Appendix A: Draft Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025

Kāpiti Coast District Council

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025

Explanatory Note

The Schedules to this Bylaw show areas within the Kāpiti Coast District where freedom camping is restricted or prohibited in self-contained vehicles, tents and other temporary structures. They also show areas where freedom camping is allowed in vehicles that are not self-contained. The Schedules are included for clarity of site recognition and definition.

1. Title

1.1 This Bylaw is the Kāpiti Coast District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025.

2. Authority and Commencement

2.2 This Bylaw is made under sections 11 and 11A of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 and under the Local Government Act 2002.

2.3 The Council resolved to review and prepare this Bylaw at a meeting of the Council on XX YYY 2024. Following consideration of submissions received by the Council as part of undertaking a special consultative procedure, the Council adopted this Bylaw by resolution at a meeting of the Council on XX YYY 2025.

2.4 This Bylaw comes into force on XX YYY 2025.

2.5 This Bylaw is due for review under section 13 of the Act by XX YYY 2034.

3. Interpretation

3.1 In this Bylaw unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Council means the Kāpiti Coast District Council. Council is a local authority under the Act.

District means the Kāpiti Coast District.

Prohibited area means an area identified in Schedule 2A or 2B of this Bylaw. Freedom camping is not allowed in this area unless prior written consent has been obtained from Council.

Restricted area means an area identified in Schedule 1A, 1B and 1C of this Bylaw. Freedom camping is allowed in these areas, subject to complying with all of the restrictions imposed.

Road margin has the same meaning as the Road Transport (Road User) Rule 2004.

Self-contained motor vehicle means:

a) 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; or

b) During the transitional period:

i) during periods 1 to 3, the vehicle was certified, before the commencement date and in accordance with the requirements of the existing standard, as having met the existing standard; or

ii) during periods 1 and 2, the vehicle is certified, in accordance with the requirements of the modified standard, as having met the modified standard; or

iii) during period 3, the vehicle was certified, in period 1 or 2 and in accordance with the requirements of the modified standard, as having met the modified standard; or

iv) during period 4, the vehicle is not owned by a rental company; and

v) was certified, before the commencement date and in accordance with the requirements of the existing standard, as having met the existing standard; or

vi) was certified, in period 1 or 2 and in accordance with the requirements of the modified standard, as having met the modified standard.

Non-self-contained motor vehicle means a motor vehicle that is not self-contained in accordance with the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

3.2 The following terms have the same definitions as in the Act:

Certificate of self-containment

Freedom camp

Local authority area

Motor vehicle

Self-contained

4. Purpose

4.1 The purpose of this Bylaw is to regulate freedom camping in the district in order to protect:

4.1.1 local authority areas;

4.1.2 the health and safety of people who may visit local authority areas;

4.1.3 access to local authority areas.

5. Where Freedom Camping is Permitted

5.1 Freedom camping using a tent or other temporary structure or a self-contained motor vehicle is permitted in any local authority area within the District unless it is prohibited or restricted in an area:

5.1.1 under clause 6 or 7 of this Bylaw; or

5.1.2 under any other legislation; or

5.1.3 in the case of a self-contained motor vehicle, by the limit placed on the maximum number of people for which the vehicle is certified.

The following note is explanatory and is not part of the Bylaw:

Other legislation includes the Reserves Act 1977, which generally prohibits camping in reserves (pursuant to section 44) and provides for infringement notices to be issued. The Council's Reserve Management Plan will indicate where any reserve accommodates freedom camping.

6. Where Freedom Camping is Prohibited

6.1 A person must not freedom camp:

6.1.1 in any local authority area in a non-self-contained motor vehicle except for any area specifically permitted for non-self-contained vehicles identified in Schedule 1A or 1B

6.1.2 in a self-contained motor vehicle in any prohibited area marked red on a map included in Schedule 2A or Schedule 2B

6.1.3 in any local authority area in tents or other temporary structures unless allowed for in Schedule 1C.

6.2 Despite clause 6.1, a person may freedom camp in any prohibited area if they have obtained the prior written consent from the Council, and they comply with any conditions of that notice of consent.

6.3 A person must not freedom camp within any metropolitan centre, town centre, local centre or mixed-use zones as described in the Kāpiti Coast's Operative District Plan [refer schedule 2A].

6.4 A person must not freedom camp on a Council reserve unless freedom camping is expressly allowed for by the Reserve Management Plan. Where freedom camping is so enabled, the reserve site map will be included in Schedule 1B.

6.5 A person must not freedom camp in a self-contained motor vehicle on local roads where the speed limit is 80km/h or greater unless the campervan can be parked safely on the road margin clear of the formed carriageway.

7. Where Freedom Camping is Restricted

7.1 A person may freedom camp in a self-contained motor vehicle in any of the local authority areas identified in Schedules 1A and 1B, so long as they comply with all the listed restrictions for that area.

7.2 The motor vehicle must:

7.2.1 not stay in any one restricted area for more than 48 hours, including parked on a road, and cannot freedom camp again within that restricted area within 28 days.

7.2.2 be parked legally.

7.2.3 not prevent others from undertaking legitimate activities in the area.

7.2.4 comply with the noise requirements set out in the operative District Plan.

7.3 Despite clause 7.1, a person may freedom camp in any restricted area if they have obtained the prior written consent from the Council, and they comply with any conditions of that notice of consent.

8. Areas permitted for Freedom Camping in Non-self-contained vehicles

8.1 A person is permitted to freedom camp in a non-self-contained motor vehicle only in the parking spaces specifically identified for that purpose on the area maps in Schedules 1A or 1B.

9. Prior Consent from Council

9.1 The Council may grant consent to a person to freedom camp in any prohibited area of restricted area contrary to any prohibition or restriction that applies to that area under this Bylaw.

9.2 Any application for a permit must be made:

9.2.1 in writing, including contact details; and

9.2.2 provide sufficient detail about the proposed freedom camping, including why the freedom camping will not comply with the prohibition or the restrictions imposed under this bylaw; and

9.2.3 provide sufficient detail about how the area will be protected, health and safety of people will be protected, and access will be protected; and

9.2.4 be made at least 20 working days in advance of the date the freedom camping is proposed to commence.

9.3 If the Council grants an application, it may impose any conditions it considers appropriate with the purpose of this Bylaw.

9.4 If the Council refuses an application, it must inform the applicant of the reasons for the decision.

9.5 An enforcement officer may revoke a consent granted under this Bylaw if any person breaches the conditions specified in the notice of consent, or the freedom camping activity covered by the consent otherwise breaches the Act.

10. The Council may temporarily close an area to freedom camping

10.1 The Council may temporarily close any of its freedom camping areas (or part of such area) if a closure is deemed necessary to:

10.1.1 repair damage that significantly affects the use of the local authority area or facilities in the area for freedom camping: or

10.1.2 to prevent damage occurring where there is an imminent threat of damage that would otherwise require the Council to close the area to prevent or repair the damage; or

10.1.3 allow maintenance to be carried out on the local authority area or facilities; or

10.1.4 ensure public health and safety can be maintained; or

10.1.5 for ensuring safe public access to and from temporary events and occasions.

10.2 Notice will be given of any temporary closure, and the removal of any closure, in any manner the Chief Executive considers is appropriate given the reason and timeliness for the closure.

10.3 Where possible, not less than 24 hours notice of any temporary closure will be given.

The following note is explanatory and is not part of the Bylaw:

Notice given by the Council may include any of the following: a sign erected in the area; advertising on the Council's website or on the radio; a public notice in the paper; a written notice handed out by a Council enforcement officer.

