

WEST COAST SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION SPACES AND PLACES STRATEGY

JUNE 2020



Makura Croquet Club, Greymouth

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

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Foreword

Through its Community Sport and High Performance Sport Strategies, Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) aims to enrich and inspire New Zealanders to develop a life-long love of participating in community sport and produce more winners on the world stage. Locally-led development of spaces and places for sport and active recreation that provide quality experiences for participants are critical to this success.

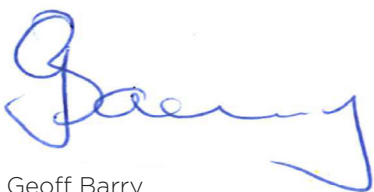
Sport NZ is committed to supporting national and regional sport organisations, local government and others with an interest in the planning, design, procurement, construction and operating of more affordable and sustainable sport and recreation spaces and places.

With leadership from the network of Regional Sports Trusts, Sport NZ is supporting and enabling better decision-making and investment for future sporting spaces and places. Sport NZ believes better decisions will be made through a collaborative regional approach if they involve local and regional government, education, funders, national and regional sports organisations.

The drivers for taking a regional approach to facility planning can be one or more of the following:

- The desire of funders to invest wisely in identified priority projects that will make the most impact.
- An ageing network of facilities needing refurbishment, re-purposing, replacement or removal.
- Changing demographics within a community, such as an increase in the population.
- Changing participation trends nationally and within a region requiring new types of facilities, or a new use of an existing facility.
- Increasing expectations of users and user groups.
- A growing acknowledgement that there is a hierarchy of facilities and that regional collaboration is the only fair and reasonable way to build and manage international, national, regional and sub-regional facilities.
- The risks inherent in focussing on and responding to the wants rather than the priority needs within a region.

Sport Canterbury and its local government and funding partners are to be commended for taking a collaborative approach to develop a strategic region-wide view of what needs exist and identifying those priority projects for future spaces and places provision that will grow and sustain participation in community sport.



Geoff Barry
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Executive Summary

This West Coast Spaces and Spaces Plan has been developed to understand the future requirements for sport and recreation facilities in the area. The West Coast area has a wide range of facilities, many of which are ageing or have served communities that have changed.

The West Coast is a truly unique region within Aotearoa. This creates both opportunities and challenges that have been identified in this strategy. The relatively small population is spread across a wide area increasing the need to travel to access facilities.

The “can do” attitude evident in everyday life on the Coast is reflected in the wide range of sport and recreation activities and facilities that are provided. However, many of the traditional activities and their associated facilities are struggling to remain sustainable. There are significant changes in how people participate in sport and recreation and volunteer their time.

This strategy takes a “hierarchy” approach to determining what facilities are capable of providing for region wide, district or community level participation or competitions. This is an important factor for the three territorial authorities to consider when developing future facilities as there may be cases where not every district requires facilities at a certain hierarchy level.

This strategy is a point in time strategy that will need to be regularly reviewed as participation trends change and evolve over time (every three years is recommended).

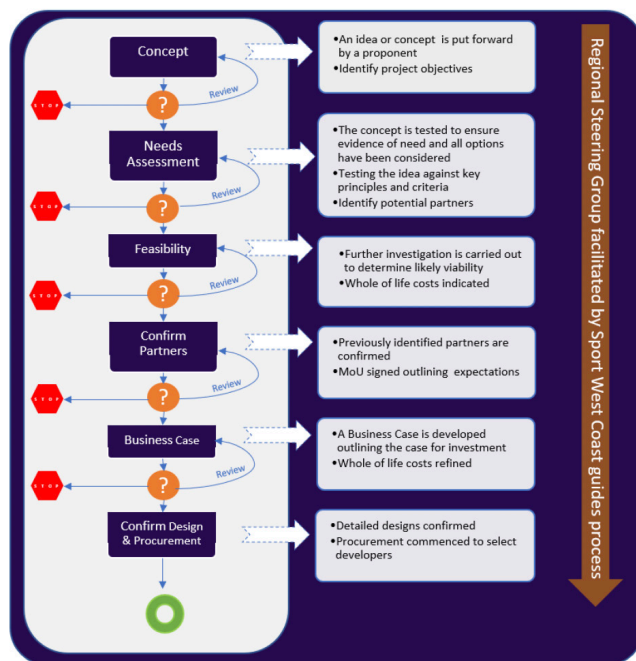
The strategy has also identified key principles to consider when proponents are seeking support for changes to the network of facilities. The key principles for the West Coast are:

Principle	Explanation
1. Meeting an identified need	Clear demand is demonstrated within the community.
2. Sustainability	Well utilised facilities, able to meet their operational costs and with strong governance and management.
3. Partnering and Collaboration	Working together to achieve maximum return on investment.
4. Integration	Organisations work together to integrate facilities and programmes to maximise use.
5. Future Proofing	Ability to adapt facilities to changing needs and trends.
6. Accessibility	Facilities and spaces that are accessible for all to get to, move within (physically accessible), and use (priced appropriately).
7. Facilities that deliver wider community benefits	Multi-use facilities, including those that provide for uses beyond community sport and recreation.
8. Reflect the uniqueness of the West Coast	Respond to the unique geography, communities and weather of the West Coast.
9. Optimise existing facilities	Optimise existing facilities before developing new ones.

This hierarchy and principles approach is further outlined in Section 3: Future Planning and Principles and is supported by a decision making process to support investors and facility owners and ensure informed decision making. This process is outlined below in Figure 1.

All stakeholders are encouraged to use the key principles, criteria and decision-making framework when considering future sport and recreation projects and priorities.

Figure 1: Decision Making Framework – An Assessment Model



The existing network of facilities across the region is described in detail in Appendices 7.3 - 7.10. There are also some planned projects, currently in the final stages of development planning that will have an important bearing on the overall network of sport and recreation facilities on the West Coast. Due to the advanced stage of planning regarding these projects they have been considered as part of the existing network picture when assessing future facility priorities for the region. These are outlined below:

- Westland Sports Hub
- Reefton Pool Upgrade
- Punakaiki Community Facility

Further detail on these planned projects is included in section 5.

A number of sports or groups have expressed desires for specific development projects. None of these are in advanced planning, most have not had any kind of needs assessment or feasibility work undertaken to date. These concepts have been considered and, where relevant, the proposed approach is outlined in the detailed Recommendations tables in Section 6 and Appendices 7.3 - 7.10.

This strategy has highlighted that there is generally a good supply of spaces and places. However, the key challenges are ensuring these are of an acceptable quality and they are sustainable. This strategy does not recommend the development of a large number of new facilities, instead the focus is on maintaining fit-for-purpose spaces and places for the community. Co-ordination between facilities and user groups and the communication of opportunities are also important to maximise utilisation.

To be well utilised and more sustainable, facilities on the West Coast need to have a broad focus and cater to other community uses including passive recreation, meetings and health and social programmes. Spaces and places that have been traditionally used by one sport will need to look for partnership opportunities both within the sport sector and with others.

Key Recommendations

The following table outlines the region-wide recommendations that highlight the importance of the three territorial authorities working together to maximise the efficient provision of sport and recreation spaces and places on the West Coast.

Table 2: Region Wide Recommendations

REGION WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS		Lead Agency
INITIAL PRIORITIES		
1	Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils adopt the West Coast Spaces and Places Strategy and use it in their planning for facility provision on a regional and local basis, including use of the facility hierarchy, planning principles and criteria and the decision-making framework. (Ongoing)	Buller, Grey, Westland
2	Establish a Regional Sport and Recreation Governance Forum (RSRGF) to drive the implementation, monitoring and review of the West Coast Spaces & Places Strategy. (Ongoing) Representation to include Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils.	Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
3	That the RSRGF is used as a forum to assess the prioritisation of the strategy's recommendations and projects and develops an agreed priority for implementation. (Ongoing)	RSRGF
4	That resources are provided to support a part time Regional Spaces & Places Coordinator role to manage the implementation of the strategy. In particular this role will work with clubs, Regional Sports Organisations and stakeholders (including Councils) to assist with progressing strategy recommendations. (Ongoing) RSRGF to investigate funding options.	Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
SHORT TERM (1 - 3 YEARS)		
5	That the RSRGF undertake annual reviews of progress on the Strategy Recommendations and a full review of the strategy every three years (with timing synchronised to allow the strategy to inform local authority Long Term Plan LTP) processes. (Ongoing)	RSRGF
6	Ensure that regular reviews of the facility database are undertaken to ensure the database remains a useful resource for the region. (Ongoing)	Sport CWC
7	Implement a regular sport and recreation user forum to increase sharing of information and good practice initiatives between sports codes in the region. (Ongoing)	Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
8	Undertake a project to identify sport and recreation assets at risk to climate change / sea level rise once sea level rise modelling and map information is publicly available through the Regional Council. This will be important to support future planning including the potential planned withdrawal from some sites and investment into alternative sites to support the continuation of sport and recreation opportunities.	RSRGF
9	Work to improve relationships between codes and increase facility sharing of existing facilities. i.e. there are a number of shared sites where it is noted that the dominant site code (owner of facilities) does not allow other code(s) access to basic support facilities including toilets and changing rooms. Each Council to investigate allowing / requiring leaseholders to be supportive of others and provide for sub-tenant arrangements through leases where required.	Buller, Grey, Westland
10	Work with key community funders to determine the viability of establishing a regional funding approach to assist with ongoing investment into sport and recreation facilities in line with this plan and the decision-making framework.	RSRGF
11	Investigate options to provide increased operational support to sport and recreation groups. This should include considering expansion of the Buller Sports Alliance ¹ (non-facility based Sportville) concept in Buller to more codes and implementation of a similar programme to support the Grey / Westland sporting communities. (Ongoing) Representation to include Buller, Grey and Westland Districts.	RSRGF

¹ See case study in section 4.2

REGION WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS		Lead Agency
MEDIUM TERM (4 - 10 YEARS)		
12	Prioritise investment in multi-use facilities rather than single use sites. In particular give consideration to enhancing multi-use outdoor court environments and improving some indoor facilities to ensure they cater to a broad spectrum of activities including dance, yoga, pilates and other low impact exercise that appeal to a wide range of participants. (Ongoing)	Councils and Funders
13	Encourage all asset owners to have Asset Management Plans in place and undertake ongoing, regular maintenance to ensure the network of facilities remains in an appropriate condition to support participation.	All
14	The three Councils to consider what support may be able to be provided to sports codes to enhance the quality of sports field maintenance in the region. This may be basic support i.e. provision of technical advice to Asset Owners regarding sports turf maintenance approaches through to a comprehensive approach i.e. consideration of the cost/benefits of a region wide sports turf maintenance contract. It may be possible to also partner with schools on this initiative.	RSRGF - Buller, Grey, Westland
15	If capacity issues start to be experienced for specific, multi-use facilities an annual, coordinated allocation meeting could be implemented with key user groups to help negotiate effective compromise solutions and ensure a reasonable level of equity of access for different codes.	Facility Managers with Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
16	Continue to encourage sporting tournaments and events to come to the region for the multiple benefits it brings to local participants, local facilities and the local economy. (Ongoing)	RSRGF, Funders & Sports Codes
17	Continue to acknowledge the importance the network of school facilities play in providing spaces and places for participation in a wide range of sport and recreation activities. Focus on maximising partnering opportunities and supporting community use of school facilities. This may require formal partnering agreements between schools and sports and/or Councils. (Ongoing)	All
18	Other non-sporting facilities (not captured in the stocktake and plan) could serve as facilities to host sport and active recreation. When facility managers and sports are looking to increase participation, these facilities could be considered as overflow/ new venues.	Asset Owners
19	Where possible, prior to renewing sports club's leases, Councils should review conditions to facilitate increased sharing/sub-tenancy arrangements and consider implementing shorter lease terms so areas can be adapted to alternative uses if demand declines. (Ongoing)	All
20	Continue to support and maintain a network of multi-use community halls catering to a wide range of indoor specialised sports where sufficient demand/use levels exist. This should include ongoing maintenance and minor facility upgrades (e.g. floor surface, mirrors, heaters and the like) to enhance suitability for users. (Ongoing) Specialised equipment will remain the responsibility of the club or user groups.	All

Sport Specific Recommendations

Along with region-wide recommendations, the strategy has also worked with the various user groups to understand their current and future needs. The following table highlights a number of recommendations that relate to specific sport and recreation groups.

A full explanation and the complete list of recommendations for each sport and facility type can be found in appendices 7.3 to 7.10.

Table 3: Sport Specific Recommendations

SPORT	RECOMMENDATIONS	DISTRICT
Aquatic Sports	Continue to support the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and Westland Recreation Centre as the regional facilities.	Buller, Grey
Aquatics Sports	Consult with the Reefton community to determine their desires and future needs for the Reefton Swimming Pool. Undertake an options assessment and cost benefit analysis to identify the best long-term option for continued provision of an appropriate aquatic facility to serve the Reefton Community. This should include assessment of further upgrades to the existing pool.	Buller
Aquatics Sports	With significant aging of the population projected any major renewals or upgrades to existing aquatic facilities need to consider the potential demand for Hydrotherapy pools, indoor pools, accessibility considerations and warmer water options.	All
Athletics	Investigate the demand for provision of introductory level athletics facilities, including both track and field disciplines (discus, long-jump etc) in Buller.	Buller
Bowls	Retain the existing network of single community bowling clubs where demand continues to exist. Seek partnerships with other sports, recreation or community groups for clubrooms use to increase sustainability.	All
Bowls	Prior to further investment in any of the Greymouth based bowling clubs investigate merger opportunities aimed at consolidation down to ideally one or maximum two clubs to service the Greymouth town area. Discussions need to include Blaketown, Cobden, Greymouth (in recession) and Karoro clubs. This approach would consolidate membership numbers and enhance the potential ongoing sustainability of the remaining club(s).	Grey
Bowls	Undertake a high-level needs assessment to identify the level of demand for a covered bowling green facility.	All
Cricket	Monitor cricket wicket supply and demand in the short term and consider provision of additional artificial wickets if required, to maximise use of the regions current cricket grounds.	All
Croquet	Where demand continues to exist, support the retention of the two operational croquet club facilities to service the sport in the region.	Buller, Grey
Equestrian	Continue to provide a network of Equestrian facilities providing accessible participation opportunities.	All
Football	Pending the outcomes of the sports field supply and demand analysis - Investigate the development of a "Home of Football" to serve both Grey and Westland Districts, located in either Greymouth or Hokitika.	Grey, Westland
Football	Prioritise identification of an alternative multi-field venue with appropriate storage, change, toilet facilities for junior Football in Buller (Westport) for the 2020 season. This will need to be in partnership with another field-based sport (possibly rugby).	Buller
Cricket / Football	Work with Cricket and Football in the Grey District to formalise an appropriate agreement for football to access the existing toilet and changing facilities at Arthur Fong Park as a short-term solution to operational issues football is facing due to a lack of access to support facilities.	Grey

SPORT	RECOMMENDATIONS	DISTRICT
Golf	To enhance sustainability of Golf Clubs investigate opportunities to increase clubroom sharing with other sports, recreation or community groups, along with alternative programme delivery.	All
Gymsports	If Gymsport participation numbers increase significantly, investigate partnership opportunities for a dedicated, fit-for-purpose facility, to serve the entire region. If demand exists, the location of such a facility should be where it can best serve the majority of the regional population (likely Greymouth or Hokitika).	Grey, Westland, Buller
Hockey	Maintain a hub and spoke approach to hockey provision in the Region with the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre turf providing the hub facility in Buller and the Westurf Stadium providing the hub facility for Grey and Westland	All
Hockey	Hokitika Hockey should investigate the opportunity to access the Westland Sports Hub facilities to provide local training opportunities. If availability there is limited, seek alternative partnerships with other schools or sports codes to access a suitable 1/2 turf sized court/field surface.	Westland
Motorsports	In the short term continue to undertake minor upgrades to maintain the Speedway sites to national specifications. Prior to any major renovations or redevelopment at these sites assess the demand levels and financial sustainability of continuing to retain two national standard tracks in the region.	Grey
Motorsports	Investigate the demand for and potential of a motor sports hub on the Westland Kart Club land to cater to moto-x, remote control cars, motorbike and driver training. Other potential partners at the site could include BMX, a flying area for model planes and a shooting range, if demand exists.	Buller
Multi-use	Ensure the needs of a broad range of sport and recreation groups are considered in planning for a community facility in Punakaiki. Any future facility needs to be designed to meet the needs of an aging population, be flexible for multiple uses and future proofed to allow for changes in use that will evolve over time.	Buller
Netball, Basketball, Tennis	Investigate the potential demand for, and benefits of, a multi-use outdoor court hub site based at ANZAC Park. It could also support other codes such as Futsal, Athletics and wet-weather training options for field-based sports. (Priority should be given to a surface upgrade of the netball courts).	Grey
Rugby Union	Maintain Victoria Square and John Sturgeon Park as the key regional level rugby facilities, ensuring all facilities and equipment are of a suitable standard for regional level requirements. Investigate opportunities to increase use of Victoria Square and John Sturgeon Park by other appropriate codes where capacity exists at these sites. Where demand is low, consider the rationalisation of low use fields and clubroom facilities to allow resources to be put into the maintenance and upgrades of higher use and competition standard fields, whilst ensuring appropriate local participation opportunities are retained.	Buller, Grey
Rugby League	Maintain Wingham Park as the key regional facility for Rugby League whilst also investigating opportunities to use John Sturgeon Park as an alternative site, particularly when wet weather impacts the condition of Wingham Park. Where demand is low, consider the rationalisation of low use fields and clubroom facilities to allow resources to be put into the maintenance and upgrades of higher use and competition standard fields, whilst ensuring appropriate local participation opportunities are retained.	Grey
Cobden Sports Complex, Rugby League, Softball/T-ball	Do not undertake further investment in sports facilities at Jellyman Park until sea level rise modelling has been completed to understand the long- term viability of this site.	Grey
Sports Fields	Undertake a detailed sports field supply and demand analysis for rugby, rugby league, sevens, touch and football and assess the potential need to reallocate some fields between codes to minimise any field access imbalance (under and over provision) between codes.	All

SPORT	RECOMMENDATIONS	DISTRICT
Softball, Touch, Sevens Rugby	Continue to make space available at multi-use field sites for Softball//T-ball, Touch and Sevens where demand exists. Do not invest in single use field sites for these codes.	All
Squash	Maintain the existing Greymouth Squash (& Harriers) Club as a key regional facility for Squash. This will require prioritising investment in earthquake strengthening and roof renewal along with a programme of ongoing maintenance to ensure the building and three courts remain at a high standard.	Grey
Tennis	The Westland Sports Hub site should be supported as the primary wet-weather Tennis site for the region.	Westland
Tennis	Undertake detailed demand analysis to prove need before investing in any single-use covered Tennis courts.	All
Water Sports	Investigate a programme of promotions, events and new activities with sailing/ yachting clubs in an effort to increase participation and membership. If demand exists this could also include identifying clubroom sharing partnerships with other sports and community groups to support facility sustainability. Specifically, this could include waka ama and rowing.	Grey, Westland
Water Sports	If demand emerges for additional storage and clubroom facilities from new water-based codes, consider partnerships with existing facility providers in the first instance.	All

A critical factor in the success of any strategy is in the implementation. This strategy recommends the support of a coordinated approach through the development of a role to drive region-wide spaces and places opportunities and challenges.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Brief

The project brief was: To develop a West Coast Spaces and Places Plan to identify needs and inform future sports facility spaces and places investment decisions.

The project brief covers the wider West Coast area including Westland, Grey and Buller District Council Areas. This was to enable a truly regional overview for the planning of sports facilities for the West Coast. It is focussed on built (rather than natural) community sport and recreation facilities.

There is little doubt as to the importance of planning for sport and recreation spaces and places. A healthy sports facility network should match the needs of the region, be fit for purpose and sustainable. This plan provides the vehicle to achieve this through:

- Reflecting and applying the West Coast's unique attributes and competitive advantages.
- Creating an understandable and applicable plan.
- Creating an 'enabling' plan.
- Identifying principles and criteria for assessing future spaces and places development priorities.
- Providing a clear picture of current and projected facility demand and supply.
- Identifying facility-related issues that are a barrier to participation
- Identifying facility-related opportunities to improve participation.
- Clearly prioritising spaces and places development opportunities to influence and guide spaces and places planning, funding and delivery decisions.

1.2 Methodology

The information and recommendations in this strategy were developed using a mix of secondary document reviews, surveys and stakeholder engagement. The specific steps involved in the development of the strategy included:

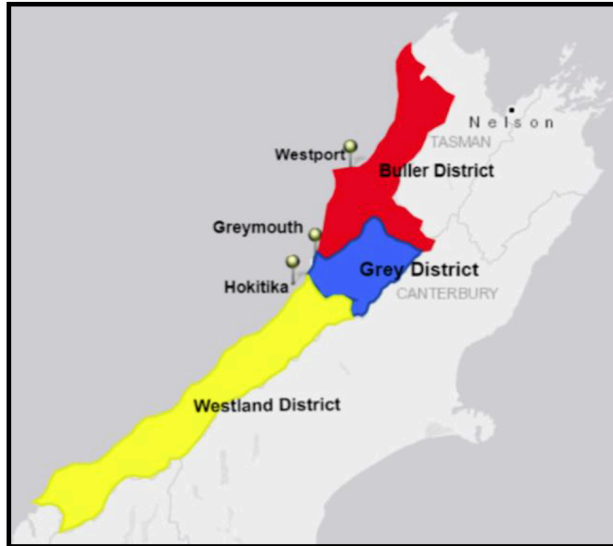
- Facility stocktake and user data survey – completed by Councils, sports codes and facility owners
- Secondary Data review – including West Coast specific strategies & National Sports Facility strategies
- Demographic Analysis
- Stakeholder workshops / interviews
- Project Team workshops
- Consultation

1.3 Strategy Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a high-level strategic framework to inform future planning for sport and recreation facility provision on the West Coast. The strategy is intended to provide direction for not only new facility developments, but crucially to provide direction on opportunities to optimise existing facilities, reduce duplication and to help stakeholders obtain an improved return on their investment into sport and recreation facilities.

The scope of the strategy is sport and recreation facility provision across the West Coast Region which is comprised of the Districts of Buller, Grey and Westland.

Map 1.3.1: West Coast Region – Districts



The West Coast region has a relationship with two Regional Sports Trusts (RST's), the Buller part of the region is supported by Sport Tasman whilst the Grey and Westland Districts are supported by Sport Canterbury West Coast. Both RST's collaborated in the development of this strategy.

The strategy provides a stocktake of existing 'built' facilities that provide for community sport² and an analysis of existing national and regional strategies to help identify issues for the region and determine future priorities. It is focussed at a regional level and does not cover all sport and recreation facilities or activities that occur on the West Coast. The stocktake has not captured detail on every facility available, there are facilities which are not included that can and do provide for community sport and recreation. The analysis and direction is focussed on key groupings of facility assets and sport and recreation codes that were identified by the project team as requiring more detailed analysis and direction.

There is a network of important outdoor recreation assets on the West Coast, particularly in terms of water bodies, walking tracks and cycle trails. These are important assets but are not considered in this strategy, in part because the majority are on Department of Conservation (DOC) owned land and are well covered by DOC information and planning. The DOC maps: Discover the outdoors website³ provides a stocktake of walking and mountain biking tracks and trails, depicted in map form. It was not sensible or necessary to duplicate the extensive DOC information in this strategy. Development West Coast has recently developed the Regional Cycle Trails strategy which provides an overview of existing and proposed cycle trails in the region. It is a key document to guide future investment in these asset types in the region. Further information on that is provided in Appendix 7.1.

It is important to acknowledge that the focus of the scope of this plan is the provision of built community sport and recreation facilities that provide benefits primarily to the local population on a regular on-going basis. It is not a tourism-focussed plan but some facilities identified have tourism benefits as well as community benefits.

² It includes play, active and outdoor recreation, and competitive sport taking place through clubs and events. Community sport does not include passive recreation such as gardening or elite (international) competition.

³ Visit <https://www.doc.govt.nz/map/index.html>

1.4 Using this Strategy

This is a high-level strategy, covering a wide geographic region containing a large number of small communities. Due to the broad nature of the strategy and its high-level focus it needs to be supported by additional detailed planning. This strategy should not be seen as a replacement for the required detailed, District and project-based research and analysis. It also needs to be used in conjunction with other national and regional strategies. The strategy will also need to be updated on a regular basis to reflect new national and regional strategies and new demographic data as it becomes available.

This strategy does not set a standard level of service for sport and recreation facilities across the region. Individual Councils and facility owners determine their own levels of service through their strategies, policies and long term and annual planning processes. However, it is intended that this strategy provides a clear framework to guide facility investment and decision making at a regional, sub-regional and individual Council level.

The strategy has had to focus on available evidence at a network wide level. Therefore, some aspirations of specific sports codes, clubs or community groups may not align. For example, there may be clubs or codes that wish to develop or upgrade facilities to a higher level than is required or in a location that may have existing provision. Where these scenarios eventuate, it will be important to take a considered, network wide approach with a focus on the identified regional priorities.

Whilst not all sport and recreation activities are covered by the strategy the decision-making framework (outlined in section 3) should be used to support future planning and investment for any sport or recreation facility in the region. This includes projects identified in this strategy and future projects or opportunities that arise.

To enable a truly regional overview for the planning of sports facilities for the West Coast this strategy process has been led by Sport Canterbury West Coast with full involvement of Sport Tasman, District Councils and Community & Public Health. Sport Canterbury and Sport Tasman should take a role in coordination of strategy

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implementation. However, to be successful all stakeholders, particularly Councils and community funders, need to participate in active implementation of the strategy and use of the future planning principles and decision-making framework.

1.5 Limitations

This strategy is based on data available at the time. It relies on data from third parties and many sports did not provide survey feedback or participate in workshop opportunities. There is no doubt some gaps in information exist. However, it does provide the most comprehensive Regional picture of sport and recreation facility provision available.

This strategy provides a high-level overview of current and projected future facility needs and recommendations on key priorities for the region. However, it is essential that further, more detailed planning is undertaken to assess the more detailed feasibility of specific projects.

The population data used for this strategy is from the 2013 census and it is well recognised that this data is dated. However, due to the well-known challenges with the 2018 census data, that data was not available at the time of writing this strategy. Further planning will need to make use of more up to date data when it is available.

2.0 Opportunities, Challenges, Needs and Trends

2.1 Regional Competitive Advantages

Level of sport and recreation facilities provided by schools

Schools are the main provider of sport and recreation assets in the region. These seem to be made readily available for community use, ensuring the investment in these facilities provides benefit beyond the school community alone. One of the advantages of school facility provision is the geographical dispersal of schools across the region, including in small communities, provides at least a base level / local standard of facility provision in areas that might not otherwise be provided with sport and recreation assets. There is a risk related to schools being the main providers, with communities reliant on the ongoing good will of schools and Board of Trustee's policies allowing public access to facilities. If this changes, participation opportunities for the general public will become restricted.

Opportunities to Participate

It is noted that people in the region benefit from a wide range of sport and recreation opportunities. There is a feeling that it is generally easy to access participation opportunities and that clubs are friendly and welcoming to participants of all abilities. Facilities don't tend to be over-crowded, making it relatively easy for people to participate in more individual activities (such as swimming, gym/fitness) at times that suit their individual needs.

Natural Environment

The region benefits from easy access to a range of natural features that support sport and recreation including mountains, bush and water (lakes, the ocean and rivers). These natural features support activities such as running, walking, canoe and kayaking, mountain biking, rock climbing, surfing, fishing, sailing, swimming and horse riding.

The majority of these natural areas are managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC) which holds 1,937,192 hectares of land on the West Coast Te Tai O Poutini⁴. Some of the land is not available for public use but the areas that are provide a significant public recreation benefit to the region and visitors.



Rippa Rugby at Paroa School Grounds

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

⁴ West Coast Conservation Management Strategy - Volume 2 2010-2020, pg. 1

Relatively Low Participation Costs

Many team sports have relatively low membership fees, particularly for children and families. A range of factors contribute to this including, a strong volunteer basis to delivery (noting that securing volunteers is a challenge), overall community support and the use of many low-cost, basic standard facilities. Some codes have also chosen not to affiliate with national bodies. This reduces costs due to the lack of affiliation fees but also limits other opportunities such as higher level competitive play for those who might otherwise be eligible and capable.

Community Spirit, Support & Flexibility

The West Coast spirit is to make the most of what they have and to support sports and community groups with volunteer time and fundraising contributions. There is also an attitude of flexibility, with sports prepared to offer alternatives like small sided games, allow mixed gender teams or even work with other clubs across the same code to make up numbers to ensure a competition can be had.

Tourism

The level of tourism compared to the resident population can place demand pressure on some sport and recreation infrastructure. However, tourism has also driven the provision of a number of recreation assets to a standard that the region might otherwise not have. For example, the Old Ghost Road and West Coast Wilderness Trails. The new Paparoa Great Walk, as New Zealand's newest great walk is being built to the most up-to-date track construction standards (for both mountain biking and walking) and will benefit locals and tourists alike.



Kokapotahi River, South Westland

Photo Credit: Ryan O'Connor



Greymouth Town Square, Children's Fun Day 2019

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

2.2 Other opportunities

Multi-use focus

Due to the geographic dispersion of communities and the small population base many facilities already provide a multi-use focus, including some sport and recreation facilities providing for emergency response needs (e.g. welfare centres). This aligns well with international and national trends towards more multi-use facilities and hub sites that cater to a range of uses, beyond sport and recreation. To be well utilised and more sustainable, facilities on the West Coast need to have a broad focus and cater to other community uses including passive recreation, meetings and health and social programmes. However, despite this there are still many pockets of separatism and clubs that are unwilling or discourage use by other codes or activities.

Improving Collaboration

Historical decision making about sport and recreation facility provision has often been ad-hoc. The work to develop this spaces and places strategy has already lead to increased cooperation and communication between many groups involved in sport and recreation on the West Coast. Opportunities to work together, including potential facility-based partnerships have been identified. There is an opportunity to build on this with an increased focus on collaboration and partnerships and utilising a consistent approach to decision-making.

Operational Support & Liaison

Many clubs and facilities are struggling with day-to-day operational aspects of sport delivery, including; administration, marketing and promotions, delivery of participation opportunities and tournaments, storage and supply of equipment, managing bookings, health and safety and financial management. There is potential for increased liaison between codes and increased operational support, including training and development opportunities for sport administrators. This could make a real difference to sport delivery in the Region. The Buller Sports Alliance is a non-facility based sportsville project with a vision to create a sustainable entity that promotes sport and activity to the youth of the Buller region. It has the potential to expand to other codes and to be replicated in other districts.

Brief Case Study: Buller Sports Alliance

The Buller Sports Alliance is working together to engage Buller youth in activity, by sharing their passion for sport and the community. The Alliance involves four founding codes (Basketball, Cricket, Football and Hockey) and has potential to include other sports with an expectation that Golf and Volleyball will join in the 2019/2020 summer.

The Buller Sports Alliance is an incorporated society and registered charity that will employ operational staff to support strategic outcomes across the alliance of sports codes. Initially a Sports Development Officer (SDO) was employed directly by one code to get the programme started for all four founding codes.

Community Funders have been positive about the concept and funding has allowed employment of an SDO to work with schools and sports organisations. Their focus includes ensuring sports have strategic plans in place, ensuring sports fun and skill sessions are delivered, coaches are available for all teams and to maintain and grow membership levels.

Initial outcomes have been excellent with all four founding codes seeing growth in membership during 2019. Football grew from 93 to 155 members, Hockey 30 to 90, cricket 15 to 35 and Basketball from 330 to 355 and all experienced improved operational delivery.

Tourism related funding streams

Strong growth in tourism in the region is bringing visitors who are willing to pay for short term use of some sport and recreation facilities e.g. aquatic centres, gym/fitness facilities. This type of use is a revenue source that helps support the provision of these facilities for the local community. Facilities that can cater to tourists need to be well marketed to ensure visitors are aware of the opportunities available to them.

Sport and recreation 'tourism' related to events occurring in the region also brings a number of benefits to the region. Tournaments and events increase use of facilities, provide higher level competitive opportunities for residents and bring additional revenue, not only to facilities but also to local economies related to the accommodation and nutrition needs of participants who attend.

There may also be opportunities, with current government funding programmes such as the Tourism Infrastructure Fund. For example, some carefully placed toilet and changing room facilities could potentially cater to local community sport and recreation needs alongside tourist demand.

Programmes to support communities of need

A number of programmes already exist in the region to support cost effective participation opportunities, for example the Sport New Zealand rural travel fund. Further programmes may be required to support effective operational delivery.



Climbing wall, John Paul II High School Gymnasium

Photo Credit: Jas Blair

2.3 Key Challenges

Large geographic area with low population density

The West Coast is a large region (over 500km in length from Karamea to Haast) covering a total land area of 23,000 km², with an unevenly distributed population of 32,000 (less than 1 percent of NZ's population). Spread across the region are a number of small communities with regular residential populations of less than 500 people. Even the population of the larger West Coast towns of Greymouth (9,600) Hokitika (2,967) and Westport (4,035) are small by New Zealand standards.⁵ Providing sport and recreation facilities to such a small and geographically linear population is a significant challenge.

Declining Participation

Static or declining participation levels is a real concern for many codes. Casual participation is becoming a preference with people seemingly less willing to join clubs. Some stakeholders perceive that the number of different codes / recreation opportunities available are impacting on participation levels in traditional sports. Codes have competing delivery times for training and games and people have a wide variety of participation choices. The impact of young people going away to boarding school is also apparent with some codes reporting a resulting reduction in participation numbers (and team numbers and competition quality) at approximately 13 years old.

Declining Volunteerism

Many sport and recreation groups are finding it harder and harder to secure the volunteers needed to sustain and operate their activities. This signals the likely advent of more paid roles which will, in turn, place another level of cost on to provision. This will likely result in increased participation costs and make overall sustainability of delivery more challenging. Partnerships and collaboration (where possible) will become increasingly important to help spread costs.

Some over-supply of facilities

To some extent the wide dispersal of the population has led to an over-supply in facilities (on a pure population ratio basis) when compared to other parts of NZ. To achieve local, accessible provision, many of the West Coasts small communities have facilities that a population of less than 500 people would not usually benefit from in other parts of New Zealand. The benefit is provision of important, local participation opportunities. However, to provide and maintain these facilities places a financial and operational burden on small communities. This will increase as facilities age and become more maintenance intensive.

The boundaries between the Districts of Buller, Grey and Westland has also contributed to some duplication of facilities. Often communities in each District have expected to have their own facilities, in line with what neighbouring districts have. This contributes to some facilities having lower than desired utilisation levels.

⁵ Based on 2013 census data from Statistics New Zealand.

Operational Sustainability

Clubs and organisations usually set affordable membership fees because price is a significant barrier to inclusive participation. However, where over-supply of facilities occurs, pricing/fees collected are usually inadequate to ensure that all facilities are sustainable in the long-term. Facilities such as clubrooms are often underutilised and codes are competing with each other to secure other, casual users of their facilities to supplement their operational income. More modern facilities tend to benefit from greater levels of casual use as they provide more comfortable environments and up to date technology options.

Direct use and membership fees are not enough to sustain facilities and many codes note they have a heavy reliance on grant funding to develop and sustain community owned facilities. This can perpetuate a mismatch between supply and demand. The support also comes at a significant opportunity cost to other sports organisations unable to access this limited funding for other initiatives.

Councils with small rating base

The Councils in the region have very small ratepayer bases but are still required to deliver all core local government services such as roading, water (waste, stormwater, supply), waste disposal and recycling along with community assets including sport and recreation facilities. The breadth of their role and the small ratepayer base can limit the financial ability of Councils to support sport and recreation.

Weather

The West Coast is New Zealand's wettest region, largely attributed to its exposure to the predominantly westerly airflow and the orographic effect of the southern alps⁶. The high annual rainfall can be up to 10,000mm in the alps and between 2,000 – 3,000mm in the three main towns (Greymouth, Hokitika and Westport). Annual average rainfall varies significantly across the region with Franz Josef experiencing an annual rainfall of 5,700mm whilst Reefton receives only 1,900mm on average.⁷ This has many impacts on sport and recreation participation including high rates of weather-related cancellations (particularly for children's activities), maintenance and quality impacts on outdoor facilities, impacts on spectators and a reported preference for indoor activities.

Extreme weather events can also isolate communities and impact on regular sporting competitions. For example, games can be cancelled due to travel restrictions resulting from temporary road closures.

Ownership management model

Many sport and recreation facilities have 'hands-off' owners. For example, many facilities, including sports fields are owned by Councils but they play no role in the maintenance or operation of those facilities. Often facilities are leased to clubs who rely on volunteers to provide all operational and maintenance functions. This can result in significant variations in the level of service provided. There is also a risk of this management model becoming unsustainable due to declining volunteerism and as existing volunteers age and become less able to undertake some of their traditional roles.

Fit- for-purpose Facilities

With a large proportion of aged facilities in the network many are struggling to remain fit-for-purpose. Several codes have identified that the suitability of facilities to meet current needs and changing user expectations is a concern. This includes a lack of quality toilet and change room facilities to support club play. These facilities are particularly important to teams travelling long distances to participate.

⁶ Sourced 28 June 2019 from https://www.niwa.co.nz/our-science/climate/publications/regional-climatologies/west_coast

⁷ Sourced 28 June 2019 from https://www.niwa.co.nz/files/West_Coast_Climatology_NIWA_web.pdf

Declining Facility Condition

Maintaining existing facility assets is likely to become increasingly difficult for some communities, particularly where maintenance has already been deferred on aging assets. In many cases codes, clubs and Councils are already struggling to meet facility maintenance standards. This is particularly so for facilities which have lower membership and lower use levels than when they were developed.

The costs of facility maintenance are already placed on a small population base making some facilities unsustainable. Duplication and underutilisation will contribute to this issue, making some facilities unaffordable over time. Rationalisation will be required and will be contentious as many sports / clubs have long histories of facility ownership, but they may not be able to afford to maintain these in future.

Legislative Challenges

The sport and recreation sector is facing a number of legislative challenges. Recent changes to health and safety legislation has brought increased compliance and liability requirements. In some instance complying with building code requirements (especially earthquake standards) and avoiding functional obsolescence of aging facilities will prove to be significant challenges, particularly in communities with declining and aging populations.

Under the Building Act 2004 (2016 amendment) if a building is assessed as not meeting the minimum standards and therefore, is considered earthquake prone, building owners will have 7 ½ years (priority buildings) or 15 years to strengthen or demolish their building. It is anticipated that a number of sport and recreation facilities may be considered earthquake prone in the region. The impact this may have on the network of facilities on the West Coast is not yet known. It will need to be considered in future reviews of this strategy once more information is available for specific buildings.

Accessibility / equity issues (including affordability)

Most users of sport and recreation facilities want low cost and convenient access to facilities (i.e. travelling times) and are generally less concerned about the location of facilities across local authority boundaries. The geographically linear nature of the region creates long travelling distances to access regional level sporting facilities, particularly for residents in South Westland and Karamea. This limits access for some participants to regional level competition and events.

Greymouth and Hokitika are very close, only approximately 30mins drive apart, yet they fall under different local authorities. There is a need for the Councils and codes to work together to minimise duplication of facilities between the two towns and ensure the needs of the communities are matched with appropriate levels of supply between both areas rather than focussing on the towns individually.

It is also important to ensure that the cost of accessing facilities remains affordable to the wider community. User fees need to consider the balance between ideally covering the costs of delivery without pricing out some members of our communities. Assisted access initiatives to support low income groups may be required in some circumstances.

The New Zealand Index of Deprivation (NZDep2013)⁸ provides a useful picture to help understand the levels of deprivation⁹ within the West Coast DHB area which covers the three districts of Buller, Grey and Westland.

14% of the West Coast population is in deprivation deciles 1-3 (1 being the least deprived); 29% in deprivation deciles 4-5; 36% in deprivation deciles 6-7 and 20% is in deprivation deciles 8-9 and 0% in deprivation decile 10 (most deprived). This indicates that the majority of the population in the region experiences average or above (more deprived) levels of deprivation.

This data indicates that affordability of sport and recreation to the local community is an important consideration in the region. When considering the District deprivation generally Buller has higher levels of deprivation, Grey has pockets of both high and low deprivation and Westland is the least deprived of the Districts overall.

Lack of awareness

There is a lack of awareness of existing facilities, what they are used for and opportunities they provide. Particularly, a lack of awareness regarding the down-time when existing facilities are not in use and the possibilities this may provide for other teams or codes.

Reliance on school facilities

Many communities rely heavily on school facilities to meet their sport and recreation needs. For some communities the school provides the only built sport and recreation infrastructure. This is both an opportunity and a challenge. It provides for enhanced return on the facility investment through utilisation by students and the general public. However, it can also place a burden on school Boards to carry the costs of maintaining the participation opportunities for the community with often limited support from others (e.g. Councils, community funders). Schools also note that community users often request discounted hire fees when accessing facilities, including groups wanting to use school vans for free.

Climate Change

The Region is experiencing the impacts of climate change, particularly in regard to coastal erosion. In some areas this is having a direct impact on sport and recreation assets. For example, the Carter's Beach area near Westport has lost playing facilities (for rugby league, tennis, cricket, hockey and general use fields) in recent years as a direct result of coastal erosion. Ngakawau Domain, Buller; Jellyman Park and Karoro Domain, in Greymouth are other sites that can be inundated with sea water during certain weather and tide conditions. The West Coast Regional Council is currently undertaking work on preparing potential impact models from coastal hazards and climate change. When this information is publicly available it will be useful to assess and understand the potential impacts on sport and recreation assets across the region.

⁸ Sourced 2 September 2019 from

<http://healthspace.ac.nz/dataviews/report?reportId=261&viewId=96&geoReportId=1619&geoid=15&geoSubsetId filtered for West Coast DHB>.

⁹ The index of deprivation gives a weighted score for each meshblock area (a Statistics NZ defined boundary containing, on average, 81 people) in New Zealand. The score is based on nine indicators taken from the 2013 New Zealand Census. From this score, meshblocks are divided into deciles from 1 (least deprived) to 10 (most deprived). For the purposes of this atlas, meshblock scores have been aggregated to Census Area Unit (CAU) level and filtered by District Health Board. Data displayed in this atlas was created by the Wellington School of Medicine, University of Otago.

2.4 The Changing Population

It is important to consider the participation habits of the West Coast population, along with future population projections when planning the network of sport and recreation facilities. Changing demographics impact on the future demands which will be placed on the facilities network.

The 2018 Census

The 2018 census data was not available until very late in the development of this strategy. Therefore, the majority of the information presented and used in the analysis and recommendations contained in this report is based on the 2013 census¹⁰. The population projection information is from Statistics NZ Medium Series population projections¹¹. At the next stage of further, detailed planning on a project specific basis it is imperative that the latest population data and projections are used.

Basic information from the first release of 2018 census data shows, as projected, that the population of the West Coast is declining, largely driven by decline in the Buller District, with a smaller decline in Grey and some growth in Westland District.

Table 2.4.1: West Coast Population 2006-2018 by District¹²

Year	Total people			% change 2006 - 2018	% change 2013 - 2018
	2006	2013	2018		
Area					
West Coast Region	31326	32148	31575	0.8%	-1.8%
Buller District	9702	10473	9591	-1.1%	-8.4%
Grey District	13221	13371	13344	0.9%	-0.2%
Westland District	8403	8304	8640	2.8%	4.0%

2018 census data shows that between 2006-2018 overall the West Coast Region had slight growth (0.8%). However, in the 5 years from 2013-2018 the overall decline in the region's population was -1.8%.

¹⁰ Data in this section sourced 8 July 2019 from

http://archive.stats.govt.nz/Census/2013-census/profile-and-summary-reports/quickstats-about-a-place.aspx?request_value=14641&tabname=

¹¹ Data in this section sourced 8 July 2019 from <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/wbos/Index.aspx>

¹² Sourced 10 October 2019 from <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/WBOS/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE8277>

Table 2.4.2: West Coast Population 2006-2018 by Age and District¹³

Area	Year	30-64 years			65 years and over		
		2006	2018	% change	2006	2018	% change
West Coast Region		18297	16587	-9.3%	5271	7128	35.2%
Buller District		5436	4770	-12.3%	1698	2355	38.7%
Grey District		6915	6315	-8.7%	1935	2583	33.5%
Westland District		5949	5505	-7.5%	1635	2187	33.8%

Area	Year	Under 15 years			15-29 years		
		2006	2018	% change	2006	2018	% change
West Coast Region		6345	5691	-10.3%	5931	5799	-2.2%
Buller District		1890	1593	-15.7%	1569	1410	-10.1%
Grey District		2832	2553	-9.9%	2367	2319	-2.0%
Westland District		1623	1542	-5.0%	1998	2067	3.5%

The 2018 census data shows, as expected, that the West Coast Region’s population is aging significantly. With the greatest decline in those under 15 years (-10.3%). This decline coupled with the greatest increase being in those over 65 years (35.2%) creates a rapidly changing age demographic towards older adults (now 22.5% of the West Coast Population, which is a significant increase when compared with the 2013 Census data). This shift is more pronounced in the Buller District but is occurring throughout the region as a whole.

Overview of 2013 Census Data

The West Coast region includes three local authorities, Buller, Grey and Westland Districts, who together serve a population of 32,148 people. The West Coast is the smallest of New Zealand’s 16 census regions with less than 1% of New Zealand’s population living in the region. Between 2006 and 2013 the region experienced a 2.6% population increase.

The median age in the region is 42.8 years compared to the NZ median age of 38 years. The West Coast has a higher proportion of older people with those over 65 years comprising 16.1% of the population, compared to 14.3% for all NZ. The region has a slightly lower number of young people with 19.1% of the population under 18, compared to 20.4% for all NZ. The age balance of the region has an impact on the nature of sport and recreation participation and therefore the facility needs of the region.

¹³ Ibid

Table 2.4.3: Age Group and Gender Data 2013 Census

Broad age group and sex of people in West Coast Region			
2013 Census			
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Total
Under 15	3,159	2,991	6,150
15–64	10,449	10,365	20,817
65 and over	2,574	2,607	5,184
Total people	16,185	15,963	32,148
Note: All figures are for the census usually resident population count.			
Source: Statistics New Zealand			

The gender balance on the West Coast is relatively even with 16,185 males and 15,963 females in 2013. There is limited ethnic diversity with 91.2% of the population identifying as European compared to 74% for NZ as a whole. The percentage of the population who identify as Maori on the West Coast is 10.5% compared to 14.9% for all of NZ. The West Coast also has a significantly lower proportion of Pacific and Asian people compared to all NZ. This will have some impact on sport and recreation choices and facility use in the region.

Table 2.4.4: Ethnicity Summary

Ethnic groups in West Coast Region and New Zealand		
2013 Census		
Ethnic group ⁽¹⁾	West Coast Region (percent)	New Zealand (percent)
European	91.2	74.0
Māori	10.5	14.9
Pacific peoples	1.0	7.4
Asian	2.2	11.8
Middle Eastern, Latin American, African	0.4	1.2
Other ethnicity		
New Zealander	2.8	1.6
Other ethnicity nec	0.0	0.0
Total other ethnicity	2.8	1.7

1. Includes all people who stated each ethnic group, whether as their only ethnic group or as one of several. Where a person reported more than one ethnic group, they have been counted in each applicable group. As a result percentages do not add up to 100.
 Note: nec = not elsewhere classified.
 Source: Statistics New Zealand

The West Coast benefits from a low unemployment rate with 4.7% unemployment (of those aged over 15 years) compared to a national unemployment rate in 2013 of 7.1%. While there is a positive employment picture, the median personal income in the West Coast Region is \$26,900, lower than the all NZ median of \$28,500. The region has a slightly higher proportion of residents over 15 years earning under \$20,00 per annum at 39.3% compared to 38.2% for all NZ. Only 25.2% of the population are earning over \$50,000 per annum, compared to 26.7% for all NZ. This indicates that the affordability of participation in sport and recreation may be a more significant consideration for the regional community than some other areas of NZ.

Access to technology is more limited on the West Coast with only 69.6% of households having access to the internet compared to 76.8% for all NZ. The region also has 10% less cell phone access than the rest of NZ (73.2% compared to 83.7%)¹⁴. This is relevant when considering how sport and recreation facilities and opportunities are promoted in the region.

Overall the demographic picture across the region is relatively consistent across each of the Districts. A snapshot of some differences between Buller, Grey and Westland is provided in table 2.4.5.

Table 2.4.5: Summary of District Differences

	Total Popn	Popn as % of region	Median age (years)	Over 65 years	Under 18 years	Median income	Unemployment	Internet access
Buller	10,473	32.6%	44.1	16.7%	18.7%	\$25,200	4.9%	67.9%
Grey	13,371	41.6%	41.9	16%	19.9%	\$26,600	5.3%	70.5%
Westland	8,307	25.8%	42.7	15.5%	18.4%	\$29,000	3.7%	70.5%
Region	32,148*		42.8	16.1%	19.1%	\$26,900	4.7%	69.6%

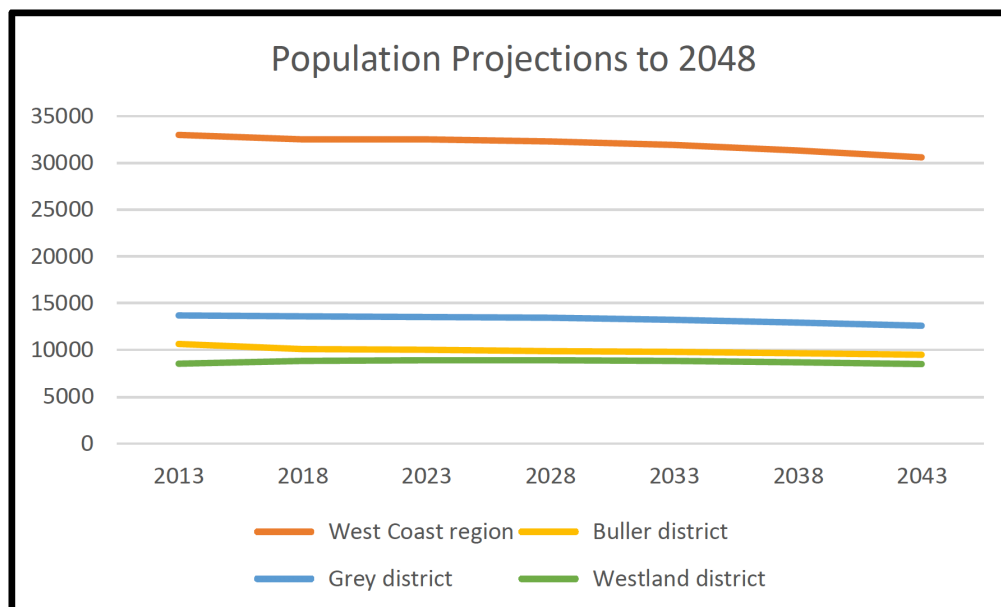
* District figures do not add to the regional total as some residents live outside a territorial authority area.

Population Projections

Based on Statistics NZ Medium¹⁵ Series data the West Coast Region is expected to have a decline in population from 33,000 in 2013 to 30,600 residents by 2043. This represents a 7.3% population decline by 2043. Westland is the only District projected to have a small amount (4%) of population growth up to 2023 but will have an overall decline of 0.8% by 2043. Both Buller and Grey District's populations are projected to show a steady decline over the period, resulting in an overall 10.8% decline in Buller and an 8% decline in Grey by 2043.

Table 2.4.6: Regional and District Population Projections 2013-2043

Projection	Medium						
	2013	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043
West Coast region	33000	32500	32500	32300	31900	31300	30600
Buller district	10650	10100	10000	9910	9800	9670	9500
Grey district	13700	13600	13550	13450	13250	12950	12600
Westland district	8570	8850	8910	8910	8820	8680	8500



14 Work has been undertaken in recent years to improve internet connectivity and cell phone coverage in the region

15 At the time of release, the medium projection is considered the most suitable for assessing future population change and is consistent with the 50th percentile (median) of the National Population Projections 2016(base)-2068 (released 19 October 2016).

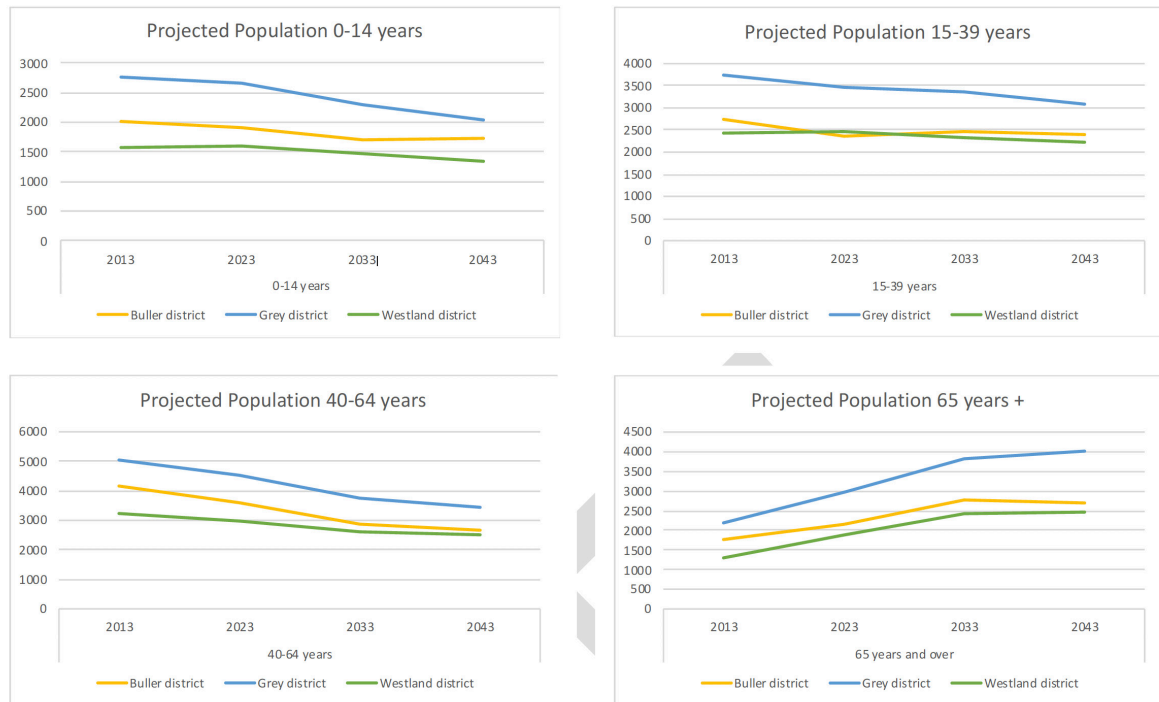
Population Change by Age Group

Table 2.4.7: Projected Population Change by Age Group 2013-2043

Age Group Projections		0-14 years		15-39 years		40-64 years		65 years and over	
Year at 30 June		2013	2043	2013	2043	2013	2043	2013	2043
West Coast region		6300	5100	8900	7700	12400	8600	5300	9200
Buller district		2000	1730	2750	2390	4150	2670	1750	2710
Grey district		2750	2050	3750	3100	5050	3450	2200	4000
Westland district		1580	1330	2420	2210	3240	2500	1320	2470

The West Coast Region is anticipated to have a decline in population for those aged 0-14 years (-19%), 15-39 years (-23.5) and 40-64 years (30.6%) between 2013 and 2043. Over the same period the population aged 65+ years is expected to grow by 73.6% to 9,200 (30% of the total population).

Figure 2.4.8: Projected Population Trends by Age and District



It is projected that by 2038 those aged 65+ years will be the largest proportion of the population. This will have an impact on the sport and recreation participation in the region and the associated facility needs. Sport and recreation facilities in the region will need to cater more for the needs of older adults in terms of:

- Physical design – accessible and warm facilities
- The way facilities are activated – ensuring they cater for a wide variety of use, including modified versions of sport and recreation and increased social interaction to help attract and retain older adults
- Appropriate pricing – to ensure activities and programmes remain accessible for older adults on fixed incomes.

Essentially this means the region will have a decline in the age sectors of the population considered to usually be more active in traditional, team sports and an increase in the over 65 years age sector which is often more active in recreational activities such as walking, cycling and swimming.

A key challenge for the region is to continue to provide sport and recreation facilities which are appropriate to the populations needs, sustainable, well utilised and affordable to a declining, and ageing population.

This population trend supports the general rationale of making the most out of existing facilities (including by upgrades and re-purposing to alternative uses), rather than creating additional facility capacity. Financial sustainability will be a key consideration, given the increase in people with fixed incomes due to the aging population. With the contribution of Tourism to the regional economy growing there may be opportunities to increase visitor usage of existing sport and recreation facilities to help with sustainability. This will require appropriate marketing and promotion.

2.5 General Participation Trends

Individual versus Team

We are witnessing a paradigm shift in participation from the overwhelming popularity of traditional team-based sports to more non-traditional, often individual, sport and recreation activities. Some of this is driven by the time demands of modern lifestyles, including weekend and shift work impacting on people's ability to participate at traditional times. New technology also means we can compete against ourselves (e.g. smart watches, GPS and exercise apps) or others in online environments. For example, challenging others to beat our time bike, run or walk time over certain routes.

Pay to play

An increasing number of sport and recreation activities are being offered in a more casual, pay to play format and with online booking and security systems allowing people to participate at the time of their choice, with the teammates or opposition of their choice. This environment reduces the traditional commitment of many team sports, mid-week training and a weekend game is becoming less of the norm. This is also contributing to a reduction in club volunteers as people choose to participate in a non-club environment.

Increased expectations

Participants in sport and recreation are now 'customers' expecting a higher level of service both in terms of the facility standards, flexibility and ease of use. People expect to be able to participate at times that suit them. The emergence and popularity of 24-hour gyms is one example of this. Many participants also expect the facility to be set up, ready for their use with less volunteers available or accepting of the need to set up courts, fields etc before they can play.

Reducing Volunteers and increasing professionalism

Volunteering has been the backbone to the success of a large proportion of sport, recreation and events (especially at grass roots level). However, there has been an evident decline in the number of volunteers. As a result, many sports are struggling to find coaches, administrators and officials. This in turn is contributing to an increasing number of paid administration roles in sport and recreation, even at grass roots level.

National Participation Trends

Understanding trends in participation is important to inform future facility planning. It is useful to consider a range of participation data to build understanding.

National research¹⁶ shows a decline of 7.7% in adult (over 18 years) weekly participation in sport and recreation between 1998 and 2014¹⁷. This research also shows that over the same period sports club membership has declined by 11.1% whilst gym/fitness centre membership has increased by 3.6%. Interestingly increases in gym membership were found across all age groups, ethnicities and income levels whereas sports club membership showed greater decline for younger adults (18-24 years) and Maori and Pacific adults.

¹⁶ Sourced 19 July 2019 from <https://sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/16-year-adult-participation-trends-report-1998-2014.pdf>

¹⁷ It is important to note that this report covers a selection of activities where information was consistently available over the 16 year period, rather than all adult participation activities.

The Active New Zealand Survey 2013/14 provides a useful snapshot of national participation preferences. Five of the top 10 activities participated in by age group were common across all age groups: walking, swimming, cycling, equipment-based exercise and fishing, indicating that these activities need to be supported with appropriate facilities. The research also highlights a number of differences between age groups. For example, Netball, Touch Rugby and Football were in the top 10 activities for those aged 16-24 years. However, they do not feature in the top 10 for any older age groups (From 25 - 75+ years). Conversely, Bowls was in to the top 10 for those aged from 65 - 75+ but not for any of the younger age groups. This helps demonstrate how participation preferences change with age.¹⁸

This data is useful to consider when planning a facility network for an ageing population, where those aged over 65 years are expected to be 30% of the population by 2043.

Considering participation data for the region (see next section) and participation data by age group at a national level indicates there is strong current and projected future demand for:

- swimming facilities.
- walking and cycling trails and facilities that support those activities (i.e. car parking, toilets).
- gym facilities (providing equipment-based exercise as well as activity space suitable for group classes including dance, pilates/yoga).
- fishing facilities such as boat ramps, piers and jetties.

The type and nature of these facilities will need to consider features that best suit an aging population. For example, the demand for easy access swimming facilities, warm water and potentially hydrotherapy may increase.

¹⁸ Sourced 19 July 2019 from <https://www.srknowledge.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Active-NZ-Survey-WEB-FINAL1.pdf>. This research covers New Zealanders as a whole.

2.6 Regional Participation Trends

Using the Sport NZ Insights Tool a number of regional participation trends can be identified.

Figure 2.6.1: Top 25 Activities by Participation 2017 for the West Coast Region¹⁹

Sport	Percent of the population	Change 2011-2017	National Participation
Walking/Powerwalking	29%	6%	35%
Swimming/Diving	15%	-6%	18%
Camping/Tramping	13%	-1%	21%
Run/jogging	12%	2%	17%
Cycling/ Bicycle Riding	11%	-7%	15%
Fishing	11%	-3%	12%
Snooker/Pool	11%	0%	6%
Basketball	8%	2%	6%
Football/Soccer (indoor/outdoor)	8%	5%	8%
Going to the gym/Working out	8%	-2%	15%
Indoor/outdoor Netball	7%	4%	5%
Golf	6%	-5%	7%
Indoor/Outdoor Cricket	5%	-4%	4%
Roller Blading/ Roller Skating	5%	1%	2%
Squash/Badminton	5%	1%	6%
Tennis	5%	-4%	7%
Lawn Bowls	4%	-7%	2%
Rugby Union	4%	0%	3%
Surfing	4%	1%	4%
Touch Rugby	4%	0%	5%
Baseball/Softball	3%	-1%	1%
Equestrian/ Horse Riding	3%	2%	2%
Horse Racing	3%	1%	2%
Martial Arts/ Boxing	3%	1%	3%
Motor/ Trail Biking	3%	-1%	1%

When considering facility-based participation rates it is evident that swimming across the whole of the West Coast region is ranked the highest for individuals who have participated in the sport in the last year and are likely to participate in the next six months. However, it is also important to be aware that these statistics include people swimming in natural water as well as built swimming pool facilities. Although the data doesn't specify whether individuals are engaging in competitive or recreational swimming, based on anecdotal information we can presume that majority of participants are engaging in recreational swimming. Swimming is also the highest ranked facility-based sport shown in expected participation for Buller, Grey and Westland districts (when considered at District level).

Looking at the region as a whole, basketball was the second highest facility-based sport that individuals have reported to have participated in the last year. However, it is ranked just out of the top ten for those likely to participate in the next six months. This may be related to the timing of the survey period and the Basketball season. Going to the gym/working out is suggested to be the second most likely facility-based activity individuals for the whole of the West Coast are likely to engage in the next 6 months. This provides evidence for the expected continued demand for gym-based facilities in the region.

Interestingly, rugby union is ranked first for individuals who have attended a sports event and in the top four for 'interested in'. However, there is a relatively low percentage of individuals who have participated in the sport in the last year and are likely to participate in the next six months.

It is evident from the data provided by Sport NZ insights that a similar trend is emerging in the West Coast to the rest of New Zealand, with a decline in participation in traditional team-based sports and an increase in individual based activities. This trend indicates the type of facilities that our community is wanting to use are changing.

¹⁹ Source: Sport NZ Insights Tool: Activity Trends.

2.7 Secondary School Sport Participation Trends

School sport participation is a key driver of demand for facilities. Along with general participation trends for the whole community it is also useful to understand trends in school sport participation. This information is available by District rather than region.

Figure 2.7.1: Top 10 Secondary School Sports by Percent Involved – Buller District

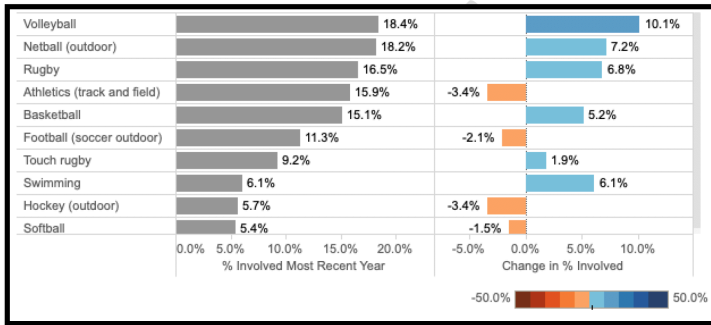


Figure 2.7.2: Top 10 Secondary School Sports by Percent Involved – Grey District

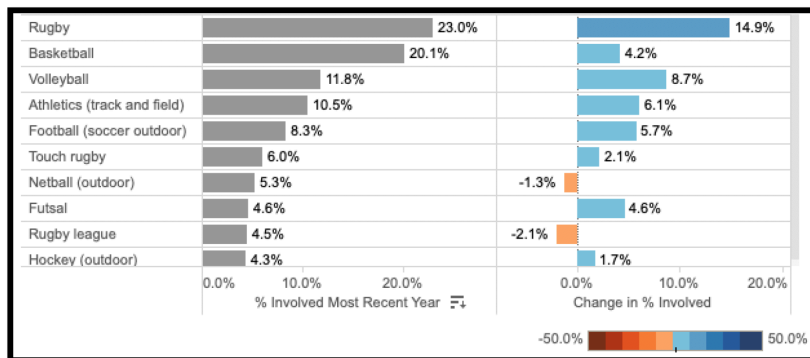
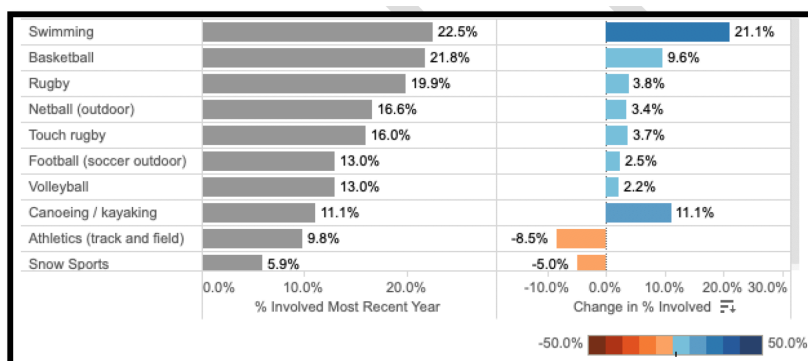


Figure 2.7.3: Top 10 Secondary School Sports by Percent Involved – Westland District



When comparing the three main districts of the West Coast it is evident that rugby is one of the most common sports secondary school students have mostly recently been involved in, featuring in the top three of all districts. Other common sports across the districts include, basketball, netball and volleyball, however interestingly netball is ranked high for both Buller and Westland it has less participation in the Grey District.

