Russell Vale Colliery Underground Expansion Project - Planning Assessment Commission Review by Dr Martin Denny, January 2015

Executive Summary

- The numerous reports and assessments associated with the Russell Vale Project have been reviewed, focusing on the aquatic and terrestrial fauna.
- Despite the abundance of information derived from many years of surveys and investigations, it is disappointing that the approach to the surveys, particularly the terrestrial fauna, has been less rigorous than would be expected from such a major project.
- Survey methodology recommended by both the New South Wales and Federal conservation agencies has not been followed and consequently, several Threatened species have not been adequately investigated and assessed.
- As no Elliott, cage and pit trapping were undertaken, a range of small to medium mammals (e.g. New Holland Mouse, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Southern Brown Bandicoot) that could occur in the area were not adequately surveyed nor adequately assessed.
- Call broadcasting was inadequate with no calls broadcast for a wide range of species including Sooty Owl, Squirrel Glider and Yellow-bellied Glider.
- No harp trapping for bats was undertaken even though there are several species that
 are known to be inadequately sampled with call analysis (Anabat). In addition, some
 of the cave-roosting bat species should have been radio-tracked to locate any roosts
 in the cliff line habitats.
- Overall, it can be said that the amount of survey methodology and degree of survey
 effort was inadequate for such an important development and the approach goes
 against that recommended by NSW OEH and Federal Department of Environment.
 One can say that the terrestrial fauna surveys at Russell Vale were only half done.
- Assessment of impacts upon several Threatened species was inadequate with some aspects of habitat preferences ignored. Greater emphasis should have been placed on the swamps containing banksia as these are important for the Eastern Pygmypossum. Similarly, the potential for shelter sites within the cliff line habitats can be important for the Spotted-tailed Quoll and the Sooty Owl.
- The most important aspect of impact assessments from mine-induced subsidence is that once the surface effects of subsidence are discovered it is too late to reverse the process i.e. the indicator of subsidence is usually the disturbance of surface features.
- Inadequate information about the ecological characteristics of some of the Threatened species and their behaviour and habitat preferences in the Project area has resulted in some assessments being less than correct and it is recommended that these should be re-assessed after further investigations have been undertaken.

Background

In a letter dated 19th January 2015, EDO NSW requested an independent expert review of the environmental assessment documentation for the Russell Vale Colliery Underground Expansion Project (Russell Vale Project). Specifically, to:

- I. prepare a written review of the relevant sections of the Environmental Impact Statement, Preferred Project Report and Response to Submission, Residual Matters Report, relevant Peer Reviews, DPE Secretary's Preliminary Environmental Assessment Report and Recommended Conditions of Consent; and
- 2. subject to your findings, assist the community to prepare a presentation of the results of your review to a Planning Assessment Commission public hearing on this project.

EDO NSW requested that the expert report consider the following issues in relation to fauna:

- I. Has the environmental assessment used the appropriate methods of identifying any environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the project?
- 2. Has the environmental assessment accurately predicted any environmental impacts that may arise from the project?
- 3. Is the project likely to result in any significant environmental impacts?
- 4. Are the proposed management strategies (including any strategies suggested through the recommended conditions of consent) likely to adequately manage any environmental impacts?
- 5. Are there any additional issues that should be put before the PAC?

As author of the following expert report I acknowledge that I have read the Code of Conduct under the UPCR and I agree to be bound by it.

Methodology

a. Literature Consulted

The relevant sections of the environmental assessment referred to me by EDO NSW were read and assessed to provide an overall picture of the project and the assessment process. The following publications were read:

Environmental Impact Statement

- EIS Main Report Part A Executive Summary and Background Information
- EIS Main Report Part C Aquatic Ecology, Terrestrial Ecology
- EIS Main Report Annexures P-R Annex R NRE No.1 Colliery Assessment of Mine Subsidence Impacts on Aquatic Habitat and Biota
- EIS Main Report Annexures S-V Annex S NRE No.1 Colliery Stage 2 Terrestrial Flora and Fauna Assessment

Submissions to EIS

- IRRM Submission to EIS
- OEH Submission to EIS

Preferred Project Report

- Preferred Project Report Biodiversity
- Response to Submissions Biodiversity of Pit Top, Biodiversity of Mine Area, Biodiversity Appendix

