

Submission form for the Draft West Coast *Te Tai o Poutini* Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

Please read the Guidelines to making your submission, overleaf.

A

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Signature	Date		28 th September 2007
<i>Person authorised to sign on behalf of person or organisation making submission.</i>			

B

Do you wish to present your submission at a future hearing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	yes	no
How much time would you prefer for presenting your submission?	<input type="text" value="30"/>	minutes
Preferred time for a hearing during Mondays to Fridays :		
Does not matter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
morning	afternoon	evening

C

Please note that the standard time allocated for hearing of submissions is 15 minutes, unless you stipulate otherwise.

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<p>General Comments</p>	<p>In general we support the CMS in overall terms.</p> <p>We believe that the Public Lands that are administered by DOC as current should be retained, not diminished and we believe that the area can be enhanced from a recreational 4WD point of view.</p> <p>We also believe that on going dialogue and communication needs to be set up over the time of the CMS so that issues as they arise can get communicated to effected users and worked on with agreement of all parties.</p> <p>We support outcomes that maintain recreational values as they are now, and there is room for improvements, and we think for our part we would support ways in which our form of recreation can help.</p>	<p>We seek ongoing dialogue with DOC, on road issues including, maintenance, safety or the like and if any permanent closures are required, we believe that the 4WD Community should be consulted prior to any such changes and or closures.</p> <p>Consultation could be via a quarterly NGO meeting, and or through a special working group that could be set up.</p> <p>We also suggest that a working party could be set up to assist DOC staff on issues to do with roads and vehicle use. This group could include a members or members of Combined 4WD Clubs Inc. (more reference to this through this submission)</p>

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Page 498 Glossary Definitions "Road"	<p>This term is too broad and could be confusing to many people. Whilst it is a term definition as used in DOC general policy it needs to be recessed.</p> <p>When the general public see the word 'road' they think of a paved or determined area defined as a road. Often linked to standard 2WD car, truck and highway style of traffic.</p> <p>We believe an additional term '4WD Track' needs to be added.</p> <p>We think by re wording as we propose then tracks can be reserved for foot use, and 4WD tracks used for horse, vehicle and bicycle use as multiple use tracks and routes in reality.</p>	<p>We seek to have the term Road mean :- 'A Road that is maintained for vehicle use by the public, generally in a 2WD vehicle'</p> <p>We seek to add the term 4WD Track This would mean:- "A route or 4WD vehicle track suitable to convey 4WD vehicle traffic be marked or un marked may be maintained or not maintained but follows a clear route or identified in a conservation Management plan for use by the public in a suitable 4WD vehicle or special vehicles of a particular type (e.g. a bicycle)."</p>
3.6.5.18 Vehicle Use Second bullet point Page 273	<p>This point generally makes good sense, and we agree with the definition 'a formed surface that was originally constructed for the purpose.....' as it defines the route that vehicles can travel on, and we agree that we do not want an outcome that discourages driving off that route.</p> <p>However it is the issue of closure of a route or road that raised concern with us especially giving reference to 'deterioration' or 'no longer suitable'. Who gives the final decision on these?</p> <p>Whilst we appreciate a duty of care to safety, we think a wider consultation is required prior to a total closure taking place.</p>	<p>We seek that should a road (which we suggest gets redefined in this context to 4WD Track) become deteriorated to a stage that makes it in the view of DOC no longer passable or usable that DOC prior to closing this road consult with the 4WD recreational Community. (later on we refer to the forming of a possible working group)</p>
3.6.5.18 Vehicle Use Forth Bullet Point page 273	<p>This is the bullet point starting: - 'Roads suitable for recreational driving' That heading needs to be changed as users may think it is Ok to use a conventional 2WD car on such roads.</p> <p>We believe there is a need for more clarity and understanding as to the real purpose for this type of road.</p>	<p>We seek to change the heading by adding "4WD vehicle" between the words 'recreational' and 'driving'</p>

