

Bennett's Wallaby
© Diane Bricknell



At night the forest comes alive and occasionally the high-pitched 'boo-book' call of the Southern Boobook can be heard, while a keen eye might spot the well camouflaged Tawny Frogmouth perched on a branch as it searches for food.

Southern Brown Bandicoot
© Louise Coghill



Mammals appearing from dusk to dawn include small bats, the Common Brushtail Possum, Bennett's Wallaby and Southern Brown Bandicoot – the bandicoots conical shaped holes made during feeding are evident alongside the track. Small, narrow echidna diggings can also be seen, and although echidnas usually feed in the

early morning or late afternoon they can sometimes be seen during the day in the cooler months.

Many creatures feed on the fungi that grow in damp areas on the forest floor and fungi are also visible on the trunks of older trees. The hollows in these trees and the rotting logs on the ground provide habitat for a variety of birds, animals and insects.



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In dry times dolerite rock and river washed stone are clearly visible in the rivulet. After heavy rain the Reserve is transformed as the rivulet rushes along towards the beach. A chorus of croaking frogs gives walkers another experience to enjoy along the 10 Minute Track.

The Orford Rivulet Reserve is Crown Land, managed by enthusiastic volunteers from the Orford Community Group in partnership with the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.



To protect native animals in the Reserve please keep your dog on a leash at all times.



For more information contact:

Orford Community Group – **03 6257 1710**
GSB Council – **03 6257 4777** www.gsbc.tas.gov
NRM South – **03 6221 6111** www.nrmsouth.org.au
Birds Tasmania – www.birdsaustralia.com.au/tasmania
DPIPWE – **1300 368 550** www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au.



Orford Rivulet Reserve and the 10 Minute Track



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The Orford Rivulet

Reserve is native coastal forest of approximately two hectares which includes 500 metres of the Orford Rivulet as it runs between Rheban Road to the Orford Linkway and Millingtons Beach Conservation Area.



The 10 Minute Track

alongside the rivulet gives walkers easy access through the Reserve. In this forest over 60 native plants have been identified, and more than 30 species of birds and 5 marsupials have been recorded.

Tasmania's floral emblem, the Tasmanian Blue Gum

(*Eucalyptus globulus*), along with the common White Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) and the aromatic White Peppermint Gum (*Eucalyptus pulchella*) are the dominant large trees. A wide variety of birds can be seen in the canopies of these trees, especially when in flower. The Yellow Wattlebird, Grey Butcherbird, Australian Magpie and other resident birds call the forest home all year; others are seasonal visitors.



The cones of the Black and Drooping Sheoaks (*Allocasurina littoralis* and *verticilata*), the Oyster Bay Pine, (*Callitris rhomboidea*) and the seeds of the Silver Banksia (*Banksia marginata*) are a favourite food source of the Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo which occur in pairs and flocks. These magnificent birds also feed by stripping the bark from eucalypts and wattles.



The pale yellow flowers of the Silver Banksia attract lots of insects and provide nectar for many bird species including the Yellow-throated Honeyeater and Eastern Spinebill, and Silvereyes

can be observed feeding on nectar and fruit-bearing trees such as the Native Cranberry (*Astroloma humifusum*), Native Currant (*Coprosma quadrifida*) and Common Native Cherry (*Exocarpus cupresiformis*) – a tree that is parasitic on roots of other plants. Prickly Box (*Bursaria spinosa*) is another favourite source of nectar for many birds and from bees produces excellent honey.



Wattles (*Acacia sp.*) including the Blackwood (*Acacia meanoxylon*) – prized for its timber – and other small trees and shrubs including Pinkwood (*Beyeria viscosa*), Woolly Teatree (*Leptospermum lanigerum*) and Native Olive (*Notelaea ligustrina*) give many smaller birds shelter and food. The Spotted and Striated Pardalotes often gather in flocks together with the striking Scarlet and Flame Robins. The Superb Fairy-wren is another colourful resident that can frequently be seen hopping through the undergrowth catching insects. Grey Fantails are a delight to observe as they catch insects on the wing by twisting and turning in flight.



The Small-leaf Clematis (*Clematis microphylla*) is among a variety of climbing plants found in the Reserve, mainly visible in spring and summer when they produce their flowers. Many native grasses and some ferns form the understory of the forest with delicate Bluebells (*Wahlenbergia sp.*) and the Shortstem Flaxlily (*Dianella brevicaulis*) also visible in the warmer months. Commonly seen are Green Rosellas and



Blue Winged Parrots as they feed on the ground among the native grasses, unlike Bronzewing that are rarely seen in the dense undergrowth, but can be heard making their repetitive 'oom-oom' call.