



Proposed classifications of coastal reserve land under the Reserves Act 1977

Public consultation 23 June - 5 August 2025

See also: Related public consultation on the *Tātou ki Uta* – the draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan, 2025

June 2025

**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

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A. Have your say

Under the Reserves Act 1977, Wellington City Council is proposing to classify or reclassify 21 areas of reserve land ('sites') it owns around the coast. These proposals have come about through a land status review of the land that comes under *Tātou ki Uta* – the draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025, which is currently out for public consultation (see wcc.nz/coastalplan).

The Council is seeking your views on the proposed classifications and will consider submissions when it decides on the classifications. A Council resolution¹ is required to classify and reclassify the reserve land and the classification process is completed by publishing a notice in the *New Zealand Gazette*.

You can have your say by completing the submission form online at wcc.nz/coastal-reserves-classifications or emailing coastalplan@wcc.govt.nz. You can request to appear in person before the Council to support your written submission.

Submissions close **noon on 5th of August 2025**.

About classification and reclassification of reserve land

The Reserves Act 1977 provides “for the preservation and management for the benefit and enjoyment of the public”, areas of New Zealand that have special features or values, including recreational, natural, scenic, historic, cultural, archaeological and community.

Section 16(1) of the Act requires that all reserve land be classified according to a primary purpose, as defined under sections 17-23: recreation, historic, scenic, nature, scientific, government purpose and local purpose. Note: Road reserve does not come under the Reserves Act.

Classification helps to identify the important values in each reserve and strengthen the protection and management of those values. It binds the Council and limits (to a greater or lesser extent) how the land can be used and the types of activities that can and cannot occur.

Occasionally, the original classification or purpose assigned to a reserve may no longer be the most appropriate. It can be changed under section 24 of the Reserves Act 1977. Usually, reclassifying a reserve will be for one or more of the following reasons:

- to emphasise one set of features (e.g. historic values) relative to another (e.g. natural values)
- to allow a new activity or use, which would not be consistent with the present class/type
- to better specify or alter the statutory objectives of management, or
- to make an existing use, that is inappropriate under the existing classification, allowable.

Our approach to classifying coastal reserves

We have carefully considered the context of each site's existing use, features and open space values, as well as opportunities and constraints for future management. The wider context of the coastal reserves network has also been considered and the following broad approach adopted, which reflects key characteristics of the coastal landscape.

The shore platform is mainly recommended for **recreation reserve**. Typically, these are the narrow shoreline areas, generally on the seaward side of the coastal road with some significant natural areas and highly modified. These areas are easily accessible, popular for a range of recreational uses and attract high use. They are also the most vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise and storms. Recreation reserve classification reflects the dominant use of the shoreline for informal public

¹ The Council has delegated authority to declare land reserve (s.14); classify reserves (s.16); and change the classification or purpose of a reserve (s.24) under the Instrument of Delegation for Territorial Authorities dated 12 June 2013

enjoyment and the need to manage access and provision of facilities while also protecting the ecological, cultural and landscape values. Recreation reserve classification places fewer restrictions on activities and development than scenic and historic classifications.

Coastal escarpment and headlands are mainly recommended for **historic** or **scenic (b) reserve**. These areas are usually on the inland side of the coastal road. They are generally very steep, with regenerating vegetation including significant natural areas. There are also more wāhi tapu sites where features still remain and some historic gun emplacements. Due to the topography, these areas are less accessible, though good for walking and biking tracks. Being less modified than the shore platform and visually prominent, they contribute significantly to the natural character of the coastal landscape. Historic and scenic reserve classification place more restrictions on activities and development than recreation or local purpose reserves. However, compatible development that facilitates public enjoyment of the scenery and cultural/historic values, such as walking and biking tracks can be developed.

How this document is set out

This document describes each site, its proposed future management and proposed classification.

The sites are grouped into four sections according to the type of proposed classification, starting with a brief outline about each type:

- Recreation reserve
- Historic reserve
- Scenic reserve
- Local purpose reserve

Each site proposal includes a site map showing the context in the immediate area, a description and notes about future management and the proposed classification. The management sector and map reference from the draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan* is also shown for cross-referencing to the draft plan (see wcc.nz/coastalplan).

What happens next

Once public feedback has been received, an oral hearing will be held if any submitters request to speak to their submission. The Council will then consider the proposals and resolve whether or not to approve the proposed classifications.

B. Recreation reserve classification proposals

About recreation reserves

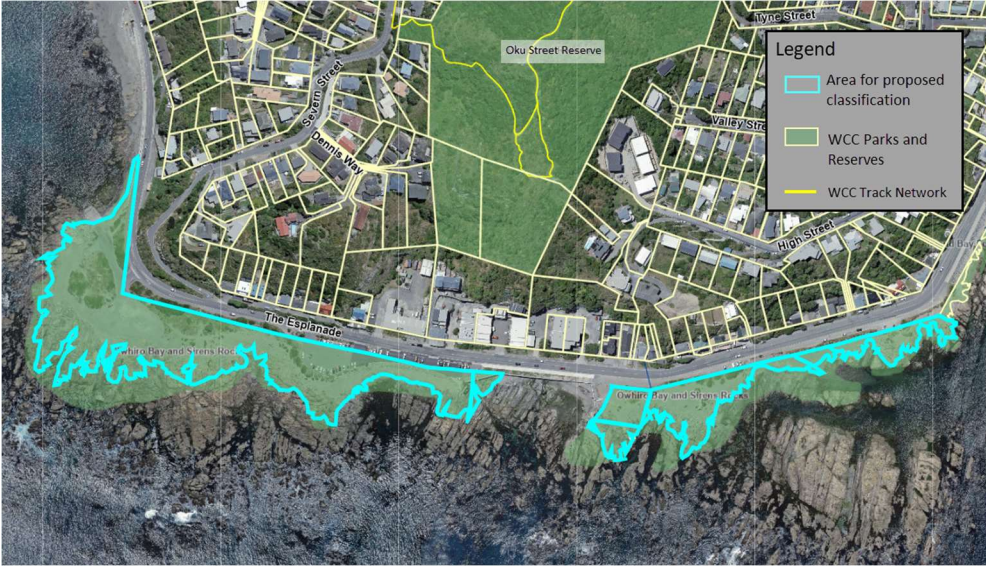
Section 17 of the Reserves Act provides for recreation reserves and describes their purpose as:

“... providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside.”

Management objectives (s.17)	Primary • Allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to such conditions as are necessary for the protection and well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it. • Conserve those qualities which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve. Secondary • Manage and protect scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife. • Maintain value as a soil, water and forest conservation area.
Guidance for selection	• Area may be totally modified e.g. suitable for sports fields • Area may be in a partly natural conditions e.g. suitable for picnic or camp sites or like development • Area may be lineal e.g. suitable for recreational walking and/or vehicle use.
Implications on development	The Council has a high level of decision-making authority. Policies in the reserve management plan provide for day-to-day management and development such as erecting appropriate buildings, removing or cutting back trees, constructing and maintaining tracks.
Implications on the natural environment	Recreational use and development must be compatible with natural reserve values and open space. Reserve management plan policies protect key values e.g. enhancing coastal ecosystems, restoring natural features.