11. Effect of this Bylaw on other bylaws and enactments

11.1 This Bylaw does not override or affect any time, vehicle class or other restrictions that apply to the parking of a vehicle, made under any other bylaw or enactment.

The following note is explanatory and is not part of the Bylaw:

This clause is to make it clear that approval of freedom camping under this Bylaw does not override any requirements under another bylaw or enactment.

12. Offences

12.1. Section 20(1) and 20C of the Act specifies the infringement offences applicable to local authority areas, which includes that every person commits an offence who:

12.1.1. Freedom camps in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw that applies to the area concerned; or

12.1.2. Makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw that applies to the area concerned.

12.2. For the purpose of section 20(1)(a) and (f) of the Act, any person who has obtained the consent of Council to freedom camp under clause 8.1 of this bylaw and who complies with the conditions of that consent is not acting in breach of any prohibition or restriction of this bylaw.

13. Penalties

13.1. The infringement penalties referred to in clause 12.1 above are enabled by section 20E of the Act and are specified in regulations.

14. Revocation and savings

14.1. The Kāpiti Coast District Council Freedom Camping Policy 2012 is revoked.

14.2. Any permission, consent, agreement or any other act of authority which originated under the Freedom Camping Policy 2012 and which is still in force at the commencement of this Bylaw continues to have full force and effect for the purpose of this Bylaw.

15. Schedules

15.1. The following schedules form part of this Bylaw:

Schedule 1A: Areas where freedom camping is allowed in self-contained vehicles subject to complying with the restrictions imposed

Schedule 1B: Reserve areas where freedom camping is allowed subject to complying with the restrictions imposed

Schedule 1C: Areas where freedom camping is allowed in tents subject to complying with the restrictions imposed

Schedule 2A: Prohibitions - city centres and town centres where freedom camping is not allowed

Schedule 2B: Prohibitions – other areas where freedom camping is not allowed

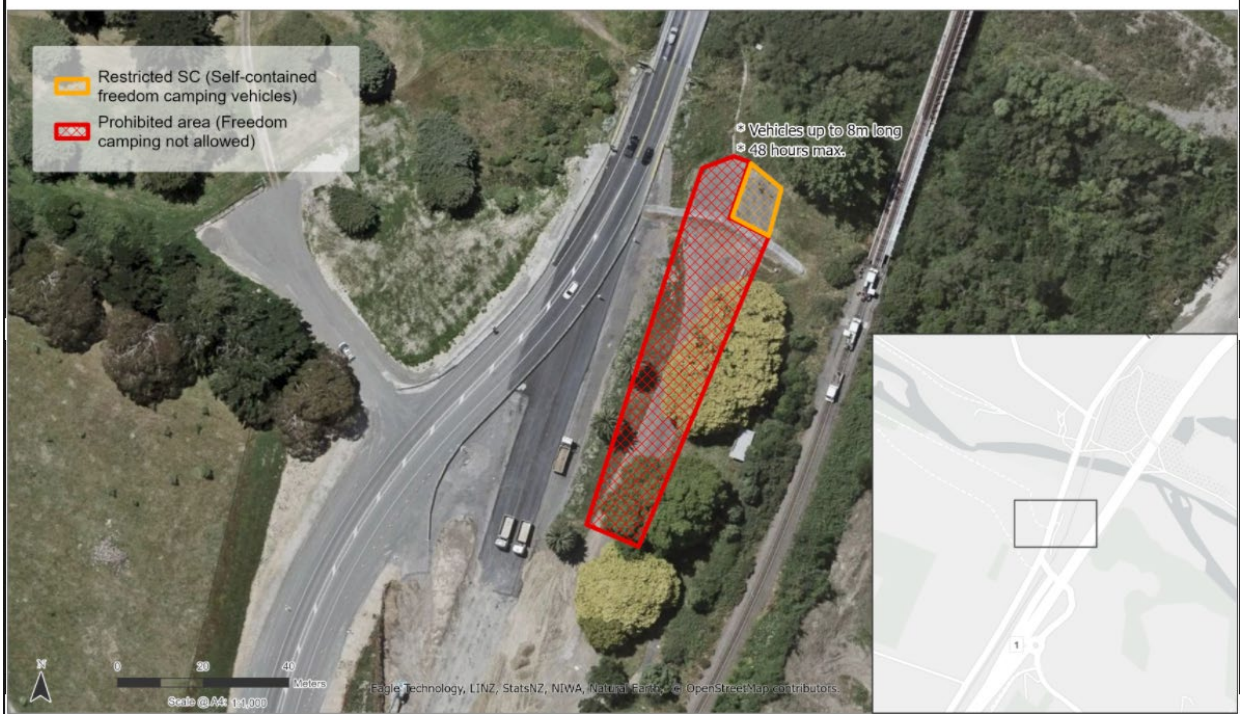
Freedom Camping Bylaw – Schedules of Site Maps

