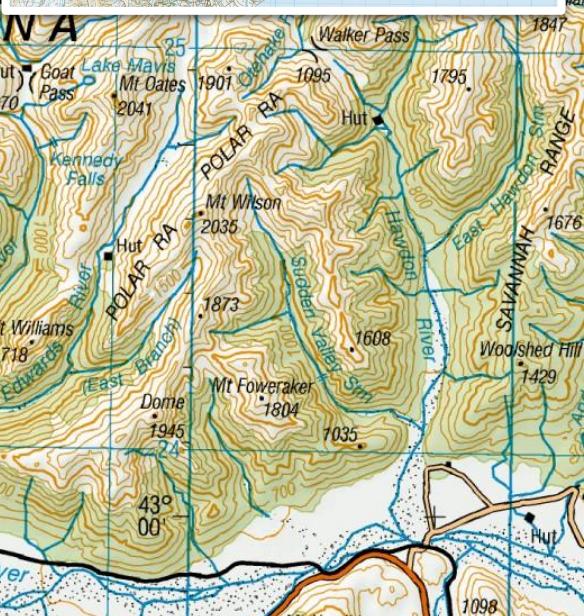
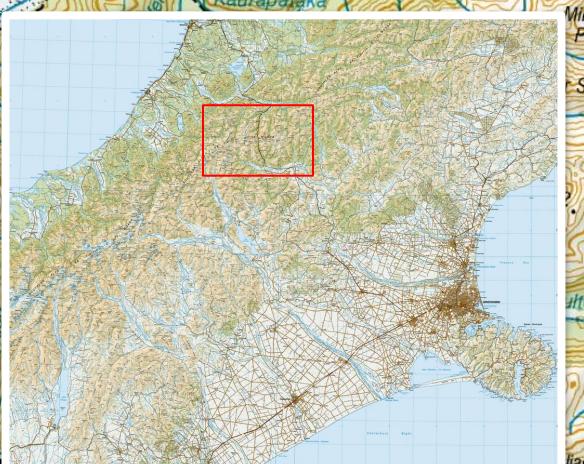
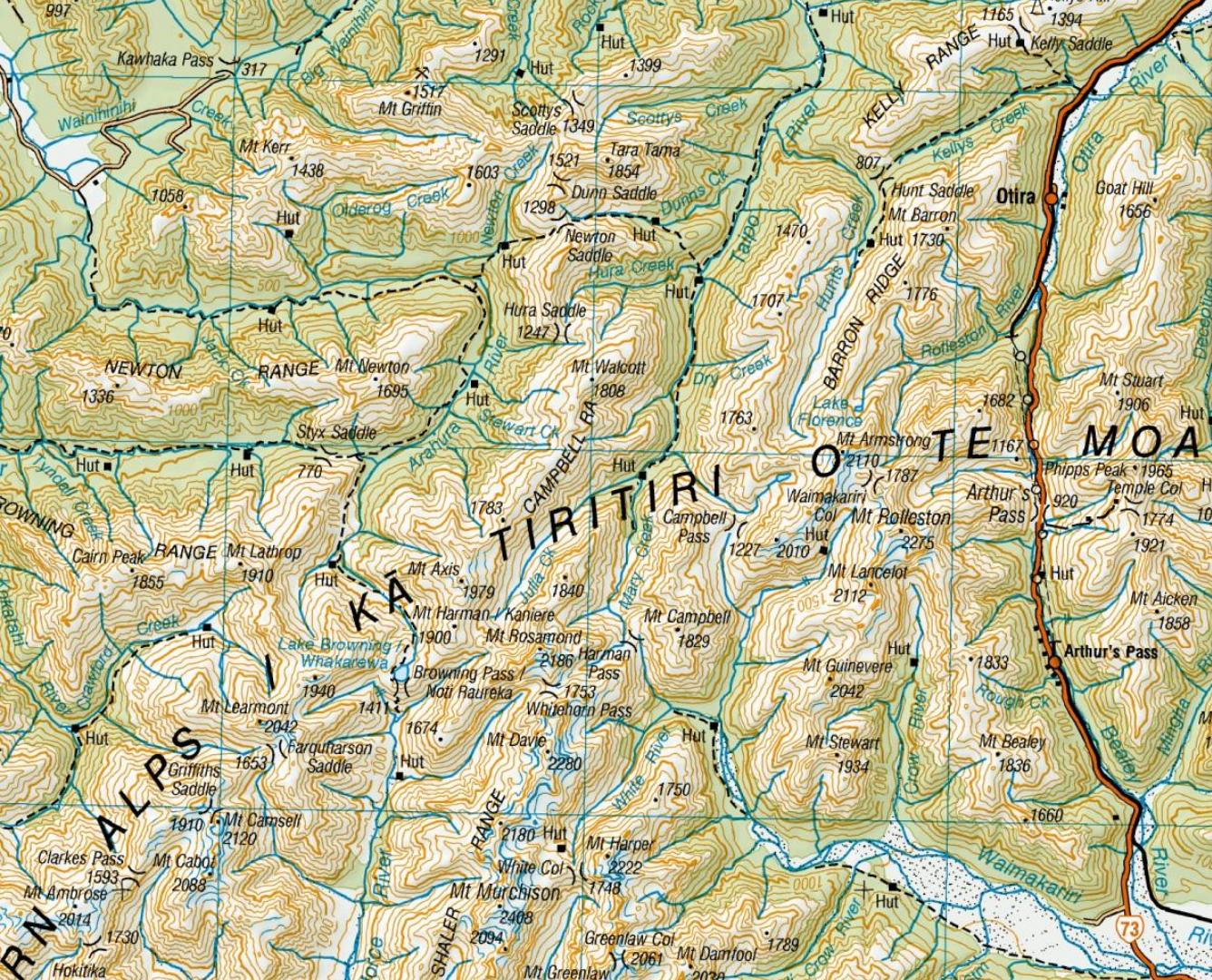


Arthur's Pass National Park



Nine Days of Adventure and Misadventure



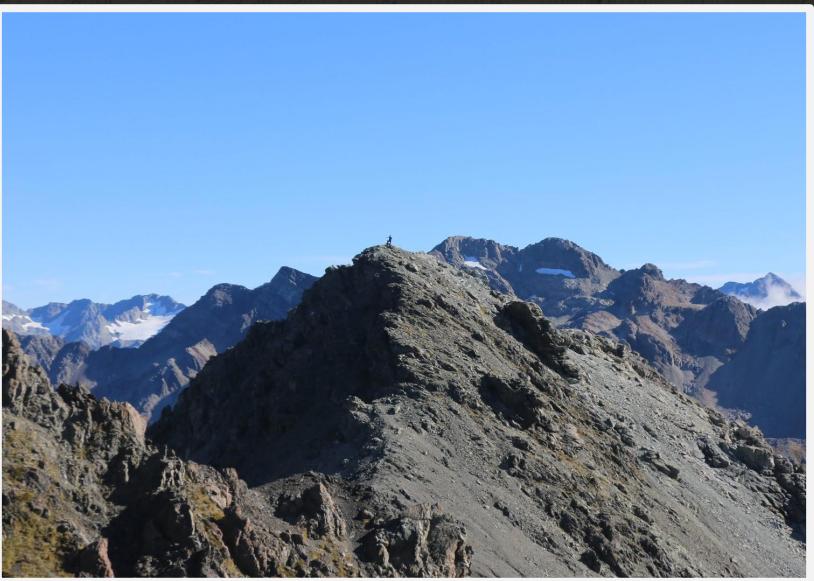


Arthur's Pass National Park



Nine Days of Adventure and Misadventure

Arthur's Pass National Park



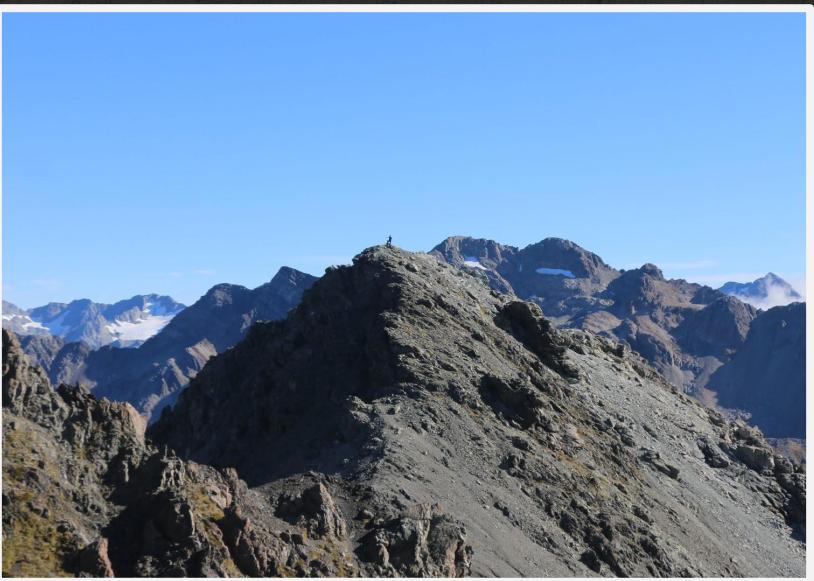
Nine Days of Adventure and Misadventure



75%

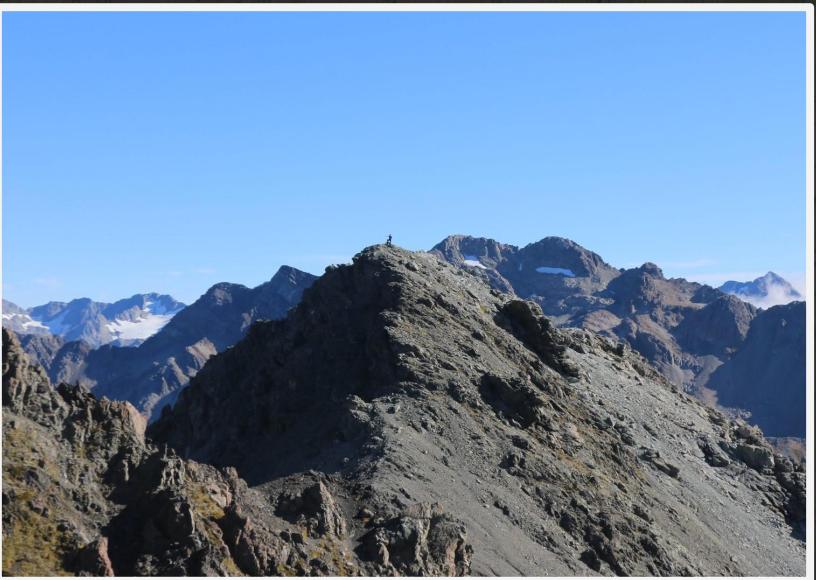
25%

Arthur's Pass National Park



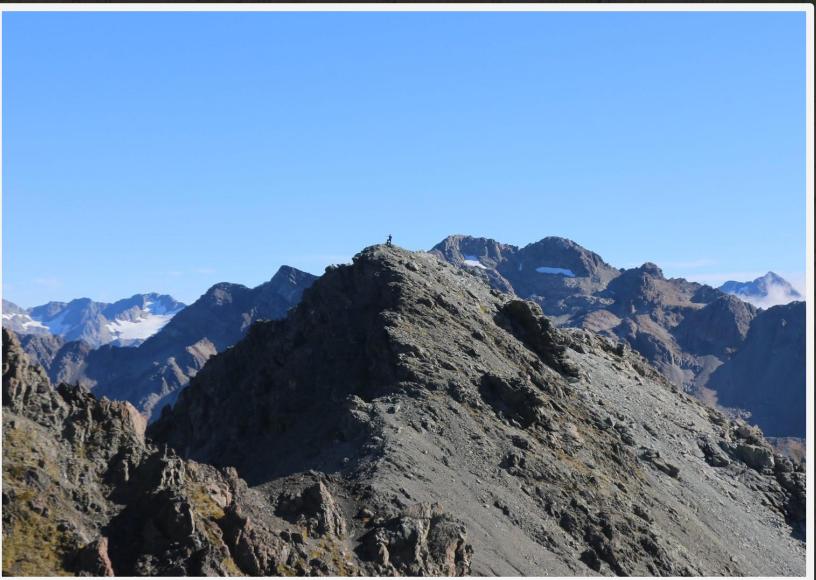
Nine Days of Adventure and Misadventure

A walk in the south island



Nine Days of Adventure and Misadventure

A walk in the south island

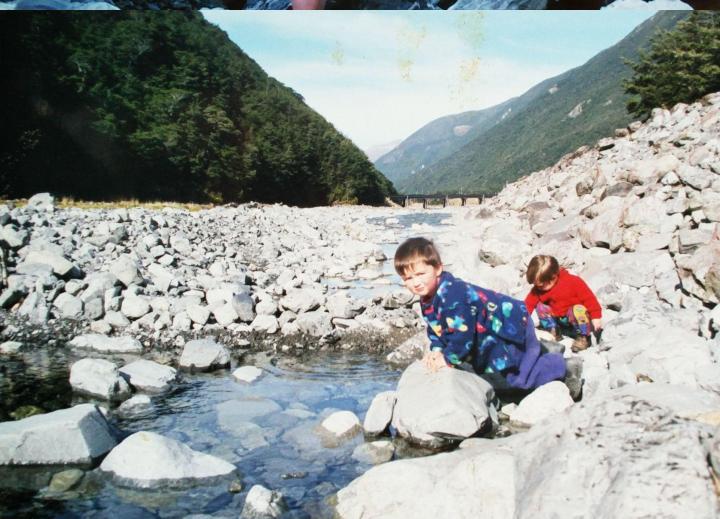


8.25 Days of Adventure and Misadventure

What is this talk?

