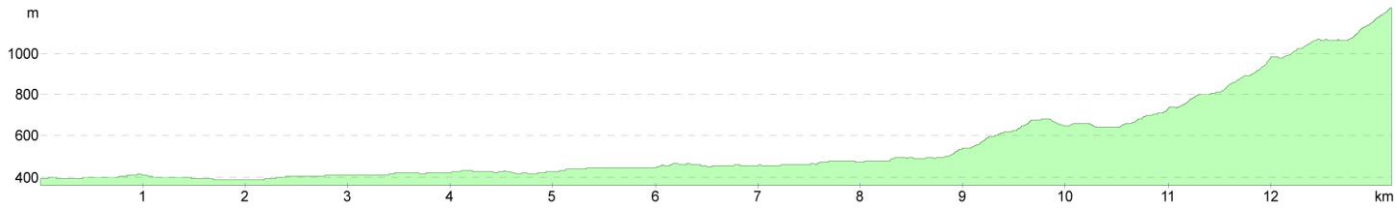
Wilderness
New Zealand's magazine of the outdoors

Black Hill Hut, Oxford Forest

Wild file
Access: From Oxford, turn left off Ashley Gorge Road onto Lees Valley Road and follow it through the gorge to near Pember Station, where a DOC sign indicates legal access up the Townshend River. Farm tracks lead across flats to a DOC track through the bush
Distance: 12-13km
Time: 5hr
Grade: Easy-moderate
Topo50 Map: BW22

Description
Black Hill is located at the bushline and is popular with Cantabrians. Forest on the Puketeraki Range is still extensive, but only a remnant of what was a much larger Harewood forest, full of beech and podocarps, most of which was cut for settlement from the 1850s on.
For a longer duration trip, Wilderness reader Honora Renwick says that Salmon Creek Biv, accessed from Black Hill, is worth a look. Honora added: "A circuit can be completed by going up Salmon Creek and climbing onto the ridge between Pt 1090 and Pt 1648. The marked track further upstream of the biv is inaccurately drawn and disappeared due to extensive windfall many years ago. Views from the ridge across to the true right of the Waimak are stunning."

Elevation Profile



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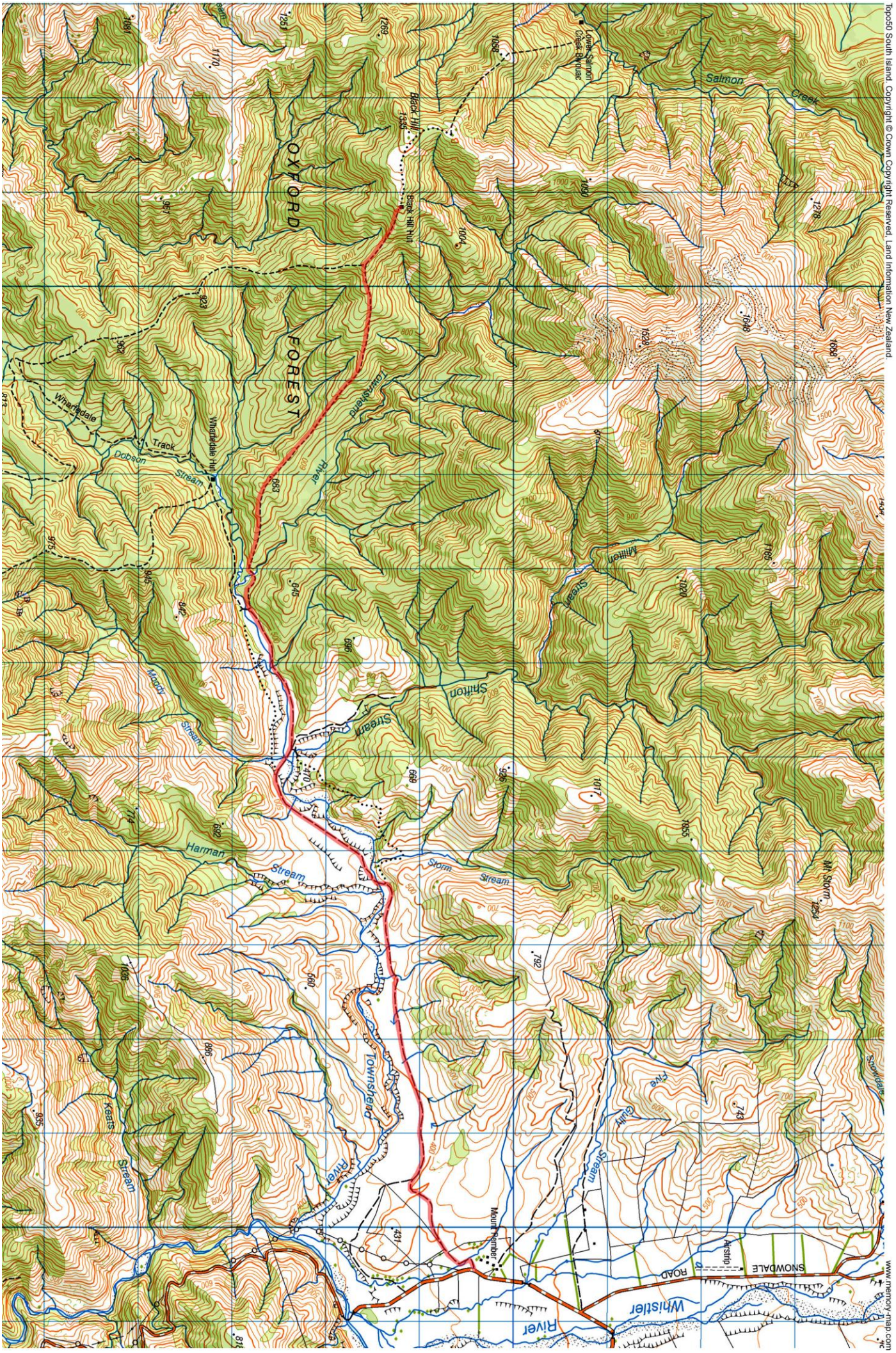
Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to map this route correctly, Wilderness Magazine does not take responsibility for any errors in the route. Users should use discretion when planning their routes and gather as much information as possible before departing.



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