

Scrub, Heathland and Coastal Complexes

SCA Coastal scrub on alkaline sands

Community Description:

Coastal scrub on alkaline sand are scrubs in which the canopy varies from closed to open and patchy and dominant species depends on fire frequency and local species complement. Facies dominated by *Myoporum insulare* are distinct from those dominated by *Leptospermum laevigatum*. Diagnostic species include *Zygophyllum billardierei*, and *Beyeria lechenaultii* var. *latifolia*. Younger examples of the formation may be dense scrubs. In some older examples the understorey may be open and grassy and small byes may occur. In undisturbed examples, the understorey cover is often 100%. Regardless of location, this community is distinguished from other scrubs by having coastal species over a predominantly grassy and herbaceous understorey on deep alkaline sands.

Benchmarks:

| Component | Cover % | LF Code |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Dominant Life Form | 80% | T |
| Organic Litter | 60% | |

| Expected Life Forms | LF code | # Spp | Cover % |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Tree or large shrub | T | 3 | 80 |
| Shrub | S | 6 | 10 |
| Prostrate shrub | PS | 2 | 5 |
| Herbs and orchids | H | 17 | 10 |
| Large tussock grass | LTG | 3 | 5 |
| Medium tussock grass | MTG | 1 | 1 |
| Non tussock grass | NTG | 1 | 1 |
| Large sedge/rush/sagg/lily | LSR | 1 | 1 |
| Medium to small sedge/rush/sagg/lily | MSR | 1 | 1 |
| Ground fern | GF | 1 | 1 |
| Scrambler/Climber/Epiphyte | SCE | 3 | 1 |
| Mosses and Lichens | ML | 1 | 5 |
| Total | 12 | 40 | |

Species lists:

| Dominant Species | Common Name | LF Code |
|---|----------------------|----------------|
| <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i> | coast teatree | T |
| <i>Myoporum insulare</i> | common boobialla | T |
| <i>Beyeria lechenaultii</i> var. <i>latifolia</i> | pale turpentine-bush | T |

| Other Typical Species * | Common Name | LF Code |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Acacia</i> spp. | wattle | S |
| <i>Boronia anemonifolia</i> | stinky boronia | S |
| <i>Leptospermum glaucescens</i> | smoky teatree | S |
| <i>Leucopogon lanceolatus</i> | lance beardheath | S |
| <i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i> | coast beardheath | S |
| <i>Pimelea curviflora</i> | curved riceflower | S |
| <i>Hibbertia prostrata</i> | prostrate guineaflower | PS |
| <i>Hibbertia sericea</i> | silky guineaflower | PS |
| <i>Threlkeldia diffusa</i> | coast bonefruit | PS |
| <i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i> | common buzzy | H |
| <i>Ajuga australis</i> | australian bugle | H |
| <i>Asperula pusilla</i> | alpine woodruff | H |
| <i>Crassula</i> spp. | stonecrop | H |
| <i>Dichondra repens</i> | kidneyweed | H |
| <i>Galium australe</i> | tangled bedstraw | H |
| <i>Geranium sessiliflorum</i> | cranesbill | H |
| <i>Gnaphalium indutum</i> | tiny cottonleaf | H |
| <i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i> | common raspwort | H |
| <i>Hydrocotyle hirta</i> | hairy pennywort | H |
| <i>Oxalis perennans</i> | grassland woodsorrel | H |
| <i>Plantago bellidioides</i> | herbfield plantain | H |
| <i>Scaevola hookeri</i> | creeping fanflower | H |
| <i>Senecio biserratus</i> | crosscut fireweed | H |
| <i>Stackhousia monogyna</i> | forest candles | H |
| <i>Stylidium graminifolium</i> | narrowleaf triggerplant | H |
| <i>Veronica gracilis</i> | spender speedwell | H |
| <i>Viola hederacea</i> | ivyleaf violet | H |
| <i>Zygophyllum billardierei</i> | coast twinleaf | H |
| <i>Austrodanthonia</i> spp. | wallabygrass | MTG |
| <i>Austrostipa flavescens</i> | yellow speargrass | LTG |
| <i>Elymus scaber</i> | rough wheatgrass | LTG |
| <i>Poa poiformis</i> | coastal tussockgrass | LTG |
| <i>Zoysia macrantha</i> | prickly couch | NTG |
| <i>Isolepis nodosa</i> | knobby clubsedge | LSR |
| <i>Carex breviculmis</i> | shortstem sedge | MSR |
| <i>Lepidosperma concavum</i> | sand swordedge | MSR |
| <i>Pteridium esculentum</i> | bracken | GF |
| <i>Clematis microphylla</i> | small-leaf clematis | SCE |
| <i>Comesperma volubile</i> | blue lovecreeper | SCE |
| <i>Muehlenbeckia adpressa</i> | climbing lignum | SCE |

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