

New analysis reveals Marshall cuts deeper than expected

With growing community concerns about the impact of CSIRO cuts, new union analysis shows the cuts will be deeper than previously estimated with a further 317 staff to be made redundant. Management documents provided to the CSIRO Staff Association show plans to declare nearly 10 per cent of existing staff as potentially redundant. Out of this group, individual staff will then be identified, potentially translating to approximately 317 job losses.

The union has condemned the cuts and is working with a range of community, political and scientific groups to highlight the damage being to the agency's crucial research.

If implemented, the plan would further compound the jobs crisis at CSIRO which has already shed close to 20 percent of its workforce since June 2013, the vast majority the result of the Coalition Government's decision in 2014 to strip the organisation of \$115 million in funding.

Big cuts to CSIRO under Coalition Government

The Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's premier government laboratory.

In the 2014-15 federal budget, the Coalition Government announced cuts to the CSIRO of approximately \$111.4 million. The organisation was also required to absorb the effects on an increased public sector 'efficiency' dividend' - resulting in a further loss of \$3.4 million. The result was the loss of nearly 20 per cent of the CSIRO workforce. From the period of 30 June 2014 to 18 April 2016, some 1,208 staff left the organisation.

CSIRO Staffing	30 June 2011	30 June 2012	30 June 2013	30 June 2014	31 Dec 2014	30 June 2015
FTE	5780.1	5719.7	5751.5	5422.7	4964.0	4836.3
Headcount	6,514	6,492	6,477	5,964	5,387	5,269

Source: CSIRO Management

Marshall Plan to slash more jobs and research

In February 2016, CSIRO Chief Executive Larry Marshall announced sweeping changes to the organisation purportedly as part of realignment to an overarching five year strategy launched the previous year. The proposed changes have been characterised as a move away from public good science in favour of research with immediate prospects for commercialisation, at the estimated cost of hundreds of CSIRO jobs.

The process for determining and implementing the proposed cuts has generated significant controversy; resulting in significant parliamentary scrutiny, international criticism and widespread condemnation from the Australian scientific community and staff.

Report methodology

This analysis is built on data provided by CSIRO management to the Staff Association outlining forecast redundancies. As a requirement of the CSIRO Enterprise Agreement, management are required to provide written advice to the Staff Association when ten or more employees are likely to become potentially redundant. Information contained in the advice includes the numbers of staff facing potential redundancy, as well as their location and functional area.

In limited cases where the information provided was incomplete, reasonable assumptions have been made by the Staff Association based on staffing knowledge. The distribution of final redundancies by location etc. will vary to some extent, including through the implementation of voluntary redundancy substitution and redeployment.

Key findings

As of 16 May 2016, the Staff Association has been notified of 264 proposed redundancies across six Business Units; Land and Water, Oceans and Atmosphere, Agriculture, Minerals, Manufacturing and Food and Nutrition. The number of impacted staff is a staggering 441 across these Business Units because of the method chosen to conduct some of the processes.

Total proposed redundancies across CSIRO are expected to rise to approximately 317 including the addition of Data61 (25) and Research Support (comprised of 21 finance / project support positions and 7 jobs from Victoria's Clayton laboratories). These numbers are still to be confirmed.

At the moment - based on current overall staffing levels in each region - Northern Australia, Victoria, and Western Australia are most disproportionately affected with NSW, ACT and Tasmania least proportionately affected. However these weightings may change when the expected cuts in Data61 and Research Support materialise.

In terms of functional area, Research Scientist / Engineer and Research Projects are most disproportionately affected with Admin Services and Tech Services least proportionately affected. These relativities will also change to some extent once Data61 and Research Support are included.

When considering classification (CSOF) Levels 8, 9 and 7 are most disproportionately affected with Levels 2, 3 and 4 least proportionately affected. These relativities will also likely change when Data61 and Research Support cuts are included.

2. CSIRO job cuts forecast 2014-15 - by functional area

AREA	TOTAL	Scientist/Engineer	Research Projects	Technical Services	Admin Services
Oceans and Atmosphere	74	36	28	5	5
Land and Water	67	39	26	1	1
Agriculture	26	8	15	2	1
Food and Nutrition	21	9	12	0	0
Manufacturing	43	24	19	0	0
Minerals	33	14	19	0	0
TOTAL TO DATE	264	130	119	8	7
% Redundancies across each State		49.2	45.1	3.0	2.7
% CSIRO Workforce by State (where staff are located)		34.4	31.7	10.2	17.5

Data61	25 likely	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
Research Support	28 likely	0	0	14	21
TOTAL EXPECTED	317				

3. CSIRO job cuts forecast 2014-15 - by classification

AREA	TOTAL	Clas 2	Clas 3	Clas 4	Clas 5	Clas 6	Clas 7	Clas 8+
Oceans and Atmosphere	74	0	7	13	16	16	13	9
Land and Water	67	0	2	14	19	14	11	7
Agriculture	26	0	6	9	4	2	2	3
Food and Nutrition	21	1	1	9	4	3	2	1
Manufacturing	43	0	2	8	13	8	6	6
Minerals	33	0	3	9	7	5	5	4
TOTAL TO DATE	264	1	21	62	63	48	39	30
% Redundancies		0.4	7.9	23.5	23.9	18.2	14.8	11.4
% CSIRO Workforce		3.0	16.8	24.7	19.7	16.2	11.8	7.8

Data61	25 likely	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
Research Support	28 likely	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
TOTAL EXPECTED	317							