



Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves Management Plan

October 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 (*note: with the exception of the Wairarawa Stream Reserve which has not previously had a Reserve Management Plan*). Council is now the process of reviewing these reserve management plans 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 a combined Reserve Management Plan for **three** of the Waitarere Beach Reserves, which are **Waitarere Domain, Holmwood Park** and the **Wairarawa Stream Reserve**. *Note: the Waitarere Beach Foreshore is contained in a separate management plan due to the unique nature of this reserve.*

Informal consultation on the Waitarere Beach Reserves was undertaken with key stakeholders and the wider community in May 2016. The feedback received helped to inform the development of the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves Management Plan.

Formal public consultation on the Draft Combined Waitarere Beach Reserves Management Plan commenced on 13 January 2017 and closed 17 March 2017. Council received nine submissions on the Draft Plan.

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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 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 Domain, Holmwood Park and the Wairarawa Stream Reserve (including Hudson 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.

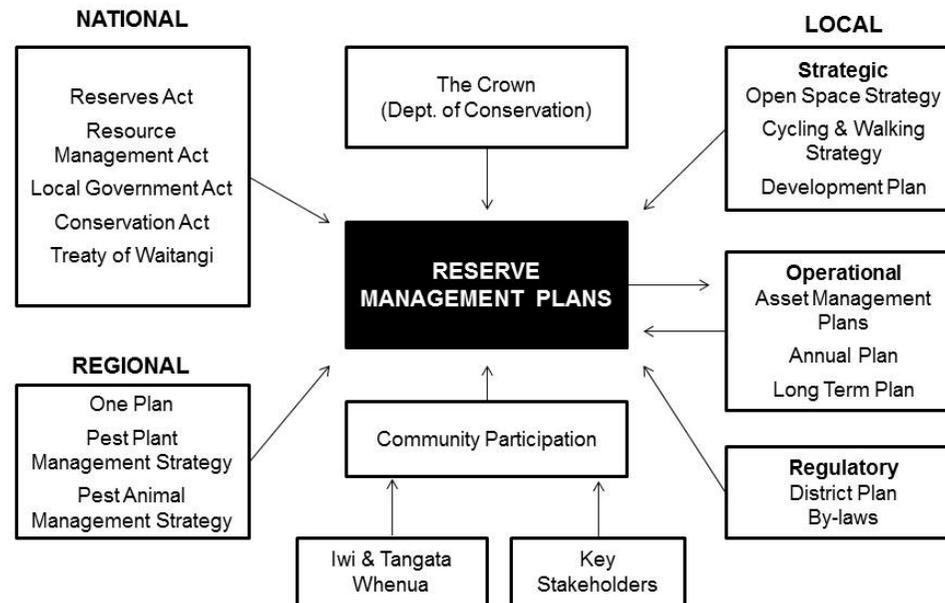


Diagram 1 Key statutes, plans, strategies and regulations and their relationship with Reserve Management Plans

2. Waitarere Beach Reserves

Waitarere Beach is a small, coastal town situated on the west coast, in the Horowhenua District. This township is located south of the Manawatu River and north of the District's main urban centre, Levin. The usual population of Waitarere Beach was 588 in 2013, with approximately 300 occupied dwellings and 486 unoccupied dwellings (Statistics New Zealand, 2013 Census). These figures illustrate that this beach community has a high number of holiday homes. This beach side community is a popular spot for visitors from within and outside of the District. Resident and visitor populations have access to a number of reserves, as shown in the below image.

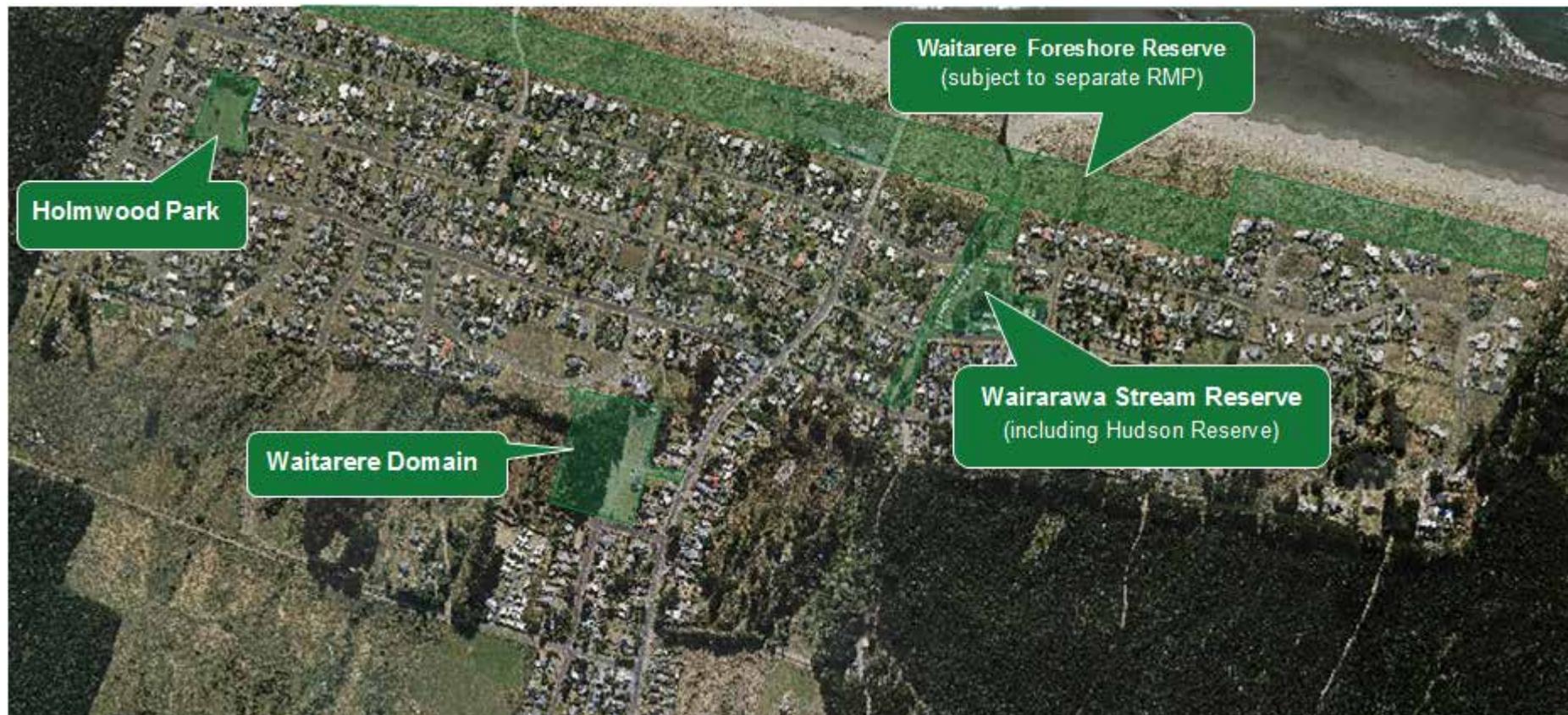


Image 1 Aerial Photo taken in 2016 of the main residential area of Waitarere Beach, with key reserves labelled.

2.1. Scope of the Management Plan

This combined reserve management plan relates to a network of three recreation reserves located in the township of Waitarere Beach. These reserves are: Waitarere Domain; Holmwood Park; and the Wairarawa Stream Reserve (which includes Hudson Reserve).

This reserve management plan does not cover the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve. The Foreshore Reserve is covered by a separate reserve management plan due to its unique nature. However, these two reserve management plans have been developed concurrently; recognising that the reserves at Waitarere Beach are part of a network and to ensure that the management plans tell a consistent story.

There are also two parcels of land (being Lot 60 DP 88871 and Lot 24 DP 310803) located in the northern part of the township, on Park Avenue. These two parcels of land have not been included in this Combined Reserve Management Plan. Although they are zoned open space under the District Plan the parcels are currently vacant, unnamed and not used by the public for recreational purposes.

Council needs to investigate what the best use of these two parcels would be including whether they should be developed for reserve purposes or whether it would be better to acquire alternative land to develop for reserve purposes which provides a better link to the Foreshore Reserve or the Forest (which abuts the town to the north and east).

2.2. Reserve Type

The three reserves considered within this reserve management plan provide an interesting snapshot of open space typology. Typology describes a range of 'types', as a concept of multiple types placed upon a spectrum from one extreme to another.

When considering open space typologies, terms such as neighbourhood park, sports field and native reserve are familiar names often given to public reserves within our urban settlements.

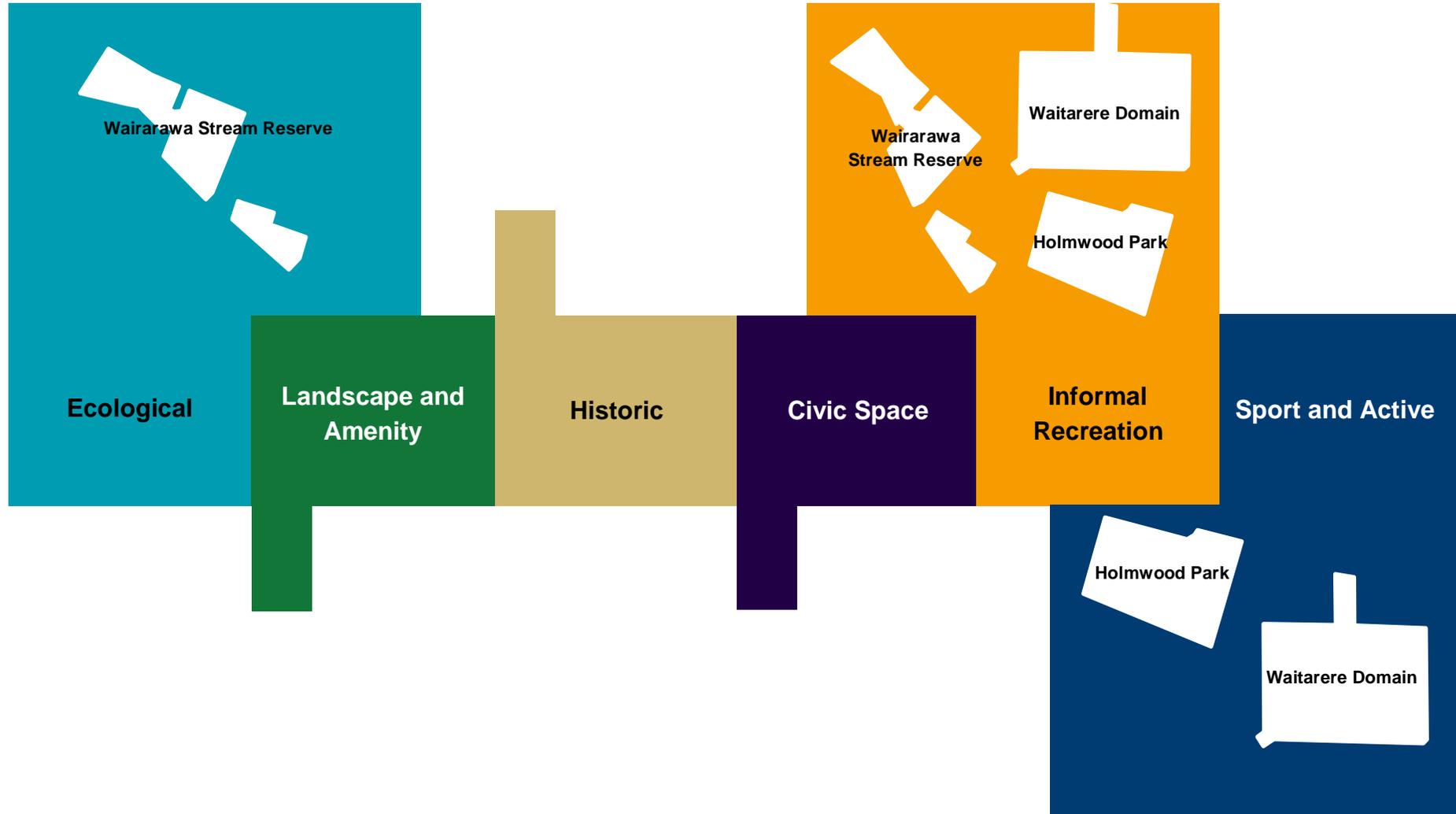
For the purpose of this reserve management plan, the open space typology presented on the following page has been used to help explore the public open space on offer at Waitarere Beach. It helps Council to better understand the different types of reserves (and their associated facilities) available at Waitarere Beach, and whether additional or a different type of open space may be required to meet the needs of this coastal town.

The typology framework used has been sourced from design guidance produced by the Parks and Recreation Team at Auckland Council (available to view at www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz).

2.3. Open Space Typology



2.4. Waitarere Beach – Types of Open Space



2.5. People and Access to Reserves

2.5.1. Ped Sheds – A Tool for Analysing Open Space

While the value of public open space begins simply with provision, its true value is defined by many other factors.

A highly valuable reserve is one that is in the right location, is the right size, contains the right infrastructure and is accessible to all. This can be enhanced when it contributes to a wider provision of open spaces within a town, district or region, which together provide a collective offer of open space.

A useful factor to analyse when looking at the value of public open space is to consider the proximity of the location of a reserve to the population it is intended to serve.

To do this, a concept known as a *'ped shed'* can be used. A ped shed describes the standard walking distance from a point of interest (e.g. a reserve), measured as a radius from this point out across the ped shed area.

Ped sheds typically use a five minute or ten minute walking radius (for a standard able bodied pedestrian, with minimal impingements from geography or delays such as crossing busy roads etc). These five and ten minute walking times commonly convert to a 400m or 800m radius respectively. Therefore, a ped shed can be drawn around a point of interest to identify what area and as an extension of this, what population, is captured within the 5 or 10 minute walking distance radius.

2.5.2. Waitarere Beach - Ped Shed Analysis

The images on the following pages show two ped shed studies of the Waitarere Beach reserves. The first ped shed map (see page 9) shows a five minute (400m ped shed) from each of the Waitarere Beach reserves, as well as a line, 400m from the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve. This analysis illustrates that the majority of residential dwellings are within a five minute walk of a reserve.

While each reserve provides a different offer in terms of the type and usability of public open space, the ped shed mapping provides an immediate analysis to clarify that the location of public open space is appropriate to the location of most Waitarere Beach residents (the main user group the reserves are provided for).

The ped sheds show that there are a few small areas of residential land that sit outside of a five minute walk (400m ped sheds), and these are highlighted in red on the map over the page. These residential properties are largely situated on the eastern side of Waitarere Beach, at the entrance of the town along Waitarere Beach Road. It is noted that they are the furthest properties away from the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve, which is the Reserve that ensures that the majority of the residents of Waitarere Beach have access to some form of public open space.

Much of the residentially zoned land that falls outside of the 5 minute walk is yet to be subdivided and/or built on, which illustrates the importance of the design of future subdivision in ensuring that public open spaces are considered, planned for and incorporated.

It is noted that much of this undeveloped, residentially zoned land is within 5 minutes' walk of the reserve land at Waitarere Rise. However, this reserve land is privately owned and managed by the residents of Waitarere Rise.

The second ped shed map (see page 10) provides a typology based assessment of the Waitarere Beach reserve provision. Simply as an illustration, this analysis looks at the provision/location of children's playgrounds which are a primary element of an 'informal recreation' open space typology.

For this analysis, both five and ten minute ped sheds have been used, with the 800m ped shed being drawn around the location of playgrounds. This recognises that people are typically more likely to walk further for a valued attraction/asset such as a children's playground.

This ped shed tells quite a different story to the 5 minute walk (400m) ped shed analysis. As illustrated in the ped shed analysis there are two playgrounds available at Waitarere Beach and they are located at Waitarere Domain and Holmwood Park. The 10 minute walk (800m) ped sheds show that the properties in the northern part of Waitarere Beach are not within what is considered to be an easily walkable distance to a playground.

As Council plans for the future development of its reserves at Waitarere Beach, it will need to undertake further investigation to establish whether an additional playground is required.



Image 2 Play equipment at Waitarere Domain



Image 3 Play equipment at Waitarere Domain



Image 4 Playground at Holmwood Park

2.5.3. Aerial Map of Waitarere Beach showing 400m Ped Sheds (5 minute walk to Reserves)



Key:

- ★ Park or Reserve
- 5 minute / 400m ped shed
- Area within 400m of the Foreshore Reserve
- Residentially zoned properties outside of the ped shed areas

2.5.4. Aerial Map of Waitarere Beach showing 800m Ped Sheds (10 minute walk to Playgrounds)



Key:

- ★ Park or Reserve
- 5 minute / 400m ped shed
- 10 minute / 800m ped shed
- Area within 400m of the Foreshore Reserve

2.6. Reserves Snapshot – Waitarere Beach

Before exploring the reserves individually, the table below provides an interesting snapshot of the three reserves and their comparative attributes.

Presented in the table are the varying sizes of the reserves, their tenure (ownership) and the built infrastructure they contain.

In addition, the table records the reserves type, based on the open space typology spectrum presented previously. Categorising the three reserves against this typology tool illustrates a positive provision of three of the six typologies. A reserve can be categorised as more than one type, which is true of all of the Waitarere Reserves covered in this plan.

It is noted that the lack of civic, sport and active and heritage spaces within a small coastal settlement such as Waitarere Beach does not suggest a significant weakness in the open space provision but rather that these types of reserve may not be necessary.

This Plan contains reserves that are made up of parcels of land that are not classified as reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. Only the parcels that are classified as a reserve are subject to the Act. For reserves where no parcels are classified as reserve, the Reserve Management Plan for that reserve is not a Reserve Management Plan under the Act instead a plan that outlines how Council will manage and develop the land. For reserves where only some of the parcels that make up the reserve are classified as reserve and some aren't, the Reserve Management Plan is considered to be a Reserve Management Plan under the Act only for those parcels which are classified as reserve.

Name	Typology	Size	Infrastructure
Waitarere Domain	Sport/Active & Informal Recreation	2.30ha	Sealed Car Park, Tennis Courts (x2), Toilet, BBQ, Picnic Tables, Rubbish Bins, Playground Equipment and Half Pipe <i>Scouts Hall (privately owned)</i>
Holmwood Park	Sport/Active & Informal Recreation	0.797ha	Playground Equipment, Rubbish Bin, Picnic Table, Rugby Goal and Volleyball Net
Wairarawa Stream Reserve	Informal Recreation & Ecological	2.1832ha (approx.)	Picnic Tables, Seats, Rubbish Bin, Pedestrian Bridge and Walking/cycling Path



Image 5 Waitarere Domain: Park bench and half pipe



Waitarere Domain

3. Waitarere Domain

3.1. Reserve Overview

Waitarere Domain was formally established in 1941. The Domain is located relatively centrally within Waitarere Beach Township (refer to **Appendix 1**) and serves as an important informal recreation space for both residents of, and visitors to, this small coastal town.

The main access to Waitarere Domain is from Waitarere Beach Road, although the Domain is also accessible from Achilles Avenue and Taonui Street. There is sealed parking available in the north-eastern corner of the reserve.

There are existing residential properties to the north, east and west of the Domain; with the land to the south being zoned for residential purposes but yet to be developed.

The northern portion of Waitarere Domain is relatively flat and this is where many of the 'built elements' of the Domain are located, including: two sealed tennis courts; a toilet; a BBQ area; clubrooms for the local boy scouts; play equipment; and the half-pipe for skating. The northern part of the Domain also has a grassed, open area suitable for informal sports games.

The southern part of the Domain is more undulating in topography and is covered in vegetation including tall pine trees. The trees provide shade for reserve users. However, the risk of trees or branches falling can also be a hazard to reserve users.

The boy scouts is the only group that currently has a formal arrangement to use some of the Domain's land (being the area that the scout hall is located).

Otherwise the Domain is widely used by the community on an informal basis. There is potential for the Domain to be used more regularly in the future for community events (these would need prior approval from Council).

The range of play equipment makes the Domain a desirable destination for families with young children; the half-pipe is popular with youth; and the BBQ/picnic area are popular with families, especially as this is the only public BBQ in Waitarere Beach.

The tennis courts were formally used by a local tennis club, with members of the public previously having to book them and pay a small fee to use the courts. However, in recent years the club chose to give up their exclusive use of these courts, which are now available for general use by the public.

There is potentially an opportunity to replace at least one of the tennis courts with a multi-purpose playing surface to accommodate a wider variety of people. Other opportunities for future development could include removing some of the more dated play equipment (e.g. the wooden fort) and installing newer equipment including items suitable for different ages.

3.2. Legal Description

Legal Description	Title Reference No.	Land Area
Lot 33 DP 10657	No Certificate of Title	2.290ha
Lot 22 DP 342928	176187	0.011ha
Total Area		2.30ha

3.3. Council Classification

Waitarere Domain is zoned Open Space under the District Plan.

Lot 33 DP 10657 was vested in Council and **gazetted** as domain in 1941 (page 1547 NZGZ) and again in 1955 (page 1303). This is treated as recreation reserve in accordance with Section 16(7) of the Reserves Act.

Lot 22 DP 342928 was **vested** as a recreation reserve as part of a 20 lot residential subdivision in 2005. This parcel primarily acts as an access way to the main reserve area from Taonui Street and has not been gazetted as domain or reserve.

3.4. Leases

The Waitarere Boy Scouts Association has held a lease for the site where the current scout's hall is located since 1967, with the hall having been on site since 1969. The Waitarere Boy Scouts Association pays a nominal annual fee for the site that they lease.

3.5. Vision

*To manage and develop Waitarere Domain to ensure it remains an **important recreational space** for residents and visitors alike, and to **improve its appeal** to a wider range of people.*

3.6. Management Principles

Recognise and promote the value of the Domain in the District as it provides a specific area for structured and informal play and recreation.

Improve accessibility and use of the Domain to a wider cross-section of the local and visitor populations.

Encourage the use and development of the Domain in a way that does not adversely affect the amenity values of the neighbouring properties.

Maintain and preserve the Domain's natural and recreational qualities and values.

Provide appropriate facilities to support the function and use of the Domain.



Image 6 Sealed car park, toilet and tennis courts (in the distance)

3.7. Objectives and Policies

3.7.1. Objective – Reserve Use

To manage and maintain the Waitarere Domain as an informal recreation space available for the public to enjoy and use.

3.7.1.1. Policy

Ensure that the Domain remains available for use by the community as an important recreation space.

3.7.1.2. Policy

Subject to obtaining prior approval from Council, permit temporary events to take place on the Domain, which are compatible with the character of this reserve and the surrounding environment.

Note: Any events on the Domain 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.

3.7.1.3. Policy

Maintain the current off-street car parking area so that the users of the Domain can continue to utilise it.

3.7.2. Objective – Future Development

To develop the Domain in a way that encourages its use by a wider cross-section of the community, whilst taking into account the enjoyment of current reserve users and preserving the amenity values of neighbouring properties.

3.7.2.1. Policy

Support the development of the Domain in a way that enhances its current recreational values, whilst also encouraging a wider range of individuals/groups to use the reserve.

3.7.2.2. Policy

Investigate and facilitate opportunities to use and develop the Domain in a way that will increase the value of this reserve for the community whilst also preserving an appropriate level of amenity for the surrounding properties.

3.7.2.3. Policy

Facilitate engagement with the local community to understand what their aspirations are for the future of the Domain.

3.7.2.4. Policy

Consider the wider reserve network at Waitarere Beach when planning for the future development of the Domain.

3.7.2.5. Policy

Ensure that any development is considered in accordance with operations and maintenance budgets.

3.7.2.6. Policy

Explore opportunities for signage or alternative options to communicate information about the reserve.

3.7.3. Objective – Safe and Family-Friendly Space

Help to ensure the Domain is a clean, safe and family-friendly space for the public to access and enjoy.

3.7.3.1. Policy

Ensure that new and existing play equipment is installed, maintained and replaced (as necessary) in accordance with National Playground Standards.

3.7.3.2. Policy

Provide and maintain picnic tables, rubbish bins, a toilet and other facilities which help to encourage the responsible use and enjoyment of the Domain by the public.

3.8. Actions

Actions	Priority
Carry out routine inspections of the playground equipment to ensure the equipment meets national standards and is safe for children to use.	High
Finalise the Development Plan for Waitarere Domain	High
Assess the impact of future development proposals on the character and recreation values of the Domain.	Low
Assess the impact of special events held at Waitarere Domain on the wider use of the Domain as well as the amenity of the surrounding properties.	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 7 Tennis Courts on Waitarere Domain



Image 8 Skate ramp and half-pipe on Waitarere Domain



Image 9 BBQ/picnic area on Waitarere Domain



Holmwood Park

4. Holmwood Park

4.1. Reserve Overview

Holmwood Park is a small neighbourhood reserve (refer to **Appendix 2**) that was created and vested in Council as part of a subdivision in 1979.

Holmwood Park is primarily used by local residents or people who own holiday homes near the Park.

Holmwood Park is a relatively flat, grassed open space, which contains a single rugby goal situated on the western side of the Park, a movable volleyball net, a small playground on the northern part of the Park and a single picnic table located in the north-western corner.

The playground is suitable for younger children, with the grassed open space (including the rugby goal and volleyball net) providing recreational opportunities for other reserve users. Council may install another picnic table in the future (possibly closer to the playground) to provide additional seating for families.

There is a line of mature trees along the western boundary and part of the northern boundary of the Park, as well as several other individual trees or bushes located sporadically around the Park. Species found in the Park include Pohutukawa and Banksia trees. The trees have an important function as they provide shade for Park users, although the risk of trees or branches falling can also be a hazard.

It is recognised that additional planting/vegetation on Holmwood Park would enhance the Park aesthetically, however, there has been some

difficulty establishing vegetation on the Park previously due to less than ideal soil conditions.

The Park is surrounded by residential properties and can be accessed via walkways or roads from all four sides. Vehicle access is restricted by low-lying fencing, with only approved vehicles being able to access the Park.

Holmwood Park is located just over 250m inland from Waitarere Beach. Waitarere Beach can be accessed from Holmwood Park via several formal and informal access points. There is an opportunity to better sign post the formal access points to improve the connection between this Park and the Beach.

Holmwood Park was named after 'Captain Charles Holmwood' who was the captain of the Hydrabad Ship that was wrecked off the coast of Waitarere Beach in June 1878. There is an opportunity to better acknowledge the Park's relationship with the Hydrabad Shipwreck, which is located on the west coast, approximately 750m to the south of Holmwood Park.

