

Ourimbah Valley Trackhead to Greta Road

5 hrs 30 mins

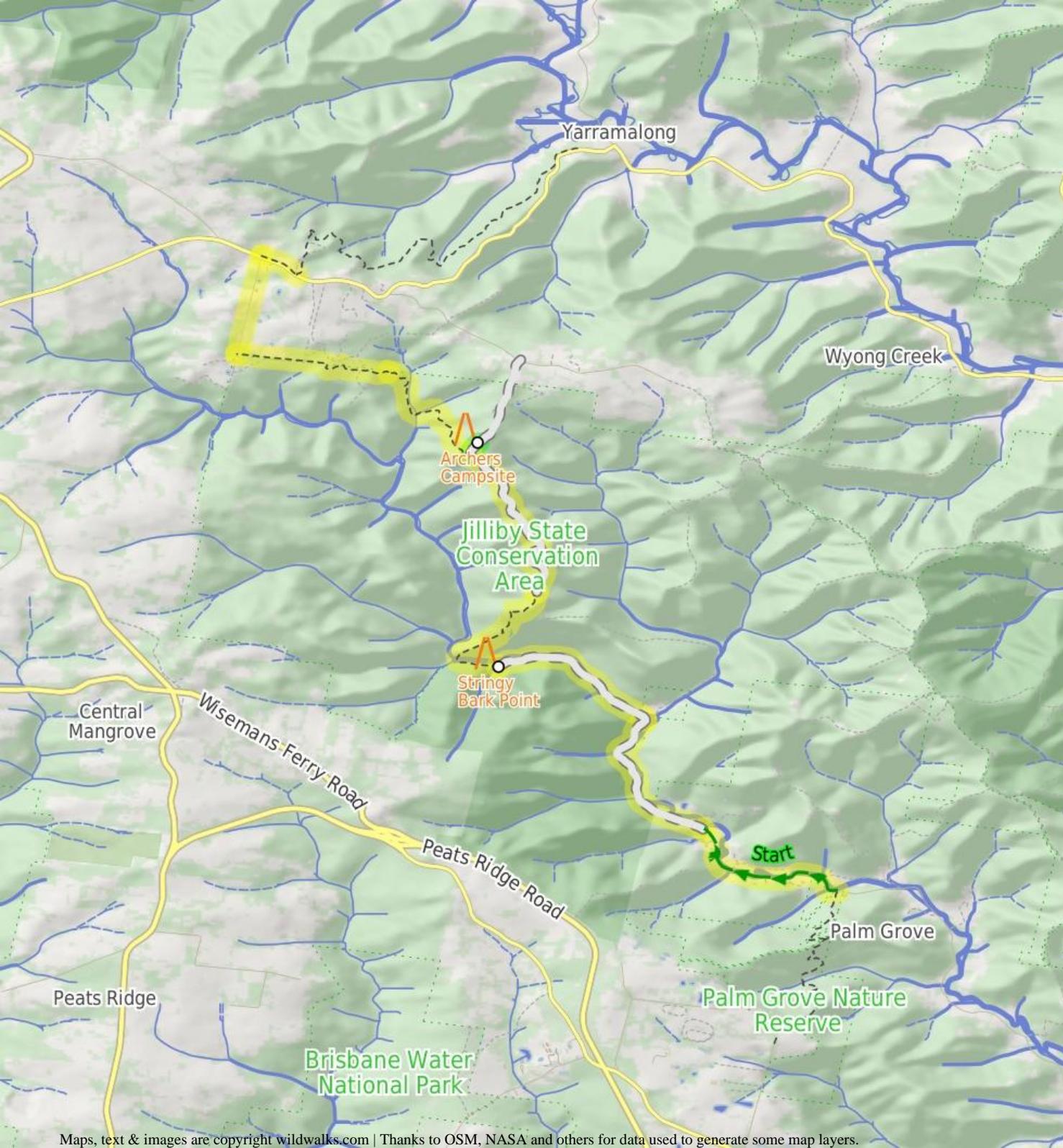
Hard track

15 km One way

730m

4

This pleasant walk explores the rural valleys and a beautiful section of Jiliby State Conservation Area. Starting at Ourimbah Valley Trackhead you walk into Hidden valley along the dirt road, to then follow a trail beside Ourimbah Creek to Stringy Bark Point. This is a pleasant mossy area with many ferns and near a wide sandy section of Ourimbah Creek. A bit further on you cross Ourimbah Creek then walk up the ridge to the dirt Tooheys Road. After turning off the old Tooheys Rd the Great North Walk leads along a narrow track and across the mossy and delightful Dead Horse Creek. The track then meanders through a heath and scribbly gum forest to Cherry Lane. After about a 1.5km road slog this walk leads you to a GNW trackhead on Great Rd.



Stringy Bark Point

This campsite is in a small clearing at Stringy Bark Point, just on the southern side of the bridge. This campsite provides room for a small campfire and a few tents. Water is usually available from the creek running by the campsite, please treat before drinking.

Archers Campsite

This informally named campsite is found in Jilliby State Conservation Area, and is used regularly by members of the Tuggerah Lake Field Archers club. This is a basic campsite with a water tank and shed used for hanging shower water bags. The large open camping area has a few existing fire scars and a few flat grassy areas. (There are other facilities 150m further north along the dirt trail at the club house.)

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Hunter District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Jilliby State Conservation Area](#))
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

1:25 000 Map Series:91314S KULNURA, 91313N MANGROVE, 91312N WYONG

1:100 000 Map Series:9131 GOSFORD

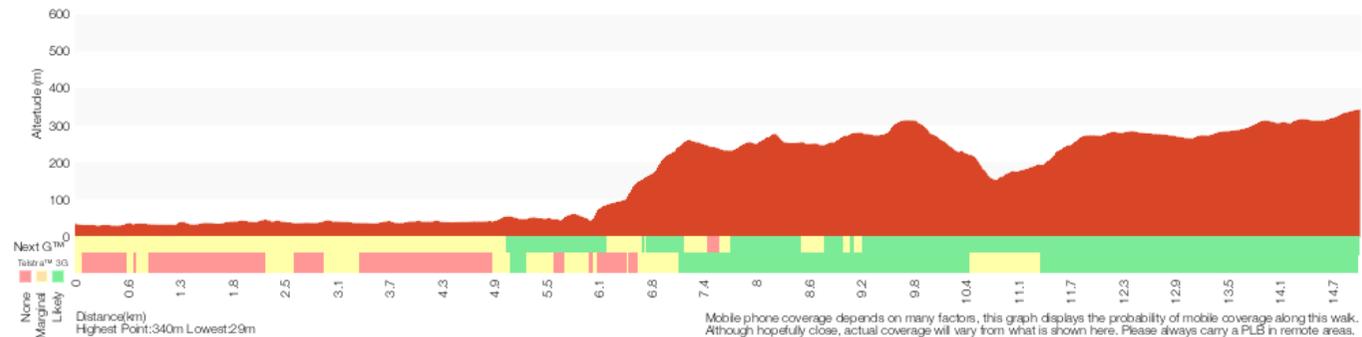
Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.



Grade 4/6
Hard track

Length	15 km One way
Time	5 hrs 30 mins
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Experience Required	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
Weather	Forecast, unforecast storms and severe weather may impact on navigation and safety (4/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)



Are you ready to have fun?

Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. Check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating before setting out. Optional side trips and alternate routes noted are not included in this walk's overall grade, length or time estimate. Please allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing this information but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury you may experience. Please take care, have fun - Happy Walking.

Getting there Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Ourimbah Valley Trackhead (gps: -33.3174, 151.3001). Car: There is free parking available.

Traveling by car is the only practical way to get back from Int of Greta Road and power line service trail (gps: -33.2403, 151.248). Car: There is free parking available.

Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/ovtgr>

0 | Ourimbah Valley Trackhead

(1.8 km 32 mins) From the 'Ourimbah Valley Trackhead' (on Ourimbah Creek Rd), this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign downhill along the dirt road. The road soon leads down and across a flat timber vehicle bridge then the road mostly flattens out, winding among the rural properties for almost 300m to pass a 'Palm Grove Nature Reserve' sign and a few 'Hidden Valley' signs. The walk continues along the road for about 700m then comes to the intersection in front of the Hidden Valley property (on your left, not far before another road bridge). This walk continues straight, gently downhill along the wide dirt road to almost immediately pass 'Wombats End' (private road) then cross the flat timber road bridge. After about 400m, the road leads under some high tension power lines then after another 150m of winding past the rural properties, this walk passes a timber 'Hidden Valley' private property shelter and water tank (on your right). A further 100m along the road past this shelter, the walk veers left (ignoring 'Platypus Creek La') to come to a locked gate with a 'Road Closed' sign.

