

**Kaitangata-Matau Reserve Management Plan
2022-32**

Clutha District Council

July 2022

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This section outlines the purpose of this Reserve Management Plan, and then describes:

- *the reserves to which the plan applies,*
- *relevant statutory obligations, and*
- *the strategic and policy setting within which the plan will be implemented.*

1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

The purpose of the Kaitangata-Matau Reserves Management Plan is to provide Clutha District Council with a framework to guide day to day management and longer-term decision making for Council-owned reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward. The plan will enable reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward to be managed in a consistent manner, while still providing for different community needs and preferences.

This Reserve Management Plan:

- *Establishes the objectives and policies which give guidance for the development, management, protection, operation, and public use of reserves in the Kaitangata–Matau Ward.*
- *Summarises the statutory framework for reserve management under the Reserves Act 1977.*
- *Describes each of the reserves, including the purpose and activities that may be undertaken on that reserve.*

Once finalised, this plan is intended to respond to the needs of the Kaitangata–Matau community and provide a framework for on-going community involvement in the area. It should provide clarity to:

- *Users of reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward.*
- *Community groups who actively provide for the use, management, or promotion of these reserves.*
- *Council staff responsible for maintenance and development of reserves.*
- *Elected representatives responsible for allocating resources towards projects or activities on reserves.*

1.2 KAITANGATA-MATAU WARD RESERVES

The Clutha District Council (Council) administers 12 reserves in the Kaitangata–Matau Ward (Table 1-1). This Reserve Management Plan, prepared in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act), establishes the framework for the management and development of these reserves.

The current character of these reserves is a result of factors such as their history, size, location, form, connectedness, wider land use and facilities. This character reflects community input and activities over a long period and has informed Council's intentions for the future development and management of these reserves. This Reserve Management Plan also supports Council's wider strategy of promoting the district as an attractive place to work and live.

Table 1-1 Council-administered reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward

No.	Reserve	No.	Reserve
1	Victoria Park	7	Water Street Reserve – South
2	Kaitangata Recreation Reserve	8	Salcombe Street Reserve and Cemetery
3	Drainage Reserve R159	9	Castlehill Recreation Reserve
4	Kaitangata War Memorial Reserve	10	Wangaloa Recreation Reserve
5	Kaitangata BMX Track Reserve	11	Kaitangata Cemetery
6	Water Street Reserve – North	12	Wangaloa Cemetery



Figure 1-1 Kaitangata-Matau Ward and the main localities described in this Reserve Management Plan

1.3 SCOPE

This management plan applies to all reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward that are administered by Council and that are classified under the Act at the time of notification of the plan. It also applies to other properties that are managed by Council for parks and recreation purposes that are not classified in accordance with Section 16 of the Act - it is Council's intention that the policies and plans in this Reserve Management Plan will also guide the use and development of these areas. A legal description of the reserves included in this management plan is provided in Appendix A1.0.

Other parties may also own or administer lands in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward that are registered as reserves, such as the Department of Conservation (DOC) or private landowners. This plan does not apply to those areas.

1.4 STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

The Act governs the management and control of reserves in New Zealand. It also defines the purposes for which a reserve may be established and used, and the requirements for a reserve to be gazetted after approval by the Minister of Conservation.

Section 41 of the Act requires the administering body (Council) to prepare reserve management plans for reserves under its control, management, or administration. This Reserve Management Plan outlines Council's general intentions for the balanced use, development, and protection of all reserves in the Kaitangata–Matau Ward administered by Council.

The key responsibilities for Council under the Act are to:

- *Classify its reserve land according to its primary purpose.¹ The potential classifications set out in the Act (sections 17-23) are:*
 - *Recreation*
 - *Historic*
 - *Scenic*
 - *Nature*
 - *Scientific*
 - *Government purpose*
 - *Local purpose*
- *Manage the land for its primary purpose*
- *Prepare a management plan and keep it under continuous review; and*
- *Put in place formal agreements for leases and licenses.*

In addition, the Reserve Management Plan provides for and ensures the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation (as the case may require), and the development (as appropriate) of the reserve for the purpose for which it is classified (as required by section 41(3) of the Act).

To inform the development of the Reserve Management Plan, Council is required to consult with the community and iwi in order to identify their wishes and aspirations for the reserves.

1.5 STRATEGIC SETTING

The Vision identified in Council's *Living and Working Strategy* is that the Clutha District is a great place to live, work and play. The work programs that Council will undertake over the next 10 years will help to ensure that the Clutha District:

- *has vibrant rural towns and communities*
- *is connected and collaborative*
- *has a healthy and sustainable environment.*

This Reserve Management Plan is intended to help achieve these objectives, as they relate to the Kaitangata-Matau Ward. In particular, this plan will help to support recreation, culture and heritage, and ensure that our communities are healthy and safe.

¹ Appendix A6.0 describes these classifications more fully.

1.6 OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Activities and developments undertaken on reserve land remain subject to other legislation. Regional, district and national policy and bylaws may apply depending on the status of the reserve and the nature of the activity being undertaken.

The provisions of the District Plan also apply to reserves and any activity which may be permitted by this Reserve Management Plan may need to be consented by Council or other authorities.

The legislation, policies, and strategic direction which are relevant to this Reserve Management Plan are shown in Figure 1-2.

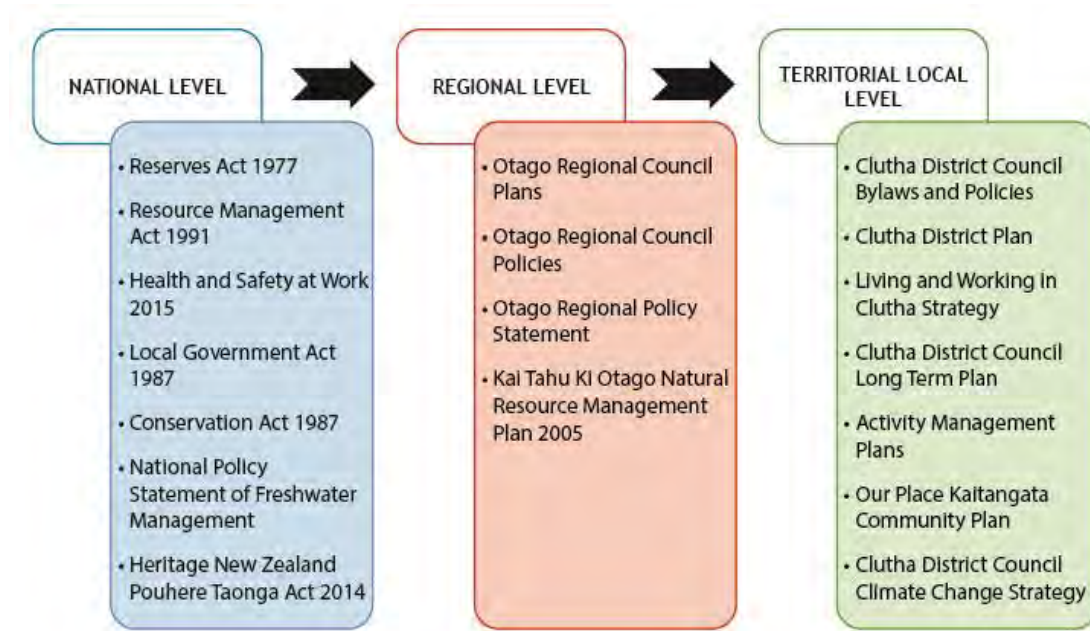


Figure 1-2 Relevant legislation and policy

2.0 OPPORTUNITIES

This section describes various opportunities and projects which have been proposed for Council-administered reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward. This Reserve Management Plan provides an overarching framework to guide day to day management and longer-term decision making for these reserves. It also identifies which activities are authorised to occur on particular reserves. The plan does not set out the operational details of such activities, and these are handled by other mechanisms, for example agreements, leases or licenses to individuals or clubs.

2.1 OUR PLACE KAITANGATA PROJECTS

Consultation as part of the 'Our Place Kaitangata Community Plan' process was undertaken in early 2021 to better understand the ways in which Council-owned and operated assets and land are used, their value to the community and aspirations for their future use. Feedback was sought about what improvements or changes should be considered for parks and reserves, to help with the development of the Kaitangata–Matau Reserves Management Plan

This Reserve Management Plan provides the framework to support the Community Plan and any reserve-based projects which arise from that work. Relevant Community Plan projects are summarised in Table 2-1. More information is available on the Our Place Kaitangata page website [\[link\]](#). Community feedback regarding reserves is summarised in Appendix A4.0.

Table 2-1 Relevant projects from the Our Place Kaitangata Community Plan

Project	Outcome	Lead Agency
River access <i>Water Street Reserve</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to the boat ramp, carpark & Water Street Reserve. Riverbank improvements to mitigate erosion, and to improve access to the river. 	This will be a community-led project, with project management and funding support from Council.
Walking and cycling <i>Improving access to or through various public reserves</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improving linkages within Kaitangata. Creating connections to the wider area. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council-led, as footpaths and tracks are generally 'Council-owned' assets. Community-led, given the ability of community groups or trusts to access alternative funding sources.
Kaitangata Pool <i>Victoria Park Reserve</i>	Council will continue to engage with the Kaitangata community regarding the future ownership of the Kaitangata Pool. Upgrades and funding will be considered once the long-term plans and future of the pool is considered.	This will be a Council-led project, with input from the Kaitangata Pool Group.
Park improvements <i>Victoria Park Reserve</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements or additional facilities at Victoria Park Reserve. Trim or remove trees shading the pool and playground. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Community-led. Council may provide funding, technical or administrative support. Council-led.
Community park <i>War Memorial Reserve</i>	The aim is to create an attractive community park in central Kaitangata, on the site of the old town hall and War Memorial Reserve.	This will be a community-led project, with support from Council.
Public toilets <i>Water Street Reserve</i>	Provide additional public toilets in central Kaitangata.	This will be a Council-led project, with community input on key decisions.

Improvements <i>Wangaloa Recreation Reserve</i>	Improvements to make the reserve more user-friendly and accessible.	This will be a Council-led project, with support from the local community.
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2.2 FUTURE PROPOSALS

The decision-making process shown in Figure 2-1 will be used to decide on future proposals not specifically provided for in this Reserve Management Plan.

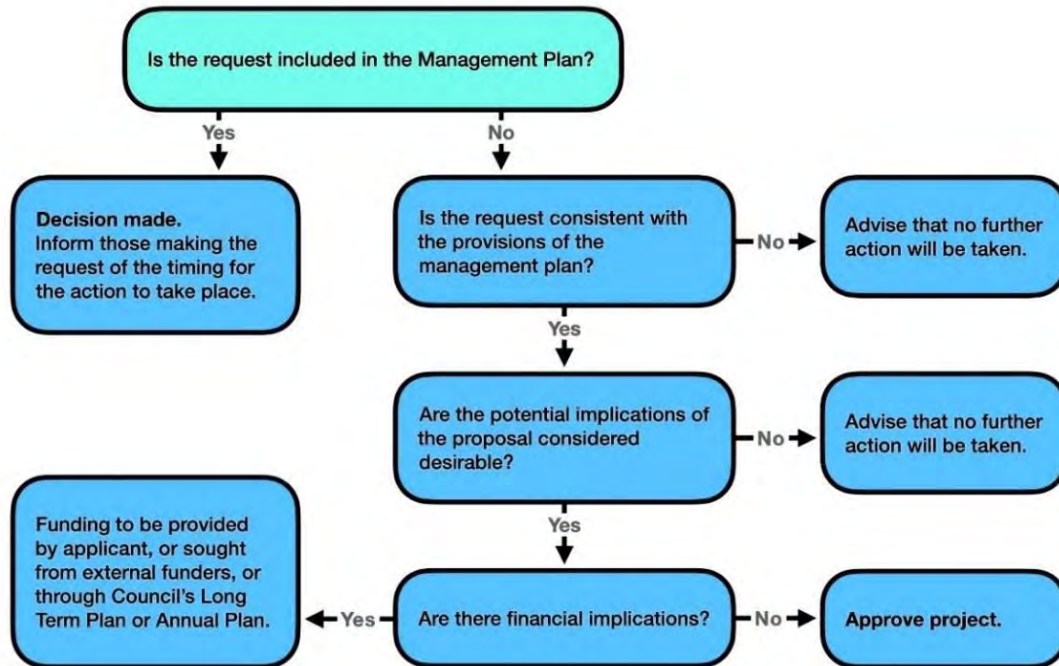


Figure 2-1 Decision-making process for proposals to develop Council-administered reserves

Approved projects, able to be achieved within existing budgets can generally proceed. Additional Council funding may be available via the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan process. Council will work alongside community groups and other agencies to progress some projects. The intention is that this Reserve Management Plan will enable future developments and projects to be undertaken.

3.0 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

3.1 BACKGROUND

Clutha District Council manages and maintains a range of reserves, playgrounds, and open spaces in the Kaitangata–Matau Ward. The population of this area is likely to gradually increase over the next decade, and a challenge for Council will be understanding the current and future levels of use of these reserves, to efficiently and effectively provide for their future management.

There are some general principles which govern management and operational decisions relating to Council reserves. These principles recognise the importance of the natural environment to residents and visitors, and the desire to enable improvements that contribute to this environment. They are:

- *To provide for passive and active recreation and enjoyment of the natural environment*
- *To encouraging walking and cycling activities*
- *To seek to protect and enhance the environment*
- *To facilitate nature tourism so residents and visitors can enjoy the environment.*
- *To encourage native tree/species planting*
- *To enable residents and visitors to be ‘Tidy Kiwis’*
- *To limit and control any building development.*

The main outcome sought from this plan is to enhance the reserve areas in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward for the local community and visitors to the area. The objectives and policies in this plan seek to provide a framework to support the future maintenance and development of these reserves.

3.2 GOAL

The vision for Council’s reserves, playgrounds and open spaces is:

“To provide a variety of passive and active recreational spaces that enable the local community and visitors to experience and enjoy the unique natural environment of Kaitangata and the Kaitangata–Matau Ward.”

3.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives sought from this plan are as follows:

1. *The unique character of the Kaitangata–Matau environment is reflected in the development, design, maintenance, and management of reserves.*
2. *Retain a high level of unrestricted access to reserves and encourage improved cycling and walking opportunities.*
3. *Provide a selection of reserves to meet a range of visitor and community needs for passive and active recreation.*
4. *Identify opportunities to enhance the facilities in the reserves for the enjoyment of the wider community and for those who visit the Kaitangata area.*
5. *To ensure that Council engages actively with tangata whenua to explore opportunities for the practical expression of mātauranga Māori.²*

² Mātauranga Māori: Māori knowledge - the body of knowledge originating from Māori ancestors, including the Māori world view and perspectives, Māori creativity and cultural practices (Source: Te Aka Māori Dictionary)

The objectives and policies set out below apply across all reserves covered under this plan.

OBJECTIVE 1

The unique character of the Kaitangata-Matau environment is reflected in the development, design, maintenance, and management of reserves.

POLICIES:

- *Development at Council reserves, playgrounds and open spaces should be consistent with the natural environment of Kaitangata–Matau.*
- *Vegetation will be maintained in accordance with the standards and techniques of approved arborcultural practice.*
- *Council will retain the overall responsibility for pest plant and pest animal maintenance of reserves unless otherwise specified.*
- *Priority should be given to initiatives which prioritise the use of native plant species, or community-managed edible fruit and nut trees in any development activities.*
- *Investigate the use of reserves for planting trees to offset carbon emissions and to qualify for central government grants.*
- *Provide facilities that enable people to manage their waste effectively and avoid spreading litter and other waste in the environment.*
- *Ensure that all leases and licenses meet the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 and are in accordance with the Clutha District Plan and other Council policies and bylaws.*
- *Council will actively manage leases on reserves and ensure that any negative impacts of new, current, or lapsed leases are mitigated.*
- *Ensure the safety of reserve users and the protection of the environment by:*
 - *limiting the recreational riding of motorcycles or other vehicles to designated areas within reserves, and*
 - *requiring active management by leaseholders where motorcycles or other vehicles are used for recreational activities, to ensure the safe operation of potentially conflicting activities.*
- *Only permit the grazing of horses or stock on reserves through a formal license or agreement.*
- *Only permit excavation or earthworks on reserves with prior Council consent and ensure that physical works are designed to be compatible with the local environment.*
- *Require approval from Council staff for the erection of signs on reserves by clubs or lease holders.*
- *Identify heritage and cultural sites (including mana whenua culture and heritage) within reserves and provide for their protection and restoration as appropriate.*
- *Ensure compliance with Council’s Freedom Camping Bylaw 2021.*
- *Ensure that playground equipment is maintained in fully operational condition.*
- *Consider the likely impacts of climate change when preparing Activity Management Plans for reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward.*

OBJECTIVE 2

Retain a high level of unrestricted access to reserves and encourage improved cycling and walking opportunities.

POLICIES:

- *To improve walking and cycling opportunities throughout the Kaitangata–Matau Ward.*
- *To increase awareness of reserves by providing signage to identify their location, facilities, and attractions.*
- *To allow for the development of recreational tracks and formal pathways on reserves, where the adverse effects on the environment can be adequately mitigated.*
- *To provide effective entry points and pathways into reserves to encourage public access.*
- *To consider access to, and linkages between reserves in land transport policy planning.*

OBJECTIVE 3

Provide a selection of reserves to meet a range of community needs for passive and active recreation.

POLICIES:

- *Continue to review and confirm that all reserve classifications and boundaries (including any reclassification) meet this objective as appropriate.*
- *To protect and enhance the opportunities for people of all ages and physical abilities to access and enjoy the outdoor environment.*
- *To seek input from the disabled community when upgrading access to reserves.*
- *To take into account guidelines such as universal design principles to ensure accessibility to a range of facilities and amenities for people with disabilities.*
- *To provide areas for quiet reflection, including seating and shade.*
- *Provide for imaginative play that integrates playground structures with the surrounding natural environment.*
- *Promote and facilitate community use of Council open spaces for temporary events.*
- *Commercial recreational activity will be supported where appropriate and where the impact on the environment is controlled and the ability of the public to use and enjoy the reserves is not significantly affected.*

OBJECTIVE 4

Identify opportunities to enhance the facilities in the reserves for the enjoyment of the wider community and for those who visit the Kaitangata-Matau Ward.

