

Management Plans for Properties in the PFSI Application

1. Application 1 – Carey’s Gully

Carey’s Gully is home to the Council’s Southern Landfill and is currently managed for sanitary purposes. No land associated with the Council’s long-term landfill plans (or potential wind energy sites being investigated as part of the Climate Change Action Plan) would be included in the PFSI application. The land area being considered for the PFSI scheme adjacent to the landfill site will be located on a contour 20m above the top contour for the unconsented stage 5 of the landfill.

There are selected areas identified in the Outer Green Belt Management Plan and Carey’s Gully Strategic Plan that have been set for scenic reserve to serve as “ecological buffer” and “landfill buffer” areas. This land is also being recommended for the PFSI scheme (see the map titled application 1 in Appendix 2). Placing selected land areas of Carey’s Gully into a covenant fits with the long-term management plans for this area.

2. Application 2 – Polehill Reserve (Brooklyn)

Polehill Reserve is not included in the Outer Green Belt Management Plan and also sits outside the Town Belt. The Town Belt Management Plan recommends that it is reinstated into the Town Belt. The land is currently reverting back into native forest and placing this area into a covenant is consistent with the Town Belt Management Plan.

3. Application 3 - Wright Hill

Wright Hill is managed as a significant high point and viewing area within the Outer Green Belt. The long-term vision is to restore the area as a part of a wider indigenous forest ecosystem, complementing the Karori Sanctuary and adjoining areas. All of the land is earmarked for classification as scenic reserve.¹ Around half of Wright Hill is owned by the Department of Conservation (DOC). The DOC land will not be included in the application. Placing this area into a covenant fits with the long-term management plans.

4. Application 4

Makara Peak

The long-term vision for Makara Peak is to create a world class mountain bike park in a restored native ecosystem.² The Council is implementing a plan to restore the indigenous forest ecosystem with linkages to surrounding bush corridors both within and outside the Outer Green Belt. Nearly all of

¹ Outer Green Belt Management Plan 2003.

² Ibid.

the land earmarked for the PFSI is in the process of being classified as scenic reserve. Placing this area into a covenant is consistent with the long-term management plans.

Western Sewage Treatment Plant

The land surrounding the Western Treatment Plant is not included in the Outer Green Belt concept plan and it does not have a land management plan. The Western Treatment Plant land borders the Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park, where the Council plans to restore the indigenous forest ecosystem. All future and potential development plans for sewage treatment purposes can be accommodated within the existing footprint of the treatment plant operations. Placing this area into a covenant is consistent with the long-term management plans for neighbouring properties and would further bolster the area's biodiversity values.

5. Application 5 – Makara Cemetery

The south-eastern corner of Makara Cemetery is currently regenerating back to native forest. The Council plans to continue to manage this land into native forest as this area “provides a natural setting which is important as a contemplative setting for loved ones...and can also provide alternatives for ash scattering or native tree memorials”.³ Placing this area into a covenant is consistent with the long-term management plans.

6. Application 6 – Otari Farms and Karori

Otari Farms is not included in the Outer Green Belt Management Plan but it is adjacent to Johnston's Hill, Otari Wilton's Bush and Kilmister Tops, which have important significance to Wellington's biodiversity and open space plans. The Council recently purchased the land and classified it as scenic reserve. The Council agreed to allow the east facing portions of the land to regenerate and keep the ridge top as grazing land. Placing this area into a PFSI covenant is consistent with the long-term management plans.

7. Application 7

Kilmister Block

The long-term vision for Kilmister Block is to maintain it as a major area of open ridge top and hilltop landscapes with regenerating bush on the lower slopes.⁴ Large chunks of Kilmister Block are currently leased for grazing and these areas are not included in the proposed PFSI application. Only land that is being actively protected and managed back into native bush is being considered for the PFSI. All of the land on the Kilmister Block is earmarked for reclassification as scenic reserve. Placing this area into a PFSI covenant is consistent with the long-term management plans.

³ Cemetery Management Plan 2003, page 24

⁴ Ibid 11.

Awarua Street Reserve

The long-term vision is to clearly define areas to be grazed and to undertake any new fencing required to achieve this. All regenerating vegetation areas fenced from grazing would fit the PFSI criteria. Most of the land area included in the application is earmarked for classification as scenic reserve and placing this area into a covenant fits with the long-term management plans.

8. Application 8 - Khandallah/Johnsonville Parks

The long-term vision for this area is to manage it as one of the five principal groups of remnant forest and major key native ecosystems in the Outer Green Belt.⁵ The Council plans to encourage regeneration of native bush on the eastern flanks of the area except areas specifically designed for grazing (which will not be included in the PFSI application). The mature native forest in this area could potentially qualify as post-1989 forests depending on the outcomes of the ETS legislation. The remaining scrub and regenerating native bush qualifies for the PFSI scheme. The majority of this area is currently classified as scenic reserve or in the process of being reclassified as scenic reserve. Placing this area into a PFSI covenant fits with the long-term management plans.

9. Application 9 - Wahinahina Reserve and Gilbert Bush Reserve

The Gilbert Bush Reserve is classified as recreation reserve and under the Draft Northern Reserves Management Plan, the Council intends to continue weed and pest management and to monitor the forest health and resilience of Gilbert Bush Reserve. There are no plans to change the land use or classification of this area.

Under the Draft Northern Reserves Management Plan, the Council intends to protect the Wahinahina reserve as forest area and classify the area as recreation reserve. Placing these areas into PFSI covenants fits with the draft management plans.

10. Application 10 - Caribbean Avenue Reserve

Under the Draft Northern Reserves Management Plan, the Council intends to prepare a landscape development plan for Caribbean Avenue Reserve and continue pest and weed control. Placing this area into a PFSI covenant fits with the long-term management plans.

⁵ Ibid 11.