

From: [Robert Bartrum](#)
To: [Phelan Pirrie](#)
Subject: FW: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Date: Monday, 6 May 2024 3:47:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

FYI

From: Robert Bartrum
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 9:55 AM
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) @protonmail.com>
Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Morena [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Thanks for reaching out to gain further clarification and insight. I'm currently working on a response for you, which includes consulting with internal staff here, namely Abraham Witana, our Pou Tairangahau, and Laree Furniss, our Senior Ranger Heritage And Visitors. We will be in touch as soon as we have clarifying answers to your questions.

In the interim, or at any stage, if you would like to call me, please feel free to do so on **027 438 6656**. Note I may be in a meeting and can call you back, and if that's the case please let me know your contact phone number. We're also happy to meet if you're in the area and want to come in, or have a video hui online.

Ngā mihi,

-



Robert Bartrum
Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau Koiora*
Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai
25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441
Mob. [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) or | Ph. +64 9 408 6014
Email rbartrum@doc.govt.nz | www.doc.govt.nz

Conservation leadership for our nature *Tākina te hī, tiakina te hā, o te ao tūroa*



From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) @protonmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 3:22 PM
To: Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz>; enquiries@ngatikuri.iwi.nz
Cc: Tama.Potaka@parliament.govt.nz
Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Thanks for the response.

I think I understand your reasons for the track closure, but that is about it. It has raised more questions than answers.

And I now have to email another organisation to get the answers, or not. I emailed Ngati Kuri some time ago and have not received a response.

If the track was closed due to storm damage, what is the plan for repairs for this track? When will the track reopen?

Regarding the collaboration with partners, where can I find the agreements and plans which form the basis of the partnership?

Who is the key liaison between the groups providing a single source of information?

I still don't have the answer to the questions I have raised in my email specifically below, while you have stated you will be providing clearer information in the future, there is no time stated, it is a worry that an area is closed for specific reasons (biosecurity?), but they are either not known or not being communicated and cannot be told to me now.

Does'nt that seem odd to you?

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? specifically clarify the area of public conservation land affected.

What is the Biosecurity threat?

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Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

You have said both parties are intending to clarify the signage and the issues I have raised, why is the information not able to be supplied to me now?

I will try Ngati Kuri, can you provide the DoC partner liaison and an email address for them?

I have copied in the Minister for Conservations Office to try and get a more specific response.

Regarding Caulerpa,...

I have had a look and can find only the most recent NIWA information on the matter which is inconclusive regarding the extent to which , if at all Caulerpa is a threat to the areas studied. That report reference very old reports from other countries which have had no recent updates. It appears a knee jerk reaction is in place.

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Here is the conclusion of the latest available NIWA study on the GBI Caulerpa below. No doubt some caution is being exercised at those places, but the local response seems to

exclude "non local" boats, other than those which passage there from another ramp or country.

There is no advice on where on the boat to look for caulerpa, given it is a bottom dwelling plant, we would have to presume anchors, and surely a simple information and advice about how to clean anchors warp and rope would suffice?

Ill note I have seen no actual study or paper showing evidence that caulerpa in NZ is spread by boat and how. Its most well known vector is dumped aquarium contents.

5.1 Conclusions & future directions This preliminary report describes the study approach, establishment of the sampling locations and methods for sample collection. Data and preliminary findings were summarised to provide initial, qualitative assessments of the potential impacts of exotic Caulerpa at Aotea/GBI. The work is, however, part of a longer-term assessment of impacts. The transects established during this initial trip will allow for georeferenced temporal replication of impact assessments by NIWA, stakeholders, tangata whenua or other research organisations. Preliminary assessments suggest that exotic Caulerpa has proliferated significantly since earlier visits, and that cyclone Gabrielle had negligible impact on the density and extent of Caulerpa in Okupe/Blind Bay. There are some indications that Taonga species (Tipa and Kina) have been negatively impacted in areas of high exotic Caulerpa density. Preliminary comparisons of sediment characteristics within areas of exotic Caulerpa beds, seagrasses and unvegetated sediments suggest that that Caulerpa may have similar effects on sediment characteristics as seagrasses. However, further assessments, data collection and analysis of the samples is still to occur. These analyses along with repeated sampling will build a more comprehensive picture of the impacts of exotic Caulerpa on sediment, macrofauna, biogenic habitats and taonga species. Continued monitoring is required to measure changes caused by exotic Caulerpa against the natural spatio-temporal background in these environments and to allow robust conclusions about impacts on key species, habitats and ecosystem processes. NIWA will return to Aotea/GBI to undertake a second round of monitoring at the fixed transects in late May 2023. Sample analysis and data collection will be completed in the 2023-24 financial year.

If your organisation has more recent papers on the matter then I would be happy to remain more informed.

P

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

On Monday, April 15th, 2024 at 3:15 PM, Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora s.9(2)(a)

Thank you for contacting us following your recent visit to Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga and for sharing your observations and concerns regarding signage, track closures, and boat access restrictions in the area. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to enhance visitor experiences while preserving our natural and cultural heritage.

Te Paki Coastal Track:

Regarding the maintenance tracks and biosecurity areas along the Te Paki Coastal Track, we are currently collaborating with our treaty partner, Ngati

Kuri, to upgrade signage for improved accuracy and visitor information. We recognize the importance of clear communication regarding access arrangements and surveillance activities within these areas.

Track Closure Decision:

The decision to close sections of the track was made collaboratively between DOC and Ngati Kuri in response to extensive track damage which resulted in conditions that are unsafe for visitors. During the cyclone and weather events of 2023 a large amount of damage occurred in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve including slips on Tapotupotu Road, Te Paki Steam Road and at the viewing area at the end of the Lighthouse track at Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua. We also sustained damage to tracks in the reserve including the washing away of a section of the Waitahora Lagoon boardwalk. Biosecurity concerns are also a factor. We acknowledge the importance of transparent communication regarding track closures and plan to provide updated clear information to visitors in the future.

Boats:

The signage relating to boat access was an initiative by iwi to help prevent the introduction of Caulerpa. Please note that Caulerpa can spread rapidly, forming large smothering underwater fields. It competes with other species for space and greatly upsets the balance of ecosystems. This presents a significant risk to recreational, cultural, and commercial marine activities. Furthermore, exotic Caulerpa secretes a toxin that is avoided by mollusks, herbivorous fish, and sea urchins, can be lethal to certain species, and that the toxin may interfere with the eggs of some marine organisms. Exotic Caulerpa has no known predators outside of its native tropical range. Therefore, we recognise the significance of marine protection efforts in this area and will be ensuring that signage reflects the relevant regulations and agreements.

Additional Context:

The section of track from Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua to Scott's Point remains open for visitors to enjoy while we continue our efforts to safeguard this special place.

Regarding your query about the legal status of Ngati Kuri through Treaty settlement, we appreciate your interest in understanding the broader context. We recommend reaching out directly to Ngati Kuri directly for more specific details regarding their legal status and involvement in conservation initiatives. Here is a link to the treaty settlements: [Te Arawhiti - Ngāti Kuri](#)

Ongoing discussions between Ngati Kuri and DOC focus on managing track damage, mitigating biosecurity risks, protecting cultural sites, and ensuring a safe visitor experience. We appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges and work towards improvements.

We endeavour to work with our treaty partners towards mutual positive outcomes for conservation.

Please feel free to contact us if you need further clarification or assistance. We value your input as we strive to enhance the visitor experience in the Te Paki area.

Ngā mihi nui,



Robert Bartrum

Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau
Koiora*

Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai

25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

Mob. **s.9(2)(a)** or | Ph. +64 9 408 6014

Email rbartrum@doc.govt.nz | www.doc.govt.nz

Conservation leadership for our nature *Tākina te hī, tiakina te hā, o te ao tūroa*



From: **s.9(2)(a)** <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@protonmail.com](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Morena,

On a recent trip to Cape Reinga we noticed track closures and talk about restrictions to boats. Generally the visitor experience has deteriorated since I was last there, with poorly maintained infrastructure, confusing signage and a low to zero presence of DoC staff.

Te Paki Coastal TRACK

I refer to a sign on the Te Paki Coastal Track stating...

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks

Authorised Personnel only

Surveillance Area

No Public Access

Authorised by Ngati Kuri"

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? Why is it not stated on the sign, why does the sign not explain whether there is a risk or not?

What is the Biosecurity area about? what does this mean?

What are the maintenance tracks for maintaining?

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Who is authorised and under what authority?

Why is there a DoC sign with no indication of Closure, but a separate sign stating closure by Ngati Kuri? That's not my hapu so I am not aware of the arrangement.

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

Why is the track closed?

Who is making the decision to close the track?

Boats:

We note a sign at Spirits Bay saying no boat launching.

Under what authority is this sign erected?

Please respond as soon as possible so we may get clarification on the matters raised.

s.9(2)(a)

Te Taitokerau

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Caution - This message and accompanying data may contain information that is confidential or subject to legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message or data is prohibited. If you received this email in error, please notify us immediately and erase all copies of the message and attachments. We apologise for the inconvenience. Thank you.

From: [Robert Bartrum](#)
To: [Laree Furniss](#)
Subject: FW: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Date: Monday, 22 April 2024 11:34:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[Ngati-Kuri-Te-Hiku-Conservation-Relationship-Agreement-9-Dec-2015.pdf](#)

Kia Laree,

I need some guidance with this one, relating to these bits of the email we recieved:

Track:

If the track was closed due to storm damage, what is the plan for repairs for this track? When will the track reopen?

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

- The extent of the presence of Myrtle Rust within Te Paki Recreation Reserve?
- The extent of the presence of Kauri dieback presence in Te Paki Recreation Reserve?

Rob

From: Abraham Witana <awitana@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 11:27 AM
To: Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz>; Meirene Hardy-Birch <mhardy-birch@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Laree Furniss <lfurniss@doc.govt.nz>; Lyndell McGregor <lmcgregor@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Kia ora Rob

If he does call you be good to know a bit more about him and his interests in the area?

Looking at his [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) ?

Maybe another catch up when your back in the office with Mei, Laree and Lyndell.

I have provided some content to consider in our discussion.

Nga mihi
Abe

From: Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 9:55 AM
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@protonmail.com](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)>
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Morena Phil,

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In the interim, or at any stage, if you would like to call me, please feel free to do so on **s.9(2)(a)**. Note I may be in a meeting and can call you back, and if that's the case please let me know your contact phone number. We're also happy to meet if you're in the area and want to come in, or have a video hui online.

