

**Chairperson and Community Board Members
WAIKANAĒ COMMUNITY BOARD**

26 JUNE 2012

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

NGAWHAKANGUTU RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report seeks a recommendation from the Waikanae Community that Council adopts the proposed Ngawhakangutu Reserve Management Plan, attached in Appendix 1 to this report (CS-12-558).

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

- 2 This report does not trigger the Council's Significance Policy.

BACKGROUND

- 3 The Ngawhakangutu Reserve, previously known as the Tasman Lakes Reserve, is located within the Tasman Lakes subdivision, Peka Peka, and was vested to Council in 2011 as Recreation Reserve. A map of the reserve and surrounding area is included in the proposed Ngawhakangutu Reserve Management Plan, Figure 1, located in Appendix 1 of this report (CS-12-558).
- 4 The Reserves Act 1977, Part 3, Section 41 states:

“(1) The administering body shall, within 5 years after the date of its appointment or within 5 years after the commencement of this Act, whichever is the later, prepare and submit to the Minister for his approval a management plan for the reserve under its control, management, or administration.”

Or

“(13) Where a recreation reserve is vested in a local authority or a local authority is appointed to control and manage a recreation reserve, the local authority shall not be required to submit its management plan to the Minister for approval, unless the terms of vesting or of appointment to control and manage the reserve so require: provided that the local authority shall make its management plan available for inspection by or on behalf of the Minister whenever so required.”

- 5 As explained in the Introduction of the Draft Management Plan, *“a management plan is a working document that sets out the objectives and policies for managing an area and how these will be achieved”*.
- 6 A development plan, defined in Part 2 of the Draft Management Plan, *“will provide a long term framework that ensures the progressive development of the reserve occurs in a consistent and integrated manner. It will also ensure resources for the development of the reserve can be planned for and budgeted as part of the Council’s annual and long term planning processes.”*
- 7 A Draft Management Plan has been prepared for Council by Boffa Miskell, with information contributed by the Tasman Lakes Management Plan Working Group, which represented Plan Change 63 appellants, Kapiti Environmental Action, the Department of Conservation, Kapiti Forest and Bird Society, Peka Peka Guardians and Iwi.
- 8 The Draft Management Plan was considered at the Waikanae Community Board meeting on 1 November 2011. The following resolutions were passed by the Board:

“That the Waikanae Community Board considers the Draft Tasman Lakes Reserve Management Plan and makes any amendments before it is released for public consultation as required by the Reserves Act 1977.

That the Waikanae Community Board recommends the future name for the reserve be Ngawhakangutu Reserve so that this preference can be included in the Draft Plan for public consultation.”
- 9 The Draft Management Plan was publicly notified in November 2011 and submissions were accepted throughout the consultation period which ended on 16 December 2011.
- 10 As the Waikanae Community Board recommended the name of the reserve to be Ngawhakangutu Reserve and now that public consultation has taken place, the Waikanae Community Board must confirm its earlier recommendation for naming the reserve.
- 11 The Draft Management Plan has been updated considering suggestions from the eight submissions attached in Appendix 2 of this report (CS-12-558).

CONSIDERATIONS

- 12 There were eight submissions regarding the Tasman Lakes Draft Management Plan. In those eight submissions, common concerns became apparent and are listed below:
 - 12.1 Five out of eight submissions wanted to see a maintenance programme put in place to keep the Te Kowhai Stream clear of silt/weed/debris to reduce flooding. Section 1.5, Te Kowhai Stream and Riparian Margins, last paragraph, has been altered to the following:

“Mechanical removal of weed may however still be required from time to time. The Council will consider removing weed from the stream when the

trigger level is reached, in accordance with the Greater Wellington Regional Council's Freshwater Plan, rule 40."

