

Ashburton District
FINAL
Reserve Management Plan

Volume 5 – Methven and Rural Reserves

November 2024

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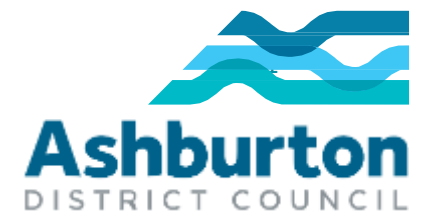


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Reserves in Methven

01. Allan Lochhead Green - North

Description

Allan Lochhead Green – North, is a small reserve that forms part of a green space between State Highway 77 / Mount Hutt Station Road and the adjacent residential properties. Amenity plantings and trees are located on the reserve.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Camrose Avenue / Mount Hutt Station Road - intersection, Methven
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NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.0641
Legal Description	Lot 305 DP 505021
Land Status	Local Purpose (Amenity) Reserve

Background

Vested on Deposit for Local Purpose Reserve.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Install signage to identify the site as a reserve.
- Develop walkway between State Highway 77 and Camrose Avenue.

02. Allan Lochhead Green

Description

Allan Lochhead Green provides a linear open space between housing areas in northeast Methven. The land provides for several purposes including open space, neighbourhood playground, and stormwater overflow during periods of heavy rainfall.



A walkway through the reserve connects the end of Grace Ireland Drive and Alma Place.

A small playground is located on Lot 304, adjacent to the end of Grace Ireland Drive.

Address	Grace Ireland Drive, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	1.0322

The reserve is made up of three land parcels, which are all held under the Reserves Act 1977 as Recreation Reserve.

Legal Description	Land Status
Lot 5 DP 83742	Recreation Reserve
Lot 9 DP 83742	Recreation Reserve
Lot 304 DP 461877	Recreation Reserve

Background

This reserve was vested on deposit for Recreation Reserve purposes and classified in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

None identified.

03. Chambers Park

Description

Chambers Park is a recreation reserve that serves as a neighbourhood park for the adjacent residential properties.

The reserve is largely green open space, with some mature trees. A playground is located in the north-western corner of the reserve.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, held as Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	26 Spaxton Street, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	0.4000

Legal Description	Lot 1 DP 49629
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

Ashburton County Council acquired the land in 1986 through the ‘adverse possession’ process. A land exchange in 1987 exchanged the land with Lot 25 DP 40797, effectively transferring the status of Recreation Reserve to Lot 1 DP 49629.

The reserve was named in recognition of the contribution that members of the Chambers family have made to the Methven community.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Playground has limited play value and provides largely for young children play.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Consider upgrading the existing playground to provide for a wider range of ages and abilities.
- Construct a path to the playground.

04. Cushmor Drive Park

Description

Cushmor Drive Park is a small recreation reserve that provides open space for the adjacent residential properties.

There are no public amenities or services located in the reserve.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Cushmor Drive, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	0.1711
Legal Description	Lot 8 DP 50868
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

This reserve was vested in Ashburton District Council for recreation purposes and classified in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Limited opportunities for use of the reserve.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1:

1. Consider opportunities to provide additional amenities at the reserve, including parks furniture and play facilities.

Development opportunities

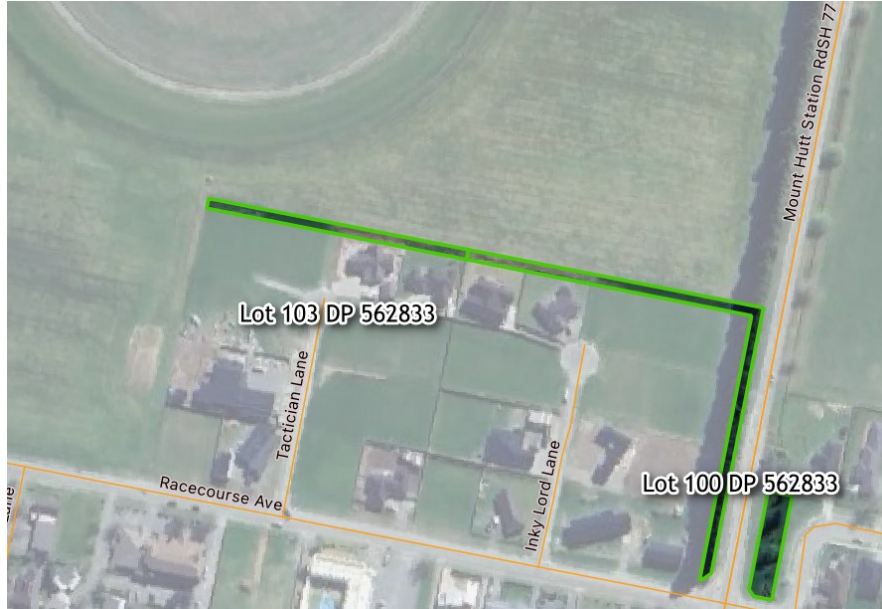
The following opportunities have been identified:

- Install signage to identify the site as a reserve.
- Install seating/ picnic tables suitable for older residents.
- Improve boundary fencing with adjacent residential properties.
- Increase the size of the reserve when adjoining land is subdivided to make it a more useable, attractive space and connected space.

05. Equus Park Linkage

Description

Narrow accessways along the northern boundary of a new subdivision, with linkages to the newly created cul-de-sacs to the south.



Address	Mount Hutt Station Road, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.2075

The reserve is made up of two land parcels, both subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Background

The land was vested in Ashburton District Council on subdivision [and classified in 2024](#). It is to be developed as an accessway.

Legal Description	Land Status
Lot 100 DP 562833	Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve
Lot 103 DP 562833	Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

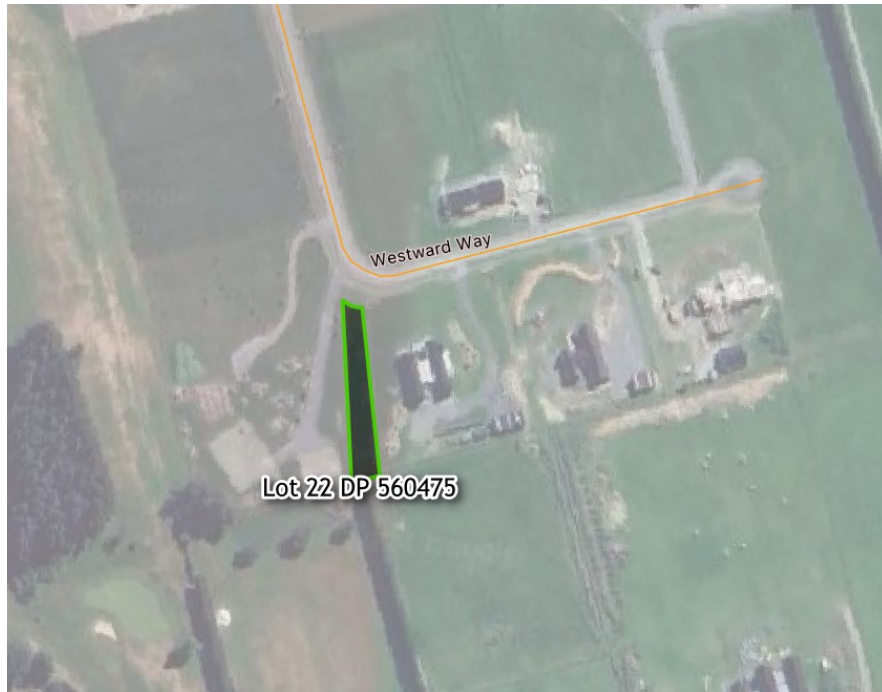
The following opportunities have been identified:

- Develop the land as an accessway.
- Install signage to identify the site as a reserve.
- Provide an opening/connection to the existing Opuke Thermal Pools & Spa walkway on the western side of State Highway 77/Mount Hutt Station Road
- Extend the linkage to the west when adjoining land is subdivided.

06. Kakariki Linkage

Description

Kakariki linkage is a small accessway in a new subdivision to the north west of Methven. The reserve currently provides no access to any other roads or reserves but does provide a connection to the Methven Golf Course.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	28 Westward Way, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage

Total Size (in ha)	0.0739
Legal Description	Lot 22 DP 560475
Land Status	Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve

Background

This reserve was vested in Ashburton District Council on subdivision ~~in~~ for recreation purposes and classified in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Develop the land as an accessway.
- Install signage to identify the site as a reserve.

07. Lochhead Crescent Park

Description

Lochhead Crescent Park is a 4380 m² reserve that serves as a neighbourhood park. A footpath in the reserve provides a green link through the neighbourhood. The reserve has two park benches and some maturing trees.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	16 Lochhead Crescent, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	0.4380
Legal Description	Lot 40 DP 50770

Land Status	Recreation Reserve
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Background

This reserve was created through subdivision and vested in Ashburton District Council for recreation purposes. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Two unformed right-of-ways are located adjacent to the south-west end of the reserve (these are currently mown as part of the reserve).

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Identify as local reserve through signage.

08. Methven Cemetery

Description

Methven Cemetery is located on the eastern side of the Methven Domain in the north east of Methven. It is made up of two land parcels. The exotic trees that were on part Pt RS 30312 recently been cleared to provide for future additional land for cemetery purposes. Other developments have occurred on the reserve recently, in line with the with the Methven



Cemetery Development Plan 2021. This includes the removal of exotic trees, planting of native bush on the eastern boundary, improvements to drainage and expansion of the cemetery space.

A wide macrocarpa hedge separates the domain / sportsgrounds from the cemetery.

Part of Methven Walkway, a 12km walkway which provides various options for users of varying abilities, traverses through the reserve. Methven Walkway was opened in 1979 and is maintained by the Methven Branch of the Lions Club under an agreement with Council.

Address	Methven Chertsey Road, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	4.3984

The reserves' two land parcels are both subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Legal Description	Land Status
Pt RS 30312 SO 2341	Unclassified reserve – Crown owned
Res 2612 SO 2341	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

Res 2612 SO 2341 was formerly Pt of Reserve 2026, which was reserved for police purposes by Gazette 1891 page 891. The purpose of part of the land parcel was changed from police purposes to cemetery by Gazette 1883 page 1324. In 1908 the land was vested in the Mount Hutt Road Board (NZ Gazette 1908 p 621). Through this vesting and subsequent local government reorganisation, the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. **The land was classified in 2024.**

Pt RS 30312 SO 2341 was acquired from private ownership, by members of the Methven Domain Board in 1891 in exchange for a portion of closed road. Subsequently the Crown purchased the land in 1909. 5084m² of the land was set aside for recreation ground (now part of Methven Domain) and the remaining 2.3725 ha set aside for cemetery purposes subject to the Cemeteries Act 1908. This part is now the eastern part of the Methven Cemetery. This land has been included in the plan advocacy purposes.

The cemetery's earliest burial record dates from 1883.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

There are no formal agreements for occupation, but Methven walkway, which runs through the reserve, is maintained by maintained by the Methven Branch of the Lions Club under an agreement with Council.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- No record has been found of the vesting of the Pt RS 30312 SO 2341 in Ashburton District Council. The current registered owner is the Crown.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Liaise with Department of Conservation/ Land Information New Zealand to further investigate the land status of Pt RS 30312 SO 2341 and if required, formally vest administration of the land in Ashburton District Council. Currently this land is included for advocacy purposes only.
2. If Council becomes administering body of Pt RS 30312 SO 2341, consider classifying the land as Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve.

Development opportunities

No additional development opportunities identified.

09. Methven Dog Park

Description

Methven Dog Park is a grassed open space set up to allow for dog exercise and encourage social interaction of dogs and their owners. It is surrounded by a macrocarpa hedge/ mature trees and fencing on three sites. Dog agility and enrichment activities have recently been installed in the park. Limited off-street parking is available on Dolma Street.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is held under the Local Government Act.

Address	61 Dolma Street, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	1.5696
Legal Description	Pt Lot 4 DP 3835
Land Status	Held under the Local Government Act

Background

This land is held under the Local Government Act 2002 as open space. In the past the land was used as a gravel pit and Hydatids dog dosing strip.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Area does not provide for a separated large dog and small dog exercise options.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Consider provision of signage, seating and shade.

11. Methven Skatepark

Description

Methven skatepark consists of two land-parcels on the corner of McMillan and Bank Streets. Opened in July 2020, following extensive efforts by the community, the area provides facilities for skateboards and scooters for all ages and abilities.



Address	24-26 McMillan Street, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	0.2024

The reserve is made up of two land parcels, both are Recreation reserves under the Reserves Act.

Legal Description	Land Status
Lot 29 DP 428	Recreation Reserve
Lot 30 DP 428	Recreation Reserve

Background

The land was originally held as freehold land, but has been declared reserve and classified for recreation purposes in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Limited natural or artificial shade is provided for reserve users.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Provision of shade.

12. Thyme Stream Walkway

Description

The reserve is a small walkway linkage in a new subdivision off Mt Harding Road in Methven. Part of Methven Walkway, a 12km walkway which provides various options for users of varying abilities, traverses through the reserve. Methven Walkway was opened in 1979 and is maintained by the Methven Branch of the Lions Club under an agreement with Council.



Also traversing some of the reserve is Thyme Stream which is also used for stockwater purposes.

The reserve is made up of one land parcel, subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	2 Mount Harding Road, Methven
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.7812
Legal Description	Lot 21 DP 507114
Land Status	Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve

Background

This reserve was created through subdivision and vested in Ashburton District Council for Local purposes (accessway) reserve, subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

There are no formal agreements for occupation, but Methven walkway, which runs through the reserve, is maintained by maintained by the Methven Branch of the Lions Club under an agreement with Council.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Install signage.

Rural Reserves in the Western Ward

13. Alford Forest Cemetery (open)

Description

Alford Forest Cemetery is a small rural cemetery that served the surrounding communities of Alford Forest and Staveley. The earliest burial records are from 1883.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act.

Address	Alford Forest Cemetery Road, Mt Somers
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	4.0468
Legal Description	Res 2479 SO 3881

Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve
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Background

This land was reserved for cemetery purpose through New Zealand Gazette 1880 p 1569 and is therefore subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

NZ Gazette 1908 p 621 vests the land in trust in the Mount Somers Road Board. Through this vesting and subsequent local government reorganisation, the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. [The land was classified in 2024](#)

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation recorded.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Part of the land appears to be used by the adjacent farmer for grazing.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Formalise the occupation of the reserve not currently used as cemetery, until such time as it might be needed for cemetery purposes.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

14. Awa Awa Rata Reserve

Description

Awa Awa Rata Reserve, formerly known as McLennans Bush, includes two blocks of land at the end of McLennans Bush Road. A walkway through the reserve connects with tracks in Pudding Hill Scenic Reserve (managed by the Department of Conservation and not part of this plan).

The area features a picnic spot, including shelter, surrounded by rhododendrons and azaleas, which provide a seasonal colour display. The reserve also includes a public toilet (replaced in 2023), interpretation/information boards and a carpark.



In the late 1960s, the newly formed Methven Lions Club began planting the picnic ground with rhododendrons. The Awa Awa Rata Reserve Society has been involved in the care of the reserve since the early 1970s,

¹ Mahika kai (or mahinga kai) refers to Ngāi Tahu interests in traditional food and other natural resources and the places where those resources are obtained. Source:

with families in the district sharing in the care of the reserve and adjacent bush area. A plaque to honour Guy Goldsbrough, a Methven horticulturalist and founder of the original reserve committee, has been in the reserve since 2009.

The area is of cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu Whānui, and known as Mahitahi. It was a kāinga mahika kai¹ (food gathering place).

The reserve is made up of two land parcels, which are Recreation Reserves held under the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	423 McLennans Bush Road, Pudding Hill
NZRA Reserve Category	Nature
Total Size (in ha)	3.0092
Legal Description	Res 4455 SO 7318 (1.6283 ha) Res 4455 SO 7318 (1.3809 ha)
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

This land was acquired under the Public Works Act for a recreation ground and vested in Ashburton County Council in 1941 (New Zealand Gazette 1941 p 3885).

The foundations of a small brick building (see historic photo below), referred to as the cookhouse and built in the early 1900s, are located just to the north of the reserve area (within the Department of Conservation managed land).

<https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/the-settlement/settlement-offer/cultural-redress/ownership-and-control/mahika-kai/>

More information about the history of the reserve can be found in the document “History of Awa Awa Rata Reserve” published by the Awa Awa Rata Reserve Society.



Figure 1 Family in front of cookhouse at McLennans Bush, 1921²

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

There are no formal occupation. The Awa Awa Rata Reserve Society has developed and maintained the reserve for many years and is still involved in the ongoing maintenance today, under an Memorandum of understanding with Council.

²Photo courtesy of Owen family

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Ongoing control of plant and animal pests e.g. deer, and wasps, blackberry, etc is required.
- Freedom camping can be an issue at the reserve.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Continue to support the Awa Awa Rata Reserve Society in the care of the reserve.
2. Work with DOC and the Awa Awa Rata Reserve Society to ensure a coordinated approach to animal and plant pest management, signage and track and bridge development.
3. Future plantings should focus on native species, with the exception of new varieties of rhododendron and azalea.
4. Work with mana whenua to investigate opportunities to educate the public about the significant cultural values of the area as kāinga mahika kai (food gathering place) and the surrounding areas, including Mount Somers.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Additional planting around the entry area on the right hand side of McLennans Bush Road could be undertaken.

15. Barrhill Cemetery

Description

Barrhill Cemetery is located on the Barrhill Lauriston Road about 500m south of the Barrhill settlement. The cemetery occupies a long narrow section of land bisecting the adjacent farming properties. A set of wrought iron gates on decorative pillars is the only indication that this land is a cemetery. A water supply at the cemetery is provided by the neighbouring landowner at no cost to Council.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Lauriston Barrhill Road, Barrhill
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	0.8093
Legal Description	Res 3662 SO 2446
Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

The land was temporarily reserved as a cemetery through NZ Gazette 1903 page 25 (which states that it is a reservation of Crown land). In the same year, the South Rakaia Road Board was appointed as Trustees of the land (NZ Gazette 1903 page 894).

In 1904, the land was permanently reserved as a cemetery reserve (NZ Gazette 1904 page 310) and then vested in the South Rakaia Road Board, in trust for cemetery purposes (Gazette 1904 page 1104).

