



Navigating the EES

An Environment Effects Statement (EES) has been released for the Warburton Mountain Bike Destination and is open for public comment. The EES includes information on how the project could affect the environment during construction and operation of the trail network, and how impacts could be managed.

An EES is Victoria's most rigorous impact assessment process and gives decision makers like the Minister for Planning the information they need to determine whether project approvals should be granted and what conditions should apply.

Yarra Ranges Council referred the project to the Commonwealth Government under the Environment Protection Biodiversity Act in May 2020. The Commonwealth department accredited the EES process to assess impacts on Matters of National Environment Significance.

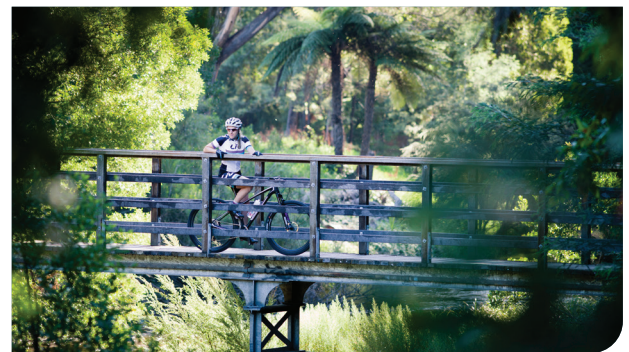
What's in the EES?

The EES for the Warburton Mountain Bike Destination has information about the proposed trail network, including:

- How the project has been developed and assessed
- An overview of potential environment effects
- Technical reports
- Map book showing the trail network
- Also on display is the draft Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA).



Yarra Ranges Council is planning a world-class mountain bike destination in Warburton. Located around 70 kilometres east of Melbourne, The Warburton Mountain Bike Destination would feature more than 170 kilometres of trails across Mount Donna Buang, Mount Little Joe and Mount Tugwell.



What study areas are covered?

The EES report includes 19 chapters, and covers key topics including

- Biodiversity and habitats – Chapter 8
- Surface water, groundwater and geotechnical hazards – Chapter 9
- Cultural heritage – Chapter 10
- Land Use and Planning – Chapter 11
- Socio-economic – Chapter 12
- Transport – Chapter 13

Technical reports for these topics are also included in the EES.

Warburton Mountain Bike Destination

A WORLD-CLASS MOUNTAIN BIKE DESTINATION IN THE HEART OF THE YARRA RANGES

rideyarraranges.com.au





Structure of the EES

The EES includes a summary report and a main report as well as technical reports and attachments.

Summary report

Read this EES Summary Report if you're looking for a short outline of key information in the EES and a broad overview of the project, potential effects and how we propose to manage them. We suggest you start with this document

Chapters

If you want a comprehensive summary of the findings of the study topics, chapters will help. There is a chapter on each study topic

Technical reports

Technical reports provide detailed information about each study, the method used and in-depth findings. The technical reports have been prepared by specialists for each study topic.

Map book and attachments

This is where to find the design of project, including trail maps and trail head locations.

Next steps

The EES and draft PSA will be on public exhibition for 40 business days from **Friday 26 November** until **11:59pm on Tuesday 25 January 2022**.

Following the public exhibition of the EES and PSA an independent inquiry will be appointed by the Minister for planning to consider the EES and public submissions.

The inquiry will hold a directions hearing, where arrangements for the public hearing are established.

Making a submission on the EEs is an opportunity to have your views considered by an Independent Inquiry.



The inquiry will conduct a formal hearing where Yarra Ranges Council and people who have made submissions will present. The public hearing is open for anyone to watch and attend and is expected to take place in March 2022.

The inquiry will prepare a report based on their findings of the EES and an assessment of the project will be made by the Minister for Planning.

The Minister's assessment will make recommendations about whether the environmental effects of the project are acceptable, along with any modifications or further management measures the Minister considers appropriate. The Minister considers all relevant information, including the EES documents, public submissions and the inquiry report when preparing this assessment.

Find out more and stay involved

Community input is an important part of the EES process and the project's continued development.

-  Sign up for project updates, find the latest information or ask a question on our website rideyarraranges.com.au
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DECEMBER 2021