POLICIES:

1. *Appropriate facilities will be identified, installed, and maintained to provide for the enjoyment of the community and visitors to reserves.*
2. *Council will work with the community and Kaitangata & District Promotions Board to identify and implement opportunities to enhance reserves, including projects identified in the Our Place Kaitangata Community Plan.*
3. *Council will consult with the community prior to any major development on a reserve.*
4. *The establishment of native planting on reserves to encourage native wildlife will be supported.*
5. *Opportunities to enhance passive and active surveillance of reserve areas will be identified and promoted.*

6. *Implement the Clutha District Smokefree Public Places Policy, including by maintaining 'smoke-free' signage within playgrounds, parks, sports grounds, and reserves.*
7. *When drinking water is provided, it will be from safe Council supply and Council will consider installation of drinking fountain facilities near playgrounds as need and budget dictates.*

OBJECTIVE 5

To ensure that Council engages actively with tangata whenua to explore opportunities for the practical expression of mātauranga Māori.

POLICIES:

1. *Council will engage with tangata whenua on all major developments proposed on reserves, or adjacent to Māori land or other lands, resources, or places of cultural significance.*
2. *Engagement with tangata whenua will be conducted with the aim of leading to improved outcomes and new opportunities.*

4.0 THE KAITANGATA-MATAU WARD

Approximately 1,100 people live in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward, the majority of whom live in Kaitangata. There are no other major settlements in the ward, with Stirling, Benhar and Toko Mouth all located just outside its boundary. The ward covers 164 km² (Figure 1-1), most of which is used for farming or forestry activities, with a coal mine also operating near Kaitangata.³

The key roads which link Kaitangata to the rest of the Clutha District include the Kaitangata Highway (west towards Balclutha), and Lakeside Road (north towards State Highway 1 and Milton). The South Island Main Trunk Line also passes through the northern part of the ward.

4.1 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Topography

A range of hills dominate the eastern half of the Kaitangata-Matau Ward, separating the flat, gently sloping Clutha Delta from the Pacific Ocean. This coastal range rises to 180m, and gradually slopes down towards the mouth of the Matau Branch of the Clutha River at Summer Hill (Figure 4-1). A narrow plain, up to 1km wide in places and elevated 20-40m above sea level extends along the eastern side of the coastal range.



Figure 4-1 View to the east over the Clutha Delta towards Kaitangata and the Pacific coast (Google Earth)

Much of the Clutha Delta lies within the ward, including 'Inch Clutha' (the island separated by the two branches of the Clutha River), and a low-lying area to the north which includes extensive wetlands and Lake Tuakitoto. The Clutha Delta can be affected by large flood events, although a level of protection is provided by the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme, which is administered by the Otago Regional Council.

Climate

The Kaitangata-Matau Ward experiences a reasonably mild maritime climate. Average maximum temperatures during the summer months lie between 18°C and 20°C, while average

³ There are a range of resources describing the environment and history of Kaitangata. This section provides a summary of some key aspects, including material drawn from *History of Kaitangata 1800s-2004* by Irene Sutton and Bill Proctor.

minimum winter temperatures lie between 0°C and 4°C. Annual rainfalls range from 700 to 900 mm.

Vegetation and ecology

The Kaitangata-Matau Ward is covered predominantly with pasture and exotic forestry plantations, although there is a reasonably large area (approximately 430 hectares) of native bush near Summer Hill (Figure 4-2). The Lake Tuakitoto wetland area also lies within the ward, and this attracts a wide range of species, including native and non-native threatened species. Common species found at Lake Tuakitoto are Mallard Duck, Grey Teal, Paradise Shelduck, Canada Goose, Black Swan, South Island Fern Bird, and White Heron.

Lake Tuakitoto provides an educational resource for local and visiting schools, community groups, and families visiting the area. Several educational programs are held at the site and information boards can be accessed on the lake's surrounding walkway. As well as ecological value, Lake Tuakitoto provides limited flood water storage during heavy rainfall events.

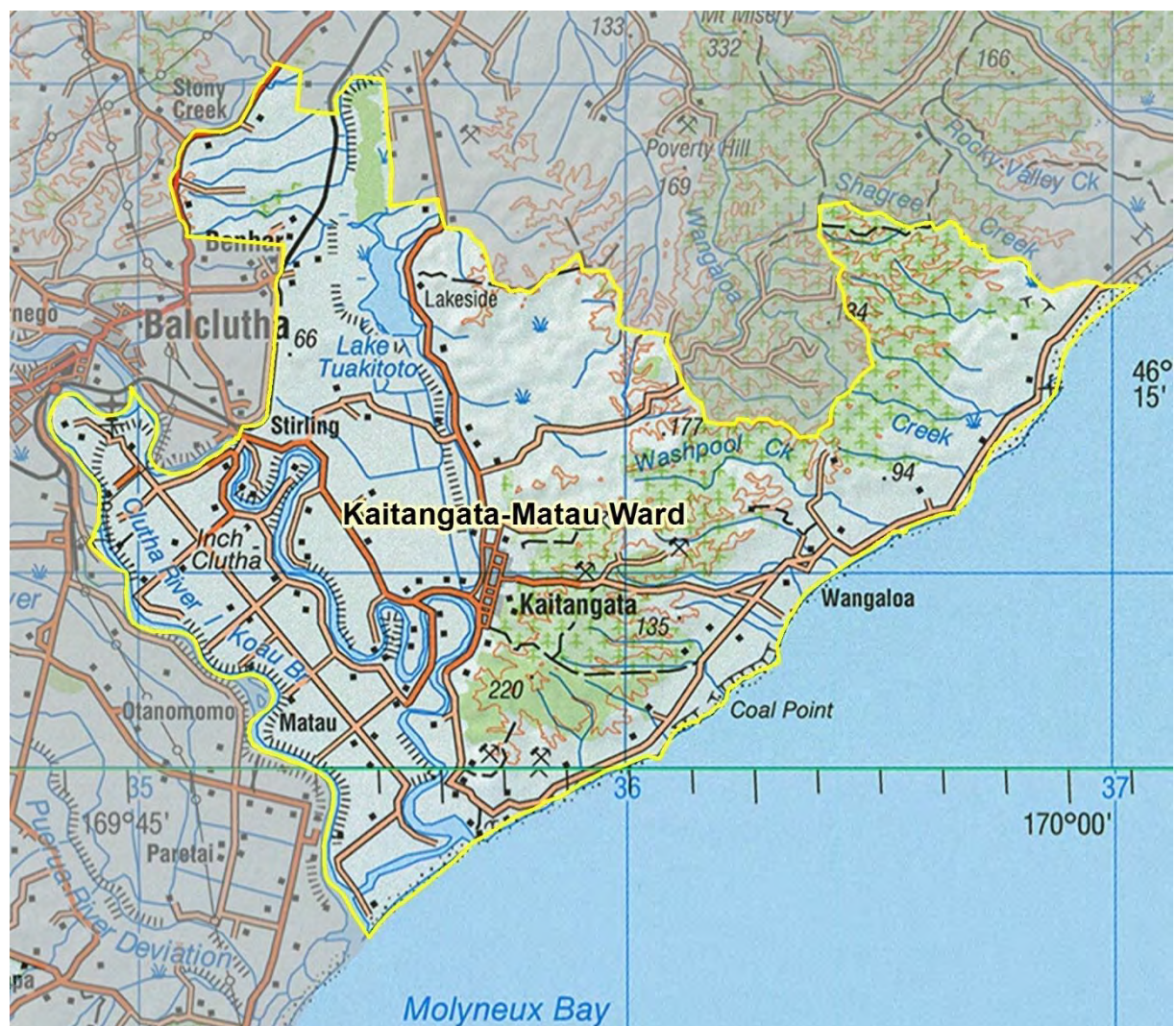


Figure 4-2 Topographical map showing the main features of the Kaitangata-Matau Ward

4.2 CULTURAL VALUES

Given its key location near the mouth of the Clutha River/Mata-Au, Kaitangata has an ancient history, with Māori occupation dating back hundreds of years. The Mata-Au was an important pathway for Māori from the ocean to Central Otago and then on to Tai Poutini (the West Coast). With abundant food sources and a mild climate, several small settlements were scattered

across the lower Clutha Delta. The Rapuvai and then Waitaha lived in the area, and Māori were well established when Europeans first began to arrive in the 1840's.

Before European settlement, the Waitaha people would visit Lake Tuakitoto via waterways which linked to the Mata-Au, gathering food at certain times of the year. From the Mata-Au, a channel called Te Auahi Roa (referring to the long cloud of mist that looked like smoke) connected to Lake Kaitangata (which has now been drained) and on to Lake Tuakitoto. The wetlands were like a supermarket for local Māori, providing easy access by waka or raft to rich feeding grounds for food gathering.⁴

As Europeans began to settle in the Kaitangata area, sheep and dairy farms were established, and the township started to develop – it's first resident is thought to have been a Mr Thomas in the early 1840's. The Kaitangata-Matau Ward remains an important farming area today, with coal and forestry also contributing to the local economy. Currently, the open cast mine produces approximately 55,000 tonnes per annum. Whitebaiting and fishing remain popular activities, and several huts have been established along the Matau Branch of the Clutha River.

Cultural values which are associated with specific reserves are discussed in sections 5, 6 and 7.



Figure 4-3 Kaitangata looking down River, New Zealand, 1904-1915, Kaitangata, by Muir & Moodie studio. Purchased 1998 with New Zealand Lottery Grants Board funds. Te Papa

⁴ Source: Ruth Baldwin, a descendent of Haimona Rakiraki, a Waitaha leader who was known by early settlers as Chief Lakitapu in the 1850's.



Figure 4-4 Crown Grant Index Record for Kaitangata, with key reserves identified. Source: Archives NZ.

4.3 POPULATION

In 2018, Kaitangata's population was approximately 750, with 20% of Māori descent. Although the latest census data shows a small decline in population over the last two decades, the town does offer significant potential for more residential development. Promotion of an affordable 'House and Land' package is enabling more people to shift into the area, with work opportunities in Balclutha or nearby.

Kaitangata offers an attractive natural landscape and good recreational activities, and it is expected that with the provision of affordable housing alongside steady employment opportunities, growth in this small town will turn around. Kaitangata does have a relatively high unemployment rate, so establishing more employment opportunities is crucial to ensuring the future growth of the town. Census data for the wider Kaitangata-Matau Ward is shown in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Population data for the Kaitangata-Matau Ward (- indicates the data is not available)

Statistical area: Kaitangata–Matau Ward	2006	2013	2018
Permanent residents	1,137	1,104	1,092
Census night count	1,158	1,083	1,074
Median age	-	-	40.4 years
Full-time employment	57.8%	55.6%	54.6%
Part-time employment	13.8%	13.1%	13%
Unemployed	2.5%	4%	4.8%
Number of occupied dwellings	-	-	444
Number of unoccupied dwellings	-	-	72

5.0 KAITANGATA RESERVES

Clutha District Council is responsible for nine reserves in the town of Kaitangata (Table 1-1). They fulfil a variety of purposes, including children’s playgrounds, recreation areas, and the provision of community amenities. Legal descriptions of reserves and details of existing leases can be found in in this document’s appendices.

5.1 VICTORIA PARK

Victoria Park was gazetted as a Recreation Reserve in 1881 and is owned and administered by the Clutha District Council. The reserve is bounded by Eddystone, Branksea, Water and St Albans streets. Previously the reserve has housed tennis courts with a pavilion, a croquet green, and Kaitangata’s first swimming baths, built in 1911-12 at the corner of Water and St Albans streets.

Victoria Park remains a popular recreational area today, due to the range of facilities available and its central location. Amenities include the public pool (opened in 1969), children’s playground (opened in 2000), seating areas, public toilets, rubbish bins, mature trees, and a grassed area on the western side of the reserve. The reserve has no designated onsite parking although street parking is available.



Figure 5-1 Victoria Park Recreation Reserve

5.1.1 Maintenance

Victoria Park is maintained by Clutha District Council under its greenspace contract. As of July 2022, the Kaitangata Pool remains a Council-owned asset, with management delegated to the Kaitangata Pool Group.



Figure 5-2 Part of the playground at Victoria Park reserve



Figure 5-3 View of Victoria Park from Branksea Street

5.1.2 Development

'Our Place' community consultation identified that Victoria Park is very important to the Kaitangata community, and Council does not intend to make significant changes to this reserve. However, the feedback received did include suggestions from residents for further improvements, and the 'Our Place' projects which relate to this reserve include:

- *An assessment of future options for the Kaitangata Pool.*
- *Improvements to the reserve itself (playground, greenspace).*
- *Work to trim or remove trees which are shading the pool and playground.*

Other feedback related to sealing and/or closing off the western entrance to St Albans Street, to provide for additional angle parking, and to improve safety.

Any proposed physical works or improvements will be considered by Council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

5.2 KAITANGATA RECREATION RESERVE

This large reserve is located on the northern outskirts of Kaitangata, and is made up of the following areas (as mapped in Figure 5-5):

- *Gazetted Recreation Reserve.* There are seventeen separate parcels of land which are gazetted as Recreation Reserve. The combined area of these parcels is approximately 17.8 hectares. Sixteen of these parcels are Council property, while one⁵ has the Department of Conservation (DOC) as the landowner.
- *Road Reserve.* There are areas designated as Road Reserve (or 'paper road') between the Recreation Reserve areas. The total area of road reserve is approximately 6.3 hectares.
- *Freehold Title.* There is a small section of Council-owned land with freehold title, where the clubrooms and carpark are located. The Crescent Rugby Football Club has leasehold title over the part of this section where the club rooms are situated.



Figure 5-4 View of the playing fields, clubrooms, and grandstand at the Kaitangata Recreation Reserve

Several important features are present on the reserve, including:

- *A flood bank and scheduled drain which form part of the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme.*
- *The Crescent Rugby Football Club clubrooms, car park and grandstand.*
- *Playing fields, which are used for cricket in summer and rugby in winter.*

The reserve is also used for the Kaitangata Car Show which is held in early November. The show provides an opportunity to view hundreds of rarely viewed vehicles and attracts a large crowd to Kaitangata.

⁵ the parcel marked as playing fields on Figure 5-5

The irregular shape of the western reserve boundary aligns with the extent of 'Kaitangata Lake' – a low-lying area of land which is marked on Figure 4-4. This area has now been drained and is used as farmland.

It is noted that a Drainage Reserve area overlies this reserve (as described in section 5.3). There are three parcels of freehold land to the south of the rugby club (on Water Street) which do not form part of the reserve.



Figure 5-5 Kaitangata Recreation Reserve.

5.2.1 Maintenance

With the exception of the playing fields, practice field, the clubrooms and carpark, this reserve is leased as farmland, to be used for grazing. The 10-year lease expires in 2026. Maintenance, pest control, and any improvements are the responsibility of the lessee. Rental income from

the lease of this reserve is added to the Kaitangata Parks and Reserves Fund. This is used for general maintenance of reserves, and when required, for improvements (including Community Plan projects).

The scheduled drain and flood bank which pass through the reserve are maintained by the Otago Regional Council, under the Flood Protection Management Bylaw.

The playing fields, which primarily lie on the section of the reserve administered by DOC are maintained under Council’s greenspace contract. The rugby club rooms are owned and maintained by the rugby club, on freehold land, with a ‘Facilities’ designation (F72) in the Clutha District Plan.

5.2.2 Development

No major developments are currently planned by Council for this reserve. However, a community-based proposal to develop facilities for the recreational use of motorbikes and cars was put forward in early 2022. The proposal is that improvements could be made to the Kaitangata Recreation Reserve over time, to eventually provide for the following:

- *Motocross track*
- *‘Burn-out’ pad*
- *Stock car track (gravel)*
- *Go-cart track (sealed)*

The objective of this work would be to provide a controlled environment for such activities, which may help to reduce negative impacts on local roads, and for the wider community. The general area where such an activity might be located is shown in Figure 5-6.



Figure 5-6 A view to the south over the northern end of the Kaitangata Recreation Reserve, from Lakeside Road/Smyth Street

Feedback on whether motor-sport activities are appropriate on the Kaitangata Recreation Reserve was sought as part of the consultation process for this Reserve Management Plan. Two submissions in favour of this proposal were received, and none against.

The recreational use of motorbikes and cars is an activity provided for at this reserve, although lease conditions or resource consents may be required before this activity could occur. These might include formation of a club to manage the activity, a lease agreement, and specific conditions to provide for the wellbeing of users, neighbours, and the wider community. The provisions of the Flood Protection Management Bylaw and flood hazards will need to be considered if this activity is pursued.

Council could also consider the revocation of reserve status and potential sale of all, or some of the Council-administered section of this reserve (shaded yellow in Figure 5-5). Revocation

of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservations involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).

5.3 DRAINAGE RESERVE R159

A separate Drainage Reserve overlies the Kaitangata Recreation Reserve. This reserve is identified in the Clutha District Plan as R159, and the mapped extent is shown in Figure 5-7. This shows that the reserve extent does not completely align with the actual location of the drain and flood bank.

A view of the drain and flood bank is shown in Figure 5-8. As noted above, these features form part of the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme, under the Flood Protection Management Bylaw 2012. This bylaw is intended to protect the effective operation and integrity of flood protection works which are under the control of the Otago Regional Council. It is noted that the bylaw only controls activities that may affect the integrity or operation of such works.

Through the consultation process for this Reserve Management Plan, a suggestion was put forward that this area could be allowed to regenerate as a wetland. Any such development would need to avoid any negative impact on the operation of flood protection works and would require approval from the Otago Regional Council.

