

# Mount Iron Reserve Management Plan



**WĀNAKA**

Adoption Date: 17 April 2025



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*Damp area and open space on the Hidden Hills side of Mount Iron.*

## OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS

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Conservation Act 1987

Health and Safety Act 2015

Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998

Reserves Act 1977

Resource Management Act 1991

Te Runanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Wildlife Act 1953

QLDC Activity Controls to Manage Wildfire Risk within Reserves

QLDC Activity in Public Places Bylaw

QLDC Alcohol Bylaw

QLDC Art in Public Places Policy

QLDC Climate and Biodiversity Plan

QLDC Creativity, Culture and Heritage Strategy

QLDC Disability Policy

QLDC District Plan

QLDC Dog Bylaw

QLDC Event Enquiry Form

QLDC Events Strategy

QLDC Film Permit - for drone use

QLDC Open Spaces Strategy

QLDC Plaques, Memorials & Monuments Policy

QLDC Public Art Policy

QLDC Smoking Policy

QLDC Traffic and Parking Bylaw

QLDC Tree Policy

QLDC Wildfire Reserve Closure Plan

QLDC-NZTA Active Travel Strategy

DOC and QLDC Community / Volunteer Agreements (various)

DOC-QLDC Management Agreement 2024

FENZ 'Flammability of indigenous plant species' guide

Kāi Tahu ki Otago Natural Resource Management Plan 2005

Te Tangi a Tauria – The Cry of the People 2008

PISA RAP1 MOUNT IRON - Survey Report for the Lindis/Pisa/Dunstan Ecological Districts - Protected Natural Areas Programme 19xx

Otago Geopreservation Inventory GNS see also [www.naturemaps.nz](http://www.naturemaps.nz)

Significant Natural Area Assessment Mt Iron SNA E18H – Glenn Davis Nov 2011; Significant Natural Area Assessment Sheets for SNA E18C, 18D and 18D\_2

Evaluation of a Proposed Significant Natural Area at Mt Iron, Wanaka Wildlands Contract Report No. 3762 March 2017

Ecological Assessment of Fence Construction Effects at Mt Iron Wanaka Wildlands Contract Report no. 6366 June 2022

Schedule 21.22.11 Mount Iron ONF Queenstown Lakes District Plan Ch. 21 Rural

## OTHER RELEVANT PARAMETERS FOR MANAGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING

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QLDC Delegations Register:

> Wānaka Upper Clutha Community Board (WUCCB)

> QLDC Full Council

## PROCESS FOR PREPARING A RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESERVES ACT 1977

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22 June 2023 Wānaka Upper Clutha Community Board approved creating plan

25 September 2023 Notice invited suggestions for the plan

20 November 2023 Suggestions closed

19 September 2024 Council approved draft for consultation

23 September 2024 Notice invited submissions on the draft plan

29 November 2024 Submissions closed

10 December 2024 Hearing held

27 March 2025 Wānaka Upper Clutha Community Board recommended adoption of the plan

17 April 2025 Council adopted the Mount Iron Reserve Management Plan

## REVIEW

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Generally, reserve management plans should be reviewed at a minimum of 10-year intervals by Parks Officers. This does not necessarily require a rewrite.

# 1 Introduction

This Reserve Management Plan (RMP) provides a vision for how Mount Iron Reserve is experienced and valued, now and into the future.

## RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN PURPOSE

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This Reserve Management Plan (RMP) provides a vision for how Mount Iron Reserve is experienced and valued, now and into the future.

Objectives and policies outline the use, maintenance, protection, preservation, and development of Mount Iron Reserve. These assist with all decision making. Their purpose is to support achieving the community's vision for the Reserve.

## MOUNT IRON RESERVE FORMATION

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Mount Iron comprises multiple adjoining parcels of Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) and Department of Conservation (DOC) administered land, known as Mount Iron and Little Mount Iron, which in this document will be referred to as Mount Iron Reserve, or the Reserve, [see Appendix One](#).

## MOUNT IRON RECREATION RESERVE

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Northern and western portions of Mount Iron and Little Mount Iron were purchased from private ownership to create a Recreation Reserve by Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) in May 2023.

## MOUNT IRON SCENIC RESERVE (UNDER APPLICATION)

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The eastern steep side of Mount Iron remains under Department of Conservation (DOC) administration. QLDC has applied to DOC to have the land vested to QLDC as Scenic Reserve to manage the landform in a unified, consistent and complete manner. Based on a successful application, QLDC would take over management and the policies within this RMP would apply.

From 1 May 2024, until the time of vesting to QLDC, the DOC administered land is managed jointly under a DOC-QLDC Management Agreement 2024 (MA). The MA defines DOC as undertaking statutory obligations and QLDC as undertaking operational management.

*Note: In principle, it is recommended in the first instance to seek guidance about all areas of Mount Iron Reserve from this RMP, or the QLDC Parks Department.*

## 1.1 PRIMARY PURPOSE

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### Recreation Reserve Primary Purpose

The primary purpose of the recreation reserve is to provide for recreation and physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, while protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment, cultural landscape and retaining open space.

### Scenic Reserve Primary Purpose

The primary purpose of the scenic reserve is to protect and preserve scenic interest, beauty, natural features, and cultural landscape for the enjoyment of the public.

*Note: the primary purpose is based on community input from the early engagement on suggestions for the plan.*

# 2 Reserve Description

## LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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Mount Iron Reserve is situated on a combined area of approximately 100 hectares, plus approximately 55 hectares of DOC land.

