



Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



## Great Southern Adventure Trails

Project update 21 September 2021

The Great Southern Adventure Trails Project is a State Government Recovery Plan initiative, investing \$15million in new and upgraded trails, visitor facilities and infrastructure. Project works and funding will be staged over the project period to June 2024.

This update is for \$6million worth of projects in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' (DBCA's) Warren Region, which includes the Denmark and Manjimup local government areas.

Regular updates are available on the project website at [projects.trailswa.com.au](http://projects.trailswa.com.au). Simply click on the Great Southern tab or the trails network that you are interested in.



Artist's impression of Nornalup boat and paddle launch facility.

### Valley of the Giants trail network

Trail planning is progressing well, but construction is yet to commence on the main trail network. It is planned to have construction underway by mid-2022, subject to environmental approvals and availability of specialist assessors.

In the meantime:

- The concept plan prepared by Common Ground trail consultants has been updated to include community and DBCA feedback.
- A community reference group has been established to assist with the development of the trails network. Membership includes local business and community groups, including the Walpole-Nornalup National Parks Association, local government, trail users and representatives from the trails industry.
- DBCA has hosted two site visits for traditional custodians with a third planned for late September 2021.
- A field trip has been held with local community representatives to consider project staging and priorities for trail corridor assessment.
- A site meeting was held with the Shire of Manjimup to discuss a potential trailhead location and layout in Pioneer Park.
- Initial briefing and discussions have been held with Main Roads WA on the various trails projects and specifically highway and bridge crossings.

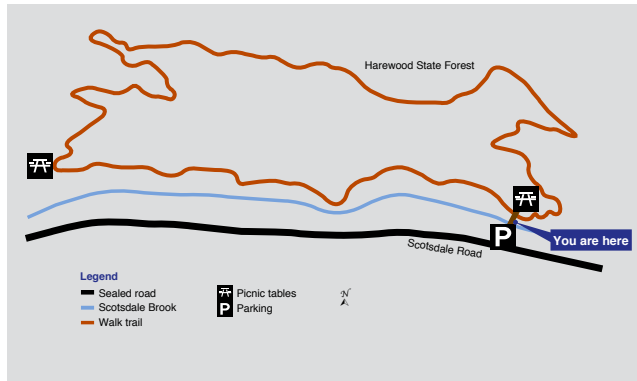
### Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk - Ancient Empire trail extension

This project is a discrete smaller project but part of the overall network offering. It involves building approximately 200m of additional path and boardwalk to the existing Ancient Empire Trail to make a universally accessible loop. It is an important project to provide trails for everyone. Adaptive trails suitable for trail wheelchairs and mountain bike handcycles are also planned for the bigger network. Design of this extension is by DBCA landscape architects. It is intended to go to tender with construction anticipated to start early in 2022.

### Kapagup Nornalup paddle trails

The main infrastructure associated with this project is the upgrade of paddle craft launch and landing facilities at Nornalup and Monastery Landing.

- A key objective of this facility upgrade is to have the State's first paddle craft launch structure suitable for Parapaddlers.
- DBCA is collaborating with the Shire of Denmark to update the current small boat launch and parking area next to the Nornalup Community Hall and brigade shed.
- DBCA has supported a grant application by the Shire of Denmark through the Department of Transport's Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme (RBFS). If successful, the additional funding will enable a full refurbishment of the boat launch facility.
- Concept visual plans have been prepared. If the grant application is successful full design documentation will be prepared.
- Paddle network signage and interpretation has been prepared.
- DBCA has met on site with a Parapaddlers representative to ensure any concept planning will meet the needs of people with disability.



### Harewood Forest trail upgrade

A new section of trail has been constructed in Harewood Forest. Walkers can now complete a loop rather than return on the same path. This trail extension has more than doubled the trail length and offers new and beautiful vistas through the karri forest.

- The new trail loop is currently closed until the surface dries and settles after very heavy winter rain.
- The original lower section of trail upgrade is yet to commence. There will be a period of closure to complete upgrades on this section once ground conditions are suitable.
- New interpretation signage is planned to complement the existing historical themed signs.
- DBCA has been working closely with a new local trail building company on this trail to develop their skills in construction and maintenance and build local and regional capacity.

### William Bay coastal alignment

Work continues on the construction of the Elephant Rocks to Waterfall Beach dual-use coastal trail alignment. This section of trail will become the new Munda Biddi Trail alignment taking riders off Madfish Bay Road.

- Works are expected to be completed by the end of October 2021.
- This section of trail will form part of the Wilderness Ocean Walk (WOW) trail.
- The first part of this trail from Greens Pool car park to a new Elephant Rocks lookout will be hardened to accommodate wheelchairs, prams and facilitate access for people with disability.
- A viewing platform with seating will be constructed above Elephant Rocks.

### Wilderness Ocean Walk - stage two

Funding for planning and construction of this project to link the Ocean Beach Surf Club to the Windfarm is allocated from the 2022-23 financial year. Initial scoping identified corridors with the Shire of Denmark however, corridor surveys and detailed design is yet to be undertaken before construction can commence in the 2022-23 financial year.



Helicopter operations at William Bay. Photo – Jarred Pedro/DBCA

### William Bay Munda Biddi north to south realignment

This project will take the Munda Biddi Trail off William Bay Road. Funding for planning and construction of this realignment is allocated from 2022-23 financial year.

### Mount Lindesay

Some remedial work on the lower sections of the Mount Lindesay walk trail to address path erosion and drainage are planned to take place this financial year. This will be subject to flora and jarrah dieback hygiene approvals.

### Other News and Links

#### Trails and Recreation Forum Conference in Albany

Join the Statewide trails and recreation community at the WA Trails and Recreation Forum 2021 to be held in Albany, 13 -15 October. The event will showcase examples to assist the Great Southern community better understand the opportunities available to them and their community from the development of the Great Southern Adventure Trails.

More information:

[www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/department/events/event/2021/10/13/sport-and-recreation/wa-trails-and-recreation-forum](http://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/department/events/event/2021/10/13/sport-and-recreation/wa-trails-and-recreation-forum)

#### Outdoors Great Southern

DBCA is partnering with Outdoors Great Southern to develop some of the 'soft infrastructure' for trail development. This includes trail training for community groups, Aboriginal rangers and local government; volunteer maintenance program; business capacity building; and a regional trail brand.