**Blue Lakes Canyon**

Mt Cook

1. This canyon at mt cook sounds good, good advice on access, I would estimate about a 2 hours walk to the start. Anchors don't sound like an issue.

Yes Charlie and I abseiled down a series of chutes & waterfalls just north of the Hooker Bridge. We flew into the basin at the top with Dave Taylor and his Robinson helicopter that he owned at that time. The stream is un-named on the map but it exits from the hillside and runs under the bridge that lies between between the Hooker River & the Blue Lakes Shelter. The start of the stream is at about the 1300m contour. Wouldn’t like to climb up from the bottom (really scrubby on the ridges) but the easiest way to walk there would be to drop in from the top after going up the Wakefield Ridge trail. Turn off at about spot height 1827m on the map.

I see on checking the map that there are 2 creek systems shown – not sure which one we went down but I would guess that it was the southern. And it was a really good trip! Surprising really because it all looks completely scrubby with no waterfalls – but there is some nice vertical drops down waterfalls into cold pools (but not deep). We went there late summer season so not too much water around at that time. Good rock anchors were not hard to find.

I have some photos but they are slides and are at home in Twizel. Go and check the gully out – you will not be disappointed.

