

Gippsland Vegetation Types: Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVC'S)

EVC description derived from Davies et.al (2001) Ecological Vegetation Class Mapping at 1:25 000 in Gippsland.

EVC 1 Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic

Includes the vegetation succession from grasses and halophytes of the foredune to the closed scrub of Coast Wattle *Acacia longifolia* var. *sophorae* and Coast Tea Tree *Leptospermum laevigatum* on the secondary dunes behind ocean beaches of East Gippsland and South Gippsland.

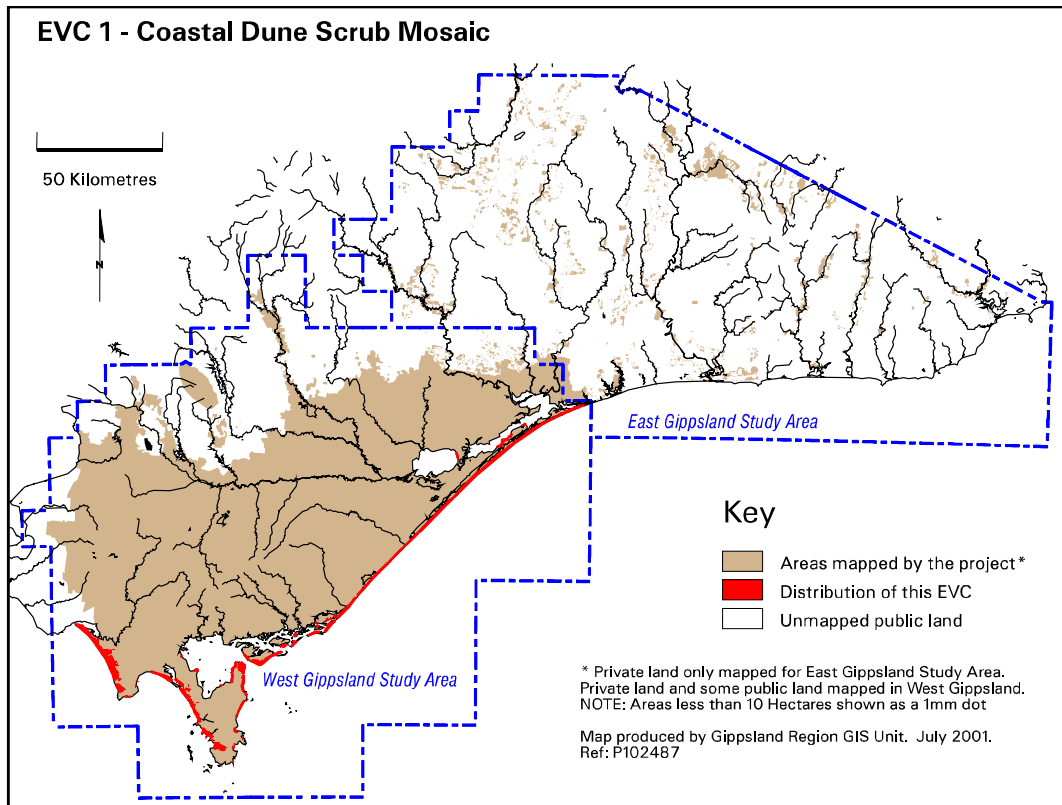


Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic off Tarwin Lower-Waratah Road, opposite Dumbarton Downs, South Gippsland.
Photo: John Davies, 1997.



Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic along Bunga Arm, Gippsland Lakes. Photo: John Davies 1996.

Elevation (metres above sea level)	<50
Rainfall average p.a. (mm)	<1000
Topography	Dunes, swales and sand sheets behind coastal beaches
Geology	Quaternary sand deposits
Soils	Deep, uniform textured siliceous and calcareous sands subject to high levels of saltspray and wave action and disturbance from onshore winds.
Related/adjacent EVCs/FCs	Coastal Alkaline Scrub, Sand Heathland, Heathy Woodland, Coast Banksia Woodland
Present land use	Nature conservation, recreation, residential subdivision
Present distribution	Ninety Mile Beach, Gippsland Lakes, and exposed islands off South Gippsland. Most extensively developed on south-west facing beaches on Wilsons Promontory and between Venus Bay and Cape Liptrap.
Examples of sites/quadrats/lists	Western side of The Entrance, (U23169) and Drew Jetty, (U23170) Lakes Entrance; Deer Flats south of Mt. Oberon, Tidal River (Wilson's Promontory National Park)
Total Area(ha)/Number of polygons	8,943/209



Vegetation: structure/floristics:

Structurally, a wind-pruned scrub and heath, but may also include a band of grassland immediately behind the beach dominated by the introduced species Marram Grass *Ammophila arenaria* as well as Hairy Spinifex *Spinifex sericeus* and Coast Fescue *Austrofestuca littoralis*. It includes the succulent species American Sea Rocket *Cakile edentula*, Rough Sow-thistle *Sonchus aspera* s.l. and Karkalla *Carpobrotus rossii*. The weed, Sea Spurge *Euphorbia paralias*, is an invasive weed in these dunes.

