

### Submission bylaw vehicle ban

I have been associated with Cape Campbell since 1986 when I married Rob Peter and began farming Cape Campbell Farm and have taken a keen interest in the coastline and history.

The access to the beach was originally put in as a war effort in the 1940s, through the neighbouring property to Cape Campbell Farm, which then crossed onto our land and onto the Lighthouse to service the keepers and Cape Campbell Lighthouse. This road is not a public road and was never intended as such.

With a change in ownership the neighbouring property is no longer able to be accessed for servicing the Light or used by other Govt departments and Scientists. Access is obtained through our private property by a road that is upkept by ourselves. There is no charge to cross our land for these departments and many other groups that use this 4wd track to get to the coast.

Having 10km of coastline as a boundary, we have seen much change since my father in-law bought Cape Campbell Farm in 1973. Over these years we have taken a real interest and love of the biodiversity of this limestone coastal environment with many photos and observations taken.

We watched when the first motorbikes came around from Marfells Beach in the late 1980s, graduating to 4wheelers and a few brave vehicles. These were all reliant on the tides for access.

As adjacent landowners to an identified Outstanding Natural Area, we have had restrictions put on the use and care of our land, rightly so, but the area that has the highest values, the foreshore and intertidal zone has had no restrictions given. This has been classified for protection and I feel we all have an obligation to do so. The reason this region hosts such rare visiting shorebirds, resistant birds, invertebrates, fauna and flora not found anywhere else is because it is a wild, windswept coastline and has not been able to be accessed by the public in great numbers in the past. It is also due to the mix of the warm currents coming out of Cloudy Bay with the cold oxygenated currents coming from the Kaikoura Coast resulting an abundant food source. Pre quake the Peninsular and platform rocks around Cape

Campbell held a massive abundance of seaweeds and rock pool species, some of the richest in the world. Scientists estimated there were 60 tons of biomass per hectare living on this inter tidal environment pre 2016 quake.

As we all know the November 2016 Quake caused catastrophic damage to this area, the biggest uplift and change of any seismic event in our recorded modern history. We also know that in 1855 a similar event took place and recovery did happen. The difference in these two quakes is 161 years. In 1855 there were very few people, Maori or European living along this coastline, very little modification and nature was left to recover by itself. How things have changed, not only are nearly all the native species, birds, insects, plants lizards and mammals on the decline but many are in danger of disappearing altogether. When the 2016 quake happened, the public flocked to the coastline to observe the change, quite a natural thing to do. But as time has gone on, and recovery is slow, people need to realise they are causing damage as well. Because of the geology of the soft papa rock structure and these areas are still covered by high tides, means that these rocks are rapidly eroding and if left alone will eventually restore themselves.

Over the years we have watched the bikes travel the beach, slowly extending further down the coastline. Fishermen were the first to come and chose their days with care. As the years have passed, bikes and vehicles have become more affordable, driving on the beach as become a recreational past time and the beach has become a road. I feel that no beach in NZ should be a road. The species that live in this area from the intertidal zone right up into the Dunes have no where else to go, this is their home. If we lose them, we will lose them forever. To save them, Habitat restoration and Predator Control is the only way.

How are we making a difference? Since the 1970s, the Peter Family have had a predator control programme in progress at Cape Campbell, albeit more of a casual but consistent approach. We have also put into place 3 QEII reserves from the early 1990s to 2016. A DOC reserve is also on our property hosting the rare *Mullockia astoni*. Plantings of endemic species within these reserves have been very successful leading to us seeing Tuis and Bellbirds at the Lighthouse something probably not seen for more than 100 years. SNA areas have been identified and our own private reserves that are ongoing have been also planted and are starting to encourage a corridor for birds and habitats for invertebrates and lizards to use. Fencing off the

coastline from the farm has given a defined line away from the biodiversity and the grazing land, this has now been completed right along our boundary. We have also retired some fragile areas to only grazing lightly for short periods of time, to encourage ground cover. We have erected an information Kiosk on land below the Lighthouse steps for the public to read and understand the history and the importance of what makes this area so very important. We have encouraged the visits of MDC, DOC, SNA reports, scientists, geologists, seismic research, educational visits and all manner of monitoring to try and educate all of us on the uniqueness of this area, providing accommodation and access for no charge. Upgrading the predator control since 2016 with volunteer trapping along the coastline that bounders our property has made a difference, resulting in staggering numbers of cats, mustelids, hedgehogs being caught. Lastly but not leastly being founding members of the ECPG, erecting signage, photos, monitoring, volunteering, restoration plantings and all important observations has increased our knowledge of how important and vital this East Coast is.

All New Zealanders have a responsibility to look after what we have. If this means restrictions then we must accept them. To make a difference and be proud of our exceptional landscapes and all it holds we all have to make sacrifices.