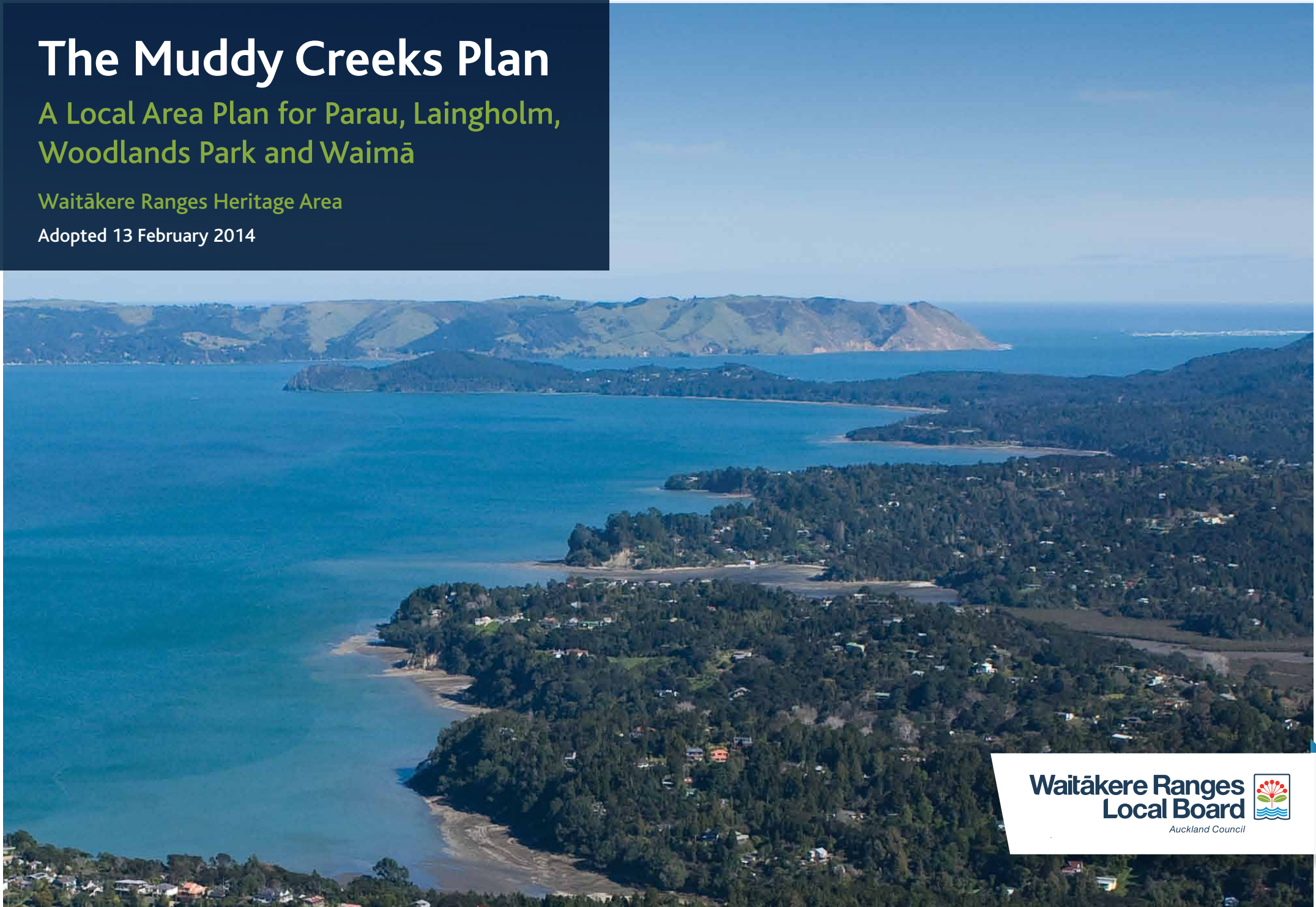


The Muddy Creeks Plan

A Local Area Plan for Parau, Laingholm,
Woodlands Park and Waimā

Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area

Adopted 13 February 2014



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Background

This Local Area Plan represents the outcome of conversations, meetings and workshops with members of the local communities, iwi, the Waitākere Ranges Local Board and Auckland Council units. It reflects the shared aspirations expressed by the participants.

A series of events held between August 2012 and August 2013 and an online discussion forum provided a chance for the council to listen to residents about the heritage features that they value, their visions for the future of Parau, Laingholm, Woodlands Park and Waimā, and their views on what needs to be done to protect and enhance the values of these areas and achieve community outcomes.

These ideas and visions for the future have been further analysed and developed to form this Local Area Plan (LAP). This LAP will provide a long-term (30 year) direction for Council, iwi and community action in the area.

It should be noted, that the adoption of the LAP by the Council does not constitute a decision by the Council to act upon it. However, decisions which are significantly inconsistent with the LAP must be identified and justified under Section 27 of the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 (the Act).

There are four key components to the LAP:

1. the boundary which defines the area that this LAP applies to
2. the identification of features important to and valued by the community
3. the descriptions of existing and future character and amenity
4. the objectives and actions proposed to achieve the desired future character and amenity.

The Waitākere Ranges Local Board and Auckland Council will consider making changes to other plans to achieve the objectives and actions laid out in the LAP. Changes could include introducing those parts of the LAP relating to resource management into the Unitary Plan

The Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 (the Act) provides for the preparation and adoption of Local Area Plans to:

- ▶ promote the purpose of the Act and its objectives
- ▶ provide long-term objectives in relation to the future amenity, character and environment of the Local Area, and the wellbeing of the communities that live there
- ▶ inform decision making processes that relate to the heritage area.

Local Area Plans must be developed using a process that encourages people to participate and contribute to the preparation of the LAP, complies with the principles of consultation in s82 of the Local Government Act 2002, has regard to the management plan for the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park, and consults with tangata whenua.



Workshop at Laingholm, December 2012

Background continued

through a Plan Change process, and introducing those matters relating to council services into the Local Board Plan, and Council's Long Term and Annual Plans. Community-based actions to implement the LAP will also be encouraged and enabled.

This LAP will also be used as a basis for information and policy development in the preparation of the Waitākere Ranges Area Plan in the coming years.

It will serve as an advocacy tool for the Waitākere Ranges Local Board and the Auckland Council when providing recommendations and feedback to Auckland Council Controlled Organisations (i.e. Auckland Transport, Watercare and Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development).



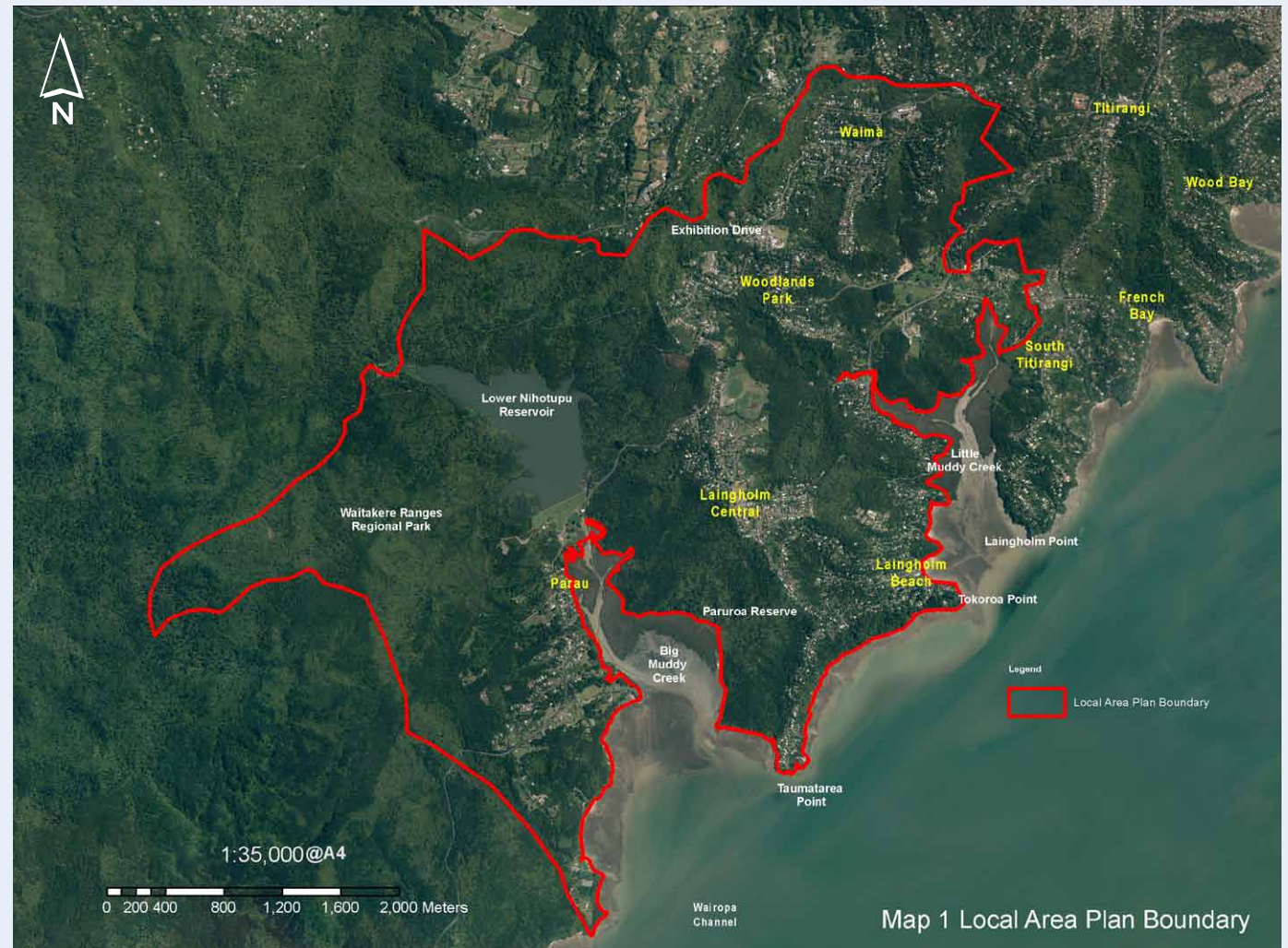
View of Lower Nihotupu Reservoir and Big Muddy Creek from Scenic Drive

Local Area Plan Boundary

The Muddy Creeks Plan applies to the four distinct communities of Parau, Laingholm, Woodlands Park and Waimā, as identified in Map 1. The boundary of this LAP is based on guidance from the Act and consultation with local communities.

The Local Area also includes parts of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park within the catchment of the Lower Nihotupu Reservoir and Exhibition Drive. It spreads over the two water catchments of Big Muddy Creek to the west and Little Muddy Creek to the east. However, a large part of the Little Muddy Creek catchment is located within the area known as South Titirangi and is not included in this LAP.

It is acknowledged that residents in these areas also feel a very strong association with Titirangi, and that Titirangi village is an important centre for shopping, socialising and accessing community services. Being included within the boundaries of this LAP does not prevent residents from being involved in future planning work for Titirangi village.



Heritage Features

Background research was undertaken to identify the extent and nature of the heritage features that exist in this Local Area and their relationship with the wider heritage area.

This section summarises the information in the background reports and outlines those particular features that fall within this Local Area. The heritage features are valued because of the contribution they make to the local, regional and national significance of the Parau, Laingholm, Woodlands Park and Waimā areas and the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area as a whole.



*Pou at Arataki Visitor Centre.
(Photo courtesy of Auckland Council/Jeremy Hill)*

Historical and cultural relationship of tangata whenua with the area

Te Kawerau-a-Maki (from Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority, May 2013)

“The LAP area is of great importance to the identity of Te Kawerau-a-Maki, as it sits within the wider Waitākere/West Auckland area which is the heartland of Te Kawerau’s rohe. Te Kawerau-a-Maki traces their lineage back to the earliest inhabitants of the Manukau and Waitākere, and are considered one of the guardian families of the Manukau Harbour. Our ancestor, the Tūrehu chieftain Tiriwa, lived throughout the extensive forest which once covered West Auckland, the remnant of which is now the Waitākere Ranges. It is from this ancestor that the traditional name for Waitākere, Te Wao-nui-a-Tiriwa – the great forest of Tiriwa, comes. Later ancestors include the arrival of the Tainui waka in the 14th century, which was carried across the portage at Ōtāhuhu from the Hauraki Gulf to the Manukau Harbour.

The area within the LAP played an important role in linking the Waitākere Ranges to the Manukau Harbour, and contained a number of pā, kāinga (open settlements), and cultivations,

as well as important natural resources such as timber, birds, and marine and freshwater animals including a number of fish species, tuna (eel), kōura (crayfish), pipi, tipa (scallops), and tuangi (cockles). The area was part of a wider cultural landscape which included Huia, Cornwallis (Karanga Hape), the land between the Whau River and the Manukau, Māngere, and Te Motu-a-Hiaroa (Puketutu Island). Within the LAP boundary lie centuries of Te Kawerau-a-Maki taonga and wāhi tapu, including urupā (burial grounds).

The coastal area of the northern Manukau Harbour extending west from Motukaraka (near Green Bay) to Waikumete (Little Muddy Creek, between South Titirangi and Laingholm) was known as Titirangi and includes places of historical significance including Te Kai-o-Poutūkeka, Ōtītore, Ōkewa, Paturoa, and Taumatarearea. The Waikumete has strategic significance as the southern end of a major inland north-south walkway, along with its accessibility for canoe travel into the Manukau Harbour. Waikumete was also known as an area for canoe building which continued to the 1860’s, with place names including Te Tō-o-Parahiku – the dragging place of the semi-finished canoe hulls, and Maramara-Tōtara – the chips of tōtara wood. This locality was protected by a fortified pā known as Te Tokaroa.

The extensive tidal inlet known as Paruroa (Parau or Big Muddy Creek) makes up the western catchment of the LAP. It was traditionally an important place for catching pātiki (flounder), and held two important Te Kawerau-a-Maki kāinga known as Nihotupu (Armour Bay) and Ngā moko (Lower Nihotupu Dam). Paruroa/Big Muddy Creek was the location of an important battle between Ngāti Whātua and Waiohua in the mid-1700's, of which Ngāti Whātua was ultimately victorious. Although the battle took place within Te Kawerau-a-Maki lands, Te Kawerau remained unaffected as the fighting involved two iwi who did not hold mana whenua over the land but rather had pursued each other to the northern shores of the Manukau. Te Kawerau-a-Maki were intimately related to both sides involved in this intense period of fighting and remained neutral, although offering shelter to refugees.

It was not until 1825 during the invasion by Ngāpuhi forces from the north that Te Kawerau-a-Maki were forced for the first time from the area, with most of the survivors seeking exile in the Waikato while a small number of Te Kawerau people remained within the forest to ensure ahi kā [literally keep the home fires burning – maintain occupation of the land]. The Ngāpuhi invasion was not about the acquisition of land, but of utu (revenge) against the Tāmaki relatives of those who had offended Ngāpuhi in the past. In 1836 the bulk of Te Kawerau-a-Maki returned, first resettling at Kakamatua near Huia, then moving north to build a musket pā and re-establish their kāinga at Te Henga. In the 1830's and 1840's interaction with Europeans unfortunately led to the transmission of disease which further impacted the population of Te Kawerau, and also marked the beginning of the inexorable loss of land and traditional livelihood due to early private land sales of which the rangatira of Te Kawerau-a-Maki had no knowledge, compounded by the individualisation of title to Māori land resulting from the provisions of the Native Land Act 1865."

The area is of high significance to Ngāti Whātua. The battle at Paruroa marked a "watershed moment" in the ascendance of Te Taoū o Ngāti Whātua in their conquest of Tāmaki. It is related by iwi in these words (extract from Malcolm Paterson, Ngāti Whātua in West, 2009):

"Te Taoū o Ngāti Whātua raised a taua and moved on Waiohua seeking revenge. Clashes occurred around what is now Titirangi and other places on the isthmus. Retaliatory raids on Kaipara saw the field of battle move back and forth.

Attacks were launched against pā on the Āwhitu Peninsula by canoeing across from Pūponga. By this time the main Te Taoū force was encamped at Paruroa (Big Muddy Creek, located below what is today the lower Nihotupu reservoir). Kiwi Tāmaki called together his army from allied peoples of Maungakiekie, Te Tātua-o-Riukiuta (Three Kings), Ōwairaka, Onehunga and Māngere and moved by land and sea on Te Taoū, who were led by Waha-akiaki, Tuperiri and Waitaheke (Tuperiri's half-brother).

The Te Taoū taua then employed the technique of a mock retreat in order to gain an advantage over the numerically superior Waiohua. Retreating slowly up the valley side towards today's Scenic Drive, Waha-akiaki commented, 'let the bird be drawn into the snare'. The pursuing warriors came near but Waha-

akiaki insisted that Te Taoū carry on until the waters of the Waitematā were sighted. When Waha-akiaki put down the oil calabash he was carrying, it was the signal to turn and fight and the Waiohua suddenly found that they were under attack. The pivotal moment in the battle came when the two key protagonists, Kiwi and Waha-akiaki, closed in hand-to hand combat. As the respective champions of their troops, the outcome of their duel would influence hugely the morale of their men.

After a violent struggle which saw the two warriors fighting on the ground, Waha-akiaki slew Kiwi with his stone weapon, buoying the Te Taoū warriors and demoralising their enemies. What started as a retreat turned into a rout that carried on back to the sea below. Even those Waiohua that reached the sea and launched their waka were not necessarily safe; it being recalled that Waitaheke sunk a canoe with his whalebone spear, preventing one party from escaping. Enough Waiohua lay dead on the foreshore after the battle (including leading chiefs) that the shellfish beds were contaminated and stank and the battle came to be known as 'Te Rangi-hinganga-tahi' (the day when all fell together). To symbolise Kiwi's death at his hands, Waha-akiaki 'took' the name of his defeated enemy for himself. Te Taoū dead are now part of the earth there."

Heritage Features continued

European settlement and activities

Early European settlement - The area initially attracted European settlers employed in the timber industry and living in rudimentary bush camps. Kauri trees were felled from the 1830's until the 1920's. Farming started in the 1850's. George Laing acquired a property of 610 acres comprising most of what is now Laingholm and extending over the ridge towards Parau. Other individual land parcels were sold on the western edges of Little Muddy and Big Muddy creeks. The land was cleared of millable trees and the remaining forest burned in most places right up to the ridges to make way for pastures and farm dwellings. A school was built in Parau which closed its doors around 1942, when children were transferred to Laingholm School. A local tavern in Parau on the edge of the big Muddy Creek provided refreshments to local residents, travellers and seafarers. Early dams were built across waterways to drive timber down gullies. In the early 20th century, a timber dam was built on the Upper Nihotupu stream to impound and supply water to Auckland, replaced in 1923 by a concrete structure. The lower Nihotupu dam was completed in 1948.

Early residential subdivision - Sections for residential homes began to be developed in Laingholm and Woodlands Park in the 1920's

and in Waimā from the 1940's. Road access to those areas was originally via South Titirangi Road, veering west in the Grendon Road-Landing Road area to become Huia Road. Woodlands Park Road and Waimā Crescent were not joined until 1959, although walking tracks joined the two communities. Exhibition Drive, opened in 1914, provided an alternative connecting route towards Huia.

Recent developments - Roothing and more subdivisions occurred from the late 1950's. With time, roads were sealed and the private motorcar became widely used, making the area more attractive for residential settlement and commute to Auckland. Wastewater infrastructure was installed in 1988 to most of the area except Parau, where residences still use septic tanks.



Laingholm Beach c1905 (Auckland Council archives, source undetermined)

Public water catchment and supply system

The area includes a significant portion of the Lower Nihotupu reservoir water catchment area, and hosts important public water infrastructure assets, including the Lower Nihotupu dam, Parau Depot and its associated storage areas and valley roads, Parau pump station, the access area to Big Muddy Creek within the dam inundation zone, Exhibition Drive, the Nihotupu Filter Station, the Huia Water Treatment Plant and Parau Landfill. This infrastructure supplies about 25 percent of Auckland's water supply.

Ecosystems and natural landforms and landscapes

The lowland foothills of the Waitākere Ranges (to which this plan applies), contain outstanding native fauna habitat as well as significant vegetation and several pockets of outstanding vegetation. The warm lowland ecosystem presents similar features found within the inner Waitākere Ranges, however exhibiting lower diversity. Despite many areas within the LAP boundary having undergone urbanisation, there are still remnant native bush patches that are both locally and regionally important. Often these urban environments can be of significant benefit to the environment and biodiversity values. Notably, the area around the Lower Nihotupu dam, which is part of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park and partly under lease to Watercare has been protected from inappropriate activities and development

to preserve the water supply catchment, and provides an important ecological link to the rest of the Regional Park.

Despite the large proportion of vegetation logged in the past, the area remains botanically rich with over 542 species of native plants, 50 native birds, the kauri snail, various native fish, reptiles and one of New Zealand's two remaining native mammals – the long-tailed bat. Many natural features of the Waitākere Ranges extend well into the Laingholm, Waimā, Woodlands Park and Parau areas. These heritage values include diverse landform patterns including ridges and gully systems, natural catchments, healthy stream tributaries and environmental transitions. There are also various distributions of native species including some that are classified as threatened. While the different areas within the LAP exhibit particular heritage features, it is the ability of these areas to interlink as a whole, which makes this area so unique and valuable in terms of natural heritage.

The Parau–Lawry Point Ecological Unit is located between the western Waitākere Ranges Regional Park and Big Muddy Creek to the east. Predominantly this area is covered with indigenous forest and scrub, which is of good shape and density and likely to sustain ecosystems in the future. The unit includes sizeable coastal reserves including Armour Bay Reserve, Takaranga Reserve and the Big Muddy Creek Esplanade. A large number of emergent Kauri are scattered throughout this forest, and the area contains several short watercourses that drain into Big Muddy Creek. These streams

are typically steep, contain diverse sediments and are well covered with riparian vegetation, indicating that these streams can provide healthy habitat for native species. These streams have predicted fish distributions of banded kōkopu, common bully, red-fin bully and the long-fin and short-fin eel. One further feature of particular importance in this area is the vegetative and environmental transitions that can be seen ranging from estuarine and salt marsh areas through to terrestrial land. These diverse habitats offer many opportunities for various intertidal and other species to occupy the area.

Vegetation transitions are also evident on the eastern side of the estuary, within the part of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park known as Paruroa Reserve (formerly the Manchester Unity Block). This area contains a variety of plant communities, including significant kauri stands where individuals are estimated between 200–300 years old, small kahikatea patches, and intact pōhutukawa fringe sequences. This area has been known to include approximately 45 species of birds, including morepork, kū kupa (kererū), grey warbler, tūi, weka, kākā and



Waimā (Photo courtesy of Melean Absolum)

Heritage Features continued

the endangered grey-faced petrel (1981 survey). The endangered peripatus and kauri snail have also been located in this bush block, which indicates the vegetation and habitats presented are of good quality.

A significant number of kauri trees extend from the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park, well into the Kauri Point Road area near Taumatarearea Point. Diverse landforms, quality streams and healthy and diverse vegetative communities extend throughout Laingholm, up to Woodlands Park and Waimā areas. Adjoining housing development in these areas, the surrounding bush is of good density and composition, and provides an almost uninterrupted corridor of vegetation, allowing the facilitation of wildlife movement and the linkage of geographic areas. This vegetation includes kauri, kowhai, kohekohe, puriri and kahikatea amongst others. While up to date information about fauna in the area is undocumented in places, the area contains various avian species, and is likely to contain various reptile species such as the forest gecko, the Kauri Snail, and possibly the Hochstetters frog. The area boasts some of the highest sightings of kereru (wood pigeon) in the region in recent community-based counts.

Kaitiakitanga and the exercise of stewardship

Active community groups are contributing to protecting and enhancing the character and amenity of these areas, the wellbeing of their community, and biodiversity outcomes. Some, such as the Sustainable Neighbourhood groups or Waituna Action group, undertake ecological restoration work on private land, road frontages and reserves. Others maintain and manage community facilities and assets, promote local artwork, organise events and markets, provide programmes for children and youth, foster residents' networks and help develop a sense of identity in their communities.

Laingholm and Woodlands Park Schools, Titirangi Steiner School and the Laingholm village hall are centres of social activity which help to cater for the needs of their immediate communities.

Principles of kaitiakitanga – from Te Kawerau-a-Maki, May 2013

"The people of Te Kawerau-a-Maki have an obligation to guard, protect and maintain the interests of the iwi, its taonga, wāhi tapu, and the natural resources within its rohe. In Te Ao Māori knowledge of the workings of the environment and the perception of humanity as part of the natural and spiritual world is expressed in the concept of mauri and kaitiakitanga. Mauri can be described as the life force that is present in all things. Mauri generates, regenerates and upholds creation, binding physical and spiritual elements of all things together. Without mauri, things cannot survive. Practices have been developed over many centuries to maintain the mauri of all parts of the world. Observing these practices involves the ethic and exercise of kaitiakitanga. (...)

