

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

## EVC 47: Valley Grassy Forest

### Description:

Valley Grassy Forest occurs under moderate rainfall regimes of 700-800 mm per annum on fertile well-drained colluvial or alluvial soils on gently undulating lower slopes and valley floors. Open forest to 25 m tall may carry a variety of eucalypts, usually species which prefer more moist or more fertile conditions over a sparse shrub cover. In season, a rich array of herbs, lilies, grasses and sedges dominate the ground layer but at the drier end of the spectrum the ground layer may be sparse and slightly less diverse, but with the moisture-loving species still remaining.

### Large trees:

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

### Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
20%	<i>Eucalyptus elata</i>	River Peppermint
	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	Manna Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringybark

### Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	3	15%	T
Medium Shrub	7	25%	MS
Small Shrub	1	1%	SS
Prostrate Shrub	2	1%	PS
Large Herb	3	5%	LH
Medium Herb	10	20%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	3	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	3	15%	LTG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	5	20%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MNG
Ground Fern	2	5%	GF
Scrambler or Climber	5	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 melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood
T	<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Black Wattle
MS	<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Burgan
MS	<i>Exocarpos strictus</i>	Pale-fruit Ballart
MS	<i>Pultenaea juniperina</i> s.l.	Prickly Bush-pea
MS	<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant-bush
SS	<i>Hibbertia obtusifolia</i>	Grey Guinea-flower
PS	<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Cranberry Heath
PS	<i>Acrotriche serrulata</i>	Honey-pots
LH	<i>Wahlenbergia gracilis</i> s.l.	Sprawling Bluebell
LH	<i>Senecio tenuiflorus</i>	Slender Fireweed
LH	<i>Acaena ovina</i>	Australian Sheep's Burr
LH	<i>Senecio linearifolius</i>	Fireweed Groundsel
MH	<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	Common Bottle-daisy
MH	<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort
MH	<i>Hydrocotyle hirta</i>	Hairy Pennywort
MH	<i>Veronica calycina</i>	Hairy Speedwell
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
SH	<i>Desmodium gunnii</i>	Southern Tick-trefoil
SH	<i>Cymbonotus preissianus</i>	Austral Bear's-ear
SH	<i>Leptostigma reptans</i>	Dwarf Nertera
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LTG	<i>Austrostipa rudis</i>	Veined Spear-grass
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
MTG	<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Tasman Flax-lily
MTG	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass
MTG	<i>Poa australis</i> spp. agg.	Tussock Grass
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
MNG	<i>Echinopogon ovatus</i>	Common Hedgehog-grass
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken
SC	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine
SC	<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis
SC	<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Common Apple-berry

## Recruitment:

Continuous

## Organic Litter:

20 % cover

## Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

## Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MS	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> spp. agg.	Blackberry	high	high
MS	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	Cherry Plum	low	high
MS	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Briar Rose	low	high
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
MH	<i>Gamochaeta purpurea</i> s.l.	Purple Cudweed	high	low
LNG	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	high	high

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