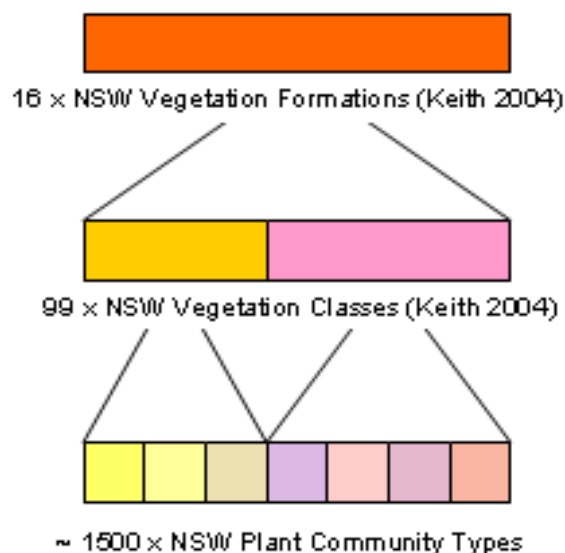


NSW Foundation Spatial Data Framework:

Land Cover Theme

Dataset/product title: Plant Community Type Classification



Native Vegetation of NSW: classification hierarchy © Office of Environment and Heritage 2015

Dataset/product description	<p>The NSW Vegetation Information System (VIS) is being established to provide the NSW Government, its clients and community with a central authoritative repository for native vegetation data.</p> <p>The NSW VIS Plant Community Type Classification (VIS Classification Database) establishes a NSW Master Plant Community Type as focal point for both vegetation type mapping and regulatory assessment processes. The VIS Classification database stores a broad range of data related to the individual Plant Community Types (PCTs), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the NSW Master Plant Community Type Classification, including approximately 1,500 plant community types identified across NSW• scientific descriptions, and ecological and conservation profiles, of each plant community type; and• related regulatory data including: Over-cleared BioMetric Vegetation Types, BioMetric Condition Benchmarks and Over-cleared BioMetric Landscapes.• <p>The NSW VIS Classification Database does not store spatial information or flora survey information for the plant community types.</p>
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Dataset uses	<p>The NSW Vegetation Information System (VIS) provides the NSW Government, its clients and the community with a central authoritative repository for native vegetation data.</p> <p>The VIS Classification provides plant community type information suited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • state government agencies identifying key habitats and communities for conservation • the Rural Fire Service for fire management • catchment management authorities (CMAs) for monitoring the effectiveness of their land-use planning • local councils requiring information about vegetation to protect local stands of high conservation value, and inform decisions about development • contractors and non-government agencies identifying important habitats • general public and land owners seeking information about plant communities of interest.
Current status	The Plant Community Type classification is now maintained as version 2 of the VIS Classification database. Improving the data in the VIS Classification database is ongoing.
Standards and specifications	Modifications or improvements to the NSW Plant Community Type classification are regulated by the Plant Community Type Change Control Panel in accordance with the Plant Community Type Operational Standard.
Access and licensing	For access and licencing please contact: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
Metadata	Not applicable
Updates	<p>All changes to the PCT classification are evidence based, and moderated by the Plant Community Type Change Control Panel chaired by the NSW Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust. Updating data in the VIS Classification is an on-going process, and a series of classification projects are planned to upgrade the PCT classification on the NSW east coast.</p> <p>BioMetric vegetation types and BioMetric condition benchmarks also maintained in the VIS Classification database and exported periodically for upload to the regulatory tools.</p>

Custodian agency and contact	Office of Environment and Heritage Head Office PO Box A290 Sydney South NSW 1232 Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
Aggregator(s)	Office of Environment and Heritage Head Office PO Box A290 Sydney South NSW 1232 Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
Distributor(s)	Office of Environment and Heritage Head Office PO Box A290 Sydney South NSW 1232 Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
Additional Comments	<p>The NSW Vegetation Information System (VIS) is made up of a number of separate components arranged under three topics. Explore these links for more detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VIS Classification • VIS Flora Survey • VIS Maps <p>The NSW plant community type (PCT) classification now maintained in the VIS Classification database was developed in 2011 to establish an unambiguous master community-level classification for use in vegetation mapping programs, BioMetric-based regulatory decisions, and as a standard typology for other planning and data gathering programs.</p> <p>The PCT classification consolidates two existing community-level classifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSW Vegetation Classification and Assessment database (Benson 2006 and 2008) developed by the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, provides a list and detailed descriptions for plant communities in western and central-western NSW. • The Biometric Vegetation Types database (part of Environmental Outcomes Assessment Methodology) includes a list and abbreviated descriptions for plant communities across NSW. This data is used in NSW regulatory processes including property vegetation planning and BioBanking.