Residuals Matter Report

Residuals Matter Report – Summary of Agency Issues on the PPF, Appendix G
 Russell Vale Colliery – Underground Expansion Project Preferred Project Report – Biodiversity

Department of Planning and Environment Recommendation

- Secretary's Preliminary Environmental Assessment Report:
- Recommended Instrument of Approval:

EPBC Act Referral

• Biodiversity Assessment Report Parts I to 5

In addition, the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development provided advice to the Australian Government Department of the Environment and the NSW Department of Planning and Environment on the Wollongong Coal Ltd Russell Vale Colliery Underground Expansion Project (the Russell Vale Expansion)

in New South Wales (Advice to decision maker on coal mining project IESC 2014-057: Russell Vale Colliery Underground Expansion Project (MP 09_0013; EPBC 2014/7268)). This report was also read.

b. Investigation of Fauna Distribution and Fauna Survey Methodology

To provide information about the distribution of Threatened Species (both State-based and Federally) NSW BioNet, the website for the Atlas of NSW Wildlife (http://www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/), was interrogated on the 27th January 2015.

Both the NSW OEH and the Federal Department of Environment provide guidelines for methodology for surveys of Threatened Species. The following guidelines were consulted:

Threatened Biodiversity Survey and Assessment Guidelines for Developments and Activities Working Draft November 2004 Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

Although not mandatory, these Guidelines, as stated by the DEC, "have been prepared for use by decision makers when considering a proposed development, activity or action pursuant to Parts 4 and 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), and Part 6 of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (TSC Act). The Guidelines also provide information and assistance to any other individuals or organisations that may be required to consider the effect of a proposal on threatened biodiversity or critical habitat".

Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened birds: Guidelines for detecting birds listed as threatened under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (SEWPaC, 2010a);

Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened bats: Guidelines for detecting bats listed as threatened under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (SEWPaC, 2010b);

Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened frogs: Guidelines for detecting frogs listed as threatened under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (SEWPaC, 2010c);

Survey Guidelines for Australia's Threatened Mammals (SEWPaC, 2011a); and Survey Guidelines for Australia's Threatened Reptiles (SEWPaC, 2011b).

These five guidelines have been issued by the Federal Department of Environment (then called SEWPaC) and, although not mandatory, do state the following in their introduction:

"Failing to survey appropriately for threatened species that may be present at a site could result in the department applying the precautionary principle with regard to significant impact determinations. That is, if no supporting evidence (such as survey results) is presented to support the claim of species absence, then the department may assume that the species is in fact present. The department will not accept claimed species absence without effective validation such as through these survey guidelines, other survey techniques (for example, a state guideline or an accepted industry guideline), or relevant expertise.

Where a claim of absence is made, proposals should provide a robust evaluation of species absence".

Review of Project

Although there is considerable information about the aquatic and terrestrial fauna associated with the Russell Vale Project what stands out in the reading of the numerous reports are items and methods that appear to be missing. In summary, there are several survey techniques that should have been used but are missing, the degree of survey effort is not as high as expected for such a project, several Threatened terrestrial fauna species have not been surveyed or adequately assessed, and impact assessment has not been correctly undertaken for some Threatened terrestrial fauna species. These aspects are discussed below.

Survey Methodology

Despite detailed surveys of many of the fauna groups, particularly herpetofauna, some recommended survey techniques have been ignored. Although the guidelines issued by the State and Federal departments, and listed above, are not considered mandatory, they set the standard for any surveys for native fauna. Perhaps the most important techniques that are missing from the surveys associated with the Russell Vale Project are the use of Elliott trapping, cage trapping and pit trapping. These do require a certain degree of expenditure of time and resources, but are essential if endeavouring to determine the presence/absence of certain Threatened species as well as other Protected species. In particular, trapping techniques assist in finding such mammals as the Eastern Pygmy-possum, Squirrel Glider, South Brown Bandicoot and New Holland Mouse as well as a range of amphibians and reptiles.

