



Koolanooka System as originally described in Beard (1976)

Summary description

This community is known from the Koolanooka Hills, its footslopes and the Perenjori Hills. It comprises *Eucalyptus ebbanoensis* subsp. *ebbanoensis* mallee and *Acacia* sp. scrub with scattered *Allocasuarina huegeliana* (rock sheoak) over red loam and ironstone on the upper slopes and summits, *Allocasuarina campestris* scrub over red loam on hill slopes, shrubs and emergent mallees on shallow red loam over massive ironstone on steep rocky slopes, *Eucalyptus loxophleba* (York gum) woodland over scrub on the footslopes, and mixed *Acacia* sp. scrub on granite. The community was originally described in Beard J.S. (1976).



Distribution

The community occurs across a range of approximately 30km in the localities of Bowgada and Koolanooka, in the Koolanooka Hills and Perenjori Hills.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Region: Midwest
DBCA District: Murchison

Local Government Authorities: Shire of Morawa, Shire of Perenjori

Habitat requirements

The plant assemblages of the Koolanooka System are located in the Koolanooka Hills and the Perenjori Hills. The hills are composed of Archaean metamorphic rock including banded ironstone and are highly ferruginous. They have a particular series of plant communities recurring in a catenary sequence or mosaic pattern linked to topographic, pedological and/or geological features. This catenary sequence or 'System' has a distinctive geology, topography and vegetation, different from that of any other comparable system.

Indigenous interests

Traditional Owner group: Yamatji

A register of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites kept by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage lists several sites of Aboriginal significance in the vicinity of this community's occurrences.



The area is covered by the Yamatji Nation Indigenous Land Use Agreement. The Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation represents the Traditional Owners and is the native title representative body for the region.

Conservation status

State: Listed as a critically endangered 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 community include vegetation clearing, grazing and cropping, weed invasion, and drying climate.

Recovery plan

An interim recovery plan has been produced for this community, outlining the recovery actions that are required to reduce threats and maintain or improve its overall condition. Priority actions include fencing, controlling weeds, managing fire, mapping and monitoring the flora and extent of the community, liaising with stakeholders regarding management, and seeking to improve tenure security.

Key references

Beard, J. S. (1976). *Vegetation Survey of Western Australia. The vegetation of the Perenjori area, Western Australia: map and explanatory memoir, 1:250,000 series*. Vegmap Publications.

Hamilton-Brown, S. (2000). *Plant Assemblages of the Koolanooka System: Interim Recovery Plan 2000–2003* (Interim Recovery Plan No. 73). Department of Conservation and Land Management.

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