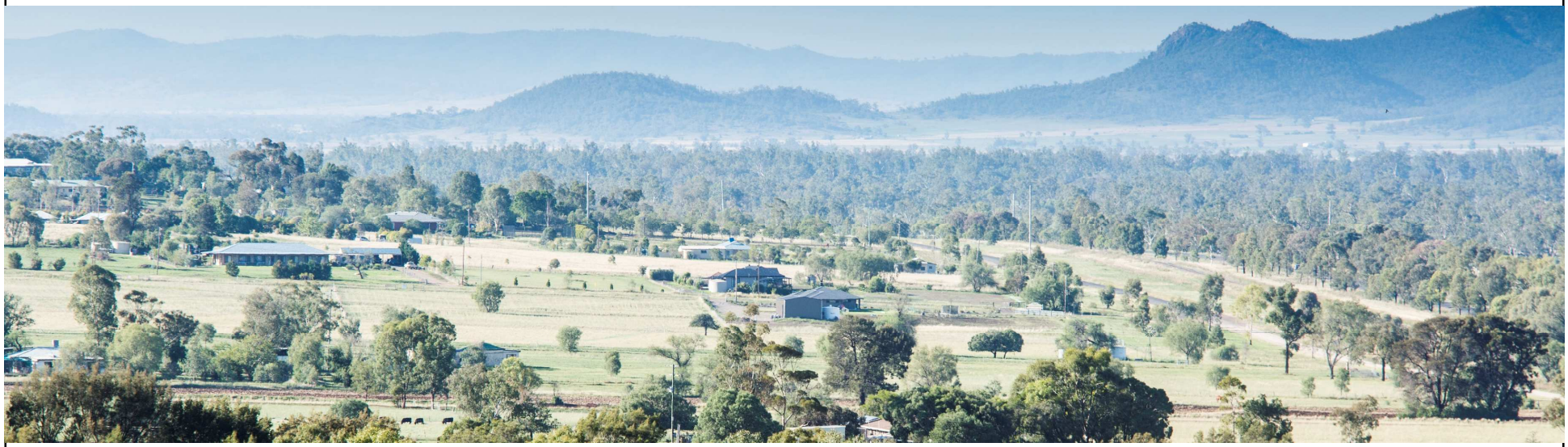
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT

BAM Support for Accredited Assessors

A series of webinars to support the role of accredited BAM assessors in the Biodiversity Offset scheme (BOS)



For more information, go to the BAM Support Webinar webpage or contact us via the BOS Online Enquiry Form

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

BAM SUPPORT WEBINAR 6

Eastern NSW revised PCT classification update and tools to assist with PCT identification

Elizabeth Magarey
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Remote Sensing and Landscape Science Branch
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Thursday 5th December 2019
12:00pm - 1:00pm

For more information, go to the BAM Support Webinar webpage or contact us via the BOS Online Enquiry Form

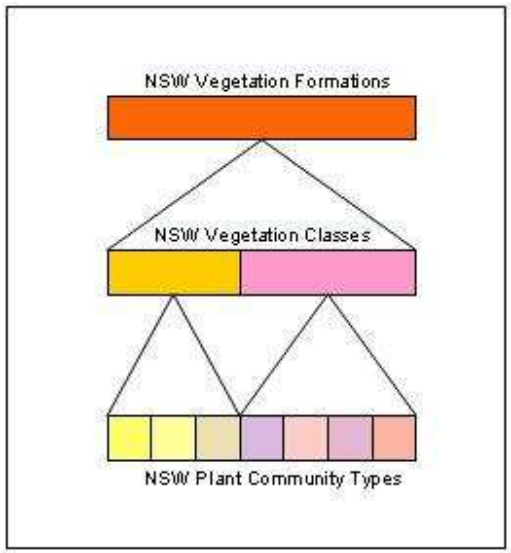
Overview

TIME	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
12:00	Introduction	Acknowledgment of Country Introduction and house keeping	10 mins
12:10	Content Presentation	• Update on the Eastern NSW revised PCT classification • Update on tools to assist with PCT identification	25 mins
12:35	Q&A session	Presenter and SME panel address participants' questions	20 mins
12:55	Wrap-up and Close	Closing remarks Upcoming sessions Post-webinar feedback	5 mins

- Rationale for revision of the eastern NSW Plant Community Types (PCTs)
- Approach taken to derive the PCT classification
- Progress to date
- New tools to assist with identification of PCTs

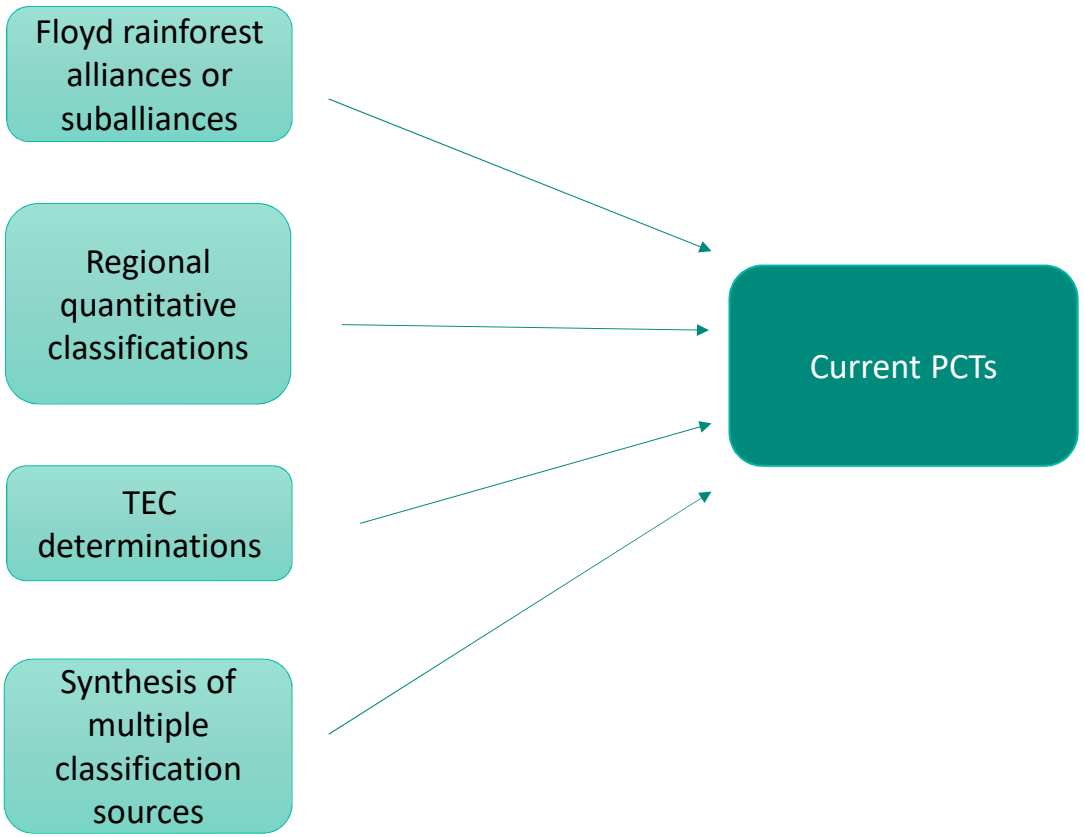
NSW Vegetation Classification Hierarchy

- Vegetation Formation
- Vegetation Class
- Plant Community Type (PCT)



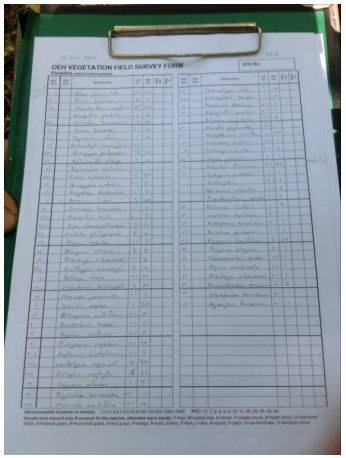
Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Current PCTs in the BAM tool



- Differences in scale
- Overlap between PCTs
- Lack of transparency to original source
- Gaps in data coverage

Rationale Approach



Count the total number of species that match the list?

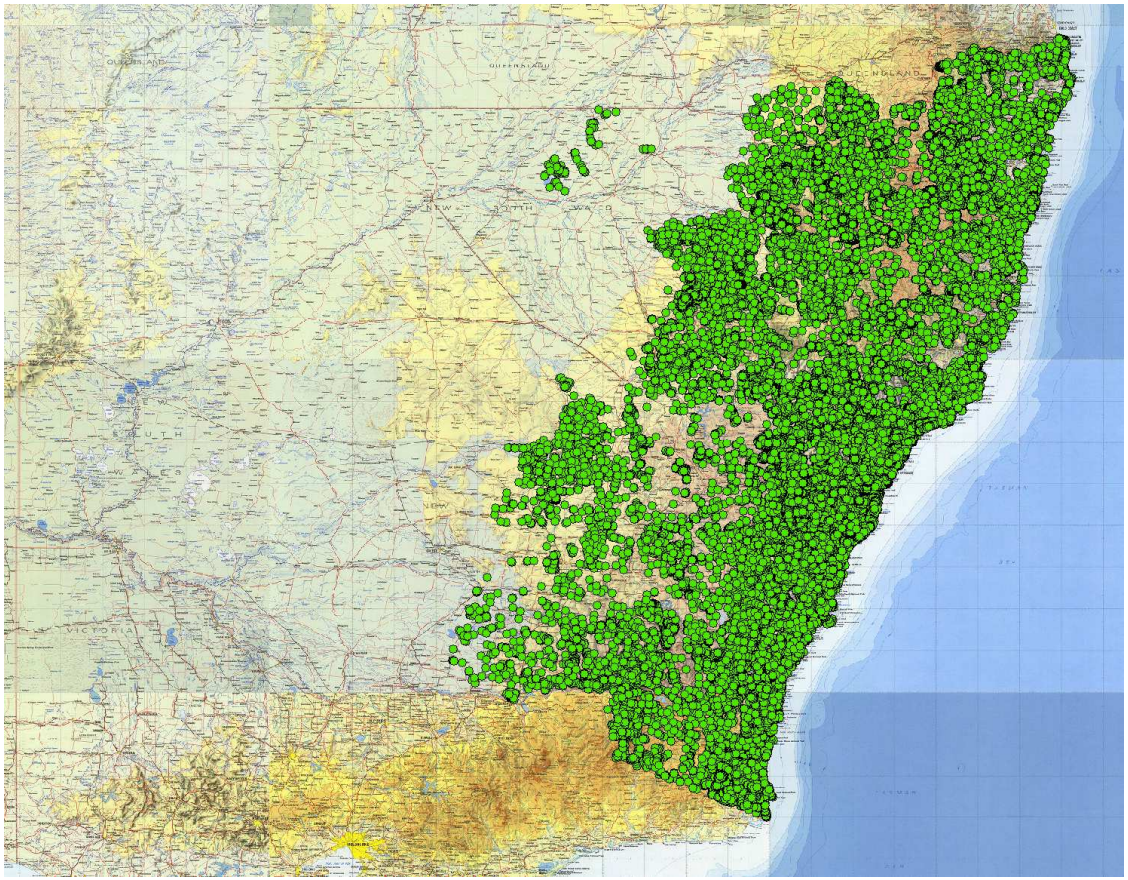
Match the dominant species in each stratum only?

Use the data from the PCT source?

Phone a friend?

Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

- Over 50 000 plots in eastern NSW and the western slopes have full floristic data with cover-abundance
- Targeted program to fill data gaps
- Numerical classification, built by K-means non-hierarchical clustering of plot data

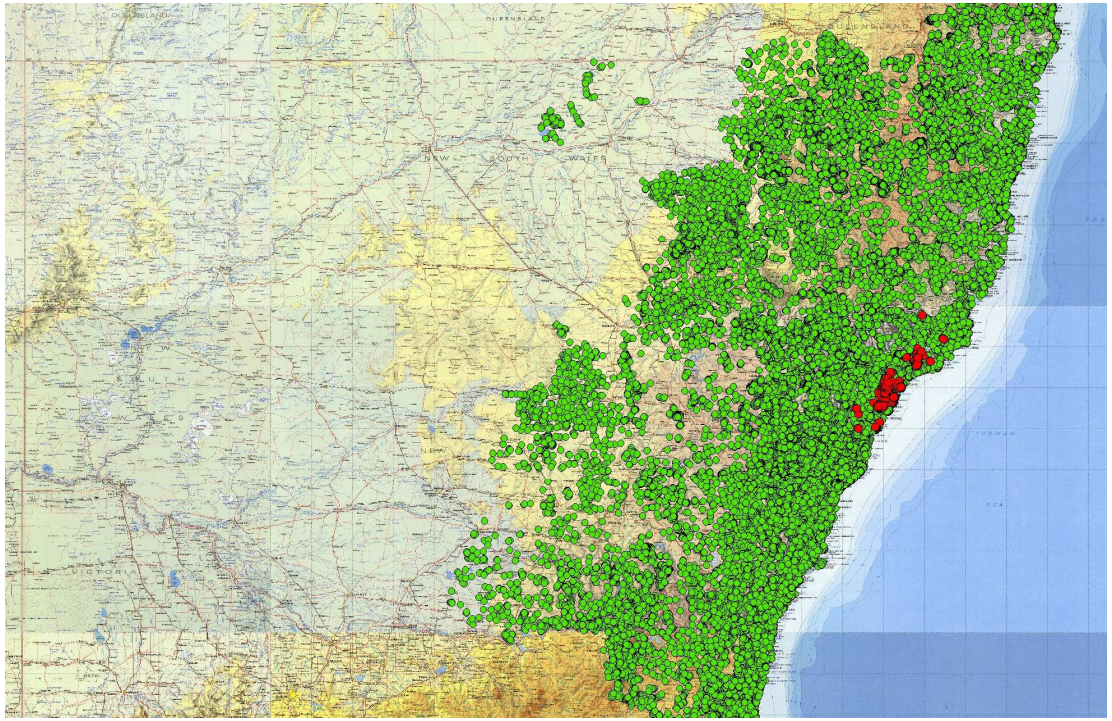


Quantitative PCTs

- Each PCT is represented by a unique and explicit group of standard samples (plots) which are spatially referenced
- The set of component plots for each PCT are stored and labelled within the BioNet Atlas database
- Environmental data has been used to help evaluate and classify the PCTs
- All PCT summary data is derived from the component plots
- There are traceable relationships to legacy classifications
- New standard plots can be assessed using the same classification algorithms

Where are we up to?

