

BUSHWALKERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The N.S.W. Federation of Bushwalking Clubs

G.P.O. Box 2090, Sydney, 2001.

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WALKING IN THE COLO AREA

The Colo Gorge cuts through the centre of the largest wilderness area remaining in N.S.W. It is probably the most spectacular gorge of its type in Australia and consequently provides a superb area for bushwalking. However, difficulty of terrain, with the Colo and its tributary gorges being flanked by precipitous cliffs and the thick, prickly scrub on the ridges have discouraged many walkers from the area.

With the possibility of the Colo being jammed by the N.S.W. Electricity Commission, the next few years may be your only opportunity of seeing the Colo in its wilderness state. For bushwalkers unfamiliar with the Colo area the following list of suggested walks has been compiled. It is not meant as a complete list of walks but only to give ideas of the types of walks from various starting places. All the walks are weekend walks or daywalks if specified.

The best vantage points of the Colo are from the rim of the Gorge or mountains such as Island, Parr West and Alidade Hill. The various tributary creeks such as Angorawa Ck, Tambo Ck, Main Ck and Pinchgut Ck offer easy, fast and pleasant walking. Often the creeks are quicker than the ridges. Most of the creeks are a lot easier going downstream. Long pants and/or scrub gaiters and leather gardening gloves are useful if a fair bit of ridgewalking is contemplated. Twenty metres of No. 2 rope is useful for packhauls on the trickier passes. The notes regarding the passes are helpful on Bob Buck's Colo Sketchmap. If you are not experienced at rock-scrubbing then try the easier passes first.

Maps - Colo Sketch Map, Compiled by Bob Buck (from Paddy Pallins etc.) shows the numbered passes used on the walks list

Six Brothers	
Colo Heights	1:25,000 C.M.A.
Mountain Lagoon	
St. Albans	1:100,000 Dept. Nat. Resources
St. Albans	1:63,360 Army - Be careful using this map as it has many errors

COLO WALKS - WEEKEND WALKS AND DAYWALKS

*From Mountain Lagoon (from Bell Road)

1. DAYWALK - WHEENY GAP
Mountain Lagoon, The Green Scrub, Wheeny Gap and return - Medium/hard.
2. MT. DARCY
Mountain Lagoon, Mt. Conder, Pass 23, Tootie Ck/Colo Jnc, Darcy Range, Mt. Darcy, Tootie Ck, Mountain Lagoon - Medium/hard.
* From Mount Tootie (from Bell Road - Itchenstoke turnoff)
3. WOOLANGAMBE RIVER
Mt. Tootie, The Big Hill, Pass 27, Bowens Ck, Woolangambe River, Colo River, Pass 37 (Masochists Ridge), The Bill Hill. Medium.
4. WOLLANGAMBE RIVER
The Big Hill, Pass 38, Wollangambe River, Colo River, Pass 37, Big Hill. Medium.
5. UN-NAMED CREEK
The Big Hill, Pass 38, Pass 26a (MR 727054) Ridge towards Mt. Mistake, Un-named Ck (MR 704074), Wollangambe/Colo Jnc, Pass 37, Big Hill. Medium/hard.

