Natural Values Atlas (NVA)

Instructions
– TASVEG Searches and Notifications

Natural Values Conservation Branch
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

Tasmanian Government

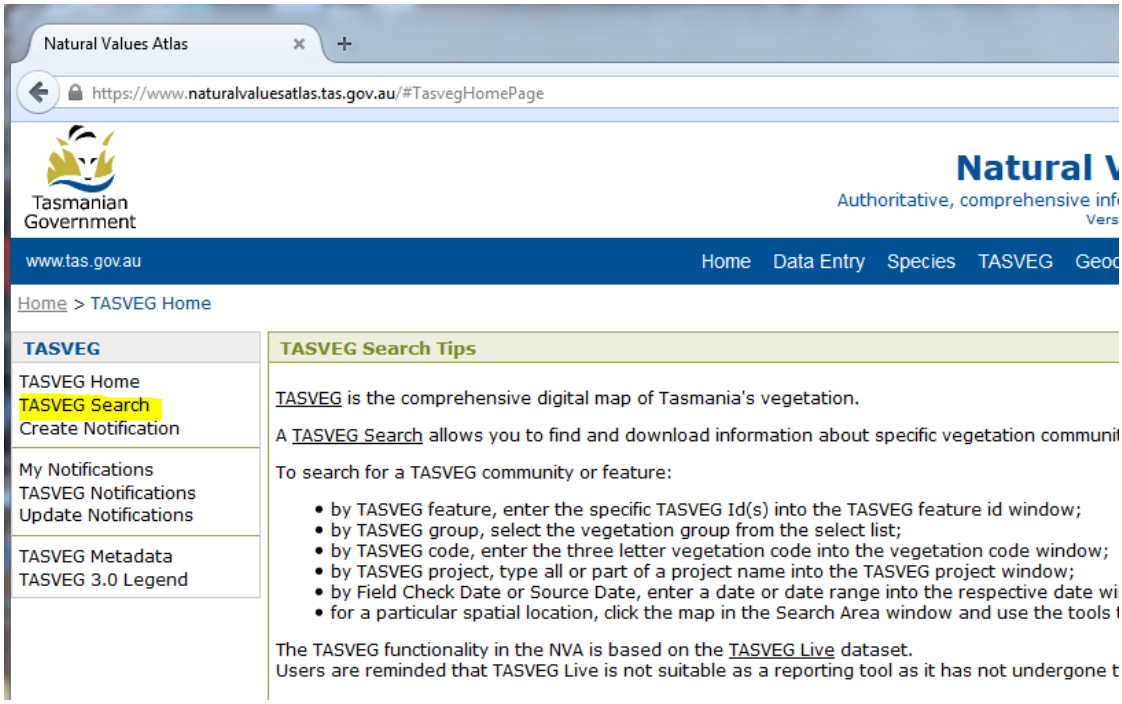
TASVEG Searches

TASVEG is the comprehensive digital map of Tasmania's vegetation and depicts the extent of more than 150 vegetation communities across the state. TASVEG is a vital tool for biodiversity research and monitoring, land use planning and sustainable management of Tasmania's unique natural resources. More information about the TASVEG mapping layer can be found on the TASVEG website.

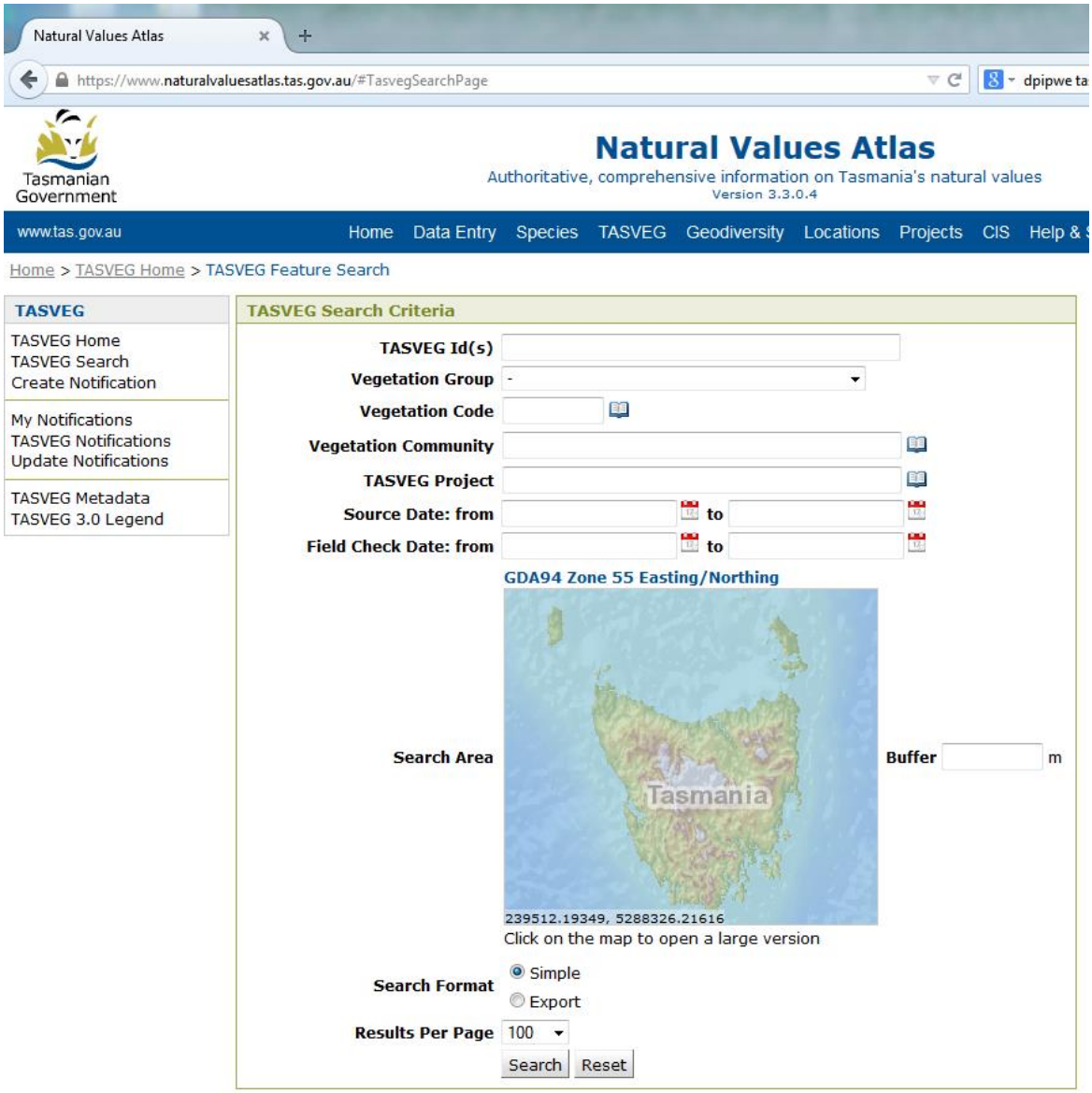
A TASVEG search allows you to search for TASVEG polygons via a number of different attributes, or a spatial search can be used to return all the TASVEG polygons located within a particular region of Tasmania. Once you have completed your search, the results can be exported into shapefile format (zipped) ready for use in your own mapping applications.

Navigating to the TASVEG Search Page

To navigate to the TASVEG Search page, click on the 'TASVEG Search' menu item under the list of headings on the left side of the TASVEG home page.



Once on the TASVEG search page you will be presented with a number of boxes that allow you to define your search parameters (see below). Users can populate as many or as few search terms as they like and then press 'enter' or click on the search button to run their query. Detailed descriptions for each of the search parameters are given below.



Explanation of Search Parameters

TASVEG Id(s) – This parameter refers to the TASVEG Id attribute as displayed in the TASVEG Live mapping layer and represents the unique id given to each TASVEG polygon. This value can be found via the LISTmap or the NVA web mapping tool. Searches based on multiple id's must be separated by a comma, e.g. 4451, 44587, …

Vegetation Group – This refers to one of the 11 broad vegetation groupings that are used within the TASVEG mapping layer. Clicking in the box for this parameter will display a dropdown menu listing all the available options.

Vegetation Code (VEGCODE) – This refers to the three letter vegetation community code listed in TASVEG. Users can click on the open book icon at right to refine their search term or browse through the possible values.

Vegetation Community – This parameter is the same as above but will display the entire TASVEG community name rather than just the three letter code.

TASVEG Project – This parameter can be used to limit searches to only those polygons attributed to a particular TASVEG mapping project. All TASVEG polygons are assigned to a particular TASVEG project code based on their provenance, and the book icon can be used to refine search terms or to browse the currently listed project names.

Source Date (from and to) – Populating these fields will limit the TASVEG search to only retrieve polygons whose source date is within the specified range. In this context 'source' refers to the data source used to map the TASVEG polygon and will often be the state orthophoto or Google Earth imagery. The date refers to the date of capture and not the date of mapping.

Field Check Date (from and to) – Populating these fields will limit the search to TASVEG polygons which have been field checked within the indicated date range. Not all TASVEG polygons have been field checked and missing values are used to indicate a lack of field checking.

Search Area – This parameter is used to limit the spatial extent of the TASVEG search. Clicking on the map opens the web mapping interface where users can zoom into a region of interest and draw a polygon to define their search area (the 'Draw a polygon' tool is used to define the search area). Users have the ability to customise the layers visible in the web map but you will need to zoom in before some layers become visible. Once you are happy with your search area, use the 'Accept Geometry' button to send the shape back to the search criteria page. A buffer size (in metres) can also be specified at this point to increase the total area to be searched.

Search Format – This area allows users to toggle between a 'Simple' search (default setting) – which will return a table of the features found by applying the chosen criteria, and an 'Export' search – which will package up all the returned features into a shapefile ready for download. It is recommended that users first perform a simple search and check their results before the export search is run.

Results Per Page – This area provides a dropdown menu where users can select the number of records to be shown on each page of the results table.

Search and Reset – These buttons initiate the search, and reset the search form parameters respectively.

TASVEG Feature Search Results

After running the TASVEG simple search you will be presented with a table of results in the area below the search form; it should look similar to the table presented below.

TASVEG Feature Search Results

Page: 1 of 3 1-100 of 221

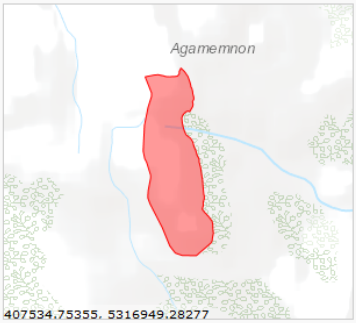
	Id	Vegetation Group	Vegetation Code	Vegetation Description	Project	Source Date	Area	Source Type
Details	25349	Highland and treeless vegetation	HCH	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005	11-Jan-1988	141865.00120554	Unknown
Details	25350	Highland and treeless vegetation	HCH	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005	11-Jan-1988	1707591.660158	Unknown
Details	25351	Highland and treeless vegetation	HCH	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005	07-Jan-1988	130934.286249285	Unknown
Details	49979	Highland and treeless vegetation	HCH	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005	25-Jan-2006	1916.71906716	Photo
Details	52311	Highland and treeless vegetation	HCH	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005	07-Jan-1988	1509282.37265686	Unknown
Details	52312	Highland and treeless vegetation	HCH	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005	07-Jan-1988	458798.95768608	Unknown
		Highland and		(HCH) Alpine				

The top of the results table will indicate the total number of pages and total number of records returned by your search. Each row of the table represents a record for an individual TASVEG polygon that meets the criteria specified in your search and the columns display the attribute values for that polygon. Clicking on the blue 'Details' button Details in the left most column will display the TASVEG feature details view for that record which should look similar to below.

