14 CENTRAL AND TEAL SADDLE LOOP

GRADE: Moderate – climbs to 400m

DISTANCE/TIME: 21km round trip (1.5 - 2 hours)

START LOCATION: 5km up the Maitai Valley Road at Sharlands Creek Bridge turn left into gravel car park area.

CONDITIONS: Forestry roads

SUGGESTIONS: These rides are within the Hira forest which is a large area of exotic forest with many kilometres of gravel road, 4wd tracks and firebreaks. (See Ride 13 for safety information).

CENTRAL ROAD - TEAL SADDLE ROUTE DIRECTIONS

From the carpark ride straight ahead. You will come to the base of a hill and should turn right onto Central Road. The left hand road goes to the Packers Creek rifle range. The road is gravel and gently climbs for 9km before a 1km down hill through Eucalypt trees. You will come to a T intersection. A left turn takes you to Sharlands Creek (Ride 13) Our ride takes you right and down 31km to Teal saddle. Be sure to turn right here and exit on a fast downhill to the gate just below the Caretakers home and you will see the City water reserve. Turn right. Watch for traffic - don't cut corners! After another steep descent. Soon you emerge onto Maitai Valley Road with the river on your left and winds back down to the Sharland Creek carpark just past the golf course.

