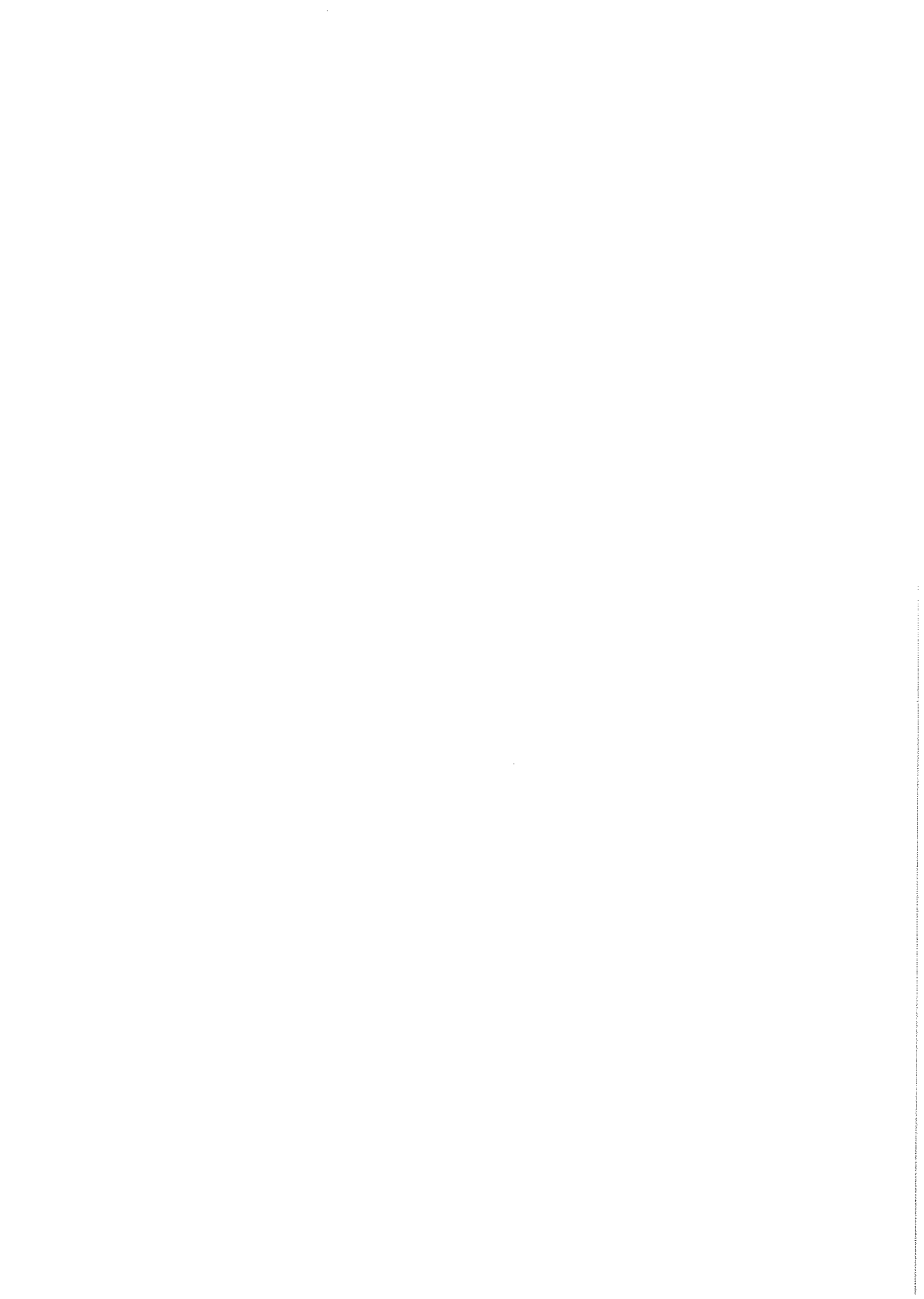


**Appendix E: Extract from the Regional
Parks Management Plan
relating to the management of
the Waitakere Ranges
Regional Park**



Regional Parks Management Plan 2002

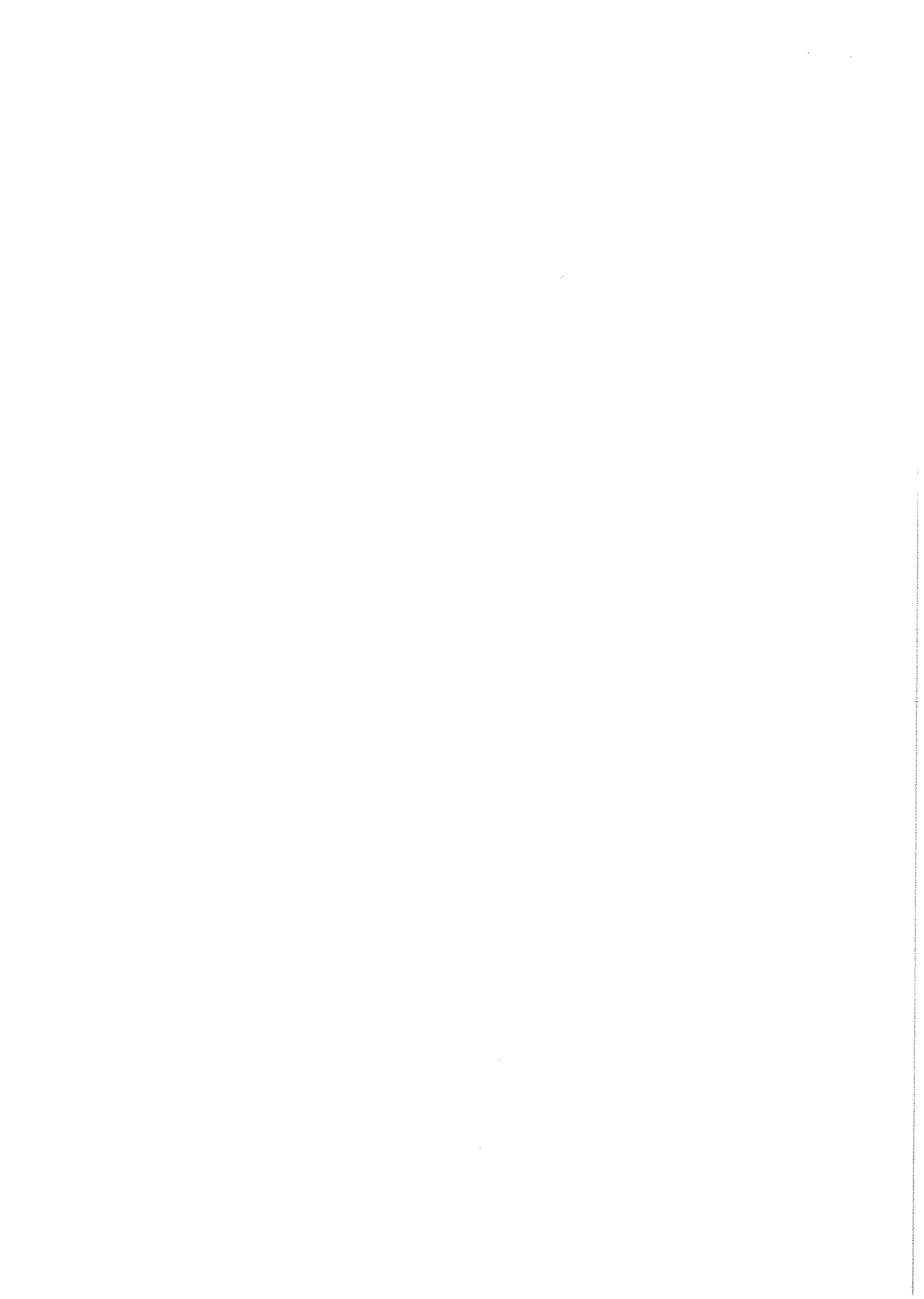
Variation No. 2

September 2007

Section 55 Waitakere Ranges Regional Park



Auckland
Regional Council
TE RAUHĪTANGA TAIAO



55.0 Waitakere Ranges Regional Park (including the Waitakere Water Catchment Land)

The Waitakere Ranges Regional Park (the park) consists of 17,000 hectares of contiguous parkland in close proximity to Auckland metropolitan area. It contains steep hill country that is almost entirely covered in native bush with spectacular gorges and bluffs. On its western and southern sides it is bounded by a mainly rugged coastline. The park was created by a community wishing to conserve its native flora and fauna and have a large scenic park for its enjoyment. The park has been built up over more than 100 year period by land vesting, purchases and gifts. It includes land acquired by the former Auckland Centennial Memorial Park Board that created the Auckland Centennial Memorial Park.

