

Tuart-dominated vegetation types in South Western Australia: existing mapping in the context of the national vegetation mapping program.

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Abstract

Tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) is a structurally dominant component of vegetation types that extend from the Sabina River near Busselton northwards to near Jurien. At the scale of 1:250,000, six distinct vegetation associations have been mapped: their pre-European extent has been estimated and the present extent has been mapped from aerial photography. Each of these vegetation associations will be described structurally and floristically, and details of the extent and conservation status will be given. The map data have been compiled in accordance with a national protocol that will also be described.

More detailed mapping has defined a larger number of vegetation units associated with tuart, within specific areas. These projects will also be described. However, these large-scaled mapping projects do not cover the known extent of the tuart. Approaches to developing a complete and consistent map coverage will be suggested.

ANGUS HOPKINS

Angus Hopkins is a Principal Research Scientist with the Department of Conservation and Land Management. His major research interests are in the field of disturbance ecology (including fire and rehabilitation) and application of principles derived from these studies in the management of Western Australia's National Parks and Nature Reserves. Angus has recently compiled data on the vegetation of the State into a GIS database; this is now being used as a conservation planning tool, for example in identifying priority land for inclusion in the conservation reserves system. He has also mapped all the remnant vegetation of the State in collaboration with staff in the Department of Agriculture as part of a vegetation mapping project for the National Land and Water Resources Audit.

Angus is currently seconded to the Policy Office, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, where he has responsibility for overseeing implementation of the Governments Policy commitments on urban bushland conservation and an involvement in the preparation of the State Sustainability Strategy.

TUART SCIENCE WORKSHOP PROGRAM



DEPARTMENT OF
Conservation
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Conserving the nature of WA

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Tuart Response Group