



STAFF REPORT

TO: Environment & Planning Committee

FROM: D C Bush-King, Environment & Planning Manager

REFERENCE: E867

SUBJECT: **KAHURANGI NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN - REPORT EP07/08/07 - Report Prepared for 1 August Meeting**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorse the attached submission to the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan: Partial Review.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D C Bush-King'.

D C Bush-King
Environment & Planning Manager

20 July 2007

Writer's Direct Dial: (03) 543 8430
Writer's E-Mail: dennis.bush-king@tdc.govt.nz

Department of Conservation
Attention: Ms Gill Peacey
Private Bag 5
NELSON 7042

Dear Ms Peacey

KAHURANGI NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN: PARTIAL REVIEW

Tasman District Council would like to take the opportunity to support a number of elements of the partial review advised in your letter of 6 July.

The Council has previously supported the possibility of mountain bike access within the Kahurangi National Park. While it would be important to avoid any unreasonable conflicts between walkers and mountain bikers, mountain biking has in the past, and could be in the future, a great way for people to explore parts of the Kahurangi National Park. Providing for such activity on the alignments suggested and the former paper road is a good start.

The prospect of private accommodation under concession within the park is also supported. There are other examples around New Zealand where private lodge development in or adjoining national park has enabled new visitor experiences to be promoted and enjoyed. Allowing people to take advantage of the appealing features of Kahurangi National Park and stay in the area with a choice of accommodation options is to be supported. Council acknowledges that private developments would not be able to claim Crown exemption under the Resource Management Act, and such proposals would be a discretionary activity under the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP). We would be willing to work with the Department to try and streamline project evaluation and consent requirements.

Access provisions for aircraft is of interest to Tasman District Council in that we have a number of weather stations located within the park and the ability to access these by helicopter is important. We have no strong views either way as to whether similar access should be secured for visitors, but clearly it is something that the Department has experience with in relation to the glaciers on the West Coast. Again we note that marked out or constructed landing pads would require a consent under the TRMP if not in accord with the National Park Park Management Plan.

We have no comments to make in relation to the review of current hunting access restrictions or horse riding concessions, except to note that permitting limited hunting does have biodiversity and recreational benefits.

Yours sincerely

Dennis Bush-King
Environment & Planning Manager
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Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



6 July 2007

Tasman District Council
The Chief Executive
Private Bag 4
RICHMOND 7020

Dear Sir/Madam

KAHURANGI NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN - PARTIAL REVIEW

I am writing to advise you that a partial review of the Kahurangi National Park Management Plan (2001), in terms of section 46 (1) & (2) and 47(1) of the National Parks Act 1980 is about to commence. This reflects a number of changes that have occurred since the plan was approved in 2001.

The partial review is limited to:

- Consideration of mountain bike access on the Heaphy, Flora Saddle to Barron Flat (Flora carpark to Upper Takaka Valley), Kill Devil (adjacent to Uruwhenua Road, Upper Takaka) and Lake Sylvester tracks.
- Consideration of private accommodation on the Heaphy Track.
- Access provisions for aircraft.
- Current hunting access restrictions.
- Horse Riding Concessionaire Access - limited to part of the park near Puponga Farm Park.

Written suggestions regarding these issues are invited and must be received by this office no later than 4pm on Monday 6 August 2007. Suggestions should be sent to:

The Management Planner
Department of Conservation
Attention: Ms Gill Peacey
Private Bag 5
NELSON 7010

Or by email to: gpeacey@doc.govt.nz

This request for written suggestions is a preliminary part of the planning process. These suggestions will be taken into consideration in preparing draft amendments to the plan which in due course will be released for public submissions.

Yours sincerely

Jo Gould
Community Relations Manager

Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy
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