A Special Order was made and confirmed on the 5 May 1939, which abolished the South Rakaia Road District and merged it with the Ashburton County Council. Through local government reorganisation in the late 1980s, the powers of Ashburton County Council were transferred to Ashburton District Council and now Ashburton District Council is the administering body of the land under the Reserves Act 1977. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

The earliest burial records for this cemetery go back to 1881.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation record.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Part of the land appears to be used by the adjacent farmer for cropping.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Formalise the occupation of the reserve not currently used as cemetery, until such time as it might be needed for cemetery purposes.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Install signage to identify the site as a reserve.

16. Bowyers Stream Rest Area

Description

Bowyers Stream Rest Area is located on Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road south of Bowyers Stream. The north-eastern part of the open space is an Area Of Significant Conservation Value in the Ashburton District Plan. Bowyers Stream Rest Area is used for picnicking and swimming. It includes toilet facilities (new facilities in 2021) and seating. A large plantation and gravel reserve area, which is also managed by Council, is to the west.

Overnight camping in self-contained vehicles is permitted at the site, subject to site rules, Council's Open Spaces Bylaw and relevant legislation.



Address	Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Mount Somers
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	1.6898

The park is made up of several land parcels including a section of stopped road. None of the land parcels are held under the Reserves Act 1977.

Background

RS 41702 and RS 41703 are both stopped roads (NZ Gazette 1983 p 1646/47). The same Gazette Notice amalgamates RS 41703 with Pt RS 23720. RS 41702 was vested in Ashburton County Council (NZ Gazette 1983 p 2584).

Part of Pt RS 23720 managed as open space (outlined in green) is part of a larger land parcel, which is used for forestry purposes.

All three land parcels are included in Record of Title CB45D/233.

Legal Description	Land Status
RS 41703	Held under Local Government Act
Part of Pt RS 23720	Held under Local Government Act
RS 41702	Held under Local Government Act

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Retain the land under the Local Government Act and manage as open space.
2. Undertake riparian planting adjacent to Bowyers Stream to restore and protect ecological values of the area and improve water quality of the adjacent stream.
3. Permit self-contained camping in the designated area, subject to site rules, relevant bylaws and legislation.

Development opportunities

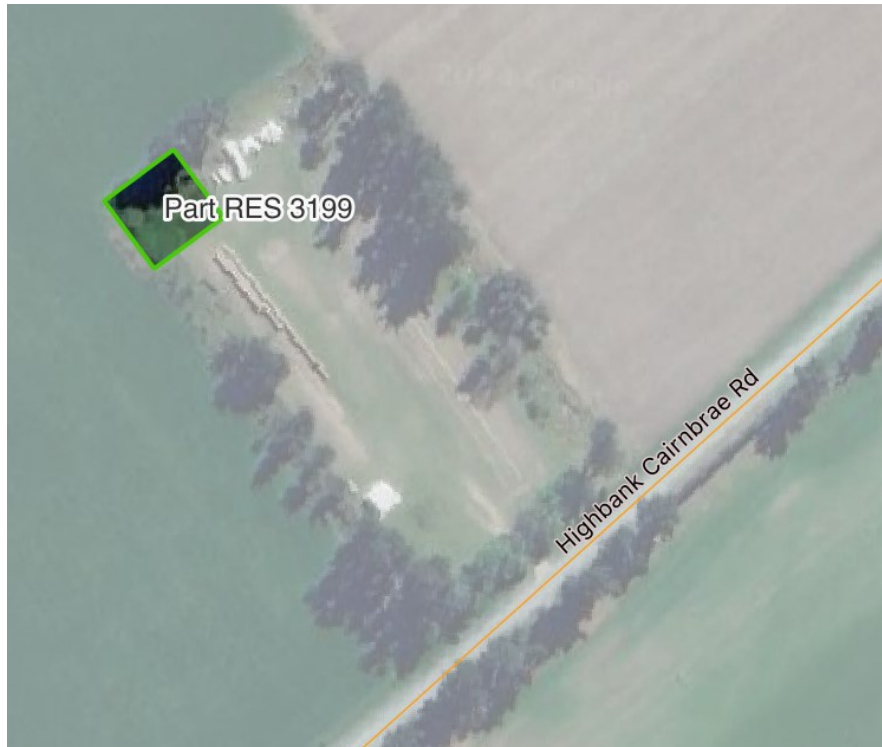
The following opportunities have been identified:

- Potential to improve public use with upgraded picnic facilities and signage.
- Investigate other recreational uses for the adjacent land e.g. mountain biking or 4 wheel drive course

17. Highbank Cemetery (closed)

Description

Highbank Cemetery is located off Highbank Cairnbrae Road, at the rear of a privately owned, tree lined paddock. A public access easement is in place that enables pedestrian access over the private property to the reserve.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Highbank Cairnbrae Road
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NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	0.1011
Legal Description	Part RES 3199
Land Status	Local Purpose (Historic Cemetery) Reserve

Background

Res 3199 was defined on settlement survey, SO 1428, and permanently reserved as Public Cemetery by NZ Gazette 1897 p 1986.

The Mount Hutt Road Board was appointed as the Trustees of the Highbank Cemetery and control and management over it by Gazette 1918 page 814, under authority section 55 of the Cemeteries Act 1908.

In 1966, SO 10687 provided for division of Res 3199 into two parts, Section 75 Highbank Settlement and the balance part Res 3199. NZ Gazette 1966 page 1309 then revoked the cemetery designation over Section 75, under authority of the Reserves and Domains Act 1953.

The status of the balance part of Res 3199 was not altered, and a deed of grant of easement, registered as CB7B/437, created a right of way over Section 75 in favour of the residual part of Res 3199 to provide access from Highbank Cairnbrae Road to the cemetery. There is no vehicular access to the land.

Through subsequent local government reorganisation Ashburton District Council is now appointed to control and manage the reserve.

The land was used as a cemetery from 1899 to 1930 with 13 recorded burials. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Provide information signage on road frontage.

18. Lake Camp (Ōtautari)

Description

Situated near Lake Clearwater, Lake Camp (Ōtautari), formerly known as Lake Howard, is located on the southern side of Hakatere Potts Road. Lake Camp (Ōtautari) and the adjacent Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) are part is part of Ōtūwharekai, the area known as the Ashburton Lakes. Lake Camp and the adjacent Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) are The area is part of a special conservation area, the Hakatere Conservation Park.



Address	Hakatere Potts Road, Lake Clearwater
NZRA Reserve Category	Nature

Total Size (in ha)	64.4500
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The reserve is made up of two land parcels, both are classified Recreation Reserves, subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Legal Description	Land Status
Lot 1 DP 79247	Recreation Reserve
Sec 1 SO 18196	Recreation Reserve

An area of unformed legal road, which is acting as part of the open space, (shown in pink on the map below) separates the two land parcels.

Lake Camp and the surrounding Conservation Park have high recreational, natural and cultural values.

Recreational values

The lake itself is popular for kayaking, boating and fishing.

Lake Camp has been a popular recreational destination in mid-Canterbury for generations. The lake and surrounding areas offer a range of activities for locals and visitors. The lake's accessibility and calm waters make it ideal for swimming, boating, kayaking, water skiing and fishing and contribute to its reputation as a tranquil, family-friendly destination.

A small hut community is located at the northern end of the lake between Lake Camp and Clearwater.

A walkway track around the reserve provides for public access. In recent years Council has invested in providing new public toilet facilities on the northern and western sides of the lake with some picnic areas. Toilets are located in the reserve adjacent to Hakatere Potts Road.

Camping is permitted in the area surrounding the existing toilet block on the northern and eastern sides of Lake Camp. Camping is not permitted on the southern side of Lake Camp.

Dogs are not permitted in the reserve in accordance with Council’s Dog Control Bylaw.

Natural values

Lake Camp (Ōtautari) holds significant natural value as part of a unique high-country wetland and lake system. The lake supports a variety of native plant and animal species, including threatened species like the Australasian bittern and freshwater mussels (kākahi), a taonga (treasure) species for Māori. The surrounding habitats, including wetlands and tussock grasslands, contribute to the lake’s ecological diversity.

Efforts by the local hut holders association and the community to assist Council manage wilding pines, control exotic species and undertake native plantings, reflect a broader commitment to ecological stewardship.

Cultural values

Ōtūwharekai (Ashburton Lakes) is an area of immense cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu Whānui, being both an important seasonal mahika kai³ (food gathering) area and a major travelling route between settlements on the eastern coast of Te Waipounamu (the South Island) and those on Te Tai Poutini (the West Coast). The importance of Ōtūwharekai (Ashburton Lakes) is reflected in its status as a Statutory Acknowledgement in the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

Background

³ Mahika kai properly refers to Ngāi Tahu interests in traditional food and other natural resources and the places where those resources are obtained,

New Zealand Gazette 2003 p 4686 vested both land parcels in Ashburton District Council. It also declared the conservation area (Lot 1 DP 79247) to be included in Sec 1 SO 18196 and classified Lot 1 DP 79247 to be recreation reserve.

NZ Gazette 1991 p 1537 had classified Sec 1 SO 18196 as Recreation Reserve. The land had previously been reserved as Government Purpose Reserve (NZ Gazette 1990 p 1867).

NZ Gazette 1957 p 7 had revoked the Warrants declaring certain Lake Camp, then known as Lake Howard, to be sanctuaries under the Animals Protection and Game Act 1921-22 and declared the area to be wildlife refuges for the purposes of the Wildlife Act 1953.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

The following occupation agreements apply:

Occupier	Instrument	Final Expiry
Clearwater Aquatic Club	Licence to Occupy	Expired

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Incursion of pest plants, including wilding pines threaten native ecosystems and landscape values.
- Freedom Camping in areas other than the designated area is creating some issues in the reserve and for the water quality of the lake.

<https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/the-settlement/settlement-offer/cultural-redress/ownership-and-control/mahika-kai/>

- Water levels of the lake are more susceptible to weather events and likely future impacts of climate change due to the lake's small catchment area. In drought years, this has impacted the recreational use of the lake.
- Overall water quality of the lake, measured as the Trophic Level Index⁴ is fair (or average) declining.
- Four wheel drive / motorbikes / off road vehicles, are having a negative impact on the reserve. Their use is not permitted along the southern section of Lake Camp.
- The agreement for the regular use of the lake by the aquatic clubs appears has expired not to have been formalised.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Continue to work with DOC, ECAN, manawhenua and other stakeholders to support the implementation of 'The Future of Lake Camp (Ōtautari) & Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) 30 Year Plan 2022-2052' which focuses on:
 - avoiding further degradation and restoring the mauri of the natural environment,
 - recognising and protecting the special character of the area, and

⁴Trophic Level Index is based on the concentrations of total nitrogen and phosphorus, water clarity and algae levels. Monitoring of water quality is the responsibility of ECAN. Information for water quality at Lake Camp was obtained from Land, Air, Water Aotearoa, (<https://www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/canterbury-region/lakes/lake-camp-otautari/#:~:text=This%20lake%20is%20monitored%20for,nutrient%20and%20algal%20biomass%20levels>). The website also contains information about the ecological health of the lake (high) and recreational water quality for swimming (found to be excellent since records began in 2018).

- recognising and valuing the social importance of the area.
2. Continue to implement the landscape management and environmental plan for Lake Camp with 'Lake Clearwater/Te Puna-o Taka settlement and Lake Camp 2017' plan, which focuses on protecting and where possible improving biodiversity, and conservation and natural landscape values of the area, whilst providing amenities that facilitate recreational use of the reserve managing activities on land to protect the water quality of the lake.
 3. Work with the harbour master to understand the impact of water levels of the lake on the ability to safely carry out recreational activity and communicate any issues to lake users.

Continue to monitor the water quality of the lake to ensure recreational activities on the lake can be safely carried out.

4. Work with mana whenua to investigate opportunities to educate the public about the significant cultural values of the land and surrounding areas, including Mount Somers.
5. Permit camping in the designated area, on the north eastern side of Lake Camp, subject to site rules, relevant bylaws and legislation.
6. Together with mana whenua, investigate opportunities to provide areas within the reserve that could be allocated as nohoanga⁵

⁵ Nohoanga (literally 'a place to sit'), traditionally referred to the seasonal occupation sites which were an integral part of the mobile lifestyle of the tīpuna of Ngāi Tahu. This traditional concept was given contemporary effect in the Crown's Settlement Offer through the provision to Ngāi Tahu of a 72 temporary campsites adjacent to lakes and rivers, to facilitate customary fishing and the gathering of other natural resources (<https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/the-settlement/settlement-offer/cultural-redress/ownership-and-control/mahika-kai/>). Lake Camp is not part of the Ngāi Tahu Treaty Settlement, but nonetheless a culturally significant area for Ngāi Tahu.

(specific camping areas) to support mahika kai (food gathering activities).

7. Contemplate leases and licences within existing footprints on recreation reserve land for organised sport and facilities, e.g., water related activities.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified in addition to the development opportunities outlined in the Landscape Management Plan for the reserve:

- Planting of natives around lake margins (where practicable eco-sourced).

19. Mount Somers Cemetery (open)

Description

Mount Somers Cemetery is located south of the Mount Somers village centre off Hoods Road. The cemetery is still open for burials.

The cemetery (Res 2403 SO 2625) is accessed from Hoods Road via a plantation reserve (Pt Res 1832 SO 2625). Pt Res 1832 SO 2625 is out of scope of this plan. The pine plantation located on this land parcel is managed by Ashburton District Council.

An unformed legal road abuts the cemetery to the south. This also provides access to the South Branch Ashburton River / Hakatere.



Address	33 Hoods Road, Mount Somers
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	4.8031

The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Legal Description	Land Status
Res 2403 SO 2625	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

RES 2403 was Crown land held for another purpose when declared to be a Cemetery Reserve by NZ Gazette 1879 page 828. The reserve was subsequently vested in the Mt Somers Road Board, in trust, as a reserve for Cemetery purposes by NZ Gazette 1908 page 1593.

Through this vesting and subsequent local government reorganisation, the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

There are over 280 recorded burials in this cemetery as of 2023, with the earliest burial dating back to 1881.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Consider surveying the area acting as an accessway to the cemetery (on Pt Res 1832 SO 2625) and classify this as Local purpose (accessway) reserve and include within the scope of this plan.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Consider development of a walkway along the western part of the cemetery and the adjacent Mount Somers Domain or along Hoods Road to provide a walking connection.

20. Ruapuna Cemetery (open)

Description

Ruapuna Cemetery is a rural cemetery, located on Coskeries Road, Ruapuna. The cemetery consists of two land parcels, one of which is currently planted in pines. The pine plantation is managed by Ashburton District Council.



Address	376 Coskeries Road, Ruapuna
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	0.8094

The reserve is made up of two land parcels, both are subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Legal Description	Land Status
Res 3049 SO 2586	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve
Res 3069 SO 2586	Local Purpose (Plantation Cemetery) Reserve

Background

New Zealand Gazette 1894 p 1622 reserved Res 3049 SO 2586 as cemetery. New Zealand Gazette 1895 p 1554 created Res 3069 SO 2586 as Mayfield cemetery extension. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

The earliest recorded burial is 1897. Both land parcels are Crown-derived. According to Department of Conservation records, Ashburton District Council has been appointed to control and manage the land.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Harvest the pine trees from Res 3069 SO 2586 as appropriate following best practice.
2. Consider reclassification of Res 3069 SO 2586 for Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve if an extension of the cemetery should be required.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

21. Sharplin Falls Recreation Reserve

Description

The reserve is located towards the end of Flynns Road, Staveley. Bowyers Streams is located just to the north.

The reserve is adjacent to two Crown owned reserves and the Bowyers Stream Marginal Strip to the north. The Sharplin Falls Scenic Reserve, which is managed by the Department Of Conservation, is to the northwest of the reserve.



The entire reserve is classified as an Area of Significant Conservation Value (ID 17- Mount Somers). This area includes significant biodiversity, notable landforms of volcanic origin (Mount Somers) and bird species.

All but a small area in the eastern corner of the reserve are located within a Geoconservation Area (ID 17-) and part of an Outstanding Natural Landscape (Front Range Mountain – Front Ranges).

The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Flynns Road, Staveley
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.87
Legal Description	Lot 3 DP 18983
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

This reserve land was transferred to Ashburton District Council in 1994 from private owners as fee simple land.

A land exchange was authorised in 1997 (NZG 1997 p 1785) to exchange the land with 8106 sqm of land held in RS 42055 (known as the Rakaia Salmon Site – see reserve information in this Plan). RS 42055 was then held as classified Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. As per Section 15(6) of the Reserves Act 1977, with completion of the land exchange, Sharplin Falls Recreation Reserve is now held as Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- damage from pest animals and pest plant incursion from neighbouring land.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1:

1. Work with DOC to protect and enhance the natural, geological and landscape values of the reserve and adjacent reserve areas. This may involve, undertaking ecological restoration, including pest and animal control.
2. Consider reclassifying the reserve as Scenic Reserve under section 19(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977 to acknowledge the significant ecological and scenic values of the site and better protect these.
3. Work with mana whenua to investigate opportunities to educate the public about the natural and cultural values of the land and surrounding areas.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

22. Taylors Stream Reserve

Description

Taylors Stream Reserve is a popular rest area on the Inland Scenic Route 72. Located within the reserve are picnic facilities and a toilet. The mature exotic trees in the reserve have been removed and significant restoration plantings have been undertaken recently.



The reserve is also used for self-contained overnight camping, subject to site rules, Council’s Open Spaces Bylaw and relevant legislation.

The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is a classified Recreation Reserve subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	4734 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Alford Forest
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	1.2230
Legal Description	Lot 1 DP 55383
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

This reserve is held by Council for recreation purposes [and classified in 2024](#).

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Self-contained overnight camping requires monitoring.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Protect the natural values of the adjacent river through appropriate management of the land.
2. Permit self-contained camping in the designated area, subject to site rules, relevant bylaws and legislation.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Potential to improve public use with upgraded signage.

23. Valetta Bridge Recreation Reserve

Description

The reserve is located north of Mayfield Valetta Road opposite the intersection with Valetta Westerfield Road. It is adjacent to the South Branch of the Ashburton/ Hakatere River. The reserve is undeveloped and currently grazed. A stopbank traverses the reserve.

An Area of Significant Conservation Value (area ID 65) is located in the north-east corner of the reserve.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Mayfield Valetta Road, Valetta
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	2.997
Legal Description	RS 41289 SO 15834
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

A smaller area of land containing 3529sqm was acquired for public works in 1976 to be road and then declared to be Crown land in 1980 (NZ Gazette 1980 p 1037). It was amalgamated with the adjacent Crown land as shown in SO Plan 15834 from 1982 to form the current land parcel.

The Crown declared the land to be reserve (NZG 1984 p 19). Later in the same year the land was vested in Ashburton County Council, classified as Recreation Reserve and formally named Valetta Bridge Recreation Reserve (two gazette notices both 1984 p 3099).

Occupation/ Leases (as at December 2023)

The following occupation agreements apply to the reserve:

Occupier	Instrument	Final Expiry
Grazing Licence	Licence to Occupy	Annual renewal

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- The current use of the site for grazing has not been reviewed within recent years.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1⁶:

1. Review the current grazing licence terms.
2. Contemplated leases and licences within existing footprints on recreation reserve land for:
 - Farming, Grazing or Afforestation.
3. Protect and enhance the Area of Significant Conservation Value and Hakatere River through measures such as fencing, riparian planting and ecological restoration.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Identify as a local reserve through signage, as Valetta Bridge Recreation Reserve, the name it was formally given through NZ Gazette 1984 p 3099 .

⁶ If in conflict, specific policies in this section override general policies in Volume 1 of this plan.

24. Westerfield Cemetery (Closed)

Description

Westerfield Cemetery is a rural cemetery located northwest of Ashburton. The reserve is currently planted in pines. This plantation is managed by Ashburton District Council.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Westerfield School Road, Westerfield
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	4.0469
Legal Description	Res 2349 SO 2637
Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

The reserve was Crown land defined as Res 2349 on SO 2637, which was permanently reserved as a cemetery, by Gazette 1878 page 1545, under authority of section 145 of the Land Act 1877.

The Upper Ashburton Road Board was appointed as Trustees of Westerfield Cemetery, by Gazette 1896 page 1364, under authority of section 45 of the Cemeteries Act 1882. Subsequent local government reorganisation in New Zealand meant that the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

The cemetery only has two recorded burials in 1914 and 1915.

Anecdotally, an ornamental post and chain fence surrounded the graves, but this was removed when the surrounding tree plantation was cleared. Following objections from locals the current rail fence was installed later.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- The site is not easy to identify as a reserve through lack of signage.
- The planting of pines on this reserve may have impacted on the grave sites.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Liaise with Department of Conservation to formalise Ashburton District Council as the administering body of the land.
2. Clearly identify and protect the existing grave sites from damage through pine plantation and harvesting of pine trees.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Consider installing signage at the reserve identifying it as a reserve and improving access to the grave sites and interpretative panels.

Rural Reserves in the Eastern Ward

25. Ashton Beach Reserves

Description

Ashton Beach Reserves are made up of multiple land parcels. The Hakatere / Ashburton River mouth is just to the east of the reserve. Originally the reserve land was obtained to provide access to the coast and the river mouth. The area is widely used for recreational activities, including fishing, bird watching, picnicking, and camping (on legal road). Fishing at the river mouth has a longstanding history, as has white baiting and surf casting.



Address	8 Lower Beach Road, Ashton
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	Subject to survey – approx. 6.5 ha

The reserve is made up of three land areas. The eastern land parcel, Part RS 33274 TP 6440, is fully within the scope of this plan. The central land parcel, to the east of Lower Beach Road, Lot 9 DP 47346, is only partially within scope. The land parcel to the west of Lower Beach Road, RS 33496 SO 3924, is also only partially within scope. The area included in the scope of this plan is shown in a green outline on the overleaf map. [RS 33274 TP 6440 was declared reserve and classified in 2024.](#)

Two adjacent land parcels, RES 3362 SO 3924, a Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve, and RES 3594 SO 3786, a classified Recreation Reserve, also known as Kongutu Recreation Reserve (formerly Kongutu Domain) are owned and managed by the Department of Conservation and are not within the scope of this plan.

Legal Description	Land Status
Part of Lot 9 DP 47346	Held under Local Government Act
Part RS 33274 TP 64470	Recreation Reserve
Part of RS 33496 SO 3924	Held under Local Government Act

Natural Environment

Ashburton / Hakatere River mouth and the coastal lagoon / hāpua provide important habitat for indigenous birds, fish, invertebrates and plants. The braided river and shorebird habitat is significant and scientifically recognised. The river mouth has the highest avian species richness of any site within the Ashburton District. Bird species found here include Spotted Shag, Otago Shag, Pied Cormorant, Red-billed Gull,

Caspian Tern and Variable Oystercatcher. The area has been identified as an important area for endangered black-billed gulls.

The reserve also contains sites of significant indigenous vegetation and has important ecological values.

Cultural Heritage

The reserve is located within the Hi Raho a kāinga mahika kai⁷ (food gathering place) and trail to Ō Tū Wharekai, a rest area at the river mouth prior to heading inland. The area was historically used for catching fish, harvesting of waterfowl, gulls and eggs.

Recreation

The area is popular with motorcyclists, four wheel drivers and fishermen. In 2019, some of the steeper land was fenced off by Council to restrict motorcycle access for health and safety reasons. As an alternative, the Council investigated allowing the establishment of a motorbike park on some of the land (Lot 9 DP 47346) but this was abandoned in 2023 after the Department of Conservation did not approve a Wildlife Act Authority Application.

Background

Part RS 33274 TP 64470 was declared reserve and classified for recreation purposes in 2024.

Lot 9 DP 47346 and RS 33496 SO 3924 were acquired by Ashburton District Council in the 1980's. Both land parcels are held under the Local Government Act in fee simple.

⁷ Mahika kai properly refers to Ngāi Tahu interests in traditional food and other natural resources and the places where those resources are obtained. Source:

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Ongoing concerns over the compatibility between ecological, cultural, historical and recreational values, including the impact of dogs, motorbike and four wheel drive vehicles access over reserve land and their impact on the river and nesting and feeding of shorebirds.
- Part Lot 9 DP 47346 and Part RS 33496 SO 3924 are currently part of larger land parcels. The land that has high ecological value should be surveyed off and declared and classified for its primary purpose.
- Coastal erosion.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Work with mana whenua to investigate opportunities to educate the public about the significant cultural values of the land and surrounding areas as kāinga mahika kai (food gathering areas).
2. Work with other agencies and the community to protect and enhance the recreational and environmental values of the Hakatere / Ashburton River mouth and estuary.
3. Manage part of Lot 9 DP 47346 and part of RS 33496 SO 3924, outlined in green on the map above, approximately 1.86 ha, for their

<https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/the-settlement/settlement-offer/cultural-redress/ownership-and-control/mahika-kai/>

natural and scenic values. Consider surveying those parts outlined in green and declaring reserve and classifying these areas, as Scenic Reserve under section 19(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977.

4. Retain the remainder of Lot 9 DP 47346 and RS 33496 SO 3924 under the Local Government Act 2002, excluded from scope of this Plan.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Undertake coastal revegetation plantings.
- Creating a safe walking track to the top of the Donga with some seating provided to take advantage of the views.

26. Chertsey Cemetery (open)

Description

Chertsey Cemetery occupies a small portion of land to the south of State Highway 1 and northwest of the Chertsey township. The cemetery area is fenced with an adjacent parking area on the north-eastern side to ensure cars can safely park off the adjacent State Highway 1. The remainder of the land is currently grazed.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Rakaia Highway, Chertsey
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage

Total Size (in ha)	2.2955
Legal Description	Res 2414 SO 1223
Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

The land was formerly part of Section 1769 which was Crown land that had been reserved for Provincial Government purposes on June 9th 1875.

Section 1769 was subsequently subdivided on SO 1223. Res 2414 was one of the new parcels created and the purpose of this part was changed to cemetery by Gazette 1879 pages 1048 and 1049.

The Ashburton County Council was appointed as the Trustees of the Chertsey Cemetery and control and management over it, by Gazette 1949 page 853, which issued under authority of the Cemeteries Act 1908.

Responsibility for control and management of this cemetery passed to the Ashburton District Council by authority of the Local Government Reorganisation Order 1989 (NZ Gazette 1989 pages 2315 to 2317). [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

The first internment recorded in this area was in 1840, with subsequent burials from 1890 onwards. Over 230 burials are recorded at the cemetery (July 2023).

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- The use of part of the land for grazing appears not to have been formalised.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Formalise the occupation of the reserve not currently used as cemetery until such time as it might be needed for cemetery purposes.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

27. Chertsey War Memorial

Description

Chertsey War Memorial site is a small land parcel on the corner of King Street and Chertsey Line Road, Chertsey.

The Memorial was built not long after the end of WW I. Panels displaying the roll of honour stand on either side of the gate. The memorial was originally topped with a ball but this was damaged in 1995 and was subsequently replaced with the cross seen today.

Part of the reserve is grazed.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	King Street, Chertsey
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NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	0.0704
Legal Description	RS 41127 SO 15096
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

The land was acquired by the Crown in 1920, and in 1957 set aside as Recreation Reserve. Part of the land was subdivided in 1973 and used for telecommunication purposes. The remainder of the reserve was classified as recreation reserve through NZ Gazette 1980 p 756 (together with 11.9331 ha of Chertsey Domain) under the name of Chertsey Recreation Reserve. The reserve was vested in trust in the Ashburton County Council in 1985 (NZ Gazette 1985 p 3737). [The land was classified in 2024.](#)



Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Dumping of waste (plant material) on grazed section of land.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

28. Cochranes Road Pistol Range

Description

The reserve is made up of a small section of land beside Cochrane Road. It is used as a pistol range.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is a classified Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	47 Cochranes Road, Ashburton
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	1.0268
Legal Description	Lot 2 DP 46480
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

The land was classified as Recreation Reserve through New Zealand Gazette 1984 p 1789.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

The following occupation agreements apply to the reserve:

Occupier	Instrument	Final Expiry
Ashburton Pistol Club	Lease	Expired

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- The formal lease for the current occupation of the land by the Ashburton Pistol Club has expired.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

- Formalise the occupation of the land through granting of a lease subject to General Policies in Volume 1.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

29. Harris Scientific Reserve

Description

The Harris Scientific Reserve is located on the western side of Lovetts Road, just south of the intersection with Maronan Road. The reserve protects one of the last stands of dry-land kānuka in Canterbury (which once covered large portions of the Canterbury Plains).



The total area of 11 ha is managed and restored by the Ashburton Community Conservation Trust.

Restoration plantings have been taking place in the reserve since 2010, including in conjunction with the 2010 Rugby World Cup, to commemorate the coronation of King Charles in 2023, and to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Forest and Bird in May 2023.

Signage to educate the public about the important biodiversity values of the reserve was installed at the reserve in 2019.

Part of the reserve is used by a model aero club.

The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is a classified Scientific Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	409 Lovetts Road, Maronan
NZRA Reserve Category	Nature
Total Size (in ha)	11.3119
Legal Description	Sec 1 SO 413870 (Pt Sec 47 Res 350)
Land Status	Scientific Reserve

Background

Arthur and Shirley Harris, former owners of the land, set up a Queen Elizabeth II Trust covenant over 2.4 hectares of land they were using for stock shelter that contained the best of the undisturbed kānuka in the late 1980s/ early 1990's.

The reserve is now owned by Ashburton District Council, with initially Forest and Bird and subsequently the Ashburton Community Conservation Trust established to be the reserve guardians. Their vision for the reserve was to protect the remaining kanuka, restore the Canterbury drylands ecosystem that existed prior to settlement of the plains, and to use only plants sourced on the plains.

The land was declared reserve and classified as a Scientific Reserve by Ashburton District Council on 26 May 2009 (New Zealand Gazette 2009 p 1432).

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

The following occupation agreements apply to the reserve:

Occupier	Instrument	Final Expiry
Ashburton Conservation Community Trust	Deed of Lease	31/01/2045

Part of the land is being used by the Ashburton Model Aero Club, but there is no formal use agreement for this.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Model aero club activity is inconsistent with a Scientific reserve classification.
- The Trust are having difficulty finding new members to assist with the management of the reserve.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Continue to support the restoration of all the land by Ashburton Community Conservation Trust to provide a representative example of the former kānuka forest of the area.
2. Review the custom and practise use of part of the land as an area for model aero planes to ensure the continued protection of the ecological values of the site.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Continue to undertake restoration planting.

30. Hinds Cemetery (open)

Description

Hinds Cemetery is located south of Hinds Domain on the eastern side of Isleworth Road and south of Hinds township. The roadside portion of the reserve is developed as a cemetery, with the rear planted with pines. The pine plantation is managed by Ashburton District Council.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is held under the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Isleworth Road, Hinds
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	2.2071
Legal Description	Res 3022
Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

This reserve was formerly part of Reserve 2983 and reserved for plantation purposes in 1891. The land parcel was re-described as Res 3022 and the purpose changed from plantation to cemetery purposes by Gazette in 1893 (NZ Gazette 1893 p 659). NZ Gazette 1908 p 621 vested this land in the Coldstream Road Board, in trust, as a reserve for cemetery purposes. Through this vesting and subsequent local government reorganisation, the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

There are approximately 200 recorded burials in this cemetery (July 2023), with the first burial recorded in 1873.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

31. Kyle Cemetery (closed)

Description

Kyle Cemetery consists of two land parcels on the corner of Dobsons Ferry Road and Lambies Road, Dorie. A pine plantation covers the whole site (recently harvested and replanted). This plantation is managed by Ashburton District Council.



Address	Corner Dobsons Ferry Road and Lambies Road, Dorie
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	3.3917

The reserve is made up of two land parcels, with Lot 1 DP 643 held under the Local Government Act and Res 3663 DP 643 held as classified Local purpose reserve for cemetery purposes.

Legal Description	Land Status
Lot 1 DP 643	Held under Local Government Act
Res 3663 DP 643	Local Purpose (Historic Cemetery) Reserve

Background

Res 3663 was formerly part of Rural Section 18334 which was private land. The land was acquired by the Crown in late 1883 (as Lot 2 DP 643).

New Zealand Gazette 1904 p 310 permanently sets Res 3663 DP 643 apart as a reserve for cemetery purposes.

The land was subsequently vested in 'the Inhabitants of the South Rakaia Road District', in trust, for the purposes of public cemetery, by Gazette 1904 page 1104, under authority of section 4 of the Public Reserves Act 1881.

Subsequent local government reorganisations resulted in the reserve now being vested in Ashburton District Council.

There are no recorded burials on this site (Council cemetery database – July 2023).

Lot 1 DP 643 is held as open space under the Local Government Act and owned by Ashburton District Council.

Anecdotally, the cemetery was marked by a wrought iron gate and macrocarpa hedge. The graves at one time are said to have been marked with wooden pegs and chicken wire.

During a big windstorm on the 1970's, the adjacent trees were levelled and the entire site, including the cemetery was cleared and replanted.

The original wrought iron gate was rescued from a rubbish tip and re-erected by the Ashburton Historic Places Trust Committee and includes a plaque of those who are buried here.



Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Protection of cemetery when trees are due for harvesting.

Specific policies

No specific policies identified.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Develop interpretative signage at the site.

32. Lynnford Recreation Reserve

This reserve is managed by the Hinds Reserve Board and administered by Ashburton District Council.

Description

Lynnford Recreation Reserve is a rural reserve located to the southeast of Hinds township on the corner of Lynnford and Boundary Roads. It contains a hall which has been closed as a community facility since 2019. The reserve is managed by the Hinds Reserve Board.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	1544 Boundary Road, Hinds
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.8093
Legal Description	Res 4848 SO 15263
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

The hall was built in 1895 as a school building and was originally located in Huntingdon. The building was relocated to Lynnford in 1912.

The school closed in 1949, and its students went to Eiffelton, Willowby and Hinds Schools. The building became the community's hall and was used by several different clubs and for meetings and dances and other social gatherings.

When the Education Board did not require the land for education purposes, the land became recreation reserve. Ashburton County Council was appointed to control the land then called Lynnford Domain in 1964 (NZ Gazette 1964 p 1038). The land was classified as Recreation Reserve in New Zealand Gazette 1980 p 2566.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- The reserve is not identified through signage and underutilised.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Support the Hinds Domain Reserve Board in the management of the site.
2. Work with the Reserve Board to consider opportunities for how the use of the reserve could be improved, or how income could be generated to support the maintenance of the reserve.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Identify the area as an open space through signage.

33. Maronan Recreation Reserve

This reserve is managed by the Hinds Reserve Board and administered by Ashburton District Council.

Description

Maronan Reserve is a rural reserve located to the east of Maronan on Swamp Road. The reserve includes the former Maronan Hall, which was originally Maronan school, built in 1921. The site also contains several mature specimen trees near the Swamp Road frontage.



The reserve is made up of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	883 Swamp Road, Maronan
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and ecological linkage
Total Size (in ha)	1.6187
Legal Description	Lot 1 DP 5495 (formerly Reserve 4890)
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

The Maronan was originally the Maronan School, built in 1921. By the end of 1922 it had a roll of 39 students. The school only operated for 15 years before consolidating with Hinds School.

The hall at Maronan then became the district’s social hub, hosting meetings, balls, dances, euchre events and the like.

When the Education Board did not require the land for education purposes any longer, the land became recreation reserve.

New Zealand Gazette 1957 p 835 declared the land the reserve for recreation be a public domain subject to the provisions of Part III of the Reserves and Domain Act 1953. The Maronan Domain Board was appointed to control the land to be known as Maronan Domain.

In 1980, the land was classified as recreation reserve through New Zealand Gazette 1980 p 2132.

Subsequently the land was transferred to Ashburton District Council through the Local Government Reorganisation Order 1989 (NZ Gazette 1989 p 2315). In 2005, the reserve was vested in Ashburton District Council in trust for Recreation purposes.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation recorded.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- The reserve is not identified through signage and is underutilised, with limited public access.
- A large part of the reserve area is used for agriculture and this use appears not to have been formalised.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply:

1. Support the Hinds Domain Reserve Board in the management of the site.
2. Work with the Reserve Board to consider opportunities for how the use of the reserve could be improved, or how income could be generated to support the maintenance of the reserve.
3. Formalise the agricultural use of the site through an occupancy agreement.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Identify the area as an open space through signage.

34. Parkland at Main South Road, Rakaia

Description

This open space is situated between the State Highway 1 /Main South Road, the railway corridor at the northern entrance to Rakaia. The reserve provides a rest and picnic area and provides access to walkways.



Address	Main South Road, Rakaia
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.6778

The reserve consists of four land parcels, all of which are held for public amenity purpose under the Local Government Act.

Legal Description	Land Status
Pt RS 6123 (Area A SO PLAN 19586)	Held under Local Government Act
Pt Res 1450 (Area B SO PLAN 19586)	Held under Local Government Act
Pt Res 1450 (Area C SO PLAN 19586)	Held under Local Government Act
Pt Res 1450 (Area D SO PLAN 19586)	Held under Local Government Act

Background

Formerly the land was part of the railway corridor.

The land was gazetted as 'Land Acquired for Development of Public Amenity' and formally vested in ADC in 2000 through NZ Gazette 2000 p 1820.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Entrance to the reserve is off State Highway 1, a busy traffic corridor.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Potential to improve the northern entrance through improved signage and additional picnic amenities.

35. Parkland at Peters Street, Hinds

Description

A small reserve on State Highway 1 / Peters Street, opposite Isleworth Road in Hinds. There is limited public access due to its location adjacent to the state highway. A range of trees are planted on the reserve and the adjacent unformed section of road reserve.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Peters Street, Hinds
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.2989
Legal Description	Lot 1 DP 63756
Land Status	Local Purpose (Amenity) Reserve

Background

Land was formerly part of the railway corridor. The land was vested in the Ashburton District Council as Local Purpose (Beautification) Reserve as part of the process of implementing subdivision plan DP 63756 in the early 1990's. It was classified as Local Purpose (Amenity) Reserve in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Review trees species on the reserve and consider future plantings that may add seasonal colour or displays.

36. Parkland at Railway Terrace West and East, Rakaia

Description

The two land parcels that make up this open space are separated by the railway line and are located at Railway Terrace West and Railway Terrace East respectively, between South Town Belt and Elizabeth Ave, Rakaia.

The land was formerly Crown-owned land for railway purposes and was acquired to provide for public amenity in the 1990's.

The land provides open space and amenity value, with a number of established trees. The land parcel on the eastern side of the railway line features a dump station for campervans.



Address	Railway Terrace West and Railway Terrace East, Rakaia
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.9496

Both land parcels that make up the open space, are held under the Local Government Act for public amenity.

Legal Description	Land Status
Area A SO Plan 19826 Being Pt RES 1450	Held under Local Government Act
Area B SO Plan 19826 Being Pt RES 1450	Held under Local Government Act

Background

Acquired under Public Works Act and vested in Ashburton District Council for Public Amenity through New Zealand Gazette 2000 p 1895.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

Currently no formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1:

1. Contemplate licences for commercial use by mobile vendors e.g. for operation of food trucks or coffee carts, etc on Area B SO Plan 19826 Being Pt RES 1450, in line with the general policies in Volume 1 of this Plan and relevant bylaws and legislation.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Identify the area as an open space through signage. Suggested name for the site is Railway Terrace Park.
- Provide amenities such as seating and picnic tables.

37. Parkland at South Town Belt, Rakaia

Description

Parkland at South Town Belt in Rakaia consists of one land parcel, which is currently grazed and surrounded by trees. There is currently no identified recreational use of this land.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Burrowes Road, Rakaia
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	1.2469
Legal Description	Res 1674 BM 310
Land Status	Recreation Reserve

Background

~~Res 1674~~ Reserve 1674 is a Crown-derived reserve vested in Council in trust. The land was set aside as a reserve for Provincial Government purposes in 1875 (Canterbury Provincial Gazette 1875 pg. 269).

The land was classified as a recreation reserve, subject to the Reserves Act 1977, via New Zealand Gazette 1987 p 1328. A separate gazette notice, also in NZ Gazette 1897 p 1328, vests the reserve in trust in Ashburton County Council as recreation reserve. The functions and assets of Ashburton County Council were transferred to Ashburton District Council under the Local Government (Canterbury Region) Reorganisation Order 1989, NZ Gazette 1989 p 2296.

The adjacent land parcel (Rural Section 42157) was owned by Ashburton District Council and the reserve status has been revoked for this land and the land parcel divested.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1:

1. Investigate the need for the potential development of a park on this side of State Highway 1, with the potential for a playground or dog park.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified for the reserve:

- Engage with the community to identify the potential needs for development.

38. Rakaia Cemetery (open)

Description

Rakaia Cemetery is located at Baker Road, Rakaia. It is surrounded by pines. There are approximately 1,000 burials recorded in this cemetery (July 2023) with the first interment in 1879.



Address	Baker Road, Rakaia
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	4.8979

The reserve consists of two land parcels, which are subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Background

Legal Description	Land Status
Res 3664	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve
Res 3664A SO 2126	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Res 3664 was permanently reserved by the Crown and set aside for cemetery purposes through NZ Gazette 1904 p 310. The land was subsequently vested in the inhabitants of the South Rakaia Road District, in trust, for the purposes of public cemetery, by Gazette 1904 page 1104.

The area now defined as RES 3664A was originally parts of Baker and Ulundi Roads, which were closed by NZ Gazette 1908 page 1363 and then declared to be an addition to the Cemetery Reserve by NZ Gazette 1909 page 750. It was then vested in the South Rakaia Road Board, in trust, as an addition to the adjacent cemetery reserve, by NZ Gazette 1909 page 1652.

As a consequence of local government reorganisation both land parcels are now vested in trust in Ashburton District Council. The land was classified in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Harvesting / removal of pines as required for cemetery expansion or when trees are due for harvesting.

Specific policies

No specific policies identified.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

39. Rakaia Salmon Site

Description

Rakaia Salmon Site is a popular open space for locals and visitors alike in the heart of Rakaia. It is bordered by Elizabeth Avenue, State Highway 1/Bridge Street and Rolleston Street. The site has been upgraded in recent years and features new playground, paths, carparking, public toilets, planted areas picnic tables and seating.



It also contains two heritage buildings with interpretative panels, the iconic Salmon statue (constructed in 1991) and a jetboat.



The Rakaia Salmon Site is made up of one land parcel, which is held in fee simple under the Local Government Act.

Address	73 Elizabeth Avenue, Rakaia
NZRA Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Total Size (in ha)	0.8106
Legal Description	RS 42055
Land Status	Held under Local Government Act

Background

Part of the land was originally set apart by the Crown for Provincial Government purposes by Gazette 1875 page 210. This designation was revoked by NZ Gazette 1957 page 2225. Another part was formerly part of Elizabeth Avenue.

The two areas were redefined as Res 4917, on SO plan 9224. RS 4917 was reserved for recreation purposes and vested in Ashburton County Council, by NZ Gazette 1957 page 2224.

In 1977 part of the reserve was proclaimed road by NZ Gazette 1977 page 81. In 1985 the balance part of Res 4917 was redefined as RS 42055 on SO Plan 16457 and classified as Recreation Reserve (NZ Gazette 1985 p 81).

A land exchange in 1997 (NZ Gazette 1997 p 1785) authorised the exchange of the land comprised in RS 42055 with land at Sharplin Falls, which was held in fee simple under the Local Government Act (LGA) (see information on Sharplin Falls Recreation Reserve in this section of the Plan). As per section 15(5) and 15(6) of the Reserves Act 1977, this meant that the land at Rakaia Salmon Site is now held under the LGA.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- High use of reserve by visitors and locals alike, leading to increased pressure on the parks facilities.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1:

1. Continue to manage the reserve as a destination open space for locals and visitors.
2. Contemplate licences for commercial use by mobile vendors e.g. for operation of food trucks or coffee carts, etc in conjunction with events

in line with the general policies in Volume 1 of this Plan, the Council's Trading in Public Places Bylaw and relevant legislation.

Development opportunities

No additional development opportunities identified.

40. Riverstone Park

Description

Riverstone Park is a small accessway in the west of Rakaia. It connects the end of Eliza Way with Rakaia Domain. It contains some seating and path.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is held as Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve, subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Eliza Way, Rakaia
NZRA Reserve Category	Recreation and Ecological Linkage
Total Size (in ha)	0.0421
Legal Description	Lot 101 DP 553765

Land Status	Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve
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Background

This reserve vested in Ashburton District Council on subdivision and was classified in 2024.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

None identified.

Specific policies

No specific policies required.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities identified.

41. Wakanui Beach

Description

Wakanui Beach is located on the east coast of the Ashburton District, at the end of Wakanui Beach Road and north of the Hakatere / Ashburton River. The site contains significant biodiversity values, walking tracks and a new public toilet (2021). Wakanui Beach itself is not located within the reserve.

The reserve is made up of two land areas, which are separated by the Wakanui Creek stream bed. The eastern land parcel, Pt RS 846, is fully within the scope of this plan. The western land parcel, Pt RS 845, is only partially within scope. The area included in the scope is shown in a green outline on the map below.



The hut settlement, located on the northern part of Pt RS 845, is not included within the scope of this plan.

Wakanui is an area of significance to Māori, as part of an extensive network of kāinga nohoanga (settlements) and kāinga mahika kai⁸ (food gathering settlements) dispersed along Kā Poupou a Rakihouia (Canterbury coastline).

Various spellings and pronunciations of the placename have been recorded in the past, including Wakanui, Whakanui, Hakanui, Whanganui, Wanganui. The differences in spelling and pronunciation are likely due to te reo Māori not having been a written language, the southern Māori dialect and attempts to render the name into a standard of written Māori that was used in other parts of the country. The preferred name for the site expressed by Ngāi Tahu during engagement for this plan is Whakanui and is used throughout this section. This name has not been formalised.

Address	251 Wakanui Beach Road, Wakanui
NZRA Reserve Category	Nature
Total Size (in ha)	Subject to survey – approx. 4.3

The land parcels included in scope of the plan are:

Legal Description	Land Status
Pt Lot 27 DP 289 (Pt RS 846)	Scenic Reserve Section 19(1)(b) Reserves Act
Part of Pt Lot 27 DP 289 (Pt RS 845)	Held under Local Government Act

Natural Environment

<https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/the-settlement/settlement-offer/cultural-redress/ownership-and-control/mahika-kai/>

⁸ Mahika kai properly refers to Ngāi Tahu interests in traditional food and other natural resources and the places where those resources are obtained,

The Wakanui Creek stream bed is located just outside the boundary of the reserve. The creek had a reliable flow prior to 1983. Subsequent diversion of the water for stock water supply and flood flow protection purposes led to the creek now only carrying water during periods of heavy rain. The creek largely dries up in summer and forms a lagoon (Wakanui hāpua).

The biodiversity found at the site, with its varied insect and bird species and lizards, is more diverse than any other place on the Ashburton Plains.

Wakanui Beach provides a unique example of rare coastal vegetation and biodiversity including 26 species of native plants, some classified as ‘threatened – at risk’.

An entomological survey highlighted the importance of this coastal habitat for a range of indigenous fauna. Insects found include the rare Rauparaha’s copper and undescribed Canterbury boulder copper butterflies.

Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

Whakanui was part of an extensive network of kāinga nohoanga (settlements) and kāinga mahika kai⁹ (food gathering settlements). As such, the reserve and surrounding area was an important resting place for travellers during their journey along the ara tawhito (traditional travel route) of the Canterbury coastline.

Archaeological investigations undertaken in the area in the 1970’s found significant evidence of occupation and activity by Māori, dating

potentially as far back as the mid- to late fourteenth century. Two of five scheduled archaeological sites in the area are located in the reserve.

Finds from the investigations include many tools and artefacts, stone taonga and flakes from stone working, cooking pits, ovens and middens, as well as a unique feature of two linked basins, which are thought to have been built to contain water. Moas bones and eggshells, bones from smaller birds and sea mammals, as well as freshwater mussels were found in the ovens. Many artefacts found here are now located at Canterbury Museum

To the west of the reserve is the former site of a radar antenna, built after WW II for “*experimental research into radio propagation across the Canterbury Plains under varying meteorological conditions*”, as part of the Canterbury Project. Only a small concrete slab which was once the base of an antenna remains on this site.

Community Activity and Ecological Restoration

Community interest in the restoration of the reserve is high with Wakanui Beach Crew group and the Wakanui School having been involved with Council in ecological restoration efforts since 2017.

Background

The area where this reserve is located was first surveyed in 1878 and defined in DP 289 by Charles Compton Fooks, as part of the subdivision of the Wakanui Estate. A copy of the original survey plan can be seen below.

⁹ Mahika kai properly refers to Ngāi Tahu interests in traditional food and other natural resources and the places where those resources are obtained,

<https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/the-settlement/settlement-offer/cultural-redress/ownership-and-control/mahika-kai/>

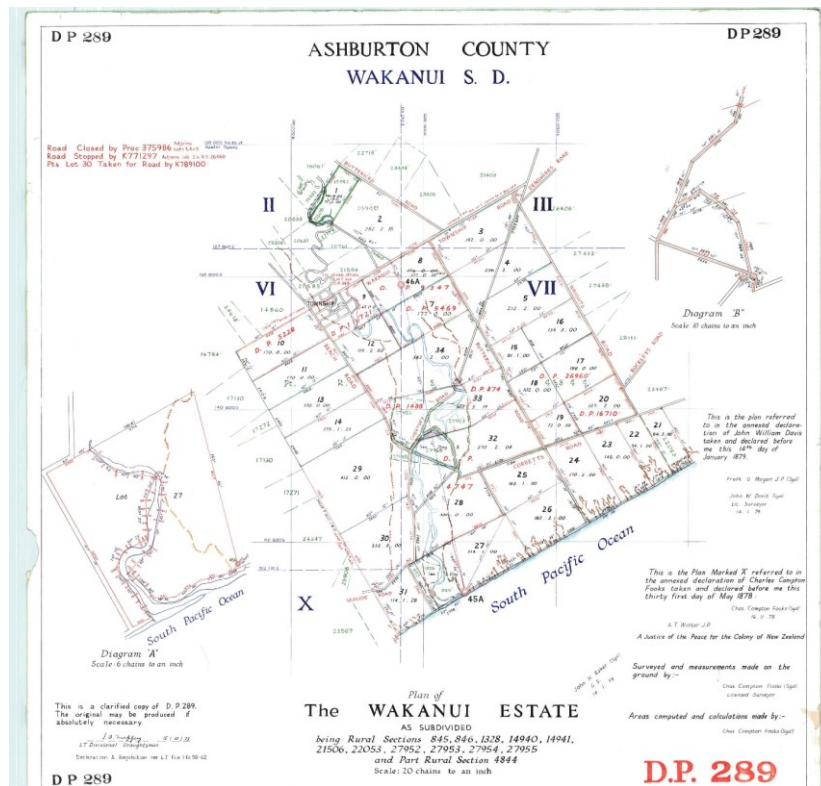


Figure 2 Wakanui Estate - DP 289 from 1878

The land was initially owned by Thomas Wilson, but transferred to the County of Ashburton in 1907.

The land was held under the Local Government Act 2002 as freehold land until 2024, when Pt Lot 27 DP 289 (Pt RS 846) was declared reserve and classified.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation. The huts located in the north western part of the reserve are managed by ADC’s property team and not included within the scope of this management plan.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Requirement for ongoing weed and pest control.
- Rubbish dumping and unauthorised fires.
- Lack of water in the creek and lagoon.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1:

1. Work with mana whenua to investigate opportunities to educate the public about the significant cultural values of the reserve and surrounding area.
2. Continue to work collaboratively with the community to restore, enhance and protect native biodiversity and extend areas of native species at the reserve.
3. Prior to undertaking additional ecological restoration work, consideration should be given to identified archaeological sites, and further archaeological investigations undertaken if required. Existing archaeological sites are not to be impacted by restoration work.
4. Retain the area that contains the huts under the Local Government Act 2002 and exclude from scope of this Plan.
5. Manage part of Pt Lot 27 DP 289 (Pt RS 845), outlined in green on the map above, approximately 1.32ha, for its natural and scenic values. Consider declaring reserve and classifying this area, as Scenic reserve 19(1)(b) under Reserves Act 1977.

6. Consider formalising the correct spelling of the area.

Development opportunities

The following opportunities have been identified:

- Develop interpretative signage at the site.

42. Waterton Cemetery (open)

Description

Waterton Cemetery consists of one land parcel located on Grahams Road, Eiffelton. The cemetery, surrounded by trees, is set back from the road and can be accessed via a driveway from Grahams Road.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Grahams Road, Eiffelton
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	1.2141

Legal Description	Res 2477 SO 517
Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

The subject land was originally defined as Res 1442 on SO 517, which was reserved as a gravel pit by Canterbury Provincial Gazette 1874 page 35.

Part of Res 1442 was redefined as Res 2477 and the reserve purpose of this part was changed to cemetery, by Gazette 1880 page 1292, under authority of section 6 of the Public Reserves Act Amendment Act 1878.

Res 2477 was subsequently vested in the Longbeach Road Board, in trust, for cemetery purposes, by Gazette 1908 pages 1630 and 1631, under authority of section 4 of the Public Reserves Act 1881. Through subsequent local government reorganisation, the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

There are approximately 220 recorded burials in this cemetery (July 2023). The cemetery is no longer used for internments.

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- No formal land title has been issued for the land.

Specific policies

No specific policies identified.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities have been identified.

43. Winslow Cemetery

Description

Winslow Cemetery is located on Hinds Highway /State Highway 1, Winslow, approximately 10km south of Ashburton.

The cemetery has been operating since 1882 and has provided for approximately 60 burials to date.

The cemetery, located on the western part of the land, is surrounded on three sides by mature trees. The majority of the land is currently being used for cropping.



The reserve consists of one land parcel, which is subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Address	Hinds Highway, Winslow
NZRA Reserve Category	Cultural Heritage
Total Size (in ha)	1.2241
Legal Description	Res 2492 SO 876
Land Status	Local Purpose (Cemetery) Reserve

Background

Winslow Cemetery consists of one land parcel, which is Crown derived. New Zealand Gazette 1893 p 659 declares the land as cemetery.

NZ Gazette 1908 p 1593 permanently reserves the land for cemetery purposes and vests the land in the Longbeach Road Board in trust.

Through this vesting and subsequent local government reorganisation, the land is now vested in Ashburton District Council. [The land was classified in 2024.](#)

Occupation/ Leases (as at April 2023)

No formal occupation recorded.

Key issue(s)

The following key issues are identified:

- Current use of part of the reserve has not been formalised.

Specific policies

The following specific policies apply in addition to the policies outlined in Volume 1¹⁰:

1. Consider surveying and reclassification of the eastern part of the land parcel, currently used for agricultural purposes, to better reflect its primary use. Manage the remainder of the land in accordance with its primary purpose as Local purpose (cemetery) reserve.
2. Formalise the farming use of the site through appropriate agreements.

Development opportunities

No development opportunities have been identified.

¹⁰ If in conflict, specific policies in this section override general policies in Volume 1 of this plan.