Ralph Illidge Sanctuary Reserve

At a glance

Country: Khirrae Whurrong

Catchment: Glenelg Hopkins

IBRA Region: South East Coastal Plain

Victorian Bioregion: Warrnambool Plain

Size: 92 hectares

70+ plant species

80+ animal species

3 habitat types

Management priorities include pest plant and animal control, plus rehabilitation of habitat in previously cleared areas.

About the property

One of the earliest reserves acquired by the Trust for Nature, the original property was bequeathed by the Estate of Ralph Illidge in 1975. In 1987 the reserve was extended with the incorporation of the northern section with the help of local conservation groups, service groups and the Victorian Government. The property is managed by the Friends of Ralph Illidge Sanctuary who run regular working bees.

The reserve is home to a population of Long Nosed Potoroos *(Potorous tridactylus).* Listed as Endangered in Victoria, this predominately nocturnal species lives in dense undergrowth in sclerophyll (eucalypt) forests. Another notable species on site is the endangered Powerful Owl *(Ninox strenua)*. To support breeding the Friends of Ralph Illidge Sanctuary together with Trust for Nature have installed several nesting boxes around the reserve.

The rare and unusual Dwarf Silver Wattle (*Acacia nanodealbata*) occurs on the reserve, as well as rainforest species which are not seen in the surrounding cleared farmland, making this a sanctuary for enjoying the ambiance of the forest.

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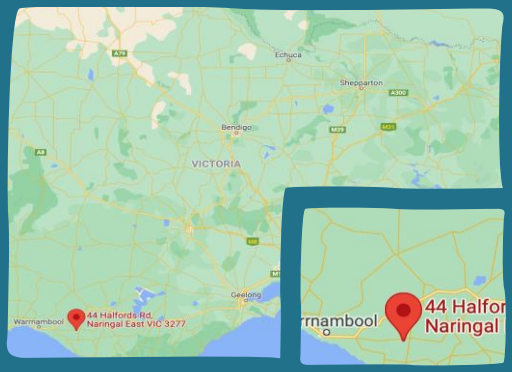
Key habitats: Riparian Messmate and Manna Gum forest, Wet Sclerophyll Messmate Forest and Open dry Manna Gum Woodland

Notable flora species: Dwarf Silver Wattle *(Acacia nano-dealbata),* Greenhood *(Pterostylis* spp*),* Swamp Greenhood *(Pterostylis tenuissima),* Manna Gum *(Eucalyptus viminalis)* and Swamp Gum *(Eucalyptus ovata)*

Notable fauna species: Long-nosed Potoroo *(Potorous tridactylus*), Grey Goshawk *(Accipiter novaehollandiae),* Rufous Bristlebird *(Dasyornis broadbenti)* and Powerful Owl *(Ninox strenua)*



Location

Ralph Illidge Sanctuary Reserve

44 Halfords Road, Naringal East

Open to the general public

Check website for seasonal closure information and timing of working bees

Our reserves have hazards that may cause serious injury or death. You are responsible for your own safety and the safety of those in your care. Before entering our reserves, please scan the QR code to learn about this reserve's risks, hazards, controls and the action needed to ensure your visit here is safe and enjoyable. Alternately this information can be found online at **trustfornature.org.au/about-us/reserves/**

You can support Trust for Nature's work by donating at **trustfornature.org.au**

For more information or to report a hazard, please call (03) 8631 5888.

Scan QR code to find more information.

Traditional Owner: Trust for Nature acknowledges and respects the Traditional Owners of this land, the Khirrae Whurrong people.

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