







Lake Whakamaru

Route card No. 026 | Skill level: Intermediate | Distance: Varies | Map: BF35 | Tidal Port: N/A

Start point: Whakamaru Dam picnic area **Finish Point:** Whakamaru Dam picnic area

Emergency contact: Cell phone or PLB

Comms coverage: VHF person to person. Cellphone coverage in gorges is unreliable – you may

need to climb a hill. This is common in this area, so don't rely on other

cellphones in the area working. Use landlines where possible.

Introduction:

This is a lovely paddle along the Waikato River upstream of the Whakamaru Dam and ski club. Lake Whakamaru was formed in 1956 when it was dammed for hydro-electricity generation. It is probably the shallowest of all the hydroelectric lakes on the Waikato River system.

Description:

From Lake Whakamaru, paddle upstream to Hukurangi Island and the Christian camp (9km) and return. Alternatively launch at Tram Rd after doing a car shuttle, stop at Island for lunch and exit before the Whakamaru picnic area.

- Access/park Tram Rd is off Ongaroto Rd. May be too much current for beginners to safely launch.
- Other vessels such as water skilers.

Accomodation:

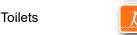
- This reserve is located between Mangakino and Whakamaru on the edge of Lake Maraetai. The camping area is in the paddock near the toilet block. No power is available. This reserve does get used for events so check www. eventscapital.co.nz to make sure it is available for camping. There is no charge for camping here, and campers may stay a maximum of 2 niahts.
- Bookabach has a number of houses to rent locally.



Camping



Bird and wildlife watching





Fishing

Please note: