

Activity 6.3: Regional Parks

Accountable Manager: John Mackie

What services are provided?

- Provide and manage a network of parks of regional significance (such as Port Hill reserves and Bottle Lake Forest which may include natural areas, visitor information centres and recreation facilities like walking tracks and bike trails. Provide services such as information, volunteer events on parks, track networks and biodiversity support)

Why do we provide these services?

To protect and enhance scenic, cultural, recreational and environmental values and to enable residents and visitors to learn about and experience a range of natural landscapes, with associated visitor facilities.

What outcomes are we trying to achieve?	How do the services contribute to desired outcomes?
<p>▶ People have equitable access to parks, open spaces, recreation facilities and libraries</p> <p>There is increasing participation in recreation and sporting activities</p> <p>The public has access to places of scenic, natural, heritage, cultural and educational interest</p> <p>Existing ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity are protected</p> <p>A range of indigenous habitats and species is enhanced</p> <p>Landscapes and natural features are protected and enhanced</p>	<p><i>Regional parks contribute to the district's network of parks and open spaces.</i></p> <p><i>Maintaining regional parks provides opportunities for outdoors-based recreation within reach of urban areas</i></p> <p><i>Managing parks of regional significance preserves the district's cultural heritage and enables residents and visitors to experience and learn about the natural environment</i></p> <p><i>Environmental education programmes provide students with an understanding of the district's environment, and the value of protecting it</i></p> <p><i>As part of a network of open space throughout the city, regional parks provide opportunities for protecting ecosystems, vegetation, sites and habitats</i></p> <p><i>Ecological restoration projects by regional parks enhance indigenous habitats and the species they support</i></p> <p><i>Managing parks of regional significance, including the Port Hills reserves, protects and enhances their outstanding landscapes, natural features, resources and scenic values</i></p> <p><i>Managing the city's beaches, coasts and estuaries enables their natural values to be enjoyed, protected and enhanced</i></p>

Which group or section of the community will benefit from this activity?:

Christchurch residents, ratepayers, recreationalists, visitors to Christchurch, lease holders, landowners eg individuals & Summit Road Society and Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, ecological groups, volunteers, schools, universities, local iwi.

Key legislation and Council Strategies:

Reserves Act 1977, Local Government Act 2002, Resource Management Act 1993, Christchurch City Plan, Banks Peninsula District Plan, Public Open Space Strategy, Reserve Management Plans, Biodiversity Strategy, Port Hills Acquisition Strategy

Customer

What business results must we deliver to our customers, to deliver on the outcomes?

Performance Standards for LTP

Performance Standards for LTP	Current performance	Bench-marks	Recommended LOS	Rationale	LTP Committee Direction
Provide and manage a network of parks of regional significance					
6.3.1 Regional Parks are provided and maintained so they are fit for purpose, for recreational use & environmental values.	2012/13 per draft AP Ranger service provided 24 hours, seven days per week to meet community needs for: • Advocacy and information • Conservation and amenity • Recreation and asset management • Emergency management		Ranger service provided 24 hours, seven days per week to meet community needs for: • Recreation and asset management • Conservation and amenity • Advocacy, education and information • Emergency management	Regional Parks includes 85 expansive natural areas such as Port Hills parks, Misty Peaks, Coastal Parks, CHCH & Banks Peninsula coast line, estuary & lake edges: Ihutai/Avon Heathcote, Brooklands, Wairewa/Forsyth Te Waihora/Ellersmere that are managed to - Help protect the City's biodiversity - Provide extensive recreation opportunities in natural settings. Parks are developed and maintained by the Ranger Service with a balance of provision and maintenance of facilities with land protection. Park services: • Recreation & asset management includes: provision, monitoring and maintenance of facilities – walk and bike tracks, dog parks, horse trails, car parks, toilets, directional signs, on site recreation information, play facilities, pools, bridges, heritage assets, drinking fountains and commercial recreation concession liaison, litter removal. Recreation access is managed for post earthquake rock-fall risks, including hazard signage and communication to track users. • Conservation and amenity includes: monitoring and measuring populations, habitat protection and maintenance, pest animal and plant control, fencing, grazing liaison, landscaping, tree maintenance. • Advocacy and information includes: regional parks volunteer coordination, community service liaison, education for sustainability, biodiversity awareness events e.g. Arbor Day & Kidsfest, information and advice provision, bylaw education, on-site interpretation, liaison and support of landowners and community groups. • Emergency management includes responding to rural fires and park accidents.	<i>Accepted</i>

Customer

What business results must we deliver to our customers, to deliver on the outcomes?

