



Rere Reserves Management Plan

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Contents

PART ONE	INTRODUCING THE PLAN AND THE RESERVES.....	1
1.1	THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN	1
1.2	RERE	1
1.3	LOCATION MAP – RERE	2
1.4	BRIEF HISTORY OF RERE	2
1.5	INTRODUCING RERE FALLS RESERVE.....	4
1.6	INTRODUCING RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVE	6
1.7	LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF RESERVE LAND	8
PART TWO	LEGISLATION AND PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK	9
2.1	INTRODUCTION.....	9
2.2	RESERVES ACT 1977	9
2.3	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 (RMA)	10
2.4	GISBORNE DISTRICT’S COMBINED REGIONAL LAND AND DISTRICT PLAN (DISTRICT PLAN)	10
2.5	LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2009-2019 (LTCCP)	11
2.6	REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT.....	11
PART THREE	AIM, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES	13
3.1	MANAGEMENT AIM.....	13
3.2	OBJECTIVE 1 - ACCESS.....	13
3.3	OBJECTIVE 2 – FACILITIES	16
3.4	OBJECTIVE 3 – RIVER AND RIVER MARGINS	17
3.5	OBJECTIVE 4 – MANAGEMENT	20
PART FOUR:	CAPITAL PROJECTS AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME 2011-2015.....	24
APPENDIX 1:	BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....	25
	MAKARETU SCENIC RESERVE (DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION RESERVE) - 5.3HA.	25
	TINIROTO ECOLOGICAL SURVEY DISTRICT.....	25
	TROUT FISHING IN WHAREKOPAE RIVER.....	26
	MICROBIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY GUIDELINES FRESHWATER RECREATIONAL AREAS 2003	26
	RERE FALLS AND RERE ROCKSLIDE	27
	MANAGEMENT OPTIONS TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY	27



Part one Introducing the Plan and the Reserves

1.1 The purpose of this plan

This management plan has been prepared by Gisborne District Council to provide guidance for the administration and management of Rere Falls Reserve and Rere Rockslide Reserve, Rere, Gisborne.

The purpose of a management plan (Reserves Act 1977) is to provide a strategic framework for the management of reserves. This plan recommends a management aim and access and recreation policies, as well as goals to enhance the riverside environment through planting and, where possible, river management.

It should be noted that this management plan expresses Council policies. Funding of Council activities is directed through the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) and Annual Plans. Implementing policies in this management plan is subject to funding allocations in the LTCCP and Annual Plan process.

1.2 Rere

Rere is a small hill country settlement, which is part of the larger Ngatapa district. Rere is 45 km north-west of Gisborne; or approximately 40 minutes drive. These days there is a primary school, productive farming land and two Council reserves adjoining the Wharekopae River. In the past, Rere also had a community hall and store.

Rere Falls and Rere Rockslide Reserves are located 2 km apart along Wharekopae Road. Both reserves adjoin the Wharekopae River. Rere Falls has been known as Wharekopae Falls, after the river. Large numbers of local and international visitors come to the reserves each year to see the waterfall and the natural rockslide.

1.3 Location Map – Rere



1.4 Brief History of Rere

The Falls were the site of a small hydro electric power station which supplied power for lights etc. to the local hall and farming community. The intake and the concrete generator base are still visible. A local farm manager was killed while servicing the equipment in the 1920s. The unit was removed when mains power came to Rere in 1948.

Rere, as a district, had its first registered land deed in 1875 when a Maori family legally claimed ownership of a large area of land which stretched from Ngatapa to Rere and Wharekopae. In 1885 the Williamson family purchased a large block of land from the Maori family known as Okahuatui No. 1 block. Other settlers began to move in to the Rere and Wharekopae districts to settle and, by 1884, a small area by the Rere Falls was settled. The coach from Gisborne travelled as far as the settlement at Rere Falls. Passengers who travelled further had to go by horse – as the road finished at the Falls.

Life in the early 20th century was very harsh with bush to be cleared and tracks and roads often impassable in winter. Wool was packed into small bales to be transported on horseback to Gisborne. Fat lambs had to be driven on foot to the works in Gisborne.

The area is well known for the battles which occurred after the troubles of Poverty Bay and during Te Kooti's retreat to the Ureweras (Information provided by C Matthews, 2009).

It took several days to reach Gisborne by horse and buggy. A big improvement in the life of district was the opening in 1906 of the Rere bridge.



*Mrs P. J. Roberts, an early settler to Rere, opening the first Rere bridge in 1906.
Photo taken by W. F. Crawford, and supplied by Tairāwhiti Museum.*

In 1905 Mr O'Brian opened a store in Rere. Sometime shortly after Mr S G Glennie took over the running of the business. At this time Maori shearing gangs used to travel from the Ureweras to work in the woolsheds of Poverty Bay, and adjoining hill country farms. On their return they would stop at the Rere Store and spend their wages¹.

The Rere Hall was built in the early 1900's and by 1914 it was a classroom, and provided the first school for the Rere area. At that time it had a modest roll of nine pupils. A purpose built school was later built, and opened in 1925.

During the lifetime of the hall it was used for all sorts of community gatherings, indoor sports, functions and cabarets. When local mothers recognised the need to provide for pre-schoolers the hall was set up as a Playcentre. However, by 1982 the hall had fallen into disrepair. In 1982 the local Council and the Rere settlers agreed the hall should be demolished. To this day the location of the first and only Rere Hall is shown by the remaining concrete steps.

