



Australian Ecology Research Award 2009

Nominations are invited for the inaugural *Australian Ecology Research Award (AERA)*. This award recognises excellence in recent research in Australian ecology and supports an annual Ecological Society of Australia invited research lecture. The research on which the Award is based will be significant for advancing ecology as a science (including theoretical, experimental, comparative, survey-based, applied or basic); although the age and career stage of recipients are not restricted, the expectation is that they will typically be near the height of their research careers.

The recipient of the award will present a lecture, based on this research, at the annual ESA conference of that year. The candidate's travel, registration and accommodation will be paid or reimbursed.

Nominations should consist of the following (and no more):

1. Name of the person being nominated
2. A statement naming the general area of research (up to one line);
3. A statement of up to 100 words describing the nature of the research and its importance to ecology;

Conditions of the AERA:

- the Award is contingent on availability to deliver the lecture at the ESA conference in the year of offer;
- the Awardee does not need to be an ESA member;
- "Australian" means either by a researcher based in Australia, or research executed in Australian ecosystems;
- the research on which the Award is based will have been published within the preceding five years, normally with at least one key paper published within the preceding two years;
- where papers are joint-authored the principle is that the Awardee would be the one most responsible for the overall ideas and direction and interpretation of the body of research, irrespective of order of authorship;
- the AERA may not be extended to the same individual, or for the same body of work, for a second time within any consecutive period of five years.

Application dates:

Nominations must be received by the Executive Officer of the Society ExecutiveOfficer@ecolsoc.org.au by **Thursday 30th April 2009**.

A selection panel consisting of a cross-section of Australian ecologists will decide on the AERA recipient. A decision will be announced during *July 2009*. Panel members may themselves nominate suitable candidates. It is assumed that panel members will be able to access the nominees' work and citation information through web-based sources. Panel members will not be eligible to receive the Award. The decision of the selection panel will be final.

To become a member of the Ecological Society of Australia or to find out more about the Society visit www.ecolsoc.org.au