

Flora at Reedy Swamp:

Source: Reedy Swamp Environmental Management Plan 2003.

3.6.1 Flora

Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) is a classification system developed by NRE for mapping and management planning of native vegetation in Victoria (Berwick). EVCs describe the variation in vegetation composition and structure, relative to local environmental variation in landscape position, drainage, soils, aspect and elevation, etc.

Vegetation along the Goulburn River floodway, inclusive of Reedy Swamp Wildlife Reserve, has not been mapped at a small scale. Rather, a collective of particular vegetation units likely to occur at regular intervals along the river has been described as *complexes* or *mosaics*. Reedy Swamp Wildlife Reserve is a part of this mapped area and is described as a riverine grassy woodland/riverine sedgy forest/wetland mosaic, which is considered depleted at a bioregional level. At ground level the wetland and reserve is comprised of areas of Riverine Grassy Woodland, Wetland and Sand Ridge Woodland vegetation units (Appendix 8). Of these, the Sand Ridge Woodland vegetation unit is classified as *endangered* within the GBCMA region.

Approximately 91 plant species (Appendix 1 See below) have been identified in the Reedy Swamp Wildlife Reserve, 30 - 40% of which are introduced species. Of particular concern are the willow species infesting the body of the wetland.

Typical wetland vegetation consists of Giant rush (*Juncus ingens*), cumbungi and dead River Red Gum trees. The wetland is surrounded predominantly by healthy overstorey of River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), with Grey Box (*E. microcarpa*) and Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*) on the sandy rises. There is a sparse shrub layer of predominantly Silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*) and isolated patches of Golden wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) and Grey parrot pea (*Dillwynia cinerascens*). Ground layer vegetation consists of native grasses such as Tussock Grass (*Poa labillardieri*), Common Wheat-grass (*Elymus scaber*) and sedge (*Carex spp*).

Floods in 1974 washed out about two thirds of the Giant rush community from the wetland, and continuously high water levels prevented rushes from re-establishing (Felton 1992) until the wetland dried in 1994/95. High and stable water levels have promoted the growth of Water couch (*Paspalum distichum*) along the margins of the wetland.

3.6.1.1 Significant Species

The rare plant Jericho Wiregrass (*Aristida jerichoensis*) has recently been discovered in the sand dunes at Reedy Swamp Wildlife Reserve and is significant, as it is one of only three known sites in Victoria where the species is found (Weber *pers.comm* 2001)

Appendix 1: Flora of Reedy Swamp

Legend * Introduced Species
r – rare

Species (scientific name) Common name
Agrostis avenacea var. *avenacea* Common Blown-grass
Agrostis avenacea Common Blown-grass
Alhagi maurorum Camel Thorn *
Alternanthera denticulata-nodiflora group
Alisma plantago-aquatica Water Plantain
Aristida jerichoensis var. *subspinilifera* Jericho Wire Grass r
Aster subulatus Aster-weed *
Austrodanthonia duttoniana Brown-back Wallaby-grass
Austrodanthonia caespitosa Common Wallaby-grass
Austrodanthonia duttoniana Brown-back Wallaby-grass
Austrodanthonia setacea Bristly Wallaby-grass
Austrostipa scabra spp. *falcata* Rough Spear Grass
Azolla filiculoides Pacific Azolla
Bidens tripartita Trifid Burr-marigold *
Briza minor Lesser Quaking-grass
Calotis scapigera Tufted Burr-daisy
Carex inversa Common Sedge
Carex tereticaulis Rush Sedge
Centaurium tenuiflorum Branched Centaury
Centipeda cunninghamii Common Sneezeweed
Chenopodium album Fat Hen *
Conyza albida Fleabane *
Craspedia paludicola Swamp Billy-buttons
Cynodon dactylon Couch
Cyperus eragrostis Drain Flat-sedge *
Deyeuxia quadriseta Reed Bent-grass
Deyeuxia rodwayi Tasman Bent Grass
Dichondra repens Kidney-weed
Digitaria sanguinalis Summer Grass
Dillwynia cinerascens Grey Parrot-pea
Echinocloa crus galli Common Barnyard Grass *
Eleocharis acuta Common Spike-sedge
Eleocharis pusilla Small Spike-sedge
Elymus scaber Common Wheat Grass
Epilobium billardierianum ssp. *cinereum* Grey Willow-herb
Epilobium ciliatum Glandular Willow-herb
Eryngium ovinum Blue Devil
Eucalyptus camaldulensis River Red-gum
Eucalyptus microcarpa Grey Box
Goodenia gracilis Slender Goodenia
Hemarthria uncinata var. *uncinata* Mat Grass
Hypochoeris radicata Cat's Ear
Juncus amabilis Hollow Rush
Juncus bufonius Toad Rush
Juncus flavidus Yellow Rush
Juncus holoschoenus Jointed Leaf Rush.
Juncus ingens Giant Rush
Juncus sarophorus Broom Rush
Lactuca saligna Willow-leaf Lettuce *
Lactuca serriola Prickly Lettuce *

Lemna dispersa Common Duckweed
Leontodon taraxacoides Hairy Hawkbit *
Lepidium africanum Common Pepper-cress *
Linum marginale Native Flax
Lolium rigidum Wimmera Rye-grass *
Ludwigia Water Primrose
Ludwigia peploides ssp. *Montevidensis* Clove Strip
Lythrum hyssopifolia Small Loosestrife
Marsilea costulifera Narrow-leaf Nardoo
Myriophyllum spp. Water Milfoil
Oxalis perennans Grassland Wood-sorrel
Paspalum distichum Water Couch *
Paspalum dilatatum Paspalum *
Persicaria decipiens Slender Knotweed
Persicaria hydropiper Water-pepper
Persicaria prostrata Creeping Knotweed
Phalaris paradoxa Paradoxical Canary-grass *
Poa labillardierei Common Tussock-grass
Polygonum arenastrum Wireweed *
Polygonum aviculare s.l. Prostrate Knotweed
Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum Jersey cudweed
Ranunculus lappaceus Australian Buttercup
Ranunculus scelaeratus Celery Buttercup
Romulea rosea Onion Grass *
Rorippa nasturtium Water Cress
Rumex brownii Slender Dock
Rumex crispus Curled Dock *
Rumex obtusifolius ssp. *obtusifolius* Broad-leaf Dock *
Salix spp. Willow *
Setaria jubiflora Warrego Summer-grass
Solanum nigrum s.l. Black Nightshade *
Solenogyne dominii Smooth Solenogyne
Sonchus oleraceus Common Sow-thistle *
Spirodela punctata Thin Duckweed
Trifolium glomeratum Cluster Clover *
Triglochin multifractum Water-ribbons
Typha domingensis Cumbungi
Ulricularia australis Yellow Bladderwort
Verbena officinalis s.l. Common Verbena
Wahlenbergia fluminalis River Bluebell
Wahlenbergia gracilis s.l. Sprawling Bluebell