



What Woodland is that?

Sub-community profile:

Eucalyptus rudis (Flooded Gum) Woodland

These woodlands are mostly restricted to the western edge of the region and, as the name suggests, are strongly associated with waterways, both permanent and seasonal. However, some isolated populations are found on wetlands further inland. It follows that the trees are tolerant of waterlogging, drought, frost and slightly saline soils.

Eucalyptus rudis will grow to 20 m in height with rough, box-type bark on lower, large branches and smooth grey bark higher in the canopy. White flowers occur from July – September and the foliage has a grey-green to bluish colour. Trees have been seen with a diameter of 2m. Seedlings often germinate en masse following flood and will thin out naturally through time.

E. rudis will often occur in association with York gums (*E. loxophleba*), Wandoo (*E. wandoo*), Sheoaks (*Allocasuarina huegeliana*) and jam wattle (*Acacia acuminata*) with a varied understory of Mohan (*Melaleuca viminea*), *Lepidosperma tenue* and Pincushions (*Borya nitida*). The community is particularly susceptible to grassy weed invasion and you are unlikely

to find a site that does not have weedy groundcover commonly comprised of wild oats, watsonia and Guildford grass.

Noongar people used to collect the manna produced by mites on the leaves of flooded gum and form it into a sweet to suck on (Hansen and Horsfall, 2019). The species is very useful for revegetation as it is easily propagated, grows on a variety of soil types and tolerates a range of conditions.

References/further information:

French, M., 2012. Eucalypts of Western Australia's Wheatbelt. UWA Press. p356.

Hansen, V and Horsfall, J., 2019. Noongar Bush Tucker: Bush Food Plants and Fungi of the South-west of Western Australia, UWA Publishing. p442.

Oversby, B., 2004. Riparian Plants of the Avon Catchment, Department of Environment.

[https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/OTHERS/Eucalyptus_rudis_\(Flooded_Gum\)_Woodland.htm](https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/OTHERS/Eucalyptus_rudis_(Flooded_Gum)_Woodland.htm)



It is possible that there are no examples of weed-free examples of this woodland.



Flooded gums produce hollows that may be used by possums, parrots or other birds.