

CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems
FRIDAY SEMINAR
16 June 2006

The role of knowledge brokers in improving regional NRM outcomes
(or have you heard the joke about the farmer, the scientist and the bull?)

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There is increasing interest in improving the flow of information and knowledge between policy makers, researchers and regional NRM organisations. Knowledge brokers, people dedicated to transferring knowledge between different organisations, are being widely promoted as one way to bridge the gap and overcome many of the barriers that have traditionally hampered knowledge sharing. But what does a knowledge broker actually do and can they really help improve the flow of knowledge between organisations?

I will present insights from my experience as the Knowledge Broker for the Better Knowledge, Better Bush project, a large multi-partner, multi-disciplinary project researching various aspects of vegetation management in NSW. I suggest that generating and sharing knowledge is a social process that relies on understanding how people seek and use information, the formal and informal networks they operate in and most importantly understanding the culture of the organisation in which they work. These factors have important implications for the way we plan, implement and communicate our research.

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3:30 pm

Venue:

**Seminar Room
Graeme Caughley Building
CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems
Gungahlin Homestead
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