Knob Ridge/Gum Creek Walk



Section 1 (Track under telephone posts to Fowlers Creek)

he first section is dominated by black bluebush and prickly wattles.

Several chenopods, Atriplex like conduplicata and Atriplex vesicaria (bladder saltbush) are relatively rare. (Most of them are juveniles growing on and along the track. On the track grow mainly Sclerolaena sp., like pale povertybush, short-winged copperburr, silky copperburr etc.

Some tall groundsels (Senecio sp.) are obvious to see.

The common mammals are red and western grey kangaroos and euros. The bird diversity is low but common species are galah, chestnut-crowned babbler, Australian magpie and Australian raven.

Section 2 (Fowlers Creek)

here are river red gums along both There are river reu guins closed banks of the creek and also in the creek bed and there is much lemon scented grass on the banks.

The vegetation along the creek includes several western boobiallas, Mitchell grasr37 131 shoets several wedge-tailed eagle, collared sparrowhawk, Nankeen kestrel, galah, little corella, mallee ringneck, mulga parrot, striated pardalote, southern whiteface, spiny-cheeked honeyeater, white-plumed honeyeater, crimson chat, willie wagtail, Australian raven, apostle bird, and tree martin.

Section 3 (Walk on top of ridge)

Pearl and black bluebush dominate the vegetation on top of the ridge.

Other plants on the ridge are velvet potato-bush, silver-tails and many different kinds of Sclerolaena sp.

On the later hills there are quite a few acacias scattered over the ridge.

Euros are common and you should see the following birds: Nankeen kestrel, whitewinged fairy-wren, Hall's babbler, blackfaced woodswallow, and Australian raven.

Section 4 (Cross from ridge to Gum Creek)

he beginning of this section is also dominated by pearl and black bluebush progressively changing to an area with increasing amounts of pale and long-spined copperburrs and then changing into an area dominated by bladder saltbush.

The little creek leading into Gum Creek is dominated by black bluebush, emubush, some guandong, velvet potatobush, bladder saltbush, Sclerolaena sp., Belahs, Rosewood, Mulgas and Dead Finish.

Red kangaroos and euros are common and you may see a red fox. The common birds include wedge-tailed eagle, crested pigeon, white-winged fairy-wren, singing honeyeater, chirruping wedgebill, white-browed babbler, chestnut-crowned babbler, and black-faced woodswallow.

Section 5 (Gum Creek)

here are three distinctive vegetation communities to be found as you progress along the creek:

- 1. The first part of this section is dominated by prickly wattle, dead finish, black bluebush, thorny saltbush, lemonscented grass and velvet potato-bush.
- 2. The section vegetation community includes black bluebush and river red gum, lemon-scented grass, bladder and thorny saltbush and fruit-salad plant.
- 3. River red gums are present only where Gum Creek leads into the lake.

Common birds are crested pigeon, galah, variegated fairy-wren, whitewinged fairy-wren, southern whiteface, spiny-cheeked honeyeater, yellowthroated minor, white-plumed honeyeater, crimson chat, chestnutcrowned babbler, willie wagtail, and Australian raven.

Section 6 (The lake)

here are many river red gums growing around the lake.

In the dried out parts of the lakebed is much fruit-salad plant, mexican poppy and common sneezeweed.

Common birds are hoary-headed grebe, Australian shelduck, Pacific black duck, Eurasian coot, white-faced heron, masked lapwing, black-fronted dotterel, little corella, mallee ringneck, mulga parrot, variegated fairy wren, white-plumed honeyeater, magpie lark, black-faced cuckoo-shrike, ground cuckoo-shrike, Australian magpie, Australian raven, apostle bird, welcome swallow and tree martin.