1. The Sirens Rocks

See Management Sector 2, map refs 2.04 – 2.08 in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Shore on headland between Ōwhiro Bay and Island Bay, adjoining Taputeranga Marine Reserve.	
		
Legal description	Pt Sec 26 Ōwhiro District, Part Section 9 TN District, Pt Section 9 Town DIST, Part Lot 1 DP 12544. (Parcels: 7029108, 7029107, 4059343, 7029105, 7029120, 7029103)	Area: 0.15 ha (est.)
Description	Rocky shore platform with outcrops/reefs, shingle beaches and small scattered areas of vegetation, visibly degraded by foot traffic. Much of area is a Significant Natural Area². Includes large carparking and vehicle access areas; concrete and riprap coastal protection (though main carpark remains unstable); a well-used boat ramp and is crossed by wastewater and stormwater outlet pipes. The site is within larger areas of significance to mana whenua³. A high-use area, popular for walking, boating, exploring rock pools, diving, viewing Cook Strait.	
Future management	Focus on compatibility of recreational use with protecting and enhancing the natural values. Investigate long-term design solutions to the coastal erosion here as part of wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.	
Classification (s.16 (1))	<i>Currently:</i> vested in Council for purposes of a recreation ground since 1907 but requires classification under the Reserves Act 1977. Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values.	
Notes	Reserve name: 'The Sirens Rocks'. This is the official place name for the rocky shore around this headland (see NZ topographical maps).	

² See Significant Natural Area NO WC148, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

³ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No's 123, 149, 158 & 160, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

2. Houghton Bay and Elsdon Point Shore

See Management Sector 2, map refs 2.33 – 2.38, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Shore on west side of Houghton Bay, adjoining Taputeranga Marine Reserve.  Legend - Area for proposed classification - WCC Parks and Reserves - WCC Track Network	
Legal description	Part Lot 1 DP 90866, Part Section 4 Town District, Part Lot 2 DP 90866, Part Section E B 161. (Parcels: 7029132, 7560102, 7560103, 7029125, 7029130)	Area: Approx 0.99 ha (variable shoreline)
Description	Rocky outcrops/reefs, shingle beach and, at Houghton Bay beach, a small area of restored sand dune. Most of the site is a Significant Natural Area⁴. Small scattered areas of ecologically important vegetation including coastal turf, coastal scrub and dune planting. Habitat for lizards and shorebirds, including threatened species. Includes two carparking areas; informal tracks; concrete and riprap coastal protection; former wastewater pipe structure; stormwater discharge point on Houghton Bay beach. Within larger areas of significance to mana whenua⁵. Popular area for walking, exploring rock pools and diving. Surfing and dog exercise area at Houghton Bay beach.	
Future management	Focus on compatibility of recreational use with protecting and enhancing the natural habitats, including fencing off sensitive areas as required. Continue with the dog exercise area. Include in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.	
Classification (S.14(1) & S.16(1))	<i>Currently:</i> parcels variously acquired in 1904, 1915, 1916 & 1922, including through the Public Works Act and land exchange) but appear to have not been classified under the Reserves Act. Proposed: Recreation Reserve to: 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values.	

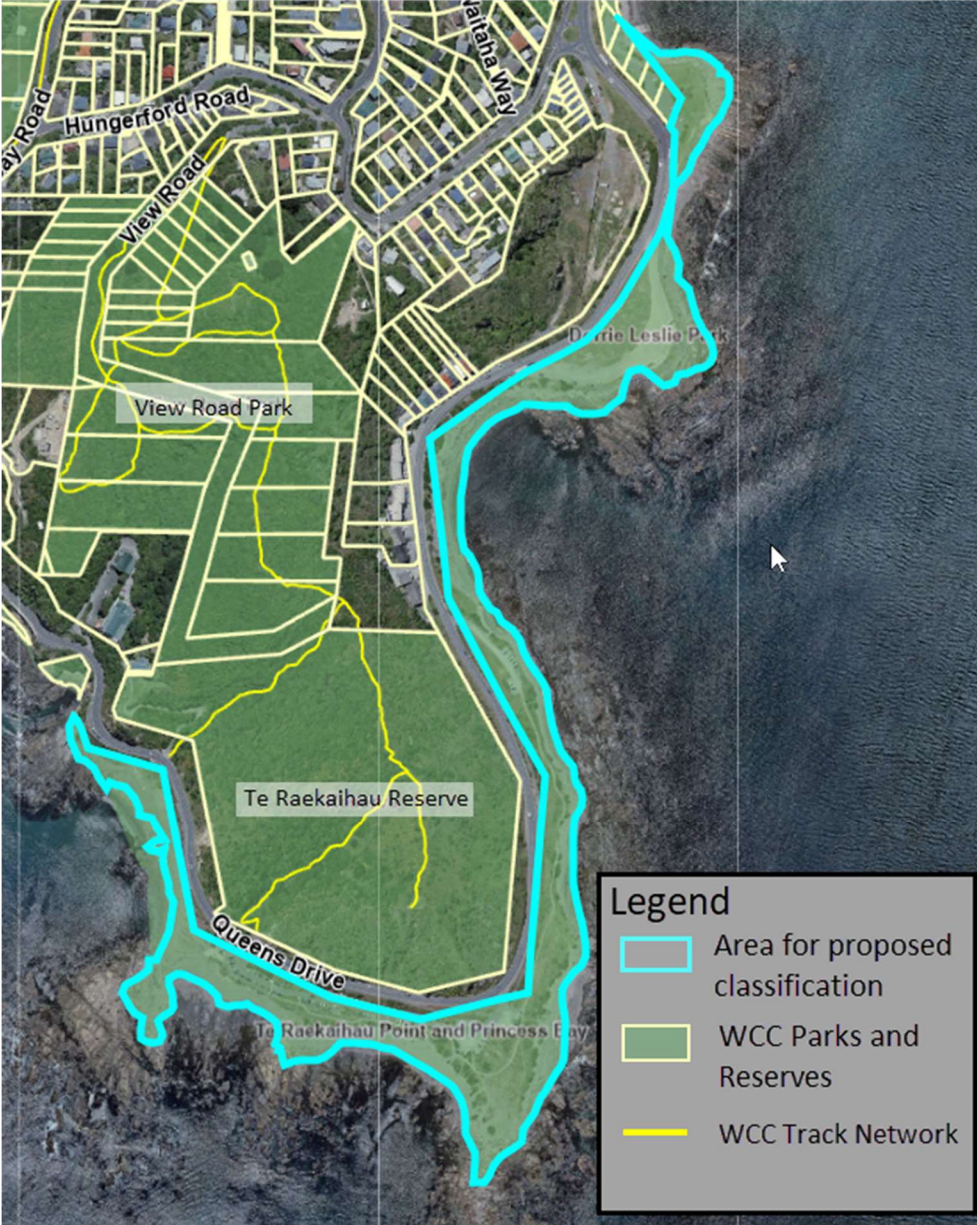
⁴ See Significant Natural Area No WC149, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

