

## 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](http://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

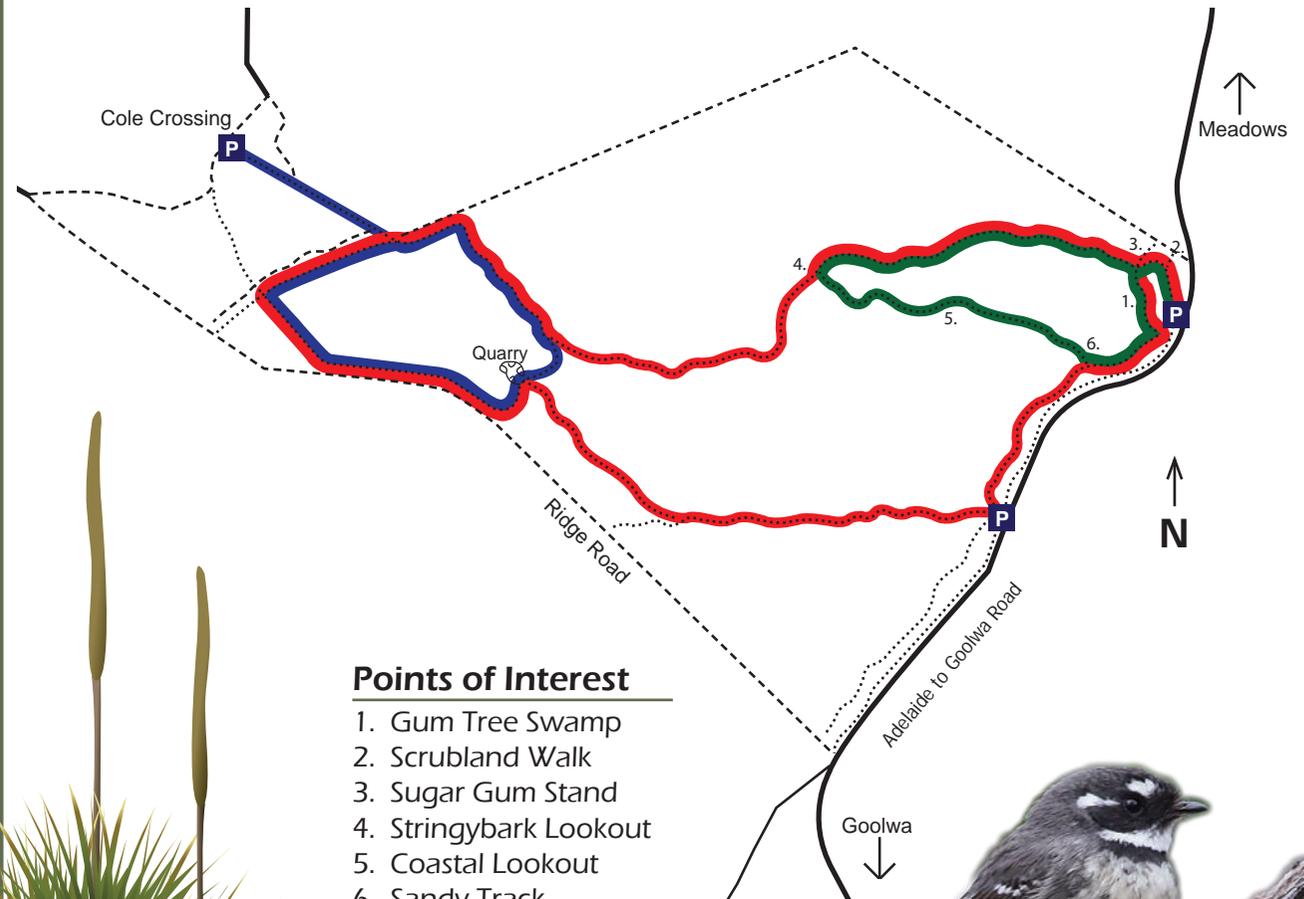
Cox Scrub Conservation Park is located 70km south of Adelaide. The car park is sign posted and accessed off the Bull Creek Road (also known as the Adelaide to Goolwa Road) 8km south of Ashbourne. Cole Crossing is reached off the Mt Magnificent Road.



### Walking Trails

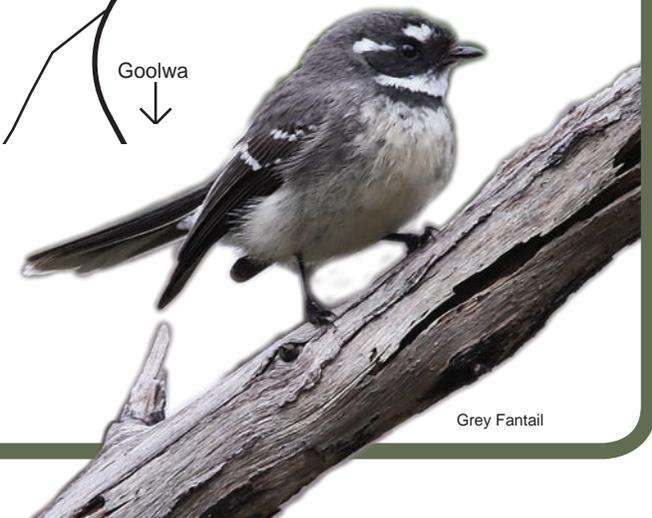
- Quarry Hike - 3.5 km loop - \*1.5hr loop
- Stringybark Hike - 4 km loop - \*1.5hr loop
- Emu Wren Hike - 8.5 km loop - \*3hr loop

\*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 Finnis 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