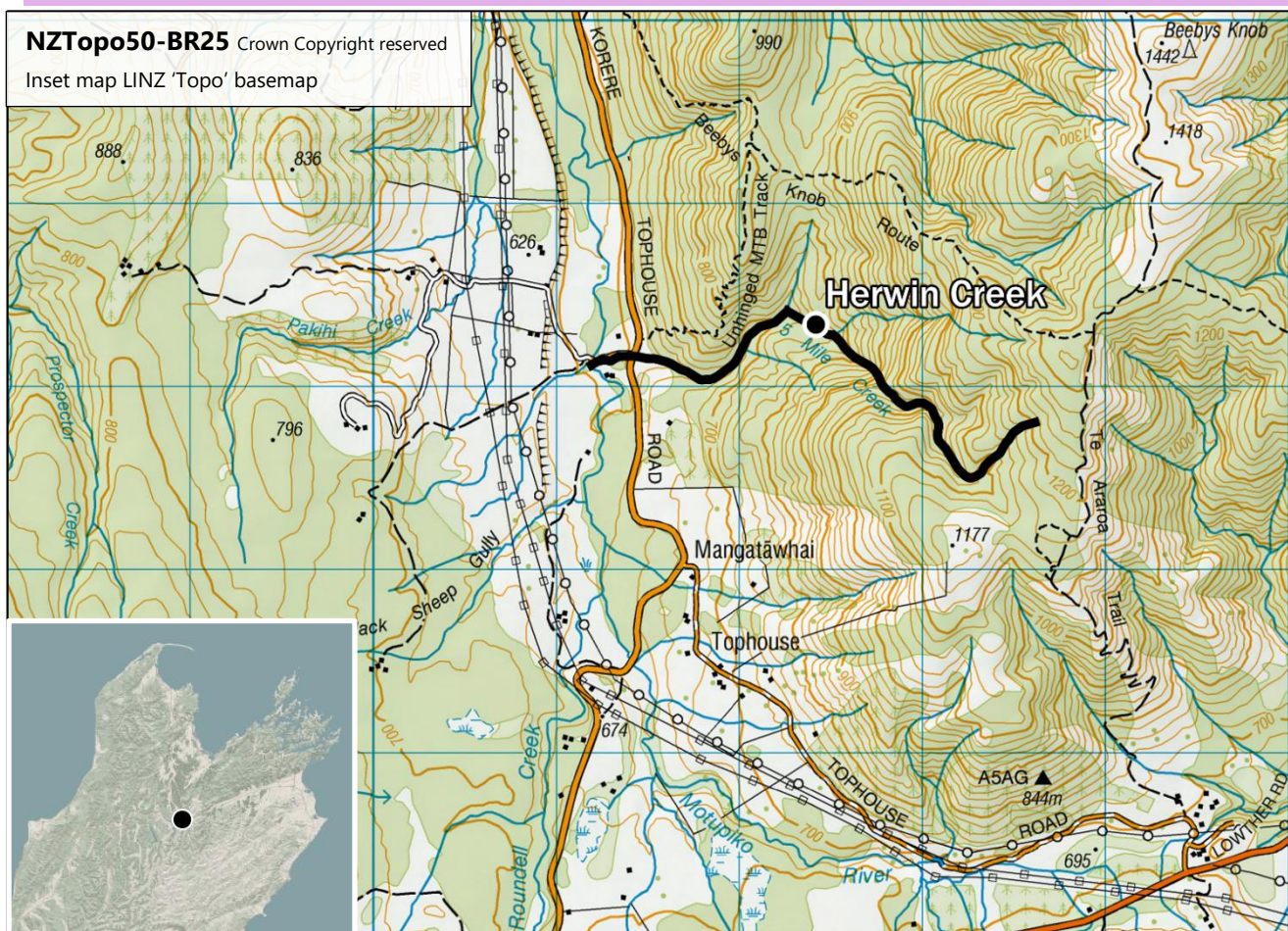


Submissions considered by the Board on 3 October 2023 for: Herwin Creek

[altered from 5 Mile Creek]



Summary

At its 26 April 2023 hui the Board made a proposal to alter the official place name 5 Mile Creek to Herwin Creek, for a small stream approximately 7km northeast of St. Arnaud. The Board declined the original proposal from the Chairperson of the Rotoiti District Community Committee for Herwins Creek. The possessive [s] did not meet the criteria of the Board's naming standard.

The Board noted it had approved 5 Mile Creek as official under fast-track process in 2020, and that this did not prevent future standard proposals (like this one) through sections 15-21 of the [NZGB Act 2008](#).

