

Site 115. Lysterfield Rural Properties

Farms and farmlets with scattered remnant trees and other habitat. Centred on Melway ref. 83 C2.

Site Significance Level: *Local*

- Contains scattered indigenous trees and other rudimentary habitat for indigenous fauna.

Aerial photograph and plan: See page 409, on which the boundaries of this site are not marked (so as not to create confusion with sites of greater habitat value).

Boundaries

The site includes all private properties on the aerial photograph on page 409 that are not included in Site 83 and abut:

- Lysterfield Rd;
- Wellington Rd east of Kelletts Rd;
- Brae Rd; or
- Powells Rd.

Land use & tenure: Freehold farms and farmlets.

Site description

The land in this site is grazing country abutting more biologically significant sites. Its habitat comprises:

- Scattered remnant eucalypts, Blackwoods and small numbers of other trees;
- The headwaters of Corhanwarrabul Ck, with wetland visited by waterbirds;
- Farm dams that are also visited by waterbirds; and
- Pasture grazed by kangaroos.

All the site's native vegetation is covered by Clause 52.17 of the Knox Planning Scheme. The farm dams and pasture need no specific recognition or protection in the planning scheme.

Relationship to other land

The habitat in this site represents a small augmentation to the habitat in the adjacent sites marked on page 409.

Bioregion: Gippsland Plain

Habitat type

There is too little coverage of native vegetation within the site to regard it as a representation of an EVC. The original EVCs were:

- Valley Heathy Forest (EVC 127, **regionally Endangered**); and
- Swampy Woodland (EVC 937, **regionally Endangered**).

Flora and fauna of special significance

Uncommon in the Melbourne Region

Eastern Grey Kangaroo. This species is seen frequently in the area.

Significance rating

Locally Threatened Plant Species

The site supports viable populations of locally threatened eucalypt species such as *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*, thereby meeting criterion 3.1.5 of Amos (2004) for a site of **Local** significance. Some other locally threatened species probably also qualify.

Threats and management issues

None identified.

Administration matters

- The area is outside the Urban Growth Boundary;

- The planning scheme zoning is Green Wedge Zone – Schedule 1 north of Wellington Rd and Green Wedge Zone – Schedule 2 (GWZ2) south of Wellington Rd;
- Some of the more densely treed parts of the area are covered by the existing Schedule 1 to the Vegetation Protection Overlay of the Knox Planning Scheme.

Information sources used in this assessment

- Inspection of the area by Dr Lorimer in 2002-2004 in search of sites of biological significance and while surveying the adjoining sites of biological significance
- Aerial photography from February 2001 and April 2003;
- Satellite imagery of the district; and
- The Department of Sustainability & Environment's BioMaps of the area.