- A trip report
- Some pretty pictures
- Inspiration for some trips to do in a cool part of the country
- Not necessarily filled with best practices or great advice
- Some lessons I learned

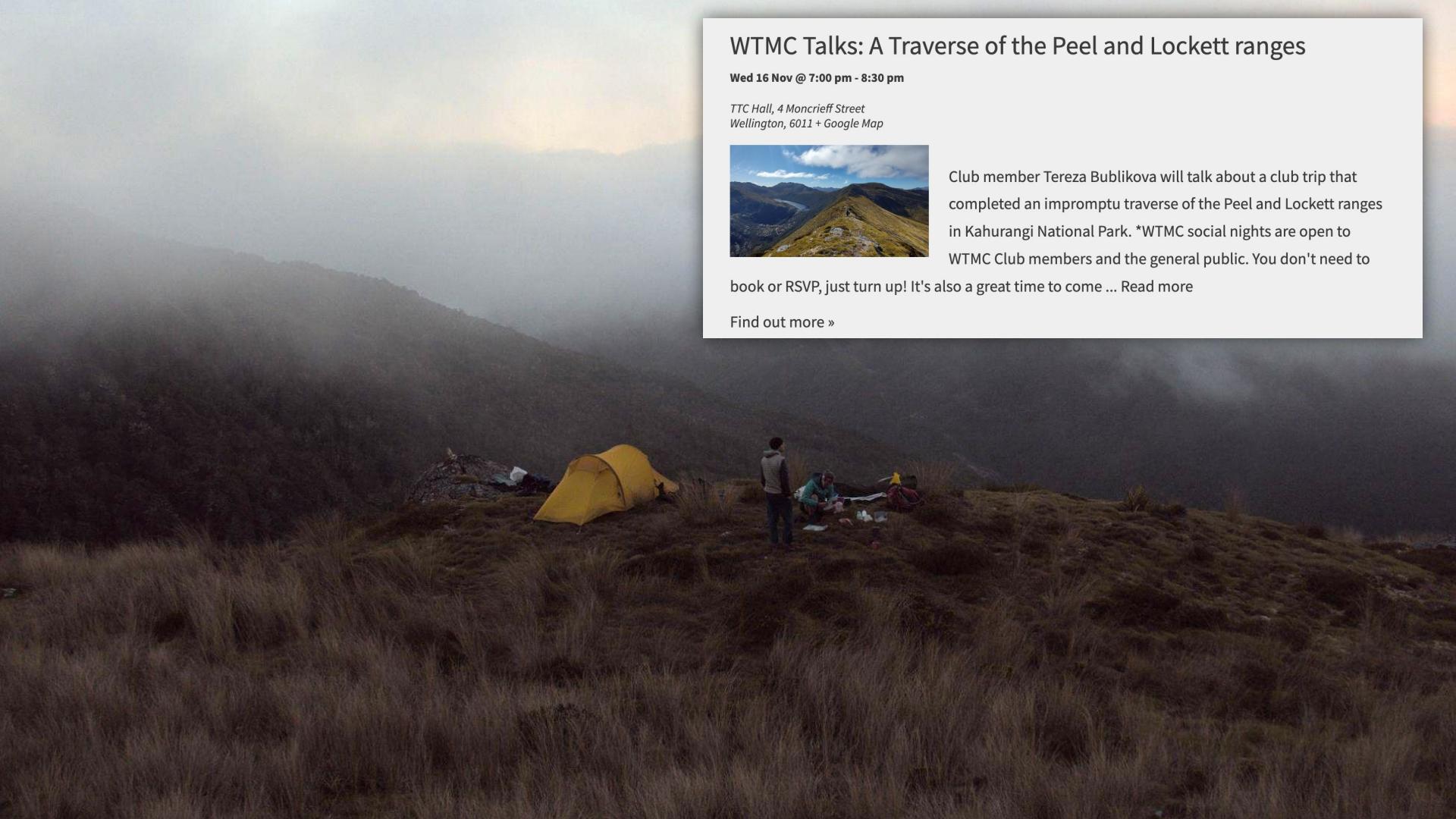
MOTIVATION



MISADVENTURE #0

“Rats”





WTMC Talks: A Traverse of the Peel and Lockett ranges

Wed 16 Nov @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

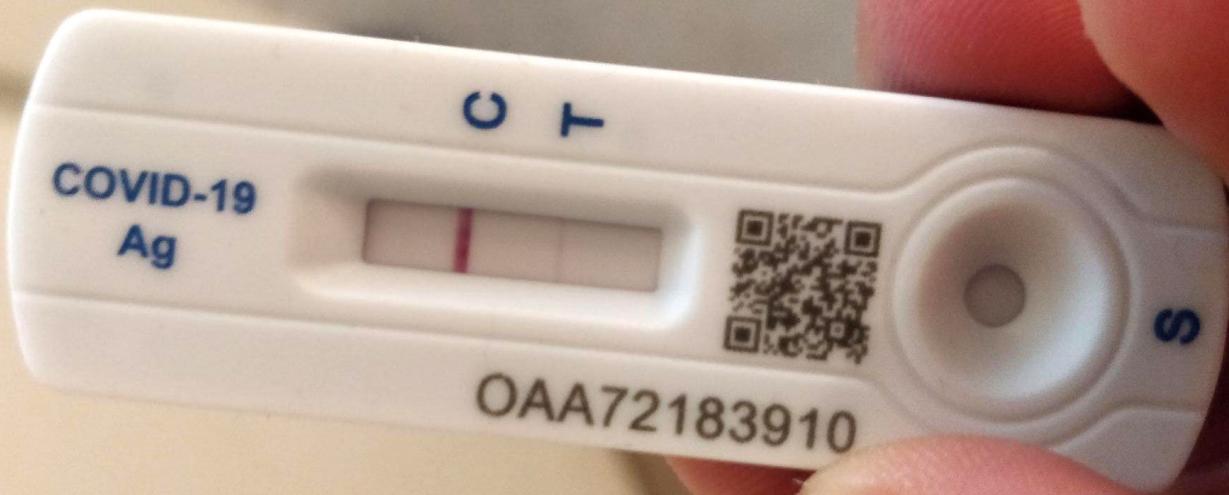
TTC Hall, 4 Moncrieff Street
Wellington, 6011 + [Google Map](#)



Club member Tereza Bublikova will talk about a club trip that completed an impromptu traverse of the Peel and Lockett ranges in Kahurangi National Park. *WTMC social nights are open to WTMC Club members and the general public. You don't need to

book or RSVP, just turn up! It's also a great time to come ... [Read more](#)

[Find out more »](#)



I

Avalanche Peak



TRANZALPINE

GREAT JOURNEYS NEW ZEALAND

GREYMOUTH

MOANA

ARTHUR'S PASS

SPRINGFIELD

CHRISTCHURCH









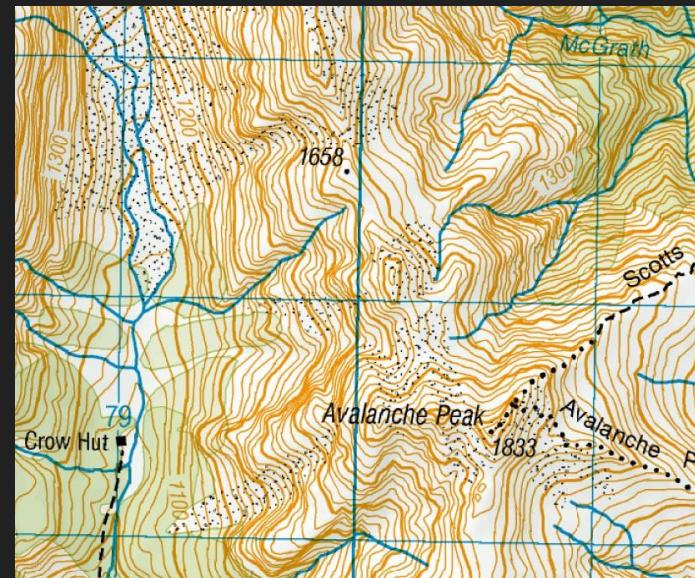








“The route to the main ridge behind Avalanche Peak starts in the opposite direction from that you would expect. From the summit, drop down the south side of Avalanche Peak onto the top of a shingle scree [...] From the shingle scree, head north-west under the main peak to a saddle between Avalanche Peak and the main Rolleston ridge. From the saddle, sidle on the eastern (village) side of the ridge, down to the main ridge towards Mount Rolleston.”







“Dropped down scree shortly after pt 1658. Average scree for 500m, but some small sections of excellent scree mixed in there. Reached hut at 3:30.”



<https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/images/places/canterbury/arthurs-pass/crow-hut/crow-hut-wide-1200.jpg>









<https://www.doc.govt.nz/thumbs/hero/contentassets/2066240711094487af219d8307f96c94/anticrow-hut-1920.jpg>



II

The Waimakariri



“Easy but tedious last few kms to Carrington hut (which is cold)”



<https://www.doc.govt.nz/thumbs/hero/contentassets/bc5e7f9ea1514e4aa5cc5bb35cc138a7/carrington-hut-1920.jpg>









“Really neat hut, thanks CMC!”





