

Appendix Four: Reserve categories

The following tables have been adapted from the Department of Conservation (DOC) Standard Operating Procedures Manual: Categorisation of Protected Areas, 1998 (Reference QD Code NH/1027(01)). The tables show the similarities and differences between the categories of protected areas under the Act that are relevant to the management of land held under the Act by local authorities.

The table notes the purpose and relevant section under the Reserves Act along with brief statements about the primary and secondary objectives of management; guidance for selection of the category for classification; and the typical organisation responsible for management of land in the category.

Classification category	Local Purpose Reserve
Purpose	Managed and developed for local educational, community, social or other local purposes which do not come within any other classification and which are specified in the classification.
Objectives of management (s.23)	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determined by the purpose • Prohibit access to the whole or any part of the reserve except by permit where appropriate <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage and protect scenic, historic, archaeological, biological or natural features • Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area
Guidance for selection	Depends on purpose (but generally very small, modified areas)
Implications on development	The Council makes all decisions. Reserves are managed to protect the local purpose. Management and development must be consistent with that local purpose.
Implications on the natural environment	The Council makes all decisions. Reserves are managed to protect the local purpose. Management and development must be consistent with that local purpose.
Implications on authority to grant concessions: leases, licences, permits and easements	The Council (if the reserve comes under an approved management plan) may grant concessions, leases, licences, permits and easements (interests).

Classification category	Recreation Reserve
Purpose	An area of land (or land and water) possessing open space, and outdoor recreational values especially suitable for recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, including recreational tracks in the countryside.
Objectives of management (s.17)	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to such conditions as are necessary for the protection and well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it • Conserve those qualities which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage and protect scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife • Maintain value as a soil, water and forest conservation area
Guidance for selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area may be totally modified eg suitable for sportsfields • Area may be in a partly natural conditions eg suitable for picnic or camp sites or like development • Area may be lineal eg suitable for recreational walking and/or vehicle use
Implications on development	The Council has a high level of decision making authority. Policies in the Reserve Management Plan provide for day-to-day management and development such as erecting appropriate buildings, removing or cutting back trees, constructing and maintaining tracks.
Implications on the natural environment	Recreational use and development must be compatible with natural reserve values and open space. Reserve Management Plan policies protect key values eg enhancing coastal ecosystems, restoring natural features.
Implications on authority to grant concessions: leases, licences, permits and easements	The Council (if the reserve comes under an approved management plan) may grant concessions, leases, licences, permits and easements (interests).

Classification category	Scenic A Reserve (as specified in section 19(1)(a) of Reserves Act)
Purpose	To protect and preserve in perpetuity, for their intrinsic worth and for the public benefit, enjoyment and use, areas of scenic interest or beauty or features worthy of protection in the public interest.
Objectives of management (s.19)	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public • Preserve indigenous flora and fauna, biological associations and the natural environment as far as possible • Exterminate exotic flora and fauna as far as possible • Allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to conditions and restrictions necessary for the protection and wellbeing of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it <p>Secondary – if applicable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop open portions for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve • Manage and protect historic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features • Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area.
Guidance for selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area should contain one or more natural or associated cultural or heritage features of special significance, or natural landscape of high scenic quality • Area should be large enough to protect the integrity of the features and its immediately related surroundings
Implications on development	The Council makes decisions when development is anticipated in the management plan. This includes pedestrian and cycle access and tracks, necessary structures and facilities eg seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural environment	Activities related to the natural environment are anticipated in the management plan allowing the Council to make decisions, including plant restoration and re-vegetation, weed, animal and plant pest control.
Implications on authority to grant concessions: leases, licences, permits and easements	DOC – Wellington Hawke’s Bay Conservancy has delegated authority. Possible concessions consistent with the primary purpose include access and sightseeing, filming, service easements and seed collection.

Classification category	Scenic B Reserve (as specified in section 19(1)(b) of Reserves Act)
Purpose	A suitable area of land (or land and water) which by development and the introduction of flora, whether indigenous or exotic, will become of significant scenic interest or beauty
Objectives of management (s.19)	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As appropriate to the purpose, preserve the indigenous flora and fauna, biological associations, and natural environment and beauty as far as possible • As appropriate, exterminate exotic fauna and (to the extent consistent with purpose) exotic flora as far as possible; allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to conditions and restrictions necessary for the protection and well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop open portions for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve • Manage and protect historic, archaeological, geological, biological or other scientific features • Maintain value as a soil, water and forest conservation area
Guidance for selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degraded natural or semi-natural areas where the public interest warrants restoration or conversion as a scenic attraction • Area will generally be small
Implications on development	The Council makes decisions when development is anticipated in the management plan. This includes pedestrian and cycle access and tracks, necessary structures and facilities eg seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural environment	Activities related to the natural environment are anticipated in the management plan allowing the Council to make decisions, including plant restoration and re-vegetation, weed, animal and plant pest control.
Implications on authority to grant concessions: leases, licences, permits and easements	DOC – Wellington Hawke’s Bay Conservancy has delegated authority. Possible concessions consistent with the primary purpose include access and sightseeing, filming, service easements and seed collection.

Classification category	Historic Reserve
Purpose	To protect and preserve in perpetuity places, objects and natural features of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational and other special interest.
Objectives of management (s.18)	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage structures, objects and sites to illustrate with integrity the history of New Zealand • Allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to such conditions and restrictions as are necessary for the protection and general wellbeing of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it • As appropriate, preserve the indigenous flora and fauna and natural environment as far as possible <p>Secondary (if applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage and protect scenic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features, or indigenous flora and fauna, or wildlife • Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area
Guidance for selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area should be sufficiently large to preserve all the significant historic or archaeological features associated with the place, object or natural feature • Area should include sufficient additional land as a buffer against incompatible development or as unobtrusive sites for necessary services for management and public use • The primary value should be traditional, historic or archaeological through an association with major events, or Maori tradition • Area should have immediate interest to the visitor, or be important as a key for continuing research and interpretation of New Zealand history
Implications on development	The Council makes decisions when development is anticipated in the management plan. This includes pedestrian and cycle access and tracks, necessary structures and facilities eg seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural environment	Activities related to the natural environment are anticipated in the management plan allowing the Council to make decisions, including plant restoration and re-vegetation, weed, animal and plant pest control.
Implications on authority to grant concessions: leases, licences, permits and easements	DOC – Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservancy has delegated authority. Possible concessions consistent with the primary purpose include access and sightseeing, filming, service easements and seed collection.