Preface

The National Malleefowl Forum, held in Renmark, South Australia from 29th July to 1st August 2011, was realised as an objective within the National Malleefowl Recovery Plan 2007, specifically to facilitate communication between interested groups, landholders and other individuals. This was the fourth such forum, allowing for the review of progress on Malleefowl conservation across Australia.

The forum attracted 29 speakers from a variety of backgrounds presenting on a wide range of topics. Insights were provided on current and recent research into the role of fire in Malleefowl habitat; conservation genetics of Malleefowl; and the possibilities of an Adaptive Management Framework were explained. We heard about long term predator control activities undertaken by individual landholders and community groups; restoration projects occurring both on remnants and at a landscape-scale; and were reminded of the importance of volunteers and volunteer groups in Malleefowl conservation activities.

All of the presentations combined provided a comprehensive overview of achievements since the last Forum in Katanning in 2007, and current research, issues and ongoing projects in Malleefowl conservation.

Opportunity was given throughout the Forum for feedback on how well we are achieving/performing against the National Malleefowl Recovery Plan Objectives, and what else we could be doing. The substantial amount of comments received was taken into account in a review of these Objectives, which are included in this volume under: *Performance Evaluation of the National Recovery Plan.* This is the first time a review of this kind has been undertaken for Malleefowl. A further list of *Forum Resolutions* was also compiled from the feedback received, and is also included in this volume. Both of these reviews of recovery initiatives for Malleefowl provide important guidance to the Recovery Team over the coming years.

The Forum itself and the Proceedings serve as valuable inspiration for the continuing work in Malleefowl conservation.



Malleefowl working its mound, Coorong National Park, SA. Photo: S Gillam