

# Waikato District Natural Parks Reserve Management Plan



November 2018

This Reserves Management Plan has been prepared by Waikato District Council (the Council) under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 Section 41.

**Adopted on 27 November 2018**

**Process timeline**

Call for suggestions	February 2017
Draft Management Plan released for submissions	June 2018
Submissions closed	September 2018
Hearing	October 2018
<b>Management plan adopted</b>	<b>November 2018</b>

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## **1.0 Purpose of this plan**

Reserve management plans provide direction for the future development, management and use of reserves.

Determining community and environmental protection preferences and establishing the best means to provide for them are essential ingredients of good management planning. A management plan provides the community with certainty about the function and management of each reserve that is managed by Council. It also helps ensure that management decisions are consistent with the principles of the Reserves Act 1977.

The primary purpose of Natural Reserves is to provide opportunities for protection and enhancement of the environment, and for people to experience nature. The definition of nature and natural is widely defined to include: native bush areas, wetlands, coastal and lake margins, forestry, farm parks, esplanade and restoration areas or other natural landscapes. This plan will provide for consistent approach to the management of these reserves in the Waikato district.

Some of the District's destination lakes have existing reserve management plans and are therefore excluded from the scope of this document.

### **1.1 Reserve management plan requirements**

The Waikato District Council (the Council) has a responsibility as an administering body under Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 to prepare management plans for the reserves and parks that it manages.

These management plans should "... provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation ... and, ... the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purpose for which it is classified".

Open space is recognised as an important component of the urban environment, providing opportunities for recreation and leisure. This management plan provides a framework within which managers can develop a balanced response to current opportunities and address future pressures.

The management plan identifies clear objectives and establishes directions for planning, resource management and maintenance of public open space. It clarifies and establishes policy and direction for both Council staff and the public.

When adopted, this management plan and the General Polices Management Plan 2015 will replace any previously prepared reserve management plan for reserves included in this plan.

This management plan will be kept under continuous review to ensure that the policies are appropriate and relevant for the communities within the Waikato district. It is intended that a comprehensive review will take place every five years.

## **1.2 Relationship with general policies**

This management plan is to be read in conjunction with the General Policies Reserve Management Plan. The general policies will apply to all reserves within the Waikato district. Where there is a conflict between the specific policies contained within this plan and the general policies contained within the General Policies Reserve Management Plan, the specific policies in this plan will take precedence.

## **1.3 Relationship with strategies**

Council has other strategies that impact parks, including the Parks Strategy, Signage Strategy, Trails Strategy and Toilet Strategy. Whereby these strategies have identified policies for parks it is the intention that these will be implemented. These policies may relate to issues such as installing park signage and upgrading public toilets. To avoid repetition these policies have not been repeated in this document.

## **1.4 Waikato-Tainui Joint Management Agreement**

Council and Waikato-Tainui have entered into a Joint Management Agreement in accordance with the Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010. The agreement acknowledges that Council has rights and responsibilities with regard to management of reserves under Reserves Act 1977.

The agreement also acknowledges that Council has a requirement to consult to determine appropriate management of Crown land under Council control and to consider how management decisions may impact on any future return of the land to Waikato-Tainui.

In accordance with the Waikato Raupatu Claims Settlement Act 1995, Council has informed the Waikato Raupatu River Trust of its intention to prepare a reserve management plan and has discussed the scope of the reserve management plan. The Waikato Raupatu River Trust will provide Council with feedback on how the draft plan and submissions received may affect customary activities on the Waikato River.

The Council is the administrator of many reserves where the underlying ownership resides with the Crown. The Waikato Raupatu Claims Settlement Act 1995 provides a First Right of Refusal Mechanism where Crown land is to be disposed of. Where reserves are subject to first right of refusal provisions, this is identified in the property summary for each reserve.

Where the land was derived from the Crown, and therefore subject to the Waikato-Tainui Treaty Settlement, this is shown as a "Subject to WTTS". Note that Crown land is subject to Section 40 former owner offer-back provisions under the Public Works Act 1981.

## **1.5 Structure of this plan**

The reserves covered by this management plan are presented on a ward-by-ward basis. Each reserve is described with respect to its classification and legal description and the authority under which the Council manages it.

Council's authority to administer the reserve may either come from:

1. Ownership (in such cases the land will have been "declared" reserve under Section 14 of the Reserves Act or "vested" on subdivision under the Resource management Act or Local Government Act)
2. A "vesting" from the Crown, or
3. "An appointment to control and manage" from the Crown

Where the land was derived from the Crown, and therefore subject to the Waikato-Tainui Treaty Settlement, this is shown as a "Subject to WTTS".

The current formal occupation and use of the reserve is described and the specific issues and policies that apply to the reserve are outlined. A plan showing the boundaries of the reserve is included and where required a more detailed concept plan is included showing future development.

## **1.6 Council and delegations**

The Minister of Conservation has delegated a number of procedural and decision-making responsibilities to Council under the Reserves Act 1977. These delegations are made to "Council as a whole" and cannot be delegated to committees of Council or staff. Such decisions that must be made by a meeting of the full Council (Council as a whole) include adoption of reserve management plans, classification of reserves and granting of leases.

Other decisions, such as approval for events, removal of trees, issuing of permits etc. can be delegated from the Council to the Chief Executive and to the Parks and Facilities staff. As delegations change from time to time, the term Council is used throughout the document. Staff should refer to the Delegations Manual to determine if they have the authority to make decisions in accordance with the policies in this management plan.

## **1.7 Implementation**

This management plan provides objectives and policies that determine the appropriate use, protection and development of the reserves administered by the Council. All proposed development will only be undertaken when funding is allocated and designated to particular projects. Decisions relating to the funding and priority for works described in this plan will be undertaken within Council's Long Term Plan and Annual Plan. Inclusion of any project within this management plan does not indicate Council funding will be available for such works as works may be funded and delivered by parties other than Council.

The reserves included within this plan have been defined as 'natural parks' under the New Zealand Recreation Association definition as opposed to their legal classification. If a need is

identified to dispose of any natural reserves in the future then Council has the ability to undertake the process to do so.

The requirements of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, to obtain an archaeological authority to modify recorded and unrecorded archaeological sites may be applicable to works undertaken in reserves. The consideration of the potential for the presence of archaeological sites at an early stage enables avoiding modifying any sites through good project planning.

## **1.8 Public suggestions**

Suggestions from members of the public have been incorporated into the individual management plans within this document.

Ongoing operation, maintenance, development and upgrade of network utilities within the reserves has already been considered and is covered by a policy within the General Policies Reserve Management Plan. Council's requirement to keep trees clear of lines is also acknowledged and will be adhered to. The appropriate placement and consideration of the mature size of trees in relation to existing infrastructure will also be factored into decision making.

## **1.9 Natural Areas not identified in this Plan**

A number of Council reserves contain areas of natural value that aren't included in this plan. There are a variety of reasons they have been excluded, for example they may fall under another reserve classification such as 'Ecological Linkage' or they may already have a Reserve Management Plan (e.g. Lake Puketirini, Lake Kainui). Council will apply best practise in regards to protecting and enhancing these areas as resources allow.

In June 2016 Council adopted the 'Natural Value Reserves-Strategic Priority Framework' to provide strategic direction for the management and enhancement of Waikato District Council (WDC) administered reserves that contain important natural biodiversity and ecological values. The framework identifies key objectives for natural value reserves and provides guidance to achieve these objectives. The framework is aligned with this Reserve Management Plan as both documents seek to restore and enhance natural areas as well as provide access to the public where feasible.

In protecting and enhancing all natural areas Council will give regard to the priorities of the Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan 2014-2024.

## **1.10 Land other than reserve**

This plan identifies land parcels that are managed for natural park purposes by Council but have either not been declared reserve or have not been classified under the Reserves Act 1977. The Reserves Act 1977 requires that an administering authority (the Council) classify all reserves prior to public notification of a reserve management plan. As such these land parcels do not form part of this reserve management plan. Council has instead elected to include them outside of the reserve management plan for completeness.

It is Council's intention that it will apply the policies outlined below in its decision-making under the Local Government Act 2002 when considering the management and development of these properties.

It is Council's intention that it will declare these properties reserve and classify them in the future. They will then be included within the General Policies and Natural Parks Reserve Management Plans in subsequent reviews of those management plans.

## 2.0 The reserves

### 2.1 Awaroa ki Tuakau Ward

#### 2.1.1 Karioitahi Gap Domain, Otaua



Reserve Classification	Recreation reserve	Area	4.7045 hectares
Location	Karioitahi Road, Otaua	Legal description	Allot 451 PSH OF Waipipi
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	Subject to a RFR outside of W-T Claim area

#### Background

Located on the edge of the district boundary near Karioitahi Beach, this is a non-native pine dominated hillside forest. Some regeneration of native species is occurring.

The site has potential to become a publicly accessible natural reserves asset as it is adjacent to the visitor attractions of the beach and a private resort, as well as significant natural areas including the coast and dune lakes. Remnants of a walkway exist through the forest.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Rubbish dumped in reserve.

- It is not obvious that this is a reserve (no signage in place).
- No parking onsite.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

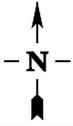
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

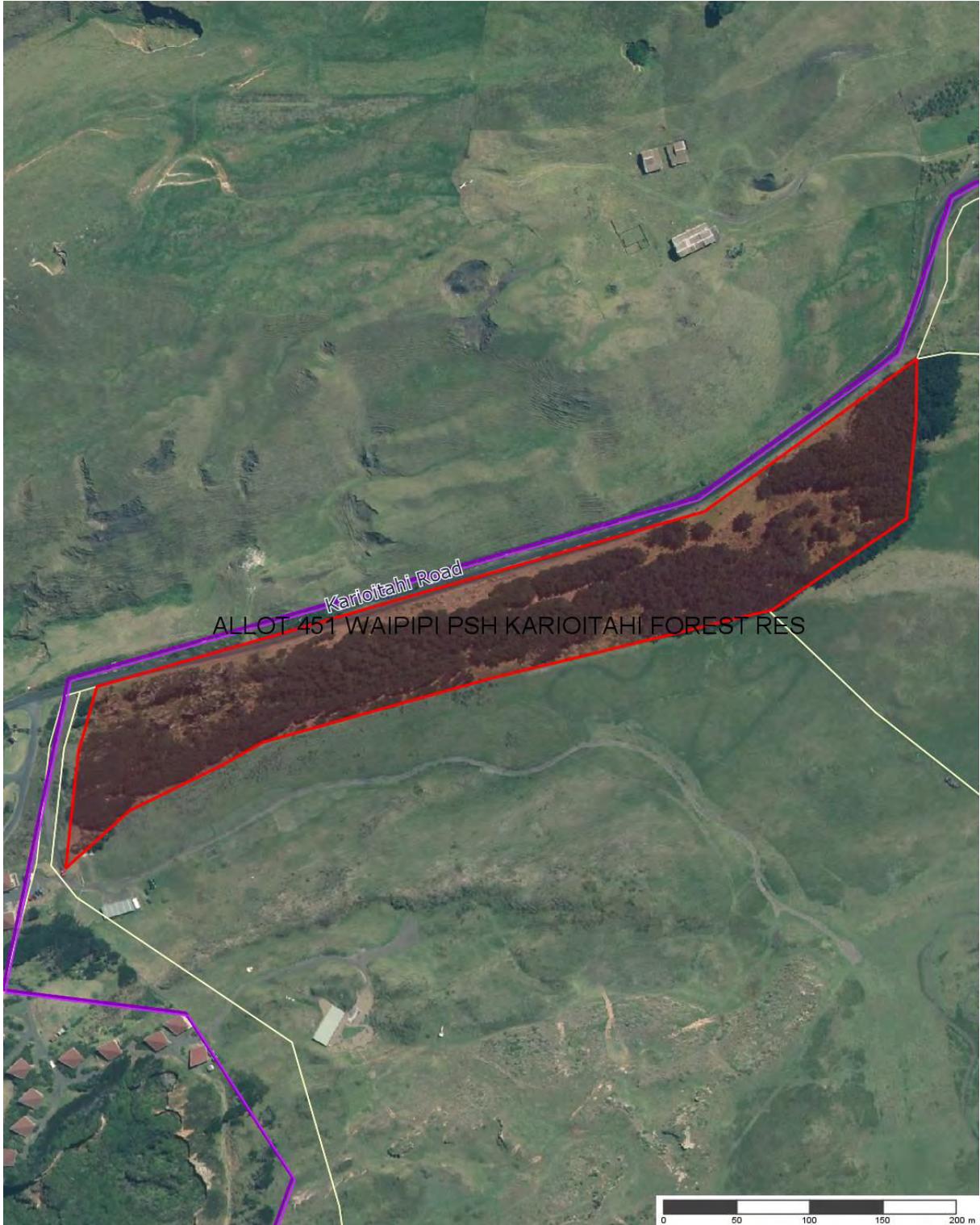
- A. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- B. Carry out under planting with suitable native species.
- C. Install signage to natural reserves where safe / appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- D. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. No proposed development



### Karioitahi Gap Domain



## 2.1.2 Ridge Road Scenic (Green's) Reserve, Pokeno



Reserve Classification	Scenic Reserve	Area	1.4793 hectares
Location	Ridge Road, Pokeno	Legal description	Lot 1 DP 69133
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

Ridge Road Scenic (Green's) Reserve is a bush reserve between State Highway 1 and Ridge Road in the Bombay hills. The bush has a full mature canopy, diverse native flora and few invasive pest plants. The whole site is designated as a Significant Natural Feature. This site is bordered by a stock proof fenced strip of grazing land which is likely to help minimise weed incursion via edge effects.

This site is likely to be an important ecological island for native fauna in the area. Habitat consists of mainly native species including kohekohe, puriri and hoheria with a few kahikatea, titoki, tawa, totara and rimu. Understorey dominated by ferns, kawakawa, nikau, mahoe and mapou. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

Access is from Ridge road only via a hard to access stile and across a right of way over privately owned grazed land. For safety reasons it is the NZTA's expectation that there continues to be no direct access to the park from State Highway One.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Not currently suitable for public access (no safe, easily accessible public entry points).
- It is not obvious that this is a reserve (no signage as no safe parking available).

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

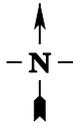
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- B. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- C. Entrance is not to be provided from State Highway One for safety reasons.
- D. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. No proposed development until safe carparking can be secured for public access to the site.



Ridge Road Scenic (Green's) Reserve



SCALE 1:1500	Cadastre sourced from Land Information New Zealand under CC-BY. Copyright @ Waikato District Council	Projection: New Zealand Transverse Mercator Datum: New Zealand Geodetic Datum 2000	Print Date: 8/09/2016	A4
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### 2.1.3 Shipherd Bush Reserve, Puni



Reserve Classification	Public reserve for scenic purposes	Area	11.1491 hectares
Location	Aka Aka Road, Puni	Legal description	LotS 1 2 DP 44210 Lot 2 DP 79366
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

Shipherd Bush is kohekohe/tairiri dominated hillslope bush. It contains a full mature closed canopy and biodiverse understory. The site is designated as a Significant Natural Area. The ecosystem includes seeps, waterways, glow worms, birds and diverse flora. This site is likely to be an important ecological island for native fauna in the area.

There is no formed pedestrian access to the bush, although a wooden sign marks the site. A 20m formerly grazed strip interspaced with a few large mature native trees is fenced off from the main reserve and Aka Aka Road along the eastern boundary.

Habitat consists of mainly kohekohe, puriri, tarairi and nikau with a few titoki, totara and other native tree species. A comprehensive native understorey exists. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

A number of invasive weed species were noted on the periphery of the bush and along the roadway and pose a significant threat to the sustainability of the native biodiversity.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Poor access and no public parking onsite.
- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Possum damage and likelihood of other mammalian pests.
- Stock proof fencing has been damaged.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

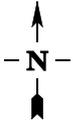
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- B. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- C. Consider reinstating grazing or mowing in buffer strip – or replant with natives.
- D. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- E. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- F. Promote the reserve through additional signage from Aka Aka Road in conjunction with other initiatives (car parking and track development) to improve public awareness.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Improve pedestrian access to bush reserve

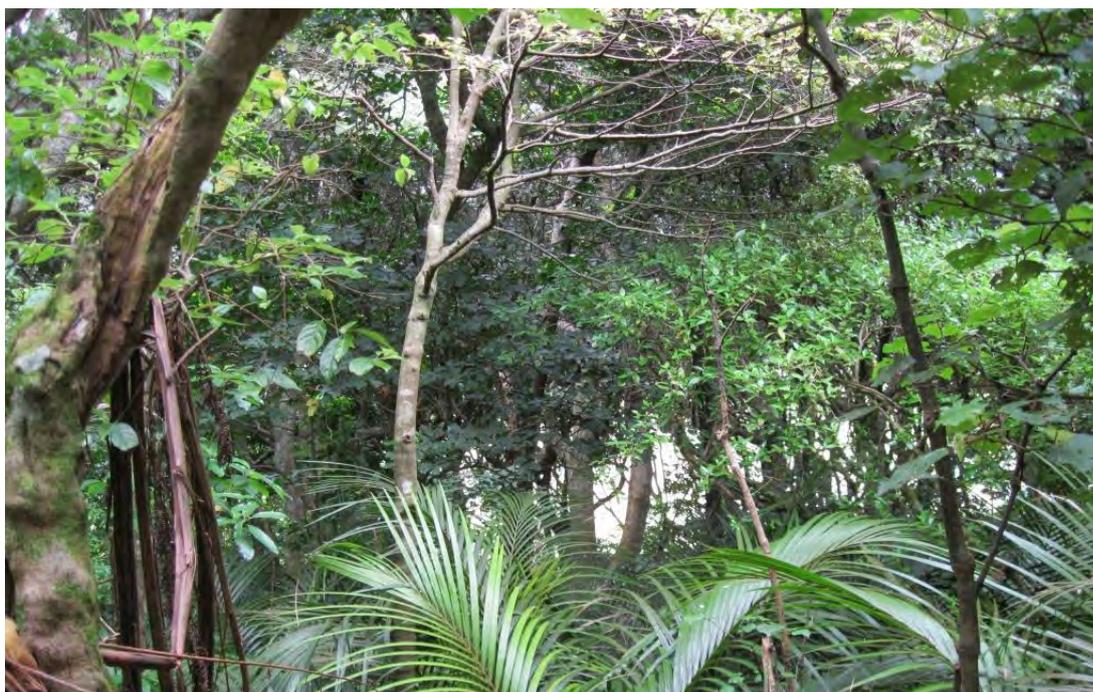


### Shipherd Bush Reserve



SCALE 1:3500	Cadastre sourced from Land Information New Zealand under CC-BY. Copyright @ Waikato District Council	Projection: New Zealand Transverse Mercator Datum: New Zealand Geodetic Datum 2000	Print Date: 7/09/2016	A4
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## 2.1.4 Stan Denize Scenic Park, Otatau



Reserve Classification	Scenic Reserve	Area	0.9775 hectares
Location	Robertson Road and Bothwell Park Road, Otatau	Legal description	Lot 1 DP 94205
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

Stan Denize Scenic Park is on Bothwell Park Road off Whiriwhiri Road. Access to this hillside bush block is an issue as Bothwell Park Road is currently impassable for vehicles due to rutting.

The mature closed canopy hillside bush is approximately 50m wide stretching along the southern edge of Bothwell Park Road. There is no pedestrian access within the site although it has large wooden routed sign – “Stan Denize Scenic Reserve”.

The habitat consists of mainly kohekohe, puriri, rewarewa, and taraire with understorey of kawakawa, nikau, mahoe and mapou. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site. There is currently minimal impact from weeds, with some woolly nightshade and exotic pines observed. A small and presumably similar copse of trees is located next to the reserve on private property.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Stock proofing audit of fences required.
- Roading access is damaged.
- No pedestrian entrances to reserve.
- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.

**Reserve Management Policy**

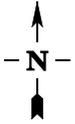
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- B. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- C. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Undertake repairs to fencing to ensure stock are excluded from the reserve.



## 2.1.5 The Elbow Landing Reserve, Aka Aka



Reserve Classification	Lots 1 & 3: Recreation Reserve Lot 2: General Land	Area	19.9184 hectares
Location	Elbow Road, Aka Aka	Legal description	Lots 1 & 3 DP 69751, Lot 2 DP 84027
Authority	Lots 1 & 3: Vested Lot 2: Transferred to Franklin County Council in 1978	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

The Elbow Landing Reserve is a multiple use site which includes a boat ramp, passive recreation area, model aero club flying site and bush area. The site is also used to access white baiting and duck shooting areas.

The bush area covers approximately half of the reserve and is a wet woodland/swamp dominated by alders. It has been identified as a Significant Natural Area. The understory includes *Tradescantia* and other exotic plants including weed species with some native species plantings and emergent natives.

Multiple model aero clubs are in the process of formalising an arrangement to operate on the capped landfill site. Beehives are also kept on the closed landfill site.

The passive recreational area by the river includes some amenity planting, a boat ramp, public toilets and parking areas. This area also hosts a water-ski club building.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Arrangements with user groups have not been formalised.
- Capped landfill on site may constitute a risk or be a hazard.
- Grass area adjacent to carpark is often vandalised by vehicles

### **Reserve Management Policy**

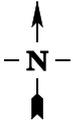
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.
3. Formalise lease arrangements with:
  - a. the water-ski club,
  - b. model aero clubs
  - c. beekeeper,
  - d. And /or any other group / club / individual occupying the land.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- D. Maintain exotic pecan tree species on the reserve.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. An upgrade to the boat ramp has been scheduled to be completed in the 2018/19 year.



### The Elbow Landing Reserve



## 2.1.6 Tramway Road Metal Dump Reserve, Puni



Reserve Classification	Quarry Reserve	Area	1.6491 hectares
Location	Tramway Road, Puni	Legal description	Section 29S Puni Settlement
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

The Northern portion of this reserve is grazed and the Southern portion contains a Significant Natural Area. A well shaded, clear flowing stream flows through this area and may be a conduit for native fish in the catchment. The stream contains a series of small waterfalls. The vegetation is dominated by mahoe with titoki and other natives. The site is also very weedy, with *Tradescantia*, montbretia and other herbaceous and woody pest plants in abundance.

The habitat is linked via the stream to other bush remnants.

At this point in time it is not intended to promote recreational usage – if this changes during future reviews of this management plan than safe vehicle parking and public access will be a priority.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- No access or parking.
- No signage.

- Reserve boundary is not defined.
- Good site for pest plant biocontrol.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

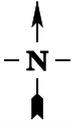
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. Formalise agreement with adjacent landowner for their continued use of northern grass portion of reserve, or revegetate with natives.
3. To have no stock in the natural features of the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

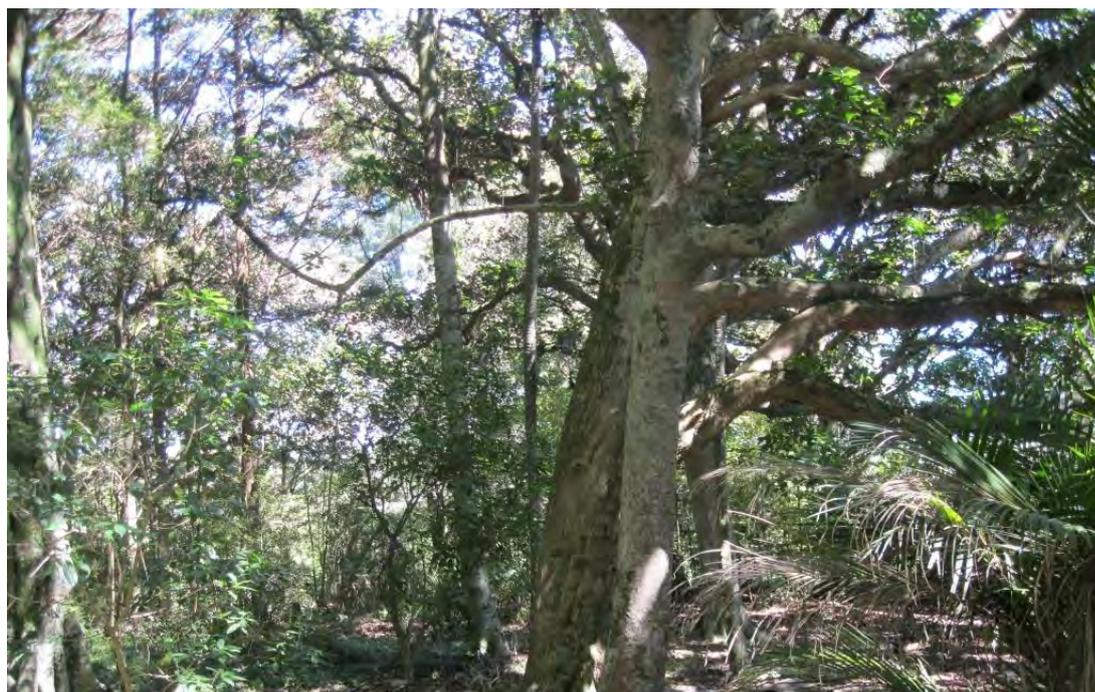
- A. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- B. Assess stream biodiversity.
- C. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- D. Consider disposal of this reserve subject to a surplus land assessment.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



## 2.1.7 Tribhoun Girdar Scenic Reserve, Buckland



Reserve Classification	Local Purpose Scenic Reserve	Area	1.4961 hectares
Location	Buckville Road, Buckland	Legal description	Lot 5 DP 97809
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

This entire reserve is covered in bush and has been identified as a Significant Natural Area. It is largely made up of closed canopy mature species dominated bush with shaded understorey. The reserve includes a sloping hillside down to a wet area with ephemeral stream. The diversity and age profile of the natives indicates a healthy ecosystem.

This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site. No pedestrian access or parking for the site is currently available. There are signs that the reserve is/was used for occasional motor cross/mountain biking activities.

Native species identified during a site visit included totara, puriri, titoki, tree ferns, tairiri, kohekohe, kahikatea, lancewood, nikau and mapou. Weed species identified included both species of privet and Jerusalem cherry.

There is a large wooden sign on road edge that says "Tribhoun Girdar Scenic Reserve", however it is not easy to see.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- It is not obvious that this is a reserve (signage is not easy to see).
- There is no safe car parking or pedestrian access in to the reserve.
- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Repairs to fence required.
- Motorbikes may be accessing the site and causing damage.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

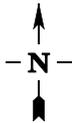
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- E. Investigate and resolve reserve access (parking and pedestrian access).

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Review options for developing car parking at reserve entrance on Buckville Road
- ii. Explore options for a recreational walking loop trail to be built through the reserve.



## 2.1.8 Whangarata Scenic Reserve, Tuakau



Reserve Classification	Scenic Reserve	Area	0.7203 hectares
Location	Pokeno Road, Tuakau	Legal description	Lot 2 DP 82069
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

This is a mature oak dominated bush with a shaded understorey on sloping hillside down to Pokeno Road. There is a mix of non-native species including weeds and some natives. A wooden sign is located on road edge: “Whangarata Scenic Reserve”.

Native species identified on a site visit included totara, tree ferns, kohekohe and mapou. Weed species identified included both species of privet, *Tradescantia*, ladder fern, pampas, gorse and Japanese honeysuckle.

At this point in time it is not intended to promote recreational usage – if this changes during future reviews of this management plan than safe vehicle parking and public access will be a priority.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological reserve.

### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Habitat dominated by non-native mature oaks.
- No public access or parking off 100km/h road.

### Reserve Management Policy

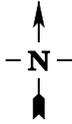
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- B. Consider disposal of this reserve subject to a surplus land assessment.

**Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



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## 2.2 Hukanui-Waerenga Ward

### 2.2.1 Taniwha Scenic Reserve, Waerenga



Reserve Classification	Scenic Reserve	Area	125. 7500 ha
Location	McGovern Road, Waerenga	Legal description	LOT 1 DPS 50712 BLKS XIV VX PIAKO SD
Authority	Transferred to Waikato County Council in 1989	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

Taniwha Scenic Reserve is a 125ha bush reserve through which runs the Taniwha Stream and tributaries. The whole site is designated as a Significant Natural Area. The bush has a full mature canopy, diverse native flora and a stream showing evidence of good water quality.

A 4X4 only access track exists but it needs repairs (including repairs to main access bridge).

The habitat consists of a diverse mix of native species, including rewarewa, totara, rimu, puriri, matai, pigeonwood with understorey of kawakawa, nikau, mahoe and mapou. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

Taniwha Scenic Reserve currently has no major weed issues. Within the reserve itself there is extensive mature canopy cover with a mixed species understorey heavily grazed by feral goats. The feral goats are currently the major negative impact on the ecological values at the reserve. As far as weed species are concerned, only gorse was observed in the bush reserve itself, and then only in exposed areas along the goat tracks. Along the roadway non-native weed species have established and are beginning to encroach into the reserve.

Invasive weed species noted on the periphery of the bush and along the roadway include privet, *Elaeagnus*, Japanese walnut, Spanish heath, gorse, barberry and blackberry.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site of significant size.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Potential illegal hunting.
- Mammalian pests, especially feral goats.
- People trespassing from the reserve on to private land.
- Poor access/unmaintained road in need of repairs.
- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Lack of signage.
- No formed parking.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

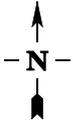
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.
3. To eradicate goats from the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

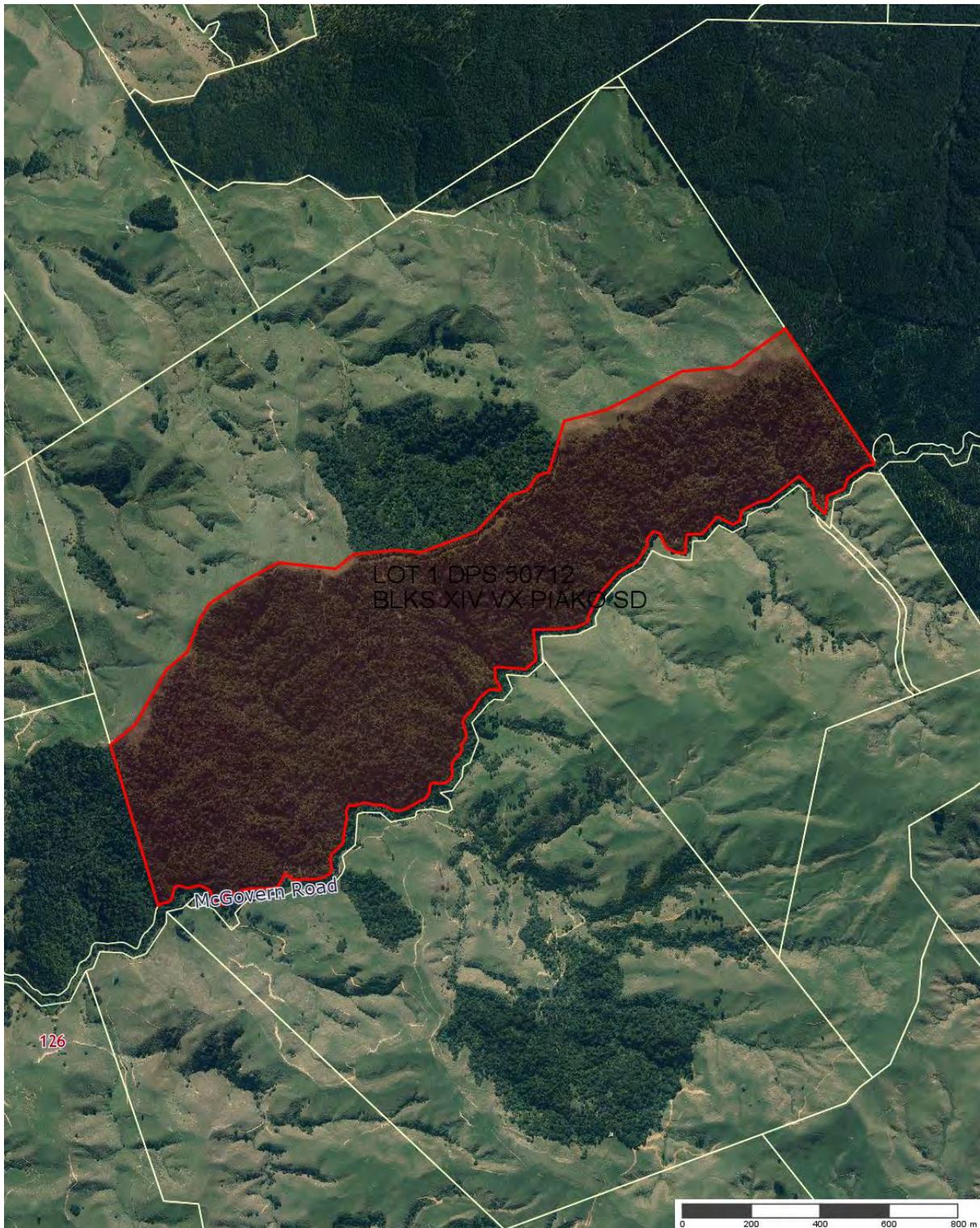
- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Maintain bridge to allow service access to site.
- ii. Road access to be assessed and maintained for service vehicular access.
- iii. Provide parking at end of maintained McGovern Road and defined pedestrian access to reserve



### Taniwha Scenic Reserve



## 2.3 Huntly Ward

### 2.3.1 Glen Afton Esplanade Reserve, Glen Afton



Reserve Classification	Lot I DP 33828: Not Reserve (General Land,) SECS 1-4: In trust for recreation purposes	Area	Lot I DP 33828: 0.1442 hectares, SECS 1-4: 14.7528 hectares
Location	Rotowaro Road, Glen Afton	Legal description	SECS 1-4 SO 372242 BLK II NEWCASTLE SD BLK XIV RANGIRIRI SD, Lot I DP 33828
Authority	SECS 1-4: Vested Lot I: Transferred from private ownership to Waikato District Council in 1990	Subject to WTTS	Lot I DP 33828: No SECS 1-4: Yes

#### Background

This is a reserve along Rotowaro Road consisting of regenerating bush. It links Glen Afton to the Bush Tramway Club site and includes a large portion of the old bush tramway. The hillside is naturally regenerating with emergent scrub dominated by tree ferns, coprosmas and mahoe, as well as a variety of weeds including jasmine, wattle, arum lily, pampas, montbretia, woolly nightshade and willow.

The site includes Significant Natural Features and a stream.

The Bush Tramway Club's headquarters is privately owned. The Club have been operating at the site since 1973 and part of the site is subject to a lease to the club. Since then, this volunteer organisation has repaired and restored a significant part of the old Rotowaro to Glen Afton railway line within the reserve, and collected a unique collection of heritage locomotives and other railway items relating to the New Zealand coal and timber industries, as well as obtaining old New Zealand Railways rolling stock, much of it over a century old. The Club has for many years also been one of the few tourist/heritage attractions in the area and as such has brought financial support to the Huntly/Glen Afton area in terms of tourism dollars, through expenditure on goods and materials and from club member activities. The club owns the track on the reserve.

For many years the Bush Tramway Club has been doing a significant amount of work along the Reserve to control vegetation and encourage the re-establishment of appropriate native trees and plants.

The reserve has been highly modified by industrial activity (coal mining and the building and operating of a railway).

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

#### **Reserve Issues**

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.

#### **Reserve Management Policy**

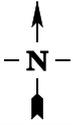
1. To have no stock in the reserve.
2. Formalise an agreement for continued use of the tramway for heritage trains by the Bush Tramway Club.

