

Report 03.450  
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Committee Landcare  
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## Regional park plans: proposed process and timetable

### 1. Purpose

To seek the Committee's approval of the process and timetable to complete the five regional park plans.

### 2. Background

In December 2001, the Committee approved the process for reviewing the regional parks' management plans (report 01.822). The first part of the review process included preparing a network plan. The *Regional Parks Network Management Plan* is now complete. Report 03.488 on this order paper considers the adoption of the network plan. The network plan provides a clear framework for management and strategic issues across all regional parks. Park management plans are now required to guide decision-making and management in each regional park.

### 3. Plan process

A three-phase process is proposed for each management plan, with each phase being approximately three to four months in duration. Each plan should be completed within a thirteen-month period. Some flexibility has been maintained to report to future Landcare Committees. Table 1 provides further detail on each phase, including expected outcomes (see **Attachment 1**).

The first phase is a pre-consultation phase, giving people the opportunity to learn about the process and allow officers to understand the range of issues requiring consideration. At the conclusion of this phase, comments will be invited from interested parties.

In the second phase, a paper outlining issues and options identified in the first phase will be prepared for the Committee to consider. Decisions on this paper will form the basis of the draft management plan's content. We will workshop the draft management plan with Councillors prior to seeking approval to release the draft for formal consultation.

The final phase of the plan's preparation includes hearing and responding to submissions before redrafting the plan as required. Once all amendments have been completed, a request will be made to the Landcare Committee to approve the final plan. Approval will then be gained from other parties, if required.

#### 4. Preparation timetable

Five plans must be completed. The current priority for completing each management plan is:

1. Belmont Regional Park
2. East Harbour Regional Park
3. Queen Elizabeth Park
4. Kaitoke Regional Park
5. Battle Hill Farm Forest Park.

It is proposed to start the first plan (Belmont Regional Park) in September 2003 and the second plan (East Harbour Regional Park) in March 2004. Once a plan is completed, the next plan will be prepared until all plans are completed. We anticipate this being November 2006. Delays in preparing any one plan will have a flow on effect and delay the overall programme.

#### 5. Belmont Regional Park plan

Based on the proposed process and timetable, the Belmont Regional Park management plan should be ready for approval in August/September 2004, if all critical decisions are approved according to the proposed timeline.

##### Belmont Regional Park timetable

Phase		Date
1 'Pre-consultation'	Scoping	August 2003
	Initial contact	September 2003
	Feedback period	October 2003
2 'Drafting'	Direction setting	<b>LCC 18 November 2003</b>
	Plan drafting	December 2003 February 2004
	Finalise draft plan	<b>LCC workshop March 2004</b> <b>LCC April 2004</b>
3 'Formal consultation'	Notification	May – June 2004
	Hearing	<b>LCC July/August 2004</b>
	Plan approved	<b>LCC August September 2004</b>

**Note:** Dates in bold indicate critical decision points

## 6. Communication

At this stage no further communication is required, however, the proposed plan preparation process provides a range of communication opportunities.

## 7. Recommendations

*That the Committee:*

1. *receive the report.*
2. *note the contents of the report.*
3. *approve the process and timelines for preparing the regional park management plans.*

Report prepared by:

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**Attachment 1:** Table 1: Regional park plans preparation

Table 2: Regional park management plans programme