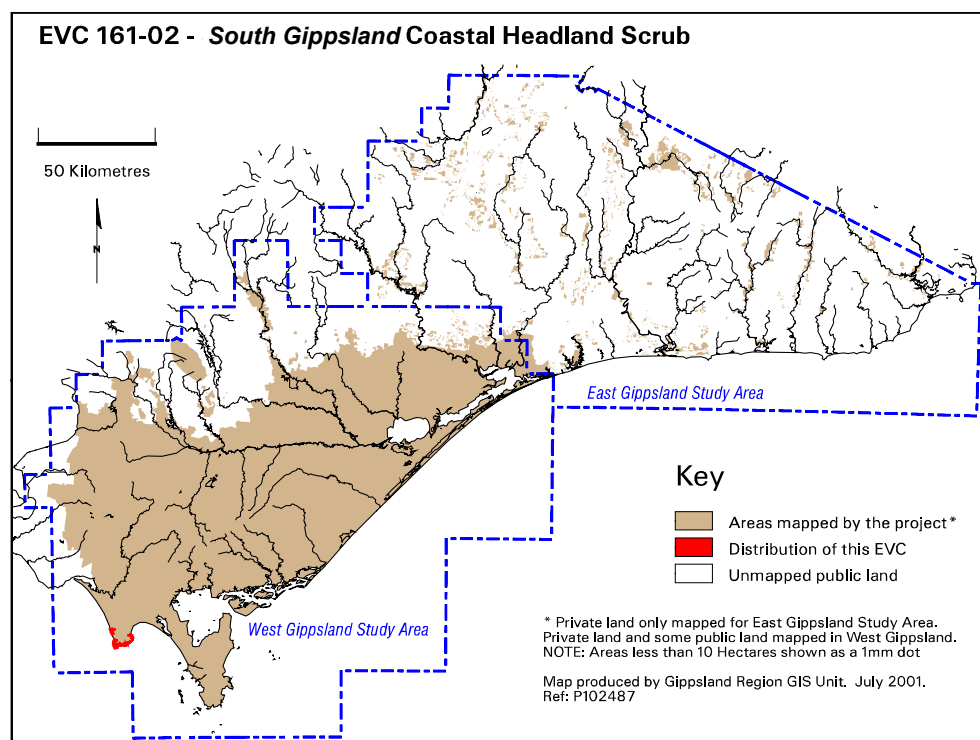


## EVC 161 Coastal Headland Scrub

Scrub or shrubland on steep, rocky coastal headlands often associated with cliffs exposed to the stresses of extreme salt-laden winds and salt spray from the south-west.

### Floristic Community 161-02 *South Gippsland Coastal Headland Scrub*

<b>Elevation (metres above sea level)</b>	<80
<b>Average rainfall p.a. (mm)</b>	<1000
<b>Topography</b>	Exposed, rugged coastal headlands subject to regular gale force winds and periodic saltspray
<b>Geology</b>	Cretaceous sedimentary rock
<b>Soils</b>	Variable from shallow, wind-blown sand to sandy loam
<b>Related/adjacent EVCs/FCs</b>	<i>Granitic Coastal Headland Scrub</i> , <i>Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic</i> , <i>Lowland Forest (inland)</i> ,
<b>Present land use</b>	Nature conservation, recreation
<b>Present distribution</b>	Exposed non-granitic coasts of South Gippsland
<b>Examples of sites/quadrats/lists</b>	Cape Liptrap (U23490, U23495), Walkerville (U23509)
<b>Total Area (ha)/ Number of polygons</b>	554/15
<b>Group analysis no.</b>	Not identified by 40 group analysis



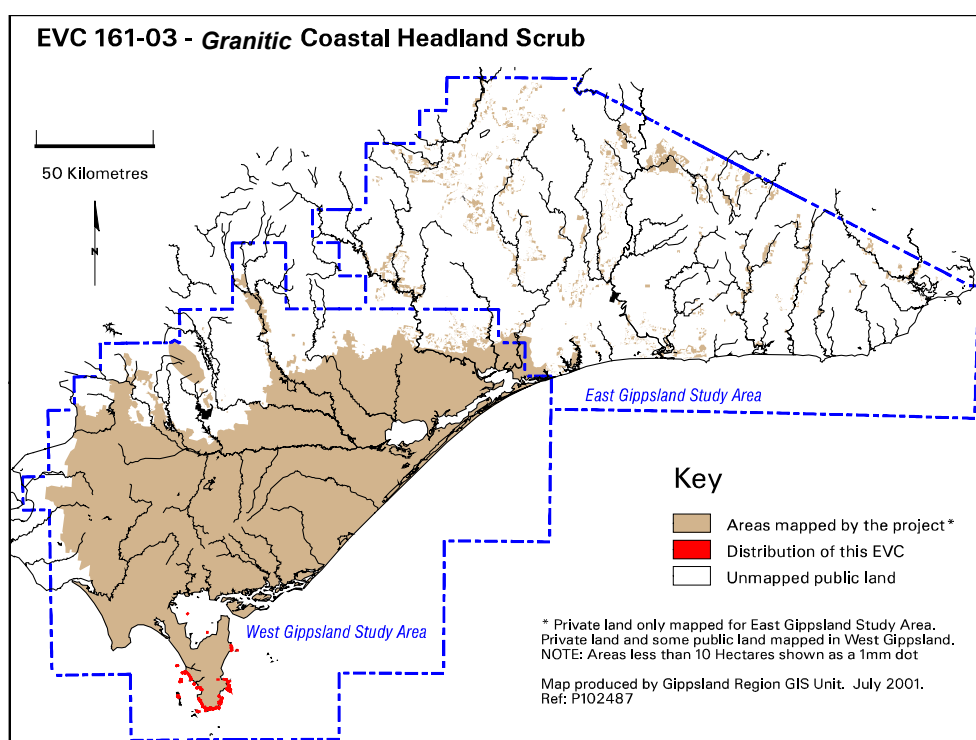
#### Vegetation: structure/floristics:

Two types of *South Gippsland Coastal Headland Scrub* have been recognised in the study area. The first type, found at Cape Liptrap, is a heath typically dominated by Coast Tea-tree *Leptospermum laevigatum* but also includes shrubs of Drooping She-oak *Allocasuarina verticillata*, Silver Banksia *Banksia marginata*, Coast Banksia *B. integrifolia* var. *integrifolia*, Spreading Wattle *Acacia genistifolia* and Prickly Tea-tree *Leptospermum continentale*. Other shrubs present are Prickly Geebung *Persoonia juniperina*, Dusty Miller *Spyridium parvifolium*, Coast Everlasting *Ozothamnus turbinatus*, Cushion Bush *Leucophyta brownii*, Coast Beard-heath *Leucopogon parviflorus*, and Hop Goodenia *Goodenia ovata*. Grasses such as Prickly Spear-grass *Austrostipa stipoides* and Blue Tussock-grass *Poa poiformis* may also be present. This floristic community type has affinities with *Granitic Coastal Headland Scrub* and further work is required to confirm their separation as distinct entities.

The second type is found in areas less prone to salt spray such as at Walkerville where tall scrub develops. Coast Wattle *Acacia longifolia* var. *sophorae* dominates but also present are low trees of Messmate *Eucalyptus obliqua*, Coast Banksia *Banksia integrifolia* var. *integrifolia* and Drooping She-oak *Allocasuarina verticillata*. The understorey contains shrubs of Hop Goodenia *Goodenia ovata*, Common Heath *Epacris impressa*, Dusty Miller *Spyridium parvifolium*, Coast Beard-heath *Leucopogon parviflorus*, Large-leaf Bush-pea *Pultenaea daphnoides*, Sweet Bursaria *Bursaria spinosa* and Austral Bracken *Pteridium esculentum*. This floristic community type is closely related to Lowland Forest.

#### Floristic Community 161-03 *Granitic Coastal Headland Scrub*

<b>Elevation (metres above sea level)</b>	<150
<b>Average rainfall p.a. (mm)</b>	<1000
<b>Topography</b>	Exposed rocky coastal headland subject to periodic salt-spray and regular gale force winds
<b>Geology</b>	Granite
<b>Soils</b>	Shallow gravelly, sandy loam/clay loam which tends to be skeletal and shallowest near bedrock exposure
<b>Related/adjacent EVCs/FCs</b>	<i>South Gippsland</i> Coastal Headland Scrub, Granitic Hills Woodland (less exposed)
<b>Present land use</b>	Nature conservation, recreation
<b>Present distribution</b>	Confined to Wilsons Promontory National Park and associated islands
<b>Examples of sites/quadrats/lists</b>	Southern end of Waterloo Bay (F48795), Pillar Point (F48774)
<b>Total Area (ha)/ Number of polygons</b>	343/58
<b>Group analysis no.</b>	Prom. Group 18 (Appendix 5)



#### Vegetation: structure/floristics:

Usually dominated by copses of Drooping She-oak *Allocasuarina verticillata* and dense thickets of the shrubs White Kunzea *Kunzea ambigua*, Coast Tea-tree *Leptospermum laevigatum*, with scattered Wirilda *Acacia retinodes* and Prickly Moses *Acacia verticillata*. One sub-community of this floristic community is characteristically depauperate in species, and consists of dense thickets of Drooping She-

oak *Allocasuarina verticillata* and White Kunzea *Kunzea ambigua* with a thick ground layer of She-oak needles.

The understorey includes species indicative of "salt spray influences" such as White Correa *Correa alba*, Sea Box *Alyxia buxifolia*, Coast Ballart *Exocarpos syrticola* and the succulent Karkalla *Carpobrotus rossii*, as well as more ubiquitous species such as Large-leaf Bush-pea *Pultenaea daphnoides*, Common Heath *Epacris impressa*, Silky Guinea-flower *Hibbertia sericea*, Hop Goodenia *Goodenia ovata*, Dusty Miller *Spyridium parvifolium*, Common Correa *Correa reflexa*, Grass Trigger-plant *Stylidium graminifolium*, Seaberry Saltbush spp. *Rhagodia candolleana* ssp. *candolleana*, and Sand-hill Sword-sedge *Lepidosperma concavum*.