

Summer Ambassador Observations & Photos

Luggate Red Bridge Reserve December 2024 - April 2025

Large number of campervans and increase in number of non-self-contained cars used for camping (5 today). Some camper vans and cars seen across the highway as well.

A lot of rubbish here.

Very busy/ overflowing

Freedom camp site is beyond capacity. Massive [campervan] parked on side of road.

Lots of litter picked up. Spoke to a few campers and gave some brief information about the area and where to dispose of waste and grey water responsibly and recommended some hikes etc. Most campers inside vans but chatted to everyone who was up and out.



Local users parked cars in a manner in which other users of the site cannot get in nor out. In regard to rubbish and campers washing dishes and clothes down by the creek, no signs were noted. Only small amounts of tissue paper.

LOADS of litter including a lot of tissues with evidence of toileting. Evidence of 2 human faeces. Evidence of fires including directly under a tree (dismantled and destroyed evidence).



2 code browns!! Sent on SSS. Spoke to a lovely German couple who thanked us for our work and education.

Couple girls washing in the river, told them what's up. They were [unaware] that it was not ok.

Fair bit of toilet paper present, no code browns. Stayed for a while to see if people were bathing/ doing laundry in river.

More non-self-contained vehicles [present] than usual.

Someone shaving in the river 🦋

Chatted with campers and handed out some pamphlets. Area generally tidy. One large camper taking up 4-5 spaces.

A few campers hanging out by river. Gave them pamphlets and educated them on where they can dump their rubbish. All said that they were going to camp at red bridge for the night.





Evidence of toileting here.

Would recommend that oversize [campervans] not be welcome at the red bridge. Currently multiple extremely large [campervans]. Between three towed motor homes and floats, taking up about 14/15 spaces for regular sized SC vehicles

A large amount of toilet roll, and evidence of toileting, human faeces and smells. Dumped rubbish and food scraps. Spoke to a few campers, on van had drove away leaving their boots behind. The camper informed us that the site was full last night.



Ambassadors document the busyness of the Luggate Red Bridge over the 2024-2025 summer season. (Photos left)

Personal belongings and rubbish were frequently left outside of vehicles. Rubbish found left on site, and a busy morning at the reserve. (Photos far left)





When the reserve is full vehicles frequently would camp on the opposite side of the State Highway, NZTA managed land. Campers were observed walking across the highway to use the toilets on the reserve. *(Above)*

Ambassadors document toileting in the bushes and fire pits in the reserve. *(Below)*

