

MEDIA RELEASE

Ruapehu District Council



Contact: Paul Wheatcroft, Communications Manager, 027 24 33 064

Date: Tuesday 15 February 2011.

FISHER'S TRACK CYCLEWAY TARGETED FOR LATE APRIL COMPLETION

Work on completing Fisher's Track (also known as Kura Rd) to create a high quality multi-use recreational track is set to be completed by the end of April.

Ruapehu District Council (RDC) Mayor, Sue Morris, said that Fisher's Track will form a key part of the Ruapehu Whanganui Trails – Nga Ara Tuhono (connected pathways) cycleway project that will link the hub of National Park Village and its tourism services to the leg of the cycle trail through Retaruke to the Kaiwhakauka Track in the Whanganui National Park.

"By developing Fisher's Track to appeal to the broadest number of potential users we are maximising the economic opportunities available to communities along the trail," she said.

"Fisher's Track will provide a high quality experience for riders and when completed will run for 5.2km from the Tupapakura Falls car park through to Kura Rd in Upper Retaruke."

"The track will be 2.5m wide and meet the requirements of a grade 2 cycleway which means it is described as an 'easy ride' over a smooth trail with some gentle climbs and suitable for beginner riders."

Mayor Morris commented that Ruapehu's developing cycleway network is providing a significant addition to the District's high-quality tourism assets that showcase our unique environment, iconic natural landscapes as well as our heritage and culture.

"Ruapehu's cycleway network of trails such as Fisher's Track and The Old Coach Rd offer a world-class cycling experience that enhances Ruapehu's competitiveness as a visitor destination and helps cement Ruapehu as the North Island's premier outdoor recreation area," she said.

"The cycleway network has a pivotal role in developing Ruapehu as a year round tourism destination and stimulating both population and new business growth."

DAVID HAMMOND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CJH : PRW