

We're backing

# Our Place



May 2019

## Our Place Catlins Feedback Report

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Consultation and engagement for *Our Place Catlins* aimed to seek input from the community to inform the development of the *Our Place Catlins* plan. This report provides a summary of feedback received through 2 primary methods: people who responded using the Council-supplied feedback form; and a series of community-based consultation events. The 2 most common themes identified through these methods are shown in Table 1 and 2 below. A number of other submissions from agencies and individuals were also received, and these are also summarised in this report. All of the raw feedback received is provided in 2 separate appendices.

*Table 1. The 2 most common themes for each focus point, as identified through the feedback form*

Focus Point	Most common theme	2 <sup>nd</sup> most common theme
<i>Landscape and the environment</i>	Walking & cycling tracks.	Greater protection of natural resources (ecosystems, waterways, coast).
<i>Our changing communities (both questions combined)</i>	Encourage / enable new businesses.	Housing (encourage more / limit to certain areas).
<i>Parks and reserves (both questions combined)</i>	Maintenance / safety / administration of reserves.	Positive comments / Enable greater use of Willsher Bay.
<i>Roading: Suggestions for making roads safer</i>	Seal high-use roads.	Encourage slower driving.
<i>Roading: Particular stretches require attention</i>	Very few common themes, all suggestions listed in Appendix 1.	
<i>Roading: Priority seal extensions</i>	Owaka Valley Road.	Purakaunui Falls Road.
<i>Responsible camping: Additional infrastructure needed?</i>	More / better toilet facilities.	No free overnight stays.
<i>Responsible camping: Other improvements or initiatives?</i>	Should stay at existing campgrounds.	No free overnight stays.
<i>Climate change: What areas are vulnerable?</i>	Marine and coastal environment, wildlife	Low-lying areas, esp. roads.
<i>Climate change: Priority areas to focus on?</i>	Managing coastal erosion (esp. Pounaweia sea wall).	Coastal townships and roads / Pounaweia estuary.
<i>Kaka Point and surrounds: Priority activities or facilities</i>	More / better toilet facilities.	Kids activities, playgrounds.
<i>Kaka Point and surrounds: Ideas to promote living &amp; working</i>	Enable businesses / tourism.	Walking / cycling tracks.
<i>Owaka and surrounds: Priority activities or facilities</i>	Rubbish / recycling.	Roading improvements.
<i>Owaka and surrounds: Ideas to promote living &amp; working</i>	Roading improvements.	Mobile coverage / internet.
<i>Papatowai and surrounds: Priority activities or facilities</i>	More / better toilets (esp. at Tautuku).	Rubbish / recycling.
<i>Papatowai and surrounds: Ideas to promote living &amp; working</i>	Keep It unspoilt and special.	Enable tourism.

Table 2. The 2 most common themes identified through community-based consultation events

Settlement	Most common theme	2 <sup>nd</sup> most common theme
Papatowai	Walking and cycling tracks / Traffic management.	General comments / Waste management.
Tahakopa	Roading.	Visitors should show respect / pay for the facilities they use.
Jacks Bay	Roading.	Traffic management.
Pounaweia	Community facilities.	Traffic management.
Newhaven	Roading.	Traffic management.
Kaka Point / Nuggets	Community facilities.	Traffic management.
Owaka	Community facilities.	Roading.
Catlins Visitor Centre	Roading.	Managed freedom camping.



## PART A: INTRODUCTION

Clutha District Council's goal is to promote living and working in the Clutha District. This is a key platform in our Long Term Plan that ties closely with two strategies we refer to as the 'Economic Development' and 'Living and Working in Clutha' strategies.

The focus of the Our Place Catlins Community Plan is to identify what Council can do to apply the Living and Working Strategy in the Catlins. This report presents a summary of the consultation feedback received for the Our Place Catlins community planning project.

The feedback reported here will help identify projects and inform priorities for Council to consider, including in the 2021/31 Long Term Plan and beyond. The actions and projects will also help inform the activities and decisions of community groups and third-party funders.

This part outlines the consultation objectives, how the consultation was undertaken, and summarises the type and amount of feedback received.

### A1 CONSULTATION PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

#### Purpose

Consultation and engagement for *Our Place Catlins* aimed to seek input from the community to inform the development of the *Our Place Catlins* plan.

#### Consultation Objectives

The consultation and engagement objectives were to:

- Stimulate interest in *Our Place Catlins* project.
- Encourage feedback on the issues and options outlined.
- Develop stronger relationships and partnerships between Council and the Catlins community.
- Provide accurate information for decision-makers to assist them in making informed choices around the resourcing of future Catlins-based projects and initiatives.

The *Our Place Catlins* consultation document was adopted by Council on 29 November 2018. The Communication and Engagement Plan was prepared in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

#### Role of elected members

The role of the elected members to date has included:

- Providing input and overall leadership for the *Our Place* project.
- Approving consultation material and consultation/engagement approaches.
- Promoting the *Our Place* consultation material and assisting with consultation and engagement activities.

The next step that this report relates to will be to:

- Consider stakeholder and community feedback to inform the *Our Place Catlins* Community Plan.



## Project Group

A project group for this project made up of key Council staff members undertook the following:

- Contributing to and where applicable, prepare underlying information to give foundation to the *Our Place* plans.
- Reviewing the draft *Our Place* material and ensure that it is ready for consultation.
- Attending meetings and take part in consultation activities as required.

The next step that this report relates to will be to:

- Action elected member direction on where to from here.
- Bring back for elected members approval of *Our Place Catlins* recommendations.

## A2 FOCUS POINTS

A series of discussions with community groups and stakeholders in late 2018 helped to identify 9 focus points, which were expected to generate significant feedback through the *Our Place Catlins* public consultation process. A short explanation of each focus point is provided in Table 3. These were included in the consultation material (see section A3 below) and other consultation material (posters etc.).

*Table 3. Our Place Catlins focus points*

<b>Focus Point</b>	<b>Explanation – what is this about?</b>
1. <i>Landscape and the environment</i>	How do we ensure that the recreational, cultural, landscape and ecological values of The Catlins are maintained for future generations?
2. <i>Our changing communities</i>	How can we work together to manage challenges such as our small and aging population, and an increasing number of visitors?
3. <i>Parks and reserves</i>	A Catlins Reserves Management Plan is also being developed. What are the most important parks and reserves in the Catlins, and what activities could be developed in these public areas?
4. <i>Roading</i>	The roading network provides critical transportation links through the Catlins and beyond. It includes the Southern Scenic Route, the road to the Nuggets, and the local roading network.
5. <i>Responsible camping</i>	How should the increasing number of independent travelers staying overnight in the Catlins be managed? Feedback will help to inform a review of Council's Freedom Camping Policy.
6. <i>Managing the effects of climate change</i>	How can we start planning and preparing response options so that our communities, and the services and infrastructure which support them, can remain resilient into the future?
7. <i>Kaka Point &amp; Romahapa</i>	Council provides a range of facilities, services and infrastructure to help support settlements in the Catlins. How can we make the most of these assets, to encourage people to live and work in The Catlins?
8. <i>Owaka, Pounaweia, Newhaven &amp; Jack's Bay</i>	
9. <i>Papatowai, Maclennan, Tahakopa, Chaslands &amp; Tautuku</i>	

## A3 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

### Phase One – Stakeholder Consultation & Engagement

Conversations and meetings with key stakeholders took place in 2018, with ongoing dialogue proposed for during the project and beyond. Information from this preliminary engagement was used to develop the formal consultation material, as well as the consultation program. Meetings included:

- Presentation and discussion with Kaka Point Community Group 17 October 2018
- Presentation and discussion with Papatowai Rural Fire Group 25 October 2018
- Presentation and discussion with Owaka Going Forward 6 November 2018
- Presentation and discussion with Catlins Coast Inc. 12 November 2018

### Phase Two – Public Consultation & Engagement

The public consultation phase took place from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 to 15 March 2019. A number of different activities and methods across the different themes and areas were undertaken. These included:

- **Consultation material**

A folded A3 consultation document was developed for consultation to help prompt ideas and discussion, particularly around the main focus points listed in Table 3. This document was delivered by rural mail staff during the week of 17 – 21 December 2018, to resident's mailboxes in Owaka, Pounaweia, Jacks Bay, Kaka Point, and Papatowai. Copies of the document were also available as follows:

- Council offices, including the Owaka Service Centre
- Balclutha Library
- Online via Council's website
- Links on Facebook to direct readers to the full document on line.

A letter was also sent to all ratepayers who own property in the Catlins, advising them of the project. This was to ensure that people who own property in the Catlins (but do not necessarily live there permanently) were aware of the consultation process, and could provide feedback as well.

Posters were also produced, and these were mounted on boards as a tool to generate discussion at a range of consultation events. An example is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Focus Point posters, with feedback items ('Post-it' notes) at the Kaka Point Market Day



- **Community-based consultation events**

Consultation events were held at most of the small townships in the Catlins Ward to gather feedback and suggestions. This included Papatowai, Jacks Bay, Pounaweia, Newhaven, Kaka Point, Nugget Point, Owaka and Tahakopa (Figure 2). These events were spread across the holiday season and into March, to enable feedback to be gathered from all sectors of people who live, work and visit The Catlins (visitors, crib-owners, permanent residents, school children). Feedback from these events is summarised in Part C.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			Caravan: Pounaweia, Jacks Bay, New Haven, Papatowai, Kaka Point, Nuggets. 2nd - 4th				January
30	31	1				5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	Kaka Point, Market Day 12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	Owaka, drop-in sessions, Service Centre	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
	Council newsletter to ratepayers goes out 4						February
3	4	5	6	Owaka, Catlins Area School, Year 10-13 kids. Morning workshop	7	8	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	Papatowai Challenge, 23	
Drop in session, Tahakopa Hall, 24	25	26	27	28	1	2	
	Owaka, Supper Shout, Community Centre Supper Room 4						March
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
			Kaka Point Drop-in session, The Hall 13	Final drop-in session, Owaka, Community Centre Supper Room 14	Public consultation closes 15	16	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

Figure 2. Our Place Catlins - calendar of community-based events

- **Feedback form**

Included within the consultation document was a feedback form, which included a structured survey for respondents to indicate the importance (or priority) for the ideas presented, and also provide comments or suggestions on the topics they believe are important. Both the consultation document and the feedback form used the same design style as previous 'Our Place' consultation material, including the 'Let's Talk' and 'Tell us what you think' catch-phrases. The feedback form was structured around the 9 focus points listed in Table 3, but also included space for more general Catlins-related feedback.

- **Stakeholder engagement**

Additional work was undertaken to engage with key stakeholders in the broader Catlins. Letters were sent to selected agencies and groups to advise them of the consultation process (Table 4). The letter included an offer to meet with Council staff, so as to better understand their priorities, and determine if there are better ways to cooperate.



Table 4. Additional consultation with key stakeholders

Stakeholder	Details of follow-up meetings to date
Papatowai and District Community Association	2 January 2019 (Mayor and Councillor McNab)
Department of Conservation	17 January 2019 (staff)
South Otago Forest and Bird	Submission received
Otago Regional Council	19 December 2018 (staff)
Te Ao Marama, Invercargill	28 November 2018 (phone call, staff)
Venture Southland	3 December 2018 (phone call, staff)
Southland District Council (SDC)	Scheduled for later in 2019

- **Social media advertising and feedback**

Nine posts regarding Our Place Catlins Community Plan consultation were made on the CDC Facebook page between 20 of December 2018 and 15 of March 2019. The posts were 'liked' 83 times and 15 people used the Facebook page to leave feedback comments which were incorporated into Part C of this report.

The most 'liked' Facebook post was a photo of Mayor Bryan Cadogan, Catlins Ward Councillor Hilary McNab, and staff members Larissa Brown and Paige Win standing with the classic caravan and vintage car (Figure 3). This image was used multiple times to advertise the consultation events.



Figure 3. Examples of CDC Facebook posts

- **Targeted Youth input**

Targeted youth input was achieved when CDC Mayor Bryan Cadogan, Catlins Ward Councillor Hilary McNab and staff members visited the Catlins Area School on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019. A morning workshop was provided for year 10-13 students to encourage them to provide feedback for the Our Place Catlins Community Plan. Feedback from this session is incorporated into section C7 (Owaka), but in many cases was relevant to the wider Catlins area.



## A4 CONSULTATION FEEDBACK OVERVIEW

There were 3 main types of feedback received through the consultation process:

- Feedback items received via the feedback form are summarised in **Part B**. This includes both the hard copy forms, and an online version of the same material. There were 54 hard copy forms received, and 28 through the CDC website (82 in total). The majority of respondents who provided an address were from within the Catlins Ward (Figure 4).
- Feedback items (recorded on 'Post-it' notes) received from community-based consultation events are summarised in **Part C**. It is noted that there were approximately 450 points of contact made with members of the public during these events, and 1,157 feedback items received (Table 5).
- There were 20 other formal submissions received, from individuals and organisations. These were in a different format to the standard feedback form, and highlight issues which are of particular concern to those people / agencies. These are listed and summarised in **Part D**.

Much of the feedback received during the consultation process related specifically to one of the focus points listed in Table 3. However, feedback was also received which related to slightly different areas or activities. In Part B, these have been incorporated into the most relevant focus point where appropriate, or are noted in section B10 (General Comments). In Part C, feedback is summarised under a range of themes, as the community-based events tended to generate feedback on a wide range of different areas.

In total, more than 2,000 feedback items were received during the consultation program for *Our Place Catlins* (Table 5). As noted, this has been captured and incorporated into subsequent parts of this report.

Table 5. The number of feedback items received for each focus area

Focus Point	Number of feedback items received			
	Community consultation events <sup>1</sup> (Part C)	Feedback form (hard-copy & online) (Part B)	Other submissions (Part D)	Total
1. Landscape / environment	178	90	82	350
2. Our changing communities	11	20	23	54
3. Parks and reserves	0	64	6	70
4. Roading	280	166	31	477
5. Responsible camping	236	120	28	384
6. Climate change	9	77	14	100
7. Kaka Point & surrounds	80	51	20	151
8. Owaka & surrounds	210	68	4	282
9. Papatowai & surrounds	20	33	1	54
General Comments	117	63	35	215
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>2,136</b>

<sup>1</sup> Totals in this column include feedback from the static display in the foyer of the Catlins Information Centre (section C8).



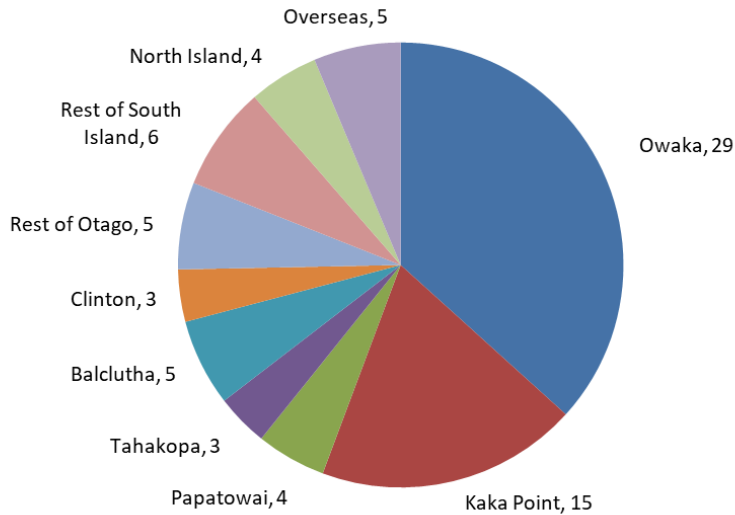


Figure 4. The number and location of respondents who completed and returned the hard copy or digital feedback form (Part B)

## A5 CONCURRENT CONSULTATION

No other formal consultation programs were run concurrently with the Our Place Catlins program. However, CDC will develop a Catlins Reserve Management Plan in 2019, and this has some alignment with the Our Place project, as explained below.

### Catlins Reserves Management Plan

A statutory consultation process is required for Reserve Management Plans (RMP's) under the Reserves Act 1977. Summary information about the Catlins RMP was incorporated into the *Our Place Catlins* consultation material, to increase awareness and promote feedback to help inform the final Plan. This report includes feedback items gathered during the *Our Place Catlins* consultation which relate to Catlins parks and reserves.



## PART B: FEEDBACK FORM RESPONSES

This part summarises the feedback received via the hard-copy feedback form which was included in the consultation document, or the online version of this form (as described above). A summary of the feedback which related to each of the 9 focus points listed in Table 3 is provided in sections B1 to B9.<sup>2</sup> Section B10 notes that other, more general feedback items were also received.

### B1 LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT

Respondents were asked to rate the statement listed in Table 6, relating to landscape and the environment, using a scale of 1 to 6 where 1 was not important and 6 was very important. Of the 78 respondents who rated this topic, a large majority felt it was very important to protect the landscape and environment of the Catlins, resulting in an average score of 5.8, which was the highest of any topic in the survey.

Table 6. Rankings assigned to the landscape and environment question

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to protect the landscape and environment of the Catlins?	0	0	2	1	11	64	5.8	1 <sup>st</sup>

The feedback forms included 69 feedback items which primarily related to landscape and environmental issues. These have been grouped into themes, as shown in Figure 5.

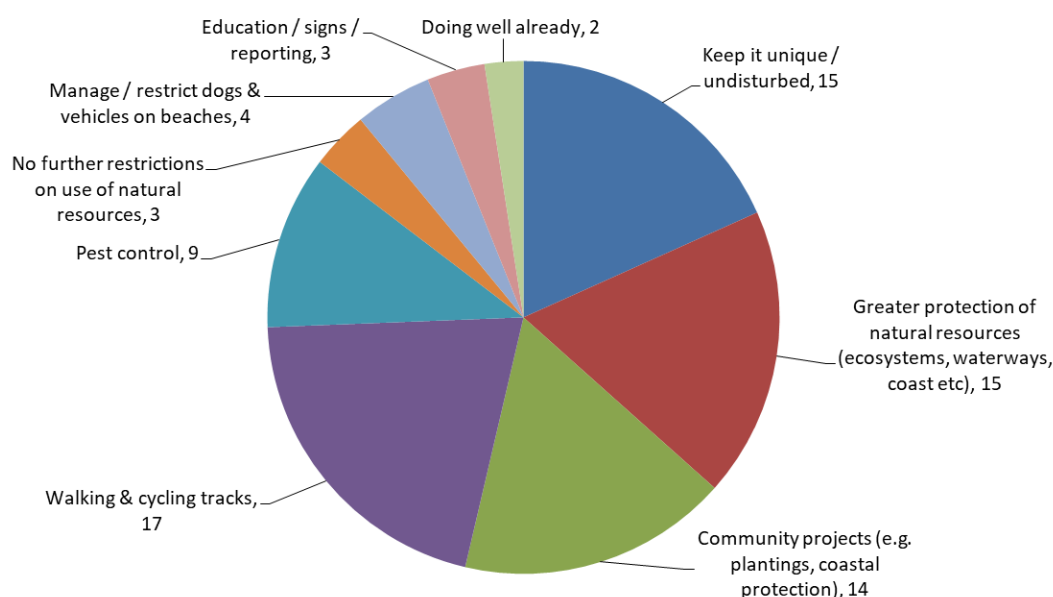


Figure 5. The number of feedback form items relating to themes within the 'landscape and environment' focus point

One of the key themes identified was that protecting and enhancing the natural resources (bush, waterways and the coast) of The Catlins is important. Improving access to these natural resources

<sup>2</sup> Feedback which relates to each of these focus points, which was received during the community-based consultation events is summarised in Part C.

was also a common theme, with a number of additional walking or cycling trails suggested – examples include:

- *A cycleway on the old railway line, with connections off to Kaka Point, Purakaunui Falls, Tautuku, Cathedral caves etc.*
- *A track from Pounaweia to Owaka, allowing children and adults to get off the road.*
- *Developing walking tracks + huts for 1, 2- or 3-day tramping options. Perhaps make use of hunting tracks?*
- *Round the coastline options e.g. Nugget Point to Cannibal Bay, Catlins Heads to Purakaunui Bay, Long Point to Papatowai.*
- *A cycleway/walkway from Owaka to Catlins Lake to link up with the bird hide, and lake viewing point.*

## B2 OUR CHANGING COMMUNITIES

Respondents were asked to rate the statement listed in Table 7, relating to our changing communities. Of the 75 respondents who rated this topic, the majority felt it was important / very important to plan for likely changes in population and increasing visitor numbers, resulting in an average score of 5.4.

*Table 7. Rankings assigned to 'our changing communities' question*

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to plan for likely changes in population and increasing visitor numbers?	0	0	4	5	22	44	5.4	3 <sup>rd</sup> equal

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to roading:

### **Question 1: What are your suggestions for additional work or incentives to help manage changes in population and increasing visitor numbers?**

A total of 14 respondents answered this question. A broad range of suggestions were received, and these are included within Figure 6. Housing was a common topic, including the following suggestions:

- *Encourage investment into housing - the more environmentally healthy the better.*
- *Subdivisions should not be developed further at any of the beaches or scenic gems. They should be developed on the outskirts of Owaka.*

### **Question 2: Do you have other suggestions for making The Catlins Communities more sustainable?**

A total of 6 respondents answered, and these suggestions are also included in Figure 6. Some of the more original items included:

- *Kaka Point establishing itself as an 'eco-friendly community' through things such as wasp, possum and rodent extermination in the surrounding bush, regeneration projects for native bush and bird life, and sustainable refuse options such as a glass crusher, communal compost or greenwaste system, and amenities for cyclists.*
- *A practical program for school leavers to work for 1 year for a local agency (e.g. Council, DoC). Work could include maintaining the Catlins Forest Park - pest control, track maintenance, signage, and visitor assistance.*



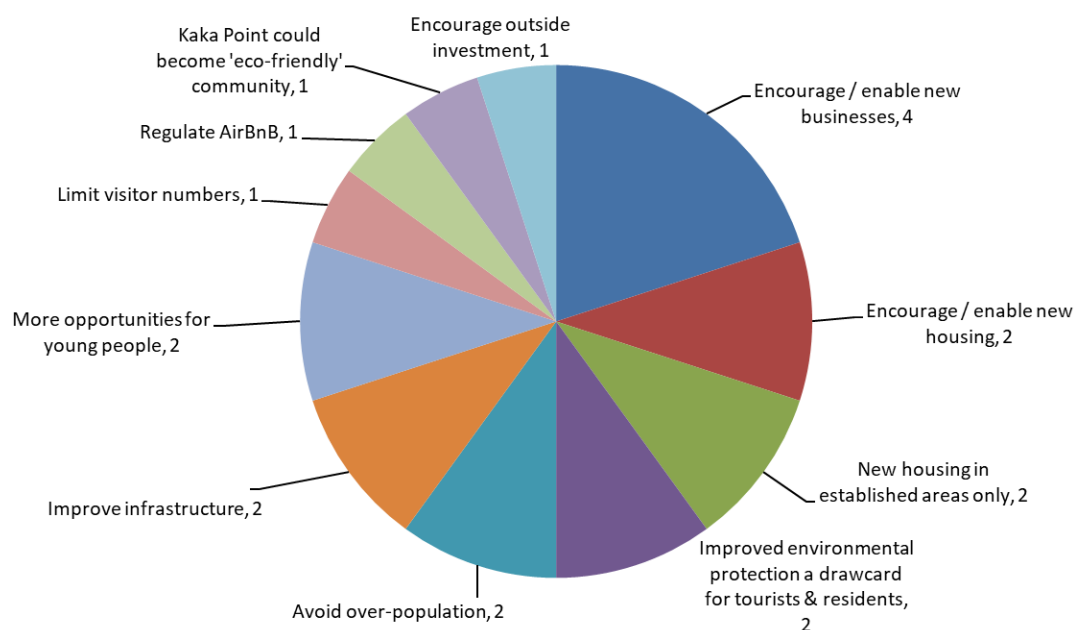


Figure 6: The number of feedback form items relating to themes within the 'changing communities' focus point

### B3 PARKS AND RESERVES

Respondents were asked to rate and/or provide written feedback on parks and reserves in The Catlins. In the survey, using a scale of 1 to 6 where 1 was not important and 6 was very important; respondents were asked to rate their experience of the more popular parks and reserves in The Catlins. The results from this survey are shown in Table 8.

Table 8. Parks and reserves rankings

How important are the following parks and reserves in the Catlins?	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Focus point rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Owaka Historic Museum Reserve	0	0	3	6	11	39	5.5	1 <sup>st</sup>
Papatowai Recreation Reserve	0	0	2	8	11	34	5.4	2 <sup>nd</sup> equal
Owaka Sports Ground	1	0	0	8	14	37	5.4	2 <sup>nd</sup> equal
Pounaweia Playground	1	0	0	9	8	37	5.4	2 <sup>nd</sup> equal
Kaka Point Foreshore Playground	1	0	1	8	13	29	5.3	3 <sup>rd</sup> equal
Owaka Adventure Playground	1	0	3	8	9	34	5.3	3 <sup>rd</sup> equal
Owaka Hall, Pool & Tennis Court Reserve	1	0	1	7	18	34	5.3	3 <sup>rd</sup> equal
Hina Hina Reserve	0	0	4	9	14	28	5.2	4 <sup>th</sup> equal
Willsher Bay Domain Reserve	0	1	6	4	16	28	5.2	4 <sup>th</sup> equal
Pounaweia Domain Recreation Reserve	0	0	6	10	10	28	5.1	5 <sup>th</sup>
Tarata Street Playground at Kaka Point	1	0	3	8	15	19	5.0	6 <sup>th</sup>

The feedback form included the following question relating to parks and reserves listed in Table 8.

**Question 1: Are there any other comments for suggestions you would like to make about the above parks and reserves in The Catlins?**

A total of 46 respondents answered this question. A broad range of suggestions were received, and these have been incorporated into Figure 7, where all feedback on this focus point has been grouped into various themes. The most common feedback item related to the maintenance of playgrounds, particularly at Kaka Point. A large number of positive comments were also received, along with requests to improve public access and use of the Willsher Bay and Pounaweia Domain reserves.



The same question, but relating to any other parks and reserves in The Catlins was also asked:

**Question 2: Do you have any other comments for suggestions about the other parks, reserves or cemeteries in The Catlins?**

A total of 18 respondents answered this question, and their feedback has also been incorporated into Figure 7. Much of this additional feedback related to improving maintenance, and enabling access to the various cemeteries in The Catlins.

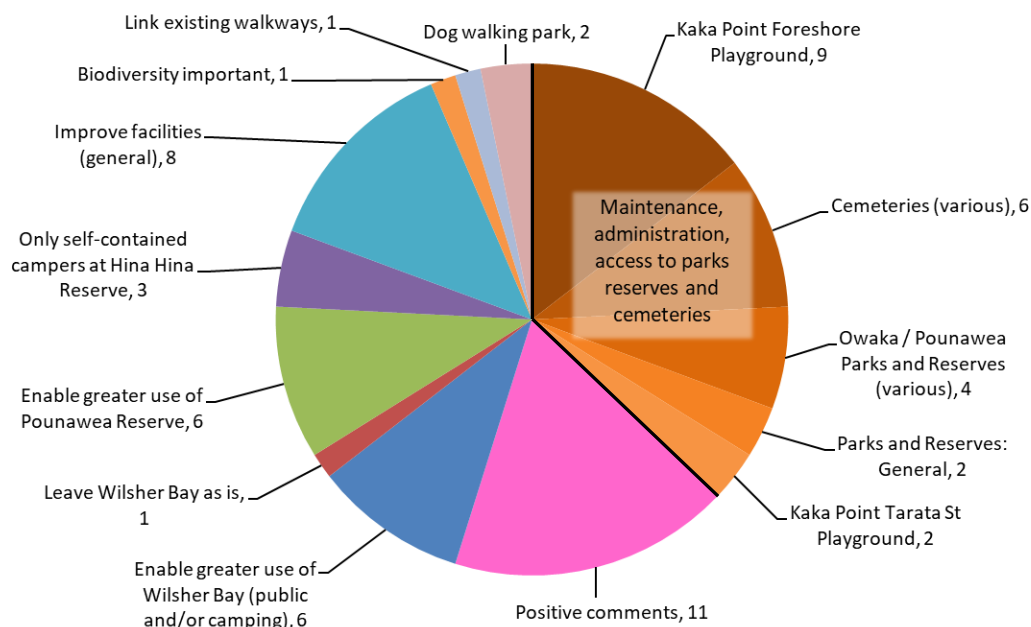


Figure 7. The number of feedback form items relating to themes within the 'parks and reserves' focus point. Items which related to the maintenance, administration, or access to parks, reserves and cemeteries are coloured various shades of brown.

## B4 ROADING

Respondents were asked to rate the question listed in Table 9, relating to the roading network. Of the 76 respondents who rated this topic, 63 (83%) felt that it was important or very important to make further improvements to the roading network, giving an average score of 5.3 out of 6.

Table 9. Rankings assigned to the roading question

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to make further improvements to The Catlins roading network?	2	3	1	7	18	45	5.3	5 <sup>th</sup> equal

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to roading:

**Question 1: What are your suggestions for making roads in The Catlins safer?**

A total of 65 respondents answered this question, and many provided more than 1 comment. The sealing of high-use roads, and encouraging people to drive more slowly were the most common themes from this feedback, as shown in Figure 8. A possible traffic-calming measure, which has been used overseas, is shown in Figure 9.





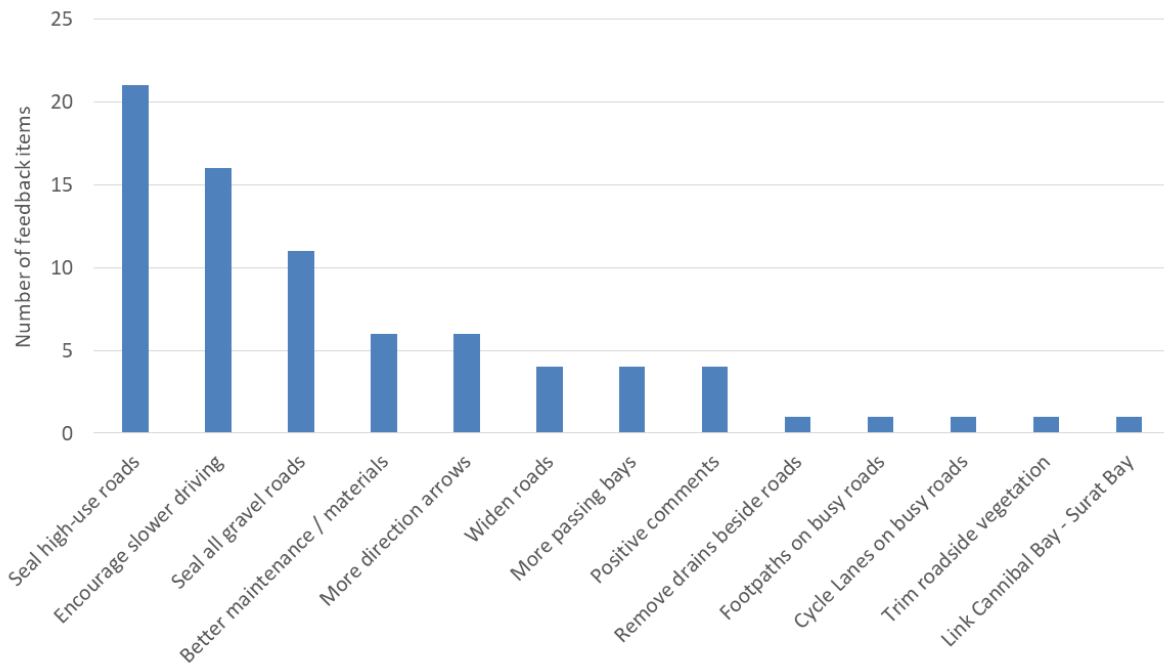


Figure 8. The number of feedback form items relating to making roads safer in The Catlins



Figure 9. A painted road crossing, using a 3-D design, to give the appearance of rising above the road, to help slow traffic as it enters a town in Iceland.<sup>3</sup>

**Question 2: Are there any other particular stretches of road you think require particular attention? If so why?**

A total of 47 respondents answered this question. A wide range of suggestions were made, relating to various parts of the roading network in The Catlins. There were very few common themes, and all suggestions are listed in Appendix 1.

**Question 3: Apart from the seal extensions already planned, where should we prioritise further road sealing?**

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.boredpanda.com/3d-pedestrian-crossing-island/?utm\\_source=&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=organic](https://www.boredpanda.com/3d-pedestrian-crossing-island/?utm_source=&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=organic)

A total of 54 respondents answered this question. Many of these would like to have the Owaka Valley Road sealed, although 13 other roads were also mentioned (Table 10). Two respondents said that all gravel roads should be sealed, and 4 people said that no further sealing should be done.

Table 10. Summary of responses to Roading - Question 3 (further sealing)

Road	Number of times mentioned
Owaka Valley Road	18
Purakaunui Falls Road	5
Hina Hina Road	4
Newhaven Road	4
Jacks Bay Road	4
McLean Falls Road	2
Wratten Road	2
Tahakopa Valley Road	2
Picnic Point	1
Behind the Kaka Point Hall	1
Burnt Flat Road	1
Romahapa School Road	1
Surat Bay Road	1
Port Molyneux Road	1
<b>Other comments</b>	
Should be based on traffic volume	1
Keep unsealed if possible	4
All gravel roads	2

## B5 RESPONSIBLE CAMPING

Respondents were asked to rate the 2 questions listed in Table 11 which relate to responsible camping. Of the 74 respondents who rated the first question, 68 (92%) felt that it was important or very important to carefully manage responsible camping in The Catlins. The average score of 5.6 out of 6 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest of any topic in the survey.

Of the 71 respondents who rated the second question, 58 (82%) felt that it was important or very important to continue funding a responsible camping ranger in The Catlins, giving an average score of 5.3 out of 6.

Table 11. Rankings assigned to the responsible camping questions

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to manage responsible camping, so that it has a positive economic and social impact on communities and the local environment?	1	0	2	3	12	56	5.6	2 <sup>nd</sup>
How important is it to continue funding a ranger to help educate visitors about responsible camping in The Catlins?	2	2	1	8	13	45	5.3	5 <sup>th</sup> equal

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to responsible camping:



**Question 1: What additional infrastructure is needed to help facilitate responsible camping and where?**

A total of 73 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment. There were 2 distinct types of response, as shown in Figure 10, and explained below:

- The green bars (on the left of the graph) summarise responses which generally related to providing facilities or activities, so as to provide a better experience, or better manage responsible camping in The Catlins. Of this group, providing more<sup>4</sup> or better toilets, and additional information were the 2 most common themes. 10 people stated that an adequate number of free camping spots should be provided, with their definition of ‘adequate’ ranging from “in every village”, to “in 1 or 2 areas”, to “in appropriate sites like Willsher Bay”.
- The blue bars (on the right side of the graph) shows responses which generally related to restricting the ability of people to stay overnight for free. Within this group, the most common theme was ‘no free overnight stays.’ Similarly, requiring visitors to stay at existing camp grounds was a common feedback response.

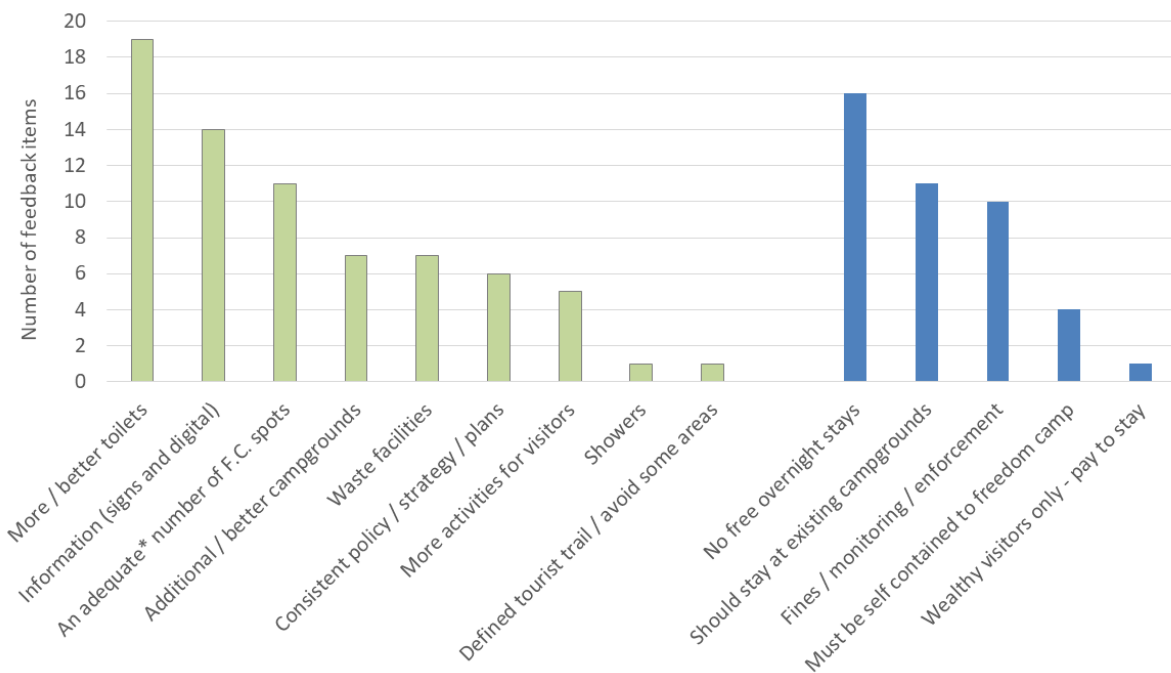


Figure 10. The number of feedback form items relating to providing additional infrastructure for responsible camping in The Catlins

**Question 2: What other improvements or initiatives can you suggest for how responsible camping is managed in The Catlins?**

A total of 47 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment. As for the first question, there were 2 distinct types of response (Figure 11), with many responses similar to those stated previously. Responses relating to improvements or new initiatives are shown on the left of Figure 11 (in green), while those which relate to restricting the ability of people to stay overnight for free are shown on the right (blue).

Initiatives not previously mentioned include:

<sup>4</sup> particularly at Tautuku Beach



- the funding of additional facilities by central government or the private sector (including campervan providers).
- Coin-operated showers.
- Creating a couple of attractive, designated ‘free’ camping grounds, with minimal facilities such as toilets and waste collection.

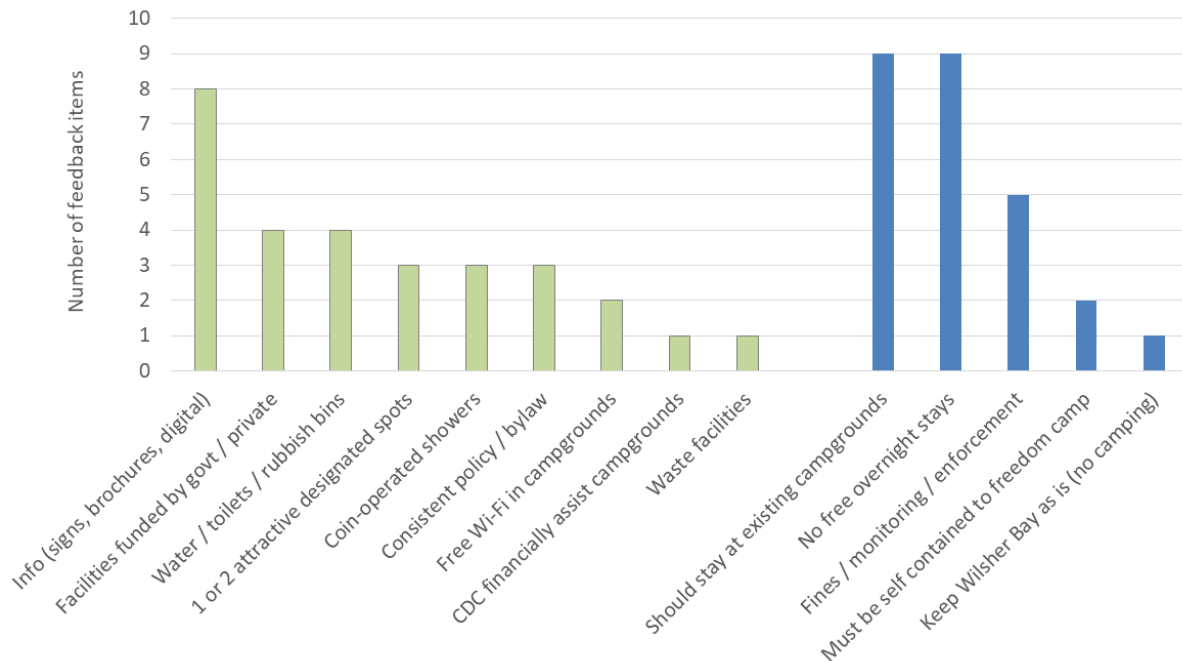


Figure 11. The number of feedback form items relating to ‘other improvements or initiatives’ for responsible camping in The Catlins

## B6 MANAGING THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Respondents were asked to rate the question listed in Table 12, relating to the effects of climate change. Of the 67 respondents who rated this question, 44 (66%) felt that it was important or very important for Council and the community to plan ahead for the effects of climate change. 19% of respondents gave this a rank of 3 or less (i.e. less or not important).

Table 12. Rankings assigned to the need to manage the effects of climate change

	Not Important				Very Important		Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is for Council and our communities to plan ahead for the effects of climate change?	1	3	9	10	10	34	4.9	9 <sup>th</sup>

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to the effects of climate change:

### Question 1: What areas or facilities in The Catlins are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change?

A total of 40 respondents answered this question, with many people listing more than 1 area. The majority of feedback related to the marine and coastal environment, including areas of natural habitat/ beaches, as well as coastal townships in The Catlins (Figure 12). In terms of infrastructure, low-lying roads, water supplies, and Council’s sewage scheme were identified by several respondents.

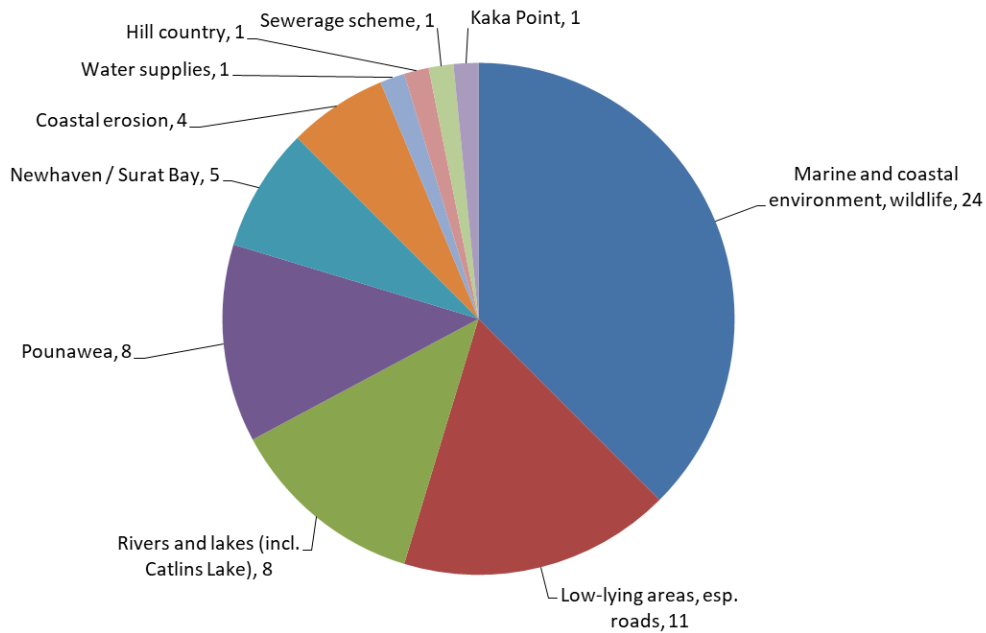


Figure 12. The number of feedback form items which identified areas which are vulnerable to the effects of climate change

**Question 2: What are important areas or facilities in The Catlins that are priorities to focus on in terms of managing climate change?**

A total of 37 respondents answered this question. Given that most people identified coastal areas as being particularly at risk in Question 1, it is not surprising that most respondents felt that the focus should be on managing a range of issues in the coastal environment. Suggestions included managing coastal erosion, building up low-lying coastal areas and roads, and avoiding development on low-lying/sandy coastal areas. There were 8 respondents who stated that managing the effects of climate change is not necessary, including a suggestion to “not waste ratepayer money”.

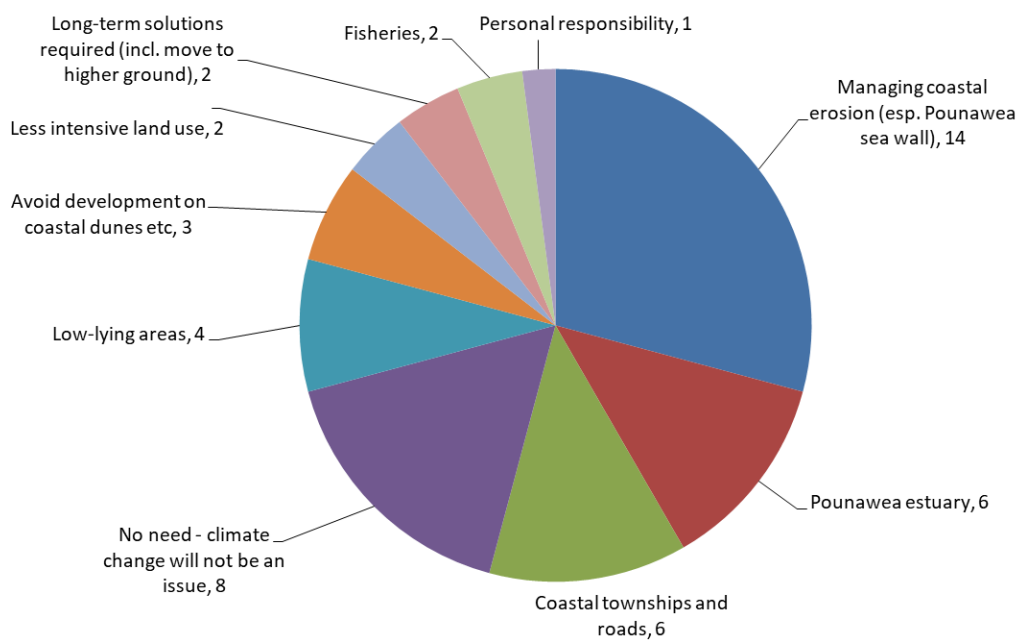


Figure 13. The number of feedback form items relating to areas or facilities where managing the effects of climate change should be a priority

## B7 OWAKA AND SURROUNDS

Respondents were asked to rate and/or provide written feedback on Owaka, Pounawea, Newhaven and Jack’s Bay. Of the 53 respondents who ranked this topic, 44 (83%) felt that it was important or very important to make further improvements to Council infrastructure in this part of The Catlins. The ranked results are shown in Table 13.

Table 13. Rankings assigned to the importance of improving Council infrastructure in Owaka and surrounds.

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to make further improvements to Council infrastructure in this part of The Catlins?	0	1	3	5	14	30	5.3	5 <sup>th</sup> equal

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to these townships:

### Question 1: Which activities or facilities are priorities in this part of The Catlins?

A total of 42 respondents answered this question. There were 3 main groups of responses: general issues relating to this part of The Catlins, Owaka-specific issues, and Pounawea-specific issues. The responses are summarised in Figure 14.

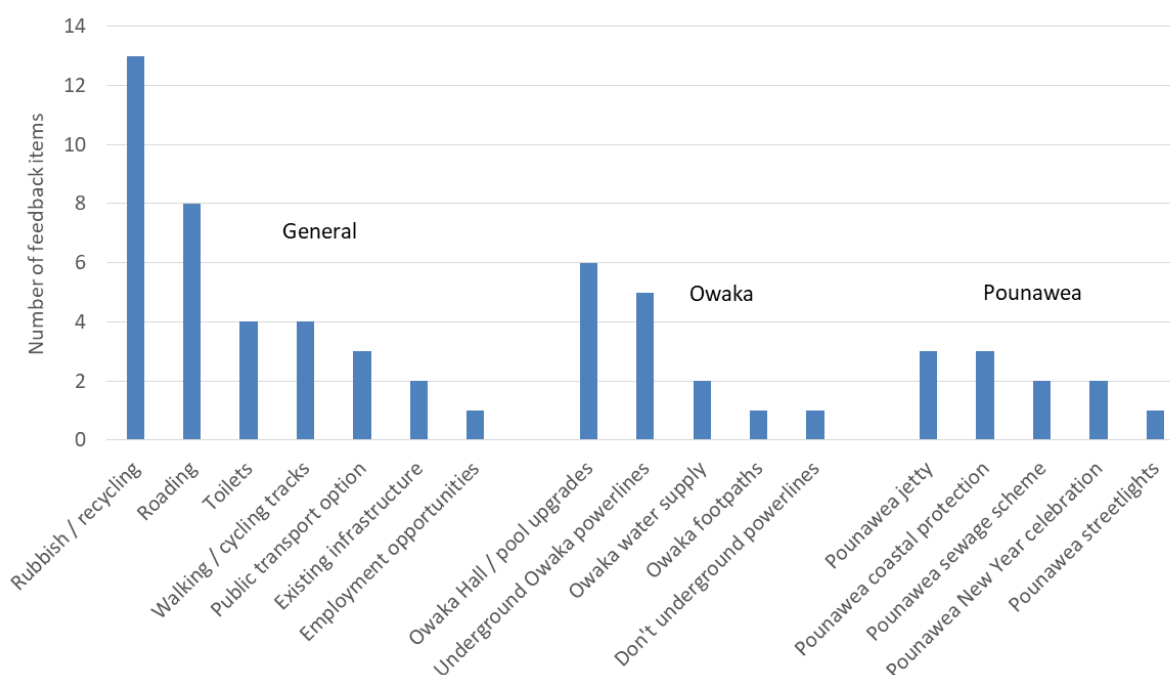


Figure 14. The number of feedback form items relating to priority activities and facilities in the Owaka and surrounds

### Question 2: What ideas or initiatives would you like to see developed that would promote living and working in Owaka and this part of The Catlins?

A total of 26 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment. The responses are summarised in Figure 15.



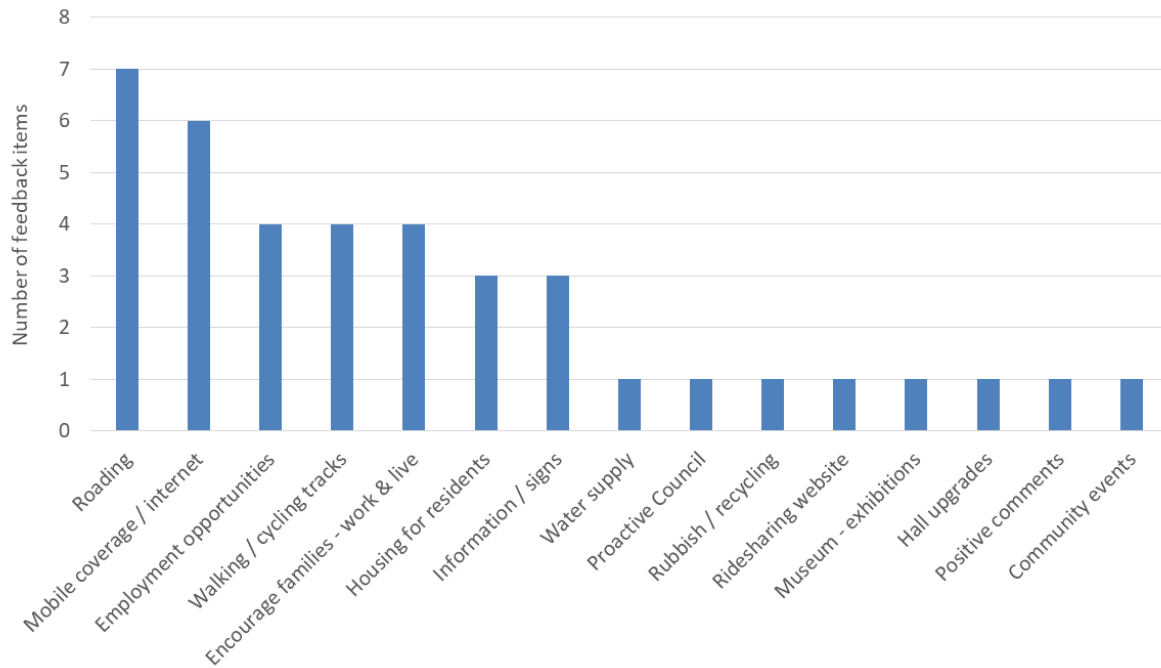


Figure 15. The number of feedback form items relating to other ideas or initiatives in Owaka and surrounds

## B8 KAKA POINT AND SURROUNDS

Respondents were asked to rate and/or provide written feedback on Kaka Point and Romahapa. Of the 44 respondents who ranked this topic, 36 (82%) felt that it was important or very important to make further improvements to Council infrastructure in this part of The Catlins. The ranked results are shown in Table 14.

