

MATTHEW RICHARDSON BSc (Hons), Grad Dip (Div)

Botanist/Project Manager



Career Overview

Matthew has worked as a professional consultant for over 12 years. Over that time he has principally undertaken work in New South Wales and has also worked in Queensland and Victoria. Matthew has experience in managing complex projects combining a range of environmental disciplines. Matthew's experience extends across a wide range of industry sectors and has managed or contributed to over 200 consulting projects. In particular, Matthew has worked extensively with the mining industry in the Southern Coal Field and has specialist knowledge of the interaction between subsidence and the natural environment. He has established a strong record of delivering high quality assessments on time and to the satisfaction of both his clients and the regulatory authorities.

Professional Vision

In the context of community we must conserve those values which are important to current and future generations. Conservation is facilitated through accurate identification of important values as well as clear planning and management of community growth and development. I believe that professional environmental consultants have a responsibility to facilitate the management of these variables in order to deliver superior outcomes for our clients and the communities within which they exist.

Skills

Ecological assessment and monitoring
Project management
Environmental approvals
Expert witness and Peer Review
Government Agency Consultation and Advocacy
Strategic Planning and Advice

Employment History

2009-Present	Director - Niche Environment and Heritage Pty Ltd
2007-2009	Wollongong Resource Group Manager, Biosis Research Pty. Ltd.
1998-2007	Botanist/Senior Botanist, Biosis Research Pty. Ltd.
1998	Research Assistant, Australian Museum Business Services (AMBS)
1997-1998	Botanist, Gary Leonard and Associates Botanical and Horticultural Consultants
1997-1998	Research Assistant, Ecological Genetics Laboratory; University of Wollongong

Key achievements/ flagship projects

Dendrobium Colliery - Ecological Monitoring Project*

Matthew managed a complex ecological monitoring program within Sydney's Metropolitan Water Catchment in order to quantify the effects, if any, of mine subsidence on terrestrial ecological values. This project required accurate recording of ecological values within a highly significant landscape which itself is within a remote area.

Mining Exploration - Environmental Approvals*

Matthew has managed the assessment of and achieved approval for proposed mining exploration programs for several large coal producers in the Southern Coal Field including BHP Billiton, Xstrata Coal and Gujarat NRE.

Elouera Colliery - Mine Site Rehabilitation Project*

Matthew managed the natural and cultural heritage assessment of Elouera Colliery prior to closure and the then proposed rehabilitation of the site. Being one of the oldest mines in the southern coal field the site contained items of heritage significance as well as a population of threatened bats.

Princess Highway Widening - Mogo to Moruya*

Matthew assessed the terrestrial ecological values of the footprint of the proposed widening of the Princes Highway between Mogo and Moruya on the NSW South Coast. This project involved flora and fauna surveys within and adjacent to a busy road corridor.

Two Fold Bay Ammunitioning Facility and Resupply Warf*

Matthew assessed the site of the Two Fold Bay Ammunitioning Facility. This project required targeted surveys for threatened plant and frog species over several seasons in a remote section of the state forests to the south of Eden, NSW.

*Project completed at Biosis Research