

17. Broadford Streamside Reserve



This small reserve is on the banks of Dry Creek at the eastern end of Jeffreys Lane. It is officially known as **Broadford Streamside Reserve**. *Baba baan*, a Taungurung name meaning sweet water, is being considered as an alternative name for the Reserve. The reserve has tall trees and a diversity of shrubs and wildflowers. It is on the junction of streamside and roadside corridors, and is a rich place to see and hear birds in the trees and beside the pools along the creek particularly during Spring and Summer.

This reserve is on the land of the Taungurung People and is part of the area of [Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity](#) along Dry Creek. We acknowledge their Elders past and present and emerging, and their care of Country over many millennia. We ask that all people respect this ancient heritage and care for the land we now share.

Directions

From Broadford, turn left off the Broadford Kilmore Road into Jeffreys Lane. The Reserve is at the eastern end of the lane with a low ford across the creek. The lane ends at Dry Creek Road. There is a small pullover for parking near the crossing.

Walking Tracks

The reserve has a few short vehicle access tracks that are mostly overgrown. Bush bashing is not recommended for safety and to avoid disturbing some significant species in the denser bush.



Not suitable for all abilities.



Vehicles should stay on the roads to avoid creating access for people dumping rubbish or collecting firewood. Logs in the Reserve are important habitat for some threatened species.

Landform and Geology



The Reserve has dry slopes and terraces, a small floodplain and an incised stream bed with exposed bedrock at the crossing. These landforms were created as Dry Creek cut through the ancient Humevale Siltstones (Silurian, 444 to 420 million years ago).

The creek ranges from raging floods covering the crossing and floodplains, to a bubbling stream for most of the year, to a series of ponds in dry seasons. As with many local streams, groundwater seepage helps maintain the ponds – and produce high salt levels when there is not freshwater runoff to dilute the groundwater.

Vegetation

The narrow and relatively sheltered valley along Dry Creek creates a rich environment for plants. The slopes and terraces have a cover of open woodlands classed as [Grassy Dry Forest](#) merging into [Valley Grassy Forest](#). The woodland trees are mostly Yellow Box with some Grey Box, Red Stringybarks, Messmate and Red Gums, over Golden Wattles and a variety of native and introduced grasses and many lilies and other small forbs.



The floodplains are [Riparian Forest / Creepline Grassy Woodland](#) with tall River Red Gums and Manna Gums. The dense understorey includes Silver Wattles, Sweet Bursaria, Hemp Bush, Tree Violets and River Bottlebrush. The equally dense tussocky layer has Common Tussock-grass and Spiny Mat-rush with a sward of Weeping Grass between the tussocks.

Piles of dirt placed near the creek are covered with Cocksfoot, Radiata Pines have spread in another area, and the creek has carried seeds during floods, creating issues with Blackberries, Gorse and Bulbil Watsonia. The dumping of weeds is a constant threat. Nevertheless, with ongoing maintenance, these weeds are manageable and should not detract from this lovely reserve.

Plant lists are in preparation.

Wildlife

The combination of tall trees and understorey provides habitat for a surprisingly large list of birds ranging from hawks and eagles overhead to honeyeaters, whistlers, kingfishers, flycatchers and cuckoos breeding in the treetops and robins, wrens and thornbills in the understorey.

Few mammals, reptiles, frogs or invertebrates are listed on databases but again the habitat is rich and many terrestrial and aquatic species are likely to be identified in the future. Recent work has already identified some very significant insects and we recommend people avoid pushing through the bush on the floodplains for the safety of the animals and themselves.

The vegetation along the whole creepline corridor from Broadford (and Mount Piper) through to Kilmore East (and Monument Hill) and the tree-lined road reserves feeding into the corridor all add to the rich possibilities for this small reserve.

Aboriginal history

The Reserve is on the land of the Taungurung People, and is part of the area of [Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity](#) along Dry Creek. It was probably another rich place for the local groups.

History after colonisation

Most of the surrounding private land was stocked and cleared from the late 1830's. The history of the Reserve is uncertain but it was probably a waterside reserve for public purposes including stock watering. It reverted to a protected reserve in recent years.

Management

The Reserve is Crown land managed by Parks Victoria, the downstream Dry Creek Water Frontage is managed by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Jeffreys Lane, Dry Creek Road and their roadsides (not defined) are managed by Mitchell Shire Council and the creekline by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

The Crown land is included in the [Land Use Activity Agreement](#), a part of the [Taungurung Recognition and Settlement Agreement](#). The Reserve is an area of [Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity](#). Mitchell Shire Council has responsibility for the roads that cut through the reserved land.

Further information

Parks Victoria: Parks Victoria can be contacted on 13 1963 or go to <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/contact-us>. Website for the Broadford Streamside Reserve is at <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/broadford-streamside-reserve>. The website contains only general information on visiting reserves (at 30/6/2023). Dogs are not allowed in this Reserve.

Taungurung Land and Water Council at <https://taungurung.com.au/>. Taungurung Recognition and Settlement Agreement at <https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/your-rights/native-title/taungurung-recognition-and-settlement-agreement>.

