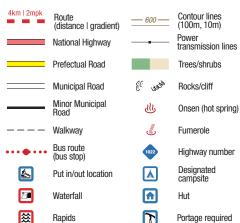


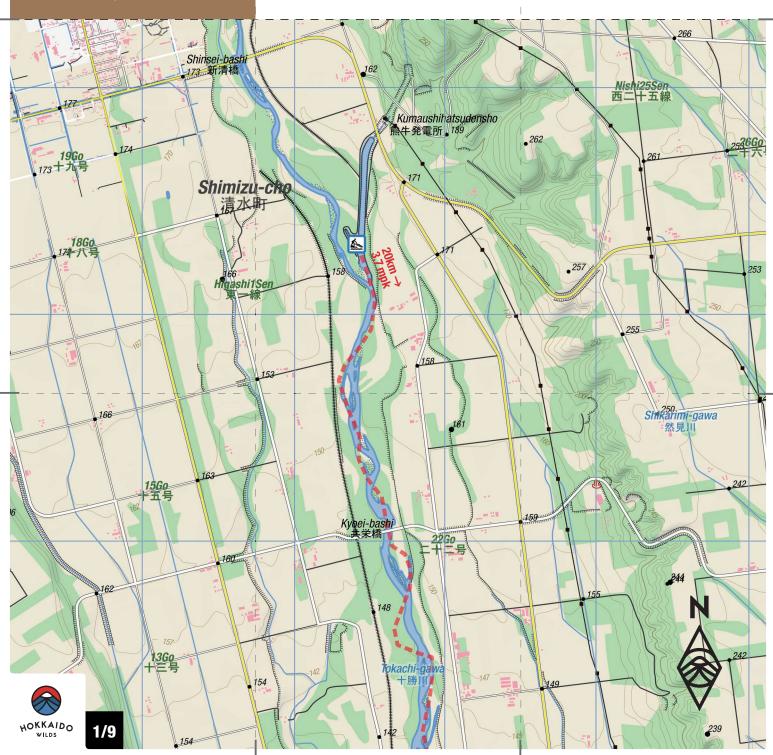
## Symbol Key (some may not be present)

