

## Danjera Dam Ongoing Weekend Reports

**Provided during peak periods only** 

**City Administrative Centre** 

Bridge Road Nowra NSW Australia 2541 Phone: 02 4429 3214 water@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

This is an ongoing report based on the anti-social behaviour within the Danjera camping areas. Please be advised that this area is patrolled by Shoalhaven City Council Rangers and NSW Police.

Weekend commencing: 24/11/17

Onsite Campers: 48 No. of Dogs: 3

Unregistered Motorbikes: 1

**Comments** - 3 reports of high calibre firearm being discharged; 1 fireplace not extinguished after campers vacated; litter in fireplace removed after direction; burnt out late model ute located, registration reported to police.

Weekend commencing: 1/12/17

Onsite Campers: 18 No. of Dogs: 0
Unregistered Motorbikes: 0

**Comments** - Group of male campers identified in graffiti tagging of site facilities and acting in unsocial behaviour during Saturday night. Infringement actions being pursued. Group of campers in two wheel drive vehicles evacuated site due to severe weather event.



Weekend commencing: 8/12/17

Onsite A4 No. of Dogs: 6

Unregistered Motorbikes: 5

**Comments** - Minor litter management required otherwise nil incidents.

Weekend commencing: 15/12/17

Onsite Campers: 14 No. of Dogs: 1

Unregistered Motorbikes: 2

**Comments** - Galvanised metal sign post knocked over by a car and ripped down. Sign defaced and 'warped' from fire. Family in camping area reported two 4WD vehicles driving and screaming at night with people "surfing" on the roof racks of both vehicles in and around the camping area. Two unattended campfires left after departure of campers, one with flames and broken glass still in existence within surrounds.

Weekend commencing: 22/12/17

Onsite Campers: 38 No. of Dogs: 8

Unregistered Motorbikes: 1

**Comments** - Amount of litter in fireplaces and around 2 sites. Report of vehicle driving dangerously on grassed area of the upper picnic area. Flares set off in camp area night of 23 Dec. NSW Police report indicated 1 male failing RBT. NSW Police investigating landcruiser driving along Yalwal Road with male occupant leaning out of vehicle.

Weekend commencing: 26/12/17

Onsite Campers: 51 No. of Dogs: 3

Unregistered Motorbikes: 1

**Comments** - Unregistered vehicle and bike exited Yalwal. Number of campers expressed appreciation of NSW Police attendance.

Weekend commencing: 29/12/17

3

Onsite No. of Dogs:

Unregistered Motorbikes: 1

**Comments** - 3 sites with litter in fireplaces. Complaint regarding loud behaviour into early morning. Large gazebo frame dumped in camping area.



Weekend commencing: 5/1/18

Onsite Campers: 94 No. of Dogs: 3

Unregistered Motorbikes: 5

**Comments -** Vehicle accident outside of camp area left road following excessive speed. No injuries but vehicle damaged extensively.

Weekend commencing: 19/1/18

Onsite Campers: 33 No. of Dogs: 4

Unregistered Motorbikes: 2

**Comments** - High calibre firearms discharged in camp area. Dead wombat found in upper picnic area with gunshot to body.

Tree felled and used for open fire pit left unattended. Glass bottles, can and plastic littering the area. Ranger support required to address anti-social behaviour of group 11 visitors. Penalty notices issued to campers and instruction to exit area.



Weekend commencing: 28/1/18

**AUSTRALIA DAY LONG WEEKEND** 

Onsite No. of Dogs: 7

Unregistered Motorbikes: 0

**Comments** - Direction given by Ranger Services to 3 campsites and groups to clear glass bottles, can and plastic littering the area and fire pits. Camper identified spending considerable time voluntarily cleaning up litter from embankment area near canoe launch ramp. No offensive behaviour reported despite large group of campers in attendance. Appreciation expressed by many to presence of NSW Police and Ranger Services across weekend.

Weekend commencing: 18/2/18

Onsite Campers: 98 No. of Dogs: 9

Unregistered Motorbikes: 3

**Comments** - Various camp sites littered and following direction to comply sites were cleared. Complaints from campers regarding excessive loud music and offensive language. Ranger services confronted and issued noise abatement direction information to site. Locked gates to crown land vandalised. Wattle tree cut down in main camp area. Female wombat and joey run over and found dead on track in upper picnic area.





