



Keeping New Zealand Climbing

  @AotearoaClimbingAccess

 www.acat.org.nz

SUBMISSION ON WEST COAST STEWARDSHIP LAND RECLASSIFICATION PROPOSALS

TO: Stewardship Land Reclassification Project
C/- Department of Conservation,
Private Bag 4715, Christchurch Mail Centre
Christchurch 8140

By email: stewardshiplandreclassification@doc.govt.nz
Attention: Anna Cameron

Name of submitter: Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust

We wish to be heard in support of this submission.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is a submission on the proposals set out in DOC's Westland stewardship land reclassification consultation document.
- 1.2 The Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust ("ACAT") is a national organisation that represents the interests of New Zealand's recreational rock climbing community. ACAT's purpose is to promote public access to rock climbing areas ("craggs") in Aotearoa, and to promote conservation.

Stewardship land review purpose and process

- 1.3 ACAT supports the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment's recommendation in her 2013 report, "Investigating the future of conservation: The case of stewardship land", that stewardship lands of clearly significant conservation value be appropriately classified in accordance with that value.
- 1.4 ACAT also supports the role of mana whenua and respect for the traditional use of land in the stewardship review process.

- 1.5 ACAT’s aim is to ensure that recreational value of particular land parcels is properly assessed and appropriate levels of protection are provided to ensure that public access to areas of land with high recreational value for climbing is fostered.

Consultation with other recreational organisations

- 1.6 We have consulted with the West Coast Alpine Club regarding climbing areas on the West Coast, and an overview of significant existing and potential climbing areas is attached at Appendix A.
- 1.7 We work closely with the New Zealand Alpine Club and echo it’s concerns about the lack of opportunity for interested organisations that are largely volunteer-led to contribute to the reclassification process, due to its scale and complexity.
- 1.8 We have reviewed a draft version of the FMC submission and we endorse FMC’s approach of providing for reclassification to go ahead in cases where there is agreement between the National Panel, mana whenua and organisations concerned with public access, while providing for further engagement where we do not agree.

Structure of submission

- 1.9 The submission is set out as follows:
- (a) Summary of ACAT’s recommendations
 - (b) Background – Recreational values of rock climbing in Aotearoa
 - (c) Overview of West Coast recreational climbing values
 - (d) Stewardship land - Recreational values must be protected during reclassification
 - (e) Implications of classifications for recreational climbing access
 - (f) Need for further assessment of recreational rock climbing values
 - (g) Reclassification of existing and known potential crags
 - (h) Areas marked for potential disposal
 - (i) Land proposed for park or reserve status where recreational climbing values are uncertain

2. SUMMARY OF ACAT’S RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The National Panel should take care that recreational values of land are adequately assessed, including through consultation with relevant clubs and other recreation organisations. We are not aware of any such consultation having occurred to date in relation to rock climbing and our review of the consultation documents suggests that the recreational value of the land for climbing has not been considered.

- 2.2 Reclassification of areas where the recreation values (including for climbing) have not been thoroughly assessed should ensure sufficient safeguards for public access, taking a precautionary approach.
- 2.3 Where an existing or potential climbing area is identified within a parcel, consideration should be given to whether the proposed reclassification will sufficiently protect public access for the purpose of rock climbing, including whether the proposed classification is enabling of the infrastructure (such as tracks and fixed anchors) that is needed to enable climbing to occur safely.
- 2.4 For the most significant established climbing areas, we recommend that consideration be given to classifying these as Recreation Reserves, providing explicit recognition for and protection of these areas' high recreational value for climbing. These areas are identified in Appendix B and include crags at Charleston, south of Deep Creek, and at Punakaiki.
- 2.5 We support the New Zealand Alpine Club's recommendation of further dialogue with mana whenua to resolve concerns around the proposed Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve. This area includes proposed Turiwhate Crag that is supported by DOC and mana whenua. We support protection of the historic and special parts of this land as historic reserve, but are concerned that the proposed classification may not sufficiently protect conservation values or recreational access across the wider area.
- 2.6 In regard to land marked for potential disposal, our recommendations are set out in Appendix C and are generally as follows:
- (a) We prefer that land be kept in the conservation estate so public access is maintained, which will protect access to rock climbing opportunities that may be discovered in the future.
 - (b) However, we do not oppose disposal where the National Panel and the Mana Whenua Panel agree that it is appropriate and our analysis has not revealed any climbing potential.
 - (c) We oppose disposal (pending further investigation) where the National Panel and the Mana Whenua Panel agree that it is appropriate but we cannot confirm that the area does not have any climbing potential.

3. BACKGROUND – RECREATIONAL VALUES OF ROCK CLIMBING IN AOTEAROA

- 3.1 The reclassification of stewardship land should provide each land parcel with a classification that appropriately recognises and protects the conservation and recreational values of the land.
- 3.2 Rock climbing is a recreation activity with a long history in Aotearoa and many benefits. This is briefly explained below to ensure that recreational values, including value for rock climbing, can be properly understood and assessed.

History and growing popularity of climbing

- 3.3 Climbing is a rapidly growing sport in New Zealand and internationally, so much so that it recently debuted in the Olympic Games. Most outdoor climbing areas in the South Island are on conservation land, including stewardship land.
- 3.4 Rock climbing has a substantial history in Aotearoa and is part of our adventurous national character. Many New Zealanders have made internationally celebrated ascents, from the pioneering ascents of Jack Clarke and Freda Du Faur in the Aoraki region in the 1890's, to the first ascent of Mt Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary.
- 3.5 New Zealander Lydia Bradey ONZM was the first woman to ascend Mt Everest without oxygen, and ACAT's Patron Sir Graeme Dingle helped to develop rock climbing in Aotearoa as its own sport distinct from mountaineering.
- 3.6 New Zealand now has a thriving recreational climbing community that values getting out into nature and enjoying climbing on cliffs around the country. Nowadays, most climbers start out in indoor climbing gyms, which provide a safe learning environment in which to acquire skills and experience before venturing outdoors.
- 3.7 The advent of indoor climbing and improvements in safety have made making climbing ever more accessible to a range of age groups and communities, and it is changing from a fringe activity into a mainstream sport.

Recreation, conservation and community benefits of climbing

- 3.8 Rock climbing is a way to appreciate nature and conservation areas within New Zealand as well as providing a form of active recreation that keeps New Zealanders happy and healthy.
- 3.9 Climbing is a safe and inclusive activity enjoyed by many, including young people and families. Modern safety equipment and techniques mean that serious accidents are very rare. Due to its adventurous nature, climbing can sometimes be perceived as a high-risk activity. However, there is no evidence for this and data from ACC shows that climbing is less dangerous than other popular sports such as rugby or mountain biking.
- 3.10 Rock climbers and climbers in general frequently contribute to conservation efforts including tree planting, and can also have a role in species identification, particularly due to access to unusual and vertical areas, for example in recent years climbers identified a new species of gecko in a remote part of the Fox range¹, accessible only by climbing, and this information was passed on to DOC. Climbers are also involved in pest control and tree planting volunteer efforts, to preserve and rehabilitate conservation areas, particularly in areas that they are able to climb in.

Rock climbing, domestic and international tourism and economic benefits for communities

- 3.11 Rock climbing can also provide a source of domestic and international tourism as climbers from New Zealand and other parts of the world will travel to spend time at the best rock climbing areas.

¹ We have included a photograph of this unique gecko species, as well as the remote location in the Fox range where it was found.

- 3.12 Some climbing areas are located near towns and communities that are then able to benefit economically from the increased visitors. Examples of this on the West Coast include the Punakaiki township, Charleston, Hokitika and Greymouth. The West Coast is already part of the 'circuit' for domestic and international climbers travelling around the South Island and has potential to attract more climbers with development of high-quality new climbing areas.

4. OVERVIEW OF WEST COAST RECREATIONAL CLIMBING VALUES

- 4.1 This section aims to provide decision-makers with a high-level understanding of the rock climbing landscape on the West Coast, including existing crags, known areas with significant potential for climbing, and the limits of our knowledge.
- 4.2 On the West Coast, effectively all rock climbing areas sit within the conservation estate. As such, the future of the sport in this part of New Zealand is entirely dependent on the approach taken by DOC, including through the stewardship land reclassification process.
- 4.3 Significant established and potential climbing areas on stewardship land on the West Coast include Charleston crag, Mt Turiwhate, and a number of crags in the Punakaiki area. More detail on these areas is provided at **Appendix A**. ACAT considers that any reclassification proposal must provide appropriate protection for public access to these areas of high recreational value. We consider that recreation reserve would be the most appropriate classification for established crags.
- 4.4 On the West Coast, DOC, the climbing community, and mana whenua have developed a good working relationship over time and this continues to evolve. Some examples are below:
- (a) Paparoa National Park - Rock climbing in existing areas is supported by the Paparoa Management Plan, and there is process for assessment and consultation in relation to potential new areas.²
 - (b) Mt Turiwhate - The West Coast Alpine Club has gained support from iwi and DOC to develop a new climbing area at Mt Turiwhate, including cutting a track and placing some fixed anchors to enable rock climbing to occur safely.
- 4.5 However, due to the low population and vast expanse of rugged land on the West Coast, the full extent of potential climbing areas is not yet known, even within the climbing community. The current climbing community does not know all the potential climbing areas, only the most obvious and accessible ones.
- 4.6 Climbing on the West Coast is in its youth and there are likely to be countless undiscovered and undeveloped areas with excellent recreational potential that could continue to provide opportunities for future generations to explore and enjoy – if public access is protected.

