

Section A: Taumarunui (0km) to Ohinepane (21.5km)

Note: Before commencing your journey on the Whanganui River, ensure you have left your intentions with family, friends or your accommodation manager. Refer "Leaving Intentions," p48.

Cherry Grove: This is a picnic reserve maintained by the Ruapehu District Council, at the junction of the Whanganui River and Ongarue River. The best launching place is at the boat-ramp in the Ongarue River. Launch facing upstream and move out into the current before turning around, to avoid being swept into the snags on either side.

1 Ngahuinga: is at the junction of the two rivers.

2 and 3 Pongahuru: Snag beds and rock ledges, beware of driftwood snags.

10 Paehou: Large boulders in the river.

12 Pokaka: Herlihy's Bluff comes into view, but pay more attention to the rapid.

13 Whakatarino: A rock ledge **R** creates a large pressure wave. Clear channel between end of ledge and shingle on left. Watch for whirlpool on left.

14 Towhenua: On left hand bend just below Herlihy's Bluff. Channel is to right of shingle. Keep close to the shingle to avoid large waves and boulders.

16 Te Autetii: A clear channel has been created around the outside of this right hand bend. Watch out for cross currents below island. This used to be quite a hazardous rapid.

24 Te Horoaporoaki: Three wires cross the river below this small rapid.

26 Omaka: Sharp right-hand bend with large pool above an island. Narrow channel just to left of island. Use the ferry-glide to check the outrun before running through. Keep close to island at low flows and select course with care through shallows below. Move back to **R** as soon as possible.

34 Onetapu: Large pool on right hand bend. Current sets close to cliff **R**. Keep close to **L** and check rapid for obstacles. Picnic area **L**.

Te Maire Bridge: This is the first of only two bridges over the river between Taumarunui and Wanganui (the other is at Hiruharama). Landing **L** immediately below the bridge.

In early times, a very powerful man, Tangi, distinguished himself here by killing five opponents in single combat (Downes). There were several kainga (Maori villages) in this area.

38 Rua-a-te-namu: Farm buildings visible ahead from this straight.

40 Te Rata: Two large boulders in the river. Clear channel centre.

42 Matawhero: Shingle island. Channel to right. Willows and the Matawhero Stream **R**. Rock shelves **L** for almost a kilometre.

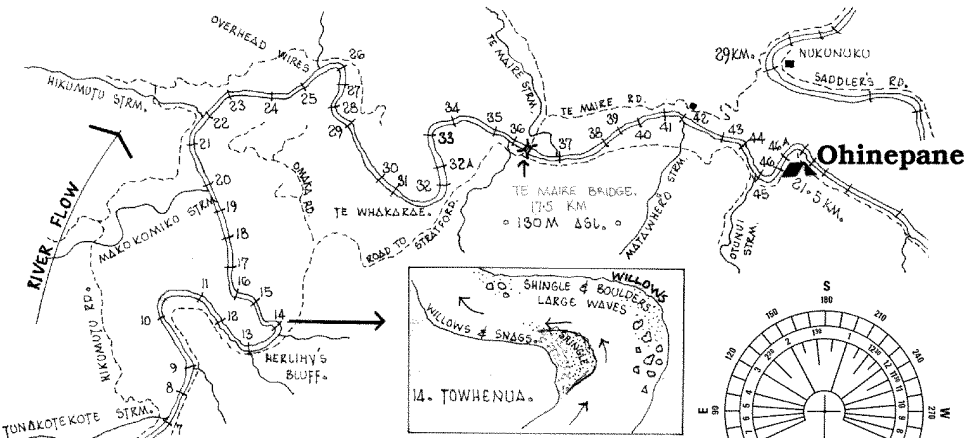
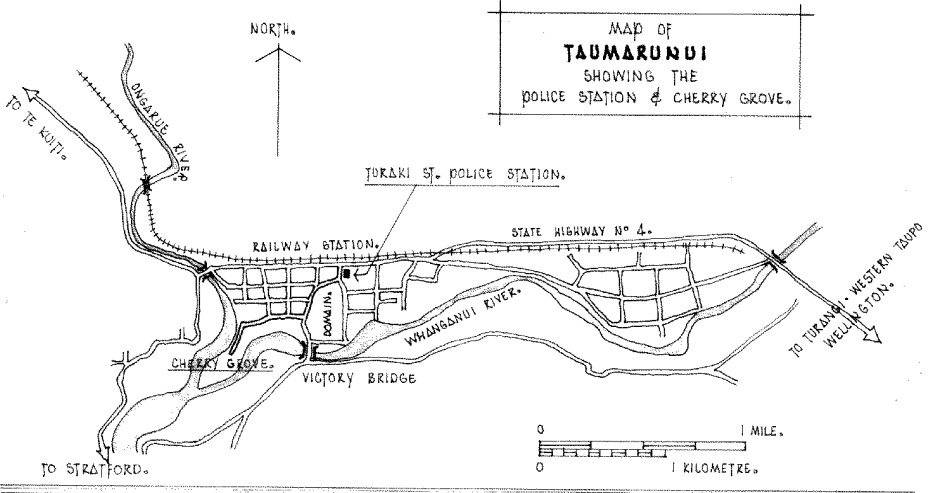
Ohinepane Campsite: On **R** just below rapids 46 and 46A (Te Pera). Picnic area on old metal extraction site with access to Stratford Highway. Boat-ramp installed by DOC as an alternative launching place (to Cherry Grove) when the river is very low owing to diversion of the headwaters for power generation. New boat ramp. Good camping, toilets and fresh water.

List of rapids

1. Ngahuinga
2. Pongahuru No.1
3. Pongahuru No.2
4. Rurumaikatea
5. Turangahoro
6. Te Miro
7. Tunakotekote No.1
8. Tunakotekote No.2
9. Pokongaruru
10. Paehou

11. Kokirae
12. Pokaka
13. Whakatarino
14. Towhenua
15. Rakauwhakamatuku
16. Tauteti
17. Porokurangi
18. Wairere
19. Pataua
20. Raparua

(continued on map pages)



- 1.** Rikomatū Rd.
- 2.** Hikumatū
- 3.** Titakataka
- 4.** Te Horoaporoaki
- 5.** Kaka
- 6.** Omaka
- 7.** Ahauaroa No.1
- 8.** Ahauaroa No.2
- 9.** Kowhatupiko
- 10.** Onepoto
- 11.** Manawanawa
- 12.** Whakarae No.1
- 13.** Whakarae No.2
- 14.** Pouwhakamaru
- 15.** Herlihy's Bluff.
- 16.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 17.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 18.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 19.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 20.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 21.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 22.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 23.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 24.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 25.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 26.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 27.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 28.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 29.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 30.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 31.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 32.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 32A.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 33.** Makokomiko Strait.
- 34.** Onetapu
- 35.** Motutara
- 36.** Te Hinau
- 37.** Te Maire
- 38.** Rua-a-te-namu No.1
- 39.** Rua-a-te-namu No.2
- 40.** Te Rata
- 41.** Otukotare
- 42.** Matawhero
- 43.** Maraekura No.1
- 44.** Maraekura No.2
- 45.** Otunui
- 46.** Te Pera No.1
- 46A.** Te Pera No.2
- CHERRY GROVE. 0 KM. 100M ASL.
- TAUMARUNUI.