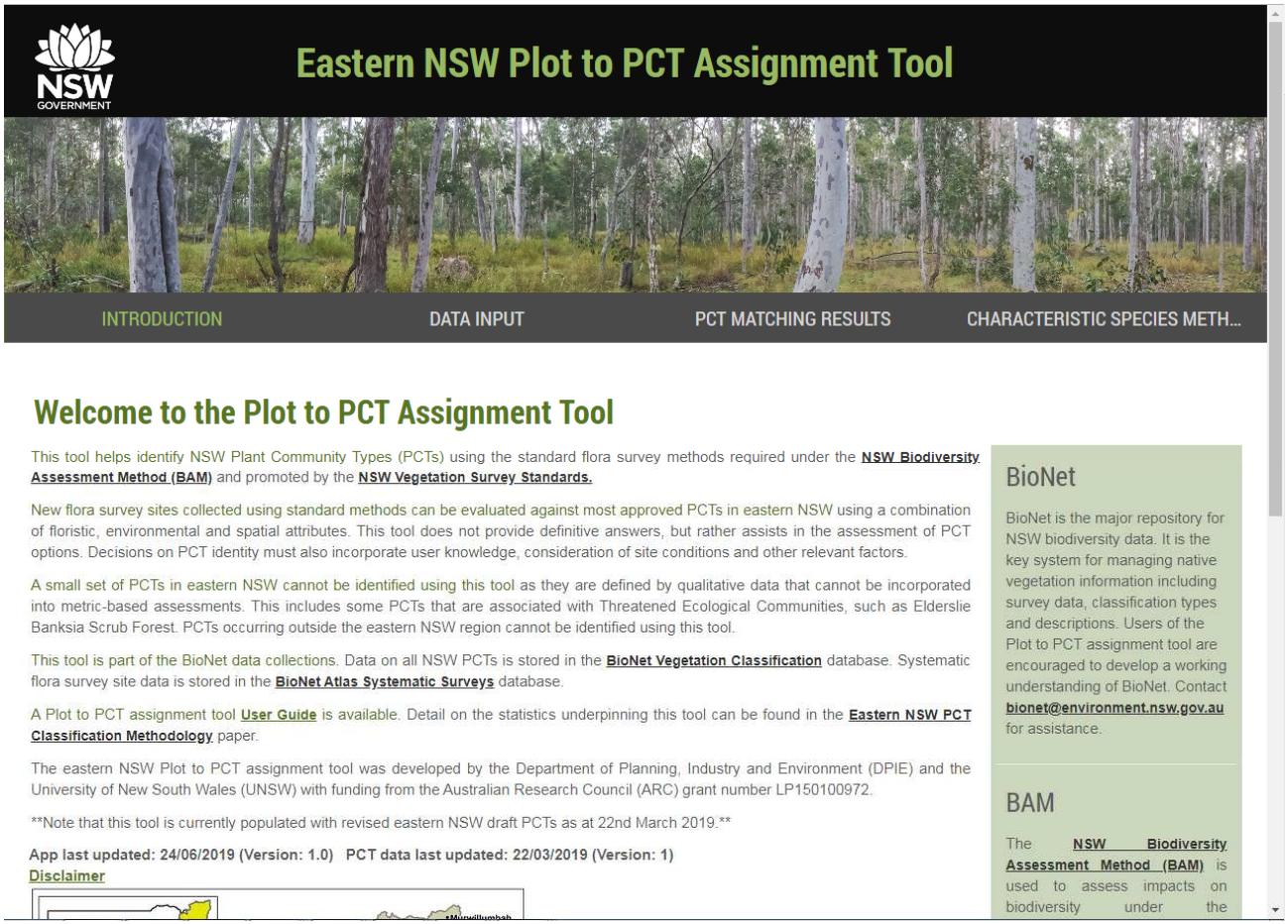
- 1107 new quantitative PCTs drafted for eastern NSW, from classification of 40 952 plots
- Vegetation descriptions for each PCT are being written
- BioNet modifications underway to enable housing of quantitative PCT data
- PCT summary data derived from plot data



Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

New online tool designed to assess new sites that are collected using BAM survey standards

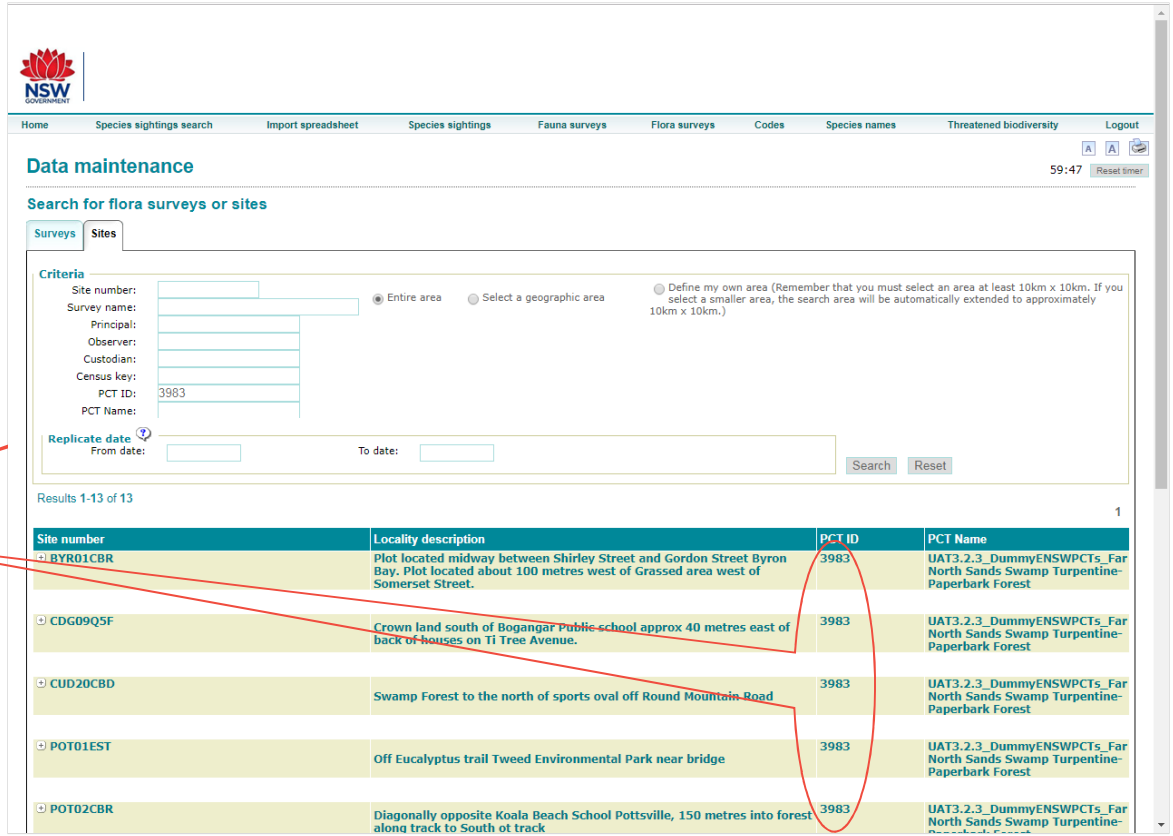
Tool developed by DPIE and UNSW



Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Changes to BioNet Atlas Flora Surveys database

