

REAAA[®]
Driving Progress

ROAD ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION OF ASIA & AUSTRALASIA (NZ)

Te Araroa

Lorelei Schmitt

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency

**LOW
VOLUME
ROADS
WORKSHOP
2022**

Te Araroa New Zealand's Trail

How Road Controlling Authorities
can support
great walking journeys



Te Araroa trail

Background

A continuous 3,000 km walking track from Cape Reinga to Bluff.

In 2019/2020 ~2000 people walked the full length of the trail ('through-hikers'), mostly in summer season

Many more walk short sections ('section-hikers')

Last year (with borders closed) – 700 through-hikers, strong increase kiwis through-hiking.

~60% of trail is on DOC land, ~10% on roads, 30% other (eg private land, council land) ... trying to reduce percentage on-road



RCAs (Waka Kotahi and local councils) work with . . .



NZ Walking Access Commission



Te Araroa Trust



Te Araroa route

Regions passed through

- Northland
- Auckland
- Waikato
- Manawatū-Whanganui
- Wellington
- Marlborough
- Tasman
- Canterbury
- Otago
- Southland



Famous long distance hiking trails

There are more in other places too if you look for them, some people get 'addicted'

12 LONG WALKS

- 1 - Pacific NW Trail (PNT)
- 2 - Great Divide Trail (GDT)
- 3 - Sierra High Route (SHR)
- 4 - Int. Appalachian Trail (IAT)
- 5 - Superior Hiking Trail (SHT)
- 6 - SE Serpentine Trail (SST)
- 7 - Florida Trail (FT)
- 8 - Ouachita Trail (OT)
- 9 - SW Horseshoe (SWH)
- 10 - Pacific Crest Trail (PCT)
- 11 - Continental Divide Trail (CDT)
- 12 - Appalachian Trail (AT)

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO ROUTES

By Marly Camino

- 1 FRENCH WAY
RONCESVALLES - LOGROÑO - LEÓN -
BURGOS - SARRIA - SANTIAGO
- 2 NORTH COAST CAMINO
SAN SEBASTIAN - BILBAO -
OVIEDO - SANTIAGO
- 3 PORTUGUESE WAY
LISBOA - FÁTIMA - SANTIAGO
- 4 ANDALUSIAN CAMINO
MADRID - GRANADA - CÓRDOBA -
MÉRIDA - SANTIAGO
- 5 PRIMITIVE WAY
OVIEDO - LUGO - MELIDE - SANTIAGO
- 6 IGNATIAN CAMINO
LOYOLA - SAGUARDIA - ZARAGOZA -
MONSERRAT - MANRESA
- 7 CAMINO LEBANIEGO
MADRID - SANTANDER - SANTILLANA
DEL MAR - COMILLAS - FUENTE DE

Other pilgrimage routes in Spain:

- BUEN CAMINO
MADRID - SARRIA - SANTIAGO
- BUEN CAMINO LITE
MADRID - SARRIA - SANTIAGO
- GALICIAN SPLENDOR
LEÓN - VILLAFRANCA DEL
BIERZO - SANTIAGO
- CAMINO PLUS
PAMPLONA - ST. JEAN PIED DE
PORT/RONCESVALLES - LOGROÑO -
LEÓN - BURGOS - SANTIAGO
- ROADTRIP CAMINO
PAMPLONA - ST. JEAN /
RONCESVALLES - PAMPLONA -
LOGROÑO - BURGOS - LEÓN - SANTIAGO

www.marlycamino.com / info@marlycamino.com

My experience hiking the Pacific Crest Trail

A 4,200km walking journey with a whole lot of ups and downs!





Life on the trail

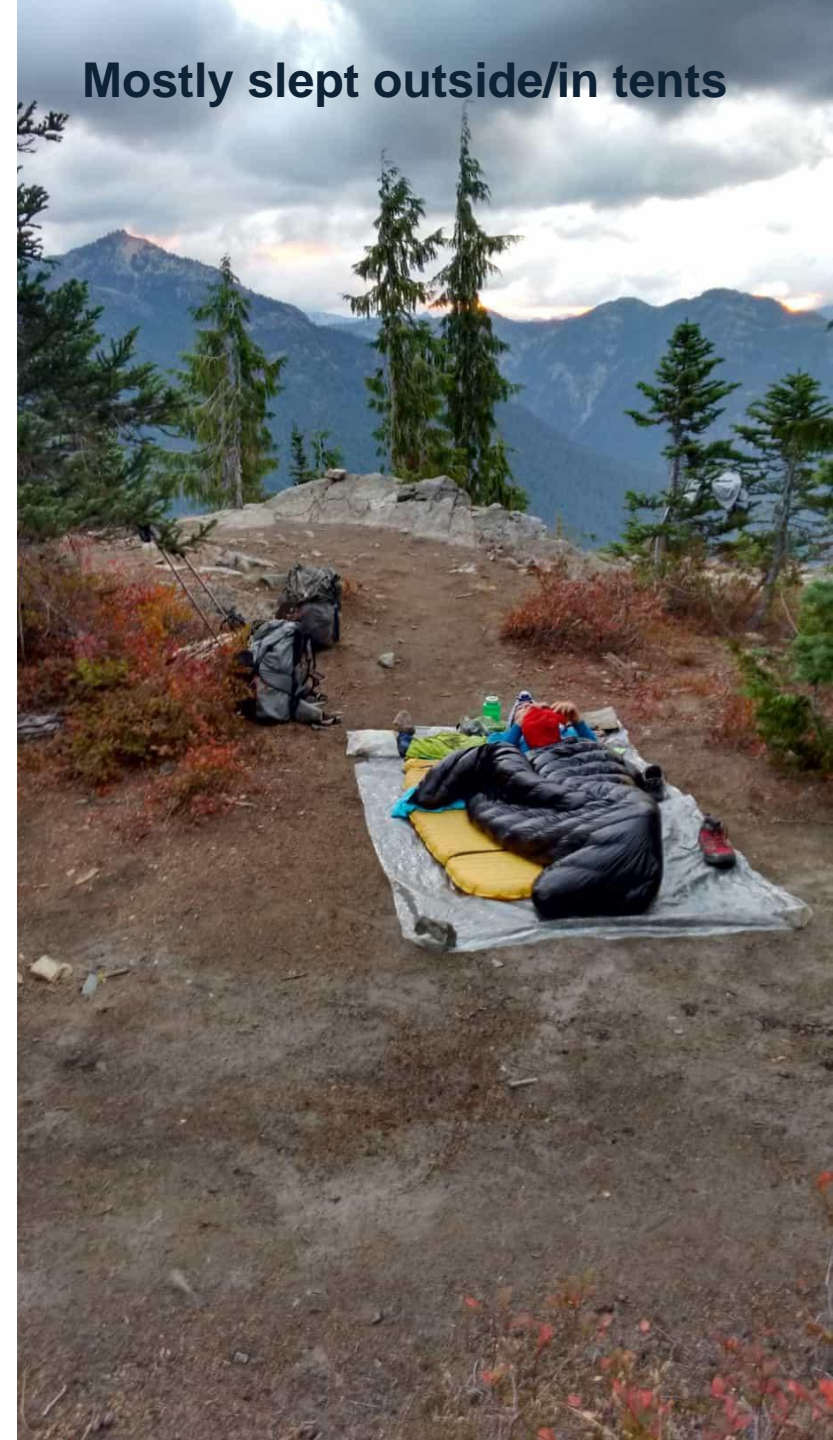
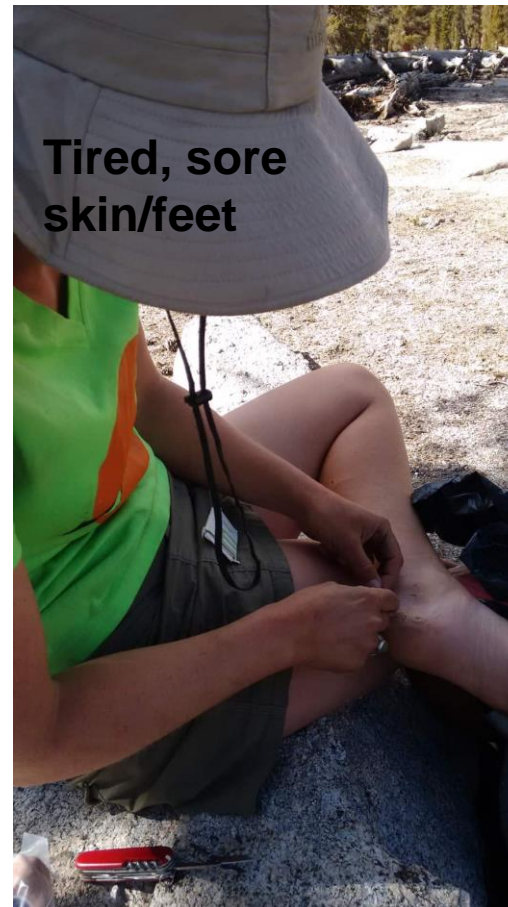
Awesome but hard!

So much walking! Most days walk from sun up to sun down only stopping for water and to eat

Soooo hungry

“In touch” with the elements

Other hikers are of interest, use trail names (e.g. “Cashmere”)

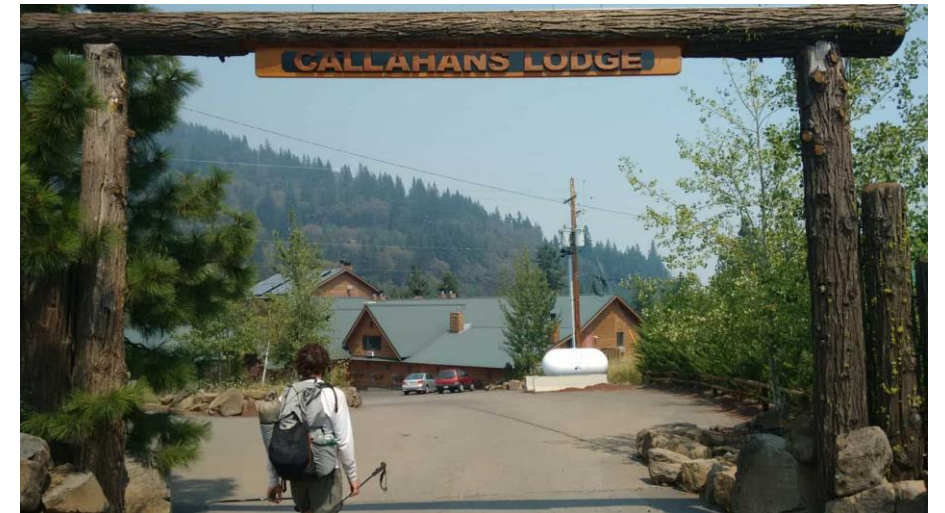
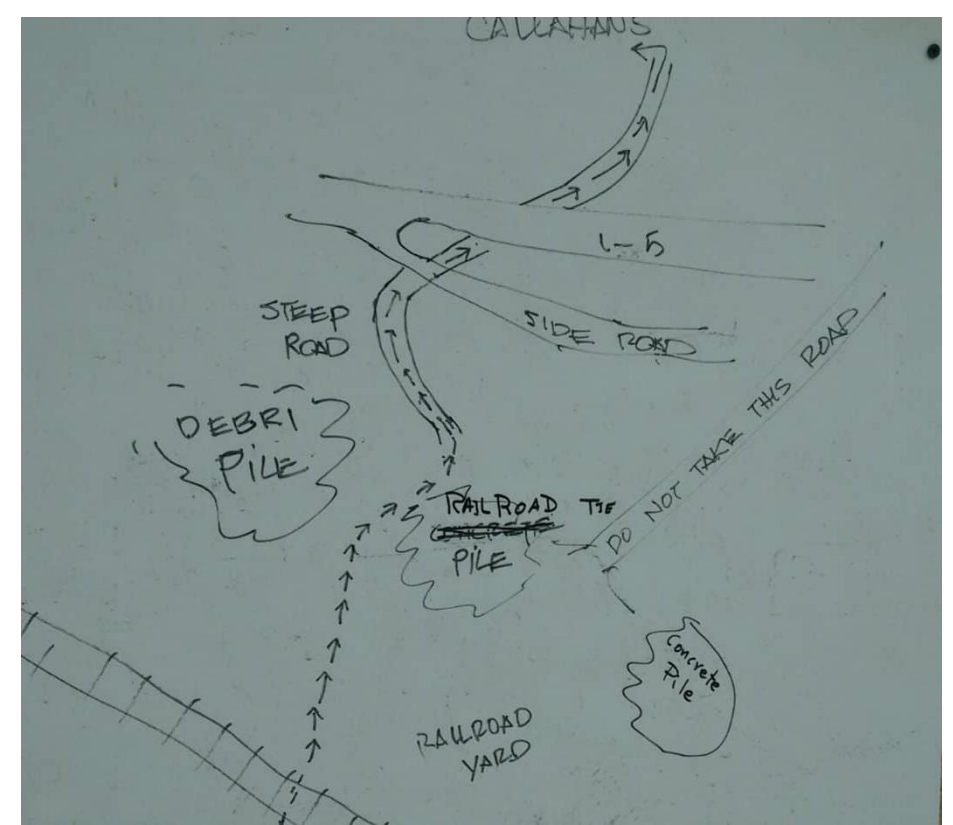


Mostly we were in the bush but roads/civilisation were part of it too!



We'd walk out of our way for food and lodging

Good for small, remote, businesses and for hikers!



Pizza!
No calorie left behind!

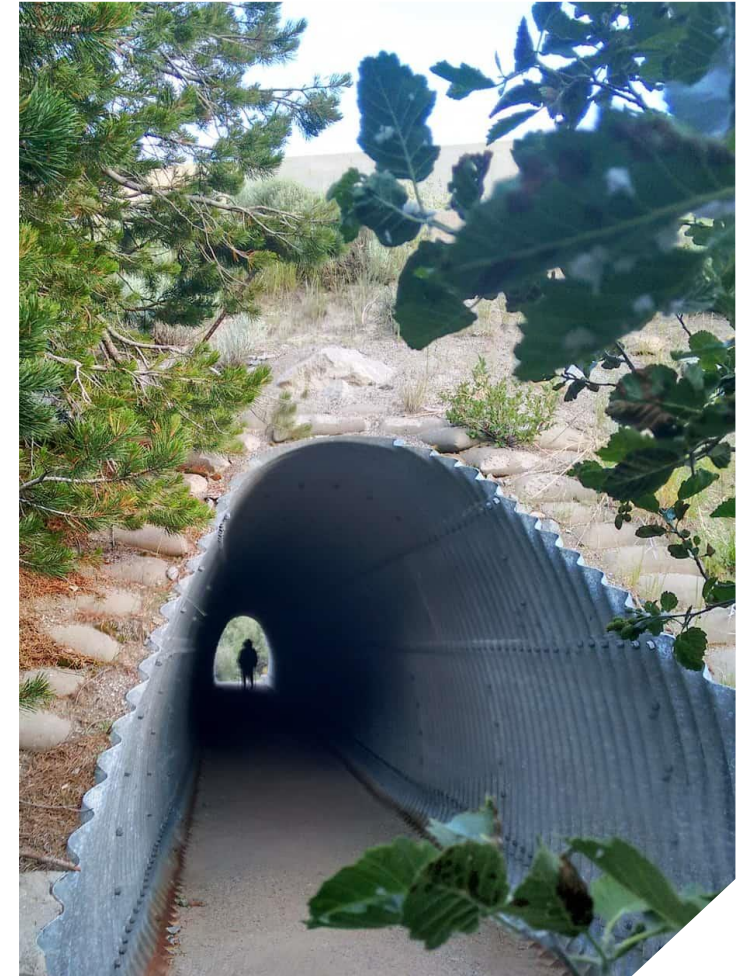




Beer!

