

Appendix 3: Wimmera threatened vegetation communities

Native habitat has been extensively cleared across the Wimmera. Some bioregions have been impacted more heavily than others.

Table 1 shows the area of native habitat in each Wimmera bioregion in 1770 compared to the estimated area in 2005.

Bioregions are a landscape-scale approach to classifying the environment using a range of attributes such as climate, geomorphology, geology, soils and vegetation. There are 28 bioregions identified within Victoria and 9 in the Wimmera.

Table 1: The status of native habitat in the Wimmera's bioregions:

Bioregion Name	Area 1770 (Ha)	% of total Catchment	Area Ha 2005	Change 1770 to 2005 (Ha)	% of 1770 remaining
Central Victorian Uplands	67,642	3%	40,963	-26,679	61%
Dundas Tablelands	27,117	1%	11,205	-15,912	41%
Glenelg Plain	15,484	1%	9,137	-6,347	59%
Goldfields	137,823	6%	55,933	-81,891	41%
Greater Grampians	86,184	4%	79,088	-7,096	92%
Lowan Mallee	341,375	15%	198,273	-143,102	58%
Murray Mallee	147,927	6%	35,475	-112,453	24%
Victorian Volcanic Plain	2,372	0%	819	-1,553	35%
Wimmera	1,518,672	65%	294,126	-1,224,547	19%
Total area of native habitat	2,344,599	100%	725,018	-1,619,956	31%

There are six threatened ecological communities in the Wimmera that are listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*:

1. Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions
2. Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain
3. Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia
4. Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains
5. Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains
6. White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland