

## Calling in safe

We recommend that Track maintenance visits are not performed solo, where possible. The Bibbulmun Track is classified as a Class 4 trail, so some sections may be challenging. Trips/falls/sprains can occur, mobile phone coverage may be limited, and you should prepare for the unexpected.

Particularly if you prefer to work alone, it's a very good idea to:

- Ensure that a reliable family member or friend has got accurate details on your intended trip.
- Make an arrangement to 'sched in' – or call to let them know you're safe – at strategic times. Develop a prior plan on the action they will take if you don't make contact.
- Carry a PLB or similar safety device, for significant emergency situations. You can access information about beacons on the [AMSA website](#).

Your safety is your responsibility. Your family/friends are the most reliable and appropriate people to notify of your trip intentions. Unfortunately, for various reasons, making 'sched calls' to your PaWS District office reception is not seen as practical across the board at the current time.

Having said that, it's a good idea to touch base with your PaWS District officer immediately prior to your trip, to let them know you'll be in the area. This alerts them to your presence in case of an emergency situation. There may be an update on conditions on your section which hasn't been transferred to the 'Park Alerts' website, or recent work by PaWS work crews may make the visit redundant (it's been known to happen!).

We have developed a template **Track Maintenance Intention Form** which you can print, fill in and leave with your reliable and caring family member or friend. The purpose is that they – who may not be familiar with the geography and access route to your section – have enough information to accurately direct emergency services if required.

The intention form is permanently available for download from our 'Maintenance Matters' archive.



Want to end your days of working alone, and get a Track maintenance buddy? Touch base with Helen ([volunteer@bibbulmuntrack.org.au](mailto:volunteer@bibbulmuntrack.org.au)) to enquire about partnering with a walker on our volunteer waiting list. She will do her best to match you with someone suitable in demographic, residential location and availability.