

Community & Environment Committee

21 July 2026

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [1]

Department: Community Services

Title | Taitara: Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to consider recommending to Council that the Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan be adopted in accordance with the Reserves Act (1977).

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That the Community & Environment Committee:

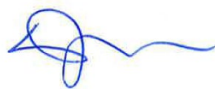
1. **Note** the contents of this report; and
2. **Recommend to Council** to adopt the Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan.

Prepared By:



Name: Dom Harrison
Title: Parks and Reserves
Planner
Date: 25 June 2026

Reviewed By:



Name: Dave Winterburn
Title: Parks Manager
Date: 25 June 2026

Authorised By:



Name: Ken Bailey
Title: GM Community Services
Date: 30 June 2026

Context | Horopaki

1. Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) administers a collection of recreation reserves alongside the Kawarau River with a combined area of approximately 7.1 hectares.
2. Under Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) all recreation reserves under Council's administration are required to have reserve management plans, prepared in accordance with the Act.
3. The Kawarau Riverside Reserves Management Plan (RMP) includes three primary areas referred to as:
 - Kawarau Falls Reserve
 - Unnamed Reserve (Riverside Road Reserve)
 - Ivan Young Zoological Reserve
4. The RMP identifies several other parcels of land that currently function as part of the open space network. These include road reserve, Land Information New Zealand administered land and QLDC freehold land. If classified as QLDC reserve in the future, these areas would be managed in accordance with the objectives and policies of the RMP. The reserve land and other land parcels are shown in Figure 1 below.

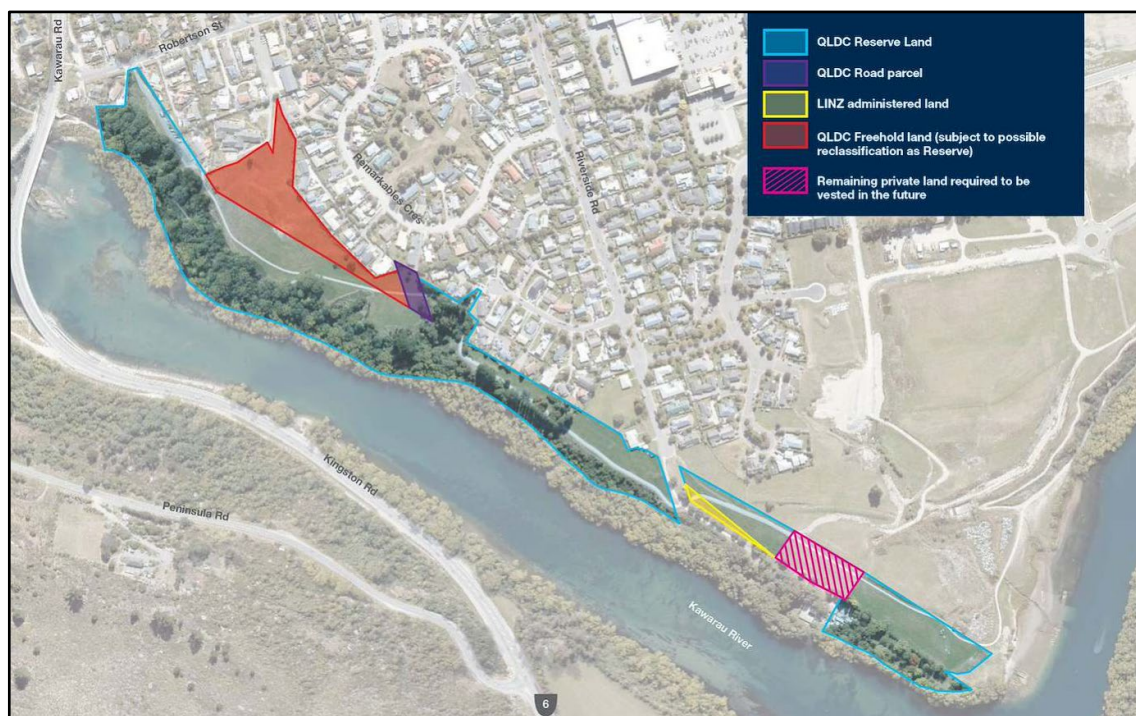


Figure 1: Appendix 2 of the RMP showing the differing land classifications. The blue outlined areas indicate QLDC reserve land. The purple areas indicate QLDC road parcel. The yellow area indicates LINZ administered land. The red

area indicates QLDC freehold land. The pink hatched area indicates the remaining private land that is required to be vested as reserve.

5. The draft RMP has been in development since November 2023. A summary of the key milestones achieved to date is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Key milestones to develop the draft RMP.

Date	Milestone
02 November 2023	Community and Services Committee approved the intention to notify the preparation of the draft RMP.
26 February to 25 March 2024	Early public community and stakeholder engagement on the draft RMP via community drop-in session and Let's Talk submissions.
16 September 2025	Community and Services Committee recommended Council approve the draft RMP to go out for public consultation.
09 October 2025	Council approved the draft RMP to go out for public consultation.
26 January to 29 March 2026	Formal public consultation period including two public drop-in sessions.
22 April 2026	Hearing of submissions and deliberations.
21 July 2026	Recommendation to Community and Environment Committee to recommend to Full Council the adoption of the RMP.

Analysis and Advice | Tatāritaka me kā Tohutohu

6. The Kawarau Riverside draft RMP (Attachment A) sets out the vision and intended use and management of the Reserves through the objectives and policies.
7. The draft RMP has been informed by community and stakeholder engagement, and engagement with Kāi Tahu rūnaka. This has been achieved via Aukaha and Te Ao Marama who facilitate input from rūnaka. Twenty submissions were received. A Summary of Consultation document summarises the process and submissions and has been shared with submitters (Attachment B).
8. On 22 April 2026 the Hearing Panel, comprising of Councillor Bartlett (Chair), Councillor Wong, and Councillor Brent, heard from two submitters, considered all submissions received, deliberated on the matters raised, and directed changes to the draft RMP.
9. A tracked changes version of the draft RMP shows changes made (Attachment C). The main changes following public submissions and deliberations include:
 - Mana Whenua section amended as recommended by iwi, adding more cultural context.

- History section amended to include reference to historic ferry reserve located at the south-western end of the Reserves.
 - Policy 6.1.2 (f) added to prohibit freedom camping.
 - Two ecological policies added, 6.1.5(d) and 6.1.5(e), to support the planting of both native and non-invasive exotic vegetation to enhance reserve amenity, and to ensure planting and other activities consider and give effect to Kāi Tahu values.
 - Policy 6.2.3(d) added to ensure pedestrian priority areas are considered within the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve.
10. If approved, the RMP will only apply to the QLDC reserve land identified in Figure 1 above. For the remaining land parcels that are not QLDC reserve (identified in Figure 1), the RMP will provide guidance, based on the community's vision, for how these parcels could be managed to assist an integrated approach to the management of the open space network.
11. This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.
12. Option 1 Recommend to Council to adopt the Kawarau Riverside RMP

Advantages:

- Will ensure a framework exists, based on the Community's vision, for how the Reserves will be managed and developed.
- Will ensure the community's expectations to produce a RMP are met and acknowledges the community and stakeholder engagement through the submissions and hearings process.
- Ensures Council meets its obligation under the Reserves Act (1977) to prepare a reserve management plan for recreation reserves.

Disadvantages:

- All aspects of the RMP may not be supported by some of the community.
- Council will be constrained as to what they can permit on the Reserves if something arises that has not been considered in the RMP.

13. Option 2 Do not recommend to Council to adopt the Kawarau Riverside RMP

Advantages:

- Council would have increased flexibility as to how the Reserves are administered.

Disadvantages:

- There would be no plan, based on community feedback, for how the Reserves should be protected, enhanced, managed, and developed.
- Council will not meet the community's expectations that an RMP for the Reserves will be developed.
- Council will not be meeting its obligations under the Reserves Act (1977).

14. This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter because this will ensure a clear plan is in place to direct future use, management and development of the Reserves based on the community's vision and will ensure Council is meeting its obligations under the Act.

Consultation Process | Hātepe Matapaki

Significance and Engagement | Te Whakamahi I kā Whakaaro Hiraka

15. This matter is of medium significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy 2024 because of the community interest in the future use and development of the reserve. An RMP has the ability to alter how the Reserves are managed for the community.
16. The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are users of the Reserves, residents/ratepayers of the Whakatipu Basin community, Kāi Tahu, visitors to Queenstown, immediately adjoining neighbours and local recreation and conservation groups.
17. The Council undertook early engagement with community and stakeholders in March 2024 to inform the development of the draft RMP.
18. The draft RMP was formally consulted on through a two-month submission period between 26 January and 29 March 2026. The hearing of, and deliberation of submissions, occurred on 22 April 2026.

Māori Consultation | Iwi Rūnaka

19. The Council has worked with Aukaha and Te Ao Marama throughout the drafting and finalisation of the RMP.

Risk and Mitigations | Kā Raru Tūpono me kā Whakamaurutaka

20. This matter relates to the Community & Wellbeing risk category. It is associated with RISK10005 Ineffective planning for community services or facilities within the QLDC Risk Register. This risk has been assessed as having a moderate residual risk rating.
21. The approval of the recommended option will allow Council to avoid the risk. This will be achieved by creating a clear plan for how Council intends to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, and protection of the Reserves.

Financial Implications | Kā Riteka ā-Pūtea

22. Finalising the Kawarau Riverside RMP is provided for within existing operational budgets.

Council Effects and Views | Kā Whakaaweawe me kā Tirohaka a te Kaunihera

23. The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:
- Vision beyond 2050
 - Reserves Act 1977
 - Local Government Act 2002
 - Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021
 - Significance and engagement policy 2021
 - QLDC Disability Policy
 - QLDC Dog Control Bylaw
 - Proposed and Operative District Plan
 - QLDC Freedom Camping Bylaw
 - QLDC Future Parks and Provisions Plan
 - QLDC Blue Green Network Plan
24. The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the named policies.
25. This matter is not included in the Long Term Plan as it is a management framework and does not propose Council led projects.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions | Te Whakatureture 2002 o te Kāwanataka ā-Kiaka

26. Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 states the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. Adoption of the reserve management plan will support these outcomes by having an approved plan that directs future decision making for the Reserves. As such, the recommendation in this report is appropriate and within the ambit of Section 10 of the Act.

27. The recommended option:

- Can be implemented through current funding under the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan;
- Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
- Would not significantly alter the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Final Kawarau Riverside Reserves Management Plan
B	Kawarau Riverside Reserves Summary of Consultation January – March 2026
C	Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserves Management Plan (showing tracked changes)



DRAFT KAWARAU RIVERSIDE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN – 2026

**Te Kirikiri Frankton, Tāhuna Queenstown
QLDC**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	4
2. Reserves Description	4
3. Description of Primary Users and Activities	7
4. Vision	8
5. Objectives	8
6. Policies	9
7. Appendices	15

Other related documents:

Reserves Act 1977
Resource Management Act 1991
Te Tiriti o Waitangi
Conservation Act 1987
Te Runanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996
Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998
Water Conservation (Kawarau) Order 1997
Health and Safety Act 2015

QLDC Alcohol Bylaw
QLDC Art in Public Places Policy
QLDC Operative and Proposed District Plans
QLDC Dog Bylaw
QLDC Events Strategy
QLDC Open Spaces Strategy
QLDC Plaques, Memorials & Monuments Policy
QLDC Disability Policy
QLDC Smoking Policy
QLDC Traffic and Parking Bylaw
QLDC Tree Policy
QLDC Film Permit - for drone use
QLDC Te Kirikiri/Frankton Masterplan 2020
QLDC Freedom Camping Bylaw
QLDC Blue Green Network Plan
Te Tainga a Tauria – The Cry of the People 2008

Kāi Tahu ki Otago Natural Resource Management Plan 2005

Other relevant parameters for management and decision making:

QLDC Delegations Register – Community & Environment Committee
QLDC Licenses, Leases & Permits

Other relevant parameters for management and decision making:

QLDC Delegations Register – Community and Environment Committee

Process for preparing a Reserve Management Plan in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977:

2 November 2023 CSC approved creating plan
26 February 2024 Notice invited suggestions for the plan
25 March 2024 Suggestions closed
26 January 2026 Notice invited submissions on the draft plan
29 March 2026 Submissions close
22 April 2026 Hearing held
21 July 2026 Community and Environment Committee recommend adopting plan
27 August Full Council adopts plan

Review:

Generally, Reserve Management Plans should be reviewed at a minimum of 10-year intervals by Parks Officers. This does not necessarily require a rewrite.

1. INTRODUCTION

Reserve Management Plan Purpose

The Reserves Act 1977 requires the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) to prepare Reserve Management Plans for all land classified as Recreation Reserve under Council management or control.

This Reserve Management Plan (RMP) provides a vision for how the Kawarau Riverside Reserves are valued and experienced, currently, and long-term.

Objectives and policies outline the use, maintenance, protection, preservation, and development of the Kawarau Riverside Reserves. These assist with all decision making for the Reserves. Their purpose is to support the implementation of the community's vision for the Kawarau Riverside Reserves.

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves comprise of seven adjoining parcels of QLDC administered recreation reserve land. However, there are several adjoining parcels of land that are either freehold QLDC land or LINZ land that form the open space corridor between the residential and Remarkables Park developments and the Kawarau River.

All parcels are currently used by the public and form part of the open space recreation experience. All QLDC land is maintained by QLDC as public open space. Including these parcels within the RMP ensures consistent management of the area. In this

document these parcels will be jointly referred to as the Kawarau Riverside Reserves, or the Reserves, see **Appendix 1**.

A remaining section of private land is required by a Planning Tribunal Decision to be vested in QLDC through future subdivision processes. At such a time this is vested, it will be managed in accordance with this RMP see **Appendix 2**.

2. RESERVES DESCRIPTION

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves are for the enjoyment and benefit of the local community, residents and visitors, and to provide open space amenity, and community wellbeing while recognising and reflecting mana whenua values.

They are bounded by the Kawarau River on one side and a mixture of lower-medium density residential and mixed-use development on the other. The remaining adjoining undeveloped private land is intended to be developed in future with commercial high density residential development, visitor accommodation and hotels.

The Reserves offer a natural buffer between land zoned in the district plan for urban development and the Kawarau River. They are of cultural significance and provide the opportunity for the public to interact with the natural environment, access the Kawarau River and enjoy the expansive views of the Remarkables Mountain Range.

A natural green buffer exists between Lake Whakatipu and the Kawarau River, and the urban environment for large portions of the lake and river margins. The Reserves contribute significantly to this wider blue and green network with the adjoining Frankton Domain to the north-west and the Twin Rivers Trail to the north-east currently held in road reserve.

A portion of the Twin Rivers Trail passes through the Reserves and form part of the Queenstown 'Great Ride' trail network.

The Reserves are largely undeveloped with the exception of the well-used Twin Rivers Trail. There are no formal carparks or public toilets and minimal reserve infrastructure. As such, the primary use is informal recreation and trail users.

The Reserves sit between the two high growth areas of Frankton and the Southern Corridor. The Frankton residential area would benefit from an enhanced reserve area that protects the natural character and connectivity it provides with the natural environment as the adjoining area continues to experience pressure from ongoing urban development. The Reserves provide potential for important active travel connections for the Southern Corridor community that should be considered in the ongoing management of the Reserves.

As the adjoining land undergoes continual development, this is an opportunity to protect the existing natural character of the Reserves and

enhance them through native revegetation and amenity planting.

Legal Description

The Kowarau Riverside Reserves are situated on a combined area of 7.144 hectares. The Reserves are zoned Open Space & Recreation - Informal Recreation in the QLDC Proposed District Plan (PDP) and located partly within Outstanding Natural Landscape (ONL), Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) and Wāhi Tūpuna.

When the additional parcels (not currently classified as recreation reserve) are included, the combined area is approximately 7.9 hectares see **Appendix 3**.

The Reserves are made up of three areas (identified in section 7) known as:

- Ivan Young Zoological Reserve
- Unnamed Reserve (Riverside Road Reserve)
- Kowarau Falls Reserve

Access

Primary cycle and pedestrian access into the Reserves is via:

- Kowarau Place
- The Twin Rivers Trail

Vehicle access to the Reserves is via:

- Riverside Road
- Two points off Robertson Street

Some reserve parking exists on one of the Robertson St access points opposite Douglas Street. However, there are no formal entry nodes.

Mana Whenua

For Kāi Tahu, the natural environment and how they engage with it, is a critical component of their identity as a people and in maintaining their culture.

All elements of the natural environment possess a mauri, a life force, and all forms of life are related. The mauri of whenua, wai, taoka and other natural elements, represent the essence that binds the physical and spiritual elements of all things together, generating and upholding all life. Mauri is therefore a critical element of the spiritual relationship of Kāi Tahu Whānui with the whenua, waterbodies and resources of the region.

Whakatipu wai-māori provides an integral source of wai (freshwater) provided by hukawai (melt waters). These waters are recognised by Kāi Tahu as tapu (sacred) and support a variety of ecosystems within the Whakatipu wai-māori catchment and the provision of mahika kai.

The Kowarau River was a traditional travel route for mana whenua that provided direct access between the Mata-Au (Clutha) and Whakatipu wai-māori. It is also recorded as a kāika mahika kai where weka, kākāpō, kea and tuna (eel) were gathered.

Ōterotu is the traditional name for the Kowarau Falls at the outlet of Whakatipu wai-māori. Ōterotu was one of many villages that formed a network along the river route to access pounamu at Te Koroka, located beyond the head of the Whakatipu wai-māori.

The ability to keep alive traditional practices passed down by ancestors, in places traditionally used or occupied by descendants, provides a sense of belonging and continuity.

Kāi Tahu values adopted from the Spatial Plan and Frankton Masterplan:

- Hauora: Wellbeing - ensuring the four well beings are recognised in decisions.
- Aumangea: Resilience - ensuring communities and visitors are resilient and adaptive to future shocks and climate change.
- Whakauku: Sustainability - ensuring the use of sustainable development principles and zero emissions.
- Ara Tawhito – acknowledging traditional trails and networks.
- Whakapapa – Recognising genealogy or Lineage.
- Manaakitaka - Acknowledging others and raising up of the mana of visitors.
- Whanaukataka – Supporting community and Whanau connections and relationships.

Ki uta ki tai is a philosophy that has become synonymous with the way Kāi Tahu think about natural resource management. This principle recognises the interconnectedness of the natural environment, acknowledges mana whenua belong to the environment and that any resources used are borrowed from future generations to come.

Te Mana o te Wai - Water Management

Te Mana o te Wai is a concept that supports Ki Uta Ki Tai and is relevant to the Kāwarau Riverside Reserves due to the proximity of the Reserves and the interaction they encourage with Whakatipu wai-māori and the Kāwarau Awa. Te Mana o te Wai refers to the fundamental importance of water and recognises that protecting the health of freshwater protects the health and well-being of the wider environment. Te Mana o te Wai is about restoring and preserving the balance between the water, the wider environment, and the community to protect the mauri (life force) of the water.

Consistent with the guiding principle of Ki Uta Ki Tai and Te Mana o te Wai, activities within the Reserves, particularly vegetation management and ecological enhancement should not be considered in isolation but within the context of the wider wai network, including the downstream environment of the Kāwarau and Mata-Au Awa. Where The Reserves are managed using a Ki Uta Ki Tai lens it benefits the environment and everyone who interacts with it.

Ecology

The Reserves are typically open in nature on the upper terrace with mixed predominantly exotic vegetation located along the banks of the Kāwarau River.

There are small pockets of recently planted native species in the Kāwarau Falls Reserve including kowhai, horoeka (lancewoods), tawairauriki (beech), mānatu (ribbonwood) and rimu.

The Ivan Young Zoological Reserve has many mature exotic specimen trees. An avenue of mature Silver Birch, planted by the Young family, lines the entrance to the Reserve.

Several pest species are present across the Reserves including crack willow predominantly situated on the Kāwarau riverbank. There are large areas of blackberry and gorse present with a smaller area of wilding conifers.

