

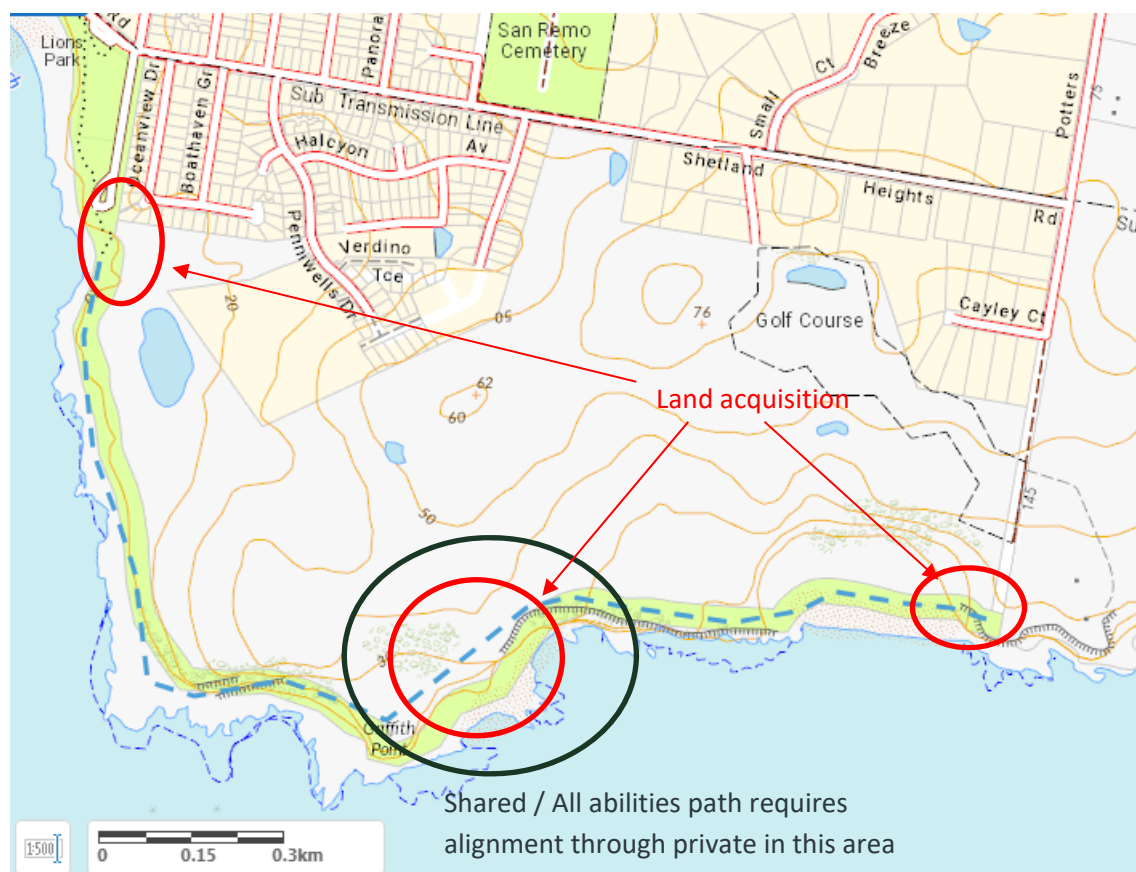
Preliminary assessment of walking opportunities within the proposed Bunurong Marine and Coastal Park



San Remo to Potters Hill Road

Length	2.3km	Time	
Track Standard		Public safety	Cliffs with risk of falls, large unexpected waves, Beaches are unsuitable swimming
Potential for shared pathway	Yes, with track surfacing and realignment of current sections of pathway, public acquisition of private land	Potential for all abilities access	Possible to key features such as lookout near Griffith Point and staircase/ramp to Black Beach (Potters Hill Beach) with modification to structure and pathway.
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section of the shared path along Phillip Island Tourist Road between the Potters Hill Road and San Remo.

This section of the route utilises an existing pathway from a carpark at Lions Park to a lookout near Griffith Point. Sections of this trail would need to be rerouted to provide a shared/all abilities trail. The trail provides views across the Eastern Entrance to Westernport Bay to Cape Woolamai on Phillip Island. Beyond the lookout a new trail, acquisition of small sections of private land would be required to provide an alignment suitable for a shared/all abilities path. This section of coast features headlands covered in tussock grassland or coastal scrub and small pockets of coast banksia, paperbark or coast tea-tree. A rock platform extends south from Griffith Point. The staircase/ramp to Black Beach (Potters Hill Beach) would require modification to structure to provide a shared pathway.





Griffith Point with Cape Woolamai in the background

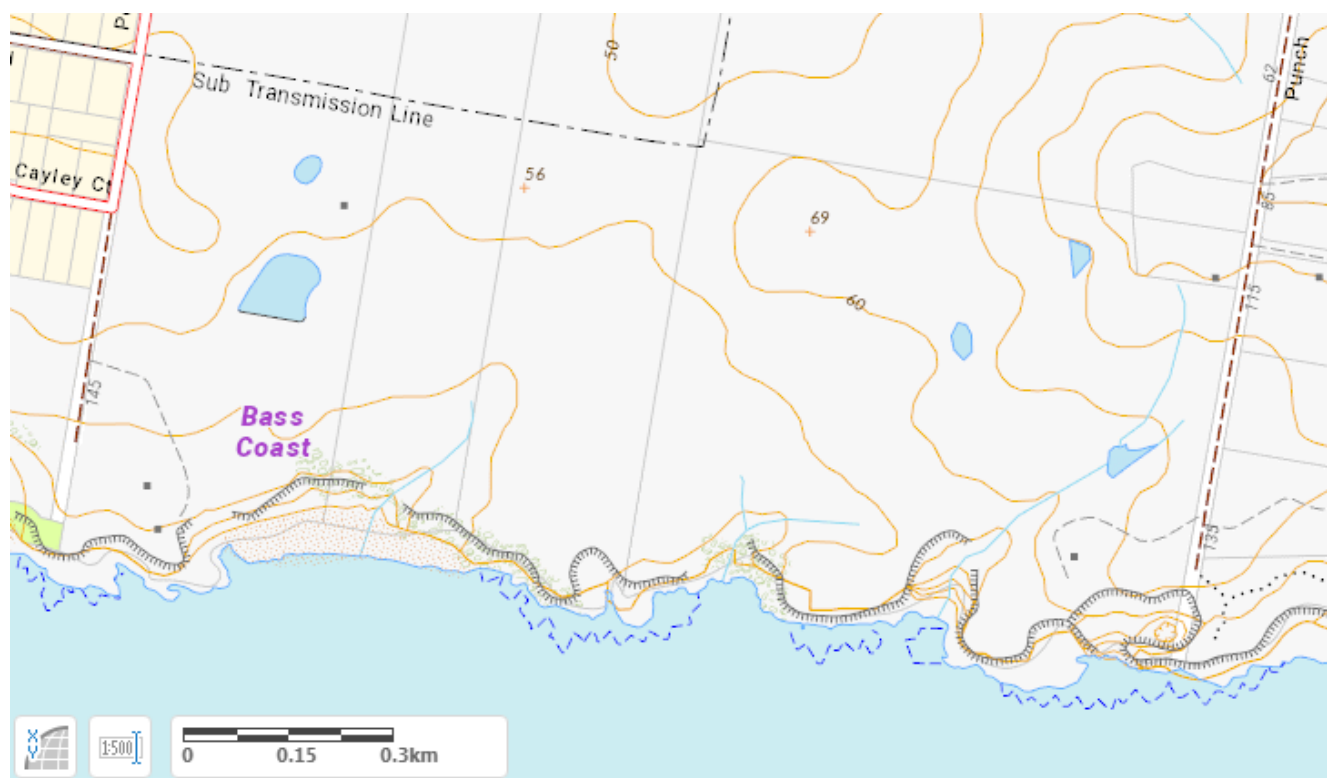


Black Beach (Potters Hill Beach)

Potters Hill Road to Punchbowl Road

Length	1.7km	Time	Not determined
Track Standard		Public safety	Cliffs with risk of falls, large unexpected waves, Beaches are unsuitable swimming
Potential for shared pathway	Yet to be determined	Potential for all abilities access	Needs to be part of the evaluation of possible routes for the trail
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section of the shared path along Phillip Island Tourist Road between the Punchbowl Road or San Remo.

This section needs to be assessed in conjunction with determining appropriate boundary for the park through this section of private land. Site inspections would be required to identify values and evaluate possible routes for the trail. A land acquisition decision support framework will be used for assessing private land against the general objectives of a marine and coastal park. This assessment needs to ensure that any private land acquired will allow extension of the George Bass Coastal Walk with an appropriate grade and alignment for a shared trail.



Punchbowl Road to Shanty Lane

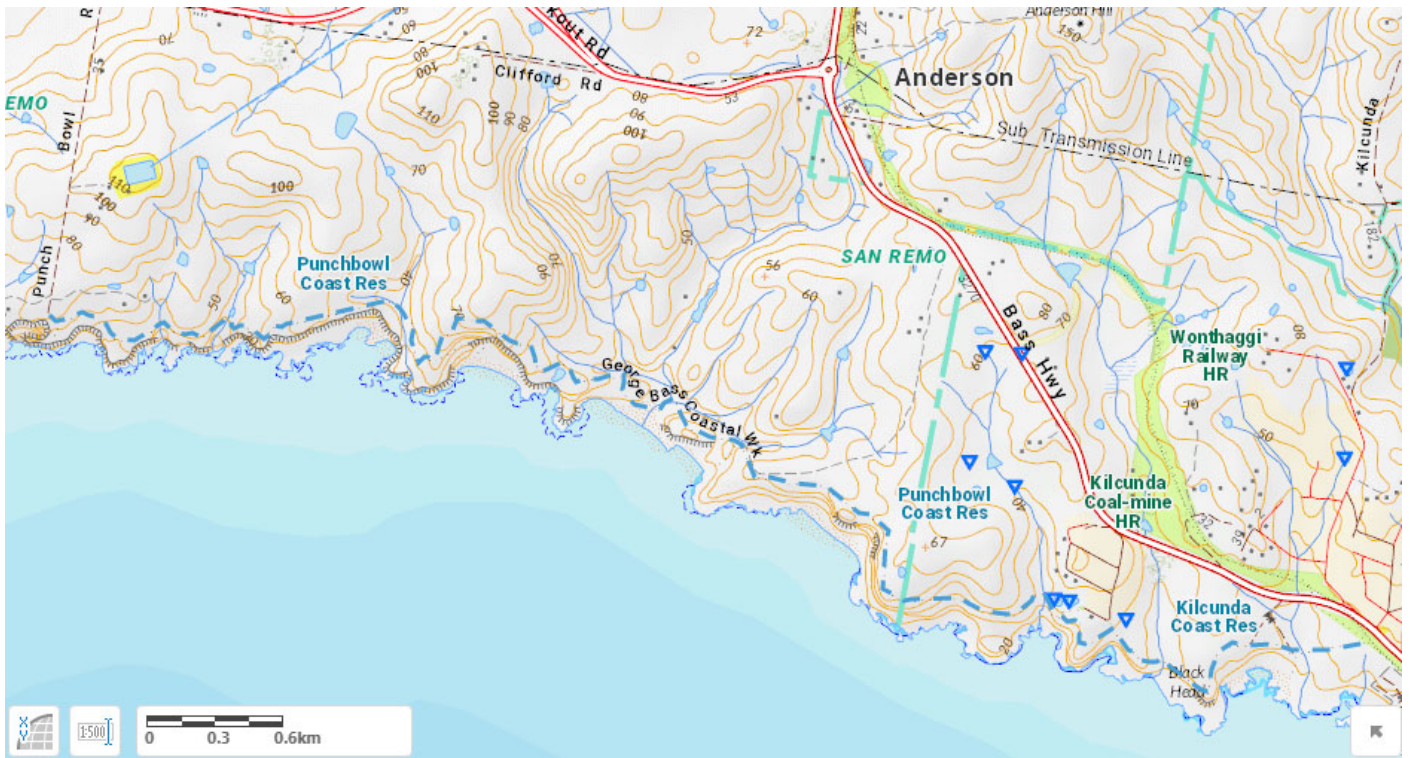
Length	7km	Time	2.5 hours
Track Standard		Public safety	Cliffs with risk of falls Beaches are unsuitable swimming
Potential for shared pathway	Yes, with track surfacing and realignment of sections of pathway, and new structures at waterway crossings.	Potential for all abilities access	Possible to key features such as Punchbowl lookout with modification to structure and pathway.
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section of Bass Coast Rail Trail between Kilcunda and Anderson and then shared path along Phillip Island Tourist Road between the Punchbowl Road or San Remo.

This section incorporates the current George Bass Coastal Walk. The track traverses clifftops and rugged headlands high above the pounding surf of Bass Strait. The walk takes it's name from the explorer George Bass, who mapped the coastline in a small whaleboat in 1797. The trail provides panoramic coastal views of Cape Woolamai and the coastline to the east stretching towards Cape Paterson. Side paths from the George Bass Coastal Walk provide access to Half Moon Bay, Sandy Waterhole and Shelley Beaches.



View of Cape Woolamai from the lookout at the Punchbowl.

Current trail consists of the slashed track through tussock grassland and regenerating coastal shrublands and woodlands. Some sections of the track surface are rough and slippery and there are currently some short steep sections. The final section of the trail from Shanty Lane to the Shelley Beach carpark and Bass Coast Rail Trail consists of surfaced shared pathway.



The entire trail has the potential to be converted to a shared pathway with resurfacing and realignment of sections of path, and construction of new structures at waterway crossings.

Beaches along the walks are unsuitable for swimming due to the presence of strong undertows, rips and steep sloping sandy bottoms. Fishing or walking near the waters edge can be extremely dangerous; swells and large waves can crash up against the rocky coastline. There have been several drownings along this coastline in the last 15 years.



Shanty Lane to Bass Coast Rail Trail

Length	1.5km	Time	15 mins
Track Standard		Public safety	Cliffs with risk of falls Large waves Mine shafts Beaches are unsuitable swimming
Potential for shared pathway	Track currently at shared pathway standard, wider structure required at waterway crossing.	Potential for all abilities access	Trail is at all abilities standard, except pedestrian bridge across gully east of Shelley Beach carpark. Key features such as lookout near Black Head accessible, access to Shelly Beach would require modification to structure and pathway.
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section of Bass Coast Rail Trail between Kilcunda and Anderson and then shared path along Phillip Island Tourist Road between the Punchbowl Road or San Remo.

This section is the eastern extension of the George Bass Coastal Walk through a section of foreshore reserve managed by the Bass Coast Shire Council. The trail is at all abilities standard, except pedestrian bridge across gully east of Shelley Beach carpark. Key features such as lookout near Black Head accessible, access to Shelly Beach would require modification to structure and pathway.



Bass Coast Rail Trail

Length	2.1km	Time	25 mins
Track Standard	Shared pathway	Public safety	High dune with risk of falls Large waves
Potential for shared pathway	Currently shared pathway for walkers, cyclists and horseriders	Potential for all abilities access	Trail is at all abilities standard. Key feature is Bourne Creek (Kilcunda) trestle bridge is only abilities access from Kilcunda end, ramp or on ground path is required to provide access from cemetery carpark.
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section beach between Kilcunda Cemetery carpark.

This section of the coastal walk would utilise the existing Bass Coast Rail Trail from the Kilcunda township to the Kilcunda Cemetery. This section of trail features a trestle bridge over Bourne Creek and a high rail embankment and dune providing views over the beach, Bourne Creek estuary and farmland. Trail is at all abilities standard. The Bourne Creek (Kilcunda) trestle bridge is only all abilities access from Kilcunda end. A ramp or on ground path would be required to provide access from cemetery carpark.



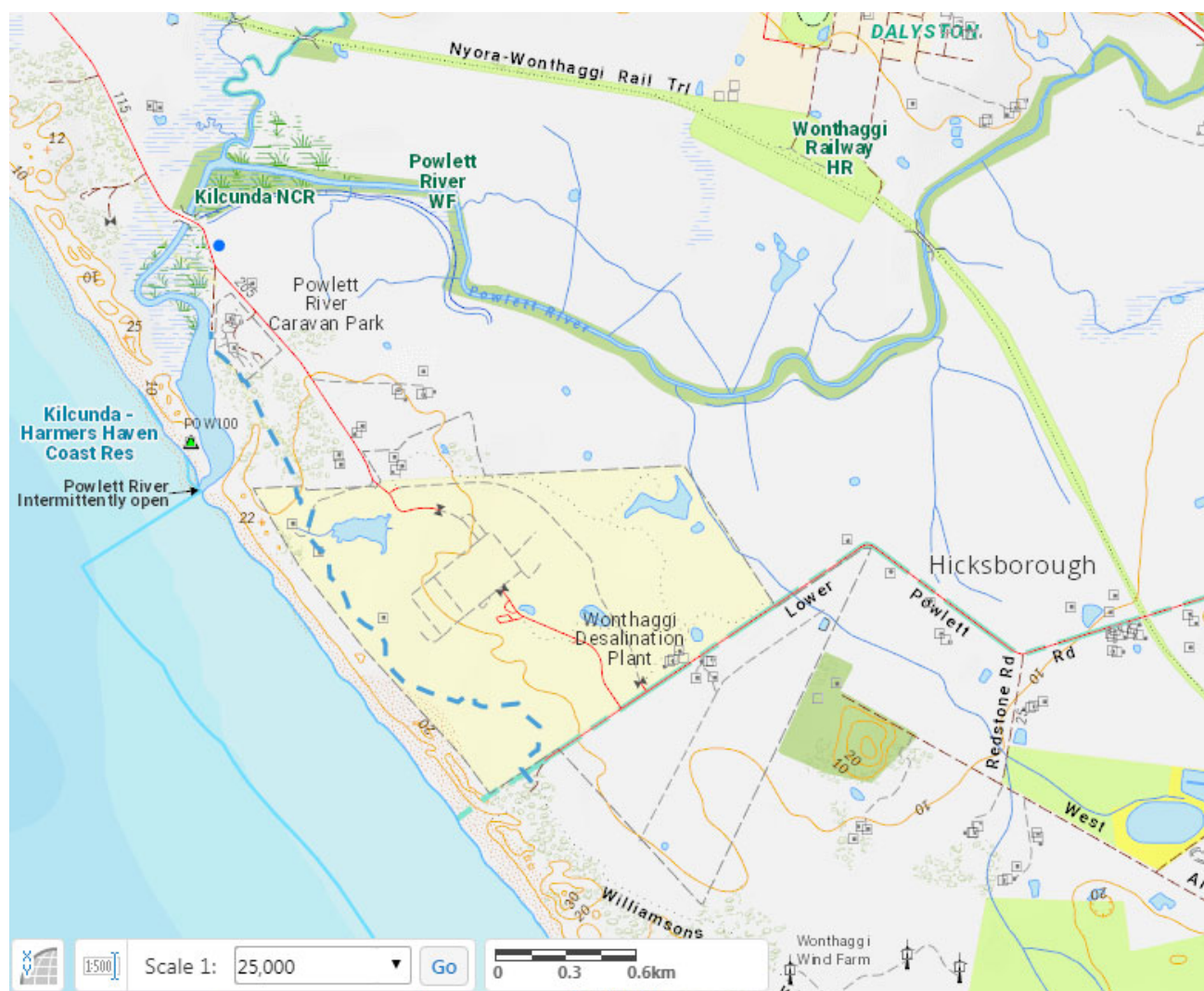
Cemetery Carpark to Powlett River

Length		Time	
Track Standard		Public safety	
Potential for shared pathway		Potential for all abilities access	
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	.

Powlett River to Williamsons Beach

Length	2.5km	Time	35 mins
Track Standard		Public safety	Large unexpected waves
Potential for shared pathway	Currently shared pathway for walkers, cyclists and horseriders within Ecological Reserve, unsurfaced path within coastal reserve.	Potential for all abilities access	Trail is at all abilities standard within the Desalination Plant Ecological Reserve.
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section beach between Williamson Beach and Mouth of the Powlett River. Also circular route options utilising the trails within the Ecological Reserve, Bass Coast rail trail and Mouth of the Powlett Road.

This section of the route utilises an existing trail from the Mouth of the Powlett River to the boundary of the Ecological Reserve. The trail consists of a sandy unsurfaced path through stands of mature of tea-tree. Through the Ecological Reserve the route utilises a gravelled shared pathway. A small section of trail would need to be constructed at the eastern end to link to Williamson's Beach.



Williamsons Beach to Baxters Beach

Length	1.5km	Time	25 mins
Track Standard		Public safety	
Potential for shared pathway	Unsurfaced path within coastal reserve.	Potential for all abilities access	Yes. although would require surfacing and widening
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section of beach between Baxters Beach and Williamson Beach. Also circular route options linking to Wonthaggi township utilising trails in Baxters Wetland and Wonthaggi reserves.

Current trail consists of the slashed track through coastal shrublands and woodlands. Some sections of the track surface are rough and slippery and there are currently some short steep sections over sandy rises. The final section of the trail runs along the northern boundary of the coastal reserve and beneath the wind turbines of the Wonthaggi Windfarm.



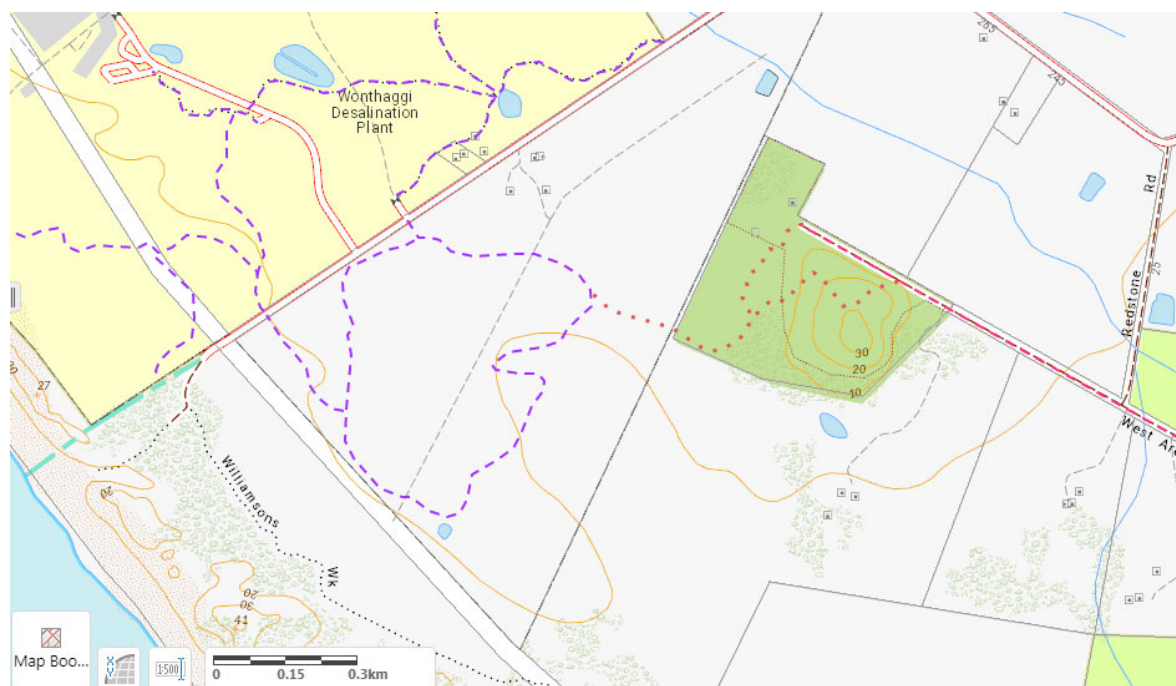
Williamsons Beach to West Area

Length	2.3km	Time	25 mins
Track Standard		Public safety	Mine workings
Potential for shared pathway	Yes, currently shared pathway for walkers, cyclists and horseriders within Ecological Reserve, utilises unsurfaced track within West Area with lower option .	Potential for all abilities access	Shared pathway within Ecological Reserve is suitable for all abilities access
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	

The stone dump at West Area is the highest point near the coast and provides expansive views of the Powlett River floodplain, Wonthaggi windfarm, Desalination Ecological Reserve and along the coast towards Cape Paterson and Kilcunda. This section would utilise existing all abilities/shared pathways within the Ecological Reserve. A new path would required in part of ecological reserve to provide link to West Area. This would require the purchase of 10m laneway between Ecological Reserve and West Area Historic and Cultural Features Reserve to provide the linkage. The proposed alignment would allow a shared pathway to be constructed for both walkers and cyclists.

