

5 TUMOULIN FOREST TRAIL

3 - 5 HOURS LOOP



The 12km Tumoulin Forest Trail is in the Tumoulin State Forest and Forest Reserve. Explore the towering forests by foot, bike or horse. Have a picnic on the banks of The Millstream where it tumbles over McKenzie Falls on its way down the Millstream Valley.

THE LANDSCAPE

The trail passes through a variety of landscapes formed by volcanic events. The northern section crosses Atherton basalts and the soils in this area are dark brown to red weathered volcanic outflows. Similar soils make up the productive agricultural areas and support dense rainforest elsewhere on the Tablelands.

The southern area of the trail passes across the Glen Gordon volcanic deposit, an area where gaseous volcanic eruptions deposited ash and rocks over a large area. Over time, this material was compressed and compacted to form tuffs and the landscape eroded by creeks and rivers, like The Millstream. The resultant free-draining soils in this area are typically poor in nutrients. In some places they contain fine silts and clays, which help to hold moisture and support different vegetation types.

THE VEGETATION

The changes in soil profile and landscape support a range of vegetation types along the trail. Large sections of the trail pass through tall woodlands of Red Mahoganies *Eucalyptus resinifera*, Pink Bloodwoods *Corymbia intermedia*, She-oaks *Allocasuarina* species and Grasstrees *Xanthorrhoea johnsonii*.

The trail also passes through wet sclerophyll forest of Rose Gums *Eucalyptus grandis*. These striking eucalypts are ringed by loose grey-brown bark at their base, and have smooth white trunks that can grow to more than 50m.

THE FAUNA

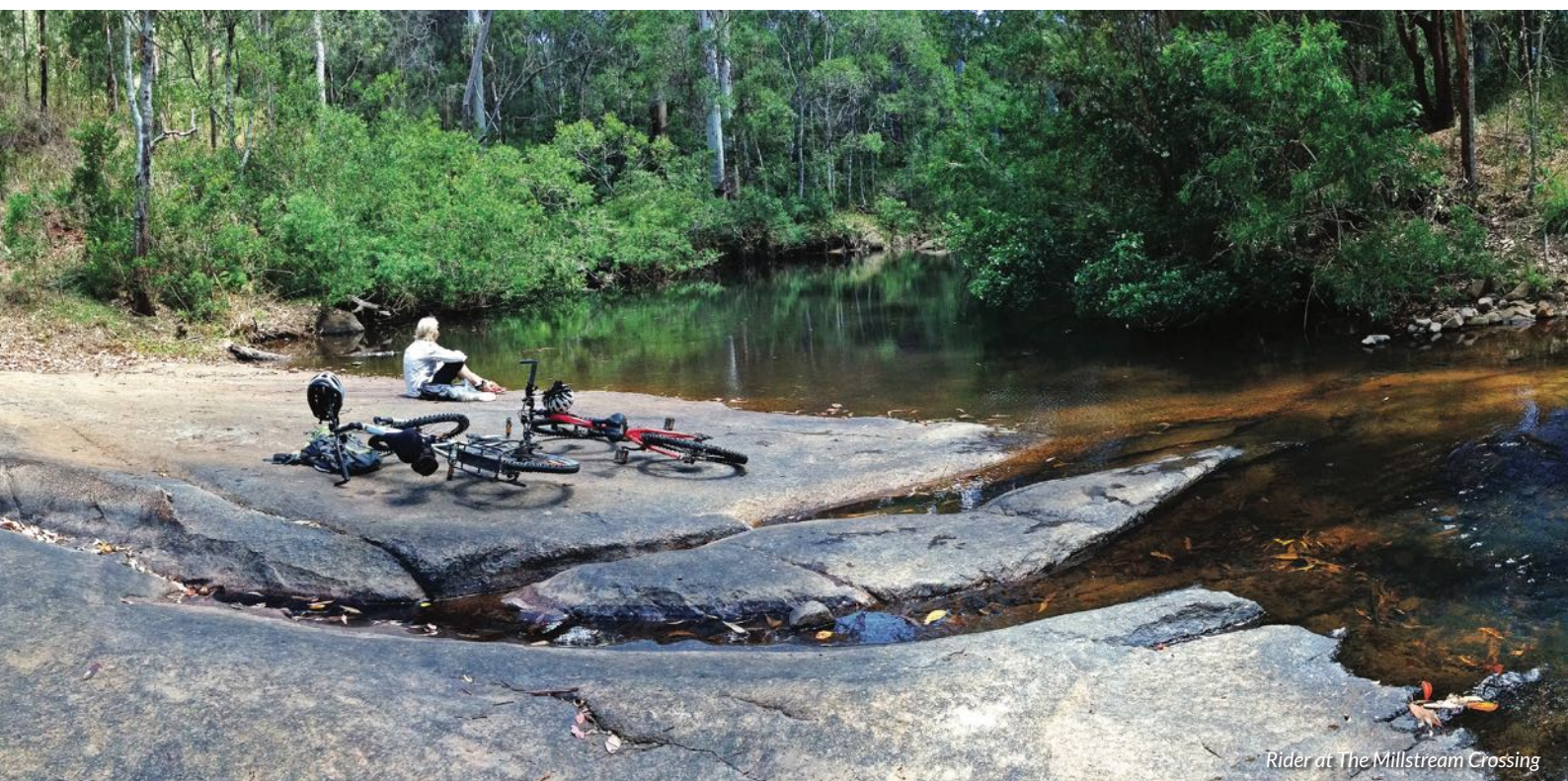
Tumoulin State Forest and Tumoulin Forest Reserve protect several vulnerable and near threatened (rare) species like the Yellow-bellied Gliders *Petaurus australis*, Magnificent Broodfrogs *Pseudophryne covacevichae* and the southern species of Rufous Owls *Ninox rufa*.

