

**West Otago Reserve Management Plan
2024-34**

**Clutha District Council
February 2024**

CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN	1
1.2	WEST OTAGO WARD RESERVES	1
1.3	SCOPE	2
1.4	STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS	2
1.4.1	Reserves Act 1977	2
1.4.2	Treaty of Waitangi	3
1.4.3	Consultation.....	3
1.5	STRATEGIC SETTING	3
1.6	OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS.....	4
2.0	OPPORTUNITIES.....	5
2.1	OUR PLACE WEST OTAGO – RESULTS OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION	5
2.2	FUTURE PROPOSALS.....	6
3.0	OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES	7
3.1	BACKGROUND	7
3.2	GOAL	7
3.3	OBJECTIVES	7
4.0	THE WEST OTAGO WARD	10
4.1	PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.....	10
4.1.1	Topography	10
4.1.2	Climate	10
4.1.3	Vegetation and ecology.....	11
4.2	CULTURAL VALUES.....	13
4.3	POPULATION	13
5.0	WEST OTAGO RESERVES	15
5.1	BLACK GULLY DOMAIN RESERVE	15
5.1.1	Legal description	15
5.1.2	Maintenance	16
5.1.3	Development	17
5.1.4	Management aim and objectives.....	17
5.2	BUSHYHILL STREET PLAYGROUND RESERVE	19
5.2.1	Development	20
5.3	CONICAL HILL RAILWAY RESERVE	22
5.3.1	Development	22
5.4	CROOKSTON CEMETERY RESERVE	23
5.5	DUNROBIN DOMAIN RESERVE.....	25
5.6	HANCOX RESERVE & HANCOX PARK	27
5.6.1	Maintenance	28

5.6.2	Development	28
5.7	HERIOT & DISTRICTS COMMUNITY CENTRE.....	29
5.8	HERIOT DOMAIN.....	30
5.9	NORTHUMBERLAND STREET RESERVE	31
5.9.1	Development	31
5.10	PARK HILL DOMAIN	33
5.11	STATION ROAD RESERVE	35
5.12	TAPANUI CEMETERY RESERVE	36
5.13	TAPANUI COMMONAGE RESERVE.....	38
5.14	TAPANUI GOLF COURSE RESERVE	41
5.14.1	Maintenance	41
5.14.2	Development	41
5.14.3	Accessway.....	42
5.15	TAPANUI SPORTS GROUND RESERVE.....	44
5.15.1	Maintenance	44
5.15.2	Development	44
5.16	TAPANUI SERVICE CENTRE RESERVE	46
5.17	TAPANUI POUND RESERVE	47
5.17.1	Development	47
5.18	WAIKOIKOI CEMETERY RESERVE	48
5.19	WAIKOIKOI HALL RESERVE	50
5.20	WAIKOIKOI SPORTSGROUND RESERVE.....	51
5.21	WAIPAHI CEMETERY RESERVE	53
5.22	WAIPAHI POOL RESERVE	54
5.23	WAIPAHI RECREATION RESERVE.....	55
5.23.1	School Road	55
5.23.2	Waipahi Station Road.....	56
5.23.3	Waipahi Hall	56
5.24	WEST OTAGO VINTAGE CLUB RESERVE	58
5.25	WHISKY GULLY	59
5.25.1	Reserve description.....	59
5.25.2	History and maintenance arrangements	62
5.25.3	Management aim and objectives.....	63
5.25.4	Development	63

FIGURES

Figure 1-1	Relevant legislation and policy	4
Figure 2-1	Decision-making process for proposals to develop council-administered reserves.....	6
Figure 4-1	View of West Otago and the Blue Mountains from Park Hill Road	10
Figure 4-2	View towards the north showing the topography of the West Otago Ward (Google Earth)	11
Figure 4-3	Map of the West Otago Ward showing topography and the main roads and settlements	12
Figure 4-4	Tapanui, New Zealand, 1870, by MS.E. Green, Source Hocken Library.....	14

Figure 4-5	View of Tapanui, 11/10/1959. N.Z. Forest Service housing in right foreground. Source: scan of photo held at Tapanui Library.	14
Figure 5-1	Black Gully Domain (source: Black Gully Domain Board)	15
Figure 5-2	Map of the Black Gully Domain Reserve	16
Figure 5-3	General view of the reserve, cabins, and playground at the Black Gully Domain.....	16
Figure 5-4	Some of the facilities provided at the Black Gully Domain.....	17
Figure 5-5	Map of the Bushyhill Street Playground Reserve.	19
Figure 5-6	View across the Bushyhill Street Playground Reserve.....	19
Figure 5-7	Playground equipment on the Bushyhill Street reserve.....	20
Figure 5-8	Public toilets at the Bushyhill Street Playground	21
Figure 5-9	Map showing the Conical Hill Railway Reserve.....	22
Figure 5-10	View towards the Conical Hill Railway Reserve	22
Figure 5-11	Map of the Crookston Cemetery Reserve	23
Figure 5-12	View of Crookston Cemetery Reserve.....	24
Figure 5-13	Map of the Dunrobin Domain Reserve.	25
Figure 5-14	View of the Dunrobin Domain from Wilden School Road. The telecommunications building can be seen at left.	26
Figure 5-15	View of the Dunrobin Domain from the site of the old Dunrobin Hall.....	26
Figure 5-16	Map of Hancox Reserve (outlined in purple) and Hancox Park (shaded blue). Water, stormwater and sewerage infrastructure are shown respectively as blue, green and red lines. Two metre contours are shown as thin red lines.....	27
Figure 5-17	View of Hancox Park from Warwick Street.....	28
Figure 5-18	Map showing the Heriot & Districts Community Centre.....	29
Figure 5-19	Heriot and Districts Community Centre	29
Figure 5-20	Map showing the Heriot Domain	30
Figure 5-21	View of the playing fields at the Heriot Domain	30
Figure 5-22	Map of the Northumberland Street Reserve (both parts marked in blue)	31
Figure 5-23	Northumberland Street reserve: grassed area outside PPG Wrightson	32
Figure 5-24	Northumberland Street reserve: paved area at 47 Northumberland Street	32
Figure 5-25	Map of the Park Hill Domain.....	33
Figure 5-26	3D view of the Park Hill Domain (Source: Google Earth)	34
Figure 5-27	View of the Park Hill Domain (Source: Linda Roulston)	34
Figure 5-28	Map of the Station Road Reserve	35
Figure 5-29	View of the Station Road Reserve from SH90.....	35
Figure 5-30	Map of the Tapanui Cemetery Reserve.....	36
Figure 5-31	View of the Tapanui Cemetery Reserve.....	37
Figure 5-32	Information panel and map at the Tapanui Cemetery Reserve	37
Figure 5-33	Access point to the Tapanui Commonage Reserve from Duncan Road North.....	39
Figure 5-34	Stand and office building at the West Otago Show Grounds and Racing Track.....	39
Figure 5-35	View of the Tapanui Racing Track from the stand.....	39
Figure 5-36	Map of the Tapanui Commonage, Golf Course and Sports Ground reserves	40
Figure 5-37	Map of the Tapanui Golf Course Reserve and the adjacent Tapanui Sportsground Reserve.....	41
Figure 5-38	View across the Tapanui Golf Course towards the Blue Mountains (Source: Golf Otago)	42

Figure 5-39	A section of the Tapanui Golf Course Reserve which links the two parts of the course, and provides alternative access to West Otago Health	42
Figure 5-40	Map showing Lot 1A, DP2480. Council will consider revoking the reserve status of the western portion of this parcel, subdivision, and potential sale.	43
Figure 5-41	View of the sports field and clubrooms on the Tapanui Sports Ground reserve	44
Figure 5-42	The old netball courts on the Tapanui Sportsground Reserve, currently used for camping by self-contained vehicles.	45
Figure 5-43	Tapanui Library and Service Centre building (top) and the landscaped part of the reserve (bottom)	46
Figure 5-44	Map of the Tapanui Pound Reserve	47
Figure 5-45	View of the Tapanui Pound Reserve	47
Figure 5-46	Map of the Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve	48
Figure 5-47	Two views of the Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve.....	49
Figure 5-48	Map of the Waikoikoi Hall Reserve.....	50
Figure 5-49	View of the Waikoikoi Hall Reserve	50
Figure 5-50	Map of the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve	51
Figure 5-51	View of the cricket pitch on the northern part of the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve ..	52
Figure 5-52	Clubrooms at the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve	52
Figure 5-53	Map of the Waipahi Cemetery Reserve.....	53
Figure 5-54	View across the Waipahi Cemetery Reserve from the corner of West Otago Road & Cemetery Road	53
Figure 5-55	Map of the Waipahi Pool Reserve	54
Figure 5-56	The old pool on the Waipahi Pool Reserve	54
Figure 5-57	The Waipahi Recreation Reserve.....	55
Figure 5-58	View of the Waipahi Recreation Reserve from School Road.....	55
Figure 5-59	The old tennis courts on the Waipahi Recreation Reserve.....	56
Figure 5-60	View of the Waipahi Hall.....	57
Figure 5-61	View of the playground area at the rear of the Waipahi Hall.....	57
Figure 5-62	Map of the West Otago Vintage Club Reserve.....	58
Figure 5-63	The West Otago Vintage Club Reserve.....	58
Figure 5-64	Map of the Whiskey Gully Reserve. The CDC Water Treatment Plant is outlined in yellow while land administered by DOC is shaded orange.....	59
Figure 5-65	Map of the Whisky Gully Reserve showing the area utilised as a picnic area and car park.	60
Figure 5-66	Car park and picnic table at Whisky Gully Reserve.....	60
Figure 5-67	Entrance to the bush walk (left) and public toilets (right)	61
Figure 5-68	The leased section of the Whisky Gully Reserve, with the forested area in the background	61
Figure 5-69	The Tapanui Water Treatment Plant	62
Figure A4.1	The number of responses regarding future use of Hancox Park	71

TABLES

Table 1-1	Council-administered reserves in the West Otago Ward.....	2
Table 2-1	Relevant projects from the Our Place West Otago Community Plan.....	5
Table 4-2	Population data for the West Otago Ward.....	13
Table 5-1	Description of land parcels in the vicinity of the Whisky Gully Domain.....	59
Table A4.1	Rankings assigned to community facilities and reserves within the West Otago Ward ..	70
Table A4.2	Rankings assigned to community facility upgrade options	70

APPENDICES

A1.0	APPENDIX 1: LEGAL DESCRIPTION	65
A2.0	APPENDIX 2: LEASES, LICENSES AND CONCESSIONS	67
A3.0	APPENDIX 3: RELEVANT DISTRICT PLAN OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES .	68
A4.0	APPENDIX 4: ‘OUR PLACE’ RESERVE FEEDBACK	70
A5.0	APPENDIX 5: PROCESS FOR REVOKING RESERVE STATUS	72
A6.0	APPENDIX 6: RESERVE ACT CLASSIFICATIONS	73
A7.0	APPENDIX 7. RESERVE AREAS IN TAPANUI MOWED UNDER COUNCIL’S GREENSPACE CONTRACT	75
A8.0	APPENDIX 8. CLASSIFICATION OF RESERVES	76

APPENDIX TABLES

Table A1.1	Legal descriptions of council-administered reserves	65
Table A2.1	List of leases, licences, and concessions on council-administered reserves.....	67

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- *Clutha District Plan*
- *West Otago Community Plan*
- *Clutha District Living and Working Strategy*

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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 West Otago Reserve Management Plan is to provide Clutha District Council with a framework to guide day to day management and longer-term decision making for council-administered reserves in the West Otago Ward

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 West Otago 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.*

This plan is intended to respond to the needs of the West Otago community and provide a framework for on-going community involvement in the area. The plan should provide clarity to:

- *Users of reserves in the West Otago 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 WEST OTAGO WARD RESERVES

The Clutha District Council (council) administers 25 reserves in the West Otago 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.

It is noted that many of the reserves identified in this plan are managed and maintained by community volunteers, and in some cases, there are West Otago families who have cared for, and been associated with particular reserves for many decades. The work undertaken by these volunteers is acknowledged, and this plan is intended to provide additional support and clarity for all those involved in the management of reserves in West Otago.

Table 1-1 Council-administered reserves in the West Otago Ward

No.	Reserve	No.	Reserve
1	Black Gully Reserve	14	Tapanui Golf Course
2	Bushyhill Street Playground, Tapanui	15	Tapanui Service Centre
3	Conical Hill Railway Reserve	16	Tapanui Sports Ground (Rugby Club)
4	Crookston Cemetery	17	Tapanui Pound Reserve
5	Dunrobin Domain	18	Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve
6	Hancox Reserve, Tapanui	19	Waikoikoi Hall Reserve
7	Heriot & Districts Community Centre	20	Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve
8	Heriot Domain	21	Waipahi Cemetery Reserve
9	Northumberland Street Reserve, Tapanui	22	Waipahi Pool Reserve
10	Park Hill Reserve	23	Waipahi Recreation Reserve
11	Station Road Reserve, Tapanui	24	West Otago Vintage Car Museum, Tapanui
12	Tapanui Commonage Reserve	25	Whisky Gully Reserve
13	Tapanui Cemetery		

1.3 SCOPE

This management plan applies to all reserves in the West Otago Ward that are administered by the Clutha District 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 administer lands in the West Otago 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

1.4.1 Reserves Act 1977

The Reserves 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 reserves in the West Otago Ward that are 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*

¹ Appendix A6.0 describes these classifications more fully.

- *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).

1.4.2 Treaty of Waitangi

In carrying out its functions and powers in relation to managing the use, development and protection of physical resources such as reserves, council has a duty, under Section 8 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi). Resource management decisions should be in accordance with Treaty principles. Recognising that there may be different understandings of resource issues between iwi partners and council is an important first step towards achieving an approach to resource management which accommodates Māori cultural knowledge systems and values.

The Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 was passed by the Government in recognition of settlements of historical grievances. The Act acknowledges Ngai Tahu's traditional *kaitiaki* (guardianship) role in managing and safeguarding resources in the South Island.

1.4.3 Consultation

To inform the development of this Reserve Management Plan, council is required to consult with the community in order to identify their wishes and aspirations for the reserves. This consultation took place in 2023, in conjunction with the West Otago Community Board. The role of the board is to:

- *represent and act as an advocate for the interests of the West Otago community,*
- *maintain an overview of services provided by council within the community,*
- *communicate with community organisations and special interest groups in the community, and*
- *consider any issues of interest or concern to the board.*

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, and*
- *has a healthy and sustainable environment.*

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

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 1-1.

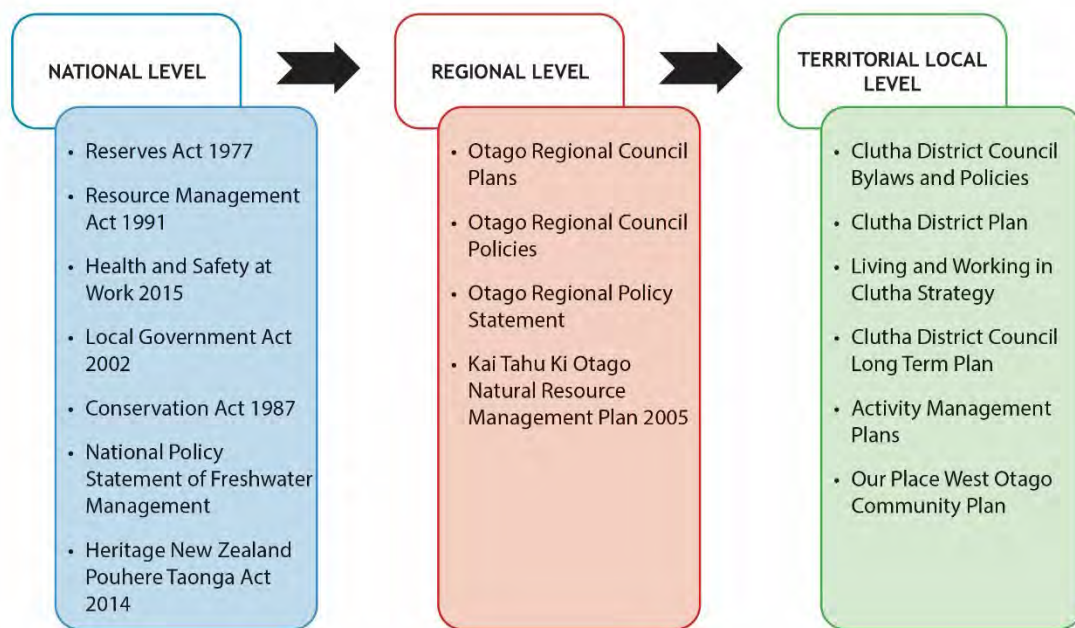


Figure 1-1 Relevant legislation and policy

2.0 OPPORTUNITIES

This section describes various opportunities and projects which have been proposed for council-administered reserves in the West Otago Ward. This Reserve Management Plan is intended to provide 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 WEST OTAGO – RESULTS OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Consultation as part of the *Our Place West Otago Community Plan* process was undertaken in early 2022 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 West Otago 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 West Otago page website [\[link\]](#). Community feedback regarding reserves is summarised in Appendix A4.0.

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

Project	Relevant outcomes	Lead Agency
Community Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bushyhill Street playground improvements (section 5.2.1). New recreational facilities. Renewal work on halls and community centres. West Otago Health – future development (see section 5.14.3). Freedom camping: provide for overnight camping in self-contained vehicles (sections 5.15 and 5.25). 	Community - especially where the assets are community-owned or managed.
Black Gully and Whisky Gully and reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amenity improvements, maintenance, and pest eradication (sections 5.1 and 5.25). 	DOC, council and community
Walking and cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of trails across, or linking West Otago reserves 	Community
Tapanui and Heriot main street improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing town entrances (sections 5.9 and 5.11). Create seating areas or shelters. Develop the triangle reserve at corner of Northumberland & Maple streets. 	Council & community

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.

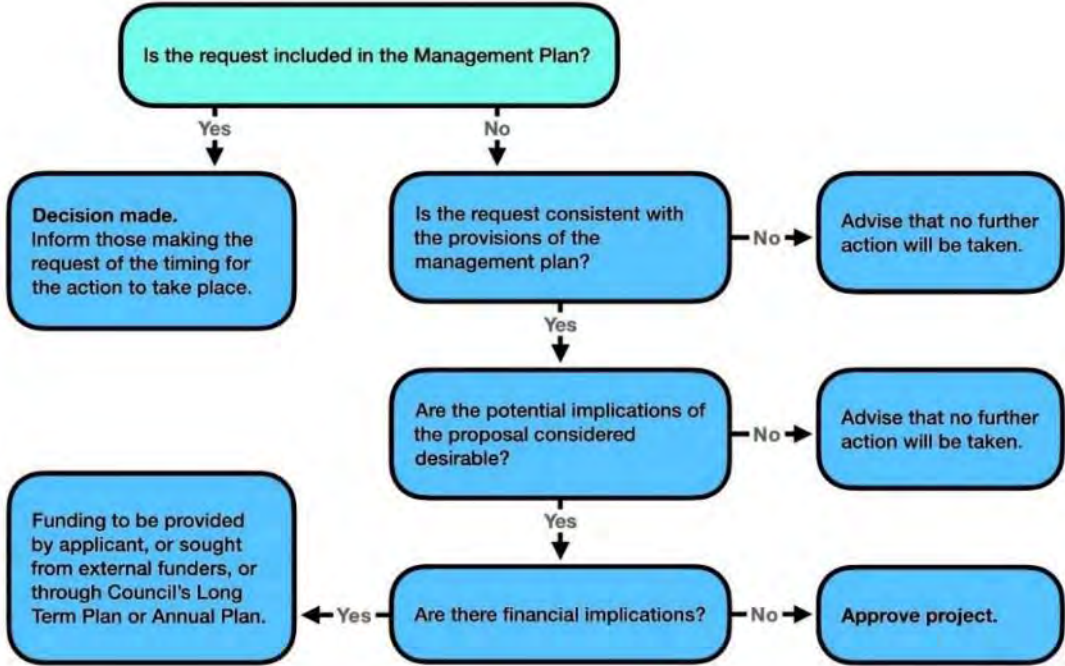


Figure 2-1 Decision-making process for proposals to develop council-administered reserves

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 West Otago 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 provide for their future management efficiently and effectively.

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 West Otago 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 the West Otago Ward.”

3.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives sought from this plan are as follows:

1. *The unique character of the West Otago 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 West Otago area.*

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

OBJECTIVE 1

The unique character of the West Otago 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 West Otago.*
- *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 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.*

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 West Otago 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 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 West Otago 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 the West Otago Community Board to identify and implement opportunities to enhance reserves, including projects identified in the Our Place West Otago 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.*

4.0 THE WEST OTAGO WARD

The 2018 census indicated 2,289 people live in the West Otago Ward, the majority of whom reside in Tapanui and Heriot. The other settlements in the Ward are Waipahi, Moa Flat, Edievale, Crookston, Merion Downs and Waikoikoi. The ward covers 1,374 km², most of which is used for farming or forestry activities.

The key road linking the communities in the West Otago Ward is State Highway 90. The highway runs from the North of the Ward, exiting onto State Highway 8 at Rae's Junction, and to the South, linking to Southland and Gore just south of Waikoikoi (Figure 4-2).



Figure 4-1 View of West Otago and the Blue Mountains from Park Hill Road

4.1 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

4.1.1 Topography

The key topographic features of the area are the rugged hills of Tapuaenuku (Blue Mountains) to the east, rising to 1,019 m, and the Umbrella Range to the west. Between these two ranges consists relatively flat, high productive farmland where the key settlements of the ward are located. Within the district is the prominent Pomahaka River which meanders its way from northwest to southeast across the middle of the Ward. The river is described by Fishing NZ as a “*classic high-country stream with steep gorges, deep pools and clear, slightly tea-stained water. In the middle reaches, (from Leithen picnic area to Conical Hill) the river flows mainly through flat pastureland. The river is easily accessed and flows over a mostly gravel bed*”.

4.1.2 Climate

The West Otago Ward experiences a reasonably mild maritime climate. Rainfall varies relatively significantly across the ward. The south-western sections receive an average of 700 mm of rain per year, whereas the north-western end including the Umbrella Range, receives approximately 1,400 mm of rain per year (ORC data). Rainfall varies throughout the catchment due to factors such as altitude, aspect, topography and seasonality.

