

INTERIM SUMMARY TO NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR RECREATION CONSORTIUM

Kill Devil Carpark, Road Access and surrounding structures

The idea was broached, the application was made, and the funding granted!

Due to the increased popularity of the Kill Devil/Waingaro tracks we had noticed a dramatically increased number of people using the track and we thought this was fantastic! However, due to the scary wheel track wide bridge, the washed away driveway, the minimal parking and the confusing signage some were turning away, some were parking in the wrong place, and many were getting lost.

My mother Beverley Johnson and her partner Max Polglaze live on the land that the Kill Devil track travels through. We are very appreciative of the work DOC has done in upgrading and restoring the track and huts of this historic area. The three of us decided we would like to add our support of this work by upgrading and maintaining the carpark area which we see as the gateway to this unique area. We would like to ensure that the track continues to be utilised and enjoyed by trampers and cyclists alike.

We aimed to complete the following:

- Eliminate the 'narrow bridge' by adding additional steel ramps to make the wheel track wider.
- Replace or unblock two pipes in a culvert further up the road that are permanently blocked and during flooding are washing the road away
- Clear the scrub and blackberries, and create a parking platform
- Erect a long drop that we will take responsibility for servicing
- Wash and paint the shed that houses the Intentions book
- Grade and re-gravel the road to the track start
- Improve signage leading up to the track
- Install picnic table



Kill Devil Track sign, January 2017 and its replacement, July 2017.

So what made us the people to take on this project?

The man power of our trio is **Max Polglaze**. Now this man needs barely any introduction. Max is a man of the North-West Nelson area. He was with the New Zealand Forest Service (NZFS) before the area became Kahurangi National Park. He built most of the huts in the area and has been traditionally restoring some of them for the last few years. Riordan's is one of his refurbishments. Max is a master of hand tools and as such the work we completed was mostly using hand tools cos that's what we have the most of! In fact Max has a van that Mum and I call 'The Big White Toolbox' that houses all of his traditional tools. Max can use a slasher better than the Grim Reaper and Freddy Krueger combined. He was responsible for the mass hand clearing of the scrub that had spread its tendrils far and wide. He also digs a mean long drop hole and built the new long drop. Max also worked with the digger driver to repair the blocked pipe in the existing culvert.

Next to be introduced is **Beverley Johnson**. Beverley was also an NZFS employee in the now Kahurangi National Park. Karamea Bend and South were her stomping ground. She and Max now live on the property that the Kill Devil wanders through, having moved back into the district after many years in the Central Otago region. They access their property via the area that we have adopted. Bev also cleared scrub along with her band of faithful Central Otago sheep who thought the area looked like great snacking potential. Bev also had many years of building and restoration background. Her most recent restoration occurred in St Bathans where she successfully restored a mud brick shell from a 'dive' for possums back into a beautiful three bedroom home. Bev has a vast exposure to voluntary work all of her life with recent positions of responsibility with: The St Bathans Water

Board, and Rural Women – St Bathans/Cambrian. Mum and Max have both completed a stint on Stephens Island as DOC warden's.

And I'm the third part of the trio. I am **Anne Meyer**, and I am the daughter of Snow Meyer, another infamous name within the Nelson region. I live in Wellington, and work as an Intensive Care Paramedic. This made me the informal medic for our project and thereby in charge of prickle removal! Ironically Bev broke her ankle just before we were due to start the project and I experienced a major medical event meaning that Max was the healthiest and most able bodied out of all of us! I was the technological aspect of our trio as I have the computer, and internet access that does not require climbing a tree whilst holding a metal tipped umbrella. I painted the intention's book shed, also cleared scrub and was the liaison for communicating with The Consortium and DOC, and producing the before and after reports and photo evidence. I've spent a lot of time working voluntarily with youth in sports and community groups such as scouting and girl guides.

Intentions Shelter

The shelter was starting to look 'a little rough on it'. The trees were overhanging it, and the debris from the trees, was catching on the top of the roof, rotting and causing the paint to dissolve. Anne stripped back the shelter, removed the paper wasp nest and repainted using donated paint from Dulux's 'Protecting our Place' partnership. The shelter is now dressed in the new DOC colour scheme colours.



Intentions Shelter, January 2017.



Max, trimming branches above the shelter. and scrubbed back ready for paint, February 2017





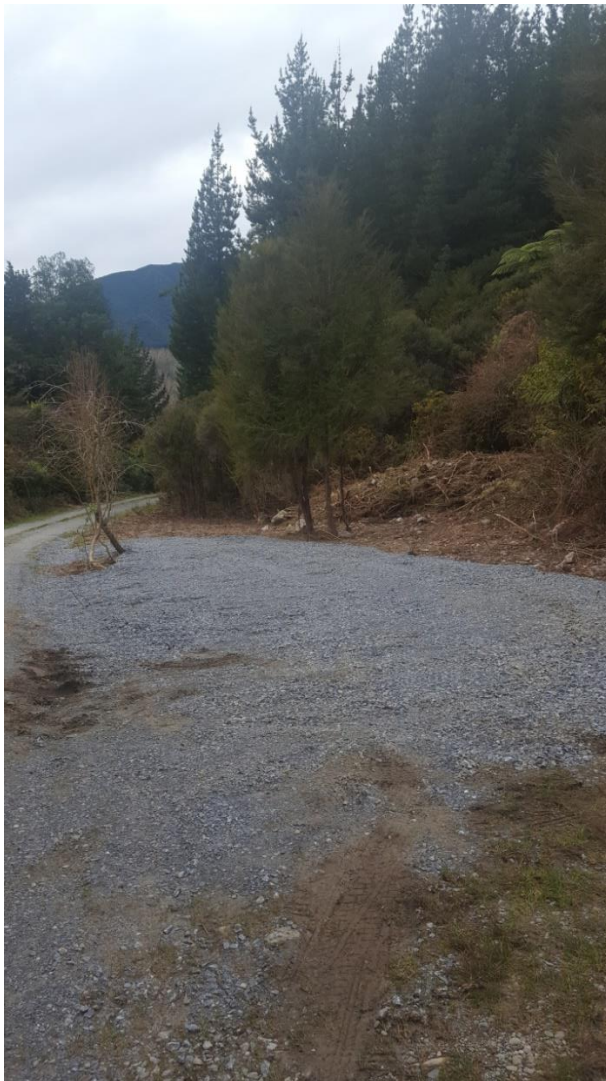
Intentions Shelter – Completed February 2017

Scrub and Parking

There was minimal parking within the approved carpark area, as the land had been over-run with scrub, namely blackberry and gorse. After clearing the blackberries and gorse, there is now parking for more than eighteen cars. This is compared to the previous space to park for three vehicles. A digger was utilised to create a parking platform where the more vigorous blackberry and gorse was growing that was unable to be cleared by hand.



Scrub north of current parking, and parking for maximum of three, as at January 2017



Scrub cleared by digger, gravel spread, parking for ten. July 2017



Looking down the road, no available parking. January 2017



Scrub being cleared, main parking area. July 2017



Bev and Max clearing scrub, Intentions shelter parking. February 2017



Anne and Max loading up trailer, May 2017.



Looking down the road, Intentions shelter parking for four on the left of road, main parking for ten on the right. July 2017



Bev, clearing blackberry and gorse, creating overflow parking, May 2017



Same area, now overflow parking for three cars. June 2017.



More overflow parking. Will suit one brave car! April 2017.



Sheep on scrub clearing duty, March 2017

Eliminate the 'narrow bridge' by adding additional steel ramps to make the wheel track wider.

The narrow, wheel width ramps over the forde have now been doubled in width. This has made the forde safer and easier to cross for those unfamiliar with the roading.



'Narrow crossing', January 2017



Warning sign prior to coming over brow of hill onto wheel track wide forde, January 2017



Re-digging ford in preparation for two additional ramps.



Max, rock clearing ready for ramps. April 2017.



Two ramps become four, safety increased dramatically and scare factor decreased. April 2017

Replace or unblock concrete pipes in culvert that are causing road to wash away.

A mole plow that hauled the telephone lines onto the neighbouring properties had shifted and broken the pipes for the culvert that ran under the road. Whilst we had the digger for clearing a parking pad, we dug up the pipes and managed to make four pipes line back up to remedy the poor drainage of the road in.



Pipes under roadway, currently blocked at inaccessible point, January 2017



Graeme Chamberlain and Max digging up blocked pipe, clearing then reburying. July 2017



Blockage found! July 2017



Pipe repair – Kill Devil style, July 2017

Signage.

A lot of the signage had fallen away, become hidden by foliage, or was now overshadowed by bigger roadways. In conjunction with DOC who made us new, larger or replacement signs, the access to the Kill Devil track is now much clearer, and it is more obvious where to park.



Kill Devil track turnoff, Uruwhenua Rd, January 2017



Old sign on newer higher post, June 2017.



Welcome to the Kill Devil!!,(aka as Kil De L Vi) January 2017



New sign placed half way up driveway, June 2017



Digging holes for sign posts. Max, June 2017.



Next new sign leading the way, June 2017.



Fork in the road, with hidden left arrow, January 2017



Fork in the road. Direction sign moved & repainted, 'tramper' logo added. February 2017



Long Drop

Prior to starting their walk/tramp/ride recreationalists were toileting on the side of the driveway. This made for toilet paper flying around the carpark, and strategic dodging of the odd 'landmine'. We have built a long drop and positioned it discretely in trees, away from the stream bed. We will take the responsibility for servicing and maintaining the long drop.



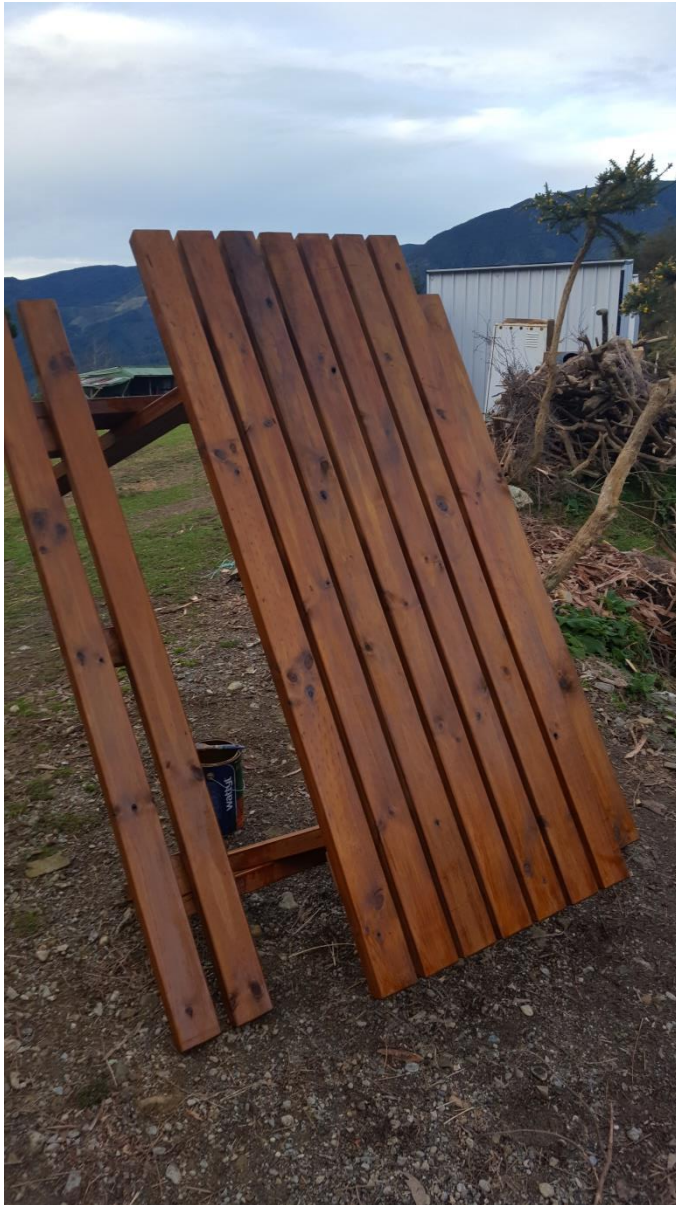
New Long drop being created April 2017



New toilet in progress. April 2017.

Picnic Table.

In an effort to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere, we have placed a picnic table in the carpark.



Picnic table, staining July 2017