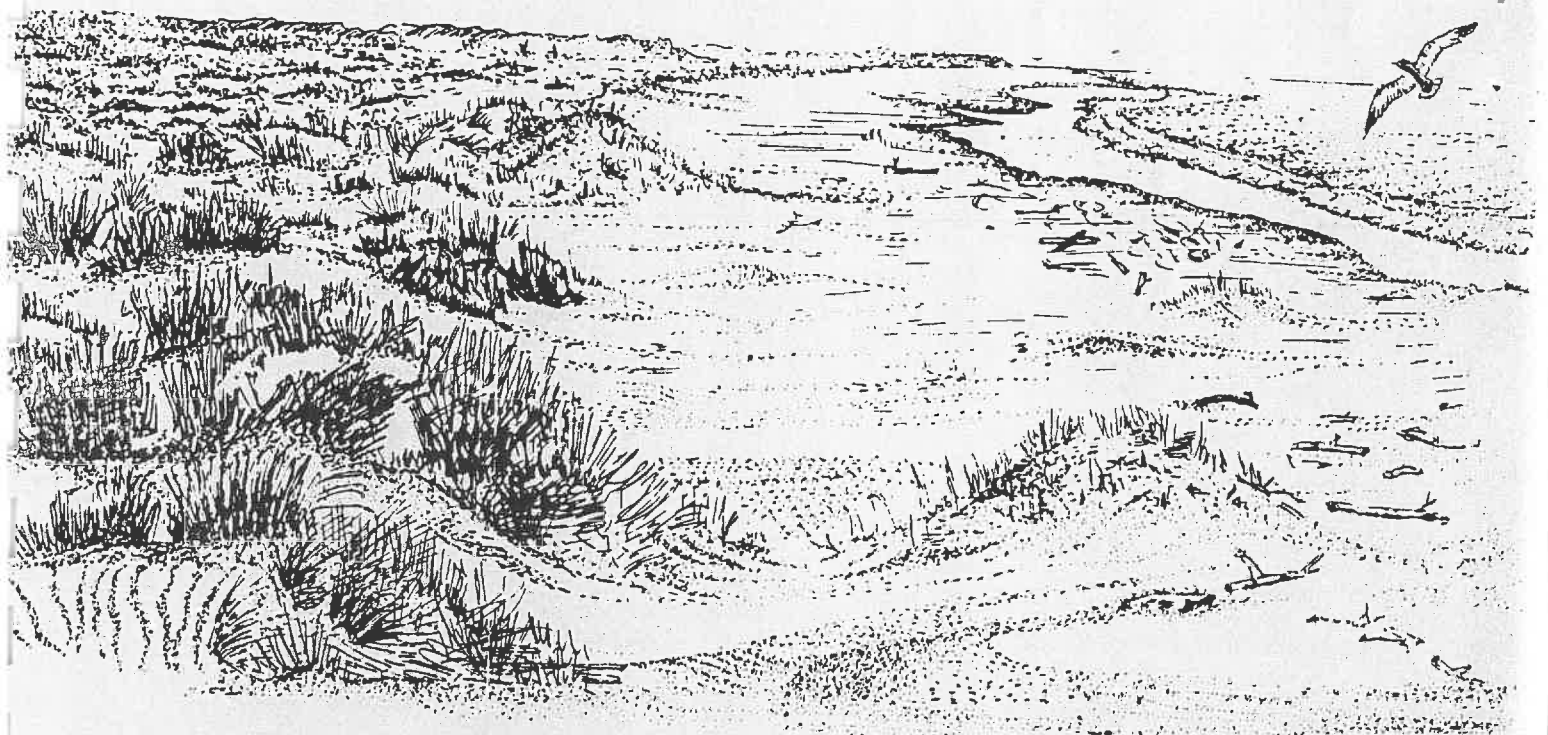


NUKUMARU RECREATION RESERVE

Management Plan



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NUKUMARU RECREATION RESERVE
MANAGEMENT PLAN

8 MAR 1988
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NOVEMBER 1986

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Prepared by : Department of Lands and Survey
Wellington District Office
P O Box 5014
WELLINGTON

For : Waitotara County Council

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NUKUMARU RECREATION RESERVE

MANAGEMENT PLAN

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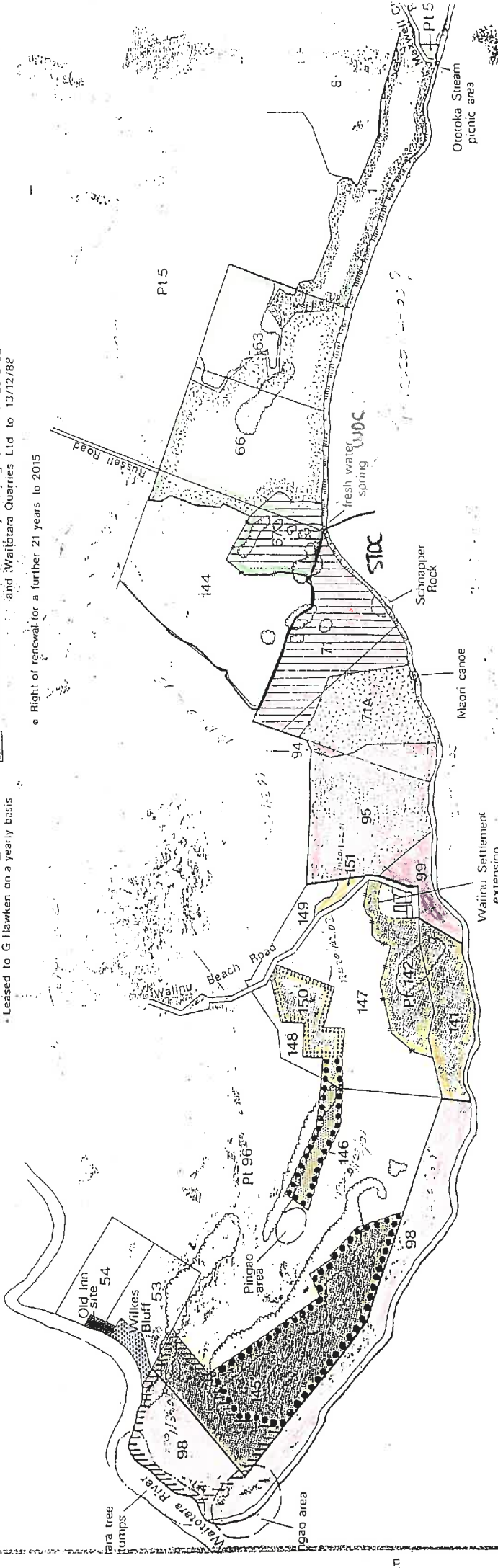
1986 9 Classification of reserve to be admin by WCC.
 1987 965 Classification of reserve with ND to be admin by WCC.
 1990 21 Land added to ec reserve in 1986 p 9

Also Lot 2, DP 4137
 in Whitianga, vested
 by classification



- Leases & Licences**
- ◉ Grazing Lease 1/11/73 for 21 yrs (R. Richardson) 89.6 ha
 - ◉ Grazing Lease 1/4/73 for 21 yrs (A.E. & H.E. Wilson) 97.1 ha
 - ◉ Grazing Lease 1/4/73 for 21 yrs (A.J. Dickie) 48.5 ha
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 - ◉ Grazing Lease 1/4/81 for 33 yrs (G. Hawken) 130.0 ha
 - ◉ Mineral Licence 32626 Mavery Carrying Co Ltd to 25/8/92 and Waitotara Quarries Ltd to 13/12/88
 - ◉ Right of renewal for a further 21 years to 2015

- KEY:**
- Nukumarū Recreation Reserve
 - ◻ Areas of Protection Planting
 - ◻ Crown Land to be reserved as part of Nukumarū Rec. Res.
 - ◻ Crown Land to be reserved for Scientific Purposes
 - ◻ Land to be gifted to the Crown
 - ◻ Land to become 'Private Protected' Land
 - ◻ Leased to G. Hawken on a yearly basis



MAP 3
 LEASED AREAS & FEATURE





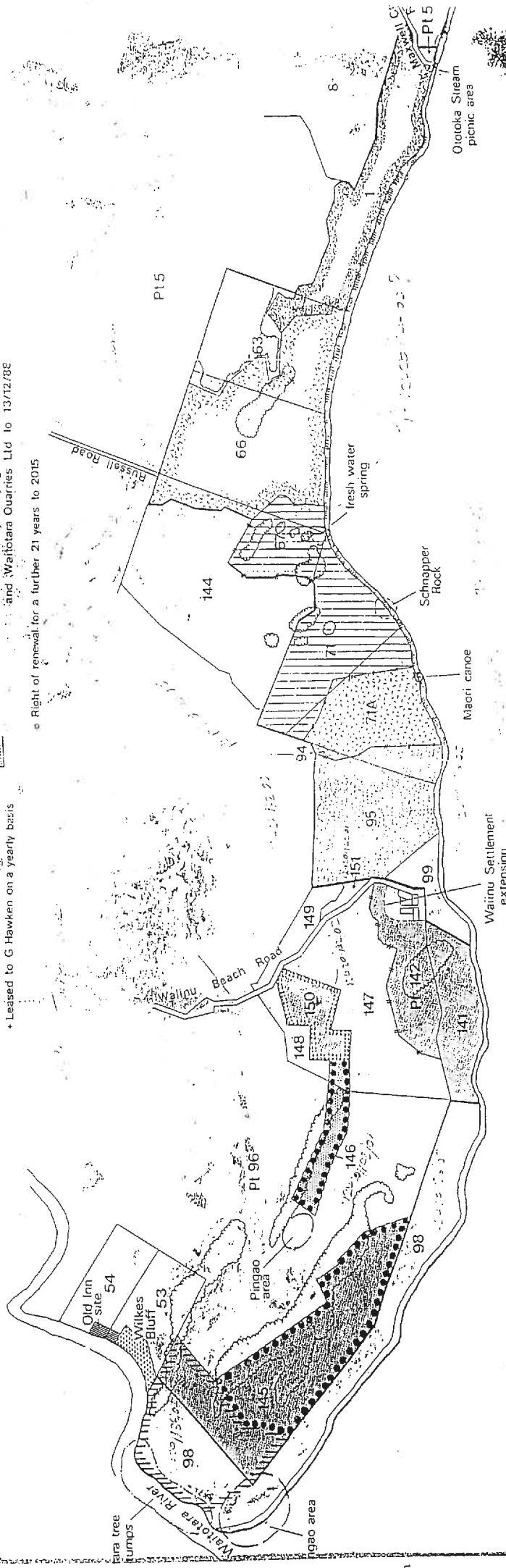
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**MAP 3
LEASED AREAS & FEATURE**



PREFACE

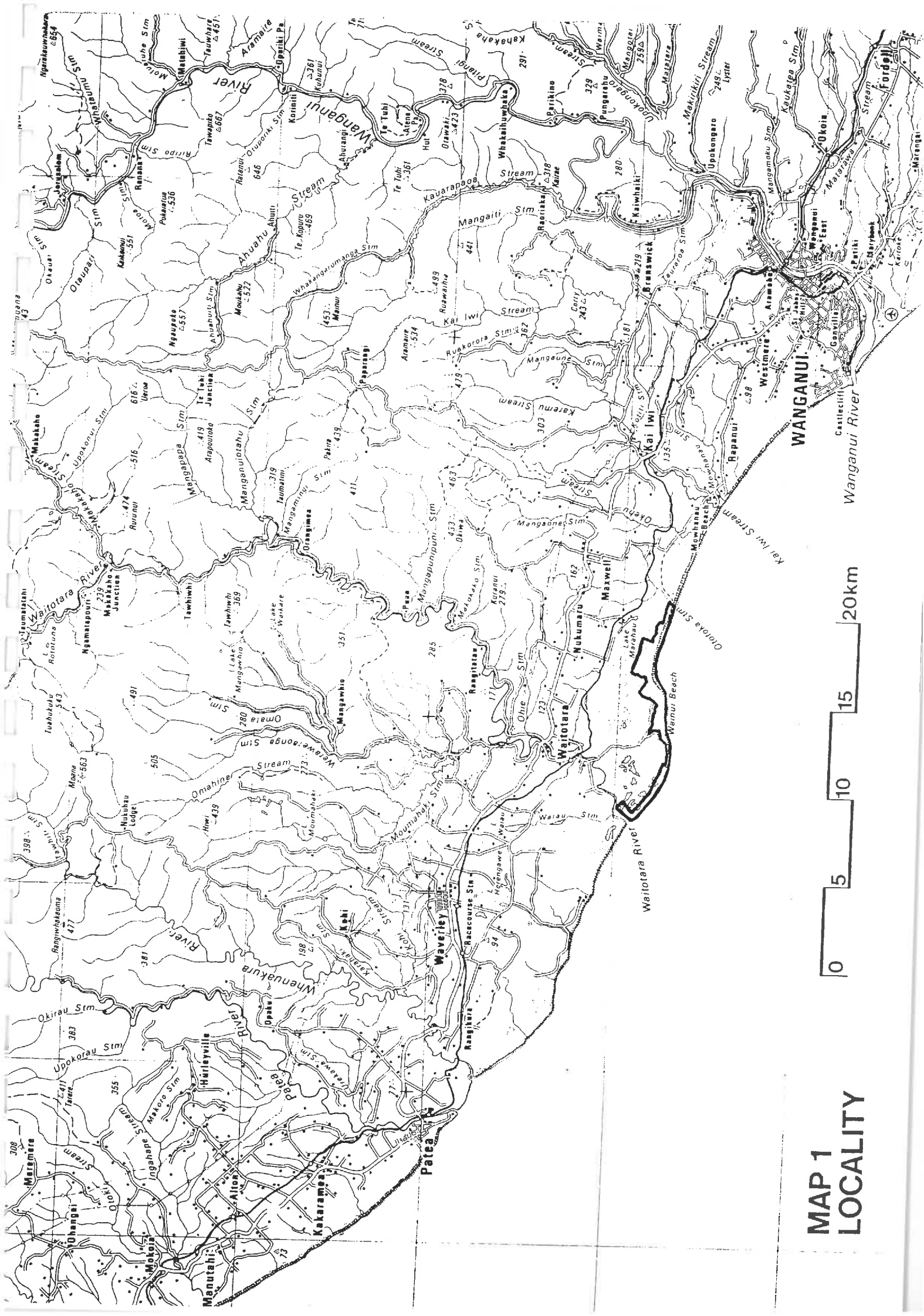
The aim of this management plan is to facilitate the best management of the reserve by providing guidelines for its control, usage, maintenance, development and planning. This is achieved through forming management objectives and policies which take into account the particular characteristics of the reserve and its classification. This plan is intended to retain a certain degree of flexibility, but will also ensure that, in the long term, there is continuity through the management process even when the need for a review of objectives and policies arises.

This plan has been prepared in the Wellington District Office of the Department of Lands and Survey by a planning team convened by B J Dobbie (Planning Officer). It has been prepared on behalf of the Waitotara County Council, which is the administering authority for the reserve.

A draft plan was prepared and public submissions called for in August 1986. One submission was received from the Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board and the draft was amended to take account of issues raised in that submission. The plan was approved and adopted by the Waitotara County Council on 19 November 1987.



J.S.M. Blaikie
CHAIRMAN
Waitotara County Council



**MAP 1
LOCALITY**



1. INTRODUCTION

For STDC these are

1.1 LEGAL DESCRIPTION

C+M

(There are also others of uncertain status, e a bit west of in Waitotara

Sections 63, 66, Pt 67, Pt 71 and 71A Waitotara District, Block XIII Nukumaru Survey District and Block XIV Wairoa Survey District;

Sections 94 and 95 Waitotara District, Block XIV Wairoa Survey District;

Sections 98 and 99 Waitotara District, Block XII and XIV Wairoa Survey District;

Lot 1 DP 52794 and Pt Section 50 Waitotara District, Block XIII Nukumaru Survey District.

Lot DP 594 WDC

Area: 725.261 hectares approximately

1.2 LOCALITY

The reserve is situated northwest of Wanganui City and along the coast south of the Waitotara River Mouth.

1.3 ACCESS

Access to the reserve is from Waiinu Beach Road, Russell Road and Maxwell Cross Road. Access is also possible to various parts of the reserve from the foreshore and beach. Grazing leases over reserve land also allow public access to the beach.

1.4 STATUS

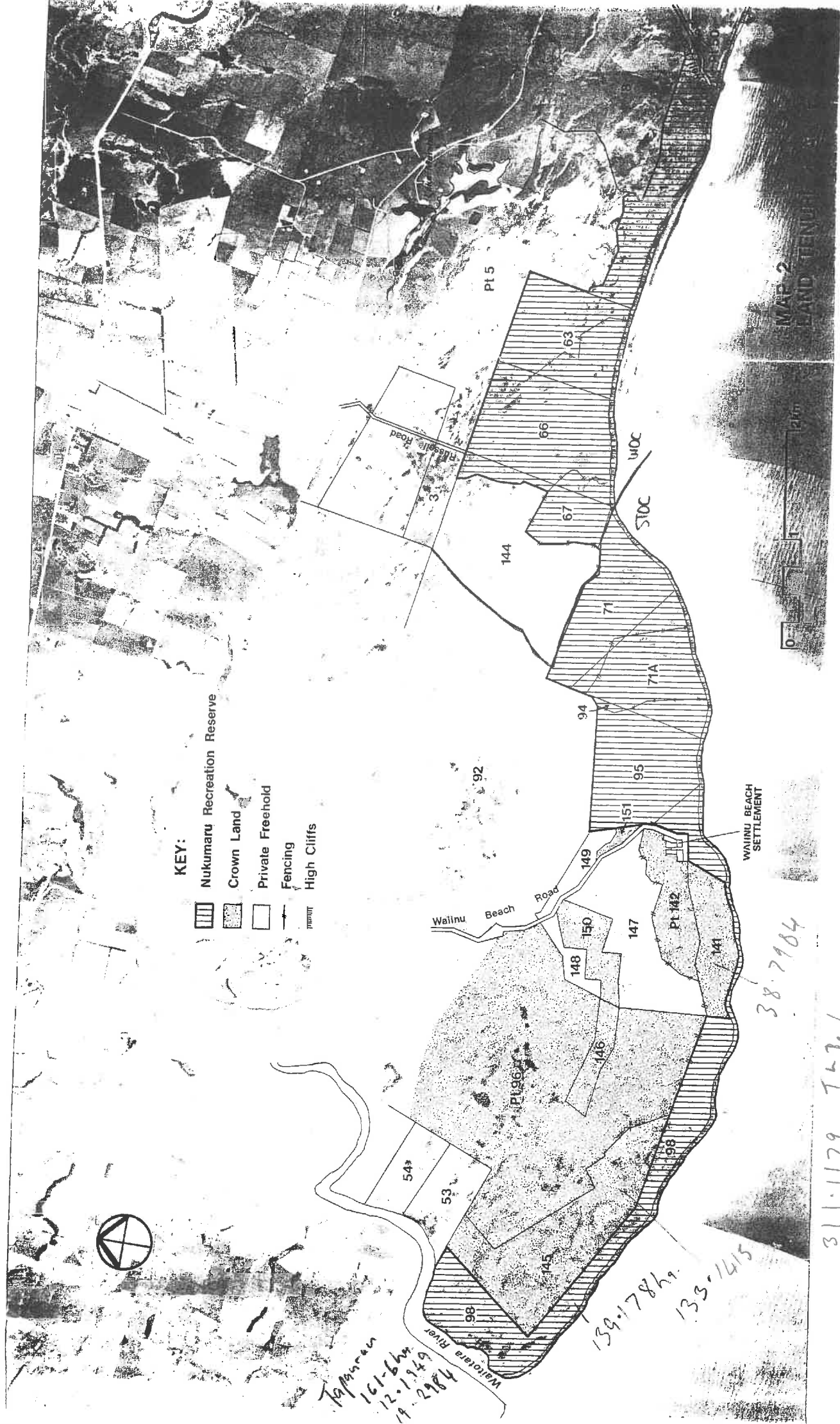
The first area of land was reserved for recreation purposes in 1864. Since then further areas have been added and declared to be parts of Nukumaru Recreation Reserve. Recent exchanges of land have altered the size and shape of the reserve and the current situation is depicted on Map 2.

The following table summarises the history of reservation of land currently comprising Nukumaru Recreation Reserve.

TABLE 1 - History of Reservation

LEGAL DESCRIPTION (BRIEF) OF PRESENT RESERVE	SIZE (ha)	RESERVATION (NZ Gazette - year and page no.)
Section 94 Section 95	0.9180 93.6088	Native title extinguished for recreational purposes (1864/343). Reserved land added to Nukumar Domain (1961/1814).
Section 98 Section 99	133.1450 15.6309	Native title extinguished for recreational purposes (1864/343). Reserved land added to Nukumar Domain (1969/122).
Section 63 Section 66 Pt Section 67 Pt Section 71 Section 71A	88.2214 109.6698 44.4168 86.7215 79.7230	Declared reserve for public recreation and known as Nukumar Recreation Ground (1895/1249). <i>Reserved 1895 pg 456</i>
Lot 1 DP 52794	72.2881	Exchanged for other land and declared as part Nukumar Recreation Reserve (1983/1652).
Pt Section 50	0.9181	Added to Nukumar Recreation Reserve (1982/722).
TOTAL	725.2610	

- KEY:**
-  Nukumarū Recreation Reserve
 -  Crown Land
 -  Private Freehold
 -  Fencing
 -  High Cliffs



*Tapurua
161-6ha
12-1949
19-2984*

*139.178ha
133.1415*

38.7104

*311.1179 T.L. Park
504.2112 Total*

1.5 ADMINISTRATION

The reserve is administered by the Waitotara County Council which acts as the Nukumarū Domain Board.