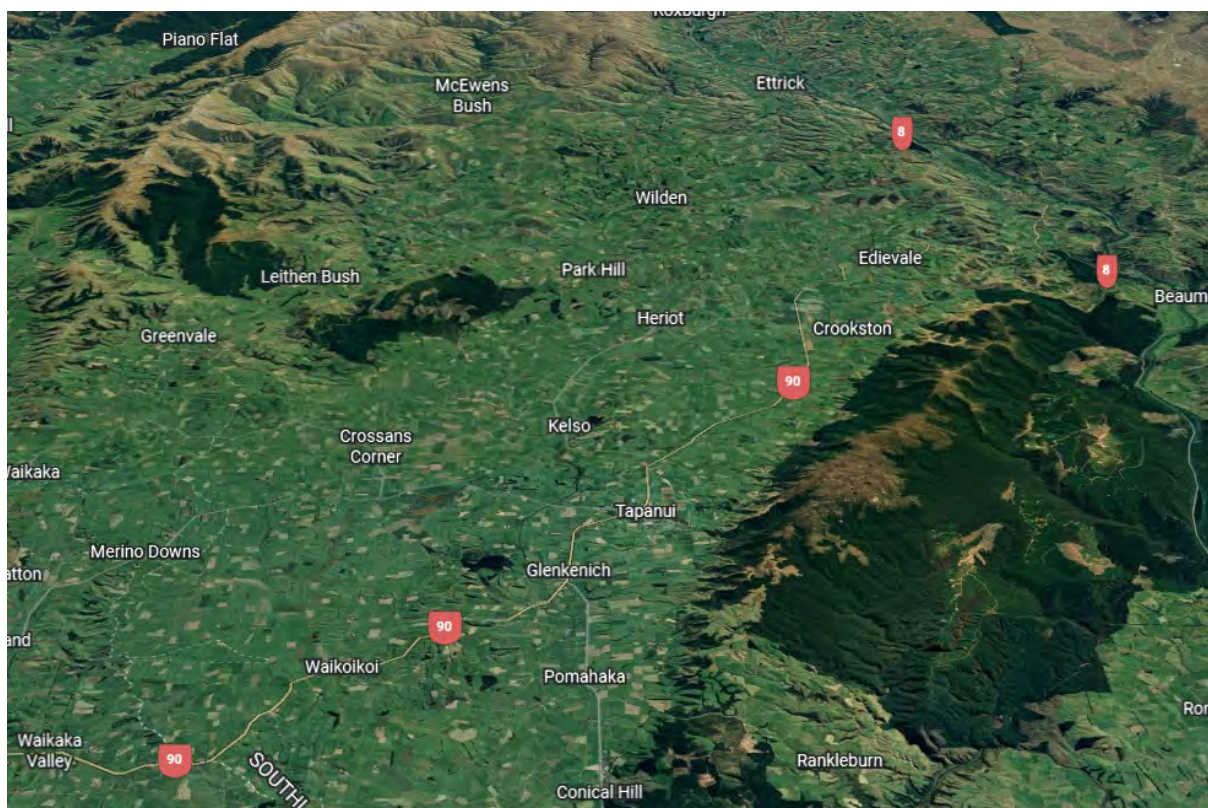


Figure 4-2 View towards the north showing the topography of the West Otago Ward (Google Earth)

4.1.3 Vegetation and ecology

The West Otago Ward is covered predominantly with pasture and exotic forestry plantations. This area does have 9 listed Regionally Significant Wetlands listed in the Otago Regional Council's Water Plan Schedule A. These are listed in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Ecosystem values of Regional Significant Wetlands in the West Otago Ward. Source: ORC

River	Ecosystem Values
Pomahaka River	Provides access unimpeded by artificial means such as weirs and culverts; large water body supporting species and habitat variety providing for diverse life cycle requirements of a range of species. Gravel, sand, and silt bed composition of importance for resident biota, free of aquatic pest plants, riparian vegetation of significance to aquatic habitat, regionally significant presence of trout, significant habitat for trout and salmon spawning and juveniles; significant presence of eel, presence of significant range of indigenous fish and invertebrate species, presence of rare invertebrate species.
Bullock Creek	Free of aquatic pest plants and presence of rare invertebrate species
Whiskey Gully	Free of aquatic pest plants and presence of rare invertebrate species.
Rankleburn	Free of aquatic pest plants and presence of rare invertebrate species
Timber Creek	Provides access unimpeded by artificial means such as weirs and culverts, free of aquatic pest plants and presence of rare invertebrate species.
Back Stream West Branch	Free of aquatic pest plants and significant range of invertebrate species.
Waipahi River	Large water body supporting species and habitat variety providing for diverse life cycle requirements of particular or range of species, gravel bed composition and macrophytes important for resident biota, free of aquatic pest plants.

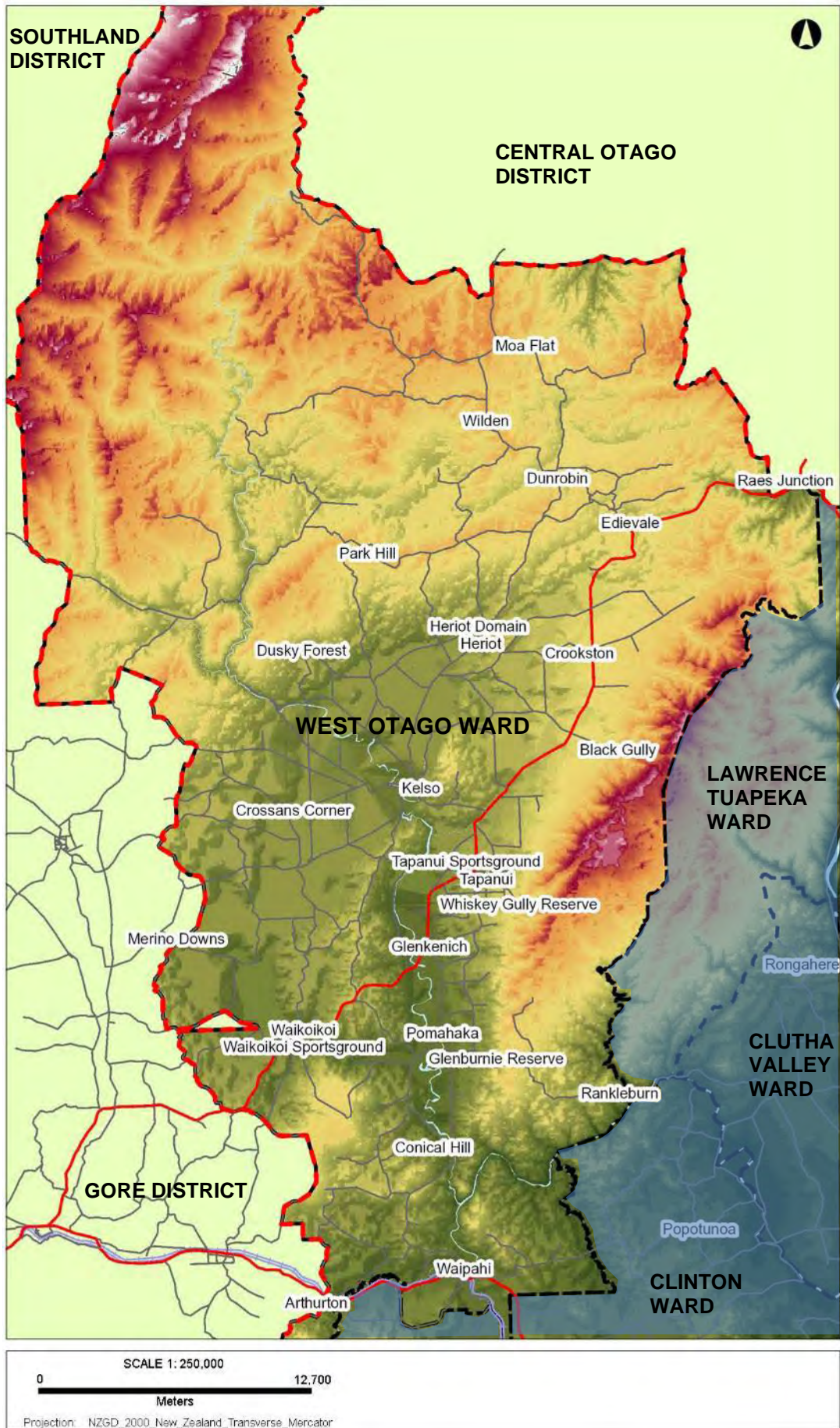


Figure 4-3 Map of the West Otago Ward showing topography and the main roads and settlements

4.2 CULTURAL VALUES

The physical and cultural landscape of West Otago is inherently linked to the Pomahaka River and its tributaries. Water occupies a significant role in the spiritual beliefs and cultural traditions of iwi, and the health of water bodies and the condition of water is of particular importance.² The Pomahaka River is a Statutory Acknowledgement area under the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, providing for the special association of Ngati Mamoe and Ngai Tahu settlements in the Catlins and Tautuku areas with the river. It is an important river for mahika kai, especially for its kanakana (lamprey) fishery, but also associated with weka and other manu (birds).

The Kai Tahu ki Otago Natural Resources Management Plan and the Regional Plan: Water identify the significance of the Pomahaka River. Those values that are specific to the Pomahaka and Waipahi Rivers are:

Kaitiakitanga – the exercise of guardianship by Kai Tahu in accordance with tikanga Māori in relation to Otago’s natural and physical resources; and includes the ethic of stewardship.

Mauri – life force; e.g., the mauri of a river is most recognisable when there is abundance of water flow and the associated ecosystems are healthy and plentiful; a most important element in the relationship that Kai Tahu have with the water bodies.

Waahi tapu and/or Waiwhakaheke – sacred places; sites, areas and values associated with water bodies that hold spiritual values of importance to Kai Tahu.

Wāhi taoka – treasured resources: values, site and resources that are valued and reinforce the special relationship Kai Tahu have with Otago’s water resources.

Mahika kai – places where food is procured or produced. Examples of waterborne mahika kai include eels, whitebait, kanakana (lamprey), kokopu (galaxiid species), koura (freshwater crayfish), freshwater mussels, indigenous waterfowl, watercress and raupo.

Kohanga – important nursery/spawning areas for native fisheries and/or breeding grounds for birds.

Trails – sites and water bodies which formed part of traditional routes, including tauraka waka (landing place for canoes).

Cultural materials – water bodies that are sources of traditional weaving materials (such as raupo and paru) and rongoa (medicines).

4.3 POPULATION

The population of the West Otago Ward grew by 120 people between 2013 and 2018 (Table 4-2). The population growth that has occurred in recent years is likely to continue, assuming the continued provision of employment opportunities and the availability of residential housing. The West Otago area offers opportunities for employment in the agricultural and forestry industries and currently has a low unemployment rate. Tapanui is a scenic town, with a good array of independent shops, a golf course, nearby walking trails and a library/service centre.

Table 4-2 Population data for the West Otago Ward

Statistical area: West Otago Ward	2006	2013	2018
Permanent residents	2,232	2,169	2,289
Census night count	2,187	2,148	2,259
Median age	37.4	39.9	40.1

² ORC, 2014. *Pomahaka Catchment Information Sheet*, May 2014.



Figure 4-4 Tapanui, New Zealand, 1870, by MS.E. Green, Source Hocken Library



Figure 4-5 View of Tapanui, 11/10/1959. N.Z. Forest Service housing in right foreground. Source: scan of photo held at Tapanui Library.

5.0 WEST OTAGO RESERVES

Clutha District Council is responsible for 25 reserves in West Otago (Table 1-1). They fulfil a variety of purposes, including children's playgrounds, recreation areas, and providing for community amenities. This chapter provides a description of each reserve, maintenance requirements and development opportunities. Where relevant, policies which relate to specific reserves are listed, as well as initial feedback from key stakeholders. Legal descriptions of reserves and details of existing leases can be found in in this document's appendices.

