

22 August 2022

Submission on Stewardship Land Reclassification – West Coast

Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa seeks the opportunity to be heard. Preferred location: Hokitika

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PART 1

Introduction

Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission (formerly the New Zealand Walking Access Commission Ara Hīkoi Aotearoa) is the Crown agent responsible for providing leadership on outdoor access issues.

Our role is to advise on and advocate for free, certain, enduring, and practical access to the outdoors.

We administer a national strategy on outdoor access, including tracks and trails. We map outdoor access, provide information to the public, oversee a code of responsible conduct in the outdoors, help to resolve access issues and negotiate new access.

Herenga ā Nuku has a team in Wellington and a network of regional field advisors. An independent board governs our work. Our governing piece of legislation is the Walking Access Act 2008.

The primary purpose of the Walking Access Act 2008 is 'to provide the New Zealand public with free, certain, enduring, and practical walking access to the outdoors (including around the coast and lakes, along rivers, and to public resources) so that the

public can enjoy the outdoors'. There is a special focus on access to water bodies and public conservation land.

Herenga ā Nuku plays a key role in negotiating, establishing and improving outdoor access for New Zealanders. This includes making people and organisations aware of public access locations and ensuring that access endures over time. Our mandate includes all forms of public access, including on/by foot, bike, horse and vehicle.

Stewardship land reclassification – Process

Herenga ā Nuku submitted on the public consultation process regarding the 'Options to streamline processes for reclassification and disposal'. This came too late for the consideration of stewardship land on the West Coast, but we note some key points from that submission here:

We expect that:

- The review process will provide absolute protection of public access and recreational enjoyment to and through the land, including natural linkages and enduring practical access to public conservation lands and waters, rivers, lakes or the coast.
- Departmental staff will comment on the public access values of every parcel of stewardship land they assess. If there is any future proposal to dispose of the land, this comment to the panel will be available in the public consultation phase.
- The criteria provided by the Department to the panels will include public access. As with any proposed stopping of legal roads, the public interest in access and links across the countryside now and in the future, no matter how small or remote, must outweigh any case for disposal and permanent loss of that interest and opportunity.
- Assessment of public access by the Department and panels will consider future needs. For example, where current public access, including tracks and trails, may be lost, where they may be over privately owned land, where rivers or coastlines may erode, where slips could occur, where new recreational activities seek access, and so on.
- Herenga ā Nuku offers expertise on public access to the Department, the panels, and the Minister of Conservation.

The current process has been immensely challenging for all who wish to contribute to this once-in-a-generation opportunity. There has been a lack of adequate time and access to appropriate maps. Herenga ā Nuku will provide feedback separately on how the process may be improved for other regions.

Principles

In compiling this submission, we considered the following:

- the importance of public conservation land classified as stewardship land for access to the outdoors. This access can connect to or through that parcel of land. It can be over formed, marked or informal routes. It can include more random access for recreational activities such as hunting or fishing
- Herenga ā Nuku's role as the Crown agency responsible for advocacy on public outdoor access
- our work with groups and individuals with outdoor access interests and aspirations
- the changing and evolving uses for outdoor spaces and how people recreate, and
- climate change impacts on public access, including increasing coastal inundation, erosion, and slips.

General comments

Herenga ā Nuku's focus in reviewing the recommendations for reclassification has been to establish any risk to free, certain and enduring access to the outdoors.

We note that under the Conservation Act 1987, section 17, the public can expect entry to and use of conservation areas to be free of charge. Under section 3 of the Reserves Act 1977, we can expect the preservation and management for the benefit and enjoyment of the public for recreational use or potential and access to and along the coast, lakeshores and riverbeds.

We note that most if not all the reclassification assessment work by the national panel was carried out without two of their initial panel members. Dr Jan Wright would have brought an extensive knowledge of stewardship lands and the work to be undertaken by the panel following the investigation undertaken while Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment: "Investigating the future of conservation: The case of stewardship land". Dr Les Molloy has vast knowledge and experience of recreation and recreation policy. Neither were replaced. The panel lacked essential skills and knowledge, specifically relating to recreation and therefore public access requirements.

DISPOSAL

Our starting point was to consider areas where the recommendation of one or both panels was to dispose of parcels of stewardship land, whether fully or partially.

Department of Conservation staff leading the reclassification project have confirmed that, should a recommendation be made to the Minister of Conservation for any disposal, and should she accept that recommendation, her decision will trigger a further

investigation into the area by Departmental staff. After a detailed investigation, if it is found that the proposal to dispose of the land is appropriate for the area, the usual process for the disposal of public conservation land will be launched, including public consultation.

This reassures us that any disposal will not occur without due and proper process. However, we take this opportunity to flag our specific concerns.

We have a real concern that the public access values of stewardship land have not been considered adequately, and, in some cases, appear not to have been considered at all through the reclassification process. Public access values are essential to the appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public. Public access values are thus conservation values as defined in the Conservation Act. They must be considered in any reclassification or recommendation for disposal. The options of current and potential users must be protected and the options of future generations safeguarded.

Our analysis of individual sites (commented on in more detail in Part 2 below) indicates that most recommendations for disposal risk the loss of valuable public access.

There are also other important considerations regarding the potential disposal of coastal and riverbed areas that may be indirectly related to public access:

- Desire to protect grazing areas from erosion and flooding with rock protection, likely creating erosion elsewhere beyond the rock protection, including opposite bank and downstream, potentially putting public access at risk
- Erosion in coastal areas causing loss of access connectivity
- Small areas of stewardship land within riverbeds are important for connectivity for both access and as ecological corridors over public land when the whole river, often from mountains to sea, is considered
- Restriction of the natural functioning of braided rivers (many rivers are mobile across flood plains) and the potential to restore or rewild in the future.

We are concerned that some areas are being recommended for consideration of disposal based on a perception that pastoral components have no value within the conservation estate. We are concerned that such recommendations do not correctly value the cost-benefit ratio for conservation and the community.

As noted above, for any area recommended for disposal and where the Minister accepts that recommendation, there will need to be:

- more detailed investigation taking up valuable time from Departmental staff already under pressure
- survey to define boundaries of grazed areas and marginal strips
- public consultation

- associated legal and LINZ processes
- valuation and sale process following the requirements to dispose of Crown-owned land, including determination of any other public need, the possibility of offering first to the person the Crown originally purchased it from or their successors, Right of First Refusal for Māori, and finally selling on the open market.

For coastal areas, the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement is important. Policy 18, 19 and 20 relate to public access. Policy 18 begins:

“Recognise the need for public open space within and adjacent to the coastal marine area, for public use and appreciation including active and passive recreation, and provide for such public open space”.

Policy 19 begins:

“(1) Recognise the public expectation of and need for walking access to and along the coast that is practical, free of charge and safe for pedestrian use.

(2) Maintain and enhance public walking access to, along and adjacent to the coastal marine area”.

In other words, public access must be a priority for any consideration of reclassification of stewardship land in coastal areas and disposal or reclassification must not put that public access at risk in the short or long term.

Herenga ā Nuku notes the Government’s focus on decarbonisation and its expectation that the public sector will work towards carbon neutrality from 2025. The National has been instructed to consider the objectives of the Climate Change Commission report and a shift to a low carbon economy, however opportunities appear to have been missed.

Stewardship land may provide opportunities for restoration or for regenerating bush to be left undisturbed. We suggest that disposal or any other classification that could allow for regenerating scrub or bush to be cleared or for more intensive grazing to occur would not support moves towards carbon neutrality and a low-carbon Aotearoa.

We recommend that a cost-benefit analysis is undertaken on any proposed disposal including potential value for climate change mitigation. A disposal process will take critical resources away from more important conservation efforts for little gain and the likely loss of valuable public access, biodiversity values, and climate change mitigation opportunities.

It is worth expanding on the requirements for survey in any disposal process. Such work would be required before any public consultation. Site visits would likely be required, as aerial imagery showing pastoral components is often several years old and multiple flood events result in rivers changing course numerous times, sometimes in the same year. It

is also unclear what the definition of 'pastoral components' is and how the panels interpreted this in their recommendations. Some are rough grazing and vulnerable to further river movements at any time. In other words, they are part of an active riverbed.

Marginal strips must be created next to the foreshore and qualifying lakes, rivers and streams when the Crown disposes of land and requirements are specified in Part 4A of the Conservation Act 1987. Marginal strips created this way are moveable with the water course boundary and generally 20m wide. However, they can be wider under section 24AA, for example, where riparian vegetation can be better protected.

One of the purposes of marginal strips, as set out in section 24C(b) of the Conservation Act 1987, is:

“to enable public access to any adjacent watercourses or bodies of water”.

A desire to dispose of public conservation land beside and within water courses may have been made with the expectation that a new marginal strip would protect both public access and riparian ecological values. However, there are many factors for surveyors to consider when determining the position of a new marginal strip, including the current position of the active riverbed and riverbank, ownership of the adjoining land, the management of that land, and how the land has been defined previously (straight line or following the then river boundary).

Where marginal strips exist, they move with the water boundary, which, for rivers, will be the top of the riverbank. In some cases, where disposal has been recommended, continuous riparian public access relies on other legal access rights. The movement of a marginal strip due to erosion could break the connection with other riparian access, such as an unformed legal road, which does not move as the river moves. In addition, as marginal strips created through the disposal of Crown land would exist within a new parcel of private land and then move as the river continues to move, there is a risk that a marginal strip would be lost through future erosion or accretion of the land in that area, should it extend through or into the new or other private land.

To clarify, practical access to the river will change as the river course moves – while the land remains conservation land, public access is available.

Examples of situations where a marginal strip would not facilitate connectivity of public access if the Stewardship land was disposed of in actively moving riverbeds include:

- Erosion of area being proposed for disposal below (Fig 1) would result in the marginal strip moving back with the erosion of the land, resulting in no connectivity between the new marginal strip location and the existing fixed road parcel which doesn't move.



Fig 1.



Fig 2.

- Marginal strips would be created each end of the area proposed for disposal above (Fig 2) but the section in the middle where the area adjoins the unformed legal road would not attract a marginal strip on disposal despite most of the fixed ULR parcel (shaded purple) already being eroded by the river.

All New Zealanders expect to be able to connect to the margins of water bodies. Most New Zealanders have heard the term 'Queen's Chain' without knowing much about it and often not realising that access to rivers is not guaranteed.

The Walking Access Act 2008, under section 11, requires Herenga ā Nuku to consider the desirability of public access:

- over land on the coast
- land adjoining rivers or lakes
- to parts of the coast, rivers or lakes
- being continuous over land adjoining the coast, rivers or lakes
- to conservation areas
- to areas of scenic or recreational value
- to sports fish and game.

Access to and along waterbodies is a key focus of Herenga ā Nuku's work, and disposal of land that does or could provide such access would be contrary to the Walking Access Act, as access cannot be guaranteed through the disposal process.

Public access over a short section of riverbed, perhaps currently being grazed, could be the link that provides access to thousands of hectares of backcountry for hunting and tramping. It could be the link that enables an angler to access a fishing spot up or downstream. Economic use of the parts of these areas already containing pastoral components can still be achieved through long term grazing concessions without the need of disposal.

We acknowledge and support other organisations that are concerned about the potential loss of public access through any disposal, including Fish & Game, Federated Mountain Clubs, Permolat and the Game Animal Council, as well as those representing the interests of kayakers and all those who recreate on, beside and beyond rivers using them as access routes.

We recommend that marginal strips are not considered as a replacement for existing access. They do not provide a guarantee of enduring access.

HISTORIC AND OTHER RESERVES THAT MAY BE VESTED IN A THIRD PARTY

Under section 18(1) of the Reserves Act 1977, reserves classified as Historic Reserves are for:

“protecting and preserving in perpetuity such places, objects, and natural features, and such things thereon or therein contained as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational, and other special interest.

An objective of management of Historic Reserves at section (18(2) (b) is that:

“the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on the administering body by sections 58 and 58A, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and general well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it”.

The Act indicates that historic reserves shall be administered and maintained to protect structures, objects, sites and features.

Recommendations to classify vast areas of stewardship land as Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve appear out of step with the intention of the Reserves Act. Our concern relates to the request to vest, and the opportunity for vesting, of these areas under section 26 of the Reserves Act. Section 58, relating to powers in respect of historic reserves, states that the administering body may charge fees for admission to the whole or any part of the reserve and the use of amenities and facilities within the reserve and may grant exclusive leases. We acknowledge that deciding to vest a reserve would be subject to public consultation. However, as the stated intention is to seek vesting and the potential for restrictions on public access, it is important to note our concerns.

Within the proposed Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve, there are sites and ara tawhito (old trails) of great significance to Ngāi Tahu and they must be acknowledged. These trails will often follow passes over the Southern Alps and offer high recreational values and opportunities, as do the whole of these areas. We suggest that protecting key sites such as pa, midden and nohoanga sites may be appropriate through classification as historic reserves. However, we propose that the majority of such areas, whether small or

large, are classified according to their ecological, landscape and recreation values for the benefit of all New Zealanders.

If such key sites are not already protected as archaeological sites under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, the purpose of which is to promote the identification, protection, preservation, and conservation of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand, we support this occurring without delay.

In addition, District Plans and the new Te Tai o Poutini Plan include schedules to protect “Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori”. These areas can be acknowledged and protected through means other than Historic Reserves.

We note that any Reserve can be vested in management boards and trustees. In addition, access to Local Purpose Reserves may be prohibited, whether vested in a third party or not. An example where that may be entirely appropriate would be a Local Purpose (Rifle Range) Reserve. However, where the purpose of a Local Purpose Reserve is river conservation or any other purpose where safety is not an issue, we wish to ensure that access is not prohibited or restricted.

We particularly want to protect outdoor access where reclassification could lead to vesting in a third party.

We recommend that all public conservation land retains free and enduring public access (other than as necessary for protecting specific historic sites, threatened species, scientific reserves or for safety). There is a risk that public access would be compromised through classification as a Historic Reserve, specifically the proposed Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve which covers over 180,000ha.

VISIBILITY OF PUBLIC ACCESS

We have identified that a large area of land with legal public access is not showing as being available in publicly accessible databases. The block of land is the Waitaiki Historic Reserve, but the same principle could apply to other reserve land vested in a third party that is not a local authority.

The Waitaiki Historic Reserve was vested in Ngai Tahu through their Claims Settlement Act in 1998 and includes the provision in the Act that there shall be, at no charge, non-commercial public access into, over and through the Waitaiki Historic Reserve. This 12,435 hectare reserve does not show in DOC’s public maps, as is the case with all reserves vested in other organisations to manage. It is not clear why it is not included in the public access layer derived from DOC’s spatial data used to present Herenga ā Nuku’s public access maps.

We are concerned that, through the reclassification project, large areas of land that may become reserve land and later become vested in third parties may be removed first from DOC maps, and potentially from public access mapping layers, making them invisible to the public. There are much larger areas being proposed as historic reserve adjoining the Waitaiki Historic Reserve. As stewardship land, these currently show on maps as areas the public can access. If these are reclassified as reserves and then vested in a third party in the future, they will be removed from DOC's maps and potentially not show on public access maps. They would thus risk becoming invisible to the public, even if access is provided for.

We recommend that any stewardship land proposed for reclassification as reserve is reclassified subject to all existing public access to the land being provided for and shown on DOC maps and on public access data provided by DOC. We recommend that any future vesting of land that is currently stewardship land and reclassified as reserve land be subject to all current free and enduring public access rights being retained as a condition of the vesting. We recommend that any future vesting be subject to the condition that the land is shown as accessible on public mapping systems.

We recommend very careful consideration of any recommendation where the public access values we have identified below (Part 2) have not been included in analysis by the department or the panels or have been given a lower priority than New Zealanders expect through the recommended reclassification.

NATIONAL PARKS

Biodiversity and landscape values on the West Coast are among the highest in the country. Increased protection as National Parks is no doubt important for stewardship areas adjacent or close to existing National Parks where values are similar, within the Te Wāhipounamu – South West New Zealand World Heritage Area for example.

However, we note that this has the potential to limit existing activities such as hunting, horse riding, mountain biking, and aircraft activities (hunter/tramper drop-offs) that can be managed under a lesser classification but are generally not allowed or are restricted under National Park legislation and National Park Management Plans. This could impact wider outdoor access that has taken place on the land for many years.

Where National Park classification is being considered through recommendations and submissions, we ask that consideration be given to the recreational activities already occurring so that they can continue, if deemed appropriate. Reclassification as scenic reserve may be more relevant initially, allowing time for National Park Management Plans to be reviewed to include appropriate existing activities. Reclassification as National Park could take place once the Management Plan has been reviewed.

We recommend that existing recreational access must be considered in relation to all reclassification. A phased approach to reclassification as National Parks may be appropriate.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Management of wildlife is of course supported by the Commission, but we have concerns about enduring public access if the proposal were to use section 23B Conservation Act 1987 to achieve management and protection of wildlife. Section 23B provides that for wildlife management areas:

- (1) Every wildlife management area shall be so managed—
 - (a) that its wildlife and wildlife habitat values (including the capacity for the movement of wildlife, genetic material of indigenous plants, and genetic material of wildlife) are protected; and
 - (b) that its indigenous natural resources and its historic resources are protected.

In addition, Section 18 (5) Conservation Act provides:

Every area held under this Act for 1 or more of the purposes described in subsection (1) shall be managed in a manner consistent with the purpose or purposes concerned.

Locations proposed for reclassification as Wildlife Management Areas along rivers, estuaries and the coast are also identified as having existing recreational uses for whitebaiting, fishing, walking and general recreation, including with vehicles. Often wildlife protection and public access are not compatible. Section 23B and section 18(5) state wildlife management areas 'shall be' (not 'may' be) managed to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat as the main priority. Public access to these areas will be at risk where existing public access is not compatible with wildlife values.

Land can be acquired and held for general conservation purposes under section 7 of the Conservation Act 1987. Section 7 means the land is managed for all conservation purposes appropriate to the land, including recreational enjoyment by the public. The land only needs additional protection under one of the categories in section 18 if that additional protection needs to be the primary management focus of the land.

We recommend that existing recreational access must be considered in relation to all reclassifications. Consideration should be given to whether section 23B of the Conservation Act will adequately provide enduring access.

