

Can Maths Save the Planet?

Panel Discussion and Q & A

Thursday July 11, 5-6:30pm

Leighton Hall, Scientia Building, The University of New South Wales

Our environment is under serious pressure from introduced species, climate change, and anthropogenic change. But maths can help! In this forum, hosted by Mark Horstman from ABC's Catalyst, we will see how three researchers have used number-crunching skills to have a say in conservation planning and biosecurity. As technology increases the capabilities of number-crunchers, maybe they can even save the planet?

Join us for an interactive panel discussion, open to questions from the audience, from UNSWTV on-line, and from Twitter at #MathsSaveUs



Mark Horstman (host)

Prof Richard Kingsford

Prof Kerrie Mengersen

Dr Andrew Robinson

Mark Horstman (host) has been a Catalyst presenter on the ABC since 2005, regularly reporting on environmental issues and technological breakthroughs. He studied zoology and marine biology for a science degree at James Cook Uni. Also on the panel:

Prof Richard Kingsford (The University of New South Wales) is a Eureka medallist and strong advocate for environmental flows in the Murray-Darling basin. This involves a lot of modelling!

Prof Kerrie Mengersen (Queensland University of Technology) is a star statistician and President of the Statistical Society of Australia (Inc). She works extensively with government environmental protection departments and ecologists.

Dr Andrew Robinson (The University of Melbourne) is Deputy Director of the Australian Centre of Excellence for Risk Analysis when he is not modelling forests. Dr Robinson has used maths to improve quarantine protocols for detecting biosecurity threats.