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Banksia woodlands are iconic and synonymous with Perth and its surrounds. Thirty years ago, the Banksia Woodland Symposium was organised by The Royal Society of WA as a stock take of major issues and knowledge gaps. The 30th anniversary of the symposium is the perfect opportunity for a re-fresh and new stock take and review of scientific knowledge in relation to the now threatened Banksia woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain. To address issues posed by the 1989 symposium group and to determine how we have advanced our understanding of Banksia woodlands since that time, we surveyed and assembled over 25 current researchers working across agencies and universities in restoration, disease, vertebrates, invertebrates, groundwater management, water relations, floristics and weeds, geology and soils, fire and urban development with the objective of creating a large single review paper. The review aims to identify 1) issues posed by the 1989 symposium and the degree to which those issues have been addressed, 2) additional topics/issues not posed in the original 1989 symposium that have emerged subsequently (e.g. genetics), and 3) key questions that should be addressed in future research. Our goal is to provide a document for future generations of researchers, managers and policy makers on the status of science knowledge in Banksia woodlands. Here we present an overview of what we have learnt about Banksia woodlands over the past 30 years of research and what we are still to uncover and where we should focus our research to conserve these woodlands.



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