6. MT. TOOTIE TO PUTTY ROAD
Mt. Tootie, The Big Hill, Pass 37, Island (via Pass 28), Drip Rock, fire trail, Putty Road. Medium.
* From Bob Turners Track (from Putty Road).
7. DAYWALK - BOB TURNERS TRACK
Putty Rd, Bob Turners Track, Colo River and return. Easy.
8. DAYWALK - MT. TOWNSEND
Bob Turners Track, Colo River, Pass 35, Mt. Townsend, Putty Rd. Medium.
9. PARR SOUTH
Bob Turners Track, Colo River, Pass 31, Parr South, Drip Rock fire trail, Putty Road. Medium.
* From Drip Rock Fire Trail (Putty Road - Locked gate and farm at start)
10. PARR SOUTH
Drip Rock fire trail, Parr South, Pass 31, Colo River, Hungryway Ck, Parr Spur, Drip Rock trail. Medium.
11. ISLAND AND PARR SOUTH
Drip Rock fire trail, Island, Pass 28, Colo River, Parr South (via Pass 30) Drip Rock fire trail. Medium.
12. PARR WEST AND ISLAND
Drip Rock fire trail, Ridge to Parr West, Pass 22, Colo River, Pass 24, Island, Drip Rock trail. Medium/hard.
13. ANGORAWA CK.
Angorawa Ck fire trail (MR 960107), Angorawa Ck, Pass 22a (MR 757104), Parr West, Drip Rock fire trail. Medium/hard.
14. ANGORAWA CK
Drip Rock fire trail, Pass 23, Angorawa Ck, Colo River, Pass 22, Parr West, Drip Rock trail. Medium/hard.
* From Grassy Hill Fire Trail (Putty Road)
15. PARR WEST AND ISLAND
Grassy Hill firetrail to MR 757146, Pass 21, Angorawa Ck/Colo Jnc, Pass 22, Parr West, Island, Drip Rock fire trail. Medium/Hard.
16. ISLAND
Grassy Hill, firetrail to MR 757146, Pass 21 Colo River, Pass 24, Island, Drip Rock trail. Medium/hard.
17. COLO RIVER
Grassy Hill, Canoe Ck (via pass 13), Colo River, Angorawa Ck/Colo Jnc. Out via Pass 21, Pass 22 and Parr West or Angorawa Ck. Medium/hard.
18. COLO RIVER
Grassy Hill, Canoe Ck (via pass 13), Colo River, Pass 24, Island, Drip Rock fire trail.
19. DAYWALK - ALIDADE HILL
Grassy Hill fire trail, Alidade Hill, Pass 11 or 12, Colo River, Canoe Ck, Pass 13, fire trail. Medium/hard.
20. DAYWALK - COLO RIVER
Grassy Hill fire trail, Pass 13, Canoe Ck, Pass 15, ridge to firetrail. Medium.
21. COLO RIVER - ALIDADE HILL
Grassy Hill fire trail, Ridge to Pass 9 or 10, Colo River, Pass 11, Alidade Hill, fire trail. Medium/hard.
22. MT. SAVAGE, TAMBO CK
Grassy Hill trail, Pass 13, Canoe Ck, Colo Rv. Pass 17, Savage Trig, Tambo Ck, Colo River, Tambo Crown, Pass 19, Grassy Hill firetrail. - Medium/hard.
23. THREE PEAKS - SAVAGE, MISTAKE, ISLAND
Grassy Hill, Pass 13, Canoe Ck, Colo Rv, Pass 17, Mt. Savage, Tambo Ck, Main Ck, (1/2 hour to Mt. Mistake, Clives Range, Un-named Ck (MR 728425), Wollangambe/Colo Jnc, Stream Gully (MR 728440), Island, Drip Rock fire trail. Hard.

replaced by "The Bushwalkers' Federation, NSW"; and

Clause 3; Section d: That the words "Federation of Bush Walking Clubs" be replaced by "Bushwalkers' Federation".

Why Change? The present name of the Federation is simply too long and cumbersome, especially when it is only the first half of the name of one of Federation's several committees. For example, "The 2nd NSW Outdoor Recreation Education Workshop Committee of the NSW Federation of Bushwalking Clubs" - pity those of us who in the course of Federation business have to introduce ourselves to others by such a title! (In this case the committee name also needs abbreviation.) Also the information-carrying capacity of the present name is rather poor. Listeners are likely to have almost lost interest by the time the most important word is reached at the end - "Bushwalking". The need for a name change has been recognised for a long time.

Why change now? Federation is very shortly going to require a large order of new letterheads. For this reason alone it is important that the name we will operate under for the next few years be decided promptly.

Why "The Bushwalkers' Federation, NSW"? There are three important concepts which need to be conveyed in our name. In order of importance they are firstly, the fact that we are bushwalkers, secondly that this is a federation and not just another club, and thirdly our geographical range. The proposed new name simply lists these concepts in their order of importance. It is expected that except for formal usage only the words "Bushwalkers' Federation" will be used, and this is in fact exactly the form of name that many Federation officers use already during Federation business. In other words, to a large extent the name change is only formalising current usage.

It is important that any new name contains the word "Federation" (unlike, for example, "Bushwalkers of NSW") for three reasons:

1. The Federation is universally known as such among walkers.
2. Every clause in the Constitution refers repeatedly to "the Federation", so that a name change not including this word requires a completely new Constitution.
3. It is seen as important that the name of an organisation should describe it fairly accurately, and our organisation is indeed a federation of clubs in the precise terms of the definition.

