



**FLORA & FAUNA  
GUARANTEE**

## FLORA AND FAUNA GUARANTEE - SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### FINAL RECOMMENDATION ON A NOMINATION FOR LISTING

#### Coastal Moonah (*Melaleuca lanceolata* ssp. *lanceolata*) Woodland Community

Date of receipt of the nomination: 23 February 1998  
 Date of preliminary recommendation: 18 June 1998  
 Date of final recommendation: 29 September 1998

File No.: FF/06/0038

#### Validity:

The nomination is for a valid item and the prescribed information was provided. The nominated community is accepted by the SAC as a valid community because it is adequately defined and described according to accepted practice, and it is described in such a way as to be distinguished from all other communities.

#### Description of the community

Coastal Moonah Woodland Community is an open grassy woodland dominated by Moonah *Melaleuca lanceolata* ssp. *lanceolata*. Commonly associated species are Wirilda *Acacia retinodes* var. *uncifolia*, Coast Swainson-pea *Swainsona lessertiifolia*, Thyme Rice-Flower *Pimelea serpyllifolia*, Coast Tea-tree *Lepiospermum laevigatum*, Coast Beard-heath *Leucopogon parviflorus* and Kidney-weed *Dichondra repens*. Other associated species include various grasses and sedges. Moonah communities from north-central and north-western Victoria, although dominated by *Melaleuca lanceolata* are otherwise floristically distinct from Coastal Moonah Woodland.

#### Eligibility for listing as a community under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee

The nominated item satisfies at least one criterion of the set of criteria prepared and maintained under Section 11 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, and stated in Schedule 1 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Regulations 1991.

#### Evidence that criteria are satisfied:

##### **Criterion 2.1** *The community is in a demonstrable state of decline which is likely to result in extinction.*

##### *Evidence:*

Coastal Moonah Woodland Community previously occupied a wider band on coastal limestone areas of Victoria. Much of the community has been cleared for agriculture, residential and other coastal developments, leaving remnants which have become degraded due to weed invasion and recreational pressures. The communities distribution has diminished and degradational pressures are continuing.

##### **Sub-Criterion 2.2.1** *The community is very rare in terms of the total area it covers or it has a very restricted distribution or it has been recorded from only a few localities.*

##### *Evidence:*

The community has a restricted distribution in the State due to the reliance on soil type and coastal influences.

#### Additional Information

The following taxa considered threatened in Victoria (NRE 1998) have been recorded within the community:

- Coast Wirilda *Acacia retinodes* - Rare in Victoria.
- Trailing Coast Poa *Poa poiformis* var. *ramifer* - Rare in Victoria.
- Leafy Greenhood *Pterostylis cucullata* - Vulnerable in Victoria and Australia.

#### Advertisement for public comment

In accordance with the requirements of Section 14 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, the preliminary recommendation was advertised for a period of at least 30 days.

The preliminary recommendation was advertised in:

"The Age" - on 12 August 1998

"The Weekly Times" - on 12 August 1998

"The Geelong Advertiser" - on 12 August 1998

"Mornington and Southern Peninsula Mail" - on 13 August 1998

"Mornington Peninsula Leader" - on 11 August 1998

"Phillip Island and San Remo Advertiser" - on 12 August 1998

The *Government Gazette* - on 13 August 1998

Submissions closed on 18 September 1998.

#### Documentation

The published information and research data provided to the SAC has been assessed. To the best of their knowledge, the SAC believes that the data presented are not the subject of scientific dispute and the inferences drawn are reasonable and well supported. The data presented on distribution and abundance are the result of comprehensive surveys and provide clear and strong evidence that the community is rare in terms of abundance and distribution.

#### Final Recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Committee

The Scientific Advisory Committee concludes that on the evidence available the nominated item is eligible for listing in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Act because primary criteria 2.1 and sub-criterion 2.2.1 have been satisfied. The SAC also concludes that primary criteria 2.2 is satisfied as a consequence of sub-criterion 2.2.1 being satisfied.

The Scientific Advisory Committee recommends that the nominated item be supported for listing on Schedule 2 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*.

#### Selected references:

NRE (1998) *Victorian Rare or Threatened Species* (unpublished flora database). Flora and Fauna Program, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Heidelberg.

Walsh, N. G. & Entwisle, T. J. [eds] (1996) *Flora of Victoria. Vol. 3 - Dicotyledons: Winteraceae to Myrtaceae*. p. 1032. Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne. Inkata Press, Melbourne.

#### Endorsement by the Convenor of the Scientific Advisory Committee

Date

9-10-98



Dr. David Macmillan  
Convenor