Concluding remarks

We note that significant areas of stewardship land at the southern end of the region have been excluded from this reclassification process without explanation, including the Arawhata Conservation Area and the two southern river valleys of the Okuru and Waiatoto Rivers. Such areas are of great interest and value to trampers and hunters for access to these pristine areas, part of Te Wāhipounamu - South West New Zealand World Heritage Area.

In conclusion, we note that public access appears to have been forgotten or not adequately prioritised during the review of stewardship land on the West Coast. The risk to access through the disposal of current or former riverbeds cannot be overstated. We believe that any small value that may be gained through the disposal will be gained through an expensive process, where costs will outweigh benefits, and where public access, whether to a small creek or a vast backcountry area, could be lost forever.

Rivers on the West Coast, where rainfall is very high and often intense, are mobile. They often jump to a new active bed in times of flood events. To constrain these braided rivers by disposing of an area that is currently grazed is to take a short-term view only. The river processes must be considered carefully, and it will then become clear that access could be lost through disposal, whether at the time of disposal or in the future as rivers move and rock protection creates losses downstream.

Disposal of areas within, adjacent to or close to rivers risks losing public access. The Commission strongly recommends against any consideration of disposal of such areas.

The Commission invites the Minister, the Department and the panels to understand and avoid any risk of loss of public access by consulting and collaborating with the Commission, the government's expert on public access.

We recommend that free and enduring public access must be a priority in any reclassification and subsequent processes.

PART 2

Concerns and comments relating to specific recommendation reports

Extracts from the 'Table of Proposed Recommendations for the West Coast' follow the headings below. We provide the extract followed by our position and comments.

Assessment Area	Protected Area Name	NaPALIS id	National Panel Recommendation	Mana Whenua Recommendation
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KARAMEA PLACE

KAR_04	Conservation Area - Ōpārara Riverbed (Pasture)	2807685	Disposal	Disposal
KAR_04	Conservation Area - Ōpārara	2807686	Disposal	Disposal

KAR_04: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves across the riverbed/flood plain. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose Reserve for River Conservation or River Access.

KAR_06	Conservation Area - Kongahu (Pasture)	2807694	Wildlife Management Area	Disposal
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KAR_06: Support reclassification as Wildlife Management Area.

We note that Section 23B Conservation Act is worded solely to manage the land for wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Recreational access is not included in management under section 23B:

23B Wildlife management areas

(1) Every wildlife management area shall be so managed—

- (a) that its wildlife and wildlife habitat values (including the capacity for the movement of wildlife, genetic material of indigenous plants, and genetic material of wildlife) are protected; and
- (b) that its indigenous natural resources and its historic resources are protected.

Should there be any doubt that classification as a Wildlife Management Area would prevent access, we recommend reclassification under section 7 Conservation Act so that the land will be held for conservation purposes, allowing for the management and protection of all conservation values including important recreational access and use, ecological and cultural values.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed or coastal area that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river mouth moves or coastal area erodes. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

KAR_07	Conservation Area - Karamea Riverbed	2807692	Wildlife Management Area	Stewardship
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KAR_07: Support reclassification as Wildlife Management Area.

We note that Section 23B Conservation Act is worded solely to manage the land for wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Should there be any doubt that classification as a Wildlife Management Area would prevent access, we recommend reclassification under section 7 Conservation Act so that the land will be held for conservation purposes, allowing for the management and protection of all conservation values including important recreational access and use, ecological and cultural values.

KAR_08	Conservation Area - Market Cross	2807693	Disposal	Disposal
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KAR_08: Oppose any disposal of former riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves across the riverbed/flood plain. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

KAR_10	Conservation Area - Kelly Creek (Remaining)	2807709	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
KAR_10	Conservation Area - Kelly Creek (Pasture)	2807709	National Park (Kahurangi)	Disposal

KAR_10: Support recommendation to be reclassified as National Park.

Oppose disposal of pastoral components that could have a public access value here. Public access may not be obvious but may be useful now or in the future along and to forest.

KAR_13	Conservation Area - Jordan Creek (Pasture)	2807713	National Park (Kahurangi)	Disposal
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KAR_13: Support recommendation of this active riverbed area to be reclassified as National Park as for previous areas.

Oppose any disposal of riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves across the riverbed/flood plain. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

KAR_14	Conservation Area - Kongahu Swamp Road	2807724	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
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KAR_16	Conservation Area - Scobie Clearing	2807711	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
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KAR_17	Conservation Area - Little Wanganui River (South)	2807723	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
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KAR_19	Conservation Area - Lyell Range - Radiant Range (North)	2807731	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
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KAR_19	Conservation Area - Blue Duck Creek	2807732	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
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KAR_19	Conservation Area - Tidal Creek	2807736	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
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KAR_14, 16, 17 and 19: Support recommendation to be reclassified as National Park as largely bordered by Kahurangi National Park and within DOC recreational hunting area. River access supports access up the valley including via Wangapeka Track (KAR_17).

KAR_18	Conservation Area - Little Wanganui River	2807733	Local Purpose (Te Namu Ngāi Tahu) Reserve	Local Purpose (Te Namu Ngāi Tahu) Reserve
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KAR_18 Neutral. Free and enduring public access must be secured.

KAWATIRI PLACE

KAW_01	Conservation Area - Mokihinui - Ward Street	2807746	Disposal	Disposal
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KAW_01: Although disposal is the main recommendation, the National Panel notes that the foreshore and coastal dune sections are of value and should be retained as a local purpose (esplanade) reserve. We oppose any disposal of coastal area that provides or

protects actual or potential public access. Disposal puts public access at risk. See introductory comments. Reclassification of coastal areas as local purpose reserves for the purpose of providing access to the sea and to protect the coastal environment is appropriate for the coastal areas, allowing a buffer for imminent erosion. When costs to investigate, survey and create new parcels are considered, the costs may outweigh any small benefit and it may be simpler to reclassify the two parcels including foreshore and dunes as local purpose reserve as described.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve.

KAW_02	Conservation Area - Burkes Creek	2807751	Stewardship	Stewardship
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KAW_02: Public access to the Mōkihinui River is valued here and any reclassification must ensure that public access is available between the road and the river across this parcel.

