



FoCC

Friends of Canadian Corridor Incorporated



Ten Thousand Step Loop Trail



Origins

Early in 2016 at a meeting between the FoCC and Parks Victoria officials, the idea of a “signature” trail feature to attract people to the forthcoming Park was canvassed. The 1000 steps at Ferntree Gully in the Dandenong Ranges NP were suggested as a model. FoCC members imagined a ten thousand step loop trail, connecting the Park entrance on Katy Ryans Rd, the Lookout, the Amphitheatre and the wetland areas along Sailors Gully, a visitor hub and returning to the start point. The trail would utilise existing trails and walks that local people had been using for years.

The FoCC submission to the Woowookarung Regional Park Strategic Plan (WRPSP) in July 2017 made the case for such a trail and associated visitor facilities as follows:

“People have enjoyed the ambience of the Canadian Forest for many years. The forest and park contain many visited trails and features. With the declaration of the Woowookarung Regional Park the opportunity exists to create a number of visitor hubs, dedicated exercise, walking and or cycle trails, indigenous nature and disability trails and general recreation facilities.

Three visitor hubs as shown on the map (right) could create the entry points for visitors to the park. Each hub has a different focus within the park.

A first class 10000 steps exercise, walking and nature viewing circuit could connect the three hubs”.



FoCC 2017 map

Strategic Plan

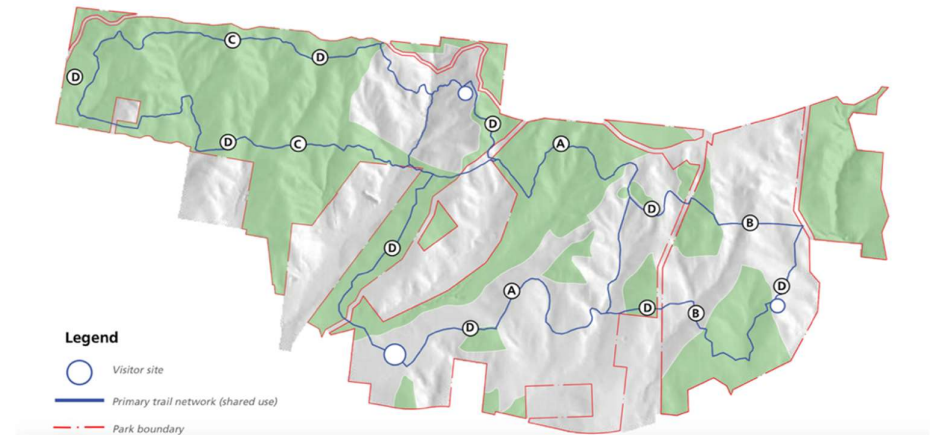
The Woowookarung Regional Park Strategic Plan was launched in 2018 with the 10000-step loop trail included in the plan.

Central circuit (The 10,000 Steps)

This circuit also forms the 10,000 Steps circuit, which is proposed to connect many of the exciting and unique features of the park. It will traverse a wide range of topography, commencing at the park’s main visitor site (where there will be a range of facilities including car parking and toilets), travelling uphill through areas of regenerating forest and intact forest blocks before reaching the Lookout. The path will then return downhill, alongside the Rifle Range and back to the proposed main visitor site.

Primary trail network		Walk	Ride
A	Central circuit	1.5-2 hrs	30 mins
B	Southern circuit	1 hr	20 mins
C	Northern circuit	1.5-2 hrs	30 mins
D	Full circuit	3-4 hrs	1 hr

*Average walking speed 4kph, average riding speed 15kph



Page 68 and 69 WRP Strategic Plan. Prepared by the FoCC for the opening of the 10000-step loop trail 5th August 2026

Penny-leaf track

Platylodium Rotundum - Penny-leaf flat pea.

The Penny-leaf track is named after a nearby patch of Penny-leaf Flat pea.



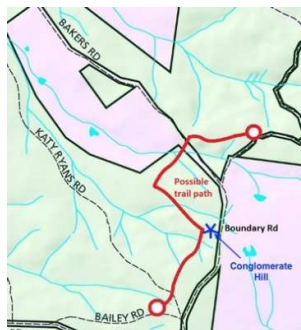
Brochure produced by the FoCC for the opening of the 10000-step Loop Trail 5th August 2026.

Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail (1)

In 2017 at a Parks Victoria Community Health Activation Forum, Anne Tudor AOM asked how people living with Dementia could gain from nature experiences. This led to Parks Victoria's Siobhan Rogan, landscape architects, friends and others imagining how a Park Trail could assist people living with Dementia.

People came to together and worked with landscape architects and disability professionals,

pooling their knowledge and ideas to make Australia's Dementia Friendly Forest and Sensory Trail. How the trail was imagined, developed and built, is a story of cooperation, thought, consideration, empathy and learning. The 1.3 km trail opened in June 2021.



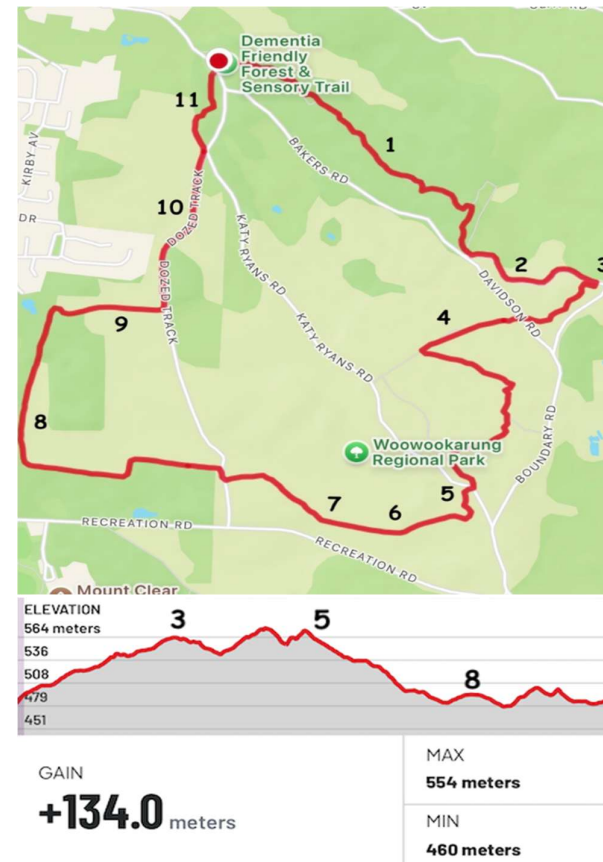
Pick My Project Grant. Lookout to Amphitheatre (4)

The Victorian Government in 2018 launched "Pick My Project" grants. The FoCC proposed a 1.8km "Grasstree Nature Trail" trail, running from the Lookout to the Amphitheatre. The FoCC was successful in gaining \$78005 for the trail. The Grasstree Nature Trail was constructed during 2020 and 21. Opened On 21st April 2021.

Parks Victoria 10000 Step Loop Trail works 2021 to 2026

Parks Victoria in 2021 closed part of Bakers Rd (2) to traffic and converted it to a link trail between the eastern end of the Dementia Trail and the Lookout. This created a continuous trail from the Dementia Trails' Welcome Shelter, along the Dementia Trail through to the end of the Grasstree Nature Trail on Katy Ryans Rd.

Baileys Tk (6) was closed in 2024 to vehicle traffic, upgraded and reopened as walk/cycle trail. A 300m long connecting "Grey Motor Trail" (5) from end of the Grasstree Nature Trail through to Baileys Tk was constructed and opened in March 2025. Baileys Tk connects



through to the Bunny Trail (8) on the Park's western edge. Penny Leaf Tk (9) runs from Lavery Av up to Dozed Tk and was upgraded earlier this year.

1. Dementia Trail
2. Lookout Trail
3. Lookout
4. Grasstree Nature Trail
5. Grey Motor Trail
6. Baileys Track
7. Amphitheatre
8. Bunny Trail
9. Penny Leaf Track
10. Dozed Track
11. Soapys Creek Bridge



The final trail section (11) from the junction of Katy Ryans Rd and Dozed Tk through to the Dementia Trail Car Park was constructed during March and April this year. Shown left, the installation of the bridge over Soapys Creek in June 2026, completed the trail.