

Tarn camping, Ohau Range, Ahuriri Conservation Park

From the car park near Glen Mary Ski Club, start out on Freehold Creek Track, a section of the Te Araora Trail. The track quickly disappears into a densely forested valley, but if you want to keep the view of the lake, an alternative is to aim for Pts 1456 and 1736 on a spur just north of Freehold Creek.

To do this, pass through a labyrinth of matagouri and gain the bushline, where a spectacular panorama opens up. The contrast between yellow tussocks and turquoise water of Lake Ohau is surreal, as is the view on Aoraki/Mt Cook's distinct summit ridge.

Traverse just south of Pt1736 and aim for the two sheltered tarns at Pt1479 to set up camp.

If you're up for more exploration, head north to the seasonally frozen-over tarn in a hollow between points 1929 and 1922. The circular lake sits in a basin without any outlets, and offers picturesque tarn-side camping. Venture around point 1929 and take in the surrounding snow-covered Alps.

On return, retrace your steps and follow the route down Freehold Creek. The track fades in and out so make sure to follow the widely spaced poles.

Freehold Creek Track rejoins the Te Araora Trail; follow it back through the forest for quick progress on the well-maintained track.

Wild File

Access Use the car park right by the second bridge after Lake Ohau Alpine Village

Grade Moderate

Time Car park to tarns at Pt1479, 6hr; Pt1479 to tarn at Pt1929, 1-1.5hr

Distance 7.87km to tarn beneath Pts 1834 and 1922

Total ascent 1399m

Map BZ14

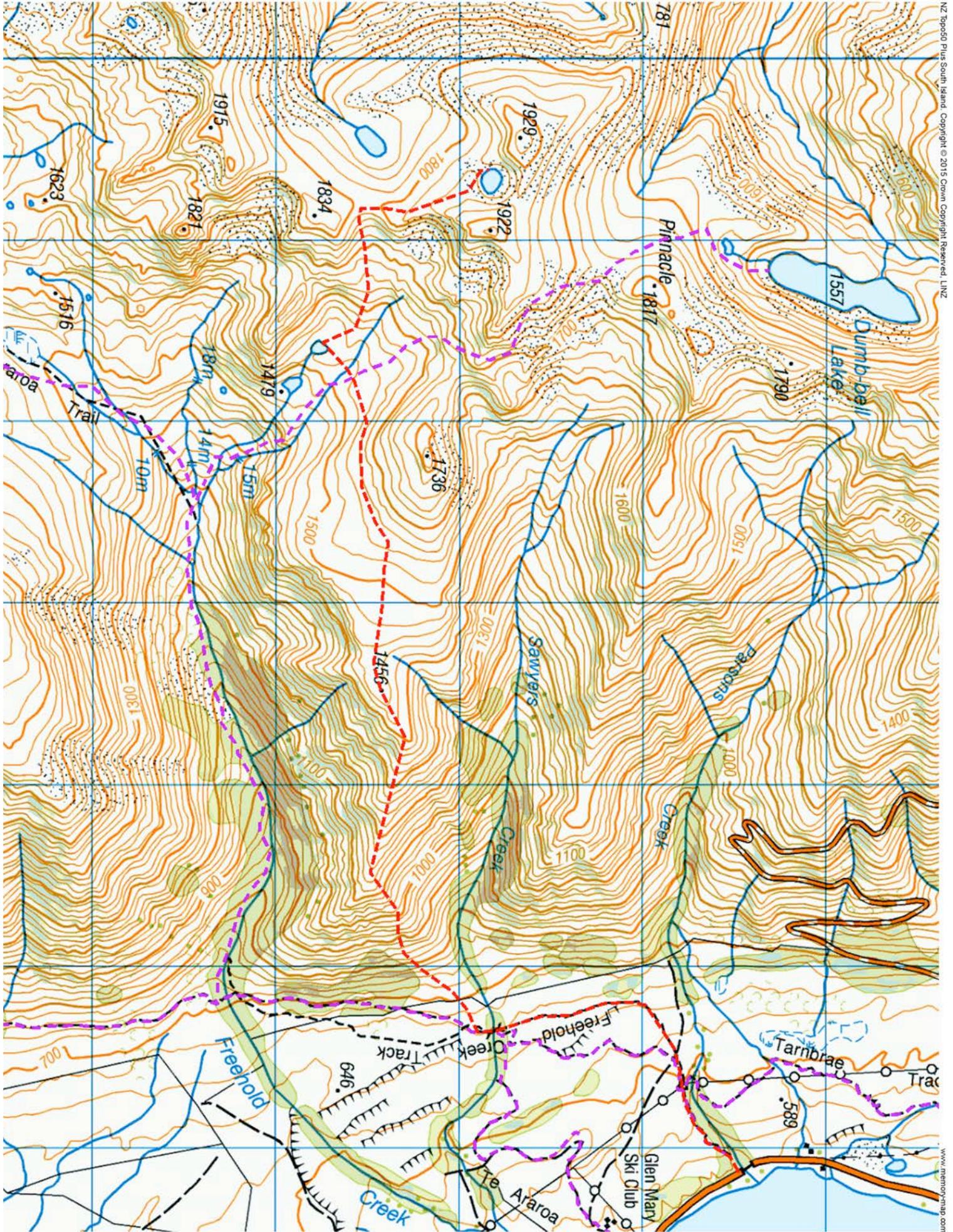
Elevation Profile



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Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to map this route correctly, *Wilderness* does not accept responsibility for any errors. Users should plan their routes and gather as much information as possible before departing. The GPX file associated with this route has been drawn using Memory-Map software, version 6. Use discretion when following the route, especially when no track is marked on the map. The GPX file in these cases are a 'best guess' of the route only. Users should use a combination of GPS, visual observations, maps and compass to find the best possible route. Memory Map shows purple tracks and hut icons as verified routes and huts. Red or blue routes are those drawn by Wilderness.

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