² [Paparoa National Park Management Plan 2017 \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

5. STEWARDSHIP LAND - RECREATIONAL VALUES MUST BE PROTECTED DURING RECLASSIFICATION

5.1 Conservation is defined in the Conservation Act 1987 as:³

*“conservation means the preservation and protection of natural and historic resources for the purpose of maintaining their intrinsic values, **providing for their appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public, and safeguarding the options of future generations**”*

[our emphasis]

5.2 It is worth emphasising that providing for recreational enjoyment by the public is one of the key purposes of conservation. While there is sometimes tension between conservation initiatives and recreational access, the two purposes are inextricably linked.

5.3 Further to this definition, the functions of the Department of Conservation include fostering the use of natural and historic resources for recreation, to the extent that this is not inconsistent with conservation.⁴

5.4 This applies equally to stewardship land and must be a guiding principle throughout the reclassification process.

5.5 To foster recreation on stewardship land, any reclassification decision should be based on a proper assessment of the recreational values of the land, to provide a classification that will appropriately protect public access and foster recreation opportunities.

5.6 Safeguarding the options of future generations includes ensuring that future generations' ability to access conservation land for recreation is protected.

Providing for future generations

5.7 We refer again to definition of 'conservation', which includes the purpose of “safeguarding the options of future generations”.

5.8 It is important that the recreation needs of current and future generations be considered in the reclassification process, and decisions should take into account the fact that forms of recreation change over time.

5.9 For example, rock climbing activity used to be limited to rock formations that included cracks and fissures where a climber could place traditional protection such as chockstones to protect a fall. However, with the use of fixed protection such as bolts, climbers can now ascend almost blank rock faces where climbing would have been unthinkable in the past. Undoubtedly, climbing will continue to evolve and future climbers will look at previously-ignored cliffs and formations with fresh eyes.

5.10 In the context of rock climbing, recreational opportunities exist where there is an exposed cliff face consisting of high-quality (i.e. compact) rock. There are many potential climbing

³ S 2 Conservation Act 1987.

⁴ S 6 Conservation Act 1987.

areas that have yet to be discovered by climbers or have been discovered but not yet established as crags.

- 5.11 This makes it difficult to assess recreational values. Nonetheless, these potential climbing areas will be the outdoor playground of the next generation and their value must not be underestimated.

6. IMPLICATIONS OF CLASSIFICATIONS FOR RECREATIONAL CLIMBING ACCESS

- 6.1 It is important that an appropriate classification be provided for stewardship land parcels, following proper assessment of both the conservation and recreation values of each parcel (including the importance of public access over the land to access recreation opportunities on adjacent conservation land).
- 6.2 Not all conservation land classifications are similarly protective of public access, and there is a lack of clarity regarding the implications of certain classifications for recreation.
- 6.3 Certain classifications appear to provide relatively weak protection for public access and conservation. On the flipside, other classifications such as Conservation Park appear to prioritise conservation goals over public access. This may create barriers to access for recreational climbing by creating resistance to the infrastructure (however minimal) that is required to enable climbing to occur safely.
- 6.4 As with all other recreational activities in the conservation estate, rock climbing has a certain footprint. Just as tramping requires development of infrastructure such as tracks and huts, climbing also relies on access tracks as well as infrastructure such as fixed safety anchors which enable climbers to lower themselves safely back to the ground after climbing. These recreational impacts need to be balanced with conservation objectives in a sensible fashion.
- 6.5 ACAT would like to acknowledge the Department of Conservation for the support it has given towards rock climbing in the conservation estate. Although DOC does not have a consistent approach to rock climbing development around the country, most DOC offices and Conservation Management Plans have taken a sensible and reasonable approach in the spirit of fostering recreational opportunities and public access to conservation land while also protecting conservation values.
- 6.6 Further work is needed to create a more consistent approach to rock climbing on conservation land. At this stage it is difficult to say which public land classifications are enabling or restrictive of rock climbing, as regional approaches to climbing have generally been more strongly influenced by the quality of consultation between DOC and climbing community than the official classification of the land in question.

ACAT's recommendations

- 6.7 For the purposes of this reclassification processes, we recommend the following:
- (a) Where an existing or potential climbing area is identified within a parcel, consideration be given to whether the proposed reclassification will sufficiently protect public access for the purpose of rock climbing, including whether the

proposed classification is enabling of the infrastructure (such as tracks and fixed anchors) that is needed to enable climbing to occur safely.

