

### The Otways

The Great Otway National Park, Otway Forest Park and Anglesea Heath are situated South West of Melbourne.

The Otways provide some great opportunities to pursue outdoor recreation activities. This brochure will provide you with trail bike information for riders to enjoy the natural features of the Otways.

*Great Otway National Park* was created in 2005 and includes the former Otway National Park, Angahook-Lorne State Park, Carlisle State Park, Melba Gully State Park and State Forest areas.

*Otway Forest Park* was also created in 2005 and incorporates State Forest areas containing foothill forests extending from the main ridge of the Otway Ranges to the undulating plains and plateaus further inland.

*Anglesea Heath* is a co managed park between the community, Parks Victoria (on behalf of DSE) and Alcoa of Australia Limited (Alcoa). Anglesea Heath contains about one quarter of Victorias plant species.

### Paddys Swamp Trail Bike Visitor Area

Situated 10km South of Winchelsea on Paddys Swamp Road, Paddys Swamp Trail Bike Visitor Area (TBVA) is easily accessed via sealed and gravel



roads from Winchelsea and is central to a large network of forest roads and tracks suitable for trail bike riding. The TBVA provides riders with information on where to ride and has a range of facilities to make either end of a ride more enjoyable.

### Getting There

The Otways are located approximately 120km south-west of Melbourne. The Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park are situated south of the Princes Highway which runs between Geelong and Warrnambool.

The Paddys Swamp Trail Bike Visitor Area is easily accessed via Winchelsea, which is situated halfway between Geelong and Colac on the Princes Highway.

### What facilities are provided?

Facilities at the Paddys Swamp TBVA include:

- Parking area accommodating vehicles both with and without trailers
- A unisex toilet
- A shelter
- Information board and map
- Picnic tables and seats
- Trail bike stands

### Riding Route

#### East Otway Ride 70 km

This loop ride comprises both forest roads and local roads. There are some small river crossings, some sandy and clay sections. There are a few steep ascents and descents, but generally the loop is flat. Sections of track become slippery following rain. Two seasonal road closures are included in the ride.

### Seasonal Road Closures

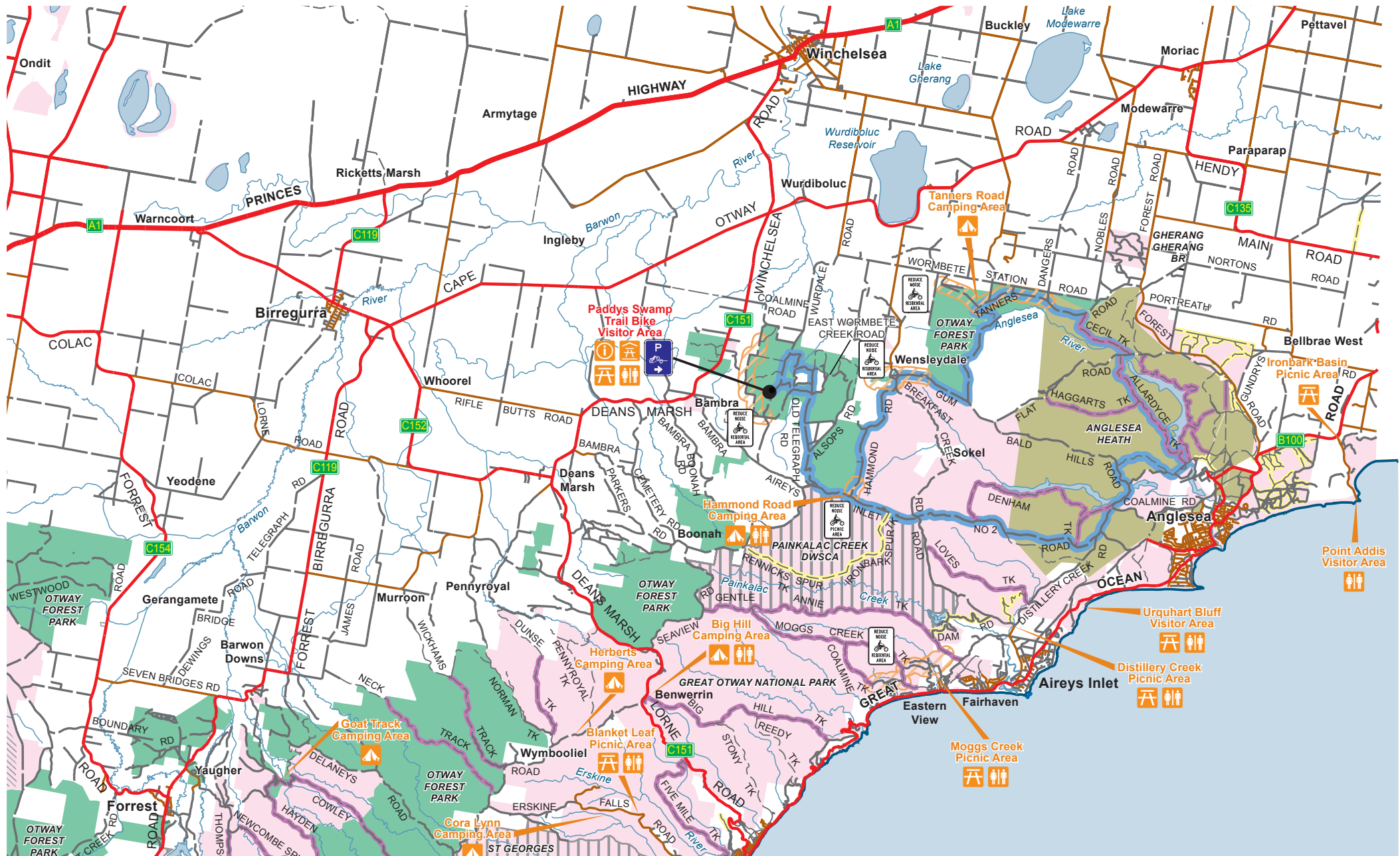
DSE and Parks Victoria close these roads after heavy rain or when the road conditions become unsafe. This is necessary to ensure track safety. Check with the local DSE or Parks Victoria office for updates on road closure information.

