



Great North Walk: Mooney Mooney Creek Trackhead to Somersby



5 h 32 min to 8 h



16 km
One way



↑ 552 m
↓ 292 m

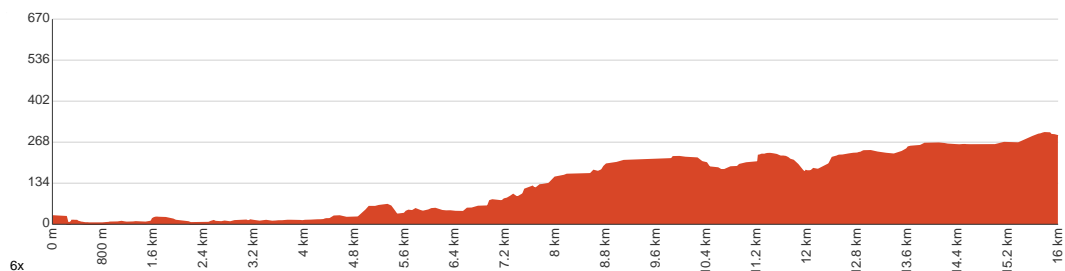
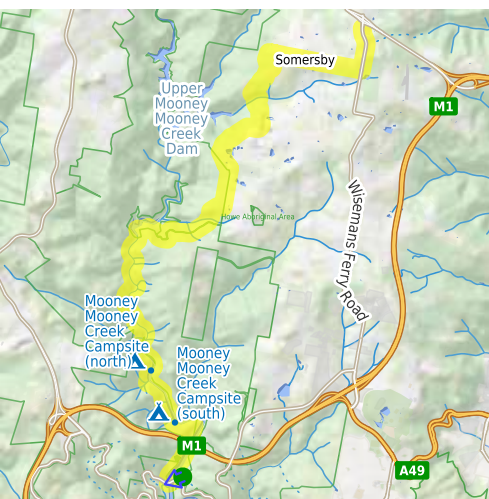


4
Hard track



This enjoyable walk starts from where the old Pacific Hwy where you walk along dirt roads and trails for while alongside the wide Mooney Mooney Creek, and under the huge F3 Mooney Mooney bridge. The wide track continues upstream, passing a few campsites before crossing the wide creek at a pleasant large rock platform. Not too long after crossing the creek you will pass the lower Mooney Mooney Dam where the old trail leads you uphill past another campsite, a quarry to the Somersby Reservoir. The track then leads past some rural properties and across the delightful Robinson Creek among the GyMEA Lilies before finishing with a section of road walking to the Somersby Store. Let us begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Full journey: [Great North Walk](#)



Class 4 of 6 Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely	
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Gradient	Very steep (4/6)
Signage	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)
Experience Required	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
Weather	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)

Getting to the start: From , Calga.

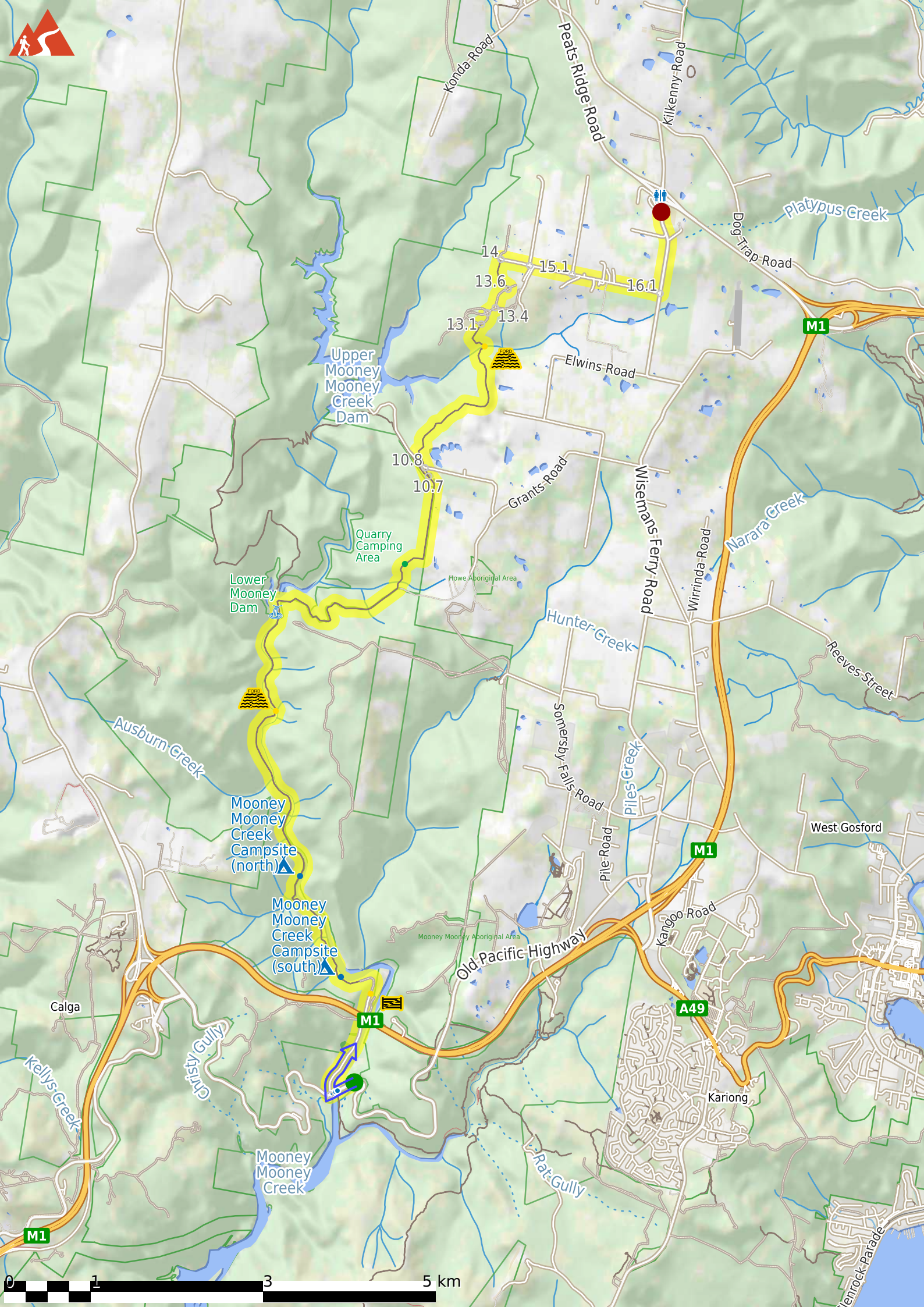
Before you start any journey ensure you;

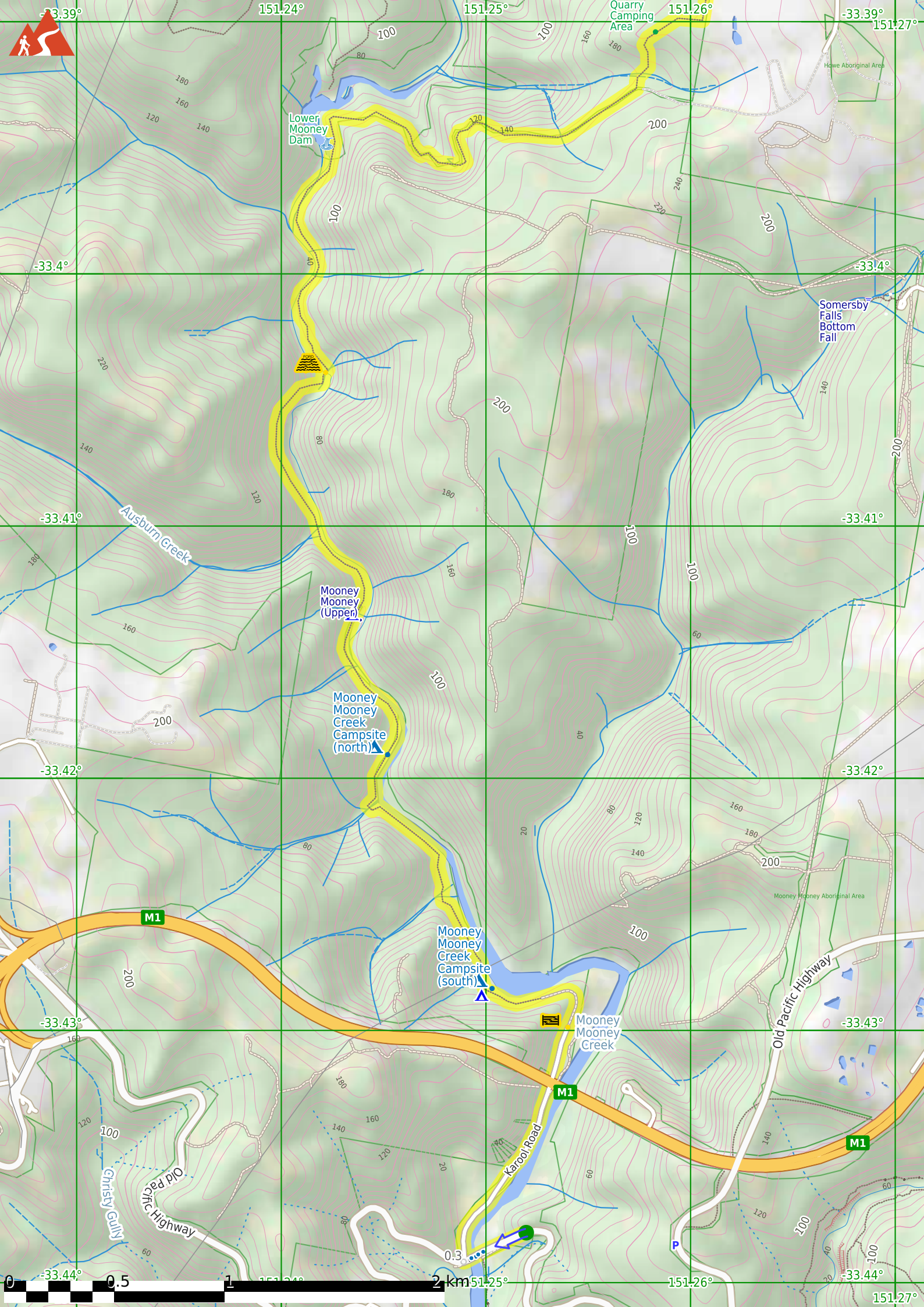
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are healthy and fit enough for this journey

