

2 February 2006

The Cross Country Vehicle Club (Wellington) Inc.  
P.O. Box 38-762, Te Puni, Wellington



Randall Bess  
Spatial Allocations Manager  
Ministry of Fisheries  
PO Box 1020  
Wellington

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Dear Sir,

**Re: Taputeranga Marine Reserve Proposal**

We write to make a submission in response to your letter of 18 November 2005, which was passed to our organisation due to our strong involvement with parts of the Wellington south coast.

The Cross Country Vehicle Club (CCVC) is Wellington's largest four wheel drive club and one of the largest in New Zealand. We have about 300 full members, plus their families and various types of associated members, thus representing a significant portion of the region's citizens who are actively interested in pursuing off-road adventures as their recreation.

CCVC is particularly interested in the part of the Wellington South Coast that extends to the west from the old Quarry site at Owhiro Bay. This area is adjacent to part of the proposed marine reserve, which we understand has the high tide mark as its border.

Over the 35 years since its formation, CCVC has regularly run organised club trips for its members along this stretch of the coast. We began formal engagement with the Wellington City Council during the consultation phase of developing the Wellington South Coast Management Plan.

CCVC enjoys a strong relationship with the Wellington City Council, through its councillors and officers, and in recent times has assisted the Council with initiatives to protect the vulnerable areas of the coastline and to support the new ranger team.

For many years CCVC has undertaken work parties to clean up and dispose of rubbish and flotsam along the coastline, several times a year at first until the backlog was cleared and then annually to maintain a clean state. In the last two years this exercise was timed to align with and form part of the Keep NZ Beautiful campaign, formerly branded Clean Up NZ.

As a four wheel drive club, CCVC does not consider it has the right to take a position on the proposed marine reserve. We would however go to some effort to support the ongoing management and protection of the coastal aspect of the reserve should it be established.

Our concern at this point in time is that the current vehicular access along the coast, which is allowed under the Wellington South Coast Management Plan, might be jeopardised in the future if natural changes to the coastline result in the high tide mark infringing on the access track.

In the light of these considerations, CCVC requests that some allowance be made in defining the relevant boundary of the marine reserve, so that vehicle access along the coast be allowed even if the high tide mark moves.

We also understand that there could be issues if people who have caught fish to the west of the marine reserve should convey these home in their vehicle and where the access track

could be considered to have become within the reserve. We suggest that this consideration, which applies to many members of the public, strengthens our submission which applies to our club members and other off-road recreation users.

Yours truly,

Grant Purdie  
Land Access Officer and Immediate Past President  
Cross Country Vehicle Club Wellington Incorporated