

D. L. Serventy Medal 2010: Citation

DAVID LINDENMAYER

The D. L. Serventy Medal is an award of the Royal, Australasian Ornithologists Union (now BirdLife Australia) that honours members who have made outstanding contributions to publication in the science of ornithology in the Australasian region.

Professor David Lindenmayer is one of Australia's leading lights in ecology and conservation science, both at the national and international level, having achieved a remarkable reputation for his landscape-scale ecological and scientific work.

As well as focussing on the effects of natural and human disturbance on biodiversity, he has also investigated practises to enhance and improve habitat and species conservation. His groundbreaking work has included a complex study of habitat needs including those of birds; the response of native birds to bushfires and changes needed to fire-management practises; the effects of clearfell logging and post-fire salvage logging on forest birds; effective revegetation regimes for conservation of woodland birds and their habitat; and specific work on individual bird species.

Connectivity is a theme that has guided much of David's work – raising the importance of paddock trees as connectors for many bird species across highly modified landscapes is one such example. He has worked successfully to establish and build effective partnerships with landowners, catchment management authorities and farming groups to raise awareness about the importance of protecting remnant habitat for birds, particularly on private land.



His work in forest and woodland ecology, especially fragmentation, fire management, the effects of logging and the values of native remnants has been ground-breaking, providing depth, direction and substance to the need for a wide range of measures to conserve biodiversity.

Professor Lindenmayer's outstanding publication record is an enviable one. Through his prolific papers, chapters and books, David has unravelled many complex scientific and ecological conundrums, but importantly he has also translated those same complex scientific messages so they can be easily understood by a non-scientific audience.

Clearly, Professor David Lindenmayer is a most worthy recipient of the D. L. Serventy Medal.

Bruce Lindenmayer and Alison Russell-French