- (b) In particular, consideration should be given to whether the Heritage Reserve classification is sufficiently protective of recreational access and conservation goals. ACAT notes FMC's concerns that this classification appears to provide relatively weak protection to both conservation and public access.
- (c) For the most significant established climbing destinations, we consider that Recreation Reserve would be the most appropriate classification, as it explicitly recognises and prioritises the high recreational value of the land, with conservation as an additional but secondary goal.
- (d) It is imperative that stewardship land not be disposed of in cases where the recreational values of the land (including potential value for rock climbing) have not been adequately assessed.

7. NEED FOR FURTHER ASSESSMENT OF RECREATIONAL ROCK CLIMBING VALUES

- 7.1 ACAT wants to ensure that the recreational value of particular land parcels is properly assessed and appropriate levels of protection are provided to ensure that public access to areas of land with high recreational value for climbing is fostered.
- 7.2 The recreational value of conservation land for rock climbing and the importance of public access for the sport is often overlooked in official planning documents and processes. This affects the ability of New Zealanders to access conservation land for recreational climbing and threatens the future of the sport.
- 7.3 This appears to hold true for the West Coast stewardship land reclassification proposals. We are not aware of any consultation having been undertaken with the climbing community to ensure that the recreational value for rock climbing of each land parcel was assessed and taken into consideration in the reclassification proposals.
- 7.4 Our review of the consultation documents suggests that the recreational value of the land for climbing has not been considered. Rock climbing is not mentioned in any of the documents except one mention in relation to the Charleston area.
- 7.5 As such, the reclassification proposals do not sufficiently consider relevant recreational values of the land and may not provide appropriate levels of protection for those values.
- 7.6 ACAT wishes to take a pragmatic approach to resolving this difficulty by focussing on two key sets of issues:
 - (a) Reclassification of existing and known potential crags;
 - (b) Areas marked for potential disposal.

8. RECLASSIFICATION OF EXISTING AND KNOWN POTENTIAL CRAGS

Ensuring ongoing recreational access for rock climbing

- 8.1 ACAT wishes to ensure that reclassification decisions sufficiently protect public access to established climbing areas and areas that are known to have climbing potential. To assist with decision-making in this regard we have provided relevant information as follows:
- (a) Appendix A provides an overview of the most significant existing and identified potential climbing areas on the West Coast.
 - (b) Appendix B provides a table of existing climbing areas (and access routes) that are affected by proposed reclassifications, and our recommendations in regard to these areas.

8.2 Our key recommendations are discussed below.

Significant established climbing areas

- 8.3 For the most significant established climbing areas, we **recommend** that consideration be given to classifying these as Recreation Reserves, providing explicit recognition for and protection of these areas' high recreational value for climbing.
- 8.4 These areas include areas recommended for classification as Scenic Reserve A by the National Panel:
- (a) Charleston Crags (which are currently in the Doctor Bay DOC Reserve except Joyce bay/White Wall).
 - (b) South of Deep Creek crags (Aspire, Wavey Wall, The Nursery, Sunday School Slab).
- 8.5 It also includes the Punakaiki crags, which the National Panel has recommended for inclusion in Paparoa National Park:
- (a) Knee Cow Wall, Air Traffic Control Tower, Ocean Wall and possibly also Weka Wall.
- 8.6 We note that climbing hasn't been included in the Four Mile River technical report and request that climbing access be considered and included in documentation moving forwards.

Other climbing areas and access routes

- 8.7 For the less significant established climbing areas and access routes, we **support** the proposed classifications provided that disposal is not recommended.

Mt Turiwhate

- 8.8 The proposed Turiwhate Crag is currently located in the Kawhaka Forest Conservation Area, which is proposed to be reclassified as the Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve. We support protection of the historic and special parts of this land.
- 8.9 However, we note FMC's concerns that a Historic Reserve classification may not sufficient protection of conservation values or recreational access across such a vast area. We support the New Zealand Alpine Club's recommendation of further dialogue with mana whenua to resolve these issues.

- 8.10 We note that the current technical report does not include any mention of the proposed recreational climbing areas, which have been agreed with DOC and mana whenua. We request that this be considered and included in documentation moving forward.

Small land parcels

- 8.11 Classification of smaller parcels, many of which are at public access or other crucial points, should provide for enduring public access relating to the parcels themselves and to land beyond.
- 8.12 We would like to make sure that the smaller land parcels are considered with regards to the existing and proposed climbing areas that we have outlined.