Te Kawerau a Maki are tangata whenua and exercise kaitiakitanga together with the Auckland Regional Council. Their special relationship with the Waitakere Ranges has been recognised in various aspects of the park, such as the Arataki visitor centre, pou whenua and the Pa Harakeke planting at Pae O Te Rangī.

The park is appreciated by the people of Auckland as a place to escape from the pressures of everyday life and enjoy peace and quiet in a natural setting. However, the park is under pressure from increasing recreational activity, including commercial activity, because of its proximity to a large and growing metropolitan area. The pressure of use could destroy the very qualities that people value unless it is carefully managed by controlling the type, intensity and distribution of activity on the Park.

The bulk of the park contains land held and managed in terms of the Local Government Act, 2002. A smaller proportion (approximately 2500 hectares or 15 %) of the land area is held and administered under the Reserves Act 1977, which places additional management obligations in relation to administering land classified as recreation, scenic and scientific reserves under that Act.

The Waitakere Ranges Regional Park is part of a regional park network of 25 regional parks. The regional park network is managed as a whole, through the Regional Parks Management Plan 2002 (the plan), which recognises the special and unique contribution each park makes to the range of recreational opportunities in the parks, while protecting and enhancing their intrinsic qualities.

The following management framework applies to the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park till the next review planned in 2008/2009. Section 55.0 should be read in conjunction with the plan.



55.1 Vision for the park

A regional conservation and scenic park that is managed to protect and enhance its natural and historic values, to provide a place of respite for the people of Auckland, to provide for a range of compatible recreational activities in natural settings, and to cultivate an ethic of stewardship (kaitiakitanga).

55.2 Park focus

The whole of the park, including the Waitakere Water Catchment land, will be managed as Class 1 parkland in terms of Section 22 'Visitor management framework' of the Regional Parks Management Plan.

Class 1 classification will allow the protection and enhancement of the natural, cultural and historic features of the park for their own intrinsic value, but also because of their importance to the visitor experience.

Visitors to the Park particularly enjoy the ability to obtain respite from the pressure of everyday life in the peace and quiet of the Park and its natural settings. The 'wilderness' and scenic qualities of parts of the Waitakere Ranges are valued by visitors. The council will continue to allow freedom of access to the Park for casual and informal use, while encouraging people to respect the Park environment and the enjoyment of other park users. There will be increased emphasis on educating visitors about the environment of the park and how they can act as responsible stewards of the parkland.

The plan also provides for a range of appropriate recreational activities, and recognises the regional significance of the water supply catchments and the water supply infrastructure within the Park.

Access to the park will be managed in terms of Sections 36.0 'General recreation and related policies', Section 37.0 'Permitted activities', Section 38.0 'Controlled activities' and Section 39.0 'Discretionary activities' of the plan.

Visitor activity tends to concentrate at particular nodes and the track systems that emanate from these nodes. Particular attention will be paid to the type and level of activity and supporting infrastructure provided at these nodes, in order to protect the intrinsic qualities and sensitive features of each locality. The type and level of infrastructure will be limited to that necessary to support the type and quality of experience offered to visitors at each locality. The activity management nodes are defined in Section 55.5 below.

The description of each node contains a statement of the intended focus of the node, including the special features to be protected and the quality of the visitor experience to be offered. It is not intended that these nodes will be developed

beyond the existing level unless explicitly stated. All nodes, with the exception of Arataki, will be managed with reference to the Class 1 parameters and are designed to provide a spectrum of places where people can have a range of recreational experiences, without adversely impacting on the natural qualities, and quality of visitor experience, of the Waitakere Ranges as a whole.

Risk is an integral part of the experience of visiting the park and some people seek risk as a positive attribute of the visitor experience. While the Council will make visitors aware of risks and take due care in managing these, it will not attempt to eliminate risks. Visitors must recognise that there are risks involved in entering a large natural setting with a wild and rugged landscape and take due care for themselves.

55.3 Outcomes and means

In recognition of the purposes of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, the park will be managed to protect, and enhance:

- the integrity of the indigenous terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems that provide a diversity of functioning habitats for native species of flora and fauna,
- the natural landforms, geology, dynamic coastlines and landscapes that collectively give the park its distinctive character and natural scenic beauty,
- features of cultural, scientific and educational interest, including historic landscapes.

and, in this context, to :

- Provide visitors with the opportunity to obtain respite from the pressure of everyday life and enjoy the peace and quiet of the Park and its natural settings, especially the 'wilderness' and scenic qualities of the park.
- Provide opportunities for recreation, relaxation, experiencing the natural environment and learning about the history and the heritage features of the Waitakere Ranges.
- Manage the water supply catchment areas and provide for the collection and storage of high quality water for potable metropolitan supply.

These outcomes will be achieved by the following means:

- a) Preserving and protecting the native biodiversity of the Waitakere Ranges, including its flora, fauna, ecosystems and threatened plants.

- b) Maintaining the dominant bush settings and retaining areas of open countryside in appropriate locations, such as behind beaches, at major viewing points and farmed areas.
- c) Maintaining an integrated pest plant and animal control programme that enhances the viability of habitats for native flora and fauna.
- d) Developing a threatened plant strategy for the Waitakere Ranges that will set a framework for their management, particularly in relation to tracks and road edges.
- e) Undertaking vegetation enhancement as needed through amenity planting at main activity areas, riparian planting, coastal forest, wetland and dune enhancement, creating ecological linkages between ecosystems and habitats.
- f) Undertaking ecological enhancement at specific locations in partnership with community and interest groups (e.g. 'mainland island' and similar programmes), consistent with the objectives and policies in this plan.
- g) Undertaking monitoring of forest and ecosystem health and of populations of threatened and vulnerable species;
- h) Ensuring that the removal of indigenous vegetation, for the purpose of track clearance and maintaining view lines, will be limited to that necessary to meet the objectives of this plan.
- i) Conserving historic buildings, structures and places, and archaeological sites in accordance with approved conservation plans.
- j) Providing varying levels of visitor support services and recreation infrastructure, including tracks, according to the characteristics of the different activity management nodes defined Section 55.5 below;
- k) Managing the water supply catchment areas in accordance with the lease and licence with Watercare Services Limited.
- l) Providing visitor information and education, and school education services and programmes at key locations.
- m) Supporting the bush railway operations provided by Watercare Services Ltd. and the Waitakere Tramline Society as a means of enabling the public to enjoy the natural beauty of the Park.
- n) Managing risk by making visitors aware of it, but not attempting to eliminate it, as part of the visitor experience.

- o) Ensuring that buildings, structures, fixtures and surfaces are of a design, scale, colour, texture, and in a location that is appropriate to the setting .

Some of the above actions, with respect to maintaining intrinsic qualities, visitor expectations and visitor activities, may conflict with each other in particular locations. It has therefore been necessary to impose limits on the size and nature of some activities. Refer to Section 55.4 *Discretionary Activities*.

55.4 General management actions

In addition to the general policies in Parts I to V of the Regional Park Management Plan, the following general actions will apply to the Waitakere Regional Park:

1. Development on the Park will ensure the protection and preservation of ecological, geological, landscape and cultural heritage features and values, and comply with current conservation and biosecurity plans and strategies.
2. Development and activities on the Park will have regard to relevant concept plans and ARC guidelines and standards relating to the location, layout, colour, materials, textures, design and maintenance of structures and buildings on the park.
3. Development on the park will comply with relevant policy and rules in the Auckland Regional Policy Statement, the Regional Plan: Coastal, the Regional Plan: Air, Land and Water, the Regional Pest Management Strategy, the Waitakere City District Plan (where relevant), and legislation such as the Historic Places Trust Act, the RMA, Reserves Act, the Wildlife Act, and the Biosecurity Act.
4. Any additional contiguous land acquired for regional park purposes will be managed in the interim, until specific management policies are developed, in a manner that is consistent with the general policies of this plan and the specific actions that apply to the immediate adjoining regional parkland.
5. Directional signs, information boards and *insitu* interpretation may be erected in appropriate locations in accordance with approved design standards. Signs will be limited to those necessary to convey the appropriate messages.
6. Safety structures or temporary works may be erected or undertaken where public safety is threatened by natural hazards or unforeseen events. Significant hazards will be signed at main track entrances and carparks.
7. Where necessary, indigenous vegetation may be cleared to maintain identified view shafts, park operation areas, road edges and approved

routes, tracks and walks, taking into account the Threatened Plant Strategy. Adverse effects on the natural environment and avoiding impacts on significant environmental and cultural heritage features, will be minimised.

8. This plan does not limit or affect the responsibilities or powers of Watercare Services Limited, in relation to the water catchment areas under the Auckland Metropolitan Drainage Act 1960, or Section 707ZZZS of the Local Government Act 1974.

Stewardship (Kaitiakitanga)

The Waitakere Ranges Regional Park is managed by the ARC on behalf of the people of the Auckland region. The ARC wants to ensure that all visitors to the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park have a sense of care and stewardship when visiting and using the resources of the Waitakere Ranges.

As the gateway to the parkland, the Arataki Visitor Centre plays an important role in conveying key messages about care and stewardship of the environment of the Waitakere Ranges.

The ARC is assisted by interested community groups and by volunteers who contribute their time to assist with maintenance, planting programmes, habitat enhancement, species recovery and pest plant and animal control on the park.

Tangata whenua have a special relationship with the Waitakere Ranges which has been recognised in various aspects of the park, such as the Arataki visitor centre, pou whenua and the Pa Harakeke planting at Pae O Te Rangi.

The ARC will;

9. Recognise the special relationship of tangata whenua to the Waitakere Ranges through supporting activities, events and structures, such as pou whenua, that are consistent with the provisions of this plan and contribute to ARC strategic outcomes identified in the Long-Term Council Community Plan.
10. Raise awareness of the natural and cultural heritage of the Waitakere Ranges through interpretation of sites and features and, where appropriate, educate visitors in responsible behaviour and good stewardship through a variety of mechanisms, including bylaw enforcement, park literature, website, education programmes and ranger services.
11. Continue to maintain active conservation programmes involving:
 - Habitat protection and restoration;

- Management of significant or threatened species, including the restoration of appropriate missing species;
 - Pest animal and plant control;
 - Cultural heritage resource conservation;
12. Continue to support volunteer programmes on the regional park that are consistent with the provisions of this plan and contribute to ARC strategic outcomes identified in the Long-Term Council Community Plan.
 13. Continue to support friends-of-the-park groups, community-based wildlife habitat enhancement and reintroduction programmes, pest plant and animal control programmes, care-group programmes and local community groups where such initiatives are consistent with the provisions of this plan and contribute to ARC strategic outcomes identified in the Long-Term Council Community Plan.
 14. Actively discourage off-track activity because of its impact on the park environment, particularly indigenous vegetation, indigenous fauna and riparian margins.
 15. Liaise with, and hold workshops for groups using the park, such as event organisers, tramping clubs, and the like, so as to promote responsible behaviour and good stewardship.
 16. Require all consented activities and concessionaires licensed to operate on the regional park to promote appropriate behaviour on the park with respect to environmental stewardship and other park users.
 17. Investigate with user groups, appropriate accreditation systems to promote responsible behaviour and good stewardship.

Discretionary activity

In addition to the direction provided in Part V of the Plan, the following actions will be applied to discretionary activities in the Waitakere Ranges.

The Waitakere Ranges are a major visitor attraction in the region and, as well as providing for recreational opportunities, they support a range of commercial enterprises, some of which occur on the regional parkland. The primary attraction of the parkland is its natural and scenic settings to which people generally have free access, mainly through the park track systems. Concessionaires and other recreation providers can extend the range of recreational opportunities available to people. These are managed as discretionary activities. The ARC will consider discretionary activities on the park provided they do not detract from the park focus and outcomes including the enjoyment of other park users or adversely affect the natural settings and ecological and cultural heritage values. A decision to grant a consent for a

discretionary activity does not imply any rights beyond the approved term of the consent.

As some activities may conflict with the outcomes sought for the park, such as maintaining its intrinsic qualities or preserving the visitor experience. Limits will be imposed on the size and nature of some activities in particular locations. Large groups, especially organised sports events, have the potential to adversely impact on the park environment and the enjoyment of the park by other users.

Limits on activities in these locations will avoid the potential for intolerance that may arise from conflicts between users, and in turn, lead to the necessity for further restrictions. As the informal use of some areas increases, it may be necessary to further limit the number of discretionary activities in those areas.

The Regional Council will work with promoters and organisers to investigate alternative suitable locations for organised events within the Waitakere Ranges and other regional parks.

18. The acceptability and appropriateness of discretionary activity that is permitted in an area will be governed by the focus statement for each management activity area described in Section 55.5, consistency with the outcomes sought for the park, the objectives and policies of the Plan, and the following factors:

- a) The potential impact and cumulative effects on the natural and cultural environment taking into consideration, but not limited to;
 - The presence of Significant Natural Areas, threatened species and ecosystems, and unique and sensitive features such as wetlands, coastal forests, streams or dune systems.
 - The scenic qualities and ambience, particularly the 'wilderness' qualities, of the locality.
 - The potential disturbance to indigenous flora and fauna, ecosystems, and impacts on archaeological sites and sites of cultural significance.
 - The potential to cause or exacerbate erosion.
 - The recovery time of the environment and whether the activity or a similar activity is to be repeated at the location.
 - Reinstatement of damage to the environment (a bond may be taken to cover the cost of such reinstatement).
 - The time of day, day of the week and the season.

- The over-use of areas and whether alternative locations, including other regional parks, have been considered.
 - The visual impacts of structures.
 - The effect on water quality in the water supply areas in consultation with Watercare Services Limited.
- b) The impact on the quality of the visitor experience taking into consideration, but not limited to:
- The vision and management focus for the park and for the relevant activity management node.
 - The sense of wilderness and remoteness in the locality.
 - Impact on the quiet enjoyment of the park by casual and informal users.
- c) The level of social displacement, particularly on informal and casual users, taking into consideration, but not limited to :
- The size of the group, the type of activity and the time and duration of the activity relative to the attributes and normal level of use in the locality.
 - The impact of traffic, noise and similar disruptions on other park users and adjoining communities.
 - The need to inform the general public of the activity through signs and advertising during and in advance of the event, and alternative locations and tracks for public use during the event.

Discretionary activities will, where practicable, be encouraged to occur during off-peak periods such as during the week rather than on weekends or public holidays.

- d) The value of the proposal to the park and the wider community, taking into consideration, but not limited to:
- Education on aspects of the park or the environment generally.
 - Promotion of aspects of the park or the regional parks network.

- Level of economic and cultural value to the Park and the wider community;
 - Assistance with Park management and maintenance issues.
 - Contribution to providing access for sectors of the community who are not current users of the park;
 - Contributions to the physical health and the wellbeing of the local and regional community.
 - Improved participation of the local and the regional communities and improved appreciation of the values of the park.
- e) The level of infrastructure or additional services required, taking into consideration, but not limited to:
- The level to which the proposal requires exclusive use of park facilities, such as picnic areas, parking, BBQs, and any additional infrastructure or assistance from park staff.
 - The capacity of existing infrastructure to cope with the proposed activity and the extent that it sets a precedent for increased infrastructure.
 - The extent to which the proposal impacts adversely on the quality of the water in the water catchment area and operation of the infrastructure relating to the water supply.
19. Require all applicants for discretionary activities to demonstrate the level to which they meet the above evaluation criteria. Applications will be approved for a specific period or date, and must include provision for the postponement, relocation or cancellation, in the event that the event cannot proceed as planned.
20. Assess the degree to which the proposal sets a precedent that, if repeated, may have adverse effects on the park. Proposals that could promote inappropriate informal use of the park will not be approved.
21. Where a number of proposals for the same or similar services are lodged, the council may call for expressions of interest or requests for proposals to supply the service and may select a preferred supplier. These proposals will be evaluated against the criteria outlined above.

22. Encourage applicants to develop and, where they exist, adopt collective or industry protocols, approved by the ARC, for the management of activities and events on the park.
23. Where appropriate, include as a condition of approval of discretionary applications, the obligation to monitor the environmental impacts of the activity and undertake post-event monitoring by appropriate experts approved by the Council.
24. No discretionary activities will be permitted in water catchment 'exclusive land' and 'buffer land' as defined in the Watercare Lease and Licence without the written approval of Watercare Services Limited and Watercare Services Limited will be consulted on any application on water catchment land outside these areas.

Limits on Discretionary Activity

25. The number of organised sport events involving 50 or more participants, will be limited in some locations in order to protect sensitive environments and the experience of casual visitors. ARC will work with applicants to avoid over-use of areas and tracks, and, where desirable, find suitable alternatives. These limits generally reflect current levels of activity and will be applied at the following coastal locations:
 - Piha (North Piha) = 2.
 - Piha (Glen Esk) = 3.
 - Karekare = 4.
 - Pararaha Valley = 1.
 - Whatipu = 3 (See note 26c below).
 - Anawhata = 1.
26. The above limits will not apply to filming, weddings, educational groups, conservation programmes, community fairs, or similar group activities and events at the above locations, although they must still obtain the appropriate approvals set out in Section 39.0 'Discretionary activities' of the plan and they are also subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Filming is subject to protocols and accreditation agreed with the film industry.
 - b) All activities, including educational groups, will avoid weekends and public holidays wherever practical.

- c) Any activity proposed in the Whatipu Scientific Reserve must be consistent with the primary purpose of the reserve (Refer Actions under the Whatipu Scientific Reserve Activity Management Node).
27. The Council reserves the right to decline applicants if, in its opinion, the frequency and extent of activity in an area will result in an unacceptable level of degradation of the Park environment or the loss of the quality of visitor experience.
28. The council reserves the right to impose limits on other areas if repeated activity leads to degradation of the natural and amenity values of the area. The limits outlined above will be reconsidered at the time of the review of the Regional Parks Management Plan in 2008/2009.

Track Systems

The Waitakere Ranges contain approximately 240 kilometres of tracks. The track systems are, together with managed picnic areas and camping sites, the main recreational asset on the park and are one of the main ways people experience the park. The track entrances with associated vehicle parking, signs and toilets, are key visitor management points. The general policies relating to track systems are described in Section 32.3 of the Regional Parks Management Plan 2002.

While the tracks have been maintained for use, their current state is below a level suitable to absorb any significant growth in use, and require increased levels of investment.

Safety structures and facilities such as viewing platforms can be visually intrusive and detract from the natural setting and landscape qualities of the park. To manage risk, the council will use signs at track entrances and car parks to inform people of the risks, in preference to the use of structures.

Council will:

29. Review the current state of the tracks network and develop a plan for ongoing maintenance of tracks with a focus on improving drainage on the tracks in preference to the use of gravel as a method of maintaining hard surfaces.
30. Manage and maintain the track system according to the policies relating to 'walking tracks', 'tramping tracks' and 'routes' contained in Section 32.3 of the Plan.
31. Provide and maintain track systems in terms of an assessment of visitor impacts, in reference to SNZ HB 8630:2004 Tracks and Outdoor Visitor Structures, with a focus on managing the drainage on the tracks.

32. Install monitoring systems to measure the level of use on selected tracks and at main activity areas.
33. Where necessary, undertake minor re-routing of tracks to improve accessibility, improve safety, facilitate efficient maintenance or mitigate adverse environmental impacts. All such improvements will be undertaken in a way that ensures a net environmental benefit.
34. Actively discourage off-track activity unless formally approved as a discretionary activity.
35. Where necessary, periodically close or re-route designated routes to allow the recovery of the natural environment.
36. Progressively install signs or symbols as appropriate at track entrances to inform park users of the type of tracks to be encountered.
37. Avoid safety structures that would be visually intrusive, and wherever practical, manage risk by the location of safety signs at track entrances and carparks.
38. Where appropriate and practicable, acknowledge the land formerly held as part of the Auckland Centennial Memorial Park on park signs.
39. Investigate and progressively implement an informal four-day 'long trail' utilising, where practical, existing track systems and camp sites.
40. Make specific provision for people with limited mobility, where practicable, on a range of selected walks.
41. Review the track classification system at the time of the review of the Regional Parks Management plan 2002 in 2008/2009.

55.5 Activity management nodes

The Park will be managed as a Class I park consistent with the policies contained in Section 22.0 'Visitor management framework' of this Plan. Within this context there are a number of locations (nodes) where visitors access the parkland. These range from a major visitor centre at Arataki with a wide range of visitor facilities to a series of track entrances and lookouts with little more than a car park. These are locations where visitors congregate for recreational activities and to access the extensive track systems. They are identified as Activity Management Nodes on Map 15.2 and are listed below.

There are areas within the Waitakere Ranges that offer a unique and special remote, wilderness experience for visitors. They also often contain significant

forest ecosystems and high natural, scenic and historic values. Many of these areas are relatively accessible and are becoming increasingly popular to casual visitors. There is a need to manage access to these areas. The level and type of infrastructure will be controlled to ensure that the special character of the locations are not threatened.

Each of the following Activity Management Node statements contains a description of the key features of the locality, including any special or sensitive features, the desired quality of experience for visitors, a description of the primary management focus for the locality and a series of actions that will ensure the location can cope with the defined level of activity.

Anawhata

Anawhata offers a remote beach experience within a unique ancient volcanic setting that has retained many of the intrinsic natural qualities of the west coast including natural unmodified coastal dune systems. General public access is restricted to pedestrian access from the end of Anawhata Road.

42. Manage Anawhata as a remote experience area with a small gravel car park, toilet and directional signs.
43. Manage Keddle House in accordance with an approved conservation plan and operate it for short-term accommodation for recreation, educational or conservation purposes.
44. Renovate the former Craw homestead and make it available, potentially under licence, for recreation, educational, conservation or community uses appropriate to the remote nature of the location.
45. Retain the existing farmland as open pasture to maintain the landscape values and main vistas. Revegetation will be limited to riparian enhancement, stock shelter and for erosion control.
46. Encourage Waitakere City Council to retain Anawhata Road as a road serving a remote location.
47. Protect and maintain coastal habitats and dune ecosystem and undertake pest plant and animal control.
48. Manage and maintain tracks leading into the area as tramping tracks and routes suitable for people with moderate to high levels of fitness and tramping footwear.
49. Manage the Anawhata Stream as a remote experience area with a marked route and safety structures, such as safety ropes, where necessary.

50. Limit organised sport events, involving 50 or more people, to 1 per year in order to protect the wilderness qualities and sensitive ecosystems in the area.

Arataki Visitor Centre and Precinct

Arataki is the primary visitor information centre for the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park. It contains the park administration headquarters, public education facilities, and the main works depot and plant nursery for the park. Arataki also houses taonga of Te Kawerau a Maki, and pou whenua that reflect Te Kawerau a Maki's mana whenua status in the area.

This area is designed as a 'gateway' to the Waitakere Ranges to introduce and orient people to the features and values of the Waitakere Ranges. It is the primary visitor facility in the Waitakere Ranges and caters for relatively large numbers of visitors, up to 250,000 visits per year, and provides for public information and specialist activities, such as school education programmes. It provides visitors with information on the history and ecology of the Waitakere Ranges and the recreational opportunities available. It is also designed to cater for tourists wishing to obtain an experience of the Waitakere Ranges without the need to enter the park.

51. Maintain Arataki as the major visitor destination site involving a staffed centre providing park visitor and tourist information and services, including light refreshments and appropriate merchandising. The layout and functionality of the visitor centre will be improved as demand requires.
52. Enhance the role of Arataki in educating visitors in the values of the parkland to inculcate responsible behaviour and a sense of stewardship.
53. Maintain Arataki as the primary ARC centre for environmental and school education programmes, including the location for NZ curricula-based school programmes, the bush-camp and a nature trail. Visitor and education programmes and services will be extended as demand requires.
54. Make Arataki and its facilities available for community events and public meetings.
55. Establish a café/restaurant under licence at Arataki if demand requires, and it is commercially viable.
56. Review the need for additional parking and visitor facilities and services as demand requires.
57. In association with WCC and Watercare Services Ltd, review the need for additional safe parking in the vicinity of Exhibition Drive.

58. Construct tracks linking Arataki with Exhibition Drive, the Incline and the Slip Tracks in consultation with WaterCare Services Ltd.
59. Maintain vistas of the city and the Manukau and Waitematā harbours through appropriate vegetation clearance.
60. Maintain pest control and conservation programmes in partnership with the community.

Cascades – Kauri

The Cascades-Kauri area is a destination providing a range of informal recreational opportunities. It is particularly popular with visitors seeking picnicking, and accessible walks within mature native forest with access to large kauri trees, picturesque streams and waterfalls. It is the location of a pou whenua. It includes the Waitakere Golf Course, which is managed under a licence, the Montana Heritage Trail and is the location of the Ark in the Park conservation programme. It also contains a subsidiary park depot. The location provides access to an extensive network of tramping tracks and routes.

