



Lake Shikotsu Northwest Arc

支笏湖 (西側) Lake Touring Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1000m

1cm on the map equals approx. 250m on the ground
Magnetic declination: 9° 31' W

Map by hokkadowilds.org/Rob Thomson CC BY-SA 2019/07/16

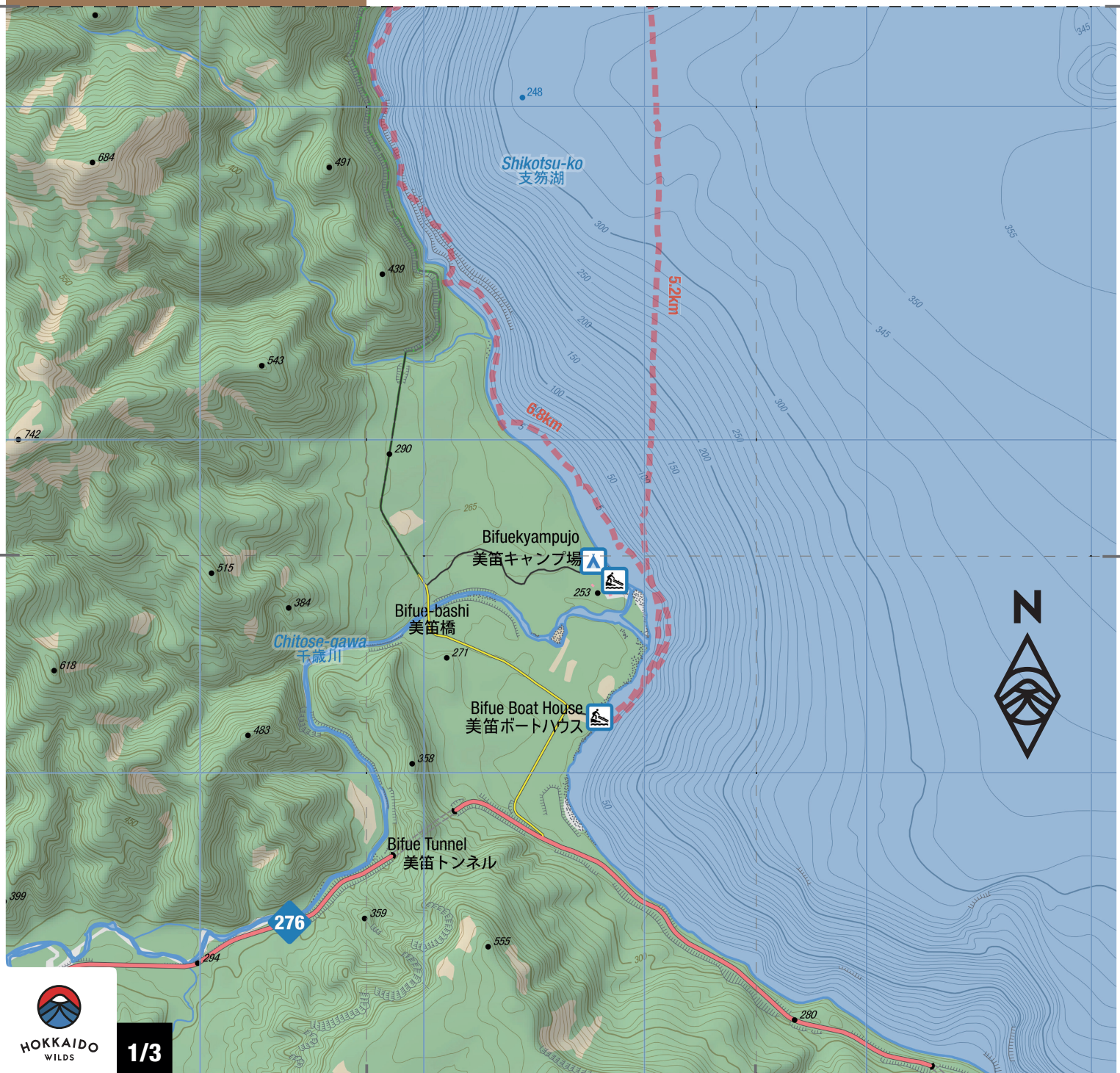
Symbol Key (some may not be present)