KAW_05	Conservation Area - Seddonville Tramline	2807750	Disposal	Neutral
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KAW_05: Oppose disposal. Cleared access along historic tramline routes provides practical access to the conservation area beyond (recommended for reclassification as Ecological Area, where enduring public access is assumed) for the Seddonville community and potentially for visitors, potentially with new access to Chasm Stream, and must be retained to provide enduring access.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose Reserve for Recreation Access.

KAW_08	Conservation Area - Stockton	2807744	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Stewardship
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KAW_08: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as a minimum level of protection. Potential exists here for loop track reconnecting Ngakawau with Charming Creek Walkway.

KAW_08	Conservation Area - Millerton	2807745	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Stewardship
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KAW_08	Conservation Area - Stockton	2807781	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Disposal
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KAW_08: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as a minimum level of protection. There is interest by members of the Millerton and Granity community in existing and new tracks in this area and securing access over the plateau as the mining operation is wound up.

Oppose disposal.

KAW_09	Conservation Area - Millerton Township	2807757	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Disposal
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KAW_09: Support reclassification as Conservation Park. Includes access to mining heritage and Millerton Bath House Track.

Oppose disposal.

KAW_10	Conservation Area - Waimangaroa - Granity	2807805	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Stewardship
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KAW_10: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as a minimum. Includes Britannia Track and access to mining heritage.

KAW_11	Conservation Area - Plover Stream	2807807	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Stewardship
KAW_11	Conservation Area - Isolated Hill	2807860	Conservation Park (Waimangaroa)	Stewardship

KAW_11: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as a minimum. Includes areas with significant interest in public access to the north and east, to the Ngakawau Ecological Area, a premier protected natural area, over existing and potential tracks or without tracks to a vast area of outstanding landscape values including plateaux, basins, incised creeks and peaks.

KAW_14	Conservation Area - Waimangaroa River Mouth (Pasture)	2808242	Wildlife Management Area	Disposal
KAW_14	Conservation Area - Waimangaroa River Mouth (Foreshore)	2808242	Wildlife Management Area	Neutral

KAW_14: Support reclassification as Wildlife Management Area.

We note that Section 23B Conservation Act is worded solely to manage the land for wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Should there be any doubt that classification as a Wildlife Management Area would prevent access, we recommend reclassification under section 7 Conservation Act so that the land will be held for conservation purposes, allowing for the management and protection of all conservation values including important recreational access and use, ecological and cultural values.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed or coastal area that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river mouth moves or coastal area erodes. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

KAW_17	Conservation Area - Mount Rochfort	2808235	Conservation Park (Whareatea)	Stewardship
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KAW_17: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as a minimum. Includes Myra's Track, Coalbrookdale Walk and outstanding landscape values.

KAW_19	Conservation Area - Lyell Range - Radiant Range (South)	2807731	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship
KAW_19	Conservation Area - Newton River	2807808	National Park (Kahurangi)	Stewardship

KAW_19: Support reclassification as National Park. Includes Old Ghost Road and outstanding landscapes plus threatened birdlife highly valued by trampers and mountain bikers using this trail.

KAW_20	Conservation Area - New Creek Island (Riverbed)	2807809	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
KAW_20	Conservation Area - New Creek Island (Pasture)	2807809	Disposal	Disposal

KAW_20: Support and recommend reclassification of the whole parcel as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve. This will protect public access to and along the river.

Oppose any disposal of riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves across the riverbed/flood plain. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

KAW_23	Conservation Area - Utopia Road (Estuary)	2808246	Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve	Neutral	Utopia Road, Orowaiti River Mouth, Buller River Mouth - Technical Report (PDF, 1.08MB)
KAW_23	Conservation Area - Utopia Road (Pasture)	2808246	Disposal	Disposal	Utopia Road, Orowaiti River Mouth, Buller River Mouth - Technical Report (PDF, 1.08MB)
KAW_23	Conservation Area - Orowaiti River Mouth (Pasture)	2808248	Recreation Reserve	Disposal	Utopia Road, Orowaiti River Mouth, Buller River Mouth - Technical Report (PDF, 1.08MB)
KAW_23	Conservation Area - Orowaiti River Mouth (Foreshore)	2808248	Recreation Reserve	Neutral	Utopia Road, Orowaiti River Mouth, Buller River Mouth - Technical Report (PDF, 1.08MB)
KAW_23	Conservation Area - Buller River Mouth	2808250	Recreation Reserve	Neutral	Utopia Road, Orowaiti River Mouth, Buller River Mouth - Technical Report (PDF, 1.08MB)

KAW_23: Support reclassification of Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve and Recreation Reserve.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed or coastal area that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river mouth moves or coastal area erodes. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of NaPALIS 2808246 as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve or Recreation Reserve to protect public access.

KAW_26	Conservation Area - Ballarat (Southern Land Unit)	2808247	Conservation Park (Whareatea)	Stewardship
KAW_26	Conservation Area - Ballarat (Central & Northern Land Units)	2808247	Conservation Park (Whareatea)	Neutral

KAW_26: Support reclassification as Conservation Park. National Panel notes walking tracks here, “popular with the local community due to its proximity to Westport.”

KAW_35	Conservation Area - Rahui - Beach Road	2808270	Wildlife Management Area	Neutral
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Rahui - Beach Road	2808271	Wildlife Management Area	Neutral
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Little Tōtara River - Water Race	2808273	Disposal	Disposal
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Rahui - Beach Road	2808277	Wildlife Management Area	Neutral
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Little Tōtara River - Water Race	2808278	Disposal	Disposal
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Rahui	2808279	Wildlife Management Area	Neutral
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Little Tōtara River - Water Race	2808280	Disposal	Disposal
KAW_35	Conservation Area - Little Beach	2808284	Scenic Reserve (a)	Neutral

KAW_35: Support reclassification as Wildlife Management Area.

We note that Section 23B Conservation Act is worded solely to manage the land for wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Should there be any doubt that classification as a Wildlife Management Area would prevent access, we recommend reclassification under section 7 Conservation Act so that the land will be held for conservation purposes, allowing for the management and protection of all conservation values including important recreational access and use, ecological and cultural values.

