

HORSE SWAMP BASE CAMP 2003

Itinerary

1. WALKING ITINERARY:

1.1 Day One: Friday - Home to Horse Swamp Camping Area

My plan is to arrive at the Horse Swamp Camping Area before dark and set up camp. This will be Horse Swamp Base Camp for this trip. Horse Swamp Camping area provides a site with water and fireplaces. It is located off the main Barrington Tops Forest Road (gravel) joining Gloucester with Scone. From the forest road, turn right onto Tubrabucca Road, turning left onto the camping ground access road from it.

Should time permit I hope to visit Polblue Falls by following the small creek upon which Mini Falls is found at the back of Horse Swamp Camping Ground. By following this creek to its junction with Polblue Creek, I hope to trace Polblue Creek back to the base of Polblue Falls. Less than a kilometre is actually involved in doing so, but the terrain may prove difficult.

1.2 Day Two: Saturday - Horse Swamp Camping Area to Horse Swamp Camping Area

With an early start I depart from Horse Swamp Camping Area walking along Tubrabucca Road, crossing Polblue Creek at the bridge before Polblue Falls. From here I follow Tubrabucca Road to its junction with the Butcher's Swamp Fire Trail. Here I turn right onto Butcher's Swamp Fire Trail, passing several summits of between 1300-1440m.

At the junction of Butcher's Swamp Fire Trail and Paddy's Ridge Trail I turn left onto Paddy's Ridge Trail, following the trail back to Tubrabucca Road.

At the junction with Tubrabucca Road I follow the road back to Horse Swamp Camping Area.

Though travelling along several established roads and trails, I hope to investigate several areas off the road along the way, continuing to further my knowledge of areas in the Barrington Tops.

Total distance walked will be about 14km.

If time permits I hope to spend some time wandering around Horse Swamp and following the creek to Mini Falls, behind Horse Swamp Camping Area.

1.3 Day Three: Sunday - Horse Swamp Camping Area, Dingo Gate and Home

With another early start I pack up camp and head to the Dingo Gate, which is on the Barrington Tops Forest Road, at the edge of the Stewarts Brook State Forest. From the Dingo Gate I plan to begin my walk by following Boundary Road to the Gologlie Creek Picnic Area. Here I plan to spend a short time following the creek upstream to its source.

Upon returning to the picnic area, I will then continue along Boundary Road until I reach Dunundra Road, following it back to the Barrington Tops Forest Road. The forest road will then be followed back to the Dingo Gate.

Total distance walked will be about 7km.

If time permits I hope to spend some time wandering around the forest bounded by Boundary and Dunundra Roads.

2. MAPS:

There will be a need to purchase the following 1:25 000 topographic maps:

- Barrington Tops 9133-I-N
- Moonan Brook 9134-II-S

Also useful will be the CMA Tourist Map of Barrington Tops and Gloucester Districts and the Barrington Tops State Forests map from NSW State Forests.