



CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL

HINA HINA

RECREATION RESERVE

MANAGEMENT PLAN

29 July 2004

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1 PREFACE

The Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Plan is a guide for the future development, maintenance and management of the reserve. Prepared under the Reserves Act 1977, it is intended to facilitate the provision of outdoor recreation activities and public enjoyment.

In preparing this plan, recreation opportunities and facilities within the Reserve were evaluated with consideration of how they contribute to the broad spectrum of recreation activities within the Catlins area for local people, the wider Clutha District, and visitors alike.

The aim of this plan is to facilitate the best management of the reserve by providing guidelines for use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, preservation, and development as appropriate.

Council approved the Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Plan on 29 July 2004.

This plan is operative from 2004 until 2014 and will remain under regular review during this period to meet the above aim.

2 INTRODUCTION

This management plan is for the Hina Hina Recreation Reserve located at Hina Hina vested in the Clutha District Council.



Hina Hina Hall

2.1 Location of Reserve

- The reserve is located adjacent to unnamed legal road, off Hina Hina Road, approximately 5.5 kms southeast of Owaka.
- It is situated on the true right bank of the Catlins River.
- The location of the reserve is shown in the map attached as Appendix 2.

2.2 Legal Description

The legal description of the reserve:

Lot 1, DP 2981, being Part Section 2, Block I, Woodland Survey District.
Gazetted on 21 September 1978, No 81, page 2599.

Area of 4,047 sq ms.

The reserve is designated as R 435, (OSP), Open Space Passive in the Clutha District Council 2003 Reserves Strategy document.

2.3 Purpose of Management Plan

The management plan is intended to minimise conflict and interference between differing recreational users whilst maintaining or improving the quality of the existing recreation environment, **and....**

Provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation....and....the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified.

Reserves Act 1977 41 (3)

2.4 Need for Recreation Reserve

Recreation Reserves should provide for the recreational needs of the resident community whilst also meeting the demands of visitors as appropriate.

3 MANAGEMENT AIM

The basis for the management of Reserves is explained in the Reserves Act 1977.

That is:

- To provide for the recreation activities and physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities.
- The aim of this management plan is to provide a framework for equitable and accessible recreation for local residents, the wider Clutha District, and visitors as appropriate.

Management planning is a process for determining the management direction that the Community and the Clutha District Council would like to apply to reserves. This includes the identification of the ways in which management direction can be achieved. Management plans under the Reserves Act should outline the Council's general intentions for use, development and maintenance of its reserves

The aim of the Reserves Act is to ensure reserves development and enjoyment are based on sound planning and that, through the public's involvement, the needs of the public are clearly identified.

4 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Management objectives provide a framework in which the management direction can be achieved. It is fundamental to reserve management that objectives and policies are clearly defined, so decisions regarding any activity proposed or carried out on the reserve are taken in accordance with those objectives and policies.

Subject to and in addition to the management plan, the following objectives and policies apply.

4.1 General

- To provide a broad spectrum of recreational opportunities.
- To minimise conflict and interference between recreationalists.
- To maintain and improve the quality of the existing recreation environment.
- To manage the reserve in accordance with its classification of Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

4.2 Use

- To promote and facilitate use of the reserve based on identifiable recreational demands that are compatible with the character and sustainability of the area.

4.3 Public Access

- To permit freedom of public access to the reserve as limited by the terms of any lease/agreement of the reserve or part reserve, or by District by-law.
- To facilitate public access to the reserve at a level that can be sustained without detriment to the area or the quality of the users recreation experience.

4.4 Open Space

- To manage and promote the open space values of the reserve.

4.5 Protection

- To manage and protect the natural amenity values of the reserve.

5 MANAGEMENT POLICIES

5.1 Administration

The reserve is administered as a recreation reserve under the control of the Clutha District Council. Vesting of the reserve in the Clutha District Council from the Department of Conservation was notified on the 27th February 2003, by Gazette No 17, page 507.

Input from local organisations, committees, user groups, or individuals having suitable expertise and interest in the area will be evaluated on an individual basis.

It is important to co-ordinate management so as to ensure recreation opportunities and provisions continue at a satisfactory level.

5.2 Leases and Licences to Occupy

Leasing of reserve areas enables sports organisations, private enterprises or community organisations to provide facilities for the public. It can also provide revenue for the administering body that can be applied to future development and maintenance of the reserve.

