

# ***DRAFT Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve Management Plan***



***January 2017***

## *Executive Summary*

Waitarere Beach is a small coastal town located on the west coast in the Horowhenua District. There are four key reserves located at Waitarere Beach which are available for use by the local residents as well as the holiday home owners and the visitor population. These reserves are Waitarere Domain, Holmwood Park, the Wairarawa Stream Reserve and the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve.

Under section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 Horowhenua District Council (Council) is required to prepare and review Reserve Management Plans for each of the reserves it owns or manages/controls. The existing Reserve Management Plans for the Waitarere Beach Reserves are quite dated as they were developed in 2000. Council is now the process of reviewing these management plans (including developing one for the Wairarawa Stream Reserve) to ensure that the plans accurately reflect Council's current, and desired, management of these reserves, taking into account planned or potential future development.

This document is the DRAFT Reserve Management Plan for the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve; the other three Waitarere Beach Reserves are covered by the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserve Management Plan which is also currently out for public consultation.

Informal consultation on the Waitarere Beach Reserves has already been undertaken with key stakeholders and the wider community. The feedback received helped to inform the development of this DRAFT Reserve Management Plan.

Formal public consultation on the DRAFT Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve Management Plan commenced on Friday, 13 January 2017. The closing date for submissions is Friday, 17 March 2017. Submission forms are available online at [www.horowhenua.govt.nz/rmp](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/rmp) or hard copies can be collected from Council's office in Levin or libraries in Levin, Foxton or Shannon.

**Submissions** can be made on the whole of the Draft Reserve Management Plan or specific parts. All submissions must be provided to Council by **5pm on 17 March 2017**. They can be dropped off to Council's Levin Office (126 Oxford Street, Levin), emailed to [ReserveManagementPlans@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:ReserveManagementPlans@horowhenua.govt.nz) or posted to Horowhenua District Council, Attn: T. Williams, Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540.

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# 1. Background

## 1.1. What is a Reserve Management Plan?

A reserve management plan is a document prepared under the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act). It contains objectives, policies and actions relating to the use, management and future development of a reserve.

All reserves that have been gazetted and classified as reserves under the Act, require a reserve management plan in accordance with section 41(1) of the Act. Once prepared and adopted, reserve management plans must be kept under continuous review to address new issues and opportunities as they arise for each reserve (section 41(4)).

Reserve management plans act as a guide for Council Officers in making both day-to-day and long-term decisions about how reserves and open spaces under Council's ownership or control are to be used, managed and developed.

## 1.2. Relationship with the Parks and Reserves General Policy Document

The Parks and Reserves General Policy Document (adopted April 2016) applies to all parks and reserves in the Horowhenua District which are owned and/or administered by Horowhenua District Council (Council), and managed by Council's Parks and Property Team.

The majority of these parks and reserves are gazetted as reserve and classified under the Act. However, there are also a number of areas of open space, recognised and managed by Council as reserve land, but which currently do not hold formal reserve status under the Act.

The General Policy Document provides objectives, policies and actions for management issues which are common throughout the majority of these Council managed reserves (whether formally gazetted or not). This document allows Council to adopt a consistent approach to the management of all reserves in a cost and time efficient way.

The objectives, policies and actions outlined in this Reserve Management Plan are specific to Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve. These objectives, policies and actions are tailored to the specific issues or opportunities for these reserves.

It should be noted that the site specific management provisions outlined in this Reserve Management Plan take precedence over the General Policy Document's provisions where they relate to the same issue. Where this Reserve Management Plan is silent on an issue then the provisions of the General Policy Document apply. The General Policy Document includes a decision making process which should be followed when a request is made and it is not covered by either the site specific Reserve Management Plan or the General Policy Document.

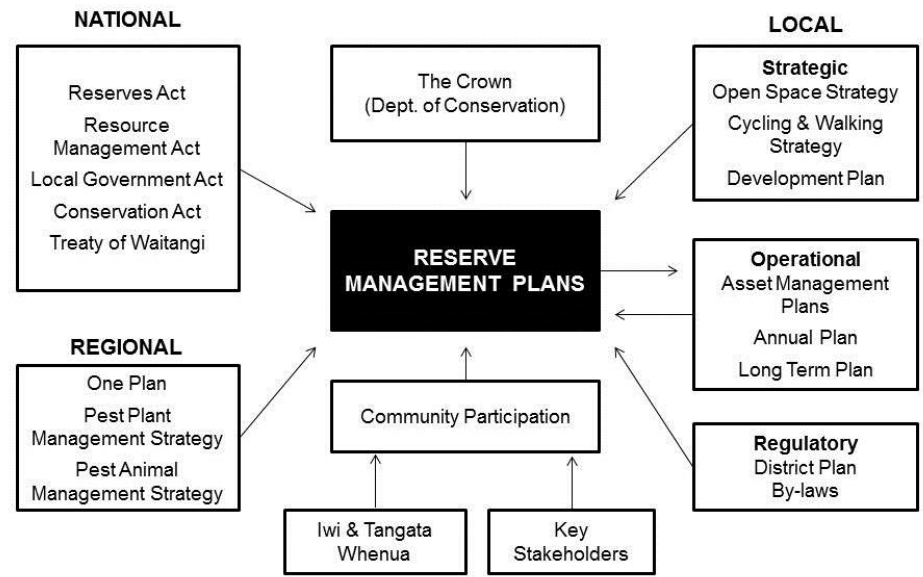
### 1.3. Overview of Statutory Context

Reserve management plans are prepared and reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977. However, there are a number of other pieces of national legislation as well as plans, strategies and regulations at the regional and local level that need to be considered when preparing reserve management plans.

The below diagram identifies the key statutes, plans, strategies and regulations that Council should also consider when preparing or reviewing its reserve management plans. Further explanation about the key statutes, plans, strategies and regulations and how they are relevant to reserve management plans is provided in Council’s Parks and Reserves General Policy Document.

It is important to note that the statutes, plans, strategies and regulations identified in the below diagram are not an exhaustive list, for instance there are other statutes that may also be relevant (e.g. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014). Also highlighted by this diagram are the different roles and functions that Council has in relation to the management of parks, reserves and open space.

Of particular note for this Foreshore Reserve is the **New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010** (NZCPS). The NZCPS identifies the objectives and policies relevant to achieving the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 in relation to the coastal environment of New Zealand.



**Diagram 1** Key statutes, plans, strategies and regulations and their relationship with Reserve Management Plans

## 2. Overview of Location, Town and Coastal Processes

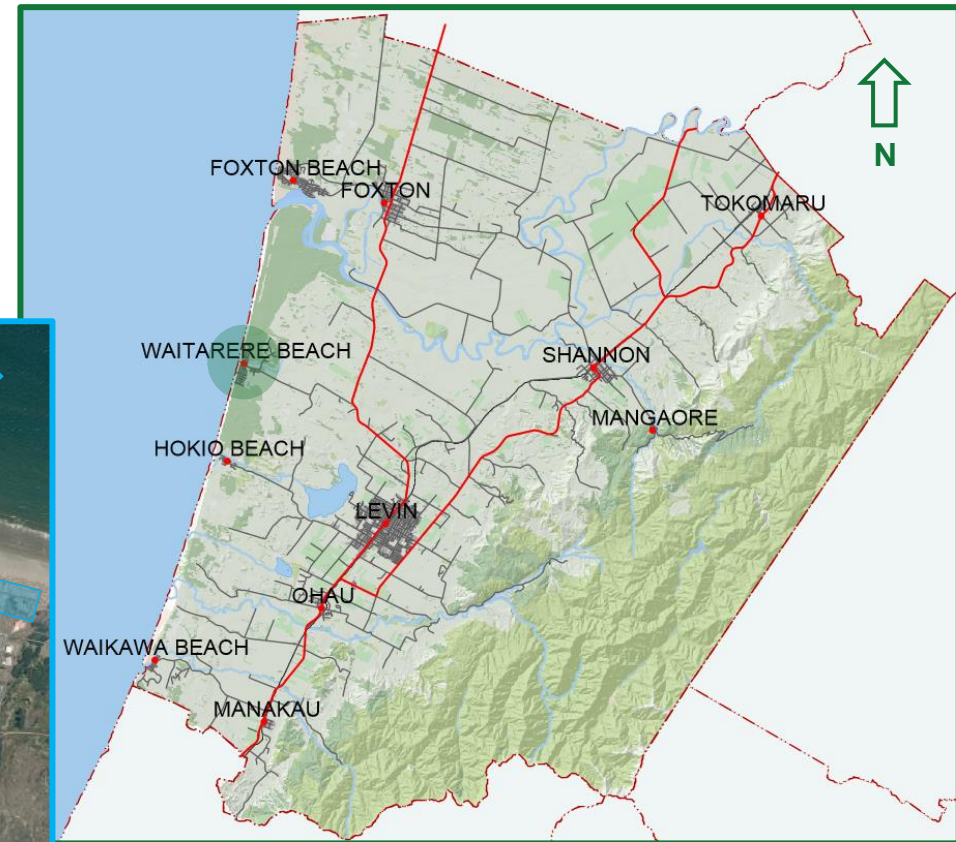
### 2.1. Waitarere Beach - Location

Waitarere Beach is a small, coastal town situated on the west coast, in the Horowhenua District. This town is located to the south of the Manawatu River and north of the District's main urban centre, Levin.

Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve extends the length of the town along the west coast (approximately 2.17km).



**Image 2** Aerial Map of Waitarere Beach with the Foreshore Reserve outlined and highlighted blue (Aerial photo flown in 2011)



**Image 1** Overview map of the Horowhenua District and location of Waitarere Beach

## 2.2. Waitarere Beach - Township

Waitarere Beach is a small coastal town situated on the west coast in the Horowhenua District (refer to 'image 1' on page 3). The usual population of Waitarere Beach was 588 in 2013, with approximately 300 occupied dwellings and 486 unoccupied dwellings<sup>1</sup>. These figures illustrate that this beach community has a high number of 'holiday homes' (i.e. homes that are owned by people whose primary place of residence is somewhat else).

The central and southern parts of Waitarere Beach Township are the oldest, most well established parts. The town extended to the north in late 1990s and early 2000s, with several large subdivisions taking place at the then northern end of Kent Avenue and Park Avenue.

In more recent years new development has been focused in Waitarere Rise which is a low density or 'Greenbelt Residential' area that is located further inland than the original Waitarere Beach Township.

## 2.3. Waitarere Beach - Coastal Processes

The Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve (as shown in 'image 2' on page 3) covers an area of dunes to the immediate west of the Waitarere Beach Township. As such this Reserve is located within the 'coastal environment' which can broadly be described as the area where land and the sea meet. This area is a complex system

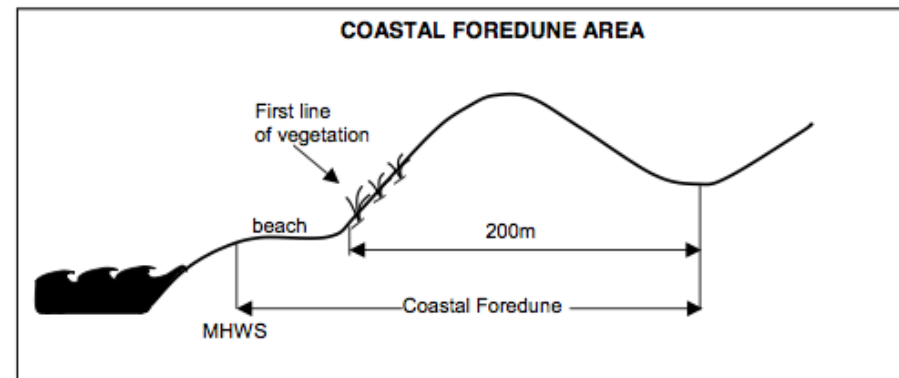
<sup>1</sup> Statistics New Zealand, *2013 Census Quick Stats About a Place: Waitarere*. Retrieved from [http://www.stats.govt.nz/Census/2013-census/profile-and-summary-reports/quickstats-about-a-place.aspx?request\\_value=14307&parent\\_id=14302&tabname=#14307](http://www.stats.govt.nz/Census/2013-census/profile-and-summary-reports/quickstats-about-a-place.aspx?request_value=14307&parent_id=14302&tabname=#14307)

involving the interactions of terrestrial and coastal processes as well as human activities.

Sand dunes make up the Foreshore Reserve. Sand dunes are formed by sand which is eroded and ground rock, derived from terrestrial (e.g. glacial or river) and oceanic sources (e.g. coral reefs). Sand dunes are important because they act as a natural buffer between the sea and activities located landward of the dunes.

The form of dune systems is affected by a number of factors including the shape of a coastline or beach, currents and swell of the sea, prevailing wind and frequency/strength of storm events.

Sand dune systems are naturally dynamic and include the **foredunes** (both incipient and establish), which are the dunes on the nearest side to the sea; and the **backdunes** (or rear dunes), which are located beyond the established foredunes and are typically more stable. Some sand dunes are extremely sensitive to natural processes (e.g. storms) and human activities whereas others are more tolerant.



**Diagram 2** Coastal Foredune Area (Horowhenua District Plan 2015, page 19-4)

The Foreshore Reserve is located within the coastal foredune area, with the foredunes extending from the first line of vegetation, 200m inland (see '**diagram 2**' on page 4). This means that the Foreshore Reserve is quite fragile and susceptible to damage by humans and coastal processes.

### 2.3.1. Accretion

The Waitarere Beach coastline is known to be accreting. Accretion can be defined as "*the gradual and imperceptible increase to land bordering water through the deposit of firm land on the banks of a river or stream, seashore or lakeshore, or through withdrawal of the water<sup>2</sup>*".

Accretion occurs when waves break over long shore bars at sea and sand is moved onshore. Accretion along the coastline at Waitarere Beach appears to have been occurring for at least the last 70 years.

The '*Coastal Hazard Assessment Waikawa to Waitarere Report*' prepared by Tonkin & Taylor in 2013, indicates that the Waitarere shoreline on the northern side of the Wairarawa Stream mouth is accreting at an average rate of 2.1m per year; while the shoreline to the south of the Stream is accreting at an average rate of 1.7m per year.

This coastline has been accreting at such a rate that the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve, which currently extends approximately 60m from the town's western edge toward the sea, only covers a portion of the dune area that Council manages (being the area from the town's western edge to mean high water). The total area from the town's western edge to mean high water springs is approximately

160m. Council is currently going through a process to claim this accreted land as part of the Foreshore Reserve, and as such formalise the management of this land.

Waitarere Beach is a typical accreting beach with wide expansive areas between the ocean and the dunes at low tide. Waitarere Beach is quite unique to the Horowhenua-Kapiti coastline: firstly because it is an accreting beach; and secondly because it is one of the few New Zealand beaches where vehicles have full access to the beach foreshore area.

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<sup>2</sup> Quality Planning, '*Esplanade Areas, Definitions*'. Retrieved from [www.qualityplanning.org.nz](http://www.qualityplanning.org.nz)



## 3. Management of the Foreshore Reserve

### 3.1. Reserve Overview

The Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve (refer to **'image 2'** on page 3) is located seaward of Waitarere Beach Township. This Foreshore Reserve follows the coastline and stretches the entire length of the Town (approximately 2.17km).

The Foreshore Reserve is currently 'stepped' (i.e. the northern part of the Reserve is set more forward on the dunes than the southern part). This is a result of residential subdivision that occurred in the late-1990s to early-2000s which allowed residential lots to be situated more forward on the dunes, and therefore, the adjoining parcels which are part of the Foreshore Reserve are also more seaward than the reserve land to the south.

The Foreshore Reserve is largely a passive reserve due to its fragile nature. This Reserve is largely covered in vegetation, consisting of a mix of native and exotic grasses, small shrubs and some trees. There are both formal and informal access ways along the length of the Reserve which have been created to provide access to and from the beach either for private residential properties or the residents of, and visitors to, the wider Township.

Dogs are permitted on the Foreshore Reserve as well as on the beach (refer to Council's Dog Control Policy and Bylaw for more information).

The beach is also recognised as a popular spot for horse riders. Horse riders have the option of parking in the large, sealed car park on the Foreshore Reserve and walking, or riding, their horses down the main beach access way onto the beach or alternatively parking on the beach.

Quad bikes and other vehicles are allowed on the beach, although they are prohibited from driving over the dunes due to their fragile nature and as such must use the sealed vehicle entranceways to access the beach.

The main vehicle access to the beach is via Waitarere Beach Road, although vehicles can also access the beach from Windsor Street. The Levin-Waitarere Beach Surf Lifesaving Club building and the Reserve's car park are located centrally on Lot 60 DP 10023, just to the south of Waitarere Beach Road. Recreational activities on the Foreshore Reserve are largely concentrated around the clubrooms and car park.

The Foreshore Reserve is made up of multiple parcels of land (see Section 3.3. for a list of these parcels). As outlined under Section 2.3. Waitarere Beach is an accreting beach and the parcels that make up the Foreshore Reserve only covering a portion of the land that Council currently manages and maintains as Reserve. Council has commenced an accretion claim. If the claim is successful then it will result in the boundaries of the Foreshore Reserve defined in the existing certificates of title extending seaward to reflect the area of land that Council currently manages and maintains.

The Wairarawa Stream cuts across Lots 60 and 61 DP 10023, approximately 160m to the north of Waitarere Beach Road. The Stream and the reserve land that immediately surrounds it are

subject to a separate Reserve Management Plan (*being the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves Management Plan*). These two Draft Reserve Management Plans are closely linked and should both be considered in relation to the management of the Stream.



**Image 3** Sign at the entrance to Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve

## 3.2. Key Issues/Opportunities

### 3.2.1. Dune management

Sand dunes are important as they act as a buffer against wave attack and as a source of sand during periods of erosion. Therefore it is important to ensure that they are managed and maintained appropriately so that they can continue to function effectively.

Dune management can at times include some fairly substantial works to the dunes (e.g. re-shaping the foredune). It also consists of planting the dunes, repairing blowouts (as well as other damage to

the dunes) and controlling/restricting the types of activities that can occur in the Foreshore Reserve. Human activities can be damaging to the dunes which make up the Foreshore Reserve (such as vehicles driving on the dunes).

Council obtained resource consent in 2001 to initially reshape the foredunes at Waitarere Beach. This consent also provides for ongoing maintenance of the dunes.

Initial works were carried out in 2003 including re-contouring an area of the foredune around the Surf Lifesaving Club building and the main beach access (which was realigned at the time). The dunes were re-contoured with a seaward slope of 1:5 and a landward slope of 1:3, to ensure they were consistent with the natural dune formation of the surrounding foredunes.

Following the re-contouring, the dunes were re-planted with marram grass with the intention that this species would be used to rapidly stabilise the dunes with natives plants (mainly spinifex and pingao) planted among the marram. Overtime the marram was to be removed as the native plants became dominant; unfortunately this has not occurred as originally planned.

The marram grass has resulted in the development of taller, less stable dunes adjacent the main beach access and in front of the Surf Lifesaving Club building. The dunes in front of the Surf Lifesaving Club currently restrict the view of the beach from the clubrooms. The Levin-Waitarere Surf Lifesaving Club is currently exploring the possibility of relocating their clubrooms so that they are closer to the beach which would improve their functionality.

Council has budgeted to undertake some works to foredunes in front of the existing Surf Lifesaving Club building. These works have not been undertaken yet as Council would like to carry out the works in

conjunction with the construction of the new Surf Lifesaving Club building for efficiency purposes in terms of cost and effects on the coastal environment.



**Image 4** Photo of foredunes in front of the Surf Lifesaving Club at Waitarere Beach

### 3.2.2. Stormwater Outlets

Due to the accreting nature of the Waitarere Beach coastline, the Council's stormwater outlets to sea no longer extend beyond the toe of the foredune. In fact some of the outlets are 20m or more inland of this point and are undermining the dune's natural profile.

Council obtained resource consent in 2001 to extend and maintain the stormwater pipes and outlets; however, minimal work has been done to date. Council's Parks and Property Team and Infrastructure Services Team will need to work collaboratively and undertake the required works to extend the stormwater drains beyond the toe of the dunes in the near future.

### 3.2.3. Encroachments

An issue for Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve is the activities of adjoining property owners encroaching onto reserve land. As illustrated by **image 5**, many of the property owners are currently utilising reserve land as part of their 'backyards' and some property owners have even fenced off part of the reserve.

The encroachments are a particular issue where property owners are impeding public access to reserve land (e.g. they have erected fences). Council will need to consider how it wishes to address this issue, to meet the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.



**Image 5** Aerial photo of some residential properties adjacent to the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve. The **blue**, dashed line shows the boundary between private property and the Reserve, with many of the 'lawn areas' of these properties appearing to extend beyond this boundary.

### 3.2.4. Vehicles Accesses

There are two formal vehicle accesses to Waitarere Beach, both of which cross over the Foreshore Reserve. The main vehicle access to the beach is a continuation of Waitarere Beach Road and the second vehicle access is a continuation of Windsor Street (which is located approximately 530m to the south of the main access).

Council obtained resource consent in 2001 to re-align and improve the main vehicle access at Waitarere Beach Road as well as extend the stormwater outlets associated with this access way; these works were carried out in 2003.

This access has had issues with sand building up on the footpath and in the kerb and channel, and there have been a few occurrences where the access has been blocked by sand and debris following storm events. Unfortunately this access way does not appear to have been constructed quite as planned, contributing to the aforementioned problems.



**Image 6** Main vehicle access to Waitarere Beach from Waitarere Beach Road

Council will need to explore options to reduce the impact of storms and sand building up on the access way. As well as investigating how to address the issue of the alignment of the access way.



