

Short Biography

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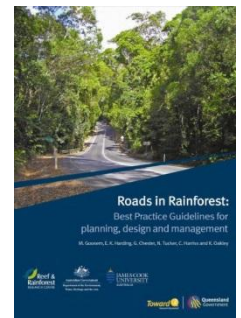
Miriam Goosem is an environmental scientist and ecologist who currently divides her time between Cairns and the Atherton Tablelands, Far North Queensland. She has been involved in research at James Cook University for more than 27 years. She also taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses for more than 10 years in Environmental Impact Assessment and the Mitigation of Human Impacts in Protected Areas.

Miriam is recognised globally for her expertise in research regarding the impacts of roads and powerlines on rainforest and other tropical environments, having been invited to present at many international conferences on this subject. She has researched such diverse road impacts as wildlife mortality on roads, edge changes in species composition of plants, birds and small mammals, edge changes in microclimate, weed and pest invasions along roads, and noise and headlight penetration into forest areas.



Her research into the mitigation of road impacts has demonstrated the viability of engineering options for improving connectivity for rainforest wildlife, including terrestrial and arboreal mammals.

However she recognises that the best option for reducing the impacts of roads is for highways and secondary roads to avoid roadless areas, presenting seminars and teaching in developing countries about how best to reduce the impacts of roads whilst still allowing economic development. She has also prepared Best Practice Guidelines for roads in rainforest habitats.



Miriam's other major research interest focusses on connectivity in fragmented landscapes. She has investigated habitat quality in fragmented rainforest regions. Recently she has collaborated in projects aimed at reducing fragmentation and increasing biodiversity and carbon storage by enhancing naturally regenerating forests.

