

# BCWC – Preview & Plan For Day Walk

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|---|--|--|--|
| Please register with Walk Leader before the day of the walk. See website: <a href="http://bencruachanwalkingclub.com/">http://bencruachanwalkingclub.com/</a> |  |  |  |
| <b>Walk:</b>  | <b>Yeerung Estuary &amp; Dock Inlet</b>  |  |  |
| <b>Area:</b>  | <b>Cape Conran Coastal Park</b>  |  |  |
| <b>Date:</b>  | Sunday 4/9/16  | <b>To be publicised in local papers?</b> | Yes  |
| <b>Grade:</b>   | M-3-3  | <b>Style:</b>                            | Circuit day walk with option of overnight car camp day before walk.                |
| <b>Walk Length:</b>   | 16Kms  | <b>Walk Duration:</b>                    | 6-7 hrs  |
| <b>Meeting Place:</b>   | TBA once participants known  | <b>Meeting Time:</b>                     | Walk Start 8 am Sunday 4/9/16.<br>Travel meeting time TBA once participants known. |
| <b>Walk Summary:</b>  | <p>Experience the rich diversity of flora and fauna which is found in the lower reaches of the Yeerung River as we walk the Estuary View Trail to the coastline. Keep an eye out for the White-bellied Sea Eagles as we explore the coastal waters of the estuary. Enjoy the beach walk to Dock Inlet, a unique and picturesque, land- locked expanse of fresh water isolated from the coast by a coastal dune barrier. Experience the natural beauty of the heathland and banksia as we travel back to the Yeerung River. The walk will commence at 8.00am to enjoy the morning bird song.</p> <p>This can be done as a day trip, or a weekend car camp, with travel to and exploration of Cape Conran walks local to the campground on Saturday, and this Yeerung Estuary and Dock Inlet walk on Sunday, before returning home. Car camp will be at the Banksia Bluff Campground on Saturday night. Cost is \$38 per site per night for up to 6 people per site. Please advise your preference when registering.</p> |  |  |
| <b>Walk Leader:</b>   | Heather Alexander  | <b>Email:</b>                            | <a href="mailto:heather.alexander1@gmail.com">heather.alexander1@gmail.com</a>     |
|   |  | <b>Phone:</b>                            | 0414 917 830   |

| <b>Research &amp; Planning Considerations</b>                                |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Topographical maps, guides, &amp; links to information brochures etc:</b> | 8622-2-N Map Datum Zone 55H WGS 84<br><a href="http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/cape-conran-coastal-park">http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/cape-conran-coastal-park</a><br><a href="http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/314528/Park-note-Cape-Conran-Coastal-Park.pdf">http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/314528/Park-note-Cape-Conran-Coastal-Park.pdf</a><br><a href="http://www.conran.net.au/">http://www.conran.net.au/</a> |
| <b>If in managed park area, name &amp; phone number of contact:</b>          | Park Managers Carla and Josh 5154 8138  |
| <b>Facilities at start &amp; end of walk:</b>                                | Car parking for up to 5 cars is available at start of walk. Car pool from campsite to ensure space for other walkers. No toilets or fresh water.  |
| <b>Seasonal and weather considerations:</b>                                  | Wet weather gear may be required for September. Tracks well drained, but may be wet underfoot around Dock Inlet if heavy rain has fallen prior to walk. If windy conditions prevail could contribute to sand blast on beach and dunes.  |

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| <b>Research &amp; Planning Considerations</b>  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Hazards / Risks:</b>  | If strong winds, could contribute to sand blast whilst walking along beach. If walk done as described on this plan, beach walking will be west to east. As strong winds, predominantly, are from west, this should minimise this hazard. Walk may be reversed if strong easterly winds prevail on the day of the walk.   |   |
| <b>Water availability &amp; requirement:</b>   | Freshwater is available at Dock Inlet, but may need boiling.   |   |
| <b>Equipment requirements:</b>   | For camping at Cape Conran, usual car camp requirements.<br><br>The campsites have toilets and showers, and shared fire places, including hot plates. BYO drinking water and firewood. Gas, wood, ice and a public phone is available from the Manager's office<br><br>For Walk – usual day walk requirements.   |   |
| <b>Alternate exit routes:</b>  | Pearl Point Track is a usable all-wheel drive road. Powerline Track accessible by 4WD but gate closed, not locked at Pearl Point Track junction. No alternate exits from beach.  |   |
| <b>Is PLB required to be carried?</b>  | No   | <b>Mobile phone reception:</b> Yes / Intermittent |
| <b>BCWC Emergency contact/s:</b>   | N/A  |   |
| <b>Emergency protocol specific for this walk: (Include website links relating to specific area, not just the home page.)</b> | <p>Track conditions &amp; changes:<br/> <a href="http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/cape-conran-coastal-park">http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/cape-conran-coastal-park</a></p> <p>Weather:<br/> <a href="http://www.weatherzone.com.au/vic/east-gippsland/cape-conran">http://www.weatherzone.com.au/vic/east-gippsland/cape-conran</a></p> <p>Fire &amp; Flooding: <a href="#">Incidents and Warnings - Vic Emergency</a> Depending on season of walk, see also <a href="#">DEPI - Planned burns now and next 10 days</a></p> <p>Road Closures: <a href="#">VicRoads - VicTraffic</a></p> <p>Inform park manager of arrival and intentions. Park Manager will keep group informed of alerts. Evacuation procedures are displayed at campground office.</p> |   |
| <b>Booking requirements &amp; costs:</b>   | No booking required for shoulder period. Campsites \$38 per night for up to 6 people. Carla advised 21/7/16 that 8 would be fine. No tent limit.<br><br>Sites 46,47,48,49 close to covered area with 4 tables, and all sites have BBQ plates. Cannot reserve sites, but manager will try to accommodate.   |   |
| <b>Pre-walk coordination / briefing:</b>   | By email / at walk start   |   |

