Title Assessment of River-Flat Eucalypt forest on Coastal floodplains TEC on NSW Crown Forest Estate

Alternative title(s)

River-Flat Eucalypt Forest: Survey, Classification and Mapping Completed for the NSW Environment Protection Authority

Abstract

The operational map for River-flat Eucalypt Forest (RFEF) was constructed to resolve long-standing issues surrounding its identification, location and extent within the NSW State Forest estate covered by the coastal Integrated Forestry Operation Agreements. The map was constructed in two parts, with State Forests to the north of Sydney being mapped in a separate process to those to the south of Sydney. We did this to minimise the risk that relationships between regional vegetation communities and the TEC would be confounded or masked by geographical variation or other major ecological gradients, which might otherwise be a significant risk if we had treated the full latitudinal range of the TEC as a single study area. In total, we assessed 1,218,000 hectares of State Forest across coastal NSW. This consisted of 868,000 hectares of State Forest on the north coast and more than 350,000 hectares of State Forest on the south coast. In both study areas, the project's Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) Reference Panel (the Panel) preceded the assessment process by reviewing the determination for RFEF and agreeing upon a set of diagnostic parameters for its identification. The Panel found that RFEF is primarily defined by floristic plot data and that it is mostly located on coastal floodplains and associated alluvial landforms. Following on from these conclusions, we started the mapping process by mapping the distribution of floodplains and alluvial soils and thus identifying possible areas of RFEF. For both the north and the south coast we used an existing map of coastal landforms and geology in combination with several fine-scale models of alluvial landform features to determine the likely extent of floodplains and alluvial soils within our study areas. We used aerial photograph interpretation (API) to assess the floristic and structural attributes of the vegetation cover found on our modelled alluvial environments, and thus delineated polygons likely to contain RFEF. We also used API to modify the boundaries of the modelled alluvial areas using a prescribed list of eucalypt, casuarina and melaleuca species in combination with the interpretation of landform elements relevant to alluvial and floodplain environments. We then compiled floristic plot data for all State Forest areas within our modelled alluvial landforms and API polygons. For both the north and the south coast the floristic plot data was sourced from both existing flora surveys held in the OEH VIS database and from targeted flora surveys conducted specifically for this project. We compared these plots with those previously assigned to flora communities listed in the determination of RFEF. Both dissimilaritybased methods and multivariate regression methods were used for the comparison. The results of the comparison were then used to assess the likelihood that the plots in State forests belonged to one or more of the communities listed in the RFEF determination. Following this, we developed a predictive statistical model of the probability of occurrence of RFEF using plot data and a selection of environmental and remote-sensing variables. For the north coast, we used a Random Forest model, while for the south coast we used a Boosted Regression Tree model. To create the operational map, we assigned every mapped API polygon to RFEF if appropriate based on the plot data, over-storey and understorey attributes, landform features and modelled probabilities underlying each API polygon. We mapped 3819 hectares of RFEF on the south coast and 198 hectares of RFEF on the north coast.

Operational TEC Mapping have been derived by API at a viewing scale between 1-4000 using ADS40 50 cm pixel imagery and 1 m derived LIDAR DEM grids for floodplain EECs.

Resource locator

Data Quality Statement Name: Data Quality Statement

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

NSW Government standards direct that data should be made available with a statement regarding its quality, a so-called "Data Quality statement (DQS)", to enable potential users to determine whether the data is suitable for their requirements.

Function: download

Assessment of River-Flat Eucalypt forest on Coastal floodplains

TEC on NSW

Name: Assessment of River-Flat Eucalypt forest on Coastal floodplains TEC on NSW

Crown Forest Estate

Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download

Description:

<u>Crown Forest</u> Report on the Assessment of River-Flat Eucalypt forest on Coastal floodplains TEC on **NSW Crown Forest Estate Estate** Function: download Name: Operational Map for River-Flat Eucalypt Forest Threatened Ecological **Operational** Community on NSW Crown Forest Estate Map for River-Flat Eucalypt Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download Forest **Threatened** Description: **Ecological** Shapefile - Operational map for the Assessment of River-Flat Eucalypt forest on Coastal Community on floodplains TEC on NSW Crown Forest Estate **NSW Crown Forest Estate** Function: download Name: Operational and Indicative Maps for the Assessment of Threatened Ecological Operational Communities on NSW Crown Forest Estate and Indicative Maps for the Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download Assessment of Description: **Threatened Ecological** ESRI ArcGIS Layer File - Operational and Indicative Maps for the Assessment of Communities Threatened Ecological Communities on NSW Crown Forest Estate on NSW Crown Forest Estate Function: download Name: Native Forestry Map Viewer **Native Forestry** Map Viewer Protocol: WWW:DOWNLOAD-1.0-http--download Description: The EPA Native Forestry Map Viewer enables users to view our Koala and Threatened Ecological Community mapping without the need to access a GIS system. The map viewer allows users to perform searches to locate areas of interest and export resulting map views into various image file formats. Function: download Unique resource identifier a99d3783-f2ac-4c8e-b805-babc6ca02b84 Code Presentation Map digital form Edition Version 1 Dataset **English** language Metadata standard Name ISO 19115 Edition 2016 **Dataset URI** https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/a99d3783-f2ac-4c8e-b805-babc6ca02b84 Purpose Native Forestry Regulation on State Forests Completed Status Spatial representation Type vector Geometric

curve

Object Type		
Spatial referer	ce system	
Code identifying the spatial reference system	4283	
Equivalent scale	1:None	
Topic category		

Keyword set			
keyword value	Threatened Ecological Community		
	Endangered Ecological Community		
	Vegetation		
	State Forest		
	River-Flat Eucalypt Forest		
	EEC		
	TEC		
	Environment Protection Authority EPA		
Originating controlled vocabulary	EPA		
Title	ANZLIC Search Words		
Reference date	2008-05-16		
	2008-03-10		
Geographic location			
West bounding longitude	149.50438		
East bounding longitude	150.77762		
North bounding latitude	-37.41703		
South bounding latitude	-32.74726		
Vertical extent information			
Minimum value	-100		
Maximum value	2228		
Coordinate reference system			
Authority code	urn:ogc:def:cs:EPSG::		
Code identifying the coordinate reference system	5711		
Temporal extent			
Begin position	2016-10-01		
End position	N/A		
Dataset reference date			
Resource maintenance			
Maintenance and update frequency	Irregular		
Contact info			
Contact position	Data Broker		
Organisation name	Environment Protection Authority (EPA)		
Responsible party role	pointOfContact		

Lineage

Linework has been derived from manual interpretation of stereoscopic 3D ADS-40 imagery collected at a 50cm resolution. Date of photography varies across eastern NSW between 2009-2015. Interpretation has collected a range of floristic attributes including canopy species dominance, understorey attributes and assessment of landscape characteristics. Lines have been interpreted using a viewing scale between 1:2000- 1: 5000. Interpretation has been supported by field traverse (except bogs and saltmarsh), and existing field based observation data held by OEH. Final linework was assembled using combinations of aerial photo patterns, predictive TEC models, systematic plot data and where relevant fine scale topographic data derived from 1 metre resolution digital elevation model.

Limitations on public access

Scope dataset

DQ Conceptual Consistency

Explanation Standard API mapping pathways have been established for mappers to apply consistent

interpretation of vegetation features including, size criteria and polygon attribution.

DQ Topological Consistency

Explanation Not assessed

DQ Absolute External Positional Accuracy

Explanation Positional accuracy for operational maps has been measured using independent

assessment of interpreted lines as a mean of 8.5 metres. Other influence on positional accuracy include the accuracy of field based GPS records currently tested at a mean of 9.2 metres. Some error with interpreted line from 2D to 3D environment can result in a

positional shift of up to 10 metres.

DQ Non Quantitative Attribute Correctness

Explanation Attribution is consistent.

Responsible party

Contact position Data Broker

Organisation name Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Responsible party role pointOfContact

Metadata point of contact

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Responsible party role pointOfContact

Metadata date 2024-02-26T15:26:19.590936

Metadata language