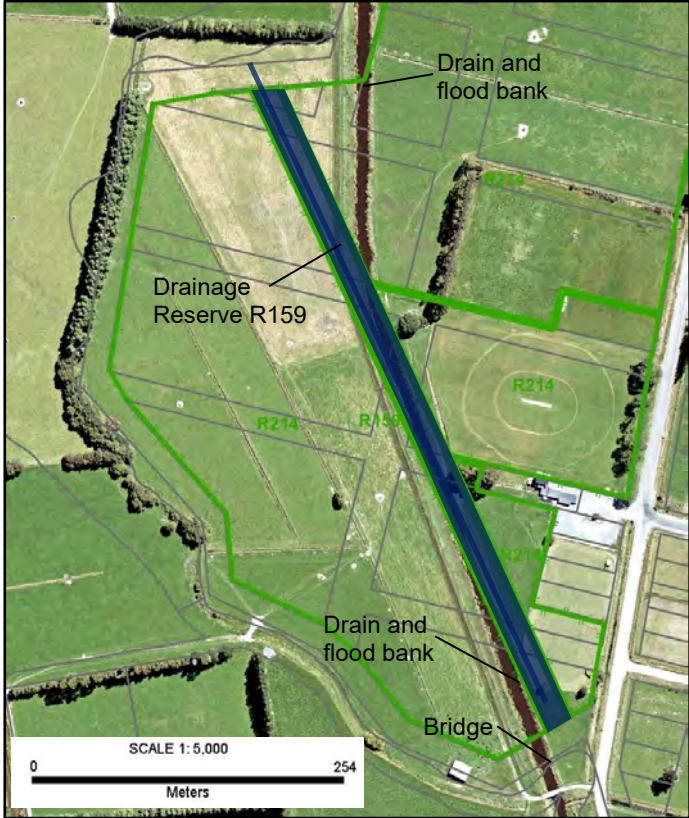


Figure 5-7 Drainage Reserve R159 (shaded blue)



Figure 5-8 View of Drainage Reserve R159 and the wider Kaitangata Recreation Reserve, looking upstream from the bridge

5.4 KAITANGATA WAR MEMORIAL RESERVE

This key public space to the southwest of the Eddystone/Exmouth Street intersection comprises two non-gazetted sections of land which are owned by Council (Figure 5-10). The corner section has historically been used a greenspace/park area, with a picnic table, information board and old coal train wagons located on a flat grassed area (Figure 5-9). The section to the south previously housed the Kaitangata War Memorial Hall which opened in 1955 and was demolished in 2020 due to safety issues.

There is another section of Council-owned land to the south of the old hall site. This previously housed the old service centre building which was also demolished in 2020. The site is now used as a carpark for the neighbouring fire station. Access to 8 Exmouth Street is through this site, and across the corner of the old War Memorial Hall section (Figure 5-10).



Figure 5-9 Greenspace at the corner of Exmouth and Eddystone streets

5.4.1 Maintenance

The greenspace/park area is currently maintained by Council under its greenspace contract. The old War Memorial Hall site is currently bare land.

5.4.2 Development

Council's intention is to improve this area, so that it becomes a key public space in central Kaitangata, with links to the nearby BMX track, skate park, community centre, and the Clutha River. A concept plan has been developed for this reserve, with the main elements to include:

- *an open space for community gatherings*
- *a children's play area, incorporating the existing train*
- *a passive rest/contemplative area*
- *heritage/cultural elements, and*
- *connections to the wider community.*

Improvements to this reserve will be carried out in conjunction with the community and will need to be considered in the context of the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

Once improvements to this reserve have been completed, Council will continue to maintain the whole reserve through its greenspace maintenance contract. There are no plans to remove the accessway to 8 Exmouth Street as part of any development of this reserve.

To ensure that the present and potential future values associated with this public space are safeguarded into the future, Council intends to classify this area according to its primary purpose. The most suitable classification is likely to be as a historic reserve (as described in Appendix A6.0). More information about the classification process is provided in Appendix A8.0.

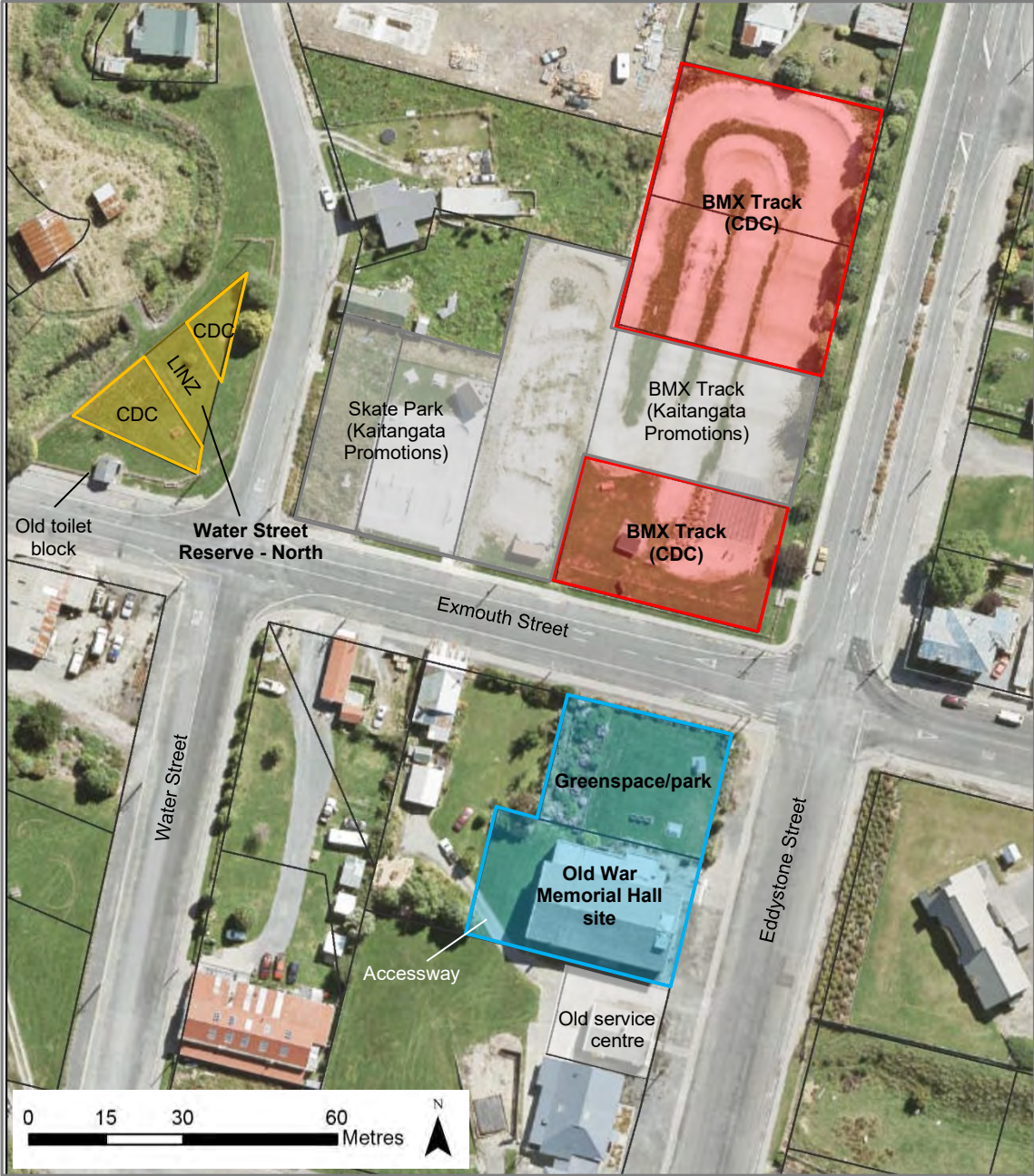


Figure 5-10 Reserve areas in central Kaitangata, including the Kaitangata War Memorial Reserve (blue); Council-owned section of the BMX Track (red), and the Water Street Reserve (orange). Land owned by Kaitangata & District Promotions is shaded grey.

5.5 KAITANGATA BMX TRACK RESERVE

The Kaitangata BMX track is located to the northwest of the Eddystone/Exmouth Street intersection. The track is laid out across three non-gazetted parcels of land owned by Council, and one parcel which is owned by Kaitangata & District Promotions Incorporated ('Kai Promotions'), as shown in Figure 5-10. The track was constructed primarily through donated labour by locals, contractors, farmers, and community volunteers, and was officially opened in 2008. The land on which the track lies was previously privately-owned bare ground.

Kai Promotions also own three parcels of land to the west of the BMX track, where they have developed a skate park which was opened in 2016 and extended in 2021. With these two neighbouring facilities, this part of central Kaitangata has become a popular recreational area for residents and visitors. Both the BMX track and skate park are well utilised and highly valued within the local community, with BMX meetings held weekly during summer.

5.5.1 Maintenance

The berm areas along Eddystone and Exmouth streets, and some of the reserve area is maintained by Clutha District Council under its greenspace contract (Appendix A7.0). The BMX track itself is maintained by the Black Gold BMX Club.

5.5.2 Development

Council does not plan to change the ownership, usage, or maintenance of the three Council-owned parcels of land which form part of the BMX track. However, to ensure that the present and potential future values associated with this public space are safeguarded into the future, it is Council's intent to amalgamate the BMX track and skate park and classify the entire area as a reserve. The most suitable classification, according to its primary purpose, would be as a recreation reserve (see Appendix A6.0). As part of this process, Council may request that ownership of the land currently owned by Kaitangata & District Promotions be transferred to Council. More information about the classification process is provided in Appendix A8.0.



Figure 5-11 Action from the starting chute of the Kaitangata BMX track (Photo courtesy of Allied Press)

5.6 WATER STREET RESERVE - NORTH

The Water Street Reserve - North is located near the western entrance to Kaitangata and lies within a much larger area of public land which extends north from Exmouth Street, alongside Water Street and the Kaitangata Contour Channel. The reserve is centrally located between the boat ramp, BMX track and skate park, and the War Memorial Reserve.

