

# Deadmans Flat Map Notes Feb 2017

Notes compiled by Greg Tamblyn (BK)

We have finally finished updating this map. So compared to the last time you ran here be aware of the following changes.

In many areas the light green shown on the map (thick vegetation) has been reduced in area it is now shown as white (open forest). Many areas of dark green(impenetrable) have also been reduced to light green.



Vehicle tracks on the map are in a worse condition with more dips and wash ways present. Also there are a number of additional trail bike tracks. Track gradings have also changed.

## Warning

If you pass near the top of any cliff be aware that there has been some earth subsidence and a number of new pits and holes have appeared. Many have been added to the map but extra rain could make them more dangerous.

There are also some unique aspects of this map  
On most orienteering maps in Victoria a mineshaft will generally have a mound of earth next to it.  
Here on Deadmans Flat that appears to be the exception. Most mine shafts are flat with the ground with no visible mound.

Also many mineshaft are rectangular in shape not round. Gold prospectors on site told me the Chinese generally dug round mine shafts because they were structurally stronger. The rectangular mines were dug by the English and other westerners.



While field checking I came across a lot of Golden Orb-weaving Spiders with their super sticky webs. The female spider will be up to 4cm long, the male is only 5mm. They do not tend to bite people. They are just a concern if you get a face full of sticky web.

## History of the area

A gold rush started near here on New Years Day in 1853. The busiest area was on Fryers Creek at New Years Flat (the area was also known as Deadman's Flat)  
Population quickly increased to over 15,000 (in 2011 it was only 320).  
One miner described the activities along Fryers Creek "as the most animated sight of those stirring times that I have ever seen"  
It was often stated that the Shamrock Hotel on Vaughan Road was frequented by "wild men"



The area mainly used a gold sluicing method. On the map you will see the effect of this  
There are the remains of a number of large metal pipes that were originally used to wash away the hills. This created a number of the cliffs some up to 6 metres high.



