



SMOKO FALLS & CUMMINGS HEAD

Smoko Falls Track follows Mother Cummings Rivulet and passes beneath stands of sassafras, myrtle, king billy and pencil pine on its way to picturesque Smoko Falls and eventually Cummings Head. Cummings Head is not to be confused with Mother Cummings Peak which is further north on the mountain.

	Time: 5-6 hours return Distance: 7.5km return
	Take the A5 from Deloraine then the C167 through to Meander and continue along Huntsman Rd, then turn on to Meander Falls Rd. Turn right onto Smoko Rd and follow it to the end. Ref: -41.698473, 146.543505 (type this grid reference or "Smoko Road" into Google Maps). Retail Map: TL06 Jerusalem & TL07 Breton
	No facilities. There are public toilets in nearby Meander and Meander Bridge Café offers postal services, supplies, petrol and coffee as well as tasty take away and eat in options.
	Grade 3: Some bushwalking experience recommended. The track is rocky and difficult to follow in places. Take care to follow track markers.
	Creek crossings. Narrow high ledges with unprotected track edges. Limited directional markers. Weather may change suddenly on the plateau making navigation difficult.

To start this walk, cross Mother Cummings Rivulet. Crossing the river by foot can be slippery and water levels may be high during the wetter months. See the note below for an alternative route when water levels are high.

Once across, the walk continues along an old Forestry track. The track has a gentle uphill climb, and about 25 minutes into your walk, you will reach a clearing which has a wooden sign advising you of different tracks to take in the region. Follow the direction for Smoko Falls & Mother Cummings (to the right). The track down to the rivulet is not marked but is moderately well defined apart from some fallen logs and debris. Follow the red tin markers as you get closer to the rivulet. The forest here becomes denser with species of Celery Top Pine, Waratah, Sassafras and Myrtle dominating.

Follow the rivulet for 10 minutes or so before again crossing via the large boulders and continuing up the other side. The forest here becomes older and mossier. Mind the tree roots and boulders as you gently ascend. Smoko Falls is only about 10 minutes further on from the crossing (1hr total walking).

Turn back here or continue up to Cummings Head through a forest now dominated by Sassafras, Myrtle and King Billy with Pencil Pine growing above 800m. If you stop at a spot fringed by sphagnum moss, please stay off the moss - it's fragile. The track from here gets steeper, rockier and less well defined as it follows the rivulet and its many cascades up the mountain.

About 40 minutes after the falls, the track bends away from the rivulet and up onto Mother Cummings via a small section of scree. Continue along the trail, past the tin 'to the valley' sign as this leads through the valley to the Peak (and we're going to the head). Fallen trees and overgrown alpine vegetation make the track difficult to follow in places so be sure to keep track of the sporadic rock cairns and ribbons. Besides being a bit wet underfoot and quite steep, the last section of the walk also requires some boulder hopping to get to the initial high point which is marked by a large stack of rocks. The view over the Mother Cummings valley is worth it. Be careful continuing across the head from here as there are several rock cairns for different tracks and it is easy to lose your way. Return the way you came.

NOTE: As shown in the attached map, this track can also be done in a loop. The track directly up from the car park is steeper and rockier, very narrow in places and has another section of scree that must be crossed.

