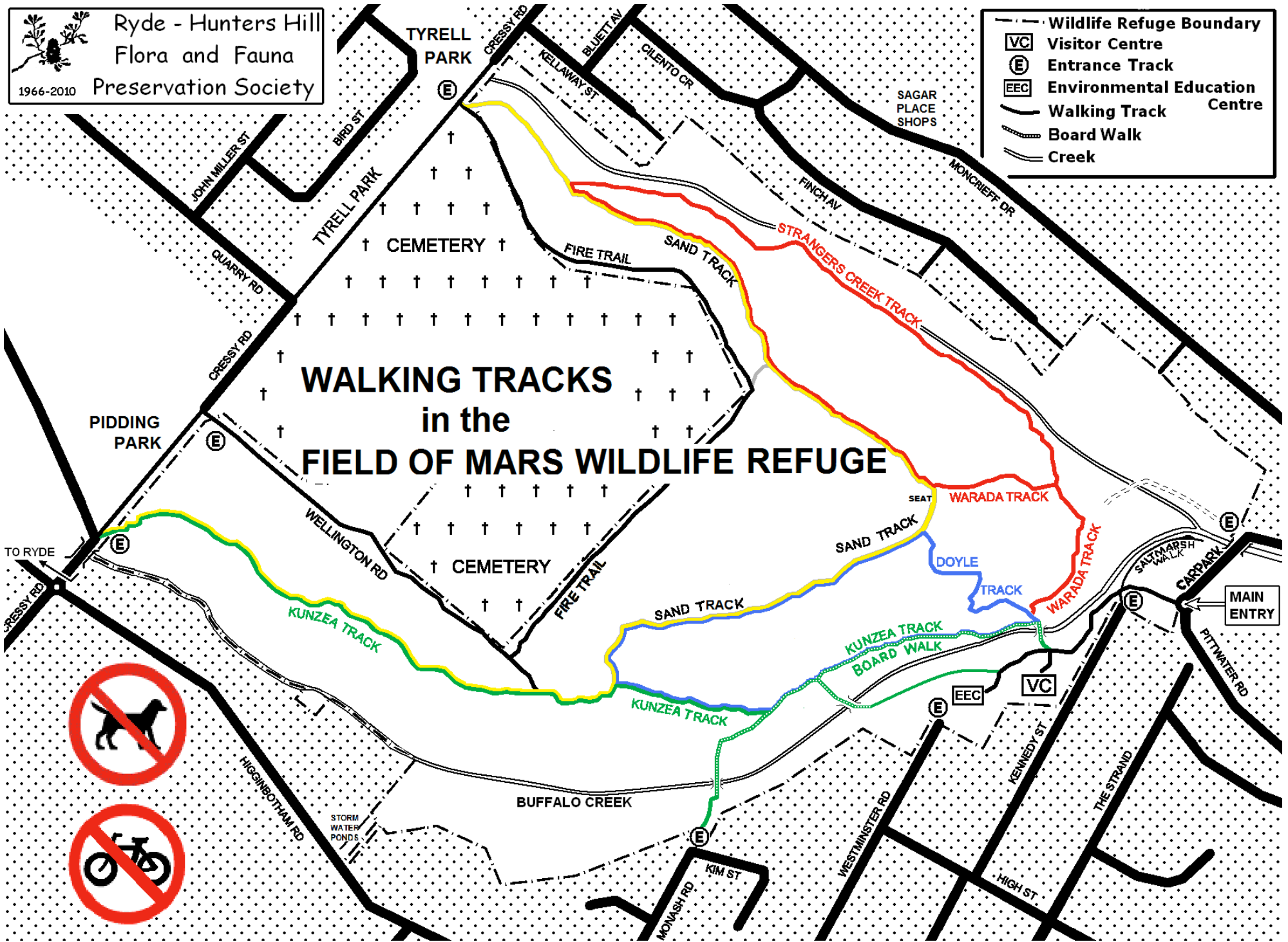




Ryde - Hunters Hill
Flora and Fauna
Preservation Society
1966-2010

- Wildlife Refuge Boundary
- Visitor Centre
- Entrance Track
- Environmental Education Centre
- Walking Track
- Board Walk
- Creek