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3.6.5.18 Vehicle Use Forth Bullet Point page 273	In the last section of text the reference is to restrict or close use to users similar to what was mentioned above based on safety and the like. Again here our concern is to how the decision is made? We do not wish to restrict temporary closure that may be needed, but we would be concerned should permanent closure result and there may have been an alternative solution available.	We seek that should closure of a road suitable for recreational 4WD Driving be considered for permanent closing, that consultation be made with the 4WD community before this closure is made. (later on we refer to the forming of a possible working group)
3.6.5.18 Vehicle Use Fifth Bullet Point bottom of page 273	This is reasonably clear, but we need to be assured that 4WD Club trips are included in the term 'Authorised Parties' We would expect that this term meant organised 4WD Club trips, but this needs clarification	We seek that the term 'Authorised parties' be added to the Glossary and the term be given a definition to include '4WD Club Trips'
Policies Page 274 Paragraph No2	We agree with the context of what this is saying, and for us it really means that when travelling on roads then keep to the road. However the term 'Off-road' as is used here is a general generic term known to the public as being vehicle activity that is off formed paved and shingle roads Highways, country roads and this like are associated with the word road. The term Off-road is often associated with off the beaten track or off the shingle road style of conditions or 4WD track. A 4WD track on a farm for instance would be considered by the general public to be an off-road situation. Off-road adventures as another example meaning to people venturing into the out of doors in a vehicle. So the opening words 'Off-Road' creates confusion, and could seem to mean no vehicle use at all in the out of doors. Thus, confusion exists. Clarity is partially given when one reads the Glossary when you refer to the definition of 'Road' 'Off-Road' as it is used here confuses many we would think Clarity is therefore needed here on 'Off-road'	We suggest that an alternative sentence could be: 'Motor vehicles must keep to the road, or 4WD track, or defined route (as defined in the glossary) and should not be driven anywhere else on public conservation land' This alternative removes the term 'Off-road' entirely and thus the confusion with wider meaning of the term 'Off-Road'

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Policies Page 274 Paragraph No2	The second part of point no2 starting with the words 'The department will actively encourage all' we totally agree with and support. We want an outcome of things as they are now, and we would not tolerate vehicles being misused, so thus we totally and strongly support this sentence. Additionally once clarity is made on terms such as 'Road' and '4WD Tracks' is given then this sentence will carry even more weight	We support without question this policy. We would encourage signage and advertising saying "keep to the tracks' or 'Keep to the road'.
Policies Page 274 Paragraph No3	We agree that from time to time barriers may be required, but if it was to facilitate a permanent closure of a road, then we would like to see consultation with 4WD recreational users.	We seek that should closure of a road suitable for recreational 4WD Driving be considered for permanent closing, that consultation be made with the 4WD community before this closure is made. (later on we refer to the forming of a possible working group)
Policies Page 274 Paragraph No4	This is a similar situation to no 3 above and we suggest a similar outcome.	As above.
Policies Page 275 Paragraph No5	This is a good goal, but in reality may be hard to achieve even within the 10 year period of this plan. There are many old forestry tracks and the like which qualify for roads suitable for recreational 4WD driving and mapping of these and signage will be an issue. However as a policy we support it and we believe 4WD recreational people will want to be a part of forming this identification of suitable roads, therefore we are willing to be involved over the term of this plan in making this happen.	We seek that a working party be formed that works with DOC staff in identifying labelling and mapping roads suitable for Recreational 4WD driving within the areas defined as managed lands of DOC west Coast. Additionally this group can help with options for roads should they become unsafe or require some actions for them to remain open. Like wise this group can be consulted with should roads need to be closed. Combined 4WD Clubs Inc would be prepared to offer people to that working group.

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Policies Page 275 Paragraph No6	Once again we see that there may be a need here, but the wording needs to be changed	The word 'will' in the first line be replaced with the word 'may'
Policies Page 275 Paragraph No6	Again this point is similar to second bullet point on page 273. As it is the issue of closure of that road, 4wd track or route that raised concern with us especially giving reference to 'deterioration' or 'no longer suitable'. Who gives the final decision on these? We recommend again a wider consultation before any such permanent closure be made.	We seek that should a road (which we suggest gets redefined in this context to 4WD Track) become deteriorated to a stage that makes it in the view of DOC no longer passable or usable that DOC prior to closing this road consult with the 4WD recreational Community. Again this could be a task for the working group as described in the point previously.
Policies Page 275 Paragraph No7	Treadlightly! is a code we push hard with our member Clubs. We believe that if this code was totally understood and used then the majority of this section on motor vehicle use would be simply covered. Treadlightly! is an international body that now covers all forms of recreation and is all about how we as recreational users can make the place "Better than we found it." So it is more that just vehicle users that could follow the code. If we make the place better than we found it by the way in which we recreate, then we exceed the 10 year outcome.	We support the use of Treadlightly! code totally over all form of recreation even more that just Recreational 4WD driving. Combined 4WD Clubs Inc would be prepared to commit and consult with DOC staff to see the adoption of this code unilaterally on all forms of recreation on DOC lands.
Policies Page 275 Paragraph No8	We strongly support this point. Additionally we referred earlier to forming a working group, again this group could be charged with making this policy happen.	We seek that under forming a working group to map 4WD driving routes etc, which we suggested earlier, that this group also be charged in their terms of reference to working on a case by case basis the special circumstances for this special need. Additionally 4WD Clubs would eagerly volunteer to undertake basic maintenance and or adoption of some routes or roads.

