DRAFT SANDY POINT DOMAIN

Reserve Management Plan

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Invercargill
CITY COUNCIL

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RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SANDY POINT DOMAIN

[Insert Month] 2025 – [Insert Month] 2035

PREFACE

The Sandy Point Domain Reserve Management Plan has been prepared in compliance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The purpose of this Management Plan is to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation as the case may require and, to the extent that the administrating body's resources permit, the development of the reserve for the purposes for which it is classified; and shall incorporate and ensure compliance with the principles set out in the appropriate section of the Act.

The 2023 Sandy Point Masterplan is a key supporting document to this Reserve Management Plan. The Masterplan outlines challenges at Sandy Point Domain and proposes a staged process to address them. The Reserve Management Plan relies on the Masterplan to express the intentions for development at Sandy Point Domain.

This Management Plan shall be held under regular review to ensure that it remains relevant to changing circumstances and demands.

Caroline Rain

MANAGER - PARKS AND RECREATION

[INSERT DATE]

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WĀHANGA TUATAHI – KUPU WHAKATAKI ME TE WHAKAMĀRAMA / PART ONE – INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.0 *Kupu whakataki /Introduction*

Comprising 2,217 hectares, Sandy Point Domain (The Domain) is a large and significant open space for Invercargill City Council (Council), mana whenua, stakeholders and the wider community. Situated between the Oreti River and Foveaux Strait, the Domain is highly valued as vast reserve with a variety of landscapes where multiple recreation activities can occur, some of which would be difficult to locate elsewhere on land managed by the Council.

As one of the few remaining native forest areas within the Invercargill urban environment, the Domain offers the Invercargill community an important recreational resource providing opportunities such as picnicking, play, walking, running, cycling, horse riding, turf sports and motorsports. The Domain provides a setting where Māori heritage, indigenous biodiversity and forestry are valued.

A Masterplan outlines intentions for development at the Domain at a conceptual level.

This Reserve Management Plan (RMP) reflects the needs, values and aspirations of the community. The RMP has been prepared in consultation with mana whenua, key partners and stakeholders and the community.

1.1 Te hono ki te mahere matua / Relationship with the Masterplan

The Sandy Point Domain Masterplan guides priorities for development of the Domain (with a 50 year time horizon) and supports implementation of the RMP. The masterplan is not formally required as part of this RMP but is consistent with the vision, guiding principles, objectives and policies. Council sought feedback on the masterplan whilst formally consulting on this plan to ensure that both plans remain aligned. The RMP refers to the masterplan and objectives and policies in the RMP support development that is consistent with the masterplan. The masterplan sets out Council's intentions for developing The Domain.

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1.2 Pēhea te whakawhanake i tēnei mahere / How this plan was developed

This plan has been prepared in consultation with mana whenua, key stakeholders and the public using the process set out in section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 (The Act).

Classification
The Recreation Reserve classification of all land in the Domain has been reviewed as part of the process of developing this RMP, in accordance with section 16 of the Act 1977 to ensure land is classified according to its primary purpose

Mana whenua
Ngāi Tahu ke Murihiku are mana whenua for the rohe containing the Domain.

In giving effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi and other legislation, such as the Reserves Act, Council has involved mana whenua in the development of this RMP and the Masterplan from preliminary stages. The development and strengthening of mutually beneficial working relationships between Council and mana whenua will enable mana whenua to strengthen their connection to taonga within the Domain and ensure their tikanga (customs), kawa (ceremony or protocol) and mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) are able to be passed on to future generations.

Accurately identifying mana whenua values in the Domain is important and enables mana whenua to work with Council to preserve and nurture the physical and spiritual aspects of these values in ways which may practically express kaitiakitanga.

Community
The community provided feedback 30 September – 15 December 2023 during the first stage of public notification. Feedback has informed development of this draft RMP, and the vision for the park and the guiding principles of this plan.

1.3 Te aronga me te hōkaitanga o te mahere / Purpose and scope of the plan

The purpose of this reserve management plan is to provide certainty for the function, management and development of the Domain and to ensure management decisions are consistent with the Act.

To achieve this purpose, the RMP:

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- Speeds up decision making by providing a common understanding in the community of how the reserve will be managed;
- Simplifies administration by providing clear policy statements with regard to the reserve, which will achieve consistency in decision making;
- Ensures that these decisions will take into account the broad public interest, rather than being made on an ad hoc basis;
- Is clear about general intentions and attitudes while retaining the flexibility to deal with matters of detail on their individual merits within the general framework;
- Identifies the natural, spiritual, and cultural qualities of the reserve and ensures their protection;
- Provides the means of resolving or minimising conflicts between users of the reserve;
- Provides for protection of iwi heritage values from ongoing demands.

In accordance with section 41(3) of the Act this RMP shall:

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

The RMP enables Invercargill City Council to establish the desired mix of use, development and protection for the Domain and sets out policies to guide day to day management.

It is a high-level policy document rather than a detailed operational plan.

The objectives, policies and actions in this RMP will be implemented through:

- Collaboration with mana whenua, stakeholders, the community and other agencies.
- Council's Activity Management Plan, Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes.
- The operational work plans.
- The programme of projects adopted by Council.

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Management policies in the RMP have been revised to only include policies that are specific to the reserve. Policies not listed in the RMP are covered through the General Policies Reserve Management Plan 2023 (General Policies RMP) to avoid repetition. Policies reflect the needs of current and future users and to be consistent with current 'best practice' management procedures.

1.4 He aha kei te korahi o tēnei mahere / What is in scope of this plan

The RMP applies to land within the Domain for which Council has decision-making responsibility. Council is required under the Act to prepare management plans on the reserves it manages. Management plans contain policies on the long-term maintenance and development of the reserves. Land owned or vested by Council is included in this RMP, as shown by the boundaries on the plan (Appendix 1).

Out of Scope

Although the beach (between the sand dunes and the water) and the Ōreti River directly adjoin reserve land, they are not managed by Council and so actions to address impacts and opportunities in relation to these will be undertaken by Council in collaboration with agencies who have decision making authority under their legislation requirements (e.g. Land Act, Coastal Plan)

1.5 History/Background

The Domain is recognised as an outstanding natural feature and landscape within the Invercargill City District Plan (District Plan). In ecological terms, the Domain is considered an area of national importance, as one of the few remaining examples of dune development and vegetation sequence left in the country.

While the area has been significantly modified by humans in the last one hundred years with only a few original, mature trees remaining, the native vegetation is exhibiting strong regenerative qualities and it is hoped that the bush will eventually return to something near its Pre-European Settlement state. Much of this vegetation is identified as significant indigenous vegetation under the District Plan.

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With suitable management objectives and treatment, these areas of indigenous vegetation will have an important conservation and ecological value to the City in preserving flora, fauna, historic, wetland and landscape values for future users of the Domain.

The District Plan maps also indicate the area as "coastline most prone to erosion". Recognising the Domain's fragile existence in terms of erosion mitigation is important to maintaining the area as an asset to the city. Maintaining a healthy vegetation cover is a prime management objective and why farming was so unsuited to the area. As well as retaining soil to the area, the existence of a healthy vegetation cover is essential to the well-being of indigenous biodiversity.

The Act requires that indigenous biodiversity present on a reserve is managed and protected in a way that is compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the Domain. The management of the Domain provides opportunities to:

- Enhance indigenous biodiversity through weed and pest management measures.
- Encourage restoration planting in the Domain to implement the 2023 Masterplan.
- Demonstrate best environmental practice and sustainability.
- Undertake revegetation to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Contribute to improving water quality in the Domain, the New River and the Ōreti River.

1.5.1 Environmental – Flora and Fauna

The Domain contains nationally important ecological areas that are vital to the health of the Domain. The removal of farming practices has ensured the re-establishment of native vegetation in previously grazed areas. Maintaining and increasing the size of these areas is important as the native vegetation cover acts to protect the Domain from erosion as well as providing a habitat for native wildlife. Environmental areas are also important for education.

Indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem functions can be significantly threatened by some introduced plants and animals. It is anticipated that climate change is likely to increase the number and extent of invasive plants, invertebrates, such as wasps, and pathogen incursions in the future. Council, in its responsibility for biosecurity within the region, will align management of pest with the Southland Regional Pest Management Plan.

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1.5.1.1 Sand Dunes

Originally, as described in Smith's account of the local vegetation in 1924, a large amount of the Domain was covered in native bush and grasses as well as a number of natural lagoons. With the clearance of indigenous vegetation and the introduction of rabbits and farming practices, erosion became a major problem. The sand dunes that had been kept intact by vegetation were blown across the peninsula to the east and into the estuary.



Sand Dunes at Ōreti Beach covered with Marram Grass

Despite the introduction of marram grass and the stabilisation of these dunes the western edge of the Domain is highly vulnerable to any development changes.

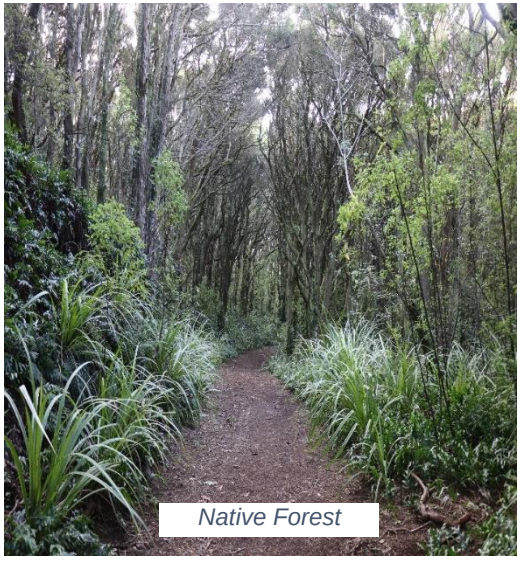
It is important that any activity that may be allowed in this area is controlled and managed so as not to have any detrimental effect on the area. The low habitat of any vegetation and the openness that this creates makes any buildings or structures highly visible for some distance.

1.5.1.2 Native Bush

In stark contrast to the open character of the coastal sand dunes, the native bush in the Domain creates a sheltered calm environment for a variety of flora and fauna. The remaining stands of native vegetation at Kilmock Bush and Daffodil Bay are of high environmental importance, improving the stability of the Domain.

These forests are dominated by regenerating tōtara stands but, as they return to their original state, the biodiversity of the area is increasing to include a number of other species.

The domination of tōtara in the forest is something that is relatively unique to the Southland coast and gives the landscape a local character. Many of the trees have been wind-blown, growing almost horizontally in a tortured habit.



Native Forest

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It is important that holes in the canopy layer are not created as they can change the sub-canopy conditions as well as increasing the opportunity for wind throw.

The regenerative qualities of the bush are strong with the bush line continually moving outwards.

1.5.1.3 Forestry

From small beginnings as a means of erosion control and the provision of shelter, forestry is now a major management area of the Domain. Council is the owner of the forest and engages a forest management firm to oversee forest operations on its behalf.

Plantings since 1946 have been for the production of forest. Covering approximately 976 hectares in *Pinus radiata* or *Macrocarpa*, plantations have had a major impact on the local landscape character of the Domain, creating single species forests that are significantly taller than the indigenous forest. Pine forests allow some native undergrowth to occur but generally the resultant acidic soil conditions are not conducive to the establishment of native bush. Rapid re-growth of native species are able to occur amongst the shelter of the plantations.

Plantations have materially assisted with sand stabilisation and the protection of the Domain. From an amenity point of view they provide valuable shelter for users of the area, provide new habitats and are part of the changing localised weather conditions. They contribute to the recreational opportunities of the area (walking tracks, horse trail clubs use them for organised horse riding, orienteering and mountain biking) enhancing the scenic values of some parts of the Domain and, no less importantly, provide revenue for the benefit of Invercargill citizens. It is envisaged in the future that recreational activities in forestry areas will increase.


Mountain Bike Area

One side benefit from forestry is the upgrading of the Domain's roads. As the plantations come into production and logging traffic becomes more frequent it will be necessary to improve the roads. That will have to be paid for from forestry income and it will greatly benefit all users of the Domain.

Sound forestry management over recent years has greatly improved the quality of the timber produced in the plantations.

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1.5.1.4 Climate Change

Climate change will result in changes to natural physical processes, ecosystems and habitats on many of the local parks, including the Domain. Altered weather patterns may have negative impacts such as an increase in plant and animal pests and the spread of pathogens.


High River Levels at Rowing Club

It could also change recreational access to areas if the ground is saturated for longer periods. The Domain is vulnerable to coastal inundation and erosion, flooding and land instability. Parks and open spaces and other community infrastructure can play an important role in increasing community resilience, by providing meeting places and opportunities for people to meet and talk and specific infrastructure such as access to drinking water.

Risks from natural hazards are expected to increase as a result of climate change, with sea levels rising and an increase in the frequency and severity of storms. Over the next century changes to the nature and extent of coastal hazards could potentially result in loss of parkland or park access, inhibiting the ability of residents to use and enjoy the park. Currently, there are issues with flooding around the eastern side of the park. Ōreti Beach and Ōreti River are significant waterbodies that have a relationship with wai (water) in the park.

The review of the current coastal bylaw, managed through Environment Southland, will be the primary delivery mechanism for adapting to change in the coastal environment. Decisions made on addressing coastal hazards will need to align with this framework and any site-specific coastal hazard assessments.

Lidar Data collected in 2023 by Environment Southland is illustrated in the 2023 Sandy Point Domain Masterplan. It addresses implications caused through ongoing sea level rise and flooding impacts which will inevitably affect assets and infrastructure, including buildings, facilities and sports fields. Inundation Modelling presented in the masterplan was influenced by the Tonkin and Taylor Report on ICC Climate Change – Gap Analysis and Coastal Inundation Levels in 2022.

The Southland Sports Fields Strategy 2023 mentions that some fields are threatened by potential coastal inundation and managed retreat from these fields maybe the only cost-effective solution in some instances. The strategy identifies that sports fields can be developed and operated in a way that minimises any carbon neutral footprint. Suggestions include

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introducing energy efficient and time controlled lighting, select high carbon sequestering native species and maximise planting opportunities.

1.5.1.5 Lagoons

Revegetation planting around Silver Lagoon has re-established indigenous vegetation around the largest remaining lagoon in the area.

A number of smaller lagoons also exist and it would be desirable to create vegetation linkages between these areas. Vegetation is predominantly Cordyline australis and Phormium tenax. They provide excellent habitat protection for wading birds.



Silver Lagoon and additional plantings on edges

The removal of grazing stock and farming practices from the area in the past has allowed areas that had previously been unable to revegetate to recover.

Some areas are becoming covered in a mix of bracken ferns and Muehlenbeckia astonii, providing good nurse crop conditions for native seedlings.

In time, and with assistance, the area will regenerate into an important wildlife site as well as increasing the biodiversity.

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1.5.1.6 Erosion and Erosion Control

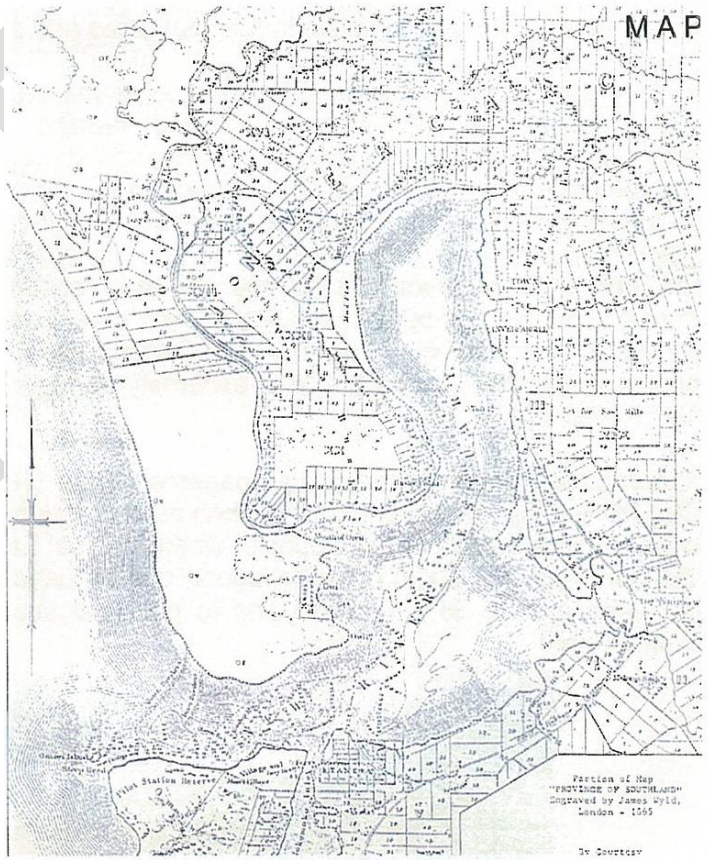
The introduction of rabbits and the loss of indigenous vegetation has caused significant erosions problems at the Domain and beyond which could not have been foreseen at the time.

Early records indicate that in pre-European times there was quite a good depth of water in the New River Estuary. A map dated 1865 shows soundings of the water in the main channel of the estuary and the deepest recording is 19 feet. It would appear that hearsay accounts of the depth of water in the estuary very much over-estimated its depth.

As well as general erosion over the whole Domain, serious erosion also occurred along the foreshore of Ōreti Beach where a large section of fore dune, some two kilometres long, eroded away. That erosion occurred sometime between 1865 and about 1880. The sea washed in and created a large bight south of what is now the main entrance to the beach.

As early as 1886, concern was expressed that the sea might break through to the Ōreti River at that point and turn the Domain into an island. As well as the rabbits, the occasional fire, overstocking and the removal of trees for timber and firewood all contributed towards the erosion. Apart from marram grass the most successful of Thomas Waugh's introductions were the tree lupin (*Lupinus arboreus*), broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and the elder (*Sambucus nigra*), all of which do so well in the Domain.

Marram grass planting, forestry and revegetation using indigenous plant species have improved the stability of the dunes and reduced erosion.



Historical Map showing the old estuary before reclamation and filling

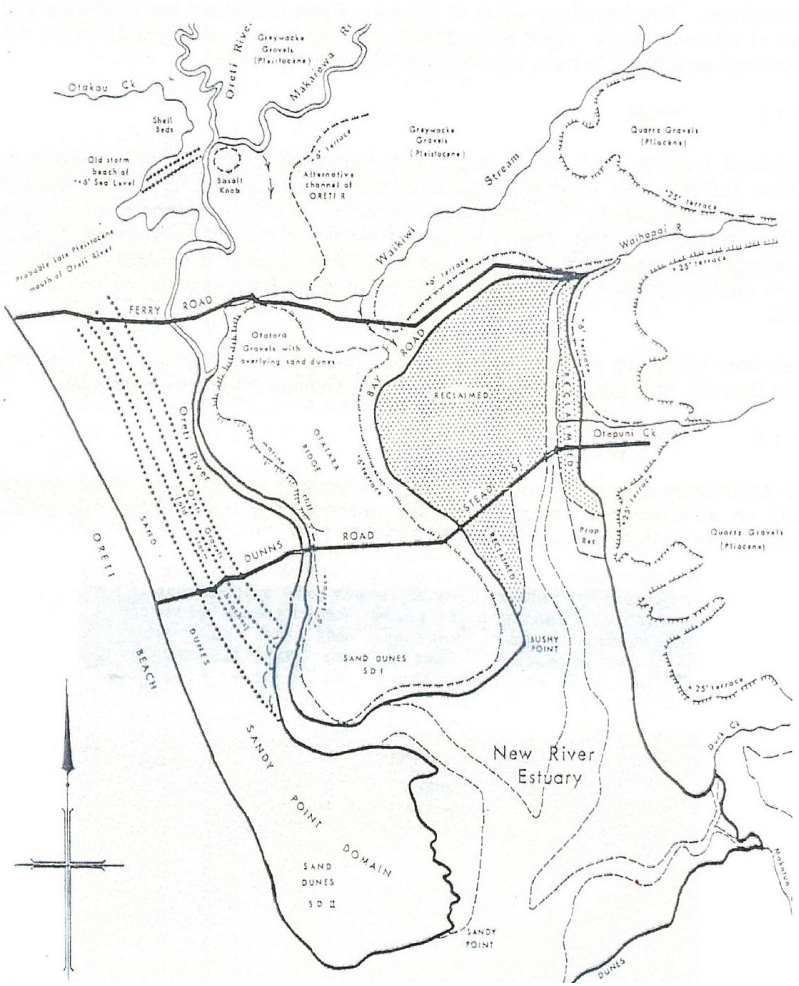
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1.5.1.7 Geology and Geomorphology

In geological terms, the Sandy Point peninsula is of very recent origin and was probably formed mainly within the last 6,000 years. It is believed that the greatest influences on the formation of the Domain and the surrounding area have been the two high sea levels of the Pleistocene period. These two sea levels were approximately eight meters and two meters above the present day mean sea level.

The shingles of the Domain are mainly greywacke with some quartz and small quantities of granite and other pebbles of Fiordland origin. Some of the old storm beach shingles contain numerous shell fragments. The sands of Ōreti Beach are medium to fine while the wind deposited sands inland are mainly fine sands. At low tide, extensive mud flats are exposed in the New River Estuary along the eastern shore of the Domain. These mud flats consist of soft, viscous organic sediments to sandy sediments. In shallow embayments, where there is estuarine vegetation such as *Scirpus* or *Leptocarpus,* there may be a surface layer of black anaerobic mud.

Behind the littoral dune system, and between the lateral dunes, lagoons and ponds used to be common. Lagoons also occurred in the troughs between the old storm beaches. Some of the lagoons were quite extensive, being several hectares in area. Unfortunately, with the severe erosion which commenced in the 1880s and continued up until the 1920s or later, many of them were filled in with wind-blown sand. Lagoons in the troughs of the old storm beaches were also destroyed by shingle extraction operations.



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The largest remaining lagoon is that known as Silver Lagoon, which is situated in the central part of the Domain. A number of the old gravel pits have now become filled with water to form permanent ponds. They supplement the natural ponds and provide valuable flora and fauna habitats. Hundreds of years of vegetation cover produced a top layer of black sandy humus which was very fertile. Unfortunately, from the 1880s onwards, most of that top layer was stripped away by wind erosion. With the protection which has been afforded to the Domain since the 1940s, this humus layer is once again becoming evident.

1.5.1.8 Shingle Extraction

For many years, the Domain was a source of shingle and, in the early days of Invercargill, it made a considerable contribution towards the building of the town.

Shingle was used for roading and the manufacture of concrete. Shingle pits were opened up at the southern end of the old storm beaches and shingle was transported by lighters across to Invercargill.

A cutting in the riverbank about 800 metres north of the Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trust marks one of the landings where shingle was loaded onto the lighters. The lighters were either loaded by wheelbarrow or by small tip trucks which were pushed by hand along wooden rails.

The actual shingle workings are marked by a series of depressions and ponds which follow the old storm beaches and extend northwards from the Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trust.



An old lagoon in the bush behind Daffodil Bay in 1924. Drifting sand later caused it to disappear

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Unfortunately, shingle extraction has laid waste in quite large areas, although one small benefit has been the ponds that were created. Some of them have become quite good wildlife habitats and, with future sympathetic treatment and plantings, they can be further enhanced. In fact, the area on the northern side of Dunns Road is naturally revegetating the old shingle workings with the original type of plant cover becoming predominant. Shingle extraction no longer occurs at the Domain.



Old gravel pits have been developed into wetland areas with the rising water table

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1.5.1.9 Flora

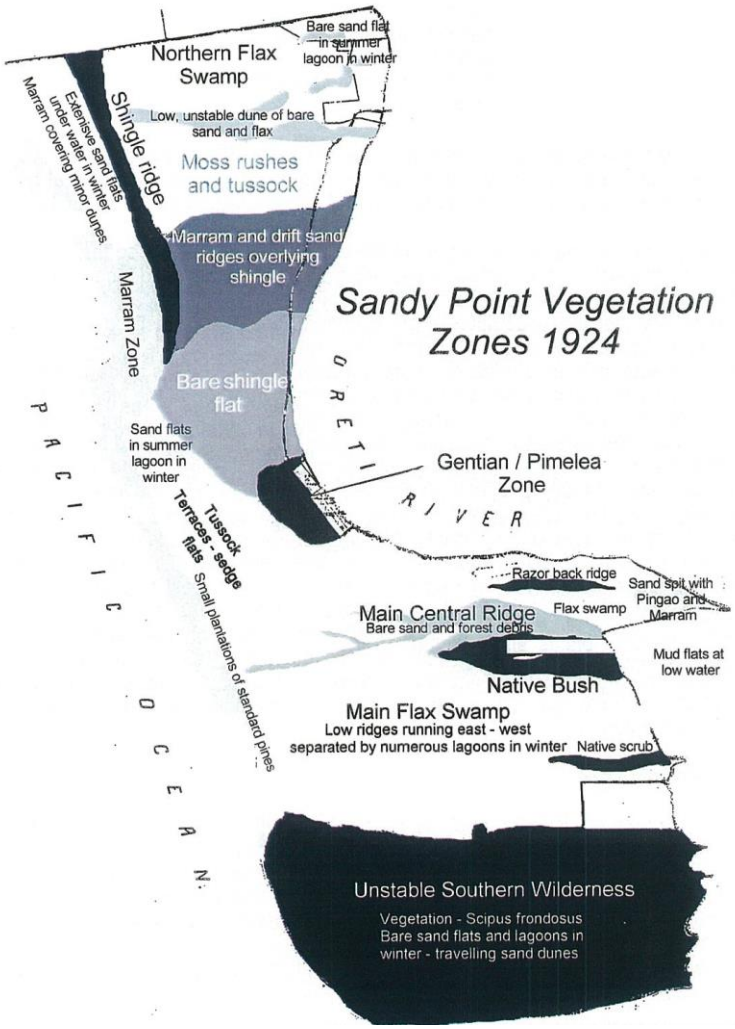
The Domain is rich in indigenous plant species and it also contains an interesting and varied selection of vegetation habitat zones. Although little of its botany was recorded in earlier years, it is fortunate that CM Smith (1924) made the first detailed records of the main vegetation zones existing at that time. These are shown on the map.

The vegetation zones as defined by Smith are as follows:

(i) Marram Zone.
(ii) Northern Flax Zone.
(iii) Sand Fescue and Moss Zone.
(iv) Sand and River Gravel Zone.
(v) Shingle Zone.
(vi) Gentian and Pimelea Zone.
(vii) Tussock Terraces Zone.
(viii) Main Central Ridge Zone.
(ix) Native Bush Zone.
(x) Flax Swamp and Lagoon Zone.
(xi) Pīngao Zone.

A careful study of existing forest areas indicates that, formerly, the native forest was particularly luxuriant. In certain favoured sites there is evidence that this luxuriance is now gradually returning.

The increasing number of bryophytes and ferns, the luxuriance of the latter, and the more continually moist conditions in the deeper recesses of the forest are dramatic evidence of what happens when a rather severely degraded piece of native forest is given adequate protection and allowed to naturally regenerate.



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Other areas have been greatly modified by burning, erosion, land drainage, sand and shingle extraction, the invasion of alien plants such as lupin, broom and elder, farming operations, the planting of forestry plantations and the conversion of areas for recreational use.

1.5.1.9.1 *Marram Zone*

The Domain and coastal dune grasses like marram, pingao and spinifex (and other coastal dune species) are vital to moderate sand movement, prevent erosion and support indigenous biodiversity.

1.5.1.9.2 *Northern Flax Swamp Zone*

The northern flax swamp zone extended from what was in 1924 the northernmost part of the Domain southwards to the northern part of Teretonga. Over the intervening years it has been heavily modified by land clearance for farming and recreational pursuits so that there is now little resemblance of what it formerly was.

1.5.1.9.3 *Sand Fescue and Moss Zone*

Like the northern flax swamp zone, it has been completely modified and no trace of it remains. The area is occupied by various recreational organisations, including the Southland Sports Car Club, Southern Motorcycle Club and the Invercargill Kart Club.

1.5.1.9.4 *Sand and River Gravel Zone*

Again, this zone has been completely modified. Gravel extraction and farming have been the prime modifying agents. The area is dominated by recreational organisations and forestry plantations with an isolated pocket of native vegetation remaining along Pit Road. It contains what is probably the last remaining remnant of *Netera balfouriana*, a plant which was formerly abundant in the sand fescue and moss zone.

1.5.1.9.5 *Shingle Zone*

Like the preceding zones, the shingle zone has been completely modified, principally because of the extensive shingle extraction which took place in the 1960s and 1970s. It is now occupied by forestry plantations and some farming.



Sand and shingle area in 1924

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1.5.1.9.6 *Gentian and Pimelea Zone*

This small zone has also been completely modified and absolutely no trace remains of the two plants after which it was designated. It is partly occupied by forestry plantations, with the balance constituting an esplanade strip along the riverbank. At what used to be the site of an old loading jetty for gravel, some native vegetation has re-established itself in a small area.

1.5.1.9.7 *Tussock Terraces Zone*

The tussock terraces zone has also been completely modified and is now mainly occupied by forestry plantations with an area on the westerly side under farm lease.

1.5.1.9.8 *Main Central Ridge Zone*

Forestry plantations occupy a large portion of this zone. On its northern side, the only near original native vegetation is a tract of scrub and flax swamp along the riverbank. As there has been considerable accretion along that section of the riverbank since 1924, it is most unlikely that the original flax swamp (as recorded by Smith) is still in existence as wind-blown sand has probably filled it in.

Running down the middle of the zone, in a west-east direction, is a prominent dune ridge known as the razorback. On its southern side there is a comparatively large area of thickly tangled scrub comprising mainly elder (*Sambucus niger*) and *pohuehue* (*Muehlenbeckia australis*). This area contains regenerating native vegetation. The actual main central ridge is largely covered with regenerating native forest and is contiguous with the native bush zone.

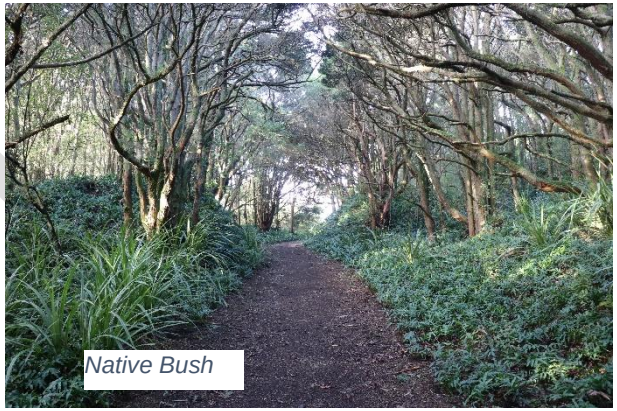
1.5.1.9.9 *Native Bush Zone*

This zone is still primarily clad with its vegetation cover similar to pre-European settlement.

Kilmock Bush is included in this zone. As previously stated, the recovery in the quality of the forest over the past 30 to 40 years has been quite dramatic and, with the protection which it enjoys today, it can be expected that the improvement will be even more rapid.

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The regeneration of trees, shrubs and other plants is evident in most areas, while in the heart of the bush there are moist gullies and hollows in which tree ferns flourish along with dense colonies of the crown fern (*Blechnum discolour*). In these moist recesses of the forest, mosses and lichens are starting to become a more prominent part of the vegetation and are indicative of the increasing and more permanent humidity.


Native Bush

As stated in the historical summary, the native forest of the Domain is unusual in that it occurs on sand dunes. It is also greatly influenced by strong, salt-laden winds which modify the exterior of the forest and induce some unusual tree forms. Few examples of this kind of forest now exist in New Zealand and, for that reason, the continuing conservation of the remaining areas in forest in the Domain is important.

The Domain's forest is Podocarp-mixed broadleaf and it contains all of the principal forest Podocarps. The tōtara (*Podocarpus tōtara*) is the principal regenerative tree and in places it forms dense thickets. Matai (*Podocarpus spicatus*) is the next common tree, although it is confined mainly to older specimens and is not showing the same capacity for regeneration.

In the forest behind Daffodil Bay, a few mature Miro (*P ferruginens*) remain and there are also a number of fine young regenerating Miro.

Rimu (*Dacrydium cuppressinum*) was apparently formerly abundant but was decimated by timber cutting in the late 1800s and in the early 1900s by fishermen stripping the bark from living trees so that they could tan their nets and sails. No mature rimu remain and there are now only a few young trees.

The tōtara trees (*Podocarpus tōtara*) on the Domain suffered a similar fate.

In past years the stripping of tōtara bark became an uncontrolled activity, as traditional customs became forgotten and many trees suffered severe damage. Some thin-bark tōtara (*Podocarpus hallii*) also grows on the Domain but it is not common.

Kahikatea (*P dacrydiodes*) still exists as a few mature trees escaped axe and fire and, no doubt, as time progresses it will commence regeneration.

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1.5.1.9.10 *Flax Swamp and Lagoon Zone*

Although much of this zone has been severely modified by drift sand, drainage, cultivation and farming, sufficient still remains to give an idea of how the whole area once appeared. Formerly it was the largest flax area in the Domain.


Silver Lagoon Area

The topography is of low ridges which once separated the numerous scattered lagoons. Now only a few lagoons remain and most of those are very shallow so that under dry conditions they may lose all of their water.

To the south-west of the native bush zone, a fine example of flax/harakeke (*Phormium tenax*) and cabbage tree/kōuka (*Cordyline australis*) swamp still exists where Daffodil Bay Road joins to Sandy Point Road.

The largest lagoon in the Domain is Silver Lagoon, which feeds Cooper's Creek. It is approximately 3 hectares and is one of the most important wetland habitats on the Domain.

There are also significant areas of red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)/haumata/flax swamp communities to the north-west of the Domain.

1.5.1.9.11 *Pīngao Zone*

This zone formerly occupied the whole southern portion of the Domain and its name was derived from the pīngao (*Desmoschoenus spiralis*), a sand binding plant which was the predominant vegetation of that area.

Marram grass, tree lupin and elder have, sadly, all but eliminated the pīngao.

In 1966 a large portion of this zone was leased out to various individuals for private forestry purposes and since then most of the leased areas have been planted with pine trees.

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Conclusion

Native vegetation of the Domain is important. It constitutes the richest area within close proximity to Invercargill as more than 220 different native plants have been recorded there. It is also important because of the variety of plant habitats and the nature of the area in which they occur.The proximity of the Domain to Invercargill (no more than 15 to 20 minutes) makes it a valuable educational resource. It is within easy reach for school parties for outdoor education, thus avoiding the necessity to make long journeys for the purposes of studying plant ecology.

Some of the plants which grow on the Domain do not occur elsewhere in the Invercargill district, while others are uncommon. The Domain was the type of habitat for Gunnera albocarpa which was discovered by Thomas Waugh in February 1895. This species was not present when inspected on site in 2012.

All native plant areas which have a significant value should be rigidly protected and, where possible, enhanced through the control of alien vegetation and the replanting of suitable species.

See Appendix 6 for a detailed list of plant species present in the Domain.

1.5.1.10 Fauna

With some 80 odd species of birds recorded in the Domain and its environs, the site provides an important habitat. Although important for all species, the Domain is especially valuable as habitat for wetland species, especially the Australasian bittern and the grey teal.

Where possible, particular habitat areas will be enhanced by the improvement of the vegetation or by the provision of nesting facilities.
The importance of the New River Estuary as a breeding ground and nursery for flounder and sole cannot be stressed enough. However, that resource is very dependent upon the quality of the water.



A photo of Sandy Point around the 1920's showing the formation of lagoons and sand drift

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See Appendix 6 for more detailed information on invertebrates, insects and habitat areas including information obtained by way of previous studies.

1.5.1.10.1 *Vertebrates*

The vertebrate fauna of the Domain has been reasonably well documented, although not so much is known of the introduced vertebrates.

1.5.1.10.2 Fish

Some 14 species of fish have been recorded from the waters on and around the Domain. Most occur in the New River Estuary with only one or two fresh-water species occurring. If the waters off Ōreti Beach are taken into account, the numbers of marine fish would no doubt be extended.

Some of these fish play quite an important part in the recreational activities of the area - however, the effects of pollution in the estuary probably deter quite a number of people from fishing in those waters.

Flounder fishing is reasonably popular in the cleaner waters towards the mouth of the estuary, at the southern end of the Domain and off parts of Ōreti Beach.

Fishing for estuarine and sea-run brown trout occurs in the Ōreti River and, at a bend just north of the Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trust, fishermen can be seen at most times of the year.

During the late spring and early summer months, yellow-eyed mullet swim up the river. A favourite fishing spot for them is in the vicinity of the Dunns Road Bridge.

Whitebait/ Īnanga travel into Cooper's Creek and possibly one or two of the side channels which drain the Ōreti River. Eels also exist in Silver Lagoon.

Bradley*[1] recorded that at certain times of the year red cod could be caught in large numbers downstream from the Dunns Road Bridge. He also stated that barracouta are sometimes caught in the same area.

[1] **Southland Catchment Board comments on Management Plan, 31 August 1989.*

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See Appendix 6 for a detailed list of Fish species.

1.5.1.10.3 Amphibians

Two species of introduced frog occur and they form quite an important part in the ecology of the area. The golden bell frog (Littoria raniformis) is found mainly in the ponds in the northern part of the Domain and, together with its tadpoles, probably provides one of the principal sources of food for the bitterns which frequent the area.

The brown tree frog (Littoria ewingii) occurs in practically all parts of the Domain and it is found wherever there is sufficient moisture for the adults to survive. At night and on rainy days, the chirping of the adults is a distinctive feature. The tadpoles of the brown tree frog and, probably to a lesser extent the adults, form part of the bittern's diet.

A skink and two gecko species, including the green tree gecko, are said to occur (L Ryan pers. comm.).

1.5.1.10.4 Birds

Birds which occur on and around the vicinity of the Domain have been well documented; although with the migratory species there is no doubt that continued observation will provide recordings of additional species. There is no doubt that for the nature lover, birds are one of the main attractions of the Domain and its environs.

A good variety of land birds and waterfowl occur at most times of the year, but it is around the shoreline and on the waters of the New River Estuary that the greater number of species may be observed.

The Southland Acclimatisation Society [now Fish and Game New Zealand Southland Region] pointed out the importance of the Domain as a wildlife habitat, particularly as a wetland area, in a submission for the 2001 Sandy Point Management Plan. The submission emphasised the richness and abundance of the waterfowl and other wetland species of birds, and made a strong plea for the retention of the present habitat areas and the restoration of the Silver Lagoon area.

Silver Lagoon was situated on a large area of farm lease and in the late 1960s was largely drained as part of farming operations. Since the Society made its submission, Silver Lagoon has been taken out of the leasehold area and has been restored to its former state.

The Domain's wetlands are an important breeding ground for the shoveler duck (Anas rhynchotis). The shoveler duck is a selected breeder and quite large numbers inhabit and breed in the Domain.

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Grey Ducks breed there occasionally.

The Domain would be one of the few places in New Zealand where bitterns (Botaurus poiciloptihis) occur within 15 minutes of a large population centre.

Fernbirds (Bowdleria punctata) used to occur in the flax swamp in the vicinity of Silver Lagoon but it is understood that they were exterminated by an accidental fire which commenced on the farm lease in 1964. A study was undertaken in 2024 by a Southern Institute of Technology Student. It was discovered that fernbirds were present at 2 of the 4 sites surveyed in the Domain. These locations were north of the end of Christies Road and near Silver Lagoon. This flax swamp has made a very good recovery and there are strong indications that fern bird exist.

At least 86 different species of bird have been recorded in the Domain itself or on the surrounding waters. Consequently, the importance of the Domain as a wildlife habitat cannot be over-stressed. All existing habitat areas should be retained and, where necessary, enhanced by planting with suitable vegetation.

Particular attention should be paid to the old shingle pit areas where there is a great deal of scope for enhancement so that the wildlife values of those areas are improved.

Where possible, significant wildlife habitats in areas of leasehold land should not only be protected from the damaging effects of grazing animals but also efforts should be made to improve the quality of such habitats.

1.5.1.10.5 Mammals

All of the land mammals which occur on the Domain are introduced and one of the earliest (the rabbit) had a disastrous effect on the area. Today, naturalised land mammals are not particularly conspicuous, although two may be regarded as being relatively serious pests - opossums and cats.

The establishment of a shore whaling station about 1836 probably saw the introduction of rats and mice - however, the rabbit was the first recorded land mammal to be deliberately introduced to the Domain area, apart from domestic animals.

See Appendix 6 for a detailed list of mammals present in the Domain.

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1.5.2 Cultural and Historic

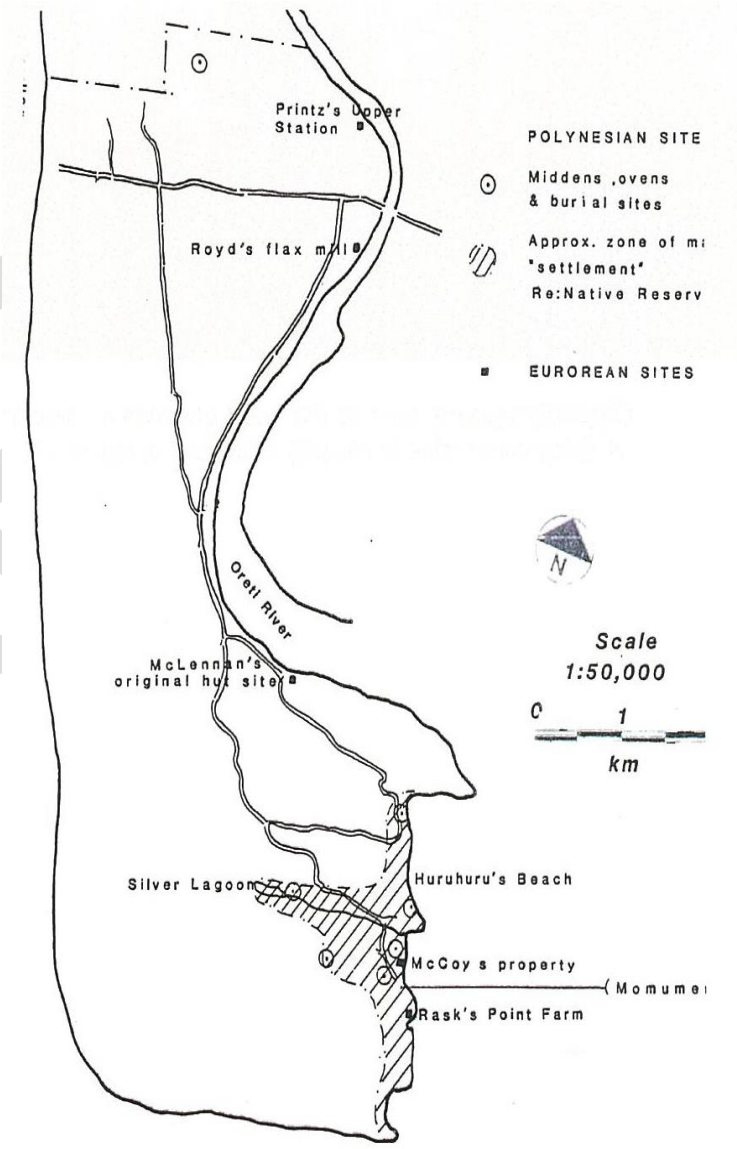
1.5.2.1 Ngāi Tahu Association

Ngāi Tahu had and continues to have an enduring relationship and connection with Ōue, Sandy Point.

In 1851 Walter Mantell was commissioned to acquire lands for the Crown from Ngāi Tahu. As part of this Mantell had an important hui on 22 December 1851 with 60 Ngāi Tahu (including Patuki, Te Au, Paitu, Horomona Patu and Huruhuru) who had come together at Ōue to discuss their reserve boundaries (Sorrell, 2006; Waitangi Tribunal, 1991a). Here, Mantell attained an agreement for the Murihiku purchase, yet, while the chiefs had agreed to sell, there was not a clear agreement on the land (Waitangi Tribunal, 1991a). He also marked off reserves for Ngāi Tahu at Ōue (Waitangi Tribunal, 1991a) and the Ōue Native Reserve, covering 172 acres, was established in 1853 as part of the Murihiku purchase.

Two Kāika, or villages, formerly existed when the first Europeans visited the area. The larger one was Ōue Kāika, situated in the south-eastern corner of the native reserve.
Up until the 1870s the second Kāika, known as Noki Kāika, had existed on a native reserve in the vicinity of Hatch's Hill and Huruhuru's Beach.

In his 1852 census, Mantell records only twelve Māori living at the village of Ōue. According to an early map, Ōue (the principal Kāika) was in the vicinity of Cooper's Creek near where cribs are currently situated. Huruhuru was once chief of Ōue and his name is commemorated at Huruhuru's Beach.



Historical Sites

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Evidence of Māori occupation exists in various parts of the Domain and most archaeological sites are within the boundaries of the main area of Environmental Zone. Some archaeological sites occur in other Zones and no doubt others have yet to be found.



Middens are the most common evidence of the Māori occupation of Sandy Point.

Middens are the most common evidence of the Māori occupation of the Domain. Māori burial sites are also recorded in both the historical and archaeological records on Sandy Point. Honekai[2]'s brother Pukarehu was buried on Sandy Point Peninsula, towards the southern extent of Ōreti Beach in the sandhills (Graham, 1998).

While the abundant supplies of birdlife, fish and shellfish were obviously the main attractions to the Māori inhabitants, there was also another factor which was important to southern Māori. This was the tōtara bark which was used for making kits or pōhā tītī in which the mutton birds (or tītī) were stored and transported. The tītī were packed in inflated kelp bags which were strengthened with splints of tōtara bark tied around the outside.

The taking of tōtara bark was supposed to be carried out with all due regard for the environment. Charles Rask, whose family settled at the Domain in the early 1870s and lived there for almost six decades, said he had seen the Māori build canoes out of tōtara trees and the Māori children also built handsome little canoes out of tōtara bark. He also commented he had seen Māori wrap the bodies of their deceased in tōtara bark for burial.

It is recorded that tōtara trees in the forest were used for the supply of this bark for many years after the two villages were abandoned. From this, it may be deduced that the tōtara was always an abundant tree on the Domain. One or two old mature tōtara still exhibit prominent scars where the bark was stripped in bygone years and because of that they have a historical significance.

Ōreti Beach and the wider Domain area both have important cultural significance for Māori – from being a harvesting ground for toheroa, to a great resource for harakeke (flax), and more. The beach itself was a traditional route for Māori to get around the peninsula to Aparima (Riverton) and beyond. The leg between Ōue and the beach was referred to as

[2] Honekai was a descendent of Tu-te-ahunga and the son of Te Hau-tapunui-o-Tu, a Ngāi Tahu chief who was established between Ngāi Tahu and Ngāti Māmoe in the south (Beck, Macfie & Esler, 2007). He resided at Ōue in the 1810's and 1820's. Following the death of Honekai many of his people relocated to Ruapuke Island.

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Te Ara PakiPaki and the leg from the beach towards Aparima was referred to as Mate a Waewae (Graham 1998). The Ōreti River also made a good travel and trade route as far as Mavora Lakes, providing access inland and providing places for mahinga kai and pounamu.

See Appendix 5 for more information.


Whalers Bay

1.5.2.2 European History

The European history of the Domain pre-dates that of Invercargill. Europeans very likely visited the area at least as early as 1830.


Whalers Bay

In 1836 a shore whaling station was established at the Domain by Joss and Williams. This whaling station was said to have been in the vicinity of the Māori Village of Ōue. A second whaling station was established at Omaui in the same year by Brown and Carter.

The try pot on display at McCoy's Beach is often thought to have been one of those used at the Ōue station. It is now believed to have come from Lewis Ackers' property north of the Dunns Road Bridge.

At least one of the hands employed at Ōue - namely, Owen McShane - eventually took up land on the Domain. Henry McCoy is said to have settled at the Māori kāika at Ōue in 1841, while McShane settled in 1836 or thereabouts.

One of the old anchors displayed at McCoy's Beach is popularly supposed to have come from the wreck of the Lynx. However, information from the Maritime Museum in Wellington proves that neither of the two anchors could have come from the Lynx.

In 1913 Cuthbert Royds constructed a flax mill on the banks of the Ōreti River, just a little south of where the old cottage stands. This mill was later shifted south to McLennan's Flat where it operated for a year or so before being shifted back to its original site.

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Under various owners, this flax mill continued operating until it closed in 1970. The various owners had flax-cutting rights over the extensive flax swamps of the Domain. Flax less than four feet in length was not allowed to be cut, nor was it permitted to cut flax that was growing on the tops of sandhills.

The lessee was not allowed to cut flax during severe continuous frosts or during the months of June and July.

1.5.2.3 Farming

Farming has played a major part in the Domain's history since 1938 when early whalers took to life ashore to graze sheep and cattle. Initially farming activities were confined to a relatively small area but in 1889 much of the Domain was let to Kenneth McLennan, who appears to be the first official lessee taking up the 'Sandy Point Run'.

Heavy grazing, together with associated activities such as burning off and the introduction of rabbits in no small part were responsible for accelerated erosion, which proved to be so devastating for many years.

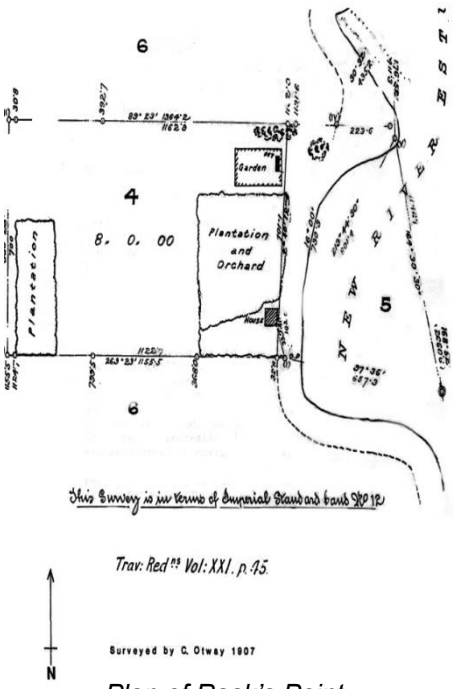


Kenneth McLennans cottage on the old flaxmill site in 1987, shortly before it was destroyed by fire

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As the land became more impoverished, grazing was virtually confined to sheep. Intensive cattle grazing by lessees have caused considerable degradation of the area and most of the remaining red tussocks (Chionochloa rubra) have been browsed almost to extinction. Cattle are also extremely damaging to the New Zealand flax (Phormium tenax).

At the commencement of the 1989 Management Plan, 344.98 ha were leased for farming practices but since then farming leases have been relinquished and this area is now back in the control of the Council. Of the original Lawton lease, the drier areas to the north and the south of Silver Lagoon can be used for afforestation, while the wetter area around Silver Lagoon and to the west should be incorporated into a wetland system.



Plan of Rask's Point

1.5.2.4 Sawmilling

Sometime in the early 1880s the then Land Board gave the best piece of bush to saw millers. This was the bush at Daffodil Bay and, although most of the large trees were removed, sufficient bush still remains to give an indication of what the appearance of the area once was.

Kilmock Bush was also milled.

1.5.3 Recreation

In 1928 the Ōreti Beach Association was formed. It organised carnivals on the beach and the money raised was used for constructing shelter sheds and conveniences.

The Ōreti Beach Association slowly began to assume a wider interest in the area and in 1963 it became the Sandy Point Development Association. Its aims are to act as a unifying body for the various organisations and people who use the area and to maintain a watching brief over the development of the Domain.

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The bridge over the Ōreti River was constructed in 1928/1929. The opening of the Ōreti River Bridge, together with the construction of the Stead Street Bridge over the Waihōpai River, opened up the Domain as a playground for Invercargill.

Initially, most attention was focussed on Ōreti Beach and there was virtually no recreational activity on the Domain itself.

In the 1920s and 1930s yachtsmen used to sail across the estuary to Daffodil Bay for picnics but now there is virtually no boating activity on the estuary.



BATHING BEAUTY CONTEST AT ORETI BEACH CARNIVAL ON SATURDAY.—Left: Dr J. A. Pottinger, president of Oreti Beach Association, places the sash on Miss Mavis Todd, winner of the "Miss Oreti 1940" contest. Right: The six competitors. From left—Miss Todd, Miss K. Hancock, Miss D. Cag, Miss P. Day (last year's winner), Miss D. Robertson, Miss A. Bricknell.

Swim suit competiton at Oreti beach, 1940

The Domain caters for a number of recreational activities which could not happily or conveniently be accommodated in an urban area and, in this respect, it is particularly well placed. For example, motor sports require a considerable amount of space for their successful operation and they can be particularly noisy.

There has been ample space for the development of these sports and the noise generated by them is quickly dissipated in the wide open spaces. Similarly, the Ōreti River has provided a convenient venue for a number of aquatic-based activities.

The recreational organisations based on the Domain are mainly located in an area immediately south of Dunns Road so that it forms an easily defined Recreation management Zone.

The opening of the Ōreti River Bridge focussed attention on Ōreti Beach and it was natural that the first recreational organisation to become established was the Ōreti Surf Life Saving Club in 1929.

The Southland Motor Cycle Club began using Ōreti Beach for motorcycle racing in the early 1930's and so became the second club to use the Domain.

The next club to use the Domain was the Southland Power Boat Club which commenced activities in 1947 on an area of riverbank south of the Dunns Road Bridge. At that time there was little more than a track heading south from Dunns Road and most of the area was covered with lupins.

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Other organisations soon began to take advantage of the land available at the Domain and there are now over 30 clubs and organisations using the reserve.

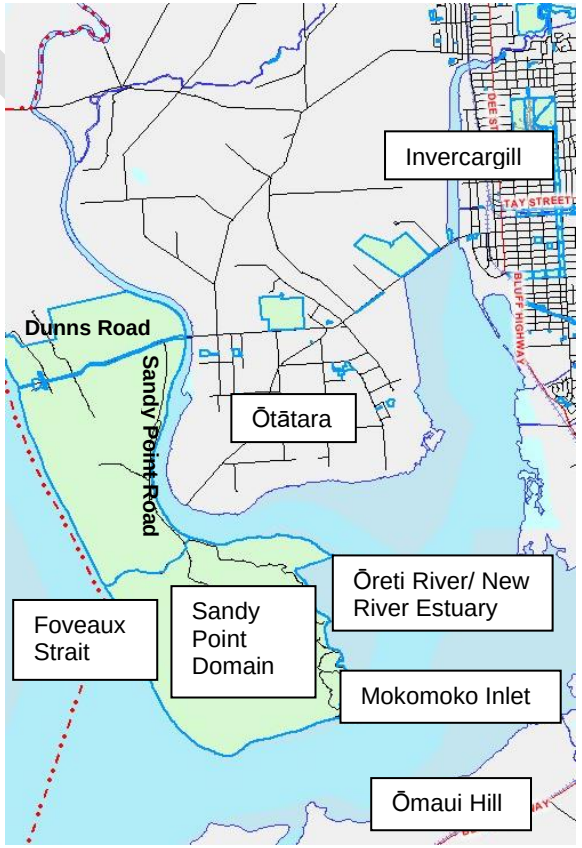
See Appendix 2 for a detailed list of clubs based in the Domain.

1.6 Plan Amendment and Review

The Act sets out requirements for the preparation, amendment and review of RMP's.

Any change or amendment, not involving a comprehensive review of the Domain's RMP, shall be made by adopting the procedures specified in Section 41(9) of the Act.

The RMP shall be kept under continuous review as laid down in Section 41(4) of the Act and shall be operative from the date of signing for a period of ten years, at which time it will be completely reviewed.



2.0 Te mōhio ki te papa rēhia / Understanding the park

The Domain comprises several land parcels, with a total area of approximately 2,217 hectares. The entire Domain has been classified as Recreation Reserve in accordance with the Act.

The entire Domain is under the control and management of the Invercargill City Council Parks and Recreation Division. The Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for the development, maintenance and general management of the Domain.

2.1 Location

The Domain is a large sand and shingle peninsula formed at the mouth of the Ōreti River in Southland.

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On the east, it is bounded by the lower reaches of the Ōreti River and the New River Estuary, and on the west bounded by the waters of Foveaux Strait.

Its southern end lies opposite the volcanic and metamorphic rocks of the Mokomoko headland and Ōmaui Hill, to form the mouth of the estuary.

The Peninsula lies in an approximately northwest/ south-easterly direction, and its northern end is bounded by the private property of the Fosbender estate.

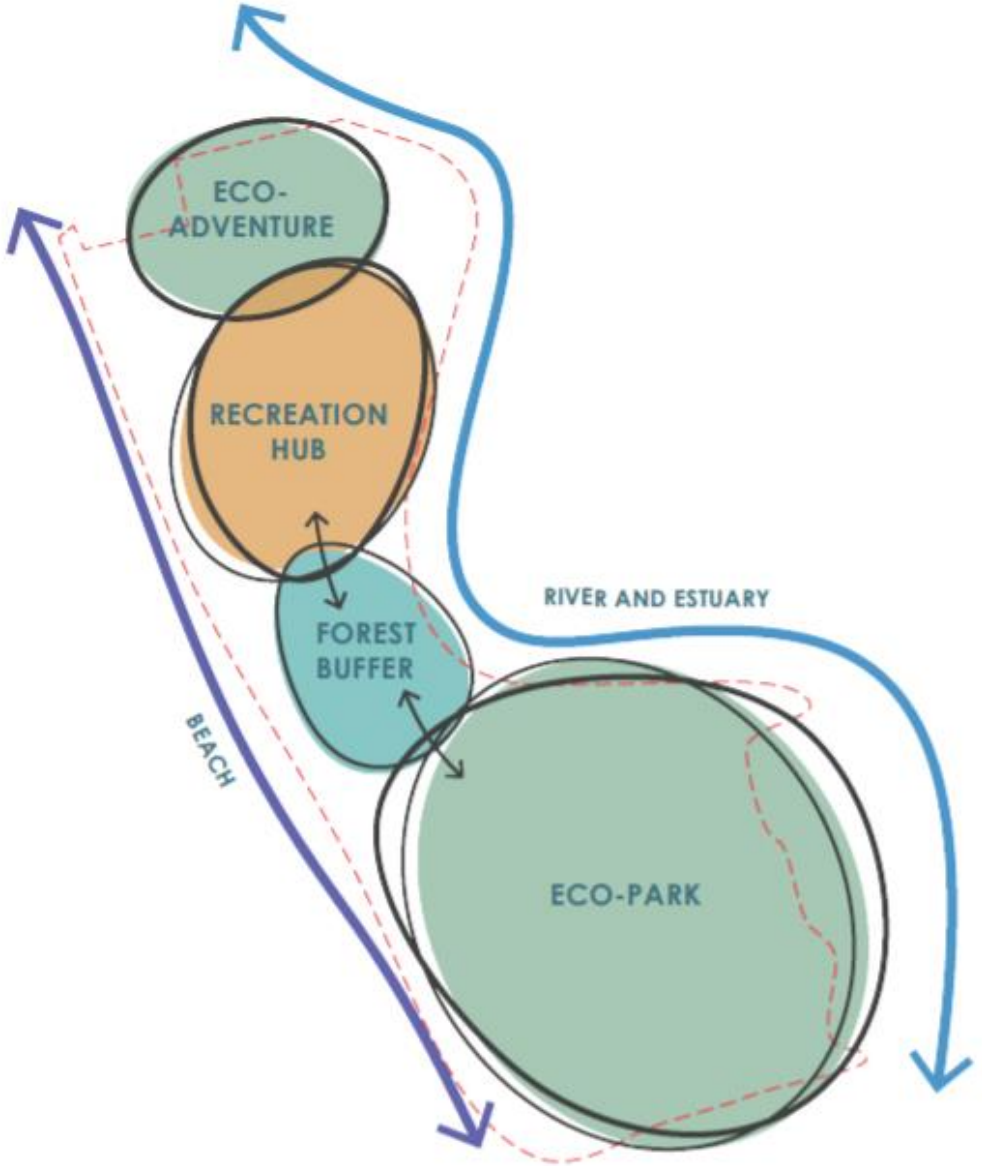
It is entirely within the Invercargill District.

2.2 Access

The Domain is seven kilometres from Invercargill, with the only road access being via Dunns Road. Boat access is possible from the New River Estuary, Ōreti River or Foveaux Strait.

2.3 Adjoining land use

The Domain is bounded on three sides by water. The only adjoining land is on the northern boundary. This was previously known as Fosbender Estate but was sold to various gravel extraction companies for mining.



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The sand and gravel companies have been granted formal and legal access through the Domain to the gravel workings in return for maintenance of the access road.

2.4 Management Areas

The Domain is separated into four distinct zones, to which all guiding principles applies (to a greater or lesser extent):

- Enhanced Recreational Offering
- Build Environmental Resilience
- Promote Unique Visitor Experience
- Ensure Adaptive Management.

There are areas of overlay as more of the reserve is developed and utilised for various activities.

The proper management of these zones will allow the Domain to be utilised to its potential, ensuring that conflict between users and use is minimised. The areas occupied by residential cribs are classified as non-conforming within the management policies of the Domain and are therefore treated separately.

Management of the Domain has been divided into the following management zones, with passive recreation being predominant over most of the area:

- Eco-Adventure.
- Recreation Hub.
- Forest Buffer.
- Eco-Park.

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2.5 Sport and Recreation

Ever since road access to Ōreti Beach was first provided, the Domain has increasingly been used as a recreational area and its environs provide visitors with a wide and diverse range of recreational activities and opportunities.

Improved access, upgrading of facilities and the provision of walking tracks has helped to increase visitor use of the Domain.

Activities that damage the environment or disturb the tranquillity of the area, such as four-wheel driving or trail bike riding are not permitted or are confined to specified areas.

Recreation, such as fishing, walking, bird watching, picnicking, mountain biking and general appreciation of the environment, occur throughout the Domain. These activities are not confined to the specific recreation zone but are possible throughout all zones, except for the private forestry leases at the southern end of the Domain.

The recreation zone, because of its high level of modification, can accommodate changes easily without disturbing its character or amenity. However, it is recommended that buildings are located where they do not impose on the landscape and that they are suitably integrated into the area.

Recreation is an important use of the environmental areas, but any development should be unobtrusive and not affect the ecological value of the area.

Tree plantings in the recreation areas have been predominantly exotic in formal shelter lines with shrub areas of native species such as *Phormium tenax* and *Cordyline australis.*



Orienteering


Kilmock Bush Trail, Fosbender Park

Tracks and trails shown below are widely used for informal walking, running, biking, dog sledding and horse riding activities.

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1	Te Araroa Trail
2	Kilmock Bush Track
3	Dunns Road Walkway / Cycleway
4	Pit Road Walkway / Cycleway
5	Oreti Walkway / Cycleway
6	Petrie's Track
7	Rover Track
8	Daffodil Bay Track
9	McShanes Track
10	Roundtree / Silver Lagoon Track
11	Te Ara Oue Track
12	Sandy Point Horse Track
13	Mountain Bike Track Area
14	Dog Sledding Track Area

2.6 Sports Fields

The Domain hosts rugby and football training, games and tournaments on natural turf. The site offers year-round participation opportunities for these codes and others.

Current winter and summer layouts comprise:

- 4 full size football fields
- 9 full size rugby fields

Les George Oval facilities are managed by Rugby Southland.

Both Football Southland and Rugby Southland have expressed interest in continuing community use, retaining the same number of fields and support shared facilities at the Domain.

The Southland Sports Field Strategy 2023 provides recommendations that will be considered as part of the implementation plan as part of developments at the Domain (e.g. lighting, accessibility, managed retreated at O'Rorke Park in response to climate change, maintenance of trees and vegetation surrounding sports fields).





2.7 Play

The Domain is rich in unstructured formal and informal play opportunities for children and adults (beach, river edge, forest, tracks, flying a kite, riding a bike etc.)

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Fosbender Park Playground

The original playground at Fosbender Park was constructed in 1972 by the Invercargill Lions Club as part of an ambitious plan to develop the area. It was replaced years later due to deterioration from the weather. A paddling pool also existed at that time and it was later filled in.

Play equipment at Fosbender Park includes a swing, climbing frame, tyre swing and seesaw. It is owned and managed by the Council and renewal is handled as part of the Council's asset renewal programme.



Fosbender Park Playground

Playground beside the Waka Ama Trust

A playground and paddling pool were originally constructed by the Water Ski Club in the 1960s and since then had become dated and the playground replaced. The paddling pool was filled in.

In 2007 the play equipment was upgraded by Council. Vegetation was planted and a car park defined to beautify the area.

Due to impacts of erosion, trees needed removed to accommodate another car park in 2024.

Play equipment includes: two swing sets, a play module, balance beam, flying fox, seesaw, slide and roundabout.



Playground beside Waka Ama Trust

Future Action: Play spaces assessments will be undertaken to determine how play can be implemented in areas of the Domain (e.g. educational play, formal and informal play types).

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2.8 Auxiliary Facilities

Sandy Point Domain Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre opened on 9 December 1996, after being purchased by Council in 1984 and transferred to the Domain in 1993. Cathy MacFie produced the initial design for the centre and conservationists Lloyd Esler, Paul Gay and Les Ryan played major roles in the development of the centre, freely providing their time and experience.



Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre contains a series of displays and interpretive material covering the Domain and the vegetation and wildlife found within the grounds.

This facility is available for individuals and organised groups to gain a better understanding of the uniqueness of the coastal area of the Domain.

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3.0 Horopaki ā-ture, ā-kaupapa here hoki / Statutory and policy context

3.1 Tirohanga Whānui / Overview

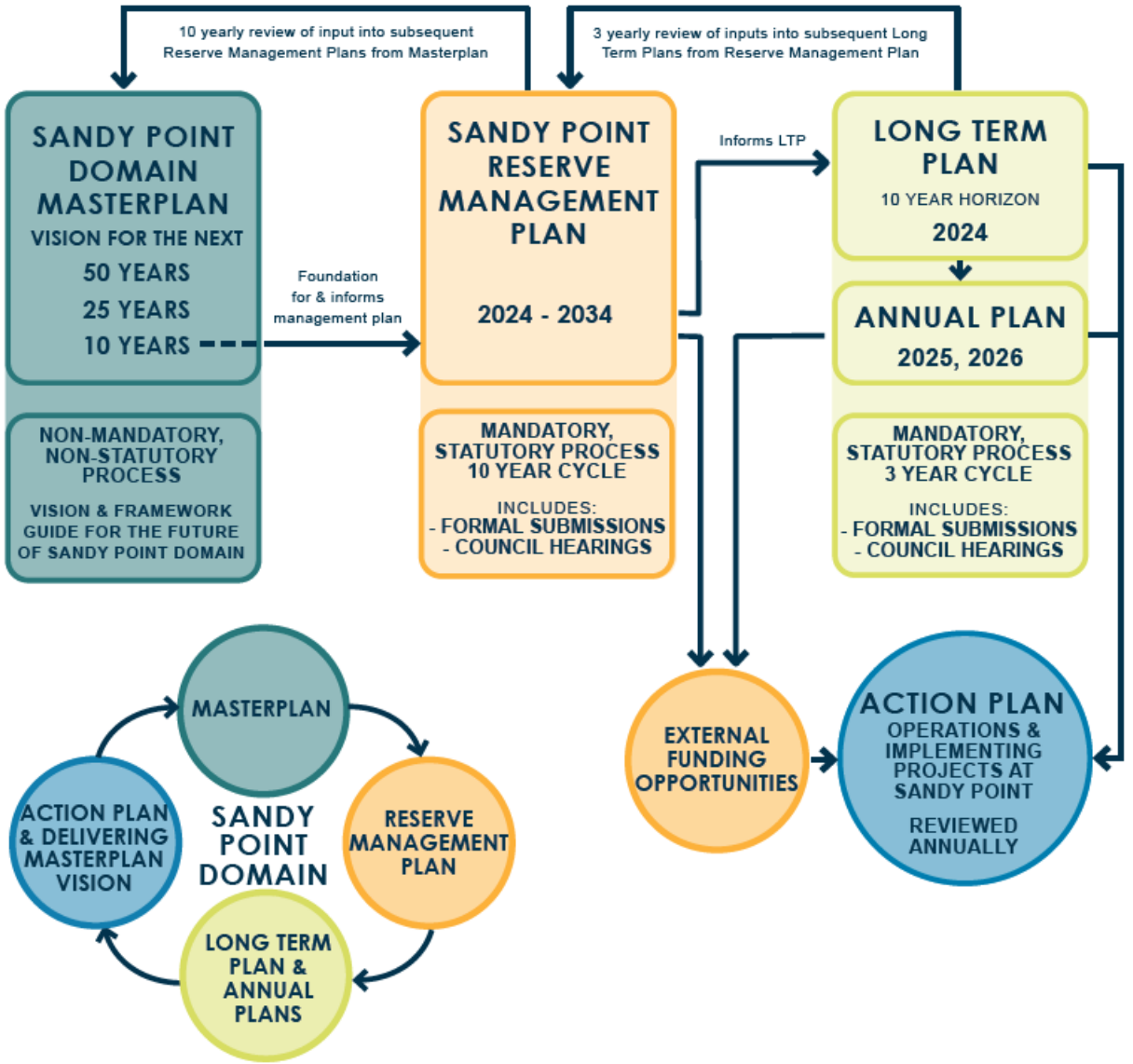
A reserve management plan is a statutory document created under section 41 of the Act. It is developed in consultation with iwi and the community and becomes a guiding document for the future management of the reserve.

The RMP sets out objectives and policies that support the recreation reserve classification of the Domain. The RMP deals with:

- Use and enjoyment of the Domain
- maintenance
- protection and preservation
- development

The development and management of the park and the implementation of this plan is also affected by a range of legislation, statutory and non-statutory policies and council plans and strategic documents.

Direction signalled in this plan does not avoid the need for



activities and development on parks to comply with other relevant legislation. Applicants for a proposed activity may require separate regulatory approvals and consents, such as under the Resource Management Act 1991, Building Act 2004 and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

The RMP is closely associated with the 2023 Masterplan which guides and informs this RMP and future management plans for the next 10-50 years. The Masterplan is especially relevant to development work.

The RMP and Masterplan contribute to planning for funding through Council's asset/activity management planning, the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes, as well as external funding sources.

3.1.1 Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi

The principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi are likely to be most relevant in making decisions on the management of parks are:

- Partnership – the mutual duties to act towards each other reasonably and in good faith are the core of the Treaty partnership
- Informed decision making – being well-informed of the mana whenua interests and views. Early consultation leads to more informed decision-making
- Active protection – this involves the active protection of Māori interests retained under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. It includes the promise to protect te tino rangatiratanga (sovereignty and self-determination) and taonga. Mana whenua continue to maintain a presence and relationship with their ancestral sites and landscapes of significance. This relationship also extends to the taonga, and sites where historic events occurred, often within the boundaries of the parks.

One way to give practical effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi is to enable iwi and hapū to participate in planning and decision making and to provide opportunities to reconnect to ancestral lands.

3.1.2 Ture Whenua Rāhui 1977/ Reserves Act 1977

The role of Council under the Act as an administering body is the duty of administering, managing, and controlling the reserves under its control and management in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Act so as to ensure the use, enjoyment, development, maintenance, protection, and preservation of reserves for the purpose for which they are classified.

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The Reserves Act is one of the Acts in the First Schedule to the Conservation Act 1987. Section 4 of the Conservation Act contains an obligation to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) also contains obligations to Māori, including to facilitate Māori participation in council decision making processes

3.2 Classification and Land Description

3.2.1 Reserve Classification

The Domain is comprised of several parcels which includes approximately 2,217 hectares. The Domain was originally set aside as a Recreation Reserve (temporarily in 1888 and then permanently in 1889) with control vested in the Borough of Invercargill, the Council being the Domain Board. In 1906, the vesting was changed from Recreation Reserve to an endowment for the benefit and improvement of the New River Harbour. In 1921 the vesting was again changed to an endowment for the benefit of the Borough of Invercargill. In 1992, all the land parcels within the area known as Sandy Point Domain were classified as Recreation Reserve under Section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977 and named Sandy Point Domain Reserve.

3.2.2 Area and Land Titles

The Domain covers a total area of **2217.3085 ha**. The land description is as follows:

Certificate of Title	Legal Description	Area (hectares)
6086	Lot 1 DP 301427	0.8983
6087	Lot 2 DP 301427	5.2050
570459	Lot 1-2 DP 13010 and Part Lot 1 DP 10682 and Part Lot 1 DP 9130 and Part Section 6 Block XXIII New River Hundred and Section 1-2 Survey Office Plan 439600	1952.9467
1A/345	Part Section 7A, 31 Block XV New River Hundred	29.5952
5D/747	Lot 2 DP 9927	8.9100
5D/746	Lot 1 DP 9927	101.3000
1A/390	Part Section 1 - 2, Block XXIII New River Hundred	4.1184
1A/850	Section 82, Block XXIII New River Hundred	8.0937
1A/849	Section 3, Block XXIII New River Hundred	22.7636
1A/380	Section 4, Block XXIII New River Hundred	3.2374

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SL142/9	Lot 1-14 and Lot 16-24 Block I DP 2989 and Lot 1-19 and Lot 21-32 Block II DP 2989	4.6273
SL1A/285	Section 8A Block XV New River Hundred	35.6123
SL6B/781	Lot 1 DP 10490	0.0341
1A/286	Pt Section 7A Block XV New River Hundred	31.9778
82/107 (cancelled)	Lots 15 and 33 Block I and Lots 20 and 33 Block II DP 2989	2.5356
82/96 (cancelled)	Lot 34 Blk 1 DP 2799, Lot 20 Blk III DP 2799	5.4531
	Total	2217.3085

All of the above certificates of title are subject to various encumbrances or agreements which are shown on the various titles.

Parks and reserves are categorised[3] according to their dominant characteristics, these assist Council with setting management objectives and assessing funding requirements for each reserve.

The Domain has been assigned to a park management category primarily based on its main purpose: Outdoor Adventure Park. The main functions of Outdoor Adventure Parks include open spaces that cater for activities that require large areas of land and/or separation from residential areas. Although primarily Outdoor Adventure, There are still significant environmental elements that make up the Domain, with the aim of having areas of native ecosystems to ensure ongoing biodiversity and protection of flora and fauna, while educating users.

3.2.3 *Lease Holders at the Domain*

3.2.3.1 *Sport and Recreation Leases*

Although various recreation activities are carried out over a large portion of the Domain, there is a distinct Recreation Zone between Dunns Road and Christies Track used by clubs and organisations for specific activities.

This area is dominated by large open fields and shelterbelts. Clubrooms and buildings are scattered throughout the area in varying states of repair. The area is highly modified and generally lacks scenic and ecological values.

Organised recreation activities include turf codes, motor sports, target sports, cycling, running, equestrian, and water sports.

[3] Recreation Aotearoa Parks Categories Framework

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Sport and Recreation Clubs Lease over 176.86 hectares of land combined.

Refer to Appendix 2 for more information on sports and recreation clubs and organisations using the Domain.

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1. Invercargill Pistol Club
2. Southland Clay Target Club
3. Equestrian Centre
4. Oreti Surf Club
5. Southland Rodeo Association
6. Southland Rugby Football Association
7. Southland Motorcycle Club
8. Southland Kart Club
9. Southland Astronomical Society
10. Georgetown Scouts
11. Southland Rugby League
12. Football Association (soccer) – fields not leased
13. Southland Sports Car Club
14. Former Jellicoe Sea Scouts location
15. Southland Power Boat Club
16. Invercargill Rowing Club
17. Waihopai Rowing Club
18. Southland Stock Car Drivers Association
19. Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trusy
20. Southalnd Archery and Bowhunters Club
21. Horse Trekking
22. Airsoft Club
23. Southland Landrover Club
24. Southland Mountain Bike Club
25. Southland Sled Dog Association
26. Horse Trekking – space not leased
27. Airsoft Club
28. Arisoft Club



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3.2.3.2 *Residential Sites*

Within the boundaries of the Domain, there are two areas of residential buildings that have been identified as non-conforming in previous RMPs, according to the Recreation Reserve classification and the District Plan. These are located immediately to the south of Dunns Road at Ōreti Beach and at Cooper's Creek on the eastern coast of the Domain.

Generally, the Act does not permit private dwellings on land managed as reserve. There are some exceptions, for example staff housing. The Council has not defined any areas where permanent accommodation is permitted and none have been included in this or previous Reserve Management Plans for the Domain and Section 44 of the Act indicates that personal accommodation at the Domain is an unauthorised use of reserve.

The original intention of permitting cribs in the Domain was that they were to be used as holiday or weekend homes. However, over the years, some buildings have been considerably upgraded past the modest crib and are now used as permanent places of residence.

There are a total of five cribs remaining along Dune Crescent/Pacific Avenue area. The remainder of the cribs are concentrated in the Cooper's Creek area, totalling to 17.

The matter of having small groups of cribs situated in the heart of the Domain has been a longstanding issue and one that the Council has progressed with licence holders to determine how best to satisfy the the future tenure opportunities for licence holders and whether private accommodation in the Domain can be permitted or not. In addition to the Act, Part 4 – Occupation Policies of the Council's General Policies RMP applies.

4.0 Te Ao Māori i roto whakahaerenga papa rēhia ā-rohe / Te ao Māori in local park management

Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi principles require active protection of Māori interests. There are several ways to give practical effect to the Treaty principles including recognising the customary relationship of mana whenua to the park and working with them to sustain the mauri (life force) of taonga in the Domain.

Ngāi Tahu ke Murihiku are mana whenua for the rohe containing the Domain.

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4.1 Ngā kawenga kaitiaki a ngā mana whenua / Mana whenua's kaitiaki role

From the time of its original inhabitants, Waihopai has become home to many peoples.

Mana whenua are kaitiaki (guardians) of the cultural values associated with parks, including maunga (mountains), awa (rivers), moana (coastline), tauranga waka (canoe landing sites), pā (fortified villages), papakainga (villages), māra (cultivations), urupā (burial grounds), wāhi tapu (sites that are sacred), biodiversity and other taonga.

As kaitiaki, mana whenua have responsibilities to preserve and nurture the physical and spiritual aspects associated with any land, resource or taonga within their rohe (tribal area). Kaitiakitanga, the responsibility of guardianship of the earth, reflects a belief that we need to work towards a future not just better for our children, but for all things and all time.

The Domain provides opportunities for mana whenua to express their kaitiakitanga.

This ranges from:

- identifying mana whenua values and promoting these and tikanga (custom), kawa (traditions) and mātauranga Māori (traditional Māori knowledge)
- protecting sites of cultural significance
- increasing engagement and joint kaitiaki projects
- naming park features with traditional mana whenua names
- mahi toi (art and craft) and planting opportunities (e.g.rongoa)
- undertaking other activities that enable reconnection to ancestral lands, including for economic benefit.

This plan refers to taonga and cultural sites as 'mana whenua values'

4.2 Ngā uara pū o te Māori / Core Māori values

Mana whenua express their values in relation to the Domain to benefit both mana whenua and the wider community. These values include:
Rangatiratanga
The right to exercise authority and self-determination within one's own iwi / hapū realm.

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Kaitiakitanga
Managing and conserving the environment as part of a reciprocal relationship, based on the Māori world view that we as humans are part of the natural world.

Manaakitanga
The ethic of holistic hospitality whereby mana whenua have inherent obligations to be the best hosts they can be.

Wairuatanga
The immutable spiritual connection between people and their environments.

Kotahitanga
Unity, cohesion and collaboration.

Whanaungatanga
A relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging.

Mātauranga Māori / mana whenua knowledge and understanding.
Expression of kaitiakitanga and taonga

Park spaces contain a variety of taonga (valued tangible and intangible resources) of significance to mana whenua. The mauri (essential life) of these taonga is sacred and provides a link to the source of tribal origins and history. Resources with intact mauri sustain healthy ecosystems and are a source of identity to iwi.

The council's management of parks enable mana whenua to have practical expression of kaitiaki leading to greater protection and enhancement of the park values.

Mana whenua hauora (long term wellbeing)
For mana whenua, the Domain and other local parks offer the opportunity to have traditional, historic and cultural relationships to ancestral sites acknowledged and provided for. The ability to reconnect physically and spiritually to these sites is extremely important to iwi.

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4.3 Whakaaetanga ki ngā uara Māori / Recognition of Māori values

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 requires administrators of land protected under the Act to give effect to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. In the context of this RMP:

- Mana whenua will be included in reserve management planning and decisions so their preferences are recognised and promoted.
- Council will take active steps as needed to protect Māori interests as required.
- Mana whenua, iwi and hapu will be consulted and issues or concern raised will be taken into account by the Council when activities are likely to disturb access, sites, resources and activities that are important to mana whenua.

4.4 Āpiti Hono Tātai Hono

Incorporating Mana Whenua values and perspective will be a key element of successful project delivery and may be required as part of any resource consent process.

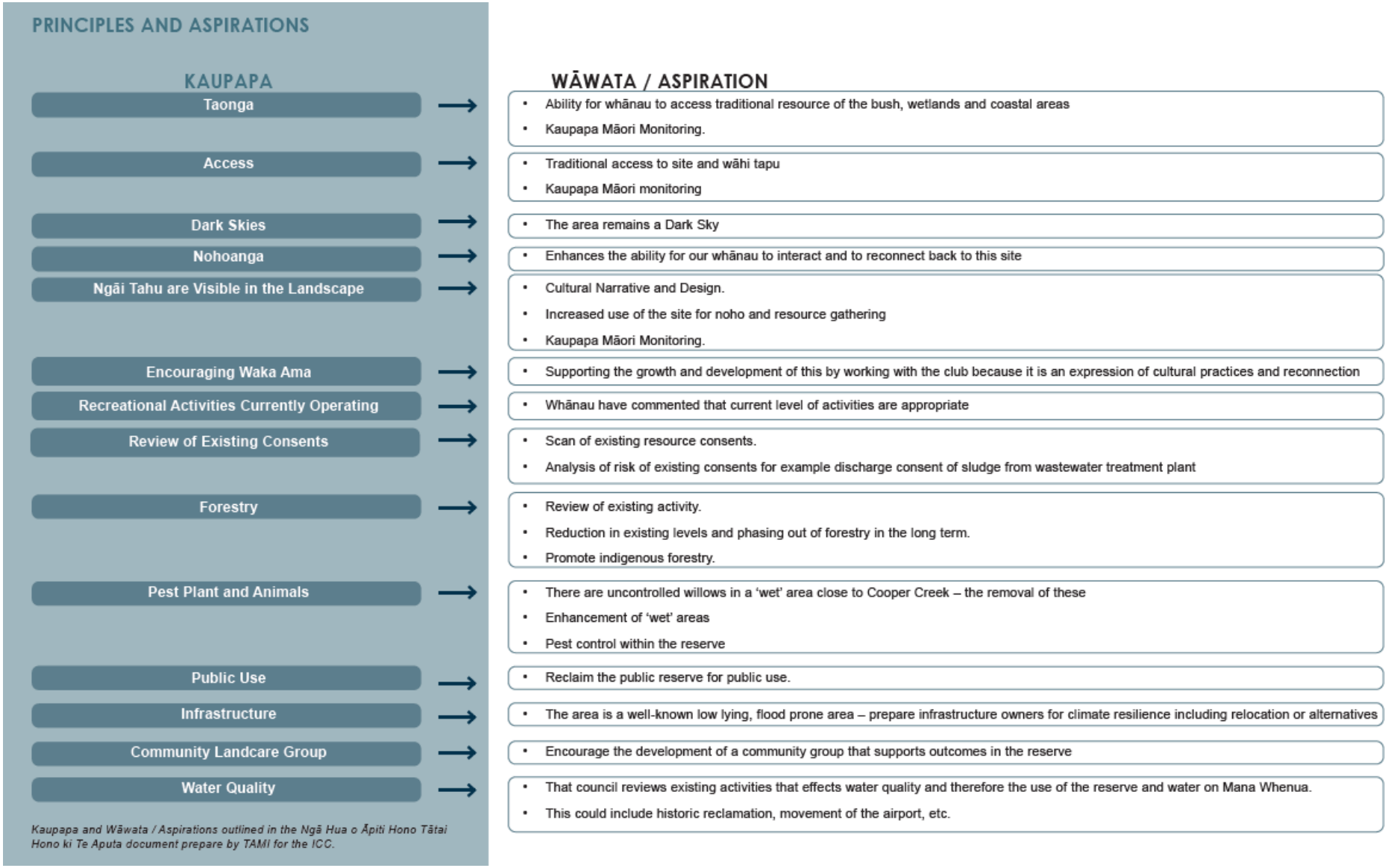
In 2021, Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku released its landscape methodology it named Āpiti Hono Tātai Hono in recognition of the act of ordering whakapapa. The methodology was designed by Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku to enable a comprehensive understanding of landscape as known to them. The methodology is founded on the interwoven relationships between Ira Atua and Ira tangata and the continuum of time and whakapapa. It acknowledges change, interdependencies ki uta ki tai, duality (e.g. intangible/tangible, tuakana/teina, masculine/feminine) and the philosophies and paradigms of Ngāi Tahu ki Murihiku.