Table 14. Rankings assigned to the importance of improving Council infrastructure in Kaka Point and surrounds.

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to make further improvements to Council infrastructure in this part of The Catlins?	1	0	5	2	10	26	5.2	6 <sup>th</sup> equal

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to these townships:

### Question 1: Which activities or facilities are priorities in this part of The Catlins?

A total of 26 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment, as shown in Figure 16. The largest number of responses related to the provision of public toilets, particularly in Kaka Point. This was followed by improvements to playgrounds and the provision of other activities (tennis courts etc.). There were a wide range of other priorities identified, ranging from infrastructure (3 waters, footpaths, street lighting) to visitor management and the Kaka Point Surf Club.

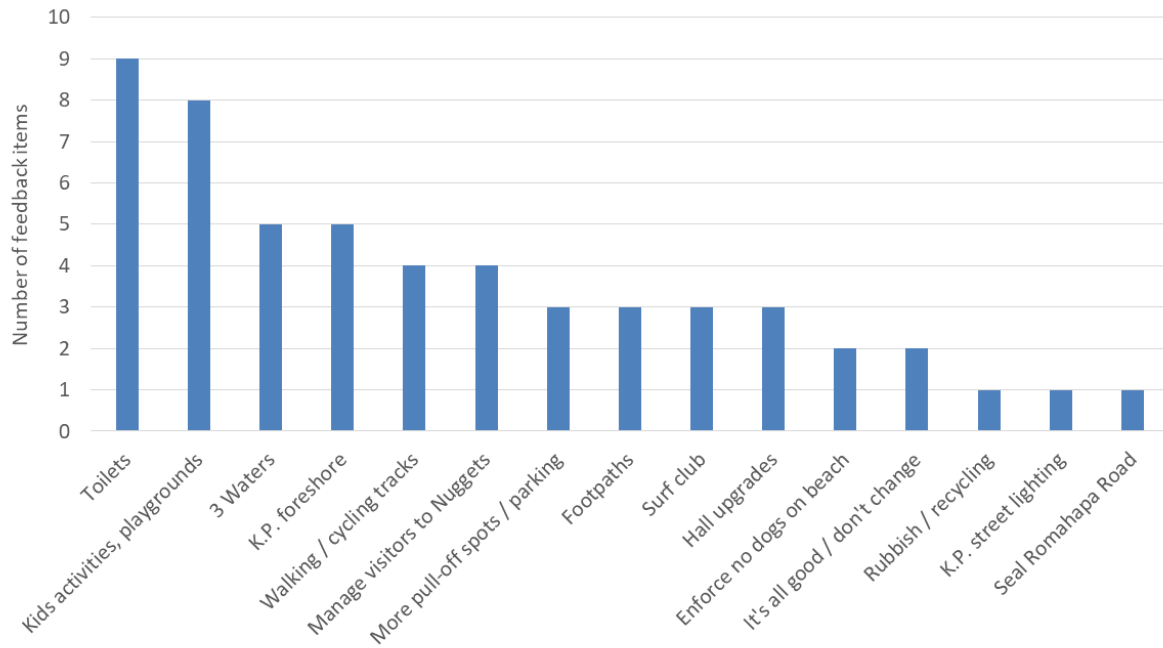


Figure 16. The number of feedback form items relating to priority activities or facilities in Kaka Point and surrounds

**Question 2: What ideas or initiatives would you like to see developed that would promote living and working in Kaka Point and this part of the Catlins?**

A total of 25 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment, as shown in Figure 17. Enabling additional businesses and tourism ventures was the most common theme from this group.

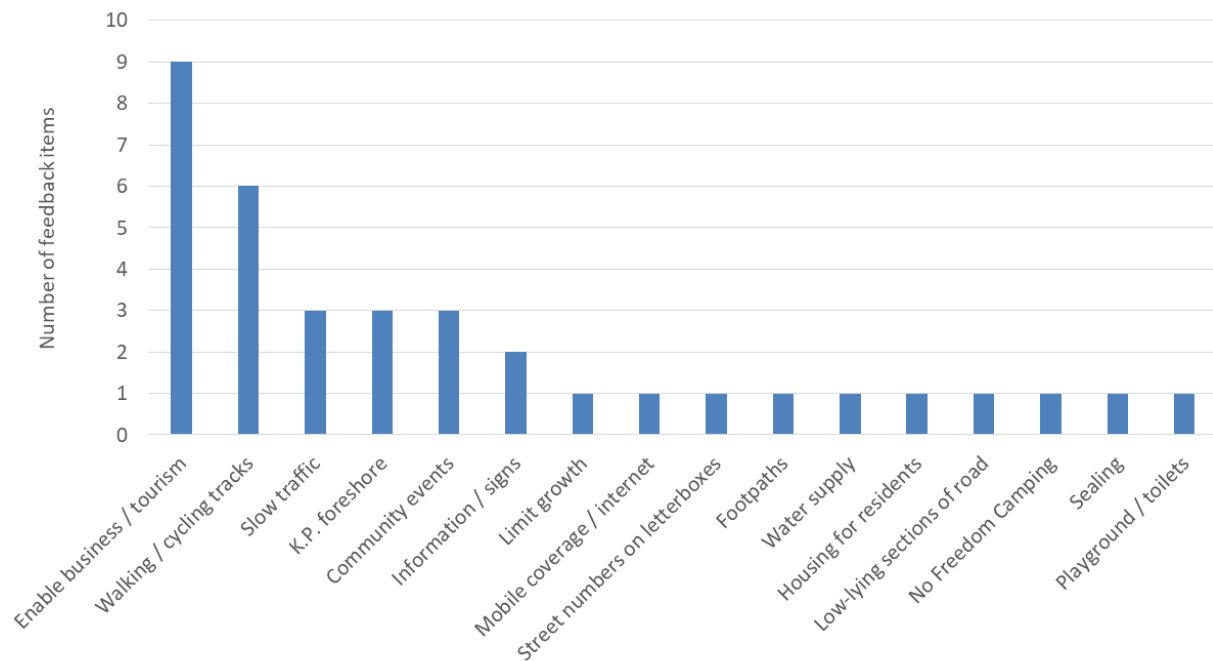


Figure 17. The number of feedback form items relating to other ideas or initiatives in Kaka Point and surrounds



## B9 PAPATOWAI AND SURROUNDS

Respondents were asked to rate and/or provide written feedback on Papatowai, Maclennan, Tahakopa and Tautuku. Of the 38 respondents who ranked this topic, 26 (68%) felt that it was important or very important to make further improvements to Council infrastructure in this part of The Catlins. The ranked results are shown in Table 15.

Table 15. Rankings assigned to the importance of improving Council infrastructure in Papatowai and surrounds.

	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Overall survey rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
How important is it to make further improvements to Council infrastructure in this part of The Catlins?	1	1	6	4	9	17	4.8	10 <sup>th</sup>

The feedback form also included the following questions relating to these townships:

### Question 1: Which activities or facilities are priorities in this part of The Catlins?

A total of 23 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment, as shown in Figure 18. The largest number of responses related to the provision of public toilets, particularly in Tautuku. This was followed by improved waste management / recycling. An extensive list of other priorities was also identified, ranging from roading improvements, to the creation of additional camping facilities.

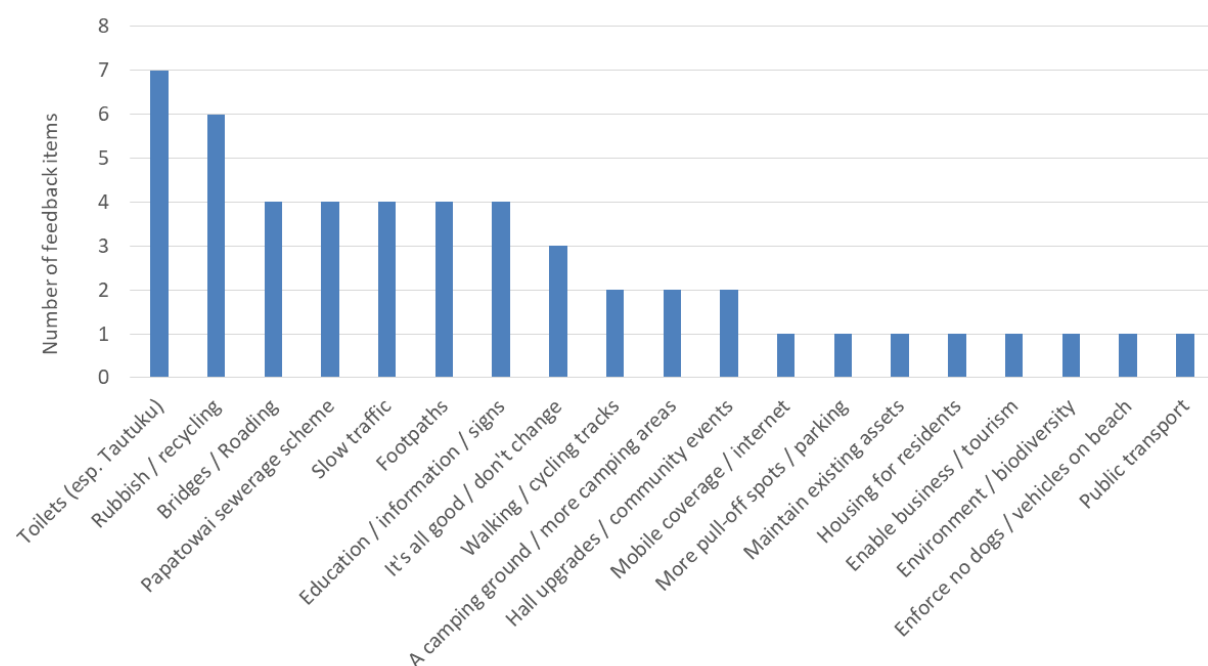


Figure 18. The number of feedback form items relating to priority activities or facilities in Papatowai and surrounds

### Question 2: What ideas or initiatives would you like to see developed that would promote living and working in Papatowai and this part of The Catlins?

A total of 13 respondents answered this question, and many respondents provided more than 1 comment. Keeping this part of The Catlins unspoilt and special was mentioned by 3 people, while 2 each thought that more tourism opportunities and creating more walking / cycling tracks would promote living and working in this area (Figure 19).

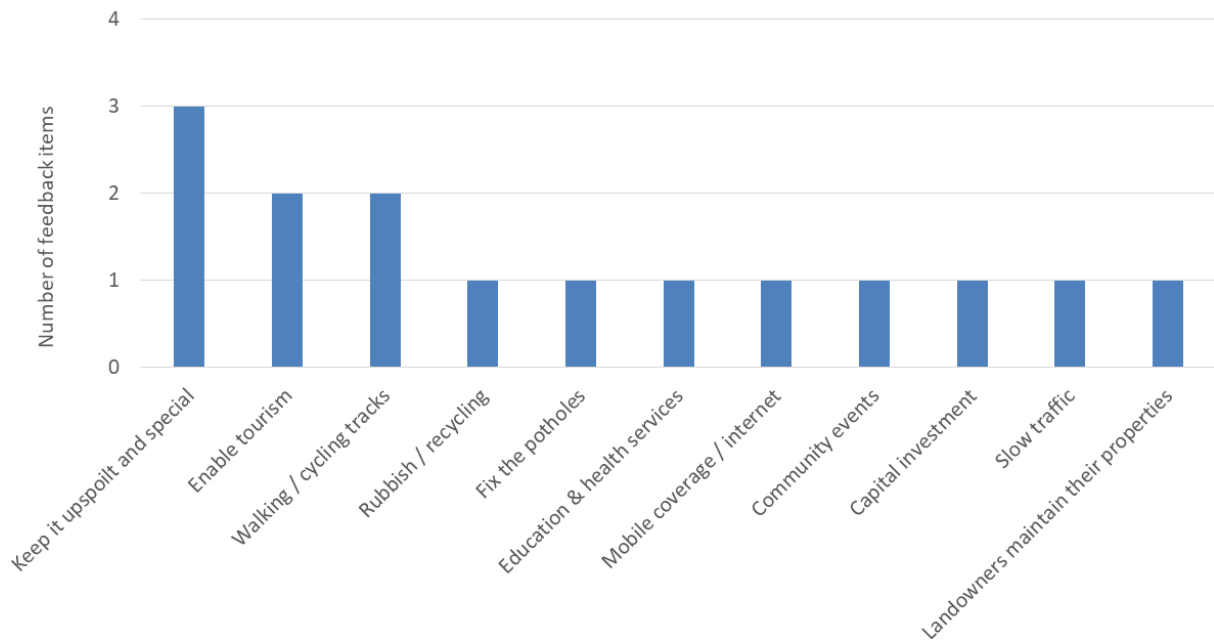


Figure 19. The number of feedback form items relating to other ideas or initiatives in Papatowai and surrounds

## B10 GENERAL COMMENTS

The final section of the feedback form asked ‘what else should be considered for The Catlins’. A wide range of feedback items were added here, and they are listed in Appendix 1. Two of the more common items noted in this section were improved rubbish and recycling facilities across The Catlins, and more / better toilet facilities.



## PART C: COMMUNITY EVENT CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Although the Our Place Catlins Community Plan is intended to address district-wide issues such as freedom camping and roading, it will also focus on activities and issues which affect particular settlements. Consultation events were therefore held at most of the small townships in the Catlins ward, to gather feedback and suggestions.

More than 1,200 feedback items were received and approximately 400 people attended at least one of the consultation days. The highest number of contact points was at the Kaka Point Market Day on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of January. This session consisted mostly of local people voicing their opinions as many holiday makers had left The Catlins by this time.

A summary of the feedback received from each of these community-specific events is provided below. It is noted that the topics of primary concern varied from town to town, as shown in Table 2.

Other feedback which relates specifically to each of these areas was received through the online / postal survey, and this is discussed elsewhere in Part B.



## C1 LET'S TALK ABOUT PAPTOWAI

Event Summary				
Date	25 Oct, 2018	12 Nov, 2018	2 Jan, 2019	23 Feb, 2019
Associated event	Rural Fire meeting	Catlins Coast Inc. meeting	PADCA AGM	Papatowai Challenge
Contact points	7	7	35	40
Feedback items			78	5

There were 2 pre-consultation events held in Papatowai, and 2 public events. This allowed for feedback to be obtained from a range of people, including local residents, tourism operators, crib-owners, tourists, and competitors / supporters at the Papatowai Challenge. It also generated feedback items across a number of categories, as shown in Figure 20. The creation of more / better walking and cycling tracks, and improved traffic management were the 2 most common categories, and feedback which relates to these areas is listed below. A summary of other feedback received, noting the more commonly requested items is also provided.

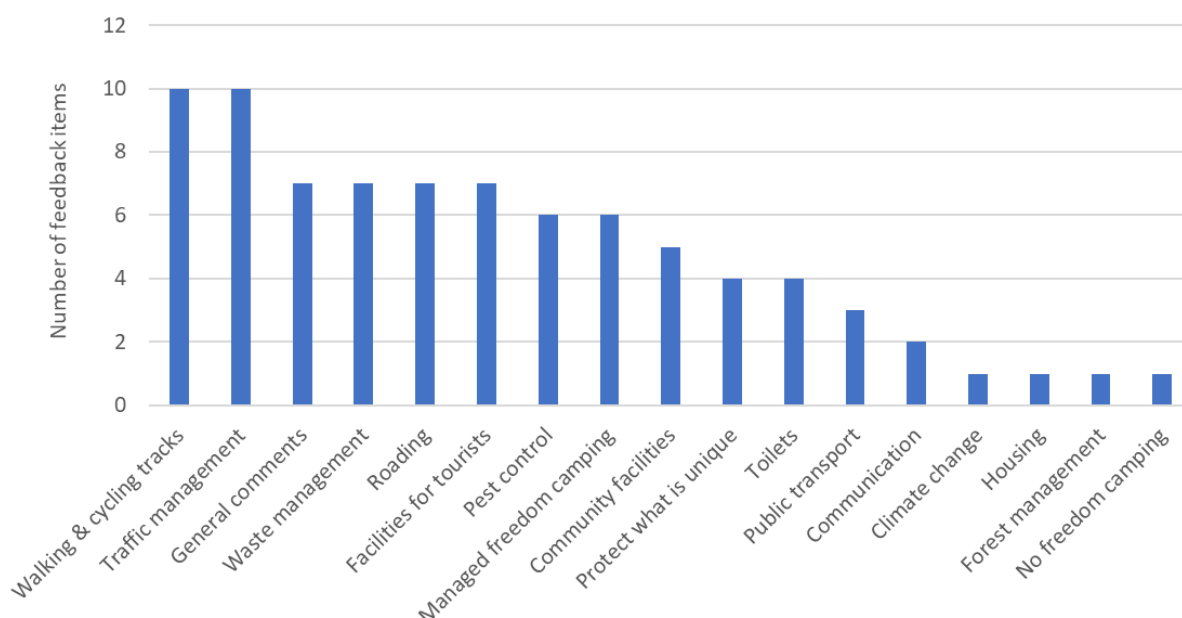


Figure 20. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from all Papatowai public consultation events

### Walking & Cycling tracks feedback items

- An extended tramping track to encourage people to stay for longer.
- A walking track from Morris Saddle Road to Dewe Road.
- A footpath from Papatowai to Maclennan. If raised and on the estuary side, this would provide protection against flooding and sea-level rise.
- A footpath from Papatowai to the beach.
- A walking track from Papatowai to The Nuggets.
- The existing Tahakopa School Nature Track could be extended as a community initiative.
- Walking/cycling trail from Tautuku Camp to Fleming River.

