## STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE 17 MAY 2012



**REPORT 2** (1215/52/IM)

# CLASSIFICATION OF LAND UNDER THE RESERVES ACT 1977

## 1. Purpose of Report

To seek Committee's approval to recommend to Council that the three areas of Council owned land subject to this report are classified and/or reclassified in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.

### 2. Executive Summary

This is part of an ongoing project to classify or reclassify reserves currently owned and managed by Council as a result of the preparation of reserve management plans, land acquisition and so on. The three reserves contained in this paper are proposed to be classified or reclassified in accordance with the Reserves Act (1977) as follows:

- 178 and 180 Owhiro Bay Parade, Owhiro Bay classified as Scenic Reserve, for the purposes specified in s.19 (1) (b);
- Halfway House (situated within Glenside Reserve) reclassified from Recreation Reserve to Historic Reserve; and
- Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park Car Park on South Karori Road classified as Recreation Reserve.

The Reserves Act 1977 and the Reserves Act Guide provide a process and methodology for declaring and classifying land as reserve. Section 14 of the Act provides the Council with the statutory authority to pass a resolution to declare any land vested in Council as reserve, subject to compliance with the necessary public notification procedures and ministerial approval. Section 24 outlines the process to reclassify reserves.

When declaring a piece of land as reserve, the Reserves Act 1977 provides for assignment of appropriate classifications according to the sites' primary purpose. The possible classifications are specified in sections 17 to 23 of the Reserves Act 1977 and include but are not limited to Local Purpose, Recreation, Historic, Scenic or Scientific.

A thorough methodology has been followed to determine the appropriate classification categories proposed in Appendix 1. The methodology included obtaining acquisition history and visiting the sites to assess the primary and secondary values, the purpose, current and potential use, and the contribution to the wider open space context. This information was assessed against the criteria in the Reserves Act 1977 and the Guide to determine the most appropriate classification category.

#### 3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Strategy and Policy Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.
- 2. Instruct officers:
  - (a) To give public notice under section 119 of the Reserves Act 1977 of the Council's intention to classify (under section 14 of the Reserves Act 1977) and reclassify (under section 24 of the Reserves Act 1977), as appropriate, the parcels of land described in Appendix 1, to reflect each parcels primary purpose, as outlined in the recommended classification in Appendix 1; and
  - (b) Once the period for submissions and objections has closed, if any objections have been received, to report back to the Strategy and Policy Committee to consider any objections, and for a recommendation to Council to resolve whether or not to proceed under sections 14 and 24 of the Reserves Act 1977 with the proposal to declare as reserve or reclassify accordingly the parcels of land described in Appendix 1.
- 3. Recommend to the Council that if no objections have been received once the period for submissions and objections has closed, that the Council resolves to declare as reserve under section 14 of the Reserves Act 1977 and reclassify under section 24 of the Reserves Act 1977, as appropriate, the parcels of land described in Appendix 1 accordingly to reflect each parcels primary purpose as outlined in the recommended classification in Appendix 1.
- 4. Note that gazettal of the resolution contained in Recommendation 3 is subject to the approval of the Minister of Conservation, who will consider the proposed reserve classifications and reclassification and comments from Wellington City Council before deciding whether to classify and reclassify the land accordingly.

### 4. Background

#### 4.1 Reserves Act

Classification of reserves under the Reserves Act 1977 Act identifies the primary purpose of a reserve and helps direct its management, usage and development.

Classifying land as reserve provides an additional layer of legislative protection under the Act. Classification binds the Council and limits (to a greater or lesser extent) how the land can be used. This increases the protection that the land has and provides the community with certainty as to the types of activities that can take place on the land.

The Act outlines a process and methodology for the declaration and classification of land as a reserve. Section 14 provides the Council with the statutory authority to pass a resolution to declare any land owned by Council as a reserve subject to undertaking the necessary public notification procedures under section 119 of the Act and obtaining Ministerial approval as required under section 120 of the Act.

Section 24 outlines the process to reclassify reserves. Reclassification is often needed to:

- Change the primary purpose to highlight one set of features over another. For example, over time, regeneration of vegetation can increase the ecological and landscape values of a site. Some Outer Green Belt sites are currently classified as recreation reserve. The existing recreation activities, like walking, can still occur under a scenic reserve classification but reclassification would emphasise the ecological and/or landscape values of the site.
- Allow new activities to occur that cannot occur under the current classification. For example, early childcare centres can not operate on recreation reserve but can on local purpose reserve. This is why footprints of buildings are often a different classification from the surrounding land.

The classifications can also reflect/complement the District Plan Open Space zonings. In general, Open Space A zoning covers sports fields and playgrounds. These are often classified as recreation reserve under the Act. Open Space B zoning covers most other reserves (e.g. Outer Green Belt sites) and scenic reserve may be a more appropriate classification.

Classification is a mandatory process under section 16 of the Act which involves assigning a reserve (or parts of a reserve) to the appropriate class. The "class" determines the principle or primary purpose of the reserve. The determination of an appropriate classification category for a reserve should follow a robust methodology and criteria and is a matter the community should have adequate input into.

#### 4.2 Methodology to select Classification

The process to select an appropriate classification is based around identifying the primary use or purpose of each reserve and matching this use to one of seven categories, or classifications. The seven classifications are defined in the Act as scenic<sup>1</sup>, recreation, historic, scientific, nature, local purpose and government purpose. Government purpose and nature reserves are outside the scope of the management role of Council and scientific reserve is rarely used by local authorities so those classifications are not relevant in this particular process.

Further information about each classification category is provided in Appendix 2. This also outlines the opportunities and restrictions for each classification.

In determining the proposed classification of the land, officers reviewed the history of the land and visited each site to assess the land's primary and secondary values, the purpose of the land and its current and potential use.

This information was then assessed against the criteria in the Act and the Reserves Act Guide<sup>2</sup> to determine the most appropriate classification category. This assessment included looking at whether any of the current and potential uses or activities would be restricted.

Some sites have a range of functions and values that are worthy of recognition and protection and there may be more than one classification that could be appropriate. The recommended classification should reflect the primary purpose of the land as well as enabling appropriate activities to take place. In some cases, reserve management policies will need to be strengthened to protect some of the secondary values.

#### 4.3 Reserve Management Plans

Reserve management plans provide direction on how land classified as reserve should be managed. Some Council reserve management plans include land that has not yet been classified under the Act but is managed as if it were reserve. There are policies in these plans that recommend this land should be classified as reserve.

The Owhiro Bay sites are within the area covered by the South Coast Management Plan (2002). Section 6.13 *Classifying land as reserve* states "The Council will reinforce the importance of coastal land under its control by seeking to classify it as reserve unless there are exceptional reasons not to do so".

The Halfway House site is within the Northern Reserves Management Plan (2008) area. Section 7.2.4 Reserve declarations, classifications states "there are different classifications for reserves including, recreation, local purpose,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Reserves Act has 2 types of scenic reserve as prescribed in section 19(1)(a) – more commonly referred to as scenic A reserve section 19(1)(b) – more commonly referred to as scenic B reserve. See Appendix Two.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Department of Conservation – A Guide for Reserve Administering Bodies

scenic and historic. Some reserves will be reclassified as part of this plan to more accurately reflect their use or to meet the objectives of the plan".

The Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park car park site is within the Outer Green Belt concept area. In May 2004, the Council adopted the Outer Green Belt Management Plan (OGBMP). Section 4.1.2.5 Reserve Declarations, Classification and Naming recognised the importance of the land in the Outer Green Belt and identified the need to provide fee simple land with an extra layer of legislative protection under the Act. The policy states "the Council will identify all Wellington City Council properties in the Outer Green Belt which should be reserves but are not, and in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 and the objectives of the Plan, undertake the necessary reserve declarations, classification and naming".

#### 4.4 Public notification process

Sections 14, 24 and 119 of the Reserves Act outline the public notification process for classification and re-classification.

In June 2012 the public will be invited to make submissions on these proposals to classify land and reclassify reserve. The public will have at least a month to make submissions.

#### 5. Discussion

There are a total of three parcels of land to be classified or reclassified as identified in Appendix 1. Each site is discussed in turn as follows.

#### 5.1 Owhiro Bay sections

The land at 178 and 180 Owhiro Bay Parade is identified in the South Coast Management Plan 2002. The management plan notes that options for the sale of the sites would be investigated in association with the development of the Information Centre area.

In 2002 the Information Centre was completed with associated parking and landscaping. The Council declared the land at 178 and 180 Owhiro Bay Parade surplus in 2005 and agreed that prior to sale the land should be rezoned from Rural to Outer Residential. Following approval the decision was appealed to the Environment Court. In April 2010 the Court upheld the appellant's view that the sections should be rezoned to Open Space B. The Council agreed to retain the land in December 2010 and commence classification under the Reserves Act.

Refer to Appendix 1 for a full description of the land, an aerial photograph and an assessment of the reserve values and purpose.

Officers propose to classify the land as **Scenic Reserve**, for the purposes specified in s.19 (1) (b) pursuant to section 14 of the Act to reflect the recent classification of the adjacent reserve area and existing and potential use and management of the land.

#### 5.2 Halfway House (situated within Glenside Reserve)

Glenside Reserve is managed under the Northern Reserves Management Plan and is currently classified as recreation reserve. A concept plan is included in the management plan for development of Glenside Reserve to better reflect the various values of the reserve including the significance of the Halfway House.

Refer to Appendix 1 for a full description of the land, an aerial photograph and an assessment of the reserve values and purpose.

Officers propose to survey off the Halfway House and surrounding lawn area from the remainder of Glenside Reserve and reclassify the surveyed area as **historic reserve** pursuant to section 24 of the Act. Council will then be able to more effectively protect and manage the heritage values of the house and immediate surroundings. The reclassification will also provide greater flexibility to enable a sustainable long term use for the house to be found.

#### 5.3 Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park Car Park

The site is the subject of a road stopping process. The legal road was unnecessarily wide, encompassing the car park and regenerating bush adjacent to South Karori Road. A title will be issued for the land and the intention is to then classify that land and manage it under the Outer Green Belt Management Plan.

Refer to Appendix 1 for a full description of the site, an aerial photograph and an assessment of the reserve values and purpose.

It is proposed to classify the land as **recreation reserve** pursuant to section 14 of the Act to provide for the continued use of the land as the main entrance to the Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park and entrance to the reserve generally.

#### 5.4 Process for gazetting reserves

Officers will report back on the public notification process around July 2012 if any submissions are received.

For reserves where the Council needs Ministerial approval to classify or reclassify land, a report will go to the Minister of Conservation for approval. If the Minister upholds the Council's decisions, the Council has the delegated authority to formally gazette the sites as reserve. This process will be completed when a gazette notice is published in the New Zealand Gazette.

#### 6. Conclusion

Classification of land as reserve provides an additional layer of legislative protection under the Act. Classification binds the Council and limits (to a greater or lesser extent) how the land can be used. This increases the protection that the land has and provides the community with certainty as to the types of activities that can take place on the land.

The classifications and reclassifications that are recommended in this report have been arrived at after assessments of the values of each site and current and potential uses.

Officers will report back on the public notification process around July 2012 if any objections are received.

#### **Contact Officers:**

Rebecca Ramsay, Parks and Recreation Planner, Parks and Gardens; Mike Oates, Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning, Parks and Gardens; and Hanita Shantilal, Senior Property Advisor, Property Management

## **Supporting Information**

#### 1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

Consistent with the policies in the Northern Reserves Management Plan, the South Coast Management Plan and the Outer Green Belt Management Plan.

# 2) Long-Term Plan /Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

Work is carried out under project A004 Parks and Reserves Planning. There is no long term financial impact of this work.

### 3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no specific Treaty considerations.

#### 4) Decision-making

This is not a significant decision.

#### 5) Consultation

#### a) General consultation

Public notification will be carried out in accordance with the processes outlined in the Reserves Act 1977. The Council will hear any objections to the proposed classifications/reclassifications.

#### b) Consultation with Maori

Ngati Toa and the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust will be consulted.

#### 6) Legal implications

Council's lawyers have been consulted during the development of this report. Following Council approval, the classification of some of the sites will require approval of the Minister of Conservation under the Reserves Act 1977.

#### 7) Consistency with existing policy

The classification of the sites covered by the Northern Reserves Management Plan, the South Coast Management Plan, the Outer Green Belt Management Plan is consistent with existing policy.

### RESERVE CLASSIFICATION ASSESSMENTS

## **Owhiro Bay Parade**

**Reserve Classification Assessment** Owhiro Bay Parade (#180 & #178)

**Site** # part of 2327 **Reserve Section** South Coast

**Legal Description** Lot 1, DP 10394, WN21C/11 and Lot 2, DP 10394, WN479/2

Current land status Fee simple

**Site Map** Area shown hatched



#### BACKGROUND

**Uses** activities, leases, easements, infrastructure/development

Current The land has been subject to Environment Court proceedings in regard to

a proposal to dispose of the sections. The Court decided the site was inappropriate for residential development. Currently the flat part of the site is compacted gravel with barriers to prevent vehicle access. The steep parts of the site (approximately two thirds of the total site area)

have a cover of native coastal vegetation and exotic weed species.

<u>Potential</u> The site has potential as an addition to the existing coastal reserve area

'gateway' development. The upper slopes could be managed as part of the natural coastal environment with potential to enhance biodiversity values through pest and weed control and native planting where

appropriate.

**Acquisition History** In 2000 Council purchased the Owhiro Bay Quarry from Milburn New Zealand Limited to stop quarrying on the South Coast, restore open space values and improve public access around the coast. The land known as 178 & 180 Owhiro Bay Parade were part of the Quarry purchase.

**Neighbouring Park/Reserve land** The neighbouring reserve land has been developed as an entrance/gateway and information area for the large coastal and headland reserve. The classification of the adjacent reserve is currently in the process of change to reflect the development of the information and parking area. The adjacent flat land is proposed

as local purpose reserve (information centre) with the steep slopes as scenic B. A large part of the parking area and access road between the information centre and the water is legal road so is not classified as reserve.

#### **Values**

through the flat parts of the site.  Landscape/scenic  Steep parts of the site are contiguous to the natural south coast escarpment that extends to the north and west.  Recreation  The flat parts of the site are part of the area developed for information/interpretation/entry to the Te Kopahou and Pariwhero (Red Rocks) through to Karori Stream south coast reserve area.  Scientific  The South Coast has high scientific value associated with climate and landscape conditions that result in unique and often rare biodiversity.  Ecological/conservation  The steep parts of the site have ecological values as part of the wider coastal landscape.  M/A  Historic/archaeological  The site is adjacent to this land is identified in the District Plan as Rimurapa Landscape Feature Precinct.  The precinct includes a number of significant Maori heritage sites in a coastal area and evidence of settlements. The site itself was part of an old quarry.  Cultural  As above and below.  Community/social/education  The site is part of the closed Owhiro Bay quarry area that has been developed to provide a main gateway/entry and car park for the Owhiro Bay quarry and south coast reserve area. Information about the natural, cultural and historic values of the quarry site and wider coastal reserve is contained within a purpose built shelter.	· tiles		
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	District Plan zone		

#### What Council wants to/works to achieve

Develop and manage the flat part of the site as part of the reserve gateway/entry. A landscape plan has been prepared for planting, pathways, a seating area and parking. The steep part of the site will be managed as part of the natural coastal escarpment.

#### 2 RESERVE CLASSIFICATION

Primary Purpose	Secondary	Proposed Reserve
To protect, preserve and	purpose/values	Classification
enhance the natural and	To provide for public use	Scenic Reserve, for the
scenic values of the coastal	and enjoyment of the area	purposes specified in
area		s.19(1) (b)

**Does it put restrictions on some activities?** No, Council will be able to manage the area according to its values as described above. Consent of the Minister will be required for any leases or licences relating to this land.

Does it protect secondary purposes and values? Yes

### 4 RECOMMENDED RESERVE CLASSIFICATION = Scenic B Reserve

Reasons why?

To protect, preserve and enhance the natural and scenic values of the land while enabling development of the flat part of the site as part of the landscaped gateway to the wider coastal reserve area.

Assessed by: Bec Ramsay Date: 23 April 2012

Checked by: Mike Oates

## **Halfway House**

**Reserve Classification Assessment** Halfway House (situated within Glenside Reserve)

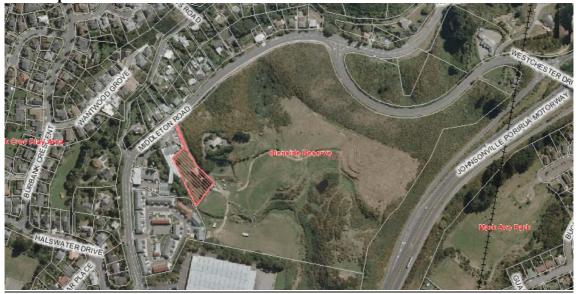
Site # part of 1701 Reserve Section Northern Reserves

**Legal Description** To be surveyed but currently part of Sec 23 Porirua District, Lot

15 DP10905 and Pt Closed Road SO1861, WN574/135 pt

cancelled.

Current land status Recreation Reserve Site Map Area shown hatched



#### BACKGROUND

Uses

activities, leases, easements, infrastructure/development

Current

The Halfway House has been vacant for many years and is in a poor state of repair. The wider reserve land has preserved the original landscape context to some extent. The house is listed as a heritage building in the District Plan. Glenside Reserve is currently used for grazing, as a horse riding facility and contains a caretakers house. Ecological values of the reserve are improving as native species emerge through the weed cover. A stream runs through the reserve. General public recreation access and use is limited.

Potential

Glenside Reserve has a range of potential uses as described in detail in the Northern Reserves Management Plan (2008). The Halfway House itself has the potential to be repaired and occupied to facilitate the long term sustainable use and conservation of the building. The Northern Reserves Management Plan notes: In the long term the intention is to provide an improved setting for the building which may be achieved by re-creating a garden in keeping with the heritage and character of the Halfway House. In the interim a suitable area of open space will be protected so that this opportunity is not lost. Interpretation panels with historic photographs to show the earlier setting of the site will be erected so that its significance can be appreciated.

**Acquisition History** The house and land was purchased in 1951 by the Wellington City Council for use as recreation reserve.

**Neighbourhood Park/Reserve land?** Glenside Reserve is currently held as recreation reserve.

#### Values

Utility	There is some drainage infrastructure within the	
	reserve.	
Landscape/scenic	N/A	
Recreation	Public recreation access and use is limited. The	
	house is in a rundown state with no access inside. It	
	is possible that the garden area around the house	
	could be used by local residents as a local	
	neighbourhood park type space.	
Scientific	N/A	
Ecological/conservation	The house site is a modified natural environment with	
	very limited ecological value.	
Geological	N/A	
Historic/archaeological	The house is listed in the District Plan as a Heritage	
	Building (Symbol 439 on District Plan map 26).	
Cultural	The house and site has a long history associated with	
	early European settlement in the Wellington area.	
Community/social/education	There is potential for greater provision of information	
	about the site and better use of the house to support	
	community activities.	
District Plan zone	Open Space B.	

#### What Council wants to/works to achieve

By surveying off the house and immediate surrounding land area from the wider Glenside Reserve land, Council will more effectively be able to protect the heritage values of the house and promote the historic significance of the site. The house and potentially the immediate surrounding area can then be repaired, restored and maintained through establishing a sustainable use for the building that compliments Glenside Reserve. A Conservation Plan was prepared for the house in 2004. A detailed assessment of Glenside Reserve and the Halfway House has been carried out with a Draft Concept Plan prepared and included within the Northern Reserves Management Plan (2008).

#### 2 RESERVE CLASSIFICATION

Primary Purpose	Secondary purpose/values	Proposed Reserve
To protect and preserve the	To provide for public use and	Classification
cultural and heritage values	enjoyment of the reserve	Historic
of the Halfway House and		THSTOTIC
the immediate garden context		

#### 3 CONSIDER PROPOSED RESERVE CLASSIFICATION (see table).

**Does it put restrictions on some activities?** Yes. It will ensure that any future development and use will appropriately protect the identified heritage and archaeological values. The Northern Reserve Management Plan (NRMP) enables Council to lease the house.

**Does it protect secondary purposes and values?** Yes. Objectives within the NRMP specifically address improving public recreation and use of the site.

## 5 RECOMMENDED RESERVE CLASSIFICATION = Historic

Reasons why?

To protect and preserve the Halfway House building and the immediate garden context in perpetuity.

Assessed by: Bec Ramsay Date: 23 April 2012

Checked by: Mike Oates

## Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park Car Park

**Reserve Classification Assessment** 

Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park Car Park (South Karori Road)

Site # part of 3478

Reserve Section Outer Green Belt

**Legal Description** Section 1 on Survey Office Plan 448758

**Current land status** Fee simple

**Site Map** Approximate site area shown hatched



#### BACKGROUND

**Uses** activities, leases, easements, infrastructure/development

<u>Current</u> Parks and Gardens currently manage approximately 3,300m<sup>2</sup> of legal

road as part of the car park for Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park. The car park area is an integral part of the park in terms of providing a parking facility, visitor information, conservation information, toilets, bike wash down, and a flat area for festivals and events. The car park area lies between South Karori Road and Karori Stream. Since 1988 the reserve (including the site) has been developed for recreation and ecological enhancement in partnership with the Makara Peak Supporters.

Potential Council is in the process of stopping the 3,300m<sup>2</sup> section of road. This will enable better protection of the long term potential use of the site and

will enable better protection of the long term potential use of the site and align management and use of the land with the reserve status of the

mountain bike park.

**Acquisition History** The land between the parts of Section 46 (now the eastern side of South Karori Road) and Karori Stream is legal road. This is supported by the title diagram of Part Section 45 (CT WN46B/837), which in this area shows the title bounded by the stream and the opposite bank of the stream abutting legal road. The road is in the process of being stopped for the purposes of making it reserve.

**Neighbouring Reserve/Park land** The adjacent land to the north and west is listed as site 5.2.14 in the Outer Green Belt Management Plan and is in the process of being classified as reserve. Final Council approval to gazette site 5.2.14 as Scenic B reserve was obtained in June 2010. Site 5.2.14 is part of the Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park.

#### **Values**

Utility	Part of the site is a car park.	
Landscape/scenic	The stream has scenic value as a pleasant, easily	
	accessible natural environment.	
Recreation	The site is the main entrance to the Makara Peak	
	Mountain Bike Park (a world class mountain biking	
	area) and provides entrance to the reserve generally.	
	There is a picnic area on the opposite side of the	
	stream.	
Scientific	N/A	
Ecological/conservation	Karori Stream forms the western and northern	
	boundaries of the parcel of land. There is native	
	vegetation throughout the site that enhances the	
	ecological value of the stream and wider reserve area.	
Geological	N/A	
Historic/archaeological	N/A	
Cultural	N/A	
Community/social/education	The site is an integral part of the Mountain Bike Park.	
	There is signage at the car park about the recreation	
	opportunities in the park and the ecological values of	
	the stream care and revegetation work that is	
	happening at the park. The Makara Peak Supporters	
	run regular events for members and the community to	
	improve the recreation and ecological values of the	
	reserve.	

#### What Council wants to/works to achieve

Continue to facilitate the ongoing improvement of the ecological values and recreation opportunities in the reserve. The site will be the main entrance and facilities/information area for the Mountain Bike Park.

#### 2 RESERVE CLASSIFICATION

PRIMARY PURPOSE	Secondary purpose/values	PROPOSED
Provision of public outdoor	To maintain and enhance the	RESERVE
recreation and sporting	ecological values and water	CLASSIFICATION
opportunities and protection	quality of Karori Stream and	Recreation Reserve
of the natural environment	its catchment	Recreation Reserve

#### 3 CONSIDER PROPOSED RESERVE CLASSIFICATION (see table).

**Does it put restrictions on some activities?** No, all of the uses as described above will be able to continue.

**Does it protect secondary purposes and values?** Yes – however when the Outer Green Belt Management Plan next comes up for review it would be appropriate to review existing management policy for the area. Policy will need to reflect the balance

of key values (i.e both recreation and natural) at the mountain bike park and in different parts of the park including the car park area.

#### 6 RECOMMENDED RESERVE CLASSIFICATION = Recreation Reserve

Reasons why?

Recreation Reserve will enable the ongoing provision of public outdoor recreation and sporting opportunities and protection of the natural environment. The existing facilities and activities associated with the Mountain Bike Park will be appropriate within the reserve with the ability to properly protect and enhance the values of the stream and its environment. The recommended classification is different to the adjacent Council owned reserve in recognition of the more intensive use of the car park area as a hub for park events and activities.

Assessed by: Bec Ramsay Date: 23 April 2012

Checked by: Mike Oates

#### **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)	Primary  Determined by the purpose Prohibit access to the whole or any part of the reserve except by permit where appropriate  Secondary  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)	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  Secondary     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> <li>Area may be totally modified eg suitable for sportsfields</li> <li>Area may be in a partly natural conditions eg suitable for picnic or camp sites or like development</li> <li>Area may be lineal eg suitable for recreational walking and/or vehicle</li> </ul>

	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 (1) (a))	<ul> <li>Manage for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public</li> <li>Preserve indigenous flora and fauna, biological associations and the natural environment as far as possible</li> <li>Exterminate exotic flora and fauna as far as possible</li> <li>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</li> <li>Secondary – if applicable</li> <li>Develop open portions for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve</li> <li>Manage and protect historic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features</li> <li>Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area.</li> </ul>
Guidance for selection	<ul> <li>Area should contain one or more natural or associated cultural or heritage features of special significance, or natural landscape of high scenic quality</li> <li>Area should be large enough to protect the integrity of the features and its immediately related surroundings</li> </ul>
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  Classification category	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.  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 (1) (b))	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
	Secondary
	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	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	Activities related to the natural environment are anticipated in the
environment	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	DOC – Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservancy has delegated authority.
concessions: leases, licences,	Possible concessions consistent with the primary purpose include access and
permits and easements	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)	Primary
	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
	Secondary (if applicable)
	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	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
	<ul> <li>The primary value should be traditional, historic or archaeological</li> </ul>
	through an association with major events, or Maori tradition
	<ul> <li>Area should have immediate interest to the visitor, or be important as a</li> </ul>
	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,
Implications on the material	necessary structures and facilities eg seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural	Activities related to the natural environment are anticipated in the management
environment	plan allowing the Council to make decisions, including plant restoration and re-
Implications on authority to grant	vegetation, weed, animal and plant pest control.  DOC – Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservancy has delegated authority. Possible
Implications on authority to grant concessions: leases, licences,	concessions consistent with the primary purpose include access and sightseeing,
permits and easements	filming, service easements and seed collection.
permits and easements	mining, solvice easements and seed collection.

Classification category	Scientific Reserve
Purpose	An area of land (or land and water) possessing ecological associations, plant or
	animal communities, types of soil, geomorphological phenomena, and like matters of special interest for scientific study, research, education and the benefit of the
	country.
Objectives of management (s.21)	Primary
, ,	Preserve the indigenous flora and fauna, as far as possible
	Where appropriate manipulate the reserve (or part of it)
	<ul> <li>Exterminate the exotic flora and fauna as far as possible for experimental purposes or to gain further scientific knowledge</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Where appropriate prohibit general access to the whole of part of the area and permit persons with the necessary credentials or qualifications to enter for scientific study or for control and management purposes (s.59)</li> </ul>
	Secondary (if applicable)
	Manage and protect scenic, historic, archaeological, biological or natural
	features  Maintain value on a seil, water, and forget concentation area.
Guidance for selection	<ul> <li>Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area</li> <li>Area should be at least two-thirds in a natural condition, although it may contain limited areas of modified ecosystems</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Area should be large enough to absorb sustainable scientific and related uses without detriment to its overall long term natural values</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Area should possess features of special interest for scientific study, research, education and like uses</li> </ul>
Implications on development	The Council makes decisions when development is anticipated in the
	management plan. This includes pedestrian and cycle access and tracks,
Long Park and and the state of	necessary structures and facilities eg seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural	Activities related to the natural environment are anticipated in the management
environment	plan allowing the Council to make decisions, including plant restoration and revegetation, weed, animal and plant pest control.
Implications on authority to grant	DOC – Wellington Hawke's Bay Conservancy has delegated authority.
concessions: leases, licences,	J
permits and easements	