

Tūtohu Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture- ā-Rohe

Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016

Person Responsible: Operations Manager – Property
and Facilities

Date Adopted:
Status: Draft

Date Last Reviewed: 11/12/2017
Next Review Date: 24/06/2034
Review Period: 10 years
Revision Number: V3

1.0 Title

- 1.1 This Bylaw is made under section 11 and 11A of the Freedom Camping Act 2011; and shall be known as the South Taranaki District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016.

2.0 Commencement

- 2.1 This Bylaw came into force on 4 July 2016, it was reviewed in December 2017. The amendments from this review will come into force on 4 November 2024.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 This Bylaw relates to Council owned or Council managed land within the South Taranaki District.

Note: Land which is owned by the Council and is under any lease or agreement managed by other legislation, is not considered as freely available public land which can be utilised for freedom camping purposes.

- 3.2 Compliance with this Bylaw does not remove the requirement to comply with all other Acts, Regulations, Bylaw and rules. This includes parking or other traffic restrictions, littering, lighting of fires, excessive noise, and the compliance with the directions of the Enforcement Officers.

4.0 Purpose of the Bylaw

- 4.1 The purpose of this Bylaw is to control freedom camping in the South Taranaki District by identifying local authority controlled and managed areas where freedom camping is permitted and the restrictions that apply in those areas; and to
- a) Protect local authority areas;
 - b) Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the local authority areas; or
 - c) Protect access to local authority areas.

5.0 Interpretation

- 5.1 In this Bylaw –

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Authorised Officer means any person appointed by the Chief Executive of the Council for purposes of acting as an Authorised Officer under this Bylaw.

Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

Chief Executive means the chief executive appointed by the Council under section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Council means the South Taranaki District Council.

District means the South Taranaki District.

Freedom camp has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Act.

Iwi means the four Iwi of the South Taranaki District being Ngā Rauru, Ngā Ruahine, Ngāti Ruanui, and Taranaki.

Local authority area means an area of land, or any part of any area of land that is within the South Taranaki District and is controlled or managed by the Council under any enactment, as per section 6 of the Act.

Motor vehicle means each of the following:

- a). a motor vehicle within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Land Transport Act 1998:
- b). a unit used for camping that is not itself a vehicle but is capable of being –
 - i). transported by means of being loaded onto a vehicle; and
 - ii). Used for camping whether or not it is loaded onto a vehicle.

Non-self-contained vehicle means a motor vehicle which does not have a valid certificate or warrant of self-containment.

Permitted means freedom camping in a particular area is allowed with or without conditions.

Person/s includes a natural person and also any corporation sole and also a body of persons whether corporate or non-corporate.

Prohibited means freedom camping in a particular area is not allowed.

Restricted means the Council has placed conditions on freedom camping in a particular area.

Road has the same meaning as defined under the Land Transport Act 1998 and encompasses all land lying between the boundaries of a road including footpaths and berms.

Self-contained vehicle means a motor vehicle that has a valid certificate of self-containment issued in accordance with section 87U(3)(d) of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006. Up to and including the 6 June 2025 blue warrants will be accepted as proof of self-containment.

Tent means a collapsible shelter used for camping or sheltering outdoors.

Waste means any kind of waste, including human waste.

6.0 Freedom camping areas

6.1 Freedom camping in self-contained vehicles and tents is permitted within the local authority area unless it is prohibited or restricted as detailed in Schedule 1 and 2 of this Bylaw.

6.2 Freedom camping in non-self-contained vehicles is permitted at restricted areas identified in Schedule 1 of this Bylaw.

7.0 General conditions

7.1 Freedom camping at any site (permitted or restricted) may only occur as follows:

7.1.1 No person may freedom camp for more than three (3) consecutive nights in any calendar month, at any one site.

7.1.2 A maximum of three (3) vehicles may be parked in any one area on any one night, unless expressly identified in Schedule 1 or provided for through signage at the site.

7.1.3 There must be no more than three (3) tents (in any one area as listed and permitted under Schedule 1 of the Bylaw) at any one time, unless expressly provided for through signage at the site.

7.1.4 All vehicles must park within existing defined car parking areas, where they exist. If parking at the site contains designated freedom camping parking spaces, freedom campers must use those parking spaces for their vehicles.

7.1.5 All vehicles must be legally parked.

7.1.6 All vehicles and tents must not block accessways, such as roads, pathways, and footpaths.

7.1.7 No person may light any fire in a local authority area except:
a) in a place specifically provided by the Council for that purpose; or
b) with the prior written permission of the Council.

7.1.8 All waste must be removed from the site and disposed of, at or in, a Council approved disposal facility.

7.1.9 Any occupant of a vehicle or tent must use the serviceable public toilet facilities available at the designated sites, if no self-contained facilities are available.

7.1.10 The site must be left in a clean and tidy state.

7.1.11 No vegetation shall be damaged or removed from the site.

7.1.12 All conditions stipulated on any signage at the site must be complied with.

8.0 Animals

8.1 Animals or pets are permitted at local authority areas, unless specifically prohibited within this Bylaw, other Council Bylaws or any other enactment. Animals must be under the control of their owner at all times and not cause a nuisance to others.

9.0 Freedom campers must comply with any request to move on

9.1 An Authorised Officer may require a person, who he or she believes is committing or has committed an offence to leave the local authority area concerned, within a specified timeframe.

10.0 Council may temporarily prohibit freedom camping

10.1 The Chief Executive may, by providing 24 hours' notice, impose temporary prohibitions on freedom camping in any local authority area due to the following:

- a) Maintenance of the area or facilities at the area;
- b) Local events being held at an area; or
- c) Health and safety issues or emergency situations.

11.0 Council consent to freedom camp

11.1 Consent must be sought from the Chief Executive to freedom camp in the areas listed in Schedule 3, which may be granted with or without conditions. The areas listed in Schedule 3 allow non-self-contained vehicles, self-contained vehicles, and tents to freedom camp during organised special events.

11.2 Consent must be sought from the Chief Executive to freedom camp in a prohibited area in Schedule 1, which may be granted with or without conditions. Note: Under this clause freedom camping can only be permitted in self-contained vehicles and tents.

11.3 Consent must be sought from the Chief Executive for a waiver or modification to freedom camping restrictions in an area listed in Schedule 1, which may be granted with or without conditions. Note: Under this clause freedom camping waivers or modifications can only

apply to types of camping already permitted, if the site does not allow non-self-contained vehicles this cannot be modified.

- 11.4 A request must be applied for, in writing, to the Chief Executive at least five working days prior to the date of the planned event, waiver, or modification.
- 11.5 If an Authorised Officer believes that the person(s) to whom consent has been granted, in accordance with this section, has:
- a) Damaged or is likely to cause damage to the site; and/or
 - b) Breached any conditions of the consent,
- the Chief Executive may immediately revoke the consent.

12.0 Offences and penalties

12.1 Every person commits an offence who:

- a) Freedom camps or makes preparation to freedom camp in the District in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw;
- b) Displays in a vehicle an altered or fraudulent warrant card or presents an altered or fraudulent certificate of self-containment to an Authorised Officer;
- c) Freedom camps in the District in a self-contained vehicle with more people than what the vehicle is certified for;
- d) Interferes with or damages the area, its flora or fauna or any structure in the area;
- e) Deposits waste on the land;
- f) Discharges a substance which is likely to be noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable to the extent that it has or is likely to have a significant adverse effect on the environment; or has caused, or is likely to cause, significant concern to the community or users of the area or land;
- g) Obstructs, hinders, impedes, assaults, threatens or behaves in a threatening manner or intimidates an Authorised Officer, or incites others to do so, in the performance of any duty or exercise of any power conferred upon the Authorised Officer under this Bylaw;
- h) Fails or refuses to leave a local authority area when required to do so by an Authorised Officer; or
- i) Refuses to give information when required to do so by an Authorised Officer in accordance with clause 12.2 below or gives false or misleading information.

Hōpuni Kore Utu Ture-ā-Rohe

Freedom Camping Bylaw

- 12.2 Where an Authorised Officer believes on reasonable grounds that a person has committed or is committing an offence, the Authorised Officer may direct the person to give:
- a) Their full name, date of birth, full address, telephone number, and occupation; and
 - b) The whereabouts of any person connected in any way with the alleged offence.
- 12.3 A person who commits an offence against this Bylaw is liable to:
- a) An infringement fee of the amount prescribed by regulations made under section 20E of the Act for the offence; or
 - b) \$400.00, if no fee is prescribed for the offence.

13.0 Relationship of Bylaw with settlement legislation

- 13.1 This Bylaw does not limit or affect the rights of Iwi entitlements under their relevant settlement legislation.

This Bylaw was made by the South Taranaki District Council on 4 July 2016.

This Bylaw was renewed by the South Taranaki District Council on 11 December 2017, and 30 October 2024

THE COMMON SEAL of the SOUTH)
TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL was)
hereto affixed by resolution)
of the said Council in the)
presence of:

.....

Mayor

.....

Chief Executive

Schedule One

ELTHAM

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at Bridger Park Carpark and Tayler Street Carpark.



Bridger Park Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Taylor Street Carpark

This carpark is located at 36 Taylor Street. The carpark is connected to Taylor Park, which is an off-leash dog park.

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



ELTHAM - Surrounding area

Glen nui campground

This campground is located 25km east of Eltham on Glen Nui Road.

The campground has toilet facilities. Freedom camping is permitted in tents, non-self-contained vehicles, and self-contained vehicles.



Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve

Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve is located 15km east of Eltham on Sangster Road. No animals are allowed within the Reserve.

All freedom camping within the Reserve is prohibited except for the areas highlighted in the map below.

A = Self-contained vehicles. Three vehicles per night.

B = Non-self-contained vehicles. Three vehicles per night.

C = Tents.



KAPONGA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on Council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at Thoumine Park Carpark and Victoria Park Carpark.



Thoumine Park Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Victoria Park Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



HĀWERA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark, TSB Hun Carpark, and Albion Street Carpark.

The Hāwera Holiday Park is located by the TSB Hub on Waihi Road, people can camp there for a fee.



Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



TSB Hub Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles. Six vehicles can stay per night in total. Three vehicles in the Waihi Road carpark, and three vehicles in the Camberwell Road carpark.



Albion Street Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles and non-self-contained vehicles.



HĀWERA - Surrounding area

Pukekino Landing

Pukekino Landing is located at the end of Tangahoe Valley Road, 29km (1¼ hr drive) north-east of Hāwera.

Freedom Camping is prohibited in the area shown in the map except for the areas highlighted.

A = Self-contained motor vehicles.

B = Tents and non-self-contained vehicles.



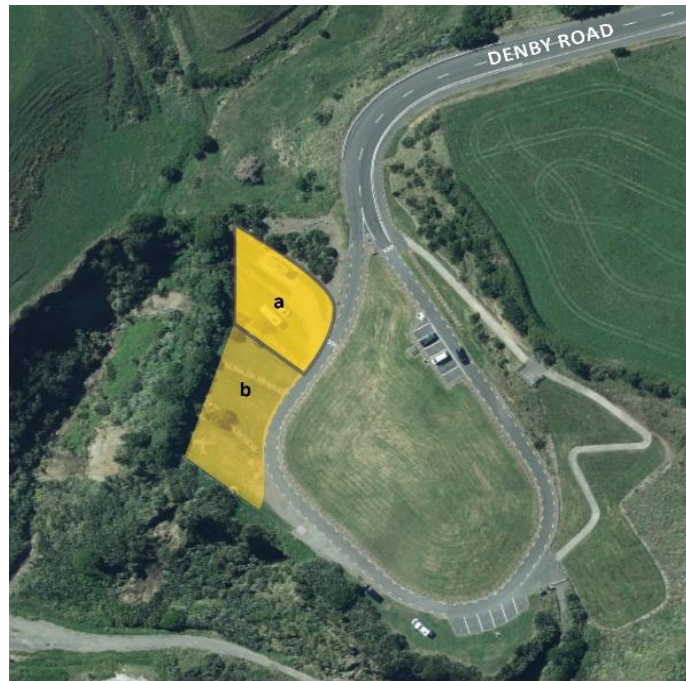
Waihi Beach Reserve

Waihi Beach Reserve is located at the end of Denby Road, 5km south of Hāwera.

Freedom Camping is prohibited in the area shown in the map except for the areas highlighted.

A = Tents and non-self-contained vehicles.

B = Self-contained vehicles.



MANAIA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the area where it is permitted at the Manaia Domain Carpark.



Manaia Domain Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



NORMANBY

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the area where it is permitted at the Normanby Domain Carpark.



Normanby Domain Carpark

Freedom camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



ŌPUNAKĒ

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at the Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds Carpark, Halse Place, Middleton Bay Carpark, Northern Headland Carpark, Hurst Park Railway Reserve, and Ōpunakē Lake.

The Ōpunakē Beach Holiday Park is located on Beach Road, people can camp there for a fee.



Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Halse Place

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Middleton Bay Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Northern Headland Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Hurst Park Railway Reserve

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Ōpunakē Lake Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles and tents. Six vehicles can stay per night.



PĀTEA

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at the York Street Picnic Area, Seaview Lookout, and Mana Bay.

The Pātea Beach Holiday Park is located on Beach Road, people can camp here for a fee.



York Street Picnic Area

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Seaview Lookout

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Mana Bay

Freedom Camping is permitted in the areas highlighted.

A = Tents

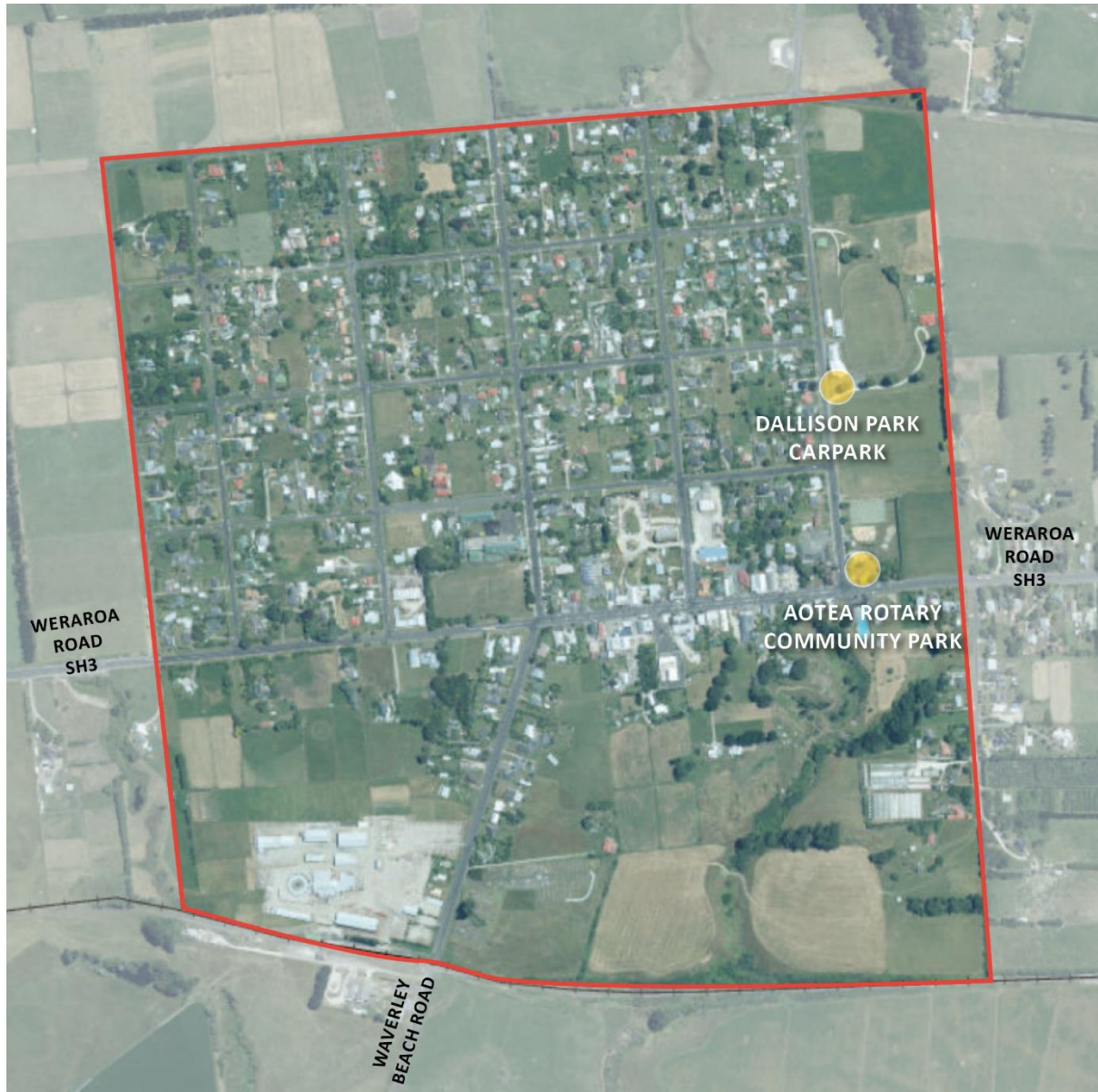
B = Non-self-contained vehicles and self-contained vehicles. Six vehicles can stay per night.

C = Non-self-contained vehicles and self-contained vehicles. Two vehicles can stay per night.



WAVERLEY

All freedom camping within the red town boundary is prohibited on council owned or managed land, except for the areas where it is permitted at the Dallison Park Carpark and Aotea Rotary Community Park Carpark.



Dallison Park Carpark

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles.



Aotea Rotary Community Park

Freedom Camping is permitted in self-contained vehicles, non-self-contained vehicles, and tents.



WAVERLEY – Surrounding Area

Wairoa Reserve

Wairoa Reserve is located 9km south of Waverley in the Waverley Beach settlement. Freedom Camping is prohibited in the area shown in the map except for the areas highlighted. Six vehicles can stay per night.

A = Self-contained vehicles

B = Non-self-contained vehicles and self-contained vehicles.

NOTE: There is a campground above this area where people can camp for a fee.



Schedule Two – Prohibited areas

Cemeteries

All cemeteries in the South Taranaki District are considered to have a high level of historical and cultural significance. All cemeteries prohibit freedom camping.

Cemetery	Location
Eltham Cemetery	206 Anderson Road, Eltham. Located on the corner of Anderson and Rāwhitiroa Roads.
Kaponga Cemetery	39 Park Lane, Kaponga
Hāwera Cemetery	66 Gladstone Street, Hāwera. Entrances on Gladstone Street and High Road.
Manaia Cemetery	Cemetery Road, (off Hassard Street) Manaia
Ōhawe Cemetery	Hoka Street, Ōhawe (access off Kepa Street, Ōhawe)
Ōkaiawa Cemetery	Tito Road, Ōkaiawa. Located at the southern end of Tito Road.
Ōpunakē Cemetery	Wilson Road, Ōpunakē. Located on the corner of Wilson Road and Halse Place.
Otakeho Cemetery	Surf Highway 45, Otakeho
Pātea Cemetery	Scotland Street, Pātea
Waihi Cemetery	Pikitūroa Road, Normanby.

Significant sites

These sites prohibit freedom camping.



CAPE EGMONT BOAT CLUB AND HISTOIC LIGHTHOUSE AREA



STENT ROAD



PAORA ROAD



RĀWHITIROA SWIMMING POOL AND RESERVE



OKIWA TERRACE RESERVE. NOTE: THERE IS A CAMPGROUND OFF NUKUMARU PARADE, PEOPLE CAN CAMP THERE FOR A FEE.



ŌAONUI RESERVE, TAI ROAD



KAŪPOKONUI BEACH RESERVE. NOTE: THERE IS A CAMPGROUND WITHIN THE RESERVE PEOPLE CAN CAMP AT FOR A FEE.

Schedule 3 – Special events

The Chief Executive can allow non-self-contained vehicles, self-contained vehicles, and tents to freedom camp in these areas for organised special events.

Approval must be sort prior to the event, the approval will come with conditions including where within these areas freedom camping is permitted.

Town	Area	Location
Eltham	Taumata Park	Located at the northern end of Preston Street in Eltham.
Hāwera	Hicks Park	Located between Waihi Road and Camberwell Road, beside the TSB Hub building and carparking areas. The Park has entrances off Pacey Avenue and Reid Avenue.
	Turuturu Road Soccer Grounds	Located on Turuturu Road opposite the southern end of Kamahi Avenue and Fantham Street.
Kaponga	Victoria Park	Is bordered by Victoria Street, Fitzgerald Avenue and Park Lane.
Manaia	Manaia Domain	Located at the eastern end of Karaka Street, bordered by Hassard Street and Bennet Drive.
Normanby	Normanby Domain	Located at the northern end of Ketemarae Road.
Ōpunakē	Ōpunakē Recreation Grounds	Is bordered by Tasman Street, Heaphy Road, Halse Place and Longfellow Road.
Pātea	Pātea Domain	Is located at the south-eastern end of Surrey Street and is bordered by Egmont Street.
Waverley	Dallison Park	Is located on Chester Street at the eastern end of Hussey Street.



www.southtaranaki.com