



# **GROUP NOTIFICATION**

to conduct an organised education or leisure expedition on the Bibbulmun Track

**Bibbulmun Track campsites cannot be reserved** but early notification of groups' intentions to use campsites enables the Bibbulmun Track Foundation (BTF) to inform other walkers when these facilities will be occupied by those groups.

Bibbulmun Track campsites are for use only for walkers using the Bibbulmun Track.

Notified use of campsites is posted in the <u>Section By Section Guide</u> on the Bibbulmun Track Foundation website. Click on the appropriate Track section and select the 'Groups on the Track' tab

Notification helps to ensure:

- the best experience for all Track users,
- the ongoing sustainability of the Track and facilities,
- the conservation of the diverse environments the Track traverses, and
- assists with recreation facilities planning.

In preparation for an expedition on the Bibbulmun Track, please read the following notes on expedition planning and general conditions for conducting activities on lands and waters managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction's Parks and Wildlife Service before completing and submitting to the BTF.

Notifications must be submitted at <u>least 4 weeks</u> prior to the expedition start date:

Enquiries can be made to the Foundation at <a href="mailto:noi@bibbulmuntrack.org.au">noi@bibbulmuntrack.org.au</a>

If you are submitting a notification for more than one group, please complete a separate form for each one.

The Bibbulmun Track has four group use campsites: Alyi-wa Miya Group Campsite (near Monadnocks campsite), Mount Cooke Group Campsite, Lyalls Mill Group Campsite and Arcadia Group Campsite. These campsites allow for groups of up to 30 people (all other campsites have a maximum of 17 people in any group), but have no sleeping shelters. The Monadnocks campsite and the Mt Cooke general use campsite are generally not available for Group Notifications.

Vehicle entry fees into Lane Poole Reserve apply. Groups will need to apply for a fee waiver for vehicles accessing the Track in the Reserve. Contact <a href="mailto:park.passes@dbca.wa.gov.au">park.passes@dbca.wa.gov.au</a>. Camping fees still apply.

**Notification by groups fewer than eight in number is not required** and, due to the high number of notifications received, will not be acknowledged.

For expeditions conducted *entirely* on the Bibbulmun Track our acknowledgement of your Group Notification constitutes approval by the Parks and Wildlife Service to conduct that activity. For further information on permission to conduct other activities on lands and waters managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service contact the Recreation & Trails Unit at recreationandtrails@dbca.wa.gov.au.

All Track users should provide a detailed itinerary (including estimated time of return and finish location, and staged check-ins for longer expeditions) to someone who can contact the Police and Emergency Services (000) on your behalf if you are overdue. Neither the BTF nor the Parks and Wildlife Service perform this role.

**Commercial events** on all Parks and Wildlife Service managed lands and waters, *including* the Bibbulmun Track, require a commercial licence. For more information call the Parks and Wildlife Service licensing officer on (08) 9334 0119.

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#### **EXPEDITION PLANNING**

For your safety, enjoyment and for the sustainability of the trails and the diverse environments they traverse, consider the following points when planning and conducting your expedition.

- The maximum capacity of Bibbulmun Track campsites is 17 persons including leaders.
- The maximum capacity of the Group campsites is 30 persons including leaders.
- Consider the ability, fitness and experience of all members of your group.
- Always carry the latest Bibbulmun Track maps and also the latest guidebooks.
- Carry a first aid kit and know how to use it.
- Ensure that you have suitable equipment and clothing and that it is in good condition.
- Be aware of restricted vehicle access:
  - o There is no vehicle access to any Bibbulmun Track campsite.
  - Disease Risk Areas further restrict vehicle access to the Bibbulmun Track.
  - Refer to relevant maps and guidebooks for further detail. Look for the red or green car icon on the maps or visit <u>Dieback and Bibbulmun Track access</u>.
- Check the Track conditions in the relevant Section by Section Guide. Or contact the relevant Parks and Wildlife Service District office in the area you are planning to conduct your activity (see page 5 for details).
  - Prescribed burns, forestry operations and bushfires are among the events that routinely affect the Track.
  - Sections of the Track can be closed. In most cases, diversions are put into operation, but this is not always possible.
- Prepare for extreme weather:
  - o Check weather conditions on <a href="www.bom.gov.au">www.bom.gov.au</a>.
  - Bushfire alerts, warnings and total fire ban information are available from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on the internet: <a href="www.dfes.wa.gov.au">www.emergency.wa.gov.au</a>, recorded information phone line: 1300 657 209; or listen to ABC local radio.
- Conditions at the inlets on the south coast can vary quickly. Walkers need to make their own judgment on whether it is safe to cross inlets on seasonal sandbars and, if in any doubt, take the alternative route marked on the relevant map. You should be prepared for the longer alternative.
- Do not rely on your mobile phone coverage is limited. Consider a satellite phone and/or a personal locator beacon (PLB). The Foundation has PLBs for hire.
- Carry tents campsite shelters may be occupied.
  - o Campsites cannot be reserved. An acknowledged submission of a Group Notification is not a guarantee of available space.
  - Groups of 8 or more are requested not to occupy campsite shelters before 6pm to allow individual walkers to access these facilities.
  - Tents should only be pitched on the pads provided at all Bibbulmun Track campsites. Pitching tents outside these areas damages the environment.
- Carry at least two litres of water per person per day in unbreakable and leak-proof containers. (Although Bibbulmun Track campsites have rainwater tanks the availability and quality of water cannot be guaranteed. Tank water should be treated before drinking by vigorous boiling or by using water purification products.)
- Carry sufficient food and a fuel stove. Fuel stoves are less likely to cause a bushfire, are fast, clean and easier to use in the wet.

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- Fires are only permitted at some Bibbulmun Track campsites, and not throughout the year (see maps and guidebooks for more details or see the section on <u>Fire</u>.)
- Where and when fires are permitted, a fire-ring will be provided. Please only light fires in the fire ring.
   Please do not light any other fires, particularly at any tent sites.
  - Do not collect wood from the immediate bush surrounding campsites removal of wood by the high number of campsite users detrimentally affects the environment – it is not sustainable.
  - Do not leave a fire unattended.
  - o Ensure all fuel is burnt to ash and fires are completely extinguished.
  - Total Fire Bans can be enforced at any time which means that even fuel stoves cannot be used.
     Check www.dfes.wa.gov.au for Total Fire Bans.
- Provide a detailed itinerary, (including your estimated time of return and finish location) to a responsible person who can contact the Police (000) on your behalf, if you are overdue.
  - o If using transport contractors or support vehicles ensure that someone knows who they are and has a record of their contact details.
  - If using support vehicle operators, ensure they have:
    - a detailed itinerary, relevant maps (including access roads)
    - emergency plans.
- Stay on the trail; avoid cutting corners and widening the trail.
- Pack out **ALL** rubbish and personal hygiene products. Bins are not provided and ensure no rubbish is placed in the fire rings.
- Where a toilet is not available, bury human waste in a 15cm deep hole at least 100m from water courses, trails and camps. Cover and disguise the hole.
- Wash at least 100m from streams and pools and if necessary, use only a small amount of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.
- Keep your boots and tyres free of mud to prevent the spread of dieback use boot cleaning stations where provided.

More for information on Expedition planning visit the Schools and Scouts pages under Trip Planner at <a href="https://www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au/trip-planner/schools-scouts/">www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au/trip-planner/schools-scouts/</a>. Click the link to Expedition Planning.

#### **LEAVE NO TRACE**

Leave No Trace Australia, an organisation whose mission is to promote and inspire responsible travel and outdoor recreation, has seven principles as a guide to minimise the impact of your visits to the natural and cultural heritage areas of Australia:



- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimise Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Your Hosts and Other Visitors

The principles have been expanded for different recreation activities including bushwalking. The BTF and the Department of Parks and Wildlife endorse the seven principles. Further details are available online: <a href="https://www.lnt.org.au">www.lnt.org.au</a>.