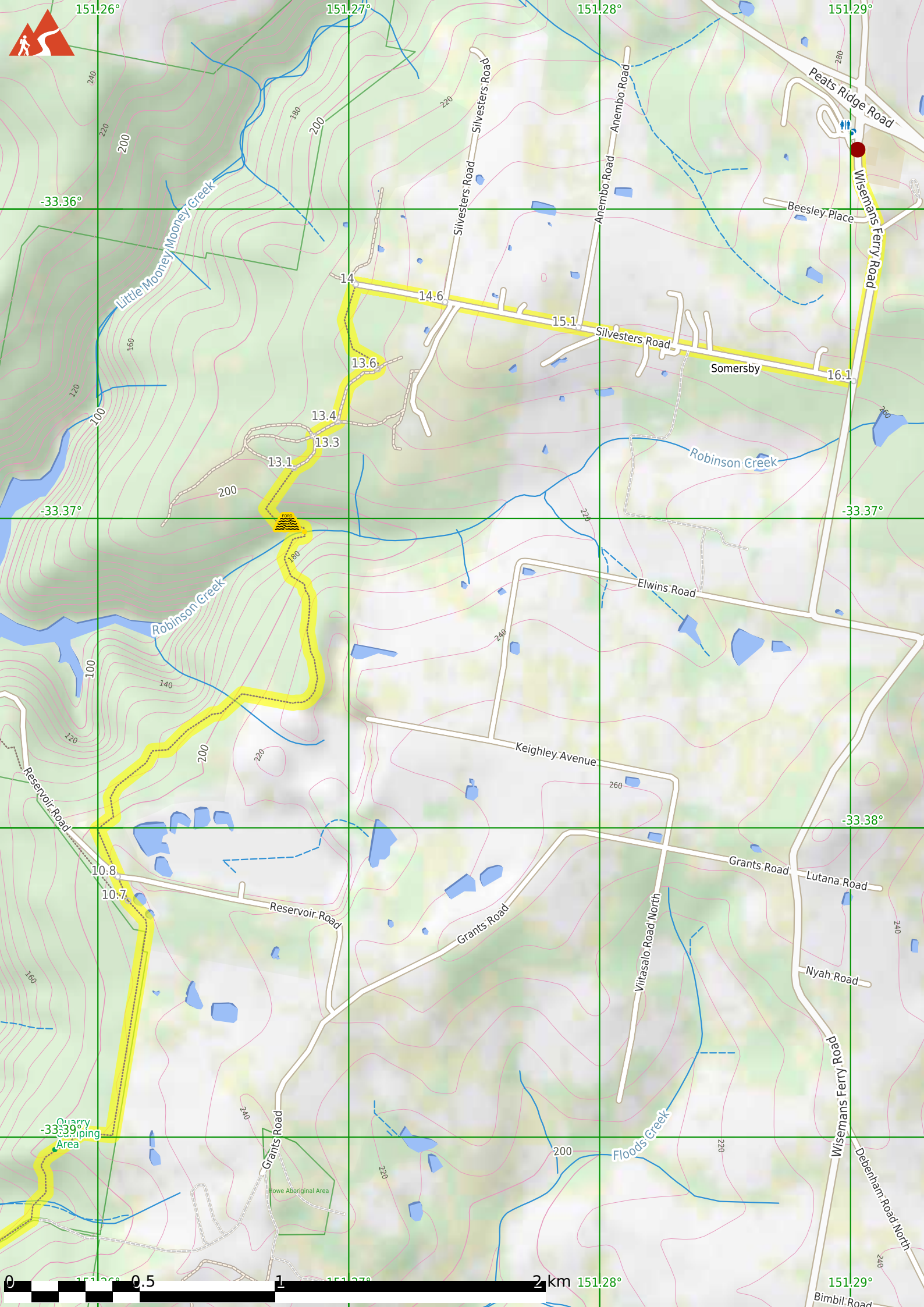
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

