

## AORERE RIVER

The Aorere is 43km long and flows north to Golden Bay at Collingwood. The lower reaches are deep and slow moving. Fishing is rewarding but can be difficult as a result of steep banks, lack of roads and public access. The river is clear at low flow and the bed is made up of round granite stone and large outcrops of solid rock. The brown trout caught in this river are generally the largest fish in Golden Bay. Anglers willing to walk can find some of the most under-utilised fishing in the region at low flows.

### 1. Collingwood-Puponga Main Road Bridge

Past Collingwood on Collingwood – Puponga Road to Aorere Bridge. Park on left hand (Collingwood) side of bridge. “Sea run” browns and kahawai in this reach during whitebait run.

### 2. Swamp Road TO BE CONFIRMED

Ring Lindsay and Carla Nalder for access (03) 524 8309, or 027 5248309. Right turn from SH 60 onto Collingwood-Bainham main Road. Turn right down Swamp Road and drive 1.5km, turning right near road end and park by gate where indicated. Walk down raceway 1 km to river. This is a negotiated access way across private land, so please respect these requests.

### 3. Devils Boots

Turn off Collingwood-Bainham Road onto Devils Boots Road and drive 1km past Devils Boots to car park by gate. Walk 100m further on road through gate past sheep yards and woolshed and take stile on right. Walk towards river following orange markers and take stile over last fence.

### 4. Gillies Road

Follow Collingwood-Bainham Road and cross Aorere River at Rockville Bridge. Take first left past Aorere Hall on McKay Pass Road. Travel approximately 300 m then left turn on Gillies Road 1.1km and park at sign. Best fished during normal-low flows.

### 7. 15 Mile Bridge

Follow Aorere Valley Road and cross bridge over 15 Mile Creek. Park on right hand side, and follow creek down to river or walk up road approximately 60 m and follow track left off road to riverbed.

### 8. Walsh Creek

Follow Aorere Valley Road and park on left-hand side of small wooden bridge over Walsh Creek at Fish and Game access sign. Typical open rock beach best fishing

### 9. Road End and Start of Heaphy Track

Follow DOC Brown River Walk to gold fossicking beach and river access

### 6. Aorere Valley Road Bridge

Follow McKay Pass Road past James Road. At T intersection take left turn onto Aorere Valley road then left on Quartz Range Road. Cross Aorere River over Salisbury Bridge and park on left opposite sign. Take stile and track to river. Good spin fishing venue off rocks at Salisbury Creek confluence. The Aorere is open all year downstream of here.

Key	
	Open all year
	Closed May 1 - September 30
	Road

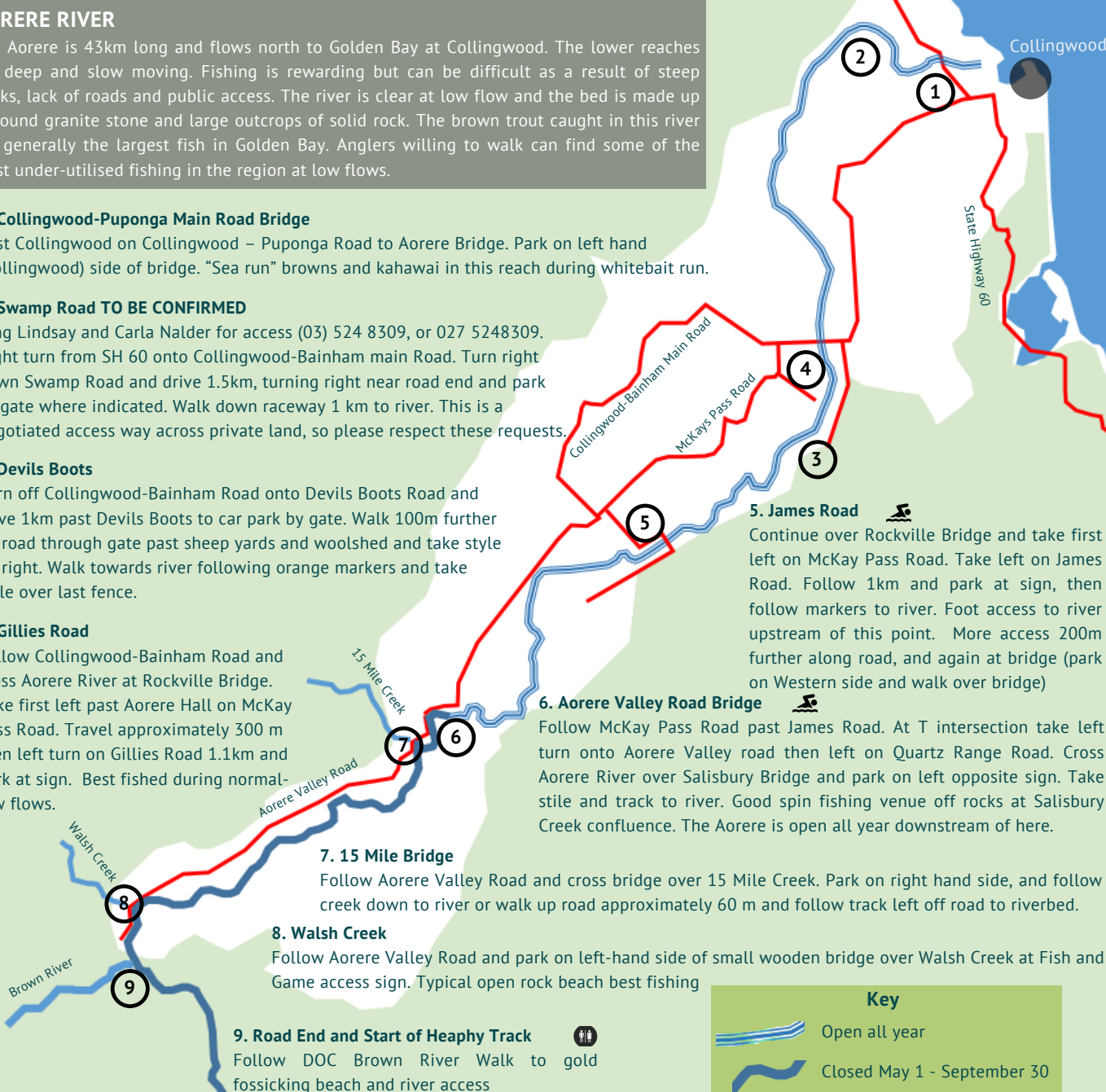
### Access Rules

Remember these simple rules and ensure ongoing access for all.

- Park vehicles away from tracks and gates | Do not litter
- Leave gates as you find them | Walk along fence lines where possible
- Cross fences without damaging them.
- Stay within river margins and do not stray into paddocks with stock.
- Avoid disturbing stock or trampling crops.
- Respect private land. If in doubt, ask permission.

### ACCESS

Fish and Game Access Points and associated signs have been provided at various locations along the river and many tributaries. In most of these locations you are free to access the river without having to ask permission, however in some locations you need to ask permission first (check the description details on the map). Please respect private property and abide by the Access Rules below to ensure the continued use of these areas.



Fish & Game

# GOLDEN BAY FISHING ACCESS GUIDE

A guide to fishing in Golden Bay: including the Aorere and Takaka catchments



Brought to you by Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game

**11. WAIKOROPUPU RIVER - Balck Road**

Follow SH 60 through Takaka and cross Takaka River Bridge. Take first left on Pupu Valley Road. Turn left on Pupu Springs Road cross Waikoropupu Bridge, and take an immediate left and travel 1.5 km down Balck Road to Takaka River. From this point access to the lower Waikoropupu River can be gained 700 m downstream. No sign.

**12. ANATOKI RIVER - One Spec Road**

Take Long Plain Road (see #3) from SH 60 south of Takaka. Cross the Takaka River and take the first right turn onto One Spec Road. Follow approximately 2km and cross the Anatoki Bridge turning immediately left onto gravel track for 200m before turning left again to car park and river. Sign often missing.

**13. ANATOKI RIVER - McCallum Road**

Follow Long Plain Road and take a right turn onto McCallum Road. Limited parking 1.3km past Bencarri Farm Park at Culvert #27. Foot track to river 10m downstream of culvert 27 – sign often missing.

**14. ANATOKI RIVER - McCallum Road**

Parking 3.3km past Bencarri Farm Park at culvert #51. Limited parking – sign often missing.