Support reclassification of Little beach as Scenic Reserve, protecting beach access.

With regard to NaPALIS 2808279, we note and support the interest of the Charleston-Westport Coastal Trail Trust and the Conservation Values Report, which refers to the

mining history here. The Trust is developing the Kawatiri Coastal Trail, part of which will be built adjacent to this parcel. They note that: "This is the best remaining site to preserve a key area where Shetlanders gold mining community lived from 1870 to about 1910." They will install heritage interpretation panels along the trail including here telling the Shetlanders' story.

Neutral on disposal of water races as they have no connecting value for public access.

KAW_37	Conservation Area - Charleston Cemetery Road	2808287	Scenic Reserve (a)	Disposal
KAW_37	Conservation Area - Charleston - Cemetery Road	2808297	Scenic Reserve (a)	Disposal

KAW_37: Support reclassification as Scenic Reserve, protecting public access.

Oppose disposal.

KAW_39	Conservation Area - Inangahua Junction - Buller River	2807818	Disposal	Disposal
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KAW_39: Oppose disposal. Public access has clearly not been considered at this site and the presence of legal road parcels adjoining this parcel has been missed.

Provides connection between sections of legal road ensuring public access to and along the Buller River. May not be needed at present but must avoid breaking up public access connectivity. Crown owned land has been sold off in the past without consideration of connectivity for future access needs and opportunities and we need to ensure such errors or oversights are not repeated.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (Road) Reserve.

KAW_42	Conservation Area - Granity Creek	2807758	Scenic Reserve (a)	Disposal
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KAW_42: Support reclassification as Scenic Reserve, which provides for recreational use of the area. Areas are adjacent to Ngakawau Scenic Reserve as well as land owned by the Northern Buller Museum Granity Charitable Trust. Although they have no plans for this specific area at present, they are actively opening up the area for walks to discover the mining heritage and landscape that is the backdrop to and history of their community.

Oppose disposal.

KAW_43	Conservation Area - Buller River Estuary	2808255	Disposal	Disposal
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KAW_43: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed or coastal area that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river mouth moves or coastal area

erodes. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

This area is valued for recreation. We recommend that the area be reclassified as Local Purpose Reserve for the purpose of River Control, Esplanade or Recreation Access, or other suitable classification that ensures access around the area is retained through any erosion.

We note that the adjacent area also managed by DOC and largely used for grazing is a Government Purpose Quarantine Reserve. Consideration should be given to ensure all land here is being managed for its appropriate purpose and public access ensured

PAPAROA PLACE

PAP_04	Conservation Area - Nile River (Pasture)	2808291	Disposal	Disposal
PAP_04	Conservation Area - Nile River (Riverbed)	2808291	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral

PAP_04: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of the whole as Local Purpose Reserve for River Conservation, River Access or Recreation Access.

PAP_11	Conservation Area - Punakaiki - Coast Road (North)	2806888	Local Purpose (Punangairi Ngāi Tahu) Reserve	Local Purpose (Punangairi Ngāi Tahu) Reserve
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PAP_11: Neutral. Ensure free and enduring public access remains.

PAP_12	Conservation Area - Punakaiki River (River Mouth)	2806889	Local Purpose (Punangairi Awa Ngāi Tahu) Reserve	Local Purpose (Punangairi Awa Ngāi Tahu) Reserve
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PAP_12: Neutral. Ensure free and enduring public access remains.

PAP_13	Conservation Area - Punakaiki River	2806890	Local Purpose (Punangairi Nohoanga Ngāi Tahu) Reserve	Local Purpose (Punangairi Nohoanga Ngāi Tahu) Reserve
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PAP_13: Neutral. Ensure free and enduring public access remains.

INANGAHUA PLACE

INA_05	Conservation Area - Inangahua Junction	2807819	Disposal	Disposal
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INA_05: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

INA_10	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Pasture)	2807840	Disposal	Disposal
INA_10	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Riverbed)	2807840	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral

INA_10: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

INA_12	Conservation Area - Inangahua River	2807885	Disposal	Disposal
INA_12	Conservation Area - Inangahua River	2807886	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral

INA_12: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve for whole area.

INA_19	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Riverbed)	2807898	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
INA_19	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Pasture)	2807898	Disposal	Disposal

INA_19: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest in the area. National Panel notes "The area may assist river protection management."

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve for the whole area.

INA_21	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Riverbed)	2807900	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
INA_21	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Pasture)	2807900	Disposal	Disposal

INA_21: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest in the area.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve for the whole area.

INA_28	Conservation Area - Caribu Creek	2806818	Disposal	Disposal
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INA_28: Oppose any disposal where public access is or could be of value. Gravel road noted.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (Recreation Access) Reserve as it provides a link in public access to the Victoria Forest Park, which surrounds this area. We note that s23 Reserves Act requires the purpose to be specified in any classification of a local purpose reserve and 'road' is not an appropriate classification category.

INA_32	Conservation Area - Little Grey River (Riverbed)	2806819	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
INA_32	Conservation Area - Little Grey River (Pasture)	2806819	Disposal	Disposal

INA_32: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest in the area.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

INA_33	Conservation Area - Blacks Point - Trennery Street	2807908	Disposal	Disposal
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INA_33: Oppose. Another situation where public access has been overlooked. This parcel provides alternative access for the Murray Creek Track, both ends of the loop walk. Note current access not managed by DOC. (Crown Land (under action) – LINZ.)

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (Recreation Access) reserve.

INA_34	Conservation Area - Crushington / Blacks Point	2807905	Disposal	Disposal
INA_34	Conservation Area - Crushington	2807906	Disposal	Disposal

INA_34: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest in the area.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

Inangahua	INA_50	Conservation Area - Maruia River (Riverbed)	2807882	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
Inangahua	INA_50	Conservation Area - Maruia River (Pasture)	2807882	Disposal	Disposal

INA_50: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Seek reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve for all areas in NaPALIS area 2807882 except for parcel title 467404.

Evidence shows that Section 11 DP 14054 was previously road and likely to have been retained in Crown ownership to provide access to the Maruia River here, when the formed road was diverted north. The conservation values report notes recreational access to the river here is not easy due to freehold land surrounding it.

