



NEAVESVILLE

canyon *v*lall

Location

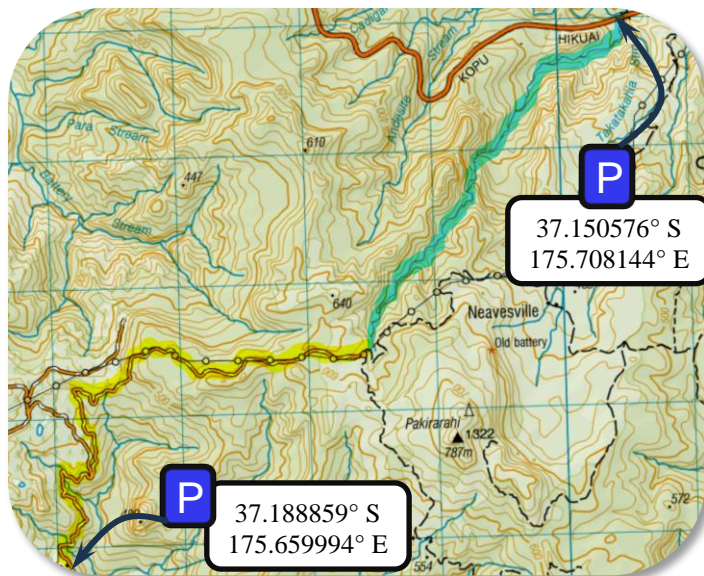
Upper section of Tairua River Fourth Branch, Coromandel

Character

A promising looking stream that ends up being mostly river tramping. There are some small falls in the upper section, but most of the stream has cascades rather than vertical falls.

Map

T12 Thames.



Approach by Car

Easier with two cars, but SH25A is closed at the time of writing (Nov 2023). Park a vehicle on SH25A where the stream goes under a bridge. Drive over the hill towards Kopu, then south towards Paeroa. Turn east onto Neavesville Road. 2WD vehicles will get to the last houses, but in summer, 4WD vehicles might go further. However, that means further to go to retrieve your vehicle at the end of the day.

Approach on Foot

Walk on the old 4WD track. The stream branches off on the north side about 2km before you reach the abandoned mining village of Neavesville. There is a distinctive kink in the track at the point the stream cuts across.

Rock

Volcanic conglomerate.

Water

Low flow. Relatively poor water visibility, but some swims and small jumps.

Catchment

2.1 km²

Anchors

Natural releasable anchors only.

Gear

1 x 30m

Route Description

There are some 3-4 small rappels, but all rappels can be climbed around. The rock is slippery, and it is slow walking in the horizontal sections. Highest drop is 10m. The large waterfall, which drops about 60m, is not steep enough to warrant using a rope and can instead be easily climbed down on the true right.

Time

Vehicle park to start of canyon	1hr
Canyon descent	6hr
Return to vehicle	0min
Total	7hr

Flash Flood Danger

It has a sizeable catchment, but within a wide river valley.

Escapes

Escape is possible at any point, but if you aren't walking in the streambed then this would be a very slow exit to the road.

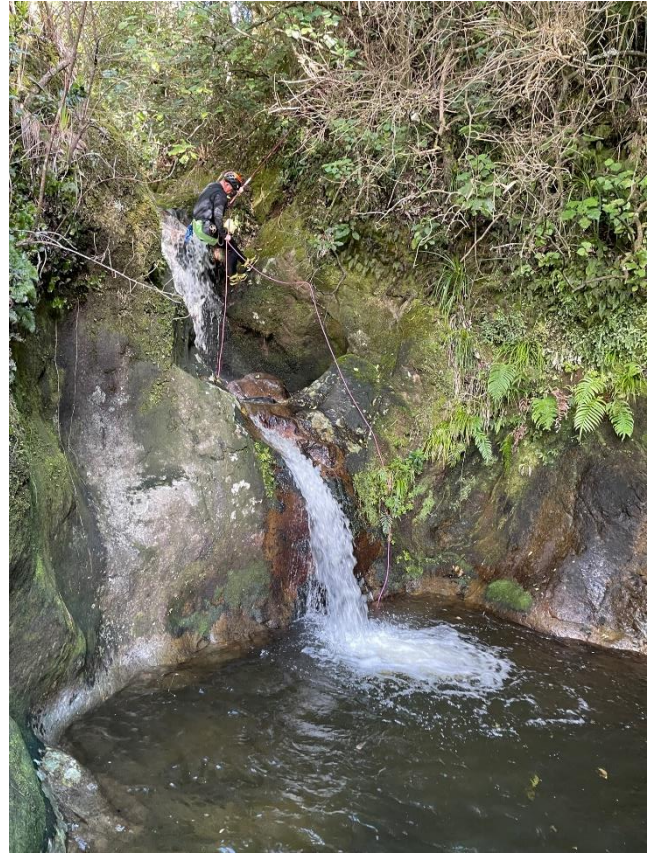
Notes

First descent: Paul Rowe, Shanan Fraser, 13 July 2021.

A lot of effort for not enough fun.



Rappel in upper section



Rappel in upper section



60m waterfall – unfortunately just a wide cascade which you can climb down



Following the 4WD track to Neavesville. This is used by the power line maintenance crews.

NEAVESVILLE

Canyon v1a11

Topo by Paul Rowe
www.kiwicanyons.org