61. Manage Cascades-Kauri as a destination with a focus on:
 - Providing for a range of recreational activity based on golf, picnicking and the extensive walking and tramping track systems, with provision of an unsealed carparking area, toilets, picnicking facilities and park information.
 - Undertaking conservation programmes involving extensive pest animal and plant control, wildlife habitat and ecological enhancement and re-introduction of rare and threatened forest species, in partnership with Ark in the Park.
62. Maintain and improve the Auckland City Walk as a loop-walk for visitors with low to moderate levels of fitness and walking footwear.
63. Maintain the Montana Heritage Trail as an accessible loop tramping track for people, with a moderate level of fitness, and access to tramping tracks and routes for people with higher levels of fitness and tramping footwear.
64. Ensure dogs are restrained on leads at all times (except approved and clearly identified pest control dogs). Dogs may be prohibited from Cascades-Kauri in the future to allow for the release of ground dwelling birds, such as Kiwi.
65. Make provision for bookable picnic sites and for events on the grassed areas.

Cornwallis

Cornwallis Peninsula, including Cornwallis Beach and Mill Bay, is a major beach destination with safe swimming and extensive picnicking areas that are popular with families. The Cornwallis wharf is a major feature of the area and is a popular boat launching and fishing spot. An auxiliary park depot and park house is located on the peninsula.

The peninsula, with its mānuka-covered coastal gumland setting, offers an open landscape that contrasts with the verdant forests of the rest of the Waitakere Ranges.

The area also contains three heritage features, the Orpheus Graves Monument overlooking Kakamatua, the McLachlan Monument on Puponga Point, and the pou whenua on Cornwallis Beach.

66. Manage Cornwallis as a major beach destination and picnic area on the southern Waitakere Ranges, including the boat ramp and wharf, while recognising its unique landscape and gumland ecology.
67. Progressively implement the approved concept plan for Cornwallis (refer Maps 15.17 and 15.18) over the long-term.
68. Investigate the removal of pines from Puponga Point and, in the meanwhile, manage them to ensure public safety and to maintain the views from the McLachlan Memorial in terms of the Deed of Gift. This will be accompanied by pest plant and animal control measures.
69. Undertake a conservation assessment of the McLachlan Memorial and protect the historic aloe at Cornwallis Beach.
70. Progressively remove all wilding pines from the area as resources allow.
71. Work with the community to remove weeds from the area, including the removal of wild ginger, from Puponga Point to Whatipu.

Fairy Falls (Scenic Drive)

Fairy Falls tracks offer tramping through mature native forest to the scenic Fairy Falls. This is a popular and accessible tramping destination with minimal facilities. It contains a number of track platforms and stairs designed to facilitate visitor safe access and to protect tree roots.

72. Manage Fairy Falls as a track entrance with an unsealed carpark and toilets.

73. Reconfigure the existing car parking on Scenic Drive or relocate it to improve safety, and upgrade the carpark on Mountain Road.
74. Maintain tracks to cater for people with a moderate to high levels of fitness and walking footwear. Existing tracks and platforms may be replaced or relocated to improve visitor access, track maintenance, avoid foot traffic on Scenic Drive and avoid environmental impacts such as damage to the roots of major trees.
75. Review the appropriateness of the stairs and platforms, and the alignment of tracks, to retain the natural setting and landscape qualities.

Huia Lookout

The Huia Lookout offers scenic views across the Manukau Harbour and to the Karamatura area.

76. Manage the Huia Lookout as a scenic lookout with a carpark, a walking track suitable for people with limited mobility, and directional and interpretation signs.
77. Develop a picnic area.
78. Maintain vistas over Huia and Little Huia, and from the Manukau Heads to Cornwallis through appropriate vegetation clearance.

Kaitarakahi

Kaitarakahi is an access point to a small, secluded beach on the Manukau Harbour and is popular for picnics. It is also an access point to the historic Spragg Memorial which offers views across the Manukau Harbour.

79. Manage Kaitarakahi as a picnicking and beach access point with a small unsealed carpark, toilets and directional signs.
80. Manage the Spragg Memorial (a war memorial to Wesley Spragg and other WW1 soldiers) to maintain all views in accordance with the Deed of Gift through appropriate vegetation clearance.

Kakamatua

Kakamatua, with its large sand flats, offers a remote coastal experience for visitors. It has a gravel carpark and is popular with dog owners.

81. Manage Kakamatua as a beach track entrance offering remote coastal wilderness experiences.
82. Retain the unsealed carpark and improve vehicular access to ensure safe egress from and onto the Huia Road and provide a toilet as demand requires and resources permit.
83. Undertake an assessment of the ecological values and establish priorities for restoration of the coastal environment and wetlands.
84. Subject to the ecological assessment, review the dog controls for the area (currently permitted on a lead) with a view to considering the suitability of the beach area as an off-leash area.

Karamatura

Karamatura is a major and popular recreational destination with a wide range of recreational opportunities including accessible picnicking, camping and tramping opportunities. It contains the only approved abseiling site in the Waitakere Ranges that is accessible to the general public. The area is particularly popular with schools and other community groups.

The area contains a dramatic mountainous landscape with open pastures, high rock cliffs and surrounding native forest.

The area also contains a park depot, the Huia Settlers' Museum (operated under licence by the Huia Settlers' Museum Society Inc.), a Heritage Trail, a pou

whenua, the Huia Community Hall (owned and managed by the Huia-Cornwallis Residents' and Ratepayers' Association Inc.), the Kiwanis' Huia Camp and Lodge, which includes the historic Hinge House, and the historic Huia Schoolhouse, managed as part of the Huia Lodge.

85. Manage the Karamatura area as a recreational destination with an emphasis on a range of recreational uses within a natural, scenic setting, the retention of its farmed landscapes and the interpretation of its historic and cultural importance.
86. Review the provision, layout and location of car parking and visitor facilities in consultation with Waitakere City Council and the local community.
87. Maintain the Karamatura and Barn Paddock campsites for back-packer camping.
88. Retain the existing farmland as open pasture to maintain the heritage landscapes, scenic values and main vistas, including those from the harbour. Revegetation will be limited to riparian enhancement, stock shelter and for erosion control.
89. Manage the Kiwanis' Huia Camp and Huia Lodge as short-term rental accommodation. Investigate licensing out the management of these facilities.
90. Maintain Huia Lodge and Hinge House in accordance with approved conservation plans.
91. Continue to license the Huia Settlers' Museum Society Inc. to operate the Huia Settlers' Museum. Buildings may be extended as demand requires, subject to the approval of the ARC.
92. Manage and interpret the Manukau Timber Company site at Hinge Bay in accordance with the approved conservation plan as part of the Huia Heritage Trail.
93. Undertake pest plant and animal control and protect areas of high ecological value.

Karekare

Karekare is a popular surf beach, and a coastal settlement. It is a geographically contained area with constrained vehicle access and limited parking capacity. The carpark is provided by Waitakere City Council but is managed by the ARC. Waitakere City Council provide and manage the public toilets at the main car park. The ARC provides toilets at the Pohutukawa Glade which is an access point to the beach. It is the location of a pou whenua.

The Karekare Falls are popular with visitors and as a setting for photography, filming and weddings. The regional parkland provides access to a number of popular tramping routes including the Pararaha valley wilderness area. The Karekare environment is dominated by large coastal dune systems traversed by a stream which provides one of the access points to the beach.

The Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club has clubrooms located near the beach and provides lifesaving services from the beach.

94. Manage Karekare as a beach destination and tramping track access point with toilets at the Pohutukawa Glade.
95. Protect and maintain the dune and forest ecosystems and undertake pest plant and animal control in partnership with the local community care groups.
96. Manage the Karekare area within the capacity of the existing car parking while minimising any adverse impacts on the natural features of the beach and dune systems and adjoining community.
97. Maintain pedestrian access through the Pohutukawa Glade and along the Karekare Stream to the beach to cater for day visitors with low to moderate levels of fitness and walking footwear.
98. Work with the Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club to maintain an effective lifesaving and emergency response service at Karekare, including investigating an all-weather and tide vehicular access to service the Surf Lifesaving Club.
99. Limit discretionary activity at Karekare Falls to two per month, and limit organised sport events, involving 50 or more people, to four per year.

Lake Wainamu

Lake Wainamu is a unique freshwater lake, impounded by extensive sand dune systems. The lake has been degraded by the illegal introduction of exotic coarse and pest fish and aquatic pest plants. The extensive black sand dunes are vulnerable to uncontrolled recreation, particularly motorised vehicles.

100. Manage Lake Wainamu Reserve as a wilderness location and manage the sand dunes to ensure their integrity and natural dynamics are preserved.
101. Investigate securing access across the adjoining Waitakere City Council reserve and adjoining private land to complete a perimeter track around the lake.

102. Maintain portable toilets during peak summer use periods until more permanent facilities are established at a location to be determined in consultation with the adjoining landowners and WCC.
103. Manage Lake Wainamu Reserve in accordance with the agreement with the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust and in consultation with adjoining landowners.
104. Prepare and implement an aquatic habitat restoration programme for Lake Wainamu, in consultation with the community, which will include the control of exotic coarse and pest fish and pest plants, and monitoring of the ecological values and native fish populations.
105. Prohibit motorised vehicles from land managed by the ARC and prohibit motorised craft from the lake unless they are approved by way of permit.
106. Manage tracks leading into the area as tramping tracks and routes suitable for people with moderate to high levels of fitness and tramping footwear.
107. Support the combined WCC/RDC/ARC aquatic weed removal programmes at Te Henga and community riparian planting programmes on the Waitakere River.

Lion Rock (Piha)

Lion Rock is an iconic feature of Auckland's west coast. It provides vistas over the Piha coastline and the Tasman Sea. It has high natural, scenic and cultural significance. It contains a pou whenua recognising its significance to tangata whenua. It also contains plaques in memory of people who served in the World Wars. Its steep nature poses potential risks to walkers.

108. Manage Lion Rock as a scenic lookout.
109. Maintain safe public access in the current form on Lion Rock without compromising its heritage or landscape values. Public access will be limited to the natural ledge two-thirds of the way up the rock.

Little Huia

Little Huia is a small farmed area of regional parkland. It contains a public boat ramp, managed by the ARC, and a boat shed and toilet, managed by WCC. The location suffers from a lack of vehicle parking space. Little Huia is also the location of two houses, including the Barr Cottage, on the regional parkland. These are either rented, used for staff accommodation or made available for short-term holiday accommodation. It also contains 'Project K' Lodge, which has been used for volunteer programmes and rented for community recreation.

programmes. The lack of parking, especially for boat trailers causes congestion during peak use periods.

110. Manage Little Huia for boat launching and as a location for park volunteer programmes while retaining its natural character.
111. Address the issues of congestion and lack of facilities in consultation with fishing clubs, the local community and WCC.
112. Renovate the 'Project K' Lodge to a level suitable to support volunteer, education or community programmes, subject to external funding being available. Investigate the potential to license out the management of the lodge.
113. Manage Barr Cottage in accordance with an approved conservation plan and make it available for short-term holiday accommodation.

Mercer Bay Loop Walk and Lookouts (Piha)

The Mercer Bay Loop Walk provides accessible elevated vistas of the rugged west coast shoreline, Whatipu and the Tasman Sea. The area is of historic and cultural significance. It contains a gravel carpark and toilets. It is also the location of a marine navigation lighthouse.

114. Manage Mercer Bay Loop Walk as an accessible walk giving access to a number of lookouts, and its entrance to a number of coastal tramping tracks.
115. Review the layout of the arrival area to improve visitor convenience and safety and upgrade the toilets, while maintaining the undeveloped and rugged nature of the area.
116. Maintain coastal vistas through appropriate vegetation clearance.

Mt Donald McLean Lookout

Mt Donald McLean is one of the highest points in the Waitakere Ranges that offers access to panoramic vistas of the southern Waitakere Ranges and Manukau Harbour. It is accessed by a gravel road, jointly maintained by the ARC and Waitakere City Council, and a short walk to a lookout.

117. Manage Mt. Donald McLean as an accessible lookout.
118. Keep visitor infrastructure to a minimum with a small carpark, a walking track to a viewing platform and directional signs.

119. Maintain vistas of the Waitakere Ranges and Manukau Harbour through appropriate vegetation clearance.

120. Provide protection to the *Hebe bishopiana* population.

North Piha

North Piha contains a sealed carpark and picnic area, and provides access to the northern end of the beach and tramping tracks to Whites Beach and Anawhata.

121. Manage North Piha as a beach access point, informal picnic area and access point to tracks in a manner that protects its natural values.

122. Protect the caves, dune systems and fauna, especially nesting penguins.

123. Keep visitor infrastructure to a minimum with a carpark, and directional and water safety signs.

124. Install public toilets.

125. Limit discretionary activities to two per month, taking into account the timing of activities approved by WCC elsewhere at Piha, and limit organised sport events involving 50 or more people to two per year.

Opanuku Campsite (Mountain Road)

Opanuku campsite offers accessible backpacker camping and picnicking close to the urban area. It also provides access to a number of accessible bush-walking and tramping tracks.

126. Maintain Opanuku campsite and picnic area as a natural setting.

127. Manage tracks leading into the area as walking and tramping tracks suitable for people with low to moderate level of fitness and walking footwear.

Pae O Te Rangī

Pae O Te Rangī is a farmed area with tramping tracks along the Waitakere River from Bethells Road and to the elevated farmland off Long Road. The elevated areas offer panoramic views over the northern end of the Waitakere Ranges. It

contains a small remote campsite with a toilet. It is the location of an established Pa Harakeke.

128. Manage Pae O Te Rangi as a remote farmed location offering access for tramping, camping and horse riding.
129. Manage the existing farmland as open pasture to maintain the landscape values and main vistas. Revegetation will be limited to riparian enhancement, stock shelter and erosion control.
130. Maintain vistas from the elevated areas of Pae O Te Rangi over the northern Waitakere Ranges and to the Tasman Sea, Kaipara, Manukau and Waitematā Harbours through appropriate vegetation clearance.
131. Keep visitor infrastructure to a minimum with an unsealed car park, directional signs, tramping tracks and routes and a campsite and associated toilets.
132. Manage tracks leading into the area as tramping tracks and routes suitable for people with moderate to high levels of fitness and tramping footwear.
133. Implement a riparian restoration programme along the Waitakere River in association with the Waitakere River Care group.
134. Maintain and enhance a Pa Harakeke planting in partnership with Te Kawerau a Maki.

Pararaha Valley

The Pararaha valley, containing the Cowan's and Pararaha Streams, offers an accessible remote wilderness experience with a variety of ancient volcanic cliffs, stream and wetland settings and a number of historic features associated with the timber industry, such as remnants of kauri dams.

It contains three remote campsites located in the lower end of the Pararaha valley, on the coast at Tunnel Point and a small bush camp sites on the Odlins Track. The area is accessible from a gravel carpark on Lone Kauri Road and by tracks from Karekare, Whatipu and Huia, and is popular with adventure sporting enthusiasts and tramping groups.

135. Manage the Pararaha valley as a remote wilderness area with limited infrastructure and marked routes along Pararaha Stream.
136. Encourage visitors to stay on tracks and marked routes by using signs. Safety structures, such as ropes and boardwalks, may be installed where necessary to prevent damage to riparian vegetation and wetlands.

137. Protect the wetlands, coastal ecosystems and threatened species, undertake animal and plant pest control and support community restoration initiatives.
138. Undertake a conservation assessment of the Tunnel Point boiler.
139. Limit visitor facilities to an unsealed carpark on Lone Kauri Road and toilets at the campsites. The shelter at the Pararaha campsite will be retained.
140. Manage tracks leading into the area as tramping tracks and routes suitable for people with moderate to high levels of fitness and tramping footwear.
141. Close the Odlins 1 campsite.
142. Limit organised sporting events, involving 50 or more people, to one per year in order to protect its wilderness qualities and sensitive environments. (Refer also to Whatipu Scientific Reserve actions below).
143. Undertake baseline and event monitoring, including pre and post event monitoring

Parkinson's Lookout (Scenic Drive)

Parkinson's Lookout is an accessible lookout and picnic area off Scenic Drive offering panoramic views over the Waitakere foothills and the city.

144. Manage Parkinson's Lookout as a lookout and picnic area with a small carpark, directional signs and a walking track to a viewing platform.
145. Reconfigure the arrival area to improve visitor safety and its function as a picnic area.
146. Maintain vistas of the Waitakere Ranges foothills, Waitematā Harbour and the city through appropriate vegetation clearance.

Piha (Glen Esk)

Glen Esk is a popular destination with people seeking accessible walks within mature native bush and views of the scenic Kitekite Falls. It is also popular as a picnic area and gives access to extensive tramping opportunities.

147. Manage Glen Esk as a track entrance with unsealed carparking, toilets and picnic facilities, while retaining its natural setting.

148. Maintain the Kitekite Track as a comfortable walk to and from the Kitekite Falls for visitors with moderate levels of fitness and walking footwear. A series of loop tramping tracks will be maintained for people with higher levels of fitness and tramping footwear.
149. Maintain a subsidiary park depot in the Piha area.
150. Investigate the future use of Stedfast Park, including additional camping opportunities, and relocate the back-pack camping site on the Piha Valley Track.
151. Limit discretionary activities (other than approved licences) to no more than two per month, taking into account the timing of activities approved by WCC elsewhere at Piha, and limit organised sporting events involving 50 or more people to three per year.

Pukematekeo Lookout (Scenic Drive)

Pukematekeo Lookout offers panoramic vistas across the northern parts of the Waitakere Ranges and the Waitematā Harbour. The historic and unique Pukematekeo Bridge, which is closed to vehicle access, is a point of interest.

152. Manage Pukematekeo as a lookout with a small sealed carpark, and directional and interpretation signs.
153. Maintain vistas of the northern Waitakere Ranges, Waitematā Harbour and city through appropriate vegetation clearance.
154. Prohibit vehicular access to Pukematekeo outside normal park operating times.
155. Restore the Pukematekeo Bridge to pedestrian standards in accordance with an approved conservation plan.

Rose Hellaby House and lookout (Scenic Drive)

Rose Hellaby House is a historic homestead with period gardens. The location offers panoramic views over the Waitakere Ranges foothills and the city.

156. Manage Rose Hellaby House and gardens as a historic precinct and lookout with a small carpark, a lookout platform, and directional and interpretation signs.
157. Manage Rose Hellaby House and gardens under licence, in accordance with the approved conservation plans.

158. Maintain vistas of the Waitakere Ranges foothills, the Waitematā Harbour and the city through appropriate vegetation clearance.

159. Upgrade the gardens in accordance with the conservation plan.

Spragg's Bush (Scenic Drive)

Spragg's Bush provides access to a number of easy bush loop-walks readily accessible from Scenic Drive. It is the location of a historic cemetery.

160. Manage Spragg's Bush as an accessible bush-walk destination with a carpark and directional signs.

161. Manage tracks leading into the area as walking tracks suitable for people with moderate levels of fitness and walking footwear.

162. Provide interpretation of the historic Spragg Cemetery.

Tasman View Lookout (Piha)

The Tasman View Lookout and track provides views over the southern reaches of Piha beach and 'the Gap'.

163. Manage Tasman View Lookout as a coastal lookout and track while retaining its natural character. Safe access to 'the Gap' will be investigated, and if safe access is not feasible, efforts will be made to discourage informal tracks to 'the Gap'.

164. Remove exotic vegetation to minimise fire risk in the locality and progressively replace it with appropriate, eco-sourced and fire-resistant native species.

Upper Nihotupu Dam carpark (Piha Road)

A series of walking and tramping tracks emanate from the Upper Nihotupu Dam carpark providing access to the interior of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Parkland including access to the water catchment areas and a number of water supply dams and associated infrastructure. The carpark also provides access to the historic, decommissioned Upper Nihotupu Auxiliary Dam and former reservoir site.

165. Manage the Upper Nihotupu Dam Carpark as one of the main entry points into the Waitakere Water Catchment Area, with an unsealed carpark and

directional and interpretation signs. The need for toilets will be investigated as demand requires, in consultation with Watercare Services Ltd.

166. Manage the Upper Nihotupu Auxiliary Dam site in accordance with the approved conservation plan and the Building Act 2004, including periodic monitoring to minimise the risk of ponding at the dam outlet.

167. Undertake pest plant and animal exclusion and control programmes.

Water catchment area

The Water Catchment Area offers access to the water supply infrastructure. Service roads, some of which are sealed, offer relatively easy access to a number of remote areas within the interior of the Waitakere Ranges.

A primary objective is to protect the cleanliness of and to prevent contamination of the metropolitan water supply. For this reason, access to the water in the dams is prohibited, and WaterCare Services Ltd. has provided a relatively high level of visitor facilities, such as toilets and picnic facilities, in the vicinity of the dams. A further objective is to ensure the sustainable management and efficient use and development of regionally significant water supply resources within the water catchment areas. This includes the on-going operation, maintenance and upgrade of Watercare Services Limited's structures and facilities. For this reason it is noted for the avoidance of doubt that this plan does not limit or change the responsibilities or powers of Watercare Services Limited under the Auckland Metropolitan Drainage Act 1960, or Section 707ZZZS of the Local Government Act 1974. In addition, it is recognised that the provisions of this plan have no affect on the Resource Management Act 1991 matters except to the extent they are incorporated through a planning instrument or unless the Act authorises it to be taken into account.

168. Manage the Water Catchment Area in terms of the "Deed of Lease, Licence and Agreement to Licence" and the associated Annual Operations Plan, in association with WaterCare Services Ltd.

169. Implement pest plant and animal control programmes in partnership with WaterCare Services to protect high ecological values in the catchment.

Whatipu

Whatipu is a remote wilderness area with high scenic qualities and access to an exposed coastline. Whatipu is accessed by a winding gravel road. It has a unsealed carpark, a two-pan toilet block and an information board and interpretation shelter. The area contains extensive accreted sand flats and impounded wetlands that are classified as a Scientific Reserve under the

Reserves Act 1977. (Refer to the provisions for the Whatipu Scientific Reserve below.)

The area is popular with trampers, sightseers and fishermen. A small remote campsite, with associated toilets, is located near the caves. The hinterland behind the sand dunes consists of open pastures extending up the Whatipu valley surrounded by native forest covered hills and cliffs. The area contains features of historic and natural interest such as heritage buildings, Maori heritage sites, pou whenua, remnants of logging industry railways and caves. It also contains a lodge and associated campground which operates under licence to the ARC. The area provides access to extensive tramping track systems that lead into the elevated interior of the park.

170. Manage the Whatipu area as a remote experience wilderness and wildlife protection area, recognising, in particular, the role of the adjoining Scientific Reserve.
171. Include in visitor facilities an unsealed carpark and toilets at the arrival area, toilets at the campsites, and a combined information and interpretation shelter.
172. In public education and interpretation, focus on the role of the Scientific Reserve, the historic and cultural significance of the area and the conservation programmes being undertaken.
173. Manage tracks leading into the area as tramping tracks suitable for people with moderate to high levels of fitness and tramping footwear
174. Manage the Whatipu Lodge and its environs, including the Leibergreen Cottage, in accordance with the approved conservation plans.
175. Manage the Whatipu Lodge complex and campground under licence, for short-stay accommodation.
176. Remove unauthorised structures from the campground.
177. Retain the open farmland in the Whatipu Valley, which is currently licensed out, for recreation purposes, by fencing-off and revegetating the bush and stream margins.
178. Limit organised sporting events involving 50 or more people, to 3 per year, in order to protect the wilderness and remote qualities of the area.

Whatipu Scientific Reserve

The area contains extensive accreted sand flats and impounded wetlands that are classified as a scientific reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. The management of the reserve was transferred to the ARC by the Department of Conservation in 2002.

The Reserves Act specifies that a 'scientific reserve' is for '*...protecting and preserving in perpetuity for scientific study, research, education, and the benefit of the country, ecological associations, plant or animal communities, types of soil, geomorphological phenomena, and like matters of special interest.*'

This is a dynamic coastal environment of high scientific interest. It is home to rare and endangered ground nesting seabirds, such as the NZ dotterel, and a number of threatened plant species that occur in the wetlands and on the interface with the sea.

Due to the sensitive nature of the scientific reserve, the council will take a precautionary approach to the management of the reserve. While low impact informal activities will generally be allowed, high impact group activities, such as organised sport events, will be restricted.

179. Prepare and implement a conservation plan for the scientific reserve to protect the dune and wetland ecosystems, with particular emphasis on the protection of nesting foreshore birds, protecting threatened plants, undertaking pest plant and animal control programmes, and supporting community protection, restoration and education programmes.
180. Construct boardwalks on the tracks leading to the caves, if necessary, to protect the wetland environments, and manage access to and from the Pararaha Valley.
181. Ensure that all activities approved in the Whatipu Scientific Reserve are consistent with the purpose of the scientific reserve and prohibit any group activities over 50 persons and all organised sporting events, except on the eastern end of the reserve in the vicinity of the arrival area and Paratutai on existing tracks and grassed areas, where these do not detract from the purposes of the scientific reserve.

