

## Summary of Services provided in the 2002/03 Annual Plan

### Annual Programme Achievements 2002/03

#### 1. Bridges

Our carpenters inspected all park structures every six months. All new or replaced structures met resource consent and Building Act regulations.

- Seven new structures were built, of which four were built as part of the Environmental Education programme. We built a 38-metre span truss bridge at Kaitoke Regional Park and a 10-metre span bridge at Cannons Creek to provide access to new walking tracks.
- Repair work on structures included water blasting and replacing anti-skid mesh. Paint was deteriorating on the steel beams of the Collins Stream bridge at Tunnel Gully, so we dismantled the structure, removed and galvanised the beams and reassembled the bridge.

#### 2. Buildings

Buildings were maintained and serviced to the standard required. A building at Wainuiomata was refurbished to act as a museum for displaying historic water supply relics. A number of the rangers' houses, and utility buildings (including the US Marines memorial in QEP) 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 and removed rubbish.

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

We installed a water treatment system at the Stratton Street Education Centre and a new water pump to supply the Pakuratahi Forks toilets at Kaitoke Regional Park. A new 20,000-litre tank was installed at the SH2 Rimutaka Hill toilets to avoid water shortages that have been experienced in dry summer conditions.

#### 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 was carried out
- tree work was carried out – as required
- weed spraying was completed
- 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 and repaired as required
- direction signs were painted to meet re-branding requirements
- picket fences were installed at the Maymorn and Tunnel Gully entrance areas.

#### 6. Tracks

Maintenance staff carried out patching and repairs, regular vegetation cutbacks, mowing and weed eating throughout the track network as required. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- tracks were metalled
- surfaces were repaired on all tracks
- directional signs were updated and renewed as required
- gorse was sprayed and vegetation cut back
- culverts were cleared on all tracks
- sections of the Hutt River Trail were re-metalled
- a 700-metre long track was upgraded and metalled along the Pakuratahi River at Kaitoke
- the Nikau Track at Wainuiomata was re-metalled
- a new track formation was developed along the ridge line section of Cannon Point Walkway
- four kilometres of tracks were re-benched and re-metalled at Oakleigh Street and Korokoro Valley in Belmont Regional Park
- we formed 500-metres of new horse track, hard-coursed other sections and diverted the coastal track around sand dunes at the Raumati end of Queen Elizabeth Park.

## 7. Land Management

Culvert and drainage maintenance was carried out. Boggy areas were targeted to improve access during the wet period and reduce pasture damage by stock.

Fences were maintained throughout the parks to required standards. Fences were built at Tunnel Gully to prevent illegal motorbike access. 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 at Battle Hill. Gorse control was undertaken on over 70% of the park.

Thistles and gorse were sprayed at Queen Elizabeth Park and open drains were cleared. Hard-fill was placed around gates and areas where stock had begun to break the grass cover. Ten stock gates were replaced during the year because of wear and tear.

Pest plant removal work was carried out at Te Marua bush remnants, the campground and Farm Creek area of Kaitoke Regional Park.

## 8. Roothing

All roads and access ways were maintained to a safe and serviceable standard throughout the year. 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 relevant work on the Rimutaka Rail Trail was granted consent by the Historic Places Trust.

A number of roads were resealed as part of the ongoing asset management programme. Metalling and rehabilitation of roads in the Akatarawa Forest was completed in line with the staged maintenance requirements.