



HOLDSWORTH

Creek v4a2IV ★

Location

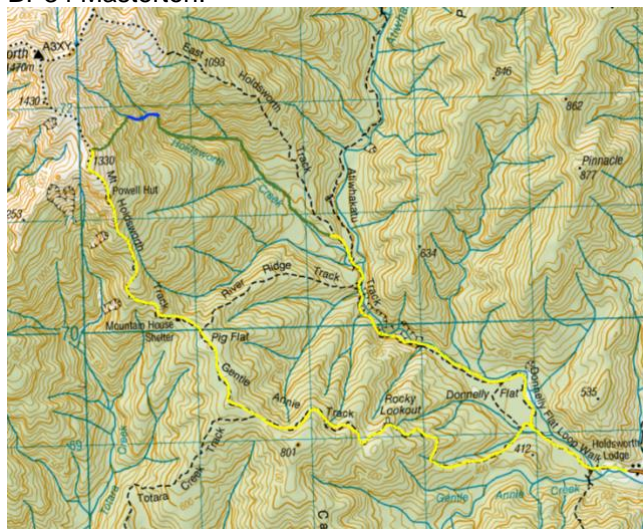
Mount Holdsworth, East Tararuas, Holdsworth Rd.

Character

Adventure canyoning, big day out in the Tararuas, great vistas from the tops, hard river travel in the valleys.

Map

BP34 Masterton.



Approach by Car

From state highway 2, turn onto Norfolk Rd immediately south of Masterton. Following signs for Mount Holdsworth continue onto Mount Holdsworth Rd to the campsite at the road end

Approach on Foot

Begin at Holdsworth road end climbing Gentle Annie track to Powell Hut, 2 hours walking time. Continue onto tops beyond hut to High Ridge junction point 1330. Continue north 100m then drop off eastern side of ridge travelling towards prominent spur running SE, staying in tussock on southern edge of scrub band. At the 1200m contour enter bush negotiating a narrow section of scrub. From here open bush travel follows the prominent spur to 1100m where you drop off the northern side into a small stream. Continue to follow this until it arrives at the upper confluence with Holdsworth Creek. From here it's a further 200m of creek travel downstream to the top of the falls.

Rock

Greywacke.

Water

Low volume in normal flows.

Catchment

1 km²

Anchors

Natural Anchors – Webbing + Rings in situ

Gear

Minimum 2 x 60m rope.

Route Description

The canyon begins with the marked waterfall. Use a belay to clamber onto the true right shoulder finding a tree, webbing and rap ring in situ. The falls aren't visible from anchor, ideally you can send a spotter out onto the true left shoulder to view rope and send comms back to pitch leader. McGregor or Channel falls is sculpted to the L) of the falls; makes for great "slab sailing" however beware of disturbing mats of moss falling to those below. Down stream is a locked in gorge committed after pulling rope from R3. The down climbs or R2 and R4 can be human anchored for those not confident, leave your best climber at the top of down climb R4 as its quite technical. One last abseil in the gorge before entering the green room; a 30m tiered abseil into the headwaters where it essentially turns into the creek proper. Bolder garden travel for the next 500m losing elevation quickly before mellowing out for an additional approximate 1km. The shoulders eventually drop and terrace travel can be made sidling true left finding East Holdsworth track a few hundred metres before hitting Atiwahakatu Track. Complete the loop back to carpark.

Time

Vehicle park to start of canyon	3h
Canyon and river descent	4h30m
Return to Vehicle	45m
Total	8h 15m

Flash Flood Danger

Low.

