

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS





Contents

Introduction and Purpose	5	Goal 3. Outdoor Recreation	27
Resources, Context and Planning Framework	5	3.1 1-2: Provide opportunities for a wide range of outdoor recreation activities	29
Contribution to Community Outcomes	8	3.1.1 Zoning for recreational use	29
Council Policy Principles	8	3.1.2 Mountainbiking	30
Goals and Actions	9	3.1.3 Hunting	32
Goal 1. Management & Administration	11	3.1.4 Walking & Running	33
1.1 Ensure Management Responsibilities are established and resourced.	13	3.1.5 Orienteering	33
1.2 Ensure adequate health, safety and security of users, neighbours and others	14	3.1.6 Fishing	34
1.3 Provide high quality information about the areas to assist their management	16	3.1.7 Picnicking	35
1.4 Ensure a consistent system is in place to evaluate activities not specifically addressed in this plan.	17	3.1.8 Swimming	36
Goal 2. Community Consultation & Involvement	19	3.1.9 Canoeing	36
2.1 Take account of community needs through informal and formal consultation	21	3.1.10 Horseriding	37
2.2 Involve the community in management of the area	22	3.1.11 Camping	37
2.3 Build relationships and partnerships with Tangata Whenua toward achievement of Kaitiakitanga	23	3.1.12 Camp fires	38
2.4 Build relationships and cooperation with neighbours	25	3.1.13 Dogs	39
		3.1.14 Motorised recreation	40
		3.2 Provide sufficient tracks and visitor facilities to allow enjoyment and appreciation of the area	41
		3.2.1 Track Classification	41
		3.2.2 Existing Tracks	43
		3.2.3 Track development	44
		3.2.4 Buildings and other facilities	47
		3.3 Encourage Recreational Linkages	48

Goal 4. Conserving & Restoring Flora and Fauna, Ecosystems & Natural Landscapes	49	Goal 6. Access Roads	73
4.1 1 & 2: Protect and restore native flora, fauna, habitats and ecosystems in the area.	51	6.1 Provide safe vehicle access while facilitating recreational use, biodiversity and natural values where appropriate	75
4.1.1 Integrated Catchment Approach	51	6.1.1 Road management / development	76
4.1.2 Flora & Fauna - Restoration of Ecosystems	52	6.1.2 Community Input	77
4.1.3 Facilitating Ecological Linkages and Corridors	54	6.1.3 Public Transport	77
4.2 Control Plant Pests	55	6.1.4 Vehicle Parking	78
4.3 Control Animal Pests	57	Goal 7. Structures	79
4.3.1 Animal Control	57	7.1 Ensure adverse affects of structures are avoided, remedied or mitigated	81
4.3.2 Fencing	61	Goal 8. Protecting Cultural and Historic Resources	83
4.4 Maintain landscape and amenity values important to recreation	62	8.1 1-3: Assess, protect and enhance cultural and historic resources	85
Goal 5. Exotic Forest	63	Goal 9. Research	87
5.1 Woodpecker Forest Goal: Enhance recreational opportunity while providing for timber production and other uses	64	9.1 Facilitate the use of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area as a research resource where this benefits management.	89
5.1.1 Harvest	65	Goal 10. Monitoring	91
5.1.2 Re-establishment / replanting	67	10.1 Establish monitoring to assess the effectiveness of management actions	93
5.1.3 Silviculture	69	Appendix One: Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area Development Map	95
5.2 Gordon Kear Forest Goal: Commercial timber production	70	Appendix Two: Woodpecker Forest Development Map	97
5.2.1 Harvest	71		
5.2.2 Re-establishment / replanting	72		
5.2.3 Silviculture	72		

Introduction and Purpose

Outdoor recreation use of the Kahuterawa Valley has developed naturally due to its close proximity with Palmerston North and the variety and nature of the opportunities present.

In 2002 Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) adopted the Outdoor Recreation Strategy (ORS) to set priorities and provide guidance for the provision of outdoor recreation in the future. One of the key objectives identified in the ORS was to “develop the Kahuterawa Valley as an Outdoor Recreation Hub”.

In 2005 PNCC adopted the core policies which provide the foundations for planning and policy. Action 1.4 confirmed Councils intent to implement the Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2002.

In 2006 PNCC acquired Woodpecker Forest, at the end of Kahuterawa Road. This was of strategic importance, with the privately owned forest needing to come in to public ownership to allow for recreation development and access.

The purpose of this plan is to set the direction for the management of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation area, including the key asset of the Woodpecker Forest, and detailed implementation for recreation and conservation.

Resources, Context and Planning Framework

A detailed analysis and description of the resources of the area, stakeholder input, and the planning framework was undertaken in the preparation of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan. This is provided as Part Two and should be referred to for details. A brief summary of this information is provided as follows:

Scope of the plan

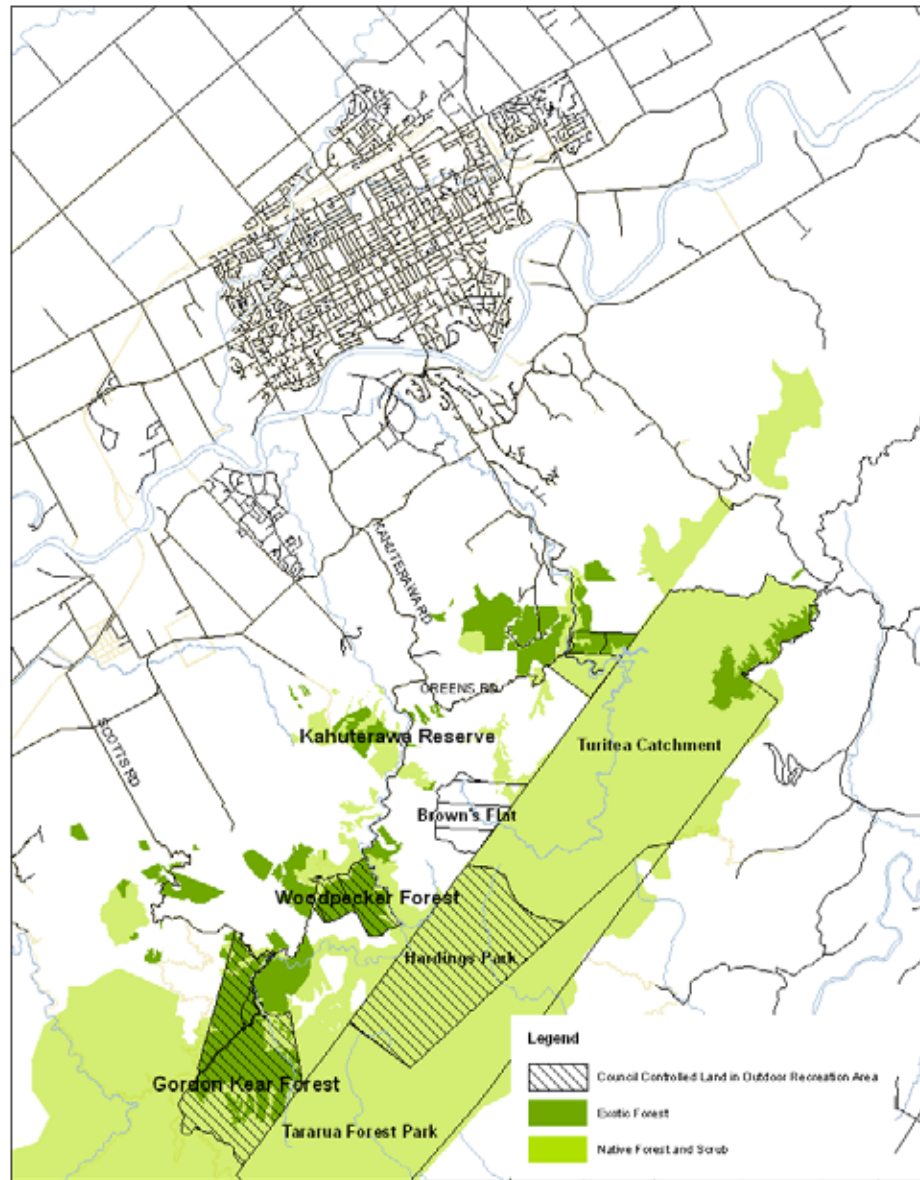
The plan addresses the management of linked areas and facilities that form part of a Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Hub. Areas and facilities included are:

- Woodpecker Forest
- Kahuterawa Reserve
- Gordon Kear Forest
- Hardings Park (Turitea Reserve Management Plan is already present for this area which will be integrated with other areas).
- Back Track
- Sledge Track
- Kahuterawa Road
- Greens Road
- Scotts Road

The objective is to provide an integrated plan for the management of PNCC outdoor recreational assets within the Kahuterawa Valley, to ensure they provide maximum benefit for the community within the framework of the Outdoor Recreation Strategy (ORS) and Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP).

This plan does not control activities on adjacent privately owned land.

Location Map



Planning Process

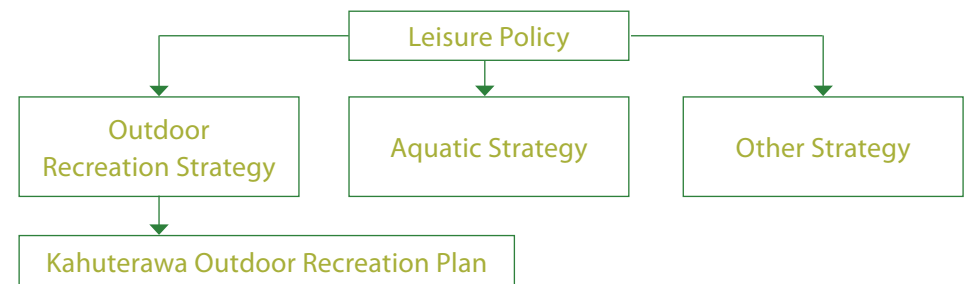
The process followed in developing this plan is summarised below:

1. Notification of intention to prepare a management plan and call for suggestions for management (complete)
2. Focus groups covering different areas of interest (complete)
3. Preparation of draft management plan taking into account suggestions and focus group input (complete).
4. Notification of draft plan and call for submissions
5. Amendment of draft plan taking into account submissions
6. Approval of final plan.

Legislative and planning context

A variety of legislation is relevant to preparing this plan, particularly the Local Government Act 2002, Reserves Act 1977, Biosecurity Act 1993 and district and regional plans under the Resource Management Act.

Key Council planning documents include the Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2002. This document identifies the establishment of a Kahuterawa outdoor recreation hub as one of its objectives. Development of a Recreation Strategy is currently being undertaken. This will integrate a wide range of existing documents and initiatives relating to the provision of recreation opportunities in Palmerston North. The diagram below identifies where this plan sits in relation to leisure policy.



Environment and resources

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

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

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

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

Biodiversity – native plants & animals: The area has important biodiversity values including regionally important remnant kamahi forest, a nationally endangered carnivorous land snail, *Powelliphanta traversi tararuaensis*, and good variety of native bird species including kereru, bellbird, tui and whitehead.

Exotic forests: Important exotic forest resources are present. Woodpecker forest is a mature radiata pine forest. Managing this forest and minimising the impacts of wind damage is important. Other major forests are present in Gordon Kear Forest and forests on private land. Gordon Kear Forest is managed primarily for commercial forestry returns but has some secondary recreational use.

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

Energy: A number of wind farm proposals are currently being considered adjacent to this area.

Cultural & Historic: The area has a history of Maori use and later European settlement.

Community aspirations

Public notification of the intention to prepare a management plan

A public notice was published in the Tribune newspaper in August 2006. Information was also mailed out to key groups and individual stakeholders. Suggestions for management relating to the area were requested. Twenty six responses were received, with over half of these from clubs and organisations. There was strong support for the development of recreation opportunities and also for retaining and enhancing the natural values of the area in terms of its biodiversity, landscape and “remote feeling close to the City”. There was strong feeling from a number of respondents that proposed wind farm developments in the area threatened the values important to the natural feel that gives value to the area.

A wide variety of useful suggestions were obtained that were able to be incorporated in the draft plan.

Focus groups

Groups and individuals who responded to the earlier public notification and other stakeholders were invited to focus groups to obtain further public input on key values of the area, management issues and potential management solutions. Separate focus groups were held for:

- Recreation (non mechanised)
- Mountain biking
- 4WD & Hunting
- Biodiversity & natural values

- Neighbours.

Specific issues and ideas for solutions identified in each focus group have been taken into account in preparing the draft plan wherever possible.

There was again strong support for the opportunities that the Kahuterawa area offers for outdoor recreation, biodiversity and natural values.

Strong concerns were raised in the biodiversity and natural values focus group about the impact of wind farm proposals around the area.

Note: Please refer to Part Two: Resources & Context for further information.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan primarily contributes to “People have lots of fun things to do” by providing outdoor recreation opportunities to our community.

By adding to the suite of visitor attractions in Palmerston North, such as hosting rounds of the national mountain biking series, there are also contributions to “Businesses grow here and people have lots of job opportunities”.

Through the provision of walkways, maintenance of reserves and other areas of public land and enhancement of biodiversity in the area, the Plan will also contribute to “Palmerston North is attractive, clean and green”.

Council Policy Principles

The Council has agreed to some principles, which underlie all its policies and their associated activities. These are:

Sustainability: The Council takes into account the long-term social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities, now and in the future.

Participation: The Council supports and encourages opportunities for individuals and groups to actively participate in community life.

Accessibility: The Council is committed to removing barriers that prevent individuals and groups from accessing any aspect of community life.

Diversity: The Council respects the diversity of Palmerston North communities and the differing needs of groups within these communities.

Partnership: The Council acknowledges the benefits of developing relationships with others in the community, and will work in partnership to progress our common goals.

Effectiveness: The Council will allocate resources so that they are directed to where they are most needed.

Treaty of Waitangi: The Council acknowledges the status of the Treaty of Waitangi as a founding document of Aotearoa/New Zealand.

