

***Karekare Ratepayers and
and Residents Trust***



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**Karekare
Community Management Plan
2002 Update**

**A community project,
facilitated by KKRRT**

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all those in the Karekare community who attended meetings to update the plan, and to Mary Gardner, who put it all together.

Rob Taylor

Chairman, KKRRT
March 2002

Cover photo: Karel Witten-Hannah

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I Update

This document summarizes the Commentary to Karekare Management Plan Update 2002. It was discussed at length by the community in 1999 - 2000, and revised at KKRRT AGMs in January 2001 and 2002.

The update follows through on the issues cited in the Foundation Management Plan as well as those which have developed since 1988.

Update for the Karekare Community Management Plan:

Building on Success

Background

In the 1980's, residents of Karekare were a small and close-knit community. They held progressive views on the conservation and protection of Karekare. One of their collective efforts was the Karekare Community Management Plan, produced in 1988 after a series of extensive meetings, workshops and discussions. This plan made 32 recommendations to local authorities "within an overall objective of conservation of the natural landscape." In the years since, the outcome of these has been:

- ✧ 2 --no action
- ✧ 3--partial successful action, led by community
- ✧ 8--successful action, led by community
- ✧ 18--successful action, led by authorities with community support and involvement

Such a track record means the plan has been very important tool. Locals have put much effort, time and money into implementing and extending this vision:

- ✧ Taking part in extensive consultation, eg District Plan, West Coast Plan, water monitoring, surf club access, road sealing, etc
- ✧ Purchase of beach front land as parkland addition (taking on debt of \$21,000 and raising \$40,000!)
- ✧ Design and supervision of flood control works of Karekare stream at car park, and erosion control at the waterfall and Watchmans Rd
- ✧ Road markings, esp. parking management at beach front
- ✧ Working bees planting/weeding/cleaning up stream, glade, beach
- ✧ Establishing Land Care and Forest Restoration groups
- ✧ Developing "Bill's Reserve" opposite Pohutukawa Glade
- ✧ Raising seedlings at Lone Kauri School

Waitakere City Council and the Auckland Regional Council also led many successful actions:

- ✧ Consultation processes
- ✧ Possum control (esp. Operation Forest Save)
- ✧ Sealing of Lone Kauri Rd
- ✧ Weed control and native planting
- ✧ Water pollution monitoring and control

Today

Thirteen years later, the plan is a proud heritage for today's community, now double the size of the earlier one. We –and the wider Auckland region -- enjoy the benefits flowing from the original plan, but it had become dated.

The following changes were adopted by the local community, following a process of meetings and surveys spread over two years. Each item is numbered according to the 1988 plan and is explained in the attached Commentary.

Update of Karekare Community Management Plan 2001

Part I Objective

In 1988

“To provide management planning and guidance for the Karekare area within an overall objective of conservation of the natural landscape”

Recommendation:

1. That this objective be carried forward into the updated plan (see section 1.2).

Part II Planning values and layers of policy

In 1988, the planning values recognized were

- ↵ protection of natural environment
- ⊘ consultation as a process between community and local authorities
- ⊘ sense of history
- ⊘ small community lifestyle
- ⊘ sense of remoteness
- ⊘ restraint of development

Today, these values continue to be identified as important to the community.

The layers of policy which affect Karekare then and now:

- ⊘ National Town and Planning Act Resource Management Act
- ⊘ City District Scheme District Plan/ Eco City/Agenda 21
- ⊘ Regional Council Regional Park Plan Regional Park Plan Update

Big changes were brought about in early 1990's with the passing of the Resource Management Act by Parliament the development of an Eco City, based on Agenda 21 by the new Waitakere City. Many changes are still underway. The district scheme is about to be replaced by a district plan, which is based on extensive public consultation.

| Old district scheme | new district plan | where |
|---|--|---|
| Non urban residential 3 (NUR3) (4000m2 min.size) | Coastal village environment (4000m2 min.size) | small lots Karekare/Watchmans Rd |
| Landscape Protection 2 (LP2) (under 4 ha min size) | Bush living environment (under 4 ha min size) | small lots end Lone Kauri/Waikarekare Ln |
| Landscape Protect 2 (LP2) (4 ha min size) | Waitakere Ranges environment (4 ha min size) | all other lots |

The old scheme was supported by the Karekare community as it was seen to safeguard both the environment and the lifestyle here. Since 1995, the community has been involved with the development and support of the new plan. Final submissions are now before the Environmental Court. For all the controversy, this process is respected by the community here.

It is important to note that with already existing approvals and titles, the capacity population at Karekare is projected to be 1100. This is approx. three times more than the current full-time population. This is another reason why the community is against any subdivision that does not comply with the District Plan.

In early 1999, the “Go Waitakere” faction at Waitakere City Council tried to subvert the District Plan process and passed a motion to remove the minimum lot size requirement in the Waitakere Ranges Environment zone.

In 2001, Waitakere City Council published the West Coast Plan. This document is result of years of consultation, working parties and workshops with locals from all West Coast communities. The Karekare community has been part of this process from the start and supports the WCP, whilst noting that community management plans provide further detail on the unique concerns and values of each locality.

Recommendations: Democracy issues

2. That community consultation continue to be the means by which the management plan is updated. (see section 1.3.1)
3. That the planning area be known as the Karekare Catchment, part of the West Coast of the Waitakere Ranges. (see section 1.3.2)
4. That the management plan be reviewed by KKRRT at least every five years. The community can call for a revision sooner if desired, or advance minor revisions at the KKRRT AGM. (see section 1.3.3)
5. That the City and Regional Council consult with the community regarding planning issues and any development in the area. (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2)
6. That the relationship between the community and the City and Regional Council continue as consultative and progress to be more of a partnership, incorporating shared decision making and local resource allocation and use (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2). In particular, although the community welcomes visitors, it also wants the support of all relevant authorities to discourage large scale tourism and to manage visitor impact.
7. That the consultation processes with City and Regional Council, of which the community participates in good faith, be honoured by both the elected representatives and staff of these authorities. (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2).
8. That Kawerau a Maki are recognized as tangata whenua, the iwi to be consulted about sites and related issues here in Karekare (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2)
9. That all planning for Karekare area has as its base the protection, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. (see section 3.1.1, 3.1.2)
10. That Waitakere City and ARC concur with community in seeing Karekare as completely unsuitable place for any schemes involving any urban disposal (sewage outfall pipes, rubbish dumps, etc) or construction of large scale public works for use by urban Auckland (see section 5.1.1)

11. That the national protection of the Waitakere Ranges in its entirety be supported in principle, subject to further investigations. The management plan, and related documents concerning conservation in Waitakere Ranges (i.e. West Coast Plan), are to be brought to attention of Labour MP David Cunliffe, the chair of Waitakere Ranges Protection Society and others as appropriate (see section 5.4.1, 8.3,8.4)

12. That following consultations continue/be initiated addressing

- a) transfer of unformed paper roads to ARC
- b) purchase by ARC of private lands when made available to expand parkland (esp any seen from beach and along the Cutting)
- c) that city reserves/ARC land management be rationalized in consultation/partnership with community
- d) that status of accretion lands be secured (see sections 7.4.1, 7.3.1,7.2.1, 2.3.1).

13. That a person in the community be appointed to monitor, on a fortnightly basis, local resource consent applications and development proposals lodged with Council. Reports to the KKRRT and results lodged on the website and the Billboard (see section 8.1, 8.2).

14. That a Karekare community website be created

- ☪ to provide an easily updated platform for information about life in Karekare and current issues/contacts
- ☪ to promote discussion and solidarity with other Waitakere City Residents and Ratepayers groups

Information from the website is to be designed so as to be useful as a community booklet and/or factsheets. (see section 9.1).

Part III Heritage and History

In the past decade and a half, Karekare's human population has grown and changed in composition as founders age and die, children grow up and leave, new people shift into the area, and the costs of housing and land increase.

Before that, the impact of both Maori and Europeans in this area can be seen in the landscape as a whole and in certain places. It can be heard in local legends and tales.

The remarkable present character of Karekare is built on this past, which deserves to be remembered in a variety of ways.

Recommendations:

15. That landscape features and remnants of early Maori and European activity be protected (see section 3.2, 4.1-5).

16. That no action be taken to identify Maori occupation sites or improve access to them without consultation with tangata whenua and the local community. (see section 4.2.5)

17. That an inventory of trees significant for their history be made and copies kept with KKRRT, WCC and ARC. This could be combined with the record of trees planted as commemoratives on the newly purchased parkland near the beach. A search is to be made for any tree preservation schemes, with the aim of registering these trees with them as well (see section 4.4, 4.5).

18. That a history of the recent past (from WW2 onwards) be undertaken, with special emphasis on collection of local oral histories, to create a record of environmental and social changes. The community website is to be one of the places where this information can be published. An acknowledgement of key people and groups identified be made as appropriate (see section 3.2, 4.1-5).

Part IV Local Ecostructure

Ecostructure is a term from landscape ecology. It describes a web or collective of parts involving the flow of water and that land the water flows over and under. The ecostructure provides opportunities for many types of organisms to live. It differs from infrastructure by appearing to have a logic of its own and many purposes for different species and processes. Ecostructure is that constellation of living processes that “protection”, “conservation” “enhancement” and “monitoring” seeks to influence.