Although the area outlined in Figure 5-10 is identified in Council's database as a park with the designation 'Water Street Reserve', it is not a gazetted reserve. It is separated into three sections, the outer two being Council-owned land, while the middle section is administered by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ). The section administered by LINZ previously formed part of the Kaitangata Railway Line which operated from 1876 to 1970. An old railway bridge lies to the northwest of this section.

5.6.1 Maintenance

The reserve, and some of the wider area to the north along Water Street is mowed under Council's greenspace contract and is the responsibility of the Service Delivery Department. (Appendix A7.0).

5.6.2 Development

The Water Street Reserve – North is strategically located near the western entrance to Kaitangata, as well as some key community facilities. The 'Our Place' Community Plan includes a project to provide public toilets in this area. The location preferred by the community is the site of an old toilet block on Exmouth Street, immediately to the south of the reserve (Figure 5-12). This development may have implications for the usage and maintenance of the reserve.

Kai Promotions have also indicated they would like to develop angle parking on Water Street, alongside this reserve. This would provide additional parking for BMX meets and other events at adjacent reserves. Any decisions by Council regarding this development will be considered in the context of its status as Council and LINZ-owned land, and the goal, objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

To ensure that the values associated with this public space are safeguarded, it is Council's intent to classify this area as a reserve. The most suitable classification, according to its primary purpose, would be as a recreation reserve. As part of this process, Council may request that ownership of the LINZ land be transferred to Council.



Figure 5-12 View across the Water Street Reserve towards Exmouth Street

5.7 WATER STREET RESERVE - SOUTH

The Water Street Reserve – South is located on two parcels of non-gazetted, Council-owned land between the Clutha River/Mata-Au and Water Street, in central Kaitangata (Figure 5-13). The reserve and the surrounding area is a simple, but pleasant greenspace area which is used by the public for a range of purposes, including as a means of accessing the river. The adjacent boat ramp is well-used, as is the adjacent parking area. A low flood bank passes through the reserve, which is also used as a vehicle accessway (Figure 5-14).

The reserve is surrounded by other public land, including:

- *road reserve to the east (Water Street) and west (paper road),*
- *'hydro' (waterway) to the west, which is used as part of the wider public reserve,*
- *another section of Council-owned land to the north which is currently leased.*

There is easy pedestrian access from the Water Street – South Reserve to adjacent greenspace areas on the bank of the Clutha River/Mata-Au. In addition, existing links to nearby reserves and to Eddystone Street will be improved once the pedestrian crossing on Exmouth Street is moved away from the intersection.

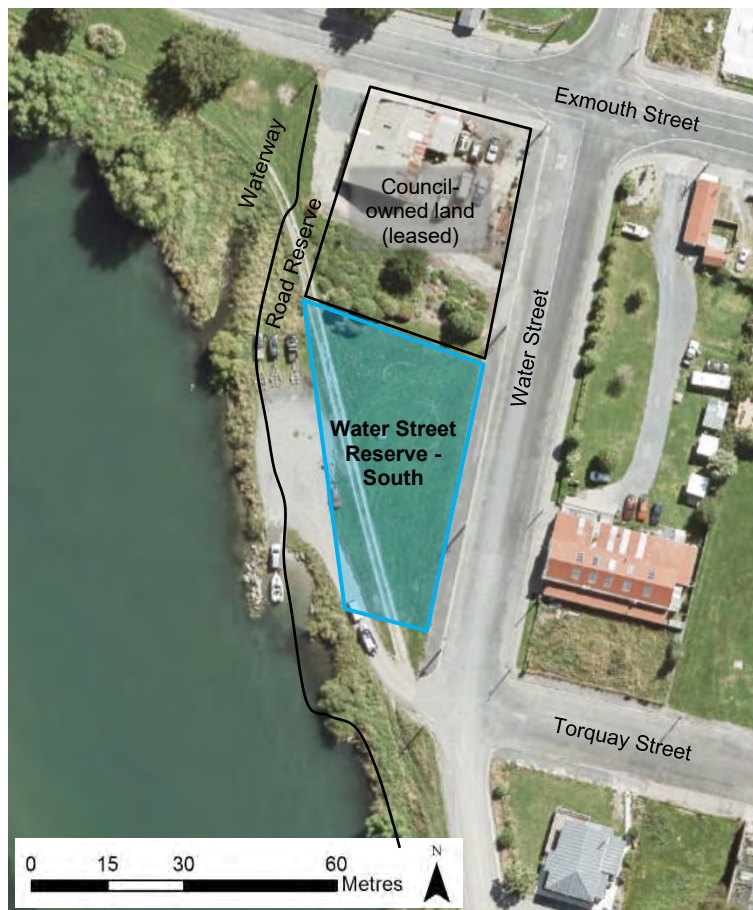


Figure 5-13 Water Street Reserve – South, and adjacent public land



Figure 5-14 View towards the Water Street Reserve – South, showing the car park, boat ramp and Clutha River/Mata-Au

5.7.1 Maintenance

The reserve is mowed by Council under its greenspace contract (Appendix A7.0). The flood bank which passes through the reserve is maintained by the Otago Regional Council, under the Flood Protection Management Bylaw 2012. The riverbank, and other adjacent areas are well-maintained by local volunteers.

5.7.2 Development

Council's intention is to maintain, develop and upgrade this area as a riverside reserve, in conjunction with the community. The *Our Place Kaitangata Community Plan* includes a project to improve the boat ramp, parking, and adjacent reserve area. Amenities which will help to improve access to the river, such as a boat loading facility, swimming or kayak launching areas will also be investigated and developed where possible (Appendix A4.0). Flood hazard, and the provisions of the Flood Protection Management Bylaw will need to be considered as part of any planned improvements.

Any decisions by Council regarding improvements or development on this reserve will be considered in the context of its status as Council-owned land, and the goal, objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

To ensure that the present and potential future values associated with this public space are safeguarded into the future, Council intends to classify this area according to its primary purpose. The most suitable classification is likely to be as a recreation reserve (as described in Appendix A6.0). More information about the classification process is provided in Appendix A8.0.

5.8 SALCOMBE STREET RESERVE AND CEMETERY

The Salcombe Street Reserve and Cemetery is a peaceful, special area within the Kaitangata community. It was first established as the Southern Cemetery in 1874, although the earliest burials are thought to have occurred in the 1860's. Thirty of the thirty-four men killed in the February 1879 Kaitangata mine disaster were also buried here.

The Northern Cemetery (section 7.1) was established in 1897, and the Kaitangata Borough Council decreed that burials in this cemetery would be discontinued from 1st February 1900. However, it appears that burials did continue in the Southern Cemetery until 1930, probably in established family plots.⁶ In the early 1970's, the tombstones were removed, and the ground cleared, with the best-preserved stones relocated to one central area. The memorial to the miners killed in the 1879 explosion was erected in 1979, and information panels were erected in 2021 (Figure 5-15).



Figure 5-15 Gravestones and information panels at the Salcombe Street Reserve and Cemetery

Council manages this non-gazetted reserve, and the area is designated as a Cemetery, Playground and Recreation Reserve within the Council database.

The reserve is located on an elevated site, with approximately 12 mature trees. As well as the cluster of gravestones, the area has a picnic table, a large grass area, and play equipment consisting of a slide, monkey bars, and a three-person swing set. A gravel parking area has been formed alongside the playground on Exmouth Street.

⁶ Information in this section is based on previous research undertaken by Irene Sutton, Bill Proctor and Denise Dent



Figure 5-16 Salcombe Street Reserve and Cemetery

5.8.1 Maintenance

The reserve is maintained by Clutha District Council under the greenspace contract. Bollards to stop vehicles from driving over the reserve were erected by Council in late 2021.

5.8.2 Development

There is no specific project within the Our Place Kaitangata Community Plan that relates to this reserve. Suggestions put forward for this reserve through the Our Place Community Plan and Reserve Management Plan consultation processes include an upgrade of the playground, and creation of a 'flying fox'. Council does not plan to make significant changes or improvements to this reserve.

To ensure that the historic, current, and potential future values associated with this public space are safeguarded into the future, Council intends to classify this area according to its primary purpose. The most suitable classification is likely to be as an historic reserve (as described in Appendix A6.0). More information about the classification process is provided in Appendix A8.0.

5.9 CASTLEHILL RECREATION RESERVE

This Recreation Reserve lies at the northern end of Eddystone Street and was gazetted in 1983. The land is owned by Council and was previously used by the local Pony Club. There is an informal lease in place for the reserve to be used as farmland. The reserve comprises 22 separately surveyed parcels of land, each 1,012m² in area. The land slopes gradually towards Lakeside Road, with lower-lying areas potentially flood prone. Council do not maintain the reserve as this is the responsibility of the lessee.



Figure 5-17 Castlehill Recreation Reserve

5.9.1 Development

No developments are planned. Council may consider the revocation of reserve status and potential sale of this reserve. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservation involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0).



