

TURA BEACH FLORA RESERVE

WELCOME TO TURA BEACH FLORA RESERVE, A SMALL REMNANT OF NATIVE COASTAL FOREST VEGETATION IN SUBURBAN TURA BEACH

History

As the coastal area north of Merimbula began to be transformed due to residential development this Reserve was established in 1992 to ensure that a small remnant of the natural environment would be preserved in Tura Beach.

Wildflowers

Some of the more spectacular wild flowers likely to be seen in the Reserve, mainly in spring, are shrubs such as Wedding Bush, Crimson Bottlebrush, Broadleaf Wedgepea, Tick Bush, Common Aotus, Sticky Boronia, Heath Milkwort, Correa, Heath, Guinea Flower, Thyme-leaf Tetratheca, and orchids and other wildflowers such as the Large Duck Orchid, Purplish Beard Orchid, Pink Hyacinth Orchid, Tiger Orchid, Blue Grass Lily, Paroo Lily, Purple flag, Blue Dampiera, and Trigger Plant.

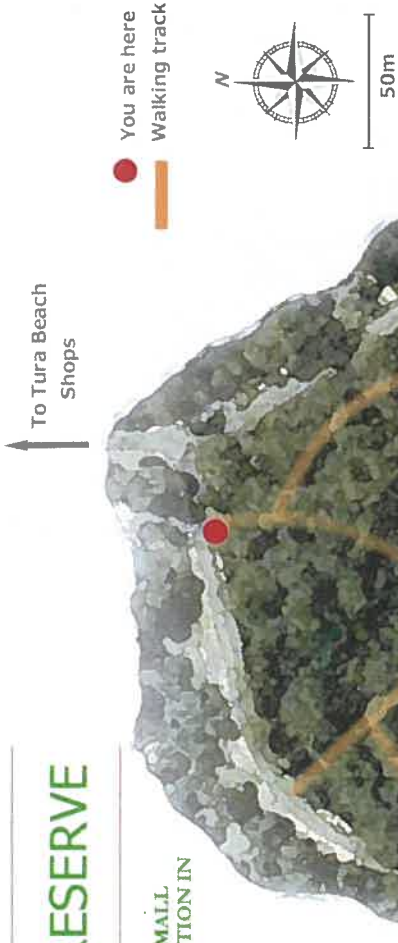


Glossy Black Cockatoos
© William T Cooper

Birds and Animals

The Reserve has a rich assemblage of forest bird species, including parrots, pigeons and nectar feeders. Visitors may see a diverse range of species such as the Sahn Bowerbird, King Parrot, Eastern & Crimson Rosella, Burcherbird, Rainbow Lonkeet, Yellow & Scarlet Robin, Eastern Whipbird, Eastern Spinebill, Grey Shrike Thrush, Silvereye, Scrub Wren and of course, Kookaburras, Magpies and various Honeyeaters.

Long-nosed Bandicoots, Yellow-bellied Gliders, Brushtail & Ringtail Possums, Swamp Wallabies, Echidnas, Goannas and Wombats also frequent the Reserve.



Vegetation

The Reserve is gently sloping with dry sclerophyll forest cover. It is representative of typical open Eucalypt forest on sandy coastal soil. The sub-canopy comprises a mixed stand of casuannas, banksias, acacias, hakea and notably eastern cypress pine with mixed stands of ti-tree and paperbark in moist areas. There is a diverse understory of heathland shrubs, herbs and grasses including several species of regional interest, most notably the Merimbula Starthair which is listed as an endangered species in NSW.

Although small, only 4.5 hectares, it is a valuable contribution to the preservation of the local biodiversity.

Management

Management of the Reserve is administered by a council-appointed committee of local residents. The committee has surveyed and constructed paths, controlled bracken overgrowth, removed fallen trees and supervised some controlled burning to maintain the health of the vegetation.

Guided tours are organized on Field Days so that interested groups and the public can enjoy this amenity and its educational potential

Access

Easy walking tracks provide access to this quiet bushland sanctuary. The north-south track beginning at the main entrance is relatively level grade and is designed to allow wheel chair access.

Nolan Drive



For further information about the Reserve please contact the Committee Secretary, phone 6495 9231



**Tura Beach Flora Reserve Committee
2011**