Recommend reclassification of this parcel as Local Purpose (River Access) Reserve.

INA_53	Conservation Area - Maruia River (Riverbed)	2807487	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
INA_53	Conservation Area - Maruia River (Pasture)	2807487	Disposal	Disposal
INA_53	Conservation Area - Maruia River (Riverbed)	2807884	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
INA_53	Conservation Area - Maruia River (Pasture)	2807884	Disposal	Disposal

INA_53: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAWHERA PLACE

MAW_07	Conservation Area - Orwell Creek	2806798	Disposal	Disposal
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MAW_07: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note adjacent marginal strip here is fixed.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAW_15	Conservation Area - Haupiri River (Riverbed)	2806540	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_15	Conservation Area - Haupiri River (Pasture)	2806540	Disposal	Disposal
MAW_15	Conservation Area - Haupiri	2807516	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_15	Conservation Area - Haupiri River	2807519	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral

MAW_15: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Note angler interest in the area.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui (Riverbed)	2806796	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui (Pasture)	2806796	Disposal	Disposal
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui	2806797	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui Riverbed (Riverbed)	2806839	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui Riverbed (Pasture)	2806839	Disposal	Disposal
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui Riverbed	2806841	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui Riverbed (Riverbed)	2806842	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_25	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui Riverbed (Pasture)	2806842	Disposal	Disposal

MAW_25: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAW_28	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui	2806810	Disposal	Disposal
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MAW_28: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. Note angler access here. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose Reserve for River Access.

MAW_28	Conservation Area - Grey River/Māwheranui	2809054	Kaiata Historic Reserve	Kaiata Historic Reserve
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MAW_28: Neutral. Essential to provide for free and enduring public access. Note angler access here.

MAW_31	Conservation Area - Nelson Creek Riverbed (Riverbed)	2806802	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Stewardship
MAW_31	Conservation Area - Nelson Creek Riverbed (Pasture)	2806802	Disposal	Disposal
MAW_31	Conservation Area - Nelson Creek (Riverbed)	2806804	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Stewardship
MAW_31	Conservation Area - Nelson Creek (Pasture)	2806804	Disposal	Disposal

MAW_31: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAW_33	Conservation Area - Kangaroo Creek (Pasture)	2806805	Conservation Park (Māwhera)	Disposal
MAW_33	Conservation Area - Kangaroo Creek (Forested Area)	2806805	Conservation Park (Māwhera)	Neutral

MAW_33: Support reclassification as Conservation Park of the whole area as this will continue to provide public access.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Seek reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAW_33	Conservation Area - Blackwater Creek - Souters Creek	2806985	Stewardship	Stewardship
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MAW_33: Neutral. Ensure free and enduring public access is remained

MAW_43	Conservation Area - Fireball Creek	2806207	Conservation Park (Taramakau)	Conservation Park (Taramakau)
MAW_43	Conservation Area - Cockeye Creek - Cockabulla Creek	2806989	Stewardship	Stewardship

MAW_43: Support reclassification as Conservation Park, protecting riparian access (2806207).

Neutral: Ensure free and enduring public access remains including riparian and hunting access (2806989).

MAW_50	Conservation Area - Crooked River (Riverbed)	2806544	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_50	Conservation Area - Crooked River (Pasture)	2806544	Disposal	Disposal
MAW_50	Conservation Area - Crooked River (Riverbed)	2806548	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_50	Conservation Area - Crooked River (Pasture)	2806548	Disposal	Disposal
MAW_50	Conservation Area - Crooked River (Riverbed)	2806549	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
MAW_50	Conservation Area - Crooked River (Pasture)	2806549	Disposal	Disposal

MAW_50: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. Note many angler access points and interest across this section of the Crooked River. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

MAW_53	Conservation Area - Hōhonu Forest	2806524	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve
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MAW_53: Neutral. The CMS management planning report notes the “opportunities for self-reliant recreation on nature’s terms” here. Reclassification must ensure that free and enduring access is provided for those seeking such opportunities for recreation and hunting.

MAW_59	Conservation Area - Nelson Creek	2806988	Local Purpose (Road) Reserve	Stewardship
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MAW_59: Support reclassification as Local Purpose Reserve though with Recreation Access as its purpose. We note that s23 Reserves Act requires the purpose to be specified in any classification of a local purpose reserve and ‘road’ is not an appropriate classification category.

HOKITIKA PLACE

HOK_01	Conservation Area - Taramakau Riverbed	2809263	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve
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HOK_01	Conservation Area - Kumara - Wardens Road	2809268	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve
HOK_03	Conservation Area - Taramakau River / Ōtira River	2806316	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve

HOK_01 and 03: Riverbed areas. Neutral. Note that these areas have primary values for recreational use and access while clearly being of high significance to mana whenua. Free, enduring public access must be retained.

Reclassification as Conservation Park is an alternative that may be appropriate to acknowledge the intrinsic values initially sought and now treasured by mana whenua. The same values are and now sought and valued by residents and visitors.

HOK_45	Conservation Area - Mikonui River Mouth (Pasture)	2805509	Wildlife Management Area	Disposal
HOK_45	Conservation Area - Mikonui River Mouth (Foreshore)	2805509	Wildlife Management Area	Wildlife Management Area
HOK_45	Conservation Area - Waitaha (Pasture)	2805514	Wildlife Management Area	Disposal
HOK_45	Conservation Area - Waitaha (Foreshore)	2805514	Wildlife Management Area	Wildlife Management Area

HOK_45: Support reclassification as Wildlife Management Area.

We note that Section 23B Conservation Act is worded solely to manage the land for wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Should there be any doubt that classification as a Wildlife Management Area would prevent access, we recommend reclassification under section 7 Conservation Act so that the land will be held for conservation purposes, allowing for the management and protection of all conservation values including important recreational access and use, ecological and cultural values.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed, estuary, lagoon or other coastal area that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river or river mouth moves or coastal area erodes. Disposal puts public access at risk. Access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

We note that the adjacent landowner at the northern end and holder of a grazing concession provides access to the beach across the freehold land. There may be an opportunity for some land exchange that protects natural values and provides for public access.

