

# Whangarei District Council Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 16 February, 2021

**Time:** 10:30 am

**Location:** Council Chamber

Forum North, Rust Avenue

Whangarei

Elected Members: Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai

(Chairperson)

Cr Gavin Benney Cr Vince Cocurullo Cr Nicholas Connop

Cr Ken Couper Cr Tricia Cutforth Cr Shelley Deeming Cr Jayne Golightly

Cr Phil Halse
Cr Greg Innes
Cr Greg Martin
Cr Anna Murphy
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

- 1. Karakia/Prayer
- 2. Declarations of Interest
- 3. Apologies
- 4. Decision Reports
  - 4.1. Deliberations on the proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw

5. Closure of Meeting

Recommendations contained in the Council agenda may not be the final decision of Council.

Please refer to Council minutes for final resolution.

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# 4.1 Deliberations on the proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw

Meeting: Whangarei District Council

Date of meeting: 16 February 2021

**Reporting officer:** Vita Strohush – Strategic Planner (Bylaws)

Tony Horton – Manager Strategy

# 1 Purpose

To deliberate on matters raised in consultation feedback to the proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw, and the final scope and content of the Bylaw.

#### 2 Recommendations

That Council approves the recommendations as contained in this report and the associated attachments for the development of the final amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw as follows:

#### **Topic 1 – District-wide matters**

- a) That Council approves the proposed amendments to clause 12 of the Bylaw in relation to temporary prohibitions or restrictions on camping:
- b) The Council approves the proposed amendments to clause 6.4 of the Bylaw is relation to provisions for health and safety;
- c) That Council approves the proposed new clause 6.5 to the Bylaw in relation to the temporary nature of camping;

#### Topic 2 – Area specific rules

a) That Council approves the changes to the proposed Schedules of the amended Bylaw as per the recommendations provided in Attachment 1.

# **Topic 3– General bylaw content**

- a) That the title of the Bylaw is retained as "Camping in Public Places Bylaw".
- b) That the requirement for certification of self-containment is retained as consulted on by reference to the NZ Standard 5465:2001.
- c) Than an explanatory note be added after clause 6(a) of the proposed amended Bylaw as proposed in this report;
- d) That Council approves specific wording changes to elements of the proposed amended Bylaw to clarify and improve drafting as provided in tracked changes to the bylaw text in Attachment 3.

#### **Topic 6 – Other comments**

That Council notes the submissions.

# **Topic 7 – Associated Public Places Bylaw amendments**

That Council approves further changes to clause 19 of the amended Public Places Bylaw as described in this report.

# 3 Background

Whangarei District Council at its meeting on 22 October 2020 adopted a Statement of Proposal (SOP) for a proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw for public consultation. The Statement of Proposal also incorporated an associated amendment to the Public Places Bylaw to address the interface between the Public Places Bylaw and the Camping in Public Places Bylaw.

A Council Briefing was held on 9 February 2021 which provided an overview of the consultation activities and numbers and types of feedback received as well as a summary of the feedback received. In total, 207 submissions were received. One submission was supported by a petition with 13 signatures. At the Hearing on 8 December 2020 23 people spoke to the submissions.

Council now needs to consider the feedback received and deliberate on whether any changes are required to the proposed amended Bylaw. Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 provides that Council can also consider further advice from staff before making decisions. This report contains staff advice in accordance with this provision and is highlighted as such.

The final amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw will incorporate any decisions Council makes at this meeting and is tentatively (dependent on the outcomes of deliberation) scheduled to be presented to Council for adoption on 25 February 2021.

# 4 Overview

The recommendations of this report have been grouped into the following topics for discussion and relate to the associated recommendations of this report.

- 1. District-wide matters
- 2. Area specific rules
- 3. General bylaw content
- 4. Other comments
- 5. Associated Public Places Bylaw amendments

# 5 Analysis and recommendations

#### 5.1 Topic 1 - District-wide matters

The Statement of Proposal included changes to district-wide provisions in the bylaw in relation to:

- Providing better enforcement capabilities to temporarily close freedom camping sites to protect areas, access to areas or to protect health and safety;
- Providing clarity in the bylaw as to the temporary nature of camping;
- Including additional provisions related to health and safety.

There was no opposition to these changes through public consultation. One submitter requested that Council should expand the bylaw powers for temporary closures of sites.

Specific submitter comments for Ocean Beach were incorporated into Topic 2 (Area-specific matters).

The staff recommendation is to approve changes as proposed:

Rule as proposed in the Statement of Proposal	Staff recommendation	Staff comments
"6. Provisions for camping  6.4 All camping must comply with the following conditions:  a) vehicles must park within existing marked parking spaces or within identified parking  areas, whichever is present.  Where marked parking spaces are present, only one vehicle per marked space is allowed.	That the proposed additions are retained.	Where a designated freedom camping site is on a sealed carpark usually it would have marked parking spaces. There have been problems in the past with camping vehicles have been parking very close together, tandem parking, or otherwise parking in a way that results in having more than one vehicle per marked parking space. Specifying an exact maximum number of vehicles per designated site is not practicable as it would be difficult for enforcement officers to determine which vehicles were the non-complying ones. Specifying one vehicle per marked space will provide clarity for campers and enforcement.
g) no effluent tanks may be emptied in public toilets."		Signage had been installed to discourage the dumping of effluent in to public toilets.  Specifying this as a condition on camping in the Bylaw will provide for more effective enforcement.
6.5. To avoid doubt, nothing in this Bylaw allows a person to take up permanent or semipermanent residence on any local authority area.	That the proposed addition is retained.	Consultation feedback highlighted the lack of clarity for the public around the scope of the Bylaw in relation on living in vehicles. Complex social issues of living permanently in a vehicle, whether by choice or due to homelessness, are outside the scope of a Bylaw made under the Freedom Camping Act.
"12. Temporary closures prohibitions or restrictions  12.1 Council may temporarily close prohibit or	That the proposed changes are retained.	The Freedom Camping Act does not authorize the making of a bylaw that provides for closure of local authority areas, as opposed to prohibition or restriction of freedom camping in those areas.

restrict camping on any area or part of any

area where a restriction is considered necessary by Council to:

- a) prevent damage to the area or facilities in the area
- b) allow maintenance of the area or facilities in the area
- c) protect the safety of persons or property
- d) enable public access, including in circumstances where events are planned for that

area.

- 12.2 Where reasonably practicable, prior notice will be given of any temporary closure prohibition or restriction, and the length of that closure prohibition or restriction, or its removal, in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.
- 12.3 A temporary closure prohibition or restriction under clause 12.1 shall not extend

for more than 14
consecutive days, however
this does not limit Council's
power to make a fresh
prohibition or restriction
under clause 12.1 for the
same area where the
prerequisites in that clause
are satisfied. and shall not
be repeated in respect of
the area to which it applied,
more than twice in any
twelve-month period."

Therefore, referring to temporary "prohibitions or restrictions" is more accurate than referring to "temporary closures". There is no legal requirement that closures be limited to only twice in a 12month period. Enforcement feedback is that extensions of temporary closures are necessary at times. This is allowable under the FCA so long as the prerequisite for the closure (as provided in clause 12.1) is satisfied at the start of each temporary closure period and each period is for no more than 14 days each time.

#### 5.2 Unintended consequences of designating freedom camping sites

Feedback received through submissions is consistent with staff experience indicating that at a number of locations in the district the establishment of designated sites has created unintended consequences of effectively advertising these sites and attracting large numbers of freedom campers to the areas in exceedance of the capacity of the designated sites.

The purpose of creating designated sites for freedom camping was to improve management of the effects of freedom camping in these locations. This relates to protecting the areas where freedom camping may occur and access to those areas, including the environmental effects of camping, and safeguarding the health and safety of visitors to these areas. The aim of establishing numerous small designated sites was to disperse campers thought the District, while mitigating adverse effects and keeping areas open for freedom camping. This has worked well in some locations, but other locations became chronically overcrowded and unmanageable which has been shown through enforcement and vehicle count data provided to Council during bylaw review, and has been voiced through submissions.

Even though designated sites mostly have a 1 night stay limit, persistent overstaying has been documented by enforcement contractors. Due to this, the desired turnaround of vehicles at designated sites is not achieved, further aggravating the overcrowding problem. There are practical limits to enforcing a 1 night stay throughout all designated sites in the district. Several submitters requested the installation of CCTV cameras and/or booking systems for freedom camping, however these measures are not considered to be acceptable or feasible solutions. They are also outside of the scope of a bylaw.

A further circumstance which could not have been foreseen at the time of making the bylaw in 2017 is the practice by some campervan rental companies to offer refunds for unused toilets. Feedback has been received of campers in self-contained vehicles effectively using their vehicles as non self-contained. This was brought to the attention of Council by submitters at the hearing and staff research following the hearing has confirmed these reports. Areas come under pressure and adverse effects arise when high numbers of visitors (freedom campers and day-trippers) are concentrated at popular coastal locations with limited facilities.

Staff advice is that the proposed seasonal restrictions on camping at high-use locations as consulted on in the Statement of Proposal will serve to address the impacts described above during peak-season. Following submitter feedback, further measures for the Whananaki North site are proposed in section 5.3 of this report.

#### 5.3 Topic 2 – Area-specific matters

At the 9 February 2021 Council Briefing an attachment was provided containing the 168 area specific feedback points made by submitters. This feedback has been further reviewed and analysed together with Council's Parks and Recreation and Health and Bylaw departments.

All location-specific comments made by submitters were incorporated into the feedback and the associated recommendations for each area. **Attachment 1** provides the analysis of all area specific feedback for 85 areas, including a summary of the feedback received, alternative options, and recommended options together with associated commentary. The areas are grouped into broader District areas (North, South, Central, Tutukaka Coast and Whangarei Heads) for ease of review.

**Attachment 2** provides a table with detailed feedback summary for the areas that received the highest volume of feedback.

In addition to the 68 areas of the proposed amended Schedules, feedback was also received on 17 other locations in the District currently regulated under the general rule. Of these, 15 have been included in the analysis (Attachment 1) but the remaining 2 locations are not under the control of Council and have therefore been omitted. These areas are:

DOC marginal strip off of McAuslin Road

• DOC reserve beach carpark off of Mair Road, Ruakaka

No feedback was received for 29 areas listed in the Bylaw Schedules. Council is therefore not required to deliberate further on these areas. The sites are included as a single line in Attachment 1 for completeness.

#### 5.4 Seasonal restrictions at certain beaches

The Statement of Proposal (SOP) presented for public consultations introduced seasonal restrictions on camping at high-use destination beaches to protect public access.

The report tabled at the briefing provided that **14 submitters** stated their support for seasonal restrictions on camping, and **eight** submitters opposed this. Residents and ratepayer groups expressed their support for seasonal restrictions at specific beaches as proposed in the SOP (this is captured in Attachment 1). **Three** submitters requested seasonal restrictions on all beaches, and a further eight called to prohibit freedom camping on beaches altogether.

Council's enforcement contractors report Tutukaka coast remained busy with freedom campers this summer despite the lack of international tourists. Monitoring data shows popular beachfront designated freedom camping sites were overcrowded at times during the peak holiday season. Recommendations for seasonal restrictions on specific beaches are provided in Attachments 1 and 2.

#### 5.5 Whananaki North

#### **Submissions feedback summary**

Council received 20 submissions in relation to the Whananaki North designated site. Of those, 11 submitters requested a prohibition on camping and 7 requested a seasonal restriction. Submitters provided reports of campers using toilets for washing dishes and showering which adds pressure to already busy facilities. With toilets often busy there are reports of people urinating in the estuary and leaving human waste in the reserve. Concerns were raised about hygiene, water quality, environmental damage to the estuary and human waste on the reserve. Submitters advise the designated site is often overcrowded.

#### Staff comment

Space in this designated camping site is limited. The area, especially the grassy portion, gets very soft in wet conditions. To improve ground conditions and vehicle safety the carpark was graveled in 2018. This led to a reduction of the size of the carpark. Safety and vehicle maneuvering requirements mean the carpark can accommodate a maximum of two large vehicles. An updated site map was included in the Statement of Proposal showing the reduced size of the available site.

The local community seeks greater restrictions in Whananaki North than were proposed. Submitters reported human waste on the reserve, overloaded toilet facilities, toilets used for washing dishes and showering. While competition with commercial campgrounds is not taken into account when setting bylaw restrictions on camping, breaches of the Bylaw have received particularly strong disapproval from the local community because there are three large established campgrounds in the area.

Statistics on vehicle counts and enforcement for Whananaki were not included in the initial analysis. The area is remote and difficult to enforce and was not included in the priority monitoring intensive programme in the 2019-2020 season and the Responsible Camping Ambassador Programme. As a result, we were not able to collect camper numbers and compliance statistics for Whananaki North during 2017-2019 seasons.

Nevertheless, community feedback is valuable. Submitter complaints about human waste and fouling related overwhelmingly to the designated site. By contrast, the reserve by the school and the boat launching layby area nearby (opposite 2249 Whananaki North Rd) are not attracting

complaints. This leads to a conclusion that the designated site by the public toilets in Whananaki North has created unintended consequences by attracting unsustainable numbers of campers to one location with limited facilities. Enforcement contractors do what they can to deal with non-compliances, but the problem cannot be satisfactorily managed by enforcement action alone.

The existing and proposed bylaws restrict freedom camping at Whananaki North. However, there is not enough enforcement data to justify a full prohibition on camping or a peak-season ban in response to submissions. Largely, submitter feedback is centred on the effects of non self-contained camping (human waste, doing dishes in the toilets, etc) particularly where the designated site is acting to attract campers. One approach to address the problem of increased waste and fouling would be to remove the Whananaki North designated site from Schedule 4 and default to the general rule in clause 6 of the Bylaw. The general rule offers a less restrictive regime and allows freedom camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, however this option could provide for more sustainable camping in the area and in the circumstances is the best option available to address the health and hygiene concerns.

The options for Whananaki North are compared in the table below.

Whananaki North			
Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Staff comment
Option 1 (Statement of Proposal)  Retain area in Schedule 4.  Amend the map for the area to reflect the reduced capacity of the carpark after graveling. Specify maximum two large vehicles in the gravelled carpark. Designate the location of the tenting area on the map (as was done for Tamaterau) to provide clarity to campers and protect access to picnic tables.	An amended map can assist to inform campers about the limited capacity of this site.	Does not resolve the issue of fouling and human waste and subsequent environmental impacts.  Prescriptive restrictions remain difficult to enforce in a remote area.	Carpark has been graveled in 2018 to improve vehicle safety. The size of the designed site has already been reduced by Council resolution on 27/09/2018 following community feedback and to protect access.
Option 2  Close the designated site at Whananaki North and remove the area from Schedule 4. The area to be regulated under the general rule.  The general rule allows only self-contained	This option resolves the unintended consequences of the designated site attracting unsustainable numbers of campers.	Tenting spaces will be lost, however the grassy area for tents becomes very soft in wet conditions, meaning it is already unsuitable for camping some of the time. Affordable tent camping options are	Staff recommendation is Option 2 – regulate the area under the general rule.  The reason for this recommendation is this is considered to be the

vehicles to stay for up to 3 nights, compared to only 1 night currently in the designated site.	Self-contained vehicles can still camp for up to 3 nights.  Any camping vehicles would still have to comply with parking bylaws and general conditions for camping in clause 6 of the Bylaw.	also available at the nearby DOC campsite.	best way to address consultation feedback that there has been human waste in the reserve and estuary. This is also the least restrictive option to address the perceived problem of fouling and waste on the reserve.
Option 3  Retain area in Schedule 4 and introduce seasonal restrictions.  Camping to be restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February).	A seasonal restriction would be in line with requests by submitters to address the issues of overcrowding and human waste during peak season when toilet facilities are under most pressure.  The seasonal restriction at this site is not considered overly detrimental to self-contained vehicles who can utilise many other locations in the District for three nights.	Without independently verified evidence of overcrowding there are risks in imposing seasonal restrictions.  Tenting spaces and two non self-contained vehicle camping spaces will be lost during peak season.  Prescriptive restrictions remain difficult to enforce in a remote area.	There is not enough monitoring/enforcement data to verify reports of overcrowding to justify a peak-season ban.
Option 4  Prohibit area to freedom camping	A prohibition on camping would be in line with submitters requests to ban freedom camping in Whananaki.	A year-round prohibition on camping requires a much higher level of evidence of the perceived problem. Imposing a prohibition without sufficient evidence carries risk of challenge.  Defining the boundaries of the new prohibited area would be challenging, as the road reserve extends the whole length of the school.	There is not enough enforcement data to justify a full ban, especially during offseason.

#### 5.6 Ruakaka

#### Submissions feedback summary

With regards to the existing freedom camping site at **Ruakaka Beach Reserve**, Council received three submissions in support (or content suggesting support) of restrictions in this area. One submitter opposed further restrictions and suggested the Council should install user-pays facilities and expand freedom camping spaces.

The Statement of Proposal also proposed a new designated site at the **Ruakaka Riverside Reserve**. Six submission were received in opposition to this proposal, citing competition with the nearby campground and the use of the reserve by locals.

#### Staff comment

Due to close proximity both Ruakaka sites need to be considered together. During the 2019/2020 camping season (between the Labour Day Weekend 2019 and 23 March 2020) Enforcement Officers recorded 8 instances of non-compliance for the Ruakaka Beach Reserve. However, a review of CRM complains over three seasons since 2017 shows over 50 complaints about freedom camping generated for areas within the Ruakaka Village. Enforcement officers report persistent overcrowding and overstaying at the Ruakaka Riverside Reserve which is a general/default area under old bylaw.

One of the submissions is from the local hapu and raises concerns around visitor impact on ecological values at the Ruakaka Wildlife Refuge and the mātaitai area at Ruakaka as being impacted by faeces, rubbish dumping and dogs. These concerns are acknowledged; however, the perceived problem cannot be attributed solely to freedom campers. Council has control of the dunes and beach adjoining Council owned land at the Ruakaka Beach Reserve. The Ruakaka Wildlife Refuge and the Ruakaka Scenic Reserve are under the control of the Department of Conservation (DOC). Camping on the Ruakaka Scenic Reserve is already prohibited by DOC under the Northland Reserves Bylaws 2007.

A designated site at the Ruakaka Riverside Reserve would allow for improved management compared to the status quo, as it would allow control of the number of vehicles and encourage their turnover by limiting stay to one night (as compared to 3 nights under the general rule currently). Success of this approach would depend heavily on enforcement. However, consideration needs to be given to concerns that a new designated site could create unintended consequences by drawing large numbers of campers to the location. Further, as there are no toilets on the reserve, sanitation issues are a risk in light of the recent findings around some campers not using on-board toilets in hired vehicles in order to receive discounts from the rental companies.

On the other hand, the Ruakaka area is the gateway for travelers arriving in Whangarei District, as shown by camper movement statistics from Campermate provided to Council in the Issues Analysis repot at the 8 July 2020 Briefing. Supply of freedom camping spaces in this area has not met the demand historically. Prohibiting camping at both the Ruakaka Beach Reserve and the Ruakaka Riverside Reserve risks shifting overcrowding problem to shift to sites nearby sites, including Waipu Caves and Marsden Bay Reserve. The Waipu Caves site has been performing well so far, however the site is close to a wahi tapu area and requires careful management of freedom camping supply and demand to avoid adverse effects.

Ruakaka Beach Reserve			
Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Staff comment
Option 1 (Statement of Proposal)  Prohibit the landward side of the designated site at the Ruakaka Beach Reserve due to parking safety concerns. Retain the seaward side of the designated freedom camping site and amend the maps.	Resolves the safety issue related to vehicles getting stuck in the sand on the landward portion of the site.	Loss of some freedom camping spaces in this high-demand area.	Staff recommendation is Option 1 - as proposed in the SOP  The reason for this recommendation is that even a full prohibition of camping in this area would likely require intensive enforcement and monitoring and would also increase pressure on nearby designates sites. Allowing for some freedom camping capacity will aid compliance by providing reasonable options for campers. Enforcement officer visits for this area will still be required, and are done in conjunction with the Dog Management Bylaw enforcement for Ruakaka beach.
Option 2  Prohibit area to camping.	Protects access to the area for day visitors as this is a very popular beach with surf lifesaving patrol.	Demand could shift to other nearby sites, exacerbating overcrowding problems there.	This a popular area and will require intensive enforcement even if camping is prohibited.

Ruakaka Riverside Reserve			
Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Staff comment
Option 1 (Statement of Proposal)  Establish a designated site to accommodate 3-4 self-contained vehicles.	Improved management compared to the status quo (being a default area without a vehicle limit)	This option risks creating unintended consequences by drawing large numbers of campers to the new designated site. Continued intensive enforcement will be required. Concentrating campers in a designated site risks fouling of the area if vehicles are not self-contained or if campers choose to not use the self-contained facilities.	Staff recommendation is Option 1 – as proposed in the SOP.  The reason for this recommendation is that provision of a balanced supply of freedom camping sites in the Ruakaka area is essential for managing overall compliance. Enforcement officer visits for this area will still be required, and are done in conjunction with the Dog Management Bylaw enforcement for Ruakaka beach.
Prohibit area to camping.	Clarity for campers and enforcement officers with site being fully prohibited.	Adverse effects of spillover demand could shift to other designated sites.  Would create competition with the commercial campground across the road.	This a popular area and will require intensive enforcement even if camping is prohibited.  Protecting campgrounds from competition is not one of the bylaw-making criteria under the Freedom Camping Act.

# 5.7 Onerahi and Tikipunga Sportsparks

Nine submissions were received in support of the overflow peak season sites for freedom camping at the two proposed Sportsparks (Onerahi and Tikipunga). Four submitters opposed the establishment of overflow sites, two of those raising concerns about cost to Council and two concerned about taking business away from commercial camping grounds. Recommendations to create designated freedom camping sites at the Onerahi Sportspark and at the Tikipunga Sportspark are provided in Attachment 1 along with specific restrictions.

# 5.8 Other areas

Submitter feedback analysis for the remaining areas throughout the District is provided in **Attachments 1 and 2**. To assist the readers, the recommended changes to the Schedules are summarised in the table below:

Schedule	Staff comment
Schedule 1 – Prohibited areas	Further changes as follows:  Otamure Bay – extend the prohibited area as shown on the map included in Attachment 3.
Schedule 2 – Self-contained only	No further changes
Schedule 3 – Non self-contained	Further changes as follows:  Ocean Beach – move marked boundaries of restricted areas to the edge of private property as per submissions. Parks and Recreation department supports a further expansion of the restricted area for clarity of enforcement.  Submitters also requested to disperse the designated spots throughout the carpark, this is also supported by the enforcement contractor. The advantage of dispersing the designated spaces is improved fire safety and reduced health hazards in the current environment with social distancing. Both options remain open to Council and are set out in Attachment 1. Indicative maps of designated site layout for the three Options for Ocean beach are provided in Attachment 5.  Submitters commented extensively and made specific requests in relation to Reotahi, Kowharewa Bay and Whangaumu Bay. Staff recommend that submissions are noted, and no further changes made to these areas:  Reotahi – submitters raised concerns about high numbers of campers in tents blocking access to the picnic tables and the toilets. Staff advise that while the proposed changes remove the bylaw prohibition on camping on the grassy area by the picnic tables, tenting on the grass this area will still remain prohibited by default under the Reserves Act. The advantage of the change as proposed in the SOP is that it opens up flexibility for the Council should it wish to introduce specific rules for tenting for Te Araroa walkers under the Reserves Act through a process separate from bylaw review. There is an opportunity to carry out engagement with the local community to scope out a suitable solution under the Reserves Act.  Kowharewa Bay - Council received three submissions seeking amendments to the Statement of Proposal in relation to Kowharewa Bay. One of the submissions was made by the Tutukaka Residents and Ratepayers Committee. Submitters support the seasonal restriction on camping as proposed, but also request a prohibition of non self-contained camping or a total prohibition on camping in the area. The

out this is a very small beach, popular among locals and visitors alike, and used extensively for waka ama/kayak groups. Staff advice is that the proposed seasonal restrictions as consulted on in the SOP are expected to address the issues identified at Kowharewa Bay. Clause 14 of the proposed amended Bylaw also provides a mechanism for temporary closures of designated sites, including for the purposes of protecting public access where events are planned for an area.

Whangaumu Bay main reserve (Wellington's Bay) –
 submitters requested that non self-contained camping be
 banned at Whangaumu Bay. However, the area has public
 toilets and portaloos are provided in summer. The area has
 been largely non-problematic during off-season. The SOP
 proposes a seasonal restriction on camping in Whangaumu to
 protect access, and this is the least restrictive option to address
 the perceived problem. The proposed slight extension of the
 prohibited area to the west and to the east of the reserve is
 expected to assist in ensuring compliance with the designated
 site.

# Schedule 4 – all camping

Changes as follows:

• Whananaki – default to general rule under clause 6 (for details see above in this report).

The staff recommendation is that submissions for the following areas be noted, the changes proposed in the SOP retained, and no further changes made:

- Sandy Bay Submitters requested that large motorhomes be banned from the site, others requested that non self-contained vehicles be banned from the site. Four submitters supported the proposal while one submitter opposed the seasonal restrictions. It is expected seasonal restrictions as consulted on in the SOP will address the issues identified in this area. Requests to seal and/or repair the carpark are out of scope of the bylaw process and submitter feedback in relation to physical works has been passed on to the Parks and Recreation department.
- **Tamaterau** Two submissions commented specifically on this area. One submission is requesting that the area be kept as a tent site only, as the parking area is small. The second submission was from the Tamaterau Hall Management Society and points out instances of environmental damage to the adjoining reserve, including fouling and cutting down pohutukawa branches for firewood. Fires on the beach are a specific concern given the recent droughts. Tamaterau Hall Management Society advised at the hearing it would like the parking in front of the hall protected for hall usage purposes. With regards to the reports of fouling in the reserve, enforcement contractors advise it is difficult to establish whether this is done by campers or day visitors to the reserve. The location is popular with day visitors who tend to set up gazebos/tents and may be mistaken for freedom campers. Due to delays with carpark sealing, logs were installed in the area in early January 2021 to prevent vehicles going up into the reserve. However, as carpark sealing and physical works are yet to be

	completed staff recommendation is that no further changes are made to this designated site.
General rule areas	Pacific Bay Six submissions were received requesting a prohibition on freedom camping at Pacific Bay. Submitters are concerned that the proposed seasonal restrictions at Kowharewa Bay and Whangaumu Bay would cause campers to move to Pacific Bay. Staff advise that Pacific Bay is already regulated under the general rule whereby camping is only allowed in self-contained vehicles and for a maximum of 3 nights. Vehicles must be legally parked and comply with conditions of camping under clause 6 of the Bylaw. It is recommended that no further changes are made to this area.

#### Staff recommendation

That Council approves the changes to the proposed Schedules of the amended Bylaw as per the recommendations provided in Attachment 1.

