

## Summary of services provided in the 2007/08 Annual Plan Annual programme achievements 2007/08

### 1. Bridges

Our carpenters inspected all park structures during the year. All new or replaced structures met resource consent and *Building Act 1991* regulations.

A full engineering inspection was completed for all structures in Belmont Regional Park.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- New handrails were installed on the Rimutaka Rail Trail Truss Bridge
- New boardwalks were installed at Butterfly Creek, Kaitoke ridge track and Lake Kohangatera in the East Harbour Lakes Block

### 2. Buildings

Buildings were maintained and serviced to the standard required. Ongoing maintenance was carried out on all rangers' houses.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- A new toilet and effluent field were installed at the Orange Hut in Akatarawa Forest.
- Relocation of the Wainuiomata site office
- Laserlite roofing was replaced on the Kaitoke large facilities building

### 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 and removed rubbish.

Water treatment was undertaken at Kaitoke and Queen Elizabeth Park to Drinking Water Standards. Upgrades of the treatment plant at Kaitoke may be required in the near future to comply with new Drinking Water Standards about to be imposed. This will also likely require a public health risk management plan.

Additional header tanks and low use water systems, along with motion sensors for the lights, were installed at the Kaitoke camping facilities' buildings.

## 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:

- Regular remedial work was required, along with sign replacement to rectify the impacts of vandalism
- Eight large gum trees at Tunnel Gully were felled as the result of damage via arson
- New bollards were installed at the Wainuiomata Recreation Area to mitigate damage
- Amenity gardens were maintained and bark mulched
- A large area of dying flax was removed at Kaitoke and replaced by grass and other plantings
- Riparian planting was undertaken at Queen Elizabeth Park
- Arbor Day plantings were undertaken at Queen Elizabeth Park and Battle Hill Farm Forest Park
- Rangers liaised with Environment Management staff and achieved 100 percent compliance for issued consents

## 5. Facilities

All signage, park furniture, gates, bollards and barriers were maintained during the year to required standards. This included remedial work resulting from vandalism.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- A number of kiosks were painted to hide vandalism
- A new registration booth was installed for campers at Kaitoke
- Barriers in various parks were upgraded and improved to keep out undesirables
- New picnic tables and seats were built and installed
- New track markers, bollards and horse gates were installed

## 6. Tracks

Maintenance staff carried out patching and repairs, regular vegetation cutbacks, mowing, and maintained water tables throughout the track network as required.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- A new track was installed to link with the Kohangatera boardwalk to complete the lakes block loop
- Directional signs in Akatarawa Forest and the Lakes Block were replaced
- Cheviot Road and Ngaumatau Tracks at East Harbour were realigned to bring them to standard
- Tracks were remetalled in East Harbour and Hutt River Trail.
- Directional signs were updated and renewed as required
- Gorse was sprayed and vegetation cut back.

## **7. Land management**

Culvert and drainage maintenance was carried out. Boggy areas were targeted to improve access during wet periods and reduce pasture damage by stock. Fences were maintained throughout the parks to required standards.

Leaseholders were monitored to ensure compliance with leases and notifications issued where required. Expiring leases were renegotiated and signed, and an extension given to the Rimutaka Summit Tearooms on a month by month basis.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- We continued to facilitate access to parks and forests for events, and issued concessions and permits as required
- Emergency Services (Search and Rescue, and Fire Service) were assisted where required
- Balloted hunting in East Harbour and Wainuiomata was managed
- Camping at Kaitoke and Battle Hill was provided, with increased numbers on previous years
- Fences in grazing areas at Battle Hill and Queen Elizabeth Park were upgraded
- Ongoing pest plant removal was carried out at Te Marua bush remnants, the campground and Farm Creek area of Kaitoke Regional Park
- New tracks and the wetland walk were extended at Queen Elizabeth Park

## **8. Roding**

All roads and access ways were maintained to a safe and serviceable standard throughout the year. Roadside water tables were cleared and culverts maintained. Potholes were repaired, bollards installed or repairs and unsealed roads graded as required. Road and traffic signage generally meets Transit New Zealand standards, and remains in good condition.

Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- New judder bars were installed at Kaitoke Regional Park
- Additional metal was placed on the Rimutaka Rail Trail and Tunnel Gully, and graded to improve water tables
- Two large replacement road culverts were installed at Tunnel Gully