5.1 BLACK GULLY DOMAIN RESERVE



Figure 5-1 Black Gully Domain (source: Black Gully Domain Board)

The Black Gully Domain Reserve is located at the end of Black Gully Road East, approximately 10 km from Tapanui. This large, attractive reserve is used for a range of purposes, including as an access point to the Blue Mountains, accommodation, and recreation:

- *Access: The [Black Gully Track](#) and the [Blue Mountain ridgetop walk](#) can be accessed from the domain, as well as recreational hunting and fishing opportunities.*
- *Accommodation: Basic campground facilities are provided, including cabin accommodation, powered sites and campsites, kitchen playground equipment and bathroom.*
- *Recreation: The domain includes a playground, picnic tables, and a large, mowed greenspace.*

The reserve is managed and well maintained by the Black Gully Domain Board. There is no formal lease in place, but the Board have maintained the reserve in a volunteer capacity for many decades. Council may consider formalising the management arrangements for the Black Gully Domain through a lease.

5.1.1 Legal description

The Black Gully Reserve was gazetted as a Recreation Reserve in 1984. The reserve has an area of 84,984 m² and is located at 215 Black Gully Road East (Figure 5-2). The legal description is secs 5-7, block X, Crookston SD. It is designated as Reserve No. R112 in the

Clutha District Plan and lies adjacent to the Blue Mountains Forest Conservation Area. The reserve is vested in and administered by the Clutha District Council.



Figure 5-2 Map of the Black Gully Domain Reserve



Figure 5-3 General view of the reserve, cabins, and playground at the Black Gully Domain

5.1.2 Maintenance

The domain is currently maintained by the Black Gully Domain Board. Council currently provides financial support towards toilet cleaning. The Board funds projects through donations and volunteer work and operates the camping facilities on a voluntary basis.

5.1.3 Development

There is a relevant project in the Our Place West Otago Community Plan to *undertake amenity improvements/pest eradication at the Black Gully Domain*. This project was included in response to feedback received through consultation for the community plan, and the high value people placed on this reserve (Appendix A4.0).

Although there are no major developments currently planned by council for this reserve, council and the West Otago Community Board will support the Domain Board to ensure this reserve is well maintained and provides suitable amenities. Any proposed improvements or development at the Black Gully Domain will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

Feedback from the Black Gully Domain Board is that major improvements or upgrades are generally not necessary, but that improved maintenance of existing assets would help to prolong their life and improve visitor experiences. The board have held working bees to enable community members to assist with maintenance at the reserve (Figure 5-4).



Figure 5-4 Some of the facilities provided at the Black Gully Domain.

5.1.4 Management aim and objectives

To ensure the effective management of any reserve, it is essential that objectives and policies are clearly defined, so that decisions regarding any activity proposed or carried out on the reserve are made in accordance with those objectives and policies.

In addition to the objectives and policies listed in section 3.0, the following policies relate specifically to the Black Gully Domain Reserve:

1. *To minimise conflict and interference between recreationists.*
2. *To maintain and improve the quality of the existing recreation environment.*
3. *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. *To permit freedom of public access to the reserve as limited by the terms of any leases/agreements of the reserve or part reserve.*
5. *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.*
6. *To manage and promote the open space values of the reserve.*
7. *To manage and protect the natural amenity values of the reserve.*

5.2 BUSHYHILL STREET PLAYGROUND RESERVE

This reserve is located on the eastern side of Tapanui, and can be accessed from Bushyhill, York and Durham streets (Figure 5-5). The reserve was gazetted in 1985 as a Recreation Reserve. It is designated as Reserve No. R101 in the Clutha District Plan and has an area of 4,856 m².



Figure 5-5 Map of the Bushyhill Street Playground Reserve.



Figure 5-6 View across the Bushyhill Street Playground Reserve



Figure 5-7 Playground equipment on the Bushyhill Street reserve

Facilities provided at this reserve include:

- *The main Tapanui playground. This is well-used by local children and has a mix of older and more recent play equipment (Figure 5-6 and Figure 5-7).*
- *Mowed open greenspace which is also well-used for games and free play.*
- *Public toilets.*
- *A shelter.*
- *Memorial Arch at the southwest corner.*

The reserve is maintained by Clutha District Council under its greenspace contract.

5.2.1 Development

'Our Place' community consultation identified that the Bushyhill Street reserve is important to the West Otago community, and council does not intend to make significant changes to this reserve. However, the feedback received did include suggested improvements, and there is an 'Our Place' project which specifically relates to this reserve. This project aims to *create additional play equipment and/or improve existing equipment*. It is noted that the development of a 'destination' playground in Tapanui was also rated highly through the Our Place consultation. A group of volunteers has been formed to lead this project.

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

Potential development opportunities which were supported by submissions to this plan include:

1. *Development of a destination playground, including play equipment that facilitates and promotes active recreation and is accessible for all.*
2. *The inclusion of drinking water fountains.*
3. *Upgrading of toilet facilities where necessary, including facilities which are accessible for all people by incorporating wheelchair friendly spaces, seat handles and baby changing facilities.*
4. *Provision of sunshade and shelter near any seating, picnic tables or areas where people rest.*

5. *The installation and servicing of rubbish and recycling facilities to promote a clean and tidy environment.*
6. *The celebration of Māori heritage in the design of any new developments, through active consultation with Ngāi Tahu and any other iwi Māori or local kaumātua that are able to assist in this process.*
7. *Promotion of council's Smokefree Public Places Policy through signage to help protect people and the environment.*
8. *Consideration of 'nature-based play', consisting of elements and textures from the environment such as tree logs, tree stumps, boulders, native plants and drainage paths among others, instead of traditional steel playground structures.*



Figure 5-8 Public toilets at the Bushyhill Street Playground

5.3 CONICAL HILL RAILWAY RESERVE

This small (350m²) parcel of council-administered land is located between Pomahaka and Conical Hill roads, and the Pomahaka River. The land is gazetted as a Local Purpose (Esplanade) reserve. The reserve has no road access, although it is located alongside the old Tapanui Branch railway line (Figure 5-9).



Figure 5-9 Map showing the Conical Hill Railway Reserve



Figure 5-10 View towards the Conical Hill Railway Reserve

5.3.1 Development

No developments are planned by council for this reserve. Council could 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). Revocation and sale was supported through the consultation process.

5.4 CROOKSTON CEMETERY RESERVE

The Crookston Cemetery opened in 1898, and is located on a gazetted Cemetery Reserve, administered by the Department of Conservation. The reserve has an area of 20,234 m². The Cemetery is well-maintained by the Crookston Cemetery Trust, and features the original Cemetery gates, an information panel, and an internment reference (Box 1). Access to the reserve is from Matheson Corner Road, and there is a gravelled area for parking on the road berm.



Figure 5-11 Map of the Crookston Cemetery Reserve



Figure 5-12 View of Crookston Cemetery Reserve

Box 1. Excerpt from the Crookston Cemetery Information Panel

The Crookston Cemetery Trust was formed in 1895 on the instigation of George Adams. He resolved that a burial ground must be established in the vicinity of his home Swift Creek (Heriot) as riding or driving long distances to funerals in Tapanui was too arduous.

The surveyed grounds of 3 acres were fenced and an advertisement was placed in the Tapanui Courier in 1898 opening the Cemetery for burial. The cost of an interment was £1... George Adams was the 1st burial in the cemetery of his own creating.

The Crookston Cemetery Trust is still responsible to this day for maintaining the Cemetery and is comprised of local interested people. The trust employs a Sexton who also keeps the grounds mown and orderly. Burial records are available for viewing at the Tapanui Service Centre.



5.5 DUNROBIN DOMAIN RESERVE

The Dunrobin Domain is bounded by Wilden School Road to the north, Moa Flat Road to the east, and Triangle Road to the south (Figure 5-13). The domain has an area of 48,074 m², is comprised of mainly farmland and trees (Figure 5-14) and is currently leased to a local farmer for grazing. The old Dunrobin Hall was located at the southeast corner of the reserve, and this was [demolished](#) in 2020. At the northeast corner lies a telecommunication building (Figure 5-14).

The reserve is designated as Reserve No. R129 in the Clutha District Plan. No developments are planned by council for this reserve. The Domain Board do not have any major plans, apart from keeping the reserve well maintained. Any improvements which may proposed by the community will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.



Figure 5-13 Map of the Dunrobin Domain Reserve.



Figure 5-14 View of the Dunrobin Domain from Wilden School Road. The telecommunications building can be seen at left.



Figure 5-15 View of the Dunrobin Domain from the site of the old Dunrobin Hall

5.6 HANCOX RESERVE & HANCOX PARK

This reserve was donated by the New Zealand Forestry Service to the people of Tapanui, to be used as a recreational ground, when Forest Service housing was built at the eastern end of Tapanui (Figure 4-5). A fenced off area at the front of the reserve is known locally as Hancox Park and is named after Mr Harold Hancox who was the mayor for 11 years (Figure 5-16). A plaque and a *Hancox Park* sign are located in this area (Figure 5-17). Although fenced off, this area is not a separate land parcel, and forms part of the wider reserve.

The reserve is accessed from Warwick Street, with residential properties to the west and north and a commercial property to the east. There is no formal vehicle access to the reserve and there is no designated onsite parking.

The reserve is freehold land rather than a gazetted reserve, is administered by the Clutha District Council, and lies within the Tapanui Urban Resource area within the District Plan. The reserve has an area of 13,881 m² (1.38 hectares or 3.42 acres).



Figure 5-16 Map of Hancox Reserve (outlined in purple) and Hancox Park (shaded blue). Water, stormwater and sewerage infrastructure are shown respectively as blue, green and red lines. Two metre contours are shown as thin red lines.



Figure 5-17 View of Hancox Park from Warwick Street

5.6.1 Maintenance

The council greenspace contract includes berm mowing on the Warwick Street frontage, but not the reserve itself (Appendix A7.0). There is an informal lease in place for grazing. In May 2023, the West Otago Community Board resolved to take the lead on improvements to Hancox Park as a Community Board project.

5.6.2 Development

The development of recreational facilities on this reserve is to be provided for, giving consideration to feedback received through the Our Place West Otago Community Plan (Appendix A4.0) and for this Reserve Management Plan. Options for residential development on this reserve were considered as part of the development of this plan. These were not supported through the feedback received and are not provided for through this plan.

There is clear potential to develop Hancox Reserve further, given its size and central location. Any improvements proposed by the community will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

5.7 HERIOT & DISTRICTS COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Heriot & Districts Community Centre is located on a 0.96 ha parcel of council-administered land at 11 Nith Street, Heriot (Figure 5-18). The building is owned and operated by the community, and includes a hall, meeting rooms, play centre and playground. This facility is used regularly by the community for a range of purposes and lies across the road from the Heriot Domain. The community centre receives grant funding from council.

There are no major developments planned for this reserve by council, and it will continue to be used to provide community facilities. The Our Place West Otago Community Plan includes a project to ensure that *community facilities in West Otago are fit for purpose and well used by residents and visitors.*



Figure 5-18 Map showing the Heriot & Districts Community Centre



Figure 5-19 Heriot and Districts Community Centre

5.8 HERIOT DOMAIN

The Heriot Domain was gazetted as a Recreation Reserve in 1886 and is located on a 5.81 ha parcel of land at 169 Roxburgh Street (Figure 5-20). Recreational facilities on the domain include playing fields, the Heriot Sports Complex, the old Heriot Bowling Club and asphalt tennis courts. The remainder of the reserve is used for grazing.

The domain is managed by the Heriot Domain Board, which also owns the two buildings. The Bowling Club buildings are currently used by a youth group. Council agreed to fund cleaning and maintenance of the public toilets within the sports complex from July 2023. There are no current plans to change the level of service or facilities provided at this reserve.



