

Study site information

2: Whakapapanui Walk

Notes for schools and educators



Whakapapanui Stream, Tongariro National Park. Photo: Alan Cressler

Key information

Unmodified (by human activity) site in a forested area

This 20 x 20 m plot is in a thickly forested environment with a variety of species, including ferns, beech trees and grasses. The site has little deer browsing and the stream nearby often has whio.

For an overview of study sites see [Section 4](#), page 7.

More information on tracks in the area:

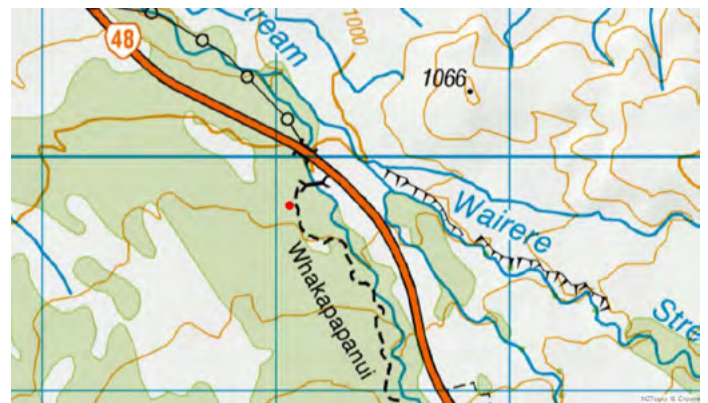
[Whakapapa Village Walking Tracks](#)
[Topographic map of New Zealand](#)

Getting to site

Turn off SH47 onto SH48 towards Whakapapa village. Continue up SH48 for about 3 min. Shortly after you cross a bridge, the car park for the Whakapapanui Walk is on the right.

The track to the study site is at the back of the car park. Start the track, cross the bridge and walk for 80 m (about 2–5 min). The study site is on the right side of track. You will see wooden posts in the forest.

The red dot on the map indicates the location of the study site.



Visitor facilities and parking

The small car park fits one coach or 3–4 minibuses. There are no toilets – the nearest toilets are in Whakapapa Village.



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Recommended activities

- ▶ For pre and post-field-trip learning activities see [Section 2](#).
- ▶ For information on NCEA assessment resources that could be linked to fieldwork at this site see [Section 3: Year 11–13 NCEA assessment resources](#).
- ▶ For ideas on practical learning activities across Tongariro National Park see [Section 4](#).
 - Ideas for using study sites – page 10
 - Native bush and stream activity ideas – page 12
 - Human impact activities – pages 12, 13
- ▶ Using a measured transect or quadrat (1 x 1 m) you can investigate:
 - vegetation (eg tussock, vegetable sheep)
 - invertebrates (eg alpine grasshopper).
- ▶ 5-min bird count (eg pipit/pīhoihoi) – see [Experiencing Birds in your green space, page 10](#).
- ▶ Useful stream-monitoring tools:
[Stream Health Monitoring Assessment Kit \(SHMAK\)](#)
[NIWA Freshwater monitoring database](#)
[Take Action for Water resource](#)

Comparison sites

For an overview of study sites see [Section 4](#), page 7.

- ▶ *Manawatu Ski Lodge site* for comparison with a higher-altitude environment.
- ▶ *Mangawhero Forest Walk* for comparison with an unmodified and forested environment on the southern side of the mountain.
- ▶ *Alpine Flush site* for a stream study comparison at a different altitude.

Health and safety

For general health and safety considerations see [Section 4](#), pages 8–9.

- ▶ Densely forested area – beware of tripping hazards, sharp vegetation and uneven ground when off the track.
- ▶ Multiple set traps throughout the area – stay clear and don't touch.
- ▶ Busy road at start of track – beware of fast-moving vehicles.
- ▶ River at start of track – beware of fast-flowing water if heading down to stream level.

Education providers working here

Hillary Outdoors:

www.hillaryoutdoors.co.nz/portfolio/opc-tongariro-2

Other education experiences in the area

For further information on activities in this area, see:

[Whakapapa Village Area information](#)

[Tongariro National Park information](#)

[Central North Island information](#)

[Whakapapanui walk](#)