⁵ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No's 84, 149, 158 & 164, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

Notes	The Recreation Reserve classification was approved by Council resolution in 2008 but the classification was delayed due to a foreshore resurveying project and related administrative processes. Public consultation is being repeated due to the time that has elapsed.
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3. Princess Bay, Te Raekaihau Point, and Dorrie Leslie Park (South)

See Management Sector 2, map ref 2.54, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Shore around Te Raekaihau Point headland, from Princess Bay to Hungerford Road. Adjoins Taputeranga Marine Reserve at west end. 	
Legal description	Part Lot 3 DP 90866. (Parcel: 7029128)	Area: 5.81 ha
Description	Rocky shore platform with areas of shingle and sand beach; rock outcrops, reefs and boulders. Much of this site is within a Significant Natural Area. ⁶ Small areas of ecologically important vegetation including coastal scrub, shrubland, duneland, herbfield and saltmarsh. Existing and potential bird habitat. Threatened and at-risk species (including the rare <i>Smeagol</i> slug) and land environments present	

⁶ See Significant Natural Areas, No's WC150, 151 and 152, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

	Large carparking areas in several locations; public toilets/changing sheds at Princess Bay; shared foot/cycle path through much of this area; grassy areas; concrete and riprap coastal protection; wastewater outlet pipe at Waitaha Cove. The area from Princess Bay to Waitaha Cove <i>area</i> is within larger areas of significance to mana whenua.⁷ High-use area, popular for swimming, walking, exploring rock pools, diving, picnicking and viewing Cook Strait.
Future management	Focus on compatibility of recreational use with protecting, enhancing and expanding the natural habitats, including fencing off sensitive areas as required. Continue to manage as a high-use recreational beach destination area, including restricting vehicle access within defined parking areas, providing public toilet and changing facilities. Include in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline. Support sustainable pingao harvest at Princess Bay.
Classification (S.14(1))	<i>Currently:</i> unclassified Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values.
Notes	This single land parcel encompasses areas known as Princess Bay, Te Raekaihau Point and Dorrie Leslie Park.

⁷ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No's 84, 149, 158 & 164, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

4. Dorrie Leslie Park (North)

See Management Sector 3, map refs 3.02 & 3.04, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Shore on west side of Lyall Bay from opposite 370 to 281 Queens Drive. 	
Legal description	Lot 4 DP 90866, Part Lots 455-460 DO 171, as held in WN212/127 (part cancelled). (<i>Parcels:</i> 4017270, 3905519, 3947720, 3837907, 3910417, 3896273, 3974842.)	Area: 1.26 ha (approx.)
.	Rocky shore platform with outcrops/reefs and shingle beaches. Large grassy areas with small, scattered areas of vegetation and specimen trees. Threatened / at-risk species present but low diversity.⁸ Includes carpark, boat ramp and associated vehicle access; areas of riprap coastal protection; two stormwater outlets and parts of an informal walk/bike track. Potential contamination risk if the site is disturbed, including from erosion. Most of this area is an off-leash dog exercise area. Also used for walking, picnicking, swimming, snorkelling, exploring in rock pools and boat launching.	

⁸ See Significant Natural Area NO WC152 in proposed district plan

Future management	Continue to manage as a mainly off-leash dog exercise area and amenity green space, maintain the boat ramp and launching access, continue to restrict vehicle access within defined parking areas; and enhance/expand indigenous planting. Monitor erosion of shoreline and manage the contamination risk as required. Include in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.
Classification (S.14(1))	<i>Currently:</i> unclassified Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values.
Notes	The land parcels in question are the remainder after a realignment of Queens Drive and an extensive resurveying of foreshore areas in the vicinity in 2001.

5. Lyall Bay Beach

See Management Sector 3, map refs 3.05 & 3.06, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Beachfront at Lyall Bay from Queens Drive end to the end of Lyall Parade. 	
Legal description	Lot 5 DP 90866, Pt Lot 3 DP 2456. (<i>Parcels:</i> 3760146, 3979948)	Area: 4.76 ha (est)
Description	Sandy beach with areas of sand dune and restoration planting (threatened ecosystem⁹), which provides habitat for birds, invertebrates and lizards. Various stormwater pipe outflow points, including that of Ngaroma Stream, which provides spawning habitat for freshwater fish. Kororā nesting habitat in riprap at east end. Built features include areas of paved promenade, sea wall, beach access steps and boardwalks, a playground, some riprap coastal protection. Also, four buildings including public toilets, the Maranui and Lyall Bay Surf Life Saving Club buildings, and the NZ Art Show pavilion. Building leases include café and club uses. Named by mana whenua ‘Hue te Para’ (ripe gourd), reflecting importance as a traditional food gathering area. A high-use destination popular for seaside activities including surfing, water sports, play and walking. Dog walking is prohibited on the west end of the beach and allowed off-leash at the east end.	
Future management	Manage as a significant visitor destination beach area for a range of shared uses, focusing on providing accessible public facilities and enabling appropriate ancillary services that support public recreational use and enjoyment. Also focus on protecting, enhancing and expanding ecological restoration areas (e.g. dunes and fish spawning areas), adopting nature-based solutions to stormwater and erosion issues where possible. Include in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.	
Classification (S.14(1))	<i>Currently:</i> unclassified Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 3. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values	

⁹ Coastal dune systems with indigenous vegetation are considered Endangered: see Significant Natural Area No WC176 in proposed district plan

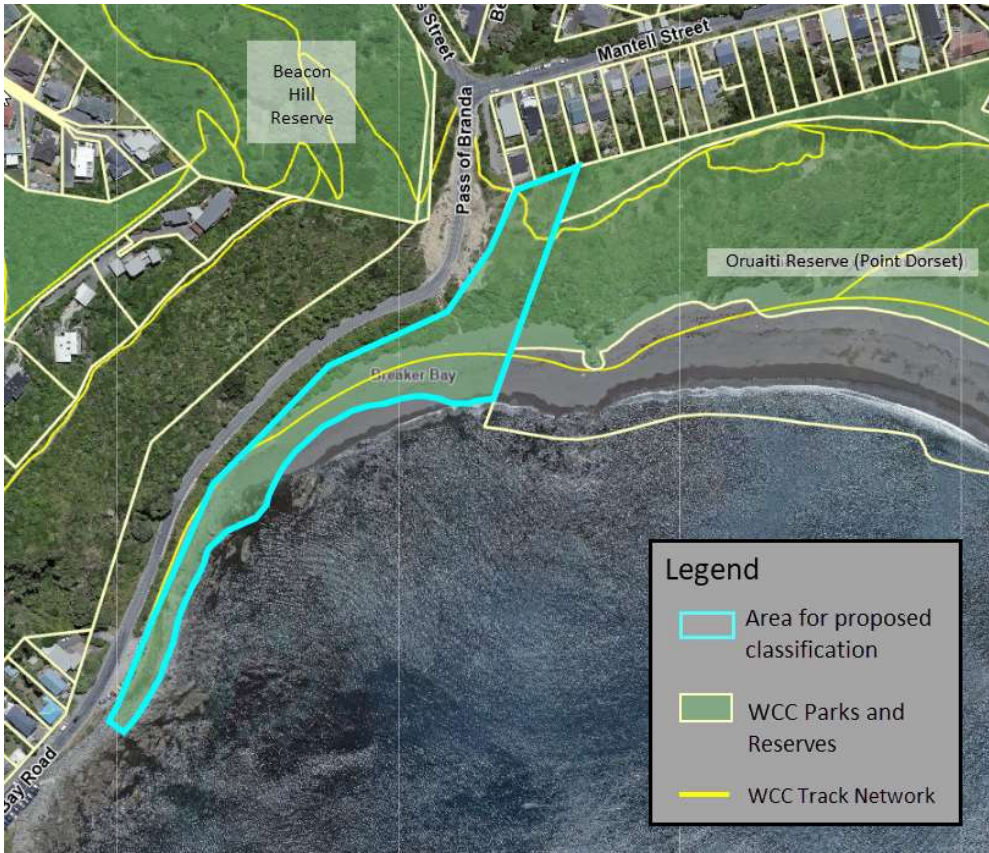
6. Lyall Bay Beach (East)

