

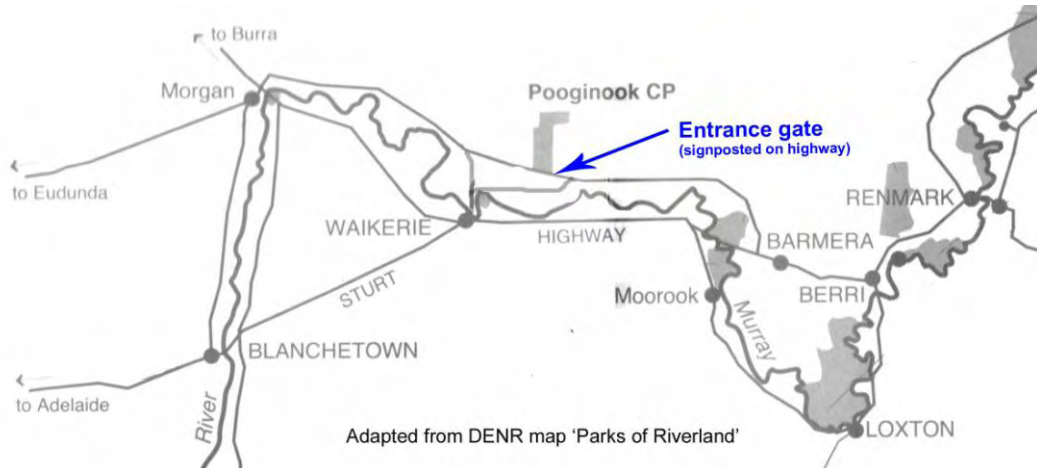
S.A. Herpetology Group & Field Naturalists Society S.A. Mammal Club
BIODIVERSITY SURVEY of POOGINOOK CONSERVATION PARK

Long Weekend Friday 30th Sept - Monday 3rd October

Pooginook CP is approximately 200km NE of Adelaide. Travel time from Adelaide is about 2.5 hours.

You can get there via:

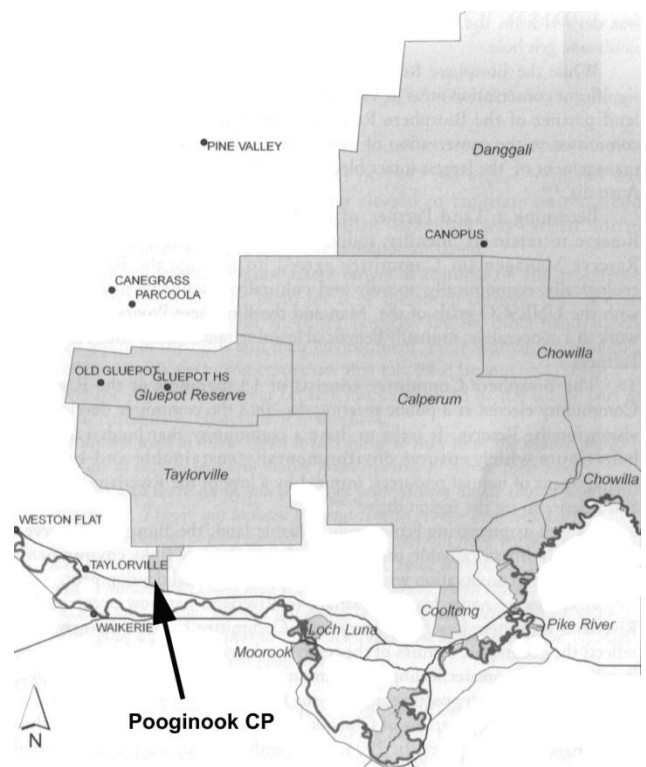
- Sturt Highway to Waikerie; cross the River Murray by ferry & then travel approx 20km to Pooginook, or
- Thiele & Goyder Highways to Eudunda & then Morgan. Pooginook is 50km from Morgan.



The RAA River Murray map (Jan 2009) provides good information on how to get there & the locations nearby.

