

Lower Goulburn National Park



Visitor Guide

The Goulburn River is lined with River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and is an important wildlife corridor linking the mountains of the Great Dividing Range to the Murray River. The river is highly scenic with its narrow strips of riparian vegetation along its meandering banks. The adjoining River Red Gum forests and woodlands provide a striking contrast to the adjacent farmland.



Royal Spoonbill

The Victorian Government created the Lower Goulburn National Park, along with other new and expanded parks, in June 2010 to protect and enhance the River Red Gum forests in Victoria.

Enjoying the park

The Goulburn River forests are popular for camping, fishing, canoeing, bushwalking and a variety of other recreational activities, particularly close to Shepparton.

Canoeing – conditions for canoeing are enhanced by the summer releases of water from Lake Eildon.

Sightseeing and picnicking – enjoy many scenic views along the river from high river banks.

Swimming is popular, particularly near the townships where the river is easily accessible.

Fishing - This stretch of the Goulburn is fairly shallow with plenty of snags, so preferred boating is by smaller craft. Steep banks predominately line the river, with

sandbars and access points dotted throughout. Informal boat ramps are scattered along the river at popular access points.

Murray Cod, Golden Perch and Spiny Freshwater Crayfish are found in the river.

A current Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence is required for fishing in waters south of the Murray River including the Goulburn River. A NSW Freshwater Recreation Fishing Licence is required for fishing in the Murray River.

River Red Gums

River Red Gum forests have high natural, cultural and economic values. These forests are coming under increasing pressure from climate change, drought and reduced water flows in the northern rivers.

Protecting this precious environment relies on balancing the economic and recreational activities with preserving its natural beauty and values.

Be fire ready and stay safe

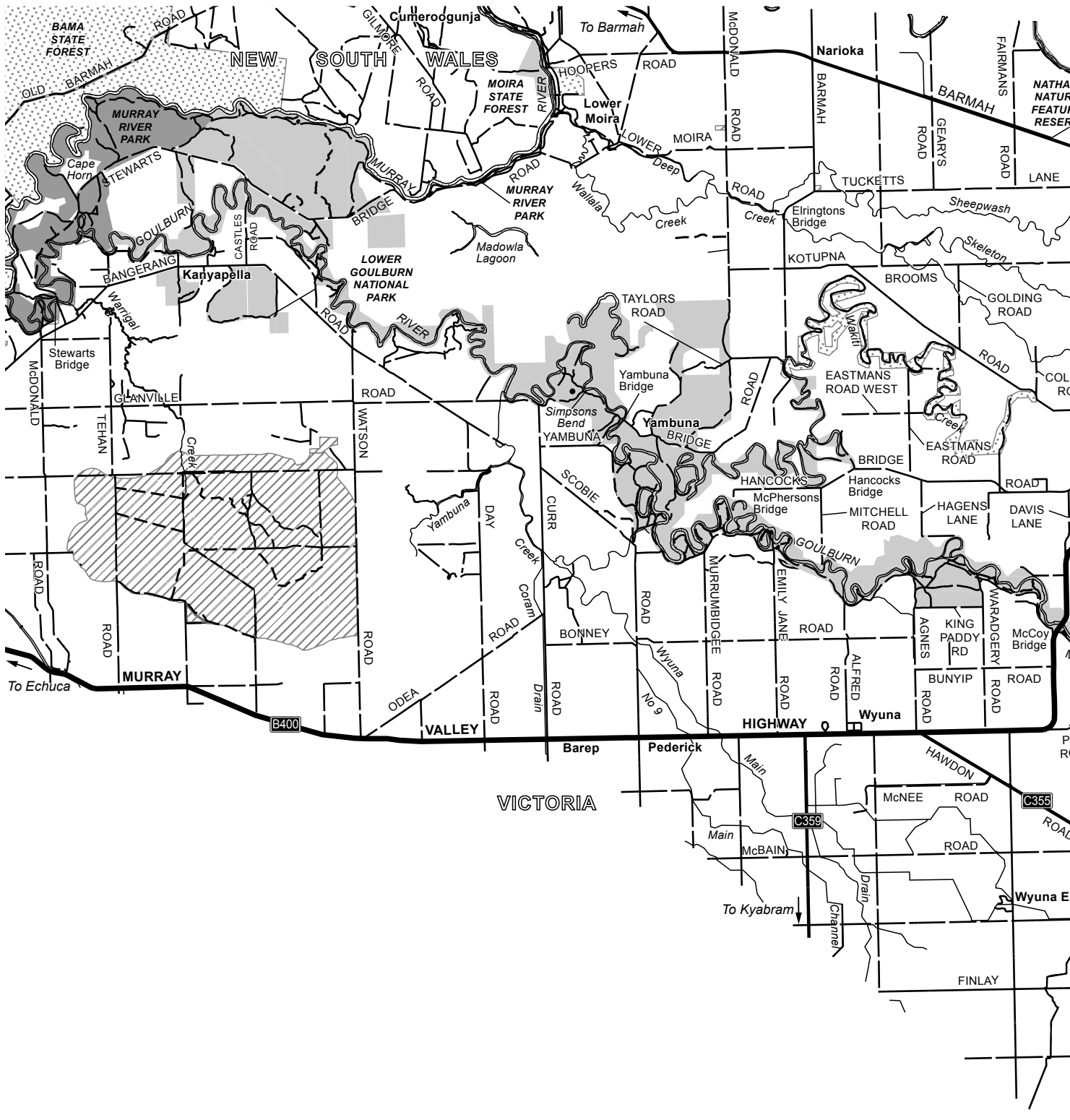
Many parks and forests are located in high fire risk areas. **On days of forecast Code Red Fire Danger this park will be closed for public safety.**

If you are already in the park you should leave the night before or early in the morning for your own safety.

Closure signs will be erected and rangers will patrol where possible, however you may not receive a personal warning that the park is closed so check the latest conditions by calling 13 1963 or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au.

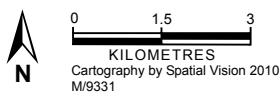
For up to date information on fires in Victoria or general fire safety advice call the **Victorian Bushfire Information Line** on **1800 240 667**.

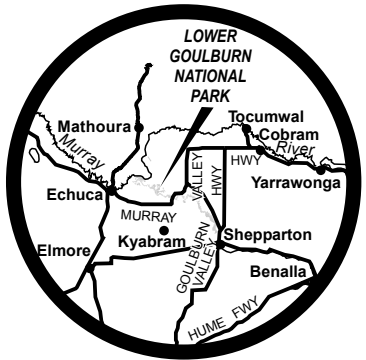
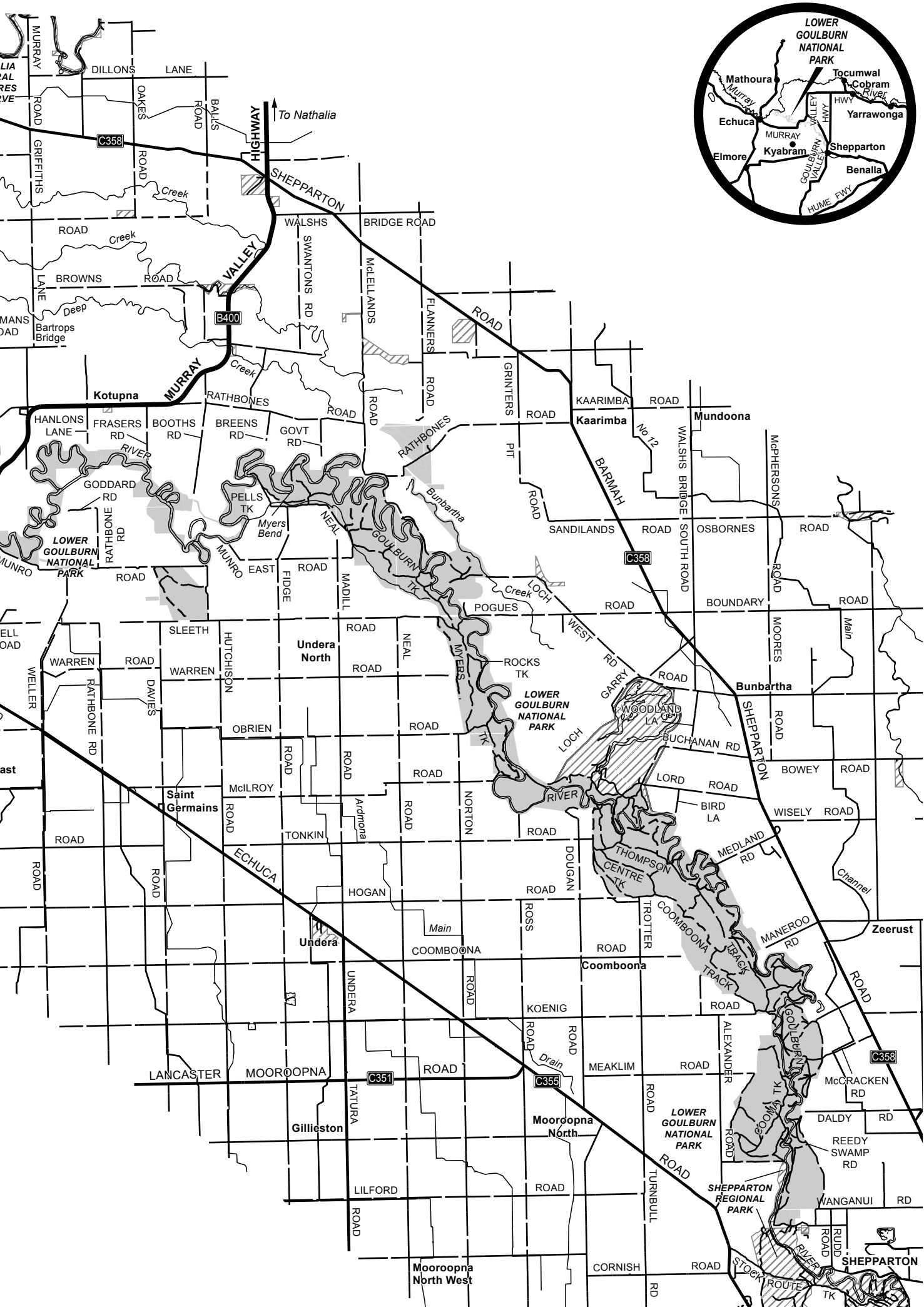




