**Department of Planning and Environment**

# BioNet Web Services

**Release notes**
**February 2022 (Release 3.3)**

Cover photo: Few-seeded bossiaea (*Bossiaea oligosperma*) from the Fabaceae family. Threatened species. John Briggs/DPE

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# Contents

# Background

The BioNet Web Services initiative is a program of work conducted by the New South Wales Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). It is progressively making the data held in BioNet open and available to developers via open application programming interfaces (APIs). BioNet is the repository of biodiversity data maintained by the Department, and contains species sightings and systematic survey, vegetation classification and threatened biodiversity data used by a wide range of organisations.

BioNet Web Services enable organisations and individuals to directly integrate biodiversity data into their software systems and unlock the innovation potential of this valuable community-owned data asset. By delivering these data via open APIs, we are aiming to improve environmental decision-making by integrating up-to-date, consistent and reliable biodiversity data into planning and assessment systems.

This release covers updates to the Threatened Biodiversity web service to capture major changes to the Threatened Biodiversity module in BioNet Atlas, in line with Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) updates. In addition, there have been corrections to the BioNet Species Names and BioNet Vegetation Classification Web Services.
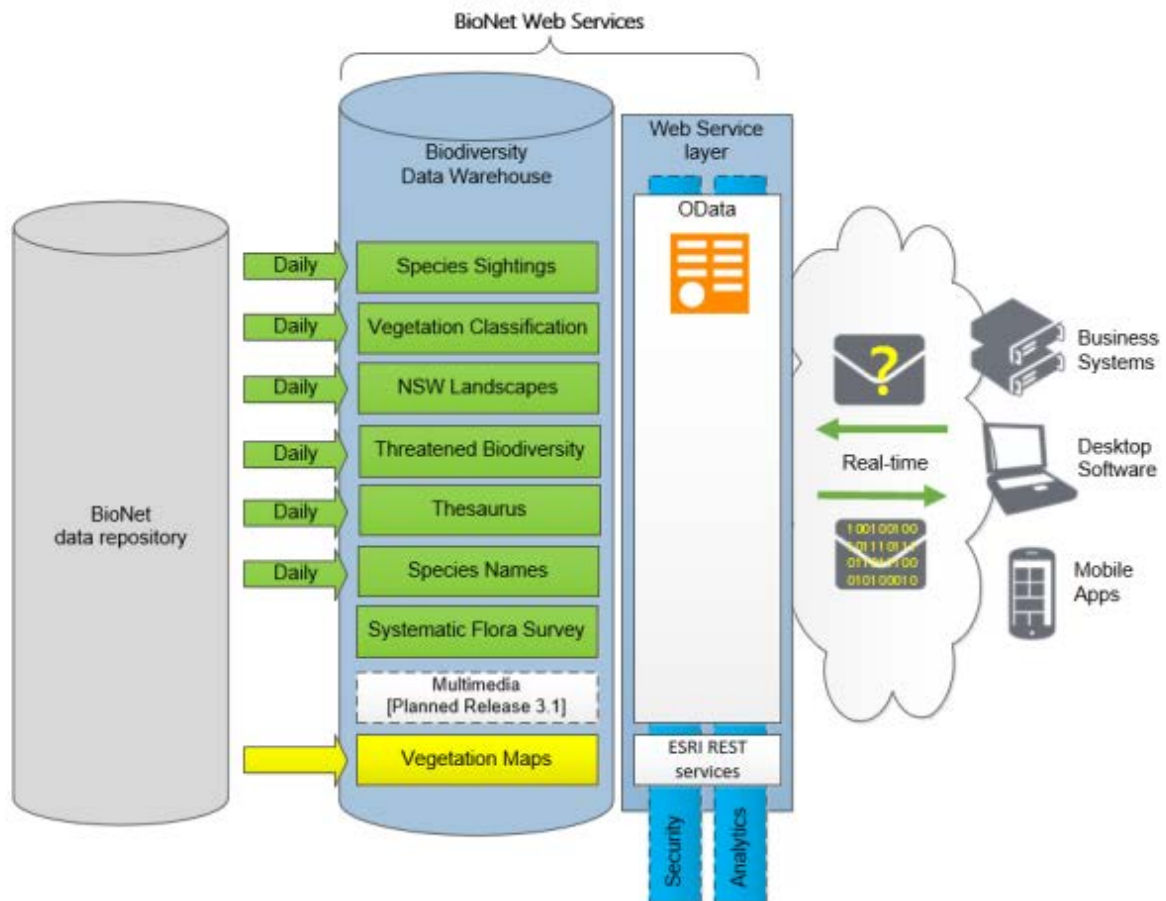


