

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Highlands – Northern Fall bioregion

EVC 23: Herb-rich Foothill Forest

Description:

Occurs on relatively fertile, moderately well-drained soils on an extremely wide range of geological types and in areas of moderate to high rainfall. Occupies easterly and southerly aspects mainly on lower slopes and in gullies. A medium to tall open forest or woodland to 25 m tall with a small tree layer over a sparse to dense shrub layer. A high cover and diversity of herbs and grasses in the ground layer characterise this EVC.

Large trees:

Species	DBH(cm)	#/ha
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	70 cm	20 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
40%	<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i> s.l.	Narrow-leaf Peppermint
	<i>Eucalyptus dives</i>	Broad-leaved Peppermint
	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Messmate Stringybark

Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	2	10%	T
Medium Shrub	7	15%	MS
Small Shrub	3	5%	SS
Prostrate Shrub	2	5%	PS
Large Herb	3	5%	LH
Medium Herb	11	20%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	3	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	2	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	1	1%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	6	10%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MNG
Ground Fern	2	10%	GF
Scrambler or Climber	2	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	20%	BL

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LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
T	<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle
MS	<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia
MS	<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant-bush
MS	<i>Coprosma hirtella</i>	Rough Coprosma
MS	<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath
SS	<i>Tetraloche ciliata</i>	Pink-bells
SS	<i>Olearia erubescens</i>	Moth Daisy-bush
SS	<i>Hibbertia obtusifolia</i>	Grey Guinea-flower
SS	<i>Hovea heterophylla</i>	Common Hovea
PS	<i>Platylobium formosum</i>	Handsome Flat-pea
PS	<i>Acrotriche serrulata</i>	Honey-pots
PS	<i>Acrotriche prostrata</i>	Trailing Ground-berry
LH	<i>Senecio tenuiflorus</i>	Slender Fireweed
MH	<i>Viola hederacea sensu Willis (1972)</i>	Ivy-leaf Violet
MH	<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort
MH	<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	Common Bottle-daisy
SH	<i>Hydrocotyle laxiflora</i>	Stinking Pennywort
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	<i>Tetrarrhena juncea</i>	Forest Wire-grass
MTG	<i>Stylidium graminifolium s.l.</i>	Grass Trigger-plant
MTG	<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	Grey Tussock-grass
MTG	<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Tasman Flax-lily
MTG	<i>Luzula meridionalis var. flaccida</i>	Common Woodrush
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken
GF	<i>Polystichum proliferum</i>	Mother Shield-fern
SC	<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis
SC	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine
SC	<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Purple Coral-pea

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

40 % cover

Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
LH	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	high	high
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MH	<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	high	low

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