



# BILLY GOAT

## Creek v3a11

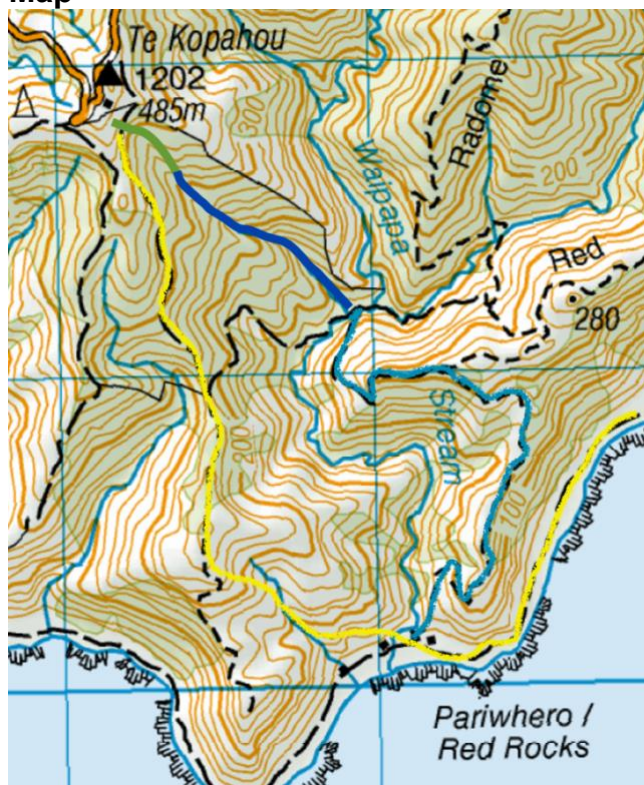
### Location

Inland of Southern Coast (red rocks) Wellington City.

### Character

On a Wellington "good day" amazing vistas of the South Island on approach from South Coast. A short, unsuspecting canyon. Up to 4 abseils. Closest micro canyoning mission to the city. No wetsuits needed, various approaches possible with MTB, 4WD or light weight trail running possibilities. Makes for a nice half day trip.

### Map



### Approach by Car

Drive to Owhiro Bay Parade to red rocks car park to access Te Kopahou trig from the coast. Drive to Brooklyn windmill (or alternatively further along Hawkins Hill rd if you are able to gain gate access) to access Te Kopahou trip from the radar dome.

### Approach on Foot

Approach from the 4wd track running south from Te Kopahou trig. This can be reached by either coming up from the South Coast via Sinclair Head bunker track or down from the Radar station at Hawkins Hill.

Approximately 50m downhill from the locked gate

below Te Kopahou trig head East and pick a way through the scrub. There's an old slip on the true right of the headwaters which is steep, but makes travel much easier. Drop into the creek, where travel becomes much easier.

### Rock

Greywacke

### Water

Very minimal in normal flows.

### Catchment

0.5 km<sup>2</sup>

### Anchors

Natural Anchors

### Gear

Minimum of 1x40m rope, alternatively a 20m with pull cord.

### Route Description

The canyon is very low flow, wetsuits are not necessary as deepest submersion is knee to waist deep. Not big commitment as escape options are abundant but steep in places.

After putting in from the true right, relatively flat river travel can be expected for approximately 50m. The first abseil anchor is accessed from a tree on the true left. The subsequent pitches are broken up with river travel and small downclimbs. R4 can be rappelled however anchor selection at the top of the pitch is scarce. The first decent downclimbed on the true left. 150m of further river travel gets to the confluence of Waipapa Stream. From here either a steep climb out on the 4wd track to access red rocks track to descend back to the coast or follow the stream out to the coast or climb back to Te Kopahou trig via the 4wd track.

### Time

(From Owhiro Bay Parade)

Vehicle park to start of canyon	2h
Canyon descent	1h
Return to Vehicle	1.5h
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.5h</b>

### Flash Flood Danger

Low.

### Escapes

The canyon is escapable throughout, although it is steep and scrubby terrain.

## Notes

First descent was done as a lightweight run approach, because of this, times listed may not be accurate.

Various approach options, if you have a 4wd, the first approx. 3-4km of Owhiro Bay Parade can be driven. Alternatively, this trip can be approached by mountain bike from below along Owhiro bay, or above via carparts ext, barking emu, Radome access rd and Te Kopahau rd to the trig.

First decent: Tim Sutton, Dave Leppard, Lee den Haan - 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

Photo Credits: Dave Leppard, Tim Sutton

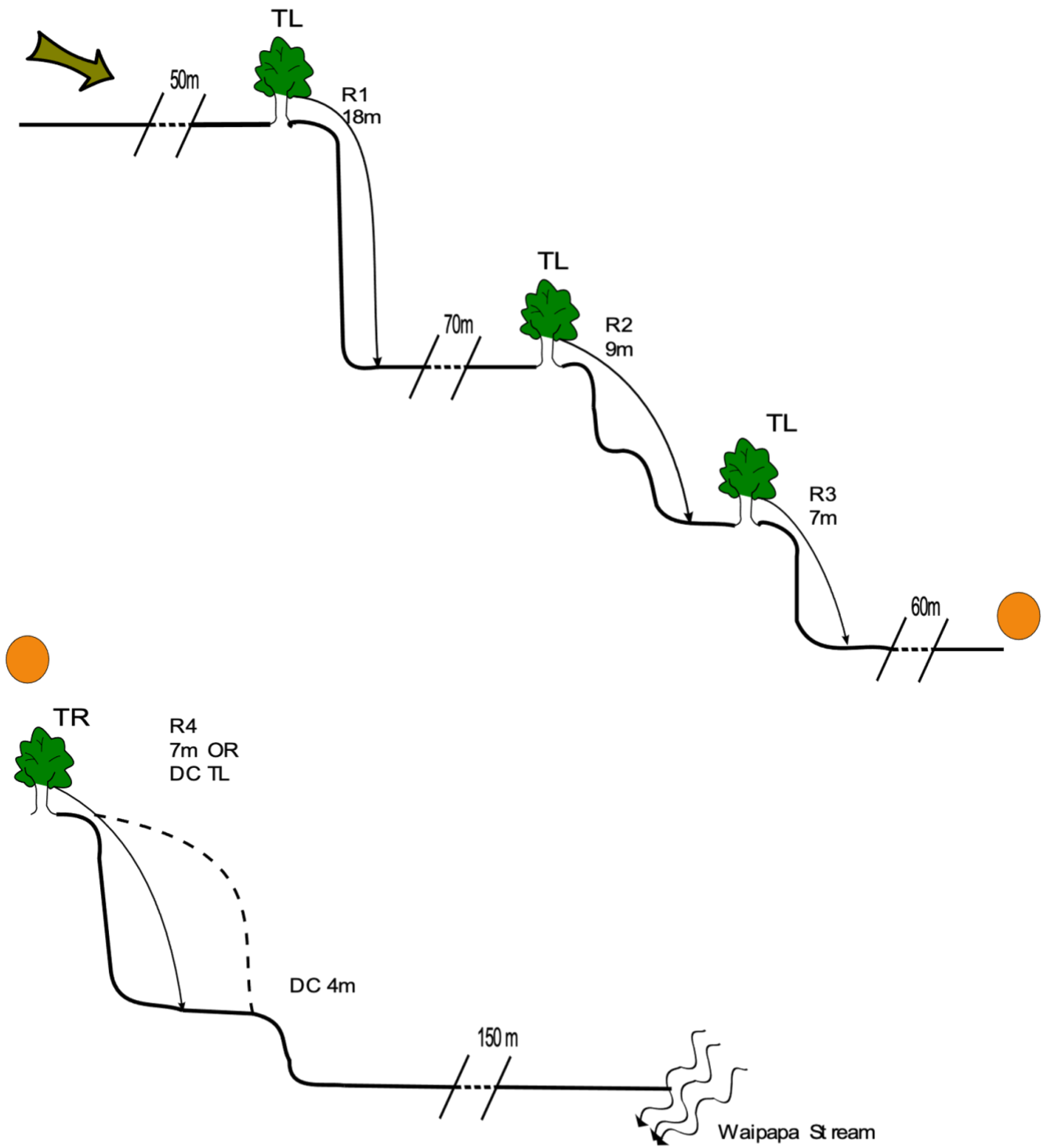


Vistas of the Cook Strait and Kaikoura ranges on approach



Dave Leppard and Lee den Haan before R1

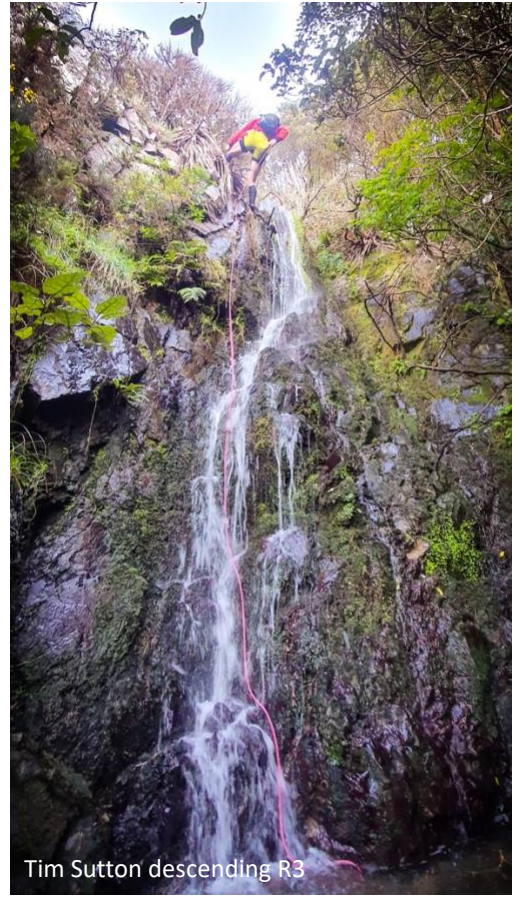








Lee den Haan descending R1



Tim Sutton descending R3



Tim Sutton descending R2