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Classic tramping opportunity Glossary page 477	<p>This is great and very meaning full term. It should apply to other forms of recreation.</p> <p>We believe that in the case of recreational 4WD driving, special places exist that we could call 'Classic driving opportunities' These would be roads and or 4wd tracks that travelled to special places, and these special places exist within the areas of the West Coast. By creating this 'Classic driving opportunities' then by nature of it would encourage these special places to be found, detailed, and used. People would become passionate about these routes and places and therefore would make sure that they remain sustainable and respected by users.</p> <p>We think that this style of adoption would be a huge step forward promoting and maintaining conservation values, historic values, and scenic values, but also would allow for reasonable travelling to them for their enjoyment.</p>	<p>We seek that DOC create 'Classic driving opportunities' in a similar manner to that of the context of 'Classis tramping opportunities.</p> <p>Again this reinforces the need of a working group on road identification and that group could seek and identify these as part of their brief.</p>
Section 4.1 Desired outcomes Pages 341-345	<p>We support these sections as they make good common sense and we believe focus all recreational users towards a common goal and theme. As we have stated we really enjoy things as they are. We believe the Treadlightly! Code will help and enhance the achievement of these outcomes as Treadlightly! talks about trying to make it better than we found it.</p> <p>Now we know vehicles leave tyre tracks on roads, and walkers leave foot prints in the sand, but if we take care to pick up rubbish along the road, maybe do a little bit of track maintenance as we go, fix up a tree we may have bent over and so on, maybe plant a tree or what ever, but we believe, we can help create a situation where by all forms of recreation can be sustainable, and workable. So we are encouraged by the concept of how we can actually contribute to this section.</p> <p>There may be some lofty goals that come from this section, but if kept in focus, could create more sustainable and easier managed forms of recreation we believe.</p>	<p>Most DOC conservancies consult with NGO's, but with a lot of West Coast users based in Canterbury we suggest that quarterly NGO meetings be set up in Canterbury so that Canterbury users can be consulted with and work with DOC West Coast staff to achieve agreed outcomes.</p> <p>We also suggest that there be on an annual basis a feed back meeting where by we measure how we are going towards achieving the 10 year outcome.</p> <p>The desired outcomes should not be locked away, it needs to become more open to all users with a annual review checking against those objectives, with NGO's being kept informed so that we do all work on achieving the goals.</p>

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Section 4.2 Desired outcomes for Places Pages 346 to 455	<p>There have been huge discussions within 4WD circles as to certainty on a track by track (or road by road) with real concern areas may be locked up to vehicle use Therefore what we proposed in our comments earlier we believe covers how we can create certainty and ongoing use and sustainability from a 4WD Recreational user perspective.</p> <p>Creating 'special places' aspects means that we can get these special places looked after and used responsibly by recreational 4WD drivers and users. We can encourage certainty so long as it is sustainable. By adopting and educating users to follow the Treadlightly code we can get even better outcomes.</p> <p>Thus we think the concept of working groups feed back and consultation will help in achieve better outcomes in all areas that this section refers to.</p> <p>They will be the Tools by which we will get there in our view</p>	<p>We seek the establishment of a working party (as outlined earlier) so that they can look at on an ongoing basis as to how the mapping of 4WD roads or tracks can enhance the outcomes herein area by area as outlined in the CMS.</p> <p>We seek an outcome that is no different from now, but maybe enhanced through better identification of special places, special driving areas and their ongoing maintenance so that in 2017 we have it better than we have it now, in all respects.</p>

Thank You

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