

Myall Lakes Booti Booti Wallingat national parks



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The Great Lakes are a network of waterways including Myall, Smiths and Wallis Lakes between Nelson Bay and Forster on the NSW coast north of Newcastle.

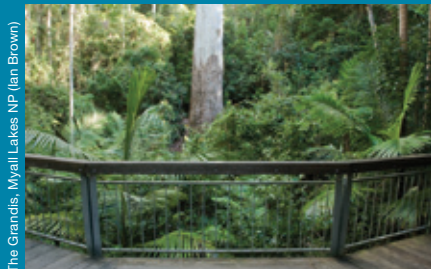
The Great Lakes area is part of the traditional country of the Worimi Aboriginal people, who have lived on and used the land and waters for living, cultural activities and food gathering for many thousands of years. Today, the local Aboriginal community retain strong spiritual links with the Great Lakes area.

The region is renowned for its beauty and striking landscape ranging from sweeping ocean beaches to sheltered waterways and surrounding stands of coastal forest on the higher areas.

Myall Lakes, Booti Booti and Wallingat national parks have a diversity of landforms, wildlife and vegetation. They conserve one of the state's largest networks of coastal lakes, with the tallest tree, largest coastal island and 80km of beaches and coastline.

The Myall Lakes are the largest natural fresh-brackish water system on the NSW coast covering 10,000 hectares and are listed as a wetland of international importance under the RAMSAR convention.

TOP SPOTS TO VISIT IN THE PARKS



The Grandis, Myall Lakes NP (Ian Brown)

The Grandis (Myall Lakes NP)

The inspiring coastal forests along the western edge of the park include the state's tallest tree – The Grandis – a giant flooded gum.



Sugarloaf Point Lighthouse, Myall Lakes NP (OEH)

Sugarloaf Point Lighthouse (Myall Lakes NP)

You can stay overnight in the former lightkeepers cottages (bookings required ph 02 4997 6590), or just enjoy a short 500m stroll to this remarkable historic precinct adjacent to Seal Rocks.



Gu-rum-bee, Wallingat NP (OEH)

Wallingat scenic drives (Wallingat NP)

The forest roads of Wallingat National Park make for a memorable scenic drive experience. Gu-rum-bee Picnic Area provides an ideal start to the experience.



Cape Hawke lookout tower (OEH)

Cape Hawke Lookout (Booti Booti NP)

A short uphill walk through coastal rainforest leads to this stunning lookout platform in the north of Booti Booti NP with its dramatic views out over the surrounding coastline and lake systems.



Canoeing, Myall Lakes (Shane Chalkley)

MYALL LAKES NATIONAL PARK

This park is the ultimate place for camping and to enjoy the vast lake waters for all types of boating and water-based activities. In contrast, the park's beaches and headlands are ideal places to explore, fish or just relax. Choose from lakeside, coastal or forested camping areas or venture out for a remote camping experience.

Experience the cultural heritage and giant sand dunes at Dark Point or enter another ancient world along the Mungo Brush Rainforest Walk.

The heritage- listed Sugarloaf Point Lighthouse at Seal Rocks is a testament to maritime navigation and now provides visitors with the chance to stay overnight below the beckoning light.

The coastal forests along the western side of the park include the state's tallest tree – the Grandis- a giant flooded gum.



Camping at Mungo Brush Myall Lakes NP (OEH)



Whoota Whoota Lookout

WALLINGAT NATIONAL PARK

A delightful forest drive through the park reveals elegant stands of tall flooded gum and palms, breathtaking views from Whoota Whoota Lookout and peaceful riverside day use and camping areas.

Wander the tracks around Sugar Creek or bring your mountain bike and make a more adventurous tour around the Park.



Camping by the Wallingat River (OEH)

The horse trail network provides riders with the opportunity to undertake a variety of day rides including loop trails on a number of designated park roads and management trails in Wallingat National Park.

For further details riders should call the Great Lakes Area office on 6591 0300. Note – all roads are unsealed and may be closed after heavy rain.

BOOTI BOOTI NATIONAL PARK

The park boasts a variety of expansive and secluded beaches, providing excellent surfing, swimming and fishing. The Ruins Camping Area provides 'close to beach' camping with a high level of facilities. A walk through the rainforest up to the Cape Hawke viewing tower provides views of the region.

The Booti Hill and lakeside walking tracks immerse visitors in the park's varied landscapes. Complementing the park on its western boundary, Wallis Lake is ideal for boating and windsurfing.



Enjoying the beach adjacent to The Ruins Camping Area (Shane Chalkley) / (OEH)

Elizabeth Beach: The imposing Booti Hill in Booti Booti NP provides a dramatic backdrop to Elizabeth Beach. The beach is seasonally patrolled and is a good swimming beach for families.



Elizabeth Beach looking across to Booti Booti NP (OEH)



On the track to Sugarloaf Point Lighthouse (OEH)

BROUGHTON ISLAND

Camping on Broughton Island is only permitted at the Little Poverty Beach Campground.

All campers must book & pre-pay for a campsite before leaving the mainland.

Little Poverty Beach Campground on Broughton Island offers visitors a unique camping experience, with some of the most spectacular coastal views in Australia. It is the only island in NSW where you can camp.



Broughton Island (OEH)

The campground includes 3 raised camping platforms and 2 grassed sites, providing camping for up to 30 people.

Broughton Island is a remote area and careful planning is required. Campers need to be self-sufficient and be prepared for rapidly changing weather and sea conditions.

To camp on Broughton Island you must book. Camping fees apply.

To book

Phone:

'13000 PARKS' (1300 072 757)

Email:

13.park@environment.nsw.gov.au

Visit:

www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/broughton



Camping Platform, Broughton Island (OEH)

EXPLORE THE PARKS

The parks have an extensive network of walking tracks designated for walkers only and management trails which are suitable for both walking and cycling (refer to coloured numbers on map)

- 1. Mungo Brush Rainforest Walk 2km loop track** – An easy 30 minute walk through coastal rainforest, starting from the northern end of Mungo Brush Camping Area.
- 2. Tamboi Trail 4km one way** – An easy walk starting from the bar gate at the southern end of Mungo Brush. Wander through stunning Cabbage Tree Palm forest to the old fishing village of Tamboi, or follow the boardwalk to Brambles Green.
- 3. The Old Gibber Trail 11km one way to Shelly Beach (or 4km one way to Johnson's Beach)** – A full day or overnight walk starting from the bar gate at the Boomeri Camping Area. Enjoy coastal forest and the "Moors", a unique wet heathland with extensive bird life and seasonal wildflowers.
- 4. The Mining Road Trail.** This popular ride or overnight hike takes you out along the former Mining Road for 10km until it turns off to the right and connects with the Old Gibber Fire Trail. It is a further 10km along this trail to reach the Mungo Brush Road.
- 5. The Mungo Track** a total of 21km one way – Follow the lake edge, river and beaches to Hawks Nest or choose shorter sections from access points on Mungo Brush Rd.
- 6. Yacaaba Headland Walking Track.** 1.5km one way – A more challenging walk, starting from the carpark at the end of Beach Rd, Hawks Nest. Although there is no formal lookout at the top, there are views through forest along the way.
- 7. Sugar Creek Walking Tracks.** Two short loop walks (0.8km and 1.7km) wind through delightful wet eucalypt forest.
- 8. Booti Hill – Lakeside Walking Tracks.** This popular 7km loop walk takes off from the Ruins campground or Elizabeth Beach and takes around 2.5 hours to complete. Shorter sections possible.

LOCATION



From the Pacific Highway north of Newcastle, a series of roads run off eastwards towards the parks and major coastal towns such as Forster, Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest.

In the north, the Lakes Way runs along the edges of both Myall Lake and Wallis Lake between Bulahdelah and Forster.

This provides ready access to Wallingat, Booti Booti and Myall Lakes national parks.

Access to the southern sections of Myall Lakes National Park is via Tea Gardens and Hawks Nest then along the Mungo Brush Road.

This road travels around the Bombah Broadwater.

At Bombah Point a car ferry (fees apply) provides a link with the Bombah Point Road connecting with Bulahdelah.

FURTHER INFORMATION

NPWS Great Lakes Area, Booti Booti National Park,
The Lakes Way, Pacific Palms 2428 ph (02) 6591 0300

NPWS Hunter Region, level 1, 12 Teramby Rd, Nelson Bay, 2315 ph (02) 4984 8200

Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park.
Locked bag 800, Nelson Bay, 2315. Ph (02) 4984 8228.

GENERAL INQUIRIES

Phone 1300 361 967

www.nswnationalparks.com.au

CARING FOR THE PARKS

- Please respect Aboriginal sites and places, they are protected.
- All native plants and animals and rock formations are protected.
- Drive carefully. Vehicles, including motorbikes, must keep to formed public roads. Unregistered vehicles, including motorbikes, are not permitted.
- Pets are not permitted in the parks.

PARK USE FEES

Your support in the collection of park use fees is essential for the upkeep of facilities in the parks. Vehicle entry fees (for day visitors and for campers) and camping fees apply to all areas. Current information is available from the Great Lakes Area Office or www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

WILDLIFE IS WILD!

- Never feed native animals or leave food for wildlife to scavenge. This changes their natural feeding and makes them stay around humans for their food supply.
- Feeding wildlife can make an animal sick or aggressive. Aggressive animals may have to be destroyed.
- Store garbage in a secure place.
- Please support recycling programs and take rubbish home where facilities are not provided.

BEACH DRIVING

- Vehicles must remain within permitted beach driving areas. Do not drive or park on dunes, headlands or any vegetated area.
- A speed limit of 40km/h applies. Slow down when passing people, on-coming vehicles or wildlife.
- Observe seasonal beach closures which may occur for public safety or to protect threatened species. Public road rules apply to beach driving.
- A valid NPWS vehicle pass must be displayed on all vehicles on beaches within the park (contact 6591 0300).
- Permits are required for designated council beaches (ph 6591 7222).

MAKING CAMP

- Camp only in designated areas (see park map) and on numbered sites where provided. All camping gear is to be contained on numbered sites.
- Fully occupy numbered sites (up to 6 people) before taking another.
- Campsites are not to be left attended for more than 24 hours.
- Maximum continuous stay is 28 days (for Myall Lakes NP which includes camping on vessels) and 21 days for other parks.
- Camping in boat-based areas is up to 14 consecutive days.
- The maximum length of stay in the parks in any one calendar year is 12 weeks.
- Keep noise to a minimum after 10pm.
- Generators and fireworks are not permitted.
- Wash at least 10m away from the water's edge and do not pollute waterways with shampoo, detergent or human waste.
- Do not dig trenches or any type of drainage around camping sites.
- Do not attach ropes to trees as this damages bark and can kill trees over time.
- Bookings and pre-payment are essential for camping on Broughton Island (visit www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/broughton).
- TREE WARNING: Trees in the parks may collapse or drop limbs without warning resulting in serious injury or death.

SHARING THE WATERWAYS

- Observe boating restrictions (as shown on park map) such as idle speed and paddle craft only zones to prevent bank erosion.
- No waste to be discharged into the lake. An effluent collection vessel operates weekends and holidays. Pump out facilities are also located at Bombah Point wharf.

WHAT'S COOKING?