Kaitiaki responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Protection and maintenance of wāhi tapu and other heritage sites
- ▶ Protection of taonga
- ▶ Placing of rāhui (temporary ritual prohibition) to allow replenishment of harvested resources
- ▶ Restoration of damaged ecosystems
- ▶ Protection of sensitive environments
- ▶ Directing development in ways which are in keeping with the environment
- ▶ Ensuring the sustainable use of resources
- ▶ Observing the tikanga associated with traditional activities
- ▶ Providing for the needs of present and future generations"

Statement of Existing Character and Amenity

Parau has maintained the qualities of a small contained coastal settlement nestled at the southern foot of the lush slopes of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park. Here and elsewhere in the LAP area, the forest stands in accord with the surrounding residential development, stabilising unstable soils, retaining and treating large volumes of rainfall and contributing to sequestering carbon. Many of the houses that line Huia Road are partially concealed from the road by vegetation. Larger blocks on higher slopes offer rural lifestyle or bush living opportunities. Few opportunities remain, if any, for further subdivision in the area under the current planning framework. Glimpses of the nearby Big Muddy Creek are rare from Huia Road but can be enjoyed from private properties and coastal reserves. Behind the creek, Paruroa Reserve provides a visually rich and diverse backdrop of native vegetation. The Lower Nihotupu dam and reservoir and associated infrastructure are an imposing feature on the landscape, both from Parau and the top of Bunkers Hill along Huia Road, and from the ridge of the Scenic Drive looking down towards the Manukau Harbour. This is the most easily accessible dam and reservoir of the Waitākere Ranges and it provides a powerful reminder of the history and role of waterworks in providing water supply to Auckland.

Laingholm is predominantly oriented towards the inner Manukau Harbour and Little Muddy Creek. In the upper slopes, at the corner of Huia Road and Victory Road, the Baptist Church and its old cottage are in a prominent position. The Muddy Creek Riders Pony Club and Laingholm Kindergarten on the edge of Owen's Green, off Huia Road, offer generous views over the Manukau Harbour and beyond. Sited on flatter land on Victory Road, Laingholm Primary School and the village hall are at the heart of a relatively more visible residential area. Elsewhere, despite the number of small properties that line Victory Road, Laingholm Drive and smaller connecting roads, the steep topography of the area and the quality of the vegetation that coexists with the dwellings contributes to maintaining a vegetated bush living character. There is a feeling of intimacy and containment as one follows the narrow and winding roads along the gullies and valleys. Laingholm Beach opens up to a tidal section of the Manukau Harbour contained within prominent headlands at Tokoroa Point and Warner Park, and Laingholm Point across the creek. The



Lower Nihotupu Dam



Laingholm Beach settlement (Photo courtesy of Melean Absolum)

Statement of Existing Character and Amenity continued

fishing club building, the little store and fish and chip shop, the small houses that line Sandys Parade and Western Road, and the phoenix palms, contribute to giving the area the character of an unassuming coastal settlement. Over the hill, along the Waituna Stream valley floor, the Huia Road/Landing Road/Tangiwai Reserve area offers a different perspective altogether, with open grassed areas surrounded by vegetated slopes, and the intermingling waters of several streams flowing toward the Little Muddy Creek mangroves. One of the last large blocks with bush living subdivision potential is in this area, opposite Tangiwai Reserve.

Woodlands Park and Waimā are visually contained on their northern and western sides within the steep forested slopes of the Regional Park and Watercare land that includes Exhibition Drive. Houses are nestled within the regenerating forest. Large trees, many of them kauri, are a prominent feature. Dissected valleys and gullies give each road a sense of intimacy and isolation while offering elevated glimpses of the Manukau Harbour. At the top of Woodlands Park Road, the Huia filter station is a prominent feature which reminds us of the history and current water supply function of the area. The Waimā store is an important central feature on a relatively flat section of Waimā. Further down the road, Woodlands Park School and Turner's garage again provide a relatively open area nestled amongst the surrounding vegetated slopes. Along Huia Road, the Woodlands Park dairy and the roundabouts mark the connecting point of several roads of distinct character within the settlement.



Waimā



Playground at Laingholm Reserve

Statement of Future Character and Amenity

Residents of the settlements of this area have identified, through our discussions, a future that builds on the existing character and amenity of its distinct communities, in which these values are retained and enhanced, and residential, economic and recreation activities coexist with healthy and connected natural environments.

In Parau, the rural character of the settlement will be retained by maintaining and enhancing the ways that vegetation partially conceals dwellings and reduces light spill, acting as an informal buffer between the road and dwellings and minimising the use of solid fences and gates. The entrance to the village with its art studio and mosaic feature will be enhanced as planting matures. The road corridor will maintain an informal rural character. Along Huia Road, a footpath or walkway designed in sympathy with the character of the area will provide a safe walking connection between houses at both ends of the village, and from the village to coastal reserves and to Bunkers Hill and the community facilities in Laingholm and Woodlands Park. More transport options will be investigated to serve residents of all ages. The ecological richness of the area will continue to be enhanced by controlling environmental weeds and restoring the margins of streams and the coastal edge, enabling water-based and terrestrial ecosystems to prosper. The rich Māori and European history of the area will be researched and celebrated. The history and importance of the Lower Nihotupu Dam and reservoir, and its past and current impact on communities and ecological features will be recognised.

In Laingholm, Woodlands Park and Waimā the delicate balance between houses and vegetation along the slopes will be maintained. Footpaths designed in sympathy with the area will line the main roads, and a network of walkways will join pockets of settlements, schools, halls and shops, Laingholm Beach and South Titirangi. Ecological corridors within the area will provide safe, healthy and connected ecosystems and terrestrial habitats.

Restored riparian margins will assist aquatic ecosystems to flourish from the Manukau Harbour to the upper tributaries. The area around Laingholm School and the Village Hall will provide a safe, welcoming pedestrian environment with public spaces and facilities that can accommodate local gatherings, events and markets. Laingholm Beach will remain a space for family gatherings, with enhanced facilities for picnic, play and events designed in sympathy with its informal character. The area around Woodlands Park School, Waimā Store and Woodlands Park Dairy will provide a safe walking environment linking important places for the community. The natural and cultural heritage of the area will be explored and celebrated through archaeological surveys, published research, interpretative signage and art installations.



Parau

The Muddy Creeks Plan

Objectives and Key Actions

Ecology and Ecosystems

Objective

Foster healthy, safe and connected ecosystems, from the Manukau Harbour coastal edges through areas of high ecological value and along streams to the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park.

Key Actions

1. Work to reduce the spread of kauri dieback and foster protection of healthy kauri in partnership with local communities, iwi and external partner organisations.
2. Target support to ecological restoration efforts within ecological corridors and near the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park, and continue to support the restoration of the surrounding area.
3. Inform and educate residents on biodiversity values in the area, and ways to protect those values, including the control of pest plants and animals.
4. Develop and implement local strategies for the hygienic disposal of weeds and the local sourcing of native seedlings.
5. Advocate for improved weed management in the road corridor, in the water supply catchment and on Watercare land.
6. Promote riparian restoration within public and private land.
7. Advocate for pro-active identification and remediation of freshwater contamination issues within the area.



KEEP KAURI STANDING
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING **KIA TOITU HE KAURI**

In doing so, we will ensure that our actions are in line with the principles of kaitiakitanga and have particular regard to:

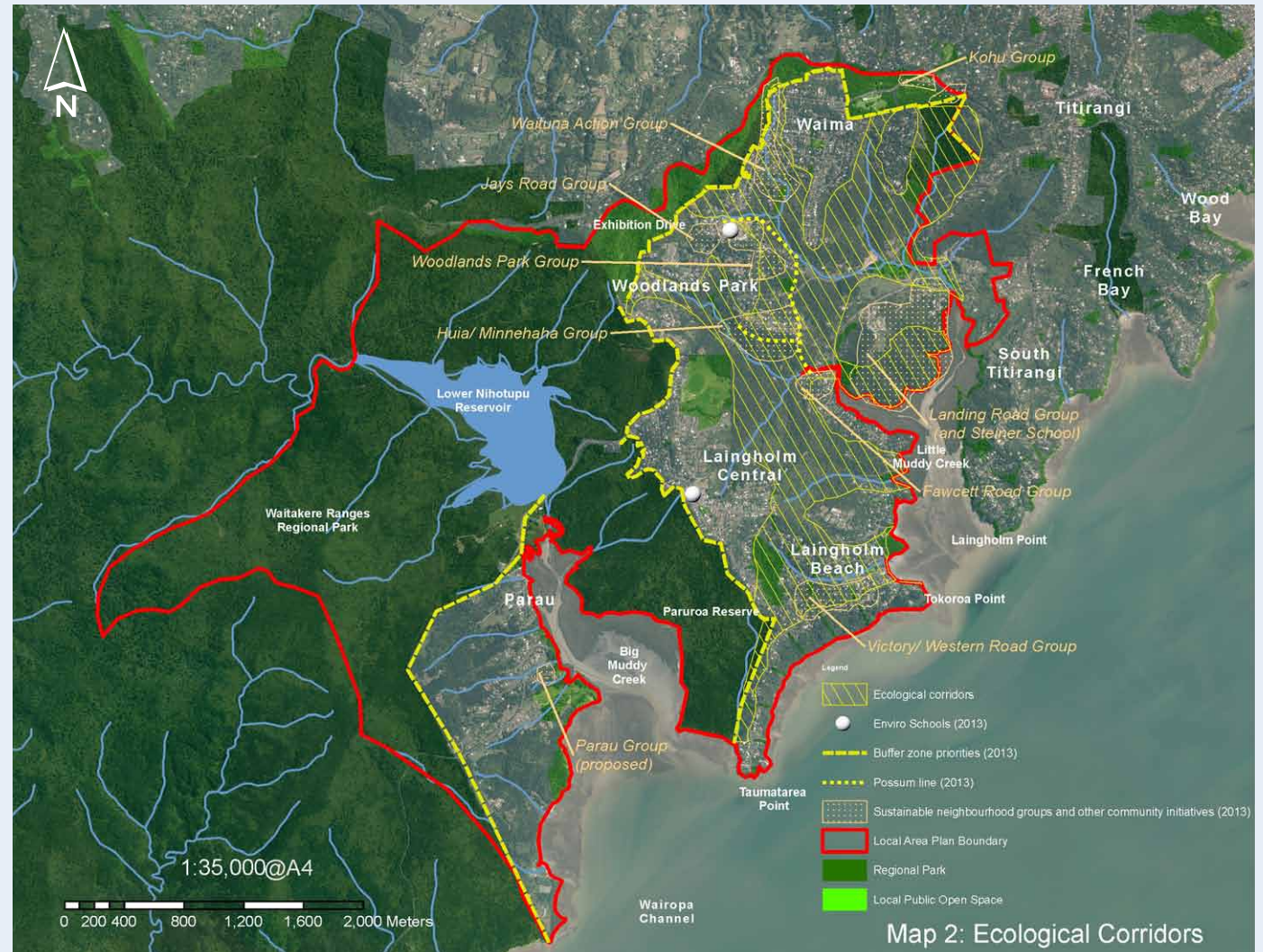
- ▶ impacts on natural and cultural landscape values and access to culturally important places
- ▶ coastal erosion and its effects upon heritage
- ▶ vegetation clearance and its links to geotechnical instability and erosion
- ▶ sedimentation of waterways and wetlands
- ▶ access to flora and fauna for customary use (e.g. harvesting, crafts, medicine)
- ▶ restoring the mauri of natural waterways
- ▶ remediating wastewater overflows to waterways
- ▶ avoiding channelling of natural waterways.

We will also have particular regards to the concerns of mana whenua regarding kauri dieback.

Purpose of ecological corridors

The ecological corridors identify areas of high ecological values where ecological restoration efforts by Council, community groups and land owners may be prioritised to provide linked, safe and healthy habitats for native fauna and flora to inhabit and disperse within. They highlight the importance of connected ecosystems that follow natural features within the catchment, particularly natural waterways.

The ecological corridors shown on Map 2 are tools to better plan, manage and monitor ecological restoration within the area. They are shown in a sketch form only and do not compel private land owners to undertake restoration work within private property. The corridors are not fixed and may be altered to reflect the changing state of the environment and evolving community aspirations.



The Muddy Creeks Plan

Objectives and Key Actions continued

Cultural Heritage

Objective

Increase knowledge and awareness of the history, and protection of the cultural heritage of the area, in partnership with iwi and with the participation of local communities.

Key Actions

1. Develop and implement a programme of archaeological surveys, site management plans and monitoring for cultural heritage sites in the area.
2. Gather historical records, photographs and oral history, and document and publish local history.
3. Identify sites of historical significance and establish bilingual interpretative signage where appropriate.

In doing so, we will ensure that our actions are in line with the principles of kaitiakitanga and have particular regard to:

- ▶ culturally important sites where public access may be restricted (e.g. wāhi tapu such as urupā or places of significant historic events).



Titirangi and Mangere from Owen's Green (Photo courtesy of Melean Absolum)



Huia Filter Station

Landscape

Objective

1. Protect, restore and enhance the natural landforms and landscapes of the area.

Key Actions

1. Subdivision and development provisions in the Unitary Plan give effect to the purpose of Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act and are consistent with the desired character, amenity and environmental objectives expressed in this LAP.
2. Continue to make use of the Auckland Council Waitākere Ranges Foothills Design Guidelines for new development in the rural foothills part of the area, and update and re-publicise other design and planting guides for buildings and development in the bush living parts of the area.

Objective

2. Protect and enhance the semi-rural character of the area.

Key Actions

1. Advocate for the development of design standards for roading infrastructure aligned to the semi rural and natural landscape character of the area.
2. Support efforts to minimise the use of artificial public lighting, and where it is required, mitigate its effects on the dark night sky.

In doing so, we will ensure that our actions are in line with the principles of kaitiakitanga and have particular regard to:

- ▶ impacts on natural and cultural landscape values.



View towards Little Muddy Creek (Photo courtesy of Melean Absolum)

The Muddy Creeks Plan

Objectives and Key Actions continued

Parks and Recreation

Objective

Create opportunities for wilderness experiences, youth recreation, relaxation, health, socialising and fitness within regional and local parks, while protecting the values of ecological ecosystems.

Key Actions

1. Identify and consider opportunities for recreation, having particular regards to the needs of youth.
2. Identify and consider opportunities for community gardens and orchards in appropriate locations, particularly where these are sought by the community.
3. Investigate the development of the network of walkways linking pockets of settlements, community hubs, schools, public transport and recreation space, along ecological corridors where appropriate.
4. Investigate opportunities for cycle and bridle trails.
5. Investigate opportunities for enhancing swimming spots and water-based recreation activities.

Laingholm Beach



In doing so, we will ensure that our actions are in line with the principles of kaitiakitanga and have particular regard to:

- ▶ impacts on natural and cultural landscape values and access to culturally important places
- ▶ coastal erosion and its effects upon heritage
- ▶ vegetation clearance and its links to geotechnical instability and erosion
- ▶ the effects of walking tracks and other development on erosion and heritage sites/ wāhi tapu
- ▶ the interpretation of iwi historical and cultural association with the area
- ▶ the inclusion of Te Kawerau and Ngati Whatua design elements where appropriate.

New proposals within the Regional Park and local parks need to have regard to the provisions of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park section of the Regional Parks Management Plan 2010 and local Reserve Management Plans as relevant.

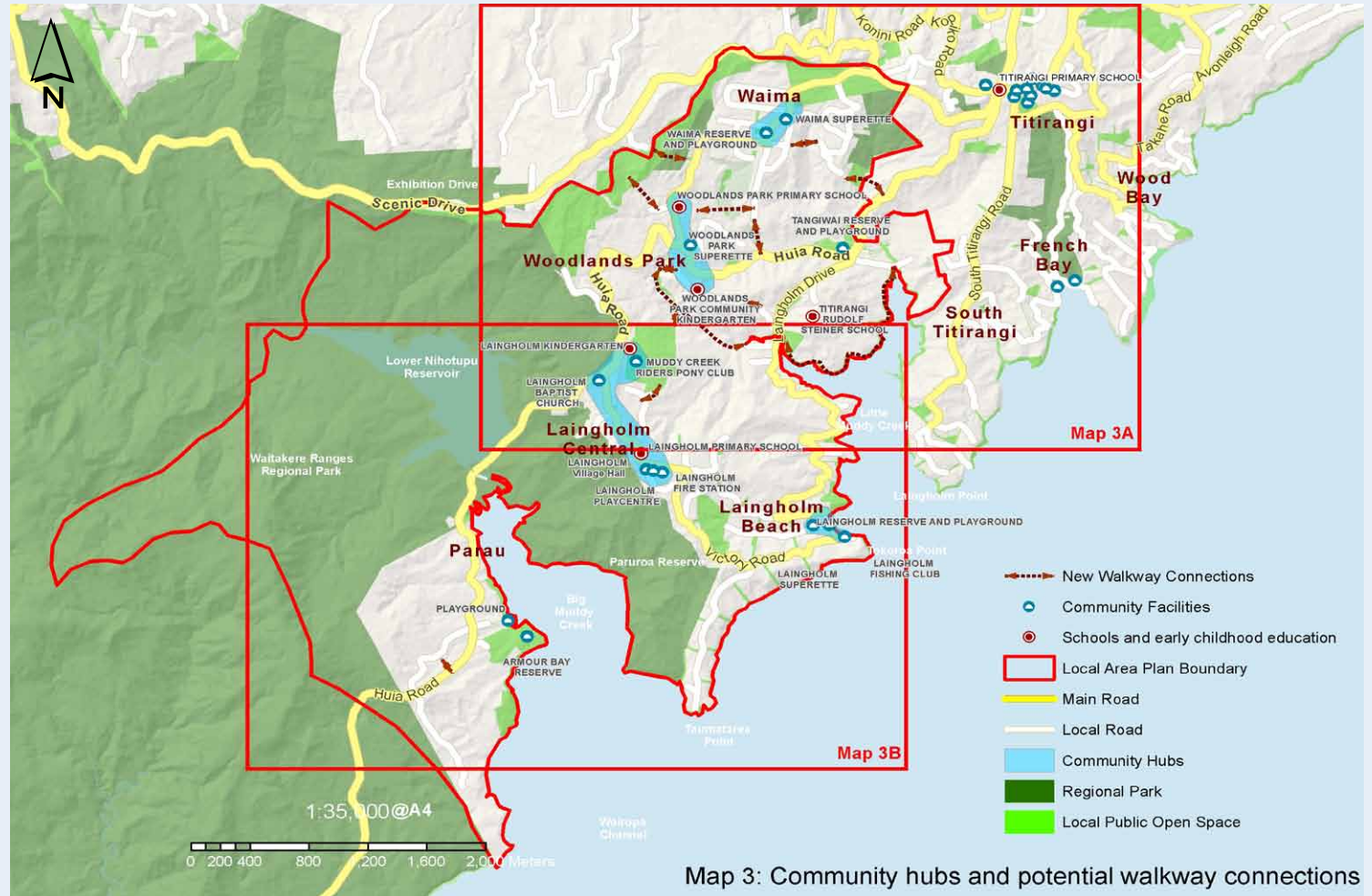
Community and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Services

Objective

1. Develop opportunities for community connections and participation in local community activity, and places for socialising and community events.

Key Actions

1. Upgrade public spaces around community hubs.
2. Improve the use of existing community facilities.
3. Develop effective tools for community networking and information sharing.
4. Investigate the potential for public art – sculptures, murals and installations to be developed in partnership with local communities, artists and iwi.



Map 3: Community hubs and potential walkway connections

The Muddy Creeks Plan

Objectives and Key Actions continued

Objective

2. Enhance the health and resilience of local communities.

Key Actions

1. Investigate local strategies for the re-use and recycling of solid waste.
2. Advocate for the preparation of Community Response Plans for Civil Defence Emergencies.
3. Advocate for the preparation of a flood management strategy for low lying areas.
4. Investigate methods to improve the quality of housing to provide healthy living and working environments.
5. Consider the needs and issues for housing for the elderly.

Objective

3. Enhance opportunities for economic development.

Key Actions

1. Encourage small businesses which enhance the character of the area and service the community.
2. Support local markets and events.
3. Support appropriate small scale eco-tourism and cultural tourism ventures.

Objective

4. Advocate for the development of efficient and appropriate transport options.

Key Actions

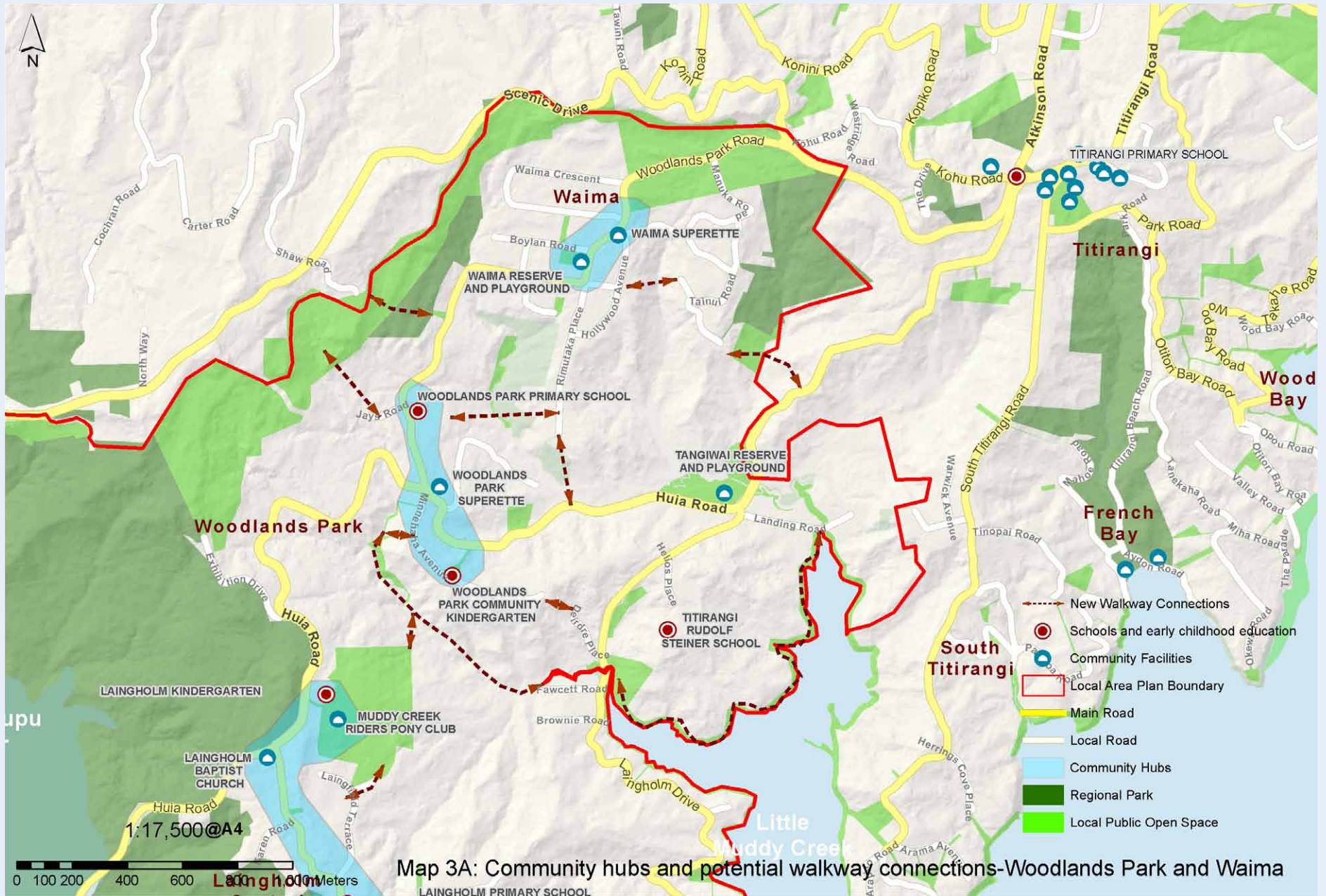
1. Advocate for more convenient and efficient public transport services to the area.
2. Advocate for appropriate measures to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety along local roads.
3. Advocate for improved facilities for cyclists and other road users.