4.2. Legal Description

Legal Description	Title Reference No.	Land Area
Lot 99 DP 48384	No Certificate of Title	0.797ha

4.3. Council Classification

Holmwood Park is zoned Open Space under the Horowhenua District Plan. **Lot 99 DP 48384** is not gazetted but is **vested** in Council as recreation reserve. Council may wish to gazette this reserve in the future.

4.4. Leases

There are no lease agreements in place for Holmwood Park.

4.5. Vision

*To manage and develop Holmwood Park as a **neighbourhood reserve** which provides passive and informal recreational opportunities; characterised by children's play equipment, open space and low levels of development.*

4.6. Management Principles

Maintain the Park as a passive and informal active recreation reserve.

Encourage the use and development of the Park in a way that is consistent with its character as a neighbourhood reserve in a small coastal community.

Recognise the value of the Park to Waitarere Beach as well as the wider District, in providing a safe and family-friendly open space for people to use and enjoy.

Provide appropriate facilities to support the function and use of the Park, which are in keeping with the existing character.

Improve the connection of the Park with the other reserve spaces at Waitarere Beach.



Image 10 Playground and access to the Park from Kahukura Avenue



Image 11 Grassed, open space area, with rugby goal in the distance



Image 12 Access way to the Park from Rua Avenue

4.7. Objectives and Policies

4.7.1. Objective – Reserve Use

To maintain Holmwood Park as a passive and informal recreation reserve available for the public to use and enjoy.

4.7.1.1. Policy

Ensure that the Holmwood Park remains available for use by the community as a passive and informal recreation space.

4.7.2. Objective – Future Development

To develop Holmwood Park in a way that is consistent with its character as a neighbourhood reserve and which takes into consideration the wider reserve network of Waitarere Beach.

4.7.2.1. Policy

Allow future development which aims to maintain or enhance the character and recreational values of the Park, whilst preserving the amenity values of surrounding properties.

4.7.2.2. Policy

Facilitate development that will enhance the connection between Holmwood Park and other reserves (most notably Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve).

4.7.2.3. Policy

Ensure that any development is considered in accordance with operations and maintenance budgets.

4.7.2.4. Policy

Encourage greater public awareness and appreciation of Holmwood Park's association with the Hydrabad Shipwreck.

4.7.3. Objective – Safe and Family-Friendly Space

Help to make Holmwood Park a clean, safe and family-friendly open space for the public to access and enjoy.

4.7.3.1. Policy

Ensure that new and existing play equipment is installed, maintained and replaced in accordance with National Playground Standards.

4.7.3.2. Policy

Provide and maintain facilities such as rubbish bins on Holmwood Park which encourage the responsible use and enjoyment of the Park by the public.



Image 13 Picnic table in the north-eastern corner of the Park

4.8. Actions

Actions	Priority
Carry out routine inspections of the playground equipment to ensure the equipment meets national standards and is safe for children.	High
Improve wayfinding signage to enhance the connection between Holmwood Park and Waitarere Beach.	Medium
Prepare a Development Concept Plan for Holmwood Park, with local input.	Low-Medium
Erect an information sign on the Hydrabad Shipwreck (possibly include directions to where the wreck is located).	Low
Assess the impact of future development proposals on the character and recreation values of the Park.	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 14 Wreck of the Hydrabad (photo taken on 10 June 1935. Source: Alexander Turnbull Library)



Image 15 Sign at location of Hydrabad Shipwreck (photo taken in 2012, source: <https://nzfrenzynorth.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/the-newish-hydrabad-signpost-2012.jpg>)



Wairarawa Stream Reserve (and Hudson Reserve)

5. Wairarawa Stream Reserve

5.1. Reserve Overview

In the early 2000s members of the Waitarere Beach community initiated conversations with Horowhenua District Council (Council), Horizons Regional Council and the Department of Conservation about the ecological health of the Wairarawa Stream.

The Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayers Association Inc. then submitted on Council's Draft Annual Plan 2011/2012, requesting the development of a walkway along the Wairarawa Stream. Funding was subsequently allocated by Council in its Annual Plan (2011/2012) to provide for land acquisition, planting and the development of the walkway along the Wairarawa Stream.

The Wairarawa Stream Reserve (refer to map in **Appendix 3**) is made up of multiple parcels of land that the Wairarawa Stream crosses through on its journey to the Tasman Sea.

The Wairarawa Stream Reserve (which includes Hudson Reserve) currently connects Kahukura Avenue to the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve.

A pedestrian bridge has been constructed over the Wairarawa Stream, connecting Somerset Grove to Rua Avenue and to the beach access south of the Stream. Concept plans for the development of the walkway and landscaping of the Reserve were developed in 2012. Works on the construction of the walkway and restoration/re-planting of the Stream took place in late 2012 and 2013. These works focused on the area between the mouth of Wairarawa Stream and Kahukura Avenue.

A 'planting day' (involving Council officers, community members and local school children) was held in 2013 which involved planting along Wairarawa Stream at Hudson Reserve. Since then Council, with the aid of community members, has continued planting parts of the Reserve.

Council is aware of a desire within the community to extend the walkway to the east of Kahukura Avenue, to the small dune lakes which are the Wairarawa Stream's source. However, this land is in private ownership and as such Council will need to work closely with the owners of the properties if it is to extend the walkway.

