

Grampians National Park

Northern Grampians Fire Recovery Update

Friday 18th September 2015

Information Sheet 3: Rock Climbing and Bouldering

In January 2014 a large bushfire swept through the Northern Grampians, causing widespread damage to visitor sites, roads and walking tracks. Many popular rock climbing and bouldering sites were also impacted including Hollow Mountain, Summerday Valley and Mt Stapylton. Environmental recovery in this fragile rocky landscape has been slow – shallow soils and lack of rainfall has meant vegetation has taken longer than anticipated to regenerate.

To protect the cultural and environmental integrity of the Grampians National Park and to ensure the long term sustainability of rock climbing in the area, Parks Victoria has been working closely with the local rock climbing community and Cliffcare on a considered approach to the re-opening of rock climbing sites in the Northern Grampians.

To aid the long term recovery of the Northern Grampians there is a general closure in place for rock climbing throughout the Mt Difficult Range, except for the main climbing areas stated below. Please support the long term recovery of fire affected areas by remaining out of any closed sites. See closure map for further detail. While Parks Victoria regrets the need to enforce closures, substantial fines will be imposed on those found in any closed, fire affected areas.

Open and accessible rock climbing and bouldering areas in the Northern Grampians

Hollow Mountain Area

Barc Cliff
Gunn Buttress
Battlescarred Blocks / The Ammo Shop
Amnesty Wall Area
Andersens
Clicke Area (incl. Kindergarten routes)
The Kindergarten (bouldering)
Expedition Crag
Turtle Rocks
Sandinista Cliffs
Pensioners Wall Area
Red Wall Area incl Echoes Block
Loopeys
Hollow Mountain Cave
Legoland
Cut Lunch Walls
Koalasquatsy Wall

Tribute Wall
The Dungeon
Bad Moon Rising Wall
Van Dieman's Land
Rambla Wall
A-Frame Boulder

Summerday Valley

Flying Blind
Wall of Fools
Back Wall
Bowler Boulder

*Note closures are in place to main wall, left wall, bird wall and calcutti crag and others east of Summerday Valley due to threatened plant species regeneration, cultural heritage protection and trail degradation.

Continued over...

Mt Stapylton Amphitheatre

Northern Wall
Central Buttress
Sabre Gully
Grey and Green Walls
Taipan Wall
Spurt Wall
Bouldering Buttress
Lower Taipan
Afterglow Wall
Afterglow Boulders
The Plaza Strip
The Snake Pit
Trackside Boulders
Citadel
Ground Control Caves
Cave Club
Between the Sheeps
Spurt Wall (Bouldering)
The Titanic (Bouldering)

Flat Rock Area

West Flank / Wall of Fuels
Bellerophon Wall
Epsilon Wall
Epsilon Wall Bouldering
Cloud Cuckoo Land

Note new access track between flat rock, the kindergarten and Andersons via Bellepheron wall.

Mt Zero Area

Pangaea Walls
Toolondo Waters
4 Cornered Crag
Mt Zero Summit Cliff
Mount Zero West Walls

Iskra Crag

Flower Power Block
Shadow Buttress
Emu Crag
Sunstroke Area
Pigs in Space Buttress
Main West Face
Dolgoruki Wall
First Tier
Second Tier
Third Tier
North Western Outcrop
Eastern Walls
36 Chambers
Dolgoruki Wall and Three Tiers

Asses Ears Area

Sunset Crag
The Secret Crag
Cherub Wall
Maul Wall
Walaby Rocks
Conifer Wall
Geranium (Brim) Springs
Porcelain Wall
Wallaby Rocks
Joey Blocks

Pohlner track and Smith Road Area

The Rust Bucket
Martini Rock
Worship Wall
Point 447
Bordel Buttress
Mt Emu
The Crows Nest
The Eyrle
The Unnamed Cliff
An Unnamed Cliff
Olive Grove
Cave Of Ghosts Cliffs
Ghost Block
The Olive Cave
The Ravine

Further Information

For updates on the many camping, walking and driving opportunities in the park, call into Brambuk - The National Park and Cultural Centre in Halls Gap, visit the local Visitor Information Centre or call Parks Victoria on 13 1963.

Closed Climbing Areas- Mt Difficult Range/Northern Grampians.

Eastern Mt Difficult Range

No Mans Land
Heatherlie Heights
Cape Canaveral
Woomera
The Promised Land / The Pine Plantation Cliff
Lebanon
The Heavens
Lower Heavens
Lunar Walls
The Tim Tams

North West Mt Difficult Range

Sickle Wall
Mawson Slab
Mt Difficult Cliff
Epaminondas Buttress
Troopers Creek Cliff
Mt Difficult Summit
Mt Bloody Impossible

Mt Stapylton Campground

Cave
Sentinel Wall
The Guardhouse
Warden Wall
Campground Boulders
Titanic Boulder Boulder
Dodderly Rock Cliff
Mt Pleasant
The Rockwall Area
Briggs Bluff Area

NE Mt Zero Range

Golton Rocks -
Cave Cliff
Wave Wall (aka The Sundeck) / The Sun Deck
The Sun Gate
Golton Wall
Gog-Magog Crag
G-Land
Watchmen Wall
Coppermine Track Cliff

*NOTE - The Black Range and Mt Talbot (west of the Grampians) remain closed due to fire.

You can help support sustainable climbing in the Grampians by considering the following:

- **Keep in mind that any damage caused now will remain long term.** Stay on designated tracks - any off track walking can impact soil stability and the regeneration of vegetation. Spread of weeds and other pathogens can occur by foot traffic in fragile soils and recovering moss and seed beds. Please don't create short cuts or new tracks, particularly in steep gullies
- Only climb in open and accessible areas and keep group numbers low – Avoid taking large groups into small crags or areas where there are no designated tracks
- Consider other options – There are many climbing and bouldering sites within the Grampians. By giving these fire affected areas some time to recover they will be here to enjoy in the future
- Think about your safety - tree risk and unstable soils are present across all fire affected areas.

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Please remember your climbing etiquette when in the Grampians National Park:

- Respect other climbers and park visitors
- Stick to established tracks and avoid damaging or removing vegetation
- Many areas have significant Aboriginal cultural sites, please respect this unique cultural landscape by only climbing in established areas
- Avoid excessive chalk and be mindful of cleaning
- No chipping of rock or new bolting
- Carry out all rubbish
- Use toilets provided

Other accessible rock climbing areas in and around the Grampians:

- Victoria Range (Please respect cultural heritage and recovering fire affected areas)
- Mt William Range (Seven Dials area)
- Serra Range (Including Bundaleer and Mt Rosea)
- Wonderland Range
- Mt Arapiles

For up to date climbing access reports visit www.cliffcare.com.au

For up to date fire recovery information sheets and general park information visit www.parks.vic.gov.au phone 13 1963 or call into Brambuk - The National Park and Cultural Centre in Halls Gap, open 9am-5pm daily.

The closest camping option in the National Park is Plantation Campground, approximately 10km north of Halls Gap, or private accommodation in the Northern Grampians area. Bush camping in closed fire affected areas is not permitted.

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