

Name of dataset or data source:

Vegetation Formations and Classes of NSW (version 3.03 - 200m Raster) - David A. Keith and Christopher C. Simpson. VIS_ID 3848

Custodian of the dataset or data source:

ED Science (E&H)

Description:

This vegetation map shows the extant distributions of vegetation formations and classes throughout NSW, and provides users with information about the resolution, currency and uncertainties in the underlying data that were used to assemble the map. Data represents NSW native vegetation extent, compiled from various vegetation maps using methods outlined in Simpson et al. (2011) and in Keith and Simpson (2010). The NSW vegetation map (version 2.2, Keith and Simpson 2006) was revised by interpreting additional candidate maps as vector layers and synthesising these into a single raster-based data set. This involved eight steps: developing a comprehensive 'standard' classification of vegetation classes for NSW; collating and standardising the projection and format of candidate source maps; assigning vegetation units of source maps to NSW vegetation classes; assessing the spatial resolution, currency and reliability of candidate source maps; assembling a composite map from candidate source maps to maximise reliability; applying a spatial mask to represent extant native vegetation; adjusting spatial resolution by dissolving small polygons and converting to 200 m raster; attributing the spatial resolution, currency and reliability of the underlying source data sets. The classification of 106 vegetation classes described by Keith (2004) was adopted as the framework for preparation of version 3.03 of the NSW vegetation map. Polygons from the "Estuarine macrophytes CCA" dataset of less than 0.1 ha were eliminated. For all other datasets polygons of less than 2 ha were eliminated. The map incorporates data from a statewide woody vegetation mask from the NSW Woody Vegetation Change Detection Program (Kitchen et al. 2010). The map is presented as a raster within an ESRI ArcGIS (9.3) geodatabase. Supersedes Keith and Simpson (2006), Keith (2004) and Pressey et al. (2000). Pressey et al. (2000) was the native veg extent product used to calculate native veg cover values for the Over-Cleared Landscapes Database prior to July 2006. References: Keith D. A. (2004) Ocean Shores to Desert Dunes: The native vegetation of New South Wales and the ACT. Department of Environment and Conservation, Sydney. Keith, D. A. and Simpson, C. C. (2010) Vegetation Formations of NSW (version 3.0): A seamless map for modelling fire spread and behaviour. Report to the Rural Fire Service. NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change. October 2010. Keith, D. A. and Simpson, C. C. (2006). A protocol for assessment and integration of vegetation maps, with an application to spatial data sets from south-eastern Australia. *Austral Ecology* 33, 761-774. Pressey, R.L., Hager, T.C., Ryan, K.M., Schwarz, J., Wall, S., Ferrier, S. and Creaser, P.M. (2000). Using abiotic data for conservation assessments over extensive regions: quantitative methods applied across New South Wales, Australia. *Biological Conservation* 96, 55-82

Data quality rating:

- ☆Institutional Environment - 3
- ☆Accuracy - 3
- ☆Coherence - 3
- ☆Interpretability - 1
- ☆Accessibility - 1

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT**Good**

- ✓ Does the information have the potential to enhance services or service delivery?
- ✓ 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

- ✗ The data aligns with the Data Quality Framework, including:
 - Legislation
 - Policies
 - Information Asset Governance
 - Standards
 - Data Management Plans
- ✗ 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.)
- ✓ 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**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.
- ✗ 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**Poor**

✓ Information is available about the primary data sources and methods of data collection (e.g. instruments, forms, instructions).

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

✗ 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

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

Poor



✓ 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)

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For more information about this dataset or data source, contact:

NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Data Broker email:

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131555

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?