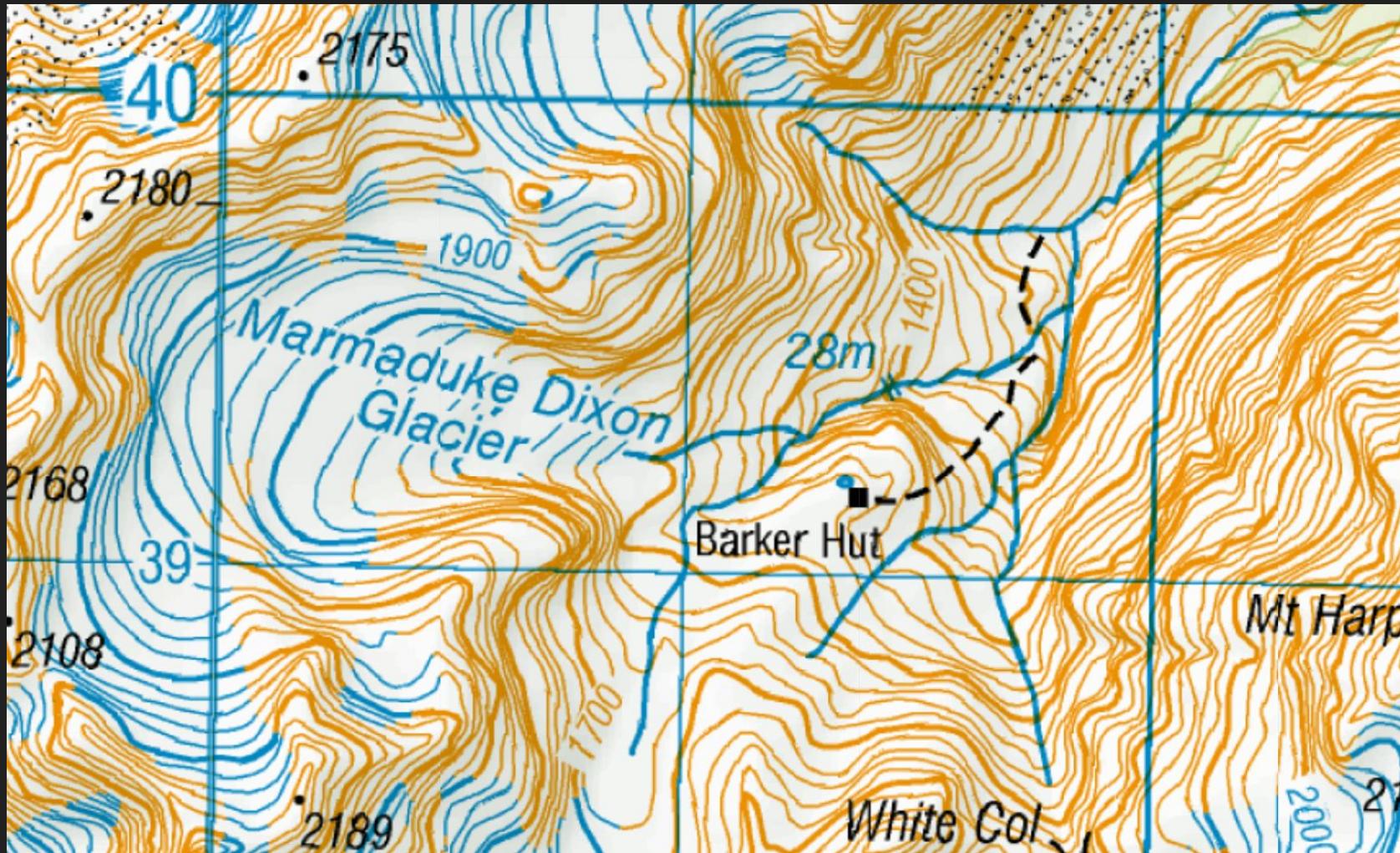




MISADVENTURE #1

“C^lag”

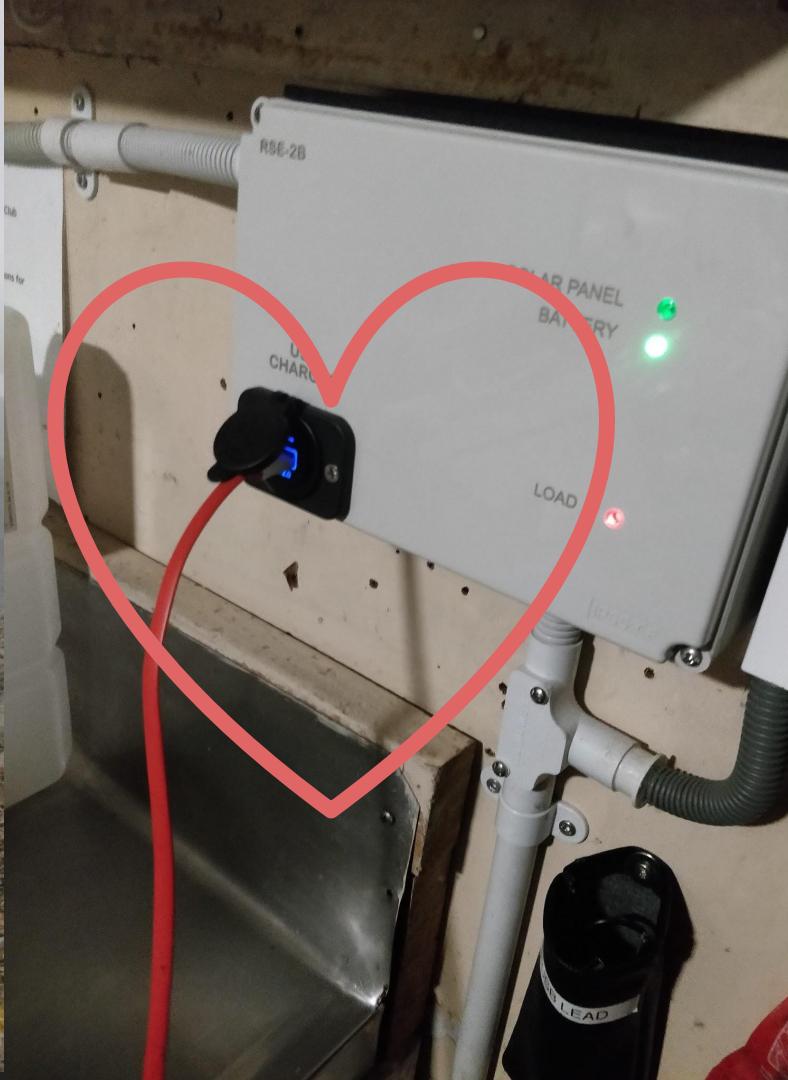




“At this point it was almost dark, and rather claggy. Eventually got a GPS signal which confirmed my mistake. Made to cross towards the hut but had to go higher to cross a very chasm-y river. Gashed my leg somewhere along the line... The closest I've ever been to pulling a PLB”







Lesson

A PLB can help, even if you
don't use it

III

Two passes





“Discovered my raincoat isn't so
waterproof”





<https://tramping.net.nz/images/1756.jpg>







“Followed river until I reached snow. Here it abruptly transitioned to type two fun”









IV

A Wilberforce Adventure





“Sometimes it is nice for the
terrain to make the difficult
decisions for you”