History

Ivan Young Zoological Reserve:

The area known as the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve was historically used as an unofficial rubbish dumping site. It subsequently became reserve land that Ivan Young, who resided in the adjoining property with his family, restored and enhanced.

The Young family began restoring the Reserve in 1965. This consisted of extensive planting of mixed native and exotic species and included providing a safe space for rescued animals.

Ivan Young worked as the Curator for the Parks and Reserves Department at Council, all the while, dedicating his personal time to the restoration of the Reserve and the establishment of the zoological gardens.

The Reserve was reclassified in 1981 from a Local Purpose Reserve to a Recreation Reserve, reflecting the restoration efforts of Ivan Young and his family.

In 1983 Ivan and his wife Daphne Young obtained a 33-year lease for the Reserve, to operate a parkland for zoological purposes.

Ivan Young passed away in 2013 at the age of 89. In 2014, the Reserve was officially renamed the *Ivan Young Zoological Reserve* at an opening ceremony that included the unveiling of a memorial sign highlighting the extensive work and dedication of Ivan Young and to acknowledge his invaluable contribution to the community.

The high amenity values experienced by visitors to the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve today are in thanks to the vision and dedication of Ivan Young and the continual stewardship of the wider Young family.

The southern end of the Reserves was historically a “Ferry Reserve”, recognising the location for a punt landing for a ferry service that crossed the Kawarau River in this location prior to the construction of the original Kawarau Falls Bridge.

The reserve area outside of the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve was vested in Council as part of the development of the Remarkables Park land.

Infrastructure

The Riverside Reserves contain minimal reserve infrastructure comprising:

- Bench seats
- Dog waste bin
- Fences and gates
- Signage
- Wastewater pump station

3. DESCRIPTION OF PRIMARY USERS AND ACTIVITIES

The proximity of the Reserves to the surrounding area of Frankton and the connection they provide through to the Kawarau River makes it an important network of recreation reserves for the Frankton Community and visitors.

The Reserves are frequently used by residents and visitors for informal recreation, including walking, running, dog walking, cycling and enjoying views of the surrounding Remarkables Mountain Range.

The Twin Rivers Trail that dissects the Reserves provides an important active travel Route for commuters accessing Frankton and Central Queenstown. This trail is also highly used by residents and visitors for active recreation, and it forms part of the New Zealand Great Rides.

Leases

The Kidsfirst Kindergarten Frankton has a thirty-three-year lease that expires in 2049 over part of the Reserve adjoining their premises, for access and car parking.

Events

Events such as the Queenstown Marathon utilise the Reserves and the Twin Rivers Trail.

4. VISION

The following vision is the community's overarching long-term outlook for the Kawarau Riverside Reserves:

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves' informal and natural qualities are protected and enjoyed by everyone who visits. A space to encourage physical activity, enhance the Frankton community's connection with the Kawarau River, and encourage the protection and improvement of the Reserves' biodiversity.

5. OBJECTIVES

The following objectives provide a framework to manage the Reserves and support the vision. They are overarching goals to support the Reserves' purpose and vision.

Objectives

- 5.1 To support and encourage the Frankton community's connection with and to, the Reserves and the Kawarau River.
- 5.2 To accommodate appropriate activities for all ages and abilities that enhance the community's access to, use, and enjoyment of the Reserves.
- 5.3 To maintain and develop the Reserves in a planned manner as appropriate to achieve quality open space, that provides opportunities for enjoyment and a range of uses by residents and visitors that is consistent with the vision of the management plan.
- 5.4 To protect and enhance the ecological values within the Reserves, through removal of pest species, enhancement of indigenous ecology and succession.
- 5.5 To allow for recreation infrastructure to enhance public use of the Reserves and that positively contributes to the amenity of the area and provides public benefit that is consistent with the vision of the management plan.
- 5.6 To facilitate mana whenua participation to ensure Kāi Tahu values are embedded in decision making in relation to the management of the Reserves.

6. POLICIES:

The following policies are the actions that support the implementation of the objectives. They guide how all the Reserves will be managed in order to achieve the goals. They are clear, informed, inclusive and achievable.

Policies 6.1

6.1.1 Community

- a) Encourage the community's active participation in planning, maintaining, and enhancing the Reserves.
- b) Encourage community engagement and involvement in planting and caring for the Reserves' vegetation and biodiversity.
- c) Support Kāi Tahu cultural representation, interpretation and expression, such as sculptures and art, where it is relevant to the Reserves and where it sits within its landscape context.
- d) Support community initiatives and activities which uphold the objectives of the Plan.
- e) Support community initiatives and activities that provide ecological, educational, and cultural benefits, such as native planting, removal of pest species (as referenced in 6.1.5(b)), and wetland restoration.
- f) Consider plantings of productive (food) trees and plants (eg an orchard) that benefits the community and is approved by Council, while retaining the overall natural and informal character of the Reserves..

- g) Support the vesting and classification of the additional land parcels, identified in **Appendix 2**, and the management of them in accordance with this Reserve Management Plan.

6.1.2 Recreation

- a) Consider new recreation opportunities where they do not conflict with existing uses and are consistent with the character of the Reserves.
- b) Consider all ages, abilities and safety when new trails and facilities are provided and when existing trails and facilities are upgraded.
- c) Ensure that if new trails are proposed, including new trail bridge connections, they are assessed based on community benefit, interaction with other reserve uses and long-term maintenance.
- d) Support initiatives that enable and provide public connection to the river.
- e) Support the enhancement of the informal natural characteristics of the Reserve.
- f) Prohibit the use of the Reserves for Freedom Camping purposes. Freedom Camping shall have the same definition as the Freedom Camping Act (2011).

6.1.3 Infrastructure

Infrastructure refers to development such as buildings, car parks, fences, structures to support active travel, signage and services.

- a) Consider the development of built structures, as necessary, to provide for the function and support of passive recreation activities on the Reserves, for the benefit of the community.
- b) Encourage a collaborative and non-exclusive use of built structures, to limit the built footprint on the Reserves.
- c) Consider the construction of public toilets and shelters on the Reserves, to meet the needs of reserve users.
- d) Enhance connectivity to the existing active transport network to reduce the need for car parking on the Reserves.
- e) Consider structures associated with improving the active travel network and support the co-location of services with this infrastructure to mitigate the effects of built form on the Reserves.
- f) Allow pest control fencing to control and manage rabbits as required.
- g) Support the placement of park furniture (eg water fountains, picnic tables, seating and

BBQs) in appropriate locations where they enhance the Reserves for the community.

- h) Improve and rationalise signage and wayfinding, particularly at access points.
- i) Prohibit the use of the Reserves for processing/attenuating offsite stormwater, including any diverted overland flow paths originating from outside the Reserve boundary.

6.1.4 Access

- a) Enhance connectivity to the surrounding urban area and encourage new connections where opportunities arise that benefit the community and reserve users.

6.1.5 Ecology

- a) Enable the ecological values of the Reserves to be enhanced through native revegetation and habitat restoration.
- b) Support initiatives that monitor, control, and remove flora and fauna pest species, such as noxious weeds, wilding trees, possums and rabbits, where practicable.
- c) Retain and maintain mature trees both exotic and native, in accordance with the QLDC Tree Policy.

- d) Support the planting of both native vegetation and carefully selected, non-invasive exotic specimen trees where appropriate, to enhance reserve amenity while maintaining ecological values and landscape character.
- e) Ensure planting, and other activities consider and give effect to Kāi Tahu values.

6.1.6 Community Events

- a) Permit the use of the Reserves for community events that are of an appropriate scale.
- b) Ensure that community events do not compromise the primary functions of the Reserves.

6.1.7 Commercial Use, Leases and Licences

- a) Consider commercial recreation opportunities, permits and licenses for ancillary services where they do not conflict with existing uses and are consistent with the character of the Reserves.
- b) Only consider commercial activities where they support anticipated reserve uses and provide benefit to the Reserve.

6.1.8 Services

- a) Consider the placement and maintenance of utility services where the Reserves will not be materially altered or permanently damaged, and the rights of the public using the Reserves will not be permanently affected.
- b) Site underground utility services to avoid existing and anticipated features, including trees and waterways.

6.1.9 Encroachment

- a) Ensure adjacent properties do not encroach into the Reserves, including by extending landscaping, lawn areas and structures within the Reserves' boundaries, or using the Reserves for the storage of property.
- b) Ensure the Reserves are not used for the permanent storage of private kayaks and watercraft.
- c) Manage the Reserves to ensure they are not used for the dumping of waste, including green waste.

6.1.10 Smoke and Vape Free

- a) Ensure the Reserves are smoke and vape free to promote the health of all users.

Reserve Specific Policies 6.2

6.2.1 Kawarau Falls Reserve

Kawarau Falls Reserve is a linear reserve bordering the Kawarau River, which contains mature bush, a trail and has steep banks down to the river. There is an avenue of silver birch and other exotic and native park trees. The historic Brunswick Flour Mill at Kawarau Falls was located very close to this reserve.

The large, undulating open area of the Reserve has seen the emergence of unauthorised bike jumps. This can have an adverse effect on the Reserve, including the loss of valuable open space, damage to natural features, and potential health and safety risks for both users and other visitors.

- a) Support the enhancement of the esplanade reserve adjacent to Ōterotu (Kawarau Falls) to support Kāi Tahu values and build a stronger association with cultural heritage.
- b) Support successional native planting, particularly along the riparian margin to improve biodiversity and protect the water quality of the Kawarau River.
- c) Support the community (or key stakeholders) to develop a plan that formalises the jump area and explores other beginner bike opportunities such as a skills area or pump track.



6.2.2 Unnamed Reserve (Riverside Road Reserve)

The Riverside Road Reserves form a linear reserve area creating an open space corridor between the Kawarau River and the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve to the south-west and private land to the north. It provides an important buffer between the increasingly urbanising environment and the natural water network.

- a) Support the creation of an arrival node that enhances the passive and active recreation purpose of the Reserves and maintains the natural character.
- b) Support the naming of the reserve to foster community connection to the Reserves.
- c) Consider the development of car parking at the end of Riverside Road to the extent that it does not limit the capacity of the Reserve to provide quality recreation open space. This means there must be consideration to limit hard surfaces and maintain open space and ecological benefits of the Reserves.
- d) Allow for the existing pump station to be relocated and upgraded and require the existing pump station to be decommissioned.
- e) Require the vesting of the remaining private land, identified in **Appendix 2**, to the north

of Riverside Road, and for it to be managed in accordance with this RMP.



6.2.3 Ivan Young Zoological Reserve

The Ivan Young Zoological Reserve borders the Kawarau River and contains many mature exotic tree specimens. The Reserve was renamed the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve in 2014 in memory of Ivan Young who transformed the area into a zoological garden.

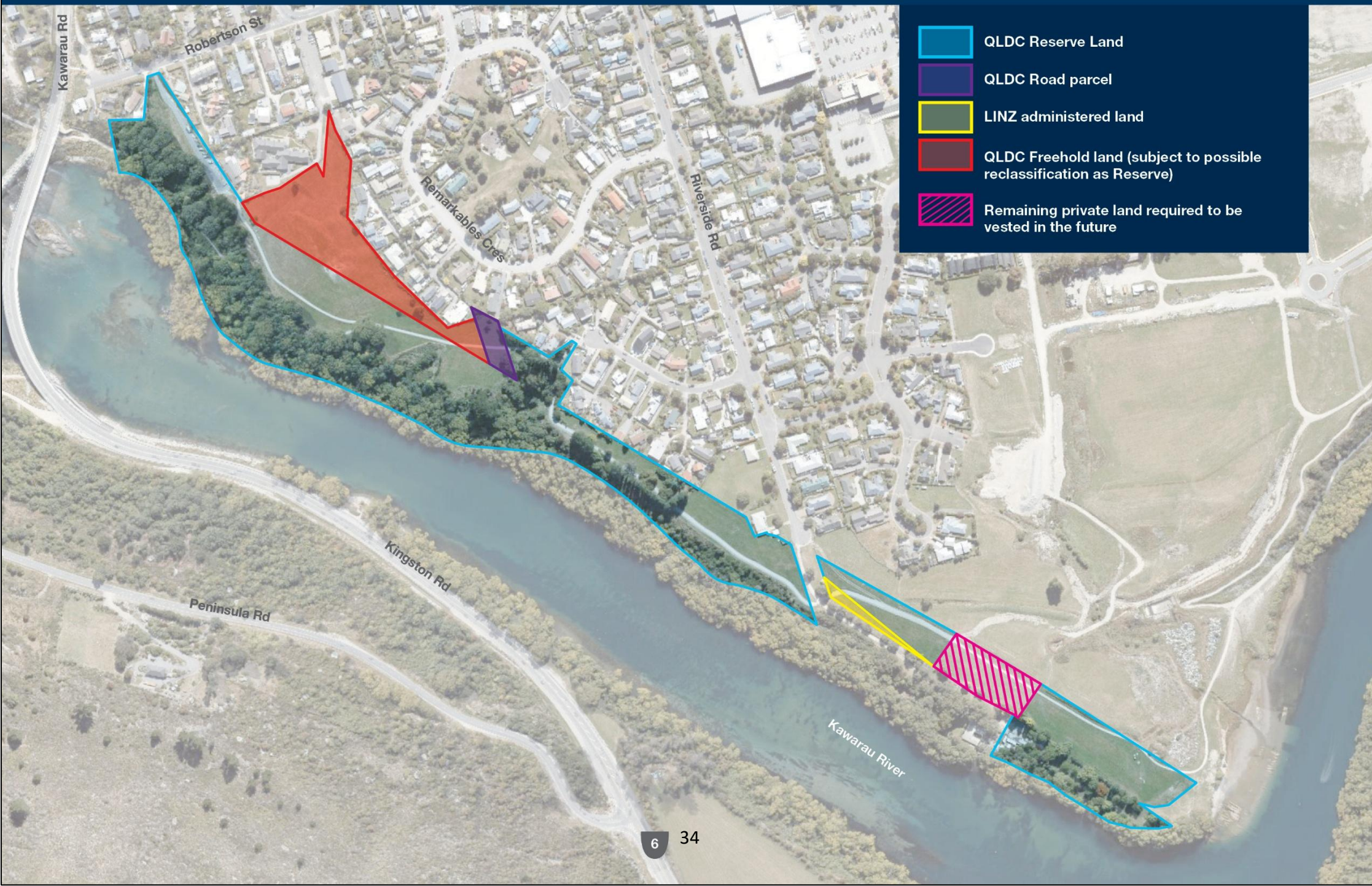
- a) Assess and remove unnecessary fences, gates and signage to encourage public access to the Reserve.
- b) Improve signage, wayfinding and paths to facilitate and enhance the public use and experience of the Reserve.
- c) Acknowledge and retain existing native and exotic mature planting established by Ivan Young, where it provides public benefit.
- d) Consider pedestrian priority areas to support passive recreation and preserve the amenity values of this Reserve.



Appendix 1

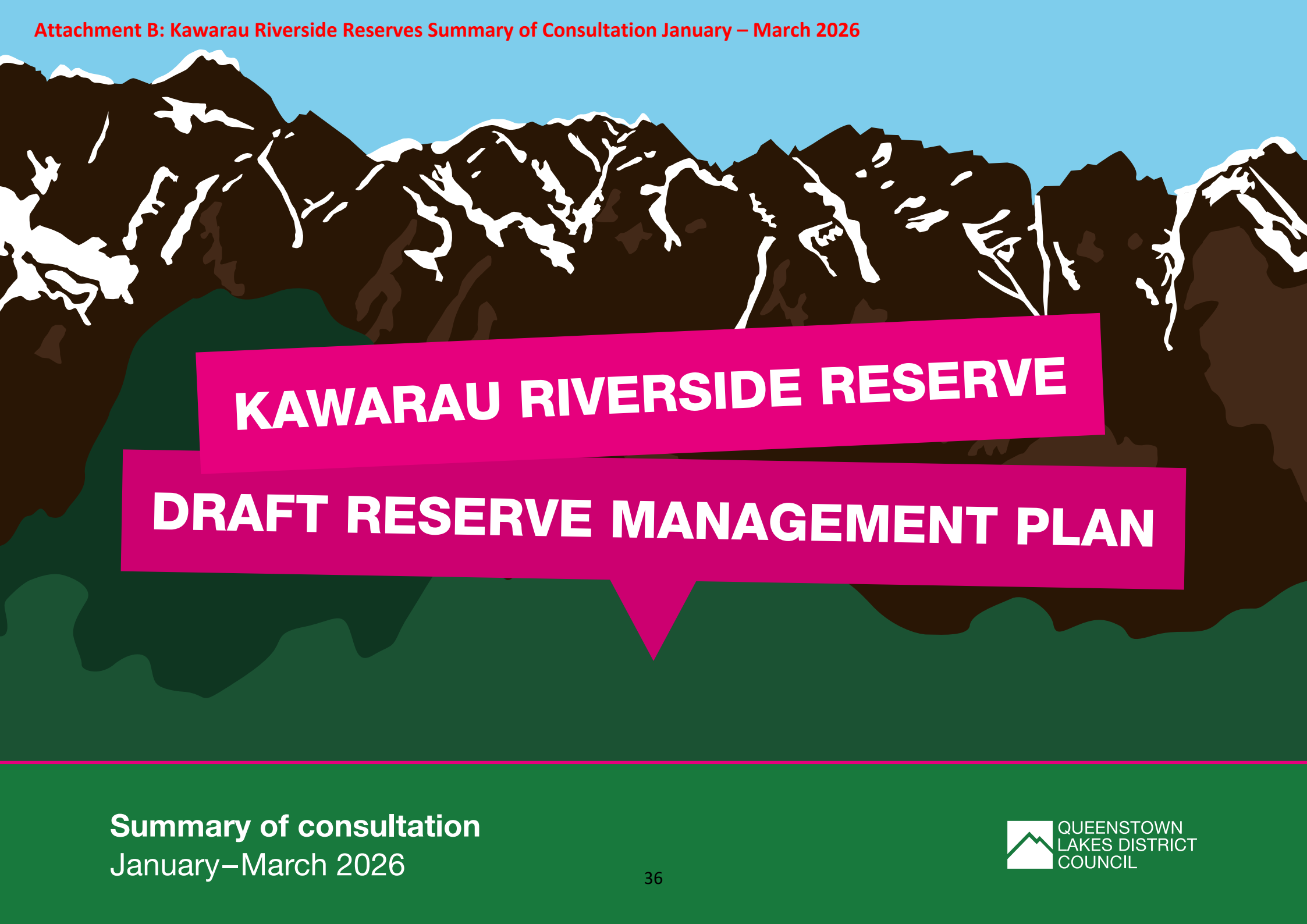


Appendix 2 Land Classification



Appendix 3 – Land Parcel Classification Table

Legal Description / Parcel ID	Land Classification	Area (m ²)	Location
Lot 603 DP 24569	QLDC Recreation Reserve	5,168	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 604 DP 24571	QLDC Recreation Reserve	1,836	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 605 DP 25645	QLDC Recreation Reserve	260	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 706 DP 24399	QLDC Recreation Reserve	911	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 701 DP 24131	QLDC Recreation Reserve	2,486	Riverside Road Reserve
Section 159 Block I Shotover SD	LINZ administered land	675	Riverside Road Reserve
Section 167 Block I Shotover SD	QLDC Recreation Reserve	4,500	Ivan Young Zoological Reserve
Section 29 Block XVIII Town of Frankton	QLDC Recreation Reserve	50,000	Kawarau Falls Reserve
Lot 19 DP 20484	QLDC Local Purpose Reserve (Recreation)	2,398	Kawarau Falls Reserve
Lot 2 DP 412692	QLDC Freehold	1,425	Kawarau Falls Reserve
Lot 2 DP 392200	QLDC Freehold	10,847	Kawarau Falls Reserve
3172983	Road	1,149	Kawarau Falls Reserve



KAWARAU RIVERSIDE RESERVE

DRAFT RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Summary of consultation
January–March 2026

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves are a collection of open spaces located alongside the Kawarau River in Frankton, east of the bridges.

These reserves are well used by the community and visitors, particularly for walking and cycling along the Twin Rivers Trail, part of the Queenstown Trail 'Great Ride' network, and for enjoying one of the district's most iconic river environments. The reserves also include the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve, adding to the area's unique character and history.

To help guide the long-term management of these spaces, Queenstown Lakes District Council developed a draft Reserve Management Plan (RMP) and invited the community to share feedback on the proposed vision, objectives and policies.

The draft plan outlines how the reserves could be managed over time, including how to balance recreation, access, ecological restoration, and community use. It also sets out a framework of objectives and policies across key topics such as recreation, infrastructure, ecology, access, events and services.

We also built on earlier community input gathered in February–March 2024, where people shared their ideas and aspirations for how they'd like to use and enjoy the reserves. This early feedback highlighted strong support for protecting the natural character of the area, enhancing biodiversity, and improving access to the river. These themes helped shape the draft plan.

The feedback received during the formal consultation period has helped to further refine the plan and ensure it reflects what matters most to the community.

Thanks for being part of the conversation!

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views, attend our public drop-in sessions and check out the supporting information online during the consultation period from 26 January to 29 March 2026.

What's next?

Following the close of submissions, all feedback was considered by the hearing panel during the public hearing and deliberations on 22 April 2026. This input has been used to make updates to the draft Reserve Management Plan.

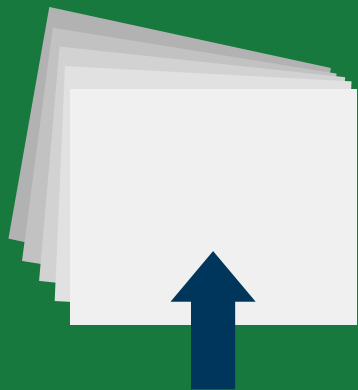
The final plan will be presented to the Community & Environment Committee for recommendation in July 2026, before going to Full Council for consideration and potential adoption in August 2026.

Once adopted, the plan will provide a clear long-term framework to guide how the Kawarau Riverside Reserves are managed, helping to balance community use, recreation, and environmental protection.



Engagement at a glance

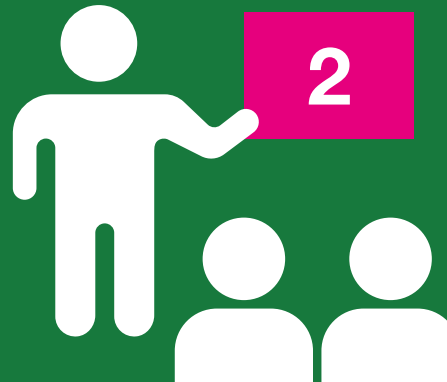
Over the 9-week engagement period we had:



20

Feedback submissions

17 online
and 3 written



2

Community onsite drop-in sessions

Held along the Twin Rivers Trail in February 2026

5,925

Let's Talk project page visits



31,484

Facebook post views



1,346

LinkedIn post views

Engagement at a glance

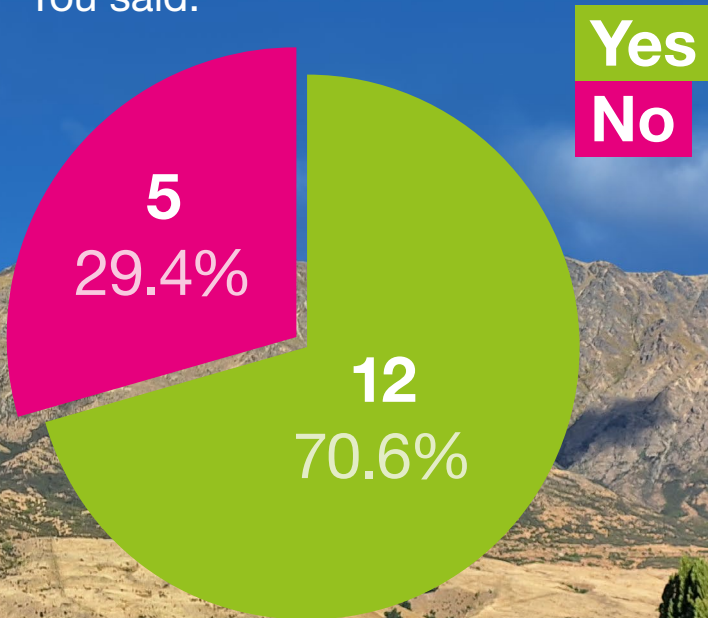
A summary of what we heard

Note:
Pie graph data
is from 17 online
submissions.

We asked:

**Do you live near Kwarau
Riverside Reserves
(i.e. surrounding neighbourhoods)**

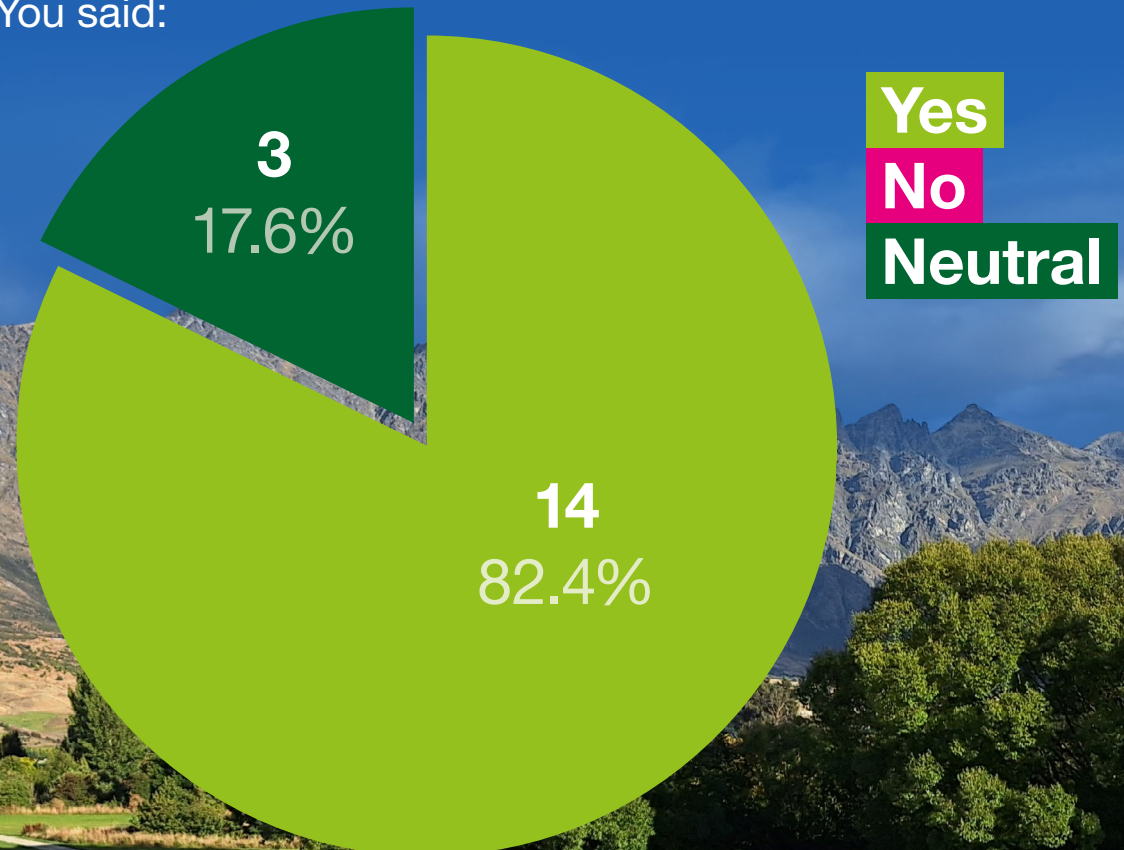
You said:



We asked:

**Please indicate your overall position on the draft
Kwarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan**

You said:



Summary of responses

Submitters were then asked to explain their position on the draft plan

Overall, most submitters were supportive of the draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan and its focus on protecting the natural character of the area while enabling community use. Feedback highlighted a strong desire to strike the right balance between recreation, access, and environmental protection.

Several key themes emerged:

» Natural character and minimal development

There was strong support for maintaining the reserves as a largely natural, undeveloped area. Many submitters emphasised the importance of retaining open green spaces and avoiding overdevelopment.

» Ecological restoration and biodiversity

Submitters widely supported native planting, and biodiversity enhancement, including the use of appropriate local plant species, particularly along the riparian margin.

» Pest control and environmental maintenance

There was strong support for rabbit control and fencing, noxious weed removal and improving overall environmental management, including discouraging green waste dumping.

» Low impact recreation enhancement

Recreation amenities and enhancement was supported where they are informal, low impact and does not detract from the natural character of the reserves. Suggested additions such as toilets, seating, and picnic areas, informal play opportunities, and bike tracks.

» Access, connectivity and safety

There was support for improving access to the river and strengthening connections through the reserve. Safety concerns were raised around shared trail use, particularly bike speeds, e-bikes, and interactions between walkers, cyclists and dogs.

» Dog Management

The reserves are valued as a dog walking area. Submitters supported maintaining this use, alongside requests for more dog waste bins and improved education to encourage responsible behaviour.

» Zoological Gardens area

The former Zoological Gardens was identified as an underutilised space, with interest in opening it up, improving access, and integrating it with the wider reserve.

» Plan detail and future development

A small number of submitters raised concerns about specific aspects of the plan, particularly future land vesting and ensuring key connections are secured. There was general agreement that any future development should be low impact and carefully managed.

Take a look
at all the feedback
received in more
detail here:



Key changes proposed for the final plan following community engagement

These proposed changes still need to be approved by the Community & Environment Committee in July 2026 and Full Council in August 2026.

- » Inclusion of new policy prohibiting freedom camping on the Reserve in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.
- » Strengthened emphasis on retaining the informal character of the reserves within the objectives and policies.
- » Greater support for additional connections to the river.
- » Recognition of potential trail conflicts when assessing new trail proposals, particularly in the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve.
- » Two new ecological policies to support a mix of native and carefully selected exotic planting, improve reserve amenity, and ensure Kāi Tahu values are built into planting and other activities.



A snapshot of submission comments

I strongly support all the natural, ecological, replanting and pest control measures suggested in the plan.

Seeing development of the area over the last few years has been disappointing, there are getting fewer places left untouched, undisturbed, not built up in Queenstown.

Let's please just leave one area free from manmade interference and focus instead on improving natural beauty (planting, tidy up, litter free, clean water).

I am concerned about the lack of detail and transparency around the private land which is 'required to be vested in the future' as this is critical to the success of the entire trail network.

Would like to see more use of the Zoological gardens area for the public, always assumed this was private land. Would be great integrate it with the wider reserve.

I would like to suggest the inclusion of a disc golf course as a low-impact recreational use within the reserve.

I support the small bike park that has been created by local young people. It is very positive to see kids outside being active, building and riding, rather than spending all their time indoors on computers or gaming consoles.

The former zoological gardens area is a significant asset that is currently under-utilised. With appropriate investment and improved access, this space could become a wonderful feature for both locals and visitors — almost like a "mini Queenstown Gardens."

This area is a mecca for dog owners, and I'd like to see it remain an off-leash space.

I'm concerned about the speed of e-bikes on shared tracks used by families, children and pets.

I support managing rabbit numbers, however opposed to the use of pindone as it has proven totally ineffective in the previous two drops.

The plan looks great, but I'd like to see better dog waste management and more bins provided.

We love the idea of a bike track being formalised on the land by the kindergarten where neighbourhood kids have been building their own jumps.

We love the open flat spaces for games of touch or cricket with friends and family — please keep these areas as they are.

Access to the Kawarau River is limited due to vegetation in places, improving visibility and access would be beneficial.

I would like to see the reserve stay as it is, in its natural state.



DRAFT KAWARAU RIVERSIDE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN – 20265

Te Kirikiri Frankton, [Tāhuna](#) Queenstown
QLDC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	4
2. Reserves Description	4
3. Description of Primary Users and Activities	7
4. Vision	8
5. Objectives	8
6. Policies	9
7. Appendices	15

Other related documents:

[Conservation Act 1987](#)
[Health and Safety Act 2015](#)
Reserves Act 1977
Resource Management Act 1991
[Te Tiriti o Waitangi](#)
[Conservation Act 1987](#)
[Te Runanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996](#)
[Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998](#)
[Water Conservation \(Kawarau\) Order 1997](#)
[Health and Safety Act 2015](#)

QLDC Alcohol Bylaw
QLDC Art in Public Places Policy
QLDC Operative and Proposed District Plans
QLDC Dog Bylaw
QLDC Events Strategy
QLDC Open Spaces Strategy
QLDC Plaques, Memorials & Monuments Policy
QLDC Disability Policy
QLDC Smoking Policy
QLDC Traffic and Parking Bylaw
QLDC Tree Policy
QLDC Film Permit - for drone use
QLDC Te Kirikiri/Frankton Masterplan 2020
[QLDC Freedom Camping Bylaw](#)
[QLDC Blue -Green Network Plan](#)
[Te Taingī a Tauria – The Cry of the People 2008](#)
[Kāi Tahu ki Otago Natural Resource Management Plan 2005](#)

Other relevant parameters for management and decision making:

QLDC Delegations Register – Community & [Services-Environment](#) Committee
QLDC Licenses, Leases & Permits

Other relevant parameters for management and decision making:

QLDC Delegations Register – Community and [Services-Environment](#) Committee
(CSC)

Process for preparing a [R](#)eserve [M](#)anagement [P](#)lan in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977:

2 November 2023 CSC approved creating plan
26 February 2024 Notice invited suggestions for the plan
25 March 2024 Suggestions closed
26 January 2024 Notice invited submissions on the draft plan
29 March 2024 Submissions close
~~TBC-xx-xxx~~22 April 2024 Hearing held (~~if required~~)
~~TBC-xx-xxx~~21 July 2024 ~~Board~~Community and Environment Committee recommends adopting plan
~~TBC-xx-xxx~~27-23 July/August 2024 Full Council adopts plan

Review:

Generally, [R](#)eserve [M](#)anagement [P](#)Plans should be reviewed at a minimum of 10-year intervals by Parks Officers. This does not necessarily require a rewrite.

1. INTRODUCTION

Reserve Management Plan Purpose

The Reserves Act 1977 requires the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) to prepare Reserve Management Plans for all land classified as Recreation Reserve under Council management or control.

This Reserve Management Plan (RMP) provides a vision for how the Kawarau Riverside Reserves are valued and experienced, currently, and long-term.

Objectives and policies outline the use, maintenance, protection, preservation, and development of the Kawarau Riverside Reserves. These assist with all decision making for the Reserves. Their purpose is to support the implementation of the community's vision for the Kawarau Riverside Reserves.

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves comprise of seven adjoining parcels of QLDC administered recreation reserve land. However, there are several adjoining parcels of land that are either freehold QLDC land or LINZ land that form the open space corridor between the residential and Remarkables Park developments and the Kawarau River.

All parcels are currently used by the public and form part of the open space recreation experience. All QLDC land is maintained by QLDC as public open space. Including these parcels within the RMP ensures consistent management of the area. In this

document these parcels will be jointly referred to as the Kawarau Riverside Reserves, or the Reserves, see **Appendix 1**.

A remaining section of private land is required by a Planning Tribunal Decision to be vested in QLDC through future subdivision processes. At such a time this is vested, it will be managed in accordance with this RMP see **Appendix 2**.

2. RESERVES DESCRIPTION

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves are for the enjoyment and benefit of the local community, residents and visitors, and to provide open space amenity, and community wellbeing while recognising and reflecting mana whenua values.

They are bounded by the Kawarau River on one side and a mixture of lower-medium density residential and mixed-use development on the other. The remaining adjoining undeveloped private land is intended to be developed in future with commercial high density residential development, visitor accommodation including and hotels.

The Reserves offer a natural buffer between land zoned in the district plan for urban development and the Kawarau River. They are of cultural significance and provide the opportunity for the public to interact with the natural environment, access the Kawarau River and enjoy the expansive views of the Remarkables Mountain Range.

A natural green buffer exists between Lake Whakatipu and the Kawarau River, and the urban environment for large portions of the lake and river margins. The Reserves contribute significantly to this wider blue and green network with the adjoining Frankton Domain to the north-west and the Twin Rivers Trail to the north-east currently held in road reserve.

A portion of the Twin Rivers Trail passes through the Reserves and form part of the Queenstown 'Great Ride' trail network.

The Reserves are largely undeveloped with the exception of the well-used Twin Rivers Trail. There are no formal carparks or public toilets and minimal reserve infrastructure. As such, the primary use is informal recreation and trail users.

The Reserves sit between the two high growth areas of Frankton and the Southern Corridor. The Frankton residential area would benefit from an enhanced reserve area that protects the natural character and connectivity it provides with the natural environment as the adjoining area continues to experience pressure from ongoing urban development. The Reserves provide potential for important active travel connections for the Southern Corridor community that should be considered in the ongoing management of the Reserves.

As the adjoining land undergoes continual development, this is an opportunity to protect the existing natural character of the Reserves and

enhance them through native revegetation and amenity planting.

Legal Description

The Kwarau Riverside Reserves are situated on a combined area of 7.144 hectares. The Reserves are zoned Open Space & Recreation - Informal Recreation in the QLDC Proposed District Plan (PDP) and located partly within Outstanding Natural Landscape (ONL), Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) and Wāhi Tūpuna.

When the additional parcels, (not currently classified as recreation reserve,) are included, the combined area is approximately 7.9 hectares see **Appendix 3**.

The Reserves are made up of three areas (identified in section 7) known as:

- Ivan Young Zoological Reserve
- Unnamed Reserve (Riverside Road Reserve)
- Kwarau Falls Reserve

Access

Primary cycle and pedestrian access into the Reserves is via:

- Kwarau Place
- The Twin Rivers Trail

Vehicle access to the Reserves is via:

- Riverside Road
- Two points off Robertson Street

Some reserve parking exists on one of the Robertson St access points opposite Douglas Street. However, there are no formal entry nodes.

Mana Whenua

For Kāi Tahu, the natural environment and how they engage with it, is a critical component of their identity as a people and in maintaining their culture.

All elements of the natural environment possess a mauri, a life force, and all forms of life are related. The mauri of whenua, wai, taoka and other natural elements, represent the essence that binds the physical and spiritual elements of all things together, generating and upholding all life. Mauri is therefore a critical element of the spiritual relationship of Kāi Tahu Whānui with the whenua, waterbodies and resources of the region.

Whakatipu wai-māori provides an integral source of wai (freshwater) provided by hukawai (melt waters). These waters are recognised by Kāi Tahu as tapu (sacred) and support a variety of ecosystems within the Whakatipu wai-māori catchment and the provision of mahika kai.

The Kwarau River was a traditional travel route for mana whenua that provided direct access between the Mata-Aau (Clutha) and Whakatipu wai-māori.

It is also recorded as a kāika mahika kai where weka, kākāpō, kea and tuna (eel) were gathered.

Ōterotu is the traditional name for the Kwarau Falls at the outlet of Whakatipu wai-māori. Ōterotu was one of many villages that formed a network along the river route to access pounamu at Te Koroka, located beyond the head of the Whakatipu wai-māori.

The ability to keep alive traditional practices passed down by ancestors, in places traditionally used or occupied by descendants, provides a sense of belonging and continuity.

The Kwarau River was a traditional travel route for mana whenua that provided direct access between the Mata-au (Clutha) and Whakatipu Waimāori. Ōterotu is the traditional name for the Kwarau Falls at the outlet of Whakatipu Wai Māori. This was one of many villages that formed a network along the river route to access pounamu at Te Koroka, located beyond the head of the Whakatipu Wai Māori.

Whakatipu wai-māori provides an integral source of wai (freshwater) provided by hukawai (melt waters). These waters are recognised by Kāi Tahu as tapu (sacred) and support a variety of ecosystems within the Whakatipu wai-māori catchment and the provision of mahika kai.

Kāi Tahu values adopted from the Spatial Plan and Frankton Masterplan:

- Hauora: Wellbeing - ensuring the four well beings are recognised in decisions.
- Aumangea: Resilience - ensuring communities and visitors are resilient and adaptive to future shocks and climate change.
- Whakauku: Sustainability - ensuring the use of sustainable development principles and zero emissions.
- Ara Tawhito – acknowledging traditional trails and networks.
- Whakapapa – Recognising genealogy or Lineage.
- Manaakitaka - Acknowledging others and raising up of the mana of visitors.
- Whanaukataka – Supporting community and Whanau connections and relationships.

Ki uta ki tai is a philosophy that has become synonymous with the way Kāi Tahu think about natural resource management. This principle recognises the interconnectedness of the natural environment, acknowledges mana whenua. Ki Uta Ki Tai is a Kāi Tahu natural resource management principle that recognises the interconnectedness of the natural environment. Ki Uta Ki Tai acknowledges that mana whenua belong to the environment and that any resources used are borrowed from future generations to come.

Te Mana o te Wai - Water Management

Te Mana o te Wai is a concept that supports Ki Uta Ki Tai and is relevant to the Kāwara Riverside

Reserves due to the ~~close~~ proximity of the Reserves and the interaction they encourage with Whakatipu ~~Wai~~ māori and the Kāwara Awa. Te Mana o te Wai refers to the fundamental importance of water and recognises that protecting the health of freshwater protects the health and well-being of the wider environment. Te Mana o te Wai is about restoring and preserving the balance between the water, the wider environment, and the community to protect the mauri (life force) of the water.

Consistent with the guiding principle of Ki Uta Ki Tai and Te Mana o te Wai, activities within the ~~R~~eserves, particularly vegetation management and ecological enhancement should not be considered in ~~is~~olation but within the context of the wider wai network, including the downstream environment of the Kāwara and ~~Mata~~—Au Awa. Where The Reserves are managed using a Ki Uta Ki Tai lens it benefits the environment and everyone who interacts with it.

Ecology

The Reserves are typically open in nature on the upper terrace with mixed predominantly exotic vegetation located along the banks of the Kāwara River.

There are small pockets of recently planted native species in the Kāwara Falls Reserve including kowhai, horoeaka (lancewoods), tawairauriki (beech), mānatu (ribbonwood) and rimu.

The Ivan Young Zoological Reserve has many mature exotic specimen trees. An avenue of mature Silver Birch, planted by the Young family, lines the entrance to the Reserve.

Several pest species are present across the Reserves including crack willow predominantly situated on the Kāwara riverbank. There are large areas of blackberry and gorse present with a smaller area of wilding conifers.

History

Ivan Young Zoological Reserve:

The area known as the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve was historically used as an unofficial rubbish dumping site. It subsequently became reserve land that Ivan Young, who resided in the adjoining property with his family, restored and enhanced.

The Young family began restoring the ~~R~~eserve in 1965. This consisted of extensive planting of mixed native and exotic species and included providing a safe space for rescued animals.

Ivan Young worked as the Curator for the Parks and Reserves Department at Council, all the while, dedicating his personal time to the restoration of the ~~R~~eserve and the establishment of the zoological gardens.

The ~~R~~eserve was reclassified in 1981 from a Local Purpose Reserve to a Recreation Reserve,

Formatted: Font: Not Italic

reflecting the restoration efforts of Ivan Young and his family.

In 1983 Ivan and his wife Daphne Young obtained a 33-year lease for the ~~R~~reserve-~~area~~, to operate a parkland for zoological purposes.

Ivan Young passed away in 2013 at the age of 89. In 2014, the ~~R~~reserve was officially renamed the *Ivan Young Zoological Reserve* at an opening ceremony that included the unveiling of a memorial sign highlighting the extensive work and dedication of Ivan Young and to acknowledge his invaluable contribution to the community.

The high amenity values experienced by visitors to the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve today are in thanks to the vision and dedication of Ivan Young and the continual stewardship of the wider Young family.

The southern end of the Reserves was historically a "Ferry Reserve", recognising the location for a punt landing for a ferry service that crossed the Kawarau River in this location prior to the construction of the original Kawarau Falls Bridge.

The reserve area outside of the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve was vested in Council as part of the development of the Remarkables Park land.

Infrastructure

The Riverside Reserves contain minimal reserve infrastructure comprising:

- Bench seats
- Dog waste bin
- Fences and gates
- Signage
- Wastewater pump station

The Reserves are frequently used by residents and visitors for informal recreation, including walking, running, dog walking, cycling and enjoying views of the surrounding Remarkables Mountain Range.

The Twin Rivers Trail that dissects the Reserves provides an important ~~a~~Active ~~t~~Travel Route for commuters accessing Frankton and Central Queenstown. This trail is also highly used by residents and visitors for active recreation, and it forms part of the New Zealand Great Rides.

Leases

The Kidsfirst Kindergarten Frankton has a thirty-three-year lease that expires in 2049 over part of the Reserve adjoining their premises, for access and car parking.

Events

Events such as the Queenstown Marathon utilise the Reserves and the Twin Rivers Trail.

Commented [A1]: This is also mentioned in Reserves Description section. Not sure it matters but could remove one of them?

3. DESCRIPTION OF PRIMARY USERS AND ACTIVITIES

The proximity of the Reserves to the surrounding ~~residential~~ area of Frankton and the connection they provide through to the Kawarau River makes it an important network of recreation reserves for the Frankton Community and visitors.

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: Strikethrough, Highlight

4. VISION

The following vision is the community's overarching long-term outlook for the Kawarau Riverside Reserves:

The Kawarau Riverside Reserves' informal and natural qualities are protected and enjoyed by everyone who visits. A space to encourage physical activity, enhance the Frankton community's connection with the Kawarau River, and encourage the protection and improvement of the Reserves' biodiversity.

5. OBJECTIVES

The following objectives provide a framework to manage the Reserves and support the vision. They are overarching goals to support the Reserves' purpose and vision.

Objectives

- 5.1 To support and encourage the Frankton community's connection with and to, the Reserves and the Kawarau River.
- 5.2 To accommodate appropriate activities for all ages and abilities that enhance the community's access to, use, and enjoyment of the Reserves.
- 5.3 To maintain and develop the Reserves in a planned manner as appropriate to achieve quality open space, that provides opportunities for enjoyment and a range of uses by residents and visitors [that is consistent with the vision of the management plan](#).
- 5.4 To protect and enhance the ecological values within the Reserves, through removal of pest species, enhancement of indigenous ecology and succession.
- 5.5 To allow for recreation infrastructure to enhance public use of the Reserves and that positively contributes to the amenity of the area and provides public benefit [that is consistent with the vision of the management plan](#).
- 5.6 To facilitate mana whenua participation to ensure Kāi Tahu values are embedded in decision making in relation to the management of the Reserves.

Formatted: Font: Italic, English (New Zealand)

6. POLICIES:

The following policies are the actions that support the implementation of the objectives. They guide how all the Reserves will be managed in order to achieve the goals. They are clear, informed, inclusive and achievable.

Policies 6.1

6.1.1 Community

- a) Encourage the community's active participation in planning, maintaining, and enhancing the Reserves.
- b) Encourage community engagement and involvement in planting and caring for the Reserves' vegetation and biodiversity.
- c) Support Kāi Tahu cultural representation, interpretation and expression, such as sculptures and art, where it is relevant to the Reserves and where it sits within its landscape context.
- d) Support community initiatives and activities which uphold the objectives of the Plan.
- e) Support community initiatives and activities that provide ecological, ~~and/or~~ educational, and cultural benefits, such as native planting, removal of pest species (as referenced in 6.1.5(b)), and wetland restoration.
- f) Consider plantings of productive (food) trees and plants (~~eg. e.~~ an orchard) that benefits the community and is approved by Council, where while retaining the overall natural and informal character of the Reserves. ~~is retained.~~

- g) Support the vesting and classification of the additional land parcels, identified in **Appendix 2**, and the management of them in accordance with this Reserve Management Plan.

6.1.2 Recreation

- a) Consider new recreation opportunities where they do not conflict with existing uses and are consistent with the character of the Reserves.
- b) Consider all ages, ~~and~~ abilities and safety when new trails and facilities are provided and when existing trails and facilities are upgraded.
- c) Ensure that if new trails are proposed, including new trail bridge connections, they are aAssessed new trails based on community benefit, interaction with other reserve uses and long-term maintenance.
- d) Support initiatives that enable and provide public Enhance public connection to the river.
- e) Support the enhancement of the informal natural characteristics of the Reserve.
- e)f) Prohibit the use of the Reserves for Freedom Camping purposes. Freedom Camping shall have the same definition as the Freedom Camping Act (2011).

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (New Zealand)

Formatted: List Paragraph, Left, No bullets or numbering

6.1.3 Infrastructure

Infrastructure refers to development such as buildings, car parks, fences, structures to support active travel, signage and services.

- a) Consider the development of built structures, as necessary, to provide for the function and support of passive recreation activities on the Reserves, for the benefit of the community.
- b) Encourage a collaborative and non-exclusive use of built structures, to limit the built footprint on the Reserves.
- c) Consider the construction of public toilets and shelters on the Reserves, to meet the needs of reserve users.
- d) Enhance connectivity to the existing active transport network to reduce the need for car parking on the Reserves.
- e) Consider structures associated with improving the active travel network and support the co-location of services with this infrastructure to mitigate the effects of built form on the Reserves.
- f) Allow pest control fencing to control and manage rabbits as required.

- g) Support the placement of park furniture (~~eg:-~~ water fountains, picnic tables, seating and BBQs) in appropriate locations where they enhance the Reserves for the community.
- h) Improve and rationalise signage and wayfinding, particularly at access points.
- i) Prohibit the use of the Reserves for processing/attenuating offsite stormwater, including any diverted overland flow paths originating from outside the Reserve boundary.

6.1.4 Access

- a) Enhance connectivity to the surrounding urban area and encourage new connections where opportunities arise that benefit the community and reserve users.