Performance Standards for LTP

Performance Standards for LTP	Current performance	Benchmarks	Recommended LOS	Rationale	LTP Committee Direction
Provide and manage a network of parks of regional significance (cont'd)					
6.3.2 Biodiversity values are protected	2012/13 per draft AP Ecological restoration projects at regional parks: 20 to 30 per year Sites monitored (bird counts, pest numbers etc): 20 to 30 per year Nil notices of direction served, following inspection by Ecan.	Auckland Council 2012 LTP Forest health index and bird counts WCC LTP 2012 Total number of native planting undertaken 45,000	6.3.2.1: Ecological restoration projects in and supported by regional parks: 20 to 30 per year 6.3.2.2 Sites monitored – (fauna counts related to pest control): 20 to 30 per year 6.3.2.3: Nil Ecan notices of direction served following inspection of Regional Pest Management Strategy pests	Measuring and managing the Councils commitment to ecological restoration, monitoring and enhancement within Christchurch & Banks Peninsula. Restoration sites are monitored. The CCC operational pest management programme guides priorities on Council land for pest control. Support is available to landowners for biodiversity protection. Regional Pest Management Strategy sets regional requirements for pest control-legal and financial impact if not done.	<i>Accepted</i>
6.3.7 Number of volunteers and community service personnel participating in environmental projects. (previously non-LTP)	2012/13 per draft AP 30,000 - 40,000 person hours per year	CCC actuals: 09/10 –88,919 10/11 –49,223 11/12 – 48,000 Auckland Council LTP 2012 Number of volunteer hours spent on natural heritage protection and enhancement on parks >65,000	2013/14 ≥ 30,000 2014/15 ≥ 40,000 volunteer person hours per year	Measuring and managing opportunities for Community members to actively learn about and take part in restoring their environment. Providing opportunities for Community Service offenders to payback to their community Projects include: plantings, pest control and park maintenance programmes.	<i>Increase the target for numbers of volunteers to 30,000 or greater in 2013/14, increasing the lower limit target by 10,000 each year for next three years (i.e. 40,000 or greater in 2014/15 etc.)</i> Staff feedback : targets adjusted

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Performance Standards for LTP

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Provide and manage a network of parks of regional significance (cont'd)					
6.3.8 Parks Maintenance contract managed to ensure contractor performance meets requirements	2012/13 per draft AP New LOS	CCC internal standard / benchmark (Road Maintenance, Waterways and Land Drainage)	The contract is managed in accordance with the contract management plan's performance criteria.	Managing compliance with the Parks contract requirements will ensure for Regional Parks assets maintained under contract, that maintenance activities are programmed and completed in accordance with the contract. Contract management, training and quality assurance processes have been reviewed to ensure contracts outcomes are achieved. The Contract Management Plan's performance criteria includes that the works will be completed within the agreed budget; completed to contract specifications; and comply with the approved Quality Assurance System. (The contract performance is audited against the specifications per the KPI model in the Parks maintenance contract, clause 15.4.6.)	Accepted
6.3.5 Proportion of customers satisfied with their experience of regional parks	2012/13 per draft AP ≥ 85%	CCC actuals: 09/10 – 95% 10/11 – 91% 11/12 – 92% Auckland Council LTP target: 90%	≥ 90%	Measuring and managing customer satisfaction with the regional parks. This is seen as a good balance between cost of provision and customer satisfaction. Target is raised to reflect the recent results, including following the earthquake events.	Accepted

Customer

What business results must we deliver to our customers, to deliver on the outcomes?

Non-LTP Performance Standards

Non-LTP Performance Standards	Current performance	Benchmarks	Recommended LOS	Rationale	LTP Committee Direction
Provide and manage a network of parks of regional significance (cont'd)					
6.3.6 Cost of managing and maintaining Regional Parks	2012/13 per draft AP At a cost per hectare not exceeding budgeted controllable costs / the number of hectares expected by year end: \$___ / ha To be confirmed	CCC actuals: 09/10 - \$801 10/11 - \$832 11/12 - \$909 Cost / ha for all parks: Auckland \$24,193 Tauranga \$11,126 Hamilton \$26,604 (Yardstick Report 2010)	At a cost per hectare not exceeding budgeted controllable costs / the number of hectares expected by year end: \$1,007 / hectare	To ensure there is an appropriate and consistent level of resourcing for the maintenance of council's 85 Regional parks (6,765 hectares). The target is based on previous levels of provision and customer satisfaction. If new land is acquired it will be maintained at a minimal level <i>until a capital development management programme is approved by Council.</i> Each year's \$ LOS will be calculated once each Annual Plan is adopted by Council.	<i>Accepted</i>