

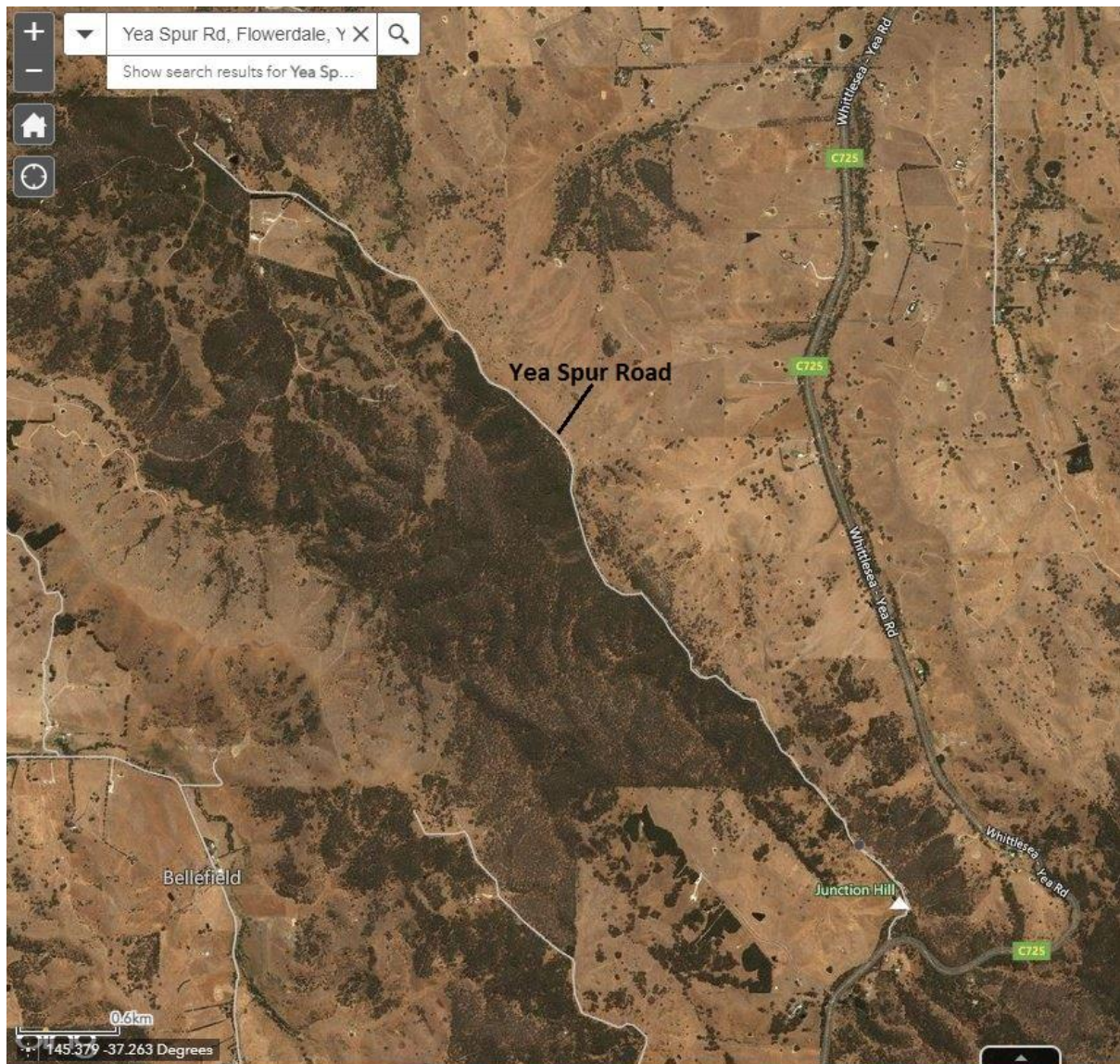
Yea Spur Road Botanical Report



*Flowerdale Landcare Inc.
November 2021 – July 2022*

Yea Spur Road Botanical Report

The Yea Spur Road, Yea is approximately 6km long. Several surveys were undertaken, with the main survey taking place in what is known as the Junction Hill Bushland Reserve (-37.299657, 145.367744), at the southern end of Yea Spur Road where it meets Yea-Whittlesea Road on 7th of November 2021.



