

Memorandum of Understanding between Greater Wellington Regional Council

and

Akatarawa Recreational Access Committee Incorporated



ARAC Akatarawa

June 2018

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1. **SIGNED THIS DAY**

25/06/2018

2. **PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT:**

a) Greater Wellington Regional Council

and

b) Akatarawa Recreational Access Committee Incorporated

3. **GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THIS AGREEMENT**

GWRC – Greater Wellington Regional Council

ARAC – Akatarawa Recreational Access Committee Incorporated

RMS - Resource Management Service LLC (RMS)

MoU – Memorandum of Understanding

RWG – Relationship Working Group

PNP – Parks Network Plan

KNE Plan – Key Native Ecosystem Plan

4. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

ARAC and GWRC have entered into this MoU to maintain a relationship of partnership and collaboration that will:

- Facilitate management and representation of recreation within the Akatarawa Forest, with a primary (but not exclusive) reference to motorised recreation
- Maintain enhance and restore the environmental, landscape, recreational, scientific, historical and cultural values of Akatarawa Forest

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- Provide for their appreciation and enjoyment by the community, and
- Safeguard the options of future generations

ARAC was founded following a public meeting held in Belmont Memorial Hall in 1997. At that time there were perceived threats to recreational access, and ARAC was formed to provide a single voice for all recreational users.

Since that time, the relationship with GWRC has matured, and is now seen as mutually beneficial, providing liaison between the various recreational codes and GWRC. This MoU represents but the latest logical step in cementing and formalising that relationship.

Akatarawa Forest is one of the areas managed under the Parks Network Plan 2010. Other relevant legislation includes the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 and the Wellington Regional Council (Water Board Functions) Act 2005.

The Akatarawa Forest is a potential water source for the region's future generations. Protecting and sustaining the water resource and ensuring there is provision for water supply infrastructure is the primary management focus. This is principally achieved by protecting and sustainably managing the forest ecosystems.

The secondary management focus is to:

- protect the native forest vegetation
- manage exotic forestry production on a rotational basis
- ensure a range of back-country recreational experiences are offered
- manage the network of tracks for activities including motorised recreation
- allow wind energy development on selected ridgelines

GWRC is responsible for the development and implementation of its Long Term Plan (10 years, reviewed every 3 years) and the Annual Plan. GWRC's activities include park planning and advice, visitor services, conserving park values, and monitoring work.

The Akatarawa Forest is one of the region's outstanding natural areas, and the entire area of indigenous forest is managed as a "Key Native Ecosystem" to protect and enhance those values. A 3-year KNE Plan guides and funds pest control activities and other related work in the forest.

5. OTHER AFFECTED PARTIES

In 2014, cutting rights to all plantation forestry managed by GWRC was sold to RMS FGI New Zealand Limited. This includes significant areas within the Akatarawa Forest



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– such a Puketiro, Valley View, Hukinga etc. RMS has outsourced management of these cutting rights to PF Olsen Ltd. (although this is subject to contractual undertaking by RMS and may change over time).

GWRC will provide liaison between all user groups and RMS/PF Olsen including providing liaison and dialogue representing ARAC and their use of plantation forestry for recreational purposes.

6. PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this MoU is to:

- Provide a framework within which to manage the collaborative relationship between ARAC and Greater Wellington Regional Council.
- Specify expectations, roles, responsibilities, management and relevant procedures to guide the relationship in the long term.

Appendices to this MoU provide more details regarding functions jointly undertaken by ARAC and GWRC

7. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THIS MEMORANDUM

The relationship is collaborative in nature, based on trust and makes the best use of the resources of both parties.

- a) Shared planning processes result in Akatarawa Forest successfully managed consistent with the Parks Network Plan, involving the community and enhancing the park's cultural, heritage, environmental, landscape and recreation values.
- b) ARAC and GWRC will communicate openly and in good faith to resolve any issues that may arise in the course of the restoration and development of Akatarawa Forest

8. SHARED RELATIONSHIP VALUES

- a) ARAC and GWRC will communicate openly and regularly.
- b) Both parties will honour a 'no surprises' policy. Each party will inform the other as soon as practicable of plans, proposals or activities that may impact on Akatarawa Forest, ARAC or GWRC.



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9. RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

- a) A Relationship Working Group (RWG) is nominated by each party to represent their respective viewpoints.
- b) The nominated RWGs are:
 - I. RWG for GWRC:
 - a. Principal Ranger (Eastern Sector) - Jimmy Young
 - b. Park Ranger - Thane Walls
 - c. Parks Manager - Amanda Cox
 - II. RWG for ARAC:
 - a. The Akatarawa Sub-Committee as may be defined by ARAC from time to time, up to a maximum of seven members.
 - b. In addition, as required, specialist persons may be added *pro tem*
- c) Contact details for each RWG:
 - I. GWRC: Jimmy Young 021 873060
 - II. ARAC: Marcus Steeneken 021 439183
- d) It is the responsibility of the RWGs to:
 - I. Work collaboratively to arrange meetings and reviews
 - II. Oversee any milestone reporting requirements as agreed between us
 - III. Keep all parties fully informed
 - IV. Act as a first point of reference between each of us and also as a liaison for external contacts
- e) Each party will advise the other via written notice if there is a change to the RWG
- f) A GWRC representative may attend ARAC meetings by invitation

10. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY

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- a) Manages use of Akatarawa Forest in consultation with ARAC, and where necessary with other parties (eg DOC, local iwi, UHCC, KCDC) consistent with the Parks Network Plan.
- b) Manages relationships with Akatarawa Forest licence holders,, concessionaires and other park users, and monitors relevant activities
- c) Manages all built assets on the park.



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- a) GWRC must authorise any development of new assets. Should GWRC decline to authorise any development of new assets, it will provide an explanation for doing so.
- b) GWRC may ask that if ARAC provide or contribute to development of fixed assets then they also contribute to maintenance requirements. Should ARAC not want to contribute in this way then GWRC will decide whether to undertake all maintenance or decline approval for the development.
- d) Develops and funds a KNE Plan for the forest and implements pest animal and plant control activities.

ARAC

- a) Assists GWRC with the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of Akatarawa Forest and its natural, recreational, historic, cultural and other important features and values.
- b) Makes representation or otherwise advocates with respect to any proposals, plans or policies of any other party including GWRC, which, in the opinion of ARAC, affect the protection and/or values of Akatarawa Forest.
- c) Fosters community support and involvement in the protection and enhancement of Akatarawa Forest and helps ensure that its values can be appropriately appreciated and enjoyed by the community
- d) Provides support to assist GWRC in achieving the outcomes stated in this MoU and Parks Network Plan
- e) Provides a representative view and liaison point for the motorised recreation community, including 4WDs and motorcycles

11. HEALTH AND SAFETY

When volunteers are engaged in regular activities on GWRC managed land, GWRC is responsible for taking all practicable steps* to ensure the health and safety of volunteers while they are engaged in these activities.

**All practicable steps means GWRC taking all reasonable steps available to ensure volunteers' own safety and the safety of others in carrying out an activity on the park. The steps taken should have regard to current knowledge of potential harm, the hazards that could cause it and the control measures that are or could be made available to the volunteers. Should a volunteer come across any*

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situation that they believe unsafe then they MUST stop work until it can be made safe or an alternative solution put in place at the time or at a later date.

ARAC will work with GWRC to develop a Health and Safety Plan to cover all agreed activities (e.g. working bees) carried out by ARAC and those working in the park under its auspices. This will be held by GWRC and reviewed/updated annually by the Park Ranger and ARAC collectively.

ARAC will ensure that all those working on agreed projects in Akatarawa Forest are aware of and comply with the provisions of the Health and Safety Plan, including hazard management.

12. INSURANCES

GWRC will provide and maintain public liability insurance cover that includes activities undertaken by ARAC on Akatarawa Forest. It is agreed that the work carried out is in accordance with GWRC policies and best practice.

13. COMMUNICATIONS

Each party has independence and autonomy over its internal and external communications. Such communications will be in accordance with the 'no surprises' policy.

Joint communications will be developed and approved in accordance with an agreed Communications Plan.

14. FUNDRAISING AND PUBLICITY

ARAC may raise funds from corporate sponsors or other donors.

Any publicity relating to significant projects in Akatarawa Forest will be done by mutual agreement with GWRC.

Expenditure of funds raised from external sources will be identified in ARAC annual budget and plan of work.



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15. USE OF GWRC FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

- a) GWRC facilities and equipment may be made available for use by ARAC with prior approval of the principal ranger or their delegate.
- b) Should ARAC wish to make use of facilities or parks for independent events or activities, they need to apply for the relevant permissions to do so.

16. WORKING IN THE PARK

Any members of ARAC intending to visit Akatarawa Forest for work purposes will first make appropriate arrangements to carry out such work in accordance with the agreed work programme and with the Park Rangers consent.

17. TERM OF THE AGREEMENT

This MoU is effective from the date of signing for a period of 5 years. By mutual agreement it may be renewed in 5-yearly increments.

18. REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT

This MoU will be reviewed in June every year.

The RWG's will arrange the review meetings to discuss the following:

- To evaluate if the partners are achieving the expected outcomes detailed above.
- Any difficulties either of the partners is experiencing either in projects or in interaction with each other.
- Any other matters the partners wish to discuss with each other

Any amendments will be approved by GWRC and ARAC



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19. RECORD KEEPING

ARAC agree to keep records on the following

- a) The outcomes of our meetings
- b) Any changes to this MoU
- c) Evaluations of our progress
- d) Volunteer membership details (individuals)

20. DISPUTES RESOLUTION PROCESS

In the event a problem arises during the term of this agreement that cannot be resolved through informal discussion then:

- The problem will be identified and forwarded to the RWG in writing
- The RWGs are responsible for ensuring all parties are provided with relevant information
- The GWRC RWG will arrange a meeting of relevant people to confirm the problem and agree a process for resolving it and/or negotiate a solution
- In the event of an issue not being able to be resolved through regular and open communication in the initial stages of dispute resolution. Either group may elect to request mediation expertise to resolve the dispute. The choice of mediator should be mutually acceptable to all parties
- The RWGs will document the solution, advise the parties and coordinate any changes required to implement the solution



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APPENDICES ATTACHED

Akatarawa Forest Track Protocols

21. SIGNATURES

Signed for and on behalf of

Greater Wellington Regional Council

General Manager – Environment Management Group

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Date 27.6.2018

Signed for and on behalf of

ARAC

25.6.18

Date

Motorised Recreation Track Protocol for Akatarawa Forest

1. The Protocol

This Track Protocol aims to provide management guidance in the form of Principles for consideration in changing or creating tracks in the Akatarawa Forest. The Principles are supported by key criteria to evaluate proposals and aid decision making.

Minimising the impacts of tracks and the detrimental effects of use is important for overall forest health, public safety and recreation enjoyment for everyone who visits the forest.

The Protocol was developed to support consistent management decision making for works undertaken by GWRC and key partner ARAC (Akatarawa Recreation Access Committee). ARAC has an active role in assisting with management and appropriate use of motorised recreation vehicle tracks in the Akatarawa Forest. Use of the Protocol for decision making about tracks is supported by the Parks Network Plan (2016).



2. Planning and management context

The Akatarawa Forest is reserved and managed under the **Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972** and the **Local Government Act 2002** for recreation, forestry and water supply purposes.

Policies for management are identified in the **Parks Network Plan 2016**, the overarching plan for the Greater Wellington Regional Council park network which includes the Akatarawa Forest.

Enforcement measures for management are identified in the **Parks Forests and Reserves Bylaws 2016**.

The Parks Network Plan (PNP) identifies permitted tracks within the forest for motorised recreation uses (Map 23) and outlines the key criteria for decision making about changes to tracks. The PNP references this Protocol as the basis for making operational decisions about changes to tracks within the forest.

GWRC has worked closely with the ARAC to better manage the Akatarawa Forest tracks for motorised recreation activities. A **Memorandum of Understanding** is in place to support this relationship.

PARKS NETWORK PLAN POLICIES

The following PNP policies provide directions to support this protocol:

PNP General Policy:

Policy 21: To manage current and future water supply catchments to ensure their potential as a source of secure, sustainable, fresh and clean water for the region.

Policy 46: To temporarily restrict or close access to a park, or part thereof where:

- a) There is a danger to public and/or animal health and safety*
- b) Where continued access will cause further environmental or cultural degradation to a particular site*
- c) An event or activity has been granted the right to restrict public access as part of its approval conditions*
- d) Park operations require temporary closure including but not limited to park maintenance, pest control, farming and forestry operations, and water collection and distribution*
- e) Restricting access is an obligation under a specific Act, such as the Biosecurity Act, Forest Rural Fire Act or the Public Health Act.*

Policy 47: To ensure that the public are adequately informed regarding closures, using signage or other media, including an explanation of reasons and the length of time an area will be closed.

Policy 70: To separate or limit recreational activities and uses, where necessary, to protect health and safety, environment or heritage values or to prevent conflict.

Policy 83: To manage and maintain discretion over specified activities to ensure appropriate allocation of park resources.

Policy 84: To maintain discretion over other activities (including new activities and utilities) to avoid or limit impacts on the environment and key park characteristics, as well as ensure the safety of park users.

Akatarawa Forest Chapter:

6.1.5 g. To offer varied opportunities for park users by providing multiple use tracks and facilities where possible, appropriate and compatible with the primary management outcome of future water supply.

6.1.5 q. To support the partnership with ARAC (Akatarawa Recreational Access Committee) in meeting the outcomes of this plan.

3. Application

This protocol applies to:

1. The existing formed tracks in the motorised recreation track network of Akatarawa Forest Regional Park Map 23.
2. Tracks formed for other uses that may be appropriate for motorised recreation such as forest roads and some formal or informal short cuts throughout the forest.
3. Proposals for new tracks. These may address gaps in the network or where changes or unforeseen events such as significant landslips create the need for a new track.

4. Protocol Principles

The principles outlined below are consistent with the Parks Network Plan general management framework and policies.

1. Public Safety

Safety of the public and people working in the park is a primary consideration in all operational decision making.

- GWRC, supported by ARAC, will work to improve public safety in the forest and promote good track sharing behaviour to help minimise user conflicts (PNP Policy 70 & 84)
- In the case of safety or emergency, GWRC will act immediately to effect whatever measures are deemed necessary to fulfil their obligations. Track closures may be immediate, with full assessment of re-opening options carried out as soon as safe and practicable.
- ARAC committee members have a delegation to issue trail riding permits to forest users on site. On issuing permits the rules of use and hazards associated with the forest are discussed with permit holders. ARAC committee members are required to notify GWRC of incidents that they are aware of relating to hazards, injuries and other major issues e.g. forest security

2. Track Assessment

Changes to tracks and new track proposals will be assessed against key criteria and consider risk and impacts.

- GWRC and ARAC will consider the track assessment criteria in decision making.

The detailed criteria for decision making and considerations for changes to tracks and new track proposals are identified in Sections 5-7. This encompasses programmed and reactionary changes to the tracks identified for motorised recreation activities.

Changes to the Akatarawa Forest track network may occur for a variety of reasons such as:

- Asset maintenance plans and monitoring
- Hazards including severe weather events and fire risk
- Results of monitoring recreational use e.g. type and level of use, diversion from centre line, enjoyment [experience]
- Conflicts with other park developments, operations or users
- Environmental impacts, sedimentation
- Changes required as a result of regulatory or other council decision making, or proposals requested by ARAC other user groups or concessionaires.
- Plantation forest harvesting operations

Changes to tracks and management may result in changes to all or part of tracks such as:

- Maintenance regime
- Rehabilitation
- Conditions for use (type of user, seasonal, weather related, events)
- Monitoring programme (e.g. photo-points, track counters)
- Closure: temporary or permanent
- Opening (of existing unused tracks)

3. Track Maintenance

Track maintenance will be based on GWRC's annual asset maintenance plans for the Akatarawa Forest, which will prioritise the various assets (mainly roads) and the nature of the work to be undertaken on an annual basis.

- GWRC will provide ARAC with a list of the priority/core network of tracks for GWRC programmed maintenance (for operational, services and recreational amenity).
- For tracks outside the GWRC core network, motorised recreation clubs will be permitted to undertake track clearing and cutbacks on these specified tracks.
- ARAC and clubs or groups wishing to undertake maintenance will provide GWRC with a list of projects annually for consideration, prior to any works taking place.
- Anything in excess of clearing and cutbacks would require discussion with the GWRC Parks staff (refer to the Akatarawa Forest Access Permit for details).
- GWRC will also work in with Forestry contractors and Transpower to align maintenance works in the forest

4. Track Closure

Tracks may be closed in part or in whole, temporarily or permanently. Track closures may occur at any time as a result of:

- Public safety concerns
- Programed events or works (including plantation forest harvesting)
- Natural events such as adverse weather, slips, geological events
- Monitoring or assessment
- Park Closures (PNP Policy 46 & 47)
- Accumulated effects of use or vandalism
- Unforeseen issues or issues such as archaeology accidental discovery (PNP policy 30), accidents or incidents
- Other reasons requiring management intervention.

5. Communication

GWRC and ARAC will maintain a regular communication about matters relating to the Akatarawa Forest and motorised recreation facilities and use.

- Information sharing will occur on a regular basis throughout the year
- GWRC will maintain notices about changes to tracks on GWRC website and in other media
- GWRC will maintain a Weekly Events Calendar with input from ARAC (encompassing road information, forest harvesting operations and events in the forest)
- GWRC will maintain signs and temporary notices in the forest, with assistance from ARAC as appropriate
- Quarterly ARAC/GWRC meetings to notify and discuss planned works
- GWRC and ARAC will work together to quickly communicate to the public and forest users about reactive events encompassing safety or emergency, as soon as practical after the event.

6. GWRC retains discretion

GWRC as manager of the Akatarawa Forest retains overall authority for management decision making.

- Notwithstanding the above, GWRC and ARAC will aim to arrive at decisions through discussion and consensus
- Disputes and disagreements procedures are identified in the GWRC/ARARC MoU, section 21. (PNP Policy 83)

5. Track Assessment – Overview of Criteria

This criteria supports decision making for changes to existing tracks and consideration of proposed new tracks in the Akatarawa Forest. If there are issues at particular locations on tracks, the track as a whole should be considered, not just a component of it.

