

ABW ACTIVITY INVENTORY (AI) - Activity Information Record

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

Activity Code **W**

Area code **NSW**

Record No **NSW0001**

Activity

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

Location

Kosciuszko National Park - NSW

Outline of activity

Mt Kosciuszko to Kiandra - 8 Day, Pack Carrying walk for fit, competent group.

Permits & permissions required, with contact details

Information on the park can be obtained from www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nationalparks

Click on Kosiusczko NP for detailed info.

Maps required

NSW CMA 1:50,000 series, 'Kosciuszko' and 'Khancoban'

The CMA 1:250,000 Tourist Map 'The Snowy Mountains' is useful for the whole park. National Park brochures also.

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

Recommend using local tourist operators to get the group to/from the start/finish as required.

Water availability

Overall availability is good at suggested camp sites. However water borne bacteria may be present.

Restrictions (fires, gates etc.)

See associated information sheet. (ie part a of this record)

Route overview

See associated information sheet. (a)

Campsites used & possible alternatives

See associated information sheet (a).

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

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..... M-L, E-M, E-M, Q		

Supplementary information (Insert below, if required)

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.

Creation date	March 2009	Created by	Roger Kempson
Last updated		Updated by	

Please insert map below on this page or supply separately

Mount Kosciuszko to Kiandra: Extended Pack Carrying Walk

The Kosciuszko National Park in NSW is one of the largest in Australia and among the great parks of the world. Its area is approx. 690,000 hectares (6900 sq km) and has a wide range of climates, flora, fauna and rock types. It contains all of Australia's two thousand metre peaks: 'Snowy Mountains Walks' by the Geehi Bushwalking Club lists 21 over 2000 m. ABW have done walks in the park between Nov and April – note that the weather can be settled in April – ideal walking during the day but cold at night (minus 5C or lower).

Important notes:

- (a) camping within the catchment areas of any of the five glacial lakes is not permitted and walking on sensitive vegetation such as feldmark, sphagnum moss and boggy areas should be avoided.
- (b) use fuel stoves wherever possible – open fires above or near the tree-line were banned some years ago and may be in other areas as well.
- (c) on the main range – in bad weather or emergency descend to the east – not down the steep western slopes which lead into dense trackless forest.
- (d) the (official) low level route of the Australian Alps Walking Track goes down the Old Summit Road from Mt Kosciuszko to Charlottes Pass, then to Perisher Ski Village, Smiggin Holes Ski Village, Guthega Rd, Guthega Power Station and Schlink Pass Fire Track to Whites River Hut where it rejoins the high level route described below – use this in bad weather.
- (e) some of the huts marked on maps along the route have since been burned down (bushfires or accidentally).
- (f) if parking within the park a NSW 'all parks' pass is required for a vehicle (\$190 for an annual pass in 2008) or pay on a daily basis (\$16 per day) – either way could share between those in the vehicle.
- (g) in summer, in particular, take protection against the high UV light intensity that prevails at around 2000 m.
- (h) watch out for funnel web spiders and know how to treat the bite (a member was bitten near Mt Anton in Dec 1998.)

The following is a suggested itinerary –

- Day 1: From Thredbo Alpine Village catch the chair-lift to the top station and walk a few km on the raised metal mesh walkway to Rawson Pass and then a short distance to the summit of Mt Kosciuszko (2228 m) (alternative is a 600 m climb up Merritts Track which zig-zags under the chair-lift). The start could also be from Charlottes Pass but this would involve a longer walk up the Old Summit Road.) Head NE along Main Range – side trip to Mt Townsend (2209 m, 2nd highest in Aust. – about 4 km return) if time permits. Continue past Club Lake, over Mt Carruthers (2145 m), past Blue Lake and over Mt Twynam (2196 m, 3rd highest). Possible campsite is upper part of Pounds Creek below Mt Anton – 17 km from upper chair-lift station and not including Mt Townsend.
- Day 2: Continue NE to Mt Anderson (1997 m, climb if time permits) and over Mt Tate (2068 m) and proceed to Consett Stephen Pass and Rolling Grounds and descend to White's River Hut – 12 km.
- Day 3: Cross road and head up steep slope ENE through scrub and then north to Gungarton (2068 m) and Kerries Ridge (2045 m) and on to Valentine Hut – 14 km.
- Day 4: To Greymare Hut and along Grey Mare Fire Trail to headwaters of Tumut River SW of Mount Jagungal. Set up camp and climb Mt Jagungal (2061 m) without packs, a

steep but rewarding climb. This impressive peak stands well above the surrounding countryside and is easily recognised from all over the park – 18.5 km.

Day 5: To O'Keefes Hut and site of Boobee Hut – 15 km.

Day 6: To Happy Jacks River, Brooks Hut and Happys Hut – 11.5 km.

Day 7: To Tabletop Mountain (1784 m), Nine Mile gold diggings and Four Mile Hut – 16.5 km.

Day 8: To Kiandra (no facilities except phone here) – 8 km.

Total distance:

about 113 km plus whatever side trips the group decides to do.

Recommended reading:

Snowy Mountains Walks by Geehi Bushwalking Club

Australian Alps Walking Track by John Siseman

Bushwalking in Kosciuszko National Park by Charles Warner