

Title:

LAND USE OF AUSTRALIA 2010–11 TO 2020–21 VERSION 7.1

Alternative title:

NLUM_v7_1_250m_2011_2021

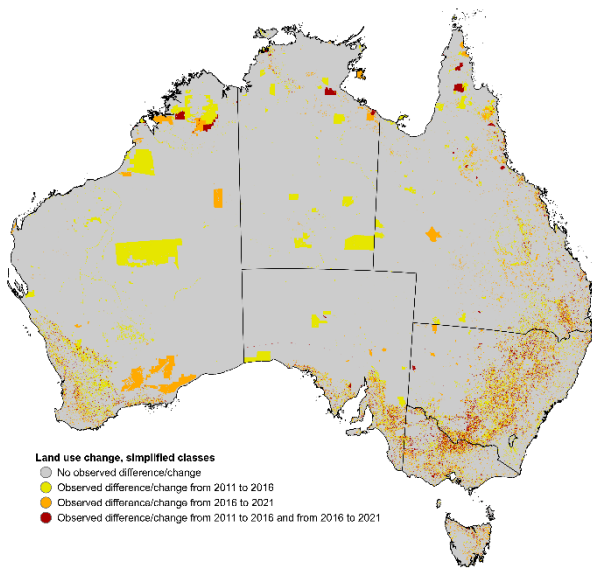
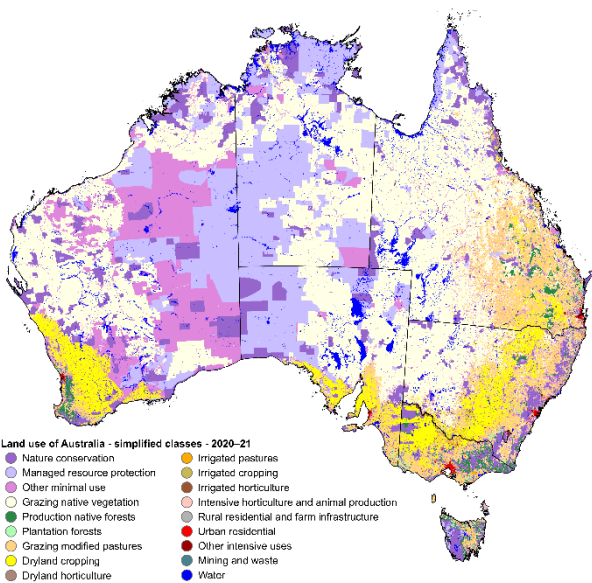
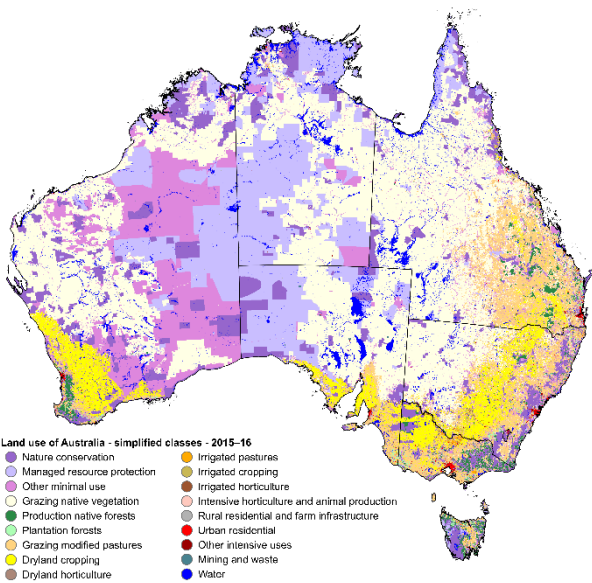
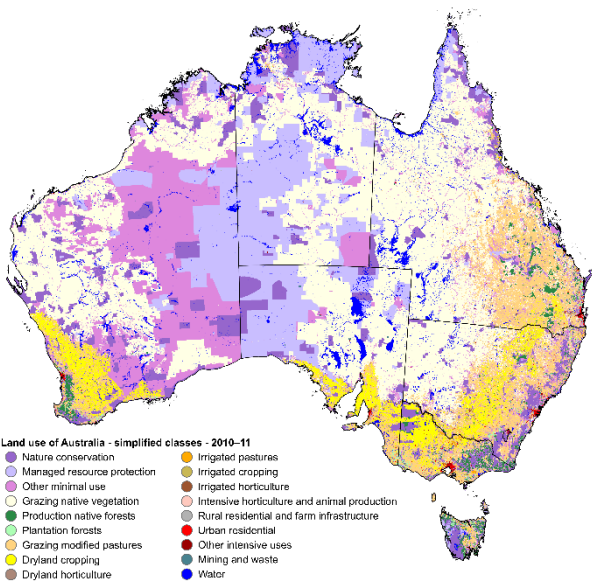
Date published:

14 August 2026

Date prepared:

6 July 2026

Preview:



ABSTRACT

The *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 version 7.1* data package consists of seamless continental rasters that present land use at national scale for 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21 and the associated change between each target period. Non-agricultural land uses are mapped using 7 thematic layers, derived from existing datasets provided by state and territory jurisdictions and external agencies. These 7 layers are: protected areas, topographic features, land tenure, forest type, catchment scale land use, urban boundaries, and stock routes. The agricultural land uses are based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics' 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21 agricultural census data; with spatial distributions modelled using Terra Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite imagery and training data, assisted by spatial constraint layers for cultivation, horticulture, and irrigation.

Land use is specified according to the Australian Land Use and Management (ALUM) Classification version 8. The same method is applied to all target periods using representative national datasets for each period, where available. All rasters are in GeoTIFF format with geographic coordinates in Geocentric Datum of Australian 1994 (GDA94) and a 0.002197 degree (~250 metre) cell size.

The *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 version 7.1* data package is a product of the Australian Collaborative Land Use and Management Program. **This data package replaces the *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 (version 7)* and *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2015–16 (version 6)* data packages, with updates to the three target periods and associated change products.**

Citation

ABARES 2026, *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 version 7.1*, Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Canberra, August, CC BY 4.0. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25814/n0z4-5y98>

Custodian

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Acknowledgements

This data package was produced by Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry as part of the Australian Collaborative Land Use and Management Program (ACLUMP). ACLUMP, of which ABARES is a partner, is a consortium of Australian Government, and state and territory government partners that promotes the development of nationally consistent land use, land cover and land management practice information for Australia. More information on ACLUMP is available at <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/aclump>.

Data were sourced from and used with permission of: the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy and the Environment, Coleambally Irrigation Co-operative Limited, CSIRO, Department of Regional NSW, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, Geosciences Australia, NASA, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, NT Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, PSMA Australia Limited (Geoscape Australia), Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation, Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, Victoria Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, SA Department of Environment and Water, the United States Geological Survey, the University of New England (Applied Agricultural Remote Sensing Centre) and WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Constraints

Disclaimer

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

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Other constraints

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Additional information about this material

Purpose for which the material was obtained

These land use datasets provide a national scale spatial representation of how the Australian landscape was used for the specified 12-month period. Land use can be for food production, forestry, nature conservation, water storage or urban development. These datasets provide the location, extent and the ability to explore change in land use between 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21. They are inputs to a national land account as part of a national approach to environmental economic accounting.

In addition, eight historical target periods back to 1992–93 and including 2010–11, are available at a coarser resolution of 0.01 degree cell size. These reflect versions 3 to 5 of the national scale land use datasets, released from 2006 to 2016. Refer to their data caveats before use. This data package is version 7.1 and replaces version 7 for 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21 and version 6 for 2010–11 and 2015–16 at the 0.002197 degree (~250 metre) cell size.

The Land use of Australia data series is recognised as Foundation Spatial Data by the Australia New Zealand Land Information Council and as an Essential Statistical Asset for Australia by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Common applications of the datasets are in strategic planning and continental modelling.

How to use this data

1. These datasets replace the *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21* (version 7) and the *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2015–16, 250 m* (version 6). Data updates and revisions are listed in the Lineage Statement.
2. These datasets have been made for change analysis. With the nature of archived datasets, change may reflect improved data quality. When interpreting land use change, users should consider the input data sources and their influence on the final land use assigned to a cell (pixel).
3. Agricultural areas will not necessarily tally to those reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Agricultural census data is scaled to fit the spatial extent for agricultural uses within Statistical Areas Level 2. This area is determined by subtracting the area occupied by non-agricultural land uses.

4. Agricultural land uses are informed by continuous probability surfaces for each commodity allocated. The rarest commodity is allocated first to cells with the highest probability for that commodity until its area is satisfied. Then the next rarest commodity is allocated to the remaining cells with the highest probability for that commodity until its area is satisfied. This continues until all land uses are allocated. The result approximates a maximum likelihood map. How distinct the commodity appears in the satellite imagery will influence attribute accuracy, as too the similarity of the phenology within a commodity group.
5. Irrigated agricultural land uses are informed by an irrigation potential index and reflect those areas most likely to have been irrigated in the target period up to the area of the scaled irrigation statistics.
6. ACLUMP releases regular updates to its Catchment scale land use of Australia dataset. This provides more detailed land use mapping but as a compilation of various dates, between and often within jurisdictions, it is not recommended for reporting land use change nationally. The [Queensland Land Use Mapping Program](#) provides datasets for assessing land use change within its Natural Resource Management Regions.
7. The equal area projection (Australian Albers EPSG:3577) is provided for area calculations. The accuracy of the area estimates is affected by the cell size of the land use datasets and the input data sources used in their construction.