**15. WAINGARO RIVER - Waingaro Road**

Turn onto Hamama Road from SH 60 south of Paynes Ford and take first right onto Waingaro Road. Park at sign keeping clear of the track. Foot access only along raceway approximately 600m to river. Leave gates as found.

**16. WAINGARO RIVER - Hamama Road**

Ring landowner Larry Petterson (03) 525 9902 for access permission and directions. The upper reaches are in a steep, isolated gorge and the current is swift.

**17. Cobb Reservoir**

The Cobb hydroelectric scheme is located on the Cobb River about 40km (via Cobb Dam Road) from Takaka. Picnic areas and a DOC hut/toilet exist at the top end of the lake.

**10. Drummonds Flat**

The last picnic area before the powerhouse is approximately 15.8km from SH60 turnoff. Here the riverbed is steeper and river flow more turbulent. No sign.

**9. Appletree Flat**

You will have passed some good reaches of fishing water (eg. below Sams Creek Bridge) before arriving at this small grassy flat located approximately 13.8km from the SH60 turnoff. No sign.

**8. Blue Hole Picnic Area**

This beautiful bush setting is located approximately 5.5km from the SH60 turnoff. Follow the gravel track into the grassed reserve where there is ample room for parking. Sign often missing.

**7. Uruwhenua Road**

From SH60 turn onto Uruwhenua Road (100m north of #6) and follow road 4km to sign.

**6. Lindsays Bridge/Urewhenua Reserve**

Picnic and parking area located on Nelson side of SH60 bridge. Good fly fishing reach upstream.

**5. Stoney Creek**

Park on the Takaka side of Stoney Creek bridge SH60. Track immediately north of bridge 150m walk to river. Expect dry river conditions throughout summer months.

**4. Paynes Ford Bridge**

This Reserve off SH 60 is located on the Takaka side of the River with excellent parking complete with picnic tables and toilets. Downstream access best by crossing the river to the Waingaro River confluence entering on the true left. This access point also provides access to the lower Waingaro.

**3. Kotinga Bridge**

Turn off SH 60 approximately 2km south of Takaka onto Long Plain Road. Cross bridge and take first right turn on a narrow gravel track for approximately 500m and park. Good upstream access particularly for fly anglers.

**2. Takaka Township**

Foot access to river (true right) via Riellys Road. Park at Citizens Band Rooms and walk to river.

**1. Waitapu Road Bridge**

Take SH 60 through Takaka towards Collingwood. Ample parking available on Takaka side of bridge (true right). Foot access track up and downstream.



*Didymo is present in many of Golden Bay waters, please Check, Clean, Dry*

CHECK  CLEAN  DRY

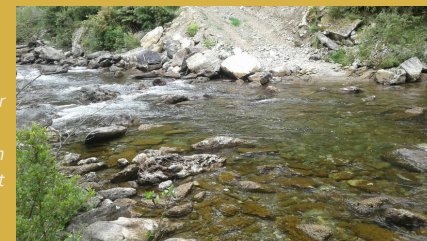


*Cobb Reservoir; and a typical Cobb Reservoir brown trout.*

Despite the great looking water in the Takaka catchment, trout numbers are generally fairly low, and even the pristine waters of Te Waikoropupu Springs hold few fish. A mix of didymo, regular flooding and seals have had their impact on this once great fishery.

There are 'patches' of the catchment that provide good fishing, and the adventurous angler can be well rewarded for their efforts. It is a fascinating part of the Nelson Marlborough region, and still worth having a cast somewhere while on holiday, though as an outright trout fishing destination it does not hold the same appeal as elsewhere.

*The clear waters of the Upper Takaka River look like an anglers dream, and while fish are present here, they are not in the numbers some anglers would be accustomed to >*

**COBB RESERVOIR**

The Cobb dam was built between 1949-54 and was filled during 1955. The reservoir is about 400m wide and 6.5km long. A small narrow unsealed vehicle track runs parallel along the length of the eastern shoreline. The reservoir contains both rainbow and brown trout and while some large fish are present many are considered small. This is a result of low productivity in the reservoir caused by high altitude, poor water clarity and water level fluctuations. Most fishing occurs near the head of the reservoir and all legal methods can be successful depending on weather conditions (often windy) and time of year. A small dingy or kayak that fits the roof rack would be advantageous. It is not recommended towing a boat trailer up the steep and narrow track.

**CONTACT US**

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