Recommendations: ecostructure protection, conservation, enhancement, and monitoring

19. That seven general neighbourhoods, each with their own flavour and concerns, are recognized in the Karekare Catchment: 1) Karekare valley 2) Circle around beach (including Watchman’s Road and end of Karekare Rd) 3) Lone Kauri Rd Upper (to Overall’s) 4) Lone Kauri Lower (down to beach, including Waikarekare Lane and Nixon Rd) 5) Farm Rd. 6) La Trobe 7) Parkland 8) Beach Zone (see section 1.3.2, 3.1).

20. That a Karekare Land Care group facilitate a suite of conservation activities, best practice recommendations and monitoring for each neighbourhood (see section 3.1).

- a) Key issues now are native rainforest regeneration, native bird protection and enhancement, animal and plant pests and the beach.
- b) That in the first instance, requests be made of the resources and technical support of the ARC and the Land Care Trust. Other providers and funding agencies to be considered in due course.
- c) The Land Care group can operate under the umbrella of the KKRRT.
- d) The Land Care group work with all local community groups and households.

21. That the land care group be guided by these recommendations from 1988 and the community/authority actions which are based on these.

- a) Present ARC park management policies [retain] relatively undeveloped character of Karekare. The opinion of community is unchanged in that the Pohutakawa Glade, the sand dunes and the land north side of the stream should all be kept as recreational and natural areas with foot access only, other than essential access for park and surf club service vehicles. (see sections 5.3.1, 5.3.3).
- b) planting and follow up care of appropriate native trees and shrubs continue. (see sections 5.3.5).

- c) the long term instability of the beach and Pohutakawa Glade be taken into account when considering any development work (see section 5.5.1).
- d) WCC and ARC assist in the provision of native trees and shrubs (preferably local stock) for community planting in agreed areas. (see section 5.6.1).
- e) the native plant nursery at Lone Kauri School continue to be supported by ARC and also by WCC in ways as desired by the school. (see section 5.6.1).
- f) exotic plant and animal control/eradication programme (including biosecurity measures and Operation Forestsave) in the glade and beach areas are supported by community assistance available to rangers/officers upon request. That other areas are included as the Land Care group identifies the issues. (see section 5.7.1,5.7.4, 5.8.1)
- g) monitoring and rahui at the beach continue to be supported (see section 5.13).

Part V Infrastructure

Infrastructure is another term from landscape ecology and engineering. It describes a predominantly human-built collection of parts, a logical web created with the single intention of managing activities and processes for the benefit of human interests. Examples of these in Karekare are roads and footpaths, water supplies and waste disposal, power and telephone lines, camping areas, tracks, community amenities, provisions for pets and practices regarding personal and community livelihood.

Recommendations: supporting human residents and visitors

Roads and footpaths: stormwater, markings, verges

22. That WCC

- a) Continue to consult with the community and plans for the safety work to the Karekare and Lone Kauri Roads and any upgrading of minor roads (see section 6.1.1).
- b) Complete the sealing of the Lone Kauri Road (see section 6.1.2, 6.1.5).
- c) Follow through with the proper creation and care of channels for stormwater on the Lone Kauri and Karekare Roads. (see section 6.1).
- d) Maintain the grass footpath along Karekare Rd so that in peak times pedestrians and horse riders are not competing with vehicular traffic (see section 6.1).
- e) Discontinue poison spraying of vegetation on the verges of Karekare, Lone Kauri, Waikarekare and Watchman's Rds as results of earlier "no spray" trials, show that regular mowing, occasional shrub and tree pruning and natural growth cycles tend these well enough (see section 5.7.2). (This does not release Council or property owners from removal of invasive or environmental weeds.)

23. That ARC

- a) Provide wheel barriers in the main car park to define parking positions for best use of space and protection of developing pohutakawa trees, which have shallow roots (see section 6.2.1).
- b) Ensure there be no vehicle access, parking or other unsuitable development in the Pohutakawa Glade or Karekare beach access. The exception is service and emergency access to the Surf Club, which is essential. That present informal access, controlled by the ARC/club, is adequate. That any changes, due to changes in stream

making access difficult, be a matter of consultation between the club, community and ARC (see section 5.3.2, 6.3).

- c) Continue to maintain small parking areas at Huia Track entrance and top of La Trobe track (see section 6.2.4-6).

24. That both ARC and WCC acknowledge innovations in parking management within the spaces already available involve and benefit the local community, while any revenue generated be returned to the community. (see section 5.3.3, 6.2.6)

Water supplies and waste disposal

25. That the community continue working with Council to maintain and improve water quality management and flood controls (see section 6.6.1).

26. That WCC takes appropriate action for clearing Karekare Stream to reduce flood risk and ensure future culvert or other crossings to stream are not of a design that will raise water at flood times (see section 5.9.1).

Power and telephone lines

27. That the powerlines at Karekare/Lone Kauri Rd junction up to the waterfall be put underground (see section 6.4) as a priority as well as all other lines in other neighbourhoods.

28. That Telecom be petitioned to upgrade the phone lines to accommodate more phone lines and provide broadband internet capacity (see section 8.1).

Camping, BarBQues and Fires in Glade/Beach

29. That camping continue to be restricted to the controlled minimum facilities at McCreedy Paddock and any additional camping should be only by extension at present site (see section 6.7.1).

30. That the ARC take firmer measures and provide clear unambiguous signage to control lighting of fires. That ARC endorses the installment of a gas barbeque (see section 5.10.1).

Tracks

32. That the track from Watchman Road saddle down to Union Bay is assessed for erosion damage, although creation of steps is now considered undesirable (see section 6.8.1).

33. That ARC maintain signs to prevent entry of mountain bikes (see section 5.10.2).

Community amenities

34. That information and contact details about existing community amenities (Fire party, school, Surf club, First response team and equipment, meeting/social space upstairs at fire station, community reserves) be updated yearly and made available to residents (see section 7).

35. That the land at Zion Track car park on Lone Kauri Road transferred to WCC from ARC for a nominal community reserve be investigated by locals for use as a community resource (with or without further development).

Provisions for pets

36. That the community endorse the WCC/ARC and DOC by-laws concerning registration, exercise and control of dogs throughout private and public properties in Karekare (see section 5.11.1).

37. That the horse riders in the community respect the agreements regarding beach use: summer (until 9 am and after 5 pm), winter (until 10 am and after 4 pm) and to bury any horse droppings.

38. That the community encourage neutering of all pet cats in Karekare

39. That the community actively discourages the keeping of mustelids as pets.

Practices concerning personal and community livelihood

40. That communications between ever increasing number of home workers be fostered (i.e. through Billboard, website, meetings, etc). These may be separate groups

- ☪ home office workers
- ☪ outdoor home workers (horticulture, agriculture, etc)
- ☪ artists
- ☪ providers of small scale lodgings/gatherings

Needs and interests that arise be brought to the KKRRT and any authorities or corporations as required. (see section 8.1)

41. That retail outlets (as typified by dairies, food vendors, outlets depending on regular custom by people off those premises) continue to be discouraged at Karekare (see section 8.1.1).

42. That community livelihood (esp the financing behind the community amenities) benefit directly from use made of Karekare by filming and gatherings (ie. weddings, ceremonies, workshops, etc). This can be in a variety of ways (cash, acknowledgement, royalties, etc) decided on in a case by case. The specific beneficiaries would also be decided on in a case by case basis (see section 3.3, 3.5, 8.1).

43. That KKRRT liaise with tour services using Karekare and encourage these business to make contributions of either volunteer work or money or both to protect, conserve, enhance and monitor the areas they use (see section 3.5, 8.3).

Memorial fixtures

44. That the Karekare community, in partnership with Waitakere City Council and Auckland Regional Council, endorse a moratorium on all memorial fixtures – including plaques and seats - on Karekare Beach and all bordering park areas, and supports the planting of memorial trees through the Memorial Tree Register.

II Commentary on Karekare Management Plan Update 2002

This document investigates the issues and recommendation in the Foundation Management Plan, summarizes events since that time and suggests future actions. The update was drawn from this document.

Commentary to Karekare Management Plan Update 2002

1.2 Objectives

In 1988 the objective was summarized as

“To provide management planning and guidance for the Karekare area within an overall objective of conservation of the natural landscape”

Recommendation:

1. That this objective be carried forward into the updated plan

1.3 Formation of the plan

1.3.1 Participation

In 1988, the community produced the first plan, based on extensive community consultation. Fourteen years later, the update of that plan is also based on community consultation. This process is a unique and important feature of Karekare.

Recommendation:

2. That community consultation continue to be the means by which the management plan is updated.

1.3.2 Planning Area

1988

“This was considered to be the watershed area draining to the Karekare Coast. As such it includes all private land which is accessed from Karekare Road and Lone Kauri Road including that on the Watchman Road, La Trobe Track and Waikarekare Lane. It also takes in those properties on the watershed side of the Piha Road. A substantial part of the area is made up of Auckland Centennial Memorial Park Land. There are also a number of small Waitemata City reserves.”

2002

The planning area is the same. Auckland Centennial Memorial Park Land is now known as Auckland Regional Park. Waitemata City is now Waitakere City. The ownership of reserves is under review by WCC and ARC.

Currently, there is greater awareness of Karekare’s position as a part of the greater West Coast (from Manukau Heads to Bethells) and the Waitakere Ranges (from coast to foothills). While Karekare recognizes it faces many unique issues, some are in common with other West Coast communities and also the Ranges as a whole. These issues become more critical as the nearby Auckland metropolis continues to grow and expand.

3. Recommendation: That the planning area be known as the Karekare Catchment, part of the West Coast of the Waitakere Ranges.

1.3.3 Time scale

1988

“no fixed time scale was set for the plan which is seen as ongoing and subject to revision in the future as need arises.”

2002

The plan has proved to be a useful, ongoing document. A full review process could be scheduled by KKRRT every five years or so. If minor additions or revisions are required, these could be advanced at the KKRRT AGM.

4. **Recommendation:** That the management plan be reviewed by KKRRT at least every five years. The community can call for a revision sooner if desired, or advance minor revisions at the KKRRT AGM.

1.3.4 Targets

1988

“...city council, KKRRT, Auckland Regional Authority and Waitakere Ranges Protection Society....all residents and ratepayers.”

2002

The targets remain the same. The Auckland Regional Authority is now known as Auckland Regional Council.

There is a movement to bring the issue of protection status of the Ranges to Parliament in a bid to ensure national recognition of the importance of conservation of the Ranges. There are key national figures who would find the management plan an important document. They should be identified and receive a copy of this plan, together with related documents from West Coast Plan and Waitakere Ranges Protection Society, etc.

11. **Recommendation:** That national protection of the Waitakere Ranges in its entirety be supported, ideally by means of National Heritage Protection. The management plan, and related documents concerning conservation in Waitakere Ranges (i.e. West Coast Plan), are to be brought to attention of Labour MP David Cunliffe, the chair of Waitakere Ranges Protection Society and others as appropriate (see 8.3,8.4)

1.3.5 Revision

1988

“There are no formal procedures for revision of this plan.”

2002

See 1.3.3 for recommendation of timetable of plan review and 1.3.1 for recommendation of participation in that review.

2.0 Public Authority Policies and Controls and

3.0 Planning Values

2.1 Waitemata City

2.2 Auckland Regional Authority

Karekare is now part of Waitakere City, not Waitemata City.

The Auckland Regional Council replaces the Auckland Regional Authority.

The Resource Management Act (RMA) replaces the Town and Country Planning Act. The District Plan is about to replace the District Scheme.

Natural areas rulings: the vegetation of the entire area, private and public, has been mapped and is classified as one of four

- “pasture”
- “managed natural area”,
- “protected vegetation area” and
- “coastal natural area”

Within these areas are also “riparian zones” (classified as 20 metres to either side of a stream) and “sensitive ridge lines” (skyline and hilltop features)

These classifications and the policies built with them are the work of both Council and wider community through extensive consultation and planning processes. Many residents and landowners and the KKRRT have contributed to this process.

5. Recommendation: That the City and Regional Council consult with the community regarding planning issues and any development in the area. (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2)

Through long experience with the Council in consultation matters, the KKRRT recognizes the enormous costs and efforts that the community put into this. The limitations of such a relationship are also clear. KKRRT has become more interested in the development of a partnership between community and both Councils.

6. Recommendation: That the relationship between the community and the City and Regional Council continue as consultative and progress to be more of a partnership, incorporating shared decision making and local resource allocation and use (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2)

Recent actions by Council concern the community. In 1999, the “Go Waitakere” faction on Waitakere City Council tried to subvert due process by passing a motion to remove the minimum lot size requirement in the Waitakere Ranges Environment planning zone.

7. Recommendation: That the consultation processes with City and Regional Council, of which the community participates in good faith, be honoured by both the elected representatives and staff of these authorities. (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2).

With respect to the partnership aspects of the Treaty of Waitangi, Kawerau a Maki are recognized as tangata whenua by ARC.

8. Recommendation: That Kawerau a Maki are recognized as tangata whenua, the iwi to be consulted about sites and related issues here in Karekare (see section 1.3.5, 3.1.2)

The West Coast Plan is now in place, as is the Waitakere Parklands Management Plan. It is important at this time to reiterate the local community’s paramount planning value:

9. Recommendation: That all planning for Karekare area has as its base the protection, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. (see section 3.1.1)

2.3 Coastal Accretion Land
1988

“It is of interest to the community that the coastline from Cowan Point to Whatipu is part of the Whatipu Wilderness Area.....some doubts about jurisdiction of extensive sand accretion areas of this coastline and developing wetlands.....ARA acts as a de facto administering body, but it is desirable that some form of reserve status be established to ensure protection of the area.”

2002

After many conversations with ARC and WCC, the status of this land is that of unclaimed Crown Land, classified as open space by WCC and managed as parkland by ARC. The push for reserve status was to help avoid threats like the once proposed sewage outfall pipe. The money and time to create reserve status is considerable. ARC do not see this as a high priority. Meanwhile, community vigilance is required. Four recommendations can be made.