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| Walk Stages  | Directions / Description / Considerations  |               |                 |                  |                         |      |                  |       |
|--|--|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|------|------------------|-------|
| <b>Drive from meeting point to walk start:</b>               | <p>Are 4 wheel drive vehicles required? No</p> <p>Follow signage on Princes Highway to Orbost, through Bairnsdale onto Great Alpine Road to Bruthen, then, at Nowa Nowa, rejoin the Princes Highway on to Orbost.</p> <p>Option 1: Take 1<sup>st</sup> Orbost exit from Highway and follow C107 signage to Marlo, then continue on coastal Cape Conran Road. (124 kms / 1.5 hrs from Bairnsdale)</p> <p>Option 2: Continue on Princes Highway, bypassing Orbost, to Cabbage Tree Creek turnoff. Turn right onto Cabbage Tree - Cape Conran Road and continue to end. Turn left onto Cape Conran Road. (133 kms / 1 hr 33 mins from Bairnsdale)</p> <p>From Cape Conran Road, turn left onto Yeerung River Road, then turn left onto Pearl Point Track and follow to bridge across Yeerung River. Car parking for start of walk is on right before crossing the bridge.</p> <p>If camping overnight before the walk, proceed along Yeerung River Road to Banksia Bluff Camping Area. Turn right into camping area and check in at park office.</p> <p>Travel from camp ground to walk start at Yeerung River Bridge approx. 3 kms. / 10 mins.</p> |               |                 |                  |                         |      |                  |       |
|  | <b>Distance:</b>   | 124 – 133 kms |                 | <b>Duration:</b> | 1.5 hrs from Bairnsdale |      |                  |       |
| <b>Car shuffle at start &amp; end of walk (if required):</b> | Are 4 wheel drive vehicles required? No Car shuffle not required.  |               |                 |                  |                         |      |                  |       |
|  | <b>Distance:</b>   |               |                 | <b>Duration:</b> |                         |      |                  |       |
| <b>Walk start to lunch:</b>                                  | <p>Early start and walk in this direction recommended for birding. Start walk at Yeerung Bridge on Estuary View Trail, immediately right / south after walking across bridge from western side. Walk will take about 30 minutes, gradual short climb through heathland to start, followed by rainforest boardwalk and track to estuary. Several viewpoints to take in along the way and estuary lake at the end on the beach worth viewing. Walk around estuary beach to ocean. Continue along beach to Dock Inlet approx. 7 kms over 2.5 hours including water and snack breaks. Dock Lake is a freshwater lake, and water is drinkable. Spend time exploring the dunes and the eastern side of the lake. Leave dunes and follow track around eastern side of lake for the Dock Creek Bridge for lunch.</p>   |               |                 |                  |                         |      |                  |       |
|  | <b>Distance:</b>   | 8.5 km        |                 | <b>Duration:</b> | 4 hrs                   |      |                  |       |
| <b>Walk lunch to end:</b>                                    | <p>Take 30 min break at Dock Creek bridge for lunch then return to Yeerung Bridge along Powerline / Pearl Point Track. This is gated at end where joins the East Yeerung Track which is still in use as a 4WD track. Continue east along East Yeerung Track to bridge. Both tracks are clear and open through coastal bush, and slightly undulating in places. Note birdlife and flowers in spring.</p>  |               |                 |                  |                         |      |                  |       |
|  | <b>Distance:</b>   | 6.5 km        |                 | <b>Duration:</b> | 2.5 hrs                 |      |                  |       |
| <b>Total for walk:</b>                                       | <b>Ascent:</b>   | 100 m         | <b>Descent:</b> | 50m              | <b>Distance:</b>        | 15km | <b>Duration:</b> | 6.5hr |