

Vulnerable and Endangered Species

Some vulnerable and endangered species you may see:

- Southern-brown Bandicoot
Isodon obesulus
- Rosenberg's Goanna
Varanus rosenbergi
- Southern Emu-wren
Stipiturus malachurus
- Marsh Gum
Eucalyptus paludicola



Rosenberg's Goanna *Varanus rosenbergi*

Photo: K.Long



Southern-brown Bandicoot *Isodon obesulus*

Photo: K.Long, DENR

Safety Information for Bushwalkers

Be prepared when bushwalking:

- Wear sturdy shoes, hat and sunscreen.
- Carry sufficient food and drinking water. Allow four litres of water per person, per day. Do not rely on tanks or creeks in the park for drinking water.
- Keep to the defined walking trails.
- Inform a responsible person of your proposed route and expected time of return.



COX SCRUB

A guide for the Cox Scrub trails depicting some flora and fauna of this conservation park.

<http://www.communitywebs.org/friendscoxscrub>

Acknowledgements
**National Parks and Wildlife
South Australia**
www.environment.sa.gov.au

Photography
Fauna: Clive Furler
Flora: State Flora



Cox Scrub comprises 544 hectares and is one of the larger parks on the Fleurieu Peninsula. The gently undulating Permian, fluvio-glacial, quartz sands support open, shrubby vegetation with a drought hardy (sclerophyllus) understorey. The park also includes a short section of the Finnis River while a steep sided valley in the south eastern corner contains a spring fed creek. A winter swamp area is located near the car park.

Cox Scrub Conservation Park is an important regional area of biodiversity with over 350 plant species recorded, over 80 species of birds, 15 species of mammals, 11 species of reptiles and 6 species of frogs.

How to get to the park

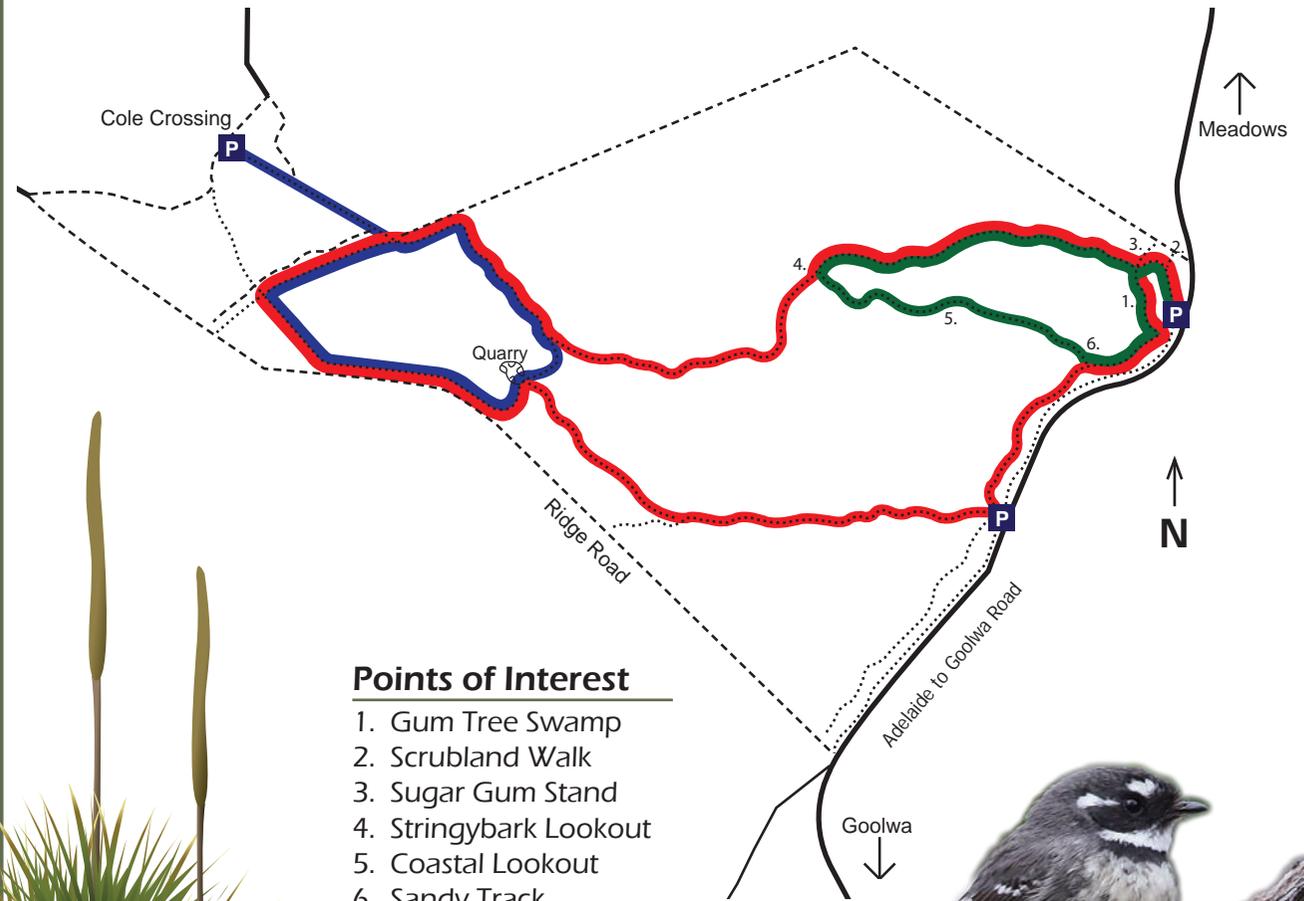
Cox Scrub Conservation Park is located 70km south of Adelaide. The car park is sign posted and accessed off the Bull Creek Road (also known as the Adelaide to Goolwa Road) 8km south of Ashbourne. Cole Crossing is reached off the Mt Magnificent Road.