1.85 | Int of Platypus Creek La and Ourimbah Creek Rd

(2 km 36 mins) Continue straight: From the gate (near the intersection of Ourimbah Creek Road and Platypus Creek La), this walk heads up around the locked gate and follows the Ourimbah Creek Rd trail along the side of the valley for about 800m, where it crosses a culverted creek. From here, the walk continues along the clear trail as it gently undulates alongside Ourimbah Creek (which is down the steep bank on your right) for about 1.2km until coming to a three-way intersection, marked with a 'Great North Walk' sign, just before the gates of 'Forty Acres' property.

3.83 | Forty Acres

(1.8 km 33 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign north-east along the clear trail. This trail gently undulates along the side of Ourimbah Creek (which is down the steep bank on your right) for about 1.6km, then passes a campsite with a metal fireplace (on your right). Here the walk continues along the trail for about 100m to head past a track (on your right, that leads down to the sandy creek) and continues along the main trail for another 150m to come to large clearing and campsite, Stringy Bark Point at the end of the trail (marked with a timber and metal footbridge on the right).

5.64 | Stringy Bark Point

This campsite is in a small clearing at Stringy Bark Point, just on the southern side of the bridge. This campsite provides room for a small campfire and a few tents. Water is usually available from the creek running by the

campsite, please treat before drinking.

5.64 | Stringy Bark Point

(1.8 km 53 mins) Veer right: From Stringy Bark Point campsite, this walk heads across the timber and metal footbridge (with a small mossy canyon on your right). Once on the other side of the bridge, the old trail gently undulates west through the bush for about 300m where this walk turns right following a GNW arrow post down a few rock steps. The distinct track leads fairly steeply down to find, then cross, the perennial Ourimbah Creek. This creek may become impassable after heavy or prolonged rain. On the other side, the track leads up the bank then gently up through the dense, leafy forest for about 50m, following a series of GNW arrow posts. The track then starts to lead steeply uphill for about 100m and leaves the dense forest, climbing up onto the more open ridge. Here the track mostly flattens out, leading over a rocky area to then come to a large ant hill. The track now leads uphill for about 250m to pass some cabbage palms (*Livistona australis*). The track starts to climb steeply again for about 150m, up some stone steps (and past a rock with a view) to where the track mostly flattens out again for about 60m, coming to a three-way intersection that is marked with a GNW arrow post. Here the walk veers left and follows this old trail steeply uphill for about 130m, before turning left at another GNW arrow post. This track soon bends sharp right and leads up some stone steps then comes to an intersection (with the same old trail). Here the walk leads gently uphill for about 30m, over the a rise (ignoring the faint track on your right), after which the track leads gently down through the tall forest for about 300m and comes to an T-intersection with the dirt Tooheys Rd, marked with a 'The Great North Walk' signpost.

7.47 | Int of GNW and Tooheys Road south

(2.3 km 52 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Camping Area' sign north, down along the wide dirt road. The road soon crosses a saddle and starts to lead uphill, then meanders (quite steeply in places) along the ridge and through a variety of forests for about 2.2km, before passing a 'Caution Archery In Progress At Any Time - Keep to the Main Track' sign. Just over 100m past this sign, the road leads up to an intersection marked with a GNW arrow post, and the signposted GNW track (on your left)

9.78 | Optional sidetrip to Archers Campsite

(160 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post uphill along the wide dirt road. After about 30m, the road bends right (ignoring the trail on the left) and leads gently up for about 150m to pass below the campsite, then come to the signposted intersection with the 'Camping Area' (on your left) At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer right.

9.78 | Archers Campsite

This informally named campsite is found in Jilliby State Conservation Area, and is used regularly by members of the Tuggerah Lake Field Archers club. This is a basic campsite with a water tank and shed used for hanging shower water bags. The large open camping area has a few existing fire scars and a few flat grassy areas. (There are other facilities 150m further north along the dirt trail at the club house.)

9.78 | Int of GNW and Tooheys Road north

(1.9 km 48 mins) Turn sharp left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Yarramalong' sign along the narrow track (away from the dirt road) following a small ridge. After about 50m this walk turns right, following a GNW arrow post off the side of the ridge. The track now leads down along the side of the hill through the wooded forest mostly fairly gently downhill for 500m to cross a small (usually dry) gully. The track continues a little

steeper down the hill among the gymea Lillie and eucalypt forest for just over 150m to pass a notable termite mound. About 150m past this mound the track starts to zig zag and head more steeply downhill for yet another 150m to come to the cool and mossy Dead Horse Creek. Here the walk crosses Dead Horse Creek (this creek may become impassable after prolonged or heavy rain), then follows the GNW arrow post up the side of the hill. The track initially zig zags steeply then more gently up as it generally contours north along the side of the hill for about 250m to cross a small gully and often dry side creek. The track continues along the side of the main valley through the cool and dense wooded forest for just over 250m (where there are a few sections of faint track). Here the track starts to veer left and climb the side, of the valley quiet steeply at times for around 400m, where the forest becomes dryer and more open until the track leads to the side of a large high tension power-line tower.

11.68 | Powerline tower west of Dead Horse Creek

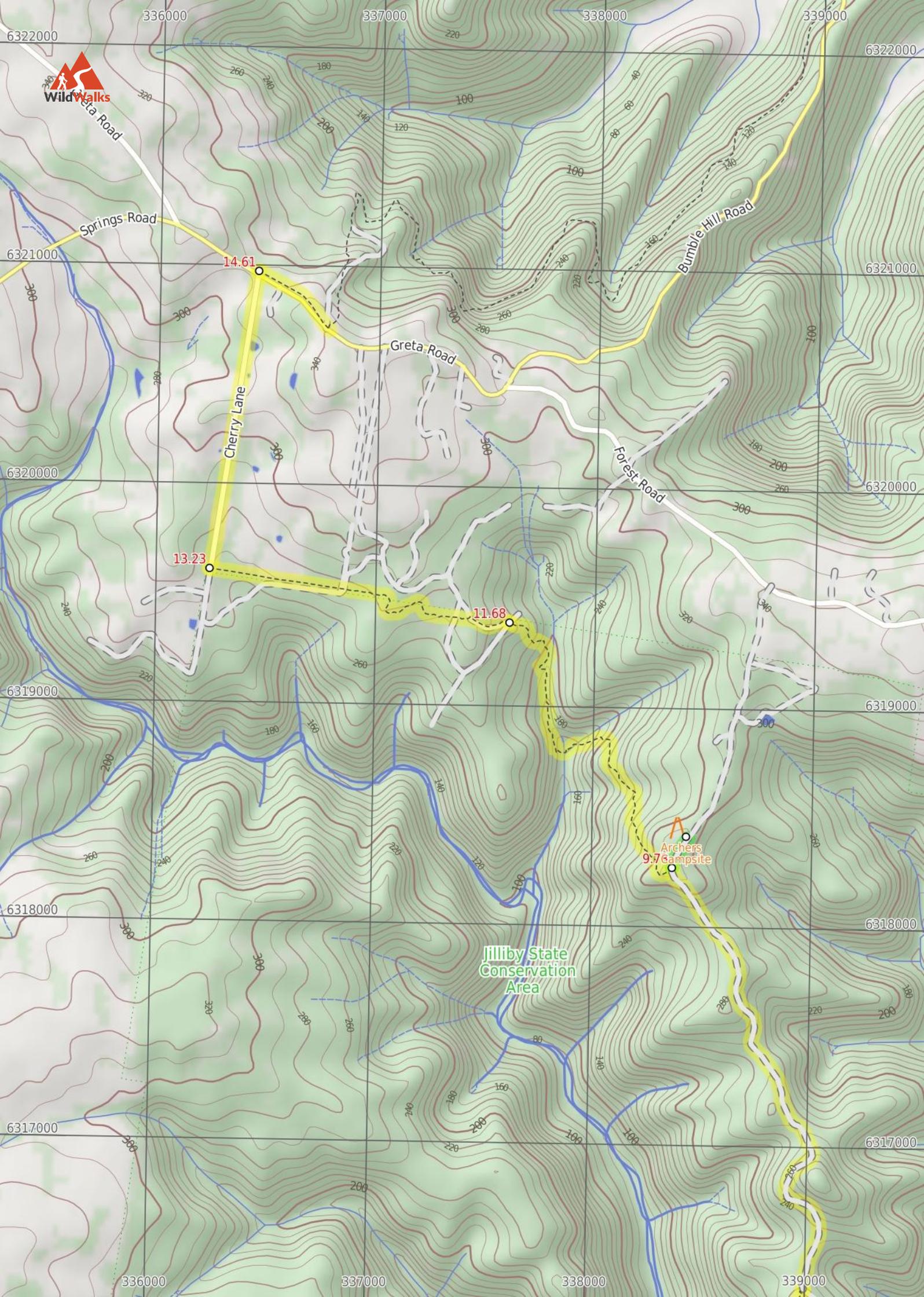
(1.5 km 30 mins) Continue straight: From the high tension powerline tower, this walk heads uphill along the widening track, initially keeping the tower on your left. After 200m this walk turns left at an intersection marked with a "private Property" sign, following a GNW arrow post. This walk continues along the track through the scribbly gum forest for about 70m to then continue straight ahead at four-way intersection (with a wider trail). From here this walk continues through the wooded forest for another 400m to where the view opens up as the track passes through a 150m section of heath (ignoring a few fainter side tracks). Now the track leads back through a lightly wooded forest for another 250m to come to a clear intersection with a wider management trail, at the corner of a fence. From here, this walk continues straight, following the track along the side of the fence (keeping the fence to your right) for 400m where the track leads under a set of high tension power lines, beside some farm land. Continuing along the fence line the track soon leads across a section of timber duckboard then after another 100m crosses a small flat timber bridge (over a small sandy creek). Just another 80m later the track leads up to a locked gate and to a T-intersection with Cherry Lane, marked with a few GNW arrows.