Ngā mihi,



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Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 3:22 PM

To: Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz>; enquiries@ngatikuri.iwi.nz

Cc: Tama.Potaka@parliament.govt.nz

Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

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And I now have to email another organisation to get the answers, or not. I emailed Ngati Kuri some time ago and have not received a response.

If the track was closed due to storm damage, what is the plan for repairs for this track? When will the track reopen?

- **Work with Laree here**

Regarding the collaboration with partners, where can I find the agreements and plans which form the basis of the partnership?

You have provided him the link to treaty settlements obviously he didn't do his own research:

- The Korowai Agreement for Enhanced Conservation that forms the basis of the partnership. (Attached)
- [Ngāti Kuri Claims Settlement Act 2015 No 76 \(as at 12 April 2022\), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
- Subpart 3 Korowai outlines legal obligations of the Department for Treaty settlements.
- Schedule 1 provide cultural redress properties returned.
- Schedule 3 Processes, plans and decision making.

Who is the key liaison between the groups providing a single source of information?

- Our Operations Managers for the Department if it relates to public conservation land in partnership with Ngati Kuri
- Ngati Kuri Trust Board as it relates to properties returned to Ngati Kuri through treaty settlements.

I still don't have the answer to the questions I have raised in my email specifically below, while you have stated you will be providing clearer information in the future, there is no time stated, it is a worry that an area is closed for specific reasons (biosecurity?), but they are either not known or not being communicated and cannot be told to me now.

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- **Conservation Act** – protection of native flora and fauna/ visitor health and safety
- **Biosecurity Act** – this probably can't be referenced I'm not sure how far widespread the news of Myrtle rust has been shared by Ngati Kuri.
- **NRC has a role to play through Regional Pest Management Plan – local management plan – not sure if this has been considered by Ngati Kuri?**

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

- **The extent of the presence of Myrtle Rust within Te Paki Recreation Reserve?**
- **The extent of the presence of Kauri dieback presence in Te Paki Recreation Reserve?**

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

- **All walking tracks east of State Highway 1 and Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve are closed due to storm damage.**
- **[Te Paki Recreation Reserve: Places to go in Northland \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)**

All public alerts are posted here and updated.

You have said both parties are intending to clarify the signage and the issues I have raised, why is the information not able to be supplied to me now?

I will try Ngati Kuri, can you provide the DoC partner liaison and an email address for them?

I have copied in the Minister for Conservation's Office to try and get a more specific response.

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Please feel free to contact us if you need further clarification or assistance. We value your input as we strive to enhance the visitor experience in the Te Paki area.

Ngā mihi nui,



Robert Bartrum

Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau Koiora*

Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai

25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

Mob. **s.9(2)(a)** or | Ph. +64 9 408 6014

Email rbartrum@doc.govt.nz | www.doc.govt.nz

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From: [Robert Bartrum](#)
To: [Abraham Witana](#); [Laree Furniss](#)
Subject: FW: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Date: Wednesday, 17 April 2024 9:01:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Kia ora korua,

I note [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) additional enquiry has been cc'd to Ngāti Kuri and Tama Potaka, Minister of Conservation; Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti; and Māori Development. [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) is wanting some much finer details here.

Abe: Would you consider requesting [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) phone number to facilitate having a korero with him. We may want to consider aiming towards a hui between all parties at the same table?

Ngā mihi,

-



Robert Bartrum
Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau Koiora*
Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai
25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441
Mob. [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) or | Ph. +64 9 408 6014
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You have said both parties are intending to clarify the signage and the issues I have raised, why is the information not able to be supplied to me now?

I will try Ngati Kuri, can you provide the DoC partner liaison and an email address for them?

I have copied in the Minister for Conservations Office to try and get a more specific response.

Regarding Caulerpa,...

I have had a look and can find only the most recent NIWA information on the matter which is inconclusive regarding the extent to which , if at all Caulerpa is a threat to the areas studied. That report reference very old reports from other countries which have had no recent updates. It appears a knee jerk reaction is in place.

The Middleton paper references the latest 2002 research in Mediteranian and that paper specifically looked at effects on seagrass, and the conclusion was that there were positive and negative effects. The 1995 paper referenced refers a different type of caulerpa.

Here is the conclusion of the latest available NIWA study on the GBI Caulerpa below. No doubt some caution is being exercised at those places, but the local response seems to exclude "non local" boats, other than those which passage there from another ramp or country.

There is no advice on where on the boat to look for caulerpa, given it is a bottom dwelling plant, we would have to presume anchors, and surely a simple information and advice about how to clean anchors warp and rope would suffice?

Ill note I have seen no actual study or paper showing evidence that caulerpa in NZ is spread by boat and how. Its most well known vector is dumped aquarium contents.

5.1 Conclusions & future directions This preliminary report describes the study approach, establishment of the sampling locations and methods for sample collection. Data and preliminary findings were summarised to provide initial, qualitative assessments of the potential impacts of exotic Caulerpa at Aotea/GBI. The work is, however, part of a longer-term

assessment of impacts. The transects established during this initial trip will allow for georeferenced temporal replication of impact assessments by NIWA, stakeholders, tangata whenua or other research organisations. Preliminary assessments suggest that exotic Caulerpa has proliferated significantly since earlier visits, and that cyclone Gabrielle had negligible impact on the density and extent of Caulerpa in Okupe/Blind Bay. There are some indications that Taonga species (Tīpa and Kīna) have been negatively impacted in areas of high exotic Caulerpa density. Preliminary comparisons of sediment characteristics within areas of exotic Caulerpa beds, seagrasses and unvegetated sediments suggest that that Caulerpa may have similar effects on sediment characteristics as seagrasses. However, further assessments, data collection and analysis of the samples is still to occur. These analyses along with repeated sampling will build a more comprehensive picture of the impacts of exotic Caulerpa on sediment, macrofauna, biogenic habitats and taonga species. Continued monitoring is required to measure changes caused by exotic Caulerpa against the natural spatio-temporal background in these environments and to allow robust conclusions about impacts on key species, habitats and ecosystem processes. NIWA will return to Aotea/GBI to undertake a second round of monitoring at the fixed transects in late May 2023. Sample analysis and data collection will be completed in the 2023-24 financial year.

If your organisation has more recent papers on the matter then I would be happy to remain more informed.

s.9(2)(a)

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

On Monday, April 15th, 2024 at 3:15 PM, Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora **s.9(2)(a)**

Thank you for contacting us following your recent visit to Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga and for sharing your observations and concerns regarding signage, track closures, and boat access restrictions in the area. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to enhance visitor experiences while preserving our natural and cultural heritage.

Te Paki Coastal Track:

Regarding the maintenance tracks and biosecurity areas along the Te Paki Coastal Track, we are currently collaborating with our treaty partner, Ngati Kuri, to upgrade signage for improved accuracy and visitor information. We recognize the importance of clear communication regarding access arrangements and surveillance activities within these areas.

Track Closure Decision:

The decision to close sections of the track was made collaboratively between DOC and Ngati Kuri in response to extensive track damage which resulted in conditions that are unsafe for visitors. During the cyclone and weather events of 2023 a large amount of damage occurred in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve including slips on Tapotupotu Road, Te Paki Steam Road and at the viewing area at the end of the Lighthouse track at Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua. We also sustained damage to tracks in the

reserve including the washing away of a section of the Waitahora Lagoon boardwalk. Biosecurity concerns are also a factor. We acknowledge the importance of transparent communication regarding track closures and plan to provide updated clear information to visitors in the future.

Boats:

The signage relating to boat access was an initiative by iwi to help prevent the introduction of Caulerpa. Please note that Caulerpa can spread rapidly, forming large smothering underwater fields. It competes with other species for space and greatly upsets the balance of ecosystems. This presents a significant risk to recreational, cultural, and commercial marine activities. Furthermore, exotic Caulerpa secretes a toxin that is avoided by mollusks, herbivorous fish, and sea urchins, can be lethal to certain species, and that the toxin may interfere with the eggs of some marine organisms. Exotic Caulerpa has no known predators outside of its native tropical range. Therefore, we recognise the significance of marine protection efforts in this area and will be ensuring that signage reflects the relevant regulations and agreements.

Additional Context:

The section of track from Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua to Scott's Point remains open for visitors to enjoy while we continue our efforts to safeguard this special place.

Regarding your query about the legal status of Ngati Kuri through Treaty settlement, we appreciate your interest in understanding the broader context. We recommend reaching out directly to Ngati Kuri directly for more specific details regarding their legal status and involvement in conservation initiatives. Here is a link to the treaty settlements: [Te Arawhiti - Ngāti Kuri](#)

Ongoing discussions between Ngati Kuri and DOC focus on managing track damage, mitigating biosecurity risks, protecting cultural sites, and ensuring a safe visitor experience. We appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges and work towards improvements.

We endeavour to work with our treaty partners towards mutual positive outcomes for conservation.

Please feel free to contact us if you need further clarification or assistance. We value your input as we strive to enhance the visitor experience in the Te Paki area.

Ngā mihi nui,



Robert Bartrum

Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau Koiora*

Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai

25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

Mob. 027 438 6656 or | Ph. +64 9 408 6014

Email rbartrum@doc.govt.nz | www.doc.govt.nz



From: s.9(2)(a) [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@protonmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@protonmail.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Morena,

On a recent trip to Cape Reinga we noticed track closures and talk about restrictions to boats. Generally the visitor experience has deteriorated since I was last there, with poorly maintained infrastructure, confusing signage and a low to zero presence of DoC staff.

Te Paki Coastal TRACK

I refer to a sign on the Te Paki Coastal Track stating...

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks

Authorised Personnel only

Surveillance Area

No Public Access

Authorised by Ngati Kuri"

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? Why is it not stated on the sign, why does the sign not explain whether there is a risk or not?
What is the Biosecurity area about? what does this mean?
What are the maintenance tracks for maintaining?

Authorised Personnel only:

Who is authorised and under what authority?

Why is there a DoC sign with no indication of Closure, but a separate sign stating closure by Ngati Kuri? That's not my hapu so I am not aware of the arrangement.

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

Why is the track closed?

Who is making the decision to close the track?

Boats:

We note a sign at Spirits Bay saying no boat launching.

Under what authority is this sign erected?

