

Building a Future for the Munda Biddi Trail



Munda Biddi Trail

An Overview

- Why do we need a Long Distance Cycle Trail
- 12 months on..
- Camping out the Munda Biddi way
- Munda Biddi - Mapping
- Munda Biddi - Sign System
- Where to from here
- Challenges and Constraints
- Cycle Tourism - Benefits for WA

Experience the WA Bush on a Bicycle

The Munda Biddi Trail
(which means *path through the forest* in the Noongar
Aboriginal language) is the
latest addition to Western
Australia's growing set of
world-class forest trails.

A forest cycling adventure ...



Why do we need a Long distance Cycle Trail in Western Australia?

- Meet the growing demand for off-road cycling trails and cycle touring routes
- Create a new tourism market for WA and a new nature-based opportunity for the Southwest
- Preserve our forest heritage (Rails-Trails)
- Establish cross regional links
- Promote healthy communities
- Increased awareness of our natural and cultural values



The Munda Biddi - 12 months on..

- Dwellingup opening Dec 2nd 2002
Community event - 100 cyclists attended
- 5,000 maps have been sold to date
- An estimated 4,000-5,000 cyclists have used the trail so far, including overseas visitors from Ireland, UK and N.Z
- Over 10,000 website hits

‘Left from Jarrahdale this morning, nice town, have lived 40mins from it and never visited before. Trail is great, campsites luxurious can’t wait until it all completed. Great Job CALM and Munda Biddi Trail Assn’... Kyle

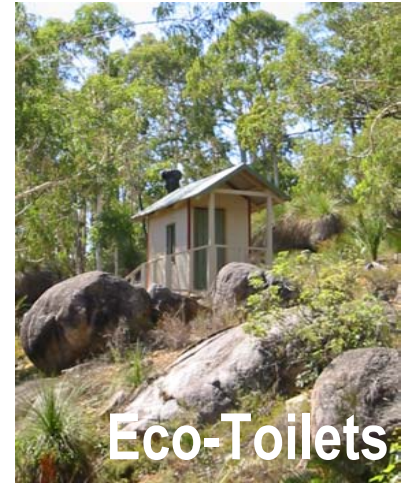


Camping the Munda Biddi Way

- Every 35-40km's between towns
- 4 campsites in place
- Utilises both purpose-built or existing forest camping facilities
- Community involvement
- Feedback (Log books)

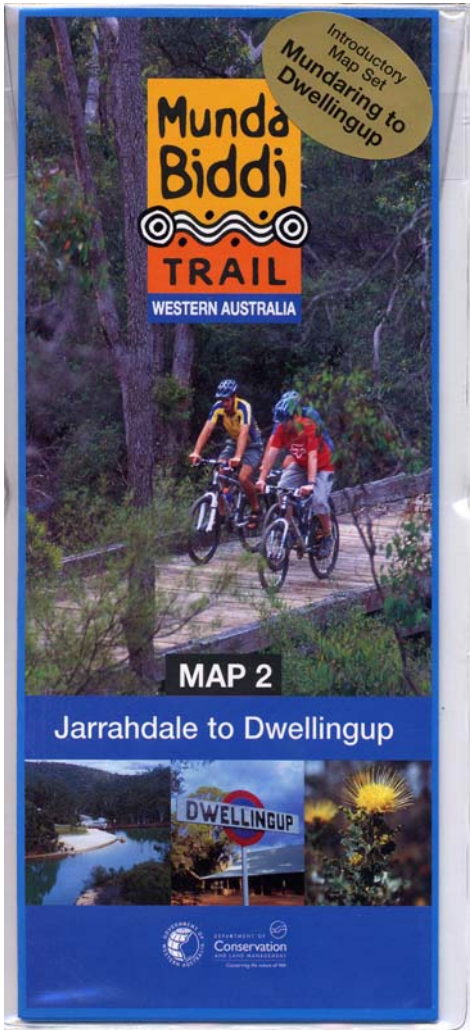
‘Definitely the best bush campsites we’ve ever seen, a credit to all those involved..’

Cori and Paul



Munda Bididi Mapping

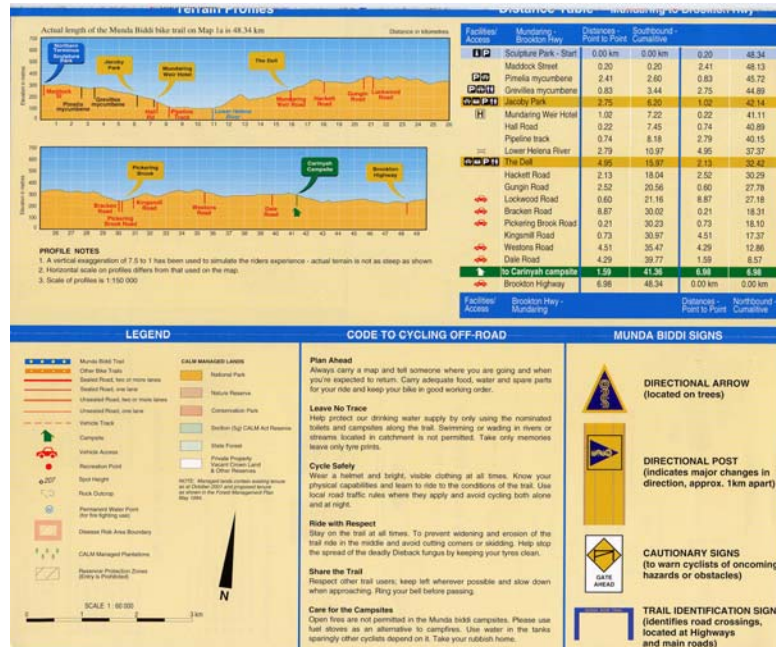
Map Pack



'Love the cycle-friendly maps! Easy to read and prepares me for the hills'..Mike G.

Trail Info Sheet

Terrain profiles and distance tables



Munda Biddi

TRAIL INFORMATION

Oct 2003 No.2

Prize of Western Australia's Long Distance Off-Road Cycling Trail

Trail overview

The Munda Biddi Trail (meaning path through the forest in the Nyongar Aboriginal language) is Western Australia's first long distance off-road cycle trail. Once completed the trail will span almost 900 kilometres from the Perth Hills to the south coast town of Albany, using a network of public tracks and old rail formations. It will take cyclists with many charming towns and pass through national parks and State Forest in Australia's South-West.

Maps and distances

Map 1 and 2 are introductory maps to the trail. Improvements will be made to these maps over the coming months and they will be re-released for the Cycle spring in conjunction with Map 3.

One day it takes to complete this map will vary according to your fitness level, cycling experience and whether you are carrying camping equipment and food supplies. It is recommended that touring cyclists allow at least 3-5 days to ride the first section of the trail. Experienced cyclists may choose to ride it in a shorter period, or alternatively you may wish to split the distance up into a series of day rides. It is strongly recommended that inexperienced touring cyclists do a series of day rides carrying gear, to test their fitness levels in preparation for an overnight or multi-day ride.

Check current trail conditions and trip planner before each ride at www.mundabiddi.org.au

While many bikes have odometers, some may be calibrated differently. The distance tables are only a guide and should not be solely relied upon when using odometers. Ensure that you know how to read your map and the terrain profiles.

Trail users

The Munda Biddi Trail is designed primarily for bicycles, although walkers are welcome. Horses, motorbikes and vehicles are not permitted to use the trail under the by-laws of the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Act. These by-laws restrict access to drinking water catchment areas. The use of support vehicles is encouraged, however ask you use the designated access points highlighted on the trail maps.

Directional marking

Not to scale

The trail route is marked with a combination of aluminium tree markers showing a reflective yellow Munda Biddi symbol on a blue background and yellow poles along the trail (about a kilometre apart). They are placed vertically to indicate that the trail continues straight ahead, or horizontally to indicate the direction of a turn.

Please note: the tree markers will be covered in blue on yellow due to current visibility problems.

Facilities

The campsites are situated a comfortable day's ride apart (18-20kms). There are three purpose-built Munda Biddi camps (marked in green) in the first section to Dwellingup, with an additional three first-aid camps (see Where to Stay on the Trail).

Trail conditions: The project team welcomes any feedback that will help us improve the maps and trail facilities. Contact the Tracks & Trails Unit with your comments or complete the online feedback form on the Munda Biddi page at www.naturabase.net

Gradients and surface conditions

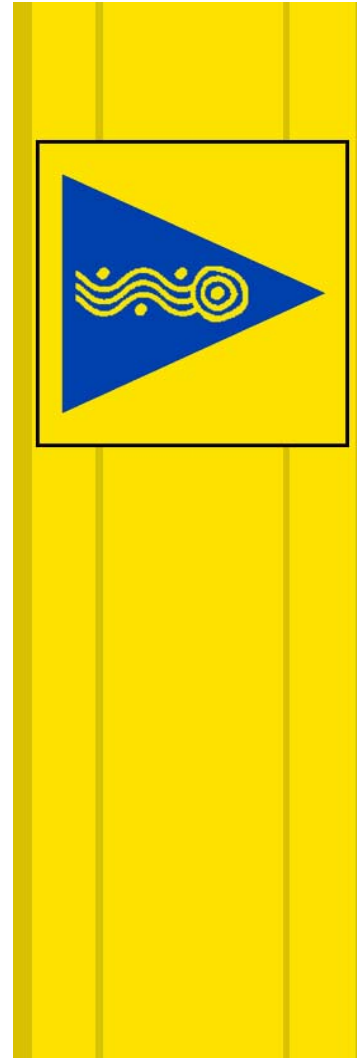
The trail uses a network of bush tracks, firebreaks and old railway lines. The majority of the trail is on gently undulating ground, except where the trail enters and exits river valleys. The surface is predominantly compacted loessite (a grey loess) soils. However in some areas the surface may consist of loose gravel and can be slippery, especially in summer when the surface is very dry. The best time to ride is late autumn to early spring when the surface has been compacted by the rain. If you are not experienced in riding on these surfaces, it is recommended that you practice with some day rides (late carrying panniers or using baggage) before embarking on a multi-day ride. If you are not confident riding down steep descents, it is recommended that you dismount your bicycle and walk it down.

For more information visit www.mundabiddi.org.au

Munda Biddi Trail - Sign System

Signage objectives

- Directional
- Visitor Risk Management
- Highly visible
- Vandal/fire/termite resistant



Role of the Foundation

A Not-for-profit trail advocacy group;

- Assist with the planning, development, marketing and maintenance of the trail
- Attract funding to the Trail
- Enlist members & volunteers
- Organise trail and cycling events
- Provides trip planning services and information to cyclists



Where to from here!



Stage 1: Dwellingup to Collie

Collie opening - May 2004

Waroona Loop Trail

Stage 2: Collie to Northcliffe

Stage 2 Development Plan

Have Your Say! - Community Forums

Nannup to Jarrahwod Rail Trail

Stage 3: Northcliffe to Albany

Funding applications for the

Pemberton to Northcliffe Link

Stage 3 - Development Plan

Funds required to establish Stages 2 & 3 - \$1.7million

Project Challenges and Constraints



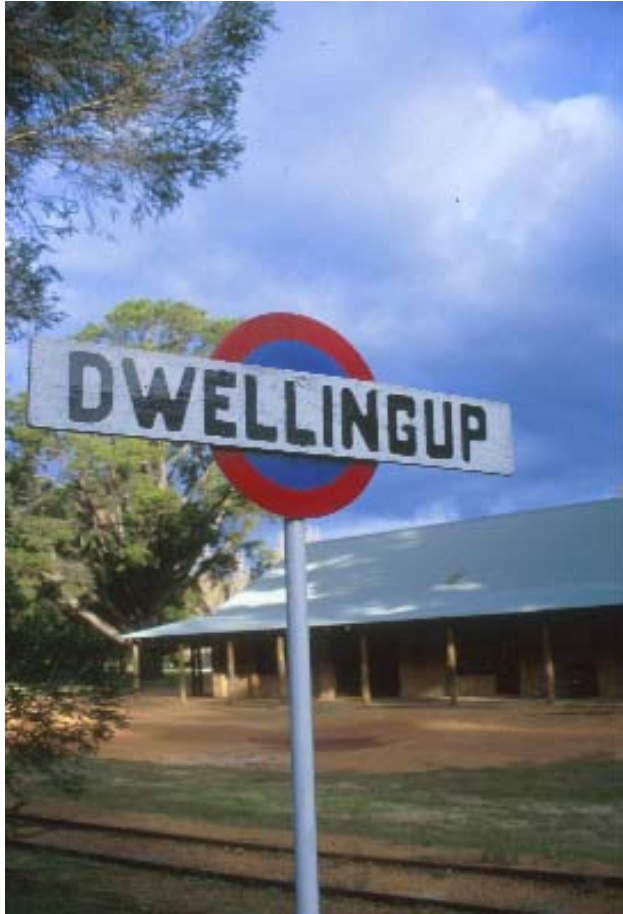
- Creating a Vision - creating an awareness of the trail & the benefits of cycle tourism.
- Attracting Funding - to build a community & tourism asset for all West Australians.
- Land Uses- balancing the needs of existing forest operations and adjacent land uses.
- Public Expectations - meeting and balancing the needs and interests of stakeholders and user groups.

Munda Biddi Trail

Cycle Tourism

- Benefits of Cycle Tourism and Trails
- Economic Benefits of the Munda Biddi Trail
- Great Rides! - Potential for Cycling Touring in WA

Benefits of Cycle Tourism



- Increases domestic and inbound tourism
- Ecologically sustainable
- Economic re-vitalisation for rural areas
- Provides sustainable transport links between rural communities
- Improved recreational facilities for locals
- Preserves the forest and railway heritage
- Heightens community awareness of our natural and cultural history

Economic Benefits of the Munda Biddi Trail



42,000 cyclists/year x 3 days/trip = 126,000 days x
\$40 per day spent = \$5,000,000 annual revenue

- If only 3% of bike owners in Western Australia use the Munda Biddi Trail, that equates to at least 27,000 users per year.
- It is predicted that within 5 years of the trail's completion, over 42,000 people will use the Munda Biddi annually (including inbound tourists) injecting over \$5million into the South West economy.

Your warm winter bike adventure

Escape this Winter to a warm and sunny place. Cycle Queensland is a fully catered nine-day holiday on wheels. You'll have time to enjoy a great variety of Queensland landscapes – stunning tablelands, pristine surf and sand, beautiful heritage towns and lush green valleys. A 550 km tour along quiet roads, all under the warm winter sun.

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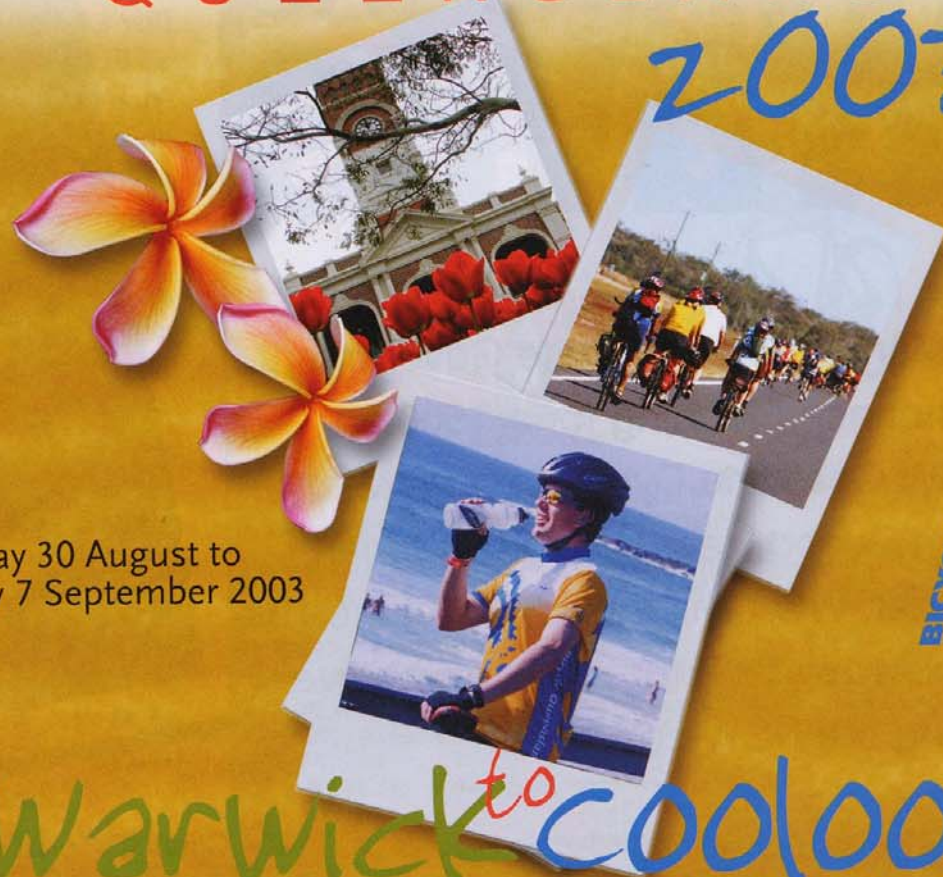


Queensland Government

SHIMANO

CYCLE QUEENSLAND

2003



Saturday 30 August to
Sunday 7 September 2003



Warwick to Cooloola



Happy Cycling



on the Munda Biddi Trail

www.mundabiddi.org.au