

Extracts from the Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan

16 June 2022



Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan

June 2022

Published by:

Tasman District Council
Private Bag 4
Richmond
Nelson 7050
New Zealand

As at 2022, Tasman District Council is the administering body for 140 park and reserve areas located within the Moutere-Waimea Ward. This Plan covers all 140 areas: 116 are existing reserves¹ that are formally protected and classified under the Reserves Act 1977; while the other 24 areas are parks that are not subject to the Reserves Act but do form part of the open space network in Moutere-Waimea Ward.

Version status:

Final Plan, adopted by Tasman District Council at their meeting on 16 June 2022 (refer Council Report RCN22-06-1). This document was published on Council's website: www.tasman.govt.nz. Check any printed copy against the latest online version.

Cover photography:

Clockwise from top left:

Waimea/Waimeha Inlet – Photo credit: Elspeth Collier

Lee Valley Recreation Reserve, January 2021 – Photo credit: Anna Gerraty

Kete – Photo credit: Beryl Wilkes

Opening of 'McGazzaland' pump-track at Wakefield Recreation Reserve, May 2021 - Photo credit: McGazzaland Facebook page

¹ The 116 reserve areas are made up of a total of 242 parcels of land (many reserves comprise of more than one land parcel).

WHAKATAUKI²

Toi tū te marae o Tāne, Toi tū te marae o Tangaroa, Toi tū te iwi
If the land and the water are healthy, the people are healthy



In the Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan ('Plan') area (see Figure 1) there are both tangata whenua iwi who hold manawhenua and iwi who are acknowledged by the Crown, under statute. The Moutere-Waimea rohe has an extensive and rich Māori history with numerous occupation and cultivation sites or mahinga kai sustaining whānau tūpuna for generations. Fertile plains, lowland forests, wetlands, freshwater and estuarine ecosystems, and sheltered bays provided an abundance of resources. Both the Moutere and Waimea/Waimeha Inlets were rich sources of mahinga kai and around 400 hectares on the western Waimea Plains were cultivated by Māori over hundreds of years. There were several significant Māori settlements and pā along the coastline from Kina Peninsula to Grossi Point, Māpua, another at Appleby, and another near the confluence of Wai-iti and Wairoa Rivers.

The Claims Settlement Acts listed below enhance the relationship of Council and Crown with iwi, including requirements to act in accordance with statutory obligations to iwi:

- Ngāti Kōata, Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Tama ki Te Tau Ihu, and Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Māui Claims Settlement Act 2014;
- Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Ngāti Kuia, and Rangitāne o Wairau Claims Settlement Act 2014; and
- Ngati Toa Rangitira Claims Settlement Act 2014.

Manawhenua iwi have provided guidance and input to the development of this Plan, in conjunction with Council staff.

MOUTERE-WAIMEA WARD RESERVES 2022 – 2032

This Reserve Management Plan sets out the vision, objectives, policies, implementation and priorities for parks and reserves located within Moutere-Waimea Ward for the next ten years. Priorities for management are set carefully against Council's role as guardian of these reserves and its commitment to ensuring the unique environmental and cultural heritage and natural attributes of the reserves are preserved and celebrated into the future.

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

Tasman District Council ('Council') administers 140 park and reserve areas located within the boundaries of Moutere-Waimea Ward. This Plan covers all 140 areas: 116 are existing reserves³ that are formally protected and classified under the Reserves Act 1977 ('the Act'); the other 24 areas, while not subject to the Act, form an integral part of the open space network. With the exception of Moturoa/Rabbit Island, Rough Island and Bird Island (which are governed by a separate reserve management plan) and the Waimea River Park (which also has a separate management plan), this Plan provides management guidance for both categories of land.

Council adopted the first Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan in 2000. A complete review of this plan was undertaken. Over the summer of 2019/2020 Council invited suggestions and ideas from the public for inclusion in a draft Plan. Engagement with Te Tau Ihu/Te Taihū iwi during 2021 also informed development of a draft Moutere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan document.

The draft Plan was publicly notified on 15 October 2021. Submissions closed on 17 December 2021. In total, 77 submissions were received on the draft Plan. Twenty-three of these submitters spoke to their submission at a hearing on 28 February 2022, and a further one spoke to theirs on 9 March 2022. The Hearing Panel, which comprised of three Councillors and two iwi representatives, deliberated on all submissions received on 9 March 2022. They recommended that Council amend the draft Plan to incorporate many changes suggested by submitters. The amended Plan was considered and adopted by Council at their meeting on 16 June 2022.

² Whakatauki (proverbs and sayings) are important in Māori oral traditions. They often refer to important places, people, beings, events, histories, species or symbols.

³ The 116 reserve areas are made up of a total of 242 parcels of land (many reserves comprise of more than one land parcel).

A note on language: This Plan is deliberately bilingual. Although English is currently the most widely spoken language in te Tai o Aorere, Te Reo Māori has special status under the law as an official language of New Zealand. Just as words in context are culturally defined, so our relationship with the environment is culturally mediated. While many technical terms and Māori terms are defined in the Glossary in this document, definitions can never convey the full contextual meaning of each word. These explanations should be received as a starting point for dialogue, rather than the sort of binding definitions that are found in rules and regulations. For example, the concept of “kaitiakitanga” will differ in place and time. You are invited to join this rich cultural and linguistic journey with your own context and understanding.

Foreword

Council has prepared this ten-year Reserve Management Plan for Moutere-Waimea Ward. Te Tau Ihu/Te Taihū iwi, as Council's reserve management partner, were involved in drafting this Plan, including objectives and policies for the various parks and reserves.

Healthy nature is central to human health, wellbeing and the economy. Natural environments, and the plants and wildlife they support, are part of our identity. Nature provides us with green spaces and recreation for wellbeing, supports primary and tourism industries, and allows us to gather kai. When nature is thriving, people are thriving. This has long been recognised in Māori culture, where nature and people are interwoven through whakapapa. People are kaitiaki (guardians) of nature, and nature is kaitiaki of people.

Implementation of kaitiakitanga within a specified management area encompasses all living organisms (or 'ngā taonga tuku iho). In order to protect and restore natural taonga of our parks and reserves, we need to ensure that all of our activities contribute more to restoring nature than they take from it. Effective management will require a culture of collaboration and care.

*Toitū te marae a Tane-Mahuta, Toitū te marae a Tangaroa, Toitū te tangata.
If the land is well and the sea is well, the people will thrive.*

Council wishes to acknowledge the tremendous amount of voluntary work undertaken by the vast number of organisations, groups and individuals who care for many of the parks and reserves across Moutere-Waimea Ward. Whether this be ecological restoration, lawn mowing, maintenance work, managing booking systems, fundraising, or other work, it all contributes to improving the quality of the reserves and/or visitor experiences. Ngā mihi koutou, thank you everyone for your stellar efforts.

KEY CHANGES TO THE MANAGEMENT OF PARKS AND RESERVES IN MOUTERE-WAIMEA WARD

Agreed improvements and changes to the management regime for parks and reserves in Moutere-Waimea Ward are summarised below.

Improving environmental wellbeing

1. Te Oranga o te Taiao (a concept intended to express the intergenerational importance to Māori of environmental health and wellbeing - see Glossary definition) is upheld by maintaining, restoring, protecting and enhancing the natural environment of parks and reserves in Moutere-Waimea Ward. Revegetation with eco-sourced indigenous species, regular weed and humane animal pest control, and protection from incompatible activities, enhances the integrity of these areas – particularly those with Significant Native Habitats (see Part 1, Section 1.3).
2. Management of esplanade reserves and other parks and reserves that adjoin waterways/the coastline is aligned with the concept of Te Mana o te Wai (see Glossary definition) and aims to ensure that the health and wellbeing of water and freshwater/coastal ecosystems is protected. Riparian plantings contribute to improved water quality and increased native biomass. Signage includes educational material about how reserve management protects waterways. In response to submissions, policies for several of the reserves bordering Waimea/Waimeha Inlet have been amended to remove proposals to extend walkway linkages. Existing walkways and viewing points will be maintained, but there is no intention to create a contiguous walkway around the western part of the Inlet.
3. Maintenance practices continue to improve and reduce the potential for environmental harm. For example, minimising use of sprays and implementing alternative methods of weed control reduces potential runoff into waterways and protects habitat. Knowledge of ecological domains is considered when ecosourcing indigenous plant species for revegetation projects.
4. Many of the parks and reserves form part of a wider network of ecological corridors, creating and extending linkages ki uta ki tai/between the mountains and the sea.

Responding to climate change impacts

5. Reserve management and strategic purchase of reserve land provide opportunities for ecological retreat from climate change impacts.

6. Over the next century and beyond, sea-level rise and coastal inundation will inevitably impact many coastal reserves: this is accepted and management of these areas reflects this. Sustainable natural solutions are implemented to manage coastal hazards and vulnerabilities on coastal reserves, to minimise the impact on the natural environment and promote natural resilience. Coastal protection work on reserve land that is undertaken by adjacent landowners complies with the process outlined in the '*Coastal erosion protection structures on Council reserve land Policy*'.
7. A 'managed retreat' approach to sea level rise is implemented by ensuring that coastal hazards and climate change are taken into account in the location, design and construction of all buildings, facilities and improvements, and that facilities and structures in high-risk areas are designed to be removable or expendable.

Building partnerships

8. Strengthened relationships and partnerships with iwi/Māori are based on mutual good faith, cooperation and respect.
9. Kaitiakitanga (guardianship) is reflected in the way that the parks, reserves and their values are managed.
10. There is increased understanding, respect and consideration of iwi/Māori worldview, tikanga (system of beliefs) and mātauranga Māori (knowledge) and this is incorporated into reserve management.
11. Council and Te Tau Ihu/Te Taihū iwi work together with community groups, other organisations, neighbours and volunteers to implement the objectives and policies of this Plan.

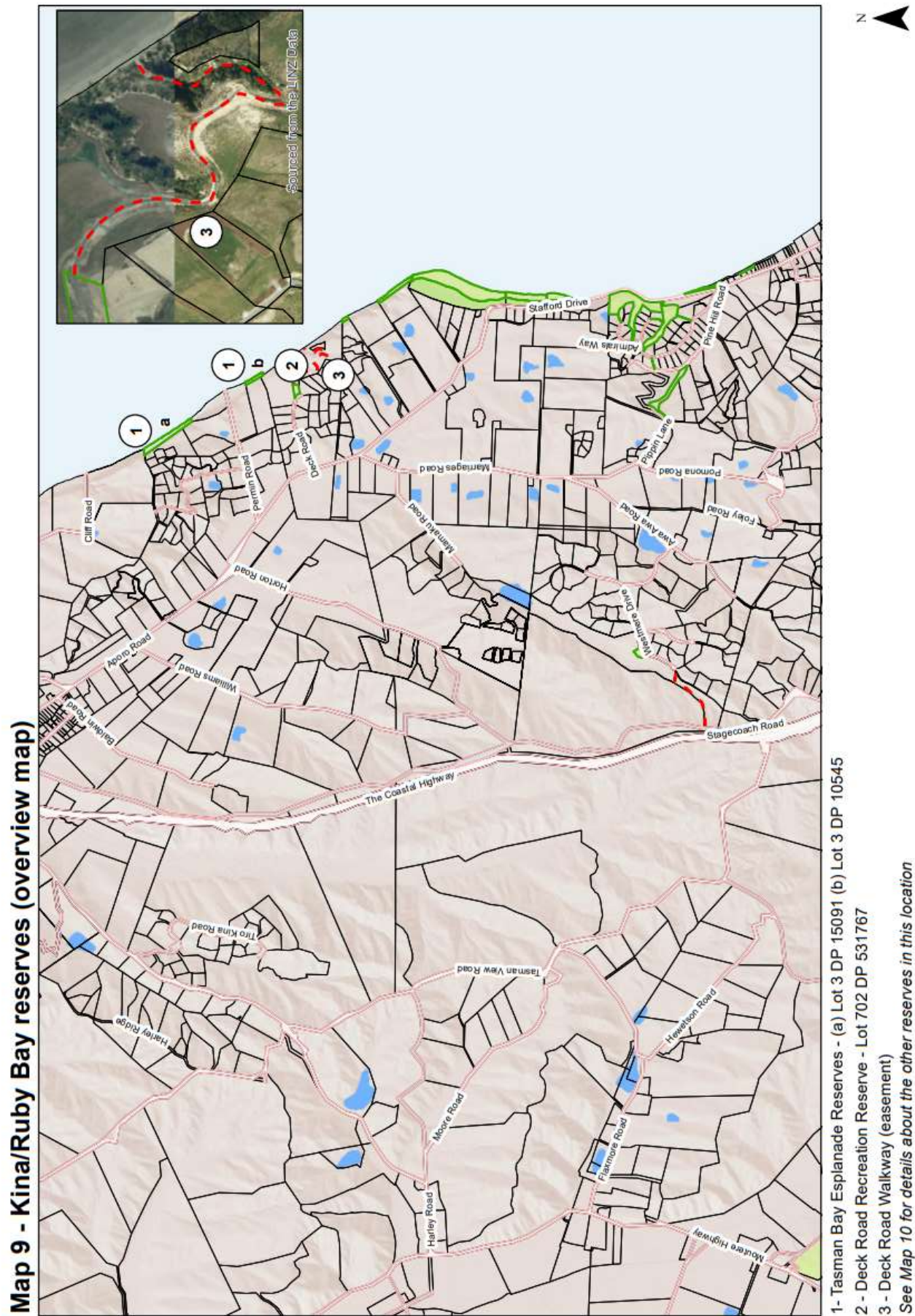
Increasing benefits of parks and reserves

12. An appropriate mixture of indigenous and exotic species are planted in urban parks and reserves, including for rongoā/medicinal or raranga/weaving purposes, urban food, water quality, greater amenity, shelter and shade. Harvesting produce from fruit trees, community gardens and rongoā and raranga materials on a sustainable basis is encouraged.
13. Pedestrian access (for example, to mahinga kai sites and the coastal environment) via the reserve network is enhanced. Walkway/cycleway linkages are progressively extended, as subdivision occurs.
14. Additional or replacement recreational amenities (e.g. signage, information panels, toilets, picnic tables, barbeques, shade sails, paths and other facilities) are progressively provided in recreation reserves over time.
15. Bicultural values are increasingly reflected in parks and reserves, for example through the provision of bicultural signage and interpretation panels, use of Te Reo Māori names, and installation of pouwhenua at reserve entrances.
16. Urban parks and reserves provide safe spaces for people. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles are incorporated into reserve development. Where lighting is provided, consideration is given to solar and passive lighting. Lighting is purposefully absent from other reserves (e.g. Wai-iti Recreation Reserve), where management incorporates 'Dark Sky' principles.
17. Reserve design includes provision of spaces for social gatherings and informal recreation.
18. Development of Wakefield Recreation Reserve as a destination reserve, in line with the concept plan and policies set out in Section 5.11.7. Space for a new multi-use community recreation facility is provided for here (the final location of the new facility – which will service Wakefield, Brightwater and surrounds – has not yet been decided by Council). If Council decides to build that facility elsewhere, a smaller sports facility incorporating toilets and changing rooms and potentially other features will either be built at the same location shown on the concept plan, or closer to the highway (if existing sports buildings are to be removed and incorporated into the new sports facility). Additional sports fields, pathways, amenity plantings and ecological restoration are also planned for this reserve.
19. Fencing within Faulkner Bush Scenic Reserve and Edward Baigent Memorial Scenic Reserve will be minimised to enhance the visitor experience, whilst still providing protection to the understorey where required. Council will consult with the Wakefield Bush Restoration Society Inc before removing fences.
20. Potential development of a new boat ramp at Māpua Waterfront Park (subject to the outcome of other authorisation processes that have yet to be initiated). Interpretative signage will include information about the history of the contaminated site and the remediation undertaken here.
21. Enhancement of Grossi Point Recreation Reserve in line with Mātauranga Māori and a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (yet to be prepared at the time the Plan was adopted).
22. New play equipment and landscaping at Catherine Road Recreation Reserve.

23. New parking layout at Faulkner Bush and Lee Valley Recreation Reserve. Parking at Faulkner Bush Reserve will be restricted to an enlarged, landscaped parking area located east of the toilets/highway entrance, with provision for overflow parking on the mown area in the northern part of the reserve during summer. The lookout overlooking Faulkner Bush will also be upgraded and interpretative signage provided here.
24. Upgrading carpark areas at Lord Rutherford Park and Ngatimoti Recreation Reserve (e.g. asphaltting of gravel areas and/or line-marking parking spaces).
25. Resurface two tennis courts at Māpua Recreation Reserve and implement an improved booking system for their use.
26. Further community consultation will be undertaken as a priority, to prepare a development plan for the northern part of Māpua Recreation Reserve. The development plan will outline how multiple uses can be incorporated into this site (e.g. open space for passive recreation and outdoor Scouts activities, community garden/food forest, space for a new storage facility etc).
27. Consolidate and upgrade/replace some of the toilet/shower block facilities McKee Recreation Reserve with relocatable buildings.
28. A review of existing toilet provision and the adequacy of their performance is undertaken, with new/replacement toilets (e.g. of Exceloos at Brightwater and Wakefield) and/or wastewater infrastructure/discharge fields provided in response.

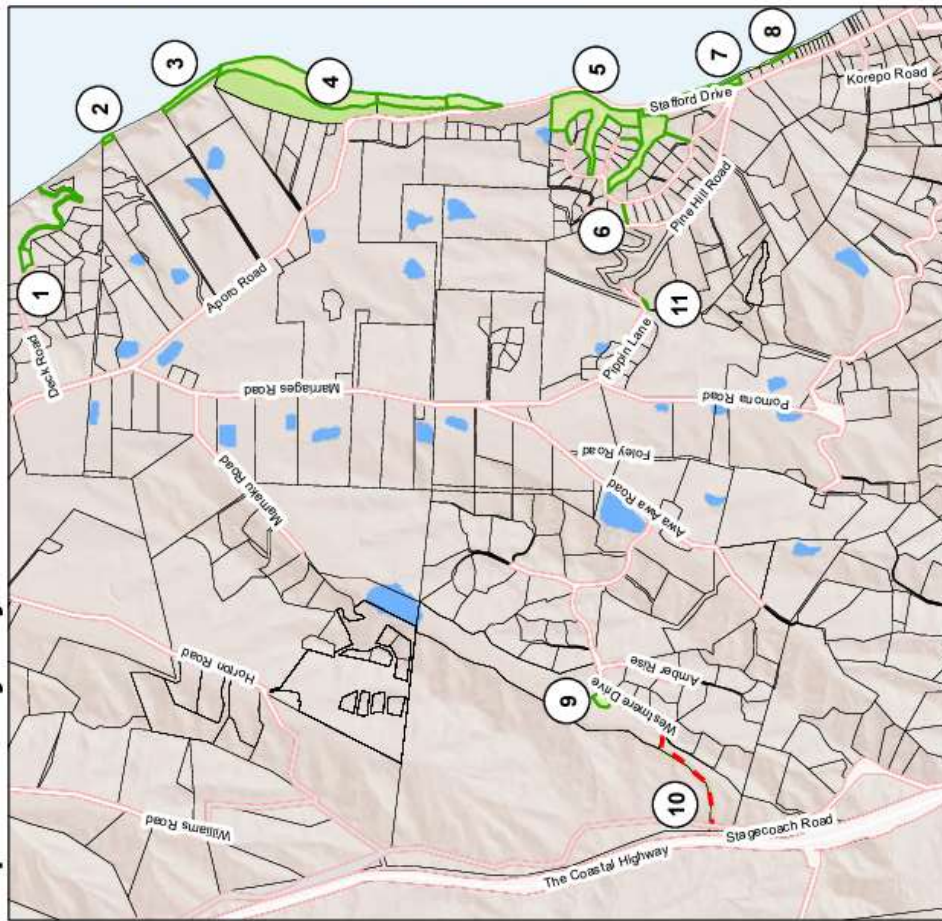
The improvements, objectives and policies outlined in the Plan will not only protect the unique values and characteristics of parks and reserves in Moutere-Waimea Ward, but also provide improved amenities and opportunities for everyone to enjoy. Council is very grateful for the support, input and expertise of all who have contributed ideas for this Plan.

5.6 RUBY BAY RESERVES





Map 10 - Ruby Bay reserves



- 1 - Deck Road Recreation Reserve - Lot 702 DP 531767
- 2 - Aporo Road Esplanade Reserve - Lot 8 DP 439005
- 3 - Moutere Bluff Esplanade Reserve - Lot 2 DP 11134
- 4 - McKee Memorial Recreation Reserve (a), (b) & (c) Pt Sec 134 Moutere Hills Dist
- 5 - Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve - (a) Lot 24 DP 15280 (b) Lot 29 DP 13646
- 6 - Pine Hill Heights Walkway Reserves - (a) Lot 5 DP 16139 (b) Lot 25 DP 15280 (c) Lot 27 DP 13646
- 7 - Pine Hill Recreation Reserve - (a) Sec 129 Moutere Hills Dist (b) Pt Lot 13 DP 4955
- 8 - Ruby Bay Esplanade Reserves (see Map 12)
- 9 - Westmere Drive Recreation Reserve - Lot 45 DP 497879
- 10 - Stagecoach Walkway (easement)
- 11 - Pine Hill Road to Pippin Lane Walkway - Lots 4 & 5 DP 424010 (unformed legal road)



5.6.1 TASMAN BAY ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Tasman Bay Esplanade Reserve comprise two separate reserves lying north and south of Permin Road, on the beachfront between Kina and Moutere Bluff (see Map 9).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 3 DP 15091 (b) Lot 3 DP 10545
- Area: (a) 0.9870 ha (b) 0.2600 ha

History

Parcel (a) was vested in Council as Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade) at time of subdivision in 1991 and parcel (b) was vested in Council as Local Purpose Reserve at time of subdivision in 1980. Both parcels were classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserves cover areas of foreshore and coastal bluff. The reserves appear to support a mixture of rough pasture, low vegetation, and larger exotic trees.

Issues and Options

Management issues include coastal erosion impacts, the control of weeds, the provision of public access to the reserves, and the linking of the reserves to other public lands. Parcel (b) has eroded since 1980, with maybe 5-6m of land remaining. There is no easy foot access to the reserves from nearby roads.

POLICIES

- 1 Undertake weed control as required.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.2 DECK ROAD RECREATION RESERVE & EASEMENT

Location

Deck Road Recreation Reserve is located at 49 Deck Road, Tasman (see Map 9). An easement over private land provides pedestrian access between the reserve and the beach.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 702 DP 531767
- Area: 0.2654 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 2019. It was classified as recreation reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This small reserve is located near a historic pā site. Recently developed, it has been largely planted with a range of indigenous coastal species. A small recreational lawn area includes seating with good views of Tasman Bay/Te Tai-o-Aorere.

A gravel path meanders through the reserve, providing part of a walkway connection from the end of the Deck Road cul-de-sac to the beach via an easement that adjoins the eastern edge of the reserve.

Issues and Options

As the easement runs alongside the Te Pa/Te Papa Pā site – iwi oversight of any maintenance along the easement is needed, particularly in relation to any land disturbance/erosion, to ensure correct tikanga is followed (whakanoa).

The reserve is temporarily named after the road it is located on, but Council's intention is to work with Te Tau Ihu/Te Tauihu iwi to find a name that reflects the historic significance of the area.

There is scope to further develop the reserve by providing bollards along the road edge, to prevent vehicles from driving onto the reserve.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily as open space for passive recreation and maintenance of views.
- 2 Rename the reserve with a Māori name provided by Te Tau Ihu/Te Tauihu iwi, in recognition of the cultural significance of the wider area.
- 3 Install bollards along the road boundary to provide a vehicle barrier.

- 4 Work together with iwi when maintaining the easement over private land that connects the reserve to the beach.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.3 APORO ROAD ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Aporo Road Esplanade Reserve lies between 90 Aporo Road and the Tasman Bay/Te Tai-o-Aorere coastline, just north of Ruby Bay (see Map 10).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 8 DP 439005
- Area: 0.0918 ha

History

Created via subdivision and vested in Council in 2011, this reserve was classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The exact boundaries of the reserve are difficult to discern, as there appears to be no boundary fencing between the reserve and adjoining properties.

Issues and Options

This steep, narrow strip of land is isolated from other reserves and only accessible via the beach at low tide.

POLICIES

- 1 Undertake plant pest control on the reserve area as required.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.4 MOUTERE BLUFF ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Moutere Bluff Esplanade Reserve adjoins the Tasman Bay/Te Tai-o-Aorere coastline and the northern end of McKee Memorial Recreation Reserve, at Ruby Bay (see Map 10).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 2 DP 11134
- Area: 0.6070 ha

History

Created via subdivision and vested in Council in 1983, this reserve was classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve covers steep coastal bluffs, although the south-eastern portion includes part of the beach area. Vegetation on the reserve comprises of scattered coastal shrubland and groups of large pine trees.

Issues and Options

There is no formed access to the reserve. Other issues include coastal erosion, control of weeds and management of ageing pine trees.

POLICIES

- 1 Undertake weed control on the reserve area as required.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.5 MCKEE MEMORIAL RECREATION RESERVE

Location

McKee Memorial Recreation Reserve is located at 312 Stafford Drive, approximately one kilometre north of Ruby Bay township (see Map 10). The reserve occupies a narrow strip of coastal plain at the northern end of Ruby Bay. It lies between the Tasman Bay/Te Tai-o-Aorere shoreline and the steep slopes of the adjoining McKee Memorial Scenic Reserve (the latter reserve is administered by the Department of Conservation).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Pt Sec 134 Moutere Hills Dist (b) Pt Sec 134 Moutere Hills Dist (c) Pt Sec 134 Moutere Hills Dist
- Area: (a) 4.3344 ha (b) 1.0623 ha (c) 0.7125 ha

History

In 1979 all three parcels were classified as recreation reserve (GN 1979, p1394). Vested authority. In 1989, land was vested, in trust, in Tasman District Council.

The late Arthur McKee reserved the forested part of the reserve (the existing scenic reserve) as McKee Bush. Ownership transferred to the Crown after his death in 1947

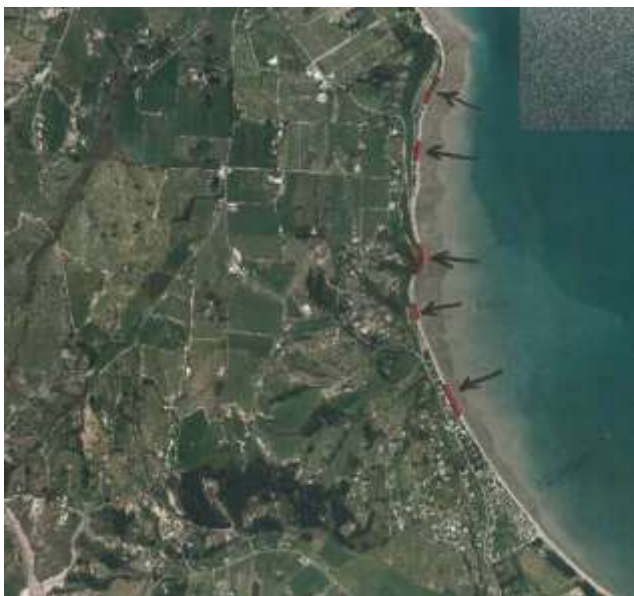
and the area was declared a Domain in 1948. Land owned by the Automobile Association was added to the reserve in 1956, to form the present McKee Memorial Scenic Reserve and Recreation Reserve.

Values

The land occupied by the reserve is mostly flat and grass covered, except for a narrow strip of planted native and exotic trees and shrubs along the coastal margin of the reserve. Scattered clumps of planted shrubs are present at other locations, providing shade and shelter in the reserve.

Facilities on the reserve service the campground and include five separate toilet blocks (two have four shower/toilet cubicles), a water supply, picnic tables, five wood barbeques, signs, rubbish bins and limited recycling facilities, and children's play equipment. A partially sealed road traverses the reserve from the main entrance at Stafford Drive to the northern end of the reserve at the Moutere Bluff.

The reserve is a very popular camping and picnicking area. The extent and standard of camping facilities are in keeping with a low-key, non-commercial campsite. Camping continues to be permitted on the reserve, though stays are limited under the camp rules. A caretaker lives onsite year-round.



Roosting sites of variable oystercatcher along the Ruby Bay coastline. The northern-most site adjoins McKee Memorial Recreation Reserve.

An ecological assessment report, completed for the Native Habitats Tasman programme (North, 2012), identifies the shoreline adjacent to the reserve as part of a site of ecological significance, due to its high rarity values. With nationally important numbers of roosting variable

oystercatcher, this site is significant. The site's location is shown in red in the following image (see the northernmost arrow). The overall site comprises a number of locations along the upper shore at and above mean high water springs at Ruby Bay.

The ecologically significant sites along the Ruby Bay coastline comprise of beach pebbles. Previously, 80 or more variable oystercatcher were regularly roosting at high tide, but 2012 numbers were closer to 65 or so. With an estimated population of 4000 birds, this represents over 1.5% of the total population, and is therefore considered a nationally significant roost site (>1%). This species is ranked nationally as 'at risk, recovering'. The exact position of the roost varies depending on levels of human (and dog) disturbance, weather conditions, beach profile and possibly changes in food availability at offshore mussel reefs. The areas of main concentration are shown on the following image.



The central roost site of variable oystercatcher is located around this point – looking to it northward (above) and southward, but in fact can be located along 2km of shoreline north and south of here depending on disturbance and other factors. McKee Memorial Reserves are visible in the distance.

Issues and Options

This site is of considerable value for variable oystercatcher, and they continue to use it for roosting, despite the high level of disturbance from people and dogs. Signage would be of great benefit to inform people of the vulnerability of this species to disturbance.

Coastal erosion and inundation of the reserve by storm surges, which are occurring with increasing frequency, are major management issues. This low-lying site is very vulnerable to flooding and the reserve has had to be closed for lengthy periods in recent years to repair damage inflicted by severe weather events. For example, the entire reserve area was flooded with sea water by Cyclone Fehi in 2018.

The southern half of the reserve's coastal boundary has a natural gravel bank that acts as a partial bund/sea defence most of the time, but this does move and requires constant maintenance. The northern half has a low, man-made, clay bund offering some protection, but this has been breached by storm surges on several occasions. Near the northern tip of the reserve, another low man-made bund runs east to west, providing some protection from coastal inundation at this location. Maintenance of these bunds and the gravel bank is an ongoing issue.

Wastewater from the toilet and shower facilities is pumped to Korepo Pump Station 2.5 km to the south. Regular maintenance is required to flush out this wastewater system and keep it operational.

Four of the toilet/shower blocks are old and tired and do not meet today's standards. The block closest to the entrance (furthest from most camp sites) is slightly newer. As coastal inundation will continue to be an ongoing issue, any replacement toilet/shower block facilities should be built on a raised platform and designed to be relocated elsewhere in future, if needed, with ramps to maintain accessibility.

Demand for campsites typically exceeds supply over the summer holiday period. Recently, increasing numbers of people have enquired about the ability to camp here longer term. However, the reserve was originally gifted as a recreation reserve for holiday makers, not as a place for people to live more permanently.

Other management issues include waste disposal and maintenance of the larger introduced trees and playground equipment.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve for the primary purposes of informal recreation, picnicking and short-stay camping.
- 2 Work together with the Department of Conservation to ensure that activities on the recreation reserve do not conflict with objectives for the management of the adjoining McKee Memorial Scenic Reserve.
- 3 Continue to provide and maintain camping and picnicking facilities, including flush-toilets, showers and lighting, to the standard required by building, health, safety and camping regulations.
- 4 Consolidate and replace the ageing toilet/shower block facilities. New facilities should be built on a raised platform and designed to be relocated elsewhere in future, if needed, with ramps to maintain accessibility.
- 5 Maintain and replace playground equipment.
- 6 Install signage to educate people about the significance of the adjoining beach for variable oystercatchers and their vulnerability to disturbance.
- 7 Restrict overnight camping at McKee Memorial Recreation Reserve to a maximum stay as outlined in the camp rules published on Council's website.
- 8 Allow closure of the reserve, or parts of the reserve, if required for public safety or protection of the reserve.

Explanation: Parts of the reserve flood after heavy rain and are subject to coastal inundation from storm surges from time to time. The reserve may also need to be closed at time of high fire risk.
- 9 Trim or remove old exotic trees if required, to mitigate known hazards to reserve visitors.
- 10 Maintain, and replace as required, the low-growing trees and shrubs along the coastal edge of the reserve, using indigenous species wherever possible.
- 11 Allow natural coastal processes adjacent to the reserve to continue.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.6 PINE HILL HEIGHTS SCENIC RESERVE

Location

Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve is located on the western side of Stafford Drive, Ruby Bay, just south of McKee Memorial Reserves (see Map 10). The reserve covers an area of dissected coastal bluff below the Pine Hill Heights subdivision and above Stafford Drive. It adjoins the Pine Hill Heights Walkway Reserves, which provide access to the reserve from Brabant Drive and van Beek Place.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Scenic Reserve for the purposes specified in Section 19(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 24 DP 15280 (b) Lot 29 DP 13646
- Area: (a) 3.3982 ha (b) 1.7629 ha

History

Land parcel (a) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (recreation) at time of subdivision in 1991. Land parcel (b) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (native bush preservation) at time of subdivision in 1988. In 2021, both parcels were classified as Scenic Reserve under Section 19(1)(b) of the Act (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve is an important remnant of coastal forest. Although modified, it is regenerating strongly, and is one of the few significant areas of native vegetation in the Māpua-Ruby Bay area. It also provides good opportunities for walking, especially for the residents of Pine Hill Heights and Ruby Bay.

