

Warren Murdoch

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30 June 2026

Taupō Office
37 Motutaiko Street
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Taupō, 3351

Ref: OIAD-6230

Tēnā koe Warren,

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 10 May 2026, in which you asked for:

"Could you please provide me with all correspondence that relates to the building of this trail specially the second part of the trail"

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA).

On 13 May 2026 you refined your request to relate to Phase 2 of the trail and include:

- *emails concerning the building of the trail,*
- *emails and other correspondence outlining what needs to happen before work can commence on building the trail,*
- *emails and other correspondence which outlines why work has not commenced on the building of the trail*
- *emails and other correspondence explaining when work will commence on the trail.*

On 11 June 2026 we extended the timeframe to respond to your request to 30 June 2026 due to the consultation necessary to fulfil your request.

Te Ara Mangawhero Trail Phase 2 is progressing through its final pre-construction phase. Key approvals have primarily been secured, and funding arrangements are in place, with significant portions of the trail ready to proceed. Work is currently focused on completing the remaining contractual, procurement, and permitting requirements. Construction will commence once these final steps have been concluded, in accordance with the approved construction timeframe for the project.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed in the attached schedule, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- personal information, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,

- information provided in confidence, under section 9(2)(ba)(i) – to protect information where release would prejudice the ongoing supply of similar information.
- confidential information, under section 9(2)(ba)(ii) – to protect information where release would otherwise harm the public interest.
- free and frank expression under section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs,
- confidential information, under section 9(2)(j) – to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice.
- to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage under section 9(2)(k)

Please note some of the information has also been redacted as it was out of scope of your request.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the OIA.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached documents [may](#) be published on DOC's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Damian Coutts
Regional Director - Central North Island
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Document schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1.	28 October 2025	Letter: DC144 - Harridge - Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail Phase 2 - Oct 2025	Released in part.
2.	02 November 2025	Email: RE_ DRAFT Mountains to Sea Funding Notification Letter - Nov 2025 _IN-CONFIDENCE_	Released in part.
3.	02 November 2025	Email: Te Ara Mangawhero	CHECK RE PAUL'S NAME
4.	17 November 2025	Email: FW_ Works approval for Phase 2 Te Ara Mangawhero - track construction materials	Released in part.
5.	17 November 2025	Email: RE Works approval for Phase 2 TAM	Released in part.
6.	18 November 2025	Email: FW_ Bike Track Standards	Released in part.
7.	19 November 2025	Email: FW_ Ruapehu Cycle trails M2C - IVL \$\$	Released in part.
8.	19 November 2025	Email: RE_ Procurement update for Ruapehu Cycle trails M2C	Released in part.
9.	19 November 2025	Email: Re_ Ruapehu Cycle trails M2C - IVL \$\$	Released in part.
10.	20 November 2025	Email: FW_ Ruapehu Cycle trails M2C - IVL \$\$	Released in part.
11.	24 November 2025	Email: RE TAM catch-up DOC Tongariro	Released in part.
12.	24 November 2025	Email: RE TAM catch-up DOC Tongariro	Released in part.
13.	25 November 2025	Email: RE Ruapehu Cycle trails M2C - IVL \$\$	Released in part.
14.	25 November 2025	Email: Re_ DOC Technical advice on TAM phase 2	Released in part.
15.	26 November 2025	Email: 118578-OTH Nga Waihua o Paerangi Trust and 119432-AIR Nga Waihua o Paerangi Trust. Post Decision Actions.	Released in part.
16.	26 November 2025	Email: Ruapehu Cycle trails M2C - IVL \$ - sensitive	Released in part.
17.	27 November 2025	Email: FW_ IVL Fortnightly report to DPMC - for your input by Mon 1st Dec COP (1)	Released in part.
18.	27 November 2025	Email: Re_ Works approval for Phase 2 Te Ara Mangawhero - track construction materials	Released in part.
19.	27 November 2025	Email: TAM Phase 2	Released in part.

20.	08 December 2025	Email: Re 118578-OTH concession document	Released in part.
21.	09 December 2025	Email: RE Post decision actions query 118578-OTH	Released in part.
22.	10 December 2025	Email: RE_ Procurement Support for the Cyle Trail funding	Released in part.
23.	10 December 2025	Email: TAM Phase 2 Project Structure	Released in part.
24.	08 January 2026	Email: RE IVL project - Tongariro Cycleway - monthly reporting to Minister	Released in part.
25.	20 January 2026	Email: FW_ Concession application approval 118578-OTH	Released in part.
26.	20 January 2026	Email: Fw_ TAM Phase 2 Project Structure	Released in part.
27.	20 January 2026	Email: RE Concession application approval 118578-OTH - acknowledgement	Released in part.
28.	21 January 2026	Email: RE_ TAM Works Approval	Released in part.
29.	21 January 2026	Email: Fw_ 119432-AIR aircraft permit te ara mangawhero signed_	Released in part.
30.	28 January 2026	Email: 20260128 - Te Ara Mangawhero 118578-OTH WAA condition	Released in part.
31.	29 January 2026	Email: Re_ Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 - 118578-OTH	Released in part.
32.	17 February 2026	Email: RE_ Te Ara Mangawhero maintenance _IN-CONFIDENCE - RELEASE EXTERNAL	Released in part.
33.	22 February 2026	Email: RE_ TAM Phase 2 Project Structure	Released in part.
34.	09 March 2026	Email: Re_ Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail	Released in part.
35.	10 March 2026	Email: FW_ Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail	Released in part.
36.	10 March 2026	Email: RE_ Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail	Released in part.
37.	11 March 2026	Email: Re_ Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail	Released in part.
38.	11 March 2026	Email: FW_ Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail	Released in part.
39.	12 March 206	Email: Fw_ URGENT_ Re_ Te Ara Mangawhero Cycle Trail	Released in part.
40.	16 March 2026	Email: RE_ TAM works approval update	Released in part.

41.	18 March 2026	Email: FW_ TAM Catch Up Meeting	Released in part.
42.	18 March 2026	Email: RE TAM Phase 2 Works Approval - winter works conditions	Released in part.
43.	25 March 2026	Email: FW_ Catching up	Released in part.
44.	27 March 2026	Email: FW_ Meeting Notes	Released in part.
45.	30 March 2026	Email: RE_ Existing TAM and Hungaruru Trail Monitoring	Released in part.
46.	30 March 2026	Email: RE_ Te Ara Mangawhero	Released in part.
47.	31 March 2026	Email: Te Ara Mangawhero	Released in part.
48.	31 March 2026	Email: Re_ Draft special conditions for Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 works approval	Released in part.
49.	02 April 2026	Email: RE_ Draft special conditions for Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 works approval	Released in part.
50.	02 April 2026	Email: Re_ Works approval conditions - Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 draft	Released in part.
51.	15 April 2026	Email: Fwd_ Resource Consent Decision - APP-2024204926	Released in part.
52.	15 April 2026	Email: Nga Waihua o Paerangi Trust Wildlife Permit Application	Released in part.
53.	15 April 2026	Email: RE_ TAM Procurement Plan Review	Released in part.
54.	15 April 2026	Email: RE_ TAM Procurement Plan Review	Released in part.
55.	20 April 2026	Email: FW_ Resource Consent Decision - APP-2024204926_00	Released in part.
56.	22 April 2026	Email: Re_ For approval_ Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 works approval	Released in part.
57.	23 April 2026	Email: FW_ TAM Procurement Plan Signoff	Released in part.
58.	23 April 2026	Email: RE_ For approval_ Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 works approval	Released in part.
59.	27 April 2026	Email: Te Ara Mangawhero Phase 2 Works Approval	Released in part.
60.	07 May 2026	Email: Re_ Te Ara Mangawhero cycleway	Released in part.