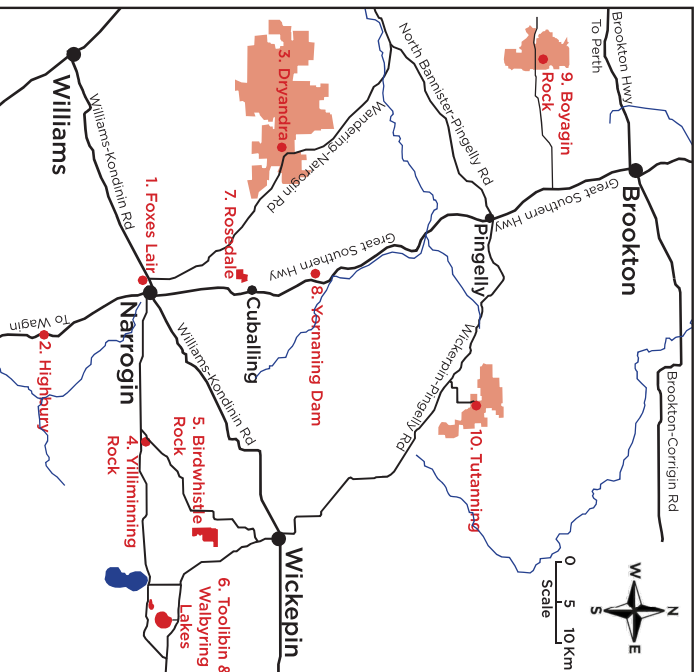


INTRODUCTION:

Narrogin is a substantial regional centre where a range of accommodation is available. Approximately 190 km south-east of Perth, via the Great Southern Highway, the area provides a variety of interesting habitats and opportunities, which include walks, wildflowers, marsupials (night spot-lighting) and over 100 species of birds. An effort has been made to construct and maintain corridors between bushland remnants throughout the wheatbelt to assist the safe passage of fauna, including birds. Sites in this area which have benefited from work include 14 Mile Brook, adjoining Dryandra Woodland, Yornaring Dam and Toolibin Lake.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Local Contacts

Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions
(DBCA) Phone: (08) 9881-9200
DBCA Parks app for info and bookings for DBCA sites:
<https://parksstaybookings.dbca.wa.gov.au/map/>

Dryandra Country Visitor Centre,
corner Park & Fairway Sts.
Phone: (08) 9881 2064

Email: narrogin.tourist@westnet.com.au
Web: www.dryandra tourism.org.au

Shire of Pingelly

17 Queen St, Pingelly

Phone: (08) 9887 1066

Email: admin@pingelly.wa.gov.au

Web: <https://www.pingelly.wa.gov.au/attractions.aspx>



Varied Sittella

References:

Cale, D.J. and Pinder, A.M. (2019). Waterbird and invertebrate communities at Toolibin and Walbying lakes during the 2017 fill event. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth.

Illustrations/Photographs: J. Moulton, J. Blyth, P. Agar, M. Formby, S. Tingay, G. Steytler

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Queries to BirdLife Western Australia. BirdLife Western Australia members are offered a variety of activities and services including conservation and research projects, excursions, camps, surveys and social activities. There is also a library and books for sale at the office. To view the full range of bird guides visit the website.

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BIRDWATCHING AROUND NARROGIN

Blue-breasted Fairy-wren (male) by J. Moulton



birds are in our nature

BIRDWATCHING AROUND NARROGIN

1. FOXES LAIR (NARROGIN TOWN)

A 68 ha reserve of mixed woodland with Marri, Jarrah, Wandoo, Mallet and sheoak on the outskirts of Narrogin. There are several entry points (see the web ref below for details). One of them is opposite the caravan park on Williams Rd. There are three picnic areas, which are starting points for five unsealed walk trails. These cover gravels with mesas & breakaways, granite rocks & sandplain. *NB Some trails contain steps.* The area is noted for flora (best between Aug & Oct) and fauna, including 85 species of birds. Birds include Red-capped Parrot, Rufous Treecreeper, Regent Parrot, Red-tailed, Carnaby's & Baudin's Black-Cockatoos, Tawny-crowned and White-cheeked Honeyeaters, Western Wattlebird and Varied Sittella.



