

- *Discontinue horse riding at Pound Bend.*
- *Investigate and implement relocating horse riding from Conservation Zone land at Yarra Brae to the existing MVO track on land zoned Conservation and Recreation near Clifford Park (figure 3a), in consultation with local horse riding groups and the wider community.*
- *Temporarily close sections of trail that are susceptible to damage in wet periods.*
- *Monitor the impact of horse riding on the park. Close trails or sections of trail as necessary to avoid unacceptable impacts on the park's natural values in consultation with user groups.*

## 6.8 Other activities

### Camping

Camping has been a traditional use at Black Flat, particularly by scouting groups, but this use is now sporadic. Only 'deep-drop' toilet facilities are provided and the site is degraded, therefore camping is to be phased out.

Alternative sites for scouts are available at Clifford Park in Wonga Park and Cresco Park at Pound Bend.

Other parts of the park are generally not suitable for camping because of site constraints.

Toilets and associated camping facilities are provided downstream at Longridge in the Yarra Valley Parklands.

### Prospecting

Parks Victoria seeks to manage prospecting in cooperation with prospecting clubs and organisations in a manner that protects the natural and cultural features of the park. Prospecting activities demonstrate a clear link to the park's association with the history of gold discovery in Warrandyte (section 5.2).

Prospecting may be permitted in the park, under Section 32D of the National Parks Act. The areas set aside for prospecting using metal detectors, hand tools, pans and/or simple cradles are in the bed of Andersons Creek, Stony Creek and Jumping Creek, upstream from the Jumping Creek road bridge (figure 2). Only non-mechanical hand tools are permitted

for prospecting, excavations must be backfilled and vegetation must not be disturbed.

To date, the low level of prospecting in the park has resulted in little impact. Increased use may lead to damage of soil and vegetation.

The Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria (PMAV) has developed a Prospectors and Miners Code, which sets out guidelines for safe prospecting and methods to minimise the impacts of prospecting on park values.

### Orienteering

Use of the park for orienteering has declined in recent years. Parts of Mount Lofty, Pound Bend and The Common are suitable for orienteering but Fourth Hill and Black Flat are not safe because of the presence of mining sites. Small-scale use by permit is unlikely to adversely affect the park.

### Abseiling

Abseiling is undertaken in a small quarry at Whipstick Gully. Impacts are low.

### Licensed tour operators

Parks Victoria's licensed tour operators play a key role in nature-based tourism in Victoria by offering guided park tours and supported recreation activities, and information that promotes park values and appropriate use.

About ten licensed tour operators advertise guided activities in the planning area, including canoeing, bushwalking and horse riding, but use levels are low.

### Dogs

Dogs can have impacts on bird populations and other wildlife. Their presence, scent and noise may disturb native animals and prevent roosting and feeding. Some visitors, particularly small children, may be annoyed or intimidated by unrestrained dogs. Droppings are a potential source of pollution and can reduce amenity of visitor sites.

While dogs on-leads are currently permitted at Normans Reserve, Taroon and Koornong to provide opportunities for local residents to walk dogs, dog owners are encouraged to be responsible and immediately collect their dog's droppings and remove them from the park at the end of their visit.