

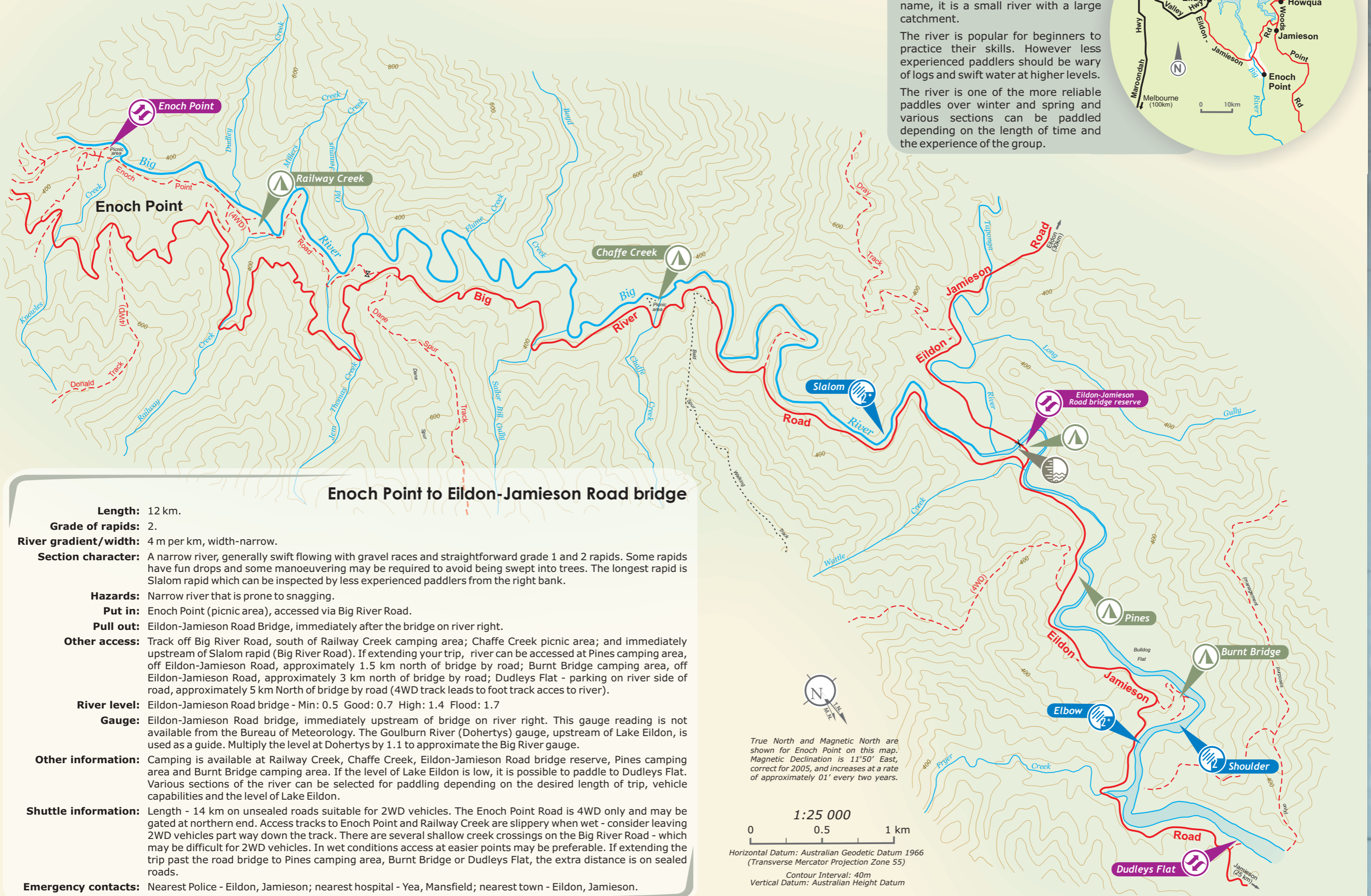


overview

The Big River flows into the southern end of Lake Eildon. Contrary to its name, it is a small river with a large catchment.

The river is popular for beginners to practice their skills. However less experienced paddlers should be wary of logs and swift water at higher levels.

The river is one of the more reliable paddles over winter and spring and various sections can be paddled depending on the length of time and the experience of the group.



Enoch Point to Eildon-Jamieson Road bridge

- Length:** 12 km.
- Grade of rapids:** 2.
- River gradient/width:** 4 m per km, width-narrow.
- Section character:** A narrow river, generally swift flowing with gravel races and straightforward grade 1 and 2 rapids. Some rapids have fun drops and some manoeuvring may be required to avoid being swept into trees. The longest rapid is Slalom rapid which can be inspected by less experienced paddlers from the right bank.
- Hazards:** Narrow river that is prone to snagging.
- Put in:** Enoch Point (picnic area), accessed via Big River Road.
- Pull out:** Eildon-Jamieson Road Bridge, immediately after the bridge on river right.
- Other access:** Track off Big River Road, south of Railway Creek camping area; Chaffe Creek picnic area; and immediately upstream of Slalom rapid (Big River Road). If extending your trip, river can be accessed at Pines camping area, off Eildon-Jamieson Road, approximately 1.5 km north of bridge by road; Burnt Bridge camping area, off Eildon-Jamieson Road, approximately 3 km north of bridge by road; Dudleys Flat - parking on river side of road, approximately 5 km North of bridge by road (4WD track leads to foot track access to river).
- River level:** Eildon-Jamieson Road bridge - Min: 0.5 Good: 0.7 High: 1.4 Flood: 1.7
- Gauge:** Eildon-Jamieson Road bridge, immediately upstream of bridge on river right. This gauge reading is not available from the Bureau of Meteorology. The Goulburn River (Dohertys) gauge, upstream of Lake Eildon, is used as a guide. Multiply the level at Dohertys by 1.1 to approximate the Big River gauge.
- Other information:** Camping is available at Railway Creek, Chaffe Creek, Eildon-Jamieson Road bridge reserve, Pines camping area and Burnt Bridge camping area. If the level of Lake Eildon is low, it is possible to paddle to Dudleys Flat. Various sections of the river can be selected for paddling depending on the desired length of trip, vehicle capabilities and the level of Lake Eildon.
- Shuttle information:** Length - 14 km on unsealed roads suitable for 2WD vehicles. The Enoch Point Road is 4WD only and may be gated at northern end. Access tracks to Enoch Point and Railway Creek are slippery when wet - consider leaving 2WD vehicles part way down the track. There are several shallow creek crossings on the Big River Road - which may be difficult for 2WD vehicles. In wet conditions access at easier points may be preferable. If extending the trip past the road bridge to Pines camping area, Burnt Bridge or Dudleys Flat, the extra distance is on sealed roads.
- Emergency contacts:** Nearest Police - Eildon, Jamieson; nearest hospital - Yea, Mansfield; nearest town - Eildon, Jamieson.

True North and Magnetic North are shown for Enoch Point on this map. Magnetic Declination is 11°50' East, correct for 2005, and increases at a rate of approximately 01' every two years.

1:25 000

0 0.5 1 km

Horizontal Datum: Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (Transverse Mercator Projection Zone 55)

Contour Interval: 40m

Vertical Datum: Australian Height Datum

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