

Sand Ridge Woodlands

Yorta Yorta Country

This brochure has been prepared to aid in the identification of a selection of flora, fauna and aboriginal cultural heritage sites found in sandhill ecological communities across Yorta Yorta Country. Both common and scientific names have been provided, but please note that common names can vary from region to region. Photos are not to scale. Where known, traditional uses are shown for each species.



Sand Ridge Woodlands – Yorta Yorta Country



Sand Ridge Woodlands

Yorta Yorta Country

Aboriginal use of flora and fauna - Colour guide

Make tools	Shelter	Ceremonial
Medicinal	Fish poison	Dye/ paint
Food source	Fire	

For more information

Murray Local Land Services www.murray.lis.gov.nsw.au
 Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority www.gbcma.vic.gov.au
 Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation www.yynac.com.au
 NSW Aboriginal Land Council www.alc.org.au
 Threatened Species www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspecies/index.htm

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Trees & Large Shrubs



Buloke
Allocasuarina luehmannii
■ ■ ■ NL



White Cypress-pine
Callitris glaucophylla
■ ■ ■ NL



Murray Pine
Callitris gracilis
■ ■ ■ DF



Yellow Box
Eucalyptus melliodora
■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Grey Box
Eucalyptus microcarpa
■ ■ ■ NL



Lightwood
Acacia implexa
■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Quandong
Santalum acuminatum
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Kurrajong
Brachychiton populneus
■ ■ ■ NL

Shrubs



Gold-dust Wattle
Acacia acinacea
■ NL



Grey Wattle
Acacia brachybotrya
■ ■ NL



Honeysuckle (or Silver Banksia)
Banksia marginata
■ ■ ■ ■ JB



Yarran
Acacia homalophylla
■ ■ NL



Streaked Wattle
Acacia lineata
■ ■ ■ NL



Mallee Wattle
Acacia montana
■ ■ NL



Miljee (or Umbrella Wattle)
Acacia oswaldii
■ ■ ■ NL



Golden Wattle
Acacia pycnantha
■ ■ ■ NL

Shrubs



Sweet Bursaria
Bursaria spinosa
■ ■ NL



Common Fringe-myrtle
Calytrix tetragona
CD



Wedge-leaf Hop-bush
Dodonaea viscosa ssp. cuneata
■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Emu-bush
Eremophila longifolia
■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Cherry Ballart
Exocarpos cupressiformis
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Hooked Needlewood
Hakea tephrosperma
■ NL



Silver Cassia
Senna artemisioides
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ NL



Weeping Pittosporum (or Butterbush)
Pittosporum angustifolium
■ ■ ■ ■ ■ NL

Cultural Sites



Scar Trees
Traditional Owners created scars on trees by removing bark for various purposes (e.g. canoes; shields; coolamons and for shelter). The scars, which vary in size, expose the sap wood on the trunk or branch of a tree. Trees exhibiting scars are most likely over 150 years old.



Oven Mounds
Aboriginal mounds are places where Traditional Owners lived over long periods of time. These are circular or oval shape. Lumps of burnt clay or stone and small fragments of charcoal are often present. Shells, animal bones, stone tools and human burials are sometimes also present.



Middens
Freshwater shell midden sites are a build-up of discarded shells resulting from the gathering, cooking and eating of freshwater mussels by Traditional Owners. Shell midden sites may also contain evidence of cooking such as charcoal fire stones, and burnt earth or clay.



Scattered Cultural Heritage Sites
Surface artefact scatters are the material remains of Traditional Owner's past activities. Scatter sites usually contain stone cultural heritage sites, but other material such as charcoal, animal bone, shell and ochre may also be present. No two surface scatters are exactly the same. Surface scatters may be found wherever Aboriginal occupation occurred.



Stone Tools
Most stone tools are visually distinctive and stand out from the local soil and other natural stones around them. Stone tools are usually made from fine grained materials and range from small flakes for cutting and scraping to larger more purpose made tools such as grinding stones, axes and hammer stones.



Burial Sites
Aboriginal burial sites normally contain the remains of one or two people, although cemeteries that contain the remains of hundreds of people buried over thousands of years have been found. Please note: The discovery of any human remains must be immediately reported to the police by law.



Hearth
Heat-retainer 'hearths' were used in the past by Traditional Owner's to cook food. They are usually found along creek banks, on lake margins, in sand dunes, and exposed on scalds and clay pans.

