Mulligans Flat GUNGAHLIN

Mulligan's Flat is the best-preserved area of Yellow Box/Blakely's Red Gum grassy woodland managed for conservation in Australia. It includes an area enclosed by a predator-proof fence to protect reintroduced birds and mammals.

Habitats: woodland, grassland, dry forest, large wetland.

Access: several access points with car parking: Amy Ackman Street, Forde; Eric Wright Street, Forde; Wildbark, the Visitors Centre on Rosenberg Street, Throsby. Pedestrian access through gates in the predator-proof fence. Café at Wildbark. Toilets at Wildbark and the Woolshed. Formed tracks of varying quality and length. Map and audio tour app available from Mulligan's Flat website.

Birds: almost 200 species including many woodland birds such as Scarlet Robin, Superb Parrot, White-throated Gerygone, Spotted Pardalote, Noisy Friarbird.

Unusual sightings: Bush Stone-curlew (reintroduced from October 2014), Pink-eared Duck (big dam).

eBird lists: Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve; Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve – south near Big Dam

Nearby: the northern section (North Mulligans), Goorooyaroo Nature Reserve.

Canberra Birds encourages interest in the birds of the Canberra region, and promotes the conservation of native birds and their habitats.

We support ethical birding and promote bird watching and photography that show consideration of bird welfare and habitats.

Canberra Birds acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we bird.

This brochure describes five interesting birding sites in the northern part of the Australian Capital Territory.

Details of Canberra Birds activities:
canberrabirds.org.au

Contact details for Canberra Birds:
canberrabirds.org.au/about-cog/contact-us/

Images

COVER Scarlet Robin *Duncan McCaskill*

ANBG Eastern Spinebill *Julie Clark*

SHEPHERD'S LOOKOUT
Wedge-tailed Eagle *Angela Booth*

WEST BELCONNEN POND
Australasian Shoveler *Julie Clark*

MULLIGANS FLAT Bush Stone-curlew *Julie Clark*

CAMPBELL PARK White-winged Triller *Zeb Muller*

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Canberra BIRDS
Birds • Conservation • Education

Birding in ACT NORTH

Australian National Botanic Gardens ACTON

The diversity of native plant species and the range of vegetation types in the Australian National Botanic Gardens provide habitat for a great variety of birds. Parrots, honeyeaters, Satin Bowerbird and many small birds are regulars. It can be a good place to see Gang-gang Cockatoos.

Habitats: parkland, woodland, rainforest gully, large beds of flowering native shrubs.

Access: carpark off Clunies Ross Street, Acton. Gates open 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. Parking fees apply. Formed pathways, mostly wheelchair-accessible. Toilets. Café.

Birds: New Holland Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill, White-browed Scrubwren, Superb Fairy-wren, Grey Fantail, Red Wattlebird and Satin Bowerbird are common, and altogether more than 150 species have been recorded. The Visitor Centre has a bird brochure and a bird list for the Gardens. The banded Superb Fairy-wrens are part of a 25-year study by researchers from the Australian National University.

Unusual sightings: Scarlet Honeyeater, Bassian Thrush (winter).

eBird list: Australian National Botanic Gardens

Shepherd's Lookout STRATHNAIRN

Spectacular views of the Murrumbidgee River and a good spot for birds of prey.

Habitats: woodland, riverine.

Access: carpark on Stockdill Drive, 2.4 km from the intersection with Pro Hart Avenue. The lookout is approximately 600 metres from the carpark, on formed paths.

Alternatively, park in the carpark near the Link Building at McClymont Way, Strathnairn. The marked track to Shepherd's Lookout is 3.4 km each way. Other tracks are being developed.

Birds: woodland birds along the track, birds of prey using thermals off the cliffs.

Unusual sightings: White-bellied Sea-eagle, Peregrine Falcon.

eBird lists: Woodstock Nature Reserve – Shepherd's Lookout Walk; Ginninderry Conservation Corridor – Shepherd's Walking Track

Campbell Park/Mt Ainslie

An area of Box-Gum grassy woodland close to the city. A good place to observe woodland birds in spring.

Habitats: woodland, views over grassland.

Access: follow Northcott Drive to the start of the Campbell Park Offices. Drive to the north-eastern edge of the carpark and walk north towards the woodland. The area around the 'horse crossing' usually has many birds. Formed tracks, not wheelchair-accessible.

Birds: more than 180 species including Rufous Whistler, Common Bronzewing, Speckled Warbler, White-winged Triller, White-throated and Western Gerygones, Leaden Flycatcher, Dusky Woodswallow, Superb Parrot.

Unusual sightings: Australian Owlet-nightjar.

eBird list: Mt Ainslie Nature Reserve – Campbell Park

West Belconnen Pond DUNLOP

One of the larger storm-water management ponds in Canberra. On the north-western boundary of the ACT, it also provides views over grassland in NSW. The western part of the circuit track is part of the Bicentennial National Trail.

Habitat: wetland, grassland.

Access: park in marked bays along Percy Begg Circuit, Dunlop. Circuit track is approximately 2 km, but many birds can be seen from the paved section.

Birds: ducks, other water birds, swallows and martins (except winter).

Unusual sightings: Latham's Snipe (summer).

eBird list: West Belconnen Pond. Other ponds and wetlands in northern Canberra include Jarramlee Pond, Lake Ginninderra, Giralang Pond, McKellar wetland, Gunghalin Pond, Yerrabi Pond, and the Lyall Gillespie Corridor in Forde.