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Organisation if applicable Te Runanga o Te Whanau a Apanui Tribal Authority.

Comments My submission is to support the return of Recreational Reserves and all Reserves owned by the Opotiki District Council in the Te Whanau a Apanui district to the said Tribe's, Tribal Authority, Te Runanga o Te Whanau a Apanui, for my marae Pahaoa and hapuu Te Whanau a Kahu and Rangi i Runga.

The Recreational Reserve I am focused upon is in Whanarua Bay, it has an illegal road, (made public), cutting through it and a whanau urupa, where my tupuna were laid out when they died. The current state of the urupa is extremely sad. It must be stressed that the Recreational Reserve is currently being hosted by that public road/driveway.

The Recreational Reserve is a poor example of local government administration due to allowing the illegal road administered by the bach owners. The road accessway to the sea has helped sell the subdivision in Whanarua Bay begun by Bill Bloomfield in the late 1980s and early 90s.

The local government in charge of the baches getting built in the first place acted illegally, by allowing continual use of private land for access. The septic tanks and services are a huge problem with the continual divorced from reality view of their real situation. Fresh water availability has alternative means ie. rain water from roofs, yet people are still using private land to access from the Whanarua creek.

Above all, the quaint iconic Kiwi bach in a remote location where alternative measures -were encouraged in order to build have been replaced instead, by a 'little Ohope,' the buildings replicate the Ohope lifestyle, and a driveway all the way to the front door. It is a pleasure divorced from reality.

The reality is the bach owners should have made the roadway private and closed it to the public, because that is what they ideally want. If they say they want it open for Joe Public because of Opotiki Council Reserves they and the personnel in the Council are promoting a racist development, and it only conjures racist New Zealand history. The illegal roadway must be closed, it is unsafe and only provides access to people who are stripping the shellfish and seafood from the bay and it encourages trespassing nearby privately owned land. The huge heavy transporters of various descriptions for boats and people getting positioned on the beach nearby the Whanarua creek are churning over rocks and splitting and breaking them, resulting in a very untidy place. Littering is not getting checked by the bach owners in any effective way and the sunbathers and sea explorers are contributing to the problem.

There is a recent mobile phone aerial substation in Whanarua Bay, (although the locals are all on the land line), it serves the Maraehako campers, boaties and the baches. The mobile phone services should be a priority in order to help bach owners station their vehicles at an alternative location nearby to keep in contact with someone either at the waiting vehicle or bach. The bach owners must be encouraged to use their actual accessways and to walk the roadway they built, (I prefer that they refrain from walking over our urupa), whilst leaving their vehicles in another location nearby. They have to reduce their loads and to consider slowing down to a walking pace.

We must help resolve climate change by growing more trees, replenishing the sea life, the water bodies, encouraging indigenous people to be educated by nature in a freer sense, improving our lifestyles, walking and enjoying the outdoors unhindered.

A cleaner process to development has always been available to people yet it has meant a slower process, or just not a popular process eg. hemp building materials exempt from most modern day building. If that land was still owned by my whanau we may still have the same problems, I think the exploitation of little hideaways is part of the main stream culture of New Zealand, to be like Ohope.

My tribal whanau are completely apt at achieving a safer more connected environment to all of NZ.
Best regards.