The Treaty is between iwi and the Crown and the Council derives its role from central government. The Council is committed to working with local iwi and the wider Maori community.

Goals and Actions

The plan is divided into topics:

- Management and Administration
- Community Consultation & Involvement
- Outdoor Recreation
- Conserving & Restoring Flora and Fauna, Ecosystems & Natural Landscapes
- Exotic Forest
- Access Roads
- Structures
- Protecting Cultural & Historic Resources
- Research
- Monitoring.

Each topic has a goal or goals Council wishes to achieve within it and a series of actions planned to achieve that goal. Each action has:

- A description of how it will be achieved or measured
- What the anticipated cost will be. Costs may vary from year to year, and detailed costings have been undertaken. Those shown in this plan may be rounded or averaged. The purpose is to indicate approximate costs not act as a detailed cost budgeting tool.
Any costs not budgeted for in the 2006/2016 10 Year Plan are highlighted
- How this is proposed to be funded, and
- Who will take responsibility for implementing it.





Goal 1. Management & Administration

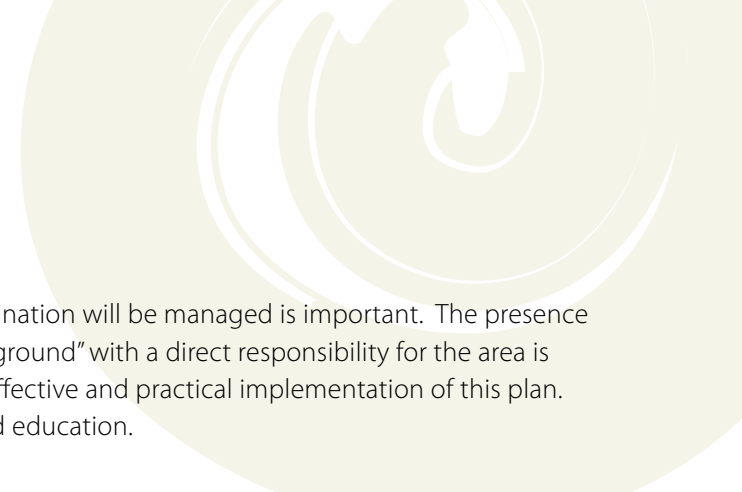
Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

This plan covers a diverse range of areas and assets that can provide major benefit to the whole community for outdoor recreation as well a suite of other benefits. Stable and coordinated management of these areas and assets will be required to ensure these benefits are provided.

The following goals are set to help achieve this:

- 1. To ensure management responsibilities are established and resources provided to allow management of the land areas and assets covered, in accordance with this plan**
- 2. To ensure adequate health, safety and security for users, neighbours and others**
- 3. To provide high quality information about the areas to assist their management and use.**
- 4. To ensure a consistent system is in place to evaluate activities not specifically addressed in this plan.**
- 5. To ensure ongoing review and continuous improvement of management of the area.**



1.1 Ensure Management Responsibilities are established and resourced.

A range of different Council and Community inputs occur in managing the various areas and assets of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area. There will be a need for deliberate coordination of the different inputs from roading, to forest harvesting, to volunteer track work and more. Identification of different

responsibilities and how coordination will be managed is important. The presence of a person(s) working “on the ground” with a direct responsibility for the area is likely to have benefits for the effective and practical implementation of this plan. It will assist public relations and education.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
1.1.1 Provide coordination across Council activities involved in implementation of the Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal council working group through development phase? Clear responsibility for oversight of management plan implementation 	\$3,840 staff time per year staff from existing operational budgets.	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property
1.1.2 Provide on the ground person working across a range of responsibilities	Examine establishment of some form of ranger responsibility	Combination of other actions including 1.2.2, 1.2.4,	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property
1.1.3 Involve and manage volunteers	Set up protocol for working with volunteers. Covering what sort of activities and areas to involve volunteers etc.	\$7,860 per year staff time from existing operational budgets.	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property

1.2 Ensure adequate health, safety and security of users, neighbours and others

Council has responsibilities under the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1993 to identify and manage hazards to workers and visitors in the area. This requires that an effective health and safety management system is in place to address its liabilities in relation to staff and contractors, and effectively identify and manage workplace hazards to visitors.

Security in the area has been raised as an important concern by neighbours and users of the area. This includes vandalism and theft. Theft from vehicles at road end car parks is occurring. This is a common concern and detracts from use of the area.

Safety of Kahuterawa Road with increasing use was a common concern raised in public input to this plan. There is a need to provide safe access roads, while maintaining their rural character.

Fire is a significant threat in the area, particularly where there is exotic forest or scrub vegetation above or close to high use areas. A major fire could destroy valuable exotic forest. It would also impact on recreational use and biodiversity. Maintaining a high level of fire protection and risk management will be important.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
1.2.1 Maintain health and safety systems in compliance with HSE Act 1993	Maintain compliance with PNCC health and safety systems.	Part of normal operations.	Annual.	All staff.
1.2.2 Provide public information on key hazards:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide simple public hazard information and safety rules. • Basic signage used to present information • Include identification of forest wind throw hazard – avoiding exotic forest area in high wind • Remind motorists to share the road with non-motorised users. 	Signage part of budgets for 1.3.1	2009/2010	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
1.2.3 Ensure emergency response – search and rescue is in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure search and rescue organisations have a good knowledge of the area (possibly organise a training exercise in the area) • Coordinate and plan with mountain bike clubs regarding potential rescue of injured riders. • Identify and maintain helicopter landing sites • Ensure public are aware of basic emergency process – so don't rely on neighbours 	\$960 per year – NEW operational budget.	Annual.	City Networks – Recreation and Property.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
1.2.4 Ensure emergency response – search and rescue is in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure search and rescue organisations have a good knowledge of the area (possibly organise a training exercise in the area) • Coordinate and plan with mountain bike clubs regarding potential rescue of injured riders. • Identify and maintain helicopter landing sites • Ensure public are aware of basic emergency process – so don't rely on neighbours 	\$960 per year – NEW operational budget.	Annual.	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
1.2.5 Work to maintain and improve security for vehicles at road ends	Investigate best methods for maintaining security of parked vehicles. Consider for example, ranger visits, security cameras, increased users	\$16,640 increasing to 24,960 per year – NEW operational budget.	Annual.	City Networks – Recreation and Property
1.2.6 Review fire hazards within and around the areas under the Plan and implement any actions that can be taken to reduce fire risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a fire hazards assessment and identify any improvements to reduce risk e.g. change vegetation to low fire risk species around areas of high public use, boundary areas, public road risks, power lines etc. • Maintain fire ponds, access tracks, signs. • Prepare a fire resources description map • Liaise with and provide information to neighbours and recreational users to minimise risk. • Inclusion of fire risk minimisation information as part of interpretation. • Close public access to exotic forest areas during times of extreme fire risk, when a prohibited fire season is introduced, communicating closures well. • Ensure a thorough risk assessment is undertaken prior to any temporary closure due to fire risk, to avoid unnecessary closure. 	<p>Fire Plan within existing Civil Defence budgets.</p> <p>\$5,500 one-off cost NEW capital budget.</p> <p>\$500 per year NEW addition to maintenance budgets.</p>	<p>2009/2010</p> <p>2009/2010</p> <p>Annual.</p>	<p>Civil Defence for fire plan.</p> <p>City Networks – Recreation and Property</p> <p>City Networks – Recreation and Property</p>

1.3 Provide high quality information about the areas to assist their management

New users of the area will require clear and helpful information on tracks and other facilities, hazards etc. There is a need for clear signage maps and other information to show the boundary between public and private land to avoid trespass onto private land.

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area (KORA) has excellent opportunities for environmental education and interpretation covering areas such as native flora and fauna and history.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
1.3.1 Provide information to users, neighbours and others to assist enjoyment of the area and avoid problems.	<p>Likely to include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation area lay out and resources • Private land vs public land etc 	<p>\$5,000 NEW operational budget for one-off pamphlet development.</p> <p>\$500 per year NEW operation budget for reprints.</p> <p>\$15,000 existing Woodpecker Development Budget for signage.</p> <p>\$1,000 per year NEW Increased sign maintenance budget.</p>	<p>2009/2011 Annual</p> <p>2009/2010 &</p> <p>2010/2011 Annual</p>	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
1.3.2 Where appropriate provide information for environmental education and interpretation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May relate to resources such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic • Cultural • Biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, where appropriate, the important relationship of Rangitaane to this area and its resources. This includes the importance of the Tararua Range to Rangitaane, vegetation and birdlife as historic food sources, and the role of Rangitaane as kaitiaki. 	Included in 1.3.1 above.	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
1.3.3 Provide consistent and appropriate signage to assist use of tracks and other facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify activities provided in different areas • Identify track information including track type and use etc 			

1.4 Ensure a consistent system is in place to evaluate activities not specifically addressed in this plan.

There may be requests to undertake activities in the KORA (Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area) that are not covered by this plan. A consistent approach needs to be taken to decisions on such activities so the objectives of the plan are met and inappropriate activities avoided. Areas covered by the Reserves Act 1977 (e.g. Kahuterawa Reserve) are subject to special requirements such as granting easements. The Reserves Act needs to be referred to when considering activities in these areas. Decision making requirements included in the Local Government Act 2002 will need to be followed where appropriate.

One-off activities that have short-term, minor impacts, for example seed collection or filming will require less detailed consideration. Activities that have ongoing more significant effects, for example operation of an ongoing tourism concession, will require more detailed consideration.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>1.4.1 Consideration of short term activities with minor impacts will be undertaken by Council staff and a one-off permit issued. Consideration against the criteria below will be required in making the decision on whether to grant consent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permit forms and books for recording permits issued Define staff authorities for issuing permits. Maintain records of permits issued and conditions attached Monitor and enforce permit conditions 	<p>\$1,000 per year from existing operational budgets</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property.</p>
<p>1.4.2 Consideration of activities with the potential for significant impacts and/or that are long term in duration, such as the granting of any leases or licences, shall be subject to an impact assessment prior to any decision on consent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify staff responsibilities for processing of any applications. Develop a consent application form detailing the process and criteria for granting of consents. Maintain records of consents granted including conditions attached. Any approval will require receipt of a formal written application describing: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the activity, its consistency with KORP goals and actions. its potential positive and negative impacts on the area, and other users, and Any mitigation and enhancement measures proposed. <p>\$1,000 for initial consent process development from existing operational budgets.</p> <p>\$1,000 per year from existing operational budgets</p>	<p>2009/2010 Annual</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property.</p>

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>1.4.2 Consideration of activities with the potential for significant impacts and/or that are long term in duration, such as the granting of any leases or licences, shall be subject to an impact assessment prior to any decision on consent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the proposal against the criteria. • Written approval by the Council • Consent being conditional on the activity not conflicting with the objectives and polices of the management plan 	<p>\$1,000 for initial consent process</p> <p>development from existing operational budgets.</p> <p>\$1,000 per year from existing operational budgets</p>	<p>2009/2010</p> <p>Annual</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property.</p>
<p>1.4.3 Develop criteria for decisions on consents for new activities including consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The activities compliance with the Reserves Act 1977 for areas that are Reserves under the Reserves Act 1977. • Local Government Act 2002 decision making processes • The activity's consistency with the objectives and policies of this management plan. • The potential effects of the activity on natural and cultural heritage values and other park users. • Whether the activity could reasonably be undertaken in another location – outside the area. • The duration of the activity –preference will be given to short term activities. 	<p>Decisions on new activities include assessment against these criteria.</p>	<p>As part of 1.4.2 above.</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property.</p>	



Goal 2. Community Consultation & Involvement

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

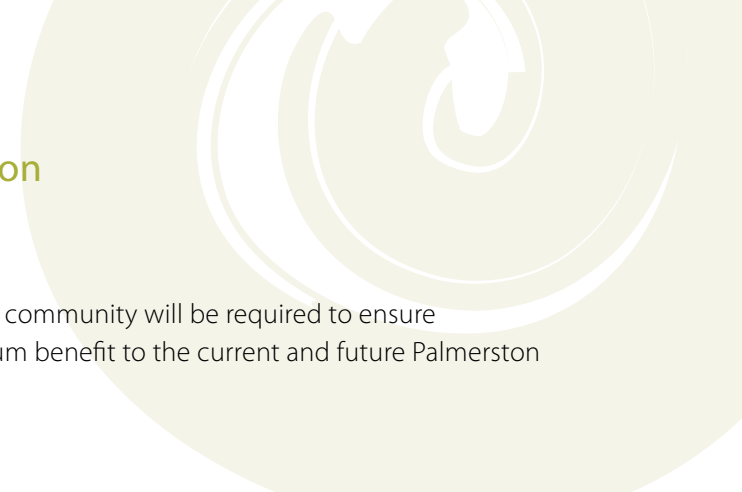
PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

Community consultation and involvement is important to ensure that the wide community benefits from this area are obtained. Ongoing engagement with the community and consideration of community needs will be required to ensure management meets the needs of current and future generations.

There will be a particular need to work with neighbours as their activities and management of the KORA will interact. Successful working relationships with neighbours will be essential to implementation of this Plan. Tangata Whenua will also need to be given particular recognition through their important relationship with resources of the area.

1. The following goals are set.

- 2. 1. Take account of community needs through informal and formal consultation.**
- 3. 2. Improve understanding of and support for management of the area by involving community groups and individuals in management of the area.**
- 4. 3. Build relationships with and work in partnership with tangata whenua to ensure their involvement and practical achievement of kaitiakitanga.**
- 5. 4. Build relationships with neighbours and encourage cooperation between Council staff and neighbours to support implementation of the plan and provide common benefits.**



2.1 Take account of community needs through informal and formal consultation

There is a strong community interest in the opportunities these areas provide. There is also interest in the impact of their management on neighbouring properties and the wider landscape. A variety of clubs and organisations have had a long association with these areas, including undertaking voluntary work in the area.

Ongoing consultation with the community will be required to ensure management provides maximum benefit to the current and future Palmerston North community.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
2.1.1 Continue to consult with individuals, groups and agencies with an interest in the area, including recreational and ecological interest groups, neighbours and regulatory authorities.	Develop and maintain a stakeholder list identifying parties interested in management, and matters they are to be consulted on.	Approximately \$13,000 per year for all consultation activities from existing operational budgets	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.
2.1.2 Undertake full notification and wide community consultation as part of a five yearly review of the plan in line with the requirements of Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.	Notification and consultation process to be undertaken every 5 years.	Part of 2.1.1 above	As required	City Networks – Parks and Property
2.1.3 Work with stakeholder groups to coordinate the flow of information between the community and Council and assist decision making on specific implementation projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the detail of the make up of any working groups and provide clear terms of reference in line with the PNCC Advisory Group Policy This may include the establishment of council / community working groups where appropriate. 	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property
2.1.4 Consider establishment of a track development group to provide input to decisions on new track building, coordinating fundraising and other input to track construction etc.	Determine the detail of the make up of any working groups and provide clear terms of reference in line with the PNCC Advisory Group Policy.	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.

2.2 Involve the community in management of the area

Direct involvement of the community in management activities, where appropriate, has potential to build community support and understanding. It provides opportunity for community stakeholders to have some direct involvement in the development of facilities that are important to them – such as the construction of mountain bike tracks. It may also increase the cost effectiveness of some management activities, enabling more to be achieved.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>2.2.1 Encourage and support community, business and individual initiatives that support management objectives and add value. Priority will be given to initiatives that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> align closely with objectives and policies of the plan have wide community support. Demonstrate ability to see project through and provide ongoing input. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify current initiatives being supported by the Council and determine the nature and level of ongoing support to be provided. Evaluate new initiatives and determine the nature and level of ongoing support to be provided. Review initiatives ability to implement projects and costs of contingencies of Council involvement if they fail. 	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.

2.3 Build relationships and partnerships with Tangata Whenua toward achievement of Kaitiakitanga

Tangata Whenua have an interest in management of a range of resources present in the area. They also have cultural association with the area as a route between the east and west of the Tararua Range.

Obtaining valuable input from Tangata Whenua to management of the area will require building and maintaining good working relationships.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires that Council ensure it has effective processes for Maori involvement in decision making processes.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
2.3.1 Develop and maintain relationships with tangata whenua on relevant management issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define responsibilities for contact with tangata whenua. • Undertake consultation in a coordinated way within the wider Council framework where appropriate, including combining with consultation on management of Turitea Reserve. • Undertake regular contact, at least annually to discuss management issues. • Provide access to environmental and ecological monitoring summaries to Rangitaane. 	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.
2.3.2 Work with tangata whenua on the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area as part of a wider working relationship with PNCC.	Consult with tangata whenua over best mechanism.	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>2.3.3 Work with tangata whenua to identify issues on which direct involvement and consultation are required, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding of sites and values of importance to tangata whenua • Acknowledgement of tangata whenua in naming. • Provision of opportunities for practical achievement of kaitiakitanga. • Mechanisms for consideration of cultural harvest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with tangata whenua to identify important issues and best process. • Work with Rangitaane on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maori names and their significance • Finding ways to acknowledge the significance of the Tararua Ranges and Kahuterawa Valley to Rangitaane. • Seeking input from Rangitaane on any major plans for biodiversity enhancement, pest control or stream restoration. • Informing Rangitaane of proposed establishment of new roads or tracks • Possible re-establishment of Rangitaane historic pathway across the Tararua Range • Identifying species of special or taonga status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying sites of importance • Naming of new tracks and visitor facilities, where maori names could be used, and the preparation of relevant interpretation information. • Ensuring the use of archaeological discovery protocols that are acceptable to Rangitaane 	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.

2.4 Build relationships and cooperation with neighbours

Good working relationships with neighbours are essential to the management of this area. Whether it is cooperation on pest control across boundaries, boundary fencing, security or other matters, effective and cooperative relationships with neighbours will be required. Particular focus will be on working with immediate neighbours to the areas of Council controlled land considered under this plan.

Working with neighbours may provide opportunities for mutual benefit such as enhancing ecological linkages or linking to commercial recreation activities on private land.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>2.4.1 Work with neighbours (both individually and in groups) to implement management objectives and policies, particularly in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and security • Fencing • Animal and plant pest control, including managing the effects of domestic pets. • Enhancing flora and fauna and ecological links with neighbouring properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an up to date database of all adjacent neighbours and update the database in line with changes to the Council’s rating database. • Establish a mechanism for regular communication about reserve management issues with neighbours. This could include a regular meeting / forum and or information mail out. • Meet with affected neighbours to discuss any specific issues. • Provide rapid initial contact and information to any new neighbours. • Ensure residents within Kahuterawa Valley are included in consultation and information provision about significant new initiatives. 	Part of 2.1.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.



Goal 3. Outdoor Recreation

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

A coordinated approach to management of the areas and assets under this plan can provide major opportunities for outdoor recreation. The areas involved have the potential to provide linked outdoor recreation opportunities to satisfy a wide range of users, close to the city of Palmerston North. The opportunity exists to provide a major asset for the City and to attract visitors from the wider region and beyond.

Goals are:

- 1. To provide opportunities for a wide range of outdoor recreation activities for the people of Palmerston North, catering for a variety of levels of ability in a variety of different settings.**
- 2. To develop and maintain recreational access and enjoyment in a way that minimises impacts on other users and important resources such as biodiversity.**
- 3. To provide sufficient tracks and other visitor facilities and services to allow visitors to enjoy and appreciate the area in ways that are safe, appropriate for the particular area, and that minimise conflicts with other users.**
- 4. To encourage recreational linkages**

3.1 1-2: Provide opportunities for a wide range of outdoor recreation activities

3.1.1 Zoning for recreational use

Identification of different recreation zones provides opportunity to separate different recreational uses where this is necessary to reduce conflict. Different management policies can then be applied to the different areas.

DEFINITION OF ACCESS ZONES		
Name	Description	Activities
Family Access Zone	Kahuterawa Reserve, Black Bridge carpark to Kahuterawa flats / swimming hole, possibly road Reserve areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive use area catering for range of activities for families and less physically able • High quality short walkways • Provision of some disabled access • Picnicking and swimming opportunities • Access to mountain bikes on defined through routes.
Active Recreation Zone	Woodpecker Forest, Back Track and Sledge Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop networks of walking and mountain biking tracks • Tracks are planned to separate users where necessary to avoid conflict • Key uses catered for are mountain biking, walking, running • Possible occasional organised 4WD access on designated tracks (see tracks)
Remote Experience Zone	Hardings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a network of longer walks • No 4WD access or other mechanized recreation • Avoid activities that detract from the natural features and setting
Controlled Access Zone	Gordon Kear Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public foot access on designated Te Araroa Trail route. • Access provided with approval and permit for organised groups and events (e.g. mountain bike events, horse treks, 4WD club events etc) • Occasional closure and restriction of access may occur where necessary to forest management

3.1.2 Mountainbiking

Mountain biking has become a major recreational use at Woodpecker Forest. A key reason for Council obtaining ownership of Woodpecker Forest was to retain and enhance this recreational asset. Mountain bike tracks have been developed informally through this area by a range of users. This ad hoc track development has resulted in potential conflicts and confusion. Development of a valuable track network in conjunction with users will be important.

Two types of mountain biking are popular. Cross country mountain biking involves a wide range of riders and abilities and includes up and downhill riding on a variety of terrain and technical challenges. Down hill mountain biking involves high speed downhill riding on specialist bikes. These bikes are not designed for uphill riding and are ferried or pushed to the top of runs. Provision of a 4WD access track within Woodpecker Forest that can be used during downhill events for ferrying bikes would significantly increase the value of this area as a downhill resource.

The soil type and rainfall at Woodpecker Forest means that soils become very wet and slippery in winter. This reduces the area's value for mountain biking in winter. It may be possible for development of a 4WD access track through the Forest to double as an all-weather, non-technical, track for novice cross country riders, providing an all-weather loop from Black Bridge via the Back Track for novice riders.

Mountain biking of the Greens Road loop appears to be becoming increasingly popular. Some competitive cyclists use this loop and the ride to Woodpecker Forest from the City as training. Cyclists also sometimes park their vehicles at Kahuterawa Reserve to begin their ride of Woodpecker Forest. Looking at ways to improve road riding in these areas could provide increased opportunity for this type of ride, creating more options and spreading the load on facilities. It could also create the opportunity to promote a one way (predominantly downhill) ride from the end of Scotts Road to the City.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.2.1 Develop and promote mountain biking use of the active recreation zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with mountain bike clubs and others to develop track network and publicity • Ongoing work with mountain bike clubs to maintain and manage tracks • Examine the value and practicality of a mountain bike wash down facility (hose and drained pad). This could possibly be provided at Kahuterawa Reserve to encourage riding from this point if the separate off-road path proves viable. 	Part of 1.3.1, 2.1.1 & 2.1.3 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.
3.1.2.2 Provide increased opportunity for safe cycling of Greens Road Loop and Upper Kahuterawa. Also encouraging cycling from Kahuterawa Reserve	Examine development of shoulder areas in conjunction with road maintenance and other methods to enhance cycle access.	As opportunities arise in existing roading programmes.	Ongoing	City Networks - Roading
3.1.2.3 Coordinated approach to tracks, information etc (see tracks policies) – developing tracks that provide increased opportunity and separate users / avoid conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map and develop a consistent approach to the track network that will avoid conflict. • Work with mountain bike clubs and others. 	Part of 1.3.1 & 2.1.1, 2,1.4 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property.
3.1.2.4 Provide access to Gordon Kear for Organised events on a permit basis where this does not conflict with forestry operations.	Maintain permit system.	Part of 1.4.1 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property
3.1.2.5 Examine the development of a dedicated 4WD access track through Woodpecker Forest from Black Bridge to top at Scotts road for ferrying of downhill bikes during events and providing an all weather mountain bike loop from the back track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the feasibility of this track as part of track network. • Coordinate track development with future forest harvest. 	Part of 1.3.1 & 2.1.1, 2,1.4 above	2010	City Networks – Parks and Property.

3.1.3 Hunting

Hunting is an established recreational activity in Hardings Park and the Tararua Forest Park. Hunting in these areas contributes to control of animal pests.

Hunting in other more intensively used areas of the KORA is not appropriate because of safety issues. However, it is important for hunters to have access through these areas to more distant hunting grounds.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.3.1 Hunting permitted in remote experience zone only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain permit system Appropriate signage identifying no hunting in other areas. 	Part of 1.4.1 & 1.3.1	Ongoing	City Networks – Parks and Property
3.1.3.2 Access for hunters provided through other areas for hunters with a permit.	Permits to require that firearms are not loaded and have the bolt and magazine removed when travelling through other parts of the KORA.	Part of 1.4.1	Ongoing	City Networks – Parks and Property.

3.1.4 Walking & Running

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

Track development will be planned to avoid areas of significant conflict with other users, for example, ensuring in most cases that downhill mountain bike traffic is kept off walking tracks.

There is significant potential to provide a greater range of recreational walking and running opportunities in the area through development of a track network and associated signage and information.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.4.1 Provide walking opportunities for a wide range of abilities. From short walks suitable for people of limited fitness to full day tramps for the experienced and fit.	Development of track network in line with policy 3.2.2, 3.2.3 and also through ongoing input of track committee (see policy 2.1.4)	Part of 3.2.3.1	Initial work 2009/2011	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
3.1.4.2 To encourage the use of the walking track network for running, particularly in the family and active recreation zones.	Information and signage to identify and promote running in the area.	Part of 1.3.1	2009/2011	City Networks – Recreation and Property.

3.1.5 Orienteering

There are active orienteering clubs in Palmerston North which use this area for events. The past focus has been on the use of Gordon Kear Forest. This is likely to remain an important location for orienteering events. There will also be opportunity to use Woodpecker Forest for orienteering.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.5.1 Provide for orienteering use in the Active Recreation Zone and also for organized events within the Controlled Access Zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operate permit system for controlled access areas of Gordon Kear Forest. Work with orienteering clubs to provide appropriate maps and other information to assist orienteering use. 	Part of 1.3.1, 2.1.1 & 2.1.3 above	Annual	City Networks – Parks and Property

3.1.6 Fishing

Some fishing for brown trout occurs in the Kahuterawa Stream. This involves a relatively small number of anglers and hours each year. The Stream is an important spawning area for trout that populate the lower reaches of the Manawatu River.

Fishing is likely to remain a valued but minor use of the stream. Management will need to focus predominantly on actions that ensure the maintenance of water quality so it is attractive as fish habitat and for fish spawning.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.6.1 Implement other policies to maintain water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply best practice in forest harvesting operations to avoid soil and water impacts. Apply best practice with any road upgrade or maintenance, stormwater works etc to minimise impacts. Consider monitoring fish populations 	As part of actions under Goal 4.1	Ongoing	City Networks – Parks and Property
3.1.6.2 Provide fishing access to Kahuterawa Stream from Kahuterawa Reserve and road reserve areas where appropriate				
3.1.6.3 Provide information and education on fishing requirements and restrictions in signage				

3.1.7 Picnicking

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

Lack of planning has resulted in a mixture of vehicles and people on potential picnic sites at Kahuterawa Reserve and Black Bridge, with vehicles and vehicle tracks reducing the natural appeal of areas. Litter is also a problem at times. Development of simple picnic areas and restricting vehicle access to picnic areas will be helpful.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.7.1 Develop picnic sites within family use / intensive zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop wider picnic opportunities at Kahuterawa Reserve Enhance picnic opportunities at road end carpark, black bridge, upstream swimming hole. Possible mowing and basic facilities 	\$21,500 Existing Outdoor Recreation Strategy Implementation Budget \$15,500 from existing Woodpecker Forest budget. \$6,000 per year NEW operational maintenance budgets.	2009/2011 2009/2011 Annual from 2010/2011	City Networks – Recreation and Property
3.1.7.2 Maintain natural low key approach to any picnic facilities in keeping with natural setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a standard basic approach to picnic area maintenance and facilities Separate vehicles from picnic areas 	Part of 3.1.7.1 above		City Networks – Recreation and Property
3.1.7.3 Provide a range of picnic sites. Some that are very close to vehicle access, some that require a short walk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Kahuterawa Reserve and Kahuterawa road end as drive to sites. Short walk opportunities to black bridge and swimming hole 	Part of 3.1.7.1 above		City Networks – Recreation and Property

3.1.8 Swimming

Swimming in the Kahuterawa Stream, particularly at Black Bridge is an important use in summer. Informal swimming holes are present around Black Bridge and approximately 200-300m upstream.

Providing basic walking access to these areas and picnicking opportunities on adjacent flat ground will be valuable.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.8.1 Provide access and picnicking opportunities adjacent to swimming holes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kahuterawa Reserve Black bridge Upstream swimming hole 	Part of 3.1.7.1 above		City Networks – Recreation and Property

3.1.9 Canoeing

Canoeing of the area is infrequent but highly valued. The stream is canoed in flood from Gordon Kear Forest. The required conditions occur only possibly 3-4 times a year. This trip is only suitable for experienced whitewater canoeists.

Maintaining access to this resource and avoiding debris in the waterway is the main requirement to retain its value.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.9.1 Ensure opportunities for canoeing access are maintained where appropriate	Maintain access	Part of other actions for picnicking etc		City Networks – Recreation and Property
3.1.9.2 Avoid tree stems entering waterway during forest harvesting and creating hazards for canoeists		Part of operational policy for forest harvest programmes.		Community and Commercial Services.

3.1.10 Horseriding

Gordon Kear Forest is used for occasional organised rides. One-off Council approval is required for this access. This approach to use of the area for horse riding will continue.

Providing ongoing access for horse riding within the active recreation zone is not considered appropriate due to the conflict with cyclists and walkers.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.10.1	Provide access for organized groups to ride in Gordon Kear Forest on a permit basis	Part of 1.4.1	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property.

3.1.11 Camping

Camping is not provided for in the area at present. This includes Hardings Park, where camping is not permitted under the Turitea Reserve Management Plan. The single main access point and limitations on space and parking mean that camping around the Kahuterawa Road end / Black Bridge area is not appropriate.

Easier access to Kahuterawa Reserve and a significant flat area across the stream from the currently used area could allow future consideration of camping in this area. However, this would require more intensive management and resources on the ground and is not appropriate in the short term.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.11.1	Overnight camping is not permitted	Existing operational budgets and part of 1.3.1.	Ongoing	City Contact and City Networks.
3.1.11.2	Strategic direction: Investigate development of a camping area at Kahuterawa Reserve and possibly designated camping areas within the remote experience zone	Investigation of providing a camping area should include the intention for the area to be low impact and non profit.	Existing operational budgets.	2012 City Networks – Recreation and Property.

3.1.12 Camp fires

Fireplaces are provided at Kahuterawa Reserve. There is also some use of informal campfires around Black Bridge. Campfires can be an important aspect of picnicking and outdoor experience.

However they pose risks to forest and biodiversity resources if not adequately controlled. Provision of a small number of safe fire areas at Kahuterawa Reserve and Kahuterawa Road end / Black Bridge will allow controlled access to campfires.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.12.1	Camp fires are only permitted in designated fireplaces at Kahuterawa Reserve and Black Bridge.	Existing operational budgets and part of 1.3.1 & 3.1.7.	Ongoing	City Contact
3.1.12.2	Fires are not permitted during a restricted fire season.	Existing operational budgets and part of 1.3.1 & 3.1.7.	Ongoing	City Contact
3.1.12.3	Gas fired barbecues permitted in family access zone	Existing operational budgets & part of 1.3.1.	Ongoing	City Contact.

3.1.13 Dogs

Dogs can be a threat to neighbouring farming operations through attacks on stock and through risks of sheep measles spread. Uncontrolled dogs can impact on the enjoyment of recreational users.

Recreational walking with dogs is popular and dogs are often used to aid hunting in areas of the remote experience zone. Finding a balance around dogs in the area is not simple.

The Department of Conservation allows two dogs per hunting permit holder in the adjacent Tararua Forest Park.

Controls relating to dogs also need to be compatible with the Turitea Reserve Management Plan covering Hardings Park. This plan allows 2 dogs per group that must be under close control.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.13.1 A maximum of two dogs per group may be taken into the area.	Make requirements clear in information pamphlets and signage	Part 1.3.1 and 1.3.2	2009/2011	City Networks – Recreation & Property.
3.1.13.2 Dogs must be under close control at all times.		Part 1.3.1 and 1.3.2	Ongoing	City Contact.
3.1.13.3 Restriction of dog access may be required where pest control operations are undertaken.		Part of the pest control under Goal 4.2	Ongoing	City Network

3.1.14 Motorised recreation

Gordon Kear Forest (GKF) is used for occasional organised club drives. One off access for this is provided by Council. There is interest from 4WD users in expanding their ability to undertake “traverses” through the wider area. Historically (approximately 10-15 years ago) four wheel drives used the Back Track. This is no longer possible due to the closed bridge at the top of the track and no longer appropriate due to the level of use by walkers and mountain bikers. Retaining the controlled access for organised club activities in GKF is important. 4WD access in this area is less likely to result in conflict with other users due to the lower intensity of use and greater restriction on access.

Because of the increasing level of use and planned further development of Woodpecker Forest for other users, introducing open use of this area for motorised recreation is not appropriate. There is opportunity to develop a 4WD access track through Woodpecker Forest from Black Bridge to the end of Scotts Road. Occasional access through locked gates to traverse this track could be provided to organised events, in the same way as for GKF. This track could be developed in a way that provides an all weather downhill mountain bike track for novice riders; a ferrying route to take downhill mountain bikes to the top of Woodpecker during organised downhill events; and an emergency / rescue access. This route could be developed initially as a harvesting access track during forest harvest, reverting to its long term recreational use following harvest.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.1.14.1 Provide access for organized groups to ride in Gordon Kear Forest on a permit basis		Part of 1.4.1	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
3.1.14.2 Occasional (controlled) 4WD access through woodpecker forest on designated route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation & maintenance of locked gates on the Scotts Road and Black Bridge entrances to Woodpecker Forest to prevent 4WD access. • Provide short term 4WD access for specific occasional events such as ferrying cycles for downhill mountain biking or track development / maintenance. 	Part of 1.4.1	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property

3.2 Provide sufficient tracks and visitor facilities to allow enjoyment and appreciation of the area

3.2.1 Track Classification

Using a classification system provides important information to users as to the quality of track they can expect. A track classification system provides a means of ensuring that appropriate opportunities are provided for each level of user, e.g. easy access tracks close to road ends where there are visitor numbers, and

tramping tracks and routes in more remote areas. A track classification system from the Department of Conservation is set out below. This system is used to identify the quality of main walking tracks in the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area. An additional classification system for mountain bike tracks will be needed.

Classification	Description		
Easy access tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy walking for up to an hour • Even surface, well formed with no steps or steep sections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suits people of all abilities, wheelchairs, buggies and strollers • Streams and rivers are bridged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking shoes required
Short walks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy walking for up to an hour • Track is well formed, with an even well drained surface. There may be steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for people of most ages and fitness levels • Streams and rivers are bridged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking shoes required
Walking tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gentle walking from a few minutes to a day • Mostly well formed, some sections may be steep, rough or muddy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for people with low to moderate fitness and abilities • Some tracks suitable for mountain biking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly sign posted. Water crossings bridged • Walking shoes or light tramping/hiking boots required
Great walk/Easy tramping tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable multi-day tramping/hiking • Generally well formed, some sections may be rough, muddy or steep 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for people with limited backcountry (remote area) experience • Some tracks suitable for mountain biking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track has signs, poles or markers. Major water crossings bridged • Light tramping/hiking boots required
Tramping tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging day or multi-day tramping/hiking • Mostly unformed, may be rough and steep 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for people with moderate to high level backcountry skills and experience, including navigation and survival • Some tracks suitable for mountain biking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track has markers, poles or rock cairns • Expect river crossings • Tramping/hiking boots required
Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging overnight tramping/hiking • Track unformed and natural, may be rough and very steep 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for people with high level backcountry skills and experience, including navigation and survival • Be completely self sufficient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track has markers, poles or rock cairns • Expect river crossings • Sturdy tramping/hiking boots required
Mountain bike tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An appropriate mountain bike track classification system, identifying level of difficulty etc will be applied in conjunction with mountain bike clubs and others. 		

3.2.2 Existing Tracks

Track	Classification	Management / Development
Te Araroa Trail	Tramping Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Te Araroa Trust over ongoing development of this Trail. • Consider opportunity to enhance berm area for walking during any upgrade of Greens Road and Kahuterawa Road along this route.
Back Track	Walking Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain water control where necessary to maintain track surface • Continue to restrict 4WD entry • Walking access and uphill only mountain bike access will be provided. • Stream crossings are likely to remain unbridged
Sledge Track	Tramping Track	Look to link to south end of Back Track via Woodpecker loop
Hardings Park – Platinum Ridge	Tramping Track	Basic maintenance
Hardings Park – Toe toe loop	Tramping Track	Basic maintenance

3.2.3 Track development

Track development will be required to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities and avoid conflict between users. Policies for making decisions

on track development are set out below. A table of proposed general track developments is then provided.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>3.2.3.1 To develop and maintain tracks to cater for a range of recreational users. The track network is set out in the table below and priorities for construction are provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, mapping and marking of new tracks • Track Construction • Enhancing marking of existing tracks. 	<p>\$10,000 from existing Woodpecker Development budget.</p> <p>\$10,000 to \$35,500 per year from existing Woodpecker Development budget.</p> <p>\$4,000 per year NEW operational budgets for maintenance.</p>	<p>2009 – 2011</p> <p>Initial work 2009/2011 then ongoing.</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property</p>
<p>3.2.3.2 When considering proposals for new tracks, priority will be given to meeting following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide loops incorporating existing tracks. • Provide links to recreation areas or walkways. • Include access to a significant view or vista. • Providing opportunities that reduce conflict with other recreational users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy / cheap to construct and maintain • Supported by wide range of users • Will be multi use • Providing access for animal control. 	<p>Review any new track proposals against these criteria.</p>	<p>Part of 3.2.3.1 above</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>City Networks – Recreation and Property</p>
<p>3.2.3.3. A Track Group (see 2.1.4) will have input to approval of tracks for construction.</p>				

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.2.3.4 Ensure best practice in track construction to minimise environmental impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify best management practice including, drainage, sediment control etc. Identify archaeological discovery protocols, for track building that are acceptable to Rangitaane. 			

TABLE OF TRACK DEVELOPMENT

Track	Classification	Broad Description			
Woodpecker Mountain Bike Tracks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map all existing tracks Identify tracks to be retained and not 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop tracks for range of abilities etc Coordinated through track committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track standards specified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation of walkers and mountain bikers on downhill tracks. Some combined uphill tracks.
Woodpecker 4WD Access Track		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4WD access track through Woodpecker Forest, between Black Bridge and end of Scotts Rd. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to shuttle downhill mountain bikes in events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access for track work All year easy mountain bike circuit from Back Track. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occasional access for organised 4WD groups through Woodpecker on a permit basis.
Woodpecker Mountain Bike Circuits area		Investigate development of an area of riding circuits and obstacles etc at the top of Woodpecker near Scotts Road. Riders would be encouraged to ride up Back Track from Kahuterawa Road, ride some circuits, then head back down to Kahuterawa (rather than parking on Scotts Rd)			
Black Bridge to swimming hole upstream	Easy access	High quality "easy access" track providing access to swimming hole and upstream picnic areas.			
Top of Back Track to Black Bridge via Woodpecker	Walking Track	Provide designated walking route (no mountain bike access)			
Back Track – Sledge Track Loop	Easy Tramping Track	Walking loop from top of Back Track to Sledge Track, crossing Kahuterawa Stream at Ross Creek.	A swing bridge across the Kahuterawa Stream will be provided near Ross Creek to provide safe all weather walking access on this route.		
Sledge Track to Arawaru	Route	See Turitea Reserve Management Plan.	From Quartz Creek, up to point 624, then on up to a junction, with one track to Arawaru, the other continuing on to Scrub at head of Gordon Kear Forest.		
Arawaru to Gordon Kear / Te Araroa Trail	Route	See Turitea Reserve Management Plan.	From Quartz Creek, up to point 624, then on up to a junction, with one track to Arawaru, the other continuing on to Scrub at head of Gordon Kear Forest.		
Crossing to Wairarapa	Route	See Turitea Reserve Management Plan.	Investigate the practicality and potential impacts of developing a track crossing from west to east through Hardings Park		

3.2.4 Buildings and other facilities

Buildings and other facilities currently consist of toilets at Kahuterawa Reserve and Black Bridge. Consideration of a possible day shelter in Hardings Park was identified in the Turitea Reserve Management Plan.

As this Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan is implemented user numbers are likely to increase. The demand for facilities such as a visitor centre or interpretation shelter may also increase. No establishment of additional building facilities is currently set out within this plan. However, a more detailed assessment of the need for a visitor centre or other facilities will be required in the near future.

Future consideration of developing a route through Hardings Park to Gordon Kear Forest and the Te Araroa Trail, or a crossing to the east of the Tararua Range is identified in this Plan. If there is sufficient interest in these routes and increasing use, establishment of an overnight hut may be appropriate.