Weekend commencing: 3/3/18

Onsite No. of Dogs: 3

Unregistered Motorbikes:

**Comments** - Clean up Australia day weekend attended by Council - RID ranger services and registered volunteers. 17 persons registered to remove rubbish from Yalwal camping area and Danjera Dam surrounds. Appreciation of efforts to all involved to clean up the area for users.

Three campsites contained litter in fire pits following departure. Unregistered motor bike and vehicle observed by campers being driven erratically along Deans Gap Road.



Weekend commencing: 16/3/18

Onsite No. of Campers: Dogs:

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 9 **Comments -** Total fire ban declared, and signs erected. Despite ban inspection of fire pits 18/3/18 at 2 sites revealed burnt metal cans, cigarette butts and food. Report 18/3/18 of dogs fighting.

Whilst speaking to a camp site regarding littering Ranger Service staff were threatened and abused. Three persons directed to leave and actions being taken with NSW Police regarding unlicensed driving and littering.

Weekend commencing: 30/3/18

## **EASTER LONG WEEKEND**

Onsite 287 17 Campers: Dogs:

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 9 **Comments** - Large number of visitors during period with a number of complaints from campers relating to a group of 20 males heavily intoxicated. Complaints related to littering, loud music during night and 6 persons from group riding on roof of white landcruiser. Vehicle was reported to being driven erratically and at speed around main camp site during night.



Owing to significant high risk to children and other users, Rangers confronted suspects with NSW Police provided with witness statements. Penalty Notices issued by rangers to 3 individuals consequent to littering offences and instructions ignored to rectify. Complaint lodged of dog bite. Chained gate to mines cut to gain access by 4WD vehicles.

Weekend commencing: 14/4/18

Onsite 75 Campers:

No. of Dogs:

5

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 

**Comments** - Nil issues arising.

Weekend commencing: 25/4/18

Onsite Campers:

No. of 5 Dogs:

Unregistered Motorbikes:

**Comments** - Informant contacted Shoalhaven Water advising that camper had unsuccessfully attempted to fell a 15 metre forest red gum in camping area. SCC Threatened Species Officer assessed tree as being in excess of 100 years old. Tree posed a danger to campers and an exclusion zone was set up and action taken to remove the tree. Investigations revealed that a male associated with a group of campers was responsible. NSW police actions and fine imposition pending. Costs to have the tree removed professionally to ensure camper safety will also be pursued with the individual/s.

Further reports that persons were driving multiple vehicles recklessly around the campsites at 2am and aerosol canisters being thrown into fireplaces. Ranger actions taken in relation to campsite behaviour the following day resulted in abuse and threats toward rangers and other campers. Group of 3 youths later observed by campers to be abusing visitors, throwing rocks onto roof facilities and tents. Many campers exited the area in response to ongoing threats. NSW Police investigating.





Weekend commencing: 24/5/18

Campers:

No. of Dogs:

5

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 

**Comments** - Toyota Landcruiser apprehended while attempting to exit a Vehicle Prohibited Area (mines). Chain on gate had been cut to access the area.

3 males observed riding unregistered motorbikes at speed in recreational area.

5 Penalty Infringement Notices issued during weeken for range of offences.



Weekend commencing: 8/6/18 Onsite No. of 9

Dogs:

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 1

Campers:

**Comments** - Long weekend camping hindered by rain conditions. No reports of anti-social behaviour and camp areas left clean following ranger attendance.

Weekend commencing: 22/6/18

Onsite No. of 0 Campers: Dogs:

0 **Unregistered Motorbikes:** 

**Comments** - Evidence of small healthy eucalypt sapling felled and used as firewood, group reported to have left around 1am leaving litter onsite.

Reported firearm being discharged on 2 occasions.

Evidence that vehicle/s had been driven erratically ie 'fishtailing & doughnuts' on the road to main camp site.

Vegetation around recently installed gate observed to have been removed in order to gain vehicle access

Weekend commencing: 13/7/18

New signage installed

This gate has been installed for public safety and to prevent litter entering waterways

PH: 4429 3111 UNAUTHORISED ACCESS After hours: 4429 3100 WATER A joint initiative: EPA Shoulhaven WATER

Protecting the water quality of Danjera Dam & Yarramunmun Creek





Weekend commencing: 25/10/18

Onsite No. of 5 Campers: Dogs:

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 

**Comments** - Media reported trail bike rider sustained serious injury.

Concrete barriers adjacent to Gate that leads to mines moved allowing vehicle access - see image.



