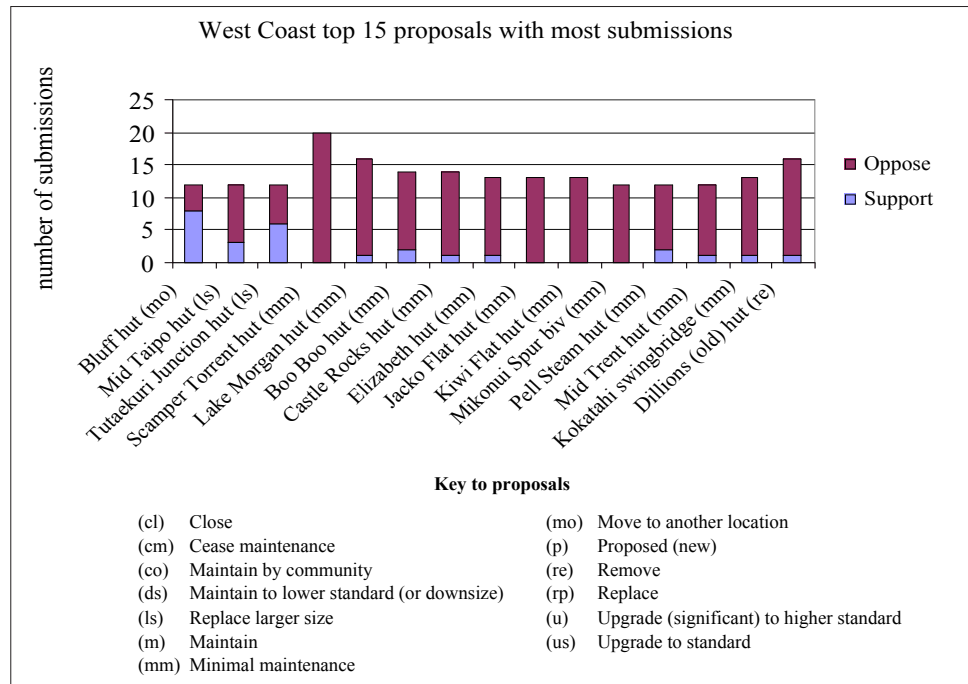




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West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservancy recreation opportunities review Summary of submissions and decisions

Submission analysis



- A particular focus of submissions in West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservancy is on huts, with the most submissions relating to the desire to retain huts proposed for minimal maintenance or removal.
- Linked to the attention on huts is the preference to retain and improve the access between valley systems that can be provided by sections of marked and periodically cleared route through more difficult sections of scrub. Retaining key bridges to enable access across catchments has also been promoted.
- Most submissions related to Greymouth and Hokitika Area proposals.
- In Buller Area most submitters were seeking to retain Scotts Beach campsite as a backcountry camping experience.
 - Further development around Punakaiki was also promoted by submitters.
- Greymouth Area submitters focused on some short walk opportunities, and the desire to manage sections of track in the mountains to ensure access between valleys and across the alps. Huts associated with these more remote trips were requested to be retained.
- Hokitika Area submissions focussed on the backcountry.
 - The argument was presented that the proposals did not represent a full range of opportunities, with open tops and weekend trip opportunities not well provided for.



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- Additional argument is that huts and tracks in less popular locations should be retained now as opportunities for backcountry enthusiasts when other places become too busy due to tourism. Such an approach would also preserve the historic character of the backcountry.
- Franz Josef *Waiiau* Area received very few submissions focussed on the existing tourism infrastructure.
 - Most submissions related to Castle Rocks hut due to its location and links to climbing in that area.
 - Support was received for enhanced access between valley systems, but also concern at encroaching on the Adams Wilderness zone.
- South Westland *Weheka* Area received few submissions.
 - Day visitor proposals were considered to be the responsibility of the tourism industry, and gained some opposition. Contradicting this view were the strong local submissions received regarding more facility provision between Haast and Jacksons Bay.

Decisions

Buller *Kawatiri* Area

Scotts Beach camping area will be retained. The Inland Pack track between Bullock Creek and the Pororari river will be maintained as a walking track as part of a suite of day visitor opportunities at Punakaiki.

Greymouth *Mawheranui* Area

The continuation and enhancement of traditional tramping opportunities and linkages between Canterbury and the West Coast are being supported through several proposed routes, including:

- The addition of short sections of marked route in the upper valleys of the Waiheke and Tutaekuri, associated with an Amuri - Hope Pass circuit.
- The provision for access through the Haupiri and Trent valleys, including the maintenance of the Elizabeth and Mid Trent Hut.

Improved access is being pursued for hunting in the Waikiti catchment, access to the open tops of Lake Morgan and for climbing Mt Alexander.

The Croesus track will be managed as an easy tramping track.

Hokitika Area

Decisions see the reversal of proposals to remove some swing bridges and maintain four huts in the backcountry.

Remote trips into the Hokitika backcountry will be supported with additional routes for the Mikonui Spur-Mt Bowen trip and the Steadman brow-Mt Beaumont system. Weekend access to the open tops via the Toaroha Range and the Scamper Torrent circuit will be improved through maintained routes.

A four-wheel drive standard road will be provided near Ross and a walk to interpret the Giant Kokapu habitat will be improved.

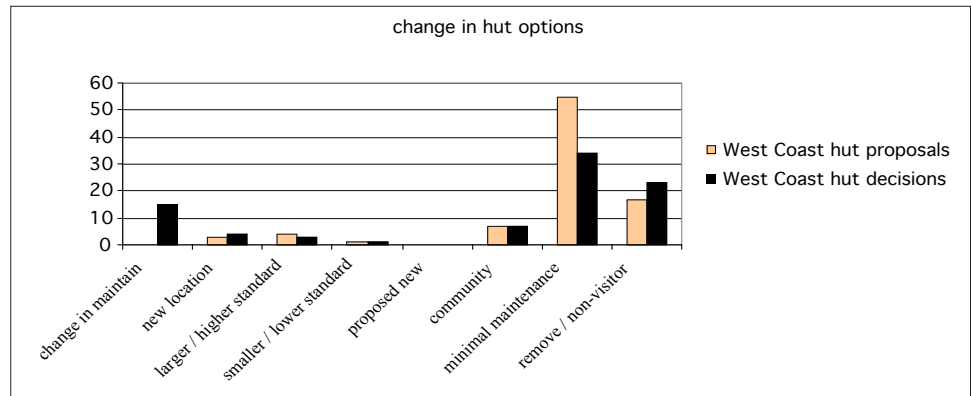
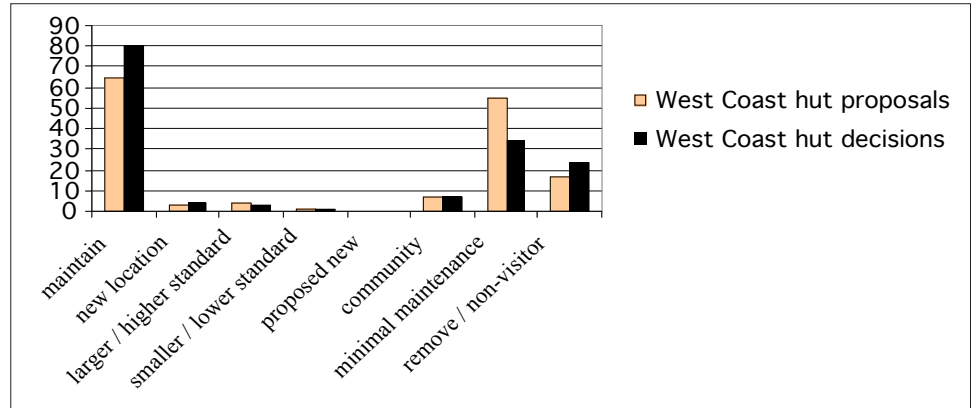
Franz Josef *Waiiau* Area

Interim decisions include the maintenance of the Castle Rocks hut and the addition of a route to the Blue Lookout in the Wanganui River backcountry to enable hunting and alpine tramping/climbing. A tramping track will be maintained in the Saltwater forest, and the tracks between Franz Josef township and the Glacier valley will be maintained as walking tracks.

In order to climb Mt Adams, a marked route will be maintained to the open tops.

South Westland *Webeka* Area

Access will be provided as marked routes in both the Moeraki and Paringa River valleys in order for parties to cross into the Clarke Valley and access Marks Flat in the Hooker/Landsborough wilderness area.



West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservancy will manage 1186km of track in the future, 177km more than the current track network. The changes in proposals for tracks, resulting from consultation, are shown in the following figure. The first bar represents the *change* in track length to be 'maintained' as *decisions* compared with *proposals*, and the other bars compare actual length of track first with *proposals* and then *decisions* to change from the current situation.