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### **GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR ACTIVITIES ON LANDS AND WATERS**

#### MANAGED BY THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

- Approved activities or events must comply with the CALM Act, Bushfires Act, Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002, Wildlife Conservation Act and Regulations, and Marine Act and Regulations.
- When operating within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA), groups or organisations must also comply with the Metropolitan Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Act, the Country Areas Water Supply Act and associated by-laws.
- Groups or organisations will not have exclusive use of any area or facility, unless otherwise specified.
- Any commercial passenger vehicle (e.g. bus or coach) or charter vessel used on Parks and Wildlifemanaged lands and waters must be licensed by the Department of Transport (DoT) and comply with relevant DoT conditions.
- All refuse is to be removed.
- Firearms, snares, traps and bait are not to be carried on Parks and Wildlife-managed lands and waters
  unless a licence is obtained. Licences are issued only for scientific purposes. Marron licences and other
  recreational fishing licences may be obtained from Fisheries WA. It should be noted that marroning is
  prohibited in PDWSAs proclaimed under the Metropolitan Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Act and
  may be prohibited in PDWAs proclaimed under the Country Area Waters Supply Act.
- Domestic pets are not permitted in nature reserves, and dogs are only permitted in a national park or conservation park if there is a special designated area for dogs in that park.
- No permanent or semi-permanent facilities or structures are to be erected without written approval.
- The Department of Parks and Wildlife will endeavour to keep nominated routes and/or facilities available but alterations may have to be made due to unforeseen circumstances.
- The group or organisation must pay park entry and camping fees where applicable.
- Where applicable, the group or organisation shall:
  - provide appropriate safety equipment
  - employ and use only experienced and competent guides/instructors.
- It is the organiser's sole responsibility to appropriately advise and caution participants about the potential hazards likely to be encountered on Parks and Wildlife-managed lands.
- The group or organisation shall advise the relevant Parks and Wildlife District or Regional Manager as soon as practicable of any problems encountered in conducting the approved activity/event or of any personal injuries or damage to property sustained as a consequence of undertaking the activity/event.

## For expeditions on the Bibbulmun Track approved through Group Notification:

The BTF is to be notified of any alteration to the notified expedition. Remember that other people may
wish to use the same campsite on the same day. So early notification of any changes would be
appreciated.

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# **CURRENT TRAIL CONDITIONS**

For current trail conditions:

Check www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au/trip-planner/track-conditions/

# OR contact the relevant Parks and Wildlife Service District office:

| District  |   |
|---|---|
| PERTH HILLS 275 Allen Road MUNDARING WA 6073 Telephone: 9290 6100         | Kalamunda to Harvey-Quindanning Road  Maps: 1 and 2   |
| WELLINGTON 147 Wittenoom Street COLLIE WA 6225 Telephone: 9735 1988       | Harvey Quindanning Road to Mumballup  Map: 3  |
| BLACKWOOD 14 Queen Street BUSSELTON WA 6280 Telephone: 9752 5555          | Mumballup to Willow Formation (north of Donnelly River Village)  Map: 4   |
| DONNELLY Kennedy Street PEMBERTON WA 6260 Telephone: 9776 1207            | Willow Formation (north of Donnelly River Village) to Pingerup Road (north of Mt Chance campsite)  Maps: 5, 6a and part of 6b |
| FRANKLAND South Coast Highway WALPOLE WA 6398 Telephone: 9840 0400        | Pingerup Road (north of Mt Chance campsite) to Denmark  Maps: part of 6b; 7 and part of 8a                                    |
| ALBANY<br>120 Albany Highway<br>ALBANY<br>WA 6330<br>Telephone: 9842 4500 | Nullaki Peninsula to Albany  Map: part of 8a and 8b   |

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