



Perth to Gingin Ironstone Association

Summary description

The community occurs on ironstone soils in the Perth area and is characterised by massed everlastings. Many of the plant species present are specifically adapted to shallow seasonal inundation, specifically the rich herb layer present in late winter and early spring which is a major distinguishing characteristic of the community. The daisies *Rhodanthe manglesii*, *Rhodanthe spicata* and *Myriocephalus helichrysoides* dominate. Other common herbs include *Tribonanthes variabilis* (southern tiorndin), *Stylidium longitubum* (jumping jacks) (priority 4) and *Isotropis cuneifolia* subsp. *glabra* (priority 3). A very open shrub layer is typical with common shrubs *Melaleuca viminea* (mohan), *Banksia sessilis* (parrot bush), *Acacia saligna* (orange wattle), *Jacksonia furcellata* (grey stinkwood), *Grevillea curviloba* (endangered) and *Kunzea recurva*.



Distribution

The community is restricted to a few occurrences around Gingin.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Region: Swan
DBCA District: Swan Coastal

Local Government Authority: Shire of Gingin

Habitat requirements

The community is located on skeletal soils developed over massive ironstone and undergoes seasonal inundation with fresh water. Many of the plant species present are specifically adapted to this shallow seasonal inundation. Specifically, the herb layer present in late winter and early spring, which is a major distinguishing characteristic of this community, relies on inundation in winter. This daisy dominated herb layer does not occur on deeper soils adjoining the ironstone areas.

Indigenous interest

Traditional Owner group: Yued Noongar

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 subject to the Yued 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 Yued region is supported by the Yued Aboriginal Corporation and umbrella group, the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

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*.

National: Listed as endangered under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* as 'Shrublands and Woodlands on Perth to Gingin ironstone (Perth to Gingin ironstone association) of the Swan Coastal Plain'.

Threatening processes

The major threats to the community are hydrological change, weed invasion, intense and too frequent fire, grazing by introduced herbivores, 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 maintenance of fencing to exclude stock, flora monitoring, weed mapping and control, and implementing a fire management plan.

Key references

Churchward, H. M. & McArthur, W. M. (1980). Landforms and soils of the Darling System, Western Australia. In *Atlas of Natural Resources: Darling System, Western Australia* (pp. 25–33). Department of Conservation and Environment.

Department of Environmental Protection. (1996). *System 6 update program unpublished site and area records and analysis*.

Meissner, R. & English, V. (2005). *Shrublands and woodlands on Perth to Gingin Ironstone: Interim Recovery Plan 2005–2010* (Interim Recovery Plan No. 197). Department of Conservation and Land Management.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is current as at September 2023. The State of Western Australia and its employees do not guarantee that this publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence that may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

For more information see the department's
website www.dbca.wa.gov.au



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions