

## Spring Gully Conservation Park



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People



Government  
of South Australia



### Spring Gully Conservation Park

Spring Gully Conservation Park conserves important habitat for the wildlife and vegetation associations within the largely cleared and settled Clare district. The park includes some of the most picturesque native landscapes in the region; rocky sandstone outcrops, natural springs and steep sided valleys.

#### How to get to the park?

Spring Gully Conservation Park is located 8 km south of Clare in the Mid North of South Australia. The easiest way to access the park is by following the tourist signs from the turn off on Main North Road at Sevenhill (turn west at Bayes Road by the Sevenhill hotel).

#### Things to do

While visiting the park visitors may like to go bushwalking, birdwatching, have a picnic, enjoy the views from the lookouts or relax in the natural environment.

#### History

The original reserve of fifteen acres was gazetted as a wildlife reserve in 1962 and later extended to include the springs that give the park its name. It is now 400 hectares and conserves a considerable area of grassy woodland.

Prior to European settlement, the grassy-woodlands and open grasslands provided an abundance of food for the Ngadjuri people. European settlers utilised the park extensively for logging the timber, and for grazing of stock. Cut tree stumps are still evident in the park.

### Vegetation

Spring Gully Conservation Park was set aside to conserve the westernmost population of the red stringybark *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*. This park is the only reserve in South Australia to contain this particular species.

Spring Gully is also well known for its diverse grassy understorey with an abundance of native orchids. Visiting the park in spring is the ideal time to admire the orchids in flower.

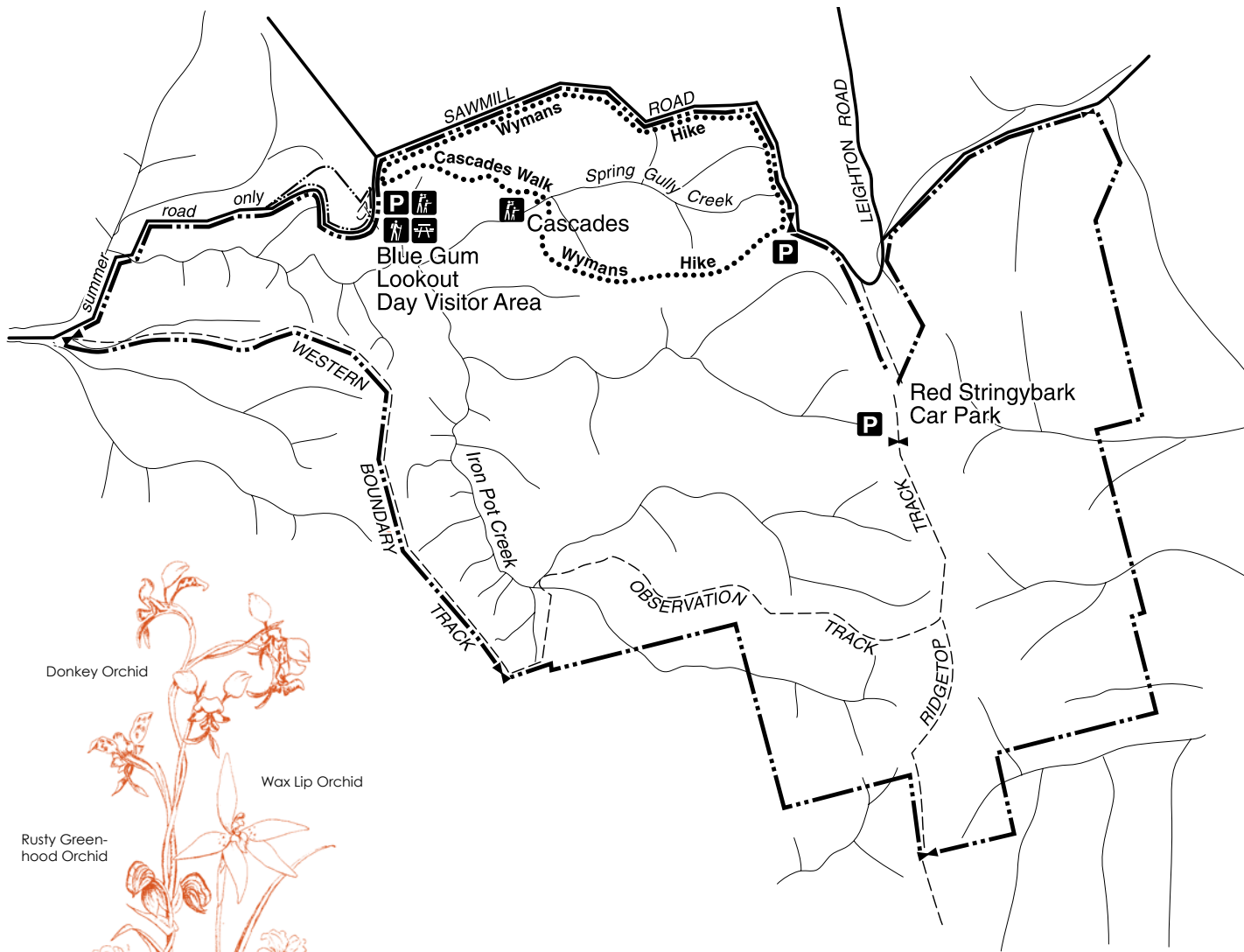
### Wildlife

Western grey kangaroos and euros come out to graze in the evenings. You may startle one of them while out on a walk. Common brushtail possums find shelter in the hollows of eucalypts. Evidence of echidnas can be seen by their diggings.

