



Conference Program

Water in the Bush Conference

Friday 21 October 2011

Darwin Convention Centre

The premier event for water industry professionals
in the Northern Territory



Andrew Campbell is the Director of the Research Institute for the Environment and Livelihoods ([RIEL](#)) at Charles Darwin University. His research interests span the interactions between climate, water, energy, food systems and biodiversity, and the interface between knowledge, science and policy. He was previously Managing Director of [Triple Helix Consulting](#), and CEO of [Land & Water Australia](#) from 2000-2006. Andrew was instrumental in the development of Landcare, as Australia's first National Landcare Facilitator. He chairs the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network ([TERN](#)), is a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University's [Fenner School](#), a Director of the Future Farm Industries [CRC](#) and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Professor Campbell trained in forestry at [Creswick](#) and the University of [Melbourne](#), then in rural sociology and knowledge systems at [Wageningen](#) Agricultural University in the Netherlands. He still maintains an involvement in his family farm in western Victoria.

Event Sponsors





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Event Partner



Water in the Bush aims to give water practitioners the opportunity to hear about current activities and issues within the NT water industry.

<p>Overview</p>	<p>Water in the Bush is the premier event on the water-industry calendar of the Northern Territory. The annual event brings together members of the NT water sector to present research and discuss current and emerging water related issues in both a local and national context.</p> <p>Opening address by Andrew Campbell “Managing water in a carbon, energy, and nutrient-constrained world”</p> <p>Over coming decades, rural landscapes and natural resources will become increasingly contested. The era of abundant, cheap fossil fuel energy is coming to a close, due to oil depletion and the pricing of carbon. Inherent climate variability, exacerbated by underlying climate change, will place increasing pressure on water resources and will increase the frequency and intensity of wildfire in temperate regions. Rising energy prices will drive up the cost of transport and nutrients, particularly agrichemicals and fertilisers. Population growth and changing demographic and consumption patterns will see increasing demand for food. However the traditional means of increasing food production — through expanding and intensifying the footprint of agriculture — will be increasingly squeezed by land, water, energy, nutrient and carbon constraints. Biodiversity, landscape amenity and cultural heritage may be caught in the crossfire. Yet in rich countries like Australia, public and consumer concerns about these issues and issues such as animal welfare, water quality, and public health and safety seem unlikely to diminish. Recent experience with the Murray Darling Basin Plan suggests that, if anything, the need for meaningful community engagement around these issues is intensifying. Technically competent solutions are essential, but not sufficient.</p> <p>This presentation will explore the implications of this big picture analysis for water policy, research and management. The focus will be national.</p> <p>Other key topics include environmental assessment and management of mining activity, water resource management and infrastructure project delivery.</p>
<p>Participants</p>	<p>Water in the Bush attracts key industry personnel, senior water industry figures from a wide range of Government agencies, dignitaries, as well as representatives from authorities, government departments, private water companies, contractors, consultants, suppliers and service companies.</p> <p>The conference has been held annually over the past 8 years. In 2010 the event attracted over 115 delegates and included presentations from local, interstate and international water professionals.</p>
<p>Location</p>	<p>DARWIN CONVENTION CENTRE Waterfront 2 Room Limited free parking is available around the Convention Centre</p>
<p>Registration Fees</p>	<p>Registration fees include: Lunch, Morning, Afternoon Tea and Networking Drinks</p> <p>AWA Members and Students: \$ 110.00 (inc GST) Non AWA Members: \$ 130.00 (inc GST) Special Offer to non members: Join AWA as a Young Water Professional* and receive free registration to this year’s Water in the Bush. (*must be eligible for YWP membership)</p>
<p>Enquiries</p>	<p>Alison Bowman Email: ntbranch@awa.asn.au</p>
<p>RSVP</p>	<p>Registrations Close 12th October, 2011 To register online click here. For group bookings, contact Alison as above. Please note: Cancellations will only be accepted up until Friday 14th October and cancellations received after this time will not be entitled to a refund.</p>



Program: Water in the Bush Conference Friday 21 October 2011

8:00am	Registration and Arrival Tea & Coffee	
8:10 am	Welcome and introduction	
8:15 am	Opening Address: Managing water in a carbon, energy, and nutrient-constrained world Andrew Campbell	
Session 1		
8:45 am	Keynote Presentation – Sustainable Water Management	Peter Whitehead
9:15 am	TRaCK Synthesis	Michael Douglas
9:45 am	River Health Assessment in the Wet/Dry tropics	Simon Townsend
10:15 am	Morning Tea	
Session 2		
10:45 am	Water consumption and the pursuit of water efficiencies in NT Remote Communities	Nerida Beard, Peter Saunders
11:15 am	Alice Springs – Water Smart Program	Mark Whiltshire
11:45 am	Sustainable Water Management, Case Study: Alice Springs Residential Development	Lance Pearce
12:15 pm	Sustainable Groundwater Development	Peter Jolly
12:45 pm	Lunch	
Session 3:		
1:45 pm	Prying into the relationships between microbes, their hosts and their environment can give unexpected insights into water quality	Karen Gibb, Anna Padovan, Matthew Neave
2:20 pm	Development of the Darwin Harbour Integrated Plan	Samantha Fox
2:50 pm	Afternoon Tea	
Session 4: Question and Answer Session		
3:15–4:20pm		Panel Members: Michael Douglas Steve McKenzie Stuart Blanch Kate Peake Kate Andrews
4:20 pm	Closing Address	
Networking Session - Post Conference Drinks at 4:30 pm Sponsored by OPUS		