Previously the Owaka Yacht Club Inc held a Permit to Occupy the hall on the reserve site issued by the Department of Conservation, but this expired in June 1995. Difficulties in resolving some issues between the Owaka Yacht Club Inc and the Catlins Boating Club saw no progress in formulating any new agreement/licence/concession by the Department and the licence has continued to run on with the same terms and conditions.

It will be a priority of this management plan to ensure that there is a resolution to this matter and that the appropriate document is put in place.

Further future interest by organisations or enterprises to lease or obtain licences to occupy reserves are required to meet the requirements outlined in Sections 54, 67, 73, and 74 of the Reserves Act 1977.

5.3 Signs

- To erect a minimum of information and/or interpretive signs required of a type, which complements the site.
- To adopt a uniform design and standard for signs on recreation reserves within the Clutha District Council area utilising internationally recognised symbols.
- To permit the erection of signs specific to the requirements of the various organisations who utilise the reserve as set out in the individual leases, licences, and permits, which require to be completed.

- To prohibit the erection of any other signs not consistent with the use and purpose of the recreation reserve.

5.4 Prohibited Activities

Certain activities are restricted or prohibited because of the effects they may have on the reserve or upon public enjoyment. The Reserves Act 1977, Council By-laws and Policy determine which activities are specified as prohibited in this management plan.

- To prohibit overnight camping in the reserve.
- To prohibit the lighting of fires other than those in approved barbecues or fireplaces as provided.

Uncontrolled fires are a hazard to any surrounding protected flora and fauna, building structures and facilities, and human life. Restrictions on use will lower the chances of fires becoming out of control.

- To prohibit the removal or damage of any tree, shrub or plant material within the reserve without Council authorisation.

Vegetation is an important component of a reserves value. Reserves are for the enjoyment of the public, not for the needs of individuals or organisations acting in their own interests. Council may authorise the removal of any tree, shrub or plant material in the reserve that could be a threat to biodiversity, building structures or facilities, or existing amenity values.

5.5 Dogs

Dogs may be exercised in the reserve provided they are under continuous control as defined in Section 6.3 of Council Dog Control Bylaw 1997. There is also responsibility to remove any faecal matter the dog may produce as defined in Section 7 of the Bylaw. See Appendix 3 for Sections 6 & 7 of the Bylaw.

5.6 Modes of Transport

- To permit horses to be ridden in the reserve.
- To permit public vehicular and motorcycle access in the reserve on the formed roadway and grassed areas, and to enable the launching, retrieving, and safety requirements of yachts, power boats and other vessels operating to and from or adjacent to, the reserve.
- To permit mountain bikes in the reserve on the formed roadway and on the grassed areas.
- To permit freedom of pedestrian access in the reserve.

5.7 Maintenance

Reserves need to be maintained to a standard, which facilitates safe and enjoyable use of the open space, buildings and facilities located thereon.

Maintenance issues include mowing of the grassed area, weed control, drainage and ground conditions, tree control, and the general maintenance of the buildings (Hina Hina Hall), and associated facilities located on the reserve.

6 RESERVE DESCRIPTION

6.1 Physical Description

- The reserve is located between the true right bank of the Catlins River estuary (to the north and east), and farmland (to the west and south).
- The highest point is less than five metres above sea level.
- The outlook to the north is towards Settlement Hill over the river estuary, to the east over the estuary and the Pounaweia Scenic Reserve, and to the south down river towards Hina Hina Island Scenic Reserve. The outlook to the west is partly obscured by the Blue Gum trees on the boundary fence line between farmland and the reserve.

6.2 Flora

The open space areas of the reserve are predominantly covered in grass with a few isolated NZ Flax, Cabbage Trees and Toi Toi. Around the boundary fencing which covers two sides of the reserve there are a few Poplars, one large Macrocarpa, and several Cabbage Trees. The majority of the fence line is planted with Blue Gum. There is a small patch of Broom in the fence line on the western boundary.

6.3 Fauna

A number of bird species can be observed in or adjacent to the reserve. They include Bellbird, Fan Tail, Kingfisher, Black Backed Gull, Little Black Shag, and other sea birds doubtless visit from time to time.

