

TEN MAN HUT

With overnight option

Topo50 Map: Raurimu, BH34

GPS: NZTM on WGS84

How to get to START: Exit Taupo southwards on SH1 to pass through Turangi:

- In Turangi follow SH41 through Tokaanu, Kuratau Junction and over Waitui Saddle
- Left to SH4 at Mananui just short of Taumararui to Owhangō
- Take second road on the left with signs for "bike trails" to pass down Whakapapa Bush Road to the car park at the end at the bridge over the Whakapapa River. Park here (**WP01₃₄₄masl**)

The ideal situation would be, when the bridge is open, to cross the bridge and continue on the gravel road for 4.2km to reach the Dominion Road carpark (**WP12₅₂₀masl**) on the 42 traverse.

Rough description: A fairly long tramp on what are now used as bike tracks which have been quite badly eroded by quad bike use. There are many tracks mapped in the area but all of them do not seem to exist so care is required – also the target hut is not located in the position shown on the current map. There are several red clay slopes to contend with and, during wet periods, endless puddles big enough to hide crocodiles so falling in is not a good idea as they can be deep. A lot of the walking is on gravel road.

Detail: There is a DoC toilet at the car park at the end of Whakapapa Bush Road and study of the bridge parapet at the car park end gives some indication as to why the bridge is closed to vehicles larger than quad bikes – the high gravelly river bank is well eroded and undercut. The outing starts (**WP01₃₄₄masl**) with a three and half kilometre uphill walk ascending 160m on gravel road – not everyone's favourite but not difficult – to reach a junction (**WP02₅₀₃masl**). From this junction head to the right uphill on Water Supply Road, still on a wide, clear but steeper gravel track. The track heads to the SW then sharply turns to the SE before reaching a large, level clearing (**WP03₆₅₁masl**) which makes a good morning tea stop.

From here the direction stays the same but the track does degrade somewhat and can be narrower as it passes through rolling to hilly terrain where some of the slopes are bare, slippery red clays so watch the footwork (**WP04₆₁₈masl**).



The BLUE line is the road access route and RED is the tramp route
Drive time from Taupo is about 2 hours to 2hour 30min.

From : 13-May-15 08:49:41
To : 13-May-15 15:55:24
Moving time : 5:45 min
Time taken : 7:05:43
Total Distance : 21.889 Km Flat map
GPS Distance : 23.05km
Minimum Speed : 0.016 KPH
Maximum Speed : 8.008 KPH
Average Speed : 3.085 KPH

Minimum Altitude : 341 Meters
Maximum Altitude : 725 Meters
Total ascent : 642metres



The clearing (**WP03**)

Pass a track with a barrier (**WP05₆₁₅masl**) off to the right (NW) before heading due south to another junction (**WP06₆₀₈masl**) where a turn to the left or SE is made. The track to the right goes to Falls Creek. The next three kilometres are totally fun filled as the track heads ESE then NE as it is narrow, badly rutted, overhung by cutting Toitō grass and there are endless huge puddles and bypasses galore – slow, wet progress if a slip is made.



Red clays, water and Toitō



Crew at 10 Man Hut

The return route was back to Iron Hub Junction (**WP07**) then follow the badly overgrown track heading northwards. Five hundred metres to the NNE arrives at a Y-junction (**WP09₇₁₉masl**) where the right hand fork is followed, this is steeper than to date and a bit tricky at times but it is much drier underfoot. The heading remains to the ENE apart from a few squiggles until after a steepish slope down the road of the 42 Traverse (**WP10₅₂₃masl**) is arrived at.

A larger road is met after around 3hours (**WP07₆₉₈masl**) and this junction was named on the day as Iron Hub – a large vehicle hub acts as a roundabout. The Hut lies some 2km to the SE but the track heads off to the ENE before heading south to eventually arrive at the Ten Man Hut with its eight bunks. Note that the hut (**WP08₆₈₆masl**) is not where shown on the NZTM series maps. The hut is large, well equipped with post box, wood burner and possibly a hot shower.



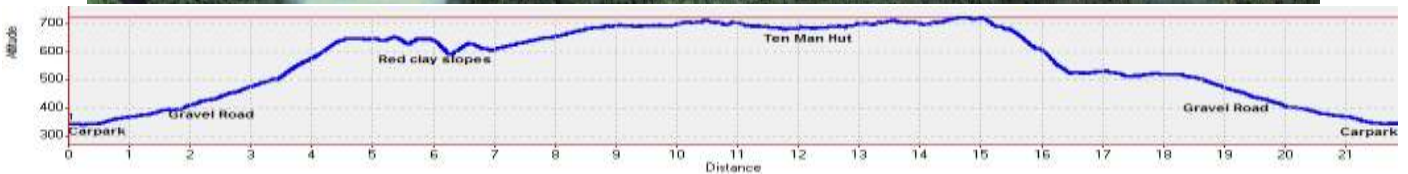
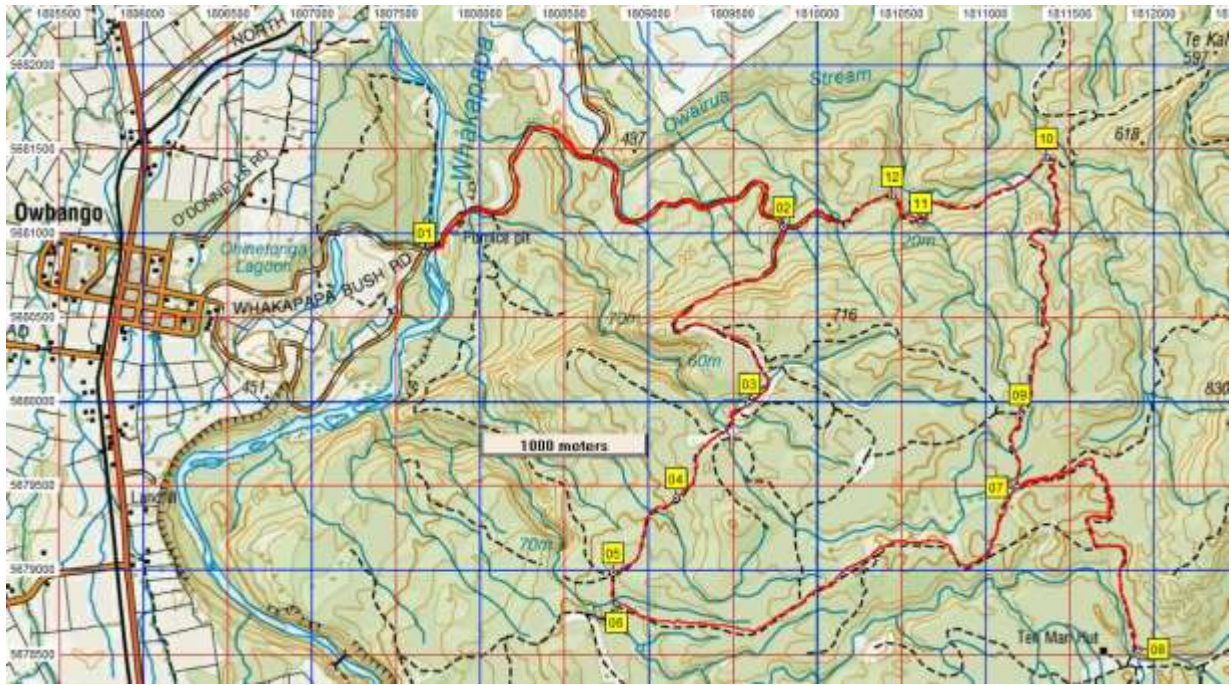
Post box



Waterfall (**WP11**)

By going left the walking is easy to soon pass a fairly large waterfall above a bridge (**WP11₅₁₃masl**) before coming across the DoC sign for the Dominion Road carpark (**WP12₅₂₀masl**) which, when the bridge is open, is where one would park and avoid endless walking in the gravel road.