Assessment criteria and considerations

Criteria	Consider
Strategic fit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consistency with Parks Network Plan (PNP), the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972, and other GWRC plans, policies and strategies. <i>Proposed changes should not be contrary to the directions of statutory plans.</i> ○ Primary management focus of the forest as a healthy future water collection area with associated infrastructure. ○ Secondary management focus as production forestry, recreation, and possible future wind energy infrastructure
Ecological value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protection of indigenous forest (PNP 6.1.4 (3)) and (6.1.5a) high priority indigenous areas and significant areas and features ○ Key Native Ecosystem outcomes for Akatarawa Forest ○ Significant ecological features identified in District Plans (UHCC and KCDC) ○ Significance of ecological values and sites along or near a track ○ Presence of tracks. <i>Tracks in to into undisturbed areas should be limited.</i> ○ Stream crossings and watercourses nearby and any downstream effects ○ Accumulated effects
Landscape & geological features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PNP 2011 (6.1.5b) – protection of steep forested valleys and crest of hilltops. ○ Significant landscape District Plan overlays. Mt Wainui to Kapiti Coast ○ Effects on landscape and geological features ○ Soil composition and structure and its ability to withstand use and erode ○ Accumulated effects
Cultural value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parks Network Plan 2011 – (6.1.5c) protect modified landscape features: historic logging tramways and any associated logging structures ○ Sites of importance to iwi. <i>Consult with iwi</i> ○ Effects on historic logging tramway alignments. <i>Historic logging tramway features such as cuttings, embankments, alignments should be maintained</i> ○ Effects on other historic and cultural features /registered archaeological sites ○ Opportunities restore or showcase historic features ○ Accumulated effects
Operational & Safety requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Effects on the safety of - the public, contractors, concessionaires, forestry ○ Importance of the track for emergency service access ○ GWRC environmental monitoring sites and biodiversity operations ○ Core GWRC track network and management operational requirements ○ Other agency infrastructure and access such as utilities (eg.Transpower), forestry operations and roads
Recreational access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ History of motorised recreational use conflicts and vandalism ○ Access to key features (e.g. Orange Hut, viewpoints/Hydro Saddle) ○ Connecting or linking track which provide circuit opportunities ○ Recreation event routes eg. Karapoti Loop and Akatarawa Traverse ○ Frequency/volume of track use (including likely use) ○ Compatibility of different user groups using or likely to use track
Affected persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Effects on non-motorised recreation users; walkers, mountain bikers, horse riders, hunters, and the number of user groups for a track (less is better) ○ Conflict with other stakeholder group objectives eg restoration, pest management, heritage preservation groups
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits for conservation, recreation enjoyment, heritage preservation, management, emergency service access etc • Benefits should outweigh the possible impacts of the proposed change

6. Track Assessment Scoring

This scoring system sits within the Track Protocols as a means of determining a track's status and suitability for motorised recreation use. The criteria listed below are based on those identified in the Parks Network Plan 2016.

Noting that the scoring results will be subjective, they are intended as a basis for good faith discussion and decision making.

Assessment criteria

Number	Criteria	Score out of 5
1	Strategic fit	
2	Ecological value	
3	Landscape & geological features	
4	Cultural value	
5	Operational requirement	
6	Recreational access	
7	Affected persons	
8	Benefits	
Total score		

Accumulated Effects

While the criteria and scoring are part of a track by track assessment, consideration will also be given to the overall impacts and benefits of the proposed track network. That consideration will be reflected in a summary paragraph describing the contribution to or adverse effect upon management focus areas.

Comparative analysis

Consideration should be given to comparing scores of tracks to ensure it is consistent and scores accurately reflect the strengths and weaknesses of each track. For example, key tracks and entrances to the forest (e.g. Karapoti Gorge) would score a (5) for 'Recreational Access', other tracks would therefore be less.

7. Criteria & Scoring Details

Consider motorised recreational use of “a track” affect:

1. Strategic fit

<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary management focus is a <u>healthy and sustainable future water collection area</u> and provision of water supply infrastructure as required Secondary focus is on native vegetation; production forestry; back-country recreation motorised recreation and wind energy development
<p>Resources/indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks Network Plan 2016 Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 Proposed Natural Resources Plan (2015) Tracks location in catchment (key areas: Whakatikei River, Akatarawa River West, Wainui Stream) Stream crossings and watercourses encountered
<p>Scoring:</p> <p>Motorised recreation’s compatibility with the primary management focus is excellent (5); very good (4), good (3), causes some issues (2); negligible (1)</p>