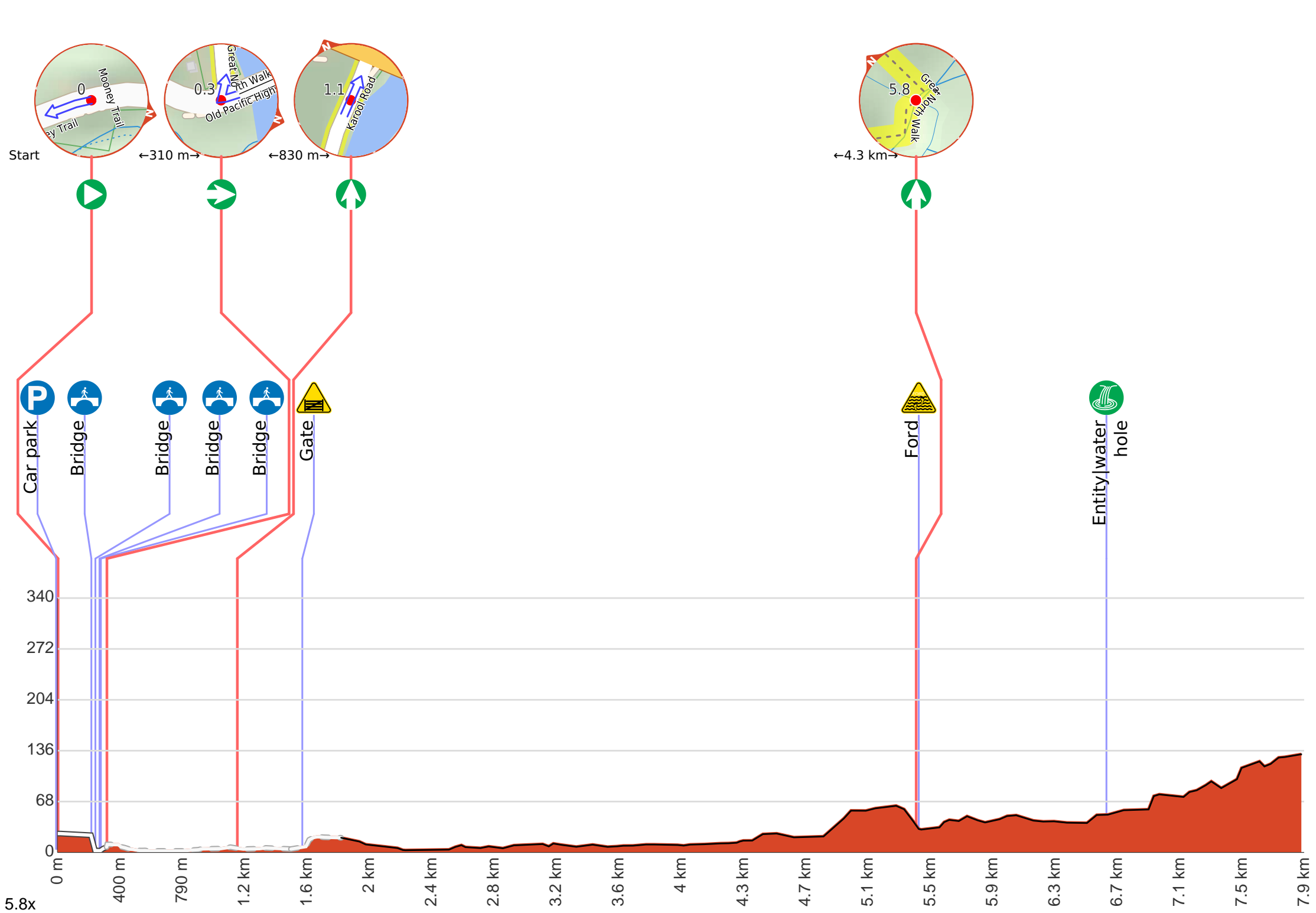
Share
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com/j/0KQ1DB)
[/j/0KQ1DB](https://bushwalk.com/j/0KQ1DB)

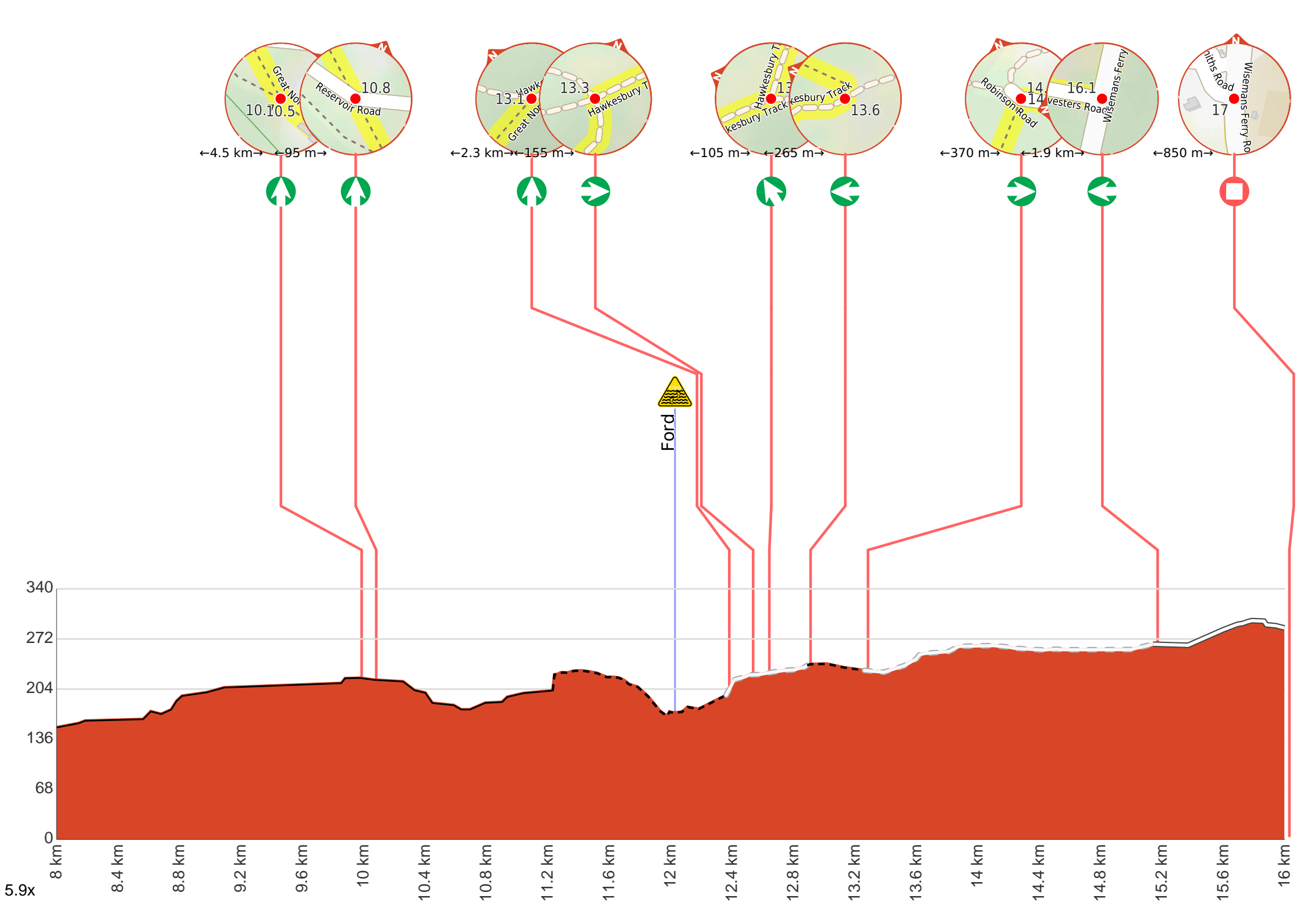




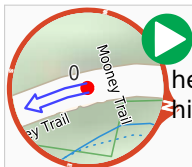








Getting started: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign along the narrowing gravel verge, keeping the Old Pacific Hwy just to your right. After about 200m, this walk comes to then crosses the concrete road bridge over Mooney Mooney Creek, enjoying the view of the wide creek below. Once on the other side, this walk heads past a detailed 'Risk Warning' sign suggesting you be sensible as you cross the bridge (hope it is not too late) to then come to an intersection with Karool Rd, just on the other side of the highway (on your right).



From the Old Pacific Highway **Start** heading along *Old Pacific Highway* (a highway|primary).



There is a car park (about 15 m back from the start).



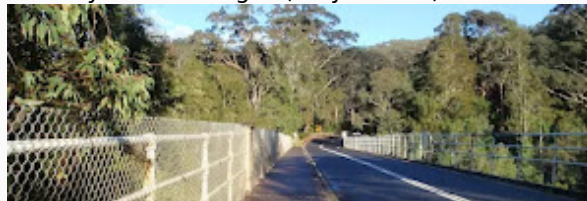
After another 225 m cross the bridge (about 75 m long)



Then cross the bridge (about 50 m long)



Then find the "Old Pacific Highway Mooney Mooney Creek Bridge" (on your left).



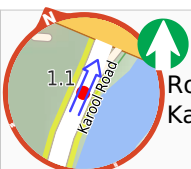
The Sydney-Hawkesbury stretch of the Pacific Highway was built in the 1920s, replacing a route that had existed since the 1830s. The original Peats Ferry Road was cut by a settler named George Peat, making a track to his property on the banks of the Hawkesbury River. This road became the 'Old Pacific Highway' upon the opening of the F3, or Sydney-Newcastle Freeway, in the 1980s. This bridge is the smaller of two crossing Mooney Mooney Creek - the other, Mooney Mooney Bridge, is part of the F3 freeway and is the highest road bridge in Australia.



After another 9 m cross the bridge (about 15 m long)



After another 25 m (at the intersection of Karool Road & Old Pacific Highway) **turn right**, to head along Karool Road (a vehicle track).



