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Fitzsimons, James A.

School of Ecology & Environment, Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood VIC 3125, Australia. Email fitzsim@deakin.edu

Co-author(s): no co-authors

**Biosphere Reserves or Conservation Management Networks: a comparison of two types of mixed ownership conservation networks**

The ongoing development of the Biosphere Reserve concept in Australia has largely been dormant since its inception in 1977. With the exception of two, Bookmark and Fitzgerald River, the remaining biosphere reserves have been restricted to existing public protected areas. However, a number of recent proposals for new biosphere reserves are aiming to encompass land managed for conservation and sustainability on a variety of tenures. Likewise, models such as Conservation Management Networks (CMNs) have more recently been proposed to improve protection, management, information, and accounting for ecosystems managed for conservation across a range of fragmented landscapes. Are these two models essentially attempting to achieve similar outcomes under different names? Various attributes of three different types of mixed-ownership conservation networks - the Bookmark Biosphere Reserve (SA), the Grassy Box Woodland CMN (NSW) and the Gippsland Plains CMN (VIC) were measured and analysed. Goals and measures of success for biosphere reserves and mixed-ownership networks need to be clearly identified before any indication of success can be measured. One such measure may be the contribution of such networks to a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system. This measure is analysed and discussed for the three aforementioned networks.

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