

NORTHERN DISTRICTS

Please log your river runs on the JBNZ website (link on Home Page) or JBNZ APP. By doing so, we build up data on use of each river. This helps when discussing access to specific rivers with the relevant authorities.

Regulatory Authorities:

1. Maritime New Zealand (MNZ)
2. Waikato Regional Council (WRC), Navigation Safety Bylaw 2013
3. Environment Bay of Plenty (BOP), Navigation Safety Bylaw 2010
4. District Councils: Waitomo, Taupo, Whakatane, Opotiki, Kawerau, Rotorua, Western Bay of Plenty, South Waikato, Otorohanga, Waipa, Waikato, Matamata-Piako, Hauraki, Tauranga City

HAPARAPARA BOP

Section	Uplifting	Description	Launching	Comments
Mouth upstream	No	Class 3. 35km Gradient: 9m/km	SH 35 Bridge	

KAITUNA, BOP, TCC

Upper Reaches to Maungarangi Bridge	No	Class 2. 12km Narrow, trees, stumps Gradient: 3m/km		Commercial operator has sole right upstream from bridge for 12.5km
Maungarangi Bridge to SH 2 Bridge	Yes	Class 1. 16km Weed, stumps, mud Gradient: 0.8m/km	Bell Rd (by SH 2) Concrete ramp	
SH 2 Bridge to sea	Yes. 20 knot limit downstream to a line across the river from the north-eastern point of the island adjacent Fords Cut. 18/8 -30/11 limit is 10 knots	Class 1. 6km		

MOTU RIVER, MNZ, BOP, Gisborne DC (Silent in District Plan, rivers not in Bylaws)

Te Kahika Stream to White Rapid	Yes	Class 3. 10km Remote, boulders, rapids Gradient: 1.5m/km		
White Rapid to SH 35 Bridge	Yes	Class 2. 20km Gradient: 2.2m/km	SH 35 bridge Need 4 x 4	

Section	Uplifting	Description	Launching	Comments
SH 35 Bridge to sea	No	Class 1. 4.5km Shingle, sand Gradient: 2.2m/km		

OHINEMURI RIVER, WRC

Karangahake to Waihou River Confluence	No	Class 1. 16km Mud, meandering, tidal Gradient: 0.75m/km	Waihou	
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OTARA RIVER, BOP

Waioeke River Confluence upstream	No	Class 2. 20km Shingle, shallows, willows Gradient: 1m/km	Opotiki wharf Concrete ramp	
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PIAKO RIVER, WRC

Morrinsville to Tahuna	No	Class 3. 20km Trees, stumps Gradient: 1m/km		NEEDS GOOD FLOW
Tahuna to sea	No	Class 1. 49km Mud, meandering, tidal Gradient: 0.2m/km	Pipiroa, Kerepehi, Maukauri Rd	

RANGITAIKI RIVER BOP, Whakatane DC

Murupara to Aniwhenua Lake	Yes. Recreational permitted but events require a WDC resource consent	Class 2. 28km Willows, limited visibility Gradient: 2m/km	Aniwhenua Hydro Lake	
Aniwhenua Falls (Hydro outfall) to Matahina Dam	As above	Class 2. 25km Gorgy, rapids, boulders, willows, limited visibility Gradient: 1.2m/km	Matahina Hydro Lake	Big rapids at top COMMERCIAL OPERATORS
Matahina Outlet to SH 2 Bridge	As above	Class 1. 25km Logs, stumps, meandering Gradient: 1m/km	River Mouth at Thornton Concrete ramp	
SH 2 Bridge to sea	No	Class 1. 10km		

Section	Uplifting	Description	Launching	Comments
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RUAKOKORE RIVER, BOP

Te Kumi Flat to Waikura Confluence	No	Class 4. 11km Rocks, boulders, rapids, gorgy Gradient: 6.4m/km		
Waikura River Confluence to sea	No	Class 3. 21km Shingle, shallows, boulders Gradient: 3.8m/km	SH 35 Bridge	

TARAWERA RIVER BOP, Whakatane DC

Tawawera Falls to Kawerau Township	Yes. Recreational permitted but events require a WDC resource consent.	Class 3. 28km Rapids, boulders, rocks Gradient: 14.5m/km		
Kawerau Bridge to SH 30 Bridge	As above	Class 2. 11km Submerged logs, willow trees, stumps Gradient: 0.8m/km		
SH 30 Bridge to SH 2 Bridge	As above	Class 1. 12km Submerged stumps, logs, meandering Gradient: 0.4m/km	Below SH 2 Bridge Metal ramp	
SH 2 Bridge to sea	No	Class 1. 6km Gradient: 0.2m/km		

WAIAPU RIVER, Gisborne DC, MNZ (NZ Gazette 1979 P 1546)

Ruatoria to sea	Yes	Class 1. 25km Shingle, braided, shallows Gradient: 2.25m/km	Beach Rd into Estuary Need 4 x 4	
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WAIHOU RIVER, WRC

Okoroire to SH 29	No	Class 2. 15km Narrow, gorgy, rocks Gradient: 3.0m/km		
SH 29 to Okauia	Yes	Class 2. 31km Narrow, gorgy, rocks Gradient: 1.2m/km		

Section	Uplifting	Description	Launching	Comments
Okauia to SH 25 Bridge @ Kopu	Yes	Class 1. 120km Mud, meandering, tidal Gradient: 2.2m/km	Kopu, Turoa, Netherton, Te Aroha	
SH 25 Bridge to sea	No	Class 1. 3.5km Tidal		

WAIKATO RIVER, WRC

PLEASE READ WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL NAVIGATION AND SAFETY BYLAW 2013, Pages 44-70 if you intend to boat Waikato River or hydro lakes.

Lake Taupo to Huka Falls		Class 1. 10km		
Huka Falls to Aratiatia Dam		Class 1. 3km		
Aratiatia Dam to Ohakuri Dam		Class 2. 66km	Ohakuri Dam Concrete ramp	Includes Fulljames Rapid. Contact Rapids Jet
Ohakuri Dam to sea		Class 1. 50km Includes dams and lakes		

WAIMANA RIVER, BOP

Matahi (National Park boundary) to Waimana Township	No	Class 3. 20km Boulders, rocks, small rapids Gradient: 4.8m/km	Matahi Bridge	NEEDS FLOOD CONDITIONS
Waimana Township to Confluence Whakatane River	No	Class 2. 20km Shingle, logs, shallows Gradient: 2.25m/km	Taneatua Bridge, Waimana Valley Bridge, Whakatane River	

WAIOEKA RIVER, BOP

Oponae to Mangaoria Stream	Yes	Class 3. 17km Boulders, rapids Gradient: 3.3m/km		NEEDS GOOD FLOW
Mangaoria Stream to SH 2 Bridge	Yes	Class 2. 22km Shingle, trees, railway irons Gradient: 2m/km	Opotoki wharf Concrete ramp	
SH 2 Bridge to sea	No	Class 1. 3km		

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WAIPA RIVER, WRC

Pirongia to Maroheno Stream	Yes	Class 1. 56km Mud, logs, willows Gradient: 0.15m/km	Ngaruawahia Concrete ramp	
Marehino Stream to Confluence of Waikato River	No	Class 1. 4km		

WAIROA RIVER BOP, TCC

Ruaihi Power Station to sea	No	Class 1. 12km Mud, weeds. Tidal, clay boulders Gradient: 1.6m/km	Concrete ramp at Main Road Bridge	
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WAITOA RIVER, WRC

Waiharoa to Waitoa	No	Class 3. 25km Trees, stumps Gradient: 1.3m/km		NEEDS GOOD FLOW
Waitoa to Piako River Confluence	No	Class 1. 27km Papa, rocks, weir Gradient: 1.6m/km		

WHAKATANE RIVER BOP, Whakatane DC

Hanamihiki to 1km downstream of Waikare River Confluence	No	Class 3. 11km Rocks, boulders, small rapids, remote Gradient: 3m/km		Urewera National Park boundary
1 km downstream of Waikare Confluence to end of Ruatoki Valley Rd (Limeworks)	Yes. Recreational permitted but events require a WDC resource consent	Class 2. 22km Shingle, rocks, boulders, remote Gradient: 0.9m/km		CHECK WITH LOCAL IWI
Ruatoki Valley Rd to SH 2 Bridge	As above	Class 1. 22km Shingle, logs, shallows Gradient: 1.25m/km	Pekatahi (SH 2) Bridge	

Section	Uplifting	Description	Launching	Comments
SH 2 Bridge to sea	No	Class 1. 20km Shingle, logs, shallows Gradient: 0.75m/km	Whakatane heads Concrete ramp	