

Report



DATE: 24 April 2013
TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Chief Executive

WEST COAST WILDERNESS TRAIL - SUBMISSIONS ON THE GRANT OF \$2M FROM DEVELOPMENT WEST COAST'S EXTRAORDINARY DISTRIBUTION FUND

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the outcome of the submissions on the conditional grant of \$2M from Development West Coast's (DWC) Extraordinary Distribution Fund.
- 1.2 This issue arises because Council is required to consult with the community on the proposed use of this funding before requesting it from DWC.
- 1.3 The Council is required to give effect to the purpose of local government as prescribed by section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2012. That purpose is:
 - (a) To enable democratic local decision-making and action, by and on behalf of, communities; and
 - (b) To meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.
- 1.4 Council seeks to meet this obligation and the achievement of the district vision set out in the Long Term Plan 2012-22. The matters raised in this report relate to those elements of the vision identified in the following table.

Vision's Objectives	Achieved By
Involving the community and stakeholders	Consulting with the community regarding the \$2M fund.

- 1.5 This report concludes by recommending that Council re-confirms their intention to use the DWC funding on the West Coast Wilderness Trail and write to Development West Coast and advise that the required consultation regarding the conditional grant of \$2m has been met.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In 2009, Council submitted an application to the Ministry of Tourism for funding to undertake a four day cycling adventure from Greymouth to Ross as part of Nga Haerenga: The New Zealand Cycle Trail.
- 2.2 Funding applications were also made to Development West Coast (DWC). An additional grant of \$2M was approved subject to consultation with the local community. This has now happened and the details are provided below.
- 2.3 Before Council draws on the \$2M Extraordinary Distribution Fund, DWC required further consultation with the community. Council had previously consulted through its 2011-2012 Annual Plan and the 2012-2022 Long Term Plan for using the funds for the purpose of the West Coast Wilderness Trail.
- 2.4 Council created a consult@westlanddc.govt.nz email address for the public to express their views on the proposal.
- 2.5 A public notice was placed in the Hokitika Guardian on the 28 March and the 3 April 2013 calling for the public to Have Their Say on the proposal and express their views.
- 2.6 A copy of the public notice was linked through to the West Coast Wilderness Facebook Page and was also included on the Council's Website on the Latest News.
- 2.7 A public meeting was held on the 4 April 2013, and attracted 83 people from a cross-section of the community. Her Worship the Mayor asked the meeting attendees if there were any other thoughts on where the \$2M could be directed to which the response was no.

3.0 CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 A total of 107 submissions have been received to date on the proposal, with 82 in support of using the \$2M fund for the purposes of constructing the West Coast Wilderness Trail, 9 in opposition of the proposal and 16 "other" submissions received. A summary of submissions is attached as **Appendix 1**. A copy of the submissions will be available on the Council Website.
- 3.2 Of the submissions that have opposed or made other comments, 7 have suggested that the \$2m be put towards other projects. They are
 - 3.2.1 Harihari community facility – 1
 - 3.2.2 Projects in South Westland – 1
 - 3.2.3 Hokitika Swimming Pool – 3
 - 3.2.4 Regent Theatre, Library, Museum – 1
 - 3.2.5 General projects across the district - 1
- 3.3 There were also a number of submitters who provided some useful feedback on how Council could make the cycle trail better for users, or who raised concerns.

- 3.4 For example, Council received 15 submissions from the horse riding community concerned that the Ross-Ruatapu section of the trail would be unavailable for horse riding once the trail is constructed.
- 3.5 The Taramakau Bridge was also highlighted as a concern.
- 3.6 Staff will examine the submissions carefully to consider the points made. They will also be tabled at the next Westland Wilderness Trust meeting in May.
- 3.7 Council has fulfilled its obligations to consult with the community regarding the use of the Extraordinary Distribution Fund.

4.0 OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1: Receive the submissions and proceed with the intention to use the \$2m DWC funding towards the cycle trail.
- 4.2 Option 2: Receive the submissions and distribute the funding to other projects in the community.

5.0 SIGNIFICANCE AND CONSULTATION

- 5.1 In accordance with Council's Policy on Significance this decision is assessed as being of moderate significance. The funding from DWC is included in the project budget for the cycle trail. If this funding is not accessed or used for this project it will either need to be re-scoped or funding found from elsewhere. This could have an impact on the Government funding already secured, or Council's financial situation if it needs to borrow the money to complete the trail.
- 5.2 Council has undertaken community consultation on the proposed use of DWC funding towards the construction of Westland Wilderness Cycle Trail.

6.0 ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS (INCLUDING FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS)

- 6.1 Council has already signalled its intention to use the funding from DWC on the cycle trail. The application to the Government was predicated on this contribution being part of the local share. If Council decides not to use the funds for this purpose the Government could request some of its contribution be returned. Council would also be in the position of having a half-finished trail.

7.0 PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS

- 7.1 The preferred option is Option 1 to enable the West Coast Wilderness Trail to be completed from Greymouth to Ross as was originally planned for the concept proposal in 2009 to enable "a four day adventure from Greymouth to Ross which travel wild beaches, rainforests, lush wetlands and lakes, on a route explored by pioneering rush miners".

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 **THAT** Council advises Development West Coast of the outcome of the consultation process on the use of the \$2m Extraordinary Distribution Fund.

8.2 **THAT** Council reconfirms their intention to use the \$2m from the Development West Coast Extraordinary Distribution Fund on the West Coast Wilderness Trail.

Tanya Winter
Chief Executive

West Coast Wilderness Trail

No.	Name	Email Address	Support	Oppose	Other	Comments
1	Jeremy Colpitts	jcolpitts5@me.com	✓			
2	Stuart Mitchell	plumbingshop@xtra.co.nz	✓			Please do what's needed to obtain the funds that is required to complete the trail to a high standard.
3	Jill Mitchell	jillian.stuart@gmail.com	✓			We have used cycle trails in other areas of NZ and we can see it will be of economic benefit to our local District.
4	Durham and Lorraine Havill	l.dhavill@xtra.co.nz	✓			
5	Anna Colpitts	accolpitts@yahoo.com	✓			It will bring more healthy and energetic people who appreciate the outdoors into the area. It will benefit the local community in many ways both for business and folks that want to get involved!
6	Trixie Montagu	murray@snap.net.nz	✓			Look forward to the opening of this Cycle Trail when the West Coast also has an opportunity to attract our share of these visitors currently enjoying this activity in other parts of New Zealand.
7	Marg and Les Singer	marg.les@xtra.co.nz	✓			It will be a great asset to our District.
8	Justin and Alena Wafer	justin.alena@yahoo.co.nz	✓			The trails will be great for many ability levels, including families, and we have already encouraged many family and friends to come to the West Coast with us to experience the trails. I have already seen areas of the coast that were previously inaccessible. We see this as a fantastic opportunity for locals and as an amazing tourism opportunity.
9	Gary Jellie	jelliega@actrix.co.nz	✓			I strongly believe the trail will enhance tourism and economy on the West Coast due to the unique scenery on offer and has the potential to become one of the top cycle trails in the world.
10	Bill Savage	william.savage@timberconnectionz.com	✓			The potential benefit to our region from this project is immense and adds to the positive investments in domestic and international tourism that we are seeing throughout the Coast.
11	N R Donnell	taupaki@yahoo.co.nz	✓			The Westland District Council and the Development West Coast Extraordinary Distribution Fund should invest in this project.
12	Rusty Donnell - West Coast Treetop Walk and Café	treetops1@treetopsnz.com	✓			We see the West Coast Wilderness Trail as a vital component to encourage further tourism and thus employment and investment in the region.
13	Karen Prendergast - Kumara Memorial Hall Incorporated	vauhall@clear.net.nz	✓			A community asset such as the developing cycle trail, which brings people right to our walkways, shops, parks, rivers and camping areas, is an enormous boost for the inhabitants who want to see the facilities used and improved. Godspeed with the progressing of the project and many thanks to those working to make it a reality - not failing to mention of course grateful thanks to Development West Coast for their insight with providing funding support.
14	Rachel Teen	rachelteen@mac.com	✓			The cycle trail is a major community asset that DWC can continue to contribute to in order to help realise the benefits of MDI funding for this generation and those to come.
15	Drew Howat	drew.howat@xtra.co.nz	✓			We see this as a major asset for tourists and locals at a time when all sections of the global community are insisting on environmentally sustainable projects, both commercial and recreational.
16	John Pugh	pugh@farmside.co.nz	✓			
17	Julie Rowe	julesmnts@yahoo.com	✓			
18	Yvonne Simpson	simpson@minidata.co.nz	✓			
19	Haley Pugh	bob_monkey47@hotmail.com	✓			Can't wait to have it all done and see the benefits it will bring to Westland.
20	Craig Smith	Craig@excavatorparts.co.nz	✓			It will be a fantastic asset for Westland and needs to be completed.