Progress status of this material:

Final

Maintenance and update frequency:

Every five years

KEYWORD(S)

ANZLIC search words:

AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURE Crops
AGRICULTURE Livestock
AGRICULTURE Horticulture
AGRICULTURE Irrigation
BOUNDARIES
BOUNDARIES Administrative
BOUNDARIES Biophysical
BOUNDARIES Cultural
FLORA
FLORA Exotic
FLORA Native
FORESTS
FORESTS Agroforestry
FORESTS Natural
FORESTS Plantation
HERITAGE
HERITAGE World
HUMAN ENVIRONMENT
LAND
LAND Conservation
LAND Conservation Reserve
LAND Topography
LAND Use
VEGETATION
VEGETATION Structural
WATER
WATER Lakes
WATER Surface

General keywords:

Land use
Australian Collaborative Land Use and Management Program (ACLUMP)

TOPICS

ABARES topic categories:

Agriculture
Land Use
Environment and Natural Resource Management
Models, Risk, Spatial Data and Datasets

ISO topic categories:

Farming
Environment
Society
InlandWaters

SPATIAL EXTENT(S)

Description of spatial extent:

Australian Land

Spatial bounding box included in:

North: -1047686.3053171562496573 m; South: -4964936.3053171560168266 m
East: 2468707.7485073595307767 m; West: -2189542.2514926404692233 m
Equivalent geographic coordinates:
North: -9.995 degrees; South: -44.004 degrees; East: 154.004 degrees; West: 112.505 degrees.

Spatial area included in:

Australian Mainland. Australia excluding external territories.

Projection:

The datasets are available in geographic EPSG:4283 and equal area EPSG:3577 projections.

Coordinate reference details in Well-Known Text for geographic projection EPSG:4283:

```
GEOGCS["GDA94",  
  DATUM["Geocentric_Datum_of_Australia_1994",  
    SPHEROID["GRS 1980",6378137,298.257222101,AUTHORITY["EPSG","7019"]],  
    TOWGS84[0,0,0,0,0,0],AUTHORITY["EPSG","6283"]],  
  PRIMEM["Greenwich",0,AUTHORITY["EPSG","8901"]],  
  UNIT["degree",0.0174532925199433,AUTHORITY["EPSG","9122"]],AUTHORITY["EPSG","4283"]]
```

Coordinate reference details in Well-Known Text for equal area projection EPSG:3577:

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PROJCS["GDA94 / Australian Albers",  
  GEOGCS["GDA94",  
    DATUM["Geocentric_Datum_of_Australia_1994",  
      SPHEROID["GRS 1980",6378137,298.257222101,AUTHORITY["EPSG","7019"]],  
      TOWGS84[0,0,0,0,0,0],AUTHORITY["EPSG","6283"]],PRIMEM["Greenwich",0,AUTHORITY["EPSG","8901"]],  
      UNIT["degree",0.0174532925199433,AUTHORITY["EPSG","9122"]],AUTHORITY["EPSG","4283"]],  
    PROJECTION["Albers_Conic_Equal_Area"],PARAMETER["standard_parallel_1",-18],  
    PARAMETER["standard_parallel_2",-36],  
    PARAMETER["latitude_of_center",0],  
    PARAMETER["longitude_of_center",132],  
    PARAMETER["false_easting",0],PARAMETER["false_northing",0],  
    UNIT["metre",1,AUTHORITY["EPSG","9001"]],  
    AXIS["Easting",EAST],  
    AXIS["Northing",NORTH],AUTHORITY["EPSG","3577"]]
```

DATA PACKAGE CONTENTS

Table 1 Description of the Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 version 7.1 data package

File name	File description
NLUM_v7_1_250m_ALUMV8_20YY_YY_alb	NLUM raster dataset with land uses described as primary, secondary, and tertiary classes of the ALUM classification version 8, plus the derived simplified and agricultural industries summary classifications. One raster for each year. GeoTIFF, 16-bit integer. For attribute table description, see Table 2.
NLUM_v7_1_250m_SIMP_CHANGE_DETAIL_2011_to_2021_alb	NLUM observed change raster dataset providing 2010–11 land use, 2015–16 land use, 2020–21 land use and 2010–11 to 2015–16 to 2020–21 observed land use change at ALUM derived simplified classes. GeoTIFF, 16-bit integer. For attribute table description, see Table 3.
NLUM_v7_1_250m_SIMP_CHANGE_SUMMARY_2011_to_2021_alb	NLUM observed change raster dataset providing change attributes which identify whether or not a pixel was observed to change ALUM derived simplified classes across the three time periods (2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21). GeoTIFF, 16-bit integer. For attribute table description, see Table 4.
NLUM_v7_1_250m_INPUTS_20YY_YY_geo	NLUM inputs raster dataset with the 7 input layers, agricultural commodities mapped and their irrigation status, and final land use class assigned according to ALUM v8. One raster for each year. GeoTIFF, 16-bit integer. For attribute table description, see Table 5.
NLUM_v7_1_250m_AgProbabilitySurfaces_20YY_YY_geo	Folder containing 23 continuous probability rasters for each year, 1 for each agricultural commodity mapping unit. Used to construct the maximum likelihood map for agricultural land uses. Values 0 to 10,000. GeoTIFF, 16-bit integer. See Table A2.8 for list.
Maps	
• NLUM_v7_1_250m_PRIM_20YY_YY.png; pdf	Map showing the NLUM dataset at ALUM primary classification; either 2010–11, 2015–16, or 2020–21.
• NLUM_v7_1_250m_SEC_20YY_YY.png; pdf	Map showing the NLUM dataset at ALUM secondary classification; either 2010–11, 2015–16, or 2020–21.
• NLUM_v7_1_250m_SIMP_20YY_YY.png; pdf	Map showing the NLUM dataset as simplified classes; either 2010–11, 2015–16, or 2020–21.
• NLUM_v7_1_250m_AGIND_20YY_YY.png; pdf	Map showing the NLUM dataset agricultural industries; either 2010–11, 2015–16, or 2020–21.
• NLUM_v7_1_250m_AGCOMMOD_20YY_YY.png; pdf	Map showing the NLUM inputs raster dataset, classified by agricultural commodity; either 2010–11, 2015–16, or 2020–21.
• NLUM_v7_1_250m_CHANGE_SIMP_2010_11_to_2020_21.png; pdf	Map showing where observed land use change occurred between 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21 at the simplified classification level.
Symbology	Folder containing layer files to visualise rasters in ESRI ArcGIS Pro (.lyrx), ArcMap (.lyr) and QGIS (.qml).

Note: Rasters with the projection suffix 'alb' are in the coordinate system GDA94/Australian Albers (EPSG: 3577) with a 250 by 250 metres resolution. Rasters with a projection suffix 'geo' are in the coordinate system GDA94 (EPSG:4283) with a 0.02197 degree (degree equivalent of 250 metres) resolution. Each .tif raster dataset contains a .tif.aux.xml auxiliary file storing information including raster attributes. 'YY' denotes the year; '10_11' for 2010–11, '15_16' for 2015–16 and '20_21' for 2020–21.

DATA DICTIONARY

Table 2 Attributes of each NLUM target period raster (NLUM_v7_1_250m_ALUMV8_20YY_YY_alb.tif)

Field name	Field description	Code values
Value	ALUM code as a three-digit integer. First digit is primary code, second digit is secondary code, and third digit is tertiary code. a	Integer, range: 111 to 663
Count	Count of the number of raster cells in each class of Value.	Integer count
TERTV8	ALUM tertiary code description as text. Examples: 1.1.1 Strict nature reserves 6.6.3 Estuary/coastal waters - intensive use	Text
SECV8N	ALUM secondary code. ab	Integer, range: 11 to 66
SECV8	ALUM secondary code description as text. See Table A1.2 for list.	Text
PRIMV8N	ALUM primary code. a	Integer, range: 1 to 6
PRIMV8	ALUM primary code description as text. See Table A1.1 for list.	Text
SIMPV8	Code for simplified land use classification based on ALUM. a	Integer, range: 110 to 663
SIMP	Description of the simplified land use classification. See Table A1.3 for list.	Text
AGIND	Description of agricultural industries based on ALUM. See Table A1.4 for list.	Text

a The first integer is 0 for No data/offshore. **b** SECV8N uses 70 for class 5.4.2; 5.4.3; 5.4.4; 5.4.5 Rural residential and farm infrastructure.
Note: All ALUM codes refer to the Australian Land Use and Management Classification, version 8.

Table 3 Attributes of the NLUM change detail raster dataset (NLUM_v7_1_250m_SIMP_CHANGE_DETAIL_2011_to_2021_alb.tif)

Field name	Field description	Data type
Value	Unique number given to each land use change combination.	Integer, range: 1 to 2,719
Count	Count of the number of raster cells in each class of Value.	Integer count
SIMPV8_YY	Simplified land use classification code for the target period. a	Integer, range: 1 to 19
SIMP_YY	Simplified land use classification description for each target period. See Table A1.3 for list.	Text
LUCH	Observed land use change code. a	Integer, range: 1 to 4
LUCH_DESC	Description of observed land use change code. See Table A3.1 for list.	Text
L11_16_21	Change in simplified land use classification code from the years 2010–11 to 2015–16 to 2020–21.	Text
L11_16_21D	Change in simplified land use classification description from the years 2010–11 to 2015–16 to 2020–21.	Text

a The first integer is 0 for No data/offshore.
Note: ‘YY’ denotes the year; ‘11’ for 2010–11, ‘16’ for 2015–16 and ‘21’ for 2020–21.

Table 4 Attributes of the NLUM change summary raster dataset (NLUM_v7_1_250m_SIMP_CHANGE_SUMMARY_2011_to_2021_alb.tif)

Field name	Field description	Data type
Value	Unique number given to each land use change combination. a	Integer, range: 1 to 4
Count	Count of the number of raster cells in each class of Value.	Integer count
LUCH_DESC	Description of observed land use change code. See Table A3.1 for list.	Text

a The first integer is 0 for No data/offshore.

Table 5 Attributes of the NLUM inputs raster dataset (NLUM_v7_1_250m_INPUTS_20YY_YY_geo.tif)

Field name	Field description	Code values
Value	Unique number given to each combination of the values in the thematic input layers (protected areas, topographic features, tenure, forest type, catchment scale land use, urban boundaries stock routes and agricultural commodity mapping units).	Integer, range: 1 to 112,985
LUV8N	ALUM code as a three-digit integer. First digit is primary code, second digit is secondary code, and third digit is tertiary code. a	Integer, range: 111 to 663
Count	Count of the number of raster cells in each class of Value.	Integer count
TERTV8	ALUM tertiary code description. Examples: 1.1.1 Strict nature reserves 6.6.3 Estuary/coastal waters - intensive use	Text
SECV8	ALUM secondary code description. See Table A1.2 for list.	Text
PRIMV8	ALUM primary code description. See Table A1.1 for list.	Text
SIMPV8	Simplified land use classification code. a	Integer, range: 1 to 19
SIMP	Description of the simplified land use classification code. See Table A1.3 for list.	Text
PA	Protected area code.	Integer, range: 0 to 70
PA_DESC	Description of the protected area code consisting of IUCN classification and description. See Table A2.1 for descriptions and meanings.	Text
TOPO	Topographic feature code.	Integer, range: 0 to 144
TOPO_DESC	Description of the topographic feature code. See Table A2.2 for descriptions and meanings.	Text
TEN	Land tenure code.	Integer, range: 0 to 2302
TEN_DESC	Description of tenure code. See Table A2.3 for descriptions and meanings	Text
FOR	Forest type code.	Integer, range: 0 to 9
FOR_DESC	Description of forest type code. See Table A2.4 for descriptions and meanings.	Text
CLUM	Catchment scale land use code as a three-digit integer for the ALUM code. a	Integer, range: 110 to 663
CLUM_DESC	Description of catchment scale land use ALUM tertiary code and description.	Text
CLUM_CUR	The year of mapping (currency) of the CLUM dataset for the pixel.	Integer, range 2003 to 2017 or 2018; 2008 to 2023
URBAN	Urban boundaries code.	Integer, range: 0 to 3
URBAN_DESC	Description of urban constraint code. See Table A2.5 for descriptions and meanings.	Text
SR	Stock routes and minimal use code. a	Integer, range: 1 to 7
SR_DESC	Description of stock routes and minimal use code. See Table A2.6 for descriptions and meaning.	Text
IRGN	Irrigation status code for agricultural commodity mapping unit.	Integer: 0 or 1
IRGN_DESC	Description of irrigation status code.	Text
AGMAPU	Agricultural commodity mapping unit code output from SPREAD II and mapping of grazing outside SPREAD II.	Integer, range: 0 to 25
AGMAPU_DESC	Description of agricultural commodity mapping unit codes. See Table A2.8 for descriptions.	Text
JURIS	Abbreviation of State or Territory jurisdiction.	Text

a The first integer is 0 for No data/offshore.

Note: 'YY' denotes the year; '11' for 2010–11, '16' for 2015–16 and '21' for 2020–21. All ALUM codes refer to the Australian Land Use and Management Classification, version 8. IUCN is the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Process used to generate this material

LINEAGE STATEMENT

Lineage:

To determine the non-agricultural land uses, 7 thematic layers were constructed as rasters with 0.002197 degree resolution and overlaid according to an expert rule-based spatial analysis. Input data was provided by state and territory agencies and external entities. The themes and their main sources were:

- I. Protected areas layer - Collaborative Australian Protected Areas database (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water 2012ab, 2016ab, 2018ab, 2022ab) and World Heritage Areas (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water 2012c, 2020a, 2022c). Proposed areas that have been allocated an IUCN class and areas for which the gazettal is in progress have been included on the basis that these areas are usually managed for ongoing protection.
- II. Topographic features layer – GEODATA TOPO 250K series 3 (Geoscience Australia 2006), Surface Hydrology Polygons (National) (Geoscience Australia 2015), DEA Water Observations (Geoscience Australia 2022), ABS Urban Centres and Localities data (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011ab, 2016ab, 2021)
- III. Land tenure layer – Land tenure of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 (ABARES 2024)
- IV. Forest type layer – Forests of Australia (2013) v2.0 (ABARES 2016a), Forests of Australia 2018 (ABARES 2018) and Forests of Australia 2023 (ABARES 2023). Additionally, areas with Multiple-use public forest tenure assessed as legally restricted from wood harvesting (Montreal Process Implementation Group for Australia and National Forest Inventory Steering Committee 2018 and 2023) were excluded from allocation to Production native forests.
- V. Catchment scale land use (CLUM) layer – a combination of available ACLUMP CLUM (ABARES 2023) datasets most appropriate for each time period.
- VI. Urban boundaries layer – ABS Urban Centres and Localities dataset (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011b, 2016b, 2021).
- VII. Stock routes layer – PSMA Land Tenure (February 2012, 2017), Stock routes - Queensland (Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development 2013; 2023), Conservation value of NSW travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs) (NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 2017) and Stock routes in Western Australia (Department of Lands and Surveys 2019).

Tables A2.1–6 lists the attributes within each thematic layer excluding the CLUM layer attributes as these as described for ALUM v8 (ABARES 2016). The data sources and their currency used in the construction of these layers are provided in Table A4.1.

The approach to constructing land use adopted here is generally consistent with the approach used previously in *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2015–16, 250m* version 6 and described below. Key exceptions are listed in Box 1.

Additional improvements, corrections and updates applied since version 7 (released November 2024) are described in Box 2. Version 7.1 retains the version 7 methodology while addressing specific data handling issues, ensuring cross-year consistency and improving allocation reliability. The changes focus on: (i) resampling corrections for forests and stock routes; (ii) harmonised re-processing of protected areas; (iii) refinements to forestry and harvest restriction logic; and (iv) constraint and control improvements that shape agricultural allocations.

CLUM data (ABARES 2023) is published as 0.0004394 degree (equivalent to 50 by 50 metres) rasters which were resampled by mode to 0.002197 degree resolution (equivalent to 250 m). This corresponded to a simple majority rasterisation. Data for the Forest type layer was supplied as a 100 m resolution raster and was resampled to 0.002197 degree resolution. All other thematic inputs were rasterised to 0.002197 degree rasters in a two-step process replicating maximum combined area rasterisation. Polygons were rasterised to 0.0004394 degree (equivalent to 50 by 50 metres) rasters using cell point centre, then resampled by mode to 0.002197 degree resolution. For some thematic layers constructed from multiple datasets, datasets were combined as 0.0004394 degree rasters rather than vector files.

The extent of agricultural land use was based on the area of Australia excluding the non-agricultural land use. Agricultural land uses were allocated using the SPatial REallocation of Aggregated Data – version 2 (SPREAD II) algorithm (Knapp 2016). The spatial distribution of agricultural land uses on non-forested agricultural land were modelled using agricultural area estimates based on the 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21 agricultural census data collected by the Australian Bureau of

Statistics at the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2). Agricultural land uses were allocated using temporal normalised difference vegetation index (NDVI) profiles derived from Terra MODIS satellite imagery and ground referenced data. The NDVI profiles covered the growing period for each time period, from 1 April of the first year to 31 March of the second year. Nearly 75,000 ground reference points were collated from various ACLUMP partner state government agencies, Coleambally Irrigation Co-operative Limited, the United States Geological Survey and additional points determined based on high-resolution satellite imagery. These data were collected for the period 2000–2022. SPREAD II was further constrained using spatial constraints for cultivation and horticulture. For construction of the cultivation constraint, a vegetation condition layer was generated using multiple state and national level datasets including the National Vegetation Information System (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water 2020b), Natural Areas of Australia (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water 2014), NSW native vegetation extent (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019), WA current extent of native vegetation (WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 2023), Queensland remnant vegetation cover (Qld Department of the Environment, Science and Innovation 2021) and CLUM (ABARES 2023). Non-native or modified vegetation areas were identified from these datasets with this layer informing the cultivation constraint. The horticulture spatial constraint was developed from ACLUMP catchment scale land use mapping.

In the first stage of running SPREAD II, native pasture and cultivation areas were separated using the cultivation spatial constraint. In the second stage, the horticulture spatial constraint was used to allocate horticulture and agronomic mapping units within the cultivation pixels obtained from the first run. Irrigation status of both agronomic and horticultural mapping units was implemented outside SPREAD II, assisted by an irrigation constraint and a newly constructed irrigation potential index. The irrigation constraint was developed from the Catchment scale land use layer and irrigation district boundaries. The irrigation potential index was created from Actual Evapotranspiration (AET) (Guerschman et al. 2022), Australian Bureau of Meteorology rainfall data (2008) and MODIS Land Surface Water Index (Fensholt and Sandholt 2003) datasets.

The SPREAD II outputs comprise agricultural commodity probability surfaces (floating point rasters converted to integers of Int16 data type) and categorical summary land use maps for agricultural commodities (integer grids).

Additional grazing land was allocated outside SPREAD II for pixels with forest crown cover less than 80% and without a non-agricultural land use. This additional area was allocated preferentially to pixels with lower forest crown cover and lower slope, as grazing was assumed to be more likely on flatter and less densely forested land. Forest crown cover data originated from the forest type thematic layer. Slope data originated from CSIRO Land and Water's Slope relief 3" resolution dataset (Speight 2009) derived from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) (Farr et al. 2007).

All data processing outside SPREAD II used the Python spatial libraries Geospatial Data Abstraction Library (GDAL) (3.8.4), Rasterio (v1.4.3) and GeoPandas (1.0.1) within open source Python 3.12 distribution. All processing was performed using the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94) geographic coordinate system (EPSG: 4283). For reporting purposes, all data aligns to a 250 m rasterised version of the Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) Australian Statistical Geography Standard shapefile (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021).

Figure 1 provides the process flow diagram for the construction of the individual land use rasters. This methodology builds on the work of Smart (2016), Smart et al. (2006), Stewart et al. (2001) and Walker and Mallawaarachchi (1998).

Updated land tenure data

Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21 draws on updated land tenure data for 2010–11 and 2015–16 (ABARES 2024). Notably, some areas in Western Australia previously assigned to Nature conservation are now assigned to Other minimal use. These updates were the result of extracting additional information from the PSMA Land Tenure data used as an input to the ABARES Land tenure of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21.

Minor improvements to catchment scale land use data

Some updates were made to the catchment scale land use layers for the periods 2010–11 and 2015–16. This included the allocation of tertiary ALUM codes for Intensive use areas in WA, which were previously mapped into the broader class value of 500. An updated version (v1.5) of NSW Landuse 2017 was also used for 2015–16.

Assignment of horticultural classes within the horticulture constraint

A horticulture constraint was used to guide the allocation of horticultural classes. In the previous release, some misallocations were observed outside of the horticulture constraint. The model workflow was adjusted to minimise these misallocations outside the horticulture constraint.

Addressing ABS agricultural census non-publishable data

In some SA2s, agricultural commodity values were not reported in the ABS agricultural census for 2015–16 and 2020–21. For these non-publishable (np) cases, the area under the agricultural commodity was estimated using historical data. This occurred mainly in South Australia and Western Australia.

Resampling when constructing input layers

In *Land use of Australia 2010-11 to 2015-16, 250m* the majority of data values were considered when resampling from 50 metre to 250 metre resolution rasters. However, 'no data' values were not considered in this analysis. This resulted in small and/or linear features being overrepresented in the input layers. This was reflected most noticeably for the Water classes. In version 7, all data values including 'no data' were considered in the majority resampling of the Topographic features layer. Box 2 outlines additional corrections made to the Forest type and Stock routes layers in version 7.1.

