

LAND SYSTEM
Saltmarsh

498111

Area (ha):
185

COMPONENT

A

B

C

PROPORTION(%)

40

40

20

RAINFALL (mm)

Approximate Annual Rainfall: 750-1000

GEOLOGY

Quaternary Sands, Clays

TOPOGRAPHY

Coastal Saltmarsh

Position

Tidal Flats

Tidal Flats

Tidal Flats

Typical Slope(°)

0

0

0

NATIVE VEGETATION

Structure

Open Heath/Sedgeland

Closed Heath/Sedgeland

Open Heath

Floristic

Salicornia quinqueflora

Juncus kraussii

Arthrocnemum arbuscula

Association

Juncus kraussii

Arthrocnemum arbuscula

Cotula coronopifolia

(See Appendix 1
for common
names)

Puccinellia stricta

Salicornia quinqueflora

Sonchus sp.

Suaeda australis

Scirpus sp.

Selliera radicans

Distichlis distichophylla

Samolus repens

SOIL

Surface(A)Texture

Peat or Sand

Silty Clay Loam

Peat

B Horizon(subsoil)

Deep saturated light clay to
sandy clay.

Silty clay loam - Brown/dark brown
(10 YR 4/3) over deep sand -

Sandy clay loam over a
sand over a medium clay.

Colour (moist)

Complex.

Greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) with
yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) mottle.

Complex.

Texture and

primary profile
form

Complex.

Permeability

Low

Moderate/High

Moderate

Typical depth(m)

>1.40

>1.40

>1.40

LAND USE

HAZARDS

Extreme Salting, Periodic Flooding, Waterlogging

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SALTMARSH

This land system includes saltmarsh at Bream Creek and other areas of saltmarsh in the south-east region.

Tidal flats contain deep (>1.40 m), complex, saline soils. Some consist of a shallow, fibrous peat or sand surface over a deep, saturated, light clay to sandy clay. These support an open heath to sedgeland and are dominated by *Salicornia quinqueflora*, *Juncus kraussii* and *Puccinellia stricta*. Other soils consist of a deep, saturated, silty clay loam surface over a greyish brown sand with a yellowish red mottle. These support a closed heath and sedgeland dominated by *Juncus kraussii*, *Arthrocnemum arbuscula*, *Salicornia quinqueflora*, *Suaeda australis*, *Selliera radicans*, *Distichlis distichophylla* and *Samolus repens*. Areas are also found that contain a peat surface over a sandy clay loam over a medium clay. These support an open heath dominated by *Arthrocnemum arbuscula*, *Cotula coronopifolia*, *Sonchus sp.* and *Scirpus sp.*

The land system is related to the estuarine Boyer Marshes (298115) Land System and is subject to periodic flooding, waterlogging and salting problems. The general ecology and plant geography of Tasmanian saltmarshes are described in Kirkpatrick and Glasby (1981).



Saltmarsh at Bream Creek dominated by Juncus kraussii, Salicornia quinqueflora and Arthrocnemum arbuscula.