Grasses

Groundcovers

Groundcovers

Sand Ridge Ecological Communities

Common Fauna

Caring for Sand Ridge Woodlands



Bottlewashers
Enneapogon avenaceus
NL



Wheat Grass
Anthosachne scabra
NL



Pink Bindweed
Convolvulus species
NL



Bluebells
Wahlenbergia species
NL



Native Geranium
Geranium solanderi
NL



Mat Rush species
Lomandra species
NL



Wallaby Grass
Rytidosperma sp.
CD



Rough Spear Grass
Austrostipa scabra
NL



Climbing Saltbush
Einadia nutans ssp. *nutans*
NL



Creeping Saltbush
Atriplex semibaccata
NL



Mallee Bush Pea
Eutaxia microphylla
NL



Common Everlasting Daisy
Chrysocephalum apiculatum
SL



Kangaroo Grass
Themeda australis
NL



Windmill Grass
Chloris truncata
NL



Ruby Saltbush
Enchylaena tomentosa
NL



Corrugated sida
Sida corrugata
NL



Stinking pennywort
Hydrocotyle laxiflora
NL



Twining Glycine
Glycine clandestina
NL



Red Grass
Bothriochloa macra
NL



Curly Windmill Grass
Enteropogon acicularis
NL



Tar Vine
Boerhavia dominii
NL



Native Flax-lily
Dianella species
NL



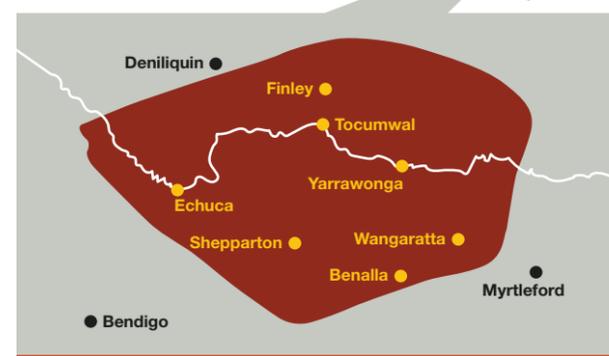
Yam Daisy
Microseris lanceolata
CD



Bulbine Lily
Bulbine bulbosa
NL

Yorta Yorta Nation

Yorta Yorta Nation is comprised of peoples with undeniable bloodlines to the Original Ancestors of the Land of Yorta Yorta Nation. These bloodlines link Yorta Yorta peoples' past, present and future to one another, with traditional laws, customs, beliefs and sovereignty intact. Indicative boundaries for Yorta Yorta people are shown on the map.



Aboriginal Cultural Significance of Sand Ridge Communities

Aboriginal cultural heritage and knowledge is a very important part of Australia's history. Aboriginal cultural heritage consists of places and items that are of significance to Traditional Owner's because of their traditions, observances, lore, customs, beliefs and history. These places and items provide evidence of the lives and existence of Traditional Owner's.

Sandhill communities, with their diverse plant and animal life provided a range of resources for Traditional Owner's, including food, medicines, tools, material for shelters and items for ceremonial use. These areas were often important burial sites.



Echidna
Tachyglossus aculeatus
NL



Bush stone-curlew
Burchinus grallarius
RS



Broad Shell Turtle
Chelodina expansa
KH



Sand Goanna
Varanus gouldii spp. *gouldii*
DW



Eastern Banjo Frog
Limnodynastes dumerilii
NL



Rainbow Bee-eater
Merops ornatus
CT



Emu
Dromaius novaehollandiae
CT



Eastern Grey Kangaroo
Macropus giganteus
JP

Sand Ridge Woodland, or Sand Hill Vegetation communities are an ecological community that can be identified through their unique characteristics of flora species. Other characteristics include their position in the landscape (formed by winds over thousands of years along old and existing waterway systems), their climate, water availability and soil type. This guide illustrates the range of plants and animals that can commonly be found within a sand hill community, some of which are unique and have a strong association to sand hill areas. The dominant tree species can be Cypress Pine (*Callitris glaucophylla* or *Callitris gracilis*) or Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) and the soils are predominantly sand or sandy loams. Sand hill areas have been subject to extensive clearing and sand extraction practices over many years and most are in very poor condition. Indigenous Australians utilised these sites for burials, hunting grounds and refuge during flood events.



To help ensure these valuable and diverse communities are maintained in the landscape they require planning and active management. Strategic fencing to restrict vehicle access and manage stock grazing and the control of pest plants and animals such as rabbits can help preserve sand hill structure and vegetation cover. Revegetation such as tree planting and machine direct seeding can also improve the biodiversity condition and long term conservation of these areas. As areas of significant cultural and ecological value it is important when working in or visiting these areas that we consider any potential impacts our activities may have.