¹ Excerpt from The Gisborne Herald Weekend Extra, 10/03/1989

1.5 Introducing Rere Falls Reserve

Rere Falls Reserve provides access to Wharekopae River and the well-known Rere Falls. There is plenty of open space here for picnicking, swimming, and enjoying the picturesque surroundings of Rere Falls and the natural character of the rural environment. The Rere Falls is popular visitor destination, especially over the summer months.

The entrance to the reserve encapsulates the rural setting; a narrow driveway crosses a cattle stop and then winds down a small hill, large trees on one-side, to an area near the foot of the water fall.

Near the foot of the falls there is a set of swings, and a picnic area with tables and bins. Further to the south there are more large trees and open space for informal recreation, and extra car parking during busy periods. Public toilets are located at the top of the hill, near the entranceway to the reserve. The facilities at this reserve are generally tired and need upgrading.

On the western side of the River is another large reserve area, this includes a small, stock paddock. Access to the stock paddock is available from Wharekopae Road. Access to the remaining reserve is available from a public road that runs along the western boundary (at the moment this appears as a private driveway). These areas adjoin the Wharekopae River and offer lovely views of the Rere Falls. Access to the foot of the waterfall can be provided with the development of steps.



*Rere Falls - Photo taken by Mr William Crawford in the early 1900s
(storage sheds and the original bridge are visible in the background)*

Rere Falls Reserve – Aerial Plan



1.6 Introducing Rere Rockslide Reserve

Rere Rockslide Reserve is a reasonably large reserve (approximately 1.5 hectares) on gentle rolling countryside located between the Wharekopae River and Wharekopae Road. Steep hill country and Makaretu Reserve (administered by the Department of Conservation) provide a pleasant backdrop.

The rockslide is a natural feature of Wharekopae River. Over thousands of years water has worn a smooth rock-face to create a 60m long waterslide, ending in a large swimming hole. This activity has elements of risk and adventure, which appeals to a number of visitors.

Some facilities, such as carparking, signage, picnic facilities and a public toilet are provided. The car parking area provides for approximately 20 cars. A further area along side is leased from the adjoining neighbour to provide additional car parking over summer months. The terrain places limitations on the area available for car parking. Car parking is a concern especially over the summer holiday period where there can be hundreds of visitors. If vehicles cannot find parking within the reserve they park along side the road. This creates risk to visitors and drivers alike. Other facilities at this reserve include picnic tables and public toilet. These facilities require upgrading to meet visitor expectations.





"It's one thing to slide down a grassy hill on a piece of cardboard (remember that as a kid?), whooping with excitement as your corrugated ride gathers bouncing momentum. But it's another to slide at high speed down 60 metres of rock. However, this isn't just any rock face — it's not a craggy shard of menacing dimensions that should be left to abseilers. Rather, it's a wild ride made smooth by a coating of constantly running water. Located approximately 50 kilometres from Gisborne on the Wharekopae Road — heading toward Eastwoodhill Arboretum — this natural rock slide is a part of the Wharekopae River. Most age groups could give this rock slide a go, however, a little care is suggested. So is using a boogie board, inflatable mattress or inner tube to replace the traditional cardboard vehicle. Just one word of warning — don't mistake the Rere Falls for the rock slide! It may look like a gush of water that begs conquering, but these falls are better captured via photography. You'll also find a great swimming holes and picnic area here. And if Rere Waterfall remains too compelling to ignore, you could always try walking around its cascading curtain to slide from the rocks behind into the water below".

(AA website – Top

101 Things to do in New Zealand)

1.7 Legal Description of Reserve Land

Reserve Name	Area	Certificate of Title	Legal Description	Status	Background
Rere Falls Reserve	2.1296 ha	GS5C/372	Section 5 & 6 Block XII Ngatapa Survey.	Recreation Reserve	Waikohu County Borough declared the reserve to be for the purposes of recreation reserve under the Reserves Act 1977, gazetted on 31 January 1980.
Rere Falls Reserve	1899 square metres	GS5C/346 (proclamation 1151)	Part Lot 2 DP 1128.	Recreation Reserve	Declared as recreation reserve on
Rere Rockslide Reserve	1.5780 ha		Section 1 SO 8920.	Local Purpose (esplanade) Reserve	Pursuant to section 116(1) of the Public Works Act 1981 declared this portion of road to be stopped which, pursuant to section 345(3) of the Local Government Act 1974, shall become esplanade reserve vested in the Gisborne District Council. This declaration occurred on 6 April 2000.



Part Two Legislation and Planning Policy Framework

2.1 Introduction

A hierarchy of legislation and Council strategies and policies provide the framework for this management plan. The preparation of the management plans for reserves is a legislative requirement under the **Reserves Act 1977**. It sets out the management planning process and defines reserves' purposes and functions. Other documents have helped shape the principles for the management of Rere Reserves. They include:

- ▶ Resource Management Act 1991
- ▶ Gisborne District's Combined Regional Land and District Plan (CRLDP)
- ▶ Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP)
- ▶ Regional Pest Strategy
- ▶ Tiniroto, Waihua, Mahia and Matawai Ecological District, Department of Conservation

2.2 Reserves Act 1977

The Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) requires Council to prepare management plans for its reserves classified under the Act. The purpose of a management plan is defined in the Act as follows:

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

The Rere Falls Reserve is classified Recreation Reserve. This classification provides for a range of uses and is the most commonly used class by local authorities due to its broad recreation and environmental principles:

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

The Rere Rockslide Reserve is classified Local Purpose (esplanade) Reserve. This classification holds the reserve for the purpose specified, in this case as ‘esplanade’, recognising access to Wharekopae River as its principal purpose. The Local Purpose class is the most flexible of all classifications, and provides an opportunity attribute a sub-classification which does not duplicate a classification under the Act. Esplanade reserves for example are not specifically recognised under any other class in the Act.

The primary purpose of this reserve is for esplanade purposes. Council has authority to manage and develop the reserves as it sees fit, consistent with protecting the esplanade values. Under this classification Council has authority to issue licenses without requiring ministerial consent, and by public notice it can prohibit access to the whole or any specified area of the reserve.

2.3 Resource Management Act 1991(RMA)

The purpose of the RMA is to...

“Promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources to manage the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enable people and their communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety while...

- a. Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the foreseeable needs of future generations; and
- b. Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems; and
- c. Avoiding, remedying, and mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment (Section 5a).

2.4 Gisborne District’s Combined Regional Land and District Plan (District Plan)

The District Plan has been prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991. The Plan defines the way in which the district’s natural and physical resources will be managed to achieve the principles and purpose of the RMA. The District Plan recognises Reserves Act Management Plans as a method to implement its objectives and policies.

The District Plan provides for activities on reserves through the use of zones. Reserves are grouped into four broad zonings based on the levels of actual or potential adverse effects that can be sustained by each reserve site. District Plan zones include; recreation reserve, neighbourhood reserve, heritage reserve, amenity reserve, and cemetery reserves.

At this time Rere Falls and Rere Rockslide Reserves are not yet zoned with a reserves zoning. This seems to be an oversight during the preparation of the District Plan. The two reserves are currently zoned Rural General, which is not entirely incorrect, but does not recognise use rights. The most appropriate zoning for these reserves is Amenity Reserve Zoning recognising a key purpose of this zone is to facilitate public access to rivers. Council is undertaking a plan change to establish an Amenity Reserve Zoning for both reserves.

Under the Amenity Reserve Zoning all land use activities carried out in accordance with an approved Management Plan are permitted activities.

2.5 Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019 (LTCCP)

The preparation of the LTCCP is mandatory under the Local Government Act 2002. The LTCCP has two core functions:

1. To provide for community involvement and input into the determination of outcomes for the district; and
2. Set out proposed short, medium and longer-term priorities and actions of the Council.

Community Outcomes from the LTCCP that relate to the Rere reserves include: Vibrant Tairāwhiti, Prosperous Tairāwhiti, Healthy Tairāwhiti, Environmentally Sustainable Tairāwhiti, and Empowered Tairāwhiti. These outcomes recognise the reserves' values in terms of recreation, the environment, community health, and economy in terms of tourism.

The LTCCP identifies that for our reserves and open spaces our community wants to have an open space network that provides for community and recreational opportunities, as well as cultural, landscape and ecological protection and enhancement. The Plan advocates for Council to continue to review, prepare and implement Reserve Management Plans for all reserves in line with the Open Spaces Strategy and the Reserves Act 1977 (pg 136). The preparation of the Rere Reserves Management Plan and its implementation is programmed for 2011 to 2015 with a total budget of \$107,795, however 70.53% is loan and reserve funded with 29.4 % reliant on grant funding.

2.6 Regional Policy Statement

The RMA requires Council to prepare a Regional Policy Statement for the Gisborne District. The Statement is to promote the sustainable management of the regions physical and natural resources and is expected to achieve this by:

- ▶ Providing an overview of the resource management issues of the region; and
- ▶ Setting out policies and methods to achieve integrated management of the regions natural and physical resources.

Natural and physical resources include land, water, air, soil, minerals and energy, all forms of plants and animals and all structures.

Objectives in the statement include reducing sediment load in rivers and improving water quality. These objectives relate to how we manage reserves, such as the Rere reserves where they adjoin a river. Policies relevant to the management of Rere's reserves include:

3.1.3.1 To develop and implement a range of land management measures that improves the water quality by reducing sediment entering waterways.

3.1.3.2 To promote the beneficial outcomes of more sensitive management of riparian margins and, where appropriate, to protect and enhance riparian vegetation.

The statement includes methods for implementing its policies which include:

To retain and enhance, where appropriate, the vegetation along riparian margins...with encouragement given to indigenous planting and to promote the retirement and planting of riparian margins where appropriate.





Part Three Aim, Objectives and Policies

3.1 Management Aim

To support recreation and tourism by providing quality facilities and amenities for growing visitor numbers, while enhancing the riparian margins. Development will be sensitive to the surrounding natural landscape.

3.2 Objective 1 - Access

To manage reserves to provide access to Rere Falls and Rere Rockslide Reserves recognising they are increasingly popular visitor destinations. To provide vehicle access to car parking areas and pedestrian access to Wharekopae River.

Policies

RERE FALLS RESERVE

3.2.1 To maintain the driveway and the existing car park area; with the potential for vehicles to park on the grassed area to the south, should further parking be required.

Discussion

The driveway needs maintenance, but otherwise it provides an attractive entrance to the reserve.

The existing car park area is satisfactory for current levels of use. Standard car park maintenance levels should be implemented to keep the car park to a satisfactory and tidy standard. Further car parking is available on the grassed area to the south. Drainage work will need to be undertaken. Further car parking should not affect the existing mature trees.

RERE FALLS RESERVE

3.2.2 To provide an all-ability path from the car park area to the public toilets

Discussion

The driveway into the reserve from Wharekopae Road is used to provide vehicle access to the reserve and the car park area. This driveway is also the only accessway to the public toilets. An alternative all-ability (includes wheelchair access) path should be developed to provide appropriate access to the toilets.

RERE FALLS RESERVE

3.2.3 To consider providing for Freedom camping on the western side of Rere Falls Reserve area, consistent with Council's Freedom Camping Bylaw and Policy.



Discussion

There are few rural locations as rewarding for campers as this area. The rural landscape, the falls, the rockslide, trout fishing, reasonably flat paddock with mature trees make this location an attractive area to camp. Some issues would need to be considered prior to this area becoming a Freedom Camping area. These include; vehicle access to the site, increased maintenance including rubbish and waste disposal, surveillance and checking permits, and developing access to the River. Initial feedback from the community does not support Freedom Camping due to the perceived impact on security, stock, rubbish/waste and increased use of facilities. Although camping is not currently permitted, there are small numbers who illegally camp at Rere Falls Reserve.

If camping interest in this location increases and Council resolved to make Rere Falls Reserve (west) a Freedom Camping area, this information and the period available for camping would need to be publicly notified, and the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2008 amended.

RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVE

3.2.4 To extend the existing car-park area (includes the area leased from the adjoining neighbour consistent with the lease agreement).

Discussion

One of the biggest management issues for Rere Rockslide Reserve is the ability to provide off road car parking. Council recently leased an additional area to provide for peak user times. A maximum parking of fifty cars can now be accommodated. However, a further 60 cars can be parked on the roadside at peak times.

Council will extend the existing area to provide further car parking within the reserve and road reserve (see Concept Plan).

RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVE

3.2.5 To develop an all-ability path from the car-park area to Wharekopae River.

Discussion

An un-edged gravel track currently provides access down the steepest section of the hill slope from the car park to the river. This path should be upgraded to an all-ability standard and provide a safe and tidy approach to the River's edge. All developments at these reserves should be low-impact and made of materials in keeping with the natural rural landscape.

The mid to lower section of this reserve can become wet and soggy during the winter months. A culvert should be installed under the path, half-way down the slope, to remove excess water from this area.



3.3 Objective 2 – Facilities

To encourage and provide for passive recreation and enjoyment of Rere reserves and Wharekopae River through providing park facilities, furniture, and information.



Policies

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.3.1 To provide picnic tables, seating, and safety signage at Rere Falls and Rere Rockslide Reserves.

Discussion

Basic park facilities are provided at both reserves. However these need upgrading and more picnic tables should be provided. Consideration should be given to providing some extra long tables that can accommodate large family groups. All facilities, including furniture, will need to be vandal resistant, but hopefully still retain an organic look appropriate in this rural landscape. If wood is not durable, steel, stone or concrete may need to be considered. Existing rubbish bins will be removed and replaced with signage advocating a “pack in/pack out” policy towards rubbish.

RERE FALLS RESERVE

3.3.2 To upgrade and maintain public toilet facilities at Rere Falls Reserve.

Discussion

Public toilets are provided at Rere Falls Reserve. They require some basic upgrade work including painting and signage and annual maintenance checks to ensure they keep up with Council specifications for public conveniences.

RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVE

3.3.3 To provide new toilet facilities at Rere Rockslide Reserve and maintain the toilets to an appropriate standard.

Discussion

The current Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) forecasts expenditure to replace the existing longdrop toilet with a Permaloo. The new toilets will be located in its existing location, in close proximity to the carparking area for easy access, maintenance and easy access to water supply.

3.4 Objective 3 – River and river margins

To improve the reserve's riparian margins through native riparian planting and the removal of plant pests.



Policies

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.4.1 To remove plant pests from Rere Falls Reserve and Rere Rockslide Reserve on an on-going basis as resources permit.

Discussion

Remove plant pests consistent with the Regional Plant Pest Strategy and the Streamside Planting Guide.

3.4.2 To establish native riparian planting (supported by stock-proof fencing) at Rere Rockslide Reserve, and succession tree planting at both reserves.

Discussion

There are currently adequate shade trees at the reserves, although succession and additional planting should be considered.

The esplanade area of the Rere Rockslide will be fenced with stock-proof fencing (and a style provided for visitor access) and riparian planting undertaken on an ongoing basis to display good environmental management practices in an effort to improve river water quality and enhance the ecological health at the River. A guide can be taken from the species found in the adjoining Makaretu Scenic Reserve. Unfortunately the Rere Falls site does not lend itself well to developing a riparian margin, although the northern side of the Falls reserve has a reasonable riparian margin due to stock-proof fencing regenerating margins.

Any succession planting of amenity trees will require stock-proof surrounds to reduce damage.

RERE FALLS RESERVE

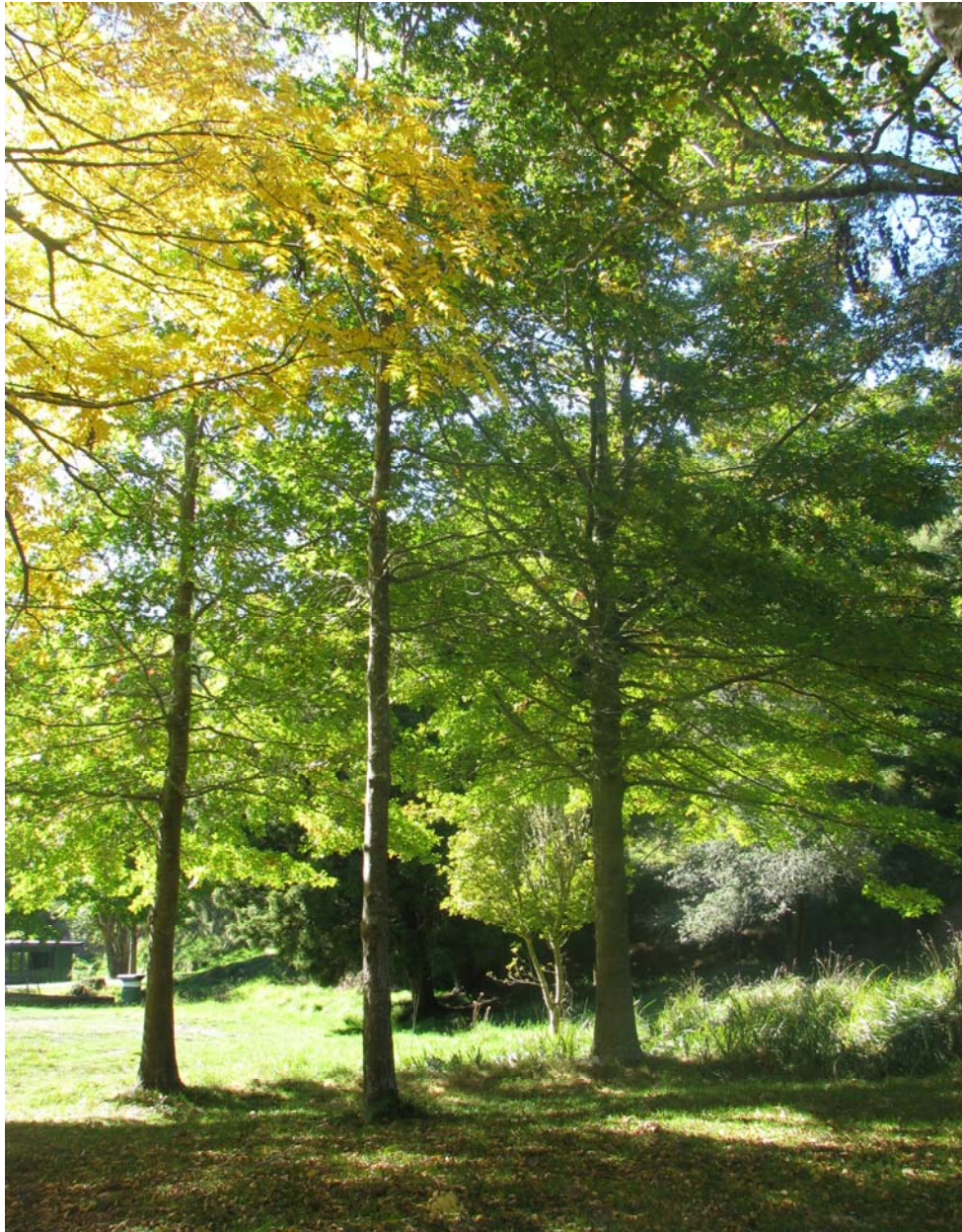
3.4.3 To remove Willows at the top of Rere Falls and to remove debris from the bottom of the Falls and the Rockslide. Replace Willows with native trees where practical.

Discussion

Some willows from the top of Rere Falls have recently been removed. Willows from the top of Rere Falls need to be removed for several reasons, including river management and enhancing the width of the Falls, and clearing the waterway for the pump that takes water to supply the public toilet. Removal of Willows would also improve visibility from Wharekopae Road leading up to the bridge. Willows can enhance bank stability, however they can also cause a nuisance down stream by impeding and reducing the load a river can sustain. Native trees such as Kanuka and Totara are preferred species for their ability to stabilise river banks, without restricting the flow of water².



² Recommended by Andrew Walker, Reserves Supervisor, June 2010



RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.4.4 To remove logs, debris and other rubbish from the base of the Falls and the Rockslide annually or as resources permit.

Discussion

The bottom of the falls collects debris such as logs and rubbish. This debris should be removed annually for amenity values, river management and public safety.

3.5 Objective 4 – Management

To provide facilities and information for growing visitor numbers. Any developments are sensitive to the reserves natural setting and are maintained to a good standard.



Policies

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.5.1 To manage these reserves recognising the importance of their natural setting. Any development should occur in a visually sensitive way.

Discussion

Part of the attraction of these reserves, in particular the Rere Rockslide is the ‘adventure’ aspect of sliding down the craggy rock face. Another just as important virtue of these reserves is their low impact management and limited development. All this is enhanced by the rolling high country in the background and the rural experience. Any development of these sites must be sympathetic to its surroundings to ensure the natural setting is not impacted either visually or environmentally. Natural colours and low-impact designs should be chosen wherever possible.

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.5.2 To provide for increasing international and domestic visitors using international symbols on signage. Interesting historical, environmental, and recreation information should be displayed on vandal resistant interpretive panels or storyboards. Information should also be provided on Council’s website.

Discussion

All signage should include international symbols where possible to provide for international visitors. Currently there is a proliferation of signage at both reserves which should be rationalized. Necessary information should, where possible, be included on reserve’s entrance signs.

Interpretive panels could include historical content, such as information on the old Rere Hall, the power station and its remnants, the Ngatapa Pa (which is visible from Rere Rockslide Reserve), Te Kooti's retreat through this area, as well as travel times from Gisborne, safety information, and cell phone coverage.

The signage should also advocate Council's "pack in/pack out" rubbish policy, (encouraging visitors to take rubbish away with them) and Council's "No dogs allowed" policy. Information should also be provided on Council's website.

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.5.3 To upgrade and maintain stock proof fencing at both reserves, and establish fencing along the area at Rere Rockslide Reserve identified for riparian planting.

Discussion

Grazing is used to maintain grass at the reserve, especially in areas where the mower cannot easily access, and for in-between mowing periods. Fences at both Rere Falls and Rere Rockslide Reserves should be maintained to a stock proof standard. Cattle stops are provided at both reserves to manage the entrance ways. Stock-proof fencing will be used to develop a riparian margin along the esplanade area of Rere Rockslide Reserve between the adjoining neighbours property and Wharekopae River. Neighbours wishing to use either reserve to graze stock will be encouraged to enter an agreement with Council. Cattle should not be grazed at either site due to potential damage to the reserves terrain, stream banks, and water quality. Grazing should not prevent public access to the reserves.