Red-capped Parrot (male)

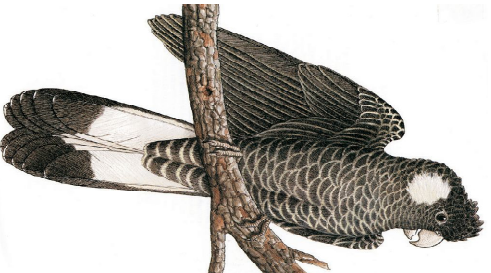
www.foxeslair.org/ is an excellent reference for this site.

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L2536400> is an excellent, up-to-date reference for bird species.

The adjoining arboretum (with over 70 species of Eucalypts) may be worth checking, and the town dam (turn-off at the end of Federal St) for water birds and bushbirds.

2. HIGHBURY

A small town approx. 16 km south of Narrogin. Granite outcrops, sandy gravel to sandy loam and clay. Several large bush patches, surrounded by farmland. Once a renowned nesting place for Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo. During the breeding season (spring - summer) there are still flocks of approximately 30 - 50 birds at Highbury where there are Wandoo woodland and Mallet plantations.



Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (female)

3. DRYANDRA

Approx two hours from Perth, and 22 km northwest of Narrogin. Access is from the Wandering-Narrogin Rd. A 28,000 ha area of open Wandoo & Powderbark woodlands with pockets of rock sheoak and kwongan heath. Internal roads are unsealed but accessible to all vehicles. There are walk trails and a 22 km drive trail. Approx. 100 bird species are to be found, as well as over 850 plant species, 41 reptiles and 24 mammals, including the endangered Numbat, a small marsupial which is WA's fauna emblem. Noteworthy birds are Painted Button-quail, Red-capped and Elegant Parrots, Red-capped, Hooded and Western Yellow Robins, Western Shrike-tit, Rufous Treecreeper and Bush Stone-curlew.

Accommodation in rustic cottages at Lions Village, Tomingley Rd, Dryandra: Book through caretakers 08 9884 5231, Lions Dryandra Woodland Village <http://dryandravillage.org.au/> or DBCA: <https://parks.dpawwa.gov.au/site/lions-dryandra-woodland-village>

Camping (fees apply) is also available at: Gnaala Mia (nocturnal tours also available): Book through DBCA website or DBCA Narrogin. Congelin Dam: Suits tents, camper-trailers, caravans. No bookings but check DBCA Parks app for availability.

Bush Stone-curlew



4. YILLIMINNING ROCK

A brochure is available from Dryandra Country Visitor Centre.
Access: From Narrogin, head east on Herald St - Yilliminning Rd; travel approx. 15 km; turn left into Birdwhistle Rd then right into Yilliminning Rock Reserve.

4. YILLIMINNING ROCK cont.

There are basic picnic facilities and a large granite rock, Salmon Gums and open sheoak woodland. To the north-east further along Birdwhistle Rd is kwongan sandplain (good for heathland birds and wildflowers: best in Sept - Oct). From here a 17 km scenic drive (turn left at Cannell Rd) goes via hilly areas with dryandra scrub (good honeyeater country) and stony gravels to old Yilliminning townsite and Maramucking Well.

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater



5. BIRDWHISTLE NATURE RESERVE

Access as for Yilliminning Rock but continue 7-10 km further north-east along Birdwhistle Rd. Birdwhistle Nature Reserve is a 396 ha reserve managed by DBCA for flora and fauna conservation. There is also another large rock in this area. With significant flora diversity there is potential for good birding at this site.

6. TOOLIBIN & WALBYRING LAKES

Access is via Yilliminning, Read & Wickepin-Harrismith Roads; approx. 50 km east of Narrogin. These two lakes lie within a 1230 ha system of Class "A" nature reserves, managed by DBCA. Toolibin Lake is also listed as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. As a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) with *Casuarina obesa* and *Melaleuca strobophylla*, it is important habitat for waterbirds.

These lakes have temporary inundation with freshwater but have become drier over recent decades. Ongoing threats include salinity and weeds. Bird species recorded include eight duck species (including Freckled Duck), Eurasian Coot, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, White-faced Heron, Grey Shrike-thrush, Rufous Whistler and Rainbow Bee-eater (summer). Facilities include a picnic area and a 1.6 km loop walk trail.

Freckled Duck



7. ROSEDALE NATURE RESERVE

Situated 2 km west of Cuballing on Campbell St. The reserve is on the south side of the road. It is possible to drive further round till you come to a fenced quarry area. Quite dense Dryandra, Sheoak, Wandoo, Powderbark Wandoo etc, generally quite high in the landscape. Some 60 species of bird to be found. There is also accessible bushland opposite.



