

Hahei Beach Recreation Reserve - Hahei



Reserve Category	Neighbourhood
Reserve Classification	Recreation
Location	1 and 5 Hahei Beach Road, Hahei
Area	0.8504 ha
Legal Description	Lot 8 DPS 5203 (0.0607ha) NZ Gazette Lot 45 DPS 12280 (0.5590ha) Lot 43 DPS 7740 (0.2307ha) Automatically classified in accordance with s16(11)(b)(i) of the Reserves Act 1977.

Background

- This reserve and the adjoining Crown marginal strip, which is administered by Department of Conservation, experience very high visitor numbers over summer and other peak periods.
- The beachfront parking area has been formed across both Council reserve land and the adjoining Crown marginal strip.
- A Council owned public toilet facility, picnic tables, bench seating, beach access and access for launching small/light craft are located on the adjoining Crown marginal strip.
- The reserve contains a listed archaeological site (T11/242 Māori pre 1769 Midden/Oven) and is likely to contain sub-surface archaeological remains. There are also a number of other Māori pre 1769 listed archaeological sites within the immediate vicinity of the reserve and Crown marginal strip.
- To help alleviate some of the parking congestion Council has set aside 'temporary parking only' sites for commercial operators authorised to use this reserve.

Reserve Issues

- Council and the Department of Conservation have had a long-standing issue with the conflict between recreational activities and traffic/parking congestion across their respective land holdings.
- At present there is insufficient parking at the reserve to meet peak demand. This is exacerbated by tour bus operators parking their coaches in the area and visitors parking all day to participate in activities offered by licenced commercial operators or alternatively to walk the beach around to Cathedral Cove.
- Encroachment has occurred from adjoining properties towards the eastern boundary of the reserve. This includes private structures and landscaping.

Management Actions

- a. Investigate options and opportunities to encourage visitors to use the Hahei Visitors Car Park – which is off Hahei Beach Road and only a short walk from the beach.
- b. Using a collaborative approach, investigate formalising a mutual arrangement which takes into account the Council assets on the adjoining land administered by Department of Conservation.

Reserve Management Policy

- a. The objectives and policies in the Thames-Coromandel General Policies Reserve Management Plan apply.
- b. Allow the boat launching access to be used only by emergency services, small craft (single axle trailer) and licensed water-based commercial operators.
- c. Allow for up to two land-based and up to two water-based commercial activity licences to operate from specific areas on the reserve as defined by Council, subject to Council approval.