

BEFORE THE WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL

IN THE MATTER OF of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND of a resource consent application by Glen Isla Protection
Society Inc. under section 88 of the Resource
Management Act 1991 for the activities associated with
the construction and use of a coastal protection structure

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE BY DENNIS BOYD

25 JULY 2025

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 My name is Dennis Boyd. I am the owner and a director of Beach Contractors Limited, a Waihi Beach-based contracting business.
- 1.2 I have lived in the Waihi area for 40 years, including at Waihi Beach for the last 20 years. I started my working life in my uncle's engineering workshop and I established Beach Contractors Limited in April 2004.
- 1.3 Today, Beach Contractors Limited employs over 20 staff and operates a diverse fleet of excavation machinery, vehicles, and associated equipment. The business includes a quarry, a landscape supply yard, and storage facilities. Our head office is located in Waihi Beach, and we have an additional yard near Whangamata.
- 1.4 We have extensive experience in civil, rural, residential, and public sector projects, including repeated work in and around Three Mile Creek (for the Western Bay of Plenty District Council), which has involved regular excavation works for more than a decade.
- 1.5 We have recent experience of constructing protective rock sea walls for the District Council at Three Mile Creek and Two Mile Creek which were completed in 2023 and 2024 respectively. The rocks for these projects were quarried by us from our Waihi Beach quarry.

2. INVOLVEMENT IN THE GLEN ISLA PROTECTION SOCIETY PROJECT

- 2.1 I have provided advice and practical input into the development of the construction methodology prepared by Davis Coastal Consultants for the Glen Isla Place rock protection seawall project proposed by the Glen Isla Protection Society Incorporated (GIPS).
- 2.2 My involvement focused on ensuring that the methodology incorporates mitigation measures to minimise potential effects from machinery and

rock delivery through the Three Mile Creek Reserve and during construction on the beachfront.

- 2.3 Beach Contractors Limited assisted with the noise and vibration trial carried out by Marshall Day for GIPS on 9 July 2024.
- 2.4 I have prepared this evidence at GIPS' request, to address whether the proposed construction methodology is sound, and whether in my experience the vibrations from the works will expose nearby properties to any risk of damage. I understand the Commissioners may be reliant on some of my views on those matters, and I confirm that I am offering my views independently, based on my experience with works of this sort. I have not left out any information that I am aware of that may be relevant to this topic.

3. CONSTRUCTION RISKS

- 3.1 Beach Contractors Limited has been contracted by the District Council for the last 12 years to undertake maintenance and dredging operations at Three Mile Creek to clear the creek when it becomes blocked with sand. This work typically occurs multiple times each year, depending on the rate of build-up. We carry out this work using either a 12 tonne or a 23.5 tonne digger, depending on availability at the time. In carrying out this work, the diggers traverse the end of Three Mile Creek and the adjacent foreshore numerous times. We have never received a complaint of damage to nearby properties being caused by this work.
- 3.2 In 2023 we constructed a rock seawall in Three Mile Creek adjacent to 7 Glen Isla Place (under a contract with the District Council). That project involved dropping rocks from a tipping trailer into Three Mile Creek, and placing the rocks with a 23.5 tonne digger, at a distance of about 10 metres from the property boundary of 7 Glen Isla Place. The image below shows the seawall, with 7 Glen Isla Place behind.



Image 1: Seawall constructed by Beach Contractors in 2023 in Three Mile Creek in front of 7 Glen Isla Place.

- 3.3 We did not receive any complaints of damage to any nearby properties during that project and are unaware of any complaints received by the Council. I would expect that the Council would have made us aware if it had received any complaints.
- 3.4 In 2024 we constructed a rock seawall in Two Mile Creek, in close proximity to some residential properties (within 1m of the boundary). The method of construction was the same as for the 2023 project just mentioned, and we also received no complaints of damage to nearby properties during that project.

4. THE PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 Using all our experience, including the projects mentioned above, we have worked with GIPS and Davis Coastal Consultants to develop a construction methodology for the project. In my view, and again, based on my experience with the projects described above, the proposed methodology represents best practice, and can be implemented without causing damage to nearby properties.

- 4.2 The work can be carried out using 23.5 tonne diggers. We know from our prior work in Three Mile Creek that even 23.5 tonne diggers do not cause damage when working in Three Mile Creek.
- 4.3 The diggers will be delivered to the Glen Isla Reserve using trailers with pneumatic tyres. The diggers will then mostly remain on the worksite, except during storms, minimizing their use in close proximity to non-waterfront properties.
- 4.4 The rocks will be delivered to the site using trailers with pneumatic tyres, pulled by tractors with large tyres. The rocks will be tipped onto the beach seaward of 12, 14, 16 and 15 Glen Isla Place, well away from the non-waterfront properties. The rocks drops will be done using tipping trailers onto the beach, so the height that rocks drop will be considerably less than when they were dropped into the creek bed from the bank of the creek during the 2023 and 2024 works described above.
- 4.5 The rocks will be delivered to the work area for the Northern section of the proposed wall using small Marooka crawlers, further reducing the movement of the 23.5 tonne diggers near to the Glen Isla properties.
- 4.6 Disregarding effects on the waterfront properties at Glen Isla Place (which I understand are those of members of GIPS who have provided their written approval to the resource consent application), the proposed work will be carried out further away from nearby properties than during the 2023 and 2024 projects described above, using the same or lighter machinery, and with rocks dropping from lower heights than during those projects. For those reasons, and as no damage was incurred as a result of those previous projects, I am confident that no damage will occur to nearby properties during the proposed works.
- 4.7 If I am wrong, and the works do in fact cause damage to nearby properties (and assuming the works have been done by us), then I can confirm that Beach Contractors Limited carries public liability insurance that includes

liability coverage for vibration-related damage resulting from our work of at least \$5 million.

5. 2010–2011 ROCK SEAWALL EXPERIENCE

- 5.1 I understand it has been claimed that private property was damaged by works in 2010–2011 to construct a protective rock seawall in the sand dune to seaward of the beachfront properties at The Loop, north of Three Mile Creek.
- 5.2 I am familiar with that project. It was undertaken by Transfield Services. Beach Contractors Limited supplied rocks to the project and, although we were not involved in the construction work, I did observe the progress of the works and how they were carried out.
- 5.3 I have no knowledge of whether damage in fact occurred, or (if it did) whether it may have been caused by the construction work.
- 5.4 I recall that, during that project:
 - 5.4.1 Rocks were dropped in the Three Mile Creek Reserve (i.e. nearer to residential properties than is proposed by GIPS);
 - 5.4.2 The rocks were dropped from very large (and therefore high) tipping trailer units (i.e. from greater heights than proposed for the GIPS project);
 - 5.4.3 Transfield Services used larger and heavier machinery than is proposed to be used for the GIPS project; and
 - 5.4.4 There were far more digger movements through the Three Mile Creek Reserve than will be involved in the GIPS project, as the large diggers were picking up rocks from the drop location and transporting them to the work front one rock at a time.

- 5.5 For all the reasons outlined above, the proposed methodology for the GIPS project is fundamentally different to the methodology used by Transfield Services in 2010-2011.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Based on my extensive experience constructing coastal protection works in the Waihi Beach area, including within Three Mile Creek and close to Glen Isla Place, I consider that the construction methodology proposed for the GIPS project is robust and incorporates effective measures to minimise any risk to nearby properties.
- 6.2 The equipment, materials, and methods proposed are similar to or less impactful than those used in previous projects, which were completed without complaint or evidence of property damage. I am confident that the proposed works can be completed safely and responsibly.