



PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

ATTACHMENTS

**CULTURE & SPORT COMMITTEE
UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

9:00 AM, WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2025

COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH

CULTURE & SPORT COMMITTEE MEETING

10 September 2025

Under Separate Cover

8. Draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan - Hearing of Submissions

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11. Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025 - adoption

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12. Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan 2025 - adoption

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General Policy Reserve Management Plan

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3	Robert McLachlan
4	Manawatū Chinese Community Trust – Wendy Li
5	Manawatū-Tararua Equestrian Advocacy Group – Lynne Moore
6	Rosemary Watson
7	Richard Dawson
8	Robert Cleland
9	Sian Cass
10	Age Friendly Palmerston North – Russell Hallam & Kerry Hocquard
11	Palmerston North Youth Council - Liorah Jainarain

1

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	David
Last name	Broome
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email

2

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Rachel
Last name	Butler
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I don't know / no opinion
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Robert
Last name	McLachlan
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I don't know / no opinion
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	<p>Item 30 says "Our reserves are all about open space and enjoyment, so motorised vehicles generally aren't allowed". However the Esplanade is full of motor traffic (even through-traffic!). This is a car-centric idea from the 1960s. This policy should be strengthened to get rid of cars as much as possible.</p> <p>Item 16, Biodiversity, seems very weak. I can't find any overarching goal about enhancing biodiversity and environmental integrity, or how this is going to be achieved. Two examples - Bledisloe Park (old) and the Linton Pathway (new) are both full of invasive plants. Palmerston North is becoming an exception in not having a predator-free sanctuary within the city or nearby. The Manawatū River is mentioned briefly but not the context that its water quality is still in decline – it recently dropped to category E (the lowest possible) on the LAWA website.</p> <p>The city also has big growth plans but I am not sure if the reserves will keep up. This seems to be handled in a piecemeal manner and potentially subject to reversal (eg the consultation on building housing on a reserve in Aokautere, although that specific one failed). I would like to see something on the scale of the vision demonstrated when the Esplanade was initially laid out (but suitable for the 21st century).</p>
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

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General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Wendy
Last name	Li
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Manawatu Chinese Community Trust
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I don't know / no opinion
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

5-1

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Lynne
Last name	Moore
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Manawatu-Taranaki Equestrian Advocacy Group
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>Policy 12 - Shared Paths General policy mentions and includes horses in the Shared Path definition yet almost all the shared paths in the PNCC area forbid horse riding and driving resulting in a disconnection and piecemeal network where riders are periodically forced onto the road before being allowed to return to the next section. All shared paths should allow horse riders as per the general policy except where specific impediments make riding or leading a horse impractical (such as specific weight or height limits on bridges).</p> <p>Policy 12.4 - is specifically about horse riding and proceeds to limit access to the shared path network to "certain shared paths" only. This should be changed to include all paths.</p> <p>Policy 12.5 - The parking facilities specified are not adequate to accommodate more than a few floats or trucks at a time, particularly the Riverside Drive carpark which is tiny. If all equestrian use is to be directed to these specific carparks they should be upgraded in size significantly to allow much more room, easier access and better turning areas.</p> <p>Of particular note the "beautifying improvements" to the Ahimate Reserve carpark in recent years has turned a once open and easy access horse float/truck parking area into divided and separated zones barely big enough for one float to park. Riding Club rides of 8 to 10 floats are no</p>

	<p>longer pleasant as we are unable to park as a group but scattered over the whole carpark, isolated from each other. Speaking more personally from a female perspective, the plantings, while "pretty", block sight lines and the atmosphere has changed to one of potential threat and danger making it a more unpleasant to park there and ride alone.</p> <p>Rather than directing all equestrian traffic into these two carparks (Ashhurst Domain is only relevant for a very small portion of the Bridlepath that is not connected to the rest of the trail) PNCC should allow all carparks along the routes of all shared paths to be used by equestrians. This will spread users out and reduce competition for parking with non-equestrians at busy times.</p> <p>Policy 30.2 - Active transport - Wording should be changed from >>Give way to pedestrians, kids and dogs to >> Give way to horses, pedestrians, kids and dogs</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	no
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	<p>Council website</p> <p>Social media</p> <p>Family or friends</p>

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Rosemary
Last name	Watson
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Just one point I want to raise. Re metal detecting. Obviously not good or desirable for people to dig in reserve areas to extract metal they have detected, but surely surface only in grass etc. would be fine. eg on sports field or walkway to try to find a piece of jewellery lost whilst on a previous visit...
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Not right now.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

7-1

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Richard
Last name	Dawson
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	n/a
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	Yes
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>In view of the current discussions and consultation regarding the Linklater Reserve, I have come to see a wider opportunity for our city to lead the world in the field of dog recreation in our approach to Parks and Reserves generally.</p> <p>First, in terms of our capacity to meet the needs of those wary or even fearful of dogs - especially children, who for one reason or another are not able to have such pets at home and are unsure of how to respond to them.</p> <p>Secondly, in our capacity to accommodate the variety of dogs and their owners.</p> <p>The needs of dogs vary as much as the needs of their owners and so this group, far from being homogenous, deserves closer consideration. There are elderly dog owners and those with disabilities (young and old), there are young boisterous dogs, quiet dogs and playful dogs to name but a few variations. Then there are Disc Golf players with and without dogs - also having different needs. Through careful, collaborative and creative means, I believe it is possible to integrate a variety of off-leash options in many other parks and reserves around our city.</p> <p>I have a vision which takes into account the needs of all the stakeholders to the issue of dog recreation in Palmerston North which breaks down the them-and-us combative stance taken by some in the debate about it; rather I see this as a way to bring people of varying views together, safely.</p>

	<p>By carefully listening to the needs of all, and finding economical ways of facilitating modest changes to areas of many of our reserves, our city can be looked upon by others as the place to be with respect to dog recreation.</p> <p>I look forward to sharing in more detail if I am given the opportunity.</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	City councillor

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General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Robert
Last name	Cleland
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Self Employed Consultant
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I don't know / no opinion
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	I'm a regular (since 1995) user of the Bledisloe Park / Massey Arboretum WALKWAY, with the emphasis on WALKWAY. It is a stunningly beautiful and tranquil area of the city and in all that time I have never experienced anything other than friendly fellow WALKERS and dog WALKERS of all ages. HOWEVER, in recent times our population of self-entitled cyclists for whom the city has already completely screwed up effective and efficient traffic management, to the extent of hindering the progress of emergency vehicles; have decided that they are also entitled to ride this WALKWAY, forcing WALKERS off the tracks and paths as they barge their way through. A sign at the entrance from the university ring road indicates that cyclists are not permitted. I'm not sure if there is a similar sign in the Bledisloe car park, but if not, there should be, and it should be prominent. An encounter with these pedalphiles risks confrontation and ruins the peaceful nature of the WALKWAY.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

9-1

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sian
Last name	Cass
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>1. Prepare a graphic to show the relationship between contributing Plans and Acts that determine this Reserves Plan; which then contributes to individual Reserve Plans.</p> <p>2. Define the goals and values. Currently the plan has goals as accessible, sustainable and a great place to enjoy. This is similar to but not the same as the values for ecology , cultural heritage and recreation. Conservation is also stated in this plan. The goals should include a cultural aspect. Then define because accessibility and all these goals mean many things.</p> <p>The following suggests additions to the numbered policy.</p> <p>1. Access Reserves will be within walking distance from all homes within the city boundary. The distance will need to be stated at 300 to 400m.</p> <p>4. Animals Plant life will be developed in every Reserve that will contribute to increasing native animals. Reserves that are exceptions to this policy will have clearly stated reasons why they can not contribute to native animal habitat.</p> <p>13. Community Initiative The Council will actively engage with the community that identify with their local Reserve (300 to 400m walking distance) to determine how they wish to use their Reserve. (This aims to increase engagement with a natural space, contribute to enjoyment, and create identity with their Reserve).</p> <p>15. Acquisition & disposal.</p>

	<p>Acquisition and disposal of Reserves will be determined to establish a walking distance of 300 to 400m from all homes within the city boundary.</p> <p>16. Biodiversity In partnership with Rangitane, Council will actively establish vegetation that will support mana whenua connection to the whenua. This will include, but not limited to, planting harakeke, rongoa, trees for carving. (To be checked with Rangitane)</p> <p>16. Biodiversity It is critical that indigenous biodiversity is a substantial part of every Reserve, unless there is a significant reason why it can't be. This attribute of every Reserve will contribute to Reserve goals of cultural heritage, conservation/ecology, and enjoyment by creating interest and participation. The quantity of biodiversity must be substantial enough to support and attract native animals AND be acceptable to Rangitane that it will enable and encourage connections to the whenua.</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	<p>In Summary Indigenous Biodiversity is too low throughout most of Palmerston North City. The Esplanade, Green Corridors and Turitea Reserve are not close enough for every one to connect with, and identify with a close to home natural environment. Indigenous biodiversity makes a substantial contribution to all goals stated in this Plan - ecology, cultural heritage, and enjoyment.</p>
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	<p>Social media</p>

10-1**Age-Friendly Palmerston North submission to the General Policy Reserve Management Plan****28 August 2025**

Organisation: Age-Friendly Palmerston North	
Representatives Russell Hallam and Kerry Hocquard	
Phone:	Email:

Do you want to speak to the Council in support of your submission? No, unfortunately, no one is available on 10 September. We're happy to participate in any follow-up discussion if needed.

About those making this submission:

Age-Friendly Palmerston North

The Age Friendly Palmerston North community group advocates that Palmerston North City Council support age-friendly social and physical environments that enhance the well-being of older people in our community. The Age Friendly Palmerston North community group has been a key stakeholder in the development of the PNCC Age Friendly Action Plan and in the ongoing commitment to making Palmerston North an Age Friendly community.

Executive Summary

We submit this proposal as *Age Friendly Palmerston North*, our community group that actively advocates for physical and social environments that promote the well-being of older adults. As a key stakeholder in the development of the Palmerston North Age-Friendly Action Plan, we commend the Council for its ongoing commitment to our beautiful parks and reserves and request the Council use an age-friendly lens in the current programmes and plans.

Our proposal aligns with Palmerston North City Council's commitment to becoming an Age-Friendly City. This aligns with the WHO Age-Friendly Cities Framework and New Zealand's *Better Later Life Strategy (2019–2034)*. We advocate for the integration of the eight WHO Age Domains to guide development planning and future upgrades of our parks and reserves, ensuring older people can fully access, participate in, and enjoy these cherished public spaces.

Introduction

The Age-Friendly Palmerston North community group appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Palmerston North City Council's [General Policy Reserve Management Plan](#).

We commend the Council's vision and ongoing commitment to enhancing green spaces and promoting community wellbeing.

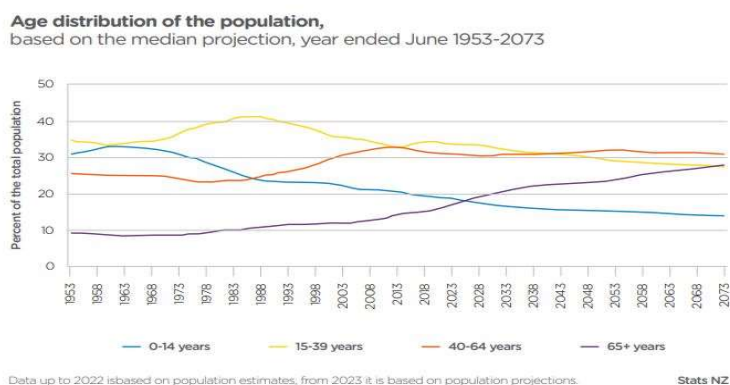
Palmerston North is well placed to lead as an inclusive, resilient, and age-friendly city. [The PNCC General Policy Reserve Management Plan](#) presents a significant opportunity to integrate age-friendly principles into the design, development, and maintenance of our public spaces.

We advocate the consistent application of an age-friendly lens, ensuring that all parks and reserves are welcoming, safe, and accessible for residents of every age and stage of life. This reflects the values of manaakitanga, inclusivity, accessibility, and whanaungatanga—principles that strengthen our communities and uphold the dignity of older people.

Rationale

Palmerston North, like the rest of New Zealand, is experiencing demographic change. Statistics New Zealand (2022) indicates that within the next decade, there will be more people aged 65 and above than children under 14 in our city. (1).

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Statistics New Zealand (2022). One million people aged 65+ by 2028.

<https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/one-million-people-aged-65-by-2028>As our population ages, the way we design and manage public spaces will directly impact wellbeing, social participation, and equity.

Embedding age-friendly planning aligns with:

- PNCC Age Friendly Action Plan (2024) (2).
- PNCC Connected Communities Strategy and Active Communities Plan (3).
- World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Cities Framework: Eight Age-Friendly Domains (4)
- New Zealand's Better Later Life Strategy (2019–2034) (5)

These frameworks highlight the role of local government in enabling older people to age actively, safely, and with dignity.

A significant concern regarding the proposed PNCC General Policy Reserve Management Plan is the evidence presented by the Melanoma Network of New Zealand Incorporated (n.d.), Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Strategy 2024-2028, which indicates that New Zealand still has one of the highest skin cancer incidence and mortality rates in the world. (6) This is a preventable cancer, and one that continues to cause concern in our community. We are parents, grandparents, and several of us have firsthand experience of the impacts of overexposure to UV radiation during our childhood, and the consequences of skin cancer and melanoma. This is not a legacy we want the next generation to inherit.

The previous PNCC (2024) Parks and Reserves Asset Management Plan (7) recognized the need to incorporate shade planning to help mitigate the effects of climate change, and as a public health measure to reduce the impact of overexposure to UVR. These measures were also supported by community feedback requesting more shade and seating at our local parks and reserves. Shade planning needs to be recognized as an essential component in the proposed PNCC Plan.

The Age Friendly Palmerston North community group would like to acknowledge and thank the PNCC Parks and Reserves Team for their dedication, commitment, and ongoing care of our city's parks and reserves. These green spaces are highly valued by our community, and the current work to maintain their beauty, safety, and usability is appreciated. We value the commitment made by the Council and Parks and Reserves team to the provision of shade in our community spaces; vital if we are going to reduce the incidence of skin cancer in later life and help mitigate the impact of climate change.

As Palmerston North is a designated Age-Friendly City, we believe that the next step is to embed an age-friendly approach into all planning and development decisions relating to our public spaces. The World Health Organization's (WHO) Eight Age-Friendly Domains provide a recognised framework that supports inclusive environments where people of all ages can fully participate. (4).

Recommendations: Applying an Age-Friendly Framework

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

- Accessible pathways and loops that are smooth, well-lit, and wide enough for wheelchairs and mobility scooters.
- Provide seating with backs and armrests at regular intervals.
- Shelter and shade from trees or structures, protecting visitors from sun and rain, creating cooler and more appealing walking routes
- Ensure accessible toilets, drinking fountains, and shaded rest areas.
- Enhance safety with lighting, clear sightlines, and visible wayfinding.
- Create sensory gardens, quiet areas, and intergenerational play zones, with shade trees contributing to local biodiversity, and create better habitats for wildlife.
- Shade needs to be a core consideration from the outset of any new park or reserve design, rather than an afterthought.

Housing (linked to parks and reserves)

- Ensure that parks and reserves are well connected to surrounding housing and neighbourhoods, especially retirement villages and social housing.
- Strengthen walkable links to encourage active ageing and community connection.

Transportation & Parking

- Provide age- and mobility-friendly parking spaces close to entrances.
- Ensure safe pedestrian links from parking and bus stops to facilities.
- Accessible transport links to parks, with bus stops, drop-off zones, and parking located nearby.
- Include scooter charging points and accessible drop-off zones.

10-5**Social Participation**

- Build sheltered picnic and gathering areas for intergenerational use and play areas with seating nearby for grandparents and carers.
- Support community activities such as walking groups, tai chi, and gardening, Summer Programme events (e.g., guided walks, music or storytelling events) designed to include older people.
- Encourage community gardens designed with age-friendly features.

Respect and Social Inclusion

- Celebrate the contribution of kaumātua and older residents in the design and storytelling of parks.
- Integrate cultural heritage interpretation that values diverse voices.
- Inclusive design features that recognise the needs of people with limited mobility, sensory, or cognitive challenges.
- Spaces for quiet reflection alongside active areas, supporting wellbeing and diverse preferences.
- Celebrating local history and culture, including Rangitāne o Manawatū heritage, through interpretive signs, artwork, or storytelling areas that connect generations.
- Consultation with older residents in park design and upgrades, ensuring their voices shape the spaces they use.

Civic Participation and Employment

- Use co-design with older adults and groups such as Age Friendly Palmerston North and Council Reference Groups.
- Apply universal design principles in all new infrastructure.
- Establish feedback loops to evaluate age-friendliness over time.

Communication and Information

- Continue to install digital kiosks or QR code access to walking routes, upcoming events, and environmental information.
- Use clear, large-font, bilingual signage with pictorial elements to ensure accessibility for all literacy levels and languages.
- Provide updates on the proposed PNCC web page devoted to Age Friendly issues, in community newsletters, and via local groups such as Grey Power, Age Friendly Palmerston North social media, and community libraries.

Community Support and Health Services

- Incorporate adult fitness stations, shaded rest stops, and features like outdoor chess or quiet reading areas.
- Support intergenerational activity spaces to reduce social isolation.
- Partner with health providers to run outdoor wellness activities.
- Ensure swimming pools and aquatic facilities are age-friendly (e.g., handrails, accessible entries).

Conclusion

Applying an age-friendly lens to the PNCC General Policy Reserve Management Plan ensures that Palmerston North's green spaces are not just beautiful, but also equitable, inclusive, and future-proof.

Designing for older adults is not about catering to a minority—it is about building a city where people of all ages and abilities can participate, connect, and thrive.

Palmerston North has already demonstrated leadership through the Age Friendly Action Plan. Now is the time to embed this commitment into our parks and reserves. We request that the Parks and Reserves Team adopt an explicit age-friendly lens and maintain a continued commitment to shade planning in the ongoing development, renewal, and management of our parks and reserves.

Together, we can create spaces that grow not only trees and gardens, but also whānau, hauora, dignity, and intergenerational connection.

References

1. Statistics New Zealand (2022). *One million people aged 65+ by 2028*. Retrieved from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/one-million-people-aged-65-by-2028>
2. Palmerston North City Council. (2024). *Palmerston North Age Friendly Action Plan*. Retrieved from <https://www.pncc.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/2/documents/council/plans/age-friendly-action-plan-v2.pdf>
3. Palmerston North City Council (2018). *PNCC Connected Communities Strategy* (2018). <https://www.pncc.govt.nz/media/3130973/connected-community-2018.pdf>

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4. World Health Organization (2007). *Global Age-friendly Cities: A Guide*. Geneva: WHO. Retrieved from:
https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/Global_age_friendly_cities_Guide_English.pdf
5. Office for Seniors (2019). *Better Later Life – He Oranga Kaumātua 2019 to 2034: Making the Future Better for New Zealanders as We Age*. Wellington, New Zealand: Office for Seniors
6. Melanoma Network of New Zealand Incorporated (n.d.), *Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Strategy 2024-2028*. Retrieved from
<https://strategy.melnet.org.nz/>
7. Palmerston North City Council (2024). *Parks and reserves asset management plan*. Retrieved from <https://www.pncc.govt.nz/Council/Document-library/Asset-management-plans>.

11

General Policy Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Liorah
Last name	Jainarain
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Palmerston North Youth Council
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	Yes
Your submission	
What do you think of the draft General Policy Reserve Management Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>Accessibility of Documentation: Ensure that all supporting materials, including booking procedures, rules, and fees, are easily accessible and clearly explained to the public.</p> <p>Clarity of Definitions: Include explicit definitions of key terms, such as "reserve," to enhance clarity and legal certainty.</p> <p>Transparency of Budget Allocations: Publicly disclose budget allocations and anticipated costs for changes implemented under the Plan to strengthen transparency and accountability</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	The PNYC welcomes the inclusion of CCTV, mention of stakeholders, the expression of parking and the goal of having enough parking for everyone to enjoy their activities as well as biodiversity and several other areas of the Plan
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Other: The Palmerston North Youth Council (PNYC) submits this memorandum in respect of the General Policy Reserve Management Plan (the "Plan"). The PNYC is the representative body for young people in Palmerston North, mandated to advocate for youth interests and to ensure that the perspectives of young people are actively considered in municipal decision-making processes.

ITEM 8 - ATTACHMENT 1

Index of submitters

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Submission Number	Submitter
1	Maria Work
2	Allan Wright
3	Adam Wild
4	Craig McLay
5	James Hennesy
6	Andrew Stern
7	Richard Walker
8	Helen Presland
9	Paul Macdermid
10	Brian McKinnon
11	Simon Fugle
12	Manawatū Mountain Bike Club – Shane Telfer
13	Renee Godfrey
14	Mackenzie Rate
15	Sonya Coutts
16	Daniel Conlan
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18	Megan Bryce
19	Michael Morgan
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21	Rob Saker
22	Daniel Goymer
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25	Jon Kearins
26	Manawatū-Tararua Equestrian Advocacy Group – Lynne Moore
27	Janet Freyberg
28	Amy Petre
29	Karen Forno
30	John OHagan
31	Kym Skerman
32	Gary Clark
33	Maurice Ebbett
34	Tony Mordaunt
35	Lisa Poulsen

1

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Maria
Last name	Work
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Quality and safety of access road especially if user numbers increase.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

2

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Allan
Last name	Wright
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
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Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

3

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Adam
Last name	Wild
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
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Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	No
Why is that?	.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

4

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Craig
Last name	McLay
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	More resources and attention allocated to a rejuvenation of Kahuterawa Reserve. As it is the gateway to the area and the OG spot of the area but unfortunately in the words of my eldest moko. "This place is Ghetto Grandad"
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	While mountain biking is a dominant feature, perhaps some investigation into allocating resources to gravel biking trails which is surging worldwide
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

5

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	James
Last name	Hennessy
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Length of stay at campsites two days in six months is unreasonable.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	Gives it better protection
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

6

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Andrew
Last name	Stern
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Reconsider the amount of dogs per group rule, I often go for walks in the summer with others and we have 3-4 dogs between us. We have never had any issues controlling our dogs.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	In general the council seems to have adopted an anti dog mentality, between this plan of limiting the amount of dogs and reducing the area for off leash walking at linklater reserve there is a concerning pattern of reducing the flexibility and rights for dog owners.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Richard
Last name	Walker
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Great to foster that connection with the mountain bike club. The parks are a great resource.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Helen
Last name	Presland
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	I strongly support the proposal for a 5km loop track. That will bring more users to the park and is much more palatable for families. Support the concept of greater picnic opportunities. Strongly support the proposal for better signage. Being asked to refer back to the PNCC website as the guide makes no sense once you're there, esp in an area with no cell phone coverage. There needs to be wayfinding signage, and a range of options presented with distances like every DOC area. The policy around dogs isn't clear to me. At the moment the signs in the park say dogs have to be on leash - the policy wording says "under control". If this is intentional this is an incredible gift to dog owners and we'd be extremely grateful! It's a tricky track with dogs on lead given the stairs and risks under foot. Being able to have dogs off leash and under control would be epic. Being able to have dogs there for recreation and not with a hunting permit is greatly valued. It's such a brilliant resources to enjoy for the whole family
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Paul
Last name	Macdermid
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Direct control of feral cats; encourage MTB's to move snails of tracks when they see them. more family friendly MTB tracks from the bottom car park
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	i'd like to see an alternative pedestrian/cycle access from the kahuterawa reserve car park to the current gravel road to increase safety and open up access to what is a beautiful valley that could be enjoyed by walkers, runners and cyclists without the dust and dangers of cars.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	Extra protection of a natural reserve is vital to protect it's multi-use
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Brian
Last name	McKinnon
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	No
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Simon
Last name	Fugle
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Mtb shuttles should be a priority, also a road down so the shuttle pick up can be near the Kahuterawa car park
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Shane
Last name	Telfer
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Manawatu Mountain Bike Club
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	<p>The Manawatu Mountain Bike Club (MMBC) like to express strong support for the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan, particularly the sections focused on mountain biking. It's clear the plan recognises just how important Arapuke has become as a regional hub for biking. This includes both locals and visitors, noting that they often come for events that boost the wider economy. The commitment to supporting us at MMBC, maintaining our MoU with PNCC, and ensuring trails meet recognised standards all in alignment with our activities extending in to the future. The proposed policies around new development opportunities, especially the skills area and family-friendly trails near the lower carpark, are exciting and will help make mountain biking more accessible to a wider range of riders.</p> <p>It's also great to see that the plan values the volunteer hours that are poured into trail building and maintenance, which is backed up by Council support, commercial sponsorship, and charitable grant funding. These partnerships have been key to Arapuke's success so far, and the continued recognition of that model is really encouraging.</p> <p>Overall, the mountain biking aspects of the plan are fully supported by the MMBC.</p>
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be	Yes

12-2

declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	
Why is that?	Arapuke is an important asset that deserves legal support so that developments cannot be undone without due process and extensive consultation.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Renee
Last name	Godfrey
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Writing to show support for the development of family & beginner level MTB tracks at the Kahuterawa Rd carpark end. A pump track. Some sort of natural playground or normal playground. We talk about the need for that all the time - would get a lot more people out there using the tracks more often. Something to keep the little ones entertained with one adult while the other does a lap.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	To ensure the continued use for Recreation in future and environmental protection. However, not if it results in it coming under DOC management.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Mackenzie
Last name	Rate
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	I think there needs to be more of an open environment for the community to get involved with the trails up arapuke. Currently a lot of the mountain bike trails are in need of maintenance and there are many people happy to volunteer there own time to help keep the trails running well but up until this point it has been something that seems to be frowned upon. If you look at trail centres around New Zealand such as the red woods in Rotorua they allow people to "adopt a trail" which means they take on the responsibility of maintenance for that trail. Similar schemes exist in British Colombia in Canada. Further to this many other trail centres have proven that allowing riders to maintain the trails themselves gives time to for trail builders to use there time better and focus on new trails as a pose to up keep and maintenance.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Not currently
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sonya
Last name	Coutts
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Seems like you e struck a really good balance between catering to the activities and use-cases for visitors, respecting the cultural values, and looking to the future with a sustainable focus for the environment and people. Seems like a really sounds draft plan.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Daniel
Last name	Conlan
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Upgraded access roads to park would make it a better attraction
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	It's a great asset would be good to give it extra protection under reserve act
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Dave
Last name	Finegan
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Great to see the support for mountain biking in particular but great recreational asset in general
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Megan
Last name	Bryce
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	I value the PNCC support of the mountain biking. I agree with the opportunity to build skills and family trails at the kahutewera carpark. The park is a tough ride for beginners, this would help transition riders into the trails.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	As much of the biking development in the park has been community led, seems like the right thing to do
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Michael
Last name	Morgan
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	The powelliphanta population is in an awkward position where it is most dense in an area where night time mountain biking and unaware travellers may accidentally step on them. If you limit back track use to mountain bikers after sunset and put up general signage to educate people that there is an endangered species then it may protect them against accidental deaths.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	It's a pretty awesome commitment to biodiversity and I'd love to see some spillover into other plans. Maybe a bit more vigorous weed control where invasive species are creeping in. Also minimal destruction of high quality bush during trail formation
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	It's reserving the land to let future generations of people enjoy this gem of a space.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Naveed
Last name	Dean
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	The road does need some improving to there. For the activities we also use the walking tracks to take our RC 4wd cars as a family activity. Overall it looks like the plan covers all the key things and I like all the nature places we have around palmy.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Rob
Last name	Saker
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Kahuterawa road needs to be made wider and have a bike/walking path. Cars seem to think it is 100km road. And cut corners.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Other: Face book

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Daniel
Last name	Goymer
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>The plan is ok, its not ambitious, but thats not the end of the world.</p> <p>I think the biggest issue is access. The reserve is a fantastic resource and could be so much more. But access to the area is the biggest limiting factor. Obviously any upgrades would cost a significant amount of money, but to not even have an ambition to get better access is a real concern. This plan is going to exist for 20 years, surely we can do something before 2045?</p> <p>A walking trail/mountain bike trail from town would be a good step, but wider road would be the gold standard.</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Nope
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	Why not?
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sam
Last name	Osburn
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I don't know / no opinion
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	I dont really understand the plan and how it will change the way things currently are.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	Arapuke contains many kilometers of important mountain bike and hiking trails that are beneficial to the community. Without these, outdoor recreation would be more difficult for the local people. People also drive from other parts of the manawatu / island to ride these trails, so they should have extra protection and funding for upkeep and additional trails.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Tina
Last name	Budd
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	There should be full inclusion of equestrians in your plans. Inclusion for them to use shared paths and suitable access for horse trucks and floats. By not including equestrians you are discriminating against a section of your community just because of the outdoor activity they choose. Please include Equestrians in all shared paths and access
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	As above
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jon
Last name	Kearins
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I don't know / no opinion
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Please add an action that PNCC investigate a mountain bike connection alongside the Kahuterawa Stream (and on road where necessary) between Arapuni and Linton / the river trail.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	To support it never being sold and to a framework that supports events
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Lynne
Last name	Moore
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Manawatū-Tararua Equestrian Advocacy Group
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>Submission on Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan From Manawatu & Tararua Equestrian Advocacy Group</p> <p>Background</p> <p>The Manawatu Region currently contains only 1 bridle trail specifically for the riding of horses, the Manawatu River Bridle Path which is within the PNCC area. This has become very heavily used by walkers and cyclists and horse riders have had to reduce their use of this area, despite it being the only public space that is specifically designated for them in the region. There has been further erosion of the Bridle Path's status due to PNCC's recent rebranding efforts to promote the Manawatu Riverside Walkway – with no reference to horse riding, bridlepath or equestrian history on any of the new signage. This undermines the legitimacy of horse riding in the area and can induce non-equestrians to question the presence of riders.</p> <p>The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan currently up for review includes horse riding as a permitted activity subject to prior council approval in the Gordon Kear Forest for occasional organised rides – Section 3.1.10 on page 37.</p> <p>While this process of advanced approval is a workable solution for the equestrian community, it is near impossible to achieve as the access is via Scotts Road, which is 15km partly of 1 lane gravel. This is a heavily used section of road, mainly by traffic accessing the Arapuke Forest Mountain Bike Park but also logging/forest traffic which makes towing a horse float to Gordon Kear forest dangerous.</p>

	<p>Scotts Road has historically connected directly with Kahutawara Road (this connection was formed in 1887) and was only closed to vehicle traffic in the early 1980's due to the costs of maintenance. It is currently part of the Te Araroa Trail.</p> <p>This section, now known as Back Track, is still registered by the Outdoor Access Commission (Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa) as a legal road (Road Parcel ID 4.083.135). NZTA recognises ridden and driven horses as legal road traffic and as such are permitted access. Yet PNCC has horse riding on Back Track as not permitted.</p> <p>The reason stated in the management document for horses not being permitted to access the legal road that is Back Track is "conflict between cyclists and walkers". However shared multi-use pathways including walkers, horse riders and cyclists have been in operation in the Kapiti Coast region for 20 years without incident. Horse riders are unique in that their animals are always under control, they are never left to roam, and do not randomly attack people, unlike dogs which are permitted almost everywhere. Simple courtesy from all users will ensure harmonious sharing occurs.</p> <p>Proposal</p> <p>Horse riding to be permitted on Back Track to provide an attractive ride in itself and a significantly safer access option to Gordon Kear Forest.</p> <p>Kahutawara Road is sealed and two lane up to Kahutewara Reserve, which would provide ample parking for floats and trucks. A "Horses Ahead" sign to warn motorists of horses riding the 3km gravel portion of Kahutawara Road to Back Track would be appropriate at this point. No other costs would be incurred.</p> <p>Access to Back Track via the gate currently closed and locked across the road – either by removing the lock, installing a horse style or creating a simple gap of 1 to 1.5m width (by the gate, or near the current cycle entrance) would allow for ridden horses to pass safely through. There are many available designs of "horse styles" that are low cost, simple and maintenance free if preventing vehicle access is still desired.</p> <p>Signage to be updated with the change of equestrian status so all users know to look out for horses and basic trail etiquette reinforced.</p> <p>Back Track to be designated "Uphill Only" for cyclists – this will reduce their speed to match that of the pedestrians (humans and equine) and will eliminate any possibility of safety concerns and improve the experience for all users. There are already several other downhill options for cyclists in this area.</p> <p>Council to assist in contacting landowners (between 1250 Scotts Road – Assessment No. 10087094 – Valuation No. 14450-375-00 and Gordon Kear Forest) to allow riders access to the Gordon Kear Forest</p>
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	via their property. This will mean riders need only be on Scotts Road itself for 600m which will both minimise conflict with the traffic and maximise the safety of horse riders.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	The inclusion of horse riding in all public parks, reserves and trails should be the default situation as per the policy of the Outdoor Access Commission (Herena a Nuku Aotearoa)
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	No
Why is that?	Adds another layer of bureaucracy and costs
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Council website Social media Family or friends

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Janet
Last name	Freyberg
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	Horse riders should have access at all times, they are able to share pathways with walkers and cyclists.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	It is important to protect natural areas
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Amy
Last name	Petre
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	1. Rangitāne should have final say over all management. 2. You should name the chemicals used for weeds and manners of pest control you are using. We don't want 1080 or similar chemicals with long term effects on human and wildlife. 3. The road out there needs work.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	We love Kahuterawa. Keep it green. Get the iwi MORE involved tell its stories.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Karen
Last name	Forno
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Please keep dog access More walking tracks that loop together easier biking tracks more traps/protection of the native forest provide freedom camping opportunities
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	It's a great resource
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	John
Last name	OHagan
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	You state access for all but no mention of wheelchair access. There are many walking track within greater Manawatu region that with a little thought and consideration could be made accessible to wheelchairs, particularly modern off pavement chairs. please consider possibility of making more tracks wheelchair accessible.
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Kym
Last name	Skerman
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	It is an amazing resource for the community and a drawcard to the Manawatu.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Social media

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Gary
Last name	Clark
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Manawatu Mountain Bike Club
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	The MOU between the PNCC and MMBC seems to be working very well. I would like to see the development of the land at Kahuterawa rd end car park come to fruition with a purchase of or agreement to use the land adjacent to the car park and river.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	Arapuke Forest Park is fast gaining popularity as an outdoor venue for a number of outdoor activities as stated in the draft plan. If the the park was declared a reserve under the Reserves Act, then it would likely cement the more permanent use as an outdoor park. With the number of public using this "reserve" there would be a larger number of the public that frequent the "reserve" to consult with if required.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Letter or email School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Maurice
Last name	Ebbett
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it needs some changes
What should we change?	<p>Im regards to the proposed woodpecker mtb circuits area, these are pro dominantly used by riders who are new to the sport to build skills, this should be situated at black bridge carpark so riders and children dont have to climb back track to access.</p> <p>To maintain Scotts rd to a standard that a normal road going vehicle can pass without being destroyed or forced to crash due to horrible sub standard existing road condition.</p> <p>To investigate if there is value for a facility at the top of Scotts rd to house park equipment, if road access from Kahutarawa rd is not possible.</p> <p>To actively survey the parks mountainbike users including club members on the direction of the trail network, rather than building expensive trails that are simply not being used.</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	I don't know / no opinion
Why is that?	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Family or friends

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Tony
Last name	Mordaunt
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	Property Brokers
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	As an avid mountain biker, having world-class trails right on our doorstep is incredible. I've introduced countless people to the area just to ride them — they're a true asset to the region.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	It's a great asset. I would like to see it remain.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

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Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Lisa
Last name	Poulsen
Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 10 September.	No
Draft plan	
What do you think of the draft Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan?	I think it looks good as it is
What should we change?	
Do you have any other comments or feedback about the draft plan?	Thank you for the work done to update this plan. We're so lucky to have this diverse natural environment so close to the city. I really like some of the new ideas mentioned- a shorter/family friendly track, picnicking areas and public involvement through planting days. These will allow a wider range of people to use this area.
Arapuke Forest Park	
Do you think Arapuke Forest Park should be declared a reserve under the Reserves Act?	Yes
Why is that?	If we can do more to protect the area we should do that. Our natural environment is shrinking with changing ideas for housing and our busier lives.
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (select as many as apply)	Newspaper

ITEM 11 - ATTACHMENT 1



Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan



An Outdoor Recreation Strategy was developed in 2002 to set the direction for the development and management on the Kahuterawa Recreation Area.

In 2006 Council acquired what is now known as Arapuke Forest Park, then the Woodpecker Forest. The 2008 Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan updated development and management planning for the Kahuterawa Recreation Area, taking a comprehensive look at direction that would be taken following the harvesting of the exotic pine forest.

Since that time the Kahuterawa Recreation area has seen significant growth and popularity. This recreation area, and in particular the mountain bike assets, attract visitors to events and day-rides and is a major asset for Palmerston North.

The 2025 Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan (KORP) follows in the footsteps of the successful 2008 plan. It is 17 years since the 2008 KORP was developed, and it is due for a review.



Resources, Context and Planning Framework

A detailed analysis and description of the resources of the area, stakeholder input, and the planning framework was undertaken in the preparation of the 2008 Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan. A brief summary of this information is provided as follows:

Scope of the plan

The plan addresses the management of linked areas and facilities that form part of a Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Hub.

Areas and facilities included are:

- Arapuke Forest Park (formerly known as Woodpecker Forest)
- Kahuterawa Reserve
- Gordon Kear Forest
- Hardings Park (Turitea Reserve Management Plan is already present for this area which will be integrated with other areas).
- Back Track
- Sledge Track
- Kahuterawa Road End carpark and associated facilities
- Greens Road (the portion closed to vehicle traffic)
- The carpark within the park, at the end of Scotts Road
- Land between the carpark and the Kahuterawa stream at the Kahuterawa Road end.

The objective is to provide an integrated plan for the management of Council's outdoor recreational assets within the Kahuterawa Valley and related land, to ensure they provide maximum benefit for the community.

Environment and Resources

The physical environment of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area is varied. Altitude rises from 150m above sea level, at the end of the Kahuterawa Road, to 767m at the summit of Ārawaru. Vegetation cover ranges from exotic forests to native scrub and mature native forest. The Kahuterawa Stream forms a central axis flowing through the area.

There are a range of important resources within the area that need to be considered within the plan. These include:

Recreation:

The area is already important for outdoor recreation. There is wide use of the Sledge Track and Back Track by walkers and runners. The Te Araroa Trail passes through the area along the Back Track and through Gordon Kear Forest. Arapuke Forest Park forms an important mountain biking resource and has hosted national mountain biking events. Picnicking and swimming are important around the road end area.

Water:

The Kahuterawa Stream is an important high-quality water resource for native fish species and trout spawning. It also provides high quality water for swimming. It is used for kayaking in flood flows.

Biodiversity – native plants & animals:

The area has important biodiversity values including regionally important remnant kāmahi forest, a nationally endangered carnivorous land snail, *Powelliphanta traversi tararuaensis*, and a good variety of native bird species including kererū, bellbird, tūī and whitehead.

Exotic forests:

Important exotic forest resources are presently in their early growth phase. Arapuke Forest Park was harvested in 2014/15. The replanting programme shifted 48 ha out of exotic forest in to a mix of regenerating native forest on the margins of the stream and steeper gullies. The exotics area was planted out in mixed-species planting, including varied pockets of long-lived species to ensure future harvesting was not clear felling of the whole site at one time. This reduced the environmental impacts and impacts on recreation access and use including mountain biking. Other major forests are present in Gordon Kear Forest and forests on private land. Gordon Kear Forest is managed primarily for commercial forestry returns but has some secondary recreational use.

Landscape:

The area is identified as having a high quality rural and conservation landscape. It connects to large, intact, ecological areas, and the Tararua Range.



Structure of plan

The plan is divided into Management Areas. The following describe the areas:

- Management Area 1: Management and Administration
- Management Area 2: Rangitāne o Manawatū
- Management Area 3 and 4: Information & Involvement
- Management Area 5: Outdoor Recreation
- Management Area 6: Natural Landscapes & Ecosystems
- Management Area 7: Monitoring

Each Management Area has an explanation of its context; and a set of Policies Council requires to define the effective management of the area. Some Development Opportunities are identified.

This plan should be read in conjunction with the General Policy Reserve Management Plan. The following areas have a cross-over with the General Policy, and links to the relevant section(s) are provided:

- One-off events
- Special Interest Camping
- Nohoanga



Physical Area	Status	Legal Description	Description
Arapuke Forest Park	Council owned private land	CT WN 324/117	Forest 171.6 Ha land area, 130.7 Ha of which is mature radiata pine forest. Located at the end of Kahuterawa Road
Kahuterawa Reserve	Reserve used for recreation purposes	Lot 1 DP 30200; Lot 2 DP 30200; Lot 4 DP 80726	4.9 Ha of Recreation Reserve adjacent to Kahuterawa Road and Kahuterawa Stream.
Back Track	Legal road		Formed legal roadway used as recreational track from the end of Kahuterawa Road to Scotts Road.
Sledge Track	Legal road		Recreational walking track on legal roadway from end of Kahuterawa Road to Hardings Park.
Hardings Park	Scenic Reserve	Part Sec 2 SO 37039, CT WN 373/131 (pt).	828.7 ha of scenic reserve comprising the southern end of Turitea Reserve. Covered by the Turitea Reserve Management Plan
Kahuterawa Road	Legal road		The Kahuterawa Road end carpark and associated facilities, but not the road itself.
Greens Road	Legal road		The portion of road closed to vehicle traffic and the walkway purchased parallel to a portion of the open road.
Gordon Kear	Council owned private land.	CT 242473 and CT WN 225/68	Forest 678.1 ha of land and forest jointly owned by PNCC and Manawātū District Council. 414.1 ha is planted in radiata pine forest, of which 60.5 ha is subject to a six year forestry right. Excludes 66.2 ha in CT 242474 which is no longer owned by Council. Gordon Kear Forest is managed for commercial forestry returns but has some secondary recreational use

Management and Administration

1. Management Policies

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area (KORA) is a thriving space thanks to the strong partnership between Council and a variety of community groups. These groups bring their expertise and passion to the area, confidently managing their respective roles and contributing to its ongoing success.

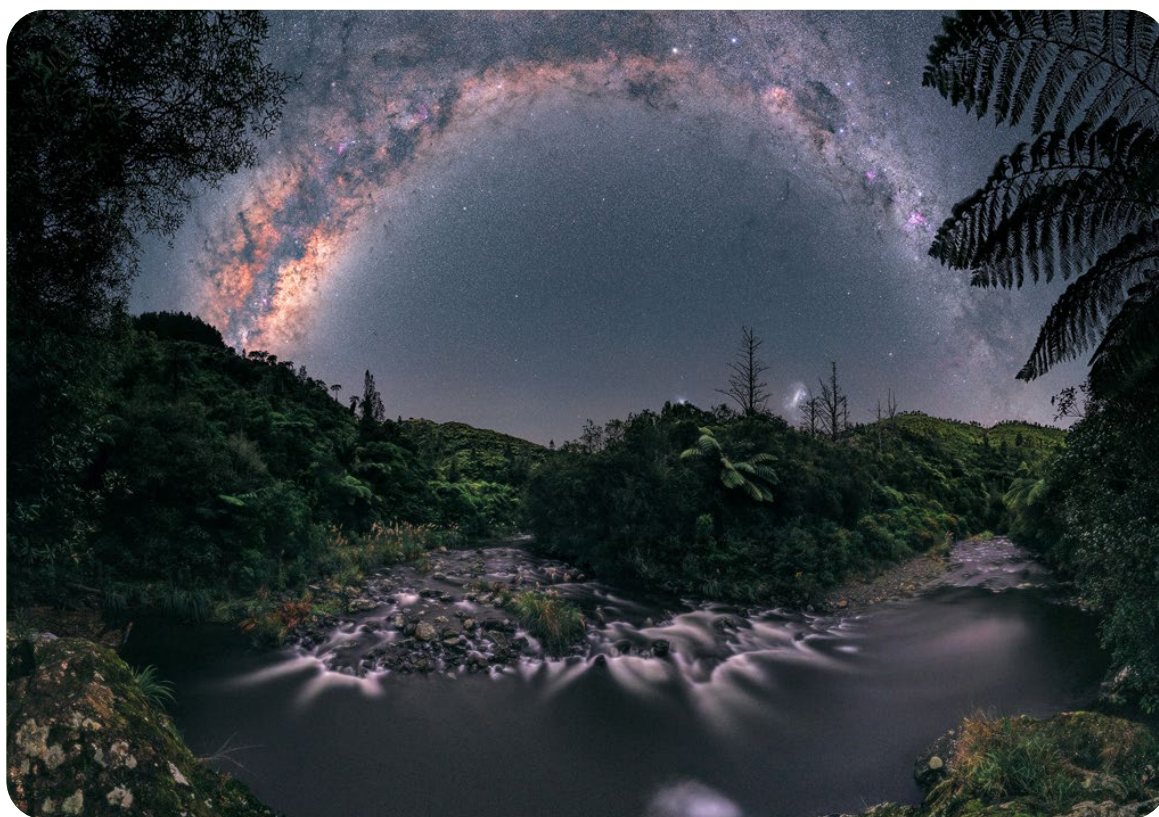
Council supports these efforts through funding in the Long-Term Plan and providing support across diverse activities—such as mountain-biking, volunteer-led track work and improving biodiversity. Council provides clear communication and promotes shared responsibilities at this park. This collaborative approach helps maintain the area as a vibrant and well-managed space for outdoor recreation, while also fostering public engagement and education about its unique features.

Policy 1.1: Support and facilitate coordination between groups working to improve the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation area for mountain-biking, walking, biodiversity and cultural identity

Policy 1.2: Remain updated with information from users, neighbours and volunteers that enable effective management of the KORA.

Policy 1.3: Assess (impacts and benefits) and remain open to opportunities and proposals from the community, such as the following:

- Events and activations
- New activities and infrastructural requirements to support them
- Improvement of existing activities and associated infrastructure
- Commercial activities that improve user experience at the KORA
- One-off or short-term activities.



Rangitāne o Manawatū

Rangitāne have a deep and enduring relationship to the peaks of the Tararua Ranges, which is recalled when speaking to the maunga of their pepeha. The ranges are the key feature that, along with the Manawatū River – which form an integral part of their spiritual and physical identity both as an Iwi and as individuals belonging to an area.

In recent times Council and the Manawatū Mountain Bike Club have worked with Rangitāne to develop a rest area and waharoa that represent the significance of this place and their relationship to it.

The KORP area and ranges are also home to some rare and endangered wildlife species and Rangitāne are kaitiaki in this space. As kaitiaki Rangitāne may be required to impart tikanga to Council staff and volunteers when working amongst the maunga, issue rāhui, be part of inductions for staff or volunteers and be involved in key decision-making areas. Induction information may include respectfulness, accidental discovery protocols and care of other species.

2.1: Recognition of Rangitāne relationship to the KORP

Although infrastructure developments in this area are rare, opportunities may occasionally arise to incorporate infrastructure that enables cultural expression.

Policy 2.1.1: work with Rangitāne to incorporate local design features into appropriate Council infrastructure projects at the KORP.

Some outdoor recreation signage is simply directional or regulatory, while other signage has an interpretive or historical element to it. Council will work with Rangitāne to identify signage where it is appropriate to include a cultural element.

Policy 2.1.2: as existing signage and other assets are replaced, continue to work with Rangitāne to incorporate any appropriate cultural information onto the new assets.

Policy 2.1.3: Work with Rangitāne to map the cultural landscape and wahi tapu for this area and develop a guide on tikanga for working within the Tararua Maunga.

2.2 Rangitāne Involvement in Decision-Making

As partners with Council Rangitāne there is a strong focus on ensuring decision-making occurs alongside the Council and that appropriate roles (such as kaitiaki) are able to be enacted across a variety of areas.

Policy 2.2.1: Council will work with Rangitāne on key decisions regarding walking track development and upgrades and encourage the Manawatū Mountain Bike club to do so for major trail development proposals.

Policy 2.2.2: Council will work with Rangitāne on key decisions regarding ecological restoration and the harvesting/planting of forest.

The role of kaitiaki is about ensuring a place is cared for so that all of its inhabitants are respected and able to dwell in their place in balance with nature. This includes people, streams, wildlife, plants, mountains and peaks. If deaths or dangers occur from time-to-time in a place, rāhui may be required in order to reset the balance. Sometimes it may be appropriate for some form of tikanga to be imparted to volunteers and Council staff when working amongst the maunga.

Policy 2.2.3: Rangitāne will act as kaitiaki of KORP

Policy 2.2.4: Rangitāne may issue rāhui when required

Policy 2.2.5: Rangitāne may provide tikanga to Council staff and volunteers as required for inductions for Council and volunteers.

Information and Involvement

3. Health and Safety Policies

Council has responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 to identify and manage hazards for workers and visitors in the area. This requires an effective health and safety management system to address liabilities related to staff, contractors, and the identification and management of workplace hazards for visitors.

Key concerns in the area include security issues such as vandalism and theft, risks associated with recreation in remote areas, safety on Kahuterawa Road due to increasing use, use of appropriate tikanga, and the threat of fire in zones with exotic forest or scrub vegetation. These hazards have the potential to impact visitor safety, recreational use, and biodiversity, making proactive risk management essential.

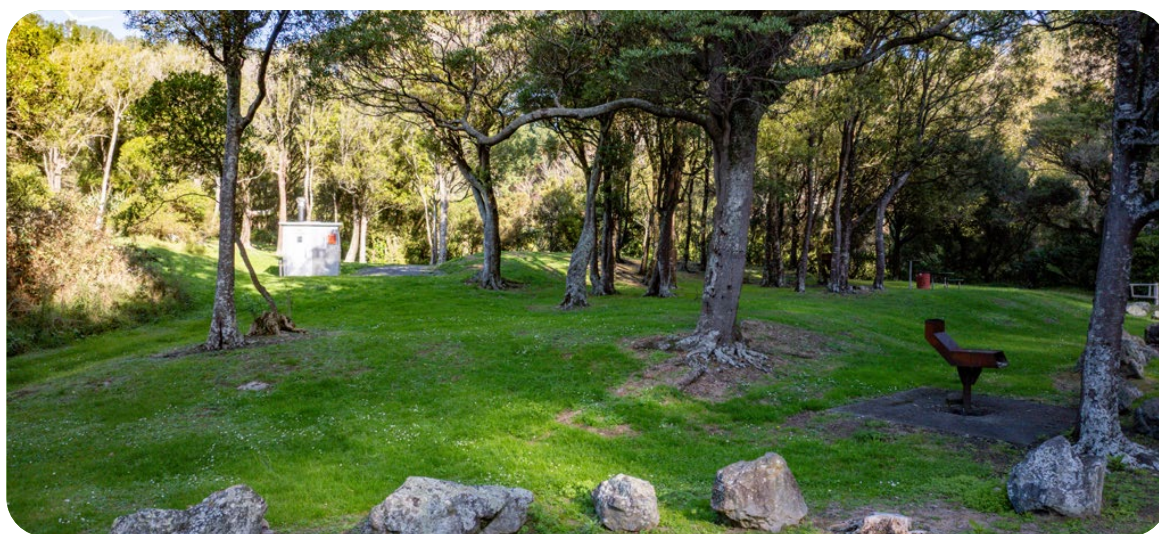
Policy 3.1: Ensure Council's primary duty for the health and safety of staff, contractors, volunteers and visitors to the Kahuterawa Recreation area is met.

This duty is comprised of the following:

- Provide clear information and/or signage for hazards (e.g., steep trails, fire risks, or remote areas).
- Ensure safe access roads and parking areas.
- Ensure that fire prevention and management plans are in place and regularly updated.
- Assess security concerns, such as theft or vandalism, to help protect both visitors and infrastructure.
- Ensure helicopter landing sites and fire ponds are maintained and operational.
- Ensure volunteer health and safety plans are in place and adequate.
- Ensure public have information of basic emergency processes.

Policy 3.2: Provide the opportunity for Rangitāne to be involved in key induction sessions.

NOTE: The Manawatū Mountain Bike Club and Council have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which includes understanding that the Manawatū Mountain Bike Club manages the health and safety of their volunteers and contractors who carry out mountain bike track building and maintenance.



4. Signage, Communication and Community Involvement Policies

New users of the area will benefit from clear and helpful information about tracks, facilities, hazards, and boundaries between public and private land. To ensure a positive experience and avoid trespassing, effective signage, maps, and other resources are essential.

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area (KORA) offers excellent opportunities for environmental education and interpretation. Visitors can learn about native flora and fauna, local history, and the area's unique ecological features and how the area acknowledges mana whenua.

For the most up-to-date and comprehensive information, visitors are encouraged to visit the **Council website**, which serves as the primary resource for maps, track details, safety guidelines, and educational content. This ensures that all users have access to the information they need to enjoy the area safely and responsibly.

The Council and volunteers working at the KORA have rural neighbours. Council will continue to be a good neighbour and needs to manage its activities with neighbours in mind.

Policy 4.1: Take a coordinated approach to development, volunteering, information and maintenance within the KORP area.

Policy 4.2: Council and stakeholders provide up-to-date information on the KORA. The following types of information will be provided;

- Events
- Rangitāne's connection to the area
- Hazards
- Closures
- Trails and walking tracks
- Emergency procedures
- Rules and regulations
- History, education and cultural information
- Other activities in the area.

Policy 4.3: Ensure the area has key historical, environmental and cultural knowledge displayed in signage, mahi toi (art) and on the Council website.

Policy 4.4: Council and KORA volunteers will communicate any activities or events that might impact the neighbours and the public in a timely manner.

Policy 4.5: Work with neighbours and volunteers to ensure the security, management, maintenance and development of the KORA is achieved effectively.

Development Opportunity 4.6: Council will work with Rangitāne and appropriate users (walking/hiking/mountain biking) to develop a programme to improve the way-finding system at the park.



Outdoor Recreation

5.1 Outdoor Recreation: supporting opportunities

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area (KORA), the city's premier outdoor active recreation¹ playground, offers a wide range of activities such as swimming, fishing, picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, and camping, all set within a stunning natural landscape. Outdoor recreation has long been a cornerstone of Kiwi culture, with New Zealanders embracing it in even the most remote and inaccessible places, both at home and abroad. In recent years, mountain biking has surged in popularity, becoming one of the fastest-growing sports in the country, particularly with the advent of production-capable e-bikes. KORA caters to these evolving interests, providing a space where tradition and innovation in outdoor recreation intersect.

The development of KORA's network of walking tracks and mountain-bike trails has been driven largely by the passion and dedication of volunteers, supported by the Council. This community-led approach has been instrumental in creating a space that reflects the diverse needs and aspirations of Palmerston North's residents and visitors. To build on this success, it is essential to continue investing in the area's infrastructure, accessibility, and environmental sustainability.

Policy 5.1.1: support a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities at the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area. The main activities are:

- Kayaking
- Walking/Hiking
- Trail running
- Camping and campfires
- Horse riding²
- Swimming
- Picnicking
- Fishing
- Orienteering
- Hunting²
- Dogs and dog walking
- Motorised recreation²

Policy 5.1.2: Continue acquiring esplanade strips and reserves along the Kahuterawa Stream as land is subdivided or developed, to ensure ongoing public access.

¹ Alongside Te Āpiti Manawatū

² By permit in Gordon Kear Forest

5.2 Mountain Biking

The Manawatū Mountain Bike Club (MMBC) takes responsibility for building and maintaining tracks that are available to their members, as well as the general public and visitors from outside the region. They have constructed over 40km, to date, with plans for a further 10–15km. The trails range in abilities (grades) and the club activity seeks to cater to a wide variety of riding preferences from young kids right through to advanced technical riding.

Council provides an annual contribution towards the track maintenance and the club resources the new track builds and rest of the maintenance costs through fundraising activities and volunteer work. A 2022 Memorandum of Understanding details the roles and responsibilities of MMBC and the Council. Council purchased the land between the lower carpark and the stream which could be used for picnicking, camping and also a mountain bike skills area.

Arapuke Forest park and its mountain biking is recognised in the regional economic development agency (CEDA) and features in their promotional materials.

For more information refer to the club and park websites: <https://www.arapuketrails.co.nz/>
<https://mmbc.co.nz/>

Policy 5.2.1: support the Manawatū Mountain Bike Club to promote mountain biking in the region.

Policy 5.2.2: provide permits and access to the area for appropriate booked events.

Policy 5.2.3: maintain the MoU between Council and the Manawatū Mountain Bike Club.

Policy 5.2.4: ensure the Manawatū Mountain Bike Club maintains track grading and signage to recognised national standards.

Policy 5.2.5: support the Manawatū Mountain Bike Club development of the area for mountain biking.

Note: Council purchased the land between the lower carpark and the stream which could be used for picnicking, camping and also a mountain bike skills area.

Development Opportunity 5.2.6: Investigate options for acquisition of the private property adjacent to Kahuterawa Road end carpark to develop learner and family mountain biking trails.

Development Opportunity 5.2.7: Should the Epic Ride prove viable during the review of the Turitea Reserve Management Plan, then assess the implications for the KORA.

5.3 Walking and Running

Walking, including short walks along part of the Sledge Track or Back Track, to day-tramps into Hardings Park, are an important part of recreational use of the area. Running is also popular with some users.

There is potential to provide a greater range of recreational walking and running opportunities in the area through development of a short 5km loop track. The Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) recommended shorter loop tracks as a key recreation opportunity that they believed would attract high use.

Policy 5.3.1: provide walking and running opportunities for a wide range of abilities and fitness.

Any walking track development proposals are assessed against the following priorities:

- Short loops that incorporate existing tracks and are close to carparks and picnicking areas
- Provide links to existing tracks
- Provide access to significant views or vistas

Policy 5.3.2: Ensure the Department of Conservation (DoC) track standards are maintained.

Development Opportunity 5.3.3: Investigate options for the development of a short family-friendly loop walking track that begins and ends at the Kahuterawa Road end carpark/entrance.

5.4 Fishing

Some fishing for brown trout occurs in the Kahuterawa Stream. This involves a relatively small number of anglers and hours each year. The Stream is an important spawning area for trout that populate the lower reaches of the Manawatū River. Fishing is likely to remain a valued but minor use of the stream. Management will need to focus predominantly on actions that ensure the maintenance of water-quality, so it is attractive as a fish habitat and for fish spawning.

Policy 5.4.1: Maintain established fishing access points along the Kahuterawa Stream.

5.5 Picnicking

Picnicking used to occur around Black Bridge and occurs at Kahuterawa Reserve, particularly in summer and in association with swimming. There is opportunity to improve the attractiveness and use of these picnicking areas. This offers potential to extend the variety of use of the area and provide for combined family/group outings for individuals with a range of abilities and interests. Some individuals may wish to relax at a picnic site while others are doing a short walking or riding circuit.

Policy 5.5.1: Maintain the existing picnic infrastructure and associated amenities.

Policy 5.5.2: Develop a plan that identifies all existing and potential picnicking areas. Where possible prioritise picnicking areas that complement existing activity – such as swimming.

5.6 Swimming

Swimming in the Kahuterawa Stream occurs during summer. Informal swimming holes are present around various open access areas along the stream. Providing basic walking access to these areas and picnicking opportunities on adjacent flat ground will be valuable.

Policy 5.6.1: Maintain access to existing swimming holes at the Kahuterawa Recreation areas.

5.7 Kayaking

Kayaking in this area is infrequent but highly valued. The stream is typically paddled during flood conditions, starting from Gordon Kear Forest. These conditions occur roughly 3–4 times a year. The trip is only suitable for experienced whitewater kayakers. Maintaining access to the waterway and keeping it clear of debris has become less of an issue since the forest harvesting took place.

Policy 5.7.1: Informally monitor access points for kayakers.

5.8 Horse Riding

Gordon Kear Forest is occasionally used for organised horse rides, which require one-off approval from Council. This approach will continue. Ongoing access for horse riding within the active recreation zone is not considered appropriate due to potential conflicts with mountain bikers and walkers.

Policy 5.8.1: Assess one-off applications for horse-related events in Gordon Kear Forest.

5.9: Camping & Campfires

Camping is provided for at the Kahuterawa Reserve; but is generally not permitted in the active recreation area or in Harding's Park under the Turitea Reserve Management Plan.

Te Araroa Trail walkers sometimes camp in the open space at the Kahuterawa Road end carpark and park entrance. This, in combination with the acquisition of the farm paddock next to the Kahuterawa Road End carpark and the upgrade of the toilet, now allows for future consideration of camping.

However, there have been issues with camping in the Kahuterawa Reserve – with damage to vegetation, litter and behaviour. Any camping needs to be short term only, principally to support the Te Araroa Trail use. The sites are not suitable for heavy or extended use having no potable water supplies, washing or cooking facilities.

Fireplaces are provided at Kahuterawa Reserve. There is also some use of informal campfires around the Kahuterawa Road end. Campfires can be an important aspect of picnicking and outdoor experience. However, they pose risks to forest and biodiversity resources if not adequately controlled. Provision of a small number of safe fire areas at Kahuterawa Reserve and Kahuterawa Road end will allow controlled access to campfires.

Policy 5.9.1: Short stay camping will be allowed at the Kahuterawa Reserve and Kahuterawa Road End. You may camp once in any six month period, for up to two nights.

Exceptions – Council will consider applications for group bookings in association with events on a case-by-case basis.

Policy 5.9.2: Campfires are not permitted outside Council provided fireplaces and barbecues.

5.10 Dogs

Dogs can be a threat to neighbouring farming operations through attacks on stock and through risks of sheep measles spreading. Uncontrolled dogs can impact on the enjoyment of recreational users. Recreational walking with dogs is popular and dogs are often used to aid hunting in areas of the remote experience zone. Finding a balance around dogs in the area is not simple. The Department of Conservation allows two dogs per hunting permit holder in the adjacent Tararua Forest Park. Controls relating to dogs also need to be compatible with the Turitea Reserve Management Plan covering Hardings Park. This plan allows 2 dogs per group that must be under close control.

Policy 5.10.1: A maximum of two dogs per group may be taken into the area, and they must be under control at all times (if a dog is not under voice control it must be on the leash).

Policy 5.10.2: Restriction of dog access may be required where pest control operations are undertaken.

5.11 Hunting

Hunting is a well-established recreation activity in the Tararua Ranges and Hardings Park. However, access to these areas is often through the KORP area. While this is permitted, this is conditional upon hunters (taking this route) adhering to both the law and Council's Safe Firearms Transit guidelines below.

Policy 5.11.1: Hunters with up-to-date permits are allowed to access their hunting grounds through the KORP.

To eliminate the risk of a firearms incident while accessing a hunting-permitted zone through a recreation area, the following apply:

- The firearm must be unloaded (the chamber is empty)
- The magazine is removed, emptied and packed in within a pack or belt.
- There is no ammunition connected in any way to the firearm.
- The bolt is removed from the action, the firearm is broken, or the empty chamber flag is active.
- The firearm is transported through the recreation zone in a firearms carry-case and/or is not visible to recreation users.

5.12: Motorised Recreation

Gordon Kear Forest (GKF) is used for occasional organised club drives. One off access for this is provided by Council. Historically (approximately 20 years ago) four-wheel drives used the Back Track. This is no longer possible due to the closed bridge at the top of the track and no longer appropriate due to the level of use by walkers and mountain bikers. Retaining controlled access for organised club activities in GKF will remain available on a permit basis. 4WD access in this area is less likely to result in conflict with other users due to the lower intensity of use and greater restriction on access.

Policy 5.12.1: Provide access for organised groups to ride in Gordon Kear Forest on a permit basis.

Natural Landscapes and Ecosystems

The native vegetation, wildlife, and ecosystems within this reserve are not only critical for their intrinsic biodiversity value but also serve as the cornerstone of the area's appeal for outdoor recreation. Degraded or fragmented ecosystems directly diminish the quality and desirability of recreational experiences, reducing the area's capacity to attract visitors and sustain long-term community engagement. The presence of intact natural landscapes, thriving wildlife populations, and ecologically functional habitats ensures that the reserve remains a vibrant destination for walking, hiking, birdwatching, and other nature-based activities.

6.1: Integrated Catchment Approach

Policy 6.1.1: Consider the management of the Kahuterawa ecosystems and natural landscapes at a catchment level.

This should include:

- Consideration of plans and programmes developed for adjacent catchments.
- Communication between volunteers, Council, neighbours and partners involved in the catchment.
- Ensure Rangitāne is involved in catchment-wide planning initiatives.

6.2 Ecological Restoration and Linkages

The KORA plays a pivotal role in linking the upland forests of the Turitea Reserve and Tararua Forest Park to the Kahuterawa Valley's lowland habitats, creating vital pathways for native species to thrive. By addressing threats such as possums, rats, and invasive weeds through targeted control programs, the area is being restored to support resilient ecosystems. Collaborative efforts with Horizons Regional Council and neighbouring landowners are strengthening these connections, ensuring safe passage for species like the nationally endangered *Powelliphanta traversii tararuaensis* snail and fostering biodiversity resilience across the catchment.

These restoration initiatives align with the Council's Green Corridors project, which aims to expand native habitats and enhance ecological linkages from the Tararua Ranges to the Manawatū River. By prioritising pest management and weed control in partnership with local communities and agencies, KORA is

becoming a model for landscape-scale conservation. Restored habitats not only protect vulnerable species but also enrich outdoor experiences, offering visitors vibrant forests, clean waterways, and thriving wildlife. Through sustained collaboration, KORA exemplifies how ecological restoration can safeguard New Zealand's natural heritage while ensuring future generations inherit a landscape teeming with life.

Policy 6.2.1: Enhance and restore biodiversity in the Kahuterawa catchment.

This will be achieved in the following manner:

6.2.1(a): Continue to support the native forest natural regeneration of the margins of the streams and steeper slopes.

6.2.1(b): Pest control strategies (for both plant and animal pests that are compliant with regional strategies) maintained at current levels.

Prioritise weed eradication in the following manner:

- Recently established weeds that are localised in their distribution
- Those that place biodiversity conservation at most immediate risk
- Easily controlled and eradicated weeds
- Weeds have a low risk of reinvasion
- Weeds score highly in terms of weed characteristics under national classification systems

Animal pest control strategies will:

- Take a catchment approach
- Ensure work with neighbours to develop a coordinated approach
- Be cost effective
- Have a low risk to non-target species, recreational users and neighbours
- Use best practice approach to pest management
- Are undertaken to achieve targets in Appendix I

6.2.1(c): Consider and assess applications for ecological restoration proposals & initiatives, including:

- planting days
- events
- volunteer days



6.2.1(d): Minimise risk of introduction or spread of pests into the Kahuterawa catchment.

- Utilise wash-downs for operational gear
- encourage users to clean at-risk boots and gear prior to visiting the reserve).
- Avoid using road metal sourced from high weed areas
- Provide information on prevention of weed introduction

6.2.1(e): Ensure fencing with neighbours is stock-proof and effectively ensures stock is excluded from KORP areas.

Policy 6.2.2: Planted native vegetation will use appropriate species and seed sources and consider bird feed plants.

Policy 6.2.3: Planted restoration opportunities and pest management operations will prioritise native plant species that have been removed or reduced from the area by the impact of pests.

Policy 6.2.4: Create ecological linkages where possible.

The following will contribute to this:

- Encourage linkages on neighbouring properties
- Prioritise linkages that contribute to the development of “green corridors” to lowland areas via the Kahuterawa Valley

Policy 6.2.5: Enhance biodiversity across the area utilising pest management strategies (for both plant and animal pests).

6.3: Rural Landscapes

The areas covered by this plan are vital to preserving the high-quality rural and natural character of the Kahuterawa Valley and its upper catchment. Activities such as road widening and the development of tracks or structures—particularly on prominent ridgelines - could undermine these landscape values. Road upgrades and new infrastructure should be carefully managed to minimise their negative impacts on the area’s visual and ecological integrity.

Policy 6.3.1: All development of the KORP and management practices will consider any implications on the visual landscape in the design phase and prior to construction.

Policy 6.3.2: Any road development will strive to maintain a balance between safety and impacts on the rural character of the area.

6.4 Forest Harvesting & Silviculture

The planting of exotic harvest species was undertaken with the intention to provide tree species that contribute to recreation in the area and also provide income via harvesting in high-value exotic small stands. Planning was completed in order to maximise recreation opportunities, maximise income from harvesting and to minimise impact of future harvesting on biodiversity and recreation. While harvesting is many years off, the trees will need ongoing pruning, thinning and maintenance to ensure a profitable harvest.

Policy 6.4.1: Maintain exotic harvest forest stands in order to maximise recreation and income opportunities.



Monitoring

Monitoring serves as a critical tool to evaluate the effectiveness of management strategies in achieving established objectives and implementing targeted policies. It enables the identification of necessary adjustments to ensure the plan's goals are met. For instance, tracking native vegetation regeneration allows for assessing whether key canopy tree species and understorey plants are recovering adequately. Much of the intensive monitoring that was occurring when harvesting was in full swing will now go back to a maintenance model.

In the KORA region, such monitoring initiatives are integrated with the Council's broader state-of-the-environment reporting frameworks. This alignment ensures consistency with regional environmental assessments and strengthens the capacity to inform adaptive management strategies. Future monitoring efforts will be designed in direct reference to these comprehensive reporting systems, enhancing their relevance and utility in guiding conservation and policy decisions.

A significant monitoring programme was undertaken in the early years of the KORA implementation and development. In recent years the programme was paused as the pest control and forest reestablishment and regeneration was embedded. Periodic monitoring will provide snapshots of health and progress.

7.1: Assess the Effectiveness of Management Actions

Policy 7.1.1: Incorporate KORA into the recreational Parkcheck survey once every two years.

Policy 7.1.2: Complete snapshot monitoring of biodiversity outcomes (Section 5: Natural Landscapes and Ecosystems) every 3- 5 years. This monitoring will include:

- Forest canopy condition, particularly of browse susceptible species
- Understorey condition including regeneration of main canopy species and maintenance of diverse understorey
- Distribution of and rare, threatened and vulnerable species

Policy 7.1.3: Complete snapshot monitoring of animal and plant pests every 3 – 5 years.

This will include:

- Plant pests
- Animal pests (including possums, wild cats, rodents and stoats)
- Large exotic animal pests (such as deer).

Policy 7.1.4: Work with Rangitāne to include and prioritise taonga species and rongoa.



ITEM 11 - ATTACHMENT 2

Appendix 1: Animal Pest Control Targets

Animal	Area	Control target	Notes
Possum	Snail and Vulnerable Plant species areas (Woodpecker, Sledge Track, Back Track)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ < 5% possum residual trap catch (RTC) ➤ Maintain a stable canopy of main canopy species and avoid the removal of vulnerable canopy species by possums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protection for snails and Kaimahi ➤ May expand target onto adjacent and down valley private land with landowners support ➤ Links to Hardings Park and Turitea Reserve Control
	Northern Harding's Park	< 10% residual trap catch (RTC)	Currently maintained as a buffer to Turitea catchment possum control.
	Other Areas	No other target at present, but if control is introduced in adjacent Tararua Forest Park, then set appropriate control targets	Currently no control in Tararua Forest Park. Undertaking control in areas such as Gordon Kear is unlikely to be cost effective while there is this major re-invasion source.
Goat	Woodpecker, Sledge Track, Back Track	Take all practical steps to eradicate	Goats only present as occasional visitors
	Other Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sufficient control to minimise movement. ➤ Eradicate where feasible. 	Control currently undertaken in and around Turitea water catchment
Red Deer		To a level that allows adequate regeneration of main canopy tree species and palatable understorey species.	
Pigs	Woodpecker, Sledge Track, Back Track	Take all practical steps to eradicate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Important for protection of snails. ➤ Are occasional visitors to these areas.
	Other Areas		Control may be required in relation to any specific problems or decline in vegetation condition.

Animal	Area	Control target	Notes
Mustelids		No direct control	
Feral Cats		No direct control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Encourage any nearby subdivisions to be “cat free”. ➤ Work with neighbours to ensure cats are de-sexed.
Rodents	Woodpecker, Sledge Track, Back Track	Control of rodents in conjunction with possum control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Focus where snail populations are present ➤ Likely to involve use of brodifacoum or other toxin in conjunction with maintenance control of possum populations
	Other Areas	No direct control	





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Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan 2024







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Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, located approximately 14 km from Palmerston North, is a natural reserve that has been central to community recreation, maintaining cultural heritage, and ecological preservation. Since the introduction of the Reserve Management Plan in 1997, efforts have focused on preserving the domain's natural beauty and cultural significance, while accommodating the needs of its users.

User Guide

how to use this plan

This Reserve Management Plan is a review of the Ashhurst Domain: Development and Management Plan (August 1997). This update is designed to ensure the continued use and enjoyment of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain while guiding its sustainable management, protection, and enhancement.

The primary purpose of this plan is to set out objectives and policies that balance conservation, cultural respect, and recreational use, ensuring the preservation of natural and cultural values while allowing public enjoyment and access.

This plan has been prepared by Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) as the administering body for the reserve, with input from Rangitāne o Manawātū. The plan should be used alongside the Palmerston North City: Reserve Management Plan General Policy¹ (the General Policy). The General Policy outlines the Council's responsibilities for reserve management within the national legislative framework, local city planning, and the general objectives and policies that apply across all reserves in Palmerston North.

Sections

This Reserve Management Plan (RMP) is structured under four sections:

- 1. Identity**
Overview of the Domain's identity, including historical, cultural, ecological, and landscape aspects, planning framework, physical assets, and community interactions.
- 2. Values and Objectives**
Describes the values, tikanga, and management objectives for the reserve.
- 3. Management Policies**
Details the specific management approaches for various areas within the reserve.
- 4. Development and Integration Opportunities**
Discusses future opportunities for development and integration, particularly concerning larger regional projects.

Term of the Plan

This plan was first produced in 1997. This review of the management plan will be the new active plan for a term of up to 10 years following the date of its adoption. The Council will keep the plan under continuous review so that the plan is adapted to changing circumstances or in accordance with increased knowledge. If changes are required within the 10-year term of the plan to ensure that plan remains relevant and accurate, and the changes do not involve a comprehensive review, the Council will make these changes without seeking public input.

At the end of the 10-year period that plan will be reviewed in accordance with the provisions of Section 41(8) of the Reserves Act 1977.

¹ At the time of writing the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain RMP, the drafting of the Reserve Management Plan General Policy had not commenced.

Section 1 Identity



Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain: overview of the reserve

Te Āpiti, also referred to as the Manawātū Gorge, is of paramount importance to Rangitāne o Manawātū (Rangitāne). Crucially, it connected iwi, hapū and whānau groups east and west of Te Āpiti. The river, riparian margins and Te Ahu a Turanga track were significant routes of transport and communication passageways, and the meeting place of the two great forests of Whātonga; forests of the Ruahine and Tararua Ranges. The area is thus symbolic of connectivity between people, places and environments. Te Āpiti has many meanings including a split or cleft, to place side by side, or to have two of. It represents the two sides of the Gorge.

The Upper Terrace of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain boasts expansive views of the main access point into the Manawātū from the East Coast. This area was the obvious choice for the original Pā site: Otangaki. Otangaki was established as a Rangitāne Pā. The area later became one of the earliest locations settled by colonial migrants in the region for timber milling and farming (pre-dating Palmerston North). Despite migrancy, the Pā remained a significant gathering place for Māori, commemorating its status as a marae.

With the development of farming and deforestation in Manawātū, there are now few remnants of old forests and biodiversity of that time. In consideration of this, the area became protected by legislation in 1885. Legislative measures continue to protect this site, ensuring its preservation for future generations.

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, located approximately 14km from Palmerston North, is a natural reserve that has been central to community recreation, maintaining cultural heritage, and ecological preservation.

The Domain as it is today was historically in three portions.

An area of 29.48Ha consisting of the original Domain and cemetery.

16.8Ha, originally a racecourse, operated by the Ashhurst-Pohangina Racing Club from 1891, and owned from 1921-1979. The last meeting was held in 1942, and the racecourse was used by the NZ Army between 1943 and 1945 as an army military camp during WWII. In 1946, the Racing Club shifted to Awapuni, but the track was still used for a horse training centre until 1979 when the land was sold to Oroua County Council in 1979, with Palmerston North City Council contributing half of the purchase price.

8.29 Ha (adjacent to the railway line, leased to the Oroua County Council, until its purchase by Palmerston North City Council in 1997.

Since the introduction of the RMP in 1997, efforts have focused on preserving the domain's natural beauty and cultural significance, while accommodating the needs of its users.

Over the years, Ashhurst Domain has become a well-loved reserve featuring expansive parklands, lush native forests, and scenic river views. Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain's historical significance, wāhi tapu and natural beauty continue to make it a cherished space and recreational hub for Rangitāne, residents and visitors alike.

The final version of this plan will include a brief overview of the site's military and racecourse history.



Figure 1: Ashhurst and Palmerston North

2 Te Ao Turoa Environmental Centre Cultural Values Assessment

Natural and Cultural Landscape

Landscape Character Assessment

A Landscape Character Assessment informed the first Ashhurst Domain RMP. The assessment was updated in 2023 (APPENDIX III: 2023 Ashhurst Domain Landscape Character Assessment). This assessment highlights four distinct character areas:

- Open space amenity area
- Lower floodplain
- Native bush and
- Wetlands

Each of these character areas holds unique features and land uses that the RMP functions to preserve and enhance.

Key opportunities for improvement include:

- incorporating natural, built, and cultural heritage elements
- enhancing accessibility
- improving physical and visual connections within the Domain (including clear signage)

- restricting development in conservation areas like the native bush and wetlands to protect native vegetation and biodiversity
- enhancing pathways
- defining routes and key access points
- visual and physical integration with the surrounding landscape, such as the Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers.

The red line in Figure 2 shows the unusual boundary line between the City and Manawatū District. The boundary line shape and location on the left-hand aerial is due to the practice to have a boundary at a river – for practical considerations. As a river changes course, boundaries often get left behind. The historical map (right-hand map) clearly shows that the river course almost exactly followed the territorial authority boundary³ in red, where the river would have been the boundary in times past. The map shows the close, if not somewhat exact, relationship between the Domain location and the Rangitāne Pā at Ashhurst Domain and how the old Pā site would have overlooked Gorge water traffic and anyone coming into the rohe from the Pohangina valley.



Figure 2: Otangaki Pā and Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain

³ The red line in Figure 2 is the boundary between the Palmerston North City Council and the Manawatū District Council.

Environmental changes and preservation of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain

The Lower Floodplain character area has experienced significant loss of land and forest area in more recent times due to changes in the river environment. The Manawātū River shifts and changes course significantly and quickly. Over the years both the Council and Regional Council have invested significantly along the river in the urban area to contain the awa to a narrow corridor.

This has had mixed success, and the Regional Council (along with Council and Rangitāne) are investigating how the flow capacity of river corridors in the district can be increased to reduce the impact of high flow events on communities and land along the length of the river. In the old map and aerial (Figure 2), it shows the river's natural trajectory ran deep into what is now Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain's lower terrace.

Protection of the lower terrace, from the impacts of future high flow events, will be an ongoing priority for this plan.



Figure 3: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain – Landscape Character Areas

Ecological Assessment

An ecological assessment for Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain (Appendix Two) was carried out as part of the preparation of this Reserve Management Plan. The ecological assessment highlights its significant natural values and conservation potential, which are critical to developing management actions. The Domain features forest types which are rare in the region, such as totara/matai and swamp forest and supports nationally threatened species like swamp maire and mudfish. The oxbow wetland is highly ranked among regional wetlands. Figure 4 shows the ecological areas identified.

Pest management, particularly targeting possums, rats, and mustelids, is essential to protect these natural habitats. In recent times the reserve has experienced some damage caused by recreation activities not complimentary to the preservation and protection of the forest remnant, for example the public cutting trees to form tracks and disturbing soil to create bike jumps.

Recommendations from the Ecological Assessment include actions to better safeguard its high natural values, to ensure long-term ecological protection. They underscore the need for targeted conservation efforts, robust pest control measures, and controlled entry management policies to prioritise ecological preservation. The recommendations are given effect to in Section 3: Management Policies.



Figure 4: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain: Ecological Sites

Rangitāne o Manawatū Cultural Assessment

The Cultural Values Assessment for Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain carried out as part of preparation for this plan, emphasises the need to recognise and preserve the rich cultural heritage of the area. To give effect to the assessment findings, the management plan should include actions that protect significant cultural sites such as Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Pā, enhance interpretive signage to educate visitors about cultural heritage, and facilitate and prioritise iwi involvement in ongoing management and decision-making processes - particularly around urupā and wāhi tapu. Figure 5 shows the Wāhi Tapu/Urupā overlay recommended by the Cultural Values Assessment.

Restoration of natural features linked to cultural narratives, include those in close proximity to the Domain, like the old Pohangina River Oxbow and Parahaki Island. These cultural areas of interest could be worked into any signage and wayfinding plans for the reserve. Additionally, integrating cultural elements into new developments and recreational areas will ensure the cultural legacy is respected and celebrated, fostering a deeper connection between Te Ao Māori, the community and the land.

Management practices across this culturally significant site should also reflect the kaitiakitanga of mana whenua. Additionally, the Trustees of Parahaki Island must be engaged regarding any activities that may impact on the island.

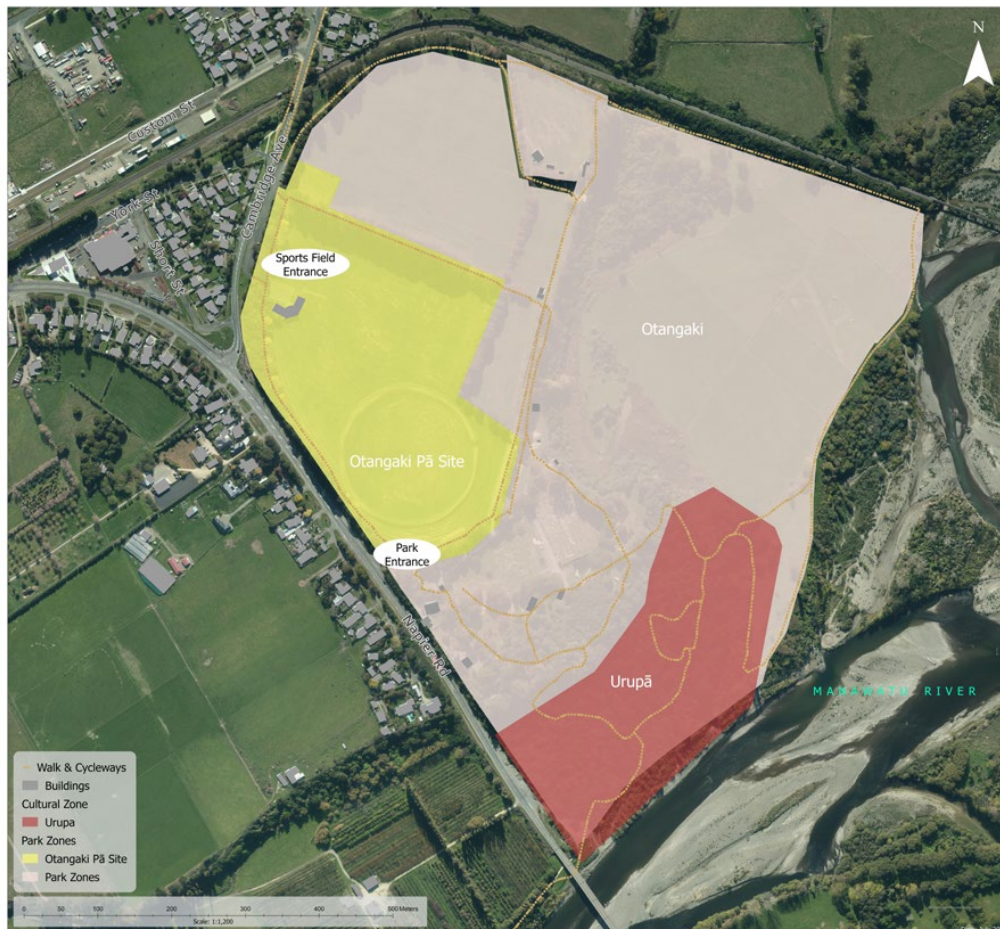


Figure 5: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Cultural Wāhi Tapu Overlay

Legislative Framework

Management objectives align with the following:

- Reserves Act legislation – reserve classification,
- Resource Management Act – District Plan zoning

Reserves Act Status

Recreation Reserve - Section 17 (2) of the Reserves Act 1977 requires that recreation reserves shall be administered under the appropriate provisions of the Act that:

(a) the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on the administering body by sections 53 and 54, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and general well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it:

(b) where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve:

provided that nothing in this subsection shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, or the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014:

(c) those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be conserved:

(d) to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.

- While the Domain is classified under the Reserves Act as a Recreation Reserve, the management practices identified in the Ecological and Cultural recommendations of this Reserve Management Plan warrant a balance between recreation and preservation, with a shift more towards preservation of some areas consistent with 17(2)(b). This is also aligns with the District Plan Conservation and Amenity Zone, and the Cultural Heritage Status given to urupā and wāhi tapu within this zone.

District Plan Zones and Status

In addition to the Reserves Act classification, the District Plan zones and status within Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain guide development and management practices. The Resource Management Act, either through the District Plan or Horizons One Plan, may require consents for activities or works in this sensitive area.

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain is classified under two District Plan zones, and one status under the District Plan Section 17 Schedule of Objects and Sites of Cultural Heritage Value to Tangata Whenua (Figures 7 & 8).

Recreation Zone

This zone includes areas designated for active and passive recreational activities. It encompasses the sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and other facilities that support public enjoyment and recreational use. The Recreation Zone is managed to facilitate a wide range of activities while maintaining the open, green spaces that are integral to the domain's character.

Conservation and Amenity Zone

This zone focuses on the protection and enhancement of significant natural habitats and landscapes within the domain. It includes the native bush areas, wetlands, and other ecologically sensitive regions. The Conservation and Amenity Zone is managed to conserve biodiversity, protect ecological values, and provide opportunities for passive recreation and nature appreciation. Activities in this zone are carefully controlled to minimise environmental impact and support conservation efforts.

At present the bush and urupa are contained within the Recreation rather than the Conservation and Amenity Zone. During the next review of the District plan, it will be important to review the District Plan zone boundaries for Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, to ensure they align with the ecological and cultural areas identified in this reserve management plan.

Cultural Heritage Status

This status is dedicated to the recognition and preservation of areas with significant cultural and historical importance. This status is generally allocated to particular areas or buildings (and hence not a "zone" proper). It includes sites such as Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Pā and other culturally significant landmarks. The Cultural Heritage Status is managed in collaboration with iwi and local communities to protect and enhance cultural heritage values, promote education and interpretation, and ensure that these areas are respected and celebrated.

Name	Issue / Feature
Location / Legal Description	
Parahaki (or Moutere) Island Manawatu River ML4046 and 338	An island in the river at the mouth of the Manawatu Gorge owned by Dannevirke based Rangitane families.
Otangaki (Ashhurst Domain) Ashhurst Domain near Manawatu River Pt Sec Town of Palmerston North	An old urupa in bush near the Manawatu River containing about 6 unmarked graves of Rangitane people drowned when their canoe sank in the river about 1850's or 1860's.

Figure 7: District Plan Cultural Heritage Value excerpt



Figure 8: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain: District Plan Zones

These zoning and scheduled sites of cultural heritage value help ensure that Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain's natural, recreational, and cultural values are protected and enhanced, facilitating a balanced approach to its management and development.

Current use of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain

Cultural practices and activities

The Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain hosts a wide variety of recreation activities, cultural practices, community events, play opportunities, volunteer groups and informal gatherings for families. The areas where major activities occur are shown in the map in Figure 9. Ensuring Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain maintains this breadth of diversity in a manner that is respectful, or mana-enhancing, is a key consideration in this management plan.

Cultural practices

Kaitiakitanga

Rangitāne, supported by Council, maintain a partnership role as kaitiaki of this space regarding how resources are managed, developed and cared for in an ecological and spiritual sense, in perpetuity. In particular, Rangitāne maintain the role of caring for the Urupā at the Domain.

Noho Anga

Rangitāne practice noho anga – or the occupation of a space for the expression of spiritual and cultural practices. It is likely that this practice will grow, and these spaces can be identified over time.

Activities

Camping

For those looking to extend their stay, Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain offers camping facilities. The campsite is well-maintained and provides essential amenities for a comfortable outdoor experience.

Cemetery and Urupā

The park is also used for visiting burial sites and graves. These sites have become areas of both historical and cultural significance over the years, as relatives and whanau to the deceased seek to understand and pay respect to the past.

Community Events

The Domain regularly hosts community events, including community planting days. These events foster community spirit and provide entertainment for locals and visitors alike.

Dog Exercise/Training

The Manawātū Canine Club has leased part of the Domain for dog training and breed showing since 1988. They have a clubhouse on site and hold regular obedience training and shows that attract a large number of entrants to the Domain, many who stay overnight. Their latest lease was signed in March 2020.

Environmental Education, Volunteers and Wildlife Observation

Educational programmes and guided tours focus on the unique flora and fauna of the area. These community-led initiatives aim to raise awareness about environmental conservation and the importance of preserving natural habitats. Often this is in conjunction with volunteers who commit their time to the care and preservation of the natural features.

Family, Picnicking and BBQs

The domain is equipped with numerous picnic tables and barbecue facilities, making it an ideal spot for family gatherings and social outings. Visitors can enjoy a meal amidst the natural beauty of the park.

Fitness Training/Gym

There have been mobile gyms located in the Domain, on and off, from 2019 to 2024. These have proven popular with locals.

Horse Riding

The Ashhurst Community has a strong horse riding, competing and trekking contingent. The Ashhurst Pohangina pony club lease part of the Domain and hold a number of rallies. The Domain, as well as other linking tracks will continue to allow for a variety of equine pursuits.

Model Aircraft

Radio Controlled model aircraft are flown off a landing area along the lower terrace. The Ashhurst Model Fliers lease land for their club activities. The low impact nature of club activities makes them compatible with adjacent ecological areas.

Playground/Children's Natural Play Area

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain features a dedicated children's playground and natural play area designed to engage young explorers with nature. This area includes various play structures and interactive elements crafted from natural materials, encouraging imaginative and adventurous play.

Scouting

The Ashhurst Scouts have a community lease at Otangaki and have operated at this reserve for many years. They are planning to build a new scout hall.

Sports and Active Recreation

Sports enthusiasts can take advantage of the open fields for football and cricket, and other recreational activities. The Domain is also popular for organised sports tournaments .

Walking/dog walking/running

Ashhurst Domain-Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain offers a variety of walking and hiking trails that meander through its lush native forests and open parklands. These trails provide scenic views of the Manawātū River and surrounding landscapes, perfect for casual strolls or more vigorous hikes.

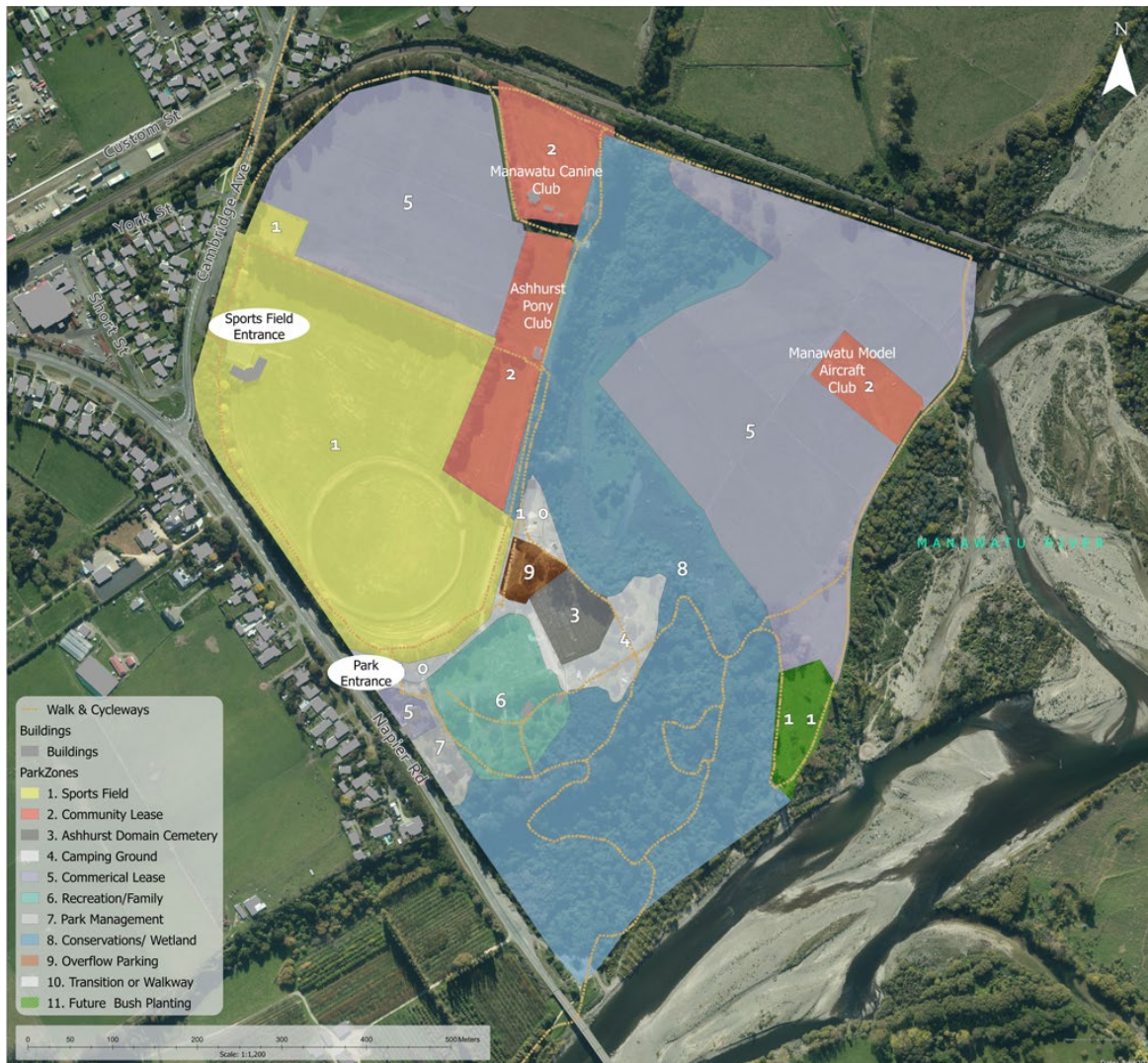


Figure 9: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain - current activities

Facilities condition and renewal

The 2024 PNCC Parks Asset Management Plan has a description of all facilities and structures in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, the condition and performance of the assets and the planned renewals programme. There is a mixture of facility ages and conditions across the Domain. Most facilities, including buildings are in good functional condition. The old Café (former Jockey Rooms) have fallen into a derelict state, and are no longer suitable for occupancy. A decision is needed on their future.

Opportunities and Challenges

A number of opportunities and challenges face the Domain, many of which are not new and not uncommon across regions. This plan makes provision to address these issues and how they relate to the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

1. Community group leasing (future provision, ongoing leases, special activities, volunteer groups, etc)
2. Cultural expression and rangatiratanga (urupā, camping and fires, expression, kaitiaki)
3. Future provision of overflow carparking
4. Growth in camping, and incidents of conflict between long-stay campers and other users
5. Integration of both Te Āpiti Masterplan and Te Ahu a Turanga
6. Managing commercial activities in a public space (food trucks, café, grazing leases)
7. Play and the natural environment
8. Preserving ecological treasures that are at risk of destruction and extinction
9. Provision for natural burial
10. River erosion on the lower terrace
11. Recreation use

Section 2

Values and Objectives

Partner, Stakeholder and Community Engagement - 2024

This 2024 update to the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan marks a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to preserving and enhancing the Domain. This revision integrates extensive community engagement feedback collected from 2023 to early 2024, reflecting the diverse voices and aspirations of iwi, the wider Palmerston North public, local residents, and stakeholders.

Key insights from our Rangitāne partners, the community and stakeholders have highlighted the importance of maintaining the Domain's natural character, enhancing accessibility, protecting its ecological uniqueness, supporting diverse recreational activities, and fostering cultural expression and kaitiakitanga.



Values

The values, identified through the engagement process, that guide and shape the management and development of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain unsurprisingly emerge from the unique identity of the Park. They are:

Preservation

Protecting and restoring native ecological treasures, such as wetlands and bush, enhances the park's natural beauty, open views, and peaceful scenery, creating a sense of calm and relaxation for everyone who visits. These should be preserved for future generations.

Enjoyment

The variety of activities that are complimentary to the natural and developed sections should be kept, and wherever possible integrated across the park. Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain is to be enjoyed respectfully.

Connection

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain has a strong cultural and historical identity, that should be celebrated and respected. This kōrero should be woven into the fabric of the physical infrastructure and management practices, allowing people to better connect with the intrinsic depth of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Integration

The Te Āpiti Masterplan, the Manawatū River (through the River Framework) and Te Ahu a Turanga in particular, are three significant projects occurring in this area. Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain should be integrated into these developments as the pivotal centre.

By aligning the management and future opportunities with community values, kaitiakitanga and environmental stewardship, this plan aims to guide the sustainable development and management of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain for current and future generations. We are committed to a collaborative approach, partnering with Rangitāne, and involving local community groups and other stakeholders in the ongoing care and enhancement of this cherished natural reserve.

Objectives

Objective 1:

To **acknowledge Rangitāne ancestral occupation of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain** through the iwi's ongoing presence in decision-making, management and participation at the reserve.

Objective 2:

To **foster enjoyment and involvement** in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain by a variety of users and interests in a manner that is mana-enhancing and respectful of the core values.

Objective 3:

To protect, **preserve and restore the natural environment and character** of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, in a manner consistent with the aspirations of local residents and the wider public.

Objective 4:

To encourage **resilience through integrated management** and development practices at the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Objective 5:

To provide opportunities for appropriate **community and commercial activities** that would enhance the natural character and enjoyment of the Domain.

Objective 6:

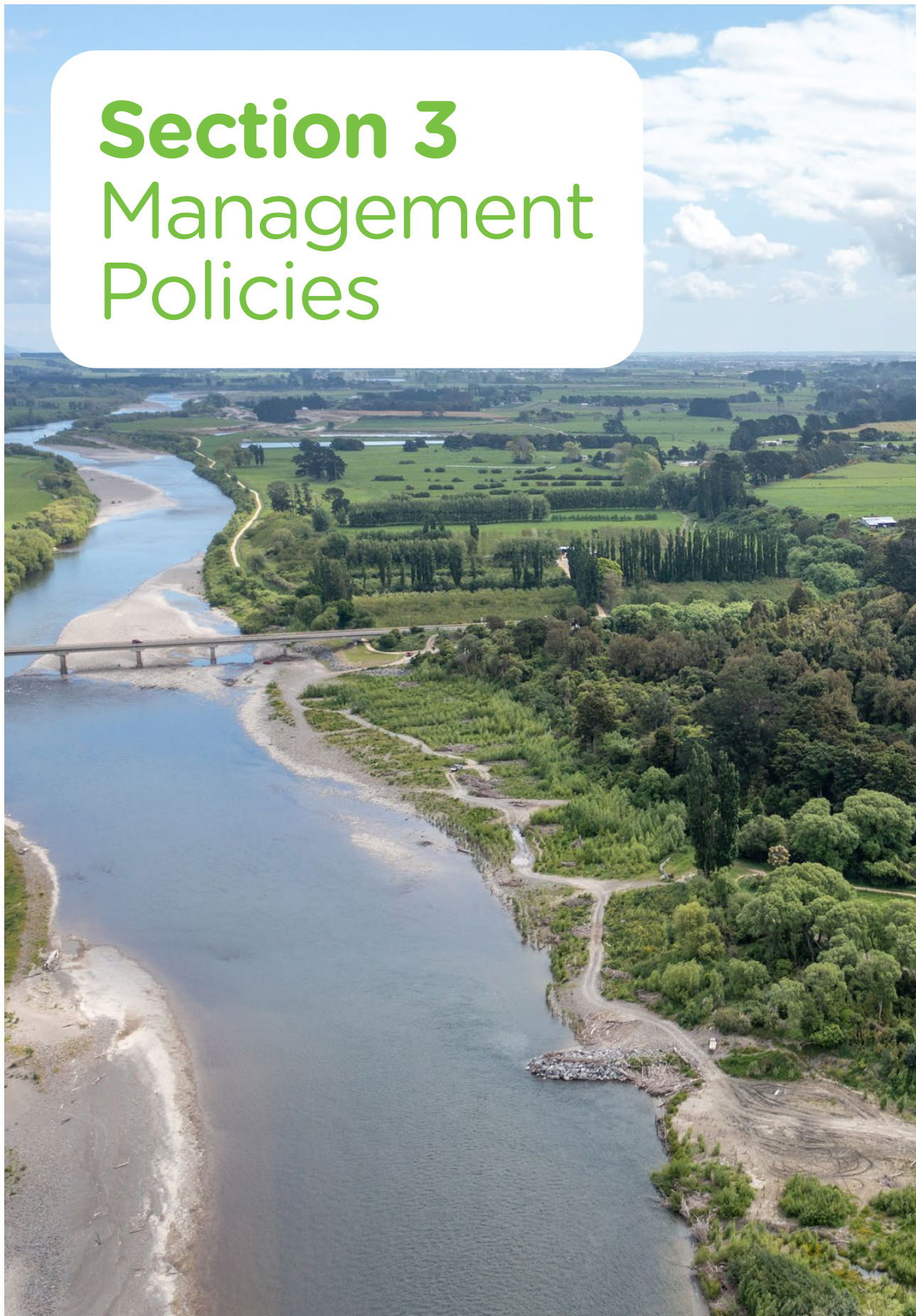
To encourage the use of the Domain as an **educational resource**.

Objective 7:

To adjust to **changing recreation and sporting pursuits**

Section 3

Management Policies



Landscape and Character Policy Areas



Landuses

Key: Landuses

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Grazed Paddocks | 9. Managers House | 16. Cemetery |
| 2. Manawātū Canine Club | 10. Service / Maintenance / Storage | 17. Wetland |
| 3. Manawātū Pony Club | 11. Children's Playground | 18. Escarpment |
| 4. Regenerating Native Bush | 12. Picnic Lawn | 19. Former Café |
| 5. Soccer Fields | 13. Toilets and Shelter | 20. Lower Floodplain |
| 6. Cricket Oval | 14. Ashhurst Bush | 21. Changing Rooms |
| 7. Main Entrance | 15. Camping Ground | 22. Model Aeroplane Club |
| 8. Office / Information Building | | |

Figure 10: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Landscape Use Areas

Management and Administration

Palmerston North City Council is the Administering Body of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain. The primary purpose of the Administering Body is to manage the reserve in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

The purpose of the Act is to ensure that parks and reserves are properly maintained and managed for the use and enjoyment of the community. Council has chosen to work alongside iwi to ensure that the management of the reserve reflects the ongoing partnership and identity of two peoples. The General Policy provides more detail on our partnership.



Policy 1

Partnership (Rangitāne o Manawatū) and Management

The history and development of this site, as occupied by Rangitāne (for hundreds of years), would be incomplete without mention of Rangitāne history and practices at the site. The Domain, as an old Pā site, remained occupied as a gathering place long after the Marae was gone. Rangitāne have acted as kaitiaki over this place up until the present day.

Policy 1.1: To involve Rangitāne, exercising their rangatira, in the activities at Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain that they believe require cultural input at the earliest stage possible.

Policy Action 1.1.1: Develop protective measures around urupā in the Domain. (section 3.2.1).

Policy Action 1.1.2: Disturbance of the ground off the path in in red area (urupā) in Figure 5, will not occur until a Rangitāne representative has been to the site and appropriate tikanga has been completed

Policy Action 1.1.3: Council and Rangitāne will engage with one another before making any decision to undertake significant pruning of bush within the urupā area

Policy Action 1.1.4: develop bilingual signage for the urupā area communicating the its significance to iwi and rules around environmental protection and wāhi tapu.

Policy Action 1.1.5: Any activity occurring in, or planned for, the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain that may impact Parahaki Island will be raised early in the planning process with the Island Trust.

Policy 1.2: Rangitāne will be invited to complete, or be part of, inductions for domain staff and community volunteer days in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Policy 1.3: Enable noho anga – the right of an indigenous culture to occupy a space for ritual or ceremonial purposes. This will include lighting fires for breaking tapu and remaining on site overnight.

Policy Action 1.3.1: Develop a process with to Rangitāne to manage bookings for noho anga.

Policy 1.4: Use both the original and new name for the reserve and surrounding area: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Policy Action 1.4.1: Progressively update all Council references to Ashhurst Domain, to the dual name Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, on the website, signage and PNCC materials.

Policy 2

Landscape

The updated Landscape Assessment 2023 identified four key character areas, separated by distinctive character features that make them unique:

1. Open space
2. Lower Floodplain
3. Amenity Area
4. Native Bush and Wetlands.

The four character areas are shown in Figure 3. Within the four Character Areas there are many activities and practices that require day-to-day management.

Visual management remains a key feature of this management plan. Whenever any form of development or landscape change is proposed, the change or development must be consistent with the character assessment of the area in which it is proposed. In addition, any development or change within an area must also consider its neighbouring character area – should it impinge upon the visual amenity of that site and its character values.

Policy 2.1: Protect and enhance the unique landscapes and visual amenity.

Policy Action 2.1.1: Continue to work with horizons and Rangitāne to mitigate the impacts of high river flows on Character Area 2 (lower floodplain)

Policy Action 2.1.2: Produce Visual Amenity and Character Development Guidelines. (The Landscape assessment will provide the material for the guidelines).

Policy Action 2.1.3: Manage plant height for open views and create viewing areas (with associated seating and interpretation signage)

Policy 3

Vegetation, Fauna and Wetland

The Domain has a number of vegetation areas including a native swamp forest and wetland area of some significance. The Domain vegetation below the Terrace can be described as Floodplain forest (made up of totara/matai stand and swamp forest), terrace forest, oxbow wetland and northern foremost remnant (Landscape area 4, Figure 3).

The Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain vegetation is also made up of escarpment vegetation, shelter belts and general amenity planting. Lower Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, as a floodplain forest, features regionally rare forest types such as totara/matai, and supports nationally threatened species like swamp maire and mudfish. The oxbow wetland is highly ranked among regional wetlands.

Policy 3.1: Manage and maintain the vegetation, fauna and native species to enhance the natural character areas, public safety, forest and tree health and to facilitate opportunities for ecological habitats to thrive.

Policy Actions 3.1.1: Allow native trees in bush areas that are dead or dying to naturally rot and replenish the forest floor, unless they pose a danger to users.

Policy Action 3.1.2: Other than in bush areas, remove trees that are dead/dying, seriously damaged or dangerous, and replace with suitable species.

Policy Actions 3.1.3: Control plant pests in a manner consistent with the Character Areas and Horizons Regional Plant Pest Management Plan.

Character Zone 4: Bush Remnant and Wetland

Policy 3.2: ensure that management practices in Character Area 4 protect and strengthen the rare and unique species in the floodplain swamp forest and wetland – Scenic Reserve A (includes all native species).

Policy Action: 3.2.1: Make rules for the area and install signage in Character Area 4 advising the public of rules, including:

- Walking and experiencing nature is limited to the official approved paths.
- Mountain bikes, bike and scooters are not allowed on paths or in the bush
- Off path activities in Character Area 4 require prior approval of Council
- This is a dog on-leash area under the Dog Control Bylaw 2024

Policy Action 3.2.2: only use ecologically and genetically appropriate plant stock in future plantings within and adjacent to the indigenous forest.

Policy Action: 3.2.3: seek funding to undertake a full pest, weed and exotic fauna stocktake of Character Area 4 and develop a pest control and fauna management plan.

Policy Action: 3.2.4: support volunteer efforts to identify canopy gaps within the bush and reinstate canopy by controlling weeds in these localised areas

Policy Action: 3.2.5: include Character Area 4 within the City's biodiversity management and reporting initiatives

Policy Action 3.2.6: support volunteer groups to help carry out actions 3.2.2-3.2.5 and any other activity consistent with Policy 3.2.

Policy Action 3.2.7: Develop and deliver a communications plan for the actions in Policy 3.2.

Policy Action 3.2.8: Review the reserve classification to ascertain if a re-classification of Character Area 4 is warranted and if so, proceed with classification change process.

Policy 3.3: Continue to support education and learning opportunities (particularly Character Area 4).

Policy 3.4: Protect the existing wetland and make provision for the extension of the natural bush remnant and wetland area to create a larger, and thereby more naturally stable ecological preservation area. (Development Opportunity 3.2.8).

Policy Action: 3.4.1: Ensure grazed land remains physically separated from the wetland.

Development Opportunity - Policy Opportunity 3.5: Develop Character Area 2 (Floodplain) to become Part of Character Area 4 as native wetland and bush.

Policy 4

Recreation

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain provides for a wide range of recreation activities that are consistent with its character and history. There are open spaces, sports fields, bushwalks and playgrounds. Horse riding and dog training and shows also feature at the Domain. Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain also acts as the main reserve for Ashhurst residents. Council will continue to support this diversity of activity.

Policy 4.1: Provide and manage a variety of spaces and assets that will cater to the diverse recreation activity. This will include but is not limited to:

- Casual unstructured recreation
- Play
- Sporting days, training and events
- Organised sports competitions
- Clubs and community leases/activities

Policy Action 4.1.1: Maintain facilities and grounds in accordance with the service standards in the PNCC Parks and Property Asset Management Plans.

Policy Action 4.1.2: Require all organised sports games, trainings and one-off events to be booked through Council.

Policy 4.2: Ensure compatibility of recreation activities with Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain character; and encourage user conflict to be resolved through an etiquette of mutual respect – as per Manawātū River Shared Path.

Policy Action 4.2.1: Update the wording on signage to align with Policy 4.2, when existing signs are renewed.

Policy 4.2.2: Work with the local equestrian community to identify ways to improve access for horses in the wider Domain without increasing vehicle access.

Policy 4.3: Limit recreation activities to areas where they are not detrimental to the Character identity.

Policy Action 4.3.1: Identify any existing recreation activities within a Character area that are not compatible with the character identity and explore opportunities to restrict them or accommodate them in other areas that are more suitable.

Policy 5

Events

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain is popular for formal and informal events. Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain hosts a wide variety of events – with some at a large scale. Certain events may negatively impact on the landscape character in some areas, and other areas are so popular that events may negatively impact on the enjoyment of others.

Policy 5.1: Allow for a variety of one-off events which meet the provisions of Council bylaws, policies and the District Plan.

Policy Action 5.1.1: Continue to require large events and bookings for exclusive use of grounds and facilities to be booked through Council.

Policy Action 5.1.2: Encourage the community to book private events with Council, even if exclusive usage is not required, so that booking conflicts can be managed.

Policy 6

Camping

The Campground has a very distinctive “off the beaten track” appeal. Campground numbers have been steadily increasing for many years, and the campground is now a very popular alternative to the “highway 1” tourist appeal. There has been an increase in incidents of threatening behaviour towards staff and other users with most incidents involving longer-stay campers with no other place to live. There have also been incidents of people sleeping in the bush or vehicles within the carparks. It is important going forward that basic extensions to facilities occur and that the management of the campground is sufficiently resourced to ensure each camper has a good camping experience.

Policy 6.1: Continue to provide regional “off-the-beaten-track” camping and overnight stay facilities in the Domain.

Policy Action 6.1.1: Limit overnight camping in the Domain to the campground and/or as part of a one-off event in a community lease area e.g. canine centre.

Policy Action 6.1.2: Continue to restrict the length of stay to prevent long-term occupancy.

Policy Action 6.1.3: Continue to monitor and report on camper numbers and survey guests.

Policy Action 6.1.4: Review and adapt campground rules to support an “off the beaten track” camping experience and manage camper behaviour.

Policy 6.2: Provide for continued growth in campground visitor numbers.

Policy Action 6.2.1: Monitor the use of powered sites and provide for the installation of additional power boxes if demand frequently exceeds supply.

Policy Action 6.2.2: Decommission the old dump station site to enable the area to return to camping provision.

Policy Action 6.2.3: Investigate options, including a commercial partnership, to increase the level of management and facilities provided at the campground, to better meet camper needs, without impacting on management of the wider Domain or campground viability.

Policy 7

Amenity Area

The playground and surrounding amenity at Ashhurst are well-loved by kids and adults alike. It is important that everything is well-maintained and cared for in this area. The playground must meet playground safety standards, and the public amenities and the barbecues looked after in accordance with the Parks Asset Management Plan.

Policy 7.1: Maintain the playground to the appropriate safety standard, and ensure all seats, tables, barbecues and toilet/change facilities are maintained in working condition.

Policy Action 7.1.1: Continue to undertake regular playground safety audits and maintenance checks to ensure equipment meets the most appropriate standard for its type.

Policy Action 7.1.2: Maintain facilities and grounds in accordance with the service standards in Councils Parks and Property Asset Management Plans.

Development Opportunity: Policy 7.2: Incorporate further natural play features into the Domain without impinging upon Character Area 4.

Opportunity Action 7.2.1: Identify opportunities to create natural play elements in and around the existing play area.

Policy 8

Burial Sites

Cemetery

The Ashhurst Cemetery is of significance to the local community, it celebrates the lives of past residents, many of whose descendants still live in the village. The cemetery is maintained to a high standard and is managed in accordance with the PNCC Cemeteries and Crematorium Bylaw. Capacity remains in the lawn area for several burials and ash interments, and to build additional niche walls to accommodate ash interments.

Policy 8.1: To limit the impact of the cemetery on the campground and adjacent overflow parking area, there will be no expansion of the area set aside for the existing cemetery.

Policy 8.2: Maintain cemetery assets in accordance with the service standards in the PNCC Parks Asset Management Plan.

Natural Burials

Natural burial involves a non-embalmed body buried at a shallow depth to facilitate natural decomposition. Natural burial is becoming more popular and it has been challenging to find publicly owned land in the city suitable to be set aside for natural burial. Members of the community, in consultation with Rangitāne have identified an area within the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain which may be suitable for natural burial. The intention would be to restore the area in native bush, as part of the natural burial process, which is consistent with the plans for the surrounding area.

Policy 8.3: Make provision for natural burial within Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Policy Action 8.3.1: Investigate the suitability of the soil within the area adjacent to the Northern Bush Remnant portion of the wetland for natural burial. (blue circled area in Figure 11) and up to two other potential sites within the Domain.

Policy Action 8.4.2: Subject to the confirmation of site suitability, and in partnership with Rangitāne, support the community to develop a proposal for the designation, development and operation of a natural burial site.

Policy 9

Carparking, Overflow Parking and Access

Managing the flow and circulation of transport and recreation activities in and around the reserve is a key planning requirement for a successful use of space. This includes the way by which users enter the park. Managing the balance between carparks and the character of the Domain is a challenge, but one that needs to be met in an appropriate manner.

Car parking is essential for many people to get to the park and enjoy it, particularly as Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain is a destination reserve serving the wider city. Carpark locations should be strategic and focused in particular areas. The provision of new parking should consider visual impact, amenity proximity and protection of character areas.

Policy 9.1 Access: provide an efficient and safe access network within the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain catering for a wide range of recreation visitors.

Policy Action 9.1.1: receive feedback on the functioning of the main entrance to the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain once Te Ahu a Turanga is complete.

Policy Action 9.1.2: Review the Domain roading network for efficiency, appropriateness in regards to Character Type, safety and aesthetic enjoyment when planning for any future developments in the reserve.

Policy 9.2: Continue to control the speed, and direction of traffic within the reserve.

Policy 9.3: Provide safe, convenient parking spaces at a level compatible with the capacity of the reserve.

Policy Action 9.3.1: Continue to provide for overflow carparking in the areas identified in Figure 9, rather than building carparks to meet peak demand.

Policy Action 9.3.2: Review the level of provision, location and condition of carparks as part of the 3-yearly asset management planning cycle.

Policy 10

Signage, interpretation and education

Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain is a valuable educational resource, offering a unique window into native river swamp habitats of the past and geological formation. Clear signage which helps users navigate between features and provides key information in a consistent manner, whilst minimising the impact on the aesthetics of the surrounding environment is important. The Domain is in a pivotal gateway and careful consideration will be required to integrate Domain signage with Te Āpiti, Te Ahu a Turanga and the Manawātū River.

Policy 10.1: Promote Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain as a valuable natural, historical and educational resource.

Policy Action 10.1.1: Ensure information on the Council website and promotional material is kept up to date.

Policy Action 10.1.2: Enable school groups to participate in the care and restoration of Area 4.

Policy Action 10.1.3: Seek funding to develop interpretation signage and pamphlets for Character Area 4.

Policy Action 10.1.4: Ensure key educational and historic features of the Domain are displayed on signage, including the military and horse-racing history.

Policy Action 10.1.5: Promote the two Manawātū racecourse sites at the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Policy 10.2: Provide wayfinding signage that is easy to follow and appropriate for the nature of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Policy Action 10.2.1: Continue to utilise the hierarchy of signage, wayfinding marker and standardised symbols to simplify navigation for visitors whilst also minimising the impact of signs on the surrounding landscape.

Policy Action 10.2.2: Ensure that all signage is developed and/or renewed in accordance with Council's brand and signage policies, including the use of Te Reo Māori.

Policy Action 10.2.3: Engage with Rangitāne on the content and translation of all interpretive signage to ensure it's culturally functional and appropriate.

Policy Action 10.2.4: Work with the Manawātū Gorge Governance Group and Rangitāne to develop alignment between signage on the outer areas of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain and other signage in the area.

Policy 11

Buildings, Site Furniture and Facilities

There are a number of facilities across the Domain that serve the needs of the park staff and users. Some are used exclusively by Council staff; some are open to the public, and some are owned and managed by community groups. The old Jockey Rooms, which were redeveloped for use as a café have now fallen into disrepair. All other buildings in the Domain are being maintained in sound functional condition.

Policy 11.1: Maintain Council owned buildings in sound functional condition and renew in accordance with the provisions of the Property Asset Management Plan.

Policy 11.2: Seek community proposals to relocate the old jockey rooms (former café) for an alternative purpose, with a preference for reuse within the Domain.

Policy 11.3: Review proposals for new buildings to ensure the location and design is sensitive to the surrounding environment.

Policy 11.4: Continue to install and replace furniture in a style that is appropriate to the Character area with a preference for the use of natural materials.

Policy 12

Leases and Licenses

Community Leases

Council holds leases with community groups in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain that provide beneficial and cost-effective activities for the community. These groups are made up of volunteers and operate as for-purpose (not-for-profit) organisations that do not charge commercial rates. This makes these activities more affordable. All community group leases are directed by Council Policy for the Use of Public Space and the Support and Funding Policy. Community Group leases are also subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act.

There are three community leases and one community agreement in Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain at the time of writing. These leases are listed within Appendix I. There is nothing elsewhere in this plan that would require a current lease holder to move or cease their activities e.g. Ashhurst Model Fliers Club will be maintained and incorporated into plans for future ecological restoration in the lower terrace floodplain.

Policy 12.1: Council will consider the renewal of existing community group leases within Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, without first consulting with the public, providing the proposed activity and lease area is substantially the same as in the current lease provisions. See General Policy Appendix I for all leases on Council reserves.

Policy Action 12.1.1. Contact community groups before the end of their lease to discuss any changes to occupancy proposed.

Policy Action 12.1.2. Incorporate new leases to Appendix I.

Policy 12.2: Ensure that lease holders fulfil their leasing obligations under their lease and the Reserves Act 1977.

Development Opportunity Policy 12.3: set aside a portion of land that is currently grazed for future community-led initiatives which are consistent with the principles and objectives of this Reserve Management Plan. See Figure 11.

Commercial Leases and Licenses

Commercial lease and licences are appropriate in reserves to support the activities occurring in the reserves. All revenue from commercial leases is used to offset the costs associated with managing and maintaining the wider reserve. There are currently no commercial leases in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain other than grazing leases.

Grazing leases have been used for many years to manage land that is set aside for future reserve space, but not currently required. The two most significant areas that are covered by a grazing lease at present are described as number 5 in Figure 9.

These two areas leased for grazing are proposed as suitable for community initiatives and the wetland forest restoration project. It is intended to progressively reduce the area available for grazing to enable development.

Policy 12.4 Issue licences to mobile vendors (food trucks) to whose products meet demand for the sale of food and drinks in Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

Policy Action 12.4.1: Assess applications for food truck and other vendor licences against the objectives of this Reserve Management Plan and issue licences in accordance with Council policy.

Policy 12.5: Continue to use grazing leases for the management of land until it is needed for reserve purposes.

Policy Action 12.5.1: At the end of the grazing lease term, review the grazing area, and issue new grazing leases for terms no greater than 2 years and for an area that does not impact on proposed community initiatives and reserve developments.

Policy Action 12.5.2: Maintain land removed from grazing until development commences, so it does not pose a fire hazard.

Section 4

Development and Integration Opportunities



This Reserve Management Plan review is timely, coinciding with the development of Te Ahu a Turanga (Manawatu/Tararua) highway, the adoption of the Te Āpiti Masterplan, and the move by Council to secure the Ashhurst to Palmerston North shared path – thereby linking the City to Ashhurst via off-road recreation/commuter options.

The plan outlines strategies to integrate the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain into all three large-scale pieces of work, thereby enhancing accessibility and recreation opportunities while preserving its natural and cultural values.

Integration Policy 13.1: Integrate the appropriate paths and wayfinding with new developments. See Policy 10.2.4

Development Policy 13.2: Develop the Lower Terrace as an ecological restoration area expanding the existing bush remnant and wetland. See Policy 3.2 for details; and Figure 10: 14 for aerial description.

Development Policy 13.3: Provide an area for future community leasing opportunities. See Leases and Licences Policy 12.5; and Figure 10: 13 for aerial description.

Development Opportunity 13.4: Be open to new proposals for food and beverage services adjacent to the playground in the summer months to support an increase in day visitors and campers.



Figure 11: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain – proposed future activities

Appendices



Appendix I:

Definitions

Character Area

Distinct zones within the reserve (e.g., wetlands, open spaces) identified in the Landscape Character Assessment for targeted management.

Commercial Lease

An agreement allowing profit-driven activities (e.g., grazing, food trucks) on reserve land, approved by the council.

Community Lease

An agreement permitting nonprofit groups (e.g., scouts, pony clubs) to use reserve land for specific community activities.

Ecological Assessment

A study of an area's biodiversity, habitats, and threats (e.g., pests) to guide conservation efforts.

Horizons One Plan

A regional policy (by Horizons Regional Council) managing natural resources (e.g., water, soil) under the Resource Management Act.

Kaitiakitanga

Māori principle of guardianship, emphasizing sustainable stewardship of land and resources by tangata whenua.

Natural Burial

An eco-friendly burial method (no embalming, shallow graves) that aids decomposition and ecosystem restoration.

Nohoanga

Temporary occupation of land by Māori for cultural practices (e.g., ceremonies, gatherings).

Recreation Reserve

A reserve classification (under the Reserves Act 1977) prioritising public recreation while protecting natural/cultural features.

Reserve Management Plan (RMP)

A legal document guiding the sustainable use of a public reserve, balancing conservation, recreation, and cultural values.

Reserves Act 1977

New Zealand law governing the classification, protection, and management of public reserves.

Te Ao Māori

The Māori worldview, integrating cultural, spiritual, and environmental values.

Te Ahu a Turanga

The state highway connecting Woodville to Ashhurst across Te Apiti – which includes pedestrian and cycling path connections to the Domain.

Te Āpiti

The Manawatū Gorge, a culturally significant area for Rangitāne iwi, symbolizing regional connections.

Urupā

A Māori burial ground, often designated as wāhi tapu (sacred site) and protected under heritage laws.

Wāhi Tapu

Sacred Māori sites (e.g., burial grounds, ceremonial areas) protected under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

Appendix II:

Cultural Values Assessment



Te Mauri o Rangitāne o Manawātū (Council of Elders)
Tanenuiarangi Manawātū Incorporated (Iwi Authority)

Phone: (06) 353 1881 Fax: (06) 353 1880 Email: TMI@rangitaane.iwi.nz Website: www.tmi.maori.nz

Best Care (Whakapai Hauora) Charitable Trust
(Health/Social/Promotion Services)

Phone: (06) 35 36385

Fax: (06) 353 1883

Email: BCWH@rangitaane.iwi.nz

Website: www.whakapaihauora.maori.nz

Piki Kotuku Te Awhi Hinengaro
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Te Ao Turoa Environmental Centre
Cultural Values Assessment

To

Palmerston North City Council
Ashurst Reserve Management Plan



Ka kahutia i te korowai, Te Rangimarie, Te Aroha, Te Whakaiti, Ka Whakapuawai he iwi humaarie
Spread the cloak of Peace and Love, so shall blossom the people of humility

35

Mihi

Te Mauri o Rangitāne o Manawatū

E inoi nei ki ngā whakatipuranga a Tanenuiarangi

Kia tū whakapakari me matekitetia mō ngā rā ka

Hekemai mō te oranga tinana, oranga wairua

Teitei Kahurangi.

Whakatuwheratia o hā, me tō hinengaro toro atu

O ringa kia awhitia rātau mā i urumai i waenganui i a mātou,

Manaakitia te katoa ahakoa tō rātou karangatanga maha

Me kaha te tiaki kia pai ai ngā wawata,

Ngā moemoea.

Kia ū ki ngā whakaarotanga

A ō mātou Matua Tupuna.

Kia noho tonu a rātou wairua ki runga ki tēnā

Ki tēnā mō ake tōnu atu.

Ma Ihoa tō tātou piringa me te kaiarahi i runga i to haerenga.

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Landscape Context

Ahuaturanga

Ashurst Domain Reserve is located within a wider landscape known as Ahuaturanga. Ahuaturanga is named after Te Ahu a Turanga Peak that sits above Te Āpiti, near the Saddle Road in the Ruahine Range. Te Ahu a Turanga is a significant wahi tapu, important culturally, spiritually and historically to Rangitāne. The site is registered with the New Zealand Archaeological Association with the following narrative; Rangitāne also have connections with the Aotea waka which made landfall at Aotea Harbour, just North of Taranaki. The Aotea waka was Captained by Turi, who settled in the Patea District of Southern Taranaki. He had a son named Turangaimua, or more commonly Turanga. Once old enough Turanga ventured back to where the Aotea had landed, and with support, set off to achieve victory over surrounding tribes. When they arrived in Turanganui a Kiwa (Girborne) they clashed with the local iwi and caught the attention of some the woman who followed them as they ventured on. The local Turanganui a Kiwa people quickly noticed some of their women were missing and followed Turanga and his support party. They were eventually overtaken at a saddle on the Ruahine Range just north of the Manawatū Gorge. A fierce battle took place where Turanga along with several Rangitāne Chiefs who lent support to Turanga were killed. The party was buried there and the wahi tapu site was subsequently named Te Ahu a Turanga (the sacred mound of Turangaimua (the elder child)). The Ahuaturanga land block was acquired by the Crown in 1964, five years after J. T Stewart surveyed the Manawatū River corridor (Figure 1). The old Māori track leading from the present Ashurst Domain, across the Ruahine Range to Tamaki Nua a Rua (Dannevirke) was also named Te Ahu a Turanga track.

Te Apiti

Te Āpiti, commonly referred to as the Manawatū Gorge, is of paramount importance to Rangitāne. Crucially it connected communities east and west of Te Apiti. The river, riparian margins and Te Ahu a Turanga track were significant routes of transport and communication passageways, and the meeting place of the two great forests of Whātonga; forests of the Ruahine and Tararua Ranges. The area is thus symbolic of connectivity between people, places and environments. Te Āpiti has many meanings including a split or cleft, to place side by side, or to have two of. It represents the two sides of the Gorge.

Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers

The Manawatū River is central to Rangitāne cultural values system. It was created through the spirit of Okatia, who gave life to a tōtara tree growing on the slopes of the Puketoi Range in the Hawkes Bay. The tōtara made its way to the mountain Ranges of Ruahine and Tararua, forcing its way through, creating the Manawatū Gorge/Te Apiti giving the river the ability to make its way out to sea. The most significant quality that flows through the Manawatū River is its mauri which binds the physical, traditional, and spiritual elements of all things together, generating, nurturing, and upholding all life. This mauri is the most crucial element that binds Rangitāne with their tangible and intangible surroundings. The interconnecting waterways and wetlands of the Manawatū River catchment form a dendritic pattern across the landscape. Flooding and connectivity of floodplains is celebrated as part of this process. For Rangitane, the Manawatū River catchment is the main artery in this network containing the strongest and greatest amount of mauri. If an activity occurs that disrupts the natural actions of the waterway or pollutes the water, such as the shift in the Manawatū River course as a result of the building of the embankment for the railroad (Figure 1), it is seen as having a negative impact on the mauri.

The Upper Manawatū had extraordinary value for wild foods, rongoa, construction and weaving resources. Complex coordinated systems of Ritenga were practiced across the landscape, which were dependant on environmental cues including wind, rain, season, sun, celestial and moon phases. Food from the waterways, wetlands and confluence of the Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers included tuna (Eel) in abundance, kokopu, inanga (*Galaxias* sp.), koura (freshwater crayfish), kākahi (mussel), and pātiki (black flounder). “The deep sluggish creeks that wound through the forest, the river-side lagoons and flax-choked swamps swarmed with eels and waterfowl, the groves of karaka and hinau were in season laden with fruit, and the dense bush gave shelter to myriads of pigeons, kaka, tui, weka and kiwi which frequent the river margins” (Peterson 1973:25). The interconnected lagoons, tributaries, river and diverse riparian margins created the tapestry in which indigenous life took place, providing all of the resources Rangitāne needed to thrive in this environment.



J. T. Stewart, 1859: The course of the Manawātū River changed when an embankment was constructed alongside the railway, sometime after 1872

Wahi tapu within Ashurst Domain

Otangaki

Otangaki Pā was a Rangitāne outpost and kainga situated at the present Ashurst Domain on the upper terrace. Otangaki Pā sat atop the cliffs just above the Manawātū River, now the Ducks Unlimited wetland, providing a view over some distance of any oncoming attackers. It was a strategic defensive location for defending the wider Manawātū. The soil on the upper terrace is rich and likely supported kumara and fern root farming.

Otangaki Urupā

On a low rise in Ashurst *Domain*, between the upper terrace and bush covered flats, is an urupā containing six unmarked graves. These are the graves of six Rangitāne people who drowned after their canoe sank in the Manawātū River around the 1850's/1860's. The urupā and nearby wetland are under threat of erosion as a result of changes sediment accumulation around Parahaki Island.

Defining wahi tapu

Opposed to the Resource Management Act description of a historic site having a specific set of coordinates, it is Rangitāne o Manawātū view that their wahi tapu are highly interconnected. This generates a broad cultural landscape where travelling tracks, temporary and permanent shelters, resource collecting areas, work and wānanga areas are generally described within an area instead of specifically defined as a set of coordinates. The Ashurst Domain area and ecology is significant to Rangitāne o Manawātū, their interests are not only refined to the boundary of Otangaki Pā and urupā.

Cultural Expression

Cultural narrative, history and naming should be shared with the wider community. This will support and acknowledge Rangitāne o Manawātū Mana, Whakapapa, Mahi toi, and Ahi kā; and contribute to Pukenga Rawa, the economic security and wealth creation of Rangitāne o Manawātū practitioners. The narrative and history could be shared in the form of signage and story boards, carvings or pou of tohu maumahara; view shafts that connect with cultural landmarks; symbolic artworks or interactive technologies to communicate whakapapa of the area; and whānau based events that acknowledge and celebrate the history of the landscape.

Objective 1

Highlight and share the Rangitāne o Manawātū history of Ashurst Domain

Policies

- 1.1 Align viewshafts with Te Apiti and surrounding waterways.
- 1.2 Prioritise interactive signage, pou and artwork during development or upgrade of stopping and lookout areas.
- 1.3 Upgrade the entrance way to Ashurst Domain to include “Otangaki” with Rangitāne artworks.
- 1.4 Use “Otangaki” in directional signage to Ashurst Domain, identifiers within the domain, and during Palmerston North City Council press releases about the domain.

It has long been known that a Rangitāne urupā exists within Ashurst Domain. The graves however are unmarked, the area is unkempt, weedy and overall culturally degraded. The area should be tidied up and managed to the same level as Palmerston North City Council managed cemeteries. This is an important thread of history and whakapapa that still exists that should be protected. The management needs to be corrected in partnership with Rangitāne o Manawātū iwi leaders.

Objective 2

Manage Otangaki urupā according to Rangitāne o Manawatū tikanga.

Policies

2.1 Develop a set of agreed management principles and practices with Rangitāne o Manawatū iwi leaders, including an implementation date.

Ecology

There are several areas of canopy collapse within the remaining forest remnant that has resulted in the invasion of climbing weeds and lack of forest regeneration, other invasive weeds such as Tradescantia have taken hold on the forest floor. This is an important representative of original floodplain forest and piece of cultural history, it is associated with important wahi tapu and is a well-used community asset. The forest remnant should be expanded using seed sourced from the existing vegetation and protected from weed threats.

Objective 3

Ensure forest health is enhanced in Ashurst Domain.

Policies

- 3.1 Undertake tri-annual weed surveys to assess impact and extent of weed issues.
- 3.2 Undertake annual weed control based on results from weed surveys.
- 3.3 Encourage planting using eco-sourced seed to enhance and expand the bush remnant.
- 3.4 Consult with Rangitāne o Manawatū prior to undertaking actions to enhance forest health.

Indigenous species are predated upon by pest mammals. Assessment of the bush remnant for browsing impacts also revealed attacked/dead birds. Pest management should be increased within the area to protect Rangitāne o Manawatū values associated with taonga species and tohu.

Objective 4

Enhance avifauna populations within Ashurst Domain.

- 4.1 Reduce pest mammal impacts on fauna within Ashurst Domain by expanding on the existing trapping network.
- 4.2 Monitor the success of trapping annually using tracking tunnels and wax tags.
- 4.3 Undertake an annual program of 5-minute bird counts
- 4.4 Consult with Rangitāne o Manawatū regarding taonga protection.

Little is known about the ecology of the oxbow wetland within Ashurst Domain, wetlands are endangered ecosystems with strong associated cultural values. It is recommended that aquatic and water quality surveys be conducted to find out what species persist in this environment and what threats they face. A Management Plan to address those threats should then be put in place.

Objective 5

Understand the status of Cultural Health Values in the wetland area

Policies

5.1 Support Rangitāne o Manawatū to undertake annual Cultural Health Monitoring in the wetland

Erosion of the forest remnant by the Manawatū River has occurred over the last decade removing approximately 100m of riverbank, it threatens wetland area and the urupā. Areas of forest and wetland have already been lost, and the area is vulnerable to future impacts from continued degradation and exposure to wind.

Objective 6

Protect the Ashurst Domain bush remnant from further erosion impacts

Policies

6.1 Collaborate with Horizons Regional Council to address erosion impacts.

6.2 Consult with Rangitāne o Manawatū around actions to protect the urupā, wetlands and forest remnants from erosion impacts.

Recreation

The current status of Ashurst Domain Reserve is that of a “Recreation Reserve”. This does not reflect the cultural and ecological values Rangitāne o Manawatū hold first and foremost with the area. Current legislation allows development of the natural areas for the furthering of recreation to be considered, including Shared Use Paths through the sensitive forest and wetland remnant areas. Visitor traffic will likely increase significantly in the coming years with the development of the Te Ahu a Turanga-Manawatu Tararua Highway Project and this has the potential to impact on cultural values held with the forest and wetland remnants.

Objective 7

Promote recreational use within Ashurst Domain that does not negatively affect cultural or ecological values held by Rangitāne o Manawatū.

Policies

7.1 The status of the reserve be changed to that of “Scenic Reserve” where “historic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features are present in the reserve, those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve”.

7.2 Promote the development of Shared Use Paths to connect He Ara Kotahi, Ashurst loop walk, and the proposed Gateway Park (Te Ahu a Turanga Manawatū-Tararua Highway Project) avoiding the bush remnant and wetland areas, enhance with new plantings.

7.4 Consult with Rangitāne o Manawatū early in the development of pathway connections.

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Appendix III:

Landscape Character Assessment



PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Ashhurst Domain

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT



5 MARCH 2020

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Ashhurst Domain

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Date: 5 March 2020

Status: Final

Reference: 2-S5460.00

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Executive Summary

WSP was commissioned by Palmerston North City Council to produce a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Ashhurst Domain (the Domain). The LCA considers the existing landscape character of the Domain and its wider context, including its built and non-built heritage, landuse, amenity values, features and physical and non-physical elements and connections.

The Domain covers 55-60 ha of family picnic areas, camping ground, sports fields, playgrounds, established native bush, wetlands, grazed paddocks, walking tracks and river access. It provides an important recreational focus for not only Ashhurst but the wider District as well; and is a continuation of the open space network for the District. The development over time of a mixture of built and non-built heritage and different landuses has resulted in a unique and diverse landscape, although lacking a strong visible identity. A position on the upper and lower river terraces and flat topography adjacent to the Manawatū River and Pohangina River corridor means that the Domain provides a variety of different activities and experiences. It has strong visual and physical connections to surrounding land uses and features, most notably the Manawatū River and Pohangina River, Te Apiti (the Gorge) and the ranges. A mixture of vegetation patterns that includes a historic native bush and a wetland of significant natural value contribute to the varied character of the Domain. These natural heritage values mean that it also has a conservation value and purpose, this is generally compatible with the recreation purpose of the Domain. A combination of shelterbelts, grazed paddocks and large areas of mown lawns provides consistency with the geometric patterns of the Manawatū Plains.

The existing landscape character and heritage of the Domain and its wider context have been taken into account in identifying Four Character Areas, a series of key Features and Values, and in the identification of opportunities and restrictions.

Four areas have been identified as having a distinct character within the Domain. These 'character areas' are generally defined by topography, vegetation patterns, landuse, landscape elements and features including viewshafts, activities and the circulation and movement network. This enables the LCA to be used as a resource to help with future spatial or master planning and review of the Reserve Management Plan (RMP); and in the development of a future development plan.

In considering heritage, the LCA is cognisant that the site has a number of heritage features and uses that may or may not be immediately visible, and identifies where these can or have the potential to add value to the character of the Ashhurst Domain. It has also provided opportunities to enhance or build upon this character, and improve legibility between the various areas and experiences the Domain has to offer.

The Development Opportunities section of this report identifies spatial opportunities where enhancements could be introduced, further development could be absorbed and also identify areas where there appears to be limited or no opportunity for development in the Domain. This could be used to develop enhancement projects, or help to inform a future strategic development plan or masterplan for the Domain.

1. Introduction

WSP was commissioned by Palmerston North City Council to produce a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Ashhurst Domain (the Domain). The LCA considers the existing landscape character of the Domain and its wider context, including its built and non-built heritage and landuse. The LCA is intended as a resource to help identify opportunities and restrictions for spatial planning in the Reserve Management Plan (RMP) review; and in the development of a future development plan.

In considering heritage, the LCA is also cognisant that the site has a number of heritage features and uses that may or may not be immediately visible. It identifies where these can, or have the potential to add value to the character of the Ashhurst Domain.

The LCA provides the following outputs:

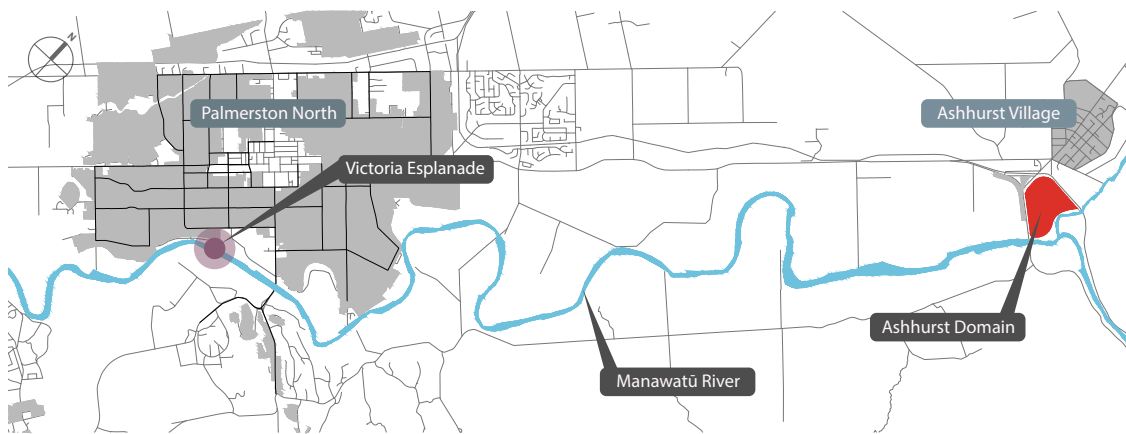
- *Identifies distinct character areas within Ashhurst Domain.*
- *Identifies 'high-level' character areas in the wider area and how these relate to the Domain*
- *Identifies physical and non-physical elements/qualities in the areas that make up the distinct character (eg. vegetation, ecological processes, built form, heritage, patterns of usage, overall amenity).*
- *Identifies physical and any non-physical connections between the areas in the Domain (eg. walkways, access roads, fences, vegetation, ecological processes).*
- *Categorise observed values for each area in low, medium, high spectrum to assist in future analysis.*
- *Identifies spatial opportunities where further development could be absorbed in the Domain and key influences on that position.*
- *Identifies areas where there appears to be limited or no opportunity for development and key influences on that position*

REPORT STRUCTURE

The LCA is structured into a description of the Domain and its landscape, the character areas within the Domain, their connections, recommendations for enhancement, and/or to address identified issues.

2. Location

Ashhurst Domain is located in the southern end of Ashhurst Village, a settlement approximately 14 km to the east of the main Palmerston North urban area on State Highway 3. It is near the landmark Te Apiti (Manawatū Gorge) and confluence of the Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers. The Domain covers 55-60 ha of family picnic areas, camping ground, sports fields, playgrounds, established native bush, wetlands, walking tracks and river access. It provides an important recreational focus for not only Ashhurst but the wider District as well; and is a continuation of the open space network for the District. The Domain's natural heritage values mean that it also has a conservation function, this is generally compatible with the recreation purpose of the Domain. It also has a rich heritage of human habitation and use that is less visible.



Location Plan

3. Landscape Context

The Domain sits within and contributes to a broader landscape with identified outstanding natural qualities. This section describes that wider landscape context and how this relates to the Domain.

WIDER LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

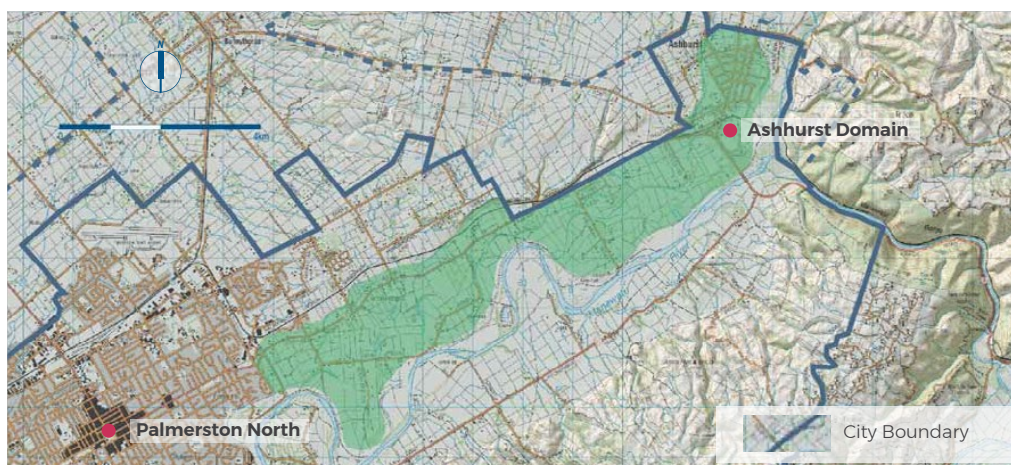
The existing character of the wider landscape is currently determined by its combination of low lying rural land on the Manawatū Plains, the steep hill country of the Tararua-Ruahine Ranges (Ranges), deeply incised Te Apiti, the Manawatū River corridor which includes the Manawatū River and Pohangina River and Ashhurst Village. The Domain sits on the cusp of these prominent landscape features, between the plains and the foothills. Its location within this dramatic context gives a good understanding of 'place' in the wider setting.

The Horizons One Plan¹ identifies Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes (ONL) of importance at a regional level, three of these are in close proximity to the Domain. These are the Manawatū Gorge ONL, Ruahine ONL and Pohangina Valley ONL. This means that the Domain enjoys close views and connections to these features. Likewise, it means that from some places within these areas the Domain will be visible, and therefore has the ability to benefit and have some visual impact upon them.

LOCALITY OF THE DOMAIN

Within the Palmerston North District, the Palmerston North Landscape Inventory² "Inventory", divides the district into nine defining landscape types; and nineteen defining landscape units based on landform, land cover and land use patterns. The landscape type and unit is important as it helps establish the context defining characteristics and attributes of localities such as the Domain, (See Appendix A). The Domain falls within the Lower Flat landscape 'Type' and the Te Matai River Flats Landscape 'Unit' (Unit 6). The context and characteristics from the Inventory are outlined below. The Lower Flat landscape type comprises:

1. Palmerston North Landscape Inventory, prepared for PNCC by Opus International Consultants Ltd, October 2011
2. One Plan, the consolidated Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan, August 2018



Te Matai Flats (Unit 6), Palmerston North Landscape Inventory (2011)

- Fertile soils on gently sloping land with strong cultural overlay.
- Small lots of fertile, productive land used for intensive farming and horticulture fragments the landscape. An ordered landscape dissected by fences, vegetation, shelter belts.

The Te Matai Flats Landscape unit comprises:

- Open flats slightly elevated about the true right bank of the Manawatū River; a long, linear unit between the river and a terrace that rises to the northwest
- Relatively low lying area that is intensively farmed for dairying and cropping with some market gardening.
- Numerous shelterbelts, hedges and established tree plantings around farm houses.
- Ashhurst – a small country town (~3,500 pop.) with views to the Ruahine Ranges, Manawatū Gorge and the wind farms on both sides of the gorge; gateway to the Pohangina Valley.
- Ribbon urban development from Whakaronga south to city edge.

Manawatū Plains (Rural Landscape)

The rural landscape including Ashhurst Village largely located in the Manawatū River floodplain is flat and open topography with isolated scarps and oxbows. It is expansive and has a large-scale landform that feels open and exposed to the north, south and west. Enclosure is provided by the Ruahines on the east, shelterbelts, low boundary hedges and windbreaks that are spread out in a coherent pattern across the plains, and smaller stands of native vegetation and amenity plantings throughout Ashhurst Village.

The plains also extend into Manawatū District and are dominated by rural land use activities. Principal land use activities cover intense horticultural and agricultural use, farming related activities, and plant nurseries. Also present are recreational activities associated with the Manawatū River, holiday parks and visitor accommodation, marae and several residential settlements, including Ashhurst. Apart from Ashhurst Village, Feilding and Palmerston North the plains in and beyond the District are typically characterised by low density settlement patterns. The Saddle Road, SH3 and Cambridge Avenue provide the main routes through the area and vehicle movement is largely focused along these corridors.

The Domain is located within this modified rural landscape and has a strong rural feel through its relationship with the geometric pattern of landcover (network of shelterbelts, windbreaks, hedges, and stands of native bush), grazed paddocks, post and wire fences, gravel paths and tracks, low density development patterns and green open space. Externally its most prominent southern and western edges are dominated by tall vegetation, the SH3 and Cambridge Avenue road corridors and river corridors.

Manawatū River and Pohangina River Corridor

The Domain shares its eastern boundary with the Pohangina/Manawatū River corridors. The lower banks are defined by a pattern of water movement, a mixture of exotic and native trees and shrubs that follows the meander of the corridor, a combination of newly constructed flood control measures such as rock and willow groynes, shingle sides, point bars and eroded banks. Two bridges cross the river in the vicinity of the Domain, the Pohangina rail bridge to the north and the Gorge bridge at the southern extent of the Domain. There is a strong relationship between these two areas due to a number

of paths and tracks that physically link the two together. A lack of planting along the banks also allows open views and therefore strong visual links from within the Domain towards the Manawatū River and Pohangina River corridor.

Te Apiti, Western Hill Slopes and Ridgeline (Ruahine Range)

To the east of Ashhurst Village the steep rising hill slopes and ridgelines of the ranges contrast markedly with the low lying rural floodplains to the west. The ranges are the most distinctive landform features and include the Manawatū Gorge ONL, Ruahine ONL and Pohangina Valley ONL. The ranges are particularly visible from low lying areas and form the main visual backdrop for Domain when viewed from areas to the north, west and south, and including from the key arterials of SH3 (heading north-east) and Cambridge Road, as well as from much of the Village itself. As such, the Domain has a very strong visual relationship with the ranges, and the viewshafts to this backdrop are of particular visual significance.

The Domain is located approximately 1.5 km from the Manawatū Gorge entrance carpark and linked to the significant Gorge landscape by the river corridor and terrace. This relationship and connection is reinforced by the SH3 transport corridor and Palmerston North-Gisborne Line. Te Apiti has a distinctive natural form. The narrow sides are in strong contrast with the open plains and rounded hills. In terms of land cover the ranges are predominantly in pasture and prominent blocks of pines, interspersed with smaller stands of indigenous bush. Substantial areas of remnant indigenous bush and vegetation cover the steep slopes of Te Apiti and the Manawatū Gorge Scenic Reserve, contributing to the natural character values of the Gorge. Although much of the Domain has a more rural or modified feel, the existing stands of native bush within the Domain and Te Apiti add to a strong and significant visual relationship between the Domain and the ranges.

The elevated terrace landform ensures a strong visual link between parts of the Domain and the ranges. Wind turbines located on the ridgelines, upper slopes and spurs are highly visible. Small parts of the Saddle Road and glimpses of moving vehicles can also be seen from within the Domain. Apart from the turbines, Saddle Road and transmitter towers the hill slopes appear remote and rural with little access or movement. However, it is clear that parts of NZTA Te Ahu a Turanga - Manawatū Tararua Highway, when constructed, will become visible from the Domain. The new highway will have a lasting visual effect on the existing viewshafts and will therefore impact on the visual relationship between the Domain and the ranges.

Ashhurst Village

Immediately to the north of the Domain is the urban settlement of Ashhurst. A mix of residential and commercial land uses occur beyond the railway line immediately on the northern edge of the Domain, and a ribbon of development along SH3/Cambridge Avenue occurs to the west, but separated slightly from the Domain by those road corridors. Residential areas are well established with well treed neighbourhoods and mixed housing stock, dominated by single storey detached villas and bungalows on individual lots, with remnants of farming and productive land throughout. Residential properties are typically fenced with well-established amenity gardens.

A residential subdivision is proposed on the open block of land at the end of Pembroke Street to the north of the railway line. It is anticipated that resultant residential development would result in a change in character along the northern boundary urban residential eastwards and replacing rural landuse.

While there are filtered views of the village from within the Domain, there is no physical relationship

between these two areas. This is because the Domain is separated from the village by the railway line which sits in a deep cut (below grade) and a mature shelterbelt.

A small area of commercial services development is located between York Street and Short Street in close proximity to the north-western edge of the Domain. The development is not visible from within the Domain as it is screened by intervening shelterbelts and residential properties.





The main character areas within the wider landscape are outlined below, along with how each relates to the Domain:

1. Manawatū Plains (rural modified landscape, geometric pattern of shelterbelts and hedges, grazed paddocks, post and wire fences, gravel paths and tracks).
2. Manawatū River and Pohangina River (form the main boundary to the lower terrace, connections to Manawatū River Walkway, viewshaft to Parahaki Island, Physical connection with the river, river gravels).
3. Te Apiti, Western Hill Slopes and Ridgeline (remnant stand of indigenous vegetation, natural setting, highly visible from parts of the Domain, viewshafts to Te Apiti and NZTA Te Ahu a Turanga, remnant stand of indigenous vegetation, existing connections from the Domain to the Manawatū Gorge carpark).
4. Ashhurst Village (filtered views, physically separated from the Domain by the railway tracks in a deep cut).



Location Plan

Key

	Ashhurst Domain		Te Apiti		Manawatū Plains
	Manawatū River and Pohangina River		Western Hill Slopes, Ranges and Hill Slopes		

4. Domain Character Areas

DEFINING THE CHARACTER AREAS

There are a number of defining characteristics (natural and physical) that make up the overarching and defining character of the Domain. These features are generally specific to certain locations within the Domain, and four areas can be identified as having a distinct character within the Domain. These 'Character Areas' are generally defined by topography, vegetation patterns, landuse, landscape elements and features including viewshafts, activities and the circulation and movement network. The four Character Areas are:

- i. Open Space
- ii. Lower Floodplain (Floodplain and Oxbow Wetland)
- iii. Amenity Area
- iv. Native Bush and Wetlands



Landscape Identity Zones

Each of the Character Areas can itself be broken down into a number of separate smaller landscape identity zones, typified by formal and informal uses and activities. The historic and ongoing development of the Domain to accommodate these user activities has heavily influenced its form and character, particularly in the extent of the four main Character Areas.

Formal activities that currently occur within definable zones in the Domain include organised sports fields (soccer, rugby and cricket pitch), children's playground, cemetery, camp ground, model aeroplane club, canine club, pony club, windfarm viewing platform and wetland viewing platform.



Landuses

Key: Landuses

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Grazed Paddocks | 9. Managers House | 16. Cemetery |
| 2. Manawātū Canine Club | 10. Service / Maintenance / Storage | 17. Wetland |
| 3. Manawātū Pony Club | 11. Children's Playground | 18. Escarpment |
| 4. Regenerating Native Bush | 12. Picnic Lawn | 19. Former Café |
| 5. Soccer Fields | 13. Toilets and Shelter | 20. Lower Floodplain |
| 6. Cricket Oval | 14. Ashhurst Bush | 21. Changing Rooms |
| 7. Main Entrance | 15. Camping Ground | 22. Model Aeroplane Club |
| 8. Office / Information Building | | |

Informal activities that are carried out in the Domain include informal sports games, cycling, running and picnics. Community events also occur within the park but as they occupy existing suitable space, these have less impact on landscape and landform.

Ultimately this means that while the Domain has an overall character, it is internally segregated into a series of areas and zones that can be defined by landscape elements and usage (formal and informal). This is significant as it means that an assessment of the character of the Domain must identify the presence and arrangement of these elements and features. This in turn gives an opportunity to understand, protect or further develop, and build upon valued elements in an integrated or staged manner. Or alternatively to identify and address undesirable features.

Each Character Area and incorporated landscape identity zones has been described in more detail below.



Landscape Identity Zones

Key: Landscape Identity Zones

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Grazed Paddocks (Open Space) | 6 River Frontage Zone | 10 Main Entrance |
| 2 Canine Club / Pony Club (Open Space) | 7 Hospitality Area | 11 Playground / Picnic Lawn |
| 3 Regenerating Native Bush (Open Space) | 8 Cemetery | 12 Ashhurst Bush |
| 4 Sports Fields (Open Space) | 9 Camping Ground | 13 Escarpment |
| 5 Grazed Paddocks (Open Space) | | |

OPEN SPACE

The Open Space area is located within the western portion of the site. It occupies approximately half of the entire site and extends from SH3/Cambridge avenue to the terrace edge and escarpment. From the terrace edge (approx. 73 asml) it drops down to meet the lower terrace floodplain and river corridor (approx. 55 asml).

In terms of topography the terrace is relatively flat which makes it ideal to host recreational activities and this is reflected in the diverse range of organized sports fields and other activities. Despite the prominence of active sporting codes, the Open Space area also provides for passive activities.



Open Space

The variation between the mown fields, shelterbelts and boundary plantings affords feelings of both openness and enclosure depending on the size of each field. Although the shelters provide structural form and a sense of enclosure, this does not appear overly formal or contrived, but very much rural. This is mainly due to its consistency with the geometric patterns of the Manawatū Plains, the absence of formal plantings such as avenue trees and manicured parkland gardens, and the presence of informal native boundary plantings resembling hedges. The shelterbelts also provide much needed protection from prevailing winds throughout the entire northern part of the Domain.

The SH3/Cambridge Avenue corridor forms the southern and western boundary to the Domain. An existing native hedge between the Domain and the road corridor acts as a green buffer, providing a soft natural edge to the Domain, but also reinforcing a sense of boundary, and a separation between the Domain and the Ashhurst settlement itself. The buffer plantings conceal the road from within the Domain and enhance the amenity values of the road frontage and surrounding residential properties even though traffic may at times disturb the rural ambience of the area.

Nearer the centre of the Domain, an all weather walking and cycling track extends along the terrace boundary to form a loop. The perimeter track is a shared use walkway/cycleway and is constructed using a combination of limestone and gravel. The track is part of a wider network of pathway systems throughout the upper and lower terrace.

Landscape Identity Zones within Open Space include:

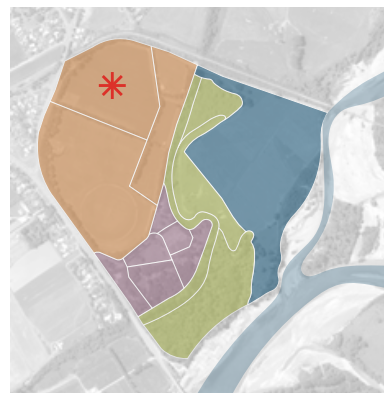
- Grazed Paddocks
- Manawatū Canine Club and Manawatū Pony Club
- Organised Sports Fields

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Grazed Paddocks *

The northern portion of the Open Space is divided into 5 distinct fields. All of these fields are enclosed by established shelterbelt trees and native buffer plantings that provide varying degrees of enclosure. The northern field is the second largest field and covered in pastoral grasses for grazing livestock. The pastoral land and shelterbelts contribute strongly to the rural character and feel in this part of the Domain.

OPEN SPACE



Plan of grazed paddocks



View looking south from the western boundary in the general direction of the sports fields and Te Apiti



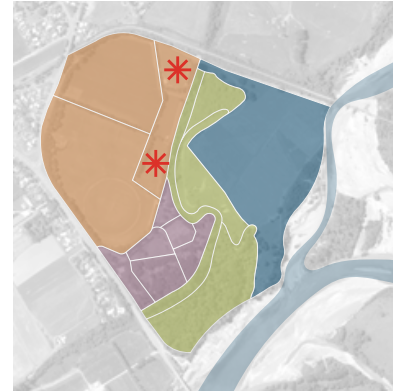
View looking west from the Canine Club across the grazed paddocks towards the shelterbelts in the mid distance. The sportsfield toilet blocks and changing rooms are located beyond the shelterbelts.

OPEN SPACE - LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Manawatū Canine Club and Manawatū Pony Club *

Located to the east of the grazed paddocks along the edge of the escarpment are three smaller fields of roughly the same size. Currently the Manawatū Canine Club occupies the upper field with the Ashhurst Pony Club leasing the bottom two fields. All three fields have an open and semi-rural character and feel, comprising mown grass, post and wire boundary fences and surrounded by hedges and shelterbelts.

OPEN SPACE



Plan of Canine Club and Pony Club



View of Pony Club



View of Canine Club



View of Canine Club

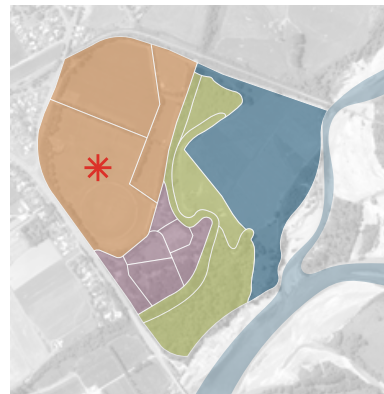
OPEN SPACE - LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Organised Sports Fields *

The southern field is distinguished by large, spacious mown sports fields, shelterbelts and a native vegetative buffer which define the western boundary of the site, giving the area a mature and ordered parkland character. In terms of infrastructure it comprises the soccer changing rooms, raised viewing platform, timber ramp and carpark. The building and carpark are clustered together with areas of mature native planting screening the southern side of the building and ramp. Although the facility is large it is of a modest scale relative to the towering shelterbelts and expansive sports fields, and is therefore successfully integrated into the surrounding open parkland setting. Overall, the visually recessive buildings combined with the integrating effects of the existing vegetation play an important role in ensuring these buildings remain subservient and contribute to the wider Open Space parkland character.

The railway track extends along the northern boundary of the terrace, a distance of approximately 500 m. In this location the railway track sits in a deep cut (below grade) and is not visible from within the Domain. The cut faces are generally screened by the mature poplars planted along the northern boundary.

OPEN SPACE



Plan of sports fields



View looking south from the changing rooms towards the sports fields



View looking north from the main entrance towards the cricket oval

AMENITY AREA

Immediately to the south east of the Open Space area is an area of amenity buildings and facilities. This Amenity area is much smaller than the Open Space Area (approx. 6 ha), but is the focal point of arrival and activity at the Domain and also the most developed area with a range of buildings and infrastructure that contributes to a mixed character.

This area is dominated by its buildings and also by a framework of mature native and exotic trees and shrubs. Apart from the mown grass area adjacent to the main entrance the vegetative framework provides enclosure, shelter and scale.

Other prominent elements are the small cluster of buildings located at the main entrance (Domain Office, Manager's house, shed and office/information centre), cemetery, carpark, stone walls, play equipment and the public facilities (picnic shelter, BBQ and public toilet) that are positioned between the playground and campground. The buildings range in size and style, with the majority being of older stock. Buildings and other structures are of a modest scale and generally nestled into the extensive framework of mixed vegetation.



Amenity Area

Landscape Identity Zones within the Amenity Area include:

- Childrens Playground and Picnic Lawn
- Cemetery
- Camping Ground
- Main Entrance
- The Lookout Area

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Children's Playground and Picnic Lawn *

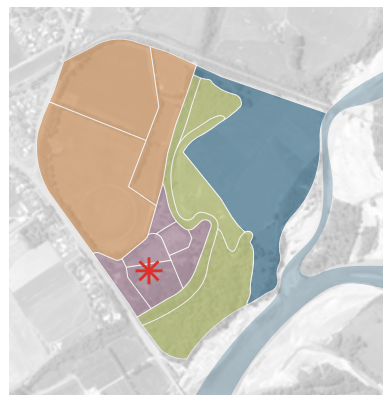
The visual diversity created by features in this area contribute to an attractive parkland setting.

A playground is located to the north of the Ashhurst Bush amongst mature trees. It provides for structured play and there is a variety of different play equipment. The playground comprises traditional play equipment with a natural material palette that helps it to blend into the surrounding natural park character.

The location and arrangement of the buildings within the Amenity Area is generally associated with surrounding uses and is well integrated into the park environment. Principal vegetative elements are the large mature specimen trees spread throughout mown lawn areas and the small pockets of mixed vegetation types. An informal, less structured arrangement of plants, mature shade trees and smaller activity zones/uses combines to create a high level of amenity and a series of discreet, intimate spaces that can flexibly take small groups and taken together accommodate a large number of people.

The picnic lawn is located between the playground and the main entrance. A native hedge screens the area from State Highway 3 and the main entrance. It is complimentary to the playground and used for family picnics and organised community events.

AMENITY AREA



Plan of children's playground and picnic lawn



View looking east from the information/office building towards the picnic lawn in the foreground and cemetery in the distance

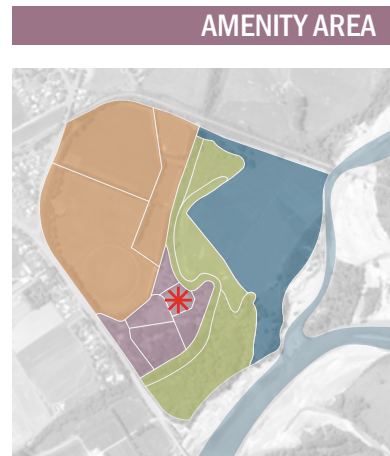


View of playground

AMENITY AREA - LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Cemetery *

The Ashhurst cemetery is located on the edge of the escarpment between the camping ground and the Lawn. The main access is through several gaps in a relatively new river stone wall that extends along its western boundary. It is divided into three zones: an older area with full graves and headstones; a more recent section adjacent to the camping ground; and an RSA section.



Plan of cemetery



View looking west from the camping ground towards the cemetery



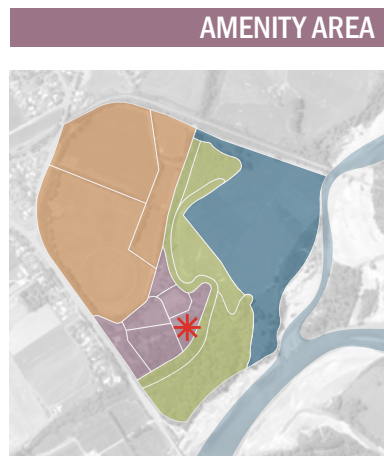
View looking east from the carpark towards the cemetery

AMENITY AREA - LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Camping Ground *

A small camping ground is located to the south of the cemetery at the edge of the escarpment. It is sited amongst a framework of established/mature totara trees and provides basic facilities for tents and campervans. The area comprises approx. 18 powered sites and 50 non-powered sites. Apart from power points and a small number of picnic tables there are no other facilities provided. Toilet and shower facilities are shared with other park users, located between the camping ground and the playground. Views towards the lower terrace and surrounding landscape are screened by the framework of mature trees.

An informal lookout is located within the Camping Ground but at the edge of the escarpment, and affords framed views towards the lower terrace and ranges. A large group of redwoods located in the floodplain at the northern edge of Ashhurst Bush filter views towards Te Apiti.



Plan of camping ground



View of camping ground



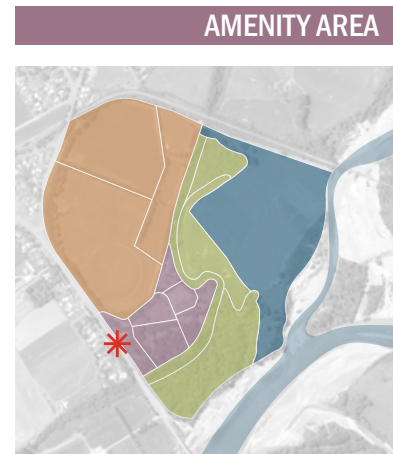
View looking west across the camping ground

AMENITY AREA - LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Main Entrance *

The unassuming SH3 main gate and established plantings at the main entrance gives only a low key sense of arrival to the Domain for most visitors.

Plantings at the entrance are of a scale in keeping with the wider Domain, reinforcing the change in environment from Ashhurst Village and the road corridor to the more intimate scale of the Domain.



Plan of main entrance



View looking east from the main entrance along the sealed access road



View of the main entrance to the Domain

AMENITY AREA - LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

The Lookout Area



Adjacent to the cemetery and at the edge of the escarpment is a small grass field. This is enclosed by the sportsfield shelterbelt plantings to the west and by exotic shrubs and trees at the eastern terrace edge. A small building is located at the northern boundary of the field.

The central location of this area in close proximity to active recreation (football, pony club and canine), playground, camping ground, cemetery and carparking, views and outdoor space, and historic presence of the Otangaki Pā gave rise in the past to commercial activities such as café facilities. Informal gravel tracks meander through the space.

Filtered views of the lower terrace and oxbow wetland are obtained through gaps in the escarpment planting. An elevated viewing platform is located on the terrace edge above the oxbow wetland. Further to the south an informal lookout is located at the camp ground. From these vantage points recreational users overlook the lower river terrace and oxbow wetland in the foreground, river corridor in the mid distance and ranges in the distant background. Apart from the railway bridge in the foreground, glimpsed views of the Saddle Road in the mid distance and turbines along the skyline in the distance, views over the lower terrace and river corridor towards the ranges are uninterrupted by any built development.

AMENITY AREA



Plan of the Lawn



View of lookout



View looking south to the southern part of the lookout area and cemetery screened by hedges in the background



View of the former Cafe at the northern extent of the lookout area

LOWER FLOODPLAIN

Located at the eastern part of the Domain within the floodplain, the terrace is bounded by the railway embankment to the north, river corridor to the east and south, and the steep escarpment to the west. The lower flood plain area is wrapped to the north, south and west by native bush and wetlands.

The terrace flat is characterised by two distinct landscape identity zones: privately grazed paddocks and river frontage.



Lower Floodplain



View looking northeast from the edge of the escarpment towards the floodplain and grazed paddocks



View looking south from the toe of the escarpment adjacent to the railway embankment towards the grazed paddocks

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

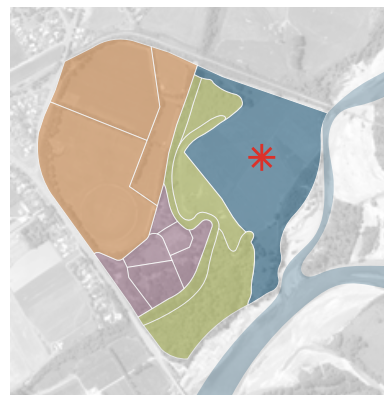
Grazed Paddocks *

The northern and central portion of this zone is generally flat, with the dense bush area to the south sloping away from the escarpment to meet the river. The grazed paddocks are divided into 11 fields by post and wire fences. A model aeroplane club is located in one of the paddocks at the north eastern quadrant, next to a dirt access track.

At the northern extent of the Domain access to the lower terrace is gained via a graded metal vehicle track cut into the escarpment. The track runs parallel to the railway line and is shared by walkers, cyclist and vehicles. Whilst the earthworks have resulted in large cut batters it also created a viewshaft to the ranges in the background. The deep cut batters and vegetation spread along the terrace edge help to frame the distant view and draw users into the landscape. At the foot of the escarpment the track splits in two.

A small maintenance track has been created along the escarpment, providing maintenance access to the wetland. The second and principal track continues its alignment, running parallel to the vegetated railway embankment down to the edge of the river corridor. From here the track turns south and follows the river bank to Ashhurst Bush before it turns north towards the scarp. There are pockets of willows and other exotic vegetation growing between the track and the river margin. The ribbon of vegetation presents a 'bush' frontage along the river margin, reflecting the bush on the opposite bank and Parahaki Island at the confluence of the two rivers. A 130 m long gap in the vegetation, located to the south of the railway bridge provides views from the track towards the river corridor and the ranges.

LOWER FLOODPLAIN



Plan of grazed paddocks



View looking west from the railway bridge abutment towards the escarpment. The gap in the river margin vegetation can be seen on the left

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

River Frontage Zone *

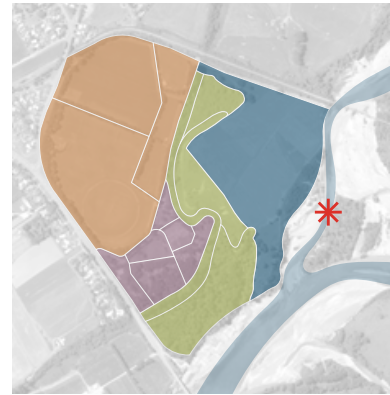
The river frontage zone borders the Lower Foodplain area. It is outside the Domain but is an important natural edge feature and contributes considerably to the identity of the Domain.

The relationship between the land and water provides a number of recreational and educational opportunities. The Domain's proximity to the river corridor also provides opportunities to enhance the river edge vegetation and wildlife habitat.

Two formed tracks provide graded access between the Lower Floodplain and Open Space. Located at the northern part of the Domain, a gravel vehicle track that runs parallel between the railway line and lower grazed paddocks provides access to the northern part of the lower terrace. A second, smaller walking track is located at the southern extent of the Domain, linking the campsite and river corridor. The track is also part of a wider network of tracks winding its way throughout the Ashhurst Bush.

Along the southern edge within the river corridor large scale earthworks have been carried out to repair erosion. A large number of rock and willow groynes have been constructed that will deflect river flows away from the bank to prevent ongoing erosion. Large scale erosion has also occurred at the Ashhurst Bridge river access carpark and boat ramp. Significant earthworks have been carried out to repair the boat ramp and to alleviate erosion.

LOWER FLOODPLAIN



View of gravelled track and gap in river edge planting that affords views towards the river corridor and Te Apiti



View of river corridor looking towards Te Apiti

NATIVE BUSH AND WETLANDS CORRIDOR

This area extends along the toe of the escarpment from the river corridor to the railway line in the north. It comprises three distinct natural areas; Ashhurst Bush at the southern extent of the Domain, Pohangina Oxbow Wetland towards the centre and a stand of regenerating native bush to the north. The two areas of native bush form a dense forest area, and when combined with the vegetated scarp and oxbow wetland they create a much more extensive central green spine that extends along the length of the escarpment in a north-south direction.



Native Bush and Wetlands

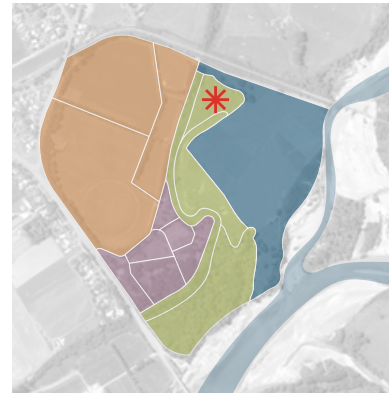
LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Regenerating Indigenous Bush *

A small area of native bush is located at the northern extent of the terrace at the foot of the escarpment. The trees and understorey shrubs form a dense forest area, and when combined with the vegetated scarp and oxbow wetland they create a much more extensive central green spine that extends along the length of the escarpment in a north-south direction.

The bush area is fenced off from the public and made generally inaccessible by the stream and rampant growth of raupo along the margins.

NATIVE BUSH AND WETLANDS



Plan of native bush



View looking south from the railway track on the western boundary towards the native bush



View looking west from the railway bridge abutment towards the native bush



View looking north from the lookout on the terrace edge towards the native bush

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

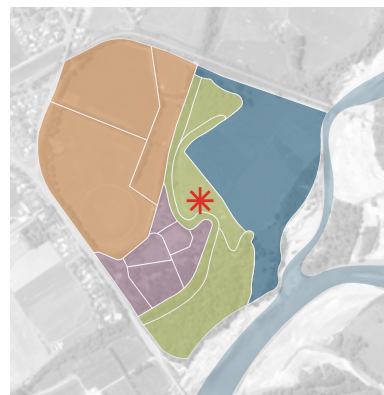
Wetland (Pohangina Oxbow) *

At the toe of the escarpment towards the centre of the lower terrace an artificial wetland occupies a relatively large portion of the character area.

The centralised part of the oxbow is grassed and mown to give the appearance of a maintained 'island'. It has a large stand of trees at the northern end among other shrubs, and a smaller stand of trees at the southern end. Plant species within the wetland and on the edges comprise riparian margin species and wetland species.

Physical access to this area is made difficult in places by the rampant growth of raupo that creates a physical barrier not only to the wetland edge but also to the escarpment.

NATIVE BUSH AND WETLANDS



Plan of artificial wetland



View looking north from the camping ground lookout towards the wetland



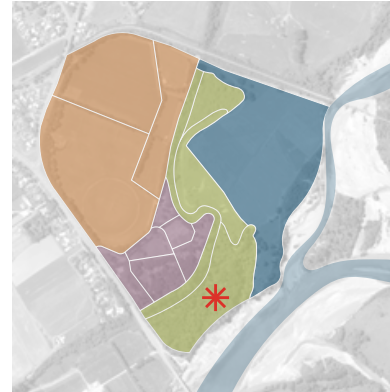
View looking west from the lookout towards the wetland

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY ZONES

Ashhurst Bush *

Ashhurst Bush, a densely vegetated mixed woodland that consists of native and exotic trees, understory shrubs and groundcovers is located at the southern portion of the floodplain between the river and the escarpment. It is highly valued not only for passive recreation and amenity values; but also for its ecological value and a wetland of significant natural value. A smaller bush remnant that is part of the Ashhurst Bush lies on the upper terrace between the playground and the escarpment. It comprises less species and has a notably more open canopy structure. The outer border of this wooded area is interspersed with low shrubs, individual and clusters of trees which gives this transitional bush edge a parkland character.

NATIVE BUSH AND WETLANDS



Plan of Ashhurst Bush



View of the swampy wetland and timber bridge



View looking east from Ashhurst Bridge carpark towards the entrance to Ashhurst Bush



View looking east from the camping ground lookout towards the redwoods in the middle of the photo and Ashhurst Bush to the right

5. Physical and Non-Physical Elements and Connections

This assessment uses maps and tables (See **Appendix B** for tables) to identify and explain the physical and non-physical infrastructure elements (e.g. heritage and views) that make up the distinct elements and connections for each of the four character areas.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

A full description of the buildings and facilities was outlined in the Ashhurst Domain Development and Management Plan[1] in 1997, and is reproduced below. The description remains generally accurate for all buildings apart from Drummonds Cottage, which has subsequently been relocated to the Lawn. Where minor changes have occurred to facilities, these are also noted below.

Manawatū Canine Centre

A section of the Domain has been used by the Manawatū Canine Centre since 1988. A clubhouse was moved onto the site and is a well maintained building. The Canine Centre's activities are compatible with other users of the Domain and the grounds are kept in a neat and tidy condition.



Manawatū canine centre



Information / office building

Information / Office Building

Adjacent to the main entry drive is the information/ office building. This small modular construction building serves both as an information office when staffed, and as the main working office for the Domain. An information board on the outer wall provides visitors with basic information regarding the Domain.



Managers's house

Manager's House

A wooden bungalow, off the main entrance drive, is utilised as the Domain Manager's house. This building is well maintained and partially screened from view by trees and shrubs planted alongside the drive. The garage is visible however, being in the line of sight of the main drive.

Toilets

A toilet block is located beneath the trees beside the picnic area. Built of rusticated timber board and batten it is visually unobtrusive, blending well into its surrounds. The facility provides for male, female and disabled park users, and also contains a small storage room.



Toilet block

Picnic Shelter and BBQ

Adjacent to the picnic area is a wooden semi-enclosed picnic shelter. This building provides shelter and shade and contains several picnic tables and undercover seating. A BBQ and small shelter is also located between the play equipment and the picnic shelter.



BBQ and shelter

Sportsfields Toilets and Changing Rooms

The soccer changing rooms and viewing platform is located at the sportsfield carpark entrance. This large U-shaped building comprise toilets, showers and changing rooms. A timber ramp provides disabled access to a raised viewing platform overlooking the wind farm. It is located at the southern side of the facility, with information boards. The timber ramp and platform is partially screened from views to the south by mature native shrubs and trees. A carpark is located to the north of the building.



Picnic shelter

Former Café

The former café is a bungalow style timber structure with an iron roof and small detached toilet facilities. Over the years it has been used as a café and small restaurant but has been vacant for some time now. During this time it has slowly deteriorated although it is still in good structural condition with original features intact.



Sportsfields toilets and changing rooms

Other Buildings

An area to the rear of the manager's house has been set aside for storage and implement sheds which accommodate equipment and facilities which are essential to the maintenance of the Domain. A woodshed and stockyards used by the grazier are located near the eastern boundary of the Domain.



Former café



Key: Buildings / Facilities

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Sports Fields Toilets and Changing Rooms | 7 Managers House |
| 2 Canine Club | 8 Services/Maintenance/Storage |
| 3 Pony Club | 9 Toilets/BBQ/Shelter |
| 4 Former Café | 10 Model Aeroplane Club |
| 5 Viewing Platform | 11 Cemetery |
| 6 Information/Office Building | |

ACCESS, MOVEMENT AND LINKAGES - MOVEMENT NETWORK

The movement network refers to the system of roads, tracks, cycle ways and linkages that facilitates greater movement throughout the site. This network threads together the different character areas and identity zones, and is also a key part of the experience of Domain users. As such it makes an important contribution to the character, amenity and scale of the Domain.

The different spaces throughout the Domain offer a wide range of amenity experiences and opportunities, and their location and alignments are inherently linked to the movement network, public access, underlying topography and landscaping.

Entranceways and Arrival Points

The principal access to the Domain is via the layby adjacent to the SH3 Manawatū Bridge. From SH3 a two-lane sealed road provides a 'L' shaped link past the Domain Office before it turns right at the cemetery, terminating at the children's playground, toilet and BBQ facilities.

Vehicle access to the soccer changing rooms and carpark is provided from Cambridge Avenue. An external public carpark is located at the entrance to the soccer changing rooms. It extends along the north-western boundary between Cambridge Road and the existing buffer planting and provide pedestrian access to the northern part of the Domain. A pedestrian stile and lockable swing gate is located at the railway end of the carpark and provides access for walkers and maintenance vehicles.

Sealed Roads and Carparks,

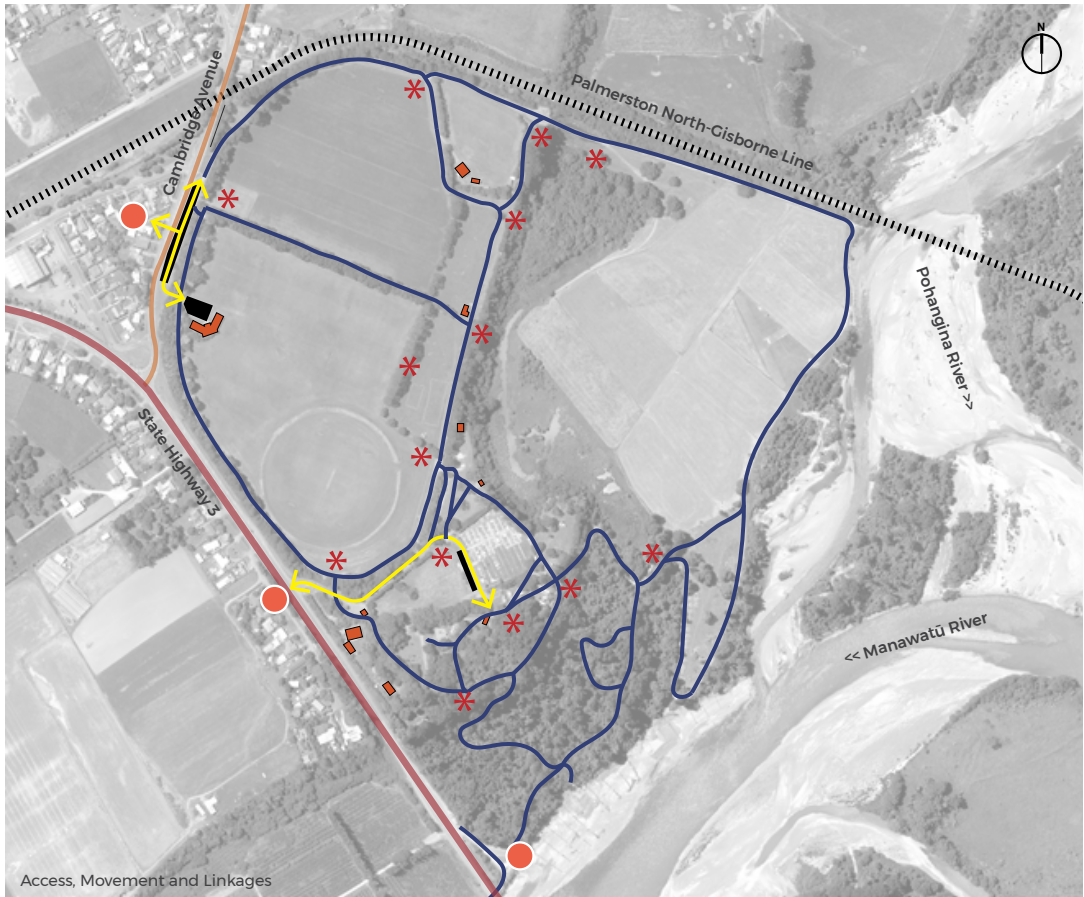
Sealed roads and carparks within the Domain provide direct and indirect connections and access to the formed pathways. All sealed roads and carparks are confined to the Open Space (main entrance, soccer changing rooms, cemetery and Cambridge Avenue). Carpark areas within the Domain are relatively small, localized and therefore in keeping with the scale of the Domain. They do not dominate the site or the open visual and physical character of the Domain.

Pathway Networks, Thresholds and Gateways

An extensive network of formed pathways comprising a mix of compacted limestone, gravel, grass and forest floor provides access to most parts of the Domain and links to the Manawatū River Walkway. The layout of the formed pathways throughout the Open Space area tends to be shorter, more linear and formal as they follow the boundaries, shelterbelts and mature lines of trees. The movement network on the upper terrace is divided into a small and large circuit and linking tracks. The majority of the pathways have established plantings, which contribute to the overall amenity of the Open Space.

The lower terrace and native bush area network connections are more challenging as they follow the moderate to steep slopes to the river corridor and include bush tracks (lower loop), linking track and connections to the full circuit.

Within the movement network there are a number of transition points between areas or spaces that can be identified as 'Gateways' or 'Thresholds'. Gateways and Thresholds are important as they indicate where a change of an experience or opportunity can be expected to occur, and how to locate it; for example from the cemetery or playground to native bush walkway. This means that the visibility of such 'Gateways' is especially significant for legibility (easy user understanding) within the movement network. At present legibility is variable, but could be reinforced simply, for example by the use of tall and brightly coloured markers that be seen from distance, and placement of wayfinder type maps of the movement network.



Key: Movement Network

- Pathway Network and Gateways
- Sealed Roads
- Gateways / Thresholds
- Entranceways
- Carparks
- Buildings
- SH3
- Cambridge Avenue
- Railway Line

GREEN CONNECTIONS - EDGES AND BOUNDARIES

Natural edges such as bush remnants, shelterbelts and mature trees are important landscape elements that contribute to identity and legibility of an area. Vegetation also gives important cues to the natural and cultural history of an area and often exhibits connections to the sites heritage (see also Heritage below). Linear plantings can become green connections and corridors, but can also impede other connections, such as visual or physical connections.

Within the Domain there are a relatively large number of quite distinct vegetation patterns and edges that create and in many cases strongly define distinct character areas and smaller identity zones. In some instances, these edges create barriers between spaces (physical and visual) that can become a desirable or undesirable obstacle to movement and legibility. In other situations, edges can help with legibility by defining movement networks such as pathways, driveways and gateways.

The Domain's external boundary is strongly defined by vegetation, and also features fences or a combination of the two. Fences are all of a varying styles, sizes and condition. Perimeter boundary elements include buffer planting, shelterbelts, post and wire fences, wire mesh fences, large stones, bollards and timber barriers. Internal boundary elements include shelterbelts, hedges, shrubs and trees, stone walls, post and wire fences and timber post and rail barriers.

While contributing in a visual amenity sense, from the road (and arrival) the tall and dense vegetation effectively severs the Domain from surrounding activity. This is primarily because current entranceways are understated relative to this dominant vegetated edge (with resultant impacts on legibility (refer Visual connections)).

Although not explained on the ground, the western and north western boundary along with the vegetation atop the eastern escarpment highlight the historic shape of the old racecourse. Current landuse patterns still reflect this historical features, and the opportunity exists to emphasize this heritage using planting and edge treatments.

For the most part the vegetated boundaries with the Domain provide significant legibility benefits, and make a significant contribution to character. In a small number of instances they impede legibility. This could be addressed through identifying and securing key visual connections and the given the size of the Domain, the use of highly visible wayfinders











Screen planting between the playground and the sports fields forms a visual barrier between these two spaces



Screen planting on the left block views between between the sports fields and Cambridge Road. Shelterbelts and the framework of parkland trees on the right provide filtered views between character areas and identity zones



Key: Edges/Boundaries

-  Native Boundary Planting (Buffer Planting)
-  Playground Trees and Shrubs
-  Shelterbelts
-  Mixed Escarpment
-  Native Bush
-  Wetland
-  River Margin
-  Hedges



-  Screen (Solid Edge)
-  Filtered Views (Visually Permeable Edge)

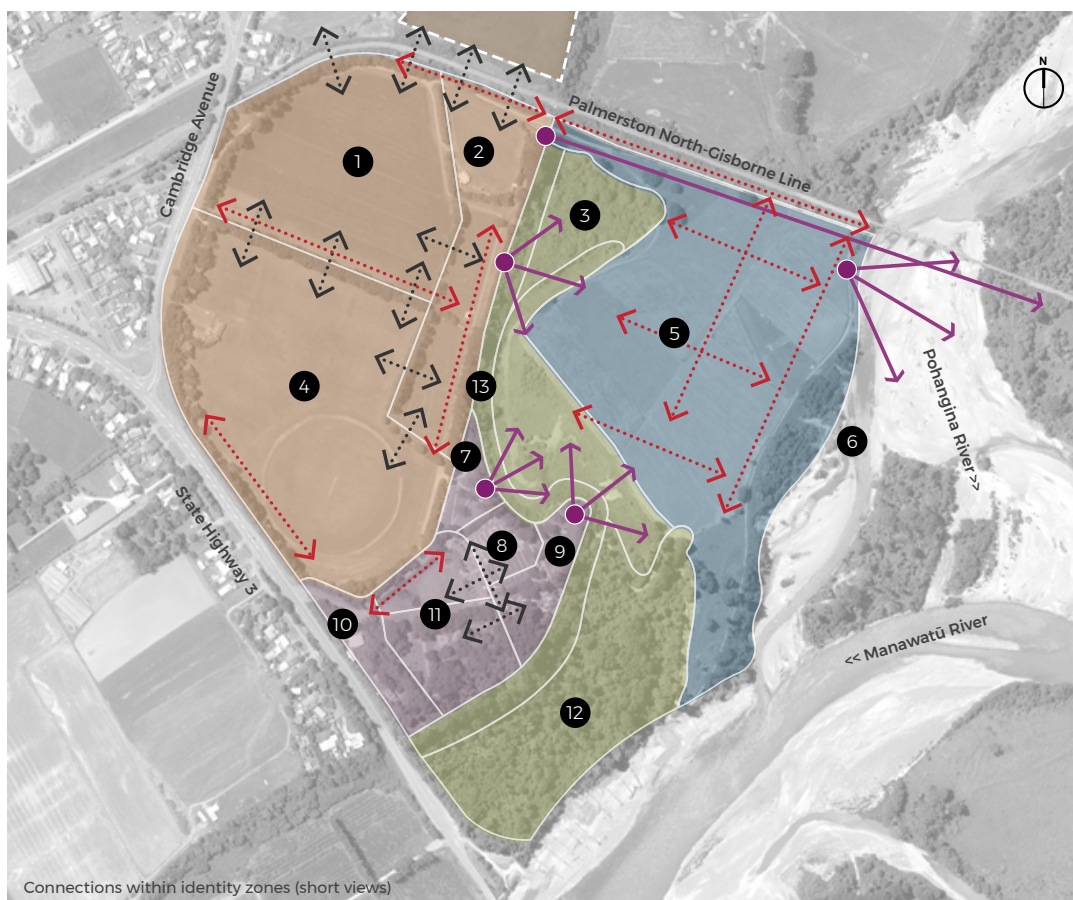
VISUAL CONNECTIONS (PEOPLE CONNECTIONS)

Physical connections such as pathways and driveways, together with entrances or gateways form movement networks. When combined with visual connections or wayfinders (such as long views, landmarks, gateways and signs) they are important for user orientation, legibility and opportunity for convenient movement. Views can also be important in connecting heritage spaces, such as the historic Pa with Ti Apiti, and in the creation of character and identity.





The Domain is large and contains distinct areas separated by topographical and vegetative barriers, and a convenient and legible movement network is important. Well-placed pathways that respond to user desire-lines, and the presence of well-defined entranceways or gateways to and between spaces and features help people to orientate themselves by making the Domain easier to navigate and greatly improving user experience.

The maps below and connections tables (See **Appendix B** for tables) identify physical and non-physical (visual and movement) connections between the various areas throughout the Domain. The tables classify the quality of each connection into 'Good', 'Limited' or 'Poor', and provides a brief description for each connection. Also identified are corresponding opportunities for improvement. There may be more than one opportunity identified to facilitate change. For a full list of all the opportunities see **Appendix D**.





Key: Connections

-  Visual Connections from Viewpoints, and Heritage Connections
-  Filtered Visual Connections
-  Open Long Distance Visual Connections
-  Proposed Subdivision

Identity Zones

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Grazed Paddocks | 6 River Corridor | 10 Main Entrance |
| 2 Canine Club | 7 Hospitality Area | 11 Playground/Open Lawn |
| 3 Native Bush | 8 Cemetery | 12 Ashhurst Bush |
| 4 Sports Fields | 9 Camping Ground | 13 Escarpment |
| 5 Grazed Paddocks | | |

NATURAL AND BUILT HERITAGE AND CONNECTIONS

HERITAGE OTANGAKI - 'pulling out the weeds for cultivation of the rich soils'

The Domain contains numerous elements and features of natural and built heritage. Several already make a contribution to the character of the Domain, but could be enhanced further. Others are little known or have little visibility and present further opportunity.

Natural heritage features include the Ashhurst Bush, and the wetland areas, the latter are actually former lengths of the Manawatū River. Built and cultural heritage includes the turn of the 20th Century era Pohangina – Manawatū Racecourse, which occupied the western half of what is now the Domain (the Open Space area), and extends it's competitive sports land use characteristics back to the 1860's, and still influences the boundary of the Open Space area. Even less visible but significant is the heritage of the upper escarpment area overlooking the 'wetlands' as the site of the former Otangaki Pā. The wetlands (actually the former course of the Manawatū River) are overlooked by the site of the Otangaki Pā (fortified village), a former pa of the Rangitane iwi (tribe).

Other historic features and activities include recognizing the significance of the adjacent river corridor, and in particular the view up Te Apiti (the gorge), the meeting of the Pohangina and Manawatū Rivers, and the site of the former ferry and early bridges.

There is considerable ability to emphasize these natural, built and cultural heritage features of the Domain, all of which are unique to the site and will help celebrate the heritage of the Domain and the Ashhurst-Otangaki area, and define unique characteristics and 'place'.

Opportunity - Key Features to emphasize:

1. Otangaki Pā – Former (escarpment above the wetland)
2. Otangaki Racecourse (Ashhurst – Pohangina Racing Club)
3. River ferry and historic bridges (from 1886) – the historic arrival point/gateway to the Manawatū from the east
4. Te Apiti – the narrow passage. Themes around the mauri of the river.
5. Meeting of the Rivers - Manawatū and Pohangina
6. Otangaki Pā and 'Wetlands' / former river course

It is thought that the pā sat atop the cliffs just above the wetland. With cliffs on three sides, this would have been an ideal position, providing a view over some distance of any oncoming attackers. It is not clear when the pā was abandoned, but it was recorded on J.T. Stewart's 1860 map of the Ahuaturanga/ Upper Manawatū block (see right). In 1860 the Pohangina River curved around to the west before joining with the Manawatū River as it exited the gorge (between the Ruahine and Tararua Ranges). The Pohangina River now follows a largely north-south course through Ashhurst³.

3. Source: envirohistorynz <https://envirohistorynz.com/2013/01/18/ashhurst-wetland-the-restoration-of-the-wetland-that-wasnt/>



Heritage features

- Key: Heritage Features
-  Otangaki Pā (approximate)
 -  Otangaki Racecourse
 -  River Ferry and Historic Bridges
 -  Te Apiti (Manawatū Gorge)
 -  Meeting of the Rivers
 -  Old Pohangina River Oxbow

6. Opportunities

The Landscape Values in **Appendix C: Landscape Values** have been used to categorise the landscape values and landscape features of the four character areas in terms of the natural and physical qualities of the Domain, its character and the importance that is placed on the landscape attributes of the Domain. This information was used to identify opportunities where specific developments and/or improvements could be accommodated in the Domain. For a full list of all the opportunities see **Appendix D: Development Opportunities**.

A summary of the specific development and / or improvement opportunities is given below:

OPEN SPACE CHARACTER AREA	AMENITY CHARACTER AREA	NATIVE BUSH AND WETLANDS CHARACTER AREA	LOWER FLOODPLAIN CHARACTER AREA
Enhance character*	Enhance character*	Enhance character*	Enhance character*
Improve accessibility		Improve accessibility	
Strengthen main entracneways			
Improve physical connections	Improve physical connections	Improve physical connections	Improve physical connections
Improve visual connections	Improve visual connections		Improve visual connections
Improve legibility (signage and interpretation)	Improve legibility (signage and interpretation)	Improve legibility (signage and interpretation)	Improve legibility (signage and interpretation)
		Protect native vegetation and enhance biodiversity	

*** Enhance the character of the Domain by physical references to natural, built and cultural heritage:**

CULTURAL HERITAGE	NATURAL HERITAGE	BUILT HERITAGE
Otangaki Pā site (Iwi expression).	Old Pohangina River Oxbow (former river course).	Ferry crossing.
Drowing site??? (Iwi expression).	Parahaki Island.	Historic bridges.
Racecourse (European expression).	Meeting of the Rivers (Manawatu and Pohangina).	

7. Summary

The LCA of the Ashhurst Domain has identified its distinct character, landscape and amenity values, features and physical and non-physical elements and connections. It has also provided some indication on opportunities to enhance or build upon this character, and improve legibility between the various areas and experiences the Domain has to offer.

The existing landscape character and heritage of the Domain and its wider context have been taken into account in identifying Four Character Areas, key Features and Values, and in the identification of opportunities and restrictions. Four areas have been identified as having a distinct character within the Domain. These 'character areas' are generally defined by topography, vegetation patterns, landuse, landscape elements and features including viewshafts, activities and the circulation and movement network.

This enables the LCA to be used as a resource to help with future spatial or master planning and review of the Reserve Management Plan (RMP).

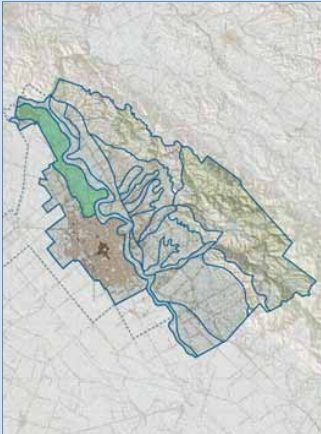
The Development Opportunities section of this report identifies spatial opportunities where enhancements could be introduced, further development could be absorbed and also identify areas where there appears to be limited or no opportunity for development in the Domain. This could be used to develop enhancement projects, or help to inform a future strategic development plan or masterplan for the Domain.

Appendix A: Te Matai River Flats Landscape

UNIT 6

Te Matai Flats

Lower Flat



SENSE OF PLACE

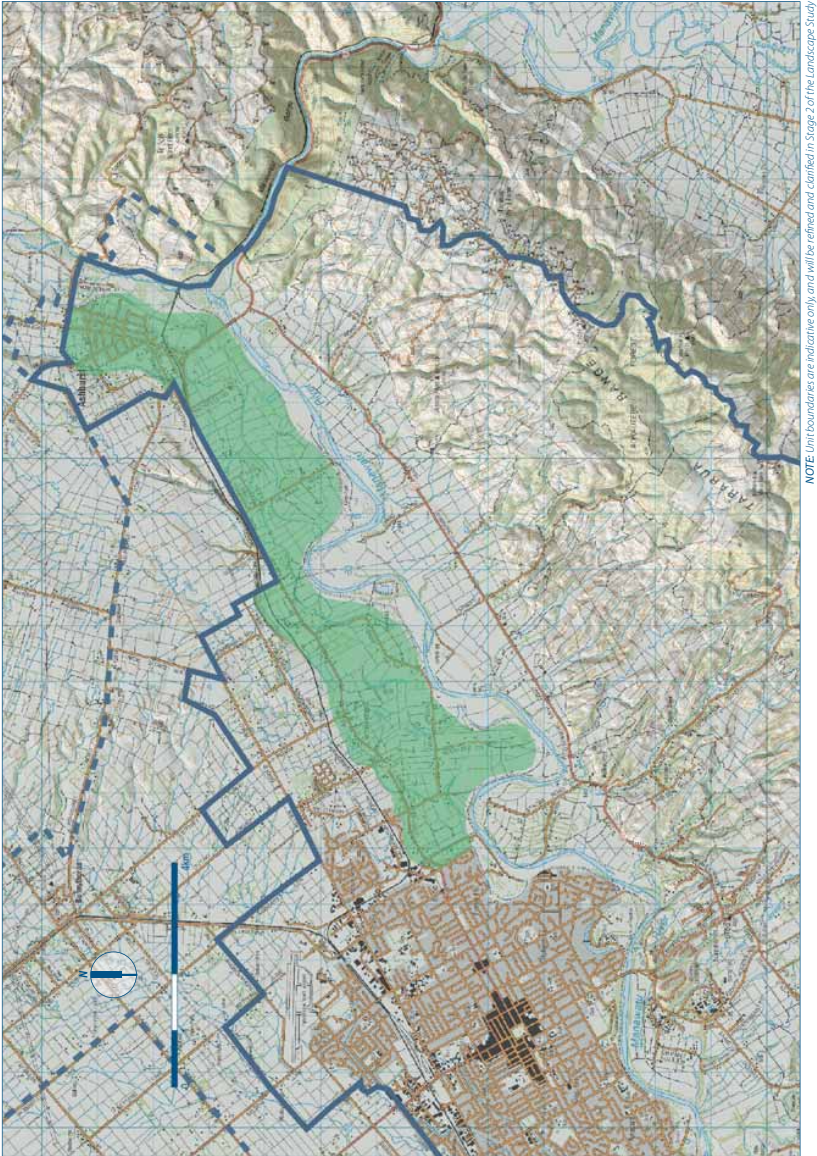
The rich fertile land has a long history of settlement and intensive horticultural use, despite being relatively low lying and subject to flooding. The flats provide a rural gateway to the city for travellers from Napier and the Wairarapa and a distinctive rural buffer between Ashhurst and Palmerston North.

The river terrace to the immediate north of State Highway 3 and the Railway (Palmerston North-Gisborne Line) provides a sense of containment so that views for travellers are directed across the river flats and out to the Tararua Ranges through 'windows' in shelterbelts. The landscape is very coherent at the broad scale with great diversity and interest locally. The intensive horticultural production in particular is associated with activity and a sense of vibrancy.

Community

- Landowners and residents of Ashhurst and Kelvin Grove on elevated terraces, overlooking Te Matai Road (SH3) and the productive rural riverflats
- Travellers on SH3, and users of the Palmerston North-Gisborne Rail Line
- Local rural landowners and residents including market gardeners and nurseries
- Gravel extraction operators
- Recreational users - the Manawatu River Walkway and Bridle Track
- Brookfields Park Golf Course users
- Whakarongo School and school community

SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE	HIGH	LOW
Landscape complexity - topography	✓	
Landscape complexity - vegetation cover		✓
Landscape complexity - modification		✓
Visibility within the wider context (views in)		✓



LANDSCAPE CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

- Open flats slightly elevated about the true right bank of the Manawatu River; a long, linear unit between the river and a terrace that rises to the northwest
- Relatively low lying area that is intensively farmed for dairying and cropping with some market gardening
- Numerous shelterbelts, hedges and established tree plantings around farm houses
- Ashhurst – a small country town (~3,500 pop.) with views to the Ruahine Ranges, Manawatu Gorge and the wind farms on both sides of the gorge; gateway to the Pohangina Valley
- Ribbon urban development from Whakaranga south to city edge

VISIBILITY AND VISUAL AMENITY

- Directly visible from SH3 and from PN-Gisborne railway, which traverse the western extent of the unit
- Various local roads; many running perpendicular to the highway
- Higher ground at the Ashhurst end of the unit allows views across the flats
- Shelterbelts and hedges provide varying degrees of enclosure
- Southern outskirts of Ashhurst are directly visible to SH3
- Ashhurst has a pleasant 'small country town' ambience

DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS

- Broad, fertile alluvial flats between SH3 and Manawatu River
- Closely subdivided farmland with a strong pattern of shelterbelts and hedges
- Ashhurst being a small country town
- Areas in the downstream extent close to Palmerston North are prone to flooding
- Distinctive vegetated terraces that rise up to the adjoining Manawatu Plain form the northwest edge of this unit

PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT

- Rural land use in traditional farm holdings, but being broken down into lifestyle blocks closer to the urban centres
- Ashhurst forms a small urban centre
- Ribbon urban development on northern highway approach to Palmerston North City

ECOLOGICAL AREAS 2002

- Riverside Drive Oxbow wetlands (1)
- Napier Road escarpment reverting bush area (4)
- Kohlers Totara Block rural forest remnant (6)
- Brookfields Park Golf Course rural forest remnant (11)
- Kohlers Road rural forest remnant (49)
- Ashhurst Oxbow Escarpment riparian area (68)
- Ashhurst Domain rural forest remnant (70)

LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES

Natural Features and Legibility

- Drainage channels and remnant oxbow lakes
- Ashhurst Domain and established indigenous tree and shrub plantings forms a buffer between the highway and the town
- Terrace face on northwest edge provides containment and a local visual backdrop

Cultural and Historic Associations

- This area was traditionally heavily settled with numerous Rangitaane settlements.
- Early land negotiations with the Crown occurred in the area, namely at Raukawa pa
- Village of Ashhurst established in the late 1870's by the English Emigrant and Colonists' Aid Corporation
- Rich soils of the flats have a history of intensive cropping and market gardening

Aesthetics and Recognition

- Provides a rural 'introduction' to Palmerston North City from the north
- Positive rural outlook to adjoining small holdings to the north, the Pohangina Valley and the ranges beyond



Appendix B: Connections

The tables below identify physical and non-physical (visual and movement) connections between the various areas throughout the Domain. The tables classify the quality of each connection into ‘Good’, ‘Limited’ or ‘Poor’, and provides a brief description for each connection. Also identified are corresponding opportunities that could be further explored to enhance the character or opportunities available at the Domain. There may be more than one opportunity identified for some features and values. For a full list of all the opportunities identified see **Appendix D**.

TABLE: CONNECTIONS BETWEEN CHARACTER AREAS AND EXTERNAL SPACES

Character Areas	Connections	Degree
Upper Terrace	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited - Good Good Limited
Visual: Filtered views through shelterbelts and gaps in hedges. Long range, open expansive views across sports fields. Long range, enclosed views along some straight pathways. Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections between the areas. Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways not always clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility. Existing Entranceways from SH3 and Cambridge Avenue are understated, reducing legibility.		
Possible Opportunities:	Carry out selected clearance work / thinning of plantings at ground level to maintain a degree of openness to achieve safety, surveillance and improved visual connections between areas. Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation.	
Lower Floodplain	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Good Good Limited
Visual: Long range, flat open and expansive views across grazed paddocks and along main pathway. Movement: Existing track provide good connections between the northern and southern extent of the floodplain. Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways not very clearly defined.		
Possible Opportunities:	Provide directional signage, long distance markers, and interpretation boards.	
Amenity Area	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited to Good Good Limited
Visual: Filtered views through parkland trees and localised shelterbelts. Hedges along main entrance and around cemetery affect clear visual connections between the playground, picnic lawn, cemetery and Lost Field. Movement: Existing tracks and paths provides good connections. Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways not very clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility. Access from main entrance not legible due to convoluted drive.		
Possible Opportunities:	Redevelop the main entrance. Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation.	
Lower Native Bush and Wetlands	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited Limited - Good Limited
Visual: Dense vegetation limit views between Ashhurst Bush, artificial wetland and regenerating bush. Movement: Internal path network throughout Ashhurst Bush provide limited connections. Lack of connections between the artificial wetland and regenerating bush. Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways to Ashhurst Bush not clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility.		
Possible Opportunities:	Provide new pathway connection to the wetland and bush areas.	

TABLE: CONNECTIONS BETWEEN CHARACTER AREAS WITHIN THE DOMAIN







Character Areas	Connections	Degree
Open Space and Lower Floodplain	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited Good Limited
<p>Visual: Gaps in planting along terrace edge and from informal viewpoints provide localised visual connections to the lower floodplain, river corridor and ranges.</p> <p>Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections between the areas.</p> <p>Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways to Lower Floodplain not clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility and visual consistency.</p>		
Possible Opportunities:	<p>Create formalized viewing areas with seating and interpretation boards at strategic nodes along the terrace edge.</p> <p>Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation.</p>	
Open Space and Lower Native Bush and Wetlands	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited Good Limited
<p>Visual: Intervening hedges and shelterbelts block views between sports fields, playground and Ashhurst Bush. Gaps in planting along terrace edge and from informal viewpoints provide localised visual connections to the wetland and regenerating indigenous bush.</p> <p>Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections with Ashhurst Bush but limited access to the wetland and regenerating indigenous bush.</p> <p>Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways to Native Bush and Wetlands not clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility.</p>		
Possible Opportunities:	<p>Create formalized viewing areas with seating and interpretation boards at strategic nodes along the terrace edge.</p> <p>The settings and sequence of experiences in reaching significant viewpoints could be considered.</p> <p>Manage height of overgrown plants in front of viewpoints to maintain open views.</p> <p>Remove hedges to improve visual permeability and legibility.</p> <p>Provide new pathway connection to the wetland and bush areas.</p> <p>Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation.</p>	
Open Space and Amenity Area	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited Good Limited
<p>Visual: Hedges along main entrance and around cemetery including intervening shelterbelts affect clear visual connections between these two areas.</p> <p>Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections between these character areas.</p> <p>Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways not clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility. Access from main entrance not legible due to convoluted drive.</p>		
Possible Opportunities:	<p>Redevelop the main entrance.</p> <p>Remove hedges to improve visual permeability and legibility.</p> <p>Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation.</p>	

Amenity Area and Lower Native Bush and Wetlands	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited - Limited Limited Limited
Visual: Intervening trees and shrubs filter views towards Ashhurst Bush making the bush edge discernable in the background. Open, relatively unobstructed views from the viewing platform and informal viewpoint at camping ground towards the wetland and regenerating indigenous bush.		
Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections with Ashhurst Bush but limited access to the wetland and regenerating indigenous bush.		
Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways to Ashhurst Bush not clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility.		
Possible Opportunities:	Encourage viewing of the wetland along strategic locations along the terrace edge. Manage height of overgrown plants in front of viewpoints to maintain open views. Provide new pathway connection to the wetland and bush areas. Introduce relevant cultural artwork at strategically placed locations to supplement traditional signage, defining key routes and pathways.	
Amenity Area and Lower Floodplain	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited Good Limited
Visual: View from viewing platform and informal viewpoint at camping ground provide localised visual connections to the lower floodplain, river corridor and ranges.		
Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections between the two areas.		
Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways to Lower Floodplain not clearly defined. Mixed use of pathway materials and varying widths impacts on legibility.		
Possible Opportunities:	Create formalised viewing area with seating and interpretation boards. Manage height of overgrown plants in front of viewpoint to maintain open views. Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation.	
Lower Native Bush, Wetlands and Lower Floodplain	Visual Movement Gateways and Access Points	Limited - Good Limited Limited
Visual: Open, relatively unobstructed views between the floodplain and edges of the bush areas and wetland. Good visual connections with the escarpment.		
Movement: Existing tracks and paths provide good connections with Ashhurst Bush but limited access to the wetland and regenerating indigenous bush.		
Gateways and Access Points: Existing access points and pathways to Lower Floodplain not clearly defined.		
Possible Opportunities:	Provide new pathway connection to the wetland and bush areas. Define routes, gateways / key access points with directional signage and markers to aid with orientation and improve legibility.	

Appendix C: Landscape Values

This section categorise the landscape values and landscape features of the four character areas in terms of the natural and physical quality of the Domain and its character and the importance that is placed on the landscape attributes of the Domain. This information was used to identify opportunities where specific developments and/or improvements could be accommodated in the Domain. For a full list of all the opportunities see Appendix D.

The degree of significance and quality of each of the landscape values and features is assessed in accordance with the following scale:

KEY	LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTION & SIGNIFICANCE	EXPLANATION
	4. Very High or Exceptional	Values and features which are of very high value, may be unique or very prominent, and make a very significant contribution to the character of the Domain.
	3. High	Values and features that make a strong and very noticeable contribution to the overall character of the Domain.
	2. Moderate	Values and features that make a minor but noticeable contribution to the character and amenity of the Domain.
	1. Low	Values and features that are of limited significance, may be hidden, and/or may be very degraded or in poor condition.
	-1. Negative	Values and features that currently detract from or may impact negatively on features of greater value, or have a negative impact on amenity or uses within the Domain.
	Opportunity	Values or features that may be degraded or 'hidden' such as obscured heritage features, but have the potential to make a greater contribution to the character of the Domain.

Open Space

Character Area	Landscape Values	Rating (Quality)	Landscape Features (See Landscape Features Map)	Rating (Quality)
Highly modified flat expansive landscape accommodating diverse range of sporting activities, buffered on its western perimeter by plantings and connected to other parts of the Domain by formed tracks. Physically but not visually bounded by the rail line to the north.	Recreation (Active, Sports)	4	1a. Pony Club and Canine 1b. Club 1b. Soccer Fields 1c. Cricket Oval	2 4 4
	Flat Topography/ Openness	4	1d. Mown Lawns 1e. Shelterbelts/Boundary	4 3
	Recreation (Passive, Informal)	4	1f. Walking/Cycling Tracks	3
	Buildings (Club and Utility)	2	1g. Changing Rooms 1h. Club Houses 1i. Misc Structures / Small Storage Sheds 1j. Viewing/Observation Deck 1k. Carparks	2 2 -1 2 2
	Views (Ranges, River Corridor and Artificial Wetland)	4	1l. Gaps in Vegetation (Terrace Edge)	2
	Grazed Paddocks	2	1m. Pasture 1n. Mix of Fencing Types	2 1
	Heritage (Cultural-Built)	1 Opp	1o. Racecourse	1 Opp
	Vehicle Accessways (Soccer Changing Rooms)	2	1r. Gap in Buffer Planting and Signage	2 Opp
	Total	22	Total	

Lower Native Bush and Wetlands

Character Area	Landscape Values	Rating (Quality)	Landscape Features	Rating (Quality)
Mixed flat, sloping and steep topography, heavily vegetated natural environment. To the south a dense remnant native bush includes an environmentally significant wetland with passive recreational value and use, formed metalled vehicle and walking tracks connect to other parts of the Domain. An artificial wetland and regenerating indigenous bush further to the north is not heavily used due to its inaccessibility.	Mature Native Trees (Ashhurst Bush)	4	2a. Remnant Native Vegetation	3 Opp
	Swamp Maire Wetland (Ashhurst Bush)	4	2b. Riparian Species 2c. Timber Bridges	4 3 Opp
	Escarpment	4	2d. Steep Landform 2e. Native Vegetation 2f. Exotic Vegetation	4 4 1 Opp
	Artificial Wetland	3	2g. Informal Mown Grass Areas 2h. Riparian Vegetation 2i. Raupo	2 Opp 4 2
	Recreation (Passive, Informal)	4	2j. Walking/Cycling Tracks	3
	Heritage (Natural and Cultural)	2 Opp	2k. Ferry Crossing	1 Opp
	Accessway	2	2l. Ashhurst Bridge Carpark Pedestrian Gate	2 Opp







Amenity Area

Character Area	Landscape Values	Rating (Quality)	Landscape Features	Rating (Quality)
Amenity Area Highly modified flat landscape, visually diverse mixed-use area accommodating multiple human-centric activities at a smaller scale (playground, camping, cemetery and main entrance facilities). Informal framework of trees and shrubs create discreet spaces that provide autonomy for larger groups of users.	Active Play and 'Family' Opportunities	4	3a. Play Equipment 3b. Mown Lawns 3c. Shade Trees	3 3 4 Opp
	Recreation (Passive, Informal)	4	3d. Walking/Cycling Tracks	4
	Camping and Relaxation	4	3e. Mown Lawns 3f. Picnic Lawn and Tables 3g. Shade Trees	3 2 Opp 4
	Cemetery	4	3h. Feature Stone Wall 3i. Graves/Headstones	4 4
	Buildings	2	3j. Toilets 3k. BBQ and Shelter 3l. Information/Office Building 3m. Managers House 3n. Picnic Shelter 3o. Maintenance Sheds	2 3 2 2 3 1
	Views (Ranges, River Corridor and Artificial Wetland)	2	3p. Viewing Deck 3q. Informal Viewpoint (Camping Ground)	3 Opp 2 Opp
	Accessways	2 Opp	3r. Main Gate	1 Opp
	Heritage (Natural and Cultural)	1 Opp	3s. Otangaki Pa 3t. Native vegetation	1 Opp 3 opp

Lower Floodplain / River Edge

Character Area	Landscape Values	Rating (Quality)	Landscape Features	Rating (Quality)
Modified landscape featuring grazed paddocks interspersed with mature vegetation. Bounded by the rail line, river corridor and native bush. Connected to the Domain by gravel tracks.	Grazed Paddocks	2	4a. Pasture 4b. Post and Wire Fences	2 2
	River Corridor	4	4c. Vegetation (Mixed)	2 Opp
	Views (Ranges, River Corridor and Artificial Wetland)	3	4d. Gaps in Vegetation along River Edge towards River and Ranges	3 Opp
	Recreation (Passive, Informal)	3	4e. Walking/Cycling Tracks	3
	Flat Topography/Openness	3	4f. Views of Escarpment	3
	Accessways	2	4g. Ramp and Maintenance Tracks	2
	Heritage (Cultural)	1	4h. Historic Bridge	1 Opp



KEY	LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTION & SIGNIFICANCE	EXPLANATION
	4. Very High or Exceptional	Values and features which are of very high value, may be unique or very prominent, and make a very significant contribution to the character of the Domain.
	3. High	Values and features that make a strong and very noticeable contribution to the overall character of the Domain.
	2. Moderate	Values and features that make a minor but noticeable contribution to the character and amenity of the Domain.
	1. Low	Values and features that are of limited significance, may be hidden, and/or may be very degraded or in poor condition.
	-1. Negative	Values and features that currently detract from or may impact negatively on features of greater value, or have a negative impact on amenity or uses within the Domain.
	Opportunity	Values or features that may be degraded or 'hidden' such as obscured heritage features, but have the potential to make a greater contribution to the character of the Domain.

1b

For a full list of the key codes see the Landscape Features column of the Landscape Values Table: Appendix C

Appendix D: Development Opportunities (Draft)

The tables below identify spatial opportunities where further development could be absorbed and / or identify areas where there appears to be limited or no opportunity for development in the Domain and key influences on these positions. The tables should be seen as a working document with the need to revisit the opportunities on a regular basis.

Open Space

Landscape and Amenity Values	Good Spatial Opportunities	Limited Spatial Opportunities
Recreation	Future expansion of organized sports into grazed paddocks as demand requires.	
Openness		Consider the effect of new vegetation on openness.
Buildings	Large scale of fields and edges created by buffer planting and shelterbelts can absorb new buildings if sited appropriately.	
Views	Create stronger visual connections that captures the benefits of the elevated views from the terrace edge towards the open space, lower floodplain and wider landscape.	Consider the effect of new vegetation on movement and viewing connections between fields and overall legibility.
Grazed paddocks	Accommodate organized sports in the future as demand requires.	
Cultural Heritage		Celebrate the old racecourse
Landscape Features	Good Opportunities	Limited Opportunities
Pony Club and Canine Club		Given the location of the pony club on the edge of the old racecourse there are obvious historical connections and opportunities to tell the story of the pony club.
Soccer Fields		
Cricket Oval		
Walking/Cycling Tracks and associated Facilities	Develop design details for drainage, surface treatments, signage and park furniture (bollards etc) to improve consistency and legibility.	The escarpment hinder movement between the Open Space and Floodplain.
Mown Lawns		Replant unused lawn areas with native vegetation to reduce long term maintenance and improve ecological values.
Shelterbelts/Windbreaks	Plant additional windbreaks should this be required. Consider the effect this will have on visual connections and openness.	Varying use of shelterbelts / trees could be used to introduce different identities and character to new fields.
Buffer Planting (Boundary)	Ongoing thinning and/or rejuvenation planting is required to maintain the structural framework of the vegetation. Consider the impact this will have on visual connections and openness.	Create gaps in boundary planting to improve safety and legibility between SH3/Cambridge Avenue and the Domain.
Changing Rooms		
Club Houses		
Small Storage Sheds		Standalone storage sheds could be fixed to club houses to limit visual clutter.
Changing Rooms Viewing/Observation Platform		

Carparks		Replace old timber post and rails barriers around carpark.
Gaps in Vegetation along Terrace Edge	Create formalised viewing areas with seating and interpretation boards at strategic nodes along the terrace edge.	
Pasture (Grazed Paddocks)	Manage height of pasture to maintain openness.	
Mix of Fencing Types	A standard fence and gate typology should be used consistently and appropriately throughout the Domain to provide a unified and coherent character.	
Old Racecourse		Celebrate the form of the old racecourse using specimen tree planting and interpretation boards. An avenue of trees extending along the existing track can be used to highlight the significance of the historic curve and to make a symbolic reference to the old racecourse.
Vehicle Accessway (Changing Rooms)	Provide new signage. Trim back planting at the entranceway to open up views into the Domain and make it more inviting.	

Amenity Area

Landscape and Amenity Values	Good Spatial Opportunities	Limited Spatial Opportunities
Active Play and Family Values	Future expansion of the playground if required.	
Camping and Relaxation		Expansion due to surrounding land use, sensitive vegetation patterns, existing infrastructure and topographical constraints.
Buildings		Accommodate new buildings
Views	Crown lifting to clear sight lines and improve visual connections between the amenity area and open space.	
Cemetery		Expansion due to surrounding land use and topographical constraints.
Cultural heritage	Celebrate cultural history. Develop a heritage walkway in the Domain that could link together the historic Pā, ferry, bridge, river course and racecourse sites and other historic features.	
Landscape Features	Good Opportunities	Limited opportunities
Play Equipment		
Mown Lawns (Picnic Lawn)	Provide additional park furniture throughout picnic lawn to cater for increased needs. An integrates suite of park furniture should be used consistently throughout the Domain to	Expansion due to surrounding land use and existing infrastructure.

	provide a unified and coherent character. Replace native hedge planting between picnic lawn and sports fields to improve sight lines and legibility	
Walking/Cycling Tracks and associated Facilities	Signpost access points and routes to improve legibility and their use. Upgrade interpretive markers. Provide a clear structure and hierarchy of tracks, access points/nodes and signage to improve legibility. Opportunity to improve pedestrian access into and through the park to integrate better with local roads and open spaces.	
Shade Trees		Introduce new trees to strengthen the existing tree framework. Consider the effect that new parkland trees will have on visual connections and openness.
Picnic Tables	Replace old picnic tables at camping ground, picnic lawn and playground.	
Feature Stone Wall	Use river stone as a feature throughout the amenity area to help create consistency and a strong identity and aesthetic.	
Graves/Headstones		
Toilets		
BBQ and Shelter	Additional bbq at camping ground should this be required.	
Information/Office Building		
Managers House		
Picnic Shelter		
Wetlands Viewing Platform	Platform provides recreational and education opportunities (oxbow, river, ranges, turbines etc). Further develop the viewing area as an interactive learning environment/outdoor classroom. Remove intervening scrub in front of platform to improve views.	
Informal Viewpoint (Camping Ground)	Fell the group of large redwoods that borders Ashhurst Bush in the floodplain to open up views towards Te Apiti.	Develop this area as a formal viewpoint. Provide new handrail, hard standing, footpath connection and information signage.
Main Entrance	Redevelop the main entrance to reflect the character of the park. Realign the driveway and enhance the threshold (gates) to be more legible, open and inviting.	

Native Bush and Wetlands

Landscape and Amenity Values	Good Spatial Opportunities	Limited Spatial Opportunities
Mature Native Trees (Ashhurst Bush)	Expand the footprint of the native bush and wetlands area further north into the grazed paddocks.	
Swamp Maire Wetland (Ashhurst Bush)		
Escarpment		
Artificial Wetland	Encourage viewing of the wetland along strategic locations along the terrace edge. Fence and dredge.	
Recreation		Consider the effect of cyclist on the
Landscape Features	Good Opportunities	Limited opportunities
Remnant Native Vegetation	Conserve and enhance the bush as it provides an important ecological, botanical, educational and amenity resource. Remove isolated pine trees from the bush. Expand the native bush towards the existing river margin vegetation. *See objectives identified in the Ecological Report	
Riparian Vegetation (Ashhurst Wetland)	Conserve and enhance the wetland as it provides an important ecological, botanical, educational and amenity resource. *See objectives identified in the Ecological Report	
Timber Bridges		Replace old timber bridges.
Native Vegetation and Exotic Vegetation along Escarpment	Where practical remove isolated stands of pine trees from the escarpment. Fell the group of large redwoods.	
Riparian Vegetation (Wetland)	*See objectives identified in the Ecological Report	Enhance existing riparian margins.
Informal Mown Grass Areas (Artificial Wetland)	Reduce informal grass open space lawn areas with riparian and native tree planting. *See objectives identified in the Ecological Report	
Raupo	*See objectives identified in the Ecological Report	
Walking/Cycling Tracks and associated Facilities		Consider the effect of cyclist on users of the bush. Signpost pedestrian access points and routes to improve legibility and their use. Upgrade interpretive markers. Provide a clear structure and hierarchy of tracks, access points/nodes and signage to improve pedestrian legibility.

Lower Floodplain

Landscape and Amenity Values	Good Spatial Opportunities	Limited Spatial Opportunities
Openness (Grazed Paddocks)	Increase the footprint of the native bush and wetlands corridor. Consider the effect of new vegetation on openness and views towards the river corridor and ranges in the background.	
River Corridor		Enhance river margin planting. Consider the effect of new vegetation on visual connections with the river corridor and ranges in the background.
Views	Fell the group of large redwoods that borders Ashhurst Bush in the floodplain to open up views towards Te Apiti.	
Landscape Features	Good Opportunities	Limited Opportunities
Pasture (Grazed Paddocks)		
Post and Wire Fences		
River Margin Vegetation	Interplant existing river margin vegetation with native species to expand and connect to Ashhurst Bush.	Interplant existing exotic vegetation with native species.
Viewshafts of River Corridor and Ranges Through Gaps in River Edge Vegetation	Maintain or create gaps/viewing areas with seating at strategic nodes along the river margins.	
Views of Escarpment		Consider the effect of new vegetation on visual connections between the floodplain and the escarpment.
Walking/Cycling Tracks and associated Facilities	New pedestrian loop path to follow the perimeter of the native bush and wetlands area. Interpretive signs could talk about the movement of the river. Signpost access points and routes to improve legibility and their use. Upgrade interpretive markers. Provide a clear structure and hierarchy of tracks, access points/nodes and signage to improve legibility	

Appendix IV:

Ecological Assessment

Ashhurst Domain Ecological Assessment



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Botanical Services
November 2019



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1 Executive Summary

This Ecological Assessment was initiated by Palmerston North City Council as part of the Ashhurst Domain Management Plan Review Process. By describing the ecological context of the natural and planted areas it is intended to assist the resulting Development Plan by informing physical works proposed to protect and enhance the Domain.

The floodplain forest on the lower terrace is the largest natural area in the Domain and has regionally rare forest types (totara/matai association and swamp forest) with two nationally threatened species: swamp maire and mudfish. The oxbow wetland also ranks highly amongst the remaining wetlands in the region.

Pest management is reviewed, and a range of objectives and policies recommended. Future development of the Domain is also considered in light of increased interest for potential growth in this area.

Because of the high natural values of the forest a review of the legal classification, currently Recreation Reserve, is proposed in order to ensure these values are secured for the future.

2 Introduction

The Manchester Block was sold in 1871 for settlement for Ashhurst and Feilding and land set aside for the future Ashhurst Domain. Approximately 45 acres (18 ha) of land was gazetted in 1901, as the Ashhurst Recreation-ground and subject to the provisions of The Public Domains Act 1881 (Gazette Authority, 1901). Over the years more land was added and after several Acts it was to fall under the Reserves Act 1977 with predominantly a Recreation purpose (the cemetery had a Local Purpose designation). Of the current 54 ha under Reserve classification a significant proportion, approximately 15 ha, is indigenous forest and wetland with nationally rare components.

The natural areas of the Domain fall within:

- Sec 1686 TN of Palmerston North - the main forest remnant of floodplain and terrace (also incorporates much of the amenity part of terrace);
- Pt Old River Bed Survey Office Plan 14675; Sec 1654 TN of Palmerston North; and Sec 1 SBDN x Manawatū District – oxbow wetland;
- Lot 1 DP 83868 - northern forest remnant (also incorporates sports field on terrace).

This document fulfils a request by Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) to provide a reference document for the renewal of the Ashhurst Domain Management Plan to cover the context and state of health of different ecological areas of the Ashhurst Domain. It also outlines threats and potential opportunities and includes recommendations for policies and objectives.



3 Ecological Context

The Ashhurst Domain lies within the Manawatū Plains Ecological District. This district is characterised by low level river and marine terraces and floodplains (Ravine 1995). Rivers have shaped much of the district in combination with uplift and cold periods (Heerdegen and Shepherd 1992). The Ashhurst domain exemplifies the character of this District by having both characteristic landforms.

The terraces were formed during the interglacial periods as the rivers cut through gravels laid down during the glacial periods.

The Ashhurst Terrace was created since the end of the last glacial period (14,000 years ago) when the Pohangina River began eroding into it (Heerdegen and Shepherd 1992). Since then the river has

moved from side to side. During settled periods vegetation would have been able to develop but then removed during storm events. Possibly the earliest record of the riverbed is a survey map of the Patea Manawatū Railway showing it cutting in at a point below the cemetery in 1879 (see Fig. 1). It also shows existing vegetation covering the plain below the terrace including the currently grazed portion.

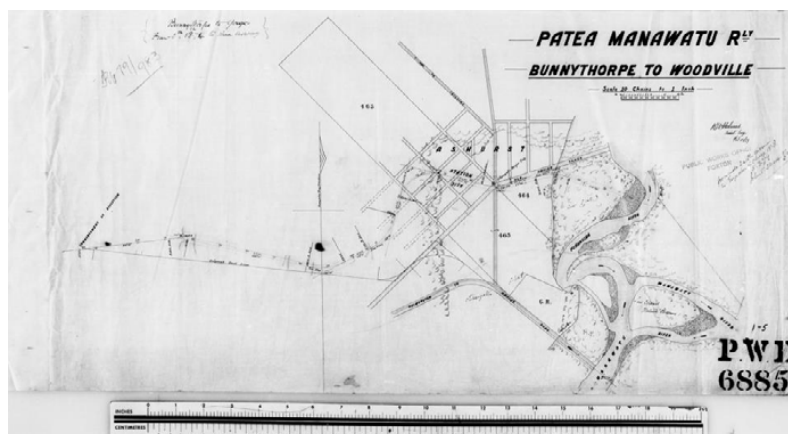


Fig. 1: 1879 survey plan of Patea Manawatū Railway showing an early position of Pohangina River and sketch of vegetation coverage.

Once dense forest, most of the land has been cleared or drained for farming. Only about 2% of original native vegetation of the District remains with forest on the flat terraces being the most depleted forest type in the District (Ravine 1995). The burning of forests had started by the 1880s.



Old photos of the area show how as early as 1895 much of the terrace lands and lower hillslopes in the vicinity had already been converted into farmland and were grazed by sheep (see Fig. 2).

Fig. 2: Looking north to Ashhurst Domain from true left of Manawatū River showing early conversion of bush to pasture. Note tall forest of Domain beside Ashhurst Bridge. Photo taken c. 1909. Palmerston North Libraries and Community Services.

An early aerial photograph, 1949/50 (see Appendix 1) shows the vegetation much as it is today (except for the top terrace) indicating most of the vegetation removal and formation of the original oxbow wetland would have happened within the period between 1879 and 1949.

The forest and wetland ecosystems lying within the Ashhurst Domain are examples of the vegetation types that once existed alongside the Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers. Early photos of the Ashhurst road bridge dating from 1909 show tall forest adjacent to the road identifying the forest as an original riverside forest (see Figs 2 and 3 and Appendix 1). While logging would have inevitably taken place, particularly of totara, and canopy collapse occurred over large areas, a few individual tall specimens of tawa and pukatea, with many epiphytes in their crowns, remain maintaining its link to the past forest cover of the area.



Fig. 3: Looking east towards Manawatū Gorge Scenic Reserve showing tall forest to left of bridge. Note the ponding in the middle of the photo, in a similar position to the swamp maire forest on the other side of the road. This wetland has since been drained. Photo by George W. Anderson? (sic) 1915; Palmerston North City Library.

The Ashhurst Domain is considered part of Te Apiti –

Manawatū Gorge, 1km to the east. A project originally established in 2006 to protect and enhance the biodiversity of the area and known as Manawatū Gorge Biodiversity Project it has since expanded to include recreational, educational and cultural values of the area. The Te Apiti-Manawatū Gorge Governance Group consists of Department of Conservation (DOC), Horizons Regional Council (HRC), Tararua District Council (TDC), Manawatū District Council, PNCC and a private landowner.

The Manawatū Gorge Scenic Reserve is the nearest tract of forest and consists of lowland podocarp broadleaf forest, typically a mixture of kahikatea, matai and rimu with tawa and titoki. A wetland with some swamp maire occurs directly across the river from the Domain on the northern bank of the Manawatū River, bordering the Scenic Reserve. Another stand of swamp maire exists at the eastern end of the Gorge in Ferry Reserve (administered by TDC). Other nearby forest remnants include Macrae's Bush (managed by PNCC) lying within 3 km upriver. It is of similar size to the northern fragment of the Domain and occupies a similar position near the escarpment. It is a lot older with larger podocarps and has less of a regenerative component than the northern fragment. A privately owned swamp maire forest and wetland lies 6.7km to the north, while Totara Reserve (managed by HRC), an example of totara floodplain forest with a swamp maire component, lies 18.5 km upriver. Palmerston North Esplanade Bush (managed by PNCC) lies 14 km south alongside the Manawatū River.

The Domain has three distinct forest types within the floodplain forest: totara/matai floodplain forest, swamp forest and totara/matai/kanuka terrace forest.



Of the 54 ha approximately 8 ha is in floodplain and regenerating forest, 1.5 ha in terrace forest, 2.5 ha in wetland (including islands), 0.6 ha in escarpment native forest and shrubs, and 1.2 ha in escarpment regeneration and pest plants.

Approximately 6 ha is in shelter belts and an estimated 0.5 ha in amenity planting, both native and exotic.

The Floodplain Forest



Fig. 4: Perching lilies in the branches of original tawa trees.

The largest and most intact of the ecological areas in the Domain is the southern portion of the floodplain forest. It has several different vegetation units, including two regionally rare associations (Ogle and Perrie 2010): a stand of totara and matai occurs on raised gravel lenses to the north and a band of swamp maire and pukatea following an extensive low lying depression filling up with water in winter occurs to the south. Throughout the forest is a mixed canopy of titoki and mahoe over a shrub layer of kawakawa and divaricating shrubs. Some emergent tawa and pukatea have survived through time. Climbers are common throughout including rata, kiekie, native jasmine, supplejack and muehlenbeckia (*Muehlenbeckia australis*). Large perching lilies occur as epiphytes in the oldest trees and along with climbing rata indicate canopy longevity (see Fig. 4). An extensive array of ferns occupies the forest floor and tree trunks.

Floodplain forest is by its nature, dynamic. It is prone to change caused by flooding. Several photos in 'recent' times, indicate it may have been flooded or at least threatened by flooding: in 1895 the first Ashhurst Bridge was destroyed, the 1953 flood was the largest before the floodbanks were established, and in 1992 the Pohangina River had inundated the grazed area (See Appendix 1).

Totara/Matai Stand

The totara/matai stand appears as a relatively even-aged cohort (DBH approx. 75cm, average height 20m high) (see Fig. 5a) and, with the exception of a few large totara (DBH 1m to 1.5m), may well have resulted from a flooding disturbance. This would have had to occur before the first known depiction of the area ie 1879 (see Fig.1), perhaps 150-200 years ago. Similar stands are found on floodplains in Totara Reserve further up the Pohangina Valley. In this situation, after disturbance, totara will readily germinate in a high light environment after an initial cover of manuka, gradually overtopping and shading out the initial shrubs. Matai would also have begun to grow (Greenwood 1949).



Fig. 5a: The totara/matai stand showing relatively even-aged stems.



Fig. 5b: Giant maidenhair is a common groundcover in this stand.

As noted in the Totara Reserve stands, there is little regeneration of totara in the Domain stand. Over time it will eventually open out to a mixed forest, possibly similar to Macrae's Bush, as canopy gaps allow light to penetrate. Now totara and matai occur over a kawakawa understorey with a ground cover of giant maidenhair and tradescantia (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) (see Fig. 5b).

The totara/matai stand occupies approximately 0.7 ha.



Fig. 6a. Water lies at least 60cm deep in the winter but was wet all year round until recently (K. Pratt pers. comm).

the road to the south, with the raised ramparts, probably blocked drainage to the south and may well have assisted the development of the swamp maire. The incursion of willows however has helped to degrade this portion.

The swamp forest occupies approximately 1 ha.

Fig. 6b. Purei pedestals and unusually exposed roots of swamp maire indicating a historically higher water table.



Swamp Forest

Swamp forest, once much more widespread, exists now as small scattered remnants. Widespread drainage and clearance have made this a threatened forest system. Swamp maire, a sizeable component of the Domain swamp forest has recently become classified as Threatened – Nationally Critical as it belongs in the Myrtaceae family, susceptible to the Myrtle Rust disease.

The swamp forest begins north of the foot bridges with tall pukatea in boggy ground and develops into a 4-5m wide body of water (up to 60cm deep in September 2019) lined with purei (*Carex secta*) (see Fig. 6a), and continues south to the road, with young pole pukatea, and a mass of willow. Aging pedestal purei on 60cm high pedestals testify to the height the water once attained (see Fig 6b), possibly now being compromised by the willows and due to an adjustment of the water table as a result of the recent river erosion (Ken Pratt, retired Caretaker pers. comm 2019). In this stand the vegetation is dense with kiekie vines, supplejack and thickets of young native saplings. Weeds are minimal in these damp areas except for occasional blackberry. Willows and

tradescantia occupy the fringes. The building of

Throughout the floodplain remnant there are several areas of canopy collapse, where light demanding climbers, Muehlenbeckia and supple jack, have taken over, interrupting sequential tier replacement. These vines are also common on the edge where they may help to provide wind protection to the interior. Recent tree falls from high winds are evident. Where once a tree fall would have created opportunities for regeneration and succession, now it provides a space for light demanding climbers and introduced weeds. Tradescantia smothers the forest floor in places.

Being positioned where it is the floodplain forest would have been a dynamic forest undergoing change with flooding events over time. Hence the stand of even aged totara and relatively young swamp maire. Some trees would survive through events to maintain some cover and a seed source.

While this remnant has been compromised by disturbance it remains as an important representative of original floodplain forest and the current species list provides an example of what would have occurred along these rivers (see Appendix 2).

A smaller, younger, remnant of floodplain forest occurs to the north of the oxbow wetland and is dealt with in association with that ecological area.

Terrace Forest

On the upper terrace a small stand of matai/totara and kanuka remains. This stand lies near the terrace edge and covers approximately 2 ha of the terrace. This is a relatively low stature forest (10-15m). Titoki is common in the southern portion with occasional tawa over a small tree and shrub canopy layer of mahoe, Coprosma species, kawakawa, and turepo (see Fig. 7a). Giant maidenhair and Tradescantia form the ground cover with some regeneration of native species. A wall of kawakawa helps protect the bush from wind and disturbance by visitors. Originally it covered approximately 5 ha but has been reduced in size as the amenity services has increased, becoming a popular camping ground. Facilities for managing the Domain has also required space over the years: in the 1980s the council cleared large patches to create open grass areas. What remains today has regenerated from what was left. It is interspersed with a mixture of exotics and introduced native species.

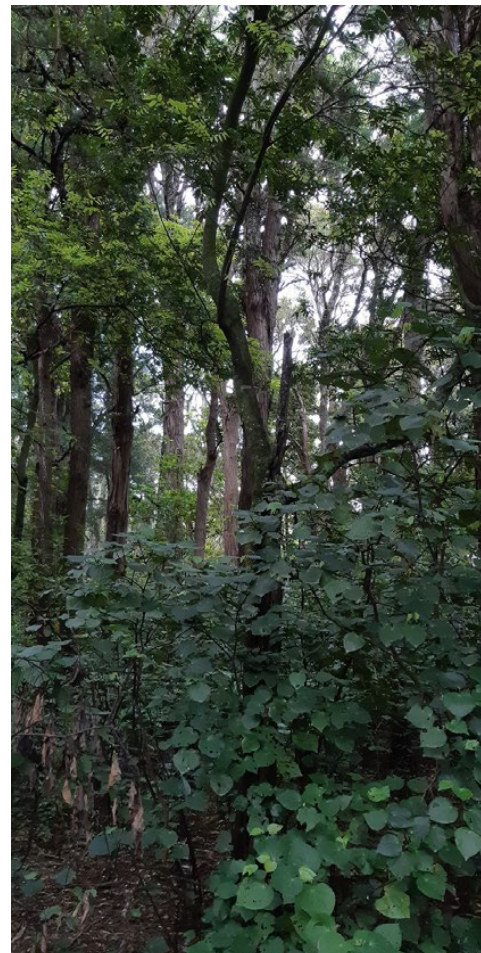


Fig. 7a: Upper Terrace forest dominated by totara and matai with a kawakawa shrub



There are two other similar examples of this forest on terrace gravels: Wedde Wood at Linton and Gate Pa at Ohakea Airforce, Defence Land administrated by Defence Force. These remnants have no reserve classification.

Several plant species are of interest throughout the remnants, notably the giant maidenhair fern, *Adiantum formosum*, which only occurs in a few places in the Manawatū and on the eastern entrance of the Manawatū Gorge. Bamboo rice grass, *Microlaena polynoda* (see Fig. 7b), is also of interest, although not rare. This grows in small swathes on the escarpment path.



Fig. 7b: Bamboo rice grass, *Microlaena polynoda*, is a common ground cover on the dry terrace and escarpment.

Oxbow Wetland and Northern Forest Remnant



Fig. 8: Looking north along escarpment.

Rivers meander across their floodplains leaving oxbows or cut off/abandoned river channels in their wake. Rivers with finer sediments tend to leave oxbows while others leave cut off river channels (Mike Shepherd, Geomorphologist, pers comm 2019). The Pohangina River is considered a 'wandering river' (M. Shepherd pers comm). Technically then this wetland is an abandoned river channel, but for the purposes of this document will be referred to as an oxbow wetland.

