



Herblands and bunch grasslands on gypsum lunette dunes alongside saline playa lakes

Summary description

The community has been recorded from the Lake Magenta area, on grey sandy clay on the top of a lake edge dune on gypsum lunette dunes alongside saline playa lakes. Floristic composition includes the taxa *Rytidosperma caespitosum*, *Lawrencia squamata*, *Maireana marginata*, *Podolepis rugata* (pleated podolepis), *Senecio pinnatifolius* var. *maritimus* (coastal groundsel), *Asteridea chaetopoda*, *Atriplex paludosa* (marsh saltbush), *Tecticornia syncarpa*, *Scaevola spinescens* (currant bush) and *Austrostipa juncifolia*.



Distribution

A single occurrence is located on the south-east side of a small saline lake, 2km east of Lake Magenta Nature Reserve in the locality of Pingrup.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Region: Wheatbelt

Local Government Authority: Shire of Kent

Habitat requirements

The lunette dune is a transverse dune located on a downwind margin of a playa lake, formed from sediments sourced from shores during wet phases and exposed lake floors during dry, arid phases.

Indigenous interests

Traditional Owner group: Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar

The area is covered by the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar Indigenous Land Use Agreement as part of the South West Native Title Settlement, which formally recognises Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of the south-west region. The Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar region is supported by the Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation and umbrella group, the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.



Conservation status

State: Listed as a vulnerable ecological community under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Threatened ecological communities are declared environmentally sensitive areas under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Threatening processes

The main threats to the gypsum dune community are disturbance from recreational activities, broad scale hydrological impacts, resource extraction, and drying climate.

Recovery plan

Development of a recovery plan is recommended for this community. Priority actions include developing and implementing a monitoring plan and using results to guide management, and surveys to locate additional occurrences.

Key references

Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd. (1995). *A review of botanical values on a range of gypsum dunes in the Wheatbelt of Western Australia*. Report to the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

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