



Department of Parks and Wildlife



Tutanning Nature Reserve

Wheatbelt Region
Great Southern District
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Visitor Feedback Welcome
Please email the District Office at narrogin@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Important Note:

The reserve may be closed at short notice due to fire risk or other emergency.

Information current Nov 2014

Information Guide

An important natural remnant of original fauna and flora in the Wheatbelt, the reserve is about 220 ha in size, and encompasses the Dutarning Range. It is nestled among agricultural land, making it a vital fauna refuge.

Flora

An important vegetation type, known in south-western Australia as Kwongan shrublands, occurs in small patches throughout the reserve. Kwongan vegetation communities comprise half of Tutanning's flora species, which is 315 species total (Brown & Hopkins, 1983). Jarrah, Wandoo, Powderbark Wandoo and Brown Mallet are also found within the reserve including early projects to revegetate. Between 1903 and 1906, botanist Guy Shorteridge collected over 400 species of plants for the British Museum.

Management

The ongoing vegetation research, monitoring and fire management ensure habitats are supported for the endangered Woylie, Tamar Wallabies, Numbats, Possums, and Red-tailed Phascogales.

Western Shield is an ongoing conservation program and has been instrumental in helping our threatened fauna to survive the impacts of introduced species, by controlling the feral fox and cat populations. Both District and Science staff undertake regular trapping and control activities, to record existing fauna populations.

Best time to visit

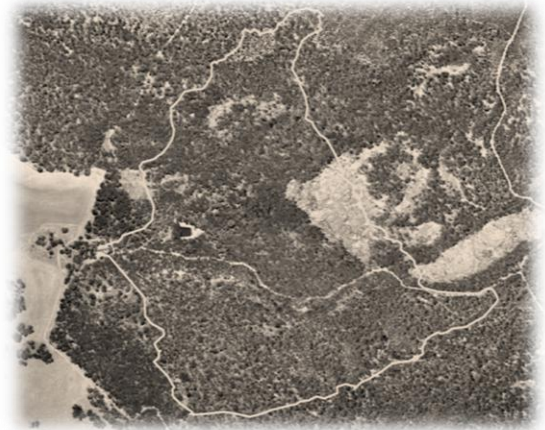
Autumn, winter, and spring are recommended, to appreciate the local wildflowers and bird life.

What to do

Bushwalking, bird watching, wildflower rambles, trail driving and spotlighting or just unwinding are some of the activities you can do. A complete list of known fauna within the reserve is available upon request, or choose from a series of pocket-sized field guides called "Bush Books" which are available at most District Offices.



Short-stays are available at the Percy Marshall Field Study Centre. This was built in 1963 and officially opened in 1964 as the first biological research station and living quarters at Tutanning. It is still used by field staff. Contact the District Office for information.



Visitor information at the Centre provides a colourful outline of its historical significance, community presence, research, biodiversity and ecological values.

Nearby Dryandra Woodland and Boyagin Nature Reserve are within a half hour drive of Tutanning and will further enhance your visitor experience.

Walk Trail

The new Class 3 walk trail takes approximately 2 hours to complete 6 km moderate walk trail with clear directional signage. You may encounter minor natural hazards such as short, steep sections; steps; shallow water crossings; and unstable or slippery surfaces. A good level of fitness is recommended.

The walk commences at the Field Study Centre, and loops back to the Centre. There are six guiding reflective trail markers and interpretation signs along the way. You may see a gnamma hole, malleefowl nest, and a host of wildflowers.

Nearby Nature Reserves

Dryandra Woodland is home to the Numbat, WA's mammal emblem, and a valuable nature conservation area featuring the largest remnant of original vegetation in the western Wheatbelt. Home to more than 25 mammals, 100 birds and 50 reptile species, wildlife encounters are certain.

Opportunities abound to "discover Dryandra", including walk trails, picnic sites and BBQ's, audio and drive trails, as well as Cottage accommodation at the Historical Lions Village, or Congelin Campground. Barna Mia Native Animal Sanctuary's guided spotlighting walks enables visitors to observe rare native mammals feeding such as the Bilby, Woylie, Boodie, Marl, Quenda, and Mala, preceded by a presentation and opportunity to select souvenirs from the gift-shop.

Boyagin Nature Reserve is an important remnant of natural bushland on the western edge of the Central Wheatbelt. It is widely recognised as one of the few areas of original fauna and flora left in the Wheatbelt, a shining example of pre-clearing.

The "Boyagin Rock" is an imposing outcrop which has been cracked and pitted by weathering. There are shire-managed picnic facilities and an interpretation shelter. The rock is home to the unusual Resurrection Plant (also known as "Pincushions"), a tough little plant which dries and "dies" out in summer only to be 'resurrected' by the first rains of winter.

How to get there

Tutanning is less than a two hour drive from Perth. Travel towards Brookton, then south to Pingelly via the Great Southern Highway, and through East Pingelly. Continue along the Pingelly-Wickepin Road, then finally Marshall Road to the Nature Reserve entry.

Animals at Tutanning

For the complete fauna list contact the office. A basic list of some the common and not so common animals you may be likely to come across during your stay, or during your walk along the trail is provided for your convenience.

It is recommended you bring along field guides to make the most of your identification experience.

Birds

- Whistling Kite
- Malleefowl
- Brown Goshawk
- Splendid Fairy-wren
- Western Spinebill
- Rufous Whistler
- Golden Whistler
- Baudin's Cockatoo
- Wedge-tailed eagle
- Blue-breasted Fairy-wren



Mammals

- Chuditch
- Numbat
- Tamar Wallaby
- Yellow Antechinus (Mardo)
- White Striped Mastiff Bat
- Western Grey Kangaroo
- Western Pygmy Possum

Frogs

- Bleating froglet
- Banjo frog
- Humming frog

Reptiles

- Thorny devil
- Bungarra
- Bobtail
- Marbled gecko
- Velvet gecko