5.2. Legal Description

Legal Description	Title Reference No.	Land Area
Lot 13 DP 10678	No certificate of title	0.3387ha
Lot 9 DP 48366	No certificate of title	0.0596ha
Sec 2 Blk III Moutere SD	No certificate of title	0.3025ha
Part Lot 63 DP 10023	No certificate of title	0.5653ha
Lot 12 DP 10678	No certificate of title	0.5453ha
Lot 25 DP 10977 (Hudson Reserve)	No certificate of title	0.3718ha
<i>Lot 61 DP 10023 (partial)</i>	<i>No certificate of title</i>	<i>1.0155ha</i>
<i>Lot 60 DP 10023 (partial)</i>	<i>No certificate of title</i>	<i>5.3623ha</i>
Total Area		At least 2.1832ha

5.3. Council Classification

All of the parcels of land that make up Wairarawa Stream Reserve are zoned Open Space under the Horowhenua District Plan.

Section 2 Blk III Moutere SD is designated under the District Plan as 'Reserve for Civic Purposes' (reference no. D130). Lot 12 DP 10678 and Part Lot 63 DP 10023 are designated under the District Plan as part of the 'Waitarere Beach Motor Camp' (reference no. D157).

Lots 12 and 13 DP 10678 were **gazetted** as domain in 1935 (page 2277).

Section 2 Blk III Moutere SD was **gazetted** as a 'public hall site' in 1957 (page 2259).

Lot 25 DP 10977 was **gazetted** as domain in 1941 (page 1547).

Part Lot 63 and Lot 60 DP 10023 were **gazetted** as domain in 1933 (page 2435).

Lot 9 DP 48366 was **vested** in Council as recreation reserve.

Lot 61 DP 10023 is identified as being part of the **Newman Esplanade Reserve**.

5.4. Extent of Reserve

Only part of Lots 60 and 61 DP 10023 are part of the Wairarawa Stream Reserve (refer to **Appendix 4**). The rest of the land within these lots is part of the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve. These two reserves are interconnected. The area of land either side of the Wairarawa Stream, as well as the beach access adjacent the Stream is managed as part of the Wairarawa Stream Reserve.

Although the management of the sand dunes within this area is undertaken in conjunction with the management of the sand dunes in the wider Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve area.

Lot 12 DP 10678 and most of Part Lot 63 DP 10023 are part of the Waitarere Beach Motor Camp. These lots are gazetted as domain and have been used for motor camp purposes for quite some time. The use of reserve land for motor camp purposes is provided for under the Act and as such it is considered to be an appropriate use for these lots. It is intended that the motor camp will continue to operate from this site for the foreseeable future.

The southern part of Part Lot 63 DP 10023 is part of Wairarawa Stream Reserve, with part of the walkway and a section of the Stream crossing through this lot.

The western part of Section 2 Blk III Moutere SD contains the community centre which is managed by the Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayers Association Inc. The eastern part of this section is identified as a 'Council depot' which is not currently needed by Council for this purpose.

Council has recently entered into a licence to use and occupy with the Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayers Association Inc. which permits them to use the Council depot as a beach warden depot, storage premises for local community organisations and to establish a community garden.

The northern part of Section 2 Blk III Moutere SD is part of the Wairarawa Stream Reserve, with part of the walkway and a section of the Stream crossing through it. This area is fenced off from the community centre and Council depot.

5.5. Leases

Lot 12 DP 10678 and most of Part Lot 63 DP 10023 are managed as part of the Waitarere Beach Motor Camp. The land which the motor camp is located on is currently leased out by Council for a fee, with the motor camp being operated by the lessee.

Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayers Association Inc. has a licence to use and occupy the Council depot (part of Section 2 Blk III Moutere SD).

5.6. Vision

*To develop and manage Wairarawa Stream Reserve as a reserve with **natural and ecological values**, whilst also recognising and providing for the community to use this reserve for **passive recreation** purposes.*

5.7. Management Principles

Manage Wairarawa Stream Reserve as a passive recreation space.

Maintain and preserve the Reserve's natural and ecological values.

Encourage the use and development of the Reserve, whilst ensuring that the Wairarawa Stream is not adversely affected.

Recognise the value of the Reserve as it provides a connection for the community from Kahukura Avenue to the Waitarere Beach Foreshore Reserve.

Provide appropriate facilities to support the use of the Reserve.

5.8. Objectives and Policies

5.8.1. Objective – Reserve Use

To provide for the passive recreational use of Wairarawa Stream Reserve by the community.

5.8.1.1. Policy

Allow for the public to access the Wairarawa Stream Reserve provided it does not compromise the natural and ecological values of the Reserve and the Stream.

5.8.1.2. Policy

Provide and maintain appropriate facilities on Wairarawa Stream Reserve to encourage the responsible use and enjoyment of the Reserve.

5.8.1.3. Policy

Provide for the on-going use of parts of this Reserve for motor camp purposes as well as other appropriate uses by the community, subject to approval by Council.

5.8.2. Objective – Management and Development

Manage and develop Wairarawa Stream Reserve in a way that preserves its natural and ecological values, whilst also enabling the community to continue to use the Reserve as a passive recreation space.

5.8.2.1. Policy

Encourage and support partnerships between Council and other organisations/groups to manage pest plants within the Reserve and to continue appropriate planting along the margins of the Stream.

5.8.2.2. Policy

Support projects that will help to protect, enhance and restore the natural and ecological values of Wairarawa Stream.

5.8.2.3. Policy

Encourage the development of the Reserve in a way that contributes to improved public enjoyment of it, whilst ensuring that development is compatible with the natural and ecological values of the Reserve.