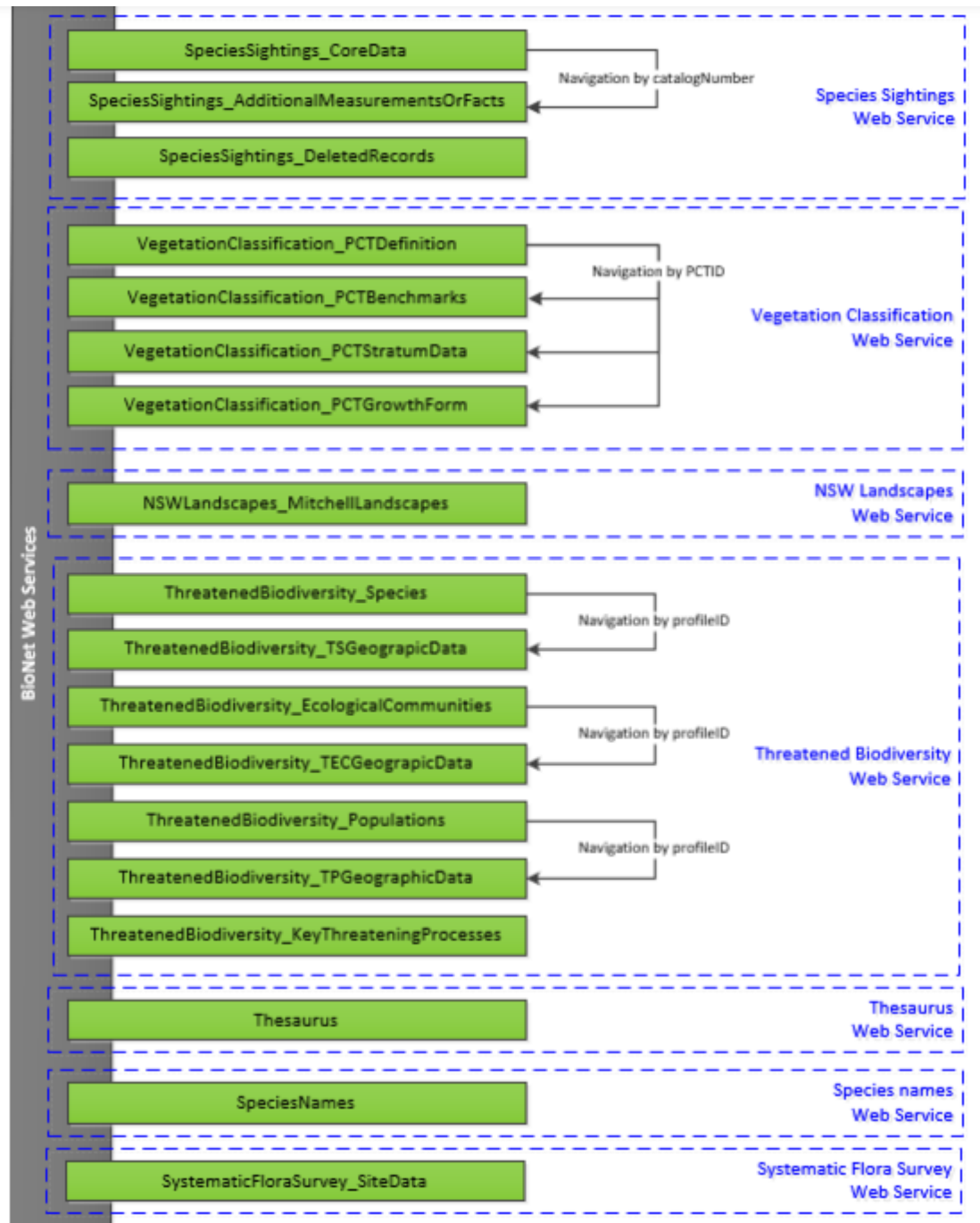**Figure 1          Overview of BioNet Web Services implementation**

**Figure 2**    **Overview of the existing OData entity sets that comprise Release 3.3, including navigation links between entity sets**

# New functionality

There is no new functionality.