21	Mark Jurisich	mark@westlanddistrictproperty.co.nz	✓		
22	Yvette Ridley	yvette.ridley@gmail.com	✓		This would be awesome. Fantastic place to cycle. Enjoyed little part I have already ridden. The Coast has not had that much positive going for it in recent years and I see the trail putting money back into a community that needs it.
23	Barbara and Bruce Erickson	b.b.erickson@xtra.co.nz	✓		In the last few years we have ridden 3 international cycle trails and 2 domestic ones, and are about to take off for another international trail. We have seen the benefit to the communities along the trails, and the world-wide draw of recreational cyclists like us. Please don't forget the Hokitika-Ross link of the trail--we think it's vital for the viability and success of the Westland Wilderness Trail.
24	Jane Teen	janeteen@hotmail.com	✓		Resultant development of opening up access to our West Coast natural environment for cyclists and pedestrians for the benefit of all ages and differing physical abilities.
25	Mary Molloy	chaos1@xtra.co.nz		✓	Having attended many meetings with the District council over the last 7 years regarding continued obstacles being set in the path of MDI funded new small hall and playgroup including public toilets complex as agreed for the Hari Hari Community, I find it unacceptable that this Council which appears to have haemorrhaged money without explanation or accountability, should now hold the Hari Hari project up yet again while asking for more funds to do the Wilderness Trail. Let's concentrate on the original agreed project before pushing more in front of it. We have already been dropped from the first MDI to be approved, to around 6th place with subsequent costs escalating to above the square meterage price for the build of a complex resthome. Clearly our council for whatever reason, does not have the integrity to stick to its earlier commitment and so I do not support them gaining funds for the Wilderness Trail. First things first. Where has our toilet build and our Community raised funds from the sale of the pony club land gone? This Council does not say. We have been told that Hari Hari is losing population, not true. We got an agreement from this council initiated program to build some years ago, have consistently fought new obstacles put up by the same Council and each round we win draws us further from the start date, not closer. I find it unacceptable for money to be given to this Council without its losses and the reasons why clearly identified and I insist that Development West Coast enforce the start and completion of the original project that was approved so long ago for the benefit of the Hari Hari Community.
26	Karen Jury - Kumara Community Trust	Karen.Jury@greydc.govt.nz	✓		There is already a significant number of people using the trails around Kumara and the construction of the full trail would most certainly attract more visitors to the Coast.
27	Kumara Volunteer Library Group	Karen.Jury@greydc.govt.nz	✓		
28	Anthea Keenan	keenanr@kinect.co.nz		✓	
29	A Kremer	PO Box 40, Franz Josef		✓	
30	Allan Daly	Allan@avoninsurance.co.nz	✓		The Westland District Council is to be congratulated for the work to date in planning and commissioning the Wilderness Trail. This type of development is exiting and encouraging to people of like mind to myself to commit further capital into the development of the Kumara community.
31	Anne Chapman	anne@investmenthouse.co.nz	✓		I believe with my tourism hat on that this is one of the best things Mr Key could have thought about. Apart from getting more people fit and keeping them out of hospital it opens our communities out to the public and New Zealand tourists as well.
32	Tony Hewlett	tony.hewlett@navman.co.nz	✓		Developing this trail will be a massive boost for the West Coast community and will provide visitors with another reason to come to the Coast and potentially stay longer.

