

Graces Stream Team Process

Purpose: To determine how to run this campsite safely for the next summer season.

Context: See [background paper](#)

Critical issues:

Big issues

1. What if we close the site?
2. How to fund the work at site?

Visitor safety

3. How to manage visitor risks from treefall at Graces?
4. How to provide safe stream/water access?

Biodiversity values

5. How to manage beech dieback at the campsite?
6. How to manage health of the water?

Fire

7. How to manage fire at the site?

Visitor Behaviour

8. How to manage where people camp at the site (10 sites)?
9. How to manage ongoing compliance at the site?
10. How to modify visitor behaviour?
11. What signage and interp is required at this site?

Discussion:

To avoid a potentially long and wide-ranging discussion, we focused on the critical issue of visitor safety risks from treefall (#3). The dangerous trees found currently at the site fail the draft SOP. They need to be removed or, alternatively, the site must be closed. We don't have the budget to remove any trees this year, so the site must be closed.

Graces Stream Campsite Site Closure

Site closure was discussed in the final part of the decision process. The following actions are needed to be undertaken:

1. Close the bookings feature on the website.
2. Add Alert to the website.
3. Prepare advance media. Keep messaging short and sharp and mention the visitor safety issues.
4. Close site before Labour Day Weekend. Remove all infrastructure, including toilet. Remove the big "No fire" sign. Remove fire pits.
5. Order good closing signage at the site explaining why.
6. Let local schools know.
7. Check in at the site to monitor visitor behaviour over Labour weekend and other holiday times.