



***Corymbia calophylla* woodlands on heavy soils of the southern Swan Coastal Plain (floristic community type 1b as originally described in Gibson *et al.* 1994)**

Summary description

The community has been recorded from heavy fertile soils of the southern Swan Coastal Plain south of Dardanup. It consists largely of *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) forests and woodlands. *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) is also common in the tree layer. Common understorey species include *Acacia extensa* (wiry wattle), *Gompholobium polymorphum*, *Billardiera variifolia*, *Hibbertia hypericoides* (yellow buttercups), *Hypocalymma angustifolium* (white myrtle) and *Xanthorrhoea preissii* (balga) over a rich herb layer including *Scaevola calliptera*, *Agrostocrinum scabrum* (blue grass lily), *Austrostipa semibarbata*, *Dampiera linearis* (common dampiera), *Mesomelaena tetragona* (semaphore sedge), *Morelotia octandra* and *Lomandra purpurea* (purple mat rush). The community is also known as 'floristic community type 1b' as originally described in Gibson *et al.* (1994).



Distribution

The community is restricted to small, isolated remnants around Dardanup and south to Carburnup.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Region: South West
DBCA Districts: Blackwood, Wellington

Local Government Authorities: City of Busselton, Shire of Capel

Habitat requirements

The southern marri woodlands are restricted to alluvial soils of the Pinjarra Plain. They occur low in the landscape on the margins of wetlands confined to the Busselton Plain (Swan Coastal Plain).

Indigenous interests

Traditional Owner groups: Pinjarup and Wardandi 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 Gnaala Karla Booja 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 Gnaala Karla Booja region is supported by the Gnaala Karla Booja 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

Major threats to the community include clearing, hydrological change, grazing by herbivores, too-frequent fire, weed invasion, dieback disease caused by *Phytophthora* species, and climate change.

Recovery plan

Development of a recovery plan is recommended for this community. Priority actions include monitoring impacts of fire, controlling weeds and rabbits, assessing and controlling dieback, and managing tracks.

Key references

Gibson, N., Keighery, B., Keighery, G., Burbidge, A., & Lyons, M. (1994). *A floristic survey of the Southern Swan Coastal Plain*. Unpublished report for the Australian Heritage Commission prepared by the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Conservation Council of Western Australia (Inc.).

Webb, A., Keighery, B., Keighery, G., Longman, V., Black, A., & O'Connor, A. (2009). *The flora and vegetation of the Busselton Plain (Swan Coastal Plain): A report for the Department of Environment and Conservation as part of the Swan Bioplan Project*. Department of Environment and Conservation.

Wilson, J. & Froend, R. (2010). *Vegetation monitoring Swan Coastal Plain (Bunbury, Busselton-Capel groundwater areas): A report to Water Smart Australia and the Department of Water* (CEM report no. 2010-9). Centre for Ecosystem Management, Edith Cowan University.

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Department of Biodiversity,
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