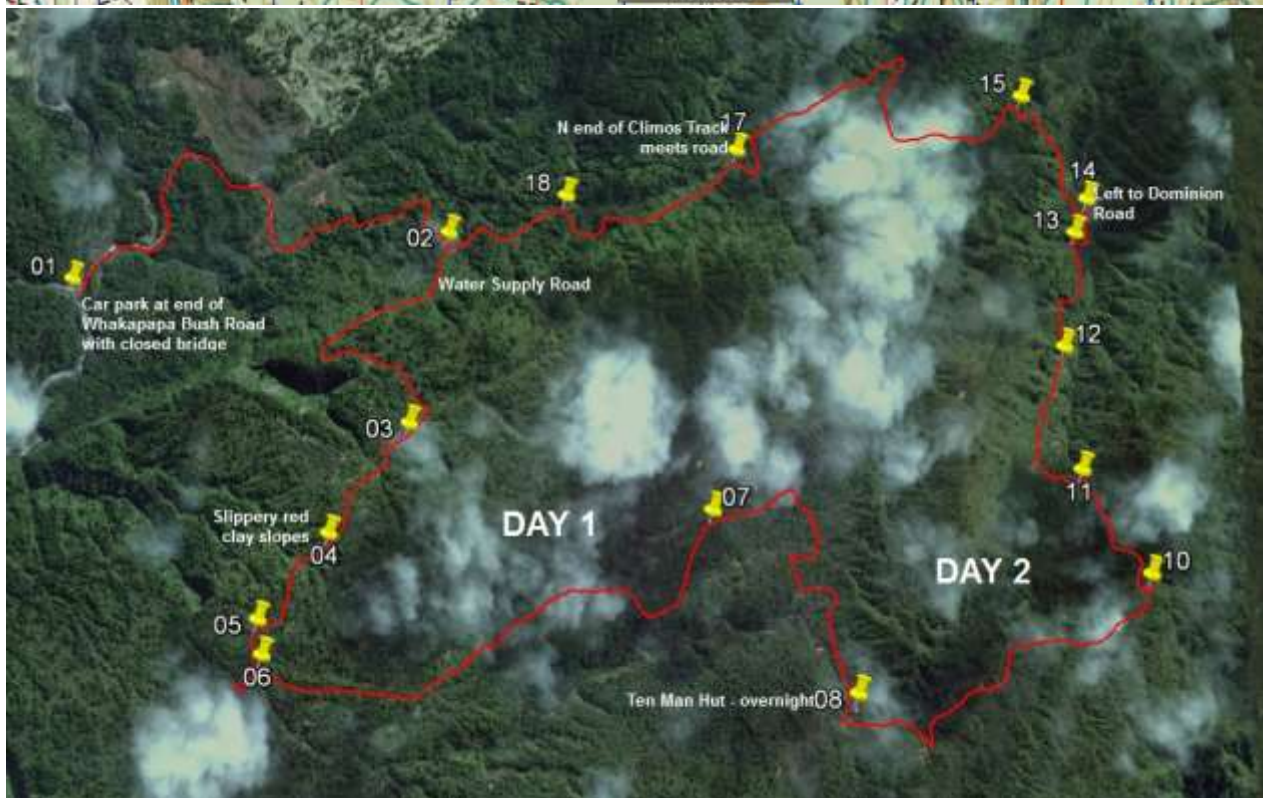
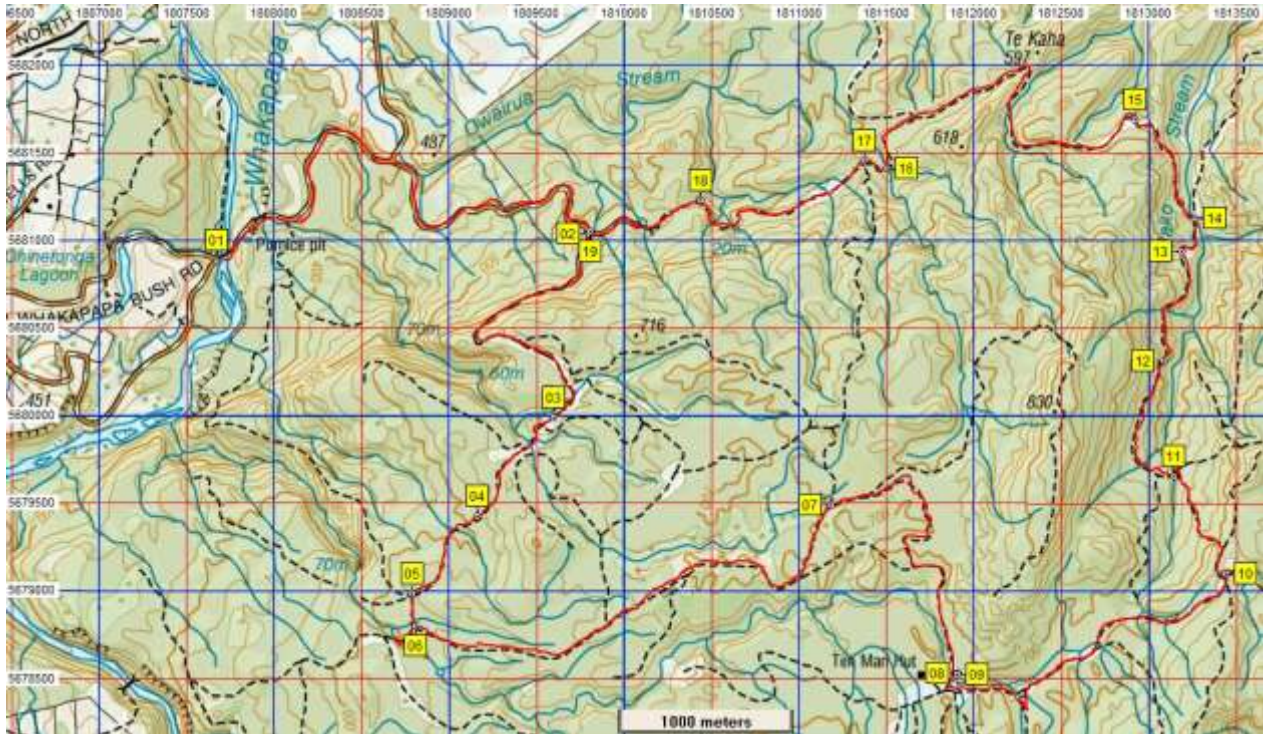
Less than a kilometre further on the junction with **WP02** is reached with the car park then only 3.5km away.



Name	Easting	Northing	Alt(m)	Description
01	1807672	5680884	344	Car park at end of Whakapapa Bush Road, Owhango with bridge closed notice
02	1809797	5681039	503	3.42km (50:35min); Junction after uphill gravel road to go right uphill on Water Supply Road
03	1809599	5679990	651	5.35km (1:34min); Semi circular clearing after moderate ascent on open gravel road
04	1809162	5679426	618	6.15km (1:51min); First of several eroded, slippery red clay slopes - take care
05	1808790	5678987	615	6.8km (2:03min); Junction with barrier on RHS, go straight / to the left on wide road
06	1808808	5678803	608	7km (2:08min); Right for Falls Creek. Go left on narrower, rutted, Toi Toi, puddles and bypasses
07	1811183	5679490	698	10km (3:01min); Iron Hub junction with right to hut, left escape route on Climos Road
08	1811908	5678529	686	12km (4:06min); Ten Man Hut. Large green hut with post box
09	1811202	5679925	719	14.6km (5hours); Y junction 435m NNE of Iron Hub junction. Go right, steeper and tricky but drier
10	1811363	5681452	523	16.5k (5:45min); Meet 42 parallel / Dominion Road. Go left
11	1810616	5681062	513	17.4km (6:09min); Good waterfall on LHS viewed from road bridge
12	1810441	5681221	520	17.7km (6:16min); Dominion Road carpark sign

It is very easy to make an overnight tramp in this area and map plus waypoints are shown below. Day 1 covers about 12km to Ten Man Hut and Day 2, back to the starting carpark, involves around 14.5km.

Map and Google with GPS data for overnighter



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01	1807672	5680884	344	Day 1: Car park at end of Whakapapa Bush Road, Owhango with bridge closed notice
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08	1811908	5678529	686	12km (4:06min); Ten Man Hut. Large green hut with post box and good camping
09	1811901	5678526	699	Day 2: down via stream & up to Top Track. Head NE for 1.5km to Toi Toi track.
10	1813441	5679101	724	2.25km (50min); Left onto ToiToi following Mako Stream Northwards
11	1813141	5679655	624	3.22km (1:15min); earth / log bridge
12	1813082	5680312	628	4.21km (1:45min); steeper terrain & cuppa time
13	1813183	5680937	570	5.06km (2:20min); Ford
14	1813263	5681127	549	5.4km (2:25min); junction left onto Dominion Rd
15	1812924	5681692	592	6.31km (2:48min); continue on gravel road
16	1811502	5681409	525	8.79km (3:32min); site of blown up Bridge
17	1811372	5681453	535	8.96km (3:40min); Climos Track enters from left. Continue on gravel road
18	1810437	5681230	524	10.2km (3:55min); Dominion Rd Carpark
19	1809809	5681052	516	11km (4:11min); back at junction with Water Supply road (WP02)

Notes:

- GPS GPSmap 62Csc
- WP = Waypoint as taken by GPS unit
- masl = metres above sea level