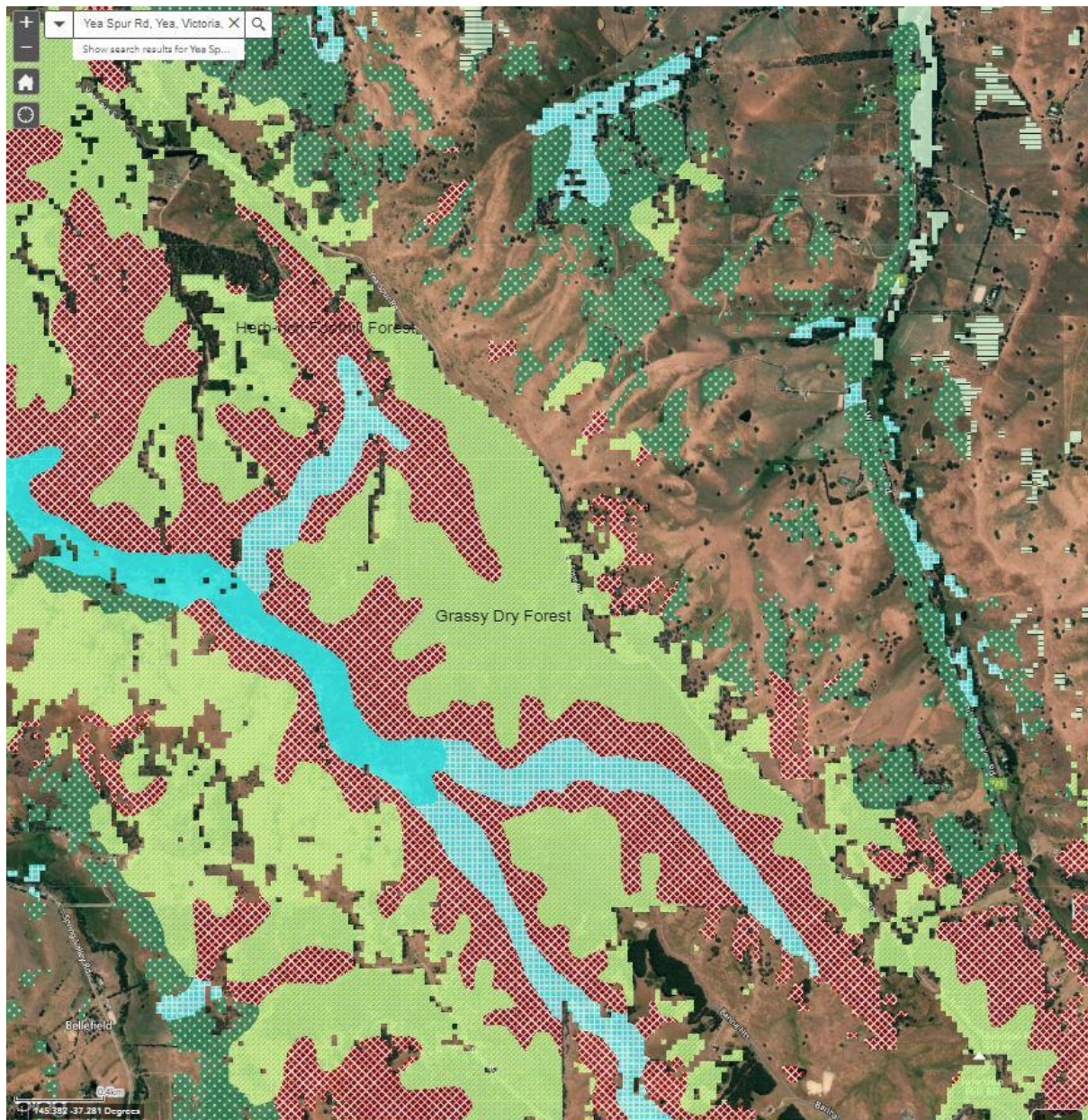
Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVC's)

Yea Spur Road falls into the **Central Victorian Uplands** Bioregion.

