

Name of dataset or data source:

Hornsby Local Government Area Vegetation Map Update, 2017. VIS_ID 5065

Custodian of the dataset or data source:

ED Science (E&H)

Description:

The Hornsby Vegetation Map 2017 provides current information on the native vegetation in the study area. Previous Hornsby Vegetation mapping was completed in 2008. There are substantial changes in the mapped polygons on the urban-bushland boundary based on the updated imagery and map rules. New mapping thresholds are designed to address Council's information needs arising from new regulations governing vegetation management in NSW, in particular the 10/50 bushfire protection rule. These were developed in consultation with Council and tested in a trial area prior to mapping.

The map has been compiled using visual aerial photo interpretation of 2014 imagery and botanical review. New field work has included collect rapid floristic data at selected survey locations. The update incorporates other sources of field survey and vegetation mapping completed between 2008 and 2017. The map is approximately 1:25,000 scale.

The Hornsby Vegetation Map 2017 applies the existing, accepted vegetation classification established in Smith and Smith Hornsby Vegetation Map 2008 Update. Two updates are provided with the addition of a new code for mixed 'urban native/ exotic' patches (consistent with Sydney Metropolitan vegetation mapping that overlaps part of the study area (OEH 2015)) and an updated classification equivalence table necessitated by changes to NSW plant community types. Modified, predominantly native vegetation has been attributed with the closest, applicable native vegetation and denoted as disturbed. In areas identified as 'urban native/ exotic' the proportion of exotics is highly variable. Field validation is recommended to support land management decisions in these areas.

The 2017 map has identified 17,005 ha of vegetation including 664 ha of EEC and 653 ha of 'urban native/ exotic' vegetation in the study area. In addition, the map includes 231 ha of potential relictual EEC subject to field validation. A direct comparison of changes to vegetation extent between 2008 and 2017 are not possible due to differing map methods.

All maps have limitations and field validation is recommended for detailed site planning and to verify the presence of vegetation types, particularly communities or species listed under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1994 or Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1996. Air photo interpretation is limited to a 'birds eye view' and may not detect changes in vegetation composition observable from field survey. Approximately 21% of the map has been validated by current and previous authors.

It is recommended that the Hornsby Vegetation Map 2017 is reviewed after one year in circulation. This will provide an opportunity to collate user feedback and identify minor edits required and any major revisions arising. Changes to the NSW PCT database may be incorporated at that time. VIS_ID 5065

Data quality rating:

★ Institutional Environment - 4

- ☆Accuracy - 3
- ☆Coherence - 3
- ☆Interpretability - 3
- ☆Accessibility - 2

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Very Good



- ✓ Does the information have the potential to enhance services or service delivery?
- ✓ The data aligns with the Data Quality Framework, including:
 - Legislation
 - Policies
 - Information Asset Governance
 - Standards
 - Data Management Plans
- ✓ The following governance roles and responsibilities for this asset are clearly assigned:
 - Information Asset Owner
 - Information Asset Custodian
 - Information Steward
- ✓ The Custodial agency has no commercial interest or conflict of interest in the data

✗ Data collection is authorised by law, regulation or agreement

ACCURACY

Good



- ✓ Data has been subject to a data assurance process (for example: Checking for errors at each stage of data collection and processing, or verifying data entry and making corrections if necessary.)
- ✓ There are no known gaps in the data or if there are gaps (for example: non-responses, missing records, data not collected), they have been identified in caveats attached to the dataset.
- ✓ The data collection met the objectives of the primary user. The data correctly represents what it was designed to measure, monitor or report.

✗ Data is revised and the revision is published if errors are identified

✗ No changes have been made or other factors identified (for example: weighting, rounding, de-identification of data, changes or flaws in data collection or verification methods) that could affect the validity of the data; or any changes/factors have been identified in caveats attached to the asset.

COHERENCE

Good



- ✓ Standard definitions, common concepts, classifications and data recording practices have been used.
- ✓ This data is generally consistent with similar or related data sources from the same discipline
- ✓ The data can be analysed over time (for example, there have not been any significant changes in the way items are defined, classified or counted over time).

✗ Elements within the data can be meaningfully compared.

X The data does not form part of a collection or, if it is the latest in a series of data releases, there have not been any changes in methodology or external impacts since the last data release.

INTERPRETABILITY

Good



- ✓ Information is available about the primary data sources and methods of data collection (e.g. instruments, forms, instructions).
- ✓ Information is available to help users evaluate the accuracy of the data and any level of error
- ✓ Information is available to explain concepts, help users correctly interpret the data and understand how it can be used

- X A data dictionary is available to explain the meaning of data elements, their origin, format and relationships
- X Information is available to explain ambiguous or technical terms used in the data

- i Find out more about the data dictionary from the Custodian (contact details below).
- i Find out more about the primary data sources and methods of data collection from the Custodian (contact details below).
- i Find out more about concepts used in this dataset and how to understand or interpret the data from the Custodian (contact details below).
- i Find out more about ambiguous or technical terms used in the data from the Custodian (contact details below).

ACCESSIBILITY

Fair



- ✓ Data is available online with an open licence
- ✓ Data is available in a non-proprietary format (e.g. CSV, XML)

- X Data is available in machine-processable, structured form (e.g. CSV format instead of an image scan of a table)
- X Data is described using open standards (e.g. RDF, SPARQL) and persistent identifiers (URIs or DOIs)
- X Data is linked to other data, to provide context (e.g. employee ID is linked to employee name or species name is linked to genus)

DATA DISCLAIMER

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For more information about this dataset or data source, contact:	Hornsby Shire Council
Data Broker email:	N/A
Data Broker phone:	N/A

Understanding the Data Quality Statement

The data quality statement aims to help you understand how a particular dataset could be used and whether it can be compared with other, similar datasets. It provides a description of the characteristics of the data to help you decide whether the data will be fit for your specific purpose.

The Data Quality statement is prepared by the data custodian (provider of the dataset), using a questionnaire that has been developed in accordance with the NSW Government Standard for Data Quality Reporting.

About the quality rating:

The reporting questionnaire asks five questions for each of these data quality dimensions:

- Institutional Environment
- Accuracy
- Coherence
- Interpretability
- Accessibility

For each question: “yes” = 1 point; “no” = 0 points

The number of points determines the Quality Level for each dimension (high, medium, low).

Only dimensions with four or five points receive a star.

Points	Quality Level	Star / No Star
0	Poor	No Star
1	Poor	No Star
2	Fair	No Star
3	Good	No Star
4	Very Good	Star
5	Excellent	Star

Evaluating data quality

Quality relates to the data's “fitness for purpose”. Users can make different assessments about the data quality of the same data, depending on their “purpose” or the way they plan to use the data.

The following questions may help you evaluate data quality for your requirements. This list is not exhaustive. Generate your own questions to assess data quality according to your specific needs and environment.

- What was the primary purpose or aim for collecting the data?
- How well does the coverage (and exclusions) match your needs?
- How useful are these data at small levels of geography?
- Does the population presented by the data match your needs?
- To what extent does the method of data collection seem appropriate for the information being gathered?
- Have standard classifications (eg industry or occupation classifications) been used in the collection of the data? If not, why? Does this affect the ability to compare or bring together data from different sources?
- Have rates and percentages been calculated consistently throughout the data?
- Is there a time difference between your reference period, and the reference period of the data?
- What is the gap of time between the reference period (when the data were collected) and the release date of the data?
- Will there be subsequent surveys or data collection exercises for this topic?
- Are there likely to be updates or revisions to the data after official release?