Table 5.8 (Suggested survey methods and effort for non-flying mammals) from the "Threatened Biodiversity Survey and Assessment Guidelines for Developments and Activities Working Draft November 2004 Department of Environment and Conservation" lists the following techniques:

- Small Elliott traps 100 trap nights over 3-4 consecutive nights for small mammals
- Large Elliott traps 100 trap nights over 3-4 consecutive nights for Medium to large mammals
- Arboreal Elliott traps 24 trap nights over 3-4 consecutive nights for Arboreal mammals
- Wire cage traps 24 trap nights over 3-4 consecutive nights for Medium to large mammals
- Pitfall traps with drift nets 24 trap nights over 3-4 consecutive nights for small mammals

Unfortunately none of these recommended techniques have been utilized in the surveys at Russell Vale. In addition, the SEWPaC guidelines recommend the use of nest boxes as a

method to locate small arboreal marsupials similar to the Eastern Pygmy-possum. Such a technique is used widely to survey for this species.

Although the use of the Anabat recorder is the most successful method for detecting bat species, several Threatened bat species are difficult to record with ultrasonic detectors, especially gleaning species that have low intensity calls, e.g. *Nyctophilus* species which are difficult to identify to species level by call alone. Therefore, direct capture methods must be used to identify these species. The use of harp trapping is recommended to ensure a complete coverage of bat fauna. Unfortunately, no harp trapping was utilized at Russell Vale.

Another aspect of the surveys for Threatened bat species that was not considered was the determination of roosting sites within the cliff lines and rocky overhangs. Although visual inspection was undertaken this is inadequate to always locate roost sites. For the Russell Vale Project it would have been important to capture any cliff-roosting Threatened species and radio-track their movements.

Call broadcasting for birds and mammals was undertaken but the range of species included in such calls was limited to Ground Parrot, Eastern Bristlebird, Powerful Owl and Sugar Glider. Consequently, the calls of a number of important Threatened species potentially present in the area were not broadcast. Species ignored were the Sooty Owl, Masked Owl, Koala, Yellow-bellied Glider and Squirrel Glider.

In the case of the aquatic fauna surveys, the range of techniques used was adequate for the water courses sampled.

Survey Effort

An inspection of the map showing the locations of the terrestrial fauna survey sites (Figure 3.5 Annexure S, EIS) shows that only one spotlighting transect was undertaken and only one set of hair tubes was within the proposed mine area. Call broadcasting only occurred at two locations both within the AI area, and nothing in the larger A2 area. It is difficult to determine the extent of the survey effort for terrestrial fauna as any figures given are for Wonga East and West. However, it seems likely that the actual survey effort at Wonga East may not be adequate as recommended by the DECC guidelines. Although herpetofauna has been extensively surveyed it is enlightening to read in Annex B of Annexure S, Section 2.3 Limitations in the Biosis report the following:

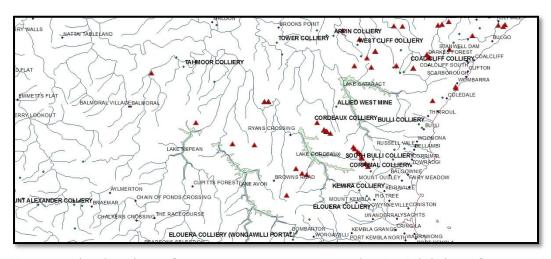
- Due to the large size of Wonga West and Wonga East study area and the amount of field time (5 days and 3 nights), it was not possible to carry out all surveys or meet the required effort (e.g. second replicates);
- It was not possible to safely utilize all daytime or night time hours due to the concurrent running of diurnal and nocturnal surveys;

Regarding the Aquatic fauna surveys, it would appear that there were only four aquatic fauna sampling sites within the Wonga East area and these appear to ignore upstream areas.

Threatened Species

Although there are listings of Threatened species for an area of 10 km diameter surrounding the Russell Vale Project, several species have not been considered in the survey and assessment. Because a species is not recorded close to the project area this does not mean that it could not be present. Dependence on a listing from the OEH database is limiting as such lists are developed from actual sightings. In many cases inadequate coverage of an area may result in few records in the database. This appears to be the case with the Russell Vale area in that several Threatened species not listed as occurring within 10 km of the Project do occur in a slightly wider area and there is preferred habitats within the Project area. Consequently, these species have been missed in the Project assessment. Of those either missed or given limited attention the following are considered important:

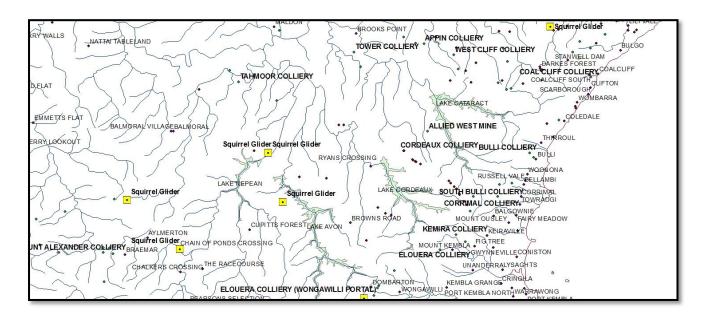
Eastern Pygmy-possum Although the Eastern Pygmy-possum has been recorded from in the Russell Vale area and from the region, there were no targeted surveys undertaken of this species. Spotlighting and hair funnels alone are not sufficient to locate this small marsupial and usually they are captured in pit traps and occasionally in tree-mounted Elliott traps. Recently, the use of nest boxes have had a high success rate. The importance of this species at Russell Vale is that "Banksias and myrtaceous shrubs are favoured as food sources and nesting sites..." (Ward, S.J. and Turner, V. Eastern Pygmy-possum in Van Dyke, S. and Strahan, R. 2008 The Mammals of Australia Reed New Holland). Consequently, the presence of swamps supporting banksia etc indicate high probability of its presence within the Project area. However, survey methodology was limited and may have resulted in a false negative.



Known Distribution of Eastern Pygmy-possum in the Vicinity of Russell Vale

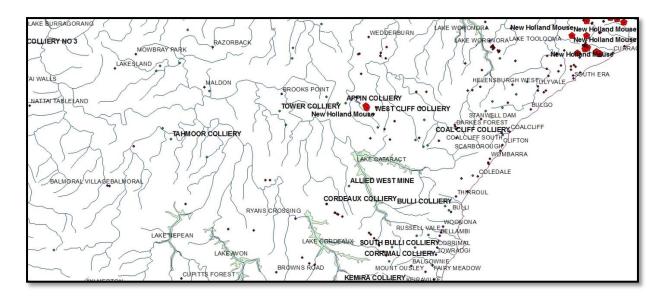
Squirrel Glider This species appears to be dismissed from any surveys at Russell Vale. Although there are no records from the OEH database within 10 km of the Project it is

known from a wider area surrounding Russell Vale and could be expected to occur in the study area. However, apart from the hair funnels and spotlighting no other survey method has been used to locate this Threatened species. Tree-mounted traps will capture this species and they will respond to call broadcasting. However no calls of the Squirrel Glider were broadcast and, strangely, calls of the Sugar Glider were used instead. In addition, glider traps have been successful in capturing Squirrel Gliders (Winning, G. and King, J. 2008 A new trap design for capturing squirrel gliders and sugar gliders. *Australian Mammalogy* 29: 245-249)



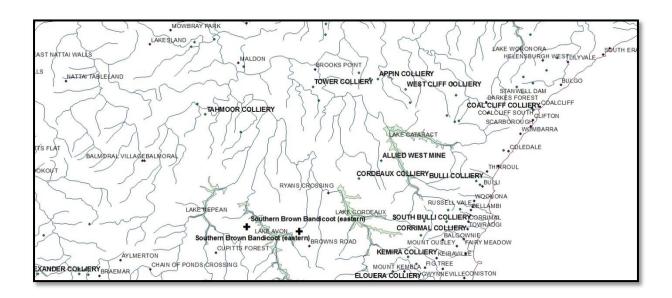
Known Distribution of Squirrel Glider in the Vicinity of Russell Vale

New Holland Mouse This species is listed as Vulnerable Federally, but not listed in NSW. The New Holland Mouse appears to have limited consideration in the Russell Vale Project assessment – it is listed in the EPBC referral as 'not recorded', but has the potential to be in the area. However, apart from using hair funnels there has been no targeted surveys for this species at Russell Vale. The New Holland Mouse can be trapped with Elliott traps as well as pit traps and considering its importance Federally such methods should have been used to determine its presence.