Dominant shrubs include Coast Tea-tree *Leptospermum laevigatum*, Coast Wattle *Acacia longifolia* var. *sophorae*, Drooping She-oak *Allocasuarina verticillata*, Sweet Bursaria *Bursaria spinosa*, Common Beard-heath *Leucopogon parviflorus*, Sea Box *Alyxia buxifolia* and Coast Everlasting *Ozothamnus turbinatus*. Common ground cover species in the hinterdunes and sand sheets include Long-hair Plume-grass *Dichelachne crinita*, Coast Sword-sedge *Lepidosperma gladiatum*, Honey-pots *Acrotriche serrulata*, Common Wheat-grass *Elymus scaber* var. *scaber*, Forest Clematis *Clematis microphylla*, Short-stem Sedge *Carex breviculmis*, Silky Guinea-flower

Hibbertia sericea s.l., Cinquefoil Cranesbill *Geranium potentilloides*, Spiny-headed Mat-rush *Lomandra longifolia*, and Knobby Club-sedge *Isolepis nodosa*. Other herbs present are Shady Wood-sorrel *Oxalis exilis*, Common Bottle-daisy *Lagenophora stipitata*, Kidney-weed *Dichondra repens* and Variable Groundsel *Senecio pinnatifolius*.

Comments:

Mapped as a mosaic of Coastal Dune Scrub and Coastal Dune Grassland. The native 'grassland' component is now highly localised and infested with the introduced Marram Grass *Ammophila arenaria* which has been extensively planted as a sand-binding species.



Coastal Dune Grassland component of Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic at Dumbarton Downs, South Gippsland. Photo: John Davies 1997.

Gippsland species list including species frequency and fidelity.

Fidelity:

Rating of faithfulness of a species to an EVC or Floristic Community. Highest fidelity rating indicated by an "F" ie species only recorded in respective group.

% Frequency:

Percentage occurrence of a species/taxa in an EVC or Floristic Community – NB. Species highlighted in red are the most frequent and important.

*** = weed ie: non native.**

Rarity categories from NRE's Flora Information System (FIS).

EVC: 1: COASTAL DUNE SCRUB MOSAIC

Lifeform	Scientific Name	Common Name	% Fr	F
Shrubs	<i>Acrotriche prostrata</i>	Trailing Ground-berry	93	13
	<i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i>	Coast Beard-heath	93	12
	<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Coast Tea-tree	90	11
	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	89	11
	<i>Hibbertia sericea</i>	Silky Guinea-flower	81	13
	<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping Sheoak	79	20
	<i>Acacia longifolia</i> var. <i>sophorae</i>	Coast Wattle	55	11
	Rr <i>Pomaderris oraria</i> ssp. <i>oraria</i>	Coast Pomaderris	29	19
Herbs	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed	93	3
	<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	Common Bottle-daisy	81	3
	<i>Geranium potentilloides</i>	Cinquefoil Cranesbill	61	3
	<i>Oxalis exilis</i>	Shady Wood-sorrel	48	10
	<i>Senecio pinnatifolius</i>	Variable Groundsel	29	3
	<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Bidgee-widgee	24	1
	<i>Epilobium billardierianum</i> ssp. <i>cinereum</i>	Variable Willow-herb	16	3
Climbers	<i>Comesperma volubile</i>	Love Creeper	84	9
	<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Small-leaved Clematis	71	11
Lilies	<i>Dianella brevicaulis/revoluta</i>	Black-anther Flax-lily	87	8
Other	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush	97	3
Sedges	<i>Carex breviculmis</i>	Short Stem-sedge	77	7
	<i>Isolepis nodosa</i>	Knobby Club-sedge	50	4
	<i>Lepidosperma gladiatum</i>	Coast Sword-sedge	31	17
Grasses	<i>Schoenus nitens</i>	Shiny Bog-sedge	26	6
	<i>Austrodanthonia setacea</i>	Bristly Wallaby-grass	60	7
	<i>Dichelachne crinita</i>	Long-hair Plume-grass	58	10
	<i>Elymus scaber</i> var. <i>scaber</i>	Common Wheat-grass	58	10
	<i>Poa</i> sp.	Tussock Grass	24	0.5
	<i>Austrostipa flavescens</i>	Coast Spear-grass	19	14
Weed	* <i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	76	5
	* <i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Pimpernel	26	2