

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

I, the Minister for Planning, make the following local environmental plan under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. (P01/00453/S69)

FRANK SARTOR, M.P.,

Minister for Planning

## Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991 (Amendment No 31)

### 1 Name of plan

This plan is Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991 (Amendment No 31).

### 2 Aims of plan

This plan aims to clarify and update Schedule 3 (Environmentally sensitive vegetation units) to *Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991*.

### 3 Land to which plan applies

This plan applies to land within the City of Blue Mountains to which *Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991* applies.

### 4 Amendment of Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991

Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991 is amended as set out in Schedule 1.

Amendment Schedule 1

### Schedule 1 Amendment

(Clause 4)

#### Schedule 3

Omit the Schedule. Insert instead:

## Schedule 3 Environmentally sensitive vegetation units

Note. This Schedule refers to Clause 10.

**Note.** In this Schedule, some scientific names appear in either italics or bold and italics. Bold italics are used to denote rare, endangered or dominant species.

Environmentally sensitive vegetation units (that is, significant vegetation communities), for the purposes of this plan, consist of the following naturally occurring plant communities in the City of Blue Mountains Council area. These communities are based not only on the plant species composition, but also upon specific topographic and edaphic (soil) qualities that make vegetation habitats important. The structural formation of the plant communities follows the classification of Specht *et al.* (1974), cited in clause 8 (References) of this Schedule. Descriptions of the vegetation communities in this Schedule have, in part, been adapted from Keith and Benson (1988), Smith and Smith (1998) and Douglas (2001), also cited in clause 8.

### 1 Tall Closed-forest/Closed-forest/Low Closed-forest (Rainforest)

### (1A) Ceratopetalum apetalum-Doryphora sassafras Rainforest

Ceratopetalum apetalum-Doryphora sassafras (Coachwood-Sassafras) Rainforest is found on sedimentary geology at upper and middle altitudes in the Blue Mountains. A variant, the 'Montane Rainforest' also occurs on more fertile soils on the slopes of the basalt-capped mountains in the far north of the City. The rainforest on basalt can be very similar both structurally and floristically to rainforest on sedimentary rock where there is significant influence from alluvium derived from the basalt up-slope. As the basalt influence decreases and

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the sedimentary rock becomes more prominent due to erosion, the structure and floristics blend into typical Sydney Sandstone Gallery Rainforest, which tends to be less diverse than rainforest on basalt, particularly in the understorey.

These rainforest communities are replaced at lower altitudes by *Backhousia myrtifolia-Ceratopetalum apetalum* rainforest (described below). The upper and lower altitude communities intergrade in the Springwood area. *Ceratopetalum apetalum-Doryphora sassafras* rainforest occurs in sheltered, moist sites that are rarely, if ever, burnt.

The dominant tree species is usually *Ceratopetalum apetalum* (Coachwood) and/or *Doryphora sassafras* (Sassafras). Other trees that are common in some stands are *Acacia elata* (Mountain Cedar Wattle), *Acmena smithii* (Lilly Pilly), *Callicoma serratifolia* (Black Wattle), *Hedycarya angustifolia* (Native Mulberry) and *Quintinia sieberi* (Possumwood). *Backhousia myrtifolia* (Grey Myrtle) is usually absent, although sometimes a minor component of the community. The vegetation structure is usually a closed-forest or low closed-forest. There may be a layer of emergent eucalypts above the rainforest canopy in ecotonal or partly disturbed communities. Ferns, vines and epiphytes are usually prominent features of the community.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Ceratopetalum apetalum* or *Doryphora sassafras* with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia elata	Acmena smithii	Asplenium australasicum
Asplenium flabellifolium	Blechnum ambiguum	Blechnum cartilagineum
Blechnum gregsonii	Blechnum nudum	Blechnum patersonii
Blechnum wattsii	Bursaria spinosa	Callicoma serratifolia

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Calochlaena dubia	Carex appressa	Cassytha pubescens
Centella asiatica	Cephalaralia	Ceratopetalum
	cephalobotrys	apetalum
Cissus antartica	Cissus hypoglauca	Clematis aristata
Coprosma	Cyathea australis	Cyathea
quadrifida		leichhardtiana
Cynoglossum	Dendrobium	Dicksonia
latifolium	teretifolium	antarctica
Doodia aspera	Doryphora	Dracophyllum
	sassafras	secundum
Elaeocarpus	Elaeocarpus reticulatus	Eucalyptus oreades
holopetalus	renculatus	
Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Fieldia australis
	•	
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Geranium homeanum	Gleichenia microphylla
·		. ,
Grammitis billardieri	Hakea salicifolia	Hedycarya angustifolia
11. 1	II	
Hydrocotyle peduncularis	Hymenanthera dentata	Hymenophyllum cupressiforme
Juncus planifolius	Lastreopsis	Leptopteris fraseri
Juneus piungoiius	acuminata	Leptopieris fraseri
Leptospermum	Libertia pulchella	Lomandra montana
polygalifolium		
Lomatia myricoides	Microsorum	Microsorum
	diversifolium	scandens
Morinda	Notelaea longifolia	Notelaea venosa
jasminoides		
Pandorea	Parsonsia brownii	Parsonsia
pandorana		leichhardtii
Parsonsia	Passiflora	Pellaea falcata
straminea	cinnabarina	

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Pittosporum revolutum	Pittosporum undulatum	Polystichum proliferum
Pyrrosia rupestris	Quintinia sieberi	Rubus hillii
Rubus rosifolius	Smilax australis	Smilax glyciphylla
Stellaria flacida	Stenocarpus salignus	Sticherus flabellatus
Sticherus lobatus	Syncarpia glomulifera	Tasmannia insipida
Todea barbara	Tristania neriifolia	Tristaniopsis collina
Tristaniopsis laurina	Tylophora barbata	Urtica incisa

### (1B) Backhousia myrtifolia-Ceratopetalum apetalum Rainforest

Viola hederacea

Backhousia myrtifolia-Ceratopetalum apetalum (Myrtle-Coachwood) Rainforest refers to the community found on sedimentary geology at lower altitudes in the Blue Mountains. It is replaced at middle and upper altitudes by Ceratopetalum apetalum-Doryphora sassafras Rainforest. The two communities intergrade in the Springwood area. Backhousia myrtifolia-Ceratopetalum apetalum Rainforest occurs on relatively fertile soils in sheltered, moist sites that are rarely, if ever, burnt.

Backhousia myrtifolia (Grey Myrtle) is the dominant or co-dominant tree with Ceratopetalum apetalum (Coachwood) or Acmena smithii (Lilly Pilly) or both. Other trees that may be common are Acacia elata (Mountain Cedar Wattle), Callicoma serratifolia (Black Wattle) and Syncarpia glomulifera (Turpentine). Doryphora sassafras (Sassafras) is often present, but not as a dominant. The vegetation structure is usually a closed-forest or low closed-forest. There may be a layer of emergent eucalypts above the dense rainforest canopy in ecotonal or partly disturbed communities. Ferns, vines and epiphytes are usually prominent features of the community.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Backhousia myrtifolia* and *Ceratopetalum apetalum* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia elata	Acmena smithii	Acrotriche divaricata
Adiantum aethiopicum	Adiantum hispidulum	Allocasuarina littoralis
Allocasuarina torulosa	Asplenium flabellifolium	Astrotricha latifolia
Backhousia myrtifolia	Blechnum cartilagineum	Boronia fraseri
Callicoma serratifolia	Calochlaena dubia	Ceratopetalum apetalum
Cissus hypoglauca	Cyathea australis	Dianella caerulea
Doodia aspera	Doryphora sassafras	Elaeocarpus reticulatus
Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus piperita	Lepidosperma gunnii
Lepidosperma laterale	Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra montana
Morinda jasminoides	Notelaea longifolia	Ozothamnus diosmifolius
Pandorea pandorana	Parsonsia straminea	Persoonia mollis
Pittosporum revolutum	Pittosporum undulatum	Prostanthera violacea
Pultenaea flexilis	Pyrrosia rupestris	Rapanea variabilis
Schoenus melanostachys	Smilax australis	Smilax glyciphylla

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Sticherus flabellatus Syncarpia Tasmannia insipida

glomulifera

Todea barbara Tylophora barbata Zieria smithii

### (1C) Megalong Granite Dry Rainforest (Backhousia myrtifolia)

Within the southern parts of the Blue Mountains in the Megalong Valley are a few small remnants of granite dry rainforest. These communities are generally confined to narrow strips occurring in south-facing rocky slopes and gullies that have survived clearing and where grazing by livestock is minimal. It is evident that the dry rainforest on the granite is strongly allied with that in the Kowmung Wilderness on the Lambie Group.

The dominant species in this community is *Backhousia myrtifolia* (Myrtle) that occurs as a tall closed-scrub or low closed-forest. Infrequent emergents are mainly *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum) or *Brachychiton populneus* (Kurrajong). The small tree *Rapanea howittiana* (Brush Muttonwood) may also occur and it is likely that the larger or more protected sites also support *Toona australis* (Red Cedar). This community may grade into the Riparian Granite Slope Forest (see community (2O)).

The understorey is dominated by ferns and scattered herbs. Species include the ferns *Pellaea falcata* var. *falcata*, *P. falcata* var. *nana* and *Adiantum aethiopicum*, the vines *Aphanopetalum resinosum* and *Marsdenia flavescens*, the herbs *Parietaria debilis*, *Hydrocotyle geraniifolia*, *Sigesbeckia orientalis* and *Plectranthus parviflorus*, the grass *Oplismenus aemulus* and possibly *Ehretia acuminata*.

This community is generally characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia falciformis Acacia implexa Acacia obtusifolia

Acacia Acaena novae- Adiantum parramattensis zelandiae aethiopicum

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Ajuga australis	Angophora floribunda	Aphanopetalum resinosum
Asplenium flabellifolium	Austrostipa pubescens	Backhousia myrtifolia
Blechnum cartilagineum	Brachychiton populneus	Brachycome angustifolia var. angustifolia
Carex appressa	Cassinia arcuata	Centella asiatica
Cheilanthes distans	Desmodium varians	Dianella longifolia
Dianella revoluta	Dichelachne rara	Dichondra repens
Echinopogon ovatus	Ehretia acuminate	Entolasia stricta
Epilobium hirtigerum	Eucalyptus camphora	Eucalyptus eugenioides
Eucalyptus punctata	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Eucalyptus viminalis
Exocarpus strictus	Galium propinquum	Geitonoplesium cymosum
Geranium homeanum	Geranium retrorsum	Gonocarpus tetragynus
Helichrysum scorpioides	Hydrocotyle geraniifolia	Indigofera australis
Lepidosperma gunnii	Lepidosperma viscidum	Leucopogon lanceolata
Leucopogon virgatus	Libertia paniculata	Lomandra glauca
Lomandra gracilis	Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra multiflora
Lomatia myricoides	Lomatia silaifolia	Luzula flaccida
Marsdenia flavescens	Marsdenia rostrata	Microlaena stipoides

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Oplismenus aemulus	Oplismenus imbecillis	Pandorea pandorana
Parietaria debilis	Pellaea falcata	Persoonia linearis
Plantago debilis	Plantago gaudichaudii	Plectranthus parviflorus
Poa sieberiana	Polystichum proliferum	Poranthera microphylla
Pratia purpurascens	Pteridium esculentum	Ranunculus lappaceus
Rapanea howittiana	Rubus parvifolius	Rumex brownii
Schoenus apogon	Senecio lautus subsp. dissectifolius	Senecio minimus
Sigesbeckia orientalis	Solanum cinereum	Stackhousia viminea
Stellaria flaccida	Stypandra glauca	Toona ciliata
Urtica incisa	Veronica plebeia	Viola betonicifolia
Wahlenbergia stricta		

### 2 Tall open-forest/open-forest

### (2A) Moist Basalt Cap Forest (Eucalyptus viminalis-E. blaxlandii-E. radiata subsp. radiata)

The basalt caps of Mt. Wilson, Mt. Tomah, Mt. Bell, Mt. Banks, Mt. Caley and Mt. Hay have weathered to a fertile clay-loam soil. At high altitudes (800–1,000 metres), the summits and slopes of these areas support a tall open-forest variously dominated by *Eucalyptus viminalis* (Ribbon Gum), *E. blaxlandii* (Brown Stringybark) and *E. radiata* subsp. *radiata* (Narrow-leaved Peppermint). Other canopy species that may be encountered include *E. cypellocarpa* (Monkey Gum), *E. oreades* (Blue Mountain Ash) and *E. fastigata* (Brown Barrel).

