

Karen Ganza

Nick names:

None

Position with MBS:

Senior Environmental Scientist

Joined MBS in:

January 2011

First Project at MBS:

Lord Byron Waste Characterisation (Crescent Gold Limited)



Capabilities:

Mining and exploration approvals, ecological risk assessment, waste characterisation, and water quality monitoring and reporting.

Education:

I went to school at Frawley College in Scarborough, QLD and completed a Bachelor of Engineering (Minerals Processing) at the University of Queensland. I then went out into the world of mining and worked as a Metallurgist for the next seven years. During this time I gained great experience and met a lot of fantastic people (including my husband!), but never really *loved* my work. I'd always been interested in environmental science and so decided to go back to uni to complete a Masters in Environmental Management through the University of NSW. I finished this in 2008.

Where I'm from and how I ended up at MBS:

I grew up in a rural town about an hour north-west of Brisbane called Woodford. My parents have a property there and our weekends were usually spent outdoors helping with maintenance around their crayfish farm. After completing a BE, I moved to Perth to commence my first year on the Placer Dome Graduate Program at the Granny Smith Mine near Laverton. This was when I realised that people do actually watch AFL and not ARL (I grew up in QLD)! My second posting with the Graduate Program was the Osborne Copper Gold Mine in north-west QLD and I was offered a permanent position there soon after starting. Osborne had just moved out of the commissioning stage and there were many challenges to be addressed. One of the largest problems which landed in my basket was ore supply, which meant dealing with Mining Engineers.... One particular Mining Engineer (Peter), whose amazing knowledge of trucks, and drives and shafts and explosives really impressed me, soon became my husband.

After Osborne we moved to Kalgoorlie where I worked at the Cawse Nickel-Cobalt Operation for four years before commencing my Masters in Environmental Management. We moved around the country over the next few years with Peter's work and a young family and returned to Perth late in 2010. It was at the Perth Zoo soon after that I met up with an old friend (Kristy Sell). Kristy mentioned that MBS was looking to recruit some additional consultants – and the rest is history! Kristy and Lance have brought together an amazing group of professionals at MBS. The team's high standards, depth of experience and commitment create a fantastic work environment and I'm proud to be a part of this team.

Something you didn't know about me:

I was a member of the first Australian female team to compete at the International Mining Games in the US. We came Second in the rail setting (useful weekend occupation) and First in the boat races.

Favourite quote from client:

"We don't ask DEC for permission, we tell them as a courtesy"

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