

Dunns Swamp

Wollemi National Park



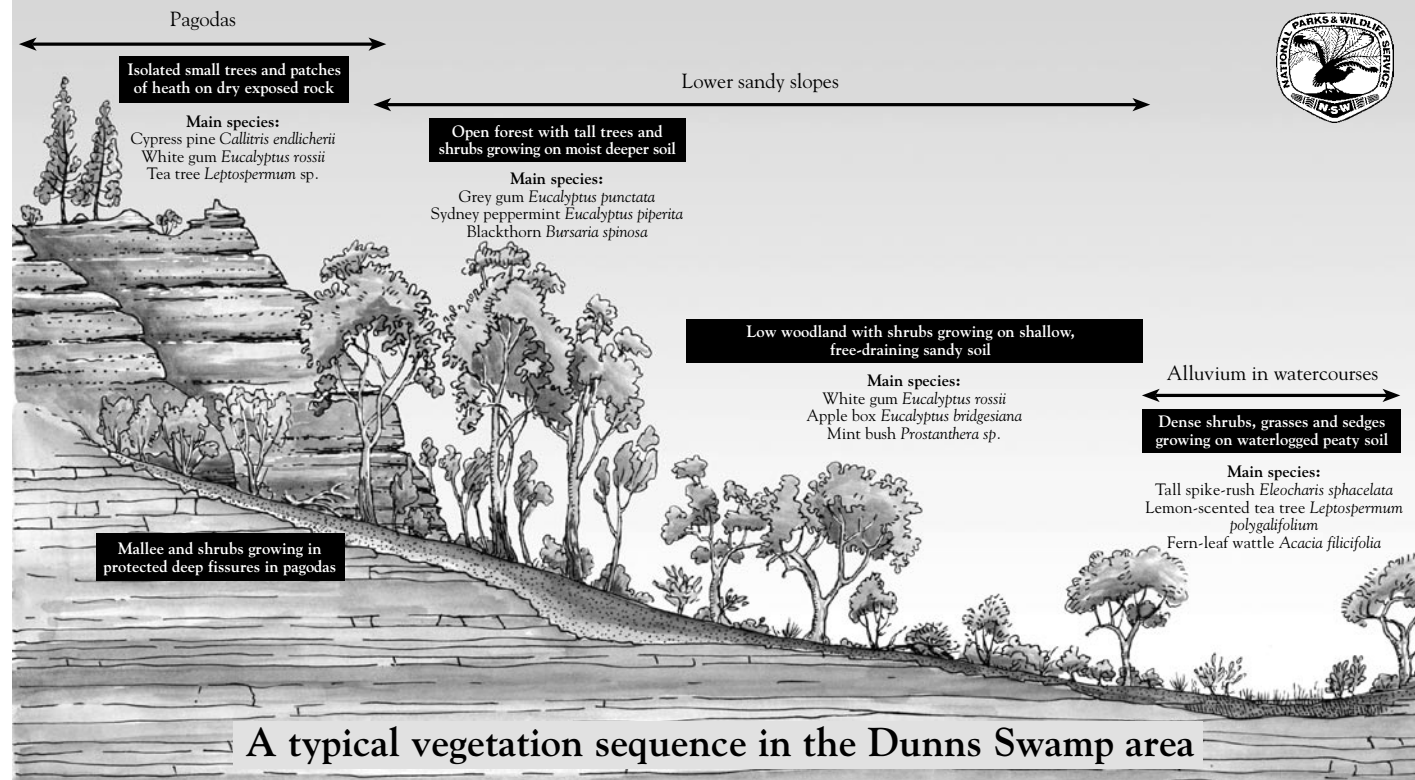
Covering 492,976 hectares, Wollemi National Park is the second largest park in NSW and includes vast areas of rugged and spectacular terrain.

Dunns Swamp is formed by the trapped water of Kandos Weir, which was established in the 1920s when the Cudgegong River was dammed to provide water for the Kandos Cement works, 25 kilometres away.

Dunns Swamp offers great opportunities for camping, picnicking, canoeing and bushwalking and its spectacular pagoda rock formations offer great views over Wollemi. A network of walking tracks surround the waterway. They are shown on the map and described overleaf. The picnic area includes a short walking track which is wheelchair accessible and leads to an Aboriginal art site featuring hand stencils which may be over 7000 years old.

The vegetation surrounding Dunns Swamp varies from open woodland to heath and the area is rich in animal life. Eastern grey kangaroos, possums, long-necked tortoises, greater gliders and wombats are often seen. If you're lucky you might spot a platypus in the late afternoon or early morning. Many species of birds frequent the bushland surrounding the waterway.

Dunns Swamp lies at the extreme western edge of the Triassic Narrabeen sandstone formation which was laid down around 250 million years ago.



A typical vegetation sequence in the Dunns Swamp area

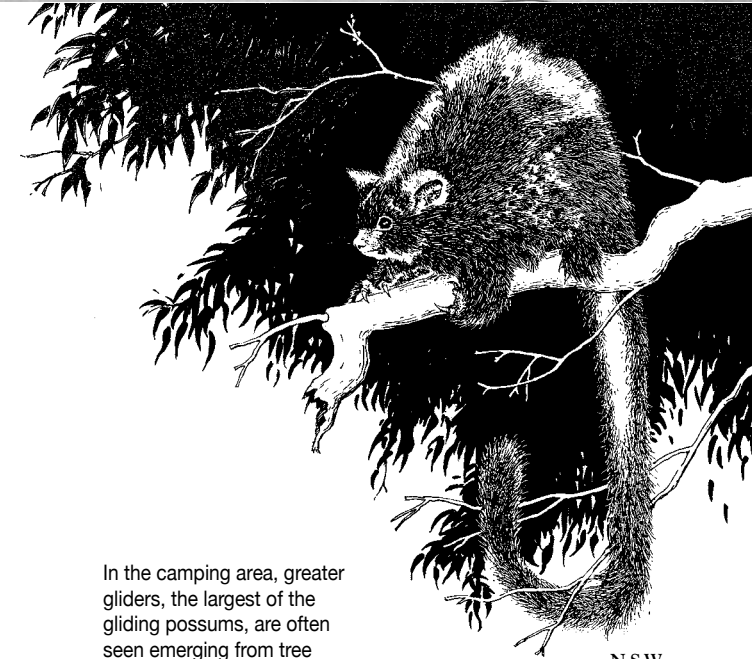
Much of the Dunns Swamp area is covered by low woodland growing on relatively shallow sandy soil. The shallower the soil, the sparser the vegetation becomes. The trees are mostly eucalypts and acacias.

An open forest of tall eucalypts and angophoras with an understorey of shrubs tends to grow close to the base of the pagodas where plants take advantage of rainwater draining off the large expanses of rock. Also, soils tend to be deeper here because it is closer to the rock surfaces from which they are derived.

Along the edges of creeks and watercourses a dense mass of shrubs, grasses and sedges takes advantage of abundant moisture and sandy, peaty, soil.

Up on the pagodas, a form of heath grows in detritus-filled depressions. Many rare or threatened species have been recorded here, perhaps because they are protected from bushfires by the rock expanse around them. For the same reason, the native cypress pine which is easily killed by bushfire is common among the pagodas.

■ A separate brochure on Wollemi National Park is available.



In the camping area, greater gliders, the largest of the gliding possums, are often seen emerging from tree hollows just as night falls. You might also be lucky enough to spot a platypus (left).



Wollemi National Park

Dunns Swamp

Picnic and camping area



On the Cudgegong River, 25 kilometres east of Rylstone, Dunns Swamp is a great spot for low-key, quiet recreation.

This glorious place is within the traditional country of Wiradjuri people.



Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area

On Wednesday 29 November 2000, the 24th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO unanimously agreed to inscribe the Greater Blue Mountains Area on the World Heritage list – the fourth area in NSW to be included.

The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWA) is one million hectares of remote wilderness, scenic rivers and mountain ranges. It includes seven national parks (Blue Mountains, Kanangra-Boyd, Gardens of Stone, Wollemi, Nattai, Yengo and Thirlmere Lakes) and the Jenolan Caves Karst Conservation Reserve.

The conservation values recognised by the listing include globally outstanding biodiversity of plant and animal communities. The area's vegetation is dominated by Australia's unique eucalypts – 100 species are found in the GBMWA, as well as other ancient relict species of global significance including the recently discovered Wollemi Pine.

For information about the World Heritage Convention and Australia's World Heritage properties go to: www.environment.gov.au



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■ When visiting Wollemi National Park

Please help to preserve our precious natural and cultural heritage.

- Aboriginal sites, places and culture protected.
- All fauna, flora and rock formations within the Park are protected.
- Wildfires can destroy lives and property, so be careful, especially during the bushfire danger period (normally October to March). Observe total fire bans and park fire bans. During fire bans use of gas barbecues is illegal.



- Leave pets and firearms at home—they are not permitted in national parks.
- Drive carefully. Vehicles, including motorbikes, must keep to formed public roads.
- No rubbish bins are provided. Take your rubbish with you when you leave the park.

■ For more information contact

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
1/160 Church Street, Mudgee NSW 2850
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Fax: 02 6372 7850
E-mail: mudgee@npws.nsw.gov.au

■ Discovery Programs

For details on *Discovery Tours* and *Information Sessions* contact:
Blue Mountains (02) 4784 7301