

Saltmarsh and Wetlands

ASP *Sphagnum* peatland

Community Description:

Treeless *Sphagnum* communities cover a range of different *Sphagnum* peatland types, including tussock grassland mires, buttongrass *Sphagnum* bogs and floating aquatic *Sphagnum* mires. The most common type is the shrub-dominated *Richea-Sphagnum* bogs. They range in size from small patches to > 5 ha in size. The moss-derived peats range from quite shallow to two metres deep. *Sphagnum* peatlands can be almost pure moss beds, dominant or co-dominant with the sedges *Empodisma minus*, *Baloskion australe*, *Gahnia grandis* and *Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus*, with *Gleichenia alpina* and/or the shrubs *Richea scoparia*, *Richea gunnii*, *Baekkea gunniana*, *Epacris serpyllifolia* and/or *Callistemon* spp. This is the appropriate benchmark to use in assessing the condition of the listed *Sphagnum* peatland community (Schedule 3A, Nature Conservation Act 2002).

Benchmarks:

Component	Cover %	LF Code
Dominant Life Form	40%	ML
Organic Litter	1%	

Expected Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover %
Shrub	S	2	10
Herbs and orchids	H	2	1
Grass	LTG	1	1
Tiny grass/tiny sedge/tiny lily	TGS	1	1
Large sedge/rush/sagg/lily	LSR	1	5
Medium to small sedge/rush/sagg/lily	MSR	2	5
Ground fern	GF	1	1
Mosses and lichens	ML	1	40
Total	8	11	

Species lists:

Dominant Species	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Sphagnum cristatum</i>	sphagnum	ML
<i>Sphagnum falciculatum</i>	sphagnum	ML

Other Typical Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Baeckea gunniana</i>	alpine heathmyrtle	S
<i>Callistemon viridiflorus</i>	prickly bottlebrush	S
<i>Epacris gunnii</i>	coral heath	S
<i>Epacris serpyllifolia</i>	alpine heath	S
<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i> subsp. <i>parvifolia</i>	mountain pinkberry	S
<i>Ozothamnus hookeri</i>	scaly everlastingbush	S
<i>Ozothamnus rodwayi</i>	alpine everlastingbush	S
<i>Richea gunnii</i>	bog candleheath	S
<i>Richea scoparia</i>	scoparia	S
<i>Richea sprengelioides</i>	rigid candleheath	S
<i>Sprengelia incarnata</i>	pink swampheath	S
<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	common buzzy	H
<i>Asperula gunnii</i>	mountain woodruff	H
<i>Brachycome</i> spp.	daisy	H
<i>Celmisia asteliifolia</i>	silver snowdaisy	H
<i>Gunnera cordifolia</i>	tasmanian mudleaf	H
<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	blue bottledaisy	H
<i>Rubus gunnianus</i>	alpine raspberry	H
<i>Poa labillardierei</i>	silver tussockgrass	LTG
<i>Oreobolus pumilio</i>	dwarf cushionsedge	TGS
<i>Schoenus</i> spp.	bogsedge	TGS
<i>Baloskion australe</i>	southern cordrush	LSR
<i>Empodisma minus</i>	spreading roperush	LSR
<i>Gahnia grandis</i>	cutting grass	LSR
<i>Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus</i>	buttongrass	LSR
<i>Astelia alpina</i>	pineapple grass	MSR
<i>Isolepis</i> spp.	clubsedge	MSR
<i>Juncus</i> spp.	rush	MSR
<i>Luzula</i> spp.	woodrush	MSR
<i>Blechnum penna-marina</i>	alpine waterfern	GF
<i>Gleichenia alpina</i>	alpine coralfern	GF

*This list is provided as a guide only. The species listed are typical of this plant community type but may not necessarily be present.