V

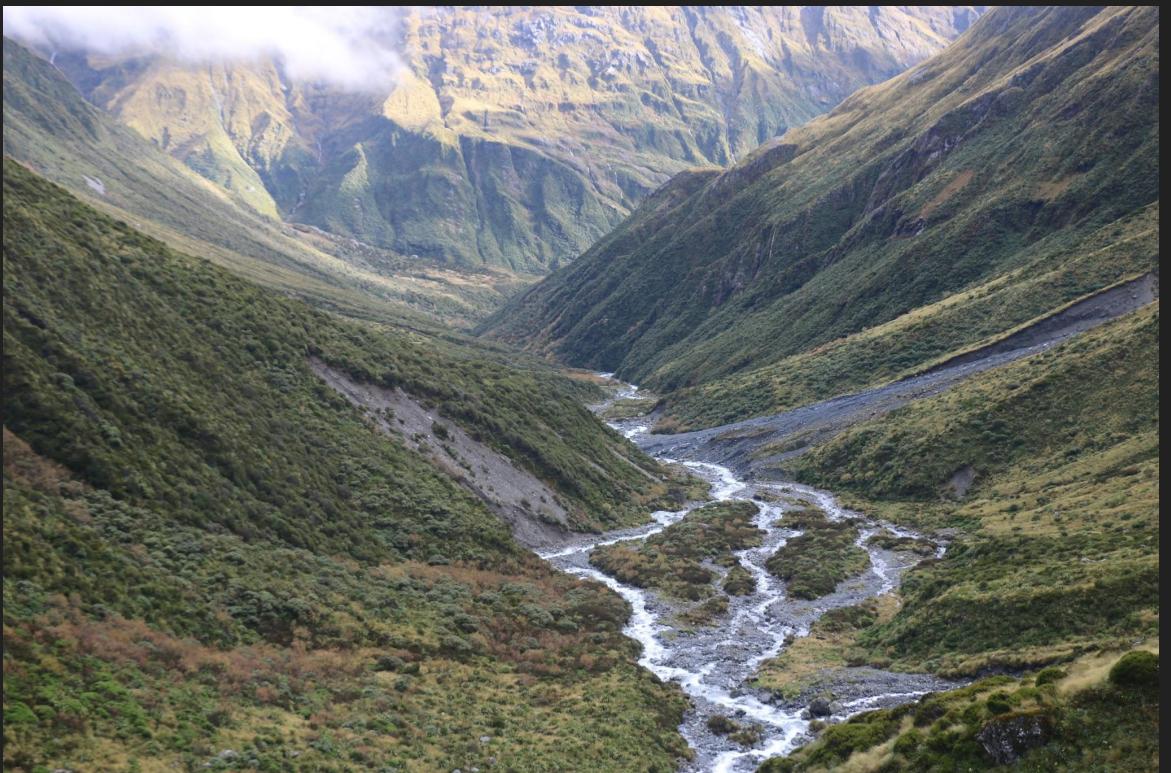
Browning Pass











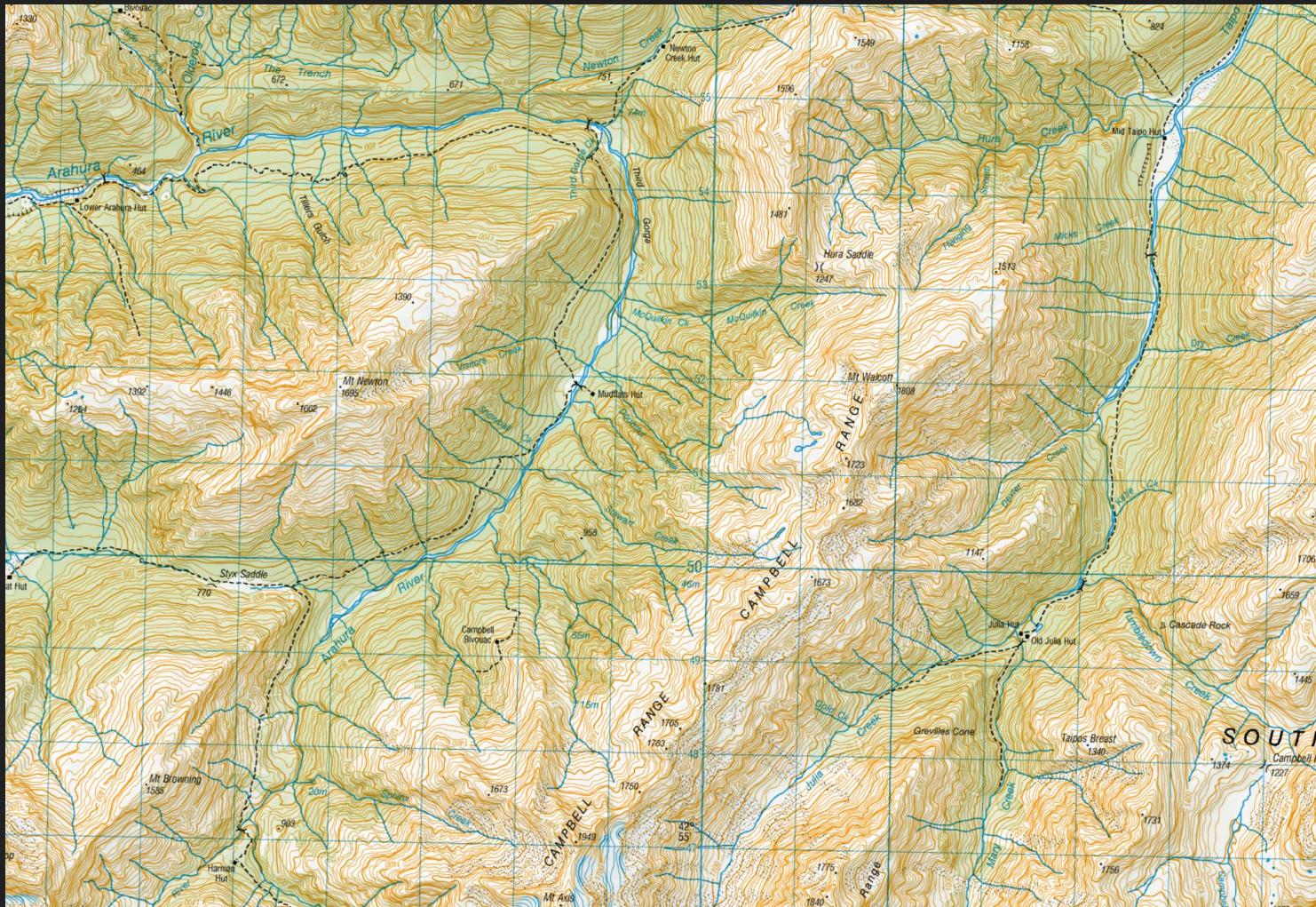




<https://hutbagger.co.nz/huts/harman-hut>





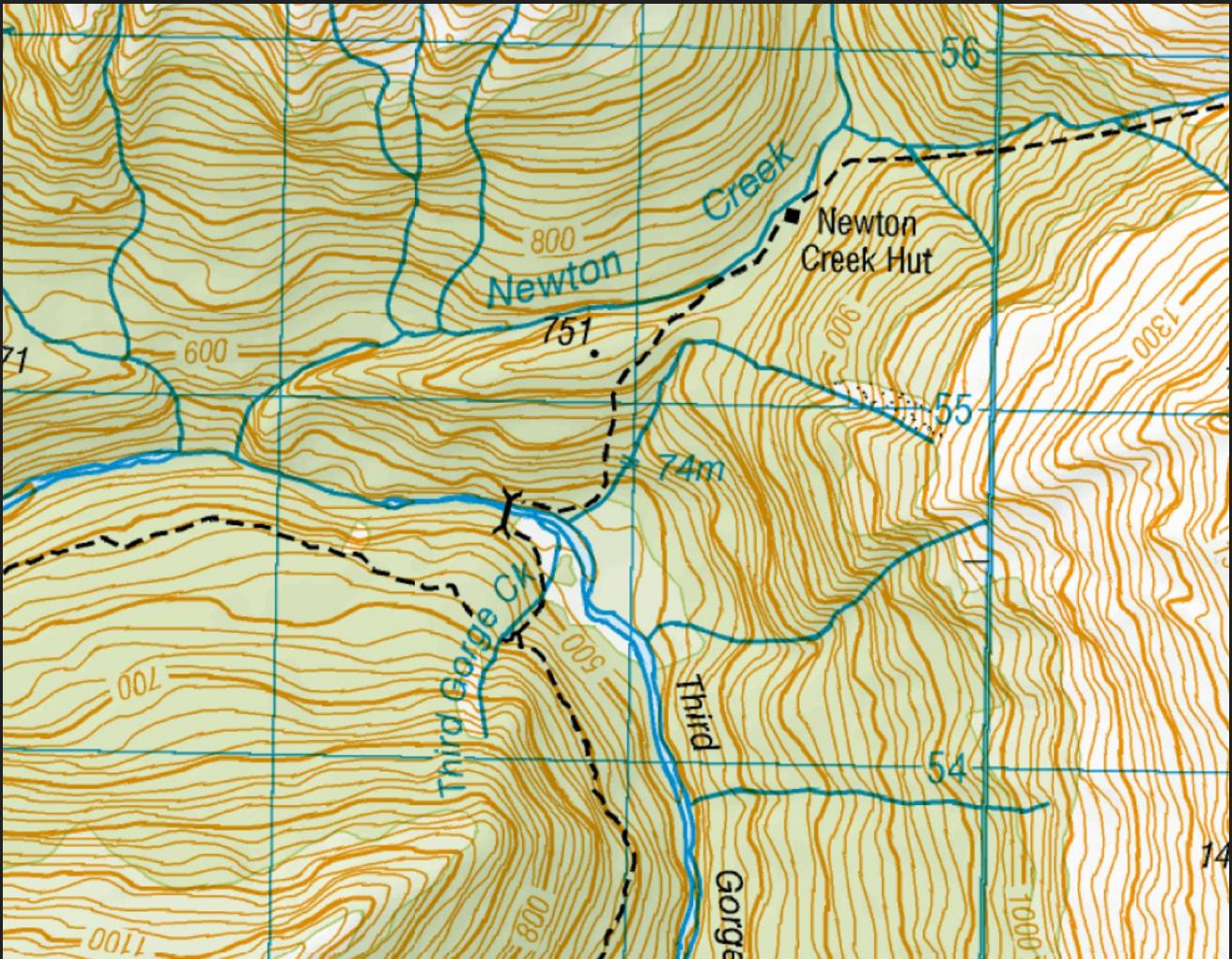






MISADVENTURE #2

“Trusting the map”



“Went down, up, down, up, down, and eventually just down the creek”

“At one point I angrily swore at a stick that was holding me back and had a moment of clarity”

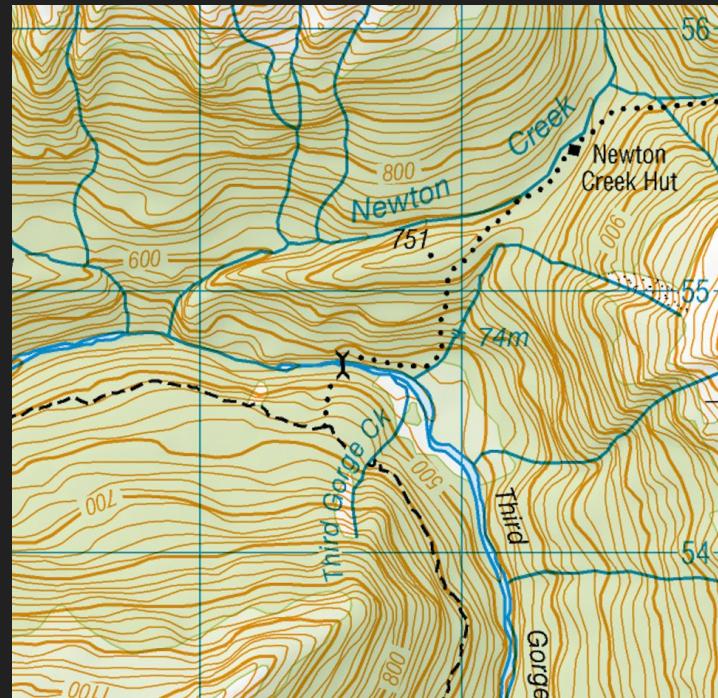


03/04/09 5 4

2009!

Zac Robinson Hoki
Adam Breeze Hoki
Bushy Davidson Hoki
Neill McFarlane Hari Hari (Doc)

Cut, sprayed and marked from Newton Creek hut
to Newton six wire bridge and re-routed track
from Bridge up to Arohura track. (3rd gorge track is no
longer useable.)



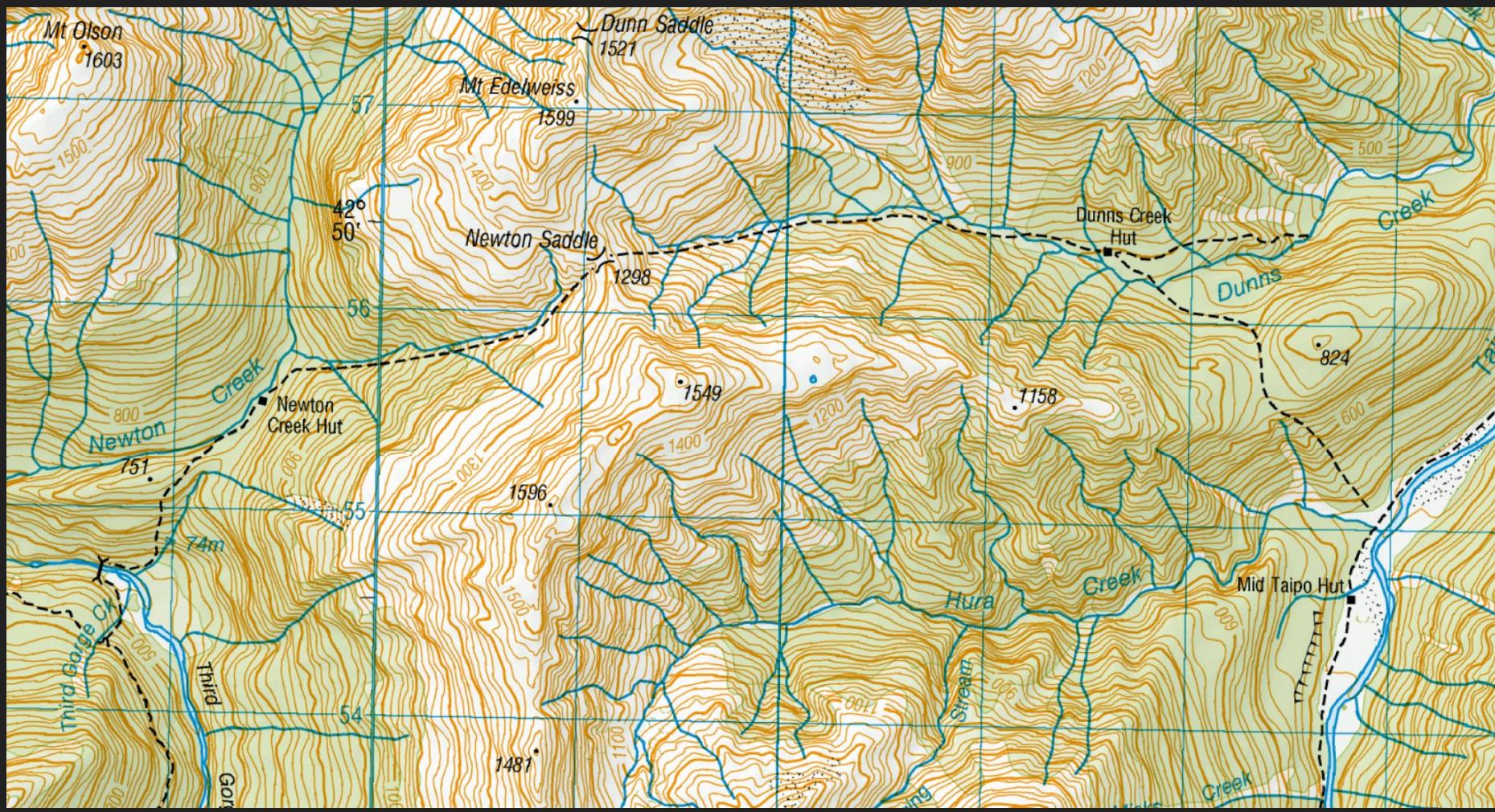
“Boulder hopped upstream to the steep track up to Newton Creek Hut. In parts it was less track, and felt more like someone's attempt to cultivate hook grass.”

