

PUREORA and BOG INN HUT

Topo50 Map: BF34 Benneydale, BF35 Whakamaru & BG35 Tihoi

GPS: NZTM on WGS84

How to get to START: Exit Taupo on **SH1** North

- Near the top of the hill out of Taupo turn left into **Poihipi Road**
- Follow the road out past the Wairakei Forest then turn left into **Whangamata Road** following the signs for **Kinloch**
- Do **NOT** turn left at the next sign for Kinloch but go straight ahead till you reach a T-junction
- At the T-junction on **SH32** (Western Bay Road) turn right and proceed for about 1.5km and 32 minutes from start
- Turn left into **Kakaho Road** in 34 minutes and cross bridge over the Huruhurumaku stream, then the road becomes gravel (37 minutes)
- Pass signs for **Kakoha Forest Park** then go right at Y-fork, go straight at next T-junction (46 minutes) then down through some dips and bends. There are some signboard at about 51 minutes – go straight with some bends then a climb with a descent at about 55 minutes
- Car park for the **Link Track** at 57 minutes

Rough description: An easy to moderate, muddy, slightly tricky tramp of 5 hours using the Link Track which passes between Titiraupenga and Pureora then down to Bog Inn Hut in Kakaho Forest Park north west of Lake Taupo.

The tramp executed here was from the access road (**WP3**) up over Pureora and down to the Bog Inn Hut then out to another branch of the access road – hence your transport has to meet you at the exit car park (**WP20**).

This is not a walk on pumice deposits hence the soils are heavier and the drainage is poor leaving the track very muddy in parts, very eroded due to run off and a lot of nimble footwork is required over the eroded areas plus the extensive surface-root system of the trees.

It should be noted that this is a very active logging forest and care must be taken and roads are often closed due to felling activity. lus landmarks do vanish when clear felling has been carried out and new roads constructed for re-planting operations. Hence it is well worth using a GPS unit in conjunction with your map and the data supplied.

Detail: The access and exits roads, plus the alignment of the tramp, are shown on the map where:

- The exit road from the car park for Bog Inn to SH32 is shown and labelled
- The access road to the start of the walk is shown and labelled, and
- The walking route is shown as between WP003 and WP020

