

# MU 53 MOUNTAIN HOLLOW GRASSY FEN

## □ CORRESPONDING CLASSIFICATIONS

Regional: GL257 Tablelands Flats Grassland

State: Montane Bogs and Fens

Number of Sites: 2

Average number of identified native species per plot: 21

## □ DESCRIPTION

The alluviums of the central and southern tablelands retain open tussock grassy swamps in frost hollows and depressions. The community is virtually devoid of trees (rarely a stunted black gum (*E. aggregata*) and black sally (*E. stellulata*) may occur). The groundcover is strongly dominated by tussock grass (*Poa labillardierei*) with *Carex gaudichaudiana* and *Juncus sarophorus* as other graminoids in the sward. There are a range of small, inundation-tolerant herbs such as *Epilobium gunnianum*, *Stellaria angustifolia* and *Viola caleyana*.

Occurs on Recent (Quaternary) age alluvium, usually in fairly broad hollows without a rapid fall and with a flat base. The soils are alluvial peats and clay loams, and are often waterlogged or at least near saturation. The surrounding terrain is quite varied, including Permian sediments and Ordovician age metamorphics (including quartzite) and Silurian limestone. They range in altitude between 865 and 950 metres above sea level, and receive between 800 and 930 millimetres of precipitation. However, groundwater and surface inflow is probably more important in sustaining the community. Many sites are highly disturbed by grazing and agriculture. The community forms favoured sites for feral pig wallows.

The community matches to Tablelands Flats Grasslands in Tindall *et al.* (2004) and is part of the Montane Bogs and Fens unit of Keith (2004). This community forms part of the *Montane Peatlands and Swamps* Endangered Ecological Community listed under the NSW TSC Act 1995.



## □ STRUCTURAL SUMMARY

Stratum	Count	AvLowHt	AvHt	maxHt	AvCover	SDcover	minCover	maxCover
T	1		1.50	1.5	100		100	100

## □ FLORISTIC SUMMARY

### Ground Covers

*Poa labillardierei*, *Carex gaudichaudiana*, *Epilobium gunnianum*, *Juncus sarophorus*, *Stellaria angustifolia*, *Viola caleyana*

## □ KEY IDENTIFYING FEATURES

**Easily recognisable features to assist in identifying this map unit are:**

- Absence of trees and dense, large tussock sward of swamp *Poa*.
- Permanent or semi-permanent, shallow inundation.

## □ EXAMPLE LOCATIONS

Upper Cox's River in Long Swamp and near Angus Place; Tuglow Hole Creek.



□ **CONDITION ASSESSMENT**

Disturbance Class	Area (ha)	Proportion Extant (%)
A Low	0.4	0.41
B Medium	12.85	13.16
C High	84.37	86.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>97.62</b>	<b>100</b>

□ **THREATENED PLANT SPECIES**

Possible: *Baloskion longipes*, *Carex klaphakei*, *Derwentia blakelyi*, *Eucalyptus camphora*, *Euphrasia scabra*

Fits within the consideration of the *Montane Peatlands and Swamps of the New England Tableland, NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin, South East Corner, South Eastern Highlands and Australian Alps* bioregions Endangered Ecological Community.

□ **DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES**

Species Name	Group Score	Group Freq (%)	Non Group Score	Non Group Freq (%)	Fidelity Class
<i>Carex gaudichaudiana</i>	4	100.00	2	0.07	positive
<i>Eleocharis acuta</i>	2	33.33	0	0.00	positive
<i>Epilobium gunnianum</i>	2	66.67	1	0.55	positive
<i>Juncus sarophorus</i>	3	66.67	0	0.00	positive
<i>Poa labillardierei</i> var. <i>labillardierei</i>	4	100.00	2	8.45	positive
<i>Stellaria angustifolia</i>	3	66.67	2	0.15	positive
<i>Viola caleyana</i>	3	100.00	2	0.07	positive
<i>Lomandra filiformis</i>	0	0.00	2	36.28	negative
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	0	0.00	2	39.63	negative
<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	0	0.00	2	40.03	negative