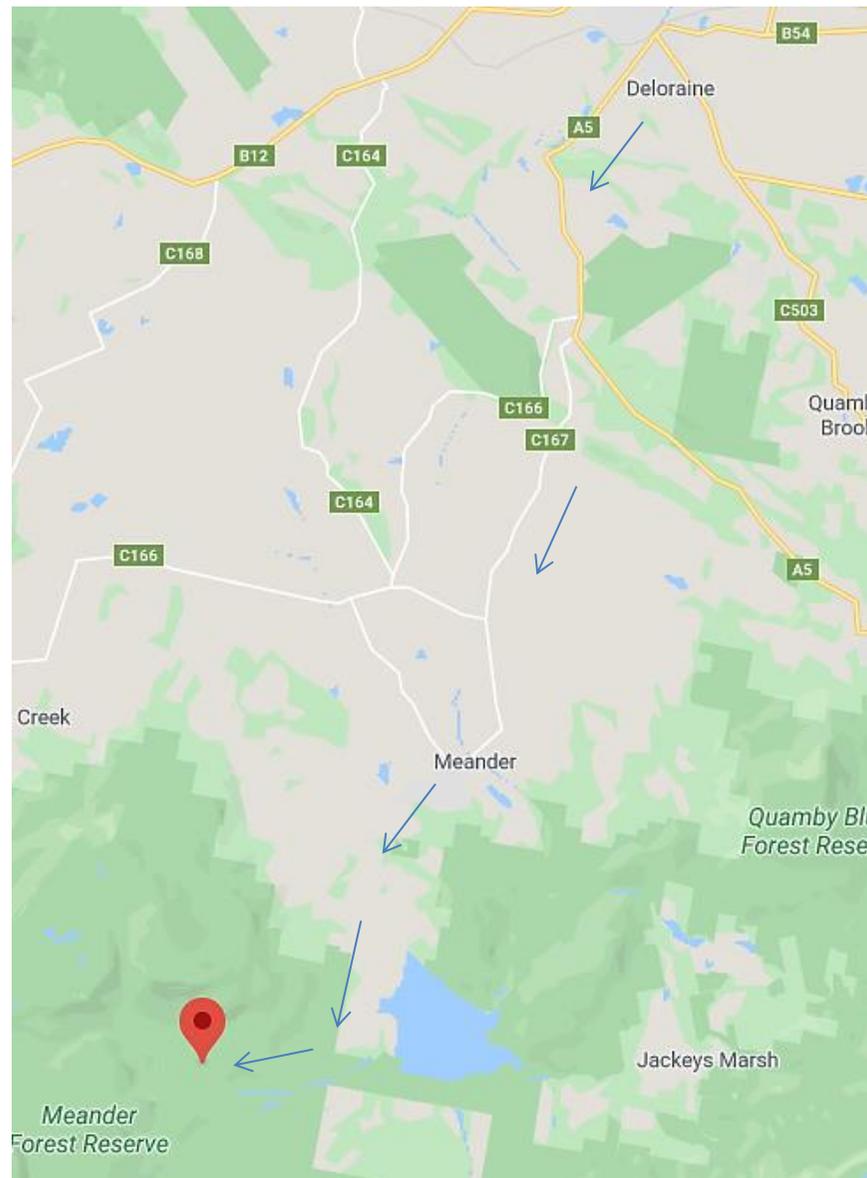
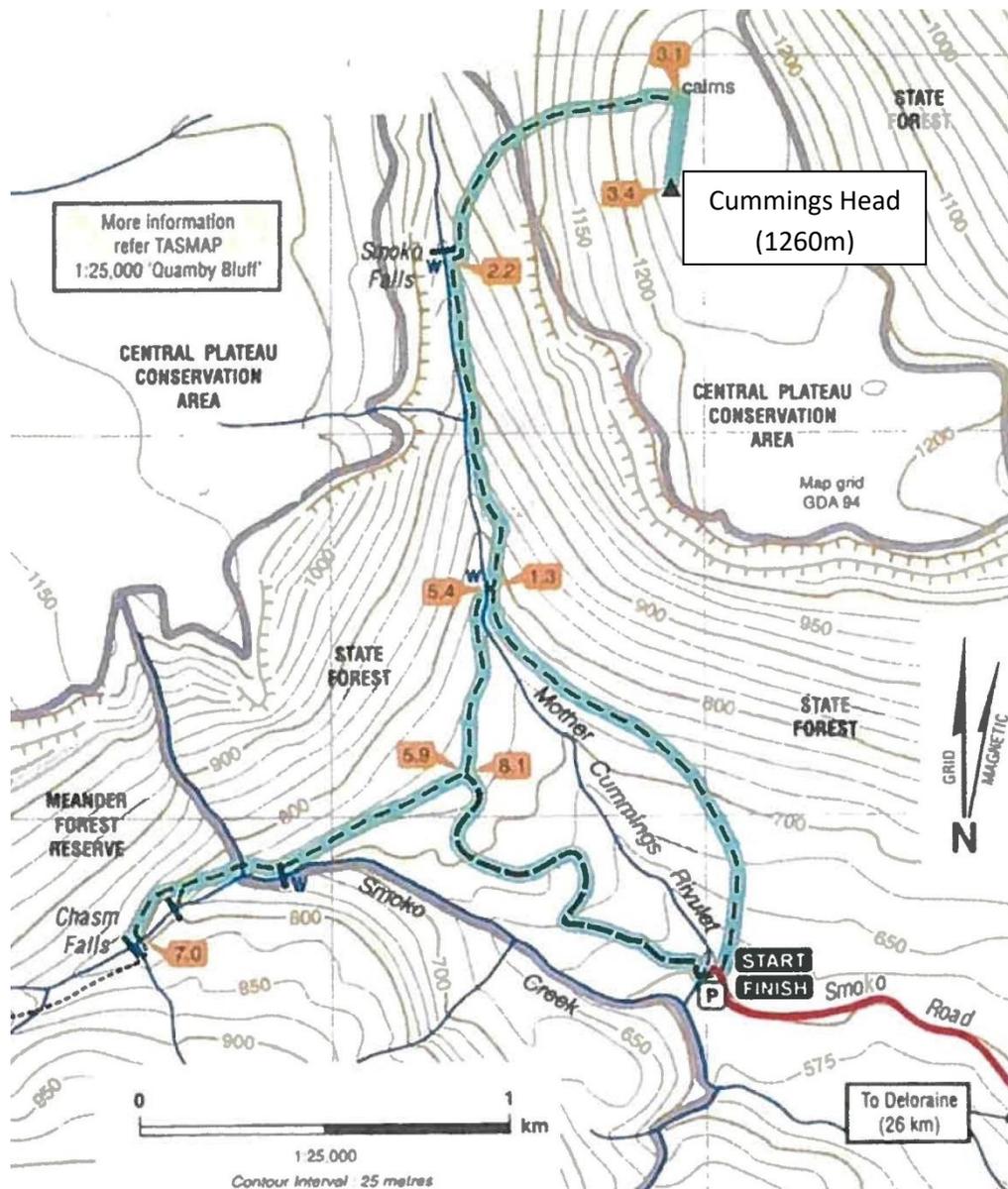
SAFE WALKING: Plan, be prepared, walk with friends, tell someone where you are going. Consider hiring an EPIRB from Service Tasmania to prepare for emergency events. Make a personal determination as to your fitness and ability to undertake specific walks.

LEAVE NO TRACE: walk on formed tracks, observe all restrictions, dispose of waste properly and leave what you find.

FURTHER INFO: National Parks: www.parks.tas.gov.au Restrictions & Alerts: www.fire.tas.gov.au & www.police.tas.gov.au/community-alerts Weather: www.bom.gov.au/tas

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Meander Valley Council
Working Together