

Dwellingup Adventure Trails Frequently Asked Questions



How much will the Dwellingup Adventure Trails cost and who is funding it?

The total budget for the Dwellingup Adventure Trails project is \$8.4 million. The project is funded through a \$3.45 million federal Building Better Regions grant to the Shire of Murray, and \$4.95 million from the State Government via the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

Who is managing the Dwellingup Adventure Trails project?

The project is jointly managed by DBCA and the Shire of Murray (SOM). DBCA is coordinating the trail and infrastructure development, and the SOM coordinating the tourism and marketing.

The project is being overseen by a Project Steering Group, with members being drawn from DBCA, SOM, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Peel Development Commission, Tourism WA and the Dwellingup Community Compact.

Who is constructing the trails?

All construction works for the trails and supporting infrastructure will be tendered by DBCA in accordance with standard State Government procurement processes.

How will the Dwellingup Adventure Trails benefit the community?

The Dwellingup Adventure Trails are expected to create the following community benefits:

- Create world class visitor attractions in the Peel region by establishing nationally significant mountain bike trail networks that will grow and sustain the tourism economy;
- Create high quality trails that appeal to a broad cross section of tourists while also catering for trail enthusiasts;
- Establish high quality mountain bike trails suitable for national and international events;
- Deliver an integrated tourism experience across the region that will increase the total number of visitors to the region, increase the number of repeat visits, and extend the length of stay;

- Stimulate local tourism economies in the region (e.g. accommodation, retail and hospitality);
- Opportunities for new businesses after construction that support adventure and eco-tourism trail experiences;
- Raise local, state, national and international recognition and awareness of the region's natural amenities, heritage, adventure and eco-tourism assets and its outstanding biodiversity;
- Provide trail facilities that will improve the lifestyle and community amenity for Peel region residents;
- Establish best practice trail development and management that minimises impact on the natural environment;
- Direct employment during construction;
- Post construction potential to stimulate permanent ongoing employment through businesses supporting the activities and other visitor services industries such as bike hire, trail maintenance, accommodation and hospitality;
- A level of rider accessibility, challenge and enjoyment consistent with rider expectations and needs;
- Improved visitor satisfaction in parks and towns where trail infrastructure is established;
- Develop a sense of ownership by local trails groups and volunteers to support ongoing trail maintenance;
- Facilitate the aspirations of the local Aboriginal community in terms of training, employment, heritage interpretation and business development; and
- Potential for development of a range of mobile and web-based applications and online resources for trail users.

How will the trails benefit local business?

It is conservatively estimated the Dwellingup Adventure Trails project will bring an additional 23,000 visitors annually to Dwellingup.

This equates to approximately \$4 million in economic spend within the area annually, and presents a significant opportunity for existing businesses to expand, and new business to be created.

As the project progresses, work will continue with local business to be prepared for these opportunities.

What extra infrastructure services will be provided in Dwellingup?

The SOM is well advanced in the construction of the Dwellingup Adventure Trail Centre in Dwellingup. A new pump track and skateboard park have already been constructed, and improvements to the Hotham Valley Railway are in progress.

DBCA will also be developing a simple trail centre at the Dwaarlindjirraap (Baden Powell) day use area, to service the trail network in Lane Poole Reserve.

Where will trailheads and carparks be located?

The primary trailhead will be located at the new Dwellingup Adventure Trail Centre in Dwellingup. Secondary trailheads will be provided at various locations on the trail networks, including Dwaarlindjirraap (Baden Powell) day use area in Lane Poole Reserve.

Will the trails be on private land?

No trails are currently being planned for private land.

How will the environmental and cultural values be protected?

All trails will be planned and designed following the eight-step Trail Development Process to ensure existing environmental and heritage values are protected.



How will the trails support increased public awareness of environmental and cultural issues?

The trails will allow greater community access to engage with the natural environment, and therefore learn about it and value it. Along the trails there will be innovative educational and interpretive signage.

Will the trails go through any heritage sites?

The planned suspension bridge at Dwaarlindjirraap (Baden Powell) day use site in Lane Poole Reserve will cross over the Murray River, which is a registered Aboriginal heritage site. Staff from DBCA are currently consulting with traditional owners in the initial planning for the bridge.

DBCA are also consulting closely with traditional owners in the construction of the new canoe-launching facilities, including engaging site monitors during construction works in the river.

DBCA has previously consulted with traditional owners in the trail concept planning of the 30km mountain bike trail network in Lane Poole Reserve. The trail network has been planned to protect identified heritage sites and does not impact on them.

How wide will the trails be and what surface will they have?

Mountain bike trails will generally be between 600mm and 1200mm wide and naturally surfaced. In order to minimise erosion and future maintenance, sections of the trail network may have to be hardened, using materials such as gravel, rock and stabilising treatments.

How will the trails be managed?

A sustainable business model will be developed and implemented at the same time as the trails are developed. DBCA will work with local government, volunteers and the MTB community to implement the model and maintain the trails.

Will existing walking tracks be closed to become mountain bike trails?

No walking trails are to be closed, and no existing walking trails are to be converted for mountain bike use. DBCA's trail planning aims to ensure that both walking trails and proposed mountain bike trails co-exist respectfully and safely.

Can trail runners use the mountain bike trails?

The trails will primarily be for mountain bike use only, however they may be used for trail running events.