

Biophysical Interactions

Field of Mars Reserve - Yr 11 Geography



School name:	
School phone:	
Organising teacher - first name:	
Organising teacher - last name:	
Email:	
Mobile:	
Excursion program list:	Biophysical Interactions
Start time:	9.30
Finish time:	2.30
Excursion date:	
Approx student numbers:	
Number of classes:	
Grades:	
What Field of Mars EEC programs have your students participated in the past?:	
Participating staff and email addresses.:	

Teacher checklist

Location – Field of Mars Reserve, East Ryde.

Bus access - give supplied access information to driver. No bus entry into Field of Mars Reserve.

Cost - DOE \$18.00 per student, no GST.
Non Gov School Cost: \$28 per student (GST free, minimum charge \$550)

Bring - essential items only: medications, food, water, sunblock, hat and raincoat packed in a small backpack. There are no shops to purchase food.

Clothing - sports uniform recommended. Hats and sturdy closed shoes essential for all visitors.

Staffing - classroom teachers will be involved in all activities including rugged bushwalking.

Extreme or wet weather - may result in the excursion being modified, postponed or cancelled. This includes days predicted to be above 35°C, high winds, extreme bush fire danger and dust storms.
Ph: 98161298

Cancellations - less than two weeks notice \$100.
This does not apply to cancellations due to weather.

Medical or special needs - please notify EEC staff.

Limited bin access - all student waste will be taken home by students so 'nude food' containers are encouraged.

Student welfare - students will be outdoors all day, carrying their bag and along rugged terrain. It may not be suitable for students who have been recently unwell.

Assessment - Field of Mars has an "off the shelf" worksheet for this excursion, but is more than willing to work with your school to tailor the program and worksheet to best fit your assessment needs.
Please get in touch ASAP if you would like to do this.

Learning activities

Introduction

A brief session will introduce students to the reserve, the purpose of the fieldwork and the day's activities.

Fieldwork tasks

The students will work in pairs or groups to collect data from primary sources in several locations in the Field of Mars Reserve.

Site 1 - Turpentine ironbark margin forest

Biophysical factors – take measurements relating to the atmosphere and lithosphere, state dominant species and vegetation structure.

Site 3 - Strangers creek

Causes, impacts and solutions to the stormwater pollution issue at Strangers creek (immediately adjacent to site 1), relate these

Site 2 - Ridgetop woodland

Biophysical factors – take measurements relating to the atmosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere, relate these to vegetation structure (Biosphere). Compare sites 1 and 2, consider issues posed by feral species.

All sites and back in EEC classroom

Contemporary and historical human actions and impacts affecting the reserve.

Identify weed species and consider their impacts.

Water quality testing and analysis (if time)

Climatic data

Planning and aerial photograph interpretation

Interpret a contemporary land management document, identify land uses and impacts using aerial photographs, maps and field observations.

Group presentations and conclusion

If time permits, the students will work in small teams to create and present a brief presentation that explains how they would manage the Field of Mars Reserve to ensure the survival of its endemic biodiversity.

Geography Stage 6 syllabus

Preliminary course

8.2.1 Biophysical interactions

The student:

P2 describes the interactions between the four components (atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, biosphere) which define the biophysical environment

P3 explains how a specific environment functions in terms of biophysical factors

P8 selects, organises and analyses relevant geographical information from (a variety of sources) the direct observations in the fieldwork

P9 uses maps, graphs and statistics, photographs and fieldwork to conduct geographical enquiries