

REFERENCE PROJECT

Suspension Bridge Construction

Location: Anderson Creek, Old Ghost Rd

Date: April 2013

Client: Department of Conservation

The Old Ghost Rd is a New Zealand Cycle Trail initiative near Westport that follows the Mokihinui River. Anderson Creek is the site of an old historic bridge, part of the original Mokihinui track.

Abseil Access Ltd were selected for this as a joint Design and Build contract with Department of Conservation. In order to build a 25m flat deck for cycling a suspension structure was required. Buried ground anchors were proposed for the cables. This proved complicated in the rocky ground. Micro blasting was required to carefully excavate anchor trenches and remaining subterranean boulders were incorporated into the final ferro concrete deadman anchors.

Tight site constrictions required steel towers and rigid hanger frames. The deck had an upward hog to further increase flood clearance in this high rainfall area. All materials, tools and drilling equipment were flown in by helicopter including 8m³ of concrete.

Abseil Access had the unique combination of design capability, adaptive engineering, explosive expertise and rope access to provide a safe solution to this river crossing.

The bridge is rated for 5 person and passed the load test of 2500kg.

