

1. Introduction

Welcome! You are invited to participate in a questionnaire designed to help identify the information and knowledge needs of staff of your NRM regional body.

Your answers will help identify the information needed for your work and some of the problems encountered in searching for information or knowledge. This questionnaire will contribute towards the development of a Regional Knowledge Strategy for your regional body. Thank you for your participation.

1. Person we should contact if any queries arise regarding this questionnaire? (Answers to this question are optional)

Email:

Name:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Date:

2. Information about you

2. What is your primary role within your organisation?

- Committee member
- Management staff
- Operational staff
- Other (please specify)

3. Please select the top three (3) topics on which you need knowledge or information for your work?

- Biophysical issues
- Landscape – coastal, desert, estuarine, floodplain, inland, wetland, rangeland, riparian, subterranean, terrestrial
- Water – marine, fisheries, groundwater, riverine
- Environmental degradation – acid sulphate soils, salinity, clearing of native vegetation, climate change, pest animals, weeds, erosion
- Atmosphere – air pollution
- Biodiversity – native vegetation
- Landuse - agricultural production, forestry, urban
- Cultural heritage
- Activity development and implementation
- Policy development and implementation
- Regional planning processes
- Financial management
- Legislation

4. Where do you source your information and knowledge requirements for your work? (Tick all that apply)

- Scientific (journal articles, reports from scientific organisations, etc)

- Statistical (Australian Bureau of Statistics publications, tables of figures, etc)
- Maps
- Monitoring (documents presenting the results of monitoring activities)
- Evaluation (documents that include an analysis of data collected through monitoring activities)
- Reports (to boards of management, State or Australian Government, etc.)
- Anecdotal/Oral/Narrative
- Personal experience
- Other (please specify)

5. In what format is the information you use? (Tick all that apply)

- Paper based
- Digital text
- GIS
- Photos (paper based)
- Oral/face to face
- Digital photos
- Other (please specify)

6. Please select the top three (3) purposes for which you use the information you have described above?

- Designing project activities undertaken by your organisation
- Designing communication activities undertaken by your organisation
- Designing monitoring and/or evaluation activities undertaken by your organisation
- Reporting to external stakeholders
- Reporting to your organisation's board of management
- Developing partnerships with external organisations
- To undertake external consultation processes
- To keep up to date with NRM research
- To be more informed about issues impacting on your region
- To understand and keep up to date with what is going on around you at work

7. Please select the top three (3) sources of information you need for your work?

- Its already in your head
- Colleagues within your organisation
- Knowledge brokers
- Personal contacts outside your organisation (excluding knowledge brokers)
- Publications and/or personal reading (journals and electronic newsletters you are subscribed to, newspapers, personal library, etc)
- Publications distributed by your organisation
- Internal sources (files, intranet, etc)
- Internet

- Research and development organisations
- Government agencies or departments (Commonwealth, State, and Local)
- Other (please specify)

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8. How do you store the information you need? (Tick all that apply)

- Personal filing systems (electronic filing, paper filing, internet favourites, etc)
- Your organisation's information management systems (paper and/or electronic, such as the intranet or shared drive)
- Other (please specify)

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9. Who do you share it with? (Tick all that apply)

- Colleagues within your own organisation
- Personal contacts outside your organisation
- Stakeholders
- Investors
- Community
- Other (please specify)

10. How do you share your knowledge and information? (Tick all that apply)

- Emailing copies of documents
- Emails that summarise information and knowledge you have
- Distributing hard copies of documents
- Verbally (phone or face to face meetings)
- Other (please specify)

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11. Have you confronted problems when searching for information or knowledge relevant to your work?

- Yes
- No

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12. Please select the top three (3) problems you confront when searching for information or knowledge relevant to your work?

- Lack of time to find and/or read information
- Not knowing where to start looking or who to contact
- Not knowing reliable and up to date sources of information
- Unable to obtain responses from personal contacts within timeframe
- Unaware of what other work is currently going on relevant to or impacting on your region
- Information overload – too much to keep up with
- Confidentiality issues
- Technology problems (e.g. lack of broadband)
- Intellectual Property issues
- Don't know how to assess reliability of information
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

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13. Please select the top three (3) options that would most assist you in managing the knowledge and information you use in your work?

- An information management process established by your organisation
- Availability of relevant information management software
- Library services
- Access to journal articles
- Regular verbal updates
- Meetings and/or forums
- Other (please specify)

14. Please select your top three (3) preferred methods for accessing information?

- Hard copy (paper)
- Oral/face to face
- Electronic copy
- Formal presentations
- Multi media (e.g. DVD, audio)
- Other (please specify)

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15. Please provide comments on any or all of the following:

- on any of the information you have supplied
- on any questions which caused problems
- if you would like to suggest improvements to this form.

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Thank you for your time and participation in this survey. Your answers will help identify the information and knowledge needed by your regional body.