

ŌNAWE PĀ Draft Management Plan



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PREFACE

Ōnawe Pā is a wāhi tapu of immense cultural and historic significance to Ngāi Tahu whānui but in particular to the Ōnuku and Wairewa Rūnanga. The Pā is a reminder of the loss of life, and destruction associated with the devastating “Northern Raids”.

The peninsula was farmed from the 1860’s to the 1980’s and from 1915 to 1982 by the Kay family. It was then purchased by the Crown and gazetted as an historic reserve in 1984. The peninsula was administered by the Department of Conservation until 1998 when it was returned to Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (Te Rūnanga) as part of the settlement with the Crown.

The land is now managed under s18 of the Reserves Act 1977, as an historic reserve, by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Ōnuku and Wairewa rūnanga, the kaitiaki of the pā.

Much of the background information in this plan was sourced from the wāhi tapu registration report for Ōnawe Pā written by the Historic Places Trust.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this management plan is to record the management policies, objectives and proposed actions in a way that meets the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977, the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement (Clause 11.4.9), the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 (Section 154) and any relevant Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu policies.

The plan sets out objectives, policies and recommended actions for the development, operation, conservation and other requirements relevant to the reserve. It establishes both long term management decisions and more immediate management issues.

Management plans remain under constant review to ensure that they remain relevant. Generally plans should be reviewed at a minimum of 10 year intervals and need not involve a complete rewriting.

2.0 ŌNAWE PĀ

2.1 Legal Description, Status and Area

Ōnawe is 28.41ha and legally described as:

- Rural Sections 728, 26442 (SO 4404) and 42007 (SO 16213)
- CT – 23/B 888
- Gazette Notice 541973/1 or 84/103, 85/1519

The NZAA File Number is – N36/86, GPS E-2504154 N-5715851 and the pā is also registered with the Historic Places Trust as a Wāhi Tapu.

2.2 Location and Access

Ōnawe Pa is located at the northern extremity of Akaroa Harbour, Te Pataka o Rakaihautu (Banks Peninsula). The pā is a wāhi tapu of great significance to Ngāi Tahu whānui particularly those of Koukourarata, Tūāhuriri, Rapaki, Taumutu, Ōnuku and Wairewa.

Ōnawe is a tear shaped peninsula with a narrow neck at its base broadening at the southern proximity.

Ōnawe is approximately one hours drive from Christchurch and a half hour drive from the township of Akaroa. A small carpark is located on Ōnawe Flat Road. It is a short walk (300m) along the beach to walk up onto the pā. Tides may affect access.



2.3 Archaeological Values

The first extensive archaeological excavation of Ōnawe Pā was undertaken in 1986. The objectives were to ascertain the extent and size of the fortified sections of the pā and identify the location of gateways, obtain information of the likely age of the fortifications, and locate and catalogue new artefacts.

The excavations proved successful in ascertaining the fortified pā boundary and gateway locations.

2.4 Administration

The area will be managed and controlled by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Ōnuku and Wairewa rūnanga. Ōnawe Pā rests within the Ōnuku Rūnanga takiwā but due to the historic associations, the site is jointly managed with Wairewa Rūnanga.

2.5 Geological

The only known plutonic rocks on Banks Peninsula are located here along with volcanic rocks representing the earliest activities of the volcano that formed Akaroa Harbour. Ōnawe Peninsula forms the vent and plug and its location corresponds with the centre point of the now dormant volcano.

2.6 Facilities

There are no structures or facilities on Ōnawe although it is intended a waharoa (small structure) and interpretation panels outlining the history and significance of Ōnawe will be erected in 2008.

3.0 HISTORY

A fighting pā, modified to withstand musket fire, Ōnawe accommodated refugees from Kaiapoi Pā and local people who were devastated by the 'Northern Raids' of the late 1820-30's. The pā featured steep cliff faces and a narrow entrance way to the promontory which provided an ideal defensive position.

Defenders of the pā consisted predominantly of Kaiapoi, Ōnuku and Wairewa toa (warriors) including the famous fighting chief Tangatahara who is commemorated in sculpture at the rear of Ngati Moki marae in Little River.

Tangatahara, had earlier killed Te Pehi Kupe (a leader of Ngāti Toa) at Kaiapoi Pā. In pretext for this killing, Te Rauparaha's Ngāti Toa warriors, with the help of affiliated iwi, infiltrated Ōnawe under the guise of conducting peace negotiations. The pā was overcome, and the majority of the defenders were either killed or taken as captives. Tangatahara escaped.

3.1 Te Pā Structure

Ōnawe Pa was designed to withstand assaults. Deep outer and inner covered ditches and banks concealed the defenders and allowed for a clear range of view and fire. Frontal assaults would bottle neck at the entrance allowing for a defensive advantage. With access to fresh water springs and a fish trap Ngāi Tahu were well equipped to survive a war of attrition.

4.0 PRESENT USE

The pā is utilised by the public for walking and bird watching.

The public has access to the Pā. Ngāi Tahu does not encourage activities on the site that may degrade the spiritual values associated with Ōnawe Pā. Consultation with the Rūnanga will determine if activities are appropriate.

5.0 MANAGEMENT

5.1 The Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement 1998 and Reserves Act 1977

The Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 (s154) vests Ōnawe Pā in Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu pursuant to section 26 of the Reserves Act.

