



BIG ISSUES IN BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE

The economic costs of biological invasions in the world and Australia



- Thursday 21st October 2021, Online event
- 4.00pm – 5.30pm (Australian Western Standard Time)
- [Register here](#) to obtain Zoom login details

Invasive plants in Australia are currently among the greatest threats to native biological diversity and a significant cost to agriculture. The economic impact on agriculture alone is estimated at in excess of \$4 billion per year and the impact on the environment, while unquantified, is regarded as significant. This webinar highlights international research that contributes to measuring the economic costs of invasive species, to enable a better public understanding about the impacts and to drive improved management efforts that are evidence-based and data driven.

Over the past few months, we have brought together industry, regulators, researchers and the community to recognise the importance of mitigating weed impacts and to identify priority knowledge gaps. The result is a collaborative research program that will help guide prioritised investment to most effectively mitigate outcomes and better conserve biodiversity in Western Australia. Join us to gain an international perspective and to help launch our end-user led research program *Addressing Weed Threats to Biodiversity*.

Facilitator

PROFESSOR OWEN NEVIN

CEO, The Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute

The Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute ([WABSI](#)) is a collaboration of leading research organisations which facilitates partnerships across industry, government, community and researchers. Led by the needs of end users, it addresses priority science knowledge gaps to enhance access to information, help lift certainty in decisions and improve biodiversity outcomes.



Guest Speaker

PROFESSOR FRANCK COURCHAMP

Director of Research at the French National Center for Scientific Research

Professor Franck Courchamp is the Director of Research at the French National Center for Scientific Research ([CNRS](#)). He works at University Paris Saclay, where he leads the research team on Biodiversity Dynamics & MacroEcology.

After completing a PhD in Lyons, France, on the epidemiology of Feline AIDS, Franck was a postdoctoral researcher at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography of UCSD, working on the effects of invasive species on trophic relationships. This was followed by a second postdoctoral role in Cambridge, UK, on the inverse density dependence. Franck's ongoing work focuses on the overexploitation of rare species, on the effects of climate change on biodiversity, and on charismatic species in conservation.

With more than 170 scientific studies and three book publications, Franck has presented at over 50 international conferences. Franck has developed several documentaries, motion design movies, books and comic books.

He has been awarded the Silver Medal of the CNRS and elected as a Member at the European Academy of Science. He has been selected for the list of 'Highly Cited Researcher' of the 'Clarivate Analytics' international ranking. These correspond to the top 1% most cited researchers worldwide in each discipline. He now holds the AXA Chair of Invasion Biology at University Paris Saclay.

