Whangarei District Council

Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2017

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

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1. Title

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

2. Commencement

2.1 This Bylaw comes into force on 21 October 2017.

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 came into force on 1 October 2021. Subsequent amendments to align the Bylaw's provisions with amendments to the Act made by the Self-contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023 come into force on 7 June 2025. Refer to Section 1 of 'Additional Information to the Camping in Public Places Bylaw'.

3. Application

3.1 This Bylaw applies to the Whangārei District.

Part 1 Preliminary provisions

4. Purpose

4.1 The purpose of this Bylaw is to regulate and manage camping on land controlled and managed by Whangarei District Council to:

a) protect areas

b) protect the health and safety of people who may visit areas

c) ensure appropriate public access to areas is maintained

d) provide transparency for those wishing to camp in public places in the District

e) support a positive experience for campers and residents.

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

5. Interpretation

5.1 In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

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

Camp or camping has the same meaning as freedom camp/freedom camping as provided in 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.

Motor vehicle means—

a) a motor vehicle within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Land Transport Act 1998:

b) a unit used for camping that is not itself a vehicle but is capable of being—

(i) transported by means of being loaded onto a vehicle; and

(ii) used for camping whether or not it is loaded onto a vehicle.

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 has the same meaning as in section 4 of the Act.

Explanatory note: A certificate of self-containment may be issued for motor vehicles that meet the requirements of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers (Self-Contained Vehicles) Regulations 2023. These requirements include a water supply system, a wastewater system and a fixed toilet.A certificate may only be issued by a self-containment certification authority appointed by the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board. A person whose vehicle has been issued a certificate must keep that certificate with the vehicle and, when camping under the terms of that certificate, must display the warrant card associated with the certificate in the vehicle.

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 using a tent or other temporary structure or a self-contained motor vehicle 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 in a motor vehicle is restricted to self-contained motor 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 motor vehicles. For any area not included in the Schedules, camping is permitted only in a self-contained motor vehicle or in a tent or other temporary structure.

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) motor vehicles must park within existing marked parking spaces or within identified parking areas, whichever is present. Where marked parking spaces are present, only one motor 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) motor 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 motor 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 motor 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.

9. Restricted areas for self-contained and non self-contained motor vehicles only

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 motor 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 motor 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.

Explanatory note: Any permission granted by Council to waive or modify a restriction under clause 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 of this Bylaw can only relate to camping using a tent or other temporary structure or a self-contained motor vehicle.

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 20E 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 $400 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, Matapōuri	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

Area	Map Reference
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
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

Abbey Caves – S1-01A

All camping prohibited

Bland Bay Reserve – S1-01B

All camping prohibited

Drummond Park Scenic Reserve (Parihaka Lookout carpark) – S1-02

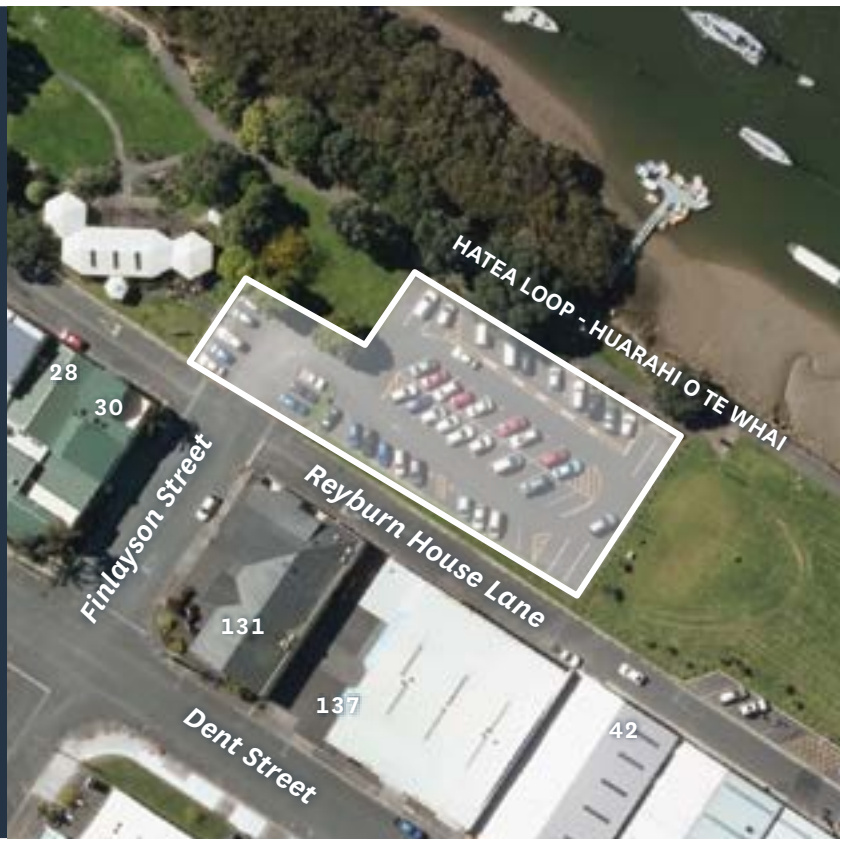
All camping prohibited

Eliott Reserve – S1-03A

All camping prohibited

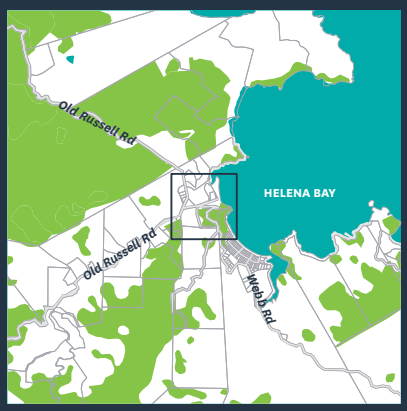
Finlayson Street/ Reyburn House Lane carpark – S1-03B

All camping prohibited



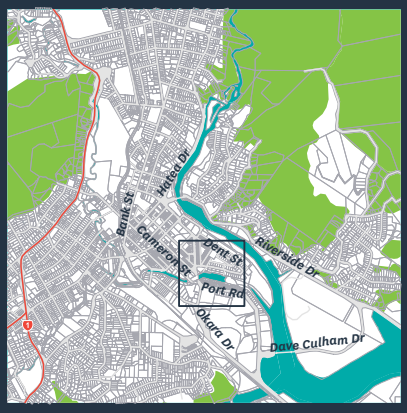
Helena Bay – S1-03C

All camping prohibited



Herekino Street – service lane and carpark behind 4-22 Herekino Street – S1-04

All camping prohibited



Hikurangi Sportspark – S1-05

All camping prohibited

Hora Hora Sportspark – S1-06

All camping prohibited

Kamo Sportspark – S1-07

All camping prohibited

Kensington Park – S1-08

All camping prohibited

Koropupu Community Sportspark (Springs Flat) – S1-09

All camping prohibited

Langs Beach – Cove Road beach access and carpark area – S1-10

All camping prohibited

Mander Park - S1-11

All camping prohibited

Marsden Point Wharf – S1-12

All camping prohibited

Matapōuri – Morrison Road carpark – S1-13A

All camping prohibited

McAuslin Road, Matapōuri – S1-13B

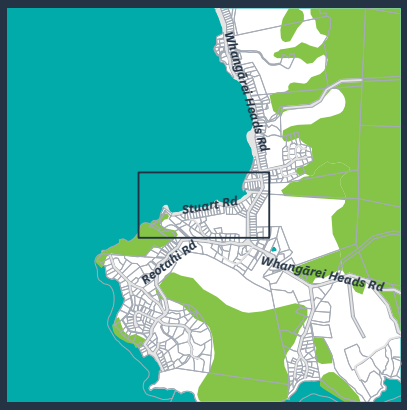
All camping prohibited

McLeod Bay – playground and reserve area – S1-14

All camping prohibited

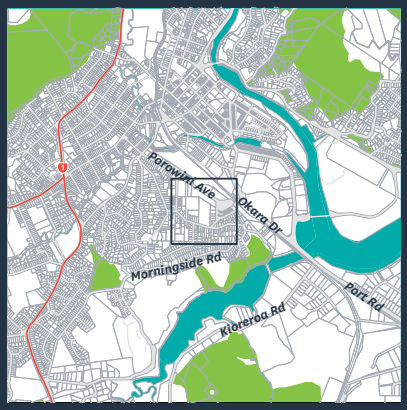
McLeod Bay – Stuart Road, all road reserve – S1-15

All camping prohibited



Morningside Sportspark – S1-16

All camping prohibited



Moureeses Bay – S1-17

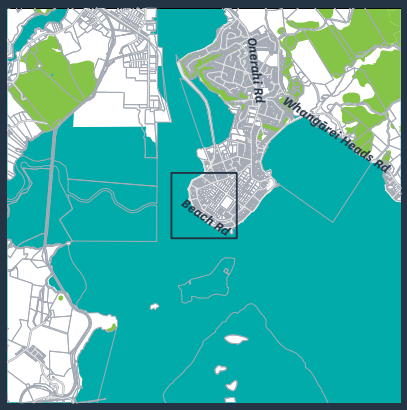
All camping prohibited

Ngunguru School – S1-18

All camping prohibited

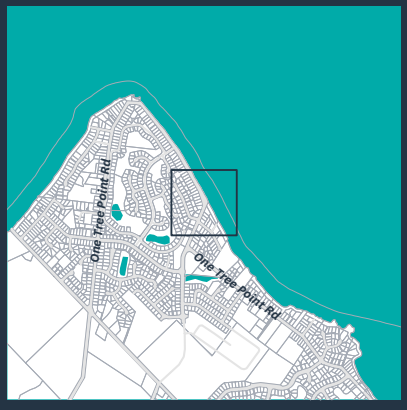
Onerahi Beach Reserve – between Cliff Street and Johnson Street – S1-19

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only



One Tree Point layby – S1-20

- All camping prohibited

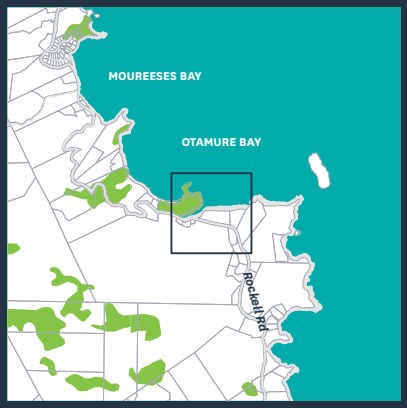


Otaika Sportspark – S1-21A

All camping prohibited

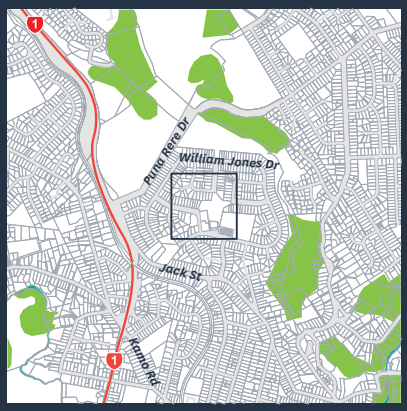
Otamure Bay – S1-21B

All camping prohibited



Otangarei No.1 Reserve – S1-22

All camping prohibited



Otangarei Sportspark – S1-23

All camping prohibited

Pātaua South – S1-24

All camping prohibited

Port Road – service lane and carpark area behind 11-67 Port Road – S1-25

All camping prohibited

Portland Recreation Reserve – S1-26

All camping prohibited

Ruakākā – Princes Road Reserve – S1-27

All camping prohibited

Ruakākā Recreation Grounds – S1-28

All camping prohibited

Taiharuru – S1-29

All camping prohibited

Takahiwai Sportspark – S1-30

All camping prohibited

Teal Bay/Ngawai Bay – Teal Bay Recreation Reserve – S1-31

All camping prohibited

Tutukākā Marina Reserve – S1-33

- All camping prohibited
- The large carparking area further along from the Tutukākā Marina Reserve is under the control of the Marina Management Trust and the Trust prohibits all camping in that area, in accordance with the signage in place.

Urquharts Bay – S1-34

- All camping prohibited

Whananaki – Mangaiti Reserve – S1-35A

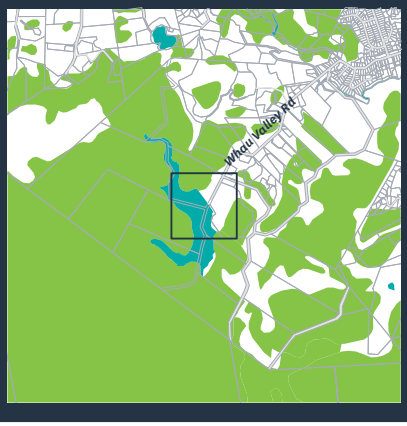
All camping prohibited

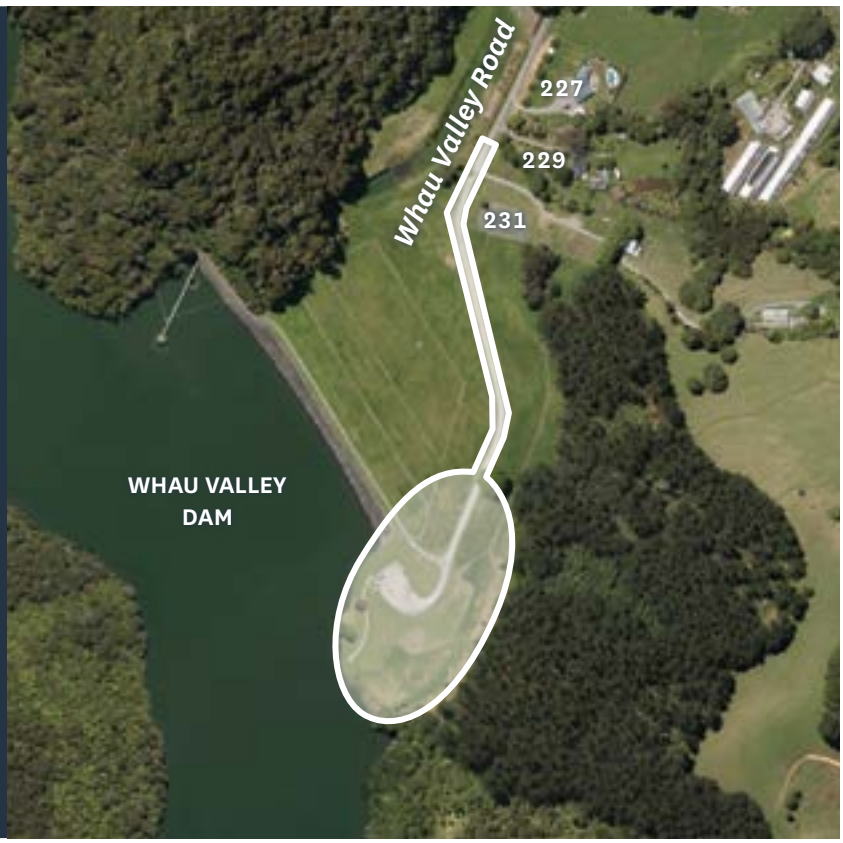
Whangaumu Reserve west (22 Whangaumu Street) – S1-35B

All camping prohibited

Whau Valley Dam – S1-36

All camping prohibited



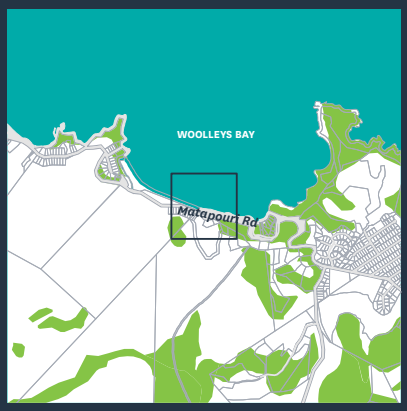


William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island – S1-37

All camping prohibited

Woolleys Bay – eastern carpark – S1-38

All camping prohibited



Schedule 2: Restricted areas for self-contained vehicles

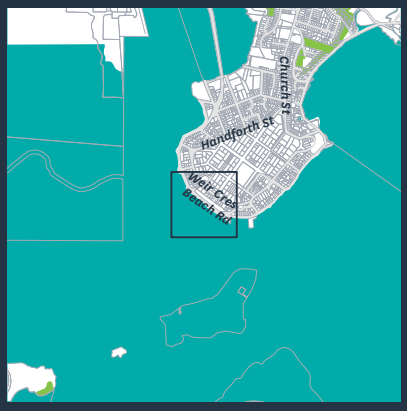
Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

Area	Restriction	Map Reference
Onerahi - Beach Road Reserve	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S2-02A
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

Onerahi – Beach Road Reserve – S2-02A

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked spaces only



Onerahi Sportspark – S2-02B

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained camping in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Camping restricted to times when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities from 18 December up until Northland/ Auckland Anniversary Day.

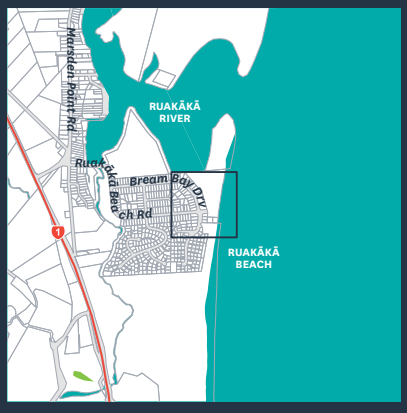
Riverside/Hātea East Carpark – S2-03A

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained camping in marked parking spaces only

Camping restricted to the hours between 6pm-8am. One night stay maximum. Parking rules apply after 8am.

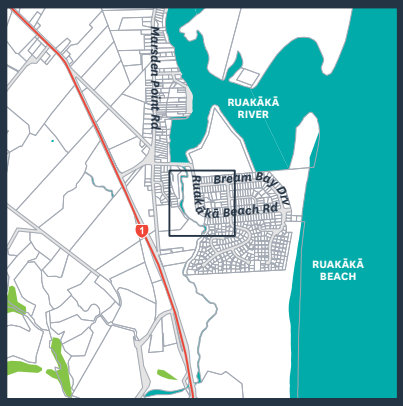
Ruakākā Beach Reserve – S2-03B

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked spaces only



Ruakākā Riverside Reserve – S2-03C

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained vehicles in designated site only



Tikipunga Sportspark – S2-03D

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained camping in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Camping restricted to times when Sportspark is not being used for sporting activities from 18 December up until Northland/ Auckland Anniversary Day.

Whangārei Falls Scenic Reserve – S2-04

All camping prohibited

Self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked spaces only

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

Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

Area	Additional Restrictions	Map Reference
AH Reed Memorial Park – Whareora Road carpark	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-01
Bascule carpark – Port Road	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. Parking permitted for a maximum of 3 nights.	S3-02
Kowharewa Bay	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. 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
Matapōuri – 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.	S3-09
Reotahi	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map.	S3-10
Tarewa isite	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

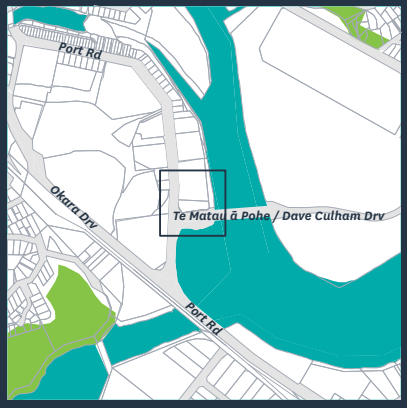
Restricted areas for self-contained and non self-contained vehicles - maps

AH Reed Memorial Park – Whareora Road carpark – S3-01

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Bascule carpark – Port Road – S3-02

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only



Kowharewa Bay – S3-03

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Manaia walkway Carpark – S3-04

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Marsden Bay Reserve – S3-05

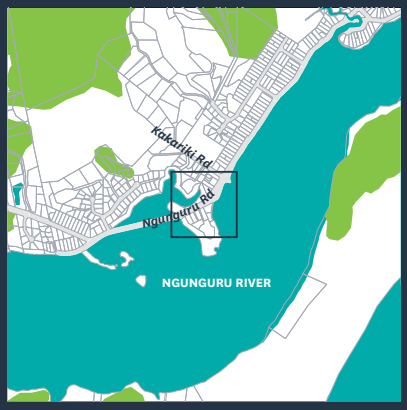
- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Matapōuri – Wehiwehi Road carpark – S3-06

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Ngunguru Library – S3-07

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only



Ocean Beach carpark – S3-08

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

One Tree Point boatramp – S3-09

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Reotahi – S3-10

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only
- Note: Camping regulated under the Reserves Act 1977.

Tarewa isite – S3-11

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Wellingtons Bay – main reserve (Whangaumu Reserve) – S3-12

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Schedule 4: Restricted areas for all camping

Camping is subject to the restrictions stated in the table.

Area	Restriction	Map Reference
Parua Bay	All camping restricted to a maximum of 3 nights, except where Council has determined, due to problems with overcrowding, there should be a 2-night maximum. The permitted stay period will be indicated on a sign displayed in the area.	S4-01
Sandy Bay - toilet block carpark/grass area	Restricted to the designated site as indicated on the referenced map. 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

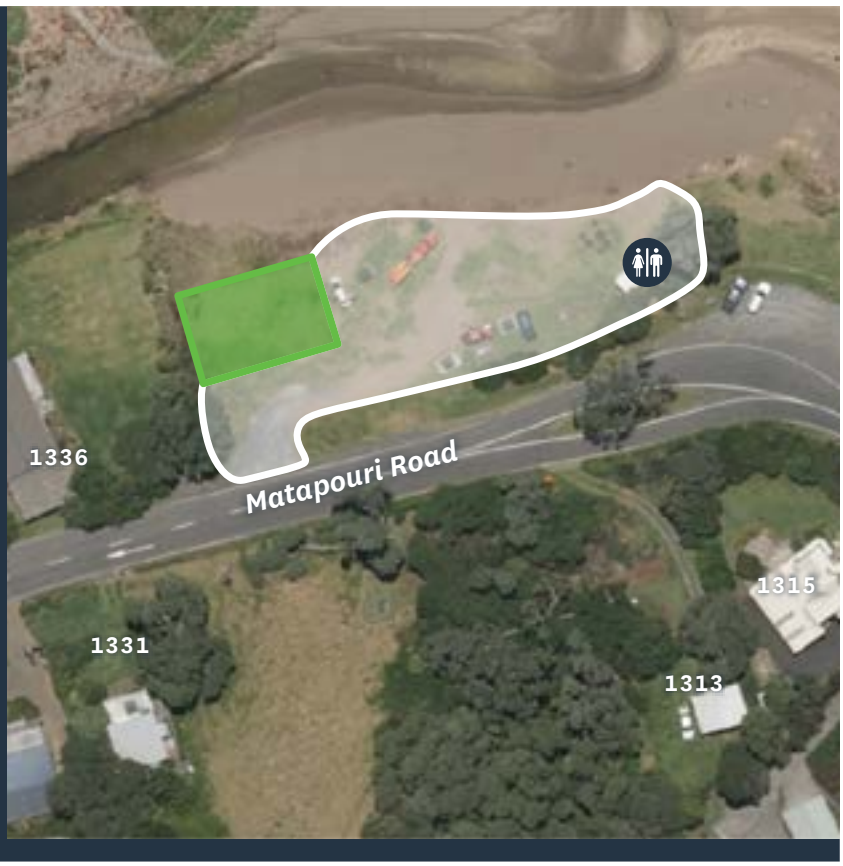
Restricted areas for all camping - maps

Parua Bay – S4-01

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained vehicles in designated overflow site when ground conditions permit
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only
- Tents permitted in designated site

Sandy Bay – toilet block carpark/grass area – S4-02

- All camping prohibited
- All camping permitted in designated site or marked parking spaces only



Tamaterau – S4-03

- All camping prohibited
- Self-contained and non self-contained vehicles in designated site or marked parking spaces only
- Tents (maximum of 2) permitted in designated site

Waipū Caves – S4-04

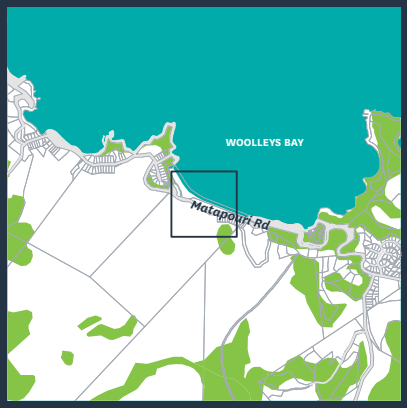
All camping prohibited

All camping permitted in designated site or marked parking spaces only

Woolleys Bay – western carpark – S4-06

All camping prohibited

All camping permitted in designated site or marked parking spaces only



Additional information to Camping in Public Places Bylaw 2017

This document is for information purposes 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
Amend	Amendments to align with changes to the Freedom Camping Act 2011	22 May 2025	7 June 2025

Section 2: Related documents

Document	Description	Location	Date
Reports to Council (note: does not contain references to 2016 or 2017 processes)			
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 (note: does not contain references to 2016 or 2017 processes)			
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	25/02/2021
Amend the Bylaw	Council amends the Bylaw	Council meetings webpage – link	22/05/2025

Document	Description	Location	Date
Legislation			
Freedom Camping Act 2011	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
Interpretation 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 Camping Act 2011	**Section 20** A person commits an infringement offence who: freedom camps in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in a bylaw made under section 11 or 11A that applies to the area; or • freedom camps in a local authority area, other than a local authority area defined in a bylaw made under section 11A as permitting motor vehicles that are not self-contained, using a motor vehicle that is not self-contained; or • fails to display a warrant card in a motor vehicle that the person is using to freedom camp in a local authority area, other than a local authority area defined in a bylaw made under section 11A; or • freedom camps in a local authority area in a self-contained motor vehicle with more people than the vehicle is certified for; 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 or 11A that applies to the area; or • makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area, other than a local authority area defined in a bylaw made under section 11A as permitting motor vehicles that are not self-contained, using a motor vehicle that is not self-contained; or • makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area in a self-contained motor vehicle with more people than the vehicle is certified for; or • fails or refuses to leave a local authority area when required to do so by an enforcement officer acting under section 36.
Freedom Camping Act 2011	**Section 20C** A person commits an infringement offence if the person: • displays in a motor vehicle an altered or a fraudulent warrant card; or • presents an altered or a fraudulent certificate of self-containment to an enforcement officer acting under this Act; or • refuses to give information when required to do so by an enforcement officer under section 35, or gives false or misleading information.

Legislative provision	Description
Freedom Camping Act 2011	**Section 20D** In prosecuting an infringement offence, the prosecution does not need to prove that the defendant: • intentionally or recklessly committed the offence; or • knew that the offence occurred in, or in relation to, a local authority area, conservation land, or LINZ land.
Freedom Camping Act 2011	**Section 20F** A 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 residents living on or near the area or land or other users of the area or land.
Freedom Camping Act 2011	**Section 20G** A person commits an offence if, while an enforcement officer is carrying out the officer's functions and duties under this Act, the person: • 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	$400
Freedom Camping Act	An offence under section 20F	$10,000	NA
Freedom Camping Act	An offence under section 20G	$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	$400

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 isite – Tarewa Road	relocation and slight reduction of site to southern boundary	27/09/2018	S3-11
Whananaki North	reduction of site size	27/09/2018	S4-05
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

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