

The Tyndalls walk proposal is arguably the worst possible choice that could have been made.

1. The Tyndall Plateau is one of the most dangerously exposed alpine zones in Tasmania, frequently subject to lethal conditions in westerly weather. It is essentially unvisited for 6 months of the year, for good reason. Even in summer it is commonly subject to gale force winds, rain and sleet, and visibility measured in metres. The Tyndalls are immediately adjacent to Mt Read, the location that we are all familiar with from weather reports as consistently receiving state-wide maximum rainfall totals. The Mt Read/Tyndalls area receives an average of 3.6metres of rain annually, and it rains on 282 days per year!

It would not be possible to run a commercially viable tourism operation on the Tyndall Range.

2. The Plateau is extremely ecologically fragile. It is the only mountain in the whole length of the West Coast Range not severely damaged by mining or wildfire.

3. The proposed access by the northern ridge looks straightforward on the map but is anything but. Rock fissures and boulderfields line the ridge. The climb itself is more than twice the height of the climb to Marions Lookout from Dove Lake. It is a serious and exposed climb, even in good weather.

4. An alternative route, which would be the mandatory route in inclement weather, skirting the east side of the range has nice views to Lk Huntley and Mt Gieke, and east to Eldon Peak. It is also geologically interesting.

5. Obviously, hardened tracks, as constructed on the 3 Capes Route, would destroy the wild and natural character of the Range. Unlike the 3 Capes, where the track is hemmed in by vegetation, the Plateau is open and would be subjected to devastating impacts from unsustainably high numbers of walkers roaming across fragile alpine vegetation.

The whole notion of a track at the Tyndalls is poorly considered. Consultation with the people who actually know this place, the walkers, would have ruled it out at the first review. Even the proponent of the Philosophers Walk placed it last and conditional on their proposal.

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