

WAIHORA to BOG INN

Topo50 Map: BG34 Piropiro & BG35 Tihoi

GPS: NZTM on WGS84

How to get to START:

- Exit Taupo on **SH1** North.
- Near top of the hill out of Taupo, left into **Poihipi Road**
- Follow the road out past the Wairakei Forest then turn left into **Whangamata Road**, signed for Kinloch
- Do **NOT** turn left for Kinloch but go straight ahead to T-junction
- At **SH32** (Western Bays Road) turn left and pass Tihoi Mill Rd on RHS after about 3.5k
- About 3.5km south of here turn right on signs for Pureora Forest and Lagoon near the Waikokomiko Stream
- Follow this gravel road for about 7km to reach **Car Park WP01670masl**

Rough description: A fairly strenuous 6 hour A to B day tramp which can be tackled in either direction but there are hills in either direction. If really keen a short 2km extension can be added by going in to the Bog Inn Hut but this section of track is diabolical when the tide is in! Walking clockwise from Waihora to Bog Inn gives just on 15km distance with an ascent of 785metres requiring just on the six hours.

Detail: To begin it is an easy stroll to the WNW on wide forest tracks with a small junction off to the right after a few minutes – ignore this badly overgrown teaser. If the weather has been wet then there will be several large, large enough to accommodate a hippo or two, pools on the track which have to be negotiated with care. Soon some slippery clays on the slope are encountered and these can also be tricky if wet. All through this area there seems to be an abundance of wood-pigeons, creaking wings are often heard. The odd small hunters' campsite, with attendant abandoned bottles etc, is passed with the most obvious one (**WP02767masl**) just before a bit of an ascent starts. The first severe slope downwards is tackled after about 90 minutes and care must be taken though there is nothing too tricky or overly steep – this is still a walk and not a scramble.

Once up the other side after crossing the Pikopiko Stream there are some boggy areas then it is on to a steady climb to meet a well-marked junction (**WP03887masl**) with the Waihaha track off left whilst the track to Weraroa and Bog Inn goes right. After a couple of hours or so there is another Hunters' camp (**WP04821masl**) then 10 minutes later the grunt of the day starts (**WP05846masl**) as there are 250 odd metres of ascent to now get up (**WP061099masl**) to the Weraroa Trig. Careful study of the map in this area shows that the route now followed is not exactly as shown on the map and generally lies a bit to the east of the mapped route.

An hour beyond here at around 4 hours there is some magic as the trees through this more or less level area are thickly covered in moss (**WP07991masl**) and do not be lulled into thinking it is all downhill to Bog Inn for there are still a few minor ascents ahead. There is one area reached in around 5 hours which is slightly exposed (**WP09935masl**) and wind-blasted but on clear days it does offer views of Lake Taupo. Ten minutes past here there is a slightly tricky stream crossing (**WP10884masl**) at a point where the track direction swings from NW to the NE and lies well to the west of the mapped track then some more altitude has to be gained to get back up to some level walking with some gentle descending but there are many minor deviations to get round wind-falls and boggy areas (**WP12908masl**).



BLUE access RED tramp GREEN exit

Start of the tramp



Large pools



That is the track



By this time most legs are a bit weary and the arrival of the junction (**WP13839masl**) for Bog Inn Hut is a welcome sight. This is the time for decision making as, to go to Bog Inn Hut and back, will take close on one and a half hours. The track to the hut can be really tricky and messy as it gets deeper into the actual bog, whilst it is only fifteen minutes to the end of the track and car park (**WP15779masl**) at the top end of Bog Inn Road. If the road is in poor repair due to erosion note that there is another car park a short distance downhill on the road and the expected transport may have stopped here (**WP16766masl**).

Made it to high point

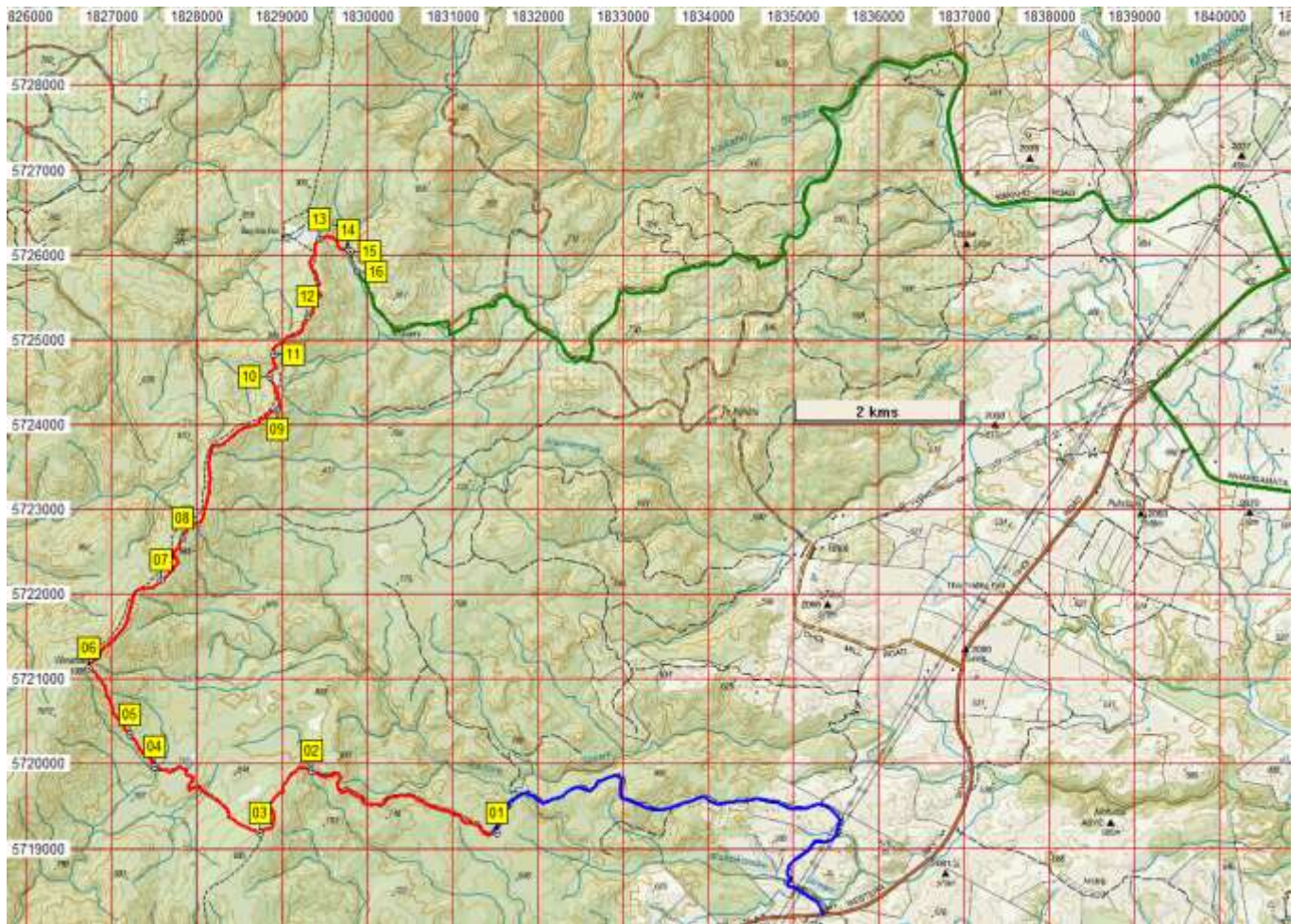


Head for Bog Inn



The last bit





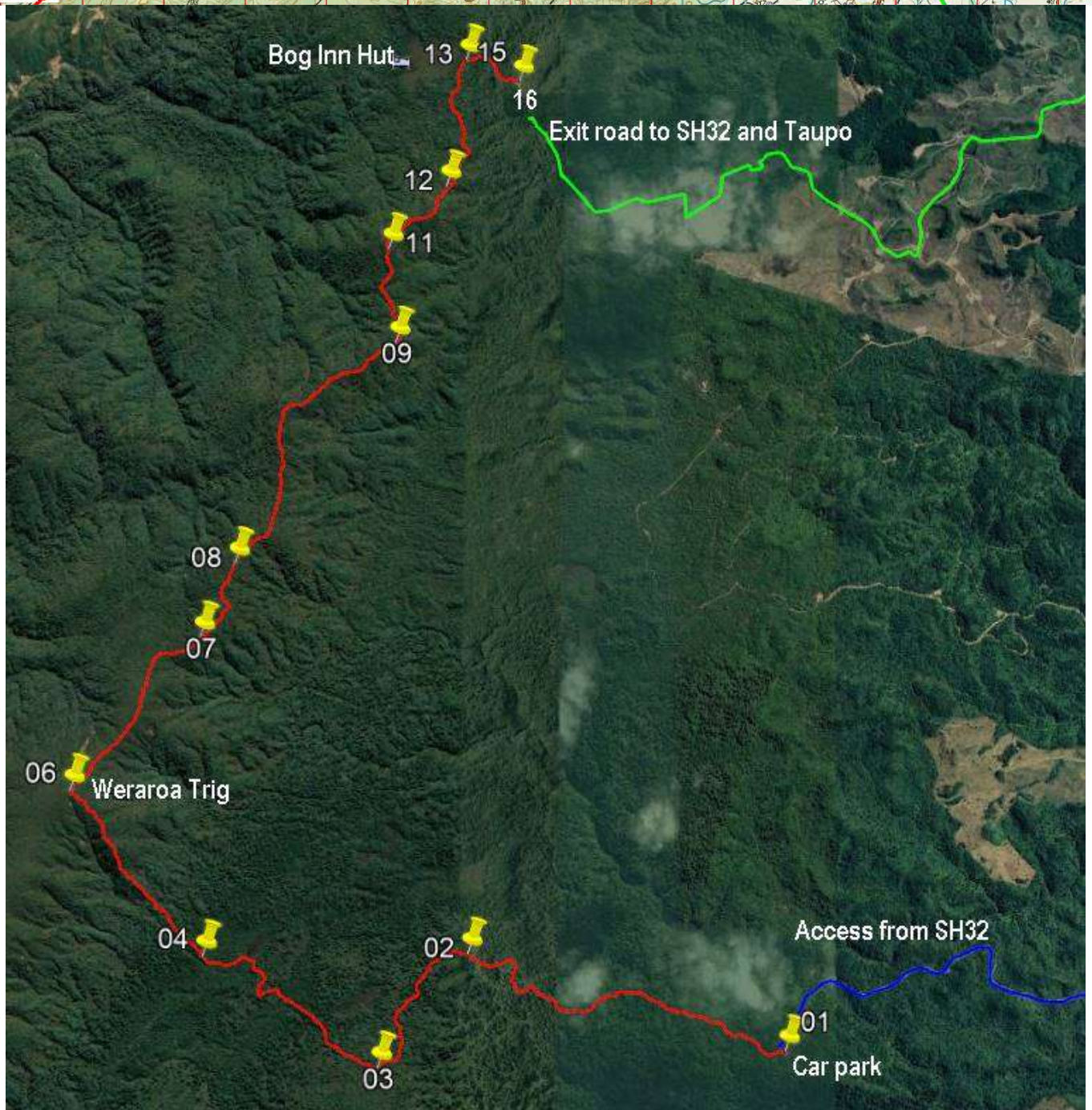
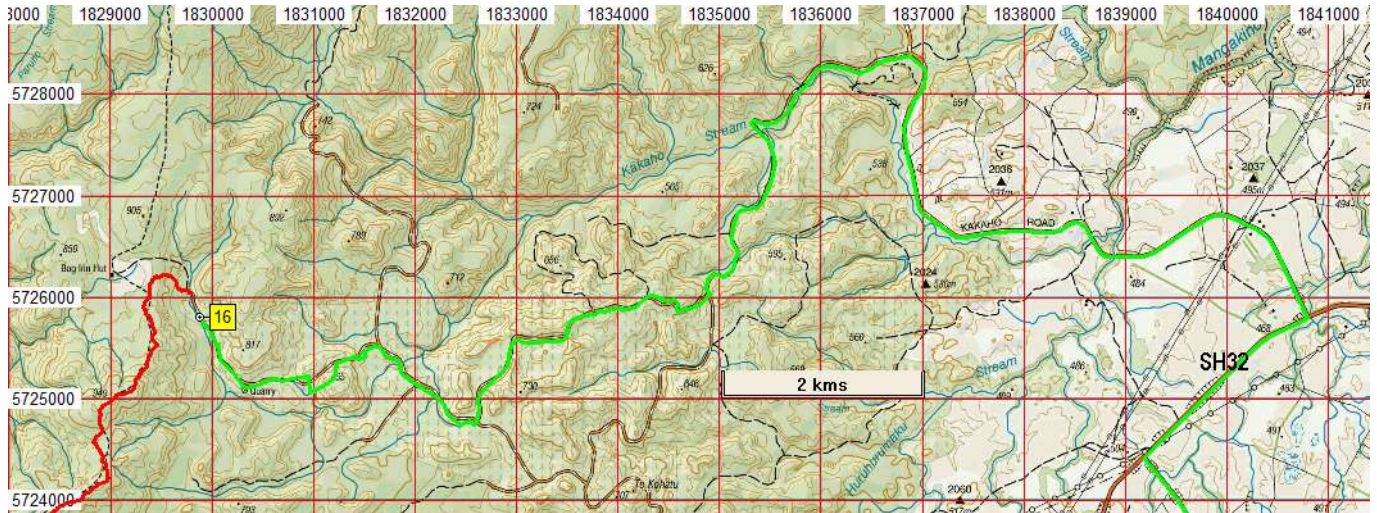
Name	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
01	1831518	5719177	670	Car park at Waihora
02	1829339	5719924	767	59min (2.85km); Hunters' campsite below steep grunty hill up to the NW
03	1828734	5719178	887	1:27min (4.07km); T-junction with left for Waihaha and right for Weraroa Trig and Bog Inn
04	1827508	5719964	821	2:21min (5.96km); Hunters' campsite on level area close to stream line
05	1827208	5720352	846	2:30min (6.46km); Bottom of steep slope up to Weraroa Trig
06	1826728	5721137	1099	3:10min (7.47km); Open low bush area on crest metres east of trig with track going from NW to NE
07	1827580	5722157	991	4:01min (8.95km); Level area with a lot of bog and trees heavily coated in moss
08	1827825	5722661	991	4:14min (9.62km); Level going after very minor crest
09	1828941	5724174	935	5:02min (11.83km); High, slightly exposed, wind-blasted area with views of Lake Taupo on clear days
10	1828852	5724568	884	5:13min (12.32km); Tricky stream crossing at bend from NW to NE on track well to W of mapped track
11	1828906	5724832	942	5:20min (12.61km); More or less level high area after a bit of an upwards grunt
12	1829304	5725276	908	5:36min (13.31km); Level area on long gentle descent - many re-routes for windfalls and bog
13	1829437	5726191	839	5:56min (14.45km); Y-fork, leftish for Bog Inn Hut on very messy track. Exit route swings right
14	1829773	5726052	788	6:06min (14.85km); Notice for Bog Inn Hut at 1km and 40 minutes
15	1829802	5726048	779	6:10min (14.94km); Car park at end of Bog Inn Road
16	1829878	5725810	766	Alternative car park on Bog Inn Road



Access from SH32 to start



Exit to SH32



Notes:

- **GPS** Garmin GPSMap 60CSx
- **WP** = Waypoint as taken by GPS unit
- **masl** = metres above sea level