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

3.5.4 Tourism/commercial operators may require a permit/license to operate from these reserves, consistent with Council's Concessions Policy and the Reserves Act 1977.

Discussion

A number of commercial operators run day trips to Rere Rockslide. To accommodate these user groups, support tourism in the area, as well as the potential to gain some financial return to support the development and maintenance of these reserves, concessions should be used to manage these activities. Staff from Community Facilities are currently preparing a Concessions Policy which will be used to consider such applications. Under the Reserve Act any lease to undertake activities not considered in a management plan will require public notification and consultation.

RERE FALLS and RERE ROCKSLIDE RESERVES

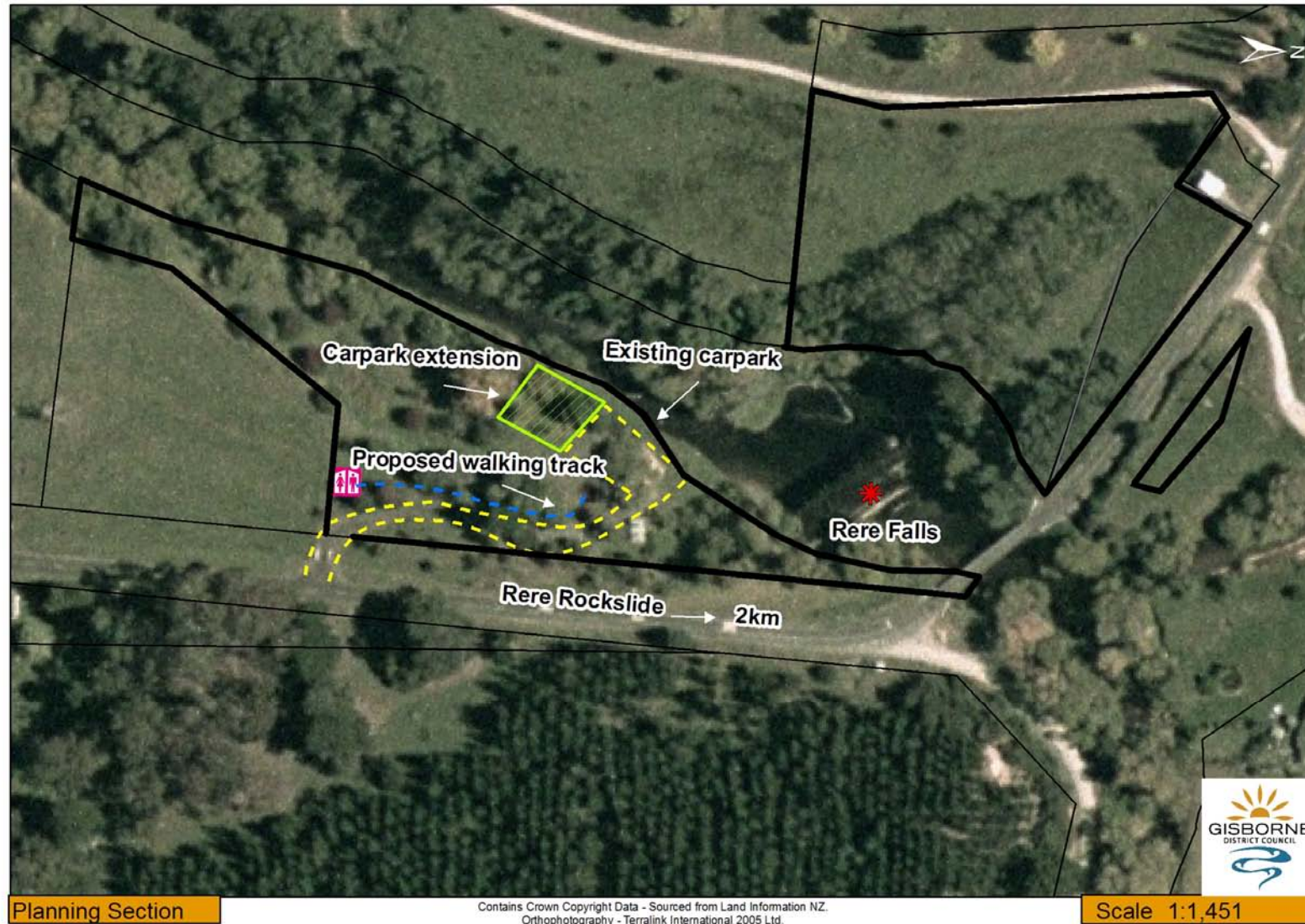
Concept Plans

3.5.5 To implement objectives and policies consistent with the following Concept Plans, where practical.

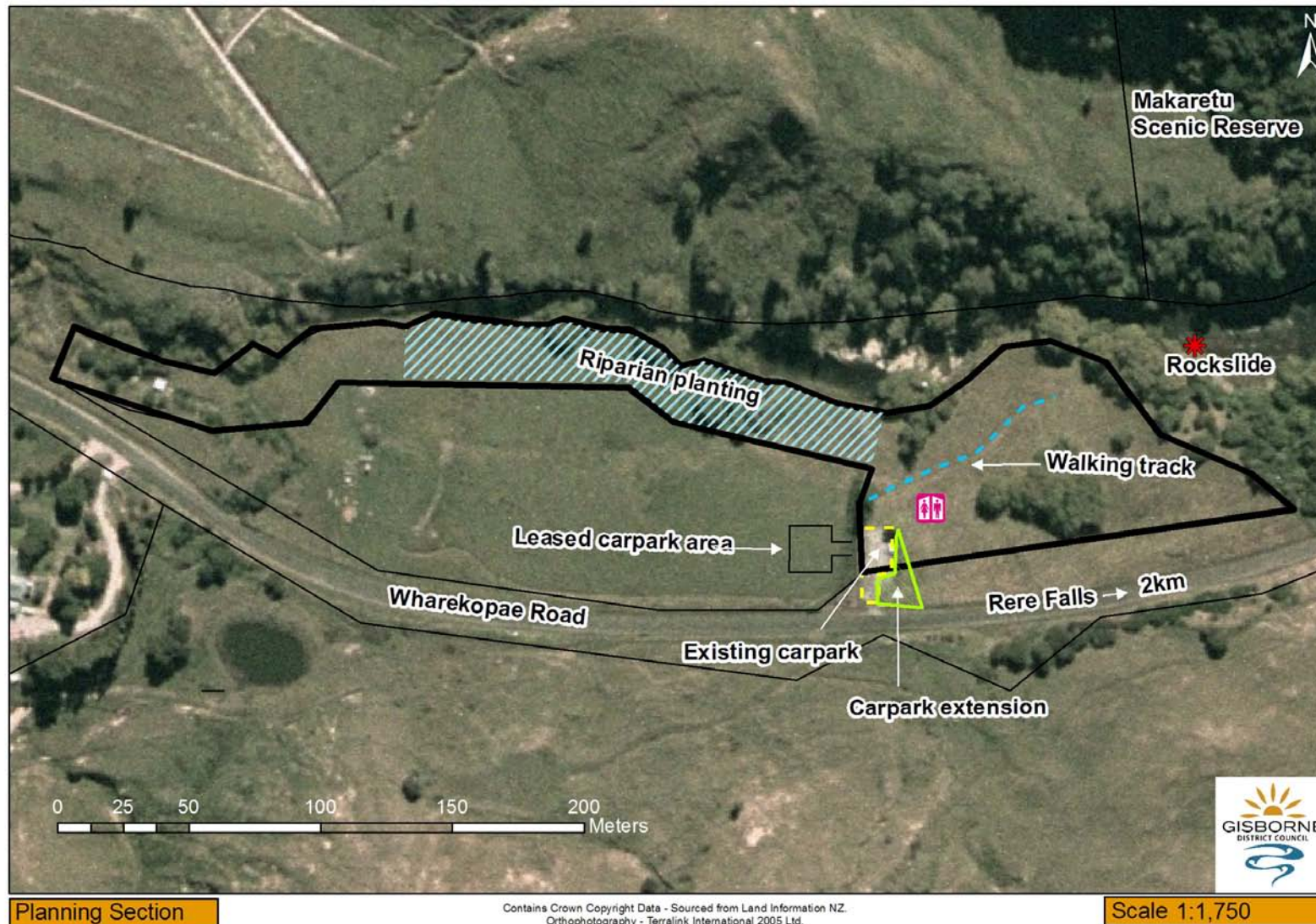
Discussion

The following Concept Plans provide a visual representation of objectives and policies included in this Management Plan.

Rere Falls Reserve Concept Plan



Rere Rockslide Reserve Concept Plan



Part Four: Capital Projects and Implementation Programme 2011-2015

Section in Plan	Action	Cost	Budget	Timing
3.2.1	Drainage work to provide for further parking (grassed area) at Falls.	\$3,000	LTCCP	2012
3.2.1	Re-seal driveway at Rere Falls Reserve.	\$20,000	LTCCP	2011
