

WildCount Honours project: Can machine learning be used to accurately identify wildlife in remote camera trap images?

Brief Project Summary:

Motion-active or remote camera traps are now commonly used in wildlife studies around the globe. They are a powerful and cost-effective method to survey wildlife due to their ease in deployment and ability to continually monitor populations across time. However, a common limitation of camera traps is that they capture millions of images that need to be processed visually by an observer. Machine learning techniques provide a powerful and exciting opportunity to automate image processing; thereby reducing analysis and reporting time. The time gained by implementing an automated image processing pipeline and increase speed of reporting results can be used for on-ground species conservation management.

This project will work closely with [WildCount](#), a large-scale wildlife monitoring program run by National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW Government and the [School of Life and Environmental Sciences](#), University of Sydney. It will test the feasibility of using machine learning algorithms for identifying species in camera trap images.



Photographs: Red-necked wallabies (left) and superb lyrebirds (right). Kindly provided by WildCount, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

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