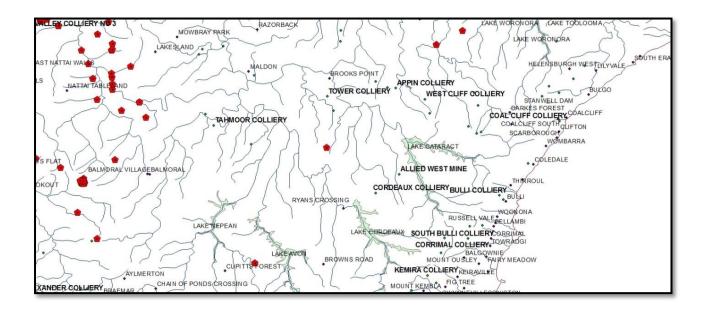
Known Distribution of New Holland Mouse in the Vicinity of Russell Vale

Southern Brown Bandicoot This species is listed as Endangered Federally and in NSW. The Southern Brown Bandicoot appears to have limited consideration in the Russell Vale project assessment – it was listed in the EPBC referral as 'not recorded', but has the potential to be in the area. However, apart from using hair funnels there has been no targeted surveys for this species at Russell Vale. The Southern Brown Bandicoot can be trapped with cage traps and considering its importance such a method should have been used to determine its presence.



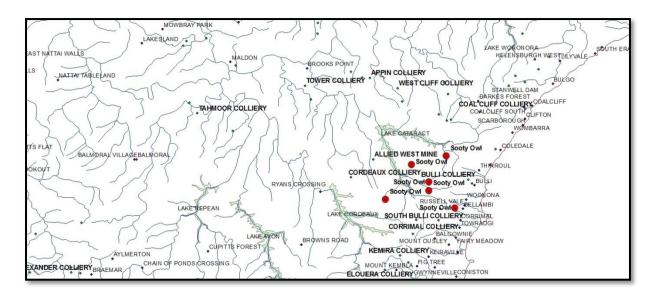
Known Distribution of Southern Brown Bandicoot in the Vicinity of Russell Vale

Yellow-bellied Glider The Yellow-bellied Glider is listed as Vulnerable in NSW and is known from the region surrounding Russell Vale. This species appears to be missing from any survey methodology and assessments, yet has the potential of occurring in the area. This species is surveyed by spotlighting and from responses to call broadcasting. Also, the presence of large tree hollows are an indicator of use by various arboreal marsupials and nocturnal birds. No call broadcasting was undertaken during the surveys at Russell Vale and I could not find any discussion of the density of tree hollows in any of the reports.



Known Distribution of Yellow-bellied Glider in the Vicinity of Russell Vale

Sooty Owl The Sooty Owl has been located close to the Project area and is known from the region. Although it is considered in the assessment it is strange that no calls of this species were broadcast during the surveys. Apart from roosting in tree hollows, there is evidence that the Sooty Owl will roost 'in caves, under rock overhangs, on ledges or in crevices of cliffs' (Higgins, P.J. 1999 Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Volume 4: Parrots to Dollarbird. Oxford University Press, Melbourne). With such a relationship it would seem important that greater effort should have been made to determine its presence and whether any cliff-line is used for roosting.



Known Distribution of Sooty Owl in the Vicinity of Russell Vale

Impact Assessment

The modification of the aquatic environment must be considered as an impact that can, in some circumstances, be significant. This is acknowledged in the assessment and whether society believes that such losses are compensated by economic rewards form part of the planning and environment process. Once subsidence effects are translated to the surface it is difficult to reverse such actions and changes to the above ground and underground water budgets occur. This can reflect onto the existing vegetation and possibly associated terrestrial fauna that are dependent upon such vegetation. It is in this context that an impact assessment upon the Eastern Pygmy-possum, Giant Dragonfly and several amphibians needs to carefully undertaken. At present, impact assessment on Threatened amphibian species appears to be thorough, but it is not as apparent regarding the Eastern Pygmy-possum and Giant Dragonfly.

Also, subsidence effects on cliff lines and rocky overhangs can affect some terrestrial fauna, such as some threatened bats as well as the Broad-headed Snake, Spotted-tailed Quoll and Sooty Owl. The last two species can be dependent upon rocky overhangs etc for roosting and shelter and greater emphasis should have been put into their impact assessment.

Although the effects from subsidence on forest and woodland habitats can be dismissed, the sideways movements associated with subsidence can result in tree falls which results in a loss of feed and shelter resources for a range of fauna. This aspect appears to be missed in the assessment.