Although the reserve is not yet classified as a recreation reserve it is administered by the Waitotara County Council as a recreation reserve under Section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977 which states the principal or primary purpose of reservation is:

"For the purpose of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside."

In 1973 the Nukumarū Domain Board Foreshore Control Order granted to that board the control of the foreshore to mean high water for 21 years, subject to Section 165 of the Harbours Act 1950. This in effect gave the domain board official responsibility for beach protection and cleanliness and the control of access along the foreshore into the reserve.

1.6 DISTRICT SCHEME

The reserve area lies within two zones, Rural D1 and Rural D2.

The policy of the Rural D1 (coastal protection) zone is to protect and stabilise the coastal foredunes in order to prevent encroachment of sand onto farmland and to control development along the coast in areas subject to coastal erosion and flooding. This zone applies to a strip from mean high water level to 85 metres inland from the top of defined coastal cliffs and where there are no defined cliffs, 100 metres inland from the toe of the foredune.

The policy of the Rural D2 (sand country protection) zone is to ensure that characteristics of the area, particularly the sensitivity to erosion and scientific, cultural and recreational values are recognised and safeguarded from detrimental practices. The zone also aims to encourage land uses suited to land which is generally of low to medium agricultural value but which can make a useful and substantial contribution to the district.

2. RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

2.1 TOPOGRAPHY

The area is characterised by low relief features with altitude rising gently from sea level to 107 m above sea level. The coastline breaks down into two types:

- (i) Steep eroding coastal cliffs, with an average height of 46 metres. These occur east of Waiinu Beach settlement and continue with occasional breaks to the eastern boundary of the reserve.
- (ii) Ironsand beach with a defined foredune extends from Waiinu settlement to the Waitotara River mouth. Records show that the river mouth is mobile and has changed position several times since 1869.

2.2 GEOLOGY

The present day cliffs were uplifted after the area had been subjected to extensive sedimentation. The rocks of this early stage are known as Wanganui Series and were followed by the Hawera Series which saw deposits of titaniferous magnetite from volcanic action. Faulting around this time occurred near Schnapper Rock (Nukumaru fault), the southern end of Wairoa Domain (Waitotara fault) and at Waipipi Point (Waverley fault).

The Department of Lands and Survey's Coastal Reserves Survey described two areas as being of geological importance because of the examples of Waitotaran and Nukumaru stage rock each area exhibited. Wilkes Bluff, the example of Waitotaran stage rock, has been proposed as a gift to the Crown by the owners; the area of Nukumarian stage rock is included within the proposed ventifact reserve

(Section 146) near the quarry.

Both the Wanganui and Hawera Series rocks were easily erodible and have resulted in the formation of ventifacts - augite andesite rocks shaped by wind and iron sand abrasion.

The Recent Series deposits include the sand dunes fronting the coast. These are active and have been advancing onto inland areas resulting in the ponding of small streams. This ponding has formed swampy lakes which form important wildlife habitats. As a stabilisation measure, marram grass is being planted on active dunes by the Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board.

Ventifacts occur in large numbers on sand plains among dunes between the Waitotara River and Waiinu settlement. As these dunes are stabilised the mechanics of sand movement that produce ventifacts will cease. However, in April 1980 the NZ Geological Society stated that the purpose of establishing ventifact reserves was to preserve

ventifacts for future reference. It recommends that ventifact areas remain free from afforestation as milling operations with heavy machinery would be damaging. There appears to be no threat to ventifacts from grazing or from planting marram on the dunes although both land use practices will cause the conditions for their formation to cease.

2.3 SOILS AND EROSION

The dominant soil group covering the reserve is yellow-brown sands. Near the coast the younger dunes have not developed profiles and are dry and unstable. Further inland, older dunes with more organic matter are more stable and retain moisture longer. Where the younger yellow-brown sands occur stabilisation is necessary and is being undertaken by the Catchment Board.

2.4 CLIMATE

Strong winds from the northerly and westerly quarters are a feature of the coast. They are strongest in late spring and early summer. The exposed nature of the coast and the strong winds combined make beach activities rather unpleasant at places where there is excessive sand-blow and strong surf. However, the summer mixture of high temperatures and low humidity and precipitation creates a good outdoor recreational environment. The average yearly rainfall is 900 mm, there is low humidity and an average summer temperature of 18°C.

2.5 VEGETATION

Much of the area is in rough pasture and lupin and leased to neighbouring farmers for grazing.

Wetland areas are found in places amongst the dunes and these support marsh rushes, particularly jointed rush (*Leptocarpus similis*).

Until the Catchment Board's sand stabilisation scheme, approximately 564 ha of sand dunes in the general area were devoid of vegetation. Now marram grass is being used for primary stabilisation and will be followed by afforestation.

As the dunes stabilise yellow lupin and tauhinu begin to grow. The Lands and Survey Department is presently experimenting with planting active dunes to see whether strong growth can allow grazing to remain the predominant land use between Waiinu Road and Waitotara River (see Map 3).

Native pingao plants are found in the reserve, particularly on the southern side of the river mouth. This area (Map 3) has been suggested for a cultural reserve

because of the traditional use of pingao for weaving. This plant is also important botanically as although it is common locally, competition from introduced dune plants such as marram grass has led to its decline on a regional scale.

Some problems occur with scattered gorse and boxthorn. Rigorous control of these noxious plants is required to ensure that these do not spread and become a major problem.

Of interest is the ancient drowned totara forest in the Waitotara River estuary from which the river got its name.

2.6 WILDLIFE

Nukumaru recreation reserve has a diverse range of wildlife habitats. The undeveloped dunelands colonised by vegetation such as marram grass and lupins provide an excellent habitat for rabbits, hares and game bird species. However, uncontrolled grazing by cattle over parts of the reserve has destroyed some of this valuable habitat.

Within the northwestern portion of the reserve (Section 98 and the adjacent Section 145) are a small number of wetlands. These wetlands provide feeding habitats for a large variety of bird species that frequent the Waitotara River estuary and the lagoons on the opposite side of the river. Appendix 1 contains a list of bird species found in the reserve. A number of these wetlands dry up during the summer months, but during periods of rain become short term high value feeding habitats. The wetlands make this portion of the reserve the most valuable in terms of wildlife habitat.

Throughout the whole reserve are scattered populations of ring necked pheasant and California quail. Until recently the Wanganui Acclimatisation Society carried out pheasant liberations in the Waitotara area with a number of these liberated birds establishing their territories in the reserve. Upland game bird hunting is a popular recreational use of the reserve.

The Waitotara River is used extensively for whitebaiting and eeling and the ocean waters off the coast are amongst the richest in sealife in the country. This is one of the major recreational attractions of the area. There are a few beds of mussels that are exposed on the cut rock platform at low tide.

