Trove Stage 4 - Journal Articles and E-Resources – scope

1 November 2010

What is Trove Stage 4?

Trove Stage 4 is a project to enhance Trove through the inclusion of metadata for journal articles and e-resources, and the development of pathways to find and get these resources. The timeframe for stage 4 is from 1st October 2010 to 31 March 2011. The stage is also part of the NSLA Re-Imagining Project: Open Borders.

Who is involved in Trove Stage 4?

The National Library is working with state libraries, public libraries, university libraries, and vendors of e-resources in the development and implementation of Trove Stage 4.

Aren’t journal articles and e-resources already included in Trove?

Several million journal articles are indexed in Trove, including articles from PubMed Central, Project Muse and Nature Publishing Group. Millions of academic papers and technical reports from both OAIster and ARO contributors are also indexed. Many of these resources are freely available online, with others being accessible through a one-off payment.

These articles appear in the Books, journals, magazines, articles… zone.


E-resources catalogued into the National Bibliographic Database by an Australia library or a vendor that provides services to Australian libraries are indexed in Trove. Generally, however, these resources are not freely available online, nor available to casual users. It is also difficult for users to know what is contained within the resources, and they are unlikely to rank highly in search results due to the broad range of subjects that many of these resources contain.

These e-resources appear in the Books, journals, magazines, articles… zone.


So why do we need Trove Stage 4?

The articles and e-resources already included in Trove represent a very small percentage of scholarly articles and e-resources that are available from databases subscribed to by libraries within Australia.

With journal articles, the records in Trove usually provide only an internet link to the article, with limited information on the access conditions that apply, or which libraries provide subscription access to the article. This means that users who are members of libraries that can provide access to the article see only the pay-per-view option, rather than seeing that they have access through their library.

Often e-resources are catalogued at the resource level only, with limited information about the contents of the resource. If users do manage to find the resource, they will need to complete a new search within the database to find relevant articles.
Trove Stage 4 aims to simplify the process of finding journal articles by including metadata at the article level, and linking users directly to the article. If the user is a member of a library with a subscription to the resource, they will be authenticated and have immediate access to the article. This will allow users to find and get journal articles by searching within a single system rather than needing to perform the same search across multiple systems.

How will Trove Stage 4 aid users?

The most common type of search will be an 'unknown article' search, meaning that the user is seeking information on a particular topic. Through Trove, users will receive results from journal articles, books and e-resources and be able to limit their results through facets, such as the facet ‘article’.

When a user finds an article of interest, they will see options to get the article based on which libraries have a subscription to that resource. These options may provide direct access to the article if they are a member of, or on-site at, a subscribing library, or a pay-per-view option may be offered. The result will also show which journal an article appeared in, allowing users to target searches towards those journals that contain articles of interest, both in electronic and print versions. Trove Stage 4 will also link articles to library holdings of the journal an article was published in, permitting users to see which libraries hold print copies of that journal.
How will Trove Stage 4 affect libraries?

Currently access to most e-resources is through separate links on library web pages, rather than through the library catalogue. This requires users to know where these are, which e-resource is likely to contain articles of relevance to them, and perform searches across multiple systems to find relevant articles. By including article results in the results list, Trove will expose these resources to a wider audience, simplifying the process of finding and getting journal articles for users.

For libraries, the collating of article results with other results from their catalogue the benefit (assuming the Trove user has restricted searching to just their libraries) will be increased use of the e-resources they are subscribed to. This increase will be due to the exposure of these resources to a user base that may not be familiar with the techniques for finding and getting journal articles. Trove Stage 4 will also make it easier for users to search across multiple e-resources, which would also increase usage as users see results from resources that they may not have otherwise considered using.

Priorities for data

The aim is to extend Trove by adding both journal article (and book chapter) metadata provided by indexing services such as APAIS, and article metadata and associated data provided by e-resource vendors. This data will support access to printed resources held in library collections; and access, on- and off-site, to e-resources subscribed to by the user's libraries.

The priorities for inclusion are:

1. All APAIS and AMI article metadata, representing more than 550,000 articles, sourced from RMIT Publishing.
2. E-resource article metadata from RMIT Publishing for the following products: APAFT, Informit Humanities and Social Science Collection, Informit Health Collection, Informit Engineering Collection, Informit Business Collection.
3. E-resource article metadata from Cengage/Gale for those products widely subscribed to by Australian libraries.

Secondary priorities for inclusion are:

1. E-resource article metadata from other vendors (e.g. ProQuest, Ebsco, and Encyclopaedia Britannica) for products included in ERA or the NSLA Consortium licenses, or widely subscribed to by Australian libraries.
2. Article metadata from indexing services, such as the FAMILY database, to extend the APAIS and AMI offerings.

Features and changes to Trove functionality

The following features or changes to Trove functionality are planned:

- Continue to show articles in the "Books, journals, magazines, articles..." zone.
- Searches will be able to be restricted to journal articles via the "article" format limit (facet).
- Articles results will appear in Trove before any special "getting" options (e.g. linking articles to journal titles and holdings) are developed.
• All vendor-supplied e-resource articles will be able to be accessed via the “Online > Access Conditions” facet.

1. If the ISSN or ISBN of the journal or monograph that an article was published in is known, link to library/online holdings of the journal or monograph when viewing article metadata. The OCLC identifier for a journal or monograph may be used as a fallback measure.

2. For articles in APAIS and APAFT, which are known to be held by the NLA, display a link to Copies Direct as a getting option.

3. With respect to (1), attempt to show only libraries which hold the relevant issue of the journal an article appeared in.

4. For online e-resource articles, take advantage of library subscription information provided by vendors to show a flag on the brief results screen marking the article as “Available to you via X library”. The following access approaches will apply:
   a. Facilitate access for users onsite in a subscribing library, who can be identified by IP address.
   b. Facilitate access for users who have selected a subscribing library as one of their libraries (using Trove’s “my libraries”).

5. For online articles, attempt to provide access to the article in the following ways:
   a. For users who are not affiliated with a subscribing library, have not identified their library affiliations, or are affiliated with libraries for whom we do not have an authentication mechanism for, link straight to the article on the vendor’s site (the article may be accessible through pay-per-view or be IP authenticated by the vendor).
   b. For users whose library uses a proxy server for authentication (e.g. EZproxy), refer the user to the server, which will authenticate the user and pass them to the article.
   c. At a later stage, facilitate access for users whose library has an online login form which we can screen-scrape. (This option assumes that vendors trust us to authenticate users).

6. Show organisations that subscribe to products from e-resources vendors in the potential list of “my libraries”, even if they are not libraries, and do not have any holdings in Libraries Australia.

Out of scope for Stage 4

The following tasks are not part of the proposed Stage 4:
• Browse by journal, issue, subject or author.
• Advanced search options for articles/journals.
• New facets, such as “discipline” or “journal title”.

The National Library would welcome comments on the proposed scope for Trove Stage 4.