

Invasive Native Scrub Research Program

Research Project Six:

Managing Invasive Native Scrub for Improved Biodiversity

What is this project about?

This project examines the role that types of habitat play in supporting native biodiversity, by using native birdlife as an indicator of overall biodiversity.

CSIRO researchers Veronica and Erik Doerr will be surveying native birds in Invasive Native Scrub (INS), open woodland, native pastures and cropped areas to determine which vegetation types support which species.

These results will be analysed to find out if they depend on what vegetation types are present in the local landscape.

Why is it being done?

Ultimately, we aim to provide management recommendations about which situations INS may or may not be important for native animals. This will mean we can more effectively ensure their survival, while also providing for sustainable rural industries and livelihoods.

We will also use this preliminary information to design additional research that will be able to answer our questions more completely and give better, more reliable management recommendations.

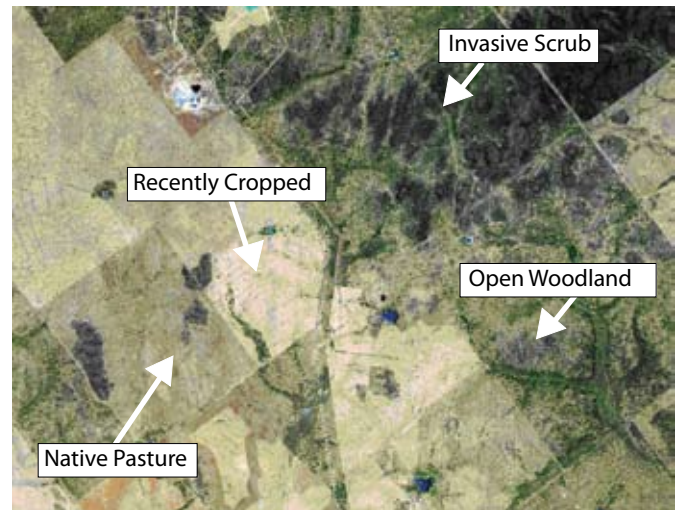
How can I be involved?

Many landowners and their families have lived on the land for years and have seen considerable changes in the landscape and the presence and abundance of native animals, particularly birds.

This wealth of information will help us improve the design of our project, so please contact us with any relevant observations.

Landholders can also assist through allowing us to collect data on their properties. We are looking for 500 ha (1200 acre) areas that contain all four of the following: crop, native pasture, invasive scrub, and open woodland.

Finally, please let us know if you have accommodation such as shearers' quarters or a farmstay somewhere between Condobolin and Nyngan that would be able to house our large research crew (around 10 people).



This is what one of our study landscapes might look like



Scarlet Robin and Superb Fairy-wren

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About the overall INS Research Program

A range of research and communication projects dealing with Invasive Native Scrub (INS) are being undertaken in central-west and western NSW. This is a serious issue across the region and can have an adverse impact on habitats, wider landscape health, communities and farming operations.

The research program builds on community involvement, landholder knowledge and scientific research to complement and update previous INS studies.

It will ultimately lead to a better understanding of how INS treatment options vary between areas and need to be accommodated. Our intent is that regulations, incentives and advice will facilitate rather than constrain good practice.

The overall product will be a resource outlining what we

have learned from landholders and the research projects – what INS management techniques work under different circumstances.

This resource will provide a means of distributing research findings widely amongst landholders, government agencies and policy-makers alike.

Preliminary information is expected to be released mid-2008.

Various researchers and organisations are running the research projects and the overall program is coordinated by the Central West and Western Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs).

Want to be involved?

We are keen to work with the farming community on these projects and hope you are able to help. Local knowledge and experience, and access to INS sites for research are vital to the success of the program.

To be involved or updated on the program's progress, please contact the Central West CMA:

Email: Rodney.campbell@cma.nsw.gov.au

Fax: 02 6881 3401

Post: PO Box 2105, Dubbo NSW 2830

Phone: 02 6881 3430

Your details:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Area of interest:

- General interest in INS
- Interested in INS management information
- Have INS sites on my property available for research
- Would like to share experiences in managing INS
- Would like to share examples of INS treatment
- Other _____

Your personal information will remain within the Central West and Western Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) and will not be divulged to other organisations.