The understorey of the Moist Basalt Cap Forest generally has scattered shrubs including *Acacia melanoxylon*,

A. penninervis, Polyscias sambucifolia, Astrotricha floccosa, Davesia ulicifolia and Leucopogon lanceolatus with occasional tree ferns, Cyathea australis. The ground cover includes numerous herbs and ferns.

The Moist Basalt Cap Forest community is generally characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia elata	Acacia falciformis	Acacia melanoxylon
Acacia obtusifolia	Acacia penninervis	Acaena novae- zelandiae
Ajuga australis	Angophora costata	Angophora floribunda
Astrotricha floccose	Astrotricha latifolia	Blechnum cartilagineum
Blechnum nudum	Bursaria longisepala	Centella asiatica
Clematis aristata	Cyathea australis	Daviesia ulicifolia
Dianella caerulea	Dianella longifolia	Doodia aspera
Echinopogon ovatus	Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus blaxlandii
Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Eucalyptus fastigata	Eucalyptus oreades
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Eucalyptus viminalis	Eustrephus latifolius
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Geranium homeanum	Geranium potentilloides
Glycine tabacina	Gonocarpus teucrioides	Hymenanthera dentata
Indigofera australis	Leucopogon lanceolatus	Lomandra longifolia

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Microlaena Polyscias Pteridium stipoides sambucifolia esculentum

Pultenaea flexilis Rapanea howittiana Smilax australis

Stellaria flaccida Stellaria pungens Tylophora barbata

Veronica plebeia Viola betonicifolia Viola hederacea

### (2B) Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest (Eucalyptus deanei-E. punctata-Syncarpia glomulifera)

This community includes the Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest that is listed as an endangered ecological community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

Eucalyptus deanei-E. punctata-Syncarpia glomulifera open to tall open-forest incorporates the vegetation communities found on deep, shale-rich soils on ridges and upper slopes. Within the City, such vegetation occurs only in the lower altitudes whereas it extends to the higher altitudes in the adjoining Hawkesbury City.

Within the City, this community is characterised by *Eucalyptus deanei* (Mountain Blue Gum), which is dominant or co-dominant with *E. punctata* (Grey Gum) *Syncarpia glomulifera* (Turpentine). The form of Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest that occurs within the City is distinguished from the closely related Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest by the presence of *E. notabilis* (Mountain Mahogany).

Other tree species that may be present include *Angophora costata* (Sydney Red Gum), *A. floribunda* (Rough-barked Apple), *Eucalyptus piperita* (Sydney Peppermint) and *E. punctata* (Grey Gum). *E. piperita* is associated with the edge of this community and a relatively low influence from the shale. The typical vegetation structure is tall open-forest, although this may vary depending on site conditions and history. It is generally a wet sclerophyll forest, with soft-leaved plants prominent in the understorey.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Eucalyptus deanei*, *E. punctata* and *Syncarpia glomulifera* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species

are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia elata	Acacia longifolia	Acacia parramattensis
Acianthus exsertus	Adiantum aethiopicum	Allocasuarina littoralis
Allocasuarina torulosa	Angophora costata	Angophora floribunda
Astrotricha latifolia	Backhousia myrtifolia	Blechnum cartilagineum
Blechnum nudum	Bracteantha bracteata	Breynia oblongifolia
Callicoma serratifolia	Calochlaena dubia	Cassytha pubescens
Ceratopetalum gummiferum	Cissus antarctica	Clematis aristata
Dianella caerulea	Dichelachne rara	Dichondra repens
Dodonaea triquetra	Doodia aspera	Echinopogon ovatus
Entolasia marginata	Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa
Eucalyptus deanei	Eucalyptus globoidea	Eucalyptus notabilis
Eucalyptus paniculata	Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus punctata
Eustrephus latifolius	Geitonoplesium cymosum	Geranium solanderi
Glycine clandestina	Hakea dactyloides	Hardenbergia violacea
Hibbertia diffusa	Imperata cylindrica	Indigofera australis
Kennedia rubicunda	Lepidosperma laterale	Leucopogon lanceolatus

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Lomandra longifolia	Lomatia silaifolia	Microlaena stipoides
Oplismenus aemulus	Oplismenus imbecillis	Ozothamnus diosmifolius
Pandorea pandorana	Persoonia linearis	Phyllanthus hirtellus
Pittosporum revolutum	Pittosporum undulatum	Platysace lanceolata
Polyscias sambucifolia	Pratia purpurascens	Pseuderanthemum variabile
Pteridium esculentum	Pultenaea flexilis	Rubus parvifolius
Schoenus melanostachys	Smilax australis	Smilax glyciphylla
Stypandra glauca	Syncarpia glomulifera	Telopea speciosissima
Themeda australis	Tristaniopsis collina	Tylophora barbata

### (2C) Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (Syncarpia glomulifera-Eucalyptus fibrosa-E. crebra)

Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest listed as an endangered ecological community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

Within the City, this community represents a drier and generally lower altitude variant of the Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest. The primary difference is the general absence of *Eucalyptus deanei* and *E. notabilis* and the usual dominance of *Syncarpia glomulifera* (Turpentine), sometimes along with various ironbark species such as *E. fibrosa* (Broad-leaved Ironbark), *E. crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark), and *E. beyeriana* (Beyer's Ironbark). The ironbarks can be absent or rare due to their extensive logging for fencing purposes. *E. punctata* (Grey Gum), *E. notabilis* (Mountain Mahogany), *E. paniculata* (Grey Ironbark), *E. globoidea* (White Stringybark) and *E. eugenioides* (Thin-leaved Stringybark) may also be present.

The original distribution of this community and the boundary between it and the Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest is unclear due to extensive clearing or modification of these vegetation types. The two communities are closely related and may intergrade extensively. In addition, this community intergrades with Shale/Sandstone Complex Forest (described below).

Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest occurs on ridgetop caps of Wianamatta Shale. It may extend onto deeper areas of Hawkesbury Shale within the so-called Mittagong Formation.

Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest is characterised in the Blue Mountains by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia decurrens	Acacia falcata	Acacia implexa
Acacia longifolia	Acacia parramattensis	Allocasuarina torulosa
Angophora costata	Angophora floribunda	Billardiera scandens
Bursaria spinosa	Caesia parvifolius	Cheilanthes sieberi
Corymbia gummifera	Daviesia squarrosa	Dianella caerulea
Dichelachne rara	Dichondra repens	Echinopogon caespitosus
Entolasia marginata	Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus beyeriana
Eucalyptus crebra	Eucalyptus eugenioides	Eucalyptus fibrosa
Eucalyptus globoidea	Eucalyptus notabilis	Eucalyptus paniculata
Eucalyptus punctata	Glycine clandestina	Goodenia hederacea

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Hardenbergia violacea	Lepidosperma laterale	Leucopogon juniperinus
Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra multiflora	Microlaena stipoides
Oplismenus aemulus	Ozothamnus diosmifolius	Panicum simile
Pittosporum undulatum	Pomax umbellata	Poranthera microphylla
Pratia purpurascens	Pultenaea elliptica	Smilax glyciphylla
Stipa pubescens	Syncarpia glomulifera	Themeda australis
Tricoryne simplex	Veronica plebeia	Xanthorrhoea media

### (2D) Shale Sandstone Transition Forest (Syncarpia glomulifera-Eucalyptus punctata)

Shale Sandstone Transition Forest is listed as an endangered ecological community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*. Within the City, Shale Sandstone Transition Forest is within the scope of, but not limited by the definition of Shale Sandstone Transition Forest in the Final Determination of the Scientific Committee to list the ecological community in Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

This community is present primarily on ridgetops but may occur elsewhere on unmapped remnant shale caps or lenses or immediately downslope of shale caps where the soils have been enriched by colluvium. Within the City, it is restricted to the lower altitudes and transitions between or within the Wianamatta and Hawkesbury Group of sediments.

Because it represents a transition from shale-based vegetation to that associated with sandstone environments, this community is inherently highly variable and difficult to define. Variations occur depending on the relative influence of the different geologies as well as due to differences in shelter and rainfall. Any vegetation that is associated with a transition from shale to sandstone is considered to be within the scope of this community, irrespective of the structure or floristics unless it

can be shown to be part of another vegetation type described in this Schedule.

The Shale Sandstone Transition Forest can have considerable affinities to Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest but generally has a greater influence from sandstone-oriented species and less influence from those more affiliated with shale soils. Tree species that can occur in this Complex include *Syncarpia glomulifera* (Turpentine), *Eucalyptus punctata* (Grey Gum), *E. resinifera* (Red Mahogany), *E. notabilis* (Mountain Mahogany), *E. crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark), *E. fibrosa* (Broad-leaved Ironbark), *E. paniculata* (Grey Ironbark), *E. beyeriana* (Beyer's Ironbark), *E. globoidea* (White Stringybark), *E. sparsifolia* (Narrow-leaved Stringybark), *E. eugenioides* (Thin-leaved Stringybark) and *Angophora costata* (Sydney Red Gum). The stringybarks *E. eugenioides* and *E. sparsifolia* are generally diagnostic of the more sandstone-influence form of this community.

The understorey can be highly variable depending on the extent of shale influence and proximity to the Cumberland Plain. Fire history and the effects of other forms of disturbance can also significantly affect both the structure and floristics of the understorey. It can range from grassy and herbaceous to densely scrubby. In areas close to the Cumberland Plain, the understorey may include species more typical of that environment such as *Melaleuca nodosa*, *M. erubescens* and *M. thymifolia*, especially in areas with slightly impeded drainage.

