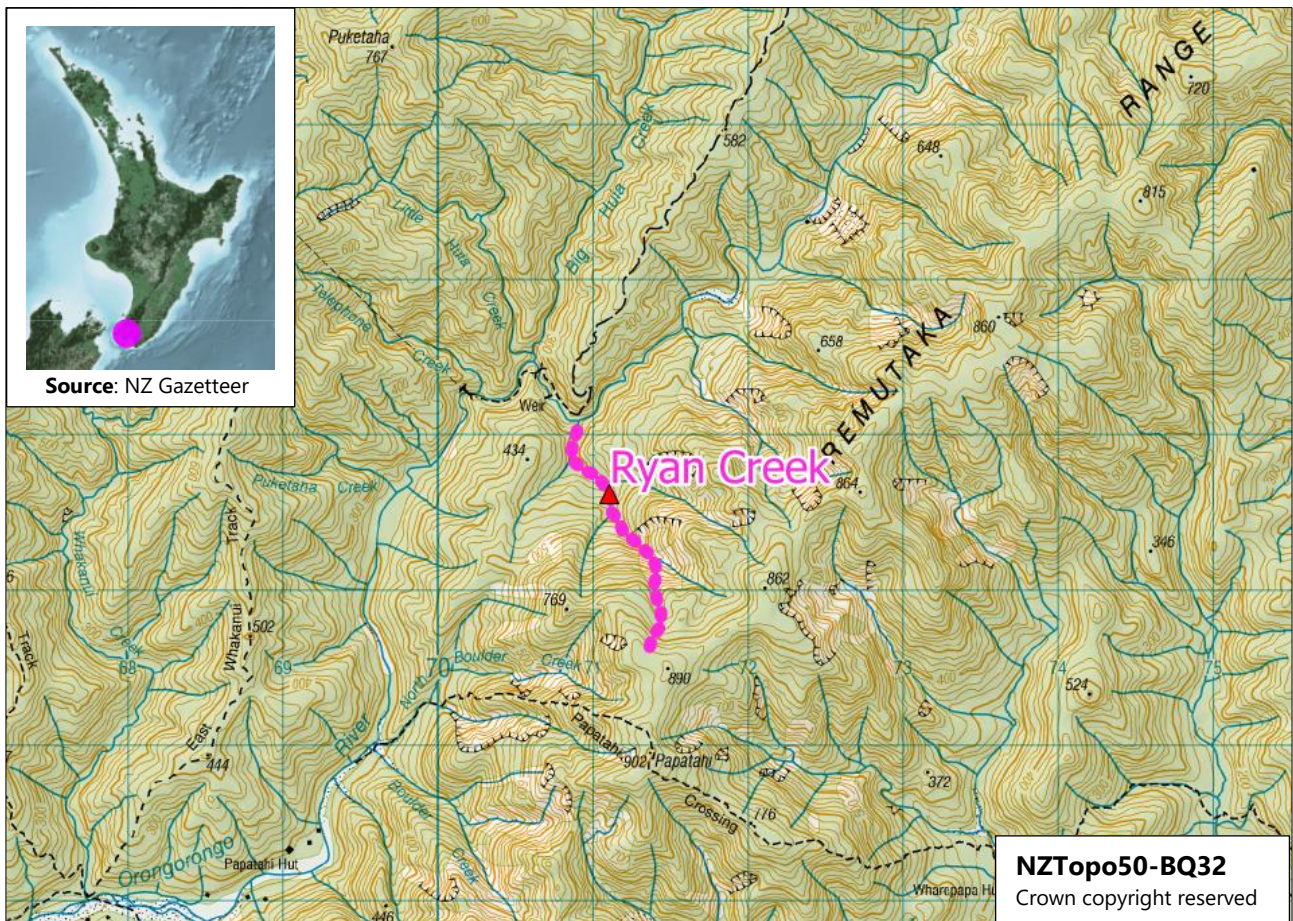


# Proposal considered by the Board on 26 July 2022 for Ryan Creek

[new name]



## Summary

The proposal is to assign Ryan Creek as the official place name of an unnamed creek that flows from just north of Papatahi (hill) on Remutaka Range into the weir on Ōrongorongo River, southeast of Wainuiomata.

The proposer wishes to name the creek for Daniel Frank Ryan (1883–1935) who was the first caretaker of the Ōrongorongo River water intake scheme which transports water to Wellington.

The proposer has provided evidence of Ryan Creek as a local use name. The creek is in an area that is used recreationally and where DOC<sup>1</sup> recommends trampers take a map. Although it is a relatively minor feature, officially naming the creek on maps means it could be easily identified in an emergency.

The Board may consider also commemorating Ryan's wife, Florence Jane Ryan, née Soan (1887–1972) in the origin of the creek's name in recognition of her support of her husband's work in the area in difficult circumstances.

To date mana whenua have not advised if the creek has an original Māori name.

<sup>1</sup> Department of Conservation

## Secretariat recommendation

At its 26 July 2022 hui the Board resolved this recommendation.