Water observations data from Geoscience Australia

Digital Earth Australia (DEA) Water Observations data derived from the Landsat satellite were used to construct topographic features data. Geoscience Australia released a new version of the Water Observations data, prompting an update of the Topographic features layers using this version, 3.1.6.

Allocation of irrigated agricultural land uses

Irrigated agricultural land use is allocated based on an irrigation potential index and ABS agricultural census data. Previously, this index was generated by integrating irrigation constraints, the MODIS land surface water index and DEA Water Observations data. For version 7 the irrigation potential index used Actual Evapotranspiration (AET) data provided by CSIRO instead of the DEA Water Observations data. For 2020–21 updated irrigation district boundaries were used.

Updated reporting grid

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2021 SA2 layer, published by the ABS, was used as the reporting grid for this version. Version 6 used the ASGS 2016 edition.

Changes to the simplified land use classification

A simplified classification with 19 land use classes (Table A1.3) has replaced the previously used 18-class classification. In the new classification, the Urban intensive uses class is split into the classes Urban residential and Other intensive uses.

Rule change for non-agricultural land use allocation

Intensive plant and animal production classes sourced from the Catchment scale land use layers were given preference over classes from the Topographic features layers in this version.

Box 1 Changes from *Land use of Australia 2010-11 to 2015-16, 250m* as published June 2022

Resampling when constructing input layers — correction implemented

Corrected the method used when resampling from 50 metre to 250 metre resolution for the Forest type and Stock routes layers. That is, 'no data' values are treated as valid for the majority resampling, so if the mode of the 50 m pixels was 'no data' then the 250 m pixel would be allocated to 'no data'.

This change reduces representation of small and narrow features that cannot be appropriately captured at 250 m resolution. Areas of Plantation forests (3.1.0), Residual native cover (1.3.3) and Stock routes (1.3.2) decreased as a result of this correction. The reduction in these areas also indirectly resulted in a substantial increase in the aggregate coverage of cultivated agriculture classes (3.2.0 to 4.6.5), as more area became available to these classes.

Protected areas —re-processing across all years

Re-processed all years for the Protected areas layer to enforce the 31 March gazettal cut-off for CAPAD areas and reclassified IUCN classes of NA/NAS/NR to Other conserved area (1.1.7). Areas with gazettal dates post this cut-off were retained if a representative point within the area was located within protected areas existing in the previous CAPAD release. When this was the case, it was assumed that the new gazettal date related to attribute changes rather than signifying the gazettal of a new area.

2020 World Heritage Areas, rather than the 2012 version, were used as an input to 2015–16 protected areas to capture the extensions to the Tasmanian Wilderness in 2012 and 2013.

These changes had mixed impacts; reductions, increases and reclassifications (between Nature conservation (1.0.0) and Managed resource protection (1.2.0)) in protected areas are observed in different areas.

Production native forests refinements

The land use class Production native forests (2.2.0) was previously allocated only in forested areas with a tenure type of Multiple-use public forest (MUPF). It has now been allocated across all areas of MUPF except where harvest restrictions apply or the area is otherwise allocated to another non-agricultural land use. Thus, in version 7.1 the land use area assigned to Production native forests has increased in all years.

Harvest and commerciality constraints to Production native forests allocation

Inputs relating to areas legally restricted from wood harvesting were updated for 2020–21 to align with Australia's State of the Forests Report (SOFR) (Montreal Process Implementation Group for Australia and National Forest Inventory Steering Committee 2023). Legislative changes after 2020–21 are not included. Native forest area commerciality was not considered in version 7.1 to ensure consistent treatment over time with the commerciality constraint not available for 2020–21.

The removal of the commerciality constraints has resulted in an increase to Production native forests. However, the area harvested is a small proportion of this class (less than 1% in 2020–21; ABARES 2025). Updates to the areas legally restricted from wood harvesting had mixed impacts; reductions and increases to Production native forests are observed for 2020–21 in different areas due to this change.

Stock routes — data update and targeted fix

For 2020–21 updated Queensland stock routes (released August 2023) have been used and an input selection issue corrected. This update and fix resulted in slight increases to stock routes for 2020–21 when controlling for changes stemming from the resampling fix discussed above.

Agricultural allocation (SPREAD II) and constraints — accuracy improvements

The cultivation constraint was adjusted to include cultivated areas from the CLUM layers, including modified pasture. The proportion within the cultivation and horticulture constraints was targeted to 99% (90% was used in version 7). Additional imagery-based control sites were used to improve allocation of Grazing native vegetation (2.1.0) in the rangelands. A cropping constraint based on CLUM cropping areas was introduced, in addition to the cultivation constraint correction this further refined areas to which SPREAD allocated cropping. A reclassification was applied to those areas assigned to cropping where the CLUM layers classified the land as Conservation and natural environments (Primary class 1). Within these areas, pixels with an annual MODIS NDVI range of less than 0.625 were reclassified as Other minimal use (1.3.0). Next, those areas where the 20-year maximum NDVI range exceeded 0.56 were reclassified as Grazing modified pastures.

Cross-year consistency rules for grazing classes

Consistency rules were implemented to prevent (i) Grazing modified pastures (3.2) reverting to Grazing native vegetation or Other minimal use (1.3); and (ii) Cropping (3.3, 4.3) reverting to non-cultivated classes without supporting evidence from non-agricultural inputs. These rules improve temporal consistency.

Jervis Bay patch

A patch was applied in the Jervis Bay Territory to correctly allocate areas under a 'Freehold – Indigenous' tenure class to Traditional Indigenous uses (1.2.5). These areas had previously been available to agriculture as the tenure class had been incorrectly allocated to 'Freehold'.

Box 2 Changes from *Land use of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21* version 7 as published November 2024

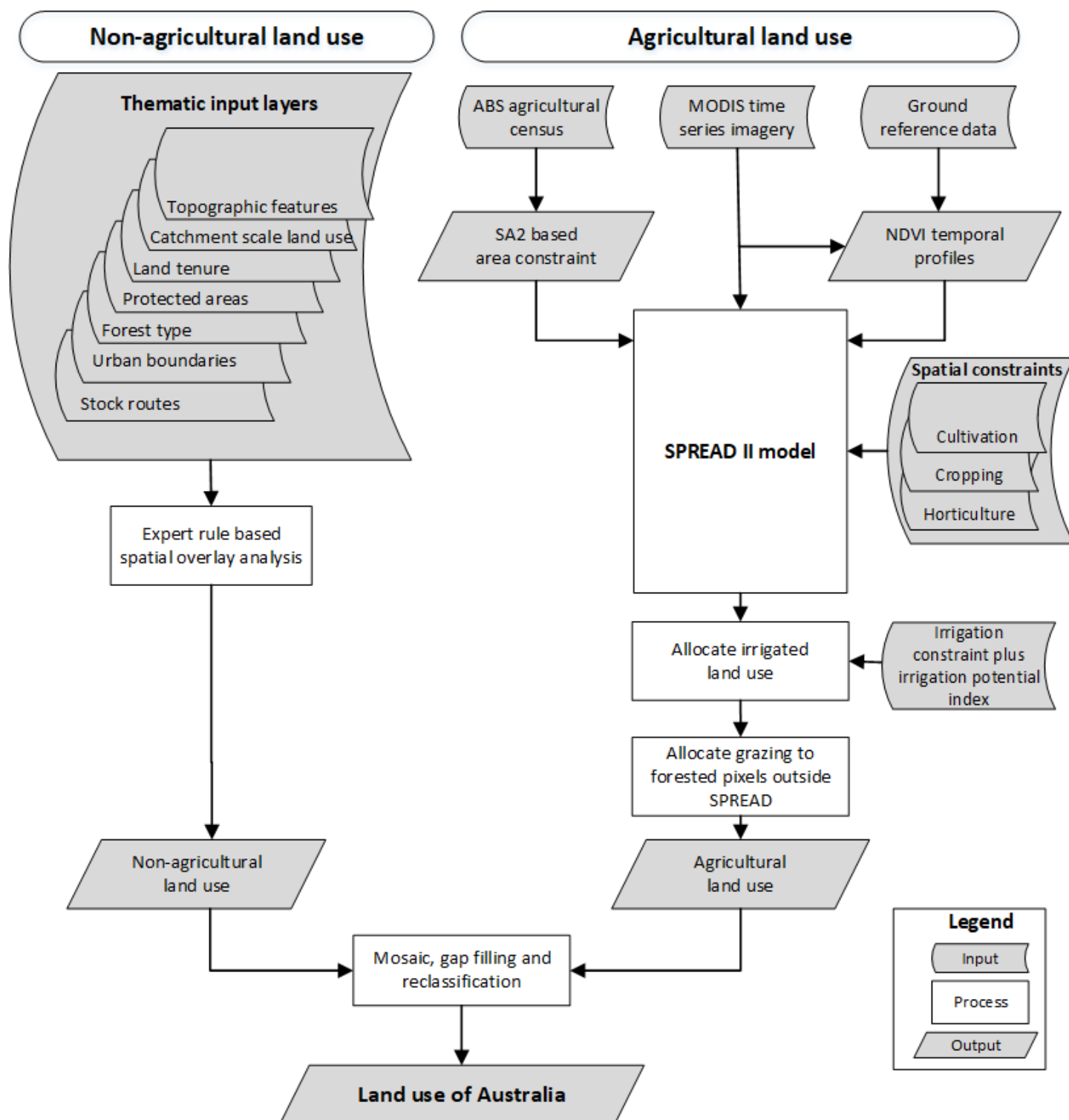


Figure 1 Process flow to generate the Land use of Australia rasters

Positional accuracy:

Horizontal: ± 0.002197 (~ ± 250 metres)

Vertical: not applicable

Attribute accuracy:

Attributes are compiled exercising due care and skill. However, attribute accuracy depends in part on the accuracy of input datasets and therefore cannot be guaranteed. The accuracy of the non-agricultural land use assignments is reasonably high whilst the accuracy of the agricultural land use allocations based on automated interpretation of NDVI images is variable. The probability rasters give an indication of the confidence in the agricultural land use allocations for those classes mapped within

SPREAD II. The methods for mapping and classifying land use adhere to the standards outlined in 'Guidelines for land use mapping in Australia: principles, procedures and definitions, 4th edition (ABARES 2011) using 'The Australian Land Use and Management Classification Version 8' (ABARES 2016b).

Logical consistency:

Data was used from authoritative sources and are reliant on the logical consistency of input datasets. The logical consistency of the automated, rule-based land use assignments has been assessed independently by jurisdictions. This rule set is based on that used in previous Land use of Australia datasets. The rule set follows the principles of the 'Australian Land Use and Management Classification Version 8' (ABARES 2016b) considering level of intervention in the landscape and the reporting of prime use.

Completeness:

Datasets provide coverage for 100% of Australia excluding external territories. Classification and verification have been assessed by ACLUMP partners prior to the release of version 7 and major issues addressed in the final dataset.

Additional metadata

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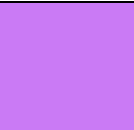
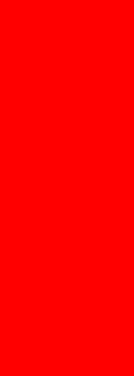
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Appendix 1 – Colour tables

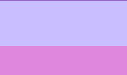
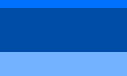
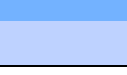
Table A1.1 Land use, primary classification symbology (RGB and hexadecimal colour values)

VALUE	PRIMV8N	PRIMV8	Red	Green	Blue	Hex	Colour
100 a; 110; 111; 112; 113; 114; 115; 116; 117; 120; 121; 122; 123; 124; 125; 130; 131; 132; 133; 134	1	Conservation and natural environments	202	122	245	#CA7AF5	
200 a; 210; 220; 221; 222	2	Production from relatively natural environments	255	255	190	#FFFFBE	
300 a; 310; 311; 312; 313; 314; 320; 321; 322; 323; 324; 325; 330; 331; 332; 333; 334; 335; 336; 337; 338; 340; 341; 342; 343; 344; 345; 346; 347; 348; 349; 350; 351; 352; 353; 360; 361; 362; 363; 364; 365	3	Production from dryland agriculture and plantations	255	170	0	#FFAA00	
400 a; 410; 411; 412; 413; 414; 420; 421; 422; 423; 424; 430; 431; 432; 433; 434; 435; 436; 437; 438; 439; 440; 441; 442; 443; 444; 445; 446; 447; 448; 449; 450; 451; 452; 453; 454; 460; 461; 462; 463; 464; 465	4	Production from irrigated agriculture and plantations	115	76	0	#734C00	
500 a; 510; 511; 512; 513; 514; 515; 520; 521; 522; 523; 524; 525; 526; 527; 528; 530; 531; 532; 533; 534; 535; 536; 537; 538; 540; 541; 542; 543; 544; 545; 550; 551; 552; 553; 554; 555; 560; 561; 562; 563; 564; 565; 566; 567; 570; 571; 572; 573; 574; 575; 580; 581; 582; 583; 584; 590; 591; 592; 593; 594; 595	5	Intensive uses	255	0	0	#FF0000	
