

Mapping Vegetation Condition in the Context of Biodiversity Conservation Workshop: Draft Program

August 23rd & 24th, 2005
CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems
Canberra

Workshop Objectives

The aim of this workshop is to bring together researchers and managers who are advancing the use of vegetation condition mapping in the context of biodiversity conservation. The workshop will provide a forum for the presentation of innovative science and the discussion of key challenges confronting researchers and natural resource management agencies. The workshop has the following broad objectives:

- To examine how mapping vegetation condition can contribute to improved management of biodiversity
- To identify operationally feasible methods for mapping vegetation condition at different scales
- Identify emerging technologies with a potential to contribute to the mapping of vegetation condition
- To provide an overview of the conceptual approaches to vegetation condition

In addition to exposing researchers to new methods and providing networking opportunities, an outcome of the workshop will be the identification of research and management needs.

Structure, Dates and Locations

The workshop will consist of a combination of formal invited presentations followed by a generous amount of time for discussion and problem solving. The meeting has been scheduled for August 23rd & 24th (inclusive) and will be held at CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems in Canberra. The workshop will run over 2 days concluding at 3.00 pm on day two. The meeting is divided broadly into 1.5-hour sessions consisting of 20-minute presentations followed by facilitated discussions. Participants are expected to find their own way to Canberra and fund their accommodation expenses. The workshop sponsors will cover the cost of the venue, catering and workshop dinner.

Key Contacts

Workshop logistics will be coordinated by Jackie Collinson (jackie.collinson@csiro.au). Jackie can provide travel, accommodation and other logistical advice for workshop participants. The workshop organising committee consist of Phil Gibbons (phil.gibbons@csiro.au), Simon Jones (simon.jones@rmit.edu.au), Peter Lyon (peter.lyon@deh.gov.au) and Andre Zerger (andre.zerger@csiro.au).

Sponsorship

This science meeting is sponsored by the following organisations:



Department of
Environment and Conservation (NSW)



Australian Government

	Time	Description	Presenters
	10.00 – 10.45	Session 1 - Overview & Introduction Introduction and outline of workshop. 1. Defining vegetation condition in the context of biodiversity conservation (Gibbons)	Gibbons (DEC NSW) & Freudenberger (CSIRO SE)
Day 1	10.45 – 12.30 Session Chair: Sue McIntyre	Session 2 – Vegetation Condition Mapping – Management Perspectives Why do we need to map vegetation condition? Background papers examining the significance of vegetation condition assessment at multiple scales (15 minutes each with 45 minutes panel discussion) 1. Vegetation condition mapping and catchment management: a North Central Victorian experience (Higgins) 2. What's driving vegetation condition assessment and monitoring in Queensland (Neldner) 3. Evolution of vegetation condition assessment in Tasmania: A quest for expedient and relevant methods (Quinn) 4. What's driving vegetation condition assessment for investors? (Parkes and Lyon)	Regional (Ian Higgins - North Central CMA, Victoria) State (John Neldner-Qld. Herbarium) State (Liz Quinn – Tasmania DPIWE) National - ESCAVI (David Parkes – DSE VIC, & Peter Lyon - AG DEH)
	12.30 – 1.30	Lunch	
	1.30 – 3.15 Session Chair: David Keith	Session 3 – Mapping Vegetation Condition at National and State Scale 1. Vegetation Assets, States, and Transitions (VAST) (Thackway) 2. Developing spatial models of vegetation condition across Victoria (Newell) 3. Vegetation monitoring from time series Landsat imagery (Wallace)	Richard Thackway (BRS) Graeme Newell (DSE Victoria) Jeremy Wallace (CSIRO)
	3.15 – 3.45	Afternoon Tea	
	3.45 – 4.45 Session Chair: Teresa Eyre	Session 4 – Mapping Vegetation Condition at Regional Scales 1. Modelling future condition - some methods and uses (Drielsma) 2. Remote sensing for mapping vegetation condition attributes (Jones)	Michael Drielsma (NSW DEC) Simon Jones (RMIT University)
	7.30 PM	Workshop Dinner – AXIS Restaurant, National Museum of Australia.	

	Time	Description	Presenters
Day 2	9.00 – 10.30 Session Chair: Ross Peacock	Session 5 – Mapping Vegetation Condition at Regional Scales 1. Integrating predictive modelling and RS for mapping vegetation condition (Zerger & Gibbons et al) 2. An assessment of forest structure and condition from satellite remote sensing (Culvenor)	Andre Zerger et al. (CSIRO SE) Darius Culvenor (CSIRO Forestry)
	10.30 – 11.00	Morning Tea	
	11.00– 12.15 Session Chair: Kim Ritman	Session 6 - Mapping Vegetation Condition at Local Scales 1. Problems and prospects for mapping canopy condition of native forests (Stone) 2. Problems and prospects for mapping vegetation condition in the arid rangelands (Bastin)	Christine Stone (State Forests NSW) Gary Bastin (CSIRO)
	12.15 – 1.15	Lunch	
	1.15 – 1.45 Session Chair: Mike Austin	Session 7 – Integration Case Study 1. Integrating vegetation condition mapping into regional conservation assessment and planning (Ferrier)	Simon Ferrier (NSW DEC)
	1.45 – 3.00	Session 8 – Workshop Summary and Conclusions Facilitated discussion examining workshop outcomes and identifying research and management needs	David Freudenberger (CSIRO SE)