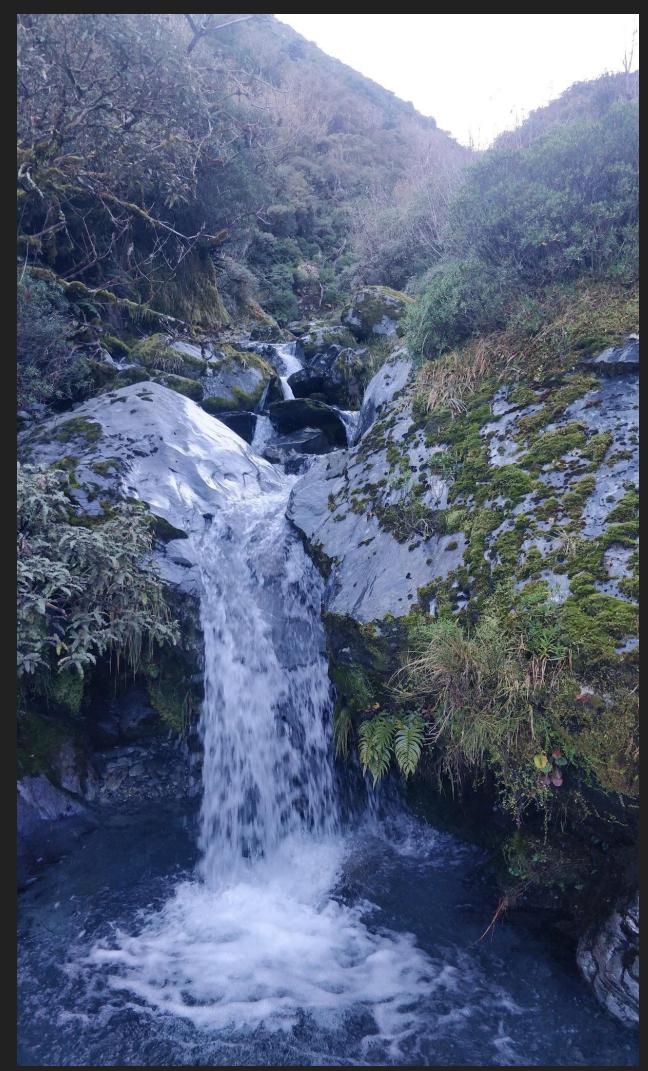


<https://www.remotehuts.co.nz/newton-creek-hut.html>

VI

Newton Saddle

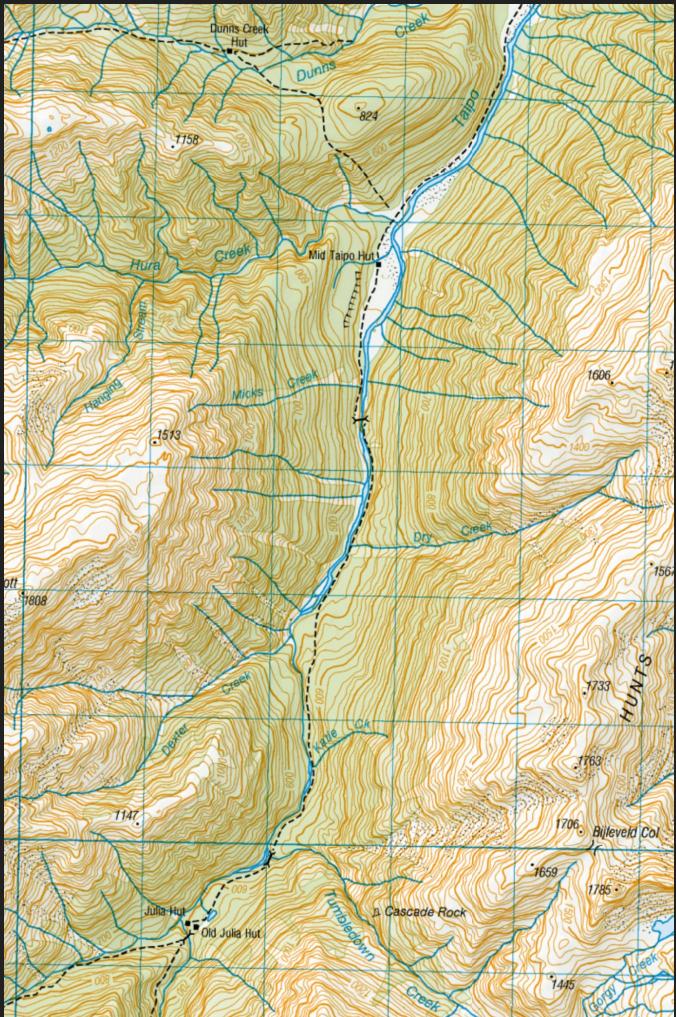






Date of departure from hut	No. of nights at hut	No. in party	Pet. or club	Names of those in your party	Hometown (or country)	Expected duration of trip	Principle activity on this trip (eg. tramping, climbing, hunting etc.)
17/5/91	0	3	Pt	Rob Arnold, Alan Jenkin, Warren Knight	Chch	9	Tramping
17/5/91	1	3	Pt	JO Stewell, Shawn Barnatt, Steve Baker	Chch	9 days	Tramping
20/5/91	3	1	DANCRAFT	Wisconsin USA	Always Tramping fastening two strings that DONT mix.		
				Upon reflection It was breaking the mirror that let me see Upon reflection there was no me.			
20/5/91	0	2	Pt	Gerry O'Brien, Bruce James	Chch	6 days	Tramping
21/5/91	2	2	Pt	Dave Bellup, Andi Wright	Chch	4	resting
21/5/91	1	2	Pt	Stuart Triston, Ian Douglas	UK	6	Tramping
6.3.91	1			NE 2805 CA 3906		out via Styx	
7/3/91	0	2	doc	Ralph White & Paul Nutting	Willes	5	Over Newton Saddle
					etc etc etc & Chch		over a
							inspection of tracks, & and hats shouldered

Planned route and destination from this hut including expected date out of bush	Comments on facilities and wildlife
Aimed from Newton Ch hut 2.15pm in cold conditions. Slipping going up the creeks. Departed 3.20pm, heading down to Taiapa Hut. Out 19/5/91 at Kelly's Creek.	clean food cupboard clean atop " " tin on floor sweep floor mattresses area. - reached guttering
Aimed from 7 mile hut in wet wx. Today (17m/s) great day - heading over Newton Saddle to Weston Hut & beyond.	
Up the Taiapa fr. Taite. over Newton Saddle and out via the Styx	My mind reached out beyond the stars and into myself. Why am I here? Why am I depriving my body of food? Why aren't I at home watching "Sales of the Century"? The moth that darted through the candles flickering flame told me. The rational mind is not the source of new insight. It can be expanded to accommodate new learning, but it does not undertake new learning. It is a cataloguing/comparing mechanism. It sees only what it contains. So down to the creek I went, to undertake and experience the flow of the water. As it cascaded over the tops of boulders and continued its journey, I realized, that the secret of the struggle is to remain above the contest. The water does not go through the rock, but over it. please eat something
Morning Tee Here. On day trip from Mt Taiapa up to Weston Saddle and maybe Mt Edelweiss. Wn Great Sunny, hot. arrived last night - built rock fire - took trail to falls - walked back exhausted - heading out (rivers permitting) to dig last trail over Newton Saddle. Good weather, a great spot. Keep up the hut Doc. from Newton Creek Hut via Mt Edelweiss. Just called in for a 12.7 mile hut 3.30 out tomorrow via Kelly's Saddle or down the Taiapa	No this road is crazy.
BS. Give up from Mt Taiapa, will now go over Newton Saddle to Newton Creek Hut. Out tomorrow via Andura. S-Why did u do nothing with tracks? not since 1974. newton creek track ground.	





hot pools

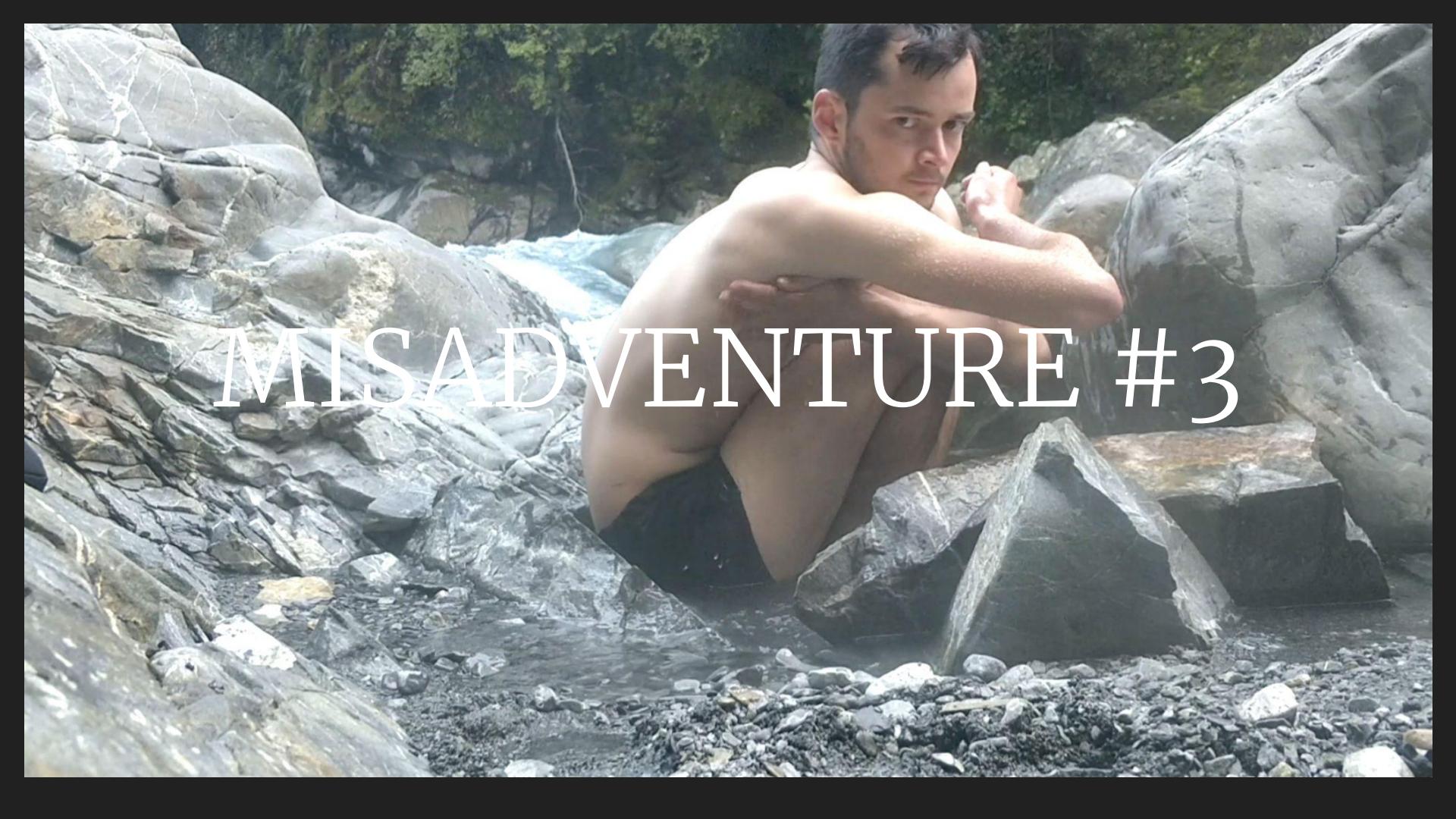
follow path past toilet until you reach the river.

Follow the river down stream about 100-200m until you reach the hot pools.

There are some pots and shovel to dig out the pools or adjust the temperature by letting more or less cold water into the pool

