

Koala Surveys, Upper Allyn River – 18/19 August 2018

Information for participants

Overview

This is the second of the 2018 community surveys for koalas in part of Chichester State Forest in the Upper Allyn and Paterson Valleys proposed as an extension to Barrington Tops NP. The event is being undertaken by the National Parks Association (Hunter Branch) in association with the Paterson Allyn Williams Science Hub.

Meeting locations

Saturday meeting location is Pademelon Camping Area in Chichester State Forest at 9.30 am.

For those coming on **Sunday** only, meet at the Pademelon Camping Area at 8.00 am for the briefing on the day's activities.

The survey area is located about 1 hour north west of Dungog and 2 hours from Newcastle. See map for locations and roads.

Camping arrangements

The preferred camp location is Pademelon Camping Area in Chichester State Forest – see map. It is advisable to set up camp as early as possible, preferably Friday. It is advisable to bring drinking water.

In the event that Pademelon Camping Area is unavailable, the alternative camping location is the Gunyah Hut camp area about 2.5 km south, and off the side road, near the junction with Mt Allyn Road.

Weather

The weather in August can be cold and windy, especially at night. Please be prepared for these conditions and for rain.

About the Koala surveys

The surveys will be carried out on a systematic and scientific basis. There will be a number of professional ecologists attending who will be able to guide small groups of 3 – 4 people in the field.

The surveys will look for evidence of koalas in areas where they have previously been recorded. Any koala sightings are a bonus, but should not be expected.

Proposed program

The koala surveys will be undertaken on the ridge between the Williams and Allyn Rivers, and other locations in the area. The program is as follows:

Day	Time & activity
Saturday 18 August	9.30 – Meet at Pademelon Camping Area car park
	9.45 – 10.00 Briefing on Saturday activities
	10.00 – 13.00 Williams Ridge koala surveys 1
	13.00 - 14.00 Lunch
	14.00 – 17.00 Williams Ridge koala surveys 2
	17.00 – 19.00 Dinner
	19.00 - Review of day's activities & outline of Sunday activities (location to be advised)
Sunday 19 August	7.00 – 8.00 Breakfast
	8.00 – 8.15 Briefing on Sunday activities
	8.30 – 13.00 Koala surveys 3
	13.00 return from surveys and pack up
	14.00 - Finish

Note that further koala surveys will be in April and August 2019. Please let organisers know if you are able to participate.

What to bring

Participants need to self cater and must bring suitable clothing and footwear and be prepared for some walking off tracks. Guidance on carrying out koala surveys and recording data will be provided by professional ecologists.

Please bring a rain jacket, clipboard, pens, camera, and a GPS if you have one (and compass). The area is mostly on the 1:25,000 Carrabolla topographic map. Bring torches and a spotlight if you have one, as there may be an opportunity to do night time spotlighting.

Contact information

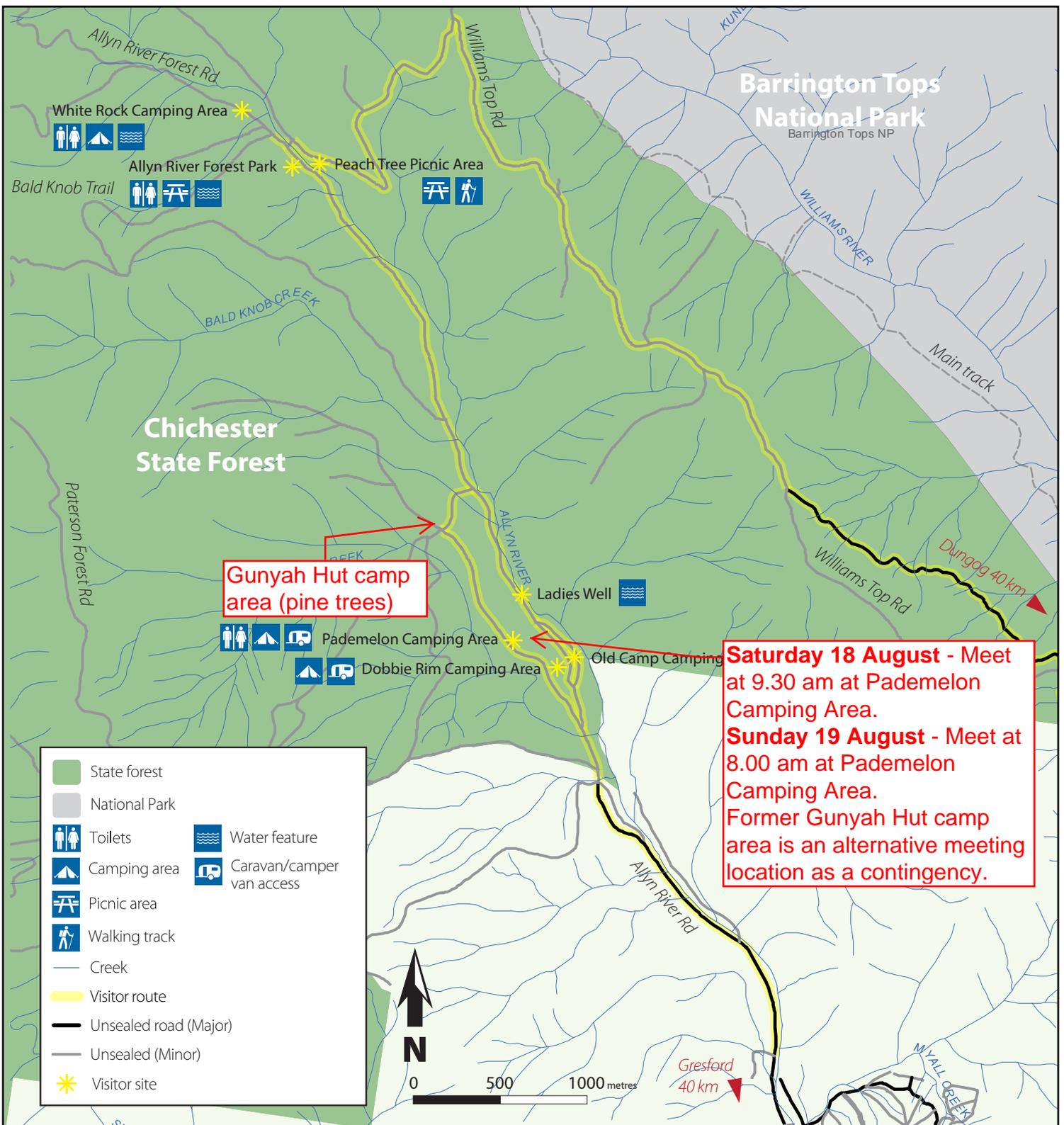
If you are interested in participating, or have any queries, please contact John Simpson on T 0400 364 080 E hunter-activities@npansw.org.au or Martin Fallding on T 6571 1208 E info@calli.com.au. Note that attendance must be finalised at least one week beforehand to assist with organisation

Note that no mobile phone reception is available in the Upper Allyn area.

If you have any last minute queries, please contact John Simpson on T 0400 364 080.

We look forward to seeing you over the weekend.

Thanks for participating.



Chichester (west) State Forest

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- Other forest hazards include, but are not limited to, overhead hazards from tree limbs and uneven or slippery surfaces.
- Watch out for vehicles and pedestrians.

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