

Project No N703: Regional Assessment of the Conservation Status of Vegetation Units throughout Western Australia.

Progress Report, 15 August 1994.

Project Background

1. The aim of the project is to provide an up-to-date assessment of the conservation status of the vegetation units described and mapped by J.S. Beard (and F.G.Smith) within Western Australia at a scale of 1:250,000.
2. The timetable for the project involves assembling and integrating the various data sets in a structured GIS environment and then undertaking the polygon overlay for the South West Botanical Province and Interzone and redefining the Phytogeographic Regionalisation in Year 1.

Data Sets

3. The project draws mainly on four existing digital data sets:
 - *Beard's (& Smith's) Vegetation of Western Australia as mapped at 1:250,000,
 - *CALM's Land Tenure Information System, and
 - *Remnant Vegetation in the South West and Eucla Land Divisions.
 - *ERIN's revised Phytogeographic Regionalisation.

Other relevant data sets will be used in the course of the analyses to refine the results of analyses.

4. The first of these data had been captured from the original cartography prepared at the scale of 1:250,000. This previous project had just been completed at the time that the present project commenced. Consequently, the data had not been integrated into a single data set and validated. This work is proceeding as a part of the present project. In the course of this, a number of disparities between the original line work and the published 1:1,000,000 maps have come to light. Appropriate corrections are being made to the digital data as part of the validation process.
5. Cadastral information and tenure details for all CALM lands and waters have now been incorporated into the Department's Land Tenure Information System (TENIS) and published maps are now available.
6. The remnant vegetation data base has not been interrogated yet.
7. A copy of the latest version of ERIN's Phytogeographic Regionalisation for Western Australia has been received.

Project Management.

8. The completed contract was received by the Department of Conservation and Land Management on 10 May 1994. The initial payment for the project was received on 26 May 1994. The Chart of Accounts was created on 24 June 1994.

9. On 20 June 1994 a consultant commenced working on the project. The consultant is Mr Julian Coker of 13 Adina Way, Rockingham, WA 6181. Mr Coker has a MSc in Remote Sensing and Digital Cartography from the University of Dundee and has experience in operating in both Arc/Info and Integrgraph environments.

10. Mr Coker has spent the time since commencing work on the project assembling the Vegetation of Western Australia data set. He is currently validating the data. The project is running to schedule.