



Kapiti Coast District Council

Beach Fire Permits

Code of Practice

Introduction

The Kapiti Coast District Council Beach Bylaw allows the public to have camp or barbeque type fires along the beaches of the Kapiti Coast District, subject to a fire permit being issued to a responsible person. This code of practice is designed to strike a balance between the community's desire to have fires on the beach and the need to minimise the risk to property and the local environment from these fires. It should ensure a reasonable level of safety to persons while still allowing the full spirit of the bylaw.

The specific extract from the Beach Bylaw 2009 is:

Fires

A Council permit is required for all fires on the beach and will be subject to the following conditions always being met:

- i. fires are confined to specified areas of the beach; and
- ii. the rules stipulated in the Fire Permit are complied with.

This Code of Practice covers the areas that fires can be permitted on the beach, the rules that are to be clearly stated on the Fire Permit and the process for issuing permits that is to be followed. It enables the Kapiti Coast District Council Compliance Team to advise the public on areas they can use and the obligations the permit holder will have in regards to an issued fire permit.

Areas permitted

The areas chosen minimise risk to the environment, people and property and reduce smoke nuisance to nearby residents. They also minimise the effect of fires in areas of current high beach activity where conflicts of interest could occur.

Due to high fire risks in some beach environments from vegetation or other combustible material like drift wood, some areas will be unsafe for fires. Areas with poor access for fire fighting vehicles and equipment pose problems and have been excluded. The permitted areas have been assessed as allowing reasonable access by fire crews and have water supplies available nearby for fire fighting purposes.

Permitted Areas

While the information on the permit provides more constraints, in brief the identified areas are:

Paekakariki:

- In front of the car park at the north end of The Parade.

Raumati South Beach:

- From the beach access at Kainui Rd at the south end to the point where The Esplanade turns in away from the coast at the north end.

Raumati Beach:

- From the car park launching ramp north to the Wharemauku Stream mouth.

Paraparaumu Beach:

- From the Tikotu Stream south for 20 metres.

Waikanae Beach:

- From the car park at the beach end of Waimea Rd, north to the car park at the beach end of Te Moana Rd.

Waikanae Beach North:

- **No fire area;** This area of beach has limited access for the fire service and heightened property risk with residential properties built on the dunes bordering the beach.

Peka Peka:

- An area 100 meters each side of the beach access track at the end of Peka Peka Rd only.

Te Horo:

- An area between the beach access track by the Kitchener St in the south to the Sea Rd public toilets in the north only; and
- ***Absolutely no fires on the shingle beds.***

Otaki:

- Between the Rangiuru Rd / Marine Parade junction in the south and the Tasman Rd car park access ramp in the north.

Fire Types

Fire types permissible are as follows;

- Camp fire (maximum 1 metre diameter) using wood fuel only supplied by permit holder and/or small pieces of driftwood); and
- Contained BBQ (charcoal or wood fired).

Hours

Fires in these areas are permitted between 7am and 10pm, provided the permit conditions are being followed.

Fire bans

The standard fire management procedures for determining the desirability of a district fire ban will still apply. A fire ban will be imposed when conditions warrant, usually when the Fire Weather Indices indicate extreme conditions. This ban may be for the whole region, or district, or for specific parts of the coast. A fire ban can only be instigated by the PRFO acting on behalf of the Rural Fire Authority and will be implemented only after consultation with and usually in conjunction with, the other members of the Rural Fire Region. The fire ban will specifically state if beach fires are affected.

Process

The process for issuing a permit is:

1. The applicant contacts Council Customer Services at least 1 week ahead of the date of the proposed fire or the day before if they apply for the permit at the Council Service Centre at Paraparaumu.
2. A service request is raised and forwarded to the Compliance Duty Officer.
3. Duty Officer contacts the applicant. Discusses with applicant what is being proposed. Go through the permit conditions with applicant.

An application form is sent out to the applicant, or filled in if they are at the Customer Services counter. The form requires the following information to be provided:

Person in charge, address and contact details:

- Location of fire
- Purpose of activity
- Date of event
- Time
- Numbers of people in attendance
- Equipment to extinguish fire (e.g. water buckets)
- Ability to call for emergency assistance
- Procedures to ensure fire is fully extinguished
- Time by which fire will be extinguished (10 pm deadline)

On receipt a satisfactory application, a permit is issued and posted, or handed, to the applicant with a Guide to Burning brochure. No site inspection is needed.

