



Corymbia calophylla – *Kingia australis* woodlands on heavy soils, Swan Coastal Plain (floristic community type 3a as originally described in Gibson et al. (1994))

TEC Description

The community occurs on heavy soils of the eastern side of the southern Swan Coastal Plain largely between Capel and Chittering. Typical native taxa in the community are: the tree *Corymbia calophylla* (marri); the shrubs *Banksia dallanneyi* (couch honeypot), *Philotheca spicata* (pepper and salt), *Kingia australis* (kingia) and *Xanthorrhoea preissii* (balga); and the herbs, rushes and sedges *Cyathochaeta avenacea*, *Dampiera linearis* (common dampiera), *Haemodorum laxum*, *Desmocladius fasciculatus*, *Mesomelaena tetragona* (semaphore sedge) and *Tetraria octandra*. The community is also known as “floristic community type 3a” as originally described in Gibson N., Keighery B.J., Keighery G.J., Burbidge A.H. and Lyons M.N. (1994) “A floristic survey of the southern Swan Coastal Plain” (unpublished report for the Australian Heritage Commission prepared by the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Conservation Council of Western Australia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.)).



Distribution

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Regions: Swan, South West

DBCA Districts: Swan Coastal and Blackwood

Local Government Authorities: Armadale, Capel, Gosnells, Kalamunda, Murray, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, Swan, Waroona.

Habitat Requirements

Marri dominated plant communities were historically probably some of the most common on heavy soils on the eastern side of the Swan Coastal Plain. Gibson *et al.* (1994) recognised three distinct communities in this group. The floristic composition of these communities varies with water regime, with the *Corymbia calophylla* - *Kingia australis* woodlands on heavy soils occurring on the wettest of the sites and being associated with the median species richness, and lowest level of weed invasion and disturbance. Groundwater is generally within 3m of the natural

ground surface in occurrences of this community, and this indicates that these wetlands likely have a high level of dependence on groundwater.

Indigenous Interests

An Aboriginal Sites Register is kept by the Department of Indigenous Affairs and lists a number of significant sites within or in close proximity to occurrences. The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC), an umbrella group, covers the areas in which the community occurs. Traditional owner groups: Whadjuk, Pindjarup, Wadandi.

Conservation Status

Listed as critically endangered under WA Minister Environmentally Sensitive Areas list in policy. Also listed as endangered under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Threatening Processes

The major threats to the community are weed invasion, dieback disease caused by *Phytophthora* species, grazing by introduced herbivores, hydrological change, recreational impacts, clearing and too frequent fire.

Recovery Plan

An interim recovery plan has been produced for the *Corymbia calophylla* - *Kingia australis* woodlands on heavy soils, and outlines the recovery actions required to reduce the threats, to maintain or improve the overall condition in the known locations, and reduce the level of threat to ensure the community's long-term survival. Recommended actions include monitoring the flora, developing and implementing a fire management strategy, monitoring dieback disease, weed control, fencing, determining hydrological requirements, and seeking conservation tenure as required.

Citation

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. (2020). Recovery plans and interim recovery plans <https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/threatened-species-and-communities/wa-s-threatened-ecological-communities>.

Key References

Gibson, N., Keighery, B., Keighery, G., Burbidge, A and 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.).

Department of Environment and Conservation (2011). Interim Recovery Plan 2011-2016 number 315 for the *Corymbia calophylla* - *Kingia australis* woodlands on heavy soils (community type 3a). Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.

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



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



Disclaimer

The State of Western Australia and its employees do not guarantee that this publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence that may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.



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



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions