

DR KRIS FRENCH



CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY

Dr French is undertaking research to unravel how our unique biodiversity is affected by a range of widespread disturbances such as weed infestations, logging and fragmentation of our bushland through suburban development.

She investigates many kinds of species from birds to bats, lizards and even the small invertebrates occupying an important place in the leaf litter. She also investigates effects on plant species. She has a large lab of active researchers contributing to this work.

Her current research questions include:

In urban areas:

- ◆ Can we design our gardens to increase the diversity of wildlife in our suburbs?
- ◆ How does fragmentations of small remnants in suburban areas, influence the diversity of species that can be maintained within a city?

In forests:

- ◆ Do logging practices and forestry plantations provide good habitat for the maintenance of biodiversity in our coastal forests?

In weed-infested areas:

- ◆ How do weed-infested environments affect ecosystem processes such as decomposition and nutrient cycling?
- ◆ What plant species are the most vulnerable to extinction as a result of weed-infestation? How can this inform our restoration efforts?



ECOLOGY