**Image 7** Alternative vehicle access to Waitarere Beach from Windsor Street



**Image 8** Debris blocking the main beach access at Waitarere Beach following a storm (photo supplied by Recreational Services in July 2016)

### 3.2.5. Informal Accesses

There are a number of informal access ways that cross the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve. These access ways appear to provide private property owners with access to the beach from their respective properties.

Foot traffic concentrated in one area can damage vegetation which in turn can adversely affect the dunes. Vehicles such as beach buggies or trail bikes can do even greater damage to the vegetation and dunes. Council has established multiple formal access ways to Waitarere Beach to encourage vehicles and pedestrians to access the beach via the Foreshore Reserve at only a few points, and reduce the impact on vegetation and the dunes.

However, there is evidence that owners of properties that adjoin the Foreshore Reserve continue to access the beach directly from their respective properties rather than using a formal access way. Council will consider ways to encourage property owners to use the formal access ways.



**Image 9** Aerial photo showing informal access ways from a private property to the beach (flown 2016)

### 3.2.6. Extent of the Reserve

Currently Council manages not only the formal Foreshore Reserve but the accreted land that adjoins it to the west. In places there is over 90m of accreted dunes between mean high water and the western boundary of the Foreshore Reserve.

This has created some issues in the past with consents. For example Council has obtained resource consent to undertake maintenance works to the dunes within the boundaries of the Foreshore Reserve and this consent potentially does not cover the area between the Reserve and mean high water, which is the area where the maintenance works are most needed.

As already noted, an accretion claim has been lodged and if it is successful then it will mean that Council will own all of the land that it is currently managing.



**Image 10** Aerial photo showing the dunes to the west of the Foreshore Reserve (highlighted blue) which are currently managed by Council but outside of the Reserve. The formal Foreshore Reserve is highlighted in green

### 3.2.7. Surf Lifesaving Club building - location

The Levin-Waitarere Beach Surf Lifesaving Club's building is located on the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve, to the south of the main access way to the beach.

When the building was constructed in the 1950s it was 'beachfront'. As Waitarere Beach has accreted over the years this building is now well setback from the beach where the club members patrol (i.e. there is now over 100m of dunes between the building to the beach). Marram grass is on the dunes directly in front of the building and as such these dunes are taller and steeper than the dunes to the north and south which are vegetated in other species such as spinifex.

The height of the dunes restricts the view of the beach from the Surf Lifesaving Club building. The current location the Surf Lifesaving Club's building means that the club is not able to function as efficiently and effectively as it could if it was closer to the beach.

The Levin-Waitarere Beach Surf Lifesaving Club has been investigating options to construct a new building closer to the beach. Council applied for a notice of requirement to extend the area of land designated for Surf Lifesaving Club purposes at Waitarere Beach which will help enable the Surf Lifesaving Club to construct a new building more forward on the sand dunes. This designation will not take effect until Council's accretion claim is settled.

The Surf Lifesaving Club provides a significant service to the community over the Summer period and Council will continue to support this club.



**Image 11** Current Levin-Waitarere Beach Surf Lifesaving Club building

### 3.3. Legal Description

Legal Description	Land Area
Lot 30 DP 45133 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	0.4920ha
Lot 29 DP 45133 ( <b>vested</b> as Recreation Reserve)	0.9973ha
Lot 17 DP 18323 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	0.3318ha
Lot 18 DP 18323 ( <b>vested</b> as Recreation Reserve)	0.4060ha
Lot 19 DP 18323 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	0.3318ha
Lot 24 DP 11306 ( <b>gazetted</b> as Domain in 1941 page 1547)	0.9116ha
Lot 25 DP 11306 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	0.4290ha
Lot 60 DP 10023 ( <b>gazetted</b> as Domain in 1933,	5.3623ha

Legal Description	Land Area
page 2435)	
Lot 61 DP 10023 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	1.0155ha
Lot 62 DP 10023 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	1.0092ha
Pt Lot 66 DP 10023 (drainage reserve)	0.0202ha
Lot 67 DP 10023 (drainage reserve)	0.0202ha
Lot 68 DP 10023 (drainage reserve)	0.0202ha
Lot 1 DP 10503 (vested as Local Purpose – Road Reserve)	0.1019ha
Lot 14 DP 10503 (gazetted as Local Purpose – Road Reserve in 1957, page 1154)	0.1019ha
Lot 1 DP 19200 (gazetted as Local Purpose – Road Reserve in 1957, page 1154)	0.1012ha
Lot 6 DP 24346 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve)	0.0650ha
Lot 5 DP 24346 ( <b>vested</b> as Recreation Reserve)	0.0986ha
Lot 4 DP 24346 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Road Reserve)	0.0647ha
Lot 21 DP 87313 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve) - WN55B/20	0.3884ha
Lot 20 DP 87313 ( <b>vested</b> as Recreation Reserve) - WN55B/19	0.8920ha
Lot 63 DP 88871 ( <b>vested</b> as Local Purpose - Esplanade Reserve) - WN56D/51	0.8440ha
Lot 62 DP 88871 ( <b>vested</b> as Recreation Reserve) - WN56D/50	1.5895ha
<b>Total Area of Foreshore Reserve</b>	15.5939ha (approx.)

