

Holmes Jungle Nature Park protects an isolated pocket of monsoon forest and is nestled on the fringes of Darwin's northern suburbs. It is home to large numbers of birds, mammals and reptiles which breed and seek refuge in the dense vegetation.

Palm Creek winds its way through the centre of the Park, which covers some 250 hectares.



Access (see map)



Turn north off Vanderlin Drive to the Shoal Bay Recycling Centre. Then enter the Park through the second gate on your right. Signs show the way.

When to Visit

A pleasant place for walks and picnics any time of the year. However, the Park is closed to vehicles between 6 pm and 8 am and some roads are closed to vehicles during the wet season (October - April).

What to See and Do

  **Lookout** - from the hilltop picnic area there are panoramic views of the wetlands to the north, monsoon forest to the east and undulating ridges and savanna woodlands to the south. The jungle picnic area provides easy access to Palm Creek.

  **Walking** - the Jungle Walk winds along Palm Creek and through the monsoon forest. A further section of track takes in the surrounding woodland and connects the Jungle Walk with the hilltop picnic area.

Wildlife - keep an eye out for

Spangled Drongoes, Rainbow Pittas and the Pied Imperial-pigeons in the wet season. The tiny Red-backed Fairy-wren is commonly found in clumps of pandanus throughout the Park.



Cycling and Horse Riding - a series of tracks are available for cyclists and horse-riders, but please observe signs and do not use the walking tracks.



Dogs - must be kept on a lead and under control, at all times in the Park.

History

The area which is now Holmes Jungle Nature Park has been a popular place for picnics since first non-Aboriginal settlement of Darwin over 100 years ago. Harriet Daly recorded its use in the early 1870s as a destination for picnics, collecting flowers and ferns, and shooting or hunting.

Although it had been used for grazing and agriculture the area was a popular recreation area for members of the armed forces during WWII.

Biting Insects - beware, biting insects are part of the wetland web of life. Midges and mosquitoes can be a problem in the Park around sunrise and sunset. Wear protective clothing and apply insect repellent.

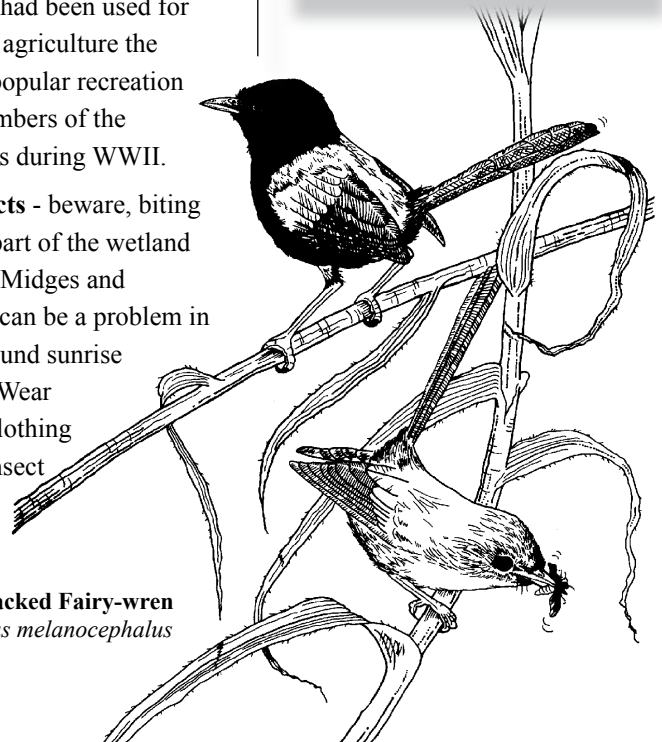
Red-backed Fairy-wren
Malurus melanocephalus

Safety and Comfort

- Observe park safety signs.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- Carry a first aid kit.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Beware of theft, lock vehicles and secure valuables.

Please Remember

- Put your rubbish in the bin or take it away with you.
- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted.
- Camping is not permitted.
- No fishing.
- Check that your vehicle is not transporting pests like weeds and Cane Toads.



Holmes Jungle Nature Park