### Traffic management feedback items

- Reduce speed limit in Papatowai
- Install speed bumps in Papatowai to slow traffic
- Ban Motorbikes and vehicles on beaches
- Some truck drivers drive unsafely

### Other feedback items (summarised)

- Additional road sealing, and improved road maintenance
- Protect the things that make this area unique (affordable, relaxed)
- The benefits of visitors to the area was noted by several people, but that this needs to be well



managed, with some restrictions on where and how tourists can camp, additional / regularly cleaned toilets, improved parking and information panels. One person thought that Motorbikes + vehicles on beach should be banned.

- Several people felt that a long-term solution to waste management is required, particularly in the Papatowai area given its distance from main centres / landfill.
- No major issues with existing community facilities were noted. However, requests for better Wi-Fi, a community noticeboard, street lighting in Papatowai noted. 1 person supported a sewerage scheme in Papatowai, while 1 person was against such a change.

## C2 LET’S TALK ABOUT TAHAKOPA

Event Summary	
Date	24 Feb, 2019
Associated event	N/A
Contact points	15
Feedback items	93

There was 1 public consultation event in Tahakopa on a Sunday morning, and this was well attended by 15 local residents. There was some lively discussion, and the event generated a large number of feedback items / suggestions across a number of categories, as shown in Figure 21. The 3 areas which generated the most feedback included:

- The roading network, and
- Requiring a greater level of respect by visitors, and/or for tourists to pay for the facilities they use.
- Protecting what is unique about The Catlins, and to prevent it from being “over-run / ruined” by too many visitors

Suggestions which relate to these 3 areas are listed below. A summary of other feedback received, noting the more commonly requested items is also provided. It is noted that the creation of more / better walking and cycling tracks (which was the most frequently mentioned topic at nearby Papatowai) was not mentioned in Tahakopa.

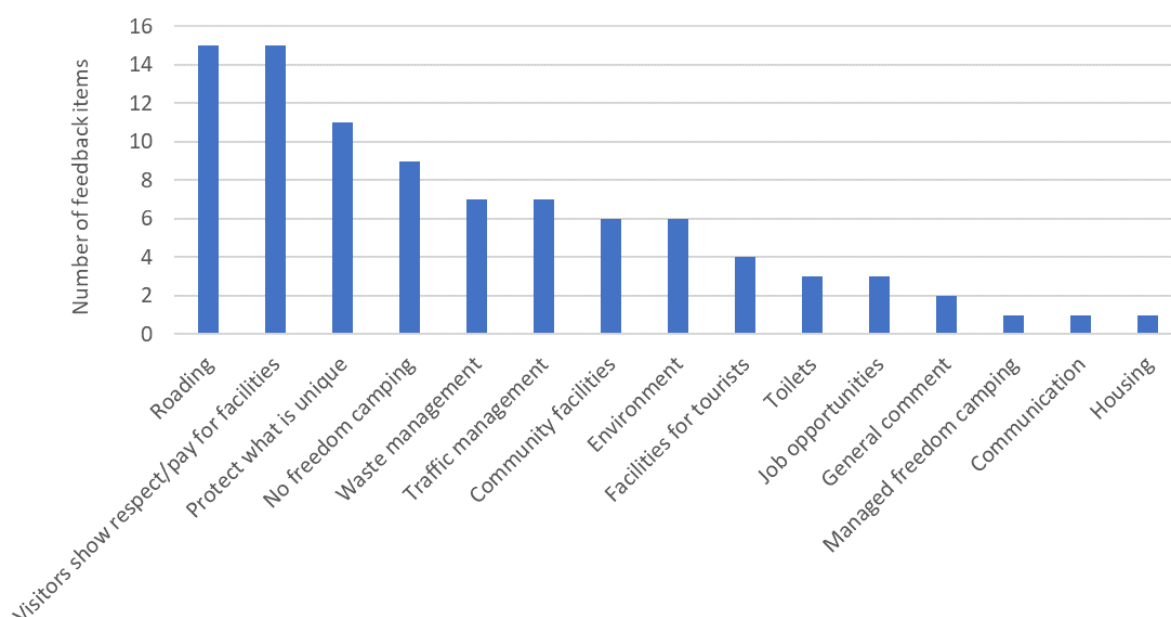


Figure 21. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Tahakopa public consultation

### **Roading feedback items:**

- Get the trees back off roads / stop shading / stop pot holes.
- Particular roads mentioned:
  - Purakaunui Bay Road (widen, seal last section)
  - Tahakopa Valley Road (pot holes)
  - Harrington Mill Road (needs gravel).
- Traffic issues when flooding.
- Culvert on Tahakopa Valley Road has collapsed (past Rodney's).
- Bridge approaches – improve visibility.
- Impact of camper vans on roads.

### **Feedback items relating to funding of visitor facilities / greater respect required by tourists:**

- Tourist buses self-contained (coffee & lunches) - don't stop at local cafes etc.
- Tourists should pay to see our attractions / ratepayers should not have to pay for tourist facilities (e.g. Wi-Fi, toilets, charging points).
- Bad driving / inconsiderate parking on roadsides by tourists
- Central Govt. need to fund tourism infrastructure as local communities cannot fund it adequately.
- Real concerns over campers wrecking the environment / they should respect the area / have designated areas / It's out of control.
- If you do not pay rates in the Catlins you should not have a say.

### **Feedback items relating to the topic 'protecting what is unique about The Catlins':**

- People are coming here to live / being pushed out of other places / are we losing our kiwi lifestyle?
- Keep our way of life & identity / white-baiting
- Tourists are taking advantage of our isolation
- Don't necessarily want tourist in every nook and cranny poking around - we are losing what is 'kiwi' / NZ can't cope with it / should be a niche market / people want to see rural NZ.
- Our nice spots are no longer nice for locals to use / too many tourists
- We love the quiet and friendly life - just shifted to Tahakopa for the quiet
- Want to breathe fresh air / see rural NZ / don't want to be like Queenstown
- We're going to lose what was unique
- Our environment is not coping

### **Other feedback items (summarised)**

- Set up designated freedom camping areas - limited facilities / pay to stay / if camping elsewhere then will be moved on/not prime sites.
- Some requests for improved community facilities were noted: improved Wi-Fi and mobile coverage, looking after the basic infrastructure first, restore the old Tahakopa Railway Station.
- Environmental / landscape concerns included:
  - Protection for penguins (should be left alone).
  - No new marine reserves / no walkway alongside the Tahakopa River.
  - The proposed 'Outstanding Natural Landscape' area includes valuable land – need to justify the boundary.
- Seasonal / temporary workers, including from overseas, would be beneficial. Council help to attract staff would be good.
- Generally, there was a consensus that freedom camping should not be allowed. Despite this, there was a desire for improvements to visitor facilities. This included more toilets and rubbish bins, and a suggestion to create a visitor pass, providing access to all attractions / facilities.
- As in Papatowai, concern about the cost of getting rid of waste was noted by several people (particularly non-farmers).



### C3 LET’S TALK ABOUT JACKS BAY

Event Summary	
Date	2 Jan, 2019
Associated event	N/A
Contact points	25
Feedback items	81

The consultation caravan was in Jacks Bay early in January, and staff spoke mainly to local residents and crib-owners. Although this event generated feedback across 14 different categories, by far the dominant themes were roading and traffic management (Figure 22). It is noted that a series of speed humps had been installed along the Jacks Bay foreshore in December 2018.

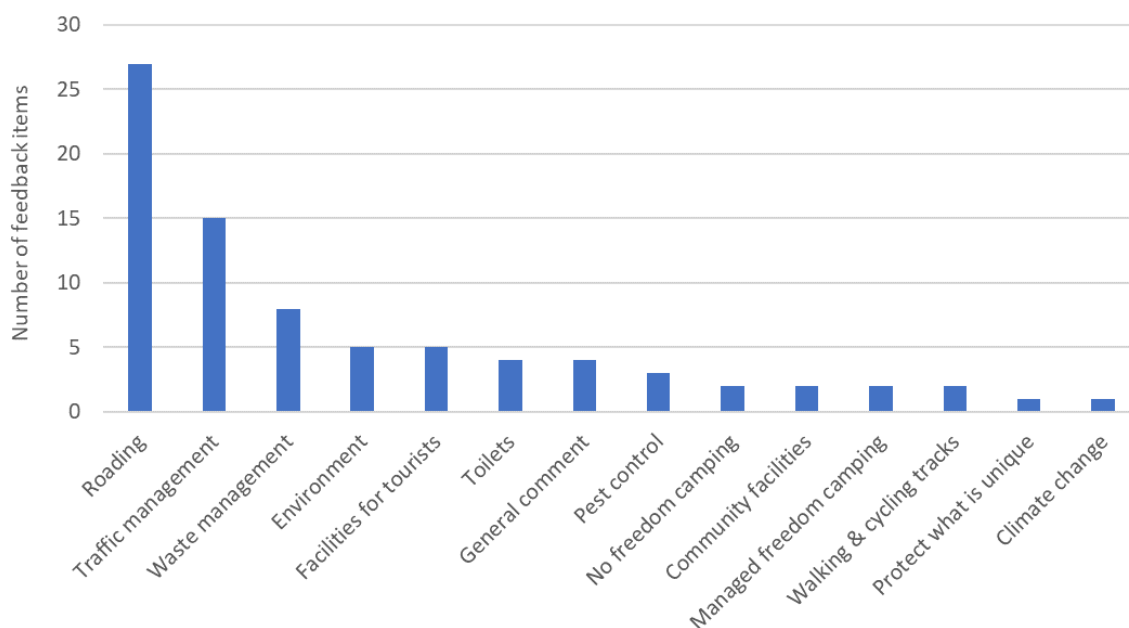


Figure 22. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Jacks Bay public consultation

A break-down of the feedback items relating to roading and traffic management is shown in Figure 23. The majority of those present at this event said they would like to see additional sealing of the Jacks Bay Road (either just the residential area, or the entire road). A smaller number of people were against sealing. The following comments are representative of these 2 views:

**To seal or not to seal...**

For: “... we have found in the time we have been here Jacks Bay Rd has become worse in condition and for dust. It’s a tourist road, same road in and out. The dust is a real problem we have it all though our house in the spouting on the roof, and when it rains, we collect water from the roof so contamination is a very real problem. We are 65+ so our health is of importance as us and drinking water from our house tank with all the dust in it is a worry. We intend to paint windows but can't until the dust problem clears. We feel this road should be sealed along with the water front and up the hill over the terrace as this is where most of the residents and home owners are.”

Against: “Having unsealed road is better = better for kids + grandkids crossing road (+ dogs)

Figure 23 shows that, in general, people like the speed humps, although several thought improvements were necessary. One person thought they should be removed.



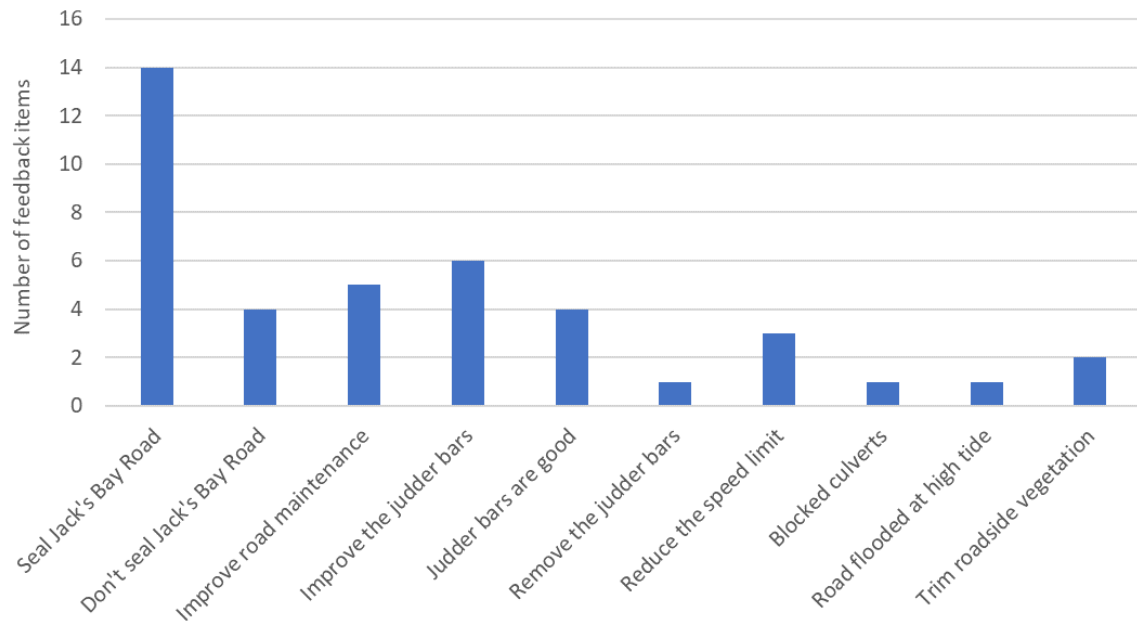


Figure 23. Break-down of the roading and traffic management feedback, from Jacks Bay public consultation

A summary of other feedback received is provided below:

- **The environment:**
  - No vehicles should be allowed on the beach (other than emergency / launching boats).
  - Jacks Bay should keep its 'kiwi crib' atmosphere, and large 'ostentatious' buildings should be avoided.
  - Stronger enforcement on illegal paua taking.
  - Protection of penguins and their colonies.
  - Dogs should be on leads on the beach.
  - Greater control over sea lions on the beach.
  - Natural enhancements to the creek bed.
  - Please be strict on building codes, less ostentatious buildings. Keep the kiwi crib feel.
- **Community / visitor facilities:**
  - 1 person said a BBQ / rubbish bins on the beach-front reserve was not needed, while another thought that would be a good idea.
  - Additional walking & biking tracks would be good (e.g. Jacks Bay to Owaka Heads), as this would attract families.
  - Extending the Jacks Bay car park.
  - Provide more information about local history (information panels, QR codes)
  - Improve the toilets
  - CDC should provide an extra skip over summer.
- **Freedom camping:** 2 feedback items were in favour, 2 were against.



## C4 LET'S TALK ABOUT POUNAWEA

Event Summary	
Date	3 Jan, 2019
Associated event	N/A
Contact points	30
Feedback items	161

A steady stream of local residents, crib-owners, visitors and children visited the consultation caravan, when it was parked up in Pounaweia on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January. The strong focus on maintaining a real 'community atmosphere' in Pounaweia came through clearly. Figure 24 shows that community facilities and traffic management were at the forefront of most people's minds, in regards to the 'Our Place' consultation. However, Figure 24 also shows that a large number of other items were noted; from improved waste management, to the effects of climate change, to pest control issues.

Feedback which relates to the 2 most frequently mentioned categories is listed below, along with a summary of other feedback received, noting the more commonly requested items.

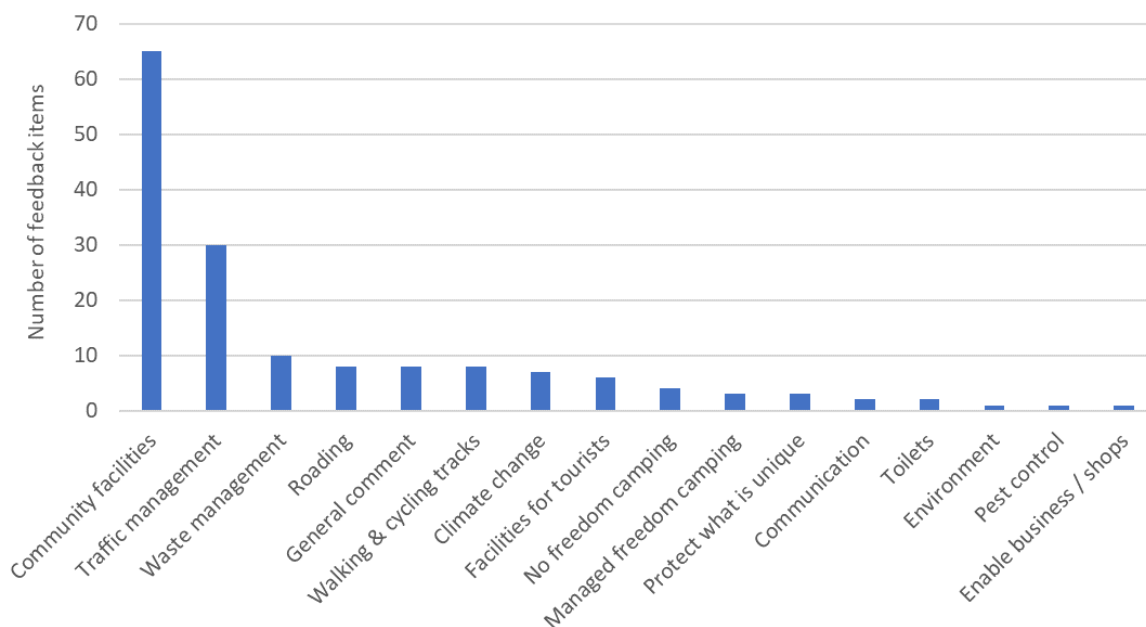


Figure 24. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Pounaweia public consultation

### Community facility feedback items

- Additional recreational facilities people said would benefit Pounaweia include:
  - A public BBQ on the foreshore.
  - A community-owned glass bottle crusher.
  - A drinking water fountain.
  - A spruce up of the playground, with the basketball & volley ball hoops put back.
  - "Keeping the blue slide is critical"
  - Increase the size of the covered area in the park.
  - Pontoon for teenagers to swim too / off.
  - Repair / restore the jetty.
  - Tennis court extension / maintenance.
  - A flying fox from the shore to the 'dolphin' in the river.
- The reserve by the camp ground should be re-planted +

### Traffic management feedback items

- Speed humps / judder bars
  - Some said could be just temporary over summer.
- Speed limit sign should be bigger as cars don't see it.
- Roundabout beside camp ground needs to be enlarged, sealed and cars moved on (no parking).
- A pedestrian crossing to playground.
- Other traffic-calming measures.

allowed to re-generate. Or, signs should be put up showing it is available for public use.