Yellow-bellied gliders are nocturnal (active at night) and feed on insects, pollen and sap from Red Mahoganies. They are known for their long bushy tail, which they use to carry leaves to line their communal dens inside tree hollows.

Keep an eye out for the Agile Wallaby *Macropus agilis* or the less common Whiptail Wallaby *Macropus parryi*. Both live among the grass understorey, but are difficult to spot unless you travel quietly along the trail, especially in the early morning or late afternoon.



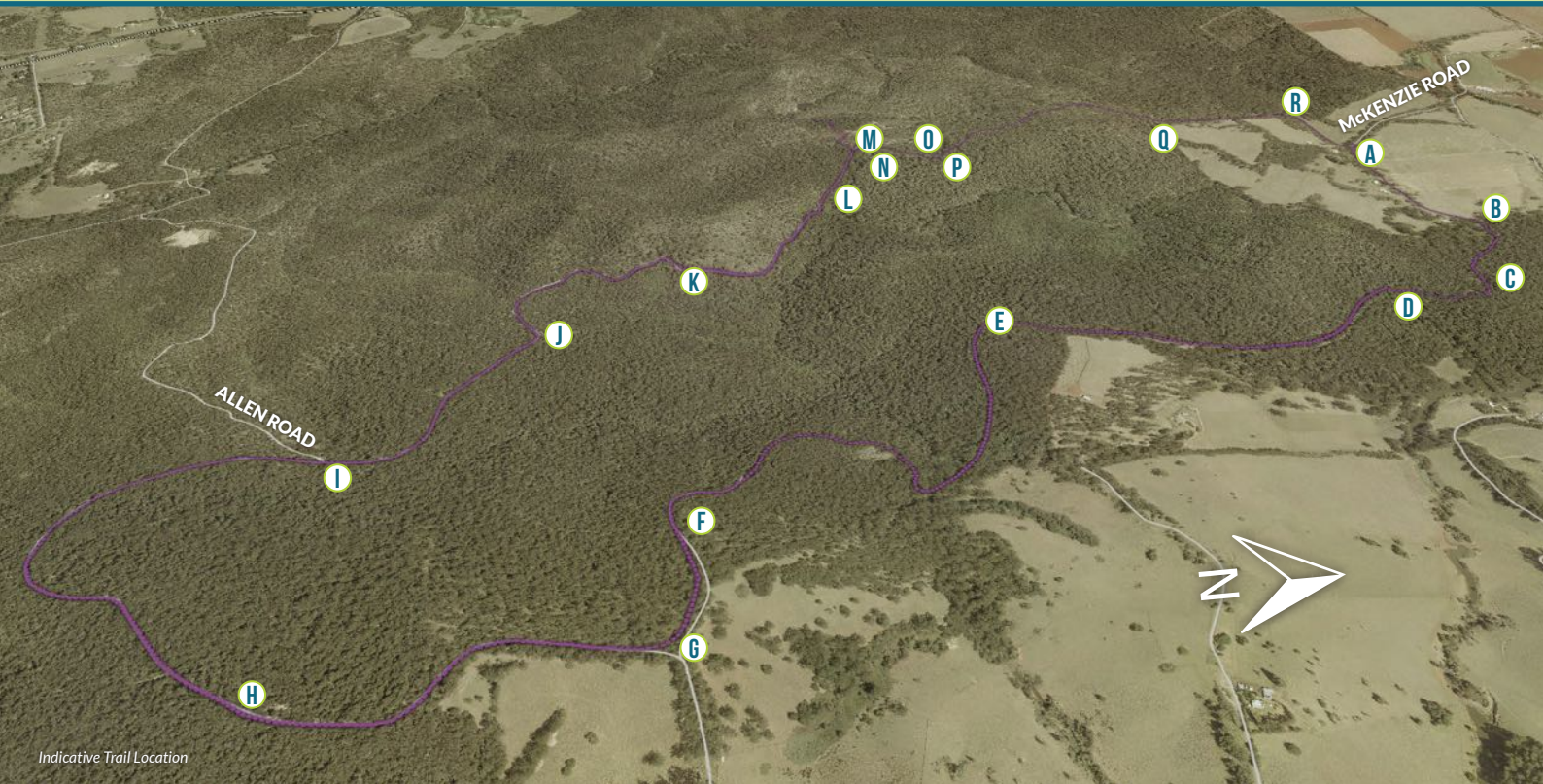
Whiptail Wallaby



Rider at The Millstream Crossing

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Indicative Trail Location

TRAIL INFORMATION

- A. Park safely off McKenzie Road. Follow the gravel road down the hill to the left.
- B. 400m – pass through gate across McKenzie Road. Follow the road to the left. There is a private driveway and residence on the right.
- C. 650m – creek crossing. Cross the creek and follow the trail into the forest.
- D. 1.4km – junction. Stay on main trail and head up the hill.
- E. 2.8km – junction. Stay on the main trail.
- F. 4.4km – junction. Stay on the main trail.
- G. 4.7km – Smith Road intersection. Turn right.
- H. 5.6km – access track to adjacent powerline corridor on left. Stay on the main trail.
- I. 6.8km – Allen Road intersection. Stay on the main trail.

- J. 7.6km – junction. Stay on the main trail.
- K. 8.2km – trail descends and is rocky in sections.
- L. 9.2km – deep gorge to the right with The Millstream flowing at base. Stay on main trail.
- M. 9.6km – road leads off on left for McKenzie Falls. Turn left and travel 200m before the track narrows for the last 100m to the Falls (not suitable for bikes or horses). Return the way you came to re-join the main trail.
- N. 9.8km – junction. Stay on the main trail and head downhill.
- O. 9.9km – gate. Pass through, leaving the gate as you find it.
- P. 10km – The Millstream crossing.
- Q. 11.1km – junction. Stay on the main trail.
- R. 11.7km – gate. Follow the trail around to the right.
- A. 12km – intersection with McKenzie Road.

