

EXPLORE RAPID CREEK

Gurumbai, Larrakia Country

Gurumbai is the Larrakia name for Rapid Creek. The Larrakia people are the traditional owners of the lands and waters around Darwin. Their country runs from Cox Peninsula in the west to Gunn Point in the north, Adelaide River in the east and down to the Manton Dam area in the south. Gurumbai means elbow, referring to the shape of the creek towards its mouth. Rapid Creek has been the source of plentiful food and fresh water for countless generations of Larrakia people.

Rapid Creek forms the only significant freshwater system in Darwin. Around ten kilometres long, it supports rich and varied wildlife in important vegetation communities, including mangroves, savannah woodland, riverine monsoon forest, grasslands and paperbark swamps. Rapid Creek and its catchment are under threat from weeds, late dry season wildfires, water pollution and inappropriate development and clearing.

The Rapid Creek Landcare Group looks after Rapid Creek through on-ground work, promoting awareness about the creek and advocating for better management throughout the catchment.

For more information visit www.rapidcreek.org.au

Key Sites of Interest

1. Viewing platform
2. Yellow footbridge
3. Accessible fishing platform
4. 'The Spit' - Recent focus of Landcare group revegetation
5. Lakeside Drive Community Garden
6. Jingili Water Gardens and Community Garden
7. Red footbridge
8. V-notch weir and gauging station
9. Yankee Pools - WWII defence forces swimming spot
10. Mercure Hotel
11. Flood Mitigation Weir
12. Gurumbai Trail - Creekside walk through rainforest: a collaborative project developed by the Larrakia traditional owners, and the Airport Development Group.
13. Marrara swamp

Bird List

Megapode & Quail

Orange-footed Scrubfowl
Brown Quail

Ducks, Geese & Grebe

Magpie Goose
Plumed Whistling-Duck
Wandering Whistling-Duck
Radjah Shelduck

Green Pygmy-goose
Grey Teal

Pacific Black Duck
Hardhead

Australasian Grebe

Pigeons & Doves

Pacific Emerald Dove
Peaceful Dove

Bar-shouldered Dove
Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove
Torresian Imperial-Pigeon

Frogmouth, Nightjars & Swift

Tawny Frogmouth
Spotted Nightjar
Large-tailed Nightjar

Australian Owlet-nightjar
Pacific Swift

Frigatebird, Darter & Cormorants

Lesser Frigatebird
Australasian Darter
Little Pied Cormorant

Little Black Cormorant
Pied Cormorant

Pelican & Stork

Australian Pelican
Black-necked Stork

Hérons, Egrets and Bittern

Black Bittern
Great Egret
Intermediate Egret

Cattle Egret
Striated Heron
Pied Heron

White-faced Heron
Little Egret

Eastern Reef Egret
Nankeen Night-Heron

Ibis and Spoonbill
Glossy Ibis
Australian White Ibis

Straw-necked Ibis
Royal Spoonbill

Eagles, Kites, Goshawks, Osprey & Falcons

Osprey
Black-shouldered Kite
Pacific Baza
White-bellied Sea-Eagle



Red headed Honey eater. Photo Peter Cooke

Whistling Kite
Brahminy Kite

Black Kite
Brown Goshawk
Collared Sparrowhawk

Grey Goshawk
Spotted Harrier
Wedge-tailed Eagle

Nankeen Kestrel
Brown Falcon

Australian Hobby
Peregrine Falcon

Crane, Crakes, Rail & Coot

Brolga
Buff-banded Rail
Baillon's Crake

White-browed Crake
Eurasian Coot

Stone-curlews
Bush Stone-curlew
Beach Stone-curlew

Oystercatchers, Stilt & Avocet

Australian Pied Oystercatcher
Sooty Oystercatcher
Pied Stilt

Red-necked Avocet

Plovers, Dotterels, Lapwing & Jacana
Pacific Golden-Plover
Grey Plover

Red-capped Plover
Lesser Sand-Plover

Greater Sand-Plover
Oriental Plover

Black-fronted Dotterel
Red-kneed Dotterel
Masked Lapwing

Comb-crested Jacana

Snipes, Sandpipers, Godwits, Curlews & Stint
Swinhoe's Snipe
Black-tailed Godwit

Bar-tailed Godwit
Little Curlew
Whimbrel

Far Eastern Curlew
Terek Sandpiper
Common Sandpiper

Broad-billed Sandpiper
Grey-tailed Tattler
Common Greenshank

Marsh Sandpiper
Wood Sandpiper
Ruddy Turnstone

Great Knot
Red Knot
Sanderling

Red-necked Stint
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
Curlew Sandpiper

