

The Fishers Loop Walking Track

Grade: Medium **Time :** 3 Hours **Distance:** 6.5 Kms

How to get there: - From Gembrook, drive along the Gembrook Launching Place Road for approximately 10 kilometres till you come to the Beenak Road on your right, just before Ship Rock Falls. Turn right here and travel along the Beenak Road for about 6.5 kilometres till you come to the Basan Corner crossroad, at the end of Beenak Road. At this point, keep more or less straight ahead and drive south on the East Beenak Road for another 1.5 kilometres till you come to Tomahawk Gap. The walk begins here so park cars where convenient and locate the Bunyip Valley Road - it is least prominent and descends towards the south-east.

The Walk: - Tomahawk Gap is the intersection of four roads. The Bunyip Valley Road is now little used since it is not a through road. Its present state makes it ideal for a walking track. Begin by walking along the Bunyip Valley Road, which descends down towards the Bunyip River. The road or track is quite wide and very easy walking, as it passes through the forest and varying vegetation. It is believed that this road was once used as a timber tramway for extracting timber from the valley below.

As the track reaches the bottom of the valley it may become quite wet and muddy in a couple of sections, depending on recent rains, but not too difficult to negotiate. Finally you will come to a large tree across the track. Pass around the tree and continue along the track. At some point closer to the Bunyip River, this Bunyip Valley Road changes to the Fishers Track, which is now narrower and more like a walking track as it reaches and continues along the Bunyip River. Combined, they have been dubbed (by UBAG) the "Fishers Loop Walking Track".

The track now begins to ascend again and eventually leaves the Bunyip River as it climbs back out of the valley. There are numerous fallen trees and branches to negotiate, as well as eroded track in places but overall the track is quite open. At one stage the track becomes fairly steep but eventually levels out as it finally reaches the East Beenak Road, just near Basan Corner. At this point turn left and walk about 1.5 kilometres along the road back to Tomahawk Gap to finish the walk.

