

Pukehina Cycleway/Walkway

A project from the Pukehina Residents' and Ratepayers' Association



Objectives of the Association (PRRA)

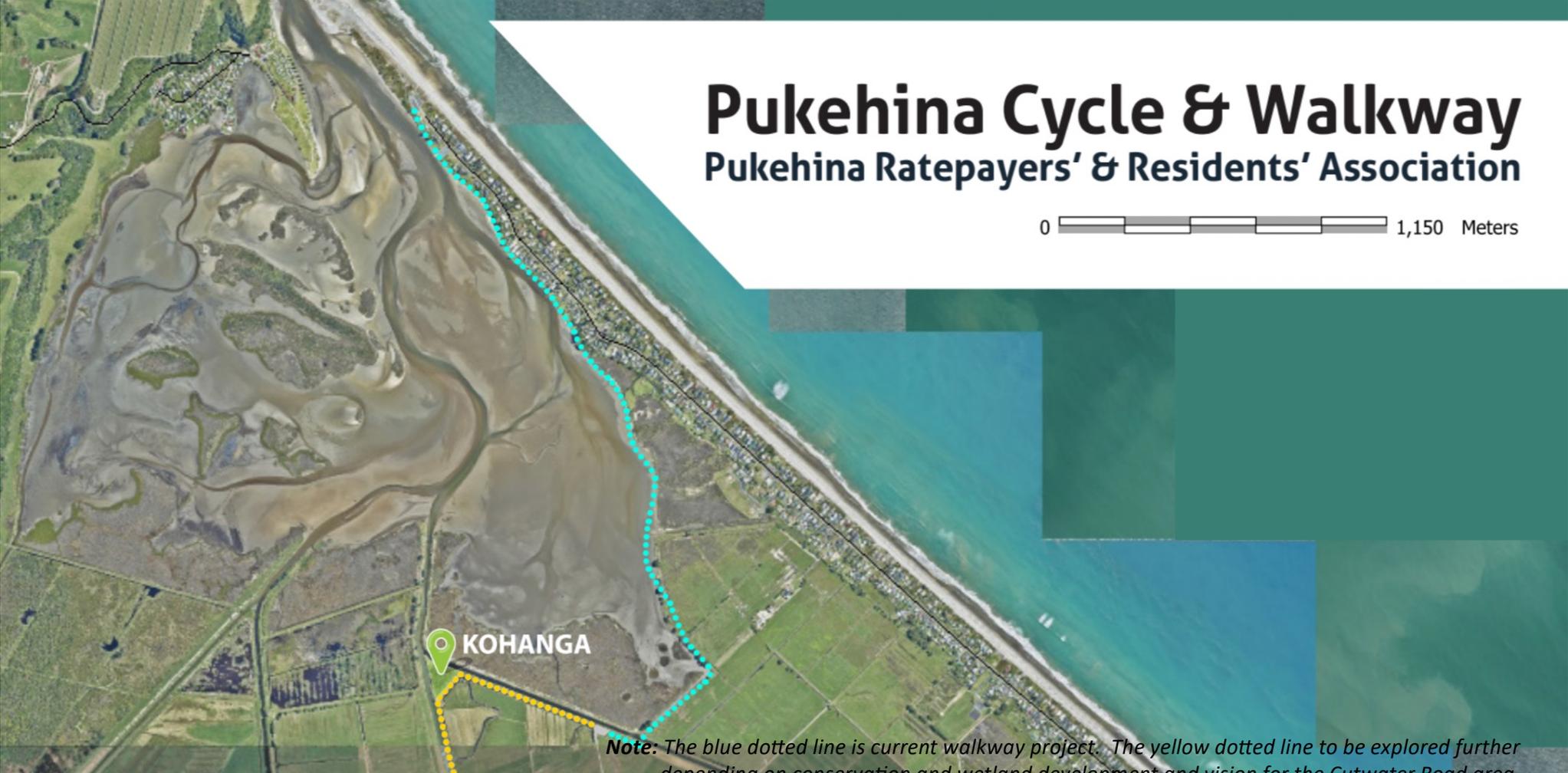
1. To promote a safe and friendly community that cares for the special environment and character of Pukehina Beach (manaaki whenua, manaaki tangata, manaaki taiao)
2. To promote awareness and discussion on matters of interest to the Pukehina Community
3. To represent the views of ratepayers and residents to our local councils
4. To assist with the development and provision of excellent community facilities that contributes to community hauora/wellness.



