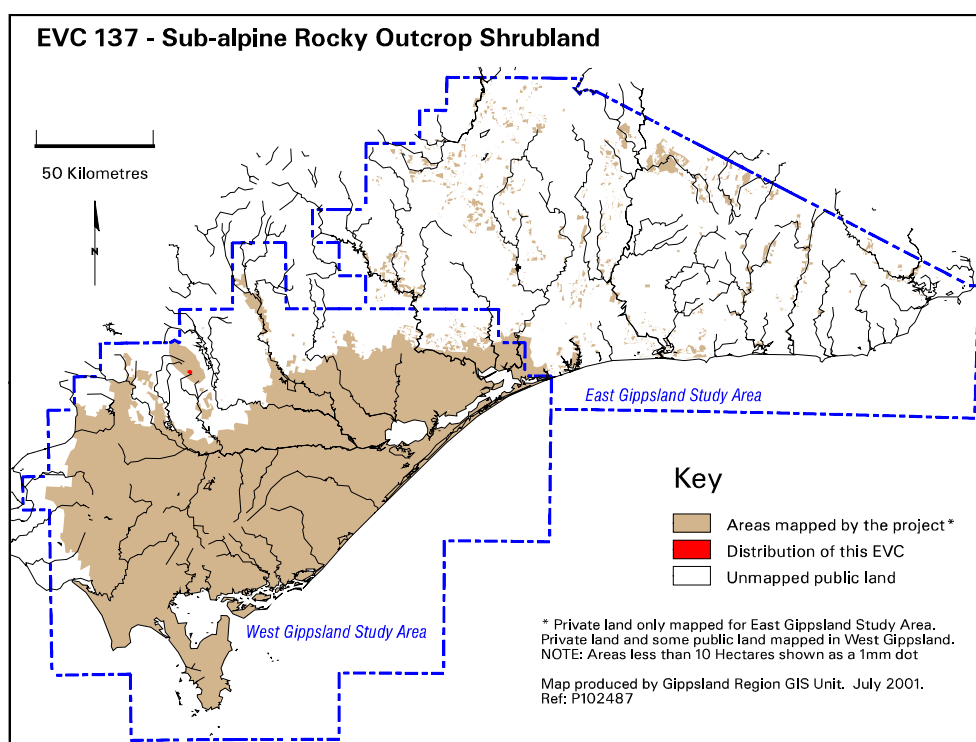


## EVC 137 Sub-alpine Rocky Outcrop Shrubland

A heath to scrub which is restricted to sub-alpine elevations in Baw Baw National Park where it is highly localised and associated with areas of high rainfall and seepage over outcrops of granite bedrock.

Description below is from Davies (unpublished).

<b>Elevation (metres above sea level)</b>	Approx. 1300
<b>Average rainfall p.a. (mm)</b>	>1000. Extended periods of cloud and fog drip.
<b>Topography</b>	Rocky outcrops on mid to lower slopes, northerly aspect
<b>Geology</b>	Devonian granodiorite
<b>Soils</b>	Shallow peat
<b>Related/adjacent EVCs/FCs</b>	Sub-alpine Woodland, <i>Gippsland</i> Montane Riparian Thicket
<b>Present land use</b>	Nature conservation, recreation
<b>Present distribution</b>	Mount Tyers
<b>Examples of sites/quadrats/lists</b>	F48865
<b>Total Area (ha)/ Number of polygons</b>	10/1
<b>Group analysis no.</b>	Not available



### Vegetation: structure/floristics:

The structure of this EVC ranges from a scrub to heath dominated by Mountain Tea-tree *Leptospermum grandifolium*. It develops on shallow peat where seepage occurs over rock outcrop. Other species present are White Marianth *Rhytidosporum procumbens*, Mountain Broom-heath *Monotoca oreophila*, Alpine Bog-sedge *Schoenus calytratus* and Grass Trigger-plant *Stylidium graminifolium*. The Graceful Sun-orchid *Thelymitra simulans* is also found. Stunted trees of Tingaringy Gum *Eucalyptus glaucescens* are also sometimes present, as are patches of the moss, *Racomitrium lanuginosum*. Associated drier areas support a heath of Mueller's Bush-pea *Pultenaea muelleri*, particularly on the edge of rock outcrops where shallow, drought-prone clay loam and loam soils are found. Such areas merge into the drier end of Sub-alpine Woodland that typically contains Baw Baw Snow-gum *Eucalyptus pauciflora* ssp. *acerina*.

**Comments:**

Catastrophic events such as fire, wind-throw of trees, or periods of excessive soil saturation may sometimes result in the complete loss of peat soil on steep granite slopes which then require long periods for soil accumulation and plant colonisation. This vegetation type can eventually develop into tall dense scrub on saturated peat soils.