THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

# WildCount Honours project: Can machine learning be used to accurately identify wildlife in remote camera trap images in a rapidly changing world?

**Brief Project Summary:**

Motion-active or remote camera traps are now commonly used in wildlife studies around the globe. 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. However, due to rapid environmental change, image algorithms may not perform well after major disturbance events to the landscape.

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 and the impacts of the 2019/20 mega-fires on identifying species from images taken from burnt landscapes.


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

**For further information:**

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