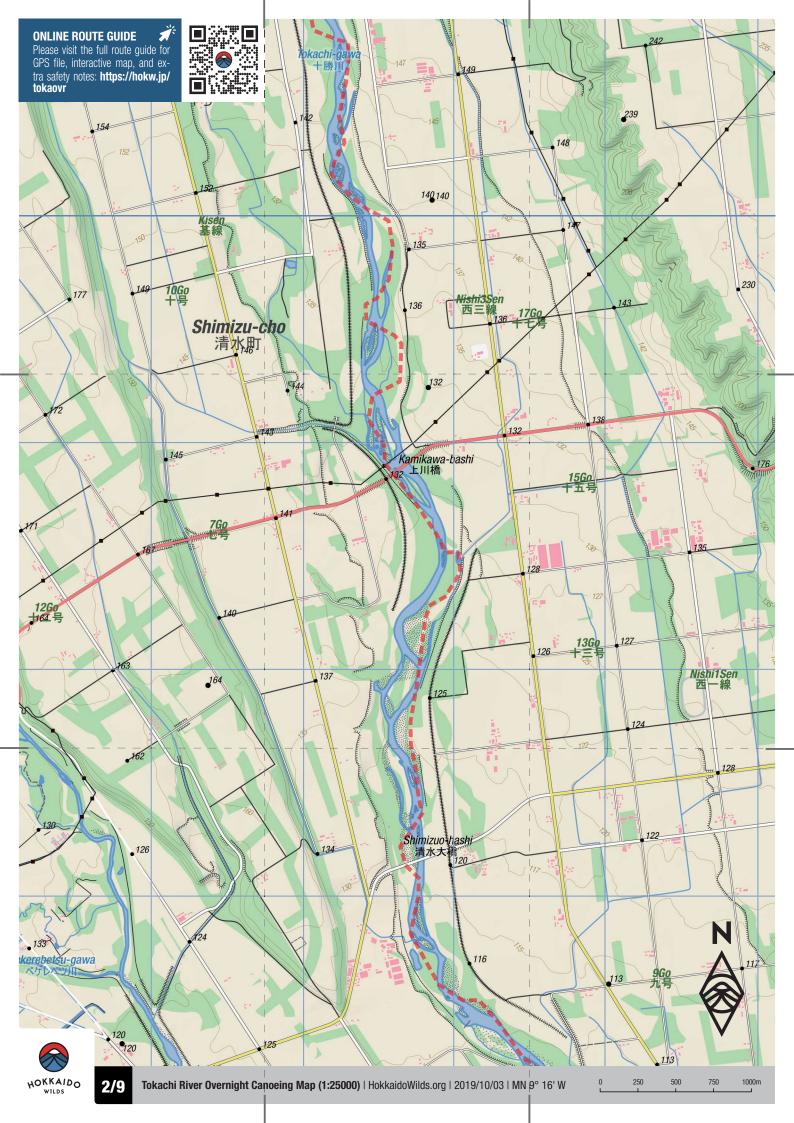


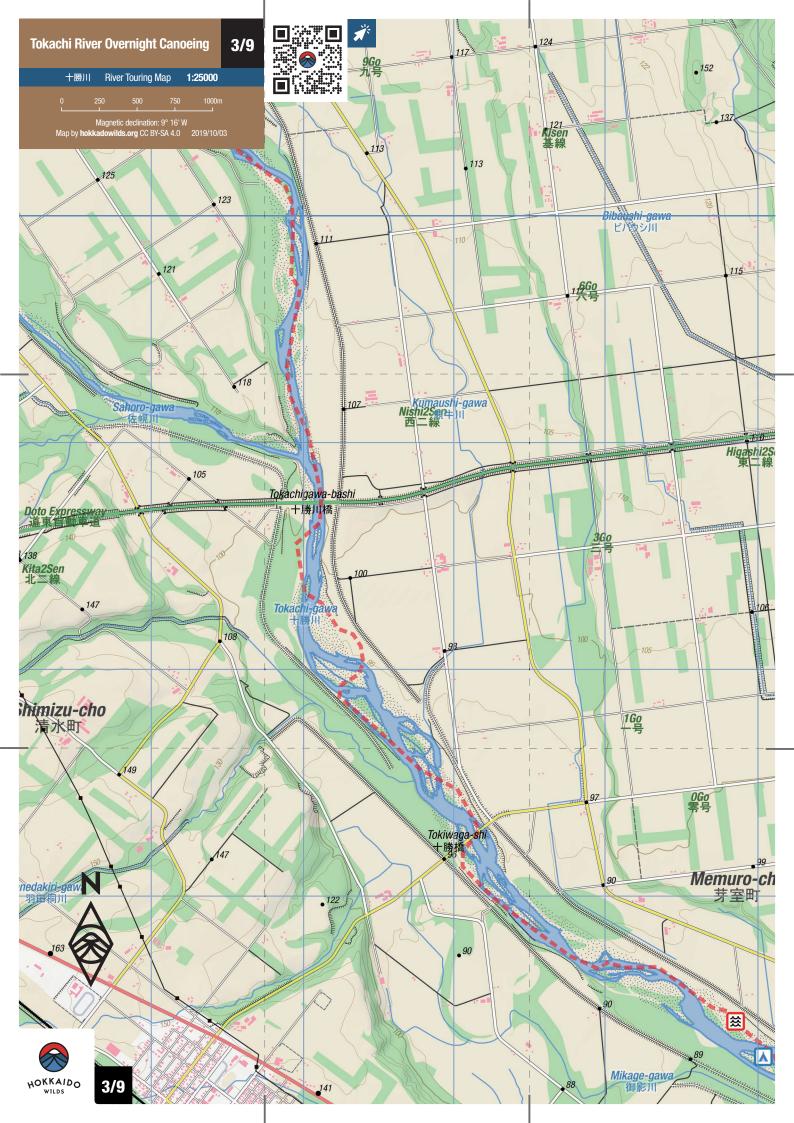
ての地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院長の承認を得て、同院発行の基盤地図情報及び電子地形図(タイル)を使用した。(承認番号 平 30 情使、第 867 号)、また。175,500 種種図 615 データ (理解各生物多様性 センター)も使用したの体制の体制をは、175,500 種類の 615 データ (理解各生物多様性 センター)も使用したのは、175 map uses the Geospacial Information Authority of Japan digital basemap (ties) and basemap data, with the permission of the Authority's director (permission no. 平 30 情使、第 867 号). It also uses modified 125,000 scale vegetation map GIS data coacted by the Biodiversity Center of Japan, Ministry of the Environment (http://gis.biodic.go.jp).