2. Ecological value

<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of indigenous forest is a secondary management focus (6.1.4 (3)) The track is to be evaluated as a whole Is the track already in place? The significance of ecological values and sites along the track Key Native Ecosystem outcomes for Akatarawa Forest
<p>Resources/indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks Network Plan 2016 - high priority indigenous areas - Significant areas and features table (PNP 6.1.5a) Significant ecological features identified in District Plans (UHCC and KCDC) Proposed Natural Resources Plan (2015)
<p>Scoring:</p> <p>Motorised recreation’s impact on the ecological value of the area the track passes through is – negligible (5), low (4), moderate (3), high (2), very high (1)</p>

3. Landscape & geological features

<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent does use of the track affect the landscape and geological features of the forest? Is the track already in place?
<p>Resources/indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks Network Plan 2016 – (6.1.5b) – protection of steep forested valleys and crest of hilltops.

Backdrop of Mt Wainui to Kapiti Coast.
<p>Scoring:</p> <p>Motorised recreation's impact on the landscape and geological features of the area the track passes through is – negligible (5), low (4), moderate (3), high (2), very high (1)</p>

4. Cultural Heritage value

<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and preserve the historic and cultural features of the forest Does the track provide an opportunity to showcase history and culture is covered in criteria 6 Recreational Access
<p>Resources/indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks Network Plan 2016 – (6.1.5c) protect modified landscape features: historic logging tramways and any associated logging structures Location of historic features and logging tramways within forest What is/ would be the effect on the condition of historic tramway (surface)
<p>Scoring:</p> <p>Motorised recreation's compatibility with the cultural heritage values of the area the track passes through is – Very high (5), high (4), moderate (3), low (2), negligible (1)</p>

5. Operational & Safety requirement

<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How important is the track for GWRC, forestry, utilities and emergency services (core network track)? Does motorised recreational use adversely affect the operational requirements for the track? Tracks that have low operational value or are not used for operations will score highly (e.g. negligible (5), low (4))
<p>Resources/indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GWRC core and maintained track network plan (to be listed in Protocol) Transpower infrastructure map and access tracks (e.g. Hydro Road) Forestry operations and plantation maps (plantation forestry roads) GWRC environmental monitoring sites and biodiversity operations
<p>Scoring:</p> <p>Motorised recreation's adverse impact on operational & safety requirements is – negligible (5), low (4), moderate (3), high (2), very high (1)</p>

6. Recreational Access

<p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the track facilitate access to key features (e.g. Orange Hut, viewpoints/Hydro Saddle) To what extent does the track connect or link tracks Key recreational routes: Karapoti Loop and Akatarawa Traverse Authorised forest entrance tracks (e.g. Karapoti Gorge, Valley View Road, Puketiro Road, Perhams Road)

Resources/indicators:

- Motorised Recreation Map (23)
- Location of key features (recreational, historic, landscape, ecological)
- Frequency/volume of track use
- Number of user groups on the track (diversity)
- Events use of the track

Scoring:

The opportunity afforded by this track to access key features and link experiences is – excellent (5), very good (4), good (3), low (2), negligible (1)

7. Affected persons

Considerations:

- How does motorised recreation affect the non-motorised park users (walkers, bikers, horse riders, hunters) and wider community

Resources/indicators:

- Use conflict reports (ARAC, GWRC, public)
- Number of user groups on the track
- 3+ user groups on track then effect at least moderate (3)

Scoring:

The adverse effect on other users by motorised use of the track is – negligible (5), low (4), moderate (3), high (2), very high (1)

8. Benefits

Considerations:

- Appeal and knowledge of the track within the community
- The 'experience' the track provides for motorised recreation
- Any benefits of this track for other recreational users

Resources/indicators:

- Frequency/volume of track use
- Number of user groups on the track
- Use and availability of this track for events

Scoring:

The benefits to motorised recreational on this track are – very high (5), high (4), moderate (3), low (2), negligible (1)

Scores

The scoring range is 1 to 5 per criteria. A higher score (e.g. 5) indicates a more favourable result for motorised recreation use of the track.

- Pass marks for the assessment criteria are 5 or 4
- Further discuss required for scores of 3, 2 or 1
- Overall looking for 30+