After another 830 m (from the Karool Road) **continue straight**, to head along Karool Road.



After another 410 m head through/around the gate.



After another 3.9 km cross the ford.



From the Mooney Mooney Creek **continue straight**.



After another 500 m **continue straight**.



After another 620 m (from the Lower Mooney Mooney Creek Dam) **continue straight**.



After another 100 m find the "Lower Mooney Dam" (30 m on your left).



Lower Mooney Dam is located on the Mooney Mooney Creek, about 21 km upstream from the Hawkesbury River. In March 1938 the Gosford Mayor turned the tap to add the water from this dam into the small town water supply of the time. It is a concrete arch dam, with a capacity of 1,000 megalitres, and was superseded by the more than 4 times larger 'Upper Mooney Dam' in 1982. There is a set of timber steps and a faint track that leads down to the waters edge on the uphill side of the dam wall, the dam wall is fenced and is clearly out of bounds. A sign reminds visitors that swimming is not allowed.



After another 1.5 km cross the ford.



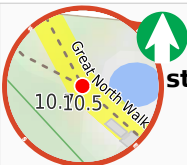
After another 490 m cross the ford.



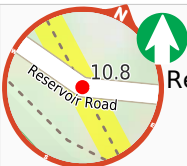
After another 235 m find the "Quarry Camping Area" (4 m on your left).



This is a small signposted campsite set among heath, grass tress, scribbly gums and aother eucalypts. The clearing is flat and sandy and provides room to set up a few tents with and a small metal fireplace with hotplate. There is no water or other facilites here.



After another 1.1 km **continue straight**.



After another 95 m (from the Reservoir Road) **continue straight**.



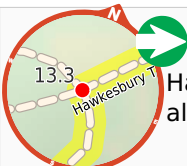
After another 1.9 km cross the ford.



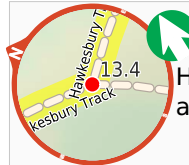
At the intersection of Hawkesbury Track & Robinson Creek **continue straight**, to head along Hawkesbury Track.



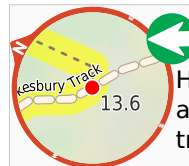
After another 370 m (from the Hawkesbury Track) **continue straight**, to head along Hawkesbury Track (a vehicle track).



After another 155 m (from the Hawkesbury Track) **turn right**, to head along Hawkesbury Track.



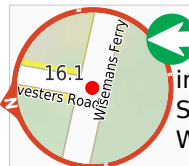
After another 105 m (from the Hawkesbury Track) **veer left**, to head along Hawkesbury Track.



After another 265 m (from the Hawkesbury Track) **turn left**, to head along Hawkesbury Track (a walking track).



After another 370 m (at the intersection of Robinson Road & Hawkesbury Track) **turn right**, to head along Robinson Road (a vehicle track).



After another 1.9 km (at the intersection of Wisemans Ferry Road & Silvesters Road) **turn left**, to head along Wisemans Ferry Road (a road).



After another 550 m (at the intersection of Wisemans Ferry Road & Marabunga Road) **continue straight**, to head along Wisemans Ferry Road.



After another 305 m come to "Somersby Store".



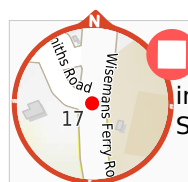
Somersby Store offers a good place to have lunch or pick up the basic food supplies. The store serves hot food including burgers, chips, pies etc and cold drinks. Opening hours are 6am - 6pm Monday to Friday and 6.30am to 4pm on Saturdays (closed Sundays). There is a pay phone and a bus stop however services are limited to two buses a day. Contact details are (02)4372 1269, at 841 Wisemans Ferry Road Somersby, NSW 2250. The store owners are happy for you to phone ahead. If you are a large group you can order ahead to save the stress. I always encourage people to use local stores like this on track, but since it is a small store it is worth phoning ahead to see what they have what you want in stock.



About 55 m past the end is a car park.



About 65 m past the end is a toilet.



Continue another 0 m to find at the intersection of Wisemans Ferry Road & Smiths Road at the end.