Shale Sandstone Transition Forest is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia brownii	Acacia decurrens	Acacia falcata
Acacia hispidula	Acacia implexa	Acacia linifolia
Acacia myrtifolia	Acacia parramattensis	Acacia parvipinnula

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Acacia suaveolens	Acacia terminalis	Acacia trinervata
Acianthus exsertus	Adiantum aethiopicum	Allocasuarina littoralis
Allocasuarina torulosa	Alphitonia excelsa	Angophora bakeri
Angophora costata	Angophora floribunda	Aristida vagans
Arthropodium milleflorum	Arthropodium minus	Astrotricha latifolia
Baeckea ramosissima	Banksia serrata	Banksia spinulosa
Billardiera scandens	Bossiaea obcordata	Bossiaea prostrata
Bracteantha bracteata	Breynia oblongifolia	Bursaria spinosa
Calotis cuneifolia	Carex inversa	Cassytha glabella
Cassytha pubescens	Cheilanthes sieberi	Chenopodium carinatum
Corymbia eximia	Corymbia gummifera	Cryptandra amara
Cyathochaeta diandra	Cymbopogon refractus	Danthonia tenuior
Daviesia mimisoides	Daviesia squarrosa	Daviesia ulicifolia
Desmodium varians	Dianella caerulea	Dianella prunina
Dianella revoluta	Dichondra repens	Dillwynia retorta
Dodonaea triquetra	Doodia aspera	Echinopogon caespitosus
Echinopogon ovatus	Einadia hastata	Entolasia marginata
Entolasia stricta	Eragrostis brownii	Eremophila debilis
Eucalyptus agglomerata	Eucalyptus beyeriana	Eucalyptus crebra

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Eucalyptus deanei	Eucalyptus eugenioides	Eucalyptus fibrosa
Eucalyptus globoidea	Eucalyptus notabilis	Eucalyptus oblonga
Eucalyptus paniculata	Eucalyptus punctata	Eucalyptus resinifera
Eucalyptus sclerophylla	Eucalyptus sparsifolia	Eucalyptus squamosa
Euchiton sphaericus	Eustrephus latifolius	Exocarpos cupressiformis
Exocarpos strictus	Gahnia clarkei	Gahnia radula
Gallium binifolium	Gallium propinquum	Gastrodia sesamoides
Geranium homeanum	Glochidion ferdinandi	Glycine clandestina
Glycine tabacina	Gompholobium grandiflorum	Gompholobium huegelii
Gonocarpus humilis	Gonocarpus tetragynus	Gonocarpus teucrioides
Goodenia bellidifolia	Goodenia hederacea	Goodenia heterophylla
Grevillia longifolia	Grevillea mucronulata	Grevillea sericea
Hakea dactyloides	Hakea salicifolia	Hakea sericea
Hardenbergia violacea	Hibbertia aspera	Hibbertia diffusa
Hydrocotyle peduncularis	Hypericum gramineum	Hypolepis muelleri
Imperata cylindrica	Indigofera australis	Kennedia rubicunda
Kunzea ambigua	Lambertia formosa	Lasiopetalum parviflorum

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Laxmannia gracilis	Lepidosperma laterale	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Leptospermum trinervium	Leucopogon juniperinus	Leucopogon lanceolatus
Leucopogon microphyllus	Leucopogon muticus	Lindsaea microphylla
Logania pusilla	Lomandra cylindrica	Lomandra filiformis
Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra multiflora	Lomatia ilicifolia
Lomatia silaifolia	Melaleuca thymifolia	Mentha satureioides
Microlaena stipoides	Mirbelia rubiifolia	Mitrasacme polymorpha
Morinda jasminoides	Notelaea longifolia	Olax stricta
Olearia microphylla	Opercularia varia	Oplismenus aemulus
Oplismenus imbecillis	Oxylobium ilicifolium	Oxylobium scandens
Ozothamnus diosmifolius	Pandorea pandorana	Panicum simile
Patersonia fragilis	Patersonia glabrata	Patersonia longifolia
Patersonia sericea	Persoonia lanceolata	Persoonia laurina
Persoonia levis	Persoonia linearis	Persoonia mollis
Persoonia myrtilloides	Persoonia pinifolia	Petrophile pedunculata
Petrophile pulchella	Phyllanthus gasstroemii	Phyllanthus hirtellus
Phylotta phylicoides	Pimelea linifolia	Pittosporum revolutum

Plantago varia	Platylobium formosum	Poa cheelii
Poa labillardieri	Poa sieberiana	Polyscias sambucifolia
Pomaderris ferruginea	Pomaderris intermedia	Pomax umbellata
Poranthera ericifilia	Poranthera microphylla	Pratia purpurascens
Prostanthera linearis	Pseuderanthemum variabile	Pteridium esculentum
Ptilothrix deusta	Pultenaea ferruginea	Pultenaea flexilis
Pultenaea retusa	Pultenaea scabra	Pultenaea villosa
Rubus parvifolius	Sigesbeckia orientalis	Solanum prinophyllum
Sporobolus creber	Stackhousia monogyna	Stackhousia muricata
Stackhousia viminea	Stellaria flaccida	Stipa pubescens
Stipa rudis	Styphelia laeta	Syncarpia glomulifera
Tephrosia brachyodon	Thelymitra pauciflora	Themeda australis
Thysanotus tuberosus	Tylophora barbata	Vernonia cinerea
Veronica plebeia	Wahlenbergia gracilis	Xylomelum pyriforme

### (2E) Eucalyptus deanei-E. piperita Tall Open-forest

Eucalyptus deanei-E. piperita Tall Open-forest refers to a vegetation community of mixed tree species composition, including Eucalyptus piperita (Sydney Peppermint), E. deanei (Mountain Blue Gum), Syncarpia glomulifera (Turpentine), Angophora costata (Sydney Red Gum), A. floribunda (Rough-barked Apple), E. punctata (Grey Gum) and E. crebra

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(Narrow-leaved Ironbark). Not all of these species occur in every stand, except for *E. deanei*, whose presence is characteristic of the community.

The community is found in moist, sheltered sites on the talus slopes below the sandstone escarpments of the Jamison, Kedumba and Grose Valleys. It is replaced further west in the Megalong and Kanimbla Valleys by *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa-E. piperita* Tall Open-forest. The community also occurs in some moist, sheltered sites away from the escarpments. The typical vegetation structure is tall open-forest, although this may vary depending on site conditions and history. It is a wet sclerophyll forest, with soft-leaved plants prominent in the understorey.

*Eucalyptus deanei-E. piperita* Tall Open-forest differs from *E. deanei-E. punctata-Syncarpia glomulifera* Tall Open-forest in that it occurs on different geology (Illawarra Coal Measures, Shoalhaven Group and Narrabeen Group) and *E. deanei* is less prominent.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Eucalyptus piperita* and *E. deanei* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia elata	Acacia falciform is	Acacia longifolia
Adiantum aethiopicum	Allocasuarina torulosa	Angophora costata
Angophora floribunda	Arthropodium minus	Astrotricha latifolia
Banksia spinulosa	Blechnum cartilagineum	Callicoma serratifolia
Calochlaena dubia	Carex longebrachiata	Cassytha pubescens
Ceratopetalum apetalum	Clematis aristata	Cyathea australis

Desmodium varians	Dianella caerulea	Dichelachne rara
Dichondra repens	Doodia aspera	Elaeocarpus reticulatus
Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus crebra	Eucalyptus deanei
Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus punctata	Eustrephus latifolius
Exocarpos cupressiformis	Gahnia sieberiana	Galium propinquum
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Gleichenia microphylla	Glycine clandestina
Hakea dactyloides	Hakea salicifolia	Hibbertia scandens
Hydrocotyle peduncularis	Indigofera australis	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Leucopogon lanceolatus	Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra montana
Melaleuca styphelioides	Oplismenus aemulus	Pandorea pandorana
Platylobium formosum	Platysace lanceolata	Plectranthus parviflorus
Pratia purpurascens	Pteridium esculentum	Rubus parvifolius
Smilax australis	Sticherus lobatus	Syncarpia glomulifera
Todea barbara	Tristaniopsis collina	Tylophora barbata

### (2F) Eucalyptus cypellocarpa-E. piperita Tall Open-forest

Eucalyptus cypellocarpa-E. piperita Tall Open-forest is characterised by the presence of *E. cypellocarpa* (Monkey Gum), occurring in association with one or more of *E. piperita* (Sydney Peppermint), *E. oreades* (Blue Mountain Ash) and *E. radiata* subsp. radiata (Narrow-leaved Peppermint).

The community is found in moist, sheltered sites on the talus slopes below the sandstone escarpments of the western Blue Mountains (Megalong and Kanimbla Valleys). The community

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also occurs in some moist, sheltered sites away from the escarpments, and may occur as far east as Woodford. The typical vegetation structure is tall open-forest, although this may vary depending on site conditions and history. It is a wet sclerophyll forest, with soft-leaved plants prominent in the understorey.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* and *E. piperita* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia elata	Acacia longifolia	Banksia cunninghamii
Banksia spinulosa	Blechnum cartilagineum	Callicoma serratifolia
Callistemon citrinus	Calochlaena dubia	Cassytha pubescens
Chionochloa pallida	Comesperma ericinum	Cyathea australis
Dianella caerulea	Empodisma minus	Entolasia marginata
Entolasia stricta	Epacris pulchella	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa
Eucalyptus mannifera subsp. gullickii	Eucalyptus oreades	Eucalyptus piperita
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Gahnia sieberiana	Gleichenia microphylla
Gonocarpus teucrioides	Hakea dactyloides	Hydrocotyle peduncularis
Leptospermum grandifolium	Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leucopogon lanceolatus
Lomandra longifolia	Lomatia silaifolia	Microlaena stipoides

> Monotoca scoparia Persoonia mollis Persoonia

> > myrtilloides

Petrophile pulchella Platysace lanceolata Polyscias

sambucifolia

Pteridium Pultenaea flexilis Pultenaea scabra

esculentum

Todea barbara Tristaniopsis collina

### (2G) Eucalyptus oreades Open-forest/Tall Open-forest

Eucalyptus oreades Open-forest/Tall Open-forest refers to those vegetation communities dominated by E. oreades (Blue Mountain Ash). A range of other Eucalypts may also occur, most commonly including, E. piperita (Sydney Peppermint), E. cypellocarpa (Monkey Gum) and E. radiata subsp. radiata (Narrow-leaved Peppermint).

The characteristic vegetation structure is tall open-forest, however this can vary depending on site conditions and history. In some places the understorey is shrubby, while in moister sites a ferny understorey can be present. Although typically found in gullies or on sheltered slopes in the upper mountains (Bell to Wentworth Falls), this community also occurs in relatively exposed sites eg ridgetops, where suitable depth of shale provides more fertile conditions and better soil moisture.

Eucalyptus oreades is extremely fire-sensitive, with individual trees readily killed in a major bushfire. Although the capacity of E. oreades to regenerate from seed after fire is indicated by even-aged stands of trees often found in this community, the species will be adversely affected or eliminated entirely by an inappropriate fire regime of frequent burning.

This community is relatively rare outside of the National Park estate and has apparently suffered significant loss due to urbanisation and associated infrastructure, as well as being degraded by weed invasion, changed fire regimes, and stormwater runoff.