### 3.4. Council Classification

The parcels that make up the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve are zoned Open Space under the District Plan. The Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve (with the exception of some of the access ways) and the strip of land to the immediate west of the Reserve fall within the Coastal Natural Character and Hazard Area and Coastal Outstanding Natural Feature and Landscape under the District Plan.

Approximately 4,750m<sup>2</sup> of land, located within the Foreshore Reserve, just south of Waitarere Beach Road on Lot 60 DP 10023, is designated under the District Plan for Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms and Car Parking purposes (designation reference D133). A Notice of Requirement was approved in 2016 to extend this designation seaward to allow for the Levin-Waitarere Surf Lifesaving Club to building new clubrooms closer to the sea. *Note: This new designation will only have effect if Council's accretion claim is successful.*

The properties to the immediate east of the Reserve are zoned residential and the strip of land to the west is currently zoned rural.

As shown in the table under Section 3.3. all of the land parcels of the Foreshore Reserve have either been gazetted as domain or vested in Council for as either local purpose or recreation reserves. The status of the parcels that make up the Foreshore Reserve is mixed and Council may want to address this in the future.

Pt Lot 66 DP 10023, Lot 67 DP 10023, Lot 68 DP 10023, Lot 1 DP 10503, Lot 14 DP 10503 and Lot 1 DP 19200 are identified as either drainage reserve or local purpose – road reserve. These parcels of land are used as access ways to the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve and as such they have been included in this Reserve Management Plan.

### 3.5. Leases

Part of Lot 60 DP 10023 is currently leased by the Levin-Waitarere Beach Surf Lifesaving Club.

The Levin-Waitarere Surf Lifesaving Club has held a long standing lease for the Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms with numerous variations having been made to the lease over time. The Surf Lifesaving Club is responsible for the maintenance of this building and it pays a nominal amount in rent each year.

### 3.6. Vision

*That Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve is managed and developed in a way that **maintains and enhances** the reserve's **natural** and **ecological values** whilst **facilitating** the community's enjoyment of Waitarere Beach.*

### 3.7. Management Principles

Maintain and preserve the natural and ecological values of the Foreshore Reserve.

Recognise the role that the Foreshore Reserve has in helping to facilitate the public's enjoyment of Waitarere Beach.

Encourage the use and development of the Foreshore Reserve in a way that is consistent with the character of the surrounding environment and the sensitive nature of this Reserve.

Provide appropriate facilities to support the use of the Reserve.

### 3.8. Objectives and Policies

#### 3.8.1. Objective – Reserve Use

*To allow the public to use the Foreshore Reserve whilst protecting its core natural and ecological values.*

##### 3.8.1.1. Policy

Allow activities to take place within the Foreshore Reserve area which are consistent with the purpose of the Reserve and which will not adversely affect the significant values of the Reserve.

##### 3.8.1.2. Policy

Concentrate activities within the Foreshore Reserve to certain parts of the Reserve, and therefore, limit the extent of the effects of human activity on the Reserve especially its natural and ecological values.

##### 3.8.1.3. Policy

Encroachments of private uses onto the Foreshore Reserve shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis and a property owner may be required to remove an encroachment and reinstate the Reserve.

##### 3.8.1.4. Policy

Maintain the existing sealed car park for people to utilise if they would prefer not to drive their vehicle directly on to the beach.

##### 3.8.1.5. Policy

Provide and maintain beach access points for vehicles and pedestrians. These shall be designed and maintained in accordance with best practice, taking into account the unique environment of this Reserve.



#### 3.8.1.6. Policy

Locate and sign post beach access points in a way that will encourage beach goers to use them.

#### 3.8.1.7. Policy

Continue to maintain and upgrade (as required) the existing public toilet facility in the car park on the Foreshore Reserve.

