

THREATENED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY

FACT SHEET

Thumb Peak, Mid Mount Barren, Woolburnup Hill (Central Barren Ranges) *Eucalyptus acies* mallee heath

Summary description

The community is restricted to three quartzite mountains within the Fitzgerald River National Park. It is characterised by a high diversity of proteaceous shrubs accompanied by several taxa endemic to or prevalent in high altitudinal areas of the Barren and Stirling Ranges. Three endangered flora species, Daviesia obovata, Coopernookia georgei (mauve coopernookia) and Grevillea infundibularis (fan-leaf grevillea), and a suite of priority flora occur within the community, some restricted only to mountain peaks. Common taxa include Eucalyptus acies (Woolburnup mallee), Gastrolobium crenulatum (priority 2), Andersonia echinocephala (priority 4), Petrophile divaricata, Grevillea coccinea subsp. lanata (priority 3) and Xanthosia candida. Other taxa include Eucalyptus



preissiana subsp. preissiana (bell-fruited mallee), Banksia heliantha (oak-leaved dryandra), Banksia falcata (prickly dryandra), Banksia plumosa subsp. plumosa, Banksia baueri (woolly banksia), Banksia nutans var. nutans (nodding banksia), Banksia lemanniana (Lemann's banksia), Banksia oreophila (mountain banksia), Hakea cucullata (hood-leaved hakea), Hakea hookeriana, Grevillea fistulosa, Adenanthos labillardierei, Beaufortia anisandra (dark beaufortia), Melaleuca striata, Sphaerolobium racemulosum, Daviesia striata, Taxandria spathulata, Acacia cedroides, Rinzia oxycoccoides (large-flowered rinzia), Dampiera loranthifolia, Stachystemon mucronatus and Mesomelaena stygia subsp. stygia.

Distribution

The community occurs over a range of 6.5km and is located within the Fitzgerald River National Park on the southern coast.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Region: South Coast DBCA District: Albany

Local Government Authority: Shire of Ravensthorpe

Habitat requirements

The community is restricted to the mid-upper slopes on quartzite hills in the Central Barren Ranges, Fitzgerald River National Park.

For more information see the department's website www.dbca.wa.gov.au



Department of **Biodiversity**, **Conservation and Attractions**

Indigenous interests

Traditional Owner group: Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar

The area is covered by the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar Indigenous Land Use Agreement as part of the South West Native Title Settlement, which formally recognises Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of the south-west region. The Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar region is supported by the Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation and umbrella group, the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

Conservation status

State: Listed as a vulnerable ecological community under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Threatened ecological communities are declared environmentally sensitive areas under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

National: This community is a component of the threatened ecological community 'Proteaceae Dominated Kwongkan Shrublands of the Southeast Coastal Floristic Province of Western Australia', listed as endangered under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. The community occurs within the Fitzgerald River National Park National Heritage listed place, protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Threatening processes

The major threats to the community are dieback disease caused by *Phytophthora* species and in particular *P. cinnamomi*, aerial canker, too frequent fire, and drying climate.

Recovery plan

Development of a recovery plan is recommended for this community. Priority actions include monitoring threats, monitoring threatened and priority flora, dieback hygiene procedures such as management of vehicle access, and investigating the effects of bushfire. The Fitzgerald River Biosphere Recovery Plan (2012) and the Fitzgerald River National Park Management Plan (2011) cover the areas that contain the community.

Key references

Barrett, S. (1996). *Biological survey of mountains of southern Western Australia* [Unpublished report]. Department of Conservation and Land Management for the Australian Nature Conservation Agency.

Department of Environment and Conservation. (2012). *Fitzgerald Biosphere Recovery Plan: A landscape approach to threatened species and ecological communities for recovery and biodiversity conservation*.

Department of Environment and Conservation & Conservation Commission of Western Australia. (2011). *Fitzgerald River National Park Management Plan 1991–2001, Management Plan No. 15, Amendment 2011.*

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