

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210669
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:15:15.3547038+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Williams	Tuwakairiora
	Surname	First Name
84 Cobham Crescent, Kelston, Auckland 0602		
Address		
027 789 9891		
Mobile		Other phone
tu.williams@matohu.co.nz		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	support	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

I support this application as the chair on behalf of the trustees of Opape 1G2.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

We support the application on the understanding that the applicant Te Ara Tipuna, is doing so in order to enable it to engage in direct consultation and negotiations with interested land owners in the Ngati Porou rohe - Te Toka a Taiau to Potaka. We understand that should we as a landowner outside of the Ngati Porou be interested in participating in the initiative and it is our express wish to do so, subject to access to the detailed information about the project, then the opportunity to do so will be available to us.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

We commend the project to the Gisborne District Council and support the resource consent being granted.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	Yes
--	-----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	Yes
--	-----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
---	----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
--	------

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Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210693
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:24:04.8307329+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Chambers	Jack McLean
	Surname	First Name
32 Church Road, Mangere Bridge, Auckland 2022		
Address		
021 026 66263		
Mobile	Other phone	
jack1945chambers@gmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views:

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	Yes
--	-----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No
--	----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	Yes
---	-----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
--	------

Jack McLean Chambers,
Trustee,
C/- Tawhiti Block Trustees,
7 Te Wehi Road,
Mangahauini Valley,
TOKOMARU BAY 4079
E: jack1945@gmail.com
M: 021 026 66263

01 February 2025

Te Ara Tipuna Submissions,
C/- Gisborne District Council,
PO Box 747,
Gisborne 4040

Consents applied for: Discharge to Land, Land Use - Works in a River/Lakebed, Land Use - Land Disturbance, Land-Use - Vegetation Clearance

Consent number: GDC: DL-2023-112074-00, LR-2023-112076-00, LL-2023-112077-00, LV-2023-112078-00 BOPRC: RM23-0508-AP ODC: RC2024-04

Subject: Formal Opposition to the Te Ara Tipuna Trail – Trustee of Tawhiti

Tēnā koe,

As a Trustee of Tawhiti Block, I am writing to **formally oppose the Te Ara Tipuna Trail** due to the lack of consultation, the devastating effects it would have on our community, and the deep and historical significance of this land.

I am submitting this opposition to formally outline my concerns regarding the proposed 500km public walking trail:

1. Failure to Consult with Tawhiti Trustees and Affected Communities

It is deeply concerning that this project has progressed without any meaningful engagement with Tawhiti Block Trustees, tangata whenua, and the broader community. The area that is affected is Tawhiti 1C (ML2125), 1F1 (ML448413), 2G (ML2288). As a kaitiaki of this whenua, we have a right to be consulted on any changes, enhancements

and development that impacts our whenua, kai, and the people connected to it. The failure to uphold consultation obligations undermines partnership, and demonstrates a disregard for our voice and authority.

2. Adverse Effects on the Community

The proposed 500km trail will have significant negative effects on our community, culturally, environmentally, and socially. The increased public access to areas of deep importance threatens the integrity of our whenua and the wellbeing of our people. This is not just a track it is an encroachment on our whakapapa, sacred spaces, and the safety of our community.

3. The Devastating Impact of Opening the Trail

Should this trail proceed, it would cause irreparable damage to our whenua and disrupt the landscape of our Rohe. Without proper engagement, the true significance of these spaces will be lost, and our ability to uphold our responsibilities as kaitiaki will be compromised. This cannot be allowed to happen.

4. What Benefits Does This Bring to the Tawhiti Block?

The Te Ara Tipuna Trail does not provide any direct or meaningful benefits to Tawhiti or its operations. Instead, it poses potential risks, including biosecurity concerns, increased foot traffic disturbing livestock, and the loss of valuable land and native plants. If this project were to proceed, there must be clear and tangible benefits to the whenua sustainability and productivity, which have not been demonstrated in your plans.

5. Betterment of Waima

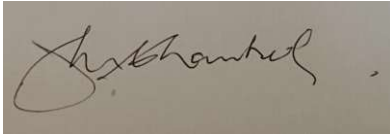
The true betterment of Waima comes from initiatives that are led by the community, for the community. Investment should be directed towards local infrastructure, educational opportunities, and projects that support the economic and health wellbeing of our people. The Te Ara Tipuna Trail, as currently proposed, does not align with these priorities and instead diverts resources from more pressing needs in the Tairāwhiti region.

As a Trustee of Tawhiti, I will speak on this matter, to provide the historical context, health and safety, and significance of this land, to clearly articulate why I, alongside many others, oppose this development. Our voices must be included in any decisions that affect our whenua, and I will not stand by while this project disregards the mana and rights of our people, and whenua.

I strongly urge the Gisborne Council and Te Ara Tipuna organising body to immediately halt this project until proper consultation is undertaken with Tawhiti Trustees and ALL affected communities. Therefore, I request the opportunity to present our opposition and discuss the true implications of this trail before any further decisions are made, at the submissions hearing.

Please confirm the date of the submission hearing at your earliest convenience.

Ngā manaakitanga,

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Jack McLean Chambers'.

Jack McLean Chambers
Trustee, Tawhiti Block

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210710
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:29:10.9510583+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Crawford	Terri
	Surname	First Name
5496E SH35, Omaio, Opotiki 3199		
Address		
021525131		
Mobile	Other phone	
korouproductions@gmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

Entire application.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views:

See attached document.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

Formal Objection to Resource Consent Application LU-2023-112074-00 GDC: DL-2023-112074-00, LR-2023-112076-00, LL-2023-112077-00, LV-2023-112078-00 BOPRC: RM23-0508-AP ODC: RC2024-04 by Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust (TAT).

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	Yes
--	-----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
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I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
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To: Gisborne District Council

07 February 2025

Re: Formal Objection to Resource Consent Application LU-2023-112074-00 by Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust (TAT).

Rau Rangatira ma, tena koutou katoa,

I have lived only a short period in Te Tairāwhiti, on SH35—just over two years in Tokomaru Bay (2021 to 2024) and almost one year in the rohe of Te Whānau a Apanui (2024 to 2025). Have personally experienced States of Emergency due to natural disasters, including: Maungahauini Bridge collapse after flash flood (2022); Cyclone Gabrielle, Hikuwai No. 1 bridge collapse, and subsequent SH35 road travel curfews (2023).

I can personally vouch for the resilience and care that our hau kāenga live and breathe daily. However, I have also witnessed the immense stress and anxiety that our hapū endure when confronted with unforeseen challenges. Our whenua is deeply loved, and we continue to endure against all odds.

In 2023, following Cyclone Gabrielle, an alternative Pourou Road was created to give us access in absence of Hikuwai River bridge no.1. That road was opened with ceremony. What I personally felt on a wairua level when we drove that road for the first time was the karakia and karanga that Aunty Kui Williams and Rhonda Tibble gifted into that ara—they walked the entire road, clearing the way, not just to provide safe passage, but to lift our wairua during an incredibly difficult time.