TASVEG Feature

Back | Create Notification

TASVEG Feature Details

Id	25349
Vegetation Group	Highland and treeless vegetation
Vegetation Community	HCH
Vegetation Description	(HCH) Alpine coniferous heathland
Position	GDA94 Zone 55 Easting/Northing POLYGON((408099 5317041,408093 5317043,4080   Click on the map to open a large version
Area	141865.00120554
TASVEG Project	PRE_TASVEG_1_2-DPIPWE-2005

The feature details view shows all the same information as in the results table but also includes two map windows showing the individual polygon extent and its location in Tasmania. At the top of the feature details view there are two buttons, 'Back' and 'Create Notification'. The 'Back' button is used to return to the TASVEG search page and the 'Create Notification' button is used to generate a TASVEG notification for the current feature (see 'Creating a TASVEG Notification' for further details).

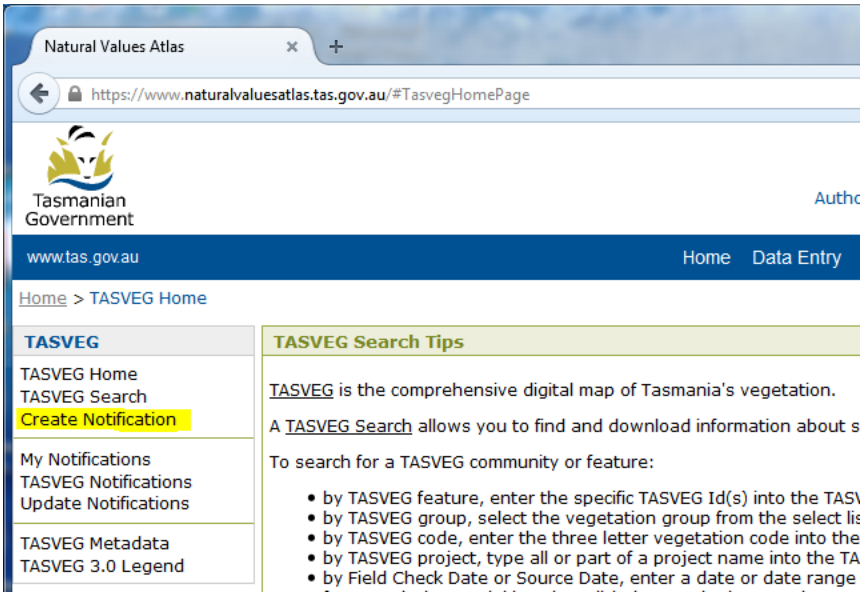
Creating a TASVEG Notification

One of the main advantages of having access to the TASVEG layer in the NVA is the ability to create TASVEG notifications. Notifications are a means by which NVA users can alert the TASVEG mapping team to both errors in the data and also provide confirmation for existing vegcodes.

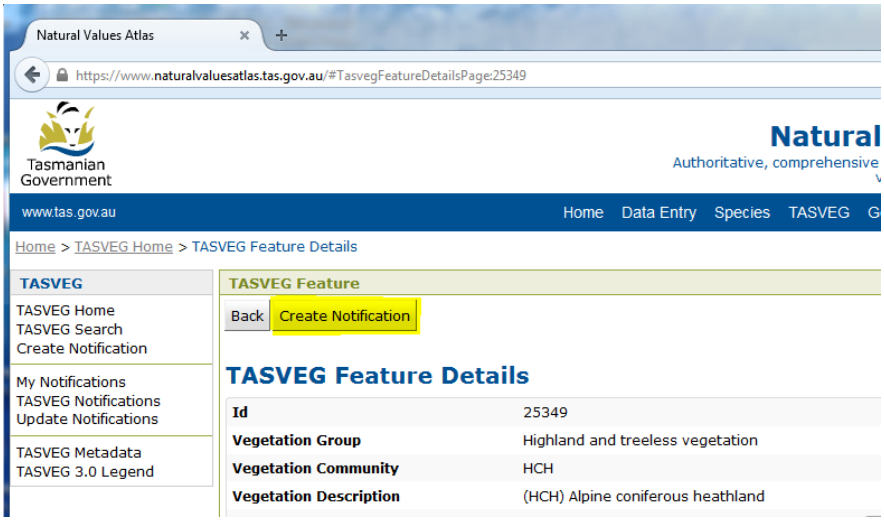
TASVEG notifications are made against polygon features within the TASVEG Live dataset. TASVEG Live is a digital spatial layer that represents the current state of DPIPWE's in-production mapping and is therefore more up-to-date than the current TASVEG release version. TASVEG Live is updated weekly and is utilised within the notification service as its currency limits the possibility of notifications being made against features which have already been amended. More information about the TASVEG Live layer can be found within the Spatial Data and Services Directory.

Accessing the notification home page

There are two main ways to navigate to the 'Create Notification' area of the NVA. Users can navigate to the notifications page from the 'Create Notification' link in the left hand menu of the TASVEG home page.



Or users can click on the 'Create Notification' button located at the top of the TASVEG feature details view when viewing the results of a TASVEG feature search.



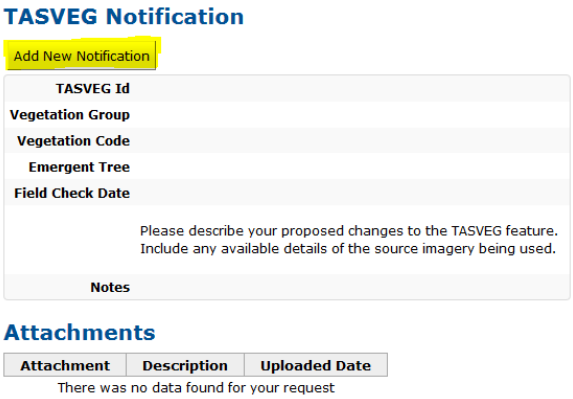
When using the latter method, the appropriate polygon will already be highlighted in the TASVEG feature notification page, otherwise users will have to navigate to an area of interest and select the feature for which they wish to make a notification against.

TASVEG Feature Notification home page

The TASVEG feature notification page consists of the main map window, which will show the state orthophoto and the TASVEG Live and TASVEG 3.0 layers by default (you may need to zoom in before the layers become visible), and a notification details area below. There are also some summary instructions on creating notifications to the left of the details area. Users are expected to navigate to their area of interest via the main map window and then fill in the relevant notification details below.

Notification using a new feature

A notification will typically be made against existing polygons in the TASVEG Live dataset, but notifications can also be made using a completely new feature and this will be most useful where the user wishes to create a new polygon in the dataset rather than amending an existing feature. To create a notification using a new feature, first navigate to the appropriate location in the map and then click on the 'Add New Notification' button located in the notification details area.



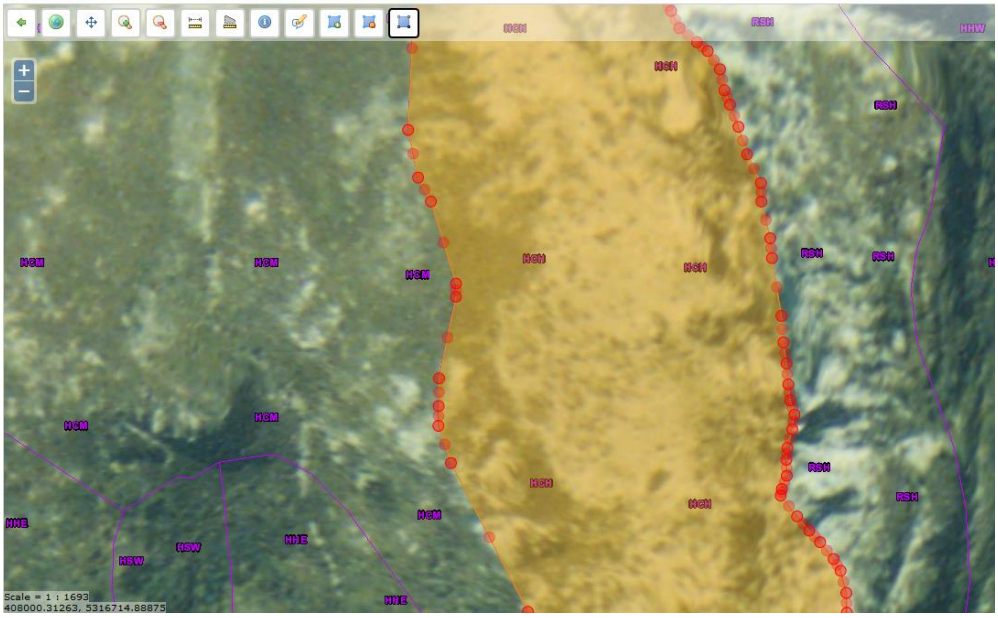
This will activate the notification details area to show editable (but blank) fields. Users can then draw a new polygon feature by selecting the 'Draw a polygon' button in the map toolbar and then tracing the polygon in the map window. Once the feature has been created, the appropriate values can be entered into the notification details area. Don't forget to include the reason for proposing your change and try to include details about any source imagery used. Additional information such as photos or word documents used to support your notification can be uploaded by using the 'Add New Item' button in the 'Attachments' area.

Notification using an existing feature

To create a notification against an existing TASVEG polygon, users should first select the 'Create TASVEG notification' button from the map toolbar and then click on a TASVEG polygon in the map. Once the polygon is highlighted in the map, users will be able to amend the geometry and attribute information as required. Again, don't forget to include the reason for proposing your change and try to include details about any source imagery used.

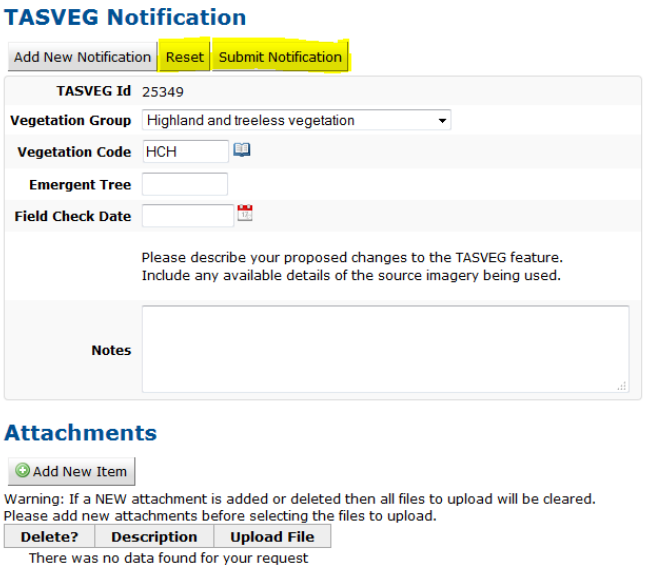
Geometry changes

Minor geometry changes can be made to any highlighted polygon (either new or existing) by editing the individual vertices. First select the 'Modify a Polygon' button and click on the highlighted feature – this will cause the polygon to turn yellow and the vertices will become active with red dots.



