



PHILLIPS

Stream v3a2IV★

Location

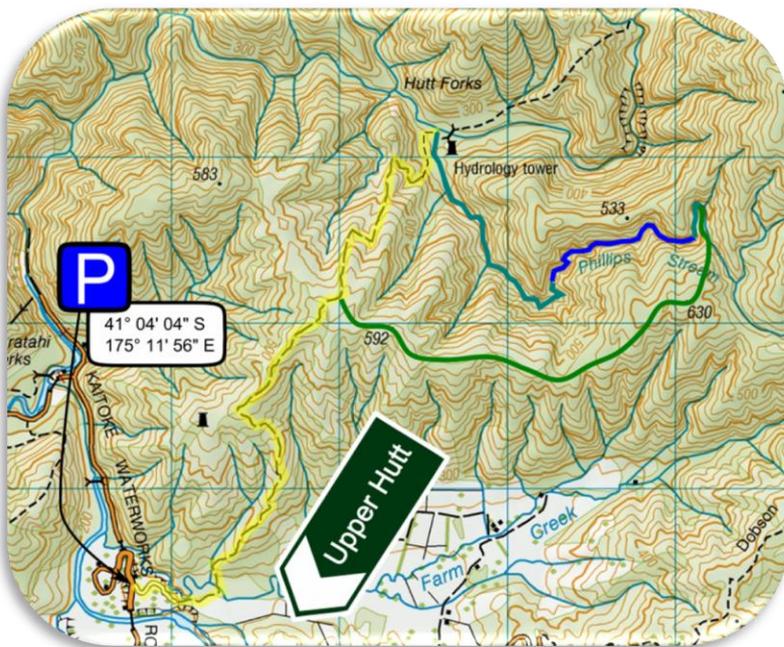
Southern Tararua Ranges.

Character

Lengthy and rough off-track river tramping, with a couple of waterfalls to rappel.

Map

BP33 Featherston



Approach by Car

From Upper Hutt, head north-east on SH2, for about 6km. Turn left onto Waterworks Rd, which is signposted "Kaitoke Regional Park" After 1.2km, park at the first car park on the left after crossing the bridge.

Approach on Foot

Take the track to the "Hutt Water Collection Area" directly opposite the car park. After 1hr, you should be at the top of the ridge. Bush bash east, trying to find an unofficial track that is poorly marked with pink dazzle and plastic markers. This track is hard to follow at times and seems to be slightly more on the south side of the ridge than the north. When you get to spot height 630 take a bearing north and head steeply down to the stream.

Rock

Reasonably solid Greywacke.

Water

Generally very low flows. Short wetsuit sufficient in summer.

Catchment

4.1 km²

Anchors

Simple natural anchors.

Gear

Minimum of 25m rope plus pull cord.

Route Description

Phillips Stream is mostly just rough river tramping, but there are a couple of rappels into deep pools. There are a few short swims to be done and some short sections of narrows (1m wide) to move through. After the confluence with the Hutt River, find the 4WD track on the true left, which will take you back to your car.

Time

4WD to start of bush bash	1hr
Off Track travel	3hr
Stream descent	4h
Return to Vehicle	2hr
Total	10h

