

Kamay Botany Bay Environmental Education Centre

Excursion outline

Stage 6

Ecosystems at Risk/Towra Point Nature Reserve

Location

Towra Point Nature Reserve, Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell

Overview:

This excursion offers students a unique opportunity to investigate the varied ecosystems at this RAMSAR listed site, these include the barrier swamp, remnant littoral rainforest and Towra beach.

Outcomes:

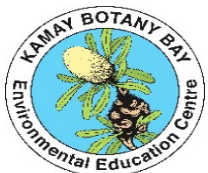
- Explains the changing nature, spatial patterns and interactions of ecosystems;
- Explains the factors which place ecosystems at risk and the reasons for their protection;
- Evaluates environmental management strategies in terms of ecological sustainability;
- Evaluates the impact of, and responses of people to, environmental change.

Key Inquiry questions:

- What factors have placed this ecosystem at risk? Why is it important to be protected?

Students will:

- learn about the spatial patterns and dimensions of the site
- consider the biophysical interactions including the effects of weather, climate, geomorphic and hydrologic processes, bio geographical processes and adjustments in response to natural stress
- learn about the nature and rate of change which effects ecosystem functioning
- observe examples of human impacts
- learn about traditional and contemporary management practices.



Kamay Botany Bay Environmental Education Centre

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Education

Additional information:

Students are advised that taking additional notes, photographs or other recording of geographical information about the biophysical environment of the area is advised. Not all aspects of this study can be completely addressed in the time available on site. Additional materials have been provided to give an overview of:

- Weather and climate;
- Geomorphic and hydrologic processes which have shaped the landform.

Resources

Mangrove and Saltmarsh ecosystems

<https://vimeopro.com/littlegeckomedia/gsls-saltmarsh-and-mangrove-ecosystems>

EEC Staff have put together this Google site to support teachers and students.

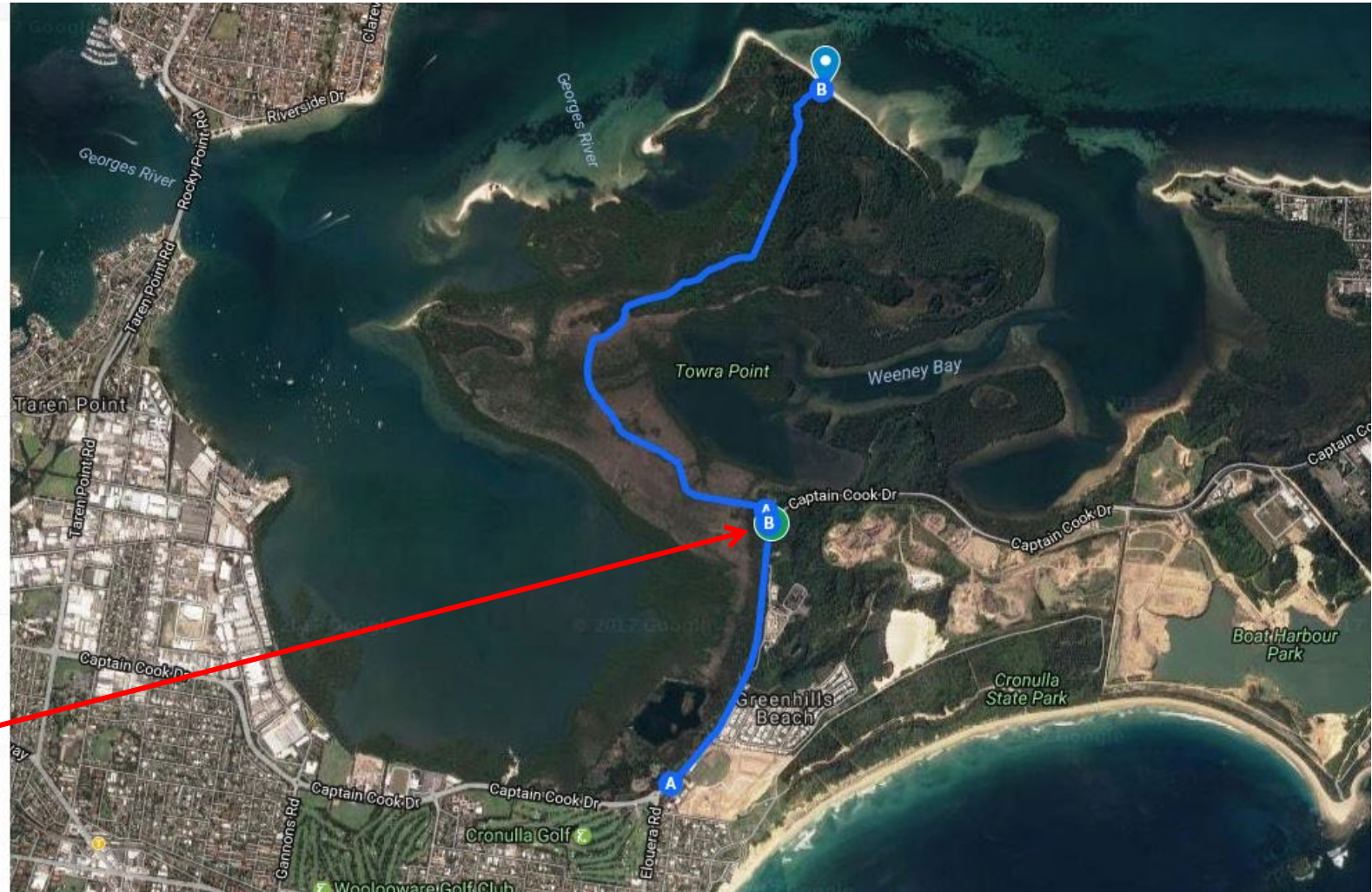
<https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/towrapointnaturereserve>