#### **Management Actions**

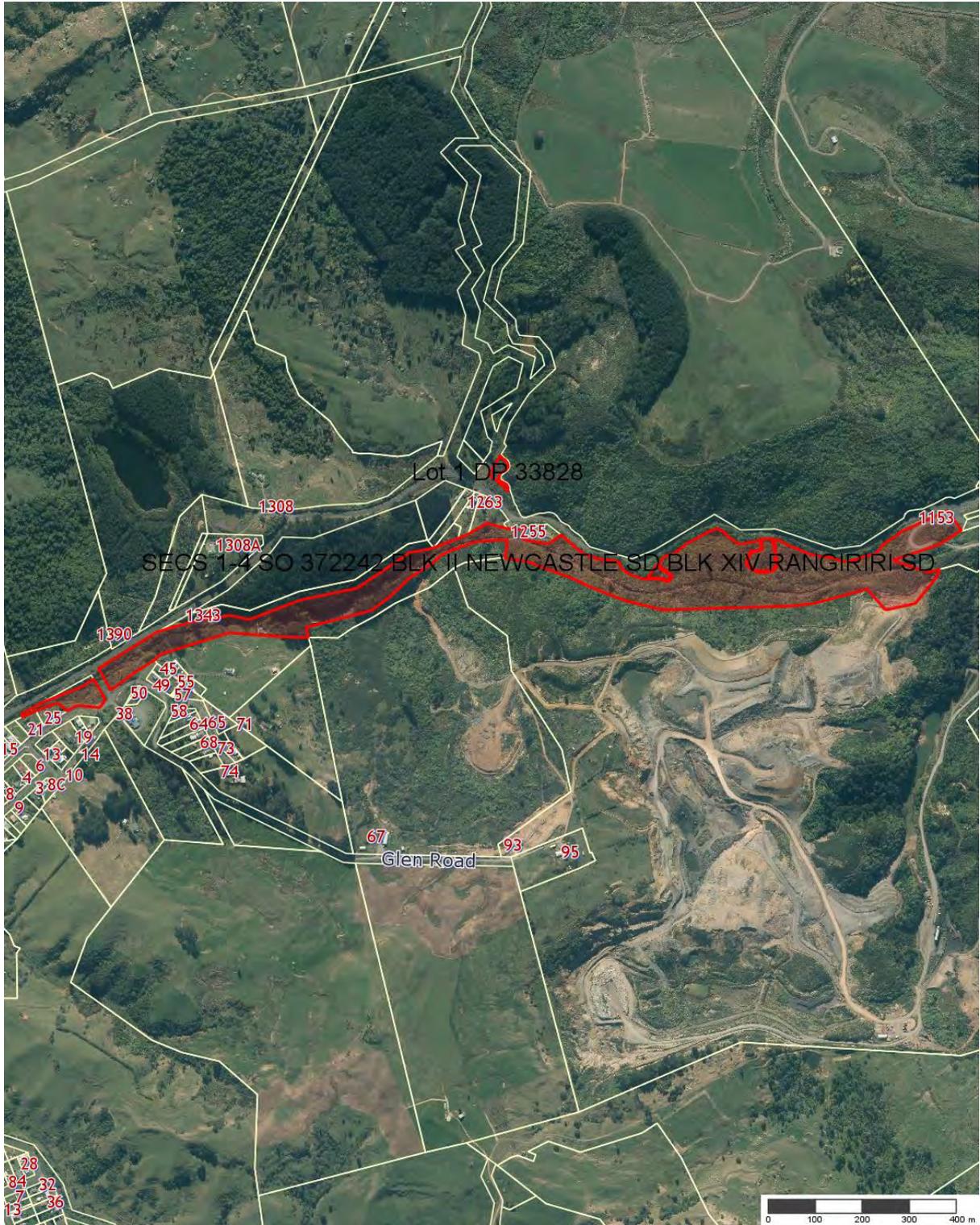
- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Consider under planting with climax tree species.
- D. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- E. Identify a portion of reserve land at the Glen Afton town to be developed for the establishment of a station building and platform.

#### **Proposed Development**

- i. A memorial to the 1939 mine disaster is to be created at the Western section of the reserve near Glen Afton.
- ii. The Bush Tramway Club is currently raising funds to complete the tramway all the way to Glen Afton.
- iii. Develop additional gravel car parking for up to 20 cars.



Glen Afton Esplanade Reserve



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### 2.3.2 Hartis Avenue Reserve, Huntly



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	1.0000 hectare
Location	Hartis Avenue, Huntly	Legal description	LOT 95 DPS 50883
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

This one hectare reserve contains rare wet woodland habitat linking in to the Kimihia lake catchment. It is adjacent to a stormwater retention pond and in a residential area. It has waterways running through it as well as wetland native plant species and it is acting as a natural stormwater filtration system. An ecological enhancement programme has established suitable native species onsite and is ongoing.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Inability for public to access/utilise the site.

#### Reserve Management Policy

1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

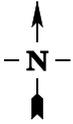
#### Management Actions

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.

- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Consider value of ongoing mammalian pest control.
- E. Improve access and continue ecological enhancement.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Improve pedestrian access to the reserve



### Hartis Avenue Reserve



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### 2.3.3 Ohinewai Reserve, Waikare



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	Part Allot 49 Taupiri PSH 29.9336 ha, Allot 581 Taupiri PSH 0.1340 ha, Allot 656 Taupiri PSH 3.4398 ha
Location	Tahuna Road, Ohinewai	Legal description	Part Allot 49 Taupiri PSH, Allot 581 Taupiri PSH, Allot 656 Taupiri PSH
Authority	Control and manage	Subject to WTTS	Yes

#### Background

This large reserve consists of swamp and grazed land located to the North West of Lake Ohinewai. The swamp is fenced and designated as a Significant Natural Area. The reserve adjoins Department of Conservation and RiverCare planting zones around the lake.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Stock negatively impacting ecological values.
- No formed access or parking.
- It is not obvious that this is a reserve (signage required).

**Reserve Management Policy**

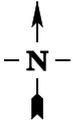
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. To progressively remove stock and replace with native plantings
- D. Ongoing regular pest control.
- E. Coordinate improvements with Department of Conservation and RiverCare.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Install access road and car parking.
- ii. Consider walkways to lake and swamp reserve.



Ohinewai Reserve



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### 2.3.4 Pukemiro Reserve, Pukemiro



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	0.1477 hectares
Location	Edward Avenue, Pukemiro	Legal description	PT ALLOT 166 PEPEPE PSH DP 27267
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	Yes

#### Background

This small reserve consists of weedy bush both sides of a stream. The stream has invertebrate (mayfly and/or stone fly larvae) which are indicators of high to medium water quality. The bush is weedy with heavy coverage of montbretia, privet, blackberry and spanish heather. This plant coverage is not native dominated but does comprehensively shade the stream offering suitable microclimate over approximately 60m of waterway. Stock may also have access to the site although the steep sides will help prevent major issues. The stream runs through grazed farmland upstream and along the mostly vegetated edge of Rotowaro road downstream.

At this point in time it is not intended to promote recreational usage – if this changes during future reviews of this management plan than safe vehicle parking and public access will be a priority.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- It is not obvious that this is a reserve.
- No formed access or parking.

#### Reserve Management Policy

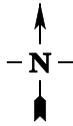
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.

**Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



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### 2.3.5 Rayner Road Natural Reserve, Huntly



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	3.8684 hectares
Location	Rayner Road, Huntly	Legal description	LOT 51 DP 4124 SEC I SO 356947
Authority	LOT 51 DP 4124: Vested SEC I SO 356947: Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

This recreation reserve contains areas of grass, shrub, bush and swampland and links to Department of Conservation owned land around Lake Hakanoa. It contains natural features and has significant weed issues.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- The site is prone to flooding.

#### Reserve Management Policy

1. To have no stock in the reserve.
2. To ensure a formal licence agreement is in place for any grazing undertaken in this reserve.

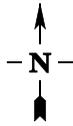
#### Management Actions

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Any proposals should take in to consideration the objectives of the Lake Hakanoa Reserve Management Plan including policies for adjacent land parcels.

- D. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- E. Control plant weeds along boundary areas in grazed portion of reserve
- F. Consider disposal of this reserve subject to a surplus land assessment.

**Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



### Rayner Road Natural Reserve



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## 2.4 Ngaruawahia Ward

### 2.4.1 Hakarimata Walkway Reserve, Ngaruawahia



Reserve Classification	Lot 1, Lot 3: General Land, Lot 4: Recreation Reserve	Area	Lot 1: 13.8099 hectares Lot 3: 0.8675 hectares Lot 4: 0.3809 hectares
Location	Hakarimata Road, Ngaruawahia	Legal description	Lot 1 DPS 8457, Lot 3 DP 324393, Lot 4 DPS 47226,
Authority	Lot 1, Lot 3: Vested Lot 4: Transferred to the Ngaruawahia Borough Council in 1988	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

The majority of this reserve is taken up by the Hakarimata bush, a Significant Natural Area. A portion of the reserve includes a section of stream linking the Hakarimata hillside to the Waipa River, passing through a riverside esplanade reserve on the river side of Hakarimata Road.

This reserve includes the entranceway and a portion of the Hakarimata Summit Track which is administered by the Department of Conservation.

In 2016 a car park upgrade was undertaken and new toilets were provided. A Tomokanga (archway) near the beginning of the walk was also erected.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.

- Mammalian pests negatively impacting ecological values.
- Encroachment from adjoining property.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

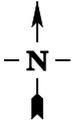
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Consider value of ongoing regular mammalian pest control.
- E. Provide a continuous native species dominate habitat from the river to the Hakarimata bush and improve stream conditions with shading planting.
- F. Prevent water treatment plant discharges to stream.
- G. Habitat enhancements throughout the reserve (including investigating potential for biocontrol).
- H. Formalise licence to occupy and/or land swap where adjoining landowner has encroached onto the reserve

### **Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



## 2.5 Onewhero-Te Akau Ward

### 2.5.1 Brockett Reserve, Waingaro



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	1.2798 hectares
Location	Waingaro Road, Waingaro	Legal description	LOT 1 DPS 18040
Authority	Private land transferred to the Waikato District Council 1989	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

This reserve is located on Waingaro Road near Waingaro Hot Springs. It contains mature totara dominated bush cover, with a mix of natives. The reserve has a stream running through it. There is a wooden 'Brockett Reserve' sign on the road edge.

At this point in time it is not intended to promote recreational usage – if this changes during future reviews of this management plan then safe vehicle parking and public access will be a priority.

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- No easy access to and within the reserve. Located on the edge of a 100km/h road with no parking available.

**Reserve Management Policy**

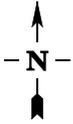
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- C. Consider disposal of this reserve subject to a surplus land assessment.

**Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



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## 2.5.2 Maunsell Swamp Verge, Port Waikato



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	2.6290 hectares
Location	Ashwell Drive, Port Waikato	Legal description	Lot 27 DPS 23883
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

This reserve is dominated by coastal scrub, is heavily weed infested and is located between sand dunes and houses at Maraetai Bay. The sand dunes adjacent to the reserve have been identified as a Significant Natural Area. Waikato Regional Council is undertaking an alligator weed control programme.

It is adjacent to ephemeral dune wetlands identified as priority management areas in the Wildlands Ecological Enhancement Plan for Port Waikato.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Vehicles accessing the dunes through the reserve.

### Reserve Management Policy

1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

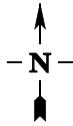
### Management Actions

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- C. Reserve enhancements should take in to consideration the vision for the neighbouring dune wetlands (identified in the Ecological Enhancement Plan for Port Waikato), and the adjacent neighbourhood park (see the Maraetai Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan).

D. Any works involving digging will require consultation with Heritage New Zealand prior.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Develop pedestrian bridge on accessway of Ashwell Drive.



