

TIMBER TRAIL from DOC CENTRE PUREORA

260 Series Map: Whakamaru, T17

Topo50 Map: BF34 Benneydale, BF35 Whakamaru & BG35 Tihoi

NZ Grid GPS: Geodetic Datum 1949

NZTM GPS: NZTM on WGS84

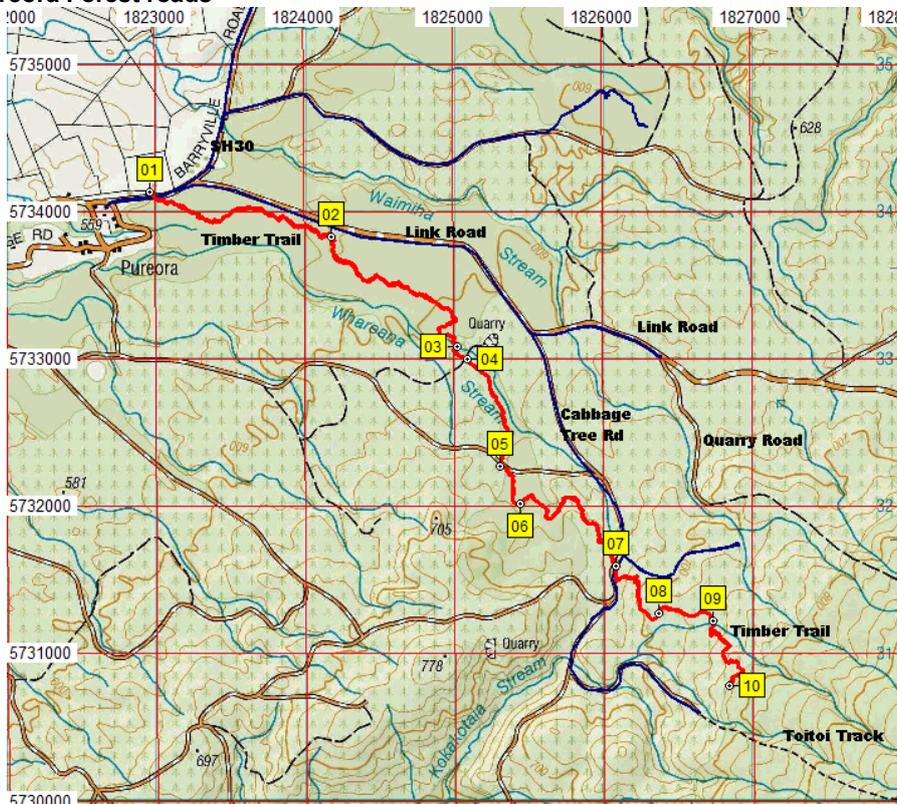
How to get to START: Exit Taupo northwards on SH1 towards Rotorua and turn off just outside town left on to Poihipi Road:

- Turn right on to SH32 northwards
- At Whakamaru turn left (NW) on SH30
- In 3km bear left still on SH30 Mitchell Road
- Two km further on turn left (SW) on Scott Road which is still SH30
- At Barryville, about 16km, go left for entrance to Pureora Information Centre and park at the Centre or about 300 - 400m before it with sign for Timber Trail.
- Approximately 1:05 minutes from Taupo

Times are taken from the Police Station in Taupo and the route is shown opposite

Rough Description: The Timber Trail starts from near the DoC Centre in the Pureora Forest Park and heads south eastwards to almost meet up with the Toitōi Track ascending Mt Pureora. Advice from the DoC office was that 6km of trail had been completed (July 2011) and it was a pleasure to walk as it was virtually level, wide and passed through magnificent forest – there are also several very impressive bridges to cross the streams. By lunchtime the group had walked outwards for 8km and had lunch at a new shelter – christened the Red Shed for obvious reasons – then the short walk in the forest was completed back to the starting point, giving us just on 10 miles (16km).

Pureora Forest roads



Access



Huge Trees



Just where are we?



One of the fine new bridges



Detail: The start of the trail (WP01^{576masl}) is easy to find and updated information is willingly supplied by the staff in the DoC Information Centre – it looks pretty certain that the trail will be extended past the Red Shed and link up with the Toi Toi Track. From the start it is level walking on a wide, meandering track but remember that this is actually a bike trail so be very wary at all times. After 20 minutes or so there is the first of several wide, wooden bridges to cross (WP02^{589masl}) with the second after another 25 minutes easy walking (WP03^{612masl}). However, just before WP03 there is a junction sign-posted as leading to an old tractor 5 min down the track – it is worthwhile looking at this 1928 bit of kit. After just over an hour a (WP04^{616masl}) road which heads NE to a quarry is crossed. Fifteen minutes later a more substantial road (WP05^{635masl}) is met where the trail goes left then after 50m goes off right then 10 minutes later bridges 3 and 4 are crossed.

Cabbage Tree Rd

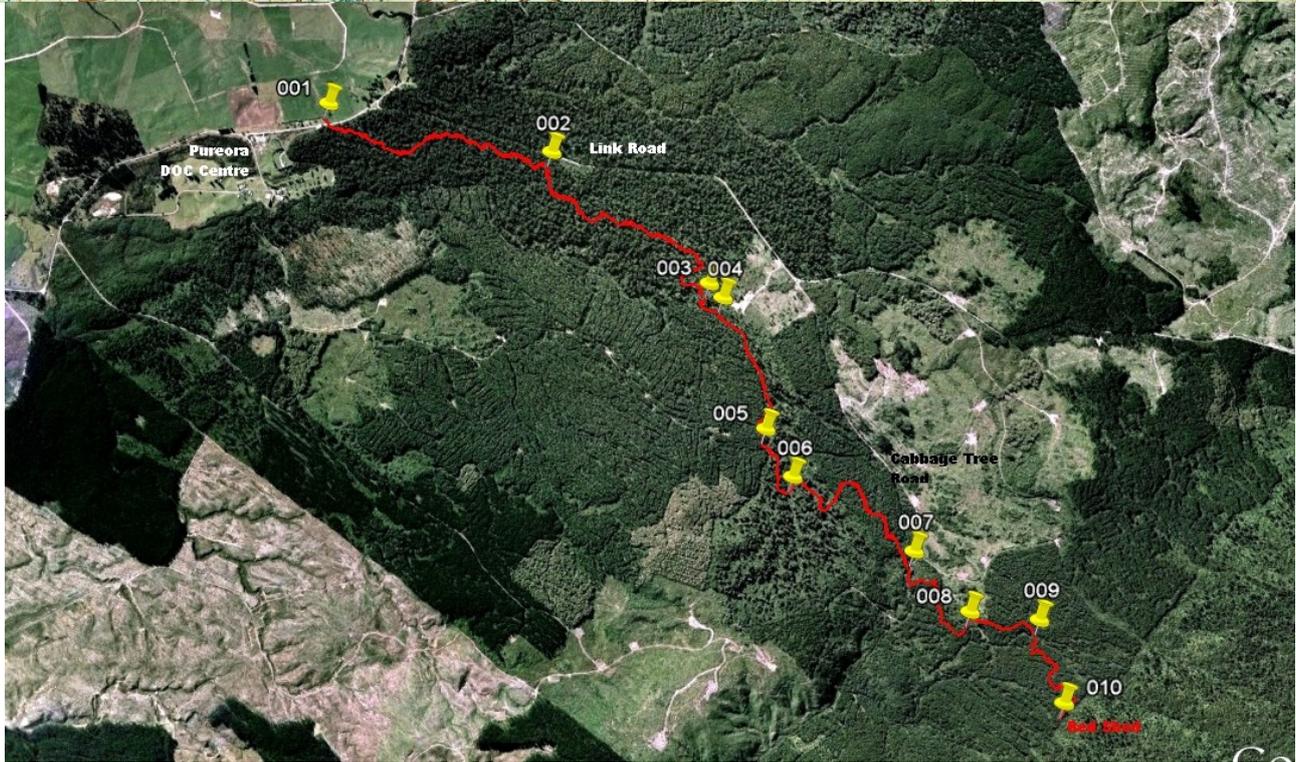
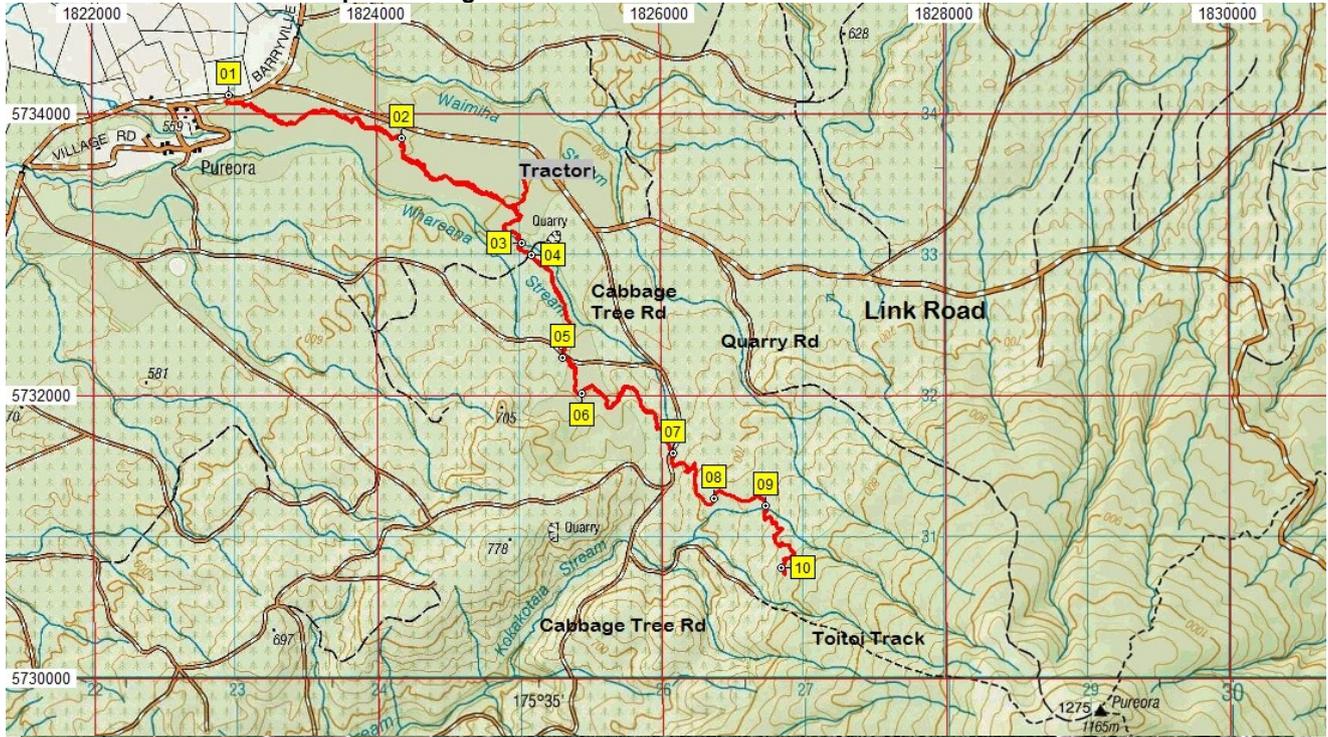


After 2 hours Cabbage Tree Road is crossed with a sign indicating the Maraeroa Cycle Way goes right on Cabbage Tree Road – from here the slopes do increase a fraction as some altitude is gained. In about 2 hours 10 minutes as another road is crossed the Red Shed can be seen on the edge of the tree line upslope to the SE. The trail now winds up the now-noticeable slope crossing another two bridges en-route. Within about 2 hours 35 minutes the Red Shed (WP10^{780masl}) is reached and this makes an excellent spot for lunch as there is shelter if the weather is inclement and there are very good views to the west. As the trails in this area are further developed there will be the choice of several longer tramps – including ascending Pureora or doing a clockwise loop back to the DoC Centre.

Red Shed



Toitoti track to Pureora on map and Google

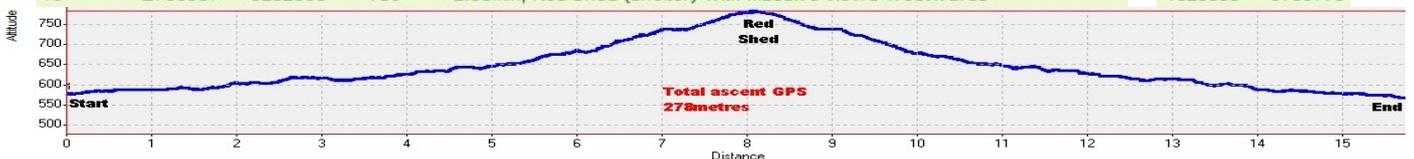


Waypoints NZ Grid

Name	Easting	Northing	Alt(m)	Description
01	2733121	6295955	576	Car park 350m from DoC Centre Pureora
02	2734336	6295647	589	23min walk; Wooden bridge then go right on newer track to the right
03	2735174	6294901	612	50min; Second wooden bridge before sharp bend in track
04	2735247	6294820	616	1:10min; Cross roads over old road to mapped quarry to the NE
05	2735457	6294099	635	1:25min; Go left on metalled road then off right on Timber Track
06	2735594	6293834	642	1:35min; Third wooden bridge with fourth 5min later
07	2736233	6293415	684	2 hours; Cross Cabbage Tree Road which is signed Maraeroa Cycle Way
08	2736515	6293088	722	2:12min; Road crossing with Red Shed clearly visible on tree line to the SE
09	2736879	6293039	736	2:20min; Two wooden bridges close together whilst ascending to Red Shed
10	2736987	6292598	780	2:35min; Red Shed (shelter) with massive views westwards

NZTM Grid

Easting	Northing
1822968	5734132
1824184	5733825
1825023	5733080
1825096	5732999
1825307	5732277
1825444	5732013
1826084	5731595
1826366	5731268
1826731	5731219
1826839	5730778



Notes:

- **GPS:** (Garmin GPSMap 60CSx)
- **WP =** Waypoint as taken by GPS unit
- **masl =** metres above sea level (as recorded by GPS units)