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Department of Biodiversity,
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Interest Point 7

LITTLE ONE TREE BRIDGE

Built in 1984 from one tree-log spanning the river, Little One Tree Bridge was named after One Tree Bridge on Graphite Road near Manjimup. This is an ideal spot to stop and relax, listening to the music of the river in season. You will find rest facilities provided off the trail to the left, just south of the bridge.

Follow the trail marker posts from here to the Old Donnelly Mill site.

Interest Point 8

DONNELLY MILL

The Donnelly River Mill was built in 1948 and after it was officially opened in 1951, became something of a showpiece.

For the construction of the sawmill, Engineer Charles Bunning and Millwright Harry Martin, looked for a site with plenty of fresh water and sloping land so that gravity could assist logs to move through the mill. Fresh water was needed to power the mill steam engine and service the mill town.

Initially the mill cut only jarrah, but it wasn't long before karri was included. In its era, the mill was considered to be one of the most efficient in Australia, with an output of about fifty-eight cubic metres of timber a day. This is roughly equivalent to the amount of timber needed to build four houses. Timber from the Donnelly was exported to South Africa, the United Kingdom, the Middle East and throughout Australia.

About 100 men were employed at the mill, including many timber-getters, or fallers, who were regarded as the glamour-men of the industry and were the best paid. An ace faller known as "Snowy" Henderson worked with the mill for many years and is credited with falling the large karri tree now resting on display in King's Park.

In 1978 the mill closed and milling operations were transferred to Deanmill.

Now restored, the mill stands as if a slice of history has been frozen in time. You can almost hear the faint ring of footsteps and the sound of voices disappearing into the night.

Further Information

Forest officers and national park rangers are always glad to make your visit more enjoyable or informative. Do not hesitate to contact them if you need information or assistance.

Department of Conservation
and Land Management
Brain Street, Manjimup.
Phone: (097) 71 1988

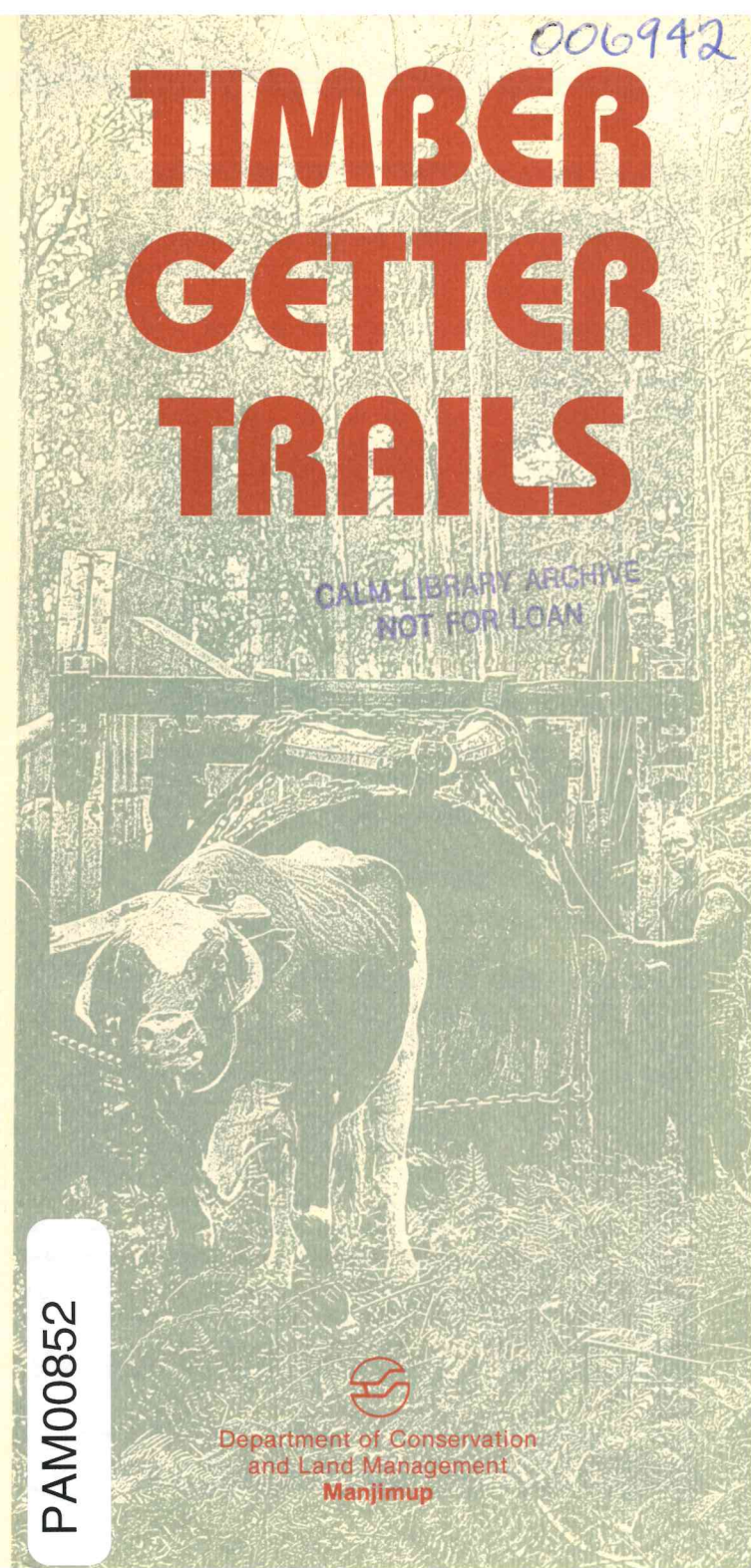
Open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm



PAM00852

TIMBER GETTER TRAILS

006942
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Department of Conservation
and Land Management
Manjimup

Interest Point 1

Welcome to Donnelly Mill

These are the Timber-Getter Trails — named after the men and women who first started to open up the towering forests of the south-west for European settlement.

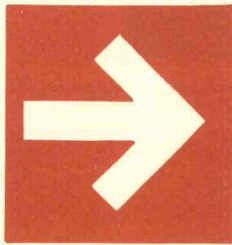
Take a journey back through time, and catch a glimpse of a timber-getter's life just after the Second World War.

The way is clearly marked, and there are facilities for a rest or lunch stop on both trails.

Willow-Springs Loop 5.5 km.
Allow two hours leisurely walking.

King's Park Karri Loop 9.5 km.
Incorporates Willow-Springs Loop. Allow three and a half hours leisurely walking.

Directional markers look like this:



Interest Point markers look like this:



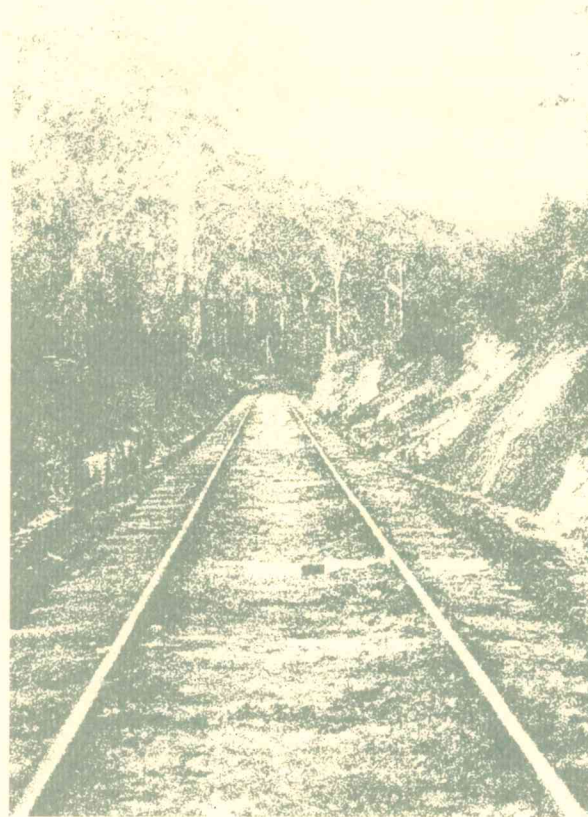
Enjoy your walk in the forest, but please be careful with fire.

