

## Tongariro National Park Management Plan Partial Review Submission

### Once you have completed this form

Send by post to: Tongariro NPMP partial review, Department of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton 3240 or email to: [TNPMPpartialreview@doc.govt.nz](mailto:TNPMPpartialreview@doc.govt.nz)

### Submissions must be received no later than 4pm Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Anyone may make a submission, either as an individual or on behalf of an organisation. Please ensure all sections of this form are completed. You may either use this form or prepare your own but if preparing your own please use the same headings as used in this form.

#### Submitter details:

Name of submitter or contact person:	Sam Newton – Advocacy Manager
Organisation name: <i>(if on behalf of an organisation)</i>	New Zealand Recreation Association
Postal address:	PO Box 11132, Manners Street, Wellington 6142
Telephone number: <i>(the best number to contact you on)</i>	027 723 9380
Email:	sam@nzrecreation.org.nz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X I wish to be heard in support of my submission (this means you can speak at a hearing)	
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission <i>(tick one box)</i>	
Signature:	Sam Newton
<i>(we accept a typed signature if no electronic signature)</i>	

Your submission is submitted as part of a public process and once received by the Department it is subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act 1993 and the Official Information Act 1981. The Department may post your submission on its website and also make it available to departmental staff, any consultant used, the relevant Conservation Board and the New Zealand Conservation Authority. Your submission may be made available to any member of the public following a request made under the Official Information Act 1981.

## Submission:<sup>1</sup>

### General Comment

1. The New Zealand Recreation (NZRA) is a registered charity and the organisation responsible for providing leadership, advocacy and professional development opportunities for those involved in the broader recreation sector. Its role is to champion high quality recreation for the benefit of New Zealand.
2. The New Zealand Recreation Association's membership includes recreation policy makers, territorial local authorities, voluntary organisations, regional sports trusts, outdoor recreation businesses, and others involved in the delivery of recreation in New Zealand.
3. Tramping is the 9th most popular form of Active Recreation for New Zealanders, with 9.7% of the population participating in that activity at least once every 12 months. Cycling (which includes both mountain biking and cycling) is the 3rd most popular form, with 24.8% of the population participating. [Sport New Zealand – Active New Zealand Survey 2013/14].
4. NZRA is supportive, in principle, of the establishment and maintenance of walking and cycling tracks by the Department of Conservation. NZRA notes that the Department is responsible for the management of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of New Zealand's Land Mass, that it spends approximately \$150m in the provision of recreation infrastructure per annum and that nearly half of all New Zealanders visit Public Conservation Land for recreation the purpose at least once a year.
5. With regard to the Turoa to Ohakune proposal specifically, NZRA is supportive, but has concerns about the following matters:
  - A) the standard to which the track will be constructed and maintained.
  - B) The extent to which the track could be reasonably shared and enjoyed by walkers and Mountain bikers, concurrently.
  - C) How conflict between user groups would be reported, measured and acted upon.
  - D) How breaches of the mountain biking code of conduct would be investigated and sanctioned.
7. With regard to the Mountain Road through to Horopito proposal, specifically, NZRA is supportive.
8. With regard to the Horopito to National Park (the Missing Link) proposal, specifically, NZRA is supportive and commends both the Ruapehu District Council and the Department on their spirit of mutual cooperation.
9. In general, NZRA encourages the Department to implement data capture systems that clearly differentiate between mountain bikers and trampers, in order to make more informed management decisions in the future.
10. NZRA is supportive of the department's guideline on Electric bikes on public conservation land. NZRA supports and would insist upon the definition of an e-bike as those having less than 300 watts of power and being pedal assisted.

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<sup>1</sup> Further information can be appended to your submission. If you are sending this submission electronically we accept the following formats – Microsoft Word, Text, PDF and JPG. The file must not be more than 9MB.

<b>Section:</b> <i>Identify the section, objective, outcome, policy, milestone, table or map that your submission relates to.</i>	<b>Submission:</b> <i>Explain the nature of your submission stating whether you support or oppose the approach in the Partial Review. Please provide brief reasons.</i>	<b>Decision sought:</b> <i>State clearly the decision sought or changes you would like to see. Please be as precise as possible. For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>if supporting: 'retain Policy X'</i></li> <li>- <i>if opposing: 'delete Policy X'</i></li> <li>- <i>if seeking changes 'reword Policy X to read (give suggested wording)</i></li> </ul>
4.1	Support	NZRA commends the extent to which the Department has been open and accommodating to community-led initiatives. NZRA submits that generally, there is much greater scope for cooperation and mutual benefit between DoC and Local Territorial Authorities to improve the provision of recreational opportunities.
4.4 (Social)	Support with amendment	NZRA submits that there needs to be a greater degree of monitoring, compliance and enforcement with regard to sharing walking track with mountain bikers. More recent research is required. There could be a great deal of unreported conflict. It could be the case that walkers avoid mixed-use tracks at all, thus avoiding conflict.
4.4 (Electric power-assisted cycles (e-bikes))	Support with amendment	NZRA submits that a greater degree of monitoring, research and study needs to be undertaken in this area. Especially with regard to the potential degradation of tracks and conflict between user groups. NZRA supports the departments definition of e-bikes as those having less than 300 watts and being pedal assisted.
4.5	Support	NZRA would remind the department of its legal obligation to foster recreation on Public Conservation Land and that this obligation takes greater precedence than its obligation to allow for tourism.