# Enhancements

## ThreatenedBiodiversity_Species

**The following changes have been applied to the ThreatenedBiodiversity_Species entity set. These changes allow for a better flow of information from the BioNet Atlas database to the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology Calculator (BAM-C), as well as fixing some limitations in the Vegetation Classification entity sets.**

### Fields added

- surveyComments

To capture specific survey information for a species, that can be imported into the BAM Calculator. Reasons might be that specific environmental conditions are required for emergence, or ideal survey months differ across regions and don't overlap (for a universal opportune month). Previously these notes were captured in the General Notes field and it is not logical to import this whole field into the BAM-C.

### Field values corrected

- Ensure all instances of SAII = Null correctly produce SAII = Null in ThreatenedBiodiversity_Species web services
- Change Patch Size values to reflect those stored in the BAM Calculator
  - Change Patch size value "5 - 24 ha" to "5 - <25 ha"
  - Change Patch size value "25 - 100" ha" to "25 - <100 ha"
  - Change Patch size value "> 100 ha" to ">=100 ha"

### Fields removed

- SAIIThresholdType field
- SAIIThreshold field

These fields are not used in the BAM Calculator.

## ThreatenedBiodiversity_Populations

### Fields added

- surveyComments

To capture specific survey information for a species, that can be imported into the BAM Calculator. Reasons might be that specific environmental conditions are required for emergence, or ideal survey months differ across regions and don't overlap (for a universal opportune month). Previously these notes were captured in the General Notes field and it is not logical to import this whole field into the BAM-C.

## Field values corrected

- Change Patch Size values to reflect those stored in the BAM Calculator
    - Change Patch size value "5 - 24 ha" to "5 - <25 ha"
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## Fields removed

- SAIIThresholdType field
- SAIIThreshold field

These fields are not used in the BAM Calculator.

# ThreatenedBiodiversity_EcologicalCommunities

## Field contents corrected

- ThreatenedBiodiversity_EcologicalCommunities – correct to SAII = "True" in web service when SAII = "Yes" in Atlas Threatened Biodiversity section

## Fields removed

- SAIIThreshold field
- SAIIThresholdCondition field

These fields are not used in the BAM Calculator.

# SpeciesNames

## Fields added

- highThreatWeed

There are 2 categories of highThreatWeed:
    - High Threat Weed – manageable
    - High Threat Weed – not manageable

Refer to the Biodiversity Assessment Method Practice Note on Manageable high threat weeds – improving gain on offset sites.

The High Threat Weeds list is currently found on the BAM Calculator (BAM-C) landing page and will be replaced by a refreshable power query following update of the Web Services.

- widelyCultivatedNativeSpecies

# VegetationClassification_PCTBenchmarks

## Fields added

- 'rainfallThreshold'

## Field content - addition

**Updates**
- VegetationClassification_PCTBenchmarks > 'benchmarkVariation' - add two new options ('monthly average, following DRY RAINFALL year'; 'monthly average, following WET RAINFALL year')
- VegetationClassification_PCTBenchmarks > 'benchmarkVariation' – ensure benchmarks are displayed in the WS regardless of whether 'Default Condition' = 'yes' or 'no'. Currently only the benchmark data with 'Default Condition' = 'yes' are displaying in the WS

# VegetationClassification_PCTDefinition

- correct issue preventing display of EPBC Act only TEC-PCT association data

# Documentation

Documentation for BioNet Web Services, included updated data standard guides, are available via the BioNet resources homepage.

# Warnings and known limitations

No warnings or known limitations specific to this release.