



Ecosystem type 1: Dry sclerophyll woodland

Why is it called a Dry sclerophyll woodland?

The **geology** of the area is sandstone, which weathers to form a loose, sandy soil with low organic content and water holding ability. The vegetation type reflects this.

Sclerophyll is a general term used to describe Australian vegetation communities dominated by plants with tough, hard leaves that do not easily dry out.

A **woodland** is a low density forest where the tree canopy layer has many gaps, allowing lots of sunlight to reach the ground.

Our dry sclerophyll woodland ecosystem study site can be summarised as being **dry, infertile, fire-prone and having high levels of biodiversity**.

It covers approximately 7.5 hectares.

Common names of typical native plant species found at the site include:

- **Trees:** Red Bloodwood, Sydney Peppermint, Old Man Banksia and Broad leaved Hakea
- **Shrubs:** Mountain devil, Hop bush, Hair-pin Banksia, Wild Parsley and Prickly moses
- **Herbs and groundcovers:** Blue flax lily, Flannel flower, Hooded orchid & forest grass tree.

There are also some introduced (weed) species including:

- Blackberry, Canary island palm, Ochna and Asparagus fern

Link 2: <http://www.spiffa.org/uploads/2/6/7/5/2675656/factsheetprotectingremnants.pdf>