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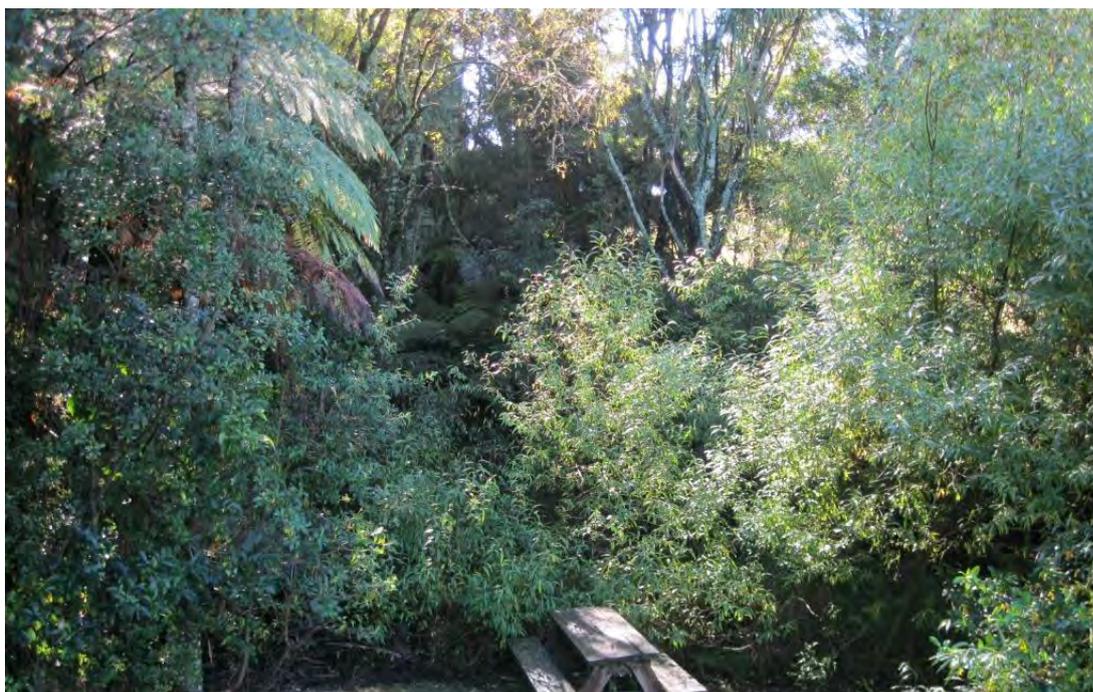
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### 2.5.3 Naike Esplanade Reserve, Naike



Reserve Classification	Scenic Reserve	Area	0.4670 hectares
Location	Highway 22, Naike	Legal description	LOT 8 DPS 53167
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

This is a small reserve adjacent to 3789 Highway 22. The native bush extends beyond the reserve boundary on to the road reserve. The site is located on a hillside. It has a small lay-by carpark with two picnic benches, with the remnants of signage, fencing and paths relating to work done by the Naike School in the 1980s.

There is a walkway from the carpark in to the bush which has a mature closed canopy and contains minor waterways. The dominant species are kahikatea and totara, with some tanekaha, tawa, nikau, mapou, rangiora, native broom, pate and mahoe. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site. The site has been designated a Significant Natural Area. The only weed noticed during a site visit was African club moss.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- It is not obvious that this is a reserve (signage required).

#### Reserve Management Policy

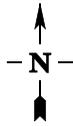
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Restore and maintain access tracks and carpark.



## 2.5.4 Ocean View Road Reserve (Part of Sunset Beach Reserve), Port Waikato



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	0.3733 hectares
Location	Ocean View Road, Port Waikato	Legal description	LOT 10 DPS 17714
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

LOT 10 DPS 17714 is a small (0.37ha) parcel of reserve land at the north end of Ocean View Road, Sunset Beach, Port Waikato leading into the foreshore dune system. The reserve includes a sand vehicle access road to the dunes and shore. The site is heavily dominated by weeds including pampas, agapanthus and garden escapees. It has been assessed for ecological value as part of Wildlands Ecological report for Port Waikato.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Coastal erosion.
- Vehicle access damaging habitat.

### Reserve Management Policy

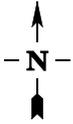
1. Require vehicular access to adjoining private properties to follow unformed road section of Ocean View Road.
2. Consultation with Heritage New Zealand is required prior to any works involving digging on the reserve
3. No stock permitted on the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Reserve enhancements should take in to consideration the vision for the neighbouring dune system (identified in the Ecological Enhancement Plan for Port Waikato).
- D. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- E. Comprehensive weed control should not occur without replacement plantings as this may result in (wind) erosion of site. Establishing appropriate grasses and plants will discourage erosion and dune encroachment.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Promote dune protection through signage to discourage people accessing the beach with vehicles through this reserve.



Ocean View Road Reserve (Part of Sunset Beach Reserve)



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## 2.5.5 Te Akau South Esplanade, Te Akau South



Reserve Classification	Lots 3,4,5,6,7 and 8 DPS 29497: Local Purpose Reserve Esplanade, Lot 39: Recreation Reserve, Lot 40: Esplanade Reserve	Area	Lots 3,4,5,6,7 and 8: 10.9100 hectares, Lots 39 and 40: 1.6746 hectares
Location	Te Akau South	Legal description	Lots 3,4,5,6,7 and 8 DPS 29497, Lots 39 and 40 DPS 11465
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

Te Akau South Esplanade consists of approximately 7 kilometres of shoreline esplanade along Te Akau South. Most of the reserve has been identified as Significant Natural Areas. The reserve includes pa sites in the settlement area (R14/52 and 14/53). The esplanade reserve itself south of the settlement has a path through it and includes native species planting. Vegetation is coastal scrub, mainly secondary growth with a variety of weed species, notably climbing asparagus. A few mature native trees such as puriri remain along the inaccessible limestone pancake coastline. The location is very remote and iconic, and can be reached from Raglan by boat (a boat ramp is located at the end of Te Akau Wharf Road).

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Significant weed issues - weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Very remote location unless arriving from Raglan by boat.

- Majority of coastline reserve is inaccessible.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve. This is likely only feasible in the publicly accessible sections of the reserve.
- D. Consider value of ongoing regular mammalian pest control. This is likely only feasible in the publicly accessible sections of the reserve.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



## 2.5.6 Waingaro Bush Reserve, Waingaro



Reserve Classification	Part Lot 2 DP 2790: Scenic Reserve Pt Allot 115 Waipa Parish defined on SO 4332 and Part Section 5 SO 51769: Fee Simple	Area	Part lot 2 DP 2790: 22.1274 hectares Pt Allot 115 Waipa Parish defined on SO 4332 and Part Section 5 SO 51769: 317m <sup>2</sup>
Location	Highway 22, Waingaro	Legal description	Part Lot 2 Deposited Plan 2790 Part Allot 115 Waipa Parish, defined on SO 4332 and Part Section 5 SO 51769
Authority	Part lot 2 DP 2790: Declared Pt Allot 115 Waipa Parish defined on SO 4332 and Part Section 5 SO 51769: Transferred by Waingaro Springs Forest Park limited to Waikato District Council in 1995	Subject to WTTS	Part Lot 2 DP 2790: No Pt Allot 115 Waipa Parish defined on SO 4332 and Part Section 5 SO 51769: No

### Background

This bush has a mature canopy and diverse native flora and fauna. It has a number of habitat types along the elevation, from mature totara dominated bush cover, to puriri/nikau forest and parataniwha dominated seeps with a mix of natives and some weed issues. It also has the Kahuhuru stream, a tributary of the Waingaro River, running through it.

A walking track loop through the bush starts and ends near St Alban's church.

Apart from the weed issues, the bush itself is in overall good condition and supports a healthy, species rich ecosystem. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

There is an ongoing biological control programme targeting both *Tradescantia* and Chinese privet in this reserve.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Mammalian pests negatively impacting ecological values.
- It is not obvious that this is a reserve and that there is a walking track (signage and publicity required).

### **Reserve Management Policy**

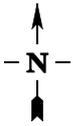
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

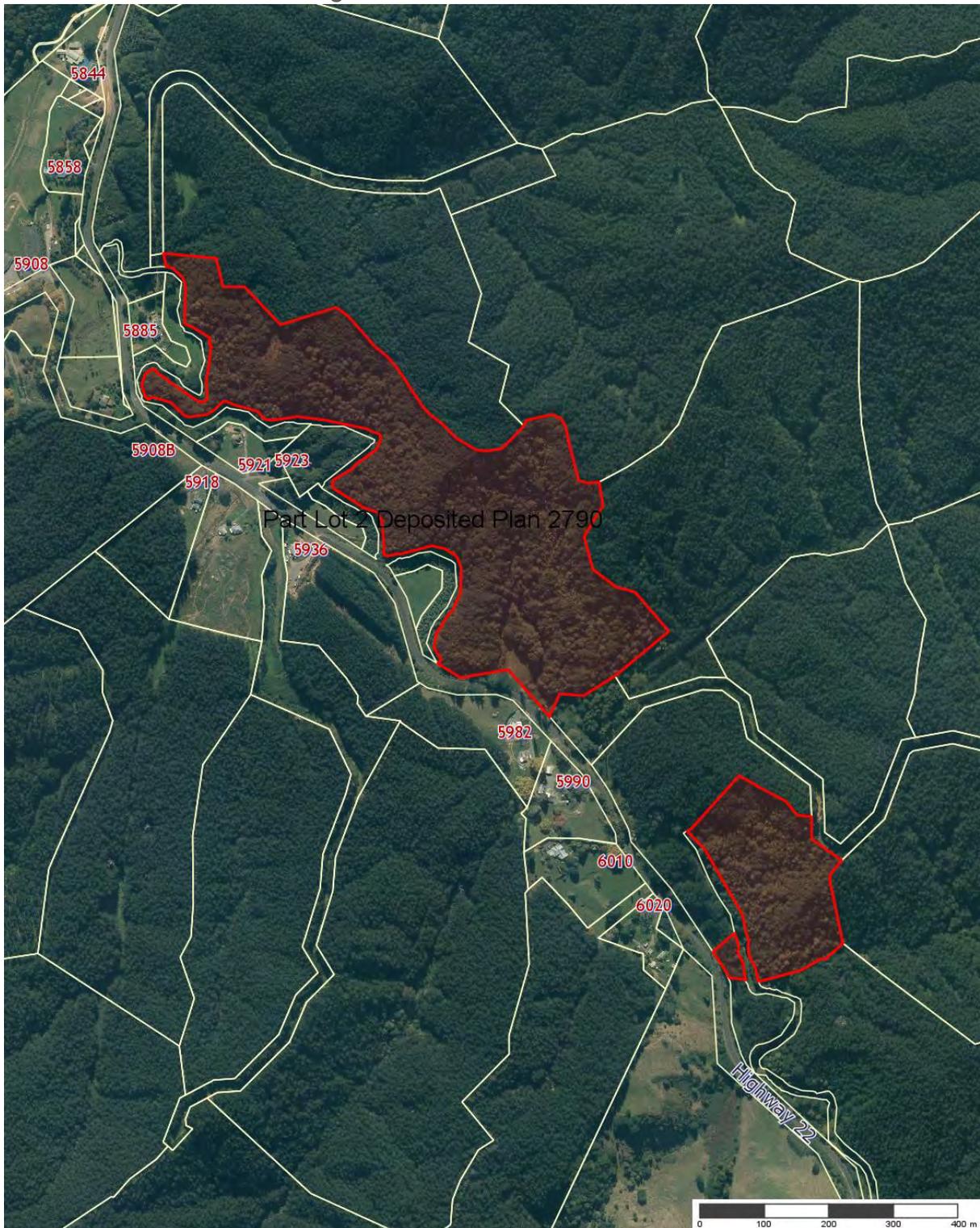
- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Review locations for appropriate signage, parking and access.
- D. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- E. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Assess track and upgrade where required.
- ii. Install signage and flash flood warning signs at entrance.



### Waingaro Bush Reserve



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## 2.6 Raglan Ward

### 2.6.1 Aroaro Bay Reserve, Raglan



Reserve Classification	Sec 1 SO 57281: Fee Simple Sec 2 SO 360861: Recreation Reserve Sec 3 SO 360861 Recreation Reserve Sec 4, SO 360861: Recreation Reserve Sec 6 SO 360861: Recreation Reserve	Area	Sec 1 SO 57281: 1046m <sup>2</sup> Sec 2 SO 360861: 2.2 HA Sec 3 SO 360861: 589m <sup>2</sup> Sec 4 SO 36086: 296m <sup>2</sup> Sec 6 SO 360861: 742m <sup>2</sup>
Location	John Street and Wallis Street, Raglan	Legal description	SEC 1 SO 57281 SECS 2-4 6 SO 360861
Authority	Sec 1: Stopped Road Sec 2: Vested Sec 3: Vested Sec 4: Vested Sec 6: Vested	Subject to WTTS	Yes for Sec 2 SO 360861

#### Background

Aroaro Bay is a saltwater marsh adjacent to the rugby grounds in Raglan opposite Wallis Street. The site offers important habitat as it is a saltwater marsh dominated by native species and is a natural filter for stormwater entering the marine environment.

The site is managed to improve ecological values through a native species planting and weed control programme. Regular inundation of tidal saltwater is important to keep the

ecosystem functioning. An open stormwater drain runs through the site. Car parking is available both on Wallis Street and in the sports ground car park.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Need to ensure saltwater inundation occurs regularly.
- Need to ensure drainage and stormwater do not negatively affect ecological values.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

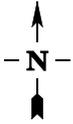
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- E. Promote the ecological values through the use of interpretive signage and improved access for education and recreation.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Install a wooden boardwalk and lookout point with interpretive signage.



Aroaro Bay Reserve



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## 2.6.2 Lorenzen Bay Recreation Reserve, Raglan



Reserve Classification	Lot 9, 13 and 37: Recreation Reserve Lot 14 DPS 42004: Scenic Reserve Lot 14 DPS 45184: Scenic Reserve	Area	Lot 13: 2.1079 hectares, Lot 14 DPS 42004: 0.5291 hectares, Lot 9: 0.2605 hectares, Lot 37: 0.2178 hectares, Lot 14 DPS 45184: 0.0064 hectares
Location	Greenslade Road, Raglan	Legal description	Lot 13 DPS 45184, Lot 14 DPS 42004, Lot 9 DPS 2297, Lot 37 DPS 149, Lot 14 DPS 45184
Authority	Lot 13: Vested Lot 9, 14 DPS 42004 and 37: Vested Lot 14 DPS 45184: Vested	Subject to WTTS	Lot 13, 14 DPS 42004 , 9 and 37: No Lot 14 DPS 45184: No

### Background

This reserve links the foothills of Greenslade road to the marine environment in Lorenzen Bay. The site is used as a walking path between the urban area and the town and contains a number of waterways and some areas of native bush. Some native species planting has occurred and the site is of value as it offers a natural corridor linking both terrestrial and aquatic habitats from the hills to the ocean.

The site has recently been improved through fencing, native species planting and some weed control. Further weed control will allow more natives to establish.

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Some reserve boundaries are not clearly defined.
- Need to ensure drainage and stormwater do not negatively affect ecological values.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

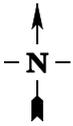
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- E. Improve and define walkways and extend recreational linkages.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Construction of walkways to improve linkages and access.



### Lorenzen Bay Recreation Reserve



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### 2.6.3 Okete Nature Reserve, Raglan



Reserve Classification	Quarry (Public Work), Fee Simple	Area	4.8585 hectares
Location	Okete Road, Te Uku	Legal description	PT ALLOT 6 WHAINGAROA PSH BLK II KARIOI SD
Authority	Acquired for public work	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

Okete Nature Reserve is a hillside reserve overlooking Okete Bay in Raglan. The bay is surrounded by sections of coastal bush which is identified as a Significant Natural Area. A significant habitat enhancement project involving pest plant control and the planting of over 5000 native species along the seaward edge of the reserve was undertaken in 2014/15.

From the western edge of the reserve an impressive waterfall in private ownership can be viewed.

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- There is no formed legal access to the reserve for public at this time which is an issue.

#### Reserve Management Policy

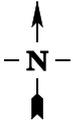
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the natural features of the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- F. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- G. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- B. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- C. Maintenance and releasing of planted natives required for 3-5 years.
- D. Investigate potential for extension of ecological enhancement programme.
- E. Investigate alternative formed public access to the reserve.
- F. Consider disposal of this reserve subject to a surplus land assessment.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Make a feature out of the waterfall via creation of a viewing area.
- ii. Install walkway through reserve.



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## 2.6.4 Raglan Reservoir, Raglan



Reserve Classification	Fee Simple	Area	1.8153 HA
Location	Cornwall Road, Raglan	Legal description	PT LOTS 23 24 DP C38 BLK II KARIOI SD
Authority	Acquired for quarry.	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

The Raglan reservoir is a disused quarry site in the hills above Raglan with a retic water storage tower asset. The site has a significant natural feature in the form of a seasonal 30m waterfall and a pond. The vegetation on site includes established native species as well as a number of pest plant species.

The primary purpose of this site is for water purposes. At this point in time it is not intended to promote recreational usage – if this changes during future reviews of this management plan than safe vehicle parking and public access will be a priority.

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Accessibility (the lower portion is swampy and above the waterfall is difficult to access).
- Public access and car parking.
- Ensuring any developments don't negatively impact on water storage function.

### Reserve Management Policy

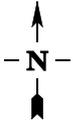
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- D. Consider value of instigating an ecological enhancement programme.

**Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



Raglan Reservoir



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## 2.6.5 Ruapuke Beach Esplanade, Raglan



Reserve Classification	Lot 3, 7 and 8: Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade), Lot 1: Recreation Reserve	Area	Lot 7: 6.2950 hectares Lot 8: 1.0570 hectares Lot 1: 0.8720 hectares Lot 3: 3.2278 hectares
Location	Swann Access Road and Ruapuke Beach Road, Raglan	Legal description	Lot 7 DPS 21878, Lot 8 DPS 21878, Lot 1 DPS 82774, Lot 3 DPS 20348
Authority	Lot 1: Transferred as Recreation Reserve Lot 3, 7 and 8: Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

Ruapuke Beach Esplanade captures approximately 3 km of remote (accessed from a gravel road) ocean front cliffs and dunes from the fishing rock at Papanui point southwards to the end of Ruapuke beach road.

The habitat mostly consists of coastal scrub and dunes (some restored with native species plantings). There are two toilets, three car parks and four stream outlets. Access and car parking is at Papanui Point, Swann Access Road and Ruapuke Beach Road.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- Motorbikes accessing the beach.
- Coastal erosion.
- Not easy to locate – needs signage and promotion.
- Papanui Point is a hazardous fishing spot.

**Reserve Management Policy**

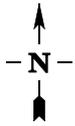
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

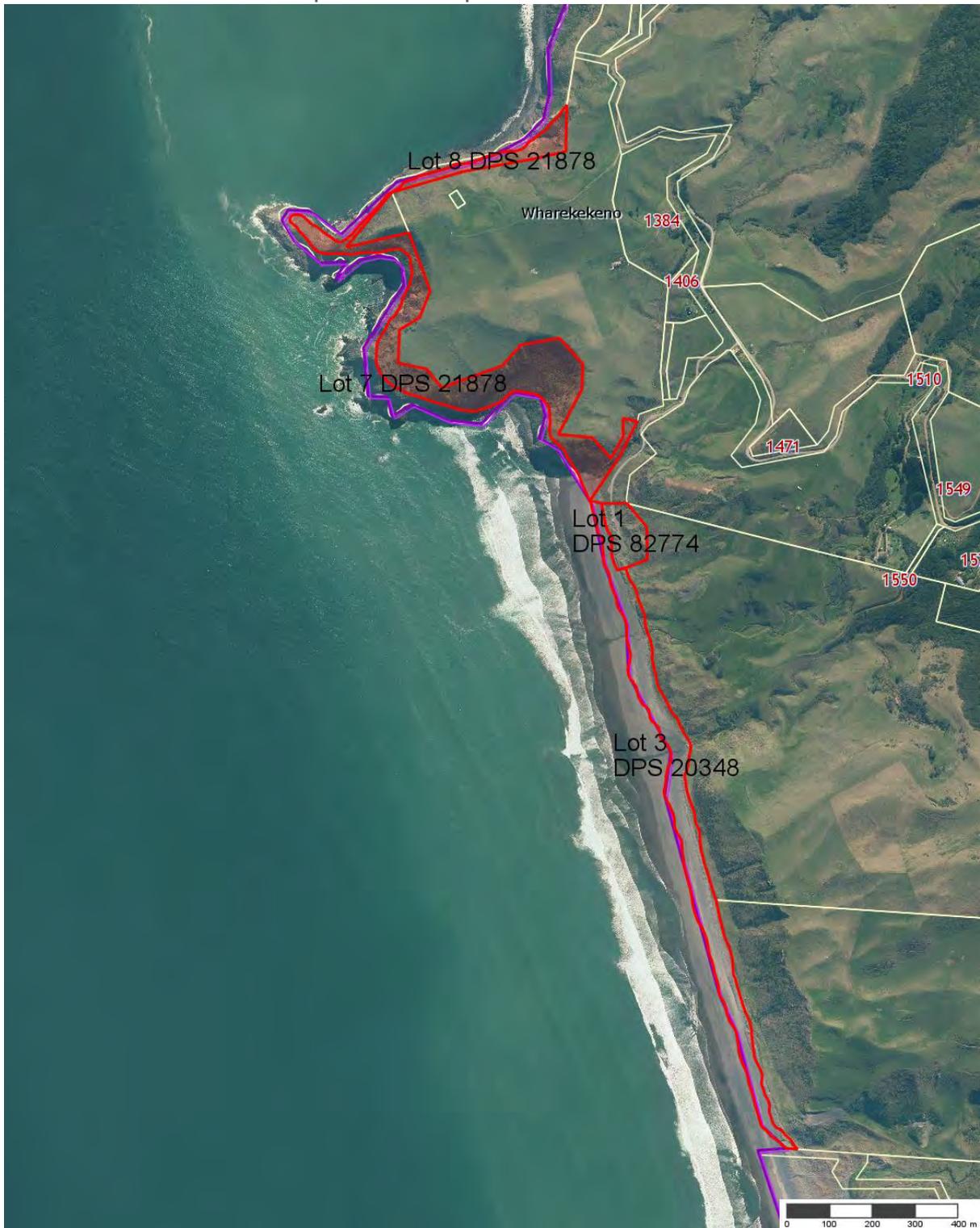
- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Dune restoration and ecological enhancement project to continue (ongoing with Regional Council).
- E. Review access points from the car park to the beach to minimise damage to the dune system.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Create a coastal walkway and viewing points for waterfalls.
- ii. Fix fence between car park and dunes.



### Ruapuke Beach Esplanade



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## 2.6.6 Totara Grove Reserve, Waitetuna



Reserve Classification	Recreation Reserve	Area	Lot 1: 0.4738 hectares Lot 25: 0.2860 hectares
Location	Totara Grove and Waitetuna Valley Road, Waitetuna	Legal description	Lot 25 DPS 44577, Lot 1 DPS 43959
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

Totara Grove Reserve is a reserve in two adjoining parcels located along Waitetuna Valley Road off State Highway 23. Most of the site is covered by native species dominated bush consisting of tall mature trees, closed canopy and shaded understory of natives and some weed species. The site is identified as a Significant Natural Area and a stream runs along the edge of the tree line. A section of the reserve is mown grass.

As the name suggests, the site is dominated by large mature totara, as well as kahikatea and matai, with an understory of mapou, kawakawa, nikau, mahoe, titoki, wineberry and young tawa. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

Some weed issues exist, with edge effects bringing in privet, hawthorn, cherry, *Fatsia japonica* and a significant ivy patch in the bush area. The current lack of *Tradescantia* and climbing asparagus makes weed control at this site a relatively simple process.

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

**Reserve Issues**

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- The site is not identifiable as a reserve (signage required).
- No formed parking.

**Reserve Management Policy**

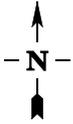
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. Consider value of instigating ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Develop limited off-street parking for day visitors and maintenance purposes.
- ii. Improve pedestrian access into reserve

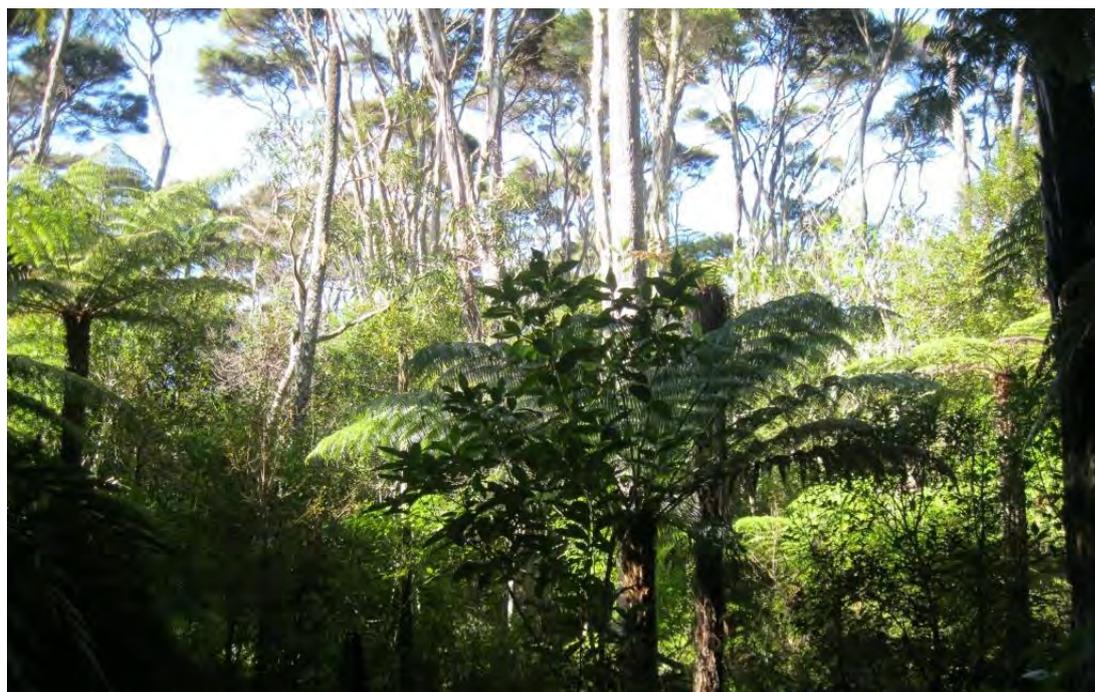


### Totara Grove Reserve



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## 2.6.7 Waterworks Wildlife Refuge Plantation Reserve, Raglan



Reserve Classification	Fee Simple General Land	Area	Section 9: 23.8710 hectares, Section 10: 15.4119 hectares
Location	Te Hutewai Road, Raglan	Legal description	Section 9 SO 442742, Section 10 SO 442742
Authority	Section 9: Transfer from private land to Raglan County Council in 1942 Section 10: Transferred to Raglan County Council in 1939	Subject to WTTS	Section 9: No Section 10: No

### Background

This large natural reserve is divided in to two sites by Te Hutewai Road.

To the East of Te Hutewai Road is a 24ha native bush reserve on the hillside. It contains the freshwater spring which supplies the drinking water for Raglan and the reserve stretches a kilometre down to the Oporu Road estuary. The site is closed to public access and stock proof fenced. Native species rich, kanuka dominated bush has been naturally regenerating on site and although few mature climax tree species exist, the site is biodiverse and largely weed free.

The site is dominated by mature kanuka, as well as rimu, pigeonwood, lancewood and heketara, with an understorey of mapou, kawakawa, mahoe and tree ferns. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

At this point in time it is not intended to promote recreational usage – if this changes during future reviews of this management plan than safe vehicle parking and public access will be a priority.

Weed species noted include *Tradescantia* encroaching from the roadside, climbing asparagus, Himalayan honeysuckle, gorse and convolvulus.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site.

To the West of the road is the Raglan refuse station. The waste transfer operations only utilise approximately one quarter of the land area, leaving around 8.5ha in mixed species bush that includes natives as well as pest plant species. Major issues exist with broadleaf privet. The vegetation on site includes established native species as well as a number of pest plant species. Some supplementary planting has occurred onsite along with some pest plant control.

The refuse station reserve has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- No public access to the waterworks reserve.
- Importance of freshwater spring resource.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

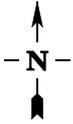
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.
3. Public access to waterworks reserve is not permitted.

### **Management Actions**

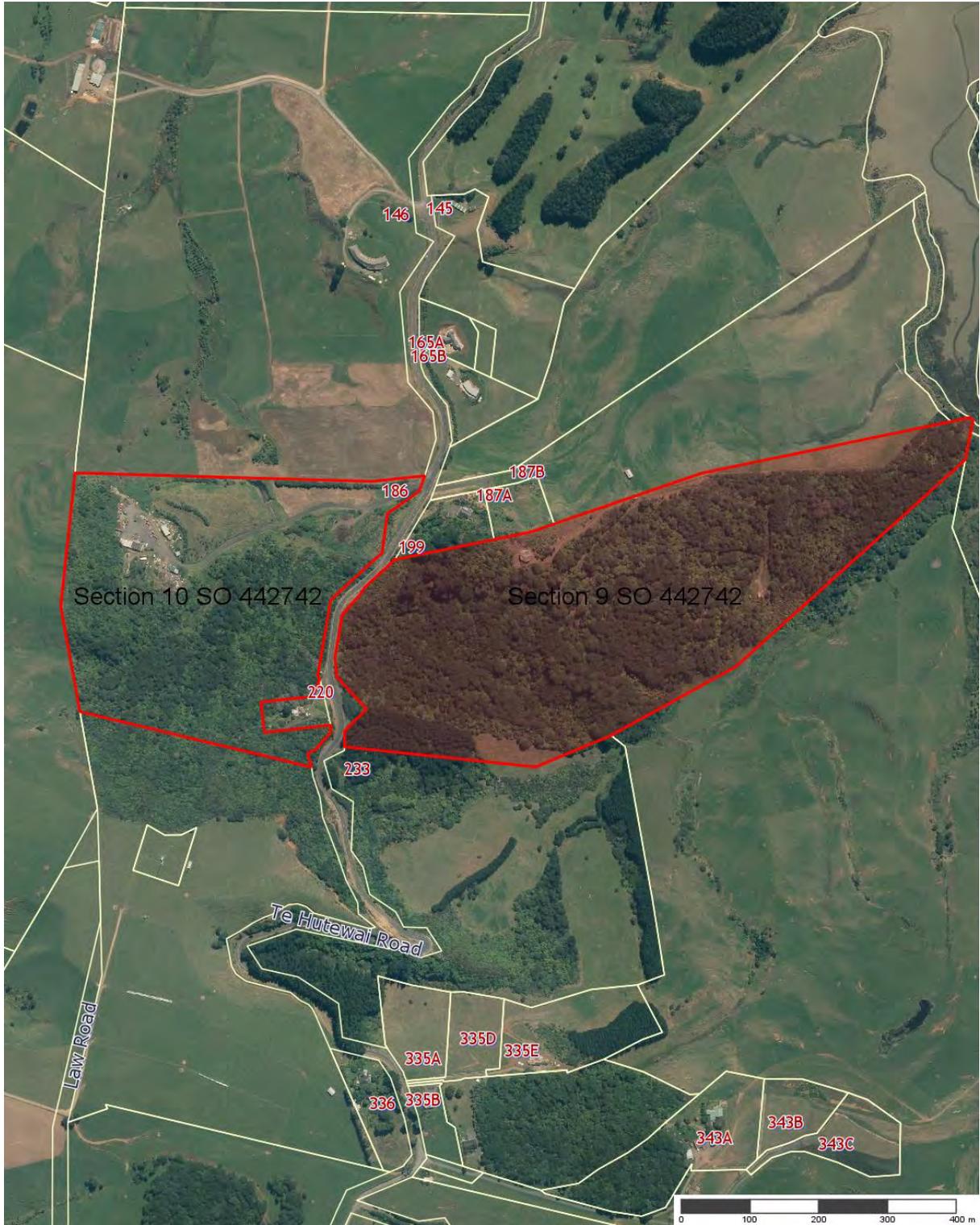
- A. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- B. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve in the Waterworks area.
- C. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve in the Waterworks area.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. No specific development is anticipated.



### Waterworks Wildlife Refuge Plantation Reserve



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## 2.7 Tamahere Ward

### 2.7.1 Narrows Reserve, Tamahere



Reserve Classification	Pt Allot 5: Recreation Reserve (owned and administrated by Crown) Lot 8: Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade) Lot 11: Recreation Reserve Lot 24: Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade)	Area	Pt Allot 5: 1.0430 HA Lot 8: 5760 m <sup>2</sup> Lot 11: 3224 m <sup>2</sup> Lot 24: 8215 m <sup>2</sup>
Location	Airport Road (SH21), Tamahere	Legal description	Part Allotment 5 Tamahere Parish, Lot 8 DPS 85662, Lot 11 DPS 85662, Lot 24 DP 372957
Authority	Pt Allot 5: (owned and administrated by Crown) Lot 8: Vested Lot 11: Vested Lot 24: Vested	Subject to WTTS	Pt Allot 5: Yes Lot 8: No Lot 24: No Lot 11: No

#### Background

This site includes recreation reserve which is publicly accessible as well as esplanade reserve adjacent to the Waikato River which is undeveloped and currently has no formed public access.

Narrows boat ramp is also located within the reserve.

The Southern portion of the reserve is currently undergoing a native habitat restoration programme of weed control and native species planting. This area has historic issues with quad bikes/4x4, illegal dumping, bank erosion and unauthorised felling of trees for firewood.

The esplanade reserve is identified as a Significant Natural Feature and is well vegetated with native re-growth and some weed species. The access strip on Twin Oaks Drive is being used as a drain.

Part Allotment 5 Tamahere Parish is owned and administrated by the Crown.

This has been identified as a medium value ecological site.