Waimā Store



Artpost Studio Sign, Parau





Map 3B: Community hubs and potential walkway connections- Laingholm and Parau

Appendix 1:

Outline of Detailed Actions for Implementation

Ecology and Ecosystems

Objective

Foster healthy, safe and connected ecosystems, from the Manukau Harbour coastal edges through areas of high ecological value and along streams to the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Work to reduce the spread of kauri dieback and foster protection of healthy kauri in partnership with local communities, iwi and external partner organisations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicise and update information on kauri dieback, including ways to control its spread, current research and monitoring. Implement education programmes in local schools. Involve local landowners and residents in monitoring, reporting and research. Assess and improve all public tracks that go through kauri. Promote known hygiene procedures to minimise its spread (e.g. use of Trigene) on public and private property where kauri is present. Place signage and cleaning stations at the entrance and exit points of tracks into areas where kauri is present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Sustainable Neighbourhoods and other residents groups schools Weedfree Trust and other partner organisations Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Keep Kauri Standing.
2. Target support to ecological restoration efforts within ecological corridors and near the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park, and continue to support the restoration of the surrounding area (See Map 2).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the use of up-to-date best practice and guidelines for avoiding the spread of kauri dieback when undertaking weeding, planting, pest management in the area. Develop and implement ecological restoration plans within Council-owned reserve land in and around those areas. Work in partnership with community groups (such as Sustainable Neighbourhoods) to support, plan and expand ecological restoration work in and around those areas. Support community initiatives to organise or expand animal pest management initiatives, such as possum lines. Where appropriate, support community initiatives to effectively control specific weeds. Organise awareness events, e.g. pest-out month. Partner with local communities to monitor the health of ecosystems. Undertake surveys of threatened and rare plant species and fauna in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Sustainable Neighbourhoods and other residents' groups partner organisations (e.g. Operation Possum Blitz, Weed-Free Trust) Waicare Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Keep Kauri Standing.

Appendix 1:

Outline of Detailed Actions for Implementation continued

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
<p>3. Inform and educate residents on biodiversity values in the area, and ways to protect those values, including the control of pest plants and animals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate residents, including newcomers, and publicise information on ways to manage bush sections to protect the area’s environment and community well-being, conveying the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the impact of kauri dieback on vegetation in the area, and best practice and guidelines for avoiding its spread o the importance of maintaining vegetation on clay slopes or cliffs and managing stormwater runoff to promote soil stability and avoid landslips o the importance of maintaining the existing layered wind shelter from Manukau gales provided to homes by lines of trees and vegetation o the importance of continuous native vegetation providing ecological corridors o the damage caused by invasive plants such as ginger and vines and the importance of avoiding particular plant species such as agapanthus, honeysuckle or vigorous creeping groundcover plants o the damage caused by possums and rats o the potential impact of cats and dogs and ways to minimise risks to birds and other species (particularly lizards). <p>This would also include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o best practice and guidelines for avoiding the spread of kauri dieback o information to help identify native plants and seedlings, as well as plants that are considered environmental weeds o native plants that may be planted as alternatives to popular garden plants that are now considered invasive weeds (revised “Plant Me Instead” booklet) o methods for controlling weeds and what assistance may be available o methods for controlling pest animals, and what assistance may be available o directory of local community groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the impact of domestic and feral cats on native fauna and promote keeping cats indoor at night if appropriate. • Raise awareness of and celebrate areas of natural significance, such as fish spawning areas at the mouth of waterways. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Council • Sustainable Neighbourhoods and other residents groups • partner organisations (e.g. Operation Possum Blitz, Weed-Free Trust) • Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority • Keep Kauri Standing.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
<p>4. Develop and implement local strategies for the hygienic disposal of weeds and the local sourcing of seedlings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate options for weed disposal, e.g. weed bins, subsidised access to transfer stations, managed dump/composting areas (may require paid coordinator), bio-digesters. Develop and implement local strategies for weed disposal in partnership with local community groups. Investigate options for local seedling nurseries. Promote the use of up-to-date best practice and guidelines for avoiding the spread of kauri dieback when disposing of weeds and sourcing seedlings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Sustainable Neighbourhoods, schools and other residents groups partner organisations (e.g. Weed-Free Trust) Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Keep Kauri Standing.
<p>5. Advocate for improved weed management and ecological restoration in the road corridor, in the water supply catchment and on Watercare land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement strategies to reduce the prevalence of environmental weeds along the road corridor, in the water catchment and on Watercare leased/ owned land. Promote the use of up-to-date best practice and guidelines for avoiding the spread of kauri dieback when undertaking weed and pest management in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Transport Watercare Auckland Council possible partnerships with community groups and private sector Keep Kauri Standing.
<p>6. Promote riparian restoration within public and private land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the use of up-to-date best practice and guidelines for avoiding the spread of kauri dieback when working near water. Work in partnership with community groups (such as Sustainable Neighbourhoods) to restore stream banks and enhance the life-supporting capacity of waterways. Promote and support community-based monitoring of the quality of water in streams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Sustainable Neighbourhoods and other residents groups Waicare Weedfree Trust and other partner organisations Keep Kauri Standing.
<p>7. Advocate for pro-active identification and remediation of freshwater contamination issues within the area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for the investigation and remediation or mitigation of issues of wastewater overflow within the area. Investigate and remediate or mitigate issues of water degradation and stream bank erosion due to stormwater run-off. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Watercare Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority.

Appendix 1:

Outline of Detailed Actions for Implementation continued

Cultural Heritage

Objective

Increase knowledge and awareness of the history, and protection of the cultural heritage of the area, in partnership with iwi and with the participation of local communities.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Develop and implement a programme of archaeological surveys, site management plans and monitoring for cultural heritage sites in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with Te Kawerau-a-Maki and Ngāti Whātua to develop a programme for the identification, protection, management and monitoring of sites of significance to iwi. Prioritise and implement a programme of archaeological surveys and site management plans for European heritage sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei Ngāti Whātua Ngā Rima o Kaipara New Zealand Historic Places Trust Universities local land owners.
2. Gather historical records, photographs and oral history, document and publish local history (Māori, early settlers and contemporary).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support iwi initiatives to gather and document Māori history and associations with the area. Support initiatives to gather historical records, document and publish historical accounts of the area, including a historical thematic study of the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei Ngāti Whātua Ngā Rima o Kaipara local historians and historical societies Universities Auckland Council.
3. Identify sites of historical significance and establish bilingual interpretative signage where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with iwi, historians and local communities to identify sites of historical significance where bilingual interpretative signage may be established on public land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei Ngāti Whātua Ngā Rima o Kaipara historians and historical societies residents groups schools.

Landscape

Objective

1. Protect, restore and enhance the natural landforms and landscapes of the area.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Subdivision and development provisions in the Unitary Plan give effect to the purpose of Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act and are consistent with the desired character, amenity and environmental objectives expressed in this LAP.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Council.
2. Continue to make use of the Auckland Council Waitākere Ranges Foothills Design Guidelines for new development in the rural foothills part of the area, and update and re-publicise other design and planting guides for buildings and development in the bush living parts of the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish guidelines online, distribute in real estate agencies, Titirangi Library and council offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Council.

Objective

2. Protect and enhance the semi-rural character of the area.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Advocate for the development of design standards for roading infrastructure aligned to the semi rural and natural landscape character of the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for the development of standards for new roading infrastructure and renewals (wider Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area standards and site specific around future development or renewals), in consultation with local communities. <i>e.g. footpaths, safety features, retaining structures, bus shelters, signage, lighting.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Transport • Auckland Council • community groups.
2. Support efforts to minimise the use of artificial public lighting, and where it is required, mitigate its effects on the dark night sky.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance the need for new lighting with the protection of the nocturnal darkness of the area and ecological values. • Where required use new lighting features that minimise light spill or minimise the occurrence of artificial lighting. (e.g. sensor activation). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Transport • Auckland Council.

Appendix 1:

Outline of Detailed Actions for Implementation continued

Parks and Recreation

Objective

Create opportunities for wilderness experiences, youth recreation, relaxation, health, socialising and fitness within regional and local parks, while protecting the values of ecological ecosystems.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Identify and consider opportunities for recreation, having particular regards to the needs of youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess existing provision of youth recreation programmes and facilities, and understand the needs of older children and young people in the area. Develop and implement a strategy for improving recreation opportunities for youth in the area. <i>e.g. skate/scooter/bike facilities in suitable areas, appropriate water based recreation, outdoor activities/exploration of Regional Park, improved transport to sports and recreation centres, use of community facilities for youth initiatives.</i> Investigate opportunities for integrating natural playscapes (<i>e.g. at Tangiwai Reserve</i>) and seating/picnic amenities (<i>e.g. at Stanley Road Reserve when undertaking playground renewals and upgrades</i>). Investigate a local sporting event combining different disciplines <i>e.g. running, kayaking and mountain biking around the area (e.g. starting and finishing at Owen's Green)</i>. <p>The impacts of activities on biodiversity values, the risk of kauri dieback spread, land stability and amenity values will be carefully considered before making any decision on new recreational activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council youth groups community groups Sport Waitere sports clubs.
2. Identify and consider opportunities for community gardens and orchards in appropriate locations, particularly where these are sought by the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support local initiatives to establish community gardens or orchards where appropriate. <i>e.g. Owen's Green, Tangiwai Reserve, Armour Bay Reserve, Western Road, Fawcett Road Reserve.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council community groups.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
<p>3. Investigate the development of the network of walkways linking pockets of settlements, community hubs, schools, public transport and recreation space, along ecological corridors where appropriate (See Map 3).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the state and usage of existing walkways and make improvements where needed. • Investigate, plan for and develop new walkways linking pockets of settlements, community hubs, public transport and recreation space, where appropriate along ecological corridors. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Minnehaha Avenue to Owen’s Green and Laingfield Terrace Road, Faucett Road or Deirdre Place</i> o <i>Rimutaka Place to Huia Road/Tangiwai Reserve and Woodlands Park School</i> o <i>Tainui Road to Huia Road and Rimutaka Place</i> o <i>Woodlands Park Road and Jays Road to Exhibition Drive</i> o <i>York Road to Waituna Reserve and Rimutaka Place</i> o <i>Sylvan Valley Road to Waituna Reserve, Rimutaka Place and Huia Road</i> o <i>estuarine walkways around Steiner School block, from Laingholm beach to South Titirangi</i> o <i>investigate the possibility of loop tracks within Paruroa Reserve in consultation with Regional Parks and Biosecurity (currently closed for protection of kauri within the area)</i> o <i>Rauhuia Crescent to Huia Road.</i> <p>The impacts of walkways on biodiversity values and the risk of kauri dieback spread, land stability and safety will be carefully considered before making any decision on new walkways. Up-to-date best practices and guidelines will be used with regards to preventing the spread of kauri die-back when planning, designing, constructing and managing new walkways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Council • community groups.
<p>4. Investigate opportunities for cycle and bridle trails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate suitability of some walkways for upgrades to cycle (including mountain bike) and bridle trail use. <p>The impacts of upgrades on biodiversity values, the risk of kauri dieback spread and land stability will be carefully considered before making any decision on upgrades.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Council • community groups • Muddy Creek Riders Pony Club.
<p>5. Investigate opportunities for enhancing family gathering spaces, swimming spots and water-based recreation activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate opportunities to develop non motorised water-based recreation within the coastal marine area. <i>e.g. kayak, waka-ama.</i> • Develop and implement improvements to cater for family gatherings at Laingholm Beach and Armour Bay. • Provide support to community groups for testing stream water for bacterial contamination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Council • Watercare • community and sports groups.

Appendix 1:

Outline of Detailed Actions for Implementation continued

Community and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Services

Objective

1. Develop opportunities for community connections and participation in local community activity, and places for socialising and community events.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Upgrade public spaces around community hubs (See Map 3).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alongside local residents and groups, develop and implement ideas to enhance the character and amenity of community hubs. <i>e.g. around Laingholm School/Laingholm village hall, Laingholm Beach, Woodlands Park School, Parau reserves/road side open space, Waimā store, Woodlands park dairy.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Auckland Transport community groups schools.
2. Improve the use of community facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the opportunity of repairs, re-fitting or re-development of Laingholm village hall to improve the facility and provide greater flexibility in the use of the hall. <i>e.g. opportunities for catering/community café and small group meetings.</i> Better linkages/understanding and providing for community needs between Baptist Church, Laingholm Village Hall and school halls. Work with current facility providers as appropriate to enhance their use. <i>e.g. Opportunity for café at the cottage of the Baptist Church.</i> Monitor the use of halls in the area to ensure there is adequate capacity, particularly having regards to users in Parau. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Laingholm District Citizens' Association, residents and user groups of the hall Parau Residents and Ratepayers Association Baptist Church schools.
3. Develop effective tools for community networking and information sharing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support community initiatives to set up web-sites. Work with current information providers such as the Roundabout and The Fringe, as to how to enhance community information and networking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> community groups Auckland Council information providers.
4. Investigate the potential for public art and interpretative signage to be developed in partnership with local communities, artists and iwi.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with iwi, local artists and local communities to establish public art which enhances the character and identity of the area, and interpretative signage which celebrates its natural and cultural heritage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei Ngāti Whātua Ngā Rima o Kaipara residents groups schools local artists.

Objective

2. Enhance the health and resilience of local communities.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Investigate local strategies for the re-use and recycling of solid waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the feasibility of local strategies for solid waste disposal, including local centres for re-use and recycling of waste in partnership with local community groups. <p><i>Note: This refers to domestic waste from households, not to waste matters produced by water supply treatment processes which are disposed of at Watercare's Parau landfill.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> community groups Auckland Council partner organisations.
2. Advocate for the preparation of Community Response Plans for Civil Defence Emergencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Community and Neighbourhood Response Plans to enable communities to respond to an emergency that affects them. Set up Emergency Response Groups (ERG) to liaise with emergency services and civil defence to initiate and assist in response to a civil defence emergency. If there is sufficient interest, investigate alternative economic models (such as time banking) with the community to build resilience to economic hardship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council residents.
3. Advocate for the preparation of a flood management strategy for low lying areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and model long-term trends for coastal inundation, prepare and implement a strategy to minimise impacts on, and build the resilience of, communities in low-lying areas. <p><i>e.g. Sandys Parade/Western Road, Tangiwai reserve/Waituna Stream/Alice Glen Creek/Landing Road area, Faucett Road area.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council community groups.
4. Investigate methods to improve the quality of housing to provide healthy living and working environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote housing design and retrofits that provide healthier, warmer, more comfortable homes. Promote the use of Eco-design advice. Implement relevant Housing Action Plan-related initiatives to achieve healthier homes in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council.
5. Consider the needs and issues for housing for the elderly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess existing provision of housing, and understand the needs of elderly people in the area with regards to housing, infrastructure and services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland Council community groups.

Appendix 1:

Outline of Detailed Actions for Implementation continued

Community and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Services continued

Objective

3. Enhance opportunities for economic development.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Encourage small businesses which enhance the character of the area and service the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the roll out of internet broadband services to identify if any areas are still unprovided for and advocate for appropriate solutions in consultation with local communities. • Consider the creation of business hubs which enable the sharing of facilities, services and opportunities for socialising and networking. • Support the development and implementation of marketing and branding strategies (including within the wider Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local businesses and networks • Auckland Council • community groups.
2. Support local markets and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement concepts to enhance the character and amenity of community hubs and provide opportunities for outdoor community gatherings and events where appropriate. • Support the organisation of markets and events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local businesses and networks • Auckland Council • community groups.
3. Support appropriate small scale eco-tourism and cultural tourism ventures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider proposals for small-scale tourism activities which do not impact on the heritage features of the area, within local and regional parks, having regards to the provisions of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park section of the Regional Parks Management Plan 2010 and local Reserve Management Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local businesses and networks • Auckland Council • community groups • Te Kawerau Iwi Tribal Authority.

Objective

4. Advocate for the development of efficient and appropriate transport options.

Key action	How might it be done?	By whom?
1. Advocate for more convenient and efficient public transport services to the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven day/week, day and evening bus services to Woodlands Park and Laingholm, connecting to Titirangi and New Lynn/Glen Eden to access regional train and bus services. • Consider the use of smaller shuttle buses (e.g. 8 to 20 seats) more suitable to narrow windy roads in the area. • Investigate bus services to Parau and beyond. • Support ways to encourage car-pooling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Transport • Community providers.
2. Advocate for appropriate measures to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety along local roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate changes to speed limits in the area or other means of slowing down traffic along key routes. <i>e.g. Huia Road in Parau (Huia end), between Lower Nihotupu Dam and Victory Road, between Titirangi roundabout and Woodlands Park Dairy, Laingholm Drive.</i> • Develop continuous footpaths along key walking routes and near schools. <i>e.g. along Huia Road between Parau and Victory Road, near Laingholm School and Woodlands Park School, along Huia Road between Armour Road and Rauhuia Crescent (Huia end of Parau).</i> • Investigate ways to provide safer walking environments along other roads, in consultation with local communities. <i>e.g. Kauri Point Road, Western Road, Lookout Drive, Tāne Road, Fawcett Road, Dorothy Road, Waimā Crescent.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Transport • Auckland Council • schools • community groups • local residents.
3. Advocate for improved facilities for cyclists and other road users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate installing secure bike racks and shelters at key locations of the bus routes. • Investigate ways to provide for safe cycling along key cycling routes. • Identify and investigate areas where the safety of other road users may need to be better provided for (e.g. horse riders near Owen's Green, mobility scooters around community hubs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Transport.

Note: Unless otherwise credited, all photographs and maps courtesy of Auckland Council.



**Waitākere Ranges
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