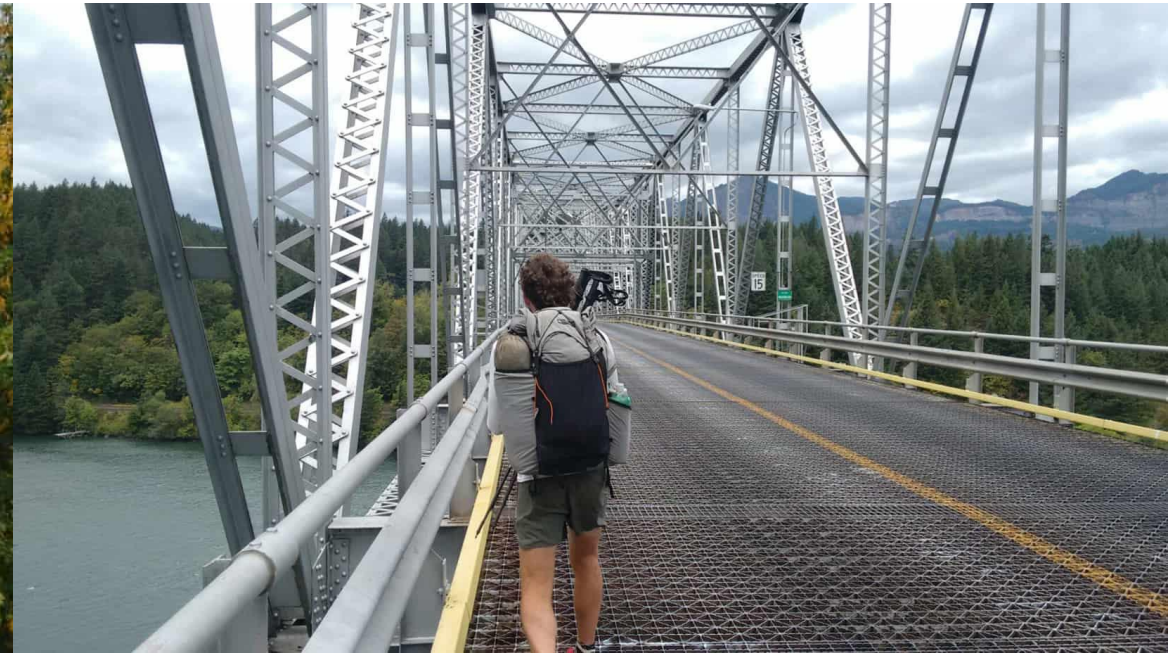
The Pacific Crest Trail also follows and crosses roads

Sometimes the road integration was quite clever



And crosses many a bridge

This one was tolled but the tollbooth worker didn't collect the 50cents from us, he just wanted high-fives





KLAMATH RIVER
BRIDGE 2-119
96 SIS 61 14





ROAD
WORK
AHEAD

76

CAT

PERFORMANCE

Sometimes you just followed quiet roads which was nicer



Facilities were always a bonus!

Trail prone to disruptions - fire and water



“Continuous footsteps” are important to many hikers and may make them act irrationally

MANDATORY
EVACUATION
DUE TO WILDFIRE
DO NOT CONTINUE
CONTACT CALTRANS
@ TOP OF HWY
(EBBETTS PASS) TO
ARRANGE FOR RIDE
ALPINE COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE



Some people are inspired by long distance hikers and thus are really nice to them!

Water and a chair in the desert!



“Did you say you’re going to cook me a burger!?”



Trail angels and trail magic restored our faith in humanity!



A journey of a lifetime

It's not the destination!





Let's jump back to New Zealand:
Te Araroa projects



[Welcome](#)

[Before you go](#)

[The trail](#)

[About us](#)



Support the trail

Donations help make Te Araroa one of the greatest walks in the world.



Trail Registration

Please register your trail usage before embarking on your journey.



Trail Status

Check this page regularly before and during your journey as route alterations may arise after planning your journey.

COVID-19 Update

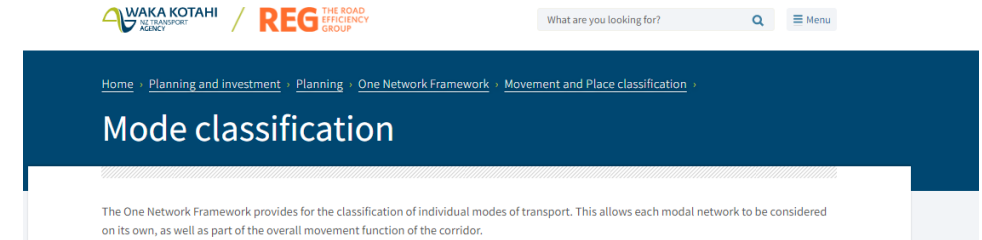
COVID-19 Updates

Understand the COVID-19 Protection Framework and the traffic light settings for the regions you are passing through.

Te Araroa and the One Network Framework

Guidance on classifying Te Araroa under ONF

- **Class:** WS
- **Intended function:** Walking Special: Rural routes used predominantly for recreation or tourism and so provide a reduced transport function. Includes rural parts of Te Araroa, DoC tracks.
- **Intended function description:** These routes occur mostly in the rural context and are used for walking activity that is predominantly undertaken for the purpose of recreation or tourism (e.g. routes include Te Araroa, Department of Conservation walking tracks etc). Where local pedestrian facilities form part of designated sections of Te Araroa etc., these sections of the network should be classified as either W1, W2, or W3.
- **Associated street categories (indicative):** Rural Roads, Rural Connectors, Interregional Connectors
- **Indicative key watching catchments:** Around Rural P5 places



Waka Kotahi approved signs



**Pass Safely -
Pedestrians**



**Non motorised
users - Pedestrians**

Te Araroa Wayfinding



Signage quick win

Subject: Road Safety Signs

Good morning Sandy

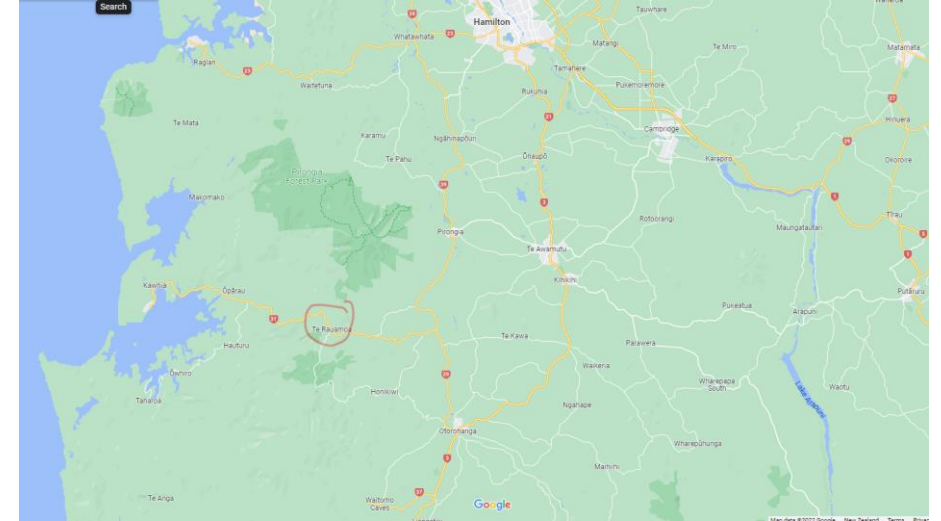
That's great news! Many thanks for the timely and positive response to this matter. I think the new signs (below) are excellent and will certainly alert motorists to trampers on that section of SH 31.

I'm also delighted that you are also exploring opportunities for information boards. (Will that include discussions with Mark Weatherall, Executive Director Te Araroa?). I gather those boards will be sited on Te Rauamoia and Kaimango Roads where they intersect with SH31? Mark may have some ideas on other information boards in those areas that relate specifically to the trail.

Please convey my thanks to your safety engineers. Their prompt actions in addressing concerns are much appreciated.

Kind regards

SH31

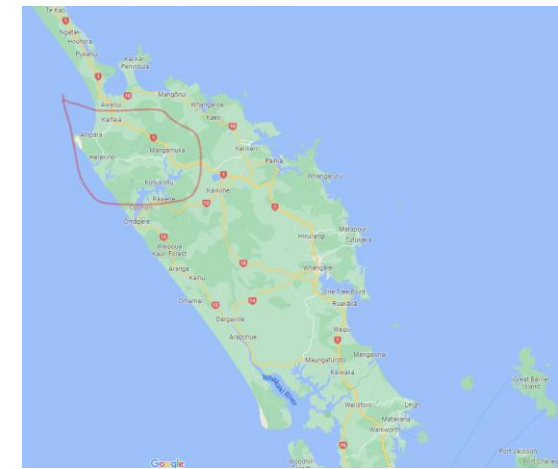


State Highway 31 RS 14 RP 14.514 – westbound approach



More signage planned

SH1 Near Kaitaia and Mangamuka (Kauri dieback detour routes)



Far North Regional Museum temporarily closed

Far North Rodeo Club

South Rd

NPS Plumbing and Gas

Te Araroa T.I.

Te Paatu M

Install a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here with supplementary 'next 5km' in the southbound direction

(SH 01N, RS 104, Roadid 2 (Increasing), 9475m, NZTM 1625252,6113374, 7/01/2021)

Install a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here with supplementary 'next 5km' in northbound direction

(SH 01N, RS 104, Roadid 2 (Decreasing), 14233m, NZTM 1629632,6113739, 7/01/2021)

Mangamuka Summit

Mangamuka

Install a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here (after Makene Rd) with supplementary 'next 6.5km' for southbound traffic

(SH 01N, RS 134, Roadid 7 (Increasing), 9391m, NZTM 1646915,6103889, 11/01/2021)

Install a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here with supplementary 'next 6km' for northbound traffic

This is between Mangamuka Bridge and Crallans Rd

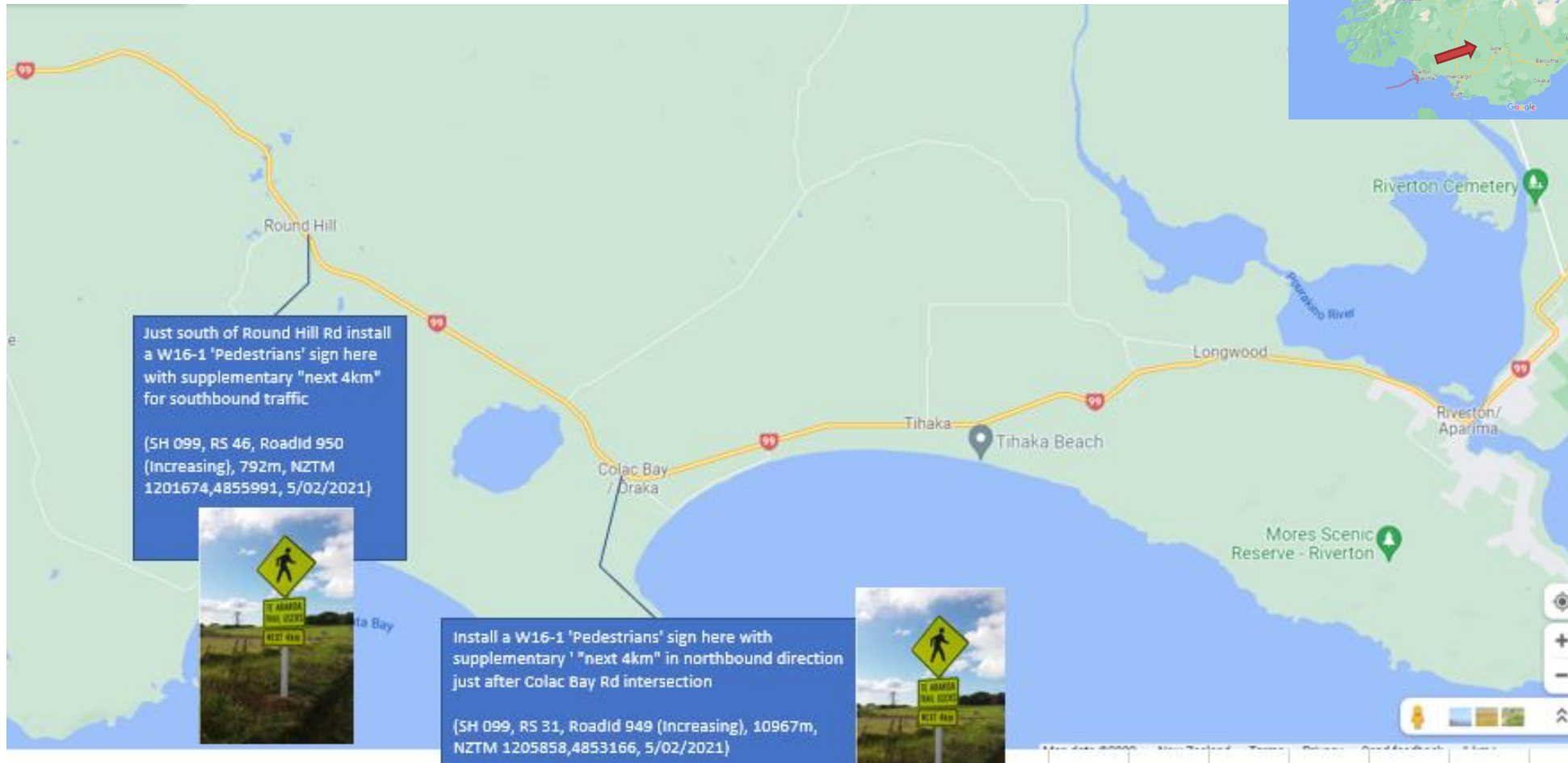
(SH 01N, RS 134, Roadid 7 (Decreasing), 14381m, NZTM 1649605,6101019,

Consider an additional installation of a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here or A44-1 for northbound traffic just after Omaha Rd

(SH 01N, RS 149, Roadid 8 (Decreasing), 550m, NZTM 1649627,6100016, 11/01/2021)

Even more signage planned!

SH99 near Colac Bay



Just south of Round Hill Rd install a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here with supplementary "next 4km" for southbound traffic

(SH 099, RS 46, RoadId 950 (Increasing), 792m, NZTM 1201674,4855991, 5/02/2021)



Install a W16-1 'Pedestrians' sign here with supplementary "next 4km" in northbound direction just after Colac Bay Rd intersection

(SH 099, RS 31, RoadId 949 (Increasing), 10967m, NZTM 1205858,4853166, 5/02/2021)



Te Araroa – Waikato (Mercer area)

Trail renewals + boardwalk.
Beats walking along the expressway!



Te Araroa – Waikato (Mercer area)

We were proud of the project but don't forget the maintenance!



WAKA KOTAHI ONRAMP

Search for...

Tech Services Hub

Ngā kaupapa mahi Working for Waka Kotahi Ngā kaupapa here me ngā puka Policies and forms Ngā ratonga Core internal services Ngā rautaki me ngā ka Strategies and progra

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Walk this way – Te Araroa trail upgrade

Updated 26 Jul 2021

Waka Kotahi has funded an upgrade to Te Araroa – New Zealand's trail, to help keep walkers safe in northern Waikato.

Around six kilometres of trail between Oram Road, south of Mercer, and Dragway Road, north of Hampton Downs has been upgraded with a gravel path and sections of boardwalk.

Previously walkers were using a half-formed track, with many choosing to walk on the shoulder of State Highway 1 Waikato Expressway instead.

"We're very appreciative of the support shown by Waka Kotahi through this trail upgrade" says Te Araroa Trust Executive Director Mark Weatherall.

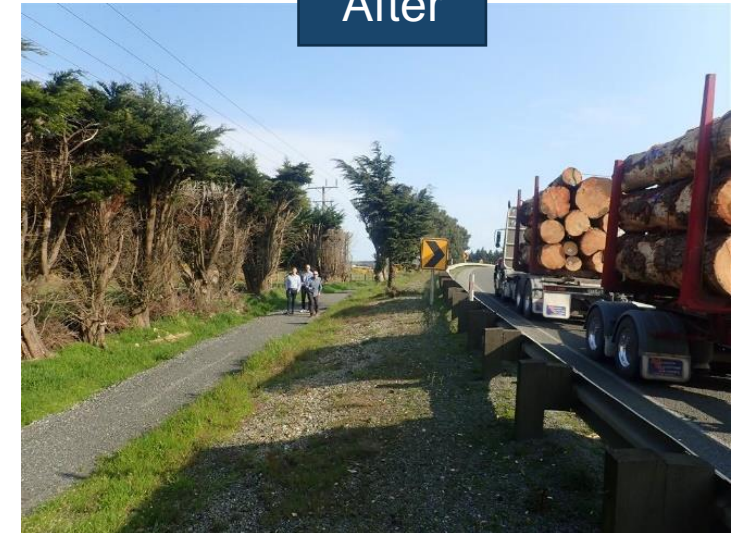
"As the trail continues to grow, we're seeing more and more Kiwis out there and it's important that they can use the trail safely."

Bluff highway shared path

Quick delivery of 600m off road path through LCLR



After



Bluff highway shared path

The full Invercargill to Bluff trail has recently been finished. Led by councils, Waka Kotahi co-funded



TRAILS

Yesterday I got out my bike, I thought, I'll ride to Bluff,
There and back from Invers, that should be enough.
I set off from Waihopai, on a cold but sunny day,
Unfortunately, it had rained all night, so puddles, along the way.

Over the old dump site, all nicely planted out,
But still leaching toxic waste, or so I've read about.
On along the causeway, past the sewage ponds,
On past low-lying pastures, grazing only swans.

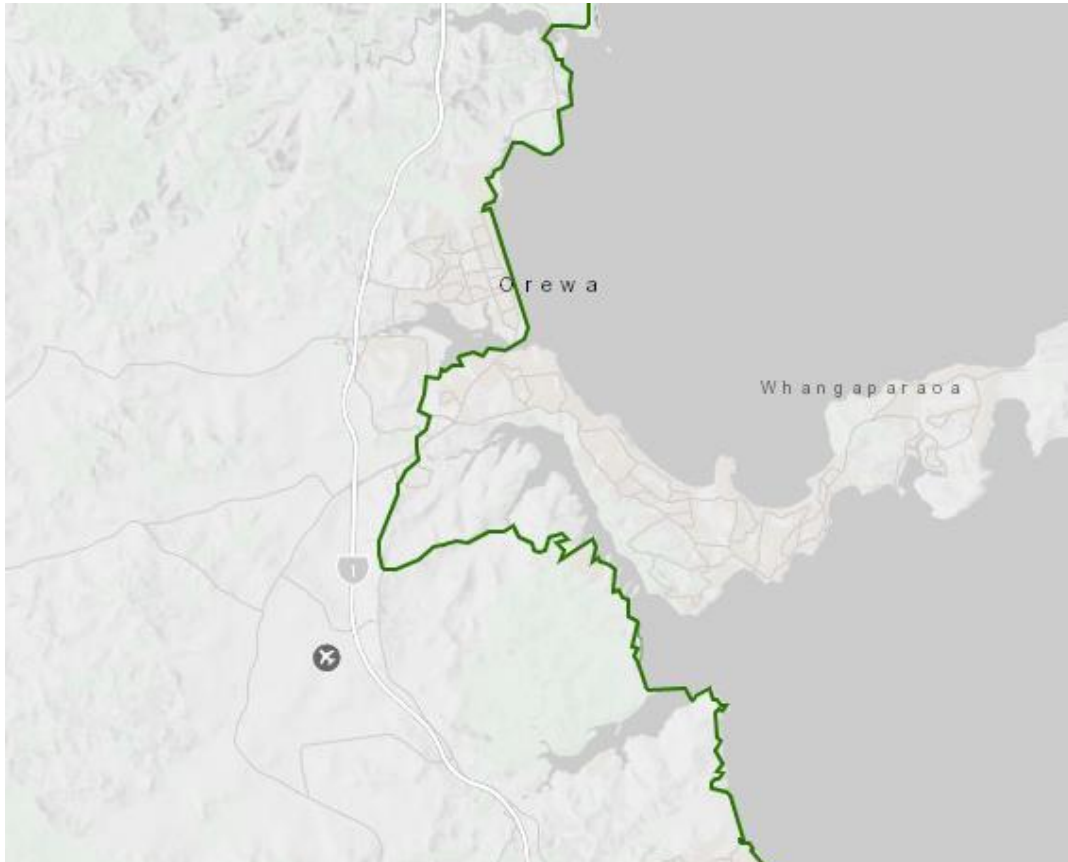
I wanted to check out the new trail, as that dangerous highway really sucks,
Good to be off the road, but still, quite close to trucks.
Two metres wide, all along the trail, 4 metres from the trucks,
Another 20 from the rail.

Past lots of deer, some sheep, 3 or 4,
Then I smelt, and saw some pigs, I'd never seen before.
The windmills at Greenhills gently drew me on
Toward the rusty sign of BLUFF, Stirling Point a few Ks on.

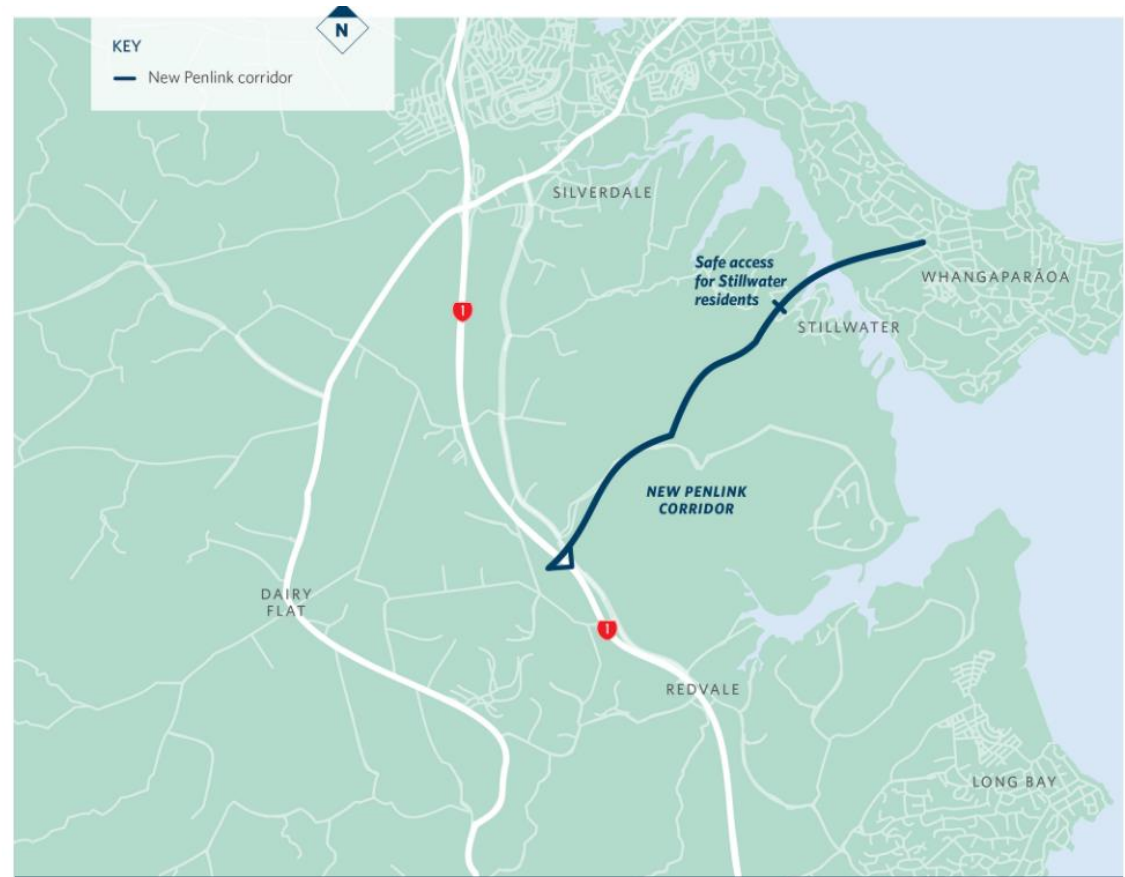
I took the usual selfie, quickly turned my bike about,
grateful for a tailwind blowing from the south.
10/10 for the workers, who laid that trail to BLUFF,
I rode home, safe and sound, and now, I've said enough

NZ Upgrade Programme

Exploring opportunities – re-align trail along Penlink?



Current Te Araroa alignment



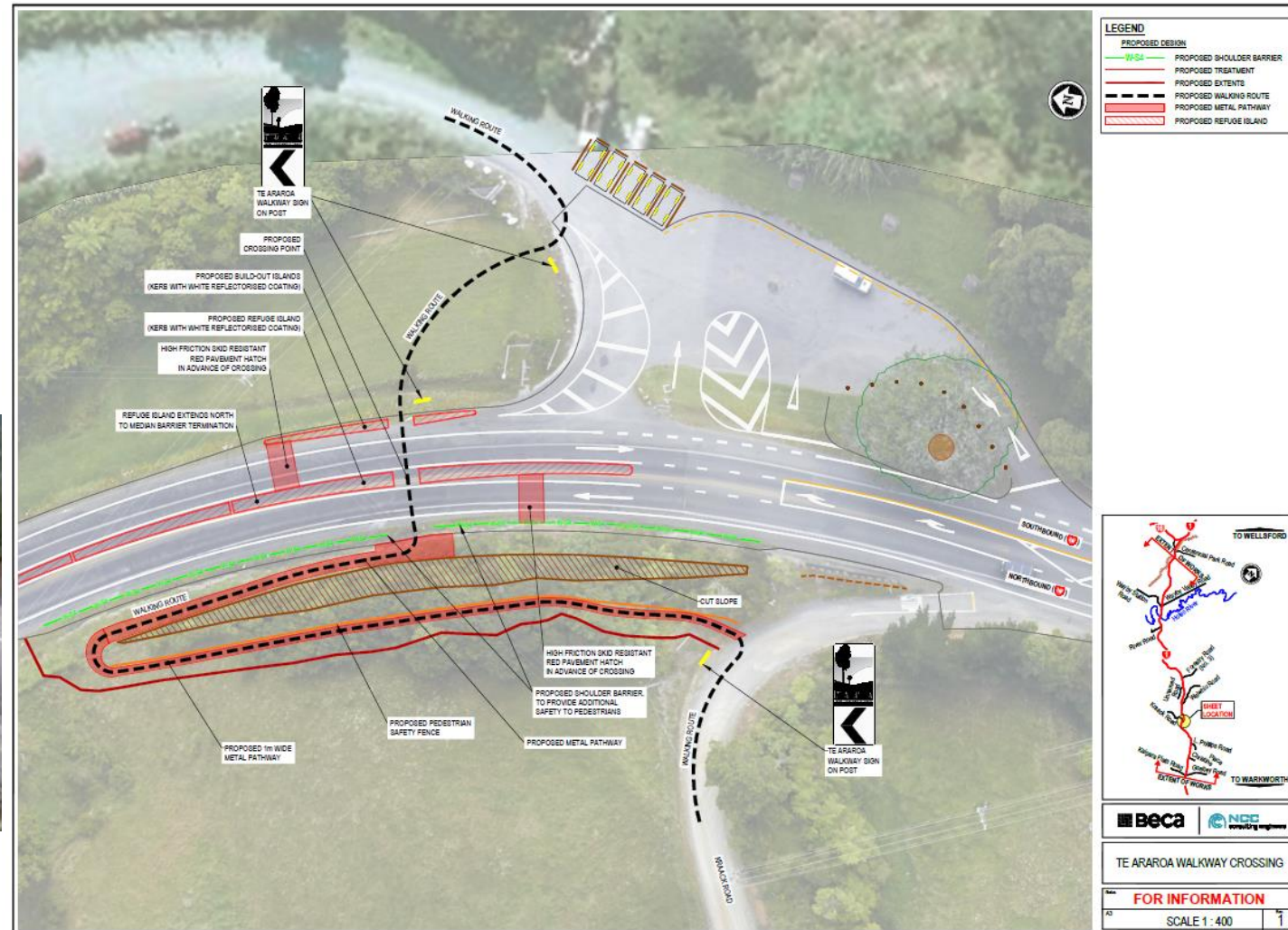
Penlink alignment

Dome Valley – Top of the Dome crossing

Designing a crossing

Busy, 80km/hr speed environment

Visibility issues related to topography and road curvature



SH23/39 Intersection

Whatawhata roundabout

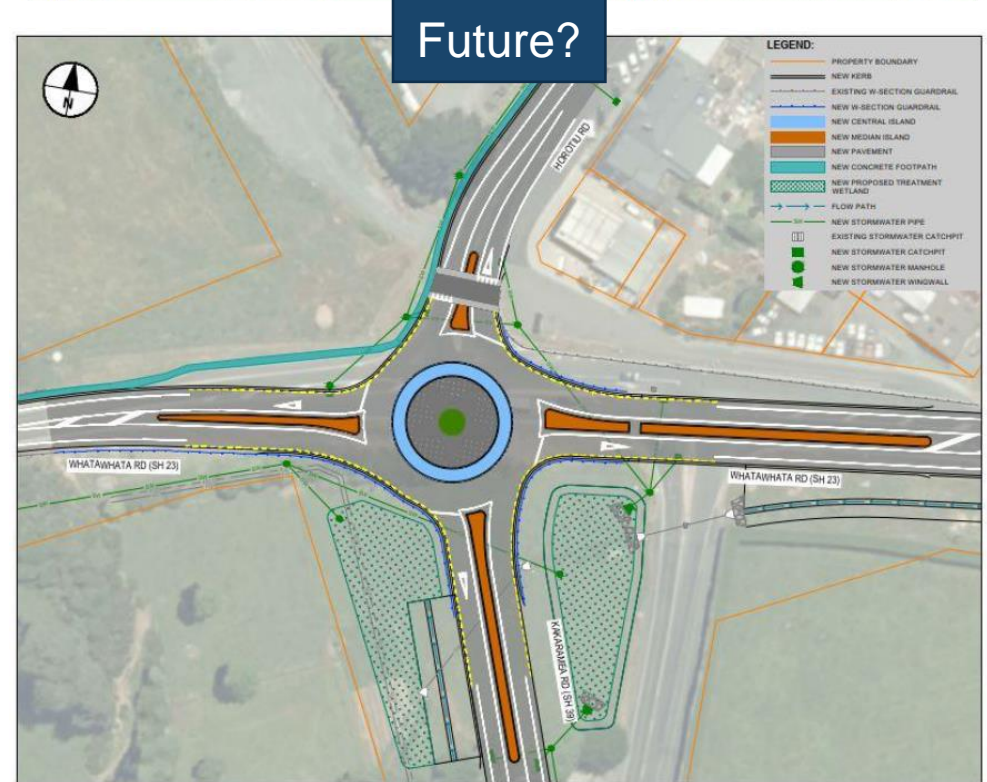
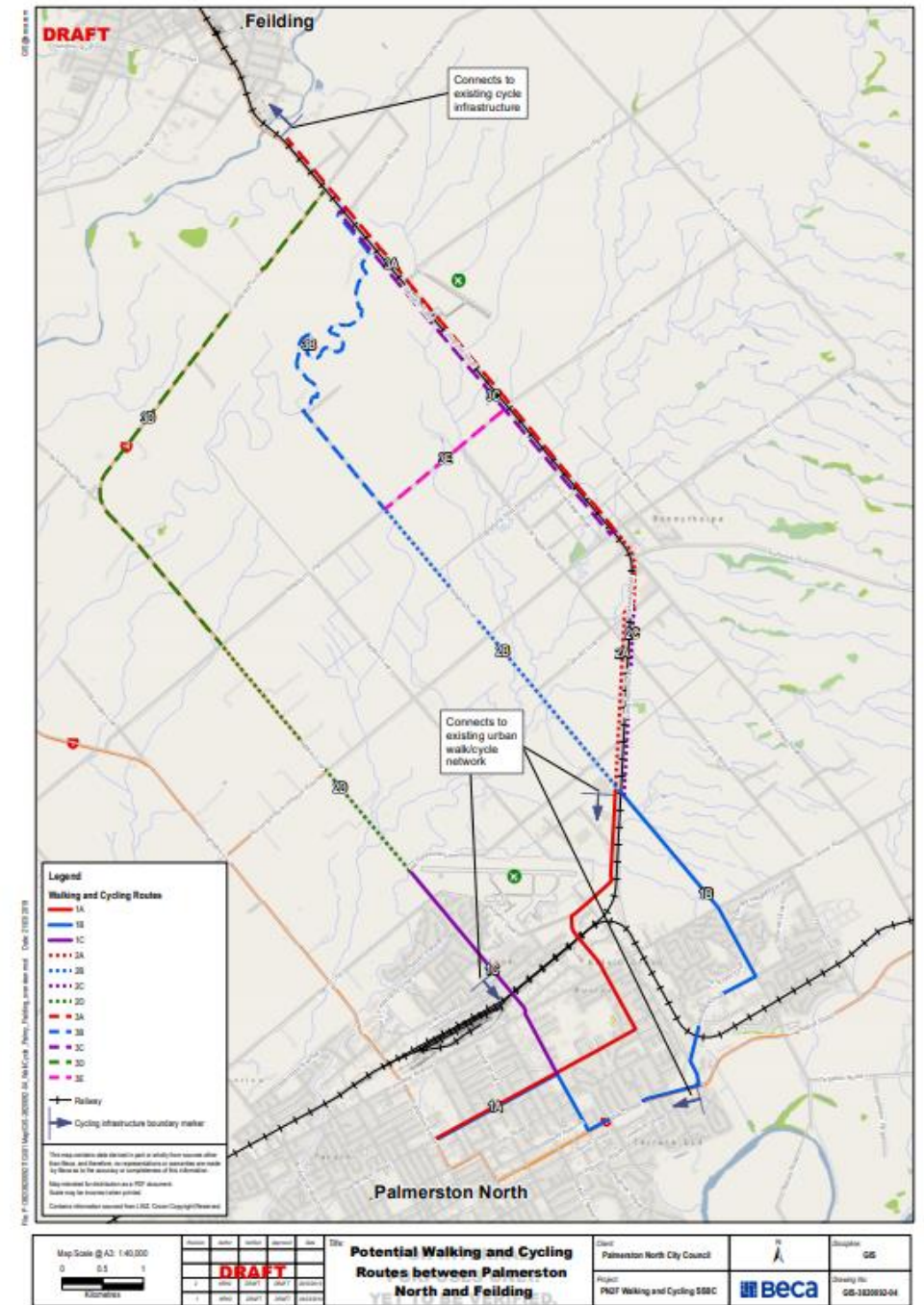


Figure 16: Proposed Roundabout at SH23 / 39 Whatawhata

Local council partnership

Whanganui Bridge, MDC Feilding to Palmerston North



Grassroots effort

Community project – Waipu Walk and Cycle Trust working with council to develop

Trail developed which will get Te Araroa hikers and cyclists off the busy Cove Rd route – a key SH bypass route for SH1 over the Brynderwyns. Also a key bike-packing route.

Council and community co-funded, land gifts helped too.



Before



After

Stage 1 won the 2017 Bike to the Future award, after opening on 14 August 2016

Now building final stages (4 & 5)

Recently lowered speed limit in the area too.

Grassroots effort

Community project – Waipu Walk and Cycle Trust working with council to develop

- Project started when Waipu Primary kids presented the idea to their principal and board of trustees.
- The BOT was so impressed they arrange for the students to present to council. Mayor Sheryl Mae was so impressed she convinced her fellow elected members to pledge ~\$105k towards the project, which funded a brand-new shared use bridge just south of Waipu Village – the catalyst for the trust forming and the mahi continuing.



It's all go as we take our turn to ride the new trail.



Don and Melanie Mitchell generously allowed the path across their land.



Visionaries Emily and Ceili with Mayor Sheryl at the opening

Shout outs to:

- Nick Marshall from NTA and
- Tim Manning (chairperson of Trust)

Issues – construction impacts

Puhoi to Warkworth – hikers through worksite



SH20B – ban on walkers during construction...

“Sort of caught me out to be honest. Agree it will be awesome when it’s done – but a major headache for potentially up to a year (based on what Fulton Hogan are saying)”

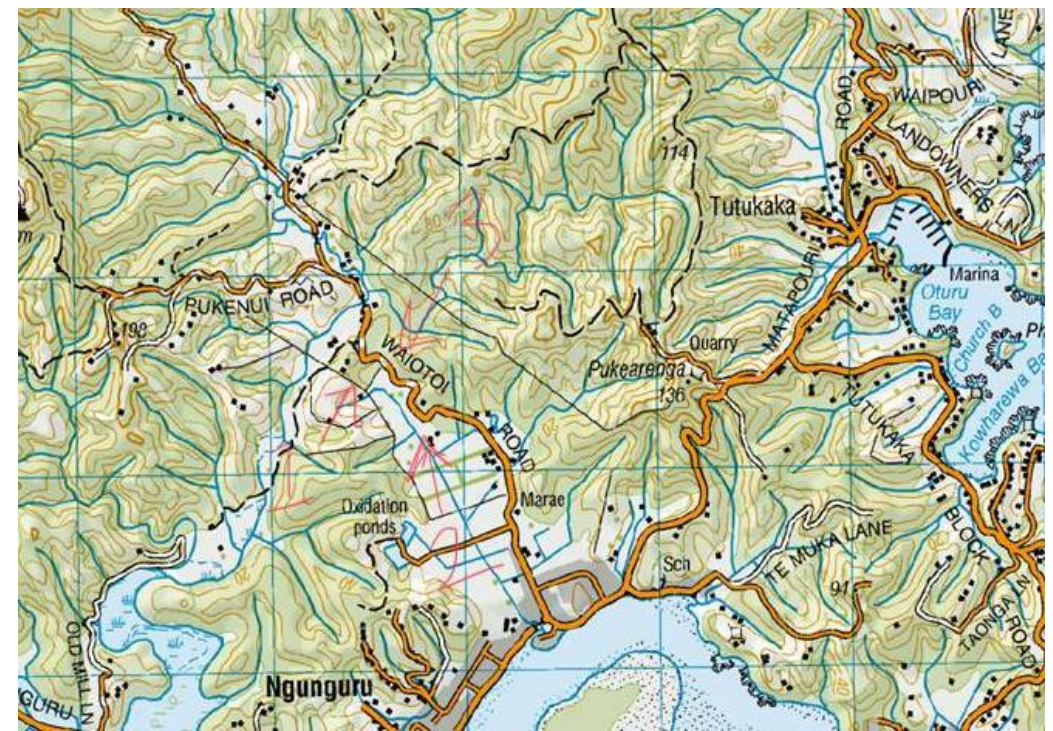
– Mark Weatherall, CEO Te Araroa Trust



Issues

Safety, crashes, injuries

- *(Me to an RCA): I'd like to report a hiker/car crash not reported to the police but it sounded significant enough that it might be worth having a look at the area and seeing if there are any other opportunities for improvements...*
- *I was wondering if there might be potential to connect a bit further north to avoid this area somehow if the road environment is deemed as a potentially significant contributing factor to the crash? Otherwise, whether there might be scope to widen shoulders or reduce the speed of cars? From what I can see this is a relatively narrow road.*
- *Location: 'on a twisty section' of Waiotoi Rd, likely south of Pukenui Rd. From the southbound hiker's perspective it was a hard left for her and a right turn for the automobile (which from what she said, I think was northbound on the road). She describes the road surface as brown gravel.*
- *Severity: Despite going over the hood and hard impacts, short term bruises and neck pain – I'd probably classify it as 'minor'.*



Issues

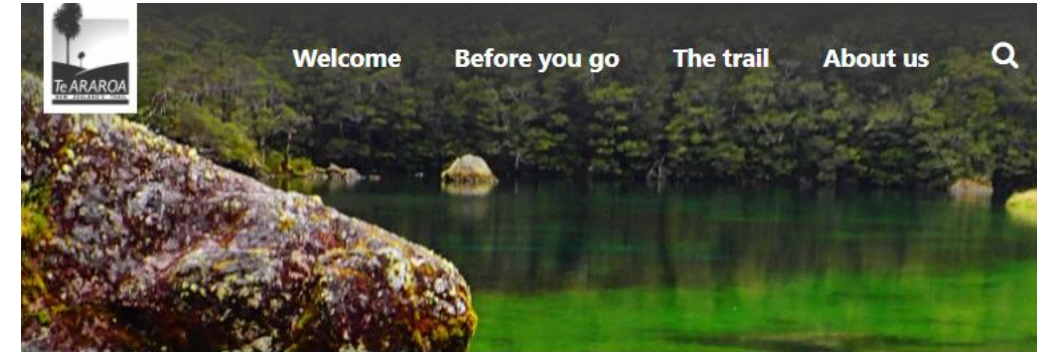
Safety, crashes, injuries

- *(Me to an RCA): A maintenance issue has been reported me that might sound like 'not a big deal' but the victim is in the hospital!*
- *A hiker lost the trail slightly and ended up crossing the Bealey Bridge on SH73, just south of Arthur's Pass village (I think this is RS073-0121-B, Road ID684, Segment 15.25). I've since learned that some hikers also take this bridge when the river is high for crossing. Anyway, there is some loose cladding that he accidentally brushed his leg against and ended up with a 17cm wound which has become infected, putting him in the hospital for a 2nd time (at least 6 days off the trail). Can you please arrange for a contractor to address this issue, in a way that it won't recur, ASAP and let me know when it is sorted?*
- *...It is a busy time of year for Te Araroa and I wouldn't be surprised if a few other hikers are crossing this bridge regularly too. The hazard also might encourage hikers to walk further into the road carriageway to avoid and I know it is a very narrow bridge.*



Challenges

- Trail may be in unexpected locations!
- Disruptions (short term), Longer term re-routing of the trail – work closely with the Trust!
- Access agreements:
 - Need assurance about long term connections/routes to invest
 - Need TAT to negotiate some access agreements to support projects
- Data: low (or unknown) walker volumes, so funding priority can be tricky. Helps to have data, be part of a wider project, in urban areas, along NZ cycle trail etc.
- Some Trust members dislike shared “solutions”
- Bridges
- Construction TMP’s
- “Young trail”, still some unofficial / alternative routes with recommended hitch-hiking etc.



We update information on Te Araroa route each September. This page lists all current amendments to the published trail route.

We recommend checking this page regularly before and during your journey as the route may have changed since planning your journey.

These alerts are set out in order from north to south

The Northland Forests +

Mangakaretu to Kerikeri -

Mangakaretu - Kerikeri (Northland) 211km Marker - 21 Feb 2019 (Partial closure)

Effective: Sep 1, 2021
Until: Feb 21, 2022

Details

Due to a change in farm operations we need to communicate a bypass through the Puketotara Landcorp Farm. Please see below for the details and map

Alternative

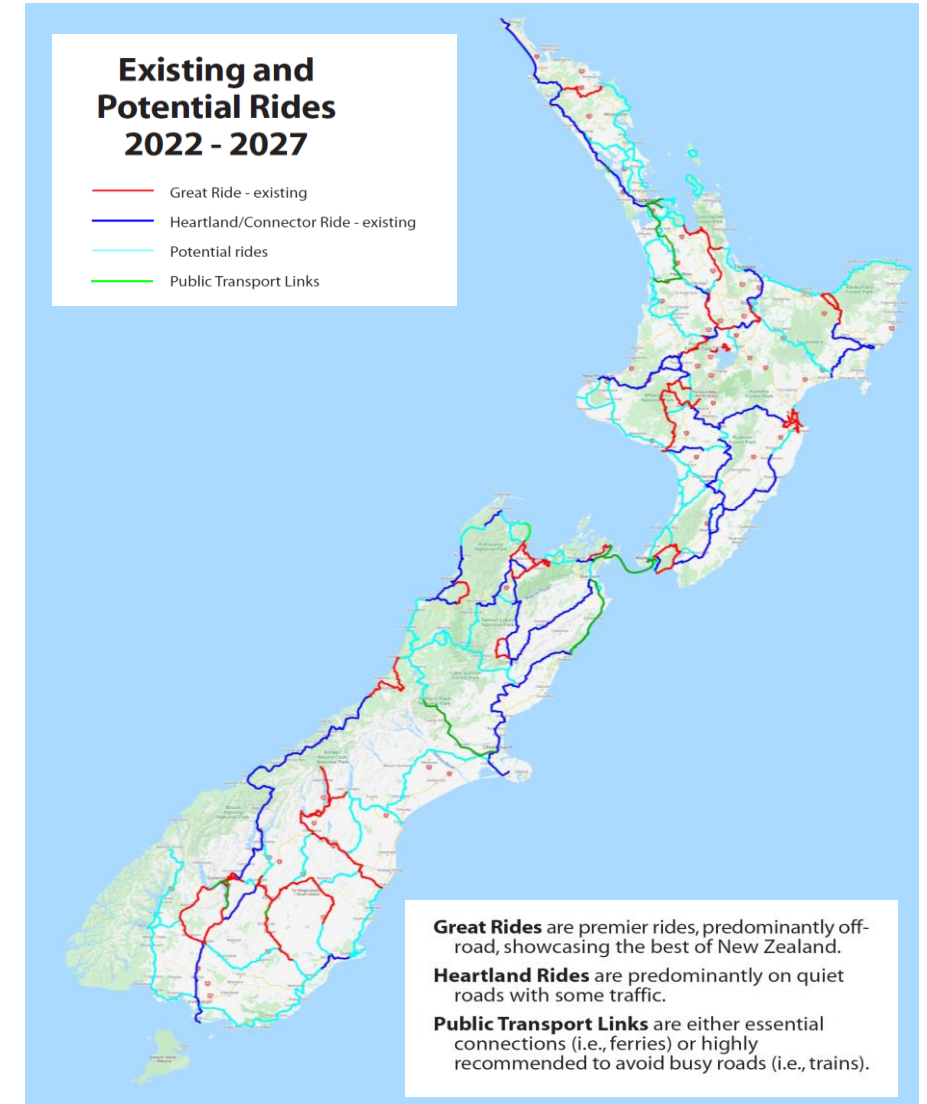
When you get to marker 211 on Mangakaretu Road you need to continue down that road until you come to Puketotara Road, turn left here and walk until you come to State Highway 10 and turn left and walk until you get to marker and you re-join the trail from here. The total detour is 7.7km from point 211 until point 218. See below for the bypass, in yellow.

Note: facilities that will only be used by Te Araroa hikers do not need high engineering specs

New Zealand Cycle Network

22 Great Rides and 24 Heartland Rides

- Encouraging cycle tourists away from main highways, onto safer and more enjoyable routes.
- Benefits:
 - Improved cycle safety
 - Enable tourists to travel by bike
 - Spread benefits throughout New Zealand
- Network 65% complete. When completed, the nationwide network will total approximately 10,000 km.
- More info:
 - [Waka Kotahi cycle touring page](#)
 - [Ngā Haerenga New Zealand Cycle Trail](#)





Heartland Ride wayfinding



Shoulder widening, SH6 Murchison



The quiet way out of Auckland – Maraetai Coast RoadA



Tararua Traverse Heartland Ride

And a shameless plug for our multi-modal guidance

When planning your improvements we have great resources to help!

Pedestrian network guidance

This guidance provides best practice for planning, designing and creating walkable communities throughout New Zealand.

WAKA KOTAHI
ALL TRANSPORT
AGENCY

What are you looking for? [Menu](#)

Home › Walking, cycling and public transport › Cycling › Cycling standards and guidance ›

Cycling network guidance

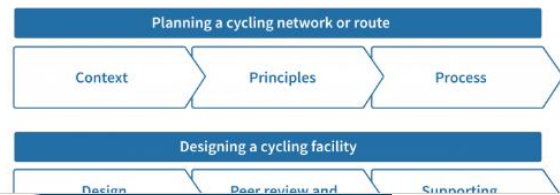
[CNG home](#) [Site map](#) [Planning a cycling network](#) [Designing a cycling facility](#) [More](#)

Cycling network guidance – planning and design

What provision should be made for people cycling within our transport network, and where?

Cycling Network Guidance – planning and design (CNG) aims to promote a consistent, best-practice approach to cycling network and route planning throughout New Zealand. It sets out a principles-based process for deciding what cycling provision is desirable, and provides best-practice guidance for the design of cycleways.

The figure below provides an overview of the CNG's content.



What's new

- Path behaviour markings guidance note
- Sharrow markings

[More updates](#)



Walking in New Zealand →

Understand the context, relevant legislation, the benefits of walking, walking trends in NZ and safety.



Planning →

Understand who's walking and their needs, walkability, planning methods you can apply and funding options.



Design →

Understand the design principles for pedestrians, and design of paths, crossings, intersections and streets.



Implementation →

Consider pedestrians in temporary traffic management, maintenance and post construction monitoring.



Reviews and audits →

Check that your design adheres to best practice and meets the needs of pedestrians by applying the appropriate review or audit.



Case studies →

Need some inspiration? Check out other projects from New Zealand and around the world.



Related guidance and tools →

Technical notes, design guidance notes and tools to help create high quality walking networks and infrastructure.



Training and capability →

Webinars, training courses and other resources to upskill the planning, design and construction sectors.



Glossary →

An alphabetical list of terms and their definitions used throughout the Pedestrian Network Guidance.

Speed management guide

Road to Zero edition



Learn a little more at our webinar next week!



Webinar

18 AUG 2022

Online - 11am - 12pm

There are many competing demands for space on our transport corridors and a growing appreciation of the need to encourage more sustainable, healthy modes of transport. Part of this involves making our roads more accessible to everyone in our society.

As a result, best-practice guidance on planning and design for various travel modes has been evolving in New Zealand, building on international best practice, the local NZ context and the results of local implementation and trials. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency now has a growing range of national guidance in this space for practitioners to use.

This webinar will introduce the suite of multi-modal guidance now available in New Zealand (including recent updates). Following this webinar, an ongoing series of other webinars will provide training on various multi-modal guidance topics.

Experts will introduce you to:

- Context of the available multi-modal guidance
- How it fits with other guides and frameworks such as the One Network Framework (ONF)
- Aotearoa Urban Street Planning & Design Guide
- Pedestrian Network Guidance (PNG)
- Public Transport Design Guidance (PTDG)
- Cycling Network Guidance (CNG)

Following the main presentation (~45 mins) there will be the opportunity for questions and a survey on topic preferences for upcoming webinars.

Who should attend?

This webinar will be of value to a wide range of people including those involved in planning, designing, reviewing and implementing transport projects, from the perspectives of new developments like subdivisions, upgrades and reconfigurations of existing streets, or safety and access improvements to existing roads and intersections. Potential attendees include:

- Transport engineering and planning/policy professionals
- Land developers and surveyors
- Road safety professionals
- Urban designers and landscape architects
- Project managers

FREE!

REGISTRATION

To register your interest click [here](#)



To register, visit:

https://nzta-govt-nz.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_W_9LBGDeTVeSijNQGW08cA

(Link also recently sent in emails via: Engineering NZ Transportation Group, NZ Landscape Architects and Urban Design Forum)

Do you have any ideas for anything you can do to support this special trail in your region (or the cycle network)?

- Crossings you can upgrade?
- Signage?
- Walking/cycling paths? Alternative routes?
- Speed reductions?
- Maintenance?
- Vegetation – plantings/management?
- What else?



S10 surfacing. Width up to 1.4m

“Just want to say thanks for the ongoing support with the trail.”

– Mark Weatherall, Former CEO of Te Araroa Trust

Questions?

Contact: Lorelei.Schmitt@nzta.govt.nz