Schedule 1A: Areas where freedom camping is allowed subject to complying with all of the restrictions imposed (NB: the reserves are in Schedule 1B)

Area	Number of Parking Spaces for self-contained vehicles
North end The Parade, Paekākāriki	2
Raumati Marine Gardens, Raumati Beach	2
Opposite #62 Marine Parade, Paraparaumu Beach	3
Opposite #68 Marine Parade, Paraparaumu Beach	3
Field Way north car park, Waikanae Beach	2
South of former SH1 Bridge, Ōtaki	3
Ōtaki beach car park; Ōtaki Beach	12 Plus 2 Non-self-contained

Ōtaki Beach: Ōtaki Beach car park

Ōtaki: Ōtaki Bridge - South of former SH1



Waikanae Beach: Field Way north car park

Paraparaumu Beach: Opposite #68 Marine Parade

Paraparaumu Beach: Opposite #62 Marine Parade

Raumati Beach: Raumati Marine Gardens

Paekākāriki: North end The Parade The Parade

Schedule 1B: Reserve areas where freedom camping is allowed subject to complying with all of the restrictions imposed

Area	Number of Parking Spaces for self-contained vehicles
*Waikanae Park, Waikanae Reserve	2
*Waimea Rd beach car park Reserve, Waikanae Beach	3 Including Non-self-contained
*Field Way Reserve, Waikanae Beach	2 Including Non-self-contained

Waikanae Beach: Field Way reserve

Waikanae Beach: Te Moana Rd Esplanade Reserve Waimea Rd Beach

Waikanae: Waikanae Park

Schedule 1C: Area where freedom camping is allowed in tents subject to complying with the restrictions imposed