600 a; 610; 611; 612; 613; 614; 620; 621; 622; 623; 630; 631; 632; 633; 640; 641; 642; 643; 650; 651; 652; 653; 654; 660; 661; 662; 663	6	Water	0	0	255	#0000FF	

a This class is included for completeness but is not present in the datasets.

Note: VALUE codes refer to the Australian Land Use and Management (ALUM) Classification, version 8.

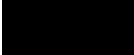
Table A1.2 Land use, secondary classification symbology (RGB and hexadecimal colour values)

VALUE	SECV8N	SECV8	Red	Green	Blue	Hex	Colour
100 a ; 110; 111; 112; 113; 114; 115; 116; 117	11	1.1 Nature conservation	150	102	204	#9666CC	
120; 121; 122; 123; 124; 125	12	1.2 Managed resource protection	201	190	255	#C9BEFF	
130; 131; 132; 133; 134	13	1.3 Other minimal use	222	135	221	#DE87DD	
200 a ; 210	21	2.1 Grazing native vegetation	255	255	229	#FFFFE5	
220; 221; 222	22	2.2 Production native forests	41	137	68	#298944	
310; 311; 312; 313; 314	31	3.1 Plantation forests b	173	255	181	#ADFFB5	
300 a ; 320; 321; 322; 323; 324; 325	32	3.2 Grazing modified pastures	255	211	127	#FFD37F	
330; 331; 332; 333; 334.; 335; 336; 337; 338	33	3.3 Cropping	255	255	0	#FFFF00	
340; 341; 342; 343; 344; 345; 346; 347; 348; 349	34	3.4 Perennial horticulture	171	135	120	#AB8778	
350; 351; 352; 353	35	3.5 Seasonal horticulture	87	58	64	#573A40	
360; 361; 362; 363; 364; 365	36	3.6 Land in transition a	0	0	0	#000000	
400 a ; 410; 411; 412; 413; 414	41	4.1 Irrigated plantation forests	236	255	224	#ECFFE0	
420; 421; 422; 423; 424	42	4.2 Grazing irrigated modified pastures	255	170	0	#FFAA00	
430; 431; 432; 433; 434; 435; 436; 437; 438; 439	43	4.3 Irrigated cropping	201	184	84	#C9B854	
440; 441; 442; 443; 444; 445; 446; 447; 448; 449	44	4.4 Irrigated perennial horticulture	156	84	46	#9C542E	
450; 451; 452; 453; 454	45	4.5 Irrigated seasonal horticulture	79	43	23	#4F2B17	
460; 461; 462; 463; 464; 465	46	4.6 Irrigated land in transition a	52	52	52	#343434	
510; 511; 512; 513; 514; 515	51	5.1 Intensive horticulture	255	201	190	#FFC9BE	
520; 521; 522; 523; 524; 525; 526; 527; 528	52	5.2 Intensive animal production	255	135	190	#FF87BE	
530; 531; 532; 533; 534; 535; 536; 537; 538	53	5.3 Manufacturing and industrial	115	76	0	#734C00	
540; 541	54	5.4.0, 5.4.1 Urban residential	255	0	0	#FF0000	
542; 543; 544; 545	70	5.4.2, 5.4.3, 5.4.4, 5.4.5 Rural residential and farm infrastructure	156	156	156	#9C9C9C	
500 a ; 550; 551; 552; 553; 554; 555	55	5.5 Services	155	0	0	#9B0000	
560; 561; 562; 563; 564; 565; 566; 567	56	5.6 Utilities	255	127	127	#FF7F7F	
570; 571; 572; 573; 574; 575	57	5.7 Transport and communication	168	0	0	#A80000	
580; 581; 582; 583; 584	58	5.8 Mining	71	130	143	#47828F	
590; 591; 592; 593; 594; 595	59	5.9 Waste treatment and disposal	41	73	82	#294952	
610; 611; 612; 613; 614	61	6.1 Lake	0	0	255	#0000FF	
600 a ; 620; 621; 622; 623	62	6.2 Reservoir/dam	0	197	255	#00C5FF	
630; 631; 632; 633	63	6.3 River	0	112	255	#0070FF	
640; 641; 642; 643	64	6.4 Channel/aqueduct	0	77	168	#004DA8	
650; 651; 652; 653; 654	65	6.5 Marsh/wetland	115	178	255	#73B2FF	
660; 661; 662; 663	66	6.6 Estuary/coastal waters	190	210	255	#BED2FF	

a This class is included for completeness but is not present in the datasets. **b** This class does not occur in SA or the ACT.

Note: VALUE codes refer to the Australian Land Use and Management (ALUM) Classification, version 8.

Table A1.3 Land use, simplified classification symbology (RGB and hexadecimal colour values)

VALUE	SIMP	SIMP	Red	Green	Blue	Hex	Colour
100 a ; 110; 111; 112; 113; 114; 115; 116; 117	1	Nature conservation	150	102	204	#9666CC	
120; 121; 122; 123; 124; 125	2	Managed resource protection	201	190	255	#C9BEFF	
130; 131; 132; 133; 134	3	Other minimal use	222	135	221	#DE87DD	
200 a ; 210	4	Grazing native vegetation	255	255	229	#FFFFE5	
220; 221; 222	5	Production native forests b	41	137	68	#298944	
310; 311; 312; 313; 314; 410; 411; 412; 413; 414	6	Plantation forests	173	255	181	#ADFFB5	
300 a ; 320; 321; 322; 323; 324; 325	7	Grazing modified pastures	255	211	127	#FFD37F	
330; 331; 332; 333; 334; 335; 336; 337; 338	8	Dryland cropping	255	255	0	#FFFF00	
340; 341; 342; 343; 344; 345; 346; 347; 348; 349; 350; 351; 352; 353	9	Dryland horticulture	171	135	120	#AB8778	
360; 361; 362; 363; 364; 365; 460; 461; 462; 463; 464; 465	10	Land in transition a	0	0	0	#000000	
400 a ; 420; 421; 422; 423; 424	11	Irrigated pastures	255	170	0	#FFAA00	
430; 431; 432; 433; 434; 435; 436; 437; 438; 439	12	Irrigated cropping	201	184	84	#C9B854	
440; 441; 442; 443; 444; 445; 446; 447; 448; 449; 450; 451; 452; 453; 454	13	Irrigated horticulture	156	84	46	#9C542E	
510; 511; 512; 513; 514; 515; 520; 521; 522; 523; 524; 525; 526; 527; 528	14	Intensive horticulture and animal production	255	201	190	#FFC9BE	
542; 543; 544; 545	15	Rural residential and farm infrastructure	178	178	178	#B2B2B2	
540; 541	16	Urban residential	255	0	0	#FF0000	
500 a ; 530; 531; 532; 533; 534; 535; 536; 537; 538; 550; 551; 552; 553; 554; 555; 560; 561; 562; 563; 564; 565; 566; 567; 570; 571; 572; 573; 574; 575	17	Other intensive uses	155	0	0	#980000	
580; 581; 582; 583; 584; 590; 591; 592; 593; 594; 595	18	Mining and waste	71	130	143	#47828F	
600 a ; 610; 611; 612; 613; 614; 620; 621; 622; 623; 630; 631; 632; 633; 640; 641; 642; 643; 650; 651; 652; 653; 654; 660; 661; 662; 663	19	Water	0	0	255	#0000FF	

a This class is included for completeness but is not present in the datasets. **b** This class does not occur in SA or the ACT.

Note: VALUE codes refer to the Australian Land Use and Management (ALUM) Classification, version 8.

Table A1.4 Land use, agricultural industries classification symbology (RGB and hexadecimal colour values)

VALUE	AGIND	Red	Green	Blue	Hex	Colour
200 a; 210	Grazing native vegetation	217	214	207	#D9D6CF	
300 a; 320; 321; 322; 323; 324; 325; 360; 361; 362; 363; 364; 365; 400; 420; 421; 422; 423; 424; 460; 461; 462; 463; 464; 465	Grazing modified pastures	205	213	70	#CDD546	
330; 331; 332; 333; 334; 335; 336; 337; 338; 430; 431; 432; 433; 434; 435; 436; 437; 438; 439	Cropping	114	136	26	#72881A	
340; 341; 342; 343; 344; 345; 346; 347; 348; 350; 351; 352; 353; 440; 441; 442; 443; 444; 445; 446; 447; 448; 449; 450; 451; 452; 453; 454	Horticulture	230	0	0	#E60000	
510; 511; 512; 513; 514; 515; 520; 521; 522; 523; 524; 525; 526; 527; 528	Intensive plant and animal industries	115	223	255	#73DFFF	
100 a; 110; 111; 112; 113; 114; 115; 116; 117; 120; 121; 122; 123; 124; 125; 130; 131; 132; 133; 134; 220; 221; 222; 310; 311; 312; 313; 314; 410; 411; 412; 413; 414; 500 a; 530; 531; 532; 533; 534; 535; 536; 537; 538; 540; 541; 550; 551; 552; 553; 554; 555; 560; 561; 562; 563; 564; 565; 566; 567; 570; 571; 572; 573; 574; 575; 542; 543; 544; 545; 580; 581; 582; 583; 584; 590; 591; 592; 593; 594; 595; 600 a; 610; 611; 612; 613; 614; 620; 621; 622; 623; 630; 631; 632; 633; 640; 641; 642; 643; 650; 651; 652; 653; 654; 660; 661; 662; 663	Other uses	255	255	255	#FFFFFF	

a This class is included for completeness but is not present in the datasets.

Note: VALUE codes refer to the Australian Land Use and Management (ALUM) Classification, version 8.

Appendix 2 – Land use thematic input layers descriptions

Table A2.1 Values, description, and meanings of protected areas layers' attributes

PA	PA_DESC	Meaning
0	Not a protected area	Not a protected area.
11	Ia. Strict nature reserve	IUCN category Ia protected area: strict nature reserve; a protected area managed mainly for science.
12	Ib. Wilderness area	IUCN category Ib protected area: wilderness area; a protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection.
20	II. National park	IUCN category II protected area: national park; a protected area managed mainly for ecosystem conservation and recreation.
30	III. Natural monument	IUCN category III protected area: natural monument; a protected area managed for conservation of specific natural features.
40	IV. Habitat/species management area	IUCN category IV protected area: habitat/species management area; a protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention.
50	V. Protected landscape/seascape	IUCN category V protected area: protected landscape/seascape; a protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation.
60	VI. Managed resource protected areas	IUCN category VI protected area: managed resource protected area; a protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems.
70	Other conserved area	Other conservation areas including protected areas without a prescribed IUCN management.

Note: IUCN is the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Table A2.2 Values, description and meanings of the topographic features layers' attributes

TOPO	TOPO_DESC	Meaning
0	Not a topographic feature	Not classified as a topographic feature.
1	Lake-perennial	A naturally occurring body of mainly static water surrounded by land; normally contains water for the whole year, except during unusually dry periods, in at least nine years out of ten.
2	Lake-non-perennial	A naturally occurring body of mainly static water surrounded by land; contains water for several months of each year or only contains water intermittently.
3	Watercourse-perennial	A natural channel along which water may flow from time to time; normally contains water for the whole year, except during unusually dry periods, in at least nine years out of ten.
4	Watercourse-non-perennial	A natural channel along which water may flow from time to time; contains water for several months of each year or only contains water intermittently.
5	Swamp	Land which is so saturated with water that it is not suitable for agricultural or pastoral use and presents a barrier to free passage.
6	Marine swamp	That low lying part of the backshore area of tidal waters, usually immediately behind a saline coastal flat, which maintains a high salt water content, and is covered with characteristic thick grasses and reed growths.
7	Saline coastal flat	That nearly level tract of land between mean high water and the line of the highest astronomical tide.
8	Reservoir	A body of water collected and stored behind a constructed barrier for some specific use.
12	Mine area	An excavation made by the removal of stone, gravel, clay or mineral from the ground for commercial or industrial purposes and tailings dumps from mining operations.
13	Pond-aquaculture	Shallow beds, usually segmented by constructed walls, for the use of aquaculture.
14	Pond-salt evaporator	A flat area, usually segmented, used for the commercial production of salt by evaporation.
15	Pond-effluent	Shallow beds, usually segmented by constructed walls, for the treatment of sewage or other wastes.

TOPO	TOPO_DESC	Meaning