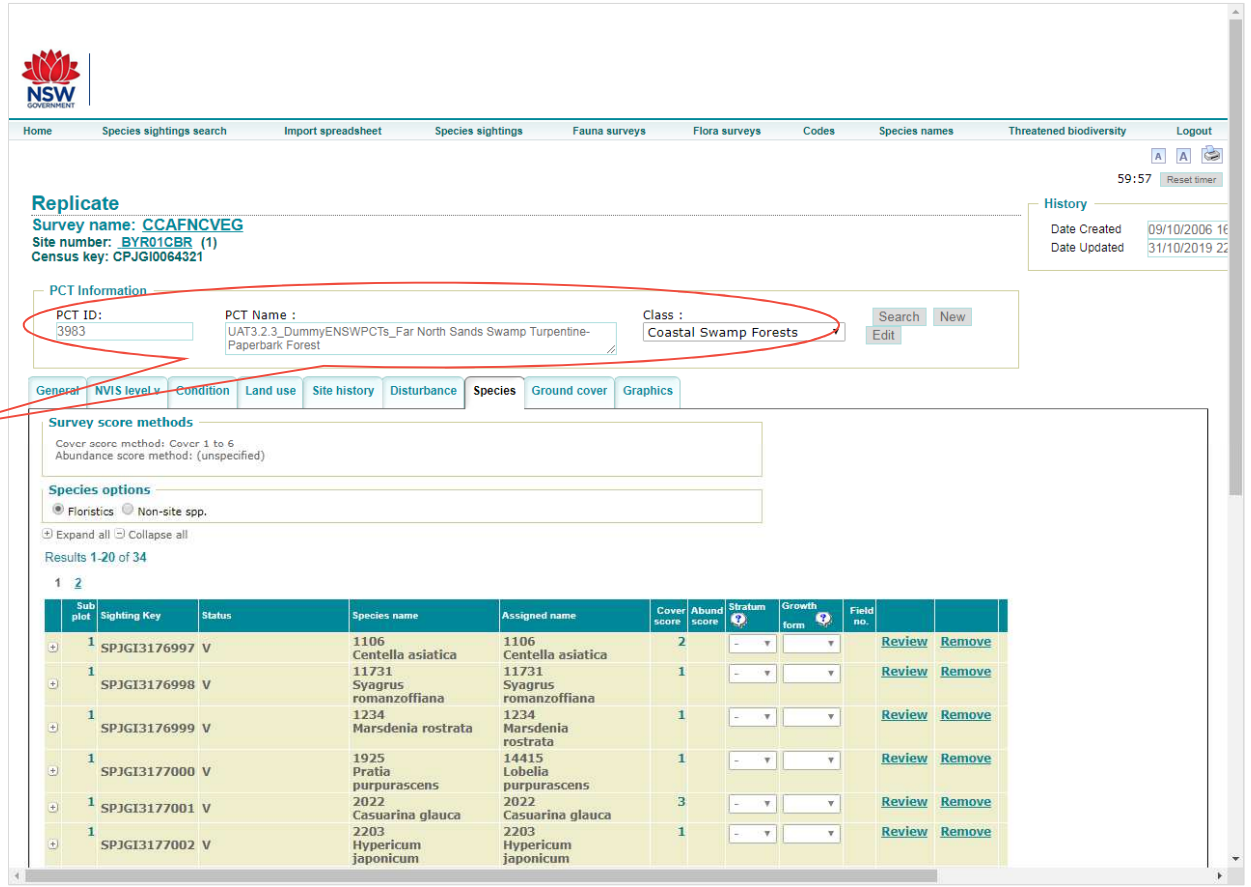
Search for a PCTID to see all sites assigned to the PCT



Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

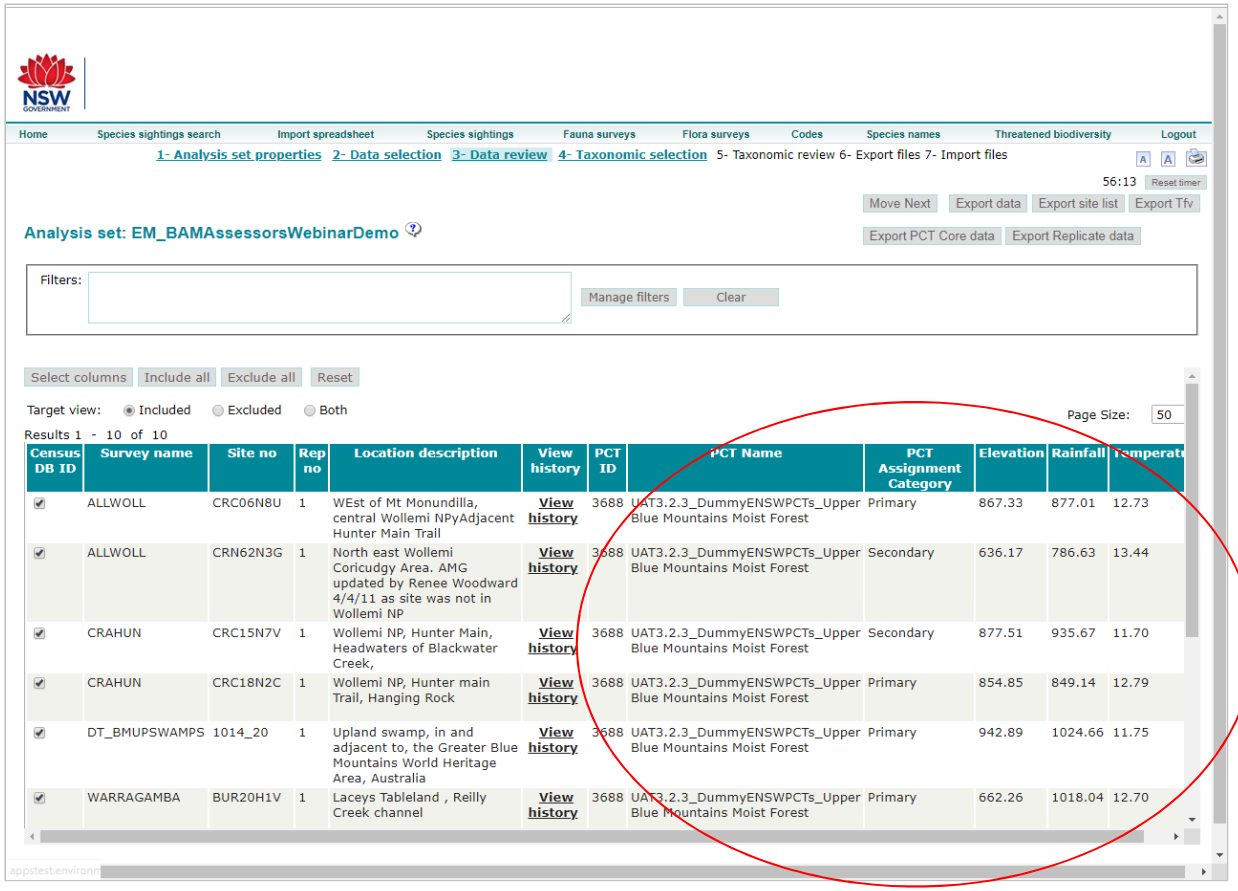
Changes to BioNet Atlas Flora Surveys database