10 Recommendation: That Waitakere City and ARC concur with community in seeing Karekare as completely unsuitable place for any schemes involving any urban disposal (sewage outfall pipes, rubbish dumps, etc) or construction of large scale public works for use by urban Auckland (see section 5.1.1)

12. Recommendation: That following consultations continue/be initiated addressing

- e) transfer of unformed paper roads to ARC
- f) purchase by ARC of private lands when made available to expand parkland (esp any seen from beach and along the Cutting)
- g) that city reserves/ARC land management be rationalized in consultation/partnership with community
- h) that status of accretion lands be secured (see sections 7.4.1, 7.3.1,7.2.1, and 2.3.1).

13. Recommendation: That a person in the community be appointed to monitor on a fortnightly basis local resource consent applications and development proposals lodged with Council. Reports to the KKRRT and results lodged on the website and the Billboard (see section 8.1, 8.2).

14. Recommendation: That a Karekare community website be created to provide an easily updated platform for information about life in Karekare and current issues and contacts, and to promote discussion and solidarity with other Waitakere City Residents and Ratepayers groups

Information from the website is to be designed so as to be useful as a community booklet and/or factsheets. (see section 9.1).

4. Historical Sites and Items
(including 3.2 Planning Values: historical)

4.1 District Scheme

Historic Items registered in the old Waitemata District Scheme are now the:

Stone walled surf club gear shed
Winchelsea House
The Barracks (now the Butler residence)
Fluming (from Company stream)
Kaka Pa (Watchman)
Rock Shelter Cave
Karekare Mill
Stringer Dams in Karekare and Company Streams

4.2 Pre-European Sites
1988

3 major sites listed and others briefly described. No signs were posted anywhere marking these.

15 **Recommendation:** That landscape features and remnants of early Maori and European activity be protected (see section 3.2, 4.1-5).

16. **Recommendation:** That no action be taken to identify Maori occupation sites or improve access to them without consultation with tangata whenua and the local community. (see section 4.2.5)

4.3 Remnants of Early European Occupation on Public Land

Five sites listed and briefly described. Four of these have deteriorated to the point that they are no longer visible. One is a tree of historic interest.

4.4 Items of interest

Four items are listed. Two are trees of historic interest.

4.5 Preservation

Of interest still are pohutakawas straddling road at beach car park which are mentioned as meriting protection.

17. **Recommendation:** That an inventory of trees significant for their history be made and copies kept with KKRRT, WCC and ARC. This could be combined with the record of trees planted as commemoratives on the newly purchased parkland near the beach. A search is to be made for any tree preservation schemes, with the aim of registering these trees with them as well (see section 4.4, 4.5).

18. **Recommendation:** That a history of the recent past (from WW2 onwards) be undertaken, with special emphasis on collection of local oral histories, to create a record of environmental and social changes. The community website is to be one of the places where this information can be published. An acknowledgement of key people and groups identified be made as appropriate (see section 3.2, 4.1-5).

Much of the following is about ecostructure and is brought together by the opportunity offered by the establishment of a Land Care group in Karekare.

5. Environment and Conservation

5.1 Auckland Area Sewerage Scheme 1988

There was total objection to construction of sewage outfall pipe at Karekare or anywhere along the Waitakere Ranges Coastline.

2002

This is no longer an issue. But the threat of such large scale works will always remain, as we are a rural community adjoining a metropolis.

10 Recommendation: That Waitakere City and ARC concur with community in seeing Karekare as completely unsuitable place for any schemes involving any urban disposal (sewage outfall pipes, rubbish dumps, etc) or construction of large scale public works for use by urban Auckland

5.2 Water pollution 1988

Karekare, Company and Opal Pools are mentioned as subject to run-off or seepage from residential properties. The water quality of the beach lagoon is a concern. Subdivision is discouraged and amalgamation of small lots on clay soils recommended. A call is made for the monitoring of water quality and the septic systems in the area.

2002

A monitoring programme has been running since the mid-90's; the results are still discouraging, and KKRRT has asked for the Piha/Karekare Water Quality Working Group to be resuscitated by the new (Team West) Council.

5.3 Auckland Centennial Memorial Park

5.3.1 Park Management 1988

“Present park management policies...[retain] relatively undeveloped character of Karekare. Opinion of community that the Pohutakawa Glade, the sand dunes and the land north side of the stream should all be kept as recreational and natural areas with foot access only, other than essential access for park and surf club service vehicles...provision of walking tracks and toilets may become desirable.”

2002

This opinion remains unchanged.

5.3.2 Car Parking 1988

Limitations on parking were recognized. Resistance to developing more parking was clearly made.

2002

This opinion remains unchanged.