Please respond as soon as possible so we may get clarification on the matters raised.

s.9(2)(a)

Te Taitokerau

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

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From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: [Laree Furniss](#)
Subject: FW: Te Werahi wetland - Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track
Date: Wednesday, 20 March 2024 1:09:00 pm
Attachments: [image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.jpg](#)
[image012.jpg](#)
[image013.jpg](#)
[image014.jpg](#)
[image015.jpg](#)

FYI

Ngā mihi

Debbie

From: Katrina Hansen <katrinah@nrc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 1:06 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Te Werahi wetland - Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track

Thanks Debbie,

Yes Laree and I go back a long time to Whangarei .

Thanks for the feedback about the loop track, appreciate their concerns with that.

My amended text is here <https://www.wetlandtrust.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/National-Wetland-Trust-Northland-wetlands-to-visit-Update-Mar-2024-1.pdf>:



Ngā mihi

Katrina

From: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 12:29 PM
To: Katrina Hansen <katrinah@nrc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Te Werahi wetland - Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track

Hi Katrina, Laree is off sick this week but has sent me the following info:

The Loop track is closed at the request of Iwi due to Koiwi being found in the area (which we don't like to broadcast due to fossicking).

She didn't know about the pamphlet mentioned below so we'll follow up on that and the link on the webpage.

Laree can be contacted at lfurniss@doc.govt.nz from next week if you would like more info (she says you know each other from way back when she worked for DOC)

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook

Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: +64 27 213 0448

Kaitaia Office

25 Matthews Avenue | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

T: s.9(2)(a)

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www.doc.govt.nz



From: Katrina Hansen <katrinah@nrc.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 7:41 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Te Werahi wetland - Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track

Kia ora Debbie,

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly and confirming the closure of the Te Werahi loop track. This track is also referred to in DOC's '40 wetlands to visit in the North Island' pamphlet- so it might be worth altering this document as well: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/parks-and-recreation/places-to-visit/40-wetlands-to-visit-north-island.pdf>

This web-page also references the Te Werahi loop track but the link says 'page not found':

www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/northland/places/te-paki-recreation-reserve/things-to-do/tracks/ara-pou-pou-trail/pou-3

Would you be able to let me know the reason for the closure of Te Werahi loop track?

Te Werahi is a fantastic wetland and one of the top ranked in Northland.

Thanks for your help

Ngā mihi

Katrina

From: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 10:06 AM

To: Katrina Hansen <katrinah@nrc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Te Werahi wetland - Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track

Kia ora Katrina, thanks for your enquiry.

The DoC website no longer lists Te Werahi Loop track on its website as the track is unfortunately permanently closed. A list of all closures can be found at <https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/permanently-closed-facilities/>

For information, Twilight walk in campsite and the Te Paki Coastal track from Te Paki to Rerenga Wairua (Cape Reinga) is open. Te Paki Coastal from the Cape to Kapowairua (Spirits Bay) is still closed due to significant erosion and maintenance requirements.

Hope the above is helpful, get back to me if you have anything further

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

Kaitaia Office
25 Matthews Avenue | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441
T: s.9(2)(a)

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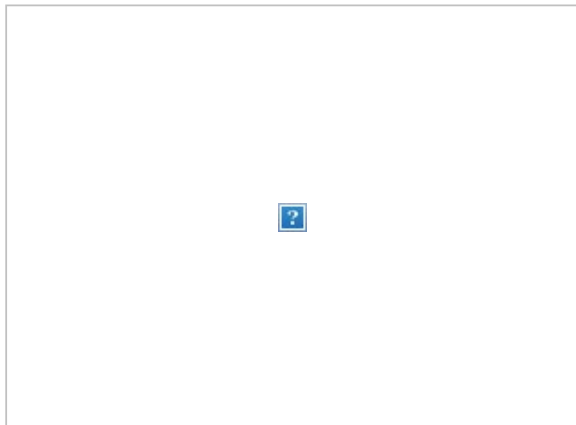


From: Katrina Hansen <katrinah@nrc.govt.nz>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2024 12:28 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Te Werahi wetland - Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track

You don't often get email from katrinah@nrc.govt.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora,

Could you please let me know if the Twilight / Te Werahi Loop Track is currently closed; I have seen posts that this was closed in 2022 for maintenance, but is not included in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve closures on the DOC website (<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/northland/places/te-paki-recreation-reserve/?tab-id=50578>):



I'm currently up-dating our 'wetlands to visit in Northland' document that is hosted on the National Wetland Trust which mentions the Te Werahi wetland, and I wanted to include current, up-to-date access information. Thanks for your help

Ngā mihi

Katrina Hansen

Biodiversity Advisor

Northland Regional Council » Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Taitokerau



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From: [Robert Bartrum](#)
To: [Laree Furniss](#); [Abraham Witana](#)
Subject: Green light for email response? RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Date: Friday, 12 April 2024 9:09:00 am
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)

Kia ora Laree,

As discussed earlier this week, as a result of this public enquiry, the below was acknowledged, discussed, and noted for action at the “2024 – 2027 Ngati Kuri Workplan with DOC” hui I had last Wednesday with Lyndell, [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#). As this shows we are all in collaboration towards making improvements to signage, do you green light the sending of this email to the enquirer, [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) Meeting notes:

Areas of interest: Signage at Te Paki

Type of area: Various throughout Te Paki

Current status of area: Multiple signs with confusing and unclear messaging

Reason work is required:

- Reset and re-imagination of this space
- Public behavioural change, promotion of appropriate and safe behaviour
- Protection of taiao, ecosystem and species

Work outcome objectives: Clear and concise signage

- How to we make these space spiritually, culturally, physically and environmentally safe, acknowledging and learning from past behaviours of DOC

How work will be undertaken by Ngati Kuri:

- To be confirmed - Internal Ngati Kuri wananga
- Hui hui to discuss

How DOC will support:

- DOC to assess and change DOC website where necessary to ensure it shows the track isn't in place and available to use (vs the “you lead we'll follow” approach)
- DOC to ensure removal of unreasonable expectations in current space and be clear about access to specific areas in all communications

Other considerations: Other agencies towards centralising

- NRC
- MPI
- Civil Defence
- FENZ

Areas of interest: General Track Maintenance

Type of areas: Various tracks: walking, maintenance tracks, maintenance lines, side-by-side and 4WD access tracks

Current status of areas:

- Diverse statuses. Pending: Ngati Kuri version of current state to be provided, to

be compared with DOC's version

Reason work is required:

- Maintain access
- Provide access to undertake work safely
- To assess locations, opening and closing of tracks
- Biosecurity

Work outcome objectives:

- Safe tracks providing necessary access to identified areas

How work will be undertaken by Ngati Kuri:

To be confirmed

How DOC will support:

- DOC to define capacity towards track maintenance funding and physical ongoing work

Other considerations:

Rob

From: Laree Furniss <lfurniss@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:54 AM

To: Abraham Witana <awitana@doc.govt.nz>; Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

All good thanks for clarifying

From: Abraham Witana <awitana@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:52 AM

To: Laree Furniss <lfurniss@doc.govt.nz>; Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: FW: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Arohamai Laree this is the one I sent **s.9(2)(a)** she had responded too sorry for confusing us

From: Abraham Witana

Sent: Friday, April 5, 2024 2:43 PM

To: **s.9(2)(a)** <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@ngatikuri.iwi.nz](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@ngatikuri.iwi.nz)>

Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Kia ora **s.9(2)(a)**

Below is the response for your consideration.

DRAFT EMAIL RESPONSE FOR YOUR INPUT/FEEDBACK:

Kia ora Phil,

Thank you for contacting us regarding your recent visit to Te Rerenga Wairua/ Cape Reinga and for sharing your observations and concerns regarding signage, track closures and boat access restrictions in the area. Your feedback is valuable as we strive to enhance visitor experiences while ensuring the protection of our natural and cultural heritage.

Te Paki Coastal Track

Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks:

The area referred to pertains to specific sections of the Te Paki Coastal Track designated for maintenance activities and biosecurity management. We acknowledge the need for clarity on the sign and we are currently in the process of reviewing signage to ensure accuracy and provide necessary information to visitors.

Authorised Personnel Only:

Authorisation for access to these maintenance tracks is granted to individuals under the authority of DOC and relevant stakeholders, including Ngati Kuri. As mentioned above, we are currently in the process of reviewing signage, and in this case to ensure accuracy of access arrangements.

Surveillance Area:

The surveillance area is monitored for biosecurity and conservation purposes, focusing on ecosystem health and protection of cultural sites. As mentioned, we are planning to update signage information, including details relating to the purpose and scope of surveillance activities.

No Public Access:

The restriction on public access applies to specific areas within the track, primarily for biosecurity and significant safety reasons. We have been and are currently working on prioritised areas that have been affected by the closure.

Track Closure Decision

The decision to close sections of the track was made collaboratively between DOC and Ngati Kuri in response to extensive track damage which resulted in conditions that are unsafe for visitors. During the cyclone and weather events of 2023 a large amount of damage occurred in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve including slips on Tapotupotu Road, Te Paki Steam Road and at the viewing area at the end of the Lighthouse track at Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua. We also sustained damage to tracks in the reserve including the washing away of a section of the Waitahora Lagoon boardwalk. Biosecurity concerns are also a factor. We acknowledge the importance of transparent communication regarding track closures and plan to provide updated clear information to visitors in the future.

Boats

The sign at Spirits Bay/Piwhane indicating no boat launching is erected under the authority of DOC in collaboration with local iwi and in consideration of cultural values and conservation efforts, especially relating to preventing the spread of exotic Caulerpa seaweed. Caulerpa can spread rapidly, forming large smothering

underwater fields. It competes with other species for space and greatly upsets the balance of ecosystems. This presents a significant risk to recreational, cultural, and commercial marine activities. Furthermore, exotic *Caulerpa* secretes a toxin that is avoided by mollusks, herbivorous fish, and sea urchins, can be lethal to certain species, and that the toxin may interfere with the eggs of some marine organisms. Exotic *Caulerpa* has no known predators outside of its native tropical range. Therefore, we recognise the significance of marine protection efforts in this area and will be ensuring that signage reflects the relevant regulations and agreements.

Additional Context

Discussions between local iwi, Ngati Kuri and DOC regarding the track damage and the need to future proof the infrastructure against future weather events, manage significant biosecurity risks like Kauri Dieback, protect wahi tapu and ensure a safe visitor experience established that there was an opportunity to re-imagine the track experience in Te Paki. This will take time to fully understand and explore options.

The section of track from Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua to Scott's Point was reopened last year to give people a track experience in the area, we ask that people use this track to appreciate the area while we work through the challenges of ensuring the protection of this special place.

Regarding your query about the legal status of Ngati Kuri through Treaty settlement, we appreciate your interest in understanding the broader context. While we can provide general information, we recommend reaching out to Ngati Kuri directly for more specific details regarding their legal status and involvement in conservation initiatives.

Please feel free to contact us if you require further clarification or assistance. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to address your concerns towards ongoing improvements to the visitor experience in the Te Paki area.

Nga mihi
Abe

From: Abraham Witana
Sent: Friday, April 5, 2024 11:38 AM
To: s.9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]> @ngatikuri.iwi.nz>
Subject: FW: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Importance: High

Kia ora s.9(2)(a)

We received an email from a visitor regarding Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access at Kapowairua.

I have asked Laree and Rob to draft a response for consideration, do you have any initial thoughts to the highlighted email below?

Nga mihi
Abe

From: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, April 4, 2024 11:56 AM
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)@protonmail.com](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)>
Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Importance: High

Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)

Thanks for your email and apologies for the delay in coming back to you.

I have shared your email with our acting operations manager Abe Witana and our leadership team for their direct response.

Thanks for getting in touch, we appreciate all feedback and will endeavour to get back to you with response shortly.

Ngā mihi

Lorien Meyers

Regional Business Support Officer | Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina-ā-rohe
Regional Fleet Coordinator – NNI and AKL

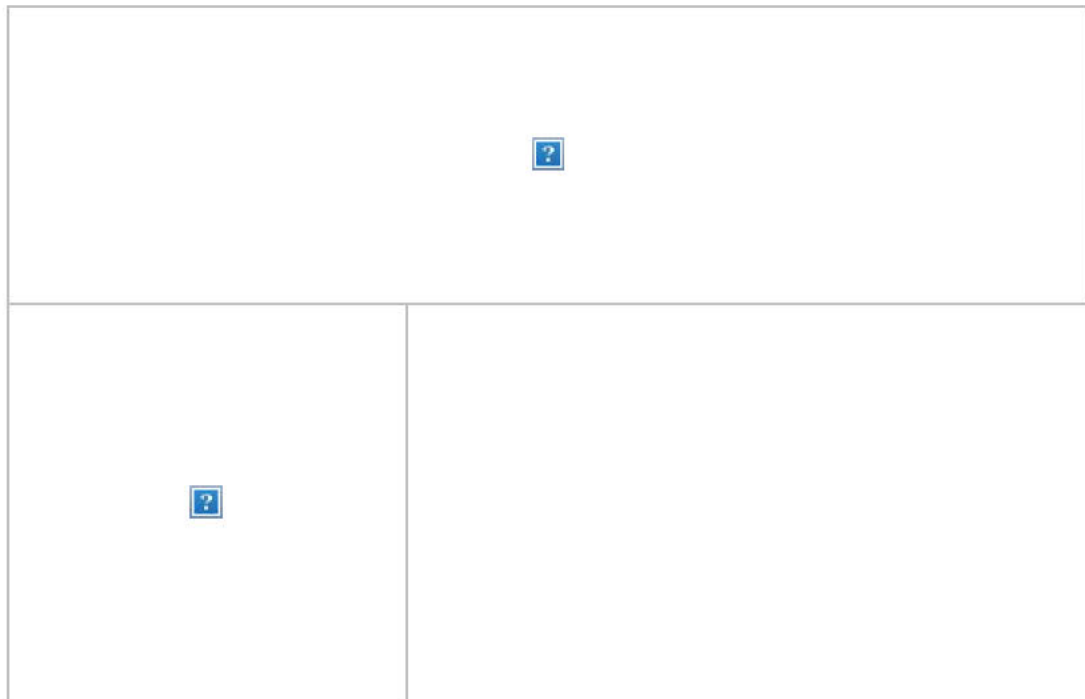
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

Kaitaia Office

25 Matthews Avenue | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441
T: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)

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From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)@protonmail.com](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

You don't often get email from **s.9(2)(a)** @protonmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Morena,

On a recent trip to Cape Reinga we noticed track closures and talk about restrictions to boats. Generally the visitor experience has deteriorated since I was last there, with poorly maintained infrastructure, confusing signage and a low to zero presence of DoC staff.

Te Paki Coastal TRACK

I refer to a sign on the Te Paki Coastal Track stating...

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks

Authorised Personnel only

Surveillance Area

No Public Access

Authorised by Ngati Kuri"

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? Why is it not stated on the sign, why does the sign not explain whether there is a risk or not?

What is the Biosecurity area about? what does this mean?

What are the maintenance tracks for maintaining?

Authorised Personnel only:

Who is authorised and under what authority?

Why is there a DoC sign with no indication of Closure, but a separate sign stating closure by Ngati Kuri? That's not my hapu so I am not aware of the arrangement.

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

Why is the track closed?

Who is making the decision to close the track?

Boats:

We note a sign at Spirits Bay saying no boat launching.

Under what authority is this sign erected?

Please respond as soon as possible so we may get clarification on the matters raised.

s.9(2)(a)

Te Taitokerau

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: FAR NORTH TRAILS
Date: Monday, 22 January 2024 10:56:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Kia ora s.9(2)(a) and thanks for your enquiry.

Currently Te Paki Coastal Track from Te Paki Stream to Cape Reinga and the track from Cape Reinga car park to the lighthouse are open.

The eastern portion of Te Paki Coastal Track from Cape Reinga to Spirits Bay is closed due to severe erosion from the various weather events of the past 12 months and will be repaired when weather and resources allow.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

Kaitaia Office
25 Matthews Avenue | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441
T: +64 9 408 6014

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From: s.9(2)(a)
Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2024 2:45 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: FAR NORTH TRAILS

You don't often get email from s.9(2)(a). [Learn why this is important](#)

Please can you give me the latest information on which trails north of Waitiki Landing are now open.

Thanks!

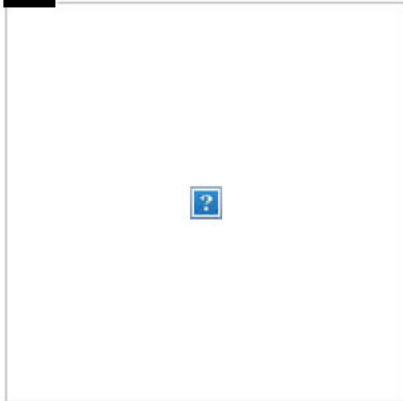
s.9(2)(a)

From: s.9(2)(a)
To: [Kaitaia](#)
Subject: Re: access south of Tapotupotu
Date: Monday, 12 February 2024 11:46:16 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

You don't often get email from [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)@excellerecollege.school.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Thanks so much for the confirmation Debbie, really appreciate it.
Have a great day,

s.9(2)(a)



On Mon, 12 Feb 2024 at 11:38, Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) and thanks for your enquiry.

Unfortunately, Te Paki Coastal Track is still closed from Te Rerenga Wairua – Cape Reinga to Kapowairua – Spirits Bay. We understand this is frustrating however the track is unsafe due to last years weather events causing significant erosion and topographical changes. It will be some time before we are allocated budget and resources to undertake the repairs.

The good news is that Te Paki Coastal is open to the west of Te Rerenga Wairua through to Te Paki Stream. This includes the Twilight 'walk in' campsite.

Hopefully you find a suitable trail

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*

Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

Kaitaia Office

25 Matthews Avenue | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

T: +64 9 408 6014

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From: s.9(2)(a) [redacted] <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@excellerecollege.school.nz](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@excellerecollege.school.nz)>

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 11:25 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: access south of Tapotupotu

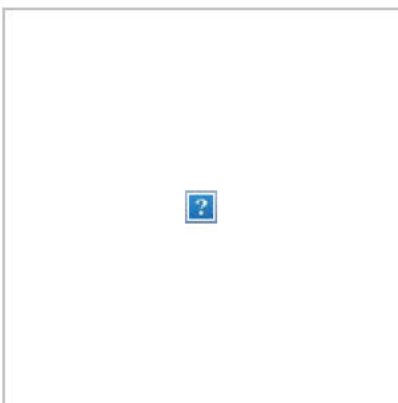
You don't often get email from s.9(2)(a) [redacted] <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@excellerecollege.school.nz](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@excellerecollege.school.nz)>. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia Ora,

I am looking at taking some senior secondary school students tramping, and was wondering what the chances are of walking from Tapotupotu towards spirits bay, and just wanted to see how far we could go if possible that way, or is the track closed from tapotupotu?

Thanks heaps

s.9(2)(a) [redacted]



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confidential or subject to legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message or data is prohibited. If you received this email in error, please notify us immediately and erase all copies of the message and attachments. We apologise for the inconvenience.
Thank you.

From: [Laree Furniss](#)
To: [doc website](#)
Cc: [Lorien Meyers](#); [Deborah Aubrook](#)
Subject: RE: Action required: Alert to review - Te Paki severe weather
Date: Monday, 15 April 2024 8:04:52 am

Kia ora Team,

Please remove these alerts only.

Thanks Laree.

From: doc website <docwebsite@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 8:00 AM
To: Laree Furniss <lfurniss@doc.govt.nz>
Cc: Webteam <HOWebTeam@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Action required: Alert to review - Te Paki severe weather

It's time to review the below alert. Email webteam@doc.govt.nz and let us know:

- any text updates
- a new review date, or
- if the alert can be removed.

Also let your asset planner know if an asset is closing or opening so they can update EAM.

This is an automated email. You've received it because you're listed as the contact for the alert.

[Te Paki severe weather](#)

Access to Te Paki sites may be difficult or hazardous from 10 April to 13 April 2024. This is due to predicted severe weather including heavy rain and high winds.

Te Paki Stream will be closed to vehicles during this time and potentially longer.

From: [Lorien Meyers](#)
To: [Sheena Veal](#)
Cc: [Deborah Aubrook](#)
Subject: RE: Cape Reinga track info
Date: Tuesday, 16 April 2024 12:48:26 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Kia ora Sheena

Debbie is our BSO while I'm on secondment until end of October so feel free to get in touch with her, or myself if she's not available. We know the tracks status and can always also check in with our H & V Senior Ranger Laree should there be any curlier questions

I guess the main thing to note currently is that the Eastern portion of the Te Paki Coastal Track is closed due to re-routing work- and that looks like it'll be taking a while yet as we're still working on the route.

Cheers, Lorien

From: Sheena Veal <sveal@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 12:28 PM
To: Lorien Meyers <lmeyers@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Cape Reinga track info

Kia Ora Lorien,

We occasionally get phone enquires of people wanting to know specific track info for your area. Do you have a contact who we would be able to put them onto?

Ngā mihi,

Sheena
Visitor Centre Supervisor
Kauaeranga Visitor Centre
PO Box 343, Thames 3500
T: **s.9(2)(a)**
Email: sveal@doc.govt.nz

Papatūānuku Thrives email banner.



From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Pandora bay walking track
Date: Thursday, 29 February 2024 2:51:00 pm

Kia ora s.9(2)(a) thanks for your enquiry.

Unfortunately, the eastern part of Te Paki Coastal Track is still closed from Te Rerenga Wairua (Cape Rēinga) to Kapowairua (Spirits Bay) due to substantial erosion and topographical changes from last year's extreme weather events.

Te Paki Stream to Te Rerenga Coastal Track is open and Twilight Camp.

Ngā mihi
Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina
Department of Conservation —Te Papa Atawhai

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, February 29, 2024 2:45 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Pandora bay walking track

[You don't often get email from s.9(2)(a) Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Kia Ora,
Is the pandora bay walking track open to the public?

Ngā mihi

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: RE: Pandora Camping
Date: Tuesday, 16 January 2024 9:40:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#), thanks for your enquiry.

Pandora campsite is only accessible via foot from Te Paki Coastal Track. Taputapota and Spirits Bay campsites have vehicle access.

All information can be found on our website at <https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-stay/stay-at-a-campsite/?region-id=3001000>

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

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From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 11:19 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Pandora Camping

You don't often get email from [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

we would like to camp with our camper at the Pandora Campingground. Is it possible to get there with our camper tomorrow because sometime the way is closed?

Thank you!

Best regards

s.9(2)(a)

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Re trail closures
Date: Friday, 12 January 2024 1:15:00 pm

H s.9(2)(a), yes you're correct. It's only East of Cape Reinga that's still closed. The track to the Lighthouse is also open

Ngā mihi
Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina
Department of Conservation —Te Papa Atawhai

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-----Original Message-----

From: s.9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 11:42 AM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Re trail closures

[You don't often get email from s.9(2)(a). Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Ki ora,

We plan to walk from Cape Reinga to Cape Maria Van Diemen on Sunday. We note however closures of some walks in the Te Pahi Reserve. Does that include this portion of the trail? I think it only refers to the eastern trails, however I obviously want to check!

Thanks,

s.9(2)(a)
[Redacted]

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: RE: Require for Te Paki coastal track
Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2024 1:32:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi s.9(2)(a), unfortunately not – the track is closed due to erosion and is unsafe. There are lots of other spots, I'm sure you'll find some fish

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

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From: s.9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 5:00 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: RE: Require for Te Paki coastal track

You don't often get email from oyado2525@yahoo.co.jp. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Debbie

Thank you so much for your quick reply.

I was also thinking to do some fishing at Sandy Bay, which is located about 45 minutes by walk from

Cape Reinga car park. To go to Sandy bay, the part of Te Paki Coastal track need to be walked for little distance.

Is this part of Te Paki Coastal track is also closed ?

Thank you for your help.

s.9(2)(a)

----- Original Message -----

From: "Kaitaia" <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

To: s.9(2)(a)

Date: 2024/01/30 火 16:16

Subject: RE: Require for Te Paki coastal track

Kia ora James and thanks for your enquiry.

Te Paki Coastal Track is now open from Te Paki Stream to Cape Reinga. Twilight walk-in campsite is also open.

The track to the lighthouse at the Cape is open.

Te Paki Coastal Track from Cape Reinga to Kapowairua (Spirits Bay) is closed for the foreseeable future due to multiple erosions due to the weather events last year.

Happy tramping

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook

Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*

Department of Conservation —*Te Papa Atawhai*

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 4:11 PM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Require for Te Paki coastal track

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi there

I was planning to visit Cape Reinga and walk some of the tracks around there,

but some of the websites say that Te Paki coastal track is closed .

I just would like to double check that Is the Te Paki coastal track is closed now ?

Thank you for your help.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: RE: Sand Dunes
Date: Monday, 22 January 2024 10:44:00 am

Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) thanks for your enquiry.

The road to Te Paki Stream and access to the dunes and 90 Mile Beach is currently open. The alert on the website refers to the section of Te Paki Coastal Track that traverses from Cape Reinga to Spirits Bay.

Ngā mihi
Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina
Department of Conservation —Te Papa Atawhai

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-----Original Message-----

From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2024 10:14 AM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Sand Dunes

[You don't often get email from [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hi there,

Just wondering if the road to visit sand dunes are open?
There are a warning message regarding to Te Paki recreation closure.

Many Thanks

[s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: RE: Sandy Bay
Date: Wednesday, 3 January 2024 9:46:00 am

Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#), thanks for your enquiry and apologies for the delay in replying - we must just have finished for the Christmas break when you mailed in.

Sandy Bay is on the Cape to Spirits Bay portion of the Te Paki Coastal and unfortunately due to the extreme weather events of the past year the track is washed out and will need to be re-routed in several places. This work will go into our schedule for this year however we cannot give a date at this point. In better news, the western portion of the track from Te Paki to the Cape reopened just prior to Christmas along with Twilight campground.

Ngā mihi
Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina
Department of Conservation —Te Papa Atawhai

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-----Original Message-----

From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 5:48 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Sandy Bay

[You don't often get email from [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Please could you tell me when the walks to Sandy Bay will be reopened to the public?

Many thanks

[s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: RE: Taupoutapouta
Date: Friday, 5 January 2024 2:31:00 pm

Hi [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) Te Paki Stream is currently open and as you know 90 Mile Beach is a state highway so you are able to access and drive on the beach. As to whether any particular spot is safe for launching isn't within our remit, especially since the bad weather last year has changed a lot of the local topography by the coast. If you are in the area we recommend talking with the local iwi who should be able to advise.

Ngā mihi
Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina
Department of Conservation —Te Papa Atawhai

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-----Original Message-----

From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 1:34 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Taupoutapouta

[You don't often get email from [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hi Debbie
Thanks for getting back with all the information regarding launching boats.
Looks like West Coast is still ok apart from areas you mention , so is Scott's point north of Te Paki stream ok to launch from too.

Thanks

[s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Sent from my iPad

- > On 4/01/2024, at 9:27 AM, Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz> wrote:
>
> Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) thanks for your enquiry and apologies for the delay in reply due to office holidays.
>
> The only official launch sites on the west coast in the far far north are Hukatere and Waipapakauri beach access both on 90 Mile Beach. Currently there is a rāhui at Ahipara due to a still missing local diver so launching may not be permitted there.
>
> Houhora and Pukenui launch sites are still in operation.
>
> This is the panui we received from the local iwi for your information:
>
> "With the presence of the invasive exotic Caulerpa Seaweed being detected around the Northland coast and Little Barrier we have been notified of the following by local iwi:
>
> As a precautionary measure to help prevent Caulerpa spread in our area:
> • Taputaputa boat ramp has been removed and is closed
> • Taputaputa estuary access will remain closed
> • Kapowairua ramp is closed
> Further information on the spread of Caulerpa in Aotearoa New Zealand can be found at

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/biosecurity/exotic-pests-and-diseases-in-new-zealand/pests-and-diseases-under-response/exotic-caulerpa-seaweeds-caulerpa-brachypus-and-caulerpa-parvifolia-in-new-zealand/>"

>

> Hope the above is helpful

>

> Ngā mihi

> Debbie Aubrook

> Business Support Officer - Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina Department of

> Conservation —Te Papa Atawhai

>

> Kaitaia Office

> 25 Matthews Avenue | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

> T: +64 9 408 6014

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> te ao tūroa www.doc.govt.nz

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: **S.9(2)(a)**

> Sent: Monday, January 1, 2024 1:52 PM

> To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

> Subject: Taupoutapouta

>

> [You don't often get email from **S.9(2)(a)**. Learn

> why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>

>]

>

> Hi

> Just enquiring about launching a boat at tapoutapouta We have launched there plenty of times before but have heard the local Iwi have closed it due to Culerpa weed concerns Is that correct?

> If it's closed are we permitted to launch at Scott's point 90 mile

> beach Thanks for any info Regards **S.9(2)(a)** Sent from my iPhone

>

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From: [Robert Bartrum](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Bcc: [Laree Furniss](#); [Lyndell McGregor](#); [Kaitaia](#); [Abraham Witana](#)
Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access
Date: Monday, 15 April 2024 3:15:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Kia ora s.9(2)(a)

Thank you for contacting us following your recent visit to Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga and for sharing your observations and concerns regarding signage, track closures, and boat access restrictions in the area. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to enhance visitor experiences while preserving our natural and cultural heritage.

Te Paki Coastal Track:

Regarding the maintenance tracks and biosecurity areas along the Te Paki Coastal Track, we are currently collaborating with our treaty partner, Ngati Kuri, to upgrade signage for improved accuracy and visitor information. We recognize the importance of clear communication regarding access arrangements and surveillance activities within these areas.

Track Closure Decision:

The decision to close sections of the track was made collaboratively between DOC and Ngati Kuri in response to extensive track damage which resulted in conditions that are unsafe for visitors. During the cyclone and weather events of 2023 a large amount of damage occurred in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve including slips on Tapotupotu Road, Te Paki Steam Road and at the viewing area at the end of the Lighthouse track at Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua. We also sustained damage to tracks in the reserve including the washing away of a section of the Waitahora Lagoon boardwalk. Biosecurity concerns are also a factor. We acknowledge the importance of transparent communication regarding track closures and plan to provide updated clear information to visitors in the future.

Boats:

The signage relating to boat access was an initiative by iwi to help prevent the introduction of Caulerpa. Please note that Caulerpa can spread rapidly, forming large smothering underwater fields. It competes with other species for space and greatly upsets the balance of ecosystems. This presents a significant risk to recreational, cultural, and commercial marine activities. Furthermore, exotic Caulerpa secretes a toxin that is avoided by mollusks, herbivorous fish, and sea urchins, can be lethal to certain species, and that the toxin may interfere with the eggs of some marine organisms. Exotic Caulerpa has no known predators outside of its native tropical range. Therefore, we recognise the significance of marine protection efforts in this area and will be ensuring that signage reflects the relevant regulations and agreements.

Additional Context:

The section of track from Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua to Scott's Point remains open for visitors to enjoy while we continue our efforts to safeguard this special place. Regarding your query about the legal status of Ngati Kuri through Treaty settlement, we appreciate your interest in understanding the broader context. We recommend reaching out directly to Ngati Kuri directly for more specific details regarding their legal status and involvement in conservation initiatives. Here is a link to the treaty settlements: [Te Arawhiti - Ngāti Kuri](#)

Ongoing discussions between Ngati Kuri and DOC focus on managing track damage, mitigating biosecurity risks, protecting cultural sites, and ensuring a safe visitor experience. We appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges and work towards improvements.

We endeavour to work with our treaty partners towards mutual positive outcomes for conservation.

Please feel free to contact us if you need further clarification or assistance. We value your input as we strive to enhance the visitor experience in the Te Paki area.
Ngā mihi nui,



Robert Bartrum

Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau Koiora*

Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai

25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

Mob. **s.9(2)(a)** or | Ph. +64 9 408 6014

Email rbartrum@doc.govt.nz | www.doc.govt.nz

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From: **s.9(2)(a)** <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@protonmail.com](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Morena,

On a recent trip to Cape Reinga we noticed track closures and talk about restrictions to boats. Generally the visitor experience has deteriorated since I was last there, with poorly maintained infrastructure, confusing signage and a low to zero presence of DoC staff.

Te Paki Coastal TRACK

I refer to a sign on the Te Paki Coastal Track stating...

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks

Authorised Personnel only

Surveillance Area

No Public Access

Authorised by Ngati Kuri"

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? Why is it not stated on the sign, why does the sign not explain whether there is a risk or not?

What is the Biosecurity area about? what does this mean?

What are the maintenance tracks for maintaining?

Authorised Personnel only:

Who is authorised and under what authority?

Why is there a DoC sign with no indication of Closure, but a separate sign stating closure by Ngati Kuri? That's not my hapu so I am not aware of the arrangement.

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

Why is the track closed?

Who is making the decision to close the track?

Boats:

We note a sign at Spirits Bay saying no boat launching.

Under what authority is this sign erected?

Please respond as soon as possible so we may get clarification on the matters raised.

s.9(2)(a)

Te Taitokerau

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: s.9(2)(a)
To: [Robert Bartrum; enquiries@ngatikuri.iwi.nz](mailto:enquiries@ngatikuri.iwi.nz)
Cc: Tama.Potaka@parliament.govt.nz
Subject: RE: Te Pahi Coastal track closure and boat access
Date: Tuesday, 16 April 2024 3:22:50 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thanks for the response.

I think I understand your reasons for the track closure, but that is about it. It has raised more questions than answers.

And I now have to email another organisation to get the answers, or not. I emailed Ngati Kuri some time ago and have not received a response.

If the track was closed due to storm damage, what is the plan for repairs for this track? When will the track reopen?

Regarding the collaboration with partners, where can I find the agreements and plans which form the basis of the partnership?

Who is the key liaison between the groups providing a single source of information?

I still don't have the answer to the questions I have raised in my email specifically below, while you have stated you will be providing clearer information in the future, there is no time stated, it is a worry that an area is closed for specific reasons (biosecurity?), but they are either not known or not being communicated and cannot be told to me now.

Does'nt that seem odd to you?

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? specifically clarify the area of public conservation land affected.

What is the Biosecurity threat?

Authorised Personnel only:

Who is authorised and under what authority? Is it the conservation act?

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

You have said both parties are intending to clarify the signage and the issues I have raised, why is the information not able to be supplied to me now?

I will try Ngati Kuri, can you provide the DoC partner liaison and an email address for them?

I have copied in the Minister for Conservations Office to try and get a more specific response.

Regarding Caulerpa,...

I have had a look and can find only the most recent NIWA information on the matter which is inconclusive regarding the extent to which , if at all Caulerpa is a threat to the areas studied. That report reference very old reports from other countries which have had no recent updates. It appears a knee jerk reaction is in place.

The Middleton paper references the latest 2002 research in Mediteranian and that paper

specifically looked at effects on seagrass, and the conclusion was that there were positive and negative effects. The 1995 paper referenced refers a different type of caulerpa.

Here is the conclusion of the latest available NIWA study on the GBI Caulerpa below. No doubt some caution is being exercised at those places, but the local response seems to exclude "non local" boats, other than those which passage there from another ramp or country.

There is no advice on where on the boat to look for caulerpa, given it is a bottom dwelling plant, we would have to presume anchors, and surely a simple information and advice about how to clean anchors warp and rope would suffice?

I'll note I have seen no actual study or paper showing evidence that caulerpa in NZ is spread by boat and how. Its most well known vector is dumped aquarium contents.

5.1 Conclusions & future directions This preliminary report describes the study approach, establishment of the sampling locations and methods for sample collection. Data and preliminary findings were summarised to provide initial, qualitative assessments of the potential impacts of exotic Caulerpa at Aotea/GBI. The work is, however, part of a longer-term assessment of impacts. The transects established during this initial trip will allow for georeferenced temporal replication of impact assessments by NIWA, stakeholders, tangata whenua or other research organisations. Preliminary assessments suggest that exotic Caulerpa has proliferated significantly since earlier visits, and that cyclone Gabrielle had negligible impact on the density and extent of Caulerpa in Okupe/Blind Bay. There are some indications that Taonga species (Tīpa and Kina) have been negatively impacted in areas of high exotic Caulerpa density. Preliminary comparisons of sediment characteristics within areas of exotic Caulerpa beds, seagrasses and unvegetated sediments suggest that that Caulerpa may have similar effects on sediment characteristics as seagrasses. However, further assessments, data collection and analysis of the samples is still to occur. These analyses along with repeated sampling will build a more comprehensive picture of the impacts of exotic Caulerpa on sediment, macrofauna, biogenic habitats and taonga species. Continued monitoring is required to measure changes caused by exotic Caulerpa against the natural spatio-temporal background in these environments and to allow robust conclusions about impacts on key species, habitats and ecosystem processes. NIWA will return to Aotea/GBI to undertake a second round of monitoring at the fixed transects in late May 2023. Sample analysis and data collection will be completed in the 2023-24 financial year.

If your organisation has more recent papers on the matter then I would be happy to remain more informed.

s.9(2)(a)

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

On Monday, April 15th, 2024 at 3:15 PM, Robert Bartrum <rbartrum@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora s.9(2)(a)

Thank you for contacting us following your recent visit to Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga and for sharing your observations and concerns regarding signage, track closures, and boat access restrictions in the area. Your feedback is invaluable as we

strive to enhance visitor experiences while preserving our natural and cultural heritage.

Te Paki Coastal Track:

Regarding the maintenance tracks and biosecurity areas along the Te Paki Coastal Track, we are currently collaborating with our treaty partner, Ngati Kuri, to upgrade signage for improved accuracy and visitor information. We recognize the importance of clear communication regarding access arrangements and surveillance activities within these areas.

Track Closure Decision:

The decision to close sections of the track was made collaboratively between DOC and Ngati Kuri in response to extensive track damage which resulted in conditions that are unsafe for visitors. During the cyclone and weather events of 2023 a large amount of damage occurred in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve including slips on Tapotupotu Road, Te Paki Steam Road and at the viewing area at the end of the Lighthouse track at Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua. We also sustained damage to tracks in the reserve including the washing away of a section of the Waitahora Lagoon boardwalk. Biosecurity concerns are also a factor. We acknowledge the importance of transparent communication regarding track closures and plan to provide updated clear information to visitors in the future.

Boats:

The signage relating to boat access was an initiative by iwi to help prevent the introduction of *Caulerpa*. Please note that *Caulerpa* can spread rapidly, forming large smothering underwater fields. It competes with other species for space and greatly upsets the balance of ecosystems. This presents a significant risk to recreational, cultural, and commercial marine activities. Furthermore, exotic *Caulerpa* secretes a toxin that is avoided by mollusks, herbivorous fish, and sea urchins, can be lethal to certain species, and that the toxin may interfere with the eggs of some marine organisms. Exotic *Caulerpa* has no known predators outside of its native tropical range. Therefore, we recognise the significance of marine protection efforts in this area and will be ensuring that signage reflects the relevant regulations and agreements.

Additional Context:

The section of track from Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua to Scott's Point remains open for visitors to enjoy while we continue our efforts to safeguard this special place.

Regarding your query about the legal status of Ngati Kuri through Treaty settlement, we appreciate your interest in understanding the broader context. We recommend reaching out directly to Ngati Kuri directly for more specific details regarding their legal status and involvement in conservation initiatives. Here is a

link to the treaty settlements: [Te Arawhiti - Ngāti Kuri](#)

Ongoing discussions between Ngati Kuri and DOC focus on managing track damage, mitigating biosecurity risks, protecting cultural sites, and ensuring a safe visitor experience. We appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges and work towards improvements.

We endeavour to work with our treaty partners towards mutual positive outcomes for conservation.

Please feel free to contact us if you need further clarification or assistance. We value your input as we strive to enhance the visitor experience in the Te Paki area.

Ngā mihi nui,

-



Robert Bartrum

Senior Ranger Biodiversity - *Kaitiaki Matua Kanorau Koiora*

Department of Conservation - *Te Papa Atawhai*

25 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia | PO Box 569, Kaitaia 0441

Mob. **s.9(2)(a)** | Ph. +64 9 408 6014

Email rbartrum@doc.govt.nz | www.doc.govt.nz

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From: **s.9(2)(a)** <[s.9\(2\)\(a\)@protonmail.com](mailto:s.9(2)(a)@protonmail.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Coastal track closure and boat access

Morena,

On a recent trip to Cape Reinga we noticed track closures and talk about restrictions to boats. Generally the visitor experience has deteriorated since I was last there, with poorly maintained infrastructure, confusing signage and a low to zero presence of DoC staff.

Te Paki Coastal TRACK

I refer to a sign on the Te Paki Coastal Track stating...

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks

Authorised Personnel only

Surveillance Area

No Public Access

Authorised by Ngati Kuri"

"Biosecurity Area - Maintenance Tracks"

Please clarify What is the area referred to? Why is it not stated on the sign, why does the sign not explain whether there is a risk or not?

What is the Biosecurity area about? what does this mean?

What are the maintenance tracks for maintaining?

Authorised Personnel only:

Who is authorised and under what authority?

Why is there a DoC sign with no indication of Closure, but a separate sign stating closure by Ngati Kuri? That's not my hapu so I am not aware of the arrangement.

Surveillance Area:

What is being surveyed? and, What is the area being surveyed? Or is this surveillance of people?

No Public Access:

To where? to the surveillance area? or the Biosecurity area? or the track?

Why is the track closed?

Who is making the decision to close the track?