#### 3.8.1.8. Policy

Council's Parks and Property Team may issue licences to trade to various concessionaires within the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve, subject to the following:

- Payment of the relevant fee; and
- A maximum of three concessionaires will be allowed to hold a licence at any one time and they should provide/offer compatible services with the Reserve.

*Note: Licencing process is as per Council's 'Commercial Leasing, Concessions and Permits Policy' (which is currently in draft form).*

#### 3.8.1.9. Policy

Any events or activities within the Foreshore Reserve shall be in accordance with Council's bylaws, the District Plan, the Reserves Act, the Sale of Liquor Act, and the Building Act or appropriate consent shall be obtained.

### 3.8.2. Objective – Dune Management

*The dunes and the associated vegetation within the Foreshore Reserve shall be managed and maintained to help ensure that the*

*dunes can continue to carry out their function as a natural buffer effectively.*

#### 3.8.2.1. Policy

Damage to the dunes and the associated vegetation shall be discouraged. Human activities within the Reserve shall be focused to certain areas to limit the extent of the effect they have on the Reserve.

#### 3.8.2.2. Policy

Any re-construction or re-shaping works done to the dunes within the Foreshore Reserve shall be undertaken in accordance with good practise and shall, upon completion, aim to achieve an ideal dune profile.

#### 3.8.2.3. Policy

The dunes within the Foreshore Reserve will continue to be planted (or re-planted) as necessary with suitable, native plants including spinifex and pingao.

#### 3.8.2.4. Policy

Where possible Council will repair and stabilise minor blowouts.

#### 3.8.2.5. Policy

Vehicles shall be prohibited from travelling on the dunes within the Foreshore Reserve, except for the formal vehicle access points from Waitarere Beach Road and Windsor Street.

*Note: Non-compliances may lead to prosecution.*

#### 3.8.2.6. Policy

Allow the installation of low fencing, or other appropriate barriers when necessary, to protect a particularly sensitive or important part of the Foreshore Reserve.

#### 3.8.3. Objective – Future Development

*Provide for future development that will maintain or enhance the natural and ecological values of the Foreshore Reserve, as well as development that has significant public benefit and a functional need to be located within the coastal environment.*

##### 3.8.3.1. Policy

Any development on the Foreshore Reserve must obtain prior approval from Council.

##### 3.8.3.2. Policy

Ensure that any future development within the Foreshore Reserve is consistent with the purpose of the Reserve and recognises and respects the sensitive and dynamic nature of the Reserve.

##### 3.8.3.3. Policy

Structures and buildings which are to be constructed in the Foreshore Reserve shall be located and designed in such a way to minimise impact on, or damage to, the coastal environment.

#### 3.8.4. Objective – Natural Hazards

*To help maintain and protect the natural coastal defence mechanisms of the dunes within the Foreshore Reserve area.*

#### 3.8.4.1. Policy

Maintain and enhance the natural mechanisms of the dunes by introducing management measures, and undertaking works when required, to restore seasonal damage to the dunes.

#### 3.8.4.2. Policy

Take into account natural hazard threats including inundation and erosion when planning for the siting of structures, access points and planting within the Foreshore Reserve.

#### 3.8.4.3. Policy

Work with the Horizons Regional Council to carry out hazards repair/mitigation works on the dunes and Wairarawa Stream.



**Image 12** Beach access point for pedestrians from the car park to the beach

### 3.9. Actions

Actions	Priority
Continue to establish indigenous sand binding species such as spinifex and pingao on the foredune.	Medium-High
Develop a long term improvement plan for the Reserve including re-vegetation with succession plantings.	Medium-High
Investigate how to address the stormwater drain/outlet issues (Parks and Property Team and Infrastructure Services Team).	Medium-High
Monitor vehicle access ways and ensure that they are clear of sand and debris, especially following a storm event.	Medium
Respond to complaints about dune blowouts.	Medium
Identify existing encroachments of private activities onto the Foreshore Reserve and develop a strategy for how they will be dealt with.	Low-Medium
Monitor and evaluate the impact of recreational activities on the Foreshore Reserve.	Low
Monitor the effect of different plant species and maintenance/management regimes on dune regularisation, dune profile, vegetative cover, dune movement and sand blow onto residential properties etc.	Low

**Note:** The level of importance assigned to each action above is based on the context of this reserve and has not been considered in relation to levels of importance assigned to other reserves in the District.



**Image 13** Public toilets in the car park at Waitare Beach



**Image 14** Waitare Beach with the caravan used by the Surf Lifesaving Club for patrols in the distance