

Changes to the YETI data model made when moving from YETI 3.1 to YETI 3.2

(29 September 2009)

Version 3.2 of the database includes changes to the back-end database. This document outlines those changes.

Changes to the YETI data model

Summary of Critical Changes

Some tables and fields in YETI were redundant because they were never or rarely used. For ease of data maintenance, these tables and fields have been removed. The deletion of these tables risks loss of data from datasets which were not reviewed within the corporate YETI SQL archive. Any holders of datasets outside this archive should bear these changes in mind. They are summarised below.

Table deletions

Three tables have been deleted:

- ClassificationData
- ClassificationDefinitions
- StratificationDefinitions.

These tables were intended to store data relating YETI plot data to vegetation classifications. However, with the exception of the NVMP Deniliquin 250K mapsheet survey they have never been used and were never integrated into the data entry forms of the application. The links between plot data and classifications are currently being modelled with the intention of providing a solution in the next version of YETI. If your dataset has populated any of these tables you will have to consider whether any of this data needs to be backed-up for inclusion with the dataset.

Field deletions

SiteSamples.PhysicalDate. In a majority of cases this field was left blank or duplicated the content of the field SiteSamples.FloristicsData. It has been removed.

SiteSamples.PhysicalQuadrat. In a majority of cases this field was left blank or duplicated the content of the field SiteSamples.FloristicsQuadrat. It has been removed.

SiteSamples.Rainfall. This field was only used 35 times. It contains derived data and is not in the Vegetation Standard.

SiteSamples.Temperature. This field was only used 12 times. It contains derived data and is not in the Vegetation standard.

FloristicsData.Flowering. This field has never been used, and is not in the Vegetation Standard

FloristicsData.Fruiting. This field has never been used, and is not in the Vegetation Standard.

FloristicsData.IdentConfirmed. This field has rarely been used. Its content will require review in any stand-alone files.

Detailed description of changes

Following is a complete description of changes made to the data model including the critical changes noted above.

Tables deleted

Three tables have been deleted:

- ClassificationData
- ClassificationDefinitions
- StratificationDefinitions.

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The table VegStructureDetail has been deleted with all content moved to FloristicsData with DominantNumber copied to EntryOrder and SubPlotNumber=0, allowing more efficient queries across all species records and simplifying data model.

The table IncidentalFloristicsData has been deleted and its content moved to FloristicsData with SubPlotNumber=1 and Stratum=AdU mapping incidental floristics onto the new category of Additional Upperstorey Species beyond plot (semantically similar concepts, i.e. species that could not be included in the systematic sample because they fell just outside the plot).

New Tables

SiteDisturbance – a common table to record all disturbance information, populated from the disturbance fields in SiteSamples which have now been deleted (see below).

SiteRecorder – a common table to record the recorder for surveys, populated from the 8 fields in SiteSamples which have now been deleted.

SiteCondition – new table to record MER Condition information.

SiteComposition – new table to record MER Vegetation type information.

DisturbanceTypes – new table to store dropdown information for disturbance.

DisturbanceCombos – new table to store dropdown information for disturbance.

VegCategories – new table to store dropdown for vegetation categories.

VegCombos – new table to store dropdown for vegetation categories.

Note: VegCategories and VegCombos will be superseded by direct connections to a master list of vegetation communities.

Changes to existing tables

Table Sites

New Fields

StartAMGZone

StartAMGEasting

StartAMGNorthing

StartAGDLatitude

StartAGDLongitude

StartMGAZone

StartMGAEasting

StartMGANorthing

StartGDALatitude

StartGDALongitude

EndAMGZone

EndAMGEasting

EndAMGNorthing

EndAGDLatitude

EndAGDLongitude

EndMGAZone

EndMGAEasting

EndMGANorthing

EndGDALatitude

EndGDALongitude

TransectOrientation

TransectLength

AirphotoScale

AirphotoDate

Table SiteSamples

Deleted fields

FloristicsRecorder1 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

FloristicsRecorder2 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

FloristicsRecorder3 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

FloristicsRecorder4 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

PhysicalDate In most cases, this field duplicates FloristicsDate and has been removed. Existing datasets need to be reviewed.

PhysicalRecorder1 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

PhysicalRecorder2 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

PhysicalRecorder3 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

PhysicalRecorder4 (data stored in new table SiteRecorder)

PhysicalQuadrat In most cases, this field is blank or duplicated FloristicsQuadrat and has been removed. Existing datasets need to be reviewed.

PhysicalComments The contents of this field has been added into FloristicsComments.

Rainfall This field was only used 35 times. It contains derived data and is not in Vegetation Standard.

Temperature This field was only used 12 times. It contains derived data and is not in the Vegetation Standard.

FireSeverity mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

FireTime mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

FireAccuracy mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

FireObservType mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

LoggingSeverity mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

LoggingTime mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

LoggingAccuracy mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

LoggingObservType mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

ClearingSeverity mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

ClearingTime mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

ClearingAccuracy mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

ClearingObservType mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

GrazingSeverity mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

GrazingTime mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

GrazingAccuracy mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

GrazingObservType mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

OtherDisturb mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

OtherDisturbSeverity mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

OtherDisturbTime mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

OtherDisturbAccuracy mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

OtherDisturbObservType mapped in new SiteDisturbance table

New fields

FullFloristics This field records whether a site sample was a full floristics survey. All historic data is being mapped with value 1=Yes, although in some cases this may be incorrect.

LandUse

LandCoverUpper

LandCoverGround

AgeStructure

Table FloristicsData

Deleted fields

Flowering This field has never been used, and is not in the Vegetation Standard.

Fruiting This field has never been used, and is not in the Vegetation Standard.

FloristicsData.IdentConfirmed This field has rarely been used. Its content will require review in any stand-alone files.

New fields

FieldNo

RBGNo

IncDec This field is used to note taxa that are of special interest as Focal Taxa.

Table VegStructureSummary

New field

ModeHeight

Table VEG_STRATA

Content additions

Table SOILS

Deleted fields

Definition

Code

Page

Section

This table list has been simplified.

SQL back end only

A SourceFile field has been added to all tables to identify where data has come from when it has been imported from a .tfv file. The file location will be recorded in this field, which along with the person doing the importing should allow the original to be located provided those doing the importing keep good records.

Where to get help, complain, sing its praises etc.

Contact vis@environment.nsw.gov.au