There is evidence of Possum in the reserve (droppings on the wharf).

7 PRESENT USE AND FACILITIES

7.1 Hina Hina Hall

The Hina Hina Hall is a roughcast building of approximately 132 square metres. It was previously the Hina Hina school, which closed in 1933. In July 1953 a hall committee was set up which renovated the building and ran regular dances and other events in it. The roof is of corrugated iron with wooden barge boards and window facings. The overall condition of the building is generally good but some of the timber is in poor condition. Borer is evident in the timber adjacent to the doorway and some of the barge boards are rotten.



Hina Hina Hall

There are toilets within the hall, which are not accessible to the public as the hall is locked. The septic tank is located at the rear of the hall as is the tank for water collection, which is taken off the roof. There are basic kitchen facilities in the hall.

Power to the hall is underground from the western fence line and there are indications of an underground power cable from the hall to the vicinity of the wharf. This used to run to a freezer, which is long gone, so it is assumed this has since been disconnected.

There is an open fireplace in the hall which is used by the Owaka Yacht Club Inc, Catlins Boating Club, and other groups from time to time.

7.2 Picnic Shelter

The picnic shelter was erected by the Catlins Boating Club on the north side and adjacent to the hall within the last couple of years. It is essentially a lean to and is open to the north and is constructed of tanilised timber framing, corrugated iron

roof and part sides, with clear plastic sheeting in part of the roof and on the western wall.

It has small stone “flooring” and tables, benches and chairs.

7.3 Wharf Area

The wharf structures are in fair to good condition. There are two open “sheds” on the southern end. There is a hand written sign warning, “Use wharf at own risk - CBC”. The wharf structures are located outside of the reserve on foreshore, riverbed, and possibly road reserve. The wharf structure is owned by the Catlins Boating Club.

7.4 Yacht Club Buildings

The Owaka Yacht Club Inc building is located to the south of the reserve and runs parallel to the fence line with farmland. This building has an elevated “control room” at the north end and a series of twelve storage bays for yachts and other items running southwards. It is of timber framing and corrugated iron and is generally in good condition.

It has a tag affixed to it with the letters M 11603 which is likely a registration label of some type. It has an Owaka Yacht Club sign on it.

This building is located outside of the reserve and is likely on road and/or foreshore reserve.

7.5 Boat Launching Ramps

The boat launching ramps are located immediately southwards of the wharf. The closest to the wharf is in excellent condition. The next is in good/fair condition with some areas of broken concrete surface. There are the remains of an old ramp at the southern end of the Yacht Club storage building. This is unusable.

The boat launching ramps are located outside of the reserve on foreshore, riverbed, and possibly road reserve.

7.6 Other Facilities – Signs/Rubbish Bins/Picnic Tables/Other

Signs

There is a large Department of Conservation sign adjacent to the hall in the middle of the road turnaround. The hall and Yacht Club storage buildings both have signs - Owaka Yacht Club, established 1963.



Department of Conservation Sign

The new picnic shelter has a handmade sign erected on the front - Catlins Boating Club. The wharf has a hand made sign warning that users do so at their own risk and there is also a very basic hand made sign stating “No Dogs – CDC”.

There is a fisheries sign and safe boating checklist adjacent to the two used boat ramps.

Rubbish Bins

There are four rubbish bins sited on or adjacent to the reserve (one by the hall, two alongside a shed near the wharf, and one at the end of the fence by the boat ramps).

Picnic Tables

There are two permanently attached picnic tables adjacent to the southern boundary fence, which are in good condition. There are several benches and other seating out the front of the open fronted picnic shelter and inside under the roof.

Other

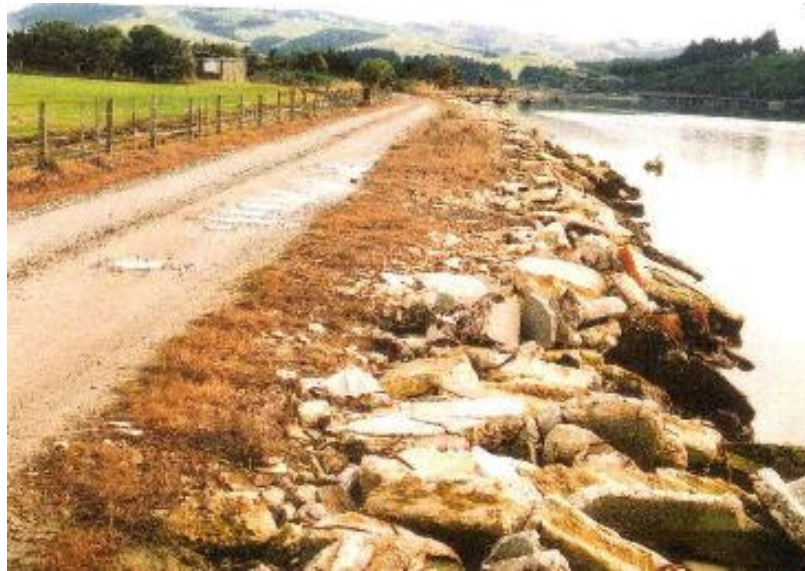
There is a post and rail “barrier” down the southern side of part of Lakeside Road to the picnic shelter/hall. The adjacent farmland (west and south) is fenced from the reserve by a post and netting (mostly), fence with twin top barbs, which is in good order. There are two gates in these fencelines.

7.7 Access – Unnamed Road (erosion)

From where unnamed legal road begins again off Hina Hina Road the metal surface access is in generally good condition with a few potholes. There has

been ongoing erosion on the riverside of this access and there have been loads of concrete rubble dumped alongside the road to protect it.

The water does come across the road at times of high river flows and during exceptionally high tides (i.e. at times of low barometric pressures coinciding with high tides times).



Unnamed legal access road

7.8 Other Uses – Public (fishing etc)

A children's swing in unusable condition on western fence line should be removed. Fishing is known to occur off the wharf from time to time.

Camper Vans freedom camp within the reserve especially during the summer. In recent times an organised camper van/holiday bus rally has been held in the reserve.

7.9 Historic Interest

South of the reserve in the estuary is a bank of ballast stones used by vessels during timber milling times.

Evidence of old milled timber is uncovered at low tides just upstream of the wharf.

There are the remains of an old boat and winch lying under the Blue Gums on the south side boundary fence of the reserve,

8 ADJOINING LAND USE AND ALTERNATIVES

The west and south the reserve is bounded by farmland. There is no conflict as this is the appropriate land use.

To the east and north of the reserve is the Catlins River estuary and an unnamed legal road.

9 MANAGEMENT PLAN

9.1 Reserve Management and Maintenance

Two submitters, Owaka Yacht Club (OYC) & Catlins Boating Club (CBC), supported the establishment of a Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Committee to assist in the administration of the Reserve and the Hina Hina Hall. The proposed committee would consist of representatives of the Owaka Yacht Club Inc, Catlins Boat Club, community, and the Council Catlins Ward Councillor.

One of the functions of this Management Committee would be the control and use of the Hina Hina Hall by the Owaka Yacht Club Inc and Catlins Boating Club, and by other groups.

A Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Committee will be established comprising of two representatives from the Owaka Yacht Club Inc, two from the Catlins Boat Club, two from the local community, and the Council's Catlins Ward Councillor.

One submitter, (OYC) asked that the Management Committee receive an annual grant from the Clutha District Council. This would cover some of the fixed costs such as rates, power (line charges), insurance, and general maintenance (rubbish removal/grass cutting etc).

The Clutha District Council has made provision in the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) to provide an annual grant to the Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Committee of \$1,500. (\$1,500 – 2004/05 year onwards).

9.2 Signs

An entrance sign to the agreed CDC Reserves standard and style utilising international symbols will be placed at an appropriate place in the reserve, eg at the present DOC sign location (\$750 - 2004/05 year).

9.3 Dogs

One submitter, (OYC) requested that dogs should only be permitted in the reserve whilst under control. This would be in accord with Section 5.5 Dogs.

Dogs may be exercised in the reserve provided they are under continuous control as defined in Section 6.3 of Council Dog Control Bylaw 1997. There is also responsibility to remove any faecal matter the dog may produce as defined in Section 7 of the Bylaw. See Appendix 3 for Sections 6 & 7 of the Bylaw.

9.4 Camping Activities

One submitter, (OYC) requested that camping should only be permitted when there is a controlled or organised event ie: Campbell Regatta. This would ensure toilet facilities were accessible within the Hina Hina Hall during such events. Otherwise the provisions of Section 5.4, Prohibited Activities would apply.