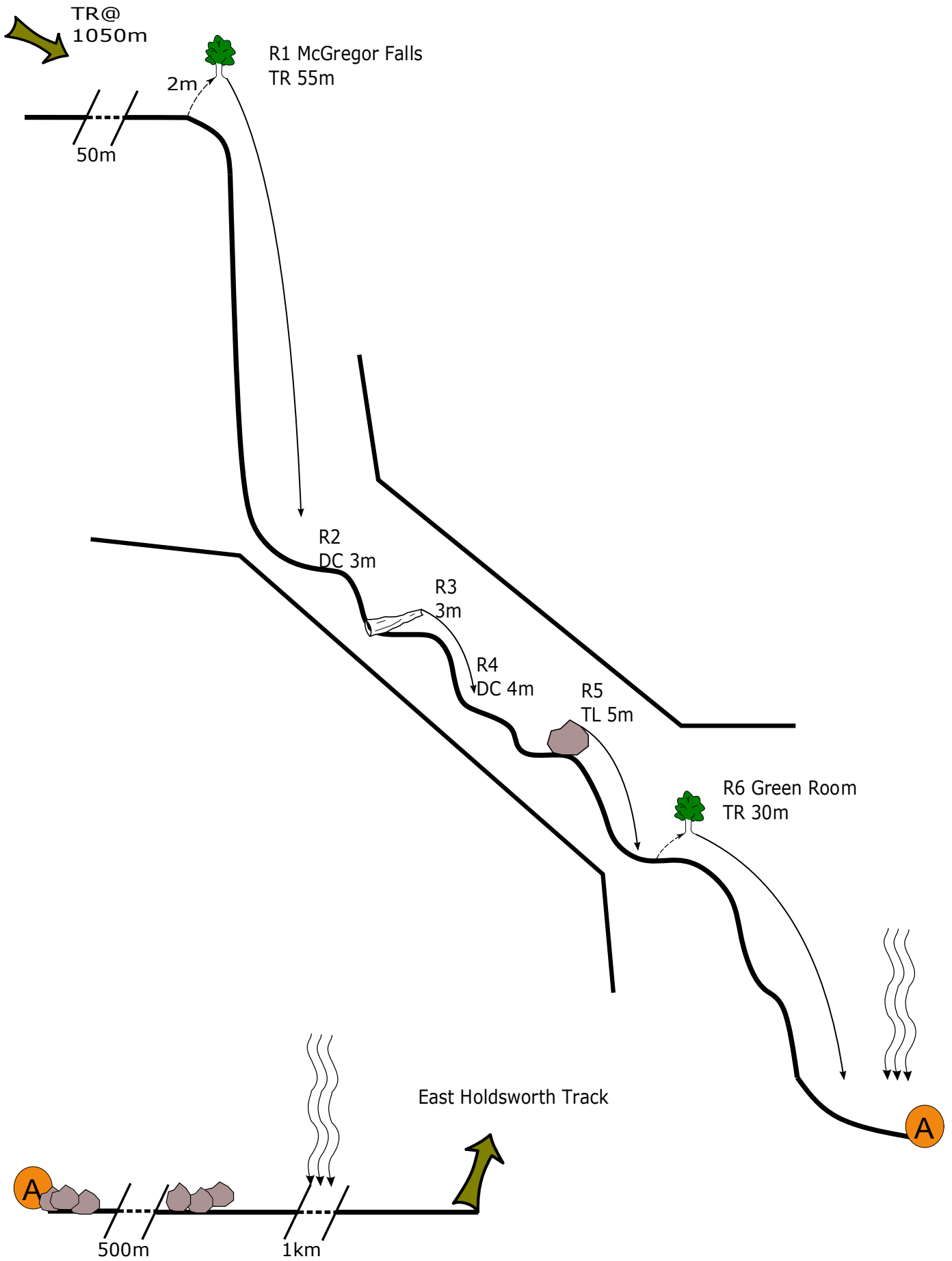
Escapes

Potential escapes above McGregor falls and at the green room below the locked gorge

Notes

First Descent – Tim Sutton, Dave Leppard, Kyle Malone, Lee den Haan. 22 March 2019.

Adventure canyon for a big day out in the hills.

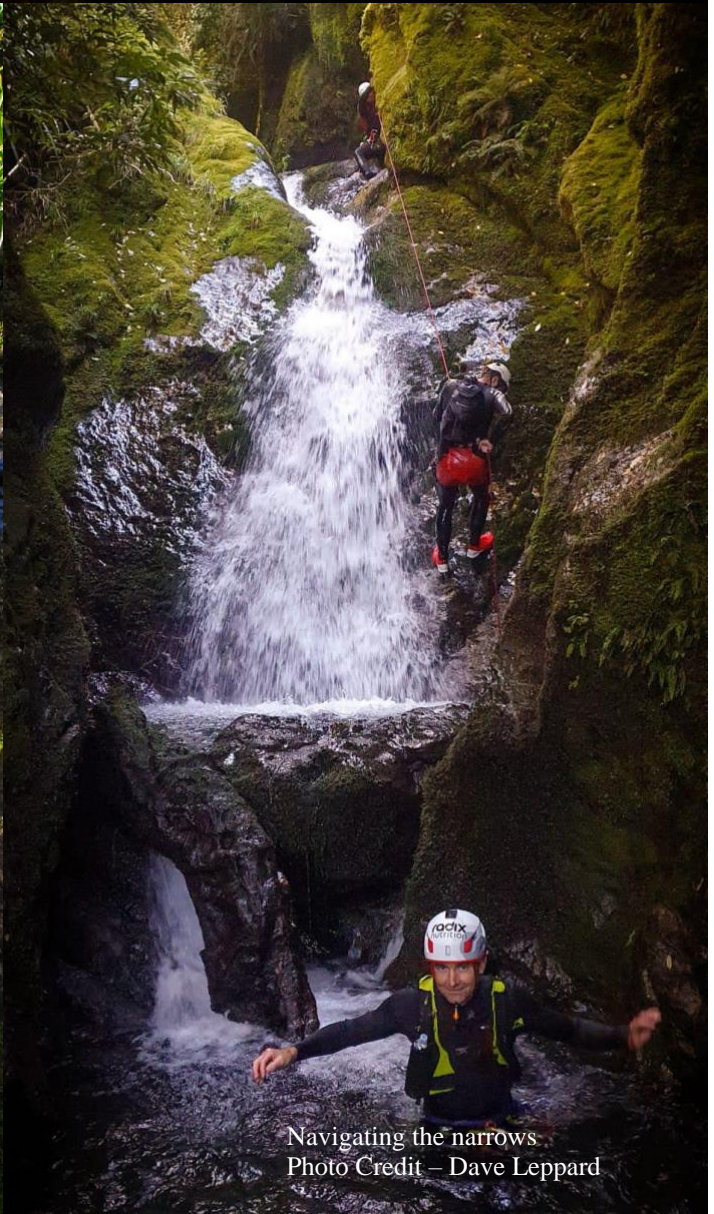




Alpine start - en route to the tops
Photo Credit – Tim Sutton



MacGregor Falls
Photo Credit – Dave Leppard



Navigating the narrows
Photo Credit – Dave Leppard

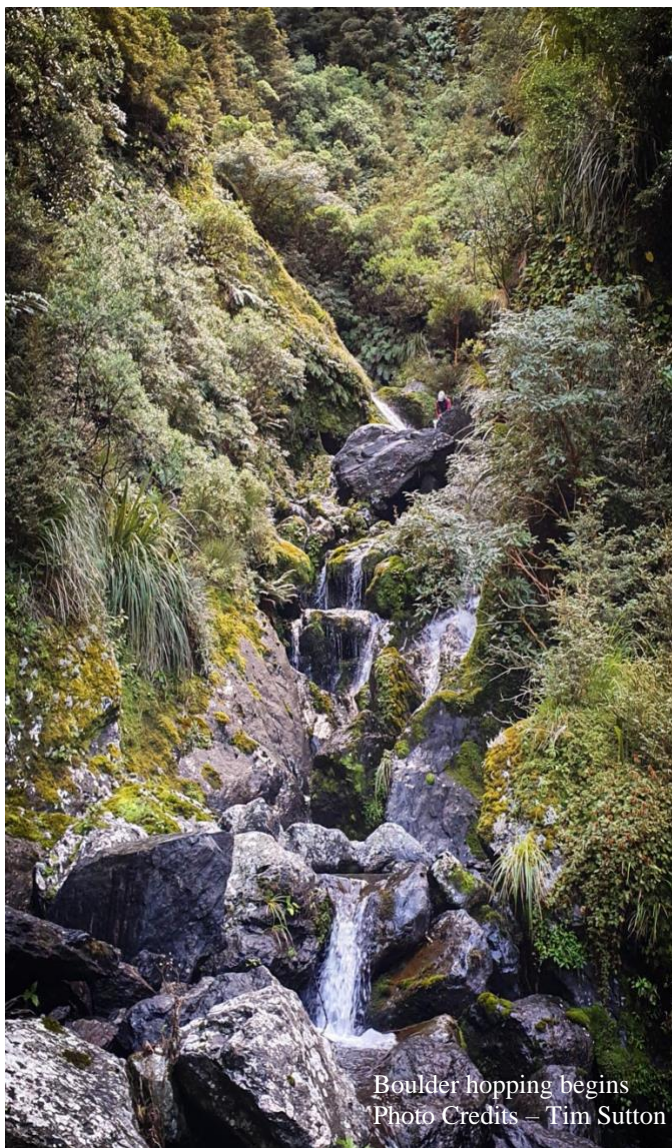
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Topo by Lee den Haan
www.kiwicanyons.org



Escape the Narrows into the green
Room.
Photo Credit – Dave Leppard



Boulder hopping begins
Photo Credits - Tim Sutton