Figure 5-20 Map showing the Heriot Domain



Figure 5-21 View of the playing fields at the Heriot Domain

5.9 NORTHUMBERLAND STREET RESERVE

This reserve lies at the junction of Northumberland, Maple and Bushyhill streets (Figure 5-22). The reserve is comprised of two parts:

1. Part 1 - an irregularly shaped grassed area outside the PPG Wrightson store (Figure 5-23).
2. Part 2 - a smaller area, which is partly paved and grassed (Figure 5-24).

The first part is located on road reserve, while the second is on a parcel of council land at 47 Northumberland Street. The second part is used more regularly, as it is located closer to the main shopping area, with seating, a rubbish bin, and an information panel (Figure 5-24). The reserve is maintained under council's greenspace contract.

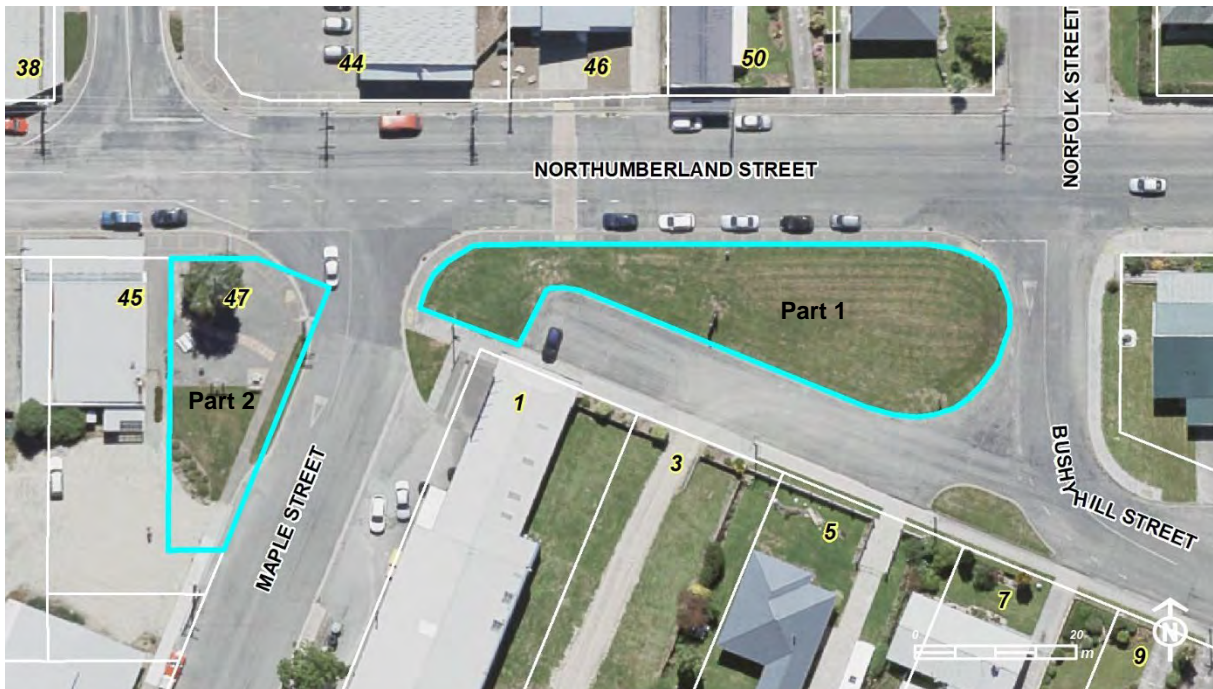


Figure 5-22 Map of the Northumberland Street Reserve (both parts marked in blue)

5.9.1 Development

Although there are no major developments planned by council for this reserve, the Our Place West Otago Community Plan includes a project to *make the main streets of Tapanui and Heriot more attractive, and a more appealing place to stop and spend time*. Any proposed improvements or development at this reserve will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan. It is anticipated that any initiatives will be a partnership between the community and council, due to the strategic location and importance of this reserve.



Figure 5-23 Northumberland Street reserve: grassed area outside PPG Wrightson



Figure 5-24 Northumberland Street reserve: paved area at 47 Northumberland Street

5.10 PARK HILL DOMAIN

The Park Hill Domain was gazetted in 1965, and is located on Switzers Road, 17 km west of Heriot, in the upper reaches of the Pomahaka River (Figure 5-26). The domain has an area of 23,962 m² (2.39 ha) and lies beside the Pomahaka River. The area is managed and maintained by the Park Hill Recreation Reserve Board, and facilities include changing rooms, a toilet and a large, grassed area. The Heriot Collie Club buildings sit on the southwest end of the domain, between the road and the trees. These buildings have been situated there for many years. The Heriot Collie Club own these buildings and are responsible for all maintenance and repairs.

The domain is used for family picnics and provides access to the river for swimming or fishing. Low-lying parts of the reserve are subject to inundation when the Pomahaka River is in flood.

As shown on Figure 5-25, the surveyed extent of the domain does not align with the area actually used by the public, and Switzers Road crosses through the reserve. Neither council or the committee intend to alter the level of service or facilities provided at this reserve.



Figure 5-25 Map of the Park Hill Domain

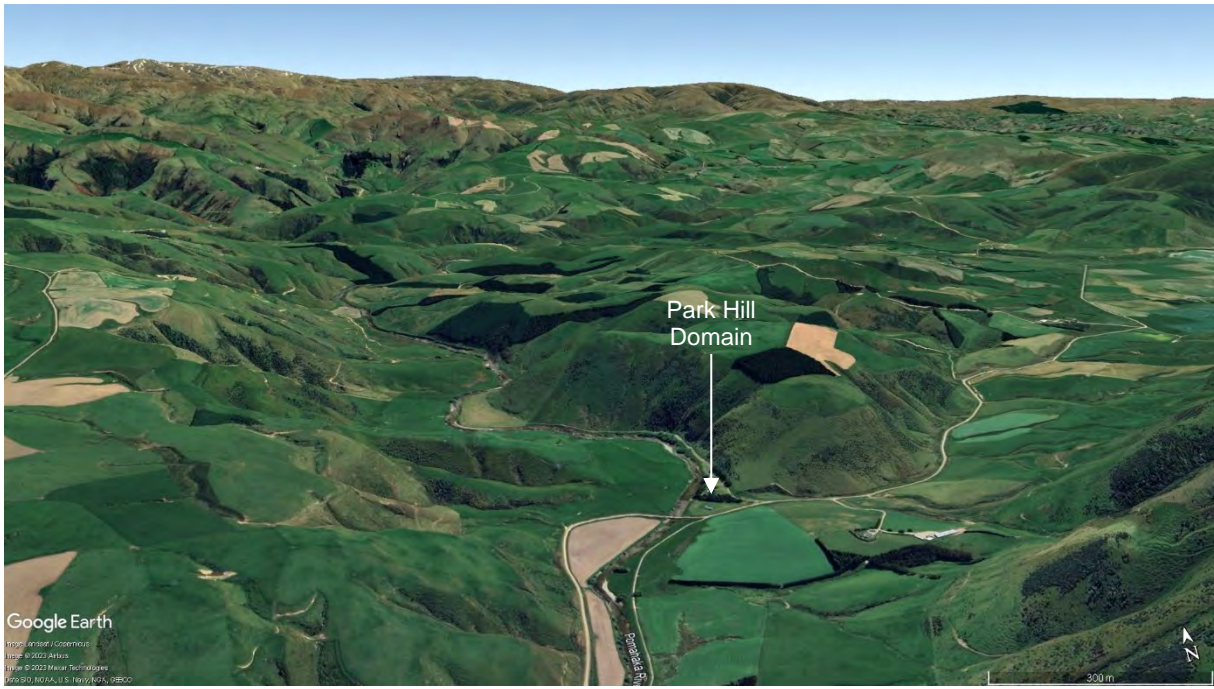


Figure 5-26 3D view of the Park Hill Domain (Source: Google Earth)



Figure 5-27 View of the Park Hill Domain (Source: Linda Roulston)

5.11 STATION ROAD RESERVE

This reserve lies near the western entrance to Tapanui and provides a link between Sherwood Place and Station Road (SH90). The reserve is maintained under council’s greenspace contract and has an area of 1,742 m² (Figure 5-28). A walking/cycling path and a picnic table are located on the reserve (Figure 5-29).



Figure 5-28 Map of the Station Road Reserve



Figure 5-29 View of the Station Road Reserve from SH90

The Our Place West Otago Community Plan includes a project to *make the main streets of Tapanui and Heriot more attractive, and a more appealing place to stop and spend time*, and improvements could be undertaken at this reserve as part of this project. However, no major developments are currently planned by council. Any proposed improvements or development at this reserve will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

5.12 TAPANUI CEMETERY RESERVE

The Tapanui Cemetery is administered by council in conjunction with its greenspace contractor and is located to the east of Tapanui on Cemetery Road. The reserve is comprised of two separate parcels: a central block of 16,693 m², and an outer block of 76,891 m². The total area is 93,584 m² (9.3 ha) The formed part of the cemetery mainly sits within the central block, apart from a small section to the north (Figure 5-30). The remainder of the outer block is leased for grazing (Appendix A2.0).

An information panel within the reserve states that it was established about 1869, when “the Government granted four acres of land to be used exclusively as a cemetery”. The panel also notes that “an artificial mound was created in the centre on which was planted the Wellingtonia Tree (giant Sequoia) which still remains a focus of the cemetery”. The oldest graves are in Block 1 along the back of the cemetery.

There are currently no plans for major developments at the Tapanui Cemetery.



Figure 5-30 Map of the Tapanui Cemetery Reserve



Figure 5-31 View of the Tapanui Cemetery Reserve



Figure 5-32 Information panel and map at the Tapanui Cemetery Reserve

5.13 TAPANUI COMMONAGE RESERVE

The Tapanui Commonage is a gazetted Commonage Reserve which is administered by council, with an estimated area of 2,910,068 m² (291 ha). The reserve has its own Act of Parliament³ which vests the land with “*the Mayor, Councillors and Burgesses of the Borough of Tapanui*”, and is designated as Reserve No. R217 in the District Plan. An historical account of the Tapanui Commonage is shown in Box 2.

Box 2. Excerpt from the Otago Daily Times, 1884.^Ω

A RIDE ROUND THE TAPANUI SETTLEMENT.

After passing these places the road runs through the Tapanui Commonage, which is vested in the Borough Council, and managed in a most commendable manner. Before it was taken charge of by them it was indeed a commonage, but of very little use to those for whose benefit it was reserved by Government, as the number of stray sheep which constantly grazed over it left little if anything for the citizens' cattle. To remedy this the Borough Council had it securely fenced, the cost of which work is repaid by fees obtained from the land itself, and the property, which, before this had been done, was almost useless to the citizens of Tapanui, is now not only a revenue-producer but is annually increasing in value. About two-thirds have been retained for grazing purposes, and the balance let in paddocks at so much per annum for a number of years on which crops of oats are being grown this year by Mr T. Hewett and Messrs Bremner and Washer, which, from appearances, will give a good yield.

^Ω A ride round the Tapanui Settlement, Otago Daily Times Issue 6877, 1 March 1884, page 2 (supplement).

Much of the reserve is leased for grazing with improvements limited to fencing, access tracks and utility sheds (Figure 5-33). There are three leases which expire in the mid to late 2030's (Appendix A2.0). There are three small streams which drain through the reserve, towards either Flodden Creek or directly to the Pomahaka River.

The West Otago Show Grounds and Racing Track is located in the northeastern part of the Commonage Reserve. This area is used for events, including the West Otago A&P Show (Figure 5-34 & Figure 5-35). Funds raised through leases are administered by the West Otago Community Board and are allocated towards community projects.

The extent of the reserve is shown in Figure 5-36, along with two adjacent reserves. No major developments are currently planned by council or the West Otago Community Board for the Commonage Reserve.

³ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/local/1911/0038/latest/whole.html>



Figure 5-33 Access point to the Tapanui Commonage Reserve from Duncan Road North








Figure 5-34 Stand and office building at the West Otago Show Grounds and Racing Track



Figure 5-35 View of the Tapanui Racing Track from the stand

Date Printed: 6 July 2023



- Legend**
-  LINZ Parcel Boundary
 -  Commonage parcel numbers (Appendix A1)
 -  Tapanui Commonage
 -  Tapanui Golf Course
 -  Tapanui Sports Ground

The information shown including underground services is indicative only. The Clutha District Council accepts no responsibility for incomplete or inaccurate information contained on this map.

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Figure 5-36 Map of the Tapanui Commonage, Golf Course and Sports Ground reserves

5.14 TAPANUI GOLF COURSE RESERVE

The Tapanui Golf Course reserve is located at 67 Tapanui-Raes Junction Highway (SH90), on the northern outskirts of Tapanui (Figure 5-36 and Figure 5-37). The land is gazetted as a Recreation Reserve and is administered by council. There is a formal lease in place to the Tapanui Golf Club, which has been in existence for over 100 years. The golf course consists of 18 holes and has the Blue Mountains as an impressive background (Figure 5-38).

The 18-hole course is also open to the public, upon payment of green fees. A club house has been built on the reserve. As the facilities on this reserve are privately owned, access is at the discretion of the lease holder. Separate sections of the golf course lie on either side of SH90.

Together with the Tapanui Sports Ground Reserve, the Golf Course is designated as Reserve No. R111 in the Clutha District Plan.



Figure 5-37 Map of the Tapanui Golf Course Reserve and the adjacent Tapanui Sportsground Reserve

5.14.1 Maintenance

As provided for in the lease, the management and maintenance of the golf course and club house is undertaken by the Tapanui Golf Club.

5.14.2 Development

There are no major developments planned by council for this reserve. Council will continue to review the lease as stipulated in section 3.0 of this Reserve Management Plan.



Figure 5-38 View across the Tapanui Golf Course towards the Blue Mountains (Source: [Golf Otago](#))

5.14.3 Accessway

To the east of SH90, there is a land parcel⁴ that forms part of the reserve, which is used as a link between the two parts of the golf course, as marked on Figure 5-37. This land parcel is approximately 20m wide and 420m long.

The western end comprises a gravelled access road which is also used as an alternative entrance to West Otago Health and Ribbonwood Country Home (Figure 5-39).

Based on feedback received through the development of this Reserve Management Plan, Council will consider revoking the reserve status of the western portion of this parcel and subdivision of this parcel into two lots, as shown on Figure 5-40. This decision will require a separate consultation process (Appendix A5.0). If this proposed change is approved, Council would then subsequently consider the sale of the western portion to West Otago Health Limited, with appropriate protection to ensure its continued use by the Tapanui Golf Club.



Figure 5-39 A section of the Tapanui Golf Course Reserve which links the two parts of the course, and provides alternative access to West Otago Health

⁴ Designated as Lot 1A, DP2480



Figure 5-40 Map showing Lot 1A, DP2480. Council will consider revoking the reserve status of the western portion of this parcel, subdivision, and potential sale.

5.15 TAPANUI SPORTS GROUND RESERVE

This large reserve is located on the northern outskirts of Tapanui and is accessed via Recreation Grounds Road from SH90 (Figure 5-36 and Figure 5-37). It has an area of 26,608 m² (2.6 ha) and lies adjacent to the Blue Mountain College grounds and the Tapanui Golf Course. The reserve is used primarily for rugby and other sports, while the old netball courts are used for camping by self-contained vehicles. There are leases in place to the Tapanui Rugby Football Club and the NZ Motor Caravan Association (Appendix A2.0). Together with the Tapanui Golf Course, this reserve is designated as Reserve No. R111 in the Clutha District Plan.

There are two buildings located on the reserve: the larger one houses the changing rooms and club house for the rugby club (Figure 5-41), while a smaller building is located alongside the area used by campers. As the facilities on this reserve are privately owned, access to them is at discretion of the lease holders.

5.15.1 Maintenance

The greenspace/park area is currently maintained by the Tapanui Rugby Club and the access road is maintained by Clutha District Council.



Figure 5-41 View of the sports field and clubrooms on the Tapanui Sports Ground reserve

5.15.2 Development

No major developments are currently planned by council for this reserve. Council will continue to review leases as stipulated in section 3.0 of this plan.

It is noted that there is a relevant project in the Our Place West Otago Community Plan to *improve existing or create additional sites which provide for overnight camping in self-contained vehicles*. Any proposed improvements or development at this reserve will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.



Figure 5-42 The old netball courts on the Tapanui Sportsground Reserve, currently used for camping by self-contained vehicles.

5.16 TAPANUI SERVICE CENTRE RESERVE

This small section of land is gazetted as a Local Purpose Reserve and serves as the site for the Tapanui Library and Service Centre. The reserve is 1,012 m2 in size and is located on the corner of Suffolk and Sussex streets. The section is maintained by council.

No developments are planned at this site. Council's intention is to continue maintaining the building and adjacent landscaped area (Figure 5-43). It will also consider any enhancements the community may at times feel necessary and undertake these if appropriate.



Figure 5-43 Tapanui Library and Service Centre building (top) and the landscaped part of the reserve (bottom)

5.17 TAPANUI POUND RESERVE

This gazetted Recreation Reserve has an area of 8,094 m² and is accessed off Kent Street. There is currently an informal lease to use the reserve for grazing. An ephemeral waterway passes through the reserve, from southeast to northwest.



Figure 5-44 Map of the Tapanui Pound Reserve



Figure 5-45 View of the Tapanui Pound Reserve

5.17.1 Development

No developments are currently planned by council for this reserve. Community proposals to use this reserve for recreational or environmental projects will be considered by council and will be provided for if they align with the objectives and policies set out in the Reserve Management Plan.

5.18 WAIKOIKOI CEMETERY RESERVE

The Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve is located on a gently sloping hillside at 140 Charters Road, approximately 2.25 km from Waikoikoi. It is gazetted as a Cemetery Reserve. The reserve has a total area of 29,871 m², although only a small part of this is actually used as a cemetery (Figure 5-46). The remainder is used for grazing.

The earliest burial at the Waikoikoi Cemetery was in 1890, and the cemetery is still active. Although the reserve is administered by council, the Waikoikoi Cemetery Trust Board has responsibility for the cemetery and maintains it.



Figure 5-46 Map of the Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve



Figure 5-47 Two views of the Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve

5.19 WAIKOIKOI HALL RESERVE

The Waikoikoi Hall Reserve is located at 5 Koi Flat Road, near the intersection with SH90 (Figure 5-48). The reserve has an area of 2,231 m², with the Waikoikoi Hall located near the centre, a carpark to the north (Figure 5-49), and paddocks to the south and east. The hall is community-owned and receives grant funding from council.

The land is administered by council, gazetted as a Local Purpose Reserve, and is designated as Reserve No. R164 in the Clutha District Plan. No developments are planned by council for this reserve.



Figure 5-48 Map of the Waikoikoi Hall Reserve



Figure 5-49 View of the Waikoikoi Hall Reserve

5.20 WAIKOIKOI SPORTSGROUND RESERVE

To the south of Waikoikoi Hall, and adjacent to Waikoikoi School, lies the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve (Figure 5-50). The reserve is made up of two separate parcels of land, both of which are gazetted Recreation Reserves. The reserve is administered by the Waikoikoi Domain Board, with the northern section maintained by the Waikoikoi Cricket Club.



Figure 5-50 Map of the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve

The northern part of the reserve has an area of 28,897 m² and is used as a sportsground and as the home of the Waikoikoi Cricket Club (Figure 5-51). The club plays throughout Southland, and there are clubrooms located at the end of a gravel driveway, off Koi Flat Road (Figure 5-52). The club regressed the entire cricket pitch in 2022.



Cricket underway at Waikoikoi Sportsground
(Source: Waikoikoi Cricket Club)



Figure 5-51 View of the cricket pitch on the northern part of the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve



Figure 5-52 Clubrooms at the Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve

The parcel of land to the south is currently used for grazing, with no formal lease in place. This section covers 45,072 m² and Waikoikoi Creek curves along the southern boundary. No developments are planned by council for either part of this reserve. The Cricket Club have considered making improvements to the clubrooms, but no firm plans are in place.

5.21 WAIPAHI CEMETERY RESERVE

The Waipahi Cemetery Reserve is accessed from Waipahi Cemetery Road (off West Otago Road) and lies approximately 1.5 km from Waipahi. The land was purchased in 1878 by the Waipahi Progress League and gazetted as a Cemetery Reserve in 1883. The reserve has a total area of 20,234 m², although only a small part of this is used as a cemetery (Figure 5-53). The remainder is used for grazing, although there is no formal lease in place.

The earliest burial at the cemetery was in 1885, and it is still active today. It is administered by the Clutha District Council, in conjunction with its greenspace contractor.



Figure 5-53 Map of the Waipahi Cemetery Reserve



Figure 5-54 View across the Waipahi Cemetery Reserve from the corner of West Otago Road & Cemetery Road

5.22 WAIPAHI POOL RESERVE

The Waipahi Pool Reserve is a gazetted Recreation Reserve, located on School Road (Figure 5-55 and Figure 5-57), with an area of 654 m². The land is leased to the Waipahi Pool Society, with the lease expiring in 2038. The old pool building on the reserve has fallen into a state of disrepair (Figure 5-56).

No developments are planned by council for this reserve. Council could consider the revocation of reserve status and potential sale of this part of the 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 5-55 Map of the Waipahi Pool Reserve



Figure 5-56 The old pool on the Waipahi Pool Reserve

5.23 WAIPAHI RECREATION RESERVE

The Waipahi Recreation Reserve is gazetted as a Recreation Reserve, and comprises five parcels of land, spread across three sites (Figure 5-57), as described below.

5.23.1 School Road

This part of the reserve is located between SH1 and School Road, on the western side of Waipahi (Figure 5-57). It is primarily grassed and is used for making baleage or haymaking as a community fundraiser (Figure 5-58). There is no formal lease currently in place. The two parcels which make up this part of the reserve have a total area of 28,338 m². An old tennis court is located in the northwest corner of the reserve (Figure 5-59). This part of the reserve is designated as Reserve No. R85 in the Clutha District Plan.

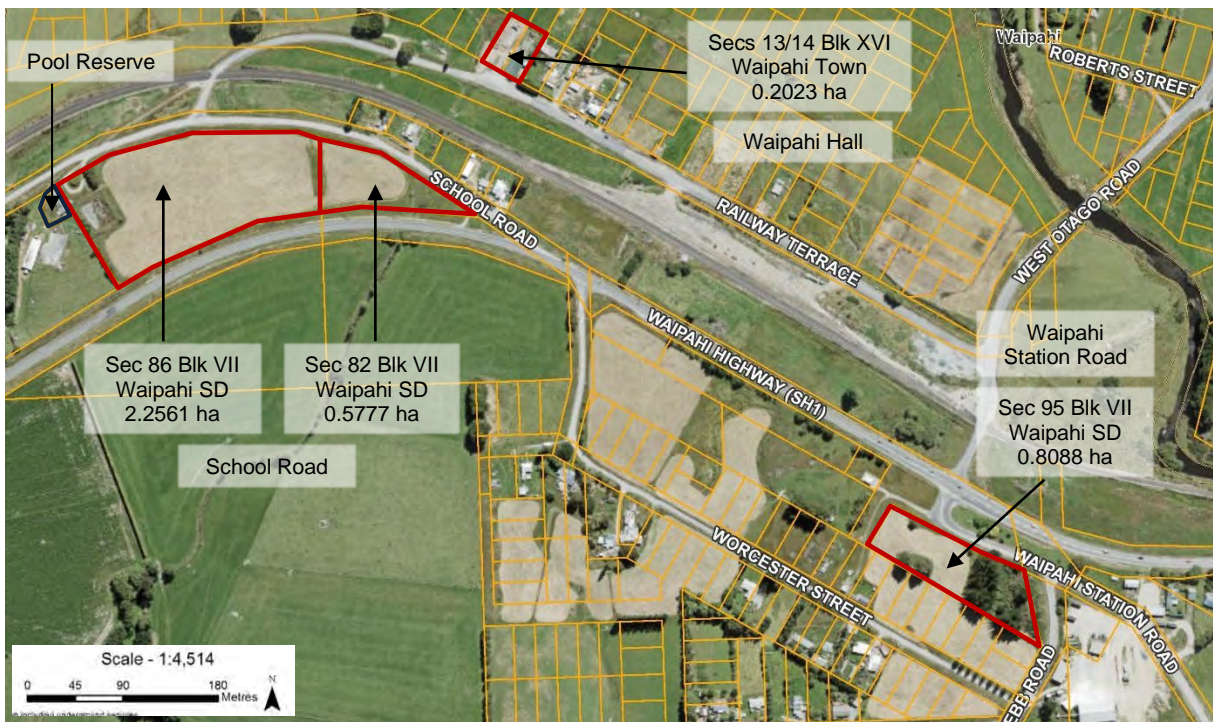


Figure 5-57 The Waipahi Recreation Reserve



Figure 5-58 View of the Waipahi Recreation Reserve from School Road



Figure 5-59 The old tennis courts on the Waipahi Recreation Reserve

No developments are planned by council for this reserve. Council could consider the revocation of reserve status and potential sale of this part of the reserve. Revocation of a gazetted reserve needs to follow a statutory process that requires the Minister of Conservation involvement and approval (Appendix A5.0). See the note in the following section also.

5.23.2 Waipahi Station Road

This part of the reserve is located on Waipahi Station Road, just off SH1 (Figure 5-57). It has a total area of 8,088 m² and is currently grazed and maintained by a local resident. There is no formal lease currently in place. This part of the reserve is designated as Reserve No. R86 in the Clutha District Plan.

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

In May 2018, Council's Service Delivery Committee resolved to proceed with the reserve revocation process for the School Road and Waipahi Station Road parts of this reserve "for the reason that it is not required as a Recreation Reserve". No further action has been taken to progress this however.

5.23.3 Waipahi Hall

The Waipahi Hall is located on the third part of the Waipahi Recreation Reserve, on Railway Terrace. This part of the reserve has a total area of 2,023 m² and is comprised of two 'quarter acre' parcels (Figure 5-57). The hall is a council-owned facility, managed by the local community.

A playground is also located on the reserve, although this is falling into disrepair (Figure 5-61). An assessment by WSP in 2020 identified the following upgrades were required for the hall:

- *Septic tank and rainwater tank repairs.*
- *Electrical upgrade, including zip replacement.*

The land is designated as Reserve No. R84 in the Clutha District Plan. No developments are currently planned by council for this reserve.



Figure 5-60 View of the Waipahi Hall



Figure 5-61 View of the playground area at the rear of the Waipahi Hall

5.24 WEST OTAGO VINTAGE CLUB RESERVE

This Local Purpose Reserve was gazetted in 1987 and is located at 57A & 59 Northumberland Street. It is currently leased to the West Otago Vintage Club, and the two sections have a combined area of 2,023m² (Figure 5-62). The section is maintained by the club, which also owns the buildings on site (Figure 5-63).

Council is not planning any developments at this reserve and intends to allow it to be used for its current purpose.



Figure 5-62 Map of the West Otago Vintage Club Reserve



Figure 5-63 The West Otago Vintage Club Reserve

5.25 WHISKY GULLY

The Whisky Gully Reserve is located at the eastern end of Whisky Gully Road, approximately 2.5 km from central Tapanui. A Reserve Management Plan was developed for the Whisky Gully Domain by council in 2014 which has been superseded by this West Otago Reserve Management Plan. Some of the information below has been reproduced from the 2014 plan.

5.25.1 Reserve description

There are four land parcels in the vicinity of the Whisky Gully Domain. One is the CDC Water Treatment Plant Reserve, while the rest are DOC-administered reserves. A Road Reserve also bisects the reserve. The legal description and area of each parcel is provided in Table 5-1, and a map of the area is shown in Figure 5-64.

Table 5-1 Description of land parcels in the vicinity of the Whisky Gully Domain

Parcel	Agency	Name	Gazetted	Legal Description	Area
1	CDC	Local Reserve (Water Treatment Plant)	1978	Secs 7 & 33 SO 18785	7,200 m ²
2	DOC	Reserve (Part Tapanui Domain)	1946	Section 3, Block X, Rankleburn SD	11,761 m ²
3	DOC	Reserve (Part Tapanui Domain)	Unknown	Lot 1, DP 20859	6,314 m ²
4	DOC	Reserve (Part Tapanui Domain)	1946	Part Section 1, Block X, Rankleburn SD	2,151,639 m ²

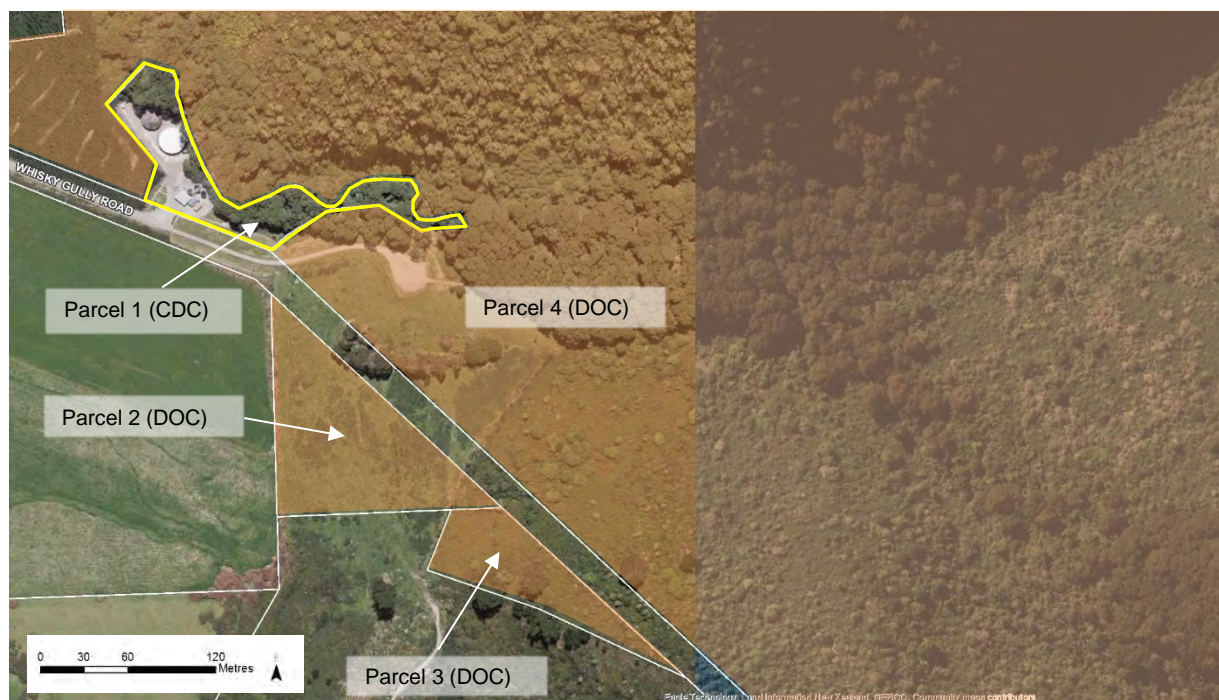


Figure 5-64 Map of the Whisky Gully Reserve. The CDC Water Treatment Plant is outlined in yellow while land administered by DOC is shaded orange.

The area which is actively utilised as the Whisky Gully Reserve lies on Road Reserve and land administered by DOC. The recreational part of the reserve comprises the picnic and car park area at the start of the bush walk, and the forested area on the flanks of the Blue Mountains (Figure 5-65). Council's Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is located nearby.



Figure 5-65 Map of the Whisky Gully Reserve showing the area utilised as a picnic area and car park.



Figure 5-66 Car park and picnic table at Whisky Gully Reserve



Figure 5-67 Entrance to the bush walk (left) and public toilets (right)



Figure 5-68 The leased section of the Whisky Gully Reserve, with the forested area in the background



Figure 5-69 The Tapanui Water Treatment Plant

5.25.2 History and maintenance arrangements

Due to the history of this reserve, the administration and maintenance of the areas within the reserve is complicated, with some overlap. The following section describes how different areas are managed, and who has responsibility for maintenance.

The Whisky Gully Domain was gazetted in 1930 as a Recreation Reserve, to be managed and administered as a Domain. In 1983 the Lands and Survey Department (LSD) approached the Tapanui Borough Council and recommended the following:

- a. *That Whisky Gully is classified as a ‘Scenic Reserve.’*
- b. *That the Borough Council relinquish control of the upper (forested) part of the reserve to LSD.⁵*
- c. *That council retains control of the picnic area.*

The current maintenance arrangements can be described as follows:

- a. *The access road and car park is maintained (graded) as part of council’s roading contract.*
- b. *Mowing of the reserve is not included in council’s current greenspace contract.*
- c. *Instead, the lower part of the reserve (comprising the road and berm areas, carpark, and toilets) have been voluntarily maintained by D. Edgar.*
- d. *The upper part of the reserve is administered by the Department of Conservation (DOC), who undertake track maintenance and supply a DOC sign.*

The current management arrangements are generally in accordance with the Lands and Survey recommendation from 1983. However, the picnic area actually lies within the part of the reserve administered by DOC, with the part of the reserve administered by council (Figure 5-64) limited to:

⁵ The Tapanui Borough Council was incorporated into the Clutha District Council in 1989, and the Crown Lands section of the Lands and Survey Department was incorporated into the Department of Conservation (DOC) in 1987.

- *The area occupied by the water treatment plant,*
- *A section of the Whisky Gully riverbed, and*
- *Road Reserve.*

Spelling of Whisky Gully

The LINZ database [\[link\]](#) of geographic names labels both the gully and the reserve with an 'e'. The previous Reserve Management Plan notes that local people generally refer to the area as 'Whisky Gully', and the reserve lies at the end of Whisky Gully Road. For the purposes of this plan, the unofficial, local spelling has been used.

5.25.3 Management aim and objectives

To ensure the effective management of any reserve, it is essential that objectives and policies are clearly defined, so that decisions regarding any activity proposed or carried out on the reserve are made in accordance with those objectives and policies.

In addition to the objectives and policies listed in section 3.0, the following policies relate specifically to the Whisky Gully Domain Reserve:

1. *To minimise conflict and interference between recreationists.*
2. *To maintain and improve the quality of the existing recreation environment.*
3. *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. *To promote and facilitate use of the reserve based on identifiable recreational demands that are compatible with the character and sustainability of the area.*
5. *To permit freedom of public access to the reserve as limited by the terms of any leases/agreements of the reserve or part reserve.*
6. *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.*
7. *To manage and promote the open space values of the reserve.*
8. *To manage and protect the natural amenity values of the reserve.*
9. *To provide for use of the reserve by self-contained campervans which meet the requirements of council's Freedom Camping Bylaw 2021.*

5.25.4 Development

There is a relevant project (with associated council funding) in the Our Place West Otago Community Plan to *undertake amenity improvements/pest eradication at the Whisky Gully Domain*. This project was included in response to feedback received through consultation for the community plan, and the high value people placed on this reserve (Appendix A4.0).

Although there are no major developments currently planned by council for this reserve, council and the West Otago Community Board will ensure this reserve is maintained and provides suitable amenities. Any proposed improvements or development at the Whisky Gully Domain will be considered by council in the context of its reserve status, and the objectives and policies set out in this Reserve Management Plan.

APPENDICES

A1.0 APPENDIX 1: LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Table A1.1 Legal descriptions of council-administered reserves

Description	Legal description	Classification	Area (m ²)	District Plan Zone (Reserve No.)
Black Gully Domain Reserve	Sections 5-7, Block X Crookston SD Black Gully Recreation Reserve	Recreation Reserve	84,984	Rural (R112)
Bushyhill Street Playground reserve	Lot 1, DP 18070, Sections 9/10 13/14, Block IX Tapanui Town – Tapanui Children's Playground	Recreation Reserve	1,012	Urban reserve (R217)
Conical Hill Road	Lot 5, DP 25153, Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade)	Local Purpose reserve	350	Rural
Crookston Cemetery reserve	Section 24, Block VII Crookston S D	Cemetery Reserve	20,234	Rural
Dunrobin Domain Reserve	Section 70, Block VIII Crookston SD	Fee Simple	48,074	Rural (R129)
Hancox Park	Section 1, SO 23460	Fee Simple	13,881	Urban
Heriot & Districts Community Centre	Section 15, Block II Town of Heriot Town		2,833	Urban
Heriot Domain	Part Section 11, Block I Town of Heriot	Recreation Reserve	58,234	Rural (R215)
Northumberland Street Park	Lot 2, 12807		453	Urban
Park Hill Domain	Section 1 Block XIV Greenvale SD	Domain	23,962	Rural
Station Road Park Reserve	Lot 12, DP 20956-Reserve	Local purpose Reserve	1742	Urban
Tapanui Commonage Reserve				
Parcels (as labelled in Figure 5-36):	1/1, Section 1058R, 1059R Block XIII Glenkenich Survey District and Section 1060R, 1061R Block XIII Survey District Glenkenich and Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich Survey District,	Commonage Reserve	1,995,631	Rural
1				
2	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		399,160	Rural
3	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		41,525	Rural
4	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		11,647	Rural
5	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		13,608	Rural
6	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		9,159	Rural
7	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		75,499	Rural
8	Part Section 62 Block XIII Glenkenich SD		99,534	Rural
9	Lot 7 DP 2480		41,877	Rural
10	Lot 6 DP 2480		43,934	Rural
11	Lot 5 DP 2480		43,989	Rural
12	Lot 4 DP 2480		44,710	Rural
13	Lot 3 DP 2480		44,925	Rural
14	Lot 2 DP 2480		44,870	Rural

Tapanui Cemetery Reserve:				
Cemetery Reserve	Sections 2, PTS 11 29, Block IV Glenkenich SD-Part Cemetery Reserve	Cemetery Reserve	16,693	Rural
Grazing Land	Sections 2, PTS 11 29, Block IV Glenkenich SD	Cemetery Reserve	76,891	Rural
Tapanui Golf Course	Pt Sections 65/69, Block XIII Glenkenich SD Recreation Reserve	Recreation Reserve	200,952	Rural (R111)
Tapanui Service Centre Reserve	Section 5, Block II Tapanui Town	Local Purpose Reserve	1012	Urban
Tapanui Sports Ground Reserve	Section 70, PTS 65/69, Block XIII Glenkenich SD-Recreation Reserve 83/3333	Recreation Reserve	26,608	Rural (R111)
Tapanui Pond Reserve	Section 3 Block XXII Town of Tapanui land District: Otago	Recreation Reserve	8,094	Rural
Waikoikoi Cemetery Reserve	Sections 43A/47, Block X Glenkenich SD	Cemetery Reserve	21,777	Rural
Waikoikoi Hall Reserve	Section 58, Block X Glenkenich SD-GAZ 59-562 59-566	Local Purpose Reserve	2,231	Rural (R164)
Waikoikoi Sportsground Reserve:				
Glenshee Road	Section 48, Block X Glenkenich SD- Recreational Reserve GAZ 59-1546	Recreation Reserve	45,072	Rural (R60)
Koi Flat Road	Lot 2 D P 7349, Block X Glenkenich SD- Recreational Reserve GAZ 59-562	Recreation Reserve	28,897	Rural (R60)
Waipahi Cemetery Reserve	Section 76, Block VII Waipahi S D	Cemetery Reserve	20,234	Rural
Waipahi pool Reserve	Section 1, SO 333584	Recreation Reserve	654	Rural
Waipahi Recreation reserve:				
Recreation reserve	Sections 82/86/95, Block VII Waipahi SD-Recreation Reserve	Recreation Reserve	22,561	Rural (R85)
Recreation reserve	Sections 82/86/95, Block VII Waipahi SD-Recreational Reserve	Recreation Reserve	8,088	Rural (R86)
Waipahi Hall	Section 13/14, Block XVI Waipahi Town – Waipahi Recreation reserve	Recreation Reserve	1012	
West Otago Vintage Car Museum Reserve	Sections 8/9, Block VII Tapanui Town- Local Purpose Reserve-GAZ 87/5000	Local Purpose Reserve	1,012	Urban
Whisky Gully Reserve:				
Whisky Gully Reserve	PT Section 1, 3 Block X Rankleburn SD PT Section 27, Block VIII Glenkenich SD	Tapanui Water Supply	2,151,639	Rural (R270)
Reservoir Reserve	Section 10, Block IV Glenkenich S D	Reservoir Reserve	85,414	Rural (R160)
Tapanui Water Plant Reserve	Sections 7, 33, SO 18785	Local reserve	4,900	Rural (218)

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
Northumberland Street, Tapanui	West Otago Vintage club	West Otago Vintage club	31 Dec 2030	33 years
Cemetery Road	Tapanui Cemetery	J Stiven	30 Apr 2025	5 years
Tapanui Raes Junction Highway (SH90)	Tapanui Golf Club	Tapanui Golf Club Inc	6 Oct 2025	21 years
School Road	Waipahi Pool	Waipahi Pool Society Inc	30 Nov 2038	33 years
Whiskey Gully Road	Whisky Gully Reserve	D S Edgar	31 Dec 2022	3 years
Duncan Road North	Tapanui Commonage	KR & SJE Baxter	30 Apr 2036	21 years
Duncan Road North	Tapanui Commonage	P A Chittock	30 Apr 2039	21 years
Duncan Road North	Tapanui Commonage	Daisy Hill Dairies	30 Apr 2037	21 years
Tapanui Raes Junction Highway (SH90)	Tapanui Sportsground	Tapanui Rugby Football Club Inc	30 June 2027	33 years
Tapanui Raes Junction Highway (SH90)	Tapanui Sportsground	NZ Motor Caravan Association	15 Jan 2025	5 years
Station Road	Tapanui Pound Reserve	C J Black	Informal	Informal

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

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND RESERVES

As part of the Our Place consultation, West Otago residents were asked to rate community facilities and reserves in West Otago using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 was not important and 5 was very important. Feedback (through a survey) was received from 94 respondents, and the results are shown in Table A4.1.

The West Otago Community Centre almost had a perfect score, at 4.8 out of 5, and is obviously highly valued amongst the West Otago community.

The two reserves which were rated most highly were the Black Gully and Whiskey Gully domains, which had average scores of 4.5 and 4.4 out of 5 respectively.

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

Table A4.1 Rankings assigned to community facilities and reserves within the West Otago Ward

How important are the following community facilities?	Not Important			Very Important		Average score	Rank
	1	2	3	4	5		
West Otago Community Centre	1	0	3	10	76	4.8	1
Black Gully Domain	0	0	9	29	50	4.5	2
Whisky Gully Domain	1	1	10	25	50	4.4	3
Heriot Community Centre	5	4	12	17	46	4.1	4
Tapanui Domain	2	1	18	24	36	4.1	5
Heriot Domain	7	4	18	20	31	3.8	6
Waikoikoi Sports Ground	6	9	21	21	18	3.5	7
Hancox Park	19	8	19	15	23	3.2	9
Waikoikoi Hall	10	8	32	12	14	3.2	8
Waipahi Hall	10	12	27	12	11	3.0	10
Crookston Hall	13	15	29	11	10	2.9	11

NEW DEVELOPMENT ON RESERVES

Other relevant feedback related to the importance of potential projects to upgrade or develop new community facilities, as shown in Table A4.2. If these types of projects were to occur, they would likely be located on council-administered reserves.

The highest ranked item was the development of a 'destination' playground, with an average score of 3.7 out of 5. Of the 92 people who rated this option, 61% rated it as a 4 or a 5. In order, the next highest items were a pump track, toilet upgrade at the playground, and a skate park development.

Table A4.2 Rankings assigned to community facility upgrade options

How important is it that continue to investigate...	Not Important			Very Important		Average score	Rank
	1	2	3	4	5		
Developing a 'destination' playground	8	6	22	25	30	3.7	1
A pump track development	14	9	17	16	27	3.4	2
An upgrade to the toilets at the Tapanui (Bushyhill St) playground	13	8	27	21	17	3.2	3
A skate park development	22	13	17	9	25	3.0	4

HANCOX PARK

Residents were asked how they would like to see Hancox Park used in the future. The results are shown in Figure A4.1, with a recreational facility the most popular choice with 42 votes. Residential development was also popular, with 34 votes. Of the respondents who voted for 'Other', several suggested it should be used for both residential and recreational activity, while some asked that it be used as a dog park.

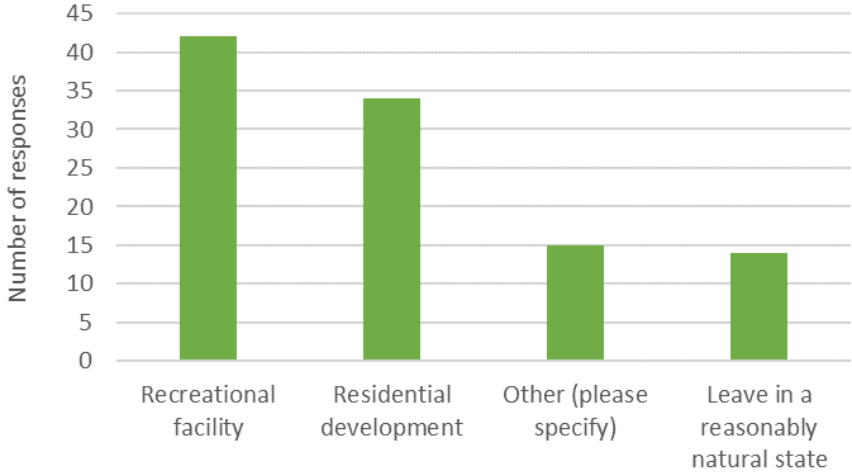


Figure A4.1 The number of responses regarding future use of Hancox Park

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.⁶ 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 West Otago 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. 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 the West Otago Community Board.
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.

⁶ Reference: Carterton District Council, 2019: <https://cdc.govt.nz/your-council/consultation/proposal-to-revoke-reserve-status-fisher-place/>

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 IN TAPANUI MOWED UNDER COUNCIL'S GREENSPACE CONTRACT



A8.0 APPENDIX 8. CLASSIFICATION OF RESERVES

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.⁷

⁷ Source: *Reserves Act Guide*, Department of Conservation,