

## Summary of Services Provided in the 2001/02 Annual Plan

### Annual Programme Achievements 2001/02

#### 1. Bridges

All park structures were inspected monthly by the Park Rangers. Six-monthly inspections were undertaken by the department's carpenters. All new or replaced structures met resource consent and Building Act regulations.

- Four structures were removed during the year and there were five new structures built as part of the Environmental Education programme and sand dune protection initiatives.
- Repair work on structures included replacing anti-skid mesh and waterblasting.
- A ford, crossing the Horokiwi Stream at Battle Hill, was renewed allowing safe access for campers/picnickers and easier access for fish.

#### 2. Buildings

Buildings were maintained and serviced to the standard required. New buildings included a dangerous goods storage shed at the Western Depot, an information kiosk at Battle Hill, and refurbishing the Battle Hill Homestead for use as the Western Depot. The wool shed at Belmont and a building at the Wanuiomata/Orongorongo Water Collection Area were both upgraded to education centre standard.

A number of Ranger houses and the Summit Tearooms were repainted over the summer and are generally in good condition.

#### 3. Utilities and Sanitary

Toilets and water supply systems were regularly serviced throughout the year. Contractors cleaned toilets at Queen Elizabeth Park, Belmont Regional Park and Kaitoke Regional Park to required standards. Staff serviced toilets at the other parks and recreation areas.

Park Rangers, and occasionally contractors, collected rubbish.

Water treatment was undertaken at all parks to water drinking standards. Septic tanks were emptied and water pipes were replaced as required.

## 4. Grounds

Regular grass mowing was undertaken at all parks to required standards and the landscape team undertook tree planting, landscaping and spraying during the year.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- amenity gardens were maintained
- new trees were planted and old ones removed
- streams were kept clear of debris
- landscaping/seeding/fertilising
- tree work – as required
- weed spraying
- road edges were tidied and vegetation cut back
- gardens were mulched
- riparian planting was undertaken
- Arbor Day plantings were undertaken.

## 5. Facilities

All signage, park furniture, gates, bollards and barriers were maintained during the year to standards required.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- new picnic tables and seats were built and installed
- track markers were renewed
- new bollards were installed
- new horse gates were installed
- picnic tables were water-blasted.

## 6. Tracks

Maintenance staff carried out patching and repairs, regular vegetation cutbacks, mowing and weedeating throughout the track network as required to maintain track width.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- tracks were metalled
- surface repair was undertaken on all tracks
- directional signs were renewed
- gorse was sprayed and vegetation cut back
- culverts were cleared on all tracks.

## **7. Land Management**

Culvert and drainage maintenance was carried out. Boggy areas were targeted which has improved access during the wet period and has reduced pasture damage by stock.

Fencing was maintained throughout the parks to required standards. The deer paddocks at Battle Hill were upgraded to improve stock handling capabilities and to make viewing easier for members of the public. Sixty tonnes of superphosphate and lime were applied by air during the year.

Gorse control at Battle Hill was undertaken on over 70% of the park. Thistle and Gorse spraying was undertaken at Queen Elizabeth Park and routine drainage clearance achieved. Hand fill was placed around where stock had begun to break the grass cover. Ten stock gates were replaced during the year due to wear and tear.

Work on the pest plant strategy was carried out at Te Marua bush remnants, and the campground and the farm creek area of Kaitoke Regional Park.

Fencing was installed at Tunnel Gully to prevent illegal motorbike access.

## **8. Roading**

All roads and access ways were maintained to a safe and serviceable standard. Roadside water tables were cleared and culverts re-opened as required. Potholes were repaired, bollards installed or repaired, and unsealed roads graded as required.

All road and traffic signage met Transit NZ standards and remain in good condition.

All roads were maintained to a safe standard throughout the year. All relevant work on the Rimutaka Incline walkway was granted consent by the Historic Places Trust through the regional archaeologist.