



New Zealand  
PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

# CREATING A COLLECTION : WATERFALLS

By Ken Wright



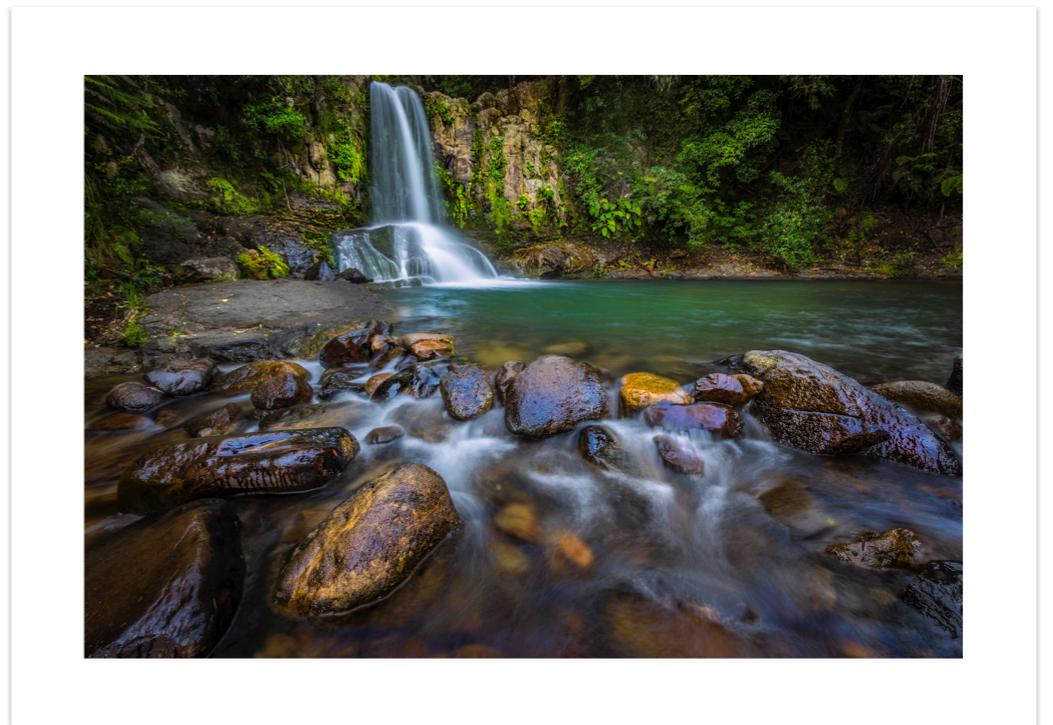
# CREATING A COLLECTION

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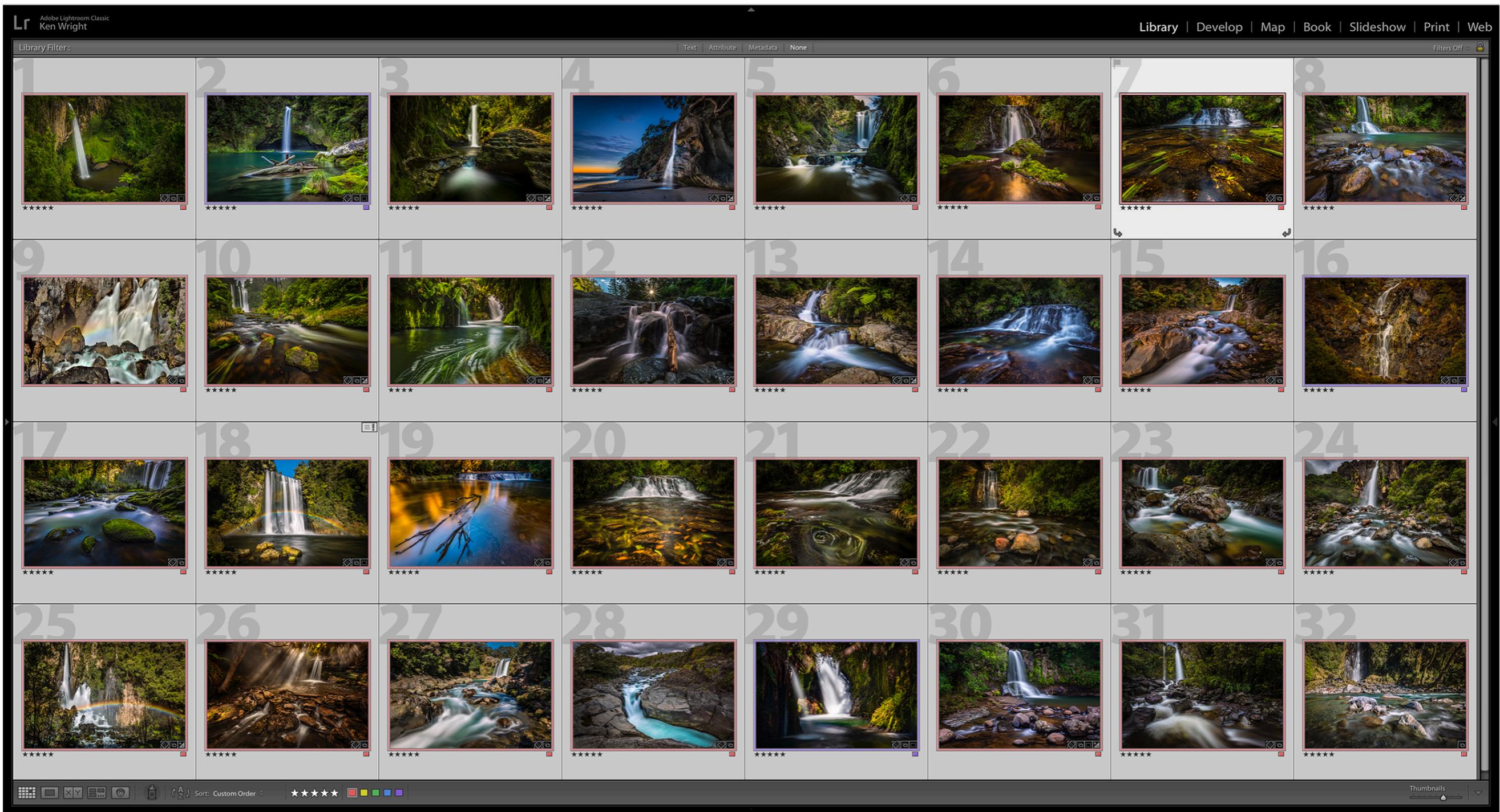
Over the next few pages I will take you through my process of narrowing down “Waterfalls” which had 32 images in the collection. I will explain why the images are deleted as we go through, this may help you with a your own thought process when making your selection.

It surprised me going through the images what I kept and what I deleted. While all are credible images in their own right I had to keep reminding myself; “do they fit with the rest”

Stick with this, there are a few screens but not much text, you may not agree with my selection, remember, it’s personal. If Richard or you were to go through these images there would be three different takes on the final selection.



The main thing is a consistent “**look and feel**” and a “**hand writing**” that says these are Ken Wright images.

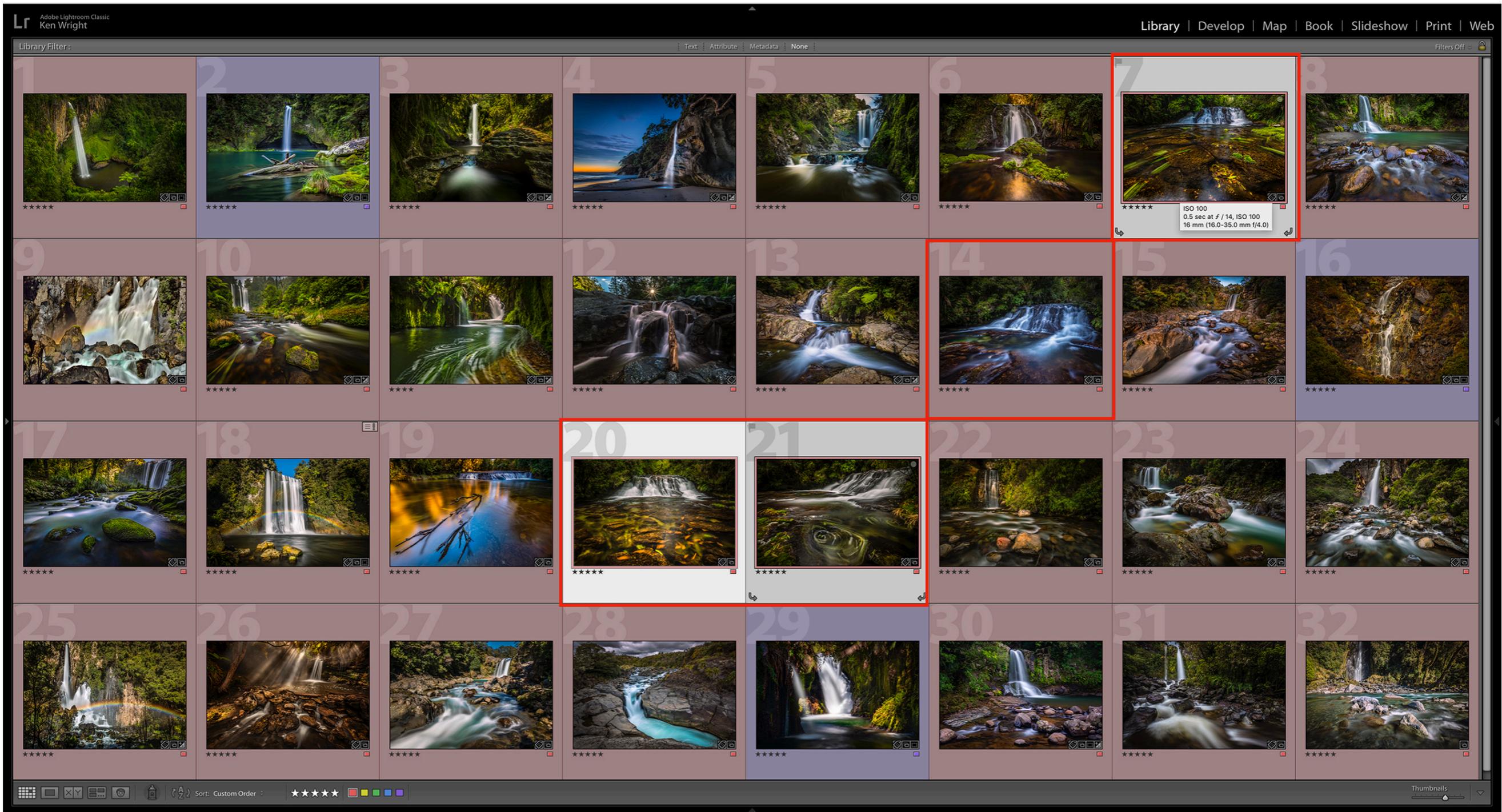


# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

This is my initial selection, I ended up with 32 which are all 3x2 aspect ratio, I have created separate collections for vertical and B&W waterfalls.

I have already excluded images that didn't have the same visual strength, focal length, deep foreground etc.

