
WANAKA LAKEFRONT RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN



QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

OCTOBER 2014

1 TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Table of Contents	2
1.	INTRODUCTION.....	5
1.1	PURPOSE	5
1.2	VISION	5
1.3	OBJECTIVES	5
2.	WELCOME TO THE WANAKA LAKEFRONT.....	6
2.1	CULTURAL HISTORY – NGAI TAHU.....	6
2.2	LANDSCAPE.....	7
2.2.1	GLENDHU BAY RECREATIONAL RESERVE.....	7
2.2.2	WESTERN END OF DAMPER BAY LAKEFRONT RECREATION RESERVE TO RIPPON VINEYARD	8
2.2.3	RIPPON VINEYARD TO THE NORTHERN END OF BREMNER BAY RECREATION RESERVE	10
2.2.4	BREMNER BAY RECREATION RESERVE TO THE CLUTHA OUTLET RESERVE	12
2.2.5	KEY VIEW POINTS AND LANDMARKS	13
2.3	GEOLOGY.....	13
2.4	RIVERS AND CATCHMENTS	14
2.5	TOPOGRAPHY	15
2.6	LAND USE.....	15
3.	THE RESERVES.....	17
3.1	GLENDHU BAY (WEST) RESERVE	17
3.1.1	HISTORY	17
3.1.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	17
3.2	GLENDHU BAY CAMPGROUND RESERVE	18
3.2.1	HISTORY	18
3.2.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	18
3.3	DAMPER BAY RESERVE.....	19
3.3.1	HISTORY	20
3.3.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	20
3.4	DAMPER BAY TO WATERFALL CREEK.....	21
3.4.1	HISTORY	21
3.4.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	21
3.5	WATERFALL CREEK TRACK	21
3.5.1	HISTORY	22

3.5.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	22
3.6	WATERFALL CREEK TO WANAKA STATION PARK	23
3.6.1	HISTORY	23
3.6.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	23
3.7	WANAKA STATION PARK	24
3.7.1	HISTORY	24
3.7.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	25
3.8	ROYS BAY RESERVE.....	25
3.8.1	HISTORY	25
3.8.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	26
3.9	WANAKA MARINA RESERVE.....	27
3.9.1	HISTORY	27
3.9.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	27
3.10	EELY POINT RESERVE (INCLUDES ESPLANADE CONNECTING TO WANAKA MARINA RESERVE)	28
3.10.1	HISTORY	28
3.10.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	29
3.11	BREMNER BAY RESERVE	29
3.11.1	HISTORY	29
3.11.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	30
3.12	BEACON POINT RESERVE	30
3.12.1	HISTORY	31
3.12.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	31
3.13	OUTLET RESERVE	31
3.13.1	HISTORY	32
3.13.2	GENERAL DESCRIPTION.....	32
4.	MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES	33
4.1	CULTURAL VALUES – NGAI TAHU	33
4.2	RECREATION.....	33
4.3	LEASES, LICENCES AND CONCESSIONS	33
4.4	ECONOMIC VALUES	34
4.5	PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS.....	34
4.6	OTHER RESERVE USES.....	34
4.6.1	HELICOPTER OPERATIONS.....	34
4.6.2	MODEL AIRCRAFT.....	34
4.6.3	FREEDOM CAMPING.....	34
4.6.4	UTILITIES	35
4.7	ECOLOGY.....	35

4.7.1	PRESENT DAY VEGETATION	35
4.7.2	WEEDS	38
4.7.3	AT RISK AND THREATENED PLANTS.....	38
4.7.4	FAUNA	39
4.7.5	INTRODUCED MAMMALS	40
5.	VISION, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES.....	41
5.1	VISION	41
5.2	OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES	41
5.2.1	RECOGNISE THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF THE WANAKA LAKEFRONT RESERVES AND REFLECT THIS IN THE DESIGN, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES.....	42
5.2.2	MANAGE AND MAINTAIN AREAS OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES AS FORMAL RECREATIONAL AREAS FOR ENJOYMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AND VISITORS	43
5.2.3	MANAGE THE IMPACT ON THE NATURAL AMENITY VALUES OF THE LAKESIDE RESERVES BY MINIMISING BUILDINGS AND POSITIONING THEM APPROPRIATELY	44
5.2.4	RETAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO AND WITHIN THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES AND FACILITATE FORMAL LAKE ACCESS	45
5.2.5	MANAGE USE OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES IN A WAY THAT SUSTAINS THE NATURAL BIODIVERSITY OF THE LAND AND THE ADJACENT PRISTINE LAKE	46
6.	APPENDICES	47
6.1	LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES	47
6.2	LEASES, LICENCES AND CONCESSIONS	47
6.3	DISTRICT PLAN DESIGNATIONS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS.....	47
6.4	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	47
6.5	MAPS	47
6.6	IMAGES.....	47

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this reserve management plan is to identify the objectives and policies for the management, including protection and development, of the Wanaka lakefront reserves.

There are 14 reserves that are included in this plan, covering an area of approximately 315 hectares.

The lakefront character is a major drawcard for locals and visitors. Access to the lake, its shore and the many recreational activities these support are a key component of life in Wanaka.

This plan supports Council in preserving and enhancing the outstanding natural landscape status that the Wanaka lakefront holds.

Council recognises and thanks the Wanaka community for its extensive engagement in the process to develop this plan.

1.2 VISION

The vision for the Wanaka lakefront reserves is:

'To protect and enhance the amenity¹ and ecological values of the Wanaka lakefront reserves whilst providing opportunities for both land and water based recreation.'

1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives sought from this management plan are to:

- recognise the unique character of the Wanaka lakefront reserves and reflect this in the design, maintenance and management of the lakefront reserves
- manage and maintain areas of the lakefront reserves as formal recreational areas for enjoyment of the community and visitors
- manage the impact on the natural amenity values of the lakeside reserves by minimising buildings and positioning them appropriately
- retain a high level of unrestricted access to and within the lakefront reserves and facilitate formal lake access
- manage use of the lakefront reserves in a way that sustains the natural biodiversity of the land and adjacent pristine lake
- reflect the preferences of the Wanaka community as expressed in the public consultation process

These objectives are expanded on in Section 5 of this plan.

¹ Amenity values are those natural or physical qualities and characteristics of an area that contribute to people's appreciation of its pleasantness, aesthetic coherence and cultural and recreational attributes

2. WELCOME TO THE WANAKA LAKEFRONT

As one of New Zealand's fastest growing districts, Wanaka is a desirable place that many people are choosing to live and work in. From longtime residents to recent arrivals, the community has a higher proportion of 15-65 year olds compared to the rest of the Otago region who enjoy the variety of environments the area has to offer.

Wanaka has also become an ever-increasing popular summer and winter holiday location for many national and international visitors, attracted by the beauty of the surrounding landscape, mountains, lake, and the numerous recreational pursuits that this region offers.

The reserves covered by this plan are located on the southern, eastern and western edges of Lake Wanaka, between Glendhu Bay and the Clutha outlet. They provide opportunities to both enjoy the beauty of the surrounding landscape and access recreational activities on the lake. Visitors and locals use the reserves for a mixture of passive and active pursuits, and a range of facilities have been provided by Council and commercial operators to facilitate this.

This section outlines the factors that specifically define the character of the reserves.

2.1 CULTURAL HISTORY – NGAĪ TAHU

Wanaka is one of the lakes referred to in the tradition of “Ngā Puna Wai Karikari o Rakaihautu” which tells how the principal lakes of Te Wai Pounamu were dug by the rangatira (chief) Rakaihautu.

Rakaihautu was the captain of the canoe, Uruao, which brought the tribe, Waitaha, to New Zealand. Rakaihautu beached his canoe at Whakatū (Nelson). From Whakatū, Rakaihautu divided the new arrivals in two, with his son taking one party to explore the coastline southwards and Rakaihautu taking another southwards by an inland route. On his inland journey southward, Rakaihautu used his famous kō (a tool similar to a spade) to dig the principal lakes of Te Wai Pounamu, including Wanaka.

For Ngāi Tahu, traditions such as this represent the links between the cosmological world of the gods and present generations, these histories reinforce tribal identity and solidarity, and continuity between generations, and document the events which shaped the environment of Te Wai Pounamu and Ngāi Tahu as an iwi.

In 1836, Te Puoho, a rangatira (chief) of the North Island Ngati Tama iwi had plans of conquering Te Wai Pounamu, but after a campaign of attacks lost his life and the area was abandoned by Waitaha. Wanaka is noted in history to be a place where the last battle between North and South Island tribes occurred. The area was occupied again during the nineteenth century by families of Kati Mamoe and Kai Tahu who came from their coastal bases for seasonal visits.

The name “Wanaka” is considered by some to be a South Island variant of the word “wānanga” which refers to the ancient schools of learning. In these schools, Ngāi Tahu tohunga (men of learning) would be taught whakapapa (genealogies) which stretched back to over a hundred generations and karakia (incantations) for innumerable situations. All of this learning they would be required to commit to memory.

2.2 LANDSCAPE

The landscape in the eastern part of Wanaka Basin, which extends between Lake Wanaka, Lake Hawea and the town of Luggate, is relatively flat and low lying at an approximate level around 400masl. The rugged Harris Mountains extending between Arrowtown and Wanaka can be seen in the background of views to the west, whilst the Grandview Mountains extend to the southeast from Lake Hawea.

The landscape comprises principally a glaciated terraced valley floor associated with the Clutha River and defined by adjacent foothills and mountain ranges. The occupied valley floor is rural in character, with agriculture being the predominant land use, with associated settlements, most notably Wanaka Township. The landscape provides a high level of visual diversity and lends itself to being described in four landscape character areas, based on geomorphological patterns and variations in land cover/use. From west to east:

- Glendhu Bay Recreational Reserve
- Western end of Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve to Rippon Vineyard
- Rippon Vineyard to the northern end of Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve
- Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve to the Clutha Outlet Reserve

A popular track extends between Glendhu Bay and the Clutha Outlet and connects further with the Upper Clutha track network.

2.2.1 GLENDHU BAY RECREATIONAL RESERVE

Glendhu Bay, together with adjacent Parkins and Paddock Bays, forms part of an enclosed dramatic mountain and lake landscape of high visual amenity value. The Motatapu and Fern Burn Rivers, located in the hinterland of the bay have comparatively narrow riverbeds, with extensive fluvial terraces. The campground, which is located along the lakeshore, provides a transition between the surrounding pastoral landscape and the lake with its light-coloured gravel beaches.

The interface of the lake and hinterland is dominated by poplars, willows and gum trees, which visually separate the campground area from the road on one side and the lake on the other. The tree clusters form vertical landscape elements within the wide and open setting of the bay and Fern Burn Valley, framed by Roys Peak to the south and Rocky Mountain, the roche moutonnee to the northwest of the bay. The seasonal colours of these trees are widely appreciated and often recorded in photographs. Overall, this rural setting is of high visual quality and diversity.

The flat valley floor and Fern Burn Fan are intensively farmed and the green pastures of the flats visually contrast with the less intensively grazed mountain slopes surrounding the valley and bay. On the slopes, including the reserve above the Wanaka Aspiring Road, some native vegetation in the form of kanuka forest and grey shrublands can be found.

The lakeshore is predominantly made up of gravel beaches around the head of the bay, deposited there by streams entering the lake in this area. The Fern Burn and Alpha Burn streams have created fans that protrude into the bay. The Fern Burn Fan is particularly distinctive and forms an important landmark within the bay, together with Roys Peninsula, which visually confines the bay to the north. Black Peak and Mt Aspiring form impressive viewpoints in the distance.

The prominent ridgeline descending from Roys Peak divides Glendhu Bay visual catchment from Roys Bay and Wanaka town, which gives it a more secluded character. A prominent headland also defines the bay to the southeast, separating Damper Bay from Glendhu Bay.

The shoreline changes between the head of the bay with its extensive gravel beaches to the outer bay, which contains mid-sized rocks and only small pocket beaches. On the pocket beaches large piles of driftwood can be found, which have been deposited at the high water mark by storm waves. A discontinuous band of manuka lines the shore and kanuka scrub, tree land and small areas of kanuka forest occupies the lower slopes.

This lower, dense native vegetation cover contrasts with the tall, predominantly exotic trees around Glendhu Bay Campground at the head of the bay. The campground represents the most intense development around the bay with a number of permanent and temporary structures, which can be partially seen through the stands of trees from the outer shores. In particular over the summer holidays the campground is a node of activity, attracting numerous national and international tourists into the area. The sheltered water of the bay is very popular for water sports, such as water skiing, swimming and boating.

2.2.2 WESTERN END OF DAMPER BAY LAKEFRONT RECREATION RESERVE TO RIPPON VINEYARD

The immediate hinterland of this character area is dominated by pasture on the flats and hummocky topography containing briar rose, mingimingi and matagouri shrubs and kanuka trees. The surface texture created by the topography in combination with vegetation creates an interesting rural appearance and visually contrasts with the steep mountains in the background. Above these slopes, the terrain rises sharply into the steep faces of the bordering mountain peaks.

At their lower level, these steepening faces support a spread of native scrub vegetation particularly within gullies, whilst the rocky mountain peaks are partially snow-covered during the winter season. The mountain slopes of the Harris Mountains (above 1100m) have high natural character and significant aesthetic values. The mountains provide a backdrop to the lakeshore between Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek when viewed from the eastern side of the lake. Changing light and weather conditions and contrast between mountains and foreground described as spectacular.

Damper Bay is contained by two distinctive headlands that are formed by the spurs extending down from Roys Peak. An ice-scoured flat shelf has been formed around the 300m contour, where the Wanaka - Aspiring Road is located. The elevated rocky outcrops in this area block the drainage of surface water, which has led to the development of wetlands in the low points of the shelf.

Scaifes Lagoon, the biggest of these wetlands to the west of Damper Bay is protected as is the Department of Conservation managed Glendhu Wetland Wildlife Reserve. The remainder of the shelf area is used as pastoral farmland, which extends along the majority of the road. The lakeshores cannot be seen from the road due to the steep-sided shoreline slopes and terrain elevation of the rocky hummocks and hills.

The rocky outcrops create impressive slopes that rise steeply from the lakeshore, in particular around Ironside Hill, which is the high point at an elevation of 415masl. These slopes are covered in a mix of native and introduced shrubs and would generally be inaccessible without the existing walking track. For the construction of the track some

terrain contouring was necessary to accommodate the track along the steep sided lakeshore slopes. Some of the underlying bedrock is visible around the impressive headlands, where the track had to be cut in.

Ironside Hill is one of the most important landmarks along the western Lake Wanaka shoreline, as it frames the views to the north from Roys Bay. Together with the headlands around Damper Bay the hill forms the boundary to the Glendhu Bay visual catchment. As the track winds its way from Waterfall Creek to Damper Bay the outlook from the track changes from features within Roys Bay, Ruby Island and Stevenson Peninsula to Roy's Peninsula as the main landscape feature across from Glendhu Bay.

Damper Bay itself contains a beautiful sandy / gravel beach that is visually enclosed by the rising terrain behind it. The bright-coloured gravel within the bay contrasts with the dark, weathered rock that forms the surrounding steep shores around the adjacent headlands. Driftwood, deposited by storm waves, is strewn across the upper beach.

While native vegetation in the form of grey shrubs and kanuka dominate on the slopes surrounding the bay, a number of willows can be found at the head of the bay. This visual contrast between the bay and the surrounding landscape leads to high aesthetic value of the setting. Since there is no visual connection to the settlement in Glendhu Bay and Wanaka Township and due to limited access (bikers / walkers on the track and boaters), the bay has a remote feeling.

The track between Waterfall Creek and Ironside Hill climbs up the slopes and around small headlands, providing spectacular views to Ruby Island, Beacon Point and Stevenson Peninsula. The hinterland of this area contains some low-density lifestyle subdivision with a few houses visible along the track.

The steep slopes in this area are covered in a mix of bracken fern, briar, matagouri and occasional stands of kanuka. Dense willows line Slaughterhouse Creek, where a track provides access to the lakeshore at the stream mouth. The other formal access point to the lakeshore is located in a small bay below Ironside Hill that has an enclosed, wild feeling with large piles of driftwood strewn across the gravelly beach.

The kanuka growing within the lakefront reserve between the lake and the covenanted land is of high ecological value because it is part of a sequence of vegetation between the covenanted area and the lake margin that is representative of the original vegetation. Open areas between the kanuka support other indigenous plants such as matagouri, bracken, *Poa colensoi*, *Leucopogon fraserii*, *Rauolia*, and creeping pohuehue. The Te Kakano Aoteroa Trust has recently funded the planting of a variety of native trees and shrubs within the kanuka between Waterfall Creek and the "Pumping Station".

The Upper Clutha Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society are carrying out restoration planting above a small area of regenerating kanuka at the southern end of the Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve. The goal of their Millennium Track Habitat Restoration Project is "to restore the natural lakefront communities of Lake Wanaka using native plants from the Upper Clutha area".

The regenerating seral indigenous vegetation between the western end of Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve and Rippon Vineyard is important in that it provides an ecological corridor for the dispersal of plants and fauna. It also plays a role in buffering the lake from adjacent land-uses.

The Te Kakano Aoteroa Trust is funding restoration planting in seven discreet sections along the Glendhu Bay track from Stoney Creek to Waterfall Creek. The purpose of this planting is two-fold. It aims to enhance the appeal of the track to walkers, but also the ecology of the area by creating a corridor linking other native habitats in the area. Some of these areas have recently been planted with a range of native trees.

Several species of water bird use the lake margin and lakefront in the head of Roys Bay for roosting and feeding including three Nationally Threatened species; southern crested grebe, black-billed gull and grey duck.

2.2.3 RIPPON VINEYARD TO THE NORTHERN END OF BREMNER BAY RECREATION RESERVE

This intensively settled landscape character area can be separated into the following three sub-areas:

- The area between Waterfall Creek and Rippon Lea, where a transition from rural to residential can be observed.
- The densely settled area around the head of Roys Bay with the core of Wanaka Township.
- The newer, more suburban part of Wanaka in the hinterland of Bremner Bay.

2.2.3.1 Waterfall Creek - Rippon Lea

Waterfall Creek is one of the landmarks in this area, as a popular beach and boat launch can be found on the distinctive fan created by material washed out into the lake by the creek. The accessibility of the lakeshore in this area from Ruby Island Road means that it is a popular spot for locals and tourists alike. It marks the end of the relatively flat section of track from the head of Roys Bay. To the north the track becomes more challenging as it starts to sidle along the steeper slopes and crosses over several headlands on its way to Damper Bay.

On the way to Wanaka from Waterfall Creek the land use changes from rural to residential. The slopes above the outer shores of Roys Bay are extensively grazed and vegetation is made up of regenerating shrublands. Immediately south of Waterfall Creek lies a protected kanuka Woodland (with a QE II covenant), which extends down to the track.

Around this area kanuka stands are common along the lakeshore as well. Adjacent to the south of the kanuka woodland the vineyards of Rippon Vineyard extend between the Wanaka-Aspiring Road and the track. This intensive viticultural use forms part of the change from a rural pastoral character to urban land use.

A park like character has been created by the well-maintained, landscaped grounds of Edgewater Resort, which extends as far as the track. A stand of mature poplars south of Edgewater Stream lines the lakeshore. These poplars form part of the iconic setting of Roys Bay / Wanaka township and are often photographed, in particular when displaying spectacular autumn colours. A number of younger trees are growing between the mature trees, ensuring rejuvenation of the stand. The poplars create an enclosed, shady character along the track, while still allowing for views out onto the lake.

Wanaka Station Park, a mature woodland with well-maintained, park-like open space is located the south western corner of Roys Bay. The residential dwellings of Rippon Lea subdivision are visually separated by dense mature trees, which are predominantly exotic.

The park offers a rich history, as well as a variety of landscaped areas, such as a rhododendron garden. The historic connection of the park, which was the location of the old Wanaka Station Homestead, and the old, impressive trees provide an extra layer that cannot be found in many other places along the lakeshore. There is a visual connection along the track between the row of training roses and the lake.

2.2.3.2 Head of Roys Bay

This area between Station Park and Eely Point is the most heavily used part of the lakeshore in close proximity to the town centre of Wanaka. The gravel beach is lined with sporadic exotic trees, mainly willows, which provide some shade for recreationists. On the southern side of the town centre Pembroke Park and Wanaka Recreational Reserve provide a large open space area in the context of the lake.

The track follows the open space between the beach and road, which is otherwise dominated by car parking areas. Both the track and car parking becomes more formal towards the south eastern corner of Roys Bay, where the main hub of activity is located. Numerous visitors cross the road and car parks to venture down to the lakeshore from the town centre in this area and recreational usage, including water sports, is very high in this part of the bay.

The interface between the commercial town centre, including shops, restaurants and bars, has been designed and landscaped to provide amenity values in this area, where a creek enters the bay. A number of high-density hotel developments line the waterfront between the town centre and the marina along Lakeside Road. The marina, located on the eastern shore between the head of the bay and Eely Point, is one of the man-made, visual focal points when viewed from the shore of Roys Bay with its mooring boats extending out into the water.

From the marina northwards the character of the shoreline changes, as dwellings and roads are stepped back from the water. The experience along the track is more natural, despite the dominance of exotic vegetation in the form of mature trees. The dense vegetation and an elevation change to the terrace behind the lakeshore mean that there is a visual separation between the residential development extending towards Bremner Bay and the water.

Eely Point is the key landmark of the eastern side of Roys Bay, as it frames the view out across the lake from Wanaka Township. The other side of this iconic view out is contained by Ironside Hill and Ruby Island in the distance to the west. Eely Point is accentuated by the stand of mature conifers, which form a distinctive vertical element on the headland. The road rounding the headland is also used as a track and provides glimpses out towards Beacon Point and beyond. A popular beach with gravel sediment is contained by the headland on its southern side. A boat launch facility and barbeque are located on the headland.

2.2.3.3 Bremner Bay:

From outer Beacon Point good views can be gained out onto the lake. The gravelly beach on the southern side of the headland is lined with mature poplars, which create a settled and sheltered setting with high amenity values. A small wetland can be found in the centre of Beacon Point, where it appears that restoration efforts with some native planting have been undertaken.

2.2.4 BREMNER BAY RECREATION RESERVE TO THE CLUTHA OUTLET RESERVE

Bremner Bay is visually contained by Eely Point to the south and Beacon Point to the north. This is an important part of the Wanaka shoreline for local residents who intensively use this area. The track around Eely Point connects this part of Wanaka Township with the centre in Roys Bay. In this area, while set in an urban context, the roads and dwellings are set back from the lakeshore, which creates a very different character to the busy town centre.

The shoreline is made up of flats, which are exposed at low lake levels. These flats are often covered in lakeshore turfland vegetation with some bare gravel beaches in between. The context of Bremner Bay has parkland character with a mix of manicured lawn areas and clusters of native plantings. The residential dwellings in this area are high value, large houses with landscaping that blends into the parkland along the lakeshore. The absence of fencing creates a smooth transition between private and public space that provides high amenity value.

Towards the northern end of this character area the maintained parkland gives way to a more natural area, covered in a mix of native and introduced shrubs, such as matagouri, kanuka and briar. This more scrubby appearance defines the area along the lake leading up to Beacon Point, creating a visual separation between the lakeshore and the track. Beacon Point itself is another landmark of southern Lake Wanaka, as it separates Bremner Bay from the Clutha Outlet visual catchment.

Beacon Point forms the end point for the subdivision development extending north from Wanaka with some high value residences overlooking the head. From this point on the track and vegetation become rougher towards the Clutha outlet and the character changes quite suddenly from urban to rural.

The terraces behind the lakeshore rise steeply in places and erosion of sand and loess deposits form impressive landforms above the track. The steep slopes are generally covered in shrubs, such as briar, matagouri and some kanuka. Closer to the outlet poplars can be found along the lakeshore and a large stand of kanuka helps to integrate the campground adjacent to the outlet into the landscape.

Above the Clutha Outlet and river itself, the valley landscape is characterised by a series of clearly defined river terraces. The terrace above the outlet is defined by Mt Iron, rising steeply to the south. Sticky Forest, a conifer plantation forest which contains numerous mountain bike tracks, is located to the south of the outlet arm.

Although largely obscured, the Clutha River is an important natural feature within the Wanaka Basin and a focus of recreational activity. Up to 100m across, the Clutha River is entrenched some 20m below the level of the upper terrace.

The river maintains a swift flow within its entrenched course and is widely associated with a number of active river pursuits. The riverside is publicly accessed along both banks via the Upper Clutha River Track and the Newcastle Track. The track connecting Albert Town with Lake Wanaka, is of an easy grade, well maintained and a popular spot for both visitors exploring the area and locals getting some exercise or walking their dog.

2.2.5 KEY VIEW POINTS AND LANDMARKS

The following landscape features form distinctive landmarks along the shore of Lake Wanaka. Some of these features are man-made, while the majority are important natural landforms and topographical features.

- Roys Peninsula
- Fern Burn Fan
- Damper Bay headland
- Ironside Hill
- Roys Peak
- Ruby Island
- Waterfall Creek Fan
- Eely Point
- Beacon Point
- Mt Iron
- The Peninsula
- Clutha Outlet
- Glendhu Campground
- Wanaka township
- Marina.

2.3 GEOLOGY

Mountains in the Otago region and along the Main Divide in general, have been created by the convergence of the Pacific and Australian crustal plates. This generates on going, active deformation and a network of fault lines can be found in the area, the Moonlight Fault in the Wakatipu Basin and the Cardrona Fault being the most important ones. In the Wanaka Basin a minor fault can be found along the Motatapu Valley.

The Wanaka Basin landscape has been frequently overridden by glaciers in the last couple of million years and on many occasions in the last 500,000 years. Advances that extended almost to Cromwell would have had glacial surfaces close to the current crest of Treble Cone. The youngest event with glaciers extending to Wanaka township took place approximately 18,000 years ago.

Glacial erosion has generated most of the landforms in the area, including the steep valley walls, hanging valleys and the roche moutonnées (also referred to as isolated mountains), which are prominent features in the Wanaka and Wakatipu landscape. In the Wanaka landscape the isolated mountains of Mount Iron, Roy's Peninsula and Rocky Mountain next to Glendhu Bay are well-known examples, which form important viewpoints.

Typically roches moutonnées are elongated knobs of bedrock that have been carved and smoothed by an overriding glacier. The mountain is oriented in the direction of the glacier's flow with the upstream side gently sloping and smooth and the downstream side steep and rough.

Transported glacial gravels are found throughout the eastern part of the basin, such as those remnants alongside Lake Wanaka that were deposited by the glacier 18,000 years ago. More recently significant changes have taken place on the valley floors as a result of river aggradational processes and fan development. Several streams in the area have created impressive fans, some of them highly active and visible along the lakeshore, such as Fern Burn at Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek draining the Roys Peak catchment.

Following the melting of the last glaciers an early Lake Wanaka formed in the depression with a level that was controlled by the nature and height of the moraine at the (present) outlet. Landforms near Wanaka suggest the highest lake was at about 300m a.s.l.

The Clutha River has cut further through the outlet moraine over time, which has resulted in a progressive reduction in the level of Lake Wanaka to its present mean elevation of 279m a.s.l. Some indication of the rate of change can be gained by the aggradational deposits around the lake margin, including the beach deposits formed at the major bays.

A variety of rocks and material deposited by glaciers and rivers can be found throughout the basin. These underlying geological characteristics can be summarised as follows:

- i) Schist forms the basement rock in the area and there is a range of textures and weathering strength characteristics. Numerous outcrops of schist can be found, in particular around the Glendhu Bay area, with Rocky Mountain being a very prominent example of an isolate mountain made of schist. Along the lake shore smaller schist outcrops are common between Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek with prominent bluffs located on the headlands on either side of Damper Bay.
- ii) The schist in the Wanaka - Hawea region is overlain by remnant deposits of glacial till from the late Quaternary age. Some well-preserved deposits lie southwest of Glendhu Bay where ice pushed into the Motutapu Valley and left moraines with a distinctive surface. Additionally, late Tertiary lake sediments occur throughout the basin that would have initially extended further to the west.
- iii) These deposits of loose, fine gravel have formed on the margin of Lake Wanaka in sheltered environments at all levels. In some areas they have formed pronounced benches and there are local, prominent storm beaches. The Motutapu and Matukituki Rivers, plus a number of smaller streams, have formed moderate to extensive floodplains and deltas of alluvial gravels.

2.4 RIVERS AND CATCHMENTS

The general area surrounding southern Lake Wanaka has a relatively dry climate. The area lies between the extremes of the wet Southern Alps and very dry Central Otago.

Currently the main rivers feeding Lake Wanaka are the Matukituki River on its western side and the Makarora River at its northern end. The Clutha River drains the lake in an easterly and subsequently southerly direction. Interestingly, some of the river systems in the Wanaka Basin have changed their courses over time. Initially, the Makarora River flowed beyond what is now Lake Wanaka to the Motutapu River.

Sometime in the last 100,000 years, Lake Wanaka basin was breached to the east, and the Makarora began to flow out into the Clutha catchment. At that time, the Motutapu River reversed its flow, and it now flows north into Lake Wanaka. Similarly, the Cardrona valley was a continuation of the combined Landsborough-Hunter river system. At that time, this

great river flowed south, carrying greywacke gravels from the Southern Alps into the schist country of Central Otago, carrying large deposits of greywacke gravel in the Cardrona valley. Eventually growing tectonic ridges joined, and the Cardrona River began to flow north, rather than south.

Nearby Lake Hawea, this is fed by the Hunter River, lies in a parallel valley carved by a neighbouring glacier eight kilometres to the east. At their closest point (a rocky ridge called The Neck), the lakes are only 1,000 metres apart. The ice occupying the two lake basins was connected over this low pass, and the lake basins had a similar glacial history with glaciers extending east from the Main Divide. Lake Wanaka forms one of the most important sources of water for the Roxburgh Hydro-electric Station but, unlike Lake Hawea, its level is not artificially controlled.

Within the study area are a number of smaller rivers draining into Lake Wanaka, namely the Motatapu River and Fern Burn in Glendhu Bay and steep Waterfall Creek at Ruby Island Road. A number of smaller creeks also draining Roy's Peak enter the western part of the study area between Glendhu and Wanaka Township. Several wetlands have formed between the Damper Bay area and the Wanaka-Mount Aspiring Road.

2.5 TOPOGRAPHY

Lake Wanaka lies in a glacial lake basin oriented approximately north and south and situated about 30 miles east of the main divide at Mount Aspiring. The topography of the basin and lakeshore line reflects its underlying geology. The glacial and fluvial sediments deposited in the eastern part of the basin, such as around Wanaka Township contrast with the steep sided shores between Glendhu and Damper Bays where schist dominates.

As outlined above, ice sculptured Mount Iron into a typical "roche moutonnée" shape. The hill forms an important landscape feature today and it is one of the key visual landmarks when viewing Wanaka Township from the outer shores of Roys Bay. It rises abruptly from the landscape to 240 metres and offers a spectacular vantage point from which to view the surrounding valleys, peaks, rivers and lakes. A prominent loop of terminal moraine encircles the southern end of the lake, encloses Wanaka town, and marks the distinctive boundary of the ice advances, which is still clearly visible in the landscape.

Lake Wanaka's western shore is lined with high peaks rising to over 2000 metres above sea level. Along the eastern shore the land is also mountainous, but the peaks are somewhat lower. The southern end spreads out into flat stepped terraces with Roys Peak forming a distinctive landmark at the eastern extent of the Harris Mountains.

The southern shoreline is deeply indented by bays, the most prominent being Glendhu Bay in the west, Stevenson Arm / Dublin Bay in the east and Roys Bay in the south. Wanaka township is located at the southern tip of the lake, where several smaller bays have formed within Roys Bay with finer sediment, such as gravel and sand forming a number of beaches. A number of islands of varying size (notably Ruby Island, Stevensons Island and Mou Tapu Island) are found in the southern part of the lake.

2.6 LAND USE

Wanaka Township forms an important service town for this part of Queenstown Lakes District and one of the key tourist attractions of the region. The township has established along the southern shore of the lake with its older core at the head of Roys Bay.

The residential development has since expanded along the shores of Bremner Bay as far as Beacon Point and along Rippon Lea on the western shoreline. The growing residential and tourist accommodation development generally differs in character to the older parts of town. The tourist accommodation development along Lakeside Road is dense and forms a distinctive multi-story cluster.

Visually there is a relatively strong connection between the strip of shops, bars and restaurants that are located around the centre of town between Dungarvon Street and Lakeside Road. Along the majority of the southern Roys Bay shore line extensive car parking forms somewhat of a visual barrier between the sport and show grounds in the context of the shore. The southwestern corner of Roys Bay is defined by a mature stand of poplars, which have iconic status for the Wanaka shoreline, featuring in many photos with their spectacular autumn colours.

The land uses transition from urban to rural residential along the western shore between Edgewater Stream and Waterfall Creek. The section sizes increase in this transition area and setbacks from the lake also increase. The presence of vineyards in relatively close proximity to the lake creates an intensive agricultural land use, which contrasts in character with the extensive pastoral grazing on land to the west and north. This transition from urban to rural landscape extends over about two kilometres, with low- density rural lifestyle development on the terraces above the lake beyond that. The steep lakeshores between Waterfall Creek and Glendhu Bay are often covered in regenerating shrublands with some denser stands of kanuka. One of the most notable stands is a kanuka woodland located just south of Waterfall Creek, where a QE II covenant now protects an area of 2.4ha.

The hinterland of the eastern shores of Roys Bay (between the head of the bay and Beacon Point) is more consistently residential in character with dense subdivision development extending to Sticky Forest near the Clutha outlet. The developments often extend relatively close to the open space and track adjacent to the lake, in particular along parts of Bremner Bay.

The vegetated headlands, in particular Eely Point and Beacon Point, do not contain residential dwellings and, therefore, visually act as an undeveloped foil to the bays and their hinterland. The relief of the lakeshore on this side of Roys Bay is generally gentler and often sand and gravel flats extend out into the lake at low lake levels.

The vegetation lining the shoreline contains a mix of exotic trees, in particular willows and poplars, and native shrubs, predominantly manuka. Eely Point is defined by mature stands of tall coniferous trees, which form a vertical landscape element that frames the view from Wanaka Township. The track along Bremner Bay has been enhanced with a mix of native plantings, set within a well-maintained parkland. East of Beacon Point the vegetation becomes scrubbier again with a mix of native and exotic shrubs on the steeper slopes above the lake.

3. THE RESERVES

3.1 GLENDHU BAY (WEST) RESERVE



3.1.1 HISTORY

Glendhu Bay was a useful stopping point for adventurers exploring the Matukituki and Motatapu Valleys.² Glendhu was initially part of Run 334, which became part of Wanaka Station. Glendhu Station was separated off in 1897 and purchased by Henry Barker.³

Records on when the various areas of Glendhu Bay became reserves are scarce. Glendhu Bay (West) Reserve was designated a reserve by 2008.

Recently, the Rotary Club of Wanaka has undertaken significant work in developing this reserve.

3.1.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Glendhu Bay (West) Reserve is a mostly flat, grassed area that gently slopes to a small gravel beach. The reserve adjoins Glendhu Bay Reserve, which currently operates as a commercial holiday park.

Until recently this reserve had minimal visitation, however, in recent years there has been a significant increase. Visitors typically use this reserve to access the lake for recreational water activities and it is a popular picnicking and swimming spot.

To minimise damage to the reserve and provide a safe environment for all visitors, a plan to develop a boat launching ramp, public toilet and associated landscaping was approved.

² Otago Witness, 22/01/1905, 1/07/1903, 02/04/1881.

³ Irvine Roxburgh Wanaka Story, p.257.

3.2 GLENDHU BAY CAMPGROUND RESERVE



3.2.1 HISTORY

The Glendhu Bay campground started out as a small family run camp in the 1920s.⁴ By the 1930s the camp was well established. Arthur Scaife, whose parents owned Glendhu Station, earned his pocket money each summer selling meat, vegetables and milk to the campers.⁵

The Douglas Firs around the camp were planted in the 1930s. Arthur Wilson carried the firs on the back of his bicycle from his nursery in Pembroke.⁶

In 2005, Council adopted a Campground Strategy, which saw the day to day operation of the Glendhu Bay Camp operated in-house rather than through a lease, as had been the case for a number of years previously.

In 2014, a decision to enter into a long term lease for the campground operation was made.

3.2.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This reserve has been a campground for many years with the necessary infrastructure available for this type of activity and it is intended to continue this into the future.

Glendhu Bay campground remains a popular camping spot, with over 1,500 campers during the peak summer months. It is a flat-grassed site, with a gently sloping, small gravel beach running the entire length of the reserve.

As well as camping, recreational water activities including boating (fishing, water skiing,

⁴ Roxburgh, Irvine (1990). Wanaka and Surrounding Districts, p.19 refers to first aiders being based at Glendhu Camp in the 1920s.

⁵ Arthur Scaife notes, Wanaka Probus Club Tour 1/12/1988. Various Historical Documents.

⁶ Stan Kane Notes. 37E/F1

wake boarding, etc) and swimming are popular activities at this reserve.

Trees within the reserve have been a concern for a number of years, with safety and stability the main concern. This is mainly due to their age and minimal maintenance in the past.

3.3 DAMPER BAY RESERVE



3.3.1 HISTORY

Damper Bay is so named after 'damper' cooked there by an early settler, 'Dublin' Jack Shepherd.⁷ Damper was an early staple of the diet of many early European explorers. It is a type of bread, consisting of flour and water, cooked over a campfire.

Initially part of Run 334, records on when it officially became a reserve are scarce. Section 18 had been gazetted by 2000, while Section 6 is recorded as gazetted in 2009.⁸

Work began on creating a track between Damper Bay and Glendhu Bay in 1999.⁹ Work stalled, however the track was completed in 2010, extending the Millennium Track. The Millennium Track construction was a joint project between QLDC and the Otago Regional Council.

3.3.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Damper Bay Reserve is a long narrow reserve, beginning at the east boundary of Glendhu Bay Holiday Park, through to Damper Bay, around the headland towards Waterfall Creek. The Millennium Track passes through the reserve and this provides great views through varied terrain.

This reserve has been identified during the ecological assessment process for this plan as having some of the best potential for protecting indigenous fauna and flora. Consideration should be given to development of an ecological management plan to encourage indigenous species regeneration.

Part of the track is fenced to keep neighbouring stock out of the reserve. Fencing of the entire reserve would be desirable from both a reserve maintenance and ecological point of view. It would enable re-vegetation plantings to be established and allow remnant vegetation to flourish without stock damage on a consistent basis. Pests such as rabbits will require regular controls.

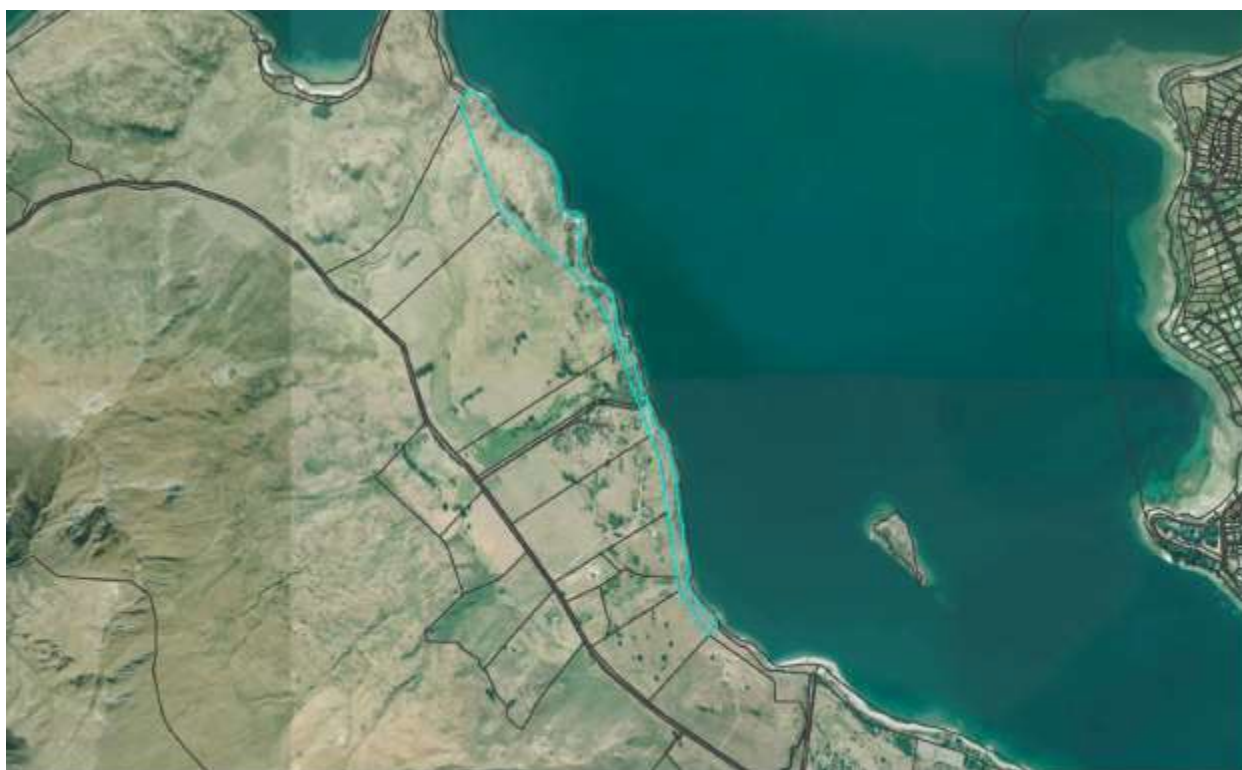
The shared walking and cycle track traverses a low-lying area and is subject to occasional flooding. Remediation options for this may include negotiation for use of private property with reserve neighbours.

⁷ Roxburgh, Irvine, (1957), Wanaka Story, p.251

⁸ Document provided by QLDC, September 2013.

⁹ Unnamed newspaper article, 04/05/1999. Lake Wanaka Guardians.

3.4 DAMPER BAY TO WATERFALL CREEK



3.4.1 HISTORY

In the 1950's, 'Grandad' Studholme (who ran the County Nursery in the Cardrona Valley), gave a sequoia tree to Jim Ironside, who was farming at nearby Tuohys. The tree was planted on the top of the roche moutonee at the northern part of the reserve and has survived, despite drought and winds. A plaque in memorial of James (Jim) Smith Ironside was placed near the trees in the 1980s and the hill is known as Ironside's Hill.

Slaughterhouse Creek, which runs through the reserve, is named for the slaughterhouse that was built on a nearby paddock sometime before WWI. The block was leased in 1905 to Henry Charles Barker, a butcher. Through to the mid-1950s, the slaughterhouse supplied Wanaka and the surrounding areas with fresh meat.

3.4.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This reserve joins the Department of Conservation's Waterfall Creek Reserve and contains the vast majority of the original Millennium Track. This part of the track was constructed in 2000. There is also an extension track, which uses the unformed Lake Road to provide walking access up to the Wanaka Mt Aspiring Road.

In recent years, Te Kakano has undertaken extensive re-vegetation plantings in this section of the reserve. As with the adjoining Damper Bay Reserve, fencing this area of the reserve would also be desirable to enhance ecological recovery and secure the recreation areas from damage from stock.

3.5 WATERFALL CREEK TRACK

This land is vested in the Department of Conservation and is therefore not legally impacted

by this plan. Should the land be vested to Council as is anticipated, the plan will apply.



3.5.1 HISTORY

The waterfall at the head of the creek used to power the flourmill on Wanaka Station.¹⁰ The water was also run through a pelton wheel, with the energy stored in batteries to run the Woolshed and Homestead.¹¹

This land was gazetted in 1983 as a reserve (Section 4 is still Crown Land).

3.5.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Waterfall Creek Reserve is recognised as an exceptionally popular destination for swimmers, picnickers and windsurfers.

With the Waterfall Creek Track running through this reserve, it is popular with walkers, mountain bikers, and picnickers. It has a safe accessible beach and is popular with swimmers and other water sports users.

¹⁰ Rolfe Mills Notes. Wanaka Station Park.

¹¹ Wanaka Station Park Interpretation Panels, viewed September 2013.

3.6 WATERFALL CREEK TO WANAKA STATION PARK



3.6.1 HISTORY

Once part of Wanaka Station, this track was gifted to the community in 1975. This was to provide access between Waterfall Creek Reserve and the soon to be created Wanaka Station Park. By the 1990s the track was considered to be extremely popular.¹²

A section of private land adjoining this reserve is of particular interest. The owners, Jill and John Blennerhassett, placed the covenant over the 2.4 hectare area in 2000 to protect it from development and preserve its open space for future generations to enjoy. Visitors are welcome to explore and enjoy the Blennerhassett Kanuka Reserve, with free access from the public track.

Kanuka, or tea tree, growing here is a species that has yet to be formally described and named. Its small stature and very small leaves, flowers and seed capsules are distinguishing features. The bark too, is different as it rolls off the trunk like wood shavings. These features are adaptations to the dry, cold environments of the Clutha Basin. The species forms open woodland where the spacing and size of the trees is governed by the limited amount of moisture in the soil.

3.6.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

As well as being accessed via the Waterfall Creek track, this reserve can also be accessed from Ruby Island Road. It is a very popular picnic, swimming and boat launching site and it experiences congestion during peak periods.

The reserve contains areas of native vegetation, which has been further enhanced by Te Kakano Trust, which will continue the native re-vegetation programme within this reserve.

¹² Rolfe Mills Notes. Wanaka Station Park.

In addition, this reserve has stands of Poplar trees, some of which have been removed in recent years due to safety concerns. Some of the Poplar trees will be replaced over time to ensure that the traditional autumn colour displays, that this part of the lakefront is known for, continues.

3.7 WANAKA STATION PARK



3.7.1 HISTORY

Wanaka Station was created when H.S. Thompson purchased & combined runs 334, 240 and 239 in 1866. The station was liquidated in 1887 and purchased three years later for £15,000. The Sargood family purchased Wanaka Station in 1912. The original Wanaka Station Homestead was destroyed by fire in 1913. The replacement was also destroyed by fire in 1931.¹³

The descendants of the Sargood family gifted the first section of Wanaka Station Park to Wanaka in 1977 after 10-acre blocks along Mt Aspiring Road were subdivided off. The second section was gifted twenty years later, in 1997.¹⁴¹⁵

In 2012 descendants from the original station owners erected a commemorative plaque and associated information sign by the remains of the homestead foundations.

¹³ Wanaka Station Park Interpretation Panels, viewed September 2013.

¹⁴ Wanaka Station Park Interpretation Panels, viewed September 2013.

¹⁵ Lake County Council Wanaka District Scheme Pre-Review Statement. Undated document, produced prior to the opening of Treble Cone Ski field. Lake County Council Documents.

3.7.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Wanaka Station Park is a popular passive recreation reserve with large stands of mature trees, rhododendron gardens and other exotic plantings, creating a 'public gardens' atmosphere. It attracts many visitors, picnickers, and families and provides a place for quiet relaxation and is also host to a number of weddings each year.

This reserve contains a rose pergola erected in 2006 and uses roses from the former Wanaka Station homestead. A commemorative plaque and information panels were installed in 2012, near the remains of the homestead foundations. Built structures include a public toilet block, which was modernised in 2009. The park contains a set of children swings installed in 2006 and there is scope to increase the amount of play equipment within the park subject to demand.

Wanaka Station Park is also home to number of significant number of trees many of which are reaching maturity. They are protected in the District Plan.

3.8 ROYS BAY RESERVE



3.8.1 HISTORY

Roys Bay is named after John Roy, the initial run holder of Run 334. Roy took up a de-pasturing license in 1859 but sold the run in 1862 to his father in law when he encountered financial difficulties.¹⁶

¹⁶ Wanaka Station Park Interpretation Panels, viewed September 2013; Otago Witness, 26/11/1859; Roxburgh, Irvine (1957) Wanaka Story.

3.8.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Roys Bay Reserve is the busiest reserve included in this management plan. It facilitates a wide range of recreational activities, from passive recreation activities such as relaxing, picnicking, to active recreation pursuits such as swimming, water sports, walking and running.

The reserve accommodates a number of facilities, including public toilets, children's playgrounds, public BBQs, public art, car parks, tracks and park furniture.

Roys Bay Reserve also contains the majority of the lake related commercial leases and concessions located at the north end of the reserve. A list of the commercial leases and concessions holders is detailed in Appendix 2 of this management plan.

The well-used Millennium track continues along the main part of Roys Bay Reserve though to the 'dinosaur playground' and picnic area at the northern end and up towards the marina.

The reserve also contains a number of exotic trees and plantings, which provide the colourful autumn displays that the Central Otago region and Lake Wanaka are renowned for. The mature trees provide shelter from the lake winds and valuable shade on hot days.

The combined Watersports Club establishment committee has expressed a desire to construct a building on the lakefront in front of the two Sequoia giganteum trees at the south western end of this reserve, adjacent to Stony Creek and the existing access way and car park. A concept landscape plan for this proposal has been submitted to the QLDC.

The northern end (closest to the marina) accommodates more facilities including the log cabin, a large playground ('Dinosaur Park'), picnic area, BBQ and public toilet. A substantial amount of the landform in this area from Dungarvon Street to Lakeside Road is occupied by car parking. A significant car park is also located opposite Pembroke Park at the McDougall Street end.

This area of the reserve also houses a large concrete sculptured hand known as 'the hand that nurtures', created by sculptor Llew Summers and unveiled in 2005.

In 2013 Kahu Youth installed a 'hangi pit' on the reserve near the existing BBQ/picnic area. Further along the Millennium track and towards the Marina is the 'Wanaka Springs Water Feature' installed 2011. This consists of a rock and wood seating area and cascading water pools from a natural spring. This was a community funded project lead by the Wanaka Springs Community Trust and is maintained by Council. The water for the springs is derived from an underground aquifer across Lakeside Road and is considered by some to be superior in quality.

Long term leases exist on this reserve with some due to expire over the life of this plan.

3.9 WANAKA MARINA RESERVE



3.9.1 HISTORY

No historical information available.

3.9.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Wanaka Marina Reserve is located on Lakeside Road, between Eely Point Reserve and the Roys Bay Reserve. The groyne is included in the reserve area.

Wanaka Marina Reserve is highly used all year round, but is especially popular during the peak summer months. The reserve includes several public boating facilities such as boat launching ramps, jetty, car parking area and toilets. Wanaka Marina Reserve also houses the Wanaka rescue boat. In 1993 the Development Plan for Wanaka foreshore playground to the groyne was prepared and the majority of this plan has been implemented.

The Wanaka Yacht Club holds a commercial lease for the existing building footprint, an area surrounding the building for car park and the groyne in front of the building for boat rigging and parking.

An extensive upgrade of the toilet and boat ramp area was completed in 2008/9 and there is considerable congestion in this area at peak times, with concerns being raised about both day and long term boat trailer parking.

The Wanaka Yacht Club (WYC), holds a lease for the existing building footprint plus an area around it for parking, plus the groyne in front for boat rigging and parking.

The club has requested a renewal of its existing lease plus an addition to the size of the building lease and the groyne to cater for expanding growth and accommodation of the Coastguard.

Two pairs of the nationally vulnerable Southern Crested Grebe successfully nested and

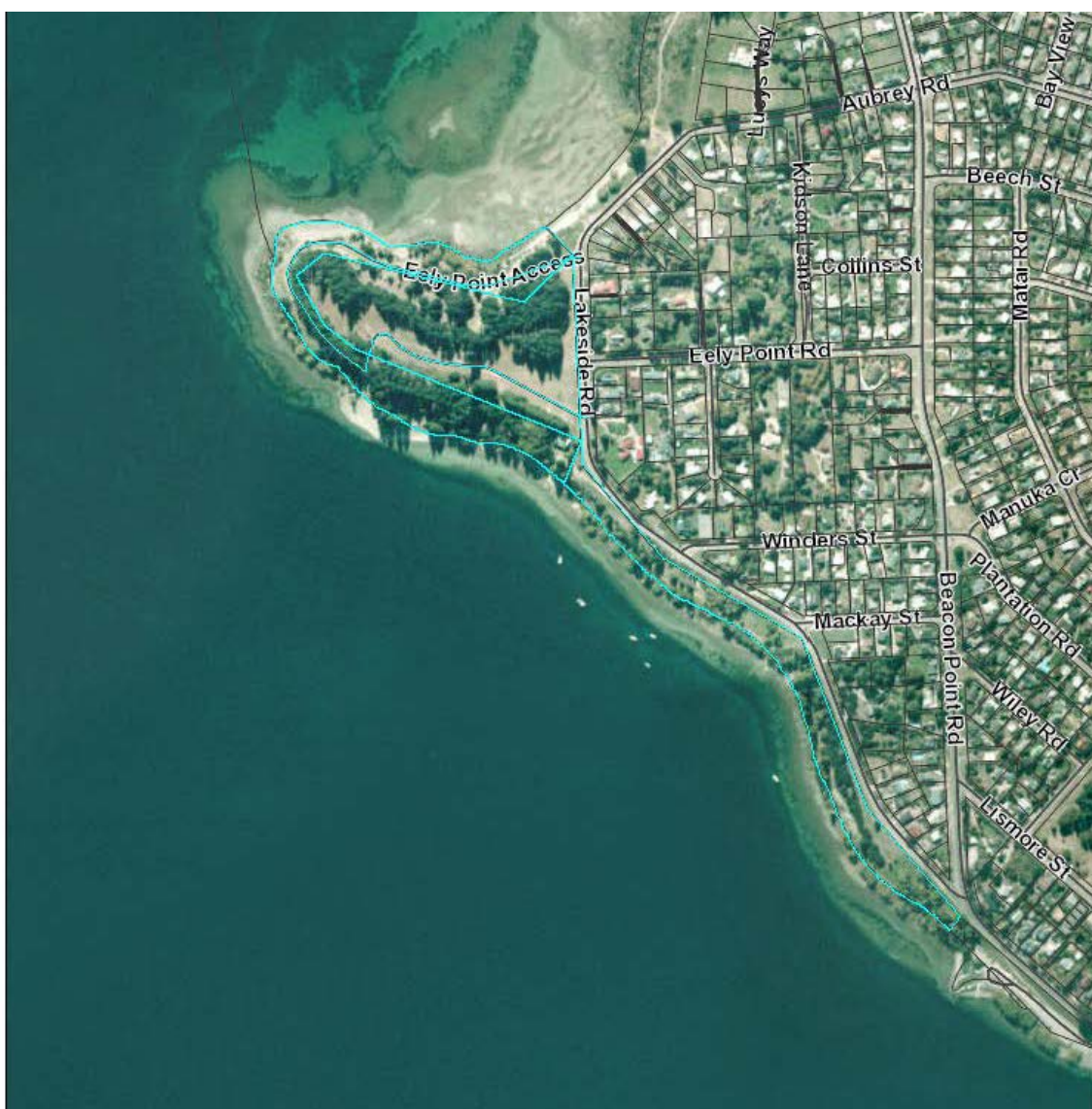
raised young at the Wanaka Marina and at the outlet of Bullock Creek during the 2013/14 season (C. Riley pers. com 2014).

3.10 EELY POINT RESERVE (INCLUDES ESPLANADE CONNECTING TO WANAKA MARINA RESERVE)

3.10.1 HISTORY

The name 'Eely' is believed to have been derived from 'Healy', an early resident on the point.¹⁷

In 1939 Section 29, consisting of "11 acres, 2 roads and 17 perches" were placed under the control of the Wanaka Islands Domain Board for reserve purposes.¹⁸ By 1947, Section 1453R, consisting of "11 acres, 1 road, 10 perches, more or less", had been added to the Board's care.¹⁹



¹⁷ Irvine Roxburgh Wanaka Story, p251. 22 New Zealand Gazette 1939.

¹⁸ New Zealand Gazette 1939.

¹⁹ New Zealand Gazette 1947.

3.10.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Eely Point Reserve is situated on a peninsula on the eastern shores of Lake Wanaka to the south of Bremner Bay, at the end of Lakeside Road, towards Aubrey Road.

The reserve is a popular swimming and picnicking spot, and offers an alternative to Wanaka Marina as boat launching site, supported by a large parking areas. However, this high level of activity generates congestion during the peak summer months. Eely Point Reserve is also accessed via a track via Lakeside Road. The track is popular with walkers, runners and mountain bikers and connects Eely Point Reserve with Bremner Bay around the peninsula.

Eely Point Reserve is a popular summer destination for boating especially when other parts of the lake are not suitable due to wind. Informal beach launching of boats occur on a regular basis. Formalising this with a permanent boat ramp has been sought for a number of years.

Many of the conifer trees that surround Eely Point Reserve are reaching maturity.

Eely Point Reserve has toilets and a community building, which is currently leased to Scout Association of New Zealand.

3.11 BREMNER BAY RESERVE



3.11.1 HISTORY

The bay is named after the Bremner family, who in Pembroke's early days either resided on Eely Road or Lakeside Road.²⁰ The reserve was initially proposed in 1948 because "this

²⁰ Ken Thomlinson Notes on Road Names. Ida Darling, Memories on Early Wanaka. Various Historical Documents.

area fronts the lake where the water is shallow and warmer, and is becoming a popular spot for picnics, bathing and small boats”.²¹

By 1991 the reserve had become one of the most popular spots in Wanaka for swimming and picnicking.²²

3.11.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Bremner Bay is situated on the eastern lakefront between Eely Point Reserve and Beacon Point Reserve. The area from the Eely Point Reserve entrance road along to the northern side of 202 Beacon Point Road is not a reserve, but is an unformed legal road. It is part of a larger reserve consisting of 12 hectares, giving it a much larger appearance. The general principles and policies in plan will also apply to the unformed legal road section.

Since 2005, Council has undertaken significant clearance of unwanted vegetation, leaving in the main, a mix of native and non-invasive exotic plants. Large areas of grass have been created in some areas. The Te Kakano group has been active in planting natives in this area where practical.

The reserve is home to a track, which was upgraded in 2006, and is very popular with both cyclists and walkers alike.

As Bremner Bay is easy to access from Lakeside Road it remains a popular spot for swimming, picnicking, kayaking and other passive recreational pursuits.

3.12 BEACON POINT RESERVE



²¹ 1948 Wanaka Extra Urban Planning Scheme, Fourth Schedule. Lake County Council Correspondence.

²² Lake Wanaka Foreshore Draft Management Plan, 1991, p.20.

3.12.1 HISTORY

Beacon Point is named after the beacon light that was positioned in the shallow part of the lake to warn boats plying the lake about the shallow, rocky bay.²³

A planning report document written in 1972 considered the lakefront between Eely Point and Beacon Point to be part of the lineal lakefront reserves already established by the Council.²⁴

By the mid-1970s the lakefront area along Beacon Point was considered by the Council to require special treatment.²⁵

The Department of Conservation held management responsibility for Beacon Point Reserve until it was transferred over to Council in 1991²⁶ as it was regarded as being of local purpose.

3.12.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Beacon Point Reserve follows the lakefront between Bremner Bay Reserve and Outlet Reserve.

The reserve area consists of a wetland area, formed to act as storm water settling areas for the surrounding subdivision and an area that extends from the intersection of Beacon Point Road and Penrith Park Road. The latter is considered part of the reserve, but is actually a legal road, i.e., a continuation of Beacon Point Road.

The track from Bremner Bay connects to the unsealed section of Beacon Point Road. This is extensively used as a cycle way ending in a dead end for motorised vehicles.

3.13 OUTLET RESERVE



²³ Ida Darling, Memories of Early Wanaka; Various Historical Documents.

²⁴ 1972 Planning Report to Mr A Anderson and Others. Development Options for Section 28, 27, 26, 25 Blk XIV Lower Shotover Zoning – Rural. Lake Wanaka Guardians.

²⁵ Lake County Council Scheme Pre-Review Statement. Undated. Lake County Council Correspondence.

²⁶ Lake Wanaka Lakefront Draft Management Plan, 1991.

3.13.1 HISTORY

No historical information available.

3.13.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Outlet Reserve starts at the end Beacon Point Road and continues toward the Clutha River until it meets the Department of Conservation land downstream from the Outlet Motor Camp. A continuation of the Outlet track runs through this conservation reserve. The track route is at times low lying and subject to inundation during high river levels.

High erodible cliffs and native vegetation are the main features of this area.

The Outlet Camp is partially located on private land and part leased from Council and runs as a commercial entity. The non-campground land has high ecological value with regenerating indigenous vegetation present.

The Wanaka Wind Surf Club uses an area within this reserve for kite and wind surfing. The Club has submitted to the Council a request for improved erosion control including formalising the rigging area, improvement of existing access road and enhancement/re-vegetation of kanuka vegetation.

4. MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

This section addresses the topics that this management plan needs to take into account.

4.1 CULTURAL VALUES – NGĀI TAHU

The mauri of Wanaka represents the essence that binds the physical and spiritual elements of all things together, generating and upholding all life. All elements of the natural environment possess a life force, and all forms of life are related. Mauri is a critical element of the spiritual relationship of Ngāi Tahu Whānui with the Lake.

The gathering and preparation of food and other bounties of nature in Te Wai Pounamu were based at kaika nohoaka, each situated near a particular resource to be worked. Although largely located along the seacoast in permanent settlements, Ka Papatipu Runaka ranged inland on a regular seasonal basis. Sometimes inland kaika could be occupied for several years at a stretch. In the harsh winters, inland camps were generally deserted, but in summer eeling and birding parties busily occupied them.

Wanaka was traditionally noted as a rich tuna (eel) fishery, with many thousands of the fish once being caught, preserved and transported back to the kaika nohoaka (settlements) of coastal Otago.

At Wanaka the village of Takikarara was situated near Roys Bay and tradition has it that there was a wharekura at this site.

4.2 RECREATION

The lakefront reserves of Lake Wanaka provide opportunities to participate in a number of active and passive recreational activities, both land and water based, via access to and from the reserves.

These include open spaces to picnic and relax on, gently sloping beaches to swim, wind- and kite-surf from, tracks for walking, running and cycling, and areas of special interest.

The activities are supported by facilities such as boat launching, children's play equipment, formed pathways and tracks, BBQ equipment, toilets, car parking and buildings. Council endeavours to provide a balance of facilities and open space to support a variety of recreation, reflecting the mix of community and visitor demands for the use of the reserves.

This management plan seeks to protect and enhance these recreational opportunities in manner consistent with good guardianship of the amenity, ecological and cultural values of the lakefront reserves.

The landscape and amenity accorded by native and exotic plantings add to the special recreational value the lakefront reserves provide.

4.3 LEASES, LICENCES AND CONCESSIONS

There are a number of leases and licences issued on the reserves. The majority relate to commercial activities within the Roys Bay Reserve. Other leases include the Log Cabin, Scout Association NZ lease of a building at Eely Point, campgrounds at Outlet Reserve and Glendhu Bay, and the Wanaka Yacht Club. The details of the leases, licences and concessions are in Appendix 2.

4.4 ECONOMIC VALUES

The economic values arising from the use of the reserves are considered significant, including tourism operations occupying areas of Roys Bay, and the campground facilities at Glendhu Bay and Outlet Reserve.

The recreational activities available on and beside the lake, the landscape backdrops afforded from the reserves and the features of the reserve, e.g., the autumnal colours of trees within the reserves, also attract thousands of national and international visitors to Wanaka per year.

Events and temporary commercial activities benefit the community and are typically, by nature, of short duration. Events can greatly improve the use and enjoyment of reserves by the community and visitors alike.

Many sporting fixtures, recreation activities and other events are becoming more commercialised. Issues of ticketing, security and signage arise, and need to be managed, to ensure sustainability of the events, while protecting the values of the reserves.

4.5 PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS

The primary physical constraints of the reserves are the size/narrowness of many and thus the ability to cater for high use demand.

In addition, some of the reserves along the western shores of the lake, including Damper Bay Reserve, are low lying and are prone to flooding.

4.6 OTHER RESERVE USES

4.6.1 HELICOPTER OPERATIONS

During civil emergencies and events reserves provide important staging areas for helicopter operations. Likewise occasional park management operations, such as aerial spraying, require the use of reserves for staging infrequent helicopter operations. Proposals for regular helicopter operations from reserves would not be permitted under this management plan.

4.6.2 MODEL AIRCRAFT

Motorised model aircraft are generally incompatible with the adjoining residential nature of many of the reserves. Council shall actively discourage use, and define and recommend alternative locations for this activity.

4.6.3 FREEDOM CAMPING

The majority of reserves included within this management plan are frequently used reserves, some close to residential properties or existing commercial camping operations.

Frequent freedom camping (especially in non self-contained vehicles) can cause disruption to the local environment and occupy car parking provided for other recreational users. There are many opportunities for camping outside these reserve areas and in commercial camping grounds.

Freedom camping is prohibited within specified zones under the Freedom Camping Control Bylaw 2012. Freedom camping outside of specified prohibited areas in certified self-contained vehicles is permitted for a maximum of two nights.

Although these lakefront reserves are unsuitable for freedom camping we recommend and encourage dialogue between QLDC and NZMCA to identify a suitable site in central Wanaka for self-contained camping.

4.6.4 UTILITIES

Proposals for new structures can have a significant impact on park landscape amenity values and the reserve environment. The potential increased demand for utilities, such as power, telecommunications, reticulated gas, car parking, in or adjacent to the reserve, and the impact of the additional facilities, places strain on the open space values of reserves.

4.7 ECOLOGY

Wanaka's lakefront reserves are within the Wanaka and Pisa Ecological Districts (ED) in the Central Otago and Lakes Ecological Regions respectively.

Prior to human arrival the wider area would have been covered in forest below the natural treeline except in areas of active erosion and basin areas subject to pooling of cold air in winter and poorly drained wetlands. Fertile and well-drained soils of the lowlands would have supported podocarp forest including matai and totara while the less well-drained areas would have supported kahikatea.

The gley soils of lower fertility would also have supported kahikatea, mountain beech and flax with raupo and *Carex* species in wetlands. Due to the harshness of frosts some areas would be dominated by tussock grassland, matagouri and other cold tolerant shrubs. At drier, more exposed lowland sites towards the eastern end of Lake Wanaka kanuka forest would have been the climax vegetation with areas of mountain toatoa and bog pine.

In terms of the Threatened Environment Classification²⁷ many of the reserves are on Acutely Threatened land environments where <10% indigenous vegetation is left on this land environment nationally (Walker et al., 2007). Exceptions to this are the majority of the Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve which is classified as a Chronically Threatened (10 – 20% indigenous vegetation left) and part of the Clutha Outlet Reserve which is Critically Under-protected (>30% indigenous vegetation is left and <10% is protected).

4.7.1 PRESENT DAY VEGETATION

The reserves can be broadly categorised by their level of ecological modification and current management. The Glendhu Bay recreation reserve and those reserves adjacent to the urban and residential areas of the Wanaka township extending from Rippon Vineyard as far as Bremner Bay recreation reserve in the north are managed as amenity and high use recreation areas. They generally have lower ecological values.

The reserves between the eastern side of Glendhu Bay (from the western side of the Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve) to the eastern end of Rippon Vineyard and from the northern end of Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve to the eastern end of the Clutha Outlet Reserve are less intensively managed and characterised by rough grasslands, regenerating bracken fernland shrublands, scrub and areas of kanuka that are generally of

²⁷ The Threatened Environment Classification is a combination of three national databases: Land Environments of New Zealand, Land Cover Database (Version 2) and the Protected Areas Network. It shows how much indigenous vegetation remains within land environments, how much is legally protected, and how the past vegetation loss and legal protection are distributed across New Zealand's landscape.

higher ecological value.

The lakefront reserves can be divided into four sections based on the level of modification and current management:

- Glendhu Bay Recreational Reserve
- Western end of Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve to Rippon Vineyard
- Rippon Vineyard to the northern end of Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve
- Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve to the Clutha Outlet Reserve

The vegetation within each of these sections is described from west to east. Key ecological features of relevance are shown in Appendix 5.

4.7.1.1 Glendhu Bay Recreation Reserve

The ecological values of this reserve are low. Crack willows have been planted along the lakefront and the area behind the beach is maintained for the campground. It has large areas of open, mown grass with a variety of widely spaced planted trees most of which are exotic (e.g. Eucalyptus, poplars and Prunus sp.) (Photo 1).

A small number of kowhai have been planted nearer the beach for amenity purposes. The reserve on the eastern side of the Wanaka-Mount Aspiring Road has a narrow band of kanuka above the road with rough introduced grassland upslope of this (Photo 2).

4.7.1.2 Western End of Damper Bay Reserve to Rippon Vineyard

The slopes immediately above the lake are dominated by several vegetation communities regenerating through open grassland dominated by exotic species such as browntop, sweet vernal and cocksfoot. The composition of the vegetation is determined by a range of factors such as the frequency and timing of burning, aspect, soil moisture and exposure.

Several indigenous vegetation communities are present and frequently grade into one-another. The most prominent communities are bracken fernland, briar shrubland and scrub, mingimingi-matagouri shrubland and scrub and kanuka shrubland, scrub, treeland and small patches of more mature kanuka forest. Each of these communities is described briefly below.

Bracken fernland is abundant within the lakefront reserves east of Glendhu Bay, particularly on steeper slopes above the lake. In some areas the bracken is very dense and few other species are present (Photo 3). In other places species such as briar, mingimingi, matagouri and kanuka grow through the bracken.

Shrublands and scrub cover lake areas of the lakefront reserves between Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek (Photo 4), particularly on the steeper slopes above the lake. They are either briar mingimingi or matagouri shrublands or scrub or a mix of any of the three. Other prominent species are bracken, kanuka, pohuehue, tutu (*Coriaria sarmentosa*), *Coprosma crassifolia*, desert broom and korokia. Weeping mapou and kowhai are much less common. *Olearia lineata* which has a conservation status of 'Declining' grows within the lakefront reserve at Damper Bay.

There are several stands of kanuka within the reserves along this section of the lake. The most important of these are:

- along the eastern side of Glendhu Bay within the Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve

- the rocky headland and behind the beach at Damper Bay
- the north and south of Mt Iron
- between Waterfall Creek and the eastern end of Rippon Vineyard

The most notable stand is a kanuka treeland on private land just south of Waterfall Creek, where a QE II covenant now protects an area of 2.4 ha.

4.7.1.3 Rippon Vineyard to Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve

From the eastern end of Rippon Vineyard to the northern end of the Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve the vegetation of the lakefront reserve is largely managed for recreation and amenity purposes and is dominated by manicured lawn and large exotic specimen trees.

Mature Lombardy poplars grow on and above the lakeshore from Rippon Vineyard to the south-western corner of Roys Bay. The back of the gravel beach at the head of Roys Bay is lined with planted crack willow trees and other tree species including silver birch, oaks, poplars, Eucalyptus and kowhai grow in a park-like setting between the beach and the road.

At the south eastern corner of Roys Bay is manicured lawn and a mix of native and exotic amenity plantings placed around the car parks between the commercial town centre and the lake.

Between the marina and Eely Point the vegetation is characterised by mown grass and a range of native and exotic trees with very occasional lowland flax and cabbage trees. A thin band of manuka grows along the lake margin in places. Eely Point is dominated by large conifer trees including radiata and Corsican pines, Douglas fir and a few other exotic trees such as Eucalyptus and silver birch. The Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve is a reserve with manicured lawn areas, large crack willow trees and mixed native and exotic plantings with some kanuka, cabbage trees, lowland flax, toetoe and small areas of mingimingi scrub and manuka on or near the margin of the lake.

Generally the ecological values of this section of the lakefront are low. Exceptions to this are a small wetland on the margins of Stoney Creek Stream, the small areas of restoration/amenity planting west of Stoney Creek and the habitat the lake margin and lakefront provide for water birds. These are discussed briefly below.

The small wetland area on the true left of Stoney Creek Stream has some *Carex secta* and occasional lowland flax and mingimingi which are growing amongst rank exotic grasses (Photo 10). The ecological values of this area are limited, but it represents one of the few areas of indigenous vegetation at the head of Roys Bay.

4.7.1.4 Bremner Bay to the Clutha Outlet Reserve

Between Bremner Bay Recreation Reserve and Beacon Point is a thin strip of manuka-mingimingi-matagouri shrubland and scrub between the lake and the road. Rank cocksfoot-sweet vernal grassland grows in open areas between the shrubs. A discontinuous but dense band of manuka forest grows along the lakeshore and crack willow and Lombardy poplar also grow on the margin of the lake in places.

A small constructed wetland in Penrith Park is dominated by raupo reedland and sharp spike sedge rushland. Amenity/restoration planting has recently been undertaken around

its margins. This wetland area is of low-moderate ecological value.

East of Beacon Point the Clutha Outlet Reserve protects extensive kanuka scrub and treeland on a moderately steep north facing terrace scarp. Between Beacon Point and the Lake Outlet Holiday Park the vegetation is characterised by kanuka scrub and treeland with bracken fernland and briar shrubland with some mingimingi, matagouri, and some open areas of grassland.

Occasional cabbage trees and tutu also occur here and crack willow is occasional along the margin of the lake. Kanuka grows as a treeland amongst areas of mown grass at the Holiday Park and several indigenous species including *Carex breviculmis*, *Leucopogon fraserii*, creeping pohuehue, the lichen *Chondropsis*, and mosses grow in the mown grassland. On the lake margin below the reserve are vegetation communities adapted to frequent inundation by the lake. *Carex gaudichaudiana* sedgeland and occasional manuka trees grow above relatively intact ephemeral turflands.

The seral kanuka communities that occur above the lake margin and on the terrace face in the vicinity of Beacon Point and the Lake Outlet Holiday Park are of high ecological value. They occur on Acutely and Chronically Threatened land environments (N5.1c and N4.1d), are one of the most extensive stands of kanuka in the area and are continuous with the relatively intact turflands on the lake margin. Ongoing control of wilding pines will be required to maintain the integrity of the indigenous communities within this reserve.

4.7.2 WEEDS

There are numerous weed species within the lakefront reserves. The most common species are briar, tree lupin, broom, Douglas fir, radiata and ponderosa pines, elderberry, cotoneaster, crack willow, grey willow, hawthorn, rowan and blackberry. Garden escapes are also a problem in some of the reserves nearer residential areas.

It is recognised that launching and retrieval of water craft can generate risk associated to the transfer of undesirable waterbourne weed species. Council should consider appropriate signage to inform users of the reserves to act responsibly in relation to cleaning of boats to assist in the prevention of weed dispersal.

4.7.3 AT RISK AND THREATENED PLANTS

The following At Risk and Threatened plants (de Lange et al., 2013) are known to occur in the area:

- *Pachycladon cheesemanii* and climbing broom (*Carmichaelia kirkii*) both have a conservation status of Nationally Vulnerable and have been recorded in shrublands and bluffs in the wider area and could potentially occur within the reserves between Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek (Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2006).
- New Zealand mousetail (*Myosurus minimus* subsp. *novae-zelandiae*) is a Nationally Endangered species that grows in damp depressions, the margins of tarn and kettle holes, and on gravel flats and alluvium. It has been recorded in the vicinity of the lake outlet (New Zealand Plant Conservation Network Website).
- The tree daisy *Olearia lineata* (Declining) occurs in shrublands and wet gullies between Glendhu Bay and Damper Bay and was recorded at Damper Bay within the Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve (Photo 15).

4.7.4 FAUNA

4.7.4.1 Birds

The lake margins provide feeding, loafing and roosting habitat for indigenous water bird species. Those recorded during the field investigation were southern crested grebe, black billed gull, black backed gull, grey duck²⁸, scaup, New Zealand shoveler, paradise shelduck, black shag, little shag, white-faced heron and spur-winged plover. Introduced birds such as mallard, Canada geese and black swan also use the lake and its margins. Mallard are particularly abundant along the beach at the head of Roys Bay.

The open and scrubby habitats of the less intensively managed reserves provide habitat for several terrestrial indigenous bird species including Australasian harrier, bellbird, New Zealand pipit, grey warbler, South Island fantail, silvereye, brown creeper, Eastern New Zealand falcon and welcome swallow. A number of introduced species such as skylark, house sparrow, dunnoek, greenfinch, goldfinch, redpoll, yellow hammer, blackbird, song thrush, starling and California quail also use these habitats.

Nationally, several of these species are either classified as Threatened or at Risk (Robertson et al., 2013) (Table 1).

Threatened and At Risk bird species recorded from the Wanaka lakefront reserves and their conservation status (Robertson et al., 2013) under the New Zealand Threat Classification System (Townsend et al., 2008) (sorted by conservation status)

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation Status
Black-billed gull	<i>Larus bulleri</i>	Nationally Critical _{RF}
Grey duck	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	Nationally Critical _{SO}
Southern crested grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus australis</i>	Nationally Vulnerable _{Inc, SO}
New Zealand pipit	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	Declining
Eastern falcon	<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i> "eastern"	Recovering _{DP, Inc}
Black shag	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> <i>novaehollandiae</i>	Naturally Uncommon _{SO, Sp}

Two pairs of southern crested grebe successfully nested and raised young at the Wanaka Marina (Photo 16) and at the outlet of Bullock Creek in Roys Bay during the 2013/14 season (C. Riley pers. com 2014). The key management issues for this species appear to be disturbance by dogs and humans.

Black-billed gulls are present in low to moderate numbers along the beach at the head of Roys Bay. While they use this area for roosting and feeding they do not breed here and this area of the lakefront is not considered to be significant habitat for this species.

²⁸ And grey duck-mallard hybrids.

Grey duck are classified as Nationally Critical_{so} mainly because of hybridisation with the introduced mallard. This species uses the lake and its margin for feeding, loafing and roosting.

4.7.4.2 Reptiles

The rock outcrops and bluffs, boulder fields, rock-strewn grasslands, shrublands, fernland, shrublands, scrub and beaches within the less intensively modified reserves between the western end of Damper Bay Lakefront Recreation Reserve to Rippon Vineyard and Beacon Point to the Clutha Outlet Reserve provide excellent habitat for skinks and geckos. The Nationally Vulnerable DP, RR, Sp (Hitchmough et al., 2013) Roy's Peak gecko (Mokopirirakau "Roy's Peak") has been recorded in alpine habitats near the summit of Mt Roy but is unlikely to occur within the lakefront reserves.

4.7.4.3 Invertebrates

A huge variety of invertebrate fauna form an important part of the biodiversity of the local ecosystems; this is an area that needs more research to identify and monitor species.

4.7.5 INTRODUCED MAMMALS

Rabbits occur at high densities in localised areas within the lakefront reserves and sheep graze some parts of the reserves between Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek. The track extending around the lakefront is popular with dog owners and dogs are walked off their leads at times where they can disturb roosting, loafing and nesting birds. Educating dog owners to keep dogs on a lead or under control in areas where birds are present on the margins of the lake may reduce this disturbance.

Other introduced mammals likely to be present within the reserves include possums, rats, mice, mustelids (weasels, stoats and ferrets) hedgehogs and domestic and feral cats. All of these species are likely to have an impact on native fauna and flora, for example rats and stoats are key predators of birds, reptiles and invertebrates while mice and rats are seed predators.

5. VISION, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Accommodating competing demands for space within the reserve, enhancing the community's and visitors' experiences, and protecting and enhancing the reserves' natural, cultural and physical values consistent with an outstanding natural landscape, are the main outcomes sought from this plan.

The amount and configuration of the reserves available to accommodate all the activities poses significant challenges in fitting everything and everyone into these spaces. The plan, and its objectives and policies, seek to deal with the pressure in key areas by rationalising uses into distinct management zones supporting passive or active recreation, commercial or community use.

5.1 VISION

The vision for the Wanaka lakefront reserves is:

'To protect and enhance the amenity²⁹ and ecological values of the Wanaka lakefront reserves whilst providing opportunities for both land and water based recreation.'

5.2 OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES

The objectives sought from this management plan are to:

- recognise the unique character of the Wanaka lakefront reserves and reflect this in the design, maintenance and management of the lakefront reserves
- manage and maintain areas of the lakefront reserves as formal recreational areas for enjoyment of the community and visitors
- manage the impact on the natural amenity values of the lakeside reserves by minimising buildings and positioning them appropriately
- retain a high level of unrestricted access to and within the lakefront reserves and facilitate formal lake access
- manage use of the lakefront reserves in a way that sustains the natural biodiversity of the land and adjacent pristine lake
- reflect the preferences of the Wanaka community as expressed in the public consultation process

The objectives and policies contained in this plan apply across all reserves covered under this plan unless reserves are specifically referenced.

²⁹ Amenity values are those natural or physical qualities and characteristics of an area that contribute to people's appreciation of its pleasantness, aesthetic coherence and cultural and recreational attributes.

5.2.1 RECOGNISE THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF THE WANAKA LAKEFRONT RESERVES AND REFLECT THIS IN THE DESIGN, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES

5.2.1.1 Objectives

- integrate the use and management of the reserves
- ensure all land comprising the lakefront reserves is classified under the Reserves Act 1977 according to its primary purpose
- partner with the community, iwi, non-government and government organisations
- recognise and illustrate the history of the lakefront reserves
- ensure the reserves remain predominantly accessible for unstructured recreation
- identify, protect and preserve heritage sites and features
- establish activity zones in Roys Bay to enable appropriate activities to occur that reinforce the character and purpose of the zone, ensuring compatible activities are clustered together.
- promote smokefree enjoyment of the lakefront reserves

5.2.1.2 Policies

- review and confirm all reserve classifications and boundaries, including reclassification as appropriate
- develop partnerships and work effectively with Tangata Whenua to support and give effect to:
 - any kaitiaki responsibilities
 - specific site interpretation
- recognise seven distinct activity zones within Roys Bay, west to east, to identify a priority management focus for use and development within these areas as follows:
 - passive recreation (walking/biking/swimming)
 - active recreation (including supporting infrastructure to support non-motorised water sports including a leased area for a watersports building)
 - Pembroke Park open space connection (preserving and connecting the sanctity and openness of the park with the lakefront including restricting vehicle access)
 - CBD lakefront connection (including supporting commercial leases and licences of existing buildings such as the log cabin and other sites, open space and event infrastructure)
 - Bullock Creek Delta ecological zone (preserving the natural wetland wilderness values)
 - A marina zone (accommodating commercial use and powered and motorised water sports including supporting an extended leased area for the Wanaka Yacht and Power Boat club to accommodate a larger clubhouse, the Coastguard and ancillary facilities)

- passive recreation (walking/biking/swimming)
- identify and remove any encroachments, including by way of sale or lease as appropriate

5.2.1.3 Key implementation actions 2014/15 – 2017/18

- Develop a concept plan and detailed design for the seven activity zones within Roys Bay for public engagement and project prioritisation
- Confirm the vesting of Waterfall Creek from the Department of Conservation to Council

5.2.2 MANAGE AND MAINTAIN AREAS OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES AS FORMAL RECREATIONAL AREAS FOR ENJOYMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AND VISITORS

5.2.2.1 Objectives

- Provide safe camping opportunities on the lakefront
- Support and enhance the local economy by appropriate, sustainable commercial use of the reserves
- Provide for the use of reserves for temporary organised events and commercial activities that are directly related to an event, and that are compatible with the purpose of the reserve classification, the activity zone (if applicable) and this plan
- Support commercial recreational activity where appropriate and where the impact and effect does not unreasonable limit the ability of the public to use and enjoy the reserves

5.2.2.2 Policies

- Prohibit the operation and take off/landing of motorised model aircraft on reserves included in this plan
- Permit helicopter operations for civil and medical emergencies and reserve and lake management such as aerial spraying. Use of the reserve by helicopters for events will be considered as part of the event application
- Permit the operation of commercial campgrounds at Glendhu Bay and Outlet reserves, including the development of facilities and infrastructure and the provision of services consistent with commercial holiday park activities.
- Permit the granting of long term leases for the operation of commercial campgrounds at Glendhu Bay and Outlet reserves
- Permit the use of reserves for sporting, cultural and recreational events (both ticketed and non- ticketed) including temporary associated infrastructure on the following conditions:
 - suitable contingency plans, including but not limited to, health and safety, traffic management, reserve reinstatement are submitted and approved by to Council
 - ticketed or exclusive events/functions do not occupy the reserve(s) or any part of the reserve(s) for more than six consecutive days or a total of 40 days in any one calendar year, unless a lease or licence has been granted
 - glass is prohibited from all event areas

- meeting any other council policy, landowner approval and/or district plan permitted activity standards or resource consent requirements
- Prohibit freedom camping is prohibited on all reserves included in this plan, unless provided for a special event

5.2.2.3 Key implementation actions 2014/15 – 2017/18

- Grant a long term lease for the Glendhu Bay campground operation
- Develop interpretative signage for Outlet reserve

5.2.3 MANAGE THE IMPACT ON THE NATURAL AMENITY VALUES OF THE LAKESIDE RESERVES BY MINIMISING BUILDINGS AND POSITIONING THEM APPROPRIATELY

5.2.3.1 Objectives

- Manage all use and development of the reserves in accordance with the outstanding natural landscape recognition in the District Plan
- Minimise structures in the reserves and their impacts on the landscape
- Protect important view shafts
- Retain an informal landscape character and open spatial quality to the reserves
- Built developments will only be permitted where these are sympathetic to the key elements, features and patterns of the landscape
- Provide for continuation and renewal of existing leases and licences where such uses support the objectives of this plan
- Consider a limited number of new leases and licences where such uses would support the objectives of this plan
- Ensure the use and development of the reserves positively integrate when adjacent to the town centre and surrounding urban area

5.2.3.2 Policies

- Develop facilities that benefit and remain accessible to the local community will be given priority over other facilities
- Allocate adequate space to vehicles to support participation in active recreation and passive viewing of the landscape
- Support a license for an area of the Wanaka marina reserve for vehicle and trailer parking ensuring:
 - A suitable pedestrian access to the lakefront track
 - Appropriate time restrictions on vehicles and vessel parking
 - Signage and other appropriate measures to protect native birds nesting
- Support the construction of a lake wall to enable the widening of the Wanaka marina reserve car and trailer parking area
- Support new public toilets between Waterfall Creek and Station Park, at the Wanaka

marina and Eely Point reserves

- Consider all applications for new facilities including, but not limited to, sports clubhouse/community buildings, toilets, car parking, boat launching and retrieval facilities under this and all other applicable Council policies and plans, with a view to ensuring wider public access to existing recreational opportunities is not unreasonably limited.
- Ensure that the character of the reserves is not compromised by structures associated with leases and licences and that the reserve values are maintained or enhanced
- Continue to allow use of the reserves for commercial purposes via a concession or other formal agreement. All applications for use of the reserves for commercial purposes will be considered under applicable Council policy
- Consider licences for temporary vendors on a case-by-case basis and where such vending contributes to the public benefit and enjoyment of the reserve

5.2.3.3 Key implementation actions 2014/15 – 2017/18

- Grant a new, extended lease to the Wanaka Yacht and Power Boat Club at the Wanaka marina reserve/the groyne (activity area 6)
- Grant a new lease to a community building supporting non-motorised water sports activity area 2)
- Grant a new lease for the log cabin site (activity area 4)
- Renew the lease to Wanaka Scout and Guiding Association at Eely Point

5.2.4 RETAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO AND WITHIN THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES AND FACILITATE FORMAL LAKE ACCESS

5.2.4.1 Objectives

- Facilitate lake access for powered and non-powered watercraft safely and sustainably
- Prioritise pedestrian and cycle activity over motorised

5.2.4.2 Policies

- Support the construction or redevelopment of public boat launch facilities and associated parking and access at Eely Point, Outlet reserve, Glendhu Bay and Waterfall Creek
- Existing boat ramps and launching facilities will be retained to provide safe access for launch and retrieval
- Permit vehicle access via Penrith Park Road, Outlet reserve, to wind surfers beach only
- Permit vehicle access for the purposes of operating or maintaining public utilities including water, telecommunications and power
- Vehicle access will otherwise be restricted to defined roads, ramps and car parks, except for:
 - Maintenance and emergency vehicles
 - Setting up and packing down before and after events

5.2.4.3 Key implementation actions 2014/15 – 2017/18

- Develop a concept plan and detailed design for Eely Point, including boat launching, associated facilities and planting, for public engagement

5.2.5 MANAGE USE OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES IN A WAY THAT SUSTAINS THE NATURAL BIODIVERSITY OF THE LAND AND THE ADJACENT PRISTINE LAKE

5.2.5.1 Objectives

- Increased public awareness of the local flora and fauna and the impact of public use of the reserves on these
- Enhance, restore and protect the ecology of the lakefront
- Sustainably manage the significant trees

5.2.5.2 Policies

- Prohibit grazing from Damper Bay through Waterfall Creek
- Develop and implement planting plans to support ecological restoration for the Bremner Bay, Beacon Point, Eely Point and the Outlet reserves with the intention to:
 - connect existing indigenous vegetation communities or sequences
 - expand or buffer areas of high value vegetation
 - buffer stream and lakefront margins
 - achieve on-going enrichment
- Promote, facilitate and support community-led restoration plantings in the Bremner Bay, Beacon Point, Eely Point and the Outlet reserves and other community prioritised areas
- Prioritise weed control to higher value indigenous vegetation and habitats and to clearing paths
- Undertake tree assessments and proactively manage trees, including succession planting, to ensure public health and safety and preserve the landscape
- Identify boundaries of the spread of willows and poplars and actively manage these
- Prioritise pest control to higher value indigenous vegetation and habitats, in particular targeting rabbits
- Develop metrics for measuring and managing biodiversity

5.2.5.3 Key implementation actions 2014/15 – 2017/18

- Develop and implement a significant tree succession planting plan

6. APPENDICES

6.1 LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE LAKEFRONT RESERVES

6.2 LEASES, LICENCES AND CONCESSIONS

6.3 DISTRICT PLAN DESIGNATIONS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

6.4 PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

6.5 MAPS

6.6 IMAGES