

# Dr. Martin Cohen

## Research & Consulting

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## Summary

Throughout my professional career, I have initiated and conducted wildlife research, surveys and assessments, and undertaken a wide range of projects for various stakeholders as an ecological consultant:

1. Completed major research projects including a PhD and Honours theses in Zoology
2. Conducted flora and fauna surveys and ecological assessments for private companies, local and state governments
3. Administered various wildlife research projects for James Cook University, including monitoring and assessing wildlife on rope canopy bridges, monitoring Lemuroid Ringtail Possums in high altitude tropical rainforest and led Earthwatch volunteers and biologists on tropical rainforest wildlife surveys



## Research & Consulting Positions

### **Cairns Regional Council (Consultant Ecologist), 2006 – present**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Regularly conduct rare and threatened fauna surveys and assessments for local government
- \* Conduct on-going flying-fox surveys, assessments, population monitoring and counts

### **Consultant Researcher (Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority & James Cook University), 2010 – 2012**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Reviewed and critiqued documents, such as Strategic Assessment documents for GBRMPA and the NCCARF Biodiversity Report Card for JCU
- \* Provided feedback and suggested edits for these documents

**Research Officer  
(James Cook University, Townsville),  
2009 – 2011**

**Roles:**

- \* Conducted field surveys, assessments and submitted reports on Lemuroid Ringtail Possums at Mt Lewis in high altitude wet tropical rainforest for the Department of Marine and Tropical Biology James Cook University
- \* Led volunteers and biologists on Earthwatch Expeditions conducting altitudinal biodiversity and wildlife surveys in the Wet Tropics rainforest that provided vital data to examine the potential impacts of climate change for the Department of Marine and Tropical Biology, JCU

**Consultant Researcher  
(Queensland, Department of  
Environment), 2009**

**Roles:**

- \* Undertook consultative workshops with indigenous communities on Cape York Peninsula
- \* Developed a two-year research plan for the newly designated KULLA (McIlwraith Range) National Park.
- \* Led an expedition to the top of the McIlwraith Range with Traditional Owners and Queensland Museum curators

**Research Officer  
(James Cook University, Cairns),  
2006 – 2010**

**Roles:**

- \* Led and developed a research project for five years that investigated and monitored rainforest possum species activity on rope bridges placed over the Palmerston Highway as a part-time Research Officer for the Department of Tropical Environment Studies & Geography, JCU
- \* Developed and wrote progress reports, co-wrote a scientific paper and prepared a comprehensive manual and guidebook to assist future researchers

**Consultant Researcher  
(Australian Rainforest Foundation),  
2008 – 2009**

**Roles:**

- \* Conducted research including a frog survey on several properties in the Daintree region
- \* Supplied images for the ARF's web site and promotional material
- \* Provided regular written summaries and assessments of Wet Tropics wildlife

### **Principal Conservation Officer (Queensland Department of Environment), 2000 – 2001**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Managed projects and teams, conducted fauna surveys and assessments as the Terrestrial Ecologist for the WIPDIP program
- \* Assessed ecological impacts of local planning and conservation issues

### **Consultant Ecologist (Brisbane City Council), 1999 – 2000**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Conducted flora and fauna assessments in southern Queensland and provided ecological advice
- \* Prepared reports and presented expert assessment and testimony in the Planning & Environment Court

### **Research Officer (James Cook University, Townsville), 1992 – 1993**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Organised and conducted field research in Cape York, Far North Queensland and the Northern Territory

### **Project Officer (Queensland Department of Environment), 2000**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Launched the program and presented Land for Wildlife workshops across much of regional Queensland
- \* Developed and implemented the Land for Wildlife Action Plan
- \* Chaired the Land for Wildlife steering committee
- \* Trained volunteers to identify various wildlife groups under the Queensland Government's NatureSearch initiative

### **Senior Terrestrial Ecologist (WBM), 1996 – 1999**

#### **Roles:**

- \* Led multi-disciplinary teams conducting numerous flora and fauna surveys and impact assessments throughout Queensland (especially southern Queensland), Northern N.S.W. & Malaysia
- \* Developed proposals and wrote peer-reviewed reports
- \* Conducted and participated in workshops, meetings and public forums

### **Theses**

- \* PhD in Zoology at James Cook University, Townsville (1995)
- \* Honours in Zoology at Latrobe University, Victoria (1985)