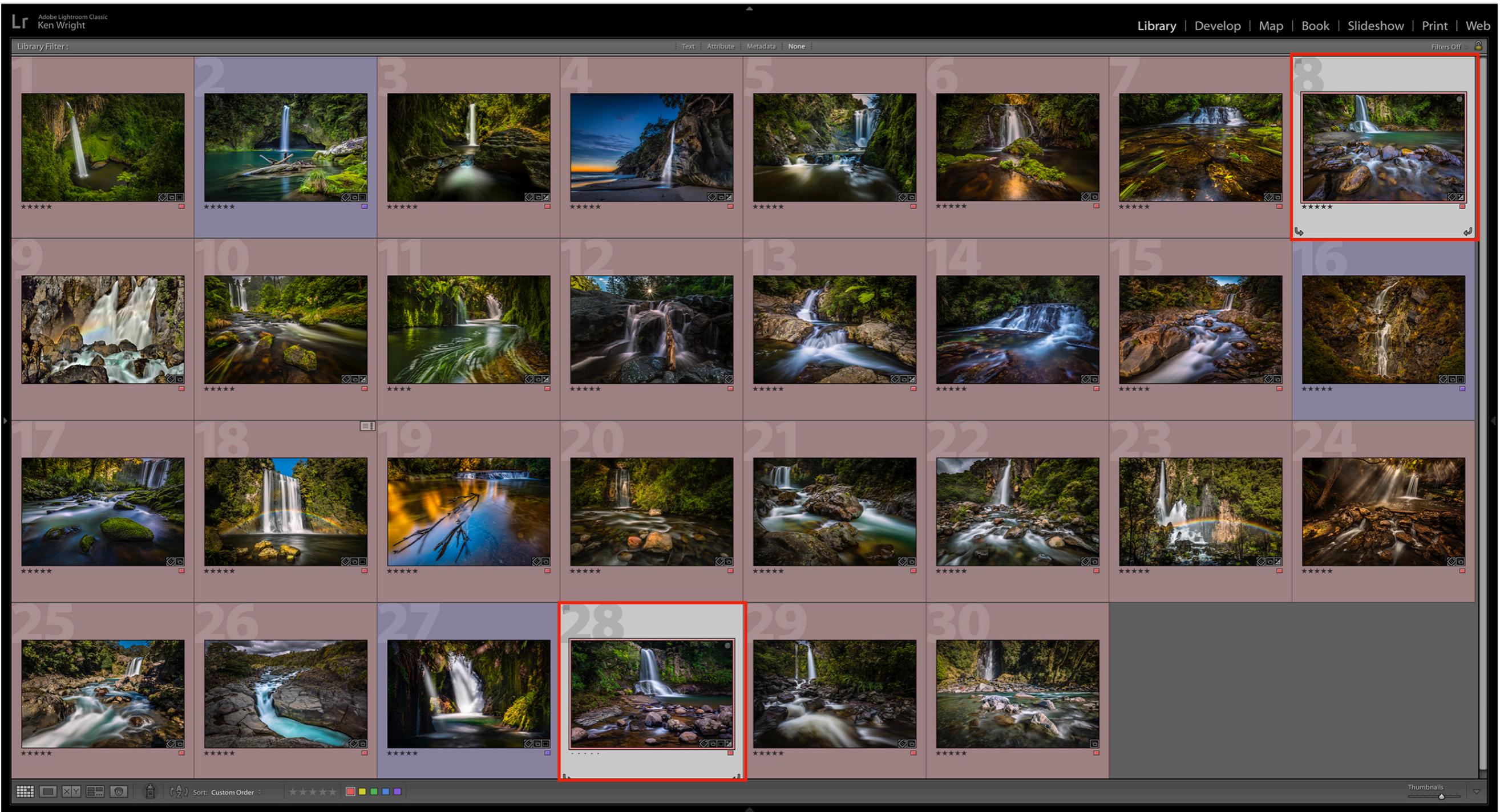
*Note: these are screen shots from my Lightroom catalog, some images have a red colour code, some have 5 stars, some have a purple colour (they were "cropped" or modified for this exercise so this is a note for myself when I go back and re-set the crop afterwards).*



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

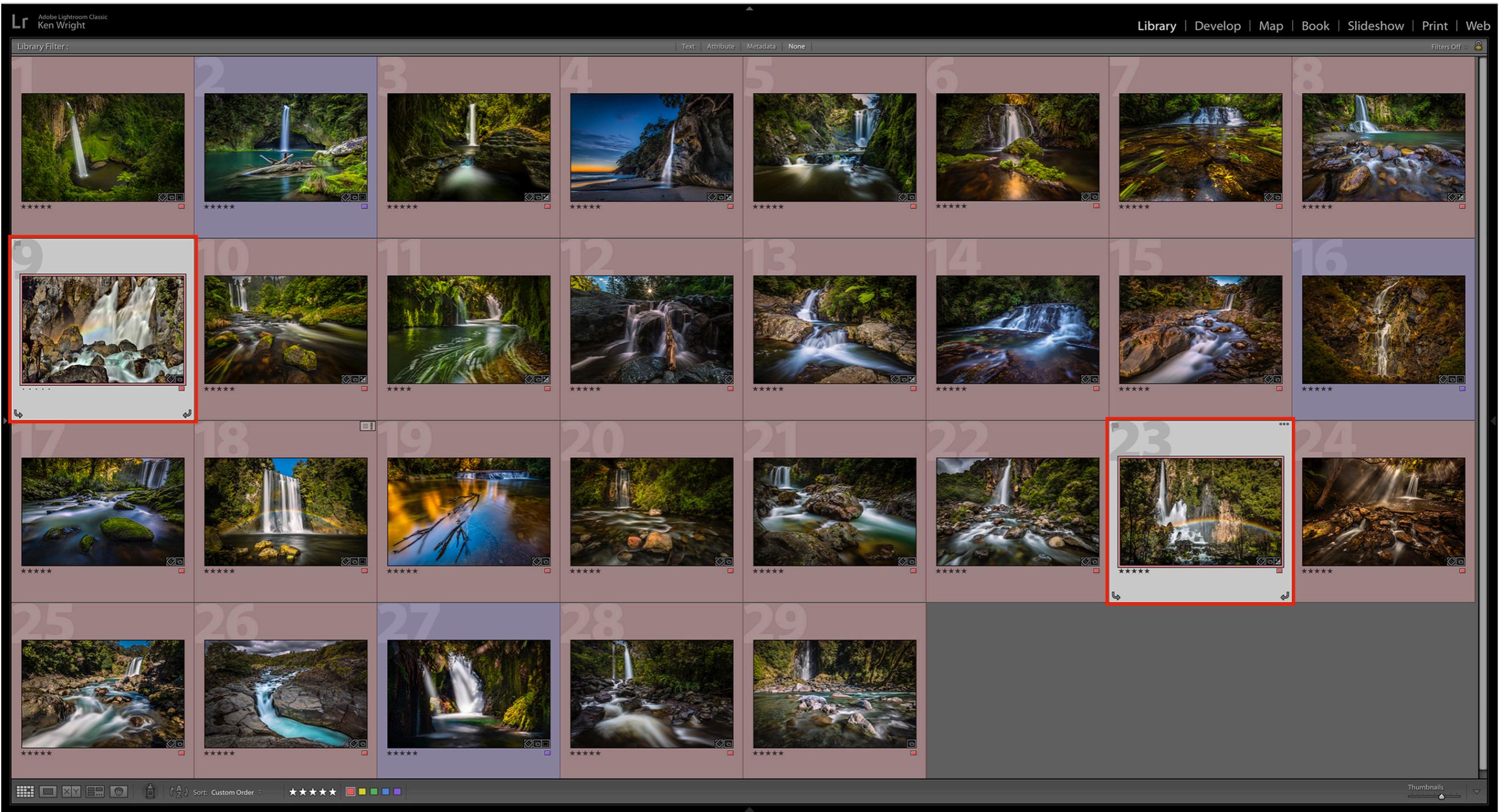
As I mentioned, some are coded red, some purple which I can go back to later to alter the crop so ignore all this, it's only the highlighted ones we are looking at.

These three are all the same waterfall, my preference is for No7, but not sure about 14 at this stage, so I'm deleting 20 & 21.



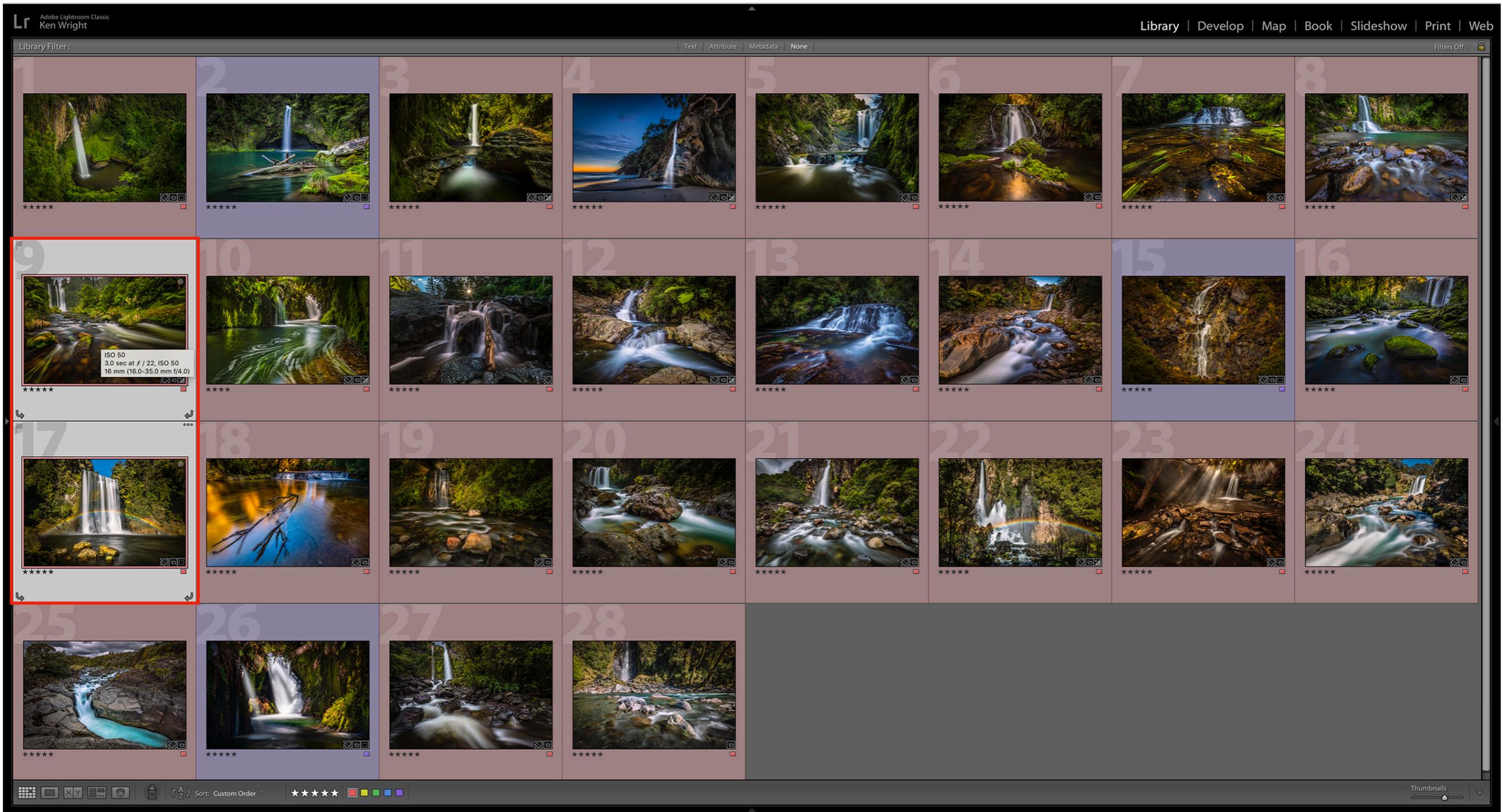
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Same waterfall, my preference is for No8, this one has a stronger foreground and the waterfall sits better against a third, so deleting 28.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

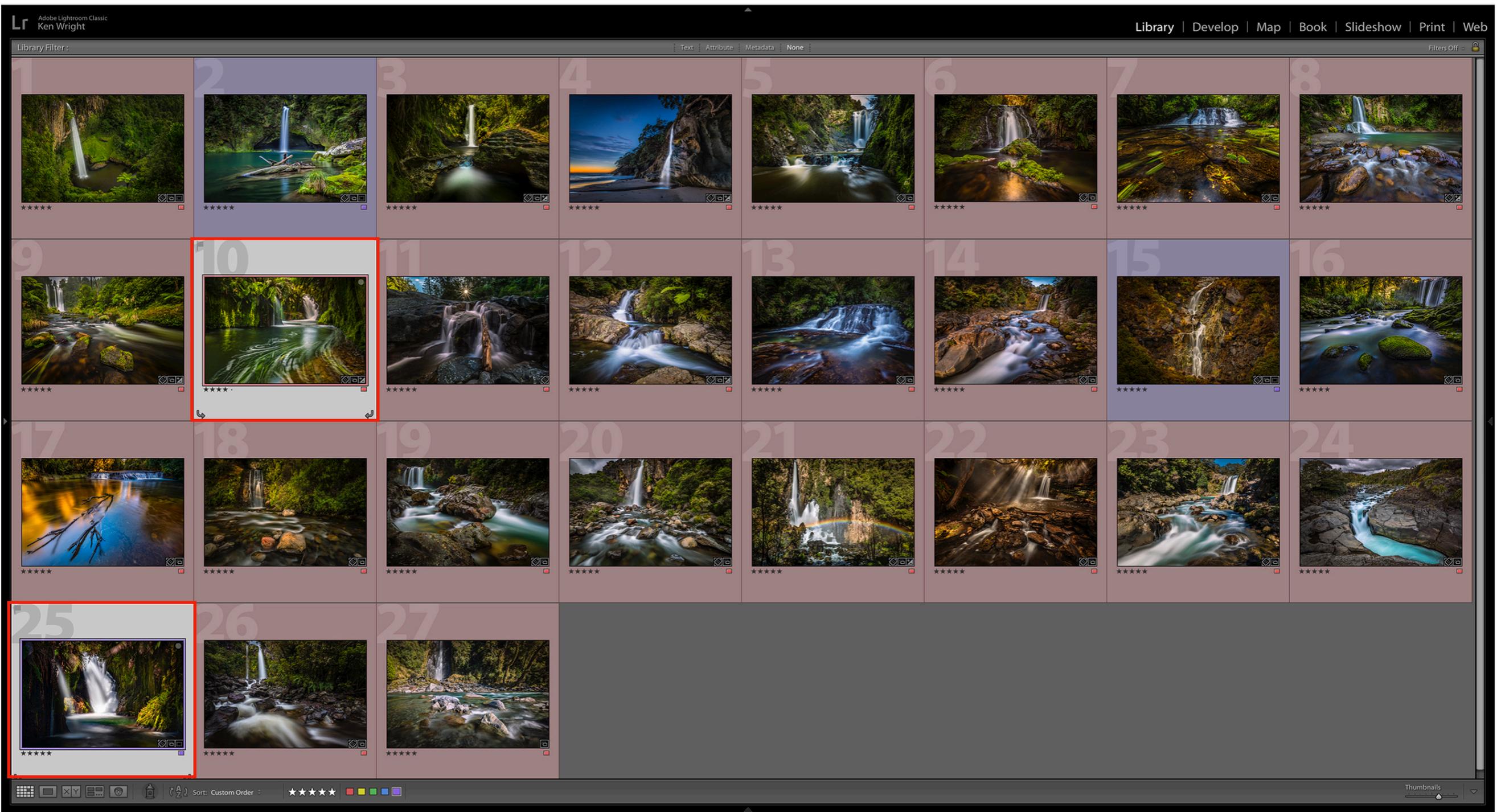
Tarawera Falls - No9 is a close up taken in summer with no top fall showing, I want the fall to be complete so No9 is out and 23 stays.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

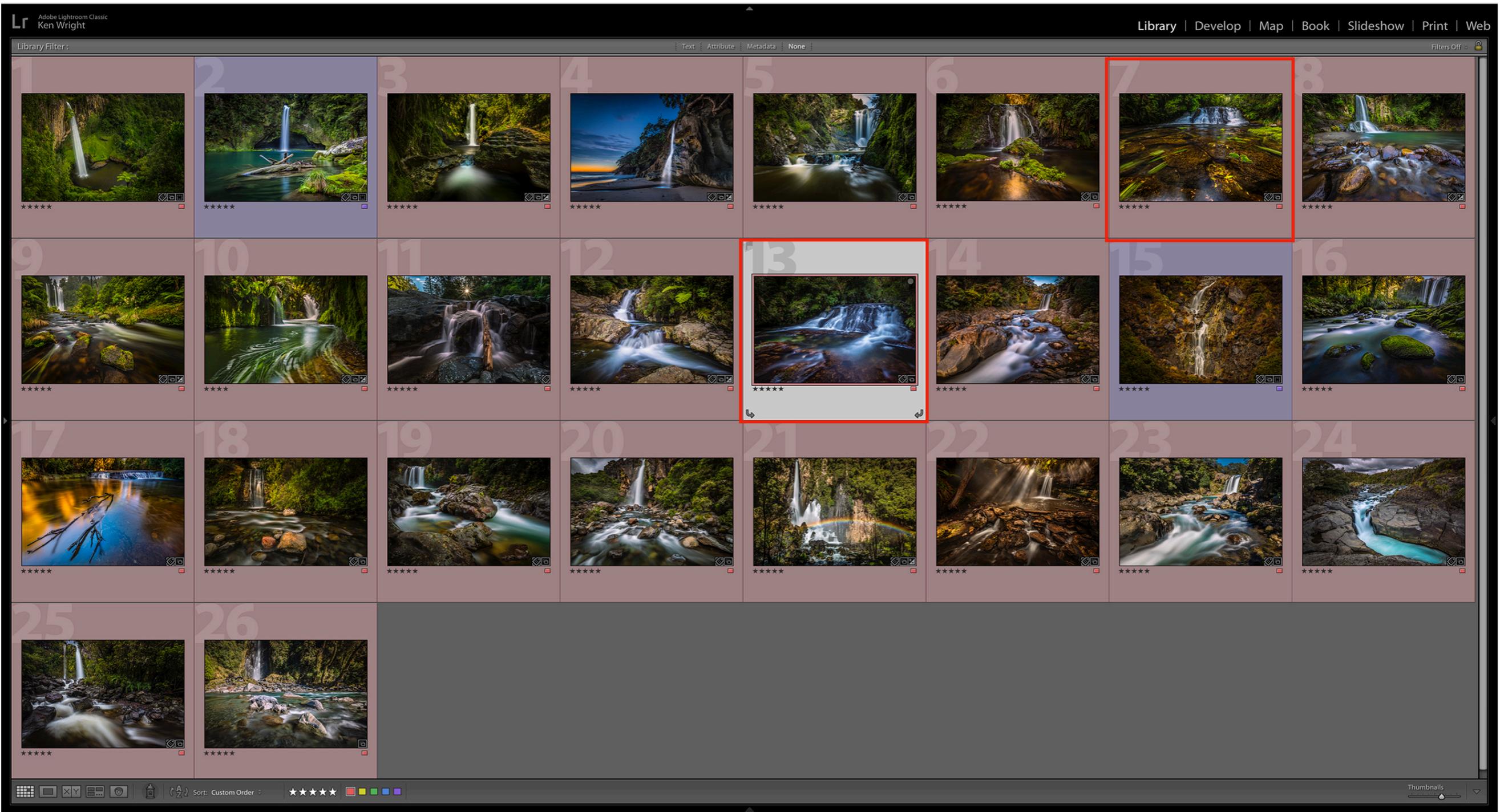
This fall is set deep in the Kaimai Mamaku Forest.

Already I can see a tonal look and feel to the set, so No17 stands out as a bright sunny day image and its not tonally sitting well with the rest, 17 gets deleted.



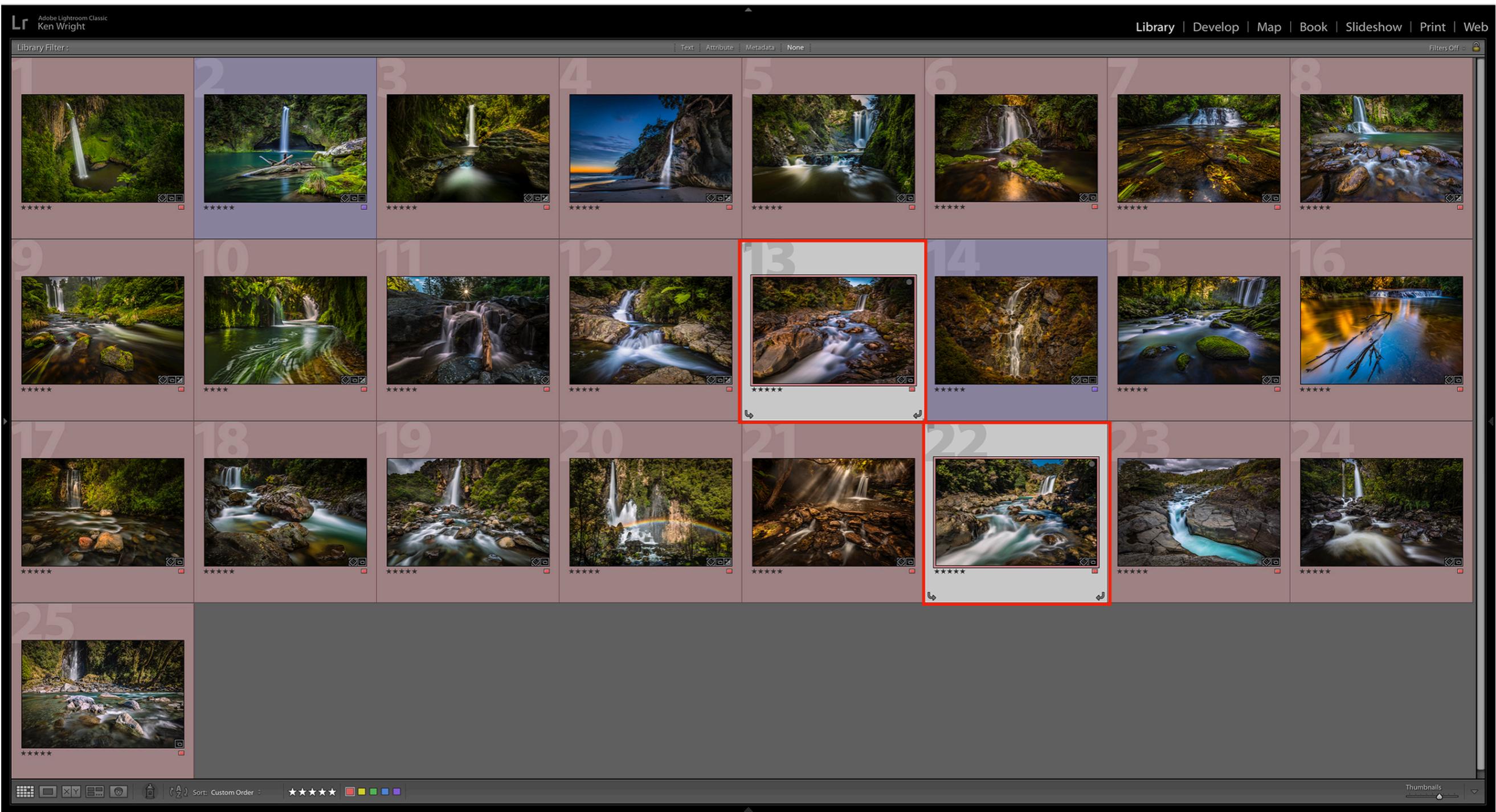
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

This is the same waterfall, No25 was shot on a telephoto and No10 with a wide angle lens. In this case I want the bigger foreground in 10, so 25 is deleted.



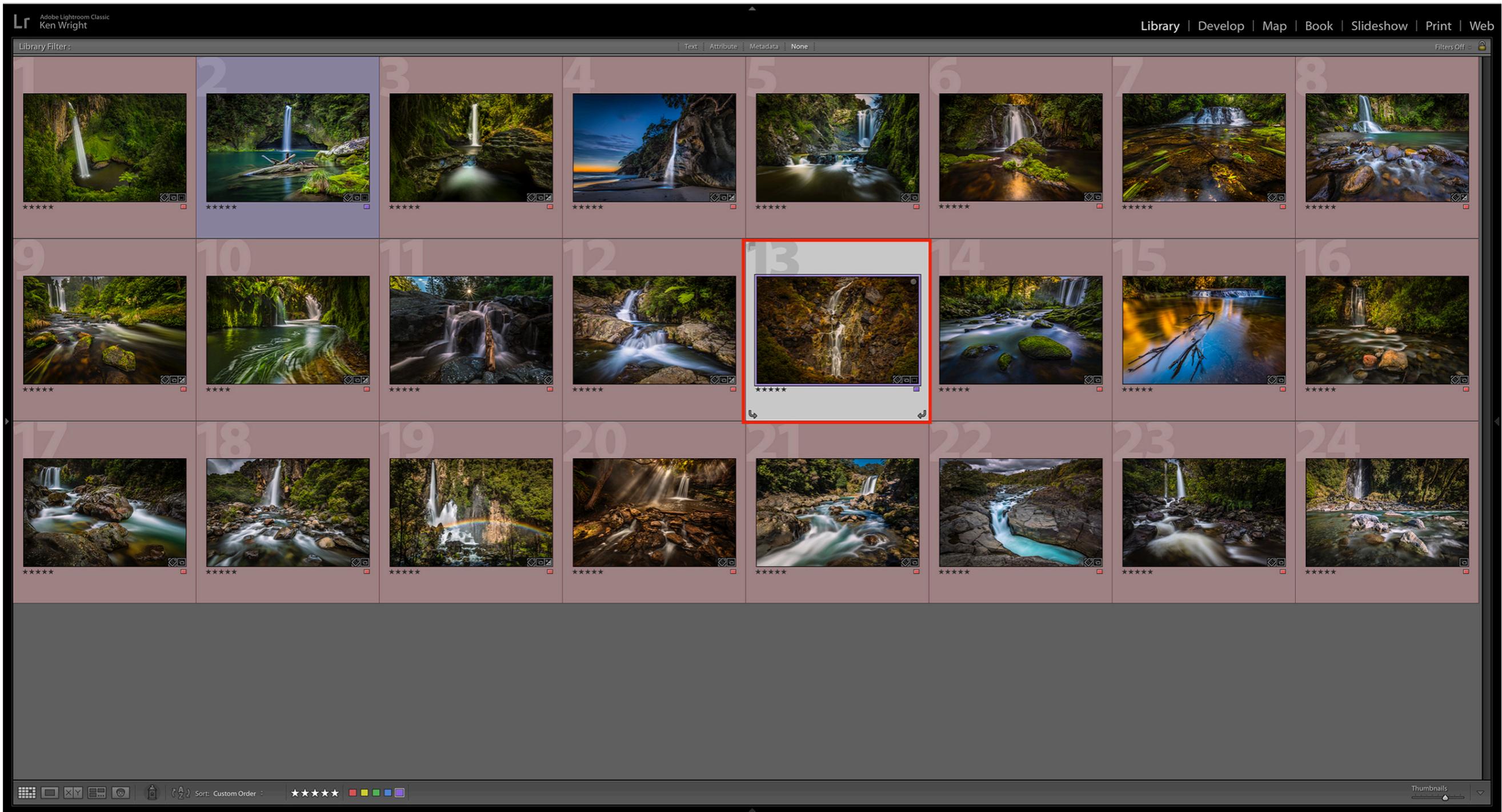
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Same falls that we looked at earlier, I made the decision to keep No7 so 13 is deleted



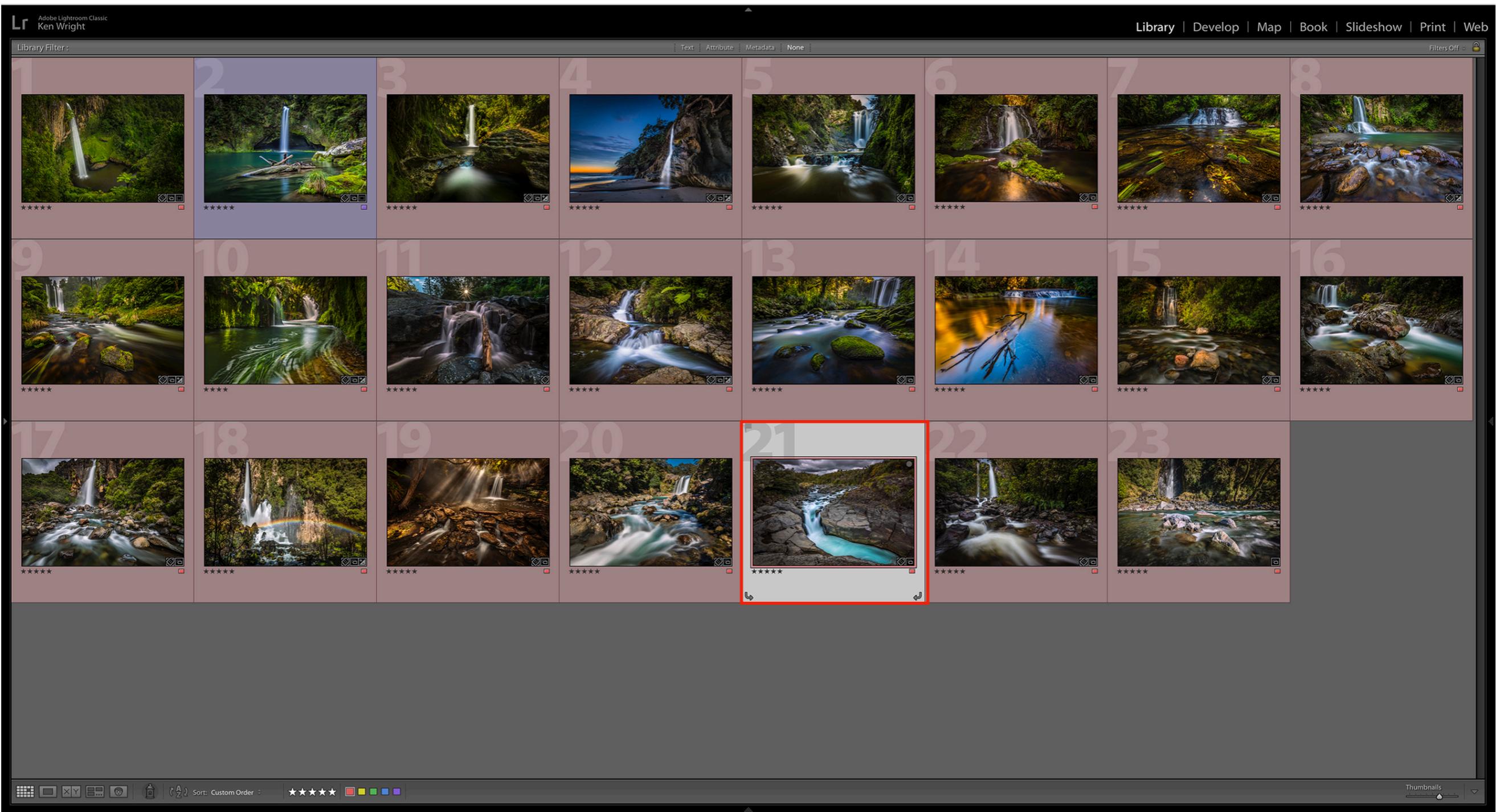
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Tawhai falls - I prefer the strength of 22, 13 to go.



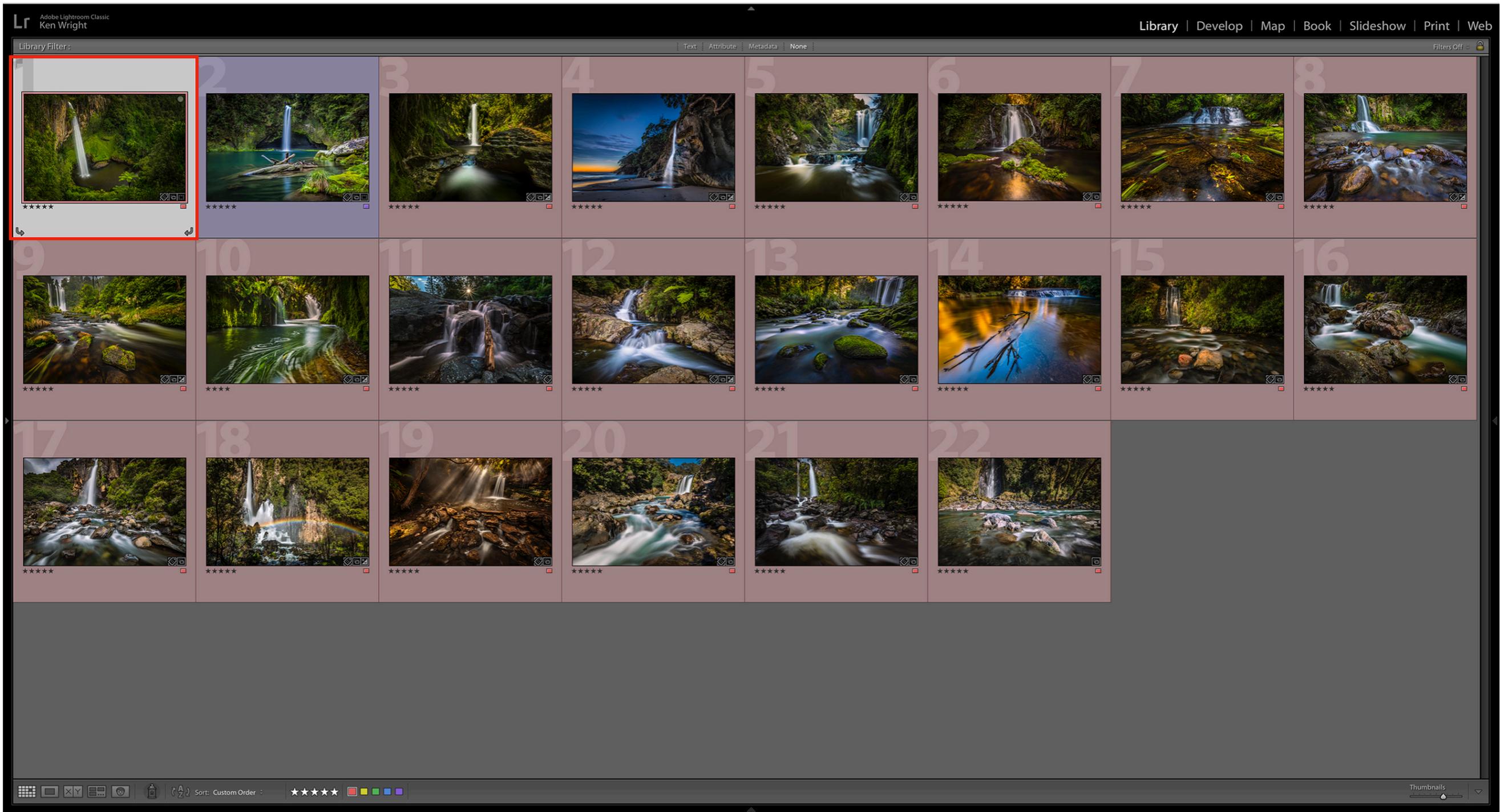
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

This is a fave shot and represents a waterfall off the beaten track. Only myself and one other has this shot and I love it, however you can see that its not a good fit with the rest, the water is only a small element and no foreground. Unlucky No13 has to go.



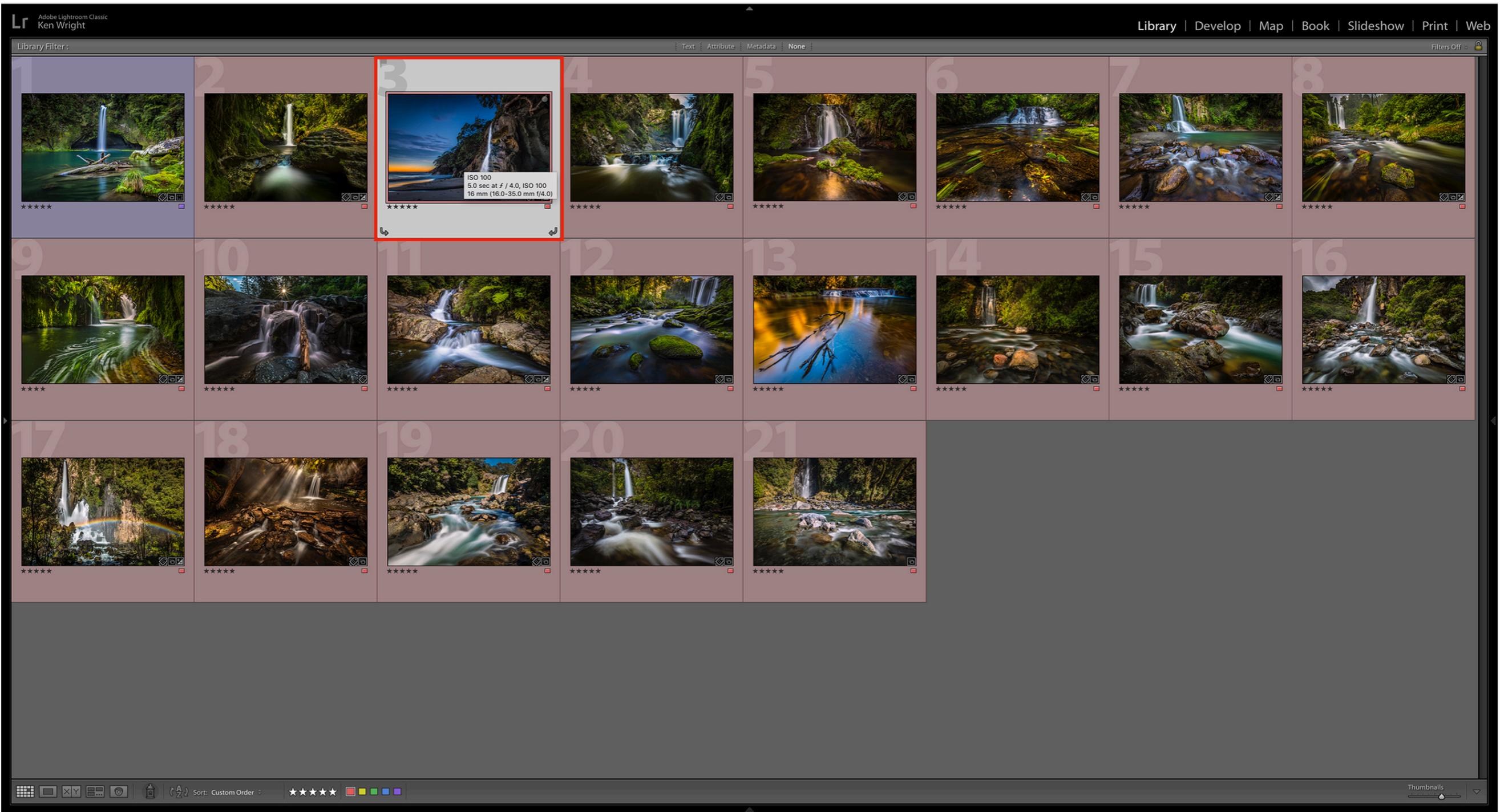
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Splitting hairs, Mahuia is a rapid so No21 is out.



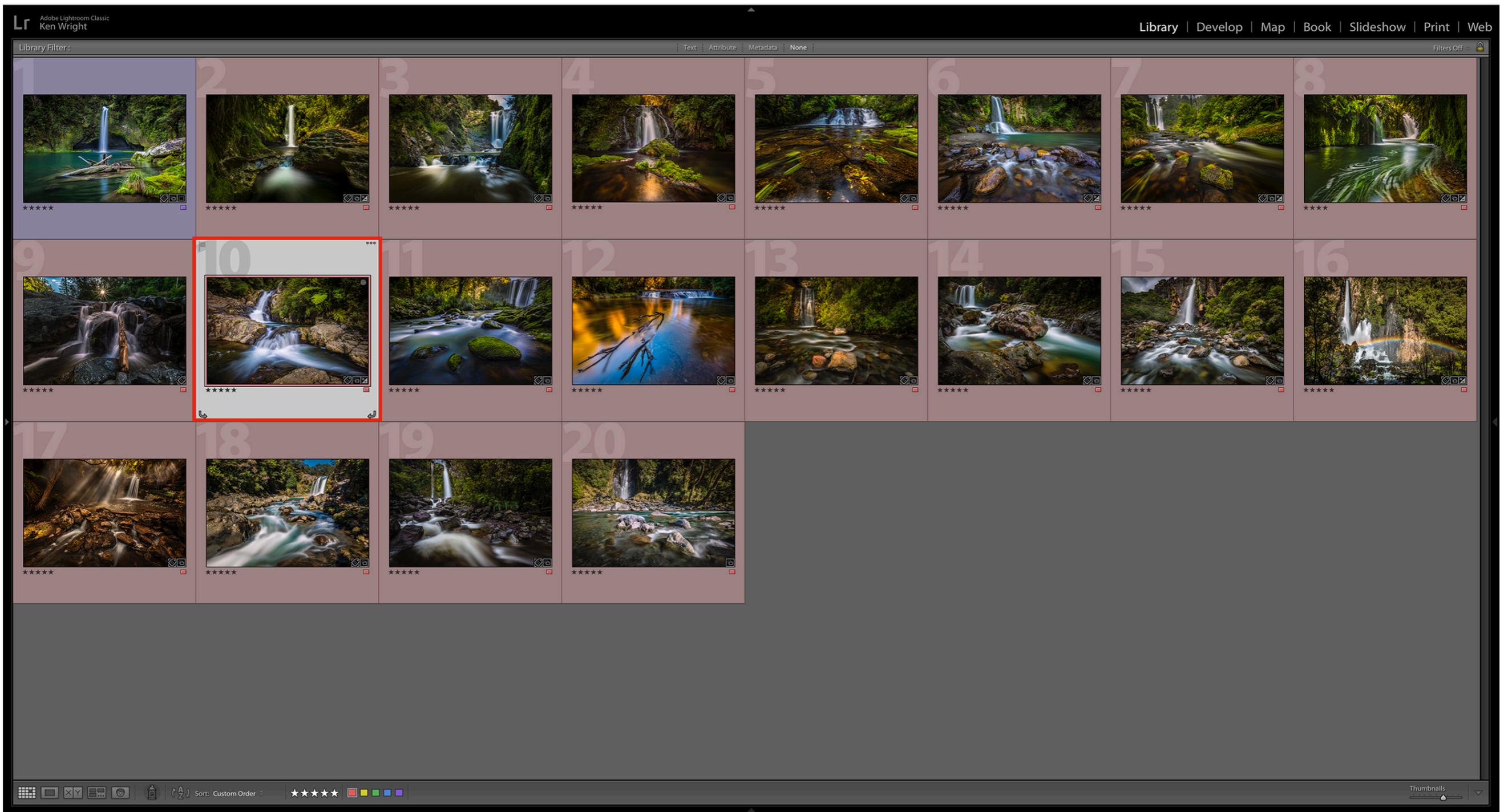
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Bridal veil falls - this is an elevated angle and doesn't fit with the other deep foreground images.  
No 1 to go.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

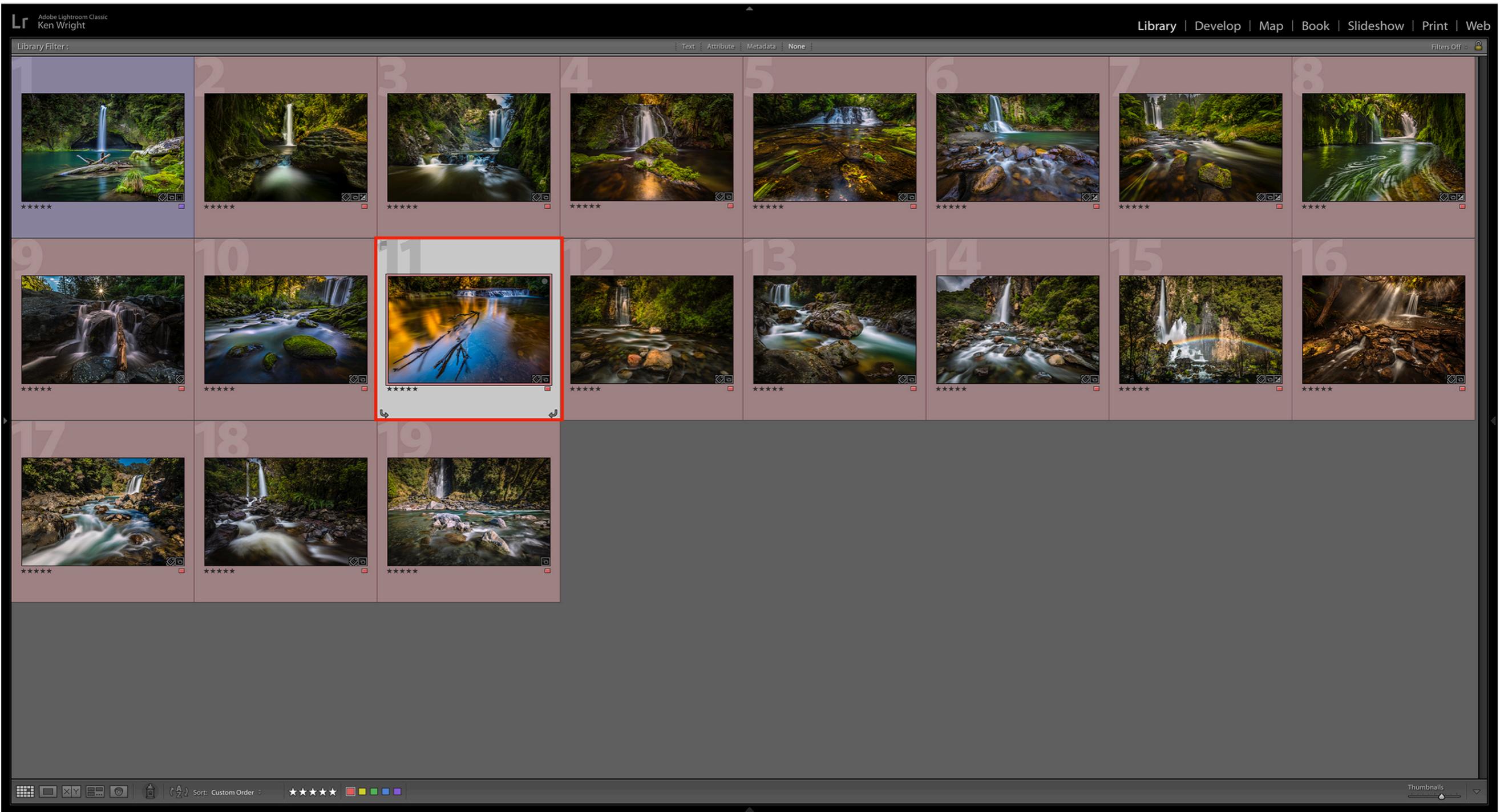
This is a beach waterfall and tonally doesn't fit with all the other deep forest images. No3 deleted.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

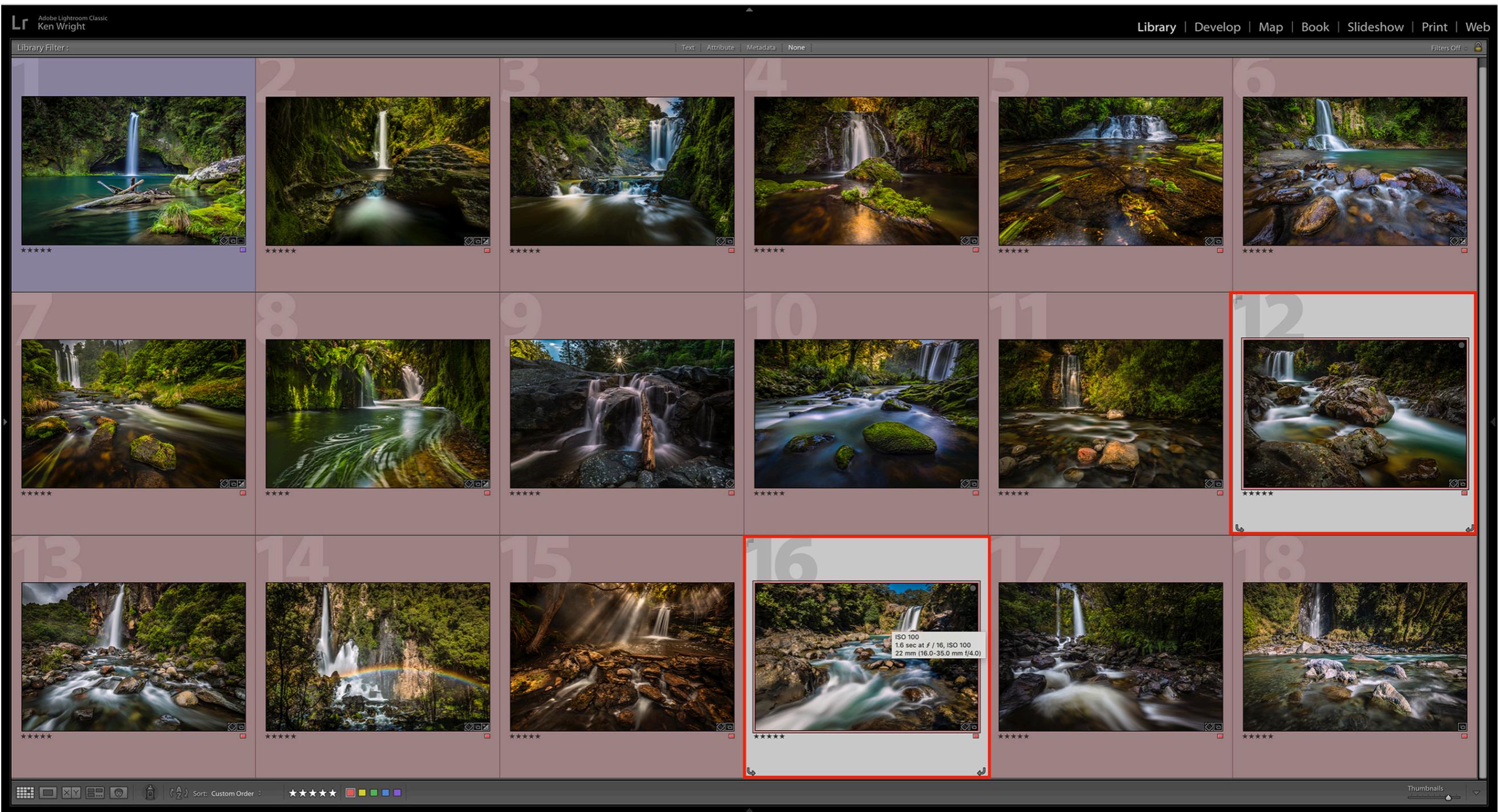
Another set of rapids, this one is hard because it fits tonally and has a deep foreground.

*By now you should start to see my thought process for consistence of "Handwriting"*



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

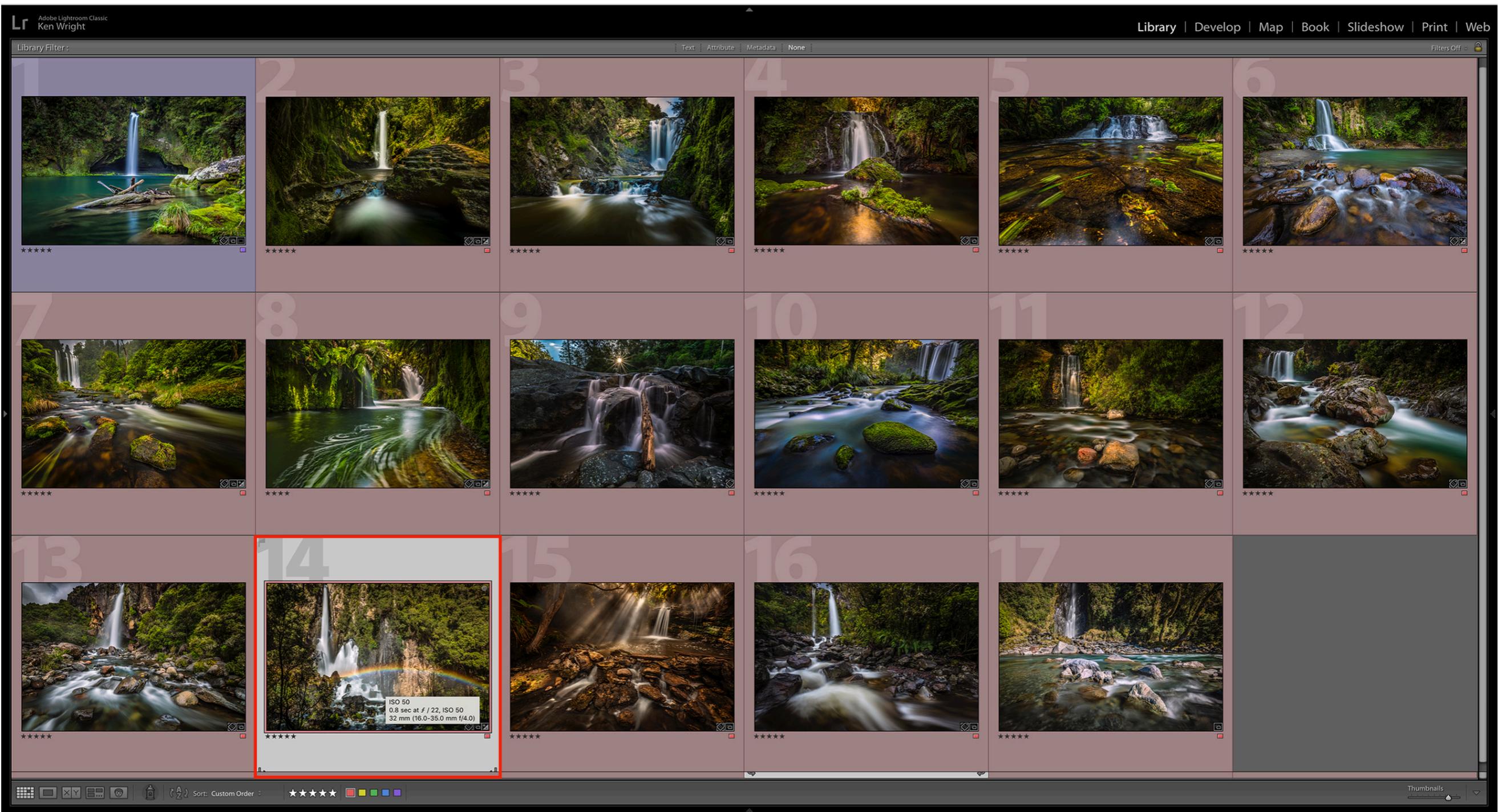
Waterfall too small in the background.  
No11 deleted.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Now we are starting to get there, and this is going to be more of a contextual decision. Tawhai Falls has to be the most photographed falls in the Tongariro National Park.

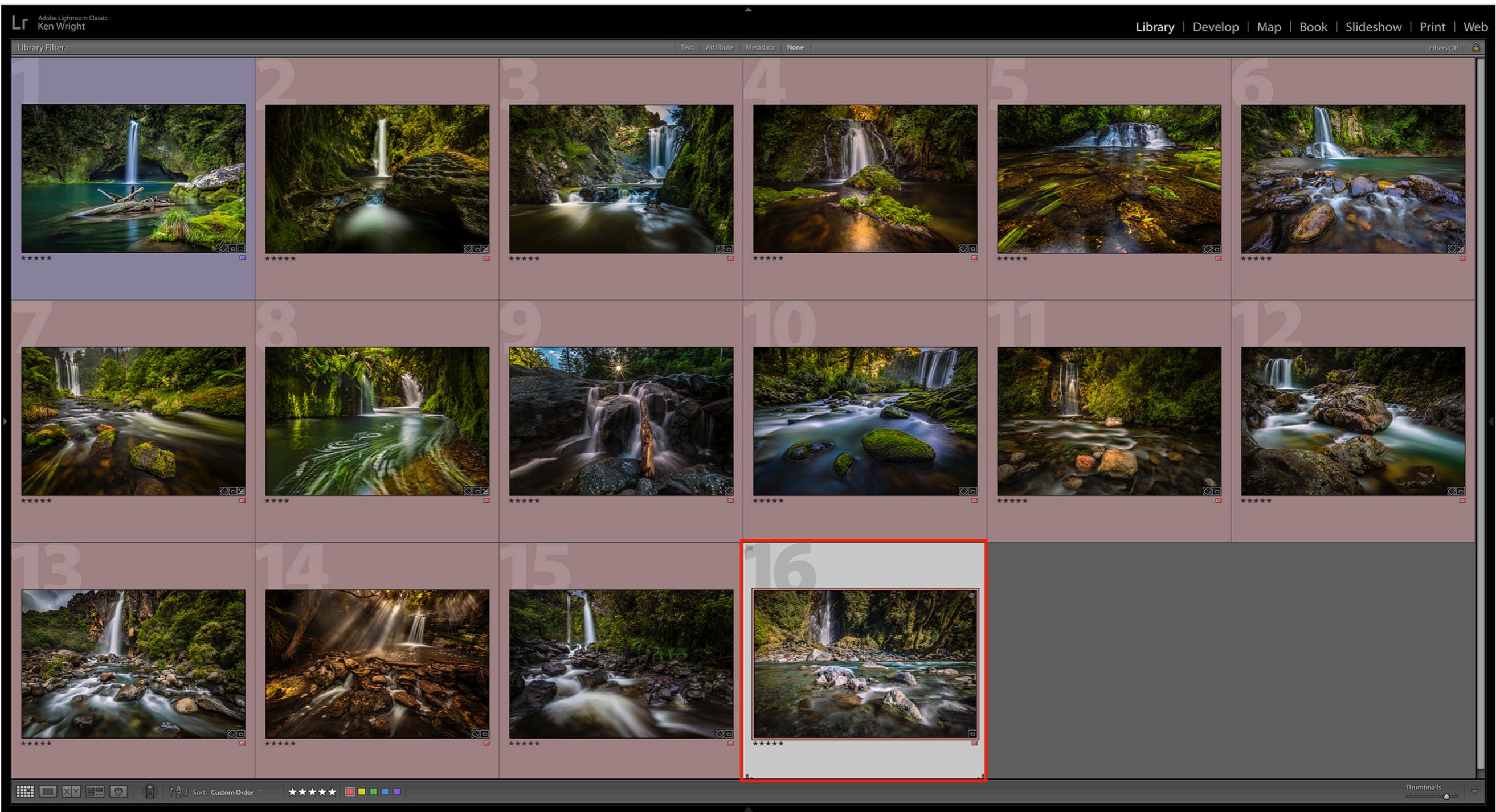
*“Everyone has the angle on No16, the angle on No12 is rarely seen so I’m deleting No16”.*



## PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

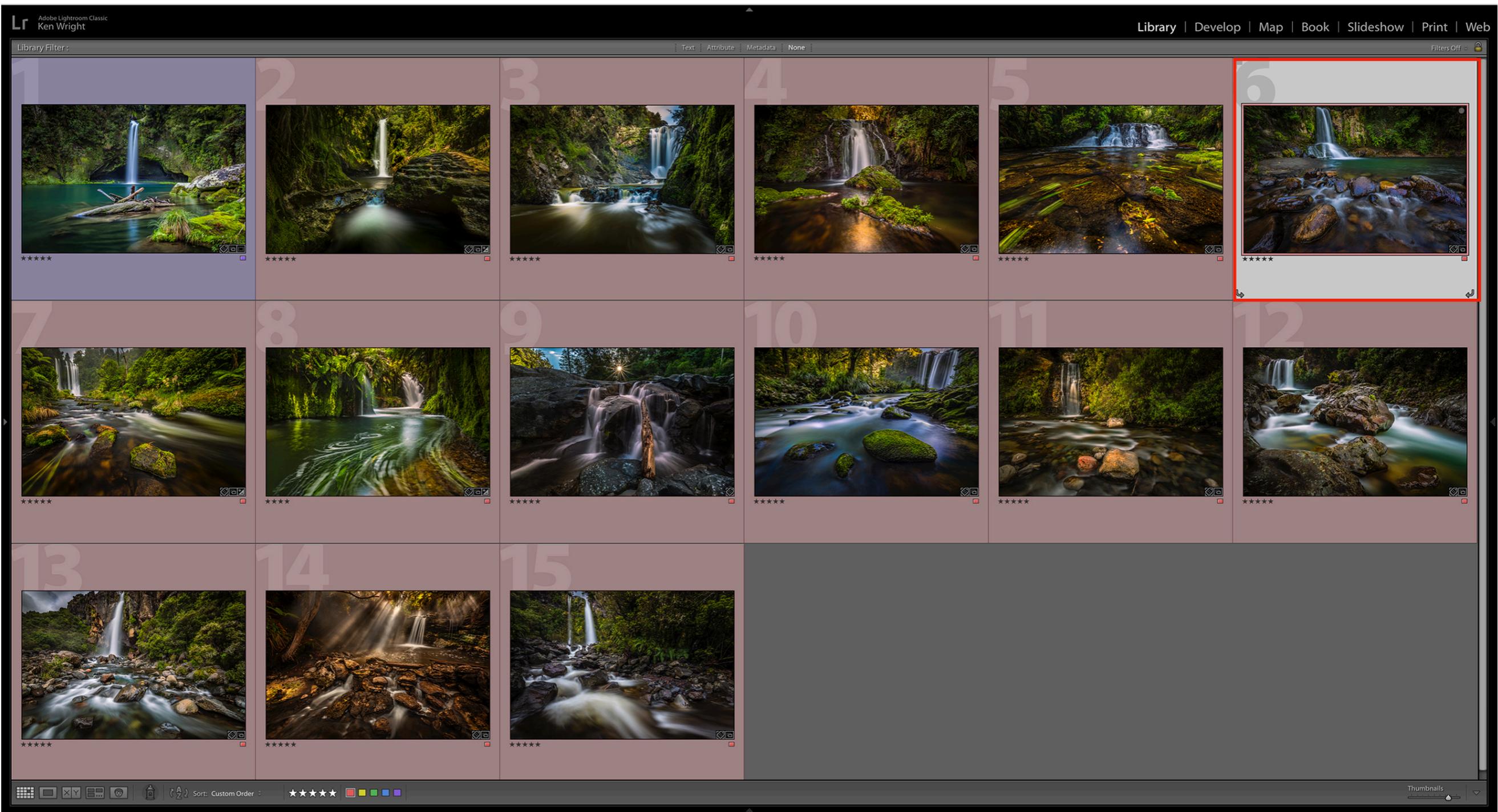
Tarawera Falls - My most visited location, I would have 20+ hero shots of this fall, however, this waterfall hasn't got the foreground emphasis so 14 is getting deleted.

*"You can see how harsh the process is".*



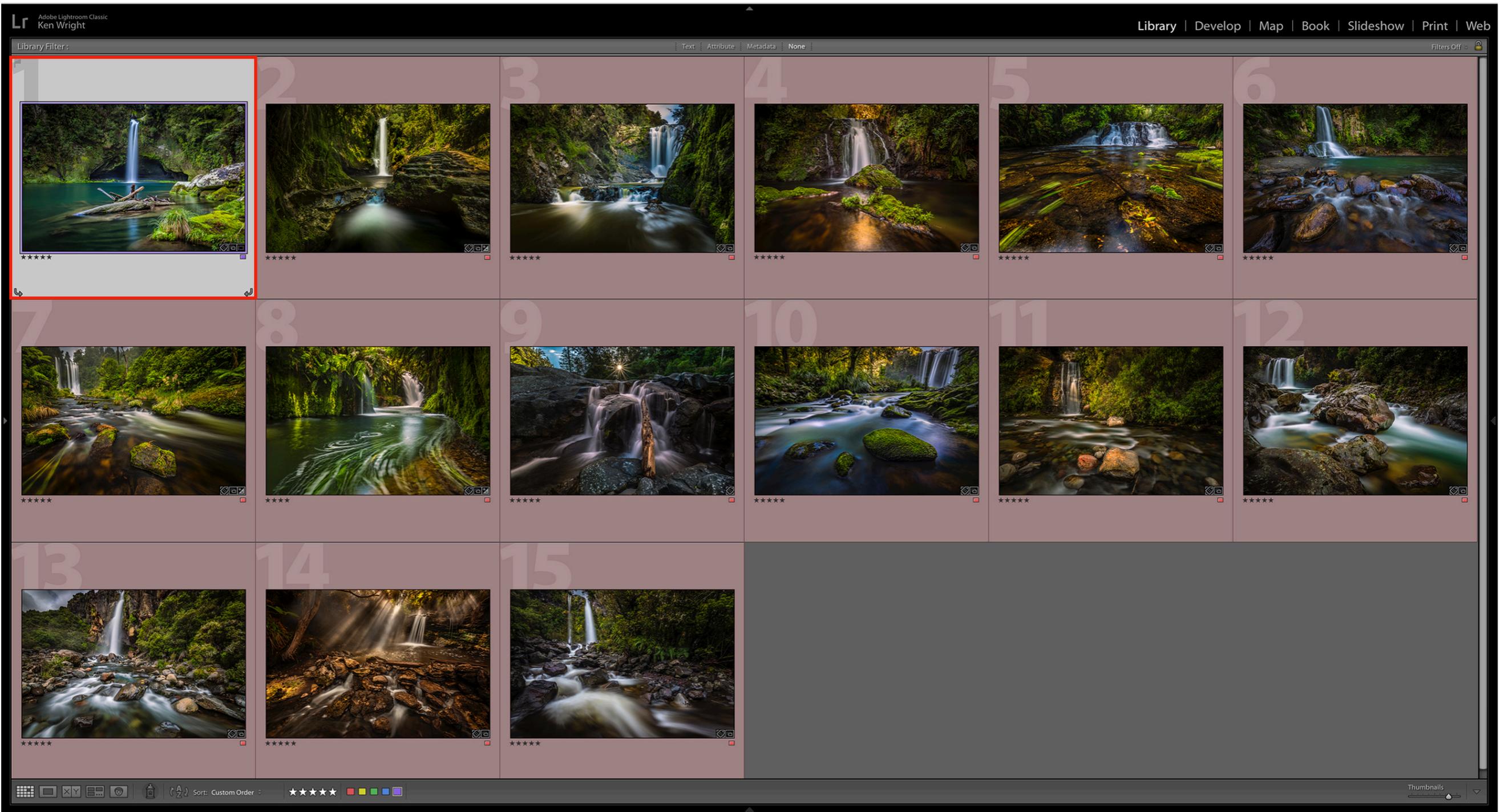
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Thunder Creek Falls is too weak overall so No16 is gone.



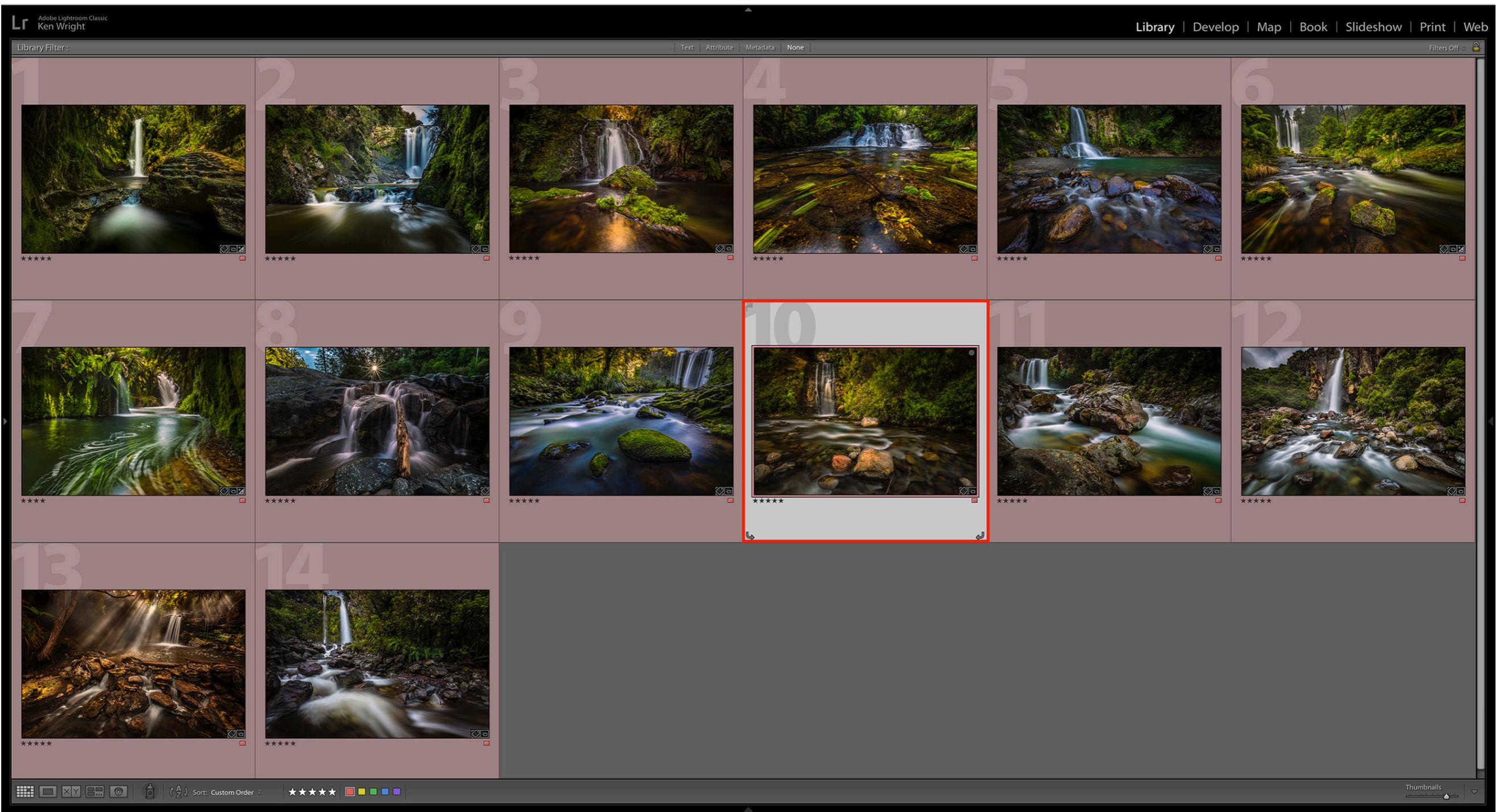
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Waiiau Falls - a hard call on this one, foreground is not strong enough, No6 gets deleted.