3.2.2	Develop all-ability path from informal grassed parking area to public toilets at Rere Falls Reserve.	\$10,000	LTCCP	2013
3.2.4	Extend carpark at Rockslide.	\$6,000	LTCCP	2011
3.2.5	Develop gravel path (contained by edging) to all ability standard from car park to Rockslide. A small culvert to take spring water under the path half way down.	\$8,000	LTCCP	2012
3.3.1	New picnic tables (3 at each reserve).	\$3,000	LTCCP	2012
3.3.3	Install Permaloo toilet and on-site waste disposal system.	\$46,215	LTCCP - Public Conveniences budget	2010
3.4.1	Remove plant pests such as honeysuckle, blackberry, pampas, and variegated thistles.	Operational budget	LTCCP	Ongoing
3.4.2	Riparian plants for Rockslide Esplanade Reserve.	\$1,500	LTCCP	2012
3.4.3	Remove Willows from the top of Rere Falls and debris at the bottom of the Falls and Rockslide area.	\$3,715	LTCCP	2011
3.4.4	Annual maintenance clearing debris, river bank maintenance and weed spraying (honeysuckle) at both reserves.	\$3,000	Operational Budget	Annually/ Ongoing
3.5.2	Signage – reserves, international symbols and safety signs, bus turn around area, parking, rubbish policy etc.	\$7,500	LTCCP	2011-2013
3.5.3	Upgrade fencing to make stock proof and fence (Esplanade Reserve) riparian margin at Rockslide Reserve.	\$10,000	LTCCP	2011-2012
TOTAL from Reserves and Loans budget		\$75,715	LTCCP	2011-2015



Appendix 1: Background Information

Makaretu Scenic Reserve (Department of Conservation Reserve) - 5.3ha.