Figure 5-18 View towards the Castlehill Recreation Reserve from Eddystone Street (approximate extent reserve shown)

6.0 WANGALOA

Wangaloa is located on the coast, approximately ten minutes' drive from Kaitangata. Land use is primarily farming and forestry, and the small population is spread sparsely along the coast, between Summer Hill and Toko Mouth.

6.1 WANGALOA RECREATION RESERVE

This gazetted Recreation Reserve is located on Wangaloa Domain Road. Most of the reserve is used as the Kaitangata Golf Course, with smaller sections used as a public reserve, and the closed Wangaloa Cemetery (section 7.2). The land is owned by Council, with a formal lease in place to the Kaitangata Golf Club which relates to the area used as the golf course (Figure 6-1). The golf course consists of nine holes and has Smith's Beach as a stunning seaside background. The club is seen as a positive social asset to the Kaitangata community and has a large local support base. A club house has also been built on the reserve.



Figure 6-1 Wangaloa Domain, comprising the Kaitangata Golf Course, Wangaloa Cemetery, and the public reserve which provides access to the beach

6.1.1 Maintenance

As provided for in the lease, the management and maintenance of the golf course and club house is undertaken by the Golf Club. Mowing of the cemetery and public section of the reserve is also undertaken by the Golf Club.



Figure 6-2 View of the Kaitangata Golf Course part of the Wangaloa Domain (source: Kaitangata Golf Club)



Figure 6-3 View of the public section of the Wangaloa Domain, looking north along the coast

6.1.2 Development

Some improvements to the public section of the Wangaloa Domain were proposed through the 'Our Place' Kaitangata consultation process. These are described in Appendix A4.0, and include:

- *Facilities to enable self-contained vehicles to camp overnight.*
- *Improved access to the beach.*
- *Bollards to protect the public reserve from damage by vehicles.*

Although any development on the public reserve area will be Council-led, it would also require significant input and support from the local community. Any proposed physical works or

improvements will be considered by Council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

Issues with vandalism and graffiti are evident on the public part of this reserve (Box 1), and people attempting to camp overnight have been harassed. Any attempt to improve this reserve would need to consider how these issues would be managed.

Box 1. Old toilet building - Wangaloa Domain

A small building (previously a toilet) located on the public part of the reserve has been heavily graffitied and requires maintenance. Based on community feedback on this Reserve Management Plan, Council (with the involvement of the community) intends to demolish and remove this building.



7.0 CEMETERIES

There are three cemeteries, current and historic, in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward. Two of these are described below, while the Salcombe Street reserve and cemetery is described above in section 5.8.

7.1 KAITANGATA CEMETERY

The Kaitangata Cemetery⁷ is managed by Council and is located to the north of Kaitangata on Lakeside Road. It was gazetted as a public cemetery in 1896, making it Kaitangata’s second cemetery after the Southern Cemetery at Salcombe Street. The first person to be interred in 1897 was Mrs Jeannie Poole, wife of Mr. F.T. Poole, a Mayor and Kaitangata businessman.⁸

In 1946, the matter of creating a lawn cemetery for the remainder of this cemetery was discussed at a meeting of the Kaitangata Borough Council, with concrete strips where the headstones would be erected. In 2002, redevelopment work was undertaken, including the construction of a new car parking area, shelter trees and landscaping, as well as the creation of a ‘Memorial Beam’ for cremation plaques to be erected.

Council’s GIS database shows the parcel boundary as being offset from the actual (i.e., ‘on the ground’) cemetery extent, as shown in Figure 7-1. The surveyed extent of the cemetery is 3.43 hectares. The Cemetery Reserve is maintained under Council’s greenspace contract.

Issues with poor drainage have previously been identified by local residents on this reserve. The 2024-34 Parks and Reserves Activity Management Plan (AMP) will provide for the investigation and remediation of drainage issues at the Kaitangata Cemetery.



Figure 7-1 Kaitangata Cemetery

⁷ Also known as the Kaitangata Lawn Cemetery or Kaitangata Northern Cemetery

⁸ *History of Kaitangata*, 2005. Irene Sutton & Bill Proctor



Figure 7-2 The entrance to Kaitangata Cemetery

7.2 WANGALOA CEMETERY

Wangaloa Cemetery is a closed cemetery located on Wangaloa Domain Road, approximately halfway along the northern side of the Wangaloa Domain (Figure 6-1). The cemetery is well-maintained, with grass, shrubs, and cabbage trees. A group of volunteers work to maintain this area, and mowing is undertaken by the Kaitangata Golf Club. It is not mowed or maintained under Council's greenspace contract.

Land for a cemetery in Wangaloa was first set aside in 1871, and the current extent forms part of the wider Wangaloa Recreation Reserve (section 6.1). As well as the local residents who were buried in this cemetery, there is an unmarked grave for four sailors who were washed ashore at Wangaloa.



Figure 7-3 View of Wangaloa Cemetery

APPENDICES

A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS

Table A1.1 Legal descriptions of Council-administered reserves

Description	Legal description	Classification	Area (m ²)	District Plan Zone (Reserve No.)
Victoria Park	Sections 1-15, Block XXVI Town of Kaitangata	Recreation Reserve	15,252	Rural (R213)
Kaitangata Recreation Reserve:				
Council owned (leased as farmland)	PT SEC 5 BLK XVI KAITANGATA TN	Recreation Reserve & Road Reserve	261,907	Rural (R214)
Administered by DOC (sportsground)	PT SEC 5 BLK XLVI KAITANGATA TOWN	Recreation Reserve	18,536	Rural (R214)
Kaitangata War Memorial Reserve:				
Town Hall site	SEC 2 BLK XXXI KAITANGATA TOWN	Council owned land	1,012	Urban
Vacant section beside town hall site	Part Section 1 Block XXXI Town of Kaitangata	Council owned land	820	Urban
Kaitangata BMX Track Reserve:				
Council owned	SEC 2, 3, 5 BLK XXX KAITANGATA TOWN	Council owned land	3,176	Urban
Kaitangata & District Promotions owned	SEC 4 BLK XXX KAITANGATA TOWN	Fee Simple	1,062	Urban
Water Street Reserve – North:				
Council owned	SECS 1-2 SO 23654	Council owned land	415	Urban
LINZ owned	PT SEC 14 BLK XXX KAITANGATA TN	Government owned land	164	Urban
Water Street Reserve – South:				
Northern part	SEC 2 PT SECS 1 BLK LXXXIV KAITANGATA TN	The Trustees of the Kaitangata Athenaeum	632 Check	Urban
Southern part	PT SEC 1 BLK LXXXIV KAITANGATA TOWN	The Trustees of the Kaitangata Athenaeum	708 Check	Urban
Salcombe Street Reserve & Cemetery	SECS 12/15 BLK V KAITANGATA TN - OLD CEMETERY	Council owned land	4,047	Urban (R98, D337)
Castlehill Recreation Reserve	SECS 1/22 BLK LV KAITANGATA TOWN-CASTLE HILL RECREATION RESERVE-GAZ 83/2763	Recreation Reserve	22,264	Rural (R99)
Wangaloa Recreation Reserve	PT SEC 16 BLK VII COAST S D WANGALOA RECREATION RESERVE	Recreation Reserve	165,691	Rural (R353)
Kaitangata Cemetery	PTS SECS 1 2 BLK II STH TUAKITOTO SD	Public Cemetery	3,439	Rural (D402)

Wangaloa Cemetery	PT SEC 16 BLK VII COAST S D WANGALOA RECREATION RESERVE	Recreation Reserve (part of R353). Designated by CDC as a Public Cemetery.	1,041	Rural (R353)
Drainage Reserve R159 (Kaitangata Contour Channel)	Part Water, Hurst, Cowes, Bembridge, Catherine Streets, and Part Section 5, Block XLVI, Town of Kaitangata	Drainage Reserve	NA	Rural (R159)

A2.0 APPENDIX 2: LEASES, LICENSES AND CONCESSIONS

Table A2.1 List of leases, licences, and concessions on Council-administered reserves

Location	Known as	Concession Holder	Expiry	Lease term
Wangaloa Domain Road, Wangaloa	Wangaloa Domain	Kaitangata Golf Club	1 Jan 2024	33 years
Water Street / Lakeside Drive, Kaitangata	Kaitangata Recreation Reserve	Collingwood Farms Trust	1 Sep 2026	10 years
Eddystone Street, Kaitangata	Castlehill Recreation Reserve	James Durham	Informal lease	

A3.0 APPENDIX 3: RELEVANT DISTRICT PLAN OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

RURAL RESOURCE AREA

The objective and policies potentially relevant to the development of reserves with an underlying zoning of Urban Resource Area are:

OBJECTIVE RRA.1

To provide a management framework for the rural environment that promotes the sustainable management of the resources of the district.

POLICY RRA.2

To ensure that the adverse effects that activities can have on the soil resource including the adverse effects of:

- *Erosion*
- *Instability*
- *Nutrient loss*
- *Soil contamination*
- *Soil compaction*

are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

RURAL SETTLEMENT RESOURCE AREA

The objective and policies potentially relevant to the development of reserves with an underlying zoning of Rural Settlement Resource Area

OBJECTIVE RST.1

To maintain the low density and quiet amenity values of rural settlements.

OBJECTIVE RST.2

To promote the sustainable management of public services developed in rural settlements.