Information on Permits

The following information is to be on the issued Fire Permit and the Fire Management Plan)

Fires are to be:

- Only in permitted areas;
- under the supervision of the permit holder at all times;
- permit holder to ring Fire Comms (04 801 0812) and advise fire is being lit and duration of burn
- limited to a fire base of 1m² (a camp fire, **not** a bon fire);
- only in permitted areas;
- to be fully extinguished with water before the permit holder leaves the site, including embers;
- extinguished by 10 pm.

Permitted areas

Paekakariki:

1. In front of the car park at the north end of The Parade; and
2. On the beach sand below the rock revetment; and
3. A minimum of 5 metres out from the rock revetment; and
4. Below the high tide mark.



Raumati South Beach:

1. The area from the beach access at Kainui Rd at the south end to the point where The Esplanade turns in away from the coast at the north end; and
2. On the beach sand below the rock revetment; and
3. Minimum of 5 metres out from the rock revetment; and
4. Below the high tide mark.



Raumati Beach:

1. The area from the car park launching ramp north to the Wharemauku Stream mouth; and
2. A minimum of 5 metres out from the timber sea wall; and
3. Below the high tide mark.



Paraparaumu Beach

1. From the Tikotu Stream south for 20 metres.
2. A minimum of 20 metres out from the toe of the dunes; and
3. Below the high tide mark.



Waikanae Beach:

1. From the car park at the beach end of Waimea Rd, north to the end of Te Moana Rd; and
2. A minimum of 20 metres out from the toe of the dunes; and
3. Below the high tide mark.

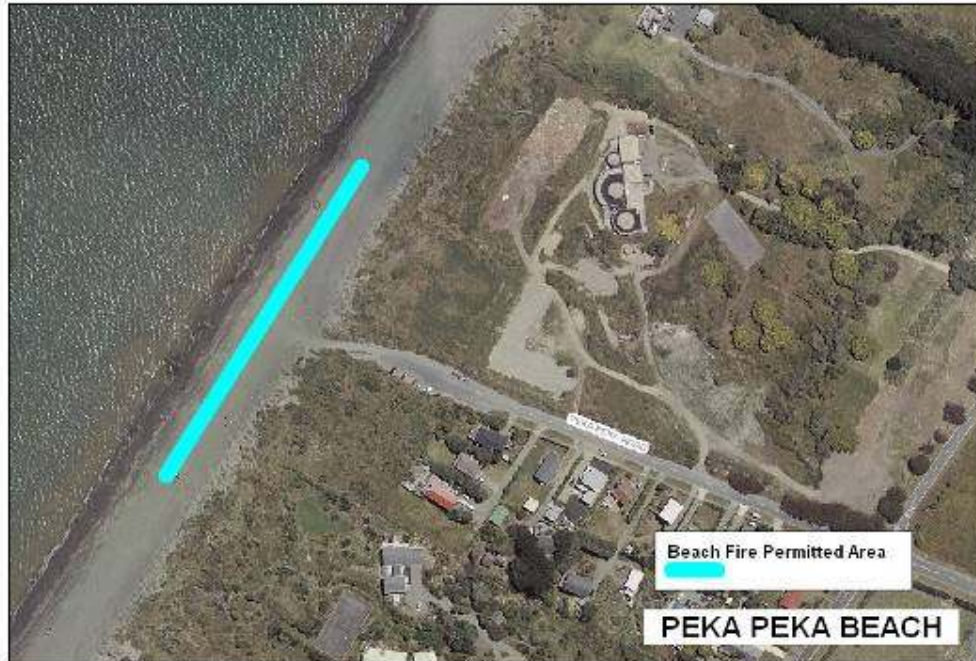


Waikanae Beach North:

No fire area; This area of beach has limited access for the fire service and heightened property risk with residential properties built on the dunes bordering the beach.

Peka Peka:

1. An area 100 meters each side of the beach access track at the end of Peka Peka Rd only; and
2. A minimum of 20 metres out from the toe of the dunes; and
3. A minimum of 5 metres clear of any drift wood; and
4. Below the high tide mark.



Te Horo:

1. The area between the beach access track by the Kitchener St in the south to the Sea Rd public toilets in the north only; and
2. Below the high tide mark; but
3. **Absolutely no fires on the shingle beds.**



Otaki:

1. Between the Rangiuru Rd / Marine Parade junction in the south; and the Tasman Rd car park access ramp in the north; and
2. A minimum of 20 metres out from the toe of the dunes; and
3. A minimum of 5 metres clear of any drift wood; and
4. Below the high tide mark.

