

ANZLIC Core Metadata Elements – Vulnerable Land

Category	Element	Comment
Dataset	Title	Vulnerable Land
	Custodian	Department of Natural Resources
	Jurisdiction	New South Wales.
Description	Abstract	<p>The maintenance of tree cover on certain land is covered by legislation. Such land has previously been mapped in NSW and is called “protected land”, or in recent times “state protected land” (SPL).</p> <p>The purpose of “protected land” is to regulate the destruction of trees on land susceptible to erosion or land that is otherwise environmentally sensitive. This was administered under part IV, Division 2 of the Soil Conservation Act, 1938.</p> <p>Subsequently, under clause 32(1) the <i>Native Vegetation Regulation 2005</i>, the Minister may prepare a Natural Resource Management Plan (NRM Plan) for two purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under subclause 31(1)(a), to identify as vulnerable land, land that is “<i>steep or highly erodible</i>”, “<i>protected riparian land</i>” or “<i>special category land</i>”. • Under subclause 31(1)(b), to identify as <i>protected regrowth</i>, all native vegetation (that is regrowth) on land that is identified as <i>steep or highly erodible</i> or <i>protected riparian land</i>. <p>Additionally, under clause 31(3) of the Regulation the Minister may approve and publish guidelines to enable the clearing, without approval being required, of exotic trees or dead trees on State Protected Land in circumstances where no more than minimal harm is likely.</p> <p>To facilitate the production of an accessible, digital “vulnerable land” dataset, catchments or parts of catchments that contain gazetted State Protected Land have been used as a guide to constrain the spatial extent of a new digitally-generated “Vulnerable Land” dataset under the NV Act. No additional areas have been mapped. The dataset comprises three individual components which have a direct relationship to previously mapped SPL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land that was Category A SPL (over 18 degrees) is now <i>steep or highly erodible land</i>. This is land that is at significant risk of soil erosion. Limiting erosion on these areas requires the maintenance of vegetation cover, especially groundcover.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land that was Category B SPL is now <i>protected riparian land</i>. This provides the filters that keep our streams clean; habitat for many species of flora and fauna and in many cases, the only remaining natural corridors in the landscape. Land that was Category C SPL is now <i>special category land</i>. This exists over a few small areas of NSW that are considered to be at particular environmental risk. These include catchments in the Yass, Tweed, and "Lowbidgee" areas.
	Search Word(s)	Steep, sensitive, river, stream, watercourse, erodible, protected land, vegetation management, land administration, soil conservation, nature conservation,
	Geographic Extent Name(s) OR	New South Wales
	Geographic Extent Polygon(s)	New South Wales
Data Currency	Beginning Date	June 2005
	Ending Date	November 2005
Dataset Status	Progress	Draft finalised.
	Maintenance and Update Frequency	Infrequent – may be subject to periodic revision.
Access	Stored Data Format	ESRI pgdb and Oracle spatial. GDA94 and lat/long.
	Available Format Type	ESRI pgdb, shapefile, oracle export
	Access Constraint	NIL
Data Quality	Lineage	<p>1. Steep or highly erodible. Land with a gradient of 18 degrees or more was generated from the Department of Lands 25mDEM. No allowance was made for any landscapes which have been modified. All previously notified hardcopy SPL Category A maps were examined to ensure that the overall spatial extent (the external boundary) of the original SPL was the same as the overall extent of the new VL dataset i.e. no additional areas were mapped: whole or part catchments of Tweed, Richmond, Misc. North Coast, Lower Clarence, Clarence, Pindari, Copeton, Keepit, Macleay, Bellinger, Nambucca, Hastings, Camden Haven, Manning, Karuah, Hunter, Namoi, Castlereagh, Talbragar, Burrendong, Hawkesbury, Lake Macquarie/Tuggerah Lakes, Port Hacking, Lake Illawarra, Shoalhaven, Wyangla, Murrumbidgee, Clyde, Burrinjuck, Moruya,</p>

		<p>Tuross, Bega, Snowy, Misc. South Coast. Hume.</p> <p>2. Protected riparian This dataset has been generated by extracting all 26D classes (streams prescribed under Sec 26D of the Water Act) from the Department of Lands "crown waterways" spatial database. This database has been subjected to random cross-checks with the watercourses listed in "Prescribed New South Wales Watercourses" and it appears sound. There is an issue with the spatial resolution of the "crown waterways" spatial database as it is based on cadastre and appears incomplete and fragmented. To create a spatial layer with the best resolution possible, it was necessary to superimpose the Lands Drainage topographic data and perform an extraction (from topo drainage) of all named streams which are co-incident with the previously extracted 26D waterways.</p> <p>The resultant layer is now based on the Lands topographic drainage (named streams).</p> <p>3. Special category This was generated by scanning and vectorising existing topo-based SPL Category C hardcopy maps. The extent of this category was determined from information in "the publication <i>Facts about protected lands & the catchment areas protection board: controls over tree destruction</i>"</p> <p>Only three areas of SPL Category C have been gazetted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tweed Catchment,</i> • <i>Yass Valley, Yass (1:50000) Gunning (1:50000) Bedulluck (1:25000) Lake George (1:25000) Hall (1:25000) Sutton (1:25000).Bungendore (1:25000).</i> • <i>Lowbidgee, Paika (1:100000) Maude (1:50000) Balranald (1:50000) Toogimbie (1:50000)</i> <p>As with previously notified SPL, Vulnerable Land does not include any State Forest, National Forest, Timber Reserve or Flora Reserve within the meaning of the Forestry Act, 1916. National Parks, Historic Sites, Nature Reserves within the meaning of the National Parks & Wildlife Act, 1974 are also excluded.</p>
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	Positional Accuracy	Topographic 3 dimensional 25 metre grid data derived from contour and drainage data sourced from the New South Wales Topographic Map Archive (pre 1995). Predominantly 10 metre and 20 metre contours used as source data.
	Attribute Accuracy	For layers based on Lands Department datasets, tag syntax is checked against Lands Department codes for the drainage layer and DCDB. Attribution is consistent with the source information and with attributes contained within associated aspatial databases.
	Logical Consistency	All polygons are tagged All lines are labelled
	Completeness	Spatial data is complete for the entire data set,
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	Contact Position	Team Leader, Landscapes, Natural Resource Decision Support OCRR
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Metadata Date	Metadata Date	20/12/2005
Additional Metadata	Additional Metadata	See SPL metadata for background information