Start at the Donnelly Store and follow the signs. Cross Sears Road. Continue for approximately 600 m to Interest Point 1.

RAILWAY FORMATIONS

Much of the trail to the Swimming Pool follows old railway formations. Railway sleepers can still be seen.

The railways were built by hand early this century and used by steam engines which towed trucks loaded with logs to the now closed Yornup Mill. Sawn timber from the long-gone Wheatley Mill was also carted into the main line at Yornup.



In 1956 log trucks replaced the locos, however in the boom years after the Second World War, trains ran 24 hours a day, carting logs by day and sawn timber by night.

The lines were removed in the 1970's. It's not difficult to imagine the sounds of hard working locos thundering down these now overgrown tracks.

Continue along the track about 300 m to Interest Point 2.

Interest Point 2

OLD STEAM WINCH LANDING

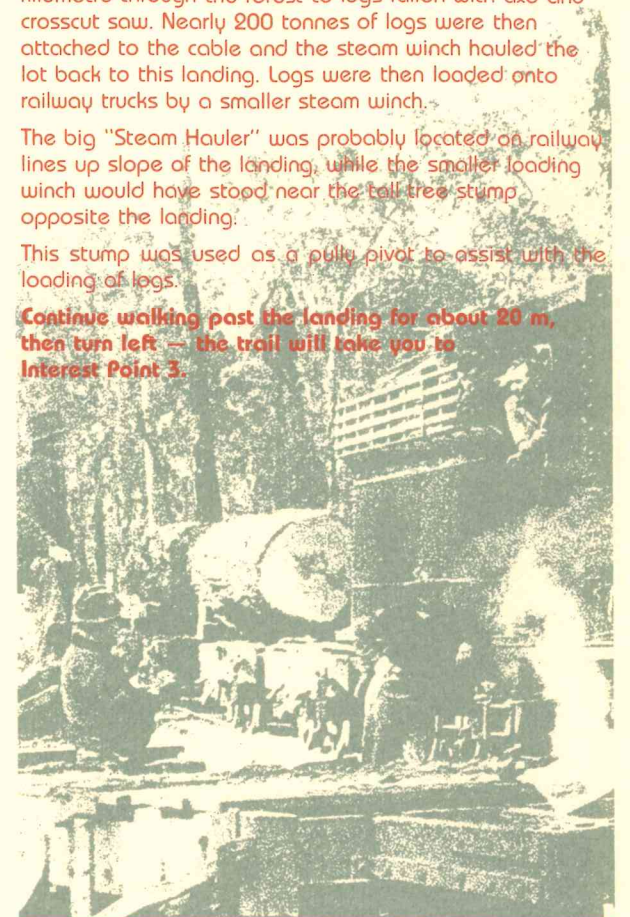
Steam-powered winches were used to pull logs from the forest and to load trucks at this old landing.

Horse teams pulled the huge steel winch-cable up to a kilometre through the forest to logs fallen with axe and crosscut saw. Nearly 200 tonnes of logs were then attached to the cable and the steam winch hauled the lot back to this landing. Logs were then loaded onto railway trucks by a smaller steam winch.

The big "Steam Hauler" was probably located on railway lines up slope of the landing, while the smaller loading winch would have stood near the tall tree stump opposite the landing.

This stump was used as a pulley pivot to assist with the loading of logs.

Continue walking past the landing for about 20 m, then turn left — the trail will take you to Interest Point 3.



Interest Point 3

RAILWAY BRIDGE

Built in the 1900s, much of this bridge is now gone, but the large stringers are still sound.

