

Park Closure Notification

Deer aerial shooting trial

Parks Victoria will be implementing the second stage of its deer aerial shooting trial in the Alpine National Park in May 2019.

A significant expansion of deer populations in the Alpine National Park has been observed over the past decade, including increasing signs of deer activity and impacts at higher elevations.

In response, Parks Victoria has implemented a deer control trial, that includes both ground and aerial shooting, to determine the most efficient, effective and humane techniques for managing deer.

Parks Victoria will use the results of the trial to help determine the best combination of deer control techniques for different areas and circumstances. These results will then be used to guide the development of an ongoing, sustainable, landscape scale deer control plan for the alps.

Aerial shooting will be undertaken by accredited and experienced shooters who will adhere to strict protocols to ensure the safety of park users and animal welfare.

Only deer will be targeted.

The second stage of the aerial shooting trial will be conducted **in the Mt Bogong, Bogong High Plains and Mt Feathertop areas of the Alpine National Park** (see attached map). **No shooting will occur within 300m of any private property or public roads adjacent to the Deer Control Area boundary.**

The trial will take place over **3 – 4 week days between 6th and 17th May 2019**. The **exact dates will depend on the weather**. An email confirming the dates will be sent out once a final decision has been made.

The **areas of the park subject to shooting will be closed** for the 3 – 4 days when shooting occurs.

Note: The Great Alpine Road, the Bogong High Plains Road, Wallace Hut and Mountain Creek Camping Area will remain open.

While the shooting areas will be closed, large areas of the park will remain open to visitors, including Mountain Creek Camping Area and visitor sites along the Mitta Mitta River. Mt Buffalo National Park, Mt Hotham and Falls Creek Alpine Resorts, and Dinner Plain will not be affected.

Please note: some areas of the Alpine National Park have been affected by fire and are currently closed. For up to date information visit parkweb.vic.gov.au.

If you have any questions about this project please contact Parks Victoria on 13 1963.