9. AREAS MARKED FOR POTENTIAL DISPOSAL

Ensuring recreational access in areas marked for disposal

- 9.1 We note that some areas have been marked for disposal which may have rock climbing potential. This is a pressing concern as, once land has moved out of the conservation estate, untapped recreational opportunities may be lost forever.
- 9.2 We would like to protect public access to these areas for potential rock climbing, and where possible, ask for this to be investigated as part of the disposal process (which includes both existing and potential recreational access). The following statement by LINZ is relevant:⁵

Each Crown agency must fully investigate its land and seek expert advice on any identified values before it enters our disposal process.

- 9.3 We have identified areas for disposal and set out our comments and recommendations in Appendix C.
- 9.4 Our recommendations are generally as follows:
- (a) We prefer that land be kept in the conservation estate so public access is maintained, which will be protect access to rock climbing opportunities that may be discovered in the future.
 - (b) However, we do not oppose disposal where the National Panel and the Mana Whenua Panel agree that it is appropriate and our desktop analysis has not revealed any climbing potential.
 - (c) We oppose disposal (pending further investigation) where the National Panel and the Mana Whenua Panel agree that it is appropriate but we cannot confirm that the area does not have any climbing potential.

⁵ [Protection of Values on Crown-owned Land | Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand \(linz.govt.nz\)](https://www.linz.govt.nz/land-information/land-values-protection)

10. LAND PROPOSED FOR PARK OR RESERVE STATUS WHERE RECREATIONAL CLIMBING VALUES ARE UNCERTAIN

- 10.1 The reclassification process should provide the most appropriate classification of land, including consideration of which level of protection is appropriate given the conservation and recreational values of the land.
- 10.2 As set out above, it appears that the recreational value of West Coast stewardship land for rock climbing has not been investigated and considered in the recommendations. Further, there is inherent uncertainty as to the locations of future crags that are yet to be discovered.
- 10.3 Given this uncertainty, safeguarding recreational access for future generations of climbers requires a precautionary approach.
- 10.4 We recommend that, where recreational value of stewardship land for climbing has not been assessed, consideration be given to whether the proposed classification is sufficiently protective of public access for the purposes of rock climbing.
- 10.5 Any mechanisms other than classification that can be implemented to ensure that recreational access is adequately protected should be also considered.

11. THANK YOU

- 11.1 Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on this process.
- 11.2 We would like to attend the oral hearing.

Dated at WANAKA this 23rd day of August 2022

AOTEAROA CLIMBING ACCESS TRUST



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APPENDIX A: SIGNIFICANT EXISTING AND POTENTIAL ROCK CLIMBING AREAS IN STEWARDSHIP LAND

This document was prepared by members of the West Coast Alpine Club for the purpose of inclusion in ACAT's submission.

The document highlights three areas on the West Coast that have known significant recreational rock climbing potential which is at least partially located on stewardship land. These areas already have some established rock climbs but show potential for future development to enhance and make safe the recreational resource.

As previously mentioned, access to, and the development of potential climbing areas can also have economic benefits for local communities, where climbing provides a form of domestic tourism. Visitors to climbing areas also visit local eateries and use accommodation services. Climbers can also contribute to conservation efforts in these areas as well.

Punakaiki Area

The limestone cliffs of the Punakaiki area have hosted the bulk of recent rock climbing development on the West Coast. In several phases involving various individuals, approximately 100 routes are now equipped across three broad areas – Bullock Creek, Punakaiki Valley, and Dolomite Point.

The development was ad hoc and not well coordinated, but subsequently a policy has been developed and incorporated into the Paparoa National Park Management Plan which sets the parameters for further development.

There is a great deal more potential within the 15 or so existing crags, more in other parts of the prescribed development zone, and likely even more beyond on walls that are as yet unvisited by climbers. The cliffs are located variously within the National Park, on stewardship land, and on or bordering Buller District Council land.

The local climbing community has a special relationship with this area – helping discover a locally abundant population of a nationally rare plant, managing a low-impact network of trails to the crags, and volunteering on nearby predator trapping projects. Climbers care for this area and wish to see it protected from high-impact development, while being available for recreational access and related low-impact development.

Codifying access and development rights and restrictions through community agreements like the community maintenance agreement with the Department of Conservation and the Paparoa National Park Management Plan help to guide opportunities and limitations for future route developers. Simplifying the process and improving clarity through uniform policy and procedure is helpful and increases the likelihood of broad acceptance and engagement from the whole climbing community, leading to better outcomes across the board.

Mount Turiwhate

Mount Turiwhate is a recent and exciting discovery in the rock climbing world. The West Coast Alpine Club has consulted with and gained the support of mana whenua for development of a new climbing area at Turiwhate which will serve the local communities of Greymouth and Hokitiki, and recently signed a community agreement with DOC to enable the development of an alpine rock climbing area.