#### 5.9 Topic 3 - General bylaw content

Comments were received through submissions in relation to:

- the title of the bylaw
- · use of the self-containment standard
- parking of bicycles

The SOP also proposed to make some minor wording changes of a "tidy up" nature to clarify or improve the drafting but without substantive effect. The proposed changes are shown in tracked changes to the Bylaw in **Attachment 3**.

#### Title of the Bylaw

Currently the title of the Bylaw is "Camping in Public Places Bylaw". A submission was received and discussed at a Council Briefing about renaming the Bylaw as the "Freedom Camping Bylaw". The statutory basis of the Bylaw is the Freedom Camping Act. Auckland Council's bylaw is named Freedom Camping Bylaw 2015. In recent years a number of local authorities have named their bylaws using the term "responsible freedom camping" to reflect the desire for responsible behaviours when camping in public places. Some of the recent examples are:

- Kaikoura District Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2019
- Grey District Council Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2020
- Marlborough District Council Responsible Camping Control Bylaw 2020

Should Council wish to change the title of the Bylaw there would be additional costs related to replacing signage in up to 68 areas as listed in the amended Schedules 1-4. Signs have been updated to the new branding only where they are damaged or needed to be replaced. Most prohibited areas have signage featuring a map showing the prohibited area and a reference to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw. A few prohibited areas have simple "No camping signage"

without reference to the Bylaw, and there is still a mixture of old and updated signage with new branding. Examples of signage are included in **Attachment 4**.

Budget considerations of updating bylaw related signage are provided in Section 6 of this report.

Should Council wish to rename the bylaw the relevant considerations are provided in the table below:

Options - Title of the Bylaw			
Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Staff comment
Option 1 (Statement of Proposal) Camping in Public Places Bylaw	The current title draws attention to the fact the freedom camping it taking place in public places, as opposed to private land or DOC reserves.  The title of the Bylaw has been in use since 2017.  No cost implications for updating signage, webpages and educational packs.	Reduced searchability of the Bylaw on the internet.  Some members of the public might not realise in the first instance that the Bylaw regulates freedom camping.	Staff recommendation is Option 1 - as proposed in the SOP
Option 2  a) Freedom Camping Bylaw  b) Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw	a) The updated title could provide more clarity for readers as to the content of the Bylaw. b) The title could provide clarity as to the content of the Bylaw while also encouraging desired behaviors for all campers. The updated title would be in line with the recent bylaw naming practice around New Zealand.	Signage would need to be updated to refer to the Bylaw by the new title. This creates cost implications for updating signage, webpages and educational packs.	The enforcement budget for signage is limited and is allocated for all bylaws without identifying a specific sum for freedom camping.

# Self-containment

Self-containment continues to be a dividing issue. Council received 21 submissions seeking that only self-contained vehicles be allowed to freedom camp. Concerns were raised by submitters around validity of blue self-containment stickers and around campervan rental companies offering refunds for unused toilets.

On the other hand, 17 submissions opposed the use of the self-containment Standard (NZ Standard 5465:2001) and the requirement for certification of self-containment by reference to the Standard. Some submitters raised arguments in relation to the Bill of Rights.

As part of the Bylaw review Council carried out determinations under section 11(2) of the Freedom Camping Act and considered that both the current and the proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw are consistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Council determined in the course of review that restrictions on camping are reasonable and proportional and are based on a rational link between the bylaw provisions and the objective of controlling the adverse effects of freedom camping.

Even though the Freedom Camping Act does not specifically refer to self-contained or non-self-contained vehicles, however that does not prevent bylaws from referring to them. The FCA does not give any special recognition or protection to particular types of freedom camping.

Currently the Bylaw in clause 5.1 defines a self-contained vehicle by reference to the NZ Standard 5465:2001 and requires evidence of compliance by way of a self-containment certificate. The proposed amended Bylaw sets out the following requirements for self-containment (clause 5.1):

"Self-contained vehicle means a vehicle that complies with the New Zealand Standard 5465:2001 (the Standard), incorporating all amendments as at 1 September 2017 or any subsequent New Zealand Standard that amends or replaces that Standard.in amendment of, or substitution for, the same. Evidence of compliance with the Standard is through the display of a current warrant card and the availability on request of the associated self-containment certificate."

Options for considering the requirement for certified self-containment are described below:

Options – Self-containment certification			
Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Staff comment
Option 1 (Statement of Proposal)  Clause 6.2. "Camping is restricted to self-contained vehicles only in all areas of the District, except for those areas listed in Schedules 3 and 4 of this Bylaw."  Clause 5.1 "A Self-contained vehicle means a vehicle that complies with the New Zealand Standard 5465:2001 Evidence of compliance with the Standard is through the display of a current warrant card and the availability on request of the associated self-containment certificate."	Reference to the New Zealand Standard is currently the only nationally recognised standard to determine compliance.  Freedom camping bylaws throughout New Zealand commonly refer to the self-containment Standard, which is also the recommendation of the LGNZ Good Practice Guide on Freedom Camping (2018).1	Enforcement officers do not have the powers to enter a motor vehicle to inspect its compliance with the Standard. However, external inspection is lawful, and officers can request to view the self-containment certificate.  Some freedom campers do not have access to a self-contained vehicle.	Staff recommendation is Option 1 - as proposed in the SOP Self-containment certificate is issued for vehicles that have systems to contain both black water (from toilets) and grey water (wastewater from sinks, showers or similar). Certified self- containment provides for uniform application of Bylaw requirement and gives clarity for enforcement of the Bylaw. While the requirement for certified self- containment would restrict some campers in where they are able to stay, the Bylaw

<sup>1</sup> LGNZ. (2018). Good Practice Guide for freedom camping. <a href="https://www.lgnz.co.nz/assets/Uploads/c9f26c9f6e/45954-LGNZ-Freedom-Camping-good-Practice-Guide-WEB2.pdf">https://www.lgnz.co.nz/assets/Uploads/c9f26c9f6e/45954-LGNZ-Freedom-Camping-good-Practice-Guide-WEB2.pdf</a>

provides 12 designated sites for non self-contained camping under Schedules 3 and 4 with facilities to support sustainable camping. More opportunities for non self-contained camping are also available at DOC campgrounds and commercial campgrounds. Option 2 Responsible freedom With the lack of a Removing the campers would have robust selfrequirement for Remove part of the more flexibility to containment standard, certification of selfprovision in clause 5.1 organise their own Council would have to containment could be which requires that perceived as going self-containment using review its analysis of "...Evidence of any alternative specific areas in the against the sentiment compliance with the methods and/or District as to their of the community for Standard is through without requiring a suitability for freedom better enforcement of the display of a current specialised vehicle camping. Increased the self-containment warrant card and the that can hold black risks of environmental Standard. availability on request water and grey water damage and risks to of the associated selffor three days as per health and safety containment the Standard. might trigger more certificate." areas in the District to meet the threshold for a prohibition on freedom camping. Depending on the extent of consequential changes Council might be required to carry out further public consultation on the Bylaw.

In relation to parking of bicycles, clause 6 of the proposed amended Bylaw requires that vehicles must park within existing marked parking spaces or within identified parking areas. However, since bicycles are classed as vehicles this could cause difficulty to cyclist who wish to store their bicycle next to their tent. Staff recommendation is to add an explanatory note after clause 6.(a) that where freedom camping in a tent, bicycles may be stored near a tent provided the storage of bicycles is not preventing others from undertaking legitimate activities in the area and is not restricting public access to public areas.

Staff recommendations on the aforementioned matters are summarised in the table below:

As proposed in the Statement of Proposal	Staff recommendation	Staff comment
Title of the Bylaw	That the title of the Bylaw is retained as "Camping in Public Places Bylaw"	As per the Options table above
Self-containment	That the requirement for certification of self-containment is retained as consulted on by reference to the NZ Standard 5465:2001	As per the Options table above
Clause 6(a)	That an explanatory note be added after clause 6(a) of the Bylaw:  "Explanatory note: where campers are travelling by bicycle and camping in a tent, bicycles may be stored near a tent provided the storage of bicycles is not preventing other from undertaking legitimate activities in the area and is not restricting public access to public areas."	There haven't been any infringements issued since 2017 related to parking of freedom camping bicycles. The Bylaw has performed without difficulty in this regard and therefore a substantive change to cl.6(a) is not warranted. An explanatory note is believed to be sufficient to provide clarity. The note does not form part of the Bylaw and can be changed/clarified as needed without formality.
Various minor wording changes (as shown in tracked changes in Attachment 3)	That changes are approved as consulted on in the SOP	Changes to improve and clarify the drafting but without substantive effect. No opposition has been submitted to these changes.

# 5.10 Topic 4 – Other comments

The following general feedback on freedom camping issues was provided through submissions:

Issue	Staff comment
Areas should specify a maximum number of vehicles.	This is not considered a suitable approach for enforcement purposes, as it is difficult for enforcement staff to determine which vehicle is the non-complying vehicle. By providing appropriately signed designated sites, users are clearly noncompliant if they park outside the boundary of these sites.
Prohibit camping in areas close to commercial campgrounds	The Freedom Camping Act only allows camping in public places to be prohibited or restricted to protect areas, to protect access and to provide for public health and safety. Competition with commercial

	campgrounds is not one of the criteria that can be considered under the FCA.
Potable water	It is not a requirement of Council to provide potable water in any public places, for day visitors or campers. Public toilets that are connected to the town water supply provide potable water. Other toilets have suitable signage in place.

Further feedback was provided that either cannot be addressed by or is outside the scope of a bylaw on the topic of camping in public places. An overview of submitter feedback is provided below. Specific operational matters have been referred to the Health and Bylaws and the Parks and Recreation departments.

Submitter feedback is summarised below:

- Council should support commercial campgrounds
- Responsible Camping Ambassadors should be employed, not volunteers
- Ban all freedom camping (7 submissions)
- Ban freedom camping on all beaches
- Options to emulate Gisborne & DOC passes
- More intensive enforcement
- Doing dishes/hanging washing
- Cost to ratepayers
- Concerns re fires
- Non-camping issues: people dumping rubbish, doing donuts in cars
- Homelessness
- Tourism is going to decrease/increase
- Council should provide facilities for campers (14 submissions)
- Council should charge campers
- Objection to having portaloos on beaches
- Signage

#### Staff recommendation

That Council notes the submissions.

### 5.11 Topic 5 – Associated Public Places Bylaw amendment

Six submissions expressed support for the proposed amendment to the Public Places Bylaw, and two submissions were in opposition. Staff suggest a further minor wording change by adding the words "or structure" to clause 19(b) of the Bylaw to provide more clarity as shown in tracked changes below.

#### 19 Buildings Structures and Living Accommodation in Public Places Prohibited

1. No person shall, except with the written consent of the Chief Executive or delegate:

a. erect, construct or place any temporary or permanent building, tent or other structure whatsoever, or any part thereof, under, over or across any public place, except with the prior written consent of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate;

b. use any building, tent, caravan or vehicle or structure on any public place for the purpose of living accommodation.

2. Subclause 1 does not apply to any use of the public place for the purposes of freedom camping permitted in that place pursuant to the Freedom Camping Act and any bylaw under that Act.

#### Staff recommendation

That Council approves further changes to clause 19 of the amended Public Places Bylaw as described in this report.

# 6 Financial / Budget considerations

The amendments to the Bylaw as per recommendations in this report would see the addition of four new designated freedom camping sites (Onerahi Sportspark, Tikipunga Sportspark, Riverside/Hatea East carpark, Ruakaka Riverside Reserve) and removal of two designated sites (Finlayson Street and Whananaki North). With a net gain of two designated sites it is expected that enforcement costs would not be significantly impacted.

Based on the recommended changes, signage changes would be required for 18 locations to reflect the amended rules and maps. The Health and Bylaws department advise the cost to update these 18 sites with new/replacement signs (both the cost to manufacture and to erect the signs) would be approximately \$7,500. Annual Bylaw Sign budget under the next LTP and for the next 10 years is approximately \$7,000. This poses a challenge with providing other Bylaw related signs such as "dogs on beaches".

Should Council wish to change the title of the Bylaw there would be additional costs related to replacing signage in up to 68 areas as listed in the amended Schedules 1-4. In addition to the cost of manufacturing the signs, the cost to install them is around \$60 per sign. There is a possible option of attaching a sticker to the bottom portion of a sign to update just the title of the Bylaw, which would be a cheaper option. However, there would still be costs to install the stickers and these costs were not budgeted for.

# 7 Significance and engagement

#### **Significance**

The decisions and matters of this agenda do not trigger the significance criteria of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

#### **Engagement**

Council has consulted with the community on the issues of this agenda in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 2002. The public will be informed via agenda publication on Council's website.

#### 8 Attachments

Attachment 1 – Recommendations by area for the amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw.

Attachment 2 – Proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw: Top feedback areas.

Attachment 3 - Proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw.