Pureora Trig



Track start

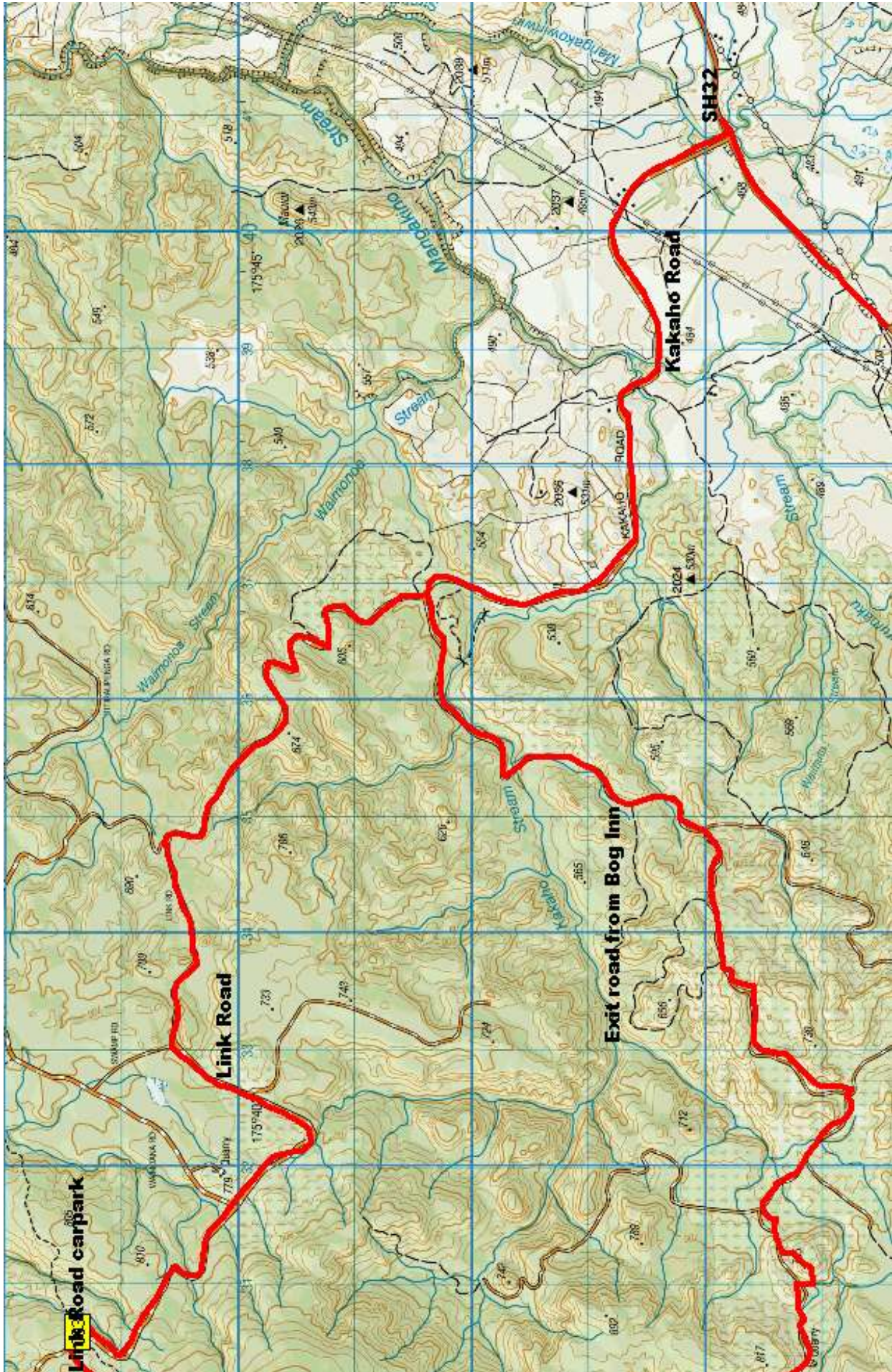


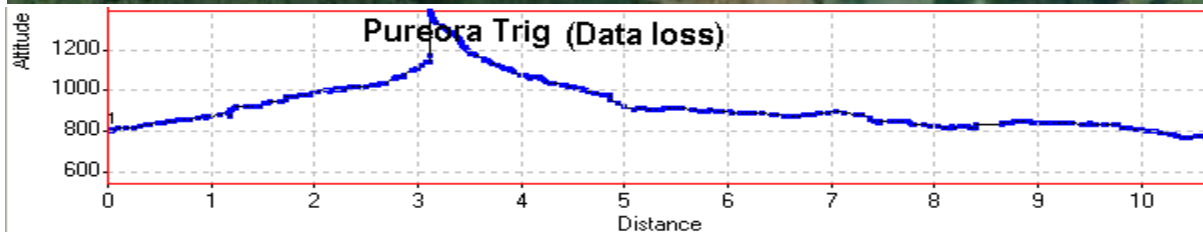
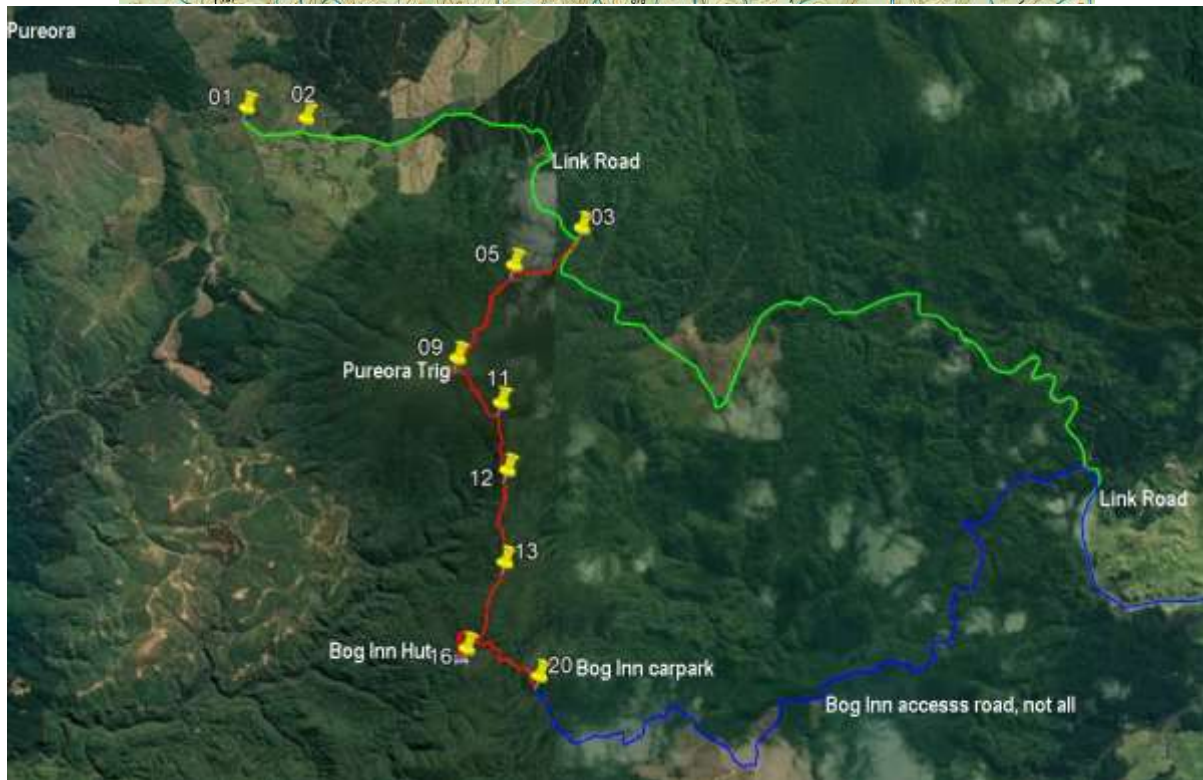
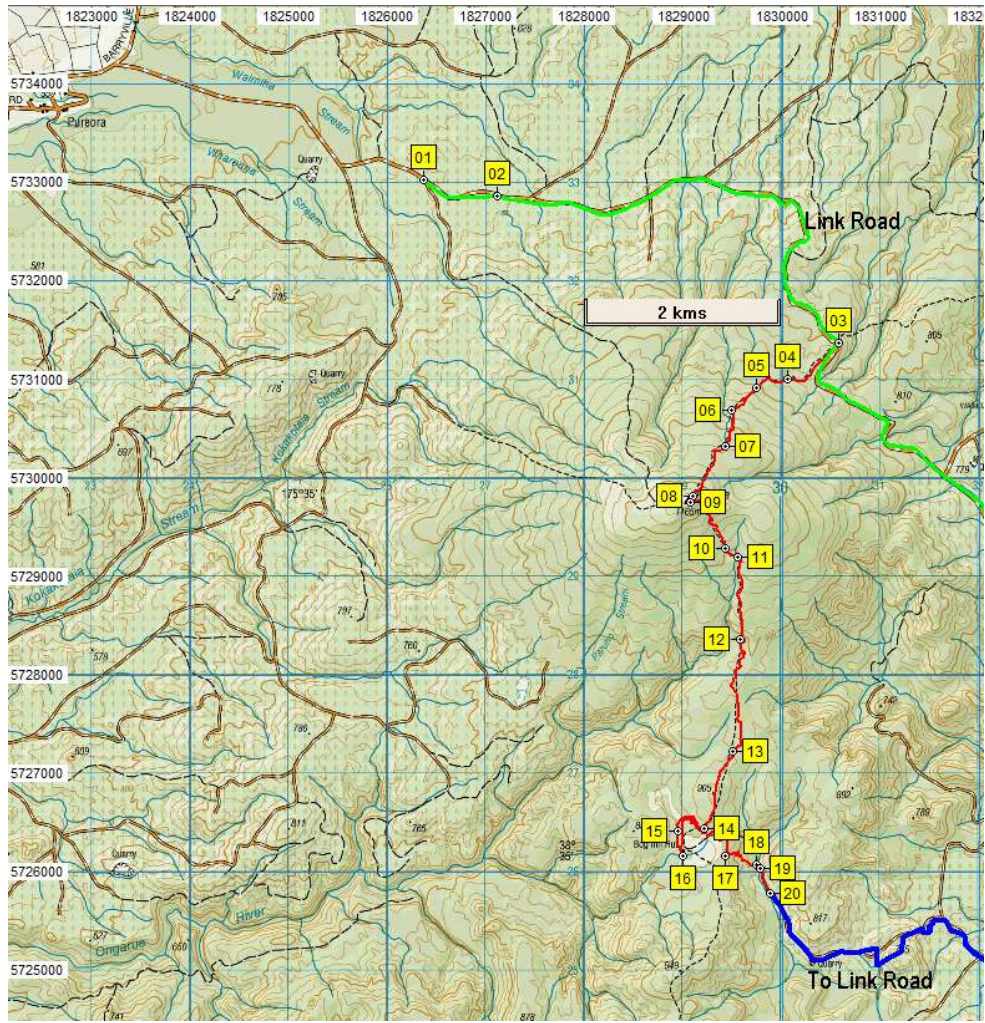
The track is NOT well used or generally well maintained though there are several extensive sections of boardwalk.

From the car park on the access road (**WP3**) proceed uphill in a SW direction and as indicated by the signboard clearly visible at the side of the gravel road. Note that the map shows the Link Track crossing the road at a slightly different place from the GPS record (**WP3**). The track is quite good for the first 20 minutes in the broadleaf forest then it becomes muddy and root infested – a good tea stop was located in beech forest after 45 minutes walking.

