

**Victoria**

**University of Ballarat**

**LP0883029** Prof ME Westbrooke; Dr SP Cook; Dr FP Graz; Dr SK Florentine

**Approved Project Title** **Demonstrating the impacts of ground tank closure on biodiversity and landscape function in southeast Australian rangelands**

**2008 :** \$ 100,000

**2009 :** \$ 50,000

**2010 :** \$ 60,000

**Primary RFCID** 2707 ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

APA(I) Award(s): 1

**Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)**

Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

**Administering Organisation** University of Ballarat

**Project Summary**

Despite incentives for improving biodiversity outcomes in pastoral landscapes pastoralists are resistant to strategic tank closure. Research will monitor the effects of total-closure, partial-closure and fencing of ground tanks on biodiversity. Results of research will be built into a model to assist land managers in decision making. The research will be conducted in conjunction with land management authorities thus outcomes can be readily passed on to relevant user groups. The project will aid in the adoption of sustainable land management practices in relation to total grazing pressure and biodiversity. The research within arid woodland and shrubland communities is applicable to a large area of Australia's rangelands.