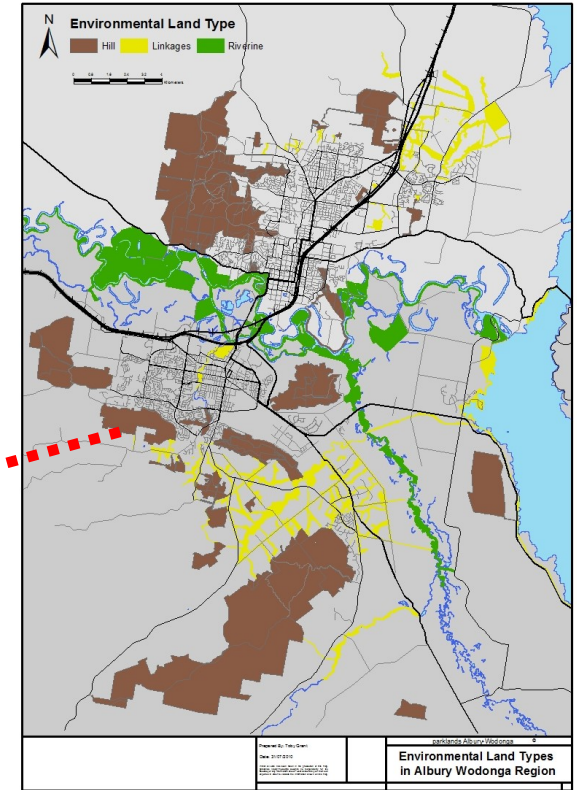
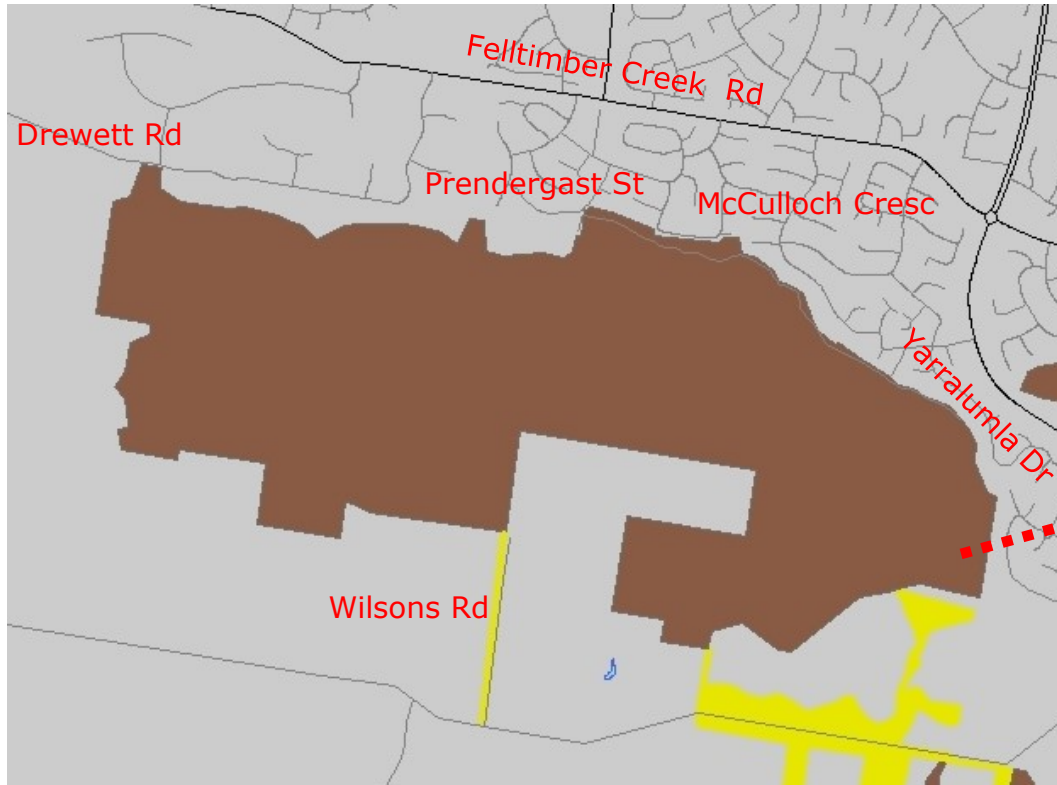




Getting to Federation Hill



Start / finish / park: at corner of Wattle Rd and Prendergast Street where there is ample parking. There are a host of **pedestrian access points** (highlighted in red) around the hill but limited parking, except in residential streets.

Highlights: Look up for great views and look down at the amazing ground layer. Bushland habitat is like a jigsaw. If the groundcover piece is missing there will be wildlife missing. Native grasses and groundcovers are a precious part of the jigsaw, providing shelter from predators, nesting materials and food (nectar and pollen) for many insects, birds and mammals.

Take Care:

- ◆ Carry drinking water.
- ◆ Keep your dog on a lead
- ◆ It is not recommended to visit during high fire risk days and total fire ban days in summer.

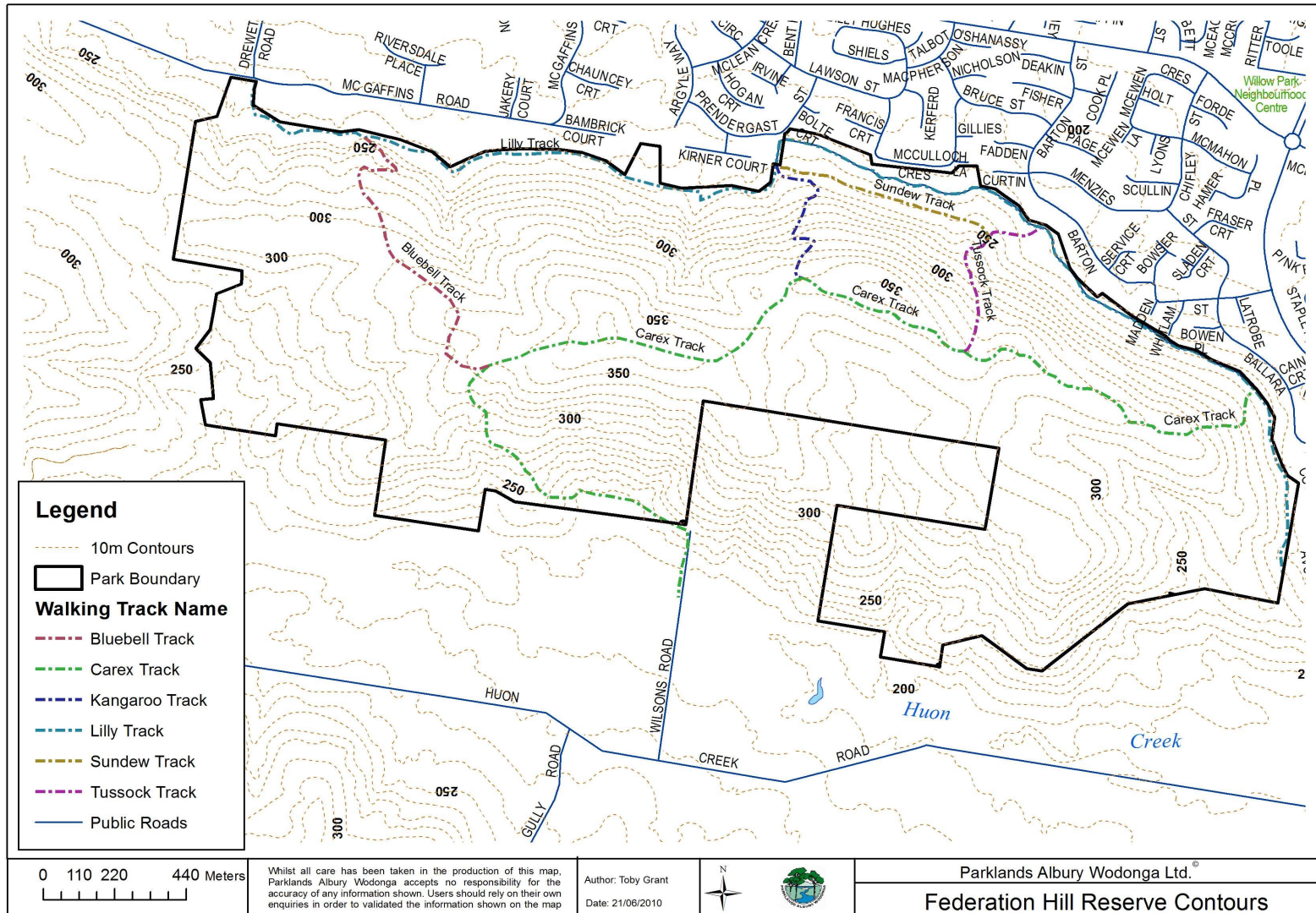


Bush parks and trails
connecting community

Nature Trail Notes

Federation Hill Nature Trails Map

This bushland is a precious part of efforts to prevent some animals and plants being lost to us forever. The names of the nature trails are native grasses and groundcovers found in this open woodland landscape. This ground layer is a precious part of the jigsaw, providing nesting materials and food (nectar and pollen) for many insects, birds and mammals.





Things to look out for...

Carex - *Carex appressa* is a native sedge well suited to filtering the urban water runoff entering the reserve. Like many native grasses, it's tussocky form allows wildflowers to grow between clumps.



Photo: Harry Rose CCA2

Blue Bell - *Wahlenbergia stricta* is a perennial herb flowering mainly in spring or summer with pale blue bell-like flowers. It provides nectar for butterflies and is listed as a traditional food source.



Photo: John Tann CCA2

Kangaroo Grass *Themeda triandra* has distinctive seed heads. The seeds ripen in summer and were a rich food source for Aboriginal people in this area. As a summer growing perennial, Kangaroo grass is a desirable species to have in fire prone areas, forming a green sward when annual grasses are at their most flammable.



Lily—Federation Hill features several lily species in spring. Look out for Bulbine lily (pictured), Chocolate lily and Pale Vanilla lily in particular. These beautiful wildflowers are ephemeral—here one week, gone the next.



Sundew *Drosera peltata* is Australia's version of the Venus Flytrap...nature's bug-catcher. Sundews appear in spring and you may spot some in the process of absorbing insects. They exude a sticky substance which attracts and traps insects. The insects then die and get absorbed by the plant.



Tussock—Tussocks are important to the ecology of this Box Gum Grassy Woodland, as they grow in a compact form leaving spaces at ground level for wildflowers to come and go throughout the year. Tussocks include native grasses like kangaroo grass, wallaby grass (pictured), carex, poa, juncus and spear grass.





