

## HOW DO WE TRANSLATE ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH INTO USEFUL MANAGEMENT

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The Uluru National Park Vertebrate Fauna Survey was presented as an example of how research can assist land managers in decision making. The survey was designed and implemented by CSIRO researchers, Uluru National Park staff and Aboriginal traditional owners.

The survey was designed by a team of researchers and Park staff to ensure that its results were relevant to management. The field team was evenly comprised of CSIRO researchers and Park staff. The survey was conducted over three years and included 8 permanent sites sampled 7 times and 5 sites which were sampled once.

The survey reports will detail recommendations that address immediate management issues and recommend specific actions. They will also identify species and communities that require monitoring and future research. The recommendations will be given a priority listing and the order of priority justified. A management document which succinctly summarises the important findings but details the recommendations and justification for their order of priority will be produced as well as a detailed scientific report. The detailed scientific report will provide an invaluable resource document, while the shorter version will include only that material of most immediate relevance to wildlife protection and management.

The presence of a research/management position within the senior Park management, as is the case at UNP, is seen to be vital to the success of integrating research with management. The involvement of both researchers and park management throughout the survey has enabled a number of recommendations to be identified and implemented immediately.