# PIHA RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN

# Final Management Plan September 1999





# **CONTENTS**

	Summary	2
	PART ONE	
1.0	Introduction & Background	5
	1.1 Piha: A Special Place	5
	1.2 Purpose of the Reserve Management Plan	5
	1.3 The Management Plan Process	7
	1.4 How to Use the Management Plan	7
2.0	Statutory Context	8
	2.1 Reserves Act 1977	8
	2.2 Resource Management Act 1991	8
	2.3 Auckland Regional Coastal Plan	9
	2.4 Waitakere City District Plan	9
3.0	Strategic Context	10
	3.1 Greenprint	10
	3.2 West Coast Plan	10
	3.3 Parks Strategy	13
	3.4 Te Kawerau A Maki Resource Management Statement	14
4.0	Other Documents	15
	4.1 Piha Community Management Plan	15
	4.2 Other Council Documents	15
5.0	Current State	16
	5.1 Geology and Soils	16
	5.2 Vegetation	16
	5.3 Fauna	17
	5.4 Landscape	18
	5.5 Water	18
	5.6 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	18
	5.7 History 5.8 Facilities	19
	5.9 Leases	19
	5.10 Access and Use	20
		21
	PART TWO	
6.0	Management Objectives and Policies	22
	6.1 Administration	22
	6.2 Leases and Commercial Activities	24
	6.3 Natural Environment	28
	6.4 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage 6.5 Recreation and Use	32
	6.6 Facilities and Maintenance	33 35
	PART THREE	33
7.0	Reserve Development Plans	40
	7.1 Les Waygood Park	40
	7.2 Piha Esplanade Reserve / Wekatahi Reserve	42
	7.3 Claude Abel Reserve	42
	7.4 North Piha Strand	43
	7.5 Piha Domain	44
	7.6 Piha Beach	45
		5
	Appendices	46
	Reserve Descriptions	46
	Native (Indigenous) Plants of Piha	60
	Piha Reserves Vegetation Assessment	64
	Reserve Act Classifications	70
	Archaeological and Heritage Sites of the Piha Reserves	73

# **SUMMARY**

This Reserve Management Plan for Piha's Reserves, sets out the objectives and policies for the management of Piha's Reserves. The plan has been produced within the context of Waitakere City's wider objectives as well as the vision, goals and targets of the West Coast Plan. This final Plan has been amended to incorporate the decisions on submissions made by the Waitakere Community Board.

Key components of the draft Reserve Management Plan are outlined below:

# **MANAGEMENT OF THE RESERVES**

# 1. Leases and Commercial Activities

- The Piha Domain Camping Ground is seen as being an important part of the Piha Domain and provision is made within the plan for upgrading of the facilities, in a way which allows for the environmental, social and economic viability of the campground.
- A final 5 year lease of the North Piha Camping Ground to the North Piha Campers Club is allowed for, with subsequent leases of a reduced camping area to be granted to the United North Piha Lifeguarding Service. The future use for the remaining area is for passive recreation and picnicking by the local community and visitors.

#### 2. Natural Environment

- ♦ The high values of the natural environment and landscape are recognised and there are policies to protect and enhance these values, including the use only of native ecosourced plants which would have naturally occurred in the area.
- The plan does not address detailed management of the beach areas as it will be subject to a separate Piha Coastal Management Plan. It does recognise the importance of natural values of the coastal areas, and that the most appropriate management of these areas involves allowing natural processes to occur, while involving the community in caring for these important areas.
- Problems with water quality in the streams running through the reserve are acknowledged and provision is made for riparian and wetland planting.
- Management of weeds is a serious issue in Piha on both private and park land.
  The plan outlines the priorities for undertaking weed control, with Regional Plant
  pests, and those weeds in areas of greatest ecological sensitivity, being the
  priority.
- ♦ The visual effect of the design of buildings and structures on the parks is recognised within the outstanding landscape which is Piha, and the need for these to integrate with the natural environment is provided for.

# 3. Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

The important role that Piha has played in both Maori and European history is recognised, with particular provision made for the protection of cultural and historic values of the parks.

#### 4. Recreation and Use

◆ The plan recommends specific access points to beach areas to ensure that damage to the dunes is minimised.

#### 5. Facilities and Maintenance

- ♦ The plan provides a direction for the use of sustainable materials, design and construction methodologies for all new buildings and structures.
- ◆ The visual, environmental and community effects of carparking on the parks are addressed, with a direction to provide low impact natural barrier systems to prevent damage to the coastal environment.

# 6. Reserve Development Plans

- ♦ The Piha Domain is proposed as the focal area for provision of visitor facilities at Piha with visitor information, toilets and picnicking areas provided for.
- ◆ The Piha Domain is seen as a key focus area for community facilities and recreational use, providing a "village green" area with improvements proposed to recreational features such as the playing field.
- Les Waygood Park is proposed to be the focus for visitor activities in the northern area. Upgrading and extension of the carpark and the creation of picnic areas will be undertaken in conjunction with advocating for a reduced carpark on the ARC land at North Piha.

# PAPER ROADS AND LEGAL ROAD NOT NEEDED FOR ROADING PURPOSES

The Plan identifies a number of areas which are currently legal road, but which would be more appropriately managed as parks. The following areas will be stopped as legal road, and instead be vested as either esplanade, recreation or scenic reserve, depending on their qualities.

- 1. Marine Parade South the carpark, toilet, stream and sand dune area are to be vested as Esplanade Reserve. The road carriageway and associated berm areas (a total of 11 metres width) would remain as legal road to give legal road frontage to the properties off Marine Parade South.
- Seaview Road by the eastern side of the Domain two pieces of unformed road adjacent to the Piha Stream are to be vested as Esplanade Reserve.
   One area wraps around the new fire station adjacent to the Piha Stream and the other adjoins the Piha Stream and Beach Valley Road.
- 3. Seaview Road Unformed Road a piece of unformed road where the old Fire Station is sited will be vested as Local Purpose (Community Building) Reserve. The old Piha Fire Station will be leased to local community artists.

- 4. Sylvan Glade Unformed Road a piece of unformed road linking Sylvan Glade to Rayner Road to be vested as Recreation Reserve. A walkway lies along the unformed road which forms an important pedestrian connection for mainly local use.
- 5. North Piha Road a piece of unformed road (sand dune) between Piha Esplanade Reserve and Les Waygood Park adjoining Marawhara stream to be vested as Esplanade Reserve. The area is a small piece of land adjoining North Piha Road and Marawhara Stream.
- 6. Wekatahi Unformed Road between Marine Parade North and Wekatahi Reserve this is an old sand dune with coastal dune forest and wetland behind. Due to the ecological and visual importance of this area will be vested as Scenic Reserve.
- 7. North Piha Road between North Piha Strand and Piha Esplanade Reserve adjoining Wekatahi Stream an area of land adjoining the road and Wekatahi Stream. This land area is being eroded away due to the combined action of the Wekatahi and Marawhara Streams and will be vested as Esplanade Reserve.

# RESERVES WHERE ENCROACHMENT BY PRIVATE LANDOWNERS HAS OCCURRED

The Reserve Management Plan identifies two reserve areas which have been encroached upon by private landowners. This has been in the form of garden, fencing and building encroachments. The Management Plan includes provision to address the issue of these encroachments by dealing with them on an individual basis with a view to their removal over a reasonable time period.

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

# 1.1 Piha: A Special Place

Piha is a place of priceless heritage and will always have a very special place in the hearts and memories of residents bach owners and regular visitors. High in everyone's mind is the need to preserve and care for this West Coast treasure. Piha reserves have local, city wide and indeed regional significance. This puts pressure on the natural environment and the community that lives there as more people come to visit and enjoy the Piha Reserves. The management of the Piha Reserves is therefore important as a step in retaining Piha as a special place.

# 1.2 Purpose of the Piha Reserves Management Plan

The aim of the Piha Reserves Management Plan is to provide for the enjoyment of recreational and environmental opportunities in a manner which is consistent with the conservation and enhancement of the unique character and ecological value of Piha. The Piha Reserve Management Plan integrates the management of all the Piha reserves administered by Waitakere City Council.

This Reserve Management Plan provides a framework for carrying out the future management of Piha's Reserves, subject to review. This Management Plan sets governing principles for management which will be readily understood by those whose actions or interests will be affected by the plan. This plan has been created within the context of the West Coast Plan Vision and Goals as well as the Council's Long Term Financial Strategy, Parks Strategy and Greenprint.

The Waitakere City Council reserves in Piha cover 22.8 hectares in total area. Of this area 67% (15.25 hectares) is wilderness area, 24% (5.6 hectares) is leased, and 9% (1.95 hectares) is passive space not leased.

Twenty four Piha Reserves are covered in this Reserve Management Plan. These are a mixture of recreation reserves, scenic reserves, plantation reserves, accessways, formed and unformed road:

- 1. Garden Road Plantation Reserve
- 2. Garden Road Walkway
- 3. Les Waygood Park
- 4. North Piha Esplanade
- 5. North Piha Strand
- 6. Piha Domain
- 7. Piha Esplanade Reserve
- 8. Piha Scenic Reserve (Claude Abel Reserve)
- 9. Seaview Road Plantation Reserve no. 1
- 10. Seaview Road Plantation Reserve no. 2 (Rayner Walk)
- 11. Seaview Walkway
- 12. Wekatahi Reserve
- 13. Marine Parade South Road Reserve
- 14. Marine Parade Plantation Reserve
- 15. Seaview Legal Road by the eastern side of the Domain (2 areas)
- 16. Sylvan Glade Plantation Reserve
- 17. Sylvan Glade Legal Road
- Glen Esk Plantation Reserve 1

- 19. Glen Esk Plantation Reserve 2
- 20. Pendrell Reserve
- 21. South Piha Plantation Reserve
- 22. North Piha Road between Piha Esplanade Reserve and Les Waygood Park adjoining Marawhara Stream.
- 23. Wekatahi Unformed Road
- 24. Marine Parade North Road between North Piha Strand and Piha Esplanade Reserve adjoining Wekatahi Stream

The areas of legal road which are covered by the Reserve Management Plan are to be vested as reserve and amalgamated with adjacent reserves. The legal road at Marine Parade South will be vested as reserve and known as Piha Beach Reserve.

A full description with legal information and current leases for each reserve is attached in Appendix One. The locations of Piha reserves are shown in figure 1.

Although a Management Plan provides the overall direction for ongoing management, there is generally a need for a programme of special works to be drawn that assigns priorities. Development plans as part of the Piha Reserves Management Plan have been produced for Les Waygood Park, North Piha Strand, Piha Domain, Piha Esplanade Reserve, Piha Scenic Reserve (Claude Abel Reserve) and Wekatahi Reserve.

While this Reserve Management Plan provides the management direction for all of the reserves, the detailed management of the beaches and dunes at Piha and North Piha under Waitakere City Council control will be contained within a separate Piha Coastal Management Plan, to be read in conjunction with this document.

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# 1.3 The Management Plan Process

The process that was followed in the production of this plan was in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 and included extensive public consultation. The steps involved in this process are shown below:

# 17 June 1998

Public notification of intention to prepare Draft Management Plan and request submissions

11

# Sunday 5 July 1998

Public consultation and issues identified

11

# **Sunday 12 July 1998**

**Site Meetings** at Claude Abel Reserve, Les Waygood Park, Piha Domain, Marine Parade South.

**Workshops** on the reserves, with a focus on Claude Abel Reserve, Les Waygood Park, Piha Domain, and Marine Parade South.

11

**11 August 1998 submissions closed** for issues and ideas for the Draft Reserve Management Plan.

II.

Issues Identified and evaluated

 $\Downarrow$ 

# September 1998 Draft Reserve Management Plan produced.

<del>1</del>

Draft Plan approved by Waitakere Community Board and advertised for public comment. Submission Period mid September 1998 to 31 January 1999.

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**13 April 1999** Hearing of Submissions on Draft Plan by Waitakere Community Board

**1 June 1999 and 6 July 1999** Decisions made on submissions by Waitakere Community Board

IJ.

Modification of Plan according to decisions

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**7 September 1999** Waitakere Community Board adopts Final Plan on behalf of Council.

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Plan kept under continual review by Waitakere City Council.

# 1.4 How to Use the Management Plan

The Management Plan is laid out in three parts:

- (a) The first part contains the background information relating to the Reserves at Piha and the statutory framework for the Reserve Management Plan.
- (b) The second part comprises the Reserve Management Plan itself. It contains the detailed objectives for the management of the Piha Reserves

and an explanation of these. It outlines the policies used to meet these objectives and how these policies will be implemented.

(c) The third part sets out the development plans for specific reserves which include clarification of policies identified in part two.

The appendices outline the legal description and documentation of the reserves as well as a description of the vegetation and heritage values of the Piha Reserves.

# 2. STATUTORY CONTEXT

#### 2.1 Reserves Act 1977

The Reserves Act requires that every reserve have a management plan prepared. Once accepted, the plan is to be subject to continuous review to adapt to changing circumstances or increased knowledge about the reserve. The review process is outlined in the Reserves Act and requires a public notification and submission process.

The intention of a management plan is to:

"provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, protection and preservation, as the case may require, and to the extent that the administering body's resources permit, the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it was classified."

The Piha Reserves have been classified as a number of different reserve types under the Reserves Act and these, and their purposes are described in detail in Appendix Four.

# 2.2 Resource Management Act 1991

The purpose of the Act is to:

"promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources."

Issues which are considered to be of National Importance are:

- a) The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development;
- b) The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development;
- c) The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna;
- d) The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers;
- e) The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.

# 2.3 The Proposed Auckland Regional Coastal Plan

The Proposed Auckland Regional Coastal Plan 1995 provides objectives and policies regarding the coastal environment together with rules for the Coastal

Marine Area. The Plan recognises Piha as part of "Area 104" of "Significant Conservation Value" which is situated between Muriwai and Karekare.

'The cliffs and intertidal platforms of the rocky coastline from Muriwai to Karekare are made up of rocks that were formed by undersea volcanoes around 19 million years ago. A variety of regionally, nationally, and internationally important geological features are to be found along this coast. These include contemporary erosional features, such as blowholes, stacks, and arches as well as exposures of volcanic, sedimentary ...features within the rocks that make up the coast.' On the basis of its geological value, this coast has been selected by the Department of Conservation as an Area of Significant Conservation Value (ASCV)'.

# 2.4 Waitakere City Proposed District Plan

The Proposed District Plan identifies Waitakere City's parks as Open Space Environment, overlain by the Natural Area characteristics on those parklands. Areas of natural vegetation, wildlife habitat and potential habitat (restoration areas) are part of a "Green Network" that are afforded special protection under the policies and rules of the District Plan. All of the Piha Reserves are identified as falling within the Coastal Natural Area – recognising the very high natural and landscape values and coastal influence in these areas. In addition many of the reserves are identified within the Proposed District Plan as having significant native vegetation and fauna habitat present.

The Piha Reserves Management Plan will be used to manage impacts on the reserves themselves. It also provides detailed management and planning for the placement of any buildings, paths and active play areas in relation to the specific qualities of the parks. The District Plan rules will be used to manage the effects of activities on surrounding areas, in particular, noise, lighting, traffic movements and the placement of structures at the boundary, together with effects on the natural environment with regard to earthworks, vegetation clearance and impermeable surfaces.

# 3. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

# 3.1 Greenprint

This document contains the overall strategic framework within which Waitakere City operates. The Greenprint identifies key changes and actions required for Waitakere to become an eco-city and targets a number of key focus areas to realise this vision. These are:-

- Communities
- City form and design
- Transport and communications
- Economic development
- Taonga
- City well-being
- Energy, Resources and Waste

#### 3.2 West Coast Plan

The West Coast Plan is a strategic plan for guiding the future management of the West Coast and Waitakere Ranges. The plan contains a vision for the future of the West Coast and Waitakere Ranges, which is supported by more specific targets. The table below shows how the objectives and polices in the Piha Reserve Management Plan contribute to achieving the relevant targets.

West Coast Plan Targets	Piha Reserve Management Plan Objectives and Policies
There is a continual reduction in pests and	To control and where possible eradicate weeds and animal pests.
weeds in the forests, gardens, cliffs, parks, roadsides and streams.	To prioritise weeds and animal pests for removal or control and target areas that are particularly sensitive to weed and pest invasion and areas where eradication of weed and pest species is still possible.
	To encourage adjacent land users to control weeds and animal pests on their land to reduce invasion into the reserves.
Water quality in streams, lakes, lagoons and the sea is good enough to support	Continue to monitor water quality in the Piha Stream and Piha Lagoon.
the local ecosystems.	Any future toilet facilities or upgrading of facilities in the reserves will have high quality disposal systems that reuse greywater either within the system or for irrigation purposes.
	Develop a riparian planting program along all streams in reserves and the Piha Lagoon.
	Use permeable and semi-permeable surfaces wherever possible so as to reduce the quantity of stormwater entering streams and the lagoon.
	Where stormwater discharges directly into streams and the lagoon implement methods that divert the stormwater through low impact filtering devices (e.g. soak holes, artificial wetlands, riparian planting and swales).

Diverse native flora and fauna are supported by healthy natural	All plants indigenous to Piha are protected and can only be removed where necessary for operational reasons and to maintain areas for specific recreational purposes.
ecosystems.	Only plants which are indigenous to Piha and which are sourced locally from the Piha area will be used in plantings within the Piha Reserves.
	All native fauna are protected.
	Facilities should be located in places where they will not interrupt the movements of native fauna within the reserves.
People understand and care for the natural environment.	To seek the involvement of the local community in the revegetation and vegetation management of the reserves.
CHVII CHIIICH.	To ensure that coastal management initiatives and issues are suitably explained to the public to gain their understanding and support.
	To develop signage which reduces visual effects on the Piha reserves and combines interpretation and education with information on prohibited and permitted activities.
	To explore community liaison initiatives which can improve the understanding of the park environment by the visiting public.
Restored native ecosystems.	Encourage planting that will enhance the survival of native fauna within the reserves.
New structures do not overwhelm the natural landscape.	Ensure that the siting, design and appearance of facilities and park furniture complement the surrounding environment.
шиоварс.	When determining the site of any new buildings, ensure that the location minimises any effects on landscape.
	The design and colour of any new buildings should minimise visual impacts on the landscape.
Replacement of old infrastructure (e.g.	Upgrading of facilities should be carried out in a way that complements the surrounding natural environment.
powerlines, roads, carparks, toilets, drains) is done in a way that has the lowest impact on the	New carparking, or upgrading of existing carparks or roads within the Piha reserves will utilise surfaces in keeping with the natural character of the area.
surrounding environments.	Amenity planting will be undertaken where possible to mitigate adverse visual effects of carparking.
	As the toilets and other buildings (including leased buildings) on the Piha Reserves are upgraded, modify the design and colour as practical to better blend into the coastal environment.

# Pedestrian movement is encouraged.

Encourage the development of accessways for people with limited mobility where the terrain is suitable and the ecological values will not be compromised.

Maintain the current informal nature of walkways and provide maintenance to a level that ensures vegetation does not make access difficult.

Investigate the potential for greater public access to and within the scenic reserves at Piha.

Seek ways to provide pedestrian access for Piha hill residents to the beach.

The walkways will be maintained at a higher level than has been undertaken in the past for pedestrian use, while keeping their track like nature.

# Communities have a place to gather.

Continue to support the existence of community organisations and facilities on the reserves (e.g. kindergarten, bowling club, tennis club and library) that contribute to the wellbeing of the community and do not exclude others from using the facilities.

# The history and cultures of the area are recognised and valued.

To undertake a complete inventory of archaeological and cultural heritage features on the Piha Reserves

To conserve and protect all archaeological and cultural heritage features on the Piha Reserves in accordance with legislation and District Plan requirements and the Waitakere City Heritage Strategy.

Any development or works, including reserve maintenance, shall avoid destruction, damage or modification of archaeological sites on the Piha Reserves.

The physical condition and integrity of heritage items on the Piha Reserves will be monitored on a regular basis.

# Adverse recreational and visitor impacts on the environment are minimal.

Provide facilities for the visitors in appropriate places to enable them to enjoy the reserves without impacting on the natural values.

Ensure accessways to the beach are kept to a defined walkway that keeps people off dune vegetation and will not lead to dune blowouts.

To advocate to the Regional Council that jet skis be banned from the Piha and Marawhara Lagoons.

To provide information explaining the natural values of the Piha Reserves and the ways to reduce human impacts on these values.

To provide information on alcohol bans, dog controlled areas, jet skiing and fire regulations in such a way that does not detract from the visual amenity of the Piha Reserves.

# 3.3 Parks Strategy

The Parks Strategy provides a framework for the management of parks within the City. Ten detailed objectives for the open space in the city have been developed. The objectives set out a programme for change and improvement of the open space areas within the city. The objectives are

- 1. Increase the use and enjoyment of parks
- 2. Extend and improve the City's natural ecosystems
- 3. In crease the opportunities for people to enjoy nature in parks
- 4. Parks are managed sustainably as part of the wider landscape
- 5. Improve the use, range and quality of sports facilities within the City
- 6. Protect the heritage values within parks and increase the awareness of the local area's heritage
- 7. To provide quality local and neighbourhood parks that are within walking distance throughout the City.
- 8. To provide in partnership with Iwi, and where relevant, the wider Maori community, the protection of waahi tapu and sites of significance found on parks
- 9. Involve communities in the design and management of parks
- 10. To improve the management and administration of parks.

As the Piha Reserves are used by people from across Waitakere City and have features which are unique in Waitakere City, the Piha Reserves are therefore managed as City Wide Parks.

City Wide Parks are seen as the key method of meeting the needs of Waitakere City in the future, and the parks of Piha, Te Henga and Armour Bay are seen as providing a unique recreational and ecological function within the wider City Wide Parks network.

The role of a domain type area in each of the coastal settlements has been recognised also. These areas provide a focus for local community reserve needs and incorporate a playground, toilet, passive areas and informal active areas.

The importance of the Piha Reserves to the Green Network, particularly the beach and sand dune areas, is recognised. The Piha Reserves have a number of special and unique ecosystems and wildlife. Careful management of these is an important part of the City's strategy to protect, restore and enhance the natural environment. In addition the Parks Strategy reinforces the importance of providing for public access to the coast.

# 3.4 Te Kawerau A Maki Trust Resource Management Statement

The Resource Management Statement outlines the concerns and goals of the Kawerau a Maki Trust with regard to the sustainable management of the Taonga within the tribal area of Te Kawerau A Maki. Within Piha Te Kawerau A Maki wish to see the containment of the spread of development so that it does not become a dormitory suburb. The key management concerns with regard to Piha are:

- maintenance of easy access to native bush,
- keeping the low level of development on the beach areas,
- maintaining the role of Piha as a weekend destination rather than a majority holiday destination;

• improving the water quality in the Piha Stream to ensure it is safe for swimming and taking eels.

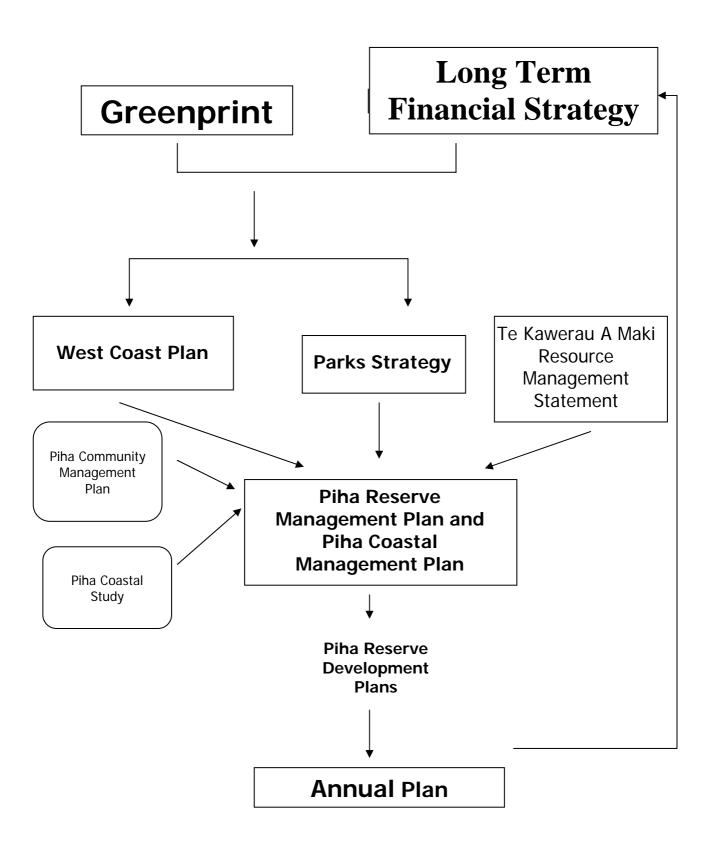
# 4.0 OTHER DOCUMENTS

# 4.1 Piha Community Management Plan

The Piha Community Management Plan (PCMP) provides guidance to the WCC and the ARC on managing the Piha area, including the reserves. The PCMP was used to scope the issues that were discussed at the consultation workshops for developing the Piha Reserves Management Plan. Many of the policies found within this plan are consistent with the PCMP.

# 4.2 Other Council Documents

Documents such as Council's Long Term Financial Strategy and Annual Plan all have implications for how the Piha Reserves are funded for both maintenance and upgrading. The following diagram outlines how these, and other documents mentioned in section 3 fit together with the Piha Reserves Management Plan



# 5.0 CURRENT STATE

# 5.1 Geology and Soils

Almost all of the Waitakere City Council reserves at Piha occur either along the coastal fringe or on the alluvial flats associated with the Piha Stream. These areas are relatively young in age and can be divided into three geological land types. These are;

Active dunes, sandflats and drifting sand – this land type is adjacent to the sea and is comprised of loose quartz and iron sands that are rich in titanomagnetite.

Semi-stabilised sand dunes and flats – these occur landward of the active dunes and are again recently formed quartz and iron sands rich in titanomagnetite. They form weakly developed yellow-brown sands (Pinaki series) which drain well.

Narrow alluvial flats – this land type occurs where the Piha Stream flattens out. It is comprised of soft mud, sand and gravel from recent volcanic derived alluvium. These form silty and clay soils (Mangakahia series) which drain well.

# 5.2 Vegetation

Three major native vegetation associations occur on the Piha Reserves – dune vegetation, exposed coastal ecosystem and stormy coastal hills ecosystems. These are described below, as identified in the Guide to Planting and Restoring the Nature of Waitakere (King and Waitakere City Council 1996).

Dune vegetation: This vegetation type is found along the coastline at Marine Parade South, parts of Piha Domain, North Piha Strand, Piha Esplanade Reserve, Les Waygood Park and North Piha Esplanade. The foredune of shifting sands supports the threatened native pingao (Desmoschoenus spiralis) and Spinifex sericeus. In the mid and back dune areas the native Spinifex sericeus is found, as well as pohuehue (Muehlenbeckia complexa), native Cassinia retorta, toetoe (Cortaderia splendens) and introduced lupin. Kikuyu grass is commonly found in these areas also, as well as a number of other exotic weed species, particularly pampas, boneseed and gazania.

In areas on the edge of the lagoons of the Piha and Wekatahi/Marawhara Streams and the dune hollow (lily pond) in Claude Abel Reserve coastal wetland plants such as oioi (*Leptocarpus similis*), rushes (*Isolepsis nodosa*, *Schoenus maschalinus*, *Schoenus nitens*), sedges (*Juncus gregiflorus*, *Juncus pallidus*, *Juncus planifolius*),sand buttercup (*Ranunculus acaulis*) and sand carex (*Carex pumilo*). Claude Abel Reserve pond also has a large population of raupo (*Typha orientalis*) as well as the noxious lily.

Exposed coastal vegetation: This saltspray coastal zone is found in Les Waygood Park, Claude Abel Reserve, Wekatahi Reserve, and most of the small accessway or plantation reserves. This area is dominated by pohutukawa forest, with taupata, ti kouka (cabbage trees), kawakawa, horokaka (native ice plant), houpara, karo, karaka, nikau, coastal karamu, and in sheltered sites also west coast kowhai, puriri and occasionally tawapou.

Harakeke (flax), toetoe and kawakawa are the main colonising shrub species. Pohutukawa growing on or partially buried by encroaching sand often supports lush growth of nikau, karaka, kawakawa and New Zealand Spinach. The dainty fern *Pteris macilenta* and shield fern *Polystichum richardii* nestle under pohutukawa and *Hypolepsis dicksonioides* is found in forest gaps.

♦ Stormy coastal hills vegetation: This vegetation type is found mainly in the walkway areas of Sylvan Glade paper road (Sylvan Glade to Rayner Road), Rayner Walk and Accessway Reserve. This lowland forest type is subject to occasional fierce storms that burn off the tops of puriri and other trees. Pohutukawa is present on rock out-crops, plus pohutukawarata hybrids. Flax is abundant in secondary vegetation. Exposed bluffs support west coast kowhai, manuka, puka, coastal astelia and the rock lily, rengarenga. Wharariki (flax) and rata vines, including rare carmine rata, are sometimes present.

The Piha Reserves with this vegetation type are heavily weed infested, particularly with the aggressive weed species agapanthus, pampas, ginger, tuber ladder fern, and monkey apple.

An inventory of the known native plant species indigenous to the Piha Reserves is contained in Appendix Two.

#### 5.3 Fauna

The Piha area forms part of the larger Waitakere Ranges Ecological Area. As such it forms a connection of sea to forest that is important as a wildlife habitat. Native and introduced forest bird species are well represented in the forest and margins of Piha. For example tui, kereru and grey warbler are all present in reasonable numbers. In addition, blue penguin nest along the coastline and restrictions on dog exercise areas are in place because of penguin nesting. Less common birds found in the Piha's Valley include pied tit, which has a limited distribution in the Auckland region, and a pair of threatened New Zealand falcon.

Piha's swamp and lagoon areas provide good habitats for the more secretive bird species including spotless crake and the regionally threatened North Island fern bird. This habitat is increased where there is a continuous forest margin. There are relatively few areas of this habitat type remaining in the Waitakere Ecological District.

Numerous species of seabirds frequent the area and North Island fur seal are also found around the rocks and headlands of the beach.

Aquatic species such as fish and macroinvertebrates are also an important part of Piha's native fauna. The Wekatahi, Marawhara and Piha Streams are home to a range of fish species, while the more modified Moana Stream has a lesser fish diversity.

# 5.4 Landscape

The landforms and vegetation of the Piha Reserves are strongly coastal in character, shaped by the effects of ocean and climate. They are, in many ways, characteristic of the west coast with its wind swept surf beaches, foreshore dunes and rugged landscapes. This landscape has been identified

as of outstanding value in both the Regional Coastal Plan, and Waitakere City District Plan.

Four streams flow into the sea along the coastline between the Gap and Monkey Rock, with wind and flood changing the course and outlets of these from time to time, while wind and sea continually shaping and altering the sand dune area. The result is a complex and very dynamic coastal environment. The effects of people have been dramatic in shaping this landscape. There has been attempts to modify and control the dynamic nature of the dunes by the introduction of roads, carparks and residential areas. All are subject to a degree of risk within this changing environment and will always be vulnerable.

#### 5.5 Water

Four streams flow through the Piha Reserves. From north to south they are the Marawhara Stream, the Wekatahi Stream, the Piha Stream and the Moana Stream. The outlet points of all of these streams is very dynamic and subject to change, with variations as a result of wind and sea conditions. For example the Piha Stream can discharge either north or south of Lion Rock. The Piha, Marawhara and Wekatahi streams are all currently undergoing erosion of the banks. The Moana Stream has been encased in concrete in an effort to reduce erosion problems.

The 1994 Piha-Karekare Water Quality Scoping Study found that water quality in all of Piha's streams was severely degraded, due to contamination from poorly functioning effluent treatment systems. At this time the Piha Lagoon was unsafe for swimming. Since that time, efforts by the local community and the Council has meant upgrading of a large proportion of the effluent systems identified as below standard. This has meant that from late 1998 the Piha Lagoon is once again safe for swimming. This is a significant improvement as this is one of the few areas where young children can swim in safety from the surf.

# 5.6 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

A number of historic and prehistoric archaeological sites exist on the Piha reserves and are noted in the Cultural Heritage Inventory produced by the Auckland Regional Council. The archaeological sites include a number of pa sites, pits, terraces, middens and the remains of a tramline.

A number of sites of cultural heritage significance have also been identified on the Piha Reserves. These include two macrocarpa trees on the Piha Domain thought to have been planted by Pa Bethell in the 1890s which are listed as protected trees in the Proposed District Plan. In addition the kitchen/old shower block on the Domain which was moved onto the site in 1964 previously functioned as the radar station on Te Ahu Ahu road and has some local community heritage significance.

The known archaeological and heritage sites on the Piha Reserves are listed in Appendix Five.

# 5.7 History

The name Piha comes from 'Te Piha' which was the name given to Lion Rock and the beach. It means the ripple of waves at the bow of a canoe.

e Kawerau A Maki hold manawhenua (customary authority) status over the West Coast and the Waitakere Ranges and have been a distinct tribal entity since the early 1600's. Te Kawerau A Maki lived in the Piha area until about 1912 and still own Taitomo Island and Nun Rock at South Piha. Their long history at Piha is preserved in a number of waahi tapu and archaeological sites in the area. Evidence of up to three pa sites can be found within 200 metres of Piha Beach.

Much of the West Coast was purchased by the Crown in 1854, however two large blocks of land in Piha, the Piha Reserve and the Wekatahi Reserve were designated as Maori Reserves. In 1876 the Piha block was leased, including cutting rights, from the Maori owners by Dr Stockwell. The Piha block was then purchased by Dr Rayner in 1910. A tramway was constructed to carry the sawn kauri timber up the Piha hill and on a route similar to the Te Ahu Ahu Road to Karekare. Within 3 years the easily millable timber was cut and in about 1916 the tramway was extended along Piha Beach to reach inaccessible timber in the Marawhara and Anawhata Valleys.

At the height of the mill industry there was a store, school, hall and recreation facilities. When the mill closed in the 1920s there was no other means of employment left in Piha. Tourism in the form of camping and tramping became the main attractions.

The first subdivision occurred in 1906 to create the 'Town of Piha'. This subdivided the Piha side of the road down to Dome Rock. In 1915 this was extended to the south side of Piha Road and Te Ahu Ahu Road. Further subdivisions were attempted throughout the 1920's but poor access meant few sections sold.

During the 1930s depression relief workers widened and metalled the Piha and Anawhata Road. In the 1930's subdivision occurred and the first of the current Piha Reserves were vested. By the 1940s baches had been built along the shoreline and scattered in the hills. In 1947 the road was extended up to the North Piha Esplanade and baches and beach users followed. In 1967 up to 1,500 cars were using the dirt road to Piha and by 1970 sealing of the road commenced. Sealing was finally completed in 1983 making Piha only a forty-five minute trip from central Auckland.

# 5.8 Facilities

The carparks at Piha Beach, North Piha Strand, Piha Domain and Les Waygood Park are focal points for arrival to the reserves. Piha Beach and the Piha Domain are the most used areas of the reserves.

Public toilets are located at Piha Beach, Piha Domain (opposite the shop), North Piha Strand and Les Waygood Park. Two toilet blocks (one of which also contains a kitchen) are also sited on Les Waygood Park and are currently in use by the North Piha Campers Club as part of their lease.

Surf lifesaving lookout towers are located on Les Waygood Park, on top of the toilet on North Piha Strand and on Marine Parade South. The tower on the toilet at North Piha Strand is proposed to be replaced by one further down the beach closer to Lion Rock. In addition, a helicopter landing pad is provided on North Piha Strand for emergency use.

Buildings associated with the campground at Piha Domain include the Camp Manager's house, a shower block and kitchen block, water tanks, a boiler house and several utility sheds.

Recreational facilities include tennis courts and a tennis pavilion, bowling greens and clubrooms sited on Piha Domain, as well as an informal active recreation area on Piha Domain. Public playgrounds are provided at Piha Domain, and as part of the community kindergarten area on Les Waygood Park.

Community buildings are located on Les Waygood Park, Piha Domain and Seaview Road unformed legal road. Les Waygood Park is the site of the Piha Community Kindergarten, adjacent to Barnett Hall (which is sited on freehold land). The Piha Community Library is sited on Piha Domain and the old fire station is sited on a paper road opposite Piha Domain.

#### 5.9 Leases

A number of leases are currently in place for buildings and facilities on the Piha Reserves and legal road intended to be vested as reserve.

# Piha Bowling Club

The Piha Bowling Club Incorporated has a lease for a 3500 m<sup>2</sup> area covering the bowling greens, clubrooms and a car parking area. This lease is due to expire in 2020. The Bowling Club also has a liquor license for their club facilities. The Bowling Club built its own facilities and maintains them.

#### Piha Tennis Club

The Piha Tennis Club Incorporated has a lease for the tennis courts and pavilion due to expire in 2016. Conditions of this lease include the requirement for public use of the courts for tennis and netball. The Piha Tennis Club built its own facilities and maintains them.

# Piha Library

The Piha Residents and Ratepayers Association have a lease for the Piha Community Library building footprint which expires in 2018.

# Piha Domain Camping Ground

The Piha Domain Camping Ground is currently leased on a short term basis covering an area of 2.565 hectares. The lease is due to expire in April 2000. At that time a new lease will be tendered for a longer period to allow the campground to become more economically viable.

# North Piha Campers Club

A 1.47 hectare area of Les Waygood Park is leased to the North Piha Campers Club Incorporated. A two year lease was approved in 1997 This Reserve Management Plan identifies a further final 5 year lease to be granted to the campers club followed by a smaller area being leased to the United North Piha Lifeguarding Services.

# 5.10 Access And Use

Large numbers of visitors come to Piha all year around, for informal recreation such as swimming, sunbathing and walking. This increases considerably during the summer months, and especially during the Christmas-New Year period, with an estimated peak of 8,000 -15,000 visitors on the busiest day. Visitors come from across both Waitakere City and the

wider Auckland Region. The coastline is also a focal point for many surfers who appreciate the rugged coastal wave patterns throughout the year.

The reserves, particularly Piha Domain, Les Waygood Park and Claude Abel Reserve act also as local reserves for the residents of Piha. The Piha Domain in particular acts as a community focal point and is the site of a number of community facilities.

Public access to the reserves is focussed on vehicular and pedestrian access from points along Marine Parade North, Marine Parade South and North Piha Road, with some reserves accessed from Garden Road, Piha Road, Rayner Road, Seaview Road, Pendrell Road and Glen Esk Road.

Access to private properties at the southern end of the beach is via Marine Parade South beyond the surf club carpark, and legal frontage to these properties is given via this "paper" road.

Pedestrian traffic causes damage to the fragile dune ecosystem if left uncontrolled and this is very evident adjacent to Lion Rock, Les Waygood Park and along North Piha Strand. In the past fences have been erected to assist with sand stabilisation and young plants have been damaged or removed, causing blowouts on the dunes where no vegetation exists to hold the sand still. These blowouts, as well as unvegetated foredunes, are the source of mobile sand which regularly inundates the carparking area and threatens buildings.

A number of the Piha Reserves are walkways providing an alternative means for people to reach the beach. It is possible for people to walk from the top of Piha Road down to Marine Parade South and from Garden Road to the middle beach areas with minimal use of the road network. These walkways are therefore important pedestrian routes for the Piha community, particularly during peak summer periods when roads are busy and carparking is at a premium.

# 6.0 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

The Piha Reserves will be managed to provide an opportunity for a high quality recreational, environmental and educational experience, in a manner that is consistent with the West Coast Plan vision.

#### 6.1 ADMINISTRATION & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

# **Objective 1**

♦ To ensure the reserves are managed in terms of their reserve classifications for the enjoyment and use of the local and regional community, now and in the future

# Explanation:

Waitakere City Council has an obligation to manage the Piha Reserves in accordance with Section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977. This objective is important because the classification of the different reserves determines the focus for management. The policies for this objective indicate the reserve classification, or proposed classification for each of the Piha Reserves and for areas of Council owned legal road which are not needed for roading purposes and which form a logical part of the Piha reserves network.

The policies also outline the process for changes to this Management Plan. It should be noted however that a development plan for any of the Piha Reserves which is consistent with the objectives and policies of this management plan would not require an Amendment to a Management Plan process. Providing the proposed development plan is consistent with the Reserve Management Plan the process for it's adoption would require approval by the Waitakere Community Board only.

- 1. Les Waygood Park, Piha Domain, Pendrell Reserve and legal road not needed for roading purposes adjacent to Piha Domain and Les Waygood Park will be managed as Recreation Reserves in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977. This classification would exclude those areas occupied by community buildings. Those parts of Piha Domain and the identified legal road adjacent to Piha Domain and Les Waygood Park (excluding those areas occupied by the Piha Community Library, the old Piha Fire Station and the area proposed to be leased to the Piha Community Pre-school) not currently Recreation Reserve will be vested as such.
- Claude Abel Reserve, Pendrell Reserve, Wekatahi Reserve (including the "Wekatahi" paper road) and the wilderness areas of Les Waygood Park will be managed as Scenic Reserves in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977. Wekatahi Reserve, the "Wekatahi" paper road, Pendrell Reserve and the wilderness areas of Les Waygood Park will be vested as Scenic Reserve.
- 3. Accessway Reserve; Garden Road Walkway; Marine Parade Plantation Reserve; Seaview Road Plantation Reserve (No.1); Seaview Walkway; Seaview Road Plantation reserve (No.2) (Rayner Walk); Accessway Reserve and Sylvan Glade Paper Road will be managed as Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserves in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977. Those

- areas listed not already classified as Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserves will be classified as such .
- 4. Piha Esplanade Reserve, North Piha Esplanade, North Piha Strand and legal road not needed for roading purposes at Marine Parade North (adjacent to the Marawhara Stream) and Marine Parade South will be managed as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserves in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 and the Resource Management Act 1991. The areas of Marine Parade North and Marine Parade South not required as road will be vested as Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve.
- 5. Glen Esk Plantation Reserve 1, Sylvan Glade Plantation Reserve and Glen Esk Plantation Reserve 2 will be managed as Local Purpose (Plantation) Reserves in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.
- 6. The part of Piha Domain where the Piha Community Library is sited, the area on Les Waygood Park proposed to be leased to the Piha Community Preschool and the area of legal road where the old Piha Fire Station is sited will be vested and managed as Local Purpose (Community Building) Reserves.
- 7. Any activity or development not provided for under the policies in the Management Plan will not be permitted **unless** such an activity or development **at least** complies with District Plan rules for Open Space Environment and the General By-laws 1990.
- 8. Any change to the emphasis or specific policies of this Management Plan will need to be addressed following the Amendment to a Management Plan process as outlined in section 41(2) of the Reserves Act.
- 9. To achieve the actions outlined within each policy in this document Waitakere City Council will follow an Annual Plan process to allocate funds for these actions. The actions identified in the policies are necessary to achieve the objectives of the Management Plan.

# **Objective 2**

◆ To achieve co-ordinated management of the Piha area.

# **Explanation**:

The Auckland Regional Council own and manage large areas of the Piha area as part of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Parkland. The effectiveness of managing reserves at Piha would be enhanced by taking a consistent and co-ordinated approach between the Auckland Regional Council and Waitakere City Council.

- 1. Liase with the Auckland Regional Council when undertaking development work (e.g. planting, siting of facilities) and the protection and encouragement of native fauna on parks adjacent to the Waitakere Ranges Regional Parkland to ensure consistency in the approach taken.
- 2. Commence discussions with the Auckland Regional Council Parks Service regarding the possible management by the Auckland Regional Council of the reserves referred to in Objective 5, Policy 2; better integration of furniture and building design and possible use of ARC Ranger services at Piha.

#### 6.2 LEASES AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

# **Objective 3**

◆ To use the control of lease agreements to ensure the most effective and equitable use of the Piha Reserves

# **Explanation**:

The purpose of this objective is to outline existing lease arrangements, identify current and future issues and to examine the possibility of maximising recreation potential.

Leases play an important role in the City Council's ability to regulate activities on reserves. Leases often give exclusive access to a reserve, or part of a reserve for a particular user and there is a need to ensure that the benefits of such exclusive use outweigh the disadvantages and that such leases are equitable and fair to the whole community.

An analysis of the costs and benefits of the two camping grounds on the Piha Reserves (Piha Domain and Les Waygood Park) has been undertaken. The two camping grounds were also the subject of a large number of submissions to the draft Reserve Management Plan. As a result, the importance of these facilities to both the local and city-wide communities is recognised within lease arrangements.

The Piha Domain Camping Ground is seen as having cultural heritage significance to the local community as well as playing an important role in the current community dynamic at Piha. Many current Piha residents and bach owners started out as campers in the camping ground. In addition the camping ground provides a relatively low cost way for people from outside the Piha area to experience the wild and remote beauty of Piha to a greater depth than is possible from a day visit. While there is a general desire to maintain the low impact nature of the camping ground, it is recognised that in order to maintain the social and in particular, economic viability of the campground, both a longer tenure of lease for the manager and an improvement of facilities is required. A number of different management options have been trialled in the past in order to try and improve the financial viability of the campground with little success. This management plan suggests that allowing development of additional facilities, such as cabins and a games room would increase the viability of the campground by attracting a greater usage and extending the use of the campground during the winter season. It is important to note however that any development of facilities such as cabins would need to be in keeping with the objectives and policies of this plan relating to issues such as landscape and design of buildings and that no increase in the area utilised by the campground on the Domain for camping or effluent disposal is acceptable.

With regard to the North Piha Camping Club, the long term role of this organisation in the North Piha Community and its contribution to improving the natural environment of Les Waygood Park is recognised.

The occupation of the area covered by the lease greatly reduces the use of part of this park by the wider public. In addition, as a private club that is not open to the wider public to join, the campers club has the exclusive use of the area for camping. This Reserve Management Plan identifies Les Waygood Park as an area that should be developed as a focal point for visitors to North Piha. This will mean that over time, many more visitors are expected to use

Les Waygood Park and that parkland such as that occupied by the campers club will be increasingly in demand. It is recognised however that as visitor numbers to the area increase, the importance of supporting the United North Piha Lifeguard Service also increases. The surf lifesaving club has members who rely on the camping ground for accommodation over the surf lifesaving season.

As a result of these issues the management plan allows for a further, final lease period for the North Piha Campers Club of 5 years. At the end of the 5 years, a smaller area will be leased for camping to only the United North Piha Lifeguard Services. This would allow for the redevelopment of the park and integration of the two areas, including the removal of the toilet between the carpark and the camping ground area, while ensuring that the service offered by the lifeguards is able to continue.

- Provision will be made for the continuation of leasing areas of land within Piha Domain to provide for community use and wellbeing. The leases of facilities such as the Bowling Club, Tennis Club and Library will be reviewed when the opportunity arises, to ensure maximum potential of the park is realised for the community.
- 2. A lease will be granted to the Piha Community Pre-school of an area of Les Waygood Park for the pre-school to expand onto. This lease should take into account that the playground is a public playground and signage is needed to identify this.
- 3. New applications for leases will have to conform to the criteria as set out in the Community Assistance Policy and Parks Strategy. In addition the applicant will need to satisfy the Waitakere City Council that the proposed use:
  - a) will be in accordance with the objectives and policies of this plan;
  - b) will not detract from the existing environment and use of the park;
  - c) will generally provide a benefit (or benefits) to the public which is greater than any adverse effect caused by granting the lease;
  - d) is in an appropriate location;
  - e) will not cater exclusively to any one sector of the public except where this is provided for and is appropriate in terms of the objectives and policies of this plan
- 4. No further liquor licences will be issued on any of the Piha Reserves
- 5. Existing liquor licenses will be strictly in accordance with the lease agreement.
- 6. Any commercial activity on the Piha Reserves shall require a lease agreement to operate and shall be in keeping with Objectives 1-22 of Chapter 6 of the Management Plan.
- 7. A new lease will be granted for the Piha Domain Camping Ground. This will include a lease period of sufficient length to allow the camping ground to be more commercially viable. Conditions of the lease will ensure that the operation of the campground is environmentally, socially and commercially sustainable. There will be no increase in the area currently occupied by the camping ground on the Domain including building and effluent disposal area.

- 8. The lease for the North Piha Camping Club on Les Waygood Park will be renewed for a final period of 5 years. Following the 5 year lease to the North Piha Campers Club a reduced area will be leased to the United North Piha Lifeguard Services.
- A lease will be granted to local community artists for the old Piha Fire Station.
   The intention of this is to allow for the primary use of the building to be the display of artwork.

# **Objective 4**

# **♦** To establish guidelines for all commercial activity on the Piha Reserves Explanation:

Commercial activity can become an unsuitable activity in an area which has high natural and wilderness values for public recreation. Therefore commercial activities, including fundraising activities, are not a right and generally are considered inappropriate in this environment. This includes signage associated with commercial sponsorship of community groups and organisations.

Filming is a commercial activity and is regulated through the District Plan. A permit would be required from Council for any commercial filming activity and conditions may be set. These conditions would be consistent with the objectives and policies outlined in this management plan.

#### Policies:

- 1. That commercial activity will not be permitted unless it meets the following criteria:
  - a) is in accordance with all statutory regulations and local bylaws affecting the reserve;
  - b) will be in accordance with the objectives and policies of this plan;
  - priority will be given to activities which take advantage or benefit from the natural wilderness values of the Park and will not detract from the existing character and use of the park;
  - d) no commercial activities will be permitted in the Park which have the potential to damage native flora and fauna;
  - e) the commercial activity will generally provide a benefit to the public which is greater than any adverse effects caused:
  - the commercial activity will not cater exclusively to any one sector of the public except where this is provided for and is appropriate in terms of the objectives and policies of this plan;
  - g) that commercial activity involving the selling, marketing and vending of items or services does not occur on the beach or parking areas adjacent to the beach:
  - h) That community fundraising events which fall within normal parks guidelines for events on parks are permitted to occur on the Piha Domain.
- 2. Commercial filming on the Piha Reserves should be consistent with all Objectives in the Reserve Management Plan. A permit shall be obtained from the Council for any commercial filming activity and conditions shall be placed to ensure that no damage or adverse effects on native flora, fauna or waterways occurs, and that there is minimal disruption to the use of the reserve by the general public.

# **Objective 5**

♦ To include within the reserve area land already owned by Council which is more appropriately managed as reserve, and to divest areas of land not needed as part of the reserves network.

# **Explanation**:

There are some areas which are currently owned by Council as part of legal road at Piha, which are more appropriately identified as reserve. It is considered that the vesting of these areas as reserve would result in benefits to both the community and the environment, as they could be managed in a manner more reflective of their natural values. These areas, and the classifications considered appropriate, are outlined in the policies under Objective 1.

In addition there are some areas of reserve which might better be managed as part of the Regional Parks network. These areas are physically connected to the ARC Parkland area.

#### Policies:

- Vest as reserve, those areas of legal road which would be logically be part of the reserves network rather than legal road, provided that areas which provide legal road frontage and formed roads shall remain as legal road.
- 2. Negotiate with the Auckland Regional Council to undertake the management of Glen Esk Plantation Reserve 1, Glen Esk Plantation Reserve 2, North Piha Esplanade, Accessway Reserve and Pendrell Reserve. These negotiations should recognise the aspirations of the local Piha community to have public access to Pendrell Reserve.
- 3. Investigate private encroachments over Garden Road Walkway and Garden Road Plantation Reserve and undertaking negotiations with individual landowners with a view to have encroachments removed over a reasonable timeframe.
- 4. Finalise the process of transferring the ownership of the land on which the Piha Community Kindergarten is sited to the Piha community.

#### 6.3 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

# Objective 6

 Natural physical processes such as wind blown sand movement, dune formation and erosion, stream movement and erosion, swamp and lake formation and infill, will not be interfered with unless they threaten roads or where the Council is required to fulfil statutory obligations.

# **Explanation:**

The dominant physical processes on the reserves are associated with the formation and erosion of the dunes, the movement of the four streams that flow across Piha Beach and the infilling of the pond on Claude Abel Reserve.

Dune creation and erosion can be unpredictable where human development has altered the natural dune formation. In Piha the history of dune modification has included dune flattening to provide roads and carparks, spreading spoil to stop erosion, and the more recent construction of a sand dune which has been re-vegetated. It is not known how these modifications

have altered the geomorphological processes along Piha Beach. In the absence of this kind of information it is particularly difficult to formulate policies to manage the highly modified beach at the southern end of Piha.

Four streams flow across Piha Beach and through the reserves. These streams come from small steep catchments from which heavy rainfall discharges in a very short time. The small restricted and human modified channels will often flood during heavy rainfall. All the streams of Piha have undergone human modification.

At present the combined force of the Marawhara Stream and the Wekatahi Stream are eroding the sand dunes on the southern bank. This could eventually begin to erode Marine Parade North. In the past hard structures in the form of groynes have been used to try and stop this erosion. This erosion control was unsuccessful and at present causes eddies to form around the old groyne that may actually be contributing to erosion.

- 1. A coastal geomorphological study of Piha Beach, North Piha Beach and the adjacent sand dunes and coastline has been undertaken. Management of the beach areas will be undertaken according to the recommendations of this study and the Piha Coastal Management Plan which will be developed from it. Removal of foreign material (e.g. sand bags, warratahs, rubble and broken concrete stream channel) from the dunes and beach and maintenance of sand fences and boardwalks will be the only intervention undertaken on the beach until the Coastal Management Plan is complete.
- 2. Allow the natural processes of stream discharge to occur and only intervene to protect roads or where required to meet statutory obligations.

# **Objective 7**

◆ To conserve and enhance the landscapes of the reserves for the enjoyment of all visitors and residents.

# **Explanation:**

Piha sits within a landscape that is almost completely covered in vegetation, except in the modified coastal fringe where houses and roads have been constructed. It is in this coastal fringe that the majority of the reserves managed by Waitakere City Council are situated. Although many of the landscape values of the coastal fringe suffer from a poor interface between the coastal environment and the settlement many elements of the natural character are still worthy of conservation and enhancement. These highly valued elements include evidence of dynamic physical processes along the coast; presence of native vegetation, unmodified sand dunes with limited number of human made structures, and clean water which provides a healthy environment for recreation and marine organisms.

#### Policies:

- 1. Recognise the contribution the reserves make to the visual amenity of Piha by enhancing the natural features of the reserves.
- 2. Ensure that the siting, design and appearance, of facilities and park furniture, complement the surrounding natural environment.
- 3. Upgrading of facilitates should be carried out in a way that complements the surrounding natural environment.
- 4. Planting carried out on reserves should reinforce the visual pattern of the landscape wherever practical.

# **Objective 8**

◆ To protect, restore and where appropriate extend the native vegetation cover within the reserves.

#### **Explanation:**

Many of the reserves contain areas of native vegetation which are worthy of protection. In addition there are opportunities to extend the vegetation cover particularly along the edges of streams and the lagoon to enhance the ecological values. All restoration work should be carried out with local species from local seed sources.

- All plants indigenous to Piha are protected and can only be removed where necessary for operational reasons and to maintain areas for specific recreational purposes. A list of plants indigenous to Piha is contained in Appendix Two.
- 2. Only plants which are indigenous to Piha (as listed in the appendices) and which are sourced locally (from cuttings, divisions or seed as appropriate) from the Piha area will be used in plantings within the Piha Reserves. These plants will be sourced from as close to the planting site as is practically possible, and will be planted within their natural habitat types.
- 3. Seek the involvement of the local community in the revegetation and vegetation management of the reserves.

4. Exotic species that are not environmentally damaging plants (as listed in the Waitakere City Council District Plan) may be planted if they fulfil a functional role (e.g. erosion control, grass cover for picnic areas) that can't be achieved using native plants.

# **Objective 9**

♦ To protect and encourage native fauna within the reserves.

# **Explanation:**

The close proximity of the Piha reserves to the sea means they provide a range of habitats for many species that spend their time between the sea and the land. In particular a number of birds such as the little blue penguin, pied stilt, white faced heron and shags use the Piha reserves for nesting, roosting or foraging for food. Currently no comprehensive fauna inventory exists for Piha's' reserves making it difficult to formulate specific fauna management policies.

#### Policies:

- 1. All native fauna are protected.
- 2. Facilities should be located in places where they will not interrupt the movements of native fauna.
- 3. Encourage planting that will enhance the survival of native fauna within the reserves.
- 4. Maintain the present restriction on dogs and horses which are outlined in the Council bylaws.
- 5. Survey the reserves, in conjunction with the local community and the Auckland Regional Council, to establish an inventory of native fauna.

### **Objective 10**

♦ To minimise the effects of weed and animal pest invasion on the native flora and fauna within the reserves.

# **Explanation:**

Weeds are an ongoing problem throughout Piha's Reserves. Some weeds such as kikuyu grass are not possible to eradicate but cause problems with the regeneration of native vegetation through smothering and competing for limited resources such as water in a coastal environment. There are 129 plants identified as potential weeds in Waitakere City. Many of these are found in some or all of the Piha Reserves, however it is not likely to be possible to eliminate all of these weed species. A survey of the vegetation health of the Piha Reserves was undertaken in 1998, and the findings are attached at Appendix Three.

One weed of significant concern in the Piha area is agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox*) In a survey in 1995 agapanthus was found in 79% of gardens in Piha. Agapanthus has established itself in many of the reserves in Piha and is a concern on coastal cliffs where is replaces native vegetation. The only way to control agapanthus is to physically remove the plant and remove the seed heads immediately after they have flowered.

A recent weed survey has been undertaken of all of Piha's reserves identifying that the southern reserves in particular have a high incidence of weed infestation. The key weeds are: agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox*); boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*); monkey apple (*Acmena smithii*); tuber ladder fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*); wandering Jew (*Tradescantia fluminensis*); German ivy (*Senecio mikanioides*); and wild ginger (*Hedychium gardnerianum*).

In additional to plant pest problems there are also animal and insect pest problems in the Piha Reserves, although a detailed survey of these has not been undertaken. Until the advent of Operation Forest Save, possums in particular were present in relatively high numbers. Rabbits can also be a problem and particularly affect regeneration rates of bush and sand dune vegetation.

Ongoing control of possums will be undertaken in a co-ordinated fashion with the ARC and would involve the use of Timms Traps baited with appropriate baits which are not attractive to domestic animals. Where rabbits need to be controlled in order to allow revegetation programmes to succeed this will be undertaken using pindone baits. Discussion with the local community will be required before any pindone baits are used.

#### Policies:

- 1. Control and where possible eradicate weeds and animal pests.
- 2. Prioritise weeds and animal pests for removal or control and target areas that are particularly sensitive to weed and pest invasion and areas where eradication of weed and pest species is still possible.
- 3. Encourage adjacent land users to control weeds and animal pests on their land to reduce invasion into the reserves.
- 4. Weeds will be controlled in accordance with Council's current herbicide policy. Minimisation of herbicide use should be ensured by use of manual control where feasible, and by the use of target control methods such as drilling and injecting or cutting and painting weeds. Where herbicides are used the lowest toxicity herbicide available should be used.

#### Objective 11

Protect and improve water quality in the streams and lagoon.

# **Explanation:**

In 1994 a water quality study found that water quality in all of Piha's streams was severely degraded, due to contamination from poorly functioning effluent treatment systems. A program for upgrading effluent treatment systems is underway, however other measures such as riparian planting could contribute to improving water quality in the streams and the lagoon. Recent water quality tests indicate that the Piha Lagoon is now safe for swimming, however habitat values are still compromised.

# Policies:

Continue to monitor water quality in the Piha Stream and Piha Lagoon.

- 2. Any future toilet facilities or upgrading of facilities in the reserves will have high quality disposal systems and reuse greywater and treated wastewater either within the system or for irrigation purposes.
- 3. Develop a riparian planting program along all streams in reserves and the Piha Lagoon.
- 4. Use permeable and semi-permeable surfaces wherever possible so as to reduce the quantity of stormwater entering streams and the lagoon.
- 5. Where stormwater discharges directly into streams and the lagoon implement methods that divert the stormwater through low impact filtering devices (e.g. soak holes, artificial wetlands, riparian planting and swales).

# 7.4 ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

# **Objective 12**

♦ To protect all objects, buildings, sites, trees and landscapes of heritage and archaeological significance on the Piha Reserves

# **Explanation:**

The Piha reserves contain a number of important archaeological and heritage sites which reflect the long history of settlement of the Piha area by both Maori and Pakeha, with midden, old timber driving dams, heritage buildings and trees.

#### Policies:

- Undertake a complete inventory of archaeological and cultural heritage features on the Piha Reserves
- 2. Conserve and protect all archaeological and cultural heritage features on the Piha Reserves in accordance with legislation and District Plan requirements and the Waitakere City Heritage Strategy.
- 3. Any development or works, including reserve maintenance, shall avoid destruction, damage or modification of archaeological sites on the Piha Reserves.
- 4. The physical condition and integrity of heritage items on the Piha Reserves will be monitored on a regular basis.

# **6.5 RECREATION AND USE**

#### **Objective 13**

◆ To provide for a variety of leisure activities for the local and wider communities which won't compromise the character of the reserves.

# **Explanation:**

The Piha reserves are an important recreational area for both the local community and the Auckland region. A visitor survey carried out in Piha in 1996/97 identified swimming/beach activities, surfing, sightseeing, picnicking and tramping as being the most popular leisure activities at Piha.

- 1. No leisure activities should cause permanent damage to native flora and fauna.
- 2. Continue to support the existence of community organisations and facilities on the reserves (e.g. kindergarten, bowling club, tennis club and library) that contribute to the wellbeing of the community while not excluding others from using the facilities.
- 3. Encourage the multiple use of community facilities in accordance with the Community Assistance Policy.
- 4. Provide facilities for the visitors in appropriate places to enable them to enjoy the reserves without impacting on the natural values.

# **Objective 14**

♦ Ensure appropriate access to the reserves for all groups while protecting the natural values.

# **Explanation:**

Some groups, particularly those with limited mobility, require better levels of access to the reserves. This can be achieved for most of the reserves at Piha however access may not be possible at some of the walkways due to the steep topography.

The dune areas on the reserves are fragile and by nature and access through them needs to be managed carefully to minimise damage.

There are a number of walkways linking roads and providing access to other reserves. These walkways are generally informal in nature and suit the character of Piha.

#### Policies:

- Encourage the development of accessways for people with limited mobility where the terrain is suitable and the ecological values will not be compromised.
- 2. Maintain the current informal nature of walkways and provide maintenance to a level that ensures vegetation does not make access difficult.
- 3. Ensure accessways to the beach are kept to a defined walkway that keeps people off dune vegetation and will not lead to dune blowouts.
- 4. Investigate the potential for greater public access to and within the scenic reserves at Piha.
- 5. Seek ways to provide pedestrian access for Piha hill residents to the beach. A possible mechanism to gain such pedestrian access is through the negotiation of a public access easement with one of the Rayner Road property owners whose property is adjacent to Accessway Reserve.

#### **Objective 15**

♦ To develop a programme for on-site interpretation and education to enhance understanding and respect of the ecological, historical and cultural values of the reserves.

# **Explanation:**

Providing on-site interpretation will enrich the experience of park users and can help foster a caring attitude towards the features of the reserves that require protection. One way to provide information and interpretation is with signs, however it is important that these don't detract from the visual amenity of the Piha reserves.

Because of the City Wide nature of some of Piha's reserves and the importance of the area to local iwi, where information signs are created it is appropriate that as well as displaying international sign symbols, the text should be in both English and Maori.

- 1. Ensure that coastal management initiatives and issues are suitably explained to the public to gain their understanding and support.
- 2. Develop signage which reduces visual effects on the Piha reserves and combines interpretation and education with information on prohibited and permitted activities.
- 3. Provide bi-lingual signs where appropriate, and ensure that all signs have correct Maori names.
- 4. Explore community liaison initiatives which can improve the understanding of the park environment by the visiting public.

#### 6.6 FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

# **Objective 16**

◆ To ensure that utility services are located to minimise their impact on the landscape qualities of the Park.

# **Explanation:**

The provision of utility services (waste water disposal, power, telephone lines etc) to facilities on the Park have the potential to adversely affect the character of the Park. Should the installation of utility services be deemed to be necessary, these should be located so they do not detract from the recreation and amenity values of the reserves.

# Policies:

- 1. Ensure that utility services are only located on the Piha Reserves if required for some function of the reserves.
- 2. No further telecommunication towers or aerials (including cell sites) are permitted on the Piha Reserves unless they are for the exclusive benefit of the reserves and have no adverse effects on the reserves environment.
- 3. Ensure, where possible and appropriate, that existing poorly located utility services are better integrated into the reserves environment.

# **Objective 17**

◆ To ensure an appropriate level of vehicular access and carparking on the Piha Reserves

# **Explanation:**

Vehicle access to the Piha Reserves plays an important role in the enjoyment of the recreation experience. Weekend and summer recreation use in particular, places great demands on the reserves. The lack of appropriate carparking areas can frustrate people and cause damage, as vehicle owners seek to park in inappropriate places and enter sand dune areas in a number of locations.

The carparking area at Marine Parade South in particular has had, and continues to have adverse effects on the natural character of the beach environment. The carparks were formed by flattening the foredune with the result being that windblown sand is constantly piling up on the carpark.

Problems have also occurred at North Piha due to the siting of an ARC carpark close to the end of the beach. The potential exists to extend the carpark at Les Waygood Park and this could provide alternative carparking for the northern part of the beach.

- The current areas of carparking will be laid out for use as efficiently as possible.
- 2. Car access along the coastline should be restricted through the use of low barriers combined with mounded native planting.

- 3. The effects of sand buildup on the Marine Parade South carpark will be monitored and if problems continue some of the beach front carparking by the surf club shall be removed.
- 4. A limited increase in carparking shall be provided at Piha Domain if the Marine Parade South carpark is reduced in size.
- 5. New carparking, or upgrading of existing carparks or roads within the Piha reserves will utilise surfaces in keeping with the natural character of the area.
- 6. Following the upgrading of the carpark at Les Waygood Park, if carparking demand in the park increases the carpark will be increased in size in order to allow better use of existing visitor facilities.
- 7. Amenity planting will be undertaken where possible to mitigate adverse visual effects of carparking.
- 8. Council will advocate to the Auckland Regional Council to reduce the size of their carpark at North Piha.
- 9. Vehicle access to the beach will be restricted to surf lifesaving, emergency services, reserve management purposes and non commercial boat launching only.

## **Objective 18**

◆ To ensure that the design and appearance of new and existing buildings on the reserves are of the highest standard and sensitive to their surroundings.

## **Explanation:**

There are a number of buildings currently sited on the Piha Reserves. Many of these buildings have been relocated or constructed using volunteer labour and in some cases are not in keeping with the landscape character of the reserves. In order to enhance the landscape values of the Piha reserves any future upgrading of existing buildings and the construction of any future buildings should be designed and located in such a way that is sensitive to the landscape and amenity values of the reserves.

#### Policies:

- As the toilets and other buildings (including leased buildings) on the Piha Reserves are upgraded, modify the design and colour as practical to better blend into the coastal environment.
- 2. When determining the site of any new buildings, ensure that the location minimises any effects on landscape.
- 3. The design and colour of any new buildings should minimise visual impacts on the landscape.

## **Objective 19**

**◆** To ensure that park furniture and signage is provided at an appropriate level, while not detracting from the visual amenity of the Piha reserves.

## **Explanation:**

The number and design of park furniture such as signs and bins can have adverse visual effects on the reserves as has occurred at Piha Beach. It is important however to meet statutory requirements and to provide furniture such as bins and seats at an appropriate level, recognising the needs of the local and visitor communities.

#### Policies:

- Park furniture including litterbins, seats, signs and barbeques will be provided at an appropriate level to cater for local and visitor community use within the Piha Reserves.
- 2. The design and location of park furniture will be provided in a way that minimises visual effects on the reserves. Furniture design will be in keeping with the wild and rustic nature of the environment.
- 3. Where possible signs will be amalgamated in order to reduce the overall number of signs.

## **Objective 20**

 To ensure that all of the reserves facilities and plantings are maintained in a manner which is in keeping with the overall objectives of the management plan.

## **Explanation:**

There are general maintenance regimes for the facilities and resources located in Waitakere City's reserves. It is important that the level of maintenance allows the community to realise their recreational needs and that this is sustainable within the context of the Park environment and the Council budgetary framework.

#### Policies:

- 1. Establish maintenance schedules for all aspects of the reserve environments, ranging from sand dune planting to litterbin emptying and to ensure that adequate funding is allocated to achieve this.
- 2. Encourage community participation in the management of the Piha Reserves, including supporting "Coast Care" initiatives.
- Ensure that all built structures conform to acceptable parks maintenance and design standards, including those facilities managed and maintained by clubs and organisations.
- 4. The Council will endeavour to manage the sand dune areas in accordance with any principles and techniques outlined in the Piha Coastal Management Study, currently being produced.
- 5. The walkways will be maintained at a higher level than has been undertaken in the past for pedestrian use, while keeping their track like nature.

## **Objective 21**

♦ To ensure that any facilities on the reserves are maintained to minimise any potential hazard to users.

## **Explanation:**

Under legislation such as the Health and Safety in Employment Act, Waitakere City Council has an obligation to ensure that maintenance procedures and practices make the park safe to both the public and to operators. Where regular maintenance is unable to sustain a safe environment, redesign of a facility should be considered to avoid or mitigate safety and maintenance problems.

#### Policies:

1. That the general specifications contained within the Waitakere City council "standard specification for parks maintenance" be observed at all times.

## **Objective 22**

◆ To establish and implement procedures to deter people from undertaking acts that may damage the park or the wildlife within it, or which detract from other people's enjoyment of the reserves' environment.

## **Explanation:**

The potential for vandalism of the Piha Reserves is high, due to the large area of the public space. These acts can temporarily diminish the recreational opportunity, and natural values of the reserves, and can have the potential to have a long term adverse effect on the character and quality of the reserves. Certain areas, particularly sand dune areas, and those with the highest wildlife values, may require reduced access.

The greater amount of public surveillance and sense of ownership of an area, the less likely vandalism is to occur. Therefore the local community should be encouraged to use the reserves as much as possible and to strongly identify with their management and care. Community involvement in surveying and monitoring the health of the reserves and wildlife within them is one way in which a sense of stewardship and care for the reserves can be engendered.

## **Policies:**

- 1. Ensure that jet skiers are informed of their legal requirements to restrict speeds to 5 knots within 200 metres of the shore or within 30 metres of a person or craft in the water.
- 2. Advocate to the Maritime Safety Authority that jet skis be banned from the Piha and Marawhara Lagoons.
- 3. Provide information explaining the natural values of the Piha Reserves and the ways to reduce human impacts on these values.
- 4. Provide information on alcohol bans, dog controlled areas, jet skiing and fire regulations in such a way that does not detract from the visual amenity of the Piha Reserves.
- 5. Liase with the Auckland Regional Council regarding the use of an ARC Ranger to provide a ranger service on Piha and North Piha beaches over the peak summer period.

#### 7.0 RESERVE DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The Piha Reserves are the most visited of all Waitakere City's parks. The rugged beauty of the coastline and long sandy beach with ocean surf make the beach reserves a favourite for a wide range of recreational activities. The draft development plans seek to realise the full recreational potential of the reserves while protecting and enhancing the environmental qualities which make it so attractive.

The development concept plans outline broad ideas on potential redevelopment of the reserves. The development concept plans seek to address the issues that have been raised in the Reserve Management Plan objectives and policies and give an indication as to the method of their implementation.

The development plans are only a concept at this stage and the detailed design of all areas will need to be prepared prior to implementation of the development plans.

## 7.1 LES WAYGOOD PARK (Figure 2)

## **Access and Parking**

Les Waygood Park is proposed as the main visitor access point at North Piha in order to attract people to use this part of the beach, where there is a surf lifeguard patrol, toilet facilities and fewer conflicts with natural values rather than the northern end of the beach. The main access point for Les Waygood Park will remain at the entry to the carpark. The pedestrian access point alongside the Marawhara Stream will be upgraded, including additional planting along the road edge.

It is proposed to upgrade and improve the layout of the carpark. Preference will be given to resurfacing the carpark with a semi permeable surface, however if this is not possible due to geotechnical and drainage constraints then chipseal will be used as surfacing. It is also proposed that as visitor numbers increase that the carparking would be extended to provide an additional 35 car parks. The shape of the carpark will fit within existing native vegetation and will remain grassed –to be used as an overflow carpark during busy periods. The carpark will be delineated in a more sensitive way than the current fencing, through the use of appropriate planting. A number of pohutukawas would be planted through a middle strip in the carpark and at the south-east corner. As well as being an appropriate plant for this area, the pohutukawas will eventually provide some welcoming shade.

An interpretative sign will be placed between the carpark and the main beach accessway. The purpose of the sign will be to educate users about the dangers of the surf, the bylaws relating to dogs and the values of the area, particularly wildlife.

## Vegetation

Vegetation management at Les Waygood Park will mostly be focused on encouraging the regeneration of native vegetation. This will include control of weeds that pose the greatest threat to the native vegetation. Supplementary planting of ecosourced native species may occur in the area south of the carpark and towards the main beach access if regeneration isn't occurring naturally.

The only areas that will be actively planted are the riparian edges of the Marawhara Stream and areas where there have been dune blowouts in order to reduce the amount of wind blown sand.

## **North Piha Campground**

It is proposed to phase out the North Piha Camping Club for the reasons outlined in section 6 of the Reserve Management Plan, with a smaller area remaining camping ground for the use of members of the United North Piha Lifeguard Services. Over the period of the final lease term to the North Piha Camping Club it is proposed to improve the area as a passive recreational and picnic area for community and visitor use. The area to be leased to the United North Piha Lifeguard Services will be the south-western part of the current leased area, and the toilet block between the camping ground and the carpark will be demolished, allowing better integration of the two areas. To complement the open space area and to improve the ecological value of the area, a riparian planting programme will be developed along the Marawhara Stream

## 7.2 PIHA ESPLANADE RESERVE / WEKATAHI RESERVE (Figure 3)

Piha Esplanade Reserve is located in the vicinity between the confluence of the Marawhara and Wekatahi Streams and opposite the Wekatahi Reserve.

It is proposed to leave the Piha Esplanade Reserve and the Wekatahi Reserve as they are with no further active planting. Weed control will be carried out on prioritised weed species, particularly to encourage regeneration of native riparian plants.

Currently the accessways from Marine Parade North to Garden Road are poorly signposted and it is proposed to place low signs at each end of the accessways.

## 7.3 CLAUDE ABEL RESERVE (Figure 3)

It is proposed to preserve the natural tranquillity of the Claude Abel Reserve. Only a few minor developments are proposed to enhance the existing features of the reserve.

In the past several attempts have been made to clear the waterlillies from the pond. This had proved very difficult and can be very disruptive to the bottom sediments. Open water is necessary for the waterfowl that use the pond so it is proposed that as needed waterlillies would be removed by hand to promote a few areas of open water.

The pond is naturally infilling and as time passes will become a raupo swamp. This progression is considered desirable and no efforts will be made to alter the progression other than the hand removal of waterlillies.

## 7.4 NORTH PIHA STRAND (Figure 4)

North Piha Strand covers the area sometimes known as the "middle beach" at Piha. The south end of the reserve provides direct access to Lion Rock and parking is provided between the road and sand dunes. This area is relatively highly used by visitor communities, as well as being an important beach area for locals. Three walkways from Garden Road come out opposite the North Piha Strand.

It is anticipated that no further carparking will be provided in this area, the main focus of development being improving the visual amenity and ecology of the area. The barrier rails will be planted with mounded up native shrubs such as flax to reduce the visual effect of the barriers. The soakage areas for the carparks will also be planted, with native dune hollow plants such as oioi. The access points to the beach will be formalised to reduce pedestrian impacts and dune planting undertaken in blowout areas to reduce wind blown sand. The area of legal road adjacent to the Wekatahi Stream not needed for roading purposes will be vested as esplanade reserve and form part of the North Piha Strand.

It is proposed to upgrade the toilets on North Piha Strand, and to remove the surf lifesaving tower from the top of the toilets. The roofline would be realigned in a similar fashion to that of the toilets at Marine Parade South.

A replacement surf lifesaving tower will be constructed to the south west of the toilet block to enable the lifeguards to have a good view of the popular swimming area beside Lion Rock. This tower will be of a similar design to that at North Piha.

## 7.5 PIHA DOMAIN (Figure 5)

Piha Domain is a main focus of visitor and local community use at Piha. Many people have their first experience of Piha by either staying at the campground, or arriving at the domain before heading down to the beach. The local community have community and recreational facilities sited on the domain, and as the largest area of flat land within the Piha reserves, the future use and development is a crucial issue within the management plan.

## **Piha Campground**

The Piha Domain camping ground will remain on Piha Domain, however provision is made for the possible addition of a small number of relocatable cabins. No provision is made for fencing of the campground or expansion of the leased area or area available for effluent disposal and the toilets will remain as both camping ground and public use facilities.

## **Provision of Visitor Facilities**

Piha Domain is a key entry point for visitors to the Piha Reserves. The domain acts as the main parking area during the summer peak period, and as such is seen as the key focus of visitor facilities.

The area adjacent to the Piha Lagoon is also seen as the focus of visitor facilities at Piha. The carpark entry point is seen as the main visitor entry to the reserve and will be improved by planting and appropriate signage. No planting of tall trees will be undertaken in order to ensure that views across the Domain are unimpeded. Future construction of toilets, planting of low shade trees, provision of picnicking facilities such as tables and electric bbqs, as well as the installation of an information and interpretation sign are seen as occurring adjacent to the lagoon and bridge. It is also proposed to upgrade the access road into Piha Domain using a semi-permeable material.

## **Community Buildings and Use**

The Domain is the focus of community activity at Piha, and this is seen as an important future role. The area adjacent to the Seaview Road/Garden Road intersection is the site of the Piha Library. No further community buildings will be allowed on the Piha Domain. In addition the area across Piha Road from the main part of the Domain, where the old fire station will be made available for community use and leased to local community artists for display space.

## **Active Recreation**

The bowling club and tennis club areas are a focus of formal recreation within the Domain and this role is seen as continuing, with any future extension of facilities being directed away from the Piha Stream and associated riparian margin.

The area by the lagoon which is used as overflow summer parking, and part of the camping ground not used in winter are the main focus of informal recreation in the Domain. These two areas are used for informal cricket and rugby by the local community.

The area by the lagoon is seen as the main focus of informal active recreation, with a cricket pitch being developed as well as the area flattened out. A deck/stage has recently been constructed over the effluent sand filter. No further areas of the Domain are to be used for effluent disposal.

## **Ecological Values**

The Piha Stream and Lagoon and associated riparian margin provide an important ecological role within the Piha Domain. Restoration of the riparian margins through the planting of ecosourced and ecosited wetland and terrestrial plants along the stream corridor and in the reclaimed land adjacent to the lagoon is seen as an important measure to restore and enhance both ecological values and water quality.

## 7.6 PIHA BEACH (Figure 6)

This development plan shows the existing situation with the area of legal road proposed to be vested as Esplanade Reserve shown. At this stage no development options are proposed for the beach, dunes and carpark, these issues will be addressed in the Piha Coastal Management Plan.

Removal of debris from the beach front is a requirement of the 1991 Resource Consent obtained by Council for beach works undertaken then, and this will continue on an ongoing basis as debris is uncovered.

## **APPENDIX ONE: RESERVE DESCRIPTIONS**

## **GARDEN ROAD PLANTATION RESERVE**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Plantation Reserve. Not marked Between the boundary of 95 and 97 Garden Road.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Ranges exposed rocky coastal cliff shrubland.

Evidence of bamboo and other exotic weeds next to Garden Road.

Legal Description	Area	Acquisition	Reserve Type
	(Hectares)		
DP 25002	0.1034	1934 Developers	Plantation Reserve
CT 632/55		reserve	
		contribution	

## **GARDEN ROAD WALKWAY**

#### **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Steep path off Garden Road with large steps down to Marine Parade North. Signs for this section of walkway only from Garden Road. Walkway that runs parallel to the roads is not marked. An encroachment of one building has occurred over the walkway. Large area of pohutukawa next to the church. It is difficult to find access from Marine Parade North.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Main vegetation type is kikuyu grass with scattered banksias. Some small areas of West coast sand country back dune forest and shrubland.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lot 15 DP 33005	0.179	1934 Developers reserve contribution	Recreation Reserve
DP 25002 DP 25002 DP 25002	0.0624 0.1955 0.0306	1934 Developers reserve contribution	Plantation Reserve
Lot 16 DP 33005	0.0639	1934 Developers reserve contribution	Accessway Reserve

## **LES WAYGOOD PARK**

#### **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Recreation Reserve

This park is 7.4 hectares and extends from the Marawhara Stream northward to the United Lifeguard Service. 1.47 hectares is leased by the North Piha Campers Club. Kindergarten, carpark, toilet and playground adjoining Barnett Hall.

Stormwater ponding problem near toilets.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

West Coast Sand Country

-Fore Dune of spinifex with the occasional pingao.

-Back Dune Forest and Shrubland directly behind the dune in a dune hollow where there is more moisture. Good mix of native plants including Karo (*Pittosporum crassifolium*), Taupata (*Coprosma repens*), Pohutukawa, with the occasional cabbage tree, with scattered *Carex secta*. Large expanse of kikuyu grass mixed with *Muehlenbeckia complexa*.

Legal Description	Area	Acquis	ition	Reserve Type
Lot 1 DP 51205	(Hectares) 3 roods 16 perches	1978		Reserve under the
Part Lot 1 DP 32999, both part Wekatahi Block	7.429514 ha	Purchas 'market Waitem Council	value' by ata City	Vested as a
Park Tenancy	Licensee	Duratio	on	Permitted Use
Les Waygood Park Lot 3 DP 58386 1531 square metres.	Piha Ratepayers and Residents Association Incorporated	New lea establis	ase to be shed	Kindergarten
Les Waygood	North Piha	,	nal 5 year	Camp ground and
Park Part 1 DP 32999 1.4700 ha	Campers Club Incorporated	lease to establis		caravan park for the use of bona fide members only.
Park	Building/Structure and Function	Use	Comments	
Les Waygood Park	North Piha Campers Kitchen and storage		Building hig	hly visible
Les Waygood Park	North Piha Campers Club Borollet Block		Building highly visible.	
Les Waygood Park	Playground structure	e	Public playg though it is p kindergarter	
Les Waygood Park	Kindergarten		Attached to	Barnett Hall

## **NORTH PIHA ESPLANADE**

#### **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Narrow reserve with limited direct road access of only three points onto the reserve.

To the north end of the reserve ARC carparking connecting onto the reserve.

Difficult to define where ARC carpark and Waitakere City land begins.

Problem with garden escapes and people still using the dune as a dumping ground for waste vegetation in the form of banksia and other plant prunings.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

West Coast Sand Country

-Fore Dunes of spinifex

-Back Dune Forest and Shrubland with scattered patches of Karo and pohutukawa.

Occasionally of species including kawakawa.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lot 20 DP 33135	2.6657	Vested 1947 upon subdivision	Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserve
Lot 13 DP 33135	0.0318	Vested 1947 upon	Accessway
Lot 6 DP 33135	0.0318	subdivision	

#### **NORTH PIHA STRAND**

#### **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Long coastal reserve which is connected to Marine Parade North. Made up of a foredune of spinifex and a back dune mainly of kikuyu grass. Visitor carparking adjacent to Marine Parade North is restricted by the use of post and half round barrier fencing. A male and female toilet block with changing facilities and surf lifesaving tower on top is situated in the middle of the reserve. The helipad is sited next to the toilet block.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

West Coast Sand Country

-Fore Dunes of spinifex

-Back Dune of kikuyu grass and the occasional pohutukawa near the road.

Legal Description	Area	Acquisit	ion	Reserve Type
	(Hectares)			
Lot 4 DP 51449	2.8592	Dedicate	d as road	Local Purpose
Lot 4 DP 56010	0.1435	1933.	Vested as	(Esplanade)
		Local	Purpose	Reserve
		Reserve	1981	
Park	Building/Structure and Function	Use	Comments	
North Piha Strand	Toilet Block and su	rf	Surf life sav	ing tower is highly
	lifesaving tower		visible along	most of Marine
			Parade Nort	th.

## PIHA DOMAIN Total Area 5.4 hectares

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

The Domain is located near the mouth of the Piha Stream, adjoining Beach Road, Garden Road, Valley Road and Marine Parade South. The main vehicular access to the domain is via a sealed entranceway opposite Garden Road.

The Domain uses consist of:

- A campground with associated buildings and on site caravans. This takes up approximately half the flat area of the Domain. Access to the campground is opposite the Piha Store.
- Tennis Club and Bowling club in the south of the Domain with associated buildings.
- Public Playground in the campground and with a feel that it is part of the campground
- Piha Community Library
- Open Space area that is used as an overflow carparking area and sports field for locals.

#### **VEGETATION TYPE**

In 1994 the 18 macrocarpas in the camp ground were felled. The two remaining trees next to the Bowling club are to remain. These are listed Heritage Trees. The bowling club trees are part of a semi-circle of trees planted by John "Pa' Bethell in the 1890's

Piha Stream Swamp up from the Domain is an important habitat because of its margin of raupo that forms a habitat for wildlife. This type of habitat could be developed on the margins of the lagoon in Piha Domain.

Legal Description	Area	Acquisition	Reserve Type
	(Hectares)		
DP 24667	2.0773	1933	Acquired 1933 as
Lot 306 DP24667	1.7148	Vested in the	developers reserve
All part of CT		Crown	contribution
642/56		1967	1967 Domain
		Vested in trust to	status terminated
		Waitemata County	to become
		Council	recreation reserve
Lot 71 DP25709	1.0598	1935	Acquired 1935 as
Part of CT 642/56		Vested in the	developers reserve
		Crown	contribution
		1967	1967 Domain
		Vested in trust to	status terminated
		Waitemata County	to become
		Council	recreation reserve
Lot DP31269	0.04401	1943	Acquired 1943 as
Lot 3 DP 31269	1.4164	Vested in the	developers reserve
Lot 3 DP 31269	0.01016	Crown	contribution
All part of CT		1967	1967 Domain
642/56		Vested in trust to	Waitemata County
		Council	status terminated
			to become
			recreation reserve

DP 24231 part of CT 642/56	0.0250	1933 Vested	in Crown	1933 Plantation Reserve
C1 042/30		1966	III CIOWII	1966 local purpose
		Vested	in	(plantation) reserve
			ata County	
		Council		
Lot DP 2431 all of	0.4396		urchased by	Recreation
CT 780/284		Council	ata County	Reserve
Park Tenancy	Licensee	Duratio	on	Permitted Use
Piha Domain	Piha Tennis Club		encement	Playing and
Part DP 24667 and	Incorporated	1st Jun		practising tennis by
Lot 71 DP 25709		Termina 31 May		its members and the public and the
		31 May	2010	use for netball.
Piha Domain	Piha Bowling Club	Comme	encement	Lawn Bowls, Indoor
Part Piha Block	Incorporated	1 Augus		Bowls and other
DP 24667 and Part		Termina		recreational
Lot 71 DP 25709		1 Augu	st 2020	activities
3,500 square metres				
Piha Domain	Piha Ratepayers	Comme	encement	Piha Library
Part Piha Block	and Residents	1 April	1998	,
DP 24667	Association	Termina		
		1 April 2		
Piha Domain Part Piha Block	Gerry and Melanie Boortman	9 April	encement	Motorcamp and
DP 24677, Lot 71	Doortman	Termina		camping ground.
DP 25709 and Lots		9 April 2		
1 and 2 DP 31269				
2.565 Hectares			T	
Park	Building/Structure and Function	Use	Comments	
Piha Domain	Toilet Block		New toilet block constructed in	
	Contains ladies and men's			by both campers
	toilets and cold water showers.	er	and the pub	IIC.
Piha Domain	Water tanks		On Seaview Road side behind	
			the toilet block.	
Piha Domain	Boiler house		Situated behind the	
	contains oiled fired b		kitchen/shower block adjoining	
	which provide hot wa	ater for	the tennis courts	
	the camp ground			

Piha Domain	Kitchen/Shower	Timber building formerly the radar tracker shed shifted onto site in 1964
Piha Domain	Electric power Switch Housing for caravan power sites	
Piha Domain	Water Bore timber shed	
Piha Domain	Footbridge	
Piha Domain	Piha Tennis Club Pavilion which was built by the Tennis Club. Maintenance is carried out by the Tennis Club.	Timber Pavilion situated behind the camp ground kitchen
Piha Domain	Piha Tennis Club Volley Board	6m x 3m concrete block
Piha Domain	Bowling Club House which was built by the Bowling Club. Maintenance is carried out the by Bowling Club.	Facilities include; Bar, kitchen, toilets, recreation area, dance floor, committee room, store rooms etc.
Piha Domain	Old Green corrugated garage by bowling club	
Piha Domain	Water Tank by bowling club	
Piha Domain	Camp ground managers residence House	
Piha Domain	Camp ground managers residence Garage	
Piha Domain	Camp ground managers residence Shed	
Piha Domain	Playground	

## PIHA ESPLANADE RESERVE

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Small reserve bounded by the Wekatahi Stream and Marawhara Stream. 5 Residential properties adjoin this Reserve. Access to the reserve is gained via two points off Marine Parade North.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

West coast Sand Country

-Fore Dunes, Shrubland and wetland vegetation.

Area of regenerating pohutukawa forests and wetland vegetation.

Legal Description	Area (Heatarea)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
	(Hectares)		
Pt Lot 15 DP	1.1019	Vested upon	Local Purpose
32985		subdivision 1946	(Esplanade)
			reserve
Lot 2 and Lot 3	0.0246	Land swap with	Local Purpose
DP 144046		adjacent owner	(Esplanade)
		1992	reserve

## **CLAUDE ABEL RESERVE (Formerly Piha Scenic Reserve)**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Large reserve next to Garden Road dominated by a small pond and native forest. Visually very pleasant with pond and backdrop of trees. Ongoing problems with the aggressive lilies that have been planted in the pond.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

The eastern side of the pond rises steeply away from the waters edge and is covered by a stand of Ranges Exposed Rocky Coastal Cliff Shrubland. The noted species of this area have been included in a vegetation survey.

## **Key Botanical species list:**

Kunzea ericiodes, Corynocarpus laevigatus, Rhopalostylis sapida, Sophora microphylla, Metrosideros excelsa, Cordyline australis, Cyathea medullaris, Dicksonia, Phormium tenax, Leptospermum scoparium, Brachyglottis repanda, Carex grasses, Coprosma spp, Myrsine australis, Macropiper, Typha orientalis, Rice plant, Papyrus, rushes, sedges.

Legal Description	Area	Acquisition	Reserve Type
	(Hectares)		
DP 25002 part CT 642/55	2.0500	1934	Recreation
		Reserve	Reserve initially
		contribution	changed in
		vested in Crown	1962 to scenic
		1962	reserve Gazette
		vested in	Notice 1929
		Waitemata	
		County Council	
Lot 2 and 3 DP 33766 part	.1720	1947	Recreation
CT 883/184		Boundary	Reserve initially
		Adjustment	changed in
		/land exchange	1962 to scenic
		1962	reserve
		vested in	Gazette Notice
		Waitemata	1929
		County Council	
Lot 1 DP 25002 all land in		1962	Recreation
CT 788/13		Purchased by	Reserve
		Crown	changed to
		1962	scenic reserve
		vested in	in 1963 Gazette
		Waitemata	Notice 19635
		County Council	

## **SEAVIEW ROAD PLANTATION RESERVE (No.1)**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Walkway opposite the Domain from Garden Road down to Seaview Road. No signpost, confused entrance for Garden Road. Weeds prevalent. Possibly dangerous exit onto Seaview Road.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Ranges Rugged hill

Kauri/ Podocarp/ Broadleaf Forest

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
DP 24667	0.0202	1933	Local Purpose
		Developers reserve	(Plantation)
		contribution	Reserve

SEAVIEW WALKWA	SEAVIEW WALKWAY				
	DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS Between Seaview Road and Beach Valley Road				
	VEGETATION TYPE Ranges Exposed Rocky Coastal Cliff Shrubland				
Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type		
DP 24667	0.0475	1933 Developers reserve contribution	Local Purpose (Plantation) Reserve		

## SEAVIEW ROAD PLANTATION RESERVE (No.2) (Rayner Walk)

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Walkway between Piha Road and Rayner Road/Seaview Road.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lot 74 DP 31270	0.2339	1943 Developers reserve contribution	Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve
DP 24667	0.0324	1933 Developers reserve contribution	Local Purpose (Plantation) reserve

## **WEKATAHI RESERVE**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Sign at Marine Parade North and Garden Road. Access good on southern walkway. Well used walkway by locals of Garden Road to get down to the beach. Maintenance required on walkway.

#### **VEGETATION TYPE**

Ranges Exposed Rocky Coastal Cliff Shrubland with Pohutukawa canopy and nikau understory with open grass areas

and a contract of the contract	and orderly man open grass areas			
Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type	
Lot 4 DP 32999 CT 856/86	0.4679	Vested as reserve contribution conditional of subdivisional consent from Mr J.M. Melville to Waitemata Borough Council on 7 July 1946 as 'a reserve for carparking and other purposes.	Reserve under the 1977 Reserves Act but not formally classified in this category To be vested as Scenic Reserve	

## MARINE PARADE SOUTH ROAD (Carpark and Sand Dune)

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Structures on the road include: carparking for 100 cars, various bollards, barriers and signs, rubbish bins, Toilet block, surf lifesaving structure, surf lifesaving boat ramp, bridge over stream. The road is divided in the middle by the stream which is in a concrete channel.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Spinifex and Pingao dominate sand dunes. Patches of kikuyu grass at the southern and middle sections of the reserve. To the north towards Lion Rock on the taller dunes there is an area infested with weeds.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquis	ition	Reserve Type
Dedicated T256654		1937		Legal Road to be vested as Local Purpose Esplanade Reserve
Park	Building/Structure and Function	Use	Comments	
Marine Parade South	Public Toilet Block a changing rooms	nd	New Structu 1998	ire completed in

## MARINE PARADE PLANTATION RESERVE

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Walkway between Garden Road and Marine Parade. It is difficult to locate Garden Road end. Steps start half way up a private driveway. Steep and overgrown with weeds and steep areas without any steps. "Private" sign on path which is confusing to people who do not know the walkway. Very accessible from the beach end of the walkway

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Lowlands coastal Margins and Estuarine Wetlands

Legal Description	Area	Acquisition	Reserve Type
	(Hectares)		
DP 24231	0.0318	1933 Developers	Plantation Reserve
DP 25002	0.0252	reserve	
		contribution	

## **SEAVIEW UNFORMED ROAD (EASTERN SIDE OF THE DOMAIN)**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Two pieces of road. One that wraps around the new fire station and includes the old fire station, adjacent to the Piha Stream and the other that adjoins the Piha Stream and Beach Valley Road.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Both areas are covered in Kikuyu grass. Riparian revegetation planting is planned to occur next to the fire station as a consent condition. Planting should also be undertaken on the other side of the stream.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquis	ition	Reserve Type
Dedicated T256654	(Hectares)	1942		Legal Road –area where old Piha Fire Station is sited to be vested as Local Purpose Community Building Reserve, remainder to vested as Recreation Reserve
Park	Building/Structure and Function	Use	Comments	
Seaview Unformed Road (to be incorporated into Piha Domain)	Old Piha Fire Station	٦.	Fire Service	aitakere City by the and to be leased to unity artists as

## **SYLVAN GLADE PLANTATION RESERVE**

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Bush area

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Coastal cliff broadleaf forest.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
DP 24231 .	0.0233		Plantation Reserve

## SYLVAN GLADE LEGAL ROAD (Walkway)

#### **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Steep walkway with private driveway access at the top and bottom of the reserve. The walkway is difficult to find both at the top and the bottom of the walkway with signs up form the end of the road and off steep private drives. The lack of signs off the road makes these walkways feel as though they are private driveways rather than part of the public walkway network. This walkway is however well known by the locals and was discussed in the community consultation.

The walkway is in need of repair to improve the steps and reduce the erosion on the steepest sections. It would also benefit from the siting of a seat part way down.

#### **VEGETATION TYPE**

Coastal cliff broadleaf forest

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Dedicated T256654	23 acres, 2 roods 11.7 perches	1932	Legal Road -to be stopped and vested as Local Purpose (Accessway Reserve)
Dedicated T354506	4 acres 1 rood 37.9 perches	1941	Legal Road -to be stopped and vested as Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve

## **GLEN ESK PLANTATION RESERVE 1**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Reserve adjoining ARC reserve and making up part of the entrance to ARC land. Impossible to define area of ARC/ Waitakere City boundary and management.

#### **VEGETATION TYPE**

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
.Lot 72 DP 25709	0.1146	Developers reserve contribution	Plantation Reserve

## **GLEN ESK PLANTATION RESERVE 2**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Reserve adjoining ARC reserve and making up part of the entrance to ARC land. Impossible to define area of ARC/ Waitakere City boundary and management.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lot 73 DP 25709	0.0911	Developers reserve contribution	Plantation Reserve

## PENDRELL RESERVE

#### **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

No access signs or proper walkway formed onto this reserve. The majority of the reserve is at the back of private property and gives the feeling that you are encroaching in private land. Only local knowledge would provide you with any idea that this was a reserve. The reserve connects with ARC land and a steep cliff face.

Good views of Piha are obtained from the reserve and it could be developed as a viewing area.

#### **VEGETATION TYPE**

Ranges Rugged Hill Kauri/ Podocarp/ Broadleaf Forest. A large amount of weeds in the reserve.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lot 20 DP 37728	0.2992	Vested in Local territorial authority	Recreation Reserve. To be reclassified as Scenic Reserve

## **ACCESSWAY RESERVE (South Piha Plantation Reserve)**

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Narrow reserve accessible only from Piha Road next to 69 Piha Road. Electrical transformer on the road next to the reserve.

Views of Piha from the top of the reserve and along the track.

Good possibility of making this part of the walkway network down from the top of the hill down to ARC land on the coast.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

At the top of Piha Road gorse and weeds but going down into Coastal cliff broadleaf forest with a pioneer canopy of kanuka.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lots 72 and 74, DP 31270 and Lot 77 DP 31268 CT 642/56	1.0944		Acquired as plantation reserve in 1943 as developers reserve contribution.  Vested in Waitemata County Council on 1 April 1962. 5 <sup>th</sup> April 1967 vested as a reserve for access purposes (Gazette Notice A212957), 17 <sup>th</sup> March 1983 Gazettes as local purpose (accessway) reserve (Gazette Notice B158275.2).

## NORTH PIHA ROAD BETWEEN PIHA ESPLANADE RESERVE AND LES WAYGOOD PARK ADJOINING MARAWHARA STREAM

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Small piece of land adjoining road and Marawhara Stream

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Flax and Kikuyu grass with scattered pampas and coastal Shrubland.

	1		
Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
		Dedicated and Gazetted 1947 p53	Legal Road –to be vested as recreation reserve and included in Les
			Waygood Park

WEKATAHI UNFORMED ROAD	
DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS	

Grass, wetland and coastal bush area that connects Marine Parade North to Wekatahi Reserve.

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Kikuyu grass, Muehlenbeckia, agapanthus and bracken in the western half of the lot with a shrubby coastal vegetation including Mahoe and hangehange to the east extending to the stream, as well as a small area of cabbage tree/flax/raupo wetland.

Adjacent to Wekatahi Stream is Lot 9 DP 32985 with a vegetation that is a small area of coastal forest next to the stream, consisting of Pohutukawa approx. 6m high with a sub canopy of Mahoe and other broadleaf species, with numerous kawakawa in the understory. There is also a cabbage tree/flax/raupo wetland in the eastern part of the property, draining into the Wekatahi Stream.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
Lot 8 DP 32925 CT 1114/142	0.2099	'market value' from Mr L.R. Waygood by the Waitemata County Council on	and incorporated

## NORTH PIHA ROAD BETWEEN NORTH PIHA STRAND AND PIHA ESPLANADE RESERVE ADJOINING WEKATAHI STREAM

## **DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS**

Area of land adjoining road and Wekatahi Stream. Land area being eroded away due to the combined action of the Wekatahi and Marawhara Streams

## **VEGETATION TYPE**

Kikuyu and coastal shrubland. Spinifex sand dune being eroded away by the combined force of the Wekatahi and Marawhara Streams. Small area of wetland vegetation near the Wekatahi Bridge.

Legal Description	Area (Hectares)	Acquisition	Reserve Type
			Legal Road -to be
			vested as
			Esplanade
			Reserve and
			included in North
			Piha Strand

## APPENDIX TWO: NATIVE (INDIGENOUS) PLANTS OF PIHA

**Species** 

Adiantum aethiopicum

Adiantum cunninghamii Adiantum hispidulum Agathis australis Arthropodium cirratum

Asplenium bulbiferum Asplenium flabellifolium Asplenium flaccidum

Asplenium lamprophyllum Asplenium lucidum

Asplenium mauritimum Asplenium northlandicum Asplenium oblongifolium

Astelia banksii Astelia solandri Astelia trinervia

Austrofestuca littoralis Azolla filiculoides Baumea articulata Baumea rubiginosa Beilschmiedia tarairi Beilschmiedia tawa

Blechnum banksii

Blechnum capense Blechnum chambersii Blechnum membranaceum Brachyglottis repanda

Calystegia soldanella

Carex pumilo
Carex secta
Carex tetacea

Carmichaelia arborea Carpodetus serratus Cassinia leptophylla

Celmisia major var major Centella uniflora

Cheilanthes distans Cheilanthes seiberi Collospermum hastatum Coprosma arborea Coprosma acerosa

Coprosma crassifolia

Coprosma lucida
Coprosma repens
Coprosma robusta
Coprosma rhamnoides
Corokia cotonastar

Corokia cotoneaster Cordyline australis Cordyline banksii

Cordyline pumilo Cortaderia fulvida

Cortaderia splendens Corynocarpus laevigatus

Cotula coronopifolia

Cyathea dealbata Cyathea medullaris **Common Name** 

makaka

Common maidenhair Rosy maidenhair

Kauri

Rengarenga lily hen and chicken fern

Necklace fern

Makawe, hanging spleenwort

Glossy asplenium Shining spleenwort

Leather leaf asplenium

Huruhuruwhenua, shining spleenwort

Coastal astelia

Kowharawhara, perching lily

Kauri grass
Dune grass
Floating fern
Jointed twig-rush
Sedge tussock

Taraire Tawa

Coastal blechnun

Kiokio Rereti

Rangiora

Nihinihi, shore bindweed

Sand carex
Pukio, niggerhead
Speckled sedge
Native broom
Putaputaweta
Tauhinu

Waitakere rock daisy Marsh pennywort

Rockfern Rockfern Kahakaha Mamangi Sand coprosma

Stiff stemmed coprosma

Shining karamu

Taupata Karamu

Bluff korokio Cabbage tree

Forest cabbage tree

Ti rauriki, dwarf cabbage tree

Toetoe Coastal toetoe Karaka

Bachelor's button

Ponga Mamaku Cyathodes junipera Mingimingi

Cyperus ustulatus Upoko tangata, giant umbrella sedge

Dacrycarpus dacrydiodesKahikateaDacridium cupressinumRimuDesmoschoenus spiralisPingao

Dianella nigraTurutu, NZ blueberryDichondra repensMercury bay weedDisphyma australeHorokaka, NZ ice plant

Dodonaea viscosa Akeake Doodia media Pukupuku Doodia mollis Mokimoki Dracophyllum sinclairii Spiderwood Dysoxylum spectabile Kohekohe Eleocarpus dentatus Hinau Eleocharis sphacelata Kuta Entelea arborescens Whau Freycinetia banksii Kiekie Freycinetia baueriana **Kiekie** 

Gahnia laceraCutty grassGahnia setifoliaCutty grassGahnia xanthocarpaToikiwi, cutty grassGaultheria antipodaBush snowberryGeniostoma rupestreHangehange

Griselinia lucida Puka
Hebe bishopiana Huia hebe
Hebe macrocarpa Koromiko

Hebe obtusata West coast cliff hebe

Hebe stricta Koromiko

Hedycarya arborea Pigeonwood, porakaiwhiri

Hymenophyllum spp Filmy ferns

Hypolepis ambigua

Hypolepis dicksonioides Ginat hypolepis

Hypolepis distans Hypolepis rufobarbata

Isolepis nodosaKnobby clubrushJuncus pallidusGiant rushKnightia excelsaRewarewaKunzea ericoidesKanuka

Lastreopsis glabella

Lastreopsis hispida Hairy legs

Lastreopsis micrisora

Lastreopsis velutina Velvet fern Laurelia novae-zelandiae Pukatea

Leptocarpus similis

Leptospermum scoparium

Leptospermum scoparium

Manuka

Mingimingi

Leucopogon fraseri
Leucopogon fraseri
Libertia grandiffara

Libertia grandiflora Large flowered iris

Libertia ixioides Native iris

Libertia peregrinans Creeping sand iris

Lindsaea linearis

Lindsaea trichomanoides

Litsea calicaris Mangaeo Lophomyrtus obcordata Rohutu

Lycopodium deuterodensumTree clubmossLygodium articulatumMangemangeMacropiper excelsumKawakawaMelicope simplexPoataniwhaMelicope ternataWharangiMelicytus ramiflorusMahoe

Metrosideros carminea Metrosideros excelsa

Metrosideros excelsa X robusta

Metrosideros perforata Microlaena avenacea Microlaena polynoda Microlaena stipoides Muehlenbeckia complexa

Myoporum laetum Myrsine australis Mysine divaricata Nertera depressa Nertera dichondrifolia

Olearia albida
Olearia furfuracea
Parsonsia capsularis
Pellaea falcata
Pellaea rotundifolia
Parsonsia heterophylla
Parsonsia heterophylla
Peperomia urvilleana
Phormium cookianum
Phormium tenax

Phyllocladus trichomenoides Phymatosorus diversifolius Phymatosorus pustulatus Phymatosorus scandens Phymatosorus scandens

Pimelia arenaria Pimelia prostrata

Pittosporum crassifolium Pittosporum ellipticum

Poa anceps

Poa anceps
Polystichum richardii
Podocarpus hallii
Polystichum richardii
Pomaderris kumeraho
Pomaderris ericifolia
Prumnopitys ferruginea
Pseudopanax arboreus
Pseudopanax crassifolius

Pseudopanax ferox
Pseudopanax lessonii
Pteridium esculentum
Pteris magilanta

Pteridium escuientum
Pteris macilenta
Pteris comans
Pteris tremula
Ranunculus acaulis
Rhabdothamnus solandri
Rhopalostylis sapida
Samolus repens
Scandia rosifolia

Schoenoplectus validus Schoenus maschalinus Schoenus nitens

Schoenus nitens Selleria radicans

Schefflera digitata

Sophora microphylla var. fulvida

Spinifex hirsutus Tetragonia trigyna Akakura, carmine rata

Pohutukawa

Pohutukawa/rata hybrid Akatea, small white rata

Forest rice grass Native bamboo Meadow ricegrass

Pohuehue Ngaio

Red matipo, mapou Weeping mapou Duckweed Northern netera Tree daisy Akepiro/tanguru Kaiwhiria, pink jasmine

Tarawera, button fern

NZ jasmine NZ jasmine Wharanui Wharariki flax/harakeke Tanekaha

Kowaowao, hound's tongue Kowaowao, maratata Moki, fragrant fern Mokimoki, fragent fern Autetaranga, sand daphne

Strathmore weed

Karo

Miro

Plumed tussock Tutoke, shield fern Hall's totara Tutoke, shield fern Kumerahou Tauhinu

Fivefinger, puahou, whauwhaupaku

Horoeka, lancewood fierce lancewood

Coastal five finger, houpara

Bracken

NZ coastal brake

Tuawera, trembling brake

sand buttercup

Turepo Nikau

Shore pimpernel Coastal angelica

Pate

Kapungawha dwarf bog-rush

Rush Remuremu

West Coast Kowhai

Kowhangatara, Spinifex, silver sand grass

NZ spinich

Toronia toru Typha orientalis Uncinia uncinata Vitex lucens toru Raupo forest hook sedge Puriri

## APPENDIX THREE: PIHA RESERVES VEGETATION ASSESSMENT

# Weed and Vegetation Assessment Undertaken of Piha Reserves in September/October 1998

Park Name: CLAUDE ABEL RESERVE

**Vegetation Description:** Dune hollow (pond)/Exposed Coastal Vegetation **Management Option:** Hand remove water lily to keep some open water;

maintain and enhance bush area

**Exotic Species Present:** Japanese Laurel

Pampas Grass

Cape ivy Agapanthus Parrots feather

Kikuyu Water lily Kahili ginger Arum lily Puka

ARC 'priority': Wild ginger
Continuing control: Pampas grass

Cape Ivy Agapanthus

Comments: Note: three kings native (puka) has naturalised

Park Name: Pendrell Reserve

**Vegetation Description:** Exposed Coastal Vegetation

Management Option: To ask ARC to manage as contiguous with

regional parkland.

**Exotic Species Present:** Gorse

Wandering jew

Ginger Jasmine Pampas Kikuyu Agapanthus

ARC requirement: Wild ginger Continuing control: Pampas grass

Comments: Most weeds are confined to edges and roadside

Park Name: NORTH PIHA ESPLANADE

**Vegetation Description:** Dune vegetation

Management Option: Maintain and enhance natural values; support

proposal for beachcare group

**Exotic Species Present:** Kikuyu

Agapanthus

Hieracium species (daisy)

Geranium Wild garlic Montbretia Lupin Gazania

**Eradicate:** 

**Continuing control:** Agapanthus

**Comments:** Most of the weed species present are best

controlled by physical means, thus this may be a good place for a community 'working bee'.
Agapanthus will take over sand dunes if not

controlled.

Park Name: GARDEN ROAD PLANTATION RESERVE

**Vegetation Description:** Exposed Coastal Vegetation

Management Option: upgrade used part of walkway, maintain remainder

as planted

**Exotic Species Present:** Ginger

Climbing asparagus Wandering Jew

Bamboo

angel's trumpet

Cassinia

Monkey apple

ARC requirement: Wild ginger

Continuing control: Climbing asparagus

**Comments:** Climbing asparagus is currently as a manageable

level.

Park Name: Wekatahi Reserve

**Vegetation Description: Exposed Coastal Vegetation** 

**Management Option:** Maintain, enhance and interpret natural values

**Exotic Species Present:** Boneseed

Arum lily Willow weed **Pampas** 

Wandering Jew Cape ivy Lupin Mistflower Gorse Kikuyu Montbretia

Sweet pea shrub

**Eradicate:** Cape Ivv **Continuing control:** Boneseed

Sweet pea shrub

Lantana

Climbing asparagus

All other weeds should only be control if part of a **Comments:** 

comprehensive restoration programme involving

replanting.

Park Name: RAYNER WALK (Seaview Road Plantation Reserve # 2)

**Vegetation Description: Exposed Coastal Vegetation** 

**Management Option:** Upgrade walkway **Exotic Species Present:** Agapanthus

Gorse

Bottlebrush Arum lilly **Pampas** Inkweed Scottish thistle Watsonia Pine tree Monkey apple Wandering Jew Nasturium Vetch Ginger

Tuber latter fern

Cape Ivy Periwinkle

Willow leaved hakea

**Eradicate:** Ginger

**Continuing control:** 

Comments: Other weed species should be tackled only when track

> development occurs. More serious weeds (ie cape ivy/agapanthus/Japanese honey suckle) occur on near

by road reserve.

Park Name: PIHA DOMAIN **Vegetation Description: Dune Vegetation** 

**Management Option:** Revegetate streambank and lagoon edge **Exotic Species Present:** Cape Ivy

Kikuyu Lupin Gorse Onion weed

Climbing asparagus Woolly nightshade Century plant

Kermedic island pohutukawa

Watsonia

**Eradicate:** 

**Continuing control:** Cape ivy

Climbing asparagus

**Comments:** Pohuehue fields swamped with kikuyu/cape

lvy/climbing asparagus and stream banks/lagoon edge are good candidates for revegetation.

Park Name: SEAVIEW RD PLANTATION RESERVE NUMBER 1

**Vegetation Description:** Exposed Coastal Vegetation

Management Option:

Exotic Species Present:

Upgrade walkway

Monkey Apple
Flame Tree

Onion weed German ivy Cape ivy Agapanthus Bamboo

Eradicate:

Continuing control: German ivy

Cape Ivy

**Comments:** Additional weed control should occur when track

development occurs.

Park Name: GLEN ESK ROAD PLANTATION RESERVE NUMBER 1

**Vegetation Description:** Exposed Coastal Vegetation

Management Option: To ask ARC to manage as contiguous with regional

parkland.

**Exotic Species Present:** Cape ivy

Onion weed Mistflower Selaginella Ginger Watsonia Kikuyu

ARC requirement: Ginger
Continuing control: Cape Ivy

Park Name: GLEN ESK ROAD PLANTATION RESERVE NUMBER 2

**Vegetation Description:** Exposed Coastal Vegetation

Management Option: To ask ARC to manage as contiguous with regional

parkland.

**Exotic Species Present:** Cape ivy

Pampas

Watsonia German ivy Gorse Mistflower

Woolly nightshade Woolly nightshade

Continuing control: Cape lvy

Comments:

**ARC** requirement:

Park Name:GARDEN ROAD WALKWAYVegetation Description:Exposed Coastal VegetationManagement Option:Maintain as planted buffer

**Exotic Species Present:** Sweet pea shrub

Agapanthus
Cape ivy
Kikuyu
Onion weed
Watsonia
Nastutium
Boneseed
Wandering Jew

Lantana

Climbing asparagus Pampas grass

**Eradicate:** 

Continuing control: Pampas

Cape ivy

Sweet pea shrub

Boneseed

**Comments:** Additional weed control should occur if track is ever

developed

Park Name: LES WAYGOOD PARK

**Vegetation Description:** Dune vegetation (kikuyu dominant) /exposed coastal

vegetation (regenerating karo, karamu kawakawa

etc)

Management Option: Active revegetation/interplanting to establish dune

forest; some expansion of carpark and associated planting; support for proposed beachcare group

Exotic Species Present: Kikuyu

Lupin Vetch Boneseed Pampas Wild garlic Montbretia Gazania Lotus

**Eradicate:** 

Continuing control: Boneseed Comments: Pampas

Pampas threatens toetoe (related native species)

## APPENDIX FOUR: RESERVES ACT CLASSIFICATIONS

#### **Section 17 Recreation reserves**

- (1) It is hereby declared that the appropriate provisions of this Act shall have effect, in relation to reserves classified as recreation reserves, 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.
- (2) It is hereby further declared that, having regard to the general purposes specified in subsection (1) of this section, every recreation reserve shall be so administered under the appropriate provisions of this Act that---
- (a) The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on the administering body by sections 53 and 54 of this Act, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and general well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it:
- (b) Where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, or the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the Historic Places Act 1954:

- (c) Those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be conserved:
- (d) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.

## Section 19. Scenic reserves---

- (1) It is hereby declared that the appropriate provisions of this Act shall have effect, in relation to reserves classified as scenic reserves---
- (a) For the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment, and use of the public, suitable areas possessing such qualities of scenic interest, beauty, or natural features or landscape that their protection and preservation are desirable in the public interest:
- (b) For the purpose of providing, in appropriate circumstances, suitable areas which by development and the introduction of flora, whether indigenous or exotic, will become of such scenic interest or beauty that their development, protection, and preservation are desirable in the public interest.
- (2) It is hereby further declared that every scenic reserve classified for the purposes specified in subsection (1) (a) of this section shall be so administered and maintained under the appropriate provisions of this Act that---
- (a) Except where the Minister otherwise determines, the indigenous flora and fauna, ecological associations, and natural environment and beauty shall as far as possible be preserved, and for this purpose, except where the Minister otherwise determines, exotic flora and fauna shall as far as possible be exterminated:
- (b) The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on administering bodies by sections 55 and 56 of this Act, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it:
- (c) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purposes of the retention and preservation of the natural or scenic values, open portions of the reserve may be developed for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve:

- (d) Where historic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features are present in the reserve, those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve: Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, or the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the Historic Places Act 1954:
- (e) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.
- (3) It is hereby further declared that every scenic reserve classified for the purposes specified in subsection (1) (b) of this section shall be so administered and maintained under the appropriate provisions of this Act that---
- (a) Except where the Minister otherwise determines, the flora and fauna, ecological associations, and natural environment and beauty shall as far as possible be preserved:
- (b) The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on administering bodies by sections 55 and 56 of this Act, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it:
- (c) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purposes of the retention and preservation of the natural or scenic values, open portions of the reserve may be developed for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve:
- (d) Where historic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features are present in the reserve, those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve: Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, or the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the Historic Places Act 1954:
- (e) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.

## Section 23. Local purpose reserves---

- (1) It is hereby declared that the appropriate provisions of this Act shall have effect, in relation to reserves classified as local purpose reserves, for the purpose of providing and retaining areas for such local purpose or purposes as are specified in any classification of the reserve.
- (2) It is hereby further declared that, having regard to [specific local purpose for which the reserve has been classified], every local purpose reserve shall be so administered and maintained under the appropriate provisions of this Act that---
- (a) Where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, or natural features are present on the reserve, those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, or the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the Historic Places Act 1954:

[Provided also that nothing in this paragraph shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to any esplanade reserve created under section 167 of the Land Act 1948, or section 190 (3) or Part XXV of the Municipal Corporations Act 1954 or Part II of the Counties Amendment Act 1961 and existing at the commencement of this Act, or any local purpose reserve for esplanade purposes created under the said Part XXV or Part II or under Part XX of the Local Government Amentment Act 1978 [or under Part X of the Resource Management Act 1999] after the commencement of this Act that would impede the right of the public freely to pass and repass over the reserve on foot, unless the administering body determines that access should be prohibited or restricted to preserve the stability of the land or the biological values of the reserve]:

- (b) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.
- (3) Where a local purpose reserve is vested in a local authority or where the administering body is a local authority, it may from time to time, by public notice, prohibit access to the whole or any specified part of the reserve, and in that case no person shall enter the reserve or, as the case may be, that part, except under the authority of a permit issued by the local authority.
- (4) Where a local purpose reserve is not vested in a local authority and a local authority has not been appointed to control and manage it, the Minister may from time to time, by public notice, prohibit access to the whole or any specified part of the reserve, and in that case no person shall enter the reserve or, as the case may be, that part, except under authority of a permit issued by the Minister.

# APPENDIX FIVE: KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE SITES OF THE PIHA RESERVES

## Sources

Hayward and Diamond (1978), Prehistoric Archaeological Sites of the Waitakere Ranges and West Auckland, New Zealand, Auckland Regional Authority

Waitakere City Council Proposed District Plan (as amended by decisions on submissions) October 1998

Archaeological Sites

Site No	Grid Reference	Description
7 (Q11/416700)	00465	Burial cleft, Piha. Human bones found in clefts within large rock that was removed in 1963 as it threatened the road
14 (Q11/412708)	995475	Midden, Piha. Extensive areas of shell midden along front and north side of foredunes, south of Piha. All now destroyed by road, vegetation and houses
213 (Q11/411720)	994489	Rock Shelter, North Piha. In foot of bluffs beside road. 20 x 3m dry floor area beneath 4-6m high roof

Heritage Sites and Features

Hemage Siles and Features				
Feature Type	Feature	Site	Classification	Reason
Heritage Tree	2 Macrocarpas	Piha Domain by the Bowling Club	Listed Tree Waitakere City District Plan	Thought to be planted by Pa Bethell early this century, also visual significance as a landmark at Piha
Heritage Use	Piha Domain Campground	Piha Domain	Not classified	Camping has been occurring on the Piha Domain since before the area was vested as reserve, as such it could be considered to be a "heritage use" for the reserve
Heritage Building	Piha Camping Ground Kitchen/old shower block	Piha Domain	Not classified	Former radar tracking shed from Te Ahu Ahu road, moved onto the Domain in 1964