

SECTION 2: CONCEPT DESIGN + MASTER PLAN

2.01 SITE CONTEXT + KEY CONNECTIONS

SUMMARY NOTES

- Mt Victoria/Matairangi is an open space that is part of a much bigger system. It is important to consider the landscape values and character within the Wellington Town Belt, Wellington City Parks, and the Outer Green Belt context.
- Ecologically it provides valuable connections for native flora and fauna distribution across the wider city

GUIDING PRINCIPALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

This Concept Design + Master Plan is focused on vegetation and recreation management and recognises the guiding principals, objectives and policies for landscape and recreation as set out in the Wellington Town Belt Management Plan 2013 (WTBMP13).

The Wellington Town Belt Management 2013 Objectives:

4.1 Landscape Objectives

4.1.1 To protect the Town Belt as a predominantly natural environment in contrast to the built environment of the city.

4.1.2 To recognise and protect the unique landscape character of the Town Belt and, in particular, the:

- ridgeline and hilltop landscapes
- diversity of landscape aesthetic and experience
- patchwork of native and exotic vegetation
- maintenance of a tall/large-tree framework.

4.1.3 To manage long-term vegetation change to enhance its ecological function while protecting the variety of functions, activities and experiences the vegetation provides.

4.1.4 To recognise and protect the role of the Town Belt landscape in terms of:

- the contribution the reserves (together and as individual parts) make to the character and identity of Wellington City
- the value of the reserves as a natural setting for a variety of recreation and leisure activities
- providing an un-built visual backdrop and skyline to Wellington
- the significant area of land that provides environmental services, such as urban biodiversity, stormwater management and as a carbon sink.

5.1 Ecological Objectives

5.1.1 To protect indigenous biodiversity and indigenous ecosystems on the Town Belt, including freshwater ecosystems.

5.1.2 To restore and connect indigenous ecosystems on the Town Belt.

5.1.3 To improve the city's ecological resilience by gradually increasing the indigenous vegetation cover on the Town Belt and its connectivity within a region-wide ecological network.

5.1.4 To gradually increase the indigenous proportion of the Town Belt's total vegetation cover to 65 percent by 2065.

5.1.5 To work in partnership with iwi, communities, researchers and businesses in restoring, learning about and celebrating the Town Belt's ecology.

6.1 Recreational Objectives

6.1.1 The Town Belt is accessed and used by the community for a wide range of sporting and recreational activities.

6.1.2 Recreational and sporting activities are environmentally, financially and socially sustainable.

6.1.3 Participation in sport and recreation is encouraged and supported.

6.1.4 The Town Belt makes a significant contribution to the quality of life, health and well-being of Wellingtonians by increasing a range of physical activity and providing active transport routes and access to natural environments

6.1.5 The track (open-space access) network provides for a range of user interests, skills, abilities and fitness levels, and pedestrian and cycling commuter links.

6.1.6 Management and development of formal sporting facilities and associated infrastructure does not compromise the landscape and ecological values of the Town Belt.

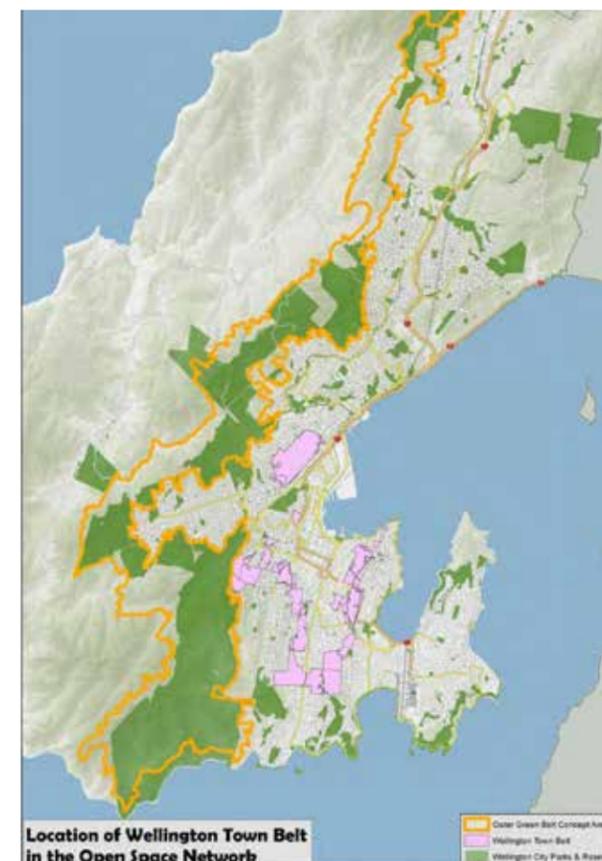
6.1.7 To maximise use of existing formal indoor and outdoor recreation facilities by intensifying the use of sports surfaces and ensuring the multiple use of ancillary facilities, such as clubrooms, to reduce the demand for additional facilities on the Town Belt.

7.1 Cultural and Historical Objectives

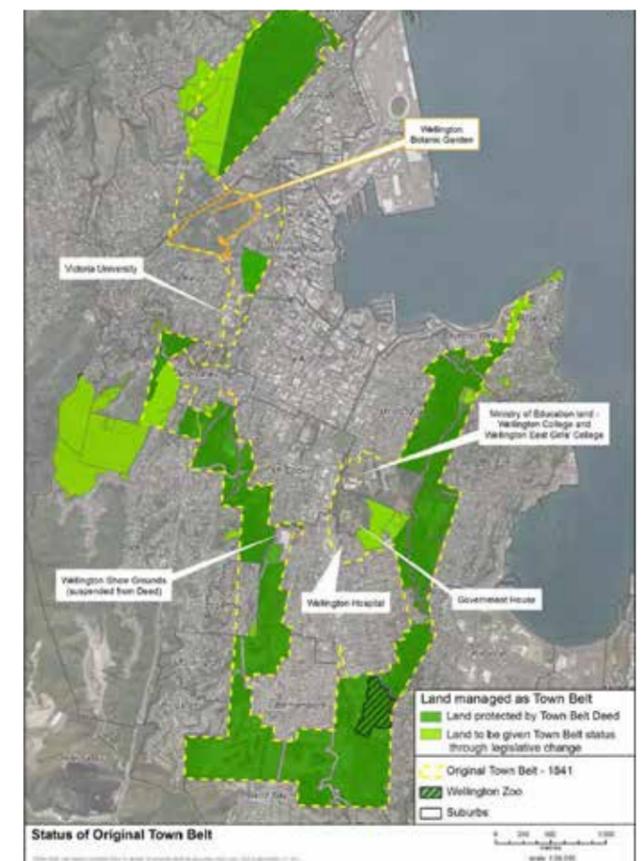
7.1.1 Significant historical and cultural features and values of the Town Belt are identified, managed and protected.

7.1.2 Appreciation of the cultural heritage of the Town Belt is enhanced through research and interpretation.

CONTEXTUAL MAPS

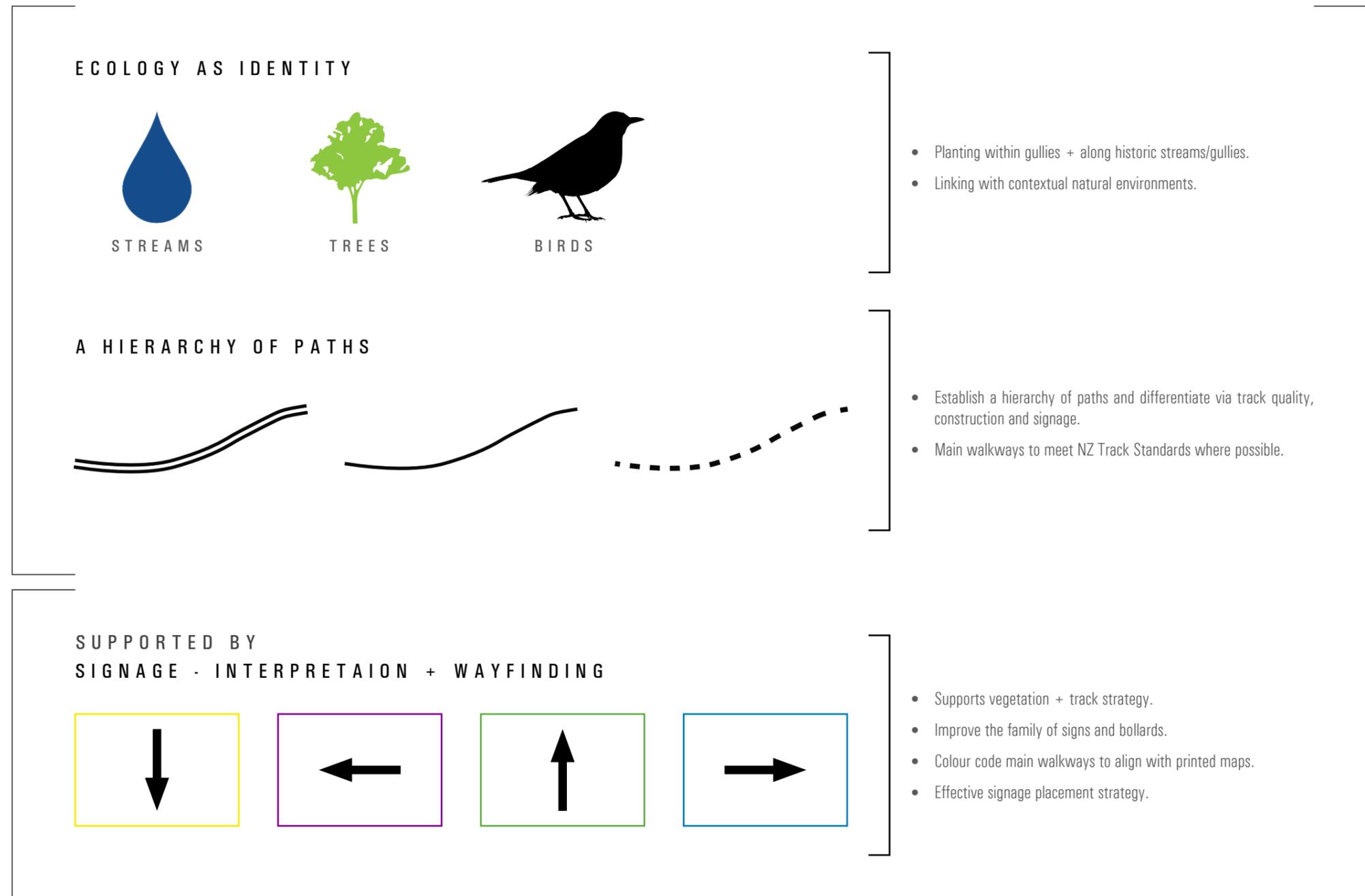


Wellington Town Belt Management Plan 2013



2.02 COLLECTIVE IDENTITY + WAYFINDING STRATEGY

This Master Plan proposed to create an ecological identity to the gullies through the vegetation combined with establishing a hierarchy of paths to assist the overall wayfinding. Signage will then support this place making system, rather than drive wayfinding.