Within a site view the PCT details



Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Changes to BioNet Atlas Flora Surveys database



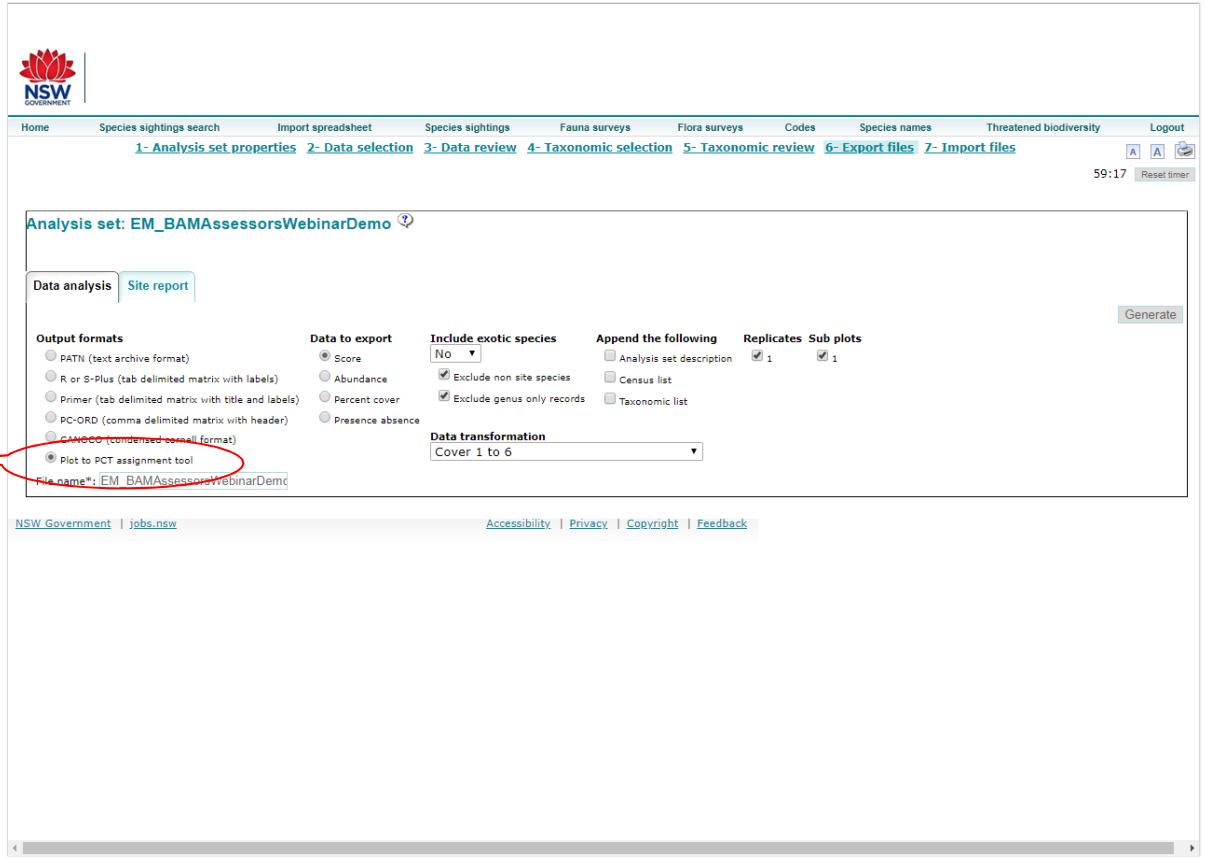
Census DB ID	Survey name	Site no	Rep no	Location description	View history	PCT ID	PCT Name	PCT Assignment Category	Elevation	Rainfall	Temperat
☑	ALLWOLL	CRC06N8U	1	WEst of Mt Monundilla, central Wollemi NPyAdjacent Hunter Main Trail	View history	3688	UAT3.2.3_DummyENSWPCTs_Upper Blue Mountains Moist Forest	Primary	867.33	877.01	12.73
☑	ALLWOLL	CRN62N3G	1	North east Wollemi Coricudgy Area. AMG updated by Renee Woodward 4/4/11 as site was not in Wollemi NP	View history	3688	UAT3.2.3_DummyENSWPCTs_Upper Blue Mountains Moist Forest	Secondary	636.17	786.63	13.44
☑	CRAHUN	CRC15N7V	1	Wollemi NP, Hunter Main, Headwaters of Blackwater Creek,	View history	3688	UAT3.2.3_DummyENSWPCTs_Upper Blue Mountains Moist Forest	Secondary	877.51	935.67	11.70
☑	CRAHUN	CRC18N2C	1	Wollemi NP, Hunter main Trail, Hanging Rock	View history	3688	UAT3.2.3_DummyENSWPCTs_Upper Blue Mountains Moist Forest	Primary	854.85	849.14	12.79
☑	DT_BMUPSWAMPS	1014_20	1	Upland swamp, in and adjacent to, the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, Australia	View history	3688	UAT3.2.3_DummyENSWPCTs_Upper Blue Mountains Moist Forest	Primary	942.89	1024.66	11.75
☑	WARRAGAMBA	BUR20H1V	1	Laceys Tableland , Reilly Creek channel	View history	3688	UAT3.2.3_DummyENSWPCTs_Upper Blue Mountains Moist Forest	Primary	662.26	1018.04	12.70

View PCT details and environmental variables in site attributes

Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

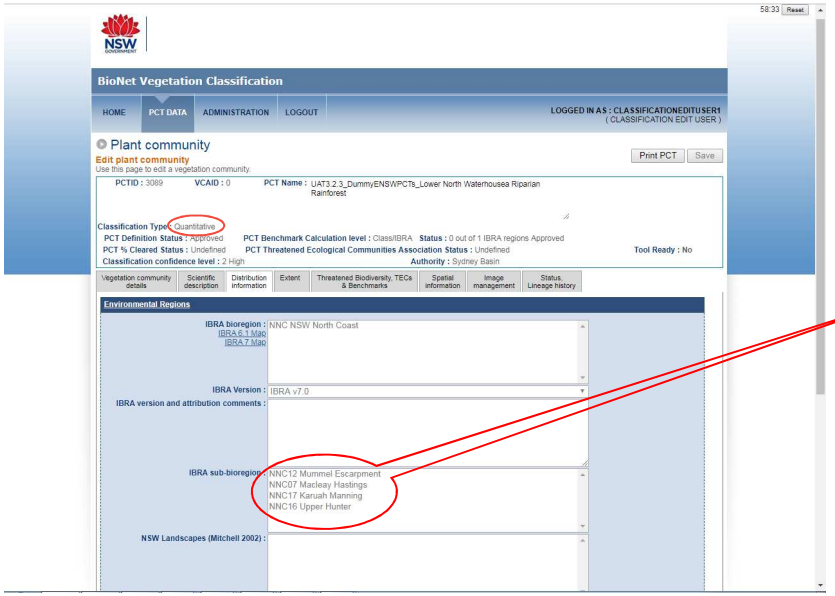
Changes to BioNet Atlas Flora Surveys database

Export site data in a format ready for direct import into the new 'Plot to PCT' online identification tool