- 12.2 It was suggested that the proposed notional road should be for machine access only. This will be addressed in the development plan.
- 12.3 A programme was requested for the planting of native species and removing non native species. This has been addressed in Section 3.2.3 of the Management Plan and can be further detailed in the development plan.
- 12.4 A more specific timeline was requested on the completion of the development plan. This has been addressed in Part 2, "Reserve Development Plan", in the Management Plan and it states:

"The actions and staging of the Reserve Development Plan will be subject to Council approval and availability of resources."

- 12.5 Concern was expressed about the grazing of stock on the northern side of the stream. This is addressed in Part 1, section 1.5, "Inland Area", in the Management Plan:

"Cattle continue to graze the area north of Te Kowhai Stream and currently play an important vegetation management role for the as yet undeveloped part of the reserve. A fence along the northern side of Te Kowhai Stream excludes cattle from the stream and its banks."

- 12.6 The lack of provision for bridleways was also an expressed concern. Section 1.5, Access and Infrastructure, has been modified to read:

"Horse riders also use the dune area to access the beach, however this activity must be contained to the track through the dunes. The Kāpiti Coast District Council Beach Bylaw (2009) states 'Horses are prohibited from traversing all areas of the beach other than the foreshore and appropriately marked beach access ways."

And Policy 3.2.8 iii has been changed accordingly:

"Horses and mountain bikes are prohibited from the dune area unless using the designated formed paths."

- 13 Other changes were made after further discussions with Council staff as follows:

- 13.1 As the land has now been vested to Council, Section 1.6 now states:

"The reserve is administered by the Council..."

- 13.2 Policy 3.2.2 ii has been amended to:

"There shall be no unauthorised inappropriate earthworks or built structures in the dune area except appropriate signage, rubbish bins and bench seats as needs require."

- 13.3 In policy 3.2.3 i. "locally sourced native species" has been replaced with "eco-sourced native species."

Financial Considerations

- 14 The costs of the development of the Management Plan have been met from the Leisure and Open Space activity budget.
- 15 The costs of developing and maintaining the reserve have been included in the 2012 Long Term Plan.

Legal Considerations

- 16 Once the Management Plan is approved, the Ngawhakangutu Reserve will be managed and maintained in accordance with the Plan and the Reserves Act 1977.

Delegation

- 17 The Waikanae Community Board can recommend these changes to Council within its delegated authority within the Governance Structure:

10.17 *“Authority to make recommendations to Council after reviewing existing, or considering new draft Reserve Management Plans for local public parks and reserves within its area.”*

- 18 Waikanae Community Board can approve or reject names for a reserve within its delegated authority within the Governance Structure:

10.22 *“With reference to the Reserves, Structures and Commemorative Places Naming Policy 2011, authority to receive requests from the community, or put forward names, regarding specific names of reserves, structures and commemorative places for input to the staff report.”*

And

10.23 *“Authority to approve or reject officer recommendations in respect of such names.”*

Consultation

- 19 The Draft Management Plan was publicly notified on 28 November 2011 with submissions closing on 16 December 2011.

Policy Implications

- 20 When the Draft Management Plan is adopted, it will become the policy under which the reserve is managed.

Tāngata Whenua Considerations

- 21 Iwi provided information to assist in the preparation of the Draft Management Plan through the Management Plan Working Group.

Publicity Considerations

- 22 The community was notified of the Draft Management Plan and submissions sought. No further publicity is planned until the development plan is produced. Those who made submissions have been invited to speak on their submission at this meeting and those who do not attend will receive the outcome in writing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 23 The Waikanae Community Board confirms its earlier decision to adopt Ngawhakangutu Reserve as the name of the reserve.
- 24 The Waikanae Community Board recommends to Council to adopt the Ngawhakangutu Reserve Management Plan as per Appendix 1 to this report (CS-12-558).

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission by:

Lex Bartlett

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Leisure and Open Space Asset Group Manager Community Services Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix 1: Ngawhakangutu Reserve Management Plan

Appendix 2: Ngawhakangutu Reserve Draft Management Plan Submissions

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