


Mukawa River


Tomiuchi to Toyota

鵜川 (富内〜豊田)

Canoeing Map


1:25000






1.5hr

Time




0.5

Gradient (mpk)




Class I

Difficulty




14km

Distance



2/5

Water clarity



May-Oct

Best season

This upper-middle section of the Mukawa River (鵜川) marks the start of the more benign lower half of the mighty Mukawa. When water levels are high, paddlers may encounter swifts up to Class II, but in most conditions there won't be much over Class I. One of the biggest draw cards of the Mukawa River is it's infinitely accessible sense of wilderness - despite being very close to civilization in reality. There are a number of gravel islands to camp on along the way, and this short 14km section takes in some of the more forested shoreline sec-

tions of this lower half of the river.

LOCATION

The Mukawa River is a major waterway flowing from deep in the northern Hidaka Range out to the Pacific Ocean east of Tomakomai. The put in location for this section of the Mukawa River is about 300m down a gravel road on the right-hand bank downstream from Tomiuchi-bashi Bridge (富内橋), near the small settlement of Tomiuchi (富内).

The take-out location is near the Toyota-bashi Bridge (豊田橋) near the even smaller settlement of Toyota (豊田), south of Hobetsu

Township. Once past the Toyota-bashi Bridge, it's possible to land anywhere along the shoreline, but a little further on is a less muddy gravel bank, here. There is parking available on the right-hand side of the river just upstream from the bridge. Alternatively, you can drive a car down the double-track to the riverside.

GENERAL NOTES

Beyond the Tomiuchi-bashi Bridge, the Muka-wa River is generally suitable for most levels of paddlers, including relative beginners. Naturally this will depend on water level (see note below), but compared to the much steeper, boulder-strewn sections above Tomiuchi, the remaining 35km or so to the ocean is relative-ly benign.

Water level: We paddled this section of the river at just below the flood control standby level. From memory it was at about 54.2m as measured at the Hobetsu measurement sta-tion. This was a lot of water, effectively wip-ing out any eddies along the river. For experi-enced paddlers (or inexperienced paddlers like Haidee and I, along with experience paddlers), this water level was perfectly manageable. It allowed for some good wave-trains and wave features, but these were all avoidable since the river is so wide. Normal water level is around 53m.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

This section of the Mukawa River will like-ly take most paddlers about 1-2 hours to complete, depending on how much time is spent playing in wave features (which in turn depends on water levels).

Just below Tomiuchi-bashi Bridge is a large rock sticking out of the river. Looking down-

HIDAKA REGION

stream, to the left of this rock can be some fun wave trains in the right water level. At around 3.5km on the route, there's a low, submerged weir, which can provide some opportunity for wave-riding if the water levels are good. Beyond this, there's not really much of note. Paddlers will find themselves feeling mostly disconnected from the modern world, sur-rounded by bushy green forested riverbanks and the odd gravel-bank islands, perfect for long lunch breaks.

TRANSPORT

By car I There's room for about 5 cars at the end of the double-track road at the put in near Tomiuchi-bashi. Near the take-out at Toyo-ta-bashi Bridge, there's a parking area large enough for about 8 cars.

Public transport I Hobetsu-bashi Bridge is accessible by public transport. It's a bit con-voluted, but the steps are as follows: 1) catch a bus to Hobetsu Town bus terminal (道南バ ス 穂別出張所) dections available on Google Maps), 2) get on a pre-booked community bus to Tomiuchi-bashi Bridge Bus Stop (富内橋バ ス停) on the Hobetsu-Tomiuchi Line (穂別富内線).

The community bus must be pre-booked by 4pm the day before you intend on using it – if they don't get any requests for the bus to run, the bus won't run. Upon getting a request, the bus will run according to the timetable here: <http://www.town.mukawa.lg.jp/2025.htm>. Call the Hobetsu Bus Reservation Center on 0145-45-2284 to reserve (please be prepared to speak Japanese). As of April 2020, buses could be requested at 11:30, 14:46, 16:15, 17:38 and 18:43. From Hobetsu Bus Terminal to Tomiuchi Bridge Bus Stop, it takes about 17 minutes.

For the return from Toyota-bashi Bridge, one can catch the community bus (upon reserva-tion) from the Toyota-dai-san Bus Stop (豊田 第三バス停) bound for the Hobetsu Bus Ter-minal on the Hobetsu-sakae Line (穂別栄線) at 07:52, 09:28, 12:35, and 16:12 (as of April 2020).

