

# Mangatainoka River

Upper, Middle & Lower Reaches

CHECK

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Wellington Region

# Mangatainoka River

The Mangatainoka River has its source in the eastern Tararua Ranges and parallels SH2 flowing in a north-easterly direction toward Pahiatua. It has about 50km of fishable water with numerous roads leading to the river off SH2, where anglers will discover the amazing number of bridges (13) crossing it, allowing easy access to most of the river. The upper reaches at Putara are excellent early in the season with tantalising clear, deep pools and boulder runs. Following the onset of warm temperatures most of the trout drop back downstream.

The middle and lower reaches are mostly willow lined, similar in character along these stretches, with long pools and glides interspersed with shallow riffles. When the water temperature in the main stem Manawatu River rises and flow drops, trout move into the lower Mangatainoka in numbers. Excellent fishing can be had from the confluence up to Pahiatua township.

## **ATTENTION ANGLERS**

Sections of riverbed covered by this pamphlet may be in private ownership, which means anglers do not necessarily have a right of access. Some landowners may have agreed to anglers having access along the riverbed without having to obtain permission first.

Please respect the privilege of access. Once you are on the river, stay within the riverbed and do not wander on to adjacent farmland without the express permission of the landowner. If you require clarification around where you are legally entitled to go, please visit the Walking Access Commission website - [www.wams.org.nz](http://www.wams.org.nz) - and use the public access layers.

### **Conditions of access are:**

- NO dogs. NO camping. NO fires. NO vehicles on the riverbed.
- Leave gates as you find them.

### **Please Note:**

Fish & Game has endeavoured to show where legal public access exists to and along this river. Because of a variety of

factors beyond our control, this is a guideline only. The onus of avoiding trespassing on private land rests with the angler and, where doubt arises, landowner permission should be sought. If any difficulty occurs through the use of this information, please contact Wellington Fish & Game.

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## 1 **Larson's Road**

Turn off SH2 at the Newman area just north of the Eketahuna township onto North Road. Travel 6km along North Road then turn left onto Nireaha Hukanui Road. Drive for 1 km until you reach a four way intersection. Turn right at the Nireaha Hall and drive 1.3km then turn left onto Mangatainoka Valley Road. Drive for approximately 4.5km and turn right onto Larsons Road. Travel along Larsons Road and there are access points on your right.

## 2 **Mangaroa Road**

Follow directions to Nireaha Hall above. After turning right at the Hall, drive along this road until you reach the bridge. Just as you reach the bridge there is a gravel area on the right where you can park vehicles and gain access to the river. This is a good stretch of fishable water though fish numbers vary from year to year.

## 3 **Redpaths Road**

Follow directions to Nireaha Hall above. After turning right at the Hall, drive along this road 1.3km then turn right onto Mangatainoka Valley Road where you have the option of driving straight to the end of the road leaving your vehicle at the gate and walking to the river from there (70m), or turning left when you get to Redpaths Road which will take you to a dead end. Park your vehicle at the end of the road and walk to the river from there.

## 4 5 **Bells and Nireaha Hukanui Road**

Turn off SH2 at the Newman area onto North Road. Travel for approx 6km and veer right onto Nireaha Hukanui Road. Drive

for 2km along Nireaha Hukanui Road where you have the option of turning left onto Bells Road access #4, or driving straight along Nireaha Hukanui Road to access #5.

#### 6 **Hamua Hukanui Road**

Turn westward off SH2 at Hamua onto the Hamua Hukanui Road and travel for 2km until you reach the bridge. There is river access just beside the bridge. There is also a river access point if you travel past the bridge and turn left onto Mowbrays Road which will take you directly to the river. There is a good stretch of fishable water here.

#### 7 **Browns Road**

Browns Road is off SH2 near the Hamua area. Travel to the end of Browns Road where you must inform the landowner of your intentions to access the river to fish. You will travel along laneways to the river.

#### 8 **Pukewhai Road**

Approx 12km south of the Pahiatua Township is Pukewhai Road which is westward off SH2. Travel along Pukewhai Road until you reach the bridge. Just before you cross the bridge there is a track that leads to a gravel extraction site right beside the river.

#### 9 **Tutaekara Road**

Turn off SH2 onto Tutaekara Road and head in a westerly direction until you reach the bridge. There is a gate or electric fence that you may have to open to get access down a track to the river. Vehicles can follow the gravel track to the river where parking is available.

#### 10 **Bridge Road**

Turn westward off SH2 at Konini onto Bridge Road, this will take you to a bridge that crosses the river. Just before the bridge turn left through a gate then drive to a gravel area where cars can be parked. Walk to river from here.

11

**Scarborough Road**

From Konini on SH2 turn westward onto Bridge Road. After 1km turn right onto Scarborough Road and continue for approximately 13km at which point you will reach a bridge crossing the river. On the western side of the bridge is a gravel track leading off to the left which takes you to the river's edge.

12

**Avery Road**

Turn left off SH2 onto Avery Road which is 2.5km south of Pahiatua. Travel to the end of Avery Road where you must ask the land owner (number 80) for permission to access the river. To get to the river you must drive down a laneway which is past the milking shed. This will take you to near the confluence of the Mangatainoka and Makakahi rivers, which is just a short distance downstream of the Scarborough Road access.

13

**Halls Road**

At the southern end of the Pahiatua Township turn off SH2 onto Halls Road. Travel along Halls Road past the sports ground and it will take you to a gravel pit where you can park vehicles and walk to river.

14

**Mangahao Road**

From the Main Street of Pahiatua head westward on Mangahao Road until it crosses the Mangatainoka River. Just before the bridge there is a shingle pit on the left where you can drive down and follow a track which will take you to the river. Leave vehicles on the side of the track.

15

**James Road**

From the Mangatainoka Brewery head south for about 1km until you reach James Road which will be on your right. Travel to the end of James Road until you reach the gate. Vehicles can drive through the gate to a small parking area near the river. Remember to close gate behind you.

16

**Mangatainoka Bridge at Brewery**

On the southern side of the bridge across the road from the Tui Brewery is a gate; vehicles can be driven through the gate and parked on a large grass picnic/camping area upstream of the bridge which provides a nice spot for a family outing.

17

**Tawera Road**

Turn off SH2 at the Mangatainoka Tui Brewery onto Kohinui Road. Travel 1.3km until you reach Tawera Road on the left. Drive to end of Tawera Road where vehicles can be parked on the corner. Make sure you do not park your vehicles on the road or in any path of the laneway that is used by the farmer. Anglers then may walk across farm land to the river, leaving gates as you find them please.

*Access information online: [www.fishandgamenzaccess.org/wellington](http://www.fishandgamenzaccess.org/wellington)*

*Access online  
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the QR Code*



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