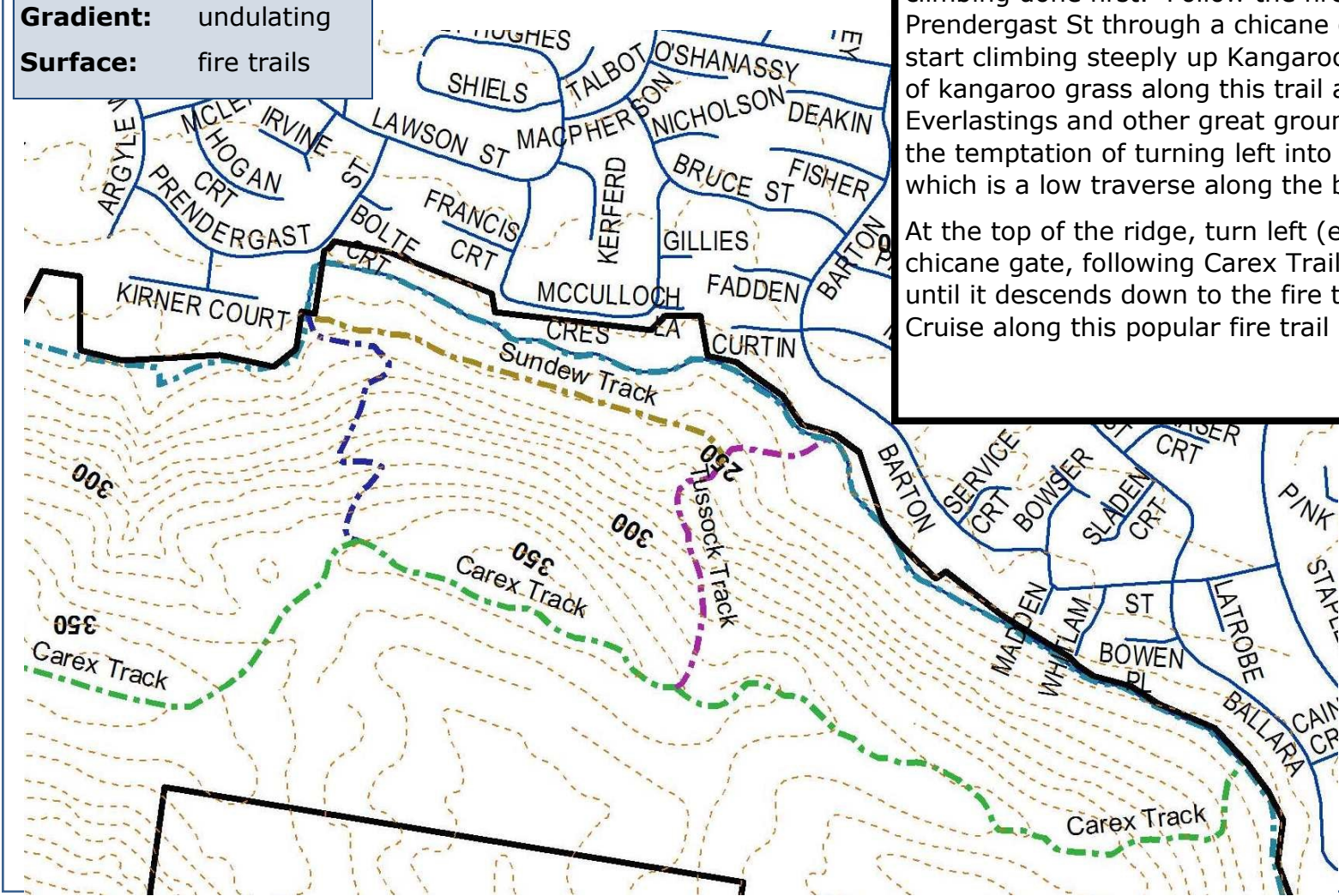
Carex Nature Trail Circuit

Grade:	Medium
Distance:	4 km
Time:	1 hour
Gradient:	undulating
Surface:	fire trails

Start / finish / park: at corner of Wattle Park off Prendergast Street where there is ample parking.

This circuit is best done anticlockwise to get the climbing done first. Follow the fire trail from Prendergast St through a chicane gate, then left to start climbing steeply up Kangaroo Trail, with plenty of kangaroo grass along this trail as well as Dianella, Everlastings and other great groundcovers. Avoid the temptation of turning left into Sundew Trail, which is a low traverse along the base of the hill.

At the top of the ridge, turn left (east) and through a chicane gate, following Carex Trail for its full length until it descends down to the fire trail behind houses. Cruise along this popular fire trail back to the start.





Federation Summit Circuit

Grade: Medium
Distance: 8.7 km
Time: 3 hour
Gradient: undulating
Surface: paved trail

Start / finish / park: at Felltimber Community Centre where there is ample parking.

Head south on the paved bike trail under Felltimber Creek Road. Take care crossing three minor roads en route to the Federation Hill fire trail. Turn left (east) and continue along the base of the hill. At the first chicane gate, turn right and start the gentle climb up Carex Trail.

Continue the gentle climb and traverse on Carex Trail along the main ridge, taking in both the views and native groundcover layers. In winter, Sundews twinkle in the early daylight.

Where Carex Trail veers south, take the vague Bluebell Trail downhill towards the large town water tank, then the bitumen trail down to the main fire trail. Turn right (east) and cruise along the fire trail at the base of Federation Hill. Take the paved trail left (north east) just after passing a dam on your right, and return to the community centre.

**Federation Hill Challenge
Long Course**

