

ABW ACTIVITY INVENTORY (AI) - Activity Information Record

This row for office use only – Go to 'Activity'.

Activity Code W

Area code N

Record No 0004

Activity

Walk ('W'), Cycle , ('C') Kayak/Canoe ('K'), Other ('O') (Indicate here with Symbol).....W

Location

Telowie Gorge

Outline of activity

This is a two day walk involving a creek traverse, some tenacious climbing and a camp on a high ridge with assured water.

This walk suits experienced walkers who are confident about their fitness and are ready for some rigorous climbing in the gorge. If it is wet, it will be a bit hazardous.

Permits & permissions required, with contact details

The walk is mostly within Telowie Gorge Conservation Park for which a Parks permit may be required. The Parks and Wildlife office at Mambray Creek expects you to pay camping fees although they do not have a fees collection box at Telowie Gorge. The nearest one is at Mambray Creek.

In 2008, the vehicle entry fee for Mambray Creek was \$7.50 and camping fee was \$15 (two nights).

Maps required

1:50,000 Pirie. The navigation is quite simple except for finding the spot when you leave the creek and climb onto the ridge which is very easy to get wrong.

Travel: recommendations, times, car shuffling, parking etc.

Drive north from Adelaide on Port Wakefield Road. The total distance is 240 km. At about 7 km after the second turn to Port Pirie, turn right to Telowie Gorge Conservation Park. The turning point is marked but if you miss it there is another signposted turn about 5 km later that gives you the shortest distance on dirt roads. Follow signs to Telowie CP to a car park just off the side of the road on the right. You can camp here and leave your car here.

Water availability

When it has been raining, Telowie Creek will be flowing. Even if it has not rained recently, then for most times in winter there are at least some waterholes with water in them. Once on the ridge, there is no water until you reach the campsite which has a large fire fighting water tank and a smaller bushwalker's tank with a tap. There is no water available after leaving the tank.

Restrictions (fires, gates etc.)

The campsite is right on the boundary between the Conservation Park and the Wirrabara State Forest. Wood fires are not allowed in the Conservation Park but are allowed in the State Forest (where the camp is located) from 1 May to 1 November. Gas fires are allowed in the State Forest for all months except December to March. There are padlocked gates between the Conservation Park and the State Forest but there are stiles for walkers to use.

Route overview

The usual route starts from the car park and follows the road until it becomes a track alongside Telowie Creek. It is then a matter of following the creek for several kilometres through Telowie Gorge. At some point you need to climb the southern side of the gorge (see Supplementary Information) to reach the Go Cart Track. It is then about 5 km to reach the very obvious water tank where you camp. To return to the car park follow the BBQ track. The easier route is to follow it all the way to the bottom where it meets the Western Boundary Track (at the same altitude as the car park). The more adventurous route is to intersect the gorge at some point, climb down into the gorge and follow the creek back to the car park.

Campsites used & possible alternatives

The best campsite is on top of the ridge where the Go Cart track meets the BBQ track because it has an assured water source and a roofed area if the weather is particularly bad. This camp is in the Wirrabara State Forest.

There are several alternative campsites in Telowie Gorge itself.

Walk Ratings (indicate rating below where indicated ..eg 'SMMO')

Distance	S: Short, 0-9 km	M: Medium, 10-17 km	L: Long, 18+ km
Gradient	E: Undulating	M: Steep	H: Very steep/exposed
Terrain	E: Track/open, 4 km/h	M: Medium scrub, 2-4 km/h	H: Heavy scrub/rock, 0-2 km/h
Qualifying? (Q)	Insert Activity Rating here.....MHMQ		

Supplementary information (Insert below, if required. Insert Maps on the last page)

In a number of places along the gorge, you will need to climb up the sides of the gorge to make progress. These are the steepest climbs of the walk but ropes are not needed to complete the walk.

There are two standard ways to exit the gorge. The first one is a creek (usually dry) that branches off to the right at GR 307434. Follow it uphill until it joins the Go Cart Track. The second exit is soon after a dilapidated fence that crosses the creek and marks the boundary of the Conservation Park. At this point, GR 309440, climb straight up the southern slope until you join the Go Cart Track.

If you want to avoid the steep and treacherous descent back into the gorge on your way back to the car park, take the left fork of the BBQ track at GR 313402.

A TV tower can be visited if you walk further 6 km along the ridge beyond the campsite.

Potential Dangers. The rocky sides of the gorge can be particularly slippery when wet and the ground is not always stable.

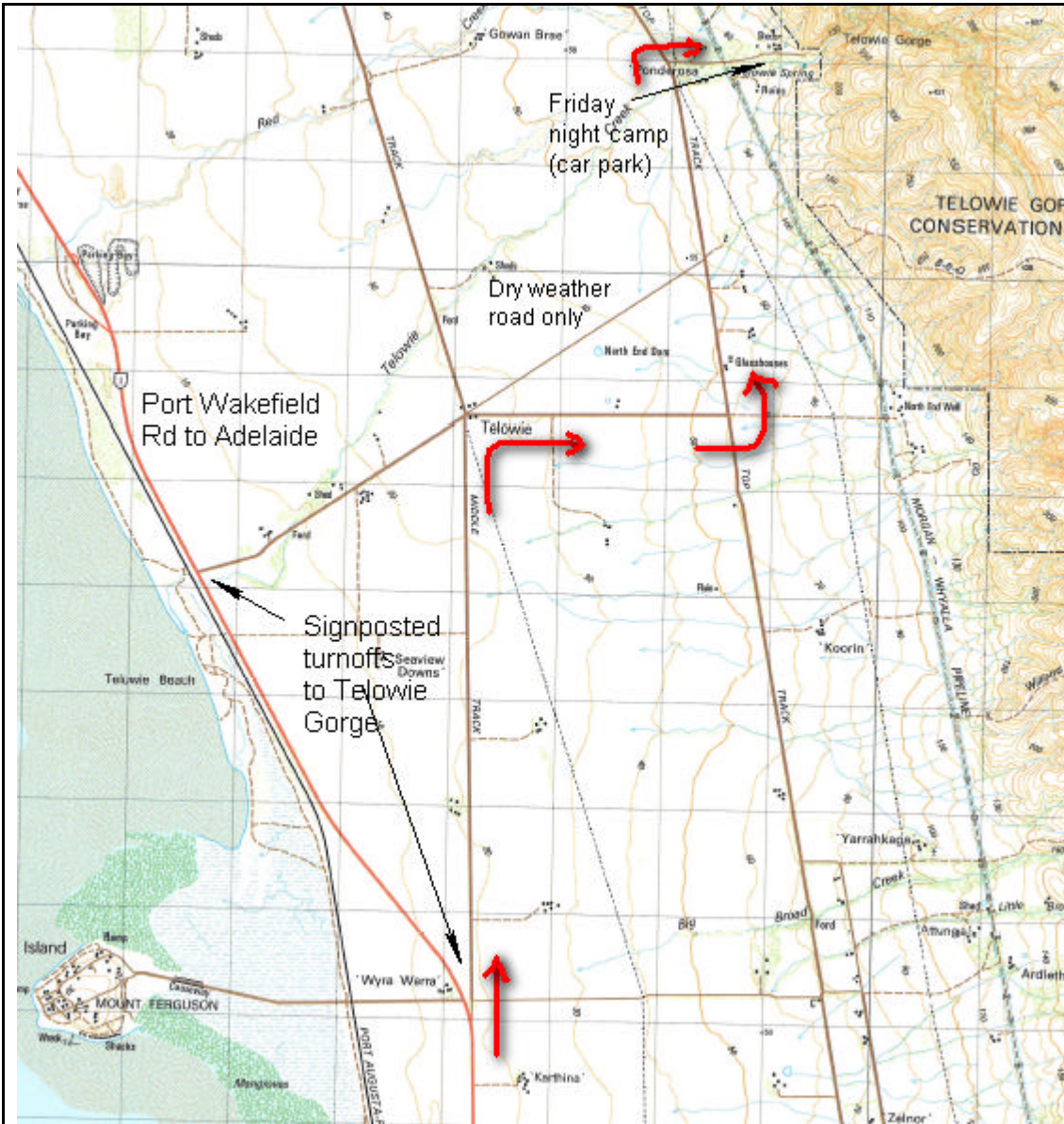
Note: This activity outline has been compiled from information provided by ABW members. Its accuracy is subject to variations in individual members' observations, climate and weather conditions, land and ownership, accessibility, national park rules and permits.

Members should not rely on this information but use it as a guide and supplement it with their own research as appropriate.

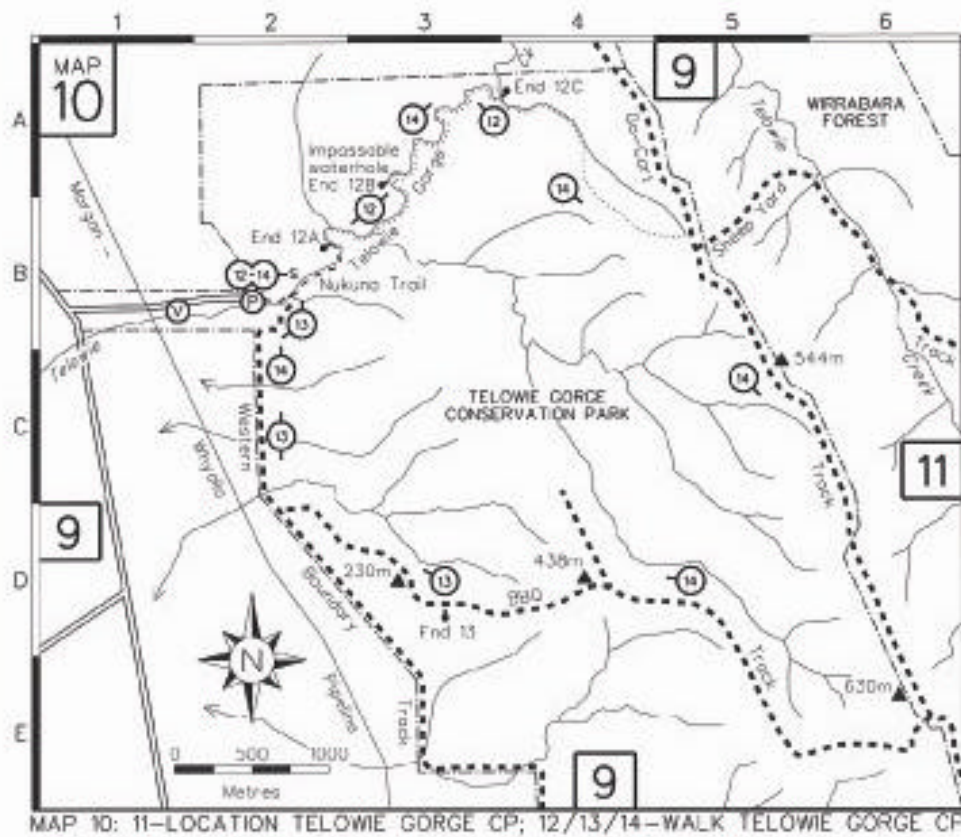
While all endeavours will be made to ensure that the information is kept current, it is the responsibility of the member using this document to determine whether it is the most up to date version.

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Last updated		Updated by	

Please insert map below on this page or supply separately



Driving approaches to Telowie Gorge Conservation Park. The preferred turnoff is to Telowie Gorge CP is right at the bottom of the map.



The tracks in the Telowie Gorge CP are shown on this map. The tracks themselves are obvious but they are not signposted or marked.