Palmerston North once had five natural lagoons (Knight 2014) formed from the Manawatu River, providing food sources for local Maori. Most have since been filled in eg Awapuni Lagoon, or been compromised by housing developments eg Napier Road lagoons. Currently there are four abandoned river channels within the city limits, two private ones on Napier Road and two administered by PNCC: Hokowhitu Lagoon and the Ashhurst Domain wetland. The earliest recorded depiction of the Pohangina River (1879; see Fig. 1) shows the river cutting in just below the cemetery (see Fig. 8), before finally leaving the terrace to a position it

has roughly kept since. The Chairman of the Ashhurst Domain Board noted in his report that there was an 'abundance of wildfowl on the lagoons' in the 1940s so there must have been some open water in existence. Natural springs have helped to keep the area along the base of the escarpment in this northern portion constantly wet (Russell Death, Massey University, pers. comm. 2019).

The vegetation around oxbows would typically have been cabbage tree, toetoe, purei and other sedges; shrubs such as mingimingi, swamp coprosma, tree ferns and narrow leaved houhere. Wetlands would have provided good habitat for still water bird species and a nesting area for birdlife eg bittern, spotless crane.

By 1949/1950 an aerial photo shows a single water channel at the base of the escarpment, possibly maintained as a 'drainage' channel for the adjacent pasture. By the 1960s it had filled in completely with raupo, likely encouraged by pasture runoff. In 1997 Ducks Unlimited instigated a project of wetland restoration, dredging with a long arm digger. Channels, open water, and islands were created. It was completed in 2001 with the building of a viewing platform. Educational facilities, a boardwalk and a hide at the south-eastern end were also planned at the time but did not eventuate.

The Ekatahuna earthquake in February 2014 drained the wetland but it has since refilled with the aid of natural springs.



Fig. 9: View across oxbow wetland completed by Ducks Unlimited in 2000.

Manmade channels of open water are now lined with purei (see Fig. 9). Cabbage trees, the only species planted (K. Pratt pers comm), have since died out. Islands of grass are edged with manuka and kohuhu. A large area of purei sedgeland dominated by raupo occurs at the southern end. Amongst this, seedlings of pukatea are showing through with tree ferns, karamu, kiokio, occasional harakeke and some pampas and black wattle. This suggests the area is drying out and would succeed to swamp forest over time. Raupo and purei line the base of the cliff.

There is a variety of habitat provided for wildlife, from open water, open grassed areas and cover amongst native plants. Potentially more open water could be created in the northern end. The southern patch of raupo/ sedgeland would however be destroyed with dredging. The wetland outlet runs south and east over the terrace and out to the river approx. 100m below the wetland.



Northern Remnant

The smaller forest remnant on the northern edge of the oxbow wetland has only recently regenerated under persistent totara and kanuka and a limited variety of broadleaf species such as ribbonwood, kaikomako and mahoe (see Fig. 10). It lies on a raised triangular 'island' with standing water and sedges on the western edge against the base of the cliff. It has suffered being isolated from the main block, and adjacent to a leased grazing area, with frequent invasion by stock. In early aerial photographs, eg 1942, it shows as a sparse tree land of totara. In later photographs, eg 1985, it has since regenerated with an increase in the subcanopy of smaller shrubs and trees. The canopy is now predominantly mahoe and pate, with a mix of kowhai, kanuka, houhere, kaikomako and mamaku with emergent totara. Scattered aged specimens occur outside in the

grazed area: totara, ngaio, kaikomako, rohututu, kowhai, turepo, ribbonwood.

Fig.10: Overview of the northern remnant canopy showing bands of kanuka and totara. Kowhai and mahoe can be seen in middle and front of photo. Railway bridge lies at back of the picture.

Escarpment

The escarpment is made up of river gravels laid down during the last glacial period (Heerdegen and Shepherd, 1992) providing a dry environment for vegetation. In the southern end above the forest, a scattered selection of shrubs including kawakawa, hangehange, rangiora, some turepo, and shining spleenwort occur over a carpet of Tradescantia underneath overhanging pine, tawa, and titoki (see Fig. 11).



Fig. 11. The track to the bottom terrace showing a mix of kawakawa and Tradescantia ground cover.

Moving north along the escarpment this merges into a mosaic of ngaio, tree lucerne, mahoe, large leaved muehlenbeckia, wattle and occasional poplar. Weeds dominate the vegetation in this area. Inkweed, periwinkle, potato vine and nasturtium occur in patches. (The ngaio in this area was planted from the same source as those planted on the entrance to the Manawatū Gorge by HRC (Todd Polenski Weed Contractor pers. Comm.) ie unknown provenance.)

Shelter belts

The Ashhurst Domain Board had been very active since its inception in 1901. By 1909 considerable planting had been done in the Domain (Ashhurst Domain Board Minute Books). Willows were the main species and these mainly for river protection (recognised even then as being essential) but also lupins (again for river protection), cabbage trees and '100 flowering wattles'. Nikau and ponga were also proposed for planting. Pines and eucalyptus soon followed. In 1988 shelter belts of Eucalyptus were planted throughout the recreation area by the then caretaker, Ken Pratt. Perimeter shelter followed, consisting of ngaio, Tasmanian ngaio, kanuka, Tasmanian blackwood and other species.

There are occasional deaths of relatively young Eucalyptus in the shelter belts (see Fig. 12). This could be due to any number of diseases Eucalyptus are prone to. The trees may need attention before they become a safety risk to players. The mixed species shelter belts appear to be of good health. It would be wise when replacing shelter to consider planting with a mixed species of Eucalyptus to reduce likelihood of spread of specific diseases.



The trees bordering the terrace edge are the oldest plantings and have provided shelter over the years from the south-easterly winds. These are mostly pine, Eucalyptus and Tasmanian blackwood. They will be providing good invertebrate habitat and roosting



Fig. 12: Occasional deaths of Eucalyptus appearing in shelter belts.

sites for birds. Some of the Tasmanian blackwood near the terrace forest are now senescing and will need attention before they become a safety hazard, particularly in high winds. The large pine trees and Eucalyptus would have been amongst the first of the trees to be planted and may need replacing over time as they too become hazardous. A mixed shelter belt of native species could be planted as replacements. These should be sourced from the reserve (of known provenance).

Amenity Planting

Throughout the Domain there has been frequent planting over the years providing beautification, shade and food for birds. They are maintained well, occasionally requiring some care eg weeding and pruning.

A group of eight redwoods were planted about 30 years ago at the northern end of the forest bordering the grazed area (see Fig. 13).



Fig. 13: Looking towards Manawatū Gorge from the viewpoint on top terrace; redwoods to left of photo, totara/matai stand on the right.

Exotics and native species have also been planted throughout the campsite area providing shelter for campers and habitat and food sources for wildlife. It is however the stands of native forest and the wetland that provide the best habitat for native flora and fauna.

4 Indigenous Fauna

While the Ashhurst Domain Board was mainly involved in river protection works (willow management), Domain usage and administration, interest was shown in the natural values of their reserve. An offer from the Under Secretary of Lands in 13/5/1930 of free notices re protection of native birds was discussed (if not taken up) (Ashhurst Domain Board Archives).

See Appendix 3 for a previous list of fauna species provided to Kirsty Andrews by Ken Pratt and included in the 1997 Management Plan.

Birds

Historically birds were not very prominent in the bush. The Chairman of the Board noted in several annual reports in the 1940s, a virtual lack of birds in the forest: 'there is an abundance of waterfowl on lagoons but birds in the bush do not seem to be increasing'; 'no native bird life – lagoon more plentiful'; 'some quail and a sparrowhawk'. However, pest control by recently retired caretaker Ken Pratt (from 1988 2018) including magpies, ferrets, stoats, rabbits and cats (K.Pratt, 2008) resulted in a noticeable increase in birds, including kereru, tui, bellbirds, ruru, shining cuckoo, falcon and bellbirds. Bittern have also been heard in the wetland as well as spotted crake (K. Pratt, 2019; Ken Cook, Ducks Unlimited, pers. comm. 2019).

Fish

Mudfish, Endangered on IUCN Red list of Threatened Species (IUCN 2019), have often been recorded in the swamp forest area, most recently in 2016 (NZ Fresh Water Fish Data Base). They are one of only a few populations in the Manawatū and are threatened by land conversion into pasture, altered drainage and predators (stoats and eels.)

A fish survey would be recommended for the oxbow wetland especially to determine if the widespread pest fish *Gambusia* (mosquito fish) is present. This species is classed as an Unwanted Organism by MPI. If this species is not present it would increase the value of this oxbow as wetland habitat.

Invertebrates

Few records have been found detailing the invertebrate species present. While the current species list records several common species the unusual velvet worm, ngaokeoke, or peripitus (A.Robertson, Massey University, pers comm 2019) can also be found here. A master's thesis used Ashhurst Domain to research detritivores (millipedes, woodlice and landhoppers) (Parker, 2013). There is opportunity for more research into the Domain's invertebrate communities.

Reptiles

The common gecko, forest gecko, common skink and copper sink were listed in the previous Management Plan. Surveys could be undertaken to determine if they still occur. The current pest programme will ideally be contributing to their survival.

Long Tailed Bats

Long tailed bats are the most likely species to occur, feeding on invertebrates around water bodies. While there has been little reported sightings in the past, a recent observation has been made in Ashhurst (L.Fitness, pers. comm. 2019). Although the Manawatū Gorge has been surveyed for bats but with no confirmed records (S.Moore, DOC, pers comm 2019) it would be



worth maintaining a survey interest in the area. Again, predator control would assist the survival of this species.

5 Threats

This remnant is relatively small and linear, with several smaller components (totara/matai forest, swamp forest, terrace forest and oxbow wetland). The high edge to area ratio (high edge effect) gives it less resilience than larger bush remnants. Invasion by animal and weed pests from the edge is higher than in a larger or even more compact area. Not only is ongoing physical management such as pest animal and plant control necessary to maintain and enhance natural values but a stronger level of formal protection is required.

Legal Status

While the Domain is legally protected under the Reserves Act 1977, its primary purpose is as a Recreation Reserve, which only allows for protection and preservation of natural values - Sn 17 2(b):

"where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve "

ie recreation.

While any activities that would contravene the requirements of the Wildlife Act 1953 are prohibited there is no Act protecting flora or habitats within the reserve. Legal protection and advocacy then fall under the policies and plans of PNCC and HRC eg the PNCC District Plan 15.5 Conservation and Amenity Zone protects those areas 'having intrinsic natural, scientific or conservation values which are in public and private ownership.' Local plans and policies are however not as strong as Government Acts and are always undergoing review.

Whereas under Sn 19(1) (a) allows:

"for the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment, and use of the public, suitable areas possessing such qualities of scenic interest, beauty, or natural features or landscape that their protection and preservation are desirable in the public interest."

and Sn 19(2)(c):

"to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purposes of the retention and preservation of the natural or scenic values, open portions of the reserve may be developed for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve"

The 'intrinsic worth' of the reserve comes before the interest of public use and any development can occur only where it is compatible with the primary purpose.

With the current status being Recreation, detrimental development of the natural areas for the furthering of recreation has potential to be considered. For instance, extra walking and bike tracks through the sensitive areas.

Reserve reclassification can occur when uses change and are not compatible with the Primary Purpose.

Why change classification?

- Currently development can degrade natural values for the purposes of recreation.
- It would recognise significance of vegetation types and ecological units uncommon in the region.
- It raises the status for management purposes and direction of funds eg for quick response for river protection work, more funding for pest control (when available).

Why not change classification?

- Size needs to be big enough to protect the integrity of its values otherwise management becomes difficult.
- The cost involved may be high (DOC recovers costs).

Protection of the wetlands and their natural character are recognised as matters of national importance under Sections 6(a) and 6(d) of the Resource Management Act 1991. Under a Wetland Inventory and Prioritisation by HRC (Lambie 2008) the Ashhurst Domain ranked in the highest category (A). Current rankings place the Domain at Level 2 out of 6 (with 6 being intensive management) recognising it as being a wetland of significance and has had management 'at one stage' (Erin Bocker, HRC, pers. comm. 2019). Notwithstanding the lack of current management, it is still considered an important ecological area. Based on the current prioritisation model it is considered to be within the top 10% of remaining indigenous biodiversity in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region (Erin Bocker, HRC, pers. comm. 2019). The One Plan aims to protect such habitats through rules which regulate activities likely to cause loss or modification. Again, these local plans can be challenged and changed as local council politics change.

While the Domain natural area is in no way pristine, it has several regionally rare forest types, a nationally threatened fish species and a wetland of some significance and would therefore be worthy of consideration for raising its protection to Scenic Reserve status.



Pests

Pest control is necessary to maintain and improve forest health. Vegetation is browsed by herbivores and suffocated by weeds, and native fauna and wildfowl are preyed on by introduced mammals. Pest management began in the early 1900s by the Ashhurst Domain Board and continues today with PNCC and HRC.

Animal pests

Possums have been recorded as a problem from at least as early as the 1940s (Ashhurst Domain Chairman report 1945).

Established in June 2014, one line of 16 possum bait stations (Talon, Broadifocum) less than 100m apart extends along the foot of the escarpment at the southern end and continues through the oxbow wetland and the northern forest remnant. A line of trapping with 19 DOC 200s, approx. 50m apart for mustelids follows the same line (B. Way, PNCC, pers. comm. 2019). These traps also have a bykill of rats, hedgehogs, mice and cats). These are checked fortnightly to monthly.

Possums

Possums are a main browser of vegetation but are also known to prey on nestlings. Without result and outcome monitoring there is no way of knowing possum density or even if control is having any effect on forest health. Similar protocols as those undertaken in the Turitea Reserve could be applied. These may include residual trap catch (RTC) index, wax tags and foliar browse index depending on appropriateness of technique for size of remnant. As management has been undertaken prior to monitoring, results may need to be compared with other programmes to see if result monitoring is within an acceptable range for outcome results (eg an RTC of <5% is the general target). Monitoring is also recommended before any change in management. As invasion will be ongoing due to the long narrow shape of the remnant, another line of possum stations parallel to the existing line and on the Railway Embankment north of the northern forest remnant is recommended to act as buffers

Rats

Rats are likely to be the main predators of birds and to be effective rat control needs to be intensive, trapping on a grid every 50m. However, the current possum control regime using baited traps will also be having an impact on rats as they are attracted to and killed by Broadifocum.

Result and Outcome monitoring could also be applied using tracking tunnels and 5-minute bird counts. A <10% index for tracking tunnels is an acceptable target for recruitment for native birds (Brown *et al* 2015).

Mustelids

Pest animals that have been recorded in the Doc200s include, in order of frequency, rats, hedgehogs, mustelids, mice, rabbits and a cat (see Table 1) (Daniel Ritchie, pers. comm. 2019).

The frequency of hedgehogs is considerably higher than the Gorge trap catch (375 over 10 years for 110 traps – Mike Shepherd, pers.comm, 2019) and might be explained by the Domain's proximity to an urban environment. They are predators of the forest floor and are worth controlling. Compared with the Manawatu Gorge Trap Catch - 68 stoats and weasels over 110 traps for same period (M.Shepherd, pers.comm, 2019) the Domain appears to have a high population of mustelids. This may be because of the higher edge effect ie invasion from the 'long

edge'. However, while mustelids can have a wide diet including eggs, birds and invertebrates the primary diet of stoats and weasels is rodents (King *et al* 2001). They should in turn be keeping the rats and mice population in check. As rodents are major predators of forest birds this will be of some benefit.

Mustelids can also be affected by secondary poisoning from the Broadifacoum (Alterio, 2009). Research however shows that this secondary poisoning from Broadifacoum can be detrimental to non-target species and suggests the use of Diphacinone instead for rodent control (Fisher, 2009). A cautionary approach to toxins is therefore recommended.

Table 1: Trap catch 2014- 2019.

Weasel	Stoat	Ferret	Rat	Hedgehog	Rabbit	Cat	Mouse
18	5	1	166	147	5	1	17

Rabbits, hares and magpies have also been controlled by shooting.

In summary, the stoat boxes will be having a beneficial impact on forest floor invertebrates and lizards (from hedgehog control), and waterfowl in the wetland (from mustelid control). The bait stations will be having a beneficial impact on vegetation (from possum control) and birds (from possum and rat control).

Plant pests

The main weeds under management are old man's beard and Tradescantia (T. Polenski, pers. comm. 2019) in the forest areas, both in upper and lower terraces. Other controlled weeds include wattle and blackberry on the escarpment above the wetland. Japanese honeysuckle, a common weed in such areas, is not reported to be a problem. Tradescantia is by far the most pervasive weed in the forest and the one on which most time and money is spent.

This programme appears to be less prescribed than the animal control. A management /operation plan is recommended to direct work, concentrating on specific areas and specific weeds. An initial weed survey is advisable, mapping the extent of each weed. The reserve could then be divided up into management zones.

Volunteer days are run in the forest. This may be more effective for the more sensitive areas ie those places with more seedling growth and native groundcover eg on the top terrace.

As with animal control, result and outcome monitoring could be undertaken to determine if weed control is effective. Currently, extent of control is gauged by quantity of litres of spray used. A better example of result monitoring might include measuring the percentage of the target weed killed in a designated area. Outcome monitoring is more time consuming but may include recording the number of native seedlings germinating in a plot over time.

Fungal biocontrol of Tradescantia has been released in the Domain earlier this year (N. Gallagher, HRC pers. comm. 2019). While some browning off effect has been noticed it is too early to determine its efficacy. Insect biocontrol is also in the district and may be introduced here. There is a concern however that its effectiveness is compromised by German wasps over the summer (T. Polenski, pers. comm. 2019). Wasp control then may need to be investigated.



River

The Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers have had frequent flood events over the years. The earliest and largest 'discrete observation' (ie not an official record) for the Manawatū is May 2nd 1880 (S. Carswell, HRC, pers. comm. 2019). An early photo records the destruction by the 1895 flood of the first Ashhurst road bridge built in 1890 (see Fig. 14).



Fig. 14: The Easter 1895 flood destroyed the first Ashhurst Bridge; a punt on a wire can be seen as alternative means of crossing the river (Palmerston North City Library).

Significant floods have been recorded for the Manawatū River in 1902, 1941, 1953, 1992 and 2004 (see Appendix 4).

The river began to cut into the bank significantly in 2015 resulting in the removal of approximately 50m (approximately 1.5ha) of riverbank (see Fig. 16). This exposes the remnant to future attrition from continued flooding and exposure to wind. Remedial works began in 2017 and were completed in 2019. To protect this forest remedial work needs to be put in place as soon as possible.



Fig. 16: Approximately 1.5ha of the remnant has been continuously eroded since 2015. Remedial river works were completed in 2019.

Wind

Strong southerlies and easterlies have caused, and continue to cause, damage to the remnant, exacerbated by the long, exposed edge. This reduces integrity and resilience of the forest. Storm events have caused damage to isolated individuals, breaking branches, and toppling trees. This creates canopy gaps and enables invasion of weeds or excessive *Muehlenbeckia* growth (see Fig. 17).



Fig. 17: Canopy gaps are quite common in the remnant but can also offer potential for restoration.

Rubbish

Rubbish is frequently tipped over the escarpment and off the main road into the forest near the bridge. There is management in place for dealing with reported occurrences, but prevention is difficult.



6 Future Development

Opportunities for biking and footpaths are provided for in the Manawatū River Framework – Pt 2, Framework, with development at the Ashhurst Bridge, and the Manawatū River Plan 2018: "Te Apiti is the gateway to Manawatū River Park". As Ashhurst Domain, is part of this linkage there is likelihood for future recreational development. This needs to be with consideration for, and not impacting on, the integrity of the natural areas. For instance, any new development eg biking and walking tracks, needs to be kept outside of the forest, following the river edge of bush, and potentially along the current grazed area of the floodplain, linking up with other tracks in the northern part of the Domain.

Other venture proposals also need to carefully consider impacts on the natural values of the reserve.

There is potential for revegetation work on the grazed floodplain depending on future flooding levels. This would be incorporated into a track network.

While a boardwalk and hide were originally part of the wetland development, they have the potential to be detrimental to wildlife, bringing people into an area not currently visited.

Interpretation/Educational Opportunities

There is potential for building on and improving the interpretation that currently exists (information panels (see Fig. 18), and a tree quiz walk). They have fulfilled a need at the time but require reviewing due to tree deaths and presentation style. Cohesive signage helps link to the identity of the Domain. Investigation could also be undertaken to determine what interpretation works best in similar sites around New Zealand. This may include interactive, passive, detailed, or conceptual interpretation.



Fig.18: Existing signs in varying designs, with an introduction to the Domain and information on its natural features.

The existing Interpretive Tree Trail quiz is a pamphlet with associated numbered trees to look for and identify. Some of these trees no longer exist. The need for this type of interpretation needs to be re-evaluated and either updated or removed completely.

7 Objectives and Policies

1 Objective: The significance and ultimately classification of the forest and wetland be raised from Recreation Reserve to Scenic Reserve.

Explanation: This remnant contains rare ecosystem types not commonly found within PNCC jurisdiction and the region. The Nationally Threatened mudfish and Nationally Critical swamp maire also occurs here.

Policy:

1. Investigate raising the classification to Scenic Reserve Status.

2 Objective: Forest health is protected and restored. This will include weed control and where necessary, additional planting.

Policies:

1. Identify canopy gaps; instigate a programme for reinstating canopy by controlling Muehlenbeckia and weeds in these localised areas, and planting.
2. Any plants introduced to the forest areas are to be ecosourced ie collected from naturally occurring plants in the reserve or as close to the reserve as possible.
3. Undertake a weed survey, mapping weeds, and dividing reserve up into management zones.
4. Investigate further options of Tradescantia biocontrol.
5. Establish an extra possum line on the river side of the main forest remnant, thus having two parallel lines bordering the lower terrace forest.
6. Establish another possum line on the Railway embankment to the north of the northern remnant to act as a buffer.
7. Establish result and outcome monitoring of possum control using wax tags and foliar browse index.

3 Objective: The full extent of swamp forest is restored to protect a rare forest type and maintain habitat for rare mudfish.

Policy

1. Eradicate the willow and control blackberry.
2. Fence the roadside of reserve to prevent flytipping off road.
3. Monitor water levels over winter using plastic piezometer tubes.
4. Restore ponding area at base of terrace track.

4 Objective: Native fauna are protected and increasing in the forest remnants as predators are controlled.

Policies:

1. Surveys of native fauna are undertaken prior to any increase in pest control potentially utilising opportunities for student research.
2. Rat control is continued incidentally with possum bait stations.
3. Monitor rat control using tracking tunnels prior to any change in management.
4. Monitor conservation outcomes using 5-minute bird counts before change in management.
5. Cat control is carried out intermittently depending on observational records, using live traps.



- 5 **Objective:** The wetland provides ideal habitat for native as well as exotic birds.
Policies:
1. Develop an operational plan for the wetland.
 2. Survey for native fish and pest fish (eg Gambusia).
- 6 **Objective:** Exotic plantations are managed for tree health and for the safety of domain users.
Policies:
1. Shelter belts and old plantations have a maintenance programme and inspected regularly; any sign of ill health, dying limbs, etc is dealt with.
- 7 **Objective:** Ashhurst Domain offers a quality experience of the natural environment to the visitor through targeted interpretation and opportunities.
Policies:
1. Repeat a Public User Survey.
 2. Research effective interpretation for similar places around the country.
 3. Reassess current interpretation.
 4. Investigate development of track through current grazed portion of floodplain in combination with restorative planting.
 5. Tradescantia removal programme instigated for campers who wish to 'give something back' to this environment.
 6. Investigate a Friends of Ashhurst Domain group to assist in achievable outcomes such as achievable areas of weed control, planting, fauna monitoring, host 'open days'.
- 8 **Objective:** The area of native forest is expanded through a planting programme to improve the integrity of the existing natural areas.
Policies:
1. Investigate an area of floodplain to be planted and integrated with track development.
 2. Replant grass areas within the terrace forest where appropriate to restore areas removed during the 1980s.
 3. All plants for revegetation be eco-sourced (collected from, or as close to, the Domain as possible).

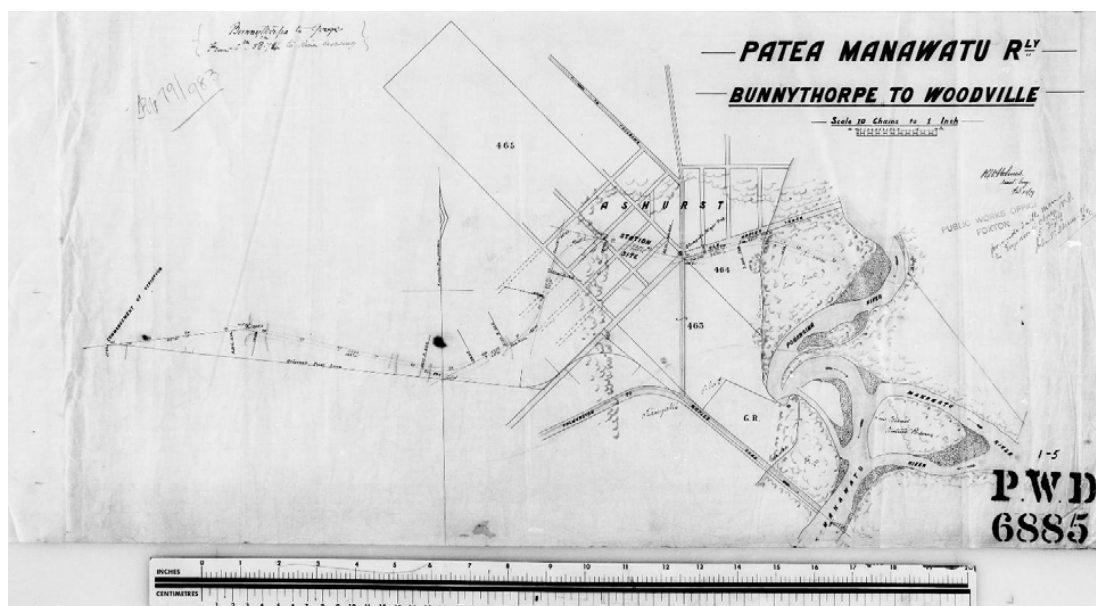
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- Manawatū River Plan [https://www.pncc.govt.nz/media/3130986/Manawatū -river-plan-2018.pdf](https://www.pncc.govt.nz/media/3130986/Manawat%C5%AB-river-plan-2018.pdf)



Appendix 1

Early Photos and sketches (in chronological order).



1879 survey plan of Patea Manawatu Railway showing an early position of Pohangina River and sketch of vegetation coverage.



Ashhurst Bridge after Easter 1895 flood looking downstream. Note how even by this time little native vegetation exists on the opposite riverbank (Palmerston North City Library).

25 Palmerston North City Council

Ashhurst Domain

Ecological Assessment



The building of the second Ashhurst Bridge c. 1909 showing tall forest on the existing Domain site (Palmerston North City Library)



View across river to Ashhurst Domain bush from Aokautere side c 1909. (Palmerston North City Library)

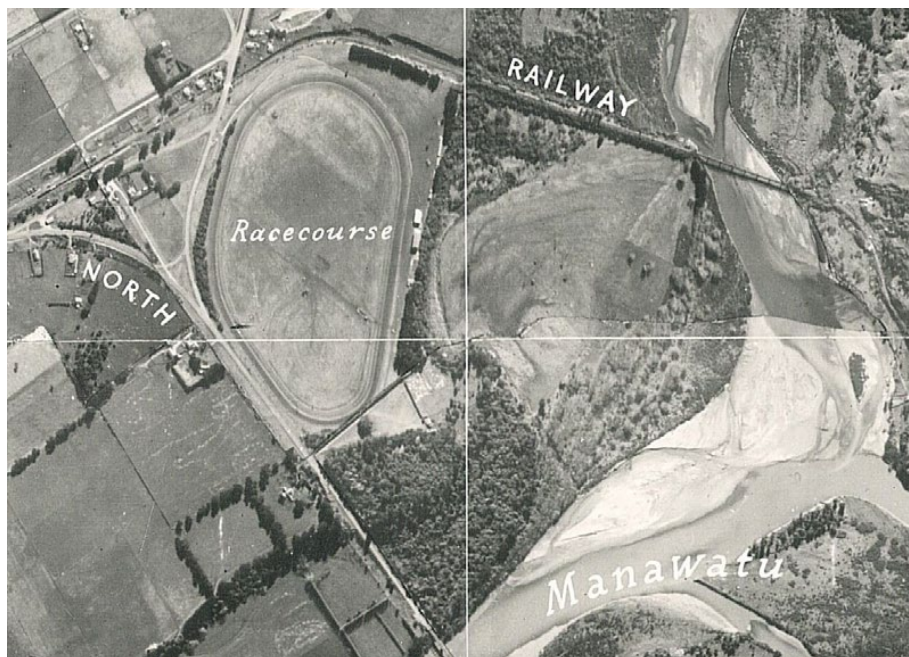


Looking across the river to Tararua Range, showing some tall specimens in existing Domain site. Note the ponding in similar position to swamp maire forest in Domain on the opposite side of the road (George W. Anderson? (sic) PNCC Library).

Aerial photos courtesy of PNCC



May 1942



May 1949 + August 1950 (Compiled photograph)



May 1979



August 1985



30 September 1992 showing inundation of flood plain, but the forest left intact.



March 2000 showing created oxbow wetlands.

Appendix 2 Plant Species List

Whanganui Plant List 227

Vascular plants for Ashhurst Domain

C C Ogle, L Perrie & V McGlynn
30 May 2010 (with additions by CCO & VM, 17Nov2019)

The Ashhurst Domain is 54.6 ha. About 12 ha is in forest and 2.5 ha in oxbow wetland. Amenity planting consisting of both exotic and native species (not local) occurs throughout the recreational areas (camping ground, play ground etc).

The native forest remnant has several regionally rare types and contains many species which are uncommon in the Manawatū today. The forest types range from extremely wet swamp forest to very dry forest on river gravels. Most such forests have been cleared in this district.

Typical indicator plants of such sites are matai, titoki, rohutu, *Melicope simplex*, black maire, kaikomako, lemonwood, ribbonwood, swamp maire, *Metrosideros colensoi*, NZ passionflower (kohia), *Adiantum formosum*, *Microlaena polynoda*.

List compiled by the authors and members of the Wanganui Museum Botanical Group on 30 May 2010. NB: adventive plants were listed where they occurred in native forest or right on the forest edge; species of perimeter tracks, lawns and gardens were not recorded.

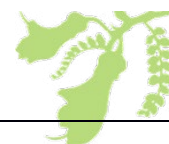
* denotes adventive species, including indigenous NZ species not occurring naturally in the Manawatū District (e.g. pohutukawa, karaka).

! denotes species listed in the 'Ashhurst Domain Interpretive Trail' sheet (Palmerston North City Council) but not seen by us; we list them without a location and in some cases these records may be based on planted specimens or mistaken identifications.

Abundance Ratings

- a = abundant
- c = common
- o = occasional
- u = uncommon (or actual no. of specimens stated)
- l = local (species in small area, but can be common or abundant there, hence →la)
- j = juvenile plants
- p = planted specimens (+p indicates both natural and planted specimens present)

Latin name	Common name	Abundance	
		upper terrace	lower terrace
Gymnosperm Trees			
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides	kahikatea		u
Podocarpus totara	totara	c (→la) (+p?)	c →la
Prumnopitys taxifolia	matai	c	c →la
*Sequoia sempervirens	redwood		l (p)



Latin name	Common name	Abundance	
		upper terrace	lower terrace
Monocot Trees			
Cordyline australis	cabbage tree	u	o
*Phoenix canariensis	phoenix palm		u ¹ (1 seen)
Rhopalostylis sapida	nikau		u (j only)
Dicot Trees and Shrubs			
Alectryon excelsus	titoki	c	c
Beilschmiedia tawa	tawa		o
Aristotelia serrata ²	wineberry, makomako		
Brachyglottis repanda	rangiora	terrace scarp, l	
*Buddleja davidii	purple buddleia		U (1 seen, on lower edge)
*Chamaecytisus palmensis	tree lucerne, tagasaste	l (p + j,o)	
Coprosma areolata		o	c
Coprosma grandifolia	kanono		o
Coprosma rhamnoides			u
Coprosma robusta	karamu		o
Coprosma rhamnoides			u
*Corokia buddleioides X C.cotoneaster	korokio hybrids	o (all p)	
*Corynocarpus laevigatus	karaka	o	o
*Crataegus monogyna	hawthorn		u
!Dodonaea viscosa	akeake		
Elaeocarpus dentatus	hinau		U (2 seen, 17.11.19, one flowering)
Fuchsia excorticata	tree fuchsia, kotukutuku		u
Geniostoma ligustrifolium	hangehange	o	o
Griselinea lucida	broadleaf		u (2 seen)
*Hebe sp. (H. ligustrifolia?)	koromiko	u (1 seen, p)	
Hedycarya arborea	pigeonwood		o
*Hoheria populnea var. populnea ³	lacebark, houhere	o	o
Hoheria sexstylosa	lacebark, houhere		u (1 seen)
Knightia excelsa	rewarewa		u (few seen)
Kunzea robusta	kanuka	a	c → la
Laurelia novae-zelandiae	pukatea		c → la
Lophomyrtus obcordata	rohutu	o	o
Melicope simplex	poataniwha	o	o
Melicytus ramiflorus	mahoe	o	o

¹ Lacking a trunk; in fence-line between forest and river

² One dead tree in middle of the forest bears an old label for this species (17.11.19)

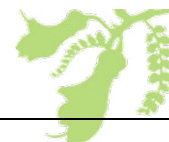
³ This species has broader leaves than the following, and is a garden escape or from past plantings; only *H. sexstylosa* is indigenous to Manawatu; the 2 may be hybridising at Ashhurst Domain. No 'pure' *H. sexstylosa* were seen on 17.11.19

Latin name	Common name	Abundance	
		upper terrace	lower terrace
* <i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	pohutukawa	p	
* <i>Metrosideros excelsa</i> X <i>M. robusta</i>		p (1 seen)	
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	ngaio	o	o
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	mapou	o	u
<i>Nestegis cunninghamii</i>	black maire		u (1 seen, p?)
<i>Nestegis lanceolata</i>	white maire		u (1 tree, 17.11.19)
<i>Pennantia corymbosa</i>	kaikomako	u	o
<i>Piper excelsum</i>	kawakawa	o	o
<i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>	lemonwood, tarata	o (+p?)	o
<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	kohuhu	o	o
<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	ribbonwood, manatu		o
* <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> ?	cherry plum?	u(1 large tree + sdlgs, 17.11.19)	
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	five-finger, whauwhaupaku		u (1 seen)
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	lancewood, horoea	o	u
* <i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i> X <i>P. lessonii</i>	garden-sourced hybrid lancewood		u
<i>Rhabdothamnus solandri</i>	taurepo	u, 4-6 seen on scarp	
* <i>Salix fragilis</i>	crack willow		c ⁴
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	pate		u
* <i>Solanum betaceum</i>	tamarillo		u (3 j seen)
* <i>Solanum pseudocapsicum</i>	Jerusalem cherry	u (1 seen & removed)	
<i>Sophora</i> sp. (<i>S. godleyi</i> ?)	kowhai		u (2 adults seen)
<i>Sophora tetraptera</i>	large-leaved kowhai	u (2 seen) p	
<i>Streblus heterophyllus</i>	small-leaved milktree, turepo	o	o
<i>Streblus banksii</i>	large-leaved milktree, towai		u ⁵
<i>Syzygium maire</i>	swamp maire, maire tawake		c → la
Dicot Lianes			
* <i>Calystegia sepium</i> agg.	convolvulus, bindweed		o
<i>Calystegia tuguriorum</i>			u
* <i>Clematis vitalba</i>	old man's beard		u ⁶
<i>Metrosideros colensoi</i>	climbing rata		o
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	climbing rata		o
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>	pohuehue		u
<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>	NZ jasmine		o
<i>Passiflora tetrandra</i>	NZ passionflower, kohia		u
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	blackberry	o	o

⁴ Mostly on lower edges; being drilled and poisoned by Horizons Reg. Council.

⁵ One large tree with a formal label in middle of the lower terrace forest. Appears to be natural but species not known anywhere else in the Manawatū.

⁶ c.4 seedlings removed; two fruiting vines on forest margins



Latin name	Common name	Abundance	
		upper terrace	lower terrace
* <i>Delairea odorata</i> (Senecio mikanioides)	German ivy		u ⁷
Monocot Lianes			
<i>Freycinetia banksii</i>	kiekie		la
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	supplejack		c
Dicot Herbs			
<i>Cardamine forsteri</i> (17.11.19)	bittercress		u
* <i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers	o	u
<i>Hydrocotyle elongata</i>		u (1 patch seen)	
<i>Hydrocotyle heteromeria</i>	waxweed	c	o
* <i>Physalis peruviana</i>	cape gooseberry		u (1 seen)
<i>Persicaria decipiens</i> (<i>Polygonum salicifolium</i>)	native willow-weed		la
* <i>Solanum nigrum</i>	black nightshade	o	o
* <i>Vinca major</i>	periwinkle		la
Grasses			
* <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cocksfoot	lc	lc
* <i>Ehrharta erecta</i>	veld grass	a	o
* <i>Lolium</i> (<i>Festuca</i>) <i>arundinacea</i>	tall fescue	u	o
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> subsp. <i>imbecillis</i>	basket grass		u
<i>Microlaena polynoda</i>	bamboo rice grass	Locally common, mostly on the scarp between the upper & lower terraces	
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	meadow rice grass	Occasional, mostly on edge of the terrace scarp	
Sedges			
<i>Carex dissita</i> (added 17.11.19)			u
* <i>Carex divulsa</i>		o	
<i>Carex secta</i> s.s.	<i>purei</i>		l
<i>Carex spinirostris</i> (added 17.11.19)		Occasional, on the scarp between the upper & lower terraces	
<i>Carex</i> (<i>Uncinia</i>) <i>uncinata</i>	hookgrass		u
Other Monocot Herbs			
<i>Astelia fragrans</i>		u	u
<i>Astelia hastata</i>	perching lily		c
<i>Lemna disperma</i>	duckweed		la
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	harakeke	p	u
* <i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	wandering Jew	la	la
<i>Typha orientalis</i>	raupo		la

⁷ 1 in flower at track entrance by picnic area below highway bridge

Latin name	Common name	Abundance	
		upper terrace	lower terrace
Ferns			
<i>Adiantum formosum</i>	giant maidenhair fern	la	c
<i>Arthropteris tenella</i>		c	o
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>	hen and chicken fern		o
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i> s.s.	hanging spleenwort	o	o
<i>Asplenium hookerianum</i>		On scarp between the 2 terraces; u	
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>	shining spleenwort	o	o
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>	sickle spleenwort	u	u
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i> ssp. <i>rubra</i>	floating water fern		la
<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>	climbing blechnum		u
<i>Blechnum minus</i>	swamp kiokio		u
<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>	kiokio		u
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	ponga, silver fern		u
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	mamaku		u
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	wheki		u
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>			u
<i>Hypolepis ambigua</i>			u
<i>Lastreopsis glabella</i>			o
<i>Lastreopsis velutina</i>		over edge of scarp from top terraces; u (1 seen)	
<i>Loxogramme dictyopteris</i> (<i>Anarthropteris lanceolata</i>)			u (1 patch seen)
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i>	hounds tongue fern	o	o
<i>Microsorium scandens</i>			o
<i>Pellaea rotundifolia</i>	button fern		u
<i>Polystichum neozelandicum</i> ssp. <i>zerophyllum</i>	hard shield fern	u; On scarp between the 2 terraces	
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>			u
<i>Pteris "macilenta"</i> (<i>P. pendula</i>)			o
<i>Pteris tremula</i>	shaking brake	o	o
<i>Pyrrosia eleagnifolia</i>	leatherleaf fern	c	o



Appendix 3

Fauna Species List

Note: Taken from Appendix 1 (List of Fauna of Ashhurst Domain), Ashhurst Domain Management Plan 1997. No fauna surveys were undertaken during this assessment. No additions or corrections have been made except for inclusion of Maori names and where stated.

Latin Name	Common Name	Status
Mammals		
<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Brush-tailed possum	Introduced
<i>Felis catus</i>	Cat (feral)	Introduced
<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>	Ferret	Introduced
<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	Hedgehog	Introduced
<i>Mus musculus</i>	Mouse	Introduced
<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Rabbit	Introduced
<i>Rattus rattus</i>	Ship rat	Introduced
<i>Mustela erminea</i>	Stoat	Introduced
Birds		
<i>Anthornis melanura</i>	Bellbird, Korimako	Native
<i>Turdus merula merula</i>	Blackbird	Introduced
<i>Frangilla coelebs gengleri</i>	Chaffinch	Introduced
<i>Porzana tabuensis plumbea</i>	Crake, Spotless	Native
<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus lucidus</i>	Cuckoo, Shining	Native
<i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i>	Dotterel, Banded	Native
<i>Charadrius melanops</i>	Dotterel, Black fronted	Native
<i>Anas superciliosa superciliosa</i>	Duck, Grey	Introduced
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Duck, Mallard	Introduced
<i>Falco novaseelandiae</i>	Falcon, NZ, Karearea	Native
<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa placabilis</i>	Fantail, Piwakawaka	Native
<i>Carduelis chloris chloris</i>	Goldfinch	Introduced
<i>Circus approximans gouldi</i>	Harrier Australasian	Native
<i>Egretta alba modesta</i>	White faced Heron, Kotukutuku	Native
<i>Halcyon sancta vagans</i>	NZ Kingfisher, Kotare	Native
<i>Gymnorhina tibicen hypoleuca</i>	Magpie, white backed	Introduced
<i>Ninox novaseelandiae</i>	Morepork, Ruru	Native
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Pheasant, Ring necked	Introduced
<i>Anthus novaseelandiae</i>	Pipit, NZ	Native
<i>Columba livia</i>	Rock Pigeon	Introduced
<i>Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus</i>	Pukeko	Native
<i>Vanellus miles novahollandiae</i>	Spurwinged Plover	Self-introduced
<i>Hemiphaea novaseelandiae</i>	Wood pigeon, NZ, Kereru	Native

Lizards	Scientific Name	Status
Cyclodina aenea	Copper skink	Native
Leiopisma nigriplantre polychroma	Common skink	Native
Hoplodactylus maculatus	Common gecko	Native
Hoplodactylus granulatus	Forest gecko	Native
Amphibians		
Litoria ewingii	Whistling tree frog	Introduced
Fish		
Neochana apoda	Brown mudfish	Native
Salmo trutta	Brown trout	Introduced
Gobiomorphus cotidianus	Common bully	Native
Retropinna retropinna	Common smelt	Native
Rhombosolea retiaris	Flounder	Native
Galaxias maculatus	Inanga	Native
Anguilla dieffenbachia	Long-finned eel, Tuna	Native
Perca fluviatilis	Perch	Introduced
Salmo gairdnerii	Rainbow trout	Introduced
Anguilla australis	Short-finned eel, Tuna	Native
Invertebrates*		
Megadromus turgidiceps	Beetle	Native
Lumbricus rubellus	Earthworm	Introduced
Phalangium opilio	Harvestman	Introduced
Polydesmus coriaceus	Millipede	Introduced
Fredayia graminosa	Moths, Butterflies	**Native
Epiphyne verriculata	Caterpillars	**Native
Eluma pupurascens	Slater, woodlice	Introduced
Deroceras reticulatum	Slugs, Snails	Introduced
Eriophora pustulosa	Spider	Introduced

* The Invertebrate list is an indicative one only

** Corrected status from Introduced to Native



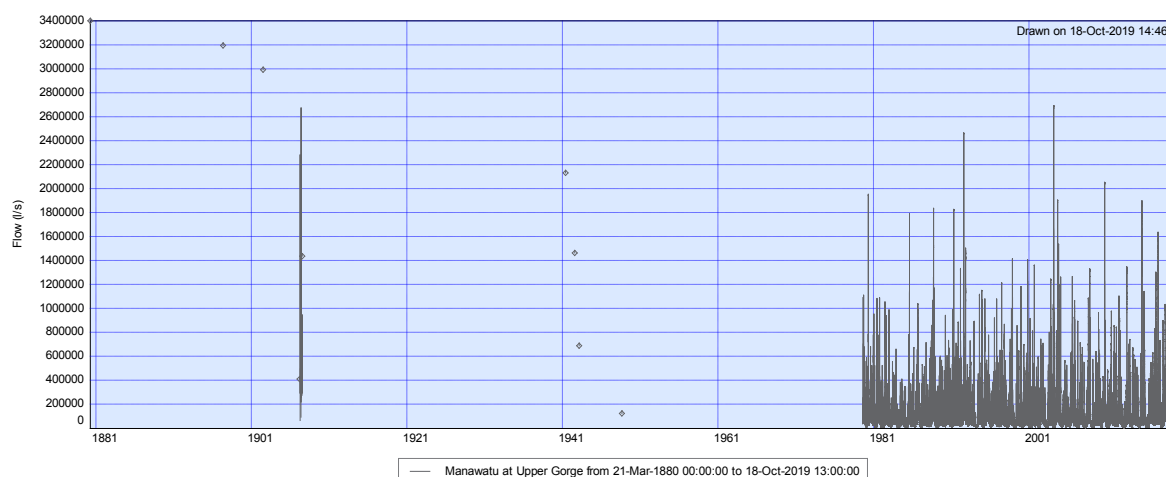
Appendix 4 River Flows

Graphs obtained from Horizons Regional Council show available river flows for three measuring points on the Manawatū and Pohangina Rivers:

- Manawatū River at Palmerston North
- Manawatū River at Upper Gorge
- Pohangina River at Mai's Reach, Raumai

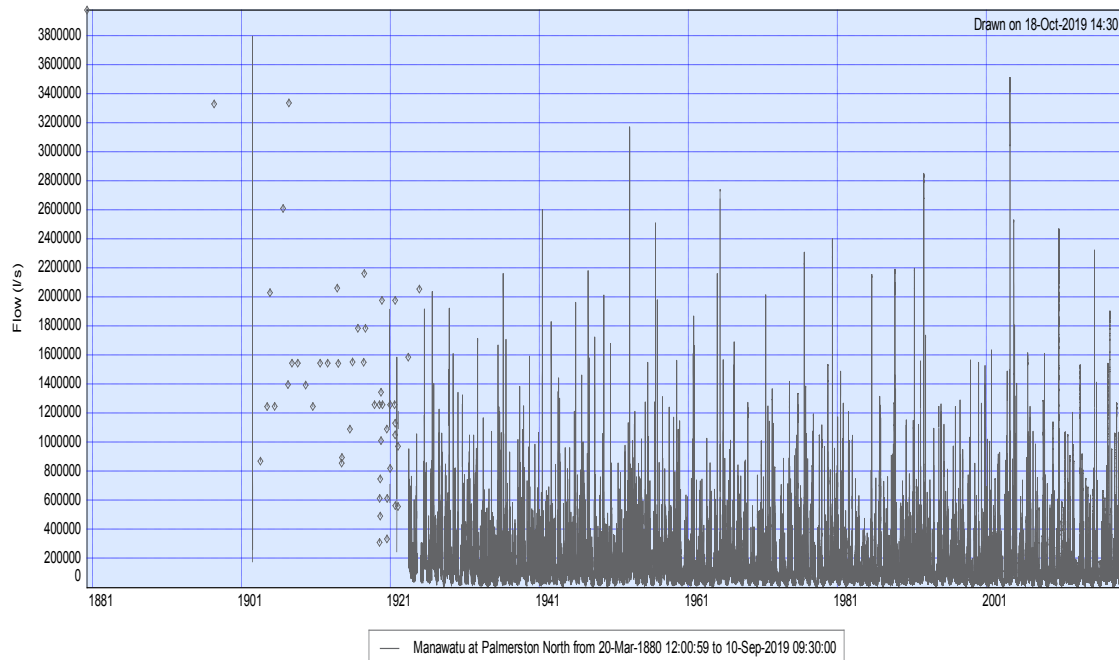
Only the peak flood heights /flow are plotted from anecdotal observations pre 1920, represented by diamonds. The earliest and largest flood was documented in 1880 (diamond on the very top of the graph). The largest floods post 1920 were in 1953 and 2004. (Sarah Carswell, HRC, pers.comm. 2019)

