

Sectional Track maintenance – Recruitment & Allocation

Thank you for your interest in joining us as a sectional maintenance volunteer!

The role is a rewarding and impactful way to 'give back' to the Track.

This document should be read along with the list of current maintenance opportunities, to help you consider the sections available and put your hand up for allocation.



Considering the sections

Review the details of each section currently available. The listings provide the location, distance, whether it includes a campsite, indication of need for a 4WD vehicle, and some basic circumstances.

When thinking about any section you might apply for, you should consider:

- The logistics of visits for that particular section, and how they'd fit into your personal schedule.
- Your likely travel and accommodation requirements (timing, costs) for each visit.
- Your fitness, health and capacity for sustained physical work – some sections are easier than others!
- Which region, terrain and vegetation type would you prefer to work in?
Use your familiarity with the Track – and refer to page 8 of Volunteer with Us!
Each biome has a slightly different balance of typical maintenance tasks and workload.
- Whether your vehicle is suitable for the section access.

Considering these factors at the start improves your chance of a good match between your capacity and the needs of the section; your chance of satisfaction in the role, ensuring that your commitment can be sustained; and sets realistic expectations.

We expect that you may have questions about the maintenance needs, access or (occasionally) the volunteers already allocated, for a particular section. Please get in touch and ask, if this is required to help you understand the role prior to application. You can do this by return email; or by phone or dropping in for a chat (subject to availability of the Volunteer Manager or Maintenance Manager).

Something to take into account...

Opportunities for new volunteer placements are not frequent. Existing volunteers tend to fulfil their commitment to their section for several years. Therefore, many sections don't need new volunteers regularly.

In addition, we are lucky to have a strong supporter base and many more expressions of interest in our sectional maintenance role than can be immediately placed. This results in a wait list, including information provided by prospective volunteers which assists in fair allocation of opportunities.

Vacancies in sections further from the metropolitan area usually have less competition. If you have the capacity/enthusiasm to consider such a section, you are likely to be allocated sooner!

What happens next?

The recruitment and allocation process has a few stages:

1. Anyone with an interest in any of the sections available should respond to the Volunteer Manager, answering these questions:

What is your first choice out of the available maintenance sections?

Which other sections (2-3 preferences) might be possible?... Having options helps us place you in a good alternative if you miss out on your first choice.

Where do you live (suburb or town)?... As much as possible, we try to allocate volunteers who live near a section.

Do you have family or friends interested in joining you as maintenance volunteers?... It will make it easier to complete the required 'team' if you do.

Do you have a suitable vehicle (according to the available information)?

2. These responses are most likely to be part of a recruitment campaign.
In that case, a cut-off date will have been identified.
All replies received by the cut-off date are considered for placement.
3. Then the Volunteer Manager reviews all responses, identifying for each one:
 - a. Whether there is a suitable fit between the person and the section – including relative location, and considering any volunteers already allocated to the section.
 - b. How much your response demonstrates enthusiasm and comprehension of the role.
 - c. The time on the wait list – all else being equal, those who have waited the longest are prioritised.
 - d. Any other relevant factors (depending on the section).
4. Allocations are shortlisted and placements offered.
5. Unfortunately, there are usually more potential volunteers than places available, especially for in-demand sections!
You will be notified if you have responded but missed out.
If you are not successful getting allocated, you will be prioritised for a later round (subject to section suitability).
6. Once the placement is accepted, we get you signed up and started!

Getting started...

After that, we're excited to welcome you to our team! The next steps are:

1. You are sent an email with our volunteer registration form (along with a couple of initial links to read)
2. Once you've completed the reading and return the form, it is processed – you're now a *bona fide* volunteer!
3. You are sent our Volunteer Induction – this contains a collection of resources. Some are more important to be read sooner than others – this is clearly indicated.
4. Other than that, it's simply a matter of getting out on the Track, and familiar with your new section!