Another key feature from the above tables is swimming is shown as the top-ranking sport for secondary schools in the Westland District, however it is ranked relatively low for Buller and doesn't feature in the top ten for Grey despite it being the second most popular activity by percentage for the whole population (as shown in figure 4.6.1).

2.8 Geographic Isolation and Distribution of Facilities (sustainability of facilities)

People’s perception of acceptable nominal drive times to access sport and recreation facilities vary. It is apparent that generally, on the West Coast people are used to, and generally accepting of, the need to travel to access facilities, particularly those used for competition purposes. Although it is also apparent that the level of willingness around travel times varies between town-based residents/participants and those rurally based. Based on stakeholder feedback, nominal drive times (by facility type) that seem to be accepted / expected in the region are:

Facility Hierarchy	Main Towns – Drive Time	Rural Areas – Drive Time
International	No drive time limit	No drive time limit
National	No drive time limit	No drive time limit
Regional	90 mins	2 hours
Sub-regional/District	45 mins	90 mins
Local	20 mins	45 mins

Appendix 7.2 provides drive time maps showing the area covered within a 45 minute drive time from the main towns of Westport, Greymouth and Hokitika. The Greymouth and Hokitika maps show significant cross over. This demonstrates that Regional or Sub-regional/District facilities located in either town are reasonably accessible to residents within and beyond the other town.

A map showing 90 minutes drive time from Franz Josef Glacier is also provided in Appendix 7.2. This gives an indication of the travel requirements of residents in South Westland. Essentially it shows the importance of providing local level facilities for communities of South Westland, whilst understanding that there is a need to travel up to two hours to access Sub-regional/District and Regional level facilities.

Based on the geographic dispersal and the low level of the regional population it is not realistic to provide a higher level of access to Regional or Sub-regional/District facilities than is currently provided, centred around the main towns. Smaller communities do not have the population and demand requirements to justify the significant investment required to duplicate Regional or Sub-regional/District facilities in more locations across the region.

Whilst West Coasters often expect and are generally prepared to travel further to access facilities, particularly for competition purposes, some stakeholders indicated that the need to travel has some impact on discouraging participation for some or influencing participation choices to those with less travel requirements.

Often the need to travel is not due to facility access but rather related to the low population. In order to have an adequate competition, with enough opposition to play against travel is required. Just one example, the weekly netball competition includes teams from Reefton, Greymouth and Hokitika requiring travel for games of up to 90 minutes. Travel at this kind of level (or more) is common across many sports codes in the region. Athletes participating at higher levels may also travel to either Christchurch or Nelson on a semi-regular basis for advanced competition or training purposes.

2.9 Facility Trends

Changing Technology

Rapid advancements in technology are changing all aspects of people's lives, including sport and recreation. Providing adequate base technology levels (e.g. wifi, auto-lighting) in facilities is now the minimum standard expected. Some sports are rapidly adopting technological improvements in their regular top-level play such as use of the hot spot and slow motion replays in cricket and goal line technology in Football. Others are introducing web-based technology at local participation levels including online booking and payments systems, for example iSquash²⁰. Virtual Reality is constantly improving and becoming more widely used in high level training for sports such as American Football, Nascar, Football, and Basketball²¹. It is a real challenge to plan facilities in a flexible way to allow adaptation to new technology as it emerges.

Development of Hub Sites

Development of regional and local sport and recreation hubs is a strong national and international trend. Many clubs, codes, Trusts and Councils are starting to co-locate and integrate provision of key facilities to gain efficiency and effectiveness benefits. These benefits can include economies of scale, shared spaces and services resulting in increased facility utilisation. Some of these hubs are becoming one-stop-shops for a variety of sport, recreation and community activities, creating vibrancy and activity levels that are attractive to participants.

Community sport is often capable of meeting the day-to-day running costs of facilities. However, most are unable to generate additional revenues to cover the ongoing operational and maintenance costs associated with effective asset management over the life of a facility. Partnerships and hub sites are viewed as a partial solution through sharing the cost burden of facility components that can be multi-use, particularly support facilities (toilets, changing and storage) and social and administrative spaces. Often such hubs are managed under a trust model.

Hub and Spoke Approach

A Hub and Spoke approach has been adopted in much of the recent national-level facility planning. The premise is a regional hub facility is at the centre of a network of 'spoke' or satellite facilities to optimise provision and minimise duplication of facilities at the regional and national level. Much of this planning has been based on the assumption that the regional hub (or regional competition base) for a code is located where the largest concentration of population (and participants) is. 'Spokes', or satellite facilities are distributed around the regional hub in smaller population centres (in outlying areas) providing local access to the sport mainly for training or local competition purposes. Many sports codes in the West Coast Region seem to have developed a three hub model, with a Sub-regional/District standard hub facility in each of Westport, Hokitika and Greymouth, supported by local level facilities in small communities throughout each District.

²⁰iSquash is a web based, integrated IT tool that is used for administration, player grading, tournament entries and results, court bookings and payments.

²¹ Sourced 31 July 2019 from <https://www.viar360.com/5-sports-benefiting-virtual-reality/>

3 Future Planning and Principles

3.1 Facility Hierarchy

A facility hierarchy is developed to help understand at what level of provision facilities are planned for and capable of meeting the needs of user groups.

These hierarchy definitions are taken from the Sport NZ Data Dictionary. Having a consistent hierarchy with other areas of NZ allows direct comparisons to be made and allows for “across boundary” prioritisation, if required.

Facility and Space Hierarchy Definitions

International

A facility with the ability to host international competitions / events (between nations).

For example: Forsyth Barr Stadium, Dunedin; Horncastle Arena, Christchurch.

National

A facility with the ability to host regional representative competitions (including professional and semi-professional franchise competitions involving teams from outside New Zealand) and / or to serve as a national high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes.

For example: ILT Stadium Southland, Invercargill; Moana Pool, Dunedin; Nga Puna Wai, Christchurch.

Regional

A facility with the ability to host inter-regional and internal regional competitions and / or serves as a regional high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes.

For example: Westland Recreation Centre, Greymouth (Aquatics & Indoor Courts); Pulse Energy Recreation Centre (Aquatics & Indoor Courts); John Sturgeon Park, Greymouth and Victoria Square, Westport (Rugby)

Sub Regional/District

A facility with the ability to draw significant numbers of participants/teams/competitors from a whole district or across adjacent territorial authority boundaries for either competition or training purposes.

For example: Anzac Park, Greymouth (Athletics); Hokitika Golf Course; Westport RS (Bowling club); Rangimarie Croquet Club (Westport).

Local

A facility which often facilitates people’s introduction to sports and recreation and primarily serves a town or suburb (or potentially two suburbs) only.

For example: Whataroa Rugby Club; Franz Josef Community Centre

Note: It is important to understand that a facility at a higher hierarchy level may also meet the needs all the way down to a local level.

3.2 Facility and Space Planning Principles

In considering future facilities and spaces to meet sporting and recreation needs it is essential that we learn from the past and ensure that future facilities are developed in a robust and planned way.

A set of key principles have been developed to guide future decision making. These principles, considered alongside agreed criteria, allow asset owners, user groups and decision makers to understand why and how spaces and places are planned for and prioritised. In developing these principles, the Project Group has reviewed several other regional plans and determined the following principles as being important for the provision of sport and recreation spaces and places on the West Coast.

Table 3.2.1: Regional Planning Principles

Principle	Explanation
1. Meeting an identified need	<p>Clear demand is demonstrated within the community.</p> <p>Experience shows that there is often insufficient rigour applied to the fundamental question of need and what is the fit-for-purpose solution. The best outcomes are achieved when all of the potential users of the facility or space are identified, and a deep understanding is gained about their needs.</p>
2. Sustainability	<p>Well utilised facilities, able to meet their operational costs and with strong governance and management.</p> <p>Experience shows that often there is insufficient consideration of the ongoing costs of a facility or space, what the operating and maintenance costs will be, and how they will be funded over time. The best outcomes are achieved when the 'whole of life' costs of a facility or space are considered at the outset and a clear plan established around how the costs will be met. Often investment up-front in, for example, shared reception or greater energy efficiency, can deliver large dividends over the life of a facility.</p>
3. Partnering and Collaboration	<p>Working together to achieve maximum return on investment.</p> <p>Historically, sport and active recreation facilities have tended to be planned and built without sufficient early identification, engagement, collaboration and co-ordination between potential partners (particularly neighbouring local authorities).</p> <p>Better outcomes are achieved when well-co-ordinated, collaborative partnerships are developed with those beyond the traditional sport and active recreation sector, such as education, health, iwi, and the private sector. Adopting a network approach across a district or region and placing importance on relationship building is essential. This increases the likelihood that the facilities and spaces will be used to their full potential, maximising the return on investment in terms of participation and funding.</p>
4. Integration	<p>Organisations work together to integrate facilities and programmes to maximise use.</p> <p>Many sports facilities are underutilised for large periods of time. Often the best outcomes are achieved by sharing. Facilities should be designed to enable integrated uses such as hub facilities, multi-use facilities or co-located facilities, catering to sport and recreation and other complimentary community uses.</p>
5. Future Proofing	<p>Ability to adapt facilities to changing needs and trends.</p> <p>The best long-term outcomes are achieved by designing facilities and spaces in ways that enable them to be adapted, developed and extended in response to future demands. Experience shows that facilities and spaces should be designed to accommodate changing demographics and needs over time, including technological changes.</p>
6. Accessibility	<p>Facilities and spaces that are accessible for all to get to, move within (physically accessible), and use (priced appropriately).</p> <p>Given the large geographic distances on the West Coast it is important that communities have relative access to the network of facilities in the region. The vast majority of facilities are accessed by car²². While walking or cycling to local facilities may be desirable, it is only a relevant consideration for some communities and facilities in the region.</p> <p>At the same time we need spaces and facilities, with programmes and activities within them that consider all demographic, physical and cultural and financial diversity within our communities.</p>

²² Note: No local public transport options are currently provided in the region.

Table 3.2.1: Regional Planning Principles CONTINUED

Principle	Explanation
7. Facilities that deliver wider community benefits	<p>Multi-use facilities, including those that provide for uses beyond community sport and recreation.</p> <p>Experience shows that single-use facilities can be hard to justify and sustain, particularly for small communities. Facilities that provide for wider social, cultural and community needs by catering to a range and number of users are more sustainable.</p>
8. Reflect the uniqueness of the West Coast	<p>Respond to the unique geography, communities and weather of the West Coast.</p> <p>Facilities and spaces need to be reflective of the character of the community, district and region that surround them, both visually and operationally, to create an environment where everyone feels welcome.</p>
9. Optimise existing facilities	<p>Optimise existing facilities before developing new ones.</p> <p>To give effect to key principles of meeting an identified need, integration, partnering and collaboration, sustainability and delivering wide community benefits it is best to start with an intent to maximise our existing facilities before investing in new developments.</p>

3.3 Facility Project Evaluation / Decision-Making Criteria

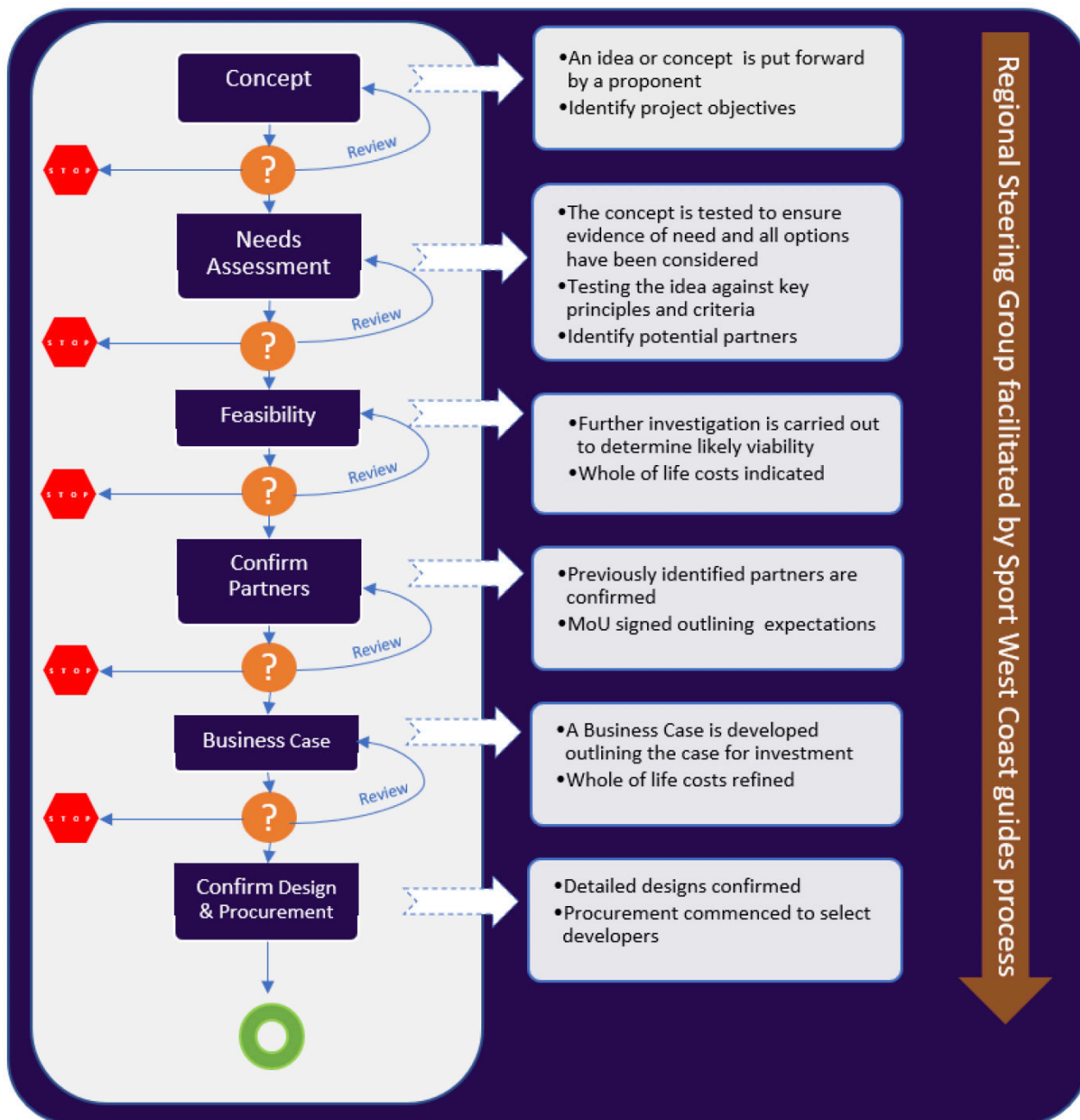
The following criteria have been developed to reflect the key principles and can be used to assess both current and future planned spaces and places investments.

The criteria included in ***bold italics*** are considered to be Level one - Gateway Criteria. These criteria need to be considered first and met with a high degree of certainty before a more detailed assessment of any proposal is undertaken using the remaining (level two criteria). The principles and criteria will be applied to each concept put forward for consideration using the Decision Making Framework provided in Figure 3.3.2 below.

Table 3.3.1: Principles and Criteria

Principle	Explanation
1. Meeting an identified need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The degree to which any existing or proposed facility matches the projected needs of the community within its core catchment area. In the case of facilities with wide utilisation (such as aquatics facilities) this involves consideration of all potential users from general recreational users through to organised sports codes.</i> • <i>The degree to which demand exceeds supply (once all existing facilities are being run at an optimal operational level) and the facility or proposed facility can meet the identified gap.</i> • The ability of the facility or proposed facility to progress the competitive sporting objectives of the West Coast region and wider New Zealand society. • The needs identified can only be met through additional provision.
2. Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The capability of potential facility developers to develop and operate facilities.</i> • The degree to which the existing or proposed facility is operationally sustainable (taking a whole of lifecycle approach which looks at operational and maintenance costs throughout a facility's life).
3. Partnering and Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential for operational and/or capital partnerships between multiple stakeholders.
4. Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The degree of alignment a facility or proposed facility has with national and regional facility strategies.</i> • The degree to which a facility or proposed facility compliments / optimises the existing or proposed facility network and builds on the West Coast's regional strengths. • The degree to which the duplication of facilities (from an international to a local level) is avoided.
5. Future Proofing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability of the facility or proposed facility to progress the competitive sporting objectives of the West Coast region and wider New Zealand society. • The needs identified can only be met through additional provision.
6. Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability of the facility or proposed facility to reflect international and national best practice in its location, design and subsequent operation.
7. Facilities that deliver wider community benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The return on investment (capital and operational) that the facility or proposed facility can generate (measured in terms of community benefit).
8. Reflect the uniqueness of the West Coast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The degree to which the proposed facility responds to the specific needs of the West Coast including geographic isolation; weather; low total population base; small communities; competitive travel requirements; provision of modified sport & small team games.
9. Optimise existing facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The degree to which the proposal optimises an existing facility e.g. through partnerships to increase use, enhancements to make a facility more fit-for-purpose.

Figure 3.3.2: Decision Making Framework - An assessment model.



4 Strategic Context

A review of existing strategies and plans was undertaken. A summary of the key recurring themes relating to the scope of this project from each is given below. Further detail of the documents reviewed can be found in Appendix 7.1. Specific references of relevance are also included by code in Appendices 7.3-7.10.

4.1 West Coast Specific Strategies

The following criteria have been developed to reflect the key principles and can be used to assess both current and future planned spaces and places investments.

This strategy needs to recognise and align with relevant strategies that have been previously developed or are currently in development. West Coast specific strategies reviewed for this project included:

- West Coast Walking and Cycling Strategy (2009)
- Canterbury West Coast Regional Physical Activity Plan (2005)
- Accessible Te Tai Poutini West Coast Strategic Plan (2018 -2021)
- Westland District Council Physical Activity Strategy (2007)
- West Coast Conservation Management Strategy - Volume 2 (2010-2020)
- West Coast Economic Development Action Plan (2017)
- Final Proposal for combined West Coast District Plan (2018)

Key themes of relevance from West Coast specific strategic documents include:

- The need for more collaboration across the West Coast.
- Issues of fragmentation and lack of integration.
- Aim to increase levels of physical activity through a range of sport and recreation.
- Accessibility.
- Communication and promotion.
- Encourage participation.

A brief summary of each regional strategies purpose and key direction is provided in Appendix 7.1.

4.2 National Strategies

A number of national strategies and documents provide important context and guidance for consideration in facility planning including:

Sport New Zealand Strategic Direction 2020-2032

Sport New Zealand's (Sport NZ) Strategic Direction, **'Towards 2032'** sets out the direction and outcomes for the next 12 years. 'Towards 2032' is all about demonstrating how Sport NZ, as the kaitiaki (guardian) of the Play, Active Recreation and Sport system, hope to achieve this together with our partners. Sport NZ's vision is, 'Every Body Active.'

This document outlines leadership priorities areas through to 2032 which include; direction setting, insights, advocacy, collaboration and investment.

Sport NZ demonstrate within 'Towards 2032' that their purpose is to contribute to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand, by leading an enriching and inspiring Play, Active Recreation and Sport system. They also highlight their commitment to upholding the mana of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the principles of Partnership, Protection and Participation.

The long-term outcomes outlined in this document include;

1. **Frequency** – Improved frequency, intensity, time and type of participation in Play, Active Recreation and Sport.
2. **Experience** – Enhanced experience of participants, supporters, volunteers and workforce.
3. **Variety** – Increased variety of culturally distinct pathways for tangata whenua and all New Zealanders.
4. **System** – Improved system that is capable, inclusive, trusted and reflects Te Tiriti O Waitangi and the principles of Partnership, Protection and Participation.

Sport NZ Strategic Plan 'Every Body Active' 2020-2024

Sport New Zealand's Strategic Plan 2020-2024 is the first of three four-year strategic plans which demonstrates how Sport NZ will work towards achieving their long-term outcomes outlined in the Strategic Direction 2020-2032 document.

The 2020-2024 strategic plan is focused on tamariki (5-11- year old's) through Play and Physical Education and rangatahi (12-18-year old's) through Active Recreation and Sport, with the goal of reducing the drop off in activity levels of rangatahi from age 12-18 and increase the levels of activity for those tamariki and rangatahi who are less active.

Sport NZ seek to achieve three Key Result Areas (KRAs) within 2020-2024, these are:

- KRA 1** Improve activity levels for tamariki (children aged 5-11) and rangatahi (young people aged 12-18) in 2020-2024.
 - Balance targeted initiatives with longer term system change.
- KRA 2** Improve the activity levels of tamariki and rangatahi who are less active.
 - Prioritise communities that are facing greater levels of deprivation.
- KRA 3** Ensure that Sport NZ and the sector are effective in influencing the system.
 - KRA 3 will include system related work reaching tamariki and rangatahi.

This plan also highlights Sport NZ's commitment to the Governments Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation Strategy and the Sport NZ Disability Plan.

Sport NZ also recognised the need to support HPSNZ to achieve their strategic outcomes.

Within the 2020-2024 Plan, Sport NZ outline current key features in New Zealand's Participation Landscape for children ages 5-11 years and young people 12-18 years.

Motivation and Barriers

Why young people participate:

76% - For Fun

45% - To hang out with family or friends

28% - To physically challenge myself or to win

Barriers to participation:

42% - Too busy

17% - Don't have the energy

17% - Already doing a good amount

Teenage Decline

During teenage years there is a significant drop-off in participation – particularly the number of hours spent on Sport and Active Recreation.

Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation – Government Strategy 2018

In October 2018 the Government released a strategy for Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation. The Government's vision for the strategy is to enable Women and Girls to realise their potential in and through sport and active recreation.

The strategy aims to create an equitable and inclusive sport and recreation culture for Aotearoa New Zealand, and a system that empowers and supports all women and girls – as active participants, athletes and leaders. As well as seeking to understand and address the multiple barriers women and girls can face. Three priority areas in the strategy are: leadership, participation, and value and visibility.

The strategy outlines that to be successful we need to:

- Create a more inclusive sport and active recreation system, which listens to the voices of all women and girls and supports them to reach their potential.
- Acknowledge and further support the significant leadership role Maori and Pasifika women and girls play in sport and active recreation.
- Understand and address the challenges or opportunities women and girls can face due to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age or ability.
- Focus our efforts on deeply understanding the needs of women and girls from diverse backgrounds and co-designing solutions to build on their strengths and ensure their needs are met.
- Increase the availability, relevance and quality of participation opportunities available to women and girls and ensure those opportunities are safe, appropriate and empowering for everyone involved.
- Better value the voice of women and girls by providing equitable access for women and girls in leadership within sport and active recreation – be it through volunteering, administration, coaching, management, governance or other leadership opportunities.
- Ensure that all women and girls, in all roles, are visible, feel positive about the contribution they make, and value being involved and participating in all levels of sport and active recreation. The opportunity is for ever.

Disability Plan Play, Active Recreation & Sport (The Plan)²³

1.1 million (24%) of New Zealanders identify as disabled, with 11% of NZ children under the age of 15 disabled. Research tells us that disabled tamariki and rangatahi are less likely to participate in a range of sport and activities. On average only 63% of disabled adults participate in sport and recreation on a weekly basis compared to 77% of non-disabled adults.

The Plan is designed to support the development of an inclusive and enabling Play, Active Recreation and Sport system – a place where disabled people have equal opportunities to achieve their goals and aspirations, fulfilling their potential. The outcomes sought through the Plan that have a direct link to current and future facility planning include:

1. Improved frequency, intensity, time and type of physical activity for disabled people.
2. Improved experience of participants, supporters, volunteers and workforce for disabled people.

Some of Sport NZ's key commitments in the Plan, relevant to facilities include to:

- Work in partnership to create a more inclusive play, sport and recreation system.
- Invest to create better quality experiences for disabled tamariki and rangatahi with a range of impairments.
- Build system wide capability to deliver better outcomes for disabled people.
- Be an advocate for policies and programmes that support disabled tamariki and rangatahi to be actively engaged in play, active recreation and sport.
- Invest in partnerships, funds and programmes supporting disabled tamariki and rangatahi.
- Advocate for well-designed, inclusive and fit for purpose facilities, accessible parks, playgrounds and open spaces.

It is important that when planning sport and recreation facilities the needs of disabled people are considered and effectively planned for.

4.3 National Sporting Facility Strategies

In order to provide some direction for facility planners and decision makers, many national sports organisations (NSOs) have undertaken National Facility Strategies. These strategies have outlined what level of provision is desired from each code.

Key, recurring themes from NSO plans that have relevance to this strategy include:

- Many codes have an over-supply of facilities (based on population ratios).
- Geographic distribution and accessibility of facilities is not consistent.
- Many facilities and sports codes are likely to experience a decrease in demand and participation (based on population projections alone), whilst some demand will grow.
- Challenges of funding ongoing maintenance and replacement costs of facilities (including costs of changes in legislative requirements).
- Maximising the use of existing facilities including through increased awareness (doing so is often more cost effective than developing new assets).
- A need to improve the quality of existing assets including the support facilities provided (e.g. toilets & changing rooms. Note: there is a link between facility quality & player development).
- Taking a hierarchy approach to facility provision and considering provision as a network (on a regional basis).
- Rationalisation of facilities due to sustainability issues.
- More partnership approaches to facility provision to facilitate more efficient use of resources including multi-use hubs.
- Increasing demands on local authorities to balance the needs of sport with other demands.
- The importance of the education sector to facility provision.
- Casual participation in many sports is trending up whilst traditional, competitive participation is declining.

When using national facility strategies it is important to note that the West Coast is not necessarily considered as a whole in some national facilities strategies. Some West Coast information relates to Grey and Westland only, with Buller included under Tasman. Some include the West Coast under the Canterbury region. Also some of the calculations for the West Coast provided in national strategies are no longer accurate as changes have been made to provision since some strategies were adopted. For example, extra indoor courts have been built.

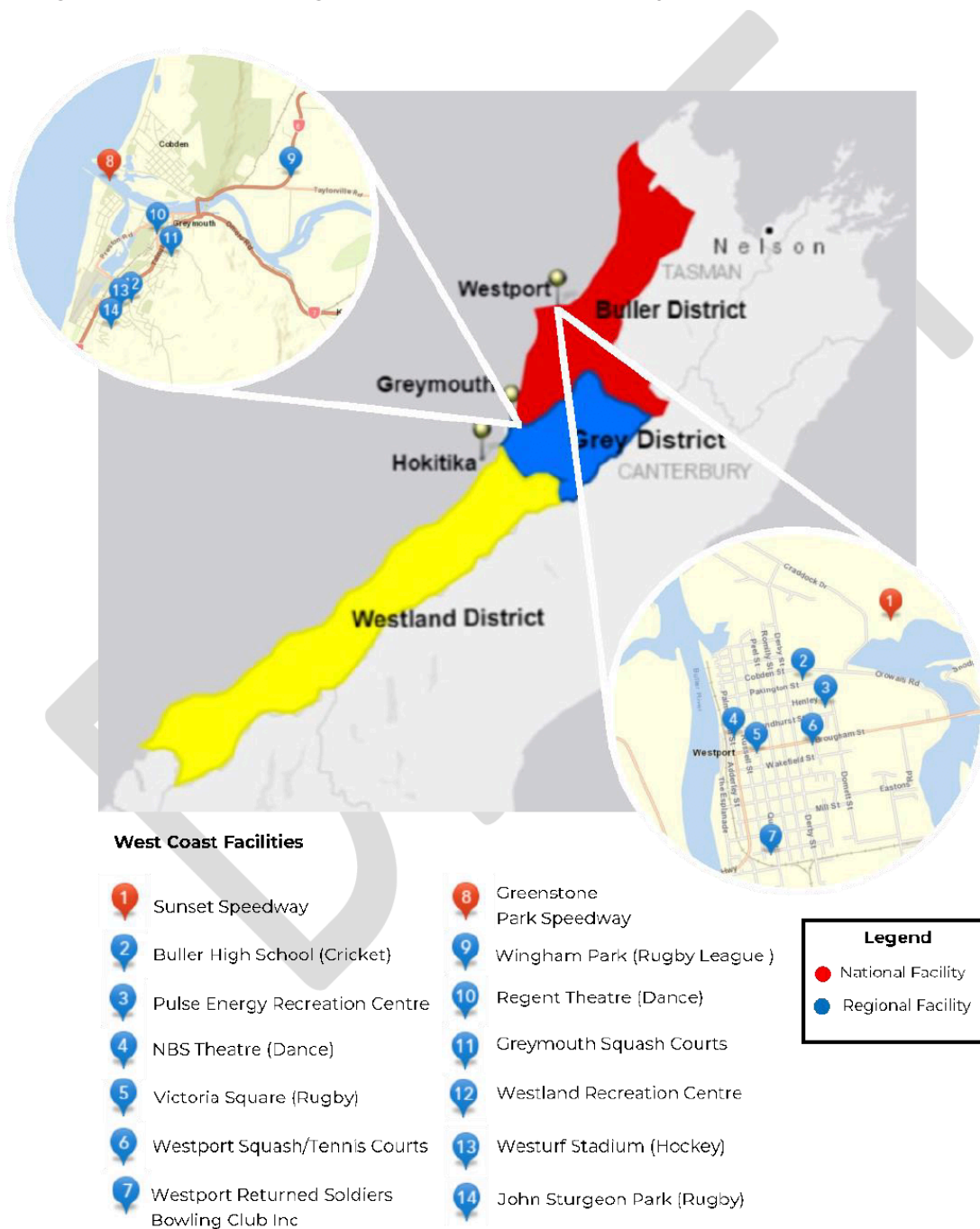
Therefore, the national strategies have been used for general guidance but the facility and sport specific assessments provided in section 8 and Appendices 7.3 - 7.10 of this document are based on the current facility database and 2013 census data.

Further, specific detail on the direction code specific facility strategies provide to the West Coast is provided, where relevant, by code in Appendices 7.3-7.10.

5 Supply at a Regional Level

In general there is a good spread of facility supply across the West Coast Region. The supply of Regional Hierarchy facilities is currently consolidated in Westport and Greymouth with none provided in Westland. The majority of the region's population is based in the main towns of Greymouth, Hokitika and Westport. Regional facilities located in Westport primarily serve the Buller population. With the short travelling distance between Greymouth and Hokitika the regional facilities clustered in Greymouth effectively service both Grey and Westland Districts.

Image 5.1: Location of Regional and National Hierarchy facilities



Note: There are currently no Regional or National Hierarchy facilities provided in Westland District.

The following table provides a brief summary of each facility type and sports code that has been assessed based on information provided through the stocktake and stakeholder survey and project team input. More detail for each facility type and sports code can be found in Appendices 7.3 - 7.10.

This table outlines the current status of facility supply and what action, if any, is required to ensure adequate supply for these facility types and sporting codes in the region. Those that have been identified as having adequate provision with no currently identified facility needs will still need to be subject to regular reviews and assessment in future as the regional population and participation trends change. Where facility challenges have been identified more detailed planning and investigation following the Decision Making Framework approach will be required in line with the more specific recommendations provided in Appendices 7.3 - 7.10.

Table 5.2: Status of Facility Supply by Sports Codes

FACILITY TYPE	SPORT CODES ASSESSED	STATUS SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION
Aquatic (pools)	Aquatic facilities - overall	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new aquatic facilities to be built Asset management / maintenance planning is required to ensure facilities remain fit-for-purpose. Some rationalisation of aged, low use facilities may be required.
	Swimming (including recreational use)	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Operational flexibility may be required around desired facility access times if demand increases.
	Canoe Polo	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited demand indicates current provision is adequate for local level participation requirements. No evidence of need for more, fit-for-purpose canoe polo facilities.