Steam engines going to Yornup Mill towed thousands of tonnes of logs over the Donnelly River on this bridge.

Follow the signs 700 m to Interest Point 4.

WHEATLEY DAM/OLD FORESTS DEPARTMENT SETTLEMENT

Wheatley Dam is in front of you. Fresh water was needed to feed the boilers of the giant steam engine which powered the saw mill, as well as for the town and old Forests Department settlement nearby.

The larger section of the dam remains a popular swimming place, occasionally being used for local swimming carnivals and other activities.

Next to the dam, is the now vacant site of the Forests Department settlement. The settlement was constructed in the early 1950s to house the officers and workers responsible for managing much of the forest in this area.

Settlement houses were relocated and sites cleared between 1979 and 1981 and the now spacious area is used for strolling and picnicking. Plants from the gardens of the mill workers provide an interesting contrast with the native forest close by.

Spot the line of pine trees at the fringe of the site. Follow the trail near these back to Sears Road then turn left. The trail continues along Willow-Springs Road which is off to your right. Walk about one kilometre to Interest Point 5.

OLD LOG LANDING

Logs used to be towed to log landings in the bush, then loaded into trucks for transport to the sawmill. This old-style landing would have been used in the 1960s. Notice that the loading ramp was constructed with logs and compacted soil. Bulldozers rolled the sawlogs up the ramp onto waiting semi-trailers, which then transported the logs to the sawmill. Today logs are loaded directly onto trucks by large rubber-tired or tracked machines. Notice the sparse vegetation on the landing area. The soil in this area has been compressed by the logging and transport machinery, and plant roots have difficulty penetrating the hard soil. These days the compacted soil on landings is broken up with bulldozer rippers and hand planted with suitable trees and understory shrubs.

Continue walking past the landing for about 15 m then turn right. The trail will take you to Interest Point 6 through sections of karri forest of various ages, eventually looping back to Willow-Spring Road.

