



# AGENDA

## RĀRANGI TAKE

NOTICE OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE

## Cycling and Walking Subcommittee

to be held on **15<sup>th</sup> February 2024** commencing at **3pm** in the Council Chambers, 36 Weld Street, Hokitika and via Zoom

---

<b>Chairperson</b>	Cr Davidson
<b>Members:</b>	
Cr Baird	Cr Gillett
Cr Neale	Kw Madgwick
Kw Tumahai	Cr J. O'Connor, Grey District Council
T. Brownlee, Manawa Energy	J. Wood, West Coast Wilderness Trail
J. Gurden, West Coast Wilderness Trail	O. Kilgour, Department of Conservation
I. Perkins, Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa; The Outdoor Access Commission	L. Anderson, Westland Mountain Bike Club

---



In accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, members may attend the meeting by audio or audio-visual link.

# Council Vision

*We work with the people of Westland to grow and protect our communities, our economy, and our unique natural environment.*

## Purpose

The Council is required to give effect to the purpose of local government as prescribed by section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That purpose is:

- (a) To enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- (b) To promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

### 1. **NGĀ WHAKAPAAHA APOLOGIES**

John Wood, Tim Brownlee, Jackie Gurden.

### 2. **WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Council and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to review the matters on the agenda and assess and identify where they may have a pecuniary or other conflict of interest, or where there may be a perception of a conflict of interest.

If a member feels they do have a conflict of interest, they should publicly declare that at the start of the meeting or of the relevant item of business and refrain from participating in the discussion or voting on that item. If a member thinks they may have a conflict of interest, they can seek advice from the Chief Executive or the Group Manager Corporate Services Risk and Assurance (preferably before the meeting). It is noted that while members can seek advice the final decision as to whether a conflict exists rests with the member.

### 3. **NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Section 46A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 states:

- (7) An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at the meeting if –
  - (a) the local authority by resolution so decides, and
  - (b) the presiding member explains at the meeting at a time when it is open to the public, -
    - (i) the reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
    - (ii) the reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.
- (7A) Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting, -
  - (a) that item may be discussed at the meeting if –
    - (i) that item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
    - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but

(b) No resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.

#### 4. **NGĀ MENETI O TE HUI KAUNIHERA MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

- **Cycling and Walking Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023** (Pages 4-8)

#### 5. **ACTION LIST**

Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

(Page 9)

#### 6. **NGĀ TĀPAETANGA PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

#### 7. **WRITTEN REPORTS**

<b>Economic and Performance Report, West Coast Wilderness Trail Trust Update</b> Jackie Gurden, Trail Manager, West Coast Wilderness Trail	(Pages 10-62)
<b>Grey District Council</b> Cr Jack O'Connor, Grey District Council	(Page 63)
<b>Manawa Energy</b> Tim Brownlee, Generation Site Leader West Coast, Manawa Energy Limited	(Page 64)
<b>Department of Conservation</b> Owen Kilgour, Operations Manager, Department of Conservation	(Page 65)
<b>Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa – The Outdoor Access Commission</b> Inger Perkins, Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa; The Outdoor Access Commission (Will provide a verbal report)	
<b>Westland Mountain Bike Club</b> Liam Anderson, Club President, Westland Mountain Bike Club	(Pages 66-68)

**DATE OF NEXT CYCLING AND WALKING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING – THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM**

# CYCLING & WALKING SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE CYCLING AND WALKING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY 16  
NOVEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 3.04PM

The Subcommittee Meeting was live-streamed to the Westland District Council Youtube Channel and presentations are made available on the council website.

## 1. MEMBERS PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Chairperson	Cr Davidson	
<b>Members</b>		
	Cr Burden	Cr Gillett (Zoom)
	Cr Neale (part of the meeting)	Cr J. O'Connor, Grey District Council
	O. Kilgour, Department of Conservation	J. Strange, Westland Mountain Bike Club (Zoom)
	J. Gurden, West Coast Wilderness Trail (Zoom)	I. Perkins, Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa; The Outdoor Access Commission

## NGĀ WHAKAPAAHA APOLOGIES

- Her Worship the Mayor
- Cr Neale for lateness
- L. Anderson, Westland Mountain Bike Club
- T. Brownlee, Manawa Energy
- J. Wood

## ABSENT

Kw Madgwick, Kw Tumahai

Moved Cr O'Connor, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that the apologies from Her Worship the Mayor, Cr Neale for lateness, T. Brownlee, Manawa Energy and J. Wood be received and accepted.

## STAFF PRESENT

S.R. Bastion, Chief Executive; S. Baxendale, Group Manager District Assets; T. Cook, Group Manager: Regulatory and Community Services; L. Crichton, Group Manager Corporate Services, Risk and Assurance; D. Maitland; Executive Assistant and Council Secretary, E. Rae, Strategy and Communications Advisor (via Zoom).

## 2. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Interest Register had been circulated via Microsoft Teams and email.  
There were no changes to the Interest Register noted.

## 3. NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no urgent items of business not on the Agenda.

#### 4. **NGĀ MENETI O TE HUI KAUNIHERA MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

The Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated separately via Microsoft Teams.

- **Cycling and Walking Subcommittee Meeting Minutes – 17 August 2023**

Moved I. Perkins, seconded Chair Davidson and **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Cycling and Walking Subcommittee Meeting held on 17 August 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

The Chairperson approved that their digital signature be added to the confirmed Cycling and Walking Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of 17 August 2023.

#### 5. **ACTION LIST**

Simon Bastion, Chief Executive spoke to the Action List and provided the following updates:

- Safety elements on the State Highway - Correspondence has been held with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency regarding safety improvements and this will be followed up.
- Pine Tree Road track connection – work is being undertaken in conjunction with Scott Baxendale, Group Manager District Assets on further steps regarding this item.
- Track Realignment behind the Hokitika Racecourse – discussions are ongoing. The funding application that was put forward was declined and further funding opportunities will be discussed.

Erle Bencich, Operations Manager spoke regarding the following:

- The Totara Bridge preliminary design has been completed.
- Viewing platform at the Mahinapua Lookout.

Moved O. Kilgour, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that the updated Action List, including the verbal update from Erle Bencich, Operations Manager be received.

*Cr Neale attended the meeting at 3.10 pm.*

#### 6. **NGĀ TĀPAETANGA PRESENTATIONS**

- **West Coast Wilderness Trail**

Melanie Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, Destination Westland Limited provided a verbal update via Zoom:

- A lot of maintenance items have been undertaken since the last meeting.
- Vegetation maintenance.
- Guidewire replacement on a bridge at Kumara.
- Spraying maintenance.

Moved Cr O'Connor, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that the verbal update from Melanie Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, Destination Westland Limited be received.

## 7. PŪRONGO KAIMAHI STAFF REPORTS

- **West Coast Wilderness Trail**

Jackie Gurden, Trail Manager; West Coast Wilderness Trail provided an update regarding the following:

- Projects nearing completion.
- Successful ride guide will be finished in mid-December.
- The updated website is nearing completion.
- An interpretation panel at Wards Road will be installed.
- Draft Strategic Plan prepared for the West Coast Wilderness Trust.
- The Trust is proposing to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the trail officially opening with a function on 16 December 2023 in conjunction with the opening of the Mahinapua Lookout.
- Attended the New Zealand Cycle Trail Forum in October.
- Ride the Wilderness Trail Event is on Saturday 18 November 2023.

Moved O. Kilgour, seconded Cr Neale and **Resolved** that:

1. The Report from Jackie Gurden, Trail Manager of the West Coast Wilderness Trail be received.

- **Grey District Council**

Cr Jack O'Connor from Grey District Council provided the following update:

- Grey District Council is currently working through the Long Term Plan for 2024-2034.
- Working with Sport Canterbury to develop a play, active recreation, and sport strategy.
- Road speed changes at Moana to enhance cycling and walking.
- Ride the Wilderness Trail Event on Saturday 18 November 2023.
- Flow Track developed at Blackball School.
- Cycling and Walking Workshop held on the 18 October 2023 facilitated by Joshua Sprott, Rangatahi Lead, Sport Canterbury
- Snap Send Solve App to report local issues to Councils is being used by Grey District Council.

Moved I. Perkins, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that:

1. The report from Cr Jack O'Connor, Grey District Council be received.

- **Department of Conservation**

Owen Kilgour, Operations Manager; Department of Conservation provided the following update:

- Mananui Tramline (Mahinapua Walkway) track resurfacing and structure upgrades and replacement are continuing.
- Mahinapua lookout project.
- Ride the Wilderness Trail Event on Saturday 18 November 2023.
- Hokitika Gorge – the track to access the original bridge has been closed off, and Department of Conservation staff are out talking to the public about the closure. Signage has been erected at the site, and positive feedback has been received from members of the public.
- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Department of Conservation and Westland District Council regarding the lower Hokitika Gorge Swingbridge Replacement Project.

Moved Cr Neale, seconded I. Perkins and **Resolved** that:

1. The report from Owen Kilgour, Operations Manager, Department of Conservation be received.

• **Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa The Outdoor Access Commission**

Inger Perkins, Regional Field Advisor, Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa The Outdoor Access Commission provided the following update:

- Hokitika Racecourse Development – Hub potential.
- Cycling and Walking Workshop held on 18 October 2023 and queried what the next steps will be.
- National Walking and Cycling Plans – Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.
- Pine Tree Road track connection.
- Ruatapu locked gate issue.

*The Chief Executive advised the following:*

- *Better off Funding proposal will be circulated to the Committee for their information.*
- *Discussions are continuing with Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) regarding the locked gate issue at Ruatapu.*

Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr O'Connor and **Resolved** that:

1. The report from Inger Perkins, Regional Field Advisor of Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa The Outdoor Access Commission be received.

• **Westland Mountain Bike Club**

John Strange, Club Member, Westland Mountain Bike Club provided the following update:

- Continue to move toward a design in the Blue Spur Forest from the end of Cement Lead Road for mountain biking access.
- The club was successful in obtaining grant funding.
- Trail maintenance is being undertaken as required.
- The Westland Mountain Bike Club and the Hokitika Cycling Club have put in a combined application for the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration for Westland combined cycle race for the Club and a Mountain Bike Race in the Blue Spur Forest with the intent of it becoming an annual event, depending on funding.

Moved Cr Neale, seconded I. Perkins and **Resolved** that:

1. The verbal update from John Stange, Committee Member, Westland Mountain Bike Club be received.

**8. KA MATATAPU TE WHAKATAUNGA I TE TŪMATANUI  
RESOLUTION TO GO INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

(to consider and adopt confidential items)

Moved Cr Davidson, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that the Cycling and Walking Subcommittee confirm that the public were excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 at 3.51 pm.

The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public are excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of the resolution are as follows:

Item No.	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1.	Confidential Minutes – 17 August 2023	Good reasons to withhold exist under Section 7	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) and (d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests or interests protected by section 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Item No.	Interest
1	Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons
1	Protect information where the making available of the information: (i) would disclose a trade secret; and (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information (Schedule 7(2)(b)).
1	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (Schedule 7(2)(i))

Moved O. Kilgour, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that the business conducted in the ‘Public Excluded Section’ be confirmed and accordingly, the meeting went back to the open part of the meeting at 4.00 pm.

**DATE OF NEXT CYCLING AND WALKING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING – TO BE CONFIRMED  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM**

**MEETING CLOSED AT 4.00 PM**

Confirmed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cr Paul Davidson  
Chair

Date:

## 15.02.24 – Cycling and Walking Subcommittee Action List

Date of Meeting	COMPLETED IN PROGRESS OVERDUE	Item	Action	Completion Date/Target Date	Officer	Status	
<b>West Coast Wilderness Trail</b>							
1.	13.10.20		Mahinapua Historic Bridge – Highway Crossing	The CE to provide an update to the Subcommittee about progress made on a safer crossing at the Mahinapua Historic Bridge, across the highway from the golf course.	December 2020	CE/S. Baxendale	Site visit in March and Stantec commissioned to complete a new design incorporating hazard management. Stantec provided a draft review at the July 2021 meeting. Need to be considered for additional funding via the annual plan process. To be reviewed as part of the next MGR funding round Discussions with NZTA are ongoing.
2.	13.04.21		WCWT Trail exiting onto state highway 6.	Assess zones down the trail that exit onto the state highway.	July 2021	CE/S. Baxendale	Further hazard assessments to be completed as part of a larger safety audit for the trail.  To be included as part of a wider safety review in conjunction with Jackie Gurden, Trail Manager, Destination Westland and Council staff. Focus on the trail area on the south side of the Taramakau. Progress has been made with a full hazard analysis program for the trail and create a WCWT Hazard Register. Expect this to be workshopped with council staff initially prior to including wider stakeholders. Workshop date yet to be set.
3.	19.05.22		Pine Tree Road Connection	formal report comes back to the next Cycling and Walking Subcommittee with scope of project, design, and costings	18/8/22	S. Baxendale	The CE meet with Inger Perkins and confirmed that council is not in a position to provide funding for this project but supports it in principal.
4.	07.03.23		Track Realignment behind racecourse	That Council action to investigate a proposed realignment behind the Racecourse near Brickfield Road.		S. Bastion / S Baxendale.	A Tourism Infrastructure Fund application has been declined.



Date: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024

To: Cycling and Walking Sub-committee Meeting Paper

From: West Coast Wilderness Trail Manager

---

## **Subject: West Coast Wilderness Trail Trust Update**

Summer is here and the trail has been busy. Along with welcoming domestic visitors, international visitors are back. I am continually meeting up with Australians, Germans, British, Americans and Dutch riders, to name just the main countries riders are coming from. There also seem to be a large number of international riders who are bikepacking and informally riding the Tour Aotearoa (TA), or part of it.

**10 Year Celebrations** - 2023 was the Trail's 10<sup>th</sup> year of operation. This was celebrated with a well attended event to open the Mahinapua Lookout and the launch of our Accessible Ride Guide on the 16<sup>th</sup> December. West Coast Tasman MP Maureen Pugh cut the ribbon on the platform and led the speeches. I extend a thank you on behalf of the Trust to everyone who supported this.

**Mahinapua Viewing Platform** – With the structure completed, the Trust is now working on interpretation panels for the platform and potentially also a bike stand. One panel will contain information on the view and the history of the area, including the Maori history as prepared by Paul Madgewick. A second panel is proposed to be in the form of a painting by Mark Neilson on the natural environment.

**Accessible Ride Guide** - We were thrilled to launch the guide in December. This has been in planning for over a year. Before the launch we began the collection of video imagery of riders on different adaptive bikes and vehicles going over the trickier sections of the trail. Our aim is to add to the written guide with images of all the areas considered pinch points to enable riders to make their decisions on the sections they can ride. We thank Ross Ormsby, Bernard Mahuika, Greg Mooney, Natalie Gauld and our team of able-bodied riders who have all helped with this project. I prepared national media articles on this. It was picked up by a number of papers including Stuff, thus giving this project some good coverage.

The guide is a free downloadable document on the website that will be updated regularly at the link below. <https://www.westcoastwildernesstrail.co.nz/other-information/accessibility-information/>

Our Trust is also looking at running a small pilot event being planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> March on the Hokitika/Ross section. We will work with those who are keen to be involved to plan the actual route. It is more of a social ride, not a race.

**Grey District Council Section** – Paddy Blanchfield has now taken up the Transport and Infrastructure Manager position. John and I met with Paddy before Christmas. I rode the section with him last week and we plan to prepare a schedule of maintenance work and projects.

**NZCT Survey** – We had a student on the trail taking email addresses for some of the holidays. A copy of the main data from February is attached. The feedback from riders is fairly consistent.

**New Brochures** – We are about to undertake the preparation of a new brochure.

**E-bike Charging Stations on the Trail** – One of the actions for the Government in the 100-point Economic Plan is to electrify the New Zealand Cycle Trail (NZCT). The Government proposes to contribute \$3 million from the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) to co-invest in e-bike charging infrastructure. On MBIE's request, we have sought feedback on this and supplied them with feedback from operators and stakeholders. We haven't found any real current demand and our sections are easily short enough for people to ride them and charge each night at their accommodation. Those camping are most likely to require these as the voltage in their motor homes is not always sufficient and a number use Hokitika Cycles and Sports. We have indicated that there are larger priorities, especially around Health and Safety, and that issues of ownership and maintenance would exist. In response to their question on potential locations, a number were put forward. Clearly, we want to keep up with the level and standard of infrastructure on the Great Rides network, however cost, ownership, maintenance and future demand are key considerations.

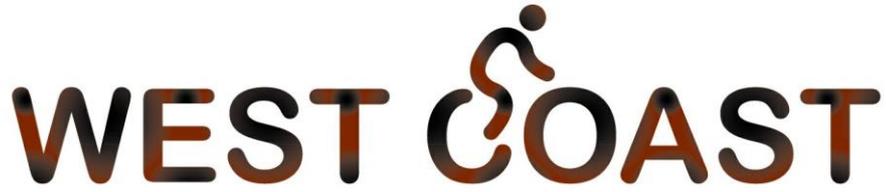
**Gentle Annie Track Construction Begins** – We note this new trail is now under construction led by the Kumara Junction Community Inc. The current work involves scraping out the trail, then installing culverts followed by the full construction. While not formally part of the Wilderness Trail, it will form a very nice diversion for those wanting a little more riding. As this progresses there will be some occasional vehicle movements on this section of the trail. Signs will be in place and riders advised to keep away from the site.

**Communications** – Trail Facebook messages (including alerts), media releases and e-Newsletters are continuously undertaken to keep everyone who wants to, up to date with the trail happenings.

Jackie Gurden

Trail Manager

# WEST COAST



W I L D E R N E S S   T R A I L

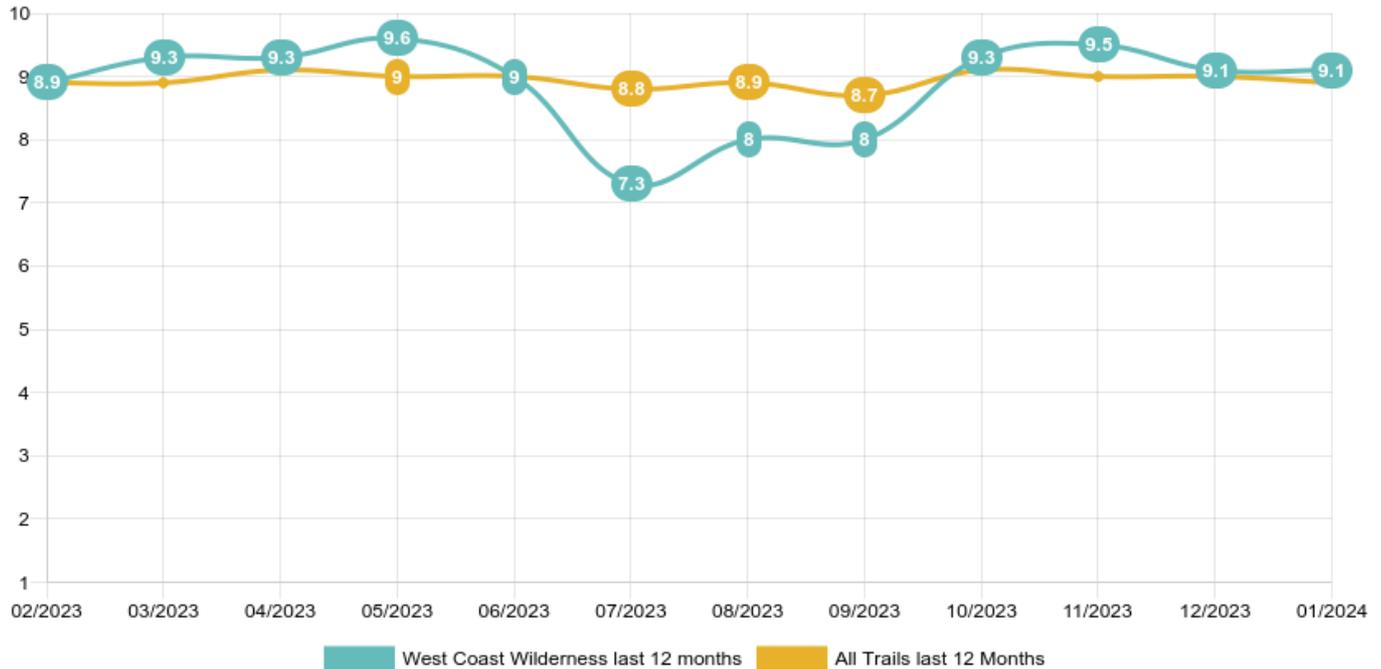
## Monthly Report for Trail Managers

### Creation Date

Thursday 1st of February 2024

## Overall Satisfaction

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Overall Satisfaction - My Trail

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)

### West Coast Wilderness last 12 months

	Total Sample	02/2023	03/2023	04/2023	05/2023	06/2023	07/2023
Sample Size (n)	484	66	86	93	29	5	3
Average	9.2	8.9	9.3	9.3	9.6	9	7.3

### West Coast Wilderness last 12 months

	Total Sample	08/2023	09/2023	10/2023	11/2023	12/2023	01/2024
Sample Size (n)	484	5	2	45	17	22	111
Average	9.2	8	8	9.3	9.5	9.1	9.1

## Overall Satisfaction - All Trails

All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)

### All Trails last 12 Months

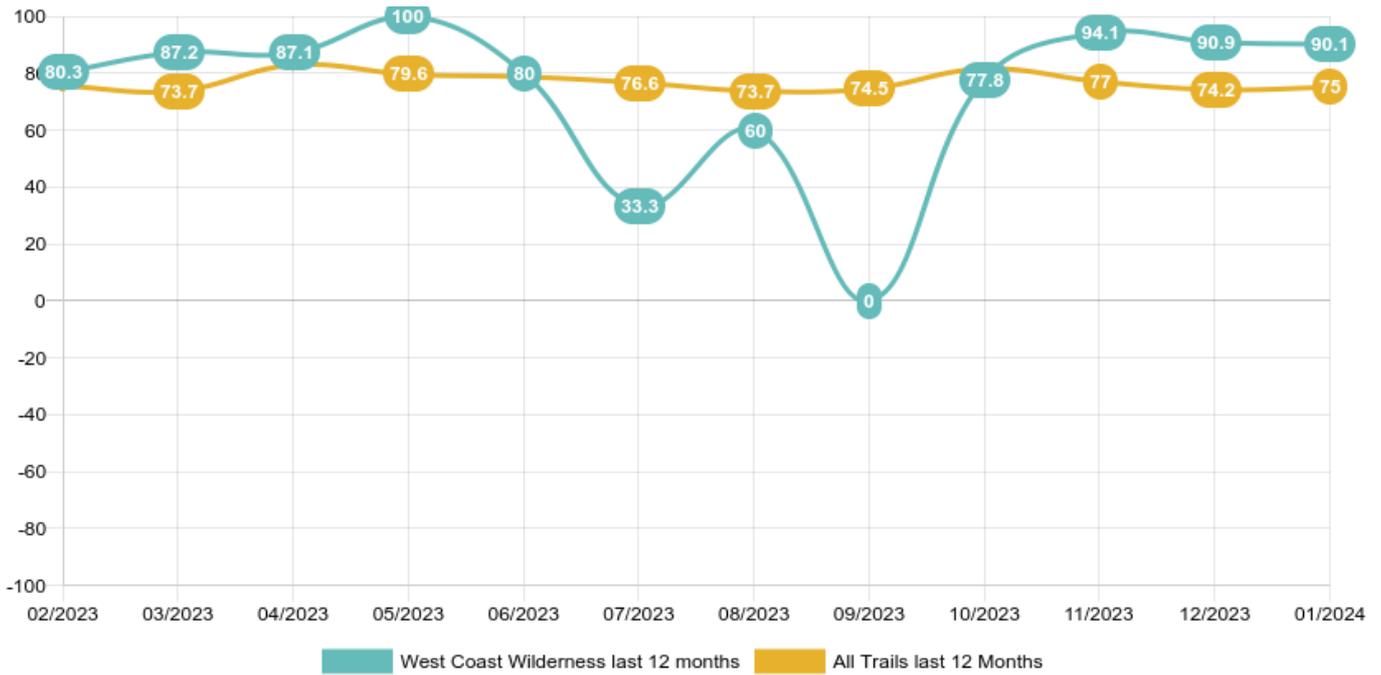
	Total Sample	02/2023	03/2023	04/2023	05/2023	06/2023	07/2023
Sample Size (n)	6800	705	966	629	504	239	304
Average	8.9	8.9	8.9	9.1	9	9	8.8

### All Trails last 12 Months

	Total Sample	08/2023	09/2023	10/2023	11/2023	12/2023	01/2024
Sample Size (n)	6800	156	322	459	636	616	1264
Average	8.9	8.7	8.8	9.1	9	9	8.9

# Net Promoter Score©

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Net Promoter Score© - My Trail

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)

### West Coast Wilderness last 12 months

	Total Sample	02/2023	03/2023	04/2023	05/2023	06/2023	07/2023
Sample Size (n)	484	66	86	93	29	5	3
Net Promoter Score© (NPS)	86.2	80.3	87.2	87.1	100	80	33.3

### West Coast Wilderness last 12 months

	Total Sample	08/2023	09/2023	10/2023	11/2023	12/2023	01/2024
Sample Size (n)	484	5	2	45	17	22	111
Net Promoter Score© (NPS)	86.2	60	0	77.8	94.1	90.9	90.1

## Net Promoter Score© - All Trails

All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)

### All Trails last 12 Months

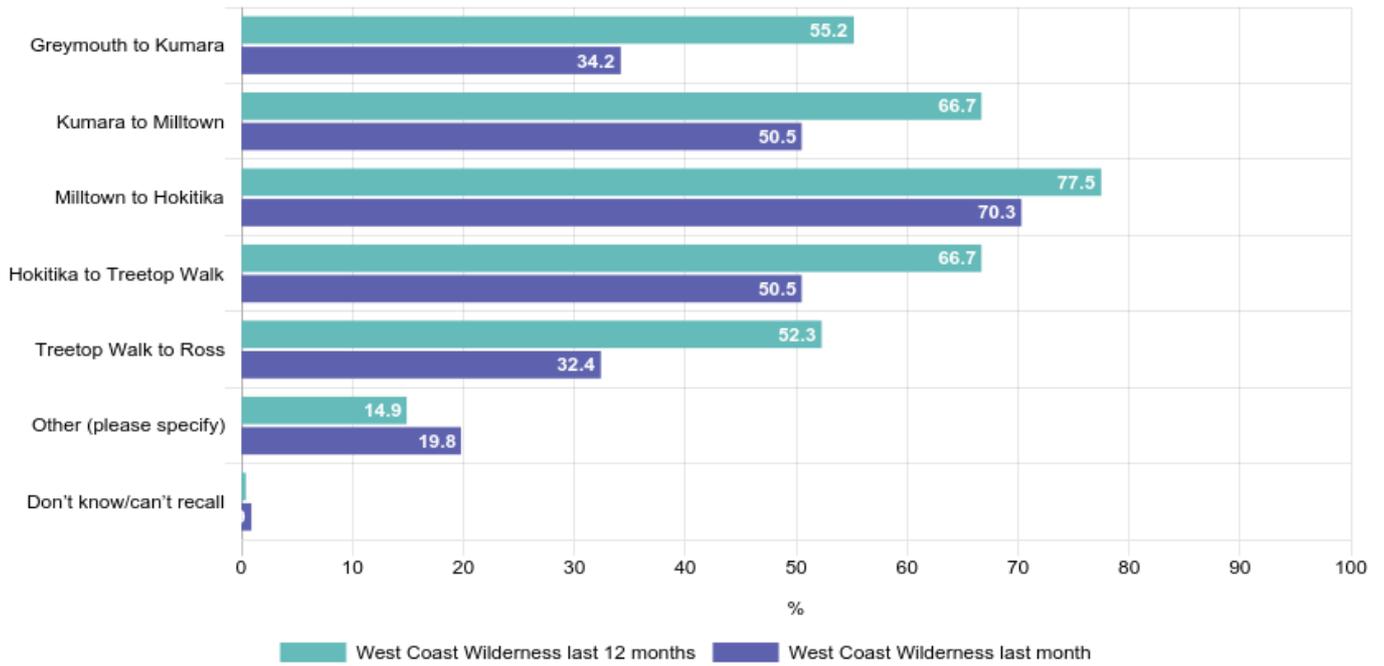
	Total Sample	02/2023	03/2023	04/2023	05/2023	06/2023	07/2023
Sample Size (n)	6800	705	966	629	504	239	304
Net Promoter Score© (NPS)	76.6	75.5	73.7	82.8	79.6	78.7	76.6

### All Trails last 12 Months

	Total Sample	08/2023	09/2023	10/2023	11/2023	12/2023	01/2024
Sample Size (n)	6800	156	322	459	636	616	1264
Net Promoter Score© (NPS)	76.6	73.7	74.5	81.5	77	74.2	75

## Trail Sections Experienced

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)



## Trail Sections Experienced

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	West Coast Wilderness last month
Sample Size (n)	484	111
	%	%
Greymouth to Kumara	55.2	34.2
Kumara to Milltown	66.7	50.5
Milltown to Hokitika	77.5	70.3
Hokitika to Treetop Walk	66.7	50.5
Treetop Walk to Ross	52.3	32.4
Other (please specify)	14.9	19.8
Don't know/can't recall	0.4	0.9

## Highlights (Last Month)



## Highlights (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 87)

#	Highlights
1	the sections when you drive through the native forest
2	Enjoyed the Kumara to Milltown section. xxx is the only thing to ruin the whole trip, such as missed opportunity to sell coffees etc and show a bit of West Coast hospitality.
3	beautiful and well maintained trail! loved reading about the alpine fault, and the trail section straight after cowboys paradise (heading towards Hokitika) was so much fun!
4	Cycling through the bush, being close to nature.
5	going through the bush enjoying bird sound, water. not so much the road.
6	seeing behind the main roads and the big downhill
7	Very clearly signposted. No stress.
8	Really well maintained track and the option of going for a swim after a walk
9	Scenery
10	the scenery
11	family experience, landscapes
12	Gravel tracks through bush / wilderness
13	overall it's a wonderful facility
14	Scenery exceptional and trail very interesting with some steep bits, windy bits, bridges and board walks thrown in along with some wider tracks and some road work. Although we are doing the whole trail on the day of the survey we were doing the part from after Kumara to Hokitika. I would definitely recommend going this way especially for those who do not have an E-bike as passed some people that I felt were going to really struggle. Also xxx i would not recommend as place looked empty and uninviting and did not have any signage advertising was open for food so we cycled on past and the feedback we had from other cyclists was to avoid the place.
15	best sections were the Lake Kaniere water race to the flume, & the section to the treetops from Hokitika
16	loved the scenery. felt track was varied and in good condition.
17	All was excellent
18	There is lots of variety on the trail and beautiful scenery so you never get bored.
19	dogs not on leads, scares me, and trying to avoid dog turd, and motorbikes and quad bikes, pass me too fast, push me off the trail.
20	trail is in superb condition, and obviously very well maintained. this is our second time using it.
21	The changing terrain and scenery is a stand out
22	Beautiful rides and native birds eg weka
23	east access. peaceful. meeting visitors to the area enjoying the trail.
24	the improvements made along Kaniere water race are fantastic
25	it was amazing!!!! so wonderful for bikepacking
26	The track heading to Lake Mahinapua & the Water Race Track - through beautiful native bush & a bit of history. Biking the old Railway down to Ross was an interesting bit of history too. If it hadn't been for the few interpretation boards we would never have realized the train history
27	The trail quality, user friendly, good information along the way, track width for two riders
28	Quality of trail surface and awesome scenery/outdoor environment
29	nice scenery and weather.

- 
- 30 Always love every section of the trail we do. Keep up the maintenance and this will remain a success and highlight in the area for years. Thank you
- 
- 31 spending quality time with my sister
- 
- 32 scenery and treetops walk
- 
- 33 I very much enjoyed the people I met along the way. Everyone was very supportive. We came from the USA to ride this trail - and found it to be a GREAT experience.
- 
- 34 The off road sections e.g. Kumara to Milltown and Treetops to Hokitika. Treetops walk.
- 
- 35 The scenery is second to none. the changing landscapes were amazing and we really enjoyed getting a local perspective on the area from everyone we met. the locals are so friendly!
- 
- 36 Unique history and native bush
- 
- 37 the scenery - great way to experience a beautiful part of the country
- 
- 38 the scenery
- 
- 39 I appreciate the work that has gone into creating a top quality trail through such a spectacular landscape
- 
- 40 Outstanding scenery. The section of the trail between Milltown and Cowboy Paradise was one beautiful - one of the most beautiful places I have ever been.
- 
- 41 good track & scenery
- 
- 42 showing some visitors our area
- 
- 43 The bush setting was lovely
- 
- 44 the bike ride itself and the tree Top walk
- 
- 45 the trees
- 
- 46 Lovely trail. Great to see a volunteer out getting info for this survey. It shows there is a community dedicated to the trail and the area, keeping it as a great resource for many. This survey also reminded me that I haven't yet made the trail donation so must do that now!
- 
- 47 The gold mining history and infrastructure in the area. Scenery was amazing
- 
- 48 awesome and varied landscape
- 
- 49 Section from Hokitika to Kumara, great variety of scenery, nice trail, felt remote. Great work with switch backs up to the pass which made it possible to cycle all the way up without any steep gradients resulting in pushing bike.
- 
- 50 the section from milltown to cowboys. great switch backs , scenery & plants
- 
- 51 The new history signage next to the wheel house
- 
- 52 The varied landscapes and the amount of thought that has gone into the trail to take cyclists through such beautiful places. The connection to the water all the way through the trip. A world class cycle trail which I am recommending to anyone who will listen! The kids loved it, breaking it up into 20 - 30km segments worked well and having a mix of camping and accommodation was good too. Incredible time.
- 
- 53 track condition signage
- 
- 54 The swim in Lake Kaniere
- 
- 55 The stunning scenery and variety the trail offered.
- 
- 56 compared to other trails, this trail has such a nice surface to ride. And the more remote sections, i.e. Milltown - Kumara are very beautiful
- 
- 57 beautiful scenery
- 
- 58 well formed track with good scenery

- 59 A great three days. The middle day - Hokitika to Kumara - was especially good. Fantastic scenery and a great feeling of wilderness. Incredible bush The Tramway from Ross was dull and forgettable. Signage was excellent until reaching the coast just north of Kumara where it was either non-existent or had faded away. Loved having the kilometre markers. The stretch of track near the main road was noisy and dull. xxxx did an excellent job looking after us and are highly recommended. They really cared. xxxxx was spooky and threatening. Ideally the track would by-pass this property. Alternatively, it would be good if it was more appealing to passers-by. An outlet for potable water somewhere around the Weirs would be welcome.
- 60 scenery, good trail that was within our ability (we are not overly experienced on bikes) and overall really good experience
- 61 Beautiful varied scenery - those water races are amazing.
- 62 Beautiful scenery
- 63 The forest/bush sections are the best
- 64 The trail was well maintained and well signposted; the scenery was beautiful. It was just an excellent day on the bike and I really enjoyed it.
- 65 The scenery
- 66 The bush sections were my favorite
- 67 bush,
- 68 Scenery (bush, rivers, sea views), old mine workings ...
- 69 love the bush. love the history. great trail. many thanks
- 70 I can ride from my home right into town to sunset Point with only crossing the road once. I will not ride under the bridge as it is a bit steep both sides.
- 71 scenery, high quality of the track and signage
- 72 Scenery at Milltown was exceptional. Fun sections of trail between Milltown and Hokitika.
- 73 beautiful native bush
- 74 section before and after cowboys paradise kumara historic hotel accomadation section from tree tops in forest
- 75 The Wilderness Trail is a fantastic facility for visitors, but as importantly for residents. I regularly use it when Blue Spur trails are too wet to ride.
- 76 exceeded expectations. stunning scenery, excellent trail conditions and very well signposted
- 77 wild environment and lack of houses
- 78 biking waterways
- 79 Scenery, nice grade. Change in view ie mountains, lakes, sea, river and streams.
- 80 being in my 70s and having the confidence to ride the trail. Everyone says hello.if the bike malfunctioned or I fell There is always someone coming along soon after.
- 81 Lake Kaniere was beautiful I liked to ride and have a view of the mountains
- 82 It is very close to my house and town center but it feels as though you are on a bush walk
- 83 Really love the section from behind Lake Mahinapua to Hokitika As well as the section up by lake Kaniere with the exception of the road ride.
- 84 the scenery and views from the trail
- 85 The trail bits that were in native bush
- 86 the forest
- 87 Loved it & had a great time. Very Happy!!

## Opportunities (Last Month)



#	Opportunities
1	More time to enjoy more
2	nothing
3	less wind
4	Less fatigued. WCWT was day 9 of a bikepacking trip.
5	More trails
6	NA
7	no road
8	More distances on map for shorter segments
9	nothing. itks great the way it is, apart from the owner at xxxx.
10	Probably a good cafe at xxxx would have been great for a lot of cyclists as pretty much near half way point on that section. But wasn't an issue for us as we had enough food and water anyway. We thoroughly loved this section as scenery was just suburb and saw lots of Weka. Thought amazing work had been done to provide such good surface on the tracks.
11	x
12	being able to stay off the road from the Flume pass the power generation & the bit on the road through Kanierere. in other words completely off road from Hokitika to lake Kanierere. also a few more toilets on the trail.
13	I came off my bike on tight zig zag. there was signage it was steep. maybe a sign mentioning to dismount if unsure
14	Can't say there was anything
15	ban motorbikes, quad bikes and dogs
16	N/a
17	Good weather
18	Removing the barriers - some needed a lift over. The one between Milltown and Cowboy Paradise very tricky, needed 2 people to get the three wheeler over it.

## Opportunities (Last Month)

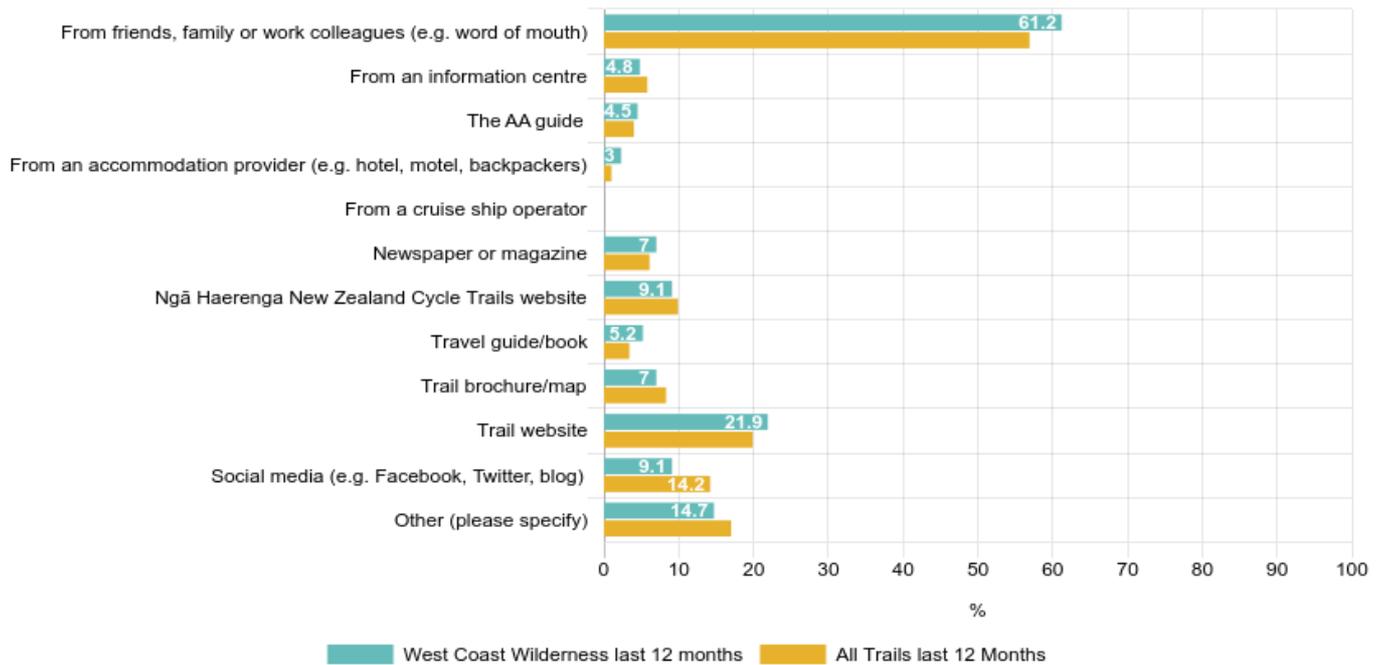
19	easy access. peaceful. meeting visitors enjoying the trail	West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 79)
20	more needs to be done at xxxxx. it is a missed opportunity for a fantastic tourist experience (and for locals!) currently it honestly feels awkward at best, and unsafe at times	
21	some water refill stations would be nice	
22	Maybe signage to slow the lycra clad cyclists down. Some were going far too fast. Also a toilet near the old mill at lake Mahinapua would have been handy	
23	Maybe more seating areas for rest stops , picnics , etc	
24	more accomodation options at Milltown	
25	nothing.	
26	nothing	
27	a coffee cart at Lake Kaniere would have been very welcomed	
28	places to buy food snd coffee such as a coffee cart	
29	A bit more sunny weather! ;-) We understand that it is the West Coast of NZ - and were prepared.	
30	Having more accommodation options on the trail, particularly around Milltown. We were offended by the xenophobic signs near Milltown.	

31	As vegans, we found it a little difficult finding food options at restaurants / accommodation. We managed overall but were surprised how few people knew what vegan meant. Only comment on toilets was that it would be good to have a couple more options between Lake Kaniere and Kumara.
32	It would have been nice to be able to bike the whole trail without intervention i.e. being picked up and taken to starting points.
33	more dog access .... the limitations should not apply to all parts of the trail
34	We got a puncture on the trail and didn't have a pump (had hired bikes). Could have pump stations along the trail at various points for emergencies?
35	n/a
36	n/a
37	A few more tables/seats along the way? I don't recall seeing any between the top of the switchbacks out of Milltown, and the Kawhaka intake
38	nothing.
39	nothing
40	na
41	If I had time to do the whole track, just did 2 sections while staying with family in Hokitika, but really enjoyed that
42	nothing really
43	actually finding the blue mushrooms (unsuccessful)
44	Knowing that Trappers Rest was no longer an active camping ground. Google doesn't have any updates so we presumed we were arriving to an active camp. We chose not to stay at xxxxx as had not received great reviews regarding the primary person managing it, and Trappers Rest sounded lovely. But I still wouldn't say it made the experience negative in any way, we still had a lovely night at Trappers Rest albeit a little unusual.
45	Doesn't get much better, one of the best trails I have cycled
46	Restaurant/supermarket at trail
47	We started from Lake Kaniere and rode towards Kanire but took the wrong track and ended up pushing our bikes (heavy e bikes) up and down stairs, so we turned back.
48	nothing it was perfect
49	Slightly less thick tyres on the mountain bikes as they were fairly slow going on such a well maintained trail but really a minor complaint.
50	nothing
51	nothing
52	We did have 1 day of rain but that's all part of the experience :-)
53	I'm used to riding on the road, but the section on Lake Kaniere road is still a bit disconcerting with the narrow winding road and one-lane bridges.
54	more time
55	something more around cowboys to break up the trip
56	N/A
57	more spots for picnic, and better toilets
58	Better bug repellent and better rain jackets :)
59	Road safety is a big concern especially on Lake Kaniere Road, Hokitika side of Kennedy's Creek on the crest of the rise that goes around the corner and there is hardly any shoulder to bike in. An accident waiting to happen.

- 
- 60 the section between Kumara and Hokitika had little options for hospitality. xxxx is an ideal location for a stop - however didn't feel comfortable to stop, and no food and beverage options. An incredible opportunity for development. Would really be a highlight to come to in the middle of a trail back country.
- 
- 61 xxx was a bit sinister, but no issues there.
- 
- 62 there was a sign missing and we missed the turn to the lake. Got very lost, out of range, difficult steep and rocky road.
- 
- 63 On the stretch from Hokitika to Lake Kaniere, it would be good to have the road section 'separated' from traffic ...
- 
- 64 nothing
- 
- 65 An easier option to cross over the road without going under the bridge but it's really no problem. We just ride down the grass toward the railway line and along the track. the fence there is useless. We go around it like everyone else.
- 
- 66 wish Lake track section south of Hokitika had been open
- 
- 67 In places there could be better signage. We missed some turns. Lives up to its name as a "Wilderness" trail in a way -- there aren't many places to get something to eat or drink along the trail. But it's not really wilderness like we've experienced in other parts of the world (western US and southern Chile) where there are areas where there are no buildings or paved roads. Good to advise people to pack in their own food and water.
- 
- 68 More birds - need more trapping / predator control
- 
- 69 3x40 k days would be ideal
- 
- 70 Be great to see more of the Hurunui Jack's to Kaniere off road if possible
- 
- 71 the secyion around Lake Mahinapua not being closed. such a shame to detour around in (Sunday 21 January)
- 
- 72 a few historical / info panels to learn local culture / gold mining stories
- 
- 73 nothing
- 
- 74 My fitness
- 
- 75 Track too narrow near lake Kaniere (difficult when there were other cycles / hikers). Cars were driving too fast near me on the road and I felt uncomfortable
- 
- 76 N/A
- 
- 77 I feel as if it would be far more enjoyable and safer if the section going to lake Kaniere had been entirely by trail instead of the long segments on road with very little shoulder.
- 
- 78 the high water bypass - track closed - behind mahinapua - on 21 jan was a real downer but cant be helped. really sad to have had to divert sdown main road
- 
- 79 cafe at Kumara opening earlier

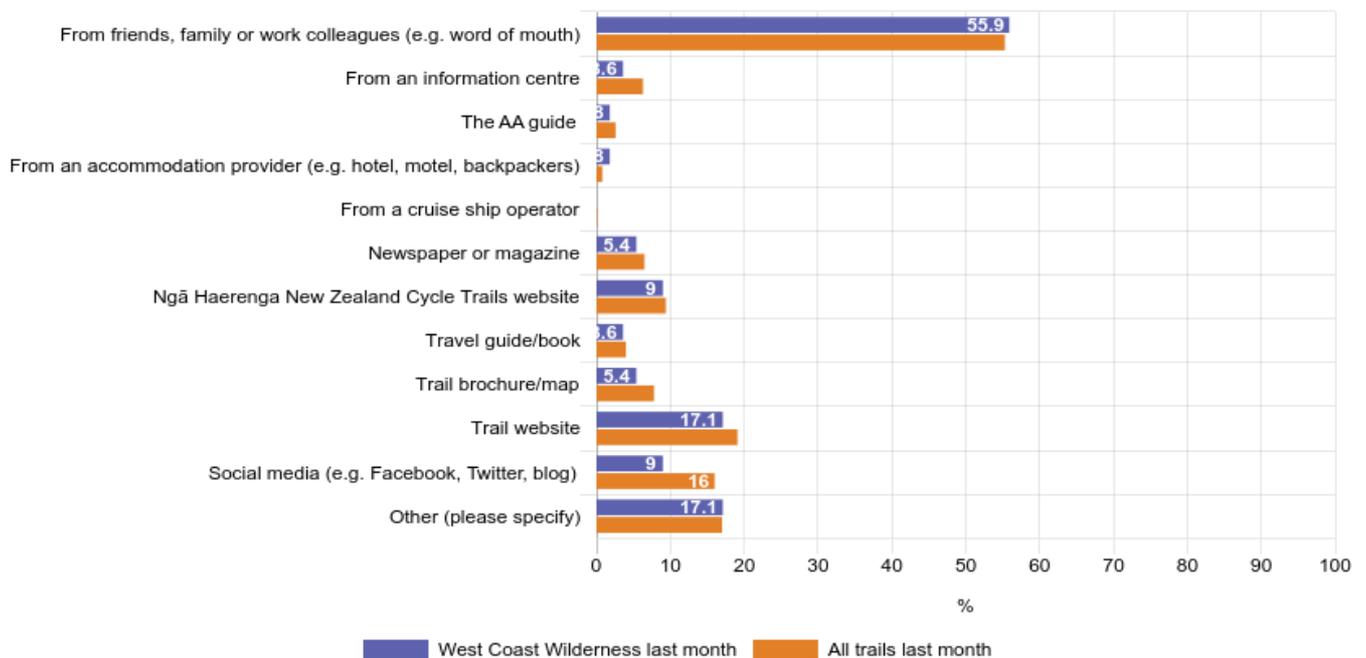
## Channels generating awareness (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Channels generating awareness (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



## Channels generating awareness

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	%	%	%	%
From friends, family or work colleagues (e.g. word of mouth)	61.2	56.9	55.9	55.3
From an information centre	4.8	5.8	3.6	6.3
The AA guide	4.5	4	1.8	2.6
From an accommodation provider (e.g. hotel, motel, backpackers)	2.3	1	1.8	0.8
From a cruise ship operator	0	0	0	0.1
Newspaper or magazine	7	6.1	5.4	6.5
Ngā Haerenga New Zealand Cycle Trails website	9.1	9.9	9	9.4
Travel guide/book	5.2	3.4	3.6	4
Trail brochure/map	7	8.3	5.4	7.8
Trail website	21.9	19.9	17.1	19.1
Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, blog)	9.1	14.2	9	16
Other (please specify)	14.7	17	17.1	17

## Channels generating awareness comments (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 19)

#	Other
1	walked a part of it from Greymouth to Paroa a number of times
2	I live in Hokitika and its part of our community...
3	local - live in area
4	local knowledge - we live near the trail
5	Local knowledge live in hokitika.
6	Internet search
7	Have a bach across the road from it!
8	tour aotearoa
9	we live locally next to the trail
10	Kennet Brothers cycle trails book
11	The Kennett brothers book on NZ Cycle Trails
12	have a property along the track
13	local
14	we've done the trail a few years ago. love it and have recommended it to many people since then
15	Internet search for things to do in New Zealand
16	I live in Hokitika, so word of mouth and news media
17	we live at xxx Kanieri Tramway
18	I live close to it
19	We do a bike ride each year on the Sth Island & we are just working our way through the rides that interest us

## Local or visitor to area

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)



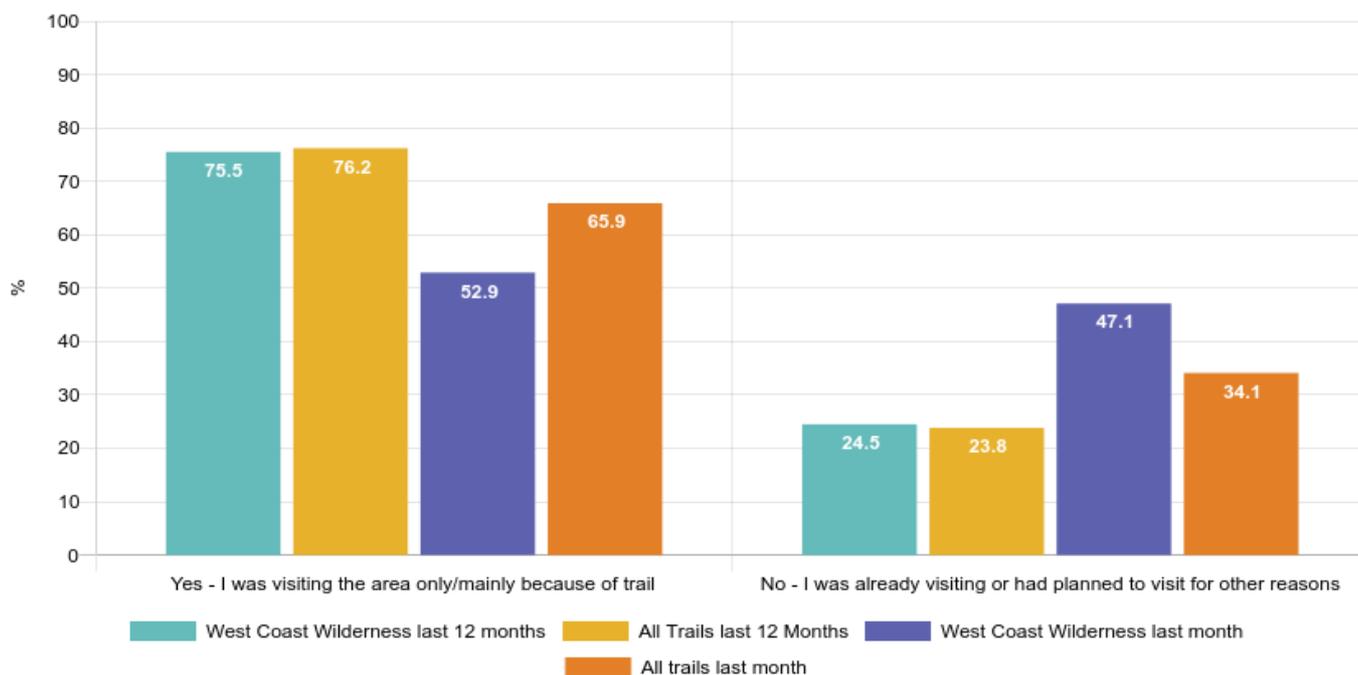
## Local or visitor to area

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size</b>				
<b>(n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>I live in the area</b>	9.7	31.1	23.4	32.7
<b>I was visiting the area</b>	90.3	68.9	76.6	67.3

## Main reason for visit

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 437)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 4685)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 85)  
 All trails last month (n = 851)



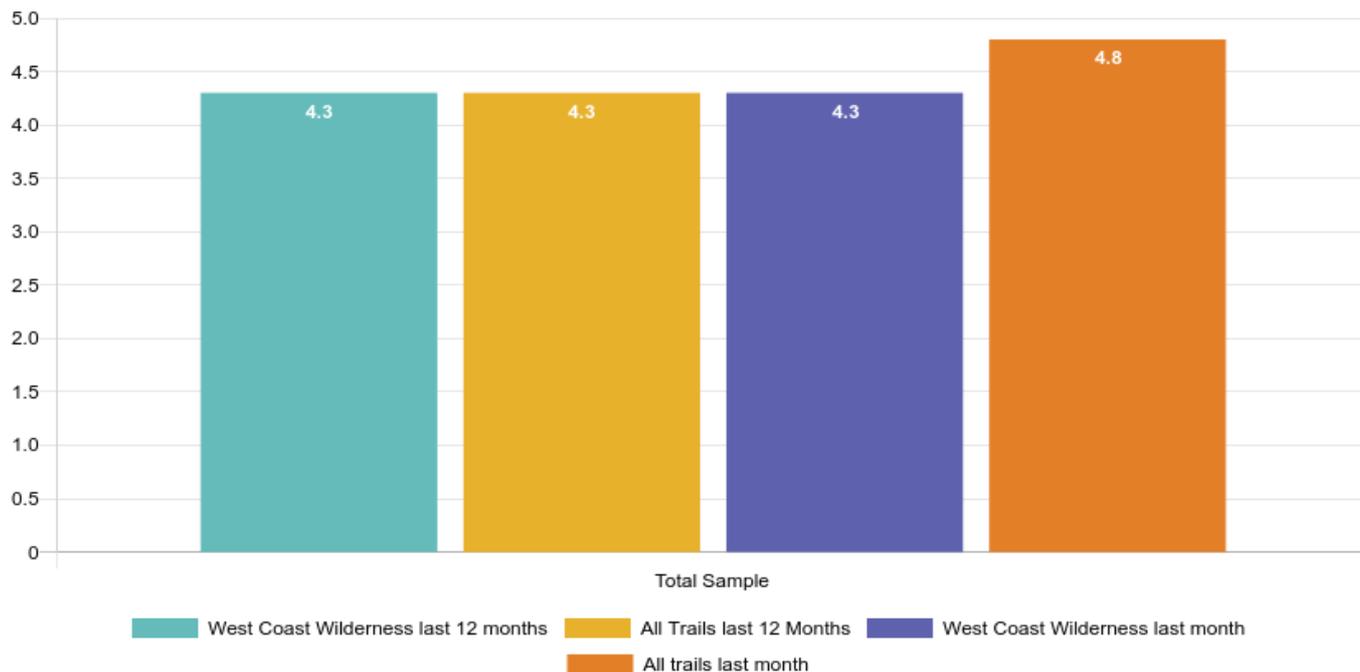
## Main reason for visit

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 437)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 4685)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 85)  
 All trails last month (n = 851)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>4685</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>851</b>
	%	%	%	%
<b>Yes - I was visiting the area only/mainly because of trail</b>	75.5	76.2	52.9	65.9
<b>No - I was already visiting or had planned to visit for other reasons</b>	24.5	23.8	47.1	34.1

## Average nights stayed in the area

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)



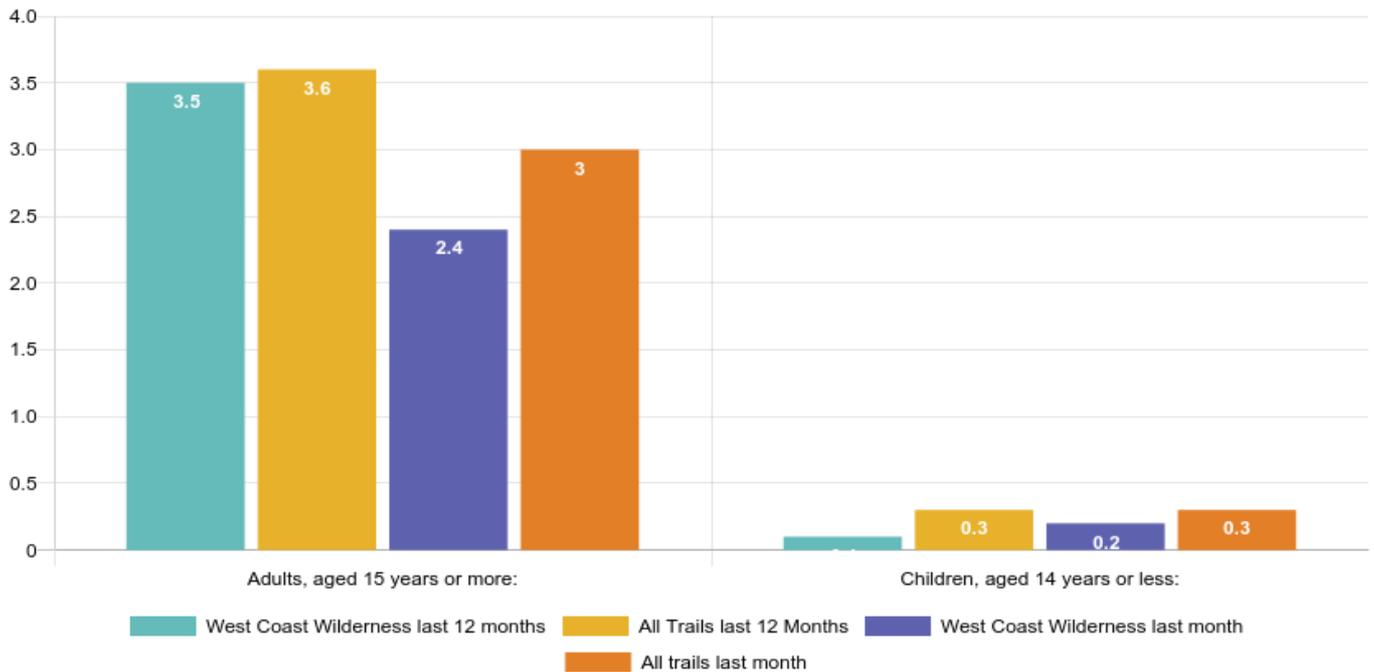
## Average nights stayed in the area

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample</b>				
<b>Size (n)</b>	484	6800	111	1264
<b>Average</b>	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.8

## Travel Party Size

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)



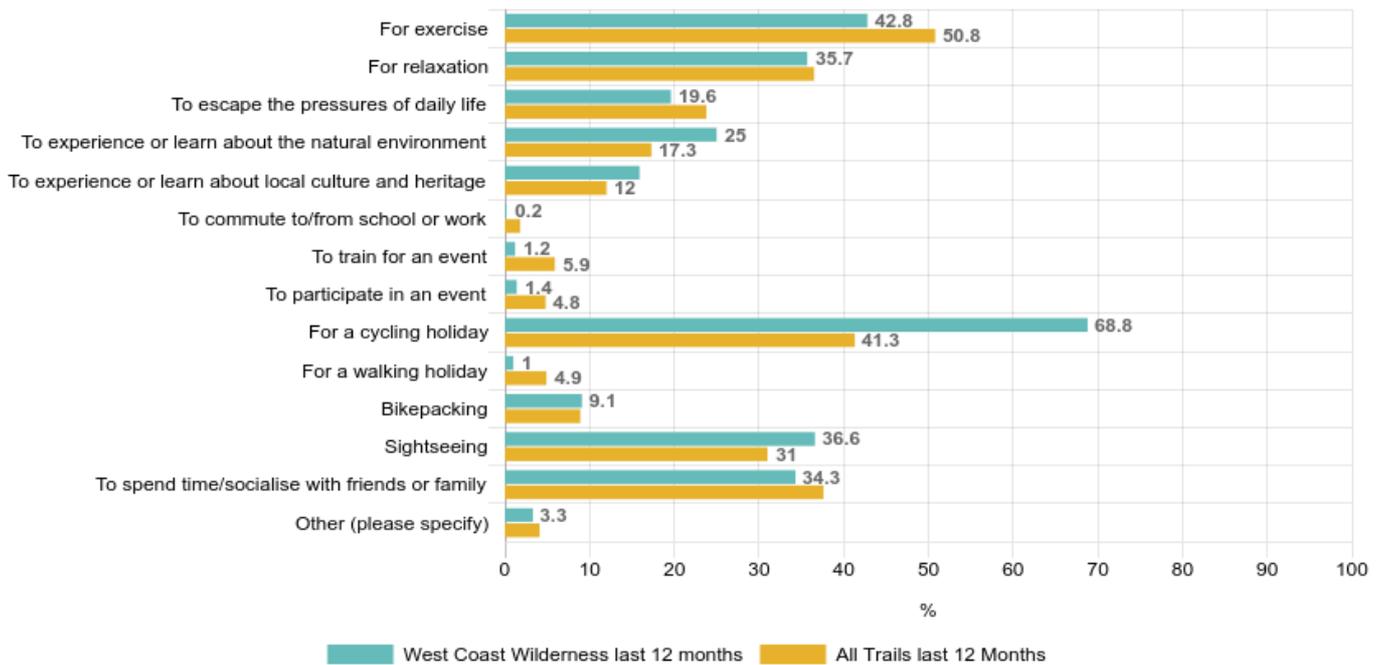
## Travel Party Size

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>Adults, aged 15 years or more:</b>	3.5	3.6	2.4	3
<b>Children, aged 14 years or less:</b>	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3

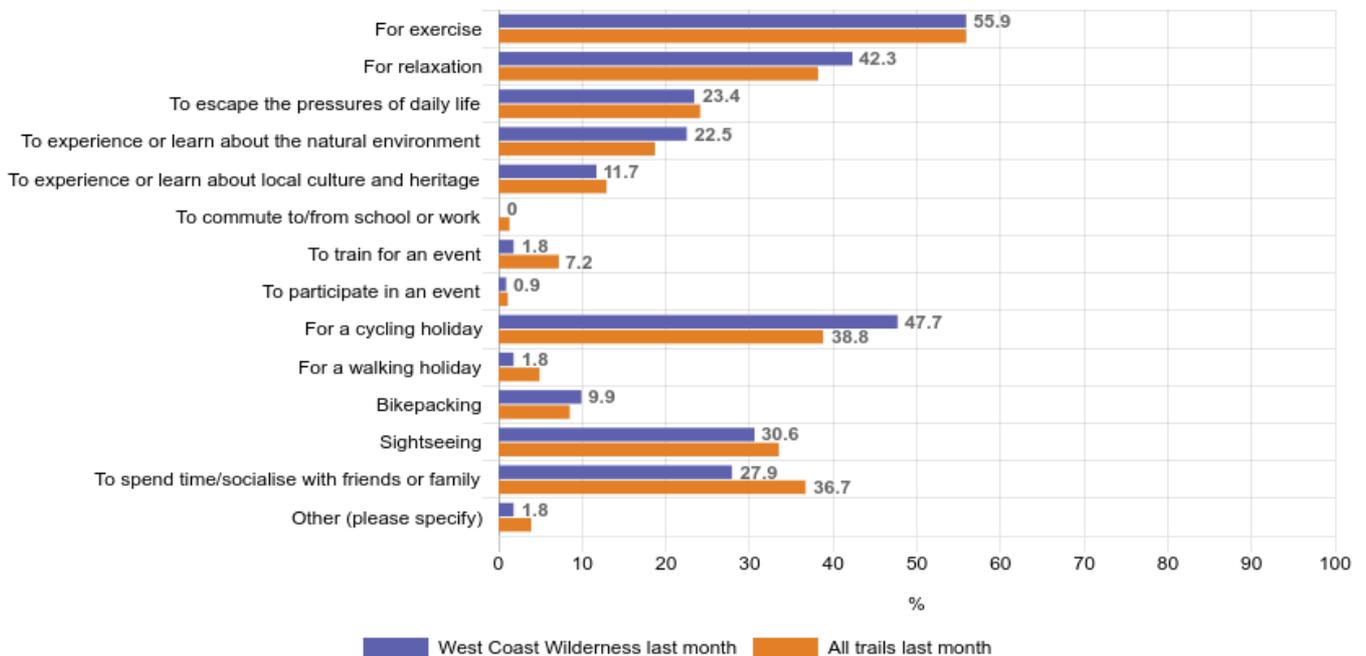
## Trail use (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Trail use (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



## Trail use

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	%	%	%	%
For exercise	42.8	50.8	55.9	55.9
For relaxation	35.7	36.5	42.3	38.2
To escape the pressures of daily life	19.6	23.8	23.4	24.1
To experience or learn about the natural environment	25	17.3	22.5	18.7
To experience or learn about local culture and heritage	15.9	12	11.7	12.9
To commute to/from school or work	0.2	1.8	0	1.3
To train for an event	1.2	5.9	1.8	7.2
To participate in an event	1.4	4.8	0.9	1.1
For a cycling holiday	68.8	41.3	47.7	38.8
For a walking holiday	1	4.9	1.8	4.9
Bikepacking	9.1	8.9	9.9	8.5
Sightseeing	36.6	31	30.6	33.5
To spend time/socialise with friends or family	34.3	37.6	27.9	36.7
Other (please specify)	3.3	4.1	1.8	3.9

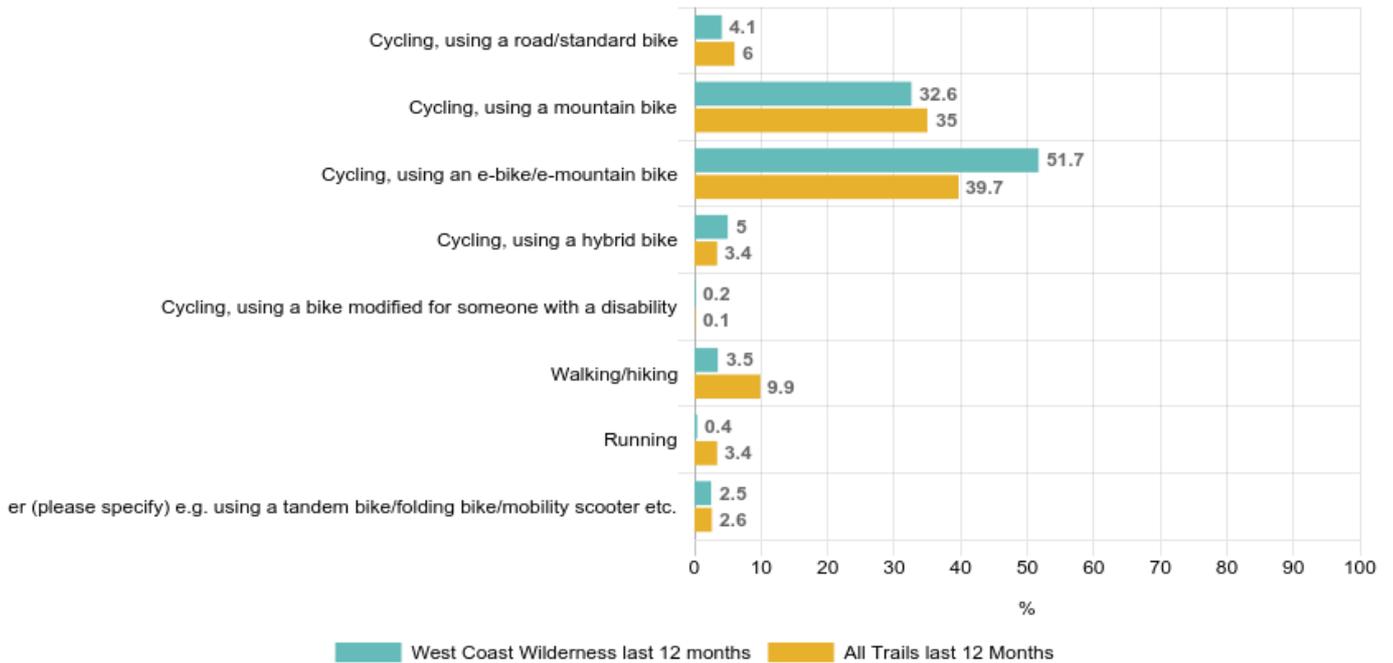
## Trail use comments (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 2)

#	Other
1	finding the blue mushrooms ( not drugs, promise xx)
2	To visit historical family locations/grave sites

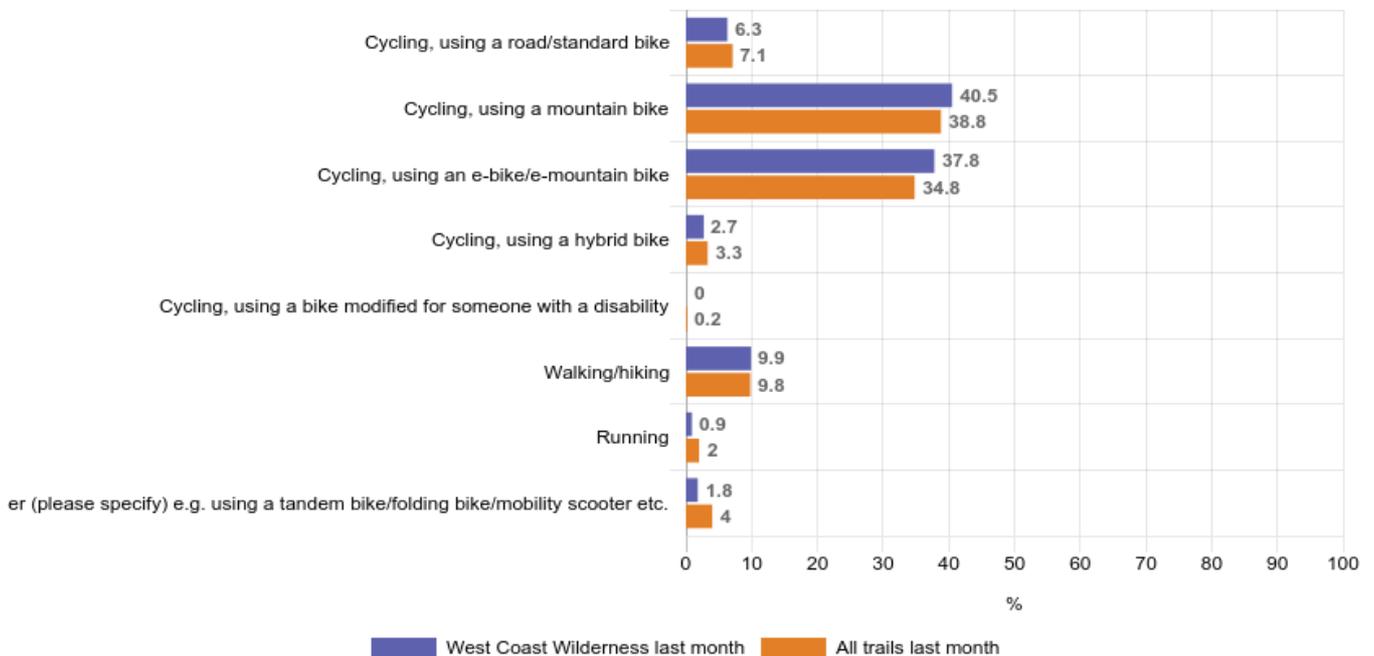
## Transport on the trail (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Transport on the trail (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



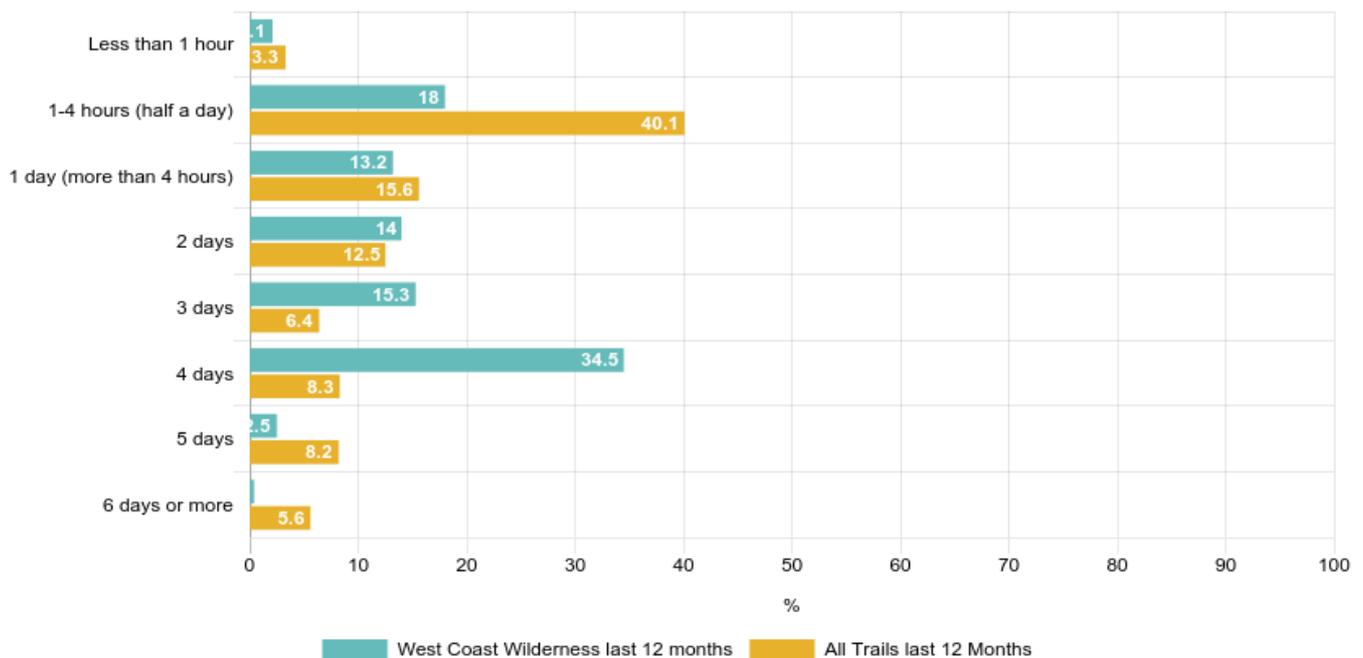
## Transport on the trail

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	%	%	%	%
Cycling, using a road/standard bike	4.1	6	6.3	7.1
Cycling, using a mountain bike	32.6	35	40.5	38.8
Cycling, using an e-bike/e-mountain bike	51.7	39.7	37.8	34.8
Cycling, using a hybrid bike	5	3.4	2.7	3.3
Cycling, using a bike modified for someone with a disability	0.2	0.1	0	0.2
Walking/hiking	3.5	9.9	9.9	9.8
Running	0.4	3.4	0.9	2
Other (please specify) e.g. using a tandem bike/folding bike/mobility scooter etc.	2.5	2.6	1.8	4

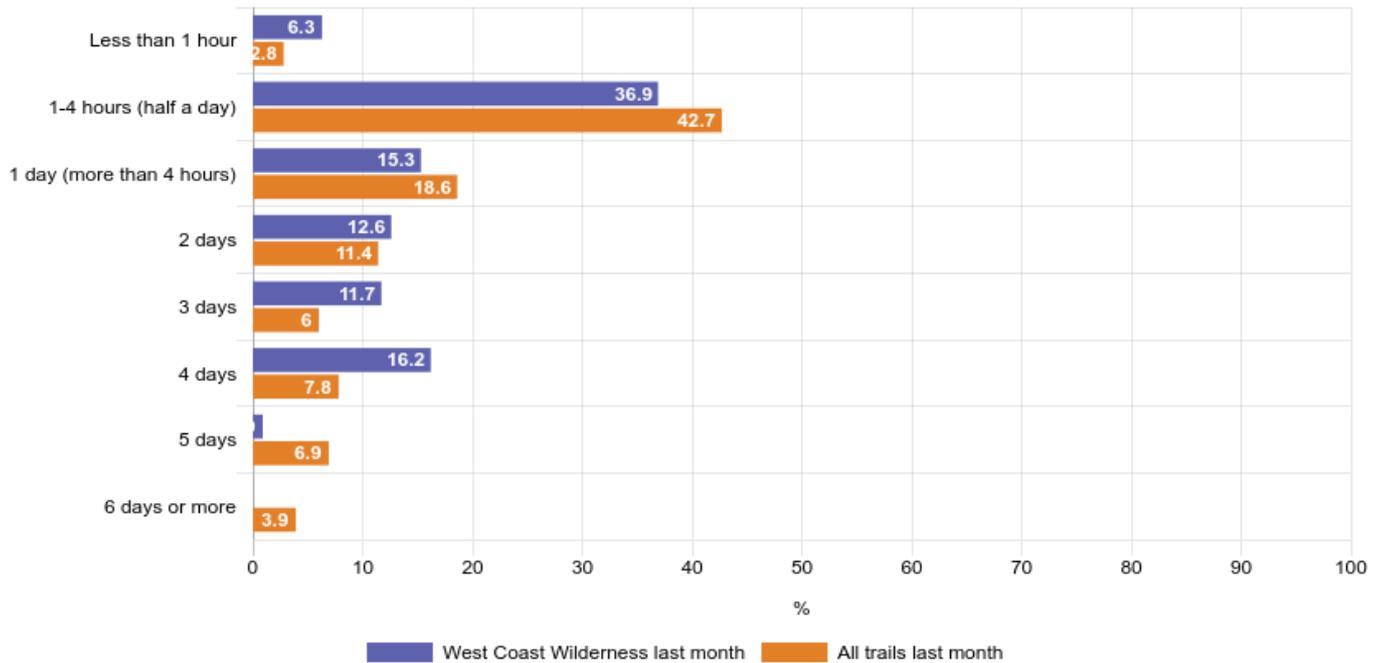
## Time spent on the trail (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Time spent on the trail (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



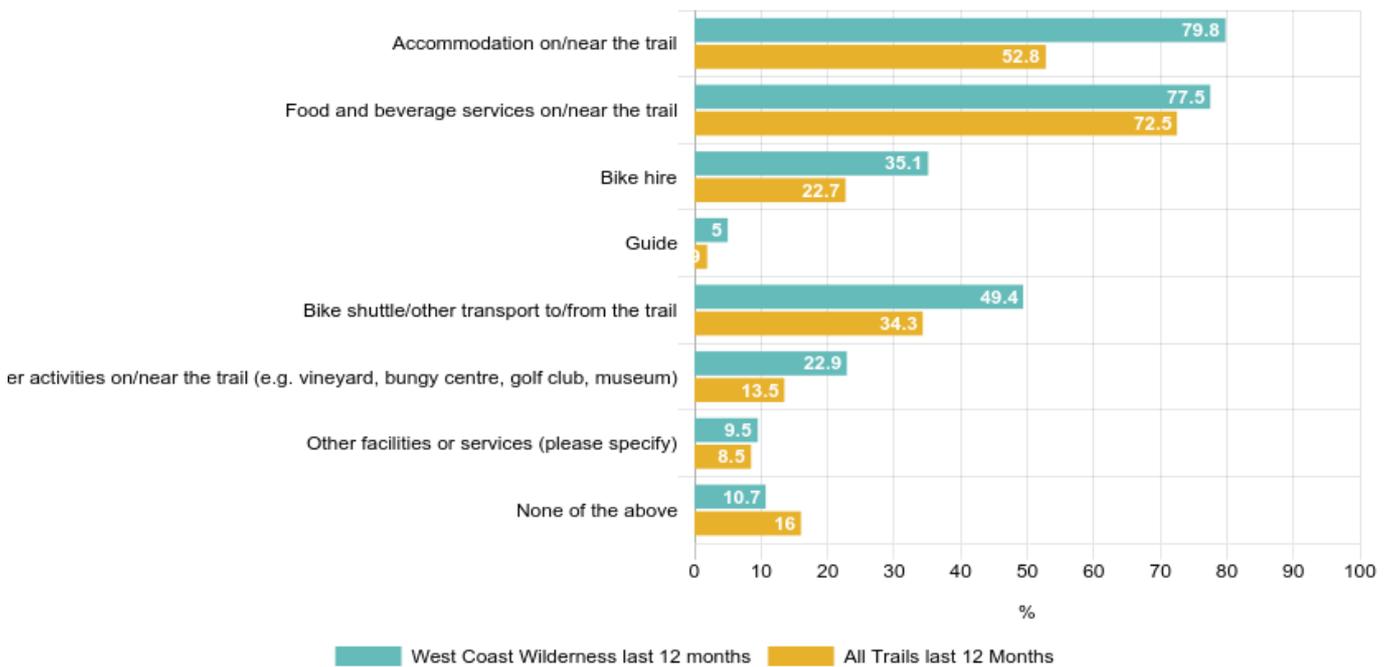
## Time spent on the trail

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	%	%	%	%
<b>Less than 1 hour</b>	2.1	3.3	6.3	2.8
<b>1-4 hours (half a day)</b>	18	40.1	36.9	42.7
<b>1 day (more than 4 hours)</b>	13.2	15.6	15.3	18.6
<b>2 days</b>	14	12.5	12.6	11.4
<b>3 days</b>	15.3	6.4	11.7	6
<b>4 days</b>	34.5	8.3	16.2	7.8
<b>5 days</b>	2.5	8.2	0.9	6.9
<b>6 days or more</b>	0.4	5.6	0	3.9

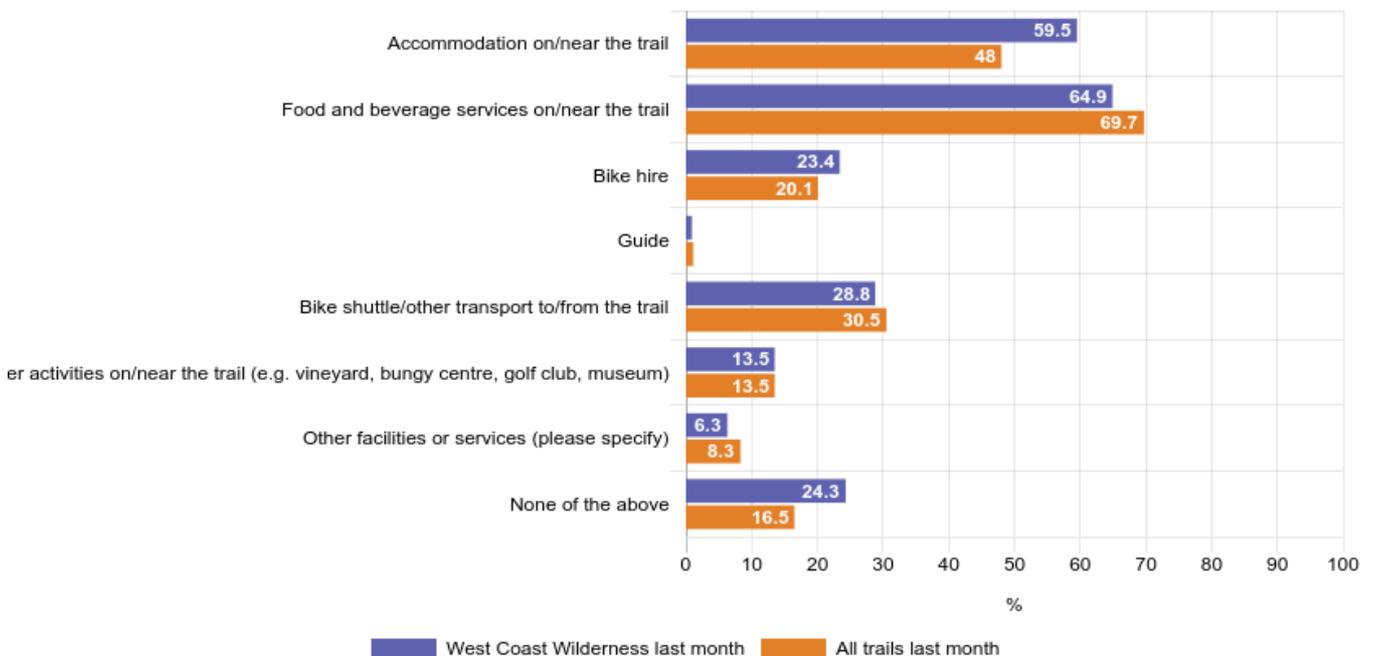
## Facilities / services used in association with trail experience (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Facilities / services used in association with trail experience (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



## Facilities / services used in association with trail experience

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	%	%	%	%
Accommodation on/near the trail	79.8	52.8	59.5	48
Food and beverage services on/near the trail	77.5	72.5	64.9	69.7
Bike hire	35.1	22.7	23.4	20.1
Guide	5	1.9	0.9	1.1
Bike shuttle/other transport to/from the trail	49.4	34.3	28.8	30.5
Other activities on/near the trail (e.g. vineyard, bungy centre, golf club, museum)	22.9	13.5	13.5	13.5
Other facilities or services (please specify)	9.5	8.5	6.3	8.3
None of the above	10.7	16	24.3	16.5

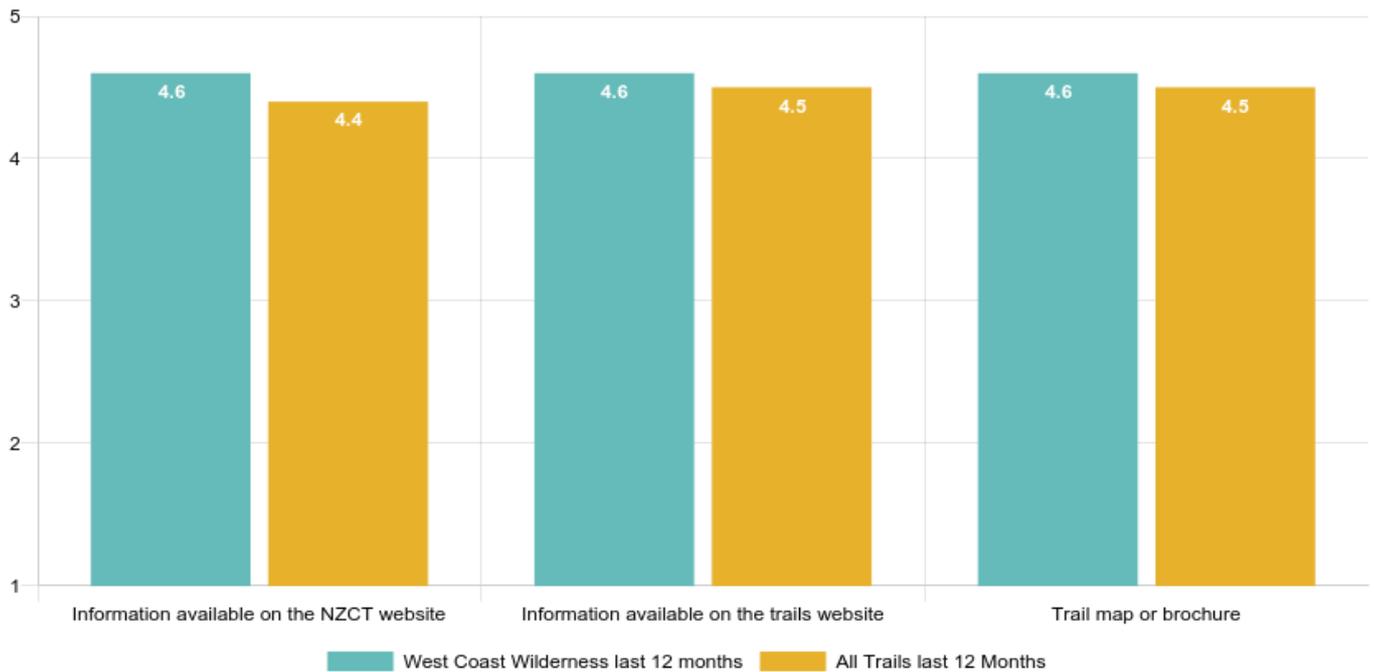
## Facilities / services used in association with trail experience comments (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 7)

#	Other
1	portaloo
2	supermarket New World. NPD petrol
3	Lake Kaniere DOC camp. Fishing in the Lake
4	walked other trails in nearby areas
5	pool
6	Treetop Walk
7	Spent a day in Hokitika at xxxxx and movie theater, Hokitika Gorge, also hired a car in Greymouth to go to xxx and Brunner mine

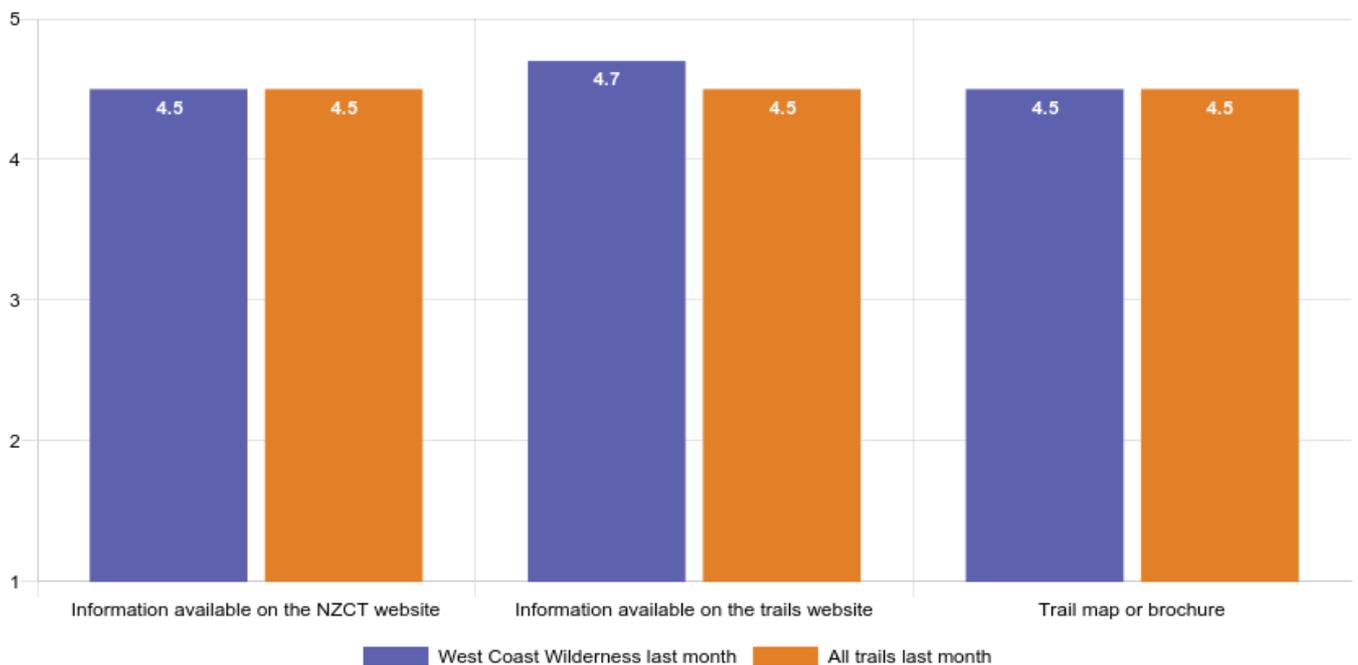
## Ratings - Trail Information (Last 12 Months) (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Ratings - Trail Information (Last Month) (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



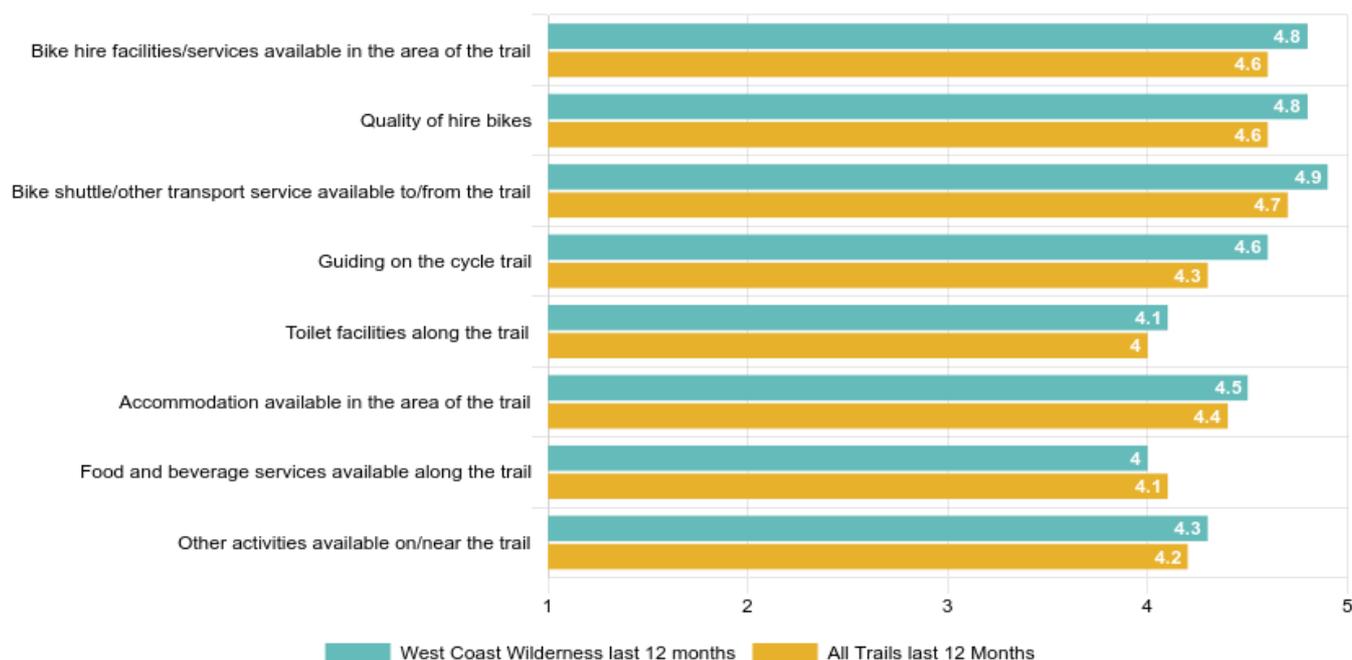
## Ratings - Trail Information (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>
Information available on the NZCT website	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.5
Information available on the trails website	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5
Trail map or brochure	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5

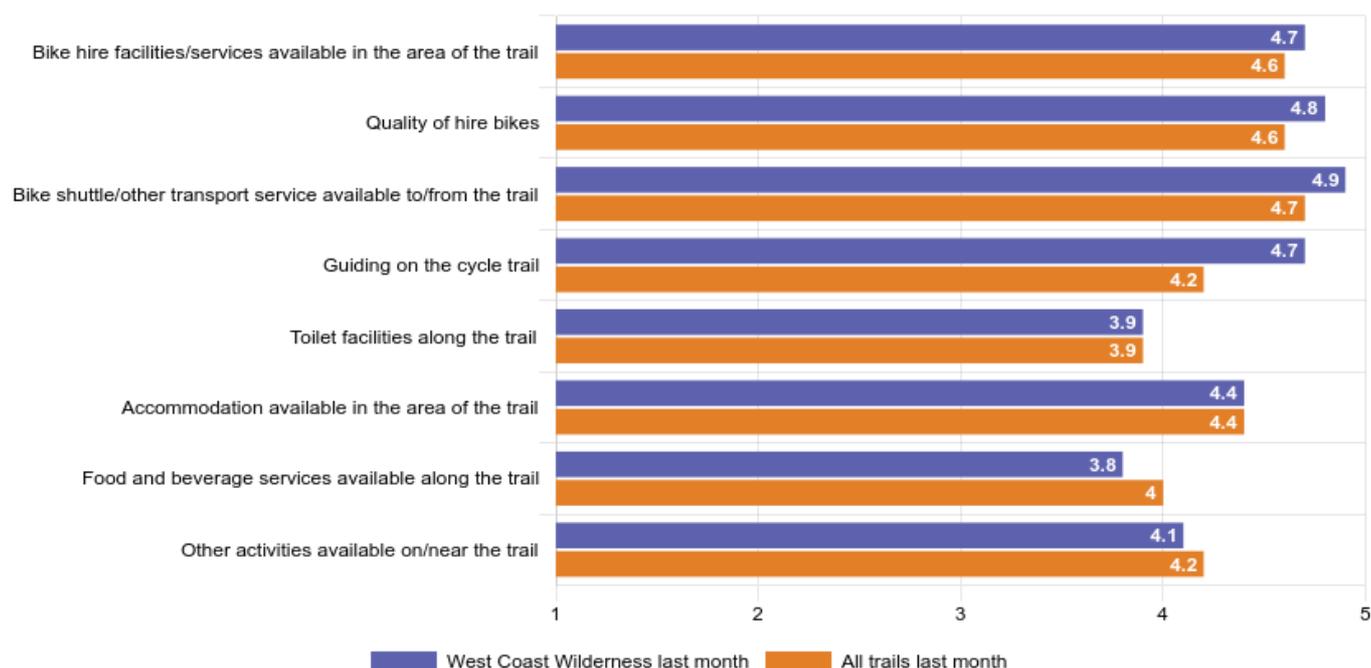
## Ratings - Facilities / Services On The Trail (Last 12 Months) (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Ratings - Facilities / Services On The Trail (Last Month) (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



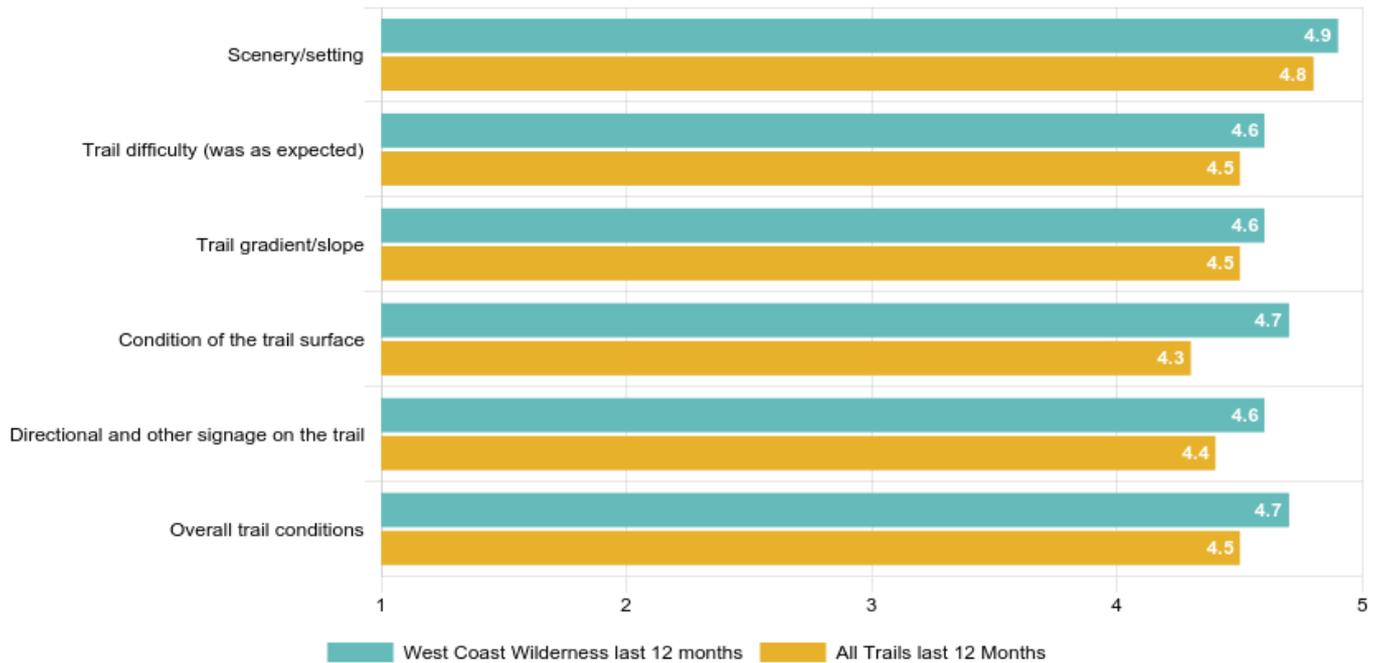
## Ratings - Facilities / Services On The Trail (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>Bike hire facilities/services available in the area of the trail</b>	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.6
<b>Quality of hire bikes</b>	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.6
<b>Bike shuttle/other transport service available to/from the trail</b>	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.7
<b>Guiding on the cycle trail</b>	4.6	4.3	4.7	4.2
<b>Toilet facilities along the trail</b>	4.1	4	3.9	3.9
<b>Accommodation available in the area of the trail</b>	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4
<b>Food and beverage services available along the trail</b>	4	4.1	3.8	4
<b>Other activities available on/near the trail</b>	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.2

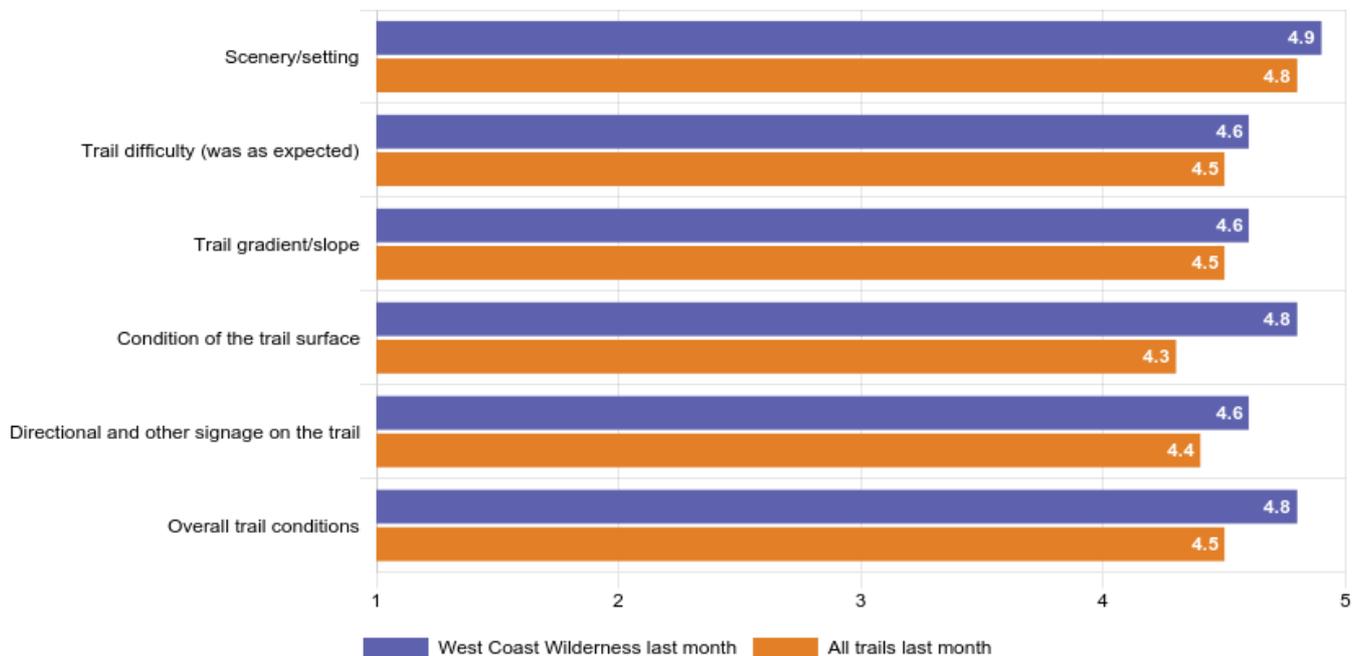
## Ratings - The Trail (Last 12 Months) (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Ratings - The Trail (Last Month) (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



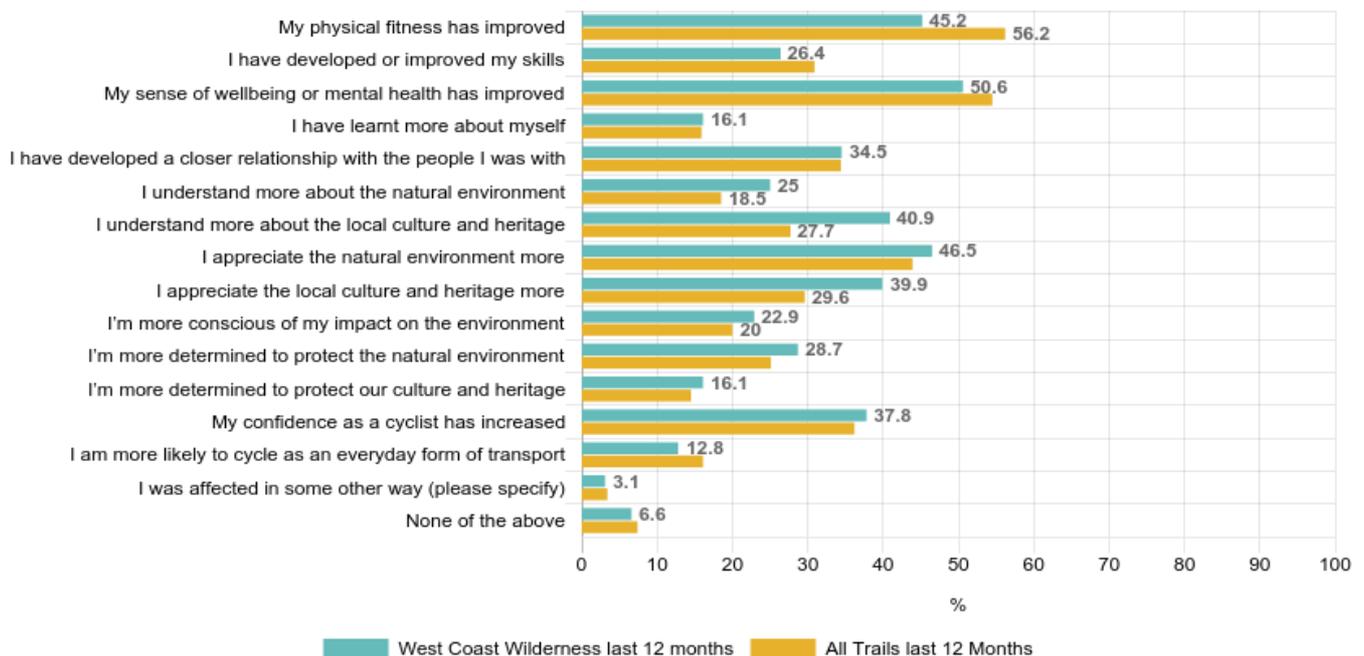
## Ratings - The Trail (1=very poor and 5=very good)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Average</b>
Scenery/setting	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.8
Trail difficulty (was as expected)	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5
Trail gradient/slope	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5
Condition of the trail surface	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.3
Directional and other signage on the trail	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.4
Overall trail conditions	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.5

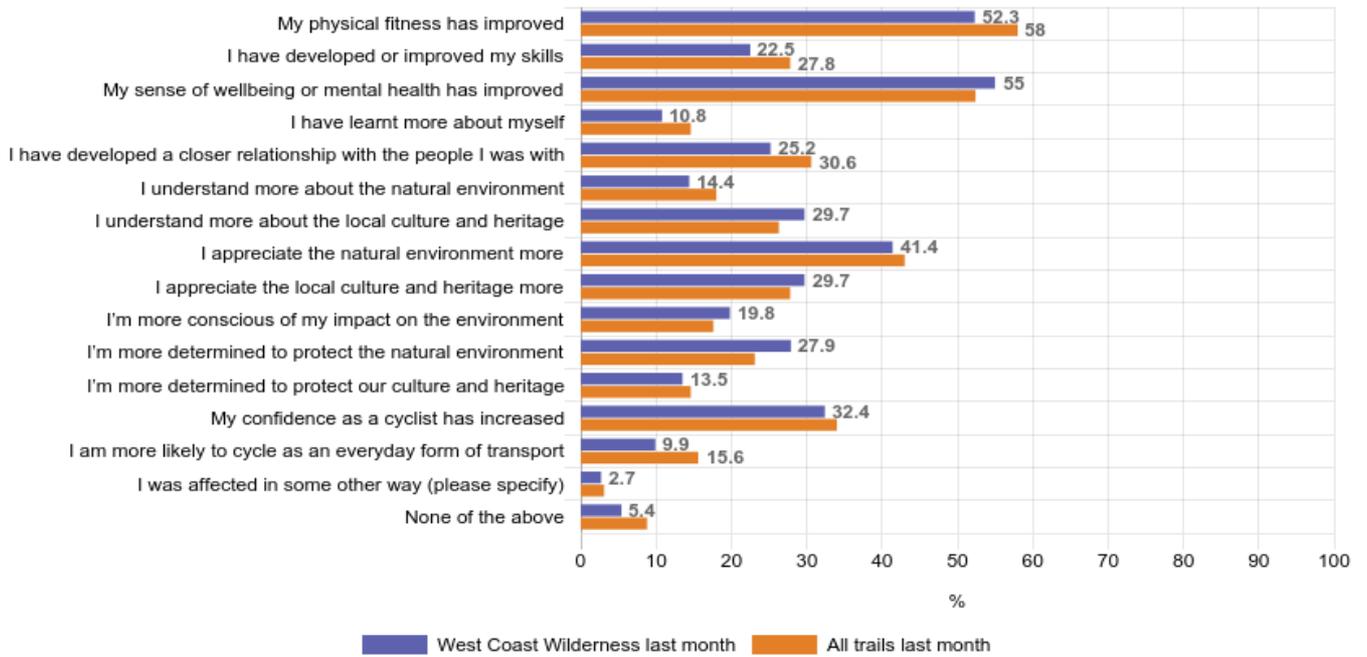
## Effects of trail experience on the visitor (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



# Effects of trail experience on the visitor (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)



West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	<b>West Coast Wilderness last 12 months</b>	<b>All Trails last 12 Months</b>	<b>West Coast Wilderness last month</b>	<b>All trails last month</b>
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>My physical fitness has improved</b>	45.2	56.2	52.3	58
<b>I have developed or improved my skills</b>	26.4	30.9	22.5	27.8
<b>My sense of wellbeing or mental health has improved</b>	50.6	54.5	55	52.4
<b>I have learnt more about myself</b>	16.1	15.9	10.8	14.6
<b>I have developed a closer relationship with the people I was with</b>	34.5	34.4	25.2	30.6
<b>I understand more about the natural environment</b>	25	18.5	14.4	18
<b>I understand more about the local culture and heritage</b>	40.9	27.7	29.7	26.3
<b>I appreciate the natural environment more</b>	46.5	43.9	41.4	43
<b>I appreciate the local culture and heritage more</b>	39.9	29.6	29.7	27.8
<b>I'm more conscious of my impact on the environment</b>	22.9	20	19.8	17.6
<b>I'm more determined to protect the natural environment</b>	28.7	25.1	27.9	23.1
<b>I'm more determined to protect our culture and heritage</b>	16.1	14.5	13.5	14.6
<b>My confidence as a cyclist has increased</b>	37.8	36.2	32.4	34
<b>I am more likely to cycle as an everyday form of transport</b>	12.8	16.1	9.9	15.6
<b>I was affected in some other way (please specify)</b>	3.1	3.4	2.7	3.1
<b>None of the above</b>	6.6	7.4	5.4	8.8

## Effects of trail experience on the visitor comments (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 3)

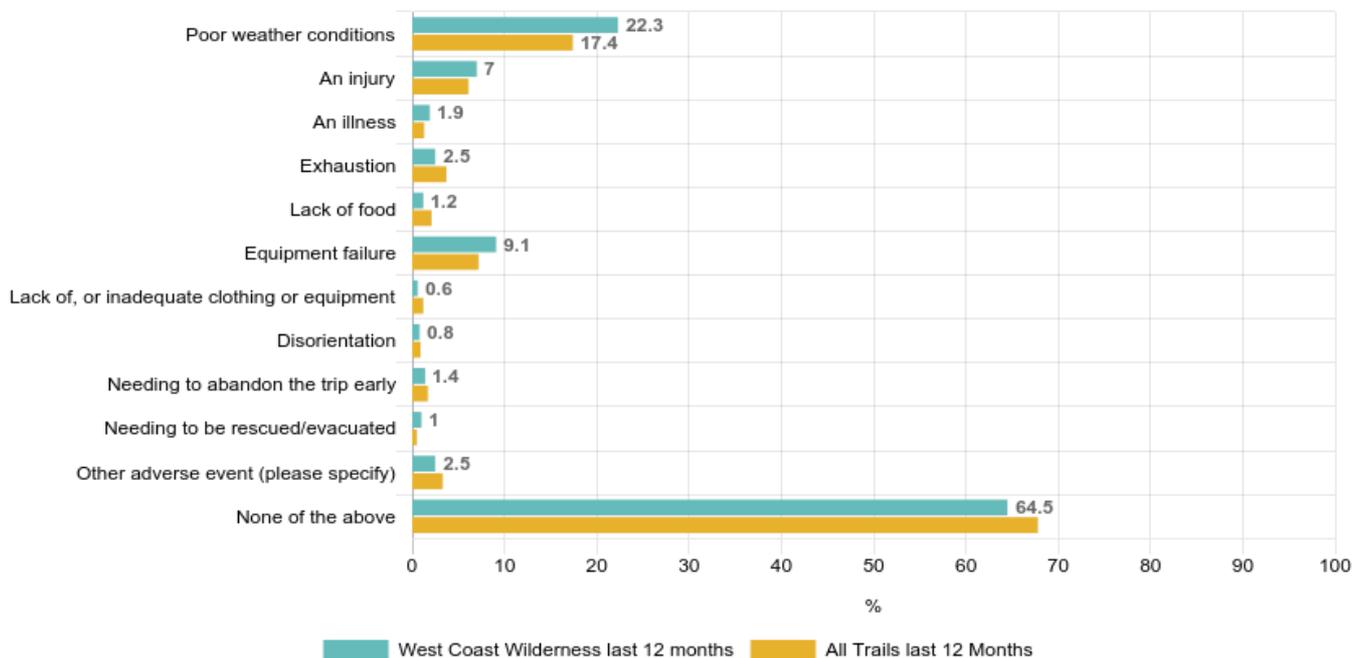
### # Other

- 1 Keen to come back and show others the trail and complete it myself!
- 2 saddened to not find the blue mushrooms :(
- 3 Probably a little bit of all the above but nothing defining if you know what I mean. It's not like I've gone on the track and had this revelation but you appreciate small aspects of all the above which give a broader appreciation. I hope this helps.

## Adverse circumstances encountered (Last 12 Months)

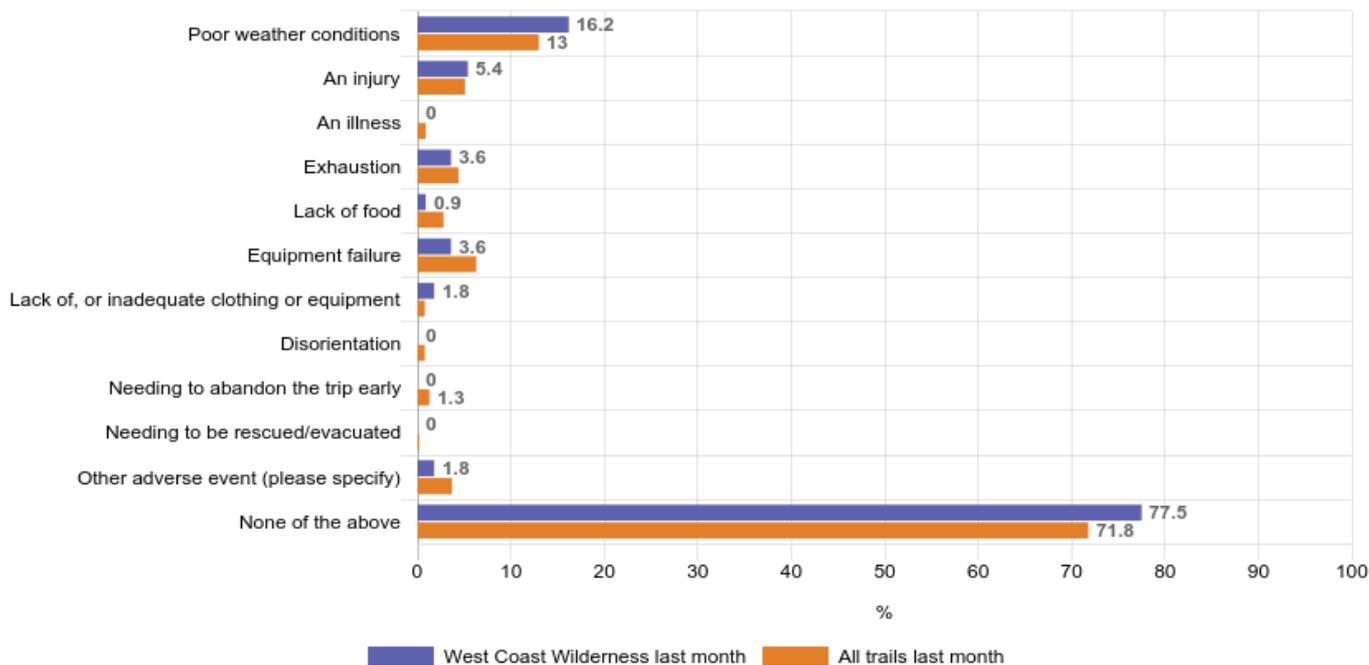
West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)

All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)



## Adverse circumstances encountered (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)



## Adverse circumstances encountered

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	%	%	%	%
Poor weather conditions	22.3	17.4	16.2	13
An injury	7	6.1	5.4	5.1
An illness	1.9	1.3	0	0.9
Exhaustion	2.5	3.7	3.6	4.4
Lack of food	1.2	2.1	0.9	2.8
Equipment failure	9.1	7.2	3.6	6.3
Lack of, or inadequate clothing or equipment	0.6	1.2	1.8	0.8
Disorientation	0.8	0.9	0	0.8
Needing to abandon the trip early	1.4	1.7	0	1.3
Needing to be rescued/evacuated	1	0.5	0	0.2
Other adverse event (please specify)	2.5	3.3	1.8	3.7
None of the above	64.5	67.8	77.5	71.8

## Adverse circumstances encountered comments (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 2)

#	Other
1	dogs, motorbikes and quad bikes.
2	got lost, so ended up doing 85kms one day.

## More information about the situation and what happened (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 5)

#	More information about the situation and what happened
1	came off my bike on zig zag. just bruised as went into bank rather than off track.
2	I didn't drink enough water during the trail and so suffered from heat exhaustion on the third day
3	i stopped to wait for my sister and just lost my balance and fell off my bike, hurting my knee badly on the ground. i was ok to keep cycling but was very sore.
4	We believed an orange directional sign was missing, so went straight and missed the turn. We heard later from a local woman out running that she had met a group the dsy before that were also lost in the same place.
5	One team member collided with a bridge rail

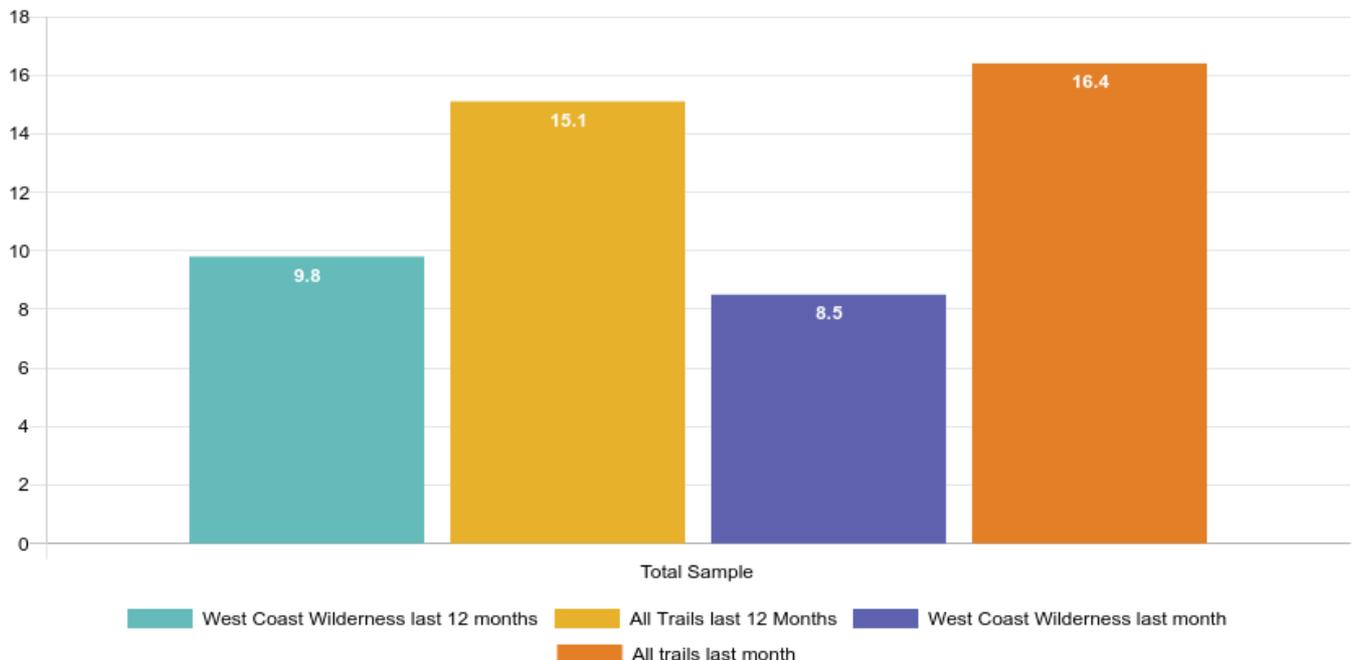
## Number of occasions used a trail in the last 12 months

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)

All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)

All trails last month (n = 1264)



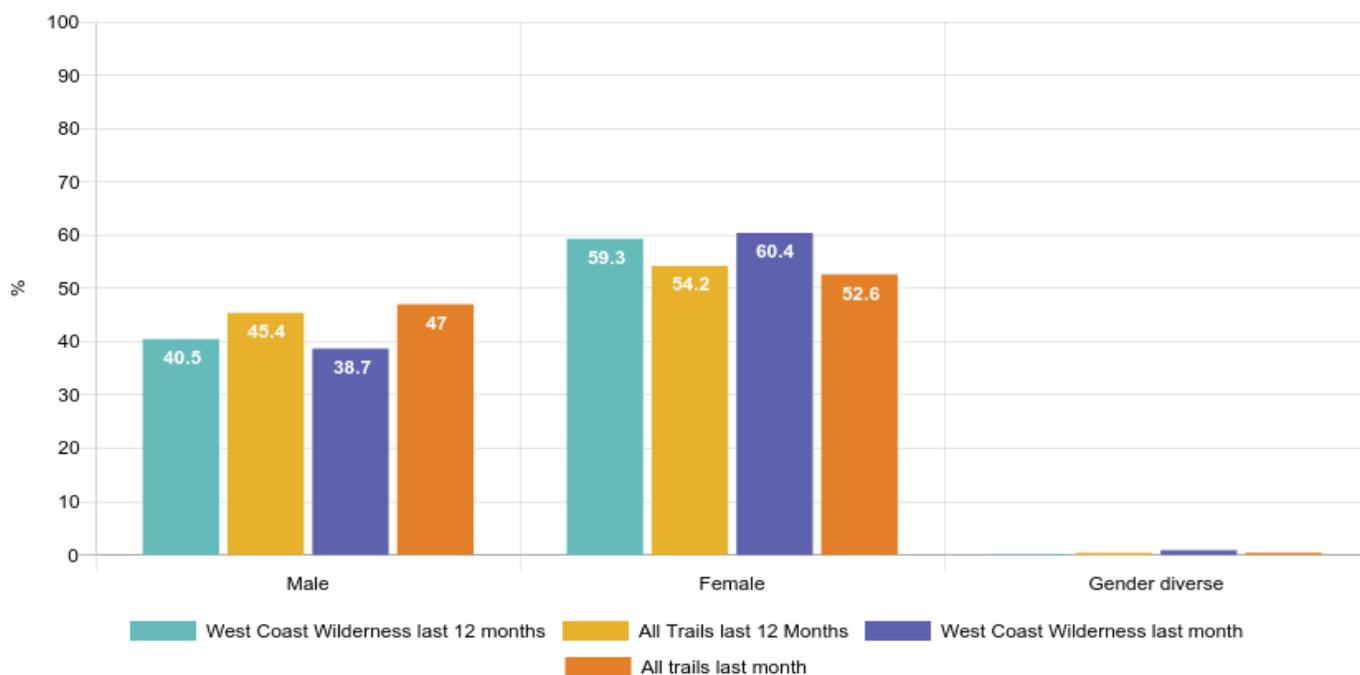
## Number of occasions used a trail in the last 12 months

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample				
Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
Average	9.8	15.1	8.5	16.4

## Gender

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)



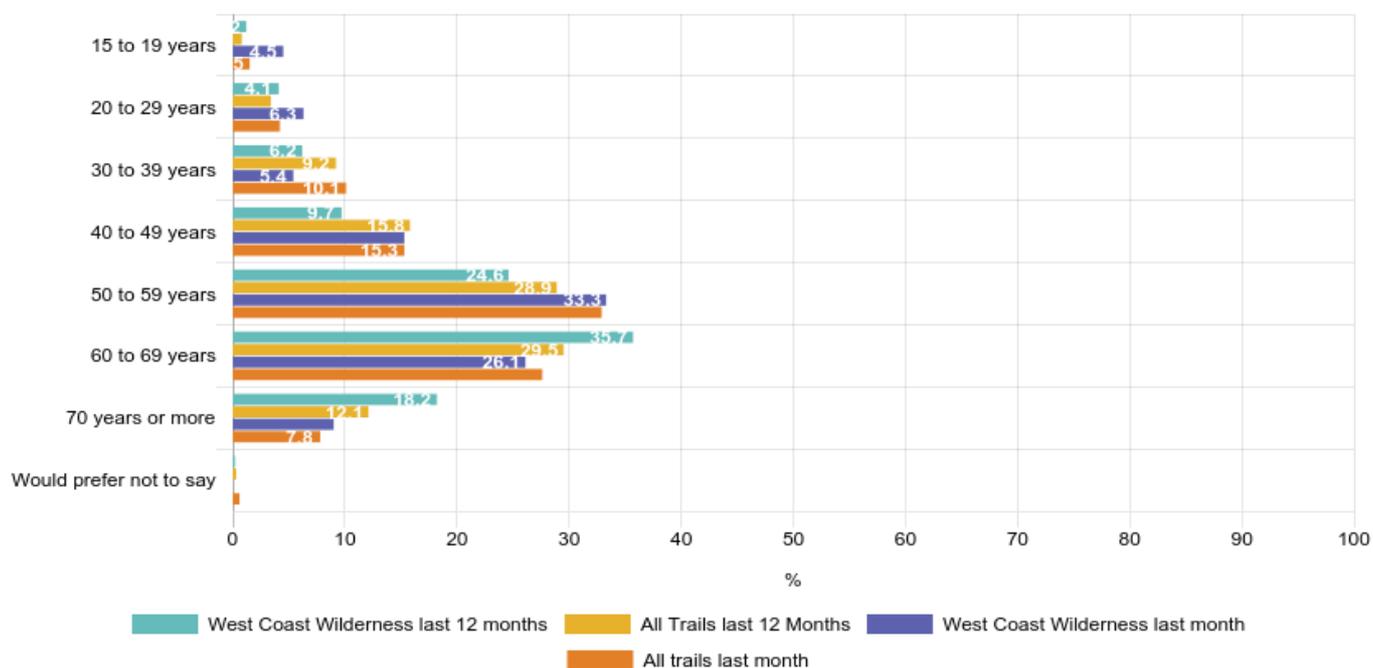
## Gender

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	%	%	%	%
Male	40.5	45.4	38.7	47
Female	59.3	54.2	60.4	52.6
Gender diverse	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.4

## Age

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)



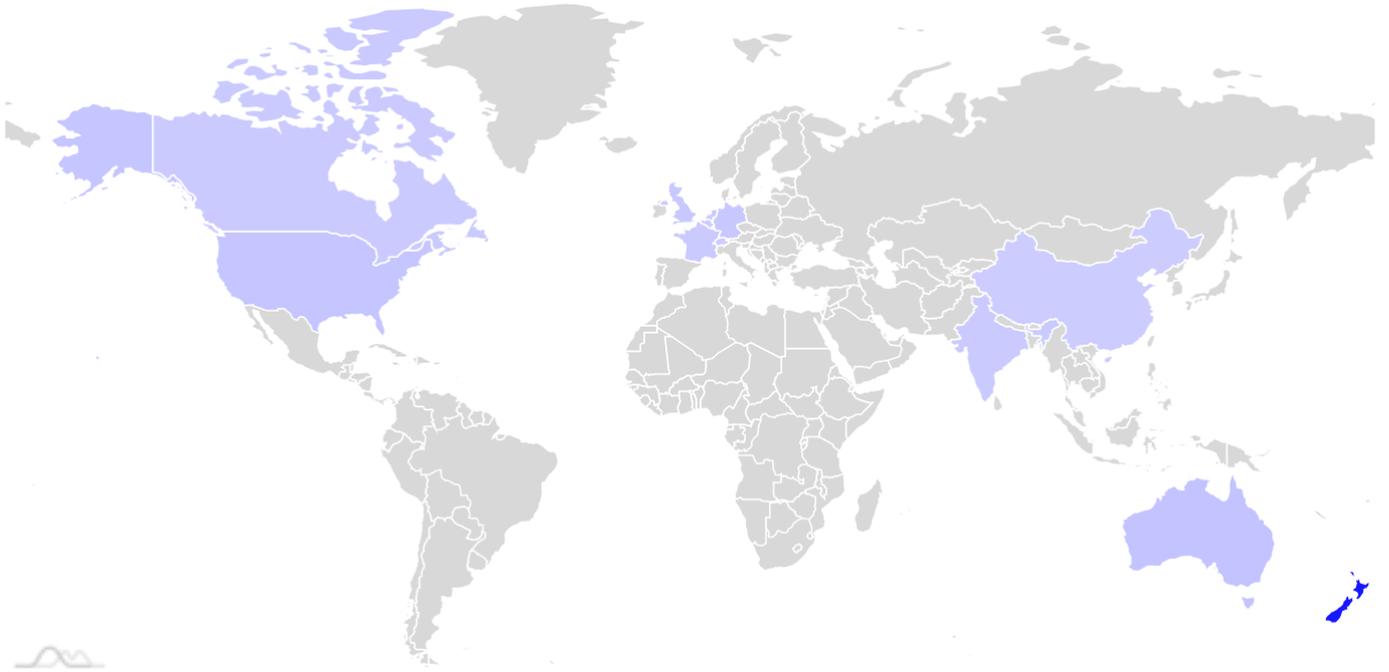
## Age

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	484	6800	111	1264
	%	%	%	%
15 to 19 years	1.2	0.8	4.5	1.5
20 to 29 years	4.1	3.4	6.3	4.2
30 to 39 years	6.2	9.2	5.4	10.1
40 to 49 years	9.7	15.8	15.3	15.3
50 to 59 years	24.6	28.9	33.3	32.9
60 to 69 years	35.7	29.5	26.1	27.6
70 years or more	18.2	12.1	9	7.8
Would prefer not to say	0.2	0.3	0	0.6

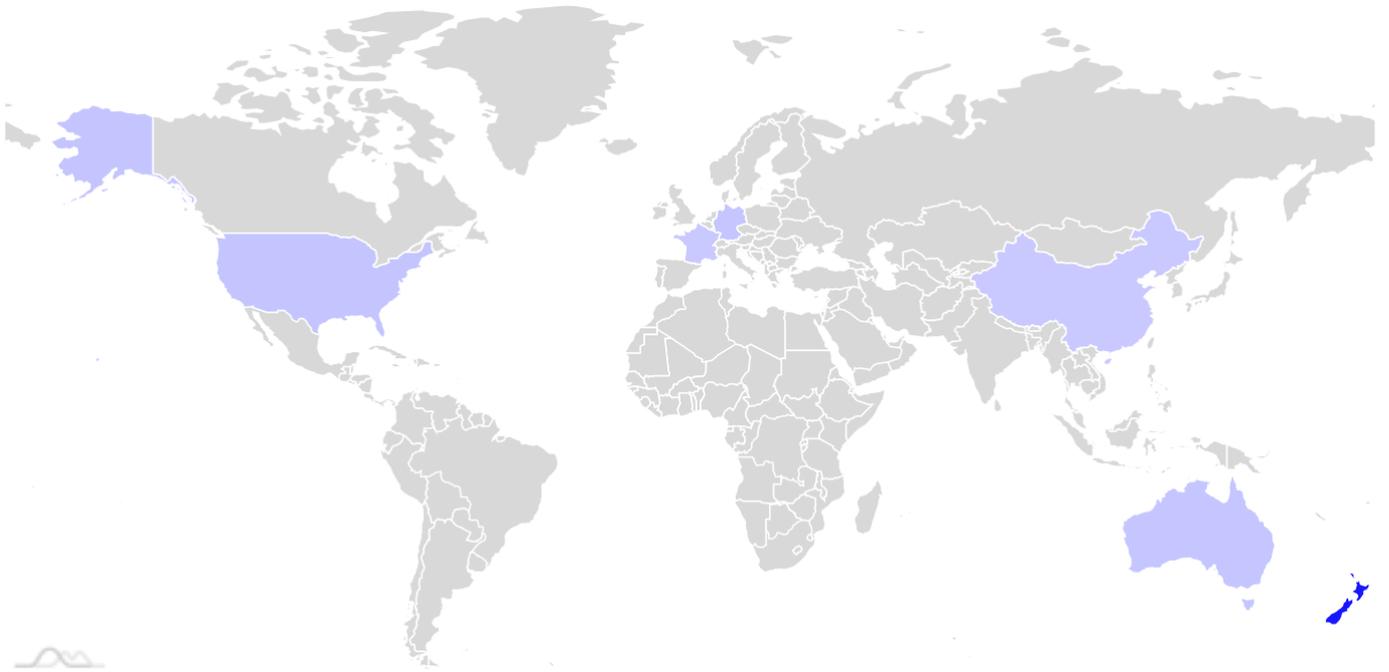
## Country of origin (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 484)



## Country of origin (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)



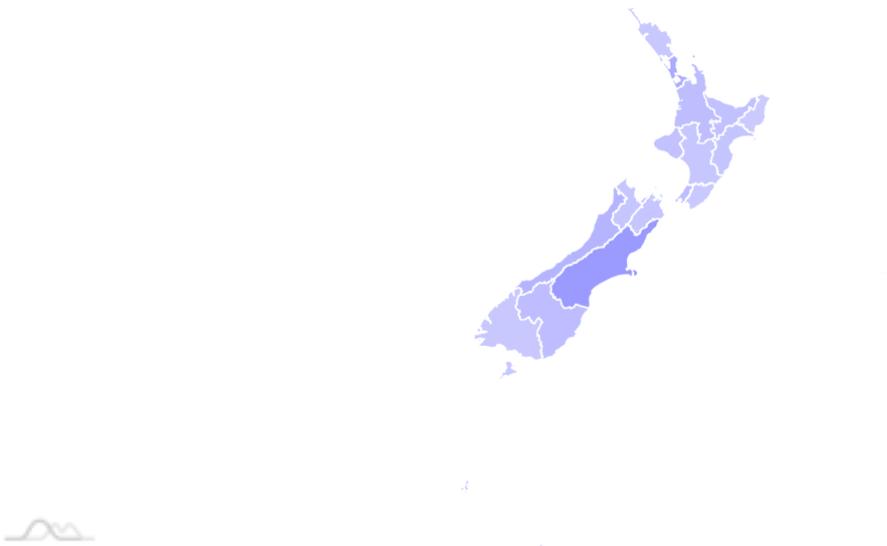
All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6800)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 111)  
 All trails last month (n = 1264)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>6800</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1264</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Argentina</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Australia</b>	4.1	6.3	2.7	5
<b>Austria</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Belgium</b>	0.2	0	0	0
<b>Botswana</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Canada</b>	0.6	0.6	0	0.4
<b>Chile</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>China</b>	0.2	0	0.9	0.1
<b>Czech Republic</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Denmark</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>France</b>	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.2
<b>French Polynesia</b>	0.2	0	0.9	0.1
<b>Germany</b>	1.4	0.4	2.7	0.6
<b>Iceland</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>India</b>	0.4	0	0	0
<b>Ireland, Republic Of</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Italy</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Jersey</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Korea, Republic Of</b>	0	0	0	0.1
<b>Netherlands</b>	0.4	0.3	0	0.4
<b>New Caledonia</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>New Zealand</b>	87.6	88.9	88.3	89.4
<b>Philippines</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Poland</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Singapore</b>	0	0.1	0	0
<b>Slovenia</b>	0	0	0	0.2
<b>South Africa</b>	0	0.1	0	0
<b>Spain</b>	0	0.1	0	0

Sweden	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	0.2	0.2	0	0.3
United Arab Emirates	0	0	0	0.1
United Kingdom	1.4	1.3	0	1.7
United States	2.7	1.2	3.6	1.5
Uruguay	0	0	0	0.1

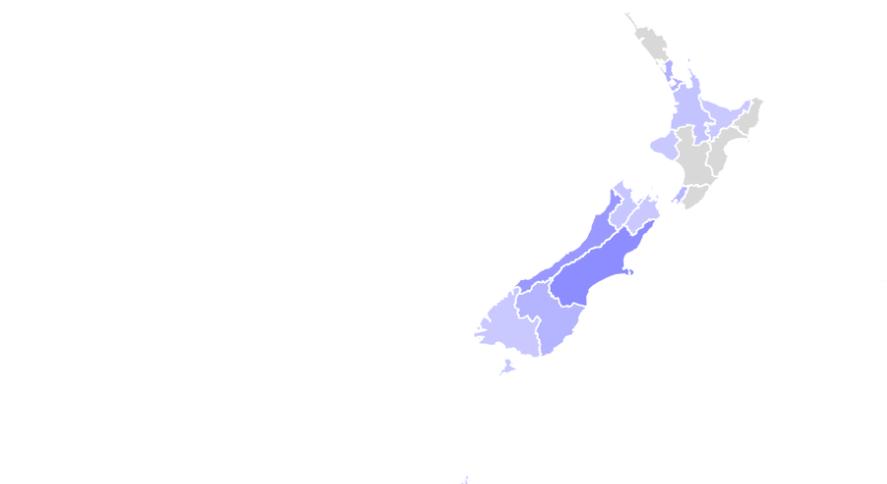
## New Zealand Region (Last 12 Months)

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 424)



## New Zealand Region (Last Month)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 98)



## New Zealand Region

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 424)

All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6046)

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 98)

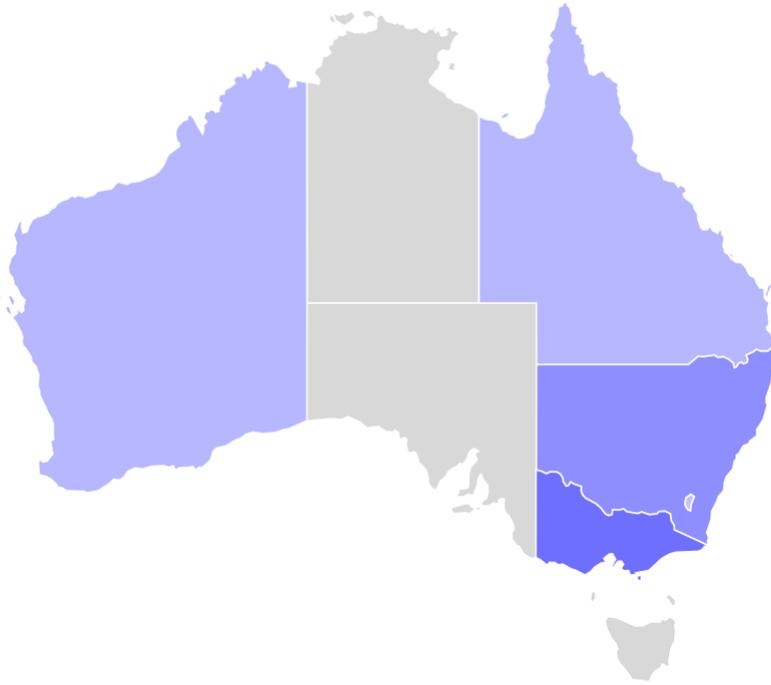
All trails last month (n = 1130)

	<b>West Coast Wilderness last 12 months</b>	<b>All Trails last 12 Months</b>	<b>West Coast Wilderness last month</b>	<b>All trails last month</b>
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>6046</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1130</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Auckland</b>	15.6	16.1	12.2	15.4
<b>Bay Of Plenty</b>	5	10.6	1	7.6
<b>Canterbury</b>	24.1	9.8	30.6	11.8
<b>Chatham Islands Territory</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Gisborne</b>	0.5	0.4	0	0.5
<b>Hawke's Bay</b>	3.3	8	0	6.3
<b>Manawatū- Whanganui</b>	1.9	2.6	0	2.7
<b>Marlborough</b>	3.1	1	1	0.9
<b>Nelson</b>	4.5	4.1	2	5.8
<b>Northland</b>	1.7	2.3	0	1.3
<b>Otago</b>	7.1	11.5	11.2	15.5
<b>Southland</b>	1.4	1.4	1	1.8
<b>Taranaki</b>	4.5	1.6	1	0.6
<b>Tasman</b>	2.4	2.5	2	2.9
<b>Waikato</b>	6.6	16.6	4.1	16
<b>Wairarapa</b>	0.9	0.6	0	0.1
<b>Wellington</b>	7.1	9.5	9.2	8.1
<b>West Coast</b>	10.6	1.3	24.5	2.6

## Australian State (Last 12 Months)

---

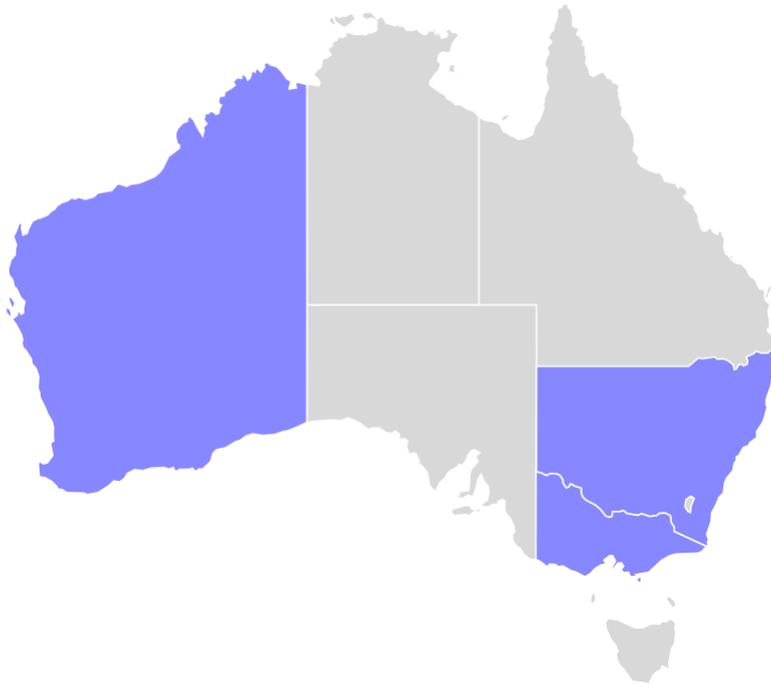
West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 20)



## Australian State (Last Month)

---

West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 3)



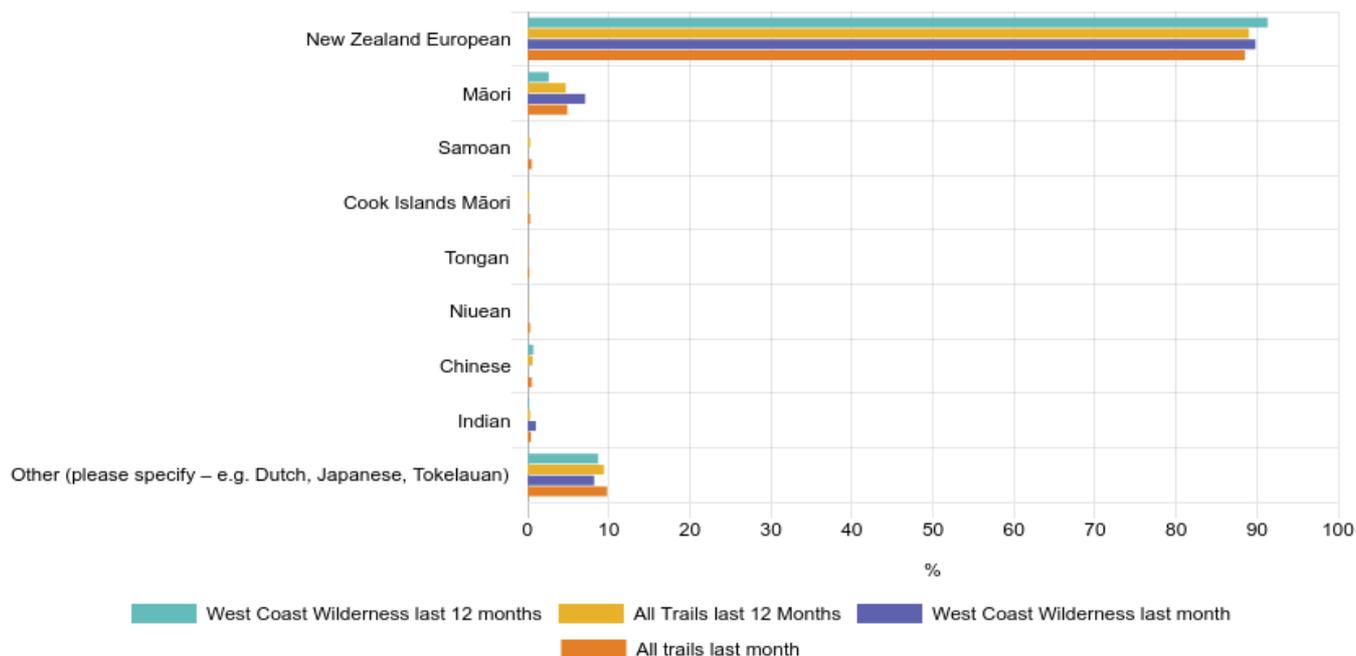
## Australian State

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 20)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 429)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 3)  
 All trails last month (n = 63)

	West Coast Wilderness last 12 months	All Trails last 12 Months	West Coast Wilderness last month	All trails last month
Sample Size (n)	20	429	3	63
	%	%	%	%
Australian Capital Territory	5	5.6	0	3.2
New South Wales	30	41.5	33.3	36.5
Northern Territory	0	0.5	0	0
Queensland	10	20.3	0	25.4
South Australia	0	0.9	0	1.6
Tasmania	0	4.2	0	1.6
Victoria	45	21	33.3	20.6
Western Australia	10	6.1	33.3	11.1

## Ethnicity

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 424)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6046)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 98)  
 All trails last month (n = 1130)



## Ethnicity

West Coast Wilderness last 12 months (n = 424)  
 All Trails last 12 Months (n = 6046)  
 West Coast Wilderness last month (n = 98)  
 All trails last month (n = 1130)

	<b>West Coast Wilderness last 12 months</b>	<b>All Trails last 12 Months</b>	<b>West Coast Wilderness last month</b>	<b>All trails last month</b>
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>6046</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1130</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>New Zealand European</b>	91.3	89	89.8	88.5
<b>Māori</b>	2.6	4.7	7.1	4.9
<b>Samoan</b>	0	0.3	0	0.5
<b>Cook Islands Māori</b>	0	0.2	0	0.3
<b>Tongan</b>	0	0.1	0	0.2
<b>Niuean</b>	0	0.1	0	0.3
<b>Chinese</b>	0.7	0.6	0	0.5
<b>Indian</b>	0.2	0.3	1	0.4
<b>Other (please specify – e.g. Dutch, Japanese, Tokelauan)</b>	8.7	9.4	8.2	9.8

# Appendix

---

## Segments

- **West Coast Wilderness last 12 months**

Organisation — Name: Is equal to 'West Coast Wilderness Trail'

Result — Completion Date: Is between 12 months ago on the first day of the month (01/02/2023) and the last day of last month (31/01/2024)

- **West Coast Wilderness last month**

Organisation — Name: Is equal to 'West Coast Wilderness Trail'

Result — Completion Date: Is between the first day of last month (01/01/2024) and the last day of last month (31/01/2024)

## Benchmarks

- **All Trails last 12 Months**

Result — Completion Date: Is between 12 months ago on the first day of the month (01/02/2023) and the last day of last month (31/01/2024)

- **All trails last month**

Result — Completion Date: Is between the first day of last month (01/01/2024) and the last day of last month (31/01/2024)



**West Coast Wilderness Trail**  
**Economic Assessment and Performance**  
**Preliminary Report**  
**For 2023**

Prepared by Jackie Gurden  
West Coast Wilderness Trail Manager  
February 2024

**1. Report Status**

This is a preliminary report prepared for the West Coast Wilderness Trail Cycling and Walking Subcommittee. It will be completed for presentation to the full Council over the coming weeks.

**2. Introduction**

I am often asked about the economic benefits of the trail and to write reports on it. There are some headline points that are hugely financially significant that are 'locked in' and for which there is little change. They highlight the trail as a role model, and tangible success story to date, for the investment into the Nga Haerenga Great Rides network by all who have contributed financially and in time and voluntary efforts. These are summarised below.

**3. Key Benefits from the Trail**

**Overall Economic Return** – The trail has a direct return of around \$15 million per year. Another way to look at this is that, each year the trail returns cash of around one and a half times what it cost to build the entire trail. This is calculated through the trail counters and the data we collect from our monthly surveys. Approximately 15,000 visiting riders use the trail and the total expenditure per person for this calendar year was \$1088. This figure is similar to previous years.

Further to this, MBIE have a multiplier of 3.55 for trail expenditure. This considers the impact of indirect or secondary spending. Examples include a trail company or hotel paying their employees with the money from riders. These employees spending that money on goods and services giving it the multiplier effect. This better reflects the overall economic return from the trail, which last year was over \$50 million.

**Revival of Townships** – Both Kumara and Ross were in decline before the cycle trail was established. They are now both examples of towns that have grown from the introduction of the trail.

Kumara now boasts several new businesses. The most prominent example, and one of the first on the scene, was the rebuild of Kumara's Theatre Royal Hotel. Demolition had been considered for the historic West Coast pub. Now offering quality accommodation, this award winning hotel also has an additional six miner's cottages and the immaculate restoration of three early houses into quality accommodation. The Greenstone Retreat, together with a number of houses converted to Air BnBs followed. Further investment was made into the Route 73 Motels and Kumara Store. The latest development, the refurbishment of the former Empire Hotel with a café operating for morning and lunchtime meals, is planned to open shortly with 3 studio units and 3-4 back packer rooms to follow.

Similarly, Ross has seen the development of the Ross Beech Top 10 Holiday Park and significant money being spent by riders in other businesses in the town, including the hotel.

**Trail Company Start-ups** – Hokitika has three new cycle trail companies, all with depots based in the main township. They employ a reasonable number of staff and operate a fleet of vans and trailers to transport riders and hire bikes.

**Supporting New and Existing Visitor Attractions, Hospitality and Retail** – The West Coast Scenic Waterways is potentially the largest new attraction to start up solely as a result of the opportunities created by the trail outside hotels and accommodation. It provides accommodation, hot tubs, scenic cruises and, shortly, a food and coffee cart.

Visit the West Coast Treetop Walk and Café, particularly around lunchtime, and the rows of bikes are evident. Driving around Hokitika's CBD in summer and the vehicles with bikes on carriers are evident everywhere as their riders purchase goods, services, petrol, grocery and other supplies, food and beverage and gifts from many of the retail outlets. Hokitika Kiwi Holiday Park Manager Kevin Stevenson reported at the end of last year:

*"There are so many people coming here to do the trail. Pretty much every caravan or campervan that is owner-operated has a bike on the back of it and has come here to do the trail."*

The benefits even extend to the Hokitika Airport, with riders often coming in and out via plane and using the services of the airport.

**Local Riders** -Locals must also not be forgotten. Large numbers of locals use the trail for fitness, to walk their dogs, to get to town and even to school and back at Kaniere. The trail can be viewed in the same way we traditionally used a gymnasium or a sports field. It is a new form of community recreation.

#### 4. Rider Numbers

While the question of how many people ride the trail appears to be simple it is actually quite hard to answer. People ride the trail in different ways. Some ride from start to finish. Others ‘cherry pick’ what they believe to be the highlights and some locals use the same section regularly.

There are seven counters out on the trail. These are in the following sections: Karoro, Taramakau, the Kawhaka Pass, the Kaniere Water Race, the Kaniere Tram, Mahinapua and the Ross straight. All trail counters can vary in their percentage growth and decline in rider numbers depending on what is happening on the trail. As an example, sporting events or trail section closures like that for the Kaniere Water Race for a month over winter as new bridges were being installed can impact use. Also too, are we talking about visitors or locals? Riders or walkers? The Karoro and Kaniere Tram sections, being by our largest towns, have lots of locals who walk or train on the trail regularly and are therefore the most popular. The table shows the counter data from each of the sites for the 2023 calendar year for the overall total movements, cyclists and runners/walkers. It also contains the percentage change. The fluctuations are quite dramatic. Overall, however, there is a 3% decline in cyclists between the 2022 and 2023 calendar year based on the counters data.

1st January 2023 → 31st December 2023		
Site	Total	(%) Change
WCW - Hokitika Kaniere	30215	-19.6
WCW - Hokitika Kaniere Pedestrian	11386	-24.3
WCW - Hokitika Kaniere Cyclist	18829	-16.4
WCW - Kaniere Water Race	15161	-4.1
WCW - Kaniere Water Race Pedestrian	4413	0.7
WCW - Kaniere Water Race Cyclist	10748	-5.9
WCW - Karoro	42483	-10.9
WCW - Karoro Pedestrian	19871	-7.7
WCW - Karoro Cyclist	22612	-13.6
WCW - Kawhaka	8994	-5.9
WCW - Kawhaka Pedestrian	926	-13.3
WCW - Kawhaka Cyclist	8068	-5
WCW - Mahinapua	15447	18.7
WCW - Mahinapua Pedestrian	3280	-1.9
WCW - Mahinapua Cyclist	12167	25.8
WCW - Ruatapu	10553	2.9
WCW - Ruatapu Pedestrian	3131	59.4
WCW - Ruatapu Cyclist	7422	-10.4
WCW - Taramakau	12044	-1.6
WCW - Taramakau Pedestrian	1945	-25.2
WCW - Taramakau Cyclist	10099	4.7

The number of visitors who ride the entire trail is calculated off the counter on the Ruatapu/Ross straight. A deduction of 20% is made for local riders. This is the counter with the least riders past it as it is not a section people who ‘cherry pick’ necessarily do. It is therefore our indicator of full trail usage. For 2023 the total number riders estimated to ride the full trail was 5937, or around 6,000.

To calculate the full number of visiting riders on the trail, MBIE commissioned a body of work in 2020 for the 12 months to February 2020 (before the Covid lockdown began) that came up with a formula. That formula takes the calculation for full trail riders; deducts it from the three counters at Taramakau, Kaniere Water Race and Ruatapu; adds these together then multiples this by the number of visiting riders. (Note: The calculation will be explained in the full report and preliminary figures checked.) For that year the calculation indicated was 14,505.

If applied to the 2022 calendar year an estimated 6,627 rode the full trail from a total of 15,323 visiting riders. Applying that same formula for the 2023 year arrives at the 5,937 riders on the full trail and a total of 14,985 visiting riders. This indicates a decline in riders of between 2-3% for 2023. (Note: Given the Kaniere Water Race was closed for a month, it is probably fair to assume the two years have been on par).

The general assumptions from the data is that overall around 15,000 to 16,000 visitors come to ride the trail with around 6,000 – 7,000 of those riding the full trail. This has held pre Covid and appears to have continued around this level following that period of interrupted travel patterns.

## 5. Measures of Wellbeing

Wellbeing is also something that has been built into the trail surveys within the last two years. Information from riders shows the impact of riding the trail across many indicators. Of note are the impact on physical and mental wellbeing and appreciation of the environment with almost half of all riders surveyed indicated this has been improved.

	<b>West Coast Wilderness last 12 months</b>
<b>Sample Size (n)</b>	<b>513</b>
	<b>%</b>
<b>My physical fitness has improved</b>	44.6
<b>I have developed or improved my skills</b>	27.3
<b>My sense of wellbeing or mental health has improved</b>	49.9
<b>I have learnt more about myself</b>	15.2
<b>I have developed a closer relationship with the people I was with</b>	36.3
<b>I understand more about the natural environment</b>	25.1
<b>I understand more about the local culture and heritage</b>	39.6
<b>I appreciate the natural environment more</b>	47.4
<b>I appreciate the local culture and heritage more</b>	37.6
<b>I'm more conscious of my impact on the environment</b>	22.4
<b>I'm more determined to protect the natural environment</b>	26.5
<b>I'm more determined to protect our culture and heritage</b>	15.8
<b>My confidence as a cyclist has increased</b>	38.6
<b>I am more likely to cycle as an everyday form of transport</b>	13.6
<b>I was affected in some other way (please specify)</b>	3.3
<b>None of the above</b>	8

## 6. Overall Trail Performance

The data below shows the West Coast Wilderness Trail Scores matched against the average of all other trails. The trail is performing highly at most of the factors measured in the survey.

Factor	WCWT	AV All	
NPS	85	77	↑
Satisfaction	9.2	9	↑
Visiting for trail	75	77	↓
Nights on Trail	4.5	4.2	↑
Av Time on Trail	4.5 days	1-4 hrs	↑
E-bikes	52%	40%	↑
Bike Hire	4.8	4.6	↑
Bike Shuttle	4.9	4.7	↑
Guiding	4.6	4.3	↑
Toilets	4.1	4	↑
Accommodation	4.5	4.4	↑
Food and Beverage	4	4.1	↓
Other Activities	4.3	4.1	↑
Scenery	4.9	4.8	↑
Trail Difficulty (as advertised)	4.6	4.5	↑
Trail Gradient	4.6	4.5	↑
Signage	4.6	4.4	↑
Overall Trail Conditions	4.7	4.5	↑

## Cycling and Walking – Grey District Council: Feb 2024

Pike 29 Memorial Trail: We congratulate Dept of Conservation on the opening of this trail. This will increase interest and extend stays on the Paparoa Great Walk as well as linking walking and cycling to our recent history. We're already seeing business' offering shuttles and vehicle relocations to maximise the economic benefit this new trail will bring to the region as the trail network grows.

Lake Brunner Scenic Trail: From Moana around the western shoreline of the lake continues to grow and is nearing Bain Bay. Driven by a keen community group they have received funding from Lotteries, Grey District Council's three waters funding, community donations sponsors and fundraiser events. Another dual cycling and walking trail is proving popular with locals and tourists.

<https://vimeo.com/864207866/c9b5eb0c06?share=copy>

Blackball school flow track which I highlighted last report. Here are some links to show the wonderful community trail initiated from the students concept and built with community support and DIA funding. Here are two links showed the trail <https://bit.ly/4anXLyO> and [Facebook](#)

The Cobden Aromahana Sanctuary and Recreation Area (CASRA) has received sponsorship from a local business to extend the trail network around this old dump site and adjacent to the popular freedom camping area on the Cobden foreshore. Stage two plans to include board walks around the whitebait sanctuary on Cobden Island on the grey River to enhance walking in the area. [Facebook](#)

Vandalism continues to be an issue with the Brunner Mine Site in the Grey River the latest to be impacted. Another needless cost which Dept of Conservation covered in the reinstatement of the memorial site.

Tu Manawa Active Aotearoa Funding is open for applications from 12 Feb – 1 Mar for Play, Active Recreation and Sport projects targeting activation of children 5-18 and young women 19-24. With a priority focus for high deprivation communities, females and disability. Grants up to \$10k are welcome. [Sport Canterbury - TŪ MANAWA](#)

Cr Jack O'Connor

Grey District Council

Manawa Energy report for 15<sup>th</sup> February meeting.

The kawhaka race road from the Old Christchurch Road to the intake has been top dressed in portions and all pot holes have been repaired.

Tim Brownlee  
Generation site leader  
Westcoast Generation  
Manawa Energy.

## DOC update to WDC Cycling and Walking Sub-Committee 15 February 2024

The District's front country tracks and campsites were very popular over the summer break with several of the campgrounds at capacity.

The Hokitika Gorge is very busy. Large coach visits seem to be coming more frequent, with often several per day. Servicing of the site has been increased due to the added visitor pressures.

The Hokitika backcountry has seen high numbers over the summer break with huts, such as Cedar Flat Hut having over 70 parties for the year to date.

The Hokitika team have been busy with general front country maintenance as well as responding quickly and clearing windfalls on the Westland Wilderness Trail and Ross Water Race Walkway. They are also continuing to deliver the "fit for purpose" maintenance program with work so far being completed on backcountry huts in the Taramakau, Hunts and Arahura Valleys.

DOC has worked with local landowners to improve the ease of access where tracks cross private land. Signage and marking upgrades have been completed on the Te Araroa Trail, Pfeifer Biv access and Minga/Deception tracks. The Kokatahi valley has had signage added, with additional marking to be completed.

Work for the replacement of the Lower Hokitika Gorge Swingbridge started with the site being cleared for a full engineering design survey, which was completed on Thursday 8th Feb. Good rock was exposed on both sides of the river.

WSP has been engaged to complete inspection works on the Historic Mahinapua Rail Bridge. This is expected to be completed by June 30th. A Schedule of remedial works is expected as a result of the completed inspection.

Funding has been secured for installation of a waharoa or pou at the Hokitika Gorge.

*Owen Kilgour,  
Operations Manager  
Department of Conservation - Hokitika*





## Cycling and Walking Report - Westland Mountain Bike Club - 15/02/2024

Over the summer months the Club has been busy maintaining and upgrading the existing track network at Blue Spur. We have also started our biggest track project ever, a 1.5 km entry track linking Reg Cox Drive with the main track area of the forest. This will be an easy grade 3 track that can be ridden in both directions.

Below is a summary of the project so far.

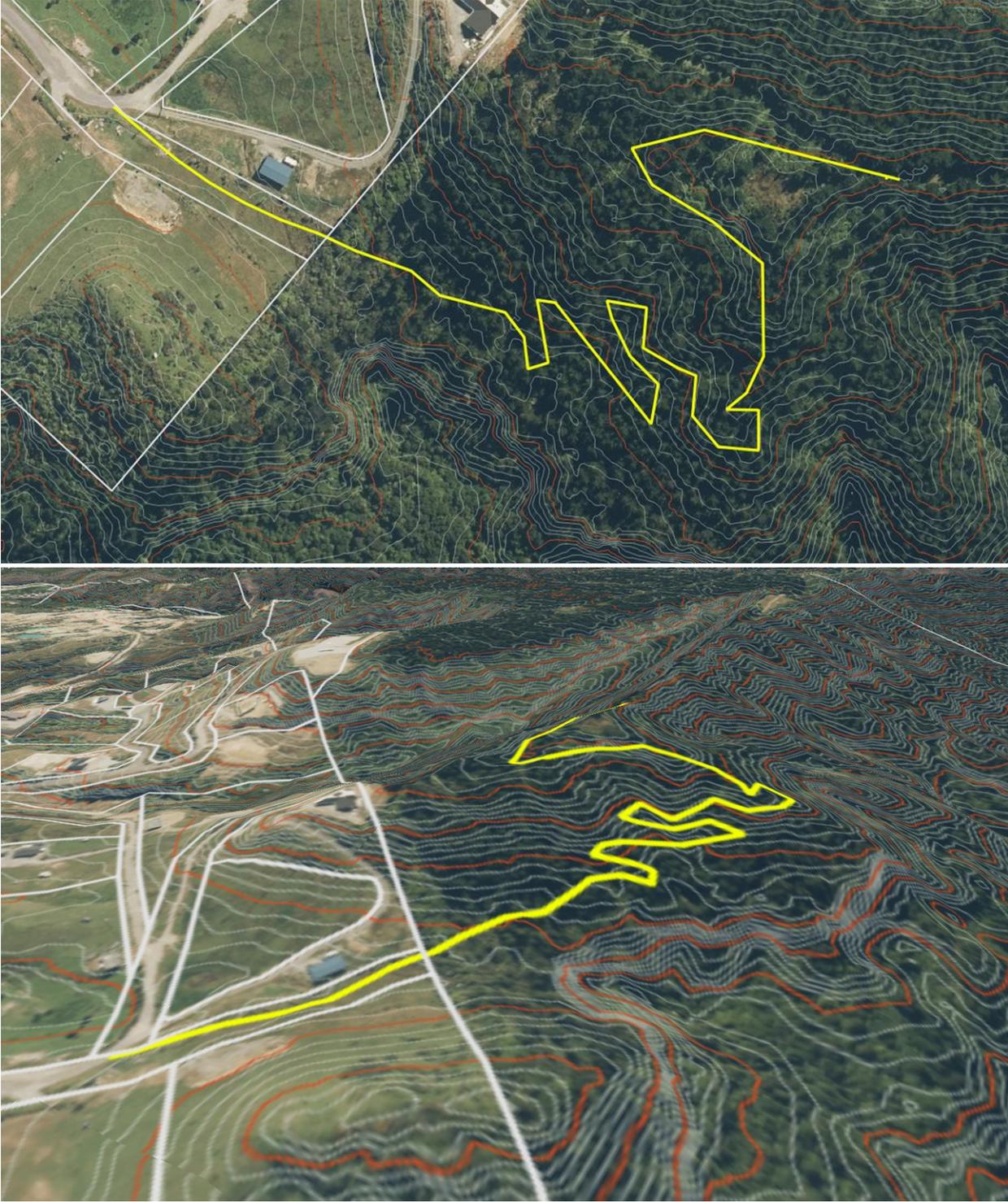
- a. Secured \$4,600 from The Lion Foundation towards digger hire
  - i. WMTBC agreed to match this with Club funds as required
- b. Obtain permission from Ngai Tahu Forestry to construct a track with a digger
  - i. This involved considerable effort from the club reviewing and developing H&S documentation. Develop construction methods that will ensure no damage to production trees.
- c. Initiate process of forming unformed legal road
  - i. Consultation with adjoining landowners
  - ii. Lodge Resource Consent with Westland District Council (we are yet to complete this)
  - iii. Fence the legal road (will negotiate with WDC and adjoining landowners)
  - iv. Form trail across legal road (this hasn't be started yet)
- d. Setout and clear track alignment (several hundred volunteer hours so far)
- e. Begin digger construction with Mike Osbourne (Paparoa Environmental Trust)
  - i. Track is  $\frac{1}{3}$  completed after four days of digger work
  - ii. We expect another  $\frac{1}{3}$  will be completed by the digger. The remainder will be hand built by the Club.
  - iii. Ngai Tahu Forestry is very happy with the work we have completed so far in terms of safe practises and protection of production trees

This project has consumed a huge amount of club time and energy over the past three months and will continue to do so over the coming months.

The main issues going forward are:

- Gaining WDC permission to form a track over the unformed legal road at the end of Reg Cox Drive
- Getting the legal road fenced as it is currently being grazed.

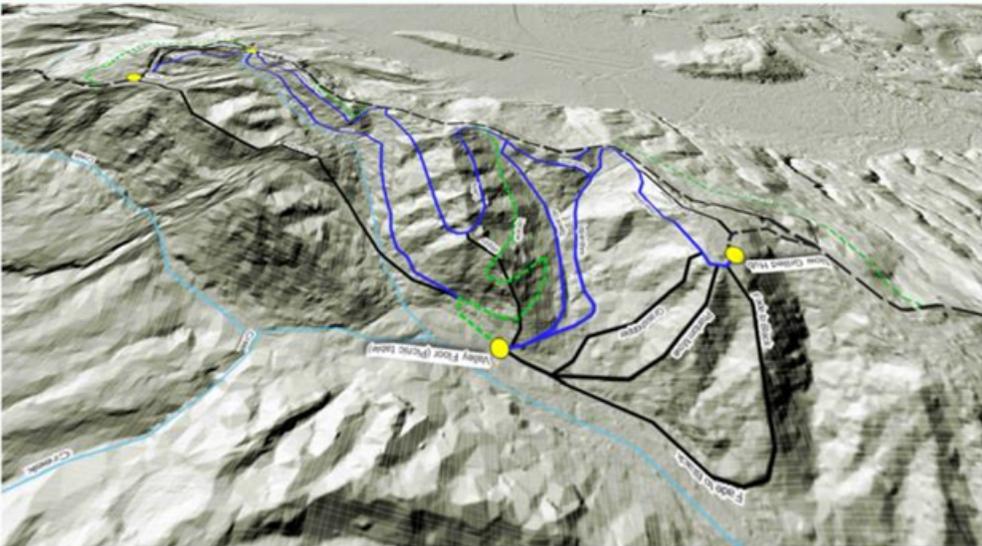
Track plans



## New MTB Signage

The WMTBC has been working with Signlink Graphics to produce information signage for the start of the new entry track and at key points throughout the track network.

BLUE SPUR FOREST TRAILS




These trails are on land owned by Ngai Tahu and managed as a production forest by Ngai Tahu Forestry. WMTBC are very grateful for the use of this area. Please respect the land and environment, and obey all signs.

**Suggested rides to make the most of your time:**

**1 hour**  
- ride up Reg Cox Drive - down 'Slow Girls' then 'Stags drop' - 'Bad boys' - 'The cutting' - follow gravel road back to Stations.

**1.5 hours**  
- ride up Reg Cox Drive - down 'Seesaw' - up 'Valley link' then 'Elevator' - up gravel road - down 'Stags drop' - 'Bad boys' - 'The cutting' - up gravel road to 'Slow girls' - down 'Slow girls' - up gravel road again - down 'Tunnels'. Ride up the road to Stations.

**2.5 hours**  
- ride up Reg Cox Drive - down 'Seesaw' - down 'Valley link' - up Blue Spur Range Rd - down 'The edge' - 'Gravel pit' - 'Stags' - 'Bad boys' - 'The cutting', up gravel road to 'Slow girls' - down 'Slow girls' - up gravel road again - down 'Tunnels'. Ride up the road to Stations.

All rides start and finish at Stations Inn (please park next to Info Kiosk on Cement Lead Rd). To get there by bike from Hokitika Town Centre, ride north on Fitzherbert St (SH4), turn right into Tudor St, left up Airport Drive then right into Industrial Park Road. Follow the trails signs to Stations Inn and to the Blue Spur Forest via

**MAP LEGEND**

MTB Trails: — Beginner, — Intermediate, — Advanced, — Expert

Gravel Roads: — Gravel Road

Other: ● Info Kiosk, ● Stations Inn, ● Reg Cox Drive

**GRADING INFO**

**Easy Grade 1** Gentle climbs and easy, avoidable obstacles such as rocks and potholes.

**Intermediate Grade 2** Steeper grades, rocky obstacles, possibly on narrow track, may be awkward at the outside edge.

**Advanced Grade 3** Loose surfaces, obstacles that are tricky to avoid or jump over, generally exposed at the outside edge.

**Expert Grade 4** Technically challenging obstacles, steep, narrow, loose.

**Extreme Grade 5** Technically challenging obstacles, steep, narrow, loose.

