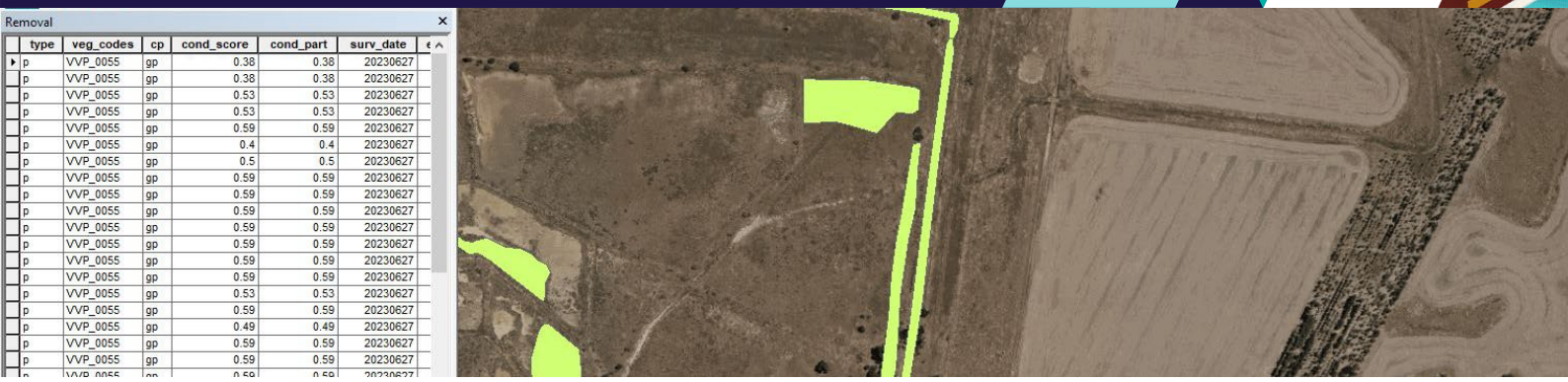
NVR Map – Data Standard

A guide for Detailed Uploads

V1.2 October 2024



Users of NVR Map may opt to complete a Detailed Upload in the following scenarios:

- When generating a Native Vegetation Removal Report (NVRR) in the Removal Tool under the Detailed Assessment Pathway, or when choosing site-assessed data from a certified native vegetation assessor for use under the Basic or Intermediate Assessment Pathways.
- When generating a Native Vegetation Offset Report (NVOR) in the Offset Tool for a first or third-party offset site, utilising data from a certified native vegetation assessor.

The following sections outline the requirements for Shapefiles utilised in the Detailed Upload scenario. Shapefile templates are available for download from the **NVR Map website**.

1. General Data Standards

To ensure compatibility with NVR Map, all Shapefiles must adhere to the following data standards.

- All Shapefiles must use the Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 and be in one of the following coordinate systems:
    - Geographics GDA2020 (EPSG: 7844)
    - VicGrid GDA2020 (EPSG:7899)
    - MGA Zone 54 GDA2020 (EPSG: 7854)
    - MGA Zone 55 GDA2020 (EPSG: 7855)
- Shapefiles must be uploaded in NVR Map as .zip files. Each .zip file must contain the multiple files that make up one Shapefile (.shp, .prj, .dbf, .shx).
- When uploading Patches proposed for removal, a polygon Shapefile must be used.
- Patch polygons must not overlap, self-intersect, or consist of multiple parts (i.e. a single feature composed of multiple polygons).
- When uploading trees a point Shapefile must be used.
- Tree points cannot be located within Patches. Patch Trees are accounted for in the 'lt_count' column of Patch Shapefiles. The exception to this rule is partial removal Patch Tree points (i.e., 'type' = 'pt', 'is_partial' = 'yes'), which are permitted within partial removal Patches. This scenario is outlined in Section 2.1 of this guide.
- Each Shapefile must be packaged in a separate .zip file (i.e. individual .zip files for Patches and trees). Scattered Trees and Patch Trees can be uploaded in a single Shapefile/.zip file.
- Features must be located within the spatial jurisdiction of the Native Vegetation Regulations, outside the Melbourne Strategic Assessment (MSA) Levy Area.
- The combination of site identifier ('site_id') and zone identifier ('zone_id') must create a unique identifier for each uploaded feature.
- Patch Shapefiles must not contain split habitat zones. Contiguous patches of the same Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) should only be split if the habitat score varies by 15 or more points, and if the extent of the patch is >1ha.
- All attribute fields identified in Tables 1-4 below must be present and filled with appropriate values.

