



DIG DEEPER *Webinars*

TRANSFORMING DISPARATE APPROACHES TO REMOTE SENSING & MONITORING TO INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICE

PROJECT 3.2 | RENEE BARTOLO | 8 JULY 2022

The Team

Project Team



**Dr Renee Bartolo, Supervising Scientist
Branch, DCCEEW**



**Prof Peter Erskine, The University of
Queensland**



**Dr Lorna Hernandez-Santin, The
University of Queensland**



Dr Adam Cross, Curtin University

Partners

Fortescue Metals Group (Kirsty Beckett)- End Use
Sponsor

Rio Tinto (Santiago Barrera Ramirez)

Newmont Mining Services (Kimberley Stone)

K2Fly (Hasnein Tareque)

Emapper (Julian Kruger)

**Western Australia Department of Environment and
Water Regulation** (Clare Grosser, Craig Jacques)

**Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines
and Energy** (Tania Hall)

South Australia Department of Energy and Mining
(Katrina Nagle)

Geoscience Australia (Mark Broomhill)

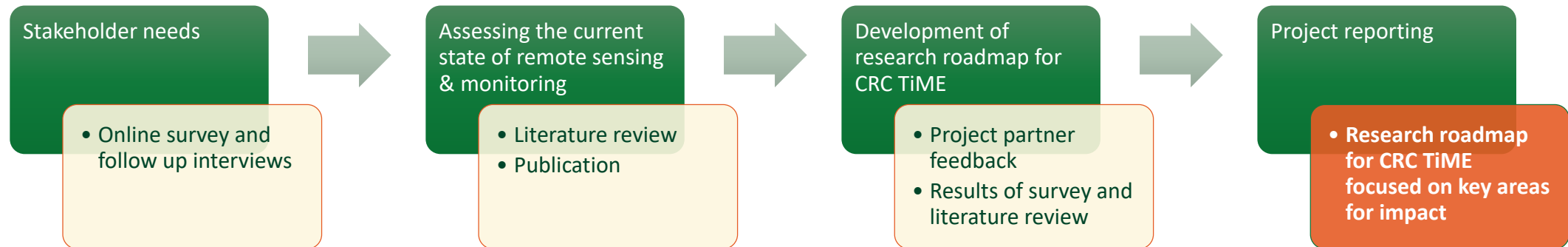


The Problem:

Application of remote sensing & monitoring lacks rigour and adoption in the wider industry

- Need for consistent approaches to acquiring, analysing and reporting outcomes, and to adapt to the rapid technological change in remote sensing and monitoring capabilities.
- Government regulators also need confidence that outputs from remote sensing are accurate and will sufficiently meet regulatory requirements.

The Research Process



Top 2-5 Key Findings

Identified issues with current monitoring practices

- Industry survey and follow up interviews

Australian mining industry under represented in the scientific literature

- International literature demonstrates remote sensing & monitoring are useful to the mining industry

Minimum set of standards for remote sensing and monitoring on mined land

- Framework for regulators and flexibility for the mining industry

Identified issues with current monitoring practices

- Logistic issues
- Mine capability & uptake
- Regulation, compliance & governance,
- Need for consistency across sectors

Australian mining industry under represented in the literature

- **Australian industry appears to be under-represented in the global scientific literature** relating to remote sensing of the mined environment.
- The international scientific literature demonstrates that remote sensing is useful to the mining industry but **provides little insight on how the Australian mining industry is using remote sensing** because **very little is being published**.

KEY RESEARCH AREAS TO IMPROVE CURRENT MONITORING PRACTICES

- Highest importance to monitor – vegetation composition, erosion (landform) and tailings
- Legally important – infrastructure, erosion (landform) and fauna
- Socially important – air pollution, noise and dust
- Ecologically important – fauna, litter/organic matter, vegetation composition
- Should be monitored differently – fauna, vegetation structure/composition, slope stability
- Standardise monitoring protocols that use best practise across a range of areas

Minimum set of standards for remote sensing and monitoring on mined land

1. Minimum set of standards

- framework for regulators, as well as enabling mine sites to have flexibility to choose what monitoring information they provide.
- standards for image processing
- data governance and quality assurance