2.7 HISTORY

The Waitotara River was a major route for Maoris to the interior and the Maori population along the Waitotara River before European settlement was quite considerable. The area has for a long time been a major fishing ground for the Maori

and was suitable for growing kumara. Round pits of varying width and depth were dug along the coast from which the Maori removed sand to mix with soil for kumara crops. On Section 71A a local Maori tribe house and a historic fishing canoe which has been used for traditional fishing purposes for over 100 years. In the 1840s, Europeans under the Wakefield scheme purchased land as far north as Kai-Iwi and began farming it to supply food for the South Island gold rushes. During the Taranaki wars in the 1860s, the area was almost abandoned by settlers and a large army camp was established on Wilkes Bluff above the Waitotara River. An adjacent old inn site is being given the status of protected private land. After 1872, when the Maori wars were over, the area developed along its present lines of sheep and dairy farming. The government, realising that development pressure could be great over the entire unstable dune area, vested in the Nukumarū Domain Board Sections 93 (now 144), 94 and 95 in 1961 and Sections 98 and 99 in 1969 covering a contiguous area along the coast. These sections were in addition to the original domain lands, Sections 63, 66, 67, 71 and 71A.

2.8 LAND TENURE

The Waitotara County Council administers both Nukumarū Recreation Reserve and Waiinu Beach Settlement. Further land (on Section 142) has been set aside for the expansion of the settlement and the new subdivision allotments are being disposed of currently (see Map 3).

Negotiations with landowners have recently led to the gaining of land adjacent to the coast and land for reserves for ventifacts. Lease-back provisions and exchanges have been the means employed to acquire land for the reserve.

The Wilkes Bluff area (see map) is currently the subject of a proposed gift to the Crown. The adjacent old inn site is to be given protected private land status. Ventifact areas have been acquired by the Crown on lease-back terms in exchange for Crown land near Waiinu Settlement. Lot 1 DP 52794 has been acquired for the reserve by exchanging parts Sections 67, 71 and 144. This gives the public access along the coastal area from Waitotara River to Ototoke Stream.

Map 3 shows the various areas held by lessees. The key accompanying this map gives the appellation status and areas of these parcels of land.

2.9 RELATIONSHIP TO ADJACENT LAND

The reserve is part of a larger area proposed as a regional park. The park proposal is described in the 1976 Coastal Reserves Survey published by Department of Lands and Survey. This seeks to preserve four values in particular, namely coastal landscape features, ventifact beds, Wilkes Bluff and the Pingao areas. Most of the land considered for the regional park proposal is in public ownership. The Waverley Beach Settlement and Wairoa Recreation Reserve northwest of the Waitotara River, are administered by the Waverley Town Council. The remainder of the proposed regional park north of the Waitotara River is either administered by the Department of Lands and Survey under various leasing or licensing arrangements or is private freehold land.

The regional park concept includes the area on the north of the river which the Wildlife Service has identified as an important native wildlife and upland game habitat.

from the Minister of Lands hereby amends an error in the notice authorising the exchange of part of the Kaikōhā Lakes Scenic Reserve for other land dated 21 October 1985 and published in the *New Zealand Gazette* of 7 November 1985, No. 205, page 4844, by omitting from the said notice the word "Kaihaka" in the heading of the notice and inserting in its place "Kaihōka".

Dated at Nelson this 21st day of November 1985.

R. G. C. WRATT,
Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(L. and S. H.O. Res. 9/3/21; D.O. 13/73)

3/1

Vesting a Reserve in the Wallace County Council

PURSUANT to the Reserves Act 1977, and to a delegation from the Minister of Lands, the Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands hereby vests the reserve, described in the Schedule hereto, in the Wallace County Council in trust for recreation purposes.

SCHEDULE

SOUTHLAND LAND DISTRICT—WALLACE COUNTY

67.5204 hectares, more or less, being Section 13, Block II, Sections 28, 64 and 172, Block III, Alton Survey District, and Lot 1, D.P. 11284, situated in Block XVII, Longwood Survey District. All *New Zealand Gazettes*, 1912, page 2288 and 1970, page 106. All *Gazette* notice 240319 and part certificate of title 229/63. S.O. Plans 2847, 4011, 7721 and 7857.

Dated at Invercargill this 10th day of December 1985.

A. N. MCGOWAN,
Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(L. and S. H.O. Res. 13/3/36; D.O. 8/3/43)

3/1

Reservation of Land

PURSUANT to the Land Act 1948, and to a delegation from the Minister of Lands, the Assistant Director of Land Administration of the Department of Lands and Survey hereby sets apart the land, described in the Schedule hereto, as recreation reserves subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

SCHEDULE

SOUTH AUCKLAND LAND DISTRICT—TAURANGA COUNTY

1.2872 hectares, more or less, being Sections 156—171, Block I, Katikati North Survey District. Part *New Zealand Gazette*, 1888, page 899. S.O. Plans 38466 and 38468.

Dated at Wellington this 9th day of December 1985.

N. W. RYAN,
Assistant Director of Land Administration,
Department of Lands and Survey.

(L. and S. H.O. Res. 3/2/236; D.O. 3/2725)

3/1

Reservation of Land

PURSUANT to the Land Act 1948, and to a delegation from the Minister of Lands, the Assistant Director of Land Administration of the Department of Lands and Survey hereby sets apart the land, described in the Schedule hereto, as a recreation reserve.

SCHEDULE

WELLINGTON LAND DISTRICT—WAITOTARA COUNTY

38.7984 hectares, more or less, being Section 141, Waitotara District, situated in Block XIV, Wairoa Survey District. Part *New Zealand Gazette*, 1864, page 343. S.O. Plan 31271.

159.1548 hectares, more or less, being Sections 145 and 146, Waitotara District, situated in Blocks XII and XIV, Wairoa Survey District. Part register book 957/42. S.O. Plan 33201.

32.9799 hectares, more or less, being Sections 150 and 151, Waitotara District, situated in Block XIV, Wairoa Survey District. Part *New Zealand Gazette*, 1864, page 343. S.O. Plan 33202.

Dated at Wellington this 10th day of December 1985.

N. W. RYAN,
Assistant Director of Land Administration,
Department of Lands and Survey.

(L. and S. H.O. Res. 7/2/104; D.O. 8/7/3, 8/3/116, 8/3/116/1, DPF 352)

3/1

Classification of Reserve and Declaration That the Reserve Be Part of the Nukumarū Recreation Reserve

PURSUANT to the Reserves Act 1977, and to a delegation from the Minister of Lands, the Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands hereby classifies the reserve, described in the Schedule hereto, as a recreation reserve, and further declares the said reserve to form part of the Nukumarū Recreation Reserve to be administered as a recreation reserve by the Waitotara County Council.

SCHEDULE

WELLINGTON LAND DISTRICT—WAITOTARA COUNTY

38.7984 hectares, more or less, being Section 141, Waitotara District, situated in Block XIV, Wairoa Survey District. Part *New Zealand Gazette*, 1864, page 343. S.O. Plan 31271.

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Dated at Wellington this 10th day of December 1985.

E. V. TYLER,
Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(L. and S. H.O. Res. 7/2/104; D.O. 8/7/3, 8/3/116, 8/3/116/1, DPF 352)

3/1

Reservation of Land

PURSUANT to the Land Act 1948, and to a delegation from the Minister of Lands, the Assistant Director of Land Administration of the Department of Lands and Survey hereby sets apart the land, described in the Schedule hereto, as a local purpose (sewage treatment works) reserve subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

SCHEDULE

SOUTHLAND LAND DISTRICT—WALLACE COUNTY

3.2610 hectares, more or less, being Section 1056, Block I, Manapouri Survey District. S.O. Plan 10682.