WALKING TRACKS in the FIELD OF MARS WILDLIFE REFUGE



MAIN ENTRY

Boardwalk Loop

Distance: 0.6 km. Time: 15 min. Grade: Easy

This wheel chair accessible boardwalk follows Buffalo Ck along reed beds and sandstone outcrops where turtles, wetland birds, small fish and water dragons may be seen. The loop returns to the Visitors Centre across a gravel track. (Kim St exit is not wheelchair accessible.)

Doyle Track

Distance: 0.3 km. Time: 15 min. Grade: Medium

Meander through dry sclerophyll forest where rock overhangings predominate. Small birds are regularly seen and heard in dense undergrowth. During flowering times, orchids can be found. This track links to the Sand track. Scribbly gums are also observed along this track.

Kunzea Track

Distance: 1.2 km. Time: 40 min. Grade: Medium

This track links the Field of Mars with the track to Top Ryde. It branches uphill from the boardwalk and climbs steeply to the upper sections of the reserve. The vegetation is predominantly dry sclerophyll. The upper flatter reaches provide habitat for many small birds. It also provides access to Field of Mars Cemetery, Cressy Rd exit and Pidding Park.

Saltmarsh Track

Distance: 0.8 km. Time: 15 min. Grade: Easy

This short walk near the Pittwater Rd entrance follows the Southern, lower sections of Buffalo Ck where it meets Strangers Ck. A number of wetland vegetation communities are seen incl. casuarina forest, mangrove swamp and the endangered ecological community of saltmarsh. The reed bed at the confluence of the two creeks is one of the best along the Lane Cove River. The wetland has over 20 species of native birds including ducks, herons and spoonbills.

Sand Track

Distance: 1.9 km. Time: 45 min. Grade: Easy

This track traverses the core habitat area of the reserve. It can be accessed from the Visitors Centre via the Kunzea and Warada Tracks or Tyrell and Pidding Parks to the west. A variety of wildflower species are represented including boronias, pea family and grevillea. The NW section passes through areas of shale where remnants of endangered Turpentine Ironbark Forest can be seen.

Strangers Creek Track

Distance: 0.7 km. Time: 30 min. Grade: Medium

This track follows the creek which forms the NW boundary of the reserve. Here there are water holes and rainforest species including coachwood and lilly pilly trees. Aboriginal people would have been regular visitors along the creek to access fresh water and sharpen their axes. Listen for frogs.

Warada Track

Distance: 0.4 km. Time: 20 min. Grade: Medium

Cross Buffalo Ck and continue over the flat grassed area to the start of this track. It climbs steeply through core areas of angophoras, banksias and grevilleas and connects to Sand track and Strangers Ck track. Warada is the Aboriginal word for waratah but few remain in the reserve due to past flower collecting activity.

Recommended Loop Walks

(indicated as starting from Visitor Centre)

Recommended Loop Walks

(indicated as starting from Visitor Centre)

Warada Loop – 30 minutes

Warada Track – Sand Track – Doyle Track

Doyle Loop – 40 minutes

Doyle Track – Sand Track – Kunzea Track

Strangers Creek Loop – 50 minutes

Doyle Track – Sand Track – Strangers Creek Track – Waradah Track

Sand Track Loop – 1 hour 10 minutes

Kunzea Track – Sand Track – Strangers Creek Track – Waradah Track

Kunzea Loop – 1 hour 30 minutes

Kunzea Track – Cressy Rd [past cemetery to Tyrell Park] – Sand Track – Warada Track

Ryde-Hunters Hill Flora & Fauna Preservation Society Inc.

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Would you like to join us? You will receive our bi-monthly newsletter and be kept up-to-date with local environmental issues. Simply cut out or copy this form, complete it and post with your payment to
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