5.8.2.4. Policy

Work with the community and relevant landowners to explore future development opportunities for the Wairarawa Stream Reserve.



Image 16 Pedestrian bridge which crosses Wairarawa Stream near Somerset Grove



Image 17 Picnic table and walkway at Wairarawa Stream Reserve



Image 18 Existing riparian planting along Wairarawa Stream

5.9. Actions

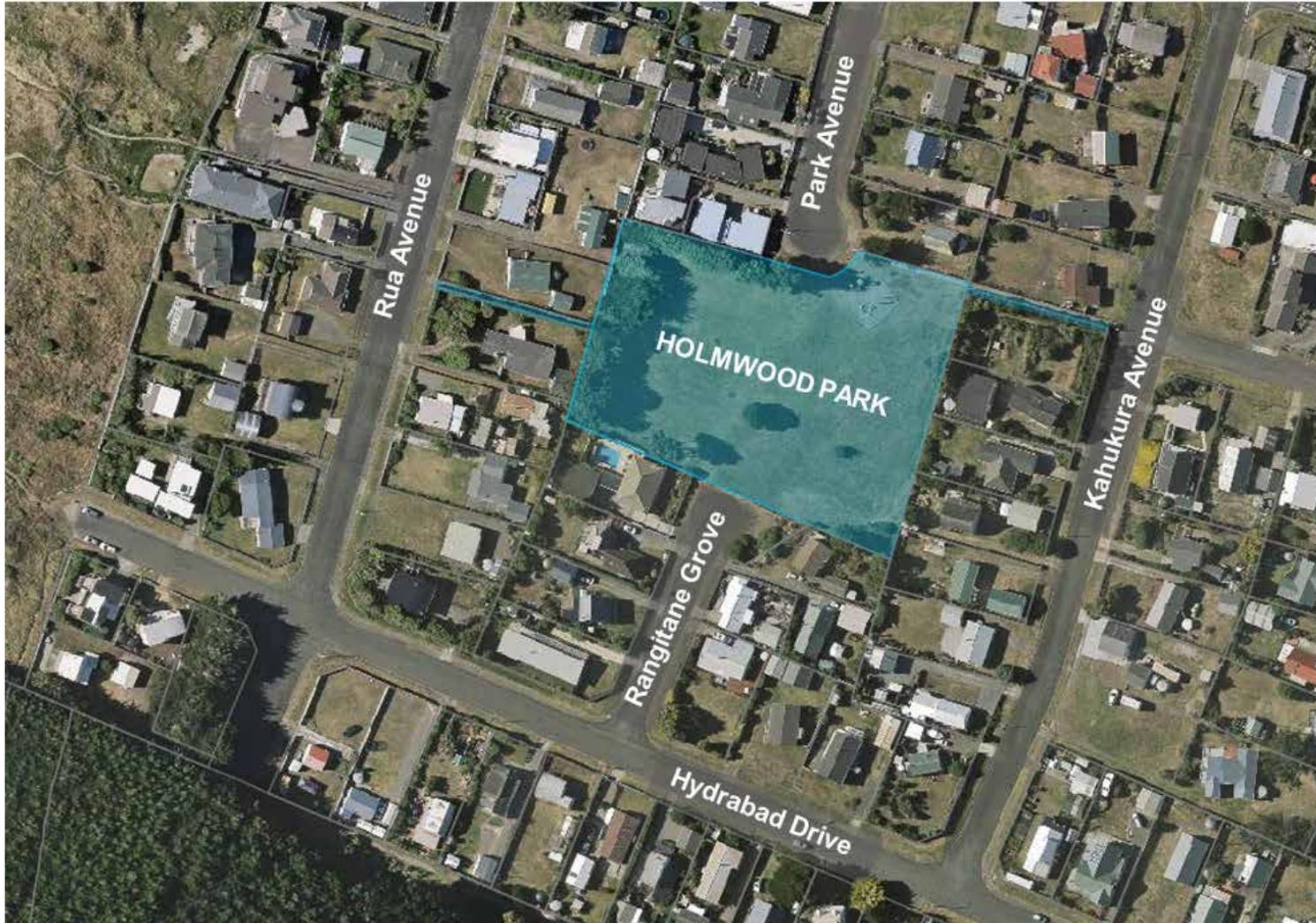
Actions	Priority
Erect educational signage about Wairarawa Stream such as information on the importance of the riparian planting.	High
Continue to investigate opportunities to extend the walkway to the east.	Medium-High
Continue to undertake and facilitate appropriate planting within the Reserve, in conjunction with relevant stakeholder groups.	Medium
Manage pest plants as far as practicable and carry out pest management in accordance with the Regional Council's requirements.	Medium
Encourage correct disposal of rubbish through providing rubbish collection bins.	Medium-Low
Assess the impact of future development on the recreation values of the Reserve and ecological values of Wairarawa Stream.	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.*

Appendix 1 – Aerial Map of Waitarere Domain (AND SURROUNDING AREA)



Appendix 2 – Aerial Map of Holmwood Park (AND SURROUNDING AREA)



Appendix 3 – Aerial Map of Wairarawa Stream Reserve (AND SURROUNDING AREA)



Appendix 4 – Aerial Map of Wairarawa Stream Reserve showing the Motor Camp, Community Centre and Depot



Key:

-  Wairarawa Stream Reserve
-  Lot 12 DP 10678 and Part Lot 63 DP 10023 (Motor Camp)
-  Sec 2 Blk III Moutere SD (community centre/ Council depot)