



NEW ZEALAND FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION INC.

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www.NZFWDA.org.nz

21 December 2016

Dear Fellow Four Wheelers

Maratoto is to be re-opened

After discussing matters with DOC Hauraki Operations Manager Ms Leanne Irvine, the Senior Ranger – Supervisor Community and Mr Avi Holzapfel DOC Hauraki Operations Manager . DOC has agreed that the Maratoto Track may be opened this summer season and is now open:

Clean Vehicles

1. DOC remains concerned about Kauri Dieback. There is a risk that the track will be closed if there is a problem with Kauri Dieback in the area near the track.
 - (a) I understand there may be Kauri Dieback on other parts of the Coromandel Peninsular
 - (b) DOC is concerned that vehicles driving into wet areas, including puddles and bog holes, may spread Kauri Dieback. Please do your best to make sure that you do **not** do anything that might result in the spread of this disease and to Maratoto or the surrounding areas because if you do the track may be closed.
 - (c) To get agreement on the track being opened the NZFWDA Northern Zone has agreed with DOC that it is a requirement that all vehicles using the track are to be cleaned
 - (i) Before they enter the track so they go in clean; and
 - (ii) As soon as possible afterwards.
 - (iii) There is to be no cleaning in native bush areas or the ford or river and no cleaning in any other nearby bush.
 - (d) If vehicles are not clean then there is a risk that:
 - (i) They will be denied entry;
 - (ii) The track will be closed.

Cameras

2. DOC has approved the NZFWDA installing cameras to monitor usage and DOC might also want to access those cameras.

Access Fee

3. The Northern Zone has agreed to fund the further work for this year (estimated cost about \$7000). You should be aware that there is a voluntary levy of \$10 per vehicle and \$5 for motorcycles. This levy is to help fund the track and should be paid by all users and not just those who are members of the NZFWDA. Not everybody pays – so please make sure that you pay it and that anyone else who is using the track pays the levy.

Please Use but do not Abuse

4. DOC is also concerned to make sure that Maratoto is part of the recreation estate and enjoyed for all so it is shared with walkers, bikers horse riders and hunters. If you see **anyone** causing problems on the track please take photographs as evidence. You can use your mobile phone cameras.

Use in Years to Come

5. The purpose of setting out these requirements is so that we and others can address DOC's concerns and can use the track this year and in years to come. So I hope you will each do what you can so that we can continue to use the track.

Merry Christmas and Happy Four Wheel Driving.

John Hickey Northern Zone President

cc: DOC - Ms Leanne Irvine and Mr Avi Holzapfel

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