For those with a keen eye, up to fifty species of birds may be observed. Listen out for their calls and songs. Many parrots, kookaburras and smaller birds make their home in Spring Gully. Listen for the calls from frogs in the creek systems and damp gullies, especially following local rains.



Short-beaked Echidna  
*Tachyglossus aculeatus*



Donkey Orchid

Wax Lip Orchid

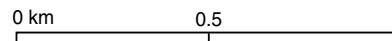
Rusty Green-hood Orchid

Native Primrose

Gnat Orchid

Illustration: Rosemary Pedler

- Park boundary
- Unsealed road
- Creek
- Gate
- Walking trail
- Fire track
- Parking
- Lookout
- Walking trail
- Picnic facility



## Bushwalking

### Cascades Walk

(1.3 km return, 40 minutes return)

This is the most popular bushwalk in the park from Blue Gum Lookout to the Cascades.

**WALK**

**EASY**

- even surfaced trail
- suitable for small children

### Ridgetop Walk

(1.2 km one way, 40 minutes one way)

Suitable for wheelchairs, this walk starts from Red Stringybark Car Park, following a fire management track to the southern boundary of the park. Enjoy spectacular views to the east and west along the way.

### Wymans Hike

(2.6 km loop, 1 hour return)

For walkers with more time, Wymans Hike is an extension to the Cascade Walk, returning to the car park along the northern boundary of the park.

Visitors are able to walk the existing fire access tracks including the Observation Track and Western Boundary Track. These tracks are steep in sections and are only recommended for fit walkers.

**HIKE**

**MODERATE**

- some moderate inclines
- irregular surface with loose, uneven base
- average level of fitness

Myrtle Wattle  
*Acacia myrtifolia*  
Illustration: Rosemary Pedler



## Friends of Spring Gully

This is a local volunteer group of the statewide Friends of Parks who assist with project works within the park. For further information on this group, contact the Mid North District Office on (08) 8892 3025.



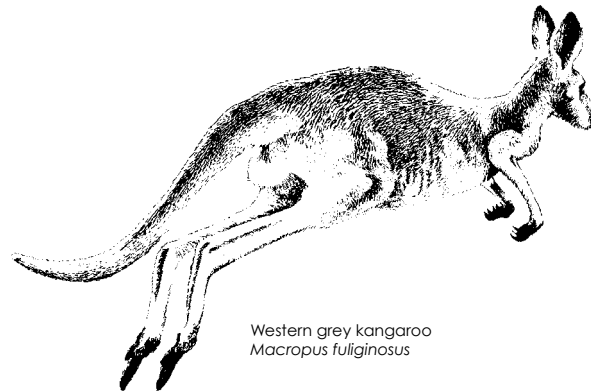
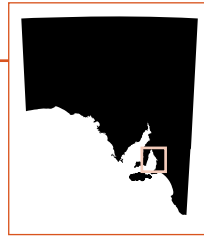
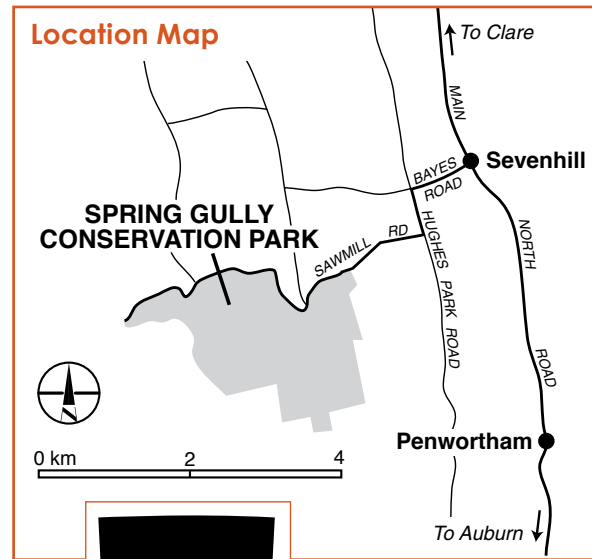
Production of this brochure was supported by a Friends Grant.

## The National Parks Code

Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

- Leave your pets at home.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Observe fire restrictions all year round.
- Conserve native habitat by using gas stoves only, except on total fire ban days, when all fires are prohibited.
- Respect geological and heritage sites.
- Keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined walking trails.
- Generators, chainsaws and firearms are not permitted.
- Be considerate of other park users.

**Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state for the enjoyment of others.**



Western grey kangaroo  
*Macropus fuliginosus*

## For further information contact:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Mid North District Office  
PO Box 26, Burra SA 5417  
Phone (08) 8892 3025

Phone Information Line (08) 8204 1910  
[www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au)

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