

Minutes from WET/EIU boundary meeting 9/8/02

Present: Ian Fox, Eda Addicott, Terry Webb, Peter Stanton, Ellen Webber

Topic:

Develop a consistent process for the Herbarium and WTMA to use for refining the WET/EIU boundary.

Outcomes:

- It was agreed that as far as possible whole communities should be considered as either WET or EIU bioregion.
- Indicator species of either WET or EIU were agreed on.
- EW will send Eda latest copy of PS's vegetation legend
- Peter Stanton's communities were allocated to either WET or EIU - EA will put the communities allocated to each bioregion into PS's legend. This will be distributed to all present plus Steve Goosem and Jeanette Kemp
- WTMA will do a trial run on allocating PS's communities (using table produced by EA) to bioregion and see if this process will work.
- The Mareeba office will borrow the colour photos and use them to pull out the units that need dividing into EIU/WET. IF will do those on the Mossman coverages. EA or PS will do it for the rest of the boundary.
- When this is done Mareeba office will digitise bioregional boundary line in using the process that WTMA uses. This will then give us a definite boundary to work to. There was general agreement that there will be 2 different scales of mapping on either side of the boundary line.

Indicator Species agreed on

Corymbia citriodora – where this occurs as a dominant or co-dominant (particularly with ironbark) it goes into EIU. Where it occurs as a sub-dominant (e.g. with *Eucalyptus portuensis*) it becomes WET.

Corymbia intermedia – WET.

Syncarpia glomulifera – WET.

Allocasuarina torulosa & *Allocasuarina littoralis* – WET.

Acacia flavescens – WET depending on the associated species

E. reducta – WET (but WET units extend beyond the edge of the *E. reducta* distribution)

E. resinifera – WET

Lophostemon confertus – WET

Allocasuarina luehmannii - EIU

- Where communities can occur in more than one bioregion (eg. *Melaleuca viridiflora* shrub lands or *E. platyphylla* wood lands) then a decision about the bioregional

attribute is made by looking at it in context with the surrounding vegetation communities and landscape or by looking at the associated species in that community.

- Where river systems reach across the bioregion boundary then an arbitrary line is put in where the surrounding systems change (ie. driven by either geology or veg. communities).
- There was some discussion about whether the Barron River should stay as WET for it's whole length but no decision was recorded. In the EIU workshop in May 2001 it was decided to keep the Barron as WET for it's whole length.