

Tararua Peaks circuit, Tararua Forest Park

The trail from Otaki Forks all the way to Bridge Peak (1421m) is almost all up, but is also in very good condition, allowing quick progress.

Boyd-Wilson, Vosseler (1198m), Yeates (1205m) and McIntosh (1286m) are all quickly negotiated, but the engaging terrain often requires hands as well as feet.

At the top of the trail, just beneath Tuiti's summit is the Tararua ladder. About 25m high, with over 70 rungs, it's an impressive and very effective way to get up the crux section, before dropping down to Maungahuka Hut.

Nestled into the tussock hillside beside a pretty tarn, it deserves its reputation for being one of the Tararua's most spectacular spots.

From the hut, follow the main range in the direction of four more high points, the first being Simpson (1138m). Exposed and steep terrain leads to Aokaparangi (1354m), and beyond, Kahiwiroa (1320m).

Further north, follow poles off a broad, multi-spurred section back into the 'goblin forest' to Anderson Memorial Hut.

From here, the terrain eases over Junction Knob and down off the main ridge via Shoulder Knob before a difficult 1000m descent through forest, over slippery roots and mud, to the Otaki River.

Otaki Forks is reached after around five hours.

Wild File

Access From Otaki Forks lower car park, off Otaki Gorge Road

Grade Moderate-difficult

Time Otaki Forks to Maungahuka Hut, 8hr; To Anderson Memorial Hut, 4.5hr, To Waitewaewae Hut, 4.5hr; To Otaki Forks, 5hr

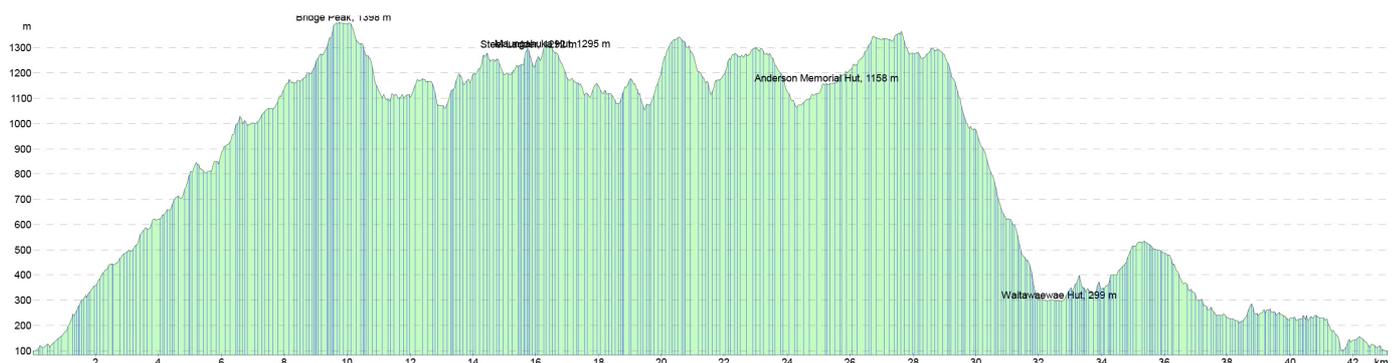
Distance 43.1km

Total ascent 3941m

Accommodation Maungahuka Hut (\$5, 10 bunks), Anderson Memorial Hut (\$5, six bunks), Waitewaewae Hut (\$5, 16 bunks)

Map BP33

Elevation Profile



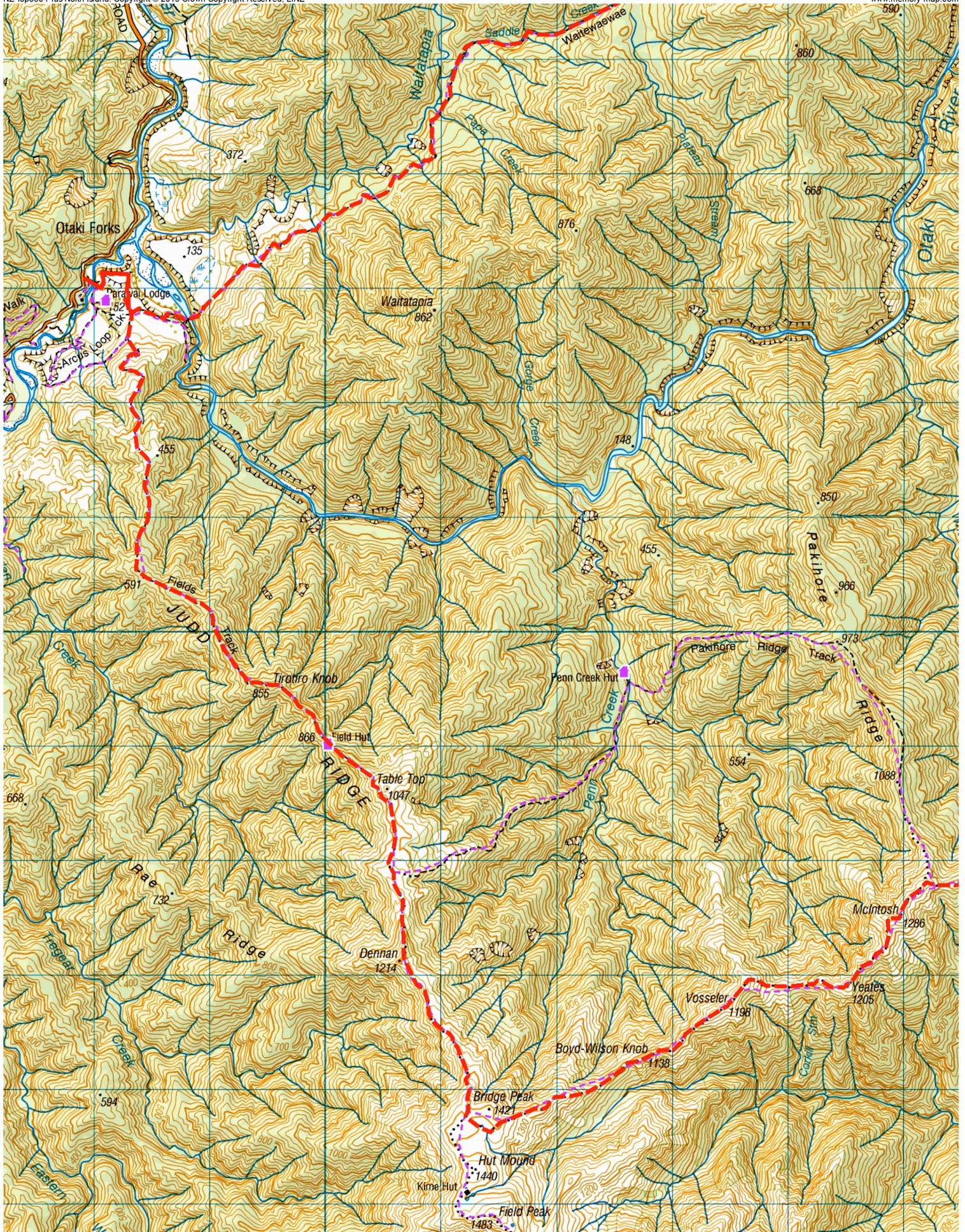
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Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to map this route correctly, *Wilderness* does not accept responsibility for any errors. Users should plan their routes and gather as much information as possible before departing. The GPX file associated 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.

Tararua Peaks circuit, Tararua Forest Park. Map 1 and 3

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Tararua Peaks circuit, Tararua Forest Park. Map 2

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