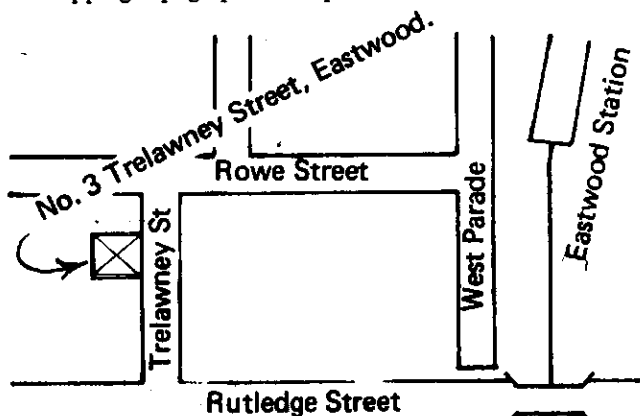
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28-34 O'Connell Street
Sydney N.S.W. 2000
Phone (02) 231 6050

LIFE...BE IN IT!

Federation has been asked by NSW Sport Recreation Service to assist with a bushwalking 'safari' as part of the 'Life..be in it' campai

Several one day trips will be organised, a special train booked for transport and the people divided into groups which will be taken on easy, introductory walks. What we need from your club is experienced leaders who have:-

- Ideas on suitable walks, particularly on tracks where large numbers of people will cause little damage
- Patience with people who have never been more than 100 metres from their car, esky and radio
- An interest in recruiting new members for their club.

At first thought the prospect of devoting a precious Saturday to plodding through a National Park with a string of novices may not be enticing, but please think again!

The 300 - 400 people who come have chosen to do so BECAUSE THEY ARE INTERESTED IN WALKING IN THE BUSH (they could be chosen to go trail bike riding instead). It will require little encouragement from each group leader to have a big proportion of those people progressing club trips. From the 3 safaris planned, the group leaders are likely to acquire a significant number of new members for their club.

Mirror newspaper will be providing free publicity for bushwalking and the Federation - a full frontal of the newest rucksack and the inside story of a double sleeping bag when the fire dies down!!

If we do not support this project we have no way of ensuring that these people will be introduced to correct and relevant bushwalking skills, that the conservation ethic will be communicated or, that these people who think they may like bushwalking will ever join our clubs.

Please leave your name and phone number with Peter Preneas of the N.P.A. on 233 3618 if you can help, as early as possible.

Tasmanian Wilderness Society Journals will be on sale now at Paddy Pallins. 80¢. Past issues have featured the Central Plateau and the Franklin River, Photos and maps.

The T.W.S. has also produced a set of four greeting cards. Photos by Chris Bell. 50¢ each on sale at Paddy Pallins.

A.B.C. T.V. 8pm Monday 5th June "A Big Country" will be on Olegas Truchanus, called "The Spirit Olegas" featuring Max Angus and Peter Dombrowskis.

New guidebooks are out on the Warrumbungles by Alan Fairly and N.E. Victoria) Alpine Track) Algona Guides

and east to the Colymea State Forest, about 8 kilometres west from Nowra, N.S.W. (See accompanying diagram).

THE BASIS FOR THE STUDY: The published Walking Programmes for:
National Parks Asscn of NSW (Sydney Branch)
Jan 1974 - Jan 1978
The Sydney Bush Walkers - Jan 1975 - Jan 1978
The Mount Druitt Bushwalking Club -
Jan 1976 - Jan 1978

These walking clubs represent three/ forty-thirds of the number of organisations affiliated to the NSW Federation of Bushwalkers. The statistical data extracted from their Walking programmes for the above period was mathematically corrected to obtain a total usage by these 3 clubs over a total four year period.

In order to obtain the total 'Visitation Number' (mentioned below, the Ettrema Bundundah was divided, aesthetically and by natural boundaries, into different sections (12 in all) Each time a club walking trip passed into a different section, a score of ONE was recorded. If the same trip passed through the same area twice, no second count was made.

THE STUDY:

FREQUENCY OF VISITATION TO ETTREMA/BUNDUNDAH:
National Parks Asscn of NSW (Sydney Branch) -
Once per month

Sydney Bush Walkers - Once per four months
Mt. Druitt Bushwalking Club - One per two months

PERCENTAGE OF THOSE PROGRAMMED TRIPS WHICH WERE WEEKEND TRIPS, AND PERCENTAGE OF THOSE TRIPS WHICH WERE IN EXCESS OF TWO DAYS

DURATION:
National Parks Asscn of NSW (Sydney Branch)
73% (weekend) 27% (over)

Sydney Bush Walkers - 90% (weekend),
10% (over 2 days)

