



Aerial photo: looking west

Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve covers 1569 hectares and has an international reputation amongst birdwatchers and biologists as well as being enjoyed by tourists and local Territorians. The area is important to the Limilingan-Wulna Aboriginal people who have stories of their ancestors in the landscape.

Access

Fogg Dam is the only wetland easily accessible to conventional vehicles 12 months of the year – only an hour's drive from Darwin on a sealed road.

From Darwin or Katherine via the Stuart Highway.

From the Stuart Highway, turn onto the Arnhem Highway. The Fogg Dam (Anzac Parade) turnoff, which is well signed, is 35km along the Arnhem Highway. Drive 6 km along to the entrance on the left hand side of the road, also well signed.

From Kakadu National Park

Drive from Jabiru along the Arnhem Highway towards Darwin. After crossing the Adelaide River you pass the entrance to Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre on the right hand side of the road. The next road on the right is the Fogg Dam turnoff (Anzac Parade) and it is well signed. Drive 6 km to the reserve entrance on the left hand side of the road.

Finding Birds at Fogg Dam

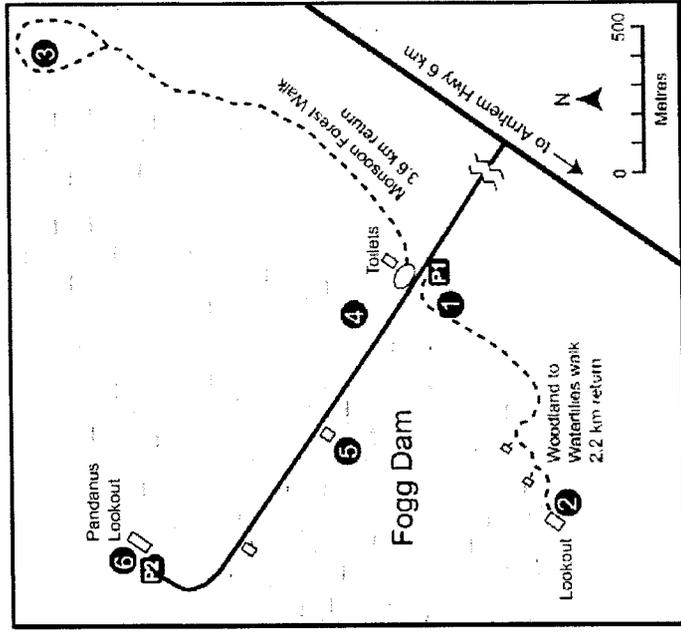
A walk along the dam wall allows excellent views of the wetland on one side and the grassy plain on the other. Bar-breasted Honeyeater and, in the Wet Season, perhaps Oriental Cuckoo may be seen in the trees or bushes along the start of the dam wall. When there is surface water, check the open area [4] near the forest edge for crakes. White-browed Crane sometimes comes out in full view of the first viewing platform [5]. Clamorous Reed-Warbler and Tawny Grassbird may be seen on either side of the dam wall.

Magpie Goose, Brolga and Black-necked Stork as well as many other waterbirds may be seen scattered throughout, mainly on the northern side of the wall. The large observation deck [6] provides views across the extensive grassland.



Rainbow Pitta

There are two forest walks. However, if there is only time for one, the southern walk, signposted "Woodland to Waterlilies Walk" is usually better for birdwatching and is somewhat shorter. At the start of this walk a small creek is crossed. Watch towards the dam edge here for Little and Azure Kingfishers. Rainbow Pitta, Brush Cuckoo, Bar-breasted Honeyeater and Leaden and Broad-billed Flycatchers are also often seen along this part of this walk, together with Little Shrike-thrush, Yellow Oriole, Spangled Drongo and Lemon-bellied Flycatcher.



Map of Fogg Dam with walking trails

The track changes to a boardwalk further along and for much of the year the ground in this section is under water. Little and Azure Kingfishers are sometimes found perched on branches above the water here. Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove is often in the trees at the edge of the forest, where the track passes through an open area before reaching the small observation deck [2] at the wetland edge. White-browed Crane can be found on or around the waterlilies near the observation deck.

The "Monsoon Forest Walk" passes first through woodland and Olive-backed Oriole is often seen here. Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove and Rainbow Pitta have been seen throughout the monsoon forest, though the Pitta is more frequently found within the loop part of the walk [3].

Many birds can also be seen around the carpark [1]. At dusk, watch for Spotted or Large-tailed Nightjar and Barking Owl.