

Hollows for native fauna

Brush-tailed Phascogale *Phascogale tapoatafa*

Also known as the Tuan. This small marsupial is nocturnal, arboreal and carnivorous. It requires nestboxes for breeding due to limited tree hollow availability.

Photo: Jerry Alexander



Sugar Glider *Petaurus breviceps*

This marsupial is active at night, feeding on sap and insects from wattles and eucalypts. During the day it sleeps communally in nests made of leaves in tree hollows or nest boxes.

Photo: Aldo Penbrook



Owlet Nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*

This nocturnal bird is insectivorous, hunting with short acrobatic flights between trees. It relies on tree hollows for roosting and nesting. Providing nestboxes is essential.

Photo: DS Hovorka



Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

This bird climbs head first up trees, spiralling around and probing fissures in the bark in search of insects. It's nest of bark, fur and hair is made in a tree hollow or nest box.

Photo: David Kleinert



Northern Bendigo Landcare Group

The Whirrakee Wattle Biolink is part of the Northern Bendigo Landcare Group's (NBLG) Bendigo Creek Restoration Project within the Huntly Streamside Reserve.

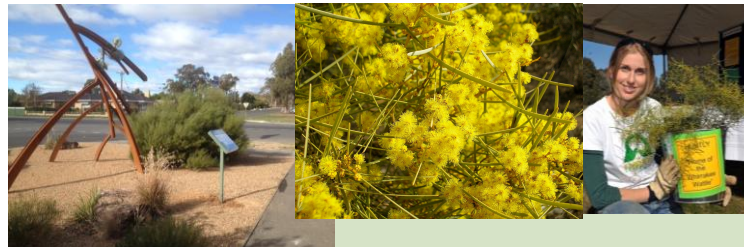
The Reserve is located between the Howard Street bridge in Epsom and the Bendigo-Tennyson Road bridge, Huntly North.

The Bendigo Creek is a highly modified waterway. However, in an increasingly urbanised growth area, we believe in the ability of this project to:

- protect and enhance important habitat
- promote awareness of the waterway's many assets
- encourage community involvement and custodianship
- serve as a highly valuable educational resource for our ongoing collaborations with local primary schools

Regular community activities organised by NBLG include revegetation, weed control, installation of nest boxes, monitoring and educational field days.

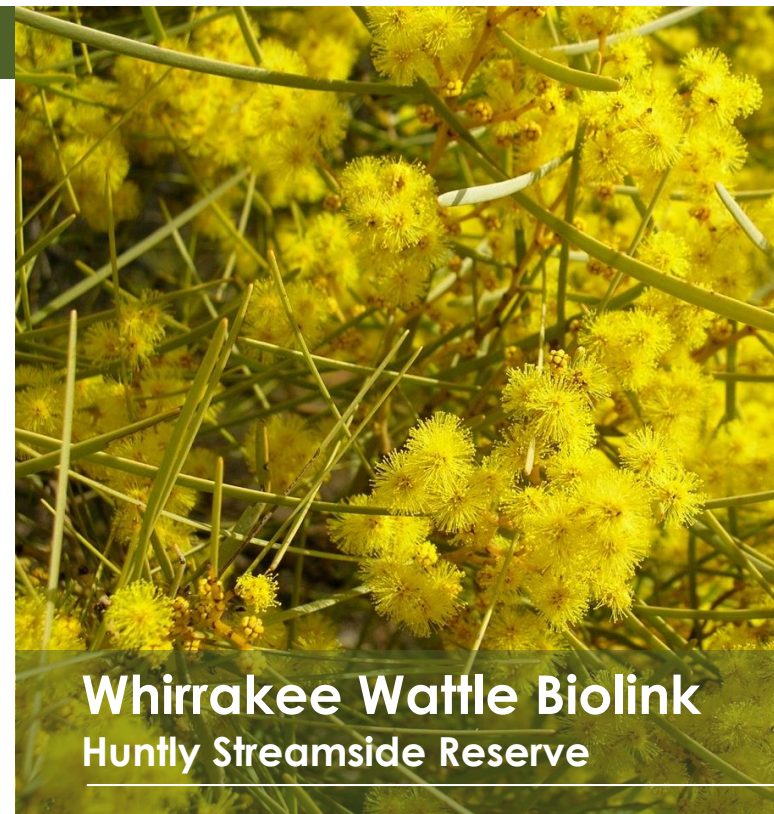
We raise awareness of the Whirrakee Wattle, endemic to our area, and can support landholders with seed and seedlings.



Northern Bendigo Landcare

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<http://northcentral.landcarevic.net.au/northern-bendigo>



Whirrakee Wattle Biolink Huntly Streamside Reserve

A flora & fauna recovery project

Sponsored by the Communities for Nature program, Victorian Government



Whirrakee Wattle Biolink

The aim of the Whirrakee Wattle Biolink is to assist the recovery of locally native plants (flora) and animals (fauna) that have been lost due to destructive processes in the past.