The reserve is a rare coastal margin forest remnant within the Moutere Ecological District and is one of only three such outstanding examples of such forest in this context. It comprises gully, footslope and coastal flats titoki-mahoe forest, remnant patches of black beech forest on the bluff crests, and more extensive kanuka-mixed broadleaved forest on mid to upper gullies and crests. Although largely secondary vegetation, there are narrow tongues of likely primary vegetation within the lower ends of the gullies.

An ecological assessment report (North, 2010), completed for the Native Habitats Tasman programme, identifies this reserve as a site of ecological significance, due to its high representativeness values and medium-high rarity and diversity values. The reserve is the only remaining example of deeply incised forested coastal gullies in the Moutere Ecological District. It contains an unusually large number of indigenous plant communities, plant species and habitat types. A reassessment of the site was undertaken in 2020, which noted that this maturing site is increasingly negatively impacted by weeds and drought.

The reserve provides habitat for several native bird species, including tui, korimako/bellbird, piwakawaka/fantail and kereru/pigeon. Riroriro/grey warbler, kotare/kingfisher, and waxeye are also likely to occur at least seasonally. Glowworms are present in the incised gullies, notably at the 'Glowworm Grotto' on the Gully Track.

Tracks traverse both of the main gullies in the reserve, linked by a track along the base of the cliff. Another track links 'The Walkway' with 'The Luge', between Brabant Drive and Van Beek Place. A further track leads from the end of Brabant Drive to a cliff top lookout at the northern end of the reserve.

The track system through the site gives locals the opportunity to appreciate this unique reserve. Access along the gully tracks may be difficult after heavy rain. Tracks are

sign-posted at both ends, and link with the walkways discussed under 'Pine Hill Heights Walkway Reserves'.

Issues and Options

In 2010, the site was assessed as being in good condition, with only localised weed issues and no apparent browse. Garden waste dumping from neighbouring properties had resulted in at least two unidentified species spreading into the reserve.

A reassessment of site condition, undertaken in 2020, noted that drought, pest plant impacts and lack of recruitment for some species are the over-riding negative themes of change. Positive changes include a maturing of secondary vegetation and of revegetation plantings. The overall picture is sobering, with a maturing site that is increasingly assailed by weeds and drought impacts.



Black beech canopies were in good health during 2010 (to left) compared to 2020 (to right); several trees have also died at this site in the intervening time. Severe droughts occurred during the summers of 2011, 2018 and 2019.

Due to climate change, summer droughts are predicted to become more common and more protracted – this trend is already believed to have been playing out for some decades. Drought impacts are difficult to manage, not least because re-established plants, through revegetation of species that are lost, declining or failing to reproduce, may simply be lost at the next serious drought. Pest weed impacts can be managed, given enough time and resources. Plant species held in check from rodent consumption of seed can be supplementary planted. Pest control would also help in this regard.

The extent of old man's beard, banana passionfruit, *Tradescantia*, North Island lacebark and *Pseudopanax lessoniana* hybrids have markedly increased since 2010.



By 2020 (photo to right), old man's beard and banana passionfruit had established heavily in areas where little was recorded previously in 2010 (photo to the left).



2020: The pest plant *Tradescantia* has increased markedly over the last decade within the upper section of the southern gully.

Management of the reserve over the past decade has mainly comprised seed bank control targeting aggressive weeds, such as banana passionfruit and *Tradescantia*. The cliffs are constantly eroding and weed species pop up quickly – usually from inaccessible parts of the cliffs. Weed control at this site is difficult due to the terrain; effective knock down and ongoing control would require substantial resources.

Other management issues include control of rubbish disposal and storm-water discharges and the maintenance of walking tracks, structures (wooden steps and lookout), and signs.

OBJECTIVE

- 1 To protect, maintain and enhance the significant biodiversity values of the native forest remnant at Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve for the primary purpose of protecting and restoring the native forest remnant.
- 2 Remove or contain plant and animal pest infestations and as far as possible prevent the establishment of new infestations. Increase the frequency of ongoing weed control work.
- 3 Encourage adjoining landowners to control the disposal of garden waste and storm-water flows, to limit the establishment of new weeds species and to prevent excessive scouring of streambeds and tracks.
- 4 Maintain the tramping tracks and structures in the reserve, to continue to provide opportunities for

bush walking for as long is practicable, due to the geology and eroding cliffs, and upgrade wayfinding signage for these tracks.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.7 PINE HILL HEIGHTS WALKWAY RESERVES

Location

Pine Hill Heights Walkway Reserves are located at Ruby Bay: walkway (a) connects Pine Hill Road with Brabant Drive; walkway (b) connects van Beek Place with Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve; and walkway (c) connects Brabant Drive with Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve (see Map 10).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 5 DP 16139 (b) Lot 25 DP 15280 (c) Lot 27 DP 13646
- Area: (a) 0.0143 ha (b) 0.0193 ha (c) 0.0223 ha

History

Two of the walkways were vested in Council as local purpose (pedestrian access) reserve at time of subdivision: in 1993 for walkway (a); and in 1988 for walkway (c). Walkway (b) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (recreation) at time of subdivision in 1991. All three reserves were classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This walkway reserve includes three separate paths within the Pine Hill Heights residential area. The paths link Brabant Drive with Pine Hills Road, and link Van Beek Place and Brabant Drive with the Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve.

All three paths are sealed and are separated from adjoining properties by wooden paling fences. The paths were developed as part of the Pine Hill Heights subdivision in 1992 and are well sign-posted. Two of the paths provide foot access to the tracks within the Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve.

The three paths are:

- Brabant Drive to Pine Hills Road; known locally as 'The Ramp' (Lot 5, 143 m2);
- Brabant Drive to the southern end of Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve (and the gully track); known locally as 'The Luge' (Lot 27, 223 m2); and
- Van Beek Place to Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve; known locally as 'The Walkway' (Lot 25, 193 m2).

Part of the adjacent Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve (at the northern end of Brabant Drive), including the lookout track, is known locally as 'The Steps'. The area of regenerating native forest in the adjoining gullies, and the tracks within that area, are also part of the adjoining Pine Hill Heights Scenic Reserve.

Issues and Options

When the track network was first constructed, members of the Friends of the Walkway Mapua erected signs throughout the reserve, but these have not been maintained.

Management issues include the continued maintenance of the fences and path surfaces, trimming of vegetation that encroaches on the paths from adjoining properties, and maintenance of signs.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the walkways and work with neighbours to maintain boundary fences.
- 2 Replace the ageing signage.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.8 PINE HILL RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Pine Hill Recreation Reserve is located at 210 Stafford Drive, Ruby Bay, between Stafford Drive and the sea, at the northern end of the Ruby Bay residential area (see Map 10).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Sec 129 SO 11036 Moutere Hills District (b) Pt Lot 13 DP 4955
- Area: (a) 0.1606 ha (b) 0.1198 ha

History

Vested authority. In 1958, the Minister of Lands declared parcel (a) to be a reserve for recreation, to form part of the Mapua Domain. In 1975, the Minister of Works proclaimed that parcel (b), which was a road parcel at the time, be closed and added to the adjoining reserve and form part of the Mapua Domain. Both parcels were administered by the Mapua Domain Board until 1989, when Council became the administering body via the Local Government (Nelson-Marlborough Region) Reorganisation Order 1989 (GN 1989, p2377). In 2021, both parcels were classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve is a triangular area with a gravel carpark, an open area with mown grass, large pine trees (although the trees near the coastline are actually part of the adjoining Ruby Bay Esplanade Reserve) and smaller ngaio trees. A low wooden barrier separates the car park area from the beach. A concrete-block toilet building, rubbish bins and picnic tables are located on the reserve.



The reserve is a popular rest and picnic area alongside the Tasman Bay/Te Tai-o-Aorere foreshore. The McKee Memorial Recreation Reserve is located approximately one kilometre to the north.



Issues and Options

Management issues include the continued maintenance of facilities at the reserve, coastal erosion, management of ageing pine trees, ongoing maintenance of open stormwater drain from Stafford Drive through to the beach and illegal overnight camping.



POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily for passive recreation, beach access and as a roadside rest area.
- 2 Maintain and replace existing facilities as required.
- 3 Replace, over time, the large pine trees at the reserve with more suitable coastal shade tree species.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.9 RUBY BAY ESPLANADE RESERVES

Location

Ruby Bay Esplanade Reserves comprise of four land parcels adjoining the foreshore at two separate locations in Ruby Bay. Two of the parcels are accessed via Stafford Drive and the other two via Broadsea Avenue (see Map 12). The former two parcels of land lie at the northern end of the Ruby Bay residential area, forming a narrow strip alongside the foreshore. Two narrow paths provide access from Stafford Drive to these land parcels. This part of the reserve adjoins Pine Hill Recreation Reserve to the north. The other two parcels of land lie alongside the foreshore further south, adjoining Chaytor Recreation Reserve.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 14 DP 4955 (b) Lot 2 DP 7091 (c) Lot 4 DP 4849 (d) Lot 30 DP 6775
- Area: (a) 0.5094 ha (b) 0.0317 ha (c) 0.0855 ha (d) 1.1129 ha

History

Three of the land parcels were vested in Council as esplanade reserve at time of subdivision: in 1954 for parcel (a); in 1966 for parcel (b); and in 1953 for parcel (c). Parcel (d) was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 1965. In 2021, all four parcels were classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Ruby Bay Esplanade Reserve comprises of four narrow strips of land bordering the Ruby Bay coastline, providing pedestrian access alongside the foreshore at these locations.



Issues and Options

Coastal erosion and inundation are major issues, with much of the reserve land having eroded over the past 70 years. A rock wall has been formed on the southern two lots, in an attempt to protect the reserve and private land behind it from coastal erosion.

Public access along the foreshore is compromised at high tide due to this rock wall. Hard protection structures are not in keeping with the Council's policy approach to erosion of reserve land. Encroachment onto reserve land by some neighbours is also an issue.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily to provide pedestrian access alongside the foreshore at Ruby Bay.
- 2 Replace, over time, the large pine trees at the northern end of reserve with more suitable coastal species.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.10 WESTMERE DRIVE RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Westmere Drive Recreation Reserve is located at 40 Westmere Drive, Ruby Bay (see Map 10).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 45 DP 497879
- Area: 0.2502 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (recreation) at time of subdivision in 2016. In 2021, it was classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve provides an area of open space near the Stagecoach Walkway easement. Approximately a third of the reserve area (alongside the road) is flat, and the remainder falls away down a gentle slope towards a neighbouring paddock and wetland. Most of the reserve is maintained as mown grass, although two small areas have been planted in native trees and shrubs, and three liquid ambers have been planted to provide future shade near the northern boundary.

Issues and Options

There are plans to install a picnic table, to increase amenity.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage as an area of open space for the primary purpose of passive recreation.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.11 STAGECOACH WALKWAY (EASEMENT)

Location

Stagecoach Walkway is an easement over private land connecting Stagecoach Road with Westmere Drive, Māpua (see Map 10).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified.
- Legal Description: Easement over part of Lot 42 DP 497879

Values

A formed shared path along the easement is popular with walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The well-formed gravel track is fenced on either side; wider areas are planted with natives. Step-over horse access provided at each end (this design is intended to restrict motorbikes, but enables horse riding).

Issues and Options

The only management issue to date has been occasional use of the track by motorbikers.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the shared path formation and fences.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.6.12 PINE HILL ROAD TO PIPPIN LANE WALKWAY

Location

Pine Hill Road West Walkway connects Pine Hill Road with Pippin Lane, at Ruby Bay (see Map 10).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified.
- Legal Description: Lots 4-5 DP 424010 (unformed legal road)
- Area: 0.9508 ha

History

As at 2021, this section of legal road remains unformed for vehicle traffic, although a walk/cycleway has been formed.

Values

The sealed shared path linking Pippin Lane to Pine Hill Road forms part of Tasman's Great Taste Trail cycle network and is well used by walkers and cyclists. Borders are planted with natives.

Issues and Options

Although Local Purpose (Road) Reserve, this area is currently managed by the Reserves & Facilities team. It is unlikely to be developed as a road within the next 10 years.

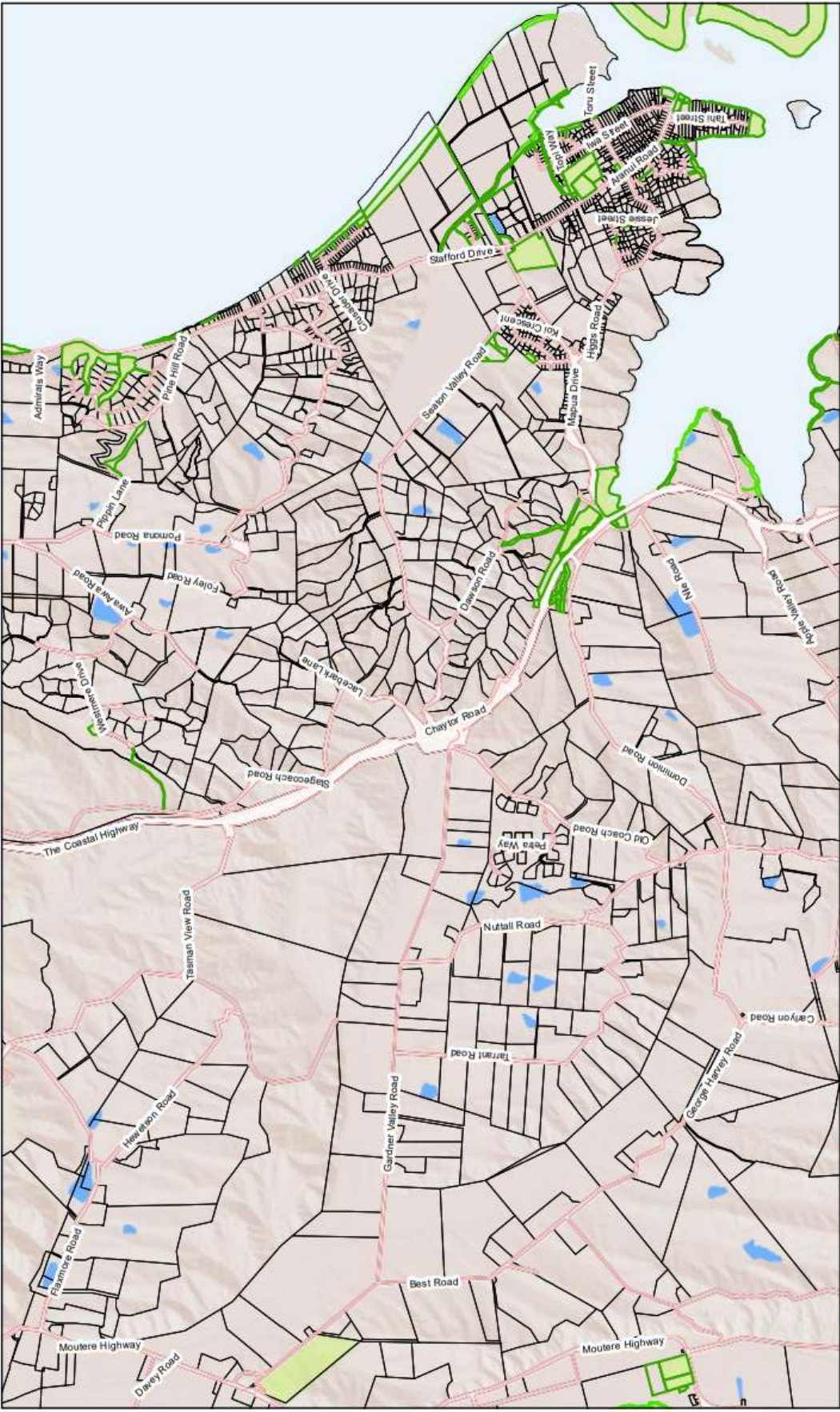
POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the shared path and plantings until such time as the land is required for roading purposes.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7 MĀPUA RESERVES

Map 11 - Mapua/Ruby Bay reserves (overview map)



See Maps 12-15 for details about reserves shown on this overview map.

Note - Moturoa/Rabbit Island, Rough Island and Bird Island (partially shown in the south-east corner of this map), while located within the Moutere-Waimea Ward, are subject to a separate plan. See the Moturoa/Rabbit Island Reserve Management Plan (2016) for details about reserves located on those three islands.

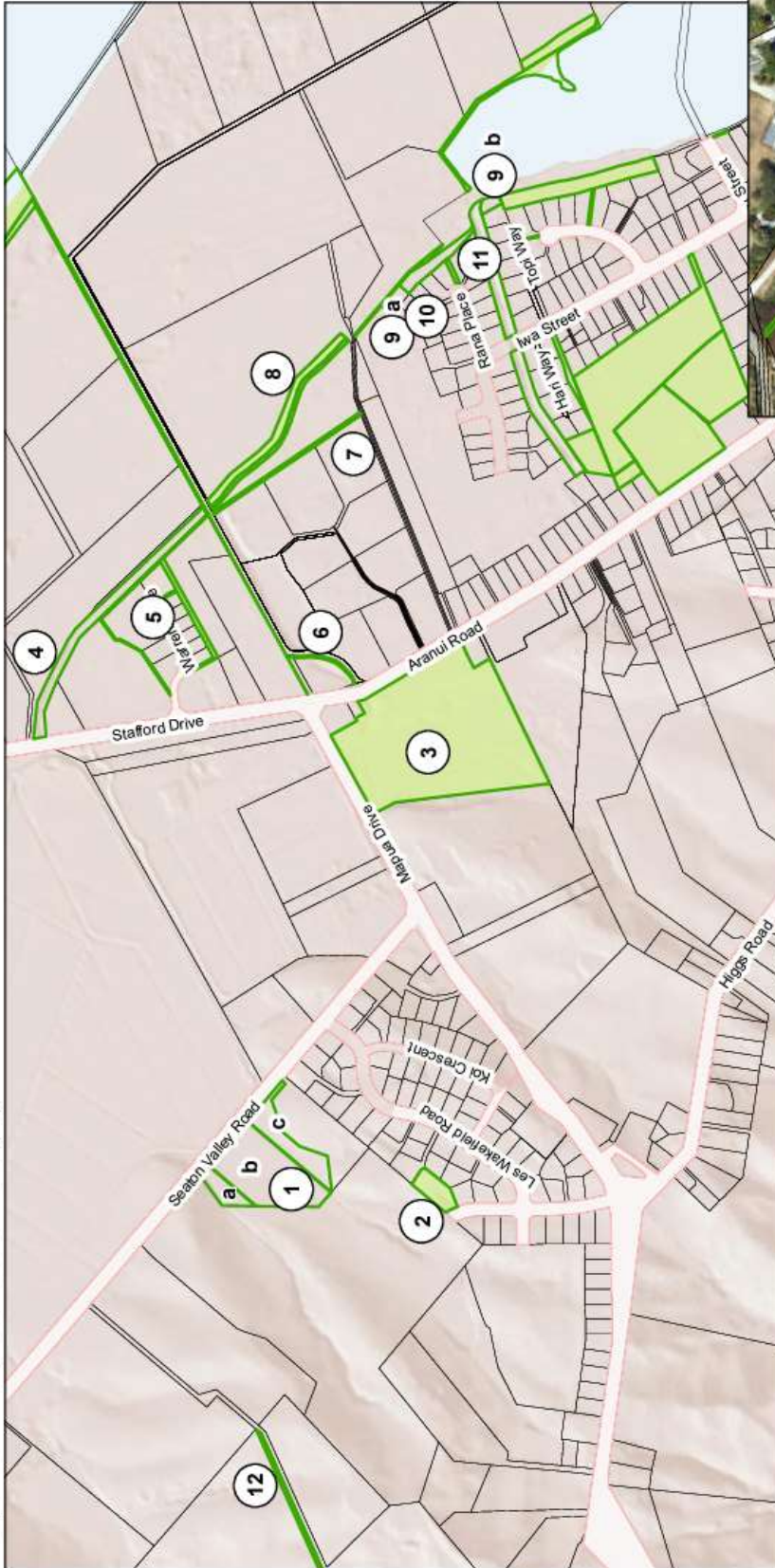
Map 12 - Mapua/Ruby Bay reserves (a)



- 1 - Ruby Bay Esplanade Reserves - (a) Lot 14 DP 4955 (b) Lot 2 DP 7091 (c) Lot 4 DP 4849 (d) Lot 30 DP 6775
 2 - Chaytor Recreation Reserve - Lot 10 DP 16467
 3 - Old Mill Walkway Reserve - (a) Lot 12 DP 16467 (b) Lot 4 DP 528043 (c) Lot 3 DP 528043 (d) Lot 13 DP 16467 (e) Lot 1 DP 17367 (f) Lot 2 DP 17367 (g) Sec 1 SO 450338 (h) Lot 17 DP 336741
 4 - Aranui Road - Māpua School Walkway Reserve - Lot 16 DP 336741

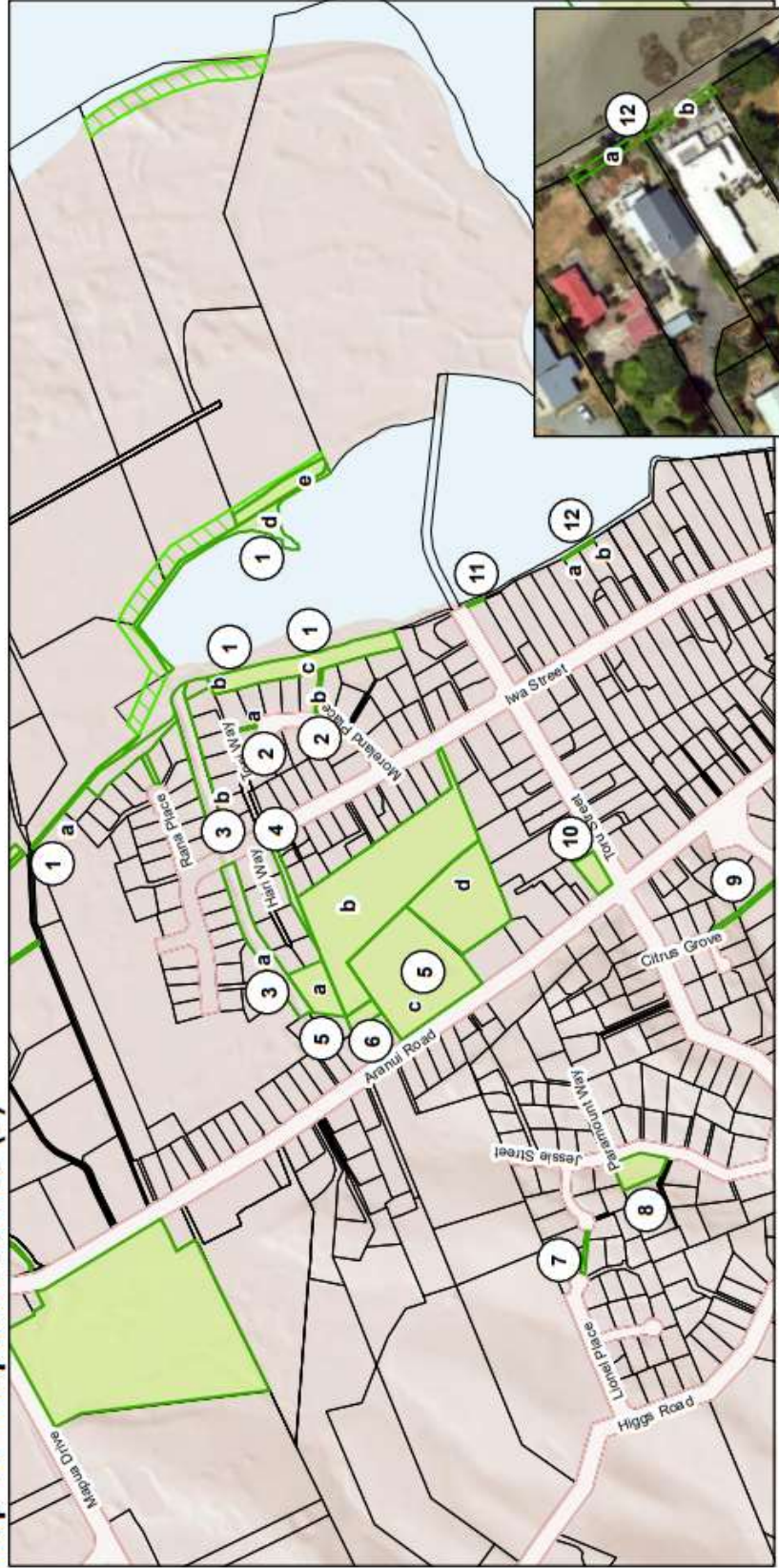
See Maps 13-15 for details about other reserves shown on this map.

Map 13 - Mapua reserves (b)



- 1 - Seaton Valley Road Reserve - (a) Sec 4 SO 493935 (b) Sec 3 SO 493935 (c) Sec 2 SO 493935
- 2 - Catherine Road Recreation Reserve - Lot 84 DP 498202
- 3 - Aranui Park Scenic Reserve - Lot 1 DP 8474
- 4 - Stafford Drive Drain Walkway - Lot 2 DP 306472
- 5 - Warren Place Walkway Reserve - Lot 12 DP 18043
- 6 - Aranui Road - Māpua School Walkway Reserve - Lot 16 DP 336741
- 7 - Old Mill Walkway Reserve - (a) Lot 12 DP 16467 (b) Lot 4 DP 528043 (c) Lot 3 DP 528043 (d) Lot 13 DP 16467 (e) Lot 1 DP 17367 (f) Lot 2 DP 17367 (g) Sec 1 SO 450338 (h) Lot 17 DP 336741
- 8 - Aranui Road Esplanade Reserve - Lot 4 DP 432685
- 9 - Moreland Place Esplanade Reserve - (a) Lot 6 DP 304288 (b) Lot 96 DP 504876
- 10 - Rana Place Esplanade Reserve - Lot 98 DP 523762
- 11 - Rana Place Walkway Reserve - Lot 97 DP 523762
- 12 - Seaton Valley Road Walkway Reserve - Lot 5 DP 500024

Map 14 - Mapua reserves (c)



- 1 - Moreland Place Esplanade Reserve - (a) Lot 6 DP 304288 (b) Lot 96 DP 504876 (c) Lot 21 DP 12594 (d) Lot 5 DP 304288 (e) Lot 4 DP 414200
- 2 - Moreland Place Walkway Reserve - (a) Lot 19 DP 12594 (b) Lot 20 DP 12594
- 3 - Morley Drain Reserve - (a) Lot 94 DP 504876 (b) Lot 95 DP 504876
- 4 - Iwa Street/Mapua Recreation Reserve Walkway - Lot 92 DP 504876
- 5 - Māpua Recreation Reserve - (a) Lot 93 DP 504876 (b) Lot 12 DP 9998 (c) Lot 1 DP 3840 (d) Lot 2 DP 3840
- 6 - Māpua Playcentre Reserve - Lot 11 DP 9998
- 7 - Lionel Place to Te Aroha Place Walkway Reserve - Lot 28 DP 320579
- 8 - Jessie Street Recreation Reserve - Lot 24 DP 16541
- 9 - Citrus Grove to Langford Drive Walkway Reserve - Lot 13 DP 19637
- 10 - Moutere Hills RSA Memorial Hall and Library Reserve - Pt Lot 6 DP 657
- 11 - Toru Street Esplanade Reserve - Lot 3 DP 331815
- 12 - Māpua Esplanade Reserve - (a) Lot 2 DP 20152 (b) Lot 3 DP 330071



Map 15 - Mapua reserves (d)



- 1 - Aranui Road to Langford Drive Walkway Reserve - (a) Lot 1 DP 472570 (b) Lot 28 DP 17242 (c) Lot 29 DP 17242 (d) Lot 64 DP 18328
- 2 - Grossi Point Esplanade Reserve - (a) Lot 15 DP 6482 (b) Lot 11 DP 4524 (c) Lot 11 DP 5006 (d) Lot 9 DP 5006 (e) Lot 10 DP 4524 (f) Lot 4 DP 7570 (g) Lot 4 DP 491680
- 3 - Grossi Point Recreation Reserve - Pt Lot 2 DP 417
- 4 - Māpua Waterfront Park - (a) Lot 2 DP 11106 (b) Lot 6 DP 11502 (c) Lot 5 DP 11502 (d) Lot 7 DP 11502 (e) Lot 1 DP 11502 (f) Lot 3 DP 11502 (g) Lot 4 DP 11502 (h) Lot 2 DP 11502
- 5 - Ngāio Park - Pt Sec 2 Moutere Hills District
- 6 - Tahiti Esplanade - (a) Lot 1 DP 14311 (b) Sec 13 SO 496194 (c) Sec 14 SO 496194 (d) Sec 15 SO 496194 (e) Sec 16 SO 496194





Map 16 - Mapua reserves (e)



- 1 - Dawson Road Walkway Reserve - Lot 2 DP 20482
- 2 - Dominion Flats Walkway Reserve - Sec 1 SO 441669
- 3 - Dominion Flats Scenic Reserve - (a) Sec 9 SO 445119 (b) Sec 2 SO 465263
- 4 - Chaytor Road Walkway (easement)
- 5 - Higgs Reserve - Sec 46 SO 442515
- 6 - Waimea Inlet Esplanade Reserve - Lot 3 DP 411290
- 7 - Apple Valley Road Esplanade Reserve - Lot 8 DP 315786

5.7.1 RUBY BAY ESPLANADE RESERVES

See Section 5.6.9 above.

5.7.2 CHAYTOR RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Chaytor Recreation Reserve is located at 29 Broadsea Avenue, Ruby Bay (see Map 12).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 10 DP 16467
- Area: 0.2327 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 1994. In 2021, it was classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

The reserve is named after Arthur Chaytor, who farmed this area as the Seaton Estate between 1872 and 1906.

Values

Chaytor Recreation Reserve is located in the Ruby Bay urban area, at the end of Broadsea Avenue. It comprises an area of grassed open space between Broadsea Avenue and Ruby Bay Esplanade Reserve on the beachfront. A low sea wall has been constructed on this beach frontage in an attempt to limit sea erosion of the esplanade reserve. An opening in the seawall allows people to launch small non-powered watercraft from this location. Chaytor Recreation Reserve also adjoins, and forms the northern entrance to, the Old Mill Walkway Reserve.

The reserve is separated from Broadsea Avenue by a low wooden barrier with a vehicle entrance. There are no structures on the reserve apart from signs, rubbish bins and a picnic table. The reserve is mainly used as a carpark for beach and walking access. Horse riders occasionally ride through the reserve to access the beachfront and Old Mill Walkway.



Issues and Options

Management issues include coastal erosion, undefined vehicle parking, and the continued provision of access to the adjoining reserves that form part of the Māpua walkway system (including the Old Mill Walkway). A major stormwater pipe runs through the northern part of the reserve and out to sea. Vehicle access is required to enable maintenance of this stormwater infrastructure.

There is scope to further develop the reserve by restricting parking to a smaller area and establishing grass and low plantings to increase amenity.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage this small open space area primarily for passive recreation and access to the coast.
- 2 Consolidate and formalise the carparking area so that it no longer dominates the reserve. Install bollards to prevent vehicles driving on the remainder of the reserve, where grass and low-growing coastal species should be established to improve amenity values.
- 3 Allow horses to be ridden across the reserve to access the beach and walkways.

- 4 Enable access for service vehicles to undertake maintenance of the stormwater infrastructure and existing rockwall.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.3 OLD MILL WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Old Mill Walkway Reserve comprises of eight parcels of land that form a walkway connection between Aranui Road, Māpua and the Ruby Bay coastline (see Map 12).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification - various:
 - parcels (a) and (b) are classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve;
 - parcels (c) and (h) are classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve;
 - parcels (d), (e) and (f) are classified as Local Purpose (Walkway & Utility) Reserve;
 - parcel (g) is classified as Local Purpose (Drainage) Reserve.
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 12 DP 16467 (b) Lot 4 DP 528043 (c) Lot 3 DP 528043 (d) Lot 13 DP 16467 (e) Lot 1 DP 17367 (f) Lot 2 DP 17367 (g) Sec 1 SO 450338 (h) Lot 17 DP 336741
- Area: (a) 2.8300 ha (b) 0.0940 ha (c) 0.0407 ha (d) 0.0838 ha (e) 0.0142 ha (f) 0.0015 ha (g) 0.0840 ha (h) 0.0978 ha

History

The name 'Old Mill Walkway' is derived from the flax mill established by Arthur Chaytor at Old Mill Creek in the late 1800s.

Parcel (a) was vested in Council as local purpose (esplanade) reserve at time of subdivision in 1994. Parcel (b) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve

(esplanade) at time of subdivision in 2019. Parcel (c) was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 2019. Parcel (d) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve at time of subdivision in 1994. Parcel (e) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve at time of subdivision in 1996. Parcel (f) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve at time of subdivision in 1996. Parcel (g) was vested in Council as local purpose (drainage) reserve when acquired under the Public Works Act in 2012. Parcel (h) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (walkway) at time of subdivision in 2004.



In 2021, parcels (a) and (b) were classified as local purpose (esplanade) reserve; parcels (c) and (h) were classified as local purpose (walkway) reserve; parcels (d), (e) and (f) were classified as local purpose (walkway & utility) reserve; and parcel (g) was classified as Local Purpose (Drainage) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).



Values

The coastal section of the walkway starts at the boundary with Chaytor Recreation Reserve and heads south. A well-formed shared path runs along the esplanade reserve, through rough pasture and some pine trees, before heading inland alongside a formed right-of-way. At Stafford Drain the walkway branches off in several directions. One path leads west, connecting with the 'Aranui Road – Māpua School Walkway Reserve'. Two paths lead north to Stafford Drive: one alongside Stafford Drain and then via the Warren

Place Walkway. Another part of the walkway reserve leads south. Much of the walkway is fenced from adjoining properties.