During public notification from 7 June 2023 to 11 July 2023 the Board received 14 supporting submissions and one submission objecting to the proposal.

The supporting submissions, mostly from the local community, support a well-known locally used name that recognises a resident family being made official.

The objecting submitter advised: *'...on behalf of our family who are now 5th generation in the area. We also owned and farmed the adjoining land for about 25 years. We always called it Herwins with an s because the Herwin family lived very close to it. The s is for more than 1 Herwin, not that it belonged to them.'*

This reason is not considered to outweigh the reasons that the Board accepted for the proposal. Herwin as a family name for the creek inherently recognises more than one Herwin.

While Ngāti Kuia and Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō both indicated that they might object and propose an alternative contemporary Māori name, no submissions were received.

Board decision

At its 3 October 2023 hui the Board made this decision on the proposal:

The Board **considered** the **15** submissions on the proposal to alter the official place name 5 Mile Creek to **Herwin Creek** and their reasons,

and

Rejected the **one** objecting submission based on the reason provided not outweighing those reasons that the Board previously accepted for the proposal, being:

- evidence of the Herwin family’s long-term association with the feature and area, and local use of Herwin’s Creek (c.120-140 years), as advised by long-term residents of the area,
- providing the means for appropriate recognition to be accorded to cultural and heritage values associated with geographic features (s.3(e) of the Act),
- no original Māori name having been identified for the feature,
- the proposed name being unique,
- no concerns about long-term use of 5 Mile Creek on official documents (c.120-140 years) and the existing naming theme with Two Mile Creek (which spells out the number rather than using a numeral), and
- the proposed alteration being unlikely to impact emergency services.

and that Herwin as the correct family name collectively recognises more than one Herwin,

and

Confirmed the earlier decision of the Board to accept the proposal to alter the official place name 5 Mile Creek to Herwin Creek,

and

Will **report** the Board’s decision to the Minister for Land Information **and request** the Minister to make the final determination on the proposal.

Background

Board
minutes 26
April 2023

The Board noted the correspondence from Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō and Ngāti Kuia about proposing alternative contemporary Māori names. The Board noted the proposer's efforts to engage with mana whenua and that they had done everything they could to establish if an original Māori name was known, including engaging a researcher, for what was a relatively minor feature.

The Board considered to what extent it should weigh an existing name in local use against a possible contemporary Māori name that doesn't yet exist. The Board noted similar views are received from time to time, and considered to what extent this kind of feedback may reflect iwi groups' capacity to engage, forcing them to be reactive to proposals rather than making their own. The Board agreed that traditional/original Māori names are important, but also that continuing to name places is a sign of a living culture. The Board agreed that it would prefer to establish relationships with the groups around the opportunity to apply contemporary names to features and encourage them to make their own proposals.

The Board agreed to proceed with the proposal, noting that public notification would provide the opportunity for the iwi to propose an alternative name in an objection if they did in fact have strong views. The Board agreed that public notification did not need to be longer than one month, noting it would likely be only of very local interest.

Notification

Advice to
mana
whenua of
public
notification

On 2 May 2023 the Secretariat advised these eight groups that the Board would be publicly notifying the proposal for submissions between 7 June 2023 and 11 July 2023:

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō	Ngāti Rārua	Rangitāne o Waiaru
Ngāti Koata	Ngāti Tama ki Te Tau Ihu	Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Māui
Ngāti Kuia	Ngāti Toa Rangatira	

On 2 May 2023 Ngāti Tama advised that it saw no reason to object to the proposal but deferred to the views of Ngāti Kuia.

On 11 May 2023 Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō advised it would consider at its Cultural sub-Committee whether it would make an alternative proposal. No submission was received.

Advice to
MPs

The Secretariat advised the MPs for West Coast-Tasman, Te Tai Tonga and all neighbouring electorates that submissions on the proposals were open until 11 July 2023.

Public
notification
including
social media

The Board advertised the proposals:

- in the [New Zealand Gazette](#),
- in the *Sunday Star Times* and *Nelson Mail*,
- on the Toitū Te Whenua LINZ [Consultation](#) page, its [Facebook page \(including a reminder\)](#), and on the New Zealand Government's [Consultation](#) page.

Media

The proposal was included in a Board [general media advisory](#) published on 7 June 2023. No media coverage of the proposal has been noted.

Supporting information

1. Board proposal report – Herwins Creek – 2022-12-02
2. Qualtrics submission spreadsheet (14 supporting submissions)
3. Objecting submission (direct email) – 2023-07-10
4. Email from Ngāti Tama – 2023-05-02
5. Email from Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō – 2023-05-11