



What Woodland is that?

Sub-community profile: Gimlet over scrub

Throughout the central and eastern Wheatbelt are examples of the Gimlet over scrub, a sub-community of the Endangered Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt.

This community is found on loamy soils, on the mid to upper slopes.

Common understory species in this sub-community include: Goldfields daisy (*Olearia muelleri*), Prickly wattle (*Acacia erinacea*), Merrill's wattle (*Acacia merrallii*), Wait-a-while (*Acacia colletioides*), Quandong (*Santalum acuminatum*), Weeooka (*Eremophila oppositifolia*), Leafless Ballart (*Exocarpos aphyllus*), Lake fringe rhagodia (*Rhagodia drummondii*) and Boree (*Melaleuca pauperiflora*).

Gimlets grow to 15m, with smooth, shiny and seasonally colourful bark – from grey to green to reddish-brown. Whilst the bark is smooth, the trunk is often grooved. The adult leaves are narrow and a very glossy green. It has white-cream flowers from spring to summer, or from summer to autumn.

As Gimlets are a mallet, they are killed by disturbances such as fires, and regenerate exclusively from seed. A localised fire might result in thickets of thin-stemmed saplings, which over time will thin out, allowing remaining saplings to grow larger. Following a fire it can take 200 years for a Gimlet woodland to provide the hollows and widely spaced trees of a typical mature Gimlet woodland.

The Rufous treecreeper, Gilbert's Whistler and Carnaby's cockatoo all call Gimlet over scrub woodlands home. Gimlets aged 150 and older provide hollows that are vital nesting and shelter sites for many native species, including cockatoos, possums and phascogales.

Examples of this woodland type can be found at Lake Champion Nature Reserve, north of Merredin, and Korrelocking Nature Reserve, east of Wyalkatchem.

For more information:

https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/GIMLET/Gimlet_over_Scrub.htm

[https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/GIMLET/Eucalyptus_salubris_\(Gimlet\)_Woodland.htm](https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/GIMLET/Eucalyptus_salubris_(Gimlet)_Woodland.htm)



Healthy Gimlet over scrub woodland – likely recovering from a past disturbance.



Older Gimlet over scrub woodland that would benefit from fencing for stock exclusion and infill planting.