Turiwhate climbing is a collection of granite cliffs up to 100 meters high situated above the bush line overlooking the Taramakau Awa to the north and the Arahura Awa to the south. The climbing here caters to all abilities, but requires an appetite for adventure to access the alpine setting.

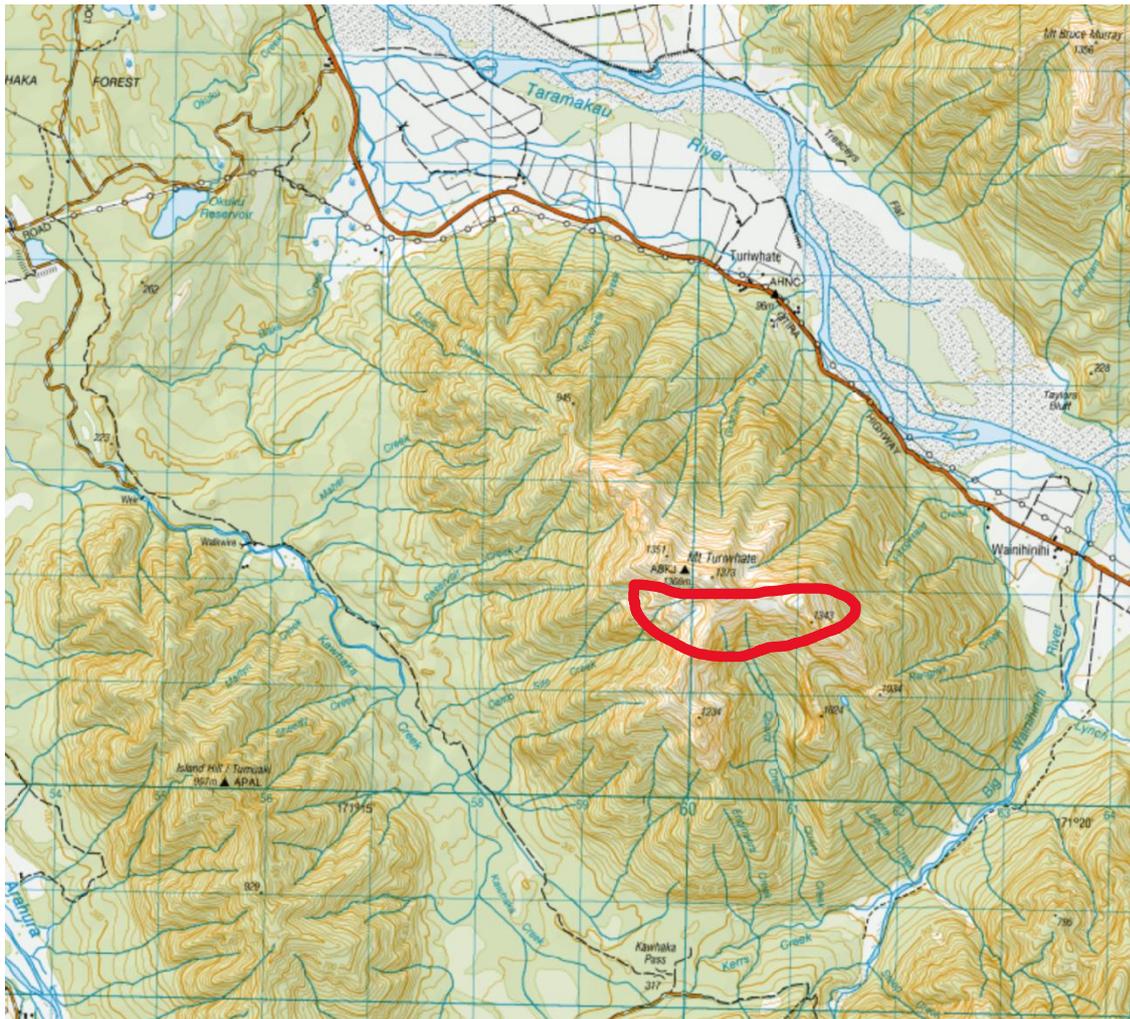


Figure 1: The proposed climbing area at Mt Turiwhate

Charleston

This is a well-established climbing area, with the bulk of climbs existing 500 meters either side of Constant Bay. The geology of the area indicates the potential for climbing exists from Constant Bay all the way south to Woodpecker Bay. Climbers who have investigated the cliffs south of the 'the Prow Cove' (Rock Deluxe South guidebook) have reported favourably on the potential for future climbing in this area.



