

Name of dataset or data source:

Lake Macquarie LGA Vegetation Community Map 2022 VIS_ID 5117 - Version 2

Custodian of the dataset or data source:

Lake Macquarie City Council

Description:

This dataset comprises of native vegetation communities within the boundaries of native vegetation extant in the Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC) Local Government Area (LGA). These communities were originally mapped by Stephen Bell and Collin Driscoll using the methodology outlined in Bell, S.A.J. & Driscoll, C. (2016) and are as amended by LMCC by bi-annual review.

The methodology is a composite of field survey (rapid data points) and vegetation mapping from various reports. Additional edits have been made by LMCC where attribution and/or lineage has found to be in error, or more intensive field site survey has been undertaken. Native vegetation extant is derived from the LMCC Native Vegetation and Corridor mapping (updated using 2022 nearmap imagery).

The internal Map Unit (MU) delineation accuracy varies according to the source data at each point. The intention is to improve accuracy over time. The accuracy of the vegetation extant is <10m. All data requires careful interpretation with consideration of the accuracy field at any location. Full floristic plot survey and multivariate analysis has not been undertaken for many of the map units, hence their position in the classification hierarchy requires further confirmation. This dataset should not be used as a substitute for full site-specific floristic survey using standard techniques (quadrats & transects etc) and should be used in conjunction with the supporting reports.

The vegetation community classification system used is LHCCREMS (NPWS) 2000, with subgroups and additional communities where no equivalent exists to form LMCC Map Units (MU). Equivalent NSW State Government Plant Community Types (PCTs) were assigned to LMCC vegetation community map units by S. Bell with varying degrees of confidence:

- High matches are generally those where sufficient similarities are evident;
- Medium, where some uncertainties are present; and
- Low where there is considerable doubt over the match, but due to the absence of better matches these have been selected.
- “No clear match” is for map units that occur in a very small area of the City and given they are local variations cannot be assigned to broader based PCT classification.

Nationally listed Threatened Endangered Ecological Communities (TECs) are indicative only, and require onsite investigation. For Nationally listed species composition, condition, connectivity and patch size need to be verified in accordance with the relevant conservation advice. TECs are based in the first instance on the LMCC Map Unit. Where the LMCC Map Unit has not been assigned to a TEC but the equivalent eastern NSW PCT lists an associated Threatened Ecological Community, the TEC is listed in this dataset with the suffix “(possible, from PCT)”.

Version 2 changes: In 2023 amendments were made to the mapping, with the updated version titled “Lake Macquarie LGA Vegetation Community Map 2022 - Version 2”. These amendments include:

- Inclusion of data fields relating to the eastern NSW PCTs, including E. NSW PCT ID, E. NSW PCT Name and Confidence in the E. NSW PCT assigned to each LMCC map unit.
- Incorporation of Saltmarsh and Mangrove polygons identified by NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) as part of their estuary habitat mapping in 2022.
- Field checking and adjustment of some vegetation communities in the vicinity of South Creek, Eleebana, in response to a request by Lake Macquarie Landcare.

For more information including conversion tables between LMCC map units and Plant Communities and supporting reports see:
<https://www.lakemac.com.au/Development/Planning-controls/Local-Planning-Controls/Development-Guidelines> or contact Lake Macquarie Council
 council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

VIS_ID 5117

Data quality rating:

- ★ Institutional Environment - 4
- ★ Accuracy - 5
- ★ Coherence - 5
- ★ Interpretability - 4
- ☆ 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

Excellent



- ✓ 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.)
- ✓ Data is revised and the revision is published if errors are identified
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 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.

✓ The data collection met the objectives of the primary user. The data correctly represents what it was designed to measure, monitor or report.

COHERENCE

Excellent



- ✓ Standard definitions, common concepts, classifications and data recording practices have been used.
- ✓ Elements within the data can be meaningfully compared.
- ✓ 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).
- ✓ 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

Very 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
- ✓ Information is available to explain ambiguous or technical terms used in the data

✗ A data dictionary is available to explain the meaning of data elements, their origin, format and relationships

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 machine-processable, structured form (e.g. CSV format instead of an image scan of a table)

✗ Data is available in a non-proprietary format (e.g. CSV, XML)

✗ Data is described using open standards (e.g. RDF, SPARQL) and persistent identifiers (URIs or DOIs)

✗ 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:

Lake Macquarie City Council

Data Broker email:

council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Data Broker phone:

02 4921 0333

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

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?