## 10 FIREBALL

**GRADE:** Moderate – some quite steep climbs

**DISTANCE/TIME:** 3.5kms, (1 - 1.5 hours)

**CONDITIONS:** By the time you have reached the top of Tantragee Saddle, between the Maitai and the Brook Valleys, you will have done some climbing – but there is more to come. Most of the ride is through 4WD forestry track which has some steep climbs and descents.

**START LOCATION:** Top of the Tantragee Saddle (see Ride 9)

**POINTS OF INTEREST:** The Nelson Mountain Bike Club has marked a number of tracks creating several circuits in the Tantragee area.

Included are 'Dead Dog' and 'Tired Dog Loops'. Note these are advanced rides and should only be attempted by skilled riders.

## **ROUTE DIRECTIONS**

Cross the stile at the top of the Tantragee and continue left and up through a gate into the Pine forest on Fireball Road. Once you reach the top, follow the ridge line and stop to take in the view from a narrow track on your left which overlooks the city. The track then descends into the Maitai Valley. A skilled rider can exit to the left down Dead Dog Track back to the Maitai River Track or continue on the 4WD track to an intersection and exit down Golf Course Road. This can be rough so take care. Cross a gate and you will come out adjacent to the Waahi Taakaro Golf course and find the Maitai River Track.

Once on this track, either turn left and ride downstream along the Maitai River (Ride 7) to head back into town, or turn right and do the reverse of Ride 9 onto Groom Creek Road to the top of the Tantragee Saddle again.



