

# Omeo Mountain Bike Trails

Project update – March 2023



## Easter trails milestone

We anticipate that 10 kilometres of the Stage 1 (56km total) trails will be structurally complete by Easter.

We have chosen to have these trails handed over so we can manage and maintain them as locals start to ride them in.

The first 10km do not deliver on the overall promise and experience the trails will bring once fully developed. We anticipate this first 10km 'taster' will be predominantly trialled by local riders and includes a blend of fun beginner and intermediate cross-country and gravity trails with great views over Livingstone Creek and Omeo. All can be accessed from the trail head at Livingstone Park.

We will not be actively marketing the trails as open. This will also give us the chance to iron out any teething issues with managing the trails.

This is exciting and new for us all!



## Taking shape

Trail building is pushing towards the completion of about 10km of trails (see trail map attached) to be ride ready by Easter. The construction of trails continues concurrently on other Stage 1 and 2 sections.

Fabrication of a significant piece of trail crossover structure, which will allow riders to pass under and over one another on different trails near the swimming pool at the Livingstone Park trail head, is progressing off site ahead of Easter.

Trail map, rider information and trail marker signage will be in place over the coming weeks.

Construction has started on the Oriental Claims Bridge (pictured below). This work is important for the finalisation of the first 10km of trails and links the Oriental Express and Mine Bender trails, creating a loop ride from Livingstone Park to the Oriental Claims and back.



## Community thank-you barbecue

To mark the milestone of the first few complete trails, we will host a community and contractor celebration barbecue on **Thursday 6 April**.

This will be an opportunity for the community and contractors to acknowledge a 'job well done' so far.

The barbecue will be from **2.30pm to 4.30pm** at the **Livingstone Park trail head**.

With school finishing at 2.15pm, we look forward to seeing children and interested community members turn up for a ride.

An official opening of Stage 1 trails with our funding partners, contractors and community will be held at a later date.

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## Did you know?

As well as the physical works, Council officers have been focused on developing emergency and operational management plans for the trails.

We are coordinating a mock emergency event (desktop exercise) through our Emergency Management team with all relevant emergency services in the coming week.

## Trails open from Easter 2023

- Weigh In, 500m
- Weigh Out, 500m
- Geddy Up, 630m
- Prospector, 980m
- Creek (Walking) Track, 1020m
- Flomeo, 450m
- Diggers Run, 620m
- Rodeo, 600m
- Dig Deep, 400m
- Oriental Express, 1570m
- Mine Bender, 925m
- Livingstone Park Track, 1340m

**Stage 1 - 56.7km:** 17% of Stage 1 trail length open from Easter 2023.

## What's in a name?

Here is a quick snapshot of what to expect from our first batch of trails.

**Weigh In, 500m:** A great way to get started for beginners and a good warm up for those planning to go further. Connects with Weigh Out for a nice introductory loop.

**Weigh Out, 500m:** Perhaps your first gravity experience on a bike, this is a gentle downhill trail returning to the Pump Track area. Go with the flow, check your speed.

**Geddy Up, 630m:** The quickest way up to the Nover Underpass from the Tunnel Shaft overpass. Easy but not easy, get up there!

**Prospector, 980m:** Looking for something more? A meandering climb to the Tunnel Shaft at the top of Livingstone Park. Keep looking for that gold!

**Creek (Walking) Track, 1020m:** A nice 'n' easy cross-country saunter along Livingstone Creek out to Bazeley Street. Return via the same trail or keep going on the Oriental Express out to the Oriental Claims Historic Area.

**Flomeo, 450m:** This trail is gold! A step up from the others, fast flowing berms and a few jumps to get you in the air. Take it slowly the first time down and get to know the trail before you start hollerin'.

**Diggers Run, 620m:** A fun 'easy' rated descending trail for those just getting started and something nice 'n' easy for the more experienced. Finishes at the Tunnel Shaft overpass.

**Rodeo, 600m:** A fun 'easy-intermediate' trail with lots of flowing berms. Watch your speed going into those turns. Finishes at the Tunnel Shaft overpass.

**Dig Deep, 400m:** Fair dinkum airtime. This is serious riding for experience riders. Watch others and get familiar with the jumps before trying, or don't even think about it.

**Oriental Express, 1570m:** 'Easy-intermediate' cross-country trail with ups and downs, finishing at the Oriental Claims Historic Area. Return via Mine Bender and the Livingstone Creek Track.

**Mine Bender, 925m:** Winds its way through the Oriental Claims area. Lots of fun features in a historical landscape. Look out for shiny stones and snakes.

**Livingstone Park Track, 1340m:** A shared trail and two-way for walkers, so please give them room. A slight climb back from the Oriental Claims and only accessible from the end of Mine Bender. Stay on the riding track.

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## Meet our contractor - Common Ground

The name Common Ground will be familiar to most locals, with the trail-building specialists having been a constant presence in town for some months now.