Flash Flood Danger

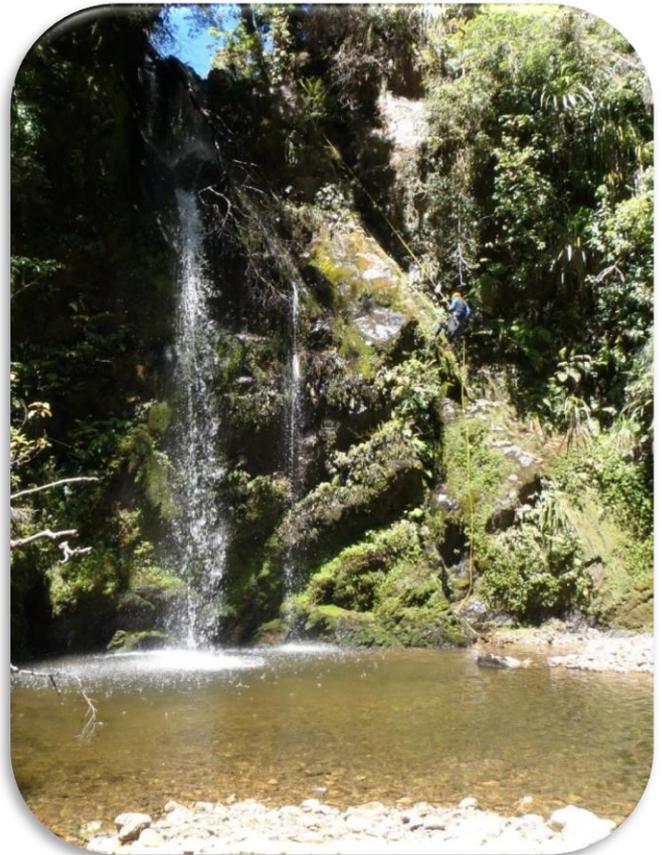
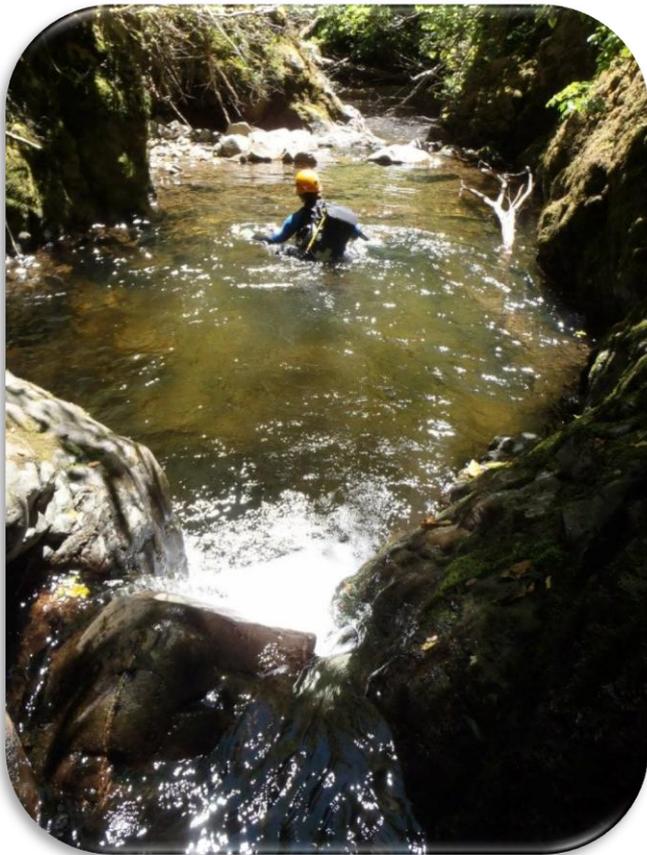
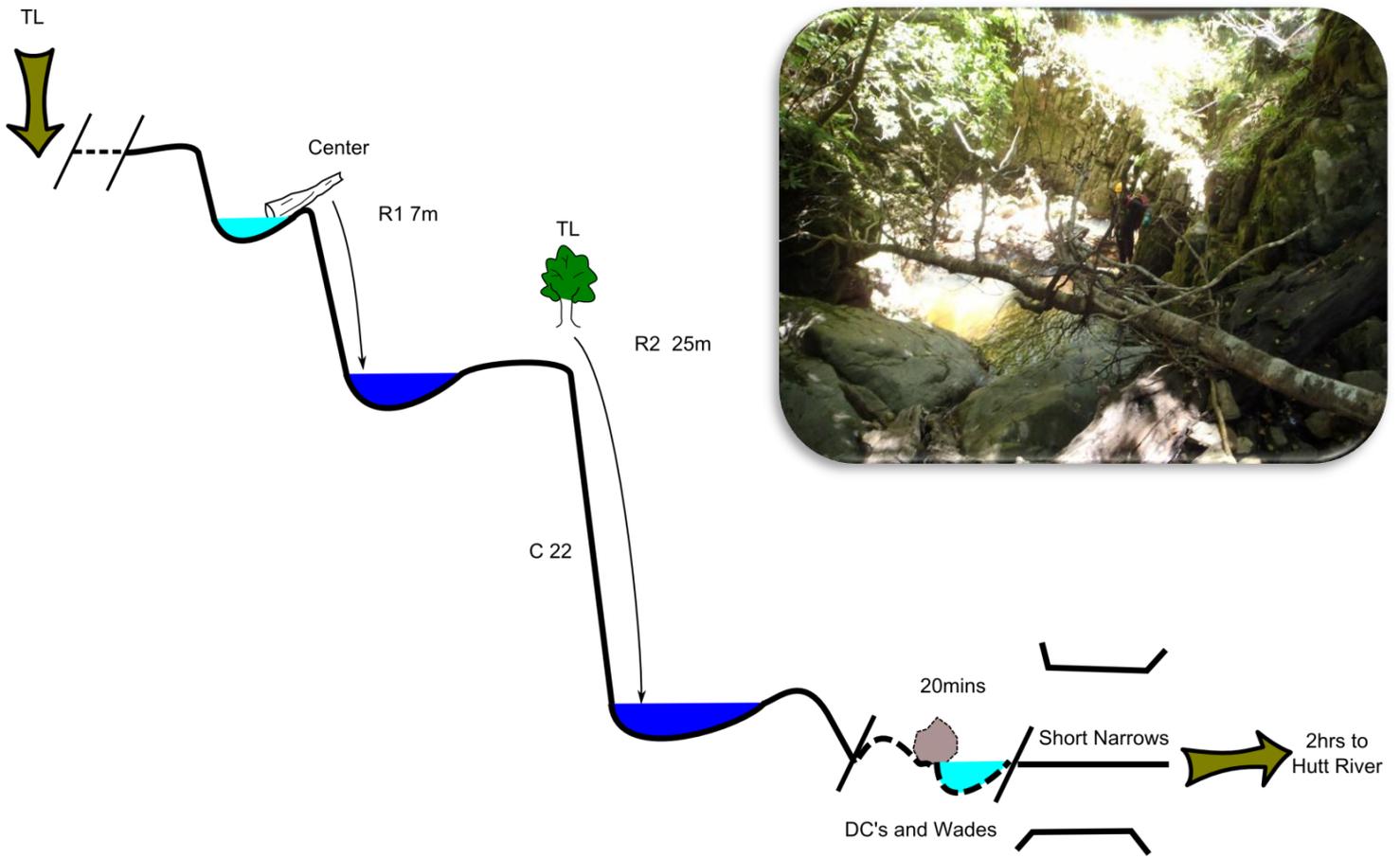
Moderate. Relatively small catchment and reasonably escapable watercourse.

Escapes

You could escape with effort in most places. Although the bedrock gorge is very limited, the valley walls are very steep, which would make escape challenging.

Notes

Information from this descent is provided by Hayden Richards on 16 Dec 12.



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Topo by Daniel Clearwater
www.KiwiCanyons.org