5.3.3 Recommendation:

1988

That there be no vehicle access, parking or other unsuitable development in the Pohutakawa Glade or Karekare beach access.

2002

This recommendation is still pertinent. The following clause to be added.

“That innovations in parking management within the space available involve and benefit the local community, while any revenue generated be returned to the community.”

5.3.5 Planting in Park Areas

1988

“That planting of appropriate native trees and shrubs be undertaken in areas where natural generation is inhibited by exotic grasses and other weeds.”

2002

Since 1988, community volunteers planted many trees and shrubs in the Glade and other beach areas. They organize regular working bees to keep them weeded and fertilized.

2002

The opinion is that planting and follow up care of appropriate native trees and shrubs continue. The Lone Kauri School has a native tree nursery and authorities should support the school with this activity.

5.4 National Heritage Area

1988

“That further information be obtained about National Heritage Area concept to protect the Waitakere Ranges.”

2002

This is still a pertinent issue.

5.5 Coastal Changes

1988

“That the long term instability of the beach and Pohutakawa Glade be taken into account when considering any development work.”

2002

There has been no such development proposed. The opinion of the community is unchanged.

5.6 Trees and Planting

1988

“That WCC and ARC assist in the provision of native trees and shrubs (preferably local stock) for community planting in agreed areas of the reserve.”

2002

This is an well-established practice now

5.7 Weed control
1988

“That Council only carry out road verge spraying where considered essential as the only viable weed control alternative. That it be carried out with prior community consultation and with community supervision. That companion planting to curb the regrowth of kikuya be investigated and introduced.”

2002

Community concern is raised again about verge spraying and a ban on spraying is requested.

1988

“That a programme be undertaken to control the aggressive exotic plant growth in the glade and beach areas, with community assistance available to rangers on request.”

2002

This programme can be continued and enhanced by the Land Care group.

5.8 Opossum and Other Pest Control
1988

“The Council continue to make traps available. That WCC and ARC actively undertake in consultation with the community eradication programmes at appropriate times of the year.

2002

Operation Forest Save was a hugely successful Park-wide possum eradication programme run in the winter of 1998. Follow up work is underway via the local Forest Restoration Groups.

5.9 Flooding of Karekare Stream
1988

“That WCC takes appropriate action for clearing Karekare Stream to reduce flood risk.”

“That future culvert or other crossings to stream are not of a design that will raise water at flood times.”

2002

The community worked with WCC to clear the stream and also to create flood banks which are not so prone to erosion. This required the active involvement of community members, including supervision of Council staff and contractors

5.10 Pohutakawa Glade – Fires and Vehicles

5.10.1 “That the ARC take firmer measures and provide clear unambiguous signage to control lighting of fires. That ARC endorses the instalment of a gas barbeque.”

“That ARC add signs to prevent entry of mountain bikes.”

5.11 Dogs and Horses on the Beach

“That the community endorse the WCC by law legislation for dogs on beaches and the Surf Clubs’ involvement in dog control. That current conditions for riding horses on beach as laid down by ARC are strictly adhered to and monitored by the local community.

5.12 Environmental Colours and Materials
1988

There was concern about how homes and structures in the area blend in with the environment.

2002

This is now an item of the District Plan

5.13 Shellfish Ban

People generally refrain from harvesting shellfish on the beach and the rocky shore community is being monitored. The monitoring and rahui at the beach continue to be supported (see section 5.13).

5.14 Memorials

The community is concerned that there is at present no management policy on the installation of memorial fixtures within the Karekare catchment.

We ask that stakeholders such as the Auckland Regional Council, Waitakere City Council, Friends of Arataki and the Karekare community consider the impact of memorial installations with reference to the long term protection, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment.

Recommendation:

That the Karekare community, in partnership with Waitakere City Council and Auckland Regional Council, endorse a moratorium on all memorial fixtures, including plaques and seats, on Karekare Beach and all bordering park areas and supports the planting of memorial trees through the Memorial Tree Register

6. Access and Public Services

6.1 Roothing
1988

to remain rural and parklike in character. Sealing to maintain alignment with minor work to improve hazardous corners. No sealing to be done on Watchmans Road

2002

As above.

6.1.1 Karekare Rd
1988

Structural work called for

2002

This is underway

6.1.2 Lone Kauri Rd
1988

Sealing of the road called for

2002

This has been completed

6.1.3 Minor Rds
1988

Maintenance of these called for, in keeping with environmental concerns. Watchmans not to be sealed

2002

As above

Also, call for up renewed maintenance of the footpath on Karekare Road. This is important given the volume of summer traffic.

6.2 Parking
1988

No more parking desired.