- Simplify and reduce the number of signs, particularly at corner of Park Lane + Pounawea Rd.
- Greater CDC support for New Year's event.
- Improved reserve management
- Requests to be connected to the water supply.

**Other feedback items (summarised)**

- Low-lying parts of Pounawea get flooded already – sea level rise will be a problem.
- Shoreline erosion is an issue, but work done to secure the foreshore is working well at present.
- CDC should aim for better communication with locals.
- Feedback from kids:
  - A longer bike track through the bush would be good.
  - A smooth footpath for scooters.
  - A bike track from Owaka to Pounawea.
- Use the domain as a motor home park.
- Interpretation / historical panels.
- More rubbish bins (as at Kaka Point).
- Should ban freedom camping in Pounawea.
- Don't change the place too much – keep its character.
- A range of positive comments:
  - Rubbish and toilets are good.
  - Thanks for being here today.
  - Good job on Lake Wilkie layby.
  - Roadside is always tidy – good job.



Figure 25. Mayor Bryan Cadogan in discussion with locals, Pounawea

## C5 LET'S TALK ABOUT NEWHAVEN

Event Summary	
Date	3 Jan, 2019
Associated event	N/A
Contact points	25
Feedback items	81

The afternoon consultation session in Newhaven on 3 January resulted in a wide range of feedback from local people. The 2 most commonly discussed topics were roading and traffic management, although feedback was also received on 12 other themes (Figure 26). Feedback which relates to the most frequently mentioned categories is listed below, along with a summary of other feedback received, noting the more commonly requested items.

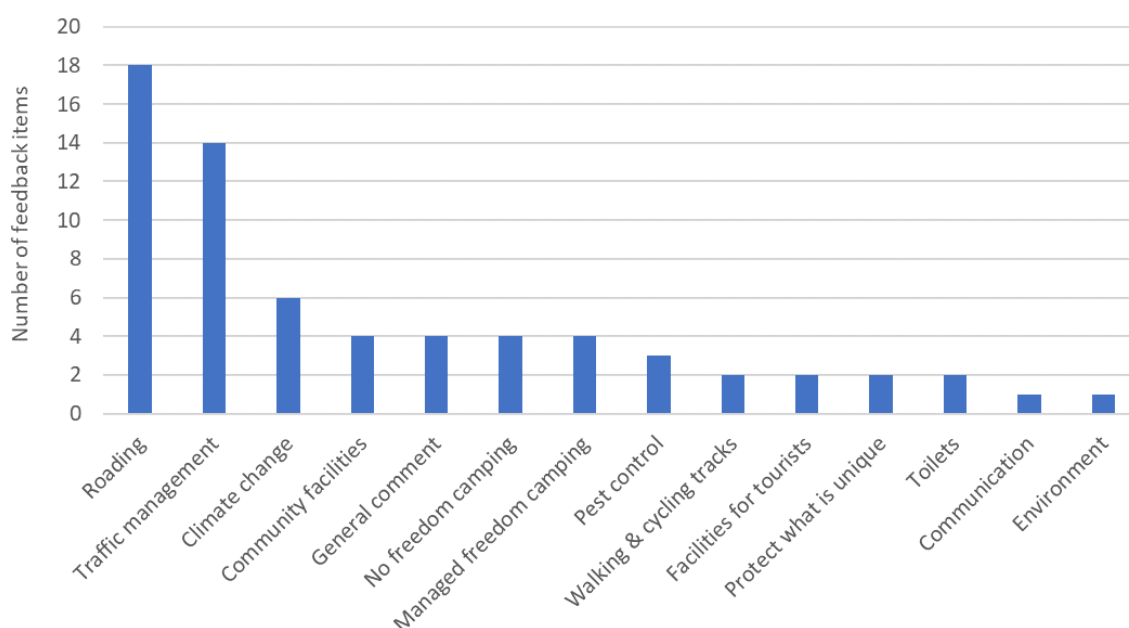


Figure 26. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Newhaven public consultation

### Roading feedback items

- Seal some or all of Newhaven Road (6 people).
  - Some noted a speed restriction would be required if this was done.
- Do not seal the road as it slows people down (3 people)
- The standard of the roading network should be increased to reflect the increase in tourist/traffic numbers.
- Sort out the Sounness / McGill hill- improve visibility, maybe widen, and seal.

### Traffic management feedback items

- The car park for Surat Bay is all good - do not extend.
- Judder bars or ways to slow down traffic.
- Reduce speed limits / slow people down.
- Off road parking by boat ramp on Newhaven Rd is required.
- More Direction arrows on roads.

### Other feedback items (summarised)

- Shoreline erosion is an ongoing problem, particularly where it can affect the road.
- Love it the way it is / maintain our lifestyle.
- Create a reserve at end of Surat Bay Road, on the right-hand side. Toilets, facilities could go there.
- Maintaining the existing infrastructure is the most important thing.
- Develop bike trails in The Catlins.
- Fewer sea lions.
- Trim but don't spray the roadside reserves – dead vegetation is a fire risk.
- Restrict freedom camping / visitors should pay their way / a permit & education system.

## C6 LET'S TALK ABOUT KAKA POINT AND NUGGET POINT

Event Summary					
Date	17 Oct, 2018	4 Jan, 2019	4 Jan, 2019	12 Jan, 2019	13 Mar, 2019
Associated event	Kaka Point Community Group meeting	Nugget Point consultation caravan	Kaka Point consultation caravan	Kaka Point Market Day	Kaka Point final feedback & drop-in session
Contact points	12	15	25	100	30
Feedback items		33	102	137	16

There was 1 pre-consultation event held in Kaka Point, and 4 public events (including a visit to the Nugget Point DOC carpark on 4 January). The timing and location of these events was designed to encourage feedback from a range of people, including local residents, tourism operators, crib-owners and tourists. A total of 288 feedback items were generated across a wide range of categories, as shown in Figure 27.

Community facilities, and improved traffic management were the 2 most common categories, and suggestions which relate to these areas are listed below. A summary of other feedback received, noting the more commonly requested items is also provided.

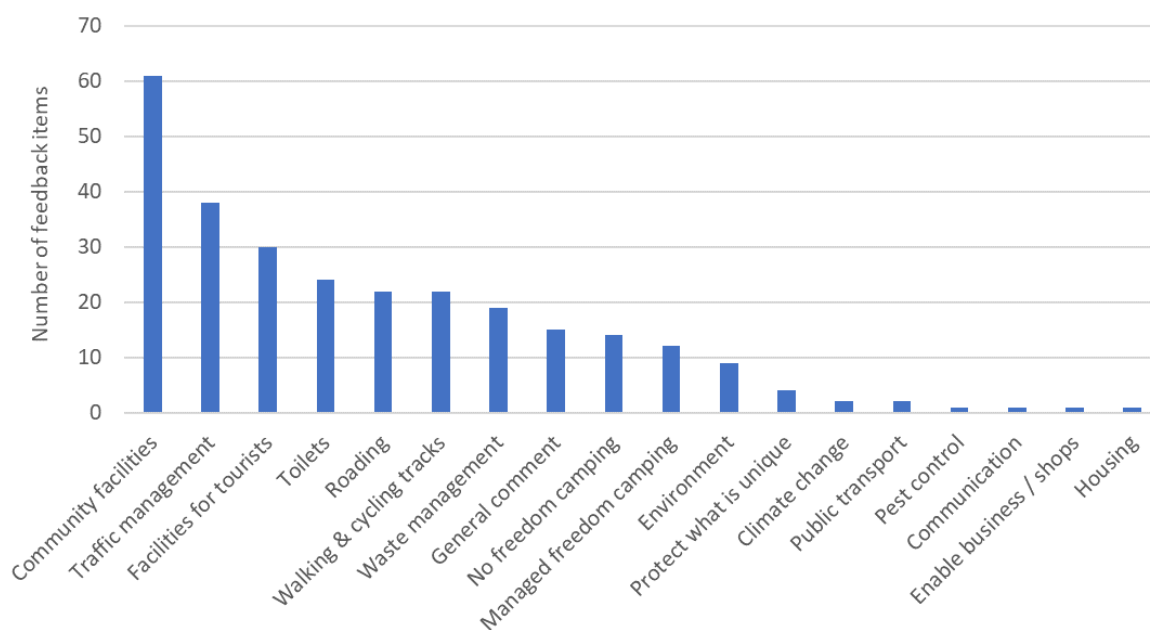


Figure 27. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Kaka Point and Nugget Point public consultation events

### Community facility feedback items

- Keep facilities simple - provide toilets and skips.
- Improve Wi-Fi / mobile coverage. Limits ability to work from home, also maybe an issue in case of emergency.
- CDC should support an upgrade of the Surf club.
- Create a BMX track.
- Extend sewerage scheme south to Willsher Bay.
- More / better footpaths & street lights.
- Playground maintenance urgently required (particularly lower playground).
- New playground equipment / shading.
- Water quality is poor in Kaka Point.
- Encourage more events, street parties.
- Water front needs an overall plan for redevelopment.
- Footpath from Kaka Point to Port Molyneux School.
- Outside shower at Kaka Point should be coin operated as ratepayers are paying for this luxury.
- Tidy up Port Molyneux Cemetery.
- Upgrade the tennis courts.
- Bigger / better roadside signage.
- Disabled access needs to be considered - e.g. footpaths- need to experience from customer's perspective.
- Coin operated BBQ on the foreshore.
- Information panels e.g. Queens's Rock, Roaring Bay - why are they called these things.

### Traffic management feedback items

- Roaring Bay carpark improved.
- Speed humps and other traffic-calming measures in Kaka Point.
- Road crossing by Kaka Point shop.
- Ban dogs, horses, motorbikes on the beach.
- More direction arrows on roads.
- Nuggets car park / road:
  - Bigger car park at The Nuggets.
  - Keep car park the same size.
  - Huge increase in traffic volume - consider ways to manage it more safely.
  - No footpath to cross Willsher Creek bridge makes it very dangerous.
  - Lower speed limit between Kaka Point and Nuggets. Shouldn't be 100 kph.
  - Campervans dangerous on this road.
  - Replace the 70 kph sign.
  - Buses from Willsher Bay to Nuggets.
- Better and more consistent signage along key routes.
- Signs should be more prominent and multi-lingual (especially Chinese).
- Issues with Google Maps sending people wrong way, esp. Port Molyneux area.

### Other feedback items (summarised)

- Walking and cycling trails:
  - Improve the bush walk / make longer including bush walk land in town.
  - Support a walking track from Kaka Point to Papatowai, also waterfall walks.
  - Trail from Kaka Point to Willsher Bay / Nuggets would attract people from NZ & the world.
  - Mountain bike trails, including to Cannibal Bay.
  - Its unsafe to cycle here due to driving culture e.g. on blind corners.
  - More dog walks. Dog dispenser bags at start of walking tracks.
- Wildlife and environment:
  - Sea lions should be chased away as they are dangerous.
  - Tourists get too close to sea lions - need education boards.
  - Yellow Eyed Penguins are disappearing (human interaction, and sealing of Nuggets Road).
  - Camping ground - control of noxious weeds. Community project - supply plants.
  - Stoats a serious problem - pest control required.
- Toilets:
  - Cannibal Bay needs a toilet.
  - Karoro Creek (Willsher Bay) toilets are locked! Families using the domain can't use them.
  - More public toilets on Kaka Point foreshore.
  - Better lights in public toilets.
  - Should have to pay for toilets or to park.
- Waste management:
  - No rubbish facilities at Purakaunui Bay...observed rubbish blowing into sea.
  - Drop off waste + recycling facilities at Owaka would be good.
  - Rubbish bins in key areas e.g. tennis court, playground, Willsher Bay, Fisherman's Wharf.
  - Greenwaste facilities in Kaka Point would be good.
  - Glass recycling / bottle crushing.
  - Wheelie bins are inflexible for crib owners that only need them for a fraction of the year.
- Freedom camping:



- Create a freedom camping spot at Willsher Bay.
- Want to keep campers coming, can CDC provide limited facilities, at low cost?
- Better to have facilities to manage visitors than ignore them and hope they go away.
- Freedom camping in designated areas only. Clear signage to show what's ok.
- Promote our established camping grounds, do not open areas for freedom camping.
- Freedom camping should not be allowed where camping grounds exist.
- Camping should be user pays - no free spots.
- Freedom Camping warden should have ability to move people to camp grounds.
- Development:
  - Keep the Catlins unspoilt / the way it is.
  - Papatowai crib owner- personally against development.
  - Commercial / educational development at Willsher Bay Domain.
  - Encourage more businesses.
- Roothing:
  - Center lines need to be clear and repainted regularly on all roads.
  - Sediment run off from gravel roads into creeks - not good goes into water schemes.
  - Improved maintenance of roads in general (sealed and unsealed).
  - Sealing: Jacks Bay- Hina Hina Rd, Selsea Street, Purakaunui Falls Rd, Owaka Valley Road

## C7 LET'S TALK ABOUT OWAKA

Event Summary					
Date	6 Nov, 2018	24 Jan, 2019	13 Feb, 2019	4 Mar, 2019	15 Mar, 2019
Associated event	Owaka Going Forward meeting	Drop-in sessions (visitor centre)	Catlins Area School	Drop-in session (business owners)	Final feedback & drop-in session
Contact points	12	29	20	20	9
Feedback items		104	131	126	4

There was 1 pre-consultation event in Owaka, and 4 public events (including a session with senior students at the Catlins Area School). The timing and location of these events was designed to encourage feedback from a range of people, including local residents, business owners, crib-owners, younger people and tourists. This enabled staff to collect 365 feedback items relating to a large number of categories, as shown in Figure 28.

As for Kaka Point, by far the largest number of feedback items related to 'community facilities'. A break-down of the suggestions / themes identified within this topic is shown in Figure 29. Other topics which generated considerable feedback included roading, waste management, walking & cycling tracks and the environment. A large number of positive comments relating to the existing environment and CDC work programs were also received in Owaka. A summary of all feedback items received is provided below.



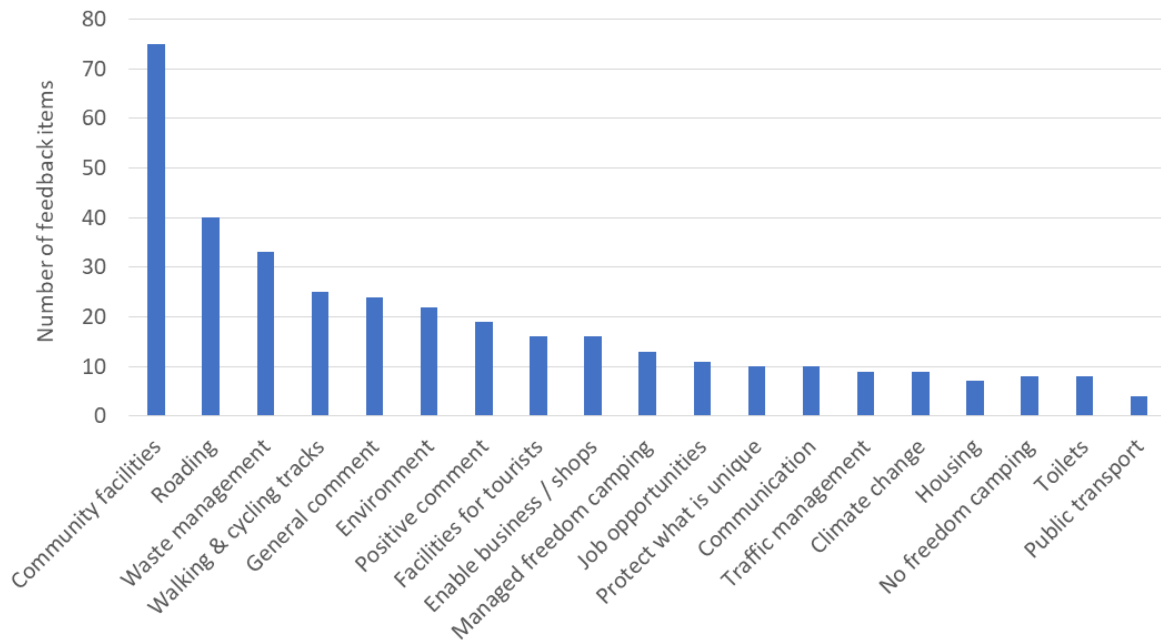


Figure 28. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Owaka public consultation events

### Community facility feedback items

- Free Wi-Fi / faster internet
- Footpath improvements
- Boat ramp / jetty repairs / reserve management
- More cooperation with neighbouring areas (activities).
- Focus on basic infrastructure, community does the rest.
- Water supply issues (water meters, chlorine levels).
- Main Street:
  - Plant trees / hanging baskets / lights.
  - Put power lines underground (2).
  - Don't put power lines underground (2).
  - ATM machine.
  - Greater range of shops.
  - Public noticeboard / information panels.
- Recreational / kids facilities:
  - Small cinema
  - Gym / boxing facilities
  - Pool upgrade / hydro-slide
  - Mini golf / laser tag / zip line
  - BMX track / skate park
  - Climbing spider net (pyramid)
  - Hang-out spot for kids ('the Corporate Box')

### Other feedback items (summarised)

- Walking and cycling trails:
  - Pillan's Head track.
  - Coastal walk – Papatowai to Nuggets.
  - Cycle Trails, including old railway line.
  - 'Festival of walking' – events in town.
  - Catlins River / Owaka area.
  - Can Council facilitate a meeting of locals wanting to develop cycle trails?
- Wildlife and environment:
  - More animals / ban 1080.

