

Metadata for Moreton Bay Seagrass 2011

Data Set

Title: Moreton Bay seagrass 2011

Custodian: Environmental Protection Agency Queensland (EPA) and Biophysical Remote Sensing Group (BRG), University of Queensland (UQ).

Jurisdiction: QLD

Description

Abstract: Seagrass mapping of Moreton Bay between the Bribie Island bridge and Kangaroo Island: Mapping conducted as part of the Ecosystem Health Monitoring Program (EHMP) in conjunction with Queensland Park and Wildlife Service and BRG-UQ part of the Joint Remote Sensing Research Program (funded by EHMP).

Search Word(s): seagrass, Moreton Bay, Moreton Bay Marine Park, vegetation, biota, ecology, estuarine, Queensland.

Geographic Extent: Bribie Island bridge to Kangaroo Island.

Approximate Coordinates: N:-27° 05'

S: -27° 47'

E: 153° 30'

W:153° 00'

Data Currency

Beginning Date: June 2011

Ending Date: Sept 2012

Dataset Status

Progress: Complete

Maintenance and Update frequency:

Irregular

Access:

Stored Data Format: DIGITAL - ESRI ArcView Shapefile (.shp)

Available Format: DIGITAL- ESRI ArcView Shapefile (.shp)

Access Constraint: EPA/UQ data - release outside EPA/UQ on completion of licence agreement

Data Quality

Lineage: Polygon boundaries and attributes derived from field and satellite image data. Field data Polygon boundaries digitised using information from 661 EHMP survey sites, Google Earth Downloaded Image and bathymetry data at scales ranging from 1:5000 depending on the size of the polygon.

Satellite image polygon boundaries and attributes

A supervised classification was applied to a Landsat TM5 image. This image was acquired 9:40 am, on the 27th July 2011 (5.14 am low tide at Brisbane Bar). The image classification was applied on areas of clear waters up to three metres depth and for exposed regions of Moreton Bay. Field validation data was collected at 4797 survey sites by UQ. GPS referenced field data were used as training areas for the image classification process. For this training the substrate DN signatures were extracted from the Landsat 5 TM image for field survey locations of known substrate cover, enabling a characteristic “spectral reflectance signature” to be defined for each target. The Landsat TM image, containing only those pixels in water < 3.0m deep, was then subject to minimum distance to means algorithm to group pixels with similar DN signatures (assumed to correspond to the different substrata). This process enabled each pixel to be assigned a label of either seagrass cover (0, 1-25%, 25-50%, 50-75 % and 75-100 %). The resulting raster data was then converted into a vector polygon file. Species information was added based on the field data and expert knowledge.

Both polygon files were joined by overlaying features of remote sensing files with the EHMP field data to produce an output theme that contains the attributes and full extent of both themes. If polygons of remote sensing were within polygons of field data the assumption was made that the remote sensing polygon was showing more detail and the underlying field polygon was deleted.

Positional Accuracy:

Polygons +/- 10m. Positional accuracy of polygon linework is noted in the field 'Pos_Acc' which gives a reliability code of high, moderate, or low confidence in accuracy for polygons derived from the EHMP field survey sites. The level is derived on the basis of positioning and the frequency of survey sites, the distinctiveness of discrete boundaries evident from the field surveys and the georeferencing accuracy of the satellite image.

Attribute Accuracy:

Attribute accuracy for the field denoting cover, is provided in the field “Att_acc”. It gives, for the polygons derived from the EHMP survey sites, a reliability code of

high, moderate, or low confidence in accuracy. The level is determined on the basis of reliability of field observations.

For polygons derived from the classification of the satellite image, attribute accuracy was achieved of “OA 41%”, which was considered “medium” level. Where OA stands for “Overall Accuracy” which is commonly expressed as the probability that a classified image pixel actually represents that category on the ground, and was calculated based on the independent field data set for the Eastern Banks area only.

Attribute accuracy for the field denoting seagrass species is provided in the field “Att_acc_sp” which gives a reliability code of high, moderate, or low confidence in accuracy. This level is determined on the basis of reliability of field observations.

Attributes:

The field, 'seagrass', provides a description of the visually estimated ground cover of the seagrass and is generally classed as either:

- 1-25% cover (sparse)
- 25-50% cover (low)
- 50-75% cover (medium)
- 75-100% cover (dense)

The field, 'species', refer to the seagrass species occurring within each polygon.

The field, 'Source_type' refers to how the attribute and spatial information was acquired and includes satellite image, snorkel, drop camera held over the side of a stationary vessel and expert knowledge.

The field, 'Source_data' refers to the organisation / program responsible for data collection and analysis.

The field, 'Polygon' refers to how the polygon was created.

The field, 'Rs_domain' refers to the domain for which the image data is analysed (exposed regions or shallow clear waters).

Logical Consistency:

All polygons visually checked at a scale of 1:500.

Completeness:

The dataset is complete.

Datum:

WGS84

Contact Information

Contact Organisation: Environmental Protection Agency Queensland

Contact Position: Data Coordinator

Mail Address: PO Box 155

Locality: Brisbane Albert Street

State: Queensland

Country: Australia

Postcode: 4002

Telephone:(07) 3227 6459

Facsimile(07) 3220 3542

Electronic Mail: data.coordinator@epa.qld.gov.au

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c.roelfsema@uq.edu.au)