33	Lynne and Carey Dillon	ldillon@xtra.co.nz	✓			Full credit to the Westland District Council and others involved in driving this excellent Cycle Trail project. And Development West Coast for providing support.
34	Jim Bisset	jab-lb@xtra.co.nz	✓			As the West Coast Region has some extremely good private earthmoving contractors who I'm sure would be delighted to have the opportunity to tender for this work, particularly if it could be broken down into small stages thus giving the chance for contractors to price as many as they want.
35	Bruce Smith	raycemanagement@xtra.co.nz	✓			It provides real health benefits to the community along with another added attraction which will benefit our tourism sector.
36	Rosie McGrath	rosie_mcg@ihug.co.nz	✓			I know many people from away who are waiting to come and spend both their time and money riding on what they consider will be a fantastic way to experience the West Coast environment and hospitality.
37	Cecil M Teasdale	teasy29@kinect.co.nz	✓			The Westland Wilderness Trail needs to progress quickly to take advantage of this 'climate' and needs the funding to achieve this. NB While some critics cite the Taramakau River crossing as a hurdle with the 'clip-on' still a few years away, it would not take much to install a traffic light system at each end of the bridge to make the structure more user friendly for cyclists.
38	Catherine Woollett	rimurest@xtra.co.nz	✓			In my opinion it is the most positive endeavor the West Coast has undertaken in recent history and is very deserving of this Development West Coast grant.
39	Ken and Judi Mears	westmere@minidata.co.nz	✓			We believe that this cycle trail will bring in much needed income to the West Coast. We are pleased that DWC acknowledges how strategically important this source of income will be to this region over the next decade.
40	Fran Cohen	scope_hunting@xtra.co.nz	✓			The Westland Wilderness Trail will be a driver of tourism attraction to Westland, alongside the Treetop walkway and Franz Josef developments.
41	Jem Pupich	pupich@xtra.co.nz	✓			I think this is a great opportunity to promote our wilderness to both locals and tourists. This trail will defiantly be an asset to Westland District.
42	Richard Bodle	hrbodle@ihug.co.nz	✓			Having personally been on much of the completed Trail (and quite a bit of the "in progress" parts as well!) I can personally attest to the delight and pleasure I, and all other users who I encounter, derive from such a fantastic amenity.
43	Tony and Annette Copping	t.copping@xtra.co.nz	✓			
44	Jim Little	Jim@westcoastnz.com	✓			We can build a magnificent cycle trail but if nobody knows about it it's a waste of time. Also it will attract other investment like the Theatre Royal Hotel development.
45	Corrina Gestro-Best	manager@westreap.org.nz	✓			
46	Richard McIntosh	richard@mcintoshrealty.co.nz	✓			In my opinion Westland cannot afford to be part of this movement and would urge the District Council to support the construction of the cycleway.
47	Pierre and Joy Esquilat	cafe-de-paris@clear.net.nz	✓			It is going to be a very good asset for the West Coast and we all need it. We need to attract as much tourist as possible and this is another way we can do it. We believe that the WC market needs to be targeted to Canterbury.
48	John and Ursula Acker	john_ursula@xtra.co.nz	✓			

49	Kerry Weston	info@birdsong.co.nz	✓			There is an issue regarding the cycle trail that I feel quite strongly about. As one of the owners of Birdsong Backpackers, I received a distraught telephone call from some expected guests a couple of weeks ago. They were at Grey Base Hospital and I collected them and brought them down to Hokitika. At that stage they were in shock. This couple were living in Wellington, no strangers to cycling and had come down to cycle the West Coast on a first trip to the South Island. They were riding a tandem cycle and at the Taramakau Bridge the back wheel clipped the rails and threw the pillion passenger several metres. She landed on her hip. They had seen the warning signs but were busy concentrating on the traffic. The rest of the cycling trip was cancelled and most disturbing was to hear contractors on the bridge saying that this is an everyday occurrence. When I picked this couple up from A & E there was another cyclist waiting to be seen, same accident. This begs me to find out if anything is planned to avoid further accidents as the rate of occurrence will surely escalate? Having also witnessed a cyclist flip over the handle bars as I was waiting to drive across the bridge one day, and seen the injuries incurred by my guests I am concerned of the dangers which will need to be addressed.
50	Anne Kelly	annekelly@clear.net.nz	✓			
51	M P Bomer	macbomer@xtra.co.nz	✓			The Westland section of the trail will offer amazing scenery and really interesting historic points of interest to explore and remembering that people have to eat, drink and stay along the way as well it will help to generate revenue for the Coast.
52	Shane Dalton	shaca@widowslive.com	✓			I am a longstanding and passionate cycling and walking advocate. Apart from my own contribution to the West Coast Pathway Committee, as member, I see the fantastic contributions of fellow members and community individuals and groups replanting native trees, clean-ups etcetera. I absolutely think this wonderful project should receive continued DWC funding.
53	Alan Stobie	alstobie@xtra.co.nz	✓			
54	Mike Keenan	mike.keenan@westlanddc.govt.nz	✓			Not only will the small towns like Kumara and Ross benefit from increased visitor numbers but increased revenue as well, not just for accommodation establishments but for all the businesses in the small Westland towns. (I have plenty of new business ideas inspired by the cycleway including bike hire/transport of cyclist/vehicles and tour leaders-guides. Other local businesses that stand to gain tremendously from the cycleway include the new Arahura Marae and the Treetop Airwalk. They are; "Must See & Do On Your Bucket List Before You Die".
55	Amy Champion	cplomutts@gmail.com	✓			It has been brought to my attention that there are \$2 million to spend in your area in cycle way funds. I would like to strongly urge you to spend some of that money improving the Taramakau bridge for bicycles.
56	Robert Miedema	r.kl.miedema@xtra.co.nz	✓			There is no doubt in my mind that the Trail will be an important asset to the local economy including providing work for local people.
57	Stuart Paul	stu.primera@xtra.co.nz	✓			
58	Karen Hamilton	karenh@snap.net.nz	✓			This Trail will be a great asset not only to the people of Westland and the West Coast, but also for visitors to our beautiful region.

