

Notification of fire recovery harvest & haulage operations Mountain Creek Education Area



August 2026

Works Proposal

The Mountain Creek Education Area in Shelley, managed by Parks Victoria, includes two softwood nursery plantation blocks that have been utilised as an educational resource. These blocks include saplings through to significant mature specimens.

The 2026 Walwa Fire in early January 2026 burnt through the area and significantly impacted the softwood plantation.

The trees have been killed and remain standing. They require safe removal and disposal, with planning underway to eventually re-purpose or re-plant the site with an appropriate species for educational purposes.

The proposed treatment of the site will involve falling of all trees within the identified blocks, removal of the logs from site, raking of the site and slash management through creating windrows for treatment by burning.

Killed Radiata pine become structurally compromised and pose a significant risk of falling/failing in a short timeframe. Tree removal is required due to the need to prevent the development of risk in the visitor site and the adjacent highway

Plantation size

The volume of debris to be is 0.62 ha and 2.88 ha.

Alternate uses:

The potential use and benefit of timber debris in this or another park has been assessed and has been deemed not suitable for park furniture, including bollards, firewood for visitors, debris for ecological processes, as non-native vegetation, in a large volume, impractical to move except by machine.

When are works scheduled

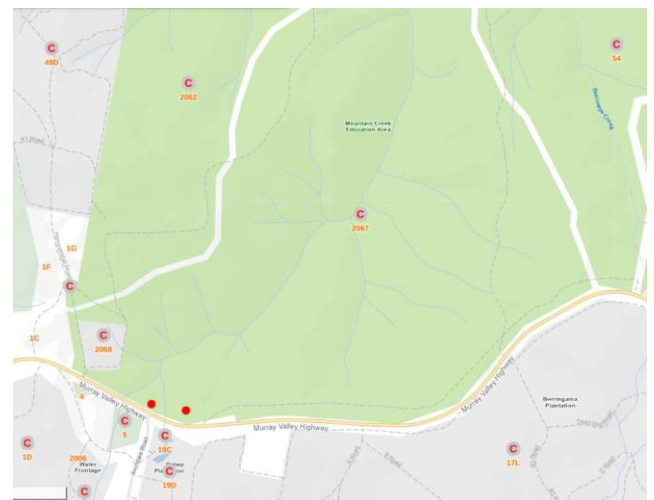
Removal of both blocks of fire killed trees are scheduled to occur in Sept 2026.

Felling and removal of both plantations will occur over two days. A Traffic Management Plan and site exclusion zone will be enacted while harvesting occurs.

Works will be undertaken by Jack Barnes Forestry Services.

Location

Mountain Creek Education Area, Murray Valley Highway, Crown Allotment 2067, Parish of Koetong.



Above / below: Red dots indicate plantation location.



Above: Red dots indicate plantations to be removed.

Site rehabilitation

Parks Victoria is working with Tawong Shire on a combined recovery plan for the Shelley Camp, Tom Mitchell Reserve and Mountain Creek education Area.

Contact details:

Please contact Parks Victoria on 131963 or Andrew.mcdougall@parks.vic.gov.au for further details and or questions re this project.



Figure 1