Whirrakee Wattle has been chosen as the flagship species for the Biolink by the Northern Bendigo Landcare Group as it is an iconic native plant of our area. Our community is proud to be the 'Home of the Whirrakee Wattle'.

The Biolink aims to increase connectivity between the Whipstick and Wellsford forests to the east and west of Huntly via road reserves and the Huntly Streamside Reserve.

The Biolink project involves pest plant control, revegetation of flora recovery species and installation of nest boxes for native fauna.

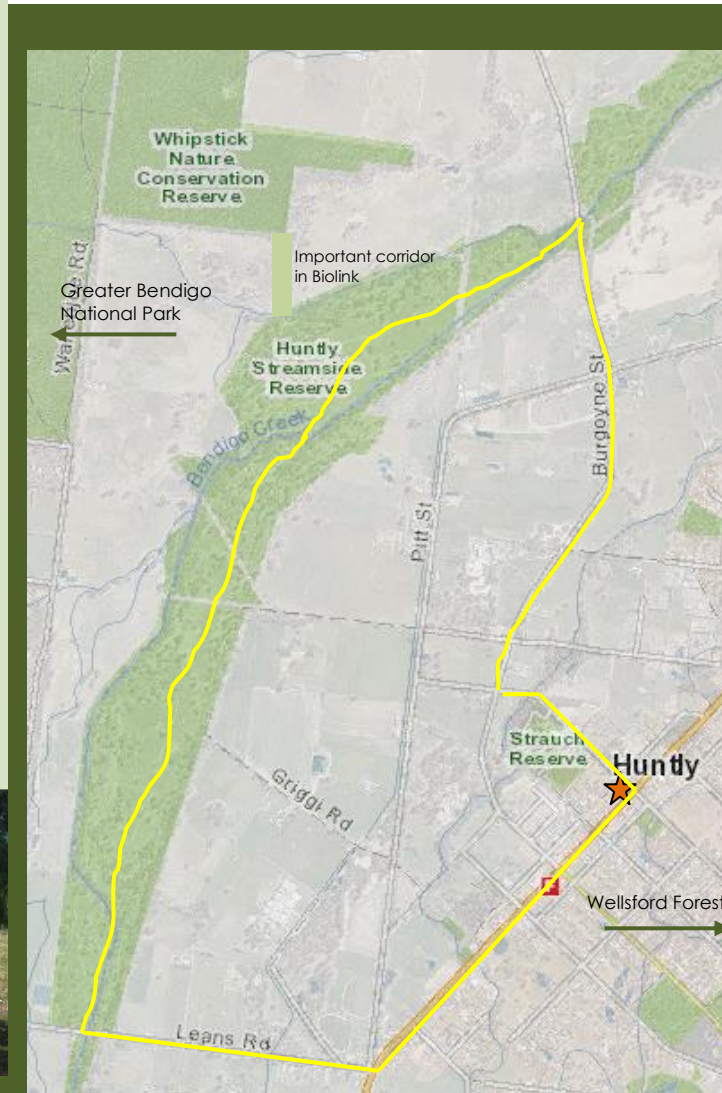
In the long term, by raising awareness of the project, we hope to extend core habitat work on public land to include the enhancement of remnant vegetation on private land.



Walk or cycle the Reserve

Follow the route shown on the adjacent map, a total distance of 11km, to experience the Huntly Streamside Reserve. Start at the Whirrakee Wattle sculpture and follow Gungurru Rd and Burgoyne St to reach the Bendigo Creek. Enter the Streamside Reserve by turning left just after the Bendigo Creek bridge. Follow the track through the reserve to Leans Rd and rejoin the highway back to the sculpture.

Huntly Streamside Reserve Track



Whirrakee Wattle sculpture



Huntly Streamside Reserve track

Habitat restoration work will continue along the Huntly Streamside Reserve by NBLG into the future.

Flora recovery species

Whirrakee Wattle *Acacia williamsonii*

This wattle, almost endemic to the Huntly area is a dense medium shrub. It has narrow grey-green curved leaves and explodes in masses of bright yellow balls from August to September.



Photo: Rod Orr

Whipstick Westringia *Westringia crassifolia*

A small shrub only found in the Greater Bendigo National Park's Whipstick Forest. It has bright green narrow leaves and white or mauve flowers in spring and summer. It is in danger of becoming extinct.



Photo: Rod Orr

Whipstick Cinnamon Wattle *Acacia ausfeldii*

A medium shrub, also known as Ausfeld's Wattle, only found in a limited area of Central Victoria. Its branches often arch and are lined with deep golden yellow blossoms in spring.



Photo: Ian Higgins

Cottony Cassinia *Cassinia ozothamnoides*

A small shrub, only found to the north-east of Bendigo. Flower heads are a mass of individual golden yellow blossoms. Listed as endangered in Victoria



Photo: Ian Higgins