This could be reviewed at some time in the future if public toilets were to be provided in the reserve.

Overnight camping within the reserve will be prohibited other than for controlled or organised events when toilet facilities are accessible within the Hina Hina Hall.

9.5 Maintenance

One submitter, (CBC) asked that the Clutha District Council take responsibility for weekly rubbish removal, and mow the grass areas as required.

The Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Committee, once established, will consider the options for weekly rubbish removal and grass mowing from within the community, or funding and employing local contractors from the grant/hall hire revenue received (2004/05 year).

A further submission, (CBC) was made in relation to CDC taking responsibility for the access road. This is a legally formed roadway and continues off the Hina Hina Road around to the boat launching areas adjacent to the reserve. It would seem therefore that this request is a legitimate one. See Section 7.7 Access – Legal Road.

Responsibility for maintenance of the section of legally formed access road off Hina Hina Road is accepted by Clutha District Council and will be maintained by its nominated contractor (2004/05 year ongoing).

9.6 Other Facilities

One submitter, (CBC) requested that the CDC provide and maintain a public toilet on the reserve. All the drainage services are in place as there are toilets located within the Hina Hina Hall. The toilets can only be accessed when the hall is in use i.e. unlocked.

Council will address this submission once the Catlins Tourism Strategy Study has been completed and when the implementation priorities for visitor infrastructure are established for the entire region.

9.7 Flora – Blue Gum Trees

One submitter, (R J & E A Berney) asked if the Blue Gums on the western side of the reserve could be removed and replaced with natives. The submitter indicated a willingness to assist in removing the present trees and replacing them.



Blue Gum Trees

It may be that the submitter might be able to supply the required natives for planting. However \$500 is provided for in the budget in the 2004/05 year.

The Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Committee will address this issue with the submitter once the Committee is established (\$500 - 2004/05 year).

10 CONCLUSION

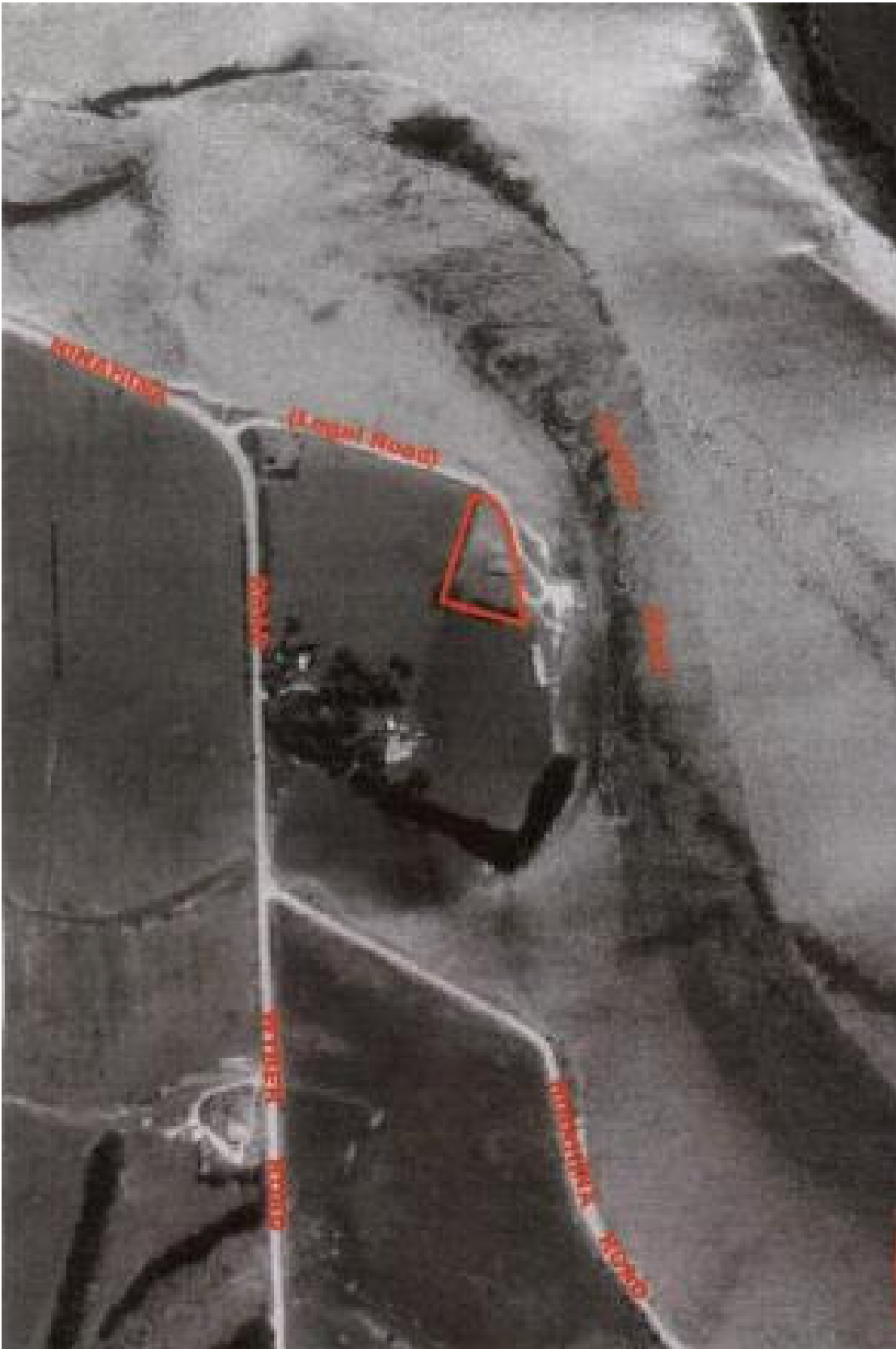
In considering the management plan, the over-riding factor was the **ratepayer funding required** to achieve any initial improvement, upgrading, or provision of facilities, and the subsequent ongoing maintenance/servicing costs into the future.