13.23 | Int of GNW and Cherry Lane

(1.4 km 27 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post gently uphill along Cherry Lane, a gravel road. After 800m this walk continues straight ahead passing an intersection at the top of the hill. From here the road leads downhill for about 400m to pass a notable dam close to the road (on your right). Now the walk leads gently up along the gravel road for another 250m to a T-intersection with the sealed 'Greta Rd' marked with a 'The Great North Walk' signpost (on your right).

14.61 | Int of Greta Road and Cherry Lane

(430 m 9 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign gently uphill along the grassy verge (under the power lines) keeping Greta Road just to your left. After 120m this walk crosses a driveway and continues along side the road for almost 250m to near the top of the hill, just before the high tension power lines. Here the walk turns left to cross the road to find a 'Great North Walk' signposted intersection beside a locked gate and style.



14.61

13.23

11.68

Archers
9.7 Campsite

Jiliby State
Conservation
Area

WildWalks

Springs Road

Greta Road

Forest Road

Bumble Hill Road

Cherry Lane

6322000

336000

337000

338000

339000

6322000

6321000

6321000

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6319000

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6317000

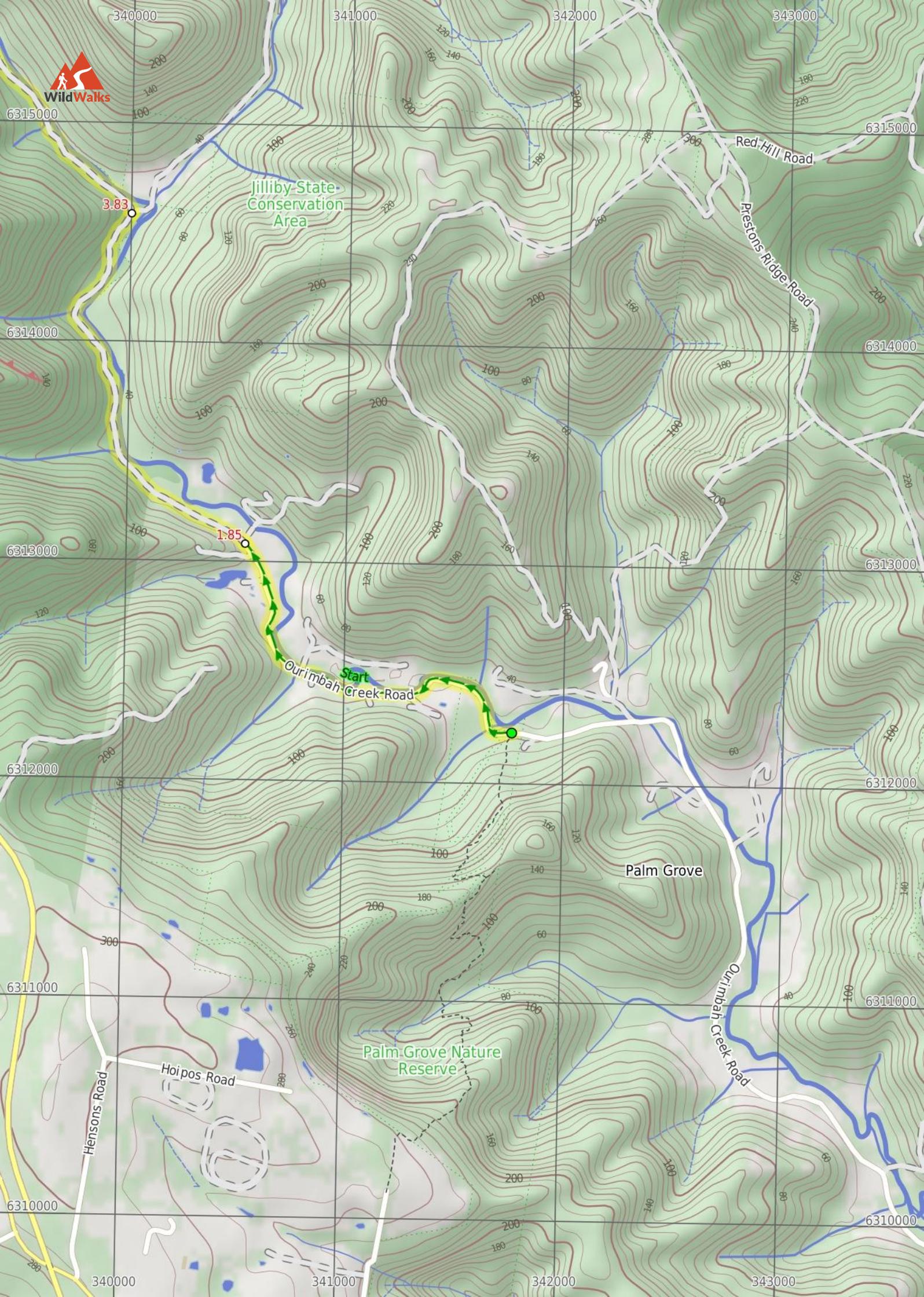
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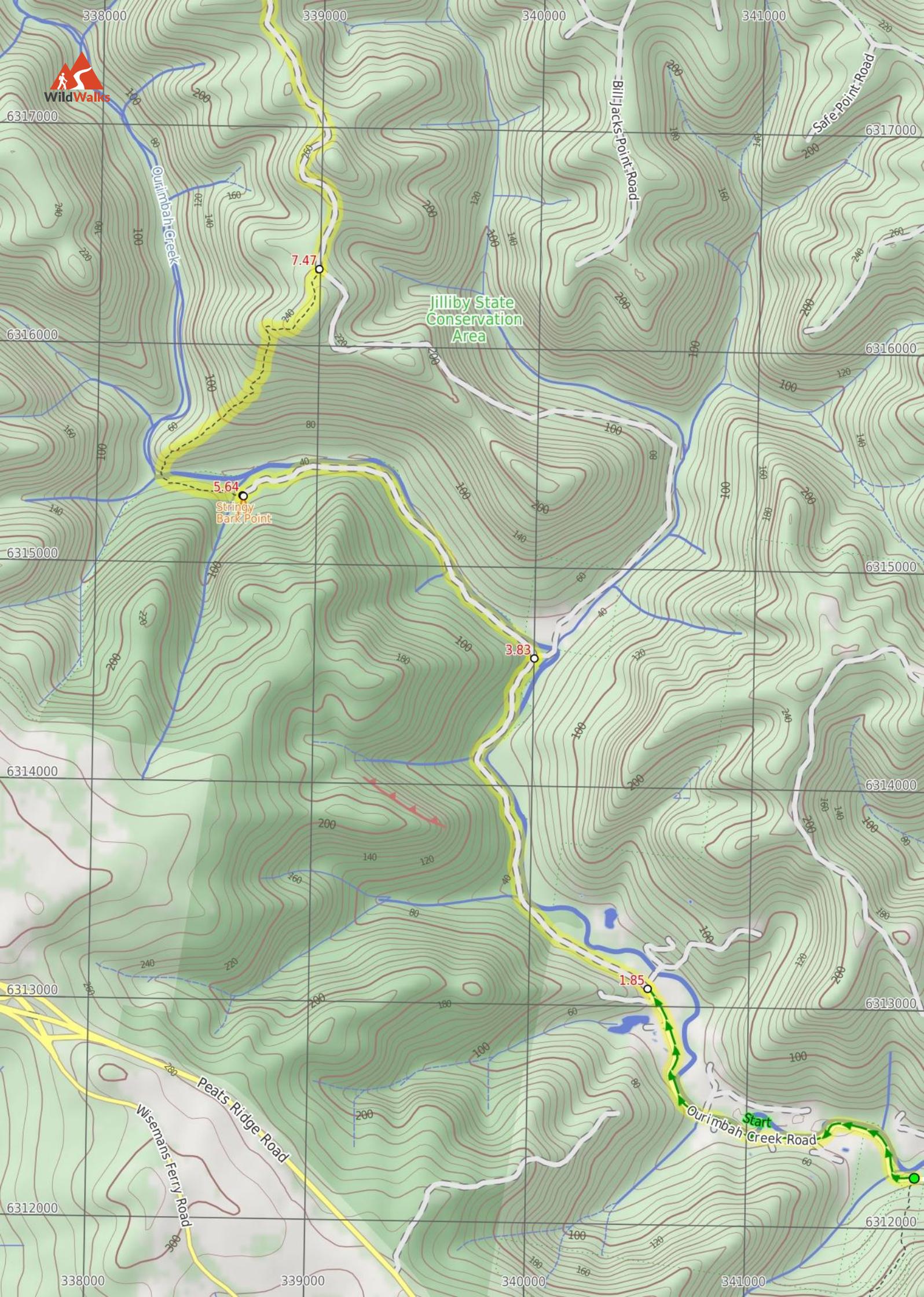
336000

