



Mt Lindesay – Little Lindesay Vegetation Complex

Summary description

The community is known from Mount Lindesay and Little Lindesay. It comprises a unique combination of restricted flora including granite specialists. The granite complex also contains threatened flora and priority flora taxa. *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah), shrub-mallee and heath predominate the upper slopes and summit area with *Eucalyptus marginata*, *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) and *Eucalyptus megacarpa* (bullich) low woodland in gullies. Soils are shallow or skeletal. In these areas, typical shrubs include *Banksia grandis* (bull banksia), *Hakea varia* (variable-leaved hakea) and *Beaufortia decussata* (gravel bottlebrush), with the sedge *Mesomelaena graciliceps*. Other shrubs include *Sphenotoma parviflora*, *Gastrolobium brownii* and *Billardiera drummondii*. Three priority taxa of *Andersonia* — *Andersonia hammersleyana* (priority 2), *Andersonia* sp. Mitchell River (B.G. Hammersley 925; priority 3) and *Andersonia* sp. Virolens (G.J. Keighery 12000; priority 3) are found in the community. Relatively bare granite rock slabs dominate the middle slopes and support a unique community of scrub and open herbs including two species listed as vulnerable (*Grevillea fuscolutea* and *Laxmannia grandiflora* subsp. *brendae*) and four priority flora (*Borya longiscapa* (priority 3), *Cryptandra congesta* (priority 4), *Lasiopetalum* sp. Denmark (B.G. Hammersley 2012; priority 3) and *Sphenotoma* sp. Stirling Range (P.G. Wilson 4235; priority 4)). Additional non-endemic flora include *Drakaea micrantha* (endangered) and *Eucalyptus virginea* (Mount Lindesay white gum; priority 4) with granite associates *Calothamnus scabridus* (priority 2) and *Verticordia endlicheriana* var. *angustifolia* (priority 3).



Distribution

The granite massifs of Mount Lindesay - Little Lindesay vegetation complex range over an area of approximately 1900ha. The community is located approximately 15km north-west of Denmark within Mount Lindsay National Park and adjoining reserves.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Region: Warren
DBCA District: Frankland

Local Government Authority: Shire of Denmark

Habitat requirements

The community is restricted to porphyritic (crystalline) granite batholiths (large volcanic-derived rock formations) with shallow low-nutrient acidic soils derived from the granitoid (granite-like) bedrock and granite outcrops that are skeletal in areas.

Indigenous interests

Traditional Owner group: Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar

A register of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites kept by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage lists sites of Aboriginal significance in the vicinity of this community's occurrences.

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 critically endangered ecological community under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Threatened ecological communities are declared environmentally sensitive areas under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Threatening processes

The major threats to the community are dieback disease caused by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, inappropriate fire regimes, vegetation damage and dieback spread from inappropriate recreational activities, and drying climate.

Recovery plan

Development of a recovery plan is recommended for this community. Priority actions include monitoring and survey of threatened and priority flora, controlling dieback infestation including installation of dieback hygiene control stations, and monitoring impacts of fire and changes in condition to help guide management.

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.

Hopkins, A. J. M, Keighery, G. J., & Marchant, N. G. (1983). Species-rich uplands of south-western Australia. *Proceedings of the Ecological Society of Australia*, 12, 15–26.

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