

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment Highlands – Far East bioregion

EVC 18: Riparian Forest

Description:

A tall forest along river banks and associated alluvial terraces with occasional occurrences on soaks and springs in the heads of gullies leading into creeks and rivers. The soil is fertile alluvium, regularly inundated and permanently moist. Dominated by tall eucalypts to 30 m tall, but also has an open to sparse secondary tree layer of wattles and scattered patches of shrubs (frequently disrupted by floods and less often wildfire), ferns, grasses and herbs.

Large trees:

Species	DBH(cm)	#/ha
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	80 cm	20 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
40%	<i>Eucalyptus elata</i>	River Peppermint
	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	Manna Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus croajingolensis</i>	Gippsland Peppermint

Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	4	20%	T
Medium Shrub	11	30%	MS
Large Herb	3	5%	LH
Medium Herb	9	10%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	2	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	3	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	1	5%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	6	10%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MNG
Ground Fern	4	15%	GF
Tree Fern	2	5%	TRF
Scrambler or Climber	5	10%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL

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LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
T	<i>Pomaderris aspera</i>	Hazel Pomaderris
T	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood
T	<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle
T	<i>Hedycarya angustifolia</i>	Austral Mulberry
MS	<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant-bush
MS	<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia
MS	<i>Cassinia longifolia</i>	Shiny Cassinia
MS	<i>Prostanthera lasianthos</i>	Victorian Christmas-bush
LH	<i>Senecio linearifolius</i>	Fireweed Groundsel
MH	<i>Viola hederacea</i> sensu Willis (1972)	Ivy-leaf Violet
MH	<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	Common Bottle-daisy
SH	<i>Poranthera microphylla</i>	Small Poranthera
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	<i>Tetrarrhena juncea</i>	Forest Wire-grass
MTG	<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Tasman Flax-lily
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
MTG	<i>Carex breviculmis</i>	Common Grass-sedge
MTG	<i>Dianella caerulea</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	Paroo Lily
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
GF	<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i>	Gristle Fern
GF	<i>Blechnum nudum</i>	Fishbone Water-Fern
GF	<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Common Maidenhair
GF	<i>Polystichum proliferum</i>	Mother Shield-fern
TRF	<i>Cyathea australis</i>	Rough Tree-fern
TRF	<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i>	Soft Tree-fern
SC	<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis
SC	<i>Smilax australis</i>	Austral Sarsaparilla
SC	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine
SC	<i>Eustrephus latifolius</i>	Wombat Berry

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

50 % cover

Logs:

30 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MS	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> spp. agg.	Blackberry	high	high
LH	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	high	high
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MH	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	high	low

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