

Swamp Sclerophyll Forest

Classification:

Swamp Sclerophyll Forest on Coastal Floodplains

Conservation Status in NSW:

Endangered Ecological Community



SPECIAL NOTE: Swamp Sclerophyll Forests have been extensively cleared and filled for recreational purposes such as playing fields, car parks and roads.

Description:

Sydney Swamp Sclerophyll Forest on Coastal Floodplains is a mosaic of different vegetation structures from forest to scrub to reedland. (NPWS, 2000)

Habitat:

Swamp Sclerophyll Forest occurs on waterlogged estuarine alluvial soils influenced by periodical poor drainage conditions. It differs from Sydney Freshwater Wetlands by having a more silty site with higher nutrients and generally less open standing water. Species include Swamp Mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*) Forest and Woodland stands at Dee Why Lagoon and Jamieson Park, Bangalay Alluvial Forest (*Eucalyptus botryoides*) stands in Jamieson Park and surrounds on the alluvial soils along the creeks draining into Dee Why Lagoon, Cabbage Tree Palm (*Livistona australis*) Woodlands within Jamieson Park and surrounds and along Middle Creek, and Bungwall fern (*Blechnum indicum*) Water Fern Swamp found on the wettest alluvial soils along Middle Creek.

Threats:

Swamp Sclerophyll Forests have been extensively cleared and filled for recreational purposes, such as playing fields, car parks and roads. Remnant forests are threatened by waste filling, clearing associated with urban development, urban run-off associated with its proximity to urban and agricultural areas, weed invasion from weeds such as *Ludwigia peruviana*, *Ipomoea cairica* and *Anredera cordifolia*, and by grazing and trampling. (NPWS, 2000)

Community Action:

Warringah residents can protect the remaining areas of Sydney Swamp Sclerophyll Forest by understanding the main threats to the community and how they can be avoided.

Residents can assist by having a "bush friendly" garden which requires no additional fertilisers or heavy watering. Residents are asked to stay on existing tracks to avoid any physical damage to the surrounding bush in reserves and to notify Council of any new disturbances such as rubbish dumping and clearing.