



DOODLE COMER SWAMP

Doodle Comer Swamp Nature Reserve includes much of the ephemeral wetland in the Buckaringah Creek basin. The Reserve is managed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and was purchased in 2010 under the National Reserve System Program and selected for its high conservation value, despite being previously used for agriculture. Over time the swamp will continue to regenerate and be restored, both naturally and through active management.

When full, the wetland attracts large numbers of waterbirds. The Swamp is the largest wetland of its type in southern New South Wales and is listed in the Australian Government's Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia. The reserve also protects three woodland areas classified as endangered ecological communities and contains many birds and mammals.

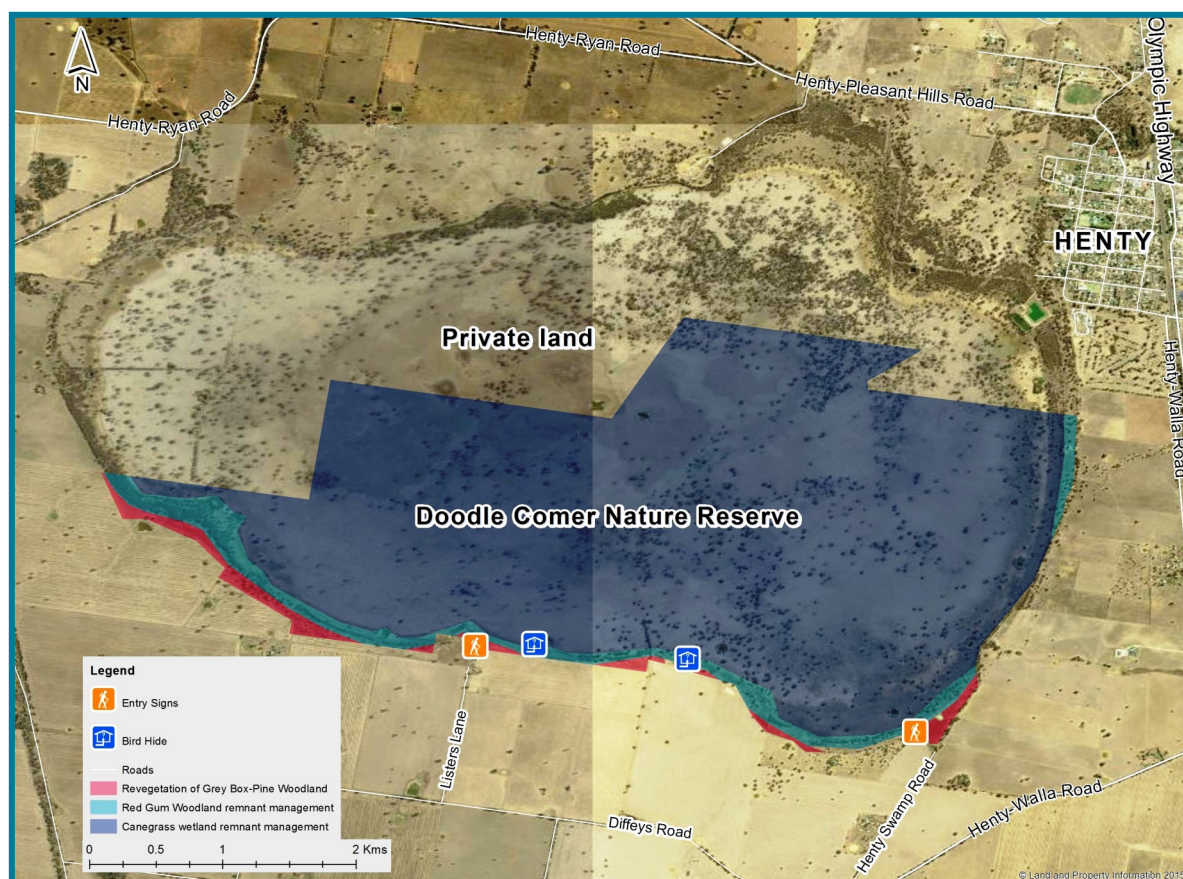




Photo: Jim Ridley

Wiradjuri Country

Doodle Comer is Wiradjuri for 'sweet water'. The Swamp is a traditional gathering place and provides the Wiradjuri people with an extensive range of resources. Many sites of Aboriginal significance are also nearby.

Doodle Comer Swamp was declared in 2016 by the local Aboriginal community as an Aboriginal Place under the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) Act. Please respect and protect this sensitive landscape.

The Murray Darling Wetland Carbon Storage Project

This project is funded by the Australian Government and delivered by Murray Local Land Services and the Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd in partnership with National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS). The project aims to increase carbon retention and improve biodiversity in wetlands by planting over 10,000 local woodland plants.

The installation of bird hides and signage is also a part of this project to assist visitors to enjoy the reserve. Doodle Comer Nature Reserve is managed by NPWS. The health and diversity of the wetland and woodland vegetation will continue to be improved through ongoing management and monitoring.



Photo: Jim Ridley



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Photo: Chris Tzaros

Life in the Swamp

Wetlands support diverse and dynamic plant and animal populations not found anywhere else in the landscape. This wetland dries out periodically, which has created a range of habitats that change with the cycles of flooding and drying.

On the edge of the swamp are three types of woodland that have been listed as endangered ecological communities. These are: White Box, Yellow Box and Blakely's Red Gum Woodland; Sandhill Pine Woodland; and Inland Grey Box Woodland.

These woodlands provide important habitat for birds and mammals, including bats and Squirrel Gliders. Large trees are needed for suitable hollows to form for nesting, which can take many decades.

The endangered Austral Pillwort and Swamp Wallaby-grass are found within the reserve. While the delicate Showy Isotome may be found in masses among the unique granite knolls that emerge from the swamp bed.

The Reserve is important for protected and threatened birds such as the Brolga, Latham's Snipe, and the White-bellied Sea-Eagle and also protects known habitat for other significant birds such as the vulnerable Grey crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies), the endangered Bush Stone-Curlew and the Superb Parrot.





Wetlands at work

Wetlands are wonderful places. They are natural water regulators and filters. They catch floodwaters and slow them down, filtering excess nutrients and heavy metals. Wetlands also store carbon in the soil because the plants grow at a faster rate than they decay. An estimated 35% of the world's soil carbon is stored in wetlands, which is amazing, considering that wetlands only cover 5% of the global land surface.

As well as providing an important carbon sink, the rehabilitation of inland wetlands provides other benefits to land owners, the local community and the local environment through:

- ◆ flood mitigation and buffering
- ◆ drought security
- ◆ Water quality improvement
- ◆ Groundwater recharge
- ◆ Breeding grounds and nurseries
- ◆ Educational opportunities
- ◆ Recreational opportunities
- ◆ Economic benefits through ecotourism

For further information on Doodle Comer Swamp:

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