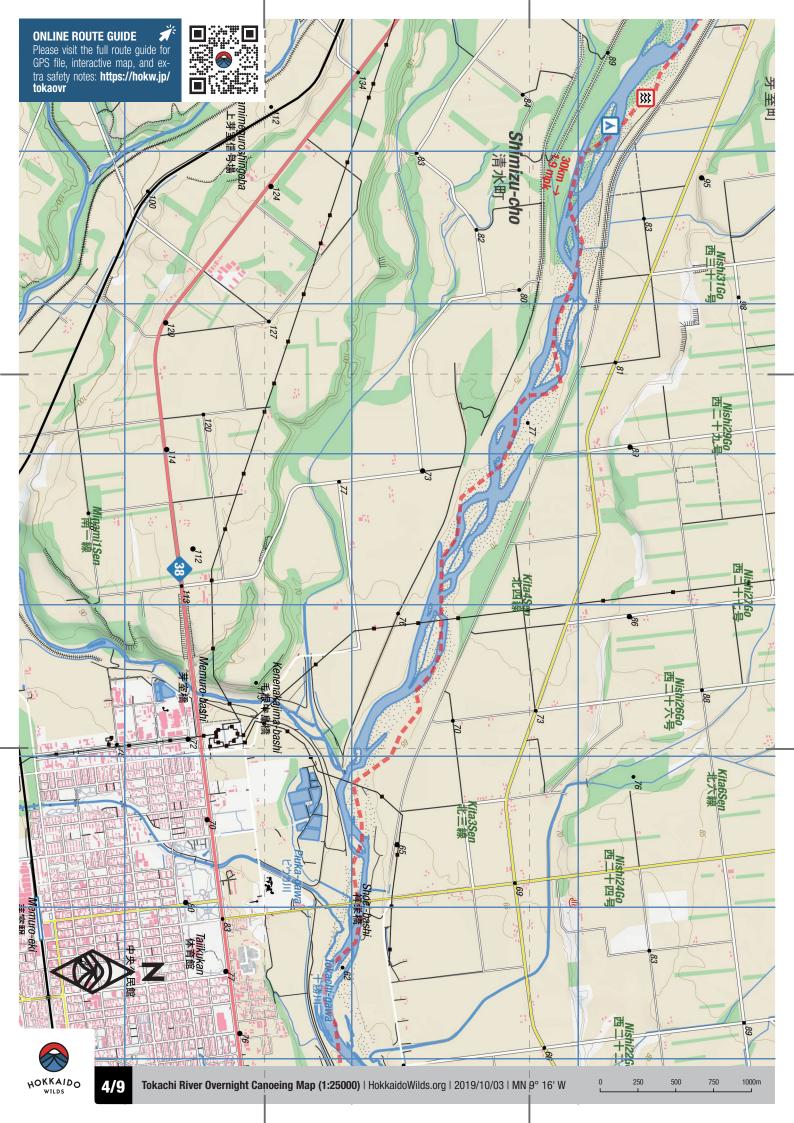
# **Japanese Map Glossary**

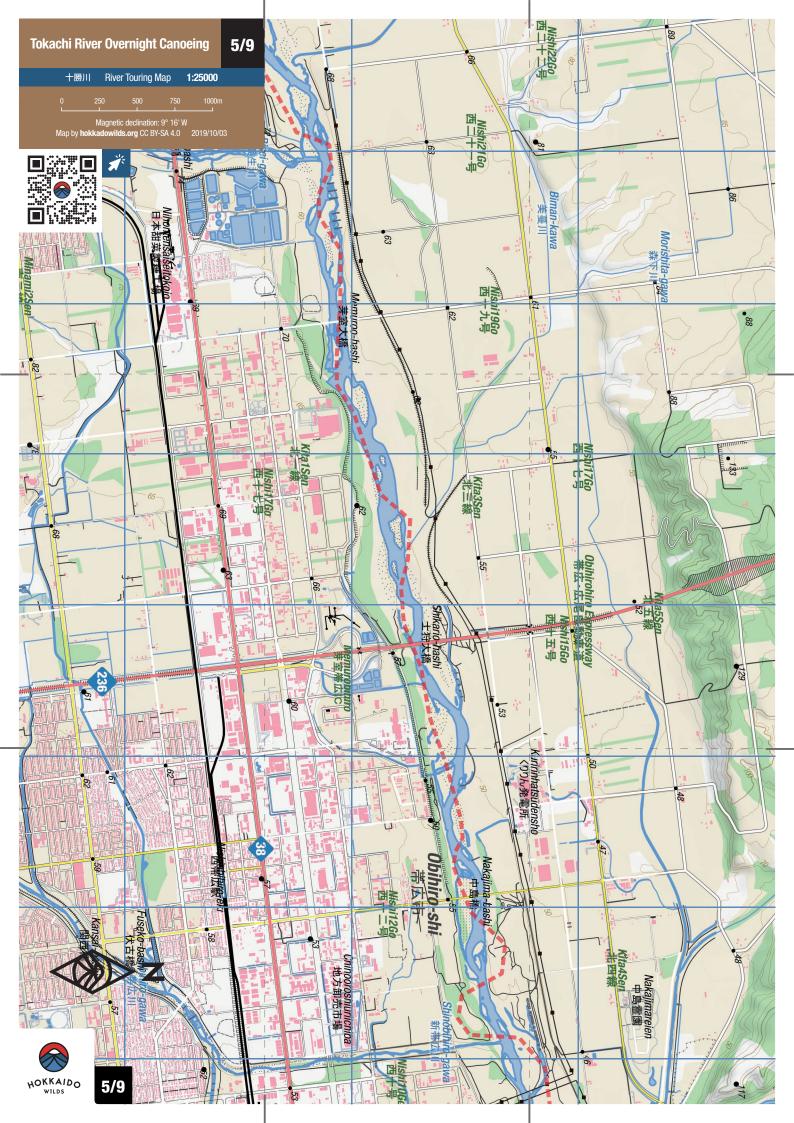
Romaji	Kanji	English
haahi/haahi	155	la vi al aca
bashi/hashi	橋	bridge
bunki	分岐	junction
cho	町	town
dake/mine	岳/峯	peak
eki	駅	station
goya/koya	小屋	hut
hinangoya	避難小屋	shelter
ike	池	pond
kawa/gawa	Ш	river
kako	火口	crater
ko/mizumi	湖	lake
kyo	峡	gorge
numa	沼	pond
onsen	温泉	hot spring
sawa	沢	stream
taira/daira	平	plateau
tani/dani	谷	valley
taki	滝	waterfall
toge	峠	pass
yama/san/zan	山	mountain

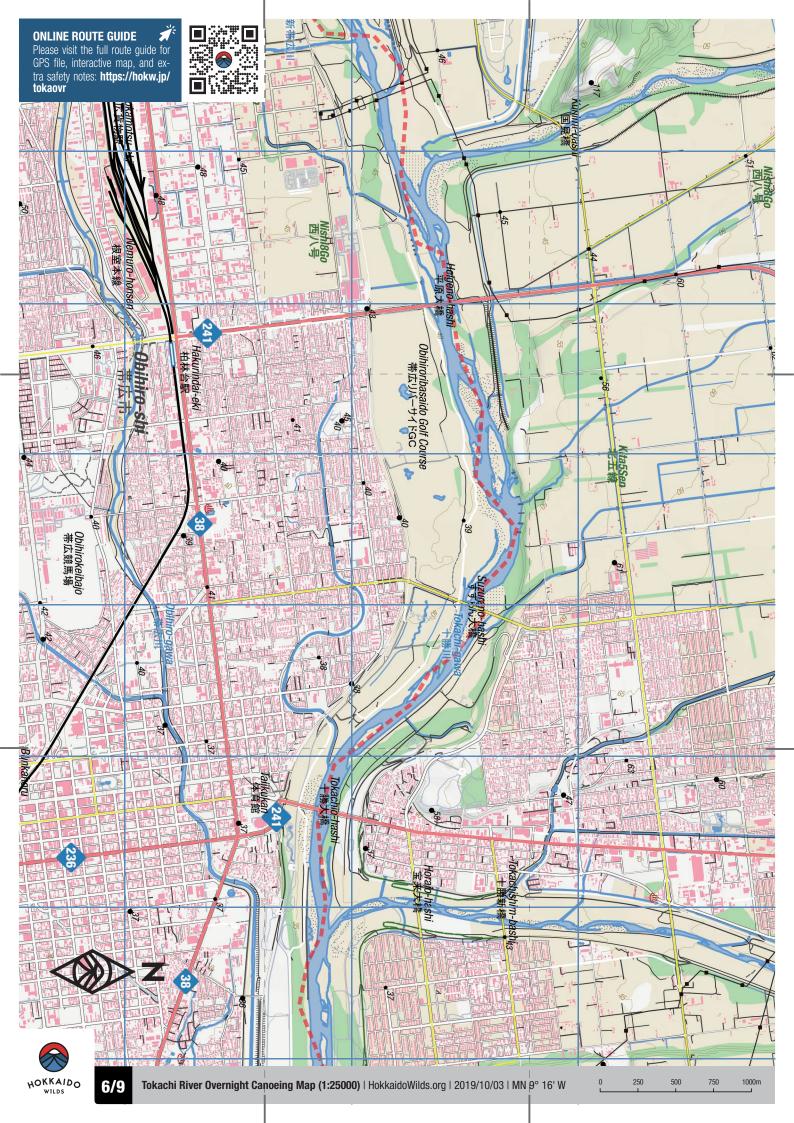


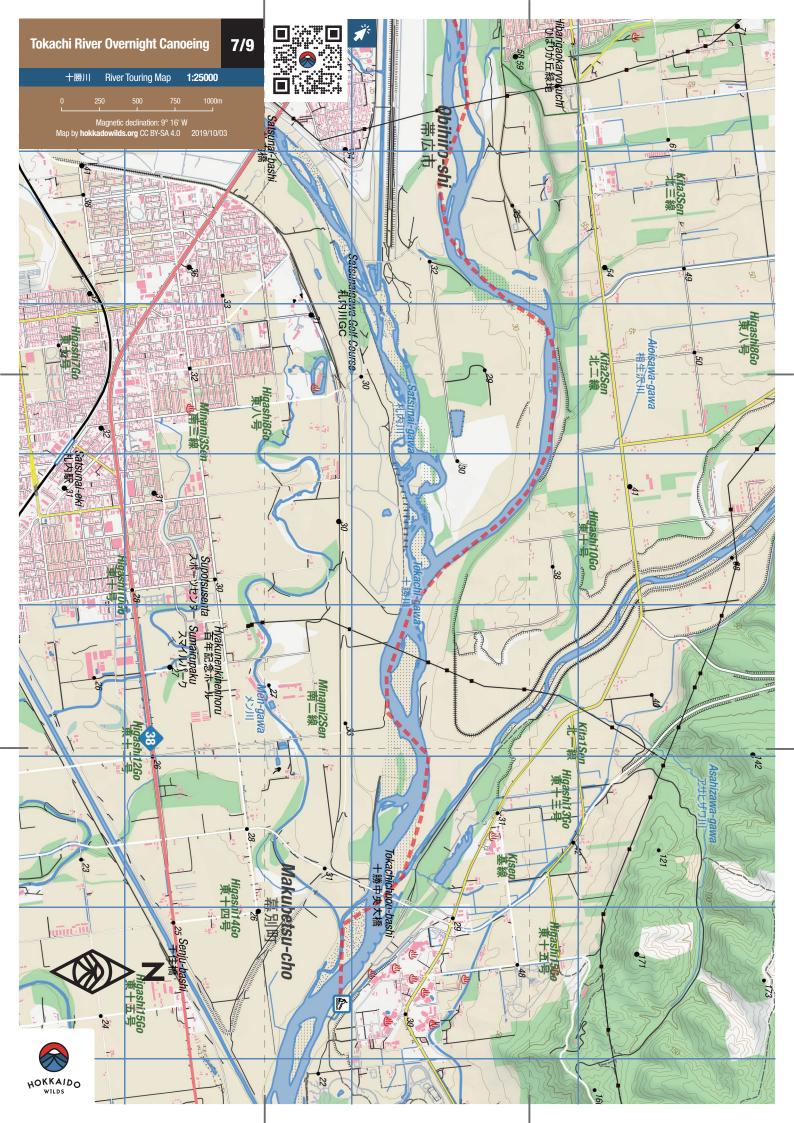












# Tokachi River Overnighter













The Tokachi River (十勝川, 156km) is an iconic river flowing through the southern central area of Hokkaido. The vast agricultural plains of the Tokachi region get their name from this river. On this 50km section of the river, paddlers can expect wide open skies, the towering Hidaka and Daisetsuzan mountain ranges in the distance, spectacular cliffs, red-crested cranes, white-tailed eagles, and river-bed camping perfection. The river flows right through the bustling city of Obihiro (帯広市), but you'd never know it - mercifully, this braided river has been left to wind and wend it's way mostly unencumbered for much of its length.

### **LOCATION AND ACCESS**

The Tokachi River (十勝川) is located at the western edge of the vast Tokachi plains, just east of the Hidaka mountain range, in central Hokkaido. We put in right at the outflow of the Kuttari Dam (屈足ダム), about 8km downstream from the dam itself. There's a rough double-track road leading to the put in location (a two-wheel drive car can easily drive it). The take-out for this section of the river is 50km downstream, at Tokachigawa Onsen—a large hotspring area with multiple hotsprings to choose from for a post-paddle soak.



### **GENERAL NOTES**

This section of the Tokachi River is about the furthest you can canoe on the river without encountering a dam or weir. There are no portages required on this route.

We ran this section of the Tokachi River at a healthy 142.46m, as measured at the Kyoeibashi (共栄橋) water level measurement station, just downstream from the put in. This was a perfect level, allowing mostly care-free paddling. The river level on this section is controlled to an extent by the outflow from the Kuttari Dam (屈足ダム). Indeed, on the first day of our trip, the dam was letting out 34m3/s, whereas overnight this dropped to 16m3/s. This dropped the water level by 16cm to 142.30m. By 10am the next day, the dam was letting out 45m3/s.

### **ROUTE NOTES**

From the Kuttari Dam outflow canal, there's about twice the volume of water in the Tokachi River compared to further upstream. With a good healthy flow right from the start, you'll be flying. The route is fairly self-explanatory – follow the river along its winds and wends. The only serious obstruction on this section of the Tokachi River is the Tetra Rapids (新テトラの瀬) - the only rapids marked on the map. When we were

there, this inexplicable man-made drop - made of concrete tetra blocks - would have been runnable on the hard river leftside. We would have done this, but there was also a drifted tree on the river right, where we'd ideally have stopped to scout the drop. As it was, both our canoes went over the decidedly low-water river right side. The concrete blocks didn't put a hole in our canoe, but came close to it (gel coat repairs needed once we were back home). The center of this drop was a classic keeper, with about 1-2m of backwash - actually quite dangerous. Campspots along the way are everywhere - just keep a lookout for good shade, not too rocky surface, and plenty of driftwood for a campfire.

DAY 1: Kuttara Dam outlet to 20km Campspot | 20km, 3.7mpk | There are a couple of good campspots around here, just after the Tetra Rapids. This section is, overall, the steepest section of this section of the river, but there's no substantial rapids to speak of at normal water levels. The river does wind a lot though, so it's not a river you can lay back and relax on — most corners involve ensuring your canoe does not end up in a sweeper.

DAY 2: 20km Campspot to Tokachigawa Onsen | 30km, 1.9mpk | From on the water, you'd never guess that the Tokachi River flows directly through one of Hokkaido's largest cities. The river is well buffeted by thick forest, and in places spectacular cliffs. Along this section, expect to see red crested cranes and white-tailed eagles. The river does widen considerably, but there are large sweepers on some of the corners – keep vigilant.

### **TRANSPORT**

**By car I** Both the put-in location and take-out location are accessible by car. If you've only got one car, drop the canoe(s) and gear at the start of

the route, here. There's a dou-



ble-track gravel road running along the dam outlet canal from the main road to the end of the 'spit'. Drive the 40km or so (about 30 minutes) to the take out location on the river behind the Tokachigawa Onsen area (around here). Google Satellite imagery just shows a washed out shoreline, but when we were there in September 2019, there was a very nice gravel road running along the river. There were a couple of OK spots to take out along the road, as well as some widened spots to park a car without blocking access for others.

From here, you'd need to walk about 1km to the Tokachigawa Onsen bus stop (here), and catch a bus to Obihiro City. From Obihiri City, catch the bus to Kumaushi 27-go bus stop (熊牛 2 7号). Google Maps does a good job at routing using public transport. Note that there's only about three buses per day on the Kuttari Line [53] (屈足線) going in the direction of the Kumauchi 27-go bus stop. Make sure you've scouted out a couple of transport options before you set off.

Public transport I Both the put-in location and take-out location are accessible by public transport. Google does a very good job at giving transport options by train and local bus. The closest local bus stop to the put in location is Kumaushi 27-go (熊牛 27号). Note that there are only three buses per day from the Kumaushi 27-go bus stop in either direction (Obihiro/Shimizu). There are also regular buses to the Tokachigawa Onsen area.

### **SAFETY NOTES**

This section of the Tokachi River struggles to get over a Class I in terms of rapids, but it is about as close to a braided river as you'll get in Hokkaido. Therefore, there are plenty of bends with dangerous sweepers – keep vigilant. On more than one occa-

# **ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE**

Please visit the full route guide for GPS file, interactive map, and extra safety notes: https://hokw.jp/tokaovr



Disclaimer The information on this map was derived from digital databases provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan and the Blodiversity 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 of fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However portification of any errors will be appreciated.

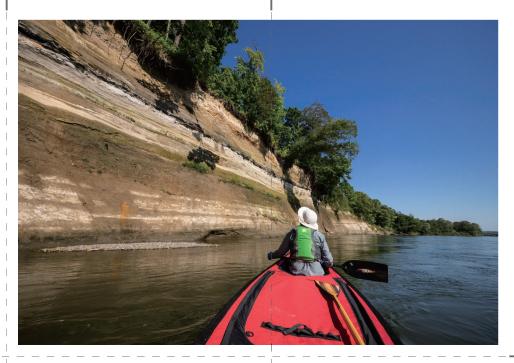
MAP, TEXT, PHOTOS | Rob Thomson

hokkaidowilds.org 2019/10/03

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

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sion we remarked how this 'easy' river section was keeping us on our toes. Also note the dangerous New Tetra Rapids (新テトラの瀬), just before the 20km mark on the route. This is more a drop than a rapid, and although it's only around 50cm, the center of the drop looked like a dangerous keeper hole when we were there. We recommend scouting this drop from the river right shore.

Danger: Although not on this section, worth noting is that about 2km downstream from the takeout point is the enormous weir-like Chiyoda Dam (千代田堰堤), on the left-hand branch of the river. Water is always flowing over this gigantic weir. It can be portaged on the right-hand side.

### **CAMPING**

Campspots along the way are everywhere – just keep a lookout for good shade, not too rocky surface, and plenty of driftwood for a campfire.

### Tokachi River Bed (十勝河川敷)

When canoeing down the Tokachi River, there is a plethora of wild river-bed camping options

along the way. This particular location is where we camped on our two-day overnight Tokachi River canoeing trip, and it was nice - lots of driftwood for a campfire, and some decent sandy spots to pitch a tent. For a good river campsite, look for a nice sandy surface, some trees or brush for shade, a nice big log to sit on, and good access to the water. Check the weather forecast before camping, including areas upstream - the catchment area is large, and the river will rise quickly after sustained rain. The Tokachi River can also rise and fall about 20cm overnight due to dam outflow adjustments, regardless of rainfall. Location: 42.945 N / 142.98513 E | Closest Onsen: None.

### **ONSEN NEARBY**

This two-day route finishes in the Tokachi-gawa Onsen area (十勝川温泉). We recommend the Kangetsuen Hotel for a post-paddle soak (十勝川温泉 観月苑, 1000yen). It's a bit on the pricey side, but it has gorgeous views of the river from the outdoor pools. ■



# 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 achive 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.

#### STFP 4

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

#### STFP 5

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

#### STEP 6

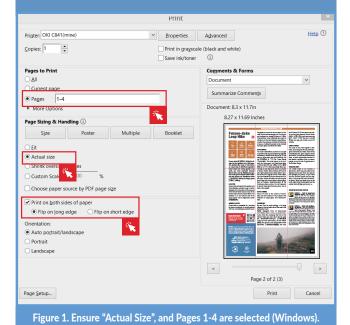
You won't need this instructions page, so just select the pages that don't include this instruction sheet.

### 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.



# **ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS**

