

Metadata Statement



Metadata_ID: ANZWA1050000123

Department of Agriculture, Western Australia

Data Theme: Pre-European Vegetation Theme

Title: Pre-European Vegetation - Western Australia (NVIS Compliant version)

Custodian: Department of Agriculture Western Australia

Jurisdiction: Western Australia

Abstract: A comprehensive database of the vegetation of the State has been developed. This is a State-wide coverage at the scale of 1:250,000 based on the work of J S Beard, supplemented where necessary to give a uniform standard of mapping detail.

The database includes map linework as design files in a Geographic Information System (GIS), and tabular data about the vegetation in each of the map polygons in ORACLE tables linked through a Data Base Management System (DBMS). There are *c* 30,000 polygons covering 160 1:250,000 map sheets.

Data on the original vegetation of all of Western Australia, with the exception of three map sheets in the south-west corner, were captured from J S Beard's original working drawings, where these were available, or from published maps, all at the scale of 1:250,000. For the three map sheets in the south-west corner, a new data set was compiled in a form consistent with Beard's approach, from existing data (A.J.M. Hopkins, unpublished).

This version updates two previous versions (metadata dates 08/09/2003 and 29/04/2004).

The version corresponding to metadata date 29/04/2004 significantly revised the long-standing previous version. The following revisions of the original were made:

- Rectification of the dataset to topographic features from the State topographic dataset (primarily using the coastline and lakes),
- Correction of dataset attribution of on mapsheet edges,
- Correction of boundaries to some map units,
- Creation of a new Vegetation Systems map (based on 1:250,000 map unit boundaries) that forms a scale hierarchy with the 1:250,000 scale map units and IBRA (Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia, Thackway & Cresswell eds. 1995) regions and sub-regions.

The result of this process was a dataset that is more spatially accurate than the original and allows the integration of more detailed attribute data. Attribute data have been compiled in accordance with the Australian Vegetation Attributes (Version 6.0) making the attributes compliant with the National Vegetation Information System (NVIS).

The current version is merged on the attribute SYSTEM_ASSOCIATION and includes further spatial corrections – principally to remove slivers and unattributed gaps. These were processed to an accuracy of 1millimetre.

Search Words(s): Vegetation type, National Vegetation Information System (NVIS), Western Australia

Geographic Extent: Western Australia

Beginning Date: 1986

Ending Date: February 2005

Progress: Completed

Update Frequency: Non-planned

Stored Data Formats: Geomedia Access data warehouse and Arc View Shape files

Available Data Formats: Geomedia data warehouse and Arc View Shape files

Access Constraint: License on request

Lineage: Pre-European vegetation mapping is based on the project by A.J.M. Hopkins, G.R. Beeston, J.M. Harvey (2000). A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. Unpublished. The major sources of data in this database are the published and unpublished mapping of J.S. Beard at 1:250,000 scale. Mapping of the south - west corner was compiled by A.J.M. Hopkins from various sources. The current version includes some sliver polygons.

Positional Accuracy: Original mapping was done on controlled aerial photo-mosaics scale 1:63:360 for the south-west and 1:100,000 (some of which were uncontrolled photo-indexes) for the remainder of the State. This was photo-reduced to a scale of 1:250,000 in the south-west and 1:1:000,000 for the rest of the State for compilation. The original photo reduced maps on acetate sheets were digitised using Microstation and attributed in the Modular GIS Environment (MGE) at the Department of Agriculture. The dataset has subsequently been transferred to Geomedia Access Data warehouse and ORACLE Spatial data formats.

Attribute Accuracy: Original mapping was carried out by plotting interpretations from field traverses onto the aerial photo-mosaics. Coded map polygon attribution from the original photo-reduced acetate plots was captured in the CAD and GIS environments described above. The current version of the dataset includes correction of original mapping errors and attribute capture errors.

Logical Consistency: The dataset has been checked for errors and edge-matched where possible. Some edge matching issues remain, but these are of a botanical nature and cannot be resolved without re-mapping.

Contact Organisation: Client and Resource Information, Department of Agriculture W.A.

Contact Person: Damian Shepherd

Mail Address: 3 Baron-Hay Ct Rd

Locality : South Perth

State: Western Australia

Country: Australia

Postcode: 6983

Telephone: (08) 9368 3853

Facsimile: (08) 9368 3939

Email Address: dshepherd@agric.wa.gov.au

Metadata Date: 14 February 2005