

NOT SO FAST

I recently received a phone call from Jim Griffin concerning difficulties he had encountered in walking with clubs. Jim has to take medication which slows him down and this has in turn held up a few medium/hard trips with SPAN, The Ramblers, and CMW. In one case, he injured a knee attempting to hurry and was eventually lifted out by helicopter. Trip leaders from these clubs are understandably reluctant to accept Jim on hard trips until he gains sufficient experience and condition to keep up the necessary pace.

So far, the story is reminiscent of a hundred other prospective bushwalkers too keen and impatient to serve their "apprenticeships" on easy and medium trips. But Jim is not a raw beginner; he knows which areas he wants to visit, and feels they are within his capabilities if he could travel at a slower pace, notwithstanding the heavier pack required to take an extra day over such trips. Unfortunately, other bushwalkers weighing up this compromise usually decide to go light and fast. Jim has difficulty finding suitably designed trips on club programs to give him the experience required to plan and lead his own trips.

So Jim would like to contact other walkers similarly frustrated with rushed trip schedules, whether because of medical conditions, preoccupation with photography, botany, etc., or a simple preference for relaxation.

Contact: Jim Griffin (phone 708 2587)
3 Sealy St., Greenacre. 2190.

Murray Scott

SOUTH WEST TASMANIA

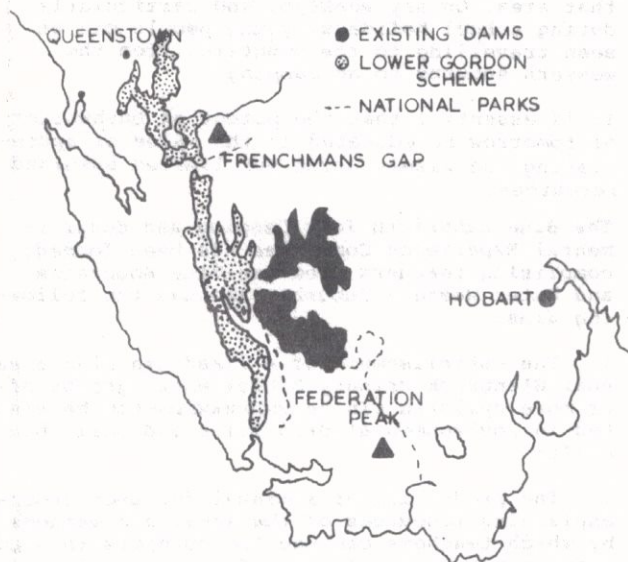
The Tasmanian Government called an election in late July resulting in the Labor Government being returned with a larger majority. However, both parties leave much to be desired in the area of protecting the south west.

With the Hydro-Electricity Commission presenting their scheme before the Parliament in late August for approval, it is important to pressure Tasmanian politicians. Letters from the mainland carry a lot of weight, so get to it. (Unfortunately, there was no August issue of this Newsletter, but don't let that stop you.)

The Lower Gordon Scheme would flood the Franklin, Jane, Denison, Davey, Olga and twenty other rivers.

Newspapers:

The Mercury, 93 Macquarie St., Hobart, 7000.
The Examiner, 71/75 Paterson St., Launceston, 7250



Politicians:

The Hon. D. Lowe (Premier), Messrs. A. Lohery, N. Batt, H. Holgate, M. Barnard, D. Baldock, B. Miller, E. Barnard, all c/- Parliament House, Macquarie Street., Hobart, 7000.

Urge the preservation of the south west as a National Park on the Australian Conservation Foundation boundaries.

Further information from and donations to SW Tasmania Committee, c/- 399 Pitt St., Sydney, 2000.

ETTREMA

Mr. P. Harris
Project Officer

June 14 1979

Dear Mr. Harris,

I refer to your letters of 30th January 1979 and 29th March 1979 in which your Federation objects to vehicular access being granted to certain mining leases within the Ettrema Wilderness area.

The matter concerning access to the mining leases is still being considered by the New South Wales Planning & Environment Commission. As promised in my previous letter, the views expressed by your organisation will be taken into consideration. However, until the Commission has concluded its investigations and submitted a report to me, it would be inappropriate to meet representatives of the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs.

Meanwhile, it may be of interest to your members that the State Pollution Control Commission, National Parks & Wildlife Service, and New South Wales Planning & Environment Commission have raised the issues concerning the applicant's rights-of-way applications with the Chief Mining Warden and have requested an Environmental Impact Statement before any consideration is given to granting the applications. In addition, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Planning and Environment Commission have objected to the rights-of-way proposals on the grounds that inadequate information is contained in the applications upon which any approval could be given.

Furthermore, the Planning & Environment Commission has objected to the proposals on the basis that the likely impact of the mining claims and access thereto would jeopardise the integrity of the Morton National Park and the Ettrema Wilderness area, and that there is no evidence to suggest that the operation of the mining claims will be of sufficient economic viability to ensure proper environmental safeguards are considered or maintained.

However, it is not considered necessary or appropriate at this stage for the State Pollution Control Commission to conduct a public inquiry, having regard to the Inquiry held by the Chief Mining Warden in 1978.

I have also noted your comments concerning the defamation action brought against several conservation and bushwalking associations by the applicant, and the proposal by the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs to form a United Ettrema Society.

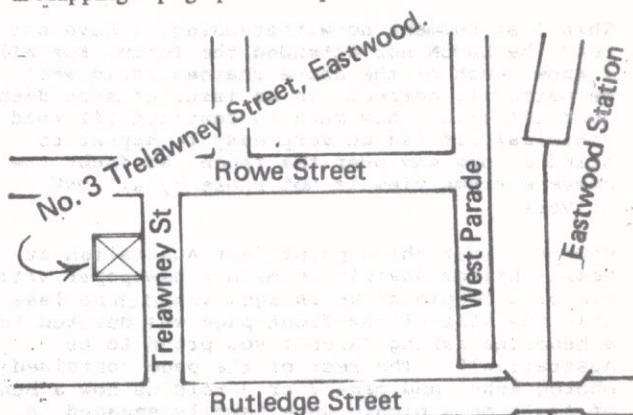
Yours faithfully,
PAUL LANDA,
Minister for Planning
and Environment

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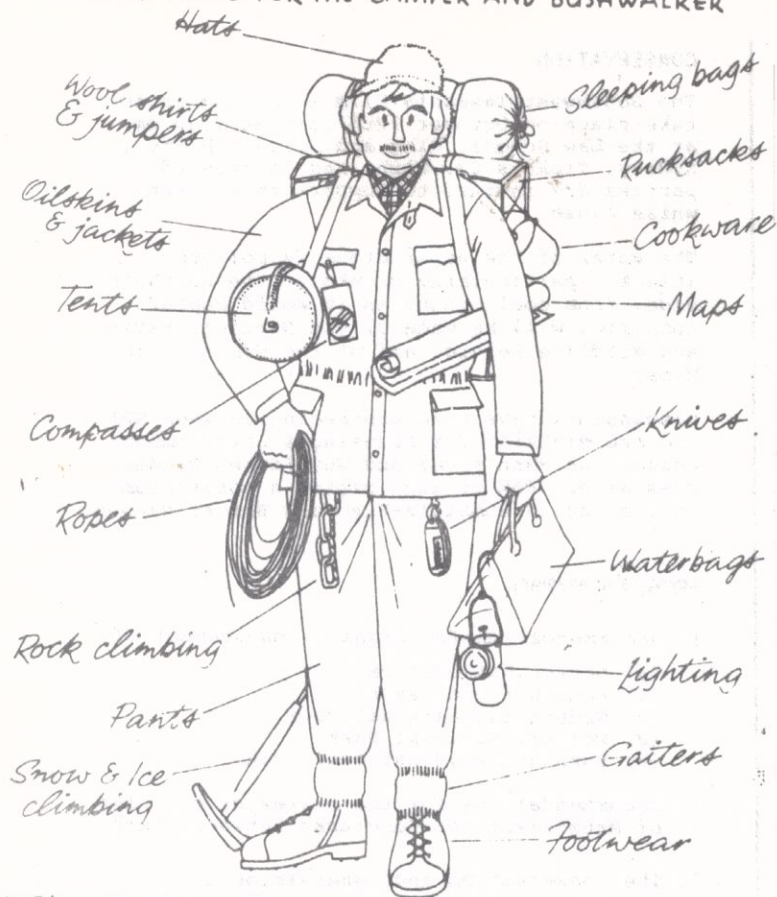
Agents for Lands Department and Division of National Mapping topographical maps.



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MORTON NATIONAL PARK

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Preliminary Submission Extracts

(a) Budawang Section

(i) Area. These recommendations take into consideration the eventual inclusion of lands proposed as extensions to the Budawang Section of Morton National Park. These include protection for Yadbore Creek and Little Belowra Creek; portion of the Clyde River and Boyne Creek; the upper Endrick/Corang River catchments; land currently in Tianjara Firing Range; and currently vacant land west of the existing boundary and abutting freehold land up the Mongarlowe Road.

The Budawang Section and any future parkland in the area should be part of Budawang National Park, of which the headquarters should be the Yadbore property.

(ii) Zonation. Budawang National Park as extended as above should be zoned wilderness up to all access points.

(iii) Access points, track heads and facilities. Picnic facilities at Yadbore Station, Pointer Gap, North of Mt. Tianjara, Newhaven Gap, Colombaco Creek, Wog Wog Station, Pigeonhouse (at present car park), and Dirty Swamp Creek (Sawmill).

Primitive camping at Newhaven Gap, Colombaco Creek, Wog Wog Station, and Clyde Mountain.

Minimum camping facilities at Yadbore Flat, Colombaco Creek, Wog Wog Station, and Newhaven Gap.

(iv) Closure and revegetation of roads. Jindellara Creek Road, Wombat Ridge Road from Longfella Pass to Little Forest Trig (with walking track from L.F. Trig to Rusden Head, and from L.F. Trig south to escarpment), Roads north of Yadbore Creek to escarpment (walking track on Kalianna Ridge Road), Deadman Gulch Road, Little Forest Plateau (including military airstrip), Newhaven Gap Road (from N. Gap to Colombaco Creek via The Vines), Styles Creek Road (from The Vines to Colombaco Creek via S. Creek, retaining walking track from N. Gap to S. Creek and Folly Point), and all roads in the proposed extensions to the park except Yadbore Station to Kalianna Ridge along Yadbore Creek (with Service trail to Mares Hill).

(v) Monolith Valley. Periodic camping moratorium to continue.

(b) Ettrema Section

(i) Area. These recommendations take into consideration the eventual inclusion of lands proposed as extensions to the Ettrema Section of Morton National Park. These include protection for Jones Creek and the catchment of Ettrema Creek, the Boolijah/Danjara lands, portion of Shoalhaven Valley and Coolumburra Creek, and the present Yalwal State Forest.

All in-holdings should be added. Of extreme importance are leasehold lands and mining reserves in Jones Creek area, lower Ettrema Creek Valley, and the Tolwong area.

(ii) Zonation. All land within the Ettrema Section should be zoned wilderness up to all access points. The Shoalhaven River should be managed in its own category.

(iii) Access points, track heads and facilities. Picnic facilities at Tianjara Falls, Tallowa Dam, Danjara Dam and Quiera Clearing.

Primitive camping at Blaydon's Pass, Yalwal Creek, Tallowa Dam, "Ennis Clare", Quiera Clearing, and The Jumps.

Minimum camping facilities at Tianjara Falls, Danjara Dam, Yalwal Creek, Tallowa Dam and Quiera Clearing.

(iv) Closure and revegetation of roads. Wombat Road, Blackwood Road, all roads from the Yarramunmun Fire Trail to Yarramunmun Creek, Ettrema Fire Trail at "Ennis Clare", Tmboolina Trail (from Grassy Gully to Tolwong property), Lower Ettrema Track (from Grassy Gully to Cooe Flat), Yalwal Creek Track (from Grassy Gully to Danjara Dam), Yalwal State Forest (except Grassy Gully Road), and Tolwong Trail (from Tolwong property to Tolwong Mines).

(c) Shoalhaven River

(i) Area. These recommendations take into consideration the eventual inclusion of lands as extensions in the Shoalhaven Valley of Morton National Park.

The Shoalhaven River Valley should form the first Zoned "Wild and Scenic River" contained within the park. Owing to anticipated usage by canoeists and walkers, it is not apt to consider this area as Wilderness.

(ii) Access points, track heads and facilities. Tallowa Dam: primitive camping and facilities. "Coolendel": camping and facilities. Badgerys Lookout: primitive camping, no facilities. Long Point Lookout: as above. Bungonia S.R.A.: camping and facilities. Sewells Point: primitive camping, no facilities. Fools Point: as above.

base send articles to: All other FBW Correspondence to:
Len Newland, Federation of Bushwalking Clubs,
68 Congressional Drive, G.P.O. Box 2090, 2001
LIVERPOOL. NSW. 2170
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