DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY & ENVIRONMENT

BioNet System enhancements

Release notes
June 2020 (Release 3.2.5)

Cover photo: Grove of grass trees on Bluff Mountain walking track, Warrumbungle National Park. Eveline Chan/DPIE.

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www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Contents

1. Background

BioNet is the repository of biodiversity data maintained by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and contains species sightings and systematic survey, vegetation classification and threatened biodiversity data collections used by a wide range of organisations. BioNet data are held across three separate website applications: BioNet Atlas; BioNet Vegetation Classification; BioNet Threatened Biodiversity.

The majority of the data maintained in these applications are also available via BioNet Web Services that are maintained in parallel to the applications.

The BioNet Enhancement Project (3.2) is underway to ensure BioNet is ready to accommodate a major upgrade of Eastern NSW Plant Community Type (PCT) data.

This release includes enhancements to registration and reporting features and some bug fixes to BioNet Vegetation Classification.

2. New functionality

2.1 BioNet Atlas

There is no new functionality.

2.2 BioNet Threatened Biodiversity app

There is no new functionality.

2.3 BioNet Vegetation Classification

There is no new functionality.

3.   Enhancements

3.1   BioNet Atlas

3.1.1   New user and sensitive species data license registrations

1. Addition of reCAPTCHA function to user registration page

Applies to: Any new user registering for BioNet Atlas access.

A reCAPTCHA function has been added to the user registration page (for both access to Atlas and Sensitive Species data license applications) to improve security.

3.1.2   Threatened Ecological Communities data transfer to Vegetation Classification

2. Modified stored procedure to support transfer of Threatened Ecological Community data to BioNet Vegetation Classification (bug fix)

Applies to: Vegetation Classification Administrators.

A bug was corrected in a stored procedure in Atlas to enable Vegetation Classification Administrators to execute the process to extract Threatened Ecological Communities data from Atlas and import into Vegetation Classification for Threatened Ecological Communities that are listed nationally but not at the state level. This change does not result in any change to existing functionality.

3.2   BioNet Threatened Biodiversity application

There have been no changes.

3.3   BioNet Vegetation Classification application

3.3.1   Various

3. Modified stored procedure to support transfer of Threatened Ecological Community data to BioNet Vegetation Classification (bug fix)

Applies to: Vegetation Classification Administrators (System utilities menu)

A bug was corrected in a stored procedure in Vegetation Classification (corresponding to the stored procedure in Atlas) to enable Vegetation Classification Administrators to execute the process to extract Threatened Ecological Communities data from Atlas and import into Vegetation Classification for Threatened Ecological Communities that are listed nationally but not at the state level. This change does not result in any change to existing functionality.

4. Renamed items under PCT Data menu

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit

A number of changes were made to names of the menu items under the PCT Data menu in Vegetation Classification Public and Edit applications to better reflect their purpose and function.

In Vegetation Classification Edit:

- The *Edit* menu item has been renamed to *Edit PCT Data* and the items page has been renamed *Search and View PCT*
- The *Community Identification* menu item has been renamed to *Filter PCTs* and the items page has been renamed to *PCT Filter Tool*
- The *Reports/Exports* menu item has been renamed to *Export Bulk Data*

In Vegetation Classification Public:

- The *Edit* menu item has been renamed to *View a PCT* and the items page has been renamed *Search and View PCT*
- The *Community Identification* menu item has been renamed to *Filter PCTs* and the items page has been renamed to *PCT Filter Tool*
- The *Reports/Exports* menu item has been renamed to *Export Bulk Data*

5. Alternative access to data via power queries

Applies to: Vegetation Classification Public (Export Bulk Data menu item)

Links to refreshable Excel spreadsheets previously published under the Alternative access to data section of the Reports/Exports page have been removed from this page. A new link has been provided to enable users to access to these reports via the BioNet web page (www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/). Note: the Excel spreadsheets will be progressively updated and published at this new location.

6. Separate qualitative and quantitative PCT Community Profile reports (PDF reports)

Applies to: Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Export Bulk Data menu item and individual PCT pages)

Quantitative PCT is the term used to describe PCTs derived from flora survey plots. These PCTs that will become available soon in eastern NSW. The existing qualitative PCT report has been modified with some minor improvements to report content and format. A new quantitative PCT report has been created. It includes many new fields specific to quantitative PCTs and includes a Species by Growth Form Group data table. Note: addition of this table has significantly increased the size of the report, and subsequently the time required to generate and load the report.

These reports are accessible from the Export Bulk Data pages as indicated in the table below:

Vegetation Classification Public	Vegetation Classification Edit
Community Profile reports (Qualitative PCTs) – PDF Format	Community profile (Qualitative) report
Community Profile reports (Quantitative PCTs) – PDF Format	Community profile (Qualitative) report

These qualitative and quantitative community profile reports have been implemented for the Print PCT feature on individual PCT pages so that the appropriate report is generated depending on the classification type of the PCT.

7. Modifications to User export content and search options (CSV exports)

Applies to: Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Export Bulk Data menu item)

The content of existing exports in both Vegetation Classification Public and Edit have been modified to include additional fields and modify field order to improve readability. In Vegetation Classification Edit changes have been made to the report-building feature, primarily to enable users to include new fields in search criteria.

These reports and exports are accessible from the Export Bulk Data pages as indicated in the table below:

Vegetation Classification Public	Vegetation Classification Edit
Export all PCTs – PCT Description data	Export all PCTs
Community Profile reports (Qualitative PCTs) – CSV Format	Community profile (Qualitative) report
Community Profile reports (Quantitative PCTs) – CSV Format	Community profile (Qualitative) report
* Not in Public	Mapping report
NSW Landscapes data	NSW Landscapes report
PCT Vegetation Condition Benchmarks data	PCT Benchmarks report
PCT Lineage History data	PCT Lineage report
* Not in Public	PCT Tool-ready status report
PCT-Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) associations data	TEC report

8. Modifications to System export content and search options (CSV exports)

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Edit (System reports)

The content of existing system exports in Vegetation Classification Edit application has been modified to include additional fields and modify field order to improve readability. Changes have been made to the report-building feature, primarily to enable administrators to include new fields in search criteria.

These exports are accessible from the System reports page as indicated in the table below:

Vegetation Classification Edit
Change history report (previous version removed)
Change history report (renamed from Change Control Panel Report
PCT definition status change report
OCL change report
NSW Landscapes report
Benchmarks change report
Plot details report
PCT clearing change report

9. Search by IBRA sub-region in PCT Filter Tool

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Filter PCTs)

Users are now able to use IBRA sub-region as a search criterion in the PCT Filter Tool to find PCTs that occur in a specific IBRA sub-region.

10. Search by species in specific stratum in PCT Filter removed

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Filter PCTs)

The Community Species (All strata), Community Species (Upper stratum), Community Species (Mid stratum) and Community Species (Lower stratum) search criteria are no longer available. Searches across strata have been replaced by the new Species (all strata and growth form groups) search option.

11. Search by species in all strata and growth form groups in PCT Filter Tool

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Filter PCTs)

Users are now able to search for a specific species across all strata and growth form groups in the PCT Filter Tool to find PCTs with that species. This search criterion functions in the same way as the previously available strata searches, enabling users to search for and select a species using either scientific or common name to add to their search criteria.

12. Telerik Grid update

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Filter PCTs)

An update to the Telerik grid control that is used to display PCT filter tool results and Species by Growth Form Group data in individual PCT pages has been implemented. Users will not experience any changes to functionality in the PCT Filter Tool or PCT pages.

13. TEC name displayed in PCT Filter View Summary popup (bug fix)

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Filter PCTs)

A bug in the previous release which prevented TEC names from being displayed correctly in the View Summaries popup of the PCT Filter Tool has been resolved. TEC names are now displayed correctly in the View Summaries popup.

14. Guide to PCT Filter tool links to BioNet Vegetation Classification User Manual

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Public and Edit (Filter PCTs)

The link previously named Guide to the PCT Filter Tool has been updated to indicate that it links to the BioNet Vegetation Classification User Manual. User guidance on how to use the PCT Filter Tool has been incorporated into the User Manual in a previous release and will be updated following completion of all the Release 3.2 changes.

15. Validation rules for PCT data upload modified

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Edit (System utilities)

The validation rules implemented in the upload/import PCT data management routines for PCT Core data were found to be too restrictive and have been modified to enable upload of the new Eastern NSW Classification.

16. Benchmarks are not updated for PCT with Decommissioned, Withdrawn or Rejected status (bug fix)

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Edit (Benchmarks management)

In previous releases, updated benchmarks were being applied to PCTs with either a decommissioned, rejected or withdrawn PCT Definition Status. Benchmark updates are now restricted to PCTs with statuses other than decommissioned, rejected or withdrawn to ensure that the benchmarks for these PCT are not changed after being given these statuses.

17. Default benchmarks are now being allocated correctly for uploaded PCTs (bug fix)

Applies to: BioNet Vegetation Classification Edit (Benchmarks management)

A bug in a previous release was preventing any newly created PCTs from being fully populated with default benchmark data. This issue is now resolved and default benchmarks are populating correctly. No PCTs have been created to date that would have been affected by this bug.

4.   Documentation

Documentation for BioNet systems, including the user manual, quick guides and power queries are available via the <u>BioNet resources homepage</u>.

5.   Warnings and known limitations

No warnings or known limitations specific to this release.