BIG KARRI

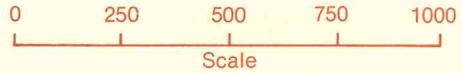
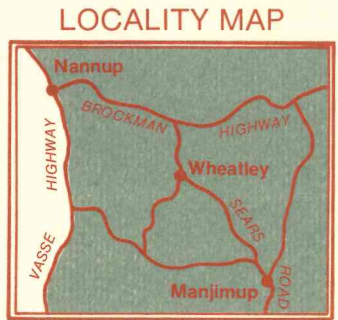
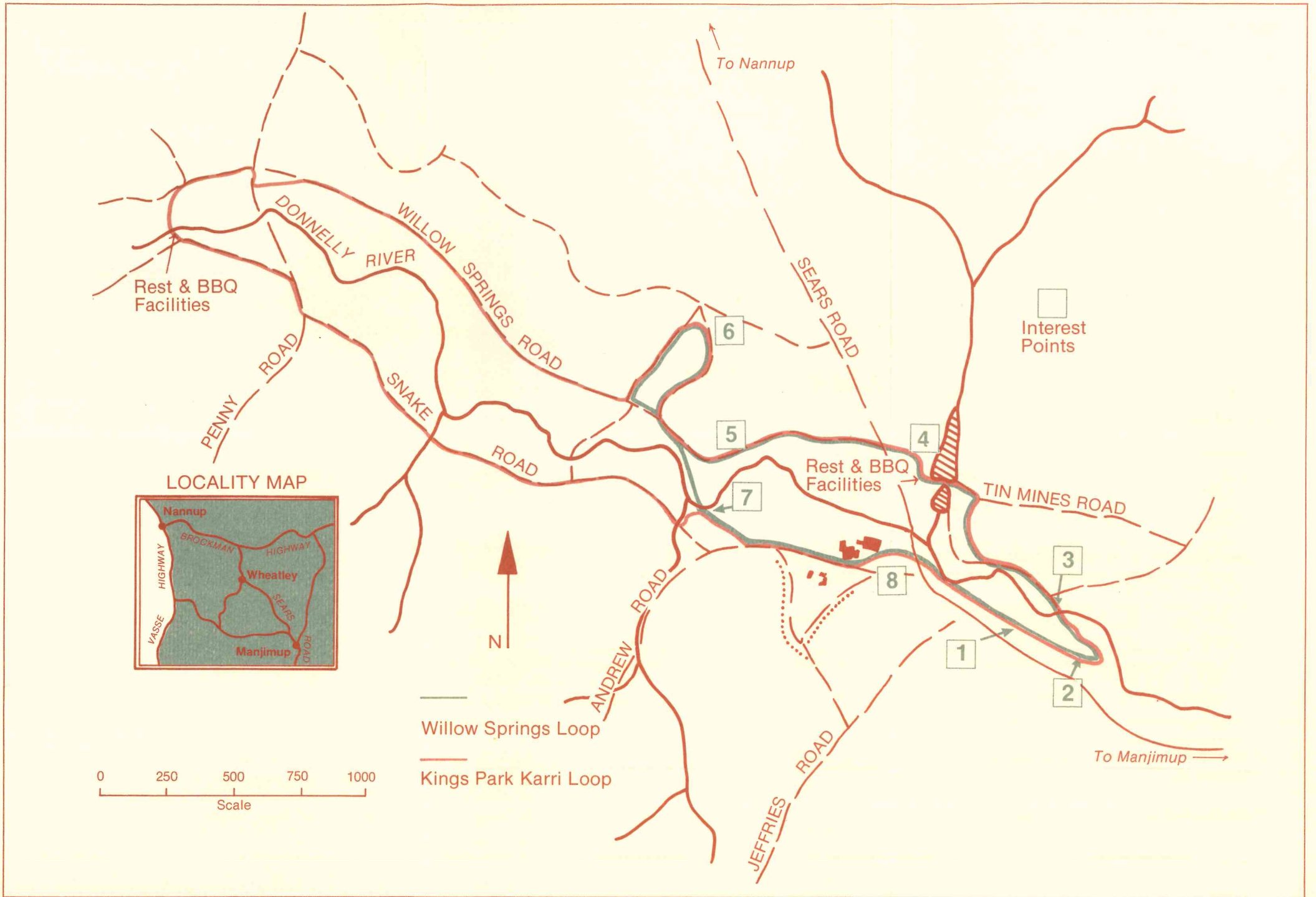
This forest giant is estimated to be over three hundred years old and is around 70 m high.

Many of the younger karri trees you can see nearby probably come from seed dropped over the years by the big karri. Since the dense upper canopy of the larger trees forms a partial barrier to sunlight, the smaller trees and understory shrubs are locked in mute combat for the light which filters through. The competition for water and nutrients is just as fierce and only the taller, stronger plants really thrive. This struggle for life can be difficult to imagine as you enjoy the peacefulness of the forest.

Continue walking until you reach a T-junction. Turn left. About 20 m before you reach Willow-Springs Road you may notice a large termite mound to your left. When you reach Willow-Springs Road, turn left to continue on Willow-Springs Loop. King's Park Karri Loop continues off to the right and although there are no signed Interest Points, the trail is clearly marked and winds its way through magnificent forest down to the Donnelly River before returning to the town. It is from the forest in this area that the karri log on display at King's Park in Perth was taken.

After turning left, continue down Willow-Springs Road for about 200 metres. Turn right.





— Willow Springs Loop
 — Kings Park Karri Loop

□ Interest Points

To Nannup

To Manjimup

Rest & BBQ Facilities

Rest & BBQ Facilities

DONNELLY RIVER
 WILLOW SPRINGS ROAD
 SNAKE ROAD
 PENNY ROAD

ANDREW ROAD

JEFFRIES ROAD

SEARS ROAD

TIN MINES ROAD

6

5

7

4

8

3

2

1