This reserve forms a scenic backdrop to the Rere 'rockslide' upstream of Rere Falls, a much utilised summer recreation area on the Wharekopae River. The reserve covers steep and moderate slopes (200-300 m a.s.l) on the true left of the river, which support advanced secondary tawa-titoki-(kowhai) forest. *Pittosporum ralphii*, kamahi, mamaku, putaputaweta, kohuhu and wineberry are also present. The reserve has a 'moderate' botanical conservation ranking (Beadel 1989) (Pg 58, '*Tiniroto, Mahia, and Matawai Ecological Districts – Survey Report for the PNA Programme*', DoC, June 2001).

Tiniroto Ecological Survey District

Location and setting

Rere is situated in the Tiniroto Ecological District. The district has a broad base of interior hill country lying between the Waikaremoana and Matawai Ecological Districts and the more coastal/lowland Waihua and Turanga Districts; and a narrow band of elevated hill country extending to an apex at the Coast and the Wharerata Hills north of Mahia Peninsula.

The north eastern edge of the district is drained by western tributaries of the Waipaoa River, which flows into Poverty Bay.

Almost all the large tracts of indigenous primary and secondary vegetation that remain lie towards the north and west where the cooler wetter climate and steeper topography meant forests was less easily cleared and cleared areas have regenerated well. Many of the large tracts are Crown-owned and administered by Department of Conservation.

Geology and landforms

The district is underlain primarily by young sedimentary rocks mainly of late Tertiary (liocene, pliocene) age, especially sandstone, siltstone and mudstone with localised bands of limestone. It is structurally simple, dominated by great thicknesses of layered rocks dipping into the southeast on the northwest side of the district and dipping to the west on the eastern side of the district. Where thick layers of erosion-resistant sandstone or limestone alternate with softer rocks, scarps and many regular planar dip-slopes are prominent.

Tiniroto, Waihua, Mahia, and Matawai Ecological Districts, Department of Conservation (2001)

Trout Fishing in Wharekopae River

This river is one of the best in our district for catching Trout. This river is first crossed at Taumata Station which is approximately 48 kilometres from Gisborne on the Ngatapa-Rere Road and can be fished from about one mile below this bridge up to the foot of the Wharekopae Hill.

Access by road after crossing this bridge is again made about 3km further on by turning left into the Tangihau Station Road. The next contact by road is at Rere where a left turn is made above Rere Falls, and from there on the river is close to the road, again being crossed about 5km further up. This river holds brown Trout only. The best times for fishing this river are early morning or night.

Guide to Trout Fishing in the Gisborne Area, Gisborne Anglers Club

Microbiological Water Quality Guidelines Freshwater Recreational Areas 2003

The 2003 Guidelines use a combination of qualitative risk grading of the site and surrounding area, together with the direct measurement of appropriate faecal indicators to assess the suitability of a site for contact recreation.

Two components are used to determine a suitability grade for an individual site, they are:

(a) The Sanitary Inspection Category (SIC)

This generates a measure of the susceptibility of a water body to faecal contamination.

(b) Historical Microbiological Results

This generates a Microbiological Assessment Category (MAC), which provides a measurement of the actual water quality over time allowing for variations in climatic conditions. The MAC is calculated from five years of historical microbiological data (at least 100 results). The MAC categories range from A, B, C to D.

These two categories combined give an overall Suitability for Recreation Grade (SFRG). This describes the general condition of a site at any given time, based on both risk and indicator bacteria count. This grade helps to determine whether ongoing monitoring is required, and provides the basis for informing the public whether it is safe to enter the water.

The SFRG grades range from **Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor to Very Poor**. Sites with less than 100 results within five years of data are given an interim MAC category based on available data. The risk of becoming sick from swimming at a site is inferred from the associated grade.

Rere Falls and Rere Rockslide

These two sites have been monitored for recreational water quality since 2001. Monitoring includes regular water testing over the summer period from Dec 15th to February 15th each year.

A total of 68 tests have been taken over the seven years and E Coli colonies have been monitored.

Using the Suitability for Recreational use grades the following table shows the current status of the water quality at Rere.

	< 130 /100mls	131-260/100mls	261-550/100mls	>550/100mls
	Very good	Good	Fair to poor	Poor to very poor
Rere Falls	1	9	26	32
Rere rockslide	0	1	24	43

Table: "e Coli" in water measured as Colony forming units (CFU) per 100mls of sample water.

The above results show that the water quality at Rere is not in pristine condition for locals and tourists to spend a lot of time in while pursuing recreational contact with the water.

It should be noted that the water quality tests are only done over summer when flows are not high. This means that any dilution factor from good water flow is diminished.

Swimming and rock sliding generally occurs when temperatures are at a peak over the summer and the warm temperatures tend to provide a good environment for the coliform organisms that are being measured to thrive.

Management options to improve water quality

Coliform organisms that are found at Rere are not human derived. They are present due to the potential contamination from farm animals, wild animals and birds.

Any management options that may reduce contamination need to be considered as part of a "Whole Catchment" approach. A catchment approach could consider the following:

- Keeping livestock away from water courses.
 - This may require increasing culvert numbers on tracks that allow concentrated numbers of livestock.
 - Providing more stock water dams or water troughs so that livestock don't need to obtain water from creeks.
 - Leaving a grass buffer along waterways when sowing crops that may require more intensive grazing – particularly for any summer crop.
 - When grazing intensively along waterways to provide temporary electric fencing to ensure stock stays on the paddock and not wandering into the stream.
- Planting riparian margins of waterway. This will help keep water temperatures down in summer.
- Control feral animals within fenced off riparian reserves.
- Ensure dead animals are disposed of well away from waterways and remove any animal that has had a mishap near a waterway. Recreational hunters could also be encouraged to remove their kill from the vicinity of a waterway.

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