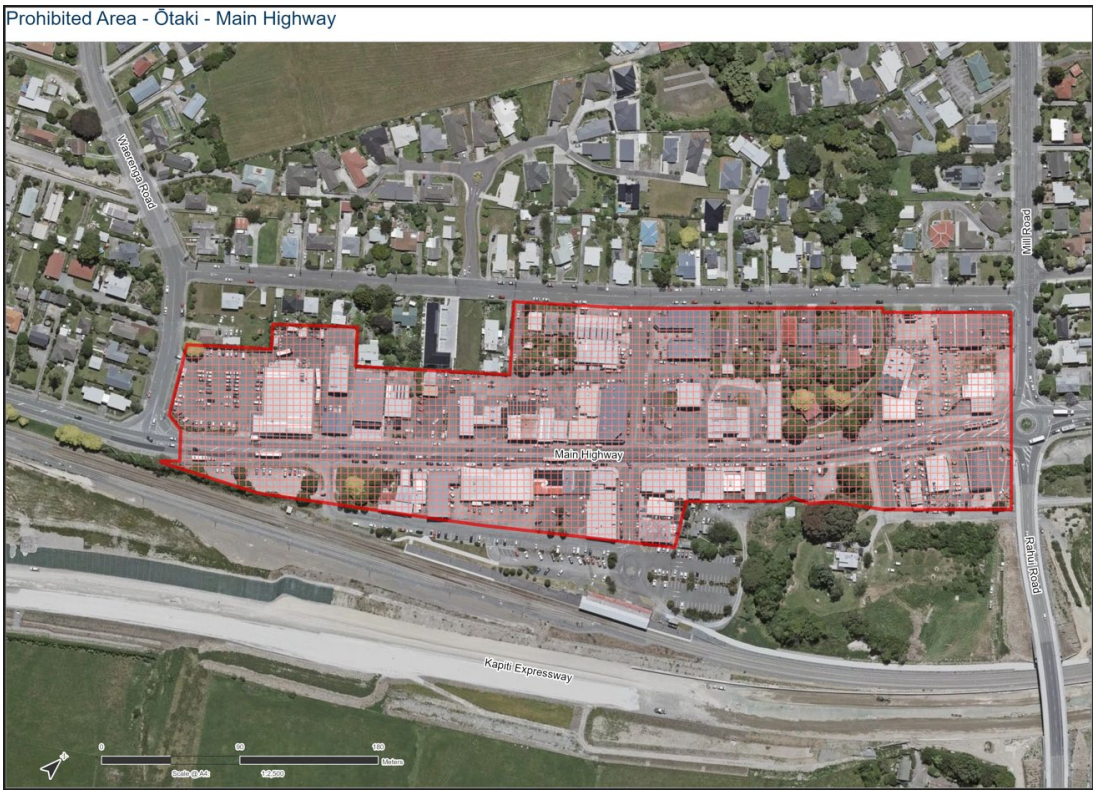
Area	
Mangaone South Road end, Reikorangi	Tents only

Waikanae: Mangaone South Road end

Schedule 2A: Prohibitions - city centres and town centres where freedom camping is not allowed

Prohibited Area - Ōtaki - Mill Road

Prohibited Area - Ōtaki - Main Highway



Prohibited Area - Waikanae

Prohibited Area - Paraparaumu: Mazengarb Road

Prohibited Area - Paraparaumu

Prohibited Area - Paraparaumu Beach

Prohibited Area - Paraparaumu Business Parks

Prohibited Area - Raumati Beach

Prohibited Area - Raumati South

Prohibited Area - Paekākāriki

Schedule 2B: Prohibitions – areas/carparks where freedom camping is not allowed

Anzac Road	Anzac Road is the access way to the Ōtaki Cemetery. It is a narrow extension of a residential road.

Ōtaki: Anzac Road

Ōtaki Beach Surf Club carparks	The site includes the main carpark beside the surf club as well as the smaller carpark to the North of the surf club.

Ōtaki Beach: Marine Pde - Ōtaki Surf club

Ōtaki Dog Park carpark	The site has a large, gravel carpark and is located next to a large, fenced dog exercise area between heavy industrial and residential housing.

Ōtaki: Ōtaki Dog Park

Te Horo Beach – Sea Road	The site is located on the coastal edge between Te Horo Beach homes and the beach. There is an unsealed loop road (Sea Road) that connects either end of the site (the northern end where the public toilets are located and the southern end where there is a grassy area with picnic tables, bins and boulevards designating the parking areas. The unsealed strip of Sea Rd parallel to the beach and the southern end is a reserve, but the northern end of Sea Rd from Rodney Ave to the toilets, is not.

Te Horo: Te Horo Beach (Sea Rd)

Peka Peka Road – road end	The site consists of a large gravel carpark and boat launching area providing beach access for vehicles and walking access for visitors. The site is located at the end of the main road in Peka Peka Beach.

Peka Peka Beach: Peka Peka Road End

Pharazyn Reserve	The site is located within rural lifestyle blocks and consists of two established gravel carparks with no designated parking spaces. There is a small playground, picnic table and benches, bins, public toilet, and a connection to the walking trail network. The site is also a KCDC Waster Water Pumping Station site with some overflow ponds directly adjacent to the parking area and playground.

