

REFERENCE PROJECT

Suspension Bridge Construction

Location: Suicide Slips, Old Ghost Rd
Date: September 2012
Client: Mokihinui-Lyell Backcountry Trust



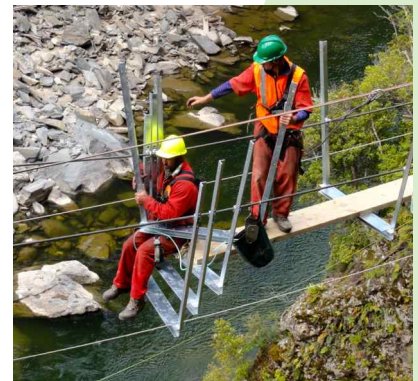
The Old Ghost Rd, which follows the Mokohinui River, suffered major slips through the gorge section. This resulted in a hazardous section which became known as Suicide Bluff Slips. When the trail was upgraded 3 bridge were required to provide safe access through this section. Abseil Access Ltd were selected for this Design and Build contract.

In order to build a flat deck for cycling a suspension structure was required. The narrow rocky bluffs prevented standard tower and anchor design and there was limited good rock. With no room for towers twelve rock bolts were installed geometrically accurate to fit the ground conditions and match the designated cable sag. Hangers, cables and anchor plates were manufactured after the bolts were installed to match the actual site conditions encountered.



The construction site was a narrow track cut into the sheer rock walls of the gorge. Careful profile blasting was required to provide level rock bridge abutments between the installed anchors. All materials, tools and drilling equipment were flown in by helicopter.

Abseil Access had the unique combination of design capability, adaptive engineering, explosive expertise, rope access, cliff face drilling technology and bridge building experience to provide a safe solution to this hazardous section of gorge.



The bridges are all rated for 2 person and passed the load test of 750kg.

