

From: English, Val [<mailto:Val.English@DPaW.wa.gov.au>]
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2015 3:06 PM
To: Monaghan, Paul
Cc: Pryde, Jill
Subject: Forrestfield Airport Link

Hi Paul

Comments on the latest reports you provided below. Comments also requested by OEPA, so will send to them as well.

The consultants have used the most comprehensive dataset now available to complete this analysis, and it has been completed by an analyst who is recognised as being very familiar with the Swan Coastal Plain (SCP) dataset and appropriate methods of analysis.

The original survey work was completed by an experienced botanist who has undertaken the survey as is advised by Parks and Wildlife – ie comprehensive species lists compiled during appropriate seasons, from quadrats of appropriate size. The data appear to be as compatible as possible to the original data collected for Gibson *et al* 1994 and Bush Forever 2000 surveys.

The May 2015 reports do not however provide an analysis of the logic of the allocations of FCTs, such as occurrence of wetland taxa in sites assigned to terrestrial FCTs, and presence of eastern side of the SCP taxa in allocations that are generally western side of the SCP FCTs. These issues may, in particular, assist in discounting some of the potential FCTs where more than one FCT is assigned, or can indicate that the site is located on a transitional zone such as between terrestrial and wetland areas.

The new dataset used by T. Griffin for the analysis is a more comprehensive one, with nine new sites for FCT 20a, but only one of FCT 20c from the local area of this survey included. The nine new FCT20a sites were all in excellent condition, but the FCT20c site was in quite poor condition (Bushmead). This means that the FCT20a description as ascribed by the new floristic dataset is more comprehensive and relevant for the local area, but the floristic description for FCT20c is not an improvement since the 1994 dataset. This may help explain the apparent reallocation of some of the sites from FCT20c in the first analysis against Gibson *et al*. 1994 data, to FCT20a in the newest analysis. Weed taxa may also have been biasing the FCT allocations in previous analyses to some extent.

A summary of the new recommended Morgan/Griffin May 2015 FCT allocations analysed against the new Bush Forever supplementary data with weeds removed, with comments, occurs in Table 1 in red below.

Table 1 Comments on May 2015 FCT allocations Airport Link survey areas

Site	Location	Old FCT (previous Jan 2015 Morgan/Griffin report)	FCT when compared to Gibson 1994, weeds removed (May2015 Morgan/Griffin)	New FCT recommended analysed against supplementary data, weeds removed (May2015 Morgan/Griffin)	Comments - comparison of results
ARQ1	Rail sth alignment	20c/21c	20a/20c	20a	Most recent allocation with best

					available supplementary data with 7 additional FCT20a quadrats and 1 new quadrat in poor condition in FCT20c used for comparison. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ2	Rail sth alignment	20c	20c	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ3	Rail nth alignment	20c	20c/21a/21c	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ4	Rail nth alignment	21a/21c/20a/20c	21a/20a	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ5	Poison Gully BF	21c/28/20c	??21c/20a	20a/21c	FCT21c influence probably from wetland taxa, but FCT21c not eastern SCP so not a logical allocation with several eastern SCP taxa. Wetland transitional zone indicated.
ARQ6	Poison Gully BF	21c/28/20c	??3b/21c	20a/20c/21c	FCT21c influence probably from wetland taxa, but FCT21c not eastern SCP so not a logical allocation with several eastern SCP taxa. Wetland transitional zone indicated.
ARQ7	Poison Gully BF	?11	???11/21a	??3c	Most recent allocation uses best available data, but only 11 native taxa in

					quadrat. Difficult allocation as in relatively poor condition. FCT3c accepted.
ARQ8	Poison Gully BF	?3c	?3c	?3c	No change. FCT3c accepted as based on best available information.
ARQ9	Ibis Plce wst (WAPC)	20c/21a	21a/20b	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ10	Ibis Place	20c/21a	20a	20a	As for ARQ1. Also FCT21a influence probably from wetland taxa, but FCT21a not eastern SCP type so not a logical allocation with several eastern SCP taxa present. Wetland transitional zone indicated. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ11	Poison Gully BF	?3b/20c	?3b	20a/20b	FCT20a/20b accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ12	Rail sth alignment	20a	20a	20a	No change. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ13	Ibis Plce (sth end)	3b/20c	20c/20a	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ14	Ibis Plce	20c/21a	21a/3b	20a/21a	Also FCT21a influence probably from wetland taxa, but FCT21a not eastern SCP type so not a logical allocation with

					several eastern SCP taxa present. Wetland transitional zone indicated.
ARQ15	Ibis Plce (sth end)	3b/20c	3b/20c/21a	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.
ARQ16	Rail sth alignment	20c/21c	21a/20a	20a	As for ARQ1. FCT20a accepted, as conclusion based on best available information.

Cheers

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