Perhaps the most important aspect of impact assessments from mine-induced subsidence is that once the surface effects of subsidence are discovered it is too late to reverse the

process i.e. the indicator of subsidence is usually the disturbance of surface features. Various remedial methods are available but, as the reports associated with the Russell Vale Project state, the results have not been satisfactory to date.

Conclusion

The assessment process for the Russell Vale Project has been long and modifications to the development have occurred along the way. However, the process of underground mining will potentially result in mining-induced subsidence and the effects will be felt on the swamps and water courses in the Project area. This report looks at the processes undertaken to provide information for an assessment of potential impacts to the aquatic and terrestrial fauna. Although there is an abundance of information derived from many years of surveys and investigations, it is disappointing that the approach to the surveys, particularly the terrestrial fauna, has been less rigorous than would be expected from such a major project.

In particular, survey methodology recommended by both the New South Wales and Federal conservation agencies has not been followed and several Threatened species have not been adequately investigated and assessed. Consequently, it is difficult to fully assess the area in terms of its biodiversity and the extent of the impacts predicted on Threatened species. Although the assessment process is driven by Threatened species legislation a clearer picture of the biodiversity values would have assisted in assessing different habitats in the Project area. This picture could have been derived from the additional data obtained from the surveys i.e. a quantitative examination of the records of Protected species located during the several surveys.

Inadequate information about the ecological characteristics of some of the Threatened species and their behaviour and habitat preferences in the Project area has resulted in some assessments being less than correct and these should be re-assessed after further investigations have been undertaken.

Dr Martin Denny BSc (Hons) PhD FRZS MECA

29th January 2015

APPENDIX: CV FOR MARTIN DENNY

MARTIN J.S. DENNY - CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME: Martin Jon Shaw Denny

Mobile: e-mail:

DATE OF BIRTH:

PLACE OF BIRTH:

QUALIFICATIONS: BSc (Honours 1st Class) PhD University of NSW

Fellow of the Royal Zoological Society of NSW

EMPLOYMENT:

1963-64	N.S.W. Department of Education, Science Teacher
1967-68	University of N.S.W. Technical Assistant
1971-72	University of N.S.W. Demonstrator in Zoology
1973-74	University of N.S.W. Post-Doctoral Research Fellow
1974-75	University of N.S.W. Professional Officer
1975-76	University of New England, Research Fellow
1977-78	Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service, Zoologist
1980	Applied Ecology Pty Ltd, Senior Scientist
1980-81	Nexus Environmental Studies, Ecologist
1981-08	Mount King Ecological Surveys, Partner
2008-	Biodiversity Monitoring Services, Zoologist

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES:

1968-	Australian Mammal Society
1970-	Royal Zoological Society of N.S.W.
1974-	Australian Ecological Society
1978-	Royal Australian Ornithological Union
1983-	N.S.W. Field Ornithologists Club
1983-	Australian Bird Study Association
1999-	Ecological Consultants Association of NSW Inc

2014- Linnean Society of NSW

2014- Australian Wildlife Management Society

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

TIVITIES.		
Director, Tibooburra District Hospital		
Council Member, Royal Zoological Society of N.S.W.		
Executive Member, Nature Conservation Council of N.S.W.		
Member, Conservation and Research Committee, Zoological Parks Board of N.S.W.		
1985-91, 94-97 Member, Australasian Marsupial Specialist Group,		
Species Survival Commission, International Union for the		
Conservation of Nature.		
Member, Natural Environment Panel, National Estate Register, Australian Heritage Commission.		
Member, Kangaroo Advisory Committee, Australian National		
Parks and Wildlife Service.		
Member, R.S.P.C.A. Australia Technical Advisory Committee.		
Chairman, Australasian Marsupial Specialist Group, Species Survival Commission, International Union for the Conservation of Nature.		
Member, Total Catchment Management Committee, Central West.		
Streamwatch Patron, Kelso High School		
Member, Macquarie River Advisory Committee		
Member, Applied Science Advisory Board, University of Western Sydney		
Joint Chair, Natural Environment Panel, National Estate Register Committee Member, Ecological Consultants Association of NSW Vice President, Ecological Consultants Association of NSW Inc		
Australasian Marsupial Specialist Group, Species Survival Commission, International Union for the Conservation of Nature.		
President, Ecological Consultants Association of NSW Inc		
Committee Member, Ecological Consultants Association of NSW		
Independent Chair, Review of the Biodiversity Assessment of		
Clearing under the Native Vegetation Act 2003		
Chair, Scientific Sub-committee for Review of the Biodiversity		
Assessment of Clearing under the Native Vegetation Act 2003		
Member, Biobanking Assessor Accreditation Panel		
Invited Lecturer, The Ecology Centre, School Biological Science,		
University of Queensland		

