



HACK CANYON

canyon v4a2III ★

Location

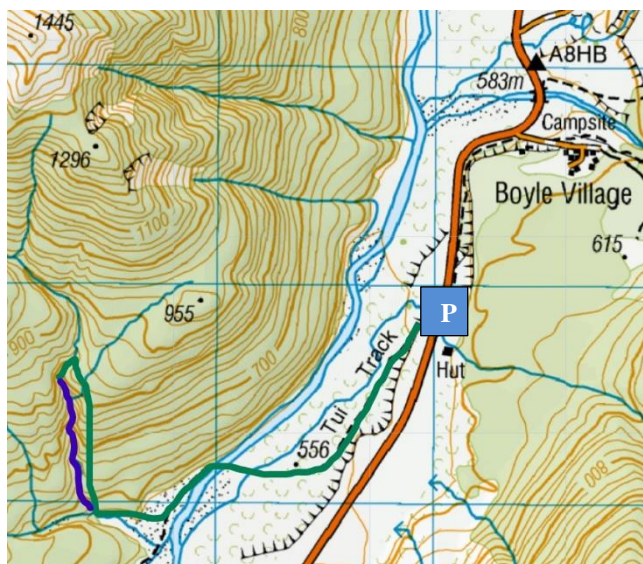
16km South of Lewis Pass; overlooking SH7.

Character

Moderate flow canyon rigged to get canyoneers very wet! Interestingly no deep pools given the flow. Challenging at the grade.

Map

BU23 Boyle Village



Approach by Car

Park beside SH7 where the Tui Track cross's, about 1km South of Boyle Village (16km South of Lewis Pass).

Approach on Foot

Follow the Tui Track South, crossing the Boyle River and up the first tributary on the TR until it forks. 30 min.

Follow a hunter's track up a spur overlooking the creek / canyon on its TL until you cross a side stream and reach a notable mossy terrace. Drop into the creek. 1 hour.

Rock

Greywacke, generally good quality with a few exceptions.

Water

Moderate flow in normal summer conditions, beware shallow sieves and foot entrapment.

The Boyle River requires wading to cross. Keep canyons Didymo free & change your footwear before canyoning.

Catchment

3 km²

Anchors

4 Double Bolt Anchors connected by chain, 2 slings with rings round trees, 1 log wrap.

Gear

Longest drop 35m, 2no 40m ropes recommended.

Route Description

R1 35m. Pounding in the flow, a hard-to-reach redirect exists on the TR. DBA TL with access HL from tree TL.

R2 5m. Steep down climbing leads to a suspended log anchor. Avoidable – downclimb TL.

R3 10m. Turns into an overhanging pounding. DBA TR. Water avoidable via a tree on the TL.

R4 & R5; 15m & 10m – DBA from boulder TR then DBA from boulder TL. R4 water avoidable via log on the TL.

Boulder hop and down climb for 30 minutes which includes the option of R6 & R7; both 5m – both trees with sling and ring; TL & TR. Water avoidable via bush.

Time

Vehicle park to start of canyon	1hr 30min
Canyon descent	2hrs
Return to vehicle	30 min
Total	4hrs

Flash Flood Danger

Low to Moderate

Escapes

Obvious escapes, generally on the TL.

Notes

First descent Dan Clearwater, Grant Prattley & Brendon Nevin (January 2011) however not recorded until a descent 20 February 2022 (Anthony Alford, Hamish Castle, Justin Hall) finding R1, R3 and R5 had slings around trees above them (R2, R4, R6 and R7 can be bypassed by downclimbs). The canyon is now bolted and rigged to get canyoneers in the flow and wet at every opportunity!

Access issues: Public land.

Photos



R4 pounding.



R1 working to avoid a pounding.



Down climbs above R2 (suspended log anchor).



R3, contemplating the overhanging drop off.