After about 55 minutes there is a large section of boardwalk, with steps, and another section is found after 1:10 minutes then in 1:30 minutes the boardwalk ends and one emerges into an open bush area from the dense forest (**WP8**). It is then a mere 5 minutes stroll to the crest of Pureora (**WP9**) with a wooden “trig” point (left) and a communications aerial. There is also a notice board indicating the start of the tracks to Bog Inn and the Toitoti Track (Refer Tramp P3); the alignment of the Toitoti track can be seen on the ground through the forest below you if the weather is clear.

Access roads from Western Bays Road (SH32)





Name	Eastings	Northing	Alt...	Description
01	1826356	5733032	629	Link Road junction with Quarry Road
02	1827111	5732871	662	Link Road junction with "unknown" Road
03	1830576	5731370	803	Car Park for Link Track
04	1830053	5731011	855	20min (800m); good to muddy track in Broadleaf to Bridge, then muddy
05	1829742	5730914	901	45min (1.21km); tea stop in Beech forest on muddy, root infested track
06	1829487	5730683	949	55min (1.69km); steps on boardwalk
07	1829428	5730322	1005	1:10min (2.26km); more boardwalk
08	1829091	5729819	1112	1:30min (2.96km); end boardwalk then into open bush area
09	1829069	5729758	1141	1:35min (3.11km); trig point on Pureora + communications station
10	1829431	5729288	1097	2:10min (3.91km); +/- level area after "nasty" descent then cross stream
11	1829552	5729204	1059	2:15min (4.05km); stream flowing L to R
12	1829583	5728375	907	3:05min (5.08km); stream with slippery access both sides
13	1829508	5727233	871	3:35min (6.6km); level, more open area
14	1829206	5726454	845	4:00hrs (7.45km); T-junction with Bog Inn 15 mins to the right
15	1828944	5726418	826	3:05min (7.96km); small bridge on pretty mucky, rough trail
16	1828988	5726170	822	4:10min (8.27km); Bog Inn Hut
17	1829433	5726174	830	4:50min (9.74km); Weraroa junction with name board
18	1829738	5726078	774	5hrs (10.32km); steep descent to open area then parallel to stream
19	1829781	5726045	768	5:02min (10.45km); sign and bridge for Hauhungaroa Route then gravel road
20	1829874	5725796	765	5:05min (10.69km); Bog Inn carpark

As they say "it is all downhill" from here and the hard work of the day starts as the track is not well used and is much degraded in places though it is easy to follow the line of the track. It should be noted that the walking route is based on the GPS trace and not on the mapped footpath (Link Track) - this is shown as a relatively straight line on the map and the GPS records show the track is not always quite where it is plotted on the map – but the plotted track is good enough to allow safe walking.

There is a level area at 2:10 minutes after a "nasty" descent then a stream is crossed and 5 minutes later another stream crossing (stream flowing Left to Right) is met and this crossing is well off the plotted route of the track according to GPS records (according to the mapped track you do not cross this stream) – hence it is assumed that the track alignment was never good or has been changed. Another stream with rather slippery banks (both sides) is met in 3:05 minutes (WP12) and then in another 30 minutes a more level area is found (WP13). Thirty minutes from here there is a T-junction (WP14) with the right branch going to Bog Inn Hut and the left branch is the exit route to the car park. It should be noted that the map shows a loop in the track to Bog Inn Hut (WP16) whereas, in fact, there is a distinct T-junction. From WP14 to the Hut is a messy, wet, muddy 15 minutes and you know you are almost there when you cross a small wooden bridge.

Bog Inn hut



This was the track



The hut is not quite palatial compared to many other huts but would be a haven on a day with inclement weather on this rather wet, miserable section of track. There are 4 beds, rudimentary furniture and a wood burning stove. However, the area is so wet that dry firewood might not be easy to find and if you do plan to stop in Bog Inn Hut carrying a couple of fire-lighters might be a wise move.

From the Hut it is another 15 messy minutes back to the T-junction (WP14) and on to the junction with the Weraroa Track after a total walking time of about 5hours (WP 17).

Ten minutes after this junction there is a steep descent to an open area where you are parallel to the stream then two minutes later there is a bridge (WP19) and a sign for the Hauhungaroa Route and you come upon a gravel road which takes you to the car park (WP20) in about 5 minutes after a total walking time of 5 hours. Overall there is a 338 metres gain in altitude in reaching Pureora and an overall drop from the summit of 376 metres to the car park on the exit road. However of late this exit road is not totally accessible so be prepared for some extra walking

Notes:

- **GPS** Garmin Summit
- **WP** = Waypoint as taken by GPS unit
- **masl** = metres above sea level (as recorded by GPS unit)