

## NME *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest

### Community Description:

*Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest typically occurs as pure or almost pure stands of *Melaleuca ericifolia* with trees generally 10 – 12 m in height (but reaching 20 m) forming a dense canopy. The understorey is generally simple and devoid of shrubs due to low light levels and/or frequent flooding. It is most often dominated by *Carex appressa* and/or *Gahnia grandis* and *Blechnum watsii* and *Lepidosperma elatius* may be present. This is the appropriate benchmark to use in assessing the condition of the listed *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest community (Schedule 3A, Nature Conservation Act 2002).

### Benchmarks:

Component	Height (m)	Cover (%)	DBH (cm)	Diameter (cm)	Count (#/ha)	Total Length (m/0.1 ha)
<b>Tree Canopy</b>	10	80	-	-	-	-
<b>Large Trees</b>	-	-	20	-	500	-
<b>Logs</b>	-	-	-	≥ 10	-	100
<b>Large Logs</b>	-	-	-	≥ 10	-	-
<b>Organic Litter</b>	-	80	-	-	-	-
<b>Recruitment</b>	Episodic					

Understorey Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover (%)
Herbs and Orchids	H	2	4
Large Sedge/Rush/Sagg/Lily	LSR	2	1
Ground Ferns and fern allies	GF	1	1
Mosses and Lichens	ML	1	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	

### Species lists:

Tree Canopy Species	Common Name	Notes
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	coast paperbark	
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	blackwood	occasionally dominant in the north west

Emergent Tree Species	Common Name	Notes
<i>Eucalyptus brookeriana</i>	brookers gum	
<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i>	black gum	

Typical Understorey Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Asperula minima</i>	mossy woodruff	H
<i>Australina pusilla</i> subsp. <i>pusilla</i>	small shade nettle	H
<i>Corybas diemenicus</i>	stately helmet-orchid	H
<i>Epilobium</i> spp.	willowherb	H
<i>Hydrocotyle hirta</i>	hairy pennywort	H
<i>Hydrocotyle pterocarpa</i>	winged pennywort	H
<i>Leptinella longipes</i>	coast buttons	H (near-coastal only)
<i>Lilaeopsis polyantha</i>	jointed swampstalks	H
<i>Lobelia anceps</i>	angled lobelia	H
<i>Pterostylis</i> spp.	greenhood	H
<i>Senecio</i> spp.	groundsel	H
<i>Triglochin procerum</i>	greater waterribbons	H
<i>Agrostis</i> spp.	bentgrass	G
<i>Tetrarrhena distichophylla</i>	hairy ricegrass	G
<i>Carex appressa</i>	tall sedge	LSR
<i>Gahnia grandis</i>	cutting grass	LSR
<i>Gahnia trifida</i>	coast sawsedge	LSR
<i>Lepidosperma elatius</i>	tall swordsedg	LSR
<i>Lepidosperma ensiforme</i>	arching swordsedg	LSR
<i>Blechnum wattsi</i>	hard waterfern	GF
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	batswing fern	GF
<i>Hypolepis</i> spp.	groundfern	GF
<i>Polystichum proliferum</i>	mother shieldfern	GF
<i>Pteris comans</i>	netted brake	GF
<i>Pteris tremula</i>	tender brake	GF

\*This list is provided as a guide only. The species listed are typical of this plant community type but may not necessarily be present.