

Arid zone monitoring project

What's it about?

Project 3.2.5



National Environmental Science Programme

Ranger Factsheet

Ranger groups, NGOs, environmental consultants and some government agencies have been carrying out track surveys, using similar methods, for about a decade.

Track surveys can tell us what species are present and whether Country is healthy.

Mostly, this information sits in offices around the country, sometimes it's on computers, other times it's still on data sheets.



KJ Martu Rangers recording animal sign near a Martu burning site. Photo: KJ

What is this project aiming to do?

This project aims to work with all groups that have track data. The coordinating team will talk to all the groups, to find out how this project could help with track surveys and monitoring wildlife, and how different groups would like to be involved.

Once we collect together data from different groups, we'll do the analyses that people want, and feed that right back to them.

If you have anything you have been wanting to know from your tracking data or would like to achieve in the future, we want to hear about it.

The project will help us all manage wildlife better and help species recovery teams. It will highlight all the great work that rangers do, and help to show why funding for ranger work must be continued.

Imagine if we brought this information from ranger groups, government agencies and NGOs all together into one database?

We could:

- *map where wildlife species and feral animals are across all the deserts*
- *find out whether your tracking surveys are telling you what you want to know*
- *see if management of country is helping wildlife species to expand and increase in local areas, in regional areas and even nationally.*

It would be one of the biggest monitoring surveys in Australia!



Lizard tracks. Photo: Neils Photography
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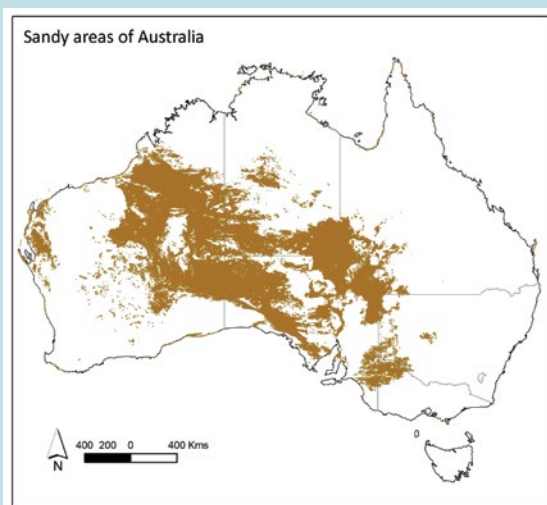
Bilby scat and digging. Photo: Anja Skroblin



Bilby. Photo: Arid Recovery

Where is the project happening?

In all desert areas of Australia.



When is the project happening?

The project has started in August 2018 and it will run for two years. Between now and the end of 2018 we will be contacting as many groups as possible to talk about this project. Or, get straight in touch with us.



Echidna. Photo: John Read

Who is doing this project?

This project belongs to everyone who has been involved in tracking surveys over the years. The coordinators are Sarah Legge, Katherine Moseby, Taleah Watego, Anja Skroblin and Darren Southwell from the NESP Threatened Species Recovery Hub.

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KJ Martu rangers carrying out surveys. Photo: KJ



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