Eucalyptus oreades open-forest/tall open-forest is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other

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species also occur, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia brownii	Acacia obtusifolia	Acacia terminalis
Amperea xiphoclada	Arrhenechthites mixta	Austrodanthonia longifolia
Banksia spinulosa	Billardiera scandens	Bossiaea heterophylla
Cassytha glabella	Conospermum tenuifolium	Dampiera stricta
Daviesia ulicifolia	Dianella caerulea	Dianella longifolia
Dianella prunina	Eucalyptus oreades	Eucalyptus piperita
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Eucalyptus sieberi	Goodenia bellidifolia
Hakea laevipes	Hibbertia aspera	Hibbertia rufa
Hovea linearis	Leptomeria acida	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Lindsaea microphylla	Lomandra gracilis	Lomandra longifolia
Lomandra obliqua	Lomatia silaifolia	Mitrasacme polymorpha
Monotoca scoparia	Olearia erubescens	Patersonia sericea
Persoonia chamaepitys	Persoonia laurina	Persoonia levis
Persoonia myrtilloides	Phyllota squarrosa	Platylobium formosum
Platysace linifolia	Poa sieberiana	Poranthera corymbosa
Pteridium esculentum	Stackhousia viminea	Symphionema montanum

Telopea Xanthorrhoea media speciosissima

### (2H) Eucalyptus dalrympleana-E. piperita Tall Open-forest

Eucalyptus dalrympleana-E. piperita Tall Open-forest is characterised by the presence of *E. dalrympleana* (Mountain Gum), occurring in association with *E. piperita* (Sydney Peppermint) and *E. radiata* subsp. radiata (Narrow-leaved Peppermint). In the City, this community appears to be restricted to one small stand at the upper end of Popes Glen Creek, Blackheath, where it occurs on a sheltered, south-facing slope of Narrabeen Group geology. The vegetation structure is variable within this disturbed stand, from tall open-forest to open-forest and woodland. It is a wet sclerophyll forest, with soft-leaved plants prominent in the understorey.

Eucalyptus dalrympleana-E. piperita Tall Open-forest is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the community at Blackheath.

Acacia longifolia	Acacia melanoxylon	Arrhenechthites mixta
Baumea rubiginosa	Billardiera scandens	Blechnum nudum
Chionochloa pallida	Cyathea australis	Daviesia ulicifolia
Deyeuxia parviseta	Dianella prunina	Dianella tasmanica
Empodisma minus	Epacris pulchella	Eucalyptus dalrympleana
Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Gahnia sieberiana
Gleichenia dicarpa	Gonocarpus teucrioides	Hakea dactyloides
Helichrysum scorpioides	Leptospermum polygalifolium	Lepyrodia scariosa
Leucopogon lanceolatus	Lomandra longifolia	Lomatia silaifolia

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Lycopodium deuterodensum	Microlaena stipoides	Olearia erubescens
Persoonia myrtilloides	Poa sieberiana	Polyscias sambucifolia
Pteridium esculentum	Pultenaea scabra	

### (2I) Sun Valley Cabbage Gum Forest (Eucalyptus amplifolia)

The Sun Valley Cabbage Gum Forest is listed as an Endangered Ecological Community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

This community is dominated by *Eucalyptus amplifolia* (Cabbage Gum) that occurs on the diatreme at Sun Valley. An associated tree species is *E. eugenioides* (Thin-leaved Stringybark). Although there is still good tree cover in the area (remnant trees and regeneration), the understorey of this community has been grossly altered through clearing and grazing. Remaining native understorey species include *Acacia parramattensis*, *Imperata cylindrica*, *Lomandra longifolia* and *Pteridium esculentum*, but the original composition of the understorey is difficult to assess. Attempts to restore this community at Sun Valley are certainly warranted.

Eucalyptus amplifolia Tall Open-forest is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the community at Sun Valley.

Acacia parramattensis	Adiantum aethiopicum	Agrostis sp.
Aristida sp.	Arthropodium sp.	Blechnum nudum
Bursaria spinosa	Centella asiatica	Cheilanthes sieberi
Daucus glochidiatus	Daviesia ulicifolia	Dianella aff. caerulea
Dianella caerulea	Dichondra repens	Dillwynia sp.
Doodia aspera	Echinopogon caespitosus	Entolasia marginata

Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus amplifolia	Eucalyptus eugenioides
Gallium gaudichaudi	Geranium homeanum	Geranium solanderi
Glycine tabacina	Hakea salicifolia	Hardenbergia violacea
Hemarthria uncinata	Hibbertia diffusa	Hibbertia fasciculata
Hibbertia linearis	Hypericum gramineum	Indigofera australis
Juncus usitatus	Kunzea ambigua	Lindsaea linearis
Lomandra longifolia	Microlaena stipoides	Persoonia linearis
Persoonia oblongata	Pittosporum undulatum	Poa sp.
Poranthera microphylla	Pratia purpurascens	Pteridium esculentum
Ranunculus lappaceus	Themeda australis	Veronica plebeia

### (2J) Montane Gully Forest (Eucalyptus fastigata-E. cypellocarpa-E. dalrympleana)

This community is associated with moderate to steep slopes and narrow gorges on the Narrabeen Group and Illawarra Coal Measures below the escarpments around Mount York and north to Bell. There is substantial intergradation with vegetation typical of the sandstone plateau close to the escarpments and with the *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* and *E. piperita* communities between Blackheath and Mount Victoria. The boundary of this community approximates the lower distribution of *E. fastigata*, *E. dalrympleana* and *E. blaxlandii*, and the upper distributional limits of *Angophora costata* and *Syncarpia glomulifera*.

Tree species include *Eucalyptus fastigata* (Brown Barrel), *E. cypellocarpa* (Monkey Gum), *E. dalrympleana* (Mountain Gum) with *E. oreades* (Blue Mountain Ash), *E. blaxlandii* (Blaxland's Stringybark), *E. radiata* subsp. radiata

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(Narrow-leaved Peppermint) and *E. sieberi* (Silvertop Ash). The understorey is moderately shrubby with *Acacia falciformis*, *A. terminalis*, *A. buxifolia*, *Oxylobium ilicifolium* and *Leptospermum flavescens* occurring, together with ferns such as *Culcita dubia*. *Acacia dealbata* was more common here than in any other parts of the study area. It appears that *E. fastigata* occurs primarily in the more sheltered sites with *E. dalrympleana* relatively common on the lower slopes where this unit blends into remnants of the vegetation found on the edge of the agricultural land around Little Hartley.

Montane Gully Forest is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, but the list is indicative of the major diagnostic species composition.

Acacia buxifolia	Acacia dealbata	Acacia falciformis
Acacia melanoxylon	Acacia terminalis	Acaena novae- zelandiae
Adiantum aethiopicum	Anisopogon avenaceus	Arrhenechthites mixta
Asperula conferta	Blechnum cartilagineum	Centella asiatica
Clematis aristata	Culcita dubia	Cymbonotus lawsonianus
Dianella caerulea	Echinopogon ovatus	Eucalyptus blaxlandii
Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Eucalyptus dalrympleana	Eucalyptus fastigata
Eucalyptus oreades	Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Eucalyptus sieberi
Geranium sp.	Glycine clandestina	Gonocarpus tetragynus
Gonocarpus teucrioides	Helichrysum rutidolepsis	Leptospermum flavescens

Lomandra Leptospermum Leucopogon lanceolatus morrisonii longifolia Oxylobium Microlaena Persoonia linearis stipoides ilicifolium Polyscias Pratia purpurascens Pteridium sam buc ifolia esculentum Pyrrosia repestris Rubus parvifolius Syncarpia glomulifera

Veronica calycina Viola betonicifolia

### (2K) Blue Gum Riverflat Forest (Eucalyptus deanei)

The Blue Gum Riverflat Forest in the Blue Mountains is included within the Sydney Coastal River-Flat Forest listed as an Endangered Ecological Community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

This community is usually restricted to terraces of deep alluvium along larger watercourses of the lower Blue Mountains. *Eucalyptus deanei* (Mountain Blue Gum) is dominant and may be almost monospecific, with occasional *Angophora floribunda* (Rough-barked Apple) and a small tree layer which may contain large bipinnate wattles and infrequent *Allocasuarina torulosa* (She-oak). The understorey is open and often dominated by grasses or ferns (or both) with scattered mesic shrubs becoming denser in the immediate vicinity of the watercourse.

This community superficially resembles the Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest but the two occur in different positions in the landscape.

This community is generally characterised by the almost monospecific occurrence of *Eucalyptus deanei* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia implexa Acacia Adiantum parramattensis aethiopicum

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Allocasuarina torulosa	Angophora floribunda	Backhousia myrtifolia
Blechnum nudum	Breynia oblongifolia	Callicoma serratifolia
Calochlaena dubia	Centella asiatica	Cynodon dactylon
Dichondra repens	Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus deanei
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Glycine tabacina	Imperata cylindrica
Kunzea ambigua	Lomandra longifolia	Melaleuca linariifolia
Melia azedarach	Oplismenus sp.	Plectranthus parviflorus
Pratia purpurascens	Pseuderanthemum variabile	Pteridium esculentum
Rubus parvifolius	Sigesbeckia orientalis	Stellaria flaccida
Sticherus flabellatus	Trema aspera	Tylophora barbata
Veronica plebeia		

### (2L) Casuarina cunninghamiana 'River Oak Forest'

The Casuarina cunninghamiana River Oak Forest in the Blue Mountains is included within the Sydney Coastal River-Flat Forest listed as an Endangered Ecological Community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act* 1995.

Narrow bands of River Oak Forest occur on the alluvial banks of the Coxs River. This community also occurs in small, unmapped occurrences along the Hawkesbury-Nepean River. The dominant canopy species is *Casuarina cunninghamiana* subsp. *cunninghamiana* (River Oak) with occasional subdominants being *Angophora floribunda* (Rough-barked Apple) *Eucalyptus viminalis* (Ribbon Gum) and *E. tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum), and rarely *A. subvelutina* (Broad-leaved Apple). *Backhousia myrtifolia* (Myrtle) can also occur on the sheltered fringes of this community. Along the

larger tributaries to the east of the Coxs River, the understorey is often dominated by *Leptospermum* spp.. In these situations, *Lomandra longifolia* and several sedges can dominate the ground layer.

The understorey is generally sparse because of the mobile nature of the substrate (mobile gravels, sands and large areas of bare granite). The surrounding lands have often been cleared for agriculture and these communities are often highly prone to willow and other weed infestation.

Casuarina cunninghamiana River Oak Forest is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species may also occur, but the list is indicative of the species most characteristic of this composition.

Acacia floribunda	Acacia parvipinnula	Agrostis avenaceus
Alisma plantago- aquatica	Angophora floribunda	Angophora subvelutina
Backhousia myrtifolia	Blechnum nudum	Breynia oblongifolia
Bursaria spinosa	Callistemon citrinus	Callistemon paludosus
Casuarina cunninghamiana subsp. cunninghamiana	Cheilanthes distans	Clematis aristata
Commelina cyanea	Crassula sieberiana	Cynodon dactylon
Cyperus sphaeroideus	Eleocharis sphacelata	Entolasia stricta
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Eucalyptus viminalis	Geranium homeanum
Gnaphalium involucratum	Hemarthria uncinata	Isolepis inundata
Juncus acuminatus	Juncus caespiticius	Juncus usitatus

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Leptospermum juniperinum	Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leptospermum morrisonii
Lomandra longifolia	Microlaena stipoides	Persicaria hydropiper
Persicaria praetermissa	Ranunculus inundatus	Rumex sp.

