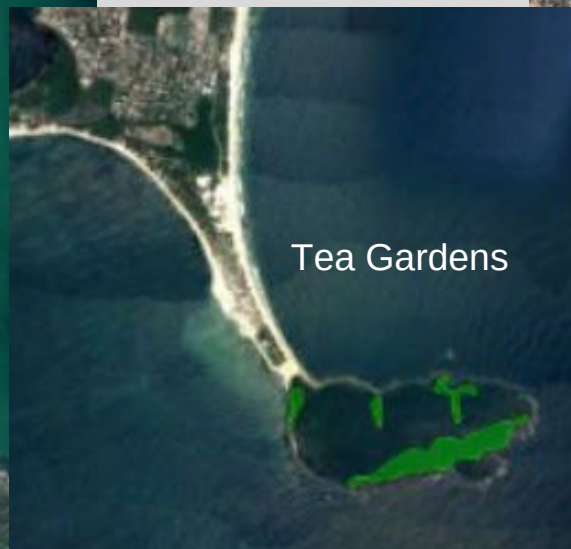
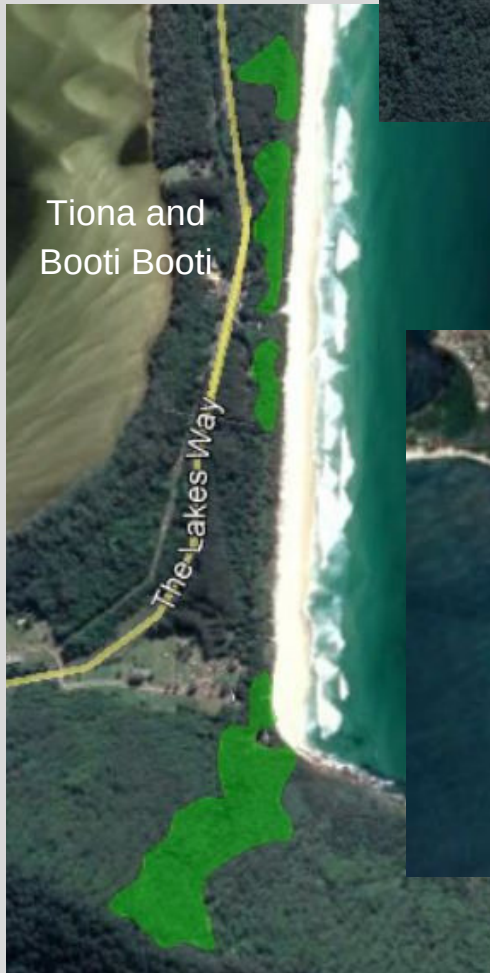


Where to find littoral rainforests in the the Great Lakes NSW

SEPP Coastal Management
rainforests shown in green



Species found in Littoral Rainforests

Littoral rainforest vegetation is diverse with the species present depending on the soil (whether it derives from beach sands or headland rocks), shelter, disturbance and so on.

While typical rainforest species with moist, evergreen, leathery leaves dominate littoral rainforest, scattered individuals of hard-leaved or sclerophyllous plants such as, Coastal Banksia and Smooth-barked Apple, may also be present..

Common littoral rainforest Trees and Shrubs

Species, Common name

Alphitonia excelsa, Red Ash

Arytera divaricata, Coogara

Banksia integrifolia, Coastal Banksia

Elaeodendron australe syn *Cassine australis*, Red Olive Berry

Clerodendron tomentosum, Hairy Clerodendron

Cupaniopsis anarcardioides, Tuckeroo

Diospyros pentamera, Grey Persimmon

Drypetes australasica, Yellow Tulip

Ficus fraseri, Sandpaper Fig

Ficus rubigonosa, Rusty Fig

Glochidion ferdinandi, Cheese Tree

Guioa semiglaucula, Guioa

Notelaea longifolia, Large Mock-olive

Pittosporum revolutum, Rough-fruited /Yellow Pittosporum

Planchonella australis, Black Apple

Myrsine variabilis syn *Rapanea*, Variable Muttonwood

Rhodomyrtus psidioides, Native Guava

Sarcomelicope simplicifolia, Yellow Acronychia

Scolopia braunii, Flintwood

Syzygium smithii syn *Acmena smithii*, Lilly Pilly

Wilkiea heugeliana, Common Wilkiea



Compiled by Pieta Laing 2019

LITTORAL RAINFORESTS OF THE GREAT LAKES NSW

Most people will agree that rainforests are special places. Rainforests that occur close to the coast—called littoral rainforests, are particularly special but need to be protected and helped because, in general, they have been very degraded. Indeed only a small fraction of the littoral rainforests that once occurred now remain. All of these small pockets of littoral rainforest in New South Wales are recognized as an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 . Most of these remnants are also covered by the State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018 – Littoral Rainforests. Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thickets of Eastern Australia are also Listed as Critically Endangered under the (Commonwealth) Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Littoral rainforests occur on both the deep sand behind beaches as well as the more clayey soils on headlands. Rainforests are ‘closed forests’, where 70% or more of the sky is obscured by tree leaves and limbs. In littoral rainforest the canopy might be only a metre or two in height, so they vary from low thickets in wind exposed environments to tall forest in more protected sites.

It is the sad case that the canopy of many of the remnant littoral rainforests has been compromised so there is no longer a 70% cover; and weed invasion can be a major problem. While perhaps not immediately recognised by some as a rainforest, these degraded littoral rainforests are still listed as EECs and appropriate care should allow the canopy of these important areas to be restored over time.

The vegetation on the seaward side of a littoral rainforest is usually wind-pruned but this dense canopy provides protection for the less salt-tolerant species of the rainforest. Damage to vegetation on the seaward side of a littoral rainforest can have devastating effects on the rainforest.



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