Herea te whenua ki te tangata, tangata ki te whenua

Bind the people to the land and the land to the people



Outdoor Access Commission Actearoa journey map



Connecting people Connecting places







Ā mātou pae tukutuku | Visit our website herengaānuku.govt.nz

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Our story

Herenga is an obligation, bond or tie. Nuku refers to Papatūānuku, the earth mother. She is the land in all of her beauty, power, strength and inspiration. She is the mother who sustains us. Papatūānuku is the reason we tramp, bike or horse ride across the land.

Herenga ā Nuku the Outdoor Access Commission is the government agency protecting and enhancing public access to the outdoors for everyone in New Zealand — walkers, mountain bikers, anglers, horse riders, landholders, trail runners and more.

We work with communities to create new connections to and across the land, resolve disputes and care for the land and the people who live, work and play on it.

Questions we can help answer

- Where can I go fishing?
- Am I allowed to access that land, beach or river, and if so, how?
- Can I create a walking track on my land?
- How do I set up a new group to build a walking and biking track in my community?





How we connect people and places

Herenga ā Nuku, the Outdoor Access Commission Aotearoa, supports people, organisations, and communities in creating and caring for access to the outdoors. Here are stories of some of the many groups we work with.

Te Araroa

Te Araroa is NZ's walk of a lifetime. You can take months to walk the whole thing or a few hours or days to walk a local section. Over time, everyone can walk the length of New Zealand.

Te Araroa is a different kind of trail to traditional back-country tramping tracks. It connects people, towns and cities. Herenga ā Nuku partners with Te Araroa Trust, helping it with logistics and management so it can get on with the task of creating life-changing experiences for walkers.

Kawatiri Coastal Trail

When finished, the Kawatiri Coastal Trail will be a family-friendly cycle trail stretching along the West Coast from Westport to Charleston. It follows the footsteps of the ancient Māori explorers and the 1860s gold miners and features accommodation, restaurants and cafes along the way.

Within 10 years, 16,000 people will be using the trail each year. It is expected to bring \$18.2 million to the Buller region over the first 12 years. The local trust developing the trail is creating sustainable jobs for local people who provide beds, food and support for the bikers and walkers.









Pūhoi to Mangawhai

Our Pūhoi to Mangawhai project is a massive network of cycling and walking trails linking Auckland and Northland.

Local people in the Matakana Coast Trail Trust coordinate and lead the project, working collaboratively with Herenga ā Nuku and community organisations, local landowners, businesses and strategic partners such as Ngāti Manuhiri, Auckland Transport, and Auckland Council. The trail makes biking a realistic option in a highly car-dependent area. After it is completed, it will create 257 jobs and an extra \$96 million of tourist spending per year in Auckland and Northland. It will be a free asset that nearly 700,000 people will use each year.

Te Ahu Pataki – Banks Peninsula

Herenga ā Nuku is helping the Rod Donald Trust, local rūnaka Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke and Orton Bradley Park. Together they are creating Te Ahu Pataki, a 3-day walk from Christchurch to Hilltop, across reserves, unformed legal roads, private land, and land purchased specifically for the walkway. Te Ahu Patiki is a stunning recreational asset for walking, biking and climbing. It is also a highly visible landscape for Cantabrians, with the potential to regenerate native forests.

Maps

Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa has one of the most comprehensive mapping systems in NZ. These free maps allow anyone to view areas with legal public access, tracks, conservation land and property information across New Zealand. Our maps are popular with track and trail building groups, hunters, anglers, trampers and people looking for public access. They can help anyone wanting to explore the outdoors.

We contribute to New Zealand's wellbeing



Access

Regional field advisors help negotiate legal access for a walkway.

Connection to te taiao, our environment

walk on help us respond to climate change by

We value our whenua. Tracks that we can bike and

reducing our transport emissions. Good access to

trappers, tree planters and conservationists to do

the outdoors allows our volunteer sector of pest

their work, reversing the decline in biodiversity.



Building trails

We support a local trailbuilding group that builds a pathway on the legal access.



Caring for

We appoint a council to look after the path.



EnjoymentLocal people and

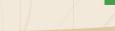
visitors enjoy the path.



Mental and physical wellbeing

The outdoors is where we New Zealanders play. Physical activities such as walking, running, tramping, biking and mountain biking keep us physically and mentally well. All these activities are safer, healthier and easier when people have good access to the outdoors.





Stronger communities

We are making a better, more sustainable investment in all our people if we help them combine their transport, outdoor recreation and happiness in bush-clad, off-road journeys. Good trails connect people to their local communities, nearby schools, amenities and each other.



Economic and regional development

Tracks and trails are important economic resources for our regions. They bring thousands of trampers, mountain bikers and outdoor recreationists into towns that we might otherwise bypass.



Four wellbeings

Good access to the outdoors is vital for our mental and physical health, transport and recreation needs, and connection to te taiao.