59	Paddy Kennedy	gorsegully@farmside.co.nz		✓		I think the South Westland townships should receive the funding which has been lost, which was for community assets or projects, before any money goes on any wilderness trail or any other initiative. The DWC money was intended to support the towns which suffered hardship through the loss of the sustained yield logging. The remnants of the sawmills are still clearly visible in Whataroa and Hari-Hari – money to support the towns has disappeared into the spin doctors web of deceit.
60	Steve Maitland	maitlands@xtra.co.nz		✓		I would like as a ratepayer for Development Westcoast to severely monitor the use of this money re the project. I live in Ross as stated and have seen and photographed many transgressions and poor practices related to the WDC. Given the WDC has got itself into a real mess financially of late I think this is a fair call and I make no excuses for my prose.
61	Ian Cameron	idcameron@kinect.co.nz		✓		One of the concerns I have is that this money will be "wasted " ,because of the funding crisis of the Westland District Council ,maintainence of the track will not happen. I also think that council really needs to relook at the costing of this project and related on going costs eg the maintainence and repairs (yes it will rain again and damage will occur) before proceeding any further with this project.
62	Anna Dyzel	annadyzel@westlandmed.co.nz	✓			Westland is a small community with relatively few areas of employment - a major one being tourism. Unfortunately the tourist trade is fickle and trading on 'natural wonders' i.e. pretty looking trees, is no longer going to be a feasible long term strategy for attracting tourists to the area - they want 'value added' activities such as the tree top walkway and the cycle trail, when it's completed.
63	Kees and Anne van Beek	kawahakastation@kinect.co.nz	✓			It was always our understanding and that of Council that the \$2 million Grant to come from DWC would be used for the construction of the cycleway and not on any other project.
64	Nigel Ogilvie	nigelogilvie@westlandmed.co.nz	✓			
65	Sarah Wild	sezzawild@hotmail.com	✓			The Trail will be a great recreational facility for locals and I believe it will also encourage visitors to the Coast. It will also great to see an easier level MTB track being constructed to encourage beginners. But it will also double as a great, easy walking track. Having ridden parts of the Trail, I can attest that it is being constructed to a high standard and is a credit to those involved in constructing it.
66	Adele and Brian Dow	info@252beachside.co.nz	✓			
67	Nelson Bradley	hokicycle.sport@paradise.net.nz	✓			To date I would like to congratulate Westland District Council in their initiative to tackle this world class location to build what is a new growth industry not only for our local rate payers but national and international visitors who are craving for this type of adventure.
68	Elizabeth Sawkins	liz.drew@xtra.co.nz	✓			While there are many smaller community projects that could also benefit from funds I feel that the greater benefit to a wide spectrum of the community will come from utilisation of the Wilderness Trail.
69	Elizabeth Sandford	stay@jadecourt.co.nz	✓			The cycle trail holds tremendous promise for our region and therefore meets the criteria behind the DWC grant. It is also becoming critical that the trail keeps up reasonably with the proposed timetable and the \$2 m is essential for this to be achieved.

70	David and Glenis Waugh	gardenbandb@xtra.co.nz	✓			We am very keen to see the trail completed and done properly. We have biked parts of it from time to time over the last year and especially recently have always found other groups on parts of the trail. This is clearly going to be a draw card for tourists. We have had two groups of guests who have stayed with us who have specifically stopped in Hokitika because they want to ride part of the Wilderness Trail. This matches the number who have come specifically to walk the treetop walkway! It would be a waste of the money already expended to abandon development of the trail now.
71	Anne Relling	annerelling@snap.net.nz	✓			When completed I believe this will be an outstanding tourist and recreational facility for not only the Westland District but also the West Coast. It should meet one of the key objectives of Tourism West Coast - "to increase the average length of stay for visitors to the West Coast".
72	Murray Montagu	murray@snap.net.nz	✓			However It is repeatedly and emphatically denied "the trail will be no of cost to rate payers"! Yet WDC rate payers have been subjected to appropriation of significant funding.
73	West Coastal Pathway	Rosie.McGrath@cdhb.health.nz	✓			We recognised that the opportunity to incorporate the WCP section into the longer trail would have economic benefit to the two districts through its potential to attract a wide variety of visitors to our area. We have therefore actively supported the Westland Wilderness Trail's development.
74	Frank and Karen Bradley	karenandfrank@xtra.co.nz	✓			During easter weekend I witnessed two families of eleven from Christchurch who were staying in Kumara using the track from Kumara to Dillmanstown dam. They were very impressed with what already had been done.
75	Gary and Glenys Ferguson	ferg2chch@orcon.net.nz	✓			
76	Jim Butzbach	jimbutzbach@westlandmed.co.nz	✓			Westland is a small community with relatively few areas of employment. This wonderful trail meandering through our previously hidden gems has already, and will continue to provide opportunities for People of the two districts to gain employment or make a living. The bulk of the Business and Tourist sector is definitely behind it, and Joanna and Joe Bloggs (arguably the most important sector) will follow if presented with timely, accurate facts, thoughts, hopes and aspirations.
77	Sara Scott	sairs@nettel.net.nz	✓			Lets take the positive step of providing a facility freely accessible to all, so there are no excuses not to get out there and have a go.
78	Anthea Keenan	keenanr@kinect.co.nz		✓		Unfortunately I was given little time to speak - the meeting was more on promoting the cycle trail, than the DWC funds distribution. Perhaps it was an already closed agenda. I enclose my full submission which will also go to the WCWT Trustees, DWC and Govt. Could you please ensure this full submission goes to full consultation.
79	Mary Elliott	marygenee@hotmail.com	✓			
80	Winona and Phillip Dowell	wpdowell@vodafone.net.nz	✓			
81	Hamish Hamilton	hamiltonelectrical@xtra.co.nz	✓			
82	Diana Clendon	clendon.lyall@xtra.co.nz			✓	Horse riding is a popular growing activity. Horse riding has several individual, community, environmental and health benefits. Just like any sport and recreation, the benefits of horse riding are well documented and include, increased physical and mental health, the development of physical skills, opportunities for social interaction, and improved community well being. Additionally, providing outdoor recreation opportunities creates healthy, cohesive and vibrant communities.
83	Jane Neale	jane.bill1@xtra.co.nz	✓			There are parts of the proposed cycleway which are used a lot by horses. For many years the main traffic on the Ruatapu to Ross tramway section has been local horse riders. This is a fabulous place to ride and has been used a lot for horses. The base is solid and will not be "spoilt" by horse traffic. It would be very sad, and quite unjustifiable, if this is lost to locals (on horses) so as to make way for tourists (on bikes).