Section 7 (Gum Creek back to Station)

ollowing the creek, section 3 is dominated by river red gum, western

Checklist of mammals and birds MAMMALS

Marsupials

Red kangaroo (Macropus rufus) Western Grey Kangaroo (Macropus fulingosis) Euro/Common Walleroo (Macropus robustus) **Placentals** Fox (Vulpes vulpes) BIRDS Little Pied Cormorant (Phalacrocorax melanoleucus) Hoary-headed Grebe (Poliocephalus poliocephalus) Black Swan (Cygnus atratus) Australian Shelduck (Tadorna tadornoides) Pacific Black Duck (Anas superciliosa) Grey Teal (Anas gracilis) Pink-eared Duck (Malacorhynchus membranaceus) Eurasian Coot (Fulica atra)

White-faced Heron (Egretta (Ardea) novaehollandiae)

Masked Lapwing (Vanellus miles) Black-fronted Dotterel (*Elseyornis* (*Charadrius*) *melanops*) Black-shouldered Kite (Elanus axillaris)

Black Kite (Milvus migrans)

Whistling Kite (Haliastur (Milvus) sphenurus)

Wedge-tailed Eagle (Aquila audax)

Collared Sparrowhawk (Accipiter cirrhocephalus)

Nankeen (Australian) Kestrel (Falco cenchroides)

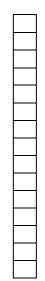
Crested Pigeon (Ocyphaps (Geophaps) lophotes)

Hooded Robin (Melanodryas cucullata) Grey Fantail (Rhipidura fuliginosa) Willie Wagtail (Rhipidura leucophrys) Magpie-lark (Grallina cyanoleuca) Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike (Coracina novaehollandiae) Ground Cuckoo-shrike (Coracina maxima) White-winged Triller (Lalage sueurii) Masked Woodswallow (Artamus personatus) Black-faced Woodswallow (Artamus cinereus) Pied Butcherbird (Cracticus nigrogularis) Australian Magpie (Gymnorhina tibicen) Australian Raven (Corvus coronoides) Apostlebird (Struthidea cinerea) Welcome Swallow (Cheramoeca leucosternus) Tree Martin (Hirundo nigricans)

Checklist of plants

POACEAE

Curly Mitchell Gras (Astrebla lappacea)	
Lemon-scented Gras (Cymbopogon ambiguus)	
CYPERACEAE	
Spiny Sedge (Cyperus gymnocaulus)	
JUNCACEAE	
Spiny Rush (Juncus acutus)	
CASUARINAE	
Belah (<i>Casuarina cristata</i>)	
SANTALACEAE	
Quandong (Santalum acuminatum)	
CHENOPODIACEAE	
Atriplex conduplicata	
Old Man Saltbush (Atriplex nummularia)	
Bladder Saltbush (Atriplex vesicularia)	
Water Weed (Babbagia accroptera var. accroptera)	
Babbagia dipterocarpa	
Many-horned Copperburr (Sclerolaena biflora)	
Short-winged Copperburr (Sclerolaena brachyptera)	
Green Copperburr (Sclerolaena decurrens)	
Grey Copperburr (Sclerolaena diacantha)	
Pale Povertybush (Sclerolaena divaricata)	
Silky Copperburr (Sclerolaena eriacantha)	
Wooly Copperburr (Sclerolaena lanicuspis)	
Pearl Copperburr (Sclerolaena limbata)	
Long-spined Poverty-bush (Sclerolaena longicuspis)	
Limestone Copperburr (Sclerolaena obliquicuspis)	
Cannonball (Sclerolaena paradoxa)	
Streaked Povertybush (Sclerolaena tricuspis)	
Salt Copperburr (Sclerolaena ventricosa)	



Ruby Saltbush (Enchylaena tomentosa)	
Low Bluebush (Maireana astrotricha)	
Black Buebush (<i>Maireana pyramidata</i>)	
Pearl Bluebush (Maireana sedifolia)	
Cottony Saltbush (Rhagodia gaudichaudiana)	
Thorny Saltbush (Rhagodia spinescens)	
Buckbush (<i>Salsola kali</i> var. <i>kali</i>)	
AMARANTHACEAE	
Silver-tails (Ptilotus obovatus var. obovatus)	
PAPAVERACEAE	
Mexican Poppy (Argemone ochroleuca)	
PITTOSPORACEAE	
Butterbush (<i>Pittosporum phylliraeoides</i>)	
MIMOSACEAE	<u> </u>