Walking Trails

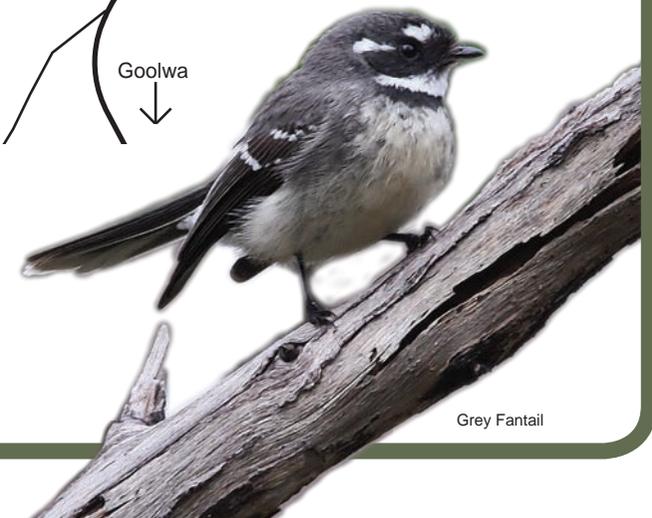
- Quarry Hike - 3.5 km loop - *1.5hr loop
- Stringybark Hike - 4 km loop - *1.5hr loop
- Emu Wren Hike - 8.5 km loop - *3hr loop

*Time is generously estimated for an average walking speed of 3 km per hour - allow extra time for resting and sightseeing.



Points of Interest

1. Gum Tree Swamp
2. Scrubland Walk
3. Sugar Gum Stand
4. Stringybark Lookout
5. Coastal Lookout
6. Sandy Track



Grey Fantail

1 Gum Tree Swamp

Flora

To the left of the trail is a winter swamp.

Plants to look for are:

- Silver Banksia
Banksia marginata
- SA Blue Gum
Eucalyptus leucoxylon
- Kangaroo Thorn
Acacia paradoxa
- Swamp Wattle
Acacia retinodes
- Bulrush
Typha orientalis
- Golden Wattle
Acacia pycnantha
- Prickly Tea-tree
Leptospermum continentale



Silver Banksia

Fauna

- Red-bellied Black Snake
Pseudechis porphyriacus
Although this snake prefers areas with permanent water it is often seen in Cox Scrub.
- Common Froglet
Crinia signifera
A common inhabitant of the swamp area all year round.
- Eastern Banjo Frog
Limnodonastes dumerilii
A common, burrowing frog which is particularly noisy after rain.



Red-bellied Black Snake

2 Scrubland Walk

Flora

Low heath vegetation surrounds this part of the walk.

