

Scrub, Heathland and Coastal Complexes

SSW Western subalpine scrub: *Banksia marginata* facies

Community Description:

Western subalpine scrub is very variable in structure and density. This community commonly exhibits high diversity, prominently including *Leptospermum nitidum*, *Eucalyptus vernicosa*, *Monotoca submutica*, *Agastachys odorata* and *Cenarrhenes nitida*. This facies of SSW is associated with *Nothofagus gunnii*/*Athrotaxis selaginoides* shrublands, and appears to have replaced them in the distant past. It is dominated by *Banksia marginata* with small *Nothofagus cunninghamii*, *Leptospermum nitidum*, and abundant *Eucryphia milliganii* and may also have *Agastachys odorata*, *Cenarrhenes nitida*, *Melaleuca squamea* and *Epacris serpyllifolia*. Buttongrass as single tussocks may occur. This benchmark is one of 2 benchmarks available to assess the condition of SSW and is used to assess the condition of this vegetation where *Banksia marginata* is the dominant cover. Note that this is **not** the appropriate benchmark to use in assessing the condition of the listed *Banksia marginata* wet scrub community (Schedule 3A, *Nature Conservation Act 2002*). For this, the benchmark for TASVEG SBM is recommended.

Benchmarks:

Component	Cover %	LF Code
Dominant Life Form	55%	T
Organic Litter	80%	

Expected Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover %
Tree or large shrub	T	5	55
Medium shrub/small shrub	S	3	20
Medium to small sedge/rush/sagg/lily	MSR	1	5
Scrambler/climber/epiphyte	SCE	1	2
Mosses and lichens	ML	1	2
Total	5	11	

Species lists:

Dominant Species	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	silver banksia	T

Other Typical Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Agastachys odorata</i>	fragrant candlebush	T
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	silver banksia	T
<i>Cenarrhenes nitida</i>	native plum	T
<i>Leptospermum nitidum</i>	shiny teatree	T
<i>Nothofagus cunninghamii</i>	myrtle beech	T
<i>Epacris heteronema</i>	southwest heath	S
<i>Epacris serpyllifolia</i>	alpine heath	S
<i>Eucryphia milliganii</i>	dwarf leatherwood	S
<i>Melaleuca squamea</i>	swamp honeymyrtle	S
<i>Sprengelia incarnata</i>	pink swampheath	S
<i>Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus</i>	buttongrass	LSR
<i>Empodisma minus</i>	spreading roperush	MSR
<i>Bauera rubioides</i>	wiry bauera	SCE
<i>Calorophus</i> spp.	roperush	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.