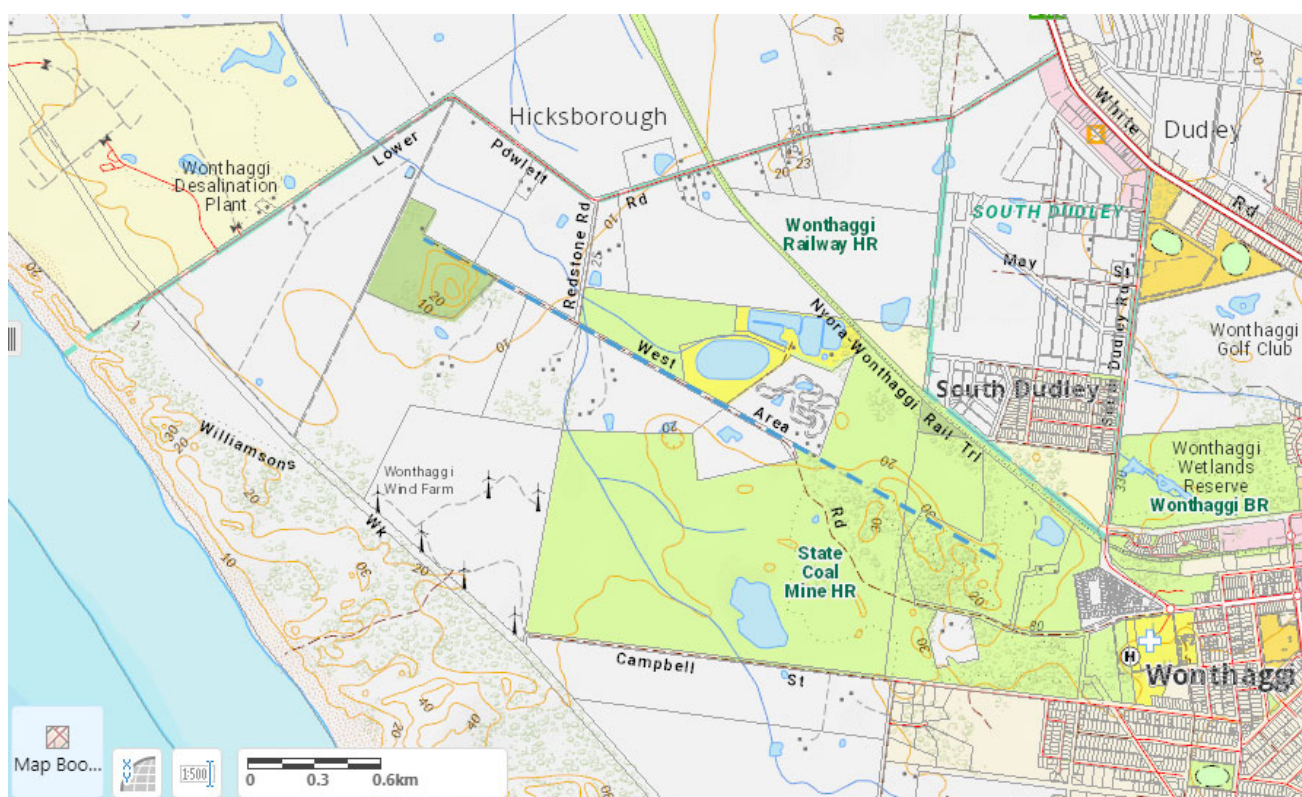


View towards the Wonthaggi windfarm from West Area stone dump



West Area to Central Area

Length	3.0km	Time	35 mins
Track Standard	Unsurfaced path	Public safety	Shallow mine workings within proximity to trail
Potential for shared pathway	Yes, although would require surfacing and widening	Potential for all abilities access	Yes. although would require surfacing and widening
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via section of Williamsons Beach to Baxters Beach Trail, Desalination Ecological Reserve trail and Baxters Wetland trail. Also provides link to Bass Coast Rail Trail and trail network within the Wonthaggi Township.



This section of trail utilises former skip haulage line from West Area mine workings to Central Area. At Central Area walking paths provide link to the Bass Coast Rail Trail and into the Wonthaggi township.