Booking Information

Location	Towra Point Nature Reserve, Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell
Bus booking	Meet at the gate. Please see map below
Timing	Ideally schools should allow 4 hours for the program, including meal and toilet breaks.
Bring	Medications, food, water (there is no tap water available at the site - students must bring at least 2-3 litres), sunblock, hats and wet weather gear
Appropriate dress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should wear clothing/shoes suited to working in an outdoor environment and appropriate to the season. Students will be walking through water (above their knees) in wetlands. Advisable to wear comfortable old shoes with laces. Gum boots are not to be worn as these will not stay on walking through water. Thongs are not to be worn. • Broad brimmed hats, sunglasses and sun protection are essential as there is no or little shade along parts of the track. • Quick dry long pants and a long sleeve shirt are advised. • Spare shoes, socks, pants and shirt are advised as you will be getting wet. • A rash shirt is optional. • Poles and walking sticks are recommended if you have them.
Toilets	There are no toilets at the site.
Staffing	The EEC complies with NSW DEC policy for a student/adult ratio of 15:1 for bushwalking. Parent helpers welcome, no pre-schoolers.
Extreme or wet weather	May result in the excursion being modified, postponed or cancelled. An out of hours contact number will be supplied in your booking information. Rescheduling in the event of extreme or wet weather include: high winds and/ or heat greater than 34 degrees, bush fire, National Park closure and flood risk.
Medical/special needs	Please notify EEC staff at time of booking
Risk Management	Will be provided at the time of booking
Excursion Pack	Teacher background notes and digital worksheets will be provided (worksheets must be printed in colour and brought on the day).
Expectations of visiting schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting teachers will actively participate in all activities. • Whilst the EEC teacher is responsible for the general discipline of the day, the visiting teacher should be supportive and intervene if necessary if there is a difficulty with an individual student. • During recess and lunch breaks, both the visiting teacher and the EEC teacher are responsible for the control of the group. • Students should be reminded that all flora and fauna are protected and must not be damaged or disturbed.

Towra Point Nature Reserve Meeting Point

- ✓ Towra Point Nature Reserve
 - ★ Towra Point Meeting Place
 - 📍 Towra Beach
- ✓ Walking route Towra Point
 - A Towra Point Rd, Kurnell NSW 2231, Australia
 - B Towra Beach
- ✓ Directions from Cronulla High School, C...
 - A Cronulla High School, Captain Cook Drive,...
 - B Towra Point Meeting Place



The meeting gate is located on the lefthand side of the road, 1.6km past Cronulla High School