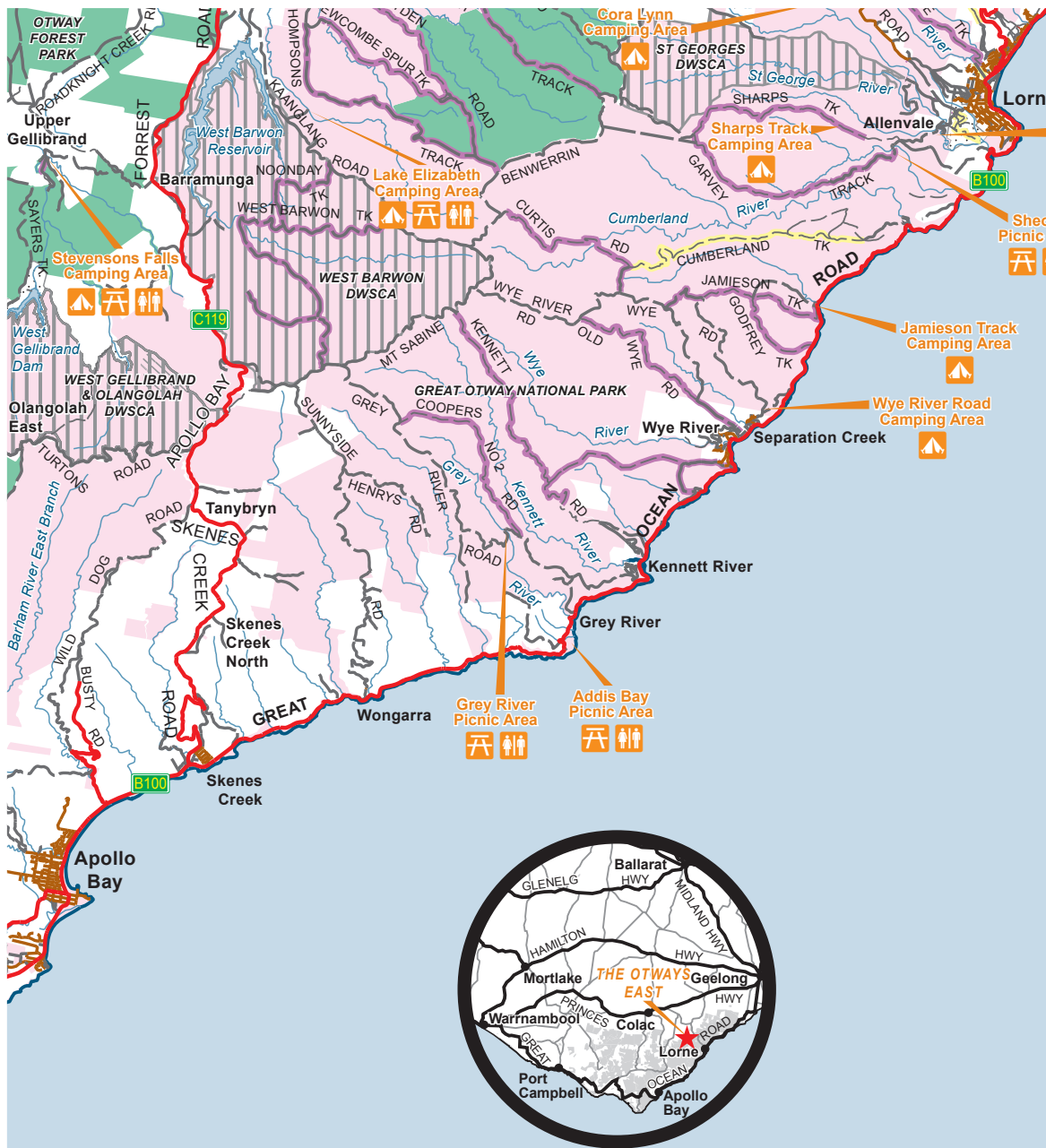
### Private Property and Plantations

- Reduce noise near houses, picnic and camping areas and domestic stock
- Respect private property and plantations
- Riding of plantation roads not shown on the adjoining maps is not permitted
- Be aware of log trucks on forest roads
- Ride legal - Stay on formed public roads

### Riding & Safety Information

- Riders must be licensed
- Motorcycles must be registered
- All roads and tracks, including the sign posted riding route, are two way and open to other vehicles
- Slow down when passing bushwalkers, horse riders and other forest users
- Wear your protective gear
- Respect the Environment - Respect Others





**ROAD CLOSURES**

To help protect road surfaces, water quality and the environment and to ensure driver safety, roads in parks and forests throughout Victoria are seasonally closed during the year, especially in winter or temporarily closed for operational (or other) reasons.

Most seasonal road closures take effect from the 1 June until the 31 October each year. Please note that not all road closures can be shown on this map as additional seasonally or temporarily closed roads may be added from year to year.

Please obey road closed signs and help us protect the environment.

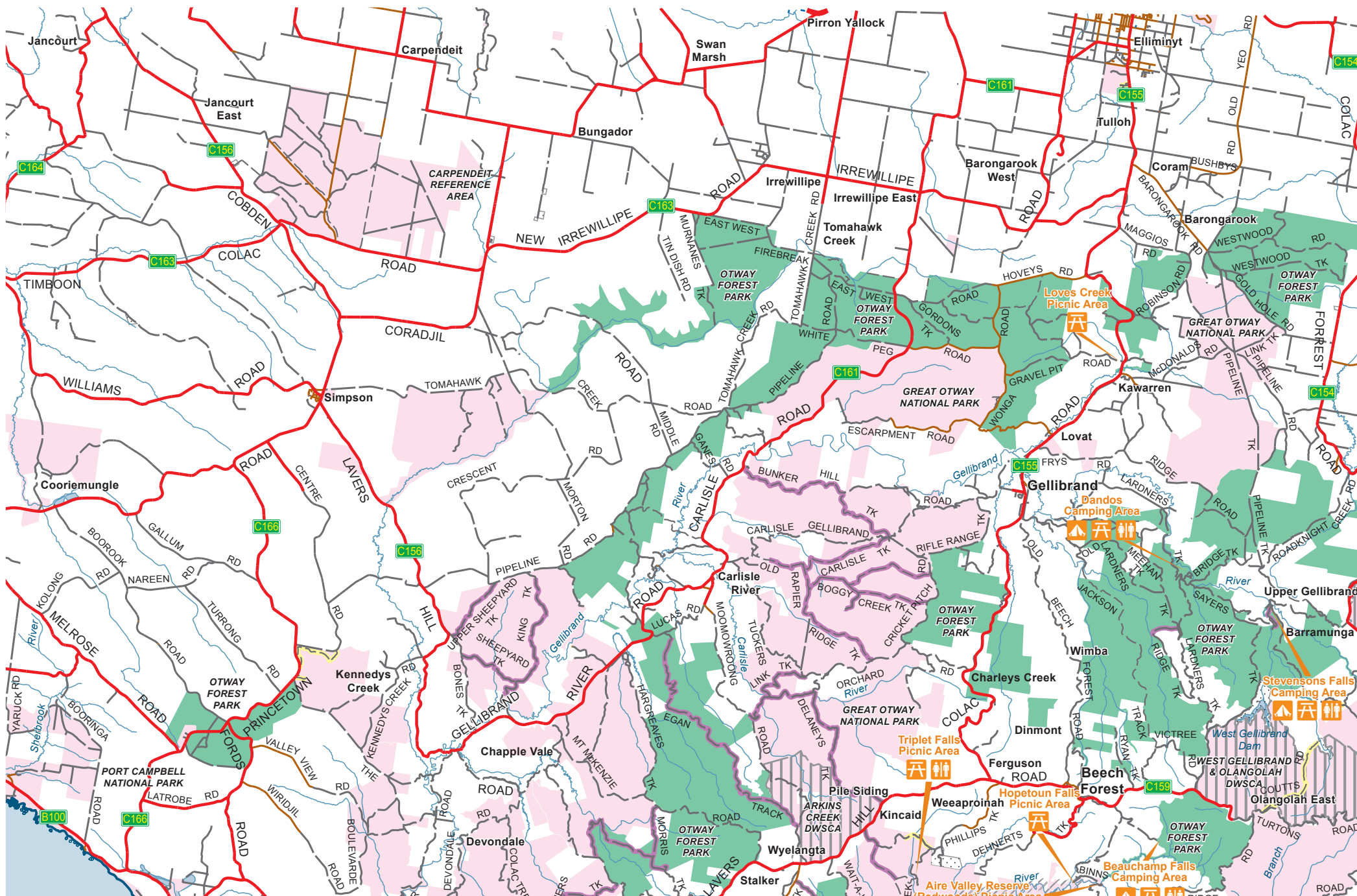
### Trail Bike Riding - Otways

	Freeway/Highway		Forest Park	<b>Recreation Facilities</b>	
	Major sealed road		Parks and Reserves		Camping
	Minor sealed road		Anglesea Heath		Information
	Unsealed road		Other Public Land		Picnic shelter
	Vehicle track (4WD)		Designated Water Supply Catchment		Picnic table
	Road subject to seasonal closure		Water body		Toilets
	Management Vehicle Only track				
	Trail Bike Visitor Area				
	East Otway Ride				
	Reduce Noise Area				



This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its officers do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.







## Ride for Tomorrow

Trail bike riding is great fun, but just so you don't spoil the fun for others who come to use the forests, please note the following:

### Reduce Your Noise



DSE and VicRoads have developed some new signs to indicate noise sensitive areas where riders should ride more slowly and quietly. Obeying these signs is voluntary (i.e. not a legal requirement), but if riders ride slowly and quietly in these areas, it will help keep the peace and be greatly appreciated by other forest users and nearby residents.

Refer to map overleaf for key noise sensitive areas.

“Be seen but not heard – ride quiet bikes” *Otway Trail Riders*

## Respect the Environment

The Anglesea Grevillea (*Grevillea infecunda*) is only found in small pockets around the town of Anglesea. It is one of our threatened flora species. The roots of the Grevillea grow close to the surface and are very brittle, making them very susceptible to damage. The Anglesea Grevillea uses its root system to germinate.

Riding only on the legal road network will help protect the Anglesea Grevillea for future generations.

*Phytophthora cinnamomi* (pronounced: fy-TOFF-thor-ah) is a foreign plant pathogen. This pathogen attacks the root systems of susceptible vegetation including the iconic grass trees in the Otways. People and vehicles are the prime movers of the pathogen. Riding only on the legal road network and washing your bike after every ride will help reduce the spread of *Phytophthora*

