

Heard a barking owl or spotted a wombat recently?

Play a part in caring for Australia's precious wildlife and help scientists learn more about the habitats of some of our native species by participating in an online questionnaire.

An initiative of the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW), the 2010 *Community Wildlife Survey* invites you to share your knowledge of the targeted animal species in your neighbourhood and map current and past sightings of these animals that you have seen (or heard).

The survey asks you to enter information about where you have spotted a selection of native animals, from wombats, koalas, emus and kangaroos to threatened birds such as the bush stone curlew and barking owl and invasive species such as cane toads. Two maps are provided for you to mark the locations of recent and previous animal sightings.

The results of the online survey will be added to information collected by a similar survey conducted by DECCW in 2006. Findings will assist conservation scientists to determine areas where the occupied habitat is changing and inform efforts to meet NSW State Plan targets of an increase in the recovery of threatened species, populations and ecological communities and a reduction in the impact of invasive species by 2015.

The particular animals in **this** survey have been selected because

- they are of current concern or interest; and
- they can be easily recognised by almost everyone; and
- most of them **can** occur throughout NSW.

DECCW uses other methods (photo surveillance, trapping, field surveys etc) to gather data on animals and habitat where a community survey is not a viable option. For example restricted species range; difficulty for many members of the public to correctly identify; well hidden or very shy animals

To participate go to:

<http://www.ConservationResearch.com.au/WildlifeSurvey.html/?id=12529>

For help with the survey,

email: Wildlife.Research@environment.nsw.gov.au

or phone (02) 9995 5000 and ask for Ian Shannon on extension 5490.