Waikanae Beach: Pharazyn Reserve

Te Moana Road Esplanade – beach carpark	The site consists of a sealed carpark with approximately 15 carparks, good beach access, is sheltered and protected from the wind.

Waikanae Beach: Te Moana Rd Esplanade Reserve Waimea Rd Beach

Waimeha Domain – Tutere Street	On Tutere Street by Waimeha Domain there are 10-15 designated street parking spots. Nearby are several shops/restaurants, public toilets, a playground, canopy cover and shade trees, and beach access.

Waikanae Beach: Waimeha Domain

Arawa Street - road end	This site is located at the end of a residential street, providing access to the beach through established walkways. There are bench seats and bins provided.

Paraparaumu Beach: Arawa Street Road End

Barry Hadfield Nikau Reserve	The site is an established carpark providing access to the Barry Hadfield Nikau Reserve and walking trails.

Paraparaumu Central: Barry Hadfield Nikau Reserve

George Street – road end	This site is a small extension of George Street providing access to the beach through an established path.

Paraparaumu Beach: George Street Road End

Kāpiti Boating Club	The site is the asphalt carpark on the north side of the boat club where there are marked carparks. The rest of the asphalt area is prohibited as it is reserve.

Paraparaumu Beach: Kapiti Boating Club car park

Manly Street Esplanade – beach access	The site is located at the end of a residential street, is a formed access way to the beach including a boat launching area.

Paraparaumu Beach: Manly Street Esplanade

Nathan Avenue – road end	This site is a small extension of Nathan Avenue providing access to the beach through an established path.

Paraparaumu Beach: Nathan Ave Road End

Ngapotiki Street	This site is a small extension of Ngapotiki Street providing access to the beach through an established path.

Paraparaumu Beach: Ngapotiki Street

Nikau Palm Road	The site is a pull off area providing access to the Barry Hadfield Nikau Reserve and walking trails. There are no designated carparks.

Paraparaumu Central: Nikau Palm Rd

Takutai Street – beach access	Takutai Street is a narrow way providing limited parking off Manly Street for beach access

Paraparaumu Beach: Takutai Street

Aotea Road – road end	This site is located at the end of a residential street, providing access to the beach through established walkways.

Raumati South: End of Aotea Road

Hydes Road – road end	This site is located at the end of a residential street, providing access to the beach through established walkways.

Raumati South: End of Hydes Road

Garden Road	Garden Road is a minor road around the Raumati Marine Gardens which contains a number of marked parallel carparks on its south side.

Raumati Beach: Garden Road (RMG Playground carpark) Raumati Marine

Tainui Street	This site is located at the end of a residential street, providing access to the beach through established walkways. There are bench seats and bins provided.

Raumati Beach: Tainui St

Takitimu Road – road end	Takitimu Road is a small narrow road providing access to several residential properties and access to the beach.

Raumati Beach: End of Takitimu Road

Tennis Court Road – club carparks	The site is located along a quiet residential street, has tennis courts and a community building (with public toilets), a playground and two established paved carparks.

Raumati South: Tennis Court Rd

Weka Road	The prohibited areas are the marked carparks between Weka Park and the Weka Road/Raumati Road intersection. There is street side parking along the Weka Road.

Raumati Beach: Weka Road

Ames Street Reserve	This site is a large reserve area with access to the beach. It is host to penguin nesting, has amenities such as picnic tables and pathways. The site has some large well-maintained grassy areas, trees for shade and a formed pathway/utility road. The site is also a part of the Heritage Trail.

Paekākāriki: Ames St Reserve

Robertson Road	This site is the parallel parking area next to the tennis courts where Robertson Road intersects with Wellington Road. There are approximately 12 formed carparks along the road.

Paekākāriki: Robertson Road