

WALK DETAILS

6.5 km circuit
2 to 3 hours
optional shorter walk

The Black Oak Swamp walks commence approximately 9 km west of the Visitor Centre on the south side of track 2, opposite the entrance to Sitella Campsite.

Dry circuit (6.5km) the mid point of this walk could be “sticky” underfoot after heavy rain.

The walking track heads south through old mallee and bluebush to eventually enter a significant stand of Black Oak. This area was originally a swampy area which the early pastoralists exploited by constructing dams to hold the water. During a rare large rainfall event this area reverts to a swamp. The walking trail swings west and then north-west as it follows one of the main drains that collected water for the dams. This north-west trail leads to a thick stand of mallee/triodia before turning north-east to take the walker back to the starting point.

Wet circuit (4.5km) This track is passable even after heavy rain.

The track follows the main walking track but after 1.5 km it turns west along an old vehicle track to intersect with the return section of the longer track.

THIS WALK IS HABITAT FOR

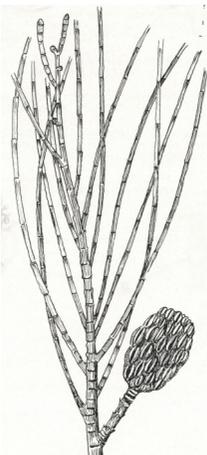
Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, Striated Grasswren
Crested Bellbird, Grey Currawong

IF YOU BECOME LOST ON THIS WALK
walk north to track 2 or east to track 4

BLACK OAK

Black Oak (*Casuarina pauper*) is a large tree that is found in the lower lying areas of Gluepot. Its presence generally indicates a drainage line or an area where water will remain for some time after heavy seasonal rains.

Pastoralists made use of this characteristic to choose sites for their dams. What appear from a distance to be “leaves” are actually branchlets that are jointed approx. every 10 mm along their length. The true leaves are the small pointed scales that sheath the joints between the branchlets.



SAFETY GUIDELINES

A few simple precautions should always be taken when walking at Gluepot.

De-hydration is always a real risk as the temperature can get extremely high (over 45°C), and humidity is normally very low.

- **Carry sufficient water**
- **Protect yourself from the sun**
- **If on a long walk take at least one piece of warm clothing**
- **Carry a compass & plan or map**
- **Carry a snake bite kit.**

W7

BLACK OAK SWAMP WALK

Black Oak woodland Mallee/Triodia Dunes



Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Cacatua leadbeateri*

**GLUEPOT RESERVE
WALKING TRACK NETWORK**
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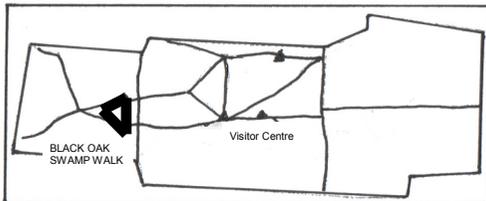
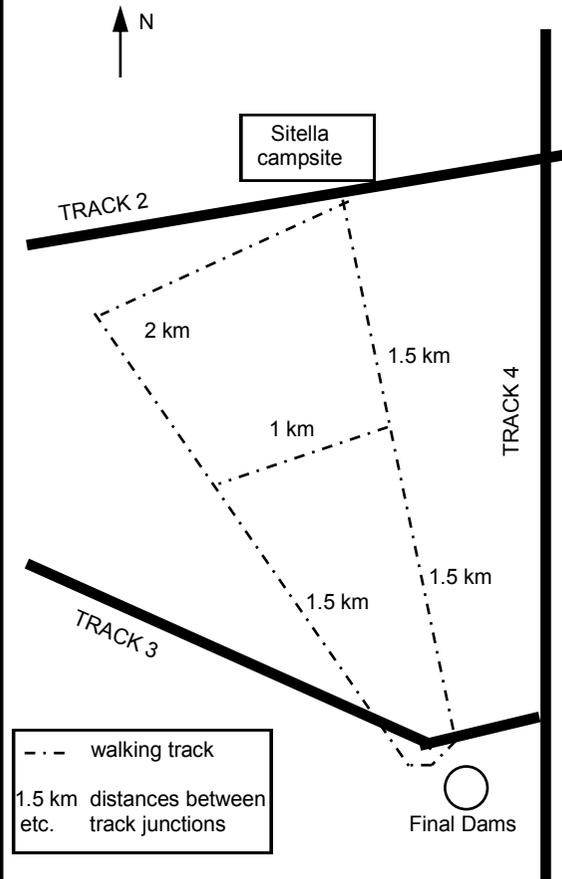


South Australian
Tourism Commission



THE BLACK OAK SWAMP WALK

Map NOT to Scale



MAMMALS OF GLUEPOT

Mammals across the whole of Australia have been affected by;

- clearing of vegetation
- grazing by domestic stock
- grazing by rabbits, goats etc.
- predation by introduced animals such as foxes and cats

Some of these changes have benefited the larger mammals such as kangaroos, but 90% of all mammal species with adult body weight between 35 and 5500 g are either extinct or endangered. Many of the mammals smaller than 35 g have managed to survive

On Gluepot, the larger mammals include Red Kangaroos, Western Grey Kangaroos and Euros.

All the medium sized (35—5500 g) mammals have gone, but a number of the smaller ones (< 35 g) are regularly recorded during biological surveys.

All of these small mammals are nocturnal. They include:

- Mallee Ningai (Ningai yvonneae)
- Common Dunnart (Sminthopsis murina)
- Bolam's Mouse (Pseudomys bolami)
- Western Pygmy Possum (Cercartetus concinnus)

and 10 species of Bats.

Introduced mammals include goats, rabbits, foxes and cats. These either compete with or prey upon the native species. The medium sized mammals lost the battle.

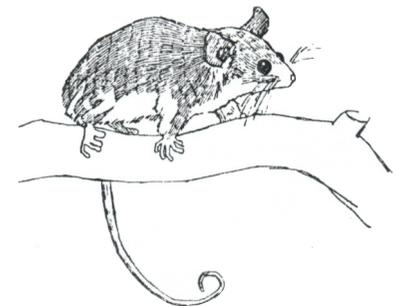
COMMON DUNNART

This small (av. 20 g) carnivorous marsupial spends the day in a cup-shaped nest of dried grass in a fallen hollow log, and after dark emerges to hunt for insects and spiders. The female has 10 teats in a pouch and can have 2 litters of 8-10 young each year.



WESTERN PYGMY POSSUM

Averaging just 13 g in weight, this little marsupial is normally arboreal, but it frequently ventures to the ground. It is very agile, but in cold conditions it enters a period of torpidity which can last a few days. During these periods and during the day, it rests in a gum leaf nest in a tree hollow. It eats nectar and arthropods. 2 to 3 litters of up to 6 young per litter can be found throughout most of the year.



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