

SCH Coastal heathland

Community Description:

Coastal heathlands are highly diverse, typically with 20 or more species of vascular plants within a small area. The heath may be dense and of uniform height (about 1m) with scattered emergents such as *Banksia marginata*, *Leucopogon parviflorus* or *Allocasuarina* species to 2-3m, or sparse and variable with openings of sedgy heathland. Dominance varies from place to place but epacrids, daisies, pea flowers, *Philotheca*, *Leptospermum*, *Pimelea*, *Hibbertia* and *Tetratheca* species are all likely to be represented. The ground layer may be sparse with species such as *Pteridium esculentum*, orchids, *Drosera* species and *Lepidosperma concavum*, but with a dense cover of litter. It is the appropriate benchmark to use in assessing the condition of the coastal heathland component of the listed *Seabird rookery complex* community (Schedule 3A, *Nature Conservation Act 2002*).

Benchmarks:

Component	Cover (%)	LF Code
Dominant Life Form	90	S
Organic Litter	40	

Understorey Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover (%)
Medium Shrub/Small Shrub	S	15	90
Prostrate and Mat Forming Shrubs (including cushion plants)	PS	5	5
Herbs and Orchids	H	7	1
Large Tussock Grass	LTG	2	1
Medium to Small Tussock Grass	MTG	2	1
Tiny Grass/Sedge/Lily	TGS	3	1
Large Sedge/Rush/Sagg/Lily	LSR	5	5
Medium to Small Sedge/Rush/Sagg/Lily	MSR	1	5
Ground Ferns and fern allies	GF	1	1
Scramblers/Climbers/Epiphytes	SCE	1	1
Mosses and Lichens	ML	1	5
Total	11	43	

Species lists:

Dominant Life Form Species	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Aotus ericoides</i>	golden pea	S
<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	common fringemyrtle	S
<i>Dillwynia glaberrima</i>	smooth parrotpea	S
<i>Leucopogon</i> spp.	beardheath	S
<i>Xanthorrhoea australis</i>	southern grasstree	S

Emergent Tree Species	Common Name	Notes
<i>Acacia</i> spp.	wattle	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Allocasuarina monilifera</i>	necklace sheoak	Scattered trees only, when present
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	silver banksia	Scattered trees only, when present

Typical Understorey Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Amperea xiphioclada</i>	broom spurge	S
<i>Astroloma</i> spp.	heath	S
<i>Bossiaea cinerea</i>	showy bossia	S
<i>Brachyloma ciliatum</i>	fringed heath	S
<i>Dillwynia</i> spp.	parrotpea	S
<i>Epacris impressa</i>	common heath	S
<i>Gompholobium</i> spp.	wedgepea	S
<i>Hakea</i> spp.	needlebush	S
<i>Kunzea ambigua</i>	white kunzea	S
<i>Persoonia juniperina</i>	prickly geebung	S
<i>Philotheca</i> spp.	waxflower	S
<i>Platylobium obtusangulum</i>	common flatpea	S
<i>Pultenaea</i> spp.	bushpea	S
<i>Ricinocarpos pinifolius</i>	wedding bush	S
<i>Tetratheca</i> spp.	pinkbells	S
<i>Hibbertia</i> spp.	guineaflower	PS
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	running postman	PS
<i>Arthropodium</i> spp.	vanilla-lily	H
<i>Brachyscome</i> spp.	daisy	H
<i>Burchardia umbellata</i>	milkmaids	H
<i>Chrysocephalum</i> spp.	everlasting	H
<i>Goodenia lanata</i>	trailing native-primrose	H
<i>Helichrysum scorpioides</i>	curling everlasting	H
Orchidaceae	orchids	H
<i>Senecio</i> spp.	groundsel	H
<i>Thryptomene micrantha</i>	ribbed heathmyrtle	H
<i>Xanthosia</i> spp.	crossherb	H
<i>Dichelachne</i> spp.	longhair plumegrass	LTG
<i>Pentapogon quadrifidus</i>	five-awn speargrass	LTG
<i>Austrodanthonia</i> spp.	wallabygrass	MTG
<i>Deyeuxia quadriseta</i>	reed bentgrass	MTG
<i>Carex breviculmis</i>	shortstem sedge	TGS
<i>Centrolepis</i> spp.	bristlewort	TGS
<i>Schoenus</i> spp.	bogsedge	TGS
<i>Calorophus</i> spp.	roperush	LSR
<i>Eurychorda complanata</i>	flat chordrush	LSR
<i>Dianella</i> spp.	flaxlily	MSR
<i>Lepidosperma</i> spp.	sedge	MSR
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken	GF
<i>Selaginella</i> spp.	spikemoss	GF
<i>Cassytha</i> spp.	dodderlaurel	SCE

*This list is provided as a guide only. The species listed are typical of this plant community type but may not necessarily be present.