2. Continuous improvement in

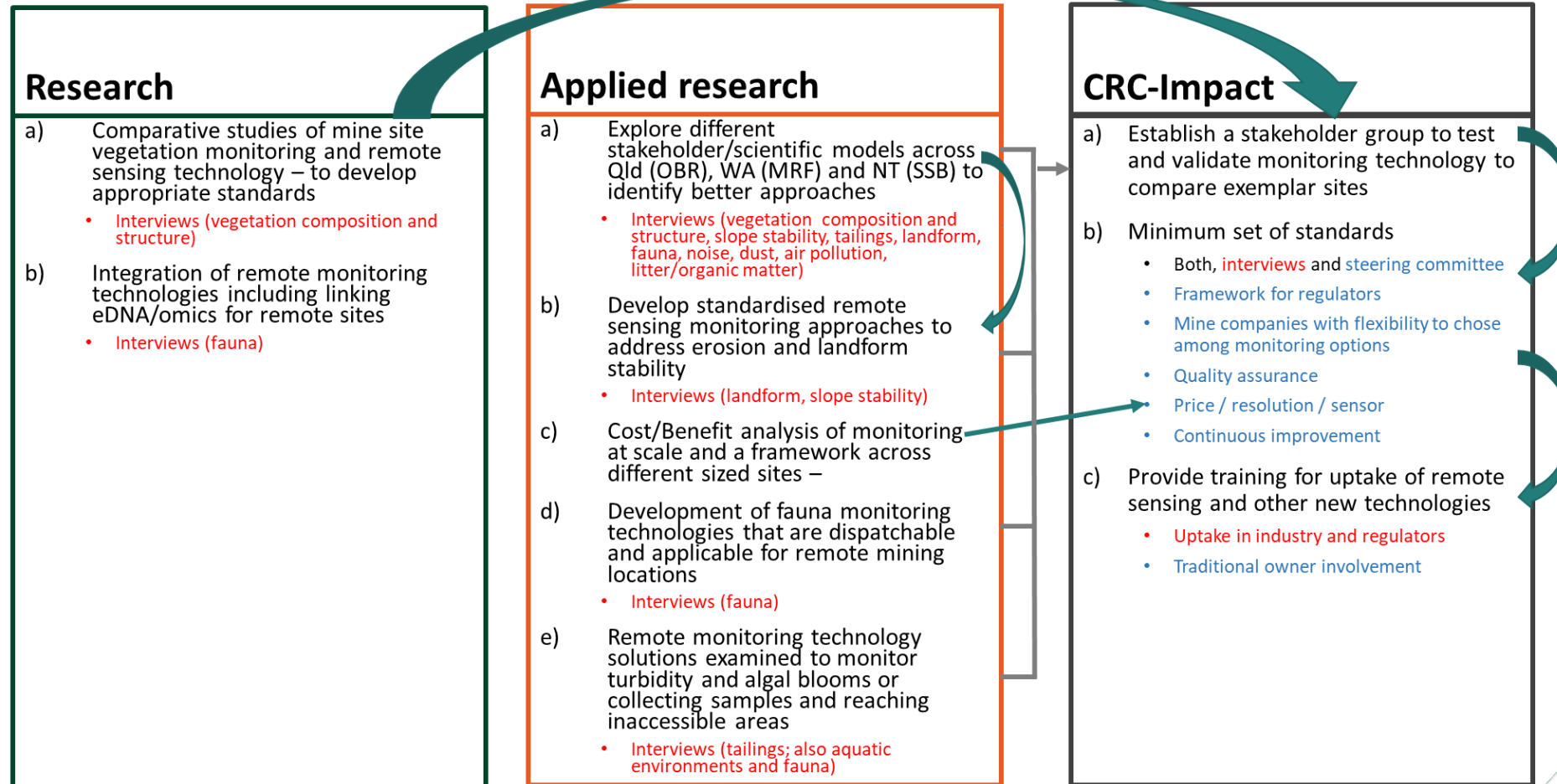
- remote sensing research
- technological change
- ecosystem trajectories monitoring

How can Industry use these Findings?

- Optimise the utility of the data and price and how that relates to a) completion criteria and b) management actions (maintenance drivers).
- Research - Sampling framework for on the ground (verification of data):
 - a) Traditional Owner involvement
 - b) *In situ* sensor integration
 - c) Statistically robust
 - d) Life of mine- how you change what you monitor and how to conduct it (e.g. post closure remote sensing)



Implications





Savanna (Kakadu National Park)



Flying Height: 40m



Can identify tree species and trees under canopy

Can identify tree species (resprouts)





Potential for nutrient cycling indices









THANK YOU

Renee Bartolo

Renee.Bartolo@environment.gov.au

M: 0404 868 981

www.crctime.com.au