Attachment 4 - Examples of prohibited area signage

Attachment 5 - Draft designated freedom camping site layout for Ocean Beach carpark

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# Attachment 1 – Camping in Public Places consulta 20 dn feedback analysis and recommendations by area

# Schedule 1

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Abbey Caves	2x support	General rule – clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	Prohibit area to camping	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	Option 1 as per SOP.  Protect access to one of Whangarei's iconic destinations. Supported by submitters
1	Bland Bay Reserve	1x support prohibition and seek to extend prohibited area to the reserve on Bland Bay beach to protect access to the reserve and BBQ tables	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain current prohibited area under Schedule 1	Expand the prohibited area	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Camping is already prohibited along the grass verge of the road reserve. The rest of the area towards the beach is a recreation reserve and camping on the grass is already prohibited in reserves. Staff advice is the current controls already provide appropriate and proportional regulation.
1	Drummond Park Scenic Reserve (Parihaka Lookout carpark)	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Based on available data, the prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Eliott Reserve	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Based on available data, the prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Finlayson Street/ Reyburn House Lane carpark	1x support 3x oppose  At the Hearing concerns were raised about equal access for all types of vehicles. Some wish to stay in the town basin to access jobs in town.	Schedule 2 – designated site for self-contained vehicles, 3 nights maximum.	Prohibit area to camping	Maintain current regulation under Schedule 2, with a designated site for SC and NSC vehicles.	N/A	Option 1 - prohibit area as per SOP.  Protect access for events and reconfiguration of the waterfront area. Whangarei Events Strategy 2019-2024 directs a focus on large events at the Town Basin and on the Hātea Loop. Alternative motorhome parking proposed at the nearby Riverside/Hatea East carpark. Council is exploring avenues to promote a variety of living options in town.

# Schedule 12-2 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Helena Bay	4x support 1x oppose	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	Prohibit to camping to protect the area and to protect health (sanitation).	Retain area under the general rule	N/A	Option 1 - Prohibit to camping as per SOP.  Proposal received support through submissions.  Option provide for clarity of enforcement in a remote area.
1	Herekino Street - service lane and carpark behind 4- 22 Herekino Street	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Issues in this area have been minimal since the area had been made prohibited in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Hikurangi Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Hora Hora Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Kamo Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Kensington Park	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Koropupu Community Sportspark (Springs Flat)	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.

# Schedule 12-3 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Langs Beach - Cove Road beach access and carpark area	1x support current prohibition 1x opposes prohibition, seeks to allow selfcontained freedom camping max 2 vehicles in marked spaces for 1 night	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	Create a designated site and impose restrictions on camping	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Busy beach access via small reserve. The prohibition on camping is needed to protect access.
1	Mander Park	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Marsden Point Wharf	Nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Matapouri - Morrison Road carpark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	McAuslin Road, Sandy Bay	6x support 1x oppose 1x out of scope - re DOC land	General rule – clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	Prohibit to camping to protect public safety and access	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	Option 1 – prohibit area as per SOP  The change proposed in the SOP received strong support through submissions.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2.
1	McLeod Bay - playground and reserve area	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	McLeod Bay – Stuart Road, all road reserve	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.

# Schedule 124 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Morningside Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Moureeses Bay	Nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Ngunguru School	15x support the proposal 1x oppose	Prohibited to freedom camping	Extend prohibited area	No change. Maintain current restrictions.	N/A	Option 1 - Extend prohibited area as per SOP.  The change proposed in the SOP received strong support through submissions.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2.
1	One Tree Point Road layby	3x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Prohibit area to camping	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	Option 1 - prohibit area as per SOP.  Prohibition on camping in the area is needed to protect health and safety. Shortly beyond the two wire fences there is a sizeable drop.  Campers at risk of falling over the cliff.
1	Onerahi Beach Reserve – between Cliff Street and Johnson Street	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.

# Schedule 12-5 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Onerahi Sportspark	1x oppose - taking business from commercial campgrounds that are already impacted by covid- 19 travel restrictions	Prohibited to freedom camping	Designate as a peak- season overflow site for self-contained vehicles only from 18 December up until Northland/ Auckland Anniversary Day and when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities.	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	Option 1 – as per SOP  Additional 9 general submissions supported overflow camping sites in general, and 4 submissions opposed this approach. On balance, allowing peak season overflow camping is seen as a reasonable approach to help alleviate pressure at coastal areas. Competition with commercial campgrounds is not one of the criteria that can be taken into consideration under the FCA.
1	Otaika Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.

# Schedule 12-6 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
				(as proposed)			
1	Otamure Bay	2x support – prohibit camping on the entire WDC reserve down to the beach (map attached).  1x oppose - self-contained vehicles don't want to pay for a facilities which they don't need.	Prohibited to freedom camping	Prohibit area to camping as indicated on the map included in the SOP	Prohibit area to camping and extend proposed prohibited area to cover the entire WDC reserve down to the beach	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Option 2 - Prohibit area to camping and extend proposed prohibited area to cover the entire WDC reserve down to the beach.  This option is aligned with submitter's request. Extending the prohibited area to cover the entire WDC road reserve parcel will provide more clarity for enforcement and better protection to the fragile dunes. At the same time Option 2 is not materially more restrictive than the original proposal in the SOP as vehicle access to the beach is already controlled by a DOC operated gate and vehicles are prohibited on the dunes.
1	Otangarei No.1 Reserve	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Otangarei Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Pataua South	2x - oppose the prohibition	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	District-wide rule	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  This is a busy area with limited parking. Very popular with families and for day excursions, fishing from the bridge. Prohibition on camping has worked well since 2017 and needs to be retained to protect access.
1	Port Road - service lane and carpark area behind 11-67 Port Road	Nil	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.

# Schedule 12-7 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Portland Recreation Reserve	nil	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Ruakaka - Princes Road Reserve	1x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area. No opposition through submissions.
1	Ruakaka Recreation Grounds	1x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area. No opposition through submissions.
1	Taiharuru	nil	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Takahiwai Sportspark	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Teal Bay/Ngawai Bay - Teal Bay	1x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area. Submitter supports continued prohibition.

# Schedule 12-8 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Tikipunga Sportspark	1x support; 1x oppose - taking business from commercial campgrounds that area already impacted by covid- 19 lockdowns.	Prohibited to freedom camping	Designate as a peak- season overflow site for self-contained vehicles only from 18 December to Northland/Auckland Anniversary Day and when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities.	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	Option 1 as per SOP.  Additional 9 general submissions supported overflow camping sites, and 4 submissions opposed it. On balance, allowing peak season overflow camping is a seen as a reasonable approach to help alleviate pressure at coastal areas.
1	Tutukaka Marina Reserve	1x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area. Submitter supports continued prohibition.
1	Urquharts bay	1x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area. No opposition through submissions.
1	Whananaki – Mangaiti Reserve	nil	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The prohibition on camping has worked well in this area since the original bylaw was made in 2017. No opposition through submissions.
1	Whangaumu Reserve - west (22 Whangaumu Street)	3x support 2x oppose  One submitter at the Hearing a submitter raised concerns about access for freedom campers with disabilities.	Prohibited to freedom camping	Prohibit area to camping	Retain area under the general rule	N/A	Option 1 - prohibit area as per SOP.  Prohibiting area to overnight camping would protect access for all day visitors, including locals, people with disabilities and any campers visiting during the day who then must move on at night. This option provides for balanced and fair access.  A designated freedom camping site is available on the eastern end of Whangaumu Bay by public toilets.

# Schedule 129 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
1	Whau Valley Dam	1x oppose the prohibition, suggests Council to provide more parking for motorhomes	Prohibited to freedom camping	No change - retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Camping near the Whau Valley Dam is prohibited under the Water Supply Bylaw.
1	William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island	2x oppose the prohibition	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area was originally prohibited to camping due to concerns about landfill gas. This issue remains.  The area is also expected to become busier with waterfront development and balanced public access to the area needs to be maintained.
1	Woolleys Bay – eastern carpark	2x support	Prohibited to freedom camping	Retain as a prohibited area under Schedule 1	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  A prohibition on camping has worked well in the past and is supported by submissions.

# Schedule 2 – designated site 80 self-contained vehicles only

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
2	Onerahi - Beach Road Reserve	3x oppose (1x opposes expansion, 2x oppose restrictions)	Schedule 2 – designated site for self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Expand the designated site as per SOP. Retain the restriction to SC vehicles only in designated site.	No change - maintain current size and status under Schedule 2.	N/A	Option 1 - as per SOP.  Moderate expansion of the designated site as per SOP can alleviate the problem with campers encroaching on boat trailer parking. A clear designated site provides clarity for enforcement. The split configuration of the recommend site expansion is needed to protect the young pohutukawa tree as per advice from the Parks and Recreation department.
2	Riverside/Hatea East Carpark	nil	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	Create a designated site to provide 2-3 spaces for self-contained vehicles only. To protect access, restrict camping to the hours between 6pm-8am. One night stay maximum. Parking rules apply after 8am.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - as per SOP.  This option has the benefit of providing balanced access to the Town Basin for day visitors who travel in large motorhomes, while dispersing demand by limiting stay to one night only as compared to 3 nights under the general rule.
2	Ruakaka Beach Reserve	3x support the proposed restriction; 1x oppose restriction	Schedule 2 – designated site for self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Prohibit the landward side of the designated site at Ruakaka Beach Reserve due to parking safety concerns. Retain the seaward side of the designated freedom camping site and amend the maps.	Prohibit area to camping.	N/A	Option 1 - reduce site as per SOP.  Least restrictive option to address the perceived problem.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".

# Schedule 23-1 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
2	Ruakaka Riverside Reserve	6x oppose	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	Establish a designated site to accommodate 3-4 self-contained vehicles.	Prohibit area to camping.	N/A	Option 1 - establish a designated site as per SOP.  Proposal allows for improved management compared to the status quo.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".
2	Whangarei Falls Scenic Reserve	1x oppose the designated site, not safe to camp or park	Schedule 2 – designated site for self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	no change - designated site, SC vehicles only	Prohibit to camping	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  The current site provides two camping spaces for large motorhomes. The site is centrally located for monitoring and enforcement. This set up allows for appropriate and proportionate controls while still allowing responsible freedom camping to take place.

# Schedule 3 – designated sites for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
3	AH Reed Memorial Park – Whareora Road carpark	nil	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	No change - designated site for SC and NSC vehicles under Schedule 3	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Based on monitoring data, current rules provide appropriate and proportionate regulation (as per FCA criteria).
3	Bascule carpark – Port Road	1x oppose, eyesore at the entrance to city, washing hung to dry	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 3 night stay maximum.	no change - designated site, SC and NSC vehicles	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Based on monitoring data, current rules provide appropriate and proportionate regulation (as per FCA criteria). This site is one of only a few that can accommodate large motorhomes in the city.
3	Kowharewa Bay	3x seek amendment See Attachment 2 for details	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Seasonal restriction, SC and NSC vehicles	Prohibit area to camping to protect access	No change. Maintain current regulation under Schedule 3.	Option 1 as per SOP.  Seasonal restrictions can address the perceived problem of overcrowding.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".
3	Manaia walkway carpark	1x support	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	no change - designated site, SC and NSC vehicles	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Based on monitoring data, current rules provide appropriate and proportionate regulation (as per FCA criteria). Noting submitter support of the designated site.
3	Marsden Bay Reserve	1x support 1x seek amendment 1x oppose	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	No change - maintain current regulation under Schedule 3.	Prohibit area to camping to protect access	N/A	Option 1 as per SOP.  The northern end of reserve is the area predominantly subject to complaints and submitter feedback. No bylaw changes recommended because planned installation of bollards can resolve the perceived problem.

# Schedule 33-3 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
3	Matapouri — Wehiwehi Road carpark	1x oppose 2x support the proposed restrictions	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Seasonal restriction, SC and NSC vehicles	No change. Maintain current regulation under Schedule 3.	N/A	Option 1 as per SOP.  A seasonal restriction on camping is deemed the most balanced option to maintain appropriate public access and to protect health and safety while providing clarity to campers and enforcement officers.
3	Ngunguru Library	1x support 1x more enforcement needed	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	No change - designated site, SC and NSC vehicles under Schedule 3	Allow tents under Schedule 4	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Carpark area only. Tents would hinder access. Current rules provide appropriate and proportionate regulation (as per FCA criteria).
3	Ocean Beach carpark	2x support 2x seek amendment 1x indicates opposition	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Expand the designated site close to the toilets (adding 3-4 vehicle spaces) and prohibit camping on the grassy overflow carpark. SC and NSC vehicles in the designated site.	Reconfigure the designated site as per SOP and extend boundaries of the restricted area to the edge of private property.	Prohibit area to camping	Option 2 - Reconfigure the designated site as per SOP and extend boundaries of the restricted area to the edge of private property.  Option 2 is provided in response to submissions. Parks and Recreation department supports a further expansion of the restricted area for clarity of enforcement.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".
3	One Tree Point - boatramp carpark	1x support	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	expand designated site, SC and NSC vehicles	No change - retain current size of the designated site and restrictions under Schedule 3	N/A	Option 1 - expand the designated site as per SOP.  By resolution of Council in 2019 the site was moved to another side of the carpark and there is now room to add 1-2 more marked parking spaces. There has been no opposition through submissions.

# Schedule 334 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
3	Reotahi	3x support 1x oppose 1x position unclear - concern about access	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Reconfigure the prohibited area to return part of the restricted area of the reserve to regulation under the Reserves Act.  Retain the designated site for SC and NSC vehicles.	No change. Maintain current restrictions under Schedule 3.	N/A	Option 1 - return part of the restricted area of the reserve to regulation under the Reserves Act and amend the map as per SOP.  This option opens up the most flexibility for the Council should it wish to introduce specific rules for tenting for Te Araroa walkers under the Reserves Act. In the meantime, camping still remains prohibited on the reserve under the Reserves Act. For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".
3	Tarewa I-Site	Nil	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Expand the designated site. SC and NSC vehicles under Schedule 3.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - as per SOP.  Carpark is well utilised by day visitors and café customers. With the designated site now moved closer to the road there is capacity to extend the existing designated site. No opposition received through submissions.
3	Wellingtons Bay – main reserve (Whangaumu Reserve)	2x support 1x oppose 1x seek amendment (prohibit NSC) 1x out of scope (operational - toilets)	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, 1 night stay maximum.	Extend the prohibited area. Retain the designated site for SC and NSC vehicles.	No change. Maintain current restrictions under Schedule 3	Prohibit area to camping	Option 1 - extend the prohibited area as per SOP.  This is the least restrictive option to address the problem.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".

#### Schetbule 4

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
4	Parua Bay	1x out of scope - request to seal the carpark	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles and tents, 3 nights stay maximum.	Restrict all camping to a max of 3 nights, except where Council has determined there should be a 2-night maximum. The permitted stay period will be indicated on a sign displayed in the area. Designate specific sites for tents, non self-contained vehicles and self-contained vehicles. Restrict camping on the "triangle" to self-contained vehicles only to protect access.	No change - retain current size of the designated site and restrictions under Schedule 4	N/A	Option 1 - reconfigure the designated site as per SOP.  The new layout of the designated and restricted area and new controls on the length of stay would provide more appropriate and uniform regulation in this area. No opposition was received through submissions to this proposal.  Physical works /infrastructure are out of scope of a bylaw process.
4	Sandy Bay - toilet block carpark/grass area	4x support the proposal 4x oppose various restrictions 2x unclear position (operational comments)	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles and tents, 1 night stay maximum.	Seasonal restrictions. SC and NSC vehicles, tents, limit vehicle length to 4 m	No change. Maintain current restrictions.	N/A	Option 1 – as per SOP.  Seasonal restrictions can address the perceived problem.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".

#### Schedule 436 continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
4	Tamaterau	2 – oppose the designated site.	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles and tents, 1 night stay maximum.	No change - designated site, SC and NSC vehicles, tents. Rely on physical barriers and carpark sealing to address overcrowding	Restrict camping to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February) to maintain appropriate public access to the area and to protect health and safety.	N/A	Option 1 – as per SOP.  Carpark sealing and physical works are expected to resolve the perceived problem. Due to delays with carpark sealing temporary barriers were installed in the area in early January 2021 to prevent vehicles going up into the reserve.
4	Waipu Caves	1x opposed - wahi tapu area	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles and tents, 1 night stay maximum.	no change - designated site, SC and NSC vehicles, tents.	Prohibit site	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Restrictions on camping under Schedule 4 provide for protection of the area and sanitation while permitting camping in the designated site. Bollards had been installed to assist. The designated site has been in high demand in the past and has performed well with regular enforcement and monitoring.
4	Whananaki North	13x oppose amendment and seek prohibition 6x seeking seasonal restrictions 1x position unclear, but refers to environmental damage	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles and tents, 1 night stay maximum.	Update map. Designated site for SC and NSC vehicles, tents.	Close the designated site at Whananaki North and remove the area from Schedule 4. The area to be regulated under the general rule.	Option 3 - Seasonal Restrictions  Option 4 - Prohibit camping to protect the area.	Option 2 – regulate the area under the general rule  Under the general rule (clause 6 of thy Bylaw) self-contained vehicles only can stay for up to 3 nights.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".
4	Woolleys Bay – western carpark	2x support 1x oppose	Schedule 3 – designated site for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles and tents, 1 night stay maximum.	Seasonal restriction, SC and NSC vehicles, tents.	Prohibit area to camping	N/A	Option 1 as per SOP.  A seasonal restriction can address the overcrowding problem to protect access. Recent years have seen persistent overcrowding by high numbers of freedom campers and a local population increase.

#### General Tareas

(regulated under clause 6 of the Camping in Public Places Bylaw)

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
0	Billar Rd Ruakaka	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule – clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is already regulated under the general rule. Campers are required to be parked legally, stay limited to 3 nights and in a self-contained vehicle. No formal freedom camping complaints for this area have been recorder since 2017. Further restrictions not warranted based on available data.
0	Esplanade Reserve between 108 and 110 One Tree Point Road	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule – clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is already regulated under the general rule.  Campers required to be parked legally, and non self-contained camping is prohibited. Further restrictions not warranted based on available data.
0	Fertilizer Road, Port Whangarei	1x seeking to provide more large motorhome parking	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is already regulated under the general rule. Campers required to be parked legally, and non self-contained camping is prohibited. Council is not required by legislation to provide any type of freedom camping facilities (such as parking for large vehicles).
0	Forum North Carpark	1x seeking to allow overnight freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Restrict camping to the hours between 6pm to 8am.	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Any vehicles parking during the day, including freedom camping vehicles must comply with parking rules. Outside of parking regulated hours camping in the area is already regulated under the general rule (clause 6 of the Bylaw). Campers are required to be parked legally, and non self-contained camping is prohibited. Council is not required by legislation to provide designated sites or facilities for freedom camping.

#### General are 38- continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
				(as proposed)			
0	Langs Beach, corner of Wairahi and Cove RD?	1 - seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Prohibit area	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Regulation under the general rule provides sufficient control. Enforcement feedback is this area is popular with day visitors and families using the playground but has not been under pressure from freedom camping.
0	Matapouri Estuary	1 - seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Prohibit area	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Matapōuri Estuary has experienced ecological damage from vehicles disturbing fragile dunes. The SOP noted planned installation of bollards is expected to resolve the problem of all types of vehicles disturbing the dunes (not just vehicles used in freedom camping). Bollard installation has begun in January 2021 after consultation with hapu. Further restrictions not warranted based on available data.
0	Ngahau Bay	1x - seeks amendment to prohibit freedom camping. Tabled a letter with signatures for a ban at Ngahau Bay. Requests a sign "camping prohibited" at carpark entry and at top of the hill. Small carpark, no rubbish bins, no toilets	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Prohibit to camping	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is already regulated under the general rule. Campers required to be parked legally, stay limited to 3 nights and in a self-contained vehicle. One formal freedom camping complaint for this area has been recorded since 2017. Further restrictions not warranted based on available data.
0	Nova Scotia Drive, Waipu	2x seek amendment - prohibit to freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Prohibit to camping.	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Recommended to refer to Health and Bylaws for enforcement on complaints basis.  These are two esplanade reserves near 100 Nova Scotia Drive crossing over with Waipu River. No other bylaw complaints were received for this area during 2017-2020. Most of the area is private land except for the small Esplanade reserve. No evidence of a problem that justifies prohibition on camping on the esplanade reserve.

#### General are 39- continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
0	Pacific Bay	6x seeking to prohibit camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Prohibit area to camping	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area already regulated under the general rule.  For detailed feedback see Attachment 2. For analysis see the deliberations agenda report section 5.3 "Area-specific matters".
0	Pataua North	1x seek to restrict freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Designated site	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Enforcement feedback is this area in general has not been problematic in the past. Designating a camping site risks creating unintended consequences by advertising the site and attracting higher volumes of campers than the area can sustain. Regulation under the general rule provides sufficient controls.
0	Peter Snell Road, Ruakaka	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  One freedom camping complaint for this area has been received since 2017 - this does not warrant a prohibition on camping based on available data. Regulation under the general rule provides sufficient control.
0	Ralph Trimmer Drive, Marsden Point	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is popular with locals for fishing. Enforcement feedback is this area in general has not been problematic in the past. Only three freedom camping complaints received since 2017 - this does not warrant a prohibition on camping. Regulation under the general rule provides sufficient control.

#### General are 40- continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
0	Reserve at 25 Marsh Street, Ruakaka	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is already regulated under the general rule. Campers required to be parked legally, and non self-contained camping is prohibited. Further restrictions not warranted based on available data.
0	Sime Road, Ruakaka	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  One freedom camping complaint for this area has been received since 2017 - this does not warrant a prohibition on camping. Regulation under the general rule provides sufficient control.
0	Taurikura	1x seek amendment to prohibit freedom camping — limited verge to park for day visitors	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Area is already regulated under the general rule. Campers required to be parked legally, and non self-contained camping is prohibited. Further restrictions not warranted based on available data.

#### General are 4st - continued

Schedule	Area	Feedback summary	Current bylaw	Option 1 (as proposed)	Option 2	Option 3	Recommendation
0	Waihoihoi Park, Waipu	3 - seeks to prohibit camping - limited access, sensitive ecology	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	N/A	N/A	Option 1 - no change.  Waihoihoi Park is not under pressure from freedom camping, therefore additional restrictions are not warranted. Since 2017 there have been only two complaints about freedom camping in this area. One of the complaints was about the camping apps listing Waihoihoi Park as an "authorised" site for camping. Staff have now ascertained neither the CamperMate App nor Rankers list Waihoihoi Park as a camping site. Enforcement contractors haven't raised any issues in regard to this area. The park is well utilised by locals and day visitors. There is no supporting data to attribute environmental damage to freedom campers.
0	Whananaki South	1 - seek prohibition     1 - out of scope - facilities     provision to accommodate     campers and day visitors -     concerns about rubbish,     fires, need to provide     toilets.	General rule — clause 6. Camping in self-contained vehicles for up to 3 nights, must be legally parked.	No change. Maintain current regulation under the general rule.	Designated site	Prohibit to camping.	Option 1 - no change.  Since 2017 five formal complaints were received for freedom camping in Whananaki South, which does not compound to warrant a prohibition on camping at this stage. Enforcement feedback is that the area has generally been non-problematic, however it's remoteness would make a designated site difficult to enforce.  Provision of facilities is out of scope of a bylaw process.

### Attachment 2 – Proposed amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw: Top feedback areas

This attachment serves as a summary and is to be read in conjunction with Attachment 1 and section 5.3 of the deliberations agenda report (16 February 2021).

Area	Feedback summary	Summary count	Recommendation
Whananaki North	8x - oppose - prohibit FC to protect area and health and safety from rubbish and toileting, hygiene concerns, human waste on reserve, complaints of urinating in sea, nudity, protect estuarine environment  1 - oppose - prohibit as overcrowded  1 - oppose - prohibit FC to protect access to boat ramp  1 - oppose - prohibit FC to protect campgrounds	11x oppose amendment and seek prohibition 7x seeking seasonal restrictions 2x position unclear, but implies greater restrictions	Close the designated site and regulate the area under the general rule (clause 6 of thy Bylaw – selfcontained vehicles only can stay for up to 3 nights).
	5x - seek amendment - seasonal restrictions to protect health. Hygiene concerns, human waste on the estuary, toilets already busy and then used by campers for washing and dishes, people urinating in the estuary when toilet is busy;  1 - seek amendment - restrict to outside the peak season. Many vehicles are not truly self-contained.  1 - seek amendment - overcrowding in peak season, campers intimidating and consume alcohol  1 - seek amendment - limit camper numbers to 3 to reduce pressure on effluent field  1 - seek amendment - protect whenua from environmental damage		
Ngunguru School	1 - request to prohibit FC near school as vans blocking access during school drop off 13 x - support by petition 1 - support 1 - oppose, given that school is closed for the main summer break I can see no hindrance to the school drop off. Instead, but a 1-night limit year long and perhaps a limit on numbers would be reasonable.	15x support 1x oppose	Extend prohibited area as per SOP, in line with support through submissions
Sandy Bay - toilet block carpark/grass area	1 - oppose. Ban large self-contained vehicles and reserve the area for small NSC vehicles and tents. Seasonal restrictions not appropriate, instead need better enforcement 1 - unclear position, operational - NSC campers leaving rubbish, broken bottles, using wood from surrounding trees for fires, washing dishes in the toilet sinks, vandalism of the clubrooms (North Coast Boadriders) 1 - oppose the limit to vehicle length. repair the sand trap 1 - oppose seasonal restriction with 8 camping spaces there is plenty of room left for day visitors 1 - support seasonal restriction, request to extend regulated area as CSC vans park on bitumen for 3 days 1 - unclear position, operational - seal carpark and extend vehicle length 1 - We support continued restrictions, and the restriction during peak times 2x - Support seasonal restrictions 1 - oppose. concerned about ability for surfers to stay overnight, suggests bollards	4x support proposal 4x oppose various restrictions 2x unclear position (operational comments)	Seasonal restriction as per SOP. Retain current restrictions to SC and NSC vehicles, tents, vehicle length limit to 4 meters.  Seasonal restriction can address the perceived problem. Carpark repairs ore sealing are out of scope of the bylaw review.
McAuslin Road, Sandy Bay	6 x support  1 - oppose The Council cannot prohibit camping on the DOC reserve, so to prohibit camping on the road reserve without clear signage will cause confusion and prompt more calls to the Council.  1 - seek amendment - prohibit to camping on DOC reserve and erect signage	6x support 1x oppose 1x out of scope - re DOC land	Prohibit area as per SOP, in line with support through submissions.

