



Understanding biodiversity metrics

- **Thursday 27th February 2025**
1.00pm – 2.00pm (Australian Western Standard Time)

ONLINE EVENT

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Biodiversity metrics are increasingly in demand to help inform decision-making in government, industry and community organisations. However, metrics are complex and pose challenges for end users, for example – how do metrics differ and for what purpose are they best suited?

A team of scientists from the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), led by Chief Scientist, Neil Burgess, are seeking to de-mystify biodiversity metrics, using a database of 573 biodiversity-related metrics, indicators, indices, and layers, which address aspects of genetic diversity, species, and ecosystems.

This work provides examples of indicators and their uses within the state–pressure–response–benefits framework, widely used in conservation science. It also highlights five future directions: increasing the importance of national metrics, ensuring wider uptake of business metrics, agreeing on a minimum set of metrics for government and business use, automating metric calculation through use of technology, and generating sustainable funding for metric production.

Join us for this webinar to find out more about this work on terrestrial biodiversity metrics launched during COP16 Columbia.

SPEAKER



Professor Neil Burgess

Chief Scientist, UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark

As the Chief Scientist, Neil oversees the scientific and technical work of UNEP-WCMC. Working at the interface of science and policy, Neil develops collaborations with external partners for nature conservation; in particular, promoting the role data and analysis play in effective conservation delivery.

Neil has been working in conservation science and practice for more than 20 years, in the UK, Denmark and tropical Africa, especially eastern Africa. Much of his work has focused on habitat conservation in nature reserves in Europe and Africa through partnerships with non-governmental organisations, private foundations, state and community-based organisations.

FACILITATOR



Professor Owen Nevin

Chief Executive Officer, The Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute (WABSI)

Owen is an experienced conservation biologist and research leader and is the Chief Executive Officer of The Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute (WABSI). Owen's research work has focused on advancing the conservation of threatened species and their habitats through developing better management and understanding of behaviour and ecosystem function, and human impacts including ecotourism and resource. Owen is a member of the Biosecurity Council of Western Australia. Previous positions include Head of the National School of Forestry (UK), Dean of Graduate Research and Associate Vice-Chancellor at CQUniversity Australia.

Owen has served on the Society for Conservation Biology's European Board and on the Global Board of Governors. He was elected as a Fellow of the Zoological Society of London and appointed as Anniversary Visiting Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Cumbria.