Figure 3: The established and potential climbing area near Charleston

APPENDIX B: EXISTING CLIMBING AREAS AFFECTED BY PROPOSED RECLASSIFICATIONS

Affected crags	Place	Assessment Area	Protected Area Name	NaPALIS id	National Panel Recommendation	Mana Whenua Recommendation	Conservation Value Report name	ACAT recommendation
Charleston Crags	Paparoa	PAP_03	Conservation Area - Doctor Bay	2808289	Scenic Reserve (a)	Neutral	Doctor Bay - Technical Report (PDF, 506KB)	We DO NOT OPPOSE reclassification as scenic reserve – as long as rock climbing access is maintained, and ideally, enhanced. However, we RECOMMEND reclassification as RECREATION RESERVE , recognising the area’s high value for climbing.
South of Deep Creek crags (Aspire, Wavey Wall, The Nursery, Sunday School Slab)	Paparoa	PAP_05	Conservation Area - Four Mile River	2808365	Scenic Reserve (a)	Neutral	Deep Creek-Four Mile River - Technical Report (1.31MB)	We DO NOT OPPOSE reclassification as scenic reserve – as long as rock climbing access is maintained, and ideally, enhanced. However, we RECOMMEND reclassification as RECREATION RESERVE ,

								recognising the area's high value for climbing.
Track access to potential crags on coastline north of Woodpecker Bay to where SH6 crosses Four Mile/Tiropahi River	Paparoa	PAP_07	Conservation Area - Four Mile River	2808371	National Park (Paparoa)	Stewardship	Four Mile River Red Jacket Creek - Technical Report (PDF, 1.09MB)	We SUPPORT reclassification to Paparoa National Park – including ongoing climbing access
Track access to potential crags on coastline north of Woodpecker Bay to where SH6 crosses Four Mile/Tiropahi River	Paparoa	PAP_07	Conservation Area - Red Jacket Creek	2808372	National Park (Paparoa)	Stewardship	Four Mile River Red Jacket Creek - Technical Report (PDF, 1.09MB)	We SUPPORT reclassification to Paparoa National Park – including ongoing climbing access
Track access to potential crags on coastline north of Woodpecker Bay to where SH6 crosses Four Mile/Tiropahi River	Paparoa	PAP_07	Conservation Area - Red Jacket Creek	2808373	National Park (Paparoa)	Stewardship	Four Mile River Red Jacket Creek - Technical Report (PDF, 1.09MB)	We SUPPORT reclassification to Paparoa National Park – including ongoing climbing access
Track access to potential crags on coastline north of Woodpecker Bay to where SH6 crosses Four	Paparoa	PAP_07	Conservation Area - White Horse Creek Forest	2806939	National Park (Paparoa)	Stewardship	Four Mile River Red Jacket Creek - Technical Report (PDF, 1.09MB)	We SUPPORT reclassification to Paparoa National Park – including ongoing climbing access

Mile/Tiropahi River								
Knee Cow Wall; Air Traffic Control Tower; Ocean Wall; Weka Wall	Paparoa	PAP_14	Conservation Area - Punakaiki - Coast Road (South)	2806891	National Park (Paparoa)	Stewardship	Punakaiki River & Coast Road - Technical Report (PDF, 1.35MB)	We DO NOT OPPOSE reclassification to Paparoa National Park – as long as rock climbing access is maintained, and ideally, enhanced. However, we RECOMMEND reclassification as RECREATION RESERVE , recognising the area’s high value for climbing.
Turiwhate	Hokitika	HOK_19	Conservation Area - Kawhaka	2805715	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve	Tarahanga e Toru Historic Reserve	Hokitika River - Technical Report (PDF, 960KB)	For the parts of this area that are of historic value – we SUPPORT the historic reserve classification. We note concerns that this classification may not provide sufficient protection of conservation values or recreational access across such a vast area. We SUPPORT the New Zealand Alpine Club’s recommendation of further dialogue with mana whenua to resolve this issue.

