



SIGNIFICANT FAUNA IN LOGAN

PLATYPUS (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*)

What do I look like?

The platypus is a flat, streamlined mammal with thick dark brown fur, a broad flat tail, short stout legs, a duck like bill and webbed feet. The platypus, along with two other species of echidna, is the only mammals to lay eggs.

How do I behave?

The platypus is a semiaquatic animal most active at dawn and dusk. The rest of the time it will be sleeping, nesting in its riverbank burrow or sometimes basking in the sun. The platypus has a very shy nature and generally lives alone however they can share a watercourse with other platypus.

What is my habitat?

Found in fresh water creeks, slow moving rivers, lakes and dams in east and south east Australia, preferring areas with deep, shaded in-stream pools with high banks for burrows.

Where can you find me?

You are very lucky to see a platypus and if you do you must be very quiet and still. Sightings have been reported throughout South-east Queensland's rivers and streams. In Logan, it has been sighted in Slacks Creek and Scrubby Creek.

What is my status?

The platypus is 'common' under the Queensland Nature Conservation Act 1992 however it is 'uncommon' in Logan City and is therefore considered to be locally significant.

Why am I threatened?

The greatest threat to the platypus is caused by humans. The deterioration of waterways is occurring by riparian vegetation removal, aquatic weeds, pollution, algal growths and saltation, each putting the platypus survival under increasing pressure.

What can you do to protect them?

You can help protect the platypus through the preservation and rehabilitation of the waterways in the Logan area.



- Work to maintain and improve any waterways along your property.
 - Control weeds and prevent new weed species from establishing on your property.
 - Where possible retain logs, stumps and snags that occur in or along waterways.
 - Avoid applying pesticides, herbicides, other chemicals or rubbish near streams, other water bodies or in access to stormwater drains.
 - Keep your pets safely restrained when wildlife is close to your house or while out walking.
- You can get involved or be assisted by a number of Council's community programs including:
- Bushcare;
 - Conservation Incentives Program; and
 - Envirogrants Program.

What is Council doing to protect them?

Logan City's wetlands, waterways and their buffer zones are an important part of its natural environment. The conservation of these areas is occurring through community education, the rehabilitation of these sites; and protection through the Logan City Council Planning Scheme.

For Further Information: www.logan.qld.gov.au, 3412 3412 or council@logan.qld.gov.au



Photos are courtesy of the Queensland Museum