

## Flora and Fauna

There is a variety of remnant indigenous and exotic historic vegetation throughout the reserve, with some vegetation communities classified as endangered. These support the wide range of fauna seen at Banyule Flats, including Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Echidna, Swamp Wallaby and Wombats.

Due to the constant water sources of both the Yarra River and the Banyule Swamp, bird life (both bush and waterbirds) is plentiful. A total of 153 bird species have been sighted within the reserve, including Powerful Owl, Black-winged Stilt and Cattle Egret. Some species are rare or threatened in Victoria, while others are significant migrants, such as Latham's Snipe.



Black-winged Stilt (*D Hards*)



Powerful Owl (*AM Fleming*)



Path to South Paddock (*H Smith*)



Wombat (*D Watts, Focus UK*)



Echidna (*AM Fleming*)



Yarra River at West Paddock (*H Smith*)

The Banyule Flats Reserve is in the outer Melbourne suburb of Viewbank, Melway: 32F2.

Approach can be made via Plymouth Street (parking), Banyule Road or Somerset Drive (parking). Walkers and cyclists can access the area via the Main Yarra Trail.



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# Banyule Flats Reserve

## A hidden treasure



Leaflet layout: Heather Smith



Warringal Conservation Society

Banyule Flats Reserve encompasses a large wetland of state environmental significance, and at over 46 hectares, is the largest intact grassy woodland in the inner Melbourne area.

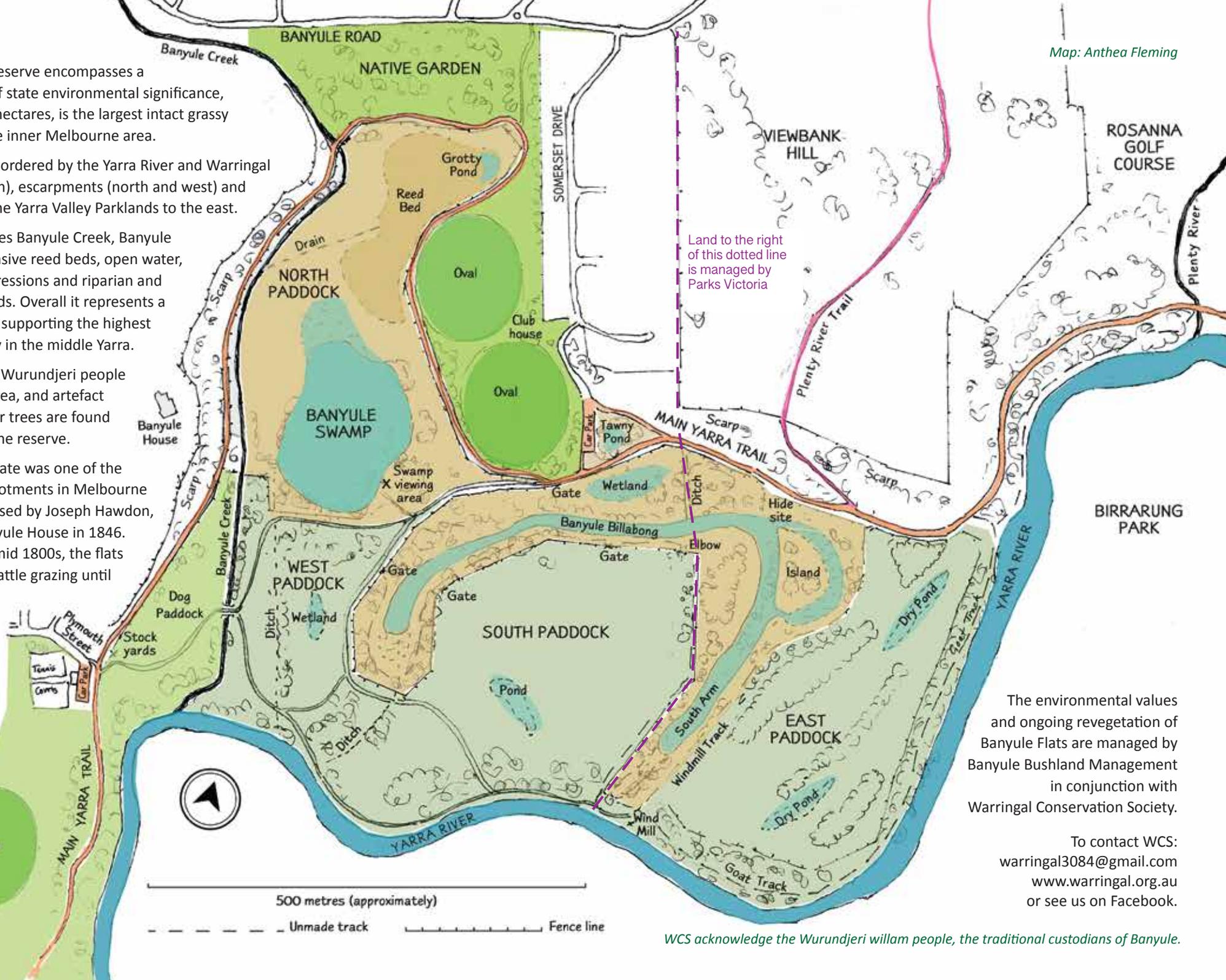
The reserve is bordered by the Yarra River and Warringal Parklands (south), escarpments (north and west) and it connects to the Yarra Valley Parklands to the east.

The area includes Banyule Creek, Banyule Billabong, extensive reed beds, open water, ephemeral depressions and riparian and grassy woodlands. Overall it represents a diverse habitat, supporting the highest birdlife diversity in the middle Yarra.

In the past, the Wurundjeri people occupied this area, and artefact scatters and scar trees are found in and around the reserve.

The Banyule Estate was one of the earliest rural allotments in Melbourne and was purchased by Joseph Hawdon, who built Banuyule House in 1846. Drained in the mid 1800s, the flats were used for cattle grazing until the 1990s.

Some areas of the park are designated 'No dogs' or 'Dogs on leash'.



Land to the right of this dotted line is managed by Parks Victoria

The environmental values and ongoing revegetation of Banyule Flats are managed by Banyule Bushland Management in conjunction with Warringal Conservation Society.

To contact WCS:  
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www.warringal.org.au  
or see us on Facebook.

WCS acknowledge the Wurundjeri willam people, the traditional custodians of Banyule.