

# Data Sheet 18 (DS 018)

## Endangered and Vulnerable Ecological Communities

### What are we monitoring?

The number of endangered and vulnerable ecological communities in the Blue Mountains Local Government Area (LGA).

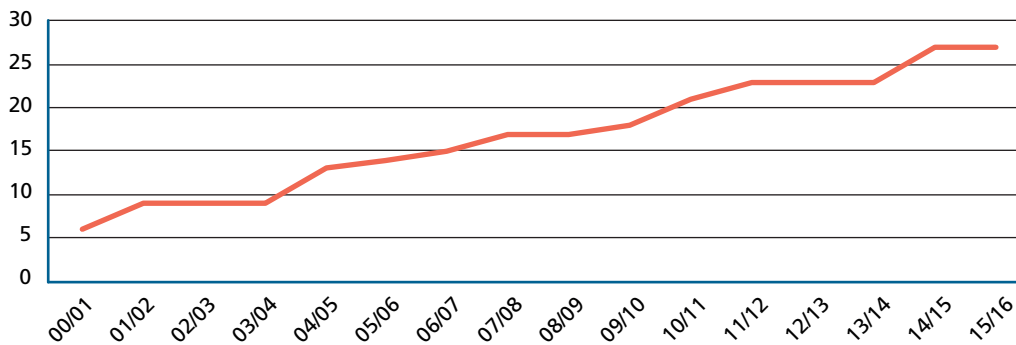
### What is the trend?

The number of endangered and vulnerable communities in the Blue Mountains Local Government Area continues to increase. This is a combination of an increase in ecological communities that are actually being threatened and a greater level of reporting and improvement in scientific knowledge over this time. The number of Critically Endangered communities has increased since 2013–2014.

### Why is monitoring this trend important?

Ecological communities are specialised habitats for diverse species – where the survival of animals and plants depends on the interactions between the various species within the ecological community. Threatened species can also be found within ecological communities and protecting the ecological community also protects the species that live there, for example the Blue Mountains water skink is found only in upland swamps of the Blue Mountains. Identifying and monitoring threatened ecological communities provides a means of protecting these habitats and the species within them. Understanding which ecological communities are threatened or vulnerable informs the policies of the Council and priority setting for conservation programs.

Endangered and Vulnerable Ecological Communities in the Blue Mountains



Number of Endangered and Vulnerable Ecological Communities in the Blue Mountains

Financial Year	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
Critically Endangered Communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	6	6
Endangered Communities	6	9	9	9	13	14	14	15	15	15	16	18	18	18	19	19
Vulnerable Communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total	6	9	9	9	13	14	15	17	17	18	21	23	23	23	27	27

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Community Name (Common Name)	Date Gazetted	NSW Status	Commonwealth Status
Agnes Banks Woodland in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	20/05/2015	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	
Blue Gum High Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	20/04/2007	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Blue Mountains Basalt Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	20/03/2015	Endangered Ecological Community	
Blue Mountains Shale Cap Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	6/10/2000	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Castlereagh Scribbly Gum Woodland in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	3/12/2010	Vulnerable Ecological Community	Endangered
Castlereagh Swamp Woodland Community	24/12/1999	Endangered Ecological Community	
Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	10/05/2002	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Cumberland Plain Woodland in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	18/12/2009	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	20/03/2015	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	
Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains of the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions	17/12/2004	Endangered Ecological Community	
Moist Shale Woodland in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	19/04/2002	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Montane Peatlands and Swamps of the New England Tableland, NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin, South East Corner, South Eastern Highlands and Australian Alps bioregions	17/12/2004	Endangered Ecological Community	Endangered
Mount Gibraltar Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	16/03/2001	Endangered Ecological Community	Endangered
Newnes Plateau Shrub Swamp in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	15/07/2005	Endangered Ecological Community	Endangered
River-Flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains of the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions	17/12/2004	Endangered Ecological Community	
Robertson Basalt Tall Open-forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	15/06/2001	Endangered Ecological Community	Endangered
Shale Gravel Transition Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	14/10/2011	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Shale Sandstone Transition Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	28/11/2014	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Southern Highlands Shale Woodlands in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	15/06/2001	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
Southern Sydney sheltered forest on transitional sandstone soils in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	8/07/2011	Endangered Ecological Community	
Sun Valley Cabbage Gum Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	15/04/2011	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	
Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest of the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions	15/12/2004	Endangered Ecological Community	
Tableland Basalt Forest in the Sydney Basin and South Eastern Highlands Bioregions	4/01/2008	Endangered Ecological Community	
Tablelands Snow Gum, Black Sallee, Candlebark and Ribbon Gum Grassy Woodland in the South Eastern Highlands, Sydney Basin, South East Corner and NSW South Western Slopes Bioregions	15/04/2011	Endangered Ecological Community	
Western Sydney Dry Rainforest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	24/03/2000	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered
White Box Yellow Box Blakelys Red Gum Woodland	15/03/2002	Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered

Source: NSW BioNet, NSW Government Department of Environment and Heritage  
[http://environment.nsw.gov.au/atlaspublicapp/UI\\_Modules/ATLAS\\_atlasreport.aspx#](http://environment.nsw.gov.au/atlaspublicapp/UI_Modules/ATLAS_atlasreport.aspx#)