

Neerim South / Blue Rock Dam Day Trip Outline

Proposed Date: Sunday 21st March 2010

Description:

The purpose of this trip is to explore the tracks around the Neerim South region which will include a visit to Blue rock dam located in this region. The morning and early afternoon will be allocated for our track exploring and a stop for lunch. By mid afternoon it's expected the remaining couple of hours will be spent relaxing at the Blue Rock Dam picnic area, and those wishing to bring along their fishing rods to try their luck are welcome to do so.

We will meet up at the Neerim South football oval car park and head east along East Neerim Rd. With a link up at Latrobe River Rd suitable tracks will be followed in the Neerim Grand Ridge plantations. Making our way south to Billstone track a lunch stop will be taken at the grassed camping area.

Continuing on to Patrol Rd, this links up with Inglemans Rd and then Briggs track. We eventually come out onto Beards track and follow this south to Old Sale Rd. A left turn into Wilkes Rd connects us to Blue Rock Dam at Willow Grove.

Breaks will be taken throughout the day to enjoy the surroundings. The trip is expected to finish at around 4:00 – 4:30 pm.

Meeting Place:

Neerim South football oval car park located on East Neerim rd at 10:15 am. Heading up from the Princes Hwy you turn right at the roundabout in the main town centre. The car park is on the left a few hundred metres down here.

The easiest way from the Princes Hwy is to follow the signs to Mt Baw Baw, Neerim South and Noojee on the Main Neerim rd (c 426).

Approximate Distance:

Up to 250km may be covered during the day depending on your location. Distance covered from meeting point to Blue Rock Dam will be around 30km, most of which will be unsealed roads and tracks.

Maps:

Rooftops : Yarra Valley – West Gippsland Adventure Map.

Google maps – Neerim Plantation

Fuel:

Available at all major nearby towns including Drouin, Warragul and Neerim South.

Convey Limit:

Up to 10 vehicles, if there are more than 10 vehicles participating then numbers will be split into two groups for track driving. Everyone would meet up for lunch and activities at Blue Rock Dam.

Trip Standard:

Easy / Medium. Mostly gentle grades with some steeper sections, track conditions may vary depending on weather, moisture content and terrain type.

Recovery Equipment:

A snatch strap with two rated bow shackles, bridle strap (where required) and a spade are the minimum requirements. Each vehicle should have suitable recovery tow points. Where a vehicle has two front tie down points (not rated) they should have a bridle strap to distribute the load. An air compressor would be handy to re-inflate your tyres.

Vehicle Preparation:

All standard models of AWD vehicles are capable of completing this trip. Vehicles must be roadworthy and be well maintained. All terrain tyres are preferred and a 40 channel UHF radio is required. We will use channel 10, if found to be busy on the day will switch to 15.

Provisions:

Water and food should be carried by the trip participants. Allow enough for all members travelling within your vehicle. Lunch will be held at the Billstones camping area. There are no toilets or seating at this location so it's advisable to bring along your own chairs.

Toilets will be available prior to departing the meet up location and then once we reach the Blue Rock Dam picnic area.

Fishing Requirements:

Participants who are between the ages of 18 and 65 are required to hold a current fishing license. On the spot fines may be issued for failure to produce a license on request or for other undersize and bag limit offences.

Those wishing to fish are to supply their own rods and tackle. I will provide a supply of scrub worms which are suitable bait for this lake.

Emergency Contacts:

Warragul Police (03) 56227111 (24 hr)
Neerim South (03) 56281303 (non 24 hr)

Trip Leader Contacts:

Anthony Johns Home : 9800 1151
Mobile : 0437 121 406

Email: wicksmidget@ozonline.com.au

Trip Participants:

Anthony Johns (trip leader) Xtrail