The Reserves Act 1977 requires that administering bodies prepare management plans for reserves under their control. The general aim of the Reserves Act is to ensure that reserve development is based on sound planning and that through involvement in planning via consultation, the needs of the public are clearly identified.

This Reserve is to be managed as an Historic Reserve and the Reserves Act provides a clear framework for the management of this reserve classification. (See Appendix 1)

5.2 Management Objectives

Management objectives and policies provide a framework that guide management decisions.

Management objectives are goals that are sought or maintained within the reserve. They are based upon community consultation under the Reserves Act and other relevant legislation.

The overall objectives for Ōnawe Pā are:

To acknowledge and provide for the Ngāi Tahu values associated with Ōnawe.

To protect and preserve the features of historic, archaeological, and cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu

To restore the indigenous flora and fauna and ecological values of Ōnawe.

5.3 Management Policies

Management policies are statements of intent describing what will, or will not be done to achieve the objectives. Policies provide a general link between set objectives and a recommended course of action.

(a) Administration

Policies

The area will be administered, managed and controlled accordance with the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement and other management requirements including the Wāhi Tapu Registration (HPT) and Registered Archaeological site (NZAA).

Explanation

The Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement (Section 11.4.9) states that Ōnawe is vested in Te Runanga to administer as an Historic Reserve.

(b) Ngāi Tahu Values

Policies

Manage Ōnawe Pā in a manner that reflects the significance of the Pā to the tangata whenua.

Prioritise Ngāi Tahu values in any management decisions.

Encourage any group visits to contact the rūnanga before visiting Ōnawe Pā.

Explanation

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and the kaitiaki rūnanga consider that Ōnawe Pā should be managed to reflect its significance. Rūnanga members often accompany groups to the Pā in order that they can relate the values associated with it.

Traditional values associated with the Pā include

- Wāhi Tapu
- Urupā
- Wāhi Whakahirahira
- Tapuae Tipuna
- Ahi kaa
- Mahinga Kai

(c) **Plants and Animals**

Aim/Goal

To restore the indigenous flora and fauna of the reserve.

Policies

Restoration planting will use eco-sourced indigenous plants.

All undesirable introduced plant and animal pests within the reserve will be controlled and eradicated.

A specific pest management strategy will be developed and implemented by researchers.

Explanation

The natural fauna and flora has particular cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu. Restoration of vegetation to support birdlife is a priority.

A trapping and monitoring programme has been carried out since 2006. The island like nature of the peninsula may enable eradication of pests such as opossums and mustelids (such as weasels). Research programmes will assist in this.

Pest plants and animals will be managed within the requirements of the Regional Pest Management Strategy.



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(d) **Signs**

Policies

Erect signs to interpret the Ngāi Tahu history, cultural information and ecological features and the expected conduct of the public.

To keep sign numbers to a minimum.

Explanation

Ōnawe has significant historical, cultural and ecological values that can be interpreted to the public through signage.

(e) **Public Access**

Policies

To permit freedom of access as per Historic Reserves (Reserves Act 1977).

Maintain mown walk ways.

Explanation

Refer Appendix 1 re public access.

Walkers should be encouraged to keep to the mown tracks to minimise their impact on archaeological features and to decrease the risk of fire during summer months.

(f) **Adjacent Landowners**

Policies

To maintain regular contact with adjacent landowners for the mutual benefit of the reserve and the neighbouring properties.

Explanation

Good relationship and regular contact with neighbouring landowners helps to avoid cross boundary issues such as pest plant and animal control.

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APPENDIX 1

Reserves Act 1977

Section 18 - Historic Reserves

1) It is hereby declared that the appropriate provisions of this Act shall have effect, in relation to reserves classified as historic reserves, for the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity such places, objects, and natural features, and such things thereon or therein contained as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational, and other special interest

2) It is hereby further declared that, having regard to the general purposes specified in subsection [http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1977-066%2fs.18-ss.1&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1977-066/s.18-ss.1\(1\)](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1977-066%2fs.18-ss.1&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1977-066/s.18-ss.1(1)) of this section, every historic reserve shall be so administered and maintained that—

(a) The structures, objects, and sites illustrate with integrity the history of New Zealand:

(b) The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on the administering body by [sections

http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1977-066%2fs.58&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1977-066/s.5858 and

http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1977-066%2fs.58a&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1977-066/s.58a58A] of this Act, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and to such conditions and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and general well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it:

(c) Where scenic, archaeological, geological, biological, or other scientific features, or indigenous flora or fauna, or wildlife are present on the reserve, those features or that flora or fauna or wildlife shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve

(d) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained:

(e) Except where the Minister otherwise determines, the indigenous flora and fauna and natural environment shall as far as possible be preserved:

Provided that nothing in paragraph

[http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1977-066%2fs.18-ss.2&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1977-066/s.18-ss.2\(c\)](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1977-066%2fs.18-ss.2&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1977-066/s.18-ss.2(c)) of this subsection shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna or

wildlife that would contravene any provision of the

http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1953-031&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1953-031Wildlife Act 1953 or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, and nothing in this subsection

shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the

http://www.legislation.govt.nz/libraries/contents/om_isapi.dll?clientID=1594809161&infobase=pal_statutes.nfo&jump=a1993-038&softpage=DOC - JUMPDEST_a1993-038Historic Places Act 1993]