19	Estuary	The part of the mouth or lower course of a river in which its current meets the sea's tides and is subject to their effects.
20	Farm dam	Water stored for on-site, immediate use on a farm.
21	Flood irrigation storage	A body of water collected and stored behind constructed barriers, for the specific use of flooding pastures via internal irrigation systems.
22	Desalination plant	A facility where the process of removing salt from sea water takes place.
23	Fuel depot	Land and buildings used in the refinement or storage of petroleum products.
24	Built-up-commercial	Business areas with low or zero population count.
25	Built-up-education	Educational facilities such as primary/secondary schools and universities.
26	Built-up-hospital	Hospital or medical facilities, including aged care facilities.
27	Industrial	Land containing a number of businesses, and where possible, have a zero population count.
28	Parkland	Parkland, natural reserves, and other minimal use protected or conserved areas; any public open space and sporting arena or facility whether enclosed or open to the public, including racecourses, golf courses, and stadiums.
30	Urban residential	Areas whose predominant land use includes houses, duplexes, apartments, serviced/long stay apartments, townhouses, gated communities, complexes, caravan parks, retirement villages, military bases where people live, and prisons.
31	Transport	Road or rail features.
34	Quarries	Land from which stone, gravel, clay, slate, sand, soil and rock is being extracted.
35	Rural residential	Rural allotments with no agricultural activity present.
36	Built-up-airport	Defined area of a facility licensed, certified, or registered by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority intended to be used either wholly or in part for the arrival, departure and surface movement of aircraft and associated cargo.
37	Tailings dams	Earth-fill embankment edam used to store by-products of mining operations after the ore has been extracted.
38	Abandoned mines	Land formally used for extractive industry but no longer in use.
39	Rehabilitated mines	Former mining sites undergoing remediation to return them near to their natural state or a state suitable for farming.
42	Waste-transfer station	Depot that receives and temporarily stores waste before routing to further processing or disposal.
43	Waste-landfill	Land for disposal of solid inert wastes.
44	Prohibited areas	Military and other prohibited areas.

Note: DEA Water Observations data (Geoscience Australia 2022) for 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21 was used to mark potential water pixels in the Topographic features layers. This applied to those pixels where the DEA Water Observations data observed water more frequently and with confidence. Pixels where water was detected, but no topographic feature was present in the layer were allocated a TOPO value of 100 and the TOPO_DESC of 'Water observed – no current topographic feature'. For topographic features where water was also detected according to DEA Water Observations data their TOPO value was increased by 100 with the TOPO_DESC for these attributes having ' – Water observed' added.

Table A2.3 Values, description, and meanings of tenure layers' attributes

TEN	TEN_DESC	Meaning
0	No data/unresolved	No data/unresolved tenure. Captures areas where there is no tenure data or conflicting data sources; includes water features with unallocated tenure.
1001	Freehold	Land title holder has the power to sell, lease, licence and mortgage the land. Minerals and petroleum remain property of the Crown. All dealings are subject to compliance to planning and environmental laws, including the protection of heritage and sacred sites. May include freehold land owned by Indigenous land trusts, such as land purchased through the open market.
1002	Freehold - Indigenous	Land granted to an Indigenous land trust as freehold. The power to sell, lease and licence the land varies with jurisdiction legislation. Minerals and petroleum rights and acquisition powers of the Crown varies between jurisdictions.
2111	Freeholding lease	Crown leasehold land where a lessee is in the process of transferring lease to freehold with instalments.
2121	Pastoral perpetual lease	Crown leasehold land granted in perpetuity to an entity for primarily pastoral purposes.
2131	Other perpetual lease	Crown leasehold land granted in perpetuity to an entity for non-pastoral or non-specified purposes.
2132	Other perpetual lease - Indigenous	Crown leasehold land granted in perpetuity to an Indigenous land trust for non-pastoral or non-specified purposes.
2141	Pastoral term lease	Crown leasehold land granted for a specified term of years to an entity for primarily pastoral purposes.
2142	Pastoral term lease - Indigenous	Crown leasehold land granted for a specified term of years to an Indigenous land trust for primarily pastoral purposes.
2151	Other term lease	Crown leasehold land granted to an entity for a specified term of years for non-pastoral or non-specified purposes.
2152	Other term lease - Indigenous	Crown leasehold land granted to an Indigenous land trust for a specified term of years for non-pastoral or non-specified purposes.
2161	Other lease	Crown leasehold land where the purpose is specified as other or undefined.
2162	Other lease - Indigenous	Crown leasehold land where the purpose is specified as other or undefined and held by an Indigenous land trust.
2211	Nature conservation reserve	Crown land set aside for conservation purposes. Includes heritage reserves where specified.
2212	Nature conservation reserve - Indigenous	Crown land vested or reserved to an Indigenous land trust and set aside for conservation purposes. Includes heritage reserves where specified.
2221	Multiple-use public forest	Crown land set aside for multiple-use forest values such as wood harvesting, recreation, and environmental protection, includes state forests and timber reserves.
2231	Other Crown purposes	Crown land set aside for all other purposes including, water, infrastructure, institutional, defence and other undefined reserves; or lands vested to, acquired, or purchased by the Crown or its authorised entities to deliver essential services
2232	Other Crown purposes - Indigenous	Crown land vested or reserved to an Indigenous land trust for the benefit of Indigenous people.
2301	Other Crown land	Crown land unallocated to a purpose or purposes.
2302	Other Crown land - Indigenous	Unallocated Crown land held by an Indigenous land trust.

Note: These are the Level 4 classes in Land tenure of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21. Level 4 distinguishes whether land is granted to Indigenous peoples under Indigenous land grant instruments.

Table A2.4 Values, description, and meanings of forest type layers' attributes

FOR	FOR_DESC	Meaning
0	Non-forest [crown cover less than 20%] or no data	Non-forest (crown cover less than 20%) or no data.
1	Native woodland forest [crown cover between 20 and 50%]	Native forest in which the tree crowns cover between 20% and 50% of the land area.
2	Native open forest [crown cover greater than 50 to 80%]	Native forest in which the tree crowns cover from over 50% to 80% of the land area.
3	Native closed forest [crown cover greater than 80%].	Native forest in which the tree crowns cover more than 80% of the land area.
4	Commercial plantation - hardwood	Commercial plantation of hardwood species, such as eucalypts.
5	Commercial plantation - softwood	Commercial plantation of softwood (conifer) species.
6	Commercial plantation - mixed species	Commercial plantation of mixed species.
7	Unknown forest [crown cover greater or equal to 20%]	Unknown forest in which the tree crowns cover more than or equal to 20% of the land area.
8	Native rainforest other than Tasmania	Native rainforest other than Tasmania.
9	Native rainforest Tasmania	Native rainforest Tasmania.

Table A2.5 Values, description, and meanings of urban boundaries layers' attributes

URBAN	URBAN_DESC	Meaning
0	Rural balance	Land within a state or territory not within a major urban, other urban, nor bounded locality area.
1	Major urban	Urban centres with a population of 100,000 or more.
2	Other urban	Urban centres with a population between 1,000 and 99,999.
3	Bounded locality	Rural localities with a population typically 200 to 1,000 but can include some large localities with a population greater than 1,000.

Table A2.6 Values, description, and meanings of stock route layers' attributes

SR	SR_DESC	Meaning
0	No data/offshore	No observed stock route or no data.
1	Minimal use managed Crown land (WA only)	Land managed as Crown land other than nature conservation or multiple-use public forest. Managed Crown land can be Crown land or freehold land owned by the Western Australian government.
2	QLD NSW stock routes	New South Wales and Queensland stock routes.
3	WA stock routes	Western Australian stock routes.
7	QLD grazing licences	Queensland Crown land licenced for grazing activities.

Table A2.7 Values and description of irrigation status layers' attributes

IRGN	IRGN_DESC	Meaning
0	Dryland agriculture, not ag or no data	Dryland agriculture, not an agricultural commodity or no data.
1	Irrigated agriculture	Irrigated agriculture.

Table A2.8 Values and description of agricultural commodity mapping unit layers' attributes

AGMAPU	AGMAPU_DESC	Corresponding probability rasters from SPREAD II
0	Unallocated agricultural land, non-agricultural land or no data	
1	Grazing - native or naturalised pasture or native-exotic pasture mosaic	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_210_1_GRAZ_NOTIMBNP.tif a
3	Grazing sown pastures	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_320_3_GRAZ_NOTIMBSP.tif a
5	Winter cereals	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_331_5_W_CER.tif
6	Summer cereals excluding rice	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_331_6_S_CER_EX_RICE.tif
7	Rice	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_439_7_RICE.tif
8	Winter legumes	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_338_8_W_LEGUMES.tif
9	Summer legumes	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_338_9_S_LEGUMES.tif
10	Winter oilseeds	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_334_10_W_OILSEEDS.tif
11	Summer oilseeds	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_334_11_S_OILSEEDS.tif
12	Sugar cane	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_335_12_SUGAR_CANE.tif
13	Pastures and crops for hay and silage	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_333_13_HAY.tif
14	Cotton	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_336_14_COTTON.tif