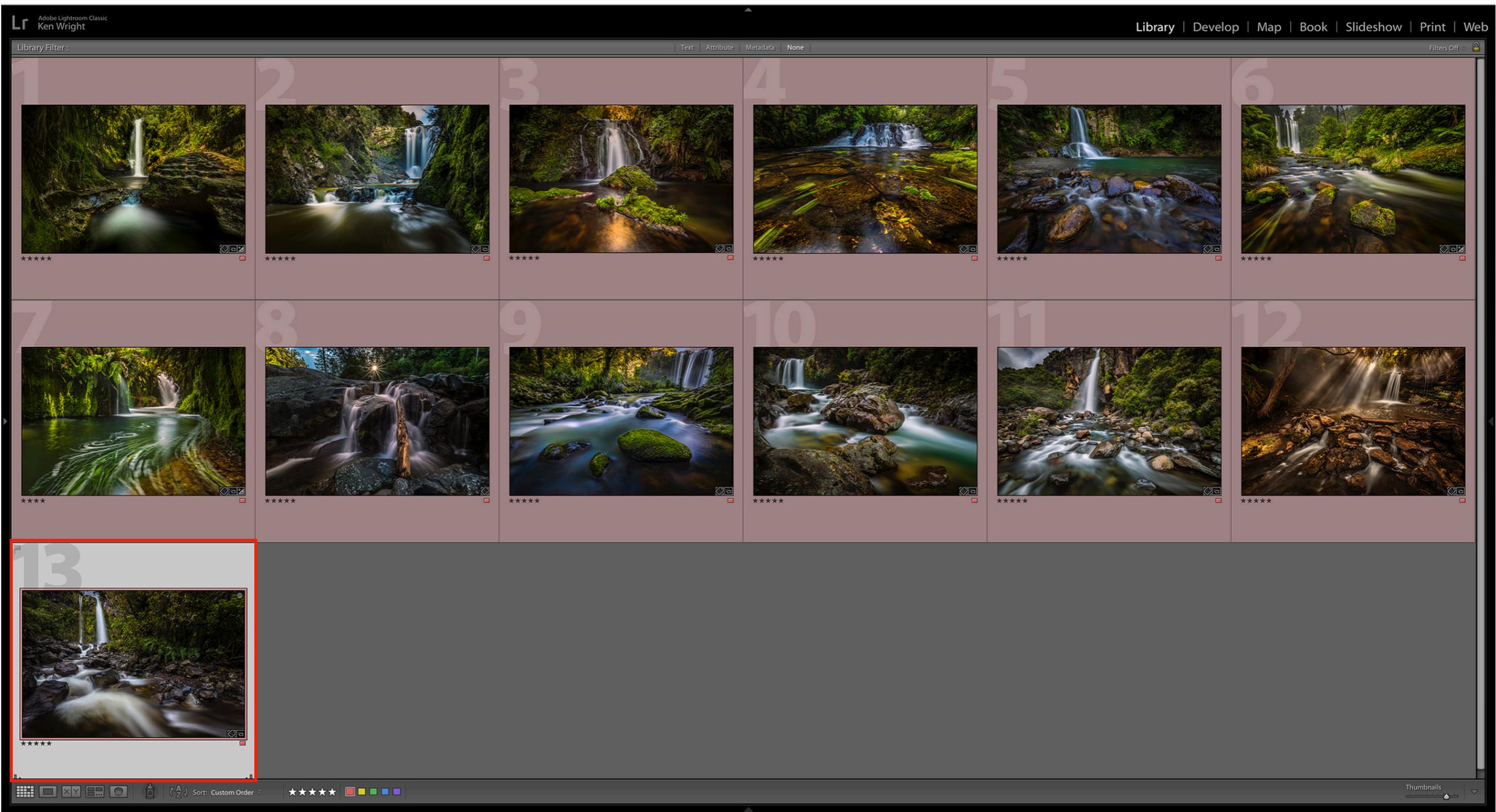
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Omanawa Falls - this was shot a while ago and, while I like it the processing, colour, tonality, and warmth dose not match richness of the other images. No1 to go.



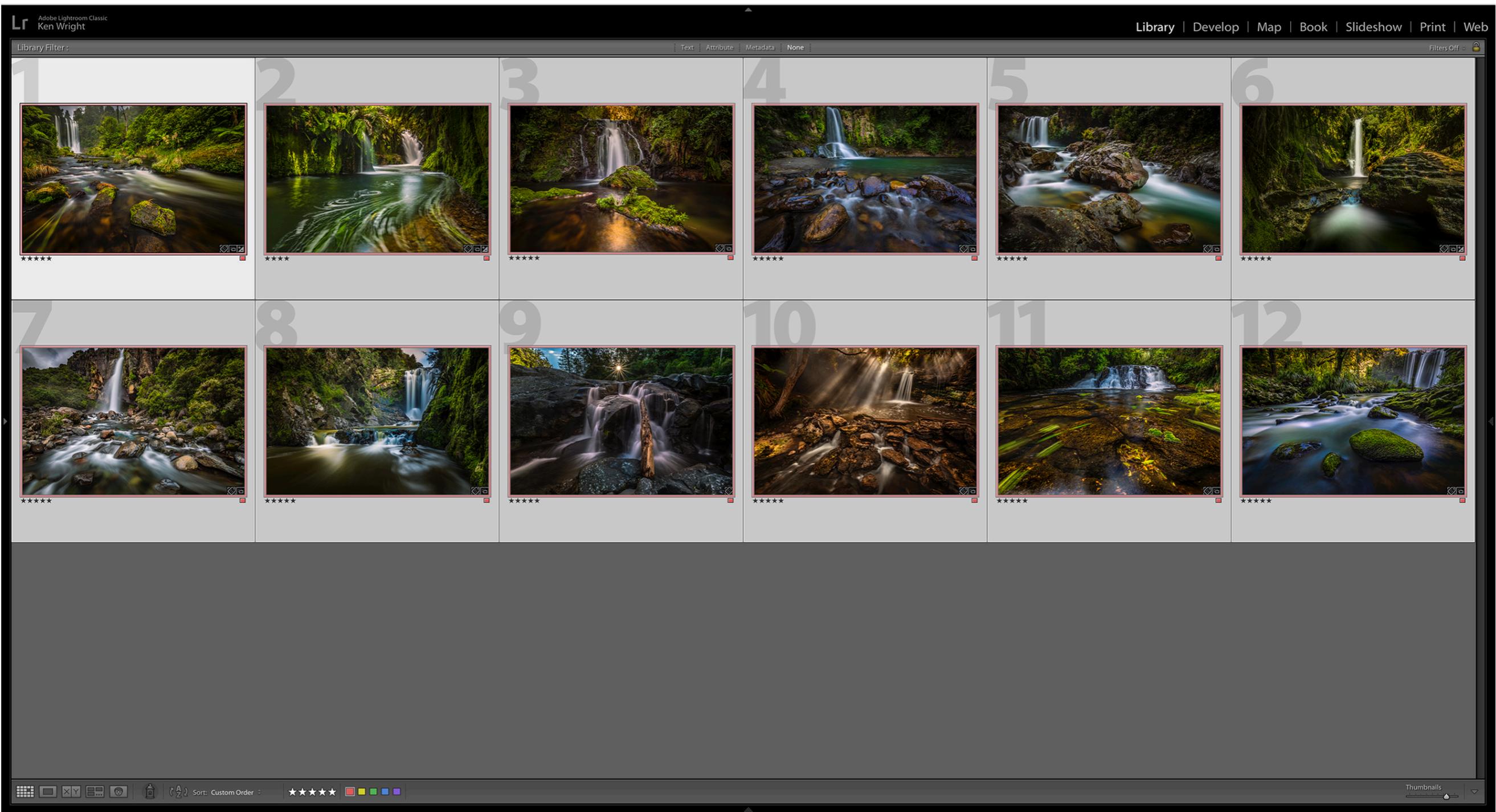
# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Harsh call, I don't know of anyone else having this fall from the riverbed, so it's as unique as the other side of Tawhai Falls (No11) but the foreground is weak compared to the rest. No10 is deleted.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

Dawson falls - this was a shot that I had to rush in the field and aesthetically falls short for me. Unlucky 13 again deleted.



# PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

There we have it, 12 images, just a shuffle around to see how they sit together.



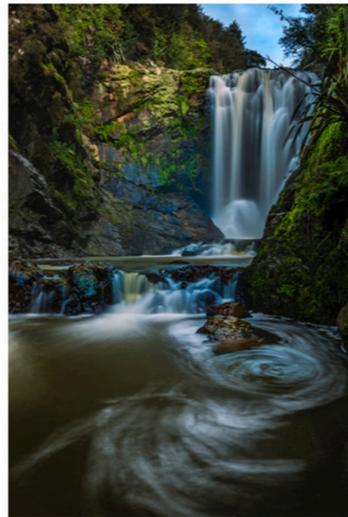
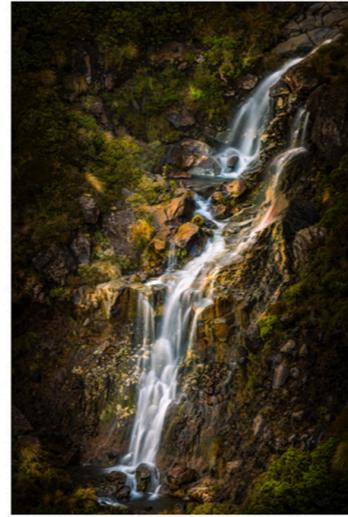
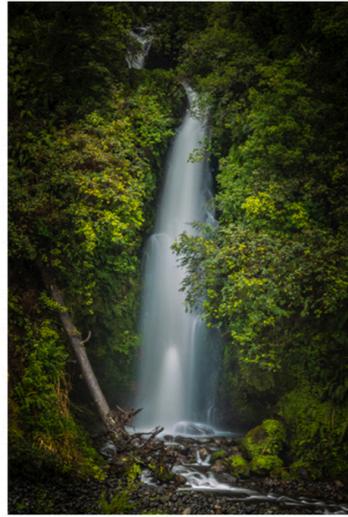
## PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

The main thing is a consistent **“look and feel”** and a **“hand writing”** that says these are Ken Wright images.

**The final 12 images for waterfalls.**

So, hopefully you can see a consistence of shooting style, angles, elevation, deep foregrounds.

A commonality of processing style and tonality, I prefer deep colours, the richness of brown rocks when they are wet all adds to the mood.



## PORTFOLIO COLLECTION: WATERFALLS

The main thing is a consistent “**look and feel**” and a “**hand writing**” that says these are Ken Wright images.

**The final 12 images for vertical waterfalls.**

As mentioned at the beginning I had created separate collections for vertical and B&W waterfalls, both of which went through the same process of elimination.



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