Yellow-plumed Honeyeater



White-browed Babbler

8. YORNANING DAM

20 km north of Narrogin, off Great Southern Hwy. On the highway approx 10kms north of Cuballing is a large sign to the dam. Once used to provide water for steam trains and Narrogin town, the dam later became saline but has since been renovated. Recent work included cleaning up, planting, marking a walking trail and a boardwalk. There are toilets and barbecues. It is a good spot for both bushbirds and waterbirds. A 6 km drive covers a variety of habitats, from open Wandoo woodland (look for Rufous Tree-creepers) to acacia, sheoak, grass trees, dryandra, banksia and Brown Mallet. A 1.5 km loop walk, trail traverses open Wandoo and Salmon Gum woodland. It includes a Diversion Lagoon, a good spot for waterbirds.



Brown-headed Honeyeater

9. BOYAGIN ROCK NATURE RESERVE

North-west of Narrogin. From Pingelly, which is 50 km north of Narrogin via Great Southern Hwy, travel a further 9 km north to Kulyaling, left into Kulyaling Rd West, then Boyagin Rd and Pech Rd (26 km from Pingelly). It is also possible to enter from the west, from York-Williams Rd. A picturesque reserve with an imposing granite rock, it provides an indication of what the area was like before clearing. Wandoo and Powderbark Wandoo abound, with Jarrah, Marri and some areas of heath. Picnic facilities were upgraded recently. *NB camping is not permitted.* Accommodation is available at Pingelly for both sites 9 & 10.

Over ninety species of birds include Square-tailed Kite, Common and Brush Bronzewing, Western Yellow Robin, Yellow-plumed Honeyeater and Rufous Treecreeper. <https://www.pingelly.wa.gov.au/visit-pingelly/what-to-see-do/boyagin-rock-nature-reserve.aspx>



Western Yellow Robin (male)

10. TUTANNING NATURE RESERVE

22.5 km east of Pingelly. From Pingelly, head east along the Pingelly-Wickepin Road. Turn left at Marshall Road for the Nature Reserve entry. This 220 ha reserve includes the Dutarning Range and has kwongan heath, Jarrah, Wandoo, Powderbark Wandoo and Brown Mallet and is noted for its great variety of flora. The Percy Marshall Field Study Centre, which has comfortable bunk-style sleeping quarters (sleeps 10) and self-contained kitchen, is available for hire. Contact Pingelly Shire.

The reserve is accessible by the public for day visits (*no camping*) and has drive trails (*4WD recommended*) and a clearly-signed 6 km loop walk trail (some steep / slippery areas, and shallow water crossings – allow 2 hours). Evening visits offer opportunities for night spotlighting.

Birds to be seen include Common Bronzewing, Splendid and Blue-breasted Fairy-wren, Rufous and Golden Whistler and a variety of honeyeaters and raptors.

Boyagin and Dryandra are within a 30 min drive from here.

NARROGIN BIRD LIST

Emus & Cassowaries			
Emu	R		
Ducks, Geese & Swans			
Pink-eared Duck	R		
Black Swan	U		
Australian Shelduck	M		
Hardhead	R		
Australasian Shoveler	R		
Pacific Black Duck	U		
Grey Teal	M		
Freckled Duck	R		
Musk Duck	R	nomadic	
Australian Wood Duck	M		
Megapodes			
Malleefowl	R	T	
Pheasants & Quail			
Stubble Quail	R		
Grebes			
Australasian Grebe	M		
Pigeons & Doves			
Hoary-headed Grebe	U		
Rock Dove*	R		
Laughing Dove*	U		
Common Bronzewing	C		
Brush Bronzewing	U	O	
Crested Pigeon	U		
Cuckoos			
Horsefield's Bronze-Cuckoo	U	Mi Wi-Sp	
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	U	Mi Wi-Sp	
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	M	Mi Wi-Sp	
Pallid Cuckoo	U	Mi Wi-Sp	
Frogmouths			
Tawny Frogmouth	U		
Owlet-nightjars			
Australian Owlet-nightjar	U		
Crakes, Rails & Swamphens			
Purple Swamphen	VR		
Black-tailed Native-hen	R		
Eurasian Coot	U		
Stone-curlews			
Bush Stone-curlew	U	Dryandra	
Stilts & Avocets			
Pied Stilt	R	(prev Black-winged)	
Plovers, Dotterel and Lapwings			
Black-fronted Dotterel	U		
Banded Lapwing	R		
Red-kneed Dotterel	VR		
Button-quail			
Painted Button-quail	U		
Little Button-quail	R		

Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns			Parrots, Lorikeets & Rosellas cont.		
White-necked Heron	R		Elegant Parrot	M	
White-faced Heron	U		Purple-crowned Lorikeet	M	
Ibis & Spoonbills			Treecreepers		
Australian White Ibis	VR		Rufous Treecreeper	C	
Straw-necked Ibis	R		Fairy-wrens, Emu-wrens & Grasswrens		
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	R		Blue-breasted Fairy-wren	M	
Cormorants & Shags			Splendid Fairy-wren	M	
Little Pied Cormorant	U		Honeyeaters & Chats		
Great Cormorant	VR		Black Honeyeater	R	
Little Black Cormorant	R		Brown Honeyeater	C	
Darter			New Holland Honeyeater	C	
Australasian Darter	VR		White-cheeked Honeyeater	M	
Eagles, Kites & Goshawks			White-eared Honeyeater	M	
Black-shouldered Kite	U		Brown-headed Honeyeater	C	
Square-tailed Kite	U		Gilbert's Honeyeater		
Wedge-tailed Eagle	M		Tawny-crowned Honeyeater	C (prev <i>White-raped</i>)	
Little Eagle	R		Western Spinebill		
Swamp Harrier	VR		White-fronted Chat	U	
Spotted Harrier	VR		Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	U	
Brown Goshawk	U		Western Wattlbird		
Collared Sparrowhawk	U		Red Wattlbird	C	
Whistling Kite	R		Singing Honeyeater	C	
Masked Owls			Yellow-plumed Honeyeater	C	
Barn Owl	U		White-plumed Honeyeater	R	
Hawk –Owls			White-fronted Honeyeater	R	
Southern Boobook	U		Yellow-throated Miner	U	
Bee-eaters			Pardalotes		
Rainbow Bee-eater	C	IA Mi Su	Spotted Pardalote	U	
Kingfishers			Striated Pardalote	C	
Sacred Kingfisher	U	Mi Su	Thornbills & Gerygones		
Laughing Kookaburra *	C		Western Gerygone	C	
Falcons			Weebill	C	
Nankeen Kestrel	U		Redthroat	R	
Australian Hobby	R		Shy Heathwren	R	
Brown Falcon	U		White-browed Scrubwren	C	
Peregrine Falcon	U	OSP	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	C	
Cockatoos & Corellias			Inland Thornbill	C	
Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo			Chestnut-rumped Thornbill	U	
Baudin's Black-Cockatoo			Western Thornbill		
Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo			White-browed Babbler	M	
Galah	M		Sittellas		
Western Corella	R		Varied Sittella	M	
Parrots, Lorikeets & Rosellas			Cuckoo-shrikes & Trillers		
Regent Parrot	U		Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	C	
Mulga Parrot	R		White-winged Triller	U	
Red-capped Parrot			Whistlers, Shrike-thrushes & Allies		
Western Rosella			Rufous Whistler	C	
Australian Ringneck	C	O	Golden Whistler	C	
			Grey Shrike-thrush	C	
			Shriketits		
			Western Shrike-tit		
			Grey Currawong	U (prev <i>Crested</i>)	
			Woodswallows, Currawongs, Butcherbirds, Magpie		
			Australian Magpie	C	
			Pied Butcherbird	U	
			Grey Butcherbird	U	
			Masked Woodswallow	U	
			Dusky Woodswallow	C	
			Black-faced Woodswallow	U	
			Fantails		
			Willie Wagtail	C	
			Grey Fantail	C	
			Crows & Ravens		
			Little Crow	R	
			Australian Raven	C	
			Monarch & Flycatchers		
			Restless Flycatcher	M	
			Magpie-lark	U	
			Australian Robins		
			Scarlet Robin	M	
			Red-capped Robin	C	
			Jacky Winter	M	
			Western Yellow Robin	M	
			Hooded Robin	U	
			Flowerpeckers		
			Mistletoebird	U	
			Pipits & Wagtails		
			Australasian Pipit	U	
			Grassbirds		
			Brown Songlark	R	
			Rufous Songlark	U	
			Swallows & Martins		
			Fairy Martin	R	
			Tree Martin	C	
			Welcome Swallow	M	
			White-eyes		
			Silvereye	C	

Abundance	CODES Status
C Common	Mi Migrant
M Moderately common	N Nomadic
U Uncommon	T Threatened
R Rare	IA Protected by International Agreement
VR Very rare	OSP Other specially protected
	* Introduced

Sp, Su, Au, Wi Seasons present
WA endemics are shown in **bold** font.