It is commonplace to wave and smile at the people we encounter while traveling on the SH35. With the number of road outages, local crews worked hard to repair road damage. It became a fun and heartwarming experience to exchange Naati salutes, haka, and pūkana with our roading workers—whānau being whānau, always operating with respect and massive pride.

Upon reviewing the project proposal, I pondered the following:

I am fully in support of wānanga to rekindle our Tairāwhiti and kaupapa that encourage and activate our own circular economies. One could argue that this proposal may assist in activating our economy by nurturing reconnection through a designated pathway.

However, through my lens, I have observed a deep mistrust from some of our people regarding the leadership behind this project. I was shocked that the Ngāti Porou Rūnanga constitution was ignored in the appointment of the deputy chair—who is also the leader of this proposal. This conflict of interest is awkward and it is not okay that we must speak up and ask our own whanaunga to make this right.

Concerns Around the Camino de Santiago Comparison

The Camino de Santiago, which serves as the inspiration for this proposal, consists of numerous pilgrimage routes established to honour the tomb of St. James. These walks, with a history spanning approximately 1,000 years, are now open to individuals of all spiritual beliefs.

However, given the diverse wairua traditions along SH35, I view this pilgrimage concept as yet another form of colonisation. From my perspective, this proposal does not originate from the hearts of the hau kāenga—the people who live on SH35—but rather from an entirely different religious and social and historical framework.

The suggestion that this ara could serve as a “prayer” raises critical discussions for SH35, especially given the presence of multiple religious sects across all hapū. What form of faith and prayer would this embody?

Reflecting on my experience with the wairua work on Pourou Road, I believe this is an important kōrero that

must take place before proposing a public walking track. Meeting the depth of this discussion is necessary before imposing yet another external framework upon our whenua and our people.

One of the key points raised was how safe the Camino de Santiago is to walk. To walk SH35, however, is a premature concept from a safety point of view. Had the project team physically walked SH35, visited marae, and explored the places available for accommodation along the route, I believe the kōrero and consultation would have taken a different shape and a different level of reverence and respect for the proposal.

At this point, I strongly encourage that if Te Ara Tipuna project team and TRoNP truly believe in this concept, they should commit to walking the entire route, engaging directly with our people. This may not change the minds of those who oppose the project, but it could help restore whanaungatanga, reconnecting iwi and hapū while nurturing deeper understanding of what and who our current hau kāenga represent. Walk the talk.

I have additional concerns that I am sure others have raised in their submissions. In summary, they include but are not limited to:

1. Physical safety and the strain on already stressed medical resources.
2. Proceeding with the project despite objections from landowners.
3. Seeking endorsements worldwide from those with no real knowledge of the area.
4. Creating a public track that could allow outsiders to observe and take advantage of highly protected, pristine natural resources—some of which have remained safeguarded for centuries through hau kāenga protection.
5. We already have an established Ara Tipuna for iwi and hapū. More support could be given to this initiative, strengthening whanaungatanga among hau kāenga rather than opening up an alternative public track.
6. Overriding the reality of current needs for housing, roading and ongoing environmental protection.

This is my personal considered viewpoint, as a kaitieki whenua living on SH35 with kaitieki (landowner) affiliation to: Tokata, Herenga, Waihoa, Waimihia, Whetumatarau, Mangahauini, Tikitiki, Tuatini.

I am all for positive progress, mauri oranga, tangata whenua ecological housing design, maara and mahinga kai economies flourishing.

But until the project team, gets out of the car and walks the proposed track, it's a no from me and my household.

As I submit this proposal, I am looking ahead to the future. As a resident in Te Whanau a Apanui, the level of local opposition to this proposal is high. I request that the project team formally apologise to all four rohe, the hau kaenga of SH 35.

Kia kaha, kia toa, me te whakapono,

Mauri Oranga

Terri Ripeka Crawford

Trustee for the Crawford Whanau Trust

(Whetumatarau B44D, Tokata B8, Herenga A13, Tikitiki A25, Tuatini Māori Township Section 2 Block III, Waimihia No 2, Waihoa No 2B, Mangahauini 7 Section 123, Tuatini Māori Township Section 8C Block III, Tuatini Māori Township Section 1 Lot 4 Block VI (Part Brown).)

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210751
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:43:54.7449367+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Jamieson	Moana
	Surname	First Name
Counter Delivery, Waihou Bay Postcentre, Waihou Bay 3140		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
adjaifisheriesltd@gmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

As beneficiary of the Hune Moana Whanau Trust, Hirena Rukuata Rawiri Horua Whanau Trust, I oppose the part where the trail proposes to cross over any of my/our whenua at, Names of land blocks; Orete A & B No 2B2, Te Rau, Raekahu 19, Raekahu 22D, Kaikoura 1, Tawaroa Topu, Te Waiti No 2C 2. Names of land blocks; Marangairoa D47, Hahau B4B2, Marangairoa D3B

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

I stand firmly against this proposal because it threatens to open our ancestral lands, along the coast and inland to the public at large, land that has been handed down through generations from our tipuna and is in my care to be passed on to my children and mokopuna. The proposal poses serious risks to the environment and in some instances pristine environments, where no reports have been prepared to assess the damage to natural flora and fauna, the application is culturally insensitive as it does not take into account the waahi tapu that exist along the proposed trail and is not notified on any maps, rather the knowledge is handed down through the generations. The application makes assumptions that threaten property rights, and the right guaranteed to me under Te Tiriti, to the undisturbed possession of our lands, it also threatens also the rights of those who whakapapa to this whenua. Landowners were not consulted and the lack of direct engagement with the landowners is unacceptable.

Many landblocks are administered by Trusts, who have not been given the opportunity or time to discuss the proposal with shareholders and therefore beneficiaries. I am making this submission to ensure my voice and the voice of my whanau, who also have shares in this whenua are heard.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council, the Opotiki District Council, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, to withdraw their support for Te Ara Tipuna Trail and to respect the rights of indigenous owners to the benefit and enjoyment of their land as gifted from my ancestors. As a beneficiary the application does not align with my role as kaitiaki, guardian and caretaker for future generations.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	Yes
--	-----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	Yes
--	-----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
---	----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
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Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210771
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:51:29.7021999+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Fryer	Michael
	Surname	First Name
103 Saint John Street, Ōpōtiki 3122		
Address		
073153030		
Mobile		Other phone
michaelf@odc.govt.nz		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	neutral	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

Refer to submission attachment.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

Refer to submission attachment.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

Refer to submission attachment.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No
--	----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	Yes
---	-----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
--	------



Our Ref: A1283954

6 February 2025

Commissioners for Te Ara Tipuna Trust Consent.

TE ARA TIPUNA SUBMISSION

To the Commissioners,

1. The Opotiki district is in the Bay of Plenty region, on the north-east end of the North Island of New Zealand. It is approximately 3105km in area and is roughly 25% of the total land mass of the Bay of Plenty Region. Our district stretches from Potikirua to Kutarere, neighbouring with the Gisborne District. The proposed trail crosses through almost the full length of both districts.
2. The proposed Te Ara Tipuna trail would pass through road reserve corridors and the coastal margin within Opotiki district boundaries.
3. Opotiki District Council is processing this publicly-notified consent under the Resource Management Act 1991 in a joint process with Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Gisborne District Council.
4. This submission reflects the queries of Council through a range of functions including road controlling authority, parks and reserve operations, and asset management.

