



**SECTION ONE**  
Introduction



## 1.1 BACKGROUND

Reserves management involves the facilitation of recreational opportunities on reserves and the protection of land values such as amenity, conservation and heritage values. The Kawerau District Council administers and manages a range of reserves in the District. This management plan deals with all reserves in one composite document.

## 1.2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Many aspects of reserve planning and management are controlled by legislation. The primary legislation affecting Reserves Management is the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act). The Act covers many issues relating to administration of reserves including the declaration, classification, revocation, management planning and leasing of reserves and public consultation.

Section 41 of the Act requires every recreation reserve to have an operative management plan. The purpose of reserves management planning is to facilitate the management of reserves so that decisions can be made that do not compromise the long-term use of the reserve and do not conflict with other uses. Section 41(3) stipulates that "the management plan shall provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation, as the case may require, and ... the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified."



The other important piece of legislation is the Resource Management Act 1991. It is the statutory basis for the Kawerau District Plan. Under the District Plan some activities on reserves may require a resource consent, for example the building of structures on reserves.

## 1.3 GOALS

Kawerau District Council has four goals for the reserves it administers in the District. The goals are:

1. To contribute to the quality of life of the Kawerau Community.
2. To provide for a range of leisure and recreational opportunities.
3. To provide for the present and future leisure and recreational needs of the Kawerau Community and
4. To control, manage or administer reserves in accordance with legislative requirements.

## 1.4 PLANNING AND REVIEW PROCESS

This document has been developed in accordance with the process set out in the Reserves Act and has been subject to a robust consultation process. It is a composite plan for all but one of the reserves in Kawerau, and supersedes seven individual reserve management plans developed at various times for the important reserves and a composite reserve management plan adopted in June 1995 for neighbourhood and amenity reserves.

Not covered by this plan is the Kawerau Cemetery, which, because of its sensitive nature is the subject of a separate plan.

This plan is subject to continuous review. This means that it will be adapted in response to the following:

- Relevant legislative changes
- The addition of another reserve in Kawerau
- Other changed circumstances, or
- A request from the Minister of Conservation.

A full review of the Plan will be conducted no later than 2017.



# SECTION TWO

## Reserve Classification



## 2.1 CLASSIFICATION

The Reserves Act requires reserves to be classified according to their principal or primary purpose and sets out the process of classification. There are seven distinct classifications in the Act: Scenic; Nature; Historic; Scientific; Government Purpose; Recreation and Local Purpose Reserves. Details of the source documents (Gazette notice or title number) for the classification of each of Kawerau's reserves are contained in Schedule One.

In general, only recreation and local purpose reserves are controlled or managed by local authorities. The other reserves are managed by the Government. This is the case in the Kawerau District.

Recreation reserves and local purpose reserves in Kawerau can be further divided into five categories. The categories are:

### Recreation Reserves

- Important reserves
- Neighbourhood reserves

### Local Purpose Reserves

- Amenity reserves and amenity strips
- Esplanade reserves
- Utility reserves

## 2.2 RECREATION RESERVES

Recreation reserves are created "...for the purpose of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside" (S.17 Reserves Act 1977).



### 2.2.1 IMPORTANT RESERVES

There are 13 reserves in Kawerau which, because of their size, use, or importance to the Community can be regarded as 'important' reserves. Twelve of the reserves are recreation reserves and one is part of a utility reserve. The important reserves are:

- Boyce Park
- Firmin Field
- Keith McKenzie Park
- Lyn Hartley Reserve
- Monika Lanham Reserve
- Pat Baker Reserve
- Prideaux Park
- Roy Weston Walk
- Stoneham Park
- Stoneham Walk
- Tarawera Park
- Waterhouse Reserve
- Waterwheel Park

Section three of this plan provides a comprehensive description of the important reserves in Kawerau and outlines the history, status and policies particular to each.

### 2.2.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD RESERVES

Neighbourhood reserves are generally smaller and less developed than important reserves. They offer informal recreational opportunities and may have playgrounds and other active play areas for children, as well as some trees.

The primary purpose of neighbourhood reserves is to provide a place for casual or passive recreational opportunities for neighbouring residents. Council's objectives are to develop and maintain neighbourhood reserves in a way that will encourage casual and passive recreation and active child's play, and to retain these reserves as an open space for the benefit of all users. Development may include tree planting, playground construction, drainage, contouring and fencing.

Kawerau has 19 neighbourhood reserves. These are listed in Schedule Two.

## 2.3 LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVES

Local purpose reserves were created by the Reserves Act "... for the purpose of providing and retaining areas for such local purpose or purposes as are specified in any classification of the reserve" (S.23 Reserves Act 1977). Local purpose reserves cater for uses such as esplanade, utility, roads, streets and service lanes.

An important local purpose reserve in Kawerau is the Kawerau Cemetery. Because of its sensitive nature and unique needs, the cemetery is the subject of its own management plan.

### 2.3.1 AMENITY RESERVES

A number of amenity reserves and strips have been set aside in Kawerau to improve the visual appearance of the town. The two bigger reserves are at Beattie Road and Owen/Julian Road. A series of small amenity strips beautify the roadside along Fenton Street and Tamarangi Drive. Amenity Reserves are listed in Schedule Two.

### 2.3.2 ESPLANADE RESERVES

Although generally associated more with coastal and lakeside areas, Kawerau has areas along the Tarawera River and the Ruruanga Stream which are categorised as esplanade reserves. These are described in Schedule Three.

### 2.3.3 UTILITY RESERVES

Section 16 of the Reserves Act sets aside utility reserves as either local purpose (utility) or local purpose (drainage) reserves. They are not required to have a management plan.

The utility reserves in Kawerau are:

- Dump Reserve (includes Pat Baker Reserve)
- Beattie Road Reservoir Reserve

This plan does not apply to Kawerau's utility reserves other than the part of the Dump Reserve known as Pat Baker Reserve.