Table 5.2: Status of Facility Supply by Sports Codes

FACILITY TYPE	SPORT CODES ASSESSED	STATUS SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION
Indoor Courts (Multi-use)	Indoor Courts - overall	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new indoor court facilities identified. Some operational demand management processes may be required in future. Any significant growth in one code is likely to be off-set by projected decline in other codes.
	Badminton	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Operational flexibility may be required around desired facility access times if demand increases.
	Basketball	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Operational flexibility may be required around desired facility access times if demand increases. Balancing
	Indoor Football/ Futsal/Soccer	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited facilities currently available but also limited demand. Operational processes may need to change to support futsal access to facilities if demand increases in future.
	Indoor Hockey	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited facilities currently available but also limited demand. Operational processes may need to change to support indoor
	Netball	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Operational flexibility may be required around desired facility access times if demand increases. Balancing indoor and outdoor court use may be required in future.
	Volleyball	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Operational flexibility may be required around desired facility access times if demand increases.
Outdoor Courts	Outdoor Courts - overall	Facility Planning Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset management / maintenance is required to ensure quality, fit-for-purpose court surfaces are provided. Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new outdoor court facilities to be built. Consider converting some single use outdoor courts to shared, multi-use to help improve sustainability. Ensure a balance between indoor court and quality outdoor court provision.
	Basketball	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Partnerships for multi-use courts may be required in future.
	Netball	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Asset management / maintenance is required to ensure quality, fit-for-purpose court surfaces are provided. Providing quality outdoor courts to manage demand on indoor courts may be required.
	Tennis	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Asset management / maintenance is required to ensure facilities remain fit-for-purpose. Rationalisation of some low use sites may be required.

FACILITY TYPE	SPORT CODES ASSESSED	STATUS SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION
Outdoor Fields	Outdoor Fields - Overall	Facility Planning Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new outdoor fields to be built Need to assess demand for individual codes and potentially reallocate some fields between codes. Need for improved support facilities at multi-use sites (toilets, storage, change rooms). Increase emphasis on multi-use field sites.
	Athletics	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand for competition facilities. Some local access challenges exist. Need for replacement support facilities e.g. storage, toilets.
	Cricket	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand.
	Football	Facility Planning Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field access issues exist. Access to appropriate support facilities (changing, storage, toilets) is limited.
	Rugby & Rugby Sevens	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Some rationalisation of low use fields may be required. Some improvements to support facilities (toilets/change rooms) required.
	Rugby League	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Some rationalisation of low use fields may be required. Some improvements to support facilities (toilets/change rooms) required.
	Softball	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low demand indicates current supply is adequate.
	Touch	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. Access to appropriate support facilities (changing, storage, toilets) is limited.

FACILITY TYPE	SPORT CODES ASSESSED	STATUS SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION
Specialised Indoor	Dance	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Gym/fitness/weightlifting	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Gymsports	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of fit-for-purpose facilities. No evidence of significant demand issues. Need to assess future partnership and delivery options.
	Indoor Bowls	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Indoor Bowls	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Pilates/yoga	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Martial Arts	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Squash	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
Specialised Surface - Outdoor	Bowls - outdoor	Facility Planning Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply exceeds current and projected future demand. Need to assess future partnership and delivery options.
	Croquet	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Equestrian	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.
	Golf	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply may exceed future demand. Monitor club sustainability.
	Hockey	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new turfs identified. Some improvements to support facilities may be required (e.g. storage, wet weather viewing and toilets/changeroom access). Partnerships for local access (training) opportunities may be required.
	Motorsport Volleyball	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified.

FACILITY TYPE	SPORT CODES ASSESSED	STATUS SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION
Water Based	Sailing/yachting	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. No need for new facilities identified. Monitor boat ramp demand levels in some areas.
	Surfing	Adequate facility provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply meets current and projected future demand. ‘ No need for new facilities identified.
	Waka ama	Minor Facility challenges exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No storage facilities. Limited current demand.

The planned projects outlined in table 5.3 below have been considered as part of the current network picture when developing the strategy recommendations.

Table 5.3: Planned Projects

PROJECT NAME:	PROJECT LEADER:	DESCRIPTION:	PROPOSED HIERARCHY STATUS:	SPORTS THAT WILL BENEFIT:
Westland Sports Hub	Westland High School & Westland Sports Hub	Upgrade of the school gymnasium, covering and resurfacing the outdoor netball courts and as a later stage, upgrading the playing fields. This site will serve as a key sporting hub site for the Westland District	Sub-regional/ District	Basketball, badminton, volleyball, korfbal, netball and tennis. The playing fields stage, if achieved is expected to benefit: Rugby, league, soccer and athletics.
Reefton Pool Upgrade	Buller	The Annual Plan 2019/20 includes a budget of \$300,000 to undertake urgent upgrades to maintain the safety and usability of the current facility. The planned upgrades include roof replacement, ventilation system and structural works.	Local	Swimming
Punakaiki Community Facility	Buller	The Annual Plan 2019/20 includes a budget of \$95,000 to be used towards a community facility for Punakaiki, part of the wider masterplan project.	Local	A range of recreation activities

6 Key Recommendations for the Region

Whilst operational considerations are essentially outside of the scope of this strategy it became apparent during the process that a number of important operational changes and recommendations would be required in order to best support improvements to the coordination, use and development of the facility network in the region. These are included, along with strategy recommendations in the tables below.

6.1 Region Wide Recommendations

Many of the recommendations for future facility planning and provision apply to the region as a whole or more than one District. These have been prioritised as short term (1 -3 years) or medium term (4-10 years). Some recommendations have an ongoing aspect to them, this is indicated within the text.

REGION WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS		LEAD AGENCY
INITIAL PRIORITIES		
1.	Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils adopt the West Coast Spaces and Places Strategy and use it in their planning for facility provision on a regional and local basis, including use of the facility hierarchy, planning principles and criteria and the decision- making framework. (Ongoing)	Buller, Grey, Westland
2.	Establish a Regional Sport and Recreation Governance Forum (RSRGF) to drive the implementation, monitoring and review of the West Coast Spaces & Places Strategy. (Ongoing)	Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
3.	That the RSRGF is used as a forum to assess the prioritisation of the strategy's recommendations and projects and develops an agreed priority for implementation. (Ongoing)	RSRGF
4.	That resources are provided to support a part time Regional Spaces & Places Coordinator role to manage the implementation of the strategy. In particular this role will work with clubs, Regional Sports Organisations and stakeholders (including Councils) to assist with progressing strategy recommendations. (Ongoing)	Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
SHORT TERM (1-3 YEARS)		
5	That the RSRGF undertake annual reviews of progress on the Strategy Recommendations and a full review of the strategy every three years (with timing synchronised to allow the strategy to inform local authority Long Term Plan LTP) processes. (Ongoing)	RSRGF
6	Ensure that regular reviews of the facility database are undertaken to ensure the database remains a useful resource for the region. (Ongoing)	Sport CWC
7	Implement a regular sport and recreation user forum to increase sharing of information and good practice initiatives between sports codes in the region. (Ongoing)	Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
8	Undertake a project to identify sport and recreation assets at risk to climate change / sea level rise once sea level rise modelling and map information is publicly available through the Regional Council. This will be important to support future planning including the potential planned withdrawal from some sites and investment into alternative sites to support the continuation of sport and recreation opportunities.	RSRGF
9	Work to improve relationships between codes and increase facility sharing of existing facilities. I.e. there are a number of shared sites where it is noted that the dominant site code (owner of facilities) does not allow other code(s) access to basic support facilities including toilets and changing rooms. Each Council to investigate allowing / requiring leaseholders to be supportive of others and provide for sub-tenant arrangements through leases where required.	Buller, Grey, Westland

REGION WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS		LEAD AGENCY
SHORT TERM (1-3 YEARS)		
10	Work with key community funders to determine the viability of establishing a regional funding approach to assist with ongoing investment into sport and recreation facilities in line with this plan and the decision-making framework.	RSRGF
11	Investigate options to provide increased operational support to sport and recreation groups. This should include considering expansion of the Buller Sports Alliance ²⁴ (non-facility based Sportsville) concept in Buller to more codes and implementation of a similar programme to support the Grey / Westland sporting communities.	RSRGF
MEDIUM TERM (4-10 YEARS)		
12	Prioritise investment in multi-use facilities rather than single use sites. In particular give consideration to enhancing multi-use outdoor court environments and improving some indoor facilities to ensure they cater to a broad spectrum of activities including dance, yoga, pilates and other low impact exercise that appeal to a wide range of participants. (Ongoing)	Councils and Funders
13	Encourage all asset owners to have Asset Management Plans in place and undertake ongoing, regular maintenance to ensure the network of facilities remains in an appropriate condition to support participation.	All
14	The three Councils to consider what support may be able to be provided to sports codes to enhance the quality of sports field maintenance in the region. This may be basic support i.e. provision of technical advice to sports clubs regarding sports turf maintenance approaches through to a comprehensive approach i.e. consideration of the cost/benefits of a region wide sports turf maintenance contract. It may be possible to also partner with schools on this initiative.	RSRGF - Buller, Grey, Westland
15	If capacity issues start to be experienced for specific, multi-use facilities an annual, coordinated allocation meeting could be implemented with key user groups to help negotiate effective compromise solutions and ensure a reasonable level of equity of access for different codes.	Facility Managers with Sport CWC & Sport Tasman
16	Continue to encourage sporting tournaments and events to come to the region for the multiple benefits it brings to local participants, local facilities and the local economy. (Ongoing)	RSRGF, Funders & Sports Codes
17	Continue to acknowledge the importance the network of school facilities play in providing spaces and places for participation in a wide range of sport and recreation activities. Focus on maximising partnering opportunities and supporting community use of school facilities. This may require formal partnering agreements between schools and sports and/or Councils. (Ongoing)	All
18	Other non-sporting facilities (not captured in the stocktake and plan) could serve as facilities to host sport and active recreation. When facility managers and sports are looking to increase participation, these facilities could be considered as overflow/ new venues.	Sports Codes
19	Where possible, prior to renewing sports club's leases, Councils should review conditions to facilitate increased sharing/sub-tenancy arrangements and consider implementing shorter lease terms so areas can be adapted to alternative uses if demand declines. (Ongoing)	All
20	Continue to support and maintain a network of multi-use community halls catering to a wide range of indoor specialised sports where sufficient demand/use levels exist. This should include ongoing maintenance and minor facility upgrades (e.g. floor surface, mirrors, heaters and the like) to enhance suitability for users. (Ongoing)	All

6.2 Key Sport Specific Recommendations

The sport specific recommendations table below highlights a number of recommendations that relate to specific sport and recreation groups. A full explanation and the complete list of recommendations for each sport and facility type can be found in appendices 7.3 to 7.10

These recommendations are not presented in priority order. No prioritisation process has been undertaken to compare the relative significance of each recommendation. It is considered that the RSRGF is the most appropriate group to consider and confirm the priority of these actions and develop a work plan to guide implementation.

SPORT	RECOMMENDATIONS	DISTRICT
Aquatic Sports	Continue to support the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and Westland Recreation Centre as the regional facilities.	Buller, Grey
Aquatics Sports	Consult with the Reefton community to determine their desires and future needs for the Reefton Swimming Pool. Undertake an options assessment and cost benefit analysis to identify the best long-term option for continued provision of an appropriate aquatic facility to serve the Reefton Community. This should include assessment of further upgrades to the existing pool.	Buller
Aquatic Sports	With significant aging of the population projected any major renewals or upgrades to existing aquatic facilities need to consider the potential demand for Hydrotherapy pools, indoor pools, accessibility considerations and warmer water options. The Annual Plan 2019/20 includes a budget of \$95,000 to be used towards a community facility for Punakaiki, part of the wider masterplan project.	Buller
Athletics	All Athletics Investigate the demand for provision of introductory level athletics facilities, including both track and field disciplines (discus, long-jump etc) in Buller.	Buller
Bowls	Retain the existing network of single community bowling clubs where demand continues to exist. Seek partnerships with other sports, recreation or community groups for clubrooms use to increase sustainability.	All
Bowls	Prior to further investment in any of the Greymouth based bowling clubs investigate merger opportunities aimed at consolidation down to ideally one or maximum two clubs to service the Greymouth town area. Discussions need to include Blaketown, Cobden, Greymouth (in recession) and Karoro clubs. This approach would consolidate membership numbers and enhance the potential ongoing sustainability of the remaining club(s).	Grey
Bowls	Undertake a high-level needs assessment to identify the level of demand for a covered bowling green facility.	All
Cricket	Monitor cricket wicket supply and demand in the short term and consider provision of additional artificial wickets if required, to maximise use of the regions current cricket grounds.	All
Croquet	Where demand continues to exist, support the retention of the two operational croquet club facilities to service the sport in the region.	Buller, Grey
Equestrian	Continue to provide a network of Equestrian facilities providing accessible participation opportunities.	All
Football	Pending the outcomes of the sports field supply and demand analysis - Investigate the development of a "Home of Football" to serve both Grey and Westland Districts, located in either Greymouth or Hokitika.	Grey, Westland
Football	Prioritise identification of an alternative multi-field venue with appropriate storage, change, toilet facilities for junior Football in Buller (Westport) for the 2020 season. This will need to be in partnership with another field-based sport (possibly rugby).	Buller
Cricket / Football	Work with Cricket and Football in the Grey District to formalise an appropriate agreement for football to access the existing toilet and changing facilities at Arthur Fong Park as a short-term solution to operational issues football is facing due to a lack of access to support facilities.	Grey

SPORT	RECOMMENDATIONS	DISTRICT
Golf	To enhance sustainability of Golf Clubs investigate opportunities to increase clubroom sharing with other sports, recreation or community groups, along with alternative programme delivery.	All
Gymsports	If Gymsport participation numbers increase significantly, investigate partnership opportunities for a dedicated, fit-for-purpose facility, to serve the entire region. If demand exists, the location of such a facility should be where it can best serve the majority of the regional population (likely Greymouth or Hokitika).	Grey, Westland, Buller
Hockey	Maintain a hub and spoke approach to hockey provision in the Region with the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre turf providing the hub facility in Buller and the Westurf Stadium providing the hub facility for Grey and Westland	All
Hockey	Hokitika Hockey should investigate the opportunity to access the Westland Sports Hub facilities to provide local training opportunities. If availability there is limited, seek alternative partnerships with other schools or sports codes to access a suitable 1/2 turf sized court/field surface.	Westland
Indoor Court Sports	Continue to support the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and the Westland Recreation Centre as the key, regional standard indoor court facilities.	Buller, Grey
Motorsports	In the short term continue to undertake minor upgrades to maintain the Speedway sites to national specifications. Prior to any major renovations or redevelopment at these sites assess the demand levels and financial sustainability of continuing to retain two national standard tracks in the region.	Buller, Grey
Motorsports	Investigate the demand for and potential of a motor sports hub on the Westland Kart Club land to cater to moto-x, remote control cars, motorbike and driver training. Other potential partners at the site could include BMX, a flying area for model planes and a shooting range, if demand exists. Grey Multi-use Ensure the needs of a broad range of sport and recreation groups are considered in planning for a community facility in Punakaiki. Any future facility needs to be designed to meet the needs of an aging population, be flexible for multiple uses and future proofed to allow for changes in use that will evolve over time.	Buller
Netball, Basketball, Tennis	Investigate the potential demand for, and benefits of, a multi-use outdoor court hub site based at ANZAC Park. It could also support other codes such as Futsal, Athletics and wet-weather training options for field-based sports. (Priority should be given to a surface upgrade of the netball courts).	Grey
Rugby Union	Maintain Victoria Square and John Sturgeon Park as the key regional level rugby facilities, ensuring all facilities and equipment are of a suitable standard for regional level requirements. Investigate opportunities to increase use of Victoria Square and John Sturgeon Park by other appropriate codes where capacity exists at these sites. Where demand is low, consider the rationalisation of low use fields and clubroom facilities to allow resources to be put into the maintenance and upgrades of higher use and competition standard fields, whilst ensuring appropriate local participation opportunities are retained.	Buller, Grey
Rugby League	Maintain Wingham Park as the key regional facility for Rugby League whilst also investigating opportunities to use John Sturgeon Park as an alternative site, particularly when wet weather impacts the condition of Wingham Park. Where demand is low, consider the rationalisation of low use fields and clubroom facilities to allow resources to be put into the maintenance and upgrades of higher use and competition standard fields, whilst ensuring appropriate local participation opportunities are retained.	Grey
Cobden Sports Complex, Rugby League, Softball/T-ball	Do not undertake further investment in sports facilities at Jellyman Park until sea level rise modelling has been completed to understand the long-term viability of this site.	Grey
Sports Fields	Undertake a detailed sports field supply and demand analysis for rugby, rugby league, sevens, touch and football and assess the potential need to reallocate some fields between codes to minimise any field access imbalance (under and over provision) between codes.	All

7 Appendices

7.1 Strategic Context – West Coast Specific Strategies

West Coast Walking and Cycling Strategy (2009)²⁵

This collaborative strategy was developed to assist in increasing the number of people walking and cycling for sport, recreation and active transport. This strategy set some targets which included:

Outcome 1: Walking and cycling activity is increased.

Outcome 2: An environment that is safe, convenient, attractive, accessible for walking and cycling is developed.

Outcome 3: Relevant strategies, policies, plans and practices include and support walking and cycling.

Outcome 4: The West Coast is promoted as a walking and cycling destination to support tourism and economic development.

The walking and cycling strategy identified the need for regular reporting and three yearly reviews via the regional transport advisory group (RTAG). At this time no formal reviews have been undertaken. It is understood the intention is to review this strategy for the next Council Long Term Plan process.

A large number of actions were identified and allocated to a range of organisations including central government agencies, local authorities and others (e.g. Sport Canterbury – West Coast).

There is a clear link between the provision of walking and cycling infrastructure and other sport and recreation spaces and places. This current Spaces and Places Plan recognises the importance of walking and cycling and refers to the West Coast Walking and Cycling Strategy for leadership, direction and prioritisation.

Canterbury West Coast Regional Physical Activity Plan (2005)

The regional physical activity plan (RPAP) was developed in response to the 2001 Ministerial Taskforce on Sport Fitness and Leisure that stated that “the current recreation and sport structures are fragmented and lack integration”. The PAP had three focus areas; sport, active transport and open spaces (able to be utilised for physical activity).

Accessible Te Tai Poutini West Coast Strategic Plan (2018 -2021)

The purpose of this strategic plan was to meet the objectives of accessibility specified in the United Nation’s Convention on the Rights of People with a Disability. Its focus is on improving inclusion, opportunities and independence through improved accessibility, by providing support to reduce social and physical barriers in facilities, services and programmes to enhance participation across the region.

The plan set three priority areas for future focus, which included:

1. Ease and safety of travel across and around the West Coast.
2. Access to information, services and venues on the West Coast.
3. Community participation in decision making on access issues.

This strategic plan focused on the outcome of ensuring the all facilities, services and programmes on the West Coast are inclusive and universally accessible, where all residents and visitors can fully participate. This plan is important for all facilities across the West Coast to ensure accessibility is equal to all. These outcomes are reflective in the principles of the West Coast Spaces and Places Plan.

²⁵ West Coast Regional Walking and Cycling Strategy (2009) had steering group representation from the WCRC, WDC, BDC, GDC, CDHB and NZTA

Westland District Council Physical Activity Strategy (2007)

This strategy was developed to increase physical activity in the Westland region by getting more people, more active, more often. Referred to as “Active Westland” this project focused on six goal areas including:

1. Communication
 - Offer opportunities and possibilities.
2. Coordination
 - Providing coordination help and resource.
3. Leisure infrastructure
 - “Active Westland” will support the facilities review outcomes from the Westland District Council.
4. Collaboration
 - “Active Westland” implementation will be most evident by the activities of the Active Westland Legacy Group.
5. Programmes
 - Coordinate specific programs with the communities for a range of physical activity outcomes.
6. Promotion
 - Coordinate with other agencies and communities for the promotion of physical activities.

This strategy includes an action plan for implementation in each identified area of the Westland region, which can be utilised to encourage participation in physical activity across all areas of the region through facility and program planning.

West Coast Conservation Management Strategy – Volume 2 (2010-2020)

This document is an inventory that identifies and describes all areas in the West Coast Conservancy that are managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). It contains statistical data on land units, an inventory of public conservation land located in the area and a map index covering the West Coast.

In total DOC manages 1,937,192 hectares of land on the West Coast Te Tai O Poutini²⁶. Of this land holding the main types of land are: Conservation Areas 45.35%, National Park 24.20%, Wilderness/Ecological/Amenity Areas 13.75%²⁷.

The information provided by this document is important to identify the land status/purpose allocated in order to understand the land that is available/used for physical/recreational activities and land that is to be protected for conservation values.

West Coast Economic Development Action Plan (2017)

This action plan was developed following the Tai Poutini West Coast Regional Growth study in 2016, to set out how the identified opportunities could be executed. It has been developed to provide clarity to delivery partners and the community about what is to be delivered, when and how.

The overall challenge the plan is aiming to achieve is higher growth in GDP, employment and incomes. The importance of this document is to understand what is going on in the region, what areas of growth have been identified and implementation of those initiatives, which include a vast number of recreational opportunities and developments.

²⁶ West Coast Conservation Management Strategy – Volume 2 2010-2020, pg. 1

²⁷ Ibid, pg. 7

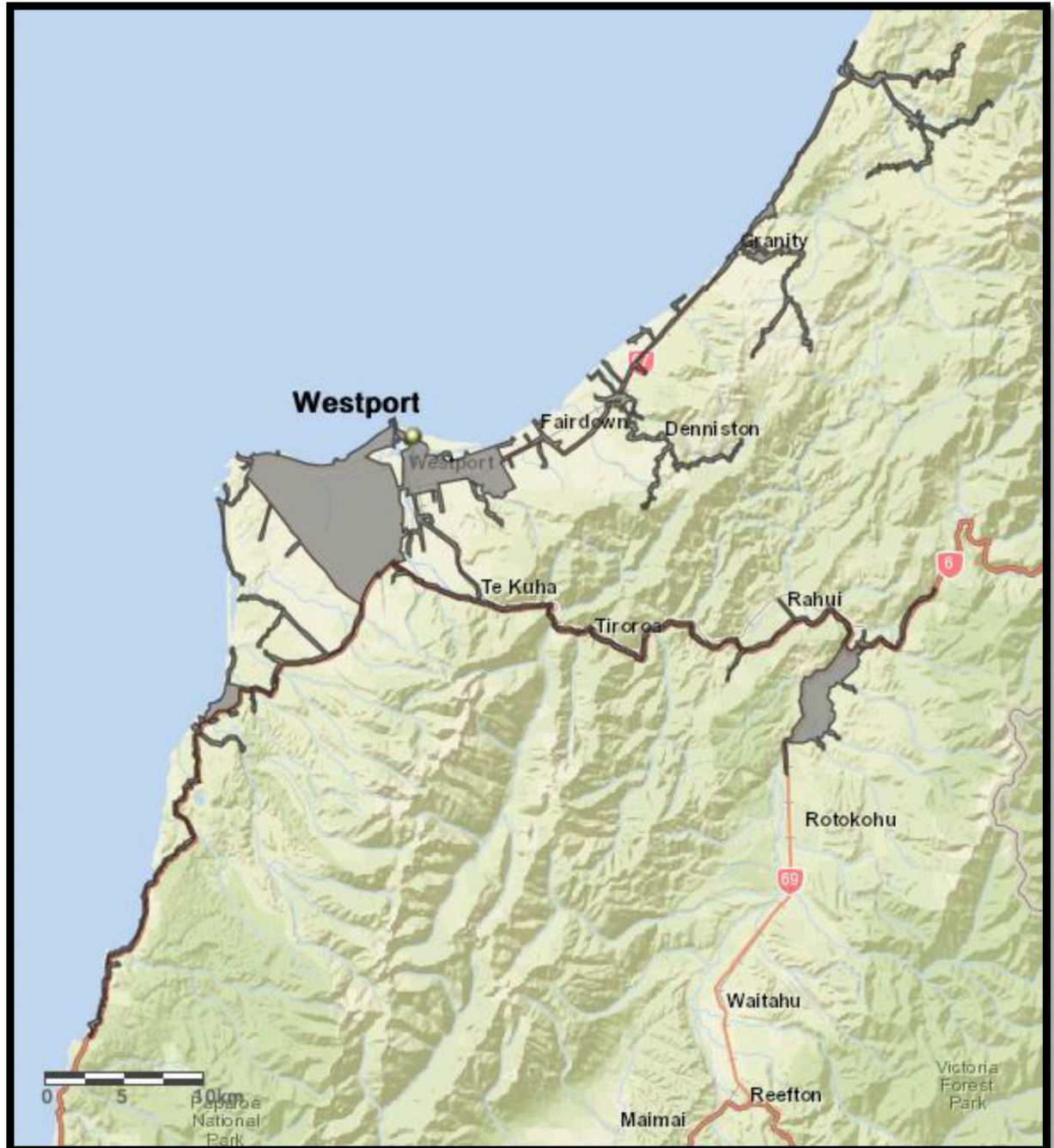
Final Proposal for combined West Coast District Plan (2018)

This document outlines the final proposal for a new combined District Plan covering the West Coast. The purpose is to set a single set of planning and development rules across the region. All councils will continue to operate as they do now, respective of their current responsibilities and functions. The West Coast Regional Council will be responsible for funding the development of the combined District Plan through a regional rate.

This proposal is set to bring significant benefits to the region, and it is important for this project to be aware and up to date with the operation of the Councils to ensure the project aligns with outcomes of this plan.

7.2 Drive Time Maps

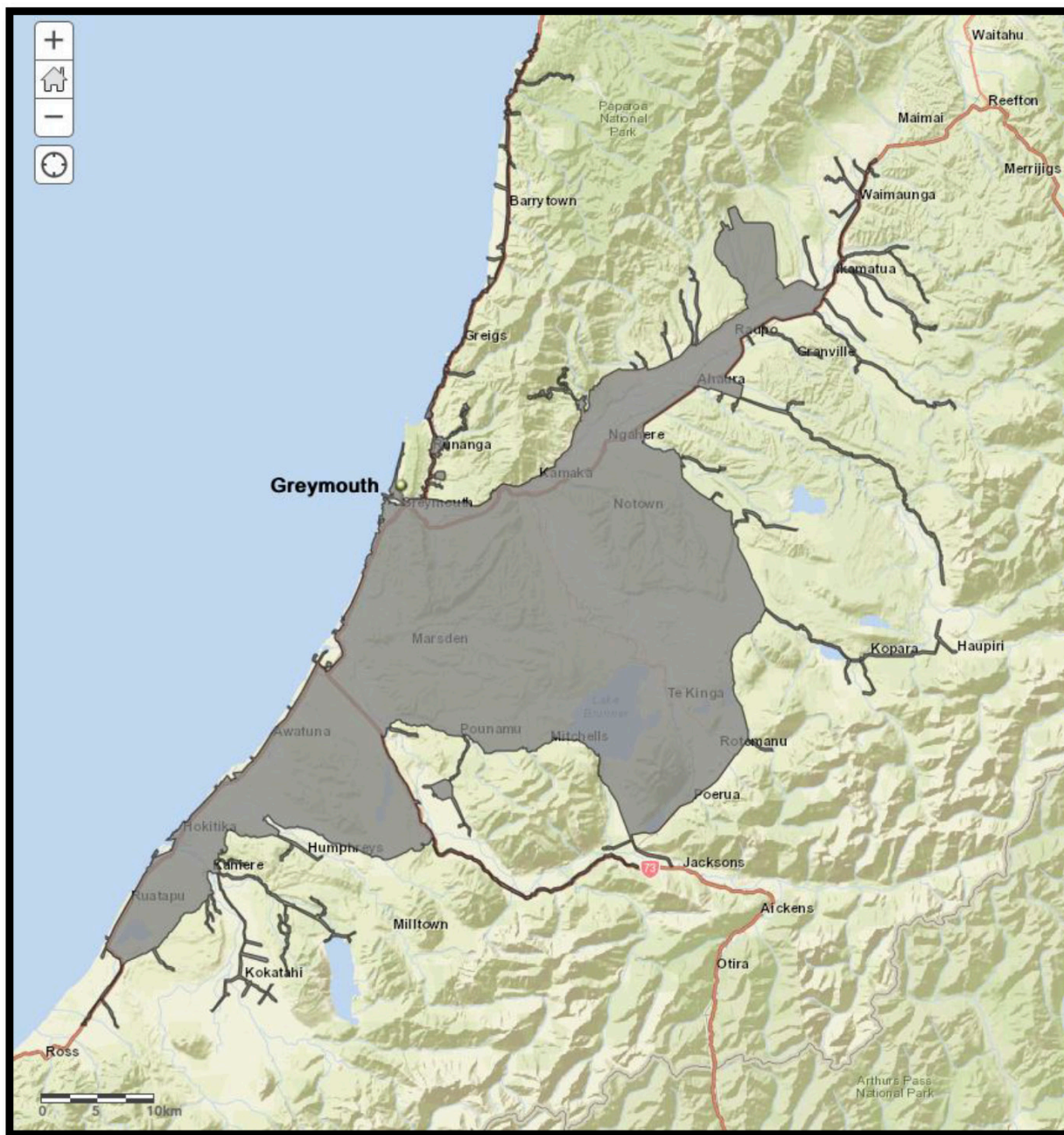
Image 7.2.1: Showing 45 mins Drive Time from Westport



Observations:

Both Karamea and Reefton are outside of the area covered by a 45 min drive time to Westport. It is important that appropriate local level facilities continue to be provided to serve these communities. Reefton is located a similar distance from both Westport and Greymouth (approximately 1 hour drive). The drive time between Greymouth and Westport is approximately 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes.

Image 7.2.2: Showing 45 mins drive time from Greymouth



Observations:

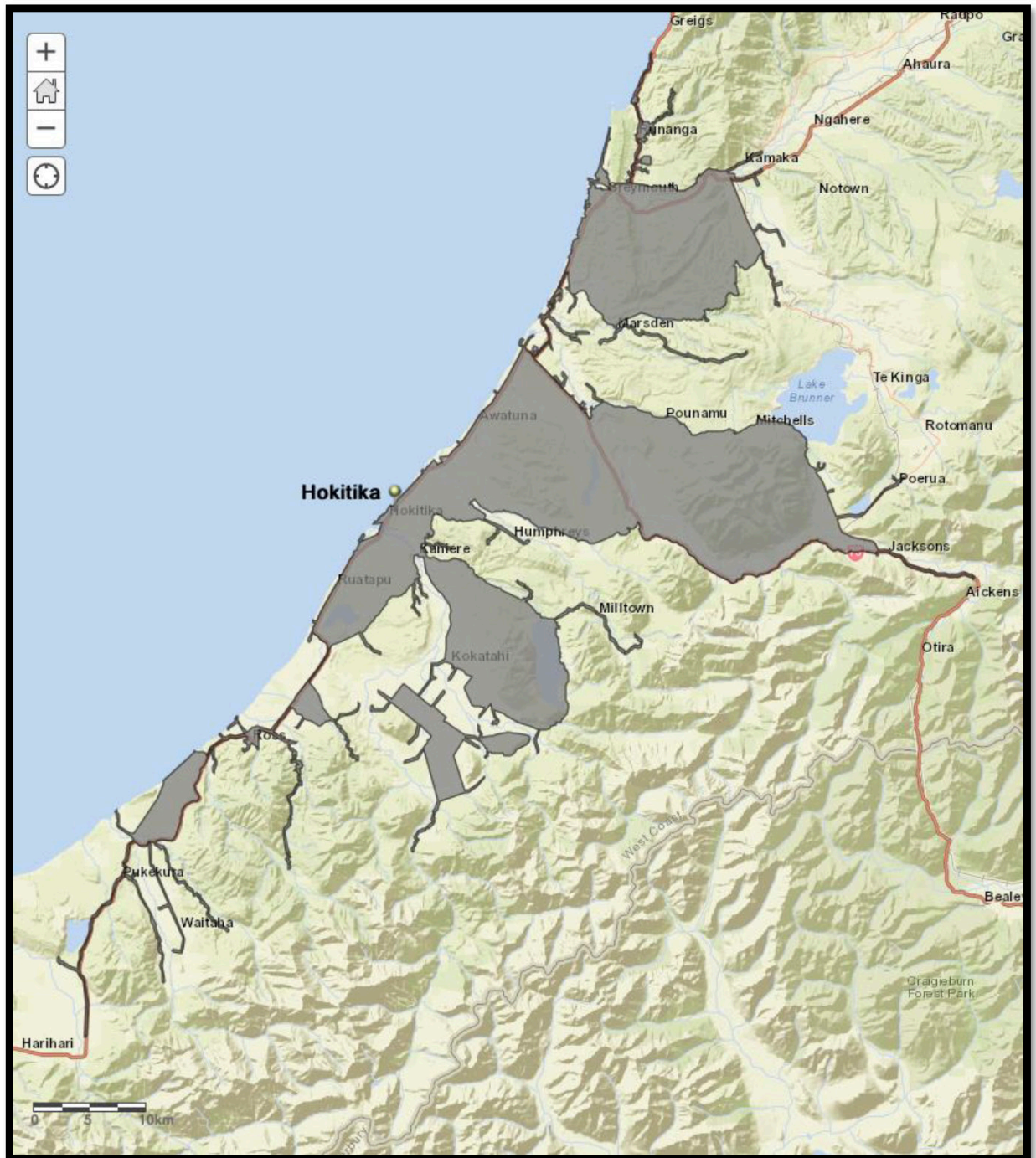
Facilities provided in Greymouth are within a 45 minute drive time area that includes all of Hokitika to almost as far south as Ross.

Much, but not all of the Grey Valley is within 45 minutes' drive from Greymouth. Lake Brunner is within the 45 minute drive time area.

Reefton is located a similar distance from both Westport and Greymouth (approximately 1 hour drive).

Greymouth serves as a central, accessible location to some residents of both Westland and Buller.

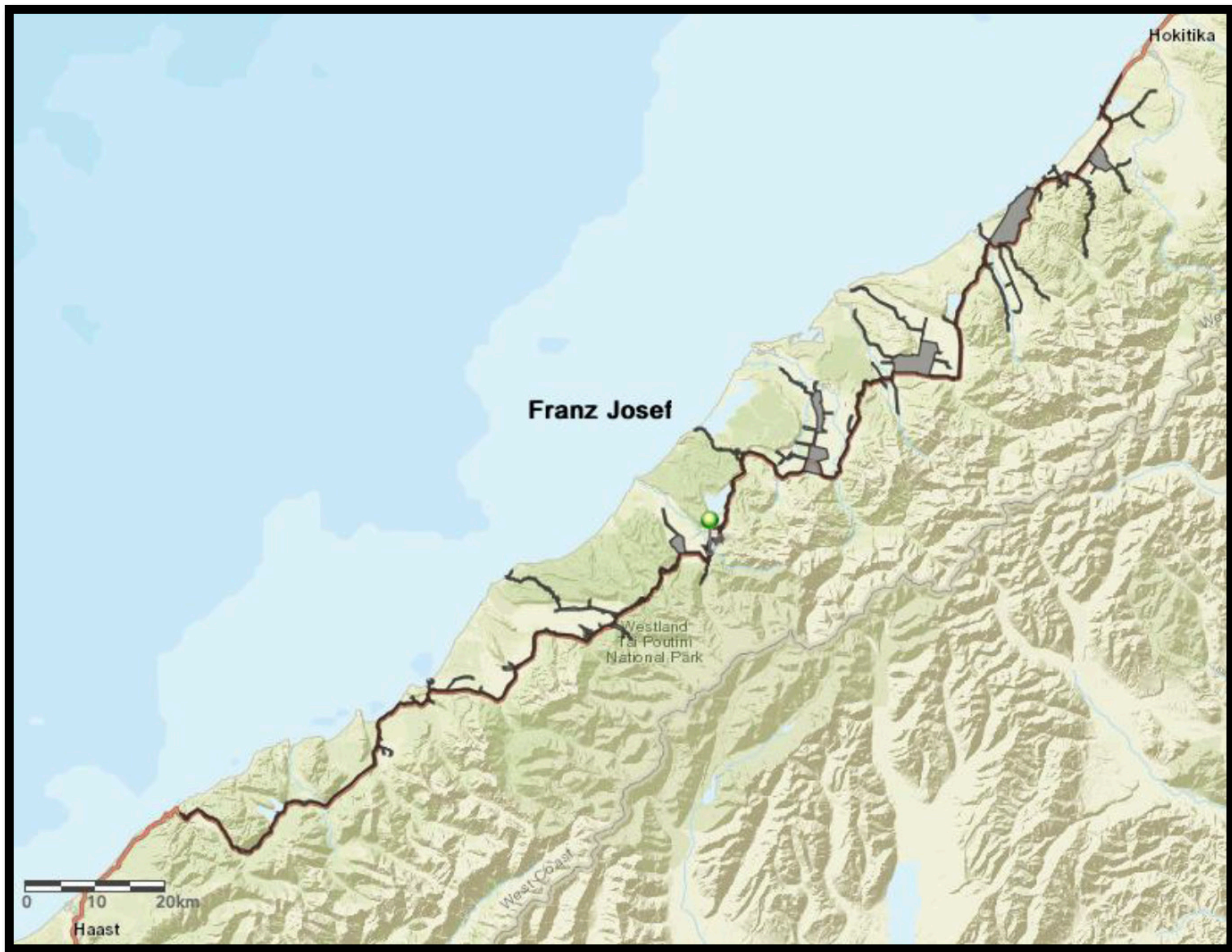
Image 7.2.3: Showing 45 mins Drive Time from Hokitika



Observations:

Facilities provided in Hokitika are within a 45 minute drive time area of residents living in Greymouth. Residents in Harihari need to travel slightly longer than 45mins to reach facilities provided in Hokitika. Hokitika serves as a central, accessible location to some residents of both Westland and Grey Districts.

Image 7.2.4: Showing 90 mins Drive Time from Franz Josef



Observations:

The majority of the population of South Westland is within the area covered by 90 minutes drive time from Franz Josef. However, both Haast (South) and Hokitika (North) are outside of the 90 min drive time area from Franz Josef.

This map indicates that it is important that appropriate local level facilities continue to be provided to serve communities in South Westland as the distance to larger towns e.g. Hokitika is too far for local level facilities.

7.3 Aquatic Sports Overview

The National Aquatic Facility Strategy (2013) provides overarching strategic direction for aquatic facilities. Key findings from that strategy include:

- A standard sized pool is considered to be an 8 lane, 25m pool.
- Viewed as people per standard sized pool (8 lane, 25m)
New Zealand has 10,518 people per pool overall.
- New Zealand has an average of 23,472 people per Council owned 'standard size' pool.
- New Zealand has an average of 18,696 people per standard size school pool.²⁸

Analysis for the West Coast region, using facility survey data and guidance from the national strategy shows:

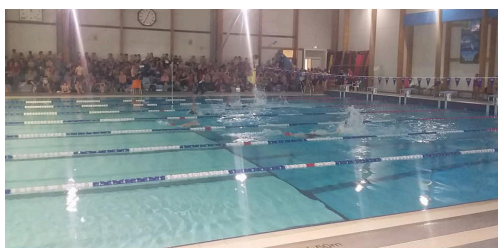
- In the West Coast region there is a total of 3 'standard sized' (8 lane, 25m) council pools. This equates to 10,716 people per Council provided standard pool. This is significantly better provision levels than the national average for Council pools and only slightly under the NZ average overall for all pools.
- There are also two Council owned pools which are slightly less than standard sized. The Spring Creek Pool (5 lane, 25m) and Reefton Community Pool (5 lane, 33 yard). If these pools are also considered, the community in the region has access to one Council owned 25m+ pool per 6,429 people.
- There are also two 25m+ pools owned by Community Boards. Including these in the calculations, the community in the region has access to one 25m+ pool per 4,592 people.
- There are no standard sized school pools in the region. One school pool is 25m length (less than 8 lanes) and 16 school pools are 20m or less in length. These provide important 'learn to swim' opportunities and water access for remote communities.

Aquatic Facilities Network

The facility stock-take and survey process identified 25 swimming pool facilities providing for aquatic sports in the region. 88% of these facilities are considered to be local level facilities providing local participation opportunities for a school, town or rural area. The majority of the facilities provide one laned pool.

Four facilities provide more than one pool option e.g. a children's pool alongside a lane pool. Two of these are Regional standard public swimming pool facilities that cater to recreational use and competitive swimming needs and are able to host competitions; (Pulse Energy Recreation Centre, Buller and Westland Recreation Centre, Grey District). Both of these facilities are multi-use facilities that also provide indoor court space and other amenities. There is also one Sub-regional/District level pool facility located in Hokitika.

Whilst the majority of facilities are suitable for local, introductory or recreational level use only, each district in the region has access to a main 'standard size' pool facility that is suitable for swimming training and local competition.



Swimming

The majority (64%) of these facilities are school pools owned by the Ministry of Education (MOE). The remainder are owned by Council's or local community boards. Most of the pools are basic, small pools with a few lanes and categorised as local level facilities. The Sub-regional/District and Regional standard facilities are all Council owned.

Table 7.3.1 Swimming Pools

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF POOLS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Regional	2	25m x 8 lane modern regulation pool, covered and heated as part of rec centre. A separate recreation / hydrotherapy pool is also provided along with tiered seating. Home of Westport swim club, learn to swim and aqua fitness classes.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Regional	2	Part of Westland Recreation Centre. Indoor heated pools. 1 x 25m laned pool, 1 combined pool with children's play pool, 2 hydro-slides, 1 sauna, 1 spa. 1 childrens' dry play area, 1 outdoor playground, 1 BBQ area, 1 swim club room, 1 meeting room. 6 change-rooms including 4 family rooms. Tiered poolside seating.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Swimming Pool					
.Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Sub regional/ District	2	Public 33 yard, 8 lane pool, tapered depth, covered, heated, tiered seating, small children's pool attached to laned pool, change-rooms. Home of Hokitika Swim Club and aqua classes.
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Swimming Pool/ Hector					
Buller	Ngakawau	Hector Community Board	Local	1	33yard pool, used by the local community and Granity primary school. Uncovered, non-heated. Open Dec-March annually. Manned by volunteers. Open 1-4pm school holidays & weekends. 3.30-5.30pm week days. Maintained by a community group.
FACILITY NAME Karamea Area School					
Buller	Karamea	MoE	Local	1	School pool and available to community by key-access.
FACILITY NAME Maruia School					
Buller	Maruia	MoE	Local	1	School pool and available to community by key-access.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	School	Local	1	School pool only, imperial measurements. non heated.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Community Pool					
Buller	Reefton	Buller Dist Council	Local	1	33 yard x 5 lane covered community pool. Heated. open Oct- Apr annually.

Table 7.3.1 Swimming Pools CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF POOLS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Awahono School (Grey Valley)					
Grey	Awahono	MoE	Local	1	20m School pool built in 2009. Roof and heating added within last 5 years. Available for community use during summer.
FACILITY NAME Barrytown School					
Grey	Barrytown	MoE	Local	1	School pool 15m, non-heated, change-rooms only, available to school community by key access.
FACILITY NAME Blackball Community Pool					
Grey	Blackball	Blackball Community Board	Local	1	33 yard taper depth pool, open. Change-rooms and tiered seating.
FACILITY NAME Cobden School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Covered, heated school pool.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School pool 15m, non-heated, change-rooms only, available to school community by key access.
FACILITY NAME Lake Brunner School					
Grey	Moana	MoE	Local	1	School pool available for community use by key access
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School pool, only 10m long by 1m depth. Recreational only, not suitable for swim training. Currently broken heat pump system limiting use.
FACILITY NAME Paparoa Range School					
Grey	Dobson	MoE	Local	1	School pool, covered, available for community use by key access
FACILITY NAME Spring Creek Swimming Pool					
Grey	Runanga	Grey District Council	Local	2	1 indoor laned pool 25m x 4 lane and 1 small children swim area (attached to the lane pool). Change-rooms and outdoor BBQ social area. Complex is adjacent to Runanga primary school.
FACILITY NAME Kumara School					
Westland	Kumara	MoE	Local	1	School pool, available for community use by key access.
FACILITY NAME Ross Swimming Pool					
Westland	Ross	Westland District Council	Local	1	Covered pool.
FACILITY NAME Fox Glacier School					
Westland	Fox Glacier	MoE	Local	1	Covered, heated School pool and available to community by key-access.

Table 7.3.1 Swimming Pools CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF POOLS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Haast School					
Westland	Haast	MoE	Local	1	School pool and available to community by key access.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Primary School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	Covered school pool only. Not heated.
FACILITY NAME Kokatahi-Kowhitirangi School					
Westland	Kokatahi	MoE	Local	1	School pool available for community use by key access.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	1	25m covered pool x 6 lanes, heated via school boiler system (2018), re-roofed 2016.
FACILITY NAME Whataroa School					
Westland	Whataroa	MoE	Local	1	1 covered school pool. Non-heated. Available for community use.

Canoe Polo

The Westland Recreation Centre is the only facility in the region that caters to Canoe Polo. This is considered acceptable as it caters for the local training and play requirements of the sport. Throughout New Zealand there is a need and expectation to travel to access specialised facilities for many minor participation sports such as canoe polo.

Table 7.3.2 Canoe Polo

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF POOLS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	Hired use of the 25m laned pool. Poolside serves as the boundaries rather than floating ropes meaning no 'run-off' behind goals. Limited storage in facility.



Spring Creek Pool

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

Aquatic Participation Trends

Current trends in aquatic facility provision that need to be considered when planning any major renewals or new facilities include:

- The development of zero depth play spaces for young children to safely explore water.
- Hydrotherapy pools and warmer water options, particularly for older residents and those undertaking rehabilitation.
- Outdoor to indoor (increased comfort and provision of activities throughout the year).
- Universal Access - modern facilities are required to have ramp access into pools, hoists and accessible toilets and change facilities.
- Demand for programs and activities to be offered to people of all different ages, abilities, physical condition and skill levels.
- Facility Hubs for effectiveness and efficiency.
- Closing of school pools due to the costs in maintaining them in the current environment.
- Increasing understanding of the economics of pool spaces:
 - Cost / benefit analysis of spaces
 - Increasing scrutiny of Council spend
 - Energy efficiency
 - Less appetite for 50m pools (often 2 x 25m)
- Leisure pools - wave pools, play spaces, lazy rivers.

Industry research indicates most people use aquatic centres that are close to home and they will travel between 10 and 20 minutes. This usually sees a primary catchment zone of up to 5km radius of a city centre or 15-25kms in rural areas. The exception is in those circumstances where centres are “destinations” and attract users from a broader region or area or where there is a lack of quality facilities close by.

The local context, including demographics and the needs of the community will determine which of these considerations are important for facility improvements in future.

Local Participation

The local swim clubs indicated their expectations are for participation to stay the same or perhaps decline. While general participation trends indicate that there will be continued, possibly slight growth in demand for recreational swimming due to the ageing population.

With projections for a significantly ageing population there is expected to be demand for programmed hotter water areas along with pools suitable for therapy and older adult exercises in the West Coast region. It will be essential to have a range of pools with different water depths and temperatures.

Facility Issues

There were few facility issues identified through the facility survey process. The specific issues identified were quality related such as a lack of heating or small and shallow facilities with non-standardized measurements. 24% of facilities reported they had some improvement plans.

An upgrade of the Reefton Community pool has been identified during the development of this strategy.

Our Proposed Approach

1. Continue to support the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and Westland Recreation Centre as regional aquatic facilities.
2. Undertake the planned upgrade to Reefton Pool to address key facilities issues (roof condition, ventilation, structural) to ensure the short - medium term safety and usability of the facility.
3. Consult with the Reefton community to determine their desires and future needs for the Reefton Swimming Pool. Undertake an options assessment and cost benefit analysis to identify the best long-term option for continued provision of an appropriate aquatic facility to serve the Reefton Community. This should include assessment of further upgrades to the existing pool.
4. Ensure all aquatic facilities have asset management plans in place and are being maintained appropriately in line with those plans.
5. Prior to any major renewals or upgrades of local level aquatic facilities (including school-based facilities) undertake a needs and options assessment to determine the cost benefit of such improvements. This should include considering alternative delivery approaches such as school/ community partnerships to maximise the return on investment and minimise duplication.
6. In the long term some rationalisation of aged facilities may be required.
7. With significant aging of the population projected, any major renewals or upgrades to existing aquatic facilities need to consider the potential demand for Hydrotherapy pools, indoor pools, accessibility considerations and warmer water options.

7.4 Indoor Court Sports (Multi-use Codes) Overview

The National Facilities Strategy for Indoor Sports (2013)²⁹ provides over-arching strategic context relevant to the provision of indoor court space. Information relevant to the West Coast region includes:

- The strategy adapts the Sport England facility provision calculator to establish an appropriate benchmark for the provision of indoor courts on a 'population-to-facility' basis. The benchmark established is one court per 9,000 people³⁰. This includes both Council and Ministry of Education provided courts.
- The national average ratio of Council provided courts to population is 1:21,000.
- The national average ratio of school court provision to population is 1:14,000 .
- The demand profile for indoor facilities is highly dependent on the age profile of the community. Regions with static but aging populations are likely to have a declining demand for indoor facilities.
- The West Coast is likely to experience a decline in indoor sports demand of up to 23%.
- For most areas of New Zealand the adaptation and redevelopment of existing facilities is a far greater priority than additional facilities.
- A strategy of adopting existing facilities to meet the needs of an aging population will be required.

Additional indoor court facilities have been built in the West Coast region since the national strategy was adopted. To provide more accurate, up to date calculations of West Coast courts to population ratios the 2013 population and current court provision (based on our survey database) have been used, alongside the strategy benchmark to provide a current picture of provision in the West Coast region:

- With a regional population of 32,148 people to meet the national facility benchmark the West Coast would need 3.5 full size³¹ courts.
- Currently the region has four full size Council owned, multiuse indoor courts (in Westport and Greymouth). Regionally this equates to one Council owned court per 8,037 people. Providing better provision levels than the overall national benchmark and significantly higher provision levels than the national average for Council courts.³²
- According to local survey data, the Ministry of Education/schools provide another four full size, multi-use indoor courts equating to one full sized school court per 8,037 people in the region. Nationally there is provision of one school court per 14,000 people on average³³.
- Counting Council and School full size indoor courts the West Coast has a ratio of 1:4,018, well above national averages and the national benchmark, effectively making the region over-supplied with multi-use indoor courts. Note: this does not consider geographic dispersal.
- When geographic distribution is considered the West Coast is considered to be adequately supplied with indoor courts. Westport and Greymouth are both well supplied with regional standard Council owned facilities, supported by a number of school gymnasiums. Hokitika will have improved facilities at Westland High School through the Westland Sports Hub project and also has easy access to the Westland Recreation Centre in Greymouth. South Westland is effectively catered to with local access to indoor court facilities in the majority of towns either through school court provision, or Council owned facilities (including basic community halls and some sports courts).

²⁹ Aurecon Ltd (2013) National Indoor Courts Strategy (for Sport New Zealand).

³⁰ For the NZ context the Sport England approach is adjusted to allow for our less urban, more geographically dispersed population and, on average higher participation rates in indoor sports in NZ.

³¹ Using FIBA regulations which are 28m by 15m and netball dimensions of 30.5m by 15.25m as a guide. Note some run-off areas may be less than ideal standards.

³² Aurecon Ltd (2013) National Indoor Courts Strategy (for Sport New Zealand), national average of Council court provision 1:21,000.

³³ Ibid

Indoor Court Facilities Network

The facility stock-take and survey process identified 18 multiuse facilities (including school and community halls) that cater to one or more indoor court-based codes. 39% of these indoor court facilities are owned by a Council or a Council Holding Company. 56% are owned by schools (including church owned schools) or the MOE. The remaining 5% are club owned. The majority are basic, single court facilities, many of which do not meet the compliance requirements for the various sports codes but adequately provide for local participation and training opportunities.

The Buller (Pulse Energy Recreation Centre) and Grey (Westland Recreation Centre) Districts each have a Council owned (public) two court facility with compliant multi-use courts with line markings for Badminton, Basketball, Netball and Volleyball. These facilities can also be used for a range of other indoor sports, activities and events. In Westland, Council provides a number of community halls and two, slightly less than full size, multi-use indoor court facilities in Fox Glacier and Franz Josef Glacier. These provide suitable, locally accessible indoor courts for the geographically dispersed South Westland community.

Court space provision in the Westland District will benefit from the planned Westland Sports Hub project. Whilst the upgraded gymnasium will remain a single indoor court facility the provision of 4 covered outdoor courts with three drop down walls and an upgraded surface will mean this facility will provide multiple, higher quality courts that will be more desirable to use in all weather conditions.



Pulse Energy Recreation Centre Courts

Photo Credit: <https://www.pulseenergyrec.co.nz/>

Badminton

11 multi-use facilities are able to cater to Badminton with 63% of these providing 3 or more Badminton courts. One of these facilities is not currently used. The only reported issues were issues with lights and glass reflection in the Westland Recreation Centre. It was also noted that additional court access can be difficult to secure at times due to other sports use demands.

Table 7.4.1: Badminton Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller Holdings Ltd	Sub-regional /District	8	8 official sized courts with-in multi-purpose sports stadium.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/ District	8	8 fully compliant courts in this modern multi-purpose sports stadium. Issues with lights reflection from glass windows and upstairs gym space.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	1 single court marked in multi-use indoor hall/school gym.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth High School					
Grey	Greymouth	Greymouth High School	Local	4	4 courts marked in multi-use school gymnasium.
FACILITY NAME Whataroa Community Hall					
Westland	Whataroa	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 court marked in multi-purpose community hall, ceiling too low for compliant use.
FACILITY NAME Kokatahi Hall					
Westland	Kokatahi	Westland District Council	Local	1	2 courts marked in multi-purpose community hall.
FACILITY NAME Westland High School Gym					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland High School	Local	4	4 courts marked in multi-use school gymnasium.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	3	3 courts marked in multi-use school gymnasium. This Gymnasium is a shared community facility. It has limited seating for spectators.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sports Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Franz Josef Community Council	Local	3	3 courts marked in multi-use community complex.
FACILITY NAME Fox Glacier Sports Centre					
Westland	Fox Glacier	Westland District Council	Local	3	3 courts marked in multi-use community complex.
FACILITY NAME Bruce Bay Community Hall					
Westland	Bruce Bay	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 court marked in multi-purpose community hall. Not currently used.

Basketball

12 facilities cater to indoor Basketball courts, one of which is a 1/2 court only in a primary school hall. The majority (66%) of indoor basketball courts are provided by schools. The majority of facilities are single courts, many with limited run-off space. The Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and Westland Recreation Centre each provide a two full size court facility to regional standard. Note: There are also seven outdoor courts provided by schools.

The main reported facility issues were quality related including surface quality for some indoor and outdoor courts, poor lighting and non-compliance in terms of court run off and line marking. Four facilities indicated they had improvement plans, the majority related to floor surface improvements.

Stakeholder workshops identified growth in demand for Basketball, in part attributed to the development of the multi-court facilities at the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and Westland Recreation Centre. It was also reported that being an indoor sport contributed to demand as the sport is not weather dependent. Some minor operational issues were identified regarding clashes of demand times between codes for facility access and minor maintenance matters.

The Basketball New Zealand – Indoor Facilities guide provides the following strategies for increasing facility access³⁴ that are considered relevant to indoor court provision on the West Coast:

- A collaborative approach is essential.
- Basketball NZ has developed a winter and summer programme over 12 months in order to spread use of facilities.
- Increased flexibility about court sizes for all levels of the game. Basketball needs to be playing games where spaces are available, rather than being constrained by the size of the court.
- Increased flexibility about game times for all level of the game. For example, playing to a set length of time, rather than stopping the clock may mean that more games can be played within the same time frame.
- Associations need to have a clear understanding of their own usage and participation as well as understanding opportunities for redistributing utilization from winter to summer.
- Identify spare capacity in existing facilities – adopt flexible timeframes for competitions by moving to evenings or weekend days not popular with other sports.
- Adapting and redeveloping existing facilities.
- Explore opportunities to use school facilities that are not currently available for community sport.
- The planned Christchurch Metro Sports facility is identified as the key new facility required to provide additional Basketball capacity for the Mainland Zone. It is considered the Christchurch facility will support the West Coast region.

The Basketball document also supports the finding that the West Coast is adequately supplied in terms of indoor courts in relation i.e. over the national benchmark of 1 court: 9,000 people. No additional indoor courts are identified as being required in the region.

³⁴ Sourced 16 September 2019 from <https://nz.basketball/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/BBNZ-Indoor-Facilities-Guide.pdf>

Table 7.4.2: Basketball Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller Holdings Ltd	Regional	2	2 fully compliant courts in modern multi-purpose sports stadium. Sprung timber floor surface, 2 electronic scoreboards. Divider curtain allows 2 courts to be used separately for different activities.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Regional	2	2 modern compliant courts with adjustable height hoops in shared multi-purpose sports stadium. Sprung timber floor surface, 2 electronic scoreboards and drop down curtain/divider available to separate courts. Permanent seating adjacent to one court only.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth High School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 full size court in multi-purpose school gymnasium. Limited run-off for the court. Mezzanine floor for spectators. Pending floor replacement and ceiling tile replacement.
FACILITY NAME Buller High School					
Grey	Greymouth	Greymouth High School	Local	4	4 courts marked in multi-use school gymnasium.
FACILITY NAME Westport North School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	Non-compliant court in school hall, training only.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	1 non-compliant court in school gymnasium. (Also an outdoor court see outdoor court sports section of report).
FACILITY NAME John Paul II High School (formerly Civic Centre)					
Grey	Greymouth	Catholic Church	Local	1	1 full size court in multi-purpose school gymnasium. Limited run-off for the court. Concrete floor with vinyl covering, average lighting. Good mezzanine spectator seating. Limited heating. Adequate change-rooms.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	.5	1/2 court in multi-purpose school hall. (Also an outdoor court see outdoor court sports section of report).
FACILITY NAME Fox Glacier Sports Centre					
Westland	Fox Glacier	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 full size court in multi-purpose community complex.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harhari	MoE	Local	1	Full court but with old (non-compliant markings).
FACILITY NAME Westland High School Gym					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	1 court in multi-purpose school gymnasium. Floor requires resurfacing and average lighting. Tiered spectator seating at court-side.

Indoor Football/Futsal/Soccer

Three facilities are identified as providing for Indoor Football/Futsal/Soccer. 100% of the facilities used for this are school facilities. Issues identified are non-compliant courts, however, current demand is only for unofficial games by private or community groups.

Stakeholder workshops identified some desire for football to access indoor venues as a wet weather training alternative and also for futsal. It was identified that the Westland Sports Hub (covered outdoor courts) could provide a suitable venue for such uses in Hokitika.

Table 7.4.3: Indoor Football/Futsal/Soccer Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school hall.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth Catholics Combined Schools Gymnasium					
Grey	Greymouth	Catholic Church	Local	1	Multi-use school gymnasium used for unofficial futsal games by private group.
FACILITY NAME Grey High					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school gymnasium used for unofficial futsal games

Indoor Hockey

Two facilities are identified as providing for Indoor Hockey, one provides for school hockey use only. The only reported issues were a lack of storage.

Table 7.4.4: Indoor Hockey Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use hall used for school hockey activity only.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Boys Brigade Hall					
Westland	Hokitika	Boys Brigade	Local	1	Large basketball court size hall used by Hokitika hockey club for winter training and summer indoor competition. Changing rooms and meeting room facilities available. Situated at the Westland Race Course.

Netball

Six facilities across the region provide eight multi-use courts catering to Netball. 50% (four) of the courts are considered to be fully compliant. Reduced run-off space is the main reported non-compliance issue for the remaining courts. Netball will benefit significantly through the Westland Sports Hub providing an enhanced indoor court along with four improved outdoor, covered courts. See the Outdoor Courts Section for more information on the Westland Sports Hub and relevant direction from Netball's National Facilities Strategy.

Table 7.4.5: Indoor Netball

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	National	2	2 compliant indoor courts in shared multi-purpose sports stadium. Sprung timber floor surface, 2 electronic scoreboards and divider curtain that allows 2 courts to be used separately for different activities. Shared facilities in the centre. 3 outdoor courts adjacent to the facility.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Regional	2	2 compliant indoor courts in shared multi-purpose sports stadium. Sprung timber floor surface, 2 electronic scoreboards and drop down curtain/divider available to separate courts. Permanent seating adjacent to one court only. Shared facilities in the centre.
FACILITY NAME Buller High School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 indoor court in school gymnasium. Shared space with markings for basketball, volleyball and badminton. Mezzanine floor for spectators. (Also 1 outdoor court on shared sealed space).
FACILITY NAME Greymouth High School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 indoor court in school gymnasium. Shared space with markings for basketball, volleyball and badminton. Mezzanine floor for spectators.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sport Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Franz Josef Community Council	Local	1	1 court in multi-use sports centre.
FACILITY NAME Westland High School Gym					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	1 indoor court marked in multi-use school gymnasium.

Volleyball

Eight facilities provide 22 volleyball courts within multi-use court facilities. Eight courts are considered to be at a regional standard with the remainder meeting local level requirements. One recreational beach volleyball court is provided for public use at Karoro Domain in Greymouth. This is noted as being suitable for recreational, casual play only and is susceptible to impacts from high tides/storm events.

The only reported quality related issue was limited run-off space in one local level facility. It was also noted that volleyball would like additional facility access time in order to expand their school competition and winter competition in line with national programmes and school tournaments and also for training.

Table 7.4.6: Volleyball

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Regional	3	3 full courts marked in multi-use sports stadium with sprung timber floor. Shared facilities in the centre.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Regional	4	4 full courts marked in multi-use sports stadium with sprung timber floor. Permanent seating on one side of stadium. Shared facilities in the centre.
FACILITY NAME Buller High School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	3	Multi-use school gymnasium with 3 small courts marked.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	2	Multi-use school gymnasium with 2 courts marked.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	2	Multi-use school gymnasium with 2 courts marked.
FACILITY NAME Fox Glacier Sports Centre					
Westland	Fox Glacier	Westland District Council	Local	2	Multi-use sports stadium with 2 courts.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sports Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Franz Josef Community Council	Local	2	Multi-use sports stadium with 2 courts.
FACILITY NAME Westland High School Gym					
Westland	Hokitika	School	Local	4	Multi-use school gymnasium with 4 courts marked.

Table 7.4.7: Volleyball – Outdoor

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Karoro Domain					
Grey	Greymouth	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 recreational beach volleyball courts

Indoor Sports Participation Trends

Demographic projections (aging population) and the National Facilities Strategy for Indoor Sports (2013)³⁵ indicate that overall the West Coast is likely to experience a decline in indoor sports demand. However, there may be some sports where participation could increase in the short to medium term. It is important to consider these possibilities when planning for the local facilities network.

Nationally participation in Futsal is experiencing significant growth. "Since New Zealand Football (NZF) implemented Futsal in 2010, it has expanded from just 700 players in loosely unaffiliated leagues to nearly 21,000 registered players by the end of 2015"³⁶. In just two year, between 2013-3014 there was a 42% increase in participation numbers.³⁷

Based on the significant national trend, demand for Futsal in the West Coast region can be expected to grow, particularly as participation in school-based Futsal grows nationally. However, it is anticipated that current levels of multi-use court provision in the region can cater to any potential growth in Futsal participation in the region. Some facility modifications and/or use policy changes may be required to support Futsal participation in the region.

Note: Futsal can also occur on suitable outdoor facilities. The Westland Hub covered courts should be a suitable venue for this sport subject to demand and availability. For more detail on Football see the Outdoor Field Based Sports section of this report.

To provide indoor courts comes at a significant cost. To deliver a cost-effective network consideration also needs to be given to the role that quality outdoor courts can plan in supporting the indoor court network and limiting demand pressures. The approach taken by the Westland Sports Hub, to install a roof (cover) and three drop down walls to provide a sheltered outdoor court experience is an excellent example of cost-effective court provision to meet local participation needs.

³⁵ Aurecon Ltd (2013) National Indoor Courts Strategy (for Sport New Zealand).

³⁶ Sourced 31 July 2019 from: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/sport/football/87634756/futsal-experiencing-immense-growth-at-junior-levels-in-new-zealand>

³⁷ Sourced 31 July 2019 from: <https://www.nzfootball.co.nz/asset/downloadasset?id=4e4746ea-1079-45c2-9431-d9bfff6bc39c8>

Local Participation

Even with some indoor court-based codes reporting an expected significant (20%)³⁸ increase in participation, with a projected declining and aging population the region will continue to be effectively over-supplied with indoor court space. With reported participation expected to remain the same or decrease for most indoor court codes there is not expected to be significant demand-based facility access issues.

However, some stakeholders reported some challenges with obtaining access to court space at desired (peak times). Anecdotal availability and use information from the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and the Westland Recreation Centre indicates the following use patterns:

- Relatively high during the winter season (April – September) use during peak times (after 3pm Monday – Friday and daytime hours on weekends).
- Some court availability (approximately one-hour slots) during weekday evenings in the peak winter season, particularly prior to 6pm and after 8pm.
- Some court availability on weekends, particularly Sundays during the peak winter season.
- Significant court availability during weekdays (particularly prior to 9am and up to 3pm) all year round (excluding school holiday periods).
- Significant court availability during October – March, with December and January the lowest use periods for these facilities.

This information indicates that capacity for further usage exists in the current network, particularly during the shoulder and summer season. Any sports experiencing challenges securing desired bookings may need to consider being flexible with delivery times to increase their indoor court access opportunities. This could include using different days/times or providing off season participation opportunities. Considering early morning rather than evening training sessions would also improve indoor court access opportunities for many clubs and codes.

Policy changes to allow some sports (e.g. Indoor Hockey, Futsal) access to more of the existing multi-use facilities network may be required to accommodate potential demand from these codes in future.

³⁸ Westland Basketball Association facility survey response.

Facility Issues

The main reported facility issues were quality related including surface quality for some courts, poor lighting and non-compliance in terms of court run off (basketball, netball and volleyball) at some facilities. A lack of storage is an issue for some codes.

Our Proposed Approach

1. Continue to support the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre and the Westland Recreation Centre as the key, regional standard indoor court facilities.
2. Ensure all indoor court facilities have asset management plans in place and are being maintained in line with those plans.
3. Monitor the accessibility of school facilities to community groups. If required, consider the development of formal school-community partnerships to facilitate ongoing community access.
4. If demand pressures increase (particularly during the peak winter season) review operational booking processes. This could include consideration of an annual booking allocation process and modifications to operational booking policies (such as prioritisation policies for different use types e.g. training to low use periods).
5. If demand develops, review operational policies to consider increasing facility access opportunities for futsal and indoor hockey.
6. Indoor Court provision comes at a significant cost. It is important that indoor court provision is supported by access to quality outdoor courts, particularly for local level play. (See outdoor courts section).
7. Prior to developing any new indoor court facilities or major renewals or upgrades to existing facilities, undertake a needs and options assessment to determine the cost and benefits of alternative delivery approaches, including consideration of upgrading outdoor courts (covers, surface quality, lighting) and potential community-school partnerships. This should also include consideration of an appropriate balance between outdoor and indoor court provision, noting that the region is not expected to require any new indoor courts.
8. Ensure any future facility upgrades consider the provision of storage space to support effective community sport delivery.
9. Minor upgrades to improve floor surface condition, provide current compliant court markings, and improve lighting should be the priority for existing local level facilities.
10. Investigate options for minor upgrades to improve

7.5 Outdoor Court Sports Overview

There is currently no overarching national strategic direction related to outdoor court provision. General trends that are relevant when considering outdoor court facilities in the West Coast Region include:

- Increased focus on partnerships and collaboration to enhance sustainability.
- Development or redevelopment of multi-use outdoor courts with enhanced surfaces that cater to a range of sport and recreation uses, often on school sites.
- Hub and spoke models with a main, higher standard (usually multi-court) facility supported by local access opportunities. This can include indoor and outdoor court provision.

Some specific guidance is provided by the National Netball facility strategy along with the National Facilities Guidelines for Basketball and Tennis (2018). This information is provided under the applicable sports code headings below.



Kaniere School Multi-use Turf

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

Outdoor Court Facilities Network

Basketball

All reported outdoor Basketball courts in the region are provided by schools. These seven Basketball courts are provided on shared sealed or sand based astro turf surfaces. The main reported issues are a lack of surface quality or non-compliance (run off and line markings).

The Basketball New Zealand – Indoor Facilities Guide provides a number of strategies for increasing facility access³⁹ for basketball. Direction that is considered relevant to outdoor court provision on the West Coast includes:

- A collaborative approach is essential.
- Basketball programmes can be spread over 12 months in order to spread use of facilities.
- Modifying and increasing access to outdoor courts such as netball, tennis and recreation spaces.
- Consider relocating suitable community basketball onto outdoor courts. This may require adapting and redeveloping existing facilities.
- The need for outdoor 3x3 court provision, particularly for summer programmes for the youth market.

Table 7.5.1: Outdoor Basketball Courts

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on shared sealed space (also an indoor court – see above).
FACILITY NAME St Canice’s School					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	1 outdoor court on shared sealed space.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on shared sealed space.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	One outdoor court on multi-court sealed space. (also an indoor 1/2 court).
FACILITY NAME Runanga School					
Grey	Runanga	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on shared sealed space, surface uneven & poor drainage. Plans to resurface and improve drainage of this shared space.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on shared sealed space.
FACILITY NAME St Mary’s School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	1 multi-purpose astro sand-based turf with basketball court markings. Non-compliant.

39 Sourced 16 September 2019 from <https://nz.basketball/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/BBNZ-Indoor-Facilities-Guide.pdf>

Netball

Across the region 22 facilities provide 35 outdoor courts for netball. Each District has a Sub-regional/District, multi-court site that serves as the main participation venue for most divisions of the District's netball competition. Higher standards of netball competition (Senior netball and some top school grade netball) are now being played indoors at the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre, Westland Recreation Centre and some school venues (e.g. Westland High School). Considering the supply levels of indoor courts in the region⁴⁰ this is not expected to create supply and demand issues for indoor court access. The vast majority of outdoor netball courts are provided by schools, with only 17% of the outdoor courts provided by a Council and 8% provided directly by Buller Netball.

Only one site, Buller Netball Centre, is considered to have courts that are in excellent condition. All other outdoor netball courts were reported as being average or below condition. Reported issues include limited run-off space, poor surface quality, inadequate netball hoops, poor line markings and some drainage issues. Most of the outdoor netball courts are on a shared use space in schools and approximately 57% of outdoor netball courts are considered suitable for children's, introductory level netball and training purposes only. Four sites reported improvement plans, leaving the vast majority of courts expected to remain of low suitability.

The National Netball facility strategy does not include any specific recommendations for the West Coast, indicating that there are no significant issues. At a national level it is desired that each region has access to at least one indoor multi-court venue (of at least two courts). The West Coast exceeds this with two indoor multi-court venues (2 courts each) provided in the region. Nationally, a Netball Centre having fewer than 30 teams per court is considered to have potential spare capacity. Based on 2019 season team numbers outdoor court venues in Westport, Greymouth and Hokitika have significant spare capacity. For example, based on national benchmarks, the West Coast Centre competition based at the six ANZAC Park courts in Greymouth could provide for up to 180 teams. The 2019 season had less than 50 teams.

Table 7.5.2: Outdoor Netball Courts

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Buller Netball Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller Netball	Sub-regional/District	3	3 hard surface outdoor courts & pavilion. Adjacent to Pulse Energy Centre which hosts 2 indoor courts.
FACILITY NAME West Coast Netball Centre / ANZAC Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/District	6	6 outdoor concrete courts at ANZAC Park. 1 control room and pavilion overlooking the courts. 1 small shelter and storage space. Completed a drainage project in 2019 to address rain water build-up. Still susceptible to flooding from bordering Sawyers Creek. Court surface requires attention as it is cracked and worn.
FACILITY NAME Westland High School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Sub-regional/District	6	6 outdoor courts on sealed surface. Four courts will be upgraded as part of the Westland Sports Hub Development with a rebound ace surface, roof cover and drop-down walls.
FACILITY NAME Maruia School					
Buller	Maruia	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use space.

⁴⁰ Refer to Indoor Court Sports section.

Table 7.5.2: Outdoor Netball Courts CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Maruia School					
Buller	Maruia	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use space.
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Hall & Grounds					
Buller	Ngakawau	Ngakawau - Hector Reserve Board	Local	1	1 hard surface outdoor court at Ngakawau Domain.
FACILITY NAME Westport North School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use space.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	2 courts on multi-use sealed surface.
FACILITY NAME Sacred Heart School (Reefton)					
Buller	Reefton	Catholic Church	Local	1	1 court marked on all weather multi-use turf.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE		1	1 outdoor court on multi-use sealed space. Training only.
FACILITY NAME Awahono School (Grey Valley)					
Grey	Awahono	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use sealed space.
FACILITY NAME Blaketown School - Sports Field					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use sealed space.
FACILITY NAME Cobden School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use sealed space.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth High School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use space. Practise court only.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use space.
FACILITY NAME Paparoa School					
Grey	Dobson	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court marked on multi-use asphalted space.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	1 marked court on multi-use space, currently no netball hoops.
FACILITY NAME Runanga School					
Grey	Runanga	MoE	Local	1	1 court on multi-use sealed space. Rough surface with plans to re-surface and drainage.

Table 7.5.2: Outdoor Netball Courts CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Runanga School					
Grey	Runanga	MoE	Local	1	1 court on multi-use sealed space. Rough surface with plans to re-surface and drainage.
FACILITY NAME St Patrick's School					
Grey	Greymouth	Catholic Church	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use sealed space. Training only.
FACILITY NAME Lake Kaniere School					
Westland	Kaniere	MoE	Local	1	1 court marked on all-weather multi-use turf, practise court only.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	1 outdoor court on multi-use space.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	2	2 outdoor courts. Rough playing surface. Old markings may not be compliant.
FACILITY NAME St Mary's School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	1 court marked on all weather multi-use turf. Practice court only.



ANZAC Park, Greymouth

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

Tennis

10 facilities provide a total of 27 tennis courts across the region. Councils own 60% of the available tennis court sites, clubs own 20% with schools providing the remainder. Only three West Coast Club sites (10 courts) are used for regular competition (interclub and regional games). These are the Hokitika (3), Grey United (4) and Paroa (3) Club sites. All the other courts are no longer affiliated to the West Coast Association, rather they serve local, casual play only. Only two facilities indicated any improvement plans.

Surface quality and line markings were the main reported facility-based issues. It was reported that the courts at Grey United are new and in excellent condition, Paroa courts are in good condition whilst the Hokitika court surface is due to be replaced soon as part of the Westland Hub project. Of note: one facility (Carter's Beach) has recently been destroyed by coastal erosion. There are currently no known plans to replace this facility.

The stakeholder workshops identified some maintenance requirements at the Grey United Club related to the building age/condition e.g. earthquake strengthening, sewage separation, building upgrade (rotten timber, sunken floor, re-roofing, toilet/showers). Some desire was expressed for Greymouth based "roofed" courts to provide a wet-weather facility especially with climate change and potential for increased rainfall to effect play opportunities.

The West Coast region should consider the guidelines 4 – 7 of the National Facilities Guidelines for Tennis⁴¹. Key direction includes:

- No higher standard facilities (i.e. indoor courts) are considered to be required in the West Coast region.
- For regional towns one court per 2,000 people is desired, preferably as multi-court venues. Based on the 2013 census data⁴² and the Sub-regional/District standard facilities included in our stocktake, Westport and Hokitika exceed this level of supply. Westport has one Sub-regional/District court per 1,345 people; Hokitika one Sub-regional/District court per 989 people. Greymouth is slightly below this level when considering Sub-regional/District courts only (one Sub-regional/District court per 2,425 people) but when both of the Greymouth based Association competition courts sites (Paroa and Grey United) are considered, Greymouth is also within the target with 1 court per 1,385 people.
- Facilities should be maintained in a good state of repair (no cracks or uneven surfaces).
- Tennis NZ supports the provision of covered courts in some circumstances (e.g. as an alternative to indoor courts).
- Easy access to tennis facilities is important.



⁴¹ See 10.3 Appendix two for full details.

⁴² 2013 census data: Westport urban population 4,035; Greymouth 9,700; Hokitika urban population 2,967.

Table 7.5.3: Outdoor Tennis Courts

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Westport Tennis Club					
Buller	Westport	WTSC (club)	Sub-regional/District	3	3 courts hard-surface, shared clubrooms with Squash.
FACILITY NAME Grey United Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/District	4	4 sand based artificial turf courts re-laid in 2018 and new lighting project completed. Old clubrooms with social space, kitchen and toilets. No showers and limited changing space.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika United Tennis Club					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Sub-regional/District	3	3 courts with clubrooms shared with squash.
FACILITY NAME Carters Beach Domain					
Buller	Carters Beach	Carters Beach Domain Board	Local	0	Courts no longer available, destroyed by coastal erosion in 2018.
FACILITY NAME Maruia School					
Buller	Maruia	MoE	Local	2	Multi-use school sealed space with 2 courts available for community use.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	2	2 courts on shared sealed space
FACILITY NAME Ogilvie Recreation Reserve, Gladstone					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	1 old hard surface court, suitable for recreational games only.
FACILITY NAME Paroa Tennis Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Paroa Tennis Club	Local	3	2 astro-turf & 1 plexipave courts and small clubrooms with amenities block (showers/toilets) - disability accessible facility.
FACILITY NAME Runanga					
Grey	Runanga	Grey District Council	Local	2	2 hard surface courts in rough condition. New fencing (2018).
FACILITY NAME Hokitika United Tennis Club					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	3	3 courts with clubrooms shared with squash.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	2	2 courts on shared sealed space.
FACILITY NAME Whataroa Domain					
Westland	Whataroa	Westland District Council	Local	2	2 asphalt tennis courts are part of the Whataroa Domain and share clubroom facilities with Whataroa Golf Club.

Outdoor Court Sports Participation Trends

Demographic projections (aging population) indicate that overall the West Coast is likely to experience a decline in demand for outdoor court sports. However, there may be some sports where participation could increase in the short to medium term. It is important to consider these possibilities when planning for the local facilities network.

Nationally there is a trend for some outdoor sports to move indoors. However, to provide indoor courts comes at a significant cost. Some sports, e.g. Basketball, have recognised that to deliver a cost effective network and local community participation opportunities, consideration also needs to be given to the role that quality outdoor courts can play in supporting the indoor court network and limiting demand pressures⁴³. The approach taken by the Westland Sports Hub, to install a roof (cover) and three drop down walls to provide a sheltered outdoor court experience is an excellent example of cost effective court provision to meet local participation needs.

With growth in 3x3 Basketball nationally, demand for facilities suitable for this type of use may increase. However, to date there has not been any reported significant demand for 3x3 in the West Coast region.

Nationally, participation in Futsal is experiencing significant growth as outlined in the indoor courts section of this report. Futsal can also occur on suitable outdoor facilities. The Westland Hub covered courts should be a suitable venue for this sport subject to demand and availability. For more detail on Football see the Outdoor Field Based Sports section of this report.

Nationally, particularly in schools there is a trend towards the provision of multi-use outdoor court spaces with specialist court surfaces (not simply asphalt).

Internationally there is a trend towards the development of Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA) - fenced, hard surface areas with built in goals and line markings to support a variety of sports, games or activities taking place. MUGA are very common in cities and towns in the United Kingdom. They are also becoming increasingly common in Europe and around the world.

With many outdoor courts in the region requiring surface upgrades these types of solutions could be considered. Multi-use courts cater to multiple sports and activities in one location, maximising use of limited resources (financial as well as land/open space). Outdoor courts provide an affordable alternative to indoor court space for many levels of participation and training.

⁴³ Basketball New Zealand- Indoor Facilities Guide

⁴⁴ Sourced 19 September 2019 from <https://tigerturf.com/nz/matamata-primary-school>

⁴⁵ Sourced 19 September 2019 from <http://www.caloo.co.uk/our-case-studies/astonclinton-muga/>

Local Participation

Local Basketball stakeholders reported an expected significant (20%)⁴⁶ increase in participation. Whilst this was related to indoor court-based competitions and is considered unlikely based on population projections and general sport participation trends, if this growth occurs there will be a need to support current indoor court provision with quality outdoor courts as a cost effective solution to providing suitable court space.

All other outdoor court-based codes indicated static or declining participation was expected. This is supported by current population projections for the region.

Facility Issues

The main reported facility issues for outdoor courts were quality related including surface quality for some courts, poor line marking, poor lighting and non-compliance in terms of court run off.

Our Proposed Approach

1. Ensure outdoor court facilities have asset management plans in place and are being maintained in line with those plans.
2. Monitor the accessibility of school facilities to community groups. If required, consider the development of formal school/community partnerships to facilitate ongoing community access.
3. The Westland Sports Hub site should be supported as the key wet-weather Tennis site for the region.
4. Undertake detailed demand analysis to prove need before investing in any single-use covered Tennis courts.
5. Upgrades to existing facilities should be prioritised over development of any new outdoor courts. The majority of facilities require upgrades focussing on improving surface condition, court markings, and lighting (where required). All upgrade projects should consider the conversion of single use outdoor courts to multi-use courts to maximise use and the overall return on investment.
6. To help reduce the desire for codes to shift indoors any future upgrades to outdoor courts should consider roof structures to reduce wet weather impacts and lighting improvements (if necessary).
7. Priority should be given to a surface upgrade of the ANZAC park netball courts in Greymouth. However, prior to undertaking this work, potential multi-use hub opportunities at the site should be investigated (see recommendation 9 below).
8. Prior to investing in significant upgrades to any outdoor court facilities, alternative delivery models should be considered including opportunities for multi-use partnerships and school-community partnerships. This should also include consideration of the balance between outdoor and indoor court provision, noting that the region is not expected to require any new indoor courts and quality outdoor courts play an important role in supporting and relieving pressure on the indoor court network.
9. Prior to investing in significant upgrades to the club rooms building shared by Rugby League and the Grey United Tennis Club, building other partnership opportunities and uses for the facility should be identified and the potential for enhancements at ANZAC park as a potential alternative should be explored.
10. Investigate the potential demand for, and benefits of, a multi-use outdoor court hub site based at ANZAC Park. This could cater to traditional outdoor court codes e.g. Netball, 3X3 and full court outdoor Basketball, as well as Tennis. It could also support other codes such as Futsal, Athletics and wet-weather training options for field-based sports. This investigation also needs to consider the demand/need for an upgrade or replacement clubrooms facility to cater to all potential users of the hub. It is noted that an upgrade to the netball court surface is required as a priority and may need to occur as a first stage of any larger, hub project.

7.6 Outdoor Field Based Sports Overview

Playing fields have traditionally been one of the most important and highly used sport and recreation facilities provided in New Zealand. In many circumstances playing fields are shared use facilities with a winter code (rugby, rugby league or football) and a summer sport such as athletics or cricket using the same field area. With changing participation trends other facility types are becoming increasingly important but playing fields remain vital infrastructure to support local participation in a range of sports.

There is no overarching national direction provided for playing fields. The general themes emerging at national level include:

- there is generally not a need for new playing fields but rather better use of existing playing fields.
- better use may require a variety of changes including improved surface quality, lighting to increase hours of use and consideration of artificial turfs in some circumstances.
- better support facilities (such as change rooms) are required.
- Some sports have over-supply of fields (based on participation requirements) while other sports have under-supply, so reallocation between playing field codes may be required.

Sport specific national facilities strategies for Football, Rugby League and Cricket do provide some relevant direction (see the code specific sections below). There is no national facilities strategy for rugby.

Outdoor Field Facilities Network

Schools are the main provider of multi-use outdoor playing fields across the region. The majority of school fields provide for a wide range of field-based sport opportunities for students, although many are not fit-for-purpose, including not providing goal posts or line markings, meaning they are only suitable for training purposes. Generally, school sites that are set up for specific sports with line markings, goal posts etc also provide community use for local competitions.

Councils are the other key provider of outdoor field facilities. A number of Council owned sites such as Cass Square, Victoria Park, Arthur Fong Park, George Craddock Park provide for both a summer and winter use e.g. Cricket and Rugby. However, there are also a large number of single use fields, catering specifically to one code meaning those sites have considerable downtime during the off-season.

Anecdotally there appears to be more single use fields in the West Coast region than other areas of NZ, indicating a lack of overall demand pressure.

Athletics

Ten facilities provide for Athletics in the region. ANZAC Park in Greymouth provides the only Sub-regional/District standard facility with an official, surveyed 400m grass track and various field facilities. 50% of the athletics facilities are school provided, grass tracks used for their own school athletics requirements only.

The main reported facility issues were quality, including non-compliance (measurements), basic field (grass) surfaces and a limited amount of provision for field events (particularly throwing). There is also no provision for pole vault or steeplechase in the region. The other key issue identified was the need to demolish the ANZAC Park pavilion due to age and it being identified as earthquake prone. This is expected to result in a lack of storage and other support facilities.

Whilst there is some local desire for an all-weather surface expressed it is acknowledged that that the site conditions at ANZAC Park are not suitable for one. There is also no strategic need for an all-weather surface in the region identified by Athletics NZ47. With the level of local participation in athletics expected to stay the same and with a projected declining and aging population it is considered that the new Nga Puna Wai track in Christchurch and the Saxton's Field track in Nelson provide adequate access to all-weather tracks for participants based in the West Coast region.

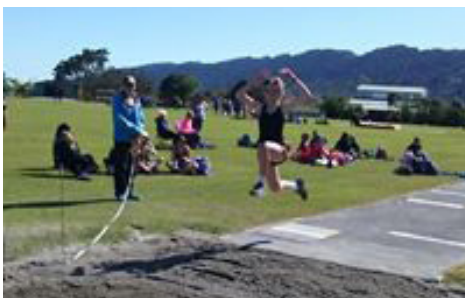
At the stakeholder workshops athletics representatives expressed a strong willingness to partner with other sports codes, including suggesting the potential for a multi-sport hub facility that could act as a base for a range of sports with playing space and clubroom facilities (including storage) provided. Concern was expressed about the current, very limited provision for any field-based athletics in Buller.

The trend in athletics provision is towards synthetic, all-weather tracks, therefore athletics is usually included in the specialized surfaces section of other facility plans. However, in the West Coast region all athletics is provided on grass fields and therefore it is included in this section of the strategy. The national facilities strategy for Athletics is focused on artificial, all-weather tracks, and provides no specific information or recommendations for the West Coast region. However, the West Coast is considered to be part of the Canterbury region where the direction is as follows:

The strategy recommends that each region needs only one 8 lane, synthetic, and all-weather track, of which a selected 5 regions will have IAAF Class II certification. These 5 regions did include Canterbury.

QE2 Stadium did provide this function but it was lost in the Earthquake and has now been replaced with Nga Puna Wai Regional Sporting Park.

Also of note for athletics, is the all-weather artificial track provided at Saxtons Field in Nelson. It provides another option for higher level participants from the West Coast to access an artificial surface track and associated facilities for field disciplines.



ANZAC Park Greymouth

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

47 National Athletics Facility Strategy (2010)

Table 7.6.1: Athletics Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF TRACKS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME ANZAC Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/ District	1	Official surveyed Grass 400m athletics track. 7 lanes. 3 x concrete throwing circles with non-compliant safety netting. Asphalt javelin, high & long jumps. No water jump or Pole vault facilities. Club rooms currently used but non-EQ compliant and beyond repair. Grey DC public toilets on site but non-compliant and planned for replacement in GDC long term plans.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	Un-official, non-compliant grass athletics track used for school athletics only.
FACILITY NAME Victoria Square					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Local	1	Un-official 400m grass athletics track used for children's athletics. Long jump pit & throwing circles. No water jump or pole vault or safety throwing cages. Track was surveyed originally but not certified in recent years. Used for Buller schools' athletics days.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	Un-official, non-compliant grass athletics track used for school athletics only.
FACILITY NAME Paparoa School					
Grey	Dobson	MoE	Local	1	Un-official, non-compliant grass athletics track used for school athletics only.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Un-official, non-compliant grass athletics track used for school athletics only.
FACILITY NAME Cass Square					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	1	Un-official 400m grass athletics track used for children's athletics. Long jump pit but no throwing circles.
FACILITY NAME Westland High School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	Un-official 400m grass track marked out on multi-use school playing field. Used by local schools for school and district athletics champs.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	1	Un-official 400m grass athletics track used for children's athletics. Long jump pit & throwing circles. No water jump or pole vault.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	Un-official, non-compliant grass athletics track used for school athletics only.

Cricket

13 facilities are identified as providing for cricket with 14 wickets/ovals provided across the region. These are supported by seven training nets. The majority of cricket facilities are basic, multi-use fields provided by schools. Cricket are also noted as making some use of the Westturf stadium (Hockey Turf) in Greymouth for children's cricket skills programs and modified games.

The only reported facility-based issues were general maintenance and playing surface improvements. There was also some desire for more/better support facilities such as changing rooms and an indoor training facility in Greymouth. The security and protection of cricket fields e.g. from vehicles on fields was also identified as an issue.

Stakeholders in Buller indicated that current supply levels are adequate for the current player base in the area. It was indicated that funding for the continuation of the Buller Sports Alliance is considered a higher priority than facility related expenditure. This view acknowledges that without work to grow player numbers, facilities will not be required in the longer term.

Key direction from Cricket's national facilities strategy relevant to the West Coast region includes:

- With the exception of Auckland, most regions in New Zealand do not require significant investment in additional new facilities for the participation and development levels of cricket.
- Each Cricket Association should develop a facility network plan to improve current facilities.
- Developing more consistency in cricket facilities was a general priority, based on a link between facility quality and player development.
- A focus was recommended on improving cricket facilities at the secondary school level, including a network-based partnership approach.
- A focus was also recommended on developing more artificial facilities for playing and training, particularly including all semi-hard ball cricket.
- More specific use of expert facility advisory resources was recommended.

Table 7.6.2: Cricket - Outdoor

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF PITCHES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Arthur Fong Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/ District	2	Two cricket ovals with 2 artificial wicket blocks (concrete base/ carpet) 2 permanent cricket practise nets, 1 clubrooms x 20 years old. Large 2 bay tractor/storage shed. WCC are responsible for mowing of the park under contract to GDC. Replacement Tractor will be required over next 5 years. Grounds sub-leased to WC Football in winter.

Table 7.6.2: Cricket - Outdoor CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF PITCHES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Buller High School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Regional	1	School Grounds are also home of Buller Cricket. 1 grass oval with artificial wicket, 2 permanent practise nets. Clubroom/pavilion on school ground.
FACILITY NAME Kilkenny Park					
Buller	Westport	Unknown	Local	1	1 artificial pitch. Former hockey grounds now used for cricket during tournaments.
FACILITY NAME George Craddock Park					
Buller	Westport	Buller Rugby Union	Local	2	Shared grounds with 4 Rugby fields use in Winter. 2 artificial block wickets. Shared clubrooms. Home offices of Buller Rugby Union.
FACILITY NAME North School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use grass field used. School use only. One cricket net – average.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use grass field used. School use only.
FACILITY NAME St Canice’s School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	0	Permanent cricket practise net only, insufficient space for games.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use grass field used. School use only. One cricket net - average conditions.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use grass field used. Recently re-surfaced with drainage added. School use only.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use grass field used. School use only.
FACILITY NAME Westurf Stadium					
Grey	Greymouth	Westurf Recreation Trust Inc.	Local	1	All weather artificial turf surface used for children cricket skills programs & modified games. Primarily a hockey turf.
FACILITY NAME Ahaura Domain					
Grey	Ahaura		Local	1	Artificial wicket installed recently (2019) at Awahono Domain, accessible by community & primary school.
FACILITY NAME Cass Square					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	1	Shared sports/events ground with One artificial/concrete block wicket with carpet surface. Small old grandstand, public toilets available.

Football

18 facilities provide 20 outdoor football fields in the region. 87% of the football fields in the region are provided by schools, in most instances these are multi-use grass playing fields and many are junior or undersized pitches only.

Reported issues were quality related such as poor drainage, poor grass condition and some fields only being suitable for training or junior / school use. The other key issue reported is Football not having access to toilet, storage and change facilities at many sites, including at Arthur Fong Park (the main Greymouth venue). This was noted as particularly important to serve the needs of children and female football players.

Football does not have a dedicated 'home' site in any of the main towns in the region. In all circumstances football shares fields and facilities with other codes and/or schools.

Stakeholders in Buller, Grey and Westland all indicated a demand for improved access to playing fields, toilet, storage and change facilities to support their participants. It was identified that long term certainty of access to a multi-field site for football in each main town was desirable. There is a willingness for these to be shared sites with schools and other code(s).

Note: Football is also able to use the Westturf Stadium turf for training and primary school level modified football tournaments, providing the equivalent of one additional field. However, it is noted that it can be difficult to secure a booking at desirable times for football as Hockey have priority.

The Football NZ National Facility Strategy provides the following direction relevant to the provision of playing fields in the West Coast region (as part of the Mainland Football Federation):

- Overall national membership has been consistently trending upwards in recent years. Growing from 88,368 in 2012 to 96,605 in 2016.
- In the Mainland football region, there is a need to improve the quality of pitches for club competition, access to training facilities and futsal pitches.
- There is an increased need for partnerships with key stakeholders.
- There is a need to maximise the use of existing facilities as doing so is often more cost effective than building new assets.
- There may be demand for additional training lights.
- Strengthening club networks is important.
- Supporting the growth of futsal in New Zealand through gaining access to appropriate venues for both the indoor and outdoor forms of futsal.

The Football NZ strategy does not identify a need for a Home of Football on the West Coast. However, there are limits to provision and suitability of facilities currently used for football in the region which need to be considered.

Table 7.6.3: Outdoor Football

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Coronation Park					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	School owned field used by Westport Football club for trainings and games. No facilities but adjacent to Westport North Primary School hall which has toilets.
FACILITY NAME Maruia School					
Buller	Maruia	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field available for school & community use. No competition games played here.
FACILITY NAME Westport North School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field. No games.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field available for school & community use. No competition games played here.
FACILITY NAME St Canice's School					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field. No games.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field - no games.
FACILITY NAME Arthur Fong Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Council	Local	2	Shared space with winter lease off West Coast Cricket. 2 grass fields. WC Football are not permitted to access the toilets and pavilion due to long standing relationship issues.
FACILITY NAME Blaketown School - Sports Field					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field used by WC Junior football on Sundays for games.
FACILITY NAME Cobden School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field. Practise space only not suitable for games.
FACILITY NAME Gladstone Domain /Ogilvie Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	Community grass playing field. Formerly used by WC Football but not in recent years.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School grass playing field. 2 junior football fields marked and used by Paroa Football club for training and Sunday competitions games. Only school toilet facilities available. No clubrooms, limited parking.

Table 7.6.3: Outdoor Football CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Runanga School					
Grey	Runanga	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field available for school & community use. No competition games played here.
FACILITY NAME Westurf Stadium					
Grey	Greymouth	Westurf Recreation Trust Inc.	Local	1	Artificial water based all-weather surface used for football training and annual primary school based modified tournament. No Toilets on site and limited player/spectator shelter. Sited adjacent to Westland Rec Centre stadium with arranged access to their facilities.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field available for school & community use. No competition games played here.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	2	School grass multi-use playing field available for school & community use. No competition games played here.
FACILITY NAME Westland High					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field. Shared across multiple sports. School holiday junior football training camps held here.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Primary School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	2 junior football fields used by local Westland United Junior club for training & fortnightly home games. No facilities.
FACILITY NAME St Mary's School					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	School grass multi-use playing field. Training only, no games. Also artificial sand based turf (netball court size) used for trainings and skills sessions.

Rugby & Rugby Sevens

24 facilities provide 30.5 rugby fields across the region. The main providers of rugby field facilities in the region are Councils (37%) and schools (33%). The Buller and West Coast Rugby Unions own two sites (George Craddock Memorial Park, Westport and John Sturgeon Park, Greymouth).

The key rugby sites in the region are considered to be Victoria Square, Westport and John Sturgeon Park (formerly Rugby Park), Greymouth. Only John Sturgeon Park was specifically identified as providing for Rugby Sevens. However, the majority of multi-use school fields and rugby field facilities can cater to Rugby Sevens.

Reported issues include non-compliant field areas (undersized), poor field condition (at times due to the impact of other uses) and a lack of changing facilities to cater to the growth in females participating in Buller.

It is noted that the field at ANZAC Park in Greymouth is currently dis-used as it is not required for rugby based on the current player numbers.

Note: Both the Westurf Stadium and Pulse Energy Recreation Centre Turf are used for rugby training when grass fields are too saturated for play, providing the equivalent of 2 additional fields accessible to rugby in the region.



John Sturgeon Park, Greymouth

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

Table 7.6.4: Rugby and Rugby 7's

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Victoria Square (Westport)					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Regional	1	1 playing field. Grandstand and change room /toilet facilities. No off-road parking. Home of Buller Rugby.
FACILITY NAME Grey Main School / Rugby Park No2 ground.					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 playing field school play-ground shared with WC Rugby Union as their No2 ground John Sturgeon Park. No Lights. Facilities either school or shared WCRU facility on No1 ground.
FACILITY NAME John Sturgeon Park (formerly Rugby Park)					
Grey	Greymouth	WCRU	Regional	1	1 rugby ground with 2 Grandstands, standing covered shelter, change rooms, toilets. Flood lights. No 2 ground shared with adjacent Grey Main School. Limited off road parking.
FACILITY NAME Patterson Park					
Buller	Westport	Westport Trotting Club	Local	1	2 rugby paddocks in centre of racecourse facility.
FACILITY NAME Buller High School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	1 playing field on multi-use school ground. Used for school and club games. No specific rugby facilities. Used by cricket in summer.
FACILITY NAME North School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	1 multi-use school playing field.
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Hall & Grounds					
Buller	Ngakawau	Buller Council/ Ngakawau- Hector Reserve Board	Local	1	1 rugby ground at Ngakawau Domain. Floodlights. No spectator facilities, shower facilities by arrangement with local coal mining company adjacent to grounds. No clubrooms but by arrangement with adjacent hotel. Home of Ngakawau Rugby Club.
FACILITY NAME Rayner Park					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Local	1	1 rugby field.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	1 multi-use school playing field.
FACILITY NAME George Craddock Memorial Park					
Buller	Westport	Buller Rugby Union	Local	4	4 playing fields. Lights and clubrooms. Home of Old Boys rugby club and Buller Rugby Union offices.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Race Course					
Buller	Reefton	Buller District Council	Local	1	1 rugby ground inside Reefton Horse Race Track. Shared facilities at the Race Club. Floodlights.

Table 7.6.4: Rugby and Rugby 7's CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Race Course					
Buller	Reefton	Buller District Council	Local	1	1 rugby ground inside Reefton Horse Race Track. Shared facilities at the Race Club. Floodlights.
FACILITY NAME Anzac Park / (Formerly Star United grounds)					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	Dis-used rugby ground on now defunct Star United Rugby Club site. Maintained by WC Rugby Union. Former dump land developed into playing field. Former clubrooms now owned by Greymouth Hotrodders club.
FACILITY NAME MacLean Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	2	2 playing fields, one with floodlights, clubrooms built on 2007 include showers/ change rooms/ toilets. Bar, clubrooms and rentable office space.
FACILITY NAME Karoro Domain					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	1 rugby ground with floodlights and change rooms/toilets and clubrooms adjacent to ground at Karoro Domain.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	1 multi-use school playing field. Recently upgraded and drained.(2018)
FACILITY NAME Westurf Stadium					
Grey	Greymouth	Westurf Recreation Trust Inc.	Local	1	Artificial water-based turf hired by rugby teams when grass playing fields are closed due to wet weather saturating fields.
FACILITY NAME Kokatahi Domain					
Westland	Kokatahi	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 rugby paddock.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	1 multi-use school playing field.
FACILITY NAME Westland High					
Westland	Hokitika	MoE	Local	1	1 Compliant full field and 1 non-compliant field with small in-goal areas and sited to close to concrete surrounds to allow full field games. School facilities only for change rooms & toilets.
FACILITY NAME Cass Square					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	2	2 playing fields on multi-use sports grounds. No Floodlights, small ageing grandstand, public toilets and clubrooms. Grounds susceptible to damage from community events like Wild Foods Festival, Children's Day which can make fields unavailable due to required remedial work. Grounds shared with Cricket & children's athletics in summer.

Table 7.6.4: Rugby and Rugby 7's CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Walker Park (Hokitika)					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	1.5	1.5 playing fields. Lights, No grandstand.
FACILITY NAME Kumara Sports Fields					
Westland	Kumara	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 rugby ground on Kumara Domain. Not currently used for training or games. Public toilets and community clubrooms.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	MoE	Local	2	2 official playing fields on school playing field. No grandstand or lighting, shared facilities with South Westland Area School.
FACILITY NAME Whataroa Domain					
Westland	Whataroa	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 playing field. No grandstand, shared clubroom, changing room and toilets with Golf and tennis clubs.

Rugby League

Nine facilities provide a total of 11 fields for Rugby League in the region. 77% are on land owned by Council's or Community Boards. One facility is owned by a club and Wingham Park is owned by West Coast Rugby League. Of note, no rugby league fields were identified as available in the Buller District.

Reported issues include some grounds being susceptible to flooding and coastal erosion, a lack of support facilities such as toilets/change rooms, ageing facilities and a lack of flood lights (only 5 fields were identified as having lights). It was also reported that it is getting harder to maintain facilities, largely due to a lack of volunteers and available funds.

Overall, survey respondents indicated they expected rugby league participation to stay the same or decrease by up to 10%. There was some desire expressed for an enhanced multi-use field and facilities for both rugby and rugby league, potentially on John Sturgeon Park.

Key findings of relevance from the national facilities strategy for Rugby League include:

- The West Coast region has a total of 1037 individuals participating in rugby league (2014), with the 0-13 years old age group contributing to the largest proportion at 81% of total participation within the region.
- The West Coast Region currently has a surplus of up to 1 hours per week in field capacity. Projecting to 2028, this will change to having a 11 hour shortfall in weekly field capacity.
- The Southern League Zone - including the Canterbury region and West Coast - is projected to have an increase in teams from 257 (2014/15) to 338 (2028).
- Need for improved access to community fields, current lack of field quality and availability. As well as improved facilities on site (i.e. changing rooms).

Table 7.6.5: Rugby League Fields

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Wingham Park					
Grey	Greymouth	WC Rugby League	Regional	2	2 playing fields. Ageing facilities with one grandstand, 4 change-rooms, public toilets, shop area, clubrooms that include kitchen, boardroom and storage. Lights on both fields allow night games and training. Grounds susceptible to flooding. Situated along-side state Highway 6. Off-road parking has developed over last 2 seasons.
FACILITY NAME Jellyman Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	2	2 Senior fields, used for junior rugby league games. Fields are susceptible to Coastal erosion and high seas spilling salt water on playing surfaces. Shared use of the Cobden Sports Complex facilities for change-room, toilets and clubrooms. Home of Cobden-Kohinoor RL club & WC schoolboys RL.
FACILITY NAME Blackball Domain					
Grey	Blackball	Blackball Domain Board	Local	1	1 playing field, no facilities. Home of Wairo-rakau RL Club.
FACILITY NAME Dobson Recreation Reserve					
Grey	Dobson	Grey District Council	Local	1	1 playing field, showers/toilet block and shared clubrooms facilities in Dobson Hall. Home of Brunner RL Club.
FACILITY NAME Ngahere Domain					
Grey	Ngahere	Grey District Council	Local	1	1 playing field, using for training by Wairo-rakau junior league teams.
FACILITY NAME Hargreaves Park / Karoro Domain					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	1 grass league field as part of Karoro Domain. Re-surfaced 4 years ago to include drainage and irrigation. Lighting available for night training. Clubrooms at the Karoro Domain but not adjacent to the field. Scout hall re-located to side of the playing field by GDC. Home of Suburbs RL Club.
FACILITY NAME O'Brian Park					
Grey	Runanga	Runanga Club	Local	1	1 playing field, floodlights, Showers/toilets/clubrooms. Home of Runanga Rugby League club.
FACILITY NAME Kaniere Domain					
Westland	Kaniere	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 playing field, flood lights, no facilities. Training ground only.
FACILITY NAME Wadeston Island					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 playing field, no facilities. Home of Hokitika Rugby League.

Softball

Five facilities were identified as catering to softball with indicative provision of approximately 8 grass diamonds across these sites. The largest facility, the Cobden Sports complex in Greymouth, has capacity for 4 diamonds. No softball facilities were specifically identified in Westland. Provision in Buller was identified at school sites only.

Currently senior softball is in recess on the West Coast. Only some junior softball and T-ball is occurring. A lack of evident demand indicates that provision for softball is adequate for current and likely future needs.

Table 7.6.6: Softball

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF DIAMONDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	School facility with large multi-use grassed playing field.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	School facility with large multi-use grassed playing field, sealed court area and school hall.
FACILITY NAME Cobden Sports Complex					
Grey	Greymouth	Cobden Sports Complex Trust	Local	4	Capacity for 4 grass diamonds. All senior softball is currently in recession with some junior softball & t-ball still happening. Clubrooms change-rooms & toilets available in the complex. Grounds susceptible to coastal erosion and high seas/salt water damage to playing surfaces.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School multi-use playing field used as practise area of school softball & t-ball.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	School facility with large multi-use grass field which is used by Paroa Junior Club for club competition and training. School Hall use for multiple sports and events. School pool 15m - uncovered, non-heated. Available for community use with a key system.

Touch

Eight facilities provide for Touch across the region. 75% of facilities providing for Touch are school owned. Each District has access to two or more sites that provide for touch, all at a local standard.

Reported issues include undersized or modified fields or suitability for casual use only. A lack of facilities e.g. toilets and change rooms was identified at Karoro Domain.

Table 7.6.7: Touch Fields

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Buller High School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school playing field.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school playing field.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school playing field. School and training use only.
FACILITY NAME Karoro Domain (Greymouth)					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	2	Shared use Suburb's Rugby League Hargreaves Park (2 senior fields) and adjacent domain field (1 senior field) no facilities available for touch including no toilets or change-rooms.
FACILITY NAME Paparoa School					
Grey	Dobson	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school playing field.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school playing field used for school training only.
FACILITY NAME Cass Square					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	1	Multi-use sports fields, shared with athletics, rugby & cricket.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school playing field.

Field Based Sports Participation Trends

Current trends that are relevant when considering the future of the playing fields network in the region include:

- Decline in traditional team sport participation and a trend towards individual participation.
- Declining adult participation in sport and recreation overall.
- Increasing expectation in terms of level of service (moving to sand based, artificial or hybrid solutions).
- Historical occupancy of sites by codes are being challenged as participation trends change.
- Clustering of various sports fields in one area for efficiencies.
- Providing more equity of access through change rooms being created for both men and women.
- Traditional seasonality of sport is being challenged. Some codes now want to operate 48 weeks of year. Places pressure on other codes as well as removing shoulder seasons for necessary repairs and renewals.

With a relatively high proportion of single use playing fields in the region there is a reasonable ability to cater to the changing seasonality of sports with facility access. In the region the main issue experienced around seasonality appears to be the availability of participants for some codes due to the demands of other codes they participate in changing, rather than a lack of suitable facility access.

Local Participation

The majority of field-based sports have indicated they expect their participation levels to stay the same (less than 5% increase or decrease) or decrease by approximately 10%. This aligns with stakeholders identifying participation / membership as one of the greatest challenges they face.

Anecdotally Football is the only field-based sport that has experienced significant local participation growth in recent years, particularly in junior and women's football.

Facility Issues

The main facility issues experienced are a lack of appropriate support facilities (toilets, storage, change rooms), lack of goal posts and line marking on some fields and poor field surface quality. There is some desire for clubs and other codes to be able to access higher standard fields e.g. John Sturgeon Park which is usually reserved for representative rugby use.

Whilst a number of codes indicated they use the Westurf Stadium and the Pulse Recreation Centre artificial turfs as a wet-weather alternative, they also indicate that availability can be challenging as Hockey has priority at these sites. It is also difficult to access indoor venues as a wet-weather training alternative due to other regular uses.

Buller Football needs to find a new location to operate from for the 2020 season. They are currently based at the Buller High School field which is being closed for field surface renovation.

Our Proposed Approach

1. Maintain a dispersed network of fields across the region to ensure local participation opportunities exist in relative proximity to most residents.
2. Maintain Victoria Square and John Sturgeon Park as the key regional level rugby facilities, ensuring all facilities and equipment are of a suitable standard for regional level requirements.
3. Investigate opportunities to increase use of Victoria Square and John Sturgeon Park by other appropriate codes where capacity exists at these sites.
4. Maintain Wingham Park as the key regional facility for Rugby League whilst also investigating opportunities to use John Sturgeon Park as an alternative site, particularly when wet weather impacts the condition of Wingham Park.
5. Do not undertake further investment in sports facilities at Jellyman Park until sea level rise modelling has been completed to understand the long-term viability of this site.
6. Undertake a detailed sports field supply and demand analysis for rugby, rugby league, sevens, touch and football, assess the current needs and provide evidence for any potential need to reallocate fields between codes.
7. Where fields are held by a code for historic reasons, but demand does not exist, fields should be reallocated to codes that have demonstrated, current demand to minimise any field access imbalance (under and over provision) between codes.
8. Pending the outcomes of the field supply and demand analysis work, undertake a site options assessment for a Field Based Sports Hub in Hokitika. This would require rationalisation of some low quality fields, aged grandstands and clubrooms across the town/District. The aim being to provide a higher quality offering of fields and associated shared amenities such as storage, change/toilet facilities and clubrooms. Possible sites include Westland High (as stage 2 of the Westland Sports Hub project), Westland Race Course (this is already a partial hub with Riding for the Disabled and a Boys Brigade Hall on site) or Cass Square.
9. Depending on the outcomes of Recommendation 8, investigate opportunities to ease the pressure that events place on use of Cass Square for community sport. This may include enhanced turf protection measures during events.
10. Where demand is low, consider the rationalisation of low use fields and clubroom facilities to allow resources to be put into the maintenance and upgrades of higher use and competition standard fields, whilst ensuring appropriate local participation opportunities are retained.
11. Undertake work to identify high use, multiuse playing fields sites that require improved toilet/change/storage facilities. Prioritise investment to those sites where multiple codes will benefit from enhanced facilities. Ensure facility upgrades consider the needs of female and child participants.
12. Prior to investing in significant upgrades (e.g. installation of training lights, field resurfacing and storage/changing facilities) at single use field facilities, investigate alternative options such as partnerships to increase sharing of fields, facilities and clubrooms between codes to maximise the return on investment in any upgrades.
13. Pending the outcomes of the field supply and demand analysis - Investigate the development of a "Home of Football" to serve both Grey and Westland Districts, located in either Greymouth or Hokitika. If adequate demand for such a facility exists, consideration should be given to providing a multi field site (approximately 2 x full sized fields - useable as multiple fields for juniors), suitable storage, change/toilet facilities and ideally access to a shared clubrooms type facility. Repurposing/ redevelopment of an existing facility would be preferred. This should include consideration of the potential benefits of an artificial surface to support wet weather participation.

14. Prioritise identification of an alternative multi-field venue with appropriate storage, change, toilet facilities for junior Football in Buller (Westport) for the 2020 season. This will need to be in partnership with another field-based sport (possibly rugby).
15. Work with Cricket and Football in the Grey District to formalise an appropriate agreement for football to access the existing toilet and changing facilities at Arthur Fong Park as a short-term solution to operational issues Football is facing due to a lack of access to support facilities.
16. Investigate the demand for provision of introductory level athletics facilities, including both track and field disciplines (discuss, long-jump etc) in Buller. This would primarily be to support athletics training needs and children's participation. This does not need to provide a competition standard site.
17. ANZAC Park in Greymouth should remain the primary athletics facility for the West Coast Region.
18. Undertake a needs and options assessment for the replacement of the earthquake prone ANZAC Park Pavilion (Athletics). This should include specific consideration of a multi-use hub building in partnership with other codes (refer to Outdoor Courts section – recommendation 9).
19. Monitor cricket wicket supply and demand in the short term and consider provision of additional artificial wickets if required, to maximise use of the region's current cricket grounds.
20. Continue to make space available at multi-use field sites for Softball/T-ball, Touch and Sevens where demand exists. Do not invest in single use field sites for these codes.



Rugby League at Cobden Sports, Jellyman Park

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

7.7 Specialised Indoor Sports Overview

The majority of participation occurs in multi-use community hall style facilities. There is no overarching national direction specific to community halls. However, key trends in facility provision that are generally relevant to these codes include:

- Increasing emphasis on multi-use facilities
- Flexible spaces that can be modified for different uses (e.g. with moveable divider walls).
- Hubs or co-locations with other codes to increase sustainability.

Some specialized indoor codes have clear national direction in place, this information is provided under the specific code headings below.

Specialised Indoor Sports Network

The majority of specialized indoor sports participation in the region occurs in multi-use community halls, school halls or church halls although some codes do have more fit-for-purpose, single use facilities e.g. gym/fitness/weightlifting.

Dance

12 facilities were identified as providing for various dance opportunities across the region. These included five school halls, three churches, two theatre venues and two community halls. The theatre venues in Buller and Greymouth were identified as being suitable for hosting regional competitions. All other facilities provide for local use only.

Reported issues were a lack of specialized equipment such as mirrors and floor surfaces not being fit-for-purpose.

Table 7.7.1: Dance Halls

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF HALLS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME NBS Theatre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Regional	1	Movie theatre and live events centre. 360 permanent seating and large stage, hosts annual week long regional dance competition.
FACILITY NAME Regent Theatre					
Grey	Greymouth	West Coast Theatre Trust	Regional	1	Large theatre with 460 permanent seating/ 870 capacity. Large floor space and stage. Hosts annual week long regional dance competition.
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Hall & Grounds					
Buller	Ngakawau	Buller District Council	Local	1	Community Hall situated at Ngakawau Domain grounds servicing variety of community groups including dance.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school hall available for sport and community use.
FACILITY NAME Westport South School					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school hall used by private dance group for regular training.
FACILITY NAME Phelan Hall					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	Multi-use hall available for community use.
FACILITY NAME Dobson Community Hall and Sport fields					
Grey	Dobson	Grey District Council	Local	1	Ageing community hall used by community groups, gymnastics, dance, league.
FACILITY NAME Paparua School					
Grey	Dobson	MoE	Local	1	School only multi-purpose indoor space with no specialised equipment eg. mirrors or specific flooring.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use school Hall available of sports and community use.
FACILITY NAME Holy Trinity Hall					
Grey	Greymouth	Anglican Church	Local	1	Multi-use hall available for community use including a private dance group. Large wooden floor space and small stage.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	MoE	Local	1	Classrooms
FACILITY NAME St Andrews Church Hall					
Westland	Hokitika	Presbyterian Church	Local	1	Multi-use hall available for community use.

Gym/fitness/weightlifting

Nine facilities across the region provide for gym/fitness/weightlifting. 44% of these facilities are owned by private business owners, 22% by schools and the remainder are provided by Councils or a Council Holding Company. Each District has one privately owned, 24 hour gym/fitness facility available. Each District also has one Council provided venue. If the school facilities are not counted the access to gym/fitness/weightlifting facilities equates to one venue per 4,592 people.

Only the Westland Recreation Centre specifically identified as providing for weightlifting but it is known that most of the (non-school) facilities provide some level of weightlifting opportunity (for training purposes). The Powerhouse Fitness Centre in Buller specifically identified as providing for boxing training.

Table 7.7.2: Gym/fitness/weightlifting

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF GYMS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Regional	2	25m x 8 lane modern regulation pool, covered and heated as part of rec centre. A separate recreation / hydrotherapy pool is also provided along with tiered seating. Home of Westport swim club, learn to swim and aqua fitness classes.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Regional	2	Part of Westland Recreation Centre. Indoor heated pools. 1 x 25m laned pool, 1 combined pool with children's play pool, 2 hydro-slides, 1 sauna, 1 spa. 1 childrens' dry play area, 1 outdoor playground, 1 BBQ area, 1 swim club room, 1 meeting room. 6 change-rooms including 4 family rooms. Tiered poolside seating.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Swimming Pool					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Sub regional/ District	2	Public 33 yard, 8 lane pool, tapered depth, covered, heated, tiered seating, small children's pool attached to laned pool, change-rooms. Home of Hokitika Swim Club and aqua classes.
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Swimming Pool/ Hector					
Buller	Ngakawau	Hector Community Board	Local	1	33yard pool, used by the local community and Granity primary school. Uncovered, non-heated. Open Dec-March annually. Manned by volunteers. Open 1-4pm school holidays & weekends. 3.30-5.30pm week days. Maintained by a community group.
FACILITY NAME Karamea Area School					
Buller	Karamea	MoE	Local	1	School pool and available to community by key-access.
FACILITY NAME Maruia School					
Buller	Maruia	MoE	Local	1	School pool and available to community by key-access.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	School	Local	1	School pool only, imperial measurements. non heated.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Community Pool					
Buller	Reefton	Buller Dist Council	Local	1	33 yard x 5 lane covered community pool. Heated. open Oct- Apr annually.

Gymsports

Six facilities identified as providing for gymnastics at a local level. Only one of which was identified as a gymnastics specific venue with permanent equipment set up. There are two gymnastics clubs affiliated with Gymnastics NZ operating in the region. The majority of other gymnastics participation is school based.

Reported issues included limited equipment, limited storage space, the need to pack up equipment for other users in shared facilities and no spectator space in some facilities.

There are some delivery challenges for Gymsports in the region with most delivery out of shared, not-fit-for purpose facilities. Facility limitations means that some disciplines or equipment cannot be provided due to issues such as ceiling height, structural beam strength (equipment cannot be attached) and lack of storage for large equipment in shared facilities. The need to set up and pack up equipment for each session places pressure on volunteers and participants.

Stakeholder workshops identified some desire for access to fit-for-purpose gymnastics facilities where equipment can be permanently set up. There is also a desire to have facilities that can support boys' gymnastics equipment such as rings and bars.

When the Westland Recreation Centre was developed providing a home for gymnastics was considered. The feasibility study at the time determined that "Given the limitations of the footprint governed by the available land, the size of the space required, likely cost and the nature of single code usage, the development of a third court space for gymnastics is proposed not to be viable"⁴⁹. It was noted that the two court stadium could provide a venue for one-off gymnastics competitions.

The direction in the Gymsports New Zealand National Facilities Strategy relevant to the West Coast includes:

- Population driven membership growth is not expected (in the West Coast region).
- In areas where the population is projected to decline, clubs will need to make sure they do not take on facilities that are unsustainable for them to maintain in the longer term.
- Clubs will need to generate higher levels of participation or new models of activity to sustain club activities and facility use.
- In general terms, less than 2.5m² per member indicates capacity pressure and less than 1m² per member indicates extreme capacity pressure.
- The West Coast clubs were assessed as Greymouth 2.3m² per member and Hokitika 1.7m² per member. Indicating some capacity pressure currently exists.
- The West Coast requires the retention of a viable network of community facilities to support delivery.
- No need for a Regional or Sub-regional level Gymsports facility was identified for the West Coast region.

⁴⁹ The Miners Recreation Centre Greymouth, New Zealand Feasibility Study 2012, Gurden Consulting Ltd, pg. 8

Table 7.7.3: Gymsports Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School				
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	School based gymnastics only.
FACILITY NAME Westport Trotting Club				
Buller	Westport	Westport Trotting Club	Local	Buller Gymnastic Club operating out of Trotting Clubrooms at Paterson Park, Westport.
FACILITY NAME Dobson Community Hall and Sports Fields (Greymouth Gymnastics Club)				
Grey	Dobson	Dobson Community Board	Local	Multi-use, older style hall with small, stage, kitchen, toilets. Limited storage. Home of Greymouth Gymnastic Club & Brunner Rugby League. Considered too small for gymnastics club due to limited storage and no spectator space. Equipment is required to be packed up when hall hired out for other events.
FACILITY NAME John Paul II (Formerly Civic Centre)				
Grey	Greymouth	Catholic Church	Local	School gymnasium that hosts annual regional junior gymnastics competition. Gym adapted to meet equipment set-up and wall mounted apparatus in place. Mezzanine floor spectator seating available.
FACILITY NAME Runanga School				
Grey	Runanga	MoE	Local	School based programme in multi-use classroom space.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Gymnastics				
Westland	Hokitika	Private Hamilton St Building	Local	No information provided.

Indoor Bowls

Nine facilities identify as providing for indoor bowls. All are multi-use venues including chartered club venues and school, church or community halls. Each District has access to two or more facilities that can provide for indoor bowls. It should also be noted that the main indoor court facilities were not noted as providing for indoor bowls, but all can do so, particularly for one-off competitions.

Limited feedback was provided, the only reported issues were a lack of storage and one site being at risk of coastal erosion.

Table 7.7.4: Indoor Bowls Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF HALLS/CLUBS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	2	Multi-use School Hall - wooden floor.
FACILITY NAME Phelan Hall					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	Multi-use Church Hall. Club currently in recess.
FACILITY NAME Carters Beach Hall					
Buller	Carters Beach	Domain Board	Local	1	Multi-use community hall. Hall at risk from coastal erosion.
FACILITY NAME Club Buller					
Buller	Westport	Club Buller	Local	1	Muti-use space at Working-mens club.
FACILITY NAME Grey Main School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use School Hall used by Greymouth Indoor bowls club. Limited storage. Floor restoration 2016.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use School Hall - wooden floor
FACILITY NAME Runanga Workingmans Club					
Grey	Runanga	Runanga Workingmen's Club	Local	1	Multi-use space at working-mens club.
FACILITY NAME All Saints Church Hall					
Westland	Hokitika	Anglican Church	Local	1	Multi-use church hall. Built 1936 - restoration project 2017.
FACILITY NAME Ross Community Hall					
Westland	Ross	Westland District Council	Local	1	Multi-use community hall.

Indoor Bowls

Photo Credit: <http://www.wccomtrust.org.nz/about-us/>

Indoor Cricket

Two venues in the West Coast region are identified as providing for indoor cricket, one in Buller and one in Greymouth. Stakeholder feedback and participation levels indicate that this is an adequate level of supply. It is important that these sites are retained and maintained.

Table 7.7.5: Indoor Cricket Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Railway Goods Sheds					
Buller	Westport	Kiwi Rail	Local	1	2 Lanes with artificial mat surface, building condition average, short-term lease only is a risk.
FACILITY NAME John Paul II (formerly Civic Centre)					
Grey	Greymouth	Catholic Church	Local	1	John Paul II High School gym, over 50 years old. Nets over 20 years old require replacement, lighting adequate only but meet needs currently.

Pilates/Yoga

19 facilities were identified as providing for pilates/yoga in the region. Each District has access to six or seven venues, the majority of which are older, multi-use facilities. Each District also has one more modern, fit-for-purpose fitness class space available for pilates/yoga. The only noted issue was noise from other activities in multi-use venues.

Table 7.7.6: Pilates/Yoga Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF SPACES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Hall & Grounds					
Buller	Ngakawau	Buller District Council		1	Old multi-purpose community hall.
FACILITY NAME Phelan Hall (Westport)					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	Delivered at the multi-use church hall.
FACILITY NAME North School Hall (Westport)					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	Delivered at multi-purpose school hall.
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Local	1	Delivered in modern activity/class space at Centre.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Hospital					
Buller	Reefton	DHB	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at hospital.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Workingmans Club					
Buller	Reefton	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at the club.

Table 7.7.6: Pilates/Yoga Facilities CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF SPACES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Hospital					
Buller	Reefton	DHB	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at hospital.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Workingmans Club					
Buller	Reefton	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at the club.
FACILITY NAME Westport Bridge Club					
Buller	Westport	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at Westport Bridge Club.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	Delivered in modern, carpeted, multi-purpose activity room.
FACILITY NAME Cobden Fire Station					
Grey	Greymouth	Govt Fire Service	Local	1	Delivered in multi-purpose space at fire station.
FACILITY NAME Runanga Workingmans Club					
Grey	Runanga	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-purpose space at club.
FACILITY NAME Holy Trinity Church (Greymouth)					
Grey	Greymouth	Church	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at Church.
FACILITY NAME Blaketown Band Rooms					
Grey	Greymouth	Band group	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at hall.
FACILITY NAME Uniting Church (Greymouth)					
Grey	Greymouth	Church	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at church.
FACILITY NAME Bodyworx Gym					
Westland	Hokitika	Private	Local	1	Delivered in activity class space at gymnasium.
FACILITY NAME Boys Brigade Hall (Hokitika)					
Westland	Hokitika	Boys Brigade	Local	1	Delivered in activity space at the hall.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sports Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Westland District Council	Local	1	Delivered at the sports complex.
FACILITY NAME Okarito					
Westland	Okarito	Donovans Store	Local	1	No information provided.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Health Centre					
Westland	Hokitika	DHB	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at centre.
FACILITY NAME Ross Squash Club					
Westland	Ross	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at squash club.

Martial Arts

Eight facilities provide for a range of martial arts across the region including Judo, Kung Fu, Tai Chi, Jujitsu and Seido Karate. 50% of facilities are school owned, one is shared use of a rugby league clubrooms and the remainder appear to be private / exclusive use facilities for martial arts (although limited information was provided).

Table 7.7.7: Martial Art Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF SPACES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Granity Judo					
Buller	Granity	Granity Judo Club	Local	1	Old hall.
FACILITY NAME Arthur Fong Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Private	Local	1	Greymouth Judo Club operate in this small hall based at Arthur Fong Park.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth High School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Old School Gym shared space. Chans Martial Arts run Kung Fu & Tai Chi in this space Tuesday/Thursdays 6.30-8.30pm.
FACILITY NAME Grey Main School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Tai Chi classes run on Sundays in the shared school hall space.
FACILITY NAME John Paul II (formerly the Civic Centre)					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	No information provided.
FACILITY NAME Marist Rugby League Ckubrooms					
Grey	Greymouth	Marist Rugby League Club	Local	1	United Jujitsu club run out of this small hall space adjacent to the Westland Rec Centre.
FACILITY NAME The Dojo					
Westland	Hokitika	Unknown	Local	1	Seido Karate operating from this facility.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	Westland District Council	Local	1	No information provided.

Squash

Eight squash facilities with a total of 12 courts are provided in the region, with two facilities in Grey District, four in Westland and two in Buller. 66% are owned by squash clubs, the remainder are owned by Councils or no details were provided. The Greymouth Squash Club and the Westport Squash/Tennis Centre are both multi-court facilities considered to meet regional standards.

The facilities range in age from approximately 5 years to up to 50 years old. No specific facility issues were reported. Of note, 83% of squash facilities in the region are currently shared with another sports club or are provided as part of a multi-use community venue.

Nationally, direction regarding Squash facilities relevant to the west Coast includes:

- Nationally provision is generally considered to be adequate with very few facilities operating at or near capacity.
- The majority of facilities are aging, some reaching the end of their economic lives and becoming unviable.
- Planning and investment should be directed towards improving existing facility condition, use and access.

Table 7.7.8: Squash Courts

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Greymouth Squash Courts					
Grey	Greymouth	Greymouth Squash Club Inc.	Regional	3	3 glass backed courts, bar and sauna. Mezzanine viewing area. Share clubroom facility with local Harrier Club.
FACILITY NAME Westport Squash/Tennis Club					
Buller	Westport	WTSC (club)	Regional	2	2 court facility with upstairs viewing area and social facilities.
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Local	1	1 glass back court with sprung timber floor. Available to pay-to-use customers. Situated at the Pulse Energy Centre. A second court space is currently used as a fitness area.
FACILITY NAME Grey Valley Squash Club					
Ahaura	Grey	Unknown	Local	1	1 court.
FACILITY NAME Kokatahi Hall					
Westland	Kokatahi	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 court with small mezzanine viewing.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Squash Club					
Westland	Hokitika	Club	Local	2	2 glass backed courts. Mezzanine viewing area. Clubrooms shared with Hokitika Tennis club.
FACILITY NAME Ross Squash Club					
Westland	Ross	Club	Local	1	1 court.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sports Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 court.

Specialised Indoor Sports Participation Trends

National participation trends show a strong trend towards individual participation (e.g. demand for equipment-based exercise) and also group fitness type classes including dance, pilates/yoga. Note: there is also a trend towards outdoor, casual recreation activities such as walking and cycling. Considering these national trends and demographic projections for the West Coast region, there is likely to be continued, and possibly growing demand for access to specialized indoor facilities that cater to individual and equipment- based exercise options.

Many specialized indoor codes can operate effectively in shared use facilities (e.g community halls). National trends towards multiuse facilities, partnerships and hubs with other codes (including both indoor and outdoor facilities at one site) are also relevant when planning future facility provision for these codes.

Local Participation

Limited stakeholder feedback was provided on expected changes in local participation. Greymouth Squash and Buller Indoor Cricket indicated an expectation for their membership to stay the same (less than 5% increase or decrease).

Nationally, the key participation age group for Gymsports is 5 - 15 years. The Gymsports National Facilities Strategy (2017) identifies that there was significant growth in Gymsports membership in the West Coast region between 2012-2016 (142% increase to 337 total members. However, the Region is projected to have a decline in population for those aged 0-14 years (-19%) by 2043. This is expected to impact gymsports participation levels “purely utilising population trends, membership projections for the West Coast region indicate a 7.3% decrease from 2016-2043, with a decrease of around 25 members”.⁵⁰

Facility Issues

The main reported facility issues were facilities not being fit-for-purpose, e.g. lack of specialized equipment (I.e. mirrors for dance, unsuitable floor surfaces) and a lack of storage for equipment in shared facilities. A lack of spectator space was identified in some facilities and the overall age of the majority of facilities contributes to a lack of comfort when using (e.g. cold, unsuitable surfaces). Gymsports noted that most facility related issues usually related to shared use of facilities.

⁵⁰ Gymsports National Facilities Strategy (2017)

Our Proposed Approach

1. Continue to support and maintain a network of multi-use community halls catering to a wide range of indoor specialised sports where sufficient demand/use levels exist. This should include ongoing maintenance and minor facility upgrades (e.g. floor surface, mirrors etc) to enhance suitability for users.
2. Ensure the needs of a broad range of sport and recreation groups are considered in planning for a community facility in Punakaiki. Any future facility needs to be designed to meet the needs of an aging population, be flexible for multiple uses and future proofed to allow for changes in use that will evolve over time.
3. Prior to any major facility renewals or upgrades (including earthquake strengthening), undertake a needs and options assessment with a focus on increasing partnerships (e.g. with schools or shared sports hubs that may include indoor and outdoor codes) to maximise the return on investment.
4. Maintain the existing Greymouth Squash (& Harriers) Club as a key regional facility for Squash. This will require prioritising investment in earthquake strengthening and roof renewal along with a programme of ongoing maintenance to ensure the building and three courts remain at a high standard.
5. Maintain the Westport Squash/Tennis Club as the regional squash facility for Buller.
6. Maintain the existing indoor cricket facilities in the region, with investment in minor equipment and facility enhancements as required. If the lease is not able to be renewed on the Buller Indoor Cricket site, assess the demand at the time and investigate alternative delivery options such as partnerships with another code or schools.
7. Review and monitor the membership and sustainability of the current community Gymsports facilities.
8. If Gymsport participation numbers increase significantly, investigate partnership opportunities for a dedicated, fit-for-purpose facility, to serve the entire region. If demand exists, the location of such a facility should be where it can best serve the majority of the regional population (likely Greymouth or Hokitika). This should include consideration of combining the Greymouth and Hokitika Clubs into one facility and possibly other compatible codes (e.g. martial arts, dance). If partnership opportunities exist undertake a detailed needs and options assessment to ascertain levels of demand and financial sustainability before investing in a stand-alone, fit-for-purpose facility. Ensure this assessment is informed by the National Gymsports Facility Guide – Community Facility specifications⁵¹.

⁵¹ The national facilities strategy for Gymsports does not identify a sub-regional hierarchy facility is required on the West Coast.

7.8 Outdoor Specialised Surface Sports Overview

There is no over-arching strategic direction at a national level relevant to the provision of outdoor specialised codes. However, some consistent themes across the different codes include:

- More focus on partnerships.
- Consideration of mergers to increase membership numbers and improve facility sustainability (at the remaining club/facility).
- Asset management planning and regular maintenance is important.
- Consideration of sports hubs, sharing facilities with other codes to improve sustainability.

Four of the sports included in this section have national facility strategies that provide some direction relevant to the West Coast.

Outdoor Specialised Surface Sports Network

The majority of the outdoor specialised sports facilities in the region are owned by clubs, with Council being the next most common provider (either of the underlying land or land and facilities). Overall, there is significantly less reliance on schools to provide these types of facilities compared to other facility types.



Bowls – outdoor

Ten bowling club facilities operate in the region, providing 11 greens. 70% are club owned facilities with the remainder on Council or Department of Conservation land. Five of the ten bowling clubs are located in the Grey District with Buller also having 4 clubs (There is also one club in Murchison in the adjacent Tasman region). Westland is only served by one District club, located in Hokitika. The greens have recently been upgraded at the Westland Returned Soldiers Bowling Club.

Note: of these 10 clubs two are in or facing recession. The Reefton club is currently in 'recession' as it is not a member of Bowls Buller and not used for competition, but it is known that casual "roll up" play is still occurring at the club. The Greymouth Bowling Club is due to go into recession due to declining and aging membership.

Reported facility-based issues included some grounds being susceptible to flooding. Other reported issues were low and declining membership, difficulties getting new members and being reliant on grant funding to survive.

Some desire for a covered, artificial green bowls facility was expressed by stakeholders who see it would address weather restrictions and provide preparation for players who are competitive enough to participate in NZ or regional events.

The national Bowls strategy guidelines indicate that some club rationalisation is required on the West Coast as follows:

- Bowls venues should preferably serve a population of 18,000, a catchment of 3km and an average membership of 187. However, an exception is made for single community clubs.
- The West Coast region has 7 currently active clubs, including 3 single community clubs which are excluded from rationalisation. Under these guidelines the remaining 4 club venues should be reduced to 2.
- Bowls needs to adopt a more partnership-oriented facility use model to facilitate efficient use of resources, including the rationalisation of venues and consider involvement in shared-use venues (e.g. 'sportvilles').
- Compared with other NZ regions, The West Coast was similar with more play-for-play-participants (357) relative to club member numbers (200).

Table 7.8.1: Outdoor Bowling Greens

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF GREENS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Westport Returned Soldiers Bowling Club Inc					
Buller	Westport	Westport Returned Soldiers Bowling Club	Regional	2	2 greens and clubrooms. Recent upgrade to the greens completed.
FACILITY NAME Karoro Bowling Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 green providing 8 well maintained bowling rinks, clubrooms and venue space hired to community groups. Green susceptible to flooding.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Bowling Club					
Buller	Reefton	Reefton Bowling Club	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 green and clubrooms. Club currently in recess, used for casual play only.
FACILITY NAME Westport Bowling Club					
Buller	Westport	Westport Bowling Club	Sub-regional/ District	1	1 green and clubrooms. Club currently in recess, used for casual play only.
FACILITY NAME Karamea Bowling Club					
Buller	Karamea	Karamea Bowling Club	Local	1	1 green and clubrooms adjacent to tennis courts and Karamea Area School.
FACILITY NAME Blaketown Bowling Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	1 green providing 7 well maintained rinks and clubrooms. Grounds susceptible to flooding.
FACILITY NAME Cobden Bowling Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Cobden Bowling Club	Local	1	No information provided.
FACILITY NAME Dobson Bowling Club					
Grey	Dobson	Department of Conservation	Local	1	1 green providing 6 well maintained bowling rinks.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth Bowling Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Greymouth Bowling Club	Local	0	Based at Greymouth RSA. Due to go into recession because of dropping and ageing membership.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Bowling Club					
Westland	Hokitika	Hokitika Bowling Club	Local	1	1 green providing 6 well maintained bowling rinks.

Croquet

There are two facilities providing six croquet lawns for the region. Buller and Grey Districts each have a single club. There are two dis-used croquet clubs in the region, one in Reefton and one in Hokitika. Westland does not have an operational facility.

The playing lawns are reported to be in excellent condition and both clubs have clubroom facilities on site. Croquet West Coast anticipate a 25% increase in player numbers in coming years and believe the region might benefit from re-establishment of the currently dis-used sites although they note no due diligence has been done on this.

Croquet New Zealand is currently undertaking research and development on playing equipment suited to synthetic turf installations, primarily for the expansion of our Secondary Schools program. Opportunities may exist where new synthetic turf installations in schools occur in future.

Table 7.8.2: Croquet Greens

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF GREENS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Rangimarie Croquet Club					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Sub-regional/District	3	3 playing greens in good condition, clubroom facilities on site.
FACILITY NAME Makura Croquet Club					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Sub-regional/District	3	3 playing greens in excellent condition. Reconstructed in conjunction with Westland Rec Centre build, reopened for use in October 2017. Old clubrooms on site.

Indoor Bowls

Nine facilities identify as providing for indoor bowls. All are multi-use venues including chartered club venues and school, church or community halls. Each District has access to two or more facilities that can provide for indoor bowls. It should also be noted that the main indoor court facilities were not noted as providing for indoor bowls, but all can do so, particularly for one-off competitions.

Limited feedback was provided, the only reported issues were a lack of storage and one site being at risk of coastal erosion.

Table 7.7.4: Indoor Bowls Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF HALLS/CLUBS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Area School					
Buller	Reefton	MoE	Local	2	Multi-use School Hall - wooden floor.
FACILITY NAME Phelan Hall					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	Multi-use Church Hall. Club currently in recess.
FACILITY NAME Carters Beach Hall					
Buller	Carters Beach	Domain Board	Local	1	Multi-use community hall. Hall at risk from coastal erosion.
FACILITY NAME Club Buller					
Buller	Westport	Club Buller	Local	1	Muti-use space at Working-mens club.
FACILITY NAME Grey Main School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use School Hall used by Greymouth Indoor bowls club. Limited storage. Floor restoration 2016.
FACILITY NAME Paroa School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Multi-use School Hall - wooden floor
FACILITY NAME Runanga Workingmans Club					
Grey	Runanga	Runanga Workingmen's Club	Local	1	Multi-use space at working-mens club.
FACILITY NAME All Saints Church Hall					
Westland	Hokitika	Anglican Church	Local	1	Multi-use church hall. Built 1936 - restoration project 2017.
FACILITY NAME Ross Community Hall					
Westland	Ross	Westland District Council	Local	1	Multi-use community hall.

Indoor Cricket

Two venues in the West Coast region are identified as providing for indoor cricket, one in Buller and one in Greymouth. Stakeholder feedback and participation levels indicate that this is an adequate level of supply. It is important that these sites are retained and maintained.

Table 7.7.5: Indoor Cricket Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Railway Goods Sheds					
Buller	Westport	Kiwi Rail	Local	1	2 Lanes with artificial mat surface, building condition average, short-term lease only is a risk.
FACILITY NAME John Paul II (formerly Civic Centre)					
Grey	Greymouth	Catholic Church	Local	1	John Paul II High School gym, over 50 years old. Nets over 20 years old require replacement, lighting adequate only but meet needs currently.

Pilates/Yoga

19 facilities were identified as providing for pilates/yoga in the region. Each District has access to six or seven venues, the majority of which are older, multi-use facilities. Each District also has one more modern, fit-for-purpose fitness class space available for pilates/yoga. The only noted issue was noise from other activities in multi-use venues.

Table 7.7.6: Pilates/Yoga Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF SPACES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Ngakawau Hall & Grounds					
Buller	Ngakawau	Buller District Council		1	Old multi-purpose community hall.
FACILITY NAME Phelan Hall (Westport)					
Buller	Westport	Catholic Church	Local	1	Delivered at the multi-use church hall.
FACILITY NAME North School Hall (Westport)					
Buller	Westport	MoE	Local	1	Delivered at multi-purpose school hall.
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Local	1	Delivered in modern activity/class space at Centre.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Hospital					
Buller	Reefton	DHB	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at hospital.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Workingmans Club					
Buller	Reefton	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at the club.

Table 7.7.6: Pilates/Yoga Facilities CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF SPACES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Reefton Hospital					
Buller	Reefton	DHB	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at hospital.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Workingmans Club					
Buller	Reefton	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at the club.
FACILITY NAME Westport Bridge Club					
Buller	Westport	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at Westport Bridge Club.
FACILITY NAME Westland Recreation Centre					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	Local	1	Delivered in modern, carpeted, multi-purpose activity room.
FACILITY NAME Cobden Fire Station					
Grey	Greymouth	Govt Fire Service	Local	1	Delivered in multi-purpose space at fire station.
FACILITY NAME Runanga Workingmans Club					
Grey	Runanga	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-purpose space at club.
FACILITY NAME Holy Trinity Church (Greymouth)					
Grey	Greymouth	Church	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at Church.
FACILITY NAME Blaketown Band Rooms					
Grey	Greymouth	Band group	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at hall.
FACILITY NAME Uniting Church (Greymouth)					
Grey	Greymouth	Church	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at church.
FACILITY NAME Bodyworx Gym					
Westland	Hokitika	Private	Local	1	Delivered in activity class space at gymnasium.
FACILITY NAME Boys Brigade Hall (Hokitika)					
Westland	Hokitika	Boys Brigade	Local	1	Delivered in activity space at the hall.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sports Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Westland District Council	Local	1	Delivered at the sports complex.
FACILITY NAME Okarito					
Westland	Okarito	Donovans Store	Local	1	No information provided.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Health Centre					
Westland	Hokitika	DHB	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at centre.
FACILITY NAME Ross Squash Club					
Westland	Ross	Club	Local	1	Delivered in multi-use space at squash club.

Martial Arts

Eight facilities provide for a range of martial arts across the region including Judo, Kung Fu, Tai Chi, Jujitsu and Seido Karate. 50% of facilities are school owned, one is shared use of a rugby league clubrooms and the remainder appear to be private / exclusive use facilities for martial arts (although limited information was provided).

Table 7.7.7: Martial Art Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF SPACES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Granity Judo					
Buller	Granity	Granity Judo Club	Local	1	Old hall.
FACILITY NAME Arthur Fong Park					
Grey	Greymouth	Private	Local	1	Greymouth Judo Club operate in this small hall based at Arthur Fong Park.
FACILITY NAME Greymouth High School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Old School Gym shared space. Chans Martial Arts run Kung Fu & Tai Chi in this space Tuesday/Thursdays 6.30-8.30pm.
FACILITY NAME Grey Main School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Tai Chi classes run on Sundays in the shared school hall space.
FACILITY NAME John Paul II (formerly the Civic Centre)					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	No information provided.
FACILITY NAME Marist Rugby League Ckubrooms					
Grey	Greymouth	Marist Rugby League Club	Local	1	United Jujitsu club run out of this small hall space adjacent to the Westland Rec Centre.
FACILITY NAME The Dojo					
Westland	Hokitika	Unknown	Local	1	Seido Karate operating from this facility.
FACILITY NAME Ross School					
Westland	Ross	Westland District Council	Local	1	No information provided.

Squash

Eight squash facilities with a total of 12 courts are provided in the region, with two facilities in Grey District, four in Westland and two in Buller. 66% are owned by squash clubs, the remainder are owned by Councils or no details were provided. The Greymouth Squash Club and the Westport Squash/Tennis Centre are both multi-court facilities considered to meet regional standards.

The facilities range in age from approximately 5 years to up to 50 years old. No specific facility issues were reported. Of note, 83% of squash facilities in the region are currently shared with another sports club or are provided as part of a multi-use community venue.

Nationally, direction regarding Squash facilities relevant to the West Coast includes:

- Nationally provision is generally considered to be adequate with very few facilities operating at or near capacity.
- The majority of facilities are aging, some reaching the end of their economic lives and becoming unviable.
- Planning and investment should be directed towards improving existing facility condition, use and access.

Table 7.7.8: Squash Courts

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF COURTS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Greymouth Squash Courts					
Grey	Greymouth	Greymouth Squash Club Inc.	Regional	3	3 glass backed courts, bar and sauna. Mezzanine viewing area. Share clubroom facility with local Harrier Club.
FACILITY NAME Westport Squash/Tennis Club					
Buller	Westport	WTSC (club)	Regional	2	2 court facility with upstairs viewing area and social facilities.
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	Local	1	1 glass back court with sprung timber floor. Available to pay-to-use customers. Situated at the Pulse Energy Centre. A second court space is currently used as a fitness area.
FACILITY NAME Grey Valley Squash Club					
Ahaura	Grey	Unknown	Local	1	1 court.
FACILITY NAME Kokatahi Hall					
Westland	Kokatahi	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 court with small mezzanine viewing.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Squash Club					
Westland	Hokitika	Club	Local	2	2 glass backed courts. Mezzanine viewing area. Clubrooms shared with Hokitika Tennis club.
FACILITY NAME Ross Squash Club					
Westland	Ross	Club	Local	1	1 court.
FACILITY NAME Franz Josef Sports Centre					
Westland	Franz Josef	Westland District Council	Local	1	1 court.

Equestrian

Eight Equestrian/Horse riding facilities are identified in the region. These provide for a range of activities from racecourse environments to Riding for the Disabled and pony club activities. Four of the five racecourses are identified to be retained in the 2019 NZ Horse Racing Review. The South Westland Area School do not currently use their equestrian space but have plans to offer equestrian education opportunities in future.

Table 7.8.3: Equestrian

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FACILITIES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME South Beach					
Grey	Greymouth	Greymouth Pony Club	Sub Regional	1	Pony club grounds include show-jumps and dressage area. Clubrooms and public toilets built to provide amenities to the bordering West Coast Wilderness Trail through financial support from the Grey District Council.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Race Course					
Buller	Reefton	Reefton Jockey Club	Local	1	Reefton survived the 2019 NZ Horse Racing Review. They race 3 times annually at the track. Ageing facilities include Grandstand, Stables, tote and outbuildings. It is also home to the Reefton Rugby club who has fields on the inside of the race track.
FACILITY NAME Westport Race Course					
Buller	Westport	Westport Trotting Club	Local	1	Westport Trotting survived the 2019 NZ Horse Racing Review. They race 3 times annually at the track. Ageing facilities include grandstand, stables, tote facilities and clubrooms. The park caters for Rugby inside the racing track, gymnastics club operate with-in the clubrooms space throughout the year, Westport Rugby clubrooms are also on the park. They host annual events such A&P show, also an event venue for wedding receptions and other functions.
FACILITY NAME Omoto Race Course					
Grey	Omoto	Greymouth Jockey Club	Local	1	Greymouth Jockey Club survived the 2019 NZ Horse Racing Review. They race once annually at the track. Ageing facilities include Grandstand, stables, tote facilities and clubrooms. The track is susceptible to heavy rain making it un-usable at times. This space hosts other events like the annual Gypsy Fair and Greymouth Harriers Omoto Steeple chase.
FACILITY NAME Kokatahi Pony Club					
Westland	Kokatahi	Unknown	Local	1	Jumping & dressage area with small club room and storage space. Situated adjacent to Kokatahi Community Hall.
FACILITY NAME South Westland Area School					
Westland	Harihari	Moe	Local	1	This space is not currently used but is maintained by the South Westland Area School who have plans to attract equestrian education opportunities at the school.

Table 7.8.3: Equestrian CONTINUED

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FACILITIES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Riding for The Disabled					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland District Council	Local	1	Riding area for disabled people, dressage area and access ramps. Situated at the Westland Race Course
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Racecourse					
Westland	Hokitika	Westland Racing Club	Local	1	Hokitika Race Course has just been made redundant under the 2019 NZ Horse Racing Review. Facilities include grandstand, stables, tote and out buildings. It also has Hokitika Boys Brigade Hall and Riding for Disabled situated on site.
FACILITY NAME Kumara Race Course					
Westland	Kumara	Kumara Racing Club	Local	1	Kumara racing Club survived the 2019 NZ Horse Racing review and will continue to race twice annually. Ageing facilities include Grandstand, stables and tote and clubrooms. The track is often susceptible to heavy rain making it un-usable at times. Good off road parking. Hosts other events eg. WC School x-country champs, Coast2Coast start formalities and competitor camping.



Kumara Race Course

Photo Credit Jack O'Connor

Golf

Eight Equestrian/Horse riding facilities are identified in the region. These provide for a range of activities. Six golf courses operate across region with one in Grey, three in Buller and two in Westland. 50% of the courses are 18-hole courses, with two 9-hole courses and one 12-hole course.

Reported facility-based issues include grounds becoming wet after prolonged rain in Greymouth and the Westport Golf Club being possibly susceptible to coastal erosion.

The National Golf Facility Strategy identifies that:

- The West Coast region (as a portion of the Tasman Region) is the region with the lowest population to golf facility ratio in NZ (1:1,846). Compared with other regions it had the highest supply of courses (on a population basis).
- The strategy identified that while the Tasman region only has a rural population of 4%, 69% of its golf courses are in rural areas. This region has a very rural-biased golf network.
- Utilisation of golf facilities is slightly lower in the Tasman region (9%) than NZ overall (13%), ranging from 1% to 22% at different clubs.
- Average annual membership fees are lower (\$523) than for NZ overall (\$635). And net revenue per round was below average at -\$4.11 compared with \$4.65 for New Zealand overall.
- The strategy recommends more use of mergers and community sports hub partnerships to increase sustainability in the more rural and/or over-supplied areas.
- A hierarchy approach means some of these could be targeted as more differentiated courses, ranging from entry-level through to advanced-level or tourist courses.

Table 7.8.4: Golf Courses

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FACILITIES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Greymouth Golf Club					
Grey	Omoto	Greymouth Golf Club	Sub-regional/ District	1	18 hole golf course with 2 story clubrooms including change-rooms, toilets, bar, kitchen and social space. Grounds can become wet after prolonged wet weather.
FACILITY NAME Hokitika Golf Course					
Westland	Hokitika	Hokitika Golf Club	Sub-regional/ District	1	18 hole links course and full clubroom and bar facilities.
FACILITY NAME Westport Golf Club					
Buller	Carters Beach	Westport Golf Club	Sub-regional/ District	1	18 hole links course and full clubrooms facilities that are available for event hire. Potentially susceptible to coastal erosion along Carters Beach foreshore.
FACILITY NAME Reefton Golf Course					
Buller	Reefton	Reefton Golf Club	Local	1	12 hole golf course with clubrooms and bar facilities.
FACILITY NAME Karamea Golf Course					
Buller	Karamea	Karamea Golf Club	Local	1	9 hole links course with clubrooms.
FACILITY NAME Whataroa Golf Course					
Westland	Whataroa	Westland District Council	Local	1	9 hole course with clubrooms.

Hockey

Three hockey venues are identified in the region. One is a school owned multi-use courtyard suitable for training only. Both Buller District and Grey District have a regional standard artificial turf.

No facility based issues were identified in Buller and the Association expect a decline in participation in coming years. However, nationally Hockey experienced 17% growth between 2010 and 2015⁵², so a sustained level of membership might be reasonable to expect in Buller in the short-medium term. Longer term the projected aging and declining population supports a likely decline in participation.

- The West Coast region (as a portion of the Tasman Region) is the region with the lowest population to golf facility ratio in NZ (1:1,846). Compared with other regions it had the highest supply of courses (on a population basis).
- The strategy identified that while the Tasman region only has a rural population of 4%, 69% of its golf courses are in rural areas. This region has a very rural-biased golf network.
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- Average annual membership fees are lower (\$523) than for NZ overall (\$635). And net revenue per round was below average at -\$4.11 compared with \$4.65 for New Zealand overall.
- The strategy recommends more use of mergers and community sports hub partnerships to increase sustainability in the more rural and/or over-supplied areas.
- A hierarchy approach means some of these could be targeted as more differentiated courses, ranging from entry-level through to advanced-level or tourist courses.

It was reported that the Westturf Stadium does not have any social facilities and could benefit from improved viewing, storage, social facilities. Currently shower and change facilities are provided at the adjacent Westland Recreation Centre. Some desire was expressed for a multisport 1/2 or full-size turf suitable for hockey in Hokitika (subject to demand)

The Hokitika Hockey Club have noted they expect to see a 50% increase in participation in future. A lower participation increase of 10-15%, more in line with recent growth in hockey nationally is likely to be more realistic.

The Hockey New Zealand Facility Strategy Update (2016) indicates there is “no concern for turf provision” in either the Buller or West Coast Association region (Grey and Westland). This is based on the West Coast having a ratio of 330 total players per FTE⁵³ (2015) and Buller having a ratio of 187 total players per FTE (2015).⁵⁴

⁵² Hockey New Zealand Facility Strategy Update (2016)

⁵³ Full Time Equivalent Turf

⁵⁴ Ibid

Table 7.8.5: Hockey Venues

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FACILITIES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Pulse Energy Recreation Centre					
Buller	Westport	Buller Holdings Ltd	Regional	1	Artificial water based turf adjacent to the Pulse Energy Centre. Shared toilet/change rooms arrangement with the Centre. Water cannons & lighting for night games/training. No warm up turf space.
FACILITY NAME Westurf Stadium					
Grey	Greymouth	Westurf Recreation Trust Inc.	Regional	1	Artificial Water based turf adjacent to the Westland Recreation Centre. Shared toilet/change-room arrangement with the Centre. Water cannons and new lighting project completed 2019 (\$250k). No warm up turf space.
FACILITY NAME Karoro School					
Grey	Greymouth	MoE	Local	1	Sealed multi-use courtyard used for school training only.

Motorsport

Three motorsport facilities are provided in the region, catering to speedway and karting. Both Buller and Grey District Council own a national standard speedway. The Westland Kart club operates on a large piece of undeveloped land that is reported as being suitable for other like-minded sports such as moto-x.

The ongoing need for track surface upgrades, particularly to meet national specifications and safety requirements, was the main facility-based issue noted.

Table 7.8.6: Motorsport Tracks

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF FACILITIES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Sunset Speedway					
Buller	Westport	Buller District Council	National	1	Dirt track speedway circuit. Compliant to run national events.
FACILITY NAME Greenstone Park Speedway					
Grey	Greymouth	Grey District Council	National	1	Dirt track speedway circuit. Compliant to run national events.
FACILITY NAME Westland Kart Club					
Grey	Coal Creek	Westland Kart Club	Local	1	Sealed track and clubrooms on large piece of undeveloped land suitable for other like-minded sports. eg. moto-x.

Outdoor Specialised Surface Sports Participation Trends

National participation trends show a decline in traditional team sport participation and a trend towards individual participation, this may have some positive impact on codes that provide individual participation opportunities. However, with a declining and aging population and the overall trend of declining adult participation in sport and recreation any positive impact may be limited.

Local Participation

A limited number of the outdoor specialised surface stakeholders provided information on projected future membership. Bowls stakeholders indicated static or declining membership was expected, this corresponds with national trends.

The Greymouth Golf club identified that maintaining a sufficient membership is a challenge, at 150 members they are right on the margins of sustainable membership.

Buller Hockey anticipates a decline in participation in future, projections for a declining population in the area support this expectation. On the other hand, Hokitika Hockey are anticipating a 50% increase in membership and Karoro Hockey expects to see approximately 10% growth in participation. With projections for a declining and aging population these growth expectations may not be achieved. It is considered that the Westurf Stadium has capacity to cater to increased use if membership increases do occur.

Facility Issues

The most common facility challenges for outdoor specialist surface sports is maintaining surface quality with drainage and flooding common issues. Other issues include aging clubrooms and other infrastructure (e.g poor fencing).

Motorports have quite intensive surface maintenance requirements and keeping facilities at national specifications, particularly in terms of health and safety requirements is a real challenge for these sports.

A number of these codes indicated a desire to partner with others to increase sustainability but noted the specialized nature of their playing surfaces limits these opportunities other than for sharing clubroom facilities.



Goalie Training, Westurf Stadium

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

Our Proposed Approach

1. Retain the existing network of single community bowling clubs where demand continues to exist. Seek partnerships with other sports, recreation or community groups for clubrooms use to increase sustainability.
2. Prior to further investment in any of the Greymouth based bowling clubs investigate merger opportunities aimed at consolidation down to ideally 1 or maximum 2 clubs to service the Greymouth town area. Discussions need to include Blaketown, Cobden, Greymouth and Karoro clubs. This approach would consolidate membership numbers and enhance the potential ongoing sustainability of the remaining club(s).
3. Undertake a high level needs assessment to identify the level of demand for a covered bowling green facility. This would need to be part of a sports hub with other codes (sharing clubroom and support facilities) to generate sufficient demand to justify the level of investment required. Ensure travel distances are considered in the needs assessment as a single facility to service the whole region may not be practical from an accessibility perspective, therefore reducing use levels.
4. Support the retention of the two operational croquet club facilities to service the sport in the region. Carefully consider demand levels and financial sustainability before re-opening the currently disused croquet facilities.
5. Continue to provide a network of Equestrian facilities providing accessible participation opportunities.
6. The existing golf facilities provide a good geographic distribution across the region. To enhance sustainability of golf clubs, investigate opportunities to increase clubroom sharing with other sports, recreation or community groups. Also investigate programme opportunities to attract a wider demographic of users, including shortened versions of the game and promoting courses to the tourist market.
7. Maintain a hub and spoke approach to hockey provision in the Region with the Pulse Energy Recreation Centre turf providing the hub facility in Buller and the Westurf Stadium providing the hub facility for Grey and Westland. Support these hubs with continued provision of basic hockey (training focussed) facility access within local communities (through partnerships with schools and other codes).
8. Develop appropriate agreement and operational protocols to increase access for Westurf Stadium users to the toilets, shower/change room and social/meeting facilities available in the Westland Recreation Centre. Do not duplicate these facilities at the Westurf Stadium site.
9. If funds permit, progress the installation of new storage facilities and improved covered spectator areas at the Westurf Stadium.
10. Hokitika Hockey should investigate the opportunity to access the Westland Sports Hub facilities to provide local training opportunities. If availability is limited seek alternative partnerships with other schools or sports codes to access a suitable Ɖ turf sized court/field surface. This could be achieved through an upgrade to make an existing outdoor court area suitable for multi-use.
11. In the short term continue to undertake minor upgrades to maintain the Speedway sites to national specifications. Prior to any major renovations or redevelopment at these sites assess the demand levels and financial sustainability of continuing to retain two national standard tracks in the region.
12. Investigate the demand for and potential of a motor sports hub on the Westland Kart Club land to cater to moto-x, remote control cars, motorbike and driver training. Other potential partners at the site could include BMX, a flying area for model planes and a shooting range, if demand exists.

⁵¹ The national facilities strategy for Gymsports does not identify a sub-regional hierarchy facility is required on the West Coast.

7.9 Water Based Sports Overview

There is no overarching strategic direction relevant to provision of facilities for water based sports. General facility trends that are relevant to future provision for water based sports include:

- More focus on partnerships.
- Asset management planning and regular maintenance is important.
- Consideration of hubbing, sharing facilities with other codes or community groups to improve sustainability.

Water Based Sports Network

Only a limited number of water sports specific facilities were identified in the survey. Those identified are most often located on crown or Council owned land with some buildings (clubrooms) owned directly by clubs. The facilities identified cater to sailing/yachting and surfing.

Many of the region's lakes and rivers are used for a variety of kayaking and canoeing activities with limited facilities (car parking, toilets) or at times no facilities required for general access. Other recreational water based activities like fishing and motorboat generally have limited facility requirements e.g. parking areas, toilets and a boat ramp facility for launching some vessels. There are a significant number of boat ramp access areas across the region, these were not identified by stakeholders and have not been researched as the focus is on water sport facilities rather than more casual, recreational use requirements.

With increasing holiday homes and tourism activity in Lake Brunner, boat ramp access demands are understood to be increasing. The main demand pressure is experienced on car park and boat ramp access over the peak summer season. Stakeholders did not report other areas or times of significant demand pressure on facilities.

Sailing / Yachting

Four facilities were identified as serving sailing/yachting in the region. One site is owned by Trustpower, for electricity purposes. Two are on crown owned land and one is club owned. Limited feedback was provided, some boat storage issues were identified at Mahinapua but the facilities were reported as being in reasonable condition overall.

Table 7.9.1: Sailing/Yachting Venues

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF VENUES	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Lake Brunner Yacht Club					
Grey	Moana	Crown	Local	1	Small marina, trailer access ramp and small mooring peer. Clubrooms and boat storage area adjacent to lake.
FACILITY NAME Kapitea Reservoir Recreation Area					
Westland	Kumara	Trustpower	Local	1	Hydro reservoir used by casual users for sailing, jetboating and kayaking. Trailer access ramp to water is on facilities.
FACILITY NAME Lake Kaniere Yacht & Powerboat Club					
Westland	Lake Kaniere	Crown	Local	1	Lake Kaniere. Trailer access ramp, & clubrooms situated at Hahn Bay.
FACILITY NAME Lake Mahinapua Aquatic Club					
Westland	Hokitika	Lake Mahinapua Aquatic Club	Local	1	Lake Mahinapua, Trailer access ramp & clubrooms available for event hire. Limited storage space for boats.

Surfing

Two sites were identified. The Kahuna Board Riders Club in Greymouth and the Buller Board Riders in Westport. No facility-based issues were reported by stakeholders.

Table 7.9.2: Surf Clubs

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF CLUBS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Buller Board Riders					
Buller	Westport	Club	Local	1	Clubrooms at Kilkenny Park, natural surf breaks used along coastline.
FACILITY NAME Kahuna Board Riders					
Grey	Greymouth	Club	Local	1	Clubrooms and storage facility situated at northern breakwater of Grey River. To capture the Cobden Tiphead surf break and in river shingle beach break.



Surfing, Blaketown

Photo Credit: Jack O'Connor

Waka Ama

The Waka-ama club based in Westport currently have no facilities. They have indicated a need for storage and a home base to operate from. This could be shared with another sport, particularly another water based sport if there is demand.

Water Based Sports Participation Trends

The general trend in sport towards individual and casual participation rather than club based participation is relevant to water sports. For example; 2013/14 data shows that the majority (64.9%) of sailing/yachting participants were not a member of a club for the purpose of sailing. 77.7% participated in the sport casually with only 23.7% taking part in regular club competitions.⁵⁵

The pattern of individual rather than club based participation is even more prevalent in surfing with only 3% of surfers surveyed in the 2013/14 Active NZ Survey indicating that there were a member of any club to go surfing. 100% of surfers indicated they participate on a casual basis.⁵⁶

Nationally waka ama affiliated membership has increased by 90% since 2012, with 5,202 members in 2018⁵⁷. However, the vast majority of waka ama participants are North Island based and it is unclear what impact the increases in waka ama participation nationally is having on the West Coast, with limited demand apparent here.

Local Participation

Limited feedback was provided by stakeholders but those that did indicated declining participation and an expectation that this would continue. Generally, stakeholders felt this decline was not related to facilities but rather to changing social and participation trends. However, for rowing and waka ama, given there are no current facilities on the West Coast it is possible that a lack of facilities is contributing to the general lack of demand for these codes.

Facility Issues

Overall water based sport facilities are considered to be in good condition. Some issues regarding limited boat storage capacity were identified as well as aging of some clubroom facilities.

Our Proposed Approach

1. Investigate a programme of promotions, events and new activities with sailing/yachting clubs in an effort to increase participation and membership. If demand exists this could also include identifying clubroom sharing partnerships with other sports and community groups to support facility sustainability. Specifically, this could include waka ama and rowing.
2. Investigate opportunities for partnering with other clubs/community groups to secure storage/clubrooms access for Waka-ama in Westport.
3. If demand emerges for additional storage and clubroom facilities from new water based codes, consider partnerships with existing facility providers in the first instance.
4. Prior to undertaking any major renewals or renovations of surfing club rooms undertake a needs and demand assessment to determine if membership and use justifies continued investment in these facilities.

⁵⁵ Sourced 27 September 2019 from <https://sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/2013-14-Sports-Profile-Sailing-and-Yachting.pdf>

⁵⁶ Sourced 27 September 2019 from <https://sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/2013-14-Sport-Profile-Surfing.pdf>

⁵⁷ Sourced 27 September 2019 from <https://www.wakaama.co.nz/content/files/5c5343a791417/2018%20Waka%20Ama%20NZ%20Annual%20Report.pdf>

7.10 Other Facilities

The Westport Bridge Club have a modern, fit-for-purpose facility which is well utilised by a range of other groups. This facility meets the current core needs of bridge for regular use, some annual competitions require additional space. The Club will look to work with other clubs for event use requirements.

The facility is currently available and well used by others as it is suitable for a range of other like-minded sports and low impact physical activities e.g. yoga. It is also used by community groups and private/businesses for meetings, workshops and other gatherings.

Table 7.10.1: Other Facilities

COUNCIL AREA	LOCATION (TOWN)	OWNER	FACILITY HIERARCHY	NO. OF CLUBS	DESCRIPTION
FACILITY NAME Westport Bridge Club					
Buller	Westport	Westport Bridge Club	Sub-regional/ District	1	Built for purposes clubrooms built on former out-doors space. Hired space for Yoga.

Our Proposed Approach

1. Continue to promote shared use of this and other facilities.