See Management Sector 3, map ref 3.10, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Beachfront at east end of Lyall Bay beach. 	
Legal description	Lot 6 DP 75384: (Parcel: 3998586)	Area: 0.0914 ha
Description	Small carpark area, accessed from Lyall Parade and Moa Point Road, comprising mainly paved surface and some planting beds. Area built as part of airport runway reclamation and the seaward side is protected by riprap rock on the adjoining Crown-owned land parcel. This riprap provides nesting habitat for kororā. Well used by surfers, dog walkers and people wanting to fish off the rocks bordering Moa Point Road.	
Future management	Maintain the parking area to enable recreational users to access the beach, while also monitoring and protecting the kororā nesting area. Include in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.	
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> esplanade reserve Proposed reclassification: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide beachside public recreational access, and 2. Protect and enhance the kororā habitat.	

7. Breaker Bay Foreshore Reserve

See Management Sector 4, map ref 4.26, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Shore and cliffs at the east end of Breaker Bay below Breaker Bay Road. 	
Legal description	Lot 2 Deposited Plan 6560. (<i>Parcel:</i> 3933256)	Area: 1.0049 ha
Description	Comprises areas of rocky shoreline, shingle beach and steep vegetated cliffs adjacent to the Pass of Branda. Coastal forest/shrubs on the cliff area and provides habitat for indigenous birds, including threatened species.¹⁰ Visually reads as the threshold to Oruaiti / Point Dorset headland. Includes part of the carpark at the east end of Breaker Bay; a connecting path to the beach; and contains part of the ridgetop Oruaiti / Point Dorset track. Riprap coastal protection reinforces the bank below carpark and beach access. Lies within the Rangitatau Landscape Takiwā of significance to mana whenua.¹¹ Part of the popular walking route around the Oruaiti / Point Dorset headland. Also provides access for diving and exploring the rocky shoreline, and to the nudist beach further east round the bay.	
Future management	Manage to integrate with the management of the adjacent Oruaiti Reserve, which is classified recreation reserve. (Oruaiti is owned by Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko and administered by the Council). Focus on maintaining public recreational access to the beach and headland while protecting and enhancing the natural values.	
Classification	<i>Currently:</i> vested for recreation purposes under Public Works Act but not classified under Reserves Act.	

¹⁰ See Significant Natural Area No WC157, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

¹¹ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No 150, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

(S.16(1))	<i>Proposed: Recreation Reserve to</i> 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values
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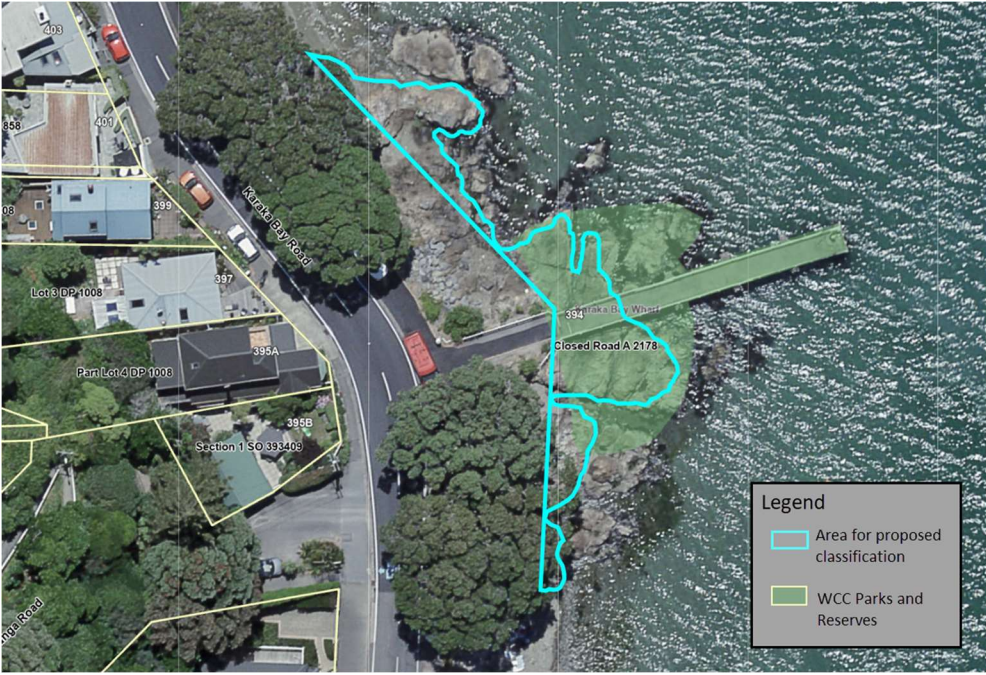
8. Worser Bay Beach Reserve

See Management Sector 5, map refs 5.05, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Shore at Worser Bay on the point opposite Awa Road. 	
Legal description	Part Section 8 Watts Peninsula DIST. (Parcel: 3853814)	Area: 0.3769 ha
Description	Situated on the small rocky point at the north end of the Worser Bay sandy beach and dunes. It includes a cluster of buildings and associated boat ramps leased to the Worser Bay Life Saving Club, Worser Bay Boating Club and Eastern Bays Scout Association; car parking; lawn and specimen trees. Concrete and riprap coastal protection is in place immediately adjacent on the north side of the site.	
Future management	Continue to manage as part of the Worser Bay Beach Reserve. Foster integration and sharing of facilities between recreation / community groups. Monitor stability of coastal protection structures and include this site in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.	
Classification (S.16(1))	<i>Currently:</i> vested in 1930 for the purpose of a pleasure ground under Public Works Act 1928 but not classified under Reserves Act. Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide facilities for public recreational and community activities, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Maintain and enhance amenity and landscape values.	

