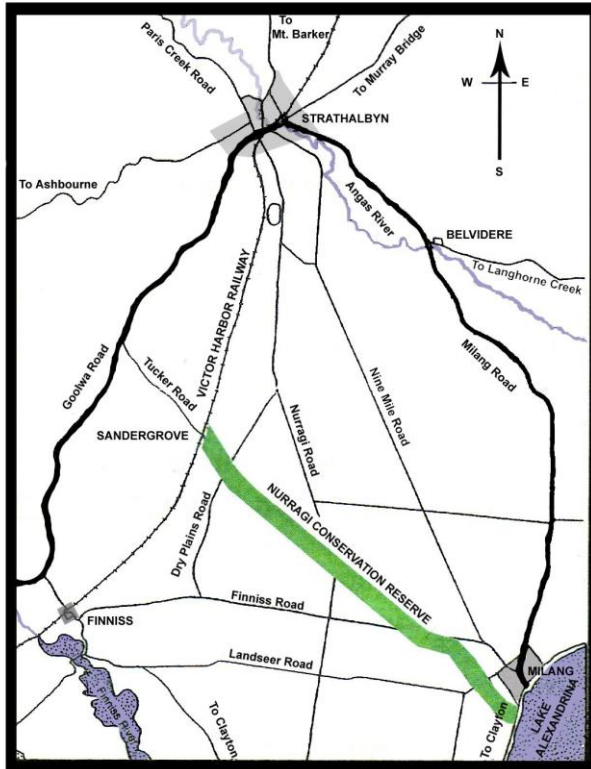


The **Nurragi Conservation Reserve** is an important area for the conservation of native plants and animals. It covers 65ha and comprises the former Sandergrove to Milang railway reserve.



This brochure has been prepared by the Friends of Nurragi to describe the significance of the Reserve and the efforts of local volunteers to protect and enhance the area.



## History

The Sandergrove – Milang railway operated between 1884 and 1970 as an off-shoot of the Adelaide – Victor Harbor line. In the mid 1980s, local groups lobbied for its retention as a reserve because of its important native vegetation. Local volunteers commenced bush-care works in the area in 1987.



Last day of passenger service to Milang 30/11/68  
Photo: Brian Castle

With the support of the State Government, the area was dedicated as a Nature Reserve, managed by the Friends of Nurragi, in June 1991. For several years, the reserve terminated at Landseer Road on the outskirts of Milang but in 2001 a further section was dedicated, completing the link through to Milang and Lake Alexandrina.

## Vegetation

Nurragi Conservation Reserve contains extremely important vegetation in a region that has been cleared of over 98% of its original cover. More than 300 native plant species are present, with over 50 of those being of particular conservation significance (eg rare or endangered). The Reserve is an important bird corridor, linking the lakeside environment to the foothills.

Much of the Reserve is also protected in perpetuity through a Heritage Agreement with the State Government.

## Management

Nurragi Conservation Reserve is dedicated to management by the Friends of Nurragi in partnership with the National Trust of South Australia.

The Friends of Nurragi have volunteered thousands of hours to control pests and to enhance the reserve. Bridal creeper control has been a particular success.

Revegetation of cleared areas along the Reserve has also been a priority through direct-seeding and tube-stock planting, the latter often involving local schools. In addition, with the support of Alexandrina Council and adjoining landholders, unused road reserves have been rationalised and sections of land added to Nurragi. These are being revegetated with local native species.



Friends of Nurragi at work

## Management Support

Management of Nurragi has been supported by the Australian Government, the State Government (through the Heritage Agreement Grants Scheme), Alexandrina Council and the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board. In recent years, there has also been significant support by SA Water, as part of its obligations under the Native Vegetation Act to offset the effects of vegetation clearance for water infrastructure elsewhere in the district. There has also been assistance through the Goolwa – Wellington Local Action Planning Association.



Previously cleared sections of Nurragi are being revegetated



## Public Access

Visitors are encouraged to use Nurragi Conservation Reserve as a walking trail. Interpretive signs have been installed and there is a track along the length of the reserve with stiles to assist access over fencing. Please note, however, that:

- native plants and animals are protected
- horses and vehicles are not permitted
- fires are not permitted at any time.

## Friends of Nurragi

Nurragi Conservation Reserve is cared for by the Friends of Nurragi Association. This is a combination of local community volunteers and the National Trust of South Australia. The Friends Group has also been supported by landholders alongside the reserve and by local schools.

## Further Information

For further information about the Nurragi Conservation Reserve or the Friends of Nurragi Association, please contact the Association's Secretary on (08) 8272 8496, the National Trust's Natural Heritage Manager on (08) 8202 9200. or check the Trust's Places To Visit web-page on [http://www.nationaltrustsa.org.au/index.php/places\\_to\\_visit/](http://www.nationaltrustsa.org.au/index.php/places_to_visit/)

The Association welcomes new members.



NATIONAL TRUST  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



# Nurragi Conservation Reserve



*... from  
Railway Line  
to Nature  
Reserve...*