Lower Goulburn National Park

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Freeway | Lower Goulburn National Park |
| Major sealed road | Murray River Park |
| Minor sealed road | State Forest |
| Unsealed road | Other Parks & Reserves |
| Vehicle track (4WD) | Water body |





For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre
Call 13 1963

or visit the
Parks Victoria website
www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Visitor Information Centre
Victoria Park Lake
Wyndham Street
Shepparton Vic 3630
Toll Free - 1800 808 839

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish home with you for recycling or disposal

All plants, animals, historical and archaeological sites and geographic features are protected by law

Dogs and other pets are not permitted in the park

Firearms are prohibited

No fires, including barbecues, may be lit on a day of

Total Fire Ban. Lower Goulburn River National Park is in the **Northern Country Total Fire Ban District**. **It is your responsibility to know if it is a day of Total Fire Ban.** If in doubt call the **Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667**

Park closures - Be prepared to leave early as **extreme weather may cause the closure of some park areas** for public safety

Collect only dead wood from the ground for campfires

Vehicles, including motor bikes, may only be used on formed open roads. Drivers must be licensed and vehicles registered and roadworthy

River Red Gums line the Goulburn River for most of its length. These iconic trees can reach 45 metres and live for more than 500 years. The trees need periods of flooding and can survive inundation for months. Their seeds are washed onto higher ground during a flood and germinate and grow before the next flood reaches them. Hollows and broken branches provide nesting for galahs, cockatoos, cockatiels and various parrots; while fallen branches provide habitat for other animals.

Aboriginal people

The Yorta Yorta people have a long association with the Lower Goulburn National Park. Scarred trees, mounds, stone artefact scatters and middens are some of the sites of significance that can be found in this park, particularly along the lower reaches of the river. The park contains over 196 registered Aboriginal archaeological sites.

The Yorta Yorta people have had long-held aspirations to be involved in caring for country and have an active role in the management of Lower Goulburn National Park. Traditional owner knowledge assists with management of the land and recognises the unique relationship of the traditional owners to the land.



Goulburn Heritage River

The Goulburn Heritage River was declared in 1992 in recognition of its unique natural, recreational, scenic and cultural values.

It is Victoria's second largest river in terms of length, catchment area and annual flows.

River flows are highly regulated by two major storages – Lake Eildon and Goulburn Weir.

The Goulburn Weir was the first major irrigation scheme in Australia.

Major flooding now occurs once every ten years, while before regulation, flooding would have occurred at least every two years.

Plants and animals

The River Red Gum forests and Yellow and Grey Box woodlands between Shepparton and the Murray River are notable in terms of size, lack of disturbance, diversity and botanical 'intactness'.

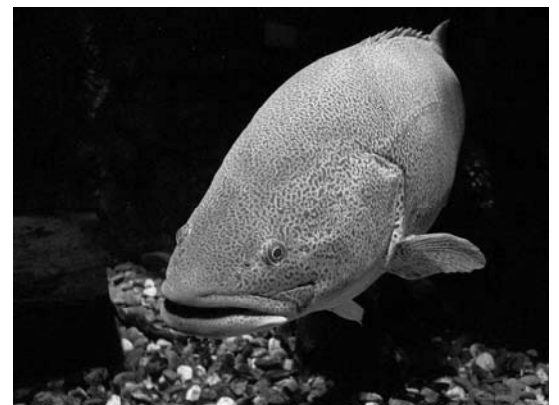
The River Red Gum forest with areas of grassy and shrubby understory, plus the large number of wetlands, billabongs provides habitat for a number of significant fauna species including Brush-tailed Phascogales, Barking Owls, Royal Spoonbills and Musk Ducks.

Areas containing tree hollows and mature Silver Wattle contain habitat of national significance for the rare Squirrel Glider.

Flora species of note include the endangered Grey Billy-buttons, Small Scurf-peas, and Jericho Wiregrass.

Reedy Swamp, north of Shepparton, when filled, is a haven for waterbirds including the Glossy Ibis and the Royal Spoonbill.

Unlike many Victorian rivers, the Goulburn River below Shepparton remains largely undisturbed. Instream debris and large snags provide valuable habitat for Murray Cod and other fish species.



Murray Cod

December 2010

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