

Scrub, Heathland and Coastal Complexes

SSW Western subalpine scrub: *Leptospermum nitidum* facies

Community Description:

Western subalpine scrub is very variable in structure and density. This community commonly exhibits high diversity but prominent species include *Leptospermum nitidum*, *Eucalyptus vernicosa*, *Monotoca submutica*, *Agastachys odorata* and *Cenarrhenes nitida*. At some sites there are canopy gaps with patches of graminoid species. At yet other sites, usually more sheltered, this mapping unit may contain patches of scrub with dwarf forms of *Nothofagus cunninghamii* and *Eucryphia milliganii*. A simple facies consists of *Melaleuca squamea* forming an open canopy over graminoid heathland dominated by *Eurychorda complanata*, with few other woody species but sometimes containing *Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus*. This benchmark is one of 2 benchmarks available to assess the condition of SSW. A separate benchmark for SSW dominated by *Banksia marginata* is available.

Benchmarks:

Component	Cover %	LF Code
Dominant Life Form	60%	S
Organic Litter	5%	

Expected Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover %
Medium shrub/small shrub	S	4	60
Prostrate shrub	PS	1	5
Herbs and orchids	H	3	3
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	25
Ground fern	GF	1	2
Total	7	13	

Species lists:

Dominant Species	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Agastachys odorata</i>	fragrant candlebush	S
<i>Cenarrhenes nitida</i>	native plum	S
<i>Eucryphia milliganii</i>	dwarf leatherwood	S
<i>Leptospermum nitidum</i>	shiny teatree	S
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	common teatree	S
<i>Melaleuca squamea</i>	swamp honeymyrtle	S
<i>Monotoca submutica</i>	broomheath	S
<i>Persoonia gunnii</i>	geebung	S

Other Typical Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Baeckea leptocaulis</i>	slender heathmyrtle	S
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	silver banksia	S
<i>Bellenden montana</i>	mountain rocket	S
<i>Boronia citriodora</i>	lemon boronia	S
<i>Epacris heteronema</i> (in lower parts)	southwest heath	S
<i>Epacris serpyllifolia</i> (at higher altitudes)	alpine heath	S
<i>Hakea epiglottis</i>	beaked needlebush	S
<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i> subsp. <i>parvifolia</i>	mountain pinkberry	S
<i>Lomatia polymorpha</i>	mountain guitarplant	S
<i>Olearia persoonioides</i>	geebung daisybush	S
<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	dusty daisybush	S
<i>Orites revoluta</i>	revolute orites	S
<i>Richea milliganii</i>	nodding candleheath	S
<i>Richea pandanifolia</i>	pandani	S
<i>Richea scoparia</i>	scoparia	S
<i>Sprengelia incarnata</i>	pink swampheath	S
<i>Telopea truncata</i>	tasmanian waratah	S
<i>Tetracarpaea tasmanica</i>	delicate laurel	S
<i>Trochocarpa gunnii</i>	fragrant purpleberry	S
<i>Bauera rubioides</i>	wiry bauera	PS
<i>Dracophyllum milliganii</i>	curly mountainheath	PS
<i>Anemone crassifolia</i>	mountain anemone	H
<i>Astelia alpina</i>	pineapple grass	H
<i>Blandfordia punicea</i>	christmas bells	H
<i>Isophysis tasmanica</i>	tasmanian purplestar	H
<i>Senecio pectinatus</i>	alpine groundsel	H
<i>Carpha alpina</i>	alpine strawsedge	TGS
<i>Oreobolus</i> spp.	cushionsedge	TGS
<i>Gahnia grandis</i>	cutting grass	LSR
<i>Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus</i>	buttongrass	LSR
<i>Eurychorda complanata</i>	flat chordrush	MSR
<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.