337000

338000

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Jillyby State Conservation Area

Stringy Bark Point

Start

7.47

5.64

3.83

1.85

Ourimbah Creek

Billjacks Point Road

Safe Point Road

Peats Ridge Road

Wisemans Ferry Road

Ourimbah Creek Road

Summary navigation sheet for the Ourimbah Valley Trackhead to Greta Road



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Ourimbah Valley Trackhead -33.3174,151.3001 (GR Wyong, 418122)	30 -25	1.8 km 32 mins	From the 'Ourimbah Valley Trackhead' (on Ourimbah Creek Rd), this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign downhill along the dirt road.
1.85	Int of Platypus Creek La and Ourimbah Creek Rd -33.3096,151.2871 (GR Wyong, 405131)	39 -43	2 km 36 mins	Continue straight: From the gate (near the intersection of Ourimbah Creek Road and Platypus Creek La), this walk heads up around the locked gate and follows the Ourimbah Creek Rd trail along the side of the valley f...
3.83	Forty Acres -33.296,151.2816 (GR Wyong, 400146)	43 -33	1.8 km 33 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign north-east along the clear trail.
5.64	Stringy Bark Point -33.2892,151.2673 (GR Wyong, 387153)	237 -42	1.8 km 53 mins	Veer right: From Stringy Bark Point campsite, this walk heads across the timber and metal footbridge (with a small mossy canyon on your right).
7.47	Int of Great North Walk and Tooheys Road south -33.2799,151.2711 (GR Wyong, 390164)	139 -67	2.3 km 52 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Camping Area' sign north, down along the wide dirt road.
9.78	Int of Old GNW track and Tooheys Rd -33.2625,151.2647 (GR Wyong, 384183)	1 -3	160 m 3 mins	Optional sidetrip to Archers Campsite. Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post uphill along the wide dirt road.
9.78	Int of GNW and Tooheys Road north -33.2625,151.2647 (GR Wyong, 384183)	106 -174	1.9 km 48 mins	Turn sharp left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Yarramalong' sign along the narrow track (away from the dirt road) following a small ridge.
11.68	Powerline tower west of Dead Horse Creek -33.2524,151.2568 (GR Wyong, 376194)	53 -26	1.5 km 30 mins	Continue straight: From the high tension powerline tower, this walk heads uphill along the widening track, initially keeping the tower on your left.
13.23	Int of Great North Walk and Cherry Lane -33.2501,151.2421 (GR Mangrove, 362196)	54 -15	1.4 km 27 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post gently uphill along Cherry Lane, a gravel road.
14.61	Int of Greta Road and Cherry Lane -33.2378,151.2446 (GR Kulnura, 364210)	29 0	430 m 9 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign gently uphill along the grassy verge (under the power lines) keeping Greta Road just to your left.