

Rereata Rogers
Te Urewera Board
PO Box 56
Taneatua 3163

Dear Rereata,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to Te Urewera Board.

Although I am not a descendant nor have any Maori roots, I feel a strong connection with Te Urewera and in particular SH38 since a child for various reasons.

Te Urewera is a unique Taonga and needs to be maintained, respected and overseen, whilst enjoying its unique and one of a kind experiences and opportunities.

Rereata, if appropriate and keeping in context with Te Kawa O Te Urewera objectives, please submit to the board the following.

1/ Untimely because of recent weather, but a journey earlier in year identified the need for 'larger' or more 'pull-off' areas to view primary and slightly hidden sights/vista's.

2/ Signage to advise tourists of historical events and milestones of Tuhoe and the likes of the Maori wars, achievements and country road hazards/liquor driving cautions along the journey of SH38 to ease the 'boredom or monotony' of such a road to encourage drivers to stay alert and encourage safe use.

3/ Much of the lakes view from SH38 is obstructed with vegetation that has quietly grown over the years. Mindful of conservation and the need to protect species, there appears to be many patches that can be thinned or significantly dealt to.

4/ Neighbourhood watch type signs indicating to expect extra vigilance from locals. After speaking with several people and experiencing it for my self earlier in the year, when looking around Tuai and Ruatahuna township, the approach by locals inquiring about our intentions and 'business' in the area was a little intimidating.

I for one been very photo happy, if there are courtesies or etiquette 'out of the norm' in the area that locals wish be followed please advise via signage.

5/ Upon querying the new Museum at Lake Waikaremoana I was told it is not open on weekends and as for the whereabouts of

the treasures that existence in the old Head Quarters museum, the staff member was not sure of the whereabouts of these items.

In order to have people return to the area I feel its imperative to have regular hours and as many Taonga available for viewing. The presence of Te Urewera Hilux vehicles was clearly evident and plentiful, it would be a shame to have monies concentrated too much into liable resources like vehicles.

6/ Some form of 24/7 coffee/refreshment facility at Waikaremoana and Ruatahuna for those unsavvy with local business hours etc.

In summary from an avid SH38 user point of view, in order to have people support, spread the word and participate in Tuhoe/Te Urewera, SH38 needs to be attractive enough and 'entertaining' enough and facilitate enough to cater for those unfamiliar with your fine piece of New Zealand and beautiful villages.

Feel secure that they are not upsetting local traditions or etiquette when sightseeing more residential areas.

Feel in the event that bad planning or neglect on their part doesn't leave them totally thirsty or hungry on such a potentially lengthy journey.

The occasional working bee to fill in pot holes clean signs etc and even a toll to assist in the upkeep of the road.

I would happily pay a toll to use SH38. Especially if it helped maintain the extra potholes prone under the drip lines of trees after winter rains.

As for the facilities, the toilets and picnic areas are some of the best I've seen! It's a real credit to Tuhoe, such isolated tourist resources yet the upkeep of these facilities is truly awesome.

I welcome any feedback and appreciate the opportunity to make feelings known.

Sincerely

Anthony Jordan