Common Ground is a leading trail, pump track and bike park company with more than 20 years' experience and a large portfolio of successful designs and builds under its belt.

Its mission is to develop the best bike facilities and use trails to conserve and create stewards for the environment.

Currently, the crew on the ground in Omeo numbers about 19 full-time equivalent staff, including seven locals. Some team members are renowned riders themselves!

Common Ground sources many of its consumables and equipment hire locally and is using local businesses as sub-contractors.

The pump track and skills park in Livingstone Park is also some of their handy work!



## STAY Omeo

STAY Omeo is the second in a series of events hosted by Council to support the growing accommodation industry.

To be held on **Thursday 30 March** at Omeo Recreation Reserve, it will feature speakers and presentations addressing topics such as self-sustainable building options, marketing your business and how to source the greatest support in your endeavour.

More information and tickets visit <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/> and search 'STAY Omeo'.

This update is from East Gippsland Shire Council as the project lead. The update is provided to the Omeo and district community and stakeholders. It is also published on:

- East Gippsland Shire Council website
- East Gippsland Shire Council Facebook page
- East Gippsland Your Say engagement portal
- Visit Omeo website

You are welcome to distribute this update to your networks.

The Omeo MTB Trails project is supported by East Gippsland Shire Council, the Victorian Government (Regional Development Victoria) and the Australian Government (Building Better Regions Fund).

# BRIDGES O ME

**Traditional Owner Acknowledgment**  
 East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which these trails are located, their connection to Country and their ongoing contribution to improving the environment and the health and wellbeing of all people.

PRIVATE PROPERTY - NO ACCESS

Pump Track & Skills Park

You are here

Omeo

Livingstone Park Trailhead



Oriental Claims Trailhead



North



**Trail type**

- Shared Trail (dashed line with bicycle and pedestrian icons)
- Bike Trail only (solid line with bicycle icon)
- Walking Trail only (dotted line with pedestrian icon)

**Trail classification**

- Easy (green circle)
- Easy-intermediate (blue/green circle)
- Intermediate (blue square)
- Intermediate-difficult (black/blue square)
- Difficult (black diamond)

The Trails			
<p><b>1. Weigh in</b></p> <p>Distance - 500m</p> <p>A great way to get started for beginners and a good warm up for those planning to go further. Connects with Weigh Out for a nice introductory loop.</p>	<p><b>2. Diggers Run</b></p> <p>Distance - 620m</p> <p>Diggers Run is a fun Easy rated descending trail for those just getting started and something nice n easy for the more experienced. Finishes at the Tunnel Shaft overpass.</p>	<p><b>10. Rodeo</b></p> <p>Distance - 600m</p> <p>A fun Easy-intermediate trail with lots of flowing berms. Watch your speed going into those turns. Finishes at the Tunnel Shaft overpass</p>	<p><b>3. Mine Bender</b></p> <p>Distance - 925m</p> <p>Mine Bender winds its way through the Oriental Claims area, lots of fun features in an historical landscape. Lookout for shiny stones and snakes.</p>
<p><b>1. Weigh Out</b></p> <p>Distance - 500m</p> <p>Perhaps your first gravity experience on a bike, this is a gentle downhill trail returning to the Pump Track area. Go with the flow, check your speed.</p>	<p><b>A3. Geddy Up</b></p> <p>Distance - 630m</p> <p>The quickest way up to the Nover Underpass from the Tunnel Shaft overpass. Easy but not easy, geddy up there!</p>	<p><b>3. Oriental Express</b></p> <p>Distance - 1570m</p> <p>Easy-intermediate cross country trail with ups and downs, finishing at the Oriental Claims Historic Area. Return via Mine Bender and the Livingstone Creek Track.</p>	<p><b>20. Flomeo</b></p> <p>Distance - 450m</p> <p>This trail is GOLD! A step up from the others, fast flowing berms and a few jumps to get you in the air. Take it slow the first time down and get to know the trail before you start hollerin'.</p>
<p><b>2. Prospector</b></p> <p>Distance - 980m</p> <p>Looking for something more, a meandering climb to the Tunnel Shaft at the top of Livingstone Park. Keep looking for that gold!</p>	<p><b>3. Creek (walking) Track</b></p> <p>Distance - 1020m</p> <p>A nice 'n' easy cross country saunter along the Livingstone Creek out to Bazeley Street. Return via the same trail or keep going on The Oriental Express out to the Claims.</p>	<p><b>3. Livingstone Park Track</b></p> <p>Distance - 1340m</p> <p>This is a shared trail and two way for walkers so please give them room. A slight climb back from Oriental Claims only accessible from the end of Mine Bender. Stay on the riding track.</p>	<p><b>24. Dig Deep</b></p> <p>Distance - 400m</p> <p>Fair dinkum air time, this is serious riding for experienced riders. Watch others and get familiar with the jumps before trying, or don't even think about it.</p>