The EVC's are:

Grassy Dry Forest (EVC 22) – Bioregional Conservation Status; **Depleted**,

Herb-rich Foothill Forest (EVC 23) - Bioregional Conservation Status; **Depleted**.



Tree Hollows

In the Junction Hill Bushland Reserve, there are abundant mature trees with a range of hollows produced through limb loss and splitting in high winds, fire damage, insect damage (termites etc.) and the ageing process. Feral honeybees were present in at least 3 hollows. Existing hollows would cater to a variety of wildlife from small animals including Antechinus and Pardalotes through to the larger Brush-tailed Possums.

Trees with a range of hollows occur sporadically along the length of the road and on private properties abutting the road.

Fauna

During the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network fauna surveys, the following fauna species were recorded.

Birds

Australian Magpie
Australian Raven
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Brown Goshawk
Brown Quail
Brown Thornbill
Buff-rumped Thornbill
Fan-tailed Cuckoo
Crimson Rosella
Galah
Golden Whistler
Grey Fantail
Grey Shrike-thrush
Laughing Kookaburra
Noisy Miner
Pied Currawong
Red Wattlebird
Rufous Whistler
Scarlet Robin
Spotted Pardalote
Striated Pardalote
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Superb Fairy-wren
White-browed Scrubwren
White-eared Honeyeater
White-plumed Honeyeater
White-throated Treecreeper
Yellow Thornbill
Yellow-faced Honeyeater

Mammals

Agile Antechinus
Brush-tailed Phascogale
Common Brush-tailed Possum
Echidna
Fallow Deer*
Grey Kangaroo
Koala
Red Fox*
Ringtail Possum
Sambar Deer*
Swamp Wallaby
Wombat

*Denotes introduced species.

Habitat Threats

- Illegal firewood cutting on the roadside just north of the Mobile Phone Tower
- Dumping of garden waste and other rubbish in the Bushland Reserve
- St. Johns Wort scattered along the length of the road, Angled Onion and Gorse occur in the Bushland Reserve, Sweet Vernal is the predominant weed species.
- African Weed Orchid (*Dyssa bracteata*) – 1 plant located and removed from Yea Spur roadside by David and Deidre Houlden @ 600m north of Mobile Phone Tower
- Blackberry is almost non-existent

Flora

The vegetation surveys attached show a diverse range of flora with 73 species recorded:

Yea Spur Road Botanical Survey November 2021 to September 2022	
Species	Common Name
Acacia dealbata	Silver wattle
Acacia implexa	Lightwood
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood
Acaena echinata	Sheep's burr
Acaena novae zelandiae	Bidgee widgee
Acrotriche serrulata	Honey pots
Arthropodium milleflorum	Pale vanilla lily
Arthropodium strictum	Chocolate lily
Asperula conferta	Common woodruff
Astroloma humifusum	Cranberry heath
Austrostipa ssp	Speargrass
Brunonia australis	Blue pincushion
Burchardia umbellata	Milkmaids
Bursaria spinosa	Sweet bursaria

Caladenia ssp	Pink fingers - orchid
Carex appressa	Tall sedge
Cassinia aculeata	Common dogwood
Chiloglottis valida	Bird orchid
Coronidium scorpioides	Button everlasting
Correa reflexa	Common correa
Cymbonotus preissianus	Bears ears
Daviesia leptophylla	Narrow leaf bitter pea
Dianella admixta	Black anther flax lily
Dichondra repens	Kidney weed
Drosera aberrans	Scented sundew
Drosera auriculata	Tall sundew
E. dives	Broadleaf peppermint
E. globulus ssp. bicostata	Victorian blue gum
E. goniocarpus	Longleaf box
E. macrorhyncha	Red stringybark
E. microcarpa	Grey box
E. obliqua	Messmate stringybark
E. polyanthemos	Red box
E. rubida	Candlebark
Exocarpus cupressiformis	Cherry ballart
Gahnia sieberiana	Saw sedge
Geranium ciliocarpum	Variable cranebill
Gonocarpus humilis	Shady raspwort
Goodenia ovata	Hop goodenia
Hardenbergia violacea	Sarsparilla
Hovea heterophylla	Common hovea
Hydrocotyle ssp	Stinking pennywort
Hypericum gramineum	Small St. John's wort
Indigofera australis	Austral indigo
Juncus ssp	Rush
Kunzea ericoides	Burgan
Leptorynchus squamatus	Scaly buttons
Lomandra filliformis	Wattle mat rush
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny headed mat rush
Microlaena ssp	Weeping grass
Microseris ssp.	Yam daisy
Pimelia humilis	Common riceflower
Plantago gaudichaudii	Narrowleaf Plantain
Plantago varia	Variable plantain
Poa ssp.	Tussock grass
Poranthera microphylla	Small poranthera
Pteridium esculentum	Bracken fern
Ranunculus lappaceus	Australian buttercup
Rytidosperma pallidum	Red anther wallaby grass
Rytidosperma ssp.	Wallaby grass

Senecio hispidulus	Rough fireweed
Senecio quadridentatus	Cotton fireweed
Senecio tenuiflorus	Slender fireweed
Scutellaria humilis	Dwarf Skullcap
Thelymitra spp.	Sun orchid
Themeda triandra	Kangaroo grass
Thysanotus patersonii	Twining fringe lily
Veronica gracilis	Slender speedwell
Viola bentonicifolia	Showy Violet
Viola hederacea	Native violet
Wahlenbergia gracilis	Sprawling bluebell
Wahlenbergia stricta	Tall bluebell
Wurmbea dioica	Early nancy

Rapid Habitat Assessment–WOODLANDS and FORESTS

	TARGET	QUALITY RANKING	WEIGHT	VALUE
LARGE TREES (over 50cms) Apply to living and dead	10-15/ha in woodlands 20/ha in forests	No large trees	0	
		Present but not common Woodlands, up to 7/ha Forests, up to 12/ha	1	
		Common Woodlands, more than 7/ha Forests, more than 12/ha	2	
CANOPY COVER (use all trees over 80% of their mature height)	10-20% in woodlands 20-50% in forests	Very substantially reduced (<25% of benchmark)	0	
		Significantly reduced (25-50% of benchmark)	0.5	
		Comparable to benchmark, although it may be reduced (>50% of benchmark)	1	
UNDER- STOREY	Cover of native species –	Absent or virtually so (<10% total expected cover)	0	

Include shrubs, grasses, herbs and young regenerating trees	90-100% in woodlands and forests; Diversity of lifeforms - 25-35 species in woodlands and forests.	Native cover greatly reduced (10-25% total expected cover)	2	
		Native cover somewhat reduced, low diversity (25%-75% total expected cover, < 50% diversity)	3	
		Native cover somewhat reduced, high diversity (25% - 75% total expected cover, >50% diversity)	4	
		Native cover little reduced, high diversity (>75% total expected cover, >50% diversity)	5	
WEEDS	% cover	Dominated by exotic species (>50% cover)	0	
		Exotic species common but not dominant (25 – 50% cover)	1	
		Exotic species present but not common (5 – 25% cover)	2	
		Exotic species absent or very rare (<5% cover)	3	
RECRUIT-MENT	Include all components - trees, shrubs, grasses and herbs.	Recruitment absent or, if present then only for a minority of species (<30% of species)	0	

		Recruitment common but not for all species (30-70%)	1	
		Very common for most life forms (>70% of species)	2	
ORGANIC LITTER	20% cover in woodlands	Organic litter absent or significantly reduced from benchmark level (< 50%)	0	
		Organic litter present and not significantly reduced from benchmark level (>50%)	1	
LOGS m/Ha	100m in woodlands, 150m in forests	Logs and/or cut stumps absent or significantly reduced from benchmark (< 25%)	0	
		Logs and/or cut stumps common but reduced from benchmark (25 – 50%)	0.5	
		Logs and/or cut stumps present and not significantly reduced from benchmark (>50%)	1	
SIZE	Area	< 2 ha	0	
		2 – 10 ha	1	
		> 10 ha	2	
NEIGH-BOURHOOD	Within 1 km radius, % area covered by indigenous vegetation	< 10% cover	0	
		20 – 60% cover	1	
		> 60% cover	2	
Distance to the nearest 'core area'	'Core area' is a block of native vegetation > 50 Ha	> 1 km from 'core area'	0	
		< 1 km from 'core area'	1	
			TOTAL	15.5