Opotiki District Council's position

5. Opotiki District Council does not hold a position on the proposal of Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust. However, Council does seek the following matters be addressed as part of the proposal and consent process:
 - a) What is the proposed ownership model for any facilities or assets built on the trail?
 - b) Who would be responsible for maintenance or legal matters related to any facilities on the trail?
 - c) Where responsibilities overlap with other parties, how will this be managed?
 - d) What are the processes for changes to trail alignment or variation?
 - e) What are the 'fail-safe' protocols for assets and operations for the Charitable Trust?
 - f) If proposed ownership for facilities or assets built falls to landowners (or for example Council administering reserve land or Crown land), this may have long-term financial implications for council and need to be considered by our communities as part of a Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan process.

Reform sought

No reform sought or position stated.

Yours faithfully

Stace Lewer

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Chief Executive Officer

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210792
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:58:07.9645835+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Mahuika	Nepia
	Surname	First Name
84 Awahou South Road, RD 14, Ashhurst 4884		
Address		
021 02480532		
Mobile		Other phone
n.mahuika@massey.ac.nz		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

We do not support any of the application.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

I am submitting on behalf of the Paraumu A1 Block Trustees who met recently to discuss the project. We drafted a joint letter briefly outlining the opposition from shareholders on the Block (attached)

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

We ask the GDC to decline the Resource Consent.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	Yes
--	-----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
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I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
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2 January 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Paraumu A1 Block Formal Objection to Resource Consent Application LU-2020-112074 by Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust

We are writing to formally object to the above-mentioned resource consent application submitted by Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust (LU-2020-112074) to construct, operate, and maintain a recreational pathway, 'Te Ara Tipuna,' around Tairāwhiti from Gisborne to Ōpōtiki. Our objection is based on the following key points:

Legal Rights of the Applicant

We contend that Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust, as non-owners of our whenua Paraumu A1 Block, does not have the legal right to submit a resource consent application to construct, operate, and maintain a recreational pathway on our land without consulting us and obtaining our consent.

Under New Zealand law, the ability for a non-owner to apply for resource consent to build on Māori land is subject to specific legal requirements, primarily governed by the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

Authority to Apply

A non-owner cannot legally apply for resource consent for a project on Māori land without the explicit approval or authorization of the landowners or governing trustees. Any proposed development must have the consent of those with decision-making authority over the land.

Right to Object

As landowners and current Trustees of Paraumu A1 Block we are exercising our legal rights under the RMA and Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 to declare this application invalid. We assert that this application is unlawful as we were not consulted, nor did we grant consent for this project. Our decision-making authority over our whenua has been disregarded, as we suspect is the case for many other landowners affected by this project.

While we recognize that legal redress is available to us, this is an unnecessary and unfair burden given that the RMA is designed to protect landowners and ensure their sovereignty (tino rangatiratanga) over their whenua.

The RMA clearly emphasizes the need for consultation with affected parties, including Māori landowners, in matters involving Māori land. The failure to appropriately consult us as landowners undermines the integrity of this application and exposes it to legal challenge.

Consultation and Cultural Impacts on Paraumu A1 Block

The lack of appropriate consultation with our Trustees, we note above, fails to account for our mana whenua and is poor tikanga. It appears as if the applicants have made the mistake of supposing that the Runanga representation from Rohe 2 is enough to speak on behalf of our shareholders and hapā when they are not. We are the kaitiaki of the various urupa and historically valued sites on Paraumu A1 at Whakawhitira and Kaitaha especially. Paraumu A1 Trustees met with our whānau recently via an online hui held January 2nd to discuss the Te Ara Tipuna project and it was unanimously rejected by our shareholders.

After a close reading and review of the Ara Tipuna proposal our whānau, at that meeting, could see no clear business plan or cultural plan that has clear value for our whānau or whenua. We see no clear cultural benefits that directly relate to use (that we ourselves want) that arise from the Te Ara Tipuna proposal. Moreover, we believe this project will create further issues for us to contend with on the Block. This “recreational pathway” is not for our people and we believe will exacerbate issues our whānau have with outsiders, strangers, and tourists wandering onto the Block without permission. Just in the last year our whānau kaitieki had to remove a number of outsiders wandering onto and around our Block. Many of these intruders were not Māori or Ngāti Porou people, but we have also had to remove locals as well from swatting and/or stealing wood and other materials from our papa kaenga and Block. We are cautious about who is on our whenua, and have had property vandalised, items stolen and removed, by outsiders. We are already on a state highway which cuts through our Block, so we are keen to keep as much of our whenua safe and discourage any further intrusion. An “easement” or “recreational pathway” like this, then, we assert will negatively impact our ability to do that - to care for our whenua and protect it - and we also suspect could potentially create issues for future developments we envision on our own whenua.

Members of our whānau also expressed deep concern about the very focus and upkeep of the proposed path, especially when East Coast Ngāti Porou roads are already in disrepair. This project appears tone deaf to the needs of our people at home. We already have tipuna pathways known to our people at home. This is not an ancestral path. It is a path envisioned for tourists and outsiders, not for our people – or wanted by our people. We strongly oppose any RMA consent.

Whakakapi

As long standing and recently elected Trustees for Paraumu A1 we request that the Resource Consent Application LU-2020-112074 by Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust be rejected and significantly reconsidered on the grounds that it fails to meet the legal and consultation requirements outlined above. We also oppose the application on the basis it failed to consult appropriately with mana whenua here at Paraumu A1, and gave us no opportunity to oppose the project appropriately at an Iwi and hapu level. We want to remind the applicants and the Council that the process to build at home can be arduous and requires consent from our Trustees for any mahi, building, leasing, etc to occur on our Block. A “recreational pathway” that sits right next to our whenua creates significant issues for us about privacy and intrusion that we

have major concerns about. Our Trustees and Block Trust adamantly reject this proposal, noting its lack of consultation, impingement on our mana whenua, unclear and problematic cultural impacts and lack of synchronicity with our own goals and visions for our whenua. In short, we assert that the Ara Tipuna is a project that does not serve our whānau and whenua and should be denied Resource Consent to proceed through or close to our Block.

