



## NEWSLETTER 1

# East Harbour Regional Park Management Plan Review

This is the first in a series of newsletters about the East Harbour Regional Park management plan review. You will receive these newsletters every few months to let you know what is happening with the review and how you can be involved.

## East Harbour Regional Park

East Harbour Regional Park lies between Wainuiomata and Eastbourne and has been a popular destination for generations. The park includes native forests, streams and ridgelines, with sheltered valleys to picnic in and enjoy. There are also the sweeping bays and headlands along the Coast Road leading to the Pencarrow Lighthouse and the freshwater lakes of Kohangapiripiri and Kohangatera.

Lands within the park are owned by Hutt City Council, the Crown and Greater Wellington and total approximately 2,000 ha. The main entrance points are at Burdans Gate, Williams Park, Kowhai Street in Eastbourne and Lees Grove and the Puriri Track in Wainuiomata.



## What makes the park so special?

- Hills clad in native lowland forests, including rimu, beech and rata with kahikatea, pukatea and nikau in the valleys.
- Butterfly Creek and Gollans Valley
- Walks and tramps in the bush
- Rocky coasts and unique plant species
- Walks and cycling along the Coast Road
- Pencarrow Head Lighthouse
- Native birds and fish, including kereru, tui and bellbird
- Views of the Kaikoura Ranges
- Lakes Kohangatera and Kohangapiripiri
- Picnic areas

## Management plan review

Management plans are agreements between Greater Wellington and the community about how a regional park will be managed. The current management plan was written in 1996 and is now being reviewed. A management plan for the park is required under the Local Government Act 1974 and the Reserves Act 1977.

Lands within the northern part of the park are mainly scenic reserves, while in the southern part of the park the land is held as recreation reserves. Although the Lakes Kohangatera and Kohangapiripiri are within the park, they are managed by the Department of Conservation. The management plan does not govern the management of these nationally significant lakes.

Greater Wellington has recently approved a Regional Parks Network Management Plan that sets out an overarching management framework for the future direction of all regional parks. The East Harbour Regional Park Management Plan will provide the detailed management guidelines for the Park consistent with the direction set in the Network Plan.

## The review process

We are in the initial planning stages for the management plan and we want to make sure that you know what the process is. It is important to us that the plan lives up to your expectations and that we address your concerns.

If you have any suggestions about the park or the planning process, we would like to receive your comments by 30 June 2005.

We will also be talking with Hutt City Council, the Department of Conservation and Iwi about the management plan.

Once we have heard people's views and ideas, a draft management plan will be developed. The draft plan will be made available for further public comment early next year. There will be an opportunity to present your submission to the Council next year. Once Council has considered all submissions the plan will be finalised later in mid 2006.

## Key issues

Over the years, Greater Wellington has received many comments about the park from the community, including submissions on the regional parks network management plan.

Issues have included:

- suggestions for new tracks
- pest control work
- restoring areas around the lakes
- concerns about conflict between park users in some areas
- suggestions about greater protection of ecological and historical values and sustainable management of the parks values
- support for the park's current aims
- continuing the support for environmental groups working in the park
- mainland island
- upgrading existing tracks

## Things you might like to consider:

- What do you like about the park?
- What would you improve about the park?
- How would you like the park to look in 30 years?
- What place is there for other activities in the park, including commercial activities?
- How would you like to see the different values of the park promoted?
- Any suggestions, issues or comments that you think would help us to manage the park or look after its values

## Further information

The following material will provide more information about the park and its values:

- The East Harbour Regional Park Management Plan
- The East Harbour Regional Park Management Plan – Resource Information
- Regional Parks Network Management Plan.

You can find the information above at Greater Wellington's offices and public libraries. You can also visit our website [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz) or ring us on 04 384 5708.

Please feel free to contact the people below, if you have any questions or would like further information.

Submissions can be sent via email or to:  
FREEPOST 3156  
PO Box 11-646  
Wellington

### Public meeting

**When:** 2 June 2005  
6.30pm – 8.30pm

**Where:** Horticulture Hall Supper Room  
Laings Road, Lower Hutt  
Entrance from the car park

**Why:** We would like to explain the process and listen to your views on the park.

**We hope to see you all there**

If you do not want a copy of this newsletter sent in future please contact Eloise Page on 04 802 0327 or email [eloise.page@gw.govt.nz](mailto:eloise.page@gw.govt.nz).

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