2.03 TRACK STRATEGY

TRACK STRATEGY

A three-tier track structure is proposed, with all tracks to be considered shared walking and cycling tracks. Although downhill black diamond mountain bike tracks are clearly not walker-friendly, it is not possible to exclude walkers and runners from these.

First Tier

Commuter and tourist routes to be developed to NZ Standard Walking Track and Short Walk standards where possible, and have easy wayfinding via the track quality, construction and signage. While the 'Short Walk' and 'Walking Track' standards may not be completely achievable due to grade and cost, they will be a track development objective. Five such tracks are suggested within the park:

- The existing commuter route between Hataitai, Pirie Street and Majoribanks Street.
- The existing Southern Walkway
- A new route from Newtown linking the suburb with Wellington College, Wellington East Girls College and the existing Hataitai commuter route. Some exploration of this route has been undertaken and there are some challenges. It could pass above or below, or even over, the Ellis Street Quarry.
- A direct access route from Majoribanks Street to the Mt Victoria Lookout, primarily for visitors to the city, providing a legible walk from the CBD to the park's main feature. Developing this track at 'Short Walk' standard would require careful design to limit earthworks and interruption of other existing tracks.
- A return tourist route from the Mt Victoria Lookout to Oriental Parade. This would be a lower 'Walking Track' standard, creating a complete loop walk for visitors but maintaining the option for less-adventurous walkers to return via the easier 'Short Walk' standard route to Majoribanks Street.

Second Tier

Park walks at a variety of standards, but leading to key areas of open space and views, and well-signed. Few of these tracks would need to be developed beyond current standards and would largely be differentiated by signs. These would include, for example, the Hataitai Zigzag, short commuter routes via Hay and Grass Streets, an off-road track beside Alexandra Road (particularly for runners), the route from the Mt Victoria Lookout to the Centennial Memorial, and a route from each of the Park's Access Points (see 'Mt Victoria-Recreation' map on page 5 for access points) to a 'First tier' track (including one via Charles Plimmer Park).

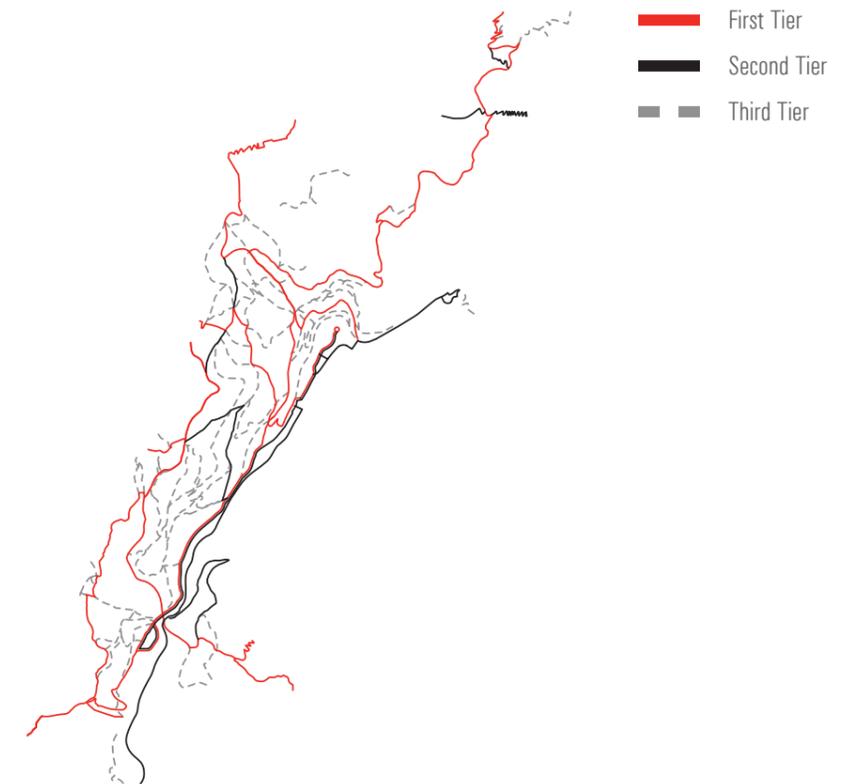
Third Tier

All other tracks in the park. These would have no signage for walking, but have low-profile mountain bike grade signs where required (as currently used) and be for use by those seeking a walking adventure as well as orienteering, mountain biking and running.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Realign intersections between mountain bike and walking tracks to create an oblique angle with a 'slow-down' formation on the mountain bike track to reduce the risk of high-speed collisions. Where this is not possible, at least 'black diamond' standard mountain bike tracks will not intersect with the main commuter and tourist tracks within the park.
- Develop a main park entrance at Majoribanks Street primarily for walkers entering the park from the CBD.
- Maintain and manage access to the Lord of the Rings filming area to limit adverse effects on the trees and to retain a sense of discovery and adventure in this setting (allowing visitors to 'work it out for themselves').
- Develop formed access from the Summit to Alexandra Road as this is clearly a preferred walking and cycling route.
- Develop tracks beside Alexandra Road and Lookout Road to keep walkers and runners off the roads and away from traffic.
- Explore/test alternative track surfacing options for steep (high use) tracks to address water erosion and slip issues.
- Investigate the removal of steps where possible, stairs are currently resulting in track widening as they are avoided by riders and buggy users - creating a maintenance issue.
- Manage and redevelop track intersections to reduce the chances of conflict between mountain bikers and other park users.
- Close the upper portion of Damiens Track, form a new trail with a new entrance with safer walking track crossing.

TRACK TIER SYSTEM DIAGRAM

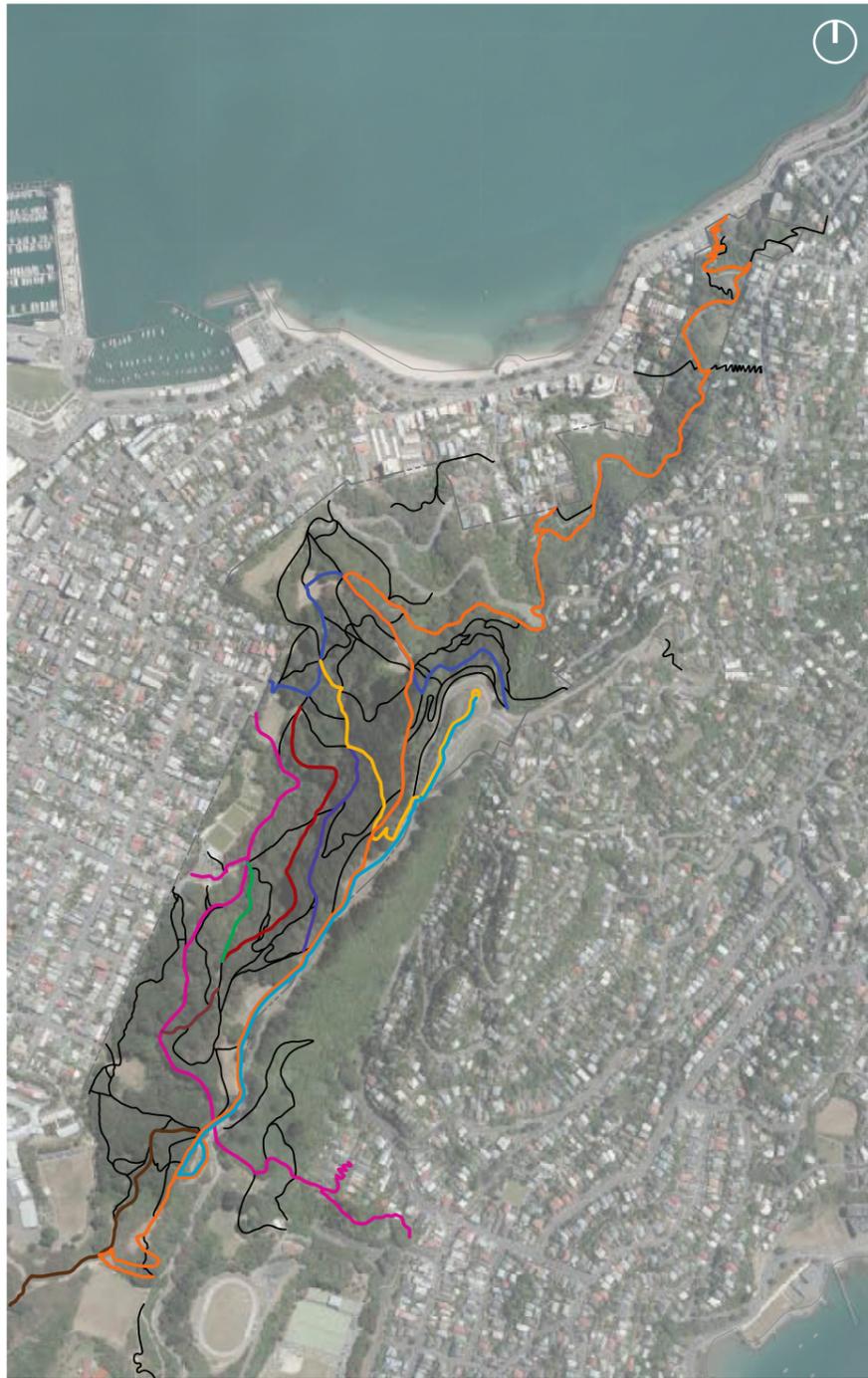


OPPORTUNITY FOR LOOKOUT ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS (DIAGRAM)



2.03 TRACK STRATEGY

EXISTING TRACK HIERARCHY



0 62.5 125 250 375 500 Metres

NEW TRACK HIERARCHY



0 62.5 125 250 375 500 Metres

EXISTING TRACK HIERARCHY

Short Walks

- █ Hataitai to City Walkway
- █ Newtown to Mt Victoria Walkway
- █ Te Ranga a Hiwi
- █ Old Mac Track
- █ The Dipper
- █ Rosamund's Track

Walking Tracks

- █ Southern Walkway
- █ Lookout Walkway
- █ Summit Walkway
- █ Other Tracks

NEW TRACK HIERARCHY [further descriptions on pages 22-23]

First Tier [Main Tracks]

- █ Hataitai to City Walkway
- █ New School / Southern Commuter Route / Newtown Route
- █ Southern Walkway
- █ New Return Tourist Route
- █ Summit Walkway (main tourist route)
- █ Te Ranga a Hiwi

Second Tier [Secondary Tracks]

- █ New Lookout Link
- █ Commuter Links
- █ New Alexandra Track
- █ Hataitai Zigzag

Third Tier [Other Tracks]

- █ Explorer Tracks

2.03 TRACK STRATEGY

FIRST TIER TRACKS



0 155 310 620 930 1,240 Metres

SECOND TIER TRACKS



0 155 310 620 930 1,240 Metres

FIRST TIER [MAIN TRACKS]

Local Oriented

- Hataitai to City Walkway [improve to meet NZ Walking Track standard]
- New School / Southern Commuter Route / Newtown Route - along existing tracks [improve to meet NZ Walking Track or Short Walk standard]
- Southern Walkway [improve to meet NZ Walking Track standard]

Tourist Oriented

- New Return Tourist Route - along existing tracks/pathways [improve to meet NZ Walking Track standard]
- Summit Walkway - main tourist route [improve to meet NZ Short Walk standard if possible]
- Te Ranga a Hiwi - a section of the Summit and Southern Walkway

SECOND TIER [SECONDARY TRACKS]

- New Lookout Link
- Commuter Links
- New Alexandra Track
- Hataitai Zigzag

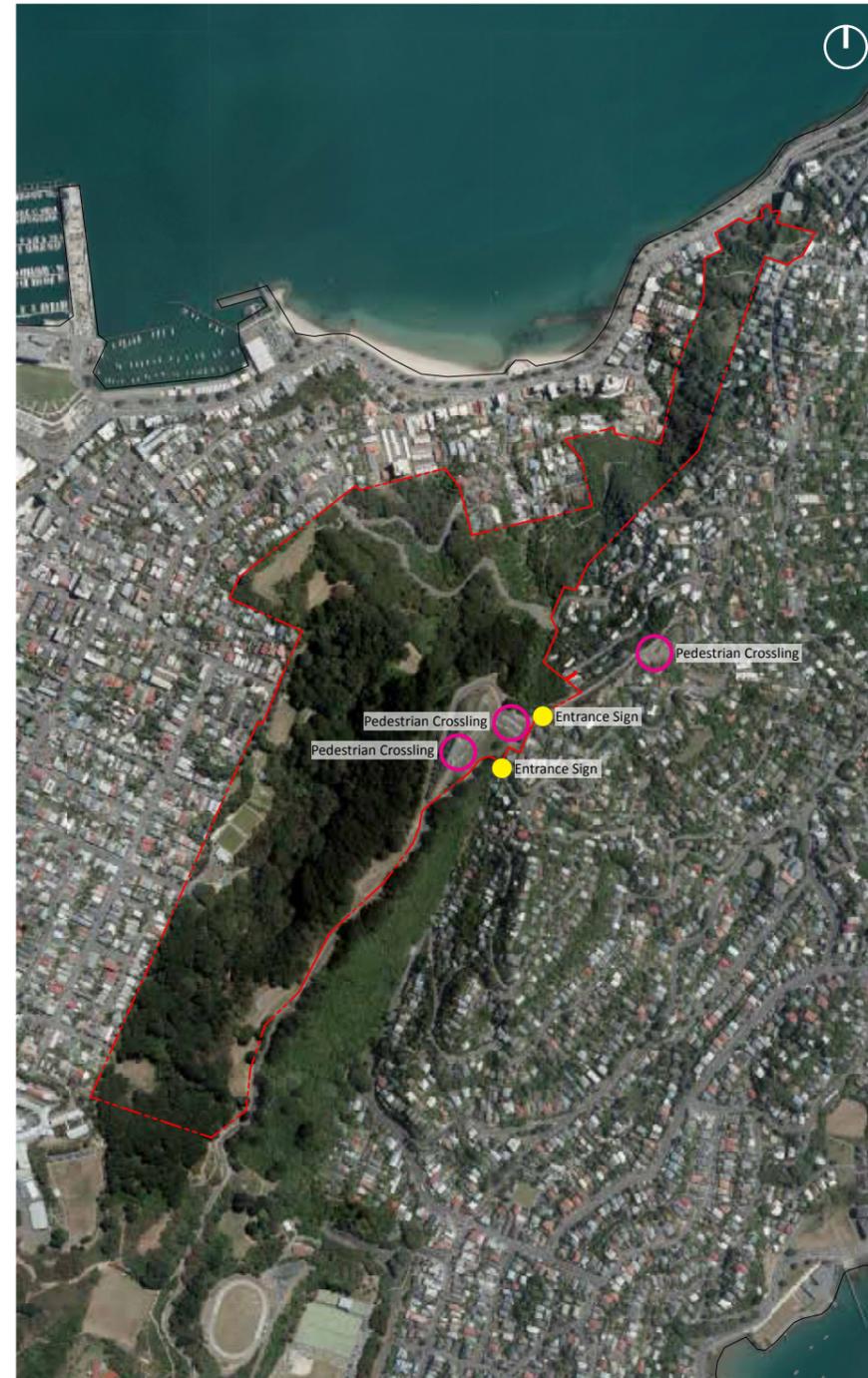
2.03 TRACK STRATEGY + DRIVING IN THE PARK

THIRD TIER TRACKS



0 155 310 620 930 1,240 Metres

DRIVING IN AND TO MT VICTORIA



● Entrance Sign at Constable Street

0 155 310 620 930 1,240 Metres

THIRD TIER [OTHER TRACKS]

— Explorer Tracks

These tracks connect into First and Second Tier tracks as well as each other to form a high level of park porosity and increased sense of adventure for park users.

Generally of a lower standard, these tracks offer greater physical challenges for park users and are more likely to be frequented by regular users.

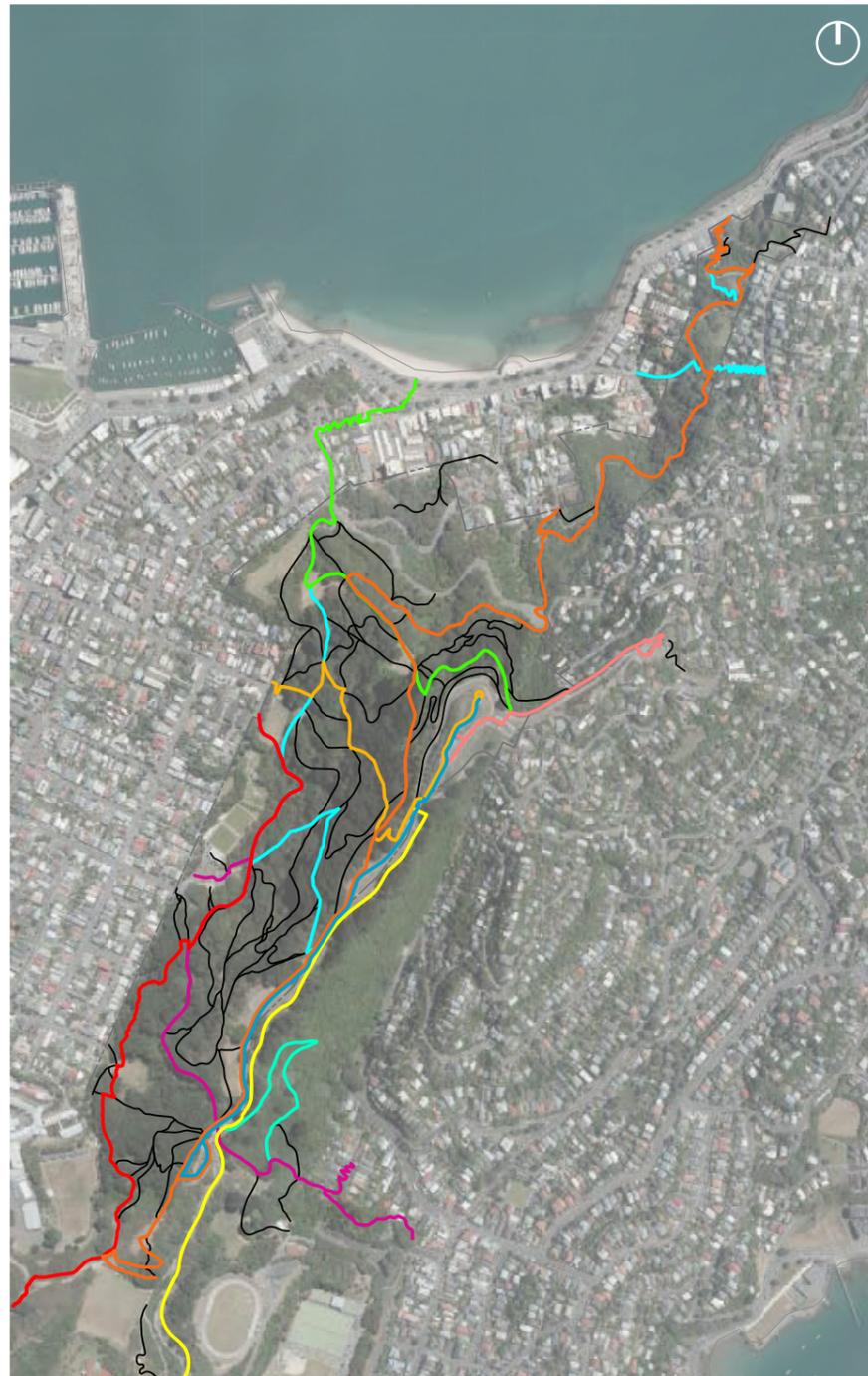
RECOMMENDATIONS: DRIVING WITHIN THE PARK

Drivers need to be aware that the road they are on is within a park, and to enjoy that experience. Several developments will improve the driving experience and the safety of other park users, these are described below:

- Design and install large-scale park entry signs or other entry structures on Alexandra and Lookout Roads to welcome drivers to the park and to encourage greater recognition of the open space and recreation values of the setting.
- Investigate road markings and signage to improve pedestrian crossing areas at the Lookout and Summit (to be developed in consultation with WCC transport engineers).
- Review the ability to slow traffic along Alexandra Road in places, while allowing for buses and the Alexandra Road Seal Hill Climb.
- Develop a running track parallel to Alexandra Road and redevelop the roadside track from the Summit to the Lookout.

2.04 SIGNAGE + INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

NEW TRACK HIERARCHY



0 62.5 125 250 375 500 Metres

SIGNAGE STRATEGY

There is a mix of responses to the current signage system within the park. Regular visitors are often surprised that anyone can get lost on the way to the summit (you just keep heading uphill!), while some less frequent visitors have a poor experience as they worry about whether they are taking the correct route. Much signage is worn and requires replacement, and there is a large number of signs to be maintained. The objective of this wayfinding proposal is to reduce the number of signs required and to ease navigation.

We recommend that all place names and signage is bilingual Te Reo/English where practical.

A renewed signage system is proposed based on the three tiers of tracks already discussed. This system builds on and refines the existing bollard system rather than replacing it entirely.

First Tier

The main commuter and tourist routes will be signed via a colour system similar to that used at Otari-Wilton's Bush coupled with a leaf symbol associated with the proposed edge planting further described in this document. Only five colours and symbols would be required. This would be a multilingual solution, with destination names on signs at intersections with second tier tracks. Signage in conjunction with the level of finish achieved on these tracks will provide clearer routes for first time visitors.

	Hataitai to City Walkway - Commuter Route		New Return Tourist Route
	New School / Southern Commuter Route / Newtown Route		Summit Walkway - Main Tourist Route
	Southern Walkway		Te Ranga a Hiwi

Second Tier

The second tiered routes will be marked via a colour only, i.e. a different colour associated with each track. These will be placed away from intersections, but visible from intersections, thereby reducing the need for arrows. Track or destination names would be repeated at intersections with first tier tracks.

	New Lookout Link		New Alexandra Track
	Commuter Links		Hataitai Zigzag

Third Tier

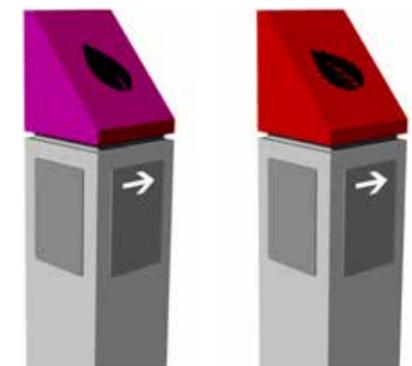
The third tier tracks would be unsigned unless they were a marked and graded mountain bike route. Mountain bike grade signs could also appear on other tier tracks.

	Explorer Tracks
---	-----------------

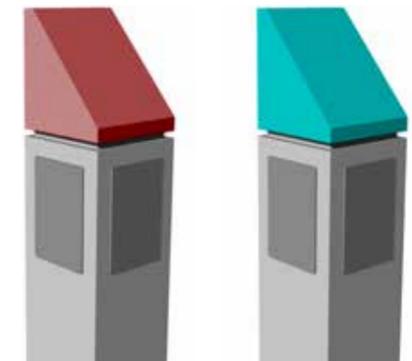
RECOMMENDATIONS

- All park entries would have an orientation map. Third tier tracks would not be shown on these. All tracks would be indicated as shared between cyclists and walkers.
- Orienteering control points are attached to some signs and any changes will require redevelopment of orienteering maps.
- Develop printable A4 maps for first and second tier walking tracks on the WCC website (black and white and colour versions), also viewable on hand-held devices, using new on-site sign colours and symbols.
- Provide Q codes on information panels on first and second tier track entrances linking to those maps.
- Redirect online inquiries for mountain bike tracks to, for example, bikewellington.org.nz and tracks.org.nz.
- Develop an email advisory service to relevant national online map providers for track updates.

FIRST TIER SIGNAGE BOLLARDS



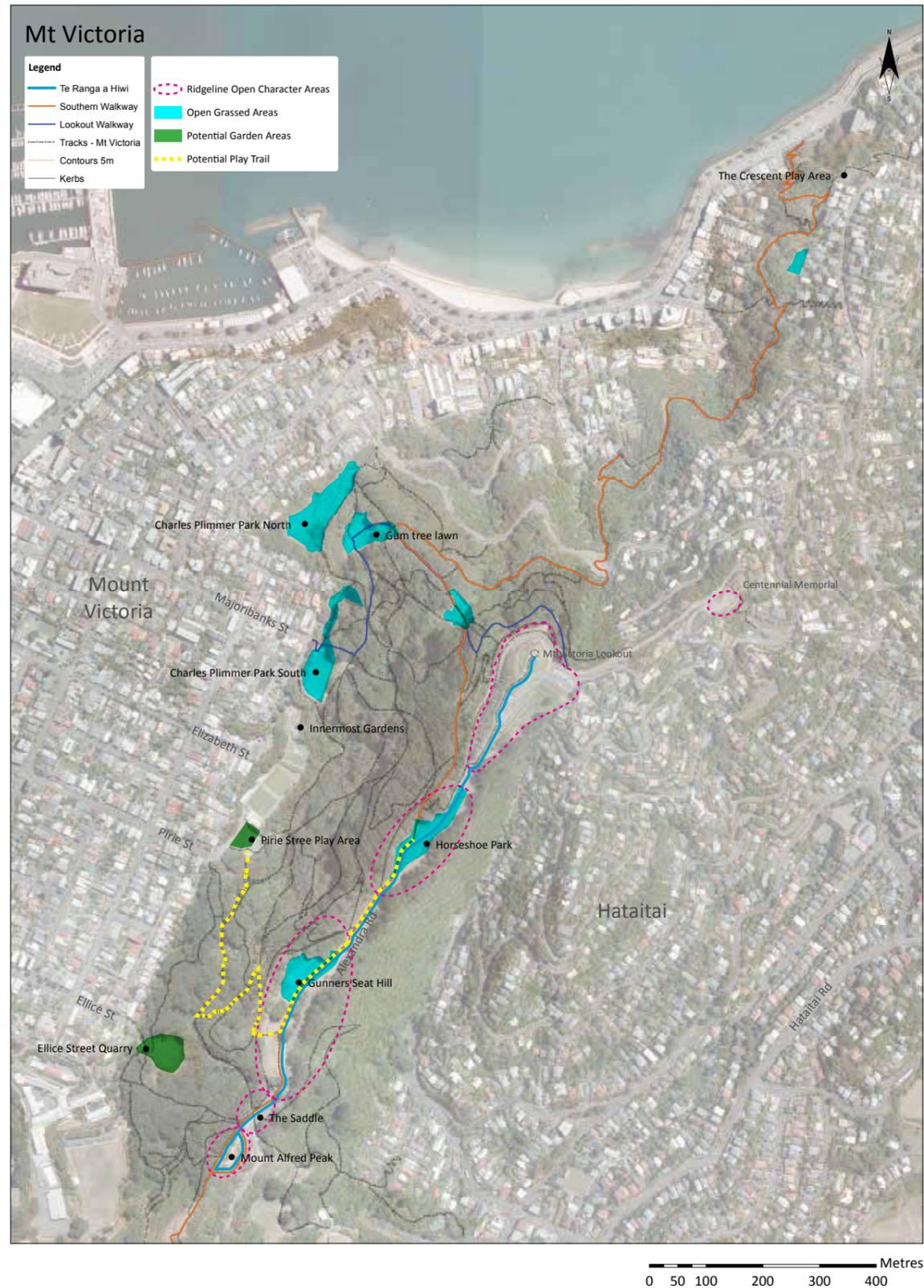
SECOND TIER SIGNAGE BOLLARDS



EXISTING PICTOGRAMS (located on sides of bollards)



2.05 OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT



Open space are generally exotic grassed lawn areas. These are highly valued as places to stop, view and are where people generally interact socially. There is scope to develop these to include more diverse activities such as play and community gardening.

RECOMMENDATIONS

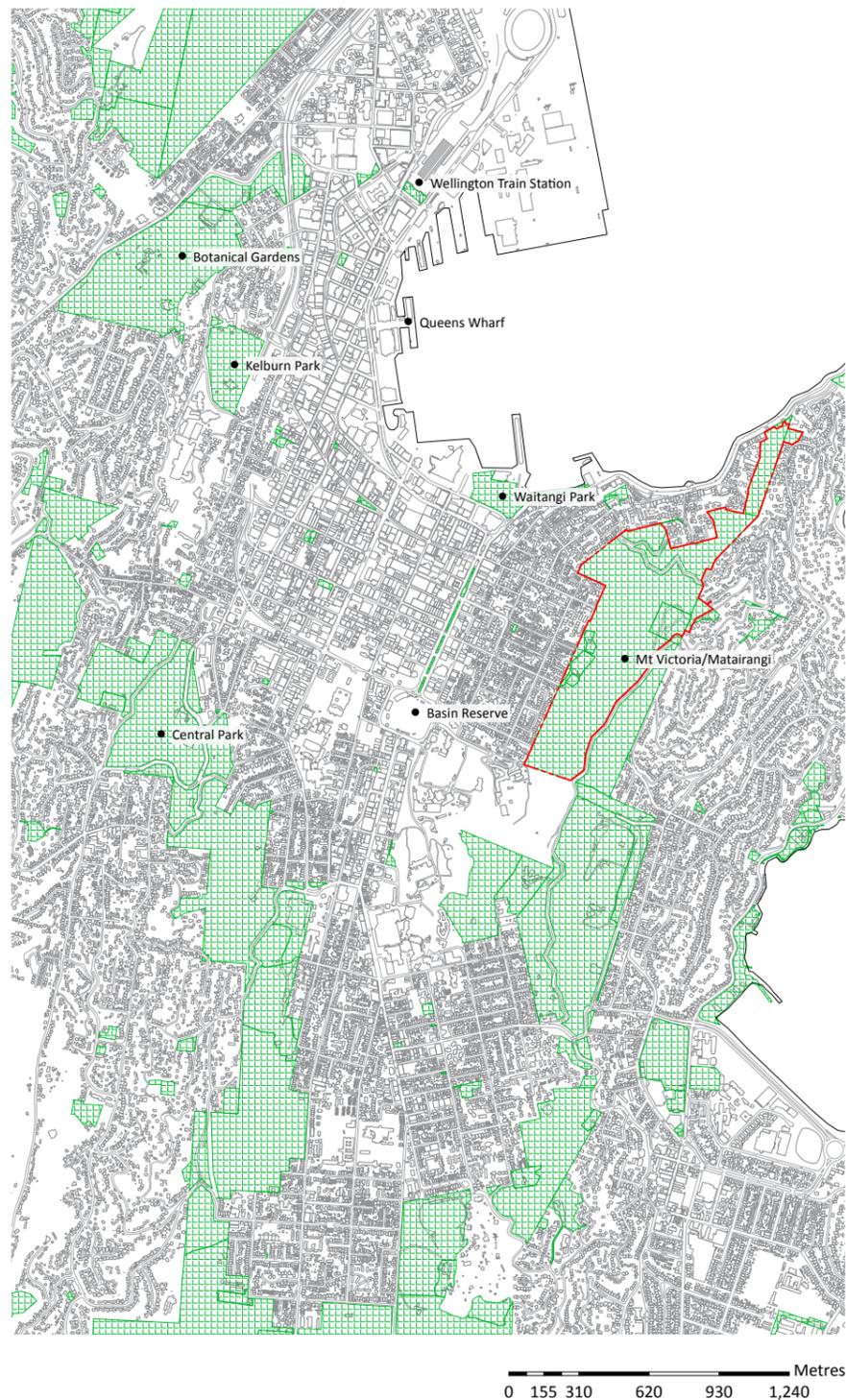
- Name open spaces to reflect history and location in consultation with Mana Whenua. Naming of open spaces assists identity, which in turn will assist wayfinding. Many of the open spaces are already named, however, two with the same name, 'Charles Plimmer Park', creates confusion in wayfinding and should be reassessed.
- Retain open character of grassed spaces.
- Retain open character of ridgeline areas (as per adjacent plan).
- Integrate play trails into the open spaces and tracks to encourage (natural) play and broaden children's interest in landscapes and Mt Victoria/Matairangi. The play trails could provide the link between the ridgeline open space and also link to the Pirie Street children's playground. Natural landscape play elements might include balancing, climbing, living huts, and tunnels.
- Incorporate elements of landscape play at Horseshoe Park and Gunners Seat Hill
- Improve parking around the Centennial Memorial.
- Provide seating at the Saddle with space for track users to pass.
- Manage encroachment of residential properties on the west slope of Mt Victoria.
- Develop garden areas for children at the Pirie Street Play Area and incorporate in the Play Trail.
- Do not provide for any further commemorative planting.

LANDSCAPE PLAY PRECEDENTS - Prospect Park, Richter Spielgerate Clibers and The Leonard Schine Preserve



2.06 BROAD SCALE CONTEXT OR VEGETATION STRATEGY

MT VICTORIA CONTEXTUAL POSITION



Mt Victoria/Matairangi plays an important role in linking ecologies through the Town Belt and is a critical ecological patch linking the planted ridges across Wellington. The exotic vegetation on Mount Victoria/Matairangi requires a long term succession plan and there is significant support in the community to re-establish native vegetation on Mt Victoria/Matairangi. It is also recognised that this is a long term plan and careful management is required to maintain the existing exotic vegetation through to the end of its useful life.

The Vegetation Strategy will implement the following objectives from the Wellington Town Belt Management Plan 2013:

5.1 Ecological Objectives

5.1.1 To protect indigenous biodiversity and indigenous ecosystems on the Town Belt, including freshwater ecosystems.

5.1.2 To restore and connect indigenous ecosystems on the Town Belt.

5.1.3 To improve the city's ecological resilience by gradually increasing the indigenous vegetation cover on the Town Belt and its connectivity within a region-wide ecological network.

5.1.4 To gradually increase the indigenous proportion of the Town Belt's total vegetation cover to 65 percent by 2065.

5.1.5 To work in partnership with iwi, communities, researchers and businesses in restoring, learning about and celebrating the Town Belt's ecology.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Replacement of Exotic Trees

- Do not replace fallen or removed pine, macrocarpa and eucalypt trees with exotic species.
- Use signature native trees to trace historical stream paths.
- Use the ridgeline species collection developed within this document to revegetate the park's ridges.

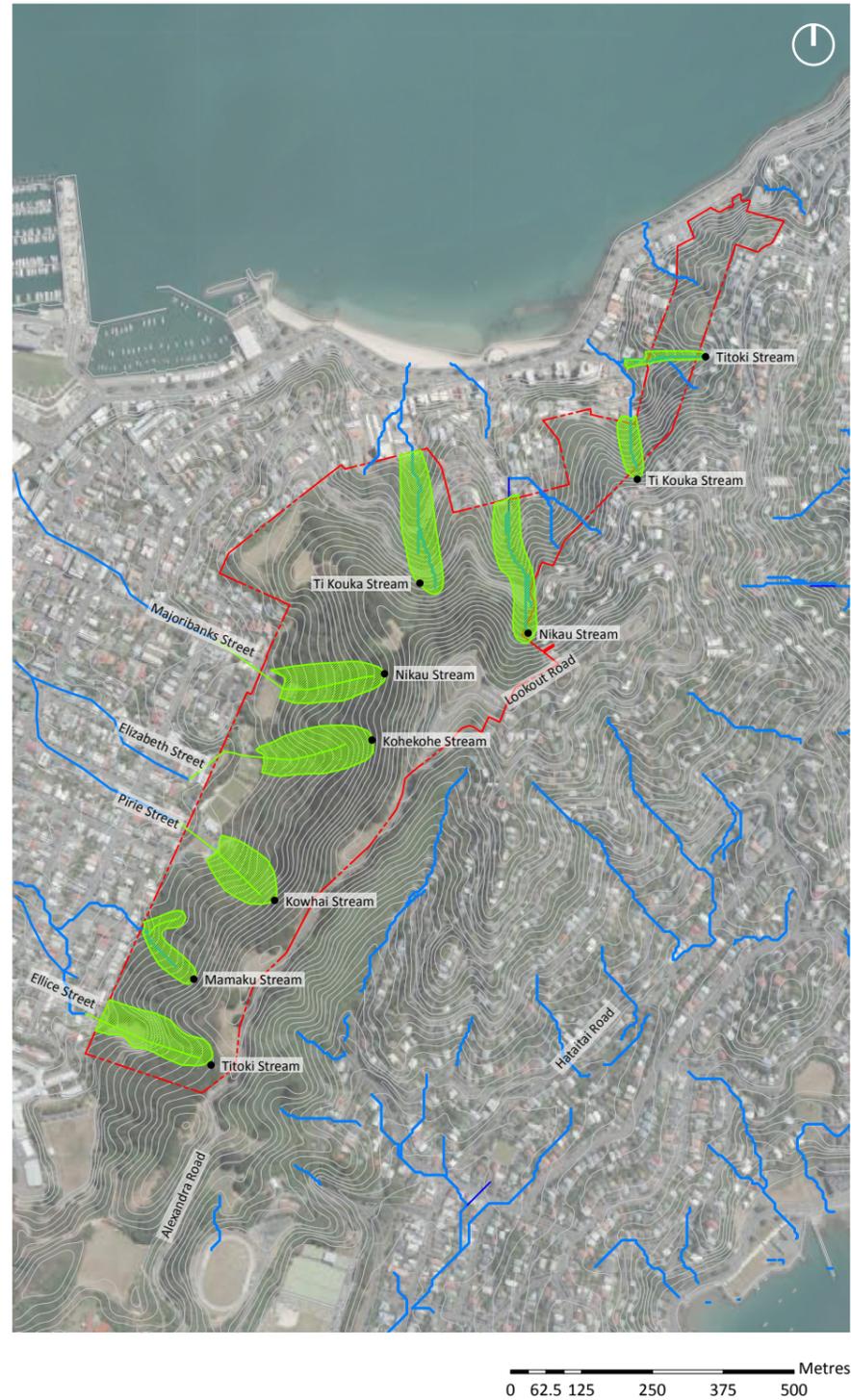
Tracing the Streams

Connecting the gullies to the streams provides historical interpretation and an opportunity for visitors to visually engage with the site.

- A dominant species of tree will provide a distinct identity to each of the stream gullies, providing visibly different characters across the slopes of Mt Victoria/Matairangi.
- Align the species selection to the korero associated with the streams or gullies on Mt Victoria/Matairangi, providing a historic link to the cultural heritage of this landscape.
- The selection of species will be drawn from Wellington's indigenous collections.

2.07 VEGETATION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - GULLIES "TRACING THE STREAMS"

GULLY PLANTING AREAS



GULLY PLANTING STRATEGY [STREAMS - TREES - BIRDS]

Species selection is indicative only at this stage. We propose that species selection is aligned to the korero of this place - aligned to the correct Whakapapa in consultation with Iwi. It is proposed that each gully shall be planted with a 40% coverage of the selected identity tree species.

STREAMS	ALIGNED TO THE CORRECT WHAKAPAPA					
	Titoki Stream	Mamaku Stream	Kowhai Stream	Kohekohe Stream	Nikau Stream	Ti Kouka Stream
Location	- Quarry - Northern Stream	- Old Pines	- Pirie Street (retain views)	- Elizabeth Street	- Majoribanks Street - Northern Stream	- Northern Streams
TREES						
POTENTIAL SPECIES						
	Titoki	Mamaku	Kowhai	Kohekohe	Nikau	Ti Kouka
Plant list	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TO BE DEVELOPED		TO BE DEVELOPED		TO BE DEVELOPED	
BIRDS						
Bird Species	- Kereru	N/A	- Titi	Bellbird	- Kereru	- Kaka
	TO BE DEVELOPED		TO BE DEVELOPED		TO BE DEVELOPED	
Bird selection of species is indicative only align to whakapapa in consultation with Iwi.						

2.07 VEGETATION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - RIDGES

RIDGE PLANTING AREAS



RIDGE PLANTING STRATEGY

We recommend dividing Mt Victoria/Matairangi into four different ridge zones in order to create a planting plan and list for these areas.

Ridge Types:

- █ 1a. Northern Alexandra Road/Te Ranaga a Hiwi Ridge
- █ 1b. Southern Alexandra Road
- █ 2. West Facing Ridges
- █ 3. North Facing Ridges (with some salt laden winds)

It is recommended that the exotic vegetation is managed and retained on the ridge areas, with replanting of natives occurring in areas of wind fall and weed control. This approach to retaining the exotic while the native gullies establish will provide much needed shelter, and the ability to phase out the exotics over a long period of time e.g. 0-50 years.

Below and on the following page are ridge planting lists associated with the zones highlighted above:

1a. Northern Alexandra Road - First Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Coprosma robusta	Karamu
Cordyline australis	Cabbage Tree
Austroderia fulvida	Toetoe
Hebe stricta	Koromiko
Olearia paniculata	Akiraho
Phormium cookianum	Mountain Flax
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Kohuhu
Pseudopanax arboreus	Five Finger
Myrsine australis	Mapou
Melicope ternata	Wharangi
Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka
Kunzea ericoides	Kanuka
Lophomyrtus bullata	Ramarama
Myoporum laetum	Ngaio
Coprosma repens	Taupata
Carmichaelia australis	Common Broom
Coprosma propinqua	Mingimingi
Griselinia littoralis	Kapuka

1b. Southern Alexandra Road - First Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Coprosma robusta	Karamu
Cordyline australis	Cabbage Tree
Austroderia fulvida	Toetoe
Hebe stricta	Koromiko
Olearia paniculata	Akiraho
Phormium cookianum	Mountain Flax
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Kohuhu
Pseudopanax arboreus	Five Finger
Myrsine australis	Mapou
Melicope ternata	Wharangi
Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka
Kunzea ericoides	Kanuka
Myoporum laetum	Ngaio
Piper excelsum	Kawakawa
Pittosporum eugenioides	Tarata
Melicytus ramiflorus	Mahoe
Carpodetus serratus	Putaputaweta
Pennantia corymbosa	Kaikomako
Hedycarya arborea	Pigeonwood

1a. Northern Alexandra Road - Second Succession

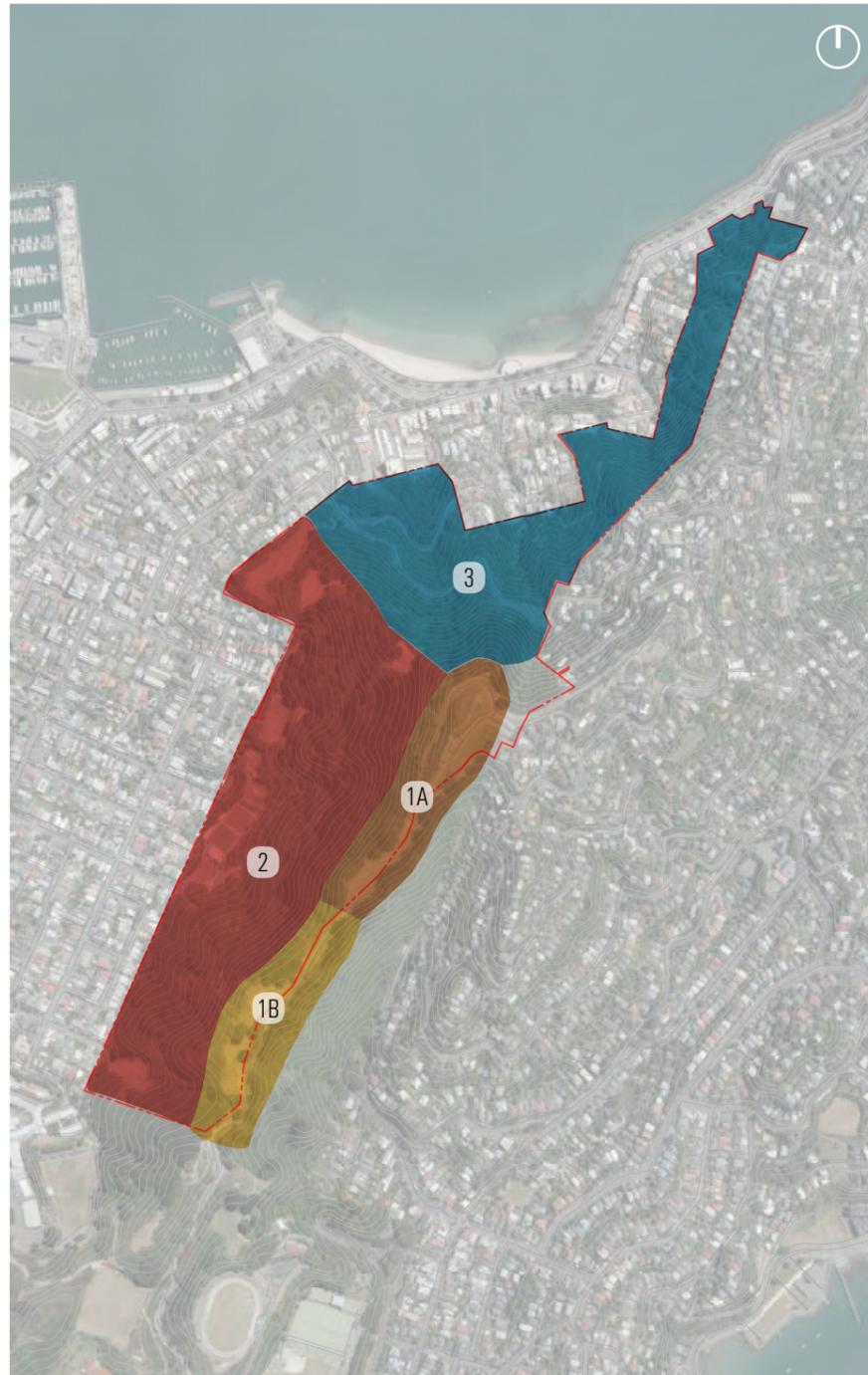
Species Name	Common Name
Sophora microphylla	Kowhai
Kunzea ericoides	Kanuka
Elaeocarpus dentatus	Hinau
Knightia excelsa	Rewarewa
Metrosideros robusta	Northern Rata
Podocarpus totara	Totara

1b. Southern Alexandra Road - Second Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Elaeocarpus dentatus	Hinau
Knightia excelsa	Rewarewa
Metrosideros robusta	Northern Rata
Podocarpus totara	Totara
Prumnopitys taxifolia	Matai
Podocarpus ferrugineus	Miro
Dacrydium cupressinum	Rimu

2.07 VEGETATION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - RIDGES

RIDGE PLANTING AREAS



Ridge Types

- 1a. Northern Alexandra Road/Te Ranaga a Hiwi Ridge
- 1b. Southern Alexandra Road
- 2. West Facing Ridges
- 3. North Facing Ridges (with some salt laden winds)

2. West Facing Ridges - First Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Aristotelia serrata	Makomako
Cordyline australis	Cabbage Tree
Austroderia fulvida	Toetoe
Hebe stricta	Koromiko
Kunzea ericoides	Kanuka
Myoporum laetum	Ngaio
Olearia paniculata	Akiraho
Pittosporum eugenioides	Tarata
Pseudopanax arboreus	Five Finger
Sophora microphylla	Kowhai
Myrsine australis	Mapou
Melicope ternata	Wharangi
Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka
Coprosma robusta	Karamu
Macropiper excelsum	Kawakawa
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Kohuhu
Melicytus ramiflorus	Mahoe
Carpodetus serratus	Putaputaweta
Pennantia corymbosa	Kaikomako
Hedycarya arborea	Pigeonwood
Dysoxylum spectabile	Kohekohe
Coprosma grandifolia	Kanona
Schefflera digitata	Pate

2b. West Facing Ridges - Second Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Elaeocarpus dentatus	Hinau
Knightia excelsa	Rewarewa
Metrosideros robusta	Northern Rata
Podocarpus totara	Totara
Prumnopitys taxifolia	Matai
Podocarpus ferrugineus	Miro
Dacrydium cupressinum	Rimu
Beilschmiedia tawa	Tawa
Rhopalostylis sapida	Nikau
Laurelia novae-zelandiae	Pukatea

3. North Facing Ridges - First Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Coprosma robusta	Karamu
Cordyline australis	Cabbage Tree
Austroderia fulvida	Toetoe
Hebe stricta	Koromiko
Olearia paniculata	Akiraho
Phormium cookianum	Mountain Flax
Pittosporum tenuifolium	Kohuhu
Pseudopanax arboreus	Five Finger
Myrsine australis	Mapou
Melicope ternata	Wharangi

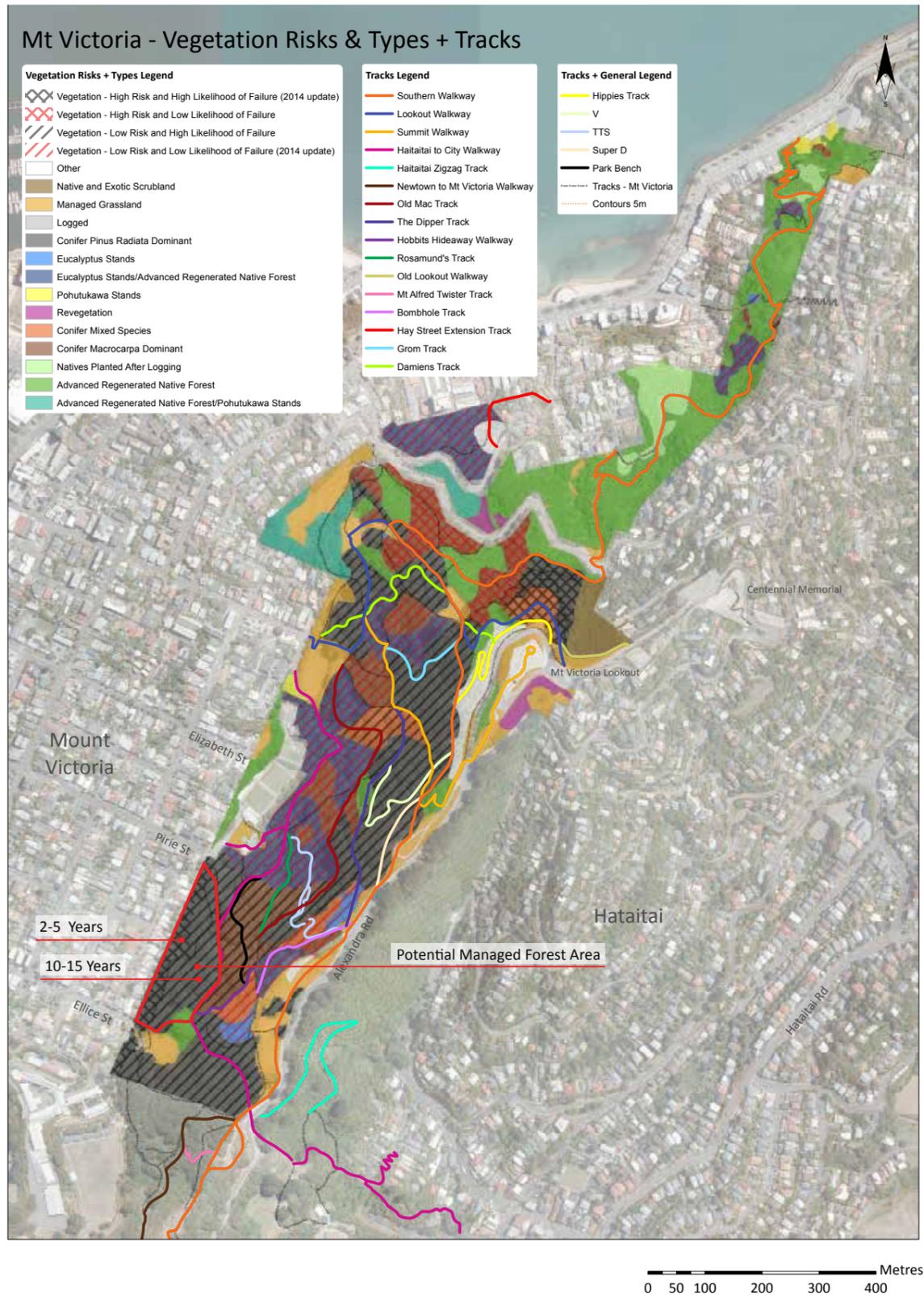
3. North Facing Ridges - First Succession Cont.

Species Name	Common Name
Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka
Kunzea ericoides	Kanuka
Lophomyrtus bullata	Ramarama
Myoporum laetum	Ngaio
Coprosma repens	Taupata
Carmichaelia australis	Common Broom
Myoporum laetum	Ngaio
Pittosporum eugenioides	Lemonwood
Coprosma propinqua	Mingimingi
Carpodetus serratus	Putaputaweta
Aristotelia serrata	Makomako
Coprosma lucida	Shiny Karamu

3b. North Facing Ridges - Second Succession

Species Name	Common Name
Dysoxylum spectabile	Kohekohe
Alectryon excelsus	Titoki
Elaeocarpus dentatus	Hinau
Knightia excelsa	NZ Honeysuckle
Beilschmiedia tawa	Tawa
Rhopalostylis sapida	Nikau
Pennantia corymbosa	Kaikomako

2.08 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - EXOTIC TREE MANAGEMENT



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The revegetation management strategy proposes to:

- Use risk management to guide the priorities for removal of vegetation.
- Create gullies of dominant species to provide stronger identity of spaces within the park.
- Manage track edges to inform track hierarchy and identity.
- Manage vegetation to maintain key views.
- Provide guidance to and co-ordination of various revegetation groups.

The current Stand Stability Risk Assessment is largely still valid. Some changes have occurred such as the area immediately below the summit that has been updated to High Risk and High Likelihood of Failure following storm damage. These risk levels require a prioritised approach associated with clear time-frames.

Priority A - High Risk and High Likelihood of Failure

- Remove trees, replant with gully and ridge species following vegetation strategy. The time-frames for removal of these stands vary from 0 - 15 years.
- The 2-5 year and 10-15 year time-frame tree lots should be annually assessed for stability by a qualified TRAQ/QTRA arborist and after storm events by a Ranger.
- In the 10-15 year block, light wells in gullies should be created for the gully species to be planted. It is recognised that these plants are likely to be damaged if trees fail or are removed, however plants will establish a good seed stock to facilitate revegetation.
- Consider underplanting entire area with species such as *Piper excelsum* (also known as kawakawa) to establish seed stock.

Priority B - Low Risk and High Likelihood of Failure

The risk in these blocks is to track users. The tracks through these areas should be regularly monitored by a qualified arborist. Regular monitoring should occur quarterly and after every significant storm event. Any significant damaged branches should be reported to an arborist for inspection and removal.

Priority C - High Risk and Low Likelihood of Failure

WCC is instigating a trial through this block. The trial will prune individual trees to open up an 8 metre light well. No planting or weed management will occur in these areas but they will be monitored.

Storm Damage and Weed Control Areas

Where trees are lost due to storm damage or where weed control clears areas of vegetation these should be replanted with the appropriate gully or ridge native species.

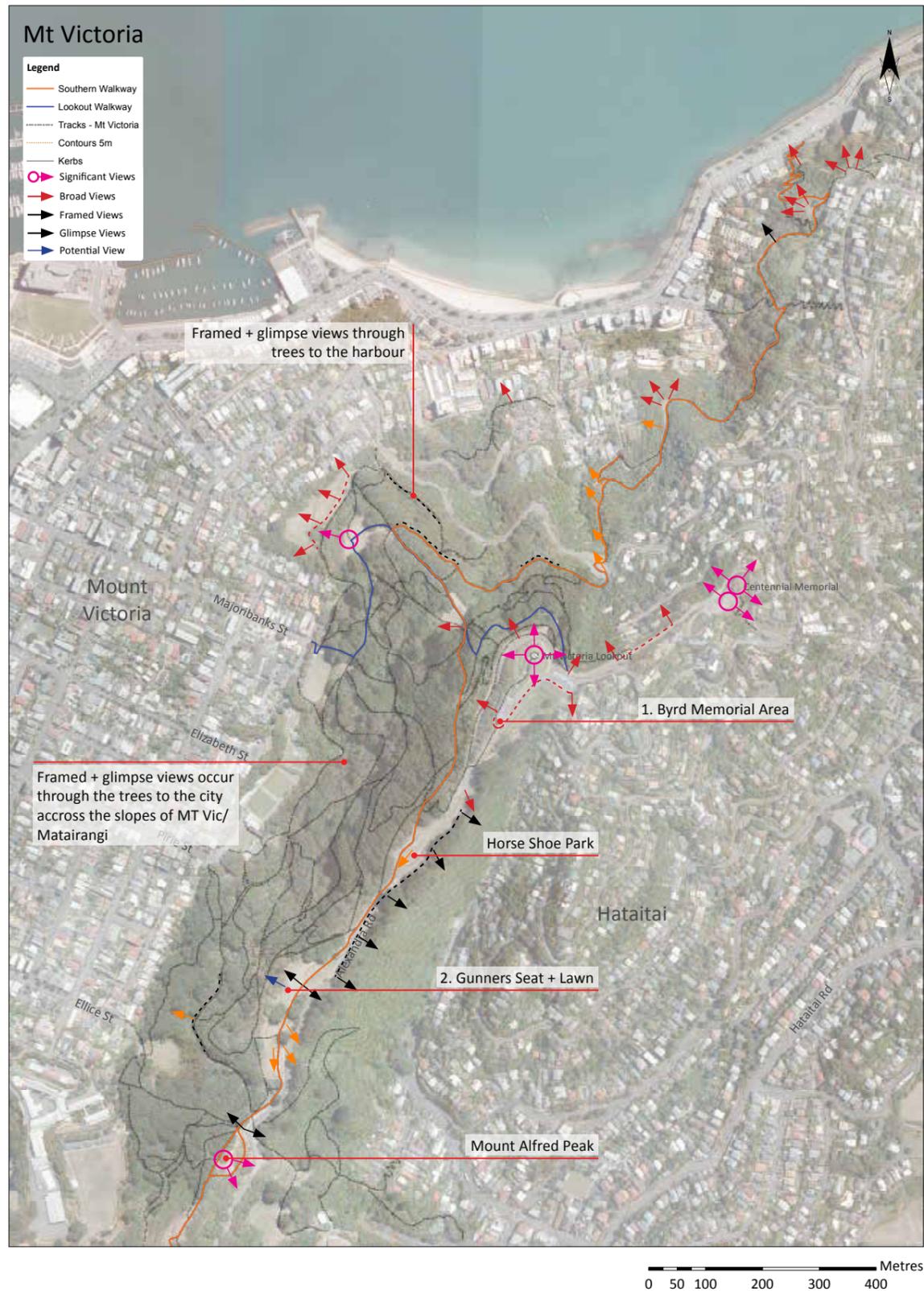
General Recommendations for Pines

In all pine areas, juvenile pines should be removed to stop regeneration of pines. These can be cut to ground and left to rot down.

Potential Managed Forest Area

This area of pines (refer to adjacent map) and macrocarpas should be considered for retention as a managed forest. This area includes the first pine plantings and the Hobbit filming area. Due to the significant trees in this area, a specialist arboricultural report is required to determine a management regime for this area that is achievable in the budgets available.

2.08 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - VIEWS



VIEW MAINTENANCE

- All Significant Views are to be maintained with tree pruning and removal if necessary.
- Broad Views should be managed with pruning and planting of low growing species in the foreground.
- Framed Views should be maintained by pruning.
- Glimpse Views are more location and tree species specific. These should be allowed to change over time, but consideration given to revegetation species selection to allow views through tree trunks. This could occur where mass planting of one dominant species occurs, combined with pruning.