GETTING THERE

From Ravenshoe, head north on Tumoulin Road. After 14.6km turn right onto Kidner Rd, and then after 2.3km, turn right into McKenzie Road. In about 500m, park safely off the road, taking care not to block access points to adjacent paddocks. Unload your horses or bikes and head further

down McKenzie Road, veering to the left. Go through the gate on the road and follow the road to the left, down and across the creek, into the forest. The full loop will return you back to McKenzie Road. When passing through gates on this trail, always leave them as you find them – open or closed.

TIPS & SAFETY

- ▼ Plan your walk and ride to arrive in daylight hours. Let someone responsible know where you are going, when you expect to be back and what to do if you do not return.
- ▼ Check the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service webpage (parks.des.qld.gov.au) for park alerts, management and safety information.
- ▼ Reduce the spread of weeds and fungal diseases by cleaning mud and seeds from your equipment (shoes, backpacks, bikes, camping gear etc.) before you head off.
- ▼ Walk and ride to the conditions and within your abilities. Be prepared for vehicles, walkers, wildlife or unexpected hazards like fallen trees. Be careful on slippery slopes, cliff edges and at water crossings.
- ▼ Take plenty of drinking water. Carry a first aid kit and know how to use it.

If you liked this trail, you might also like these other 10 Top Tableland Trails:

#9 Herberton Range Shared Trails. Walk or ride your bike or horse on this 18km loop trail over the Herberton Range near Atherton. A short side trails also takes in the spectacular Halls Falls and expansive views from Drivers Lookout.

#10 Mount Edith and Kauri Creek Roads. For something more strenuous, this 40km multi-day walk or bike ride takes in the scenery along Mount Edith and Kauri Creek roads.

BEST TIME TO GO

The cooler months are the best time to visit Tumoulin State Forest and Forest Reserve, or in the early morning and late afternoon at other times of the year.