2002

As above. Including if there are any innovations re: parking, that these be created with the community, managed by community and revenues (if any) generated going back to community

6.2.1 Main Carpark
1988

Wheel barriers, plantings and visual impact are all concerns

2002

Wheel barriers and plantings are now in place. The visual impact is better, though there is need to upgrade information signs and liaise with ARC re content

6.2.2 Karekare Rd
1988

Parking restrictions called for

2002

Parking restrictions are in place, and are being maintained by WCC

6.2.3 Lower Lone Kauri Rd
1988

Parking restrictions called for

2002

Parking restrictions in place. Respect for these restrictions needed.

6.2.4 Huia Track Entrance
1988

Small carpark called for

2002

This parking space now exists

6.2.5 La Trobe Track
1988

Parking at junction with Lone Kauri to be improved so that cars do not go down road to track

2002
Parking here is informal

6.3 Access to Surf Club
1988

Concerns about access is to be considered by a group consisting of the club, the community and the ARA

2002
The ARA is replaced by the ARC. The Resource Management Act now exists and sets requirements which need to be considered when discussions about access arise.

6.4 Powerlines
1988

Undergrounding is called for

2002
Undergrounding is still called for, esp around the beach and waterfall.

6.4 Drainage and Water Supply
1988

Call for community to work with Council to find short and long term solutions for water quality management issues

2002
Septic system upgrades are enforced. Water monitoring was started but has been cut back. Flood protection in car park put in place.

6.5 Camping Grounds
1988

Camping ground continue to be restricted to McCready's paddock.
Motor camps or caravan parks not permitted.

2002
As above

6.6 Tracks
1988

Call for erosion control steps on track from Watchman Rd Saddle down to Union Bay

2002
Erosion control steps now considered undesirable

7. Community Amenities

7.2 Reserves 1988

There are several WCC owned reserves. These are not suitable for development and are best left in regenerating bush. The three reserves in loops of the Lone Kauri Road have environmental value and should not be used as fill areas for roading or other works.

2002

As above with the note that a number of the WCC reserves are now to be managed and maintained by the ARC.

The provision of community facilities is part of WCC commitment to each community. This can take a variety of forms. WCC is negotiating with ARC about putting land aside earmarked as a community facility. This may or may not be developed (ie a hall or a community house built, etc). The WCC also supports community houses. WCC staff have done planning exercises concerning a research/study centre in Karekare. Meanwhile, the ARC is interested in promoting information about the park and wildlife.

From the 1998 community survey, half the respondents felt there was no need for more community facilities. Half thought there was a need, and held a variety of opinions about how this need could be met.

7.3 Paper Roads 1988

Call for paper roads to be transferred to ARA

2002

Paper roads are now part of the ARC estate

7.4 Land acquisition 1988

That private land visible from the beach put on sale be bought by the ARA and incorporated into park.

2002

Community support ensured that ARC did purchase the Gribble land, near the caves, and incorporated it into the park. Memorial trees are planted on this site and a map is in the KKRRT files.

8 Land Use

8.1 Existing Land use 1988

Community supports District Scheme zonings. There is a stand made against commercial development. Shops are expressly discouraged as well as mobile vendors and hawkers.

2002

The District Plan now replaces the District Scheme. The community was deeply involved with the consultation for this plan. The plan does not allow for retail sales in Karekare. Other types of commercial activity and home occupations are described and regulated by the WCC. The community continues to support the plan. The RMA also has sections which apply to regulation of activities.

Home occupations have grown in Karekare and become an important part of the community. This brings a new dimension to the community lifestyle, as there are more people now around during the weekday.

8.2 Scheme Compliance 1988

Concern that WCC could not achieve compliance with Scheme and greater awareness by locals is called for

2002

District Plan and RMA have changed both the general awareness and compliance by the general public. The role of the local management plan is enhanced by these plans and acts. The local plan should be reviewed regularly and issues relating to it should be brought to the attention of locals using suitable media. Beyond the community, the plan is of interest to groups like the West Coast Plan, Enterprise Waitakere, and environmental groups. These should have copies of updated plan.

8.3 Threat of unsuitable developments 1988

Call for community vigilance, esp concerning tourism and public works

2002

As above

8.4 Harmful developments 1988

Call for Natural Heritage Area as a means of protecting against harmful developments

2002

Support of this or another scheme encompassing protection of the Waitakere Ranges as a whole continues.

9. Community Booklet 1988

Call for creation of booklet with local information and planting advice

2002

The booklet was produced but is outdated and out of print. Some of the needs met by the booklet are met by the community website, which can be kept up to date. An information/welcome pack for new residents is still needed.

III Foundation Management Plan 1988

This document was the first plan. It was a guide for community action for fourteen years. When the task of updating was taken up, the general feeling was that the original document should be retained as a foundation.

The commentary and the update are built on this document.