Dated at Wellington this 4th day of December 1985.

N. W. RYAN,
Assistant Director of Land Administration,
Department of Lands and Survey.

(L. and S. H.O. 6/1/1161/2; D.O. 14/40/15)

3/1

Reservation of Land

PURSUANT to the Land Act 1948, and to a delegation from the Minister of Lands, the Assistant Director of Land Administration of the Department of Lands and Survey hereby sets apart the land, described in the Schedule hereto, as a recreation reserve subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

SCHEDULE

WELLINGTON LAND DISTRICT—TAUPO COUNTY

2.6542 hectares, more or less, being Section 77, Town of Turangi (formerly part Lot 1, D.P. 17681, part Section 41, Town of Turangi and part Lot 3, D.P. 28587), situated in Blocks X and XI, Puketi Survey District. All *Gazette* notice 397042.1. S.O. Plan 32638.

Dated at Wellington this 3rd day of December 1985.

N. W. RYAN,
Assistant Director of Land Administration,
Department of Lands and Survey.

(L. and S. H.O. Res. 7/2/56; D.O. CL 41/211)

3/1

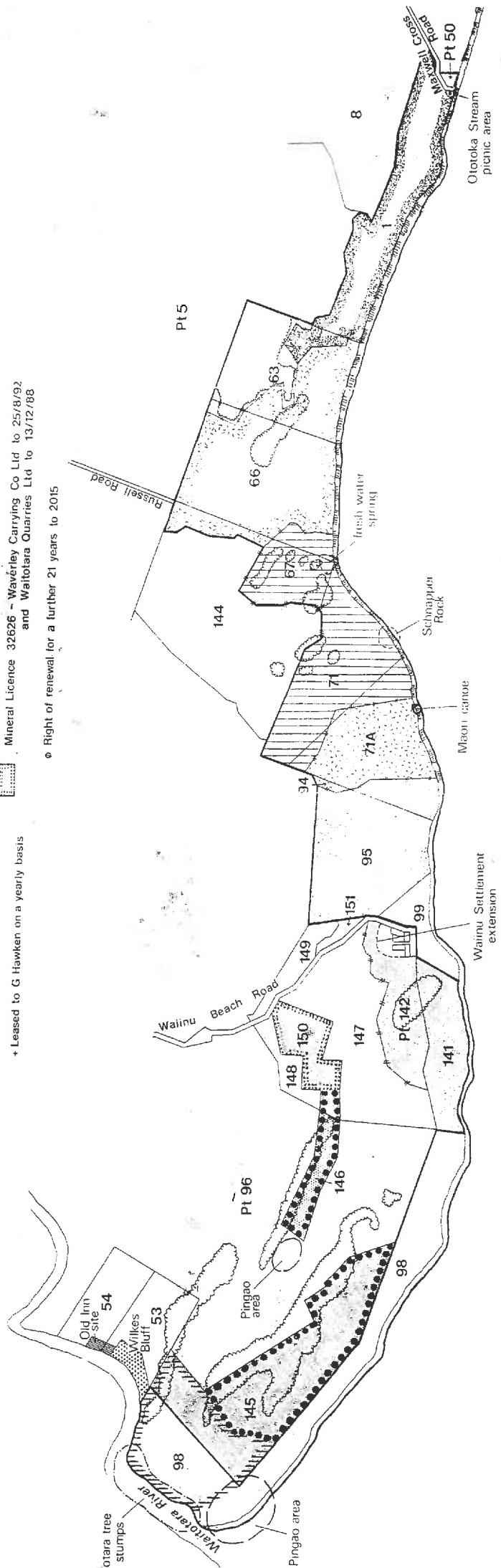


KEY:

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- Grazing Lease 1/4/73 for 21 yrs (A.J Dickie) 48.5 ha
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- Mineral Licence 32626 - Waverley Quarrying Co Ltd to 25/8/92 and Waitotara Quarries Ltd to 13/12/88
- Right of renewal for a further 21 years to 2015



MAP 3
LEASED AREAS & FEATURES

3. PRESENT AND POTENTIAL FUTURE USE

3.1 RECREATIONAL USE

Waiinu Beach Road provides access to Waiinu Settlement and the coast for recreational purposes. The settlement is the main entry point for visitors to the reserve and the development of adjoining camping and day use picnic areas is seen as an integral part of the management of the reserve. In the summer there are up to 400 visitors per day at Waiinu Beach.

Other popular recreational use areas are Ototoka Stream, the fresh water springs and Schnapper Rock, which has vehicular access via a 4 wheel drive track from Waiinu Beach Road. The most popular recreational activities are picnicking, swimming, surfing, fishing and walking along the beach and cliff tops. Recreational uplandgame hunting is also popular in the reserve. The rivermouth is a point of visitation by some coastal walkers and the extra altitude gained on Wilkes Bluff allows expansive views of the river down to the coast. Whitebaiting is popular on the lower reaches of the Waitotara River. Waters off the coast are rich in sea food and fishing and shellfish collection is popular off the rock platforms which are exposed at low tide.

3.2 MARAHAU-WAIINU SAND STABILISATION SCHEME

The Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board in 1974, prepared a comprehensive proposal for the stabilisation of moving and potentially erodible sand dune country in the Marahau-Waiinu area, which includes Nukumaru Recreation Reserve.

The objective of the stabilisation programme is to achieve the maximum sustained production from the land by controlling accelerated erosion and encouraging land uses in the area that conform to an assessment of land use capability. Due regard is given to the impact of stabilisation works on recreational, aesthetic and cultural aspects of the environment.

Conservation work falls into two phases:

- (a) Primary stabilisation work which includes:
 - (i) planting actively eroding dunes with marram grass and lupins; and
 - (ii) protection fencing to enclose areas of severe active erosion on the sand dunes and areas of high potential erosion along the coastal cliffs.

- (b) Secondary work whereby suitable management practices are introduced to ensure maximum production consistent with long term erosion control. Conservation fencing, pasture improvement and protection and production forestry are practices included in this stage.

The stabilisation scheme was revised in 1979 and 1986 but the principles and aims remained unaltered. A landscape report on the Marahau-Waiinu sand stabilisation scheme was prepared by the Department of Lands and Survey in 1980 to set guidelines for the scheme's afforestation proposals to ensure they are environmentally acceptable.

3.3 AGRICULTURAL USE

Most of the reserve is grazed apart from land retired for stabilisation purposes. There are seven grazing leases held over the reserve, and the areas these cover are shown on Map 3. A condition of the renewal of these leases for a further 21 year period on the expiry of their current term is that the lessees enter into a binding agreement with the Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board to participate in the Marahau-Waiinu sand stabilisation scheme.

The lessees are required to fence off any land stabilised and revegetated under the scheme and manage it on a rotational grazing basis in accordance with the ability of the land to withstand grazing.

A coastal protection fence is being erected between Waiinu Settlement and the Waitotara River to retire permanently and stabilise the most active foreshore areas of dunes.

3.4 MINING/QUARRYING

Mining is a conditional use in the Waitotara County district scheme's Rural D2 zone. Waitotara Quarries Limited has been issued a mining licence under the Mining Act 1971 expiring 13 December 1988, over 16.9968 hectares of Crown land on Section 150. The company currently extracts shell rock from the area. On expiry of the licence, this area could be investigated for addition to the reserve.

Waverley Carrying Company Limited has a mining licence expiring 25 August 1992, over 8.0930 hectares of Crown land also on Section 150. It also is used for mining shell rock and is subject to general restoration provisions. This area may likewise be suitable for addition to the reserve following the expiry of the licence. The Patea County Council has in the past had a mineral prospecting licence over part of the reserve for quarrying shell rock for roading purposes.

Abandoned pits have become rubbish dumps in the past and there are examples of gully erosion where the vegetation has been removed.

The pits require restoration in the form of levelling and re-establishing vegetation to prevent wind and water erosion and to restore landscape continuity. The old quarry sites, being enclosed and sheltered from the coastal winds and drifting sand, have potential for camping and picnic sites within easy reach of the beach or for development as wildlife areas.

Because of the scarcity of limestone and shell rock in the region the quarrying also has a priority which must be recognised.

3.5 CULTURAL USE

Before European settlement, the Maori population of the county was quite considerable, especially along the Waitotara River. Along the coast there are a number of historic sites. The area is historically significant to both Maoris and Europeans.

The coast, being a rich source of sea food, was fished extensively by the Maoris. Schnapper Rock was a favourite place of the early Maori. The local Maori people continue to fish the area. An historic canoe is housed on Section 71A of the reserve. The canoe is important to the Maoris historically and culturally. Recognition of this area and its value to the Maoris is required and provision will be made for the setting aside of this area for cultural purposes.

The native pingao is used traditionally for weaving purposes by the Maoris. This plant is also of botanical importance and a balance will need to be sought between cultural use and leaving the plant to regenerate. Planting of pingao will be encouraged on Section 71A for future use and this may relieve pressure on use of the plant in other parts of the reserve.

4. RESERVE EVALUATION

Of all areas of publicly owned land within Waitotara County, this reserve and the surrounding area contains a concentration of the most significant recreation, wildlife and scientific values. It will be managed to retain these values according to the management objectives and policies of this management plan. The reserve contains the following major features and values which contribute to the overall value of the area.

1. Recreational Values - The area is becoming increasingly important for coastal recreation. It is a popular area for swimming, fishing and walking.
2. Scenic Values - This coastal area has a rugged scenic character and grazing over much of the reserve keeps the landscape open which allows landforms to be appreciated from as far away as the State Highway.
3. Wildlife Values - This area provides a diverse range of habitats for wildlife. The seasonal lagoons provide suitable habitat for native water birds, including breeding swan and duck. The reserve is popular for upland game bird hunting during the game season.
4. Scientific Values - The reserve and surrounding area contains examples of rocks from two geological time periods, Nukumaru Limestone (ocean cliffs) and Waitotarian (Wilkes Bluff area).
The New Zealand Geological Society consider the ventifact beds to be important geological features within the area which require continued preservation.
5. Historic and Cultural Values - Several features of historical interest lie within and adjacent to the reserve: the fossil totara trees near the river mouth and giving the river its name; the former riverside inn; and the cavalry post site (on Wilkes Bluff).
The presence of substantial areas of native pingao plants and their continued use in Maori arts and crafts is a special feature of the reserve as is the Maori canoes used for traditional fishing purposes by the local Maoris.

6. Agricultural Values - Subject to sand stabilisation measures, much of the reserve has agricultural value in that it is capable of supporting controlled grazing.

Most of the area is currently held under various grazing leases.

7. Mining Values - Due to the scarcity of limestone and shell rock in the region, quarrying of these materials is acceptable if carefully controlled and with acceptable restoration conditions.

Superimposed over the entire area is the Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board Sand Stabilisation Scheme which is of primary importance in the maintenance of all the reserve's values.

There is a large number of different values and interests within the reserve and the management objectives and policies attempt to take account of all of them.

5. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The management objectives provide the basic long term aims for the management of the reserve and reflect the general principles outlined in Section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977.

1. To manage the reserve as a recreation reserve for the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public and provide primarily for those activities which rely on the qualities of the natural environment and open space.
2. To conserve and enhance the natural character and qualities of the landscape and in particular to protect the coastal environment.
3. To preserve the historic, archaeological, scientific, cultural and wildlife features of the reserve.
4. To maintain the sand and soil stability of the reserve and adjacent areas.

6 MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The management policies relate to specific management problems and issues and reflect the intent of the management objectives.

6.1 ADMINISTRATION

Policy: To retain administration and management of the reserve under the control of the Waitotara County Council.

Explanation: Management will be in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 and other relevant statutes including the Wildlife Act 1953 and Historic Places Act 1981.

6.2 LIAISON

Policy: To maintain liaison with all persons and bodies whose activities in any way affect reserve management or the achievement of management objectives.

Explanation: Co-operation and liaison with interested parties will assist in the effective management of the reserve. These include lessees and licence holders, adjacent landowners, Department of Lands and Survey, New Zealand Wildlife Service, Wanganui Acclimatisation Society and the Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board.

6.3 LEASING

Policy:

1. To lease suitable areas of the reserve, with appropriate conditions under Section 73(1) of the Reserves Act 1977.
2. To adhere to the terms and conditions of existing leases where these are compatible with the objectives of this management plan.

6.4 GRAZING

Policy:

1. To manage the leased areas for grazing using sound management techniques in accordance with the capability of the land to withstand such grazing.
2. To prohibit grazing on areas susceptible to severe erosion on the sand dunes and on areas of high potential erosion along coastal cliffs.

Explanation: Grazing of the reserve will be in accordance with the Marahau-Waiinui Sand Stabilisation Scheme.

6.5 FENCING

Policy: To erect and maintain fences so as to exclude stock from areas of potentially severe erosion on the sand dunes and areas of high potential erosion along coastal cliffs.

Explanation: Fencing will be undertaken in accordance with the Rangitikei Wanganui Catchment Board's Sand Stabilisation Scheme. The coastal protection fence between Wainui Beach Settlement and the Waitotara River will be completed for the purpose of retiring from grazing the most active foredunes.

6.6 EROSION CONTROL

Policy: To recognise the unstable nature of the sand dunes within the reserve and to protect them against erosion.

Explanation: The responsibility for erosion control of a given piece of land rests finally with the occupier. Erosion control measures will be as laid down for Marahau-Wainui Sand Stabilisation Scheme, which is administered by the Rangitikei Wanganui Catchment Board. Maintenance of fences and the correct siting and design of tracks so as not to reactivate erosion of the dunes is ultimately the responsibility of the occupier. Where necessary, conditions on leases will reflect these requirements.

6.7 PLANTING

Policy:

1. To carry out planting using, as far as possible, species indigenous to the reserve.
2. To carry out the planting proposals of the Sand Stabilisation Scheme under guidelines set out in the Department of Lands and Survey's report 1980.

6.8 NOXIOUS PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Policy: To control or exterminate plants and animals not considered to have any value or utility to the reserve.

Explanation: Leases require the lessees to clear the land of gorse, broom, sweetbriar, boxthorn and all noxious weeds and of rabbits and vermin and to comply with the provisions of the Noxious Plants Act 1978 and the Agricultural Pests Destruction Act 1967. On unleased areas, it is the Waitotara County Council's responsibility to undertake noxious plant and animal control.

