



# South Bay Forest Recreation Reserve

Reserve Management Plan



**KAIKŌURA**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose of Reserve

The South Bay Forest Reserve is gazetted as a Recreation Reserve.

This management plan is prepared in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 to provide a framework for the sustainable management and development of the South Bay Forest Recreation Reserve. It aims to balance conservation, financing options, recreation and community needs.

## 1.2. Legal Description and Location

Part Section 9 Block X Mt Fyffe Survey District.

The South Bay Forest Reserve extends from the State Highway 1 intersection at South Bay Parade to the bridge crossing the Kowhai River. Cross reference to map[s] in appendices.

## 1.3. Physical and Natural Features

The Reserve is approximately 167,719m<sup>2</sup> and is a long narrow parcel of land. The Reserve comprises of 2 (two) main areas, the first being the pine forest area which makes up approximately 100,000m<sup>2</sup> of the reserve. The remaining area (approx. 60,000m<sup>2</sup>) is largely low lying, flat and low vegetation with a limestone pathway from the South Bay Intersection to the edge of the current Pine forest.

## 1.4. History and Present Use

Half of the reserve (the pine forest area) has been planted in pines for a number of decades, with the purpose of serving as a revenue potential for the District. It was intended that once the trees matured, they were to be harvested and eventually replanted or the area be repurposed. In 2024, Council proposed the harvesting of the trees.

The Reserve as a whole is very commonly used for a range of activities. The community and visitors use it for walking dogs, horse riding, or shaded walking under the tree canopy.



*Figure 1: Beginning of the Limestone pathway at the southern end of the reserve in South Bay.*

The limestone pathway created by the Kaikoura Cycle Club provides a safe walking and cycling trail alongside State Highway 1 with a safety buffer of vegetation between the trail and the highway .

## 1.5. District Plan Provisions

The Reserve is located in the General Rural Zone of the Kaikōura District Plan, described as:

*The General Rural Zone covers all the rural land in the district, including the hill and high country, and plains. The zone contains a variety of soil types*



*ranging from highly versatile soils to those erosion susceptible soils in the high country.*

*The zone is characterised by low-density rural development and a wide range of rural activities.*

*The Council envisages that productive use of land in the General Rural Zone is undertaken in combination with the conservation of indigenous vegetation as possible and protection of soil resources from degradation and erosion.*

## 1.6. Public Consultation

In preparation of the South Bay Forest Reserve Management Plan, in 2024 Council advertised for public input for desired uses or potential ideas for the potential management of the Reserve including running workshops. The possibilities raised for the reserve are as follows:

- Continue the Limestone pathway through the forest
- Different paths for walking/cycling and horse riding to create less wear on walking paths
- Specific sites where information or displays are available about history of the area and flora & fauna
- Designated Dog area
- Improved Vehicle Access & parking
- Ensuring the area is planted with trees
- Disc/Frisbee Golf
- Art and or play equipment using remnant stumps or logs
- Motorbike/Quad bike area
- Obstacle/rope courses
- Protect the sand dunes
- Social or family friendly areas e.g. picnic tables and BBQ area

## 1.7. Iwi Consultation & Iwi Management Plan

The coastline adjacent to the Reserve is regarded as Statutory Acknowledgement area for Te Tai o Marokura, being the Kaikōura Coastal Marine Area and is acknowledged as such under the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

Throughout the consultation process, Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura made a submission during the initial consultation period requesting the future structures or developments be discussed with iwi. Furthermore, there are several known archaeological areas/sites within or in close proximity to the reserve, therefore, Council will have regard to earthworks that may result in archaeological findings.

## 2. Vision/Direction

The intended future and direction for the South Bay Forest Recreation Reserve, provided by Council, has been to enable enhanced use of the reserve.

## 3. Objective and Policies

### 3.1. Recreation

Opportunities for active recreation should be retained and made accessible for the enjoyment of the public. Recreation can be in many different forms and the Reserve currently offers a wide range of active recreation opportunities.

#### 3.1.1. Objectives

- Identify the opportunities of outdoor recreation
- Opportunities of experiencing 'play' shall provide an enhanced environment
- Suitable shade is provided where possible to provide shelter from the element.



### 3.1.2. Policies

- 'Play in design' infrastructure be incorporated into the natural environment where possible
- To provide opportunity for a range of recreational facilities within the reserve, having regard to the passive and active recreation needs of the community
- Where possible, natural shade be implemented



*Figure 2: Beginning of the limestone pathway from the northern end of the path at the start of the existing forest and used parking area*

## 3.2. Environment

Due to the nature of the area, there is a lot of vegetation growth which adds to the Rural Nature of the Environment. However, it is important that this is managed appropriately to retain amenity and provide a quality environment to be used.

### 3.2.1. Objectives

- Vegetative canopy should be established to provide natural shelter for Reserve users
- Council shall ensure that vegetation such as weeds are maintained as feasible to ensure the character of the Reserve is retained and landscape values are maintained
- Features of the natural environment be integrated into potential play opportunities

### 3.2.2. Policies

- Establish a planting and landscaping plan in conjunction with Council's Long Term Plan or annual plan to re-establish vegetative shelter
- Designs of equipment be workshopped with the public to integrate the natural environment.

## 3.3. Parking, Accessibility & Information

The purpose of the Reserve, under the Reserves Act 1977, Section 17 states that the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, although powers under sections 53 & 54 may restrict access under certain circumstances. Section 19, regarding scenic reserves reinforce the ability for restricted access but where necessary, although, as an administering body, Council desires for the public to obtain benefits and enjoyment for use of the reserve. Given the nature of the reserve, it is also an opportunity to encourage active recreation and education on flora & fauna and cultural significance of the reserve.



### 3.3.1. Objectives

- Manage public access into the Reserve in a way that seeks to protect



*Figure 3 (above left): Current unofficial parking area at the northern end of the limestone pathway next to the current forest area.*



*Figure 4 (above right): The limestone pathway going north from the existing forest, State Highway 1 to the left with grassed buffer area.*

- the values and use of the reserve
- To provide sufficient signage to facilitate public use and enjoyment of the outdoor recreational environment



*Figure 5(above): Turning area for logging truck identified as a potential parking area in the public workshops*

*Figure 6 (below): mid-point of limestone pathway looking north towards the Kaikōura Peninsula*





- Provide education opportunities on the significance of the Reserve to the community

### 3.3.2. Policies

- Provide where practical, sufficient parking within the reserve to meet the needs of recreational users of the reserve.
- The number and size of signs in the reserve shall be kept to a minimum to avoid visual detracting from the “natural” environment; give clear positive guidance to assist public enjoyment and may provide interpretive information of areas of interest and/or historical importance.

## 3.4. Cultural Significance

Due to the location of the Reserve, and that there are several known archaeological sites/areas nearby or within the Reserve, it is important to acknowledge the significance of the site to Māori and the previous uses of the land.

### 3.4.1. Objectives

- Co-ordinate with Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura when undertaking earthworks in archaeologically identified areas
- Recognise significance to Māori
- Retain and promote an understanding of the historical and cultural values of the Reserve.

### 3.4.2. Policies

- Increase awareness of heritage values of the area, parts of the Reserve being culturally significant
- All archaeological sites and discoveries will be managed in accordance with the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

## 3.5. Other

### 3.5.1. Objectives

- Retain commercial forestry opportunities on the reserve where it is compatible with other uses.
- Encourage Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design where possible

### 3.5.2. Policies

- During clearance of any non-indigenous vegetation, council shall ensure there is an appropriate site management plan in place to retain the amenity of the reserve.
- Council will determine whether any area of the Reserve will be replanted for forestry purposes and ideally to simultaneously be used with recreation activities.
- Clear sightlines in any vegetated area will need to be implemented where possible

## Other Relevant Plans, Policies & Bylaws

- Kaikōura District Plan
- Current Annual Plan
- Current Long-Term Plan
- Waste Management Protocol
- Signs Bylaw
- Dog Control Bylaw
- Trading in Public Places Policy
- Structures, Works and Items in Public Places Bylaw
- Canterbury Regional Policy Statement
- Traffic and Parking Bylaw
- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement
- Smoke Free Public Places Policy







# Appendices

## Maps





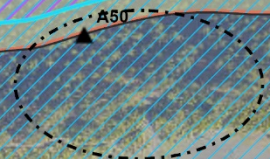
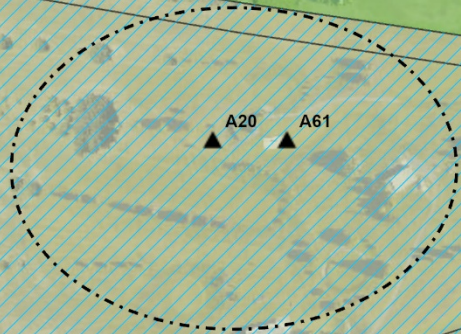


# South Bay Forest Recreation Reserve

LINZ, Land Information New Zealand; Statistics New Zealand, Environment Canterbury Regional Council; Hurunui District Council; Waimakariri District Council; Timaru District Council; Waimate District Council; Mackenzie District Council; Otago Regional Council; LINZ; NIWA, Environment Canterbury



# South Bay Forest Recreation Reserve (West)



**Legend**

- ▲ Archaeological Site
- - - Archaeological Area - Lines
- ⋯ Archaeological Area
- - - Coast

**Reserves**

- ▨ Reserve (Scenic/Rec)
- ▭ Road Parcels
- Road

**Zoning**

- ▭ Parcels
- ▨ Non-Urban Flood Assessment Overlay
- ▨ Debris Inundation Overlay
- ▭ Ocean Ridge Comprehensive Living (ORCL)
- ▭ Medium Density Residential Zone
- ▭ Low Density Residential Zone
- ▭ Rural
- ▭ Land Parcels



LINZ, Land Information New Zealand; Statistics New Zealand, Environment Canterbury Regional Council; Hurunui District Council; Waimakariri District Council; Timaru District Council; Waimate District Council; Mackenzie District Council; Otago Regional Council; LINZ; NIWA, Environment Canterbury



# South Bay Forest Recreation Reserve (East)

N

Shearwater Dr

South Bay Pk




SH1




A178

## Legend






- ▲ Archaeological Site
- Archaeological Area - Lines
- ⋯ Archaeological Area
- - - Coast

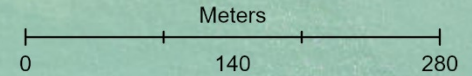
## Reserves

-  Reserve (Scenic/Rec)
-  Road Parcels
-  Road

-  Parcels
-  Non-Urban Flood Assessment Overlay
-  Debris Inundation Overlay

## Zoning

-  Ocean Ridge Comprehensive Living (ORCL)
-  Medium Density Residential Zone
-  Low Density Residential Zone
-  Rural
-  Land Parcels



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