Paraumu A1 Trustees

Mr Hāmana Mahuika	(Trustee Paraumu A1)
Mr Robert Mahuika	(Trustee Paraumu A1)
Ms Isabel Fox	(elected Paraumu A1 Trustee Jan 4 th 2025)
Ms Alice Mahuika	(elected Paraumu A1 Trustee Jan 4 th 2025)
Dr Nēpia Mahuika	(elected Paraumu A1 Trustee Jan 4 th 2025)

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210795
Submitted on	2025-02-07T10:58:21.3090173+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Hirena	Te Moana
	Surname	First Name
71 Astrolabe Street, Cannons Creek, Porirua 5024		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
hirena.temoana@hotmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

I oppose the area it proposes to cross over to run along the beach at Orete A & B No 2B2, Te Rau, Raekahu 22D, Raekahu 19, Kaikoura 1, Tawaroa Topu, Te Waiti No 2C 2, has an active governing body - Ahu Whenua Trust, that oversees the whenua, and the owners are very active in maintaining and looking after this whenua. The land blocks located in Te Tairawhiti also have an active governing body - Ahu Whenua Trust, as well the Maori Trustee as Custodial Trustee, and the owners are active in maintaining and looking after this whenua.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

I stand firmly against this proposal because it threatens to open our ancestral lands, along the coast and inland to the public at large, land that has been handed down through generations from our tipuna and is in my care to be passed on to my children and mokopuna. The proposal poses serious risks to the environment, but also the rights of those who whakapapa to this whenua. Landowners were not consulted and the lack of direct engagement with the landowners is unacceptable. The proposed trail will cross over many pristine environments, where detailed environmental reports have not been provided that assess the damage to natural flora and fauna, erosion of soil, use of heavy equipment, exposure of waahi tapu, (burial sites) that are not on any maps and the knowledge has been passed from generation to generation, the cultural impact on whanau, has not been taken into account.

Many landblocks are administered by Trusts, who have not been given the opportunity or time to discuss the proposal with shareholders and therefore beneficiaries. I am making this further submission to ensure my voice and the voice of my whanau, who also have shares in this whenua are heard.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council, the Opotiki District Council, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, to withdraw their support for Te Ara Tipuna Trail and to respect the rights of indigenous owners to the benefit and enjoyment of their land as gifted from our ancestors. As a beneficiary the application does not align with my role as Kaititaki of my whenua, of my generation and future generations.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No
--	----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
---	----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
--	------

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

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The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210817
Submitted on	2025-02-07T11:05:58.4609375+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Ngamoki	Dean
	Surname	First Name
5496E SH35, Omaio, Opotiki 3199		
Address		
021525131		
Mobile		Other phone
maungaora@gmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

Oppose entire application

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views:

Tāwhiri koutou,

I am hau kaitiaki and kaitiaki of the whenua in Te Whānau a Apanui, based in Ōmāio, where I am an active hapū and iwi member. My tūpuna fiercely protected our whenua, and as part of our iwi continuum, it is my responsibility to continue this protection for future generations. We will not cede our sovereignty.

I am a landowner of the following land blocks:

Awanui Haparapara No 1, Awanui Haparapara No 3D, Awanui-Haparapara No 3F, Houpoto Te Pua 3, Houpoto, Houpoto Te Pua 1, Houpoto Te Pua 2, Iwiroa 9, Kapuarangi No 1 East No 2, Maraenui 114, Maraenui A2, Maraenui C, Maraenui No 142, Maraenui No 70, Ōmāio 15A and 15B 2A, Ōmāio 15B 2B 1, Ōmāio 42, Ōmāio 43 Section 3, Ōmāio No 43 Sec 10, Ōmāio No 43 Sec 12, Pukemauri No 2, Puketahinu 2A, Section 269 Opotiki Township, Tawaroa Topu, Te Kaha A1, Te Kaha A3, Part Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 9305 Auckland (formerly Part Tunapahore North 1B), Te Kaha No 56B Sec 1, Tunapahore 6, Tunapahore B2B, Whangaparāoa 1B 2B Section 10, and Whangaparāoa 1B 2B Section 2.

I can confirm that I have not been consulted as a land owner of these significant land blocks that would be affected by the proposed Te Ara Tipuna.

I strongly object to the proposal.

Naku noa,

Dean Ngamoki

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

Reject the proposal.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission

No

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?

No

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?

No

I confirm that all the above details are correct

True

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210879
Submitted on	2025-02-07T11:23:56.0251181+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Reriti	Jessica Iritekura
	Surname	First Name
54 Dunkeld Drive, Papamoa 3118		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
jesstemo@gmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

As a beneficiary of the Hune Moana Whanau Trust, Hirena Rukuata Rawiri Horua Whanau Trust, Wharekura Wharepapa Tamati Patuwai Whanau Trust, I oppose where the area it proposes to cross over to run along the beach at Orete A & B No 2B2, Te Rau, Raekahu 22D, Kaikoura 1, Tawaroa Topu, Te Waiti No 2C 2, Maungaroa 1 Section 27, Wharawhara 27, Wharawhara 8, Wharawhara 3B3, Tunapahore B2B , the whenua has an active governing body - Ahu Whenua Trust, that oversees the whenua, and the owners are very active in maintaining and looking after this whenua. The land blocks located in Te Tairawhiti Marangairoa D3B, Marangairoa D47, Hahau B4B2, Tokararangi A, T also has an active body - Ahu Whenua Trust, as well the Maori Trustee as Custodial Trustee governing the land, and the owners are active in maintaining and looking after this whenua.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

I stand firmly against this proposal because it threatens to open our ancestral lands, along the coast and inland to the public at large, land that has been handed down through generations from our tipuna and will be passed on to my children and mokopuna. The proposal poses serious risks to the environment, and in some instances pristine environments where the use of heavy equipment and through traffic will damage natural flora, the potential to cause further erosion to sites that are already high risk, and to expose Waahi tapu not shown on any maps where the knowledge of these sites is orally handed down. The proposed trail makes assumptions that threaten the property rights of owners and beneficiaries to the undisturbed possession of our land, as guaranteed to us under Te Tiriti and also the rights of those who whakapapa to this whenua. Landowners were not consulted and the lack of direct engagement with the landowners is unacceptable.

Many landblocks are administered by Trusts, who have not been given the opportunity or time to discuss the proposal with shareholders and therefore beneficiaries. I am making this further submission to ensure my voice and the voice of my whanau, who also have shares in this whenua are heard.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council, the Opotiki District Council, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, to withdraw their support for Te Ara Tipuna Trail and to respect the rights of indigenous owners to the benefit and enjoyment of their land as gifted from our ancestors.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No
--	----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
---	----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
--	------

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210880
Submitted on	2025-02-07T11:24:05.1479949+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Tamahori	Warren
	Surname	First Name
Flat 3, Shangri La Apartments, 97 Jervois Road, Herne Bay, Auckland 1011		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
warrentamahori@gmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

I am the owner of Kaiaua Station, which is directly impacted by the proposed route of Te Ara Tipuna trail. While I am not opposed to the walkway in principle, and acknowledge the cultural, economic and social benefits it may bring, the current proposed route through my property is not acceptable. The proposed route poses significant and unacceptable risks to the farming operation, biosecurity, stock management, and most critically, the privacy and safety of my whanau.

The imposition of this walkway on private land, without proper regard for these serious concerns, is wholly inappropriate, and disregards the fundamental rights of landowners. I strongly urge the project managers to reconsider and adopt an alternative route that does not infringe on private land in such an intrusive and disruptive manner.

I am prepared to discuss feasible alternative routes that respect my property rights, while still allowing the project to proceed responsibly

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views:

As explained above, the reason for making my submission is a total lack of consultation in planning a route across my farm, without discussion for alternatives.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish for the GDC to acknowledge my concerns, and have Te Ara Tipuna contact me to discuss an alternative route through or around my property.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
I confirm that all the above details are correct	True

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210923
Submitted on	2025-02-07T11:37:04.7656128+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Jamieson	Adlam Ross
	Surname	First Name
Counter Delivery, Waihou Bay Postcentre, Waihou Bay 3140		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
adlamjamieson@icloud.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

As a beneficiary of the Hune Moana Whanau Trust, Hirena Rukuata Rawiri Horua Whanau Trust and a Shareholder in my own right, I oppose the part where the trail proposes to cross

over any of my/our whenua at, Names of land blocks; Orete A & B No 2B2, Te Rau, Raekahu 19 Raekahu 22D, Kaikoura 1, Tawaroa Topu, Te Waiti No 2C 2. D47, Hahau B4B2, Marangairoa D3B, has an active governing body - Ahu Whenua Trust, that oversees the whenua, and the owners are very active in maintaining and looking after this whenua.

The land blocks located in Te Tairāwhiti Names of land blocks; Marangairoa D47, Marangairoa D3B and Hahau B4B2 also have an active governing body - Ahu Whenua Trust, as well the Maori Trustee and whanau are active in maintaining and looking after this whenua.

As Custodial Trustee, and the owners are active in maintaining Trustees and administrators of Maori owned whenua do not have the right to speak on behalf of individual owners, especially when there has been no consultation or engagement with the owners. Shareholders and beneficiaries, struggle to access their whenua to build on, and are faced with many obstacles, bureaucracy, non-achievable criteria, with no favourable outcome to them as a shareholder and beneficiary, Te Ara Tipuna Charitable Trust has no right to assume they can place a Notified Resource Consent to access my whenua, when I don't have access to my whenua!

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

I stand firmly against this proposal because it threatens to open our ancestral lands, along the coast and inland to the public at large, land that has been handed down through generations from our tipuna and is in my care to be passed on to my children and mokopuna. The proposal poses serious risks to the environment, and pristine environments, with the potential to cause further erosion to sites that are prone to erosion, there have been no environmental reports available that assess the potential risks to these environments, not to mention the cultural aspect should waahi tapu be discovered, the proposed trail makes assumptions that threaten the rights of property owners and also the rights of those who whakapapa to this whenua. Landowners were not consulted and the lack of direct engagement with the landowners is unacceptable.

Many landblocks are administered by Trusts, who have not been given the opportunity or time to discuss the proposal with shareholders and therefore beneficiaries. I am making this submission to ensure my voice and the voice of my whanau, who also have shares in this whenua are heard.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council, the Opotiki District Council, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, to withdraw their support for Te Ara Tipuna Trail and to respect the rights of indigenous owners to the benefit and enjoyment of their land as gifted from our ancestors.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
I confirm that all the above details are correct	True

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

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LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210946
Submitted on	2025-02-07T11:43:29.7630171+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Tatare	Linda Fay
	Surname	First Name
PO Box 1109, Gisborne 4040		
Address		
027 680 2228		
Mobile		Other phone
lindafay@xtra.co.nz		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

I oppose the applications in their entirety

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views:

I am a Resident of Anaura Bay and Shareholder of Nuhiti Q.

Living at 690 Anaura Road Anaura Bay.

Nuhiti te maunga,

Motuoroi te moutere

Waipare te awa me te ngahere

Te ngahere and wai of Waipare and Nuhiti sustained my tipuna during their time on this whenua and accepted them when it was their time to pass.

1 Assessment of Effects on the Environment

Positive Effects. p.19 5.1.1

“Strengthen, sustain and celebrate and share” Their cultural identity amongst themselves.

We do not need a track forced across inaccessible lands or a man-made board walk to strengthen our lives “ we are mostly pakeke with very fortunate mokopuna who live with the knowledge we hold that has been handed down from our tipuna. No stranger coming over the hill is going to enhance our lives, just the opposite, we already suffer at the hands of campers and day visitors walking through our papakainga onto our front lawns to take photos and generally nose around where they are not wanted.

As I said we are a community of pakeke with our rangatahi living and working in Gisborne or Tolaga during the week.

Our way of life especially our personal security will be threatened by this Trail. The Trail is already causing anxiety amongst our very elderly.

Your Trail does not present “opportunities for matauranga and science-based collaboration” .

We have long and enduring relationships with the Department of Conservation (DOC), National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) through NZ Fisheries, Pouhere Taonga and Manatu Taonga to name a few. We have had initial conversations with various coastal marine scientists and hope to develop this over time.

No man-made boardwalk is going to sustain our matauranga “ matauranga developed over generations to suit our time and space - or provide us with science-based knowledge.

2. Final AEE Pedestrian TATCT TATT DL2023-112074-00 bundled

5.1.2 “Avoid sensitive environments such as coastal escarpments, areas with indigenous vegetation and dune and wetland environments (including those scheduled in planning documents and identified on high-resolution desktop study).

The path of the Trail has been given little to no consideration in our rohe Mawhai to Marau as the Trail passes through these sensitive environments especially in the Nuhiti Q Reserve.

5.1.3 Heritage and Archaeological Effects.

The Trail across the Nuhiti Q Reserve and down into Tangoiro are “Red Zones”

“less than minor” is typical Resource Management Application language designed to avoid the realities of the consequences of the intended work.

What of the Wahi Tapu in our ngahere. There are pits and terraces right across our whenua; including along the path that the Trail will take. Coming down into Tangoiro are the unmarked recent reinterments of our tipuna, Pa sites and evidence of human occupation. Yes, we note the Trail will hug the bush line, but Tangoiro was a settlement with Pa, Urupa and Maara kai in the area of the Trail and we the recent descendants of those who occupied and are buried in this place object to your interference with it.

The Trail passes across the main ridge line of the Nuhiti Q Scenic Reserve. This will require the destruction of indigenous trees and the excavation of the whenua on the ridge line to build your Trail. The path of this Trail is evidence that you cannot avoid sensitive environments, wetlands and indigenous vegetation.

A retired ranger who worked in the Nuhiti Reserve and the ridge line in his younger days told us of the argillite, obsidian and flint that he observed on the route of the Trail “ that this was “evidence of our old people” being up there. There is evidence of “pa sites and burials” . He commented on the remnant of ancient vegetation on the Trail. His final comment confirmed by a visit to the ridgeline by one of our younger men this week “ it’s dangerous up there” there are very narrow passages and very steep drops off the ridgeline.”

It was obvious to the untrained eye that our tipuna occupied parts of the track. This does make sense, given that the occupants of Toiroa Pa (on the Tokomaru Bay side of the Reserve) occupied by Tautini and Wakarara, used the ridgeline to come to and leave Anaura. Tautini was the grandfather of Wakarara.

Description of our whenua and ngahere its flora and fauna.

“The scenic reserves and conservation area have a primary purpose of protecting and preserving the natural scenic and historic features. Recreation is provided on the basis that it is compatible with these primary objective aims.”