~~*FOLLOW BLUE MARKERS THE WHOLE WAY TO THE END
ALONG RIVER BANK
(THIS IS NOT THE TRACK TO DILLOW HUT)~~

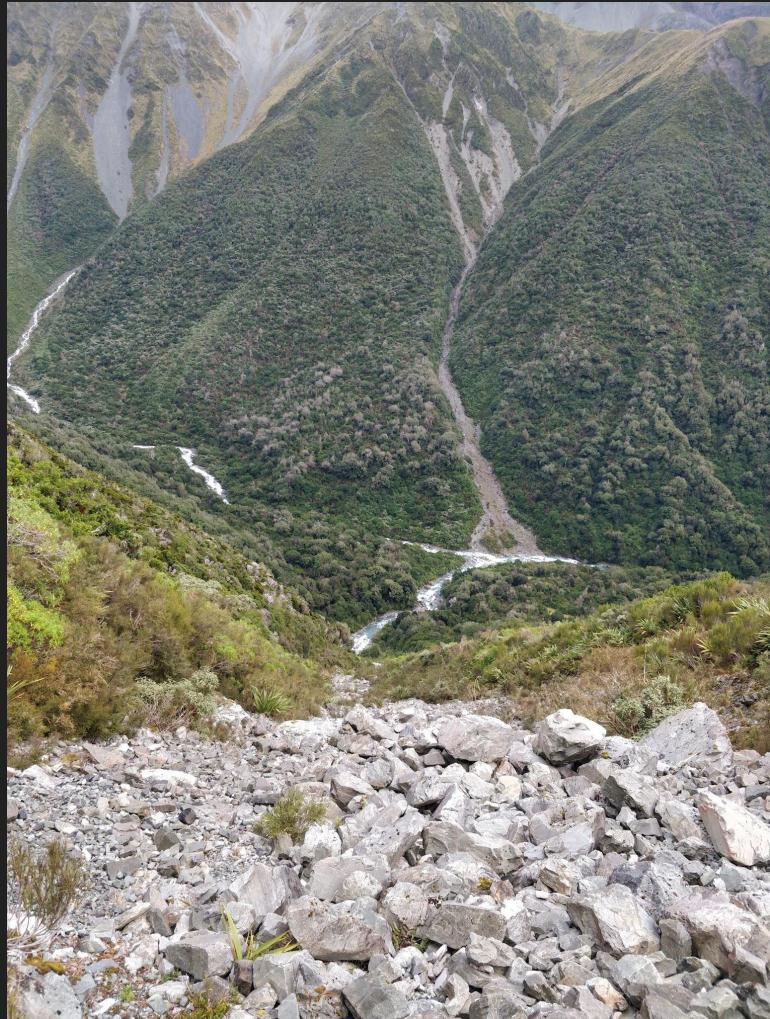
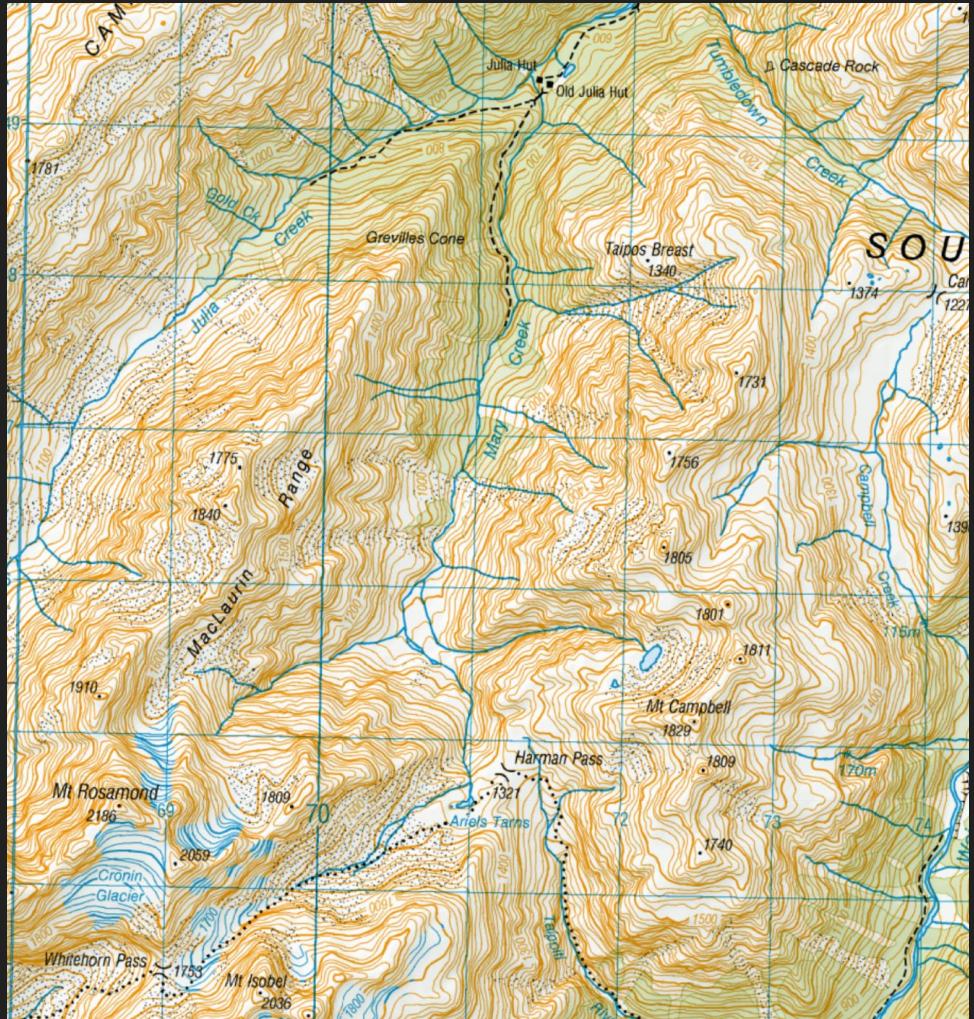


A photograph of a shirtless man with dark hair and a beard, sitting on a large, light-colored rock. He is leaning forward with his arms crossed over his knees, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background shows a rocky riverbank with a small waterfall and dense green trees. The water in the river is clear and reflects the surrounding environment.

MISADVENTURE #3

VII

A return to Harman Pass













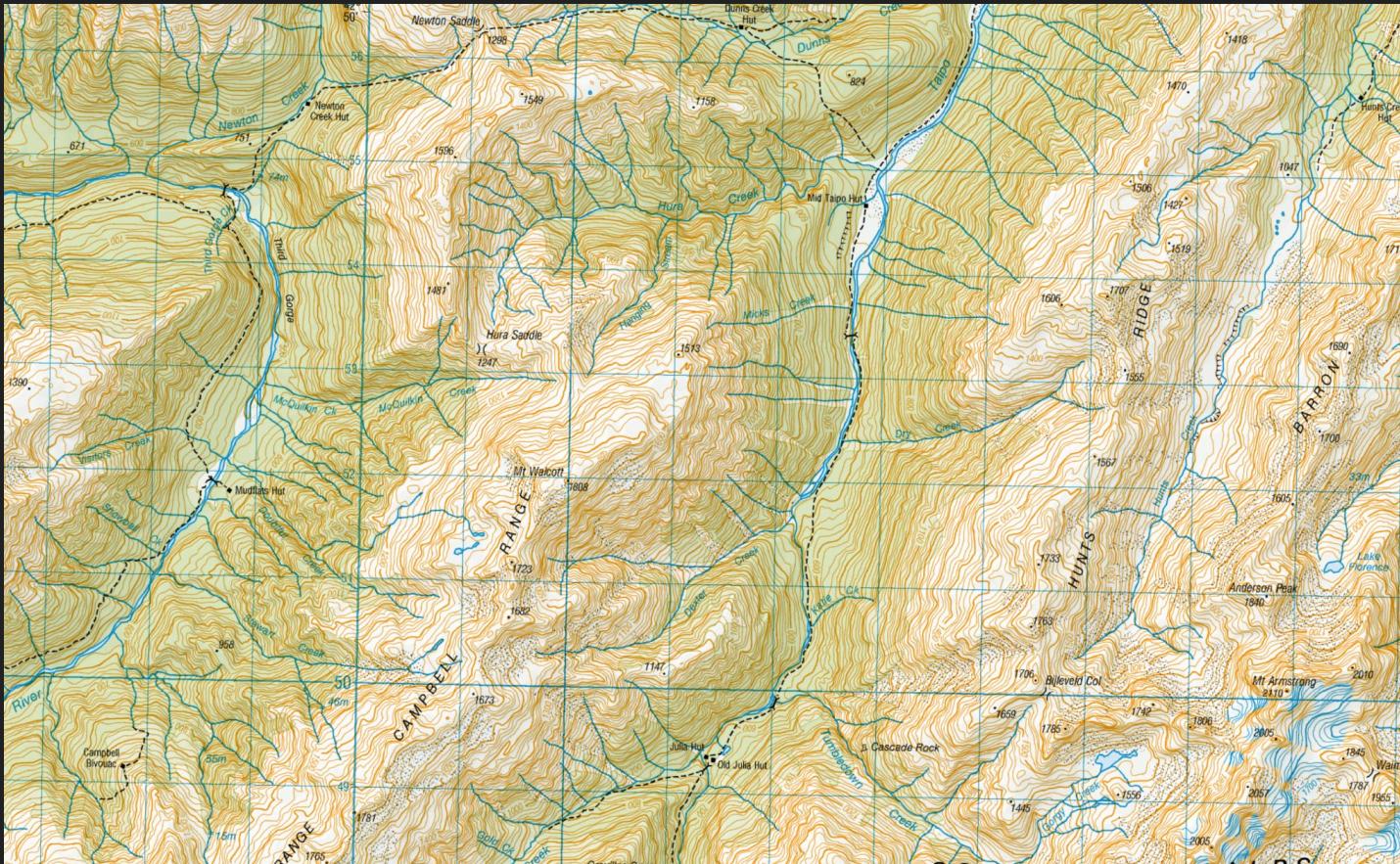








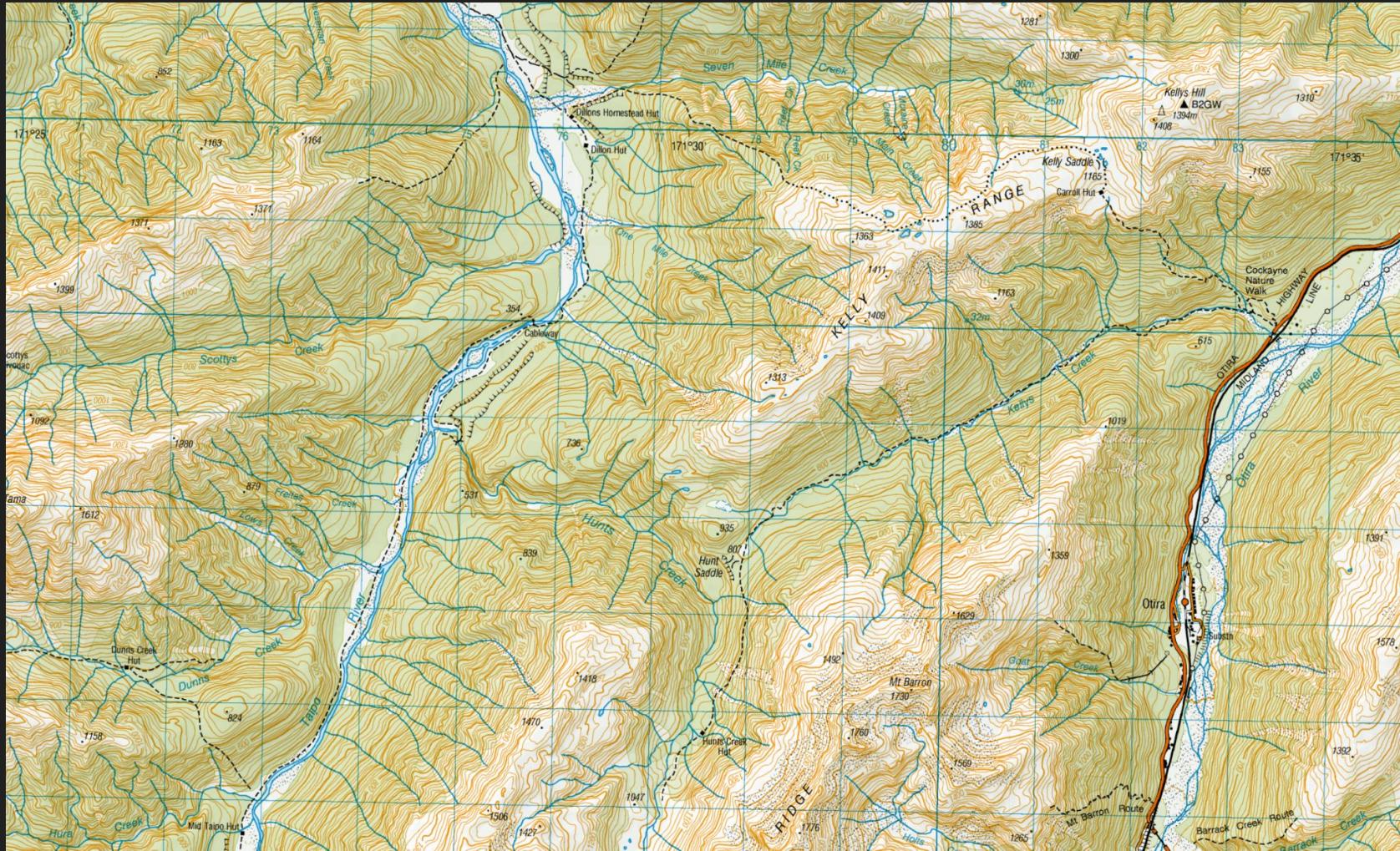




“Tedious plod back down the river”

