

Great Western Woodland Supersite

Affiliated projects summary

Date: August 2013
Project title: Regional variability in Salmon Gum woodlands in the GWW
Abstract: This project is investigating what environmental variables and processes drive regional vegetation patterns in floristic composition and structure in Salmon Gum (SG) woodland communities. 100 sites, mainly in mature long unburnt woodlands, were selected using a stratification of the area based on climatic, geological, and geographical GIS layers. Classification and ordinations using a variety of floristic-ecological approaches were undertaken and revealed two communities; one with mainly Chenopod species (<i>Atriplex</i> and <i>Maireana</i>) in the understory in the drier warmer north and east part of the study area and the other with non chenopods (<i>Acacia</i> , <i>Eremophila</i> and <i>Senna</i>) in the wetter cooler south west. Further analysis incorporating salmon Gum sites in the Wheatbelt region is planned. Expected project timeframe: 2011 to early 2014
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Funding sources: APA \$23K scholarship, DPaW \$21K, Curtin University \$12K, and Dahl Trust \$8. Goldfields Management Group \$10K, CSIRO \$3K
Datasets being used or collected: vegetation and soil data from 100 20 x 20m quadrats
Geographic coverage of study: the great western woodlands
Publications: Masters thesis due Dec 2013 and paper for Applied vegetation Science journal on the GWW sites
Other notes: Involved over 60 people (mainly from the Wildflower Society of WA) in the collection of data.