VICTORIA State Government | Energy, Environment and Climate Action

2. Removal Tool Data Standards

Table 1. Attributes for native vegetation removal data – Patches

Attribute Name[1]	Type	Description[1]	Example
site_id	String/Text	Unique identifier for the Patch, comprising numbers or letters.	1
zone_id	String/Text	Secondary identifier for the Patch, consisting of letters.	a
prop_id	String/Text	Identifier for the property.	123_MainSt
type	String/Text	Category of vegetation, must be 'p'.	p
cp	String/Text	Full name of the certified native vegetation assessor.	John Smith
veg_codes	String/Text	Concatenation of Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) and Bioregion code. Refer to the NVR Map website for the full list of codes.	VVP_0055
is_past	String/Text	Indicates Patches of past removal. Accepted values include: • 'no' (no past removal) • 'guidelines2017' (past removal under the 2017/current regulations) • 'bag2013' (past removal under the 2013 regulations) • 'fw' (past removal under the Native Vegetation Framework).	no
is_partial	String/Text	This field applies primarily to Patches within defendable space zones (Section 2.1). If such removal is proposed, indicate 'yes'. Otherwise, enter 'no'.	no
lt_count	Long integer	Count of Large Trees within the Patch, defined as those with a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) equal to or greater than the benchmark specified for Large Trees in the relevant EVC.	3
cond_score	Double	Site assessed habitat score, calculated as the sum of the Patch condition score and landscape context score, divided by 100. Value ranges from 0.00 to 1.	0.65
cond_part	Double	For partial removal Patches (i.e., 'is_partial' = 'yes'), the habitat score is halved. For full removal Patches, the original habitat score is retained.	0.65
surv_date	Long integer	Date when the vegetation was surveyed, formatted as YYYYMMDD.	20240221

Notes: 1) Attribute field names and accepted values are case-sensitive.

Table 2. Attributes for native vegetation removal data – Trees

Attribute Name[1]	Type	Description[1]	Example
site_id	String/Text	Unique identifier for the tree, comprising numbers or letters.	1
zone_id	String/Text	Secondary identifier for the tree, consisting of letters.	a
prop_id	String/Text	Identifier for the property.	123_MainSt
type	String/Text	Type of tree. Accepted values include: • 'st' (Scattered Tree) • 'pt' (Patch Tree). Use of 'pt' is generally only relevant to the scenario outlined in Section 2.1 of this document.	st
meas_type	String/Text	Type of measurement. Accepted values include: • 'cir' (Circumference) • 'dbh' (Diameter at Breast Height).	dbh
meas	Double	Measurement value in centimetres.	63
cp	String/Text	Full name of the certified native vegetation assessor.	John Smith
veg_code	String/Text	Concatenation of Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) and Bioregion code. Refer to the NVR Map website for the full list of codes.	VVP_0055
is_past	String/Text	Indicates past removal tree points. Accepted values include: • 'no' (no past removal) • 'guidelines2017' (past removal under the 2017/current regulations) • 'bag2013' (past removal under the 2013 regulations) • 'fw' (past removal under the Native Vegetation Framework).	no
is_partial	String/Text	Use of this field is generally only relevant to the scenario outlined in Section 2.1 of this document, as such the input is usually 'no'.	no
cond_score	Double	Site assessed habitat score. For Scattered Trees, the habitat score must be 0.2.	0.2
cond_part	Double	This value must match the value entered in 'cond_score' for tree Shapefiles.	0.2
surv_date	Long integer	Date when the vegetation was surveyed, formatted as YYYYMMDD.	20240221
Optional attribute field			
lt_val	String/Text	When uploading tree points in EVCs with multiple Large Tree benchmarks, users will be asked to specify the appropriate Large Tree benchmark by confirming the species or genus. Alternatively, users can streamline this process by populating this field with the corresponding species or genus. These values must match the Large Trees listed in the relevant EVC benchmark	Eucalyptus spp.