Mt. Druitt Bushwalking Club - 60% (weekend),
40% (over 2 days)

AVERAGE NO. OF PERSONS PER TRIP OVER 4 YEARS

DURATION:
National Parks Asscn of NSW (Sydney Branch)
15 persons

Sydney Bush Walkers - 5 persons

Mt. Druitt Bushwalking Club - 8 persons

PERCENTAGE OF PROGRAMMED WALKS GRADED MEDIUM, AND PERCENTAGE ABOVE MEDIUM GRADE

National Parks Asscn of NSW (Sydney Branch)
50%, 50%

Sydney Bush Walkers - 33%, 67%

Mt. Druitt Bushwalking Club - 33%, 67%

MOST FREQUENTED AREAS:

National Parks Assn of NSW (Sydney Branch)

1. Jones/Ettrema Area
2. Lower Yalwal/Shoalhaven Area
3. Bundundah Creek
4. Upper Ettrema Gorge
5. Lower Ettrema Creek

Sydney Bush Walkers

1. Jones/Ettrema Area
2. Ettrema Plateau
3. Middle Ettrema Gorge
4. Bungonia/Shoalhaven
5. Bundundah Creek

Mount Druitt Bushwalking Club

1. Jones/Ettrema Area
2. Ettrema Plateau
3. Bundundah Creek
4. Lower Ettrema Creek
5. Quiera Labyrinth

MOST FREQUENTED AREAS (OVERALL)

1. Jones/Ettrema Area
2. Ettrema Plateau
3. Bundundah Creek

VISITATION NUMBER (See under Basis for Study above)

National Parrks Asscn of NSW (Sydney Branch) 76

Sydney Bush Walkers 35

Mount Druitt Bushwalking Club 96

Total 207

ENTRY POINTS:

The most used entry points into the Ettrema/Bundundah are:

1. Via the property 'Ennis Clare' (not in National Park.)
2. Via Danjera Dam (not in National Park)
3. Via Grassy Gully Road (in Yalwal State Forest)
4. Via Tullyangela Clearing (not in National Park)

has the highest frequency of visitation, and the largest party numbers on any trip. Its activities are spread throughout the whole area, and its exploratory trips tend to be copied by the other two walking clubs of this study. Whilst its frequency of visitation is high, its usage of the area per walk is low, as only two different sections of the Ettrema/Bundundah are visited per walk, the most popular areas being the Jones Creek/Ettrema Creek area, and the lower Yalwal Creek/Shoalhaven River Area.

The Sydney Bushwalkers have the lowest frequency of visitation, and the lowest numbers in the party per walk, probably due to the fact that 67% of their activities in the area are graded harder than Medium Grade. Their overall usage of the area is generally confined to Jones Creek/Ettrema Creek area, and to the Bungonia Area. The great majority of trips are of weekend duration.

The Mount Druitt Bush Walking Club have the greatest overall usage of Ettrema/Bundundah and their visits tend to incorporate at least 4 different areas per walk, due primarily to the fact that walks are generally programmed in excess of 2 days duration, and are one-way rather than circuitous. Whilst the membership figures for this club are considerably lower than those of the Sydney Bush Walkers, and the percentage of walks graded above Medium Grade is equal in both cases, the Mount Druitt Bushwalking Club has greater member participation on walks in Ettrema/Bundundah. The most popular areas are the Jones Creek/Ettrema Creek Area and the Ettrema Plateau.

DESTINATIONS:

Programmed walks which have a specific visitation point produce the following figures of the most popular viewpoints and locations in Ettrema/Bundundah.

1. Possibility Point (overlooking Ettrema Gorge)
2. Shoalhaven Blockup Gorge (on Shoalhaven River).
3. Thomsons Cliff (on confluence of Ettrema/Jones Cks.)
4. 'Five Ways' (confluence of Tullyangela Ck and Ettrema Creek).

YEARLY VISITATION STATISTICS

Producing a yearly visitation figure is extremely difficult, but some idea can be gained by multiplying the above statistics by the number of walking clubs affiliated to Federation (taking into account those clubs in the New England Area who would not visit the area very much), and allowing for 'unprogrammed' club walks, and 'private' trips between club members, and including an allowance for walks by persons of non-club membership.