“The area has been formed by rapid and continuing uplift from the sea of soft mudstone overlaid by firmer sandstone. Active erosion processes have resulted in a broken and deeply dissected landscape. Resistant sandstone mass form steep slopes and bluffs with a plateau of gentler topography perched above. This has resulted in an elevated wetland with its outlet water spilling over bluffs in the form of waterfalls. Erosion processes are prominent.”

“Prominent forest types are kanuka/rewarewa/kamahi associations, manuka shrubland and forms of tawa forest. The mixed broadleaf forest and shrubland at Anaura Bay is one of the better represented coastal forests in the region. Notable trees are puriri, kohekohe, karaka and tawa.”

“On the north facing bluffs is one of the very few areas in New Zealand where ngutukaka is growing in its natural state.”

“The [Nuhiti] wetland, with its associated vegetation and ecological communities, has uncommon attributes due to its elevation and unmodified nature.”

“The vegetation variation and large forested area contribute to a number of different habitats for birdlife. The forests have the potential of becoming more productive habitats as they become more mature. Uncommon birds present include the North Island kiwi, N.Z. falcon (karearea) and whitehead (popokotea). The area provides habitat for other vertebrates including the rare Hochstetters frog.” Add to that list the rarer Archies Frog.

Brachiglottis perdicoides otherwise known as raukumara is a rare coastal daisy - is as endangered as ngutukaka in our ngahere.

Any excavation of the whenua, cutting down of indigenous forest and building of structures will further erode our ngahere. We have lost enough land to storms; the Trail represents a more destructive form of storm which will impose itself across the entirety of the Nuhiti Q Reserve.

The land will slump and slip, taking forest and animal life with it further destroying the habitat of our endangered fauna. Where we once hoped for a maturing forest with increased insects, bird and animal life, we can now only see further destruction as has happened at Omanuka.

The Dunes, Tuturiwhatu and Torea.

Due to the 20+ storms since 2018, Anaura has lost all its fore dunes and now the sea is encroaching into our dunes. We have 3 small populations of Tuturiwhatu and Torea left in Anaura Bay and 1 at Marahea/Nuhiti. The Trail passes through 2 of Anaura's breeding and food ranging sites and close to the Marahea breeding site. We have put in years of protection for these birds with dwindling population due to human and storm forces. It is wrong that you propose to put tourists onto the beach during breeding season August to February.

In Closing

The Nuhiti Q Reserve has passed from customary ownership by the hapu Ngati Wakarara to shareholding by Nuhiti Q, then to Dept of Conservation (DOC) under lease arrangements, then to Te Runanganui o Ngati Porou (TRoNPnui) under Te Tiriti Settlement. At each step the Hapu has been further removed from prominence. In terms of our occupation of this land it is unbroken, is inalienable and is enduring. The Hapu have not been consulted, and scant regard has been given or will be given to us.

Ngati Wakarara has not and never will give up its Mana Motuhake of the lands between Mawhai and Marau.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

To decline the applications in there entirety

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	Yes
Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	Yes

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
I confirm that all the above details are correct	True

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250210977
Submitted on	2025-02-07T11:55:52.6738871+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Te Moana	James
	Surname	First Name
94 Longview Drive, Papamoa Beach, Papamoa 3118		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
jfktemoana@hotmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

As beneficiary of the Hune Moana Whanau Trust, Hirena Rukuata Rawiri Horua Whanau Trust, Wharekura Wharepapa Tamati Patuwai Whanau Trust, I oppose where the trail, proposes to cross over to run along the beach and inland of my/our whenua at, Names of land blocks; Orete A & B No 2B2, Te Rau, Raekahu 19, Raekahu 22D, Kaikoura 1, Tawaroa, Te Waiti No 2C 2, Maungaroa 1 Section 27, Wharawhara 27, Wharawhara 3B2, Wharawhara 8, Names of land blocks; Marangairoa D47, Hahau B4B2, Marangairoa D3B, Tokararangi A.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views:

I stand firmly against this proposal because it threatens to open our ancestral lands, along the coast and inland to the public at large, land that has been handed down through generations from our tipuna and is in my care to be passed on to my children and mokopuna. The proposal poses serious risks to the environment, further erosion to already prone sites, degradation as well the exposure of waahi tapu, causing cultural and significant damage to whanau and kaitiaki of the whenua and also the rights of those who whakapapa to this whenua. Landowners were not consulted and the lack of direct engagement with the landowners is unacceptable.

Many landblocks are administered by Trusts, who have not been given the opportunity or time to discuss the proposal with shareholders and therefore beneficiaries. I am making this submission to ensure my voice and the voice of my whanau, who also have shares in this whenua are heard.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council, the Opotiki District Council, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, to withdraw their support for Te Ara Tipuna Trail and to respect the rights of indigenous owners to the benefit and enjoyment of their land as gifted from our ancestors.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission

No

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?

No

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?

No

I confirm that all the above details are correct

True

Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

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Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250211031
Submitted on	2025-02-07T12:09:00.4529718+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Te Moana	Shannon Terina
	Surname	First Name
12B Pooles Road, Greerton, Tauranga 3112		
Address		
Mobile	Other phone	
s_temoana@hotmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

As beneficiary of the Hune Moana Whanau Trust, Hirena Rukuata Rawiri Horua Whanau Trust, Wharekura Wharepapa Tamati Patuwai Whanau Trust I oppose the part where the trail proposes to cross over any of my/our whenua at, Names of land blocks; Orete A & B No 2B2, Te Rau, Raekahu 19, Raekahu 22D, Kaikoura 1, Tawaroa Topu, Te Waiti No 2C 2, Maungaroa 1 Section 27, Wharawhara 3B3, Wharawhara 8, Wharawhara 27. Names of land blocks; Marangairoa D47, Hahau B4B2, Marangairoa D3B, Tokarangani A.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

I stand firmly against this proposal because it threatens to open our ancestral lands, along the coast and inland to the public at large, land that has been handed down through generations from our tipuna and will be in my care to be passed on to my children and mokopuna. The proposal poses serious risks to the environment and in some instances pristine environments, where no reports have been prepared to assess the damage to natural flora and fauna, the potential and effects on erosion, of already vulnerable landscapes, the application is culturally insensitive as it does not take into account the waahi tapu that exist along the proposed trail and is not notified on any maps, rather the knowledge is handed down through the generations. The application makes assumptions that threaten property rights, and the right guaranteed to me under Te Tiriti, to the undisturbed possession of our lands, it also threatens the rights of those who whakapapa to this whenua. Landowners were not consulted and the lack of direct engagement with the landowners is unacceptable.

I am making this submission to ensure my voice and the voice of my whanau, who also have shares in this whenua are heard.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council, the Opotiki District Council, and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, to withdraw their support for Te Ara Tipuna Trail and to respect the rights of indigenous owners to the benefit and enjoyment of their land as gifted from my ancestors and the undisturbed possession of my lands, as guaranteed to me under the Treaty of Waitangi, Te Tiriti. Finally as a beneficiary the application does not align with my role as kaitiaki, guardian and caretaker of the whenua for future generations.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No
--	----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
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I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
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Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250211034
Submitted on	2025-02-07T12:10:55.055752+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Waites	David James
	Surname	First Name
325B Levers Road, Matua, Tauranga 3110		
Address		
0272966578		
Mobile		Other phone
qs@brunel.co.nz		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

I oppose the fact that private property is to be taken. We don't want a path/trail running through the middle of our property, as currently shown on the plan. This is our private property. When has it been ok to take private property? The path/trail would allow those using the path close proximity to buildings on our property. We have already had issues with theft. Essentially it would just give those scoping the place out justification for their being there. Further, who is going to maintain the path/trail. I've seen these done before i.e. the trail between Rotorua and Taupo, where the trail was built and then left, and to be frank is now just an eye saw which is hardly used, if ever.

The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

The proposed trail route passes right through the middle of our family property. It would provide access to anyone using the trail to close proximity of homes on the property.

I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):

I wish the Gisborne District Council was to reject the resource consent application, in support of the private property owners.

3. Please indicate:

I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
--	----

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	Yes
--	-----

4. Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	No
---	----

I confirm that all the above details are correct	True
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Submission on

Te Ara Tipuna Trail Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

All information provided in your submission is available to the public (on request).

Submissions must be lodged before **5pm Friday 7 February 2025**.

You can email your submission to: notifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires a copy of your submission must be sent to the applicant. For this Resource Consent application, the Gisborne District Council Resource Coordination team will do this for you.

LODGING INFORMATION

Reference Number	RCS250211101
Submitted on	2025-02-07T12:41:42.0881159+13:00

1. PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION

Name in full	Walker	Janna-Leigh
	Surname	First Name
28 Einstein Street, Outer Kaiti, Gisborne 4010		
Address		
0211529534		
Mobile		Other phone
jla.walker@hotmail.com		
Email address		

2. SUBMISSION ON

Application Number	Gisborne District Council: LU-2023-112074-00; DL-2023-112075-00; LR-2023-112076-00; LL-2023-112077-00; LV-2023-112078-00 Bay of Plenty Regional Council: RM23-0508-AP Ōpōtiki District Council: RC2024-04	
Name of Applicant	Te Ara Tipuna Trail Charitable Trust	
Type of Resource Consent applied for	Land Use, Discharge to Land, Land Use - Lake/Riverbed, Land Disturbance, Land Use - Vegetation Clearance	
Brief description of proposed activity	Construction & use of a shared trail from Makorori (in the South) round to Opotiki (in the North of the East Coast)	
Position on application	oppose	

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:
The collective decision as stated in the attached PDF strongly opposes the full extent of the application.
The reasons for making my submission are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):
The attached PDF is a collective submission on behalf of the landowners, trustees, descendants and residents of the named blocks. Our views are outlined in the document.
I wish the Commissioner Panel to make the following decision (give details, including the nature of any conditions sought):
We advise that the Gisborne District Council reject the Resource Consent Application by Te Ara Tipuna based on the facts stated in the collective submission as outlined in the attached PDF

3. Please indicate:	
I wish to speak at the Hearing in support of my submission	No
Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?	No

4. Confirmation	
Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?	Yes
I confirm that all the above details are correct	True

RE: Letter of Opposition to the Te Ara Tipuna Resource Consent Application regarding the following land blocks:

- **Te Kopuni B2 Block** (included in the resource consent application by Te Ara Tipuna)
- **Part Kopuatarakihi 1D2** (not included in the resource consent application by Te Ara Tipuna)
- **Kourateuwhi 4** (not included in the resource consent application by Te Ara Tipuna)

To: Gisborne District Council

Subject: Formal Opposition to the Resource Consent Application by Te Ara Tipuna

Dear Members of the Gisborne District Council,

We, the landowners, trustees, and descendants of Te Kopuni B2 Block, are writing to formally express our strong opposition to the resource consent application submitted by Te Ara Tipuna. We wish to clearly state that we do not support this application in any way, nor do we wish to see any part of this proposed track constructed on or near our land.

This submission is made with great consideration for the future wellbeing of our whenua (land) and the protection of our cultural heritage.

We are committed to forging ahead with our own development plans for this whenua. The track proposed by Te Ara Tipuna would stand in direct opposition to the vision we hold for the future of this land. The voices of our tīpuna (ancestors) resonate deeply within us and continue to guide our decisions today. Their wisdom and foresight have shown us the path to protect our land and to ensure that future generations will have the ability to thrive on it. We have a sacred responsibility to safeguard the whenua entrusted to us, and we are determined to continue in the spirit of those who came before us.

The proposed track would directly interfere with the future plans we have for this whenua, which include sustainable land development, projects, and initiatives aimed at securing the prosperity and cultural wellbeing of our descendants. These plans are not just about land use but are intrinsically tied to our identity and our collective future. The proposed track would undermine these efforts by disrupting the landscape we are working to cultivate and by posing barriers to our ongoing development projects.

The lands impacted by this proposed track hold great significance to our whānau (family) and are central to our aspirations. We are deeply invested in these projects, which are intended to provide long-term benefits to our whanau and future generations. To have this vision disrupted by a development that we did not consent to, and that runs counter to our plans, would severely hinder our progress and damage the sense of hope we have worked so hard to build.

The wisdom of our tīpuna is woven into every inch of our whenua. Their voices guide us as we make decisions about how we live, how we develop, and how we protect the land for our mokopuna (grandchildren). This land is a place where our ancestors are present, where their stories live on, and where their values continue to shape our future. We carry their aspirations with us and are committed to ensuring that the direction we take honours them.

The voices of our tīpuna call on us to act with integrity and to safeguard our land, as they did in their time. Their strength and wisdom remain an enduring presence in our lives, and we take it upon ourselves to carry the responsibility they entrusted to us. This responsibility is not just about protecting the physical land but also about maintaining our cultural connection to it, which is integral to our identity as a people.

In the face of the proposed track, we are committed to act as guardians of the land. The vision we hold is one that will allow our descendants to flourish in harmony with the whenua, and we will not allow this vision to be compromised by an external development that disregards our rights and values.

We are committed to ensuring that our descendants inherit a whenua that is as rich, vibrant, and sustainable as the one we received from our tipuna. The presence of this track would hinder this inheritance and compromise our ability to plan and develop our land according to our own needs and aspirations. Our long-term vision is rooted in a connection to the land that allows us to thrive in harmony with the environment, while also preserving our cultural heritage.

The proposal to construct a track through or near our land also represents a serious infringement on our heritage, and our future. As landowners, trustees, descendants and residents, we do not support any part of the application. Our position is to completely oppose it, as it stands to disrupt and destroy our land, settlement, and any potential future projects we have planned for the area. We seek the rejection of this resource consent application and request that Gisborne District Council respects our cultural, environmental, and legal rights and ensures that the land is protected from further disruption.

Reasons for Opposition:

1. Lack of Consultation:

- As concerned landowners and trustees, we were not consulted prior to the submission of this resource consent application. Our ancestral land and settlement are being directly impacted, and yet we were not given the opportunity to express our views or have a say in the decision-making process. This lack of consultation is not only disrespectful but also contrary to the principles of good faith and partnership that should govern such matters.

