



SOUTH RANGITATA RESERVE

MANAGEMENT PLAN

TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL
SOUTH RANGITATA RESERVE - TIMARU
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SOUTH RANGITATA RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Management Plan for South Rangitata Reserve has been prepared in accordance with the procedures set out in Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

Public notice of intention to prepare the Management Plan was given on 4 September 1999.

The Draft Management Plan was advertised for comment on 4 July 2000 and 35 written submissions were received. Consideration of the submissions was given in accordance with Section 120 of the Act.

This Management Plan was formally adopted by Timaru District Council pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977.

Dated this 3rd day of March 2003

Bill Steans
PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

1 PREAMBLE

South Rangitata Reserve is a multi purpose recreational reserve located in the Timaru District rural area. All land areas are gazetted under the Reserves Act 1977. The Reserve is one of many recreational public open spaces administered by the Timaru District Council.

The majority of South Rangitata Reserve is in a relatively developed state and meets the needs of the users. Any further changes would aim to enhance the natural characteristics of this Reserve.

This Management Plan contains a description of South Rangitata Reserve, its general resource information and an expression of management objectives, policies and implementation practices considered suitable for its ongoing management.

It is against these objectives and policies that specific proposals can be assessed. The policies have been designed to provide a positive direction for management, but flexible enough to adapt to changing conditions. It is intended to comprehensively review this Management Plan after approximately 10 years of operation.

This Management Plan has been prepared by the Parks and Recreation Unit of the Timaru District Council, and became operative on 3 March 2003. This Plan will replace the Rangitata Huts Reserve Management Plan adopted in 1989.

All correspondence should be addressed to the:

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2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 LOCATION

South Rangitata Reserve is located on the south side of the Rangitata River mouth, about 45 kilometres by road north east of Timaru.

2.2 ACCESS

Vehicle access is obtained from Rangitata Huts Road off Orton Rangitata Mouth Road.

2.3 LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The following land contained within Block IV Kapunatiki Survey District makes up the classified land vested in Timaru District Council located at South Rangitata Reserve 5266

2.4 AREA

The area of vested land is 9.3077 hectares.

2.5 STATUS

The vested land listed has been classified as a Local Purpose (soil, conservation and fishing huts) Reserve in accordance with Section 23 of the Reserves Act 1977. This was published in the New Zealand Gazette 1997 No 70, p1707. The land is zoned as Recreation 1 under the current Timaru District Plan.

2.6 HISTORY

In 1890 there were just a handful of small, simple one roomed huts at the mouth. These were privately owned and erected haphazardly without authorisation from any official party. The hut owners were mainly "landed gentry" with strong outdoor sporting interests. At that time the reserve was controlled by the South Canterbury Acclimatisation Society.

The river mouth lay to the south of the huts at that time and water was obtained from holes dug in the shingle along its bank. The south channel of the Rangitata was also flowing and numerous small streams flowed across the surrounding farmland. A swamp fed by one such stream occupied the now camping ground. This branch of the river was closed in the late 1920's.

In the 1930's, except on sites occupied by huts, large tussocks grew and areas of swamp were located in the present camping ground and small low lying areas at the river end of the Reserve. Horses were turned loose to graze the Reserve. In the 1930's the eastern boundary of the Reserve consisted of very substantial sand dunes, the remnants of which have been preserved by marram grass introduced after migration of the river southwards thus exposing the dunes to erosion of winds. Prior to this event the beach gravels were at the same level as the adjoining land.

In the late 30's the river carved a channel along the eastern boundary and evidence of this remains in what is left of a very substantial lagoon when the river shifted northwards. This event lowered the water tables causing swamp in

Reserves 5266, 100, 486 and adjoining leasehold land to drain, while domestic water supplies drawn through manually operated Douglas pumps were lost. This was remedied by driving well pipes to a greater depth or sinking new wells. Initially water was available at about 12 feet but after southward migration the depth increased to 20 feet.

It may be significant that this event occurred about the same time as the commissioning of the Rangitata Diversion Race in 1937.

Transport was the main factor limiting hut development. Roads in the area were very rough and often impassable in bad weather. Horse and dray and early model motorcars were a slow means of travel, meaning a journey from Geraldine took the best part of a day. Real settlement did not take place until after the Second World War and even then huts were still “slapped up” without much planning. The Acclimatisation Society, (who held the reserve on occupation licence), leased “hut sites” to its members.

Over the years the river mouth has regularly migrated between the huts and either side of the estuary with the northern end being favoured. However for one or more periods in the 60's the river did discharge through mouths to the south of the South Rangitata huts.

In 1968 the purpose of the reserve was changed, “from a reserve for river protection purposes to a reserve for soil conservation and river control purposes, recreation and site for fishing huts.” The Geraldine County Council was appointed to control and manage the reserve. In July 1969 the Geraldine County Council surveyed sites around the existing huts. The remaining area, with the exception of the camping ground, was divided into further sites, which have subsequently been built upon. Organisation in the reserve's layout has been a very recent phenomenon. In 1974 Geraldine County was amalgamated with neighbouring Levels County to form Strathallan County. In 1989 Strathallan County was amalgamated with Geraldine Borough, Temuka Borough and Timaru City to form Timaru District. The Timaru District Council now administers the Rangitata Huts Reserve.

2.7 GEOMORPHOLOGY

The majority of the South Rangitata Reserve area is typical Canterbury alluvial pasture land, comprised largely of light stony soils. At the southern end of the Reserve, the old river boundary comprising of an escarpment with better quality overlying topsoil is present.

Being located on the true right bank of the Rangitata River adjacent to the river mouth, the Reserve is located on a series of terraces rising progressively in a south westerly direction away from the river to the escarpment.

2.8 FLORA AND FAUNA

The exposed nature of the reserve and its proximity to the sea, dictates what plants occur on the Reserve. A swampy area at the northern end contains coprosmas, flaxes, toitoi and similar plants, while the eastern beach boundary is protected by marram grass. Various macrocarpas and pines planted in hedges or as single trees have grown well, and a selection of introduced species can be found in and around the various hut sites. Significant grassed areas are present around the huts.

More recent Council plantings (mid 1990's onwards) are comprised of native coastal species aimed at providing shelter and wildlife habitat, and these are located along the southern and eastern boundaries and west of the toilet at the northern end of the reserve.

Fauna is largely restricted to birds of which several native and introduced species can be found. Rabbits, hares, feral pigeons and the occasional feral cat can be observed.

2.9 CLIMATE

The climate of coastal Canterbury is mild and stable. Temperature variations during the year are not extreme. Rainfall is variable, but is usually at around 480 to 720mm (20 to 30in) annually. The area is consequently quite dry, with low humidity all year round. The predominant wind is the easterly but exposed as it is, the area is subject to both nor'westers and southerlies with the latter yielding most of the rain.

2.10 ADJACENT LAND USE

East - Pacific Ocean and shingle beach which separates the reserve from the sea.

South - There is mostly open farm land along the south perimeter of South Rangitata Reserve.

West - Environment Canterbury Reserve adjoining. This is currently occupied under licence by South Rangitata Reserve Incorporated and is available as a useful adjunct to this Reserve. The additional land also provides power supply lines, water supply mains and the bore. It also provides a fire break.

North - Environment Canterbury Reserve adjoining the Rangitata River. The Rangitata River and coastal environment are significant to the Tangata Whenua and this Reserve provides access to those places.

2.11 RESOURCE ANALYSIS

South Rangitata Reserve contributes to the reserves network within the Timaru District. It provides necessary room for accommodation and recreational pursuits. The vegetation within the reserve helps ameliorate the extremes of the environment for man by providing shade, shelter and a habitat for wildlife.

The Reserve area is of great significance to lessees who have invested financially and with their physical efforts to building accommodation within the Reserve. Campers and day visitors also use the Reserve area. The majority of these

visitors use it as a base or for access to the river mouth to fish for salmon and trout. The extent of use is therefore greater during the fishing season and particularly when salmon are running. The Reserve is also popular over holiday periods for those attempting to get away from their daily routine. Over the winter months there is a reduction in use to a few individuals.

2.12 PRESENT USE

The Reserve contains a total of 114 private huts and a 70 site camping ground. The huts were all established as holiday accommodation, being used mainly for fishing at various times through the year. For the remainder of the year the area is almost deserted, save for some permanent residents. The camping ground is used during the fishing season with the highest number present during holiday periods. Demand is dependent on the “quality” of the fishing and location of the river mouth. A braided river of such a size is constantly changing its course. When the mouth moves towards the north, some campers tend to favour the camping ground on the northern side.

2.13 PLAN HIERARCHY

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 a number of other plans exist and this Reserve Management Plan cannot be inconsistent with them. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement is at the highest level. This statement covers such policies as preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment; protection of characteristics of special value to the Tangata Whenua; activities involving subdivision, use or development of the coastal environment; the Crown’s interests in land in the Coastal Marine Area and matters to be included in Regional Coastal Plans.

The Environment Canterbury Regional Policy Statement, Proposed Regional Coastal Environmental Plan, Transitional Regional Plan and Proposed Land and Vegetation Management Regional Plan (Part III) also have application in this area. These plans control such matters as effluent disposal and the erection of buildings within the coastal hazard zone (see Appendix 2). They also contain policies directed at encouraging public access to and along rivers and the coast and avoiding or reducing the impacts of natural hazards. The Timaru District Plan, specifically the Recreation 1 Zone policies; General Rule for Natural Hazards and areas of special significance to Ngai Tahu under the provisions of the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 follows these, and finally this Reserve Management Plan is specific to this Reserve.

3 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 To retain the South Rangitata Reserve for the enjoyment and recreational use of the District's residents and visitors.
- 3.2 To administer South Rangitata Reserve in accordance with relevant acts, bylaws, policies and regulations including the Timaru District Plan and the Regional Coastal Environment Plan.
- 3.3 To maintain the appropriate level of presentation in South Rangitata Reserve, and to ensure these specified maintenance standards are achieved.
- 3.4 To maintain access to South Rangitata Reserve as a recreational resource.
- 3.5 To conserve and enhance appropriate environmental and soil conservation values within the Reserve (eg : flora, fauna and their habitats), and to increase public awareness of these.
- 3.6 To preserve the 'Wildscape' theme of South Rangitata Reserve and develop those aspects which enhance the visual and natural values of the Reserve.
- 3.7 To provide attractive open spaces that are part of the network set aside for enhancing the quality of life for residents.
- 3.8 To provide an environment that allows for family activities within the Reserve.
- 3.9 To retain the Motor Camp within the Reserve, and to lease its operation.
- 3.10 To retain Hut sites within the Reserve, and to lease these sites.
- 3.11 To provide ancillary services such as carparking, public toilets and roads to support the major objectives above, without detracting from them individually.
- 3.12 To maintain an awareness of and preparedness for flooding events that may affect the settlement.
- 3.13 To acknowledge the erosive nature of the coastline.

4 MANAGEMENT POLICIES

4.1 MANAGEMENT

Policy

- (a) To retain management of Reserve 5266 with the Timaru District Council.
- (b) To manage this Reserve in a manner complying with the Management Plan.

Explanation

The Timaru District Council through the District Services Committee has overall responsibility for the management of the South Rangitata Reserve. The management is vested in Council by the Minister of Conservation under the Reserves Act 1977, and use of the Reserve must comply with the terms of vesting.

Implementation

The Timaru District Council will continue to manage this Reserve. Liaison with Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation and other agencies will be undertaken where the management role overlaps their responsibilities, and requires or would benefit from their input.

4.2 BYLAWS

Policy

To prepare and enforce bylaws for the use of South Rangitata Reserve.

Explanation

The current bylaws applying to Reserves in the Timaru District shall apply to South Rangitata Reserve.

Implementation

In cases where non compliance occurs and/or damage results, Council will seek prosecution and appropriate restitution.

4.3 RANGERS

Policy

To appoint honorary Rangers for the purposes of upholding certain provisions of Reserves Bylaws and the Reserve Act applying to South Rangitata Reserve.

Explanation

Rangers may be appointed from time to time for the purposes of protecting South Rangitata Reserve, and everything contained on it from damage and vandalism.

Implementation

By Council resolution, suitable persons may be appointed Honorary Rangers as Council sees fit to ensure that the bylaws and the relevant provisions of the Reserves Act are being adhered to.

4.4 RESERVES NETWORK**Policy**

To provide a “green” open space as part of the Reserves network of the Timaru District.

Explanation

South Rangitata Reserve forms part of the Reserves network for the Timaru District, providing access to open spaces and affording a site to establish coastal vegetation.

Implementation

South Rangitata Reserve will continue to form part of the reserves network for the Timaru District.

This use right shall be maintained to all open spaces, (excluding the leased sites and camping ground) except during times that recreational or community events are taking place. Members of the public must not interfere with such activities, but will be permitted to view these events, except when the area concerned is closed to the public, or particular persons make a nuisance of themselves or behave in an obnoxious manner.

4.5 MAINTENANCE**Policy**

To maintain South Rangitata Reserve in a properly functioning manner, and in accordance with the Management Objectives of this Plan.

Explanation

In an effort to maintain its status as a reserve for soil conservation and fishing huts, it is important to ensure the Reserve is always maintained to the specified standard.

Implementation

To audit the Reserve maintenance to ensure that it meets the applicable standards. Where vandalism damage occurs, prosecution and appropriate reparation will be sought.

4.6 SERVICES

Policy

To provide for infrastructural services to meet the needs of the Reserve users.

Explanation

Any infrastructural services that benefit the use of the Reserve will be provided for where these are necessary and do not compromise the Management Objectives of the Reserve. These services shall include water, drainage, telephone and electricity. However where these services are of no direct benefit to users of the Reserve, the Council's consent will continue to be required before an easement can be obtained. Water is presently supplied and Council will continue to supply water.

Implementation

Where an organisation or individual wishes to make use of these services it shall be their responsibility to arrange the connection to these services, once necessary approvals have been obtained. Of particular concern is effluent disposal, which must be to a holding tank and/or comply with Environment Canterbury rules.

4.7 USAGE ZONES

Policy

To designate a series of Usage Zones within South Rangitata Reserve,

Explanation

In order to optimise use, leased huts, camping ground and public open space zones have been created to accommodate different types of activities and allow for differing management techniques.

Implementation

Activities shall be constrained to the appropriate zone.

4.8 RECREATIONAL USES AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Policy

To provide areas and facilities suitable for a range of recreational uses and community events.

Explanation

South Rangitata Reserve is used by a number of groups and individuals on a regular or casual basis.

Implementation

Where an event is organised, consideration must be given to other users of the Reserve.

4.9 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC**Policy**

To allow an admission charge to be levied to certain events and facilities.

Explanation

Council's policy on closure is covered by the Reserves Bylaw. The Reserves Act states that the Reserve cannot be closed wholly or in part for more than 40 days per annum for the purpose of charging admission, and closures in respect of any one event shall not exceed 6 days.

Implementation

All such closures and admission charges shall be publicly notified, at the cost of the applicant.

4.10 TENURE**Policy**

Council will consider applications to lease hut sites and the camping ground at South Rangitata Reserve, which comply with the objectives of this plan.

Explanation

The area of lease shall be defined as an individual hut site or the camping ground. The lease of the camping ground shall permit charges to be made. At the termination of the lease, Council may require the removal or forfeit of improvements, for which compensation will not automatically be paid. No further hut sites will be developed within the Reserve.

Implementation

For any period of tenure at South Rangitata Reserve a lease or agreement complying with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977, or its amendments must be entered into with Council. The rental will be set in accordance with the current policy on charges applying to this Reserve, or by public tender. It is not intended to publicly advertise all leases.

The Reserve is used primarily for fishing huts and consequently does not have a large number of permanent residents. Year round occupants will be considered in limited instances providing the following criteria are met:

- (a) Leased site being outside the identified natural hazard areas;
- (b) Year round occupants being able to and agreeing to operate the fire appliance after receipt of instruction, where they are in good health and physically able to;

- (c) The number of year round occupants being limited to up to 10% of the total sites in the whole Reserve;
- (d) Special circumstances such as a Fish and Game Ranger or Motor Camp Lessee; and
- (e) Existing use rights shall apply to those year round occupants occupying the Reserve as identified in February 2000. The risk of occupying the natural hazard areas shall be acknowledged by the lessees.

NB: The natural hazard areas are defined as River Zones 1, 2 and 3 and also anything seaward of the Coastal Inundation or 100 year hazard lines.

Any approved year round occupants would have an extra clause added to their lease acknowledging this. The approval would not be transferable and would be for the term of the lease only. All applicants would need to submit an application fee (as applying at the time of the application) and pay a rental of 70% greater than the normal rental fee.

Over time, it may be necessary to not renew, or cancel some leases because of coastal erosion or inundation, or by river erosion or flooding. This would be in addition to cancellations for non-compliance with lease clauses.

4.11 TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION (EG: CARAVANS/MOTOR HOMES)

Policy

To restrict the use of caravans and motor homes to within leased sites (with conditions) or within the Motor Camp area.

Explanation

An area is specifically designated for a camping ground. To maintain aesthetics of the Reserve, to reduce fire hazards and maintain unimpeded access, it is necessary to limit temporary accommodation to the camping ground or within leased sites as spelt out in Implementation below.

Implementation

Caravans and motor homes may be used on a restricted basis provided they comply with the following conditions:

- a Only one caravan or motor home is permitted per site;
- b It must be contained entirely within the leased site;
- c It must be owned by the lessee or a member of the lessee's immediate family (ie parent, brother, sister or child);
- d It must have a current warrant of fitness, current registration, current electrical certificate and be mobile;
- e It is to remain on the site only while it is occupied; and
- f It is to remain on the site for not more than 14 consecutive days and not more than 30 days in one year.

4.12 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Policy

To restrict business activities within the Reserve to that of the camping ground and licensed food vendors.

Explanation

With the exception of the exception of the camping ground, it is envisaged that any business activity will be restricted to the occasional licensed food vendor's visit. This would only likely be for a couple of hours duration and on spasmodic days.

Implementation

The operation of the camping ground will continue. Licensed food vendors will be able to operate for a short duration within the Reserve. All other business activities will not be permitted within the Reserve.

4.13 CATERING AND FOOD SALES

Policy

To allow for catering and food sales to users of South Rangitata Reserve on a temporary basis.

Explanation

Catering will normally be associated with an event, held in a temporary structure such as a marquee. In these cases, the majority of events will be private functions. Catering will be organised by the hirer of the facility.

Implementation

An organisation hiring or using part of South Rangitata Reserve for an event, may make arrangements with mobile shop operators to cater for them. These arrangements shall not impinge on the rights or enjoyment of other users of the Reserve. If no invitation has been extended, mobile shops shall not operate within South Rangitata Reserve.

For other times when an organisation is not using a reserve for an event, mobile shop operators may make an application for permission to operate a mobile shop on that reserve.

Such sellers or mobile shop operators may be charged for operating within South Rangitata Reserve.

4.14 INAPPROPRIATE USES

Policy

Uses of South Rangitata Reserve which are contrary to the objectives of this Management Plan, will not be permitted.

Explanation

Some uses of South Rangitata Reserve are inappropriate, and can detract from the visual appearance, safety and other values of the Reserve. Some examples of inappropriate uses are industrial activities, motor sport and excessively noisy activities.

Implementation

Applications to carry out these activities will be declined. To ensure that any inappropriate uses observed or reported are promptly curtailed.

4.15 ACCESS (INGRESS/EGRESS)**Policy**

To provide sufficient access for users of South Rangitata Reserve and allow for access to the coast and Rangitata River through the Reserve in appropriate places.

Explanation

Vehicle and pedestrian access can be obtained from a number of points including Rangitata Huts Road, access lanes and the beach.

Implementation

All accessways will be maintained to provide safe access to the Reserve.

4.16 ROADWAYS AND PARKING**Policy**

To provide for safe and effective roadway systems, and for vehicle parking in suitable locations.

Explanation

A sealed road runs the length of the reserve terminating in a small parking area at the north end. Access to the individual bach sites and the camping ground is via this road. Parking is permitted on public areas, provided that ground maintenance and traffic safety is not compromised, the ground conditions are such that turf damage does not occur and occupiers may access their sites.

Implementation

Where roadways and parking are provided, surfaces, markings and signs will be maintained to the required standards. The costs of maintaining the sealed road shall be apportioned 50% to lessees and 50% to ratepayers.

4.17 VEHICLES**Policy**

All motor vehicles must only use the formed roads, access lanes and parking areas.

Explanation

Speed restrictions are covered by Council's Reserve Bylaw. Speed restrictions shall apply to all vehicle traffic on this Reserve. Drivers are required to observe these restrictions and all traffic signs. Restricting vehicles (other than service vehicles) to the formed roads, access lanes and parking areas, will minimise noise and ground damage and maintain safety.

The road and lanes are solely for access to huts, the river, neighbouring Reserve, coastal or public areas. As such they are not intended for the recreational use of vehicles, ie they are not to be used as a race track or amusement area.

Implementation

In cases where non compliance occurs and/or damage results, prosecution and appropriate reparation will be sought.

4.18 ADJOINING PROPERTIES**Policy**

To encourage good liaison with adjoining landowners.

Explanation

To ensure that management of the Reserve is undertaken in a way that minimises any detrimental effect on adjoining land.

Implementation

To inform adjoining landowners of any significant undertaking which may occur on the Reserve adjacent to their property.

4.19 FENCING**Policy**

To provide for fencing of property boundaries and internal enclosures as necessary.

Explanation

Fencing of the Reserve fulfils a number of purposes. These could include containing or excluding stock, protection of plantings, areas of conservation and recreation and allowing an admission charge to be made at times.

Implementation

Fencing will be checked annually and necessary maintenance carried out.

Fencing of the access lanes will not normally be undertaken with the exception of when grazing of the neighbouring property is occurring.

The co-operation of the adjoining owner will be sought in reporting any damage to boundary fences.

The cost of fencing any leased sites shall be met by the lessees.

4.20 LITTER

Policy

To require all users of South Rangitata Reserve to remove their own litter, or place in any litter receptacles where they have been provided.

Explanation

Litter detracts from the appearance and enjoyment of South Rangitata Reserve and may be a hazard. Some litter receptacles are provided for casual day users.

Household refuse originating from within the Reserve must be placed in the unit provided or removed from the Reserve.

Implementation

Household litter and refuse is to be placed in the designated disposal unit or skips provided from time to time.

The organisers of any events held within the Reserve are required to ensure that all litter is collected and removed during and after these events. Offenders caught littering will be prosecuted.

4.21 INFORMATION SIGNS

Policy

- (a) To identify the Reserve, facilities and features with permanent signs.
- (b) To allow organisations to locate limited temporary signs within the Reserve, when associated with an event.

Explanation

There should not be a proliferation of signs, but where the permanent signs are needed to identify the Reserve and control or inform the public, they should be of a standard nature. When an event is being held, it is sometimes necessary to identify the location and duration with temporary signage.

Implementation

Permanent signs shall contain international pictorial symbols or text, and will be constructed of timber or steel, although other attractive signs of an approved type may be located on buildings, or to identify facilities, features and entrances.

Temporary signs may be permitted at any location on the day of an event only, providing that any associated or incorporated advertising has a limited impact, particularly when viewed from outside the Reserve.

4.22 FIRES

Policy

- (a) To prohibit the incidence of open fires in South Rangitata Reserve.
- (b) To maintain a fire fighting capability by continuing to maintain a water supply and hydrants in operating order.

Explanation

Fires in the open have the potential to cause damage to the Reserve and the buildings contained within it. Fire may also spread beyond the Reserve and affect private property and protection works.

Implementation

Open fires are not permitted in the Reserve. Gas barbecues may be operated.

4.23 VEGETATION**Policy**

To plant and maintain suitable vegetation to ameliorate the climate, enhance the aesthetic ecological and conservation values of the reserve.

Explanation

Trees, shrubs and herbaceous species are planted as part of an ongoing programme of providing vegetation for shelter, shade, screening, beautification and erosion control. This vegetation helps maintain the aesthetic values of South Rangitata Reserve. Its protection and conservation is important to users, neighbouring residents and the greater environment. Refer to Appendix 3 for guidelines.

Implementation

Contractors and community groups will be used to implement planting enhancement and maintenance programmes. Existing trees will continue to be managed in accordance with accepted arboricultural practice, and will be removed when they become inappropriate, unsafe or unthrifty. Lessees may only plant within the site that they occupy. Planting of lanes and other public areas will be arranged where appropriate.

4.24 PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS**Policy**

To control pest plants and animals where they occur within South Rangitata Reserve.

Explanation

The nature of the open spaces within South Rangitata Reserve provides an environment conducive to the occurrence of pest plants and animals from time to time.

Implementation

Pest plants, and animals shall need to be controlled by accepted methods from time to time, to avoid their proliferation within South Rangitata Reserve.

4.25 DOGS

Policy

To permit dogs in South Rangitata Reserve to the extent provided for in the Timaru District Council bylaws.

Explanation

As required by the Timaru District Council Dog Control and Parks & Reserve Bylaws, all dogs within the Reserve must be under the continuous and effective control of their owners or handlers, and preferably on a leash. In some circumstances it may be possible to make application to Council for dispensation from the bylaw. This would only be considered for dog shows and public exhibitions.

Implementation

All dogs found roaming uncontrolled in the Reserve will be impounded.

None of the above will apply to any person using a seeing eye dog, or dogs used in conjunction with Police duties or Security Patrols.

4.26 DOMESTICATED ANIMALS

Policy

To prohibit domesticated animals other than dogs from the Reserve, unless prior written permission is obtained.

Explanation

Domestic animals can have a detrimental impact on the environment. Horses and grazing stock can contribute to soil erosion directly, or by removing vegetative cover. Other animals such as cats are a threat to wildlife, particularly bird and lizard species.

Animals may in some circumstances be permitted to take part in authorised public performances authorised by management.

Implementation

Any unauthorised animals found within the Reserve will be impounded.

An accessway to the beach is provided for horses between the cattle stop and the beach.

4.27 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (PROPOSED)

Policy

All proposed buildings or structures must comply with the provisions of the Timaru District Plan, and may only be erected in designated areas. Only buildings which are in accordance with the Management Objectives of this Plan, will be considered.

Explanation

Natural hazards identified within the Reserve mean that restrictions to buildings can occur in some areas.

Implementation

All proposed buildings or structures require a building consent and may require a Resource Consent.

Any effluent disposal systems must comply with Environment Canterbury policies and rules.

4.28 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES (EXISTING)**Policy**

To provide facilities for recreation infrastructural services and to allow for lessees requirements.

Explanation

Buildings and structures are necessary to provide utility services and to meet the needs of lessees.

Implementation

All buildings or structures shall be maintained in a clean, tidy and functioning state. Any buildings or structures no longer required or which become derelict shall be removed.

Where modifications are proposed, it is necessary to comply with the provisions of the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan, District Plan and Building Act.

4.29 OUTDOOR FURNITURE AND FIXTURES**Policy**

To provide outdoor furniture and fixtures to service users.

Explanation

Seating, litter receptacles and other appropriate fixtures are installed on the Reserve.

Implementation

Furniture and fixtures will be regularly monitored for maintenance. Their placement will be reviewed to ensure they are meeting the requirements of the users.

Where modifications are proposed, it is necessary to comply with the provisions of the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan, District Plan and Building Act.

4.30 PUBLIC TOILET

Policy

To provide and maintain a public toilet suitable for the day to day needs of Reserve users unless other arrangements are made.

Explanation

A public toilet is located within the South Rangitata Reserve and is sufficient to cater for normal casual users.

Where a large number of spectators will attend a major event, it may be necessary to supplement existing toilets with approved portable facilities.

Implementation

To ensure that where facilities are provided to meet the day to day demands they are well maintained at all times.

4.31 CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS

Policy

To facilitate safe children's play by providing for well maintained playground apparatus.

Explanation

An effort is being made to ensure that all playground equipment complies with the New Zealand standard for playground equipment, to increase children's safety when using the apparatus.

Implementation

Regular inspections will be undertaken to ensure compliance with the above standards.

4.32 PLAN REVIEW

Policy

The Plan will be reviewed as necessary and generally at 10 yearly intervals.

Explanation

Management Plans should be reviewed and updated to ensure that policies are appropriate. This review is on a 10 yearly basis.

Implementation

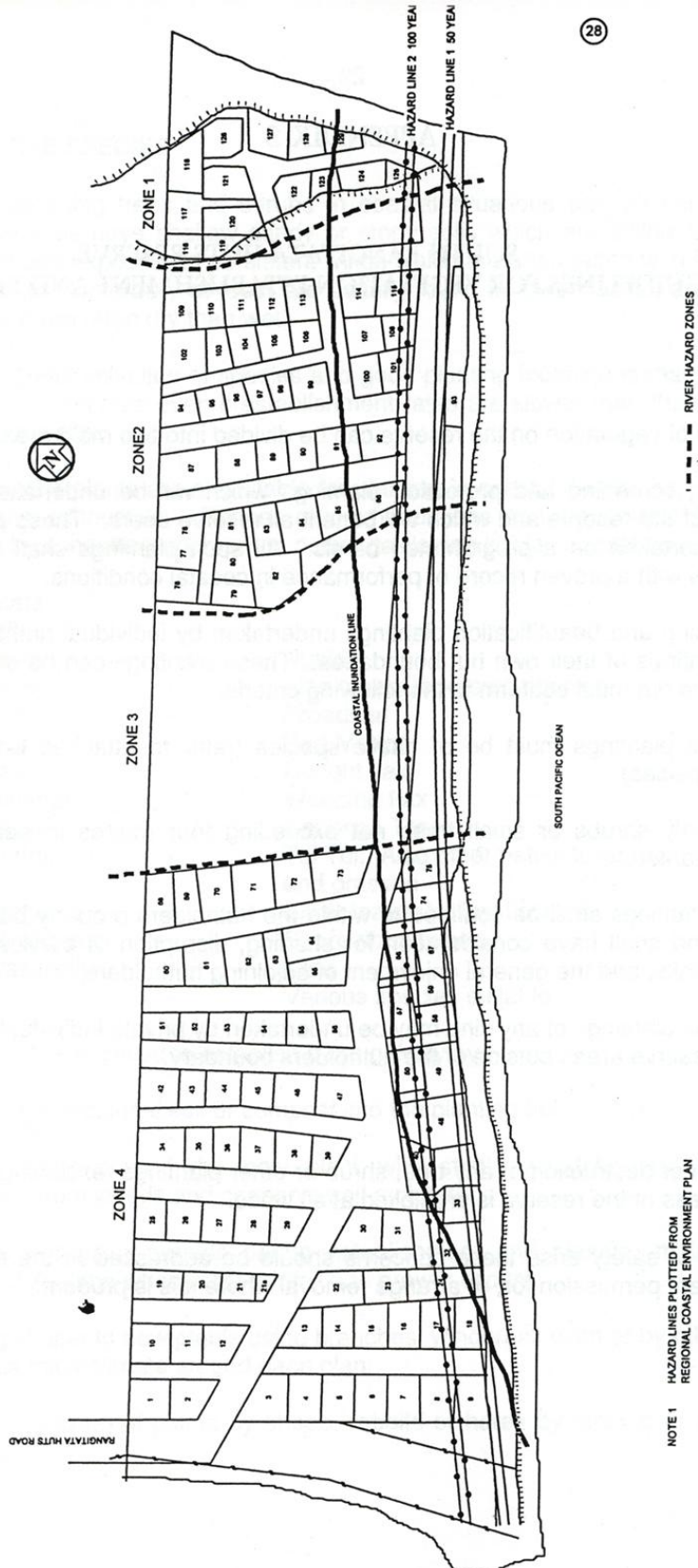
Should a policy or objective require major amendment prior to the 10 yearly review this may be done by public notification. Minor policy amendments will not require public notification.

5 APPENDICES

5.1 APPENDIX ONE - FEATURES AT SOUTH RANGITATA RESERVE



5.2 APPENDIX 2 - NATURAL HAZARDS PLAN



- NOTE 1 HAZARD LINES PLOTTED FROM REGIONAL COASTAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN
- NOTE 2 SEA LEVEL RISE AS A RESULT OF CLIMATIC CHANGES MAY SHIFT HAZARD LINES SOME 30m INLAND IN THE NEXT 50 YEARS

5.3 APPENDIX 3 - GUIDELINES FOR VEGETATION ESTABLISHMENT AND REMOVAL

5.3.1 Planting

The planting of vegetation on the reserve can be divided into two main areas:

- 1 Shelter, screening and protection plantings which will be undertaken on public areas of the reserve and which will benefit all reserve users. These plantings will be undertaken on a programmed basis. All such plantings shall be of native species with a proven record of performance in coastal conditions.
- 2 Screening and beautification plantings undertaken by individual hutholders within the confines of their own hut boundaries. These plantings can be undertaken at any time but must conform to the following criteria:
 - a) All plantings must be of native species (refer to attached list of suitable species).
 - b) Only shrubs or small trees not exceeding four metres in height may be planted.
 - c) Plantings shall be confined to within the hutholders property boundary only, and shall have consideration for shading, disruption of services, eg septic tanks, and the general enjoyment of adjoining hutholders.
 - d) No plantings of any kind may be undertaken by private individuals on general reserve areas outside of the hutholders boundary.

5.3.2 Removal

The removal or destruction of any tree, shrub or other plantings (excluding pest plants) on public areas of the reserve is prohibited at all times.

If questions of safety arise these concerns should be addressed to the management who may grant permission for, or arrange removal where this is prudent.

5.3.3 Coastal Native Species

Successful establishing trees and shrubs in coastal situations can be very difficult. Generally these sites have shallow sandy or stony soils which are saline (salty), are subject to continued exposure to persistent winds which are often laden with salt spray, and here in South Canterbury at least are usually found in lower rainfall areas which means they are more often dry than wet.

However with careful selection of species and good planting techniques many of these problems can be overcome even if establishment rates are slower than they would be in more favourable sites.

The following native plants are all suitable for planting in coastal conditions, but the list is by no means exhaustive. Further recommendations can be gained from local nurserymen or by consulting appropriate native gardening books, or catalogues.

Olearia paniculata	
Olearia traversii	
Myoporum laetum	- Ngaio
Coprosma repens	- Also other Coprosma species
Griselinia littoralis	- Broadleaf
Myrsine australis	- Red Matipo
Phormium tenax	- Upright flax
Phormium cookianum	- Weeping flax
Cordyline australis	- Cabbage Tree
Cortaderia richardii	- Toi Toi. Also other native tussocks and grasses
Brachyglottis greyii	- Silver leaves/yellow flowers
Plagianthus divaricatus	- Shore ribbonwood
Pittosporum crassifolium	- Karo
Hebe spp.	- Various species suitable

These plants can be assisted to establish more quickly by:

- Incorporating additional soil or compost into the planting hole.
- Mulching down around the new plant with straw, woodchip etc to reduce competition from weeds and conserve soil moisture.
- Watering at regular periods during establishment and planting mainly during Spring and Autumn when most rainfall and growth occurs.
- Providing shelter to new plants using branches, windbreak cloth or by other means to create a microclimate around each plant.
- Preventing grazing of plants by sheep, rabbits or hares by fencing or the use of repellents.

5.4 APPENDIX 4 - APPROVALS REQUIRED

To assist users of South Rangitata Reserve, a checklist of approvals required is set out below:

5.4.1 Resource Consents

May be required when:

- Buildings are proposed to be sited on South Rangitata Reserve.
- Commercial activities.
- Discharges into water table.

5.4.2 Building Consents

Are required for:

- All buildings and structures.
- The erection of signs.
- The erection of marquees.

5.4.3 Liquor Licences

Are required for the sale of liquor.

5.4.4 Food Premises and Mobile Shop Licences

Are required for food sales.

5.4.5 Management Approval

Is required for:

- Taking animals (other than dogs) onto the Reserve.
- Organised recreational events
- The erection of signs and buildings.
- Advertising and sponsorship acknowledgements.
- Charging admission.

When applying for an approval for numbers 5.4.1 to 5.4.4 above, the application should be made to the Regulatory Services Group of Timaru District Council.

Although the above list is thought to cover most approvals required, these may change from time to time and therefore this list should not be considered exhaustive.