

## Recreation reserves

It is hereby declared that the appropriate provisions of this Act shall have effect, in relation to reserves classified as recreation reserves, for the purpose of providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside.

It is hereby further declared that, having regard to the general purposes specified in subsection (1), every recreation reserve shall be so administered under the appropriate provisions of this Act that—

- (a) the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on the administering body by [sections 53](#) and [54](#), 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:
- (b) where scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, 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:  
provided that nothing in this subsection shall authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the [Wildlife Act 1953](#) or any regulations or Proclamation or notification under that Act, or the doing of anything with respect to archaeological features in any reserve that would contravene any provision of the [Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014](#):
- (c) those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve shall be conserved:
- (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.