Goulburn Broken CMA Revegetation Guide: information on different ecological vegetation communities, plant communities and plants in the Sugarloaf zone at <https://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/revegetation/zones/sugarloaf>.

Acknowledgements

This Reserve Note was prepared by BEAM Mitchell Environment Group. Thanks to Mitchell Shire Council for their assistance and support. The Reserve Note is based on a report to Council by Peter Mitchell.

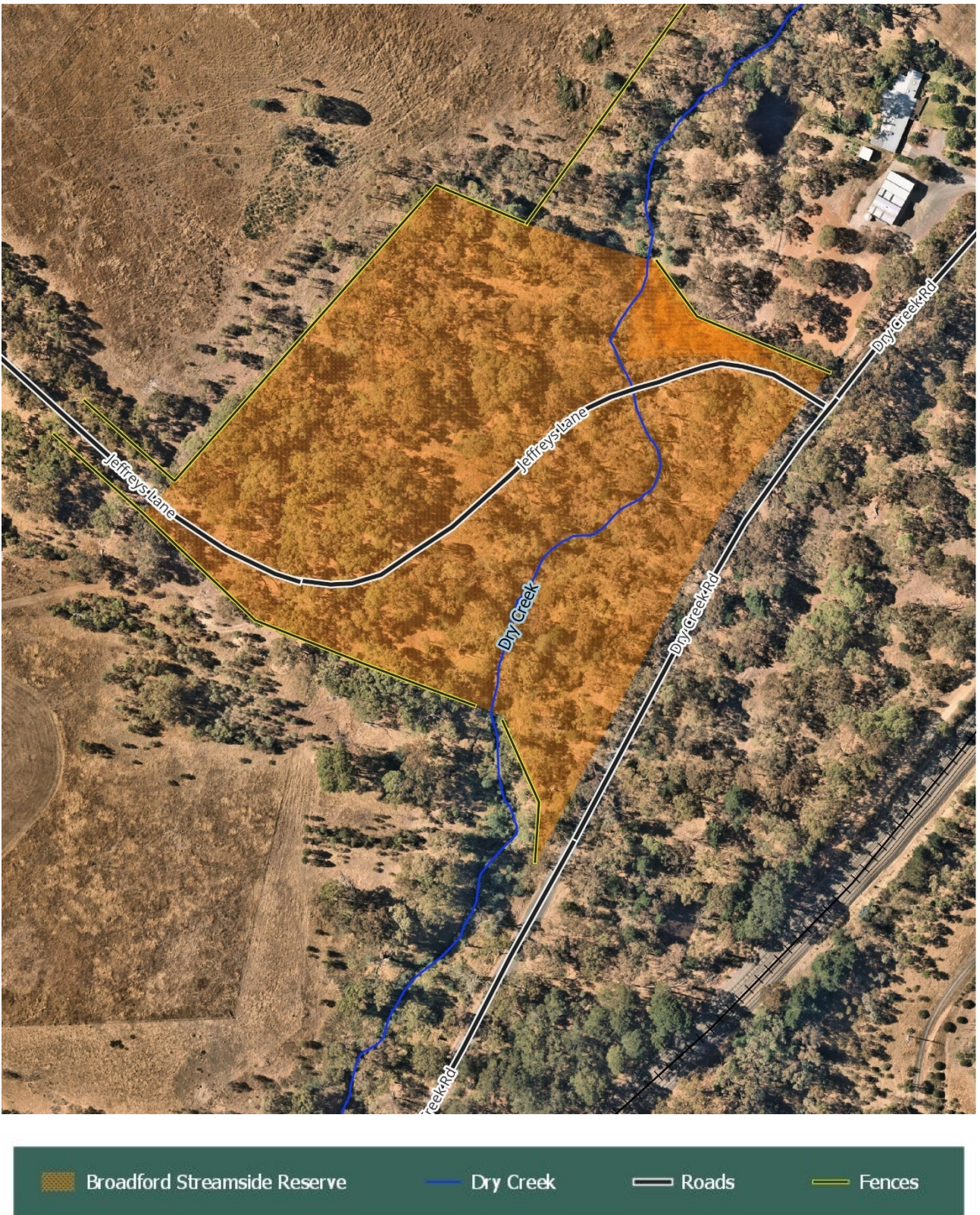
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These notes are a work in progress. If you have any comments or additional information on the nature and ecological history of Mangalore Nature Conservation Reserve, please contact us at <https://www.beam.org.au/contact>.



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Map notes

Cadastral maps do not follow fencelines on either public or private land in this area. The map of “Broadford Streamside Reserve” is defined by fences on three sides and Dry Creek Road. The fencelines have an only rough agreement with title boundaries and include the official Broadford Streamside Reserve, parts of the Dry Creek Water Frontage, a bit of the end of Jeffreys Lane road reserve and slivers of private land. Dry Creek Road cuts across the edge of all the reserve so the mapped reserve only extends to the edge of the undefined road reserve. Jeffreys Lane runs through the middle of the Reserve but again the road reserve is not defined.

The fenceline on the western side of the creek roughly follows the western edge of the Dry Creek Water Frontage downstream from the “Reserve”. It is likely that the Frontage is under licence to an adjoining landholder.