SAFETY NOTES

The Mukawa River rises (and recedes) very

RIVER DETAILS

This route is on Mukawa River (鵜川), or Muk-ap in the Ainu indigenous language. The river is a Class A (一級河川) river, 135km in total length. This section of the river is between 20m and 75m wide , with a normal flow rate of around 2.5m/s to 1.5m/s. The gradient for this section of river is 2.15 mpk (11.35 FPM).

quickly. With a watershed in the high moun-tains of the northern Hidaka Range, this is to be expected. Keep an eye on the weather, par-ticularly in the summer months where Hokkai-do is seeing typhoons and unseasonable rain more regularly.

ONSEN NEARBY

If you're headed back to Sapporo on Route 274, it's likely you'll drive past Jukai Onsen Hakua (樹海温泉はくあ, 520yen). This is a gorgeous onsen with nice outdoor baths. If you'll be headed back to Tomiuchi for shuttling at the end of this section of river, then there's also a super local onsen on the western side of the old train tracks – Tomiuchi Ikigai Center (富内生きがいセンター, 300yen). ■

Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
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	川	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

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guides for GPS files, interactive maps, and extra safety notes: <http://hokw.jp/muktomi>

Disclaimer The information on this map was derived from digital data-bases 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 2020/04/08

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

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Mukawa River Tomiuchi to Toyota

鵜川 (富内～豊田)	Canoe Map	1:25000
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0 250 500 750 1000 m

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground

Magnetic declination: 9°28' W | Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2020/04/08

鵜川(富内～豊田) Canoe Map 1:25000

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground
Magnetic declination: 9°28' W | Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2020/04/08

Symbol Key (some may not be present)



 0:30 → Route (time between points)  600 Contour lines (100m, 10m)



 National Highway Power transmission lines



 Prefectural Road Trees/shrubs



 Municipal Road
 Rocks/cliffs



Minor Municipal Onsen (hot spring)



— — — — Walkway Escalero

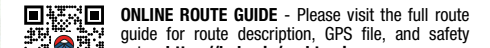
 Designated Highway number


 Put in/take out Put in/take out



location





 **ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE** - Please visit the full route guide for route description, GPS file, and safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/muktomi>



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*Inset not georeferenced

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This map was created by modifying the topographic map of Japan (scale 1:250,000) and the base map data (scale 1:250,000) provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (<http://www.gsi.go.jp>). We used the topographic map of Japan (scale 1:250,000) and the base map data (scale 1:250,000) provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (<http://www.gsi.go.jp>) to create the map. The map was modified by adding the vegetation data from the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIES). The map was modified by adding the vegetation data from the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIES).



HOKKAIDO
WILDS

142°7'

PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1

Load your printer with A3 printer paper (297mm x 420mm). If you've only got Tabloid or Ledger size (279mm x 432 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.

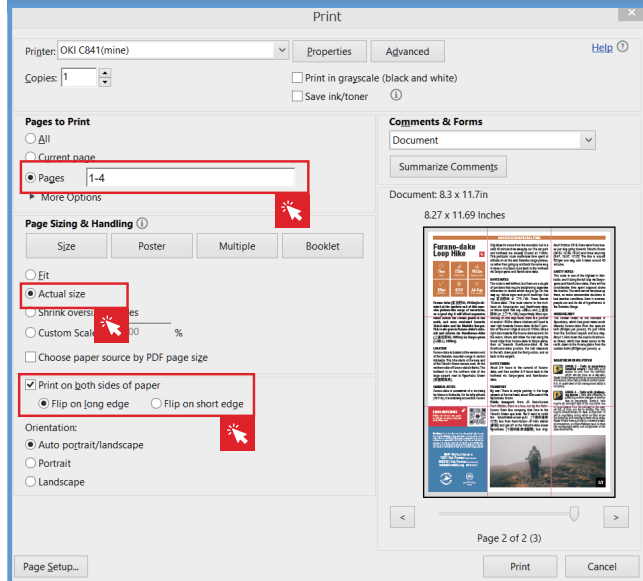


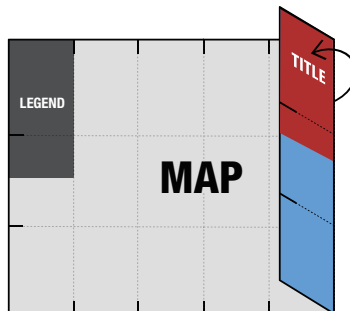
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

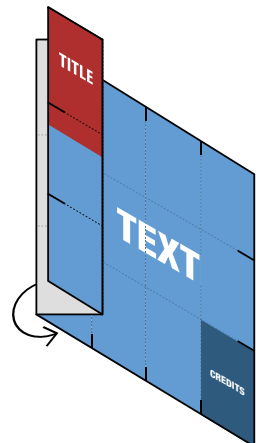
1



2



3



4



5



6



7