The walkway has been developed and maintained with assistance from local community groups. It forms part of Tasman's Great Taste Trail and provides a very useful walking/cycling link between Māpua and Ruby Bay, along with good access to the beachfront.



Issues and Options

Management issues include maintenance of the path surface, maintenance of signs and small bridges, and the use of parts of the walkway by horse riders to access the beach.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the primary purpose of providing walking, cycling and horse-riding access.
- 2 Maintain the surface of the shared path, bridge structures and signage.
- 3 Establish plantings of indigenous species where practicable along the coastal section of the walkway for habitat improvement and amenity.
- 4 Allow the use of the walkway by horse riders, providing plants and soil are not damaged and providing walking/cycling access is not compromised.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.4 ARANUI ROAD – MĀPUA SCHOOL WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Aranui Road – Māpua School Walkway Reserve provides a walkway connection between Aranui Road and Māpua School (see Maps 12 and 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 16 DP 336741
- Area: 0.0290

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (walkway) at time of subdivision in 2004 and classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve provides safe access for students and parents to walk/cycle to Māpua School from Aranui Road, without needing to negotiate the busy Māpua Drive/Stafford Drive/ Aranui Road intersection. The well-formed shared path is part of Tasman's Great Taste Trail.



Issues and Options

Tasman's Great Taste Trail continues from the north-eastern end of the walkway, along a strip of Māpua School land near the southern boundary of Māpua School, linking with Old Mill Walkway. If Māpua School moves location in future, this linkage could potentially be broken if there is no legal easement in place over this land.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the primary purpose of providing safe walking/cycling access for Māpua School students.
- 2 Maintain the shared pathway and plantings.

- 3 Work together with Māpua School to investigate the possibility of securing an easement over the strip of school land currently occupied by Tasman's Great Taste Trail, to ensure the existing linkage between Aranui Road-Māpua School Reserve and the Old Mill Walkway Reserve is protected in future.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.5 SEATON VALLEY ROAD RESERVE

Location

Seaton Valley Road Reserve is located between 29 and 53 Seaton Valley Road, Māpua (see Map 13).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified
- Legal Description: Sec 2-4 SO 493935
- Area: 1.6173 ha

History

Pursuant to Section 20(1) of the Public Works Act 1981, the land was acquired for stormwater detention and vested in the Tasman District Council in 2017 (Sections 3 and 4) and 2018 (Section 2).

Values

The primary purpose of this land is stormwater detention.

Issues and Options

During periods of dry weather, this stormwater detention area could potentially form part of the open space network in future, whilst also fulfilling its primary function. Adjacent land is likely to be subdivided in future; this area could potentially be linked to Catherine Recreation Reserve via land acquisition.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain as a stormwater detention area as the primary purpose, that also potentially forms part

of Council's open space network as a secondary function during periods of dry weather.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.6 CATHERINE ROAD RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Catherine Road Recreation Reserve is located at 18 Catherine Road, Māpua (see Map 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 84 DP 498202
- Area: 0.1841 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose (recreation) reserve at time of subdivision in 2016. In 2021, it was classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Only partially developed to date, the reserve has been grassed, a sign installed at the entrance and low plantings have been established near the reserve boundaries. This area of open space provides for passive recreation and a place for neighbourhood gatherings.



Issues and Options

There is potential to increase the size of this reserve when adjoining land is subdivided and possibly link it to the Seaton Valley Road Reserve. There is scope to construct a playground and install a picnic table.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage as an open space area for the primary purpose of passive recreation.
- 2 Maintain and enhance the reserve by constructing a playground and installing a picnic table.

- 3 Consider opportunities for expanding the size of this reserve and/or linking it to Seaton Valley Road Reserve when the surrounding area is subdivided.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.7 ARANUI PARK SCENIC RESERVE

Location

Aranui Park Scenic Reserve is located at 125 Aranui Road, Māpua (see Map 13).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Scenic Reserve under s19(1)(b)
- Legal Description: Lot 1 DP 8474
- Area: 4.1265 ha

History

Council has vested authority over this reserve. In 1977, the Wells family gifted this parcel to the Crown for recreation purposes and as a 'contribution to the preservation of New Zealand's natural heritage', subject to the Reserves and Domains Act 1953. Later that year it was declared to be a public domain and form part of the Mapua Domain (GN 1977, p3206). In 1984, the name of the reserve was changed to Aranui Park (GN 1984, p3530). This reserve was administered by the Mapua Domain Board from 1977 until 1989, when Council became the administering body via the Local Government (Nelson-Marlborough Region) Reorganisation Order 1989 (GN 1989, p2377). In 2021, it was classified as Scenic Reserve under s19(1)(b) (GN 2021-In2599).

A plaque commemorating Bernard Wells is located near the entrance to the reserve. The Department of Lands and Survey prepared a planting plan for the reserve in 1979, and in 1993 the first management plan for the reserve was approved.

Values

Part of a cluster of occupations around Korepo (a rare dune lagoon), Aranui Park is highly significant to iwi.

This reserve is treasured by the local community for its scenic and passive recreation values. Much of the revegetation (the 'Tana's Ark' project) has been undertaken by volunteers, including neighbours and Māpua School students. The local gardening club has also undertaken maintenance and plantings, particularly around the front of the reserve, where exotic specimen trees have been underplanted with bulbs and flowering shrubs. Aranui Park has developed into a lovely place to walk the paths, stop and rest for a while and undertake peaceful contemplation. Picnicking is another popular use.



The portion of the reserve closest to the main entrance on Aranui Road is planted with a variety of native and introduced species, including some memorial trees. One of the larger trees has Protected status under the TRMP: a very impressive and *Quercus Ilex* (Holly or Holm Oak) with a canopy spanning over 20m. Facilities on the eastern half of the reserve include an entrance gateway, carpark, signage, picnic tables and rubbish bins. A shallow drainage ditch and two small ponds are also present on this part of the reserve. A low wooden barrier separates the reserve from Aranui Road.

Much of the central portion is mown grass. An old cow shed remains as the only building on the reserve.



A network of well-formed gravel paths traverse the reserve. An open, wide stormwater drain runs through the reserve, mostly near the western boundary, then changing course near the northern boundary, where it runs east and out under Aranui Road. The margins of the drain have been revegetated, as has a wide strip of land along the western and southern boundaries. Established trees line the northern boundary with Māpua Drive.

Issues and Options

Management issues include balancing additional revegetation potential with the desire to retain open space within the reserve, the lack of toilet facilities, management of stormwater from upstream subdivision, and the degenerating state of the old cow shed building.

Previous management plans for Aranui Park have included policies restricting the construction of buildings on the reserve. While the lack of toilet facilities may be perceived to be an issue, public toilets are provided at several locations around Māpua, including at the nearby Māpua Recreation Reserve. This Plan proposes that no permanent toilet facilities be provided at Aranui Park.

The proposed subdivision of adjoining land may place greater pressure on the management and use of the reserve. Control of sedimentation from the proposed development on the uphill slope may be an issue and any stormwater control should be designed to ensure there is no drop in the water table, as many of the wetland species in the reserve rely on the current conditions.

While the old cow shed is in a bad state of repair, it has some historic value. Additional picnic and seating facilities could be provided in the reserve. As Māpua township continues to grow, Aranui Park will become a central hub and use of the paths within the reserve is likely to increase.

Community feedback has suggested that Aranui Park may be a suitable location for community gardens and/or a community food forest to be established. Aranui Park has recently been classified as Scenic Reserve under section 19(1)(b) of the Reserves Act; community gardens are not consistent with the primary purpose of this type of reserve. This Plan proposes that part of the undeveloped land at the northern end of Māpua Recreation Reserve is a more suitable location for establishment of community gardens, as it has better soils and drainage, adequate space and vehicle parking immediately adjacent to the site.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily for the development, protection and preservation of the scenic qualities of its indigenous and exotic flora. Ensure that Aranui Park continues to make a

‘contribution to the preservation of New Zealand’s natural heritage’, as per the original intent of the Well’s family.

- 2 Maintain the established and recent plantings of eco-sourced indigenous species, whilst ensuring that a large area of open space is retained in the centre of the reserve.
- 3 Maintain the existing facilities and improve the standard of the network of gravel paths through the reserve.
- 4 Continue to support community involvement in reserve management, especially the maintenance of native vegetation.
- 5 No permanent toilet facilities should be provided at Aranui Park.
- 6 Continue to ensure that the old cow shed is maintained in a safe condition and install an interpretative sign at this site.
- 7 Provide additional picnic and seating facilities in the reserve.
- 8 Continue to manage stormwater flows to benefit vegetation and also maintain stormwater channels through the reserve.

Also see Council’s ‘Reserves General Policies’ document.

5.7.8 STAFFORD DRIVE DRAIN WALKWAY

Location

Stafford Drive Drain Walkway is located at 34A Stafford Drive, Māpua (see Map 13).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified
- Legal Description: Lot 2 DP 306472
- Area: 0.4921 ha

History

This reserve was acquired by Council in 2002.

Values

The land encompasses a section of Seaton Valley Stream and provides dual functions of stormwater drainage and walkway access. The walkway alongside the drain links to the Old Mill Walkway. Some planting has been undertaken along the boundaries with neighbouring private property, and low-growing *Carex* grass planted along the stream edge.

Issues and Options

During times of high flow through drain, the path can flood, preventing access.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the land for the dual purposes of providing stormwater drainage and walking/cycling access.
- 2 Maintain and improve the riparian vegetation along this section of Seaton Valley Stream, ensuring that any plantings do not impede the stormwater management function.
- 3 Following the conclusion of the Nelson Tenth Reserve claim process, engage with iwi before initiating a public consultation process to declare as Local Purpose (Walkway & Utility) Reserve under the Reserves Act, in order to provide appropriate legal protection for this land.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.9 WARREN PLACE WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Warren Place Walkway Reserve is located at Warren Place, Māpua (see Map 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 12 DP 18043
- Area: 0.1629 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 1998. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Provides a short walkway linkage around the Warren Place industrial subdivision and through to the Old Mill Walkway (on the opposite side of the stream from the Stafford Drive Drain Walkway).



Issues and Options

There is a steep entrance to this rough track, meaning it is not easily accessible for all to walk on.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the primary purpose of providing walking access.
- 2 Maintain the rough track to the existing standard.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.10 ARANUI ROAD ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Aranui Road Esplanade Reserve is located between 130 and 132 Aranui Road, Māpua (see Map 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 4 DP 432685
- Area: 0.3006 ha

History

Council purchased this reserve when the land was subdivided in 2012; it was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (esplanade) that same year. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This reserve forms a riparian margin to Seaton Valley Stream. At the northern end are several established deciduous trees.

Issues and Options

Management issues include encroachment of neighbouring landuse at the southern end, the boundary with the neighbouring property to the east has not yet been fenced and no walkway has yet been formed. Council is yet to secure legal access across private right-of-ways at either end of the reserve, which leaves this reserve isolated from nearby walkway reserves, albeit by just a few metres.

Once easements across the right-of-ways are in place, there is scope to develop a walkway through this reserve to same standard as Old Mill Walkway. Tasman's Great Taste Trail could be diverted from the busy Aranui Road to follow an alternative route, which includes this reserve. There is also much scope to revegetate the Seaton Valley Stream margin with indigenous species, to improve habitat values and water quality.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the dual purposes of improving riparian margin habitat along the Seaton Valley Stream edge and providing walking/cycling access.
- 2 Work with neighbouring landowners to secure easements across the private right-of-ways at either end of the reserve.
- 3 Fence the boundary between the reserve and neighbouring property to the east.
- 4 Develop a shared path along the reserve, to the same standard of the Old Mill Walkway.
- 5 Revegetate either side of the new walkway with eco-sourced indigenous species.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.11 MORELAND PLACE ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Moreland Place Esplanade Reserve is located between Moreland Place and the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet, at Māpua (see Maps 12, 13 and 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 6 DP 304288 (b) Lot 96 DP 504876 (c) Lot 21 DP 12594 (d) Lot 5 DP 304288 (e) Lot 4 DP 414200
- Area: (a) 0.0470 ha (b) 0.0450 ha (c) 0.4585 ha (d) 0.2360 ha (e) 0.1834 ha

History

All five parcels were vested in Council as local purpose reserve (esplanade) at time of subdivision: in 2002 for parcel (a); in 2017 for parcel (b); in 1986 for parcel (c); in 2002 for parcel (d); and in 2009 for parcel (e). In 2021, all five parcels were classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

An ecological assessment report (North, 2006), completed for the Native Habitats Tasman programme, identifies the estuary margin adjoining this reserve as a site of ecological significance (see image of Māpua Inlet salt marsh below). The site has high rarity values, due to saltmarsh being 'originally rare ecosystems' nationally. A complex pattern of saltmarsh vegetation communities exists here. The esplanade reserves form the landward boundaries of the site.



The 3.9 ha 'Māpua Inlet saltmarsh site lies at and around MHW around an embayment of the Waimea Inlet at Māpua. Seaton Valley Stream issues into the head of the saltmarsh. A causeway to the motor camp cuts off the saltmarsh from the main body of the Waimea Inlet, with tidal flap-gates installed.

A large open area of mown grass covers much of the reserve. A few established deciduous trees are present, and restoration of the Inlet margin has begun.



Issues and Options

There are no facilities on the reserve. There is scope to maintain and enhance the estuarine edge environment by expanding the revegetation project further inland.

Another potential development opportunity could be to construct a boardwalk along the Inlet margin between the southern end of the esplanade reserve and the Māpua Causeway. A shared path could then be formed along the esplanade reserve, creating a link between the causeway to the south and the proposed new shared path along Aranui Road Esplanade Road Reserve to the north. Tasman's Great Taste Trail could then potentially be diverted along this route, to avoid the busy Aranui Road.



POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the inland part of the esplanade reserve as open space for informal recreation and amenity, and the remainder for the protection and enhancement of the estuary margin.
- 2 Expand the revegetation project further inland from edge of the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet, using eco-sourced coastal indigenous species.
- 3 Investigate options to link the reserve with the Māpua Causeway via a boardwalk.

- 4 Create a shared path along the inland part of the reserve.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.12 MORELAND PLACE WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Moreland Place Walkway Reserve is located at Moreland Place, Māpua (see Maps 12,13 and 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 19 DP 12594 (b) Lot 20 DP 12594
- Area: (a) 0.0061 ha (b) 0.0149 ha



Parcel (b) – Main access through to Moreland Place Esplanade Reserve

History

Both parcels were vested in Council as local purpose reserve (pedestrian access) at time of subdivision in 1986. In 2021, both were classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

A sealed driveway forms the main access to the reserve from Moreland Place (parcel (b)). Wayfinder signage has recently been installed here. A grassed pedestrian access way at the end of Moreland Place (parcel (a)), leading to privately owned land, is also part of this reserve.



Parcel (a) – mown strip of land providing access to a private right of way.

Issues and Options

Parcel (a) was acquired before subdivision of land to the north took place, on the assumption it would form part of an extended walkway linkage in future. However, when subdivision occurred, no such linkage was created, meaning the walkway serves no purpose to the general public – it simply provides walking access to surrounding privately owned properties. Council may wish to consider the possibility of initiating the process of revoking reserve status, with the intention of selling this land to neighbours at some point in future. However, this is unlikely to be a priority within the next 10 years.

POLICIES

1 Maintain the walkway along parcel (b) as a sealed driveway.

2 Maintain parcel (a) as a mown grass strip.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.13 RANA PLACE ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Rana Place Esplanade Reserve is located at Rana Place, Māpua (see Map 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 98 DP 523762
- Area: 0.1689 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (esplanade) at time of subdivision in 2018. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

A new gravel path has recently been installed, linking adjacent reserves. Extensive weed control and revegetation work was also undertaken on the reserve during 2020.

Issues and Options

The main management issue is ongoing weed control. There is scope to undertake more revegetation on the reserve.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the esplanade reserve for the dual purposes of enhancing the riparian margin of Seaton Valley Stream and providing walking/cycling access along the shared path.
- 2 Continue to expand the revegetated area and undertake plant pest control on the reserve area as required.
- 3 Maintain the shared pathway.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.14 RANA PLACE WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Rana Place Walkway Reserve is located at Rana Place, Māpua (see Map 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 97 DP 523762
- Area: 0.0217 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (pedestrian access) at time of subdivision in 1988. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

A well-formed, fully accessible gravel path connects Rana Place to the adjoining esplanade reserve.

Issues and Options

No issues.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the path to a high standard.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.15 SEATON VALLEY ROAD WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Seaton Valley Road Walkway Reserve is located between 71 and 75 Seaton Valley Road, Māpua (see Map 13).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 5 DP 500024
- Area: 0.1969 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (walkway) at time of subdivision in 2017. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This parcel may eventually form part of a walkway network, but currently does not connect to any roads, and therefore remains unformed at present.

Issues and Options

As surrounding land is subdivided, add linkages to this reserve, then form a path along the walkway.

POLICIES

- 1 As surrounding land is subdivided, take opportunities to expand the length of potential walkway.
- 2 Once linkages have been obtained, form a path along the entire walkway network, including along this reserve.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.16 MORLEY DRAIN RESERVE

Location

The Morley Drain Reserve is located at Iwa Street, Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Drainage) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 94 DP 504876 (b) Lot 95 DP 504876
- Area: (a) 0.3103 ha (b) 0.3104 ha

History

Both parcels were vested in Council as local purpose reserve (drainage) at time of subdivision in 2017. In 2021, both were classified as Local Purpose (Drainage) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

When land in this area was subdivided in 2017, a large new stormwater drain was created at this location, to replace the older and smaller Morley Drain. While the main function of this reserve is to manage stormwater, it also provides useful pedestrian access to the Māpua Recreation Reserve. Recent planting has been undertaken along the lower half of the drain, to provide more shading for the low flow channel.

An ecological assessment report (Hickford, 2012), completed for the Native Habitats Tasman programme, identifies parcel (b) as a site of local ecological significance, due to its value as a spawning area for inanga/whitebait. A small spawning area was discovered on the margin of the drain, just above its confluence with Seaton Valley Stream. The site comprised of tufts of tall fescue (the preferred vegetation) amongst a turf of creeping bent with all eggs found on the true left (north) bank of the drain.



Inanga spawning habitat near eastern end of parcel (b).

Issues and Options

In relation to parcel (b), it is important that any native vegetation restoration undertaken near the eastern end of this land parcel ensures that sufficient light is retained for exotic grasses, which are favoured by inanga for spawning.

Walking access is currently along the level strips of mown grass along the true left of the drain. Potentially, this access could be upgraded to a formed walkway – however, this would duplicate the walkway access provided by the Iwa Street/Māpua Recreation Reserve Walkway. Some further plantings to shade low-flow channel are possible, but other plantings not appropriate as they would compromise the stormwater function.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the primary purpose of stormwater drainage, whilst also protecting inanga spawning habitat near the estuary margin.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.17 IWA STREET/MĀPUA RECREATION RESERVE WALKWAY

Location

Iwa Street/Māpua Recreation Reserve is located at Iwa Street, Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 92 DP 504876
- Area: 0.0734 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 2017. In 2021, it was classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This reserve forms a walkway linkage between Iwa Street and the Māpua Recreation Reserve. Mown grass borders both sides of the gravel path and bollards at the Iwa Street end restrict vehicle access.

Issues and Options

No issues.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the existing path and bollards.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.18 MĀPUA RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Māpua Recreation Reserve is located at 84 Aranui Road, Māpua (see Map 14).



Māpua Easter Fair 2018. Photo credit: Māpua School

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 93 DP 504876 (b) Lot 12 DP 9998 (c) Lot 1 DP 3840 (d) Lot 2 DP 3840
- Area: (a) 0.2218 ha (b) 1.9340 ha (c) 1.2135 ha (d) 0.8088 ha

History

Parcel (a) was vested in Council as recreation reserve at time of subdivision in 2017.

Council has vested authority over parcels (b), (c) and (d). In 1948, the Crown declared that the reserve for recreation form part of the Māpua Domain (GN 1948, p1055). Parcels (b), (c) and (d) were administered by the Māpua Domain Board until 1989, when Council became the administering body via the Local Government (Nelson-Marlborough Region) Reorganisation Order 1989 (GN 1989, p2377).

In 1988, parcel (b) was declared to be classified as recreation reserve and to form part of the Māpua Recreation Reserve (GN 1988, p2396).

In 2021, parcels (a), (c) and (d) were classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

A wide range of facilities are provided at Māpua Recreation Reserve. The main access is from Aranui Road, but pedestrians can also access the reserve from three locations on Iwa Street. The reserve is used for organised sports, active and passive recreation and the highly popular annual Māpua Easter Fair.

Much of the reserve area comprises of sports fields, with rows of established trees at either end. Two of the trees in the copse near the northern edge of the reserve are listed as Protected Trees in the TRMP. This copse was planted at the time of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation.

Both the Māpua Hall and the small car parking area alongside Aranui Road are adjacent to, but not part of, the Māpua Recreation Reserve. Tennis courts, public toilets, a skate park, a drinking fountain, and a recently upgraded playground are located on the western side of the reserve. An informal dirt pump track is located near the tennis courts.



Facilities at the northern end of the reserve include a half basketball court, cricket nets, the Māpua Scout Den and Māpua Bowling Club clubrooms and bowling greens. Vehicle parking space is provided between the adjacent Māpua Playcentre Reserve and the Scout Den, and a separate parking area is located alongside the bowling facility.





Māpua Scout Den and parking area.



Māpua Bowling Club clubrooms, bowling green and carpark



Issues and Options

Key management issues include the provision and maintenance of facilities, sports field and tennis court allocation, vehicle parking, leases and licences, and how to develop the area of land recently acquired at the northern end of the reserve.

Many of the facilities on the reserve have been well maintained or recently upgraded (e.g. the playground and skate park). The outer walls of the public toilets are covered in attractive mosaics, however the toilet interiors could be modernised and made more accessible. There are no/inadequate storage facilities for many of the clubs who utilise the reserve (including tennis, cricket, football and Scouts). There is scope to add a shared storage facility that

can be used by clubs/groups/reserve users in the northern part of the reserve. Part of this shared facility is needed for the Tamaha Sea Scouts to store boats in, with space also required for boat maintenance work.

Due to growth of the Māpua area, demand for use of the four tennis courts has continued to increase – to the point where additional courts may soon need to be provided somewhere in Māpua. The Māpua Tennis Club is experiencing the highest growth in Tasman District at present, with their membership reaching approximately 90 seniors and 90 juniors during the 2020/2021 season. There have been more family memberships and increased demand for courts on weekends and out of school hours.

There are difficulties in finding a balance between providing adequate Club facilities, while still allowing some possibility for casual players to also enjoy the courts. Currently there are two Astroturf courts that are locked to protect the courts from damage and to avoid inappropriate use. The two asphalt courts are available to the public when not needed for coaching or club activities. The Club has recently installed a solar-powered, automated electronic locking and booking system that provides non-Club members with access to the four existing courts, allowing anyone to book usage outside of coaching or club event times.

The Māpua Tennis Club has requested that policies be included in this Plan addressing the following matters:

- i. Although the Club has used the courts since 1927, there has never been a formal agreement between Council and the Club, formalising use of the tennis facilities. They seek a written agreement between the two parties, to provide future security for the Club.
- ii. Provision of four courts for Club use and at least two courts for public use. They suggest that new courts be constructed for public use: either near the Bowling Club on the currently undeveloped part of the reserve, or elsewhere in Māpua.
- iii. Improve facilities at the four existing courts. There is no power or drinking water available for the courts and the shelter is very basic. It was constructed by Club members after the previous shed was destroyed by arson in 2011. Access to power would enable installation of lights in future, if the Club continues to grow and extend the use of the courts into the evenings. They suggest a water fountain be installed at the courts. They would like to see the access path leading to the main entrance to the courts improved and picnic tables and bike racks provided near the courts.
- iv. Improvements to tennis facilities. There is no storage for club coaching equipment or a ball machine, and better hitting walls are needed. The courts are used most nights for coaching and the practicalities of bringing equipment and taking it

away again daily is challenging, especially with the large number of juniors attending coaching.

Cricket and football are the main user groups of the sports field areas at present. The main sports field area and skatepark are prone to flooding. Now that a large drain has been constructed at the north end of the reserve (within the Morley Drain Reserve), there is scope to reduce the flooding impacts on these areas by installing a new drain running from the south to north, to discharge into the Morley Drain Reserve.

There are only two formed vehicle parking areas, both in the northern part of the reserve. Both areas are gravelled. The driveway leading to these two parking areas is also gravelled rather than sealed, to protect the roots of the copse of established trees (including two Protected trees) on the south side of the driveway. Community feedback received included a suggestion that this driveway be sealed, due to frequent use and ongoing issues with potholes. Council does not plan to seal these areas in future but will increase the maintenance schedule for repairing the gravel driveway and carparking areas, to improve the condition of this access.

Much of the fenced playground area used by the Māpua Playcentre extends beyond the Playcentre Reserve land parcel into the Māpua Recreation Reserve. A lease is required for this use. Leases are also required for the Māpua Bowling Club and Māpua Scout facilities.

A narrow strip of land along the north-eastern side of the bowling green is maintained by the Bowling Club; this area is being planted with a row of low-growing shrubs. The Bowling Club also owns and is required to maintain the wastewater pipe and pump and manhole servicing their building from Aranui Road; the Scout Hall also connects to this service. Leases with both groups should include reference to their ownership and maintenance responsibilities for these wastewater services.

The eastern deck of the Māpua Hall encroaches into the reserve area; Council paid for half of the deck construction. No buildings can be constructed within 12m of the Hall as it lacks a firewall on the eastern side.

Council plans to upgrade the interior of the public toilets and enhance their accessibility.

The draft Plan proposed that part of parcel (a), the undeveloped land at the northern end of Māpua Recreation Reserve, may be a suitable location for establishing community gardens and/or a community forest for Māpua. It has good soils and drainage, adequate space and vehicle parking immediately adjacent to the site. The majority of submitters who commented on this proposal supported this idea. Some preferred a community garden, while

others preferred a community food forest/orchard only, with many supporting both. Some submitters suggested that a food forest could be planted around the boundaries and a portion of the remaining area used to create a community garden, leaving much of the area as open space for picnicking and recreation.

A range of alternative options for use and development of this area were raised by other submitters including: (i) retaining the area as open space for outdoor Scout activities and allowing a large storage facility to be constructed on this land; (ii) planting a border of native trees alongside boundaries with neighbouring residents; (iii) creating a fenced dog-exercise area; (iv) building two tennis courts here for informal public use; (v) creating a pump track similar to the McGazzaland pump track in Wakefield; (vi) creating a purpose-built croquet court; (vii) expanding the area occupied by the Bowling Club into part of this area; and (viii) picnicking and other passive use.

Some of the suggested uses may be better provided elsewhere in Māpua or the District. However, Council intends to undertake further consultation with Māpua residents and reserve users to prepare a development plan by July 2023 for the northern end of Māpua Recreation Reserve, incorporating multiple uses of this site.

Other community feedback received (during the earlier 'seeking ideas' stage) included the suggestion of allowing exercise stations to be installed in the reserve, if external funding could be obtained for this purpose. Possible locations for exercise stations could include the undeveloped northern parcel and along the southern and eastern reserve boundaries.



At the time of writing, the most recent addition to Māpua Recreation Reserve (parcel (a)), located behind the Scout Den, remained undeveloped.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily for organised sports, informal recreation and community use.
- 2 Continue to allow the Māpua Bowling Club to use their club building and bowling green area on the reserve, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the five-year lease (see Appendix 3, Table A).
- 3 Continue to allow the Māpua Scouts Group to use their existing Scout Hall building on the reserve and provide for use of a new shared storage facility for boats and equipment from other reserve users (to be constructed alongside the existing Scout Hall, on the northern side of the building), in accordance with the terms and conditions of the five-year lease (see Appendix 3, Table A).

Explanation: There is a lack of adequate storage facilities on the reserve. The majority of this shared facility is likely to be used by the Tamaha Sea Scouts for boat storage and as space for undertaking boat maintenance work. Cricket teams require storage for their equipment, and other sports codes are likely to in future. If a community garden is developed on parcel (a), storage for this activity could also be accommodated within this shared facility.

- 4 Formalise use of the four tennis courts by Māpua Tennis Club via a new five-year licence to occupy agreement and ensure use of the courts and related facilities is in accordance with the terms and conditions of this licence (see Appendix 3, Table A).
- 5 Improve facilities at the four tennis courts by installing synthetic surfaces on the two asphalt courts. If the Māpua Tennis Club is able to secure adequate funding to pay for the following new facilities, also allow for: (i) construction of a small facility alongside the existing tennis shelter that has adequate storage space for coaching equipment and a ball machine; (ii) construction of a new playback wall; and/or (iii) power connection and lights to be installed at the courts in future.

Explanation: Access to power would mean an automated electronic locking and booking system could be installed to give non-Club members access to the four existing courts, allowing anyone to book usage outside of coaching or club event times. It would also enable installation of lights in future, if the Club continues to grow.

- 6 Until such time as new tennis courts have been constructed for public use in Māpua, continue to provide for public use of the tennis courts at the reserve, via the new automated electronic locking and booking system. Work together with Māpua Tennis Club to install and set up the booking system and enable the Club to administer the system, in accordance with the terms of their licence to occupy agreement.
- 7 Allow for the continued occupation of part of the Māpua Recreation Reserve by the formed playground area, in accordance with the terms and conditions of, a new five-year lease with the Māpua Playcentre (see Appendix 3, Table A).
- 8 Install a drain from the southern to northern end of the reserve, discharging into the Morley Drain Reserve, to reduce flooding impacts on the sports fields and skatepark areas.
- 9 Work with the Māpua community to prepare a development plan for the northern end of Māpua Recreation Reserve, incorporating multiple uses. Ensure that development of this area provides for stormwater from the southern part of Māpua Recreation Reserve to be directed north into the Morley Drain Reserve.
- 10 If the community is able to secure adequate funding to purchase outdoor exercise stations, allow for these to be installed around the reserve (Council's Reserves and Facilities Manager to approve locations before installation takes place).

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.19 MĀPUA PLAYCENTRE RESERVE

Location

Māpua Playcentre Reserve is located at 84 Aranui Road, Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Site for Playcentre) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 11 DP 9998
- Area: 0.0759 ha

History

Council has vested authority over this reserve. Originally forming part of the Māpua Recreation Reserve, in 1993 it was reclassified as Local Purpose (Site for Playcentre) Reserve (GN 1993, p194).

Values

This small reserve adjoins the Māpua Recreation Reserve and is accessed via a gravel drive off Aranui Road that is part of the latter reserve. The reserve is home to the Māpua Playcentre building and surrounded by a fully fenced outdoor play area. The Playcentre is well used.



Issues and Options

Much of the fenced playground area used by the Māpua Playcentre extends beyond the Playcentre Reserve land parcel into the Māpua Recreation Reserve. A lease is required for use of the Māpua Recreation Reserve land and the Māpua Playcentre Reserve area.

The Playcentre own the building and playground and are responsible for their maintenance. Parents utilise the parking area alongside the Scout Den at Māpua Recreation Reserve when visiting the playcentre.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the primary purpose of providing a Playcentre facility and services to Māpua community and surrounds.
- 2 Māpua Playcentre should continue to maintain their building, playground and fences.
- 3 Once the Māpua Playcentre lease expires, allow for continued use of the Māpua Playcentre Reserve land in accordance with the terms and conditions of, a new five-year lease with the Māpua Playcentre (see Appendix 3, Table A).

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.20 LIONEL PLACE TO TE AROHA PLACE WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Lionel Place to Te Aroha Place Walkway Reserve is located at Lionel Place, Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 28 DP 320579
- Area: 0.0201 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose (walkway) reserve at time of subdivision in 2003. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Lionel Place to Te Aroha Place Walkway Reserve provides a connection between these two streets in Māpua along a well-formed, concrete path.

Issues and Options

No issues.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain a high-standard path through the walkway reserve to provide pedestrian access between Lionel Place and Te Aroha Place.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.21 JESSIE STREET RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Jessie Street Recreation Reserve is located at 19 Jessie Street, in the urban area of Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 24 DP 16541
- Area: 0.1624 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose reserve at time of subdivision in 1994. In 2021, it was classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve comprises of a small area of mown grass surrounded by a dense shrubbery of native species, predominantly akeake, lemonwood, kohuhu, toetoe, and flax. There are no structures or facilities on the reserve, but the shrubbery provides a natural playground area.



Issues and Options

No issues.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage for the primary purpose of passive recreation.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.22 CITRUS GROVE TO LANGFORD DRIVE WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Citrus Grove to Langford Drive Walkway Reserve is located between 7 & 9 Citrus Grove, and 4 & 6 Langford Drive, Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 13 DP 19637
- Area: 0.0398 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose walkway reserve at time of subdivision in 1999. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Citrus Grove to Langford Drive Walkway Reserve provides a connection between these two streets in Māpua via a sealed concrete walkway with steps.

Issues and Options

No issues.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain a high-standard path through the walkway reserve to provide pedestrian access between Citrus Grove and Aranui Road.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.23 MOUTERE HILLS RSA MEMORIAL HALL AND LIBRARY RESERVE

Location

The Moutere Hills Returned Servicemen's Association (RSA) Memorial Hall and Library is located at 60 Aranui Road, on the corner of Toru Street, Māpua (see Map 14).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (War Memorial & Community Buildings) Reserve
- Legal Description: Pt Lot 6 DP 657
- Area: 0.1016 ha

History

The Moutere Hills Branch of the RSA originally acquired this land as a donation from Sam Busch in 1946, and then transferred it to the Nelson Returned Services' Association in 1956. The Nelson RSA gifted the land to Council in 1996, for the purpose of a memorial reserve. In 1998, Council declared the land to be a local purpose (war memorial) reserve (GN 1998, p1175). In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (War Memorial & Community Buildings) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).



