

Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2017 AL SIS GIS

Pursuant to the Freedom Camping Act 2011, Whangarei District Council makes the following Bylaw about camping in public places in the Whangārei District.



Contents

1. Title 3
2. Commencement
3. Application 3
Part 1 Preliminary provisions 4
4. Purpose 4
5. Interpretation 4
Part 2 Provisions for camping, and restricted and prohibited areas 5
6. Provisions for camping 5
7. Prohibited areas 6
8. Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles6
9. Restricted areas for self-contained
and non self-contained vehicles 6
10. Restricted areas for all camping 6
11. Prior consent from Council
12. Temporary prohibitions or restrictions . 7
Part 3 Enforcement, offences and penalties7
and penalties7
and penalties

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.

Explanatory note: The Bylaw was first made in September 2017. It was reviewed by Council in October 2020 and subsequently amended on 26 February 2021. The amendments to the Bylaw made in the 2020/2021 review come into force on 1 October 2021. Refer to Section 1 of 'Additional Information to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw'.

3. Application

3.1 This Bylaw applies to the Whangarei 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 section 5 of the Act or any subsequent legislation that amends or replaces the Act.

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 20(1) of the Act.

Local authority area has the meaning set out in section 6 of the Act or any subsequent legislation that amends or replaces that Act.

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. 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 this Bylaw 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 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 week period begins on the date the first camping commences.
- 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 must not prevent others from undertaking legitimate activities in the area
 - e) the camping 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 week period begins on the date the camping commences
 - 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.

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 week period begins on the date the camping commences
 - 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 week period begins on the date the camping commences
 - 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 camping that is 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 to 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 to commence.

12. Temporary prohibitions or restrictions

- **12.1** Council may temporarily 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 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 or occurring in that area.
- **12.2** Where reasonably practicable, prior notice will be given of any temporary prohibition or restriction, and the length of that prohibition or restriction, or its removal, in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.
- 12.3 A temporary 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.

Part 3 Enforcement, offences and penalties

13. Offences

13.1 Any person who camps in breach of clause 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 or 12 of this Bylaw commits an offence 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: Camping in breach of a prohibition or restriction contained in this Bylaw is an infringement offence. The penalty is \$200 or any other amount prescribed in regulations.

Schedule 1: Prohibited areas

Area	Map Reference
Abbey Caves – new carpark	S1-01A
Bland Bay Reserve	S1-01B
Drummond Park Scenic Reserve (Parihaka Lookout carpark)	S1-02
Eliott Reserve	S1-03A
Finlayson Street/ Reyburn House Lane carpark	S1-03B
Helena Bay	S1-03C
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	S1-13A
McAuslin Road, Matapõuri	S1-13B
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
One Tree Point Road layby	S1-20
Otaika Sportspark	S1-21A
Otamure Bay	S1-21B
Otangarei No.1 Reserve	S1-22
Otangarei Sportspark	S1-23
Pātaua South	S1-24

Area	Мар
	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
Tutukākā Marina Reserve	S1-33
Urquharts bay	S1-34
Whananaki – Mangaiti Reserve	S1-35A
Whangaumu Reserve - west (22 Whangaumu Street)	S1-35B
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



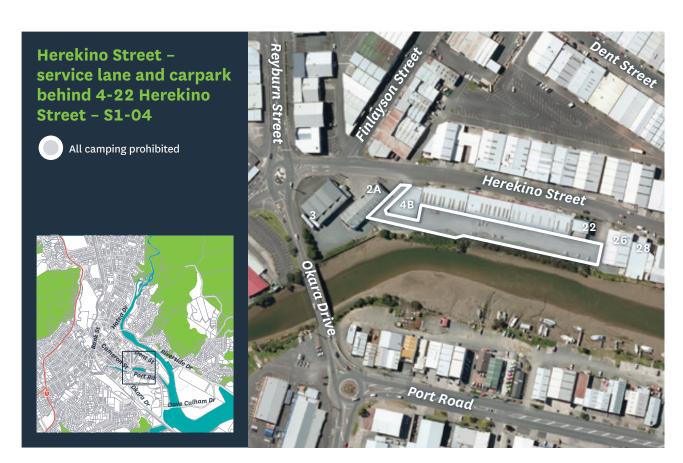
















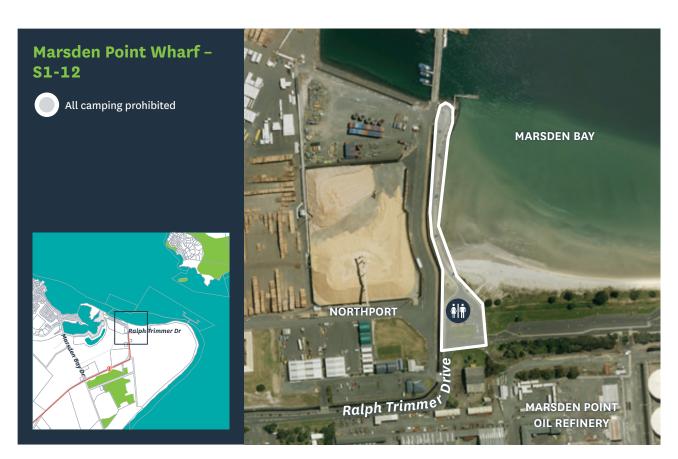










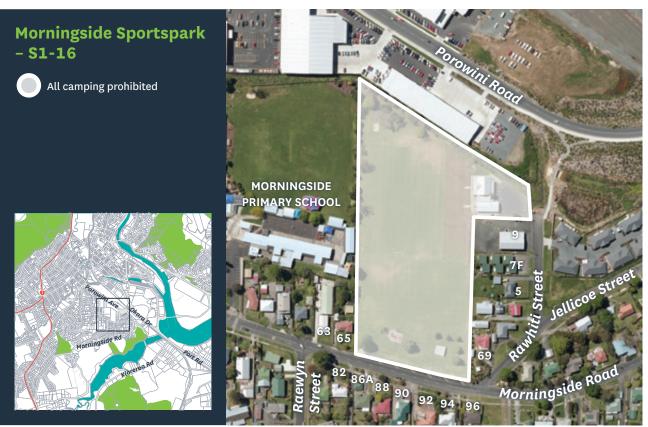


















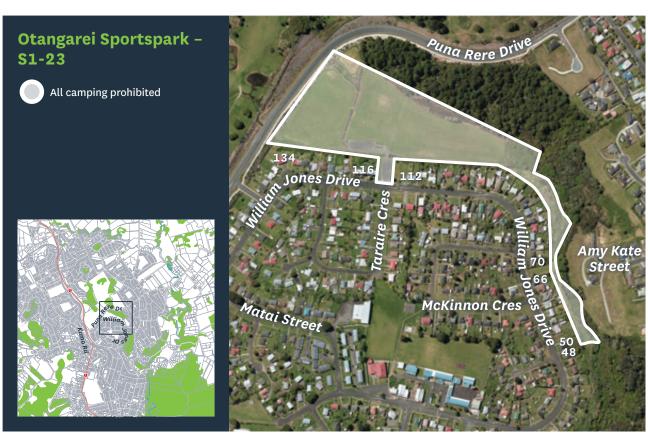


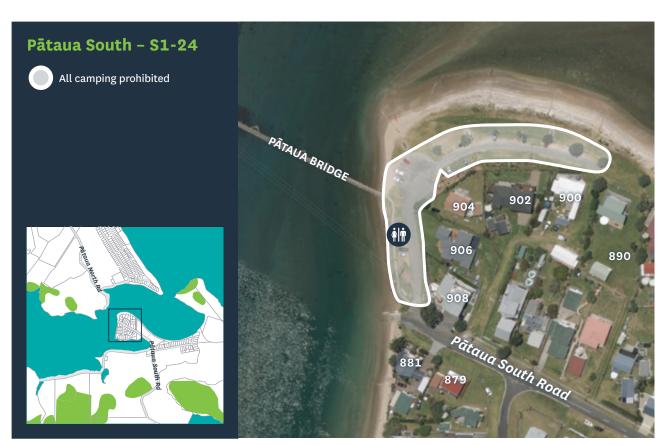
Cliff Street

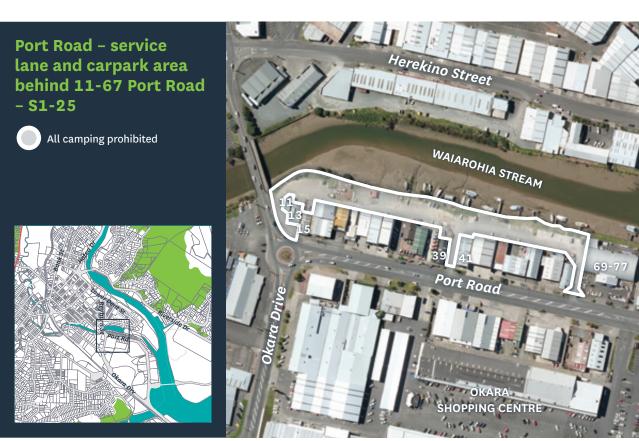


























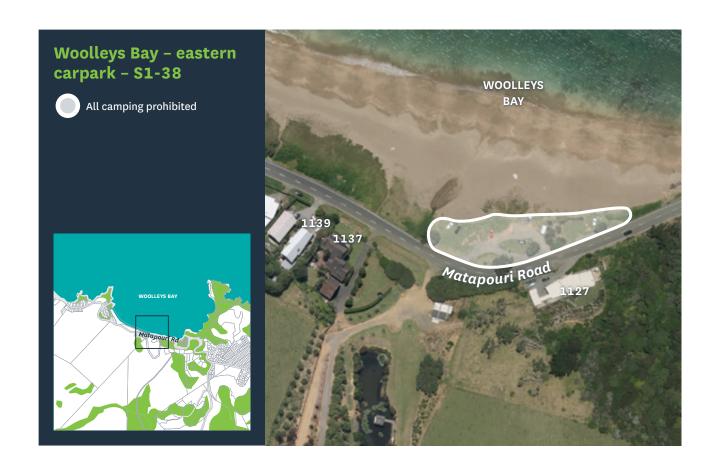










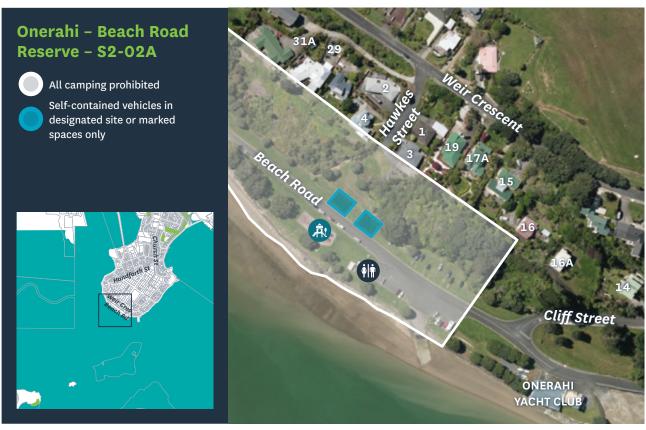


Schedule 2: Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles

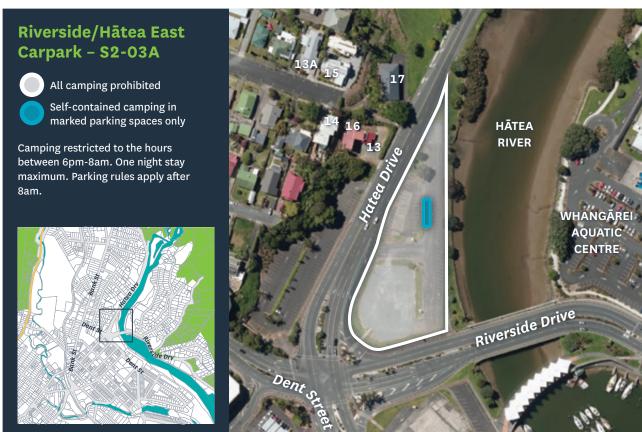
Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

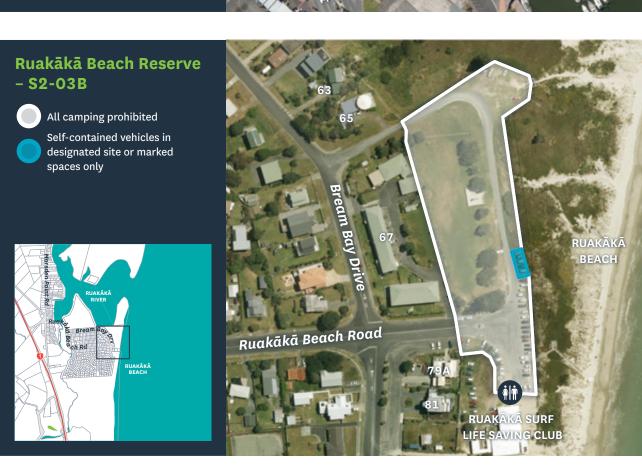
Area	Restriction	Map Reference
Onerahi - Beach Road Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	\$2-02A
Onerahi Sportspark	Restricted to times when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities from 18 December up until Northland/Auckland Anniversary Day.	S2-02B
Riverside/Hātea East Carpark	Restricted to the marked parking spaces as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-03A
Ruakākā Beach Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-03B
Ruakākā Riverside Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-03C
Tikipunga Sportspark	Restricted to times when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities from 18 December up until Northland/Auckland Anniversary Day.	S2-03D
Whangārei Falls Scenic Reserve	Restricted to the marked parking spaces as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-04

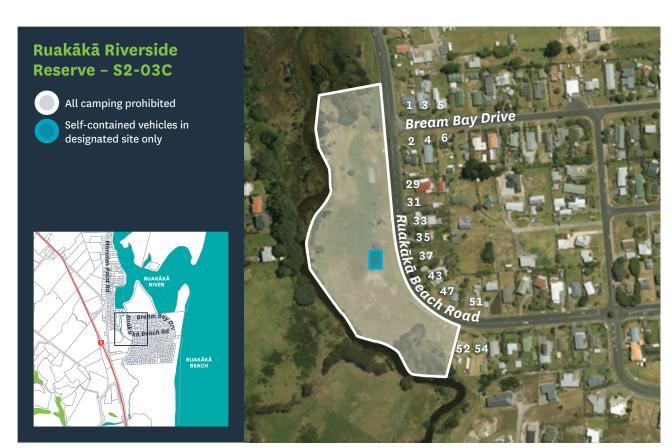
Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles - maps















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

Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

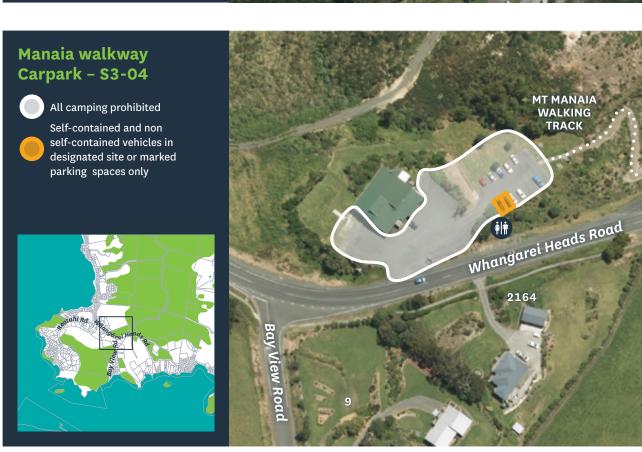
Area	Additional Restrictions	Map Reference
AH Reed Memorial Park – Whareora Road carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-01
Bascule carpark - Port Road	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. Parking permitted for a maximum of 3 nights.	\$3-02
Kowharewa Bay	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).	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. Camping restricted to outside the peak season (which runs from 18 December to 08 February).	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).	S3-12