### Roading / traffic management feedback items

- Council should clearly communicate their roading plans.
- More white centre lines and arrows.
- Additional sealing:
  - Owaka Valley Road.
  - Hina Hina Road.
- No sealing:
  - Newhaven Road
  - Purakanui Bay Road.
- Poor quality of gravel used.
- Coastal inundation of some roads.
- More pull-off spots, long vehicles.
- The roading network is pretty good.
- Create a toll road (Southern Scenic).
- Jacks Bay speed humps are great.
- Remove the Jacks Bay speed humps.
- Important information on road signs in different languages.
- Narrow roads to slow people down.
- Pounawea speed restrictions.

- Information / signs to help protect wildlife.
- Create wildlife sanctuaries / a Catlins National Park.
- Tourists able to sponsor a tree or activity in the area (e.g. insect feeder).
- Wildlife rangers to ensure people comply with rules (e.g. dogs off lead, bothering wildlife).
- Prohibit housing on the coast (free of big houses / mansions, and open for all to use).
- Economic:
  - Greater range of job opportunities, especially for young people.
  - Greater range of businesses. Suggestions include wind turbines / hemp farms
  - Mentoring scheme for people wanting to start a business – lots of skills in the community.
  - More cottages / small houses for workers, including Finegand staff.
- Waste management:
  - Disposal of green waste causes problems.
  - Public recycling need to be accessible and functional. Add glass recycling / bottle crusher.
  - More bins, especially near beaches. Empty them more frequently.
  - Freedom campers leave all sorts of waste.
- Tourist facilities:
  - Information and signs, including at beaches.
  - Enable locals to camp / stay in nice areas too (not just visitors).
  - More events like Papatowai Challenge.
  - Google Maps send people down gravel roads, when better options available.
  - More tourist infrastructure – commercialise / take control of what we already have.
  - Create an app which shows historical / current views of key locations and towns.
  - Provide only toilets in camping spots – not power or drinking water.
- Communication:
  - Give younger people a bigger voice.
  - Too much Council red tape.
  - A 'skills' database within the community – who can do what.
- Freedom camping:
  - Comments: Been a noticeable increase in visitors. Tourists don't bring in much money.
  - Provide some dedicated freedom camping areas, self-contained only.
  - Provide somewhere with minimal facilities only.
  - Create new user-pay camping spots which provide 'an experience'.
  - We need free campsites for broke backpackers!
  - Encourage people to stay longer.
  - Provide clear instructions on camping options (digital / social media / signs).
  - Lobby central government for national policy change.
  - No freedom camping.
- Climate Change:
  - Increase awareness of likely impacts.
  - Can't see that it will be a problem.
  - What are Council plans for long term re: climate change, especially low-lying roads?
  - House-hold tanks to moderate stormwater runoff.



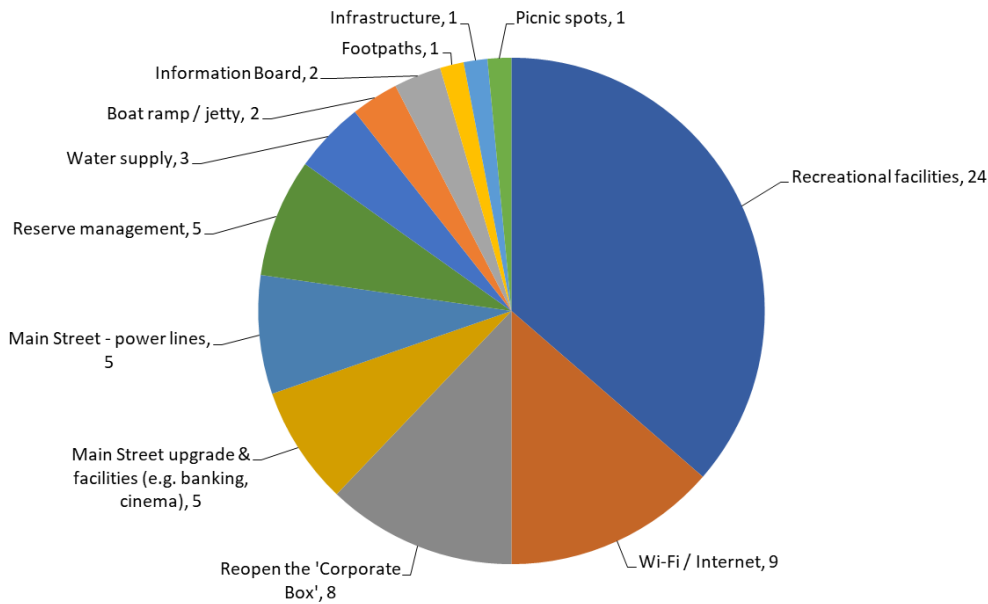


Figure 29. Community facility feedback from Owaka public consultation events, showing the number of feedback items within different sub-categories

## C8 FEEDBACK FROM CATLINS INFORMATION CENTRE

Event Summary	
Date	18 Dec 2018 – 15 Mar 2019
Feedback items	77

A static display was put up in the foyer of the Catlins Information Centre (Owaka Service Centre) throughout the consultation period. Consultation documents were available, as well as Post-it notes for people to make suggestions and comments. This was an additional method to try and capture feedback from visitors who generally didn't attend the other consultation events. However, a number of locals also used this platform to provide their feedback. A diverse range of feedback items were received, as summarised in Figure 30 and listed below.

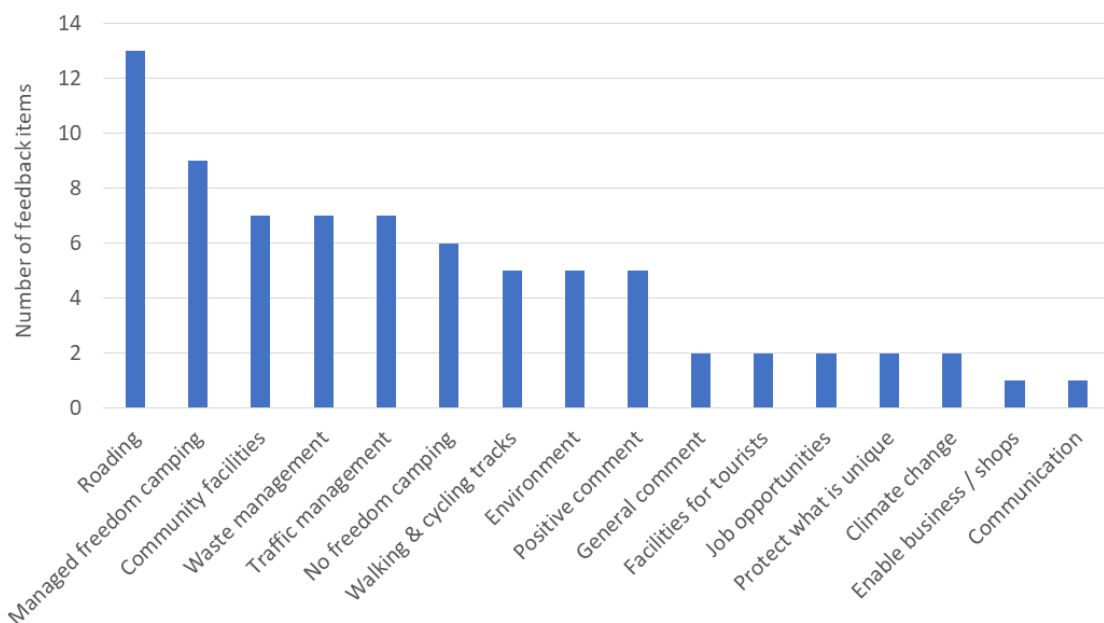


Figure 30. Number of feedback items by sub-category, from Catlins Visitor Centre



- Climate Change:
  - Coastal erosion is an issue.
  - Climate change is in full swing. Council needs to lead in mitigation and also adaptation.
- Community facilities:
  - Reinstate volleyball court at Pounaweia playground.
  - Council to focus on core infrastructure.
  - Improvements to Pounaweia waterfront – BBQ, lawns, parkland...
  - Elbow Track, Pounaweia – maintenance
- Walking and cycling trails:
  - Cycle trail / longer walk needed.
  - Trail from Owaka to Pounaweia.
- Environment:
  - No vehicles on beaches.
  - No dogs on beaches (esp. Kaka Point). Fines for people who allow dogs off lead near wildlife.
  - Fence off areas at Jacks Bay used by sea lions – keep humans away from them.
- Economic:
  - Keep young people and attract them to live here. Increased variety of jobs and facilities.
  - Weekly fish market.
- Waste management:
  - Poo bags for dogs.
  - Glass recycling.
  - Waste bins that complement the environment (not the blue spaceships).
  - Have council rubbish bags available for tourists to buy with clear instructions as to where they can be dropped off. Signs near/on litter bins could explain the waste disposal process. Most people want to do the right thing but they need to know how to do it.
- Freedom camping:
  - No freedom camping / why on earth would we allow it?
  - Provide more / better freedom camping locations.
  - A nationwide responsible camping policy is required.
  - Some campers are ratepayers in other districts – do you use our public toilets when you go on holiday?
  - Not all freedom campers/backpackers are inconsiderate hooligans. Many of us are conscientious folk who are on a budget. Please don't judge us by the actions of a few idiots.
- Roothing
  - Gravel roads need to be graded more frequently.
  - Complete seal to Purakaunui Falls. Seal Owaka Valley Road and around the lake.
  - The road into Purakaunui Bay needs "pull off" bays to make it possible to pass campervans.
- Traffic management:
  - Judder bars in Pounaweia
  - Speed humps at Jacks Bay are excellent – cuts down speeding cars and reduces dust.
  - Clearer signs for tourists using gravel roads – e.g. how to use them.
  - Stricter speed control through town.

## PART D: OTHER SUBMISSIONS

There were 20 submissions received from individuals and organisations which were in a different format to the standard feedback form. These tend to highlight issues which are of particular concern to those people / agencies. These are listed and summarised below, while the full set of submissions is available in Appendix 2.

### List of other submissions:

1. Cancer Society
2. Papatowai Forest Heritage Trust
3. Forest and Bird Society's Lenz Reserve Management Committee
4. Catlins Promotions
5. Catlins Coast Incorporated
6. Dianne Miller
7. Mary Sutherland
8. Lisa Biginato
9. The Southern District Health Board
10. Gerry Essenberg
11. Paul Duffy
12. South Catlins Promotions
13. Catriona Gower
14. Jane and Jim Young
15. John and Moira Spicer (2 submissions)
16. Max Herold
17. Penelope Gillette
18. Steph Brunton
19. Bronwyn Bain
20. Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust

### D1 CANCER SOCIETY

Landscape and environment:

- Support environmental regeneration plans for The Catlins

Our changing communities:

- Recommends that the following spaces are made Smokefree:
  - Outdoor areas in cafes, restaurants and bars.
  - Areas of natural significance.
  - Bus stops, train stations and transport hubs.
  - All Smokefree areas are also Vapefree.

Parks and reserves:

- Prioritise the addition of adequate shade and water fountains for parks and reserves.

Climate change:

- Cancer Society supports the Council to plan ahead for the impacts of climate change.

Townships:



- Cancer Society supports playground upgrades, improved walking and cycling options, and implementing initiatives to ensure communities are resilient and healthy such as the development of food foraging areas and/or community gardens.

## **D2 PAPTOWAI FOREST HERITAGE TRUST**

### Landscape and environment:

- CDC should prioritise and support conservation work which protects native habitats and the species found within The Catlins because of their importance to local community, tourism, and in recognition of the endangered status of many plant and animal species.
- CDC should remove all weeds from the roadside verges and surrounding areas that CDC control, such as Catlins Lakeside pull-offs.
- CDC should mow roadside verges along the Southern Scenic Route rather than spray.
- CDC should work closely with DOC to provide toilet facilities at busy visitor sites.
- CDC should undertake regular roadside attention and removal of litter.
- Request user-pays rubbish bins are placed along the Southern Scenic Route. Request that containers beside these for visitors to dispose of recyclable materials.

### Roading:

- Reduced speed limits for townships such as Papatowai.
- More painted arrows to assist visitors to keep left.
- Increase the area of road verge that can be used by cyclists.
- CDC to investigate the creation of cycle and walkways in The Catlins.
- Request CDC develop bylaws that prohibit all vehicles on specified beaches.

### General comments:

- Dark skies: Request that CDC keep the value of the special dark sky when considering any additional lighting and when replacing existing lighting in The Catlins.
- Request that CDC ensure that future large tourist development is kept well back from special places and main roads, and if that is not possible, that they are well screened.
- Request that CDC develop a strong policy on signage, especially advertising signage.

## **D3 LENZ RESERVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### Landscape and environment:

- The Catlins should be a region where local authorities actively prioritise and support conservation work to protect the native NZ habitats and species found within.
- New initiatives on the environment:
  - CDC should recognise that the marine environment is unique to New Zealand and foster its protection through initiatives such as marine reserves.
  - CDC should recognise and support predator free projects, so that the work is coordinated regionally and fund-raising is facilitated.

### Our changing communities:

- CDC should work closely with DOC and other organisations to improve facilities for visitors to The Catlins by providing toilets and facilitate the efficient disposal of waste, roadside rubbish and recyclables.



- Embrace energy efficiency and carbon neutrality in its own work and by encouraging this through education and incentivization.

#### Roading network:

- CDC can work towards improving the arterial roads that are central to tourist use by enhancing the roadside environment through rubbish removal, beautification, weed removal and mowing verges.
- Improve the safety of the Southern Scenic Route for cyclists.

#### Climate change:

- CDC should encourage people to consider climate change problems and make people aware of the likely problems.
- In specific instance, CDC needs to take early action to limit disruption as higher sea levels combined with king tides and storm surges increasingly flood stretches of road.

## D4 CATLINS PROMOTIONS

#### Landscape and environment:

- The preservation and enhancement of the natural and social character of The Catlins are over-riding principles.
- The special nature of The Catlins natural assets needs to be emphasized and initiatives to protect these supported by CDC. This includes predator control, forest and wetland protection, landscape protection, visitor access and interpretation projects.
- Consider Dark Sky character of the area.

#### Our changing communities

- CDC should be proactive in encouraging the development of small businesses and encourage residential subdivision where this is in keeping with the natural environment and character of The Catlins.
- Improve the management of waste, and provide recycling facilities to the more isolated small communities.
- Urge CDC to work with DOC to provide toilets at places such as Tunnel Hill, Matai Falls and Rail Trail, and Tautuku.
- Be proactive with respect to alternate energy by encouraging the increased use of solar power and water heating, and provision of electric vehicle charging stations.
- Encourage the reduced use of plastics.
- Use zoning to direct development to areas where this is appropriate and does not limit future options and protection needs.

#### Parks and reserves

- CDC should do more to increase awareness of these assets, and give a lead as to how they could be used for community benefit.

#### Roading network

- CDC should work with roading information organisations to ensure that road conditions and types are correctly portrayed.
- Directional signage needs to be up-to-date, consistent and appropriate.



- Further enhance existing work to look after the Southern Scenic Route. , including provision of facilities for cyclists.

#### Responsible camping

- Support employment of a camping ranger.
- Provide at least 1 basic freedom camping area.

#### Climate change

- CDC consider implications of climate change in its planning.
- Work to protect key roads such as those that are low-lying along estuary edges.

#### Townships

- All townships would benefit from recycling and waste management enhancements, including sewerage disposal where needed.
- Undergrounding of power lines should be a long-term goal.
- Speed restrictions needed in main seaside holiday townships.

## D5 CATLINS COAST INCORPORATED

#### Landscape and environment

- Maintain and enhance New Zealand's clean green image.
- Proactive plans and partnerships to preserve the environment and wildlife. Iwi should also be involved.
- Maintenance of biodiversity, flora and fauna are important.
- Implement pest management strategies and eradication plans.
- Preserve unique areas and appropriate management / resourcing of recreational areas.

#### Our changing communities

- Support local initiatives by collaborating with individuals and groups.
- Fund infrastructure particularly in less populated areas which have high tourist traffic.
- Access to reliable, fast and affordable broadband/internet/digital services.
- Consider the need for appropriate housing and services such as health and education.
- More recycling facilities.
- Projects should be community driven or in consultation with local community.
- Water, roading and sewerage should be priorities and focus for CDC. Also review alternative energy options and provision of electric vehicle charging stations.
- Reduce use of plastics. Education about care of The Catlins.

#### Parks and reserves

- The Catlins Care Code provides appropriate messages for use of parks and reserves,
- There is a short fall in facilities for the disposal of rubbish.

#### Roading

- High-use roads should be sealed.
- Consistent signage is needed.

#### Responsible camping

- A coherent plan, crossing Council boundaries is required in The Catlins.



- CDC should provide financial assistance to ensure the local economy can benefit from freedom camper spending.
- Advocate a collaborative application with DCC, Southland District and QLDC to the Tourism Infrastructure Fund or Tourism Levy Fund for assistance to fund the Southern Scenic Route.
- Legislation needs to be at a national level.
- Provision of facilities in tourist hot spots such as toilets and rubbish facilities.
- Education of visitors in terms of “how to and where to” is vital.
- New Zealand should not promote itself as a ‘free place to visit’.

