



Sub-community profile: Salmon Gum over Melaleuca

In southern and western parts of the Wheatbelt you can find *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* (Salmon Gum) over Melaleuca on mid and lower slopes with loamy sand, sandy clay and clay soils, forming one of the Wheatbelt woodland sub-communities.

The understorey often includes 2-4 m high thickets of Mallee honey-myrtle (*Melaleuca acuminate*), Broombush (*Melaleuca uncinata*), Boree (*Melaleuca sheathiana*), Sandhill honey-myrtle (*Melaleuca adnata*) and/or Gorada (*Melaleuca lateriflora*). Other species present may include Centipede bush (*Templetonia sulcate*), Goldfields daisy (*Olearia muelleri*), *Acacia erinacea* and Quandong (*Santalum acuminatum*), with few species of herbaceous perennials and grasses occurring in the ground layer.

Salmon gum grow to 25 m, and have smooth bark that is silver grey in winter-spring and becomes a salmon pink to coppery colour in summer-autumn. It has white flowers that have been recorded in Jan, Feb, May, August-Oct.

Salmon gum provide food, shelter and nesting sites for many native invertebrates, mammals and birds. At maturity, Salmon gums produce large hollows that are important nesting sites for the endangered Carnaby's Black-cockatoo.

Often found growing on good agricultural land, Salmon gums were extensively cleared across the Wheatbelt, resulting in the loss of breeding sites for many iconic Western Australian species.

You can read more information on Salmon Gum and Gimlet at:

https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/SALMON_GUM/Salmon_Gum_over_Melaleuca.htm

https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/resources/acc/communities/SALMON_GUM/Eucalyptus_salmonophloia (Salmon Gum) Woodland.htm

https://apps.lucidcentral.org/euclid/text/entities/eucalyptus_salmonophloia.htm









