



**FLORA & FAUNA  
GUARANTEE**

## FLORA AND FAUNA GUARANTEE - SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### FINAL RECOMMENDATION ON A NOMINATION FOR LISTING

#### Semi-arid Shrubby Pine-Buloke Woodland

**Date of receipt of the nomination:** 6 November 1996  
**Date of preliminary recommendation:** 9 July 1997  
**Date of final recommendation:** 1 September 1997

**File No.:** FF/06/0018

#### 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.

Semi-arid Shrubby Pine-Buloke Woodland is restricted to the mallee region in the north west of the State where sites occur on public land of varying tenure. With the exception of a single site near Jeparit no sites have been recorded on private property.

The community is open woodland or woodland dominated by Slender Cypress Pine *Callitris gracilis* and usually with Buloke *Allocasuarina luehmanni*; containing a distinctive shrub layer composed of an admixture of Ruby Saltbush *Enchylaena tomentosa*, Narrow-leaf Hopbush *Dodonaea viscosa* ssp. *angustissima*, Weeping Pittosporum *Pittosporum phylliraeoides*, Hedge Saltbush *Rhagodia spinescens*, Pimelea Daisy Bush *Olearia pimeleoides*, Cattlebush *Alectryon oleifolius* ssp. *canescens*; along with a small shrub layer composed of Horned Bassia *Sclerolaena diacantha*, Dissected New Holland Daisy *Vittadinia dissecta*, and Nodding Saltbush *Einadia nutans*; and a ground layer dominated by herbaceous annuals including Small Purslane *Calandrinia eremaea*, Mediterranean Turnip *Brassica tournefortii*, Austral Carrot *Daucus glochidiatus*, Little Medic *Medicago minima*, Hairy Burr Daisy *Calotis hispidula*, Hard-head Daisy *Brachyscome lineariloba* and Flannel Cudweed *Actinobole uliginosum*. Grass species are not diagnostic of the community, although Feather Spear-grass *Austrostipa elegantissima* is relatively commonly recorded.

#### 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:*

The community has been selectively cleared because of the soil's relatively high fertility. Remnants are suffering decline and degradation because of grazing pressure.

**Criterion 2.2** *The community is significantly prone to future threats which are likely to result in extinction.*

##### *Evidence:*

Remnants of the community are primarily threatened by stock grazing and overgrazing by native and introduced herbivores.

**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:*

Semi-arid Shrubby Pine-Buloke Woodland Community is restricted to the north west mallee area of Victoria, occurring on public land.

**Additional Information**

- The following taxa considered threatened in Victoria (CNR 1994, 1995) have been recorded within the community:
  - Kidney Saltbush *Atriplex stipitata* (Vulnerable in Victoria)
  - Square Raspwort *Haloragis exalata* (Vulnerable in Victoria and Australia)
  - Desert Jasmine *Jasminum didymum* ssp. *lineare* (Vulnerable in Victoria)
  - Purple Pentatlope *Rhyncharrhena linearis* (Vulnerable in Victoria)
  - Streaked Wattle *Acacia lineata* (Rare in Victoria)
  - Three-winged Saltbush *Maireana triptera* (Rare in Victoria)
  - Toothed Groundsel *Senecio platylepis* (Rare in Victoria)
  - Grassland Velleia *Velleia arguta* (Rare in Victoria)
  - Umbrella Wattle *Acacia oswaldii* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Cattle Bush *Alectryon oleifolius* ssp. *canescens* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Buloke *Allocasuarina luehmannii* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Black Mallee Box *Eucalyptus porosa* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Silver Needlewood *Hakea leucoptera* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Hooked Needlewood *Hakea tephrosperma* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Sweet Quandong *Santalum acuminatum* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - Shepherd's Needle *Scaevola spinescens* (regeneration problematic in Victoria)
  - White-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris affinis* (Vulnerable in Victoria, listed under the **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988**)
  - Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Cacatua leadbeateri* (Vulnerable in Victoria, listed under the **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988**)
  - Sun Moth *Synemon nais* {Endangered in Victoria (CNR 1995) and Australia (Venn 1994)}

**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 23 July 1997
- "The Weekly Times" - on 23 July 1997
- "The Hopetoun Courier" - on 24 July 1997
- "The Sunraysia Daily" - 23 July 1997
- "The Rainbow Argus" - 24 July 1997
- The *Government Gazette* - on 24 July 1997

Submissions closed on 29 August 1997.

**Further evidence provided:**

No public comments were received by the Scientific Advisory Committee.

No evidence was provided to warrant a review of the Scientific Advisory Committee's preliminary recommendation that the community is eligible for listing.

**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 2.2 are satisfied.

The SAC also concludes that sub-criterion 2.2.1 has been satisfied and that no evidence exists to suggest that primary criterion 2.2 cannot be 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:**

- CNR (1994) *Victorian Species List (including vascular and non-vascular taxa)*. Flora Section, Flora and Fauna Branch, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Victoria.
- CNR (1995) *Threatened Fauna in Victoria - 1995*. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Victoria.
- Gullan, P. K., Cheal, D. C. & Walsh, N. G. (1990) *Rare or threatened plants in Victoria*. Department of Conservation and Environment, Melbourne.
- Sluiter, I. R. K. (in prep.) *The Pine and Buloke woodlands of semi-arid and dry sub-humid Victoria and adjacent areas: floristic definition, ecology and conservation status*. Report to Environment Australia, Canberra.
- Venn, D. R. (1994) *Recovery Plan for threatened diurnal Lepidoptera in north west Victoria. Part 1. Castniidae and Hesperiiidae*. Report to the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, Canberra.

Endorsement by the Convenor of the Scientific Advisory Committee

Date



Dr. David Macmillan  
Convenor

- 2 JUL 1998