

## Wood Duck Swamp

### Location and Description

Wood Duck Swamp is an ephemeral swamp that may hold water for many months in an otherwise dry landscape. The Swamp is located approximately 185 km north of Alice Springs and 70 km east-north-east of Ti-Tree. It fills periodically after heavy rain. Wood Duck Swamp is dominated by smooth-barked coolabah *Eucalyptus victrix*.

### Tenure and Land Use

Wood Duck Swamp is entirely pastoral leasehold land within one pastoral lease (Mount Skinner). The main land use within the Site and broader catchment is cattle grazing on native pastures.

### Significance Rating

National Significance

### Ecological Values

Wood Duck Swamp is an ephemeral swamp that is notable for holding water for many months in an arid environment.

### Management Issues

The Site is poorly surveyed and there is a lack of data on its conservation values and threats.

### Condition

No information located.

### Current Conservation Initiatives

The swamp has been fenced off by the landholder.





WOOD DUCK SWAMP - SITE OF CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE

	<b>SOCS Number</b>	47 (NT Parks and Conservation Masterplan Map Number 72)
	<b>Latitude/Longitude</b>	22° 2' South, 134° 2' East (at centre)
	<b>Bioregion</b>	Burt Plain
	<b>Description</b>	The boundary of this site has been delineated based on mapping in Duguid <i>et al.</i> (2005), with a 2 km buffer added. The site encompasses an area of 15 km <sup>2</sup> . The Northern Anmatyerre area, 35 km to the north-west of the site, is also recognised as a site of high conservation significance in the NT.
<b>THREATENED SPECIES</b>	<b>Significance Rating</b>	<b>Not Significant</b>
	<b>Threatened plants and animals</b> (Listings at National/NT level <b>CR</b> - Critically Endangered, <b>EN</b> - Endangered, <b>VU</b> - Vulnerable, <b>NT</b> - Near Threatened, <b>LC</b> - Least Concern, <b>DD</b> - Data Deficient)	No threatened species are reported from this site.
<b>ENDEMIC SPECIES</b>	<b>Significance Rating</b>	<b>Not Significant</b>
	<b>Notes</b>	No endemic species are recorded from this site.
<b>WILDLIFE AGGREGATIONS</b>	<b>Significance Rating</b>	<b>Not Significant</b>
	<b>Marine turtles</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Seabirds</b>	None known
	<b>Waterbirds</b>	None known
	<b>Shorebirds</b>	None known
	<b>Other aggregations</b>	None known
<b>WETLANDS</b>	<b>Significance Rating</b>	<b>National Significance</b>
	<b>Ramsar criteria met</b>	Not assessed
	<b>DIWA criteria met</b>	Wood Duck Swamp is not currently listed in the Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (DIWA), however Duguid <i>et al.</i> (2005) assessed the Swamp against DIWA criteria and concluded that the Swamp meets Criterion 1.
	<b>Notes</b>	Wood Duck Swamp is considered a good example of a large non linear wooded swamp supporting a range of wetland species. It is one of the largest such swamps in the Burt Plains bioregion and differs in vegetation and landform from other swamps (such as Mud Hut Swamp). There is anecdotal evidence that the Swamp was continuously full for between three and four years in the 1970s (Duguid 2005). When inundated, Wood Duck Swamp supports a variety of wetland birds and plants, though detailed surveys have not been conducted.
	<b>Rivers</b>	No information located
<b>FLORA</b>	<b>Significance Rating</b>	<b>Not Significant</b>
	<b>Notes</b>	No restricted range or relictual species are recorded from this site.
<b>OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES</b>		The Swamp has hollow-bearing trees which provide breeding habitat for waterbirds. The hollows are protected from predators when the Swamp is inundated.

WOOD DUCK SWAMP - SITE OF CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE

MANAGEMENT ISSUES		<p><b>Fire:</b> 100% of the site was burnt in fewer than two years in the period 1997-2005. The current fire regime, including extensive and relatively intense fires, may have negative impacts on the conservation values of the site (NRETA 2005).</p> <p><b>Feral animals:</b> No information located</p> <p><b>Weeds and invasive exotic plants:</b> No priority weed species are currently known from the site, but couch grass <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> is likely to be spreading in the site.</p> <p><b>Other:</b> The full extent and nature of all processes affecting the conservation values at the site cannot be well defined because there has been insufficient biological survey within this site.</p>
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION	<b>NRM groups</b>	No information located.
	<b>Protected areas</b>	The site is not within the formal network of protected areas within the NT.
	<b>Current management plans</b>	<p><b>Site-specific plans:</b> None known.</p> <p><b>Other management plans:</b> Australian Weeds Strategy (NRMMC 2007)  <a href="http://www.weeds.gov.au/publications/strategies/weed-strategy.html">http://www.weeds.gov.au/publications/strategies/weed-strategy.html</a></p>
	<b>Monitoring programs and research projects</b>	<p>Across the NT, fire is mapped continuously under the North Australia Fire Information Project  <a href="http://www.firenorth.org.au/nafi/app/init.jsp">http://www.firenorth.org.au/nafi/app/init.jsp</a></p>
	<b>Management recommendations</b>	<p>In conjunction with landholders develop conservation management programs and with agreement of landholder nominate area for inclusion in Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (NRETA 2005).                      Provide extension services to assist landholders in implementing agreed conservation management programs (NRETA 2005).                      Keep the public out of the swamp area (Landholder, pers. comm.).</p>
KEY REFERENCES	<b>Papers and reports</b>	Duguid, A., Barnetson, J., Clifford, B., Pavey, C., Albrecht, D., Risler, J. and McNellie, M. (2005). <i>Wetlands in the arid Northern Territory. A report to the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage on the inventory and significance of wetlands in the arid NT.</i> Northern Territory Government Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts. Alice Springs.
	<b>Contributors</b>	