Overall participation per year by the three clubs studied = 233 persons
Plus allowance for unprogrammed club walk = 80 persons
Plus allowance for private trips amongst club members = 150 persons

Yearly total of three clubs studied = 463 persons

Of the 43 affiliated clubs, the visitation of those clubs in the New England Area would be virtually NIL (10 clubs), any visitation is offset by including the Newcastle clubs in the study. If we multiply by 11, the figure would be virtually accurate, as increased visitation by large clubs and by clubs in the South Coast/Canberra Area would again offset low visitation by clubs in the Orange/Bathurst Area. However as this study is intended as a guideline to bather an idea of the lowest recreational usage of the area, we concede, AND MULTIPLY THE ABOVE FIGURE BY 10

4,630 persons

SAY, TOTAL VISITATION OF THE ETTREMA/BUNDUNDAH PER YEAR BY BUSHWALKERS IS: 4,500 PERSONS.

PETER HARRIS

weekend instructionals, to be held between June and December this year. The Workshop is intended to foster the spirit of adventure amongst members of outdoors organisations and to direct such persons towards appropriate clubs for further activity.

The Workshop topics, dates, locations are as follows:

BUSHCRAFT - 24, 25 June - Dharug National Park
SKI TOURING - 22, 23 July - Kosciusko National Park

INTRODUCTION MOUNTAINEERING - 26, 27 August
Kosciusko National Park

CANOEING - 23, 24 September - Manning River

ROCK CLIMBING - 14, 15 October - Blue Mountains Nat. Park

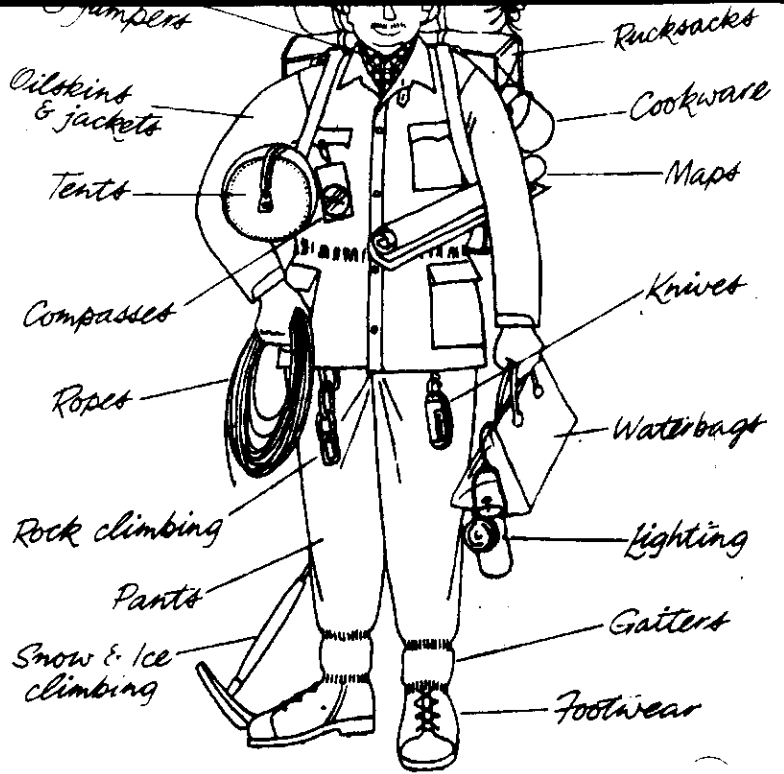
CAVING - 11, 12 November - Bungonia Caves SRA

CANYONING - 2, 3 December - Blue Mountains Nat. Park

Instruction will be at basic level with some progression to intermediate, hence experienced persons need not apply for those segments. Costs, including discounted hire equipment are available, so for complete details send SAE to:

The Secretary
Peter Tuft,
11/30 Ethel Street
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or enquire at Paddy Pallin, Mountain Equipment, or Southern Cross.



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| CAROLYN MURTAGH | VINCE MURTAGH |
| ED HANVIN | FERGUS BELL |
| ANNE MARIE CAMPBELL | |

Thanks to those who wish to remain anonymous

QUOTATION

A continuous trail from Cooktown south to Melbourne has been mapped by the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association. One of their aims is to encourage riders to protect native fauna and flora. Certainly any effort which gets visitors out of trailbikes and fourwheel drive vehicles, and on to the back of horses is to be encouraged.

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POST THIS TODAY !

The Hon. W.F. Crabbtree, Minister for Lands, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 2000

Dear Sir,

I am in support of dedicating the Colo Wilderness as a National Park.

I feel this should be done as soon as possible to protect this heritage for all Australians.

Name _____

Address _____
