

4.0 MANAGEMENT ZONES

Introduction

The following Management Zones recognise the Reserve's current land use and proposed development and management: (see 'Management Zones' Map - Appendix 3):

- Recreation Zone
- Natural Character Zone
- Plantation and Pasture Zone
- Adjoining Harbour Zone (area subject to survey)

4.1 Recreation Zone

The principle purpose for this zone is to provide for recreational use, including walkways, lookouts, and using interpretive panels to display historical information relevant to particular sites, while enhancing the Recreation Zone with native bush.

The Recreation Zone is currently the most accessible section of Titirangi (the other zones do not have walkways at this stage). The Recreation Zone includes the summit track. This track currently extends as far as Cooks Plaza and Statue from Kaiti Beach Road. This management plan proposes to extend the summit track nearer to the summit of Titirangi at the Poverty Bay Lookout and carpark. Other secondary walking tracks have been developed through this zone to key locations/vantage points and heritage sites. The Recreation Zone includes a number of archaeological and heritage sites.

The Recreation Zone includes a Fitness trail and car park, the Gisborne City Lookout, the playground, the Titirangi Platform, the historic Waikahua Pa and cottage site, remains of WWII army barracks, the Cooks Plaza Lookout and Statue, the Observatory, World War II gun emplacement, an 'arboretum' (planting programme for educational purposes) and the Poverty Bay Lookout and carpark. The Reserve's lookouts are popular visitor destinations.



The start of the summit track at the foot of Titirangi, Kaiti Beach Road.

The Arboretum was established in 1990 with the planting of a large number of native plants. The arboretum was developed with the idea that once the species are established an educational 'nature trail' will be developed using interpretative panels to identify indigenous species.

Further planting of native plant species and controlling plant pests work is prioritised for this management zone. Along with planting, seating, picnic tables, signage and walkways will also be developed. The development of signage will include interpretative panels at key locations throughout this Zone presenting stories and historical information relevant to Titirangi. All development must be sensitive of the Reserve's historical, cultural and archaeological values.

4.2 Natural Character Zone

The primary purpose of this zone is to enhance the conservation values of Titirangi through further planting of native plant species. Planting will be used to assist in stabilising potentially erosive sections of Titirangi. There will be controlled eradication of exotic species as appropriate, appreciating their value as stabilisers and providing canopy for native juvenile plantings.

The Natural Character Zone includes the PNA (Protected Natural Area), the large southern gully slip, and 'Tane Mahuta', an area of native bush established in 1995 with funds from Kaiti Hill Trust. The Protected Natural Area is a Department of Conservation designation. It is valued specifically for its "pockets of primary flaxland, secondary scrub, exotic and native plantations"¹¹.

Areas on the seaward side of Titirangi are unstable. A large slip has occurred to the west of the Telecom Repeater Station and the Poverty Bay carpark and lookout down to Kaiti Beach Road. Council has assessed the slip and has identified the need for staged revegetation of this area using indigenous vegetation to manage land instability.

Tane Mahuta is located to the east of Titirangi Drive and the Pine Plantation. Tane Mahuta was planted in 1999 with 4,700 native species. Tane Mahuta adjoins the Plantation and Pasture Zone. Eventually these areas may merge following harvesting and proposed native planting in the Plantation and Pasture Zone.

'Nature trail' walkways will be developed in this Zone to provide pedestrian access and further recreational and educational opportunities. 'Nature trails' will link up with the summit track forming part of a walkway from the bottom of Titirangi (at the start of the Summit track), up to the summit, along the western side of the Titirangi descending down to the end of Kaiti Beach Road (as identified in the Gisborne City Open Space Strategy 2002-2022), or creating a circuit by crossing Titirangi Drive at the most eastern point of Titirangi, through Tane Mahuta and heading west through the Plantation and Pasture Zone crossing Queen's Drive into the Recreation Zone to link up with the summit track again (see 'Walking Tracks' map – Appendix 2). These proposed trails will provide walking tracks around the circumference of Titirangi, or a circuit connecting with Kaiti Beach Road. 'Nature trails' will include interpretive signage for educational purposes including information on native plant species (may include fauna).

¹¹ Department of Conservation, 1991. Turanga Ecological District – Survey report for the Protected Natural Areas Programme.



The Summit Track

4.3 Plantation and Pasture Zone

This Zone covers an area of approximately 31 hectares, including a pine plantation of approximately 10 hectares. This Zone adjoins Queen's Drive, backs on to Te Poho-o-Rawiri Marae and their management areas. Access to this Zone can be gained directly from Cambridge Terrace.

The pine plantation has three compartments of pine trees, varying in age from fourteen to twenty-four years. In 1995 Council purchased this area and engaged PF Olsen to manage the plantation. It is forecasted that the most mature area will be harvested around 2008, and the remaining two areas sometime between 2015-2018. The remaining 20 hectares of the Zone is in pasture.

Pines were initially planted on this section of Titirangi for land stabilising purposes. Harvesting may need to be undertaken in a staged process simultaneous with replanting to mitigate potential land instability. Council may use part of this Zone for road re-alignment around the large southern gully slip at some stage in the future, should the existing road become unsafe. Currently parts of this Zone are being used informally for the grazing of horses.

Once the Pines have been removed the Plantation and Pasture Zone will be planted in native plant species. Nature trails will be developed through this area. The walkways will link up with the Natural Character Zone (Tane Mahuta) to the east and after crossing Queen's Drive to the west the walkway will link up with Recreation Zone walkways. A track will also be developed from Cambridge Terrace.

The Plantation and Pasture Zone covers a very large area (31 hectares) and other development options may be considered, however they must be consistent with the Aim for Titirangi (see 5.0) and subject to controls under the Proposed District Plan.

The area adjoining Te Poho o Rawiri Marae covers approximately one hectare of native bush located on the northern side of Titirangi. The Marae intends to create a predator proof, bush walk through this area and re-introduce native fauna.

Joint management and development proposals may be an advantage for both the Reserve and the Marae.

4.4 Adjoining Harbour Zone

This area adjoins Titirangi Reserve to the south, and is bordered by The Esplanade and Crawford Road to the North. This area is currently under Council control, subject to survey, before a Certificate of Title can be issued. Once specifically titled this area will be declared reserve, classified Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 and incorporated as part of Titirangi Reserve.

4.5 Area Outside of Titirangi Adjoining Proposed New Road

Council has designated land for a proposed new road for the purposes of improving port operations. The new road will begin from Hirini St/Crawford Rd (north of the Adjoining harbour zone area – see Appendix 1 map) intersection and extend south west above the log storage yard before joining Kaiti Beach Road opposite the Port Gisborne administration buildings. Council has formerly named the road Raikaitane Road, which was endorsed by Ngati Oneone.

Council intends that remaining areas on the Titirangi side of the road be administered and managed as part of Titirangi. There is potential to create a pedestrian entranceway close to the new road. This walkway would connect with the summit track. This new pedestrian accessway would become the most direct pedestrian access point to Titirangi from the CBD (via the inner harbour area). Council may consider the provision of carparking at this location.