



DAVE FLEMING MEIANZ CENVP  
SENIOR ECOLOGIST | ECOSURE

Joined the Institute in 2006

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Environment Institute  
of Australia and  
New Zealand Inc.

*What prompted you to join EIANZ?*

I was prompted to join EIANZ from my manager in my first full-time role as an environmental scientist and was attracted to the role that the Institute played in supporting practicing environmental practitioners. I was also a member of various ecological societies at the time, but decided that as interesting as they were, they weren't providing the same support for my continued professional development as the Institute could.

*What do you value most about being a member?*

I value that the Institute constantly advocates for the environmental profession and is working towards improving the standards and ethical conduct of environmental practitioners. I also value the role that the divisions play in providing interesting, engaging and topical professional development opportunities.

*Has being a member helped you develop mentoring relationships and/or extend your professional networks? Can you tell us about the impact these relationships have had on your career development?*

I have made significantly more professional contacts through my association with the Institute than through other means and value the networking opportunities that membership provides. Although membership hasn't translated into many business opportunities, the connections that I have made expand my professional circle which assists in others areas of my career including my own career progression.

*What do you find most rewarding about a career in the environment sector?*

Primarily, it is the knowledge that my work is making a positive difference to the environment and enabling companies to manage their environmental obligations. I also still enjoy field work and being able to experience the different regions of Australia that I probably wouldn't get a chance to otherwise.

*What advice would you give to recent graduates just starting out in the environment sector?*

Have a career goal in mind, but realise that the industry, clients and government policies will probably take you down a different path. Embrace the changes, try different things when the opportunity presents itself and you will eventually find the thing that you most enjoy doing.

Celebrating  
**30**  
years  
1987 - 2017