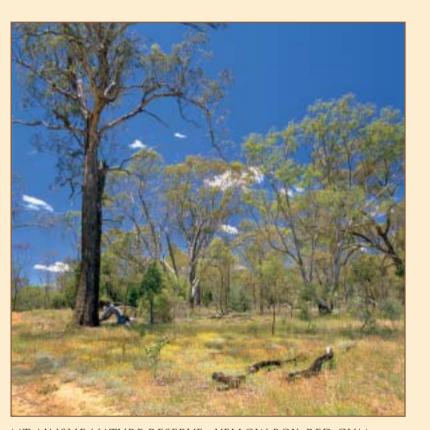


TURALLO NATURE RESERVE—THEMEDA GRASSLAND



GOOROOYARROO ACT NATURE RESERVE—YELLOW BOX-RED GUM GRASSY WOODLAND



MT AINSLIE NATURE RESERVE—YELLOW BOX–RED GU Grassy woodland



MANILLA, NSW—WHITE BOX GRASSY WOODLAN















GRASSLANDS AND GRASSY WOODLANDS
OF THE ACT AND NSW



## GRASSLANDS AND GRASSY WOODLANDS OF THE ACT AND NSW

## What are grasslands and grassy woodlands?

- Grasslands are treeless or sparsely treed landscapes where grasses dominate the groundlayer and there is a diversity of native wildflowers, referred to as 'forbs'.
- Grasslands are found in the lowest parts of the landscape (mostly on lower slopes or lower undulating hills) where cold air drainage and geological characteristics limit the growth of trees.
- Grassy woodlands contain trees where the crowns are clearly separated.
- Grassy woodlands contain few shrubs and the groundlayer is dominated by native grasses and may contain a diversity of forbs.
- Shrubby woodlands are found on slopes where the soils are stony and shallow.

# Grassy woodlands and grasslands are a very important part of our natural heritage because:

- 1. Many species of animals and plants inhabit these grassy ecosystems.
- In spring and early summer, woodlands are alive with colourful wildflowers and the sounds of insects and woodland birds.
- The mid-layer of wattles and some other shrubs present in some woodlands is very important as animal habitat.
- Fallen timber and tree hollows in grassy woodlands provide habitat for native wildlife. Less mature trees are the 'hollows of the future'.
- 2. The area of land occupied by these grassy ecosystems has declined and their biodiversity has deteriorated.
- Diverse grassy woodlands and grasslands are rare because they occupy land favoured by agriculture and development.
- Woodlands and grasslands are subject to ongoing threats including clearing for development, firewood collection, rock removal and weed invasion.

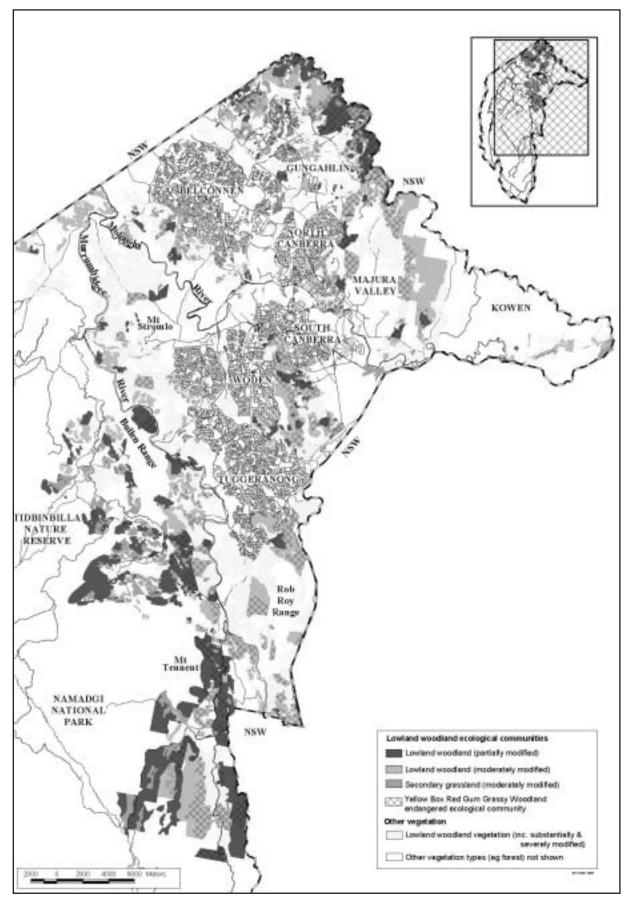
- Many threatened plant species including the Button Wrinklewort, Tarengo Leek Orchid, Small Purple Pea, Hoary Sunray and Yass Daisy are found in grassy landscapes.
- Grasslands and woodlands provide a habitat for threatened animals including the Hooded Robin, Diamond Firetail, Grassland Earless Dragon and Golden Sun Moth.
- Many other grassland and woodland species are declining, including the Bearded Dragon, Shingleback Skink, Key's Matchstick Grasshopper, Flame Robin and Scarlet Robin.

## What are we doing about it?

- Grassland and Box-Gum Woodland communities are listed as endangered ecological communities in the ACT, NSW and nationally.
- There are plans that guide the recovery of the threatened species and communities.
- Conservation measures such as protection in reserves or management to increase diversity are being applied.
- Threats are being controlled.
- Information is being provided to help the community understand better this important part of our natural heritage.



## Woodlands of the ACT



## WOODLAND & GRASSLAND WILDFLOWERS featured in the poster<sup>1</sup>

Number	Common name	Scientific name	When in flower	Habitat	Status
1	ACT Spider Orchid	Arachnorchis actensis	spring	grassy woodland in a Canberra Nature Park reserve	rare
2	Austral Bears-ear	Cymbonotus lawsonianus	early spring	grasslands & grassy woodlands	common
3	Billy Buttons	Craspedia variabilis	early spring to early summer	damp areas of grasslands & grassy woodlands declining	
4	Australian Bindweed	Convolvulus erubescens	spring & summer	grasslands & grassy woodlands	common
5	Bitter Cryptandra	Cryptandra amara	winter	edges of woodlands	declining
6	Black-anthered Flax Lily	Dianella revoluta	spring	grassy woodland	declining
7	Blakely's Red Gum	Eucalyptus blakelyi	late winter to mid-summer	low lying areas of woodlands	declining
8	Blue Devil	Eryngium rostratum	spring to mid-summer	grasslands & grassy woodlands	declining
9	Blue Grass-lily	Caesia calliantha	spring	damp areas of grasslands & grassy woodlands	rare
10	Bulbine Lily	Bulbine bulbosa	spring	grasslands & grassy woodlands	declining
11	Bush Pea	Pultenaea procumbens	spring	woodlands on shallow soil	common
12	Button Wrinklewort	Rutidosis leptorhynchoides	late spring & summer	restricted to a small number of woodland areas	endangered
13	Cauliflower Bush	Cassinia longifolia	late spring to early summer	woodlands on shallow soil	common
14	Chocolate Lily	Dichopogon fimbriatus	spring to early summer	woodlands & grasslands	declining
15	Common Bluebell	Wahlenbergia communis	spring to autumn	woodlands & grasslands	common
16	Common Buttercup	Ranunculus lappaceus	spring & summer	damp areas of woodlands & grasslands	declining
17	Common Sundew	Drosera peltata	spring	wet grassy areas	common
18	Creamy Candles	Stackhousia monogyna	early spring	woodlands & grasslands	declining
19	Early Nancy	Wurmbea dioica	late winter to early spring	woodlands & grasslands	uncommon
20	Early Wattle	Acacia genistifolia	winter	woodlands on shallow soils	common
21	Finger Flower	Cherianthera cyanea	spring	grassy woodland	rare
22	Flax-leafed Rice-flower	Pimelea linifolia	spring & summer	grassy woodland	uncommon
23	Common Fringe-lily	Thysanotus tuberosus	spring & autumn	grassy woodland	declining
24	Golden Moths	Diuris chryseopsis	spring	moist areas in grassland & grassy woodland	declining
25	Grey Guinea Flower	Hibbertia obtusifolia	spring	woodland	common
26	Hoary Sunray	Leucochrysum albicans	spring & summer	grassy woodland & grassland	endangered
27	Kangaroo Grass	Themeda australis	late spring to early summer	grassy woodland & grassland	common
28	Leafy Daisy	Brachyscome rigidula	spring & summer	woodlands & grasslands	declining
29	Milkmaids	Burchardia umbellata	late spring	grassy woodlands	declining
30	Native Geranium	Geranium solanderi	late winter to early summer	woodlands & grasslands	common
31	Narrow-leafed New Holland Daisy	Vittadinia muelleri	spring & summer	woodlands & grasslands	common
32	Old Man's Beard	Clematis microphylla	spring	woodlands	declining
33	Parson's Bands	Eriochilus cucullatus	autumn	woodlands	declining
34	Pink Fingers	Caladenia carnea	spring	woodlands	uncommon
35	Poa Tussock	Poa sieberiana	spring & summer	grassy woodlands & grasslands	common
36	Purple Violet	Viola betonicifolia	spring & summer	moist grassy woodland	declining
37	Scaly Buttons	Leptorhynchos squamatus	spring	grassy woodland & grasslands	common
38	Scrambled Eggs	Goodenia pinnatifida	spring & summer	grassy woodlands & grasslands	declining
39	Silver Wattle	Acacia dealbata	late winter to spring	grassy woodland	common
40	Slender Sun Orchid	Thelymitra pauciflora	late winter to spring	woodland	uncommon
41	Small Purple Pea	Swainsona recta	spring	grassland & grassy woodland	rare, endangered
42	Sticky Everlasting	Bracteantha viscosa	late spring & summer	grassy woodland	uncommon
43	A speargrass	Austrostipa species	late spring to early summer	woodlands & grasslands	common
44	Tiger Orchid	Diuris sulphurea	spring	woodlands on shallow soils	uncommon
45	Twining Glycine	Glycine clandestina	spring & summer	woodlands	uncommon
46	Vanilla Lily	Arthropodium milleflorum	late spring	grassy woodland	declining
47	A wallaby grass	Austrodanthonia species	spring & summer	grassy woodlands & grasslands	common
48	Yellow Box	Eucalytpus melliodora	variable	grassy woodland	common
49	Yellow Buttons (pale leafed form)	Chrysocephalum apiculatum	spring & autumn	grassy woodlands & grasslands	common
50	Yellow Rush Lily	Tricoryne elatior	late spring & summer	grassy woodland & grassland	common
50	TOTO TO TOURIS LILLY	TITOT THE CHILD	acc spring & summer	Prand Modulin or Pranting	Common

 $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}$  Some of these wildflowers are also found in open forest.

## WOODLAND & GRASSLAND WILDLIFE featured in the poster

Letter	Common name	Scientific name	Distribution	Threatened species code
A	Diamond Firetail	Stagonopleura guttata	SE mainland Australia	vulnerable
В	Golden Sun Moth	Synemon plana	small no. of Wallaby Grass sites	endangered
С	Grassland Earless Dragon	Tympanocryptus pinguicolla	small no. of grassland sites	endangered
D	Scarlet Robin	Petroica multicolor	SE Australia	declining
Е	Shingle-back skink	Trachydosaurus rugosus	arid & semi-arid areas of SE Australia	declining

## Acknowledgements

Original artwork by Helen Fitzgerald. 2003 Wildlife and Botanical Artist, Queanbeyan, NSW

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Manilla, NSW–White Box Grassy Woodland: Toni McLeish

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