

COASTAL WHITE OAK SHRUBLAND

The Norfolk Island Vegetation Mapping Project has described and mapped 14 distinct native plant communities on Norfolk Island. This series of fact sheets presents information about each of the communities.

Coastal White Oak Shrubland

Stunted, low growing white oaks and melky trees such as those near Cemetery Bay, Ball Bay and Hundred Acres.

Stunted shrubby white oak plants (*Lagunaria patersonia*) occur on very exposed coastal cliffs. This shrubland may have been quite common previously. The associated species are typical coastal species, including pigface (*Carpobrotus*

glaucescens), native spinach (*Tetragonia implexicoma*) and *Achyranthes aspera*. The rare coastal coprosma (*Coprosma baueri*) is also sometimes found in this community and in the past may have been common.



Coastal White Oak Shrubland at Hundred Acres Reserve. Photo: Kevin Mills

COASTAL WHITE OAK SHRUBLAND

Plant community	Key species	Other species	Threatened species
Coastal White Oak Shrubland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White oak (<i>Lagunaria patersonia</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salt couch (<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>) Native spinach (<i>Tetragonia implexicomis</i>) Club rush (<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal senecio/ yellow daisy (<i>Senecio australis</i>) Coastal coprosma (<i>Coprosma baueri</i>)

Indicative species composition

The table above identifies the key species present (those species that are most characteristic of the plant community), other species (additional species that are likely to be present and assist in defining the community), and some of the threatened species present.

Further information

These fact sheets are based on the Norfolk Island Vegetation Mapping Project conducted by the Invasive Species Council between 2018 and 2020. Naomi Christian and Dr Kevin Mills conducted the vegetation surveys, and described and mapped the native plant communities. Two maps were produced – one showing the estimated distribution of native plant communities in 1750, and one showing their distribution in 2020.

The plant community maps are available at:

- www.norfolkisland.gov.nf/services/waste-and-environment/native-vegetation/native-vegetation-mapping-project
- www.invasives.org.au/niveg

There are 180 native plant species on the Norfolk Island Group, of which around 25% are endemic.

Forty-six species have been identified as threatened with

extinction. Describing and mapping the 14 native plant communities was done to help land managers protect and restore habitat for these threatened species and other wildlife of Norfolk Island.

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