Pukehina Cycle & Walkway

Pukehina Ratepayers' & Residents' Association

0  1,150 Meters



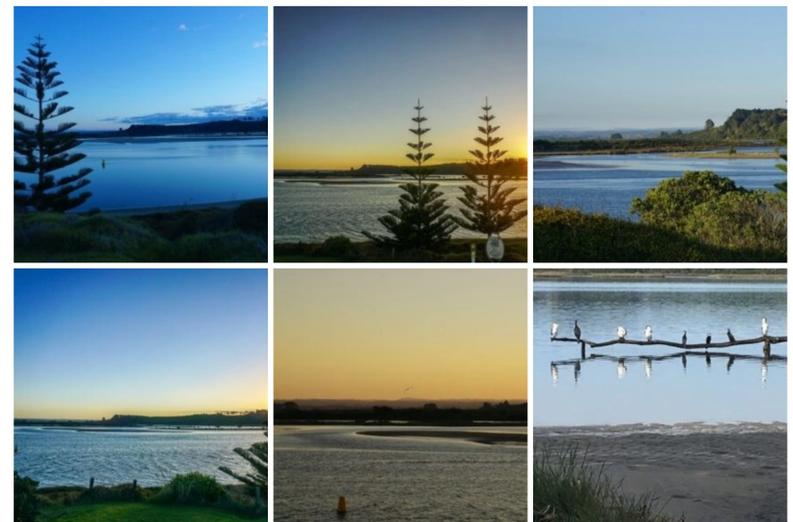
 KOHANGA

Note: The blue dotted line is current walkway project. The yellow dotted line to be explored further depending on conservation and wetland development and vision for the Cutwater Road area.

We are shovel ready!

Our Association has a resource consent to develop a Cycle/walkway along Waihi estuary from the Pukehina Surf Club to Cut Water Road (67403).

- This includes the construction of a cycleway/walkway including four sections of boardwalk, two bridges and a pumice pathway.
- The walkway/cycleway is on Crown Land (Marginal Strip) and Block Waihi South SD Section 65 Block I Waihi SD (Western Bay of Plenty District).
- Our consent expires 21st May 2048.



A very special place

A wide variety of native and migrant birds use the estuary and mudflats for feeding and roosting, especially during the winter.

- Bar-tailed godwits, royal spoonbills, heron, wrybill, the extremely rare and threatened fairy tern, and bittern.
- The estuary has large areas of natural saltmarsh, an enclosed mainly freshwater wetland, streams and farm drains.
- A lot of mahi is currently taking place to restore the mauri and water quality of the estuary. Te Wahapū o Waihi and Wai Kōkopu are working with landowners and regional council to change practices & create a thriving estuary.



Variable Oystercatcher



Bar-Tailed Godwit



White-Fronted Tern



Photo credit Maketū Ōngātoro Wetland Society <https://maketuwetlands.org.nz>

Organisations and people that care

A lot of mahi is currently taking place to restore the mauri and water quality of the estuary and restore the biodiversity and ecosystems of the surrounding whenua/land.

Ka nui te mihi ki a koutou 😊

- Te Wahapū o Waihi
- Wai Kōkopu
- Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society
- Department of Conservation
- Fish and Game
- BOP Regional Council
- Western BOPDC
- Predator Free BOP
- Bay Conservation Alliance



Connecting our community

A constructed cycleway/walkway has a huge number of benefits to the local and wider community:

- Hauora/wellness - exercise and recreational opportunities, nature connection
- Increased access to a spectacular environment - encouraging manaaki/care, respect and appreciation for our native wildlife and estuarine/wetland environments
- Connection and potential links to the wider network of cycleways in the WBOP
- A safe cycling and walking route.



Where are we at in 2026?

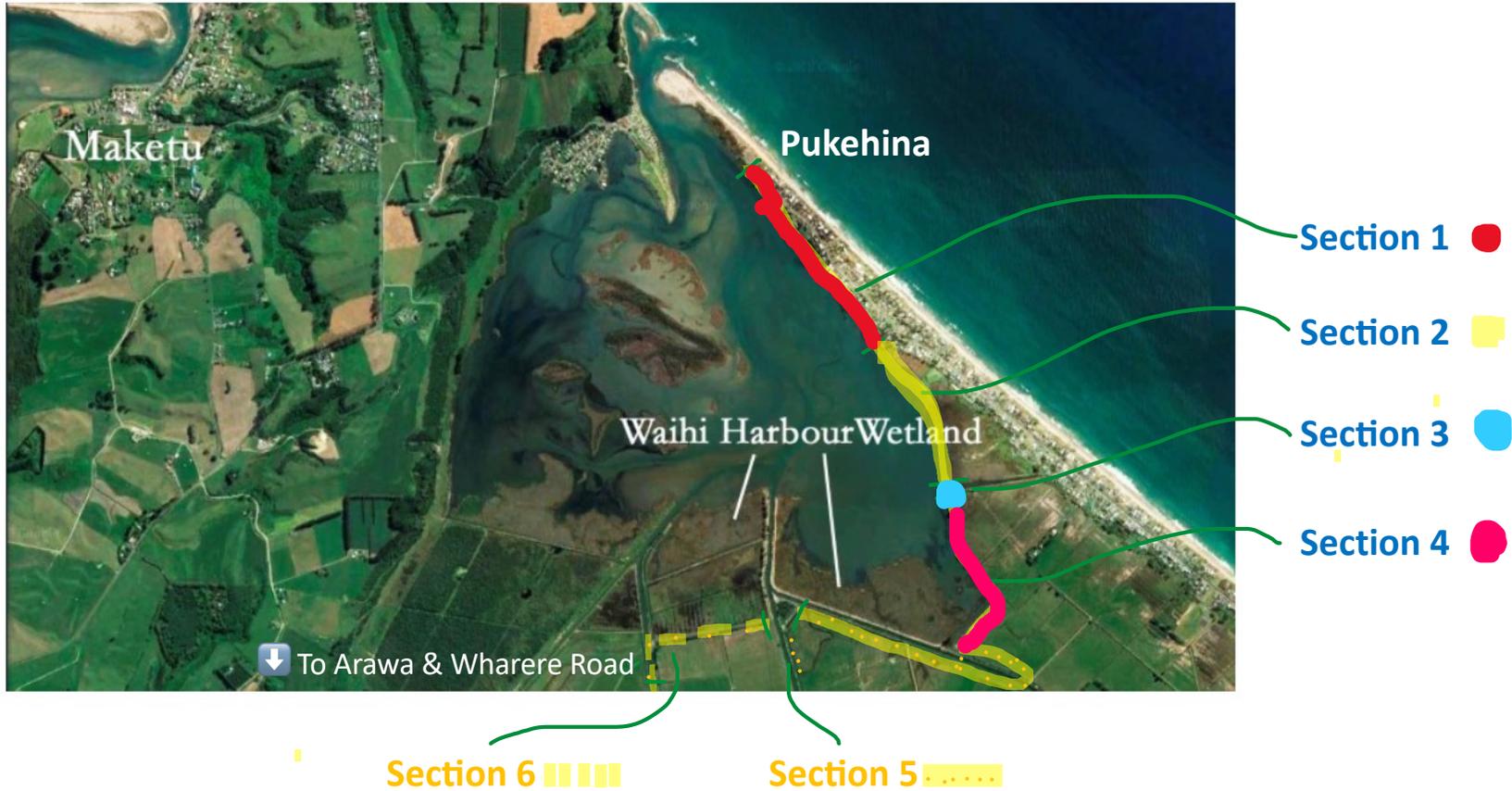
It's an exciting project that's been a long time in the wings but things have been progressing!

1. We have created some interim solutions to make parts of the trail more accessible:
 - completed erosion control works in section 1 of trail
 - replaced the set of stairs with a new set that includes a bike gutter to the stop bank
 - continued the mowing of the stop bank post the amazing weed control that MOWS have done/do
 - marked the trail through the wetland ready for boardwalk planning
2. We have secured some funding for the boardwalk and bridge sections:
 1. \$50k from WBOPDC to assist with boardwalk planning and implementation
 2. \$150,000 from the Pukehina Development Fund to assist with boardwalk construction
 3. A RFP bridge with handrails to go across the stop bank (from WBOPDC)
3. Are working with:
 - MOWS to extend the weed control programme for cooch grass
 - Ngāti Whakahemo to name the walkway
 - Other organisations to ensure we all understand the roles and conservation focuses for this precious area.



Paradise created by nature and cared for by the community

The Trail 😊



Section 1: Ororoa Reserve to 604 Pukehina Parade

- This section is Crown Land, a grass reserve strip that will remain unchanged.
- We completed a coastal report in 2021 and removed over 6 tonnes of concrete rubble at the Boat ramp/Oruroa Reserve.
- We completed sand re-nourishment (using sand from the Surf Club building excavation), removed rubbish dumped and buried over the years, relocated picnic tables, laid topsoil and grass:
 - This has created a welcoming start to the trail and restored the mauri of this area.
 - It no longer floods in king tides
 - Great partnership with Ngāti Whakahemo hapū, WBOPDC, BOPRC, DOC & the Surf Club.
 - Thanks to all the volunteers that helped!



Section 2: 604 Pukehina Parade to culvert

- This section of the trail is wetland and will comprise of a raised wooden boardwalk and some mowed grass parts.
- It will be able to be used by bikes, walkers, pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.



Section 3: Bridge across the culvert

- The aim here is to construct a small bridge from the boardwalk (section 2) across to the top of the stop bank.
- Current quote for bridge is \$50,000 – we have been able to get this donated.
- We built an interim set of stairs in 2022, with a bike gutter so the stop bank pathway is accessible at low tide.



Section 4: Along the stop bank to the Pukehina Canal

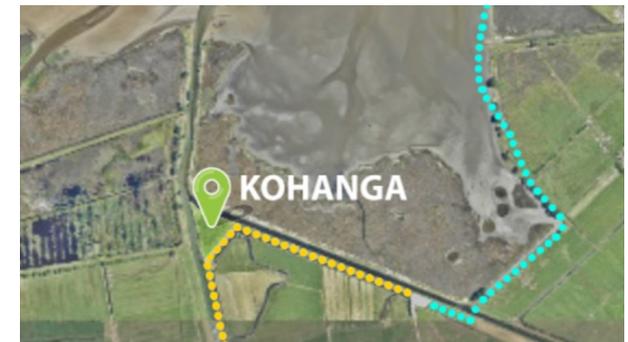
- Once up on the stopbank the pathway goes to the Pukehina awa/canal, then you turn around and re-trace your steps
- MOWS have cleared the stopbank of pampus and gorse and this is now regularly mowed by the adjacent landowner.
- The aim here is to keep mowing this area along to the Pukehina canal. We think it will be suitable as is without constructing a pumice track.
- *NB: future plans could include linking to Cutwater Road or Midway Park but will require more kōrero.*



Section 5:

The Kohanga – wetland area at end of Cutwater Road

- This area was developed in 2021/22 and is now planted and growing into an incredible ecological area.
- Te Wāhapu o Waihi have recently created a new wetland and this will become another flourishing ecological area.
- *NB: the current consent we hold takes the walkway to Cutwater Road (a track alongside the canal, across an existing culvert or build bridge #2 and to Cutwater Road). With the incredible conservation and restoration mahi over the past five years this will need to be re-visited with the organisations working in this area.*



One vision was to create a pathway back along the Pongakawa Awa and come out at the Pukehina turnoff on State Highway 2 (yellow dotted line).



Potential for Section 6:

Bridge across Pongakawa River - linking to Wharere and Arawa Road

- Many years ago there was a bridge that went across the Pongakawa Awa connecting up to Wharere road
- If the bridge was replaced there would be a community link to Wharere and Arawa Road 😊
- *NB: This is to be explored further depending on conservation and wetland development and vision for the Cutwater Road area.*



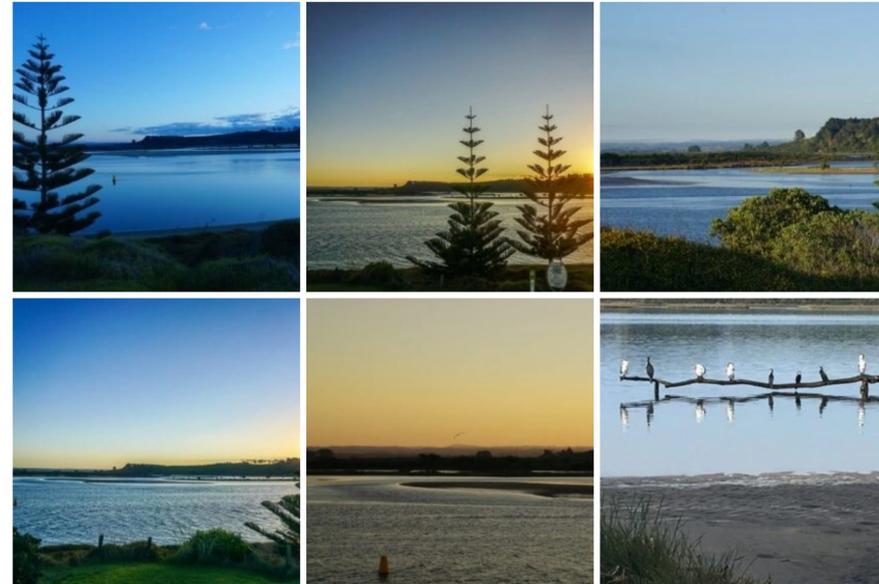
Ka nui te mihi!

For more information see pukehinabeach.co.nz



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Welcome to Pukehina Beach



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