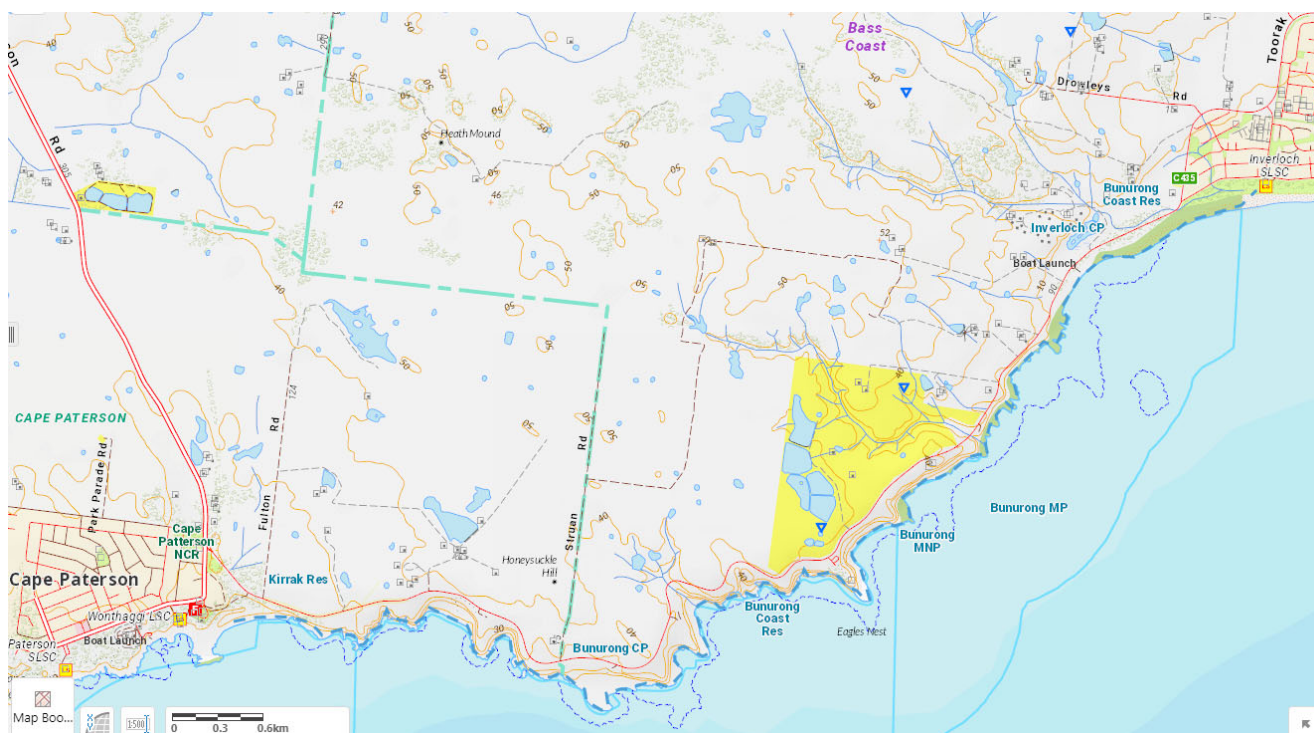
The trail is virtually flat for its whole length, the trail would need to be constructed along the verge of West Area Road where the road has been built on the alignment of the haulage. Where the haulage alignment diverges from the road, the trail is through woodland with pockets of swamp scrub. A ramp would need to be provided at the eastern end of haulage alignment and culvert over the Wonthaggi town drain to provide a link via the former State Coal Mine sidings to the Bass Coast Railtrail.

Cape Paterson to Inverloch

Length	15km	Time	5hrs
Track Standard	For fit and adventurous only, requires walking across beach and rock platforms	Public safety	Unstable cliffs Fall from cliffs Large unexpected waves Rock falls
Potential for shared pathway	No	Potential for all abilities access	No, involves walking sections of beach and rock platforms between Cape Patterson and Inverloch. All abilities access is provided to lookout at Eagles Nest. Access to beaches provided from all carparks by on ground steps or staircases.
Upgrade cost		Circular route options	Via Bunurong Tourist Road or proposed inland Wonthaggi – Inverloch Trail.

This section of the coast features sandy beaches backed by steep cliffs and separated by rocky headlands and rock platforms. Some cliffs are upto 40m high. It is only possible to walk the coastline at low tide and preferably on a day with calm weather.

The first 12km (the most tide affected section) needs to be completed 2hrs either side of low tide. The walk requires walking the sandy beaches then scrabbling over the rock platforms and boulders to negotiate around the numerous rocky headlands. Several narrow-water filled channels need to be crossed which ensure that you get wet. The most difficult sections are between Undertow Bay and the Oaks, Oaks and Twin Reefs, Twin Reefs and Shack Bay, Shack Bay and Eagles Nest. These sections could be avoided by walking the edge of the road although the road is narrow and without a maintained shoulder safety would be an issue.



Inland trail would be possible in some sections of coastal reserve but it would require significant vegetation removal and views would be limited due to the thickness of the coastal vegetation. In some areas a trail would need to be on the road verge due to the closeness of the road to cliff edge. Fencing and other safety barriers would likely be required in some locations if a trail was to be constructed along part or all of the road verge.