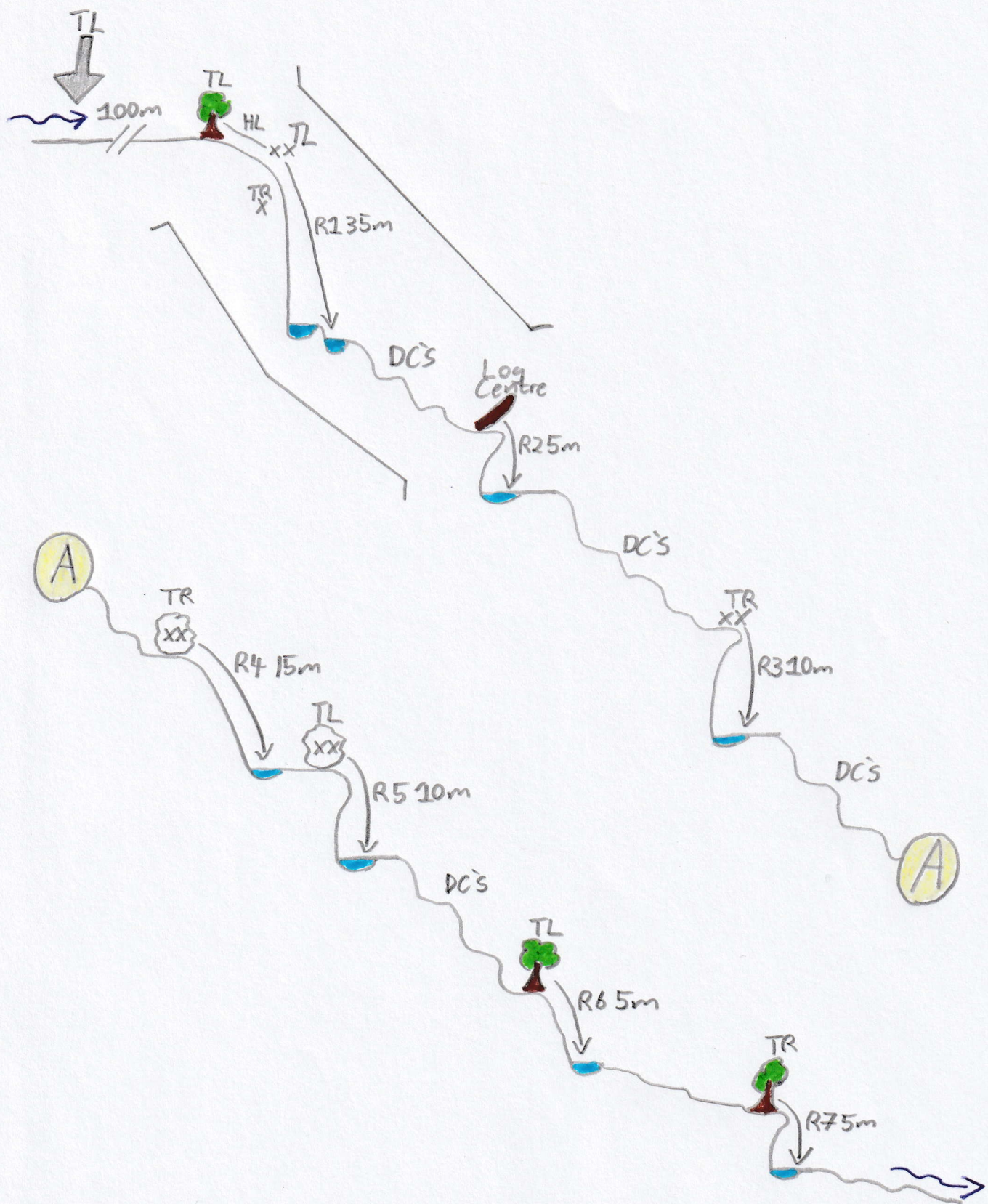
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Topo by Justin Hall
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