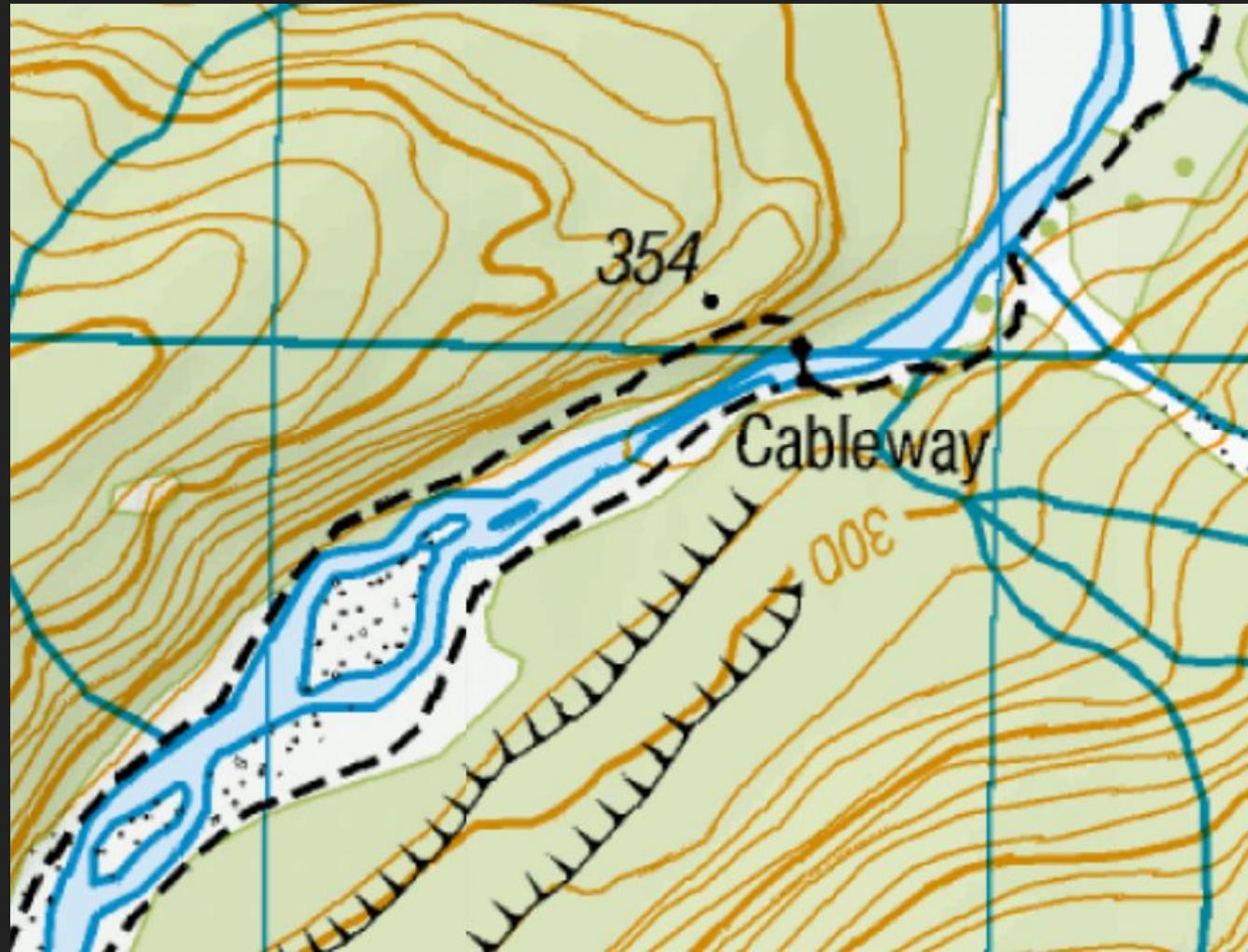
VIII

The Kelly Range



MISADVENTURE #4

“Not learning from misadventure #2”



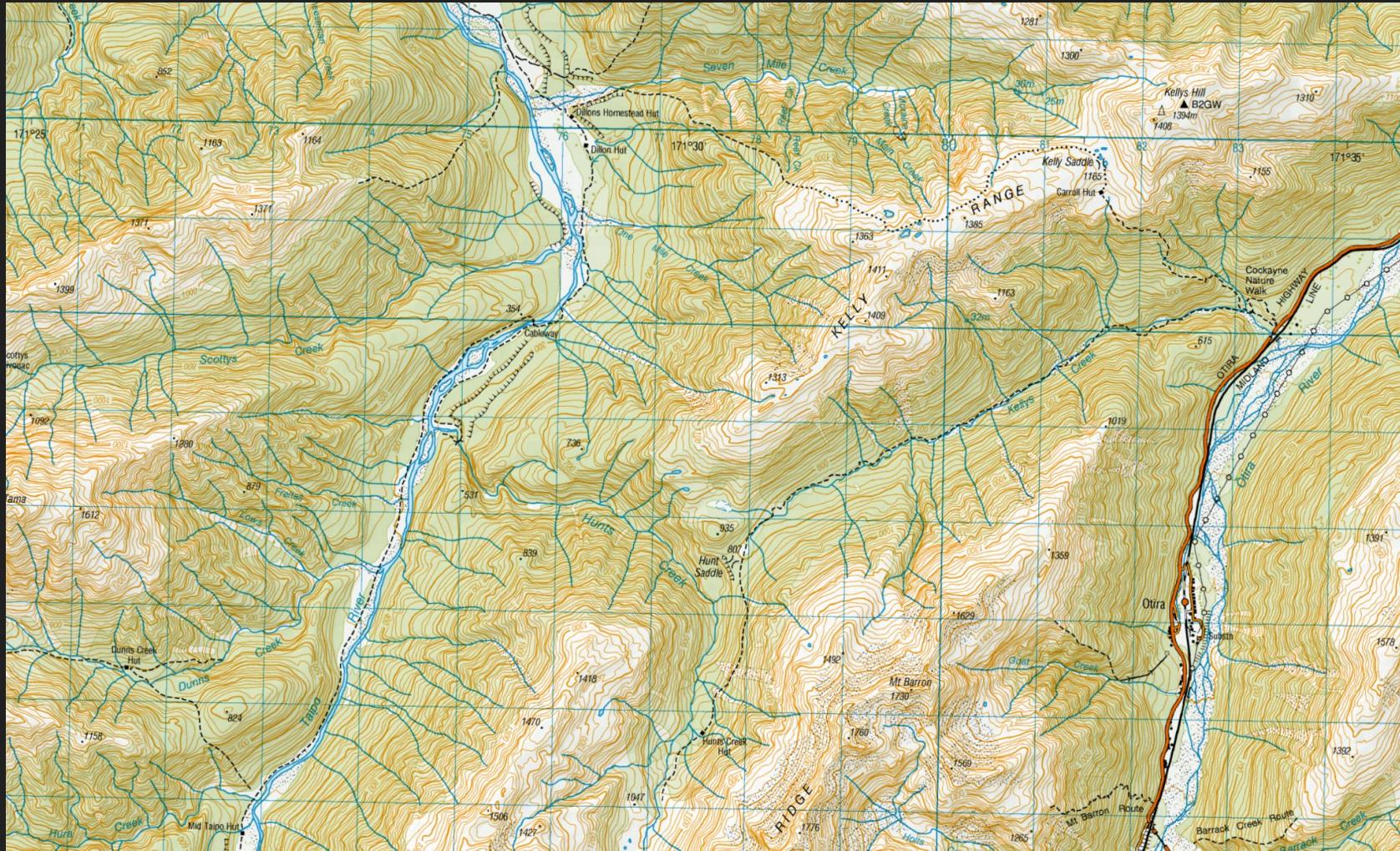
Lesson

Tracks are faster than
bush bashing





















 Mathew Denys

Clive

ⓘ Adult · Male · V-3918

📍 Otira

∅ Yellow DO on Blue

DO

<https://keadatabase.nz/birds/clive>

 Mathew Denys

Lennon

ⓘ Juvenile · Male · V-3931

📍 Waimakariri

∅ Black BM on Grey

BM

<https://keadatabase.nz/birds/lennon>



IX

Down to civilisation



MISADVENTURE #5

“Intentions”

Fri 29th

- TranzAlpine to Arthur's pass village, arrive 11am
- 3.5 hrs to Avalanche peak
 - Two tracks head to Avalanche Peak: Avalanche Peak Track is steeper and more direct; Scotts Track climbs more gradually, has better views, and is easier on the knees. Both tracks are marked to the summit.
- 1 hr north along tops
 - The ridge line from Avalanche Peak summit is narrow and rocky so the unmarked route often sidles below the ridge. The route to the main ridge behind Avalanche Peak starts in the opposite direction from that you would expect. From the summit, drop down the south side of Avalanche Peak onto the top of a shingle scree. Note: As you walk up from the village, south is on your left; the large glaciated peak, Mount Rolleston, is to the north.
- 1.5 hrs to Crow Hut
 - From the shingle scree, head north-west under the main peak to a saddle between Avalanche Peak and the main Rolleston ridge. From the saddle, side on the eastern (village) side of the ridge, down to the main ridge towards Mount Rolleston. Continue along this ridge for about 30 minutes until you reach a marked point indicating the descent point into the Crow valley.

Warning: It is vital to find the right descent into Crow River. Do not attempt to descend to Crow River before the marked point because earlier scree finish in bluffs.

There are four features to check that you are at the right place:

1. The point is marked by stakes and a rock cairn
2. You can see the full length of the scree, from the ridge to the Crow valley
3. The full drop of Devils Punchbow Falls is visible on opposite slopes
4. Just after the correct place to descend, the ridge you are on rises more steeply towards Mount Rolleston

This scree provides a good, bluff-free descent, but is avalanche prone in heavy snow. Take care not to dislodge loose rock onto people below you. Beware of rockfall.

Towards the bottom this long scree narrows before fanning out. From here you can see

Fri 29th

- TranzAlpine to Arthur's pass village, arrive 11am
- 3.5 hrs to Avalanche peak
 - Two tracks head to Avalanche Peak: Avalanche Peak Track is steeper and more direct; Scotts Track climbs more gradually, has better views, and is easier on the knees. Both tracks are marked to the summit.
- 1 hr north along tops
 - The ridge line from Avalanche Peak summit is narrow and rocky so the unmarked route often sidles below the ridge. The route to the main ridge behind Avalanche Peak starts in the opposite direction from that you would expect. From the summit, drop down the south side of Avalanche Peak onto the top of a shingle scree. Note: As you walk up from the village, south is on your left, the large glaciated peak, Mount Rolleston, is to the north
- 1.5 hrs to Crow Hut
 - From the shingle scree, head north-west under the main peak to a saddle between Avalanche Peak and the main Rolleston ridge. From the saddle, sidle on the east (village) side of the ridge, down to the main ridge towards Mount Rolleston. Conf this ridge for about 30 minutes until you reach a marked point indicating the de into the Crow valley.
- The route leaves the ridge and a scree slope takes you all the way to the C

Warning: It is vital to find the right descent into Crow River. Do not attempt Crow River before the marked point because earlier scree finish in blu

There are four features to check that you are at the right place:

1. The point is marked by stakes and a rock cairn
2. You can see the full length of the scree, from the ridge to
3. The full drop of Devils Punchbow Falls is visible on opp
4. Just after the correct place to descend, the ridge you are towards Mount Rolleston

This scree provides a good, bluff-free descent, but is available care not to dislodge loose rock onto people below you. Be

Towards the bottom this long scree narrows before fan

Fri 6th

- 1.5 hrs down to SH73
 - From Carroll Hut the track runs directly across the tussock in front of the hut basin. A benched section of track descends by sidling down across steep sc bushline. Once in the bush it drops more steeply and emerges at Kellys Creek from the main road. Time from Carroll Hut to the road is 1 hour 30 minutes
- See alternative route 3 below
- 1 hr down SH73 to Morrison's Footbridge
- Up the Deception River
 - Possibly reach Upper Deception Hut, otherwise camp
 - From SH73 Morrisons footbridge crosses the Otira River. Follow the marked ro river flats on the true right of the Deception River until the river narrows and turns gorge. From here cross to the true left and continue upstream. The route further Deception valley crosses the river numerous times with travel primarily being in t bed, although there are some tracked sections.

After travelling upstream for about 11 km, a prominent creek (Dorreen Creek) joins Deception River on the true left. A marked track begins here on the true right of Do Creek. A further kilometre on from Dorreen Creek the track re-emerges beside the Cross here and be sure to spot the orange marker on the other side indicating the lo of the Upper Deception Hut.