Area	Feedback summary	Summary count	Recommendation
Pacific Bay	1- prohibit to FC. Limited access, no public toilets, camping restricts the access to the beach and use of the green. Freedom campers block access to other users of the beach and the reserve.  1- prohibit to FC. Campers blocking access for boat trailers, toileting in flax bushes  1 - prohibit to FC. No public toilets, stream already polluted  1 - prohibit to FC. No public toilets, narrow access  1 - prohibit to FC. No public toilets, limited access to beach  1 - prohibit to FC as no public toilets, area used by families playing cricket	6x seek amendment - prohibit to camping	Retain current regulation under the general rule - clause 6 of the bylaw.
Ruakaka Beach Reserve	1 - oppose, add user paid facilities and increase FC spaces 2x - indicates support 1 - indicates support by Hapu. the tiny toilet block at Ruakaka Beach is inadequate to cater for campers and particularly during the busy over summer months. mātaitai area (customary seafood gathering) impacted by faeces and rubbish dumping.	3x support the proposed restriction; 1x opposes restriction	Reduce designated site as per SOP. Retain restriction to SC vehicles only.
Ruakaka Riverside Reserve	1 - oppose, vehicles tear up grass, children and dogs use reserve, opposite campground 1 - oppose 1 - content indicates opposition - submitter points out there is a camp ground 200 meters away 1 - oppose due to competition with campground 1 - oppose, busy road, park for recreational use by locals 1 - oppose by hapu in general FC in Ruakaka rohe	6x oppose designated site	Establish a designated site for SC vehicles only as per SOP.
Ocean Beach carpark	<ul> <li>1 - seeks amendment - prohibit site as always busy, or at least introduce seasonal restrictions</li> <li>1 - seeks amendment - move marked boundaries of restricted areas to the edge of private property as per attached map. Disperse marked designated spaces throughout the carpark.</li> <li>1 - position unclear, expanding FC spaces here limits access for recreational users</li> <li>1 - support making overflow carpark prohibited</li> <li>1 - support, erect 5 signs to indicated one vehicle per marked space</li> </ul>	2x support 2x seek amendment 1x indicates opposition	Prohibit camping in the overflow carpark as per SOP. Move marked boundaries of restricted areas to the edge of private property as per submissions and as shown on the map included in Schedule 3 of the draft amended bylaw. Retain grouping of all marked camping spaces together and maintain current restrictions to SC and NSC vehicles and 1-night stay limit.

Area	Feedback summary	Summary count	Recommendation
Reotahi	1 - support 1 - concerned about a risk of increase of tent camper numbers and limited access to picnic tables 1 - support to make provisions for Te Araroa walkers 1 - oppose to protect access to picnic table and toilets for families. What will be combined impact on toilets with FC already in the main carpark. Needs a timeframe when walkers will be allowed 1 - support	3x support 1x oppose 1x position unclear - concern about access	Reconfigure the prohibited area as per SOP. The picnic table area at Reotahi will remain prohibited for tents under the general Bylaw rule. Should Council wish to introduce specific rules for camping for Te Araroa walkers under the Reserves Act this can be considered through a separate process outside of the bylaw process.
Wellingtons Bay – main reserve (Whangaumu Reserve)	1 - would like area next to boat ramp prohibited 1 - oppose, site suitable for large CSC and more enforcement during peak season 1 - support seasonal restriction, ban NSC as hanging washing up spoils area 1 - remove the portaloos as they attract large numbers of campers over the capacity of the designated site and causing nuisance and noise 1 - We support continued restrictions, and the restriction during peak times.	2x support 1x oppose 1x seek amendment (prohibit NSC) 1x out of scope (operational - toilets)	Extend prohibited area and introduce seasonal restrictions as per SOP. Maintain current restrictions to SC and NSC vehicles and 1-night limit.
Kowharewa Bay	1 - requests one-night limit and a designated site (current rule) 1 - support seasonal restriction 1 - supports the proposed restriction during peak times. Would like to see further consideration of prohibition in this area. Very small beach, popular among locals and visitors alike, and used extensively for waka ama/kayak groups. Suggests limited space and facilities in this area warrant prohibition of camping.	1x - support current restrictions 1x - supports seasonal restrictions 1x - seeks prohibition	As per SOP, introduce a seasonal restriction on camping by restricting camping to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 8 February).



# Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2017 AL SES CES

Proposed Amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw



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# 1. Title

**1.1** This Bylaw is the Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2017.

#### 2. Commencement

**2.1** This Bylaw comes into force on 21 October 2017.

# 3. Application

3.1 This Bylaw applies to the Whangārei District.

# **Part 1 Preliminary provisions**

# 4. Purpose

- **4.1** The purpose of this Bylaw is to regulate and manage camping on land controlled and managed by Whangarei District Council to:
  - a) protect areas
  - b) protect the health and safety of people who may visit areas
  - c) ensure appropriate public access to areas is maintained
  - d) provide transparency for those wishing to camp in public places in the District
  - e) support a positive experience for campers and residents.

Explanatory note: The provisions of this Bylaw only apply to public places owned and/or controlled by Council and which are not managed as a camping ground. The Bylaw does not apply to land owned or controlled by other organisations, for example the Department of Conservation and The New Zealand Transport Agency, or privately owned land.

### 5. Interpretation

5.1 In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Area means a local authority area that is considered a discrete singular location and which may have multiple parking areas or marked parking spaces contained within it.

Camp or camping has the same meaning as freedom camp/freedom camping as provided in <u>\$5</u> section 5 of the Act or any subsequent legislation that amends or replaces the Act in amendment of, or substitution for, the same.

Council means the Whangarei District Council

Designated site means a parking area or marked parking spaces identified within the areas in Schedules 2, 3 and 4 of this Bylaw and indicated by signs erected in the area where camping is permitted subject to any restrictions and conditions.

District means the district of Whangarei District Council

Enforcement Officer means a person appointed as an enforcement officer under the Act.

Infringement offence means an offence specified in Section section 20(1) of the Act.

Local authority area has the meaning set in <u>out in section 6 of</u> the <del>Freedom Camping</del> Act <del>2011</del> or any subsequent legislation <u>that amends or replaces that Act.</u> in <u>amendment of</u>, or <u>substitution for</u>, the <u>same</u>.

Reserve management plan means a management plan prepared under section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 for reserves for which Council is the administering body.

Self-contained vehicle means a vehicle that complies with the New Zealand Standard 5465:2001 (the Standard), incorporating all amendments as at 1 September 2017 or any subsequent New Zealand Standard that amends or replaces that Standard in amendment of, or substitution for, the same. Evidence of compliance with the Standard is through the display of a current warrant card and the availability on request of the associated self-containment certificate.

Explanatory note: A self-containment certificate is issued for vehicles that have systems to contain both black water (from toilets) and grey water (wastewater from sinks, showers or similar). The warrant that is issued in conjunction with the self-containment certificate should be displayed inside the front window of the vehicle.

Any plumber or other suitably qualified person registered under the Plumber, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 1976 is eligible to certify compliance with NZS 5465. The standard also provides for other entities to be issuing authorities if they have a suitable scheme for certifying testing officers.

Vehicle has the same meaning as in section 2(1) of the Land Transport Act 1998.

Waste means any kind of waste, including human waste.

- 5.2 Every Schedule to the this Bylaw and the several parts thereof shall be deemed to forms part of this Bylaw.
- 5.3 Any explanatory notes and attachments are for information purposes, do not form part of this Bylaw, and may be changed without formality.
- 5.4 The Interpretations Act 1999 applies to this Bylaw.

# Part 2 Provisions for camping, and restricted and prohibited areas

# 6. Provisions for camping

- **6.1** Camping is permitted in any local authority area within the District, except for those areas where it is prohibited or restricted:
  - a) pursuant to this Bylaw; or
  - b) under any other enactment.

Explanatory note: The provisions of Council's District Plan, Reserve Management Plans and other bylaws; including, but not limited to, the Parking and Traffic Bylaw 2017, the Alcohol Control Bylaw 2018 and the Public Places Bylaw 2014, also apply to camping.

- 6.2 Camping is restricted to self-contained vehicles only in all areas of the District, except for those areas listed in Schedules 3 and 4 of this Bylaw.
  - Explanatory note: All Schedules of this Bylaw provide specific restrictions for the areas contained in the Schedules, including for self-contained vehicles. For all areas not included in the Schedules, camping is permitted only in self-contained vehicles.
- 6.3 Except where this Bylaw provides for a lesser period, no person may camp for more than three nights in any four-week consecutive period in any one area, or within 1 kilometre of any area they have previously camped in within that four-week period. The four consecutive weeks period begins on the date the first camping commences from the first stay.
- 6.4 All camping activities must comply with the following conditions:
  - a) vehicles must park within existing marked parking spaces or within identified parking areas, whichever is present. Where marked parking spaces are present, only one vehicle per marked space is allowed
    - Explanatory note: where campers are travelling by bicycle and camping in a tent, bicycles may be stored near a tent provided the storage of bicycles is not preventing others from undertaking legitimate activities in the area and is not restricting access to public areas.
  - b) vehicles must be legally parked
  - c) the site used must be left in a clean and tidy state
  - d) the camping activity must not prevent others from undertaking legitimate activities in the area
  - e) the camping activity must not restrict public access to public areas
  - f) enforcement officers must be able to inspect any site being used for camping and campers must comply with any reasonable directions of an enforcement officer, including requests to view self-containment certificates and/or warrants
  - g) no effluent tanks may be emptied in public toilets.
- 6.5 To avoid doubt, nothing in this Bylaw allows a person to take up permanent or semi-permanent residence on any local authority area.

Explanatory note: In some locations in the District, parking on the grass area of a road reserve is an accepted and commonly occurring activity. In areas where such parking occurs during the day, the parking of camping vehicles is also deemed generally acceptable. However, this is at Council's discretion and campers may be asked to move on in certain circumstances.

#### 7. Prohibited areas

7.1 All camping is prohibited in the areas identified in Schedule 1 of this Bylaw.

#### 8. Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles

- 8.1 In the areas identified in Schedule 2 of this Bylaw, camping is restricted to a designated site or marked parking spaces and is subject to the following restrictions:
  - a) camping is restricted to self-contained vehicles only
  - b) no person may camp for more than one night in any four-week consecutive period in any one area, or within 1 kilometre of any area they have previously camped in within that four-week period, unless otherwise provided for in the Schedule. The four consecutive weeks <u>period</u> begins on the date the camping <u>commences</u> from the first stay
  - c) all camping must comply with any additional restrictions as provided in Schedule 2
  - d) all camping is subject to the conditions listed in clause 6.4.
- 8.2 Council may, by resolution, change the location of a designated site within a restricted area, and record such changes on the maps to Schedule 2.

Explanatory note: In some instances, a reserve or park may be upgraded or modified in a way that will necessitate relocation of the designated site within an area. The number and maximum length of camping vehicles possible will be limited by the size of each designated site. Signs and/or information will be provided on the maximum length of vehicles permissible at each site.

#### 9. Restricted areas for self-contained and non selfcontained vehicles

- 9.1 In the areas identified in Schedule 3 of this Bylaw, camping is restricted to a designated site or marked parking spaces, and is subject to the following restrictions:
  - a) camping is restricted to self-contained and non self-contained vehicles only
  - b) no person may camp for more than one night in any four-week consecutive period in any one area, or within 1 kilometre of any area they have previously camped in within that four-week period, unless otherwise provided for in the Schedule. The four consecutive weeks period begins on the date the camping commences from the first stay
  - c) all camping must comply with any additional restrictions as provided in Schedule 3
  - d) all camping is subject to the conditions listed in clause 6.4.
- 9.2 Council may by resolution change the location of a designated site within a restricted area, and record such changes on the maps to Schedule 3.

#### 10. Restricted areas for all camping

- 10.1 In the areas identified in Schedule 4 of this Bylaw, camping is restricted to a designated site within an area and subject to the following restrictions:
  - a) no person may camp for more than one night in any four-week consecutive period in any one area, or within 1 kilometre of any area they have previously camped in within that four-week period, unless otherwise provided for in the Schedule. The four consecutive weeks <u>period</u> begins on the date the camping commences from the first stay
  - b) all camping must comply with any additional restrictions as provided in Schedule 4
  - c) all camping is subject to the conditions listed in clause 6.4.

Explanatory note: The areas listed in Schedule 4 allow for camping in self-contained and non self-contained vehicles, as well as tents. Any vehicle associated with a tent is subject to the same restrictions and requirements of Clause 6.

10.2 Council may by resolution change the location of a designated site within a restricted area, and record such changes on the maps to Schedule 4.

#### 11. Prior consent from Council

- 11.1 Consent may be sought from Council for those camping activities that are specifically provided for in Council's Reserve Management Plans. Consent must be applied for in writing to Council.
- 11.2 Consent may be sought from Council to allow camping in an area listed in Schedule 1. Any consent granted may be subject to such conditions as Council considers appropriate. Consent must be applied for in writing, providing sufficient detail about the proposed camping at least 20 working days in advance of the date planned for the camping activityto commence.
- 11.3 Permission may be sought from Council to waive or modify camping restrictions in an area listed in Schedules 2,3, or 4 and/or the restrictions as set out in clause 6.4. Any consent granted may be subject to such conditions as Council considers appropriate. Consent must be applied for in writing, providing sufficient detail about the proposed camping, at least 20 working days in advance of the date planned for the camping activityto commence.

# 12. Temporary closuresprohibitions or restrictions

- 12.1 Council may temporarily close prohibit or restrict camping on any area or part of any area where a restriction is considered necessary by Council to:
  - a) prevent damage to the area or facilities in the area
  - b) allow maintenance toof the area or facilities of in the area
  - c) protect the safety of persons or property
  - d) enable public access, including in circumstances where events are planned for or occurring in that area.
- **12.2** Where reasonably practicable, prior notice will be given of any temporary closure prohibition or restriction, and the length of that closure prohibition or restriction, or its removal, in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.
- 12.3 A temporary closure prohibition or restriction pursuant under to clause 12.1 shall not, unless necessary to protect the safety of persons or property, extend for more than 14 consecutive days, however this does not limit Council's power to make a fresh prohibition or restriction under clause 12.1 for the same area where the prerequisites in that clause are satisfied, and shall not be repeated in respect of the area to which it applied, more than twice in any twelve-month period.

# Part 3 Enforcement, offences and penalties

#### 13. Offences

13.1 As specifiedAny person who camps in breach of clause 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 or 12 of this Bylaw commits an offence in under section 20 of the Act.

Explanatory note: Section 20 of the Act provides for offences, including freedom camping in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in a bylaw made under the Act. It also includes further offences such as not properly disposing of waste into a waste receptacle, damaging or interfering with the flora and fauna in an area, and obstructing or threatening an enforcement officer.

#### 14. Penalties

14.1 The penalties in section 23 of the Act apply to the offence of camping in breach of this Bylaw..

Explanatory note: <u>Camping in breach of a prohibition or restriction contained in this Bylaw is an infringement offence</u>. The penalty is \$200 or any other amount prescribed in regulations. Section 22 of the Act sets out defences to a freedom camping offence. Council officers use their discretion when investigating freedom camping complaints, which will include consideration of any defences that may be available to a person.

# **Schedule 1: Prohibited areas**

Area	Map Reference
Abbey Caves – new carpark	<u>S1-01A</u>
Bland Bay Reserve	S1-01 <u>B</u>
Drummond Park Scenic Reserve (Parihaka Lookout carpark)	S1-O2
Eliott Reserve	S1-03 <u>A</u>
Finlayson Street/ Reyburn House Lane carpark	<u>S1-03B</u>
Helena Bay	<u>S1-03C</u>
Herekino Street - service lane and carpark behind 4-22 Herekino Street	S1-04
Hikurangi Sportspark	S1-05
Hora Hora Sportspark	S1-06
Kamo Sportspark	S1-07
Kensington Park	S1-08
Koropupu Community Sportspark (Springs Flat)	S1-09
Langs Beach - Cove Road beach access and carpark area	S1-10
Mander Park	S1-11
Marsden Point Wharf	S1-12
Matapōuri - Morrison Road carpark	S1-13 <u>A</u>
McAuslin Road, Matapōuri	<u>S1-13B</u>
McLeod Bay - playground and reserve Area	S1-14
McLeod Bay – Stuart Road, all road Reserve	S1-15
Morningside Sportspark	S1-16
Moureeses Bay	S1-17
Ngunguru School	S1-18
Onerahi Beach Reserve – between Cliff Street and Johnson Street	S1-19
Onerahi Sportspark	<del>\$1-20</del>
One Tree Point Road layby	<u>S1-20</u>
Otaika Sportspark	S1-21 <u>A</u>
Otamure Bay	<u>S1-21B</u>
Otangarei No.1 Reserve	S1-22
Otangarei Sportspark	S1-23
Pātaua South	S1-24

Area	Map Reference
Port Road - service lane and carpark area behind 11-67 Port Road	S1-25
Portland Recreation Reserve	S1-26
Ruakākā - Princes Road Reserve	S1-27
Ruakākā Recreation Grounds	S1-28
Taiharuru	S1-29
Takahiwai Sportspark	S1-30
Teal Bay/Ngawai Bay - Teal Bay Recreation Reserve	S1-31
<del>Tikipunga Sportspark</del>	<del>\$1-32</del>
Tutukākā Marina Reserve	S1-33
Urquharts bay	S1-34
Whananaki – Mangaiti Reserve	S1-35 <u>A</u>
Whangaumu Reserve - west (22 Whangaumu Street)	<u>S1-35B</u>
Whau Valley Dam	S1-36
William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island	S1-37
Woolleys Bay – eastern carpark	S1-38

Explanatory note: Organised camping activities at Kensington Park and William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island in accordance with their respective Reserve Management Plans may be applied for in accordance with clause 11 of this Bylaw.

# **Prohibited areas - maps**



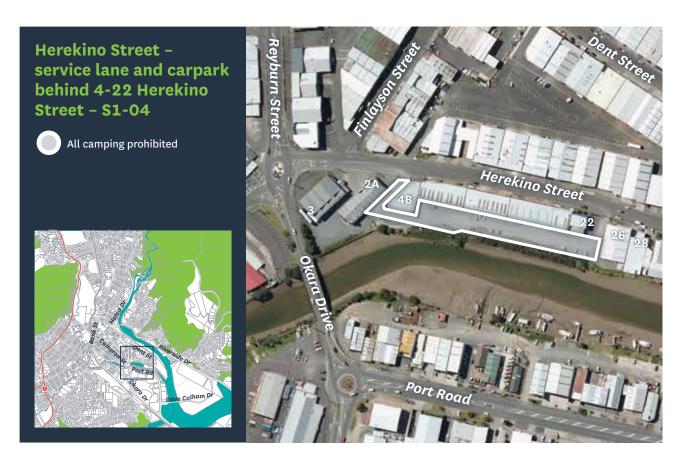
















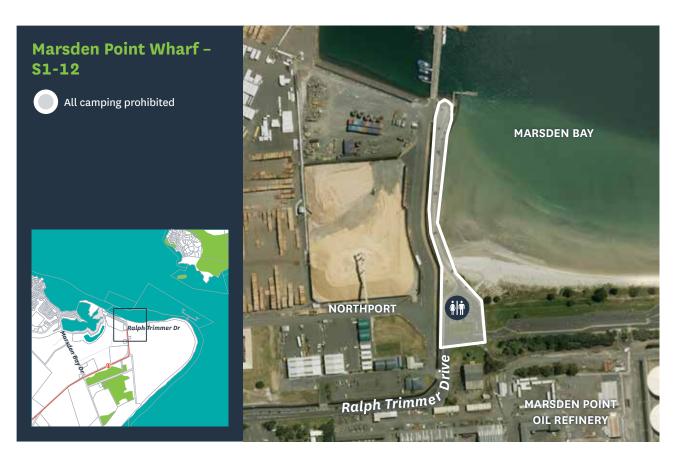










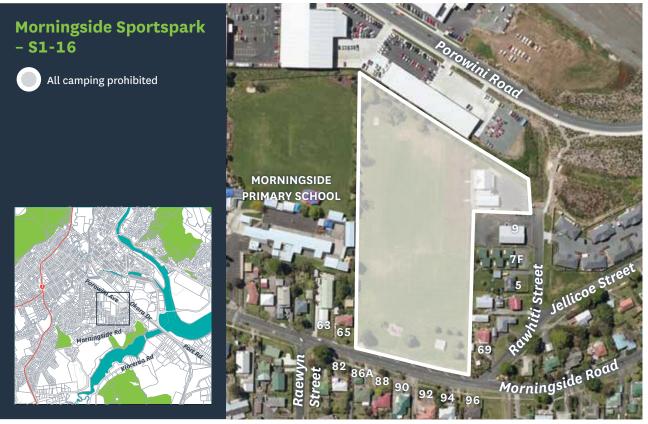














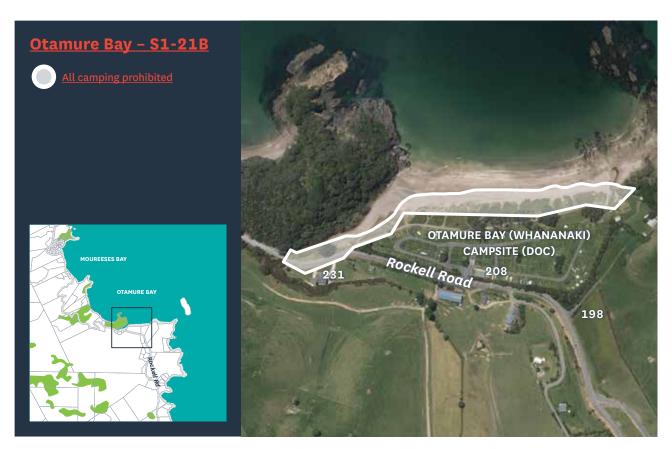








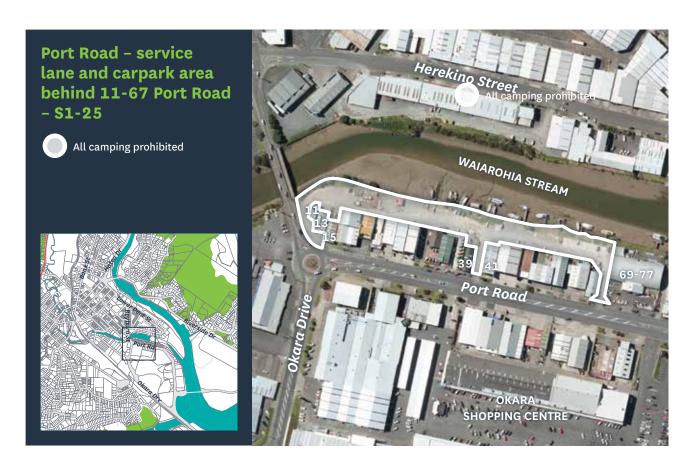




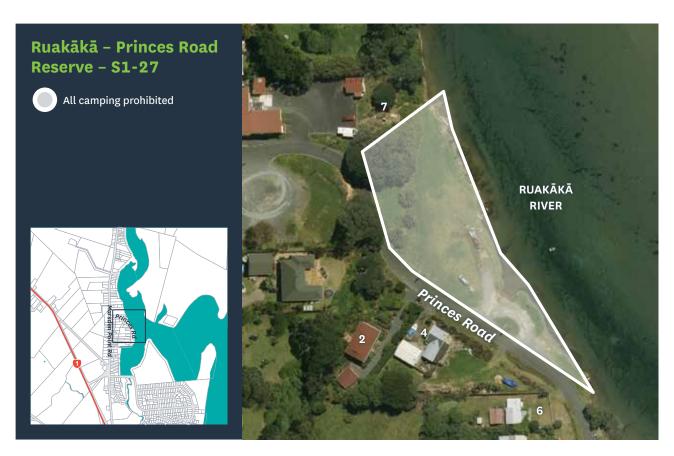




































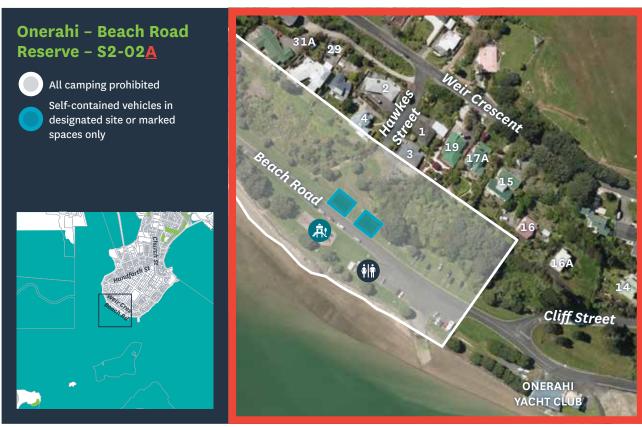
## Schedule 2: Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles

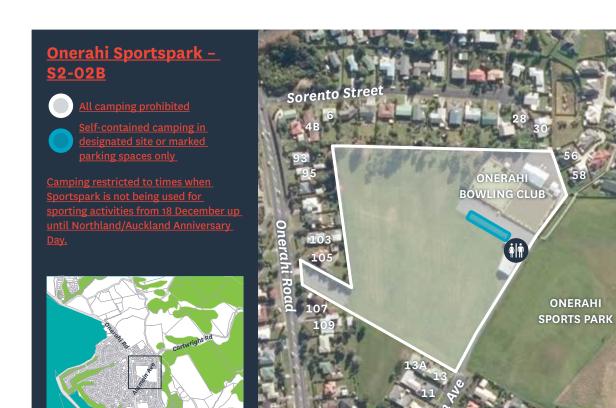
Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

Area	Restriction	Map Reference
Finlayson Street/Reyburn- House Lane carpark	Restricted to the marked parking spaces as indicated on the referenced map. Parking permitted for a maximum of 3 nights.	<del>\$2-01</del>
Onerahi - Beach Road Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-02 <u>A</u>
Onerahi Sportspark	Restricted to times when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities from 18 December up until Northland/Auckland Anniversary Day.	<u>S2-02B</u>
Riverside/Hātea East Carpark	Restricted to the marked parking spaces as indicated on the referenced map.	<u>S2-03A</u>
Ruakākā Beach Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-03 <u>B</u>
Ruakākā Riverside Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	<u>S2-03C</u>
<u>Tikipunga Sportspark</u>	Restricted to times when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities from 18 December up until Northland/Auckland Anniversary Day.	<u>S2-03D</u>
Whangārei Falls Scenic Reserve	Restricted to the marked parking spaces as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-04

### Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles - maps

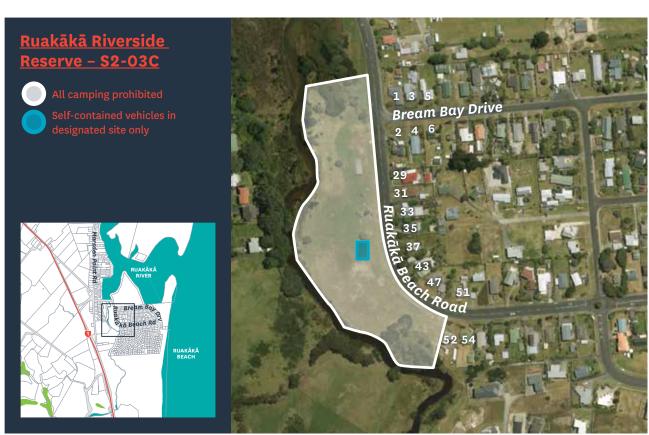
















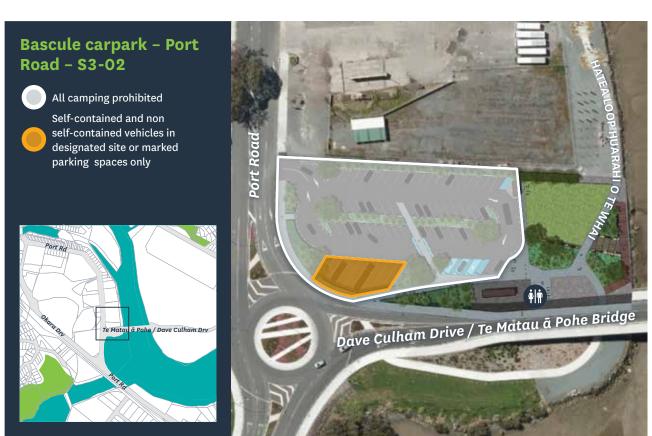
# Schedule 3: Restricted areas for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles

Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

Area	Additional Restrictions	Map Reference
AH Reed Memorial Park – Whareora Road carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-01
Bascule carpark - Port Road	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. Parking permitted for a maximum of 3 nights.	S3-02
Kowharewa Bay	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. <u>Camping restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February).</u>	S3-03
Manaia walkway carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-04
Marsden Bay Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-05
Matapõuri – Wehiwehi Road carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. <u>Camping restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February).</u>	S3-06
Ngunguru Library	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-07
Ocean Beach carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-08
One Tree Point - boatramp carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	\$3-09
Reotahi	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-10
Tarewa I-Site	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-11
Wellingtons Bay – main reserve (Whangaumu Reserve)	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.  Camping restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18  December to 08 February).	\$3-12

# Restricted areas for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles - maps







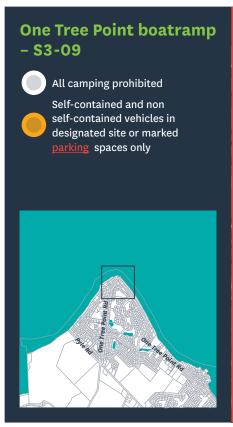








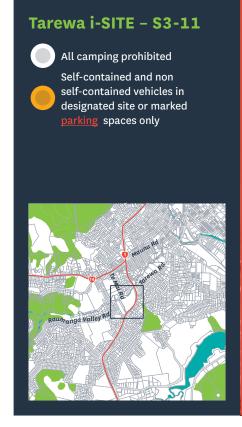




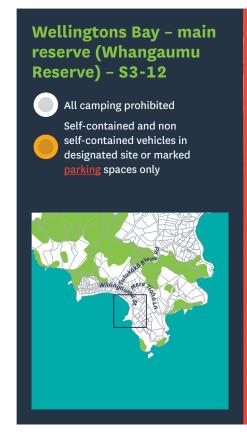














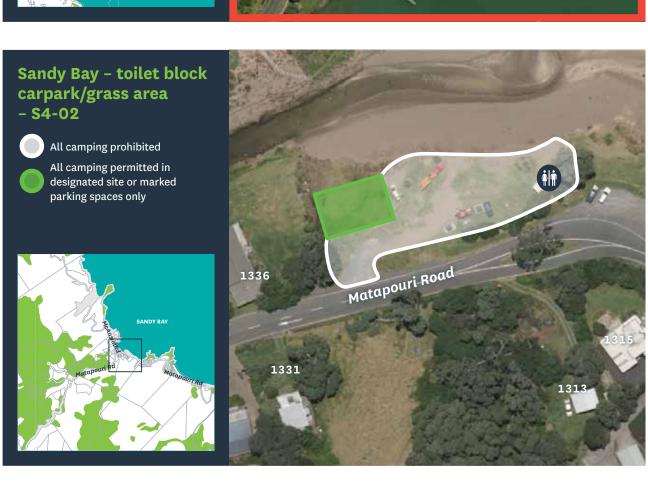
# Schedule 4: Restricted areas for all camping

Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

Area	Restriction	Map Reference
Parua Bay	All camping restricted to a maximum of 3 nights, except where Council has determined, due to problems with overcrowding, there should be a 2-night maximum.  The permitted stay period will be indicated oforn a sign displayed in the area.	S4-01
Sandy Bay - toilet block carpark/grass area	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. <u>Camping restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February).</u>	S4-02
Tamaterau	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S4-03
Waipū Caves	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S4-04
Whananaki North	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S4-05
Woolleys Bay – western carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. <u>Camping restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February).</u>	S4-06

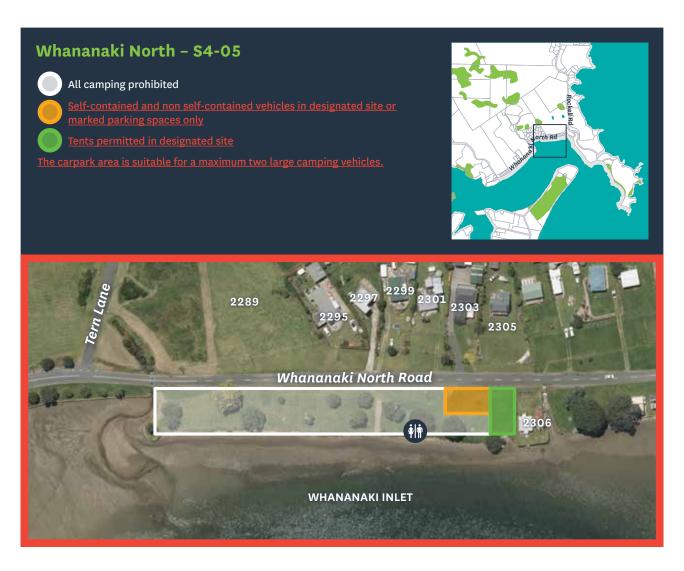
## Restricted areas for all camping - maps













## Additional information to Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2017

This document is for information purpose only and does not form part of this Bylaw. It contains matters made pursuant to this Bylaw and information to help users to understand, use and maintain this Bylaw. The document may be updated at any time.

#### Section 1: History of Bylaw

Action	Description	Date of decision	Commencement
Make	Camping in Public Places Bylaw	28 September 2017	21 October 2017
Change locations of designated sites	Resolution to change locations of three designated sites	27 September 2018	1 November 2018

#### **Section 2: Related documents**

Document	Description	Location	Date
Reports to Council/Committee/Panels (note: does not contain references to 2016 process)			
Camping in Public Places - Briefing	Review of process to date and discussion on a revised bylaw option	Council meetings webpage - link	16/5/2017
Camping in Public Places - Briefing	Discussion of key options for inclusion in a draft bylaw	Council meetings webpage – link	25/5/2017
Adoption of Statement of Proposal for proposed Camping in Public Places Bylaw	Statement of Proposal including draft Bylaw adoption for public consultation	Council meetings webpage - link	29/6/2017
Hearing – proposed Camping in Public Places Bylaw consultation	Hearing for interested parties to share their views in person	Council meetings webpage - link	2/8/2017
Proposed Camping in Public Places Bylaw – consultation feedback	Council Briefing to receive written submissions and a summary of all feedback received	Council meetings webpage - link	15/8/2017
Deliberations – proposed Camping in Public Places Bylaw	Deliberations on submission issues raised	Council meetings webpage - link	7/9/2017
Making of Bylaw	Council makes final Bylaw	Council meetings webpage - link	28/9/2017

Document	Description	Location	Date
Legislation			
Freedom Camping Act	Provides the functions, duties powers and penalties to make and enforce this Bylaw.	www.legislation.govt.nz	NA
Bylaws Act 1910	Provides for certain matters related to the validity of bylaws.	www.legislation.govt.nz	NA
Interpretations Act 1999	Provides for certain matters related to the interpretation of bylaws.	www.legislation.govt.nz	NA

#### Section 3: Delegations

Clause	Function, Duty, Power to be delegated	Delegated Authority	Delegation date	Delegation active date
11	Power to provide consent to allow for camping in prohibited or restricted areas or where camping is provided for in a Reserve Management Plan.	Technical Officer Parks	28 September 2017	21 October 2017
12	Power to temporarily close an area.	Parks and Recreation Manager	28 September 2017	21 October 2017

#### **Section 4: Enforcement powers**

Legislative provision	Description
Freedom	Section 20 (1) Every person commits an offence who:
Camping Act 2011	freedom camps in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in a bylaw made under section 11 that applies to the area; or while freedom camping in a local authority area:
	• interferes with or damages the area, its flora or fauna, or any structure in the area; or
	· deposits waste in or on the area (other than into an appropriate waste receptacle); or
	makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in a bylaw made under section 11 that applies to the area; or
	deposits waste, generated while freedom camping, in or on a local authority area other than into an appropriate waste receptacle; or
	fails or refuses to leave a local authority area when required to do so by an enforcement officer acting under section 36
	refuses to give information when required to do so by an enforcement officer under section 35 or gives false or misleading information.
	Section 20 (2) Every person commits an offence who:
	discharges a substance in or on a local authority area in circumstances where the discharge of the substance is likely to be noxious, dangerous, offensive, or objectionable to such an extent that it:
	has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment; or
	has caused, or is likely to cause, significant concern to the community or users of the area or land.
	Section 20 (3) Every person commits an offence who:
	while an enforcement officer is carrying out his or her functions and duties under this Act:
	intentionally prevents the officer from carrying out those functions and duties; or
	obstructs or impedes the officer; or
	assaults, threatens, or intimidates the officer; or
	uses language that is abusive or threatening to the officer; or
	behaves in a threatening manner towards the officer; or
	incites any other person to do any act referred to in the list above.

#### **Section 5: Offences and penalties**

Provision	Description of offence	Maximum fine upon conviction	Infringement fee
Freedom Camping Act	An offence under section 20(1)	NA	\$200
Freedom Camping Act	An offence under section 20(2)	\$10,000	NA
Freedom Camping Act	An offence under section 20(3)	\$5,000	NA
Camping in Public Places Bylaw	Freedom camps, or prepares to freedom camp in an area in breach of any prohibition, restriction or condition in the clauses of the Bylaw	NA	\$200

# Section 6: Amendments to designated sites by Council resolution (Clauses 8.2, 9.2 and 10.2)

Area	Description of change	Date of resolution	Map Ref
Tamaterau	split of designated site to better accommodate tent camping	27/09/2018	S4-03
Whangārei I-site – Tarewa Road	relocation and slight reduction of site to southern boundary	27/09/2018	S3-11
Whananaki North	reduction of site size	27/09/2018	S4-05
Tamatarau Carpark	provide for formally marked spaces at the north site adjacent to the toilet block	22/10/2019	S4-03
One Tree Point Boatramp Carpark	designated area moved to the east of the carpark	22/10/2019	S3-09
Bascule Carpark	designate sites area moved from the north of the carpark to the south to reflect the new carpark upgrade layout	22/10/2019	S3-02

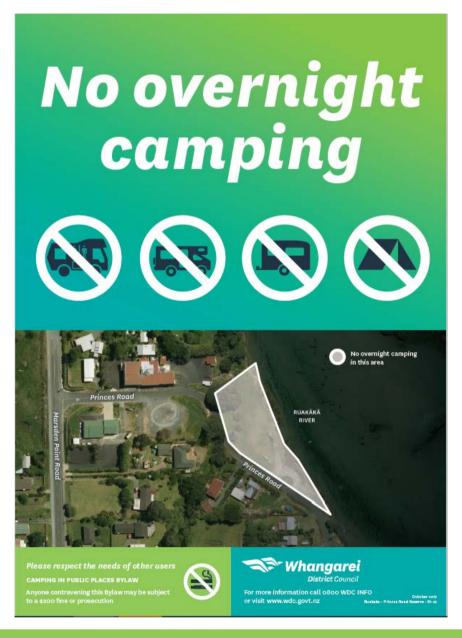




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mailroom@wdc.govt.nz | www.wdc.govt.nz
Facebook.com/WhangareiDC

#### Attachment 4 – Freedom camping signage for prohibited areas

Most prohibited areas have signage featuring a map showing the prohibited area and a reference to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw. A few prohibited areas have simple "No camping signage" withouth a reference to the Bylaw, and there is still a mixture of old and updated signage with new branding.



Please respect the needs of other users CAMPING IN PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW

Anyone contravening this Bylaw may be subject to a \$200 fine or prosecution



# **TUTUKAKA MARINA RESERVE**

# NO OVERNIGHT CAMPING











**CAMPING IN PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW** 

Anyone contravening this Bylaw may be subject to a \$200 fine or prosecution



For more information call 0800 WDC INFO or visit www.wdc.govt.nz

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# Attachment 5 – Draft designated freedom camping site layout for Ocean Beach carpark

Option 1 - As proposed in the Statement of Proposal:



Option 2 – Reconfigure the designated site as per SOP and extend boundaries of the restricted area to the edge of private property.



Option 3 – Disperse the marked designated parking spaces throughout the carpark.

<sup>\*</sup>map below is a draft for illustration purposes



#### RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

The making available of information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the 1. commercial position of persons who are the subject of the information. {Section 7(2)(c)} To enable the council (the committee) to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage 2, commercial negotiations. {(Section 7(2)(i)}. 3. To protect the privacy of natural persons. {Section 7(2)(a)}. 4. Publicity prior to successful prosecution of the individuals named would be contrary to the laws of natural justice and may constitute contempt of court. {Section 48(1)(b)}. To protect information which is the subject to an obligation of confidence, the publication of 5. such information would be likely to prejudice the supply of information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied. {Section7(2)(c)(i)}. In order to maintain legal professional privilege. {Section 2(g)}. 6. 7. To enable the council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations {Section 7(2)(i).

#### Resolution to allow members of the public to remain

If the council/committee wishes members of the public to remain during discussion of confidential items the following additional recommendation will need to be passed:
Move/Second
"Thatbe permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of his/her/their knowledge of

#### Note:

Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public.