15	Other non-cereal crops	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_330_15_ONCC.tif
16	Vegetables	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_353_16_VEGETABLES.tif
17	Citrus	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_348_17_CITRUS.tif
18	Apples	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_341_18_APPLES.tif
19	Pears and other pome fruit	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_341_19_PEAR_OTH_PME.tif
20	Stone fruit excluding tropical	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_341_20_ST_FRT_EX_TRP.tif
21	Tropical stone fruit	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_341_21_TROP_STONE_FR.tif
22	Nuts	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_343_22_NUTS.tif
23	Berry fruit	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_345_23_BERRY_FRT.tif
24	Plantation fruit	NLUM_v7_probSurf_20YY_340_24_PLANTATION_FR.tif
25	Grapes	NLUM_v7_1_probSurf_20YY_349_25_GRAPES.tif

Note: 20YY denotes 2011 for 2010–11, 2016 for 2015–16 and 2021 for 2020–21. Probability rasters naming convention probabilitySurface_20YY_[ALUM]_[AGMAPU]_[AGMAP_DESC abbreviated].tif; NOTIMB = not in native woodland forest or native open forest; _W_ = Winter ; _S_ = Summer. **a** Probability surface represents only part of the AGMAPU as those areas with native forest crown cover of less than 80% are mapped outside SPREAD II.

Appendix 3 – Change descriptions

Table A3.1 Values, description, and meanings of the land use observed change (LUCH) attribute

	LUCH_DESC	Meaning
0	No data/offshore	No data/offshore
1	No observed difference/change	No change in land use observed between 2010–11 and 2015–16, nor between 2015–16 and 2020–21, at the simplified classification level.
2	Observed difference/change from 2011 to 2016	Change in land use observed between 2010–11 and 2015–16 but no change observed between 2015–16 and 2020–21, at the simplified classification level.
3	Observed difference/change from 2016 to 2021	No change in land use observed between 2010–11 and 2015–16 but change observed between 2015–16 and 2020–21, at the simplified classification level.
4	Observed difference/change from 2011 to 2016 and from 2016 to 2021	Change in land use observed between 2010–11 and 2015–16 and between 2015–16 and 2020–21, at the simplified classification level.

Appendix 4 - Data sources

Table A4.1 Land use of Australia data sources used for 2010–11, 2015–16 and 2020–21

Process	Dataset	Data custodian	Currency dates		
			2010–11	2015–16	2020–21
Protected areas layer	Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database - Marine	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2012, 2018 a	2016, 2018 a	2022 a
Protected areas layer	Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database - Terrestrial	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2012, 2018 a	2016, 2018 a	2022 a
Protected areas layer	Australia, World Heritage Areas b	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2012, 2020 a	2020 a	2022 a
Topographic features layer	GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3 – Hydrography - Pondage areas	Geoscience Australia	2006	2006	2006
Topographic features layer	Surface Hydrology Polygons (National)	Geoscience Australia	2015	2015	2015
Topographic features layer	National Aviation Facilities	Geoscience Australia	2012	2012	2012
Topographic features layer	Wastewater Treatment Plants	Geoscience Australia	2012	2012	2012
Topographic features layer	National Liquid Fuel Depot Areas	Geoscience Australia	2012	2012	2016
Topographic features layer	National Liquid Fuel Refinery Areas	Geoscience Australia	2012	2012	2012
Topographic features layer	Major Desalination Plants	Geoscience Australia	2012	2012	2012
Topographic features layer and irrigation allocation	DEA Water Observations 3.1.6	Geoscience Australia	2010	2015	2020
Topographic features layer, Catchment scale land use layer	2074.0 – Census of Population and Housing: Mesh Block Counts, Australia	Australian Bureau of Statistics	2011	2016	2021
Topographic features layer	1270.0.55.001 - Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas.	Australian Bureau of Statistics	2011	2016	2021
Topographic features layer	1270.0.55.004 – Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 4 – Significant Urban Areas, Urban Centres and Localities, Section of State	Australian Bureau of Statistics	2011	2016	2021
Catchment scale land use layer	Catchment Scale Land Use Mapping for the Australian Capital Territory 2012	ABARES, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	2012	2012	2012
Catchment scale land use layer	Land Use Mapping Project of the Northern Territory	NT Department of Lands, Planning and Environment	2008	2016–2017	2016–2022
Catchment scale land use layer	NSW Landuse	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2013	2017 (v1.5)	2017 (v1.5)
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Queensland	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2010	2015	2019

Process	Dataset	Data custodian	Currency dates		
			2010–11	2015–16	2020–21
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Great Barrier Reef NRM regions c	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	na	na	2021
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Queensland - Fitzroy	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2009	2017	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Queensland – Mackay	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2009	2016	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Queensland – Wet tropics	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2009	2015	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Queensland - Burdekin	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2009	2016	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Land use mapping – Queensland – Burnett Mary	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2009	2017	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Land Use (South Australia) c	SA Department of Environment and Water	2008	2008	2017
Catchment scale land use layer	Land Use 2016 (Adelaide Hills and Northern Adelaide Plains)	SA Department of Environment and Water	na	2016	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Land Use 2014 (South East and SA River Murray corridor)	SA Department of Environment and Water	na	2014	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Tasmanian Land Use	Tasmania Department of Natural Resources and Environment	2009–2010	2015	2021
Catchment scale land use layer	Victorian Land Use Information System (VLUIS)	Victoria Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action	2010–2011	2016–2017	2021–22
Catchment scale land use layer	Land Use in Western Australia v7	WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	2008	na	na
Catchment scale land use layer	WA Cape to Cape Land Use	WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	2014	2014	na
Catchment scale land use layer	Catchment Scale Land Use Mapping for Western Australia 2018	ABARES / WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	2012, 2018	2018	2018
Catchment scale land use layer	Australian Tree Crops	University of New England (Applied Agricultural Remote Sensing Centre)	na	na	2019–2023
Catchment scale land use layer	Australian Protected Cropping Structures	University of New England (Applied Agricultural Remote Sensing Centre)	na	na	2021–2023
Catchment scale land use layer	Queensland Soybean Crops maps	University of New England (Applied Agricultural Remote Sensing Centre)	na	na	January 2022 – April 2023
Land tenure layer	Land tenure of Australia 2010–11 to 2020–21	ABARES, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	2010–2011	2015–2016	2020–2021
Forest type layer, allocating grazing outside SPREAD II	Forests of Australia	ABARES, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	2013 (v2.0)	2018	2023
Stock routes layer	Stock routes – Queensland	Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines,	2013	2013	2023

Process	Dataset	Data custodian	Currency dates		
			2010–11	2015–16	2020–21
		Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development			
Stock routes layer	Conservation value of NSW Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs)	NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	2017	2017	2017
Stock routes layer	WA stock routes (digitised from PDF)	State Records Office of Western Australia	1968	1968	1968
SPREAD II	Terra Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite	NASA	April 2010 – March 2011	April 2015 – March 2016	April 2020 – March 2021
SPREAD II	7121.0 - Agricultural Commodities, Australia	Australian Bureau of Statistics	2010–11	2015–16	2020–21
SPREAD II	4618.0 – Water use on Australian farms	Australian Bureau of Statistics	2010–11	2015–16	2020–21
SPREAD II	Ground reference points	State government agencies, Coleambally Irrigation Co-operative Limited, the United States Geological Survey	2000-2022	2000-2022	2000-2022
Allocating grazing outside SPREAD II	Slope relief (3" resolution) d	CSIRO Land and Water	2000	2000	2000
Cultivation constraint e	National Vegetation Information System - Major Vegetation Groups (Version 6.0)	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2021	2021	2021
Cultivation constraint	Natural Areas of Australia – 100 metres	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2014	2014	2014
Cultivation constraint	NSW Native Vegetation Extent 5m Raster v1.2	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	2019	2019	2019
Cultivation constraint	Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)	WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	2020	2020	2020
Cultivation constraint	Remnant vegetation cover – 2019 - Queensland	Queensland Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	2019	2019	2019

Note: Data currency may vary from publication date. Data released up to December 2023 was considered in the construction of NLUM. **a** The gazettal field was used to sort data appropriate for each target field. Only parcels reflecting the target year were taken from these datasets. **b** World Heritage Areas managed as one or more of IUCN categories 1a to V. **c** As reflected in Catchment scale land use of Australia – Update December 2023 version 2. **d** Derived from NASA’s Digital Elevation - Shuttle Radar Topography Mission February 2000. **e** ALUM v8 classes used from Catchment scale land use layer for Cultivation constraint: 3.3.0 to 3.5.3 (excluding 3.4.6) and 4.2.0 to 4.5.4 (excluding 4.4.6); Horticulture constraint: 3.4.0 to 3.5.3 (excluding 3.4.6) and 4.4.0 to 4.5.4 (excluding 4.4.6); Irrigation constraint: 4.2.0 to 4.6.5.