84	Jo Kearns	jo@stepupsolutions.co.nz			✓	I wish to draw your attention to the parts of the proposed cycleway that are in common use by horse traffic. For many years almost the only traffic on the Ruatapu to Ross tramway section has been local horse riders. This is a cherished ride, used often, as an 'out and back' ride, while it is also a key connector track with the forestry tracks which link to it. I hope this section of horse riding track will not be lost for horse riders only to be given over to bike riders.
85	Hugh Cameron	hughcameron@slingshot.co.nz			✓	Community Centre build proposals and maintenance requirements throughout Westland, from Kumara to Haast and everywhere in between, are going begging for cash, while this Hokitika-centred cycleway proposal soaks up every last drop of available community funding. Why must every last cent of DWC money go to this one proposal?
86	Toni Bryant	tonibryant@actrix.co.nz			✓	For the 8 years that I have been riding my horses on the old Ruatapu/Ross railway, I have many times come across people walking and biking. In every occasion, these people have greeted us with smiles and stopped to chat and pat the horse/s. Folk, especially tourists (which I am expecting will be your main user group) in my experience love to stop and chat and want to take photos of me on my horse. I have had this happen to me every time I am anyway out riding my horses and come across an overseas tourist, they just love seeing people on horseback.
87	Nia Edwards	nia1@ihug.co.nz			✓	Horse riding is becoming a recognised recreational activity. The Otago Rail Trail is open to horses, as are new conservation acquisitions such as the St James Station.
88	Anna Hynes	anna.hynes@westcoastdhd.health.nz			✓	I find myself being more and more limited as to where I can possibly ride these days, as often the grass verges are dwindling as they are being paved for cyclist as it seems arbitrary decisions are being made with very little consideration given to other recreational sports such as horse riding. We are predominantly a rural area though it seems rural pursuits such as horse riding is being squeezed out.
89	Anne Tacon	tacon.mitchell@xtra.co.nz			✓	Having access to safe, off road tracks is of huge importance to many riders in the wider Westland area, where in general riders have been poorly served with provision of few horse friendly routes. The ever increasing volume of traffic on our roads, and driver impatience and ignorance makes roadside riding challenging and unsafe. Access to safe tracks allows us to condition our horses for completion, bring them safely back from injury by building quiet work on good surfaces. While I have always been a supporter for the development of the track, I did not foresee that the Council would provide such a resource and then ban riders, who are local rate payers - unlike a large percentage of the cyclists who will be visiting. Please balance the needs of locals more clearly in this matter.
90	Alice Phillips	Rob.Ally@xtra.co.nz			✓	New parts of the cycleway that are being developed are looking well built with solid foundations. Some parts would make ideal ½ day rides for horse riders, through choice sections of bush. I do hope we can begin a conversation around being able to negotiate usage on some sections of newly formed track for special rides, say twice a year (for example), as fits with light bike usage and favourable underfoot(hoof) conditions.
91	Janelle Shaw	ms.horses@icloud.com			✓	There are a large number of riders within our region who would utilize such a track as well as visitors from outside the region who would travel to ride along such a scenic route. There are areas of the track that have traditionally been used as riding tracks but should the cycle way go ahead horses will become shut out of these tracks and forced onto grass verges along increasingly busier roads. This is a publically funded initiative so should take into account the interests of the wider community and not let some groups interests fall to the wayside. Perhaps some negotiation could be made between groups, perhaps even if only certain parts of the cycle ways were opened up to horses; those where the footing is suitable for use by horses.

92	Rosemary Deakin	rldeakin@xtra.co.nz			✓	New parts of the cycleway that are being developed are looking well built with solid foundations. Some parts would make ideal ½ day rides for horse riders, through choice sections of bush. I do hope we can begin a conversation around being able to negotiate usage on some sections of newly formed track for special rides, say twice a year (for example), as fits with light bike usage and favourable underfoot(hoof) conditions.
93	Fiona Anderson	flanderson@xtra.co.nz			✓	I write to submit my concern with regard to the Westland Cycleway, and how it may impact on our horse riding spaces. I wish to draw your attention to the parts of the proposed cycleway that are in common use by horse traffic. For many years almost the only traffic on the Ruatapu to Ross tramway section has been local horse riders. This is one of the only safe places to take children riding in the Hokitika area. I hope this section of horse riding track will not be lost for horse riding.
94	Sue Tozer	gasu@slingshot.co.nz			✓	I would like to suggest that some of the funding being secured for the cycle trail be put towards the re-sizing of the swimming pool.
95	Paul and Debra Magner	magner@xtra.co.nz			✓	I wish to draw your attention to the parts of the proposed cycleway that are in common use by horse traffic. For many years almost the only traffic on the Ruatapu to Ross tramway section has been local horse riders. This is a cherished ride, used often, as an 'out and back' ride, while it is also a key connector track with the forestry tracks which link to it. I hope this section of horse riding track will not be lost for horse riders only to be given over to bike riders.
96	Jackie Matthews	beejay1991@hotmail.com			✓	I am in favour of \$1 million dollars of the funding that is coming from Development West Coast to go to the Hokitika Swimming Pool. Yes, the cycle way is important, but our pool is an an existing asset which can't be ignored.
97	Suzie Breeze	s.breeze@xtra.co.nz	✓			I write to submit my concern with regard to the Westland Cycleway, and how it may impact on our horse riding spaces. I wish to draw your attention to the parts of the proposed cycleway that are in common use by horse traffic. For many years almost the only traffic on the Ruatapu to Ross tramway section has been local horse riders. This is a cherished ride, used often, as an 'out and back' ride, while it is also a key connector track with the forestry tracks which link to it. I hope this section of horse riding track will not be lost for horse riders only to be given over to bike riders, as this is a legally formed road and gazetted as such.
98	Michael Orchard	orchards@xtra.co.nz			✓	Whist I enjoy cycling and may use it plus it may boost a new form of tourism, it is a large amount of money to be put into a project that the average West Coaster (or certainly most of them) will not use as it is not their thing or too old or too young! Therefore I believe at least a quarter (\$500,000) should be directly invested in projects with much more meaning TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY viz further support for the Regent Theatre, Library, Museum, Pool, etc.
99	Dee Hutchins	hokihutch@yahoo.com			✓	Please consider a portion of this amount being used to upgrade our Hokitika Swimming pool to the correct competitive length of 25m with permanant dive blocks.
100	Anthony Jones	redseven@xtra.co.nz			✓	The Hokitika Swimming pool should either be a 50m pool or a 25m pool.. One of the main reasons for having a 25mor 50m pool will be for the swim club to host swimming carnivals where lots of swimmers, with there parents and grandparents come to attend and watch there children swim. Another reason is new improved changing rooms for parents with babies. Family changing rooms a must. Another reason would be a place for the publ to park there cars off the streets.Fitting a stainless steel bulk head would let the swimmers work out now many strokes for turning. The pool needs a lot of things but needs the money. Please help us.....

101	Jo Parsons	joparsonsriley@gmail.com	✓			Parts of the proposed cycleway are currently popular horse riding trails. Please ensure that you consider current and future potential use of trails for recreational multi-use. The horse-riding community would welcome further consultation and discussion regarding potential options here.
102	Annie Hughes	mikonui@xtra.co.nz	✓			I believe the construction of the wilderness trail will create an outstanding resource for both locals and visitors now and in the future. Furthermore, the trail will provide ongoing and sustainable recreation, social and economic opportunities to the Westland District.
103	Ted Brennan	mikonui@xtra.co.nz	✓			I look forward to riding the completed trail from Greymouth to Ross with friends and extended family in the future. (I particularly encourage the work on the trail not to run out of funding before it reaches Ross!!)
104	Lisa Morgan	xabi@ihug.co.nz	✓			I live in Ross with my partner and 2 children aged 3 and 5. We totally support any further funding going toward the upgrading/continuation of the cycle network here on the West Coast. People need to focus on the positive impacts of cycling on the health and wellbeing of themselves and their families/friends. In my opinion, the cycle way will provide benefits for us "locals", not just in the form of Monetary value extracted from tourists and the need to "pay for it" but in promoting a great sport and means of exercise. Let's get people off the couches and set positive examples for our young ones...
105	Karl Jackson	Karl.Jackson@greydc.govt.nz	✓			Having had involvement in design and construction of the Grey District portion of the trail and now seeing the level of use it receives from the community and visitors, I firmly believe this money will be well spent and will encourage and grow local tourism on the West Coast. This is one of those "once in a lifetime" opportunities and we need to do it right and get it as fully operational as funds will allow.
106	Peter Kettering and Vicki Klemm	klemmvicki@yahoo.com	✓			I have already enjoyed cycling on the Greymouth section and am looking forward to cycling on the Kumara/Hokitika section. We feel that this cycleway will bring people in to the area to experience our wonderful place.
107	Dave and Bernadette Friend	bernfriend@xtra.co.nz		✓		We think a fairer distribution would be that all community groups in the Westland District ie-Hokitika to Haast have a fair chance to be able to access some of this money.
108	Cielle Stephens	cielle_stephens@hotmail.com	✓			The West Coast Wilderness Trail will provide such an opportunity. I believe there is growing a tourism market for this sort of activity and many locals will utilise the track for their own biking needs. I believe this is an excellent use of the allocated money.
109	Kath Maitland	maitlands@xtra.co.nz	✓			Ask Westland District Council to have another look at using the old Totara River Rail bridge, I believe that considerable money could be saved by using this bridge and that it is looked at as a footbridge so it doesn't need considerable money spent on strengthen work.
110	Helen Otley	heleno@southcom.com.au	✓			This is an excellent use of the allocated money. I ride a lot and I feel there needs to be more opportunities to get new riders out there. The West Coast Wilderness Trail will provide such an opportunity.
111	Jill and Paul Jones	jillandpauljones@yahoo.com	✓			The sooner it is up and running, the better.
112	Jacque Grant	kiwi.house@xtra.co.nz	✓			Worth while Project.

Total of Submissions: 112

No. in Support:	No. in Opposition:	No. in Other:
87	9	16