The methodology does not assess significance; it considers what is held within a landscape and what is appropriate at place. A landscape holds and exerts many things in different ways, including whakapapa, mana, kawa, tikanga, mātauranga, identity, connections practices, history and future aspirations.

Āpiti Hono Tātai Hono blends Te Ao Ngāi Tahu philosophical concepts and mātauranga with aspects of heritage and landscape practice. It characterises the landscape into 6 layers based on Ira Atua Ira Tangata with Ira Atua taking primacy as the tuakana.

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4.5 Mana Whenua Values



WĀHANGA TUARUA – NGĀ TIROHANGA WHĀNUI I ĀRAHI I NGĀ MĀTĀPONO, NGĀ WHĀINGA ME NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE / PART TWO – VISION, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

5.0 Aronga whānui /Vision

Te Ara[4]*Paki Paki*[5] - A connected and well utilised park that protects and celebrates its environment, culture and society.

6.0 Ngā uara i ngā papa rēhia / Park Values

The values described in this section have come about through feedback as part of the 2023 Masterplan engagement. This work included consultation with mana whenua, key stakeholders and the community to better recognise the qualities and features of the Domain. Domain Values inform the vision and guiding principles set out in sections 5.0 and 7.0.

6.1 Ngā uara pāpori, tākaro hoki / Social and Recreational Values

- Enabling a whanau - centric place.
- Ready access to safe, inviting and attractive spaces.
- Providing spaces for social connections

[4] meaning pathways/place

[5] meaning hearing activity happening, vibrancy, play, rest, cycling in useable spaces

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- Aligning with social wellbeing through provision of spaces for physical and mental health
- Supporting play and recreation
- Partnerships and Inclusion


Oreti Links

6.2 Ngā uara urutapu / Natural values

- Comprehensive detail of the ecological values at the Domain can be found in reports Wildlands (2022)
- Protection of natural heritage, habitats and features through improved native biodiversity and plantings, in addition to pest species management
- Encouraging and adopting sustainable solutions for a sustainable future through environmental practices to mitigate erosion and emissions
- Providing a place people can connect to nature

6.3 Ngā uara ahurea, ā-tukunga iho hoki / Cultural and heritage values

Whānui associations with the Domain lie with the many pūrākau that exist, from creation to when Marokura filled the estuaries with kai and Kahuhura closed the land with ngahere (bush) when tupuna arrived. This was once a great mahinga kai, kai and resources were utilised by tuna. The village of Ōue was a place to rest, any direction able to be selected depending on the season.

The area holds many traditions of creation and moves through time identified by those whose names exist within this area such as Māui, Tamatea and Kiwā.

Sightlines to Waihōpai, Motupōhue, Omāui, Te Ara a Kewa, Tārere ki Whenua Uta, Mokomoko, Oreti Beach, Kōreti River and Kōreti Estuary are of significance to mana whenua.

The whakapapa for this area is layered and recognises the relationship of atua including Tangaroa, Tāne Mahuta, Papatūānuku, Tāwhirimātea and Ranginui. The recognition of this relationship of these atua to each other and their

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descendants notes that one does not exist without the other and each seamless whole could not be divided into parts or only into the designated reserve area only.

The archaeological evidence of Māori occupation is vast and related to all functions of life by tupuna, who were known to say 'take me to the mouth of the Kōreti to be buried' - this is testament to the status of the area. There are burial sites, wāhi tapu, middens artefacts, and ovens as well as carved tī kouka trees.

The Domain has considerable historical and social significance, with multiple layers of historical development and public use illustrating Invercargill's growth and change.

It also has value at a regional level when it was used as a place for home guard training during 1942 (World War II).

6.4 Ngā uara ōhanga / Economic values

The Domain contributes to the surrounding area's economy in a variety of ways. The Domain provides outdoor recreation opportunities and general amenity, contributing to Southland's quality of life. The speedway and sports fields attract visitors to the area and supports employment opportunities. There is potential for the Domain to enhance economic development, increase employment opportunities and enhance land values (e.g. forestry). Regional events help to support loical hospitality operators and accommodation.

7.0 Mātāpono ārahi / Guiding Principles

Guiding Principles that will be expressed through the implementation of the Masterplan and this RMP include:

7.1 Enhance Recreational Offering

1. Manage the Domain in perpetuity for the physical wellbeing and appreciation and enjoyment of the public to an extent that it does not compromise its conservation, soil conservation, preservation and historic values.
2. Encourage and facilitate the wise use of land for active and passive recreational pursuits to an extent compatible with sound conservation and preservation objectives.

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7.2 Promote Unique Visitor Experience

1. Action or inaction at the Domain has an effect on land and water beyond the boundaries of the site and Council will be cognizant of this as it managed development and ongoing use and operational work.
2. Enhance and encourage public access into and through all public areas of the Domain.
3. Allow (conditional) certain trades or business developments that are compatible with the Recreation Reserve classification, outlined under Section 17 of the Act.
4. Maximise synergies between existing facilities and prioritise flexible and adaptable use of facilities.
5. Design and develop the Domain to be a safe, fun and welcoming place that Southlanders love to use.

7.3 Build Environmental Resilience

1. Give effect to the relationship of mana whenua with their ancestral landscape at the Domain.
2. Conserve and enhance the natural landscape, indigenous flora and fauna, essential ecological processes and encourage improvements in the quality of the surrounding waters, in accordance with sound conservation practices, for the benefit of the public, and of the flora and fauna.
3. Use those areas designated for afforestation in accordance with sound forestry practices so that they will provide an ongoing financial benefit for the Domain and Invercargill's parks and reserves.
4. Promote and fund the control and eradication of pest animal and pests plants from the Domain as far as practicable.
5. Develop green infrastructure to help manage stormwater, improve air and water quality, reduce flood risk and help to mitigate climate change.
6. Protect and celebrate the Domain's distinct cultural landscape and heritage features.

8.0 Ngā whāinga me ngā kaupapa here / Objectives and policies

The Objectives and Policies in this RMP are aligned with the Recreation Reserve classification of The Domain in accordance with Section 17 of the Act. The RMP is a management tool and the intention is for the Objectives and Policies to achieve specific actions and to provide a policy position for decision making and management. The 2023 Masterplan is a key document that support the RMP. Development will occur to the extent possible within the resources available and in line with the Masterplan.

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Where the RMP does not specifically provide for an activity then the District Plan will need to be considered, under its rural zoning. Regional plans may be relevant

Where the policies in this RMP refer to the term "Council" this means the Parks and Recreation Manager and/or the Parks and Recreation Division as the nominated representative of the Invercargill City Council via the Invercargill City Council Delegation Register, unless otherwise stated.

Policies covered in the General Policies RMP will be implemented at the Domain. The following policies apply specifically to the Domain.

8.1 Enhance Recreational Offering

8.1.1 Recreation

8.1.1.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. Encourage and facilitate the wise use of land for active and passive recreational pursuits to an extent compatible with sound conservation and preservation objectives.
2. Manage the Domain in perpetuity for the physical wellbeing and appreciation and enjoyment of the public to an extent that it does not unreasonably compromise its conservation, soil conservation, preservation and historic values.

8.1.1.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. To manage the Recreation Zone illustrated in the 2023 Masterplan so that it will contribute to the aesthetics and general amenity of the Domain and thus improve the environment for the carrying out of the various recreational activities.
2. To permit horses and mountain bikes within the Domain on current designated tracks located in all zones, provided they respect environmental values.
3. To permit horse riding and bicycle riding within the Domain on designated tracks, acknowledging that from time to time access and the track network may alter to protect environmental values and to respond to development and changing recreation needs.
4. New or renewed tracks (see Appendix 3) will include prior conversations with disability groups and Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa Trust.

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5. New tracks, new sections of track and track renewal work will comply with the NZ Handbook for Tracks and Visitor Structures SNZ HB 8630:2004 or the documents that supersede it.
6. Recommendations in the Southland Sports Fields Strategy will inform decisions about management and development of the Domain.
7. Play development will be encouraged throughout the whole Domain, and further development opportunities targeting play and recreation, including possible commercial activity will be focused within the eco-adventure space.
8. To require all organisations in the Recreation Zone to present areas they occupy to a standard set in the lease by attending to building maintenance, general tidiness of areas around buildings and elsewhere, and in conjunction with Parks and Recreation, amenity plantings of suitable species of trees and shrubs.
9. To upgrade picnic areas to an extent which is compatible with the management objectives for the Domain.
10. Continue to provide soil-based, natural turf, sports fields.
11. Turf and grass areas will be maintained according to the Recreation Aotearoa Standards. Some areas may be maintained via alternative forms of mowing – i.e. grazing, baleage, low mow areas may also be enforced.
12. Sports and recreation clubs and allocation of spaces for these purposes is anticipated and will be guided by the 2023 Sandy Point Domain Masterplan
13. Recreational consolidation of like activities and development over the next ten years will focus on equestrian, multi-use spaces, motorsports, sports fields, water based sports and associated infrastructure as required. Target sports (e.g. pistol club, clay target shooting, archery, air soft) shall remain in their locations until there is a need for re-location and Council support is required.
14. Teretonga Park and the visitor centre will be designated as permitted commercial activity spaces, where special permits can be issued to operate commercial activities from. Proposals for commercial activities beyond these sites will require a permit with prior written permission from Council.

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ENHANCED RECREATIONAL OFFERING

EXISTING → 10 YEARS

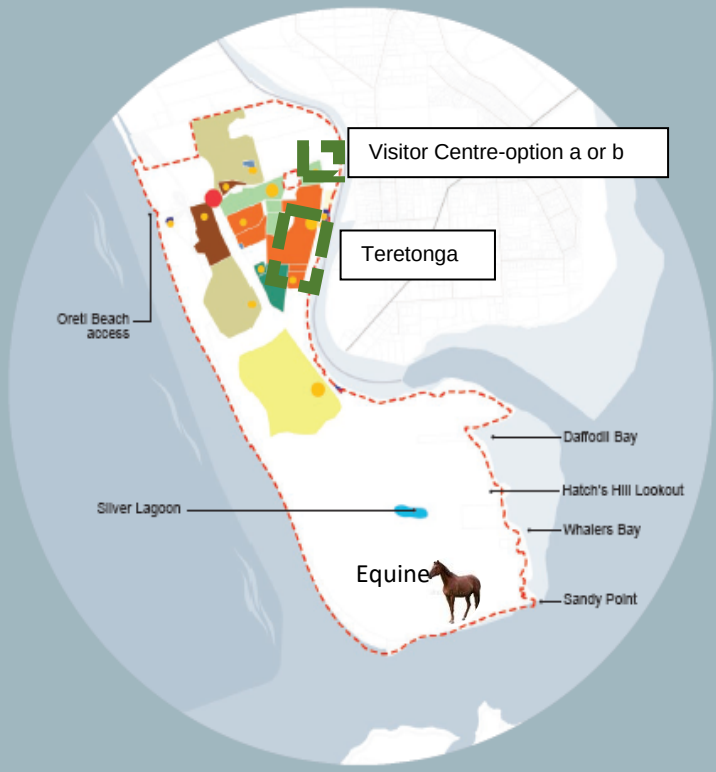


Motorsport
Target sports
Equine sports
Mountain biking
Water based sports

Sports fields
Dog park / sledding
Other clubs / groups
Former golf course

Sports hub
Visitor hub
Visitor pavilion

Commercial Designated area



- Initial development of sport / recreation club hub facilities
- Commencement of consolidation of 'like' activities and clubs
- Development of a multi use area including a dog park, disc golf and informal walking areas within the former golf course location
- Development of a new visitor hub, including wayfinding and interpretation signage near the upgraded Pit Road entry
- Removal / non-replacement of facilities and structures no longer required by clubs

8.2 Promote Unique Visitor Experience

8.2.1 Accessibility and Circulation around the Domain

8.2.1.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. Enhance and encourage public access into and through all public areas of the Domain.
2. Non-motorised recreation is a priority outside areas allocated to motorsports. Allowing vehicles into some areas of the Domain enables visitors to drive to some spaces and activities to participate in recreation.

8.2.1.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. To establish and maintain such speed restrictions, as may be necessary, on all internal roads for the public safety and to preserve the tranquillity of the area.
2. As resources permit internal roads may be reduced or improved in order to permit them to stand up to the increasing traffic they have to bear, provided that this work will not compromise the environment.
3. As resources become available, investment on roads will be prioritised by need and minimum provision requirements according to use and fire and emergency services.
4. Access into and through the Domain will be reviewed in alignment with Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa Trust and disability groups, as well as mana whenua and the community.
5. Council will improve car parking provision to meet the needs of recreational users.
6. Council's intention is to prioritise non-motorised recreation in The Domain and Masterplan 2023 implementation may reduce or exclude vehicle use of some internal roads.
7. Council will work closely with Environment Southland to ensure activities on the reserve, particularly boating, are managed effectively to protect the surrounding environment and the safety of users. This will include education, monitoring and development.
8. Council supports regional branding of the reserve with appropriate organisations and will collaborate with tangata whenua to market and promote the Domain.

8.2.2 Park Amenity

8.2.2.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

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1. To improve park amenity.
2. Council's general preference is for multi-use and shared facilities as a way to limit proliferation of buildings and the associated burden for the community to fund maintenance and renewals.

8.2.2.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Multiuse facilities will be incorporated within detailed design of spaces and places.
2. Lighting is to be compatible with the use of the area and in a style that will not detract from its aesthetic qualities.
3. To limit lighting in areas of high environmental value to ensure the natural character of the Domain is retained.
4. Activities and infrastructure within parts of the Domain (namely Oreti Links where Southland Astronomical Society is based) will support Dark Skies.

8.2.3 Safety and Design

8.2.3.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. To improve safety and security.
2. Design and develop the Domain to be a safe, fun and welcoming place that Southlanders love to use.

8.2.3.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Improve lighting for after - dark use on key circulation routes.
2. Implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles when implementing detailed design of spaces and services.
3. Restrict vehicle access from dawn until dusk at the southern end of Sandy Point Road where the legal road ends and gravel roads disperse at the intersection to Christies Track, Sandy Point Road and Daffodil Bay Road.
4. Enable the development of an Eco-Park area at the southern end.
5. Enable the development of an Eco-Adventure area at the northern end.

8.2.4 Signs, Information and Interpretation

8.2.4.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. To provide signs that support navigation and interpretation functions and comply with the General Policies RMP.

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2. Improve educational opportunities and community involvement.
3. That the names of park features tell the story of the place and reflect the area's natural and cultural heritage (pre and post-colonial settlement).

8.2.4.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Storytelling for cultural and heritage features (e.g. archaeological sites, history) and significance etc. via interpretive signs and at hubs/pavilions.
2. Council supports the use of utilising visitor hubs and pavilions as places for schools and groups to visit and learn.
3. Particular historical sites may be interpreted with suitable plaques or similar means of commemoration.
4. Utilise on-site interpretation to:
   a. contribute to people's understanding and appreciation of the park's values, history or significant features.
   b. increase awareness of mana whenua's role as kaitiaki and their connection to the Domain.
   c. raise awareness of environmental issues.
5. Council supports the location of civil defence, emergency management and public safety signage on the Domain.
6. Inclusion of te reo on signage which has been approved by mana whenua is supported by Council.
7. Civil defence emergency management and public safety signage is allowed on the Domain provided Council staff approve location.
8. All signage on The Domain, including sponsorship or advertising signs must comply with the General Policies RMP. All unapproved signage will be removed by Council.

8.2.5 Tukunga iho onamata, ahurea hoki / Historic and cultural heritage

8.2.5.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To identify and celebrate the Domain's cultural and heritage features to an extent that does not affect the ability of Council to prioritise recreational use and development.

8.2.5.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Incorporate design and interpretation elements which reflect a distinct sense of place, tell local history stories and convey the community's ongoing connection with the Domain.
2. Prioritise adaptive re-use of heritage buildings over the construction of new buildings.

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3. To ensure that any materials from the stone walls are repurposed elsewhere in the Domain and shall not be removed from the Domain.
4. To protect, in accordance with the requirements of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 or any subsequent legislation and the General Policies RMP, all known historical and archaeological sites in the Domain. Archaeological and historical areas noted within the Domain will be given particular attention to ensure that they are not disturbed by any future operations or development.
5. Consider an archaeological assessment to be undertaken as funding and volunteer capacity allows, followed by the development of an archaeological management plan.

8.2.6 Future Development

8.2.6.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To deliver the intentions of the 2023 Masterplan.

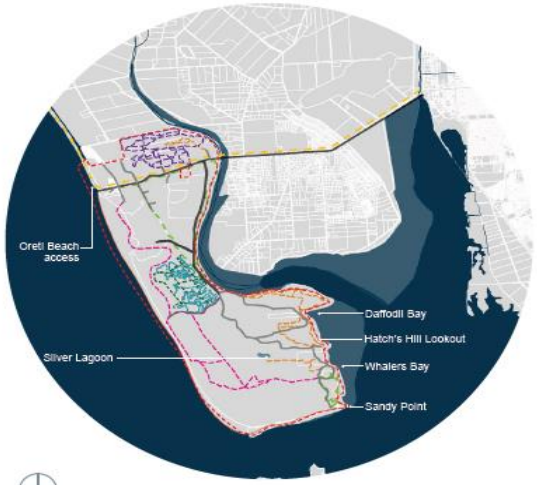
8.2.6.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Future developments relating to visitor experience will be guided by the 2023 Sandy Point Domain Masterplan.
2. Proposals for development that vary in a way that is more than minor compared to the current situation, or change indicated in the Masterplan, require approval from Council. Proposals that vary significantly require approval from Elected Members.
3. The location of the visitor centre is different to the Masterplan and is proposed to be located instead at either:
   a) the former sea scouts location; or
   b) the former Rakiura Rides area once that lease has re-located to equestrian hub near the beach.

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PROMOTE UNIQUE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

EXISTING → 10 YEARS



EXISTING
- Sandy Point Domain Boundary
- Sealed Road
- Unsealed Road
- Te Araroa Trail
- Multi Use / Cycle Trails
- Horse Trekking Trails
- Walking Tracks
- Mountain Bike Tracks
- Sled Dog Trails
- Access Trails

PROPOSED
- Eco-Park
- Eco-Adventure
- Sealed Road
- Gravel Road
- Managed Access Road
- All Other Recreation Tracks
- Visitor Pavilion
- Visitor Hub
- River Crossing / Pontoon / Boat Ramp



- Develop Eco-Park area at the southern end of Sandy Point, extending up to Whalers Bay on the estuary edge
- Develop Eco-Adventure area adjacent to Fosbender Park at the northern end of the domain
- New Visitor Hub At Dunns Road / Pit Road, including the implementation of improved signage, wayfinding and interpretation displaying the domain history
- Complete sealed road loop around Recreation Hub, incorporating Pit Road, Links Road and Sandy Point Road

8.3 Build Environmental Resilience

8.3.1 Ngā tupu me ngā kararehe / Plants, water and animals

8.3.1.1 Ngā Whāinga / Objectives

1. To protect, maintain and enhance the long-term viability and resilience of indigenous terrestrial and aquatic species, habitats and ecosystems on the Domain.
2. To work in collaboration with mana whenua, volunteer groups, adjoining landowners, other stakeholders and the general public to improve biodiversity outcomes for the Domain and the wider natural environment.
3. To inspire and encourage more people to be actively involved in caring for natural values and contributing to the biodiversity of the Domain and its surrounds.
4. Increasing the use of native species is desirable wherever possible to create a unifying character throughout the Domain.

8.3.1.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Enable restoration work that improves outcomes for indigenous biodiversity to the extent resourcing allows.
2. Prioritise care for coastal dune vegetation for biodiversity benefits and to stabilise the sand dune landscape.
3. Undertake pest plant and pest animal control with others to improve outcomes for indigenous biodiversity and to reduce the effects of sand movement and erosion.
4. Prevent further decline of indigenous species on the site, with particular focus on rare and endangered species
5. Proceed with work that will improve (or at least not further degrade) water quality on and beyond the Domain.
6. Allow the use of non-threatened materials for cultural use by mana whenua.

8.3.2 Pest Management

8.3.2.1 Ngā Whāinga / Objectives

1. To control the target invasive species in an efficient method meeting industry best practise standards
2. To implement the animal pest management plan developed by Environment Southland in partnership with Environment Southland and with support by volunteer groups and agencies.

8.3.2.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

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8.3.2.2.1 Trapping and killing

a. Undertake pest plant and animal pest control with others to improve outcomes for indigenous biodiversity, forestry, and to reduce the effects of sand movement and erosion.

b. Trapping and killing methods noted in the pest management plan developed by Environment Southland for Council will be applied across blocks (Northern, Central and Southern) set at the Domain.

c. A combination of toxin, live capture and kill traps are to be used for possum control. Kill traps are used for mustelid and rat control. These methods will also incidentally interact with mice, feral cats, hedgehogs and rabbits/hares. Shooting will be used to target rabbits and hares, and to respond to reports of ungulates within the domain.

d. These mechanisms will be applied following a timeline and across blocks as the control programme is rolled out which has been prescribed by Environment Southland.

8.3.2.2 Monitoring

a. A round of each monitoring programme must be undertaken before pest animal control begins to provide a baseline measure for comparison.
    1. Outcome monitoring – 5-minute bird counts, RECCE Plots with photo points
    2. Result Monitoring – wax tag index (possums), tracking tunnels (rodents and mustelids)

b. All monitoring data should be uploaded into the following open-access platforms. They are supported by apps and desktop programmes for consistent data collection both in the field and the office across a range of users; provide easy reporting tools; and contribute to scientific study at a national and international scale - Trap.nz, eBird, New Zealand National Vegetation Survey Databank.

8.3.3 Amenity Forestry

8.3.3.1 Ngā Whāinga / Objectives

1. To continue to manage forestry operations as led through the 2023 Masterplan
2. Forestry will be managed through the Forestry Management Plan in alignment with management of commercial forestry under the NES-CF regulations.

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8.3.3.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Proceed with reducing some areas of forestry according to the 2023 Masterplan.
2. Manage the forest in line with best practice principles and the forestry management plan.
3. Allow harvesting in line with best practice principles, accepting that maximum yield and financial return may compromised to protect the values of the site, indigenous biodiversity and the recreation opportunities.
4. Controlled burning is not acceptable forestry practice at the Domain.
5. Allow public access to parts of the forest, noting that areas open to the public will be determined by the Council and will alter, based on conditions in the forest and operational activities in the forest - this is generally in line with the General Policies RMP 9.2.
6. Council will apply the revenue generated from forestry in accordance with Section 78 and 79 of the Act. All revenue after expenses and repayment of loans from logging activities be retained in a special fund for reserves purposes.
7. Forestry Management plan will investigate opportunities for carbon sequestration and revenue impacts.

8.3.4 Te rerekētanga o te āhuarangi me ētahi atu tūraru ā-taiao / Climate change and other environmental risks

8.3.4.1 Ngā Whāinga / Objectives

1. To manage the park in a way that minimises and mitigates the impact of climate change.
2. To improve the resilience of the park by adapting to the effects of climate change and impacts of coastal hazards.
3. To manage significant risks from natural and manmade hazards to park users and assets in accordance with national and regional policy.
4. To restore ecological and hydrological systems to promote healthy, thriving ecosystems.

8.3.4.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Improve the capacity of park to mitigate the impacts of climate change by:
    a. maximising the carbon sink benefits of vegetation through implementing ecological restoration and pest control programmes
    b. identifying areas for new plantings.
2. Manage natural hazards on the park:
    a. with minimal interference to natural processes, natural resources, and historical and cultural heritage.
    b. include an assessment of the risks to people, parkland and park infrastructure.

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3. When a high level of risk to people, parkland or park infrastructure from a natural hazard on a park has been identified, options to manage risks will be identified by the Council and, where practical and feasible, interested people and organisations should be informed of any proposed actions prior to implementation.
4. When buildings and structures on the park come to the end of their economic life or where events risk the future safety of people, buildings and structures, consider the impacts of coastal hazards in decisions on their replacement and location, or managed withdrawal seeking alternate ways to deliver the service or cease.
5. Decision making in response to the impacts of coastal hazards or land instability on parks and park infrastructure will be consistent with:
    a. the outcomes and policies in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and national guides on climate change projections and adaptive planning
    b. the council's Coastal Management Framework, including any relevant coastal management plan and/or coastal asset management plan
    c. any future council coastal erosion and land instability response policy, and
    d. any site-specific hazard assessment.
6. Improve the management of stormwater and groundwater by:
    a. investigating sustainable treatment and potential re-use of field irrigation water.
    b. considering actions to reduce the risk of localised flooding around the park.
    c. exploring opportunities to sustainably treat irrigation and stormwater runoff.
    d. considering installing a monitoring device to observe groundwater quality and identify opportunities for reducing the potential for groundwater contamination.
7. Enable green infrastructure or soft engineering solutions to help manage stormwater, improve air and water quality, reduce flood risk and help to mitigate climate change.
8. Enable nature-based solutions as a means to improve the quality of the natural environment (e.g. composting, rainwater hydration systems, recycling, green infrastructure).

8.3.5 Te tūonohono ā-hoa me ngā mahi tūao / Partnering and volunteering

Tuapapa / Background

Partnering with third party groups and organisations and other volunteer programmes plays a unique and invaluable role in the advocacy, planning, development and care of parks. Community-led action encourages a sense of ownership and engagement in local settings. Volunteers assist council to more cost-effectively deliver parks facilities and

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programmes. As well as the delivery of significant recreation opportunities and community services that are enjoyed by many people.

8.3.5.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To encourage and facilitate partnerships and volunteering activities on the park that align with and support the outcomes and policies of this plan and provide mutual benefits for the community.

8.3.5.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Partnerships on the Domain will be documented in writing to confirm the purpose of the partnership with Council and the nature of each party's commitment.
2. Volunteer activities that involve ground or vegetation disturbance, restoration programmes or park development should be formalised under a written agreement and assessed against the objectives and authorisation assessment criteria. Volunteer activities must be undertaken in accordance with Council's health and safety standards.

8.3.6 Future Development

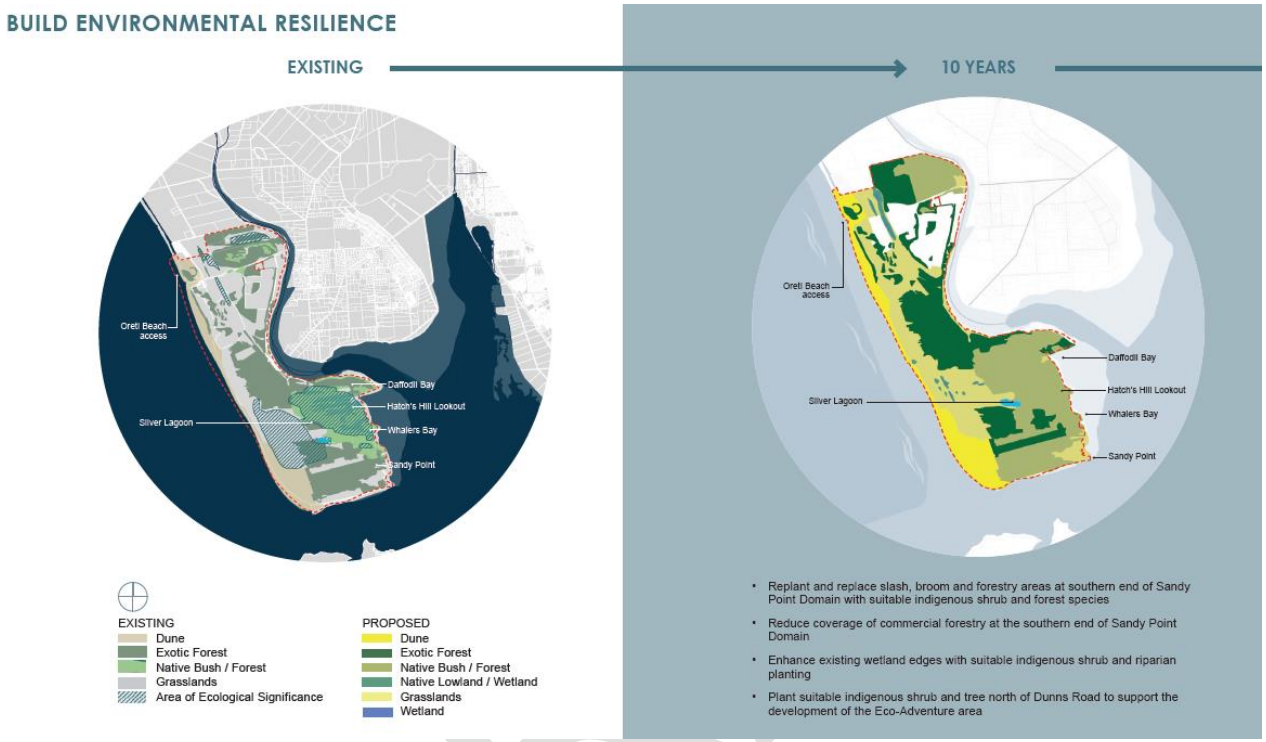
8.3.6.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To deliver the intentions of the 2023 Masterplan.

8.3.6.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. The Masterplan outlines Council's intentions for development at the Domain. Development that is not anticipated in the Masterplan typically requires approval from the Council.
2. Vegetation plantings will be guided by the 2023 Sandy Point Domain Masterplan and planting plans as they are developed.
3. The recreation zone will incorporate natives to replace some pines.
4. Landscape plans of key areas within the Domain will be prepared in consultation with stakeholders the local community and in general accordance with the masterplan. This will take into account the need to define activity spaces, accessibility, screening, shelter/shade, habitat and amenity improvement, species selection, designing out crime practices and the protection of view shafts.

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WĀHANGA TUATORU – NGĀ WHAKAMANATANGA / PART THREE – AUTHORISATIONS

9.0 Ngā mahi e tika ana kia whakamanatia / Activities requiring authorisation

Tuapapa / Background

Some people or groups will want to use park space for activities that might have a lasting impact on the park, or that might prevent others from also using the park. Under these circumstances people will need to apply for a specific permission or 'authorisation' to use the park.

The starting point for all land held under the Act is that decisions made about any proposed use of park space must comply with the provisions of the Act.

The purpose of the authorisation is to ensure impacts on the park and park users are considered and managed, and a consistent and balanced approach is taken to assessing proposals to ensure park values are protected and the intentions of the Masterplan and this RMP are not compromised.

Activities will need to be authorised if they:

- require exclusive use of the park or an area of the park (which could be in the form of a permit for an event).
- change the physical park environment, e.g. ground disturbance, plant removal or planting.
- require a temporary or permanent building or structure to be built or installed.
- are commercial in nature, in other words are for private gain or financial reward, such as a coffee cart or commercial filming.
- create an interest in land in favour of a third party, such as a lease or licence.

The type of activity – how long it will take, how many people might be involved, what effect it will have on the park itself, and whether the park will be able to recover easily – will help to determine the likely impact of that activity. Higher-impact activities will need more in-depth assessments. There are various types of authorisations that may also be known as a landowner approval. They may take the form of a booking, permit, easement, licence, bylaw approval, lease or some other formal agreement. Authorisations may include a range of conditions.

The Act requires council to enable mana whenua to provide input into the decision-making process, as outlined in section 4.0.

In some cases, formal public notification will also be required by legislation, either under the Act or under the LGA. Even if the legislation does not require public notification, the local board may choose to speak to key stakeholders or, if it believes it is in the public interest, undertake public consultation to better understand the wider community's views.

9.1 Whakamanatanga matawhānui / General authorisations

9.1.1 Ngā Whāinga / Objectives

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1. To ensure the consideration of authorisations complies with the relevant sections of the Act and any relevant bylaws.
2. To ensure a consistent approach is taken to assessing proposals requiring authorisation in accordance with any relevant bylaws.
3. To ensure decision making relating to the development spaces and places considers and implements sustainable practice.

9.1.2 Tikanga whakaaetanga aromatawai / Authorisation assessment approach

1. The assessment of an activity requiring authorisation should consider the relevance of:
    a. Overall consistency with this RMP and the Masterplan
    b. The capacity of the park to accommodate the activity and the ability of Council to provide the right level of oversight
    c. Potential impacts on current users of the park, such as any exclusive use of the park or part of the park
    d. Statutory Acknowledgements (require consultation/approval with Ngāi Tahu)
    e. Relevant bylaws
    f. Environmental Sustainability Guidelines for Spaces and Places (Sport NZ)
2. The usage of the Domain must be continually monitored and controlled so as to ensure that the resource is widely used and that its development and sustainability is in the best interests of the community, the wider public and the environment

9.2 Community Leases and Licences

9.2.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To allow continued operation of speedway.

9.2.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Consider the Southland Car Club space to be designed as a motorsport hub which will incorporate other motorsport activities, and to provide for other non-speedway activities like public car parking, overnight caravan parking, and temporary commercial activities, such as food truck events and markets.
2. Allow for the upgrade of the speedway track as required and associated facilities to remain at FIA standard.

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3. Where new spectator seating facilities are developed, consider incorporating multi-use facilities that will be available for all park users as part of the same building.

9.3 Ngā Whare / Buildings

9.3.1 Ngā Whāinga / Objectives

1. To ensure that the nature and extent of buildings is consistent with the land status and classification and use of the park.
2. To support the development or redevelopment of buildings on the park where the need for these has been fully assessed and it is demonstrated that recreation, community and Māori outcomes are better enabled.
3. To encourage shared use and/or clustering buildings where possible to minimise the number of buildings and structures on the park.
4. Maximise synergies between existing facilities and prioritise flexible and adaptable use of facilities.

9.3.2 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. If buildings are to be located on parkland, including replacements, additions and extensions, the following should be considered:
    a. the guiding principles and park values
    b. an assessment of the need for the building and alignment with any service outcomes
    c. the potential for co-location of the activity within an existing or proposed building on the park
    d. the opportunity to adaptively reuse historic buildings
    e. bulk, height and location of the building in relation to the layout and scale of the park
    f. materials, colours, façade articulation and landscaping
    g. the opportunity for multiple uses within the building
    h. the opportunity to cluster buildings within a similar location in the park if separate buildings are required
    i. potential impacts generated by ancillary activities and effects, and the location and access of service areas
    j. crime prevention through environmental design
    k. incorporation of universal design
    l. consistency with the universal design guidance
    m. the design of any facilities, such as toilets, showers, storage and changing rooms, to be accessible to all park users.

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n. options for environmentally sustainable design, including collection of rainwater, minimising energy requirements and considering carbon footprint in the construction and ongoing maintenance
o. design options to minimise the impacts of noise from motorsport activities on neighbouring activities. This may include noise insulating materials or the placement of buildings or structures to function as a physical noise barrier between activities.

2. Apart from those areas that have been so heavily modified that all trace of their original character has disappeared, any proposed development and usage must have regard for the conservation of any natural features in the Domain.
3. Consequently, any necessary installations or developments should be sited so that their impact does not lower the quality of the resource. Development and usage should be controlled and guided so that the area's values are not compromised.
   a. Where appropriate encourage informal use of sports infrastructure by casual users and non-club affiliated groups and other codes.
4. Where a building on a park becomes vacant or is at the end of its economic life, its future service potential or removal should be considered.
5. As activities disband, or facilities are no longer fit for purpose, Council will work with clubs to re-locate with other like activities so clubs can share facilities and buildings.
6. Buildings and structures within the Domain will be reviewed in alignment with the Act, NZ Heritage Properties Trust rules, District Plan rules and Disability best practice guidelines and requirements.
7. Dark skies: Any exterior lighting must take into account the following 'Dark Skies Principles':
   a. minimise the amount of illumination
   b. minimise the area of illumination
   c. minimise the duration of illumination; and
   d. minimise the amount of "cold" wavelength illumination.
   e. Note: 4000K (colour temperature) LED luminaires is considered to be consistent with the "Dark Skies Principles" referred to above. The *Dark Skies* principles of the *International Dark-Sky Association for outdoor lighting* can be found here: Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting - International Dark-Sky Association (darksky.org).
8. Any new buildings or structures should not be located on skylines, ridgetops or promontories and be finished in tones or colours which do not contrast with the surrounding landscape, with light reflectance values less than 20%.
9. Any new earthworks, access tracks or permanent disturbances should be designed and located to retain the appearance of an undisturbed landform or follow existing natural contours as far as practicable, with any cut or fill batters revegetated and screened by appropriate plantings as soon as practical.

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10. Environmental Sustainability Guidelines for Spaces and Places will help guide decision making when considering inception, design, construction and operation of spaces and places. It will also support decision making for future investment.
11. Residential occupants of the Domain with an annual licence to occupy will be granted a 21-year licence to occupy with a right of renewal of seven years plus seven years with the right to transfer to a third party for the remaining period to a maximum of 35 years.

9.3.3 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To allow a multi-use building to be developed on the Domain where it aligns with the overall intentions of the Masterplan and the building, use and location has been approved by Council.

9.3.4 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Where a multi-use building is built, this should:
    a. complement the historic character of the park.
    b. improve the feeling of safety and surveillance in the park.
    c. be designed to be adaptive to different sports and community uses.
    d. Incorporate facilities designed to be available to all park users.

9.4 Ngā mahi aru moni / Commercial activities

Tuapapa / Background

There are a wide variety of commercial activities that currently operate on parks. These include temporary commercial activities such as food trucks, markets and fairs, recreational and tourism activities (biking, rafting etc.) sports equipment hire and lessons, filming. Examples of permanent commercial activities include hospitality, retain, officers for ticket sale and tourism operators and would typically require a lease to locate facilities on land managed as reserve.

Commercial trading can happen on the Domain; however, decisions and approvals are made based on the Act classifications for the land in question.

The benefits of commercial trading may include:

- enhancement of the park user's experience by providing additional services to those provided on the park

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- enabling a wider range of uses and activities to be undertaken which require specialised equipment, not otherwise available to the general public
- activation of park spaces and enhancement of existing activity in the park e.g. provision of refreshments whilst watching sports games, speedway activities or children playing. The statutory purpose and reserve classification of the park under the Act may place constraints on what commercial activity is permissible. Public notification of a commercial proposal may be necessary.

The District Plan and Council bylaws also regulate commercial activities on parks. The requirements of the legislation and bylaws is the basis for authorising appropriate activities for park spaces. Council manages temporary commercial activities through a landowner approval process. On the park there is the opportunity to provide for enterprises which support recreation activities on the recreation reserve areas that are designated for commercial activity. Fees and charges apply for commercial activities, including bonds.

9.4.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. To ensure the commercial use of the Domain occurs in ways that does not compromise park values, that encourages use of parks where they add to the enjoyment and experience of park users, is consistent with the guiding principles and in accordance with the Act and any relevant bylaws.
2. Allow (conditional) certain trades or business developments that are compatible with servicing the primary needs of the Domain.

9.4.2 Te Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. To the Act and any relevant bylaws, the assessment of an application for a commercial activity should consider:
    a. the nature of the proposed activity and any effects on existing infrastructure and facilities
    b. the relevance of the objectives and authorisation assessment approach in section 9.0
    c. whether the activity has a community benefit component that is compatible with the Recreation Reserve classification, park values and park information in section 6.0
    d. how the activity activates the park and/or enhances (or has adverse effects) park users' experience of the park(noise, accessibility).
    e. environmental impact
    f. business capability

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9.4.3 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. Support commercial opportunities that directly benefit park users and the local community.
2. Council's role is to ensure a balanced approach to temporary commercial activities on reserve land to enhance the visitor experience.
3. Where Council-administered land is used for commercial gain, a fee is applied.

9.4.4 Ngā Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Consider the inclusion of more cafés within the park.
2. Consider opportunities for social enterprise.
3. Consider opportunities to accommodate youth and community group facilities.
4. Council may tender for certain commercial activities if a need has been identified.

9.5 Wāhi noho mō te pō / Overnight Accommodation

Tuapapa / Background

Overnight accommodation on parks and reserves can be permitted by Council through a combination of the Act, LGA and Freedom Camping Act 2011, and any bylaws made under these Acts. Section 44 of the Act does not permit use of a reserve for personal accommodation, including camping, unless an exception under the Act applies.

Exceptions can apply where consent is granted by the Minister of Conservation (which is delegated to Invercargill City Council). The Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw 2013, enacted under the LGA, currently prohibits staying in a tent overnight in a park unless prior written approval has been obtained from Council.

Freedom Camping Act 2011
From 2025, The Freedom Camping Act 2011 generally allows people to camp overnight in certified self-contained vehicles on public land, unless it has been restricted or prohibited in a bylaw or other enactment. Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015 currently prohibits overnight accommodation in vehicles except in designated areas, none of which are at the Domain.

9.5.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

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1. To manage overnight accommodation on the park in accordance with Section 44 of the Act, any relevant legislation and Council's General Policies RMP.

9.5.2 Te Kaupapa Here / Policy

1. Camping is not permitted on the reserve except for in such authorised areas as the motor camp (Beach Road Holiday Park) and the scout camp area, or areas that may be dedicated within the reserve management plan, or have a permit issued by Council staff with delegated authority.

9.6 Firearms and Hunting Equipment

9.6.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

1. To only allow firearms where it is provided for in this RMP.

9.6.2 Te Kaupapa Here / Policy

1. To prohibit the carrying and use of all types of firearms and hunting equipment within the Domain and its environs, apart from those areas specifically set aside for organised firearm activities.
2. Permits may be issued, where appropriate, for specific activities such as the control of pests and the General Policies RMP will apply.

9.7 Noise Levels

Tuapapa / Background

Existing recreational users of the reserve, such as the Southland Sports Car Club and other motorised sports clubs, have used the reserve as a base for their activities for a number of years.

The imposition of a night time limit is proposed to meet the standards in the District Plan and resource consent will be required for any activities that will not meet this requirement.

9.7.1 Te Whāinga / Objective

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1. To comply with noise level requirements in the District Plan and this RMP.

9.7.2 Te Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. To allow noise levels consistent with those that have been allowed in the past for existing recreation uses except between the hours of 10.00pm and 7.00am where the noise level on the boundary shall not exceed 40dBA L10.
2. Noise output of existing recreational users of the reserve, such as the Southland Sports Car Club and other motorised sports clubs, will be managed as per the Noise Management Plan (Appendix 7).
3. Recreational activities new to the reserve will meet the following noise level standards (measured at the neighbouring boundary):
   a. 55 dBA L10 between the hours and 7.00am and 10.00pm.
   b. 40 dBA L10 between the hours of 10.00pm and 7.00am.
4. Resource consents will be required if these standards cannot be met.

9.8 Waste Management

Tuapapa / Background

Council Three Waters currently has a resource consent with Environment Southland to apply bio solids to very sandy soil in the Christies Track area of the Domain. Bio solids application will improve soil condition and provide an improved environment for the planting programme.

Land use is approximately 42 ha in area. It is located between Christies Track and the Ōreti Links area, approximately 200 m from Ōreti Beach. There have been up to three bio solids applications over the area over a ten year period. Each application takes two to three weeks, involving the transport of bio solids by truck from the Clifton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and spreading using agricultural machinery. Bio solids applications are being undertaken at intervals of one to three years, depending on the volumes transported and are covered with each application.

9.8.1 Te Whāinga / Objectives

1. Provide effective and efficient waste minimisation and management services supported by the right funding mechanism.
2. Avoid or mitigate any adverse effects on public health or the environment.

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3. Provide and support opportunities to minimise waste through reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery (in priority order).

9.8.2 Te Kaupapa Here / Policies

1. Allow bio solid dispersal in the Eco Park area in accordance with consent conditions.
2. Council may choose to limit the quantity, area and timing of biosolid dispersal below what is consented in order to prioritise recreational values, ecological values and iwi preferences.
3. Council may seek to be compensated by the biosolid applicant for areas perceived to be lost as recreation areas.
4. Application of biosolids must not unreasonably interfere with the Recreation Reserve purpose of the Domain.

9.9 Limitations

9.9.1 Te Kaupapa Here / Policies

Where the RMP does not specifically provide for an activity, the following considerations need to be undertaken:

a. Any limitation set out in the General Policies RMP and other Council documents
b. Any other activities managed by the District Wide matters set out in the operative or proposed District Plan (excluding signage directly linked to an activity specifically provided for in the reserve and Appendix 4: Noise management Plan);
c. Any provisions within the relevant regional plan(s); and
d. Any national environmental standards or national policy statements.
    - When a proposal for use and development at the Domain has not been anticipated in this RMP, it may be necessary to seek approval from the Mayor and Councillors.

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10.0 APPENDICES

10.1 APPENDIX 1 - BOUNDARIES



10.2 APPENDIX 2 – SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUBS

Motor Sports

Lurkers Club
Leases space adjoining the Invercargill Kart Club.

Southland Landrover Club

This Club started leasing an area at the Domain from 1998.

In 2003 the leased area was transferred from an area west of Teretonga to the area east of the Mauritangi Scout Camp, Fosbender Park.



Southland Motor Cycle Club

In the early 1930's, the Southland Motor Cycle Club commenced having annual races on Ōreti Beach, the wide flat sands of which are ideal for speed trials.

In 1948, the Club took up an area of land, south of Dunns Road and along what is now known as Pit Road, for the purposes of forming a scramble track.

During 1966, a 500 metre speedway track was formed.

In 1977 Council resolved that the disused gravel pits north of Dunns Road near Ōreti Beach be approved for trail riding.

A new building was erected in 1980 to adjoin the existing building at the time.

The track was restored in 1998.

Southland Sports Car Club

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The Southland Sports Car Club has been involved in the Sandy Point area since 1949, when land for a circuit was granted to them by the Invercargill City Council.



Progress at first was slow, and it was not until 8 November 1953 when the first working bee by Club members was held to prepare for a motor racing circuit. At that time, Domain Road did not exist and there was a very rough track to gain access to the venue from Dunns Highway past the flax mill at the time.

Originally it was proposed to build a circuit one mile in length. The success of the Southland Centennial Road Race at Ryal Bush in 1956 persuaded the Club to amend and accelerate plans to build a circuit 1.6 miles in length, so that it would qualify for international competition. Money was raised by way of gifts and debentures to build the sealed circuit and this was opened for its first race on 17 November 1957.

The first "international" race was held on 6 February, 1958. The early meetings were not as profitable as had been hoped and by 1959, the Club owed $32,000 with $18,000 being required within four years. The initial seal was far from satisfactory and most cars spent more time off circuit than on it because of the smooth river gravel stones that had been used.

A Board of Control was formed and further capital was raised. A tragic accident at the 1966 event killed two spectators and a driver. This led to a change in track design that eliminated the accident venue and extended the circuit to its present length and configuration.

In 1980 international races were abandoned and they did not resume in a slightly different form until 1990. Since that time they have been held on at least an annual basis and have diversified their interest.

Today the circuit is not only used for motor racing (car, motorcycle and drags) but other events such as driver training, cycling and triathlons are also held at Teretonga Park. Its use has increased greatly over the years and it is in some form of use most weekends.

Since 1991 continuous improvement has been made to the circuit, facilities and grounds and, currently, is the southernmost FIA licenced circuit in the world and is internationally licensed to International Grade 3 and National Grade 1, which covers all current Motorsport New Zealand recognised vehicle categories.

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At the present time the circuit is highly regarded in both Australia and New Zealand for its layout and safety features, which have resulted in the second highest lap speed record of any permanent motor racing circuit in both countries.

Areas of Teretonga Park have been subleased by the Club for grazing in previous years.



The NZ Grand Prix was first held in Teretonga in January 2001.

The control tower was replaced in 2010.

Southland Stock Car Drivers Association Inc.

Stock car racing commenced in 1963. At that time the Association used the track operated by the Southland Motor Cycle Club.



From a safety point of view, that proved to be unsatisfactory and in 1976, the Southland Stock Car Drivers Association was granted the use of 7.25 ha immediately to the south of Teretonga. There, the Association has constructed its own racing track and clubrooms.

The area is known as Riverside Speedway.

Invercargill Kart Club Incorporated

Go-kart racing at the Domain commenced about or just prior to 1960 when the Club took up 5.47 ha of land along Pit Road. In 1962, the 500 meter racing track was sealed and the Club became well established. Over the years, the track and facilities have since been upgraded and the track lengthened.

Events such as the Southern Series and the South Island Champs have been held there.

Aquatic Sports and Activities

Invercargill Rowing Club (IRC)

This Club originally established on the New River Estuary in 1875 and has a long history. Like the Yacht Club, they transferred their clubrooms to the

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Ōreti River at Sandy Point in 1958, following the wrecking of their clubrooms by a disastrous storm in 1957.

Its clubrooms are based a little further south from the Power Boat Club at 89 Sandy Point Road.

The club expanded its facilities in 1983 when the first women members joined the club. An additional boat storage shed was constructed in 2005 to accommodate an increase in competition and training skiffs. This shed is also shared with the Awarua Boating Club to store some of their rowing skiffs. A major upgrade and extensions to the clubrooms took place in 2010, along with significant site development work to create a combined rowing precent with the Waihopai Rowing Club to improve safety and host regional regatta events.



The club facilities also include secure storage for 12 kayaks that are rented to the Southland Multi Sport Club who also train on the Ōreti River.

The Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trust store their waka on the IRC leased land and use the boat launching beach, until they relocate to their own facilities further down the river.

The Southland Rowing Association had its base alongside that of the Invercargill Rowing Club, until their shed reached the end of its economic life and was demolished in 2005. The association now uses the Invercargill Rowing Club facilities for their meetings.

Ōreti Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated

This was the first recreational organisation to become established on the Domain. It was formed in 1929 and, except for a two-year recess during World War II, this Club has actively patrolled Ōreti Beach ever since.

Records show from 1984-1992, members of the Ōreti Surf Life Saving Club were named as Honorary Beach Wardens.

Southland Power Boat Club Incorporated

This Club has its headquarters on the banks of the Ōreti River, approximately 1km south of the Dunns Road Bridge. Along with the Rowing and the Water Ski areas, this Club has a set section of river allocated for its use.

Waihopai Rowing Club

Originally the Invercargill Railway Rowing Club, this Club was formed in 1887. At first, membership was confined to railways employees, but it soon had to open its membership to all comers.

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The Club eventually transferred to the Domain in 1967, where a clubhouse was built, and is situated immediately south of the Invercargill Rowing Club.

In 1985 changing rooms were built to accommodate an increasing number of women members. As Club membership increased, the need for more space for storage and Club facilities arose, resulting with an extension to the existing building in 1995 for that purpose.

Te Ara a Kewa Waka Ama Trust

Lease the building and land formerly occupied by the Waterski and Runabout Club, located near the mouth of the Ōreti River.

The clubrooms are actually situated somewhere in the vicinity of where McLennan's cottage stood.

Land Based Activities

Disc Golf South
Disc Golf South is considering the possibility of putting a disc golf course in the Ōreti Sands area, specifically looking into utilizing the old Ōreti Sands Links course. This is an exciting prospect, as repurposing existing golf courses for disc golf could be a game changer giving people a complex different course to play.

Georgetown Scouts
In 1968, Georgetown Scouts was first granted a lease at Fosbender Park. At Mauritangi Campsite there have been many group camps and functions.

Native plantings have been implemented by the Parks Division and the Scout Group over the years.

Horse Trekkers

Various Clubs including Birchwood Hunt Club, Mount Linton Endurance Riding Club and Southland Trail and Pleasure Horsemen use specific areas of the Domain for horse trekking. The commercial business of Rakiura Rides has leased land along Sandy Point Road from 2006.

Rugby Southland Incorporated

Frequent closures of City fields caused the Southland Rugby Football Union to look at the possibility of establishing some all-weather fields at the Domain.

In 1966, the Southland Rugby Football Union obtained a lease of 16.6 ha of land immediately south of Dunns Road and just beyond the Motor Camp. The land is known as Ōreti Park.

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They have developed a number of rugby fields and the erection of a semi-covered stand, capable of seating 600 visitors. Lighting was installed at Les George Oval. Lights and poles were relocated from Mataura Rugby Club.

Since becoming established, these fields have been a tremendous boom to rugby players.

Southland Astronomical Society (SAS)

The closure of the observatory at the Southland Museum left them homeless for a few months. Negotiations with the ICC enabled SAS to move into the vacated Ōreti Sands Golf Links rooms. A yearly lease was agreed upon for the use of the rooms to store gear and hold public events.

The venue sees the Club away from most of the city light pollution, and for the first time in forty years, full facilities for meetings, observing and public events. A small permanent observatory has been placed on site to supplement the portable gear they regularly use.



The rooms are open every Saturday night during the winter season for public viewing. Follow SAS on Facebook for details.

Southland Equestrian Centre

Initially known as the Southland Pony Club and the Southland Area New Zealand Horse Society, this organisation was formed in 1969.

They have 11.41 ha along the eastern side of the southern portion of Pacific Avenue where gymkhanas, training schools and other equestrian activities are carried out.

Over the years buildings have been placed on the site and soil and ground conditions have been upgraded.

Southland Football Association

The Association started leasing the grounds from 1970. In 1999 the old hockey grounds were developed into four new fields of 90 x 55. These fields have been used for various tournaments and competitions over the years.

Southland Rodeo Association

In 1978 a move was made to the Domain, where a complete new complex was developed and the Club has since become well established. The New Zealand Nationals were held there in 1984.

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Southland Rugby League

The Southland District Rugby League Association currently use the Domain sports grounds on a seasonal basis.