Manawatū River – Upper Gorge





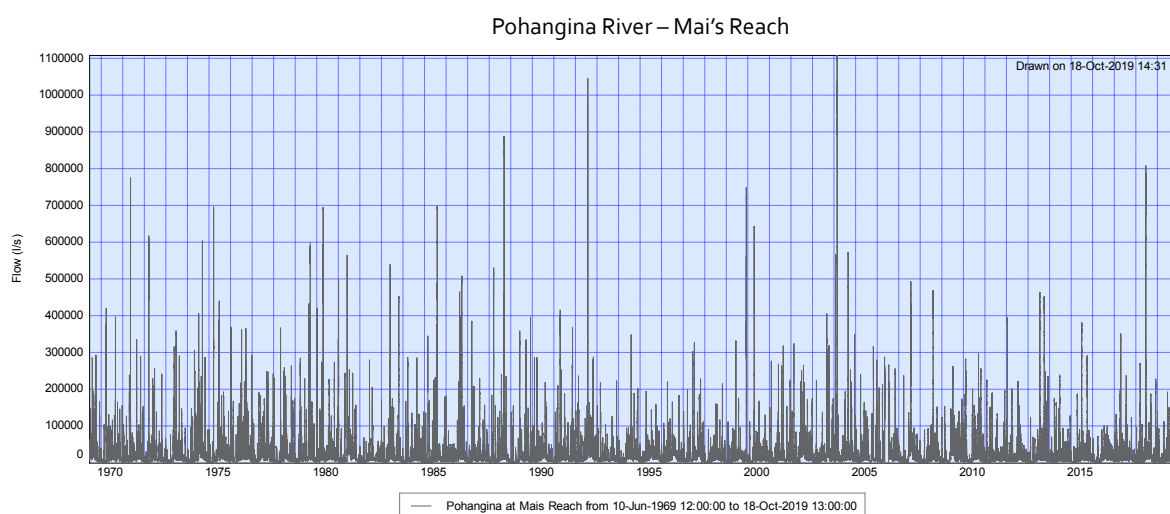
Manawatū River – at Palmerston North



40 Palmerston North City Council

Ashhurst Domain

Ecological Assessment



41 Palmerston North City Council

Ashhurst Domain

Ecological Assessment





Te Kaunihera o Papaioea
Palmerston North City Council

pncc.govt.nz / **info@pncc.govt.nz** / 06 356 8199

Submissions - Draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Subm No	Submitter	Contact
1	Jean-Sebastien Imbeau	
2	Jennifer Somers	
3	Gemma Allcock	
4	Sharon Merwood	
5	Carolyn Liggins	
6	Helen Presland	
7	Vicki Gifkins	
8	Fleur Lifdane	
9	Barbara Puklowski	
10	Krystal Hewitt	
11	Rachelle Amey	
12	Mel D	
13	Chris McRae	
14	Tara Gunn	
15	Richard Ridd	
16	Laurie Gudsell	
17	Vanja Pavarno	
18	Ashhurst Model Fliers Club (Inc.)	Stuart Hubbard
19	Sally Darragh	
20	Malcolm Law	
21	Dale Rosvall	
22	Paul Wycherley	
23	Adrian Hickey	
24	Bronwyn Ferry	
25	Shona Y	
26	Joe Hollander	
27	Samuel Hill	
28	Kaye Christiansen	
29	Alyson McGee	
30	Thomas Alan McGee	
31	Suzanne Chelius	
32	Heather Browning	
33	Jill Spicer	
34	Chris Charleston	
35	Mayan Schraders	
36	Thom Conroy	
37	Myles Stilwell	
38	Rosemary Watson	
39	Emma Tankersley	
40	Judith Dinsdale	
41	Lauri Boyack	
42	Emma Bermingham	
43	Glenda Matthews	
44	Julie Doyle	
45	Intentionally blank	
46	Margie Rogers	

Subm No	Submitter	Contact
47	Alexis Stacey	
48	Christina Havill	
49	Jack Perrin	
50	Harvey Jones	
51	David Nixon	
52	Arjan Jonker	
53	Rowan Bell	
54	Linda Bell	
55	Neil & Martine Fremaux	
56	Kathriona Benvie	
57	Anja Scholz	
58	Helen King	
59	Lisa Poulsen	
60	Julie Griffiths	
61	Jo Davies	
62	Phillip Prujean	
63	New Zealand Motor Caravan Assn	Joe Wolfgramm
64	Brian Carruthers	
65	Natural Burial Manawatū	Jean Hera
66	Daniel Sproull	
67	Angie Crabtree	
68	Dana Crabtree	
69	Allan Dodge	
70	Kushla Mercer	
71	Leeann Stallard	
72	Sally Cooper	
73	Jane Evans	
74	Sharon Corkran	
75	Manawatū Estuary Management Team	Kathryn Lane
76	Bev Swanson	
77	Jan Eyre	
78	Horizons Regional Council	Sian Cass
79	Mary Bridewell	
80	Te Āpiti UNESCO Geopark Steering Group	Keith Joblin
81	Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club	Louise Ilton
82	Ashley Cooper	
83	Willa Du Plessis	
84	Beauchamp Funeral Home	Anthony Beauchamp
85	Lauren Fairfeild	
86	Ngā Moemoea Services	Vivienne Martin
87	Jim Wo	
88	John Mills	
89	Age Friendly Palmerston North	Russell Hallam & Kerry Hocquard

1-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jean-Sebastien
Last name	Imbeau
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	No issues as long as the "Ashhurst Domain" element of the name remains, supportive of the area being officially recognized by both relevant names.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Given the importance of the highway and the Gorge to the region, this makes sense.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Agree with the dog leash requirements. There are also far better places to mountain bike around Palmerston.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	NZ has lost so much of its original wetlands that having the opportunity to observe such an area up close would be very valuable to the region. Not sure if there would be plans to have managed walkways nearby or through the wetland area.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

1-2

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Would need more information/specifcics.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Assuming there is a specific area developed for them to park, preferably with some outdoor eating areas, rubbish/recycling bins, etc. Would be a good use of the dilapidated old cafe area, with a good potential view over the wetland area.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Digital advertising, eg an advert on TVNZ+, Stuff, MetService etc

2-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Jennifer
Last name	Sommers
Organisation you represent	Myself
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would prefer Ashhurst Domain mentioned first, followed by the Maori name
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Maori name should come after the Domain. Everyone knows the Ashhurst Domain.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As long as No houses are built only community projects

2-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Because more people would use the area
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Other: My cellphone

3-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Gemma
Last name	Allcock
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Disagree with name change
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Not necessary. Disagree with name change
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

4-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	More suitable playground needed for preschool children, ideally fenced, shaded, soft play and age appropriate for under 5's.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

4-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Sharon
Last name	Merwood
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Disability accessibility is important for this.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

4-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It would be good if they stayed out of the camping area. Last week the ice cream drove among the campers with loud music - stopping over by the toilets should have been enough.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Please don't increase the camp fees. It is currently a fair price for what is offered. The camp ground possibly needs more space and more power points. We camp there regularly and it is getting more difficult to find a spot. We really love the casual check in and out system - please keep it this way as it reduces so much pressure especially when packing up tents. If camp fees increase too much many families like ours would look at free non-power options such as Ferry Reserve (on the other side of The Gorge) or very low cost like Anzac Park in Norsewood.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

5-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Carolyn
Last name	Liggins
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	My family I love biking through here. I don't agree with disallowing this. You can still protect the native bush without removing a much loved activity. We should be encouraging people outdoors.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No

5-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Alot of the community love this space for walking our dogs. It's a beautiful safe space to allow them to run free. By adding more on leash areas you are restricting us further. How about creating a fenced dog park in the lower areas to still give people the opportunity to give their dogs opportunities to run, do zooming and explore.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

6-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Helen
Last name	Presland
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Support this and would like to see the river area be equally as protected. The 4wd track has a known issue with rubbish dumping - car loads, trailer loads, buckets of chemicals, whiteware, illegal fishing catches, carcasses - it's happening weekly and it's because vehicles can access the river area/river bed without being monitored. If something could be done about this it would be better for the environment, the river, council who needs to spend time picking up items, and park users. It's so gutting to see people treating it as a dumping ground
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is a gap in Manawatu and would be amazing
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This would be incredible. The cafe used to be such a fab place - the playground on site for the kids, combining the cafe and a walk, easy parking - it was such a fab place to go. Bringing the cafe back or food trucks would be excellent. It would also be good to tidy up the old cafe building that's been left to deteriorate- it's become a bit of an eyesore
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

7-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Vicki
Last name	Gifkins
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As a PNCC rate payer, I support the land being returned to Rangitāne if they would like that. I am Pākehā for context.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It is what is right.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

7-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	I love the PNCC initiatives here!
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

8-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Fleur
Last name	Lifdane
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

8-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	HATE the idea of having commercial ventures there. Will put pressure on patents to spend \$. Seems bizarre considering cemetery near by.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

9-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Barbara
Last name	Puklowski
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I love the idea of continuing and supporting the native bush, but currently there is no mountain bike tracks and if this is an area you are want to stop, how about giving the kids/young people an area to develop this interest. This will also help them to develop a greater connection to the bush/understanding of the damage they do, but also make it safer for walker ect as they would have there own space to explore and use. There is currently nothing like this for the kids to use.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Or mt bike area
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Dump station in this area would be great
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

10-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Krystal
Last name	Hewitt
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I don't think the dogs should be forced to be on a leash, most people who take their animals there are respectful and there's not many places left with any freedom, same goes for bikes, don't make the domain a strict banned area there's already too many
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This change won't effect anyone just makes it more difficult to remember or pronounce for some
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I support maintaining it and improving it just not the added restrictions on the public
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

10-2

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Leave it how it is. People love it there
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Don't make it a place that people have to be restrained from freedom.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

11-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Rachelle
Last name	Amey
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The reason our young ones are using the off track bushes to make their own mountain bike jumps is because there is no other option for them (Ashhurst school has closed access to their pump track) and it's becoming more and more harder for young ones to take their bikes on the public buses so they can head into the bike parks along the river. Provide an option for these kids who are outside (rather than inside on devices). Let's support their drive to be active in this grown mountain biking era. There is loads of space to great an area for them. Check out spa road in Taupo or the river parks for ideas of what these mountain bikers need. How cool would it be? And soooo well used. Then our native bushes will be protected. Win win :)
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	

11-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

12-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Mel
Last name	D
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	100%!! I love the patch of bush that's there. So good for the soul.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

11-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	This is a well thought out plan that honors the environment and cultural significance of the area while allowing space for the future to be woven in. Well done, team!
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media Family or friends

13-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Chris
Last name	McRae
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I do not see the need to change the name of the Domain. If Council are going to work closely with Rangitane the history should be acknowledged and well publicised. The history and mana of the Domain can still be valued without going to the extent of changing the name to something that will usually only be used in publications not in reality. If we are to rename it I feel the common, well used and accepted name should be first (Ashhurst Domain-Otangaki) This name will be easier to pronounce than the Maori version by foreign tourists and non Maori speaking New Zealanders
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I agree, any promotion of the area would be great. I walk at the Domain every day and often talk to people who come to do the gorge walk or cycle the old gorge road. More people would be great for the community.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I do agree with the protection of the bush area. I think a trapping programme should also be undertaken to remove pests from the bush area. I have personally seen cats and stoats in the bush and there is a serious lack of birdlife in the bush. It would be great for locals and visitors to be able to see and hear many native birds. Native bush is nothing special without the birdlife which is part of New Zealand. I would be happy to be active in this

13-2

	endeavour in a voluntary capacity if required and I know of other locals who would be happy to assist as well. I believe there has been some form of poisoning in the Domain area but it is not doing enough. Again I am happy to be contacted regarding this if necessary
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I strongly support this but only if there was a comprehensive pest management plan (trapping) in force. Again I would be happy to assist as a volunteer for this.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would support this but access will need to be improved as elderly people would not be able to walk up or down the steep hill safely.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would support this. I walk the Domain every day and often think it is a waste of good land when a lovely garden area could be put in or the area used for things other than grazing stock.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I think a cafe would be a better option but I do support some type of food and drink traders to be at the Domain. There are many walker like myself, campers at the holiday park, dog shows, sport and horse events which would benefit from a cafe or food carts. i suggest cafe because the food should be there on a consistent basis, many walkers and campers would pick up an early coffee or breakfast so they should be available for most of the day.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The campground is always busy. It is a large campground where people can spread out and enjoy themselves. It is a very popular destination. I wouldn't want to see services reduced
General comments	
	<p>As I have stated I walk my dog at the Domain every day. I speak to a lot of people from the campground, people attending events and sports and also other walkers. I know of several people who walk regularly and come from outside Ashhurst and outside the district to walk at the Domain. It is a very popular location. The Team who maintain it do a fabulous job.</p> <p>I do have a couple more suggestions which are to reduce the speed limit where vehicles can access as there are many people who walk with children and dogs.</p> <p>I would also like to see a couple of seats at the lower Domain by the Pohangina and Manawatu rivers for the many elderly people who walk there and struggle at times and maybe some more bins near the seats to reduce rubbish and encourage dog walkers to pick up dog excrement. There are only bins at the gates and the campground an people do not seem to carry their rubbish out.</p>

	I would love to see the Domain improved as per most of your proposals and if the other suggestions can be considered it will be a fabulous area - Ashhurst's version of the Esplanade.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media Radio Family or friends Poster, sign or billboard

14-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Tara
Last name	Gunn
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I didn't know the history until now. so this is important part of learning our cultures history.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Maybe short term. Is is significant information long term(?)
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Always important
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Badly needed in this area. This was a priority for my mother so she is buried all the way over in Whanganui.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes! It's nice to have the option for a coffee/sweet treat. Just ensure there's adequate rubbish collecting points. Opening the old cafe building would be better for this reason.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Maybe a slightly larger kitchen though
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

15-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Richard
Last name	Ridd
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Be respectful yes, but do us on the outcomes for all the people in the community.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	<p>As the Ashhurst school grounds are now closed out of school hours Ashhurst residents, especially kids have a shortage of green space. Some where to kick a ball.</p> <p>Access to the domain is ok at best. For a kid to hike to the domain from the village it is a considerable distance and they have to cross over the narrow flyover the railway line on Cambridge ave.</p> <p>Can you please consider a safer way for cyclists and pedestrians to access the domain from the village.</p> <p>A new pedestrian flyover at the end of Pembroke street would be gold standard. Some more railing widening over the Cambridge ave flyover would be a start</p> <p>Thanks</p>
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

16-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Laurie
Last name	Gudsell
Organisation you represent	The general public
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	Yes
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It must be keep on an equal footing at all times and Rangitane must never be aloud to take control of the Ashhurst Domain.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Should stay as the Ashhurst Domain or Ashhurst Otangaki Domain.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	And taking care of it. Not like where it's be planted in recent times and forgotten and left to be overgrowing with weeds some noxious. As are the walkways leading the way round to the camp ground.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	But remember it does flood there reasonably frequently.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	It would help to keep the Domain net and tidier and the likes of fences and lawns if the caretaker would get of his backside and repair broken wires etc. on fences and clear the long grass and noxious weeds from the walkways and pick up rubbish rather than just mowing it up when mowing the grass.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Poster, sign or billboard

17-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Vanja
Last name	Pavarno
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely. Well overdue!
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Good idea to control dogs and keep cyclists out
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes yes yes! Building flood resilience, improving water quality, storing carbon... So many benefits
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely. A natural burial site is so needed in the Manawatu. Good idea to create a natural burial site in a place which has historically, culturally and currently been used as a burial place. It's a logical spot.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Well done guys, this plan will significantly improve the value of Ashhurst domain to the community
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Other: I went looking for an update on Natural burials. This consultation was surprisingly not well published.

18-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Stuart
Last name	Hubbard
Organisation you represent	Ashhurst Model Fliers Club (Inc.)
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	We agree with this, as Rangitane have long standing connections to the area
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes. The European name came later. Keep both names
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Good idea.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes. Protecting bush does not conflict with our use of the area.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The area of the floodplain that we use for model aircraft flying is normally high and dry so there should not be a conflict with extending the wetland area. The height of trees adjacent to our field could potentially be an issue
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The area indicated on the maps does not conflict with our activities
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This does not conflict with our activity on the lower terrace.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	We are pleased that the land our club leases will be considered when planning for future ecological restoration in this floodplain area. Over the years our club has worked with the domain caretaker to maintain the access road (by spreading gravel) and club members have responded to flood events by removing debris from fence lines in the field we lease. We appreciate the special nature of the area and treat it with respect.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Social media

19-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sally
Last name	Darragh
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I think this is a great idea.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	There is so much bird life that comes from the gorge track it makes sense to give more environment for them.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is an excellent idea. Will help with flood resilience and bird life. Would be great to create matuku habitat.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website

20-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Malcolm
Last name	Law
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Really see this as important.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Great idea. Looking forward to seeing the finished product.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Has thought been given to the demand for this service and if the site will be sufficient for demand?
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Mess and litter. Attract vermin. Need to discourage consumption of this type of food.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	The domain is a great facility. I'd like to see it more accessible in winter and after heavy rain.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper

21-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Dale
Last name	Rosvall
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I guess I've always known it as Ashhurst Domain and I'll always call it that. The other name is too long!
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	We do have significant floods though which would wash trees away, and when it's not flooded, doubt if it would turn into wetland?
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes, this is where I would like to be buried, but I was looking at the area outlined and is there a danger of flooding there? It looks to be tiny. I was thinking that as more get buried there and more trees planted (as in other natural burial sites) it would turn into a lovely piece of forested land. Wouldn't one of those current paddocks as you walk in on

	the gravel road towards the Canine Centre be a better bet for this? Would look lovely to have bush on that side too.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As long as the whole place doesn't get too cluttered. We have a beautiful spot in the Ashhurst Domain.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes, but would probably only be sensible when there are games on, doubt if they'd make a lot of money day to day as there are mainly walkers like me there. Still, worth a shot!
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely, in fact these days I tend to park down at the river carpark by the bridge and walk in along the 4-wheel drive track and do a lot of my walk sneaking around on the riverbed - lots of interesting little paths/tracks made by people like me, and of course by vehicles doing their hooning in there. It's quieter too down there, and of course the river which is lovely for cooling off. I have been surprised that I have seen no one swimming in the river this summer (yet), but maybe I'm not there at the right times. There are some great waterholes and the water is so clean right now. Unfortunately people also dump their rubbish down there - but I have learned snap send solve.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media Poster, sign or billboard

21-3

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Dale
Last name	Rosvall
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Worried about location. Flooding
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

21-4

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	But I would still like to see the 'rural' aspect of the Domain. Love seeing the cows grazing, and also you can make a bit of money with the hay making.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	If there are events, otherwise I don't think the food trucks would make a lot of money.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I have always loved the campground, but lately there seem to be some undesirables there, with loose dogs especially at night, fighting going on etc.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media Poster, sign or billboard

22-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	paul
Last name	wycherley
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It has been known as the Ashhurst domain for 100 plus years would be disrespectful to the fore bears of Ashhurst to change.The Rangitane influence in Ashhurst has been very minimal as our family history dates back over 100 years and they cant recall any Rangitane stuctures at the domain.Can the PNCC produce written evidence there was a pa /marae on the current domain location.If there was a sign could be erected notifying it but we dont need to change the name. FYI 70 years ago there was only one child at the school that was Maori
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Covered this but the monies could be spent more wisely. Could make it hard for tourists to locate on google Otangaki Ashhurst is named after a person and all street names are of English descent and is very well known town. Rangitane input is very minimal if any. Definetiy dont put the Otangaki first
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Need more detail about what would be included
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	River bank protection needs to be kept up if you want to protect the native bush
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	There is currently enough native bush to represent what the bush was like in its native state

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	You would need to be very careful this is out of a potential flood zone the pohangina river is very aggressive when flooding. The proposed sight is very close to the walkway and I would hate to smell decomposing bodies
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Very good idea need to add vibrancy to the domain as that area is a particular dry piece of dirt The dog and horse areas are brilliant
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	You would need to increase people numbers first to make it viable The cafe in the domain wasnt successful not enough people now a eye sore
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The camping ground is very popular and feedback I get is people love staying there The camping ground needs to be ramped up open up new area perhaps by the cafe
General comments	
	As a neighbour and a regular walker of the domain it is a very valuable asset of the PNCC. I would like to see a fire pits put in for family picnics paddling pool for children. Lights in the shed by playground. PNCC needs to be creative this plan is very narrow in ideas. The money the PNCC did spend after the 1977 plan on playgrounds camping ground has been brilliant
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Social media

23-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Adrian
Last name	Hickey
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Need bikes track link to the new highway sheared users path
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Create an bike track linking the new highway and sheared users path extended the wetlands for kayaking and digg it out more for to hold water in the summer. That track along the river that runs down from the Domain at the top by the railway line should be where the the bike track should go.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper

24-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Bronwyn
Last name	Ferry
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would like Council to not be limited to this site only. There are other potential sites. I recommend there are at least two development sites: the proposed lower terrace, and also the bare land next to the existing cemetery, where the wetland viewing platform is. This is the ideal first site to develop as it has no current limitations and can be done immediately. This can be up an running for burials immediately while the lower terrace is being investigated.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Do we need licences? Just allow food trucks to trade. Cut this red tape. If they are good the public will choose to support them. If they are poor operators the public won't support them. Leave this to the community, no licences.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

25-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Shona
Last name	Y
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Café preferable, the previous ones were great
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

26-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Joe
Last name	Hollander
Organisation you represent	Chair, PNDHAG and PNARDOC, PNRSA Heritage Convenor, RNZE CT Trustee and ECMC Director
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely essential !
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	What appears to be missing is acknowledgement of the military heritage and history in the Plan and of the Domain proper. Despite significant research conducted by the PNCL Heritage team in 2023-24 and submitted when the Management Plan was considered, this does not appear anywhere within the Doman Management Plan. The Domain was used extensively as a military camping ground and training area during the First World War, inter-war years and again during the Second World War. This needs to be acknowledged and recognised in the Plan and signposting of the Domain. The Domain also meets NZ Poppy Places criteria for treatment as a significant military heritage site and will be signed accordingly in the future.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website City councillor Other: PNDHAG agenda, etc

27-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Samuel
Last name	Hill
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Beautiful name.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	100%. As an ecologist who conducts annual bird counts at Ashhurst Domain, I can confirm that is a hugely significant ecologically rich area for native and endemic species and so this is a really great plan. Trapping and baiting should also be made a high priority to manage pest species. Please ensure that a huge array of different vegetation species are planted, to enrich the biodiversity as largely as possible.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	An absolutely wonderful plan. And it has my 100% support. As per the previous entry.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would prefer to see another section of native vegetation so this could be done in conjunction with community Gardens and Orchards - which will be great to have.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As long as there are not too many food trucks which could disturb the peace and tranquility.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Just to reiterate the importance of the native forest and wetland area within the Domain this is essential to upkeep to the highest standard and also to revegetate and rewild as much of the Domain area as possible and keep pest free.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

28-1

Your contact details

Privacy

All submissions, including your name and the organisation you represent, may be made publicly available on our website and at our customer service centre and libraries. Your contact details (but not your name) are confidential and will not be published. Elected members receive all submissions with your name so they can consider the views and comments expressed. We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see pncc.govt.nz/privacy

First name Required

KAYE

Last name Required

CHRISTIANSEN

Organisation you represent If applicable. Please only answer this question if you are speaking on behalf of an organisation.

Email Required

7(2)(a) Privacy

Phone Required Please provide a daytime contact number

7(2)(a) Privacy

Do you live in Ashhurst? (Select 1 option) (select one)

Hearing

The Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on Wednesday 26 March.

Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? (Select 1 option)

☒ Yes
☐ No

Do you agree with what we're proposing?

Please indicate whether you do or don't agree with each of the key proposals in our draft reserve management plan.

Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

I think Rangitane have much to tell us about how the Domain was before colonisation and how we can together preserve what's left of native flora + fauna.

Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain

Do you support this change? (Select 1 option)

☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know / no opinion

28-3

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

Further protecting the native bush area

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

Recent events have shown how damage to the native bush area can occur so easily. I also feel strongly that more resources need to be deployed to prevent weed spread.

Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

The area developed so well by Ducks Unlimited in the past was spoiled by the 2016 earthquake raising the pond bed so restoration of the wetland and further planting of native forest is essential.

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know / no opinion

28-5

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

Ongoing consultation with community groups and regular feedback/updates important.

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

Food trucks for sports events / pony club
etc.

Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground

Do you support this? (Select 1 option)

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ I don't know / no opinion

Are there any comments you'd like to make?

General comments

Please note here any general comments or feedback you have about the draft plan.

Our domain is a highly valued asset to the local community and visitors. It especially needs a concerted effort to clear the weeds which are out of control!!

28-7

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say? (Select 1 or more options)

Required

(select as many as apply)

- ☐ Council website
- ☐ Letter or email
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Radio
- ☒ Newspaper
- ☐ City councillor
- ☐ Family or friends
- ☒ School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter
- ☐ Booklet in my mailbox
- ☒ Poster, sign or billboard
- ☐ Digital advertising, eg an advert on TVNZ+, Stuff, MetService etc
- ☐ Other

Other

End of form

29-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Alyson
Last name	McGee
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

29-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I strongly support the introduction of natural burial site in the Domain as natural burials are becoming more and more popular. This form of burial has a lower carbon footprint than cremation and doesn't take up the space that is needed to increase cemetery size. There are more and more elderly people in the community and this is an option we should offer.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

30-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Thomas Alan
Last name	McGee
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	We need a natural burial site in the Palmerston area and Ashurst Domain seems to be the perfect place. Natural Burial is becoming more popular and with a growing population over 65 we need to offer choices to individuals.

30-2

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

31-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Suzanne
Last name	Chelius
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This relationship between Rangitāne and PNCC is a foundation to building a cohesive and healthy Ashhurst community. It aligns with our obligations to Te Tiriti O Waitangi, and I am pleased to see this step as a key part of the Domain proposal.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It's about time.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The native bush area is a jewel for Ashhurst. A lot was lost in previous flooding, so it is good to see PNCC finally taking action to protect what is left.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Vital progressive thinking.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes

31-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would like to see more than one site under consideration to make sure we have viable land and potential for choice and growth in the Natural Burial ground. Land at the top of the domain near the existing graveyard would also be a good alternative.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website City councillor Family or friends School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter Poster, sign or billboard

32-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Heather
Last name	Browning
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I think you should also explore other possible sites in the domain.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

32-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	It would be good to explore more than one site as an option for a natural burial site in case the identified site is not suitable. The area next to the existing cemetery where the gum trees are is another possible option.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Letter or email Social media Family or friends

33-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jill
Last name	Spicer
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Please don't be limited to one site only for natural burials There may be a better alternative, or perhaps have 2 sites? Also, let's not wait another 20 years, or it so be ready for me!
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

33-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	This is a marvellous resource for the community. So pleased to see the council taking its responsibility to care, and in doing this, consulting the community whose treasure it is.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Other: A community group

34-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Chris
Last name	Charleston
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I hope more provisions for natural burials will be made in future. I think it's arguably the most responsible practices from an ecological perspective, and I'm all for that.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

34-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	<p>Reviewing provisions for waste disposal I.e. rubbish and recycling bins, plus toilet facilities will, I expect, by an ongoing requirement especially if patronage increases over time as anticipated.</p> <p>The presence of food trucks probably presents an increased fire risk: hopefully there is an adequate water supply for firefighting (hydrants etc) in the vicinity.</p>
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper

35-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Mayan
Last name	Schraders
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is an appropriate cultural response, and it's exciting to honour the history of this important site.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I really wish for us to have a natural burial site, and this one seems appropriate. However, if this proves to be impossible for whatever reason, I encourage the council to find another suitable site.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	

35-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	On the upper terrace
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It's a great facility and so handy to the city
General comments	
	Having lived in Ashhurst for a number of years in the past, I have thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the domain. We need to do what we can to preserve the bush and the wonderful opportunity it gives us to enjoy so many aspects of nature.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

36-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Thom
Last name	Conroy
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The bush is vulnerable both to people and river erosion. Without adequate protection, we will lose parts of the domain. Native bush protection should be a priority.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	We have less than 10% of Aotearoa's original wetland left, and wetland is vital for healthy ecosystems. This should be a priority.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The age of traditional toxic and environmental burials is passing. We definitely need a natural burial site on the lower terrace, but we also need to consider additional sites, both within the Ashhurst domain and beyond. The regional population is ageing and preferences for burial are changing. We would be wise to invest in several natural burial sites both in the Ashhurst domain and in other places. I would support setting aside land for natural burial at every cemetery in the Manawatu.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Speaking as someone who uses the Ashhurst domain every day, I can say without reservation that the natural and heritage aspects of the area are what I enjoy most. If we can use some of the upper terrace for community projects without paving large new amounts of land and/or cutting trees and/or building new structures, then I'm in favour of developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects. But only if those criteria are met.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Great idea!
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is my first priority as a daily domain user!
General comments	
	The plan looks very good. I would ask council to keep in mind that the off-the-beaten track character of the Ashhurst Domain is its strongest attribute. Please protect, respect, and maintain what is there.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

37-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Myles
Last name	Stilwell
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would like to see the long association of Rangitane with the area promoted through signage and co-governance - at present there appears under-representation, in signage at least.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	While the Domain is distinct, the completion of Te Ahu a Turanga is likely to see a considerable expansion of visitors to the general area, and I would like to see integration of recreation plans in particular across the wider area.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I support this, but have been disappointed at the removal of bicycle access to the bush area tracks. I have used these for many years without conflict or damage, but am now required to cycle on the riverside. At low flow this is OK, but should have signage restricting speed or warning of other users to motorcycles or 4wd machines.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Very positive

37-2

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Excellent proposal
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I support allowing food trucks, coffee vendors into the domain, especially in the summer months.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Inevitably the campground will become busier as more awareness is gained of its nature.
General comments	
	I am impressed with this plan. I am conscious of the application for a function centre in recent years that was declined, and I see the provision for modest hospitality enterprises in the area as a good balance in maintaining the low-key natural state of the area with services benefitting recreational users of the Domain.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper City councillor Family or friends

38-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Rosemary
Last name	Watson
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I believe there should be the option for natural burial in the Palmerston North/ Manawatu area, and I'm pleased to see PNCC considering this as an option here. I don't know the Ashhurst Domain really well, or the specifics of the site proposed at the far end of the lower terrace, and wonder about access for both the burials themselves and for people to easily 'visit' their loved ones' 'piece of forest'. Would alternative site(s) nearer the existing cemetery on the upper level of the domain also be able to be considered, soil type and other mitigating factors permitting?
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

39-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Emma
Last name	Tankersley
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

39-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	great to be using the domain for something useful - its a great part of our community
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

40-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Judith
Last name	Dinsdale
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Respect has always been there.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Again. Woke. There are equal Maori and English place names in NZ. Leave it be. Can rate payers afford to change all these place names?
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Do not need this expense.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No

40-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Can we afford this? Probably not?
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Keep it like it is. Normal maintenance.
General comments	
	Council's need to remain within their scope. Water, sewerage, waste, roads, basic maintenance. The basics. Spending is out of control in all councils. Nice to have should be saved for.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

41-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Lauri
Last name	Boyack
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Is this a necessary expense?
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Dog users are the top users of the Ashhurst domain. Please retain this great resource for them including access to bush and river which is necessary in hot weather. We love the current access and tracks which we use every day. Due to Totara Reserve and the Gorge Walk being no dogs there is limited local alternatives. I support more predator control and further bush development.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Please retain an off leash area for dogs
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

41-2

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Please retain dog friendly areas including those off leash
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Definitely
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I wouldn't describe it this way. May be a few more sheltered areas or communal sitting areas (picnic tables on gravel/ closer bbq)
General comments	
	The dog friendly nature of the domain is very important for the Ashhurst community and the most common use of this amazing resource is dog walking, please retain this!
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Other: X

42-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Emma
Last name	Bermingham
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I think this is fantastic - we need more information of the pre-colonisation history of Ashhurst and its surrounds - information boards/markers etc.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is a great initiative. More than likely it'll still be "the domain" to the locals but i think how many people travel through the area (eg the bike tours) its is good to reflect its original name
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	great. many users are transient (campers, bike riders on the tour) etc and so this is a great way to communicate to people who use the domain but are not in local chat groups
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would love to see extension of the native bush area (as long as it (or aspects of it) stays dog friendly). It is a beautiful space and i know the local scouts, schools and families use it easily show NZ native bush (the gorge walk isn't easy for our elderly whanau to experience)
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes! Being selfish dog-access is important to me (we use the domain daily - sometimes twice daily) for our dog walking so being able to experience this with our dog is important. This would be a show case for Ashhurst and due to its terrain be more family friendly than the Tawa Loop (elderly, push chair and wheel chair access).

42-2

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I use the domain and that 4WD track often (3-4 times a week). As long as there is appropriate access for cars, family, wheelchairs/pushchairs) that does not take away the naturalness of the area.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As long as there is appropriate access and facilities (eg toilets, rubbish bins etc)
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	would love to see music and other festivals held there
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	we don't camp there but i know that camp spots in nice places with dogs is rare
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

43-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Glenda
Last name	Matthews
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

43-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

44-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Julie
Last name	Doyle
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is a unique and interesting place with a rich history to be passed on to existing and future generations
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I've noticed that some of the beautiful new signs around the Domain have been partially defaced. We must continue to normalize use of Māori Te Reo and encourage acknowledgement of our past. Hopefully, over time and with effort, education will help with this.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes education through information is vital
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Policy 3 Vegetation, Fauna and Wetland. I fully support and applaud all Policy Actions in this section. In particular, Policy Action 3.2.3 'undertake a full pest, weed and exotic fauna stocktake and develop ... and develop a pest control and fauna management plan.' As a volunteer at McCrae's Bush over the past 6 years, I urge that McCrae's Bush be included in this stocktake. This request also applies to 3.2.2 – eco-sourcing, 3.2.4 and 3.2.6 for both the Domain and McCrae's Bush
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Regular walks through the Domain have become an integral part of both my and many others' mental, emotional and physical well-being. We'd love to encourage more native forest restoration and pest control

44-2

	measures to be implemented. Policy Action 10.1.2 'Enable school groups to participate in the care and restoration of Area 4' RECAP and Ashhurst School William Pike Challenge participants could be approached about this initiative.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Having noted in my Will that I want a natural burial, this policy is of particular interest to me. Should the proposed site prove to be unsuitable, could alternative sites in the Domain please be considered and examined for suitability. Policy Action 8.4.2 '.... support the community to develop a proposal for the designation, development and operation of a natural burial site' is well worded as it embraces the urgency for natural burial, not only for personal preference, but even more urgently for environmental considerations
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain is a treasure for many groups both locally and further afield. It has a strong history of community projects and I believe that this should be remembered, celebrated and continued.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Food trucks will bring people and also create business opportunities for those food outlets. Adequate disposal of used packaging will need to be provided and serviced regularly to prevent accumulation of rubbish. Especially windy weather blows rubbish into the bush already.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Although I personally have never stayed overnight here, I've heard that campers especially love this campground. Perhaps increasing the camp fee could help alleviate the 'threatening behaviour' noted in Policy 6. These extra fees could perhaps be used towards Policy 3 initiatives. I agree with all proposals in Policy 6.
General comments	
	This is an excellent and carefully thought-through and compiled plan. Congratulations PNCC! I wish you all the best in implementing these Policies.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Social media City councillor Family or friends School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

45-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Brent
Last name	Smith
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Fuck the black cunts
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	No need for a nigga name,
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

44-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Digital advertising, eg an advert on TVNZ+, Stuff, MetService etc Other: .

46-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Margie
Last name	Rogers
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

46-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	City councillor

47-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Alexis
Last name	Stacey
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

47-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

48-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Christina
Last name	Havill
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No

48-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	It is a great place to walk dogs off leads. If you make it too protected, then the dogs will have to go on a lead. Just leave it the way it is. It is natural and such a lovey place to walk around.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

49-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jack
Last name	Perrin
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

49-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

50-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Harvey
Last name	Jones
Organisation you represent	
Do you live in Ashhurst?	Yes
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would recommend that the overview section include a pronunciation guide for Otangaki as well as its meaning.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Hard to decide without more information on what is proposed. If it is the grand masterplan, which includes the walkways, western gateway of the Gorge, Te Apiti and the Domain's location within this grand plan, then I agree. It would then be an informative location for the regional attractions in this local area.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Encouraging friends of the Domain to assist in maintaining control over tradescantia and predators such as stoats and possums would be helpful.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I like the idea of slowly developing this area over time with the involvement of young people, so they can feel part of the development

50-2

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The proposed area is above the 2004 flood level. A check will be required to ensure that natural springs will not create a problem as burials occur. If successful, this would also help in extending the native bush in the lower terrace.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Hard to tell without knowledge of the projects. I would support community projects which are in keeping with the natural beauty of the Domain and its activities.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I do not support an open-ended license for commercial activities such as food trucks in the Domain. It would be okay for special events and would need to be managed well. A single cafe-style option is okay as existed in the past, but not a series of food options, which could easily get out of hand.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I appreciate the rough and ready nature of the Domain which helps us return to nature rather than a pristine environment.
General comments	
	The existing toilet block and wastewater systems set up for the cafe should still be viable and could be used by the football ground spectators and pony club events. It seems a waste to not use this resource, especially when they could be opened for larger events.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter Other: part of consultative group

50-3

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Harvey
Last name	Jones
Organisation you represent	
Do you live in Ashhurst?	Yes
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	A great idea to work together for the common good.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Enabling signs about Te Apiti, NZTA and the Western Gateway will help provide visitors with the information about the scenic and recreation opportunities in the neighbourhood. In the grand plan all these reserves can be linked by walking paths via the Domain, terrace pathways, McCrae's Bush and Western Tracks to the Western Gateway and Parihaka Bridge.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As money and volunteer labour may exist I support increase in protection of the native bush and removal of invasive weeds.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I have no problem in the gradual increase of the native bush in the lower wetland area. Consideration should also be included for pest management.

50-4

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	A natural burial site would be an asset for the region. Care would be needed to avoid the natural springs in the area.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	To be decided o a case-by-case basis and not open access.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I think as a test option, this should be restricted to special events only and not on an ongoing regular basis. Our Ashhurst hospitality businesses may otherwise struggle to survive if food trucks are provided access, but do not need to carry the cost of owning or renting premises.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely!
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Letter or email

51-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	David
Last name	Nixon
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

51-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

52-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Arjan
Last name	Jonker
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

52-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

53-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Rowan
Last name	Bell
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Recommend that Council also look at the empty space beside the existing cemetery and look in to any other potential sites.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Would prefer this was used as a natural burial site

53-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Letter or email Social media Family or friends School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

54-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Linda
Last name	Bell
Organisation you represent	Natural Burial Manawatu
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	Yes
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The Natural Burial site is everyone who wishes to be buried in an ecological burial site.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Renaming the Ashhurst Reserve with a te reo name is recognising the Tanga ta whenua as the original settlers to the area.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	My desire to be buried in the proposed Natural Burial site is created by knowing the native bush will then be preserved and enhanced, along with natural environment and ecological biodiversity already present there.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I am optimistic that Natural Burials are becoming more popular so further NB sites will be needed for a growing demand.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I guess this innovative idea depends upon where the food trucks are parked when they are trading.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I am a member of the Motorhome and Caravan Club (MCC) and the less developed MCC campsites are the most charming and inviting to use. Ashhurst Domain's appeal is the rural, expansive type, and a restful stop after a day's driving.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

Proposal for the Ashhurst Domain.

The Raukawa 7 k bridleway is for horses, dogs (off leash area as per by-law) and bikes to share. This sign is at the beginning and end of the 3.2km walkway and says that dogs must be on leash. There are also on leash signs on the fences along the walkway.



How & when can a submission be made to change the by-law so dogs remain on leash on that area of the bridleway.

Ashhurst Domain

When the plan for the domain is designed, can a colour coded path be placed on the map, so the designated horse trail is clear to horse riders and others. Like a trail for walkers, bikes and dogs.

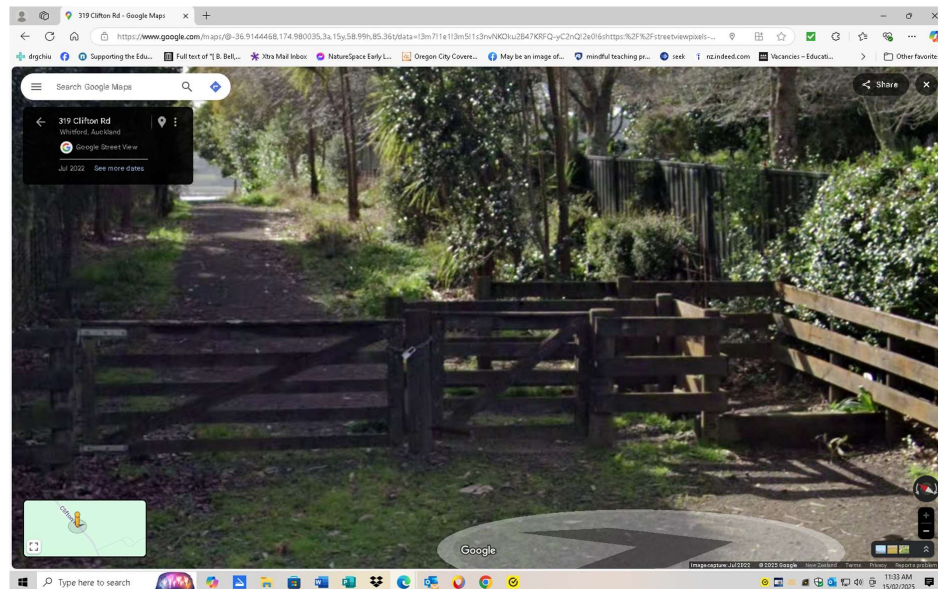
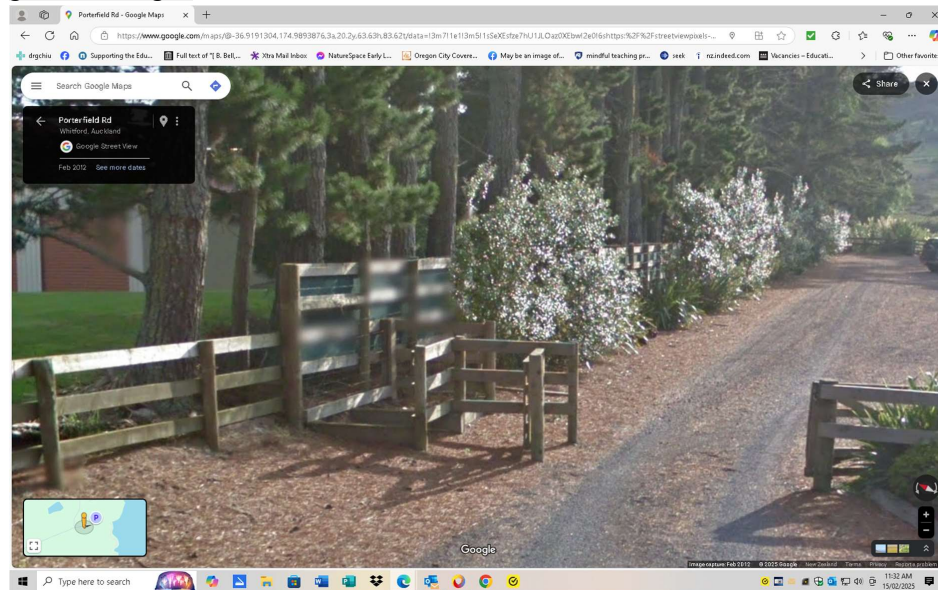
Could the signs be clarified and changed e.g horses CAN ride around the Ashhurst Domain, but must stay off sports fields, playgrounds and out of the grave-yard . This sign is at the entrance to the Domain showing horses are not allowed in the Domain.



Signage somewhere to remind all horse riders horse poo must be picked up

Access to the domain (via horse friendly log/gate etc). This is one design in Auckland that has the horses using the step over at the left, pedestrian gate in the middle and car

gate on the right.



Here is another one on the same walkway/bridleway in Whitford Auckland.

Photographs sent by Neil Fremaux to Jason Pilkington so horse riders can ride the trail right around the domain. This would be the two gates that are currently padlocked. The gate to the dog training area and the gate down to the Model Aircraft field.

Currently horse riders do not have full access to the Ashhurst Domain. If this was provided, the horse riding experience would be enhanced considerably at a low cost.

Horse mounting block (per photographs sent to Jason Pilkington by Neil Fremaux) to be placed at entrance (s) I do not have a photo of these mounting blocks, but these are a 3 step concrete block. These are used at the bridleways in Otaki. This would assist all horse riders in mounting & dismounting safely.

Thank you for the supportive, positive approach from the council members to enhance the horse riding experience.

Yours sincerely

Neil & Martine Fremaux

56-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Kathriona
Last name	Benvie
Organisation you represent	MidCentral Health
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The more people know about the area the better. However make the signs durable and graffiti resistant
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The area close by to the cemetery would be best preserved by allowing a natural burial site to be located there
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Palmerston North has a need for a natural burial site. It is a great way to meet the needs of those who want to be environmentally sustainable when they die. Reducing upkeep by planting natural bush over the burial places and allowing the bodies to decompose naturally. However, if this site on the lower terrace is not considered suitable then the council needs to investigate other options like

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	beside the existing cemetery. Natural burials should be available in a city of this size and Ashhurst Domain seems to be the best option close to the city. The soil doesn't need to be perfect as the use of some composting agents when interring the body plus the natural decomposition of the body in the soil when planted in the organic zone will actually increase the soil composition.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	A good option for people there for other activities to be able to purchase food and drinks.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Keeping the environment as natural as possible in todays world has to be good for the long term future of this area.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

57-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Anja
Last name	Scholz
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Suggesting more than one site to be investigated for suitability for a natural burial site.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

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Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

58-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Helen
Last name	King
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely 100%.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Brilliant. The Maori settlement name is largely unknown. This really highlights it.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Yes. It's significant and worthy of that.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	100%. Iscthis an extension of the current wetland
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	So much I can't even express. I'll be on the list for a spot! We need this option in the area.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

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Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Though I'm not sure how well they will be used unless that area is developed with benches and lighting for that purpose? Done well it could be magical.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

59-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Lisa
Last name	Poulsen
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	We have a responsibility to work with and respect local iwi.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I love this idea, the more we see the name, the more we will become familiar with it and recognise the area's history.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I really like the signs created on the Manawatū River Pathway about the wider area. These are a great way of building knowledge in an easy to understand format.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Native bush has an important role to play in supporting our environment, it is a tāonga. We need to continue to protect it to help it continue to support biodiversity and give people a glimpse of what our country once was like.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Sounds amazing and very tranquil.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I feel this is an interesting idea and a way of supporting the range of views people have around burial and death. Thank you for looking at

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	it. Could the council also propose a second natural burial site in their plans in case tests show the lower terrace not suitable?
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Ngā mihi nui for the mahi put into this proposal. I really like the idea of more natural play opportunities for tamariki. I love seeing what PNCC has achieved in other parts of their city/area and really look forward to watching this take shape and be there for future generations to enjoy.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

60-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Julie
Last name	Griffiths
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It's highly important that environmental and cultural issues are taken into account when making major changes.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Sticking to the name we already have will save a lot of confusion for most people. We need to remember that there are now more cultures in New Zealand than just Maori and European.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Information for the public is a necessity and one that requires working with NZTA to get the job done properly.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I am a lover of Native birds. They need protection and their habitat. Also bush walks are an exce
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Wetlands and native bush are crucial to wildlife and the ecosystem.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The likelihood of more burial sites needed in the future is something that needs looking at.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	No

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Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Let's focus on the native bush, wetlands and burial sites please. Community projects are not that important.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	As already stated in earlier comments, wetlands, native bush and buried sites should be the main things to work on. Thank you.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Newspaper

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**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Jo
Last name	Davies
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Because its 2025 and I believe most public places should have bilingual Te reo/English names.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is the main reason I am making this submission. I strongly support this as I would love to be buried in such a place when my time comes. I don't have any strong opinion about where, but would love to see PNCC organise such a place somewhere in our area. I have told my family of my wish to be buried in such a place and can afford

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	for it to be somewhere further but would love it for my grandchildren if it could be somewhere near by.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Coz food trucks are funky and liven up a place, while supporting small local businesses.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media Family or friends

62-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Phillip
Last name	Prujean
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	In general I support working closely with local Iwi with reserve management. However I can't comment in this instance ('more closely'), as I don't know how closely (if at all), council is already working with Rangitane.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I like the unique, bicultural acknowledgement, and there are already many examples of this in Aotearoa-New Zealand.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Given the strong visual link to Te Apiti from Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, and its unique geological and cultural status, it is appropriate information about Te Apiti is displayed. I don't have an opinion on whether NZTA plans should be displayed.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Although only a small remnant, the quality of the native bush area is truly astounding, especially given the paucity of quality remnants, with public access, in the Manawatu. The lack of kaitiaki of this remnant though, allowing the invasion of exotic pest species, is a very disrespectful indictment.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This could extend and help protect the existing native bush remnant, and be instructive of the floral history of the area. It would only be worth doing however, if there were a plan in place for the ongoing care of the

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	area. Experience demonstrates that revegetated native areas are quickly overwhelmed by exotic pest species, without ongoing management.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Subject to assessing demand, there should be the option of natural burial for people in the Manawatu. I don't have an opinion on where that should be, but given the history and natural beauty of Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain, it seems a good place.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Given there is no café at the Domain, if a food truck or trucks make a viable profit, it seems a good way to enhance activities at the Domain, as long as there is a plan in place for the management of any waste.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The camping area is lovely with good facilities. It seems well frequented and a drawcard for visitors and tourists. There seems no key driver for great change.
General comments	
	My key interest is in the nature values of the Domain. The native bush area is an extremely valuable remnant within the Palmy City boundary but it is, in areas, sadly neglected and invaded by exotic pest plant species. I would like this to be more actively managed. I would also have liked McCrae's Bush to have been included with the Domain Reserve Management Plan. It is an equally valuable, but even more sadly neglected council asset.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	City councillor Family or friends

63-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Joe
Last name	Wolfgramm
Organisation you represent	New Zealand Motor Caravan Association
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

63-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	I have attached a letter of expression and an example of how we can operate a park with a strong community backing.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Letter or email

(CONT'D)

63-3



63-4

Developing a NZMCA Park in your Community



The NZMCA's growing network of 60 member only parks all over the country encourages its more than 118,000 members to visit regional communities. They stay locally, spend locally, provide a source of funding to help build community facilities and ease freedom camping pressure.

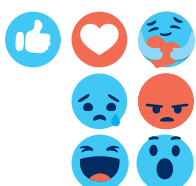
Kaiapoi NZMCA Park

Kaiapoi NZMCA Park opened in February 2023. The park was developed on red-zoned land within walking distance to the Kaiapoi town centre. The NZMCA leases the site from the Waimakariri District Council with support from the Kaiapoi-Tuahiwi Community Board. Often change for any community can be unsettling, so we wanted to hear what the community and our members thought about the park after it opened. The NZMCA commissioned Crowd Reader, an independent research company, to analyse local community and NZMCA member sentiment using open source data on Facebook.

This was the community's response to the NZMCA's initiative



FACEBOOK ENGAGEMENTS



Positive - Like/Love/Care

Negative - Sad/Angry

Unsure of endorsement - Wow/Haha

There was a total of 1424 direct post engagements from 25 posts. The analysis of results show an overwhelmingly strong positive sentiment from the community:

- 1414 of the engagements were positive
- 2 were Negative and
- 8 could not be classified

FACEBOOK COMMENTS



Positive comments and endorsements



NZMCA - worries about elitism, exclusion, competition



Perceived nuisance caused by park

A total of 100 comments were used for Crowd Readers analysis of community sentiment. The analysis of results show a strong positive sentiment from the community:

- 74% of comments were positive
- 22% worried NZMCA focus & competition
- Only 4% expressed concern about potential nuisance caused by the park

*Data from over 20 Facebook pages, groups and personal profiles. 30/01/23-08/01/24

See for yourself

Crowd Reader uses open sourced data meaning anyone can see and search for the data that was used. The reason we used Crowd Reader was to listen to the actual community voice and show transparency.

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Below is a great example of a Facebook post from the Waimakariri District Council.

Waimakariri District Council
February 15, 2023

449 181 comments 25 shares

Great news for campers and Kaiapoi

The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association has this week opened its new motor caravan park in the Red Zone area of Kaiapoi East.

This is great news for Kaiapoi and our District as a whole, and we're sure it will make for some very happy campers! 😊

EXAMPLE OF POSITIVE COMMENTS

Great news for Kaiapoi. They spend and are usually well behaved.

Looks great. Will be sure to pass on to friends with motor homes or caravans.

Thanks WDC, it will be great for the local economy

Great use of the land, and I'm sure they will spend money locally.

WORRIED COMMENTS FROM COMMUNITY

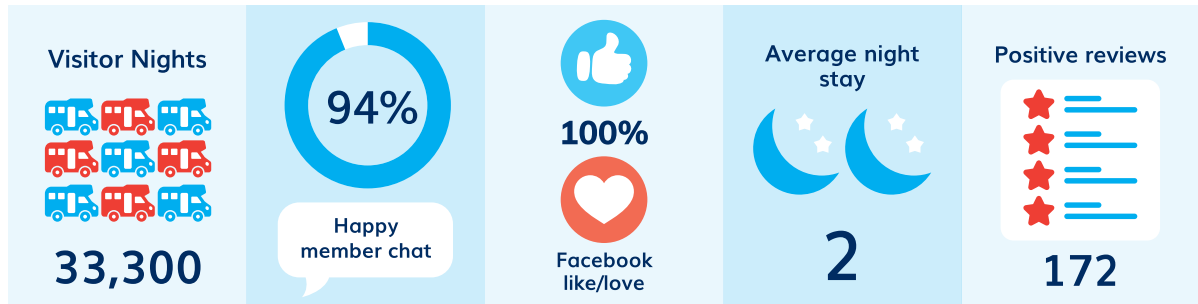
Oh that's what it is... bugger... and I was hoping it was a spot for everyone.. I guess the NZMCA is making every part of their Public Private Partnership count aye.

Thats great for exclusive motorhomer's pity that ordinary campers cant enjoy such

*To find this post for yourself just visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WaimakaririDistrictCouncil> and scroll down to the date 15/02/23

The NZMCA member experience of Kaiapoi

The numbers speak for themselves.



*Data obtained from February 2023 to 30 June 2024

Our members loved the handy location of this Park

"3 min walk to one of the best cafes between ChCh & Picton, the Red Eight."

"So handy to shops, cafes, supermarket, dog park etc."

"Went to dinner at Five Peaks."

"Shops and bike rides are so handy, Le Soleil Cafe was great and the friendly ladies at 'Hair Now' do cuts for \$35."

"A must go to is Hellers factory shop on the outskirts of Kaiapoi (just Google it for directions)"

Your contact details	
First name	Joe
Last name	Wolfgramm
Organisation you represent	New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.
Email	
Phone	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	There might be some opportunities to clean up and provide some strategic landscaping of the area might improve the current look of the camp ground. Minor improvements of the setup to create a more organised and easily managed camp site while maintaining the natural green character of the camp ground.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Letter or email



New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.

"Because you'll
never be alone
on the road again..."

3 March 2025

Jason Pilkington, Parks Planner
Palmerston North City Council
32 The Square, Palmerston North Central
Palmerston North 4410

Dear Jason

Submission on Ashhurst Domain Draft Reserve Management Plan

Introduction

1. The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc. (NZMCA) appreciates the opportunity to submit on the Ashhurst Domains draft Reserve Management Plan 2025 (draft RMP).
2. Formed in 1956, the NZMCA is a not-for-profit organisation representing the interests of over 120,000 New Zealanders who enjoy exploring our country at leisure in their self-contained motorhomes and caravans. The purpose of the NZMCA is to foster and advance the motor caravan movement by providing relevant services and information and by promoting fellowship, vehicle safety, road courtesy and protection of the environment.
3. The NZMCA currently manages three public campgrounds¹, and also operates 62 private motor caravan parks across New Zealand for the temporary and exclusive use by NZMCA members traveling in their certified self-contained vehicles. These parks support one of the core objectives of the Association, which is to promote the provision of safe overnight motor caravan parking facilities for members throughout New Zealand.

Basis of the Association's submission

4. The Association generally supports the draft RMP and its approach and objectives. The Association wants to make sure that the Reserve Management Plan maintains camping as one of its core policies.
5. With the updating of the Ashhurst Domain RMP the NZMCA is interested in the opportunity to either be able to lease a section of the 'Commercial Lease Area' as per Policy 12 '*Leases and*

¹ Moeraki Boulders Holiday Park @Hampden Beach, and Glinks Gully and Kellys Bay Reserve on Pouto Peninsula.

Driving towards a Sustainable Future

Freedom to Explore

4 Graham Road Takanini 2112
PO Box 72147 Papakura 2244
E enquiries@nzmc.org.nz

P 09 298 5466
F 09 298 5646
www.nzmc.org.nz

Licenses' to run a NZMCA vehicle-based campground or to manage the current Campground at the Ashhurst Domain.

6. **Policy 12: Community Leases**

'Council holds leases with community groups in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain that provide beneficial and cost-effective activities for the community'.

7. NZMCA Parks are located in a variety of settings and local environments, including urban/residential, industrial, rural and commercial areas. Members enjoy the parks because they provide a low-cost, safe and convenient place to park overnight while on holiday. Consequently, and unlike most public campsites, NZMCA Parks are fairly quiet, passive operations which enable members to relax and enjoy the surrounding environment.
8. The NZMCA may be interested in leasing a section of land within the domain to establish a NZMCA Park. This park will be membership based and will serve a group of the community of who are avid campers that would only be able to use the park in a self-contained vehicle. We would work with council to ensure the park fits in with the natural character of the domain and ensure that its day-to-day operations don't affect that of the surrounding activities within the domain.
9. We operate NZMCA Parks in many areas under lease or licence agreements with councils and government agencies. Attached to this submission is an example of how we can operate a park (in Kaiapoi) with strong support from the local community.

10. **Policy 6: Camping**

Policy Action 6.2.3: Investigate options, including a commercial partnership, to increase the level of management and facilities provided at the campground, to better meet camper needs, without impacting on management of the wider Domain or campground viability.

11. The NZMCA's aim to expand the camping ground network for our members and New Zealand families continues. Following last year's successful bid in the managing of the Kellys Bay Reserve and Glinks Gully campgrounds, on the Pouto Peninsula in Northland, the Association has been managing both camps since Labour Weekend 2024.
12. The local community feedback has been positive, and they are pleased with the way the campgrounds have been revived. Bookings for the campgrounds are managed remotely via an online app. This model allows for savings without the need to have an actual on-site manager taking bookings, which means we can then go on to share some of these savings with the local community groups in the area.
13. The NZMCA could be interested in managing the existing campground in the Ashhurst Domain and would be willing to discuss further how that would look from council's point of view.

Yours faithfully,
New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Wolfram', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joe Wolfram
Senior Planner – Property & Policy

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**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	brian
Last name	carruthers
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	There may be other suitable areas, which should be investigated. For example, the area adjacent to the Northern Bush Remnant portion of the wetland.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes

64-2

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	The cafe used to be a great asset.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Nil
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website

65-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Jean
Last name	Hera
Organisation you represent	Natural Burial Manawatū
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	Yes
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

65-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website Social media Newspaper City councillor

3/3/2025

Natural Burial Manawatū Submission: Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Draft Reserve Management Plan 2025

Introduction

Natural Burial Manawatū formed in 2024 to work on the establishment of natural burial grounds in the Manawatū. We are a working group of 23 members. We also have a growing network of background supporters.

Our vision

Natural burial enables our community to create beautiful, serene resting places that support sustainability and provide a thoughtful and eco-conscious option as part of end-of-life care, and at an affordable price.

The beautiful Ashhurst Domain is an ideal location with all the existing native bush that a natural burial area can help to further develop.

We support the Natural Burial Policy action points – Policy 8:

8.3 Make provision for natural burial within Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain.

8.3.1: Investigate the suitability of the soil within the area adjacent to the Northern Bush

Remnant portion of the wetland for natural burial.

8.4.2: Subject to the confirmation of site suitability, and in partnership with Rangitāne,

support the community to develop a proposal for the designation, development and operation of a natural burial site.

In addition we recommend that Council is not limited to only one possible site.

We recommend that at least two sites are explored with a plan to develop including:

1. The proposed lower terrace
2. The empty space beside the existing cemetery
3. Any other potential sites identified

A Brief History of Work Towards the Natural Burial Option

Members of our local communities in Palmerston North and surrounding areas first began advocating for the establishment of a natural burial (or ecoburial) cemetery option over 25 years ago. Council looked at a number of possible sites in 2010 and chose a McRaes Bush area but this was abandoned after community opposition due to it being considered a flood plain. After a Council resolution was passed for PNCC to work in partnership with the community on the natural burial issue at the end of 2023 Natural Burial Manawatū was established in 2024 with support from Environment Network Manawatū after a public meeting with Mark Blackham, advocate and founder of Natural Burials Aotearoa NZ. Mark noted he had already had involvement with previous work towards establishing natural burial in Palmerston North. Natural

65-4

Burial Manawatū wants to see this legacy of work for natural burial that has gone on before by the local community and PNCC to be taken forward so that the natural burial option is finally available locally. We want to support a growing community voice to show that a local site for natural burial is wanted and needed, and to be a partner in helping to make this happen, and helping with the design. We are thrilled to see progress on the proposal we have worked on with PNCC staff, mana whenua and local community representatives for a natural burial site at Ashhurst Domain.

Natural Burial

Natural burials are a growing trend in Aotearoa New Zealand. These offer an eco-friendly alternative to the more usual funeral choices currently offered which have an ecological impact caused by carbon emissions and the release of toxic chemicals. Natural burial strengthens biodiversity, and restores native habitats with the planting of native species (possibly with a bioregional emphasis) to enhance the environment, leaving the land used in a better state than before. There is less maintenance involved as it is forming bush that can be walked through rather than mowed built up, concreted cemeteries.

‘Walk and Talk’ Natural Burial Manawatū event at Ashhurst Domain 23rd February 2025

On the 23rd February we held a ‘Walk and Talk’ event at Ashhurst Domain open to the public to see the area, ask questions and discuss ideas. Approximately 30 attended this, some being our existing members but many new faces also. We looked at the PNCC proposed lower terrace area and also the site beside the existing cemetery and did our best to provide an understanding of what natural burial might look like, and answer any questions. All agreed that they would like to see both sites available for natural burial. Locals who walked regularly in the area thought the lower terrace was suitable and could not recall any flooding issues. One attendee was a social worker involved in end of life care social work and she said a number of her clients were asking her about natural burial. Also discussed was an option for the burial of placentas, options for ashes alongside the natural burial and pet burials.

Local Funeral Directors/ability to meet requirements for natural burial

Natural Burial Manawatū representatives have visited local funeral directors in Palmerston North and have identified at least 2 funeral service providers who are very supportive of the natural burial option, and who have expressed a willingness to become certified for natural burial. They have also agreed to be open to assisting those doing most things themselves such as selling a suitable coffin only without any further involvement required. These local funeral directors have already been involved in natural burials at certified natural burial grounds, for example at the Ōtaki cemetery and the Makara natural burial ground in Wellington. There are also local networks of people with experience in organising after death/before burial care without a funeral director, and who have information about this that they are sharing in their communities.

Soil Quality

When we looked at the soil at Ashhurst Domain (beside the current cemetery) it appeared to be good quality, organically active soil. Good quality soil is ideal for natural burial, however less optimal soil is acceptable for natural burial also with decomposition taking a bit longer. In other parts of the country natural burial is

occurring in less than optimal soil such as sandy soil (Ōtaki) and soil with volcanic pumice such (Taupō). Mulch is used to help build up the soil. One of our key goals is to see land improved by natural burial and plantings that benefit biodiversity with the aim being to improve soil quality through natural burial and plantings.

Conclusion

In conclusion we are grateful that Council have provided this opportunity to establish natural burial. We feel that Ashhurst Domain has multiple sites that are ideal for this project and we are excited to continue to work with Council to make this happen for our community in the near future.

Jean Hera
on behalf of Natural Burial Manawatū

66-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	DANIEL
Last name	SPROULL
Organisation you represent	GRAZIER AND MANAGMENT OF LEASE LAND , OVER 42 YEARS OF CONNECTION TO DOMAIN
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	Yes
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Have already a great relationship with DANNIELLE HARRIS Rangitane
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	NOT MY CALL
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	NOT MY CALL
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	HAVE DONE EXTENSIVE WORK ALREADY SO THAT THERES BUSH TO PROTECT
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	HAVE FARMED THE LEASE LAND TO USDA ORGANIC STANDARDS FOR 20 YEARS , SHOT AND KILLED 100S OF PESTS OVER THE YEARS , WOULD WANT TO BE ABLE TO HELP HERE .
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	THERE IS ALREADY 1 BURIAL SITE IN BUSH ON THE LOWER TERRACE , NEXT TO TRAIN TRACKS NOT A RESTING PLACE
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	CURRENT LAND HAS PLENTY OF SCOPE
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	CONTROLLING AFTER HOURS ISSUES
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	ITS WHAT MAKES THE EXPERIENCE SO ENJOYABLE FOR FAMILYS
General comments	
	<p>IF YOU HAVE BEGAN " TEAMING UP IN 2023 WITH STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMUNITY " THEN WHAT DOES ONE NEED TO DO TO GET ON THAT LIST ??</p> <p>YOU WANT SUSTAINABLE ??? BUT YET YOU HAVE A AMAZING FOUNDATION TO BUILD ON WITH THE LANDS CURRENT ORGANIC STATUS BUT COULD LOOSE 20 YEARS OF WORK OVERNIGHT</p>
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

67-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Angie
Last name	Crabtree
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It is an absolute must that the council commits to developing natural burial sites in our area, and here at Ashhurst Domain is a great start. It is also important that the council consider more than one location, one other location being next to the current cemetery, and also other locations such as Kelvin Grove cemetery for a natural burial option. Not only does natural burial areas provide options for families and loved ones, it also provides an area to be built into a native bush, a living space for people to visit.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

68-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Dana
Last name	Crabtree
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It is an absolute must that the council commits to developing natural burial sites in our area, and here at Ashhurst Domain is a great start. It is also important that the council consider more than one location, one other location being next to the current cemetery, and also other locations such as Kelvin Grove cemetery for a natural burial option. Not only does natural burial areas provide options for families and loved ones, it also provides an area to be built into a native bush, a living space for people to visit.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Natural burial is an important consideration for this area as it provides another option for families to lay loved ones to rest and still be able to visit a beautiful living commemoration to them as well as being a more financially available option for those who may struggle with these costs.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

69-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Allan
Last name	Dodge
Organisation you represent	N/A
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It is important to preserve the urupa and this should not be disturbed. As with the Manawatu Gorge, some signs should be visible outlining the history of the site: both Maori and European.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I prefer to rename the Domain as: Ashhurst-Otangaki Domain.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As there are very few native forested terraces and wetlands, then those at the Domain should be developed and existing native bush areas preserved and maintained.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Since the Domain Cafe was lost, there needs to be some type of provision of refreshments. Allowing licensed Food Trucks into certain areas of the Domain at certain times. Not just major Domain events like Pony Club or dog events, but at other times during daylight hours and during the week.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Nowhere, that I have found, is there made mention of Security. Something needs to be done to make the Domain safer at night, maybe with Patrolling Security Guards and/or NZ Police because there is evidence of illegal drug trafficking. This needs to be stopped in its tracks!
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper Poster, sign or billboard

70-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Kushla
Last name	Mercer
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I am very much in support of this. Working with local iwi is incredibly important.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Neutral
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Very much support this.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I think this is a wonderful initiative, and I hope it goes through. The current burial system is incredibly damaging to eco systems.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Pending more information but if this is given plenty of community input then yes, good idea.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It's almost completely out of reach financially for many New Zealanders (including my own wee whānau) to afford camping now. Please do not make this campground another place that takes away that experience due to high costs.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

71-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Leeann
Last name	Stallard
Organisation you represent	none
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Just Otangaki Domain or put Ashurst in brackets as Otangaki (Ashhurst) Domain. Hyphenated is too clunky.
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Just have a QR code to reduce unnecessary expense and have the details on the internet.
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Dogs should be on leash everywhere in the domain, not just in the bush, as people usually do not have sufficient control over their dogs (my daughter was challenged by two small-medium show dogs, which was scary and unpleasant. The owners were completely unapologetic and behaved in an entitled superior manner.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Given it is a natural wetland that makes sense.

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Putting shallow graves in a wetland area, that will most likely flood in future and as we all know the river can change course. This seems a ridiculous idea that will result in future stress and expense. At most allow ashes could be put under a tree/bush.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Depending on suitability of the projects.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	In moderation and subject to oversight.
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	However dogs should always be on leads and not allowed to run around people camping.
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

72-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sally
Last name	Cooper
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	That public access on existing, and any future, agreed pathways be maintained for all public users (inc dog on-lead walkers). And that should any noho anga - cultural occupation be booked, that it is clearly communicated to any other users so that when this is taking place, so that expectation of access can be managed.
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	That existing volunteer groups are included in the management program, so that first-hand dissemination of information, decision making and planning, plus community involvement is aligned, harnessed and productive.
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	That provision for mountain bikers is encouraged eg using the northern access track down alongside the railway to the river track and along towards/around the new bush development. That provision for off-lead dog walking be similarly supported along the same track, as well as in the canine club field. (Both responsibly noting other user vehicular access along the same track)

Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	That other areas of the domain be considered should there be any issue at all with the current proposed area on the lower terrace. (Alternative could be the land bound by eucalyptus next the cemetery.) This is a hugely significant step in offering natural burial in Palmerston north, and prestigious for Otangaki, and momentum for the council to offer this should not be lost should this current proposed location be declined.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Thanking the Council for working on the proposed changes, especially for working with Rangitane, for the future of the wetland and bush, and for the proposal to develop a natural burial site.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Letter or email Family or friends School, church or other community group or network, eg newsletter

73-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jane
Last name	Evans
Organisation you represent	Jane Evans
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Please make sure to investigate multiple areas for a natural burial site at Ashhurst Domain
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Letter or email Social media Family or friends

74-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sharon
Last name	Corkran
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Very important to consult with iwi
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Please also consider additional sites at domain
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

74-2

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends Other: Belong to support group

75-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Kathryn
Last name	Lane
Organisation you represent	Manawatu Estuary Management Team
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	Yes
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Wetlands enhance the water quality before it enters the river The Manawatu Estuary is the receiving environment for a large catchment and we support any measures which seek to enhance the water quality within the Manawatu River
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	We understand that the proposed interments will need to meet the relevant legal and environmental standards. We have confidence that PNCC will ensure that all those requirements are covered when they consider the conditions of the necessary resource consent, which we look forward to seeing.

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	<p>The Manawatu Estuary Management Team (MENT) supports the draft management plan.</p> <p>MENT comprises representatives from local iwi, Department of Conservation, Horizons Regional Council, Horowhenua District Council, the Manawatu Estuary Trust, several national and local environmental and community groups and citizens.</p> <p>MENT has developed the new Papangaio Te Wharangi Manawatu Estuary Management Plan , which is due to be officially launched later this month.</p> <p>One of the key focus areas for this plan is the water quality of the Manawatu River. The Ashhurst Domain wetland is of great relevance to the river's water quality.</p>
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	City councillor

76-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Bev
Last name	Swanson
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	This is important as the area was used by maori in pre european times and they will help conserve it
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Significant native area which should be carefully cared for
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It is important for the community to have a natural burial ground , far better environmentally and culturally/spiritually Natural burial will become the norm as people become more aware of the benefits It is so important that if the proposed area is not deemed suitable , then please see if another area can be used...

Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Just in one area and they should have to provide enviromentally friendly packaging/ containers and cutlery
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	It is a lovely place to visit and spend time
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

77-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jan
Last name	Eyre
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Strongly support this.
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

77-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

78-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Sian
Last name	Cass
Organisation you represent	Horizons Regional Council
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Comments attached
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Comments attached
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Other: Invited by PNCC to preliminary presentations

(Cont'd)

78-3

Horizons Regional Council Submission

Sian Cass Senior Biodiversity Advisor Community

Support the focus on “preserving the domain’s natural beauty and cultural significance”

The primary focus of this submission is to support plans to protect and enhance the existing native ecosystems and the extension of the wetland across the flood plain. This extension will support Policy 3.4 to achieve a “naturally more stable ecosystem”.

The following comments are suggested to provide more robust statements in the plan to enable the fruition of the policy and development opportunities.

Policy 3.1.3 – support general intent but needs to include control of transformer pest plant species that are not covered by the RPMP e.g. tradescantia in order to maintain the ecological integrity of areas containing indigenous ecosystem remnants.

Policy 3.2 - Suggest the management practises that protect and strengthen Character Area 4 are extended to new areas of native plant development planned for Character Area 2.

Policy 3.2.3 - The action of a planning document to guide the ecological development is supported. Ensure that target pest levels are clearly identified in the plan and regular monitoring undertaken to ensure targets are being met and state of ecologically sensitive areas is tracked over time.

Suggest another policy that states the plan be implemented.

Policy 3.2.4 - Volunteer group activity is already supported in Policy 3.2.6. This policy appears to give volunteers responsibility for the pest plant management.

Suggest pest plant management adheres to the recommendations in the plan as prepared in Policy 3.2.3. It will require a sound strategic approach to ensure the pest plants are reduced. This is often expensive and volunteer activity is not a reliable approach to ensure effective progress is made. Volunteer activity is supported but not as the primary role of responsibility for pest plant control.

Canopy gaps within bush require planting as well as weed control. Volunteers are ideal for planting and seedling release activities.

Policy 3.2.5 - As per suggestion for Policy 3.2; extend biodiversity management and reporting to new areas as they are developed.

Policy 3.4 - Support the extension of the wetland area for naturally stable ecosystem.

To achieve a “naturally stable ecosystem” is to make it as large as possible to support some species that require a larger roam and protection area. The ecological areas at

Ashhurst Domain are considered small and are surrounded by constant pest plant and pest animal intrusion from road and river pathways close by.

Suggest replacing phrase “create a larger” with “create as large an extension as practicable”.

What is the difference between a ‘policy action’ and a ‘policy opportunity’? It gives the impression that it doesn’t have to be carried out. Suggest a greater level of commitment to this ‘opportunity’.

Policy 3.4 has a **Development Opportunity 3.2.8**. Unclear what development opportunity 3.2.8 is. Is it Development Opportunity 3.5?

Policy Action 12.5.1 & 12.5.2 - Endorse policies if they support the wetland development.

Development Policy 13.2 - refers to Figure 10: 14 should reference Figure 10: 14, 4, 17, 20 and 22. Because it’s 20 and 22 that is the development opportunity.

The Appendix does not include the Vegetation Assessment. This was read at a previous occasion but does not appear in this version which limits the response. However from memory the Vegetation Assessment was sound and developed by a well known expert, Viv McGlynn. Suggest this is included in the Management Plan.

In summary Horizons encourages the development of Character Area 2 to become a wetland. The policies require additional details to ensure the outcomes are well planned and implemented to ensure success. Success is measured by low pest abundance enabling indigenous ecosystems to thrive and regenerate.

79-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Mary
Last name	Bridewell
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	More than one natural burial site needs to be considered
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	Look for more than one option for natural burial sites in case one isn't suitable
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper

80-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Keith
Last name	Joblin
Organisation you represent	Te Apiti UNESCO Geopark Steering Group
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
	I attach a file with further information about establishing significant geological sites (geosites) in the domain reflecting the geological origins and dynamics of the domain and environs. I hope my attempts to attach this file are successful. Otherwise please contact me directly.
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

80-3**Submission on PNCC Management Plan for Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain**

From: Te Āpiti UNESCO Geopark Steering Group

Date: 3 March 2025

We ask that significant geological sites (geosites) are included in the Management Plan and that the geological origins and dynamics are a part of the history of the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain and environs. This includes 2 geosites on the eastern boundary of the Upper Terrace – see below.

We also support the following:

- community recreational use of the domain.
- enhancing accessibility to features and sites.
- improving signage and visual connections in the domain.
- working with Rangitāne to ensure that cultural legacy and cultural sites are protected.
- protecting biodiversity and restoring native forests, bush areas and wetlands on the Lower Terrace.
- restricting development in areas of native bush and wetlands – no dogs off lease, no mountain biking in bush areas or wetlands.

Geosites in the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain:

Two geosites in the domain are our focus at present. These sites are part of a proposed regional UNESCO Geopark (with about 25 geosites) centered around the Te Āpiti-Manawātū Gorge and the Manawātū River Catchment (see Reference 1). These Geopark sites are important visitor destination sites and will require signage to explain their geological history and significance.

The following information has been provided by Dr V. E. Neall, Professor Emeritus, Earth Sciences, Massey University.

Geosite 1. This is at a road cutting leading down to the Lower River Terraces and clearly reveals gravels (known as the Ohakea gravels) deposited in the Manawātū during the last cold-climate phase of the Last Ice Age. This exposure, consisting of gravels approximately 7 metres deep, contains a continuous geological record of riverbed aggradation in the Manawātū in the period between about 30,000 years ago and about 12,000 years ago.

During the ice ages, when conditions were colder and drier, strong winds caused dust storms that moved huge amounts of wind-blown silt known as loess from riverbeds on to the surrounding areas. Wind-removal of silt from the Ohakea gravels was the last widespread loess distribution in the region and accordingly, soil in the top layer has developed within the gravels directly and without a loess cover (soils now known as the Ashhurst soils).

This exposure also provides evidence of the older marine sands and siltstones which formed when this region was beneath the ocean. These can be observed under the river gravels at the lowest level of the exposure.

Geosite 2. This site, near the site of a previous café, is a vista providing an easterly view of geological features of the Southern Ruahine Ranges and Saddle Road area north of the Manawatū Gorge. The visual features include parts of the new Te Ahu a Turanga – Manawatū Tararua Highway.

- Immediately below the lookout, the post-Ice-Age (called post glacial) river terraces of the Pohangina River (formed less than 10,000 years ago and younger than the Ohakea gravels) can be seen.
- In front of you, the first low ridge of the Saddle Road hills, formed of the Takapari Formation dips steeply towards you. These sedimentary rocks of weakly consolidated sands, silts, pumices and lignites are prone to erosion and numerous landslides can be seen along the front of the Range - slipping westwards down into the Pohangina Valley.
- The hills beyond and to the skyline are composed of the Te Āpiti Conglomerate which now can be seen exposed on the Te Ahu a Turanga – Manawatū Tararua Highway.
- To the north and sloping up to Whārite, the erosion surface cut across the basement greywacke rock strata that is referred to as the 'Whārite surface'. This surface can also be seen emerging from beneath younger rock strata south of the Manawatū Gorge forming the concordant summit height of the skyline.

References: 1. A Proposed Te Āpiti UNESCO Geopark, Te Āpiti-Manawatū Gorge Governance Group, October 2024; K. Joblin and V. Neall.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Management Plan and are happy to provide further information if required.

Dr K. N. Joblin, Chairman, Te Āpiti UNESCO Geopark Steering Group.

81-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Louise
Last name	Ilton
Organisation you represent	Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	But we would love to have work together if there was an opportunity to potentially use the bottom of the wetland to place some cross country jumps if possible.
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	

Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	There are lots of community groups that could work together for this and as Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club we would be keen and to help maintain this, while plans are worked on. Even by keeping it tidy and mowed, as that is something we can contribute to.
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	There does seem to be several more camping in cars even over the past 2 weeks and they are not always parked in the camp ground. It is always good when they don't block the access to paddocks it is a great bonus.
General comments	
	<p>We are very interested in working on a way forward. We can see if we can have someone available to attend on the 26th March. As an organisation we have seen how much more popular the domain has become over the last 10 or so years, we love seeing people enjoying running their dogs in our Pony Club paddocks and having fun with them jumping some of the fences.</p> <p>As a group we are keen to work collaboratively just like we have done with Daniel and the Kennel Club over the time.</p>
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	<p>Council website</p> <p>Social media</p> <p>Poster, sign or billboard</p> <p>Digital advertising, eg an advert on TVNZ+, Stuff, MetService etc</p> <p>Other: From members attending consultation.</p>

81-3

Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club Submission

Background:

Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club is a branch of Manawatu Pony Club and belong to Manawatu West Coast Area that comprises of Rangitikei, Whanganui and Horowhenua.

Membership: Ashhurst is the largest branch in the Manawatu and one of the largest in the Lower North Island.

Grounds – we have been at the Ashhurst Domain for just over 10 years I believe. We started with one small paddock and a container and then we gained a second paddock, we started with being able to use the larger grazed paddocks for parking on our event days and we were to have at least six per year. We did work with the grazier as this didn't always work due to weather etc

Our membership has doubled since we have been at these Ashhurst Domain Gtounds

- Our riders come from Pahiatua, Rewa, Palmerston North and the local Ashhurst Pohangina Area
- We also have held Manawatu Mounted Games Competitions at our grounds bringing down riders from Taupo, Hawkes Bay and
- Our Annual Sports Day on Waitangi Day has dec v all of the trends this year of low entries Ashhurst has a great reputation and that people came from as far as King Country with 3 year old children. We had 50 riders in the Kindy Ring and 40 of them 6 years or under!
- We also hold regular rallies, inter club competitions, exams, Anzac Day show and Show Hunter competitions
- Our grounds are central and we often have riders come from Wairarapa, King Country, Taihape to training on the facilities we are so lucky to have
- We are the only venue big enough to hold Combined Manawatu Pony Club Events

Stables – would there be an opportunity for the Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club to take over the stables, renovate, maintain and use these? We would intend to bring them up to a safe, useable standard and use them at our events. We will ensure, these are kept clean, tidy and mucked out and make sure the yards are revamped to be safe and still work for stock. The committee is really focused on helping preserving the history of Ashhurst and we believe this is a fantastic opportunity.

Extra Land Availability – As previously discussed with James Good District Commissioner of Manawatu Pony Club and the council. Would there be an opportunity for the Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club to take over the lease of these two paddocks to use for our events and spread our cross country jumps around the edge of the paddocks and or some down the bottom? Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club would be happy to open this up for the public to use and we are also happy to work alongside the current grazer to graze and other clubs to use, in times of need (canine club when they have events, sports clubs when they have events etc). If the current grazer no longer wants to continue to graze it, Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club is happy to take over the upkeep and maintenance of this piece of land. We have a tow and mow that we can use to keep the grass at a safe and tidy length and we also have club members who will be responsible for weed eating the edges of the paddocks, keeping long grass away from fences and keeping it clean and tidy. We know it is also a larger area and would be open to buying a tractor and mower to help keep it tidy for community use.

81-4

We haven't asked previously due to the relationship the grazier we liked to work with them. In the last three or four years our numbers have grown. They could potentially grow more as New Zealand Pony Club looks at joining the smaller branches so riders that are closer to us could join.

- Currently there are cross country facilities available up to 95cm level within the Manawatu and our riders often head to Manaku and that can be up to an hour and a half sometimes two hours each way just to train for Cross Country, and then there is the time they spend there.

Toilets – Would there be an opportunity for Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club to take over the lease/have access to the toilets that are attached to what was the old jockey rooms/café? Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club would be happy to get these up to a safe and useable standard and to continue to keep these maintained, clean, tidy and hygienic. These toilets would be locked and would only be unlocked during events, where members can monitor and maintain usage. – About 7 years a council man came and took promotional photos and asked for our feedback about what we wanted to see and we said toilets be great. Instead we have purchased our own Portaloo that is locked in our shed

We would also be open to helping keep the Café – former links to the Race Course in a better state of repairs so it looks tidier, as it has a connection to the equestrian community.

NEW ZEALAND PONY CLUB *Where it begins!*

STRATEGY 2024 & BEYOND

MISSION NZPCA exists so that young people can participate in and enjoy equestrian activities while being part of a community, growing knowledge, and being safe.

OUR VISION To be New Zealand's entry point for a life with horses.

STRATEGIC THEMES We will fulfill our mission and vision by achieving our strategic themes and objectives:

- RIDER & COACH OPPORTUNITIES**
Focus on rider outcomes and development that are driven by a consistent and engaging national program, delivered by the best coaching talent
- COMMUNICATE & COLLABORATE**
A robust and agile **Communication Plan** to develop relationships with the layers of our organisation and other Equestrian organisations; to enable mutually beneficial partnerships and goals
- ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE**
Maximise our **database** as a tool to grow our internal framework and develop **strategic planning** to enhance the membership experience

OUR VALUES And we'll get there by creating a high performing organisation, with highly engaged people that hold our values

- TOGETHERNESS**
Working together to develop friends, fun and adventure
- EMPATHY**
We support every individual to develop and reach their goals
- SELF MANAGEMENT**
We grow through seeking opportunities in learning and education
- PARTICIPATING & CONTRIBUTING**
We enjoy participating in the Pony Club journey by contributing wherever possible

As a branch we are financially sound and one thing we are really good at is working hard and raising funds for a common goal.

81-5

- We currently are working on keeping girls in Sport as part of the Sport NZ directives as many of them will leave sport as teenagers
- We also have 25% of our riders that are neurodiverse and we work hard to keep them included
- At least 25% are of Maori or Asian decent and we are working hard on keeping them in sport

As Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club – we love that we have our home at the Ashhurst Domain and have seen its popularity grow over the past few years and we are keen to work on new opportunities. We know how lucky we are to be able to use these wonderful facilities and we love how we attract lots of visitors each year to enjoy them with us too.



On Behalf of the
Ashhurst Pohangina Pony Club Committee

82-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Ashley
Last name	Cooper
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Working more closely with all interested parties & current user groups to ensure any use is respectful & appropriate
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

82-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

83-1

**Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain
Reserve Management Plan**

Your contact details	
First name	Willa
Last name	Du Plessis
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	No
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Waste of money
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	100% support this
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Absolutely!
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

83-2

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Social media

Submission to Palmerston North City Council In Support of the Creation of a Natural Burial Ground in the Region

From: Beauchamp Funeral Home

Introduction

Beauchamp Funeral Home has been serving the families of Palmerston North and surrounding areas for many years. During this time, we have witnessed evolving preferences and expectations regarding end-of-life choices. One of the most frequent requests we receive is for **natural burial options**. Many individuals and families are deeply passionate about **minimizing their environmental impact** and seek a burial option that aligns with their values of sustainability and returning to the earth in a natural, undisturbed way.

Unfortunately, while there is a clear and growing demand for natural burials, we find that most families do not proceed with this option due to two primary barriers:

1. **Excessive out-of-district fees**, which make the cost of a natural burial significantly higher than a traditional burial or cremation.
2. **Lack of a local option**, meaning that those wishing for a natural burial must be laid to rest far from their home, family, and community.

These barriers effectively restrict meaningful choice for families who would otherwise opt for a natural burial, forcing them into decisions that do not fully align with their personal, cultural, or environmental values. By establishing a natural burial ground within Palmerston North, the Council would provide its residents with an accessible, affordable, and deeply meaningful end-of-life option.

Providing True Choice for Families

Choice is at the heart of a dignified end-of-life journey. Families deserve options that reflect their personal beliefs, cultural traditions, and environmental values.

A local natural burial ground would allow individuals to return to the land in the most natural way possible, free from embalming chemicals, concrete vaults, or non-biodegradable materials. This is particularly important for those who believe in becoming one with nature and wish to have their body decompose naturally, nourishing the earth and promoting new life.

Currently, the financial and logistical barriers limit this choice. Those who wish for a natural burial often cannot justify the added expense or do not want to be buried far from their loved ones. This leads many to reluctantly choose cremation or traditional burial, despite their personal preference for a simple, eco-friendly return to the earth.

By providing a local, cost-effective natural burial ground, Palmerston North City Council can ensure that residents have a genuine and meaningful choice in how they are laid to rest.

84-2

Cultural Considerations: Honoring Māori Connections to the Land

For Māori and other indigenous peoples, the connection to whenua (land) is sacred and deeply spiritual. The act of returning to the land is not simply a physical process but a continuation of one's relationship with their ancestors and the natural world.

A natural burial ground within Palmerston North would provide Māori whānau with an option that aligns with tikanga (customs) and wairua (spiritual beliefs). Many Māori families express a strong preference for burial over cremation, as it is seen as a more natural and respectful way to return to Papatūānuku (Mother Earth). However, the lack of a local natural burial option forces some whānau to compromise on their cultural traditions, choosing cremation instead.

By establishing a natural burial ground, the Council would honour and uphold the cultural traditions of tangata whenua, ensuring that local Māori have the ability to bury their loved ones in a way that respects their heritage, beliefs, and deep spiritual connection to the land.

Environmental and Community Benefits

Beyond providing meaningful choice and respecting cultural traditions, a natural burial ground supports environmental sustainability. As concerns about climate change and ecological preservation grow, more families are seeking eco-conscious funeral options. Natural burials:

- **Eliminate the use of embalming chemicals**, which can leach into the soil and waterways.
- **Avoid concrete burial vaults and non-biodegradable caskets**, reducing resource consumption.
- **Encourage reforestation and biodiversity**, as many natural burial sites are designed to support native flora and fauna.
- **Offer a tranquil, natural setting for remembrance**, fostering a deeper sense of peace and continuity with the natural world.

A local natural burial ground would also serve as a community asset, providing an alternative to conventional cemeteries while supporting Palmerston North's broader environmental and sustainability goals.

Conclusion: A Necessary and Meaningful Step Forward

We at the Beauchamp Funeral Home strongly urge Palmerston North City Council to move forward with the establishment of a natural burial ground within the region. The demand is clear, the barriers are preventing people from exercising their true preference, and the benefits—both personal and environmental—are significant.

By taking this step, the Council would be ensuring that residents of Palmerston North have access to an affordable, accessible, and culturally appropriate natural burial option, reflecting the values of sustainability, choice, and respect for life and land.

84-3

We would welcome the opportunity to work alongside the Council and other stakeholders to ensure that this initiative is successfully implemented and meets the needs of the diverse communities we serve.

Ngā mihi nui,



**Anthony Beauchamp
Managing Director
Beauchamp Funeral Home**

85-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	lauren
Last name	fairfeild
Organisation you represent	
Email	
Phone	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes

Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Newspaper

86-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Vivienne
Last name	Martin
Organisation you represent	Ngā Moemoea Services
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	It's good to work together to ensure that the Domain is well maintained
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	I would like the name to be changed to the original name
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Only when there is events

Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

87-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	Jim
Last name	Wo
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
General comments	
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Family or friends

88-1

Submission on the draft Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

Your contact details	
First name	John
Last name	Mills
Organisation you represent	
Hearing	
Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
Working more closely with Rangitāne to ensure the Domain is managed respectfully and appropriately	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Renaming the Domain to Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain	
Do you support this change?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Maintain the historic value of the site
We will consider including information about Te Āpiti and NZTA plans in new signs at the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Further protecting the native bush area	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Native bush is important to the environment and at the domain provides sheltered and rewarding walking tracks
Developing areas of the lower terrace into a native forest and wetland	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Introducing a natural burial site on the lower terrace (northern boundary of the Domain)	
Do you support this?	I don't know / no opinion
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	
Developing parts of land on the upper terrace for community projects	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	As long as this is well managed and doesnt become a white elephant stand and is multi cultural

Allowing food trucks to apply for licences to trade in the Domain	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	Could be helpful for campers and day visitors
Maintaining the 'off-the beaten track' nature of the campground	
Do you support this?	Yes
Are there any comments you'd like to make?	However, the policing of long stayers and overstayers needs supervising. Also overcome a creeping habit of campers, caravans, motorhomes etc taking up two sites. This could be helped by marking out/ identifying camp sites.
General comments	
	Appears well thought out on paper,
Supporting documents	
How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?	Council website

89-1

Age-Friendly Palmerston North submission to the Draft Otangaki–Ashhurst Domain Reserve
Management Plan 1 August 2025

Organisation: Age-Friendly Palmerston North	
Representative Names: Russell Hallam and Kerry Hocquard	

About those making this submission:

Age-Friendly Palmerston North

The Age Friendly Palmerston North community group advocates to Palmerston North City Council to support age-friendly social and physical environments that enhance the well-being of older people in our community. The Age Friendly Palmerston North community group has been a key stakeholder in the development of the PNCC Age Friendly Action Plan, and in the ongoing commitment to Palmerston North being an Age Friendly community.

Executive Summary

We submit this proposal as *Age Friendly Palmerston North*, our community group that actively advocates for physical and social environments that promote the well-being of older adults. As a key stakeholder in the development of the Palmerston North Age Friendly Action Plan, we commend the Draft Otangaki–Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan and urge the Council to adopt a stronger, more explicit age-friendly lens.

Our proposal aligns with Palmerston North City Council's commitment to becoming an Age-Friendly City, in line with the WHO Age-Friendly Cities Framework and New Zealand's *Better Later Life Strategy (2019–2034)*. We advocate for the integration of the eight WHO Age-Friendly Domains to guide development, planning, and future upgrades of the Domain, ensuring older people can fully access, participate in, and enjoy this cherished public space.

We request the opportunity to speak to this submission.

Why an Age-Friendly Approach Matters

Palmerston North is experiencing demographic change, with a growing proportion of older residents. In 2023, over 16% of the city's population was aged 65 or older—a figure expected to rise steadily (Stats NZ, 2023). Embedding age-friendly principles in public spaces helps prepare for this demographic shift while ensuring equitable access and participation for all.

Outdoor spaces like Otangaki–Ashhurst Domain play a crucial role in promoting physical activity, social connection, and mental well-being among older adults (WHO, 2007). The Domain is already valued by older residents for walking, birdwatching, gardening, and quiet reflection. Enhancing the age-friendliness of the Domain ensures these benefits are sustained and expanded.

Recommendations: Applying an Age-Friendly Framework

We encourage PNCC to apply the WHO's Eight Age-Friendly Domains to guide the future development and enhancement of Otangaki–Ashhurst Domain:

1. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Accessibility & Safety:

- Develop smooth, slip-resistant pathways wide enough for mobility aids.
- Install seating with backs and armrests at regular intervals and near entrances and attractions.
- Improve lighting and sightlines to enhance safety and visibility.
- Provide adequate shade through trees and structures.

Facilities:

- Ensure accessible and well-maintained toilets close to carparks and key gathering areas.
- Provide access to drinking fountains and shelter in all weather conditions.

Inclusive Design:

- Create sensory gardens and quiet contemplation areas for restorative enjoyment.
- Design shared play zones with nearby seating for caregivers and older people.

2. Transportation & Parking

- Provide accessible parking spaces for those with mobility needs.
 - Ensure safe pedestrian connections between parking areas and key features.
 - Consider age-friendly features in shared transport access (e.g., bus drop-off zones or scooter charging stations).
-

89-3

3. Social Participation

- Develop sheltered picnic areas and open-air gathering spaces that encourage intergenerational activity.
 - Support programming such as walking groups, tai chi, or creative aging workshops.
 - Promote community gardens that encourage shared stewardship of the reserve.
-

4. Respect and Social Inclusion

- Recognize and celebrate the role of *kaumātua* and older residents in shaping and preserving the Domain.
 - Incorporate Māori knowledge and language in signage, storytelling spaces, and cultural events.
 - Promote multigenerational design that values aging and shared experience.
-

5. Civic Participation and Employment

- Use co-design processes involving older adults and community groups in planning, implementation, and evaluation.
 - Integrate universal design principles in all future infrastructure.
 - Establish ongoing feedback loops to assess age-friendliness over time.
-

6. Communication and Information

- Install digital kiosks or QR code access to walking routes, upcoming events, and environmental information.
 - Use clear, large-font, bilingual signage with pictorial elements to ensure accessibility for all literacy levels and languages.
 - Provide updates on the proposed PNCC web page devoted to Age Friendly issues, in community newsletters, and via local groups such as Grey Power, Age Friendly Palmerston North social media, and community libraries.
-

7. Community Support and Health Services

- Incorporate adult fitness stations, shaded rest stops, and features like outdoor chess or quiet reading areas.
 - Design activity zones for intergenerational interaction to combat social isolation.
 - Work with community health providers to offer wellness activities on-site.
-

8. Support for Natural Burials

The Domain's potential inclusion of a natural burial site aligns closely with age-friendly values and environmental stewardship. We strongly support this initiative and highlight the following benefits from an age-friendly perspective:

Environmental and Emotional Benefits:

- Natural burials support biodiversity and reduce environmental impact (NZ Ministry for the Environment, 2022).
- They offer comfort and connection to nature, important for the emotional well-being of older people.

Affordability and Choice:

- Lower costs make natural burial more accessible for those on fixed incomes
- Offers meaningful, culturally sensitive options for final rites and remembrance.

Community and Legacy:

- Fosters community reflection, reducing stigma around death, and encouraging open conversations.
- Enables older adults to leave a legacy aligned with personal values and ecological responsibility.

Conclusion

Embedding an age-friendly lens in the Otangaki–Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan ensures that Palmerston North remains a city of inclusion, respect, and resilience. This is not merely about accommodating older people; it's about designing with dignity, community, and futureproofing in mind.

Let Otangaki–Ashhurst Domain stand as a national example of how green spaces can nurture the wellbeing of all generations—where trees grow alongside community connections, and paths lead not only through nature, but toward belonging.

Nāku noa, nā

Age Friendly Palmerston North Community Group

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