Notes: 1) Attribute field names and accepted values are case-sensitive.

2.1 Mapping Canopy Tree Removal in Partially Retained Patches

Appendix 3, Section B.2 of the *Assessor's Handbook* outlines policy concerning partial removal scenarios, particularly when Canopy Trees are removed from either retained or partially cleared Patches of native vegetation. This situation commonly arises when Canopy Trees are removed from Defendable Space Zones to meet minimum canopy spacing requirements.

In such cases:

- Each Large Canopy Tree proposed for removal must be treated similar to a Large Scattered Tree, with the extent of removal defined by a circle with a radius of 15 metres.
- Each Small Canopy Tree proposed for removal must be treated similar to a Small Scattered Tree, with the extent of removal defined by a circle with a radius of 10 metres.
- The identified Canopy Trees must inherit the habitat score of the native vegetation Patch they inhabit, with the lowest possible habitat score being 0.2. This score isn't halved, as the Canopy Trees will be completely removed or assumed lost.

Users of NVR Map can generate a Native Vegetation Removal Report (NVRR) in this scenario by:

1. Uploading a Patch Shapefile, identifying the Patch within the defendable space zone as partial removal ('is_partial' = 'yes').
2. Uploading a tree point Shapefile, with the Canopy Trees proposed for removal plotted within the Patch. These trees should be classified as partial removal ('is_partial' = 'yes'), with the full (not partial) habitat score of the encompassing Patch entered in the 'cond_score' and 'cond_part' fields.

Upon report generation, the Canopy Trees will be buffered accordingly based on their size and treated as fully removed, omitting any overlapping partial removal Patch areas.

This approach can result in a higher offset obligation compared to assuming the complete removal of the Patch area within the defendable space zone, particularly in scenarios involving numerous Canopy Tree removals. In these instances, applicants are permitted to generate reports assuming the total clearance of the Patch area. However, this method solely serves to ascertain offset obligations and does not determine the permissible extent of removal in any subsequent approval process.

2.2 Accounting for Mapped Wetlands in Clearing Proposals

Since the review of the Native Vegetation Regulations in 2013, applicants must classify mapped wetlands included in the Current Wetland layer as Patches of native vegetation. They are also required to use modelled condition scores when calculating offset requirements. Under the current mapped wetland policy, a mapped wetland (or part thereof) may be excluded from consideration during the assessment process under the following conditions:

- If it is covered by a hardened, artificial surface.
- If written agreement is obtained from the Secretary to DEECA, provided that the mapped wetland area is:
  - Incapable of supporting wetland-associated native vegetation; or
  - Geospatially misaligned; or
  - An artificial waterbody; or
  - Permanently inundated.

If none of these exclusion criteria apply, applicants must account for any mapped wetland areas directly or indirectly impacted by their proposal. This involves populating the 'type' attribute field with 'Wetland' and adding the modelled condition score in the 'cond_score' field. These scores can be obtained by completing a Simple Upload and generating a Scenario Test Report.

