

Frequently Asked Questions: Cobberas, Ingeegoodbee and McFarlane Flat Track Closures

Summary

The Cobberas, McFarlane Flat and Ingeegoodbee tracks are temporarily closed.

These tracks have been significantly impacted by storms, fire and floods and are currently closed to motor vehicles to ensure public safety and environmental protection.

Why are these tracks closed?

These tracks were severely damaged during a series of fire, flood and storm events from 2019 – 2023, including April 2022 and October 2022 flood events, that affected approximately 80% of the Eastern Region Road and track network.

Parks Victoria have had to close infrastructure, including these tracks in the interests of public safety and environmental protection as they are deemed unsafe to drive.

Why have they been closed for so long?

Regulatory approvals and permits must be obtained and adhered to prior to any road works including Cultural Heritage Permits, Flora and Fauna Guarantee Permits, and Working on Waterways Permits. Works cannot proceed without the appropriate approvals and permits in place and there are significant penalties for failing to comply with these requirements. The development, processing and implementation of these permits and approvals take a significant amount of time.

These tracks are in remote terrain and difficult to access which makes the relevant damage assessments and roading works difficult to undertake. This, along with significant storm and flood events since June 2021, have impeded the road repairs.

When will they re-open?

The tracks are likely to remain closed to motor vehicles until detailed site assessments have been completed, repairs undertaken, and the road conditions are deemed safe for motor vehicle access.

Parks Victoria are working with the insurer to fix these tracks and ensure they are repaired to their registered classification.

Parks Victoria does not expect to have necessary approvals and permits to complete these repairs before 2026.

What works are required to reopen these tracks?

Treatment and repair of severe scouring, washouts, and large bog holes along with reinstatement of drainage and rollovers.

Other options:

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There are other areas to explore in the Alpine National Park and surround State Forest areas. Please refer to the Parks Victoria website www.parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963 for other touring routes in the Alpine National Park. For State Forest areas, download the 'More to Explore' app or call the DEECA customer support team on 136 186. You can also visit the local Visitor Information Centres for other touring options in the area.

How can I find out more about the closures?

Call 13 1963 or visit the Parks Victoria website www.parks.vic.gov.au for more information.

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