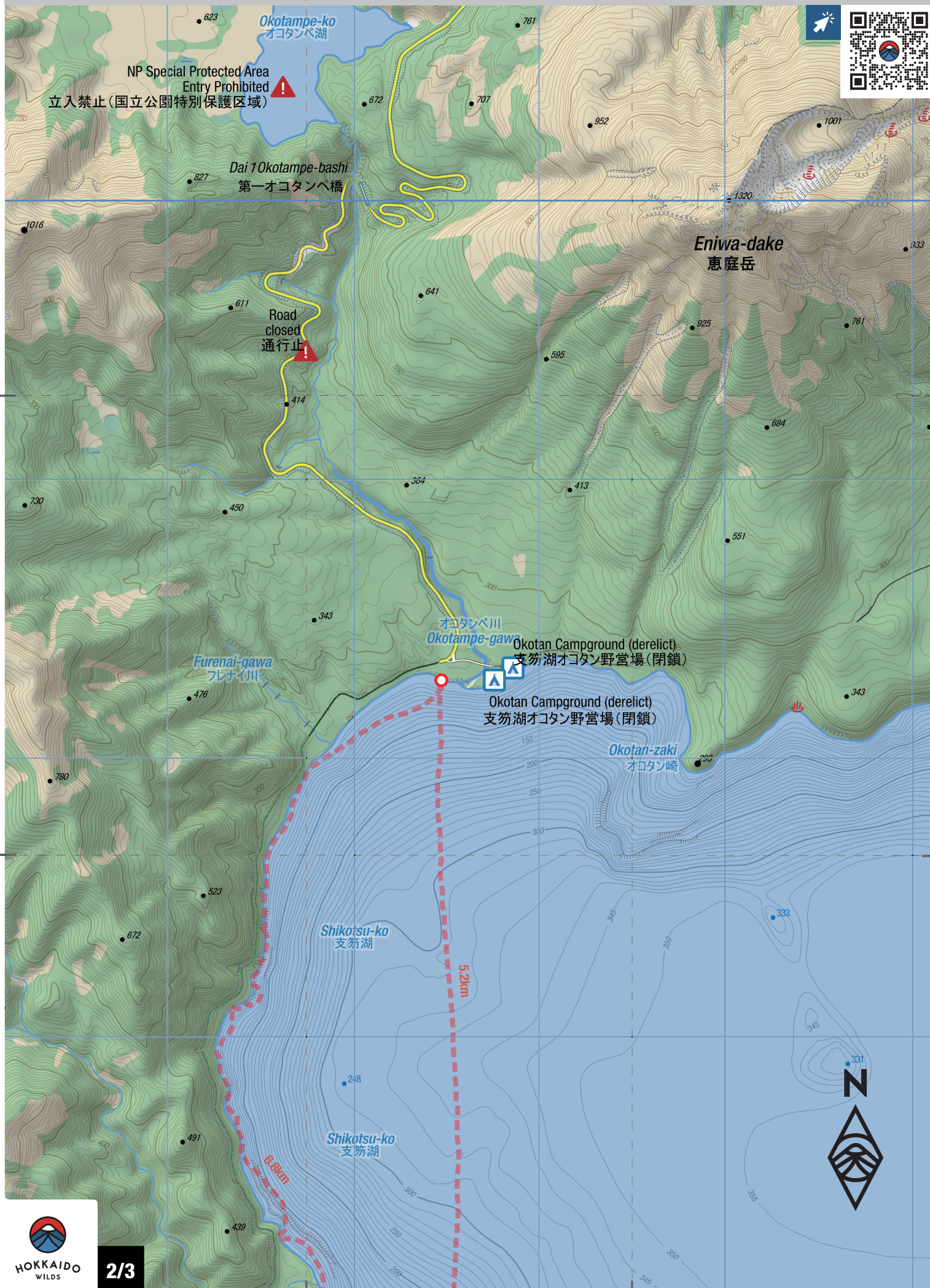
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| 4km | Route (distance) | 600 | Contour lines (100m, 10m) |
| | National Highway | | Power transmission lines |
| | Prefectural Road | | Trees/shrubs |
| | Municipal Road | | Rocks/cliff |
| | Minor Municipal Road | | Onsen (hot spring) |
| | Walkway | | Fumerole |
| | Bus route (bus stop) | | Highway number |
| | Put in/out location | | Designated campsite |
| | Waterfall | | Hut |
| | Rapids | | Portage required |

この地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院長の承認を得て、同院発行の基盤地図情報及び電子地形図（タイル）を使用した。（承認番号 平 30 情使、第 867 号）。また、1/25,000 緑化図 GIS データ（環境省生物多様性センター）も使用し、hokkadowilds.org が作成・加工したものである。
This map uses the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan digital basemap (tiles) and basemap data, with the permission of the Authority's director (permission no. 平 30 情使、第 867 号). It also uses modified 1:25,000 scale vegetation map GIS data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan, Ministry of the Environment (<http://gis.biodic.go.jp>).

Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
bashi/hashibunkicho	橋分岐町	bridge junction town
dake/mineeki	岳/峯駅	peak station
goya/koyahinangoya	小屋避難小屋	hut shelter
ike	池	pond
kawa/gawakako	川火口	river crater
ko/mizumikiyo	湖峡沼	lake gorge
numa	沼	pond
onsen	温泉	hot spring
sawa	沢	stream
taira/dairatani/danitake	平谷滝峠	plateau valley waterfall pass
togeyama/san/zan	峠山	mountain





Lake Shikotsu Northwest Arc



4hrs
Time



12km
Distance



7/10
Difficulty



4/5
Remoteness



5/5
Water clarity



Apr-Nov
Best season

This day trip at the western end of Lake Shikotsu (支笏湖) allows access to some of the lake's most remote shorelines. Along the way are classic Lake Shikotsu underwater ledges and cliffs, along with tree-lined pebble beaches. At the Okotanpe River mouth is a derelict lodge and campground, permanently closed due to an old mudslide. On a clear day with a good long-range forecast, this can be a great day out for upper-intermediate paddlers with good self-sufficiency skills.

