

Scrub, Heathland and Coastal Complexes

SHS Subalpine heathland: open rocky heathland facies

Community Description:

Subalpine heathland varies from a 3 m tall closed heathland on well-drained fertile sites to a short (1 m) sparse heathland on rocky sites. Floristically it is quite variable, but prominent species are usually from the families Proteaceae, Epacridaceae and Fabaceae, with species of *Melaleuca* less common. *Leptospermum lanigerum* and/or *L. rupestre* are often important but never form a pure canopy. Scattered emergent subalpine *Eucalyptus* spp. may occur. This benchmark is one of 2 benchmarks available to assess the condition of SHS.

Benchmarks:

Component	Cover %	LF Code
Dominant Life Form	30%	S
Organic Litter	5%	

Expected Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover %
Shrub	S	15	30
Herbs and orchids	H	3	5
Medium tussock grass	MTG	1	5
Non tussock grass	NTG	1	5
Large sedge/rush/sagg/lily	LSR	3	15
Medium to small sedge/rush/sagg/lily	MSR	4	15
Ground fern	GF	1	5
Total	7	28	

Species lists:

Dominant Species	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Orites revolutus</i>	revolute orites	S
<i>Oxylobium ellipticum</i>	golden shaggypea	S
<i>Baeckea gunniana</i>	alpine heathmyrtle	S
<i>Leptecophylla</i> spp.	pinkberry	S
<i>Leptospermum</i> spp.	teatree	S

Emergent Tree Species	Common Name	Notes
<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i>	black peppermint	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Eucalyptus coccifera</i>	snow gum	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Eucalyptus dalrympleana</i>	mountain white gum	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Eucalyptus delegatensis</i>	gumtopped stringybark	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Eucalyptus johnstonii</i>	yellow gum	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>	cabbage gum	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Eucalyptus rodwayi</i>	swamp peppermint	Scattered trees only, when present

Other Typical Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Bauera rubioides</i>	wiry bauera	S
<i>Coprosma nitida</i>	mountain currant	S
<i>Cyathodes glauca</i>	purple cheeseberry	S
<i>Epacris</i> spp.	heath	S
<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	woolly teatree	S
<i>Leptospermum rupestre</i>	mountain teatree	S
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	common teatree	S
<i>Lissanthe strigosa</i>	peachberry heath	S
<i>Monotoca submutica</i>	broomheath	S
<i>Richea dracophylla</i>	pineapple candleheath	S
<i>Richea</i> spp.	candleheath	S
<i>Tasmania lanceolata</i>	mountain pepper	S
<i>Trochocarpa</i> spp.	purpleberry	S
<i>Oxalis magellanica</i>	snowdrop woodsorrel	H
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	ivy-leaf violet	H
<i>Poa</i> spp.	tussockgrass	MTG
<i>Ehrharta tasmanica</i>	tasmanian ricegrass	NTG
<i>Gahnia grandis</i>	cutting grass	LSR
<i>Baloskion australis</i>	southern cordrush	LSR
<i>Diplarrena latifolia</i>	western flag-iris	LSR
<i>Luzula densiflora</i>	dense woodrush	MSR
<i>Uncinia</i> spp.	hooksedge	MSR
<i>Lycopodium fastigiatum</i>	mountain clubmoss	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.