APPENDIX 1 - Budget/Annual Grant

\$1,500 provision in Clutha District Council Annual Plan to Hina Hina Recreation Reserve Management Committee.

Year	Annual Grant	Sign	Replanting	Total
2004/05	\$1,500	\$750	\$500	\$2,750
2005/06	\$1,500			\$1,500
2006/07	\$1,500			\$1,500
2007/08	\$1,500			\$1,500
2008/09	\$1,500			\$1,500
2009/10	\$1,500			\$1,500
2010/11	\$1,500			\$1,500
2011/12	\$1,500			\$1,500
2012/13	\$1,500			\$1,500

APPENDIX 2 - Location Map



APPENDIX 3 – Excerpt from Clutha District Council Dog Control Bylaw 1997

6. Control of Dogs

6.1 **Leash Control Areas** - The owner or any person for the time having charge of any dog shall ensure the dog does not enter or remain in any public place in the Urban, Industrial, Rural Settlement Resource Areas (as defined by the Clutha District Plan) or public cemeteries unless it is kept on a leash, chain or lead which is secured or held so the dog cannot break loose.

6.2 The provisions of 6.1 shall not apply to a working dog carrying out the work in respect of which the dog has been registered.

6.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of 6.1, in any public place within the 'non-designated' area i.e. generally being the Rural, Transitional and Coastal Resource Area as defined by the District Plan (but excluding any Dog Prohibited area), or in any designated Dog Exercise Area (see Schedule A) a dog may be exercised without being restrained provided such a dog is kept under continuous control whilst being exercised.

For the purpose of this clause there shall be deemed to be sufficient control if such dog is under continuous surveillance of some responsible person and the dog does not give rise to any reasonable complaint as to its behaviour whilst being exercised.

6.4 **Dog Prohibited Areas** - Notwithstanding any other provision of this bylaw (with the exception of Clause 12) the entry of dogs on to any public place specified in Schedule A is prohibited.

7. Fouling by Dogs

No person (being the owner or a person having control or charge of any dog) shall permit or suffer the dog to foul with faecal matter any public place or any land or premises other than land or premises occupied by that person provided that no offence shall be deemed to have been committed against this bylaw where the owner or person having control or charge of the dog removes the faecal matter immediately after the dog has deposited the droppings. Where a public litter bin or similar receptacle is used to dispose of the faecal matter, they must be suitably wrapped or contained to prevent fouling such receptacles.