The decision on what building facilities are required needs to be based on assessment of user needs and demand.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.2.4.1 Assess the future need for a visitor centre within the family access zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the feasibility, costs and benefits of a visitor centre / day shelter in the family access zone, including consideration of risks of vandalism ongoing management requirements. Undertake assessment of user needs and future demand as part of the assessment. If project is attractive, plan for construction 	Within existing operating budgets.	2012	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
3.2.4.2 Assess the future need for a day shelter or over night hut within the remote experience zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the feasibility, costs and benefits of a day shelter at the Sledge Track – Platinum Ridge junction or other appropriate location. Examine the feasibility and costs and benefits of an overnight hut in the remote experience zone, located to support a loop to Gordon Kear / Araroa or a crossing to the east. Undertake assessment of user needs and future demand as part of the assessment. If project is attractive, plan for construction 	Within existing operating budgets.	2012	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
3.2.4.3 Examine and if necessary upgrade toilets at Kahuterawa Reserve and Black Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess priority and type of facility required at these two locations. Undertake construction as required. 			

3.3 Encourage Recreational Linkages

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan aims to facilitate linkages between a range of areas of public land and roads that have excellent combined value for outdoor recreation. Tracks, signage and other interpretation will continue to encourage the linking of use of these areas, increasing the overall opportunity for outdoor recreation.

The public land covered by this plan adjoins a wide variety of areas of private land. In some cases, where individual landowners support this, there may be further opportunity to work with private landowners to create additional linkages and recreational opportunities on private land. Some landowners may be interested in developing complimentary businesses, such as accommodation.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
3.3.1 Work to develop recreational access linkages and loops		Part of 2.1.1 and 2.1.3	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
3.3.2 Work with neighbours to explore opportunities for the provision of complimentary facilities and opportunities on private land.		Part of 2.1.1 and 2.1.3	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property



Goal 4. Conserving & Restoring Flora and Fauna, Ecosystems & Natural Landscapes

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

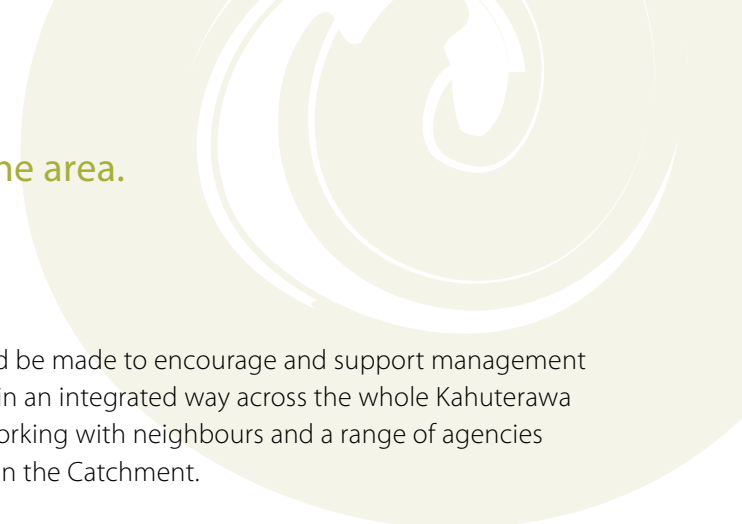
The vegetation, wildlife and ecosystems of the area are important to achievement of a range of other management objectives in addition to their own important biodiversity value. Possibly most importantly, the presence of natural vegetation, wildlife and landscape are key to the attractiveness of the area for outdoor recreation.

The flora, fauna and ecosystems present across the areas under this plan are significant to the biodiversity resources of the City. The areas contain identified ecological sites and important species including the nationally endangered *Powelliphanta traversii tararuaensis* snail, endemic to the northern Tararua Range and absolutely protected under the Wildlife Act 1953.

The KORA also provides very important linkages between upland areas of the Turitea Reserve (including Hardings Park) and Tararua Forest Park – and the more lowland areas of the Kahuterawa Valley. Their management is important to the “Greening of the City” and protecting of ecological areas as identified in Council’s Natural and Built Environment Policy. The areas under this plan also provide excellent opportunity to implement the “Green Corridors” project.

1. Goals are as follows:

- 2. 1. To protect indigenous flora and fauna, habitats and ecosystems in the area**
- 3. 2. To promote the restoration of indigenous animals, plants and habitats**
- 4. 3. Control plant pests**
- 5. 4. Control animal pests**
- 6. 5. Maintain natural landscape and amenity values important to outdoor recreation experience**



4.1 1 & 2: Protect and restore native flora, fauna, habitats and ecosystems in the area.

4.1.1 Integrated Catchment Approach

This plan deals with a variety of areas and assets within the Kahuterawa catchment. Flora, fauna and ecosystem resources within these areas function in an integrated way across the landscape. They do not relate to legal boundaries or changes in ownership. For example, the health of ecosystems such as freshwater fisheries are affected by management of land throughout the catchment, not just in the immediate area of a reserve. Issues of pest control cannot be dealt with in isolation for a particular area as adjacent un-treated areas will be sources of ongoing re-infestation.

Wherever possible effort should be made to encourage and support management of flora, fauna and ecosystems in an integrated way across the whole Kahuterawa Catchment. This will involve working with neighbours and a range of agencies involved in land management in the Catchment.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
4.1.1.1 Consider the management of Kahuterawa flora, fauna, ecosystems and natural landscapes at a catchment level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify particular soil and water issues in the catchment and work with neighbours and others to address these where possible.• Identify distributions of important flora and fauna at a catchment level.• Work with neighbours and others to develop integrated programmes for pest control etc.	Part of budgets in 4.1.2.1	2010/2011	City Networks – Recreation and Property

4.1.2 Flora & Fauna - Restoration of Ecosystems

There is potential for significant restoration of flora, fauna and ecosystems through the control of weeds and animal pests, see policies 11.4 and 11.5. This is likely to be the major positive impact that management can have in terms of restoration. However there are a number of opportunities for other active restoration projects within KORA. Adjustment of exotic forest boundaries following harvest, see policy

12.1, will allow for restoration of previously exotic forest area to native vegetation. The presence of the nationally endangered Powelliphanta traverse tararuaensis snail provides opportunity for protection and restoration of populations of this species.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>4.1.2.1 Restoration of native vegetation on some ex exotic forest sites, road reserve or other appropriate sites may be undertaken provided that a plan for restoration is completed, including the consideration of natural regeneration in preference to assisted regeneration (with planting). Restoration must not conflict with recreational use or utilities such as roads and should meet one or more of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration develops linkages with, or toward, other natural vegetation on private or public land, and contributes to the PNCC biodiversity corridors or wider Greening Strategy. Restoration provides important shelter or other protection of key biodiversity assets in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify priorities for restoring vegetation. Prepare plans for restoration where high priority projects are identified. Include approach to restoration where boundaries of Woodpecker exotic forest are altered and areas returned to native vegetation. Implement restoration plans. 	<p>\$2,500 existing Woodpecker Development budget.</p> <p>\$2,500 from ORS budget for road side restoration.</p> <p>Part of actions under Goal 4.3.</p>	<p>2010/2011 2009/2010</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property.</p>
<p>4.1.2.2 Protection and restoration of native plant species that have been removed from the area or greatly reduced in their distribution by the impacts of animal pests may be undertaken.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement possum control to protect remnant kamahi (<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>). Investigate the benefits and practicalities of protecting and re-establishing northern rata (<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>) or other species now extinct or rare in the area 	<p>Part of actions under Goal 4.3.</p> <p>Part of 4.1.2.1.</p>		<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property</p>
<p>4.1.2.3 All restoration of vegetation will be done using appropriate species and local seed sources.</p>		<p>Part of all restoration related actions.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>City Networks – Recreation and Property</p>

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
4.1.2.3 All restoration of vegetation will be done using appropriate species and local seed sources.		Part of all restoration related actions.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.1.2.4 Identify opportunities for native fishery restoration and investigate their feasibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify any artificial barriers to fish passage and examine the practicality of providing fish passage. Promote riparian planting and good land use to minimise impacts on water quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the impact of trout on native fish and ways to manage this impact. 	\$1,000 - \$2,000 NEW annual operational budgets.	
4.1.2.5 Identify and implement opportunities to enhance and sustainably protect Powelliphanta traverse tararuaensis snail populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurately assess current distribution Develop an action plan for their conservation within the Kahuterawa catchment. This plan will need to include a threat assessment. Implement intensive possum and rat control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pig control around the area. Expand native vegetation areas to provide permanent refuge from forest harvest etc. Consider appropriateness of relocation and expanding current range. 	\$6,000 NEW operating budget for snail survey & restoration plan as well as pest control activities budgeted under Goal 4.3.	2009/2010 City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.1.2.6 Enhance biodiversity values across the area where public can easily access and enjoy them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a wider pest animal control plan – working with private and public land. Encourage planting of bird feed plants (where appropriate) in the family / intensive recreation area to enhance bird populations Promote opportunities to restore and provide education about species and ecosystems of the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance natural vegetation values at Kahuterawa Reserve, including avoidance of spraying around native trees and potentially allowing areas of fenced native regrowth around the base of trees. Examine biodiversity in roadside areas and consider opportunities to protect and enhance roadside biodiversity. 	Part of actions under 1.3.1, 4.1.2.1 & 4.3	2009/2010 and ongoing City Networks – Recreation and Property.

4.1.3 Facilitating Ecological Linkages and Corridors

The areas under this plan are contiguous with forest on private or DOC land. Working with these neighbours to undertake animal control, improve fencing etc provides opportunities to enhance the natural environment over a wider area. Directly contributing to the Councils Greening Strategy that aims to increase the health and extent of native biodiversity in the city area.

Working with neighbours can provide opportunities to develop important ecological linkages joining fragmented areas of native forest and other habitat.

An important example of this is the recent cooperative project to fence areas of native vegetation on private land adjacent to the Sledge Track. This type of project enhances the ecological value of the wider area and consequently its interest and value for outdoor recreation.

There are important opportunities to link larger forest areas of Turitea Reserve and Tararua Forest Park with the Manawatu River and City via the Kahuterawa Valley. This opportunity is identified within the “green corridors” project.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>4.1.3.1 Actively encourage the development of ecological linkages on neighbouring properties through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of information to neighbours • Coordination of animal and weed control with neighbours • Working with neighbours to fence areas beyond the boundaries of PNCC land where this contributes to biodiversity and landscape protection. • Working with neighbours to share forest restoration experience and encourage restoration on areas of private land such as riparian margins that will provide links between isolated remnants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop information and pamphlets for neighbours on developing linkages, animal and weed control etc. • Ongoing contact and discussions with neighbours. • Examine options for financial assistance. • Contact with neighbours in relation to animal and weed control operations and coordination 	<p>Part of 1.3 and existing Green Corridors project.</p> <p>Part of 2.2, 2.3 and 4.3</p>	Ongoing	City Networks and City Future
<p>4.1.3.2 Give priority to the development of ecological linkages which contribute to the development of “green corridors” to lowland areas via the Kahuterawa Valley.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify best opportunities for creating linkages and corridors. • Work to implement these projects first. 	Work with existing Green Corridors project.	Ongoing	City Networks and City Future

4.2 Control Plant Pests

There are localised areas of serious exotic weeds on the land covered by this plan. The key locations where weeds are present are generally along roadways, and waterways where there has been a history of introduction and spread. Areas of Greens Road close to Turitea Road have localised areas of old mans beard and banana passionfruit. Tradescantia (wandering willie) is present on a range of sites near roadways on Greens Road and Kahuterawa Road. There is good information on weed distribution in the lower Turitea / Greens Road, as a result of recent surveys, but not in other areas.

Exotic weeds can cause significant problems for native ecosystems through suppressing regeneration and smothering lower forest canopies. They also reduce the attractiveness of areas for outdoor recreation. Weeds can also impact on neighbouring farming operations.

The Horizons Regional Council Regional Plant Pest Management Strategy RPPMS identifies a variety of weeds to be controlled and rules regarding the level of control. Control of some weeds is supported by Horizons.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
4.2.1 Maintain compliance with the Manawatu – Wanganui Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy and maintain contact with Horizons Regional Council on plant pest control polices.	Ongoing contact with Horizons Regional Council	Part of 4.2.2 below	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.2.2 Develop a programme to eradicate particular weed species within the area where they meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have recently become established within the area and are localised in their distribution. • Place biodiversity conservation values within the area at risk • Can be easily controlled and eradicated. • Have a low risk of re-invasion. • Score highly in terms of weed characteristics under national classification systems (e.g. DOC). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of weed species present. • Prepare a weed control plan • Undertake eradication of high priority weeds 	\$9,000 NEW operational budget reducing to \$7,000.	Initial work in 2009/2010 and then annual.	City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.2.3 Develop a programme to contain the spread of other weed species that could damage biodiversity values and consider eradication in certain areas.	Prepare weed control plan	Part of 4.2.2 above.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>4.2.4 Prevent new introduction or spread of weeds into weed free areas. The following mechanisms will be used wherever practical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough wash down and inspection of forestry, construction or road maintenance machinery prior to moving into weed free areas. • Avoid the use of road metal in weed free areas from sources containing significant weed plants. • Educate new neighbours and coordinate with existing neighbours on the importance of preventing weed introduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas currently relatively free of weeds • Education of contractors and staff • Checks on machines prior to entry • Examination of metal sources and identification of preferred sources. 	Part of 4.2.2 above.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
<p>4.2.5 Undertake annual surveillance for the presence of weeds in key weed free areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify responsibilities for annual surveillance. • Train staff or use contractors for annual surveillance. • Obtaining and maintain good quality surveillance records e.g. GPS location and assessment form. • Keep a database of weed sites including sites identified through surveillance and details of treatment and follow-up. 	Part of 4.2.2 above.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property

4.3 Control Animal Pests

4.3.1 Animal Control

Introduced animals present across the areas under this plan include possums, red deer, goats, pigs, rats, mice and mustelids. These animals have potential to cause major damage to the indigenous flora, fauna and ecosystems of these areas through browsing, predation and competition for key food sources. Animal pests such as possums also have the potential to act as vector for TB, spreading any outbreaks through farm cattle and deer.

Possum control is undertaken throughout the Turitea Reserve water supply catchment and the Platinum Ridge, Toetoe Flat areas of Hardings Park. Goat control is also undertaken in these areas. There has not been any consistent animal control in other parts of the KORA.

Horizons Regional Council administers a Regional Animal Pest Management Strategy. This identifies animals such as rook, possum and rabbit as animal pests to be controlled and other surveillance pests. Animal control may be undertaken

or assisted in relation to high value natural areas. The Turitea Reserve is in this category and Horizons support control in this area. Small areas associated with remnant Kamahi have also been identified as high value natural areas.

The nationally endangered Powelliphanta snail populations are very vulnerable to predation by rats and pigs. This species can also be predated by possums.

Animal control is important to the achievement of other management objectives, including enhancing the value of the area for outdoor recreation through the presence of healthy and abundant native vegetation and wildlife.

The areas managed under this plan are interspersed with neighbouring private land. Building good working relationships with neighbours and developing cooperative animal control projects across public and private land will provide greater benefit for all.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility	
4.3.1.1 Maintain compliance with the Manawatu – Wanganui Regional Animal Pest Management Strategy and maintain contact with Horizons Regional Council on animal pest control policies.		\$3,000 NEW operating budget for an animal control programme	2009/2010	City Networks – Recreation and Property	
4.3.1.2 Undertake animal control to achieve the targets set out in the table below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an animal control plan. • Coordinate with Horizons Regional Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage contractors and manage contract control operations. • Monitoring 	\$18,000 NEW operating budget reducing to \$10,000 per year.	2009/2010 and ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.3.1.3 Use appropriate control methods which are cost effective, and have a low risk to non target species, recreational users and neighbouring land use. Best practice will be used in all animal control operations.	Include detail on methods within the animal control plan.	Part of 4.3.1.1 & 4.3.1.2 above	2009/2010 and ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property	
4.3.1.4 Work with neighbours and the Animal Health Board to keep the area free of TB and ensure it does not become a source of TB spread.		Part of 4.3.1.2 above	2009/2010 and ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property	
4.3.1.5 Work with neighbours to develop a coordinated animal control programme to provide maximum benefit to the wider area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with neighbours to develop a control programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek funding and support to assist control operations on private land within a control programme. 	Part of 4.3.1.1 above	2009/2010 and ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property

CONTROL TARGETS FOR INTRODUCED ANIMALS

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

CONTROL TARGETS FOR INTRODUCED ANIMALS

Animal	Area	Control target	Notes
Rodents	Woodpecker, Sledge Track, Back Track	Control of rodents in conjunction with possum control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus where snail populations are present• Likely to involve use of brodifacoum or other toxin in conjunction with maintenance control of possum populations.
	Other Areas	No direct control	

4.3.2 Fencing

The variety of land areas under this plan have boundaries with private land. Many of these neighbours are farm properties and maintenance of stock proof fences is important. Any upgrading or maintenance of fences needs to be done in cooperation with neighbours.

In some situations, legal boundaries may not be the logical location for fences. Shifting fences onto private land may in some cases provide more straightforward fencing and also potentially expand the protection of biodiversity on private land through fencing stock out of larger areas. Such larger areas have potential to contribute to wider ecological linkages and corridors.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
<p>4.3.2.1 Establish and maintain stock proof boundary fences where neighbours are undertaking livestock farming. Priority is given to areas where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is known stock access to areas where biodiversity or other values are being placed at risk by stock. • There is farming immediately adjacent to the boundary of PNCC land • Fences can realistically be established and maintained. 	Survey of Boundary and assessment of fencing priorities	<p>\$3,320 NEW operating budget for a survey plus \$320 per year NEW ongoing costs.</p> <p>\$6,000 per year additional Capital Renewal budget from 2009/1010</p>	2011/2012	City Networks – Recreation and Property
<p>4.3.2.2 Work with neighbours to support fencing on adjacent land where it contributes to boundary protection or facilitates linkages and corridors (see linkages & corridors).</p>		Part of 4.3.2.1 above.		City Networks – Recreation and Property

4.4 Maintain landscape and amenity values important to recreation

The combination of areas included under this plan are important to the provision of a high quality rural and natural landscape within the Kahuterawa Valley and upper catchment. Operations such as road widening, harvesting of plantation forest, and any tracks or structures, particularly on prominent ridgeline areas (see also Section 14) could impact on these values.

Road upgrade, development of tracks or structures and exotic forest harvesting should be undertaken carefully to minimise negative impacts on the landscape.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
4.4.1 Structures, tracks and other facilities should be sited, constructed and coloured so as to minimise impact on the natural landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a consistent, standard appropriate approach to signage, structures etc for the area. Particular care needs to be taken minimise impacts on regionally significant landscapes including the Tararua Range. 	Part of all relevant work.		City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.4.2 Road upgrade should strive to maintain natural rural feel while meeting safety etc standards		Part of existing budget for Kahuterawa Road.		City Networks – Recreation and Property
4.4.3 Management should aim to maintain and enhance the natural amenity of the area, providing a quality experience of a natural environment close to the City		Part of all relevant actions.		City Networks – Recreation and Property



Goal 5. Exotic Forest

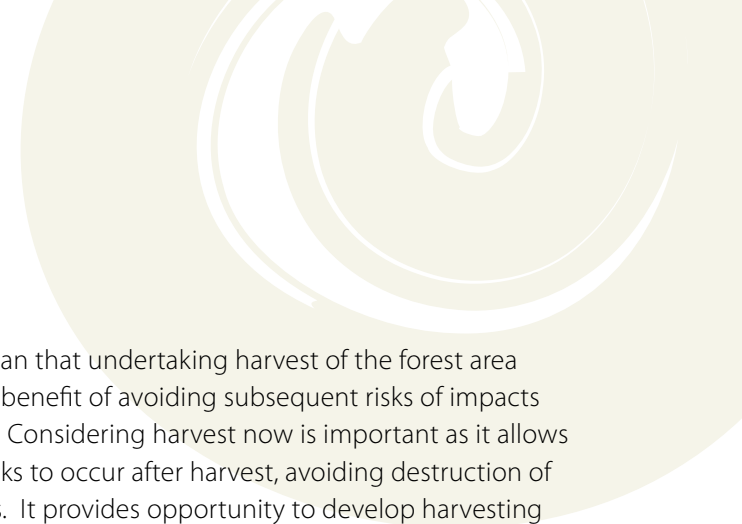
5.1 Woodpecker Forest Goal: Enhance recreational opportunity while providing for timber production and other uses

Woodpecker Forest was acquired by Palmerston North City Council because of its significance to the development of a Kahuterawa outdoor recreation hub, as identified in the Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2002. The area had already informally developed as an important area for mountain biking. Providing for outdoor recreation remains the primary focus of this forest area.

Forests are living and dynamic ecosystems. They age, become susceptible to wind damage, vary in their canopy density and understorey characteristics etc. Forests produce a wide range of services and products, from outdoor recreation opportunity, to wildlife habitat, soil and water protection, timber and firewood.

Forest management can use different forest species, silvicultural management regimes and harvesting plans to provide the best mix of services and products to meet objectives. Woodpecker Forest has the opportunity, to be managed for multiple use, supporting a focus on outdoor recreation but also providing a range of other important services and generating significant income to fund development.

- 1. The goals for management of Woodpecker Forest are**
- 2. To provide a forest environment that enhances recreational opportunity and experience while giving opportunity for commercial wood production where this does not adversely affect recreation.**
- 3. To facilitate multiple-use forest management that provides a wide range of forest services and goods from recreation to landscape, biodiversity and timber.**



5.1.1 Harvest

Radiata pine is a species that does not naturally live to very old ages. In a natural state it regenerates following damage of mature stands by major fire or storm events. As stands become mature they are likely to be more prone to major wind damage. A significant wind damage event in Woodpecker Forest would greatly reduce both its recreational value and opportunity to obtain income from timber harvest.

Because of the growth cycle and natural ecology of radiata pine it is not easy to manage with small harvest areas taken from a mature stand. In these situations areas around the harvest “coup” are prone to blowing over in wind events. The steep nature of the lower slopes in the Woodpecker Forest mean they will require cable logging. It is not practical to harvest very small areas with this system.

These features of this forest mean that undertaking harvest of the forest area relatively soon would have the benefit of avoiding subsequent risks of impacts on recreation from windthrow. Considering harvest now is important as it allows development of recreation tracks to occur after harvest, avoiding destruction of tracks by harvesting operations. It provides opportunity to develop harvesting access routes that can be utilised for recreation following harvest.

There is opportunity to look at delaying the harvest of some defined areas of the forest that can be more easily harvested at a later stage and are less likely to cause problems from windthrow and salvage requirements. This provides opportunity to retain variety and interest for recreational use while younger stands are developing.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
5.1.1.1 Be prepared for emergency harvest / salvage as a result of windthrow	Develop a simple contingency plan	Budgets and timeframes will be established when the business case for harvest is developed,		Community & Commercial Services.
5.1.1.2 Harvest existing mature radiata pine forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare harvest plan • Careful attention to impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise period of impact on recreation • Transport logs via Scotts Road. 		
5.1.1.3 Where possible stage harvest and leave some areas of mature forest for an extended period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the value and practicality of staging harvest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially retain mature forest on proposed mountain bike circuits area, near Scotts Road, for an extended period while younger re-planted forest areas develop. 		
5.1.1.4 Apply best practice harvest operations to minimise impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logging practices will be chosen to minimise impacts on Kahuterawa stream etc – particularly for difficult trees in edge, stream side areas etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek practical ways to manage snail populations through the harvest period, without affecting the financial viability of harvest operations. 		
5.1.1.5 Harvest planning undertaken to provide tracks that will be appropriate for recreational use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with track development group • Development of a 4WD access track through Woodpecker Forest, from Scotts Rd to Black Bridge, will be integrated with harvest planning. 			
5.1.1.6 Forest areas will be closed to recreational access during harvest operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and operational management requirements must be met. • Opportunities to retain recreational access to some areas of Woodpecker Forest during the harvest period will be considered where safe and practical. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effort will be made to minimize the period of closure during harvest. • Consultation will occur with user groups on the areas to be closed and timing of closure. 		

5.1.2 Re-establishment / replanting

The original establishment of Woodpecker Forest involved planting all clear areas of land including steep faces into the Kahuterawa Stream. These steep faces are more difficult and costly to harvest. Soils are also often thinner in these areas, reducing tree growth rates. Harvesting and other forestry operations on steep slopes close to the Kahuterawa Stream have more risk of impacting on the waterway.

Regeneration of steep slopes above the Kahuterawa Stream into native vegetation will provide a permanent buffer to impacts on the Kahuterawa Stream, it will also increase the corridor of native vegetation along this waterway and provide stable habitat for native fauna including snails. Development of this wider native vegetation area adjacent to a varied exotic forest area will provide a much wider variety of recreational settings, increasing outdoor recreation value.

Establishment of a variety of stands of forest species that are grown on longer harvest rotations will create a high value site for outdoor recreation in the long term. A variety of species and ages provides a wide range of recreational settings – increasing the interest of the area to recreational users. Management of suitable forest species in smaller blocks or “compartments” within the forest means forest cover is always retained over most of the wider forest area. Establishment of exotic forest only on the upper, easier slope areas means that any forestry operations can be undertaken with wheeled and tracked machines, rather than e.g. cable harvesting. This provides opportunity for smaller scale operations, production thinning etc.

Re-establishing exotic forest on these easier slope areas provides opportunity for a greater variety of outdoor recreational opportunity compared to regeneration of the whole area into native vegetation. It also provides for ongoing timber income from the area to support its management.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
5.1.2.1 Restore native vegetation on steeper slopes above waterways, creating biodiversity areas, snail habitat etc.	Prepare basic restoration plan	Budgets and timeframes will be established when the business case for harvest is developed		Community and Commercial Services
5.1.2.2 Re establish a reduced area of production forest on more easily accessed land areas using a range of high value, generally slower growing species suitable for management in small areas, allowing the development of a diverse forest with a range of recreation settings. This may include both native and exotic tree species.				
5.1.2.3 Avoid forest tree species known to have a risk of weediness				
5.1.2.4 Plan the establishment of stands of different species with strong emphasis on landscape planning and ensuring that areas integrate with future recreation use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include consideration of future harvest boundaries to allow ongoing provision of recreation • Predominantly evergreen species are likely to be used to help maintain snail habitat. 			
5.1.2.5 Undertake high quality site preparation and early weed control to ensure good establishment				
5.1.2.6 Restrict recreation access to forest areas where site preparation operations are occurring if necessary.				

5.1.3 Silviculture

The way that exotic forest stands are managed from planting to harvest is important to both economic return from timber production and services such as outdoor recreation. There is an opportunity to ensure well planned and implemented silviculture for future re-planted forest at Woodpecker.

The density of planting can affect how quickly a “closed canopy” is obtained and how quickly undergrowth is suppressed. Operations such as heavy thinning to waste and pruning can create large amounts of dead material on the ground or “slash”. This can make recreational access difficult. It can also increase fire risk. However approaches such as earlier, or more frequent pruning and thinning operations can avoid this. Silviculture in Woodpecker Forest needs to effectively consider recreational requirements and economic returns.

Silvicultural operations such as pruning can result in significant costs with a long period until financial returns are received from harvest. Ensuring that silvicultural operations are undertaken on time is important. The cost of silviculture needs to be considered across the forest to attempt to avoid, or plan for, years of high silvicultural expenditure.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
5.1.3.1 Silviculture will be undertaken to provide high quality final timber while minimizing impact on recreational users and fire from pruning and thinning debris or “slash”	Develop and implement appropriate silvicultural regimes for different forest compartments	Budgets and timeframes will be established when the business case for harvest is developed,		Community and Commercial Services.
5.1.3.2 Biodiversity and recreation values will be considered when planning silviculture	Develop and implement appropriate silvicultural regimes for different forest compartments			
5.1.3.3 Silviculture should be cost effective, sustainable and not result in major fluctuations in expenditure	Develop and implement appropriate silvicultural regimes for different forest compartments			
5.1.3.4 Examine production thinning on easier sites, where appropriate.	Develop and implement appropriate silvicultural regimes for different forest compartments			

5.2 Gordon Kear Forest Goal: Commercial timber production

Gordon Kear was established to provide a commercial return on investment. It is jointly owned by Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) and Manawatu District Council (MDC). Part of the original area of the Forest (Compartment 1) has been sold to Forest Endowment Ltd. They have full control of this area. Providing the best financial return remains the focus of forest management for all areas of the Forest owned by PNCC and MDC.

Some recreational use of this area can occur without impacting on commercial forest management. The Te Araroa Trail passes through the forest and organised 4WD and other clubs obtain one-off permits to use the Forest. Controlled recreational use of the forest will continue to be provided where it does not effect commercial management.

1. The management goals are:

2. 1. To provide a commercial forest managed for maximum financial return.

3. 2. Provide opportunities for recreational access and use where these do not impact on commercial forestry operations.

5.2.1 Harvest

The timing of harvest of individual forest stands can be varied over a number of years. Ongoing tree growth increases the total volume and affects log grade production from stands. The state of log markets is also a key driver of harvest. Harvest can be delayed when markets are poor and accelerated when markets are good. These factors need to be effectively accounted for in developing a harvest schedule that generates the best financial return.

Harvesting of exotic forests can result in an important, but relatively short-lived, increase in environmental impact. Forest industry best practice will need to be applied in planning and undertaking harvest operations to avoid soil and water impacts.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
5.2.1.1 Harvest existing mature radiata pine forest to secure the best financial return (taking into account loans and other liabilities)	Undertake harvest planning and scheduling as necessary.	Separate budgets for Gordon Kear Forest		Community and Commercial Services.
5.2.1.2 Schedule, plan and undertake harvesting to maximise financial returns while following in principle the policies in this management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of economic analysis and harvest scheduling as required. • Manage harvesting 			
5.2.1.3 Apply forest industry best practice in undertaking harvesting operations.	Incorporate clear and specific best practice standards into harvesting contracts and audit against these in management of operations.			

5.2.2 Re-establishment / replanting

Gordon Kear Forest was established by planting all the available clear land. Though large portions of the property provide good conditions, some upper areas of the property toward the south east and west are extremely exposed. Tree growth on these areas has been poor and will generate a poor return on investment. Some isolated small areas of clear ground were planted. The cost of accessing these means they will provide little or no return.

Management options following harvest will need to be examined. Gordon Kear Forest is held as a commercial investment. Returns on a range of options will need to be considered for the property.

Decisions on re-establishment of forest need to be made ahead of harvest. This allows areas that are returning to exotic forest to be re-planted immediately after harvest, avoiding increased costs of managing advanced weed growth if re-planting is delayed.

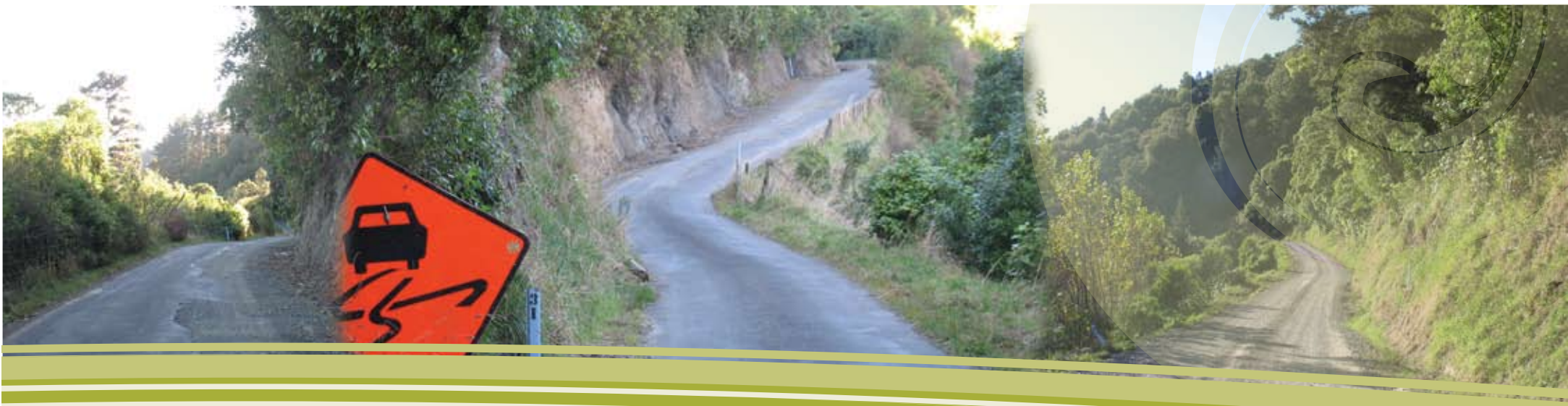
Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
5.2.2.1 Ensure commercial return from a range of land use options is evaluated in considering long term management of the Forest.	Undertake examination of land use options.	Separate budgets for Gordon Kear Forest		Community and Commercial Services.
5.2.2.2 Where re-establishment in exotic forest is to occur, ensure there is immediate re-planting after harvest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake economic analysis as required 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan re-planting to occur immediately after harvest. 	

5.2.3 Silviculture

Silvicultural operations for the first rotation forest crop at Gordon Kear Forest are complete. Most of the forest was high-pruned. Where forest is re-established, the approach to silviculture for the second rotation will need to be developed. The economics of pruning and other silvicultural options need to be evaluated. This

forest provides only moderate growth and it may be appropriate to reduce the intensity and consequently cost of silviculture in the second rotation.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
5.2.3.1 Undertake commercial decisions on silviculture considering return & risk	Undertake economic analysis and make commercial decisions on silviculture .	Separate budgets for Gordon Kear Forest		Community and Commercial Services
5.2.3.2 Consider sustainability of silviculture costs– avoid major fluctuations in expenditure if possible.				



Goal 6. Access Roads

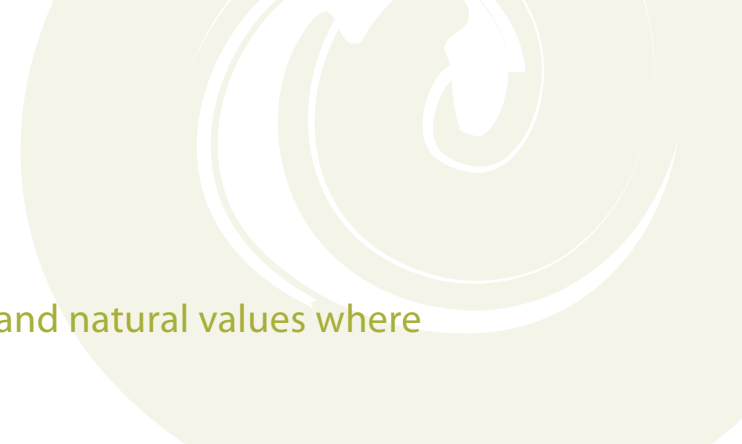
Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

The purpose of Council roading activities is to provide safe, convenient and orderly transportation in the City (LTCCP 2006/16). This transportation needs to provide for movement of heavy vehicles, cars, cyclists and pedestrians – depending on the particular road and its use. The road reserve around the roadway can also provide amenity and biodiversity. Careful management of roads within the scope of this plan is required to ensure both safe transportation and other values can be provided.

1. The management goal is:

- 1. To provide safe vehicle access while facilitating recreational use, biodiversity and natural values where appropriate**



6.1 Provide safe vehicle access while facilitating recreational use, biodiversity and natural values where appropriate

The roads considered in this plan vary in their current use and how future use may develop. A section of Greens Road was closed to vehicles in recent years, about a kilometre after it leaves Turitea Road. This appears to have resulted in increases in its recreational use and a decline in vehicle traffic on the open portions of the road. The Te Araroa Trail traverses Greens Road. Maintaining the remote rural feel of this road is important to its recreational value.

Kahuterawa Road has considerable use by the increasing number of lifestyle property owners and as the major access to outdoor recreation at Black Bridge. The section from Greens Road to Black Bridge forms part of the Te Araroa Trail and is likely to receive increasing levels of cycle and foot traffic. Ensuring road development allows for walking and cycling will be important. There is some use of Kahuterawa Reserve as a parking point for mountain bikers to cycle on to Black Bridge. There could be opportunity to develop this “park and cycle” approach to reduce vehicle traffic on the last section of the road.

Increased use of the KORA will result in greater vehicle traffic on roads. Recreational users and local landowners have identified an important need to plan and undertake careful road upgrade as a high priority. However, there is also a strong community desire to retain the quiet rural feel of the road. A good design process will be required for the upgrade of Kahuterawa Road.

Scotts Road forms an important forestry access for forest in the upper Kahuterawa Valley. Forest harvest and associated transport on Scotts Road has begun and is likely to be ongoing (generally during summer) over the next decade. Maintaining this road primarily as a forestry access will be important. However, there is likely to be ongoing and potentially increasing use of this road by some users of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area.

The general approach to management and development of different road sections is set out below.

6.1.1 ROAD MANAGEMENT / DEVELOPMENT

Road	Section	Management / development	
Kahuterawa	Old West Rd to Greens Rd	Maintain seal and current general alignment reflecting rural feel.	Improve sight lines where necessary for safety.
	Greens Rd to Kahuterawa Reserve	Maintain seal and current general alignment reflecting rural feel. Improve sight lines where necessary for safety.	Investigate enhancement of shoulder area to provide enhanced opportunity for walking and cycling
	Kahuterawa Reserve to Black Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial safety improvements in this area are a high priority and should be undertaken before significant recreational development at Black Bridge which could generate greater road use. Improve sight lines where necessary for safety Maintain a lower standard (probably unsealed) road compared to other road sections. Develop design in conjunction with neighbours, user groups etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain more remote rural feel. Develop carpark facilities (possibly with security) at Kahuterawa Reserve and encourage cycling and walking option to Black Bridge. Investigate enhancement of shoulder area to provide opportunity for cycling and walking – an upper valley pathway. Investigate opportunities to separate this from the roadway. Identify larger road reserve areas that could possibly be developed for small picnic areas along pathway.
Greens road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain more remote rural feel and lower standard unsealed road. Enhancement of road reserve areas through planting, with native trees and shrubs, where appropriate Identify any larger road reserve areas that could possibly be developed as picnic areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain closure and recreational access of central road section. Undertake weed control and basic drainage maintenance to keep closed section attractive for recreational use. 	
Scotts Road	Highway to Gordon Kear	Emphasis on use as a primary forest access road.	Recreational use is secondary to forestry access
	Gordon Kear to Woodpecker	Provide for potential use as forestry access for Woodpecker Forest harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some upgrade of this section will be required prior to use for log transport. Maintain enhanced walking opportunities along woodpecker to Gordon Kear section where possible

6.1.2 Community Input

Local residents, recreational users and other groups who regularly use these roads have significant local knowledge of problem areas. A variety of these groups have expressed a clear desire to be involved early in the design of any road upgrades

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility	
6.1.2.1 Obtain local community input to road upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain local community input from neighbours and main road users prior to preparing roading designs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take community / local knowledge into account in preparing and implementing roading designs. 	Part of existing Kahuterawa Roothing budgets and existing roading operating expenses	2009/2010	City Networks – Roothing

6.1.3 Public Transport

Growth in use of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area may generate opportunities for occasional seasonal public transport to the area. This could increase opportunity for a wider range of the community to use the area. It could also reduce vehicle numbers in the area.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
6.1.3.1 Facilitate and encourage opportunities for public transport to the area where there is sufficient demand	Investigate the potential demand and opportunity for seasonal public or commercial transport to the area. E.g. occasional transport to Kahuterawa Reserve, Weekend drop off (outside forestry operation times) to top of Scotts Road (for downhill run to town).	\$500 NEW operational budget.	2010/2011	City Networks – Recreation and Property working with Horizons?

6.1.4 Vehicle Parking

A parking area is provided adjacent to Kahuterawa Road, just before Black Bridge. Recreational users report that this area is not adequate on high use days. Options for expanding this parking area or providing overflow parking are needed.

Public vehicle access is currently provided between the Black Bridge carpark and Black Bridge itself. Parking of vehicles on this stretch of road can block access for neighbouring landowners who use Black Bridge for property access. Vehicle access to this stretch of road allows vehicles onto the river flat below the bridge and potentially detracts from picnicking and swimming in these areas. Placing a locked gate on Kahuterawa Road just past the carpark would enhance the use of this area.

Security of vehicles at carparks is an issue. Break in to vehicles left at the end of Kahuterawa Road has been a problem. Options for security at carparks need to be investigated including security visits, surveillance cameras etc.

Kahuterawa Reserve has uncontrolled vehicle access over much of the area at present. Vehicles are sometimes burnt and abandoned on the lower flat in this reserve. Limiting vehicle access to a parking area at the entrance to the Reserve, or within controlled areas on the upper flat would allow development of grass and vegetation areas and an improved environment for picnicking etc. Development of a designated carparking area at Kahuterawa Reserve is also important if a "park and cycle" approach to accessing the end of Kahuterawa Road is encouraged.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
6.1.4.1 Black Bridge parking improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overflow parking area. • Locked gate between carpark and black bridge to prevent vehicle access and parking on this section. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible re-alignment of access into carpark to remove blind corner 	\$20,000 from existing Woodpecker Development budget	2010/2011 City Networks – Recreation and Property
6.1.4.1 Kahuterawa Reserve parking improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop parking area at entrance to Reserve. Prevent vehicle access to rest of Reserve. Consider security measures (e.g. cameras) at carpark if necessary. 		\$25,000 from existing Woodpecker Development budget.	2009/2010 City Networks – Recreation and Property



Goal 7. Structures

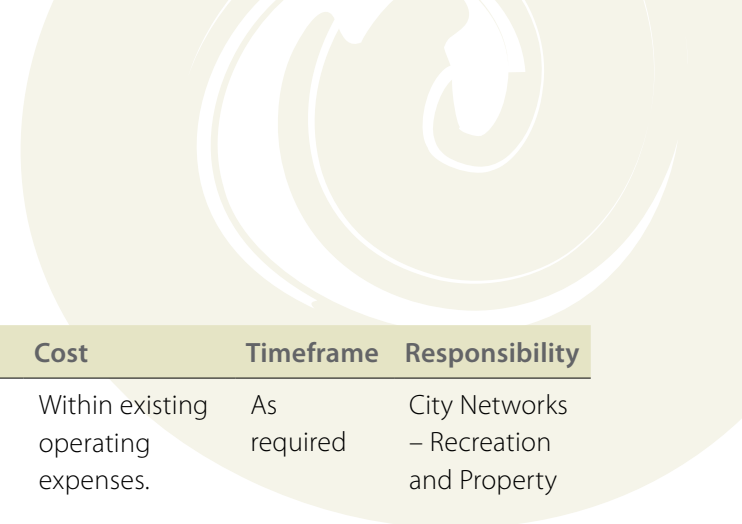
Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

This plan covers the management of a variety of areas controlled by PNCC, as identified in the scope. It does not control the management of adjacent areas of land. An important issue for the management of the area controlled by Council at the time of forming this plan is wind farm developments. Council recognises that other structures have also been proposed in other recreational and ecological areas in New Zealand. Thus the objective is broad enough to encompass any major structure potentially proposed within the KORA and not focused on wind farms alone.

The following management goal will be used:

1. Ensure that the adverse impacts of structures on the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area are avoided, remedied or mitigated.



7.1 Ensure adverse affects of structures are avoided, remedied or mitigated

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
7.1.1.1 Ensure recreation, landscape, amenity and natural values of the KORA are considered in relevant Resource Management Act processes.	Make submissions to Resource Management Act processes for structures proposed in or adjacent to the KORA highlighting the recreation, landscape, amenity and natural values of the area.	Within existing operating expenses.	As required	City Networks – Recreation and Property



Goal 8. Protecting Cultural and Historic Resources

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

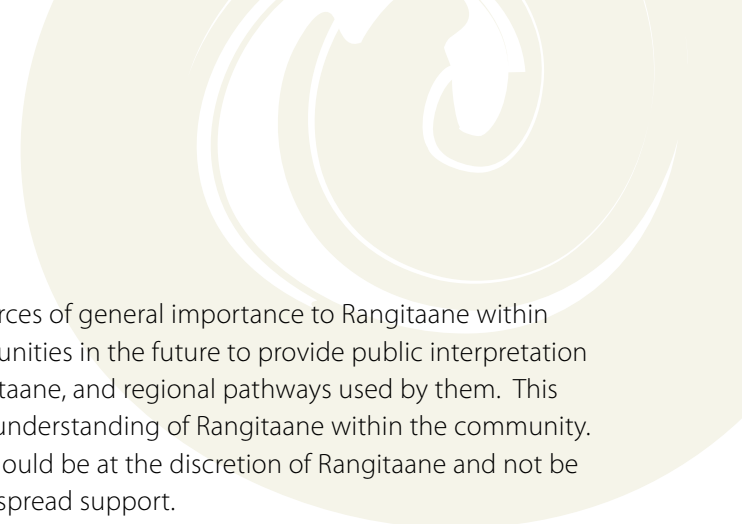
Cultural and historic resources within the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area will be protected for their intrinsic values and where appropriate to enhance recreational enjoyment and understanding of the area by visitors. It may not be appropriate to identify sites that are of significance to tangata whenua.

Objectives are:

1. Identify assess and record cultural and historic resources

2. Protect and where appropriate enhance representative cultural and historic resources

3. Maintain a partnership with tangata whenua in terms of the identification and management of cultural and historic sites of importance to tangata whenua.



8.1 1-3: Assess, protect and enhance cultural and historic resources

There are sites within the area of historic and cultural significance to Europeans and to tangata whenua. There are legal requirements for the protection of cultural and historic resources contained within the Reserves Act 1977, The Historic Places Act 1993 and the Antiquities Act 1975. Requirements to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi also place importance on working with tangata whenua to protect sites and resources of importance to them.

There are some sites and resources of general importance to Rangitaane within the area. There may be opportunities in the future to provide public interpretation on the cultural history of Rangitaane, and regional pathways used by them. This may promote knowledge and understanding of Rangitaane within the community. However any such initiatives should be at the discretion of Rangitaane and not be undertaken without their widespread support.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
8.1.1 All management of cultural and historic resources will comply with the Historic Places Act and the Antiquities Act.		Part of actions under 2.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
8.1.2 Where sites and resources of importance to tangata whenua are present, the Council will work with tangata whenua and heritage agencies to identify and develop management requirements.	Consultation with tangata whenua over potential areas of interest.	Part of actions under 2.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
8.1.3 Identification and protection of historic and cultural features within the area will be undertaken in relation to their significance and threats they face, and in consultation with heritage protection agencies and tangata whenua, as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with tangata whenua over potential areas of interest. • Consultation with local historians and archaeologists over sites of significance to European settlement. 	Part of actions under 2	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
8.1.4 Public information on the location and nature of sites of importance to tangata whenua will only be made available with tangata whenua approval.	Consultation with tangata whenua.	Part of actions under 2	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property
8.1.5 Accidental discovery: Where archaeological sites or features are discovered during reserve management operations or from reports by users, the following process will be implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop all work or access to the particular area (e.g. tape it off) • Notify appropriate agencies such as Historic Places Trust and tangata whenua • Work will not re-commence without authority from the NZ Historic Places Trust. 	Information to staff and contractors.	Part of all actions.	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property



Goal 9. Research

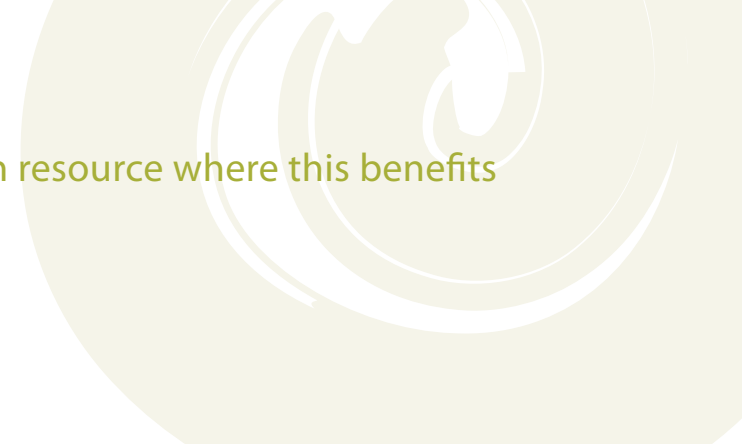
Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

The Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area is close to major research institutions such as Massey University and Landcare Research Ltd, providing potential opportunities for research into outdoor recreation, biodiversity management and other topics relevant to this management plan. Research has the potential to benefit management of the area and will be encouraged where appropriate.

1. The goal is:

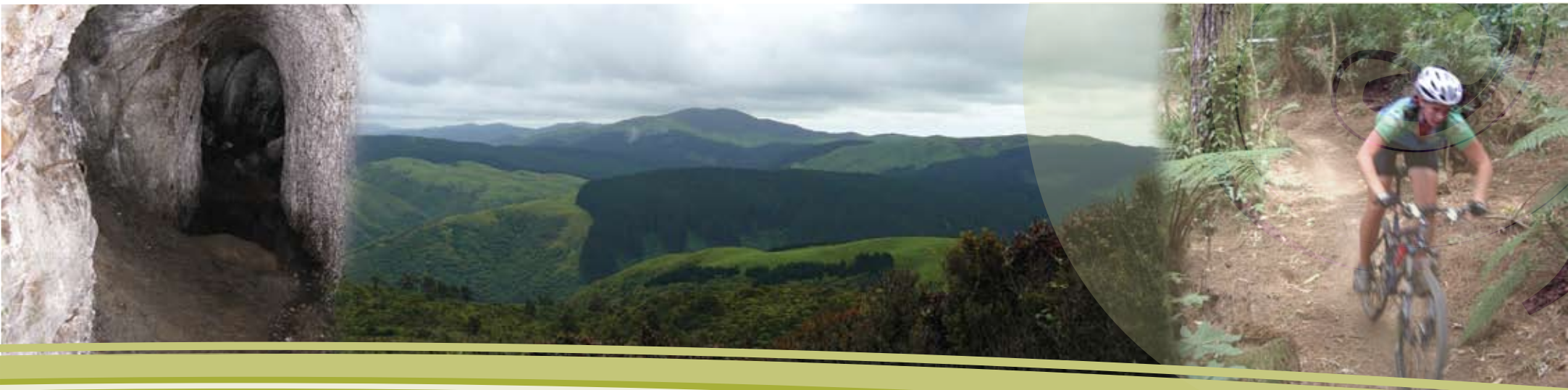
- 1. To facilitate the use of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area as a research resource where this will benefit management and does not conflict with management objectives and policies in this plan.**



9.1 Facilitate the use of the Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area as a research resource where this benefits management.

Several major research institutions located near the Reserve are potentially interested in undertaking research within the KORA. Some research has the potential to contribute to management of the area, and this will be encouraged.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility	
<p>9.1.1 Encourage relevant research projects within the KORA. Priority will be given to projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have potential to provide short to medium term results that are directly relevant to meeting the objectives and policies of this plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are undertaken by experienced researchers with peer review. • Provide research results to the Council. • Involve minimal cost to the Council. • Do not conflict with the objectives or policies of this management plan. • Provide information to research organisations on the potential and preferred research topics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make decisions on approval for research access as per the research criteria. • Monitor research and ensure results are obtained. • Consider potential opportunities to work with Rangitaane to seek funding and undertake research, where appropriate. 	Part of 1.3 and 2	Ongoing	City Networks – Recreation and Property



Goal 10. Monitoring

Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Plan

PART 1: GOALS AND ACTIONS

Monitoring is essential to identify whether management is successful in achieving objectives and implementing particular management policies.

Monitoring provides a means of identifying if changes to management are required in order to ensure the objectives of this plan are met. For example, monitoring of native vegetation can examine whether adequate regeneration of main canopy tree species and understorey species is being achieved. Monitoring of snail populations can examine the likely effects of predation by rats. This helps to review the effectiveness of current management, such as the impact of not controlling rats, on snail populations.

Monitoring within the KORA has links to wider state of the environment monitoring by Council. Monitoring will be developed with reference to state of the environment reporting.



10.1 Establish monitoring to assess the effectiveness of management actions

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
10.1.1 Examine the development of recreational user monitoring	Recreational user surveys track and road use counters	\$500 per year NEW operational budget	2010/2011	City Networks – Recreation and Property
10.1.2 Review existing water quality monitoring and develop a simple water quality monitoring programme in conjunction with other stakeholders.	Work with Horizons Regional Council, Rangitaane, Fish & Game NZ and others to develop a simple monitoring programme.	\$1,000 NEW operational budget.	2009/2010	City Networks – Recreation and Property
10.1.3 Develop and implement a programme to monitor flora and fauna conservation outcomes from management policies including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest canopy condition, particularly of browse susceptible species. • Understorey condition including regeneration of main canopy species and maintenance of a diverse understorey including species of importance to birds. • Distribution and abundance of a range of rare and threatened plant and animal species including snails (<i>Powelliphanta traverse tararuaensis</i>) and vulnerable bird species such as kereru • Diversity and abundance of a range of bird species. • Diversity and abundance of native fish species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare monitoring plan identifying specific monitoring methods and sampling design etc. • Undertake, monitoring and survey work prior to changes in management. • Regular analysis and reporting against objectives, and policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with existing monitoring initiatives relevant to management objectives. • Work with local research agencies and academic institutions. \$1,600 NEW operational budget for monitoring plan \$6,000 per year NEW operational budget.	2009/2010 Annual	City Networks – Recreation and Property. City Networks – Recreation and Property.

Action	How/KPI	Cost	Timeframe	Responsibility
10.1.4 Operational monitoring of possum control operations will involve the use of standard protocols published by the National Possum Control Agencies. As a minimum, post operation monitoring will be undertaken where areas over 200 hectares are treated.	Implement wax tag or trap catch monitoring in relation to possum control operations.	\$3,000 NEW operational budget for knockdown monitoring.	2009/2010	City Networks – Recreation and Property
10.1.5 Develop and implement monitoring of large exotic animal populations, particularly deer, using a range of methods that may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kill return records • Formal hunter effort monitoring • Pellet counts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare monitoring plan • Undertake survey work • Regular analysis and reporting against objectives, and policies. 	\$500 per year NEW operational budget.	2009/2010	City Networks – Recreation and Property.
10.1.6 Develop and implement monitoring of small animal pests including rodents and stoats in areas where intensive management is undertaken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare monitoring plan • Undertake survey work • Regular analysis and reporting against objectives, and policies. 	Part of 10.1.3 above	Annual	City Networks – Recreation and Property
10.1.7 Regularly report of progress against goals and actions.	Summarise and report monitoring results as they become available.	Part of existing operational budgets,	Annual	City Networks – Recreation and Property

Appendix One: Kahuterawa Outdoor Recreation Area Development Map