OBJECTIVE RST.3

To take into account the fact that some natural features may migrate inland as the result of dynamic coastal processes when considering subdivision, use and development of rural settlements located in the coastal environment.

POLICY RST.3

To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects that activities can have on the amenity values of rural settlements.

URBAN RESOURCE AREA

The objective and policies potentially relevant to the development of reserves with an underlying zoning of Urban Resource Area are:

OBJECTIVE URB.1

To manage the development of the urban area in order to:

- *provide a framework which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing, and their health and safety, while*

- *maintaining and where possible enhancing the environmental quality of particular environments within the urban area, and*
- *avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects on the natural and physical resources of the Urban Resource Area.*

POLICY URB.1

To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects that activities can have on existing amenity levels of the District's Urban areas.

A4.0 APPENDIX 4: 'OUR PLACE' RESERVE FEEDBACK

As part of the Our Place consultation, Kaitangata residents were asked to rate reserves in the Kaitangata Ward using a scale of 1 to 6, where 1 was not important and 6 was very important. Feedback (through a survey) was received from 69 people, and the results are shown in Table A5.1.

The Water Street Reserve was ranked highest, at 5.39 out of 6. This aligns with the level of community support for improving access to the Clutha River/Mata-Au, and with the outcomes of Project 1: River Access (as listed in Table A4.1).

Overall, reserves in the Kaitangata area were rated highly. For example, although it was ranked lowest of all reserves, a large majority of respondents (77%) still rated the Salcombe Street Reserve & Cemetery as 4 or higher (Table A5.1).

More information is available in the Our Place Kaitangata Feedback Report, available on Council's website [\[link\]](#).

Table A4.1 Rankings assigned to parks and reserves within Kaitangata and surrounding area

How important are the following parks and reserves?	Not Important			Very Important			Average score	Topic Rank
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Water Street Reserve	0	1	2	7	16	37	5.37	1
BMX Track Reserve	0	0	6	7	18	33	5.22	2
Victoria Park	2	1	3	8	17	33	5.13	3
Kaitangata Domain	1	2	4	12	19	24	4.90	4
Wangaloa Reserve	2	3	5	11	17	23	4.78	5
Kaitangata Cemetery Reserve	0	5	10	10	10	28	4.73	6
War Memorial Reserve	6	3	4	11	13	26	4.59	7
Salcombe Street Reserve & Cemetery	2	4	8	12	14	22	4.58	8

A5.0 APPENDIX 5: PROCESS FOR REVOKING RESERVE STATUS

Any land subject to the Reserves Act 1977 must have its reserve status revoked prior to disposal.⁹ Although Council can formally approve a resolution seeking to revoke the status of the reserve, it does not have the power to revoke the reserve status and must apply to the Department of Conservation to do so. Once the reserve status has been revoked and the land is fee simple, it may be disposed of, subject to any other impediments or claims on the title.

The process to revoke is prescribed by Sec 24 of the Reserves Act 1977. In the case of reserves in the Kaitangata-Matau Ward, the steps required to revoke status are described generally below:

1. Recommendation put forward from within the local community to Council for reserve status to be revoked for one or more reserves.¹⁰
2. Council resolution to seek revocation and proceed with disposal.
3. Council approaches Commissioner with the resolution and seeks advice on the revocation of the reserve. Commissioner responds with instruction how to proceed.
4. Property or properties to be evaluated for disposal:
 - a. Assess reserve value.
 - b. Consider effects of disposing of the land.
 - c. Consult with affected parties, if any.
5. Council to publicly notify intent to revoke reserve status and make evaluation publicly available. Objections able to be made over a 1-month period.
6. Submissions received and assessed, and report prepared for Council.
7. Council decides on reserve revocation and disposal.
8. Council recommendation to Commissioner on revocation. The decision on the revocation is that of the Commissioner.

⁹ Reference: Carterton District Council, 2019: <https://cdc.govt.nz/your-council/consultation/proposal-to-revoke-reserve-status-fisher-place/>

¹⁰ The recommendation could be through the consultation process for this Reserve Management Plan, or later. The recommendation could come from an individual or a group such as Kaitangata & District Promotions Incorporated.

A6.0 APPENDIX 6: RESERVE ACT CLASSIFICATIONS

RECREATION RESERVES

Reserves classified as recreation reserves fall under section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) and have a duty to provide areas for sporting and recreation activities to promote the physical enjoyment and welfare of the public whilst enhancing and protecting the natural environment. Provisions under the RA state that recreation reserves must:

- *provide freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to conditions and bylaws set by the district council*
- *be managed to protect the scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other indigenous flora and fauna that are present on the reserve. This is to be done in a way that is compatible with primary purpose of the reserve.*

Activities undertaken on the reserve shall not conflict with the Wildlife Act 1953, or the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

Conservation of qualities that contribute to the pleasantness, harmony and cohesion of the natural environment and those which enable the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be retained.

HISTORIC RESERVES

Reserves classified as historic reserves fall under section 18 of the Act, where its purpose is the protection of places, objects and natural features that are of special interest historically, archaeologically, culturally, or educationally. To be classified as historic reserves must:

- *have structures, objects or sites that illustrate the history of New Zealand*
- *have significant or notable features which shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the primary purpose of the reserve*
- *provide freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to conditions and bylaws set by the district council.*

SCENIC RESERVES

Reserves classified as scenic reserves fall under section 19 of the Act and have a primary purpose of either protecting and preserving flora where it possesses qualities of scenic interest, beauty, natural landscape or enabling the provision and development of indigenous or exotic flora where such improvements enhance and protect areas that are desirable and in public interest.

NATURE RESERVES

Reserves classified as nature reserves fall under section 20 of the Act and are for the purpose of protection of natural features, flora and fauna of rarity, scientific interest, importance and so unique their preservation is in public interest. Nature reserves must:

- *be kept in its natural state as far as possible*
- *extermination of exotic flora and fauna unless otherwise determined*
- *public entry not permitted within the reserve for better protection of the natural environment, except by form of permit granted under sections 48a or 57 of the Act.*

SCIENTIFIC RESERVES

Reserves classified as scientific reserves fall under section 21 of the Act and have a primary function to protect and preserve for scientific research, study, education the benefit of the country, ecological associations, plant or animal communities, types of soil, geomorphological phenomena, and like matters of special interest. Scientific reserves must:

- *ensure the eradication of exotic species unless otherwise specified*
- *reserve may prohibit public access by notice in order to achieve management priorities in accordance with Wildlife and Heritage Acts.*

GOVERNMENT PURPOSE RESERVES

Reserves classified as government purpose reserves fall under section 22 of the Act and are for the purpose of providing and retaining areas for government purpose or as otherwise specified. These may be assigned as such for the purposes of wildlife management or other specified wildlife purposes.

LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVES

Reserves classified as local purpose reserves fall under section 23 of the Act and serve the purpose of providing and retaining areas for local purpose or as otherwise specified in the classification of the reserve. Where a local purpose reserve is vested in a local authority, it may by public notice prohibit access to the whole or any specified part of the reserve except under the authority of a permit

A7.0 APPENDIX 7. RESERVE AREAS MOWED UNDER COUNCIL'S GREENSPACE CONTRACT



A8.0 APPENDIX 8. CLASSIFICATION OF RESERVES

Classification of reserves under the Reserves Act 1977 Act identifies the primary purpose of a reserve and helps direct its management, usage, and development. Classifying land as reserve provides an additional layer of legislative protection under the Act. Classification binds the Council and limits how the land can be used. This increases the protection that the land has and provides the community with certainty as to the types of activities that can take place on the land.

The Act outlines a process and methodology for the declaration and classification of land as a reserve. Section 14 provides Council with the statutory authority to pass a resolution to declare any land owned by Council as a reserve subject to undertaking the necessary public notification procedures¹¹ and obtaining Ministerial approval as required.¹²

Classification involves assigning a reserve (or parts of a reserve) to the appropriate class (as listed in Appendix A6.0). The “class” determines the principle or primary purpose of the reserve. The determination of an appropriate classification category for a reserve should follow a robust methodology and criteria and is a matter the community should have adequate input into.

The following is sourced from the *Reserves Act Guide*, published by the Department of Conservation.

Council is able to classify a reserve in any of the following circumstances:

- *the reserve remains vested in the council and was either:*
 - *not derived from the Crown*
 - *or was created or purchased under any of the statutory provisions specified in s.16(2A) of the Reserves Act 1977*
- *the Council has delegated authority under s.16(1) of the Act*
- *the classification is made by resolution under s.14(1) when the land is declared to be a reserve (s.16(2)).*

The delegation under s.16(1) applies only when the council is the administering body and the classification is to be for the same purpose as the reserve currently holds under s.16(6), whether created before or after 1 April 1978.

For example, if the current purpose is “recreation” then as a result the council could classify the reserve as a recreation reserve under s.17 of the Act

The Council can, in the above circumstances, classify a reserve or group of reserves according to its/their principal or primary purpose(s), as defined in ss.17 to 23 of the Reserves Act. These sections deal with the various classes of reserve listed in Appendix A6.0.

If a reserve is not covered by the circumstances listed above, then the Minister of Conservation can classify the reserve.

¹¹ As defined in section 119 of the Act.

¹² As outlined in Section 120 of the Act.