9. Karaka Bay Wharf

See Management Sector 5, map ref 5.09, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Small rocky point opposite no's 395 to 401 Karaka Bay Road. 	
Legal description	Part of a closed Road through Section 4 Watts Peninsula District. (Parcel: 7569397)	Area: 0.0316 ha
Description	Small area of rocky shore, comprising rock outcrops and part of the Karaka Bay wharf structure. The rock outcrops are very close to the water, or possibly within mean high spring tide level, and are largely unmodified except where the wharf has been built. Provides places for seabird roosting. The wharf is popular for jumping/swimming, fishing and is a landmark feature around the Karaka Bay shore. Much of the site lies within the Te Whanganui-ā-Tara (Wellington Harbour) site of significance and statutory acknowledgement to mana whenua.¹²	
Future management	Continue to maintain the wharf for recreational and amenity purposes and protect the natural values of the rock outcrops. Include this site in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline, as this site will be affected, and the nearby shoreline is subject to erosion.	
Classification (S.14(1))	<i>Currently:</i> former road vested in Council in 1990 but not classified under Reserves Act. Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Provide public enjoyment and recreational wharf access to the water, and 2. Protect and enhance the ecological, cultural and landscape values.	

¹² See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No 167 and Coastal Statutory Acknowledgement, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

10. Cog Park / Hataitai Beach

See Management Sector 7, map ref 7.04, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Hataitai Beach and seaward edge of Cog Park, Evans Bay 	
Legal description	Lot 1 Deposited Plan 88742. (<i>Parcel</i> 3904428)	Area: 0.2382 ha
Description	This strip, averaging 10 metres in width, passes along Hataitai Beach and around the seaward side of Cog Park. Includes a paved promenade; areas of rock riprap at the water's edge; steps; historic flying boat jetty and boat ramp structures, retaining wall, ramp and boardwalk structures; seating and specimen pohutukawa trees. This strip, which is a popular swimming place, has been developed to integrate with, and looks like part of, Cog Park. Cog Park is already classified Recreation Reserve.	
Future management	Continue to manage as part of the signature Cog Park / Hataitai Beach coastal area, proposed in the <i>Draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan</i> to provide access to the water's edge (including jetties and wharves), support year-round swimming, community events and ancillary commercial activities, and appropriate facilities such as toilets and changing sheds. Include this site in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline, including potential coastal adaptation measures to maintain the beach in the long-term.	
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> vested for esplanade purposes via subdivision plan but not classified. Proposed: Recreation Reserve to 1. Formalise consistent management of the Cog Park / Hataitai Beach area 2. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 3. Protect and enhance the amenity and landscape values.	

11. Balaena Bay Reserve

See Management Sector 7, map refs 7:13, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Parking area at north end of Balaena Bay Beach. 	
Legal description	Part Reserve A Evans Bay District. (<i>Parcel</i> 3913185)	Area: 0.0809 ha
Description	Flat hard-paved car parking area directly accessible off Evans Bay Parade. Includes small areas of riprap rock retaining structure and small shrub planting at the edges. Retained on its seaward sides with riprap rock coastal protection. Main purpose to enable Balaena Bay recreational visitors to park and easily access the beach. Existing management issue with non-recreational users using the carpark.	
Future management	Reclassify as recreation reserve to emphasise that the area's primary purpose is to provide for public recreational access to, use and enjoyment of the adjacent Balaena Bay beach and shoreline. Review the parking layout to investigate potential for additional amenity planting and accessible seating overlooking the bay. Monitor for presence of kororā in the adjacent riprap rock, as it can provide habitat.	
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade), <i>Proposed reclassification:</i> Recreation Reserve to: 1. Provide for informal public recreational access, physical welfare and enjoyment, and 2. Enhance the amenity and ecological values.	
Notes	Balaena Bay carpark area was originally acquired in 1958 under the Public Works Act 1928 for the purpose of a pleasure ground and reclassified as esplanade reserve in 1989.	

C. Historic reserve classification proposals

About historic reserves

Section 18 of the Reserves Act provides for historic reserves and describes their purpose as:

“ . . . protecting and preserving in perpetuity such places, objects, and natural features, and such things thereon or therein contained as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational, and other special interest.”

Management objectives (s.18)	Primary • Manage structures, objects and sites to illustrate with integrity the history of New Zealand • Allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to such conditions and restrictions as are necessary for the protection and general wellbeing of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it • As appropriate, preserve the indigenous flora and fauna and natural environment as far as possible. Secondary (if applicable) • Manage and protect scenic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features, or indigenous flora and fauna, or wildlife • Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area.
Guidance for selection	• Area should be sufficiently large to preserve all the significant historic or archaeological features associated with the place, object or natural feature • Area should include sufficient additional land as a buffer against incompatible development or for unobtrusive sites for necessary services for management and public use • The primary value should be traditional, historic or archaeological through an association with major events, or Māori tradition • Area should have immediate interest to the visitor or be important as a key for continuing research and interpretation of New Zealand history.
Implications on development	When development is anticipated, the Council makes decisions through the reserve management plan. Examples include pedestrian and cycle access and tracks, necessary structures and facilities e.g. seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural environment	When activities related to the natural environment are anticipated, the Council makes decisions through the reserve management plan. Examples include restoration planting and weed / pest animal control and the impact of those activities on the historic values will be considered.

12. Rangitatau Historic Reserve (Moa Point addition)

See Management Sector 4, map refs 4.03, 4.04 & 4.07, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Headland above Moa Point. 	
Legal description	Section 1 SO 35818, Section 3 SO 35088, Sec 28 Watts Peninsula DIST (Parcels: 4008015, 3769586, 4004800)	Area: 3.9099 ha
Description	i. The two larger land parcels comprise steep cliffs of the coastal escarpment and hillsides above Moa Point. Covered in patchy grassland and regenerating vegetation, most of which is a significant natural area (SNA) ¹³. The SNA includes the only matagouri (in decline) on the western side of the harbour and an 'at-risk' gecko species. Undeveloped apart from a former WWII gun emplacement at the top of the site. This land is currently held for drainage purposes but is no longer needed for that. ii. The smaller land parcel (Sec 28), was one of two land parcels formerly used for engine testing. The other was classified historic reserve in 2014 and is managed as part of the adjacent Rangitatau Historic Reserve but the same classification of this parcel was delayed for administrative reasons¹⁴. This area of the coast is significant to mana whenua, all of it being within the Rangitatau Landscape Takiwā¹⁵, with significant cultural and historical value, through its association with key Māori pā sites, lookout points, and important archaeological features.	
Future management	Classify as historic reserve and manage as part of the adjacent Rangitatau Historic Reserve to prioritise protecting the cultural and historic values of the Rangitatau Landscape Takiwā	

¹³ See Significant Natural Area No WC153, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

¹⁴ Approved by Council resolution in 2008.

¹⁵ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No 150, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

	as the primary purpose, integrated with protection of natural and landscape values as the secondary purpose.
Classification (S.14(1))	<i>Currently:</i> not classified under the Reserves Act <i>Proposed: Historic Reserve</i> to 1. Protect and preserve in perpetuity the cultural and archaeological values, 2. Tell the cultural narratives associated with the reserve, and 3. Protect and enhance the ecological and recreational access values.

13. Rangitatau Historic Reserve (Bowe Street addition)

See Management Sector 4, map refs 4.13 - 4.15, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Bowes Crescent area of Strathmore Park 	
Legal description	Lots 47, 48 & 50 DP 74871 (<i>Parcels:</i> 3839750, 3871936, 3815281)	Area: 0.3446 ha
Description	Three land parcels created as part of the adjacent housing subdivision development, mainly covered in regenerating vegetation. One parcel at the end of Bowes Crescent has a carpark, one has no street frontage, and one provides foot access from Bury Grove to the track network on the adjoining Eastern Walkway / Rangitatau Reserve. Provides additional open space to the extensive connected Eastern Walkway / Rangitatau Historic Reserve lands on the hillsides above Breaker Bay and Tarakena Bay. Rangitatau Historic Reserve is part of the Rangitatau Landscape Takiwā ¹⁶ , which is significant to mana whenua, with significant cultural and historical value, through its association with key Māori pā sites, lookout points, and important archaeological features.	
Future management	This land was vested in Council for recreation reserve purposes but its already managed in a complementary way to the adjacent Rangitatau Historic Reserve, providing parking and walking access points to it and providing additional buffer space around the residential edge of the reserve. Add to Rangitatau Historic Reserve as additional buffer area and continue to provide access points to the track network and restore indigenous vegetation.	
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> vested for recreation reserve purposes but not formally classified. Proposed reclassification: Historic Reserve to 4. Protect and preserve in perpetuity the cultural and archaeological values, 5. Tell the cultural narratives associated with the reserve, and 6. Protect and enhance the ecological and recreational access values.	

¹⁶ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No 150, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

14. Rangitatau Historic Reserve (Sidlaw Street addition)

See Management Sector 4, map ref 4.21, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Slopes below Sidlaw Street and above Breaker Bay. 	
Legal description	Section 85 Watts Peninsula DIST (parcel 4066491)	Area: 11.2855 ha
Description	Steep upper slopes above the cliffs of the coastal escarpment and residential housing of Breaker Bay. Mainly covered in regenerating vegetation, nearly all of which is a significant natural area.¹⁷ This area of the coast is significant to mana whenua, all of it being within the Rangitatau Landscape Takiwā¹⁸, which has significant cultural and historical value through its association with key Māori pā sites, lookout points, and important archaeological features. The Paewhenua kainga site¹⁹ is located within this land parcel. The Eastern Walkway runs the length of this parcel, which is otherwise undeveloped. but other kinds of recreational development are not envisaged due to the steep topography and increasing natural values.	
Future management	Continue to manage as largely undeveloped for its cultural, natural and landscape values. Reclassify from its current recreation reserve status as the steep topography is unsuited to	

¹⁷ See Significant Natural Area No WC 156, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

¹⁸ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No 150, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

¹⁹ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, Nos 102 & 150, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

	more intensive recreation development and reclassification would increase the level of protection of the cultural and natural values. Proposed to reclassify as historic reserve and manage as part of the adjacent Rangitatau Historic Reserve to further recognise the Rangitatau Landscape Takiwā and historic/cultural values as the primary purpose, integrated with protection of natural and landscape values as the secondary purpose.
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> recreation reserve. <i>Proposed reclassification:</i> Historic Reserve to: 1. Protect and preserve in perpetuity the cultural and archaeological values, 2. Tell the cultural narratives associated with the reserve, and 3. Protect and enhance the ecological and recreational access values.

15. Overton Park

See Management Sector 5, map ref 5.10, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Located above between Karaka Bay Road and Pretoria Road, Karaka Bay 	
Legal description	Lot 15 Block VIII DP 858 (parcel 3851672)	Area: 0.7183 ha
Description	Steep lower slopes of coastal escarpment, mainly covered in remnant coastal forest featuring native species such as karaka, titoki and wharangi. It provides habitat for northern blue penguins and bellbirds.²⁰ This is a site of significance to mana whenua – the Mahinga Kai, Karaka Grove²¹. It is a vital connection to the history of the nearby Kakariki-Hutia Pā and Whetu Kairangi Pā sites above Worser Bay. The fortified Ngāi Tara pā was a strategic and spiritual hub and the nearby forests were traditionally a source of food and natural resources.	
Future	Protect and manage as a culturally significant site, incorporating opportunities for public	

²⁰ See Significant Natural Area No WC160, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

²¹ See sites and areas of significance to Māori, No 92, Wellington City 2024 District Plan

management	education on its history and importance. Protect the ecological values, including through weed and pest animal management.
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> Recreation Reserve <i>Proposed reclassification:</i> Historic Reserve to 1. Protect and preserve in perpetuity the cultural and archaeological values, 2. Tell the cultural narratives associated with the reserve, and 3. Protect and enhance the ecological values.
Notes	Reserve name: A name change to 'Te Karaka Onehunga Park' is also proposed for this reserve. See current consultation on <i>Tātou ki Uta</i> – the draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan (wcc.nz/coastalplan) – Appendix B: Name change proposals.

D.Scenic reserve (b) classification proposals

About scenic reserves, type (b)

Section 19 of the Reserves Act provides for two types of scenic reserves and describes their purposes as follows:

Scenic reserves (a): “. . . protecting and preserving in perpetuity for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment, and use of the public, suitable areas possessing such qualities of scenic interest, beauty, or natural features or landscape that their protection and preservation are desirable in the public interest”.

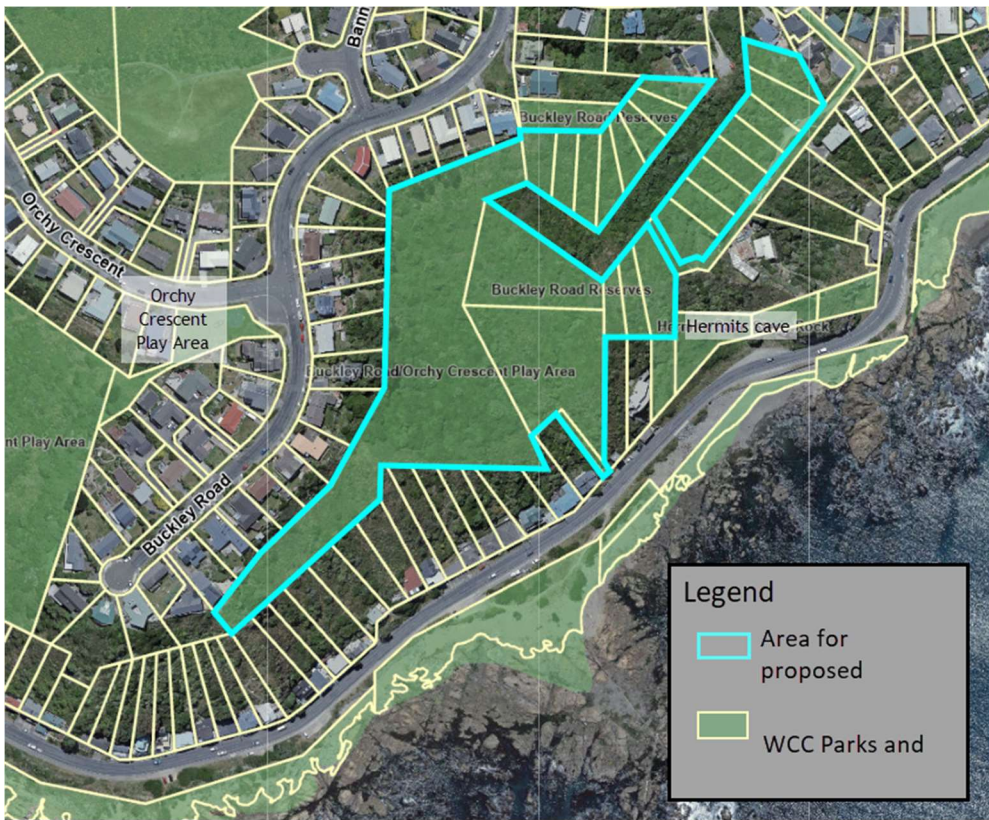
Scenic reserves (b): “. providing, in appropriate circumstances, suitable areas which by development and the introduction of flora, whether indigenous or exotic, will become of such scenic interest or beauty that their development, protection, and preservation are desirable in the public interest.”

For the proposed scenic reserves in this document, only type (b) is considered appropriate because all the sites have been considerably modified by past land clearance and the natural/scenic values are generally in a state of recovery.

Management objectives for scenic reserve (b) (s.19 (3))	Primary • Manage for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public • Preserve indigenous flora and fauna, biological associations and the natural environment as far as possible • Exterminate exotic flora and fauna as far as possible • Allow the public freedom of entry and access subject to conditions and restrictions necessary for the protection and wellbeing of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it. Secondary -if applicable • Develop open portions for amenities & facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve • Manage and protect historic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features • Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area.
Guidance for selection	• Degraded natural or semi-natural areas where the public interest warrants restoration or conversion as a scenic attraction.
Implications on development	When development is anticipated, the Council makes decisions through the reserve management plan. Examples include pedestrian and cycle access and tracks, necessary structures and facilities e.g. seating, signs and fences.
Implications on the natural environment	When activities related to the natural environment are anticipated, The Council makes decisions through the reserve management plan. Examples include restoration planting and weed / pest animal control.

16. Buckley Road Reserves

See Management Sector 2, map refs 2.22 and 24 – 2.30, in draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025

Location	Slopes above Houghton Bay, near Buckley Road and Cave Road 	
Legal description	Lot 100 DP 44305, Lots 43-51 DP 1467, Lot 342 DP 172, Part Lot 344 DP 172, Part Lot 7 DP 785, Lots 119-129 DP 1467. (Parcels: 3868508, 3919837, 3828095, 4045153, 3935024, 3944091, 4009901, 4044146, 3913812, 3770843, 3913790, 3765138, 4003635, 3850113, 3758153, 3753161, 3826236, 3919833, 4021431, 3748143, 4011133, 3939586, 3913794, 3833448)	Area: 2.5452 ha
Description	Very steep upper slopes of the coastal escarpment above Houghton Bay. Covered in regenerating vegetation. Undeveloped except traversed by a stormwater pipe. Has little road frontage and no walking tracks. Visually prominent in the immediate coastal landscape, contributing to the wild, undeveloped character of the coastal escarpment.	
Future management	This land was originally classified as recreation reserve but is largely unsuited to recreational use and development due to the very steep slopes and lack of road frontages. Its natural values have increased over time with potential to improve more with time and restoration. Manage primarily to protect, restore and connect the natural and landscape values, protecting the vegetation cover and wildlife habitat through ongoing weed and pest animal management.	
Classification (S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> recreation reserve. Proposed reclassification: Scenic Reserve (b) to 1. Protect and enhance the ecological values; and 2. Enhance the natural landscape character of the coastal escarpment.	

17. Hermit's Cave - Steep Rock

See Management Sector 2, map refs 2.31 & 2.32, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Adjacent to The Esplanade on the west side of Houghton Bay. 	
Legal description	Lot 132 DP 1467, Part Lot 339, 341, 343 DP 172 (Parcels: 3863357, 4004026, 3872466, 3771332)	Area: 1.7946 ha (est)
Description	Very steep rocky cliffs on the coastal escarpment immediately above the shore platform and road. Some bare rock but mainly covered in regenerating vegetation, including some indigenous coastal shrub and tree species and various invasive weeds. Modified landform due to road construction and undeveloped except traversed by wastewater and stormwater pipes. Includes part of a cave where a hermit lived or many years in the late nineteenth century (hence the reserve name).	
Future management	Manage this steep escarpment site for its landscape/ natural values, as unsuitable for track or other recreational development. Integrate management with adjoining Buckley Road Reserves to primarily protect, restore and connect natural and landscape values, protect vegetation cover and wildlife habitat through ongoing weed and pest animal management.	
Classification (S.14(1))	<i>Currently:</i> unclassified. Proposed: Scenic Reserve (b)²² to 1. Protect and enhance the ecological values; and 2. Enhance the natural landscape character of the coastal escarpment.	
Notes	Lot 132 was taken for housing purposes under the Public Works Act in 1976. A declaration that it is no longer needed for that purpose and is to be set aside for scenic reserve purposes will be required prior to Reserves Act classification.	

²² This classification was approved by Council resolution in 2008 but classification was delayed due to land administration technicalities.