55.6 Principal Relationships

182. Liaise with Waitakere City Council over matters of mutual interest, such as local community relationships, visitor management issues, reserve management issues and beach management issues.

- Update the designation of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park in the Waitakere City District Plan to reflect current policy and management frameworks.
- Impose speed limits on Scenic Drive in the vicinity of Arataki Visitor Centre.
- Retain roads in remote areas, such as Whatipu and Anawhata, as unsealed roads, and liaise with WCC on the management of large vehicles, such as buses, on the road.
- Align dog control policies and bylaws
- Manage public roads through the Waitakere Ranges including road signs, remove unnecessary signs, remove of illegally dumped refuse, close unnecessary or unsafe informal parking areas on major roads.

183. Investigate transferring the management of the following areas of regional parkland to Waitakere City Council,

- Aitkinson Reserve on Titirangi Beach Road,
- Clarke's Bush Reserve on Tainui Road,
- Tawini Reserve on Tawini Road.

184. Liaise with Te Kawerau a Maki on matters of mutual interest that are consistent with the provisions of this plan and contribute to ARC strategic outcomes as defined in the Long Term Council Community Plan.

185. Liaise with the Department of Conservation on the management of the scientific reserve at Whatipu, all lands classified as scenic and recreation reserves under the Reserves Act and, where appropriate, the conservation of wildlife under the Wildlife Act.

186. Liaise with WaterCare Services Ltd in terms of the 'Deed of Lease, Licence and Agreement to Licence' and the alignment of issues relating to the Operational Plan, Rainforest Express and Waitakere Tramlines.

187. Liaise with the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust on the management of the Lake Wainamu Reserve, in consultation with adjoining landowners.

188. Liaise with agencies that provide emergency response services including the Waitakere Rural Fire Authority, NZ Fire Service, NZ Police (search and rescue) First Response, Westpac Rescue Helicopter, and the Piha United, North Piha and Karekare surf lifesaving clubs.

189. Liaise with Friends of Arataki, Friends of Whatipu, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc., Residents' and Ratepayers' groups, Ark in the Park and other community and conservation groups, care-groups, and restoration groups working in and around the parkland to provide support and direction, including liaison with staff of the Auckland War Memorial Museum.
190. Where practicable and appropriate, give effect to the policies and actions identified in the West Coast Plan (2001) and liaise with the West Coast Plan Liaison Group.

55.7 Recreation Activities

The table below shows the permanent restrictions that will be applied to permitted activities identified in Section 37.0 of this plan on Waitakere Ranges Regional Park. The ARC may apply additional temporary restrictions to any of these in terms of Section 37.0 of this plan. Any temporary restrictions that may apply from time to time will be advertised in park brochures, signs, the ARC website or using other media.

Activities	Status/restrictions	Reasons for restrictions
Barbecues	Permitted at facilities provided. Portable gas barbecues are permitted at picnic sites. Fire restrictions will apply over the summer period.	Environmental protection and public safety
Dogs	Dogs are generally permitted on a lead in the Waitakere Ranges but are excluded from all picnic areas, camp sites, water supply dam buffer lands, grassed areas at Cornwallis, the Scientific Reserve at Whatipu, Lion Rock, North Piha, Tasman View Lookout Track. See also Section 37.2 Advisory note: Waitakere City Council Dog Control Bylaws apply on the regional park and adjoining beaches and should be referred to.	Protection of livestock and wildlife, especially nesting birds, and public hygiene in picnic and water supply areas.
Horse riding	Horse riding is prohibited from the Park, including water catchment areas, except by arrangement on the Anawhata and Pae O Te Rangi farmland areas and connecting tracks (Long Road, Smyth Ridge track and Kuataika track), and on the park service roads in the Parau area.	Limited riding facilities available; visitor convenience and safety; environmental protection, particularly track surfaces and pollution of water supplies.
Informal group activities	Size of group restricted to 50 persons.	Conflict with other park users.
Tramping, running, and walking	Off-track activity is prohibited in water catchment areas and is discouraged elsewhere	Protect the natural settings and public water supply areas.

Activities	Status/restrictions	Reasons for restrictions
	unless approved by permit.	
Mountain Biking	Mountain Biking is prohibited.	Environmental protection and conflict with other users.

55.8 Controlled activities

The table below identifies the sites available for controlled activities requiring a permit as identified in Section 38.0 of this Plan. The ARC may also apply temporary restrictions to any of these activities. Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

Controlled activities	Description of site (if applicable)	Restrictions/conditions
Abseiling	Karamatura Valley only	Refer Appendix 5.
Camping	A vehicle-based campsite is provided at McCreadies Paddock (Karekare) and backpack sites are provided at Barn Paddock, Karamatura, Whatipu, Pararaha Valley, Tunnel Point, Karekare, Odmins, Piha Valley, Anawhata sites.	Refer Appendix 5
Lodge Accommodation	Whatipu lodge, bach and campground (under private licence), Huia and Kiwanis Lodges (Huia), Project K lodge (Little Huia).	Refer Appendix 5.
Campervans/caravans	Car parks at Arataki, Pine Avenue, (Cornwallis), Cascades-Kauri, and Glen Esk Road (Piha) for a max. of two nights.	Require a self-containment certificate except at Arataki where facilities are available.
Meeting venues	Arataki Lecture Hall and Audio-visual Theatre.	Refer Appendix 5.
Bookable sites	Bookable picnic sites are available at Cornwallis and Cascades-Kauri.	The demand requires allocation of space.

55.9 Leases/licences

The table below identifies existing leases and licences operating on the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park. (Note licences may be surrendered and new ones may be created during the term of this plan).

Holder	Type	Expiry date	Notes
K Turner	Licence	2007	Grazing at Huia.
Rose Hellaby House – Lockwood and Lawson	Licence	2009	Antiques sales business – open to the public.
Telecom	Licence	2009	Telecommunications mast at Waiaatarua.
Vector Ltd.	Licence	2010	Telecommunications at Laingholm.
Auckland University Tramping Club	Licence	2010	Also available for public use by permit issued by the ARC.
Buckland and Woon	Licence	2010	Grazing at Huia.
Manseil	Licence	2010	Grazing at Huia.
Waitakere Golf Club	Lease	2010	Public golf course at Cascades-Kauri Park.
National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research	Licence	2011	Telecommunications from Arataki.
Outdoor Activities Club	Licence (under consideration)	2011	Use of Keddle House for tramping club purposes; open to Club members.
Whatipu Lodge	Licence	2013	Lodge, bach and campground accommodation.
National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research	Licence	2017	Sea level measuring device at Anawhata.
Telecom	Licence	2019	Telecommunications mast at Piha.
D S Taylor	Licence	2020	Encroachment on parkland at Cornwallis.
Huia Settlers Museum Society Inc.	Licence	2021	Use of building for museum; open to public.
Waitakere City Council	Lease	2028	Water reservoir at Laingholm.
Watercare Services Ltd	Lease	2092	Metropolitan water supply catchments; open to public except for the exclusive zones around the water supply dams.

55.10 Monitoring and Reporting

The ARC monitors a range of aspects of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Parkland. In accordance with the policies contained in Part VII of this plan;

191. Monitor and report periodically upon the following aspects of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Parkland:

- Water quality at selected locations.
- Key natural indicators such as forest health, native bird numbers, native frogs, skinks, geckos, invertebrates, bats, threatened plants, and pest animals such as possums, rats, mice, cats, mustelids, cockatoos and hedgehogs.
- Visitor numbers at selected locations.
- Visitor numbers on selected track systems.
- Off-track activity.
- The number and operations of approved concessionaires.
- The number, location and type of discretionary activities.
- Visitor preferences and satisfaction with features of the park including overall satisfaction with park visits.
- Monitor visitor profiles, including the origin of visitors.

192. Undertake baseline monitoring and monitor the environmental impacts of recreational activity on the park, including pre and post-event monitoring, and periodically report on the cumulative range and number of activities in the park.

Consequential amendment to the Regional Parks Management Plan 2002

Replace Figure 6 with the following:

Park Classification		
I	II	III
Duder Hunua (except Hunua Falls) Mahurangi East Tāwharanui Tawhitokino and Orere Pt. Waitakere Whakanewha Whakatiwai Muriwai (5 Mile Strip)	Äwhitu Mahurangi West Scott Point Scandrett Tapapakanga Waharau Wenderholm	Ambury Hunua Falls Long Bay Muriwai Omana Shakespear

Replace Map 15.2 with the attached amended Map 15.2.

Replace Map 15.17 with attached Maps 15.17 and 15.18.