APPENDIX C: SPREADSHEET OF LAND PROPOSED FOR POTENTIAL DISPOSAL

Place	Assessment Area	Protected Area Name	NaPALIS id	National Panel Recommendation	Mana Whenua Recommendation	Comments from a recreational perspective:	ACAT recommendation:
Hokitika	HOK_09	Conservation Area - Stafford	2809281	Conservation Park (Waimea)	Disposal	Area is near the small town of Stafford, a former mining town. Historic mining areas have been noted, and these have been sources of climbing in other situations. There are no known recreational uses stated, but whether there is any climbing potential is hard to tell from the information given.	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Waimea). Retaining this land in the conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_09	Conservation Area - Stafford (Central/East)	2809281	Disposal	Disposal	As above	We OPPOSE disposal until this area's recreational values including potential value for rock climbing is properly assessed.
Hokitika	HOK_09	Conservation Area - Stafford - High Street	2809331	Conservation Park (Waimea)	Disposal	As above	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Waimea). Retaining this land in the

							conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_21	Conservation Area - Kokatahi / Hokitika Riverbed (Pasture)	2805690	Conservation Park (Hokitika Awa)	Disposal	Has a very high recreational value, potentially including climbing in the Hokitika Gorge. It is difficult to tell from the information provided whether disposal of the pastoral land in this area will affect (potential) climbing access.	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Hokitika Awa). Retaining this land in the conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_21	Conservation Area - Styx River (Pasture)	2805710	Conservation Park (Kokatahi Awa)	Disposal	Has a very high recreational value, potentially including climbing. It is difficult to tell from the information provided whether disposal of the pastoral land in this	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Kokatahi Awa). Retaining this land in the conservation estate will preserve public access if

						area will affect (potential) climbing access.	climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_21	Conservation Area - Toaroha Riverbed (Pasture)	2805711	Conservation Park (Kokatahi Awa)	Disposal	As above	As above
Hokitika	HOK_21	Conservation Area - Kokatahi River (Pasture)	2805720	Conservation Park (Kokatahi Awa)	Disposal	As above	As above
Hokitika	HOK_29	Conservation Area - Mahinapua Store	2805695	Disposal	Disposal	Doesn't appear to have any recreational value - a patch of land that provides access to a foresty area, mainly covered in gorse.	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Hokitika	HOK_38	Conservation Area - Tōtara River (Pasture)	2805703	Disposal	Disposal	Doesn't appear to have a lot of recreational value	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Hokitika	HOK_38	Conservation Area - Donnelly Creek (Pasture)	2805705	Disposal	Disposal	No known recreational value	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Hokitika	HOK_45	Conservation Area - Mikonui River Mouth (Pasture)	2805509	Wildlife Management Area	Disposal	Some recreational value - but no known value for climbing	We SUPPORT reclassification to Wildlife Management Area. Retaining this land in the

							conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_45	Conservation Area - Waitaha (Pasture)	2805514	Wildlife Management Area	Disposal	Possible recreational value for climbing. I note that one of the streams is called 'Granite Creek'. The report seems to refer to rock features which are 'features very expressive of formative processes and significant coastal landscape features'. There is some mention of other forms of recreation but none of climbing.	We SUPPORT reclassification to Wildlife Management Area. Retaining this land in the conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_47	Conservation Area - Mikonui River (Pasture)	2805512	Conservation Park (Mikonui)	Disposal	This area has very high recreational values - it doesn't mention rock climbing, but limestone is present, and there is a concession for limestone quarrying in the area.	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Mikonui). Retaining this land in the conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_49	Conservation Area - Little Waitaha River (Pasture)	2805635	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Disposal	This area has limited recreational use, but may provide access to Kakapotahi river which has	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Waitaha). Retaining this land in the

						granite gorges with climbing potential.	conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_50	Conservation Area - Waitaha Riverbed (Pasture)	2805634	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Disposal	Area has some recreational value, no known rock climbing potential at present.	We SUPPORT reclassification to Conservation Park (Waitaha). Retaining this land in the conservation estate will preserve public access if climbing potential is discovered in the future.
Hokitika	HOK_50	Conservation Area - Waitaha Riverbed (Pasture)	2805643	Conservation Park (Waitaha)	Disposal	As above	As above
Inangahua	INA_05	Conservation Area - Inangahua Junction	2807819	Disposal	Disposal	No likely recreational or climbing value	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Inangahua	INA_10	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Pasture)	2807840	Disposal	Disposal	The map seems to indicate a drop off or even a potential rocky outcrop behind this area, which this piece of land might provide access to, but there is no likely recreational value on this piece of land	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.

Inangahua	INA_12	Conservation Area - Inangahua Riverbed	2807872	Disposal	Disposal	No recreational use	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Inangahua	INA_12	Conservation Area - Inangahua River	2807885	Disposal	Disposal	As above	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Inangahua	INA_13	Conservation Area - Swamp Creek Road - Rotokohu (Pasture)	2807873	Disposal	Disposal	No likely recreational or climbing value	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Inangahua	INA_19	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Pasture)	2807898	Disposal	Disposal	No likely recreational or climbing value	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.
Inangahua	INA_21	Conservation Area - Inangahua River (Pasture)	2807900	Disposal	Disposal	No likely recreational or climbing value	We DO NOT OPPOSE disposal.