- Please take your litter home

## Be Bushfire Smart

Fires can only be lit in properly constructed fireplaces.

- Call the Victorian Bushfire Information line **1800 240 667** for more information
- Do not light a fire on a day of **Total Fire Ban**.

## Track Closure & Rehabilitation

Please respect track closure and rehabilitation areas.

There are many reasons the closure of a road or track may be required. These include:

- Public Safety
- Impacts on adjoining landholders/residents (ie. noise)
- Erosion/water quality impacts (i.e. sedimentation of streams, important water catchment area etc)
- Environmental impacts ie. damage to vegetation, weed spread (eg. *Phytophthora*), disturbance to fauna/habitat etc
- Duplication of existing/nearby road network, resulting in unnecessary maintenance costs
- Low level of recreational use
- Surplus to DSE or PV managerial requirements

DSE & Parks Victoria consult in regard to track closures with groups including the community, Four Wheel Drive Victoria, Australian Motorcycle Trail Riders Association and Otway Trail Riders about track closures.

When tracks have been or are proposed to be closed and rehabilitated in the Otways, a consultation process with stakeholders takes place. The most recent closure and rehabilitation plans and proposals can be found at [www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au).

Please respect these revegetation areas.

## For more information

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) is responsible for managing Victoria's State Forest. For further information contact DSE's Customer Service Centre on 136 186 (TTY: 1800 122 969) or visit <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/trailbikes>

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its officers do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication