

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

**Conrad Edwards**

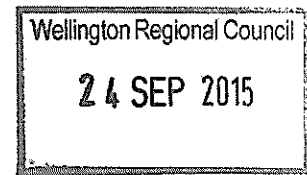
Submitter Number:

**S73**



To: Freepost 3156  
 Wellington Regional Council  
 PO Box 11646  
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz



**Your details**

Full name: Conrad John Toussaint Edwards

Organisation name:  
 (If applicable)

Address for Service: 32 Richard Street, Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022

Telephone no's: Work: 04 590 6755 Home: 04 236 6193 Cell: 021 843 467

Contact person: Conrad Edwards

Address and telephone no (if different from above):

**Electronic communication**

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here  if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: conrad@conradedwards.net

**Trade competition**

I/we **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to **Your Submission**]

I/we **could** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

If you **could** gain an advantage please complete one of the following:

I/we **are** directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely affects the environment and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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<p>The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):                  Motor vehicles in the fossil forest at Titahi Bay. This is Rule R199, plus Rules R190, R191, R196 and R198, Map 35 and Schedule J, and Policy P149.</p> <p>Other rules on issues other than motor vehicle access have similar confusion in locaiton of the fossil forest.</p>	<p>My submission on this provision is: →</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I <b>support</b> the provision  <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>oppose</b> the provision  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision <b>amended</b></p>
	<p>Reasons for my submission: →</p>	<p>Cars should be allowed on Titahi Bay beach while protecting the fossil forest.</p> <p>There a long and colourful history of cars on the beach. More importantly, it provides a means for families to most enjoy the beach. In summer especially, its allows many of the poorer residents of wider Porirua access to first class recreation. As a local, I sense that most of the complaints about cars on the beach are parochial – local white, well-off people who do not like the poorer people from other Porirua suburbs enjoying and cluttering 'their' beach. I am local, white and maybe relatively well-off, but I think the diversity and opportunity that car access to the beach allows and</p>

		<p>encourages is fantastic. Finally, car access is needed for boaties to launch and retrieve their craft, and for boatshed owners to access their sheds, at least when large or heavy items need moving.</p> <p>This needs to be made clear in the set of rules relating to it. In the current draft rules, there are confusing and inconsistent references to restrictions imposed on vehicle access to Titahi Bay beach, expressed differently in different rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R190: "on any exposed Titahi Bay fossil forest shown on Map 35"</li> <li>• R191 "the area of fossil forest shown on Map 35" plus "within the Titahi Bay fossil forest shown on Map 35"</li> <li>• R196 "within the area of Titahi Bay shown on Map 35" and then "within a site or habitat identified in [...] Schedule J (geological features)" which describes the area as "Titahi Bay fossil forest - Titahi Bay foreshore and nearshore, Porirua" without reference to Map 35.</li> <li>• R198 "inside a site or habitat identified in [...] Schedule J" (again)</li> <li>• R199 [the] "part of the foreshore shown on Map 35 as containing remnants of fossilised forest and any part of the remaining foreshore where any fossil forest is exposed"</li> </ul> <p>Policy P149 restates it in yet another way: "in areas containing remnants of fossil forest shown on Map 35".</p> <p>Map 35 itself is entitled "Titahi Bay Fossil Forest (indicative)" and shows a crude arc spanning the entire beach. It does indicate that the version is not complete, and that detailed information is on the GIS copy. At 24 September 2015, the overlays were not visible on the referenced website, so I cannot comment on them. I note however that the three primary references behind the map do not support a crude 'whole beach' approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The WRC paper DOC 1371613 simply says that "The stumps closest to the surface are intermittently uncovered by storm erosion and are visible around the mid to low tide mark."</li> <li>* Begg 1996 says "beneath the sands of Titahi Bay at Arnold Park" which is at the South end of the beach (and gives a precise grid reference).</li> <li>* Campbell, 1996 I could not source but it is cited by Hayward 2009 who summarises as "Protruding from the intertidal sand in the middle of the beach".</li> </ul> <p>I can thus see no evidence that the whole of Titahi Bay beach is fossil forest. As a local beach walker for some 25 years, my observation is that the forest is very localised, and only occasionally exposed.</p>
	<p>I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →</p>	<p>Clarify that the the plan and rules should make clear that cars are allowed to drive on Titahi Bay beach except where they could damage the fossil forest, which is where it is exposed at that time.</p> <p>Amend the provisions to make this clear and unambiguous, and in particular:</p> <p>(a) It should be made absolutely clear what Map 35 will portray when it is no longer indicative. This should be known areas of fossil forest, i.e. areas of the beach where fossil remnants have been observed. This is NOT the whole foreshore as the crude indicative version implies.</p> <p>(b) Schedule J, or any of the rules, should not redefine the area of fossil forest in different words. Rather it should cross reference Map 35, by adding "as shown in Map 35" or similar.</p> <p>(c) The fossil forest remnants are usually deeply covered by sand, but sometimes become visible as the sand shifts after storms and at lower tides. All rules referring to the fossil forest (directly or via Map 35 or schedule J) should be clear that it is the exposed, currently (at the time) visible parts of the forest where activities are precluded.</p> <p>It needs to be made clear too that car access to Titahi Bay beach is permitted to launch and retrieve boats, and for boatshed owners to access their sheds.</p>

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<p>The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): .</p>	<p>My submission on this provision is: →</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision  <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended</p>
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#### Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

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- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: Conrad Edwards

Date: 24 September 2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB: Not required if making an electronic submission]

#### Publication of details

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Signature: Conrad Edwards

Date: 24 September 2015

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