



REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR WALKING IN THE BUDAWANG WILDERNESS, MORTON NATIONAL PARK

A number of requirements and guidelines for walking in the popular Budawangs area have been introduced from 1 September 2007 to reduce environmental damage and to assist visitor safety, as set out below.

Walkers should remain aware that the Budawangs is a remote area with natural hazards such as cliffs and falling branches. Walking tracks have limited modification to natural surfaces and alignment may be indistinct. In keeping with the area's wilderness status, signage is limited and there are no facilities apart from basic toilets at the Cooyoyo Creek and Burrumbeet Brook camp sites. Walkers need a high degree of experience and navigation skills and must be self-reliant, particularly in regard to emergency first aid and possible weather hazards. Maps and navigation equipment are needed and walkers are advised to carry an EPIRB.

The eastern part of the Budawangs was formerly used for military training and contains unexploded ordnance. For bushwalker safety, special restrictions apply to use of this area (see below).

	Requirements	Guidelines
Group size	To confine camping impacts, a maximum group size of 12 people is allowed for overnight walkers. However walkers are encouraged to keep to a maximum of 8. Organised groups walking in separate parties must not meet up in camping areas unless the total number is 12 or less and the total number of tents is less than the maximum for the camping area (see below).	Day walkers – no restrictions but encouraged to keep to a maximum of 12 people in a group.
Permits	To manage numbers at the popular Cooyoyo Creek camping area a permit will be required for the Easter and October long weekends from 2008 onwards. Further permit requirements may be introduced if needed.	
Tent camping	No camping is permitted in Monolith Valley, Castle Saddle, Hidden Valley, The Vines rainforest and along the Two Rivers Track within wilderness (south of the Little Forest Walk car park). Restrictions also apply in the former artillery training area (see below).	Campers are asked to observe limits on tent numbers at the main camp sites, as set out below, and to move to other locations if these camping areas are full.
Cave camping	To protect Aboriginal sites, camping in caves and overhangs is permitted only in the caves listed below. Camping is not permitted in any other caves or overhangs except in emergencies (eg sudden storm, injury). Digging or alteration of cave floors is not permitted.	Walkers are encouraged to carry tents and to use these rather than caves.
Wood fires	To minimise degradation at popular sites and damage to Aboriginal values, wood fires are prohibited in the main camping areas, all caves and the fuel-stove-only areas listed below.	Walkers are asked to keep fires small in order to minimise the impacts of wood gathering and to closely maintain and extinguish fires to prevent bushfires occurring. Use of fuel stoves rather than wood fires is encouraged.
Military training area	For bushwalker safety in the former artillery impact area (north of a line drawn between Island Mt and the point south of the Claydons Creek headwater) walkers must keep to vehicle trails and the Folly Point walking track. Digging and campfires are not permitted along the tracks. No camping is permitted in the artillery impact area except at the Sassafras and Link Road sites. Campers must stay within the delineated/cleared areas.	WARNING – unexploded ordnance exists in the former artillery impact area and may explode if disturbed. Any military objects found should be reported to NSW Police (Ulladulla 4454 2542) and not disturbed. Remainder of training area – walkers are advised that explosive training devices may be present. If found they should be left alone and reported to the Police.
Journey intention survey forms		Walkers are encouraged to fill out journey intention survey forms, available on the website or from NPWS offices.
Human waste	To protect water quality, make sure you are at least 100m away from waterways, dig a 15 cm deep hole and bury faeces and paper.	Walkers are asked to carry out human waste from locations with shallow soils unsuitable for disposal by burying.
Cairns	To reduce confusion for other walkers, placement of cairns and other track markers is not permitted.	
Other	To protect our environment, cutting of plant material for bedding or any other reason is not permitted.	Minimal impact camping practices should be observed.

Caves where camping is allowed

Burrumbeet Brook group	Mount Haughton group
Bibbenluke	Mount Tarn group
Camp Rock	Nibbelung
Cooyoyo Creek	Castle Saddle Track
Corang Peak group	Watsons Pass
Hoddle Creek	Styles
Mount Cole group	

Fuel Stove Only areas (wood fires prohibited)

General Areas	Camping areas
Monolith Valley	Bibbenluke
Castle Saddle	Cooyoyo Creek
Hidden Valley	Styles Plain
The Vines rainforest	Burrumbeet Brook area
Two Rivers Track south of Little Forest	Canowie Brook
All caves and overhangs	

Maximum tent numbers in main camping areas (guideline)

Camping area	Maximum tents
Bibbenluke group of sites	12
Cooyoyo Creek	12
Styles Plain	12
Burrumbeet	6
Canowie Brook	6

Further information:

NPWS Ulladulla 4454 9500
NPWS Nowra 4423 2150

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO PROTECT THE BUDAWANGS