Tristaniopsis laurina Wahlenbergia gracilis

### (2M) Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata-E. piperita Open-forest

This community is only known from a small number of easterly-facing slopes in Katoomba and Leura but may occur elsewhere in the higher Blue Mountains. The dominant canopy trees are *Eucalyptus radiata* subsp. *radiata* (Narrow-leaved Peppermint) and *E. piperita* (Sydney Peppermint). *E. sieberi* is also present, particularly where this community grades into the common *E. sieberi/E. piperita* community which tends to occur upslope. *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* can occur infrequently, particularly downslope towards adjoining swamp or riparian vegetation.

The understorey is a mix of dry and wet sclerophyll species and may contain species associated with Blue Mountains Swamps where these communities adjoin. The following list is indicative of some of the major diagnostic species.

Acacia terminalis	Banksia cunninghamii	Banksia spinulosa
Boronia microphylla	Callicoma serratifolia	Chionochloa pallida
Dianella tasmanica	Entolasia marginata	Eucalyptus mannifera subsp. gullickii
Eucalyptus oblonga	Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata
Eucalyptus sclerophylla	Eucalyptus sieberi	Eucalyptus sparsifolia

Lepidosperma Leptospermum Persoonia acerosa laterale trinervium Persoonia Persoonia Platylobium myrtilloides chamaepitys formosum Polyscias Pteridium Pultenaea glabra sambuci foliaesculentum

Stellaria pungens

### (2N) Melaleuca styphelioides-M. linariifolia Forest

This community occurs at the base of the slopes below the escarpments surrounding the Megalong, Kanimbla, Jamison and Kedumba Valleys. It is restricted to small alluvial/colluvial deltas perpendicular to the escarpment or to alluvial deposits along ephemeral watercourses running parallel to the escarpment. It is a generally moist forest in which Melaleuca species are dominant and occur under an open canopy of tall Eucalyptus cypellocarpa (Monkey Gum) or less often, E. viminalis (Ribbon Gum), with E. deanei (Mountain Blue Gum) most common east of Narrow Neck Peninsula. Other emergents can include E. crebra (Narrow-leafed Ironbark) and E. punctata (Grey Gum). The understorey is generally depauperate because of shading from the often-dense strata of Melaleuca. In areas subject to or recovering from grazing, it tends to be dominated by unpalatable graminoids and shrubs including Lomandra longifolia and Bursaria species, while in less modified situations there are numerous small climber/twiners such as Desmodium, Eustrephus and Glycine species along with the woody vines *Marsdenia*, *Cissus* and Parsonsia, herbs such as Dichondra, Centella and Viola, and a sparse layer of grasses such as Oplismenus species. Occasionally, in sites with more impeded drainage, small sedgeland communities are present, and in particularly moist or sheltered (or both) locations, there can be some intergradation with rainforest assemblages.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the range of species composition within this community type.

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Acacia falciformis	Acacia obtusifolia	Acacia parramattensis
Adiantum aethiopicum	Austrostipa pubescens	Banksia spinulosa
Billardiera scandens	Blechnum cartilagineum	Bossiaea neo-anglica
Brachycome angustifolia	Bursaria spinosa	Centella asiatica
Choretrum candollei	Cissus sp.	Clematis aristate
Desmodium varians	Dianella caerulea	Dianella longifolia
Dichondra repens	Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus blaxlandii
Eucalyptus crebra	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Eucalyptus deanei
Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus punctata	Eucalyptus viminalis
Eustrephus latifolius	Gahnia melanocarpa	Galium propinquum
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Geranium homeanum	Glycine tabacina
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Goodenia hederacea	Hardenbergia violacea
Helichrysum scorpioides	Hibbertia aspera	Hibbertia obtusifolia
Hypericum gramineum	Imperata cylindrica	Lagenifera stipitata
Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leucopogon lanceolata	Lomandra glauca
Lomandra longifolia	Lomatia myricoides	Marsdenia flavescens

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Melaleuca linariifolia	Melaleuca styphelioides	Microlaena stipoides
Oplismenus spp.	Pandorea pandorana	Parsonsia straminea
Phyllanthus hirtellus	Plantago debilis	Platylobium formosum
Poa labillardieri	Podolobium ilicifolium	Poranthera corymbosa
Poranthera microphylla	Pratia purpurascens	Pteridium esculentum
Rubus parvifolia	Scaevola ramosissima	Schoenus apogon
Stackhousia viminea	Veronica plebeia	Viola hederacea

### (20) Riparian Granite Slopes Forest

This community is present in the headwaters of ephemeral streams that drain the granite upland of the Megalong Valley down to the Coxs River. The structure is generally an open-forest to woodland with a low, moist and herbaceous understorey in which Stellaria flaccida and S. pungens are prevalent. The small ferns, Asplenium flabellifolium, Cheilanthes sieberi and C. distans may be present with Blechnum nudum scattered along the watercourse. A moist grass layer can dominate the ground stratum and will often contain the herbs, Dichondra repens, Centella asiatica, the twiners **Desmodium varians** and **Glycine** species with various Senecio species scattered throughout. The canopy species include Eucalyptus viminalis (Ribbon Gum), E. tereticornis (Forest Red Gum) and Angophora floribunda (Rough-barked Apple) with an occasional subcanopy of *Allocasuarina* torulosa. A small number of rainforest species may be present, particularly along the watercourse or on the sheltered side of the slope. Examples include Rapanea howittiana, Ficus coronata and Trema aspera. This community can grade into Megalong Granite Dry Rainforest (see community (1C)).

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in

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every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the range of species composition within this community type.

Acacia falciformis	Acaena novae-zelandiae	Adiantum aethiopicum
Allocasuarina torulosa	Angophora floribunda	Asplenium flabellifolium
Blechnum nudum	Bulbine bulbosa	Bursaria longisepala
Calochlaena dubia	Carex appressa	Carex longebrachiata
Centella asiatica	Cheilanthes distans	Cheilanthes sieberi
Clematis glycinoides	Desmodium varians	Dichondra repens
Doodia aspera	Echinopogon ovatus	Entolasia marginata
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Eucalyptus viminalis	Eustrephus latifolius
Ficus coronata	Geitonoplesium cymosum	Geranium retrorsum
Glycine tabacina	Hypericum gramineum	Lomandra longifolia
Microlaena stipoides	Oxalis perennans	Pittosporum undulatum
Pratia purpurascens	Rapanea howittiana	Rubus parvifolius
Senecio linearifolius	Senecio minimus	Smilax glyciphylla
Solanum cinereum	Stellaria flaccida	Stellaria pungens
Stypandra glauca	Swainsona galegifolia	Trema aspera
Urtica incisa	Wahlenbergia communis	Wahlenbergia stricta

# (2P) Megalong Footslopes Forest

This community is found on the footslopes below the escarpments, extending towards the centre of the Megalong Valley until displaced by the vegetation on the granite batholith. Some intergradation of these communities occurs and the outer margin of the Shoalhaven Group supports a community often dominated by Eucalyptus sclerophylla (Hard-leafed Scribbly Gum). Several variants of the forest form are recognised, with structure ranging from open-forest/ woodland to open-forest and canopy species including E. eugenioides (Thin-leafed Stringybark), E. globoidea (White Stringybark) (and hybrids), E. punctata (Grey Ironbark), E. sclerophylla (Hard-leafed Scribbly Gum) and Angophora costata (Sydney Red Gum). At the interface with the adjoining forests that dominate the slopes below the cliffline, a taller variant occurs in which *E. cypellocarpa* (Monkey Gum) may be present. Such situations can be associated with the existence of Melaleuca styphelioides-M. linariifolia swamp forest.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the range of species composition within this community type.

Acacia floribunda	Acacia terminalis	Angophora costata
Banksia spinulosa	Billardiera scandens	Boronia parvifolia
Bossiaea obcordata	Calytrix tetragona	Cheilanthes distans
Dianella revoluta	Dillwynia retorta	Entolasia stricta
Epacris microphylla	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Eucalyptus eugenioides
Eucalyptus globoidea	Eucalyptus punctata	Eucalyptus sclerophylla
Eucalyptus sieberi	Goodenia hederacea	Hakea salicifolia

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Hardenbergia violacea	Hibbertia aspera	Hibbertia rufa
Isopogon anemonifolius	Lagenifera stipitata	Lepidosperma viscidum
Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leptospermum trinervium	Leucopogon virgatus
Lissanthe sapida	Lomandra cylindrica	Lomandra longifolia
Lomandra obliqua	Mirbelia rubioides	Monotoca scoparia
Notelaea ovata	Persoonia laurina	Persoonia levis
Persoonia linearis	Phyllanthus hirtellus	Pimelea linifolia
Poa sieberiana	Pomax umbellata	Poranthera microphylla
Schoenus imberbis	Stylidium graminifolium	Viola hederacea

## (2Q) Megalong Granite Forest/Woodland (Eucalyptus tereticornis-E. eugenioides)

Much of the undulating granite country supporting this community was cleared for agriculture in the nineteenth century. Fragmented remnants are found in the Coxs River valley at elevations between 250 metres and 850 metres on deep, well-drained sandy soils derived from carboniferous adamellite, granite and grandiorote. Much of the vegetation is now a "derived" woodland (*sensu* Keith and Benson, 1988) but was probably forest prior to modification by clearing, grazing, rabbits and an altered fire regime.

The most characteristic tree species are *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum) and *E. eugenioides* (Thin-leaved stringybark) together with *E. viminalis* (Ribbon Gum). *E. dalrympleana* subsp. *dalrympleana* (Mountain Gum) can be locally dominant, particularly on the higher elevations (which are often quite exposed). *E. bridgesiana*, *E. dives*, *E. rubida* and *E. camphora* are generally rare within this community and are not considered characteristic of it, however *Angophora floribunda* (Rough-barked Apple) is quite common and extends well beyond the lower slopes and

watercourses. *E. macrorhyncha* subsp. *macrorhyncha* occurs mainly in the western areas of the granite vegetation but is occasionally a significant canopy component. *Acacia falciformis* can also be a locally significant canopy species and can be present in most variants of the granite communities. The less common eucalypts are generally associated with the complex ecotones on the eastern edges of the granite vegetation or with other very localised conditions.

The understorey of the Megalong Granite Forest/Woodland tends to be low and dominated by grasses, graminoids (particularly *Lomandraceae*) and herbs, in particular, *Astraceae*. Climbers such as *Desmodium*, *Glycine* and *Clematis* are often present. Shrubs are either relatively rare or else the shrub layer consists of a small number of common unpalatable species such as *Bursaria* species and *Lissanthe strigosa*. The understorey composition can vary greatly depending on the amount of exposure.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the major diagnostic species.

Acacia falciform is	Acacia implexa	Acacia obtusifolia
Acacia parramattensis	Acaena novae- zelandiae	Adiantum aethiopicum
Ajuga australia	Angophora floribunda	Asplenium flebellifolium
Austrostipa pubescens	Blechnum cartilagineum	Brachycome angustifolia var. angustifolia
Bursaria spinosa	Carex appressa	Cassinia arcuata
Centella asiatica	Cheilanthes distans	Clematis aristata
Cymbopogon refractus	Desmodium varians	Dianella longifolia
Dianella revoluta	Dichelachne rara	Dichondra repens

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Doodia aspera	Echinopogon caespitosus	Echinopogon ovatus
Entolasia stricta	Epilobium hirtigerum	Eucalyptus bridgesiana
Eucalyptus camphora	Eucalyptus dalrympleana	Eucalyptus dives
Eucalyptus eugenioides	Eucalyptus macrorhyncha	Eucalyptus punctata
Eucalyptus rubida	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Eucalyptus viminalis
Exocarpos cupressiformis	Exocarpus strictus	Galium propinquum
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Geranium homeanum	Geranium retrorsum
Geranium solanderi	Glycine microphylla	Glycine tabacina
Gnaphalium sp.	Gonocarpus tetragynus	Helichrysum scorpioides
Hydrocotyle geraniifolia	Hypericum gramineum	Imperata cylindrica
Indigofera australis	Lepidosperma gunnii	Lepidosperma viscidum
Leucopogon lanceolata	Leucopogon virgatus	Libertia paniculata
Lissanthe strigose	Lomandra glauca	Lomandra gracilis
Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra multiflora	Lomatia myricoides
Lomatia silaifolia	Luzula flaccida	Marsdenia rostrata
Microlaena stipoides	Oplismenus imbecillis	Pandorea pandorana
Pellaea falcata	Persoonia linearis	Plantago debilis

Plantago gaudichaudii	Plectranthus parviflorus	Poa labillardieri
Poa sieberiana	Polystichum proliferum	Poranthera microphylla
Pratia purpurascens	Pteridium esculentum	Ranunculus lappaceus
Rapanea howittiana	Rubus parvifolius	Rumex brownii
Schoenus apogon	Senecio lautus ssp. dissectifolius	Senecio minimus
Sigesbeckia orientalis	Solanum cinereum	Stackhousia viminea
Stellaria flaccida	Stypandra glauca	Themeda australis
Urtica incisa	Veronica plebeia	Viola betonicifolia
Wahlenbergia stricta		

# 3 Low Open-forest

### Melaleuca linariifolia Low Open-forest

Melaleuca linariifolia Low Open-forest is found on sandy alluvial soils along certain creeks in the lower Blue Mountains, in which the low paperbark tree, M. linariifolia (Snow-in-summer), dominates the vegetation. This creekline vegetation is associated with creeks on deep alluvial sand deposits, rather than the sandstone substrates more typical of Blue Mountains creeks. The typical vegetation structure is a narrow band of low open-forest or low closed-forest along the creek. Occasional emergent Eucalyptus or Angophora trees may be present above the Melaleuca canopy.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Melaleuca linariifolia* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

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Acacia longifolia	Acacia rubida	Adiantum aethiopicum
Blechnum nudum	Blechnum wattsii	Callicoma serratifolia
Callistemon citrinus	Calochlaena dubia	Cyathea australis
Cyperus polystachyos	Eleo charis sphacelata	Entolasia marginata
Entolasia stricta	Gahnia clarkei	Gleichenia dicarpa
Hydrocotyle peduncularis	Hypolepis muelleri	Imperata cylindrica
Isolepis inundata	Juncus continuus	Juncus planifolius
Juncus usitatus	Kennedia rubicunda	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Melaleuca linariifolia	Microlaena stipoides	Pittosporum undulatum
Pteridium esculentum	Schoenus melanostachys	Typha orientalis

# 4 Woodlands

# (4A) Eucalyptus mannifera subsp. gullickii Alluvial Woodlands

These woodlands are found on alluvial soils along certain creeks in the upper Blue Mountains, in which *Eucalyptus mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* (Brittle Gum) is the dominant tree species or co-dominant with *E. radiata* subsp. *radiata* (Narrow-leaved Peppermint). The association of the community with creekside alluvium is a critical feature in its definition, since *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* and *E. radiata* subsp. *radiata* may also be common species in other communities in the upper Blue Mountains. The vegetation structure is woodland or open-forest. *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* occurs in some sites as a sparse tree layer (an open-woodland) over swamp vegetation, but such stands are better classified within the Blue Mountains swamp communities rather than as *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* Alluvial Woodland.

Two forms of *Eucalyptus mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* Alluvial Woodland may be distinguished. At higher altitudes (Mount Victoria-Blackheath), *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* is the main tree species and the community is termed *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* woodland. At slightly lower altitudes (Katoomba-Leura), *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* and *E. radiata* subsp. *radiata* are co-dominant and the community is termed *E. mannifera* subsp. *gullickii-E. radiata* subsp. *radiata* Woodland.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Eucalyptus mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia dealbata	Acacia melanoxylon	Acacia terminalis
Baeckea linifolia	Banksia cunninghamii	Banksia spinulosa
Blechnum nudum	Boronia microphylla	Caustis flexuosa
Chionochloa pallida	Dampiera stricta	Deyeuxia parviseta
Dillwynia retorta	Empodisma minus	Entolasia stricta
Epacris spp.	Eucalyptus blaxlandii	Eucalyptus mannifera subsp. gullickii
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Gahnia sieberiana	Gleichenia dicarpa
Gonocarpus teucrioides	Grevillea acanthifolia	Hakea dactyloides
Helichrysum scorpioides	Hibbertia serpyllifolia	Lepidosperma laterale
Leptospermum continentale	Leptospermum grandifolium	Leptospermum juniperinum

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Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leptospermum trinervium	Lepyrodia scariosa
Leucopogon lanceolatus	Lomandra filiformis	Lomandra longifolia
Microlaena stipoides	Mirbelia platylobioides	Olearia erubescens
Persoonia myrtilloides	Pimelea linifolia	Poa sieberiana
Polyscias sambucifolia	Pteridium esculentum	Stipa pubescens
Stipa rudis	Styphelia tubiflora	Tetrarrhena turfosa

## (4B) Eucalyptus sclerophylla Bench Woodland

Eucalyptus sclerophylla Bench Woodlands occur on dry sandy alluvial benches along certain creek systems in the lower Blue Mountains. This community may also occur on higher benches on a mix of alluvial and colluvial soils. E. sclerophylla (Hard-leaved Scribbly Gum) is the dominant tree species sometimes co-dominant with Angophora bakeri (Narrow-leaved Apple). The typical vegetation structure is woodland, although this may vary depending on site conditions and history. The association between this community and alluvial or colluvial soils is a critical feature in its definition, since E. sclerophylla is also the dominant tree species in another, more common vegetation community, with a different understorey, that occurs on northern and western aspects on sandstone geology in the middle and upper Blue Mountains. The E. sclerophylla trees in the latter community tend to be smaller than those in the *E. sclerophylla* Bench Woodland.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of *Eucalyptus sclerophylla* along with the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia brownii Acacia rubida Acacia ulicifolia

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Angophora bakeri	Aristida benthami	Aristida vagans
Baeckea virgata	Banksia oblongifolia	Banksia serrata
Banksia spinulosa	Bossiaea heterophylla	Bossiaea obcordata
Bossiaea rhombifolia	Cassytha glabella	Cassytha pubescens
Caustis flexuosa	Conospermum longifolium	Corymbia eximia
Corymbia gummifera	Cyathochaeta diandra	Dampiera stricta
Daviesia corymbose	Dillwynia floribunda	Entolasia stricta
Epacris pulchella	Eriostemon hispidulus	Eucalyptus notabilis
Eucalyptus piperita	Eucalyptus sclerophylla	Eucalyptus sparsifolia
Grevillea buxifolia	Grevillea mucronulata	Hakea dactyloides
Hakea sericea	Hovea linearis	Imperata cylindrica
Isopogon anemonifolius	Lambertia formosa	Lepidosperma laterale
Leptospermum arachnoides	Leptospermum parvifolium	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Leptospermum trinervium	Lepyrodia scariosa	Lomandra brevis
Lomandra filiformis	Lomandra glauca	Lomandra longifolia
Lomandra obliqua	Melaleuca linariifolia	Melaleuca thymifolia
Mirbelia rubiifolia	Monotoca scoparia	Panicum simile
Persoonia hirsuta	Persoonia laurina	Persoonia oblongata

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Petrophile pulchella Phyllota phylicoides Pimelea linifolia

Platysace Pteridium Ptilothrix deusta

linearifolia esculentum

Schoenus villosus Stipa pubescens Stylidium graminifolium

Themeda australis Xanthorrhoea media

# (4C) Kowmung Wilderness Complex

This Complex includes open-forest, open-forest/woodland and woodland communities. It has been included in the Woodland section because most of the vegetation is of a woodland structure.

Most of this Complex occurs in Kanangra-Boyd National Park with some areas in Blue Mountains National Park. A relatively small area occurs outside these reserves in the far south of the Megalong Valley. Small areas of dry rainforest and riparian complex are present within the Kowmung Wilderness Complex.

Indicative canopy species include *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leafed Ironbark), *E. tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum), *E. punctata* (Grey Gum), *E. viminalis* (Ribbon Gum), *E. melliodora* (Yellow Box), *E. eugenioides* (Thin-leafed Stringybark) and *Angophora floribunda* (Sydney Red Gum). The understorey can be very open and grassy/herbaceous or can sometimes have a relatively well developed shrub layer in which *Bursaria* species can be prevalent. Small twiners and *Cheilanthes* species (Poison Rock Ferns) can be characteristic of the ground stratum as can numerous *Senecio* species and other daisies.

This community is generally characterised by the occurrence of the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition.

Acacia Acacia falciformis Acacia implexa clunies-rossiae

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Acacia parramattensis	Adiantum aethiopicum	Agrostis avenaceus
Angophora floribunda	Brachychiton populneus	Brachycome multifida
Breynia oblongifolia	Bursaria spinosa	Calotis hispidula
Carex appressa	Carex gaudichaudiana	Cayratia clematidea
Cheilanthes distans	Cheilanthes sieberi	Choretrum candollei
Clematis aristata	Clerodendrum tomentosum	Commelina cyanea
Crassula sieberiana	Desmodium brachypodum	Desmodium varians
Dianella laevis	Dianella revoluta	Dichelachne sp.
Dichondra repens	Echinopogon ovatus	Einadia sp.
Entolasia stricta	Eucalyptus crebra	Eucalyptus eugenioides
Eucalyptus fibrosa	Eucalyptus punctata	Eucalyptus tereticornis
Gahnia aspera	Gastrodia sesamoides	Geitonoplesium cymosum
Geranium homeanum	Glycine clandestina	Glycine tabacina
Gnaphalium involucratum	Gonocarpus teucrioides	Goodenia hederacea
Hardenbergia violacea	Helichrysum adnatum	Hypericum gramineum
Leucopogon lanceolata	Lissanthe sapida	Lissanthe strigosa
Lomandra glauca	Lomandra longifolia	Lomandra multiflora

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Luzula flaccida	Microlaena stipoides	Notelaea longifolia
Notodanthonia sp.	Olearia viscidula	Opercularia hispida
Oplismenus imbecillis	Oxalis perennans	Pellaea falcata
Persoonia linearis	Plantago debilis	Plectranthus parvifolius
Poa sieberiana	Podolobium ilicifolium	Pomax umbellata
Pratia purpurascens	Pteridium esculentum	Rubus parvifolius
Schoenus apogon	Senecio diaschides	Senecio lautus
Senecio quadridentatus	Sigesbeckia orientalis	Solanum cinereum
Stackhousia viminea	Stellaria flaccida	Stephania japonica
Stypandra glauca	Themeda australis	Trema aspera
Urtica incisa	Veronica plebeia	Viola betonicifolia
Wahlenbergia gracilis	Wahlenbergia stricta	

# (4D) Redgum Swamp Woodland (Eucalyptus tereticornis)

This community is dominated by *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Redgum) and is known only from a small example between Megalong Creek and Nellies Glen Road in the central eastern Megalong Valley. This site is associated with a swamp ephemeral drainage line that generally defines the ecotone between the vegetation on the lower Shoalhaven Group of sediments and that on the Carboniferous Granite, which dominates the Megalong Valley. Adjoining communities include an example of Coxs River Swamp, the so-called Megalong Forest of Keith and Benson (1988) and the Megalong Granite Forest and woodland. The understorey has been modified by grazing and was probably cleared in the past to facilitate this use.

The understorey has been modified by grazing and was probably cleared in the past to facilitate this use. *Leptospermum* species are dominant along the drainage line and in the more swampy sections which lack open water. Drier areas are dominated by grasses with little or no shrub layer and a relatively sparse tree canopy. This community is threatened by small size, grazing, weed invasion, rabbits and recreational vehicle use.

Redgum swamp woodland is broadly characterised by the following assemblage of diagnostic plant species. Other species may also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community.

Acacia floribunda	Agrostis avenaceus	Callistemon sp. nov. Megalong Valley
Carex inversa	Centella asiatica	Dichelachne sp.
Dichondra repens	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Grevillea acanthifolia
Hydrocotyle laxiflora	Hypericum gramineum	Juncus sp.
Juncus usitatus	Leptospermum juniperinum	Leptospermum obovatum
Leptospermum polygalifolium	Lomandra longifolia	Melaleuca linariifolia
Microlaena stipoides	Notodanthonia sp.	Pratia purpurascens
Schoenus apogon	Stackhousia viminea	

# 5 Heath/scrub/sedgeland/fernland

# (5A) Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub

Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub consists of a well-developed shrub layer, with no tree layer or only a sparse layer of scattered low trees, sometimes with a mallee habit (low, multi-stemmed shrub eucalypts). It occurs primarily in exposed sites with very shallow soils on Narrabeen Group and Hawkesbury Sandstone geology. Typical situations are cliff

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tops and high, rocky ridges, especially on the westerly aspect and with skeletal soils. The vegetation structure is typically an open-heath, less often a closed-heath, and may be interspersed with patches of open-scrub or closed-scrub formed by stands of mallees or *Leptospermum* species. It is also typically interspersed with areas of bare rock. It can occur on the fringes of or within so-called hanging swamps and in such situations it can also intergrade with vegetation of the Riparian Complex. There is also considerable intergradation between forms of woodland to open-woodland with a *Eucalyptus sclerophylla* canopy with Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub forming the understorey in such communities.

Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub has a mixed and variable species composition. Common shrub species include Allocasuarina distyla, A. nana, Banksia ericifolia, Epacris microphylla, Eucalyptus stricta, Hakea laevipes, H. teretifolia, Kunzea capitata, Leptospermum trinervium and Petrophile pulchella. Common herb and sedge species include Actinotus minor, Platysace linifolia, Lepidosperma filiforme, L. viscidum, Lepyrodia scariosa, Ptilothrix deusta and Schoenus villosus.

Two forms of Blue Mountains heath have been distinguished (Keith and Benson 1988, Smith and Smith 1995 a—e): montane heath above about 850–900 metres elevation and lower Blue Mountains heath below this level. The two forms intergrade between Wentworth Falls and Katoomba. Montane heath is characterised by the presence of high altitude species such as *Allocasuarina nana*, *Darwinia taxifolia* and *Phyllota squarrosa*, while lower Blue Mountains heath is characterised by the presence of low altitude species such as *Allocasuarina distyla*, *Darwinia fascicularis* and *Phyllota phylicoides*. However, most of the more common heath plants occur across the full altitudinal range.

It is also possible to distinguish two forms of lower Blue Mountains heath: a Hawkesbury Sandstone form at lower altitudes (chiefly in the Faulconbridge to Woodford area), and a Narrabeen Sandstone form at intermediate altitudes (Hazelbrook to Wentworth Falls). The Hawkesbury Sandstone

form is characterised by species such as *Acacia oxycedrus*, *Baeckea brevifolia* and *Eucalyptus burgessiana* that are absent from heath on Narrabeen Sandstone.

In the prolonged absence of fires, the heath shrubs grow taller and thicker, transforming the vegetation from an open-heath to a closed-scrub, especially in relatively moist and sheltered sites. These communities may be floristically similar to the closed-heaths described above but are structurally unique. Shrubs including *Banksia ericifolia*, *B. serrata*, *B. spinulosa*, *Hakea laevipes*, *H. teretifolia* and a range of *Leptospermum* species may all attain heights of up to 8 metres over a generally grassy, herbaceous understorey. In locally moist areas, the fern *Gleichenia dicarpa* may become common in the ground stratum.

In the Megalong Valley, forms of heath occur which are floristically and geologically distinct from those others within the scope of the Blue Mountains Heath description. The majority of Megalong Valley Heath is associated with the Shoalhaven Group of sediments with a rare exception associated with the Carboniferous Granite. Dominant species of the heath include *Leptospermum trinervium*, *L. polygalifolium*, *L. juniperinum*, *Isopogon anemonifolius*, *Hakea salicifolia*, *H. sericea* and *Banksia spinulosa* while the locally uncommon shrub *Mirbelia pungens* may also be present.

Only one example is known of heath occurring on granite within the Megalong Valley, however other examples are likely to occur outside the City, west of the Coxs River. This example is dominated by a relatively low-growing shrubby *Acacia* which has not been able to be identified but is apparently related to *Acacia floribunda*.

Considered as a whole, Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of heath, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia baueri Acacia floribunda Acacia oxycedrus

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Acacia suaveolens	Actinotus helianthi	Actinotus minor
Allocasuarina distyla	Allocasuarina nana	Angophora floribunda
Anisopogon avenaceus	Austrostipa pubescens	Baeckea brevifolia
Baeckea densifolia	Baeckea ramosissima	Banksia ericifolia
Banksia serrata	Banksia spinulosa	Bossiaea heterophylla
Bulbine semibarbata	Bursaria spinosa	Callistemon citrinus
Calytrix tetragona	Cassytha glabella	Caustis flexuosa
Cheilanthes sieberi	Chionochloa pallida	Correa reflexa
Corymbia gummifera	Cyathochaeta diandra	Dampiera purpurea
Dampiera stricta	Danthonia tenuior	Darwinia fascicularis
Daviesia corymbosa	Dianella caerulea	Dichelachne rara
	Dianella caerulea  Dillwynia retorta	Dichelachne rara  Diuris sulphurea
corymbosa Dillwynia		
corymbosa  Dillwynia floribunda  Dodonaea	Dillwynia retorta	Diuris sulphurea Epacris
corymbosa  Dillwynia floribunda  Dodonaea boroniifolia  Epacris obtusifolia	Dillwynia retorta  Entolasia stricta  Epacris pulchella	Diuris sulphurea  Epacris microphylla  Eriostemon obovalis
corymbosa  Dillwynia floribunda  Dodonaea boroniifolia	Dillwynia retorta Entolasia stricta	Diuris sulphurea  Epacris microphylla  Eriostemon
corymbosa  Dillwynia floribunda  Dodonaea boroniifolia  Epacris obtusifolia  Eucalyptus	Dillwynia retorta  Entolasia stricta  Epacris pulchella  Eucalyptus	Diuris sulphurea  Epacris microphylla  Eriostemon obovalis  Eucalyptus

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Eucalyptus sparsifolia	Eucalyptus stricta	Gahnia aspera
Galium propinquum	Gleichenia dicarpa	Gonocarpus teucrioides
Goodenia bellidifolia	Goodenia hederacea	Grevillea arenaria
Hakea dactyloides	Hakea laevipes	Hakea propinqua
Hakea salicifolia	Hakea sericea	Hakea teretifolia
Helichrysum scorpioides	Hemigenia purpurea	Hypericum gramineum
Isopogon anemonifolius	Kunzea capitata	Lambertia formosa
Leionema lachnaeoides	Lepidosperma filiforme	Lepidosperma urophorum
Lepidosperma viscidum	Leptocarpus tenax	Leptospermum arachnoides
Leptospermum continentale	Leptospermum juniperinum	Leptospermum parvifolium
Leptospermum petraeum	Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leptospermum trinervium
Lepyrodia scariosa	Leucopogon esquamatus	Leucopogon microphyllus
Lindsaea linearis	Lomandra glauca	Lomandra longifolia
Lomandra multiflora	Micromyrtus ciliata	Mirbelia baueri
Mirbelia pungens	Mirbelia rubiifolia	Mitrasacme polymorpha
Monotoca ledifolia	Monotoca scoparia	Patersonia sericea
Petrophile pulchella	Phyllota phylicoides	Phyllota squarrosa

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Platysace lanceolata	Platysace linearifolia	Pseudanthus divaricatissimus
Ptilothrix deusta	Pultenaea elliptica	Restio fastigiatus
Schoenus apogon	Schoenus ericetorum	Schoenus imberbis
Schoenus villosus	Stipa pubescens	Stylidium lineare
Thelionema caespitosum	Themeda australis	Tricoryne elatior
Velleia perfoliata	Woollsia pungens	

### (5B) Blue Mountains Swamps

A range of swamps occurs within the City. Swamp vegetation develops on poorly drained sites where the soil is waterlogged for prolonged periods. Several variants are recognised and are described below.

In the City, swamps occur, not only in low-lying sites on valley floors ('valley swamps'), but also in the headwaters of creeks and on steep hillsides ('hanging swamps'). Some swamps represent a combination of valley swamp and hanging swamp. The upper boundary of the swamp is often clearly defined by the outcropping of a layer of claystone. Groundwater seeps along the top of the impermeable claystone layer, reaching the surface where the claystone protrudes, thus forming a swamp on the hillside below. Other swamps receive their water supply from feeder streams rather than groundwater, or from a combination of the two.

Blue Mountains Swamps vary greatly in their structure and plant species composition, ranging from closed-sedgeland or closed-fernland to open-heath or closed-heath, sometimes open-scrub or closed-scrub. The shrub-dominated swamps are similar in vegetation structure to some of the forms of Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub, but they differ in species composition and ecological function, and are more appropriately classified with the sedge and fern-dominated

swamps. However, in many instances the botanical boundary between Blue Mountains Swamp and Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub communities is unclear or can only be defined at a small scale as the two vegetation types can intergrade extensively.

Common shrubs in the Blue Mountains Swamps that occur on the sandstone plateaux include Acacia ptychoclada, Baeckea linifolia, Banksia ericifolia, Callistemon citrinus, Epacris obtusifolia, Grevillea acanthifolia, Hakea teretifolia, Leptospermum grandifolium, L. juniperinum and L. polygalifolium. Common sedges include Empodisma minus, Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus, Lepidosperma limicola and Xyris ustulata. The main fern species is Gleichenia dicarpa. The swamps of the plateaux include communities described by Keith and Benson (1988) and Benson and Keith (1990) as Blue Mountains Sedge Swamps and Newnes Plateau Shrub Swamps.

The Kurrajong Fault Swamps are valley swamps that occur in the lower Blue Mountains on sandy alluvial deposits associated with the Kurrajong Fault. Common shrubs are Acacia rubida, Callicoma serratifolia, Callistemon citrinus, Leptospermum juniperinum and Melaleuca linariifolia. Common species in the understorey are Baumea rubiginosa, Gahnia clarkei, Gleichenia dicarpa and Schoenus melanostachys.

