

NOTES FOR THE HEATHLAND WALK CAMP ELIM and BOOTI BOOTI NATIONAL PARK

- Walking time is 60 to 90 mins easy walking.
- Distance is 2.5 kms approx
- Sturdy footwear should be worn
- The track is also suitable for jogging and cross-country running
- The walk may be done in reverse order
- All flora and fauna are protected
- The entire walk is over sand formed during several ice-ages

Wallis Lake foreshore

Commence on the lake edge near **Cabin 11**. Turn right at the canoes. **Small metal tags or yellow plastic tape** on the trees mark the track. Generally, the tags can be seen from one tag to the next. The track is mostly just inland from the lake edge to experience the wetland and to avoid fallen trees. Look for specially positioned logs to cross boggy areas. The track goes through a littoral (by the coast) forest with cabbage tree palms, paper barks (melaleucas), casuarinas and wetland sections which are extensive after rain. The area is inhabited by large goannas, swamp wallabies, bandicoots and many birds such as sea eagles, pelicans, wrens, willy wagtails, scarlet honeyeaters and wattlebirds. After .8 kms approx, turn right onto the walking track/fire trail.

Coastal heath land fire trail to the beach

Travel east along the track for approx. 300 metres, then take the road to the right, which has a locked metal pole gate. The trees in this section are bigger and contain eucalyptus and angophora. The track is sometimes covered in water. Remove shoes if necessary or take a sidetrack. Wildflowers and birds abound, especially honeyeaters such as the new holland honeyeater, banksias, boronia, wax and flannel flowers are profuse as well as christmas bells in season. Note the **change in vegetation** as you progress. Pause at the high point on the sand dune to observe the extensive 360-degree views. Be on the lookout for snakes in summer! Turn right at **The Lakes Way** and walk 50 metres south to the car park and left to the fenced boardwalk to **Seven Mile Beach**. Eucalyptus are now absent. Note that this is a reclaimed rutile mining area.

Beach walk

Casuarinas, wattles and the dreaded exotic bitou bush can be seen growing on the sand dunes. On the shore, seagulls and crested terns congregate and crabs, pippies, flotsam and jetsam, shells and stones smoothed by the ocean can be seen. At sea, gannets plummet to catch fish. Dolphins frequent the area and you may see an occasional migratory whale. Pippies can not be taken from the beach. Walk south for .8 kms to the track in line with Camp Elim. At times, the raucous call of the wattlebird can be heard.

Don Goodsir – August 1997

“The whole earth is full of His glory”. Isaiah 6:3

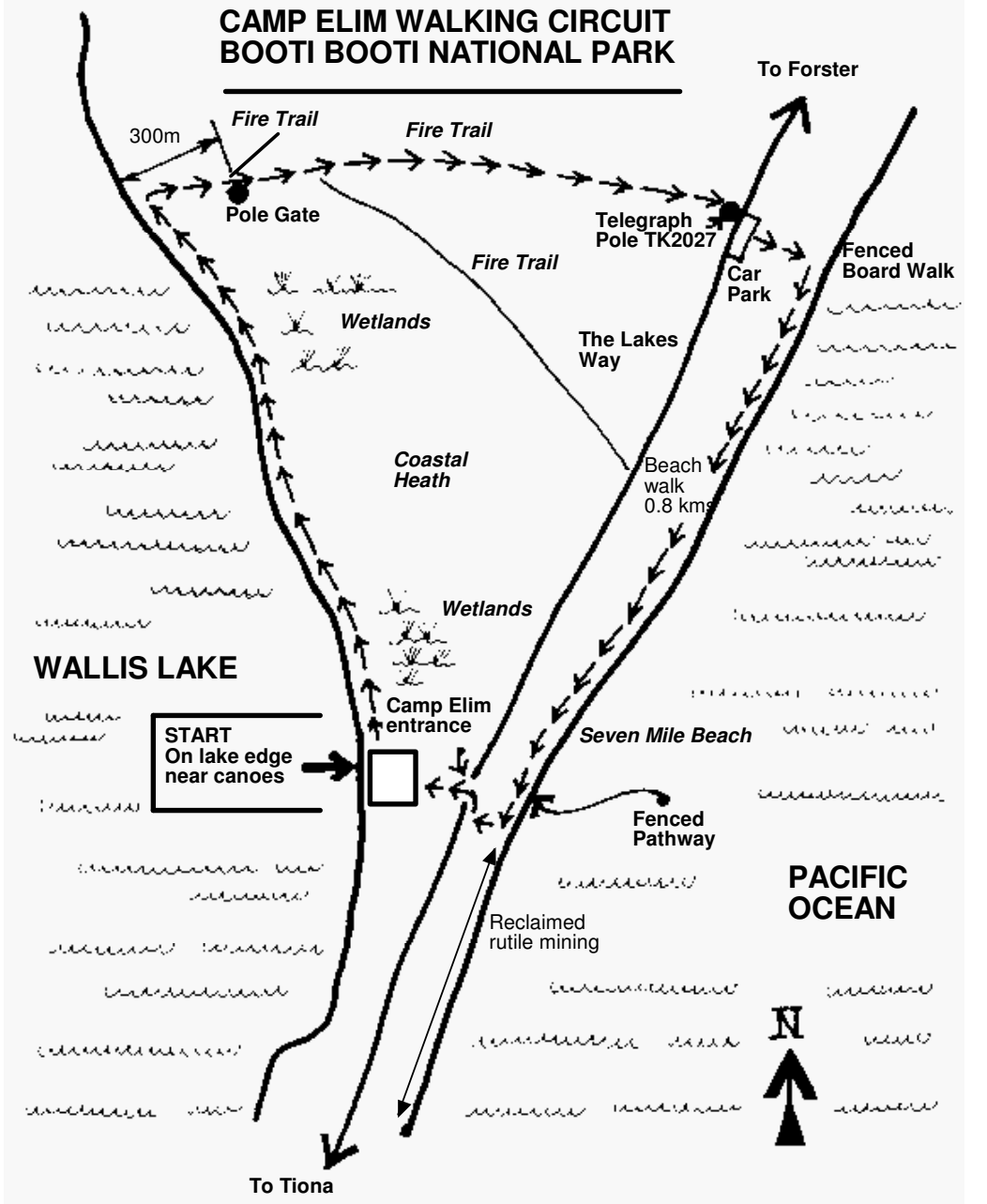


ILLUSTRATION NOT TO SCALE

- Legend:**
- → Walking Track (tags on trees indicate track)
 - Wetlands
 - Ocean/Lake