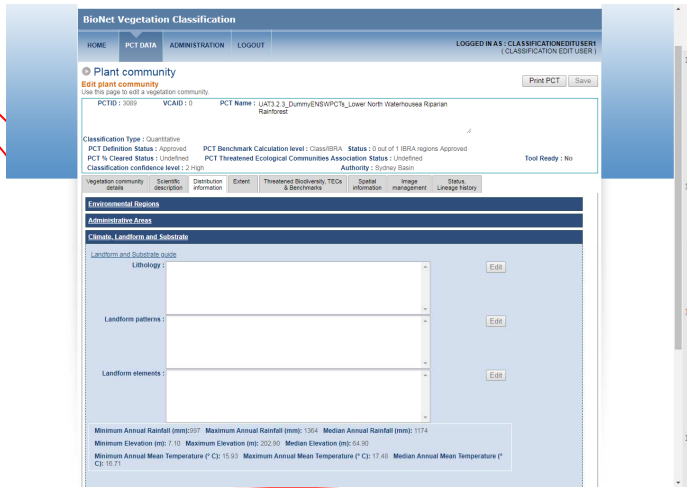


Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Changes to BioNet Vegetation Classification database



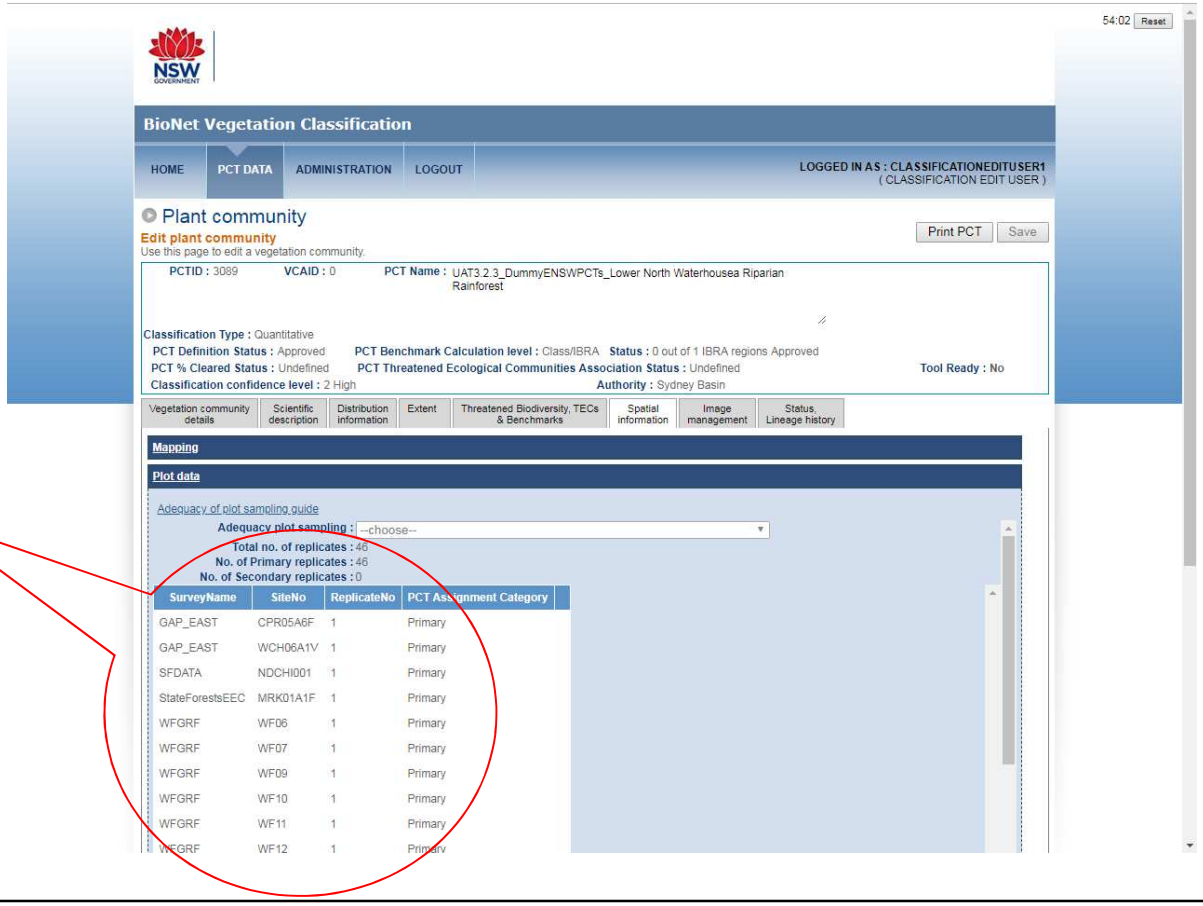
Spatial and environmental summary data derived from plot locations



Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Changes to BioNet Vegetation Classification database

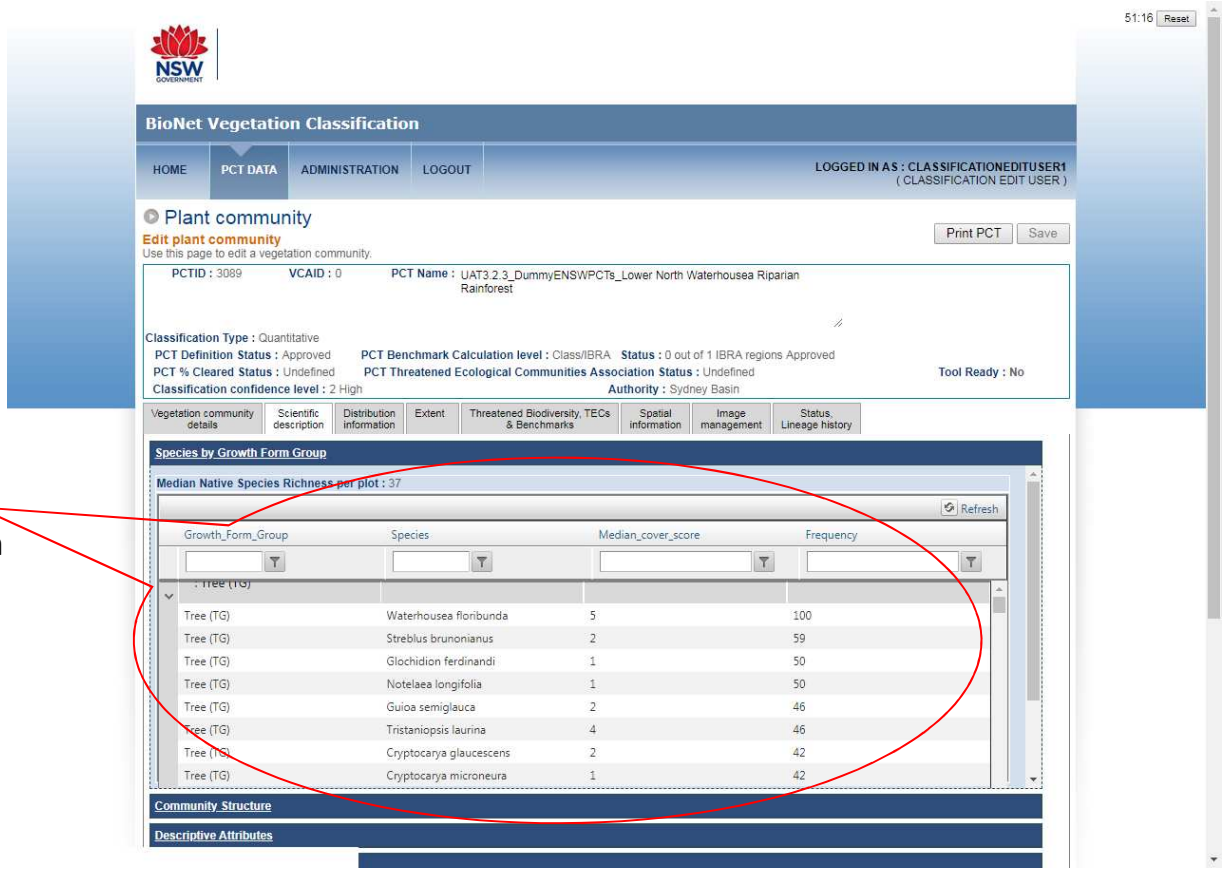
Component plots listed within the PCT information tabs



Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

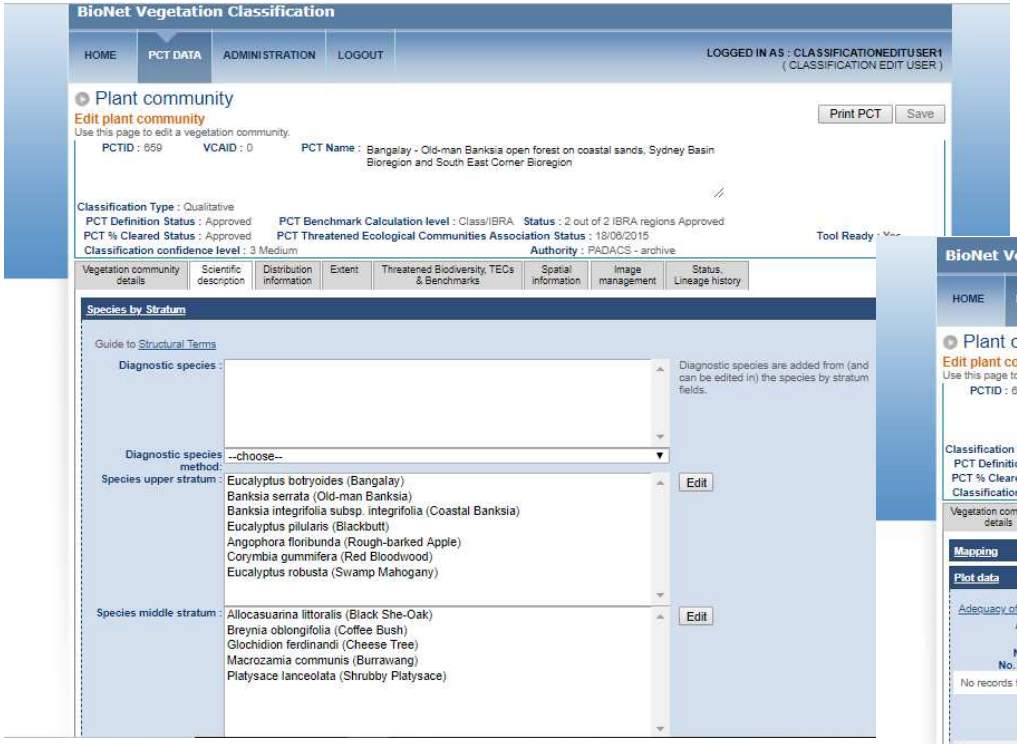
Changes to BioNet Vegetation Classification database

Species list derived from plot data, listed by Growth Form Group and with frequency and median cover score

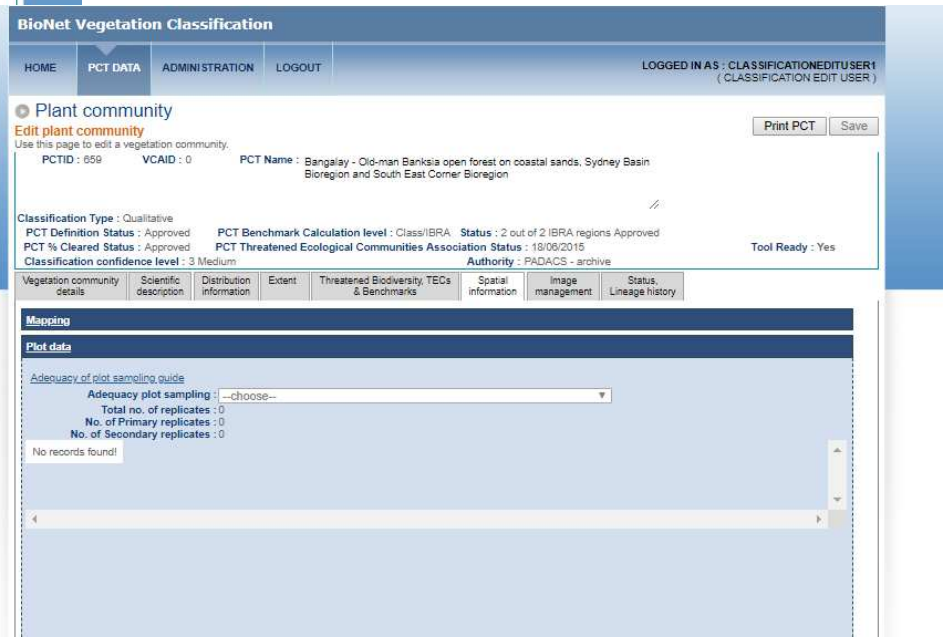


Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Coastal Sand Bangalay Forest as an example of the change

