



personal profile

John Thorogood principal ecologist

FAIBiol., FEIANZ

John is one of the industry's most highly respected coastal and riverine ecologists. Complementing his impressive scientific qualifications, and skills in both the laboratory and field, he has well developed strategic skills and experience over several decades working on projects both in Australia and internationally.

Under John's leadership, **frc environmental** has undertaken a diverse variety of projects, relating to major infrastructure, urban and industrial development, mining, defence, international aid, tourism, the fishing industry and aquaculture.

John's hallmark is in the identification of key issues and the delivery of practical advice based on a sound appreciation of the project's overall objectives and constraints.

With almost three decades of professional experience, John has specialist skills in environmental assessment, management and monitoring; fauna and flora surveys; and ecosystem studies, fisheries science and aquaculture. John has a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between water and sediment quality and ecosystem health.



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freshwater

estuarine

marine



john thorogood profile

“John was the first Fellow of the Australian Institute of Biology appointed from an organisation other than an academic or government research institution.”

Whilst John’s expertise lies principally in the fields of fish and fisheries, coastal wetlands, soft sediment macro-fauna, reef ecology and aspects of aquaculture, it is the breadth of John’s experience that supports an often unique level of perspective and understanding.

John has led or participated in a range of studies for government agencies and major commercial clients, both across Australia and internationally. He has led numerous project design and review missions for AusAID, and is in high demand as an expert witness in relation to Planning and Environment Court and Land Court matters, and environmental prosecutions.

John was the first Fellow of the Australian Institute of Biology appointed from an organisation other than an academic or government research institution. He is also a Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand and was an inaugural member of the Institute’s Certified Environmental Practitioner professional accreditation scheme assessment panel. John is a member of the Australian Society for Fish Biology, the Australian Coral Reef Society and the Queensland Environmental Law Association.

key achievements

- Almost three decades professional experience spanning research (CSIRO and industry) and consulting – across Australia and internationally.
- Unique breadth of expertise spanning fisheries management, aquaculture and environmental management
- Contributed to the majority of major infrastructure projects across Queensland in the past two decades
- Leading and highly effective expert witness across a range of jurisdictions
- First Fellow of the Australian Institute of Biology not affiliated with an academic institution or government research agency.
- Frequently appointed ‘Australian Team Leader’ of AusAID project design and review missions.
- Invited industry-based reviewer of DPI&F’s habitat management program
- Publications range from peer-reviewed research papers to expert comment for the mass media
- Committed to a strategic, considered and rigorous approach to ecological consulting – resulting in enhanced client value
- Founded and continues to lead a truly ‘values-based’ practice – Queensland’s best.
- First independent Fishing Industry Research Trust grant recipient to be funded for research relating to Australia’s high-value southern bluefin tuna fishery.