

Twizel River Trail



Walking track: well-formed easy walk
24 km return 5 – 6 hours return



Mountain-biking track Grade 2: mostly flat with some gentle climbs on smooth track with easily avoidable obstacles such as rocks and potholes
2 hours 30 min – 3 hours return

No dogs or horses/no trail bikes

Twizel River Trail is located opposite Twizel township area on the eastern side of SH8. Look out for a pedestrian gate along with a Department of Conservation sign.

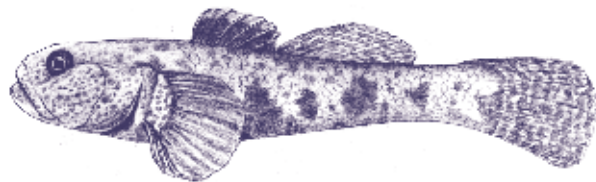
This trail runs for 12 km over old farm tracks and a newly established river track. The river is intermittently lined with willow trees which provide plenty of shade on a hot summer's day. It is also a great place to explore and find an un-crowded swimming hole or fishing spot.

Mountain bikers, off-road runners, walkers and anglers will enjoy using Twizel River Trail. The pedestrian gates are wide enough for all-terrain baby buggies to fit through so that young families may also enjoy a stroll alongside Twizel River.

There are wonderful views of the Mackenzie Basin mountains along the trail. Aoraki/Mt Cook can be clearly seen from the latter part of the trail on a fine day. Meanwhile the end of the track makes a great vantage point for overlooking Lake Benmore. From here, recreationalists can either return the same way, or alternatively, return back to Twizel on Ohau River Road.

Freshwater fish

Native fish such as the Canterbury galaxias (*Galaxias vulgaris*) and upland bully (*Gobiomorphus breviceps*), below, inhabit Twizel River. This river is also a popular fishing destination for anglers hoping to catch rainbow or brown trout.



Birdlife

The lower Twizel River provides important nesting habitat for the river-bed birds banded dotterel/turiwhatu. Other birds that may be seen include grey duck/pārerā, paradise shelduck/pūtangitangi, black shag/kawau and South Island pied oystercatchers/tōrea.

Lizards

The common gecko and McCann's skink/mokomoko are two native lizards that are found on the river flats

Interesting facts

The start of the Twizel River Trail is at 468 m above sea level while the end of the trail is 390 m. a. s. l.

The source of Twizel River is actually under Ben Ohau Range, a picturesque mountain range located on the western outskirts of Twizel.

Twizel Walkway

Another walkway/mountain-bike ride goes around Twizel township itself. It follows a different area of Twizel River, upstream from the Twizel River Trail. This circuit is 9 km long, is well-marked and dogs are allowed.

Further information:

www.doc.govt.nz

Twizel Information Centre

C/- Twizel Events Centre
Market Place
TWIZEL
Phone: 03 435 3124 Fax: 03 435 0406
e-mail: info@twizel.com

Lake Pukaki Visitor Centre

Lake Pukaki Dam, Highway 8, Mackenzie Basin
Phone: 03 435 3280 Fax: 03 435 3283
e-mail: lake.pukaki@xtra.co.nz

Department of Conservation

Twizel *Te Manahuna* Area Office
Wairepo Road
TWIZEL
Phone: 03 435 0802 Fax: 03 435 0852

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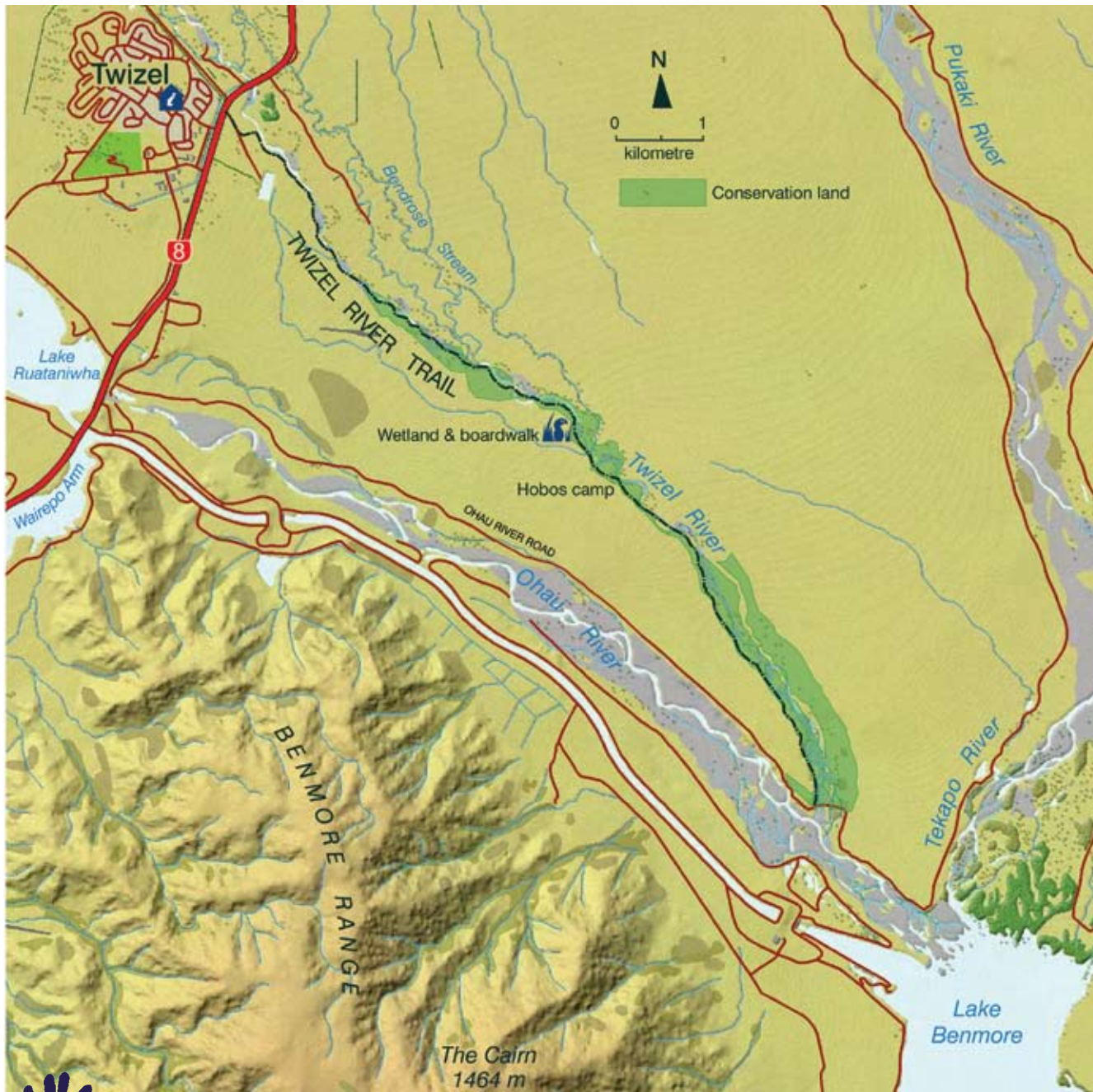
Twizel River Trail



SOUTH CANTERBURY



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Protect plants and animals

Remove rubbish

Keep streams and lakes clean

Take care with fires

Respect our cultural heritage

Enjoy your visit

Toitu te whenua
(leave the land undisturbed)

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468
Report any safety hazards or conservation emergencies
For all other enquiries please call 111

Take care visiting natural areas

Fire: Fire restrictions apply to all DOC land. Check with the Twizel Information Centre or DOC for the current fire status.

Dial 111 in fire emergency

Public easements:

Please:

- stay on the public easement track
- leave gates as you find them
- do not disturb stock

Park your car on the grass verge at the track entrance (well away from SH8 traffic).

Mountain bikers give way to walkers. Watch out for rabbit holes on the last third of the track – a mountain biker could accidentally catch a wheel if not alert.



Didymo

Help us prevent the spread of didymo; please Clean, Check, Dry your footwear, bike and tyres after doing any trip that involves river crossings. For more information about how to decontaminate your gear, go to www.biosecurity.govt.nz/didymo