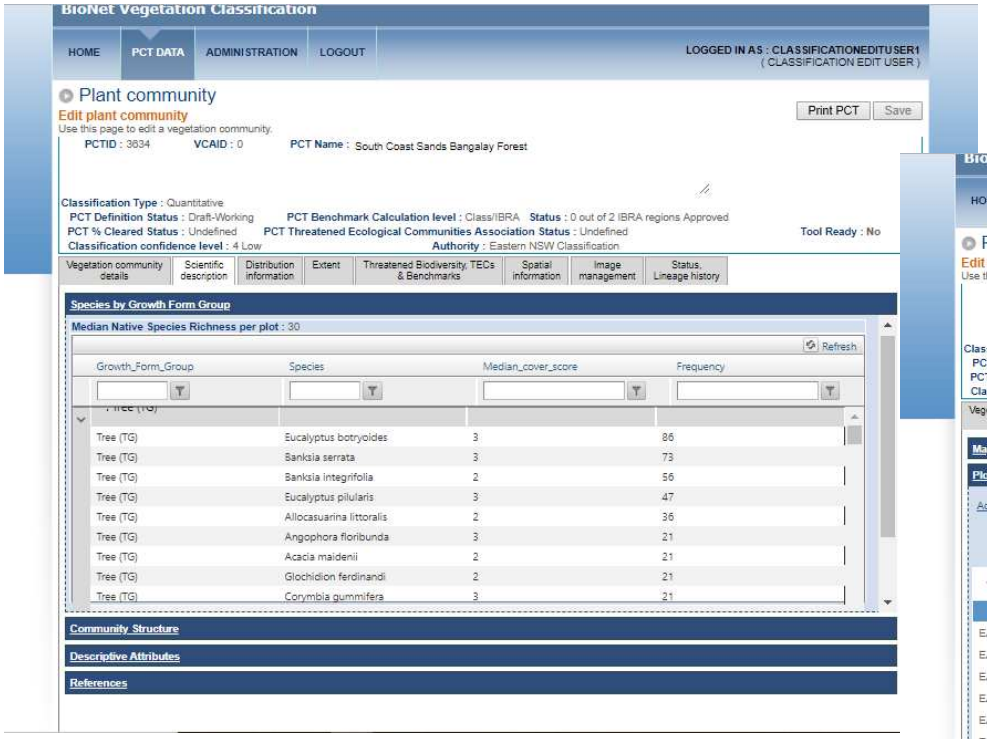


Current Qualitative PCT 659

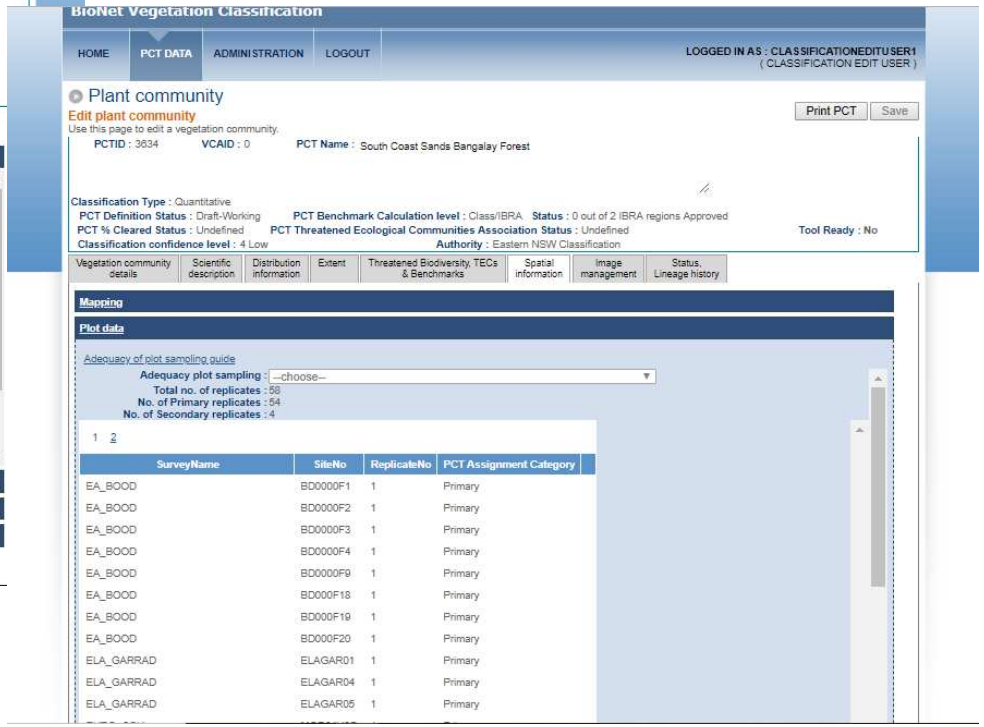


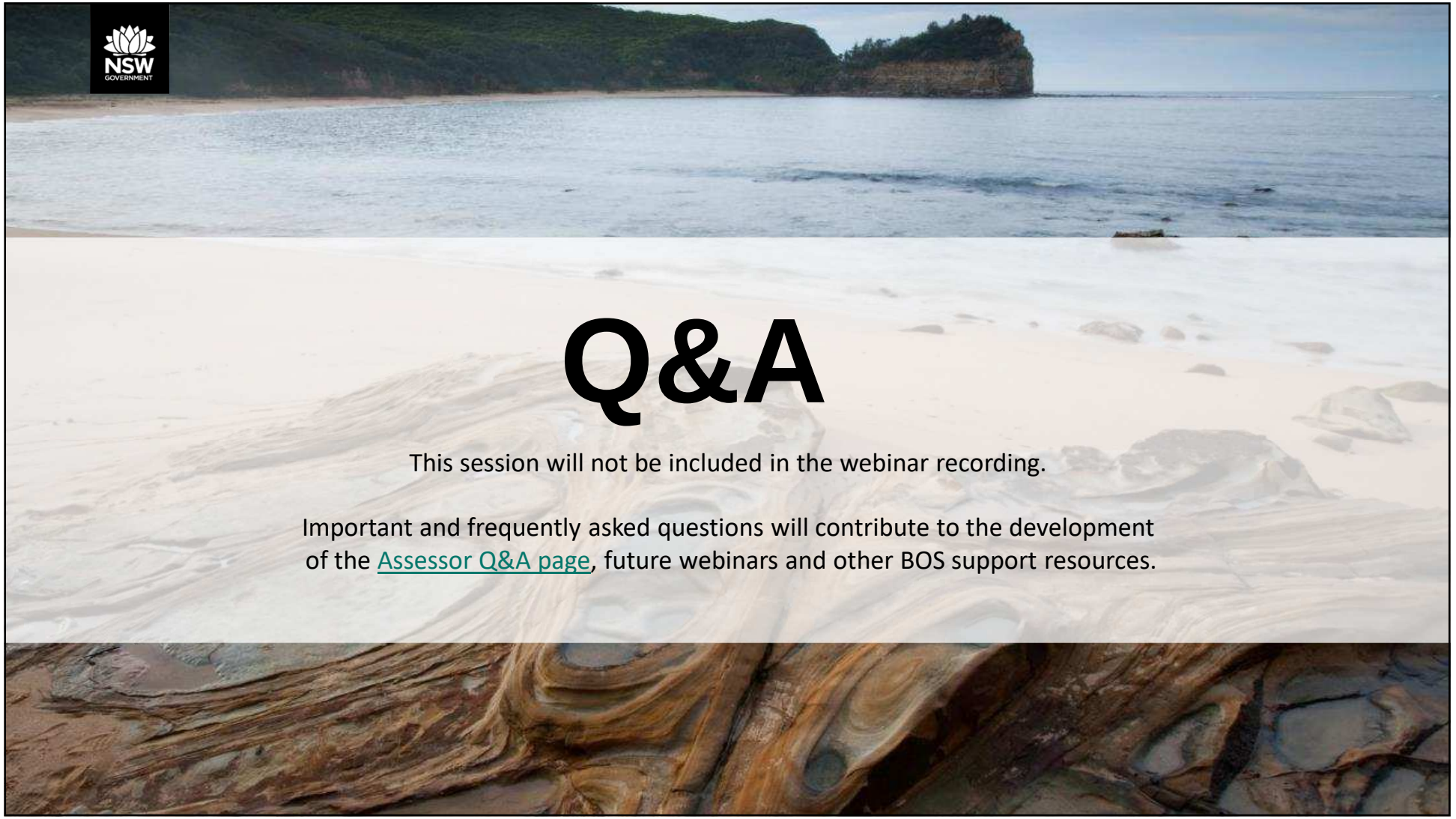
Rationale | Approach | Progress | New Tools

Coastal Sand Bangalay Forest as an example of the change



New Quantitative PCT 3634





Q&A

This session will not be included in the webinar recording.

Important and frequently asked questions will contribute to the development of the Assessor Q&A page, future webinars and other BOS support resources.

Thank you for your participation

Webinar recordings will be available to view online on the BOS Vimeo Showcase at vimeo.com/showcase/6271450 and via the BAM Support Webinar webpage

Contact us at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity/bos-help-advice