

COASTAL HEATHY WOODLAND LOWLAND FOREST FOOTHILL FOREST DAMP/ WET FOREST

Major Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) represented:

- Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic (EVC 1)
- Coast Banksia Woodland (EVC 2)
- Coastal Saltmarsh (EVC 9)
- Estuarine Wetland (EVC 10)
- Coastal Headland Scrub (EVC 161)
- Coastal Tussock Grassland (EVC 163)

Major Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) represented:

- Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 3)
- Sand Heathland (EVC 6)
- Wet Heathland (EVC 8)
- Heathy Woodland (EVC 48)
- Swamp Scrub (EVC 53)
- Swampy Riparian Complex (EVC 126)
- Grassy Woodland (EVC 175)
- Riparian Scrub (EVC 191)
- Wet Sands Thicket (EVC 233)
- Sand Heathland/ Wet Heathland Mosaic (EVC 307)

Major Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) represented:

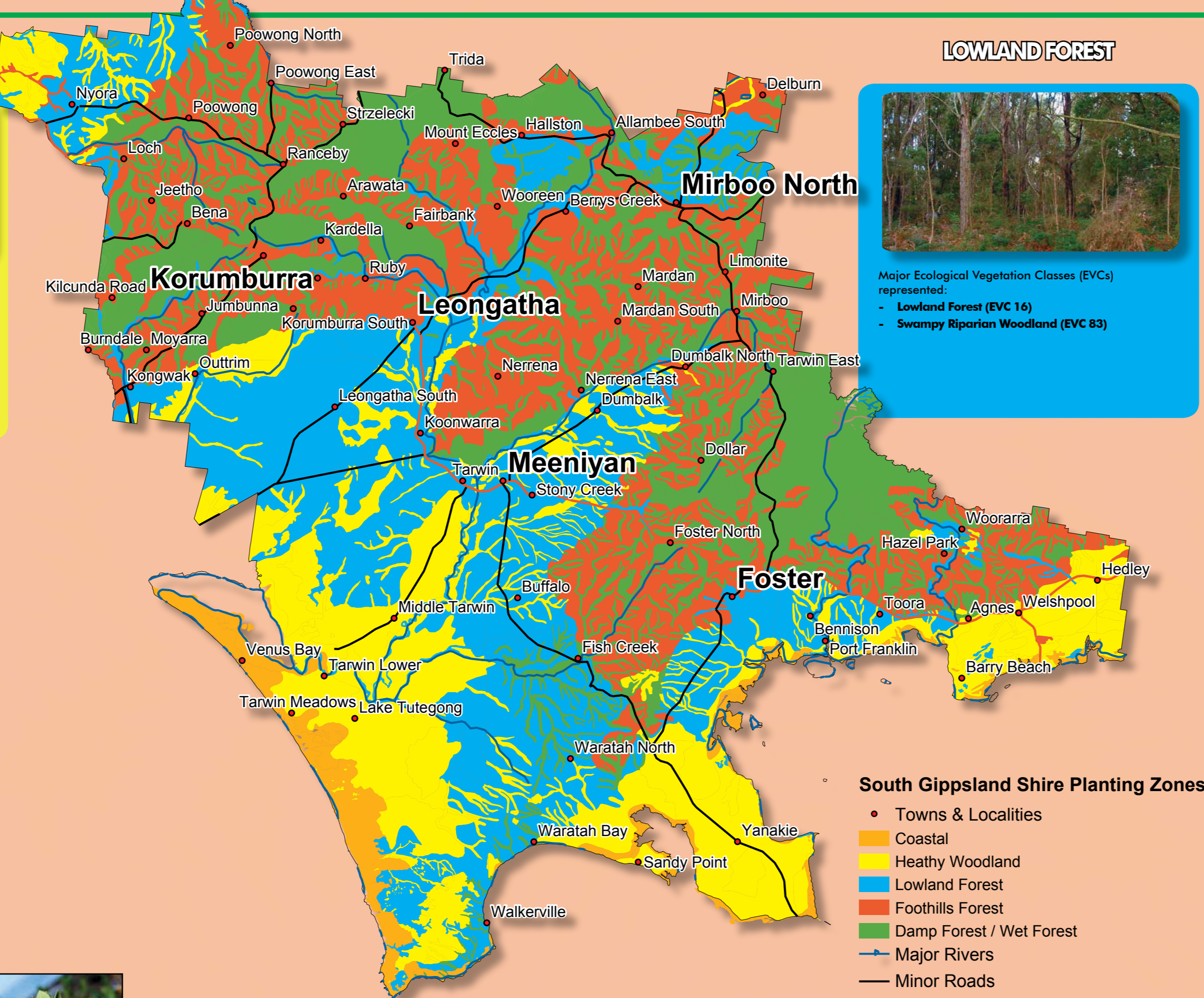
- Lowland Forest (EVC 16)
- Swampy Riparian Woodland (EVC 83)

Major Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) represented:

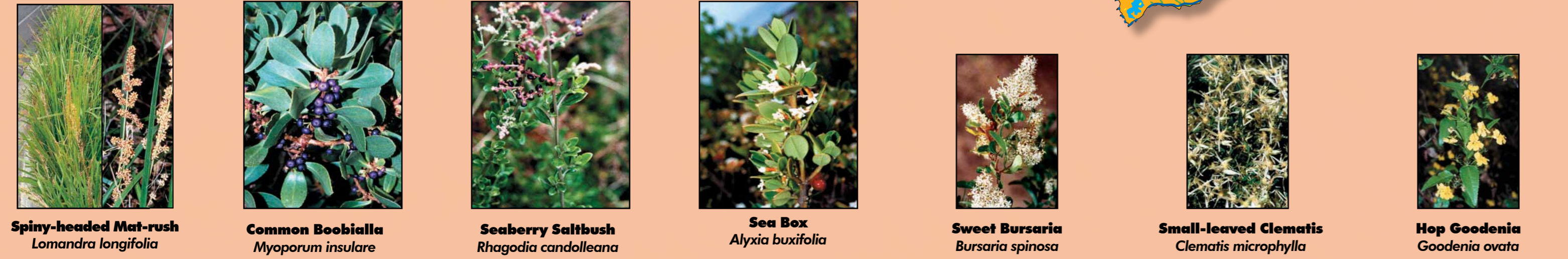
- Riparian Forest (EVC 18)
- Herb- rich Foothill Forest (EVC 23)
- Shrubby Foothill Forest (EVC 45)
- Plains Grassy Forest (EVC 151)

Major Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) represented:

- Damp Forest (EVC 29)
- Wet Forest (EVC 30)
- Warm Temperate Rainforest (EVC 32)
- Riparian Forest (EVC 18)



- South Gippsland Shire Planting Zones**
- Towns & Localities
 - Coastal
 - Heathy Woodland
 - Lowland Forest
 - Foothills Forest
 - Damp Forest / Wet Forest
 - Major Rivers
 - Minor Roads
 - Major Roads



Indigenous Plants of South Gippsland Shire

Contacts for advice about Indigenous vegetation.

Department of Sustainability & Environment (DSE)
 (Leongatha) Ph: 5662 9900
 For More detailed Species Lists and EVC Information Refer to the DSE Website: www.dse.vic.gov.au

South Gippsland Shire Council (SGSC)
 Website: www.sgsc.vic.gov.au
 Ph: 5662 9267

Landcare
 South Coast Landcare Network (Powlett Area) Ph: 5671 2471
 South Gippsland community
 Feb. 2004-03-18
 Photographs courtesy of DSE, Derek Hibbert, David Ziebell
 Viridans biological databases - Australia

Front Cover:
 Bottom: Indigenous planting at Korumburra Public Park.
 Photo courtesy of Dennis Conn
 Please Note:
 * Specific requirements apply when planting close to infrastructure i.e. powerlines and roadsides (For further information please contact Council Ph: (02) 5662 9267).
 * This plant list is intended as a guide only; plant heights/widths will vary depending on soil type, aspect, wind etc

South Gippsland Shire Council
 Come for the beauty, Stay for the lifestyle

The importance of indigenous vegetation

South Gippsland contains a diverse range of indigenous plants (plants native to the area), which provide critical habitat for the regions' wildlife including Wedge-tailed Eagles, Koalas and Goannas to name just a few. Most of South Gippsland's original native vegetation has been cleared primarily for farming. As a result, less than 15 per cent of the original indigenous vegetation remains. This places great importance on remaining patches located on public and private land. Fortunately many landowners now recognise the importance of indigenous vegetation, are replanting using indigenous species and actively protecting remnant vegetation.

Over thousands of years indigenous plants have adapted to the local environment (soil types, nutrient levels and climate). This means they require less water, little if any fertiliser, are cheaper to buy and are less work to grow than exotic plants. Indigenous plants come in a wide range of colours and sizes that are attractive to people and native wildlife alike. By establishing indigenous species you can attract native birds and animals to your garden. Landholders use indigenous species in shelterbelts, to prevent soil erosion and to control insect pests. Indigenous plants also contribute to the character of an area eg: the Township of Mirboo North contains large patches of Damp Forest with tall Messmates (*Eucalyptus obliqua*) which contribute significantly to the town's natural beauty. Some exotic plants spread from gardens and invade bushland. These types of exotic plants are commonly referred to as "environmental weeds." By planting indigenous species we can reduce the spread of environmental weeds and their cost in terms of dollars and lost habitat to the community. For further information about environmental and noxious weeds please refer to Council's Weed Identification Booklet (Copies are available at all Council Customer Service Centres or by phoning Ph: 5662 9267).

Plant communities and using this guide

Indigenous plants occur naturally in groups or communities that are defined by various environmental factors. As you move across the landscape we encounter changes in soil type, elevation, slope and aspect, which results in changes in the type of plant community. The map on this poster provides a reconstruction of how the landscape may have looked prior to European settlement. Listed on the table on the other side of this poster is an extensive species list, along with an indication as to which of the five broad vegetation communities each species would belong.

The planting zones identified on this map are based on a system utilised by the Departments of Sustainability and Environment and Primary Industries, known as Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs). In reality there are dozens of EVCs within the shire; each of which more accurately describes the soil, topography and vegetation than this poster attempts. Anyone wishing to conduct a large scale revegetation project with the aim of replicating a pre-European environment, can obtain a more comprehensive EVC map with detailed species lists, by contacting your nearest DSE/DPI office or visiting the DSE website (see list of contacts). Those planning larger revegetation programs on rural land can get further advice by contacting their local Landcare Officer.

Please Note: Due to the scale of the map and broad plant communities represented, it is difficult to display the exact location of some of the plant communities.