REMOVAL OF VEGETATION TO CREATE VIEWS

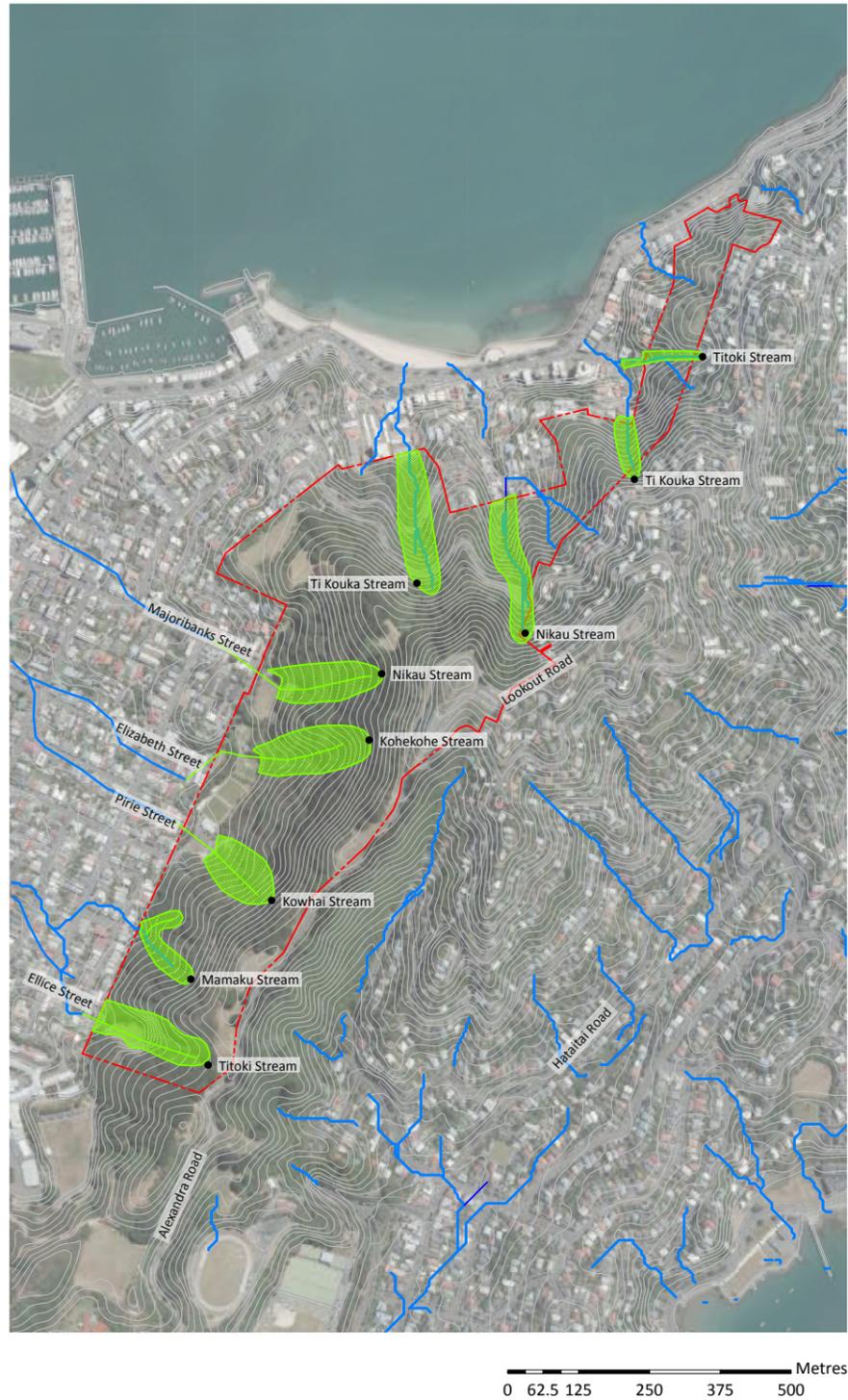
- The lookout area below the steps of the Mt Victoria Lookout and around Byrd Memorial [see adjacent map - note 1] is fully accessible and significant views could be achieved with some tree removal between the lookout and the city, and thinning of *Metrosideros excelsa* (pohutukawa) trees.
- The views from Gunners Seat and adjacent lawn [see adjacent map - note 2] would benefit from being opened up with judicious tree pruning and removal. This has occurred to some extent, but further opening to frame views could be undertaken.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Manage private garden/vegetation encroachments occurring in the northern section of the park.

2.08 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - COMMUNITY PLANTING

GULLY PLANTING AREAS



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Planting by community groups is focussed on the gully planting - 'Tracing the Streams'
- The gullies provide a positive on-going focus for revegetation and are attached to the developing narrative.
- The naming of the plantings after their signature tree may assist in fundraising/sponsorship of these sites - e.g. 'The Kowhai Grove' planting,
- The gullies provide moisture and therefore a greater likelihood of success. These are also easily defined, and could be labelled with interpretation to educate park users.

Weed and Pest Control

The community group 'Manaaki te Keo' provides a support group for guidance to the Rotary Clubs proposed planting of 100,000 trees by 2021. Weed control of revegetation areas is a vital task for managing successful revegetation areas. There are restrictions on the use of chemicals and machinery for weed control for health and safety reasons. More Council management and supervision for these groups to enable them to undertake weed and pest control is recommended.

2.09 TEN YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Activity area	Issue	Description	Priority (1-3 where 1 is the highest)
Driving in the park	Park entry signs	Large scale park entry signs/structures on Alexandra Road to welcome drivers to the park and encourage greater recognition of the open space and recreation values of the setting.	1
	Pedestrian crossing areas	Investigate improvements to pedestrian crossing areas at the Lookout and Centennial Memorial.	2
	Traffic slowing	Investigate ability to slow traffic along Alexandra Road in places.	3
	Conflict with pedestrians	Develop off-road walking and running track beside Alexander Road to entice foot traffic off the road. This may be the upgraded Te Ranga-a-Hiwi track.	2
Tracks: First tier tourist route	Easy park access	Develop main park entrance at Majoribanks.	1
	Lookout Walkway (existing Summit Walkway)	Investigate upgrading the route from Majoribanks St to the Mt Victoria lookout to short walk standard where possible (while ensuring sections not at this grade can be developed in the future).	2
	New return tourist route	Investigate upgrading the route from the lookout to Oriental Parade to walking track standard providing an optional loop walk for visitors.	3
	Lookout access improvements	Explore stair/path system (cycle, buggies, walking) up to the Byrd memorial, and pedestrian crossing points on the road at its base. Improve pedestrian pathway around the edge of road up to Lookout carpark area.	2
Tracks: First tier commuter route	Hataitai to City walkway	Consider sealing or geocells on the Hataitai commuter route to assist with water management and steep slopes.	2
	New school, southern commuter route	New route from Newtown linking suburb with Wellington College, Wellington East Girls an existing Hataitai commuter route.	2
Tracks: Te Ranga a Hiwi	Develop to first tier status	Develop relevant sections of the Summit Walkway and the Southern Walkway to a higher standard to recognise value of Te Ranga a Hiwi.	2
	Accessibility	Seal Te Ranga a Hiwi track to provide an accessible path.	2
Tracks: Second tier tracks	Shared use path	Develop tracks beside Alexandra Rd to keep walkers, runners and bikers away from traffic.	3
	Lookout to Centennial Memorial	Develop tracks (footpaths) beside Lookout Road to connect the upper lookout car park with the Centennial Memorial.	1
Tracks: User conflict	Track intersections	Realign intersections between mountain bike and walking tracks to create an oblique angle with a slow-down formation on the mountain bike track to reduce the risk of high speed collisions. Where this is not possible, ensure that 'black diamond' mountain bike tracks do not intersect with the main commuter and tourist track within the park.	1
Wayfinding and interpretation	Orientation maps at all park entries	Third tier tracks would not be shown. All tracks would be indicated as shared between cyclists and walkers. Q codes for access to online mapping systems.	1
	Bi-lingual signs	Place names and signage in Te Reo/English where practical.	1
	Site naming and differentiation	Name open spaces to reflect history and location in consultation with Mana Whenua.	2
	First tier track signs	Colour way-finding systems with symbols.	1
	Second tier track signs	Colour way-finding system.	1
	Third tier track signs	Unsigned unless marked and graded mountain bike route.	1

2.09 TEN YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Activity area	Issue	Description	Priority (1-3 where 1 is the highest)
Open Spaces	Play	Integrate play trails into the open spaces and tracks to encourage (natural) play and broaden children's interest in landscapes in the park.	3
		Incorporate elements of landscape play at Horseshoe Park and Gunners Seat Hill.	3
		Investigate interest in garden areas for children at the Pirie Street Play Area and incorporate in the Play Trail.	3
	Parking	Improve parking around the Centennial Memorial.	2
	Seating	Provide seating at the Saddle with space for track users to pass.	2
	Encroachment	Manage encroachment of residential properties on the west slope of Mt Victoria.	2
	Memorials	Do not provide for any further commemorative planting.	1
Vegetation	Exotic trees	Do not replace fallen or removed pine, macrocarpa and eucalypt trees with exotic species.	1
		Manage vegetation removal according to risk and hazard profiles. Remove hazardous trees from priority A and replant with native species.	1
		Trials light gaps in priority C area.	2
		Tree by tree management, pruning or felling individual trees as required in priority B area.	2
	Native revegetation	Use signature native trees to trace historical stream paths.	1
		Use the native 'ridgeline species collection' to revegetate the park's ridges.	2
	Streams	Connect gullies to their stream and provide historical interpretation and an opportunity for visitors to visually engage with each site via planting different dominant indigenous species in each gully.	2
	Views	Manage vegetation to retain and frame views.	1
	Community planting	Planting by community groups is focussed on the gully planting - 'Tracing the Streams'.	2
	Lord of the Rings filming area	Limit adverse effects on trees and retain sense of discovery and adventure in this setting. Retain exotic plantings and aim to extend lifespan as much as possible.	1
Historic trees	Retain pine trees from first tree plantings to the south of the city to Hataitai track for as long as safely possible.	1	
Other assets	Safety	Review and address user safety issues identified.	1
	Rubbish bins	Retain status quo.	3