



31st October 2018



CliffCare - Victorian Climbing Club

Climbing Route Development Moratorium Grampians National Park

The Victorian Climbing Club and CliffCare are requesting a

Voluntary Climbing Route Development Moratorium in the Grampians National Park.

This means, we are asking people to temporarily refrain from developing new climbing routes in the Grampians.

The moratorium applies to all route development—traditional climbing, sport climbing and bouldering. It will be **temporary**, initially for one year, to be reassessed in November 2019.

The main reason for the moratorium is to stop any further damage to the environment and any further negative impacts to cultural heritage in the Grampians.

Recent route development has already impacted cultural heritage sites across the park, particularly in the Victoria Range, the Black Range and the Red Rock Bushland Reserve (Black Ian's Rocks), which are cultural heritage dense areas.

Climbing and route development is also happening at a number of cliffs/boulders that are located in Special Protection Areas and Reference Area zones. In these areas, recreational activities—including climbing—is not permitted. While the restrictions aren't widely known, they have been in place since 2003 as part of the Grampians National Park Management Plan.

There are many groups with different concerns about access to the park and the issues are complex. Temporarily suspending route development in the Grampians will give us time to discuss the best way forward with land managers, Traditional Owners and other stakeholders.

It's important to be aware that **any further impacts to cultural heritage sites will affect our ability to climb in large areas of the Grampians** in future.

As members of the climbing community, we hope you share our concerns that cultural heritage is being impacted by the activity that we love. **Climbing is a legitimate activity in the park** and we're confident it can exist alongside cultural and environmental values.

In order for us to reach the best possible outcome for all—including climbers—we **need your support in respecting this moratorium.**

Tracey Skinner
VCC Access & Environment Officer
CliffCare

Paula Toal
VCC President

For ongoing updates please email: cliffcare@vicclimb.org.au or visit cliffcare.org.au