Boats:

We note a sign at Spirits Bay saying no boat launching.

Under what authority is this sign erected?

Please respond as soon as possible so we may get clarification on the matters raised.

s.9(2)(a)

Te Taitokerau

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From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Te paki coastal walk
Date: Monday, 19 February 2024 10:13:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Kia ora s.9(2)(a), unfortunately we have no update to report regarding the eastern section of Te Paki Coastal Track. Currently we have no scheduled work plan or resources allocated for the work. Needless to say we are really wanting to get on with restoring the track however we have to wait for funding and resources to become available.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*
M: s.9(2)(a)

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From: s.9(2)(a)
Sent: Sunday, February 18, 2024 10:01 AM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Te paki coastal walk

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Hello

Is there any update yet on when the coastal walk will be able to be reopened? Ie the part east of the lighthouse including pandora campsite.

Thanks

s.9(2)(a)

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From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Te Paki Coastal Walk/tramp
Date: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 3:18:54 pm
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)

Kia ora s.9(2)(a)

Thanks for your email. Yes, sorry but the eastern portion (Cape Reinga to Spirits bay) of the Te Paki Coastal Track is still closed due to track re-routing and engineering work.

This project is a large one and we don't anticipate this work being completed anytime soon.

Thanks for checking in and sorry for the disappointment. Feel free to check in again after winter.

All the best

Ngā mihi

Lorien Meyers

Regional Business Support Officer | Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina-ā-rohe
Regional Fleet Coordinator – NNI and AKL

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From: s.9(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 2:58 PM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Coastal Walk/tramp

You don't often get email from s.9(2)(a) . [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi,

Is the eastern side of the Te Paki coastal tramp still closed ?

Kind Regards

s.9(2)(a)

From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Te Paki Recreation Reserve
Date: Tuesday, 23 January 2024 11:02:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Kia ora s.9(2)(a) thanks for your enquiry.

The easiest way to explain is that Te Paki Coastal Track from Te Paki Stream to Cape Reinga is open (which includes Twilight campsite) and the track from Cape Reinga to the Lighthouse is open. All other tracks in Te Paki Recreation Reserves are closed at this time.

Hope that helps

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*
Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

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From: s.9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 10:01 AM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Te Paki Recreation Reserve

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Hello,

I hoping you will be able to give me further information on what tracks are open in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve. The information on the website says all tracks west of the highway are open, but it also says that the Twilight Track is closed. Do you have a map you would be able to provide that shows the routes open and closed?

Thanks

s.9(2)(a)

From: s.9(2)(a)
To: Kaitaia
Subject: Re: Te Paki Recreation Reserve or Reserves (plural)?
Date: Friday, 2 February 2024 6:13:42 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)

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Hi Iorien,

Many thanks for the info. So to summarize I should rename my photos to Te Rerenga Wairua Historic Reserve as the FORMER cape reinga reserve no longer exists and I should ALSO remove Te Paki Recreation Reserves from my photos as the boundary doesn't cover the lighthouse.

I noticed you said the reserve was private but I assume public access has been guaranteed. Do you know what the situation would now be if I wanted to sell photos of the lighthouse eg. If on DOC land I think I would need to get in touch with DOC first.

Lastly, the Te Paki giant sand dunes are in the collection of reserves known as Te Paki Recreation Reserves but do you know what the individual reserve is named? And is there a map of said reserve on the internet somewhere?

Many thanks

s.9(2)(a)

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From: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:38:04 pm
To: s.9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Te Paki Recreation Reserve or Reserves (plural)?

Kia ora s.9(2)(a)

I was just following up on emails in the Kaitaia mailbox and saw yours- apologies if my colleague Debbie has already replied previously.

But in regard to your questions the info attached may be helpful- I have just pulled this from our DOCgis system.

The 'Cape Reinga Reserve' remains as Te Rerenga Wairua Historic Reserve - which is indeed privately owned as part of settlement for the Ngāti Kuri iwi.

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2015/0076/latest/DLM6056066.html>

I hope that helps to clarify things for you.

Have a lovely weekend.

Ngā mihi

Lorien Meyers

Regional Business Support Officer | Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina-ā-rohe
Regional Fleet Coordinator – NNI and AKL

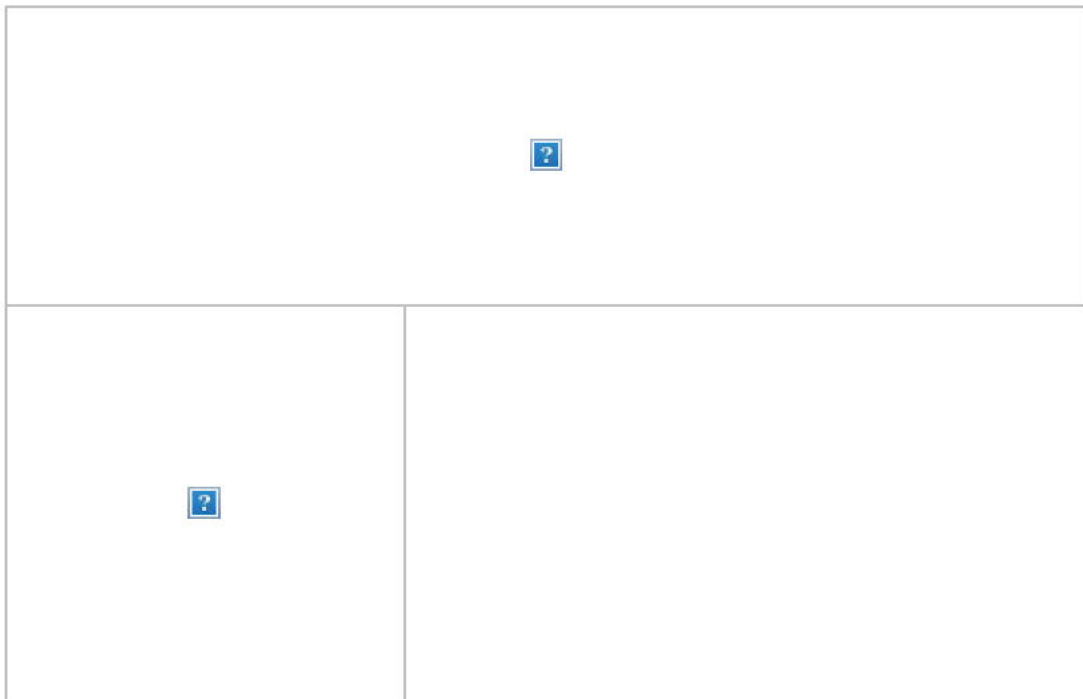
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From: s.9(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 8:55 PM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Te Paki Recreation Reserve or Reserves (plural)?

You don't often get email from ywebby@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Debbie,

Thanks for your reply. I have gone online to try and find more info and maps on Cape Reinga Reserve and the individual Te Paki Reserve (I'm guessing that's where the sand dunes are located), however nothing is coming up for these 2 names. Furthermore the outdoor access commission has a map showing that the Te Paki Reserves no longer covers the lighthouse [Outdoor Access Map \(herenganuku.govt.nz\)](http://herenganuku.govt.nz) and it appears there was a settlement of some sort and is now (or in the process) of being a historic reserve instead. I think I do remember the name Cape Reinga Reserve from my last visit 9 years ago,

however I am wondering if it actually no longer exists. Can you please confirm if the Cape Reinga Reserve is still current and are you able to show me where I can view a map or more info on Te Paki Reserve (place with giant sand dunes).

Many thanks

s.9(2)(a)

From: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 22 January 2024 11:05 am

To: s.9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Te Paki Recreation Reserve or Reserves (plural)?

Kia ora s.9(2)(a) and thanks for your enquiry.

In theory both naming conventions are correct as there is an individual Te Paki Reserve that is part of a collective of reserves including for example Cape Reinga Reserve. So, it depends on where you were stood when the photos were taken. You would be correct however, to entitle them Te Paki Recreation Reserves (plural) as all your photos were taken within the collective of reserves.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook

Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*

Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

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From: s.9(2)(a)

Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2024 11:55 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Te Paki Recreation Reserve or Reserves (plural)?

You don't often get email from **s.9(2)(a)** [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I was wanting to label my photos — I noticed that the sign at Cape Reinga said "Te Paki Recreation Reserves" (plural) whilst your website says "Te Paki Recreation Reserve" (singular). Could you please tell me what the name officially/correctly is? many thanks

s.9(2)(a)

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From: s.9(2)(a)
To: [Kaitaia](#)
Subject: Re: Te Paki Stream
Date: Wednesday, 20 March 2024 12:32:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

You don't often get email from [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [Learn why this is important](#)

Awesome thanks Debbie - I am taking a group of international students to the cape in May and sand boarding is on their list of things they would like to do. I didn't want to say it was possible without knowing whether the area was still accessible or not. I appreciate the information.

Regards

s.9(2)(a)

On Wed, Mar 20, 2024 at 12:25 PM Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#) thanks for your enquiry.

Yes, as of now the dunes and Te Paki stream are accessible with parking. As you know, weather events can cause the situation to change but all good currently

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*

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From: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 12:17 PM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Te Paki Stream

You don't often get email from **s.9(2)(a)**. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi - I am wondering if it is still possible to access the sand dunes at Te Paki Stream. I understand you can't drive through there now but is there somewhere to park and to walk through? Are the dunes open for sand boarding?

Thanks

--

s.9(2)(a)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Thank you.

--

s.9(2)(a)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Laree Furniss](#)
To: [Webteam](#)
Cc: [Lorien Meyers](#); [Deborah Aubrook](#); [Abraham Witana](#); [David John Neho](#); [Doug Te Wake](#)
Subject: Te Paki Alerts
Date: Wednesday, 10 April 2024 11:40:36 am

Kia ora Team,

Can you please add the following alert on the following pages please:

Please be aware severe weather is predicted to occur in Northland from 10th April to 13th April including heavy rain and high winds which may make accessing these sites difficult or hazardous. Te Paki Stream will be closed to vehicles during this time and potentially longer.

[Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua: Places to go in Northland \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

[Te Paki Coastal Track: Te Paki, Northland \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

[Te Paki Recreation Reserve: Places to go in Northland \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

[Te Paki sand dunes: Te Paki Recreation Reserve, Northland region \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

Ngā mihi

Laree Furniss

Senior Ranger Heritage & Visitor | Kaitiaki Matua, (Āo Hākinakina/Āo Tuku Iho)
Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai

M: [s.9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

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From: [David Bird](#)
To: [Kaitaia](#)
Subject: Re: Twilight Track - Te Werahi Loop Track
Date: Monday, 24 June 2024 4:25:11 am

You don't often get email from dickiebird@blueyonder.co.uk. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Debbie,

Oh we like North Yorkshire, we've walked parts of the Pennine Way and bridalway and of course the moors, fabulous countryside.

Thanks so much for all the information, I can see on the maps where we will be able to go.

I think a return walk from Cape Reinga to Cape Maria van Diemen would make a good days walk.

We're both looking forward to visiting New Zealand

Regards
Dave

On 18 Jun 2024, at 21:56, Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora kourua,

I'm from North Yorkshire and can confirm Aotearoa New Zealand is almost as nice

Parts of Te Paki Coastal Track were damaged during Cyclone Gabrielle last year and the topography has changed completely in some places. This means that sections of the track are going to be totally remade. We are currently going through a 'reimagining' phase for the Eastern section of the track that runs from Te Rerenga Wairua (Cape Reinga to Kapowairua (Spirits Bay)

The Western section of Te Paki Coastal Track from Te Paki Stream & Sand Dunes is open through to Te Rerenga Wairua (Cape Reinga) and Twilight walk in micro-campsite is on this route.

Te Wehari Loop Track is permanently closed due to the finding of Koiwi – ancient Māori bones & artifacts and has been declared tapu – sacred – by the local iwi, Ngāti Kuri.

I hope the above answers your questions, however don't hesitate to get in touch if I can help you further.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*

Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

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<image001.png>

From: dickiebird@blueyonder.co.uk <dickiebird@blueyonder.co.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 12:24 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Twilight Track - Te Werahi Loop Track

You don't often get email from dickiebird@blueyonder.co.uk. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia Ora,

Were from the UK and will be visiting your wonderful country next January to April 2025.

We have been very fortunate in booking a number of the 'Great Walks'.

Towards the end of January we are in the Paki Recreation Reserve area. We would like to tramp the Twilight Track - Te Werahi Loop Track.

However, I understand this is closed at present.

Will the track be reopened for next January.

Nga Mihi

Dave & Jackie

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From: [Lorien Meyers](#)
To: charlottetrevella@yahoo.co.nz
Cc: [Deborah Aubrook](#)
Subject: FW: Twilight Campsite
Date: Monday, 17 June 2024 12:22:22 pm
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Kia ora Charlotte,

Thanks for your email. With Twilight being a micro camp that is not bookable and is part of not only the Te Pahi Coastal Track but also the Te Araroa Trail we have no way of knowing how busy the camp would end up being- but in saying that I have never heard of the camp being filled and no room being available in the 5 years I've been with DOC. Because it is a walk in camp and there are no defined designated spots, I guess people just squeeze in (if there was the need to squeeze!)

For NYE the camps that will be full are the ones people can drive into. I honestly wouldn't worry about not finding space for Twilight.

Enjoy your planning.

Ngā mihi

Lorien Meyers

Regional Business Support Officer | Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina-ā-rohe
Regional Fleet Coordinator – NNI and AKL

Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

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-----Original Message-----

From: Charlotte Trevella <charlottetrevella@yahoo.co.nz>

Sent: Sunday, June 16, 2024 11:50 AM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: Twilight Campsite

[You don't often get email from charlottetrevella@yahoo.co.nz. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hi,

I am planning to do the Western section of the Te Paki Track over New Years with my husband, and we were planning to stay at Twilight Campsite on 31 December. I note that there are just 12 campsites and no bookings are allowed, so I just wanted to check whether this campsite routinely fills up at busy times of the year and what normally happens to campers who arrive on foot when there are no tent sites available. I'm a little nervous of turning up and finding the campsite full with a 3.5 - 4.5 hour walk out in either direction and no alternative accommodation at a busy time of year. Any advice would be much appreciated.

Thanks,

Charlotte

From: [Pia Garces](#)
To: [Kaitaia](#)
Subject: Re: twilight track - open?
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 2:33:49 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

brilliant! thank u

On Fri, May 31, 2024 at 2:14 PM Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Hi Pia,

Here are the 3 sections from Cape Reinga to Te Paki Stream. There is only vehicle access at the Cape and Te Paki Stream. Contact Waitiki Landing Holiday Park for transport options.

1. **Cape Reinga – Te Werahi Beach:** 2 km (1 mile), or 45 minutes.
2. **Te Werahi Beach – Twilight Beach:** 7.25 km (4.5 miles), or three hours.
3. **Twilight Beach – Te Paki Stream:** 11 km (7 miles), or four and a half hours.

Where to park your car

There are numerous car parks throughout the Te Paki Coastal Track, at various campsites, tourist hotspots, and Cape Reinga itself. Of course, if you want to walk the full thing you must start at Spirits Bay, and so you may need to get a ride to the first campsite to begin your journey.

You can book a shuttle to the start of the track from Waitiki Landing Holiday Park, who can also look after your vehicle while you are on your adventure.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook
Business Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*

Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai*

Kaitaia Office
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From: Pia Garces <pia.garces@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 9:49 AM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: twilight track - open?

You don't often get email from pia.garces@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Debbie,

I struggle to find information on distance and starting point for the one you mentioned has reopened.

I'm looking for any daily walks up to 20k. Can you please highlight it for me. much appreciated.

Alert: Eastern Te Paki track closures



[View saved \(0\)](#)

This stunning coastal track traverses a variety of beautiful and unique landforms, and offers spectacular views of our northern coastline, regenerating bush and large wind-swept sand dunes.



48 km total one way



Walking and tramping

4-5 days, see individual track descriptions for times

[Advanced: Tramping track](#)



Dog access

No dogs. [Other pets on conservation land rules.](#)



[Open in full window](#)

On Fri, May 31, 2024 at 9:04 AM Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Pia and thanks for your enquiry

Unfortunately, Te Werahi Loop Track is permanently closed. There have been koiwi (ancestral bones) found so the local iwi has asked that the track is closed for cultural reasons, also part of the track now falls under private land.

As a possible alternative, Te Paki Coastal track has reopened between Te Paki Stream and Cape Reinga, with Twilight walk-in campsite also open.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook

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From: Pia Garces <pia_garces@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:57 PM

To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>

Subject: twilight track - open?

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Hi

I just want to know if the twilight track te werahi loop track is open?



thanks,

Pia

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From: [Kaitaia](#)
To: [Bruce Hawke](#)
Subject: RE: Te Paki Trail
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 2:04:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Kia ora Bruce and thanks for your enquiry and appreciation. It's quite difficult keeping up with all the repairs and maintenance needed.

Unfortunately, it's highly unlikely we will be able to reopen for Summer 24/25. The damage is indeed severe and in some places the topography of the land has changed completely. We are taking time to reimagine the possibilities for this amazing trail and need to design a solution that is as future proof as possible.

We will change the alert status as soon as we possible can.

Ngā mihi

Debbie Aubrook

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From: Bruce Hawke <B.Hawke@orewacollege.nz>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 9:15 AM
To: Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Te Paki Trail

You don't often get email from b.hawke@orewacollege.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi there,

I am the Duke of Ed Award Coordinator at Orewa College.

For the last 7 or 8 years we have done the Te Paki Trail from Kopowairua to Te Paki for one of our tramps. I was looking to do this again in early December this year. However I have seen the track alerts and that the trail is closed because of storm damage from last year. I imagine this was pretty significant.

I would like to know, what are the prospects of it opening again before December?. If it is not going to reopen by then I will need to find an alternative.

This would be a shame as it is a magnificent walk for our students in such a spiritual and special landscape. I appreciate all the work that your team put into making these spaces available for us to use and enjoy.

Regards

Bruce Hawke

Orewa College

Duke of Edinburgh Award Coordinator

From: [Max van der Laarse](#)
To: [Deborah Aubrook](#)
Subject: Re: Te Paki Conservation Area
Date: Tuesday, 21 May 2024 7:18:29 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Kia ora Debbie, Many thanks for your prompt and informative reply. I would very much like to discuss this further and will pop in on my next visit to Kaitaia to see if it is convenient. Regards Max

On Tue, 21 May 2024, 3:38 PM Deborah Aubrook, <daubrook@doc.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Max,

Thank you for your email regarding the tracks in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve.

During the cyclone and weather events of 2023 a large amount of damage occurred in the Te Paki Recreation Reserve including slips on Tapotupotu Road, Te Paki Steam Road and at the viewing area at the end of the Lighthouse track at Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua. We also sustained damage to tracks in the reserve including the washing away of a section of the Waitahora Lagoon boardwalk.

The roads and Lighthouse track were deemed priority work to undertake due to needing safe access to popular high use tourist attractions. Budget was secured from government cyclone recovery funds to undertake this urgent work and it was able to be completed before the busy Christmas period.

Discussions between local Iwi Ngāti Kuri and DOC regarding the track damage and the need to future proof the infrastructure against future weather events, manage risks like Kauri Dieback, protect wahi tapu and ensure a safe visitor experience established that there was an opportunity to re imagine the track experience in Te Paki. This will take time to fully understand and explore options.

The section of track from Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua to Scott's Point was reopened last year to give people a track experience in the area, we ask that people use this track to appreciate the area while we work through the challenges of ensuring the protection of this special place.

We would welcome you visiting our office if you would like to discuss this further.

Ngā mihi

Debbie AubrookBusiness Support Officer - *Āpiha Ūmanga Āwhina*Department of Conservation — *Te Papa Atawhai***Kaitaia Office**

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From: Max van der Laarse <maxwvdl@gmail.com>**Sent:** Sunday, May 19, 2024 1:43 PM**To:** Kaitaia <kaitaia@doc.govt.nz>**Subject:**

Kia ora, I was frustrated and bewildered to read the recent Herald article on the state of tracks in the Te Pahi conservation area. As a local, and a regular user of these tracks I found the article disappointing in a number of areas. Apart from the extensive damage to the walkway over the swamp at the end of Spirits Bay, the whole track from Spirits Bay to Cape Reinga is virtually no different than it has been for decades. As a Ngati Kuri track worker pointed out to me the old track at the very end of Spirits Bay could easily be reinstated. Any slips are minor. There seems to be a frustration between Ngati Kuri and Doc which I feel needs to be resolved for the benefit of all. I feel it is a time to honestly report on the situation. Ngati Kuri workers I have spoken to are as keen as anyone to get the tracks open. This area is one of NZ's true taonga, unique to anywhere else, and hopefully will soon be resolved. Many thanks, Regards Max.

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Thank you.