The Coxs River Swamps are another variant encompassed by this community. These swamps occur on the clayey organic sediments derived from the Illawarra Coal Measures where creeks drain at the base of the escarpment. They support a simple flora dominated by *Leptospermum obovatum*, *L. juniperinum* and *Grevillea acanthifolia* with a dense ground cover of *Carex* and *Juncus* species.

The Megalong Swamps occur under much the same circumstances as the Coxs River Swamps but differ considerably in both structure and floristics. The Coxs River Swamps tend to occur as scrub, open-scrub and low open-scrub to wet heath with a prominent sedge layer, while the Megalong Swamps are closed to tall closed-scrub dominated by *Leptospermum juniperinum* and *L. polygalifolium* with an undescribed shrub *Melaleuca* sp. Megalong Valley, *C. citrinus* 

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and infrequent emergents of *Eucalyptus camphora* and *Melaleuca linariifolia*.

Blue Mountains Swamps are characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every swamp, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acacia ptychoclada	Acacia rubida	Actinotus minor
Almaleea incurvata	Baeckea linifolia	Banksia ericifolia
Banksia oblongifolia	Bauera rubioides	Baumea rubiginosa
Blandfordia cunninghamii	Blechnum cartilagineum	Blechnum nudum
Burnettia cuneata	Callicoma serratifolia	Callistemon citrinus
Carex spp.	Celmisia longifolia	Dampiera stricta
Dillwynia floribunda	Drosera binata	Drosera spatulata
Empodisma minus	Epacris microphylla	Epacris obtusifolia
Epacris paludosa	Eucalyptus camphora	Eucalyptus copulans
Eucalyptus mannifera subsp. gullickii	Eucalyptus moorei	Gahnia clarkei
Gahnia sieberiana	Gleichenia dicarpa	Gleichenia microphylla
Gonocarpus micranthus	Goodenia bellidifolia	Grevillea acanthifolia
Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus	Hakea dactyloides	Hakea teretifolia
Hibbertia cistiflora	Isopogon anemonifolius	Juncus spp.

Kunzea capitata	Lepidosperma filiforme	Lepidosperma forsythii
Lepidosperma limicola	Leptocarpus tenax	Leptospermum continentale
Leptospermum grandifolium	Leptospermum juniperinum	Leptospermum obovatum
Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leptospermum squarrosum	Lepyrodia scariosa
Leucopogon esquamatus	Lindsaea linearis	Melaleuca linariifolia
Melaleuca sp. Megalong Valley	Mirbelia rubiifolia	Notochloe microdon
Olearia quercifolia	Patersonia sericea	Petrophile pulchella
Pimelea linifolia	Ptilothrix deusta	Pultenaea divaricata
Schoenus brevifolius	Schoenus melanostachys	Schoenus villosus
Selaginella uliginosa	Sprengelia incarnata	Symphionema montanum
Tetrarrhena juncea	Tetrarrhena turfosa	Xanthosia dissecta
Xyris juncea	Xyris ustulata	

# (5C) Pagoda Rock Complex

Within the City, this community occurs only in the far northwest near Bell. It occurs primarily outside the City on the Newnes Plateau where it is exemplified in Gardens of Stone National Park.

Benson and Keith (1990) list three structural divisions within this Complex: open-heath of *Allocasuarina nana*, *Leptospermum arachnoides*, *Lepidosperma viscidum*, *Platysace lanceolata* and *Banksia ericifolia*; open-mallee scrub of *Eucalyptus laophila* which is not known from the City of Blue Mountains; and woodland of *E. sieberi* (Silvertop Ash), *E. piperita* (Sydney Peppermint) and *E. oblonga* (Sandstone Stringybark). This mosaic of communities

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intergrades with the higher altitude variant of Blue Mountains Heath.

The following species typically occur within this complex. Other species may also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community.

Acacia dorothea	Acacia terminalis	Allocasuarina distyla
Allocasuarina nana	Banksia ericifolia	Boronia microphylla
Daviesia latifolia	Dillwynia retorta	Eucalyptus piperita
Eucalyptus sclerophylla	Eucalyptus sieberi	Eucalyptus sparsifolia
Hakea dactyloides	Lepidosperma viscidum	Leptospermum arachnoides

Platysace lanceolata

# (5D) Lagoon Vegetation (Glenbrook Lagoon)

Lagoon Vegetation (Glenbrook Lagoon) is the wetland vegetation associated with Glenbrook Lagoon. This waterbody is the only naturally occurring upland lagoon in the City, although wetland vegetation has also developed around artificially created water bodies such as Wentworth Falls Lake and Woodford Lake. Glenbrook Lagoon consists of an area of open water with submerged aquatic vegetation, surrounded by extensive reedbeds dominated by the large sedges *Lepironia articulata* and *Eleocharis sphacelata*. Fringing the reedbeds is a narrow band of low paperbark trees *Melaleuca linariifolia*.

Native wetland plants recorded at Glenbrook Lagoon include the following species. Other species are also likely to be present.

Acacia rubida	Agrostis avenacea	Baumea articulata
Callistemon citrinus	Callistemon linearis	Centella asiatica
Cynodon dactylon	Eleocharis sphacelata	Epilobium billardierianum

Gratiola pedunculata	Gratiola peruviana	Hydrocotyle peduncularis
Isachne globosa	Juncus holoschoenus	Juncus usitatus
Lepidosperma longitudinale	Lepironia articulata	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Ludwigia peploides	Melaleuca linariifolia	Melaleuca thymifolia
Myriophyllum variifolium	Nymphoides geminata	Paspalum distichum
Persicaria decipiens	Persicaria strigosa	Philydrum lanuginosum
Phragmites australis	Rumex brownii	Schoenoplectus validus
Typha domingensis	Typha orientalis	Vallisneria gigantea
Viminaria juncea		

### 6 Blue Mountains Riparian complex

Blue Mountains Riparian Complex refers to the narrow bands of vegetation found along perennial and non-perennial watercourses in the Blue Mountains. It applies to those sections of the creek where there are distinct differences between the creekside vegetation and the adjacent vegetation further from the creek. Riparian (creekline) vegetation can be diverse and variable in structure and composition. It typically consists of species that are restricted to the immediate creekside environment plus other species from the adjacent vegetation communities. Common shrubs and low trees characteristic of riparian vegetation in the Blue Mountains include Acacia rubida, Baeckea linifolia, Bauera rubioides, Callicoma serratifolia, Callistemon citrinus, Leptospermum polygalifolium, Lomatia myricoides, Tristania neriifolia and Tristaniopsis laurina. Ferns tend to be a major component of the riparian vegetation, and include Blechnum nudum, Calochlaena dubia, Gleichenia microphylla, Sticherus

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flabellatus and Todea barbara. Common sedges and rushes include Gahnia sieberiana, Juncus planifolius and Schoenus melanostachys. Pockets of rainforest, swamp and moist cliffline (waterfall) vegetation are often present along the creeks and add to the floristic diversity of the riparian vegetation.

Blue Mountains Riparian Complex is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present along every creek, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation. The list does not include *Eucalyptus* species. Although a variety of eucalypts may occur along the creeks, they generally reflect the composition of the adjacent vegetation community rather than the riparian vegetation itself.

Acacia elata	Acacia linifolia	Acacia longifolia
Acacia obtusifolia	Adiantum aethiopicum	Austromyrtus tenuifolia
Backhousia myrtifolia	Baeckea linifolia	Bauera rubioides
Blechnum ambiguum	Blechnum cartilagineum	Blechnum nudum
Blechnum patersonii	Blechnum wattsii	Boronia fraseri
Bossiaea lenticularis	Callicoma serratifolia	Callistemon citrinus
Calochlaena dubia	Centella asiatica	Ceratopetalum apetalum
Cissus hypoglauca	Dodonaea multijuga	Drosera spathulata
Entolasia marginata	Entolasia stricta	Eriostemon myoporoides
Gahnia clarkei	Gahnia sieberiana	Gleichenia dicarpa
Gleichenia microphylla	Gonocarpus teucrioides	Grevillea longifolia

Grevillea sericea	Hibbertia saligna	Imperata cylindrica
Juncus planifolius	Leptospermum marginatum	Leptospermum polygalifolium
Lepyrodia scariosa	Lomandra fluviatilis	Morinda jasminoides
Notelaea longifolia	Persoonia mollis	Phebalium squamulosum
Pteridium esculentum	Schoenus melanostachys	Smilax glyciphylla
Sticherus flabellatus	Sticherus lobatus	Syncarpia glomulifera
Todea barbara	Triglochin procera	Tristania neriifolia

Tristaniopsis laurina

# 7 Blue Mountains Escarpment Complex

Blue Mountains Escarpment Complex refers to the distinctive vegetation communities associated with moist, sheltered rock faces, the escarpments and other extensive outcroppings of sandstones in the Blue Mountains. The habitat of this vegetation varies from rock crevices, ledges, caves and the talus at cliff bases through to isolated rock outcrops. The vegetation consists of a diverse mixture of moist cliffline vegetation, heath, swamp, rainforest, mallee and forest communities that can vary on a very small scale.

Species found in the moist sites include Alania endlicheri, Baeckea linifolia, Blechnum ambiguum, B. wattsii, Callicoma serratifolia, Dracophyllum secundum, Drosera binata, Epacris reclinata, Gleichenia microphylla, G. rupestris, Leptospermum rupicola, Sprengelia monticola and Todea barbara. Where a tree canopy is present, it can contain elements of various communities but Eucalyptus oreades (Blue Mountain Ash) is by far the most common. E. piperita (Sydney Peppermint), E. sieberi (Silvertop Ash) and a range of mallees, particularly the common E. stricta (Mallee Ash), can also be locally prevalent.

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Blue Mountains Escarpment Complex is characterised by the following assemblage of native plant species. Other species also occur, and not all of the following species are present in every stand of the community, but the list is indicative of the species composition of the vegetation.

Acrophyllum australe	Adenochilus nortonii	Alania endlicheri
Baeckea linifolia	Bauera rubioides	Blechnum ambiguum
Blechnum gregsonii	Blechnum wattsii	Bossiaea lenticularis
Callicoma serratifolia	Dracophyllum secundum	Drosera binata
Empodisma minus	Entolasia marginata	Epacris coriacea
Epacris crassifolia	Epacris hamiltonii	Epacris muelleri
Epacris reclinata	Eucalyptus oreades	Eucalyptus piperita
Eucalyptus stricta	Euphrasia bowdeniae	Gahnia sieberiana
Gleichenia dicarpa	Gleichenia microphylla	Gleichenia rupestris
Goodenia decurrens	Goodenia rostrivalvis	Grammitis billardieri
Isopogon fletcheri	Lepidosperma evansianum	Leptopteris fraseri
Leptospermum polygalifolium	Leptospermum rupicola	Lepyrodia scariosa
Lindsaea microphylla	Lomandra montana	Lycopodium laterale
Melaleuca squamea	Microstrobos fitzgeraldii	Pterostylis pulchella
Rimacola elliptica	Rupicola apiculata	Rupicola sprengelioides

Scaevola hookeri Schoenus Smilax glyciphylla melanostachys

Sprengelia Sticherus flabellatus Sticherus lobatus

Sprengelia monticola

Sticherus tener Stylidium productum Todea barbara

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