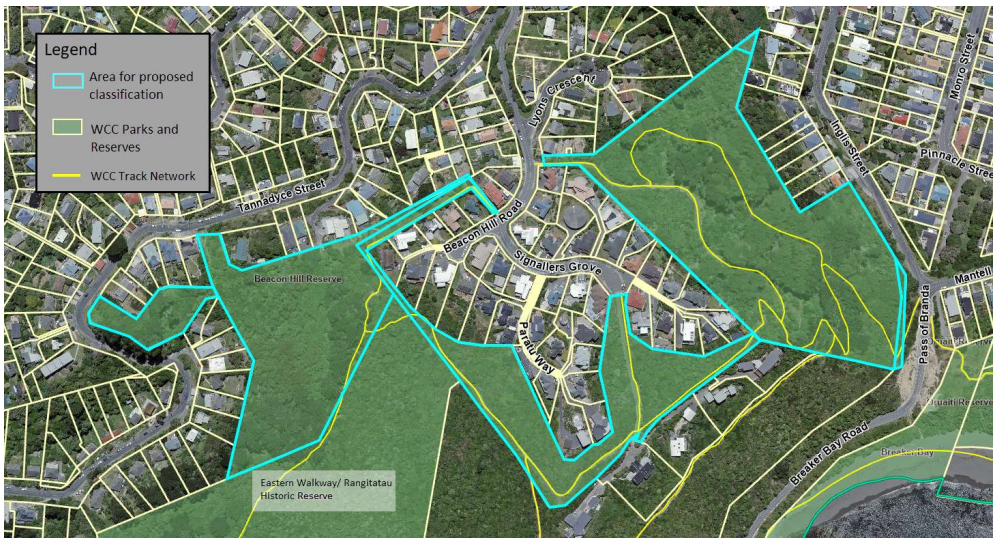
18. Birkhall Grove Reserve

See Management Sector 4, map refs 4.10 – 4.12, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Bowes Crescent area of Strathmore Park 	
Legal description	Lot 13 DP 85598, Lot 63 DP 74870, Lot 29 DP 74872 (<i>Parcels:</i> 3972721, 4066648, 3905747)	Area: 0.4410 ha
Description	Three land parcels created as part of the adjacent housing subdivision development. Mainly covered in regenerating vegetation. One narrow street frontage on Birkhall Grove. Undeveloped except for a track which connects to wider publicly accessible tracks on the adjacent Airways Corporation land, which connect to Ahuriri Street and the Eastern Walkway. Provides additional open space to the extensive connected Eastern Walkway / Rangitatau Historic Reserve lands on the hillsides above Breaker Bay and Tarakena Bay.	
Future management	Continue to manage as a buffer area around the adjacent residential housing where indigenous vegetation can regenerate and as an entry point to the public track network in the vicinity. Although a relatively small area, it is a useful addition to the extensive connected open space on the hillsides above Breaker Bay and Tarakena Bay, including the Airways Corporation land, where the connectivity of natural, cultural and landscape values are a dominant feature with recreational access a secondary purpose for enjoyment of those values.	
Classification	<i>Currently:</i> vested for recreation reserve purposes but not classified. Proposed reclassification: Scenic Reserve (b) to 1. Protect and enhance the ecological and landscape values; and 2. Provide for compatible public outdoor recreation and enjoyment	

19. Beacon Hill Reserve

See Management Sector 4, map refs 4.22 – 4.25, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Open space adjoining Tannadyce Street, Beacon Hill Road and Pass of Branda. 	
Legal description	Lot 177 DP 15452, Part Lot 64 DP 9281, Lot 1 DP 89958, Part Section 16-17 Watts Peninsula DIST, Lot 11 DP 2133 (parcels 3775829, 3905624, 4051977, 3904736, 4020716, 3985128)	Area: 6.0920 ha
Description	Steep land that is part of a larger continuity of open space above Breaker Bay. The Eastern Walkway crosses the western part of the site, and other tracks provide additional connections to nearby streets and reserve land. Mainly covered in regenerating indigenous vegetation, partly within a Significant Natural Area ²³ containing coastal scrub and forest remnants. A paved driveway/easement crosses the eastern end of the site, connecting private houses to Signallers Grove.	
Future management	Together, these land parcels make a sizeable area of steep land unsuited to intense recreational development, where vegetation has regenerated over time. Manage for restoration and connectivity of natural and landscape values. Maintain tracks to ensure local loop route access and the continuity of the Eastern Walkway. Protect the vegetation cover and wildlife habitat through ongoing weed and pest animal management.	
Classification (S.14(1) & S.24)	<i>Currently:</i> recreation reserve except for Lot 1 DP 89958, which was vested for recreation reserve purpose but not classified. Proposed classification or reclassification: Scenic Reserve (b) to 1. Protect and enhance the ecological and landscape values; and 2. Provide for compatible public outdoor recreation and enjoyment.	

²³ See Significant Natural Area No WC156, Proposed Wellington City 2024 District Plan

E. Local purpose reserve classification proposals

About local purpose reserves

Section 23 of the Reserves Act provides for local purpose reserves and describes their purpose as:

“... providing and retaining areas for such local purpose or purposes as are specified in any classification of the reserve”.

Management objectives (s.17)	Primary • Determined by the purpose • May prohibit access to the whole or any part of the reserve except by permit where appropriate. Secondary • Manage and protect scenic, historic, archaeological, biological or natural features • Maintain value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area.
Guidance for selection	Depends on purpose but generally very small, modified areas.
Implications on development	This class of reserve has the least restriction on activities, but compatibility will be determined by the stated purpose of the reserve.
Implications on the natural environment	The management and protection of natural values will be determined primarily by the reserve's stated purpose but is a secondary purpose where compatible with the primary purpose.

20. Greta Point Esplanade Reserve

See Management Sector 7, map refs 7.09, 7.10 & 7.11, in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	Water's edge at Greta Point, Evans Bay  Legend - Area for proposed classification - WCC Parks and Reserves	
Legal description	Lots 3 to 5 Deposited Plan 88742 (parcels 3821119, 3900991 & 4018238)	Area: 0.5926 ha
Description	Three parcels, which, together, form an almost continuous strip up to 20 metres wide around the seaward side of the Greta Point development. Includes a paved promenade, small areas of boardwalk, steps, two small beach areas; access to a boat ramp and jetty; and some amenity planting and lawn areas. Riprap rock protection extends around most of water's edge. Principally provides public access to and around the water's edge, with some places for sitting. Somewhat secluded and the jetty underused.	
Future management	Continue to provide and maintain public access to and along water's edge as the dominant purpose, ensuring compatibility with the adjacent residential and other private development at Greta Point. Improve wayfinding signage. Assess future viability and possible removal of the jetty. Maintain and monitor the coastal edge protection and include this site in wider project to manage impacts of sea level rise around the coastline.	
Classification	<i>Currently:</i> vested for esplanade reserve but not classified Proposed: Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade) to 1. Enable public access to and along the harbour edge; 2. Enable informal recreational use and enjoyment of the reserve; and 3. Mitigate against the effects of sea level rise.	

Notes	The land was taken under the Public Works Act in 1976 for building of the general government. Before classifying the reserve, a Ministerial Gazette Notice will be required to declare the land is no longer required for the purpose it was taken for.
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21. Greta Point Kororā Reserve

See Management Sector 7, map ref 7.12 in draft *Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2025*

Location	North end of Greta Point, adjacent to Evans Bay Parade 	
Legal description	Section 3 Survey Office Plan 34240 (parcel 4065317)	Area: 0.17 ha
Description	Most of the site is planted with indigenous coastal vegetation and fenced off to provide a safe nesting habitat for kororā (penguins). Also includes an unpaved path across the site, and part of the paved shoreline promenade with seating.	
Future management	Maintain and manage most of the reserve as protected kororā nesting habitat, fencing off the nesting areas as required. Continue to provide for public recreational access on the promenade and provide onsite information about kororā conservation.	
Classification	<i>Currently:</i> vested in Council from subdivision plan for purpose of Local Purpose Reserve (Esplanade) but not formally classified. Proposed reclassification: Local Purpose Reserve (Penguin Habitat) to 1. Provide and protect safe nesting habitat for kororā (little penguins), and 2. Provide for compatible public access adjacent to the protected areas.	
Notes	The land was taken under the Public Works Act in 1976 for buildings of the general government. Before classifying the reserve, a Ministerial Gazette Notice will be required to declare the land is no longer required for the purpose it was taken.	