LOCATION

The put-in and take-out location for this route is a public parking area just south of the Bifue Campground. Registered fishing boats launch from the same general vicinity, so take care and give them the right of way. If you're staying at the Bifue Campground, then you can just put in from the campground.

GENERAL NOTES

Lake Shikotsu is quite easy to access from Sapporo City. It's only 35km or so south of the city center. And yet, the lake is part of



the sprawling Shikotsu-Toya National Park, and boasts Japan's cleanest water of any lake in the country. In the vicinity is great hiking (such as the prominent Tarumae-zan). The lake is easily accessed by bicycle either across the hilly Route 453 from Sapporo's western reaches, or via the Chitose-Shikotsu Cycleway from Chitose City. Access to the western end of the lake is by car only though.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

This full route, taking a short-cut across open water on the return, will take around 4 hours including time to smell the roses. If you're travelling in a single boat, or the lake conditions do not allow an open water crossing, you'll need to allow an extra 45 minutes or so for a return along the lake edge.

After putting in just south of the Bifue River inlet (also marked as Chitose River on maps), head north along the western edge of the lake, past the Bifue Inlet and Bifue Campground. You'll see plenty of people fishing from the shore around the Bifue River Inlet, so make sure to make a wide berth. Beyond Bifue Campground, it is a matter of simply making your way north along the shore. If conditions are calm, with a stable forecast, it is possible to cut across this arcing shoreline, direct to the Okotanpe River mouth. You'll miss out of some of the most spectacu-

lar underwater ledges and cliffs though, so it's best to hug the shore. There's a road marked on maps all along this north-western shore, but this is now completely destroyed; this is a very remote shoreline.

TRANSPORT

By car | There is a large gravel carpark at the put-in location.

Public transport | The put-in location is not accessible by public transport.

SAFETY NOTES

Lake Shikotsu requires a great deal of humble respect. It is cold, deep, and prone to rough, strong winds. Only attempt this route if a full day of settled weather is forecast (see online route guide for weather forecast links). This particular corner of Lake Shikotsu is very remote. Landing locations are limited, and access to the shore beyond Bifue Campground is by water (or air by rescue helicopter) only. The Route 78 marked on maps is closed from Bifue Campground all the way to the Okotanpe Lake lookout, high above the Okotanpe Campground. Any assistance required will be water or air access only (even foot access is extremely limited). ■

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guide for GPS file, live water levels, and extra safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/shikotsu-nw>



Disclaimer The information on this map was derived from digital databases provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan and the Biodiversity Center of Japan. Care was taken in the creation of this map. HokkaidoWilds.org cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However, notification of any errors will be appreciated.

MAP, TEXT, PHOTOS | Rob Thomson

hokkaidowilds.org 2019/07/16

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

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EXTRA DETAILS

Lake Details: This route is on Lake Shikotsu (支笏湖), which is a natural lake, about 7.8km wide and 12km long. Lake Shikotsu has a shoreline of 40km, a maximum depth of 363m and an average depth of 265.4m. Water clarity (visibility) is 17.5m, and surface elevation is 247m.

Campgrounds: *Bifue Campground* - Bifue Campground is a sheltered, well-appointed campground located at the far western end of Lake Shikotsu. They have coin showers, basic foodstuffs, BBQ rental, laundry facilities, and covered outdoor cooking areas. The staff are very friendly and helpful. On weekends and public holidays, the campground can get very crowded. Contact telephone number is 0136-42-2189.

PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1

Load your printer with A4 printer paper (210mm x 297mm). If you've only got Letter size (215.9mm x 279.4 mm), just follow the instructions below. You'll achieve an accurate scale, but the map will be clipped a little at the top and bottom.

STEP 2

Open the print window by clicking on File > Print (or hitting Ctrl + P on your keyboard).

STEP 3

Make sure "Actual Size" is selected.

STEP 4

For double-sided printing, select "Print on both sides of paper".

STEP 5

For best results, select the highest quality print option available on your printer (settings will vary).

STEP 6

You won't need this instructions page, so just select the pages that don't include this instruction sheet.

STEP 7

Click "Print".

PLEASE PRINT AT 'ACTUAL SIZE' (NO SCALING)

The 1:25,000 scale used in the map is accurate if the PDF is printed without scaling (i.e., ACTUAL SIZE). Follow the instructions on this page to ensure an accurate rendering of the scale.



Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