### **Reserve Issues**

- Undesirable activities (Quad bikes/4x4, illegal dumping and unauthorised felling of trees for firewood).
- Bank erosion.
- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- The access strip on Twin Oaks Drive is being used as a drain.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

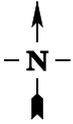
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

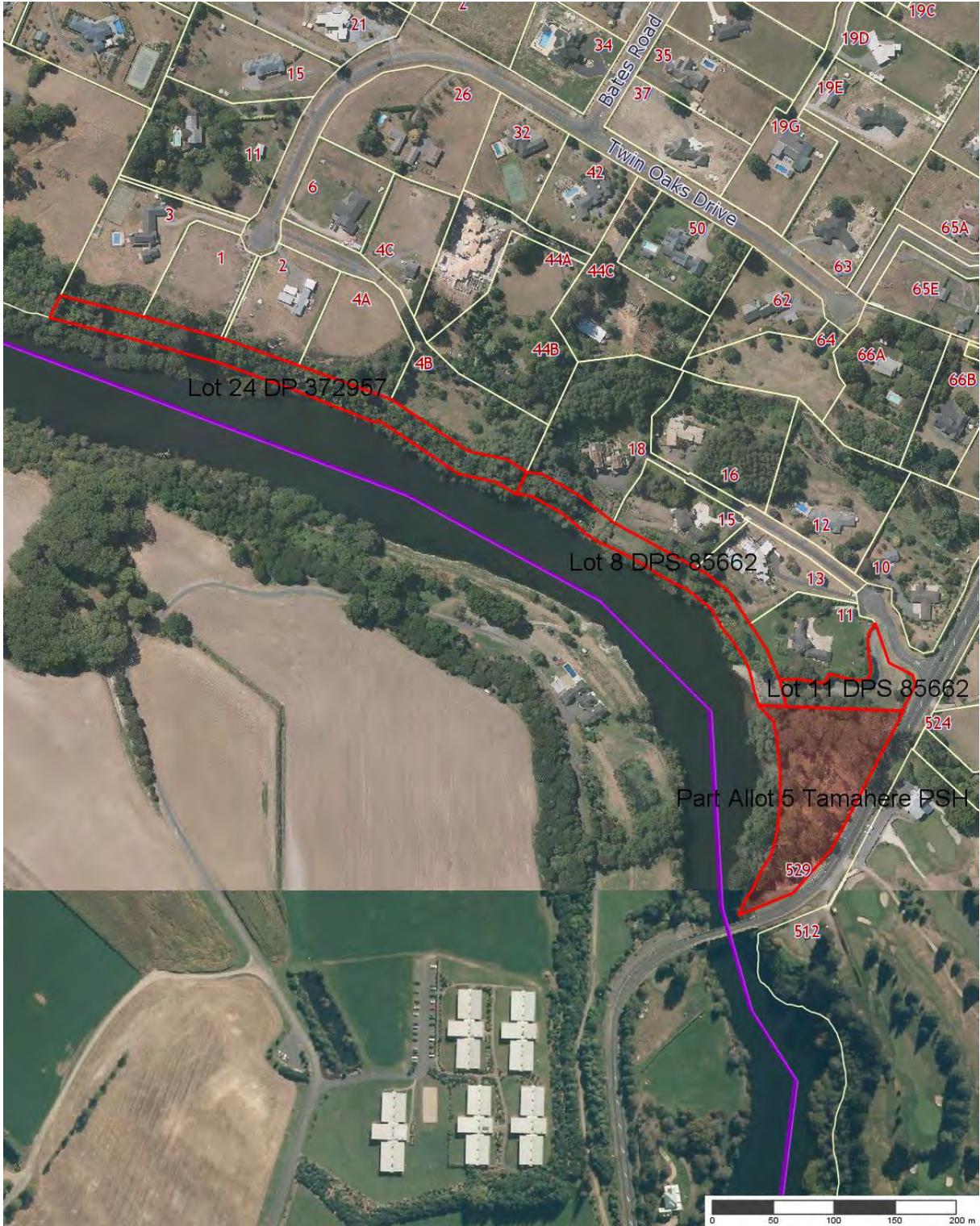
- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- D. No recommendations for esplanade reserve if the site remains undeveloped, apart from consideration for biocontrol of weeds (e.g. Japanese honeysuckle). However the site may be considered as part of a future cycleway, in which case:
  - i. Develop pathway linkages as feasible (Note: topography is steep).
  - ii. Weed control and supplementary native species planting as required.
  - iii. Resolve access issue from Twin Oaks Drive.
- E. A feasibility study is to be completed which will provide guidance about future developments to the boat ramp.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. The site may be considered as part of a future cycleway network.



Narrows Reserve



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## 2.7.2 Tamahere Reserve, Tamahere



Reserve Classification	Local Purpose Reserve (Quarry)	Area	4.6644 Hectares
Location	Tauwhare Road, Tamahere	Legal description	Part Allot 236 Tamahere PSH
Authority	Underlying ownership rests with the Crown, Council holds this property in Trust	Subject to WTTS	Yes

### Background

This reserve is a disused quarry (formerly known as Crawford's Quarry) overlooking the Mangaone stream. The topography includes flat areas, steep slopes and swampy wetlands. The vegetation includes exotic pine plantation, pest plants, and regenerating indigenous forest. The fauna includes both exotic pest animals and indigenous species including long-tailed bats.

A local community group have been undertaking native tree planting and other site development activities over recent years. They worked with Wildland Consultants to prepare an Ecological Management Plan in 2016 and they are working towards implementing its objectives.

This has been identified as a medium to high value ecological site.

### Reserve Issues

- There is a requirement by DoC to protect native bats which surveys have indicated roost in the pine trees. Removal of trees will likely require DoC approved bat protocols to be observed.
- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values
- Need to improve safe access to parking off 100km/h road.

- Ongoing rubbish dumping.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

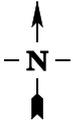
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.
3. To protect habitat for bats.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Improve pedestrian access into and around site, including ensuring public safety of all boardwalks and around waterways.
- D. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- E. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.

### **Proposed Development**

- i. Vehicle access improvements to investigate safe public access to the site.



Tamahere Reserve



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## 2.8 Whangamarino Ward

### 2.8.1 Blunt Road Natural Reserve, Te Kauwhata



Reserve Classification	Local Purpose Drainage Reserve	Area	1.5928 HA
Location	Blunt Road, Te Kauwhata	Legal description	Lot 116 DP 391858
Authority	Vested	Subject to WTTS	No

#### Background

The reserve consists of a willow dominated wet woodland which has been identified as a Significant Natural Feature. It is located in a modern residential subdivision in Te Kauwhata. It consists of a largely closed canopy of willow with understorey of weeds and some native colonisers with large areas of standing water. A stormwater detention pond drains in to the site and the wet woodland will be serving as a bio-filter for the stormwater.

A walkway is being built on adjacent unformed legal road from Blunt Road to the railway line.

This has been identified as a low to medium value ecological site.

#### Reserve Issues

- Weeds negatively impacting ecological values.
- Inability for public to access/utilise the site.

#### Reserve Management Policy

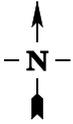
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

**Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Consider value of ongoing regular pest control.
- D. Improve public access.

**Proposed Development**

- i. Build a raised boardwalk loop.



### Blunt Road Natural Reserve



SCALE 1:1400	Cadastre sourced from Land Information New Zealand under CC-BY. Copyright @ Waikato District Council	Projection: New Zealand Transverse Mercator Datum: New Zealand Geodetic Datum 2000	Print Date: 15/09/2016	A4
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## 2.8.2 Holmes Bush Reserve, Te Kauwhata



Reserve Classification	Scenic Reserve	Area	1.3335 hectares
Location	Churchill East Road, Te Kauwhata	Legal description	LOT 1 DPS 39432 BLK XIV MARAMARUA SD
Authority	Transferred from private land to Waikato County Council in 1986	Subject to WTTS	No

### Background

This hillside bush reserve contains high quality native bush and is identified as a Significant Natural Feature. It consists of a mature closed canopy of natives with biodiverse understorey including a watercourse down to the Waikato River.

Plant species within the reserve include rewarewa, mahoe, puketea, putaputaweta, puriri, pigeonwood, tree ferns and parataniwha. This site is a good example of a biodiverse native bush and could be used as a seed collection site.

There is a right of way easement across the adjacent landowner's property to allow access.

This has been identified as a high value ecological site. The lack of weed issues and the impressive views of the river are noteworthy features.

### Reserve Issues

- No public access discernible despite old wooden reserve signage.
- Stock proof fence requires repair.

### **Reserve Management Policy**

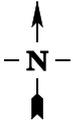
1. To ecologically enhance the habitat.
2. To have no stock in the reserve.

### **Management Actions**

- A. Install signage to natural reserves where appropriate pedestrian access is provided.
- B. Ensure adequate fencing is installed and maintained as determined by Council Parks Officers.
- C. Undertake a more comprehensive assessment of ecological values of site.
- D. Instigate ongoing weed control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- E. Instigate ongoing mammalian pest control programme to protect and enhance the ecological values of the reserve.
- F. Retaining sheep grazed buffer zone will help keep out edge effect weeds.
- G. Consider suitability of developing public access.

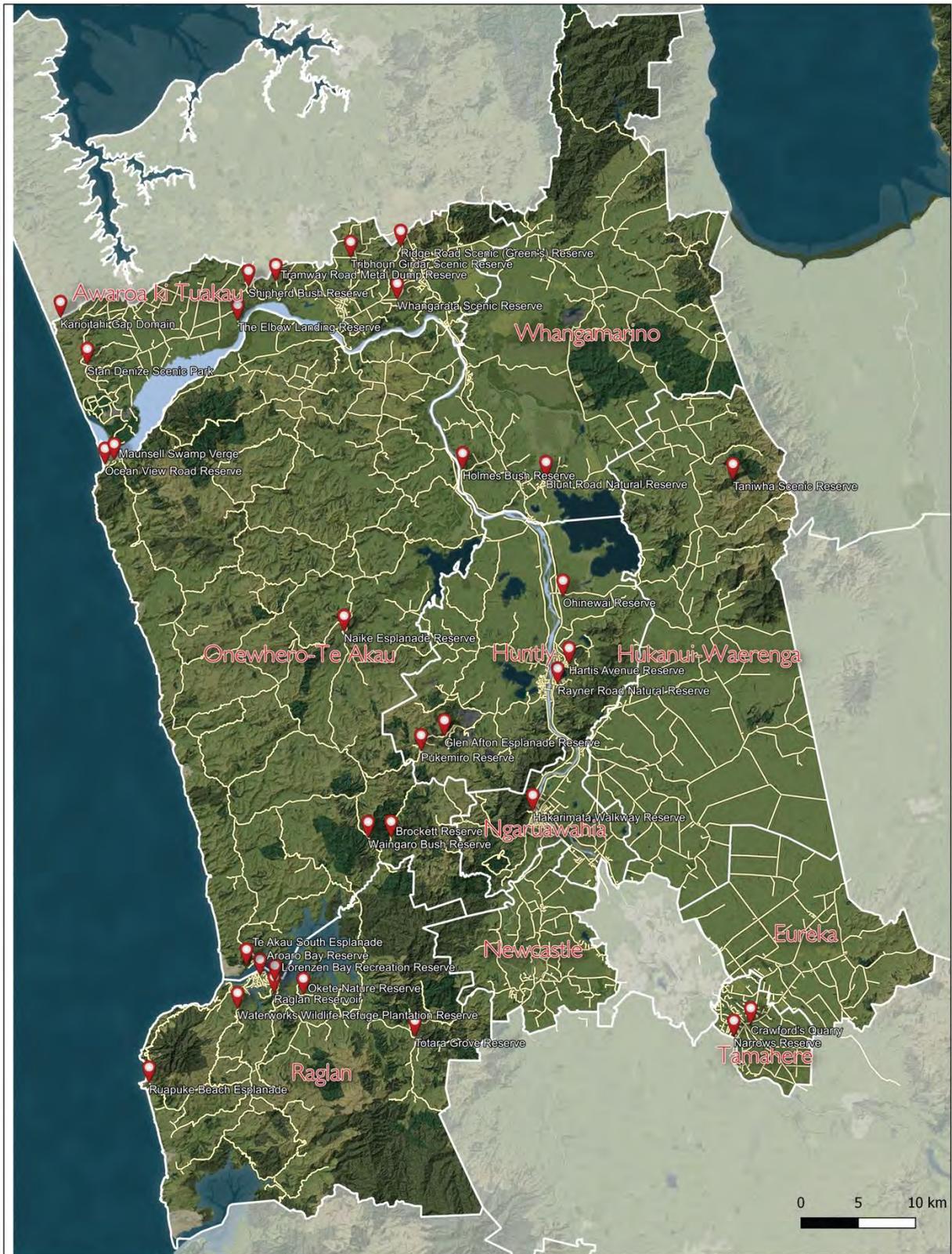
### **Proposed Development**

- i. Maintain stock proof fence.
- ii. Develop public access and parking. Review parking option in conjunction with Te Araroa trail access points, and identify walkway access over easement route with signage.



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### 3.0 Map of Natural Reserves



<p><b>Waikato</b> DISTRICT COUNCIL Te Kaitiaki o Te Waikato o Waikato</p>	<p><b>Natural Reserves</b></p>	<p><b>Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Natural Reserves</li> <li> Road</li> </ul>	<p>Copyright © Waikato District Council</p> <p>GIS Department Created By: EMK Created For: RMARS001 Date Created: 27/04/2016 Projection: NZTM GD2000 Ref: SD19318</p>
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