

FYFE RIVER GORGE - CLIMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

The Fyfe River Gorge climbing area is located in the front-country of the Kahurangi National Park. Protection of the environment in our National Parks holds significant importance to all New Zealanders, please enjoy the climbing in the Fyfe while minimising your impacts on the area by following this Code of Conduct.

Whio

The endemic native Whio (Blue Duck) have a population in the Fyfe River. They are sometimes seen around the small rapids near the turnoff for The Factory and after the grassed clearing following the last waterfall traverse.

- Check, Clean, and Dry - Didymo is not present in the Fyfe River, but is in surrounding waterways (notably, the Owen and Buller Rivers). If didymo were to make its way into the Fyfe, this would be detrimental to the Whio population. Avoid contact with other waterways and Check, Clean, and Dry before entering the Fyfe.
- Do not camp next to the river
- If you see Whio, do not disturb them. Take a wide berth and walk quietly around, or wait until they swim by
- There is a private-partnership sourced and maintained trap line up the gorge. Contact the NZAC if you wish to assist with monitoring and re-baiting, otherwise for your safety stay clear of the traps

Impact

In addition to the notes above specific to the Whio, adhere to the following points to minimise impact on the area.

- Keep to suggested access routes as marked in the guide, these are tagged where practicable
- Do not cut vegetation and trails without prior consultation
- Only camp at the designated areas at each crag, locations of these are noted in the topo
- No gardening - either on climbs, or at the base of crags. This type of vegetation is sensitive to disruption
- Use a poo pot. Or bury toilet waste in decomposing soil layer well away from crags and waterways. Pack out toilet paper
- Pack out all rubbish
- Adhere to fire bans

Route Preparation

- Fixed gear is only to be used where the route cannot be safely climbed on natural protection
- Fixed gear is to comply with the NZAC bolting policy and current best practice
- Be proactive with maintenance, tighten loose nuts, replace hangers or bolts with deteriorating condition and notify the climbing community of issues



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