6.1.5 Ecology

- a) Enable the ecological values of the Reserves to be enhanced through native revegetation and habitat restoration.
- b) Support initiatives that Monitor—and control, monitor, control, and remove flora and fauna—pest species, such as noxious weeds, wilding trees, possums and rabbits, where practicable.

c) Retain and maintain mature trees both exotic and native, in accordance with the QLDC Tree Policy.

d) Support the planting of both native vegetation and carefully selected, non-invasive exotic specimen trees where appropriate, to enhance reserve amenity while maintaining ecological values and landscape character.

e) Ensure planting, and other activities consider and give effect to Kāi Tahu values.

f)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (United Kingdom)

Formatted: List Paragraph, Left, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (United Kingdom)

Formatted: List Paragraph, Left, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: List Paragraph, Left, No bullets or numbering

Formatted: No bullets or numbering

6.1.6 Community Events

- a) Permit the use of the Reserves for community events that are of an appropriate scale.
- b) Ensure that community events do not compromise the primary functions of the Reserves.

6.1.7 Commercial Use, Leases and Licences

- a) Consider commercial recreation opportunities, permits and licenses for ancillary services where they do not conflict with existing uses and are consistent with the character of the Reserves.

- b) Only consider commercial activities where they support anticipated reserve uses and provide benefit to the Reserve.

6.1.8 Services

- a) Consider the placement and maintenance of utility services where the Reserves will not be materially altered or permanently damaged, and the rights of the public using the Reserves will not be permanently affected.
- b) Site underground utility services to avoid existing and anticipated features, including trees and waterways.

6.1.9 Encroachment

- a) Ensure adjacent properties do not encroach into the Reserves, including by extending landscaping, lawn areas and structures within the Reserves' boundaries, or using the Reserves for the storage of property.
- b) Ensure the Reserves are not used for the permanent storage of private kayaks and watercraft.
- c) Manage the Reserves to ensure they are not used for the dumping of waste, including green waste.

6.1.10 Smoke and Vape Free

- a) Ensure the Reserves are smoke and vape free to promote the health of all users.

Formatted: English (New Zealand)

Formatted: Body, Justified, Indent: Left: 0.63 cm, Hanging: 0.63 cm, Outline numbered + Level: 2 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Aligned at: 1.9 cm + Indent at: 2.54 cm

Reserve Specific Policies 6.2

6.2.1 Kawarau Falls Reserve

Kawarau Falls Reserve is a linear reserve bordering the Kawarau River, which contains mature bush, a trail~~ick~~ and has steep banks down to the river. There is an avenue of silver birch and other exotic and native park trees. The historic Brunswick Flour Mill at Kawarau Falls was located very close to this reserve.

The large, undulating open area of the Reserve has seen the emergence of unauthorised bike jumps. This can have an adverse effect on the Reserve, including the loss of valuable open space, damage to natural features, and potential health and safety risks for both users and other visitors.

- a) Support the enhancement of the esplanade reserve adjacent to Ōterotu (Kawarau Falls) to support Kāi Tahu values and build a stronger association with cultural heritage.
- b) Support successional native planting, particularly along the riparian margin to improve biodiversity and protect the water quality of the Kawarau River.
- c) Support the community (or key stakeholders) to develop a plan that formalises the jump area and explores other beginner bike opportunities such as a skills area or pump track.



6.2.2 Unnamed Reserve (Riverside Road Reserve)

The Riverside Road Reserves form a linear reserve area creating an open space corridor between the Kawarau River and the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve to the south-west and private land to the north. It provides an important buffer between the increasingly urbanising environment and the natural water network.

- a) Support the creation of an arrival node that enhances the passive and active recreation purpose of the Reserves and maintains the natural character.
- b) Support the naming of the Reserve to foster community connection to the Reserves.
- c) Consider the development of car parking at the end of Riverside Road to the extent that it does not limit the capacity of the Reserve to provide quality recreation open space. This means there must be consideration to limit hard surfaces and maintain open space and ecological benefits of the Reserves.
- d) Allow for the existing pump station to be relocated and upgraded and require the existing pump station to be decommissioned.

- e) Require the vesting of the remaining private land, identified in **Appendix 2**, to the north of Riverside Road, and for it to be managed in accordance with this RMP.



6.2.3 Ivan Young Zoological Reserve

The Ivan Young Zoological Reserve borders the Kawarau River and contains many mature exotic tree specimens. The Reserve was renamed the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve in 2014 in memory of Ivan Young who transformed the area into a zoological garden.

- a) Assess and remove unnecessary fences, gates and signage to encourage public access to the Reserve.
- b) Improve signage, wayfinding and paths to facilitate and enhance the public use and experience of the Reserve.
- c) Acknowledge and retain existing native and exotic mature planting established by Ivan Young, where it provides public benefit.
- d) Consider pedestrian priority areas to support passive recreation and preserve the amenity values of this Reserve.



Formatted: List Paragraph, Numbered + Level: 1 +
Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left +
Aligned at: 0.63 cm + Indent at: 1.27 cm

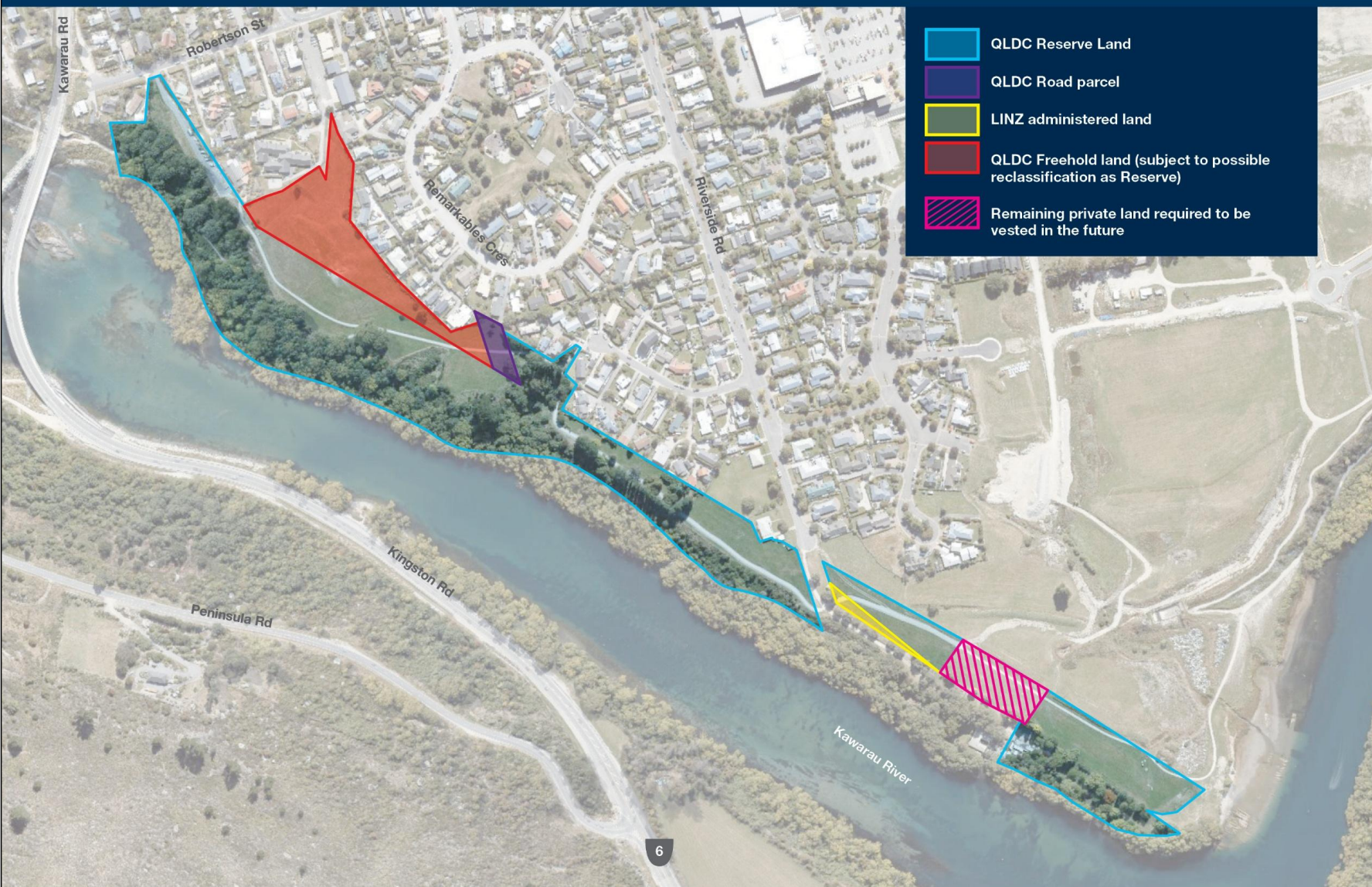
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Text 1

DRAFT

Appendix 1



Appendix 2 Land Classification



Appendix 3 – Land Parcel Classification Table

Legal Description / Parcel ID	Land Classification	Area (m ²)	Location
Lot 603 DP 24569	QLDC Recreation Reserve	5,168	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 604 DP 24571	QLDC Recreation Reserve	1,836	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 605 DP 25645	QLDC Recreation Reserve	260	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 706 DP 24399	QLDC Recreation Reserve	911	Riverside Road Reserve
Lot 701 DP 24131	QLDC Recreation Reserve	2,486	Riverside Road Reserve
Section 159 Block I Shotover SD	LINZ administered land	675	Riverside Road Reserve
Section 167 Block I Shotover SD	QLDC Recreation Reserve	4,500	Ivan Young Zoological Reserve
Section 29 Block XVIII Town of Frankton	QLDC Recreation Reserve	50,000	Kawarau Falls Reserve
Lot 19 DP 20484	QLDC Local Purpose Reserve (Recreation)	2,398	Kawarau Falls Reserve
Lot 2 DP 412692	QLDC Freehold	1,425	Kawarau Falls Reserve
Lot 2 DP 392200	QLDC Freehold	10,847	Kawarau Falls Reserve
3172983	Road	1,149	Kawarau Falls Reserve