2012 Member, Biodiversity Sub-committee, NSW Environmental Trust

2014- Member, Data User Reference Group, Eco-Informatics, University of Adelaide

2014- President, Ecological Consultants Association of NSW Inc

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEETINGS:

Australian Mammal Society [1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1979, 1980, 2009]

A.N.Z.A.A.S. [1973]

Australian Arid Zone Research Conference [1970]

Workshop on Agriculture, Forestry and Wildlife [1975]

Workshop on Aerial Surveys of Faunal Populations [1977]

Australian Rangelands Society [1977]

Australian Ecological Society [1979]

Symposium Evolution of Flora and Fauna in the Arid Zone [1980]

Symposium Carnivorous Marsupials [1980]

Congress Wildlife Management in the 80's [1981]

CONCOM, Harvesting of Australian Animals [1981]

Australian Conservation Foundation, Focus on Australian Arid Lands [1982]

CSIRO Workshop, Survey Methods for Nature Conservation [1983]

Woollahra Municipal Council, Local History Seminar [1985]

Orange Agricultural College, Problem Based Learning Workshop [1986]

Royal Zoological Society of N.S.W. The Future of Native Fauna in Western N.S.W. [1991]

Royal Zoological Society of N.S.W. Monotreme Symposium [1991]

Centre for Conservation Biology Conservation Biology in Australia and Oceania [1991]

National Trust New South Wales "Things we want to keep" Environmental Heritage Management under the new Local Government Act [1994]

Environmental Institute of Australia, Fauna Impact Assessment Seminar [1995]

Royal Zoological Society, "Ethics, Money & Politics" [1995]

Cooper Creek Protection Group, "An Ecological Perspective on Cooper Creek; Windorah Workshop" [1996]

Australian Wildlife Protection Council, "Self-regulation and the Kangaroo Industry - Is the Code of Practice an Appropriate Mechanism" [1996]

Paroo River Association, "Paroo River Scientific Workshop" [1997]

Delegate to "National Parks: Visions for the New Millennium Symposium" [1998]

Delegate to "National Heritage Convention" [1998]

National Parks Association of NSW "How the west should be won." Lecture Series [1998]

FATE Workshop "Kangaroos, Commence, Cruelty and Common Sense" [2001]

Flinders Island Workshop (Environment Australia) "Review of Tasmanian Possums and Flinders Island Wallabies Management Programs" [2002]

Department of Environment and Conservation Workshop on the accreditation system for consultants preparing SISs [2003]

Struggling with the Act – some observations by ecological consultants RZS Conference "Biodiversity Conservation: is it just an Act?" [2003]

SOPA Biodiversity Seminar – Mammal Studies at Sydney Olympic Park [2005]

IUCN Global Mammal Workshop Re-listing of Australian mammal species to the Red Book [2005]

Dept Environment & Conservation – Expert Panel Assessing Survey Guidelines for Threatened Species [2006]

Dept Environment & Conservation - Central West and Lachlan Catchments Fauna Classification Workshop [2006]

Dept Environment & Conservation - Working Group for Bio-Banking Methodology [2006]

Ecological Consultants Association of NSW [2006] – Wildlife Corridors: Their Evaluation, Restoration and Protection

Then and Now: fauna monitoring within the Sydney Basin RZS Conference "The Natural History of Sydney" [2007]

Australian Mammal Society [2009] Skin and Bones – Problems with Identification in the Field 2009 Meeting, Perth

Ecological Society of Australia [2011] Conference presentation "Desert Caves an unrecognised resource"

Ecological Consultants Association of NSW [2013] Conference Presentation "A Practical Discourse on Offsetting"

CONTRACTED WORK:

1971-74

- I. Participant in A.R.G.C. project "The Biology of Arid-zone Marsupials."
- 2. Participant in Federal Department of Environment project "The Effects of Flooding upon Wildlife."
- 3. The Pipeline Authority Mammal Survey of Natural Gas Pipeline.
- 4. Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service Project, "Migratory Movements of the Red Kangaroo."
- Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service Advisor to Federal Government on management of kangaroos.
- 6. Coalex Pty Ltd Survey for North Hermitage Colliery, Lithgow.