#### Climate change

- Consider rising sea level when placing infrastructure and development.
- Alternative energy options such as solar power and electric vehicle charging stations.

#### Townships

- Educational opportunities, safe roads, NZ standard amenities, high quality infrastructure are imperative for the good of the community and visitors.

#### Other comments

- Develop a Catlins Coastal walk – to become a Great Walk
- Shorter walks in The Catlins
- New cycle trails
- CDC to advocate to central government to reduce rubbish.
- Improve infrastructure

## D6 DIANNE AND TONY MILLER

#### Roading:

- Roothing network (particularly heavily used roads) needs to be upgraded to tar seal or a higher-grade surface rather than gravel.
- CDC should take a more proactive role surrounding forestry work behaviour in the winter on gravel roads.

#### Landscape and environment:

- Free recycling and rubbish pick up from the gate should be available, or cost-shared basis.
- Road side littering should be discouraged and fines offered for breaches.
- Create a partnership with contractors / Council to organise roadside clean-ups together in order to cut the red tape.
- Walks and cycle trails, particularly circuit routes from central locations.
- Support developing a plan to future proof our parks and reserves.

#### Responsible camping:

- Support the retention of the Responsible Camping Ranger

#### General comments:

- Training and education should be a priority. We also lack local training for the hotel and service industries.



- Working closely and listening to each local community hub within The Catlins would be the best way forward.
- Encourage working closely with other Councils and stakeholders.

## **D7 MARY SUTHERLAND**

### Landscape and environment:

- Protect the special nature of The Catlins.
- Pest control – destroy and control weeds along roadsides and reserves.
- Consider marine environment also – create a Marine Reserve.
- CDC to create larger verges to allow for cyclists and walkers.
- Create a cycleway through The Catlins.
- Signage:
  - Recommend creation of a sign in Balclutha to ‘The Catlins’ (i.e. not Owaka etc.).
  - Road signage needs to be consistent and realistic.
  - Informative and interpretative signage – needs to be well designed and appropriate.
  - Advertising signage – CDC needs very clear and consistent rules regarding this.
- Litter:
  - CDC assist local businesses to reduce waste.
  - CDC also provide better facilities for visitors to dispose of waste, and to recycle.
  - Reduce roadside litter.

### Roads:

- Reduce speed in small communities.
- CDC to seek assistance from government to seal high tourist use roads.

### Responsible Camping:

- Work with DOC & Venture Southland to develop a clear policy for responsible camping.
- Any ‘free’ camping areas need to provide only very basic facilities (parking, toilet, water).
- A ranger is necessary to enforce policy and fines should be part of the policy.

### General:

- CDC to work towards retaining the essential quality of The Catlins.
- CDC to have long-term sustainability in regards to The Catlins.
- Consider creation of new bylaws to deal with existing and new possibilities.

## **D8 LISA BIGINATO (KAKA POINT)**

### Kaka Point:

- Underground power lines in Kaka Point.
- Improve signage on entry points to Kaka Point Beach regarding no dogs.
- Reduce speed into Kaka Point to 60kph before Molyneux Panels, 30 kph through town.
- Address parking outside Kaka Point shop, and improve pedestrian crossing at this point.
- Recycling facilities should be available.
- Trim the bushes beside the picnic areas along the Kaka Point foreshore.
- A coastal walk from Kaka Point to Curio Bay (built in stages).
- A pedestrian area when walking across the Karoro Creek Bridge.





- A joint strategic approach to ensure the environmental care of the journey from Kaka Point to The Nuggets.
- CDC should take a proactive role to ensure basic infrastructure is maintained and services expanded to a high standard.

## **D9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD**

### Landscape and environment:

- Protect and enhance the natural environment in The Catlins.
- Develop a Reserve Management Plan for The Catlins.

### Our changing communities:

- Ensure that the needs of the elderly and more vulnerable be taken into account when constructing the built environment
- Take action to mitigate the adverse effects of increasing visitor numbers.

### Parks and reserves:

- Ensure that the needs of people with disabilities, the elderly and families of young children are taken into account when designing new features or upgrading parks and reserves.
- Create alcohol free zones within parks and reserves in The Catlins.

### Roading network:

- Ensure there is sufficient smooth surface on the road shoulder of open roads to allow pedestrians and cyclists to travel safely as roads are upgraded.
- Ensure that active transport is prioritised in The Catlins when roads are up-graded.

### Responsible camping:

- Work with DOC to monitor freedom campsite. If use increases beyond capacity, consider consolidating freedom campsites to managed paid camping facilities.

### Climate change:

- Plan and prepare for climate change as proposed.

### Kaka Point and Romahapa:

- Provide visitor education and walking and cycling trails as proposed.

### Owaka, Pounaweia, Newhaven and Jack's Bay:

- Provide disability parking and secure cycle parking when upgrading the Owaka playground carpark.

### Papatowai and surrounds:

- Provide walking and cycling trails and institute a speed limit through Papatowai.
- Ensure that the needs of those with disabilities and parents with baby buggies are catered for when Papatowai playground and play equipment are upgraded.

### Other considerations:

- CDC to construct a built environment that supports active transport and lifestyles.
- Install drinking fountain / bottle refill stations in Owaka and Kaka Point.
- Take action to improve the food environment including planting fruit trees, supporting community gardens and orchards and establishing more picnic/BBQ areas with associated recycling and rubbish bins.
- Make playgrounds, sportsground, parks and beaches smoke free.



- Plant trees and provide shaded areas, especially around seating and play equipment.

## **D10 GERRY ESSENBERG (KAKA POINT)**

Kaka Point:

- Walkway through Council Reserve between Tarata and Totara Streets.
- Tarata Street drainage and kerb and channel south side.
- Underground overhead power lines on Esplanade
- Walking/cycling route Kaka Point campground through Maori land to Karoro Creek.
- Remove noxious weeds and planting between Esplanade/Nugget Point Road and coast
- More funding for planting and tidying at Willsher Bay reserve.
- Upgrade and make more use of Willsher Bay toilets.

## **D11 PAUL DUFFY (SOUTHLAND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR)**

General comments:

- Benefits in cooperating and considering effects on The Catlins as a whole when considering future developments.

## **D12 SOUTH CATLINS PROMOTIONS INCORPORATED**

Landscape and environment:

- More sustainable activities need to be developed – walks and cycleways.
- A walk from Nugget Point along the coast to Fortrose.
- Loop walks/cycleways from central locations such as Papatowai or Owaka.
- Link up with the Central Otago Rail Trail.
- Tougher by-laws and penalties in regards to human behaviour around wildlife.
- Tougher dog restrictions around wildlife.
- Restrict access for dogs to sensitive areas.
- Implement complete fire bans in popular camping areas.

Responsible camping:

- Please continue with the Freedom Camping initiative.
- Better management of Freedom Campers to reduce adverse effects.
- Suggest a designated hub for Freedom Campers with the basic resources – Owaka?
- Work with private landowners who have Freedom Campers on public access land, in environmentally sensitive areas, to produce a consistent plan for behaviour/restrictions.

General comments:

- Rubbish and recycling to be addressed. Need to provide adequate services for people.
- Rubbish bins in all popular attractions, with option to recycle.

## **D13 CATRIONA GOWER (OWAKA)**

Landscape and environment:

- Support and assist conservation efforts to protect our significant species and habitats.
- Support all efforts to create a marine reserve along our coastline.



- Introduce vehicle bans on all beaches, require dogs to be on a lead on any beach, enforce recreational take limits, fines for damage or littering.
- Discourage white-baiting through education.
- Alternative tourist attractions to take pressure off sensitive areas and species.
- Provide toilet facilities in many more locations
- Potential for a rail-trail still there.
- Provide art/sculpture features as alternative for taking selfies with endangered species.
- Various sustainability initiatives listed.

Climate Change:

- Discourage development on coastal areas and at sea level. Plan for more extreme weather.

General comments:

- More effective and reliable broadband.
- Provide better waste disposal locations, and also recycling.
- Enhance and support community restoration of historic locations.
- Willsher Bay a good location for a full tourist venue.

Roading: see full submission.

## **D14 JANE AND JIM YOUNG (OWAKA)**

Landscape and environment:

- Support the establishment of Marine Protected Areas that will help to provide food for, and to protect, our endangered marine life including the yellow eyed penguin which is heading towards extinction on mainland New Zealand.
- Promulgate and enforce regulations to protect native plants and animals, e.g. vehicles or unleashed dogs should not be allowed on beaches.
- Make more use of both conventional and social media for public education about how to behave around wildlife.
- Actively support local predator free projects through publicity and funding.
- Encourage the planting of indigenous rather than exotic plants on Council-owned land.

Managing the effects of climate change:

- Council should be leading by example and looking for opportunities for mitigation as well as adaptation. Actions should include:
  - Community education - help people to understand why it is so important to take immediate action. They should be left in no doubt that Council takes the matter seriously.
  - Modelling future sea level rise must take into account recent changes in available data, e.g. emissions are continuing to rise and there is an increasing risk that tipping points will be reached. The three years allocated for the modelling appears to indicate a very leisurely approach to the problem, given that the Impact, on coastal roads for example, is already apparent.



- Looking for opportunities to reduce fossil fuel usage, e.g. by making it easier to use electric vehicles in the local area.

## **D15 JOHN AND MOIRA SPICER (KAKA POINT)**

Kaka Point:

- Upgrades to Kaka Point toilet – could be quite simple but effective.
- Consider traffic calmers to slow traffic through Kaka Point.
- Underground power lines.

## **D16 MAX HEROLD**

Landscape and environment:

- Cycle trail, Kaka Point / Nugget Point to Papatowai via Owaka and Purakaunui Falls.
- Connect Owaka and Pounaweia via cycle and walking trail next to the road.
- More coastal walks and/or cycle ways.
- Seal Hina Hina Road down to Jack's Bay.

Responsible camping:

- Freedom camping: create a booking site where you can book a camping place for a small fee (\$4 or \$5 a night). This may be enough to maintain the sites and toilets.
- Advertise private camping sites on the site too. Also can control the number of freedom campers in certain areas through the booking site.

## **D17 PENELOPE GILLETTE (PAPATOWAI)**

Landscape and environment:

- Support and assist conservation efforts to protect and sustain our native species and their habitats.
- Marine reserves.
- Predator-free communities.
- Dark Skies.
- Dog-free beaches.
- Galaxid diversity and spawning areas.
- Native bird rehabilitation and recovery sanctuaries.
- Environmental education and experiential learning.
- Vehicle-free beaches.
- Deer-free and Pig-free densely mixed Podocarp and Broadleaf Forests
- Enforcing laws and regulations on a regular basis; encouraging responsible behavior and community accountability.
- Pest-free positivity.
- Cat-free communities.

General comments:

- Skill-building and education opportunities for teens and adults
- Responsible rubbish disposal – no more burning plastics and hazardous materials



#### Roading:

- Slower and safer driving for all: more safe places to pull off or pullover
- Please let shorter roads remain without pavement (e.g. Cross Street in Papatowai and road to Tautuku beach – they would not benefit with pavement -- the environment would suffer from run-off and people would drive faster)

## **D18 STEPH BRUNTON (OWAKA)**

#### Landscape and environment:

- Provide education for our visitors on how to look after and respect our environment and the amazing Catlins landscape, and how easily damaged our place can be.
- ALL visitors (including locals) need to be informed about the repercussions of not respecting what we have at this moment and how easily it could be lost.

#### Our changing communities:

- OK to increase visitor numbers BUT also needs to be the Infrastructure to cater for this.
- Opportunity for new businesses but need to understand that our 'season' is short.
- CDC provide assistance to show people what could be done, give new operators support, connect them with mentors, advisors and connections to help them with new business ventures.
- Similarly, a group of current and new operators (e.g. accommodation, activity, CDC, RTO) could be set up to address some of the challenges and ideas for overcoming these.

#### Parks and reserves:

- Some reserves/parks do not have enough rubbish bins to cope with the amount of rubbish that is being dumped, due to increasing use by more and more people.
- A large number of visitors are looking for places to recycle, get rid of their rubbish as they pass through, but there are no obvious facilities for them.
- The new bins that have signs on the front saying 'No household rubbish' - this is confusing for those that English is not their first language.
- The Catlins Information Centre/Owaka Museum reserve could have picnic tables, rubbish bins and even something like an outdoor chess set, draughts or something similar. The flora that protects that area could do with a trim making the facility easier to see and find for visitors. The reserve area could be used for markets during summer or the season.
- Make the access into the Owaka Adventure Playground more user friendly, that area can become a bottleneck with cars coming out of the cafes, the four-square road and also the other intersections that are close to the car park entrance.

#### Roading network:

- EVERY car hire company should go over the New Zealand road safety with ALL international hirers! They should also see our road rules that we as licence holders HAVE to know before we can drive on our roads, so why not those that come from other countries too, at the very least the drive on the left and give way/stop sign rules.
- Speed limits for some roads in The Catlins need to be reduced, as many visitors aren't used to travelling gravel roads, then it needs to be policed.



- Seal the Owaka Valley Road, GPS used by visitors is sending them down this road as for some reason they are unable to locate the southern scenic route road in Invercargill (signage could be the Issue).
- Seal the final section of road out to the Purakaunui Falls, not much left to seal and would be good to have entire road done.
- Roads that are unable to be sealed should be wider and more user friendly.
- The number of vehicles using roads through The Catlins is increasing each year - surely this deserves a rethink on how maintenance is programmed for all non-sealed roads.
- Car park areas need to be re-examined, there are more visitors to The Catlins which is putting pressure on the small amount of parking space at each of the attractions.
- Offer a park and ride option out to Nugget Point/Roaring Bay using Wilshire Bay as the area for vehicles to park before catching a designated bus/drive service.
- The intersection at the corner of Campbell, Saunders (Owaka Valley turnoff), Main Road and Waikawa Road can times be congested and dangerous - the Stop signs don't necessarily mean people stop and with the carpark from the public toilets being close to this turn off along with access to the petrol station, it can make for interesting viewing.
- Signage in Owaka leading to the Southern Scenic Route and town attractions. A board could be put at the playground, outside on the grass area at the four square or at the corner of the Owaka Museum reserve with a town map to show where the town attractions are and the main roads out of Owaka.

#### Responsible camping:

- A very contentious subject! Finding a happy medium between what visitors and the locals want is always going to be challenge.
- Instead of trying to stop it, why not work with those that want to do this and provide an area so that visitors can have somewhere to stay, provide free toilets, but showers and a kitchen are a pay to use option, using an APP on your phone.
- With WIFI becoming more accessible at libraries etc. it means visitors are stopping to use the FREE service - why not tap into that with advertising at each town with a spot for Responsible Camping. Could be a nation-wide scheme.
- Responsible Camping Officer, there needs to be more than one and they should be full-time positions all year round. At least one each for the North Catlins and South Catlins.
- Responsible Camping Officer should be able to hand out fines, this would soon encourage visitors to go to areas that have been put aside specifically for that reason. Make sure that fines are enforced through the company that has hired the vehicle out or make sure that fines are paid before leaving NZ.
- The Catlins needs to have its own Recycling Centre or at least something for recycling paper, card and plastics and something to collect glass as well.
- Showers and laundromat in Owaka, user pays - an opportunity for a new business to look at?
- Better signage about where campers can stay.

#### Climate change:

- The entire Catlins Coast is vulnerable to climate change, so work with each small community to see what their needs are before climate change starts to affect The Catlins



Townships:

- The Owaka community need to be aware that visitors expect a certain level of service - when they come into town and find a business closed but the open hours show they should be open then it is a bad experience, local cafes and shops need to work together so that there is always somewhere open for our visitors.
- Make the reserve land (Owaka Museum/Catlins Information Centre) an open friendly space to spend time, picnic tables, rubbish bins and an outdoor game of some description. The space could be used as a farmer's market during the season, e.g. vegetables, crafts.
- Pounawea, Newhaven and Jack's Bay: These are seaside communities which will be badly affected by climate change, work with the communities and see what they think their issues are, this also goes for the other Catlins seaside communities.
- Each town in The Catlins needs to have the opportunity for visitors to recycle their rubbish and not just on a certain day at a certain time but when THEY want to.
- Update the toilet facilities in each of the towns, something similar to the toilets in Owaka and make it a community exercise.

## **D19 BRONWYN BAIN (FILE NOTE)**

Landscape and environment:

At a consultation event on 4 January 2019, Bronwyn outlined a concept she would like to put forward for developing a cultural and marine biodiversity destination centre based at Willsher Bay. The concept includes:

- A visitor centre to become the 'Gateway to The Nuggets' with extensive parking and shuttle services up to the Lighthouse.
- Restaurant/café with potential to celebrate local kai moana – aquarium-concept to 'eat what you see' e.g. blue cod, paua.
- Potential co-location/base for the following: DOC, Ministry of Fisheries, University of Otago marine studies, iwi/runanga, Forest and Bird etc.
- Local base for tours and experiences e.g. horse trekking, kayaking, tours.
- Campervan, rubbish and dump station facilities.
- Noted it would be within the range of Dunedin's cruise ship visitors.

## **D20 YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN TRUST**

Landscape and environment:

- Additional investment is required to ensure that the recreational, cultural, landscape and ecological values of The Catlins are not just maintained, but that the current decline is reversed.
- Support the concept of a Catlins National Park.
- The CDC biodiversity fund should be expanded to support conservation projects in The Catlins and elsewhere in the district.
- Should be support for conservation on private land, especially linking existing forest fragments, native planting, predator control and fencing.