Weekend commencing: 17/11/18

Onsite Campers: Dogs:

0 **Unregistered Motorbikes:** 

**Comments** - 5 campsites requested to remove litter including one of the campsites had broken glass around site. All complied with direction to remove litter.

Weekend commencing: 24/11/18

Onsite No. of 5 111 Campers: Dogs:

**Unregistered Motorbikes:** 

**Comments** - Large amounts of litter collected across the weekend with 114 pieces from 1 site alone.

13m Eucalypt fedded in upper picnic area.

Yalwal signage map stolen.

Hiluc Utility lost control on descentinto Yalwal, vehicle went over the edge and down embankment. Occupants had minor injuries.

Further incidents included a wombat being run over in the late evening, a person breaking their ankle collecting firewood, and pit fires left burning with flames still visible.



## 24/11/18 continued:







Weekend cor	nmencing:	7/12	2/18
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Onsite Campers: 60 No. of Dogs: 5
Unregistered Motorbikes: 1

**Comments** - Eucalyptus tree chain sawed down for firewood.



Weekend commencing: 21/12/18

Onsite 71 No. of Dogs: 4

Unregistered Motorbikes: 0

**Comments** - Visitor feedback implied issues at campsite with 2 groups of International visitors - one group using machettes and chainsaws to fell saplings, the other issuing threats and insulting behaviour to the point that visitor packed up and left.

Weekend commencing: 25/1/19

## **AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND**

Onsite Campers: 256 No. of Dogs: 9

Unregistered Motorbikes: 10

**Comments** - International visitors included people from France, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Netherlands, Korea, Turkey, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia.

Campers advised of Out of Control fire at Deans Gap Road / Monkey Gum Fire Trail.

Vehicle found parked inside non-permitted area of Dam, complied with direction to leave.

Unregistered motorbike rider advised not to ride within site.

Adult males reported to be using a taser on each other and their children.

Reports of loud music until late at night and reports of fireworks.





Weekend commencing: 9/2/19

Onsite A6 No. of Dogs: 1

Unregistered Motorbikes:

**Comments** - Report of late night noice and loud talking. 2 campsites received verbal warnings regarding onsite litter.

Sunday reportedly had a lot of day visitors.

Weekend commencing: 16/2/19
Onsite
Campers: 85 No. of
Dogs: 5

Unregistered Motorbikes: 10

**Comments** - Vehicles reported to have been driving erractically within campsite doing fishtail slides - recent tyre marks confirmed report.

Males seen defecating by the edge of the dam rather than in the toilets provided.

Eastern Brown Snake seen in and around toilet block in main camping area.





Weekend commencing: 2/3/19

Onsite Campers: 127 No. of Dogs: 8

Unregistered Motorbikes: 12

**Comments** - Report of wild dogs in campsite in the evening maybe savaging for food.

Vehicles and motorbikes reported to be driving too fast and on private property.

Cows found grazing in upper picnic area.

Vehicle lost control and became undriveable - owner had to go outside of area to contact tow truck for removal.



Weekend commencing: 2/3/19

Onsite Campers: 127 No. of Dogs: 8

Unregistered Motorbikes: 12

**Comments -** Minor litter found on various campsites and campers complied with direction to cleanup and remove.

Reports from campers of excessive noise and offensive language late into the night - follow up to offending campsite found litter on site and in fire pit.

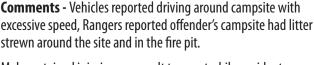
Other campers commented that they would think twice before camping here again.

Weekend commencing: 4/10/19

**OCTOBER LONG WEEKEND** 

Onsite Campers: 250 No. of Dogs: 25

Unregistered Motorbikes: 3



Male sustained injuries as a result to a motorbike accident, was airlifted to hospital.

Number of males were using offensive language whilst children at other campsites were close by. Advised by numerous campers that persons associated with problem site continued to drink excessively, had been riding bikes with excessive speed and constantly revving engines at night. The problem campsite used chainsaw/s to cut down multiple trees. Multiple campers complained about the behaviour.



Weekend commencing: 20/10/19

Onsite Campers: 37 No. of Dogs: 1
Unregistered Motorbikes: 4

**Comments** - Rangers observed 2 instances of vegetation vandalism and 2 fire pits that had been left alight and unattended.

Weekend commencing: 26/10/19

Onsite Campers: 10 No. of Dogs: 1
Unregistered Motorbikes: 0

**Comments** - Rangers extinguished an abandoned campfire Sunday afternoon.

For further information contact: **Shoalhaven Water** 02 4429 3214