6.9 WILDLIFE/WILDLIFE HABITAT

Policy: To protect indigenous animals and birds in the reserve and to prevent any interference to their habitats that could be detrimental to the maintenance of viable populations.

Explanation: The New Zealand Wildlife Service has identified the seasonal wetlands of the northwestern portion of the reserve (Section 98) as a particularly valuable wildlife habitat. Lessess of this part of the reserve will be encouraged to strictly control grazing of cattle so as to preserve this wildlife habitat.

6.10 ACCESS AND PARKING

Policy: To provide and maintain public access to the reserve and to provide for vehicle parking off Waiinui Road and Maxwell Cross Road, at a level consistent with the capacity and use of the reserve.

Explanation: It may be necessary, should public use warrant it in the future, to provide vehicle access between Waiinui Beach Road and Maxwell Cross Road. This would improve access to and through the reserve and allow for a greater range of people using the area.

6.11 RECREATIONAL HUNTING

Policy:

1. To allow recreational gamebird hunting in the reserve, controlled through the issue of hunting permits.
2. To monitor trends in the reserve's gamebird population to ensure that numbers do not fall below acceptable levels.
3. To allow management of habitats for gamebirds to increase numbers provided it is compatible with the management objectives.

Explanation: Permits will be issued by the Wanganui Acclimatisation Society which has statutory responsibility for gamebird management under the Wildlife Act 1953. Council will require that it be regularly informed of recreational hunting activity on the reserve.

Maximum hunting intensity will be defined and not exceeded to ensure gamebird numbers are maintained. Minimum gamebird levels will need to be defined.

6.12 OFF ROAD VEHICLES

Policy: To actively discourage the use of off-road vehicles in the reserve.

Explanation: Little damage would be caused by off-road vehicles on the beach. Off-road vehicles are not an acceptable use throughout the remainder of the reserve, particularly in the erosion prone dune areas. In places, signs will be required to actively discourage the use of off-road vehicles.

6.13 FACILITIES

Policy: To provide and maintain visitor facilities which are appropriate to the use and enjoyment of the reserve.

Explanation: Wainui Beach is currently the most appropriate site for the development of facilities such as picnic and camping areas, boat ramps and fish cleaning facilities.

6.14 CAMPING

Policy: To facilitate and provide for overnight camping at Wainui Beach.

Explanation: Appropriate facilities for camping will be provided and maintained at Wainui Beach such as toilets and fire places.

6.15 BACHES

Policy: To prohibit the erection of baches or residential dwellings on the reserve.

Explanation: The erection of baches on the reserve would detract from the natural character of the areas.

6.16 TRACKS

Policy: To provide and maintain walking tracks, where appropriate, to increase the visitors' appreciation and enjoyment of the reserve.

Explanation: Tracks will be constructed to a high engineering standard, using the following criteria:

1. To direct use to specific routes
2. To discourage use of environmentally sensitive areas.
3. To provide access to parts of the reserve which have scenic qualities.

6.17 MINING/QUARRYING

Policy: 1. To ensure that current and future mineral and aggregate extraction or prospecting is carried out so as to minimise any adverse effects on the landscape and natural qualities of the reserve.

6.18 QUARRY PITS

Policy: To restore disused quarry pits in the reserve to a state complementary to the surrounding landscape and land uses.

Explanation: The pits may require restoration in the form of re-establishing vegetation to prevent further wind and water erosion. The pits may also be suitable for camping and picnicking or as habitat for wildlife. These possibilities will be considered when planning restoration programmes.

6.19 PINGAO

Policy:

1. To recognise the biological importance of this plant and its cultural importance to the local people and to allow its continued use in the reserve in areas where its survival is not threatened by such use.
2. To monitor the level of use of pingao to ensure that the biological value of this plant is not threatened by overuse.

Explanation: Local people will be encouraged to plant pingao on Section 71A to ensure its availability for future use. Rangitikei Wanganui Catchment Board staff can assist in the purchase of pingao and supervise its planting. Pingao is not an effective primary sand stabilising plant and for the plan to thrive, conditions of stability should be achieved first.

6.20 CANOE SITE

Policy: To recognise the cultural and historical importance associated with the Maori canoe used for traditional fishing and to hold the site under a temporary tenancy agreement.

Explanation: The canoe storage site and surrounds will be fenced from the remainder of the reserve and an agreement entered into with the local Maoris. Conditions to be attached to the agreement include -

1. Development will be constrained to that already in place
2. The site is to be maintained in a tidy state
3. No boat launching facilities are to be allowed
4. The public will have freedom of access along the beach in the vicinity of the canoe site.

6.21 FIRES/FIRE CONTROL

Policy: To provide fire places in appropriate areas and to allow the lighting of fires only where they do not endanger facilities, natural features and sand stabilisation works

Explanation: In areas receiving consistently high public use (Wainui Beach) where fires are an acceptable part of the recreational use and enjoyment of the reserve fire places will be provided. Fuel may also be provided if demand warrants it.

6.22 SIGNS

Policy: To provide and maintain signs for public information and reserve interpretation, and to aid control and management.

Explanation: The following design criteria will apply -

- signs will be easily visible but not in a position that detracts from any scenic qualities
- the design will be functionally and visually appealing.
- the materials used will not detract from the natural environment
- where possible information should be consolidated on one signboard.

6.23 RUBBISH

Policy: To provide public rubbish collection facilities only at high use picnic or camping areas, and otherwise to foster a take home policy.

6.24 RESEARCH

Policy: To permit scientific studies of the reserve where these are compatible with the management objectives.

Explanation: Any research projects in the reserve will require the prior approval of the Waitotara County Council.

6.25 FUTURE ADDITIONS

Policy: To investigate the addition of suitable land to the reserve.

Explanation: Sections 145 and 141 and Part Section 142, (all Crown Land - see Map 3) are suitable for addition to the reserve or for management as scientific reserve. Liaison with the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Wellington will be required concerning any future additions to the reserve.

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APPENDIX 1BIRD SPECIES LIST

Ring necked pheasant	<i>(Phasianus colchicus)</i>
Californian Quail	<i>(Lophortyx californica)</i>
Brown Quail	<i>(Synoicus ypsilophorus)</i>
Mallard Duck	<i>(Anas platyrhynchos)</i>
Grey Duck	<i>(Anas Superciliosa)</i>
Black Swan	<i>(Cygnus atratus)</i>
New Zealand Shoveler Duck	<i>(Anas rhychotis)</i>
Harrier	<i>(Circus approximans)</i>
Pukeko	<i>(Porphyrio melanotus)</i>
Black Oystercatcher	<i>(Haematopus unicolor)</i>
Pied Silt	<i>(Himantopus leucocephalus)</i>
Whitefaced Heron	<i>(Ardea novaehollandiae)</i>
Welcome swallow	<i>(Hirundo neoxena)</i>
Skylark	<i>(Alauda arvensis)</i>
Fantail	<i>(Rhipidura fuliginosa)</i>
Greenfinch	<i>(Chloris chloris)</i>
Starling	<i>(Sturnus vulgaris)</i>
Spur winged plover	<i>(Lobibyx novaehollandiae)</i>
Kingfisher	<i>(Halcyon Sancta)</i>

Source: B. Williams, N Z Wildlife Service 1984