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







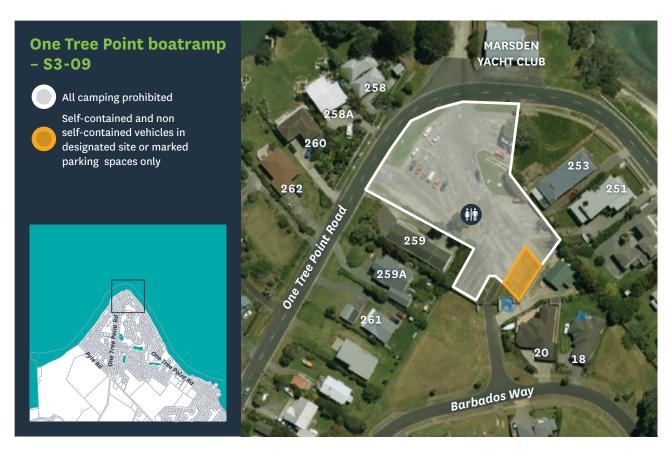






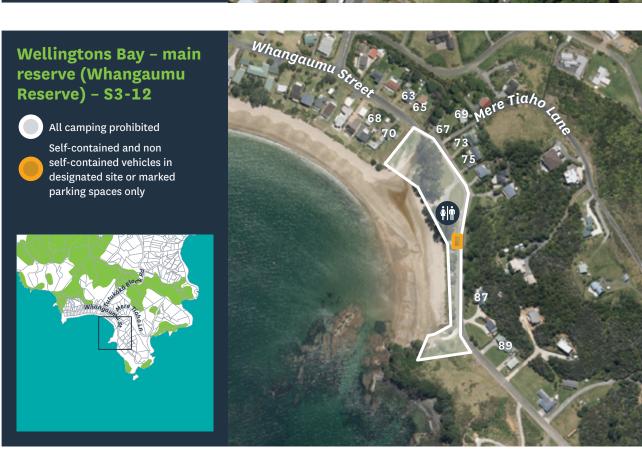












Schedule 4: Restricted areas for all camping

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.	S4-01
	The permitted stay period will be indicated on a sign displayed in the area.	
Sandy Bay - toilet block carpark/grass area	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).	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
Woolleys Bay – western carpark	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).	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
Change locations and layout of designated sites	Resolution to change locations of three designated sites	22 October 2019	23 October 2019
Review	Completed statutory review and resolved that the Bylaw should be amended	22 October 2020	N/A
Amend	Camping in Public Places Bylaw	25 February 2021	1 October 2021

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	
Camping in Public Places – Briefing	Proposed review of the Bylaw - key issues	Council meetings webpage - link	08/07/2020	
Camping in Public Places – Briefing	Options for Bylaw review	Council meetings webpage - link	06/08/2020	
Draft Statement of Proposal - Briefing	Feedback on the draft Statement of Proposal for amendment of the Bylaw	Council meetings webpage - link	15/09/2020	

Document	Description	Location	Date		
Reports to Council/	Reports to Council/Committee/Panels (note: does not contain references to 2016 process)				
Review of the Bylaw and adoption of the Statement of Proposal for amendment of the Bylaw	Statement of Proposal including draft amended Bylaw for public consultation	Council meetings webpage - link	22/10/2020		
Hearing – proposed amendments to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw	Hearing for interested parties to share their views in person	Council meetings webpage – link	08/12/2020		
Consultation feedback - Briefing	Council Briefing to receive written submissions and a summary of all feedback received	Council meetings webpage – link	09/02/2021		
Deliberations – amended Camping in Public Places Bylaw	Deliberations on submission issues raised	Council meetings webpage – link	16/02/2021		
Amend the Bylaw	Council amends the Bylaw	Council meetings webpage – link	25/20/2021		

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	\$4-05
Tamaterau	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





Private Bag 9023, Whangārei 0148, New Zealand
Forum North Building, Rust Avenue, Whangārei
Ruakākā Service Centre, Takutai Place, Ruakākā
P+64 9 430 4200 | 0800 932 463
mailroom@wdc.govt.nz | www.wdc.govt.nz
Facebook.com/WhangareiDC