

## Lake and Gap Trig Station Walk



The following is a guide and checklist to some of the plant, bird and mammal diversity along the Lake and Gap Trig Station Walk. This guide should be used in conjunction with the trail map. The arid zone is very unpredictable and stochastic. Thus plants germinate from seeds or other propagules according to rainfall, temperature and the run of the seasons. The checklist given here is indicative only record your observations in a notebook with a photograph or sketch for later confirmation. Please record any new species in the Sighting Book available in the Quarters where the maps and guides are distributed.

The sections are numbered sequentially according to the trail map although more

the vegetation is then more dominated by pearl bluebush.

Thorny saltbush, quandong, bladder saltbush, and the several long-spined povertybushes are also present.

The most common mammal is again the euro. New common species of birds include the white-winged fairy-wren, spiny-cheeked honeyeater, pied honeyeater, white-breasted wood swallow as well as the previously encountered variegated fairy-wren, chestnut-crowned babbler, and tree martin.

### **Section 6 (On Gap Trig Ridge)**

This section is dominated by belahs, which are scattered all over the ridge, as well as pearl bluebush, bladder saltbush and a few *Sclerolaena* sp.

The most common mammals are the euro and feral goats. You are most likely to see emu, white-winged fairy-wren, and magpie lark.

### **Section 7 (Curly Mallee on calcareous shale)**

This section is dominated by curly mallee, the only part of any walk to include this species.

Pearl bluebush, black bluebush and erect mallee bush dominate the ground vegetation with a few satiny bluebushes, *Atriplex* sp. and *Sclerolaena* sp.

The common mammals are the euro and feral goat but you may also see the short-beaked echidna. Birds include galah, mallee ringneck parrot, white-winged fairy-wren, chestnut-crowned babbler, spiny-cheeked honeyeater, yellow-throated minor, Australian raven and tree martin.

### **Section 8 (Fowlers Creek)**

Fowlers Creek is dominated by river red gum, fruit-salad plant, lemon-scented grass, prickly wattle, western boobialla and silver-tails.

Thorny saltbush and black bluebush are also present. Three-winged hopbush, belahs, saffron thistle and a few *Sclerolaena* sp. are growing relatively rare at the left hand bank of the creek.

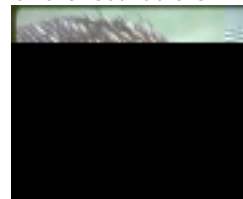
The common mammals are euro and red kangaroo. Typical birds are galah, variegated fairy-wren, chestnut-rumped thornbill, spiny-cheeked honeyeater, singing

honeyeater, white-plumed honeyeater, welcome swallow and tree martin.

### **Section 9 (Homestead Creek)**

The part of Homestead Creek included in this walk generally shows the same vegetation as described for Fowlers Gap Creek in section 8.

Some common birds are peaceful dove, galah and chestnut-crowned babbler.




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*Credits:* This guide was prepared by Anke Frank (University of NSW and Bonn University) with the assistance of David Croft, Rebecca Montague-Drake,

**Checklist of mammals and birds****MAMMALS****Monotremes**Short-beaked Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*)**Marsupials**Red kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*)Euro (*Macropus robustus erubescens*)**Placentals**

Feral Goat (

Willie Wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*)  
 Magpie-lark (*Grallina cyanoleuca*)  
 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina novaehollandiae*)  
 White-winged Triller (*Lalage sueurii*)  
 White-breasted Woodswallow (*Artamus leucorhynchus*)  
 Grey Butcherbird (*Cracticus torquatus*)  
 Pied Butcherbird (*Cracticus nigrogularis*)  
 Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*)  
 Australian Raven (*Corvus coronoides*)  
 Apostlebird (*Struthidea cinerea*)  
 Welcome Swallow (*Cheramoeca leucosternus*)  
 Tree Martin (*Hirundo nigricans*)  
 Fairy Martin (*Hirundo ariel*)


## Checklist of plants

### POACEAE

Curly Mitchell Grass (*Astrebla lappacea*)  
 Lemon-scented Grass (*Cymbopogon ambiguus*)


### CYPERACEAE

Spiny Sedge (*Cyperus gymnocaulus*)

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### JUNCACEAE

Spiny Rush (*Juncus acutus*)

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### CASUARINAE

Belah (*Casuarina cristata*)

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### SANTALACEAE

Quandong (*Santalum acuminatum*)

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### CHENOPODIACEAE

Pearl Bluebush ( <i>Maireana sedifolia</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cottony Saltbush ( <i>Rhagodia gaudichaudiana</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thorny Saltbush ( <i>Rhagodia spinescens</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckbush ( <i>Salsola kali</i> var. <i>kali</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>AMARANTHACEAE</b>	
Silver-tails ( <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> var. <i>obovatus</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PAPAVERACEAE</b>	
Mexican Poppy ( <i>Argemone ochroleuca</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PITTOSPORACEAE</b>	
Butterbush ( <i>Pittosporum phylliraeoides</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MIMOSACEAE</b>	
Mulga ( <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>aneura</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broad-leaf Mulga ( <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>latifolia</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creek Wattle ( <i>Acacia rivalis</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dead Finish ( <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prickly Wattle ( <i>Acacia victoria</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FABACEAE</b>	
Broken Hill Pea ( <i>Swainsona fissimontana</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SAPINDACEAE</b>	
Broad-leaf Hopbush ( <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> var. <i>arborescens</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosewood ( <i>Heterodendrum oleifolium</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MALVACEAE</b>	
Twiggy Sida ( <i>Sida instricta</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MYRTACEAE</b>	
River Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> var. <i>camaldulensis</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
River Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> var. <i>obtusata</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western Bloodwood ( <i>Eucalyptus terminalis</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curly Mallee ( <i>Eucalyptus gillii</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BORAGINACEAE</b>	
Paterson's Curse ( <i>Echium plantagineum</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Australian Hound's Tongue ( <i>Cynoglossum australe</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SOLANACEAE</b>	
Green-berry Nightshade ( <i>Solanum opacum</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Velvet Potato-bush ( <i>Solanum ellipticum</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SCROPHULARIACEAE</b>	
Blue-rod ( <i>Morgania floribunda</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MYOPORACEAE</b>	
Western Boobialla ( <i>Myoporum montanum</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CAMPANULACEAE</b>	
Bluebell ( <i>Wahlenbergia</i> spp.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ASTERACEAE</b>	
Common Sneezeweed ( <i>Centipeda cunninghamii</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shrubby Groundsel ( <i>Senecio</i> sp.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showy Groundsel ( <i>Senecio magnificus</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fruit-salad Plant ( <i>Pterocaulon sphacelatum</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>