RANK	CONDITION	DESCRIPTION
17-20	Near Natural	Native Vegetation in excellent condition. Good regeneration, lots of habitat for wildlife.
14-16	Little Disturbed	Some past disturbance has occurred, but the vegetation still retains very high values.
10-14	Modified	The effects of past degradation are showing. Some habitat components are missing; there may be weed invasion and poor regeneration.
6-9	Degraded	Past disturbance and degradation has severely affected the long-term sustainability of the vegetation. Understorey species may have been lost, and ground cover may be dominated by weeds and introduced grasses.
0-5	Highly Degraded	May have dead and dying trees, loss of understorey, ground cover composed of weeds and introduced grasses, no regeneration.

For Habitat Quality in EMG criteria:

High – 12-20

Medium – 7-11

Low – 0-6

Photo Gallery





Hardenbergia violacea



Drosera aberrans



Eucalyptus dives

Viola bentonicifolia



Viola hederacea



Caladenia ssp.



Correa reflexa

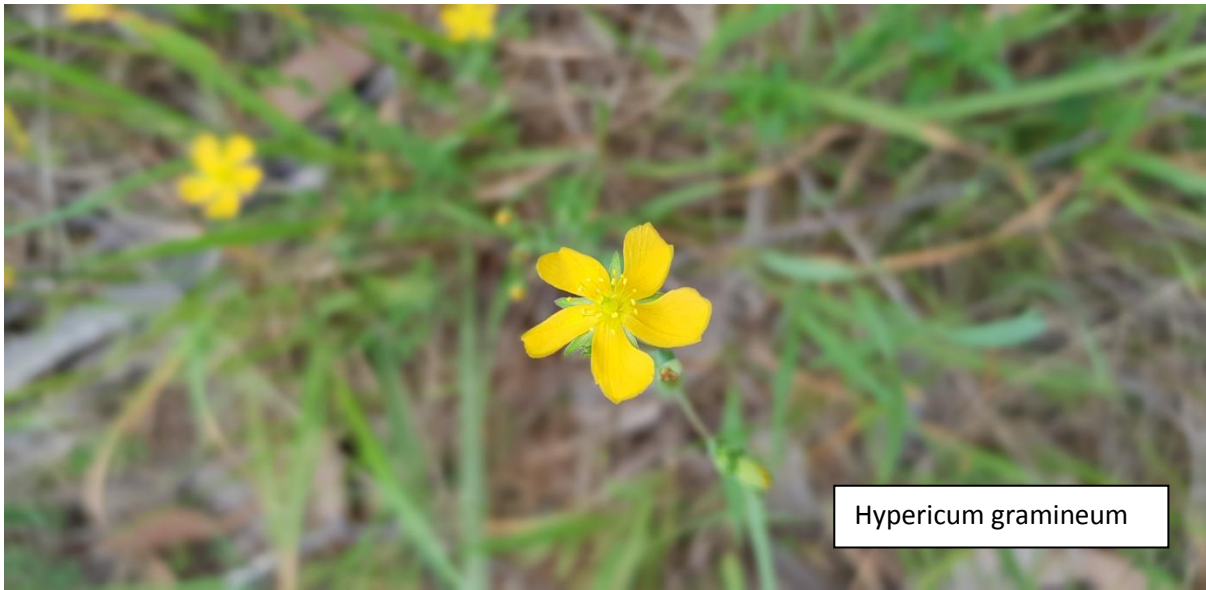




Chiloglottis valida



Scutellaria humilis



Hypericum gramineum



Coronidium scorpioides









Photo credits: Chris Cobern, Stephen Joblin, Deidre Houlden and Paul Michael, Flowerdale Landcare.