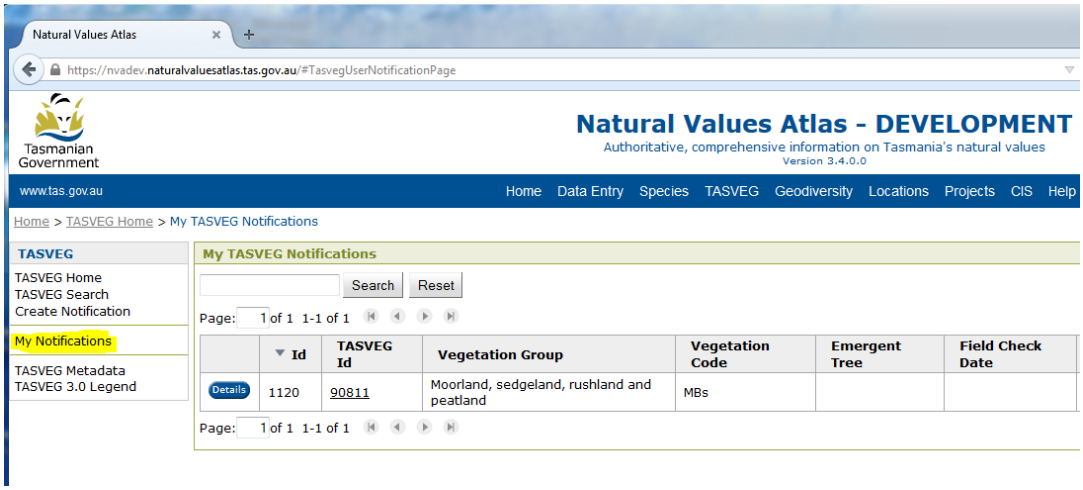
The darker dots represent the current vertices used to store the feature geometry while the paler dots represent possible new vertices that can be added (one between each of the current vertices). Simply click and drag on a dark dot to move an existing vertex to a new location, or click on and drag on a pale dot to insert and move a new vertex. Editing vertices is not feasible for major geometry changes and users are advised to add a new polygon on top of an existing selected feature if they wish to make substantial boundary changes (the features will merge once the notification is submitted).

The Reset button in the notification details area can be used to return to the original polygon geometry and attribute information, whilst the submit notification button is used to submit your notification to the NVA for approval.



Processing of TASVEG Notifications

Users have the ability to track the progress of their notifications via the 'My Notifications' area which can be accessed by clicking on the menu item in the TASVEG contents area.



My Notifications will list all the notifications that you have submitted via the NVA and the search box at the top of the window can be used to filter the notifications currently displayed in the results table (any terms entered into the search box will be searched for across all the available attributes).

The Notification status column of the table is the key field for determining the progress of notifications. The values displayed in this column will change as your notification is progressed by the TASVEG mapping team. Explanations for the various notification states are given below:

Submitted – Notification has been submitted to the NVA. Notification has not yet been exported from the NVA for processing.

Pending – Notification has been exported from NVA and is being assessed.

Information Required – Notification has been assessed and more information has been requested before the request can be finalised.

Accepted – Notification has been accepted and integrated into the TASVEG Live mapping layer.

Rejected – Notification has been assessed and rejected for integration into the mapping layer.

Users will receive email updates once their notification has been assessed but will not receive an alert when a notification changes status from submitted to pending.

Help and Advice

TASVEG users are encouraged to submit as many notifications as they like via this new service but the limitations of the service must be kept in mind. The notification service is not designed to be a GIS style editing tool and should not be used for remapping large areas of land. The notification service is aimed at users who have noticed errors in the TASVEG layer or for users who can provide confirmation of attributed vegcodes (typically through field validation). Users who are required to undertake large areas of revision mapping as part of their works program are encouraged to contact the Tasmanian Vegetation Monitoring and Mapping Program at TVMMPSupport@dpipwe.tas.gov.au to discuss their requirements. More information is also available on the TASVEG stakeholder information web page.

If you are experiencing problems with the notification service or with the NVA more generally, please contact NVA support at support@naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au or (03) 6165 4328. For queries relating to TASVEG mapping, please contact the Tasmanian Vegetation Monitoring and Mapping Program at TVMMPSupport@dpipwe.tas.gov.au or (03) 6165 4320.

Thankyou for help in maintaining TASVEG – the digital vegetation map of Tasmania!