Button-quails
Red-backed Buttonquail
Red-chested Buttonquail

Pratincoles
Oriental Pratincole
Australian Pratincole



Nankeen Night-Heron. Photo - Ian Lancaster

Gull & Terns

Crested Tern
Lesser Crested Tern
White-winged Tern

Little Tern
Gull-billed Tern

Caspian Tern
Whiskered Tern
Silver Gull

Cockatoos, Galah & Corella
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo
Galah

Little Corella
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

Parrot, Lorikeets & Rosella
Red-collared Lorikeet
Red-winged Godwit

Varied Lorikeet
Red-winged Parrot
Northern Rosella

Cuckoos
Pheasant Coucal
Pacific Koel

Channel-billed Cuckoo
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo
Little Bronze-Cuckoo

Marsh Grassbird
Pallid Cuckoo
Brush Cuckoo

Oriental Cuckoo
Black-eared Cuckoo

Owls
Rufous Owl
Barking Owl

Southern Boobook
Barn Owl

Kingfishers & Bee-eater
Azure Kingfisher
Little Kingfisher

Blue-winged Kookaburra
Forest Kingfisher
Sacred Kingfisher

Torresian Kingfisher
Rainbow Bee-eater

Dollarbird, Pitta & Bowerbird
Dollarbird
Rainbow Pitta

Great Bowerbird
Fairy-wren
Red-backed Fairy-wren

Weebill, Gerygones & Pardalote
Weebill
Mangrove Gerygone

Large-billed Gerygone
Green-backed Gerygone
Striated Pardalote

Honeyeaters & Friarbirds
White-gaped Honeyeater

Bar-breasted Honeyeater
Rufous-banded Honeyeater
Dusky Myzomela

Red-headed Myzomela
Banded Honeyeater
Brown Honeyeater

White-throated Honeyeater
Blue-faced Honeyeater
Helmeted Friarbird

Silver-crowned Friarbird
Little Friarbird

Babbler & Cicadabird
Grey-crowned Babbler
Common Cicadabird

Cuckoo-shrikes & Trillers
Black-faced Cuckooshrike
White-bellied Cuckooshrike

White-winged Triller
Varied Triller



Northern Rosella. Photo Ian Lancaster

Whistlers & Shrike-thrushes
Grey Whistler
Rufous Whistler

Arafura Shrikethrush
Orioles & Figbird
Australasian Figbird

Green Oriole
Olive-backed Oriole

Woodswallows & Butcherbirds
White-browed Woodswallow
White-breasted Woodswallow

Masked Woodswallow
Black-faced Woodswallow
Black Butcherbird

Silver-backed Butcherbird
Pied Butcherbird
Drongo

Spangled Drongo
Fantails
Mangrove Fantail

Arafura Fantail

Northern Fantail
Willie-wagtail

Crow
Torresian Crow

Flycatchers
Broad-billed Flycatcher
Leaden Flycatcher

Shining Flycatcher
Paperbark Flycatcher
Magpie-lark

Lemon-bellied Flycatcher

Robin & Lark
Mangrove Robin
Australasian Bushlark

Cisticolas
Zitting Cisticola
Golden-headed Cisticola

Grassbird & White-eye
Tawny Grassbird
Australian Yellow White-eye

Martins
Fairy Martin
Tree Martin

Mistletoebird
Mistletoebird

Swallows
Barn Swallow
Red-rumped Swallow

Finches & Mannikins
Double-barred Finch
Long-tailed Finch

Masked Finch
Crimson Finch
Yellow-rumped Mannikin

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin
Pipit & Wagtail
Australasian Pipit

Eastern Yellow Wagtail
Grey Wagtail



Red-Tailed Black-Cockatoo. Photo Ian Lancaster

Rapid Creek Landcare Group

The group has been active for three decades, we were incorporated in 1997. Our members are volunteers who are passionate about Rapid Creek. We achieve our goals through on-ground Projects, Campaigns and Working Bees. We welcome new members, please contact us through the website.

Our goals

The group's objects and purposes are:

- Restore and protect natural ecosystems within the Rapid Creek catchment
- Promote the implementation of the broad concepts and principles outlined in the Rapid Creek Management Plan
- Establish and maintain links with and between community groups, landholders and other stakeholders in the Rapid Creek catchment to facilitate understanding and support
- Involve the community in the management and enjoyment of the Rapid Creek open space land
- Develop understanding in the community of the natural values and cultural heritage of the Rapid Creek catchment and of land, flora and fauna conservation