HOK_49	Conservation Area - Little Waitaha River	2805518	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Neutral
HOK_49	Conservation Area - Little Waitaha River (Pasture)	2805635	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Disposal
HOK_49	Conservation Area - Little Waitaha River (Riverbed)	2805635	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Neutral

HOK_49: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as this will continue to provide public access.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

HOK_50	Conservation Area - Waitaha Riverbed (Pasture)	2805634	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Disposal
HOK_50	Conservation Area - Waitaha Riverbed (Riverbed)	2805634	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Neutral
HOK_50	Conservation Area - Waitaha Riverbed (Pasture)	2805643	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Disposal
HOK_50	Conservation Area - Waitaha Riverbed (Riverbed)	2805643	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Neutral

HOK_50: Support reclassification as Conservation Park as this will continue to provide public access. Note angler access and interest in the Waitaha River. Also note riparian access providing crucial backcountry access is often dependent upon the ever-changing position of the active riverbed.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

TE WAHI POUNAMU PLACE

TWP_13	Conservation Area - Poerua Riverbed	2805649	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_13	Conservation Area - Ferguson Creek (Pasture)	2805655	Disposal	Disposal
TWP_13	Conservation Area - Ferguson Creek (Riverbed)	2805655	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_13	Conservation Area - Dry Creek	2805656	Conservation Park (Pouerua)	Neutral

TWP_13: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of Napalis ID 2805649 and 2805655 as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve and of 2805656 as Conservation Park.

TWP_16	Conservation Area - Waitangitāhuna River (Riverbed)	2805257	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_16	Conservation Area - Waitangitāhuna River (Pasture)	2805257	Disposal	Disposal

TWP_16: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. The Commission has previously received public access enquiry about angler access here.

Recommend reclassification of whole parcel as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

TWP_18	Conservation Area - Whataroa River (Riverbed)	2805645	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_18	Conservation Area - Whataroa River (Pasture)	2805645	Disposal	Disposal

TWP_18: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of whole parcel as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

TWP_19	Conservation Area - McCulloughs Creek	2809671	Disposal	Neutral
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TWP_19: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Public access has been overlooked and classification of adjoining land missed.

These two parcels are the links to provide continuous riparian access connecting sections of marginal strip. Looking at parcel boundaries, these tiny parcels would once have been part of a road at the crossing of McCullough's Creek. The unused road parcels have been disposed of (the state highway bridge is some 70m upstream) but these two parcels have clearly been retained, probably at the time of wider Crown land disposal when marginal strips were created, to provide enduring riparian access along McCullough's Creek and to the Whataroa River. Farm tracks provide ease of access.

Recommend reclassification as Local Purpose (River or Recreation Access) Reserve.

TWP_22	Conservation Area - Waitangitāhuna River (Riverbed)	2809663	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_22	Conservation Area - Waitangitāhuna River (Pasture)	2809663	Disposal	Disposal

TWP_22: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments. Enquiries received for river access here.

Recommend reclassification of whole parcel as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

TWP_24	Conservation Area - Ōkārito	2805258	Kōhuamaru Historic Reserve	Kōhuamaru Historic Reserve
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TWP_24: Neutral. Primary values include recreation with Okarito Walking Track/Three Mile Pack Track, as well as natural, historical and cultural values. Ensure free and enduring public access is retained.

TWP_30	Conservation Area - Ōmoeroa River	2805309	Disposal	Disposal
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TWP_30: SH6 road corridor including bridge over Omoeroa River. This appears to be partway through a road taking process under the Public Works Act which would have involved removing the National Park status through a ROLD Act prior to its designation as State Highway. A disposal is not the correct process for completing this action.

Recommend continuing with this existing statutory process, which is likely to be being progressed by an external agency on behalf of Waka Kotahi, as this will provide the appropriate access.

TWP_31	Conservation Area - Gillespies Beach	2805316	Local Purpose (Waikōhai Ngāi Tahu) Reserve	Local Purpose (Waikōhai Ngāi Tahu) Reserve
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TWP_31: Neutral. Ensure free and enduring public access remains for walking, camping and other recreational activities.

TWP_34	Conservation Area - Cook River/Weheka (Riverbed)	2805318	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_34	Conservation Area - Cook River/Weheka (Pasture)	2805318	Disposal	Disposal
TWP_34	Conservation Area - Cook River/Weheka Flat (Riverbed)	2805319	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_34	Conservation Area - Cook River/Weheka Flat (Pasture)	2805319	Disposal	Disposal

TWP_34: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of whole area as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

TWP_36	Conservation Area - Mahitahi Riverbed (Riverbed)	2804993	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_36	Conservation Area - Mahitahi Riverbed (Pasture)	2804993	Disposal	Disposal
TWP_36	Conservation Area - Paringa Bridge (Riverbed)	2804994	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_36	Conservation Area - Paringa Bridge (Pasture)	2804994	Disposal	Disposal

TWP_36: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of whole area as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

TWP_44	Conservation Area - Okuru - Turnbull River	2800939	Disposal	Disposal
TWP_44	Conservation Area - Okuru - Turnbull River	2800940	Recreation Reserve	Disposal

TWP_44: Support reclassification of NaPALIS ID 2800940 as Recreation Reserve as this provides for existing recreational activities that happen here and for the continuation of public access along the river.

Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of NaPALIS ID 2800939 as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.

TWP_45	Conservation Area - Turnbull River (Riverbed)	2800936	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_45	Conservation Area - Turnbull River (Pasture)	2800936	Disposal	Disposal
TWP_45	Conservation Area - Turnbull River (Riverbed)	2800937	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_45	Conservation Area - Turnbull River (Pasture)	2800937	Disposal	Disposal
TWP_45	Conservation Area - Turnbull River (Riverbed)	2800938	Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve	Neutral
TWP_45	Conservation Area - Turnbull River (Pasture)	2800938	Disposal	Disposal

TWP_45: Oppose any disposal of former or current riverbed that provides or protects actual or potential public access as the river moves. Disposal puts public access at risk. Riparian access via new Marginal Strips is not guaranteed. See introductory comments.

Recommend reclassification of whole areas as Local Purpose (River Conservation) Reserve.



Ric Cullinane

Te Tumuaki – Chief Executive

Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa Outdoor Access Commission