Southland Mountain Bike Club

The Mountain Bike Club was established in the late 1980's and has consistently grown in membership since. Mountain bike trails have been historically built and rebuilt following logging by volunteers and are maintained by the Southland Mountain Bike Club. These trails are mostly used by large number of the general public and used for mountain bike an orienteering events that the Club organises.

Southland Orienteering Club Inc.

Orienteering maps have been created for many areas of Sand Point Domain and these are the most frequently used maps that the club has. The first map was created for the area around Mauritangi Campsite in 1980.



The Southland Orienteering Club provides competitive and training events for club members and non-members in both running and mountain-biking styles. It also holds an annual Southland Schools Orienteering Championships.

The club has a semi-permanent course at the Ōreti Links area which can be walked / run at any time.

Southland Sled Dog Association

SSDA was established in 1997 and originally used Petries Track and the public roads around Whalers Bay etc. The club then relocated to Fosbender park area following safety concerns in 2001. The SSDA has developed the area into a vast network of walking/racing trails surrounding the Kilmock Bush Reserve.

SSDA holds 2 nationally recognised events over the winter racing season and has also held international events at the site. For its members, the club also holds regular training events and as far as the club is aware the Sled dog training trails at Fosbender is the only purpose-built Sled Dog facility in the southern hemisphere.

Target Activities

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Invercargill Pistol Club

The Invercargill Pistol Club was established in 1962 and, after using the Invercargill Smallbore Rifle Range in Turnbull Thomson Park for some years, the Club in 1970 then leased an area of land near the old gravel pits in the northern portion of the Domain.

It has 50 meter and 25 meter ranges and the area is also used by both the Police and Army for small arms practice.

Southern Ghost Airsoft Group.

Shares a leased area of 4.29ha with Southland Airsoft Club where Southland Paintball Club used to be near Pit Road.

Southern Wolves Airsoft Group

Southern Wolves Airsoft Group is a non-profit sports club based in Invercargill that hosts for all kinds of airsoft gaming.The club occupies 2.3 ha on the north western edge of the Sled Dog Area.

Southland Airsoft Club

Southland Airsoft Club is a non-profit sports club based in Invercargill that hosts for all kinds of airsoft gaming. The Club shares a leased area of 4.29ha with Southern Ghost Arisoft Group where Southland Paintball Club used to be near Pit Road.

Southland Archery and Bowhunters Club Inc

The Invercargill Archery Club was previously located at Turnbull Thomson Park. In 1991 the name of the Club was changed to Southland Archery and Bowhunters Club Inc.

In 1997 the lease for Turnbull Thomson Park was cancelled and a lease for a site at the Domain was issued.

Southland Clay Target Club (SCTC)

This Club was formed in 1952 and moved to the Domain in 1965. It occupies an area of 14.76 ha at the southern end of Pacific Avenue.



The SCTC has excellent facilities which the club takes pride in. There are four Skeet fields and six Down the Line (DTL) fields allowing them to host provincial, district and South Island level events. The

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club has some sporting traps but currently no formal sporting or Compak events in our calendar of events.

The SCTC achieved range certification in December 2023.

The club has a strong membership with a diverse range of shooters of all ages and abilities from beginners to international level.

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10.3 APPENDIX 3 – PROPOSED EXTENSION OF TRACK NETWORK



The image shows trails that are proposed to be installed or connected with existing trails in order to create one big loop

Key
Blue - tracks built to the required standard,
Orange – existing tracks but require upgrading
Red - sections are new builds.
Green - sections are proposed waking trails.
Broken Orange line - proposed shared used use with walkers, horses and bikes (just walkers for the first phase).

10.4 APPENDIX 4 - PLACE NAMES

The Domain is not rich in place names and only a few original names can be authenticated. Other place names, although having an air of being quite old, appear to have been bestowed in more recent times.

With the growing popularity of the Domain over the past 20 years or so, it became necessary to bestow further place names in order to facilitate the public's use of the area.

Early Place Names

Ōue - variously spelt as Owi, Oui or Ōue - this appears to be the earliest recorded name for the area. Early maps show Owi (Ōue) Village and Owi (Ōue) Point. The name is derived from the Māori kāika which formerly existed on the eastern shore of the Domain.

Honekai (a principal chief of Murihiku) was resident at this settlement in the 1820s. Honekai and many of his people moved to Ruapuke where he died - introduced diseases (e.g. measles) caused many deaths and devastated the populations of Māori in the south

Ōue is said to have been named after Maui decided to leave a man in the area to look after his interests while he continued his journey of discovery and to wait there for his return.

Cooper's Creek - this small creek which drains the central portion of the Domain is named after Owen McShane, the ex-ship's cooper, who probably settled there in 1838 after the whaling station was closed down. This name was recorded at least as early as 1870.

Rasks' Point - situated on the northern side of what is now known as Whalers' Bay. It was named after Carl Rask who settled there in the 1870s. The whole bay was originally known as the Rasks' Point Farm. The name appears to have come into use towards the end of the last century.

Sandy Point - following the abandonment of the Māori kāika of *Ōue* in the 1870s, Sandy Point came into use as an embracing term for the whole area. At the same time, the name of "*Ōue*" fell into disuse. It should be noted that Point *Ōue* appears on one of W J W Hamilton's sketch maps named as Sandy Point as early as 1850.

Daffodil Bay - Daffodil Bay was one of the most popular parts of Sandy Point and yet few people are aware that it was originally called West's Flat. It received its name from Mr and Mrs W J N West who used to live there. Originally they ran an accommodation house in partnership with J G Hughes at the Mokomoko Inlet.

Travellers journeying from Bluff to Riverton or inland Southland used to cross the estuary by boat from the Mokomoko Inlet, travel across Sandy Point and then along the beach to Riverton. Thus, the accommodation house was,

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of one or another of the settlers on Sandy Point, popular (or sometimes necessary) as an overnight stopping place.

The Wests eventually retired to Sandy Point and it was Mrs Christina West who planted the daffodils amongst the flax bushes which gave this delightful area its current name - Daffodil Bay.

Kilmock Bush - known to Kenneth McLennan as Top Bush in the 1890s. The name "Kilmock Bush" appears on a cadastral plan as early as the 1920s. It has not been possible to ascertain the origin of the name.

Castle Stand Hill - this name was given to a prominent sand hill by Captain John L Stokes in 1850. It was noted as being in the vicinity of Henry McCoy's station but W J W Hamilton's sketch map is so vague that its exact location can only be surmised. As a name, it probably never gained currency.

Christie's Track - a name used by Thomas Waugh in the 1890s. It was named after a carter, Mr Christie, who took several successive loads of marram seed etc inland from the beach, thus forming a rough track. Thomas Waugh then sowed marram seed in the wheel tracks which proved to be a very successful method of establishing the marram. The exact position of the original Christie's Track is not known but the road now so named is in the general vicinity of where Christie's Track would have been.

Ōreti Beach - just when the western coastline of Sandy Point came to be known as Ōreti Beach is not known with certainty. On an early map drawn by Chief Tuhawaiki in 1943, the beach is named Mateaweawe, although that name has not been observed on any later maps.

In Thomas Waugh's various accounts (1890-1895) of the area, he refers to it simply as the "Ocean Beach". It would appear that the name Ōreti Beach did not arise until perhaps the early part of this century or maybe even a little later.

Later Place Names

The following place names appear in "Sandy Point Domain" (Petrie, 1970):

- West's Point.
- Printz's Point.
- Huruhuru's Beach.
- Noki Kāika.
- Whalers' Bay.
- McCoy's Beach.

Not one of these appears on any earlier map or in any publication and so it can only be assumed that these names have been given in more recent times and therefore have no historical foundation. However, they do help to commemorate some early residents and activities.

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With the growing popularity of Sandy Point Domain as a recreational area and its increasing development, it was found that a lack of place names was a hindrance. Accordingly, in 1982 a number of localities and features were given what were considered appropriate names.

McShane's Track - named after Owen McShane the cooper who resided somewhere in the vicinity.

Hatch's Hill - tradition has it that J Hatch used to climb this prominent sandhill in the early days in order to see whether any ships were crossing the bar to enter the estuary. Apart from hearsay, there is no evidence that J Hatch ever resided at Sandy Point.



McLennan's Flat - the name commemorates Kenneth McLennan who erected his dwelling on the bank of the Ōreti River in the vicinity in 1889.

Silver Lagoon - this largest remaining area of water in the Domain has also been known as the White Lagoon, although its current name appears to have been more generally used. It would appear that the name originated with some of the early lessees of the area.

Various forestry tracks and roads have also been given names as a means of identification. Those names commemorate some of the people who have been associated with the area in past years.

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10.5 APPENDIX 5 – NGĀI TAHU ASSOCIATIONS

Schedule 104 Statutory Acknowledgement for Rakiua/Te Ara a Kiwa (Rakiura/Foveaux Strait Coastal Marine Area)

Generally the formation of the coastline of Te Wai Pounamu relates to the tradition of Te Waka o Aoraki, which foundered on a submerged reef, leaving its occupants, Aoraki and his brother to turn to stone. They are manifested now in the highest peaks of the Kā Tititiri o Te Moana (the Southern Alps). The bays, inlets, estuaries and fiords which stud the coast are all the creations of Tū Te Rakiwhānoa, who took on the job of making the island suitable for human habitation.

The naming of various features along the coastline reflects the succession of explorers and iwi (tribes) who travelled around the coastline at various times. The first of these was Māui. Māui is said to have adjourned at Ōmaui (at the mouth of the New River Estuary) for a year, during which time he claimed the South Island for himself.

The great explorer Rakaihautu travelled overland along the coast, identifying the key places and resources.

The waka Takitimu, captained by the northern rangatira (chief) Tamatea, travelled around much of Te Wai Pounamu coast. While sailing past the cliffs at Ōmaui it is said that Tamatea felt a desire to go ashore and inspect the inland, and so he turned to the helmsman and gave the order "Tārere ki whenua uta" ("swing towards the mainland").

For Ngāi Tahu, traditions suich as these represent the links between the cosmological world of the gods andf present generations. These histories reinforce tribal identity and solidarity and continuity between generations and document the events which shaped the environment of Te Wai Pounamu and Ngāi Tahu as an iwi.

Ōue at the mouth of the Ōreti River (New River Estuary), opposite Ōmaui, was one of the principak settlements in Murihiku. Honekai who was a principal chief of Murihiku in his time was resident at this settlement in the early 1820s, at the time of sealers. In 1850 there were said to be 40 people living at the kaik at Ōmaui under the chief Mauhe.

Ōue is said to have got its name from a man Māui left to look after his interests there until his return. It was also here that the coastal track to Riverton began. From Ōue to the beach the track was called Te Ara Pakipaki, then, when it reached the beach, it was called Mā Te Aweawe, finally at the Riverton end, it was known as Mate a Waewae.

After the death of Honekai and as a consequence of inter-hapū and inter-tribal hostilities in the Canterbury region, many inhabitants of Ōue and other coastal villages on Foveaux Strait relocated ot Ruapuke Island, which became the Ngāi Tahu stronghold in the south.

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Te Ara a Kiwa, the estuaries, beaches and reefs off the mainland and islands all offered a bounty of mahinga kai, with Rakiura and the tītī islands being renowned for their rich resources of bird life, shellfish and wet fish.

Estuarine areas provided freshwater fisheries, including tuna (eels), inaka (whitebait), waikōura (freshwater crawyfish), Kōkopu and kanakana (lamprey). Marine mammals were harvest for whale meat and seal pups.

A range of bird life in the coastal area also contributed to the diversity of mahinga kai resources available, including tītī, seabirds such as shags and gulls, sea bird eggs, waterfowl and forest birds such as kiwi, kākā, kākāpō, weka, kukupa and tieke. A variety of plant resources were also taken in the coastal area, including raupo, fern root, tī kōūka (cabbage tree), tutu juice and korari juice. Harakeke (flax) was an important resource, required for the everyday tasks of carrying and cooking kai. Tōtara bark was important for wrapping pōhā in, to allow safe transport of the tītī harvest. Pōhā were made from bull kelp gathered around the rocky coast.

The New River Estuary contains wāhi tapu, as do many of the coastal dune and estuarine complexes for the length of the Foveaux Strait.

Excerpt from the Deed of Settlement, Section 2, 1997

With the arrival of the Europeans to New Zealand the British Government sought to establish sovereignty for New Zealand in the late 1830s and drafted Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi) and in 1840 Ngāi Tahu signed the treaty. This was followed by the Murihiku purchase in 1853, which saw the Crown acquire over 7 million acres.

10.6 APPENDIX 6 – EVERTHING PROPOSED TO BE INCLUDED IN LINKS

VEGETATION LIST

This list incorporates those studies made by earlier workers in the field, as well as that by L J Metcalf, made from 1979 onwards. The first person to record a list of some of the plants growing in Sandy Point Domain was C M Smith in 1924.

Smith was a forester working for the New Zealand Forest Service and, in his report on Sandy Point Domain Afforestation Scheme; he mentioned some of the principal or more noteworthy species to be found in the area.

He was followed by J E Holloway in about 1926 and an amateur botanist, F S Lokan, who botanised the area from the 1930s to the 1950s, compiling a comprehensive list of the indigenous plants growing in Sandy Point Domain.

In 1973 Diane J Lucas undertook a landscape appraisal of Sandy Point Domain, in which she listed several previously hitherto unrecorded species. More recently (in 1976), C G Robertson compiled a supplementary list which extended the number of species observed there.

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During the course of numerous visits to the area over the past ten years, L J Metcalf has further extended the number of species recorded for the area.

This list differs from all previous lists in that the adventive flora and some of the lower orders for plants have also been recorded. So far the fungi, lichens and mosses have been only superficially recorded.

S	Denotes species recorded by C M Smith, 1924
H	Denotes species recorded by J E Holloway Ca. 1926
+	Denotes species recorded by F W Lokan
L	Denotes species recorded by D J Lucas
R	Denotes species recorded by C G Robertson
!	Denotes species recorded by L J Metcalf
*	Denotes species recorded by Lokan and which are of uncertain status

Fungi

!	Aseroe rubra	
!	Clathrus cibarius	
!	Geastrum sp	
!	Paurocotylis pila	
!	Weraroa rubra	

Lichens

!	Ramalina linearis	
!	Stereocaulon ramulosum	
!	Sticta latifrons	
!	Teloschistes sp	

Musci

!	Cyathophorum bulbosum	
!	Hypoptergium navae-seelandiae	
!	Ptychomnion aciculare	
!	Thuidopsis furfosa	

Psilopsida

Psilotaceae

!	Tmesipteris sp	

Lycopsida

Lycopodiaceae

+	Lycopodium billardiera	
+	Lycopodium scariosum	
!	Lycopodium volubile	

Filicales

Ophioglossaceae

!	Botrychium australe var. millefolium	
+!	Ophioglossum coriaceum	

Hymenophyllaceae

+	Hymenophyllum bivalve	
!	Hymenophyllum multifidum	
!	Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum	

Dicksoniaceae

!	Dicksonia fibrosa	Wheki ponga

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!	Dicksonia squarrosa	Wheki
Polypodiaceae		
+!	Phymatodes diversifolium	
!	Pyrrosia serpens	
Grammitidaceae		
+!	Ctenopteris heterophylla	
Dennstaediaceae		
+*	Hypolepis distans	
+!	Hypolepis millefolium	
Pteridaceae		
+!	Histiopteris incisa	Cut leaf bracket
+!	Pteridium aquilinum var. esculentum	Bracket
Aspleniaceae		
+!	Asplenium bulbiferum	Hen and Chicken fern
+!	Asplenium flabellifolium	
+!	Asplenium flaccidum	
!	Asplenium flaccidum x scleroprium	
+!	Asplenium hookerianum	
!	Asplenium lyallii	
+!	Asplenium oblongifolium	
R!	Asplenium scleroprium	
Blechnaceae		
+!	Blechnum capense	
+*	Blechnum capense var.	
+!	Blechnum discolor	Crown fern or pio pio
+!	Blechnum fluviatile	
+!	Blechnum minus	
+!	Blechnum penna-marina	Alpine hard fern
+	Blechnum vulcanicum	
Dryopteridaceae		
!	Dryopteris felix-mas	Male fern
+!	Polystichum vesititum	
+!	Polystichum richardii	
!	Rumohra aiantiformis	
Adiantaceae		
!	Pellaea rotundifolia	
Spermatophyta		
Gymnospermae		
Podocarpaceae		
S+!	Dacrydium cuprerssinum	Rimu
+!	Podocarpus dacrydiodes	Kahikatea
S!	Podocarpus ferrugineus	Miro
S+!	Podocarpus hallii	Hall's totara
S+!	Podocarpus spicatus	Totara
S+!	Podocarpus totara	Totara
Angispermae		
Monocotyledonaea		
Juncaginaceae		
L!	Zostera muelleri	
Hydrocharitaceae		
!	Lagarosiphon major	

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Potamogetonaceae		
!	Potamogeton cheesemanii	
Gramineae		
S!	Ammophila arenaria	
!	Agropyron repens	
!	Anthozanthum odoratum	
!	Bromus sp	
S+!	Cortaderia richardii	Toe toe
S+!	Chionochloa rubra	Red tussock
!	Dactylis glomerata	
!	Echinopogon ovatus	
!	Festuca arundinacea	
S L	Festuca littoralis	
!	Festuca novae-zelandiae	
+!	Hierochloe redolens	
!	Holcus lanatus	
!	Hordeum murinum	
+!	Poa cita	Silver tussock
!	Puccinellia novae-zelandiae	
!	Puccinellia stricta	
!	Spartina anglica	
L	Spartina townsendii	
Liliaceae		
+!	Astelia fragrans	Bush lily
Agavaceae		
S+!	Cordyline australis	Cabbage tree
S+!	Phormium tenax	New Zealand flax
Lemnaceae		
!	Lemna minor	
Juncaceae		
+!	Juncus bufonius	
+!	Juncus pallidus	
+*	Luzula campestris	
!	Luzula picta var. picta	
Restoniaceae		
R!	Leptocarpus similis	
Iridaceae		
!	Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora	
+!	Liberta ixioides	New Zealand iris
R!	Libertia peregrinans	
Orchidaceae		
+*	Caladenia minor	
+!	Chiloglorris cornuta	
+!	Corybas macranthus	
+!	Corybas trilobus	
+!	Drymoanthus adversus	
+!	Earina autumnalis	Raupeka
+!	Earina mucronata	
+!	Gastrodina sp aff sesamoides	
+	Microtis unifolia	
!	Prasophyllum colensoi	
+	Pterostylis banksii	Greenhood orchid
+H	Pterostylis mutica	
!	Pterostylis sp	
+	Thelmitra longifolia	

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Cyperaceae		
+!	Carex comans	
!	Carex demissa	
+	Carex dipsacea	
+!	Carex geminata	
+*	Carex leporina	
+	Carex pumila	
L!	Carex secta	Niggerhead
R!	Carex sinclairii	
R	Carex trifida	
S+	Desmochoenus spiralis	Pingao
!	Eleocharis acuta	
+!	Scirpus cernuus	
H	Scirpus nodosus	
+!	Scirpus pungens	Three-square rush
!	Uncinia rubra	
!	Uncinia sp	
!	Uncinia uncinata	
Dicotyledoneae		
Winteraceae		
+!	Pseudowintera colorata	Horopito
Ranunculaceae		
S+!	Clematis foetida	
S+!	Clematis paniculata	Puwananga
!	Clematis vitalba	Traveller's joy
+!	Ranunculus acaulis	
!	Ranunculus drouetii	
!	Ranunculus flammula	
!	Ranunculus hirus	
!	Ranunculus repens	
Papaveraceae		
!	Papaver dubium	
Cruciferae		
!	Brassica nana	
!	Cakile edentula	
!	Capsella bura-pastoris	Shepherd's purse
!	Cardamine sp	
!	Diplotaxis muralis	
!	Lepidium desvauxii	Bushy peppercress
!	Matricaria matricaioides	
!	Nasturtium microphyllum	
!	Sisymbrium officinale	
Violaceae		
+!	Melicytus lanceolatus	
R!	Viola vunninghamii	
Crassulaceae		
!	Sedium acre	
+!	Tillaea moschata	
Droseraceae		
+	Drosera pygamea	
+	Drosera spathulata	Sundew
Aizoaceae		
!	Disphyma clavellatum	

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R!	Tetragonia trigyna	New Zealand Spinach
Caryophyllaceae		
!	Cerastium sp	
!	Montia perfoliata	
!	Sagina procumbens	Pearl wort
R	Scleranthus uniflorus	
!	Stellaria gracilenta	
!	Stellaria media	Chickweed
Polygonaceae		
R	Muehlenbeckia axillaris	
S+!	Muehlenbeckia australis	Pohuehue
S	Muehlenbeckia complexa	
!	Polygonum aviculare	
!	Rumex acetosella	Sorrel
!	Rumex crispus	Curled dock
!	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock
Chenopodiaceae		
!	Atriplex buchananii	
!	Atriplex triangulare	
L!	Salicornia australis	
Geraniaceae		
!	Geranium microphyllum	
R	Geranium sessiliflorum	
Haloragaceae		
+!	Gunnera albocarpa	
+	Gunnera arenaria	
+	Gunnera prorepens	
!	Haloragis depressa	
!	Myriophyllum elatinoides	

Note: Lucas records Gunnera hamiltonii but there is no record of it ever having been found on Sandy Point. The type locality is on the opposite side of the Oreti River, from Sandy Point, and she obviously made the record in error.

Onagraceae		
!	Epilobium erectus	
!	Epilobium nummularifolium	
!	Epilobium pallidiflorum	
S+!	Fuchsia colensoi	
S+!	Fuchsia excorticata	Kotukutuku
!	Fuchsia perscandens	
Callitrichaceae		
+!	Callitriche stagnalis	
Thymelaeaceae		
+	Pimelea arenaria	
S	Pimelea lyallii	
R		
Coriariaceae		
S!	Coriaria sarmentosa	Tutu
Tropaeolacea		
!	Tropaeolum speciosus	Flame creeper
Pittosporaceae		
!	Pittosporum tenuifolium ssp colensoi	Kohuhu
Myrtaceae		
S+!	Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka

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+	Myrtus obcordata	
S+!	Myrtus pedunculata	Rohutu
Hypericaceae		
!	Hypericum androsaemum	St John's wort
Elaeocarpaceae		
S+!	Elaeocarpus hookerianus	Pokaka
S+!	Aristotelia serrata	Wineberry
Malvaceae		
!	Plagianthus divaricatus	Shore ribbon wood
	Plagianthus regius	Ribbon wood
Cunoniaceae		
S!	Winmannia racemosa	Kamahi
Escalloniaceae		
S+!	Carpodetus serratus	Putaputaweta
Rosaceae		
H	Acaena microphylla	
+	Acaena sanguisorbae	Biddy biddy
!	Acaena viridior	Biddy biddy
+!	Potentilla anserionoides	
+*	Rubus australis	Bush lawyer
!	Rubus cissoids	Bush lawyer
S!	Rubus fruticosus	Blackberry
S+!	Rubus schmidelioides	
Leguminosae		
S	Carmichaelia sp	
S!	Cytisus scoparius	Broom
!	Lotus pedunculatus	
!	Lupinus arboreus	Tree lupin
S	Sophora microphylla	Kowhai
!	Trifolium medium	
!	Trifolium repens	White clover
S!	Ulex europaeus	Gorse
!	Vicia cracca	Vetch
Moraceae		
!	Paratrophis microphylla	Turepo
Urticacea		
!	Australina pusilla	
!	Urtica incisa	Singing nettle
Icacinaceae		
!	Pennantia corymbosa	Kaikomako
Loranthaceae		
+!	Loranthus micranthus	Mistletoe
R	Tupeia antarctica	
Rhamnaceae		
+!	Discaria toumatou	Wild Irishman
Rutaceae		
!	Melicope simplex	
Araliaceae		
+!	Pseudopanax colensoi	
S+!	Pseudopanax crassifolius	Lancewood
!	Pseudopanax edgerleyi	
!	Pseudopanax simplex	
+!	Schefflera digitata	Pate
Cornaceae		
!	Corokia cotoneaster	

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S+!	Griselinia littoralis	
Salicaceae		
!	Salix alba var vitellina	Golden Willow
!	Salix caprea	Goat Willow
Umbelliferae		
+	Anistome aromatica	
+!	Apium australe	New Zealand celery
!	Centella uniflora	
!	Conium maculatum	Hemlock
H	Hydocotyle heteromeria	
!	Hydocotyle moschata	
!	Hydocotyle novae-zelandiae Hydocotyle novae variety	
L!	Lilaeopsis novae-zelandiae	
!	Scandix pecteren-veneris	
!	Schizeilema trifoliolatum	
Resedaceae		
!	Reseda luteola	
Epacridaceae		
S+!	Cyathodes fraseri	
+!	Cyathodes juniperina var oxycedrus	
+	Dracophyllum longifolium	
Myrsinaceae		
S+!	Myrsine australis	Mapou
Apocynaceae		
S+!	Parsonia heterophylla	Kaihua
Caprifoliaceae		
L!	Sambucus nigra	Elder
Rubiaceae		
+	Coprosma acerosa	
!	Coprosma areolata	
+	Coprosma foetidissima	
S+!	Coprosma lucida	Karangu
S+!	Coprosma parviflora	
!	Coprosma propinqua	
!	Coprosma rhamnoides	
+	Coprosma rotundifolia	
+	Coprosma rubra	
!	Galium aparine	Cleavers
!	Galium sp possibly G tenuicaule	
R!	Nertera balfouriana	
!	Nertera dichondrifolia	
!	Nertera setilosa	
+	Nertera sp	
Compositae		
!	Achillea millefolium	Yarrow
!	Bellis perennis	Lawn daisy
S+	Cassinia fulvida	Golden tauhinu
!	Cassinia vauvilliersii	Cottonwood
+!	Celmisia gracilenta	
!	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum	Oxeye daisy

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!	Cirsium arvense	Californian thistle
!	Cirsium vulgare	Scotch thistle
R!	Cotula coronopifolia	
H	Cotula perpusilla	
+	Cotula squalida	
!	Cotula traillii ssp pulchella	
!	Cotula sp	
!	Crepis capillaris	Hawksbeard
!	Gnaphalium collinum	
+!	Gnaphalium luteo-album	
+*	Gnaphalium uliginosum	
+!	Helichrysum bellidioides	
!	Helichrysum filicaule	
!	Hypochaeris radicata	Catsear
!	Lactuca sp	
!	Lagenifera strangulata	
!	Matricaria inodora	Scentless chamomile
+	Raoulia glabra	
+!	Raeulia hookeri	
H	Raoulia hookeri var apice-nigra	
+	Raoulia tenuicaulis	
!	Senecio biserratus	
!	Senecio elegans	
!	Senecio glomeratus	
!	Senecio jacobaea	Ragwort
+!	Senecio minimus	
!	Sonchus asper	Rauriki
!	Sonchus olearaceus	Sow thistle
Gentianaceae		
!	Erythraea centaurium	
S+	Gentiana saxosa	Shore gentian
Primulaceae		
+!	Samolus repens	
Plantaginaceae		
!	Plantago coronopus	
!	Plantago mahor	Broadleaved plaintain
!	Plantago species	
	Plantago triandra	
Campanulaceae		
+!	Wahlenbergia gracilis	
Goodeniaceae		
L!	Selliera radicans	
!	Reseda luteola	
Lobeliaceae		
+!	Pratia angulata	
Boraginaceae		
!	Myosotis laxa	Water forget-me-not
Solanaceae		
!	Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet
!	Solanum laciniatum	Poro poro
!	Solanum tuberosum	Potato

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Convoluvlaceae		
!	Calystegia sepium	Convolvulus
R	Calystegia laciniatum	Shore convolvulus
+	Dichondra repens	Mercury Bay weed
Scrophulariaceae		
!	Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove
+	Euphrasia repens	
!	Gratiola sexdentata	
R	Hebe elliptica	Kokomuka
S+!	Hebe salicifolia	Kotomiko
+	Mazus pumilio	
+!	Mazus radicans	
R!	Mimulus repens	
!	Parentucellia viscosa	Tar weed
!	Verbascum virgatum	Moth mullein
Lentibulariaceae		
H	Utricularia monanthos	
!	Prunella vulgaris	Self heal

Trees and shrubs still surviving on the site on Rask's Point farm are:

Pinus radiata	Monterey pine
Cupressus macrocarpa	Monterey cypress
Eucalyptus globulus	Blue gum
Taxus baccata	Yew
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Fuchsia magnellanica var macrostemma	
Pyrus communis	Pear
Buddleia globose	

INVERTEBRATES

Mollusca

Not a great deal is known about the shellfish found in the waters around Sandy Point, apart from the fact that the number of species is relatively limited.

Certain species do however abound and the commonest by far is the mud snail (*Amphibola crenata*) which is found on most of the mud flat areas of the New River Estuary.

It is extremely important in the ecology of the New River Estuary as, along with the cockle (*Chione stutchburyi*), it is the principal food for some of the wading birds which inhabit the estuary. The pied oyster-catcher is known to consume enormous quantities each day.

The large wedge shell (*Macromona liliana*) also occurs in reasonable quantities. It lives buried in the sand at depths of up to 15cm.

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Other species of mollusc may occur in the estuary but none have been commonly observed around the Sandy Point shore.

The pipe (*Paphies australis*) was once widespread in the estuary but its numbers have been drastically reduced by sedimentation and pollution.

Crustacea

Two species of mud crab have been observed, the commonest being *Helice crassa*. It occurs mainly near the shoreline in the mid-littoral to upper-littoral zone, particularly where there is sheltering vegetation such as the rush *Scripus pungens*. Mud crabs probably form part of the diet of the white-faced herons which may be seen feeding on the mudflats at various times.

Annelida

One little known component of the estuarine fauna is the polychaete worms. There are at least two species in the estuary but there has been no detailed investigation to find out just how many species do occur. The polychaete worms occur in the sand which underlies the top layer of mud slurry.

Nicon aestuariensis appears to be the most common species. It is about the size of an earth worm and is recognised by its pale pink colour, with a red blood line running the length of its body.

The other species is *Glycera Americana* which is a pale colour and is more pointed at the head.

Polychaete worms form an important part of the diet of birds such as the pied oyster-catcher, pied stilt and bar-tailed godwit.

Insects

While no comprehensive survey of the insect fauna of Sandy Point has been done, it is obvious from the little bit of work that has been carried out that the area is probably quite rich in species.

During the summer months various species of butterfly may have been observed. The red admiral (*Bassaris gonerilla*) and the yellow admiral (*Bassaris itea*) are the two most conspicuous and they may be seen from early spring until late autumn.

The former, in particular, is probably limited in number by the small quantities of its food plant, stinging nettle, which occur in the Domain.

The copper butterfly (*Lycaena sp*) occurs mainly in grasslands and around areas where the *Muehlenbeckia* vine grows. It is not as common as might be expected, although no doubt it is greatly influenced by the seasons.

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In certain open country locations the southern blue (*Zizinia otis ozxleyi*) can be seen flying close to the ground on sunny days. Its presence probably depends upon the existence of suitable food plants such as the clovers and lotus.

The tussock butterfly (*Argyrophenga antipodum*) is not uncommon in open country grassland situations where it may be seen drifting lazily and somewhat erratically over the grasses. This species and the copper butterfly are two ancient butterflies which support the theory of New Zealand's long separation from other land masses. Sufficient open country should be left in order to ensure their continuing presence in Sandy Point Domain.

A migrant species which, not infrequently, is observed at Sandy Point is the Australian painted lady (*Cynthia kershawi*). Numbers of this butterfly regularly cross the Tasman Sea and, in some years, they come across in hundreds. So far there is no positive evidence of their having bred in this country.

The conspicuous, diurnal, magpie moth (*Nyctemera annulata*) is a common sight over the summer months and its larvae, the woolly-bear caterpillars, may be seen feeding on native species of *Senecio* which are common in a variety of situations.

Of the other insects, even less is known. Numerous areas of water and swamp provide ideal homes for aquatic insects with both the scarlet damsel fly (*Xanthocnemis zealandica*) and the blue damsel fly (*Austrolestes colensonis*) being common around the lagoons and ponds.

Two of the larger dragon flies (*Procordulia*) may also be seen at times.

The Silver Lagoon and the swampy area surrounding it is probably the most important single aquatic habitat.

Stick insects are known to occur in the bush, the huhu beetle (*Prionoplus reticularis*) is common, particularly in the pine plantations, and at least one species of native mealy bug (*Coelostomidia sp*) has been observed.

One insect which makes its presence particularly noticeable over the summer months is the cicada. On any reasonably warm summer's day, the noise of the cicada's song fills the air in any of the bush areas. Many visitors mistakenly refer to cicadas as crickets.

At least one species of cave weta is common in forested areas.

A wide variety of insect habitats exist in Sandy Point Domain. They range from forest and shrub land to aquatic, swamp land, grassland and littoral. Fortunately, good representations of these habitats occur in the Environment Zone and, consequently, are quite well protected. However, individual habitat areas occur in other Zones and, where they are deemed to be significant, every effort should be made to retain them.

Habitat Areas

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The diversity of Sandy Point Domain and its environs provides a wide range of habitats, ranging from estuarine mudflats to sand dunes, wetlands and forest. The results of the survey carried out by Peter Hamill during the summer of 1987/88 are summarised below:

Mudflats of the New River Estuary

The mudflats of the New River Estuary host a variety of invertebrate fauna. The most commonly seen species is that of the mud snail (*Amphibola crenata*). However, when a shovel of mud is turned over, it is seen that two species of polychaete worms (*Nicon austurariensis* and *Glycera Americana*) are also very numerous. The whelk (*Cominella glandiformis*) is also found. It feeds mainly on the common cockle (*Chione stutchburyi*) and is also known to feed on the wedge shell (*Macromona liliana*) which is also present in the mudflats.

Many small tunnels are scattered over the mudflats in a random pattern. They are the home of the mud crab (Helice *crassa*). Further down the mud flats, another species of crab (*Macrophthalmus hirtipes*) is also found living in tunnels.

As the incoming tide moves up the mudflats, a species of marine Isopod (*Isocladus armalus*) may be seen moving around rapidly in search of food. Marine Amphipods, which are similar to the sand hoppers, can also be found moving with the encroaching tide.

Sandy Areas of the New River Estuary and Oreti Beach

The size and extent of Oreti Beach makes it a very important habitat for a variety of sand dwelling creatures. There is a very large tidal range over the beach, which results in a wide variety of animals occupying the area. When the tide is fully out, small holes which have slightly raised edges can be seen.

These holes are home to the ghost shrimp (*Callianassa filholi*) which is an orange and white crayfish-like animal.

Higher up the beach, the siphon holes of the toheroa (*Paphies ventricosa*) and the pipi (*Paphies australis*) may be seen.

At the upper limit of the tidal zone, in small burrows under logs of drift wood, the common sandhopper (*Talorchestia quoyani*) is found jumping in its very distinctive manner. The common swimming crab (*Ovalipes* catharus) occurs in the surf, just off the beach.
The sandy areas of the New River Estuary are located mainly near the junction of the Estuary and the open sea near Point One.

Living at the lower limit of the tidal zone, cockles (*Chione stutchburyi*) and mussels (*Mytilus plantatus*) are found. Cockles live in the substrate while the mussels are attached individually to small stones, which are used as anchors.

The green anemone (*Isactinia olivacea*) also attaches itself to small stones below the low tide level.

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Deep in the sand of the mid tidal level, the formidable looking mantis shrimp (*Heterosquilla tricarinata*) lives in relatively large holes which extend to just above the normal surface of the beach, thus creating a small mound around the hole. The mantis shrimp lurks just below the mouth of the tube, waiting in ambush to seize any small animal which may move past. They are mainly nocturnal, very shy and therefore are rarely seen.

The lungworm (*Abarenicola affinis*) and the ribbon worm (*Glycera americanis*) are polychaetes which are found living in the sandy beaches of the New River Estuary.

The common cat's eye snail (*Turbo smaragdus*) and the snails (*Diloma subrostrata subrostrata* and *Melarhapa cinctra*) are also found feeding on seaweed in this area.

The modest barnacle (*Elmimius modestus*) is also present in the estuary.

<u>*Sand Dunes*</u>

The commonest species found in the sand dunes is the common sand hopper (*Talarchestia quoyoni*) which is found living under and feeding on seaweed, driftwood and the roots of marram grass.

Early in summer, March flies (*Dilophns nigrostigma*) are very numerous around the flowering lupins.

The bumble bee (*Bombus terrestris*) and the attractive orange, purple and yellow beetle (*Zorian minutum*) can also be seen feeding on the lupin flowers.

Ants (*Prolasius advena* and *Monomorium antarcticus*) are found living under the lupins along with the common slater (*Porcellio scaber*), the large black beetle (*Cilibe sp*) and the ground beetle (*Mecodema sp*).

Three species of centipede and two species of millipedes were found living in the sand dunes.

Eight species of spider (*Lycosa sp, Lycosa hilaris, Diea sp, Allotrochosa shavinslandi, Sidymella sp, Araneus subcompta* and *Araaneujs sp*) were found in the sand dunes.

Living amongst the flax bushes is the jumping spider (*Trite planiceps*).

Many more species are also likely to be present, including possibly the katipo spider.

The gorse-seed weevil (*Apion ulicis*), elephant weevil (*Rhynchodes ursus*) and weevil (*Etnalis spinicollis*) occur in the undergrowth.

During the summer months the almost deafening song of the cicada (*Melamipsalta cincta*) is also heard around the dunes.

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Butterflies and moths found in the sand dunes include the tussock butterfly (*Argyrophenga antipodum*), cabbage white butterfly (*Pieris rapae*), common copper butterfly (*Lycaena salustis*), magpie moth (*Nyctemera annulata*), common grass moth (*Crambus flexuosellus*) and the porina moth (*Porina umbraculata*).

Two species of beetle live under the driftwood on the beach. They are the rove beetle (*Creophlus sp*) and the sand beetle (*Thelyphassa limbata*).

Other species present are:

Shore earwig	*Anisdabis littorea*
Gad fly	
Gad fly hunter	*Rhopalum carbonarium*
European wasp	*Vespula germanica*
Ichneumon fly	*Lissopimpla excelsa*
Ranger dragonfly	*Procordulia smithi*
Hoverfly	*Syrphus novaezealandiae*
Sand fly	*Austroimulium australense*
Tachinid parasite	*Hexamera alcis*

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<u>*Daffodil Bay Area*</u>

This area has one of the most diverse habitats to be found in Sandy Point Domain. The habitats in this area include coastal scrub, ponds, swamp, open land, lupin covered sand dunes, pine forest and native forest.

The most interesting find in this area was that of a new species of spider. The spider, a member of the Agenidae family, was found living in a totara tree.

Other interesting finds include the Cicada (*Amphipsalta zealandica*) which is the largest and noisiest of the New Zealand Cicadas. It usually lives in areas of dense bush at higher altitudes than Sandy Point, where it occurs at sea level in relatively open *pinus* and totara bush.

In the *Pinus* plantations, the steel blue horn-tailed Borer (*Sirex noctilio*), a pest in pine plantations, is not uncommon. The larvae bore holes inside the trunk but fortunately mainly attack unthrifty trees. A parasite of the horn-tailed borer's larvae, the ichneumon fly (*Rhyssa persuasoria*) also occurs in the area.

Spiders found in the area include the following species: *Lycosa sp, Mynoglenes subola, Mynoglenes sp, Aranea atrihostuta, Tekella absidata, Neoramia sp, Epinsinus sp, Eriophora pustolosia, Clubiona huttoni, Photcomma sp, Laperousia blattifera, Dyarcyops orepukiensis, Pakaha insignita* and previously unidentified species from the families Salticidae, Tetragnathidae and Malkaraidae.

Species of moths and butterflies which occur include the tussock butterfly (*Argyrophenga antipodum*), the cabbage white butterfly (*Pieris rapae*), the common butterfly (*Lycaena salustius*), the red admiral (*Bassaris gonerilla*), the yellow admiral (*Bassaris itea*), the southern blue (*Zizinia otis oxleyi*), the magpie moth (*Nyctemera annulata*), the Porina moth (*Porina sp, Melanchra sp*), the common grass moth (*Crambus flexuosellus*), the flax notcher (*Persectania*

steropastis), the case moth (*Oeceticus omnivorus*) and the forest looper (*Tatsoma timora*).

Around the ponds and swampland, the red damsel-fly (*Xanthocnemis zealandica*) and the blue damsel-fly (*Austrolestes colensonis*) are common.

The yellow spotted dragonfly (*Procordulia grayi*) may be seen skimming over the surface of the water and the ranger dragonfly (*Procordulia smithii*) may be seen soaring high above the swamps on the sheltered sides of the trees.

Six species of weevil (*Pleosporius bullatus, Sharpius imitarius, Cacephatus inrertus*, the gorse seed weevil (*Apion ulicis*) and the elephant weevil (*Rhynchodes ursus*)) are also found in this area.

Other species are:

Grass grub beetle	*Costelytra zealandica*
Black cricket	*Nenobius sp*
Grasshopper	*Paprides nitdus*
Shield bug	*Peocilometic gravis*
Borer beetle	*Andoium punctatum*
Icheumon flies	*Lissopimpla excelsa and Netrelia producti*
Stink bug	*Oncaontias vittatus*
March fly	*Dilophns nigrostigma*
Diving beetle	*Rhantus pulverosus*
Water boatman	*Sigara arguta*
Back swimmer	*Anisops wakefieldi*
Hoverflies	*Melanostana fasciatus, Syrphus novaezealandiae and Tubitera tenar*
Cranefly	*Zelandotipula novarae*
Cicada	*Cicadetta scutellaris*
Honey bee	*Apis mellifera*
Bumble bee	*Bombus terrestris*
Sand hopper	*Talorchestia sp*
Slater	*Porcellio scaber*
Drone fly	*Eristalis tenax*
Fly	*Protoystricia alcis*
White fly	*Aleurodes papillifera*
Striped flesh fly	*Parasarcophagus milleri*
House fly	*Musa domestica*
Native blue bottle	*Calliphora quadrimaculata*
Mosquito	*Ochilerotatrus subalbirostris*
Spittle bug	*Philaenus trimaculatus*
Manuka beetle	*Pyronota festiva*
Ground beetle	*Mecodema sp*
Huhu beetle	*Prionoplus reticularis*
Bush centipede	*Hanseniella sp*

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Earwig	*Forficula auricularia*
A species of rove beetle	

Silver Lagoon

The Silver Lagoon area is a very important and diverse habitat. Living on the stems of water weeds growing in the lagoon, four species of molluscs have been recorded. They include a fresh water bivalve, the pea mussel (*Pisidum sp*), gastropods (*Gyraulus sp, Potamopyrgus sp*) and *Physastia sp*.
Two species of damsel-fly can be seen darting about the surface of the lagoon and its neighbouring areas, the common redcoat damsel-fly (*Xanthocnemis zealandica*) being the most common. The other is the blue damsel-fly (*Austrolestes colensonis*), the largest damsel-fly in New Zealand.

The larger yellow spotted dragonfly (*Procordulia grayi*) commonly darts over the surface of the lagoon, while the ranger dragonfly (*Procordulia smithi*) may be seen soaring in the breeze during the summer.

On the flax, the distinctive notches along the leaf margins indicate the presence of the flax notcher moth (*Persectania steropastis*).

On the leaves of the cabbage tree, a species of jumping spider (*Trite planiceps*) occurs.

Another species of spider (*Lycosa sp*) can be found floating on the surface of water.

In the water the large red water mite (*Eylais waikawae*) can be observed swimming between the stems of plants.

The diving beetle (*Rhantus pulverosus*), waterboatman (*Sigara arguta*) and the backswimmer (*Anisops wakefieldi*) are very common.

An uncommon form of Daphnia (*Daphnia carinata*), a variety of *cephalata*, which has not yet been fully described, is found living at the bases of the stems of water plants. This species has a large extension of the carapace above its head which is a response to the large numbers of boatmen and backswimmers found in the lagoon.

The tussock butterfly (*Argyrophenga antipodum*) and the grass moth (*Crambus fleuxuosellus*) are common in the surrounding areas.

Kilmock Bush

Kilmock Bush is essentially a stand of totara trees with an underlying carpet of bush lily and kowaowao which provides a rich habitat for many species of invertebrates.

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The bush environment houses numerous flies. The bush fly (*Scaptia adren*) is one of the most often seen. The tachinid fly (*Protohystricia alcis*), drone fly (*Eristalis tenax*), striped flesh-fly (*Parasarcophagus milleri*), house fly (*Musa domestica*) and the native blue bottle (*Calliphora quadrimaculata*) are also present.

A species of ant (*Huberia striata*) lives in the undergrowth.

Spiders found in Kilmock Bush are *Diea ambara, Goyenia sp, Neoramia sp, Mamoea rota* and two undescribed species from the families Lycosidae and Theridiidae.

Several species of beetle were also recorded. They include the ground beetle (Mecodema sp), large black beetle (Cilibe deyoensis, Philoneis sp), brown beetle (Costelytra zealandica), the weevil (Cacephatus incertus), gorse seed weevil (Apion ulicis), borer beetle (Anobium punctatum) and the eleven-spotted ladybird (Coccinella punctata).

The small native black field cricket (Nenobius sp) is very numerous around the margin of the bush during the summer months.

A species of grass hopper is also found in this area.

The spittle bug (Philaenus trimaculatus) and the shield bug (Poecilometic gravis) are found on the grass surrounding the bush.

Other species present in Kilmock Bush:

Common earwig	*Forficula auricularia*
Bush centipede	*Hanseniella sp*
Isopod	*Styloniscus sp*
Red damsel-fly	*Xanthocnemis zealandica*
Ranger dragonfly	*Procordulia smithii*
Grass moth	*Crambus flexuosellus*
Porina moth	*Porina umbraculata*
Pale selidosema moth	*Selidosema panagrata*
Forest looper	*Tatosoma timora*
Stink bug	*Oncacontias vittatus*
March fly	*Dilophns nigrostimga*
Hover fly	*Melonostoma fasciatum* and *Syrphus novaeaealandiae*
Crane fly	*Zealandotipula novarae*
Cicada	*Cicadetta sp*

List of the Invertebrates of Sandy Point Domain

Mollusca		
Mudsnail	*Amphibola crenata*	Estuary
Mudsnail	*Diloma subrostra subrostra*	Estuary
Common whelk	*Cominella glandiformis*	Estuary
Marine snail	*Melarhapa cincta*	Estuary

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Freshwater snail	*Gyraulus sp*	Lagoon
Freshwater snail	*Potamopyrgus sp*	Lagoon
Freshwater snail	*Physa sp*	Lagoon
Freshwater snail	*Pisidium sp*	Lagoon
Pipi	*Pahies australis*	Estuary
Cockle	*Chione stutchburyi*	Estuary
Mussel	*Mytilus plantatus*	Estuary
Wedge shell	*Marcomona liliana*	Oreti Beach/ Estuary
Toheroa	*Paphies ventricosa*	Oreti Beach
Crustaceans		
Mud crab	*Helice crassa*	Mudflats
Stalk-eyed crab	*Macrophthalmus Hirtipes*	Mudflats
Sandhopper	*Talorchestia quoyani*	Sand hills
Daphnia	*Daphnia carinata variety caphalata*	Lagoon
Isopod	*Styloniscus sp*	Bush
Ghost shrimp	*Gallianasca filholi*	Oreti Beach
Mantis shrimp	*Heterosquilla tricarinate*	Estuary/Sandy
Slater or wood louse	*Porcillia scaber*	Bush
Red water mite	*Eylais waikawae*	Lagoon
Modest barnacle	*Eliminius modestus*	Estuary
Insects		
<u>*Order: Odonata*</u>		
Red damsel-fly	*Xanthocnemis zealandica*	Lagoon/Swamp
Blue damsel-fly	*Austrolestes colensonis*	Lagoon/Swamp
Yellow spotted dragonfly	*Procordulia grayi*	Lagoon
Ranger dragonfly	*Procordulia smithi*	Lagoon
<u>*Family: formicidae*</u>		
Ant	*Prolasius advena*	Sand dunes
Ant	*Monomorium antarcticus*	Sand dunes
Ant	*Huberia striata*	Bush
<u>*Order: lepidoptera*</u>		
Tussock butterfly	*Argyophenga antipodum*	Open areas
Common copper butterfly	*Lycaena salustius*	Throughout area
Southern blue butterfly	*Zizinia otis oxley*	Throughout area
Cabbage white butterfly	*Pieris rapae*	Throughout area
Red admiral butterfly	*Bassaris gonerilla*	Throughout area
Yellow admiral butterfly	*Bassaris itea*	Throughout area
Magpie moth	*Nyctemera annulata*	Throughout area

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Porina moth	*Porina umbraculata*	Throughout area
Common grass moth	*Crambus flexuosellus*	Throughout area
Pale selidosema	*Selidosema panagrata*	Bush
Common forest-looper	*Tatosoma timora*	Bush
Case moth	*Oeceticus omnivorous*	Bush
Flax notcher	*Persectania steropostis*	Lagoon

Brian Patrick, formerly of Invercargill, supplied the following list of rate moths which he has observed at Sandy Point:

- *Maoricrambus ancobolus*
- *Asaphodes sp nova*
- *Asaphodes araria*
- *Asaphodes stephanotis*
- *Eurythecta uana*
- *Circia metastica*
- *Protithana potmiras*
- *Meophyas paralosa*
- *Orocrambus lewisi*
- *Orthenches polita*
- *Declana herniane*
- *Metacrias strategica*
- *Tatosoma topia*

<u>*Order: Diptera and Hymenoptera*</u>		
Bumble Bee	*Bombus terrestris*	Throughout area
Ichneumon fly	*Lissopimpla excelsa*	Throughout area
Ichneumon fly	*Netelia producti*	Throughout area
Ichneumon fly	*Rhyssa persuasoria*	Plantations
Steel blue horntail borer	*Sirex noctilio*	Plantations
Honey Bee	*Apis mellifera*	Throughout area
European wasp	*Vespula germanica*	Throughout area
Gad fly		Throughout area
Gad fly hunter	*Rhopalum carbonarium*	Sand dunes
Hover fly	*Syrphus novaezealandiae*	Edge of bush
Hover fly	*Melanostoma fasciatus*	Edge of bush
Hover fly	*Tubifera tenax*	Edge of bush
Drone fly	*Eristalis tenax*	Bush
Tachnid	*Protohystricia akis*	Bush
Bush fly	*Scaptia adrel*	Bush
Striped flesh fly	*Parasarcophagus milleri*	Bush
Common house fly	*Musa domestrica*	Everywhere
Native blue bottle	*Calliphora quadrimaculata*	Bush
White fly	*Aleurodes papillifera*	Bush
Crane fly	*Zelandotipula novarae*	Bush
March fly	*Dilophus nigrostigma*	Everywhere
Mosquito	*Ochilevatotus subalbirostris*	Everywhere
Sand fly	*Austrosimulium australense*	Everywhere
<u>*Order: Hemiptera*</u>		
Waterboatman	*Sigara arguta*	Lagoon

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Backswimmer	*Anisops wakefieldi*	Lagoon
Cicada	*Amphipsalta zealandica*	Bush
Cicada	*Melampsalta cincta*	Sand dunes
Cicada	*Cicadetta scutellaris*	Everywhere
Vegetable bug (shield bug)	*Poecilometic gravis*	Edge of bush
Shied bug	*Oncacontias vittatus*	Grass/bush
Spittle bug	*Philaenus trimaculatus*	Grass/edge of bush
Order: Coleoptera		
Diving beetle	*Rhantus pulverosus*	Lagoon
Weevil	*Pleosporius bullatus*	Bush
Weevil	*Sharpus imitarius*	Bush
Weevil	*Cacephatus incertus*	Bush
Weevil	*Etnalis spinicollis*	Sand dunes
Elephant weevil	*Rhynchodes ursus*	Bush
Gorse seed weevil	*Apion ulicis*	Gorse
Grass grub beetle	*Costelytra zealandica*	Grassland
Borer beetle	*Anabium punctatum*	Bush
Manuka beetle	*Pryonota festiva*	Bush
Ground beetle	*Mecodema sp*	Bush
Earwig	*Forficula aricuclaria*	Bush
Shore earwig	*Anisolabis littorea*	Sand dunes
Beetle	*Zorion minutum*	Flowering plants
Large black beetle	*Cilibe otagoensis*	Bush
Sand beetle	*Thelyphassa limbata*	Sand dunes
Rove beetle	*Creophilus sp*	Bush
Eleven spotted ladybird	*Coccinella 11-punctata*	Throughout area
Black beetle	*Philoneis sp*	Bush
Huhu beetle	*Prionoplus reticularis*	Plantations
	Orthenches polita	
	Declana herniane	
	Metacrias strategica	
	Tatosoma topia	
Miscellaneous Orders		
Bush centipede	*Hanseniella sp*	Bush
Ribbon worm	*Nicon aesturariensis*	Estuary
Ribbon worm	*Glycera Americana*	Estuary
Ribbon worm	*Abavenicola affins*	Estuary/Sand
Green anemone	*Isactinia olivacec*	Estuary
Marine isopod	*Isocladus armalus*	Estuary
Order: Araneae		
	Lycosa sp	Scrub
	Lycosa sp	Lagoon
	Lycos hilaris	Sand dunes
	Mynoglenes	Coastal scrub
Jumping spider	*Trite planiceps*	Flax
Orb web	*Araneus atrihastula*	Bush
	Tekella absidata	Bush-Totara
	Undefined species	Bush
	Undefined species	Bush dwelling
Harvestman	*Pantopsalis sp*	
	Neoramia sp (immature)	Bush
	Diaea sp	Sand dunes
	Episinus sp	Coastal scrub
	Allotrochosa schaunislandi	Sand dunes
Orb web	*Eriophora pustulosia*	

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	Clubiona huttoni	Bush
	Sidymella sp	Sand dunes
New species	*Agelenidae*	Bush - Totara
	Mynoglenes subdola	Bush
	Pholcomma sp	Bush
	Laperousia blattifera	Bush
Common bush litter	*Teridiidae sp*	
	Clubiona convoluta	Otatara
Undefined species, New Zealand and Chile		Bush
	Dyarcyops orepukiensis	bush
Harvestman	*Pakeha insignita*	
	Phalangium opilio	
Order: Arachnida		
	Lycosa sp undefined	Kilmock bush
	Araneus subcompta	Sand dunes
	Diea ambara	Kilmock bush
	Lycosa sp	Cabbage tree
	Trite planiceps	Flax bush
	Cobweb spiders	Kilmock bush
	Goyenia sp	Kilmock bush
	Aranaeus sp	Sand dunes
	Neoramia sp	Cabbage tree

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LIST OF BIRD SPECIES RECORDED IN SANDY POINT DOMAIN AND ADJACENT WATERS

Family *Spheniscidae* – Penguins		
Yellow-eyed penguin	*Medadyptes antipodes*	An occasional visitor usually when in moult; breeds in Southland coasts.
Southern blue penguin	*Eudyptula minor minor*	An occasional visitor; usually in moult; breeds along the coast.
Family *Procellariidae* – Petrels, Shearwaters and Fulmars		
Antarctic Petrel	*Thalassoica antarctica*	Rare visitor
Family *Phalacrocoracidae* – Shags		
Black Shag	*Phalacrocorax carbo*	In moderate numbers throughout the year, feeding and resting; nearest breeding ground is Awarua Swamp.
Pied Shag	*P varius varius*	Small numbers, feeding and resting.
Little Shag	*P melanoleucos brevirostris*	Abundant throughout the year; breeds in Awarua Swamp.
Stewart Island Shag	*Leucocarbo carunculatus chalcocnotus*	Good numbers of both bronze and pied phases feed in the estuary throughout the year; nearest known breeding place is at entrance to Bluff Harbour.
Spotted Shag	*Stictocarbo punctatus*	Up to 50 birds at most times of the year.
Family *Ardeidae* – Herons, Egrets and Bitterns		
White-faced Heron	*Ardea novaehollandiae*	Resident and breeding on tall trees; up to 220 birds throughout the year; regular mudflat feeders as well as in the ponds and lagoons.
White Heron	*Garzetta alba*	An occasional visitor.
Little Egret	*E garzetta*	An occasional visitor.
Cattle Egret	*Bulbulcus ibis*	A regular visitor to adjacent paddocks.
Australasian bittern	*Botaurus poiciloptilus*	Seen occasionally in swampy areas, lagoons and ponds; breeding; now very rare in Southland due to decreased wetland habitat.
Family *Threskiornithidae* – Ibises and Spoonbills		
Glossy ibis	*Plegadis falcinullus*	Small flocks straggling from Australia sometimes use the estuary and environs, remaining for some weeks.
Royal spoonbill	*Platalea region*	An occasional visitor.