Plants to look for are:

- Lavender Grevillea
Grevillea lavandulacea
- Brush Heath
Brachyloma ericoides
- Yellow Gland Flower
Adenanthos terminalis
- Pink-eyed Susan
Tetradlea pilosa
- Flame Heath
Astroloma conostephioides
- Running Postman
Kennedia prostrata
- Scarlet Bottlebrush
Callistemon rugulosus



Lavender Grevillea

Fauna

- Eastern Spinebill
Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris
An active honeyeater which feeds on nectar.
- Swamp Rat
Rattus lutreolus
Warrens exist near the swamp side of the walk and are common in areas of dense heath.
- Bush Rat
Rattus fuscipes
Once widespread but now only in wetter areas.
- These two bush rats are native animals and not to be confused with exotic pest species.



Eastern Spinebill

3 Sugar Gum Stand

Flora

This tall stand of Sugar Gums, *Eucalyptus cladocalyx*, is not indigenous to the scrub but was planted by the Cox family for bee keeping. The understorey is sparse compared to the surrounding scrub.

Plants to look for are:

- Beaked Hakea
Hakea rostrata
- Messmate Stringybark
Eucalyptus obliqua
- Pink Gum
Eucalyptus fasciculosa
- Cup Gum
Eucalyptus cosmophylla
- Prickly Moses
Acacia verticillata



Beaked Hakea

Fauna

- Striated Pardalote
Pardalotus striatus
A small, pretty bird often seen high in the foliage of eucalypts.
- Painted Button-quail
Turnix varia
A very timid and difficult to see quail. Scratchings in this area are often the only indicators of its presence.
- Eastern Brown Snake
Pseudonaja textilis
This snake is highly venomous and care should be taken if one is spotted.



Striated Pardalote

4 Stringybark Lookout

Flora

Rest here under the multi-stemmed Brown Stringybark *Eucalyptus baxteri*, and look west towards Mt Magnificent and Finniss Conservation Parks.

Plants to look for are:

- Yacca (Friends' group logo)
Xanthorrhoea semiplana
- Sweet Apple-berry
Billardiera cymosa
- Common Sour-bush
Choretrum glomeratum
- Coast Bush Pea
Pultenaea canaliculata
- Spiny Wattle
Acacia spinescens



Yacca

Fauna

- Golden Whistler
Pachycephala pectoralis
The male bird is easily recognised with its brightly coloured yellow breast plumage, black head and white throat.
- Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo
Calyptorhynchus funereus
A common inhabitant of the scrub which feeds on grubs and seeds of trees.
- Eastern Bearded Dragon
Pogona barbata
Active during the day, this reptile is often seen sitting on old logs.



Golden Whistler

5 Coastal Lookout

Flora

From this point the view east looks towards the coast. On a clear day the Coorong can be seen in the distance. Mount Observation is the high point visible from this location.

Plants to look for are:

- Myrtle Wattle
Acacia myrtifolia
- Dwarf She-oak
Allocasuarina pusilla
- Desert Banksia
Banksia ornata
- Blue Boronia
Boronia coerulescens
- Slender Boronia
Boronia filifolia



Myrtle Wattle

Fauna

- Western Grey Kangaroo
Macropus fuliginosus
Plentiful around Cox Scrub. Tracks can be observed everywhere although they are rarely seen from the walking trails.
- Short-beaked Echidna
Tachyglossus aculeatus
- Wedge-tailed Eagle
Aquila audax
Often seen high in the sky or being chased by smaller birds when flying low. A number of pairs are nesting in this area.



Western Grey Kangaroo

6 Sandy Track

Flora

This open area is a good place to observe the low scrub vegetation which has adapted to the poor, sandy soils.

Plants to look for are:

- Leafless Bitter-pea
Daviesia brevifolia
- Slender Smoke-bush
Conospermum patens
- Small Bull-oak
Allocasuarina striata
- Scented Sundew
Drosera whittakeri
- Twiggy Guinea-flower
Hibbertia virgata
- Tassel Rope-rush
Hypolaena fastigata
- Winged Ixodia
Ixodia achillaeoides



Leafless Bitter-pea

Fauna

The wide, sandy track is ideal for spotting animal tracks and diggings. Large termite mounds can be seen near the walking trail. Rosenberg's Goanna uses termite mounds in which to lay its eggs.



Black-shouldered Kite