | Project description | Molonglo Catchment | Temporary finished |
| NSW SE   | Atlas of Life in the Coastal Wilderness | Project description | ALCW               | Active ongoing     |

- Common place for people wanting to get involved to find and connect with communities of interest
- A place for you to promote your CS project to people in your area or area of interest
- Tools support to set up a CS project

# MERIT – activity based reporting



MERIT

[Home](#) [About](#) [Help](#) [Contacts](#)

[Peter Brenton](#) [My projects](#) [Administration](#) [Logout](#)

## Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement Tool (MERIT)

The online monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement tool (MERIT) is now available for grant recipients to start reporting. MERIT has been developed for the project and programme reporting requirements of Australian Government NRM programmes. MERIT allows grant recipients to record and upload data about the progress of their projects on a continual basis and to submit reports online. It will also increase information sharing within NRM communities and the broader public.

Developed in collaboration with the [Atlas of Living Australia](#), MERIT will enhance the reporting process by allowing simpler yet more complete project records and showing direct links between project activities and contributions to Australia's biodiversity conservation work.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- MERIT users guides are now available at <http://www.nrm.gov.au/funding/merit/user-guides.html>. Please check the guides and FAQ's for information on how to use MERIT.
- For important information regarding the upload of shape files and for new features and fixes that were deployed on 11/3/14 see '[About](#)' for details.

### Filter results

#### Organisation

- East Gippsland CMA (16)
  - Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. (12)
  - South Coast NRM (10)
  - Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (10)
  - North Central CMA (8)
- [choose more...](#)

#### Program

- Caring for Our Country 2 (427)
- Biodiversity Fund (351)
- Cumberland Plain (6)
- Environmental Stewardship (2)

#### Sub Program

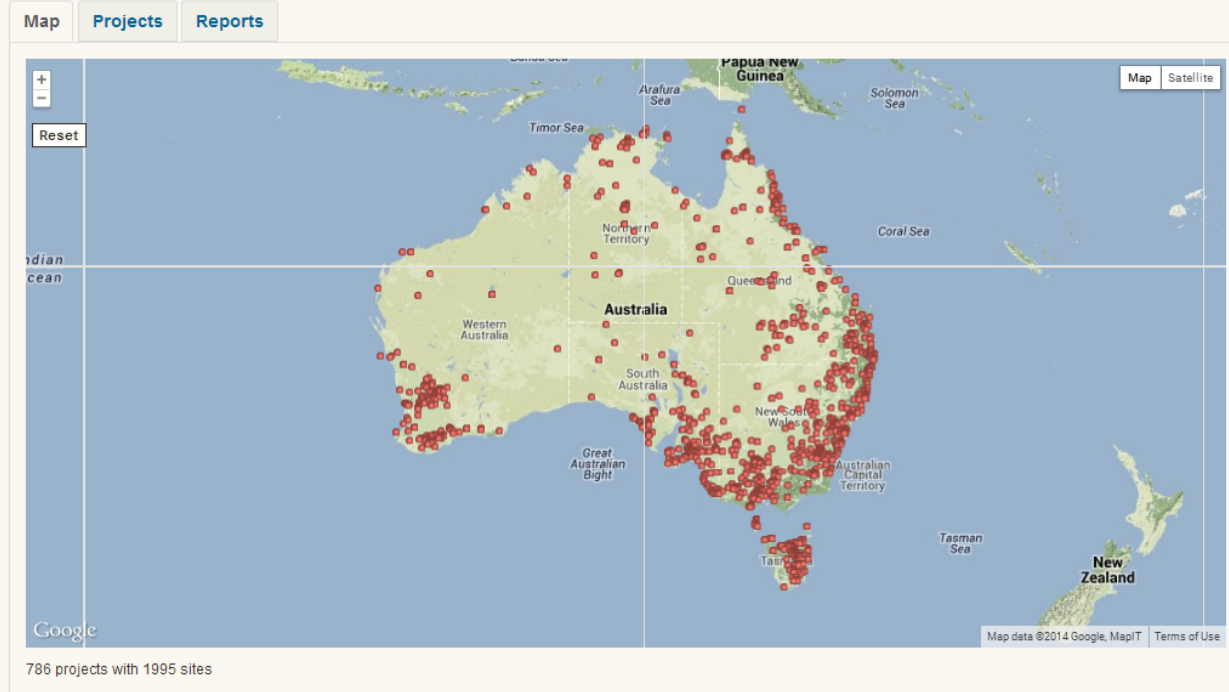
- Round 1 (315)
  - Regional Delivery 1318 (311)
  - Community Environment Grants 1314 (69)
  - Reef Rescue 2013/14 (31)
  - Target Area Grants - 2013/14 (22)
- [choose more...](#)

#### Reporting Theme

- Protecting and enhancing existing native vegetation (203)
  - Managing invasive species in a connected landscape (183)
  - Biodiverse plantings (167)
  - Conserving and protecting species and ecosystems (matters of national environmental significance) (108)
  - Building natural resource management community skills, knowledge and engagement (106)
- [choose more...](#)

#### State

- New South Wales (195)



Developed in collaboration with the [Atlas of Living Australia](#), MERIT will enhance the reporting process by allowing simpler yet more complete project records and showing direct links between project activities and contributions to Australia's biodiversity conservation work.

#### MERIT Objectives

# MERIT demonstrator project

[★ Add to favourites](#)[Overview](#) [Plans & Reports](#) [Sites](#) [Dashboard](#) [Admin](#)**Grant recipient:** Commonwealth Department of Environment**Funded by:** Environmental Stewardship**Approved funding (GST inclusive):** \$1,163,000.00**Project start:** 02-12-2013 **Project finish:** 31-12-2020

Grant Id: B0012345678G

External Id: LSP-xxxxxxx

Manager: Person responsible for delivering the project

This project is a demonstrator for general user familiarisation, particularly for different activity types. The project description goes in this space and will be pre-populated from the description in the project application.



Dorrigo Mountain Top Landcare Group

—[http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making\\_a\\_difference\\_a\\_celebration\\_of\\_landcare/section\\_2\\_-\\_the\\_landcare\\_framework](http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making_a_difference_a_celebration_of_landcare/section_2_-_the_landcare_framework)



Dorrigo Mountain Top Landcare Group - Now!

—[http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making\\_a\\_difference\\_a\\_celebration\\_of\\_landcare/section\\_2\\_-\\_the\\_landcare\\_framework](http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making_a_difference_a_celebration_of_landcare/section_2_-_the_landcare_framework)

## Project documents

[MERIT editor User Guide - module 1](#)

DoE

[Dorrigo Mountain Top Landcare Group](#)

[http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making\\_a\\_difference\\_a\\_the\\_landcare\\_framework](http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making_a_difference_a_the_landcare_framework)

[Dorrigo Mountain Top Landcare Group - Now!](#)

[http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making\\_a\\_difference\\_a\\_the\\_landcare\\_framework](http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/publications/making_a_difference_a_the_landcare_framework)

[Sample Word doc](#)[Activities and associated output components - Updated list May 2014](#)

## News and events

### Tip

Use this space to publish any news and event information that you want share with the general public about the project. Project administrators can create and update this information via the ADMIN tab.

**Note** that activities are grouped into 3 broad categories:

1. **Implementation actions** - Activities that are undertaken to deliver the project outputs and outcomes.
2. **Assessment & monitoring activities** - Those involved in collecting data about the condition / status of a resource or the effectiveness of implementation actions.
3. **Project administration, management & reporting activities** - Those which collect information about the administration, implementation, and outcomes of the project itself.

Every stage of a project must have one administration activity (allows for multiple admin actions) and one reporting activity.

A sample form for each activity is provided in the Plans & Reports tab.

## Project stories

### Tips

Use this space to publish stories about your project that you want share with the general public. These can be summarised progress reports, project outcomes to date, etc.

You can also attach activity and outcome photos to this page, as well as a wide range of document types, videos and sound recordings. These can also be made selectively public or restricted to project members only.

Project administrators can create and update this information via the ADMIN tab.

### Remember

# MERIT – Foundation concepts

## Finiss Reynolds Catchment Group: Management of invasive species

projects

★ Add to favourites

Overview Plans & Reports Sites Dashboard Admin

This plan has been approved

sites

Case manager actions:

### Planned Activities

Tabular Gantt chart

| Stage  | Actions | From       | To         | Description   | Activity                      | Site | Status                                  |
|--|---------|------------|------------|---|-------------------------------|------|---|
| <b>Stage 1</b><br><input type="button" value="Report Approved"/><br><input type="button" value="Withdraw approval"/> |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 1: Construct FRCG legal entity and governance structure to ensure accountability. Entity will be a special purpose vehicle (SPV) under the RMWAH umbrella. Governance advice from TNRM. AI..   | Works Implementation Planning |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 2: Vegetation mapping of the catchment, building on the Anson Bay vegetation mapping to de..   | Research                      |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 3: A desktop review of existing mimosa data will occur ..  | Weed Mapping & Monitoring     |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 4: The Weeds Branch of NRETAS will (by September 2012)..   | Management Plan Development   |      | <input type="button" value="deferred"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 5a: Budget re-evaluation for project activities which wi..   | Project Administration        |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 5b: FPM works with property owners and managers to develop individual PWMP's (on going from September and..  | Works Implementation Planning |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 5c Aerially spray catchments for mimosa (floodplains and creek/river lines) using both fixed wing and rotary aerial spraying in Nov/Dec 2012 in accordance with prioritization identified in the CMP and respectiv..                   | Weed Treatment                |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
|  |         | 01-07-2012 | 31-12-2012 | Activity 7: Biodiversity audit, monitoring and surveillance program put in place with a training program for an i..   | Site Monitoring Planning      |      | <input type="button" value="finished"/> |
| <b>Stage 2</b><br><input type="button" value="Submit report"/>   |         | 01-01-2013 | 30-06-2013 | Activity 1: The FPM will update the CMP according to the previous season's aerial spraying, lessons learnt etc., and then carry this into and..   | Project Administration        |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |
|  |         | 01-01-2013 | 30-06-2013 | Activity 2: Reduce feral pigs aerially and on-ground. A catchment scale methodology for feral pig control will be developed in conj..   | Pest and Disease Management   |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |
|  |         | 01-01-2013 | 30-06-2013 | Activity 3: Final aerial control this season will occur in early Stage 2, then on ground mimosa control at a property level at the end of stage 2 where the CMP has established ground control as a management intervention to supplement a p.. | Weed Treatment                |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |
| <b>Stage 3</b><br><input type="button" value="Submit report"/>   |         | 01-07-2013 | 31-12-2013 | Activity 1: Recruit a Catchment Management Officer (CMO) to overs..   | Project Administration        |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |
|  |         | 01-07-2013 | 31-12-2013 | Activity 2: CMO month handover with FPM.  | Project Administration        |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |
|  |         | 01-07-2013 | 31-12-2013 | Activity 3: The newly recruited CMO will commence ground surv..   | Weed Mapping & Monitoring     |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |
|  |         | 01-07-2013 | 31-12-2013 | Activity 4: Continue ground works including biological, mechanical and chemical control, as defined in the CMP (due September 2012).  | Weed Treatment                |      | <input type="button" value="planned"/>  |

activities



# MERIT – Foundation concepts

## Corridor Critters-see it, touch it, understand it

Site: test site 1

Activity: Revegetation  
Biodiversity Fund Round 1

Activity form

sites

Major theme

Choose..

Project stage: Stage 1

Planned start date: 23-11-2013

Actual start date \*

28-11-2013

Description:

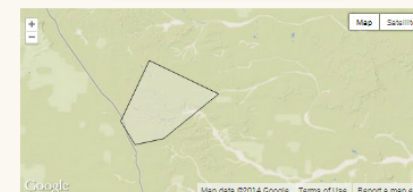
Test activity for revegetation

Activity progress: started

Planned end date: 31-12-2013

Actual end date \*

31-12-2013



## Revegetation Details

| Species: *                                    | No. Planted: * | Seed Sown (Kg): *     | Type of stock | Structural Layer | Stock Provenance | Type of Guard |  |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| Eucalyptus orthostemon x Eucalyptus vegrandis | 200            | 0                     | Tube          | Overstory        | local            | None          | <a href="#">Edit</a><br><a href="#">Remove</a> |
| Acacia Kambah Karpet                          | 500            | 0                     | Tube          | Understory       |                  | Gro-guard     | <a href="#">Edit</a><br><a href="#">Remove</a> |
| Pterostylis aff. hamiltonii                   | 100            | 0                     | Advanced      | Overstory        |                  |               | <a href="#">Edit</a><br><a href="#">Remove</a> |
| Poa bulbosa                                   | 0              | 50                    | Seed          | Ground stratum   |                  | None          | <a href="#">Edit</a><br><a href="#">Remove</a> |
| Total Seedlings Planted:                      | 800            | Total Seed Sown (Kg): | 50            |                  |                  |               |  |

[+ Add a row](#)

Vegetation at time of planting: \*

Native grassland/pasture

Revegetation method:

Hand broadcast seeding

Equipment used:

Adjacent landuse:

Livestock

Landscape connectivity: \*

Connected to patch of 100 to 1000 ha

Area of revegetation works (Ha): \*

200

Environmental benefits / outcomes expected to be achieved from this planting:

- Groundwater recharge management
- Groundwater discharge or salinity management
- Habitat restoration - home range improvement
- Habitat enhancement - improved migration paths
- Soil stabilisation
- Riparian rehabilitation
- Streambank protection
- Nutrient cycling

Comments / Notes:

ksdufsbdfjsda

## Participant Information

Total No. of Participants (not employed on project): \*

20

No of Indigenous Participants (not employed on project): \*

33

Total No. of participants not previously attending events for this project (i.e. new participants in the project): \*

60

Total No. of indigenous on-country visits: \*

2

No of community groups participating: \*

5

No of farming entities not previously attending events for this project: \*

2

# FieldCapture / MERIT Enhancements

Dynamic dashboard showing aggregated activity output data.

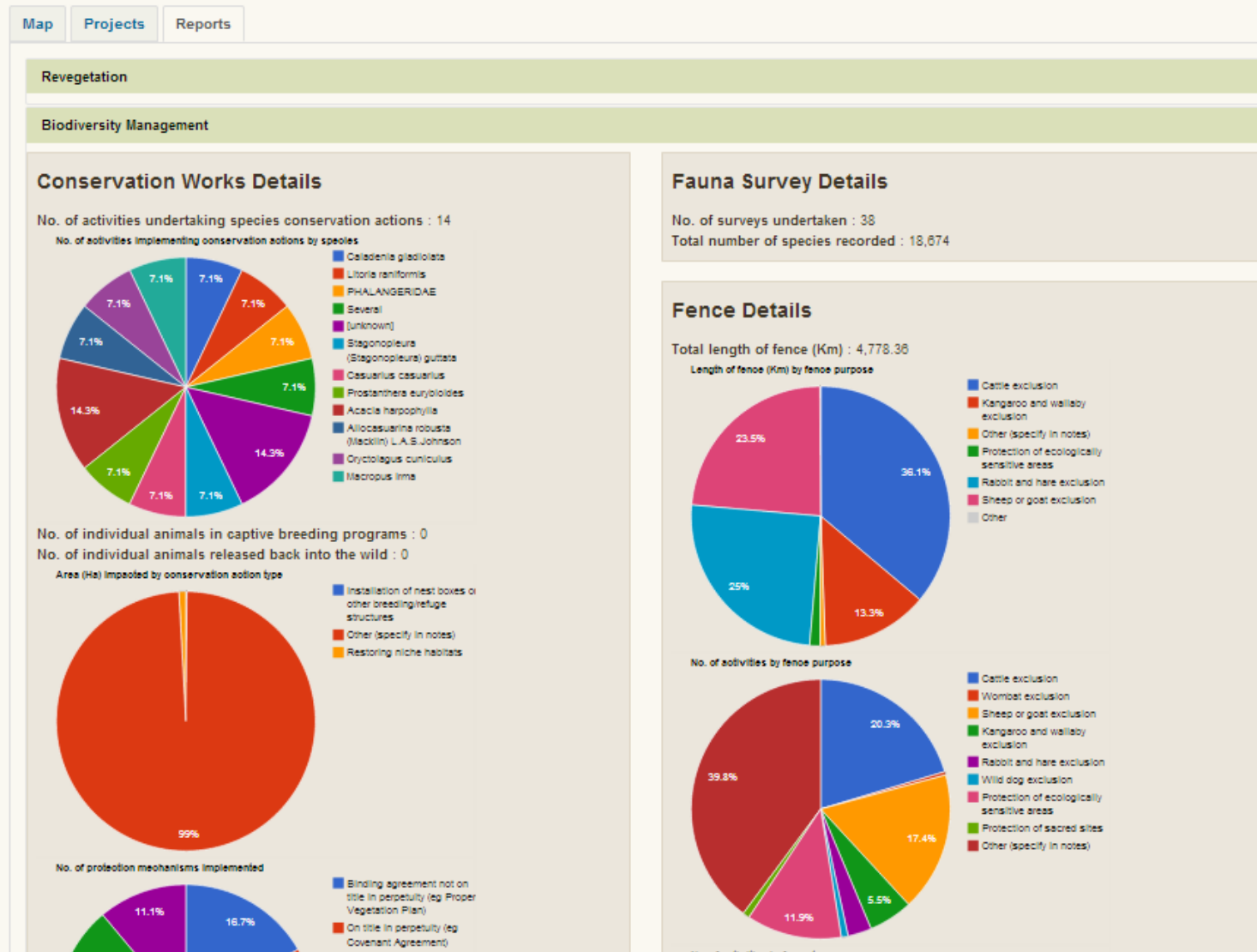
Trends over time of selected parameters

Searchable showcase of project stories / outcomes

Enhanced filters

Printable project summaries

+++++





# GER Data Portal



**About the GER**  
The Great Eastern Ranges initiative is one of several major corridor initiatives within Australia. These...