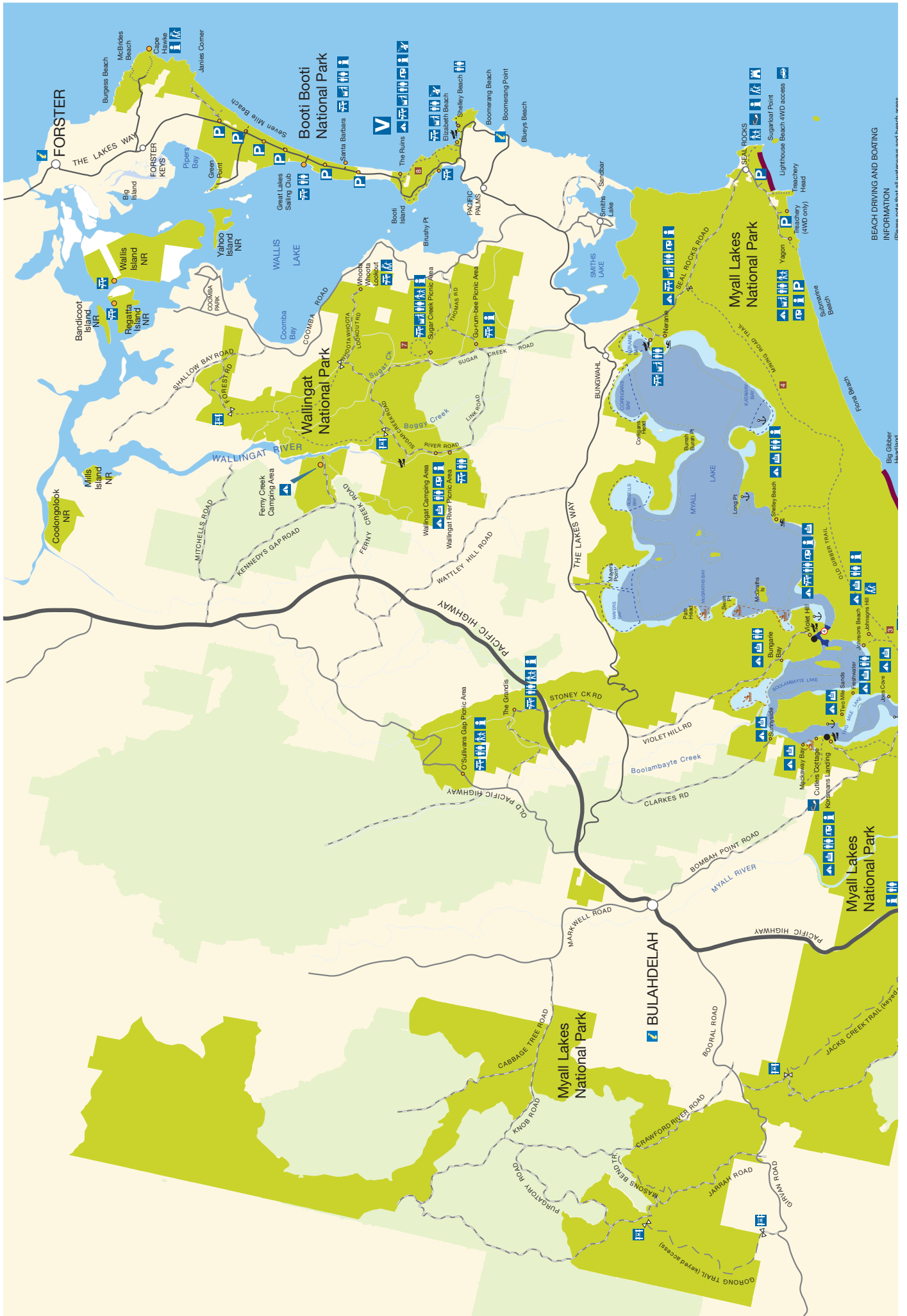
- Fires are permitted in some camping areas in Myall Lakes National Park and Wallingat National Park and may only be lit in fireplaces provided by the NPWS (see maps). Fires are not permitted in Booti Booti National Park or on Broughton Island in Myall Lakes National Park.
- Never gather firewood or kindling from the bush as this provides shelter and food for insects, lizards and the wildlife that eats them. Bring your wood with you from outside the park.
- A Park Fire Ban prohibits wood fires and solid fuel BBQs.
- A Total Fire Ban prohibits all fire, gas and cookers of any sort. It is your responsibility to know when a ban is in force.
- Note: Gas BBQs installed by NPWS may be used during fire bans.

PORT STEPHENS - GREAT LAKES MARINE PARK

Most of the waters around Myall Lakes and Booti Booti National Parks form part of the Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park.

For a copy of the Zoning Plan User Guide contact Marine Parks on (02) 4984 8228 or visit the website at www.mpa.nsw.gov.au.





BEACH DRIVING AND BOATING INFORMATION

For more information visit www.nsw.gov.au