Values

The Māpua Library building is located on this reserve. A small meeting room within the building is used by the RSA (others can also book this room) and information about the RSA is displayed in the entranceway.



A wood and iron fence and a short section of hedge separate the reserve from Aranui Road and Toru Street. A concrete path leads from the reserve entrance to the library, and there are amenity plantings at the entrance and around the library.

A memorial arch at the reserve entrance commemorates servicemen from the Moutere Hills area who lost their lives in the two World Wars. A flagpole is located on the lawn. The reserve is very tidy and well maintained.

Issues and Options

Management issues include ongoing maintenance of grounds, memorial facilities, and the need to authorise use of the building as the Māpua Library via a licence to occupy agreement.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve for the primary purpose of providing a war memorial and community buildings.
- 2 Continue to regularly maintain the building, grounds and memorial facilities.
- 3 Continue to allow the Māpua Library to utilise the building on the reserve, in accordance with the terms and conditions of a five-year licence to occupy agreement (see Appendix 3, Table A).

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.24 TORU STREET ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Toru Street Esplanade Reserve is located at Tahi Street, Māpua, just south of the causeway (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 3 DP 331815
- Area: 0.0041 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose (esplanade) reserve at time of subdivision in 2004. In 2021, it was classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve provides pedestrian access along estuary frontage below the causeway. People can also walk to the nearby Māpua Esplanade Reserve at low tide.

Issues and Options

The reserve is subject to coastal inundation on occasion. Both neighbouring properties encroach onto this reserve by utilising it as part of their back lawn area.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily to provide pedestrian access alongside the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet margin.
- 2 Fence the inland boundaries of the reserve.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.25 MĀPUA ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Māpua Esplanade Reserve is located at Iwa Street, Māpua (see Map 14).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 2 DP 20152 (b) Lot 3 DP 330071
- Area: (a) 0.0040 ha (b) 0.0040 ha

History

Parcel (a) was vested in Council as local purpose esplanade reserve at time of subdivision in 2000, while parcel (b) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve (walkway) at time of subdivision in 2004. In 2021, both parcels were classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

The reserve is isolated from other esplanade reserves on the coastline, but pedestrians can walk to this location at low tide.

Issues and Options

The reserve is subject to coastal inundation on occasion. Both neighbouring properties encroach onto this reserve by utilising the reserve space as part of their developed garden areas.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve primarily to provide pedestrian access alongside the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet margin.
- 2 Once linkages have been established to other esplanade reserves on the peninsula, fence the inland boundaries of the reserve and remove encroachments.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.26 ARANUI ROAD TO LANGFORD DRIVE WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Aranui Road to Langford Drive Walkway Reserve comprises of four parcels of land that link Aranui Road to the southern end of Langford Drive, at Māpua (see Map 15).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 1 DP 472570 (b) Lot 28 DP 17242 (c) Lot 29 DP 17242 (d) Lot 64 DP 18328
- Area: (a) 0.0184 ha (b) 0.3020 ha (c) 0.3050 ha (d) 0.0642 ha

History

Parcel (b) was vested in Council as local purpose reserve at time of subdivision in 1995. Council acquired parcel (a) in fee simple in 2015, via subdivision. That year, parcel (a) was declared a Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve and united with parcel (b), to form one reserve. Parcels (a) and (b) were also classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve in 2015 (GN 2015, p63).

Parcels (c) and (d) were vested in Council as local purpose reserve at time of subdivision in 1995 and 1997 respectively. In 2021, parcels (c) and (d) were classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This walkway reserve comprises four parcels of land that link Aranui Road and Langford Drive, along the foreshore of the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet at Māpua, providing a linkage between these streets and easy pedestrian access to the Inlet. There is an existing gravel path along parcels (a), (b) and (c).

Issues and Options

Coastal inundation occurs at at high tide, and the low-lying areas are prone to damage from storm surges. There is scope to undertake more revegetation along the estuary edge, including saltmarsh restoration. A new gravel path could be formed to connect parcel (d) with (c). If a footbridge was installed across the stream mouth, there is also scope to divert the low-lying part of path on parcel (b) onto Tahi Esplanade area, which is much higher and unlikely to flood.

Part of parcel (b) – i.e. the west side of the creek opposite Tahi Esplanade (see Map 15) – forms part of the contaminated industrial site at Māpua. It is part of a larger area of land that was formerly owned by the Fruitgrowers

Chemical Company (FCC), whose business included the manufacture of synthetic pesticides. The factory closed in 1988. Contaminated soil on part of the area was remediated in a \$12 million clean-up project, over a 10-year period from 1997-2007, funded by the Council and the Ministry for the Environment. The soil on the west side of the creek is capping soil with residual pesticides from the former FCC landfill. For further details about this contaminated site, see Appendix 4 of this Plan.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain gravel paths through the walkway reserve to provide pedestrian access between Aranui Road and Langford Drive.
- 2 Any earthworks undertaken on the west side of the creek (within parcel (b)) should be carried out under the supervision of an archaeologist and iwi monitor and will comply with the 'Former Fruit Growers Chemical Company Site, Māpua: FCC East and FCC Landfill Sites – Site Management Plan'.
- 3 Construct a new gravel path to connect parcel (d) with (c).
- 4 Install a footbridge across the stream mouth and divert the low-lying part of path on parcel (b) onto the adjoining Tahi Esplanade area.
- 5 Revegetate the estuary margin by planting species propagated from plants indigenous to the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet area. Limit planting to low-growing species, to maintain views of the Inlet from nearby houses.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.27 GROSSI POINT ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Grossi Point Esplanade Reserve comprises seven separate parcels of land on either side of the Grossi Point Peninsula at Māpua (see Map 14). One part of the reserve runs from the Grossi Point Recreation Reserve towards the Aranui Road – Langford Drive Walkway Reserve, and the other part runs from the recreation reserve towards Waterfront Park.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 15 DP 6482 (b) Lot 11 DP 4524 (c) Lot 11 DP 5006 (d) Lot 9 DP 5006 (e) Lot 10 DP 4524 (f) Lot 4 DP 7570 (g) Lot 4 DP 491680
- Area: (a) 0.0516 ha (b) 0.0814 ha (c) 0.0381 ha (d) 0.0461 ha (e) 0.0690 ha (f) 0.0102 ha (g) 0.0101 ha

History

All parcels were vested in Council as local purpose esplanade reserve at time of subdivision: in 1952 for parcels (b) and (e); in 1954 for parcels (c) and (d); in 1963 for parcel (a); in 1970 for parcel (f); and in 2017 for parcel (g).

In 2021, all seven parcels were classified as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

All land parcels adjoin the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet margin on one side and residential housing on the other. Low vegetation, including ice plant and rank fescue grass, covers most of the reserve area.

Issues and Options

Most of the reserve parcels are affected by the encroachment of activities from adjoining residential properties, with gardens, fences and some buildings constructed on these strips of land, preventing pedestrian access through the reserve.

Ideally, foot access across intervening areas of land without esplanade reserve should be formalised (e.g. via easements) to provide a future walkway link around the outer edge of the peninsula via the Grossi Point Recreation Reserve.

POLICIES

- 1 Control weed species such as ice plant.
- 2 Where no esplanade reserve has yet been set aside, approach landowners about the possibility of creating easements along the coastal edge of their land for pedestrian access and potential development of a walkway around the outer edge of the peninsula.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.28 GROSSI POINT RECREATION RESERVE

Location

Grossi Point Recreation Reserve is located at 58 Tahi Street, Māpua (see Map 15).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Recreation Reserve
- Legal Description: Pt DP 417
- Area: 0.8981 ha



History

Once part of a wider site of early Māori occupation around Māpua, and consequently, the area now known as Grossi Point is highly significant to iwi.

The earlier European name for this area was Thomas's Point or Thomas's Hole, named for J H Thomas who lived there for at least 23 years by 1889. The name continued in use until at least 1909. Mark Grossi, son of Austrian settler Baggio Grossi, was a fisherman whose family lived in tents at what we know now as Grossi Point in the early 1900s.

In 1957, Grossi Point and the surrounding land was owned by Mr Cheyne and the Māpua Progress League was negotiating public access to the Point. Mr Cheyne offered the League the opportunity to purchase the Point for a public reserve and the purchase was completed in 1958 thanks to public subscription and business support. Over time, the Domain Board made improvements to the site and it became a popular picnic spot for locals and visitors alike. It was also popular for school visits. While it is believed that Mark Grossi may have planted some of the older trees, in 1965 a row of *Macrocarpa*, two Norfolk Pines, six *Pohutukawa*, along with a number of *Buddleia* and *ngaio* trees were planted by the Domain Board. Toilets were renewed in 1965 and changing sheds built in 1967.

Council has vested authority over this reserve. In 1958, the Crown declared that the recreation reserve be part of the Māpua Domain (GN 1958, p702). It was administered by the Māpua Domain Board from 1958 until 1989, when Council became the administering body via the Local Government (Nelson-Marlborough Region) Reorganisation Order 1989 (GN 1989, p2377). In 2021, it was classified as recreation reserve (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

Grossi Point Recreation Reserve covers the end of a small peninsula extending into Waimea/Waimeha Inlet. The reserve provides excellent opportunities for picnicking,

swimming, fishing, birdwatching and hand launching watercraft (kayaks and dinghies etc).

The reserve includes an area of mown grass surrounded by mature trees, including large maritime pine (*Pinus pinaster*) and gum (*Eucalyptus* sp.) trees, and smaller *pohutukawa* (*Metrosideros excelsa*) and *buddleia* trees. Picnic tables, barbecue stands, rubbish bins, and toilet/changing building are present.



The reserve provides access to Waimea/Waimeha Inlet, especially to the water-ski area in the main channel between the reserve and No Mans Island. Pacific oysters are present in the area, and signs in the reserve warn of the hazard posed by their shells on the foreshore.



Issues and Options

The major management issue is ensuring that recreational use of the reserve is compatible with protection of the highly significant cultural heritage values, including the several archaeological sites located here. Council will prepare a separate Cultural Heritage Management Plan for Grossi Point during 2022. Future management of the reserve should be in accordance with this plan. The name of the reserve could revert to the former Māori name for this location, in recognition of its cultural significance.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage the reserve in accordance with the cultural heritage management plan (yet to be prepared).

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.29 MĀPUA WATERFRONT PARK

Location

Māpua Waterfront Park is located at 1, 3 and 11 Aranui Road, and 11 Tahi Street, Māpua (see Map 15). The eastern edge of the park adjoins the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet.



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 2 DP 11106 (b) Lot 6 DP 11502 (c) Lot 5 DP 11502 (d) Lot 7 DP 11502 (e) Lot 1 DP 11502 (f) Lot 3 DP 11502 (g) Lot 4 DP 11502 (h) Lot 2 DP 11502
- Total area: 1.0256 ha

History

Once part of a wider site of early Māori occupation around Māpua, the area now known as Waterfront Park is highly significant to iwi.

Waterfront Park is part of a larger area of land that was formerly owned by the Fruitgrowers Chemical Company (FCC), whose business included the manufacture of synthetic pesticides. The factory closed in 1988. Toxic soil on part of the area was remediated in a \$12 million clean-up project, over a 10-year period from 1997-2007, funded by the Council and the Ministry for the Environment.

The agreement with the Crown for the clean-up included Council entering into a deed in 2004 that required at least 40% of the site to be retained in Council ownership for use as public space. The definition of public space under this deed is community, recreational, environmental, cultural, or spiritual purposes and includes roads and carparks. Māpua Waterfront Park was the part of the area identified

for public space, other areas of the site were subsequently earmarked by the Council for eventual commercial and residential development.

Council owns all eight land parcels comprising Waterfront Park in fee simple. The titles to three of the land parcels (those that adjoin the coastline) include the purpose "As endowment under the Nelson Harbour Act 1905". The park is not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore is not classified.

Values

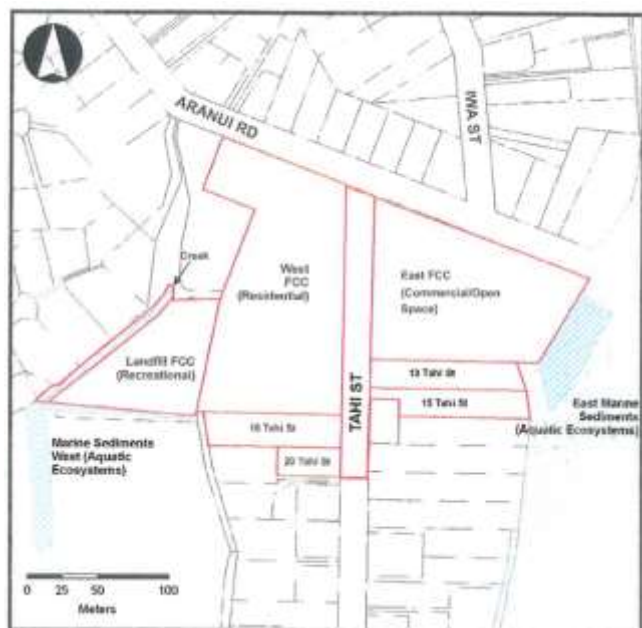
Post remediation, Council worked with landscape architects and developed the site into a recreational space. Waterfront Park has an amphitheatre, promenade, toilet block, petanque court, four picnic tables with seating, numerous walkways and car park – with complementary landscape planting.





Issues and Options

A cap of residential quality soil, 0.5m in depth, covers the contaminated soil at Waterfront Park. The material under the 0.5m cap is compacted commercial grade pesticide residue, which is 200-600 times too contaminated to be allowed to leach into the estuary. It is contained within engineered cells, thick clay walls and an engineered sea wall barrier. The most contaminated soil is closest to the top, to keep it away from the groundwater.



Waterfront Park is legally covered by a Site Management Plan for the former FCC East and FCC Landfill sites (see location of both areas on image above) and an audit process including groundwater, sediment and biota monitoring. Management of the site rigorously restricts future usage, and all considerations need very strong planning and supervision to ensure the surrounding area, especially the estuary is not contaminated by chemicals that still exist in the site. Key requirements of this plan include (i) ensuring that the 0.5m soil cap is kept in place to protect the estuarine environment from the residual pesticides in the buried soil; and (ii) preparing an Earthworks Management Plan for moving the commercial

grade soil around within Waterfront Park, or obtaining a resource consent for offsite disposal of commercial grade soil from Waterfront Park.

The 'Māpua Waterfront Area Masterplan (2018-2028)' sets out a strategic direction for the Māpua waterfront and adjacent areas, recognising the interconnectivity of the waterfront area. Actions from the Masterplan that relate to the Waterfront Park area have been incorporated into the policies below, including ideas for additional facilities and features.

The Māpua Waterfront Masterplan Working Group (made up of iwi, community and Council stakeholders) has the role of implementing the actions within the Māpua Waterfront Masterplan. The Masterplan focuses on the waterfront area and provides a plan for its development and use, including the Māpua wharf area, Waterfront Park, Council-owned remediated land and Grossi Point Recreation Reserve.

Community feedback identified that elevated aspects of the Park are often 'windswept' and underutilised. The community desires to increase use of Waterfront Park space via opportunities such as outdoor concerts and music events, twilight or farmers markets, and yoga or tai chi classes. Another idea put forward was to create an interconnected network of pathways - from Ngāio Park through Waterfront Park to Grossi Point and across to Langford Drive, and back into the village - that are accessible to all.

The community is divided (either strongly in support or strongly opposed) about the proposal to construct a boat ramp at Waterfront Park. If construction of the boat ramp disturbed the pesticide residue that is at the site, this hazardous waste would need to be disposed of in a landfill, subject to special conditions. A new cap would have to be engineered, and monitoring established to test the groundwater and estuary sediment for pesticide residues. If the boat ramp was built over the top of the existing cap, it would need to extend down the beach at a gentle angle, as the existing slope is quite steep. Vehicle movements to and from the boat ramp would need to be carefully managed, to minimise impacts on the open space values of Waterfront Park and other users. Parking for vehicles with boat trailers should not encroach on the open space areas of Waterfront Park and should be provided for elsewhere.