- To Goat Pass Hut
 - From the Upper Deception Hut the route involves scrambling and boulder-hopping up t riverbed and through adjacent bush (sometimes on distinct sections of track that may b marked) for around 1 hour, before a final crossing of the Deception River (onto the true At this point you leave the Deception River to scramble up a steep side stream for about 500 m to reach Goat Pass Hut.
- Day trip to Lake Mavis
 - For parties in the summer with time in hand at Goat Pass, the 500 m climb to Lake Mavis worthwhile. Climb the steep tussock and scree on the spur running east from Goat Pass, then follow the cairned ridge route
 - Could do the next day, depends on timing each day

Alternative routes

Fri 29th

- TranzAlps
- 3.5 hrs
- 1 hr

#1 Waimakariri Falls Hut (+1 day)

1. On Sunday 1st May, instead of going over Harman pass, I might return to Carrington Hut and do a day trip up to Waimakariri Falls Hut and back. Then over Harman pass the next day. This would be 2 short days.
2. Alternatively, I could take a full pack up to Waimakariri Falls Hut, head halfway back down, and cross to Julia Hut via Campbell Pass and Taipo's Breast. This could be 2 short days, or more likely, 1 longer day.

#2 Newtons Creek Hut & Scottys Biv (+2 days)

- Rather than heading straight to Dillon Hut from Julia Hut, I could head up past Dunns Creek hut / Newton Saddle to Newton Creek Hut
 - Access to Newton Creek from the Taipo valley is via Newton Saddle and Dunns Hut. The route goes up the TR branch of Dunns Creek and is tracked around the rougher, more bouldery bits. Snow-poles mark the route above the scrubline. The route on the Newton Creek side is down a gully into a steep side stream, which is followed all the way down to Newton Creek. The side-creek is shady and the boulders are often icy in winter. The gully leading down from the Saddle into the side-creek is usually snow-filled in winter, and can also be icy. Ice axes are recommended at these times. Big variations in the travel times for the crossing can be seen in both hutbooks, reflecting the wide range in fitness and experience of those doing it, and the greatly differing weather and snow conditions that can be encountered. An average time in good conditions commensurate with other track times on this site would be 4-5 hours. DOC recut the tracked sections from Newton to Dunns in January 2021.
- Then head to Scottys biv
 - Scottys Biv can also be accessed along the crest of the Tara Tama Range as far as Scottys Saddle. It is a 20 minute descent from here in an ESE direction down a series of tussock tussock with shattered rock outcrops. The Biv is clearly visible in good weather from point 1516m onwards.
- Then head down the ridge to Dillon Hut
 - Opposite of this: The most direct route to Scottys Biv is via an old NZFS tops track that starts opposite the old Seven Mile Hut in the Taipo valley... The track commences at the mouth of a small side-creek that enters the River just below some shingle bluffs and is marked with a cairn and a permolat. Follow the creek up for 100m to where a track exits on the TR and climbs steeply up onto a bush terrace. This is followed at a fairly gentle gradient to a broad spur which is steep initially and becomes

down to SH73

From Carroll Hut the track runs directly across the tussock in front of the hut basin. A benched section of track descends by sidling down across steep scree. Once in the bush it drops more steeply and emerges at Kellys Creek in the main road. Time from Carroll Hut to the road is 1 hour 30 minutes

alternative route 3 below
SH73 to Morrison's Footbridge

On the River

bly reach Upper Deception Hut, otherwise camp SH73 Morrison's footbridge crosses the Otira River. Follow the marked route on the true right of the Deception River until the river narrows and turns from here cross to the true left and continue upstream. The route further up valley crosses the river numerous times with travel primarily being in t

hrough there are some tracked sections.

ing upstream for about 11 km, a prominent creek (Dorreen Creek) joins River on the true left. A marked track begins here on the true right of Dorreen Creek the track re-emerges beside the Deception Hut.

Deception Hut the route involves scrambling and boulder-hopping up through adjacent bush (sometimes on distinct sections of track that may be 1 hour, before a final crossing of the Deception River (onto the true side of the river) to the Deception River to scramble up a steep side stream for about 1 hour with time in hand at Goat Pass, the 500 m climb to Lake Mavis Pass Hut.

mer with time in hand at Goat Pass, the 500 m climb to Lake Mavis Pass Hut

steep tussock and scree on the spur running east from Goat Pass, depends on timing each day

Fri 29th

- TranzAlps
- 3.5 hrs

• 1 hr

Alternative routes

#1 Waimakariri Falls Hut (+1 day)

1. On Sunday 1st May, instead of going over Harman Pass day trip up to Waimakariri Falls Hut and back. Then over 2 short days.
2. Alternatively, I could take a full pack up to Waimakariri Falls Hut and cross to Julia Hut via Campbell Pass and Taipo's Breaks. 1 longer day.

#2 Newtons Creek Hut & Scottys Biv (+2 days)

- Rather than heading straight to Dillon Hut from Julia Saddle to Newton Creek Hut
 - Access to Newton Creek from the Taipo via route goes up the TR branch of Dunns Creek. Boulders mark the route. Creek side is down a gully into a steep side of Newton Creek. The side-creek is shady and leading down from the Saddle into the side of the creek can also be icy. Ice axes are recommended. the crossing can be seen in both hutbooks. Experience of those doing it, and the gear to be encountered. An average time in gear on this site would be 4-5 hours. DOC 1 January 2021.
- Then head to Scotty's biv
 - Scotty's Biv can also be accessed along the ridge from Scotty's Saddle. It is a 20 minute descent through tussock and tussock tuft with shattered rock from point 1516m onwards.
- Then head down the ridge to Dillon Hut
 - Opposite of this: The most direct route starts opposite the old Seven Mile bridge. It follows the mouth of a small side-creek that is marked with a cairn and a permit. It follows the TR and climbs steeply up onto a bush terrace. Then it follows a track to a broad spur which is steep initially and then descends to a broad gully. The gully is 150m and a smaller 20 litre



Fri 29th

- TranzAlps
- 3.5 hrs

• 1 hr

Alternative routes

#1 Waimakariri Falls Hut (+1 day)

1. On Sunday 1st May, instead of going over harman pass day trip up to Waimakariri Falls Hut and back. Then over 2 short days.
2. Alternatively, I could take a full pack up cross to Julia Hut via Campbell Pass 1 longer day.

#2 Newtons Creek Hut & Scotty's

- Rather than heading straight to Dillon Saddle from Newton Saddle to Newton Creek Hut
 - Access to Newton Creek from the route goes up the TR branch bouldery bits. Snow-poles on Creek side is down a gut into Newton Creek. The side-creek leading down from the Saddle can also be icy. Ice axes are required for the crossing can be seen. The experience of those doing this be encountered. An average on this site would be 4-5 hours January 2021.
- Then head to Scotty's biv
 - Scotty's Biv can also be reached from Scotty's Saddle. It is a 20m tussock tussock with shelter from point 1516m onwards.
- Then head down the ridge to Dillon Hut
 - Opposite of this: The most direct route starts opposite the old Seven Mile mouth of a small side-creek that is marked with a cairn and a permit. The TR and climbs steeply up onto a bush terrace. ...



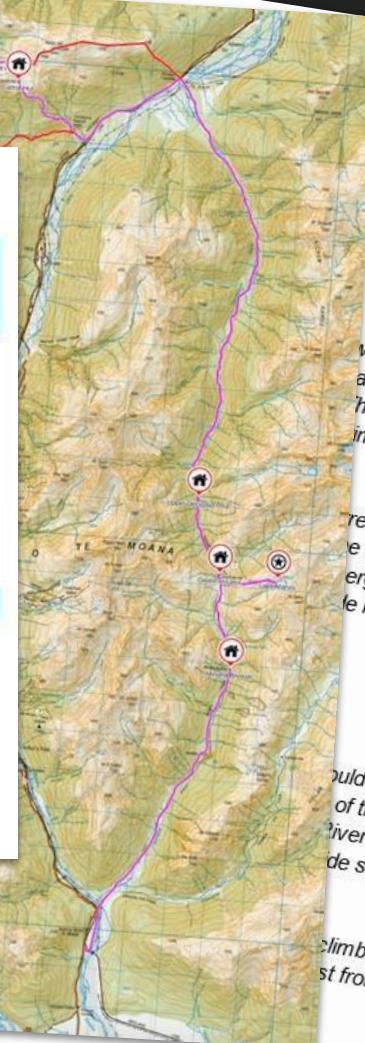
27 Apr 2022, 20:42

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZeCAIE1JrsmeZSl6hFSRpjhTIB6mYzH94WHQp0owlM/edit?usp=sharing>

Google Docs - create and edit documents online, for free.

Plans for my tramp

27 Apr 2022, 21:11



front of the hut cross steep scree at Kellys Creek 30 minutes

v the marked route arrows and turns the route further primarily being in t

green Creek) joins the true right of Dourges beside the le indicating the lo

boulder-hopping up of track that may be river (onto the true side stream for about

climb to Lake Mavis st from Goat Pass,

Share request for 'Arthur's Pass Tramp Intentions'



Paul Denys (via Google Docs) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com>

to me ▾

Fri, 6 May, 07:53



Share a document?



[REDACTED]@gmail.com is **requesting access** to the following document:



Arthur's Pass Tramp Intentions

[Open sharing settings](#)

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

You have received this email because pdenys162@gmail.com requested access to a document in [Google Docs](#).

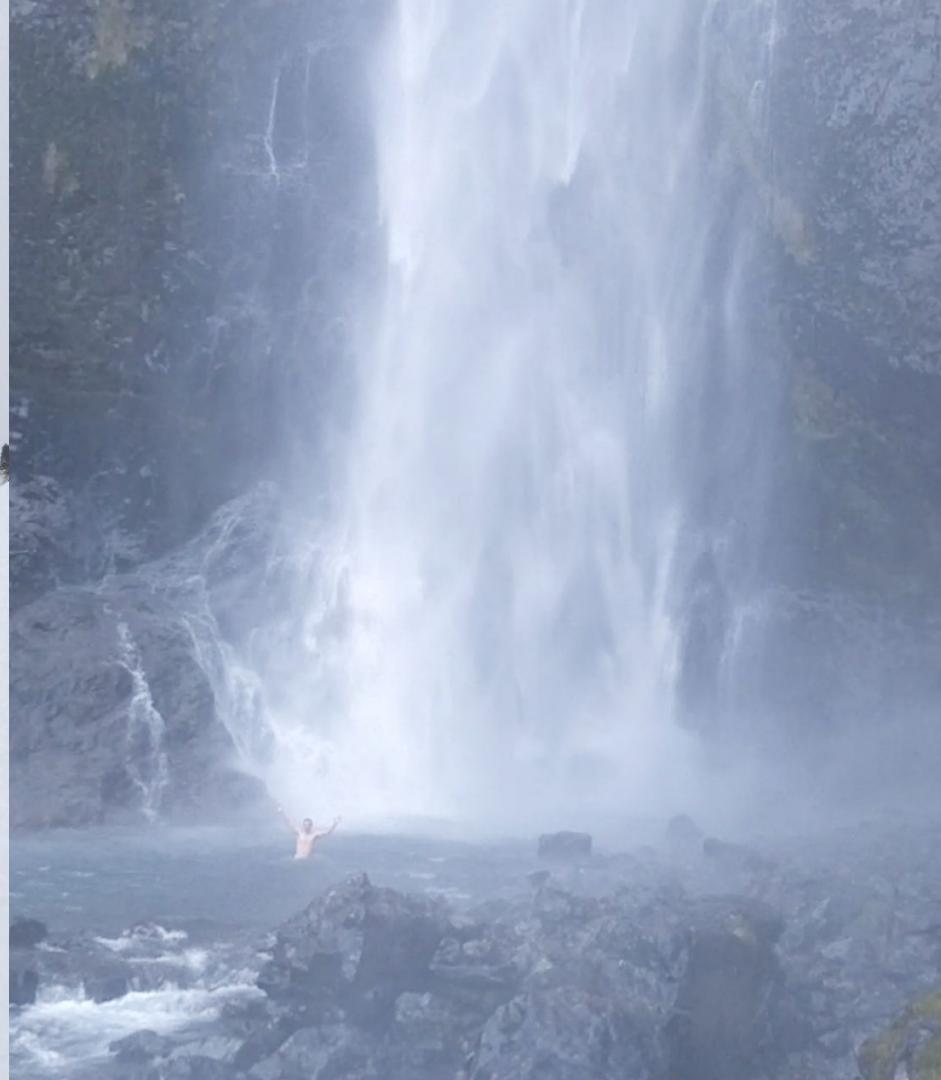
Google™

SUMMARY



EPILOGUE

Matariki



mathew.denys.nz/2022/three-passes/

QUESTIONS?