**Where is the GER corridor**  
The Great Eastern Ranges corridor extends 3,600 km from the Victorian Alps to...

**Case Studies**  
Learn what GER is doing to link and restore healthy habitats across the Great Eastern Ranges.

**Donate to GER**  
All donations received will go to the Great Eastern Ranges programs.  
[Subscribe to newsletter](#)  
**Key Facts**

**Regional Partnerships**  
GER's ten Regional Partnerships have been developed to focus on priority projects in their local...

**Our Partners**  
The Great Eastern Ranges initiative is built on a foundation of partnerships, it acknowledges the...

**GER Grants Program**  
Applications for the 2014/15 GER Grants Programs are now open. Click here for more information.

**World's most significant**  
June 2, 2014, 9:00am  
J&L Local Aboriginal Land recently celebrated the...

**Funding for community**  
in the Kanangra-Boyd-Wyangella Link  
May 6, 2014, 1:00pm  
Community groups in the area catchment are being offered...

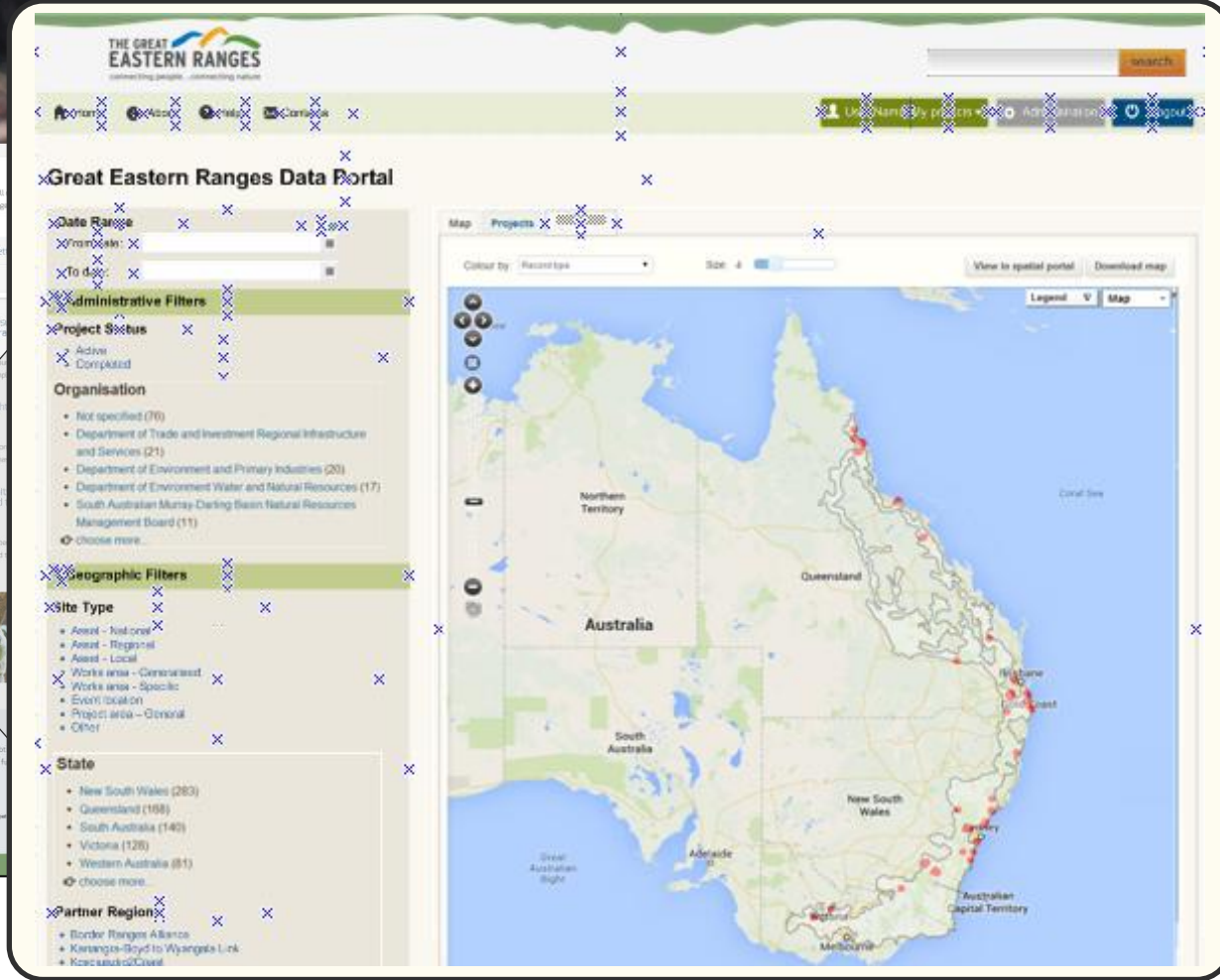
## Biodiversity Projects



**Our Structure**  
GER is based on a model of partnerships with collaboration across organisational boundaries and focused on common goals. GER comprises the Central Team, GER Lead Partners, GER Regional Partnerships and over 180 organisations across the length of the corridor.