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Family *Anatidea* – Swans, Geese and Ducks

Black swan	*Cygnus atratus*	Resident and now breeding; moult on estuary; apparently not as common as formerly. Waituna Lagoon, Awarua Bay and Invercargill Estuary are the three principal feeding areas for this species in Southland.
Canada goose	*Branta Canadensis*	Seen occasionally in small numbers.
Paradise shelduck	*Tadorna variegata*	Small numbers appearing again regularly after absence of many years, as waterfowl management encourages re-establishment of this species in Southland; breeding.
Mallard	*Anas platyrhincos*	Resident and breeding; the predominant waterfowl species in the area; common in large numbers through all parts of the estuary.
Grey duck	*A superciliosa*	Resident in small numbers.
Grey teal	*A gibberifrons*	This nomadic species is regularly seen among other waterfowl.
Brown teal	*A chlorotis*	Recorded; extremely rare.
New Zealand scaup	*Aythya novaeseelandiae*	Silver lagoon – rare but apparently increasing.
New Zealand shoveler	*A rhynchotis*	Resident and breeding, moderate numbers.

Family *Accipitridae* – Harriers

Australasian harrier	*Circus approximans*	Resident, breeding and roosting in swamplands.

Family *Phasianidae* – Pheasants and Quails

California Quail	*Lophortyx californicus*	Recorded as resident and breeding but it is quite likely that feral cats have caused the disappearance of this species.
Ring-necked pheasant	*Phasiaanus colchicus*	Not now known to exist and was probably never established on Sandy Point.

Family *Rallidae* – Rails

Marsh crake	*Porzana pusilla*	Resident and breeding in marginal vegetation; wetland habitat essential for survival of this diminishing species is decreasing as land drainage occurs.

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Pukeko	*Porphyrio melanotus*	Resident and breeding in moderate numbers, apparently increasing.

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Family *Haematopodidae* – Oystercatchers

South Island pied oystercatcher	*Haematopus finschci*	Resident; breeds on adjacent farmland; generally abundant. Seasonal movement of species results in autumn and winter flocks of up to 5,000 birds, feeding in the estuary and environs, which thus play an important part in the population dynamics of this species.
Variable oystercatcher	*Porphyrio melanotus*	Resident and breeding in small numbers, in the black phase of this polymorphic species.

Family *Columbidae* – Pigeons

New Zealand pigeon	*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*	Present throughout the year and breeding in the bush; particularly noticeable during the latter part of the winter and early spring.
Shining cuckoo	*Chalcites lucidus*	Generally arrives in late September/early October and may be heard in both bush and pine plantations; breeding.
Long-tailed cuckoo	*Eudynamis taitensis*	Recorded by D Lucas, but it would appear to be a rather unlikely recording.

Family *Strigidae* – Owls

Morepork	*Ninox novaeseelandiae*	Resident and breeding in bush areas; generally an unobtrusive bird but may be heard and occasionally seen in the evenings.
Little owl	*Athene noctua*	Resident and breeding in a variety of habitats.

Family *Charadriidae* – Plovers

Spur-winged plover	*Lobibyx novaehollandiae*	Resident and breeding on adjacent wetland and shingle; uses estuary as feeding ground regularly throughout the year.
Pacific golden plover	*Pluvialis fulva*	Trans-equatorial migrant from its breeding grounds in Siberia and Alaska; summer resident, up to 100 birds using estuary and adjacent wet paddocks.
New Zealand dotterel	*Charadrius obscurus*	Regular visitor outside breeding season, in small numbers; breeds on Stewart Island.

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Banded dotterel	*C bincinctus*	Resident and breeding in moderate numbers through the breeding season; in late summer there is a significant increase in numbers as the estuary serves as a staging area for the species prior to its annual migration to northern New Zealand and Australia.
Wrybill	*Anarhychus frontalis*	An occasional visitor from its breeding grounds on Canterbury riverbeds.

Family *Scolopacidae* – Curlews, Snipes etc.

All species listed in this section are trans-equatorial migrants, breeding in central and eastern Siberia and/or Arctic or sub-Arctic North America. A few birds of some species (notably bar-tailed godwit and turnstone) winter in the estuary, but most of the birds arrive in the last week of September and depart in late March for their breeding grounds. The Pacific Golden Plover, already mentioned, also falls within this category.

Long-billed curlew	*Numenius madagascariensis*	Regular summer resident in small numbers; a few birds over winter.
Asiatic whimbrel	*Numenius phaeopus variegates*	A rare New Zealand visitor, recorded in small numbers occasionally.
American whimbrel	*N P hudsonicus*	A rare summer visitor, recorded occasionally.
Asoatoc black-tailed godwit	*Limosa melanuroides*	Rare visitor, recorded occasionally.
American black-tailed godwit	*L haemastica*	Rare visitor, recorded occasionally; this species is rare by world standards.
Eastern bar-tailed godwit	*L lapponica*	Regular summer visitor in numbers of up to 3,500; up to 300 birds over winter.
Greenshank	*Tringa nebularia*	Rare summer visitor.
Siberian tattler	*Tringa beevipes*	Rare summer visitor.
Turnstone	*Arenaria interpres*	Up to 1,000 birds are regular summer visitors, some over winter.
Knot	*Calidris canutus*	Up to 90 birds are regular summer visitors.
Sharp-tailed sandpiper	*C acuminata*	Regular summer visitor.
Pectoral sandpiper	*C melanotos*	Occasional summer visitor in small numbers.
Curlew sandpiper	*C ferruginea*	Regular summer visitor in small numbers.
Red-necked stint	*C ruficollis*	Regular summer visitor, up to 50 in numbers.
Sanderling	*C alba*	Rare summer visitor – one or two seen most years.

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Family *Irecurvirostridae* – Stilts		
Pied stilt	*Himantopus leucocephalus*	Resident and breeding in small numbers in estuary environs; numbers increase in late summer as post-breeding seasonal movement takes place.
Family *Laridae* – Gulls		
Southern black-backed gull	*Larus dominicanus*	Resident and breeding on nearby peat swamps; large numbers scavenge at city refuse tip throughout a year.
Red-billed gull	*L scopulinus*	Resident in moderate numbers throughout the year; scavenger at city tip.
Black-billed gull	*L bulleri*	Resident in large numbers throughout the year, with post-breeding increasing in late-summer; scavenger at city tip.
Family *Sternidae* – Terns		
Black-fronted tern	*Childonias albostriatus*	Present throughout the year in two's and three's, with post-breeding increase to 20-30 birds in autumn; nearest breeding area is Oreti River above Oporo.
Gull-billed tern	*Gelochelidon nilotica*	Rare New Zealand visitor from South East Asia; recorded only six times in New Zealand, two of these in New River Estuary and environs.
Caspian tern	*Hydroprogne caspia*	A breeding colony of 70-80 pairs (one of the five New Zealand colonies) has been present on the estuary, probably for many years. Since 1964 the colony has been studied, recorded and chicks branded. Nesting site was always a shellbank in the Woodend arm of the estuary until 1973, by which time this shellbank was overgrown with noxious weeds, and the surrounding mudflats (previously used as loafing areas by the Caspian terns and many other species) overgrown with Spartina grass. A new low shellbank appeared south of the old nesting site about this time, and in 1974 the Caspian terns nested successfully on this new shellbank on their second attempt, the first nests having been washed out by tides. In 1975 three separate

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		attempts were made, but all were unsuccessful due to tides flooding the shellbank, which appeared to be lower than in 1974. 1975 was the first year since recording started in 1964 that no chicks were raised. After breeding, Caspian terns disperse from the estuary to rivers throughout New Zealand, with only two or three remaining on the estuary and environs until August, when the numbers build up again preparatory to breeding.
Arctic tern	*Sterna macrura*	Rare visitor to New Zealand; of the eight records, one is from New River Estuary.
Easter little tern and White fronted tern	*Sterna striata*	Former resident and breeding on the estuary in a colony of up to 300 pairs. Last bred in January 1969 when there were 504 birds; no attempt at breeding since that date. The greatest recorded number since 1969 is 18 on 11 January 1975.
Family *Alcedinidae* – Kingfishers		
New Zealand Kingfisher	*Halcyon sancta*	Resident and probably breeding in small numbers along certain parts of estuary verge; feeds largely on crabs.
Family *Alaudidae* – Larks		
Skylark	*Alauda arvensis*	Resident and breeding.
Family *Hirundinidae* – Swallows		
Welcome swallow	*Hirundo neoxena*	Seasonal visitor in increasing numbers in autumn and winter; nearest known breeding occurs in Canterbury and Westland; attempted to breed in estuary environs (under bridge on Bluff Road) in 1974; hawks for insects over ponds and lagoons.
Family *Muscicapidae* – Flycatchers		
Fantail	*Rhipidura filiginosa*	Resident and breeding occurs in most parts of the Domain wherever there are trees or tall shrubs; both pied and black phases occur.
South Island Tomtit	*Petroica macrocephala*	Not common, but resident and breeding; with the consolidation of native bush areas, it is hoped that this species will increase.

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Family *Sylviidae* – Warblers

South Island fernbird	*Bowdleria punctata*	Resident and breeding in small numbers in scrub at estuary verge. A species truly associated with and dependent upon wetland. There are scattered pockets of fernbirds in various parts of Southland, Awarua Swamp and the nearby estuary areas form the last real stronghold of this species in the district. Land development and burning have greatly reduced the fernbird population; probably extinct in the Domain itself.
Brown creeper	*Finschia novaeseelandiae*	Resident and breeding but not uncommon.
Grey warbler	*Gerygone igata*	Resident and breeding in bush and plantation areas.

Family *Turdidae* – Thrushes

Song thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	Resident and breeding in bush and scrub.
Blackbird	*T merula*	Resident and breeding in bush and scrub.

Family *Prunellidae* – Accentors

Hedge sparrow	*Prunella modularis*	Resident and breeding in shrubland areas.

Family *Motacillidae* – Wagtails and Pipits

New Zealand Pipit	*Anthus novaeseelandiae*	Resident and breeding in open country.

Family *Meliphagidae* – Honeyeaters

Bellbird	*Anthornis melanura*	Common in bush areas; resident and breeding.
Tui	*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*	Common in bush areas; resident and breeding.

Family *Zosteropidae* – Silvereyes

Silvereye	*Zosterops lateralis*	Resident and breeding; not uncommon over most parts of the Domain, although sightings tend to be seasonal.

Family *Fringillidae* – Finches

Chaffinch	*Fringilla coelebs*	Resident and breeding in shrubland.
Greenfinch	*Chloris chloris*	Resident and breeding in shrubland and open country.
Goldfinch	*Cardueelis carduelis*	Resident and breeding in shrubland and open country.
Redpoll	*C flammea*	Resident and breeding in shrubland and open country.

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Yellow hammer	*Emberiza citronella*	Resident and breeding in shrubland and open country.

Family *Ploceidae* – Sparrows

House sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	Resident and breeding

Family *Sturnidae* – Starlings

Starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	Resident and breeding, mainly in open country.

Family *Cracticidae* – Australian Bell Magpies

White-back magpie	*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*	The first observation of this bird on Sandy Point was made in 1983; increasing.

VERTEBRATES

The following is a list of those fish which have so far been recorded:

Sand flounder	*Rhombosolea plebia*
Yellow-bellied flounder	*Rhombosolea leporina*
Green-backed flounder	*Rhombosolea taperina*
Black flounder	*Rhombosolea novaezelandiae*
Sole	*Peltorhamphus novaezelandiae*
Long-finned eel	*Anguila dieffenbachia*
Short finned eel	*Anguila australis schmidtii*
Lamprey	*Geotria australis*
Yellow-eyed mullet	*Aldrichetta fosteri*
Smelt	*Retropinna retropinna*
Whitebait	*Galaxis maculates* and probably several other *G fasciatus* make up the bulk of the whitebait species.
Brown trout	*Salmo trutta*
Stargazer	*Leptoscopus macopygus huttoni*
Globefish	*Sphiroedes richei*
Red cod or hoka	*Physiculus bachus*

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MAMMALS

Rabbit (Oryctalarus cuniculus)

The first introduction of rabbits into Southland is sometimes erroneously attributed to Sandy Point Domain in 1863. There were, however, earlier introductions in other parts of the province. Be that as it may, the rabbits very quickly made themselves at home in the warm sandy terrain of Sandy Point. Their efforts, combined with that of burning and over-stocking with farm animals, soon reduced much of the area to a waste of moving sand.

The effects of depredations of rabbits continued in gradually lessening degrees right up until about 1940. Since then most of the scars have been revegetated and there is little obvious evidence of past damage.

Today, rabbits are not a significant problem in the Domain.

Hare (Lepus europaeus)

Hares are present in Sandy Point Domain, but in quite small numbers. The effect they have appears to be insignificant, although at times they cause damage to newly-planted pine trees.

Stoat (Putorius erminea)

This mustelid is present, but nothing is known of its numbers or what effects it has on the wildlife of the area. That could only be ascertained after some study and detailed observation. It is very likely they have some effect on the birds of the Domain, but how much is not known.

Ferret (Putorius foetidus)

Sightings of ferrets have been recorded by possum trappers but the evidence would indicate that they are not common. As with the stoat, they probably have some effect on ground dwelling birds. It is probable that both stoats and ferrets also maintain some control on rabbits and hares.

Hedgehog (Erinaceus europaeus)

Hedgehogs are present in the Domain, but as with the former mammals, absolutely nothing is known of their abundance or likely effects on the plant and animal life of the area.

Feral cat (Feliz catus)

These are the worst predators in the Domain. Their significance in numbers is evidenced by the fact that forty were trapped and destroyed in one year. No doubt ground-feeding birds of all kinds form a significant part of their prey, although on the credit side they probably exert some control over rabbits, hares and rats.

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The main problem with feral cats is the fact that their numbers are continually reinforced because of people dumping pet cats at holiday times. However, there appear to be fewer than previously.

Brush-tailed possum (Trichosurus vulpecula)

Along with feral cats, the possum is the most serious pest in Sandy Point Domain.

They are mainly restricted to the forested areas and trapping records indicate that they are present in reasonably high numbers.

Their numbers have a distinct effect on the relative abundance of palatable species such as Pseudopanax colensoi and, once a species declines, the browsing effects of a few possums will keep it down.

Over the past years, systematic trapping of the main native forest areas has helped with the regeneration of tree and shrub seedlings.

Ship rat (Rattus rattus)

Occurs in bush areas, but its incidence and effect on the other fauna is not known. It is possibly more common than is generally realised as one opossum trapper reported trapping 51 in the winter of 1986.

Dolphin*

Large schools of dolphin (up to hundreds) have been recorded as sometimes entering the estuary. It is presumed that they are either the Dusky dolphin or Hector's dolphin, but no positive identification has been made. The latter would appear to be more likely.

Fur seal* (Arctocephalus forsteri)

Individual New Zealand Fur Seals occasionally enter the estuary and have been recorded as swimming up either the Waihopai or Oreti Rivers.

**Bradley in Southland Catchment Board's comments on the Management Plan 31 August 1989.*

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10.7 APPENDIX 7 – NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN – TERETONGA PARK

Noise Management Plan
Teretonga Park

1.0 Introduction

This document sets out a plan to manage noise emissions from Teretonga Park, a motor vehicle race track that is widely used for motorsport and other related activities throughout the year. This plan has been prepared in consultation with an acoustic consultant. The plan contains a set of objectives, a description of the maximum permitted noise levels, the means by which these limits will be complied with, monitoring procedures, complaint procedures, public notification of events and review provisions. The underlying theme is the general duty to avoid unreasonable noise, as provided by section 16 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

2.0 Objectives

This Management Plan has the Following objectives;

To manage the facilities in a manner consistent with the resource consent granted on ***(date) and any other relevant legislation or conditions imposed by consent authorities. All events on the site are subject to the provision of the Noise Management Plan.***

To establish priorities for the reductions in off-site emissions of noise through improved design and use of noise-mitigating structures and facilities and by the enforcement of in-house MotorSport New Zealand rules regarding maximum permissible vehicle noise levels.

To maintain an effective and relevant Noise Management Plan by periodical review and consultation so that the contents of the Plan remain appropriate for all parties.

3.0 The Site and Actives

The Teretonga Park Motor Race Circuit is situated on land on the Sandy Point Recreational Reserve and fronts onto Sandy Point Road. The site is used for motor sports, driver training, product testing and as a sporting and special events facility.

Noise from the site has been assessed on a number of occasions over a period of 18 months. The principal existing noise sources and those likely in the foreseeable future are identified as;

Motor Racing
Driver Training
Vehicle Testing
Public Address System

Apart from the public address system, all other noise sources are related to vehicles using the Teretonga Park circuit.

4.0 Noise Limit's

The noise conditions imposed when the consent was granted on **(date)** (as modified on appeal) are:

Noise from activities at Teretonga Park shall, at all times, be managed so that the following noise limits are not exceeded:

Category	L10	Lmax	No of days
Category A	75 dB(A)	90 dB(A)	20 days
Category B	65 dB(A)	80 dB(A)	80 days
Category C	55 dB(A)	75 dB(A)	Unlimited

(i) The number of days allocated to each category is not to be exceeded at the notional monitoring sites.

(ii) The sound levels for each category set out above are not to be exceeded (during the hours set out below) at or within the boundary of any existing site zoned residential, or at or within the notional boundary (20 metres from dwelling) of any rural dwelling. In the case land zoned industrial or commercial the foregoing provision shall apply except that the use shall be conducted so that the maximum sound levels for each category of day are not exceeded within the notional boundary (20metres from existing buildings excluding the Teretonga Park Clubrooms) of existing buildings.

(a) **Category A Days**
There shall be no more that 20 Category A days in any twelve month period of which no more than 10 days shall be a Sunday or Public Holiday

Between the hours of 9.00am and 9.00pm, the following sound levels shall no be exceeded:

75 dB(A) L10
90 dB(A) Lmax

At all other times sound levels shall not exceed 45dB(A) L10 and 65 dB(A) Lmax

(b) **Category B Days**
There shall be no more that 80 Category B Days in any twelve-month period of which no more than 20 days shall be Sunday or Public Holiday.

Between the hours of 9:00am and 7:00pm (provided that on two days per year an endurance event may continue until 10:00pm), the following sound levels shall not be exceeded:

65dB(A) L10
80dB(A) Lmax

At all other time's sound levels shall not exceed 45 dB(A) L10 and 65 dB(A) L_{max}

(c) **Category C Days**
There are no restrictions on the number of Category C Days. The following sound levels shall not be exceeded;

(i) 9:00am to 10:00pm Monday to Saturday; 55 dB(A) L10 and 75 dB(A) Lmax

(ii) At all other times; 45 dB(A) L10 and 65 dB(A) Lmax

The public address system shall comply with noise levels for Category B

(d) **Exception**
On not more than six days in any twelve month period the sound levels may exceed (between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm) the maxima specified for a Category A Day, provided that those sound levels are not exceeded for a period of not more than one hour on any one day.

5.0 **Noise Management**

Noise is an acoustic phenomenon and when generated at source with sufficient energy has the ability to propagate widely into the surrounding area. The principle of noise control is **noise control at source**, which implies the need to adopt practical solutions identified above, the prime requirements is for all track users to use an effective exhaust silencer to limit noise emissions. Further treatment of air inlets and engine attachments may be required in some cases to reduce noise. It is the policy of the track management to require all users to fit and maintain noise suppression equipment so that maximum noise emission limits imposed by MotorSport New Zealand are adhered to.

In order to conform with the general duty to avoid unreasonable noise, track management and race officials shall enforce trackside noise limits for all motorsport activities that are consistent with the New Zealand Manual of Motorsport issued by MotorSport NZ. For races, a Lmax of 95dB(A) is specified for a point 30 metres and at right angle from the edge of the track where the vehicle is at maximum power. For all other events, an effective exhaust muffler is required to reduce noise emissions to an environmentally acceptable level. This provision will not, however, apply to the exception referred to under item 4(d) above, which is for promotional purposes and will be infrequent and of short duration.

A further means of limiting noise in the surrounding area is the effective use of barriers and screens to deflect acoustic energy. The use of advertising signs as acoustic barriers has considerable potential to assist in limiting noise emissions from the site.

Southland Sports Car Club and Teretonga Park management will ensure noise performance standards for the existing situation are met through a combination of enforced vehicle noise limits and judicious placement of advertising signs/hoardings and other structures deemed necessary. As part of the review of the noise management plan (item 8.0 below), the best practical option for further reducing noise limits will be examined in the future and further reductions of noise emissions will be sought based on any new on-vehicle technological developments and opportunities for further noise suppression structures around the track perimeter. In particular, options for further reducing vehicles exhaust noise emissions and further investment in noise-reducing barriers will be examined, and decisions made based upon the best practical option for the control of noise.

The design and placement of barriers to deflect sound away from sensitive locations will be finalised in the engineering design and layout of the proposed track expansion. By way of an example, a 3.5 metre high barrier with a superficial mass of 18 kg/m2, placed at 10 metres from the source (ie. The track centre line) will provide for a reduction (potential barrier correction) at 60 meters from source of 15.2 dB for a point source, and about 12 dB for a line source. It is natural that the acoustic barrier effect reduce with distance and for the above example re-calculated for a receptions point at 160 metres, a potential barrier reduction of 14dB is estimated. During the development of the engineering plan for track construction, barrier placement criteria will be developed based on distances to nearest residential and industrial/commercial boundries, and on the resource constraints which will determine size and materials used in barrier construction.

Further noise management is to be achieved through the judicious placement and control of the public address loudspeakers. Sound levels from this source are not to exceed Category C noise limits and careful placement and control of the speakers will limit noise from this source at the relevant off-site boundaries.

The day-to-day responsibility for noise management shall rest with the **Clerk of Course** during race meetings and the **Track Manager** at all other times. In setting priorities for track-side improvements, the Track Management shall have to regard to the need to examine the acoustical effects of advertising signs and other structures, and shall make the best practical use of existing and proposed new signage to reduce noise emissions from the site.

At six monthly intervals the track management shall publicly notify in a local newspaper its programme of events for the following 12 months. The programme shall set out the type of events, their duration, and the dates which will be nominated as Category A, Category B, and Category C days. The programme shall also specify the dates (if any) on which events will be held to which the exemption from noise limits will be held. A list of scheduled events for the next 12 months is attached to this plan.

6.0 Noise Monitoring

Periodic monitoring of noise from activities at Teretonga Park is required to demonstrate compliance with the relevant noise limits. In order that there is consistency in the monitoring the following **Noise Monitoring Programme** shall be adhered to;

Noise Monitoring Programme

Monitoring of L_{MAX} and L_{10} noise levels shall take place twice annually for each of the category A, B, or C type events. Condition 2(b) of the resource consent requires results of noise monitoring to be provided to the Council every three months as well as upon being requested by the Environmental Manager of Invercargill City Council. At the conclusion of three monthly periods during which there has been no monitoring, it shall be sufficient compliance with condition 2(b) of the resource consent for the consent holder to notify Council accordingly (but this shall not relieve the consent holder of the obligation to carry out monitoring twice annually for each category of event, as specified above).

Days on which monitoring takes place shall be selected at random unless monitoring of certain events is specified by the Environmental Manager of Invercargill City Council (or his/her nominee). Monitoring shall be in accordance with NZS6801:1991 "Measurement of Sound" and shall take place in accordance with the conditions of consent at, or within, the boundary of any existing site zoned residential or at or within the 20 metre notional boundary of any rural dwelling or industrial building on sites zoned for industrial use, excluding the Southland Sports Car Club clubrooms. Subject to the express provisions of the resource consent, noise levels are to be assessed in accordance with NZS6802:1991 "Assessment of Environmental Sound", excepting the application of paragraphs 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 "Limits of Acceptability" of that Standard.

Without prejudice towards the identification of more suitable sites, the currently proposed noise monitoring sites are:

(1) At the eastern end of the Dunns Road bridge over the Oreti River.
(2) Southland Power Boat Club boat ramp.
(3) Entrance to rugby fields on the western side of Teretonga Park.

On any scheduled monitoring day, the monitoring shall be conducted for a period of not less than 15 minutes, and shall include monitoring of a representative range of individual events held on that day.

It is intended that monitoring be conducted in consultation with an acoustic consultant. In the initial stages elementary training by a suitably qualified person will be given in the monitoring of sound levels in the local environment, the provisions of the relevant New Zealand Standards, and in the recording of results. In any event, monitoring must be undertaken in accordance with relevant Standards.

7.0 Complaint Procedures

Within the framework of the provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991, a suitable procedure exists for the general public to seek action if they are of the opinion that noise from the site exceeds a reasonable level. Without limiting the rights of any individual, a "reasonable level" is taken here are meaning the noise levels, taken at the appropriate time and location, not exceeding the maximum noise levels specified above.

Without limiting the rights of any person or any Consent Authority, any person who is of the opinion that noise levels emitted from the site exceed a reasonable level, may register a complaint with the Environmental Manager (or his/her nominee) of the Invercargill City Council. The City Invercargill Council shall record the time of the complaint, the address of the complainant, and a description of the type of noise. On receiving such a complaint the City Council may notify as soon as practical the Clerk of Course or Track Manager as to the complaint time and description. The Clerk of the Course and/or the Track Manager shall investigate the complaint and ascertain the cause. Within 72 hours of receiving such a complaint the Clerk of the Course or the Track Manager shall respond in writing explaining to the Environmental Manager, as far as can be ascertained, the likely cause of the noise and action taken, if any, to prevent a recurrence.

8.0 Review of Noise Management Plan

Of key importance in the successful operation of this Management Plan is the need for its provisions to remain practical and reasonable. For this reason the Consent Holder and the Council are to reassess the Noise Management Plan every two years.

Every two years the Consent Holder and the Council shall reassess the Noise Management Plan and consider the results obtained from representative monitoring with a view to ensuring that the best practical options are being pursued to avoid, mitigate, or remedy and adverse effect arising from noise emissions at Teretonga Park. The opportunity to reassess the effectiveness of the noise monitoring programme also exists.

Condition 4 of the Resource Consent includes noise performance standards which will apply from (and including) the ***(date)*** unless the consent holder is successful in an application to change any of those levels pursuant to section 127, Resource Management Act 1991. Such application is to be lodged no later than ***(date)*** provided however that the club will not be entitles to seek a change that would permit noise levels above those applying up to ***(date)***, as set out in condition 2 of the Consent. In the event of an application being lodged as provided for above, the noise performance standards applying up to ***(date)*** shall continue to apply until the application is finally determined.

Signed..... Date.....

for **Consent Holder**