As part of their deliberations on the Long Term Plan 2021-2031, Council resolved to bring forward some funding "for the purpose of providing a new boat ramp facility at Waterfront Park". The resolution also stated that Council "acknowledges that the necessary statutory processes will need to be followed prior to the project proceeding". The policies in this Plan provide for the option of constructing a boat ramp at this location, should all requirements and

processes be met – including separate public consultation on this matter.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage Waterfront Park primarily as open space for informal recreation, and potentially boat launching.
- 2 Any earthworks undertaken at Waterfront Park should be carried out under the supervision of an archaeologist and iwi monitor and will comply with the 'Former Fruit Growers Chemical Company Site, Māpua: FCC East and FCC Landfill Sites – Site Management Plan'.
- 3 Any developments at Waterfront Park should be consistent with the operative Māpua Waterfront Masterplan at that time.
- 4 The community, with support from Council, will explore opportunities for improving and enhancing community facilities within Waterfront Park, e.g. by providing:
 - i. additional seating
 - ii. gas barbeques
 - iii. rubbish and recycling facilities
 - iv. trees for shelter/shade
 - v. some low-key playground equipment
 - vi. exercise stations
 - vii. interpretative panels, including information about site remediation
- 5 Council, with the local community, will explore opportunities for increased use of Waterfront Park as a valued community space.
- 6 Provided all relevant processes are completed and all required authorisations are obtained, allow for a community boat ramp to be constructed at Waterfront Park. Use of the boat ramp should be managed to ensure that:
 - i. no contaminants from the land are exposed or able to leach into the coastal environment;
 - ii. vehicle movements to and from the boat ramp minimise impacts on the open space values of Waterfront Park and other users; and
 - iii. parking for vehicles with boat trailers does not encroach on the open space areas of Waterfront Park and is provided for elsewhere.
- 7 Council will explore the construction of a walkway connection between the Wharf and Waterfront Park.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.30 NGĀIO PARK

Location

Ngāio Park is located at 6 Aranui Road, Māpua (see Map 15). The eastern edge of the park adjoins the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified
- Legal Description: Pt Sec 2 Moutere Hills District and defined on DP 495
- Area: Ngāio Park covers an area of approximately 0.0919 ha within a land parcel that has a total land area of 0.4047 ha.

History

The area known as Ngāio Park is part of a larger parcel of commercial land owned by Council in fee simple, that is also home to the 'Shed 4' development. The land was transferred to Waimea County Council from the Nelson Harbour Board in 1959, as part of a wider subdivision of land in the area. The park is not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore is not classified.

Values

Development of Ngāio Park was completed in July 2021. Named after the prominent ngāio tree on the site, this development has been a special project for Council and the community.

In recognition of its cultural history and significant archaeological status, a sensitive approach was taken to development, ensuing as little digging as possible was done on the site. The primary objective was to build on top of the land, rather than disturb it with earthworks. Much of the site is now paved.



Hard landscaping underway, June 2021

Ngāio Park now has tables, seats and bike racks, all made from recycled timber to fit in with the natural landscape of the wharf precinct. Landscaping includes plantings of coastal native plants and installation of realistic synthetic turf, to provide a durable surface in this high use environment.



This area of open space remains a significant archaeological site for iwi (including down to the water where waka were launched), and is highly valued by residents, locals and visitors alike. The park is also used by cyclists, embarking or disembarking on the ferry to Moturoa/Rabbit Island.



One of the most revered aspects of the space is the old ngāio tree, which accommodates innumerable small children throughout the year who delight in its peaceful hiding shade.

Issues and Options

The 'Māpua Waterfront Area Masterplan (2018-2028)' sets out a strategic direction for the Māpua waterfront and adjacent areas, recognising the interconnectivity of the waterfront area. Most of the actions from the Masterplan that relate to the Ngāio Park area have been incorporated into the recent development of the park.

There is scope to declare the land a reserve in future, and to rezone it from commercial to reserve zone.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage Ngāio Park primarily to ensure its preservation as an open green space.
- 2 Maintain Ngāio Park and its recreational infrastructure to a high standard.
- 3 Following the conclusion of the Nelson Tenth Reserve claim process, engage with iwi before initiating a public consultation process to declare the Ngāio Park area as Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act, in order to provide appropriate legal protection for the recreational values of this land.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.31 TAHI ESPLANADE

Location

Tahi Esplanade comprises of five land parcels, located at 16 Tahi Street, Māpua (see Map 15).

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: All five parcels are not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified
- Legal Description: (a) Lot 1 DP 14311 (b) Sec 13 SO 496194 (c) Sec 14 SO 496194 (d) Sec 15 SO 496194 (e) Sec 16 SO 496194

History

Once part of a wider site of early Māori occupation around Māpua, the area now known as Tahi Esplanade is highly significant to iwi.

Accessed via 16 Tahi Street, Tahi Esplanade is part of a larger area of land that was formerly owned by the Fruitgrowers Chemical Company (FCC). This area was used as a landfill by FCC. Contaminated soil on part of the area was remediated in a \$12 million clean-up project, over a 10-year period from 1997-2007, funded by the Council and the Ministry for the Environment (see Appendix 4 for further details).

The agreement with the Crown for the clean-up included Council entering into a deed in 2004 that required at least 40% of the site to be retained in Council ownership for use as public space. The definition of public space under this deed is community, recreational, environmental, cultural, or spiritual purposes and includes roads and carparks. Tahi Esplanade was the part of the area identified for public space, other areas of the site were subsequently earmarked

by the Council for eventual commercial and residential development.

Council owns all five land parcels comprising Tahi Esplanade in fee simple. The land is not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore is not classified.

Values

The area is of archaeological significance and preservation of the cultural elements is crucial. Access will always be maintained via the formed 100m accessway at 16 Tahi Street (parcel (b)). Tahi Esplanade area is maintained as an open area of mown grass.

Issues and Options

Tahi Esplanade is legally covered by a Site Management Plan for the former FCC East and FCC Landfill sites (see location of both areas on image in Appendix 4) and an audit process including groundwater, sediment and biota monitoring. Management of the site rigorously restricts future usage, and all considerations need very strong planning and supervision to ensure the surrounding area, especially the estuary is not contaminated by chemicals that still exist in the site. Key requirements of this plan include: (i) ensuring that the 0.5m soil cap is kept in place to protect the estuarine environment from the residual pesticides in the buried soil; and (ii) preparing an Earthworks Management Plan for moving the commercial grade soil around within Tahi Esplanade (including on the west side of the creek, which is capping soil with residual pesticides), or obtaining a resource consent for offsite disposal of commercial grade soil from Tahi Esplanade or the west side of the creek.

The contamination issue means it is difficult to plant this land. Protection of cultural values is another key management issue at this location.

POLICIES

- 1 Manage primarily as open space for informal recreation.
- 2 Any earthworks undertaken at Tahi Esplanade should be carried out under the supervision of an archaeologist and iwi monitor and will comply with the 'Former Fruit Growers Chemical Company Site, Māpua: FCC East and FCC Landfill Sites – Site Management Plan'.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.32 DAWSON ROAD WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Dawson Road Walkway Reserve is located between Dawson Road and Māpua Drive, at Māpua (see Map 16).



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 2 DP 20482
- Area: 0.9811 ha

History

This reserve was vested in Council as local purpose (walkway) reserve at time of subdivision in 2001 and classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This formed gravel track provides a linkage and pedestrian access between Dawson Road and Māpua Drive, down a tree-lined gully. The northern end is very steep.

Issues and Options

Management issues include weed infestation from neighbouring properties and track sections washing out after heavy rain. Recontouring the northern end of the walkway would make it accessible to more people.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain a gravel track through the walkway reserve to provide pedestrian access between Dawson Road and Māpua Drive.
- 2 Recontour the northern end of the track to reduce its gradient and make it more accessible.

- 3 Undertake weed control on the reserve area as required.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.33 DOMINION FLATS WALKWAY RESERVE

Location

Dominion Flats Walkway Reserve is located between Māpua Drive and the Coastal Highway, at Māpua (see Map 16). It adjoins Dominion Flats Scenic Reserve and Dawson Road Walkway Reserve at the eastern end. It also connects to Chaytor Road Walkway (an easement over private land) at the western end, which provides a linkage through to Chaytor Road further to the northwest.



Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve
- Legal Description: Sec 1 SO 441669
- Area: 1.3531 ha

History

Council has vested authority over this reserve. This land was acquired by the Crown under the Public Works Act for Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve, and vested in Council in 2011 (GN 2011, p3600) as part of the Coastal Highway upgrade. The reserve was classified as Local Purpose (Walkway) Reserve in 2021 (GN 2021-In2599).

Values

This walkway reserve provides a linkage and pedestrian access between Māpua Drive and the Chaytor Road Walkway. Two formed gravel paths, with some boardwalk sections, run alongside the northern and southern boundaries of this reserve, with a connection across the reserve at its eastern end. The paths are surrounded with indigenous revegetation that has been established over the past five years.

Issues and Options

Ongoing weed control will be required, but this is not a major issue at this reserve. There is scope to install improved way-finding signs and interpretation signs.

The adjoining easement over private land provides a linkage and pedestrian access between Chaytor Road and the Dominion Flats Walkway Reserve. The 1.5m wide gravel track along the easement is steep in places and washes out occasionally after heavy rain. Ongoing maintenance of ditches and culverts is required.

POLICIES

- 1 Maintain the gravel pathways and boardwalks through the walkway reserve to provide pedestrian access between Māpua Drive and the Chaytor Road Walkway.
- 2 Install additional wayfinding and interpretation signage.
- 3 Continue to work together with community volunteers to manage the reserve for the primary purposes of protecting the regenerating indigenous coastal forest and providing opportunities for bush walking.
- 4 Only eco-sourced plants should be planted in the reserve.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.7.34 DOMINION FLATS SCENIC RESERVE

Location

Dominion Flats Scenic Reserve is located on corner of the Coastal Highway and Māpua Drive (see Map 16). The reserve adjoins the Dawson Road and Dominion Flats Walkway Reserves, which provide access to the reserve from Dawson Road and Māpua Drive.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Scenic Reserve for the purposes specified in Section 19(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977
- Legal Description: (a) Sec 9 SO 445119 (b) Sec 2 SO 465263
- Area: (a) 0.3179 ha (b) 2.5170 ha

History

Council has vested authority over this reserve, which was created by the Crown as part of the Coastal Highway upgrade in 2013. Both parcels were vested in Council as

recreation reserve (GN 2013, p3632). In 2021, both parcels were classified as Scenic Reserve under Section 19(1)(b) of the Act (GN 2021-In2599).



Once the reserve was vested in Council, the community became actively involved in a project to restore the reserve, as near as possible, to its original state of lowland kahikatea forest. A sub-committee of the Māpua and Districts Community Association (MDCA) was formed for this purpose, who researched the type of trees that would be suitable and then applied for grants to fund the project. Since 2013, volunteers have planted over 60,000 plants, mostly paid for with money from grants. Many plants have also been donated, grown from locally sourced seeds.

Values

Dominion Flats Scenic Reserve is an important area of regenerating coastal forest. The restoration effort has largely been volunteer-driven, with Council support. Every Tuesday morning, a group of about 10 regular volunteers visit the reserve to undertake weed control and plant new eco-sourced plants. Several groups have also assisted with this work. Traps lines are monitored by volunteers to control animal pests. Council supports the volunteer effort by providing advice, materials, and some funding.

Dominion Flats is beginning to look like a natural patch of bush, with a canopy starting to form in places. At least eight different native fish species have been recorded at this site.

The track circuit through the reserve, which includes boardwalks and bridges, is used by walkers, runners, cyclists and school children and some lead further afield to connect with other communities. One connection is through an underpass (under the Coastal Highway) which has vibrant murals drawn by Māpua school pupils decorating the entrances. Volunteers have assisted with track construction and maintenance and donated three picnic tables and two seats.



Issues and Options

Management issues include protection of the native vegetation, ongoing weed control and maintenance of walking tracks and signs.

OBJECTIVE

- 1 To restore and enhance the regenerating native coastal forest and provide habitat for increased bird life and native fish.

POLICIES

- 1 Continue to work together with community volunteers to manage the reserve for the primary purposes of protecting the regenerating native coastal forest and providing opportunities for bush walking.
- 2 Only eco-sourced indigenous species should be planted in the reserve.
- 3 Remove or contain plant pest and animal pest infestations and as far as possible prevent the establishment of new infestations.
- 4 Maintain the walking tracks, picnic tables, seating and signage in the reserve.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.8.1 HIGGS RESERVE

Location

Higgs Reserve is located on corner of the Coastal Highway and Māpua Drive (see Map 16). The land also borders the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet and is on the opposite side of Māpua Drive from the Dominion Flats Scenic Reserve.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Not subject to the Reserves Act, therefore not classified
- Legal Description: Sec 46 SO 442515
- Area: 3.0381

History

In 1978, the estate of Miss Constance Higgs gifted 4.0165 ha of land to Waimea County Council for recreational purposes. The Coastal Highway upgrade that took place in 2011 resulted in a slight modification to the size and shape of the land area – almost a hectare of land was taken by the Crown for roading purposes at that time.

Values

The western portion of Higgs Reserve is low lying and swampy and bisected by Dominion Stream. The north-eastern portion comprises a steep bank and supports dense regenerating coastal margin forest – a significant remnant of vegetation in an area where almost all the original native vegetation has been removed. The estuary margin vegetation at this site is also significant, providing important habitat for estuary bird species such as banded rail and an effective buffer between the reserve and the estuary.



Two ecological assessment reports (North, 2010), completed for the Native Habitats Tasman programme, identify three sites of significance within and adjacent to the reserve. The estuarine margin sites (labelled 'MU 304' on the image above and also those outlined on the image

below) are of considerable significance as fine and rare examples in the context of the Moutere Ecological District (ED) of estuarine wetland vegetation sequences. The coastal margin forest (labelled 'MU 305' on the image above), secondary or otherwise, is notably rare in the Moutere ED and this example is in very good condition. For its rarity and representativeness values the site is very significant in the ED context.



The ecologically significant 'Dominion saltmarsh' area has high rarity and moderately high representativeness values.



Raupo and oioi grade extensively into each other on the estuary margin. Photo credit: Michael North.

Forest on the coastal margin itself is now vanishingly rare. The adult beech trees in Higgs Reserve are some of the last remaining in this part of the ED. The original cover would probably have been of mixed beech-broadleaved-podocarp forest including much titoki which is now absent.

Another ecological assessment report (Hickford, 2012), completed for the Native Habitats Tasman programme, identified a small inanga spawning site on the reserve as a site of local note and worthy of nurturing. The spawning site is located on the true left bank of Dominion Stream, just upstream of its mouth with the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet. The site comprises tall fescue growing on a steep riparian bank, extending for up to 5m along the streambank.

Other values at Higgs Reserve include the vehicle layby alongside Māpua Drive, on the northern edge of the reserve, with parking space for several vehicles (additional parking is available across the road at the southern entrance to Dominion Flat Scenic Reserve). A tall art sculpture and interpretation panel have been erected alongside the vehicle layby. A gravel path winds through the forest from the layby to the eastern edge of the reserve, looping back to Māpua Drive.



Several hard beech stand along the margins of the estuary – this is an exceptionally rare example of coastal margin native forest in the Moutere Ecological District.

Issues and Options

Management issues include protection of the native vegetation, weed control, protection of banded rail and other bird species from human-induced disturbance, and maintenance of walking tracks and signs.

The native forest area is subject to invasion by the pest tree *Robinia*, which suckers from roots that extend 10-15m out from the trunks. Weeds are also an issue in the wetland area.

The reserve offers potential for the restoration of native coastal vegetation and the creation of further wildlife habitat. The location of Higgs Reserve beside the busy Coastal Highway offers opportunities for the appreciation of native vegetation and wildlife by visitors. The existing walkway now connects with Māpua township via a cycle lane. Walkways, viewing platforms and other facilities should be sited away from the Inlet edge and dogs prohibited or required to be on a leash, to avoid disturbing estuarine birds.

It is important that any native vegetation restoration near the mouth of Dominion Stream ensures that sufficient light is retained, to favour the tall fescue and other grassy vegetation that constitutes the preferred inanga spawning site.

There is scope to declare the land a reserve in future.

POLICIES

- 1 Continue to work together with community volunteers to manage Higgs Reserve for the primary purposes of protecting and restoring indigenous coastal vegetation, especially coastal forest, estuary margin vegetation and inanga spawning habitat.
- 2 Maintain inanga spawning habitat near the mouth of Dominion Stream, by ensuring tall grasses are not shaded by taller vegetation.
- 3 Remove or contain pest plant and pest animal infestations and as far as possible prevent the establishment of new infestations.
- 4 Maintain the walking tracks in the reserve and the linkage with Māpua township.
- 5 Maintain the art sculpture and interpretation panels located near the vehicle layby.
- 6 Develop picnic facilities near the sculpture and maintain opportunities to interpret the estuary margin vegetation and wildlife habitat.

Explanation: Facilities will be kept away from the Inlet margin, to ensure that the habitat of banded rail and other estuary birds is not affected by public use.

- 7 Following the conclusion of the Nelson Tenth Reserve claim process, engage with iwi before initiating a public consultation process to declare as Scenic Reserve under the Reserves Act, in order to provide appropriate legal protection for the significant natural attributes of this land.

Also see Council's 'Reserves General Policies' document.

5.8.2 WAIMEA INLET ESPLANADE RESERVE

Location

Waimea Inlet Esplanade Reserve lies between private land accessed via Apple Valley Road East and the Waimea/Waimeha Inlet, near Māpua (see Map 16). The western edge of the reserve borders the Coastal Highway.

Classification, Legal Description and Size

- Classification: Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
- Legal Description: Lot 3 DP 411290
- Area: 0.2360 ha