



Map background: Geographx



# Redcliffe Conservation Area



and scenic reserves

MID CANTERBURY



As a result of the tenure review process for Redcliffe Station, completed in October 2009, some 7837 hectares are now public conservation land; 113 hectares of these are in scenic reserves.

## Where is it?

Redcliffe Conservation Area is part of the Mt Hutt Range, just south of the Rakaia River, 24 km northwest of Methven. It is bounded by the Swift River to the west and adjoins Hakatere Conservation Park at Mt Hutt.

## Access

Access is off Double Hill Run Road. From the Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road (State highway 77) at Mt Hutt follow Blackford Road and then Double Hill Run Road.

Signs mark public access easements across private land to the public conservation land.

Ensure you keep to the marked track.

Motor vehicles are not permitted.

Alternative access can be gained from Mt Hutt which can be accessed from the Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road.

## Maps

NZTopo50 maps: BW20 Lake Coleridge and BX 20 Methven

## Activities

There are opportunities for tramping and hunting for red deer, pig and chamois.

## Tracks and huts

These two tracks are classified as **tramping tracks** – Challenging day or multi-day tramping/hiking

Track is mostly unformed with steep, rough or muddy sections

Suitable for people with good fitness. Moderate to high-level backcountry skills and experience, including navigational and survival skills required

Track has markers, poles or rock cairns. Expect unbridged stream and river crossings. Tramping/hiking boots required

## Redcliffe Stream

*It is a three- to four-hour walk from Double Hill Run Road to Tribulation Hut.*

A small car park on Double Hill Run Road gives access to the public access easement across private land to the scenic reserve by Redcliffe Stream. A tramping track is marked from the road up the true right of Redcliffe Stream to the public conservation land at the base of Rat Hill and continues to Tribulation Hut.

Tribulation Hut is a basic hut (free) on the true left of Swift River between the slopes of Rat Hill and Mt Hecla. It has six bunks.

## Terrible Gully

An easement is marked from Double Hill Run Road up Terrible Gully to the public conservation land.

## Native plants you might see

At higher altitudes snow tussock grasslands and Dracophyllum shrubland predominate. This gives way at lower altitudes to short tussock. Small remnants of beech/tawhai and mixed native hardwood remain in deep valleys and around rock bluffs and scree.

The scenic reserve at Redcliffe Stream contains a diverse range of native plants that are representative of the sunny west-facing aspect of the valley system. The small scenic reserve near the mouth of Hutt Stream has a dense stand of kōwhai. It contains *Sophora prostrata*, uncommon in inland Canterbury.

## ... and native animals

Kea, the New Zealand falcon/kārearea (above), and New Zealand pipit/pīhoihoi are present at higher altitudes, while bellbirds/korimako, grey warblers/riroriro and silvereye/tauhou can be found in forest remnants and scrublands.



Photo: K Lange

## Further information

For additional information or to report any incidents, issues or sightings of conservation interest, contact the Department of Conservation, Raukapuka Area Office North Terrace, Geraldine. Phone 03 693 1010 Or fax 03 693 1019

Emergencies phone 111

[www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

Suggestions for corrections or improvements should be emailed to: [recreation@doc.govt.nz](mailto:recreation@doc.govt.nz)



**NEW ZEALAND  
environmental  
CARE CODE**

- Protect plants and animals
- Remove rubbish
- Bury toilet waste
- Keep streams and lakes clean
- Take care with fires
- Camp carefully
- Keep to the track
- Consider others
- Respect our cultural heritage
- Enjoy your visit
- Toitu te whenua (Leave the land undisturbed)



BETWEEN WATERWAYS

## Check, Clean, Dry

Stop the spread of didymo and other freshwater pests. Remember to Check, Clean, Dry all items before entering, and when moving between, waterways



Silvereye/tauhou Photo: J Kendrick

Published by  
Department of Conservation  
Canterbury Conservancy  
Private Bag 4715  
Christchurch  
2010

**New Zealand Government**