3. Offset Tool Data Standards

Table 3. Attributes for native vegetation offset data – Patches and Revegetation

Attribute Name[1]	Type	Description[1]	Example
site_id	String/Text	Unique identifier for the Patch or Revegetation zone, comprising numbers or letters.	1
zone_id	String/Text	Secondary identifier for the Patch or Revegetation zone, consisting of letters.	a
prop_id	String/Text	Identifier for the security agreement.	VC_CFL-1234_01
vlot	Long integer	For each Large Tree identified in 'lt_count', determine whether it qualifies as a Very Large Old Tree (VLOT) or Large Old Tree (LOT) according to the criteria outlined in the Native Vegetation Framework. If these fields are left empty, the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) will presume that all Large Trees are LOTs.	2
lot	Long integer		1
recruits	Long integer	If Revegetation is proposed (i.e. 'type' = 'rv'), state the number of new recruits.	0
type	String/Text	Category of vegetation. Accepted values include: • 'p' (Patch) • 'rv' (Revegetation)	p
cp	String/Text	Full name of the certified native vegetation assessor.	John Smith
veg_codes	String/Text	Concatenation of Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) and Bioregion code. Refer to the NVR Map website for the full list of codes.	VVP_0055
lt_count	Long integer	Count of Large Trees within the Patch, defined as those with a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) equal to or greater than the benchmark specified for Large Trees in the relevant EVC.	3
cond_score	Double	Site assessed habitat score, calculated as the sum of the Patch condition score and landscape context score, divided by 100. Value ranges from 0.00 to 1. The value must be '0' for Revegetation zones.	0.65
gain_score	Double	Site assessed gain score for the zone from the gain calculator. This is the sum of prior management, security, maintenance and improvement gain. The gain score is divided by 100 to provide a value between 0.0000 to 1.0000 (four decimal places).	0.2389
surv_date	Long integer	Date when the vegetation was surveyed, formatted as YYYYMMDD.	20240221

Notes: 1) Attribute field names and accepted values are case-sensitive.

Table 4. Attributes for native vegetation offset data – Scattered Trees

Attribute Name[1]	Type	Description[1]	Example
site_id	String/Text	Unique identifier for the Scattered Tree, comprising numbers or letters.	1
zone_id	String/Text	Secondary identifier for the Scattered Tree, consisting of letters.	a
prop_id	String/Text	Identifier for the property.	123_MainSt
vlot	Long integer	For each Large Scattered Tree, determine whether it qualifies as a Very Large Old Tree (VLOT) or Large Tree (LOT) according to the criteria outlined in the Native Vegetation Framework. If these fields are left empty, the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) will presume that all Large Trees are LOTs.	1
lot	Long integer		0
recruits	Long integer	This value must be zero for Scattered Tree Shapefiles.	0
type	String/Text	Category of vegetation. Accepted value is: • 'st' (Scattered Tree)	st
meas_type	String/Text	Type of measurement. Accepted values include: • 'cir' (Circumference) • 'dbh' (Diameter at Breast Height).	dbh
meas	Double	Measurement value in centimetres.	63
veg_code	String/Text	Concatenation of Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) and Bioregion code. Refer to the NVR Map website for the full list of codes.	VVP_0055
tree_rad	Double	Radius of the area to be protected in metres. Section 3.8 of the Native Vegetation Gain Scoring Manual stipulates that the protected area for a Scattered Tree must be equivalent to twice the canopy diameter of the tree or a 15-meter radius circle, whichever encompasses the greater area. If a value greater than 15 is not entered in this field, a 15-meter radius circle will be assumed for Scattered Trees.	20
cp	String/Text	Full name of the certified native vegetation assessor.	John Smith
cond_score	Double	Habitat score of the Scattered Tree. Accepted values include: • '0.12' – For Scattered Trees with a measurement ≥ 75% to <100% of the Large Tree Benchmark. • '0.2' – For Scattered Trees with a measurement ≥ the Large Tree Benchmark.	0.12
gain_score	Double	Site assessed gain score for Scattered Trees in accordance with the gain manual.	0.176
surv_date	Long integer	Date when the vegetation was surveyed, formatted as YYYYMMDD.	20240221
Optional attribute field			
lt_val	String/Text	When uploading tree points in EVCs with multiple Large Tree benchmarks, users will be asked to specify the appropriate Large Tree benchmark by confirming the species or genus. Alternatively, users can streamline this process by populating this field with the corresponding species or genus. These values must match the Large Trees listed in the relevant EVC benchmark	Eucalyptus spp.

Notes: 1) Attribute field names and accepted values are case-sensitive.

We acknowledge Victorian Traditional Owners and their Elders past and present as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters and commit to genuinely partnering with them and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

Accessibility

To receive this document in an alternative format, phone the Customer Service Centre on 136 186, email customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au, or contact National Relay Service on 133 677. Available at DEECA website (www.deeca.vic.gov.au).