**Lead Partners**  
The Lead Partners provide high-level vision, governance, strategic planning and policy to the GER. The GER Lead Partners are Greening Australia, National Parks Association of NSW, Nature Conservation Trust of NSW, Office of Environment & Heritage and DSEIQLD.

**Key Supporters**  
The Great Eastern Ranges Initiative would not have been so successful without the crucial support provided by our key supporters.



### Great Eastern Ranges Data Portal

**Date Range**

**Administrative Filters**

**Project Status**

- Active
- Completed

**Organisation**

- Not specified (70)
- Department of Trade and Investment Regional Infrastructure and Services (21)
- Department of Environment and Primary Industries (20)
- Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources (17)
- South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (11)
- Choose more...

**Geographic Filters**

**Site Type**

- Asset - National
- Asset - Regional
- Asset - Local
- Works area - Generalised
- Works area - Specific
- Event location
- Project area - General
- Other

**State**

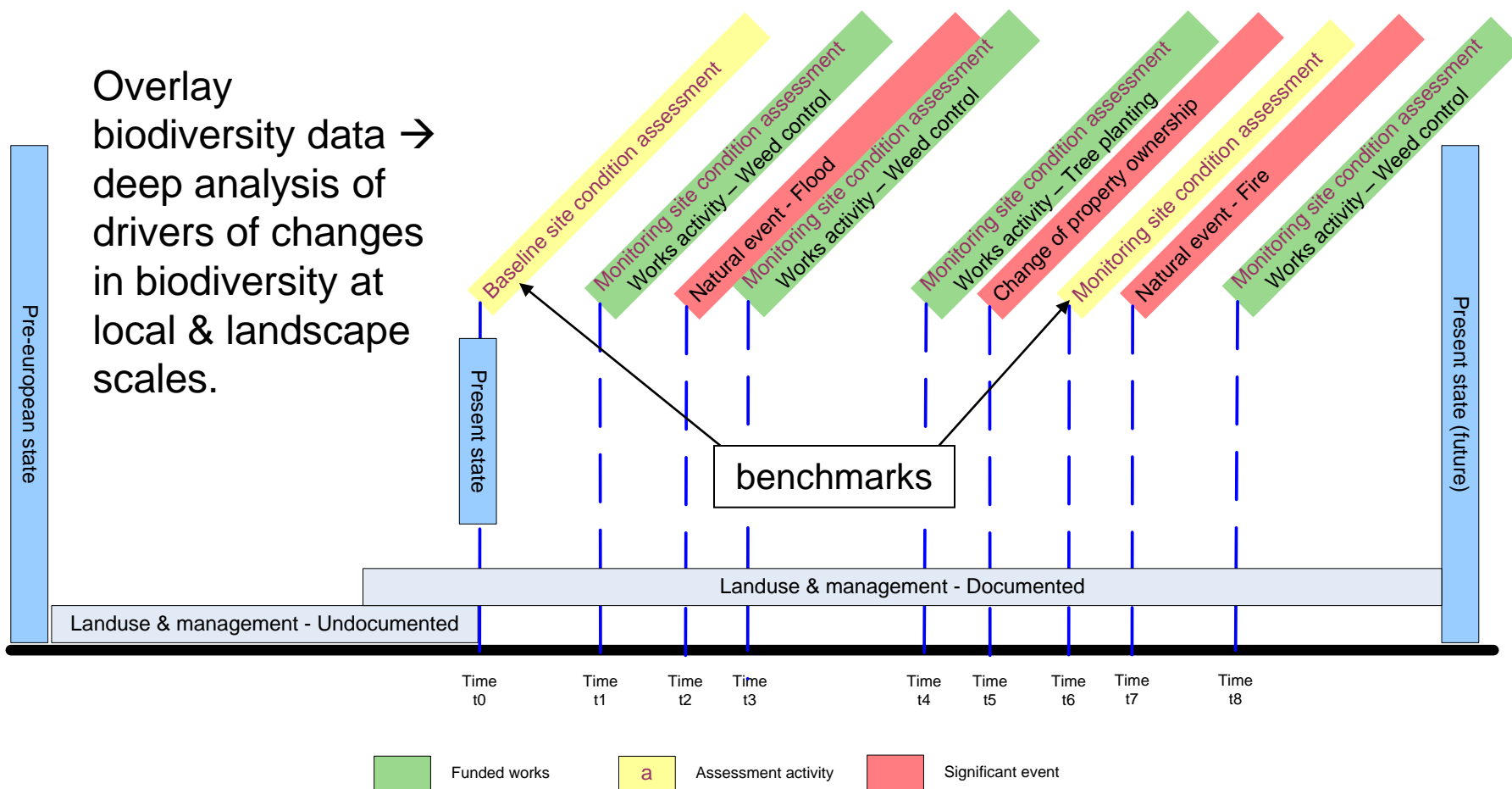
- New South Wales (263)
- Queensland (198)
- South Australia (140)
- Victoria (126)
- Western Australia (81)
- Choose more...