Pooginook CP is a small CP of 2862 hectares. Gluepot Birds Australia Reserve is to the north of Pooginook. The park comprises largely low sand dunes covered by mallee & associated vegetation. The dense mallee of the NE section was severely burnt by bushfire in 2006 & is in a regenerative state. The middle & southerly sections were degraded by agriculture & grazing prior to the area becoming a CP and the mallee is more open in the middle section & essentially non-existent in the southern section that has been cropped in the past. Both sections are also undergoing regeneration.

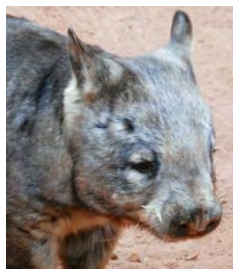
PARK ENTRY: The park essentially only has a perimeter vehicle track and access to the campsite is gained from the entrance on the eastern side of the park that is signposted on the highway. The campsite is 1.8km from the easterly entrance gate. Please do **not** travel via the non-sign posted western entrance to access the campsite, in order to prevent damage from excessive vehicle use to the fragile regenerating sand dune area near this entrance.



Map showing Riverland Biosphere Reserves, including Pooginook CP

TRAVEL IN THE PARK: The campsite & some of the perimeter track are readily accessible by conventional 2WD, but some sections of the perimeter track are best accessed by 4WD. Drivers must **not** drive off established tracks & importantly only perform vehicle turn arounds in established locations & not on non-damaged areas.

WILDLIFE: Over 20 species of reptiles have been recorded in Pooginook including Desert Skinks, Nobbi Dragons, Barred Snake-lizards, & Jewelled Geckos. Amongst the reptiles observed on a recent pre-survey trip were a Red-tailed Worm-lizard, Barred Snake-lizards, a Spinifex Snake-lizard, a Spinifex Slender Blue-tongue & Jewelled Geckos.



Mammals previously observed include Western Grey & Red Kangaroos, Echidnas, Southern Hairy-nosed Wombats, Bolam's Mouse & Gould's Wattled Bats

CAMPING: There is an established campsite that should be large enough to accommodate everyone. **Participants should come prepared for bush camping and be totally self-sufficient.** Campfires will be restricted to the established campfire site and all wood for the fire should be brought into the park so as not to deplete wildlife refuges. **Please bring firewood with you.** It will be necessary to observe any fire restrictions due to weather conditions. Therefore it is recommended participants cook using gas stoves. Bush toilet sites will be set up in the vicinity of the campsite.

If you wish for more comfort, accommodation is also available in the nearby towns such as Waikerie, & camping sites along the River Murray are available, but being a long weekend, it would be wise to book in advance.

WATER: Participants are required to supply all of their own water for the duration of the survey.

MOBILE PHONES: Communication by mobile phone should be possible. Good reception with Telstra Next G was noted during the pre-survey visit.

FUEL & SUPPLIES: Fuel, food & other supplies are available in Waikerie.

SURVEY TECHNIQUES: Survey methods will include Elliott & cage traps for mammals, 60m pitfall lines each with 6 buckets for reptiles, mammals and invertebrates, opportunistic collection of reptiles, opportunistic searching for tracks and traces (scats, burrows, shed skins etc), spotlighting at night, invertebrate sampling from micro-pitfalls, & possibly recording of bat echo-location calls using the Anabat recorder.

It is proposed that 4-6 pitfall lines will be set up, depending on the number of volunteers available. We will adhere to DENR guidelines and follow strictly the policies & guidelines of the Wildlife Ethics Committee & the other permits required to conduct the survey.

CONTACT PERSONS: For planning purposes it is essential to contact one of the trip organisers, listed below, prior to the trip to inform them of your survey participation.

Ian Williams

Ph: 08 8261 6070 Mob: 0427732058

Email: iwillfam@bigpond.com

Peter Matejcic

Ph: 08 8358 9875 Mob: 0400292311

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Graham Medlin

Ph: 08 8276 4499

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Before participating in the field trip participants must read the document:

PROTOCOL FOR PARTICIPATING IN SAHG FIELD SURVEYS

& complete a

SAHG FIELD TRIP CONSENT form

which should be returned to a trip organiser before the commencement of the survey.

These documents are posted on the SAHG website:
www.saherpgroup.com