**Accept** the proposal to **assign Ryan Creek** as the official name of an unnamed creek that flows from just north of Papatahi (hill) on Remutaka Range into the weir on Ōrongorongo River, southeast of Wainuiomata, based on:

- evidence of local use of the name and that the creek is named for Daniel Frank Ryan (1883–1935),
- the contribution Daniel Frank Ryan made as the first caretaker of the Ōrongorongo River water intake scheme,
- recognising Florence Jane Ryan née Soan (1887–1972) for her support of her husband's work in the area in difficult circumstances,
- the generic term 'Creek' being acceptable because of common use and adjacent features also being named 'Creek' rather than 'Stream',
- no concerns with duplication with the other five Ryan or Ryans Creeks in Te Waipounamu and Stewart Island/Rakiura, and
- officially naming the creek so it is used on maps being useful for emergency services because it is in an area that is used recreationally,

**and**

**Notify** as a proposal to assign for one month.

**Noting** that to date mana whenua have not advised if the creek has an original Māori name.

## Secretariat assessment and advice

The proposal

The proposal is to assign Ryan Creek as the official place name of an unnamed creek. The proposer wishes to name the creek for Daniel Frank Ryan (1883–1935) who was an employee of the Wellington Water Board in the 1920s and 1930s. The proposer advises that at one time Daniel Ryan and his wife lived in the house at the Ōrongorongo River water intake, which transports water by pipe to Wellington. Daniel Ryan was the first caretaker when the Ōrongorongo River water intake scheme was finished in 1926.

The proposer has provided evidence of local use of Ryan Creek with excerpts from *Tararua Story – Tararua Tramping Club*<sup>2</sup>, [Our Water History on Tap](#)<sup>3</sup> and an article on the Tararua Tramping Club's website<sup>4</sup>.

Names shown on plans and maps

No survey plans or official maps were found with the creek named.

Map	Date	Name
NZMS 13	1916, 1925, 1956	Not named
NZMS 15	1949	Not named
NZMS 1, N165	1953, 1966, 1973	Not named

<sup>2</sup> Greig, BDA (ed.), *Tararua Story – Tararua Tramping Club*, 1946.

<sup>3</sup> Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2007.

<sup>4</sup> Tararua Tramping Club, [Ryan Creek-Wharepapa Hut](#) January 2017.

	NZMS 260, R27 R28 Pt Q27	1989	Not named
Location and extent, generic term and <a href="#">geographic feature type</a>	<p>The creek flows generally northwards for approximately 1.8km from just north of Papatahi (hill) on Remutaka Range and feeds into the weir on Ōrongorongo River, southeast of Wainuiomata.</p> <p>The generic term <a href="#">Creek</a> accurately describes the feature. Adjacent features have the generic term 'Creek' rather than 'Stream'.</p>		
<a href="#">New Zealand Gazetteer</a> , associated names and duplication	<p>The creek is not named in the Gazetteer and there are no associated place names.</p> <p><a href="#">Ryan Creek</a>, an official place name adjacent to the Heaphy Track in Buller District, is named after Mr Ryan a schoolteacher from Karamea who drowned c.1960 while crossing Heaphy River.</p> <p>It is not known who these duplicated recorded place names in the Gazetteer are named for: <a href="#">Ryan Creek</a> east of Greymouth, <a href="#">Ryan Creek</a> north of Reefton, <a href="#">Ryans Creek</a> in Fiordland and <a href="#">Ryans Creek</a> on Stewart Island/Rakiura. They are too far distant from this proposal to cause confusion.</p>		
Research, history and references to the feature	<p>The history of Wellington's water supply records that Ryan's wife advised the Council in 1930 that the Ōrongorongo valley was 'a very bad place for a woman to live in' and is reputed in local lore to have succumbed to the isolation.<sup>2</sup></p>		
Consultation with iwi	<p>To date Taranaki Whānui, Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust, Te Atiawa, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Waiwhetū Marae Trust have not advised if the creek has an original Māori name. If the Board accepts this proposal, they will have a further opportunity to provide their views during the notification period.</p>		
Relevant sections from the <a href="#">NZGB Act 2008</a> and the <a href="#">Standard for NZ place names</a>	<p>Section 3(e) of the NZGB Act 2008 provides the means for appropriate recognition to be accorded to cultural and heritage values associated with geographic features.</p> <p><i>The Board has recently been considering improving gender balance in place naming. Therefore, it may consider also commemorating Ryan's wife, Florence Jane Ryan née Soan (1887–1972), in the origin of the creek's name in recognition of her support of her husband's work in the area in difficult circumstances.</i></p> <p>Section 1.3(g) in the <i>Standard</i> records that minor features or places of low importance should not be named.</p> <p><i>The area is used recreationally. The creek is adjacent to Papatahi Crossing which is a difficult crossing between the Ōrongorongo valley and Remutaka Range<sup>5</sup>. DOC recommends taking the NZTopo50-BQ32 map into the area. Therefore, while the creek is a relatively minor feature, officially naming it on maps means it could be easily identified in an emergency.</i></p>		

<sup>5</sup> Department of Conservation, [Papatahi Crossing](#) accessed 2 June 2022.

## **Supporting information**

1. Proposal for Ryan Creek – 2022-05-25