1981

- 7. Water Resources Commission Faunal survey of proposed Kerrabee Dam, Goulburn River.
- 8. Coalex Pty Ltd Faunal survey for Baal Bone Colliery, Lithgow
- 9. Hooker Sands Pty Ltd Faunal survey of sand extraction site at Kurnell.
- 10. Ulan Coal Mines Flora and fauna survey of Gulgong-Ulan Railway.
- 11. Ulan Coal Mines Flora and fauna survey of Ulan Mine expansion.
- 12. B.M.I. Pty Ltd Fauna survey of two coal mine sites, Gloucester.
- 13. K.C.C. Pty Ltd Fauna survey of coal mine site, Boggabri.
- 14. Water Resources Commission Ecological survey of Lachlan River.
- ${\bf 15.} \quad {\bf Water \ Resources \ Commission \ \ Ecological \ survey \ of \ Castlereagh \ River.}$

1982

- N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service Assessment of impact of drought upon kangaroos and vegetation in Sturt National Park.
- 17. N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service Mammal survey of Hastings River Catchment area.
- 18. Electricity Commission of N.S.W. Faunal survey of Mount Piper transmission Line.
- 19. Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service Advisor to Service on publications, education and wildlife management
- 20. British Broadcasting Commission Advisor on Australian locations for television series "Planet Earth."
- Southern Pacific Petroleum N.L. Advice on flora and fauna studies for Condor Oil Shale Project, Oueensland.
- Electricity Commission of N.S.W. Faunal survey of development areas associated with Mount Piper Power Station.
- 23. Southern Pacific Petroleum N.L. Advice on flora and fauna studies for Stuart Oil Shale Deposits, Qld
- 24. North Flinders Mines Ltd Environmental aspects of agreement between N.F.M. and Central Land Council re Granites Goldfields, Northern Territory.

- 25. National Trust of N.S.W. Survey of the natural environment of Megalong, Kanimbla and Hartley Valleys.
- Queensland Mines Ltd Environmental aspects in review of exploitative phase for exploration licence areas in Northern Territory.
- 27. Department of Defence Faunal survey of Tindale-Katherine area, Northern Territory.
- 28. Esso Exploration Vegetation mapping of Koolatong Project, Arnhem Land.
- 29. Sinclair Knight and Partners Natural environment evaluation of Tathra River Estate development.
- 30. N.S.W. NPWS Natural environmental aspects of plan of management for Munmorah SRA.
- 31. Condor Oil Shale Project Advanced ecology studies.
- 32. Planning Workshop Pty Ltd Natural environmental aspects of Mulgoa Valley.
- 33. Golden Dolphin Film Productions Research for the film "Drought."
- 34. Meekathera Minerals Preliminary fauna survey of coal mine sites, Oodnadatta, South Australia.
- 35. Wyong Shire Council Advice on route for proposed road at Munmorah.
- 36. Department of Defence Faunal survey of bombing range near Victoria River Downs, Northern Territory. 1984
- 37. Department of Main Roads Faunal survey of East Charlestown By-Pass.
- 38. Don Fox Planning Flora and fauna survey of residential land at Glenfield.
- 39. State Rail Authority Flora/fauna survey of East Hills-Campbelltown Rail.
- 40. Sutherland Shire Council Fauna survey of alternative roads at Woronora.
- 41. Don Fox Planning -Flora and fauna survey of Buttaba Hills Estate.
- 42. Public Works Department Flora and fauna survey of dam site at Merimbula.
- 43. Wellings, Smith and Byrnes Environmental assessment of nursing home site.
- 44. Department of Main Roads Fauna survey of South-Western Freeway, Bankstown.
- 45. N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service Survey for the Hastings River Rat at Barrington Tops. 1985
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- 182. Department of Water Resources Pindari Dam Enlargement assessment of impacts upon Severn River NR
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- 233. Roads & Traffic Authority F3 extension to New England Highway, flora and fauna assessment
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- 365. Xstrata Coal Flora and fauna evaluation of land for potential development at Ulan
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