**Partner Region**

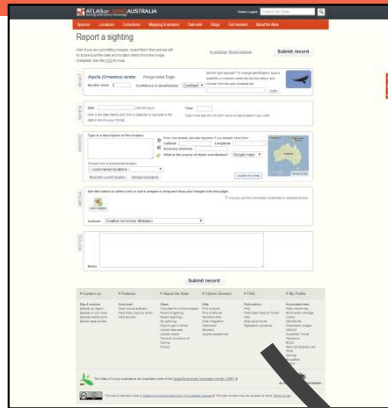
- Border Ranges Alliance
- Kanangra-Boyd to Wyangella Link
- Korambidj-Cleveland

# Temporal analysis

Example Timeline for Interpretation of Relationships between Site condition, Intervention activities, & Landuse.



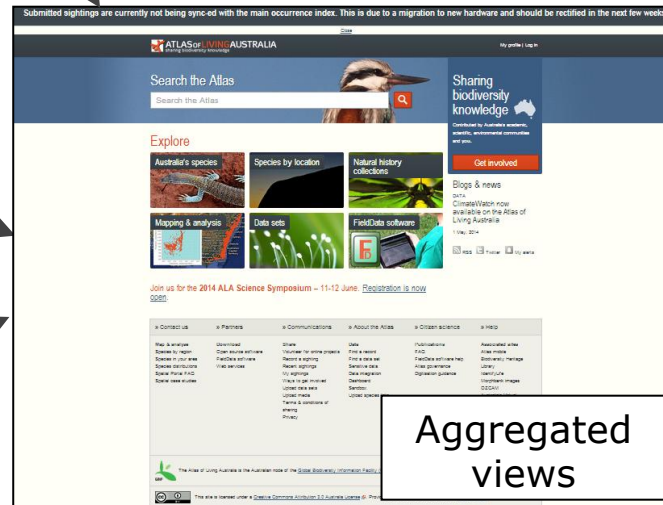
# Current CS tools



ALA add sighting



OzAtlas app



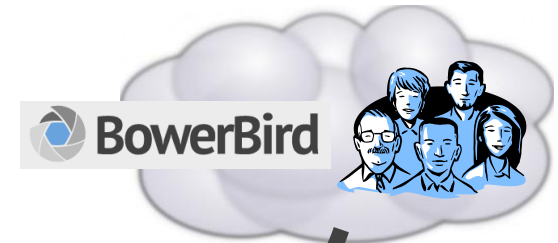
Aggregated views



BDRS - 50+ portals



BDRS mobile



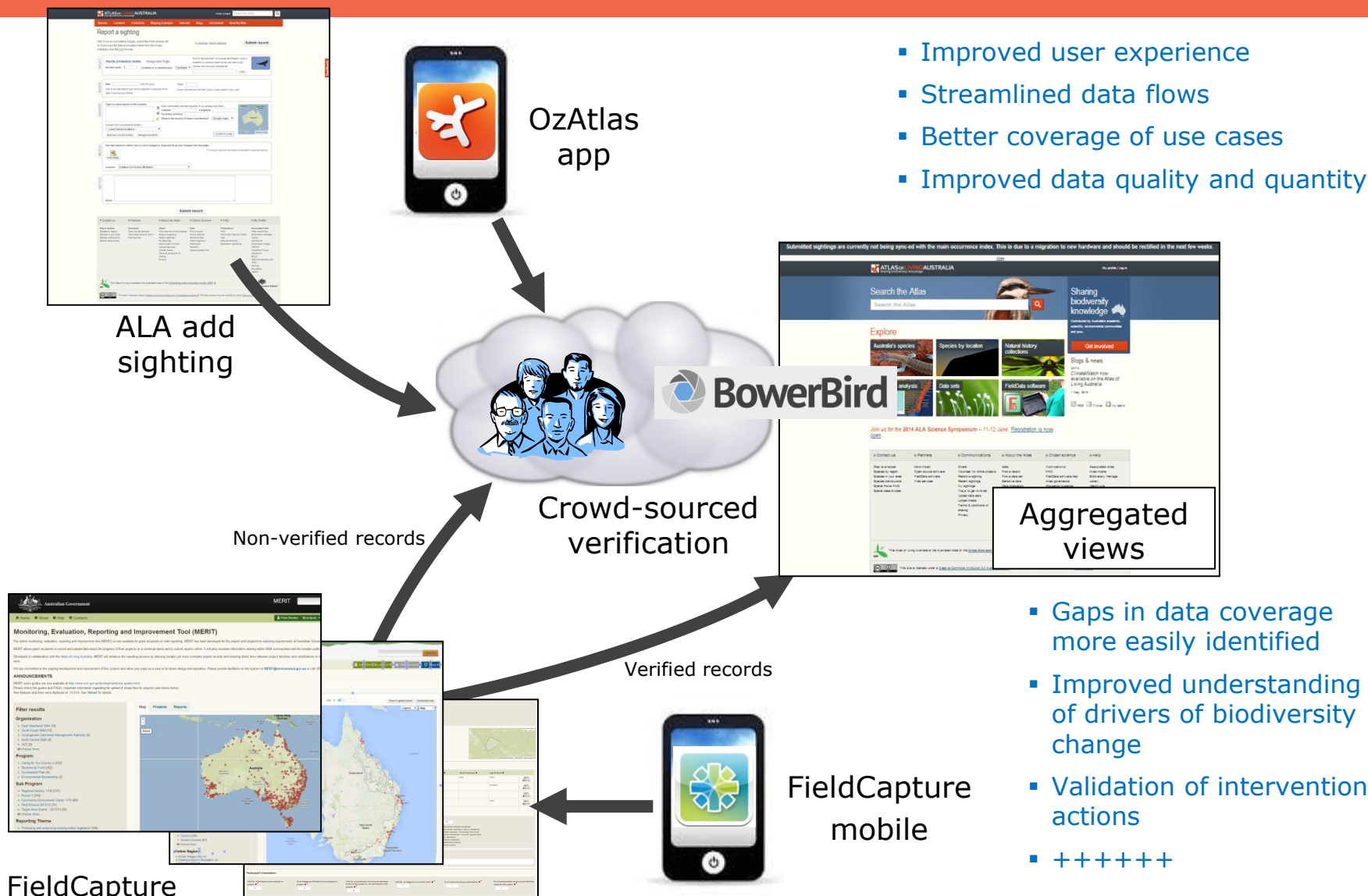
Crowd-sourced verification

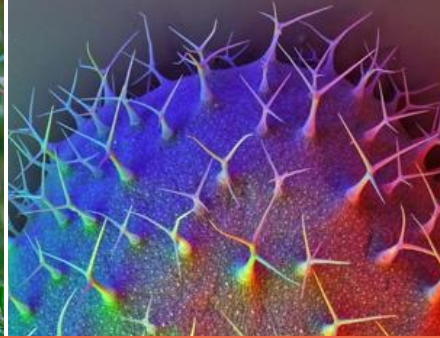
Occurrence data only

**Problems:**

- Independent disconnected systems and data flows
- Incomplete coverage of use cases
- Confused user experience

# Future CS tools – integrated capabilities





The Atlas of Living Australia Team – or some of it...

[www.ala.org.au](http://www.ala.org.au)

# Thank you

[www.ala.org.au](http://www.ala.org.au)

Peter Brenton

[peter.brenton@csiro.au](mailto:peter.brenton@csiro.au)

02 6246 5813



ATLAS OF **LIVING**  
**AUSTRALIA**  
sharing biodiversity knowledge



An Australian Government Initiative  
National Collaborative Research  
Infrastructure Strategy