2. Specific Land Blocks Affected:

- We wish to specifically oppose the inclusion of the **Te Kopuni B2 block** as part of the application. The track is proposed to pass through this area, and we strongly oppose any disruption to it.
- The application directly impacts several nearby blocks, including **Part Kopuatarakihi 1D2 and Kourateuwhi 4**. These land blocks are critical to our current and future plans and must not be affected by this proposed track.
- The proposed route also passes near homesteads surrounding these blocks, which will be significantly disturbed by the track's construction and ongoing presence. The impact on the homesteads and surrounding area must be taken into account, as it is not just land that will be affected, but the homes and lives of those who reside there.
- We request that the proposed trail be rerouted entirely, ensuring that it does not cross or come near our land, including the Kopuatarakihi 1D2, and Kourateuwhi 4 blocks, or any homesteads located near these blocks. The trail should avoid all affected areas where it would interfere with our settlement and projects.

- We firmly oppose the inclusion of Kaiaua Road as part of the proposed track's route. The road is essential to the local community and should not be used as a path for the trail under any circumstances.

The proposed Te Ara Tipuna (TAT) Trail is a project of significant cultural, environmental, and social importance. However, we have serious concerns about the processes involved in establishing governance structures for ungoverned whenua blocks, particularly those that are being considered for inclusion in the project. While we understand that the project team is working alongside Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Kooti Whenua Māori, the establishment of new governance structures for the express purpose of facilitating the development of the trail raises questions about fairness, autonomy, and the long-term impacts on the landowners and the communities involved.

One of the primary concerns is the establishment of new trusts specifically to oversee land blocks for the purposes of the TAT Trail. Creating governance structures solely for the purpose of facilitating the project could be viewed as an artificial construct that undermines the intrinsic value and autonomy of the whenua. Trusts should be established in a manner that reflects the true interests and aspirations of landowners, and not be created simply as a means to meet the logistical and legal requirements of a project. The establishment of a trust for this purpose risks creating a governance body that lacks the broader legitimacy needed to represent the true interests of iwi and hapū in relation to their whenua.

A key concern with this approach is that it may lead to the imposition of external control over land blocks. While the intention of establishing trusts may be to empower, the reality is that creating governance structures that are designed specifically for the trail may not align with the traditional structures of governance that have existed for generations. The process of setting up new trusts may inadvertently pave the way for outside influence over land decisions that should be made by local Māori communities, not solely for the benefit of the TAT Trail.

The success of any large-scale development project, particularly one that touches on Māori land, hinges on the establishment of trust between the project team and the affected communities. Trust is not something that can be built after the fact; it must be established at the outset, with meaningful and ongoing dialogue. The failure to engage landowners, trustees, and hapū at the earliest possible stage creates an environment of distrust and suspicion, which could jeopardize the entire project.

If consultation had been prioritized before developing detailed trail routes, it would have signalled to the communities that their voices were central to the decision-making process. This approach would have allowed for a more inclusive, co-design process, where the concerns and aspirations of landowners were incorporated into the planning and execution stages. Instead, by advancing plans before consultation, the TAT team risks alienating stakeholders and creating unnecessary opposition that could have been avoided with a more careful, consultative approach.

Another critical issue that has not been fully addressed in the planning of the Te Ara Tipuna Trail is the impact it may have on civil defence and emergency management efforts. In rural communities like those on the East Coast, the capacity for managing emergencies, whether they are natural disasters, health crises, or other unforeseen events, is already stretched. Introducing an increased volume of tourists, particularly in remote or isolated areas, adds a layer of complexity and risk that has not been adequately accounted for.

Who will be responsible for managing potential emergencies along the trail, particularly in areas that are difficult to access or where response times are slower due to the rural nature of the landscape? In the event of an accident, natural disaster, or even a medical emergency, it is critical to know who holds the responsibility for ensuring the safety of trail users and the local community. This includes not only first responders but also ensuring that local infrastructure can cope with the demands of an influx of tourists who may not be familiar with the area's hazards, terrain, or emergency protocols.

The landowners and trustees have raised legitimate concerns about who would be responsible for these emergencies and the potential strain on already limited local resources. In many cases, rural areas rely on volunteers, local fire brigades, and small medical facilities to manage emergencies, and they may not have the capacity to handle large-scale incidents involving outsiders. Furthermore, if the trail passes through areas that are prone to flooding, wildfires, or other natural disasters, the risk of harm to tourists, and the subsequent strain on local emergency services, increases exponentially.

Who would be liable if an emergency were to occur on the trail? Would the responsibility fall to the landowners whose land the trail traverses, or would it lie with the project developers, local councils, or another authority? This uncertainty poses a significant concern for those who are already responsible for the safety and well-being of their communities. Without clear and robust agreements in place to manage such risks, the trail could place undue pressure on rural emergency services that are already underfunded and under-resourced.

In conclusion, we strongly oppose the Te Ara Tipuna (TAT) Trail in its current form. The creation of new governance structures for the sole purpose of facilitating this project risks undermining the autonomy and cultural integrity of the whenua, potentially imposing external control over land that should be managed according to the values and traditions of iwi and hapū. Furthermore, the trail's proposed route threatens to disrupt and compromise landowners' existing and future projects that are vital to the economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of our communities.

We also have serious concerns regarding the lack of genuine consultation with all landowners and the potential for legal violations relating to Māori land rights. A development of this scale requires a process that is fair, transparent, and truly inclusive of all affected parties.

We respectfully request that the Gisborne District Council reject the resource consent application submitted by Te Ara Tipuna. We stand firm in our opposition to this track and call for the preservation of our whenua and our plans for its future development.

The voices of our tīpuna and our whānau today will continue to help us safeguard and guide the direction of our whenua, ensuring that our descendants can flourish for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Davina Walker

- Te Kopuni B2 Trust Trustee
- Te Kopuni B2 Block Descendant/Uri
- Kourateuwhi 4 Descendant/Uri
- Resident of Kaihua Road

Pa Sam Walker (Te Rangipureora Raiha Walker Whanau Trust)

- Te Kopuni B2 Block Shareholder/Owner
- Part Kopuatarakihi 1D2 Interim Committee Member/Shareholder

- Kourateuwhi 4 Shareholder/Owner
- Resident of Kaiaua Road

Roena Pani Walker (Te Rangipureora Raiha Walker Whanau Trust)

- Te Kopuni B2 Block Shareholder/Owner
- Part Kopuatarakihi 1D2 Shareholder

Raa Johnathan Walker (Te Rangipureora Raiha Walker Whanau Trust)

- Te Kopuni B2 Block Shareholder/Owner
- Part Kopuatarakihi 1D2 Shareholder

Janna-Leigh Walker (Te Rangipureora Raiha Walker Whanau Trust Descendant)

- Kopuatarakihi 1D2 (Interim Committee)
- Te Kopuni B2 Block Descendant/Uri
- Kourateuwhi 4 Descendant/Uri

Rochelle Walker (Te Rangipureora Raiha Walker Whanau Trust Descendant)

- Kopuatarakihi 1D2 (Interim Committee)
- Te Kopuni B2 Block Descendant/Uri
- Resident of Kaiaua Road