It comprises land legally described as:

- > Section 3 SO 573783
- > Lot 4 DP 471320

And DOC administered land (under application to transfer to QLDC):

- > Lot 1 DP 302955
- > Lot 2 DP 21892
- > Lot 24 DP 303952
- > Section 40 Block IV Lower Wānaka SD
- > Section 58 Block XIV Lower Wānaka SD
- > Part Closed Road Block IV Lower Wānaka Survey District
- > Section 56 Block IV Lower Wānaka SD

Mount Iron Reserve is zoned Rural and is an Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) under the QLDC District Plan. It is bounded by State Highway 84 (SH84), State Highway 6 (SH6) and otherwise surrounded by Large Lot Residential and Lower Density Suburban Residential zoned land uses. Wānaka Town Centre and Three Parks Commercial zones are nearby, as well as Allenby Park Informal Recreation and several Community Purpose zones which include Wānaka Golf Course and the Wānaka Recreation Centre.

## ACCESS

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Mount Iron Reserve is located within 2km of Wānaka's central business area and the Lake Wānaka lakefront. The proximity of these locations and surrounding residential areas to Mount Iron Reserve make it a popular site to experience open space, particularly elevated open space, from within an urban area.

Primary vehicle, cycle and pedestrian access is at various locations around the base of Mount Iron Reserve.

A shared path passes along the southern boundary from Anderson Road roundabout to Mount Iron Reserve SH6 car park, linking residential, commercial and recreation areas. It provides a safe off-road active travel route, especially for commuters and school students attending Mount Aspiring College.

There is a shared use track around the base of Mount Iron Reserve that links the SH6 car park to Old Racecourse Road, towards Albert Town. This also forms part of the Mount Iron 5km walking loop track.

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS & LANDSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE

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Mount Iron is an iconic and significant geological landmark in the Wānaka landscape and significant to mana whenua. Rising to 250m elevation (553m above sea level), it provides breathtaking 360° views of the surrounding mountains, flats and lakes.

Geologically, Mount Iron is a classic example of a roche moutonnée landform. It has been carved by glacial action flowing from north to south, which smoothed the north-western slopes of bedrock and left steep crags on the southern side.

There are wet features such as springs, seepage areas, a running stream at times on the north flank, wet areas on the saddle and a stream course running down to Hidden Hills.

Its classification as an ONF in the District Plan means that its protection from inappropriate subdivision, use and development is a matter of national importance under the Resource Management Act 1991 and therefore has the highest level of landscape protection.

The portion of Mount Iron that is now Recreation Reserve was grazed by the Cleugh family. It was called Allenby Farms, which still operates on the north-west boundary of Mount Iron Recreation Reserve.

## LITTLE MOUNT IRON

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Little Mount Iron is a smaller summit with views to the north, east and west, linked to Mount Iron by a saddle.

## KĀI TAHU VALUES

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Significant values that have been identified by Kāi Tahu through the Spatial Plan and Development Plans for QLDC Reserves include:

### SPATIAL PLAN VALUES:

- > Hauora Wellbeing - ensuring the four wellbeings are recognised in decisions.
- > Aumangea Resilience - ensuring communities and visitors are resilient and adaptive to future shocks and climate change.
- > Whakauku Sustainability - ensuring the use of sustainable development principles and zero emissions.

### DEVELOPMENT PLAN VALUES:

- > Ara Tawhito – acknowledging traditional trails and networks.
- > Whakapapa – Recognising genealogy or Lineage.
- > Manaakitaka - Acknowledging others and raising up of the mana of visitors.
- > Whanaukataka – Supporting community and Whanau connections and relationships.

*Note: Currently, QLDC does not have a mana whenua endorsed name to use for Mount Iron*

## ECOLOGY

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Due to its large open space and elevation, Mount Iron Reserve hosts a variety of indigenous species, including alpine and cushion plants, reptiles, and invertebrates.

It contains three Significant Natural Areas of kānuka dominant scrub, listed within the QLDC Proposed District Plan:

1. SNA E18C
2. SNA18D
3. SNA18D\_2

*Note: Currently, the SNAs do not continue into DOC land, as that land was considered already held for conservation purposes.*

Indigenous species examples include:

- > Blue tussock pātīti taranu *Poa colonsoi*
- > Pillow pimelea *Pimelea scericeovillosa*
- > Scented tree daisy *Olearia odorata*
- > Kawarau gecko *Woodworthia 'Cromwell'*
- > Noctuid moth *Meterana exquisita*
- > NZ falcon kārearea *Falcon novaeseelandiae*
- > McCann's skink *Oligosoma maccanni*

Current main planting areas include:

- > Indigenous species near the base of the southern slopes.
- > Semi-mature and new deciduous and exotic trees along the shared path and SH84.
- > Semi-mature indigenous and fruit trees near Allenby Place.

There are pest plants and animals, primarily found on the northern and western slopes. There are active traplines to trap pest animals.

Pest species examples include:

- > Douglas fir *Pseudotsuga mensiesii*
- > Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- > Mayten tree *Maytenus boaria*
- > St Lucia cherry *Prunus mahaleb*
- > possums
- > rabbits
- > rats
- > stoats and ferrets

## RECREATION

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Recreation has coexisted with conservation and farming for several decades, predominantly in the form of a publicly accessible 5km loop walking track to the Mount Iron summit (historically managed under an easement in favour of DOC). Other informal walking and running occurs on the Reserve.

Informal biking trails were previously allowed on Mount Iron by the landowner, but permission was subsequently withdrawn in the years prior to the land purchase by QLDC.

Horse trekking tours have previously operated from Mount Iron and Little Mount Iron to the Lake Wānaka outlet.

The Reserve was also used for climbing, horse-riding, orienteering, paragliding, sheep dog trials, informal recreational skiing or walking through snow, exploring and viewing flora and fauna, and quiet, tranquil, peaceful pursuits, such as contemplation and enjoying time in the outdoors. See more detail in Description of Primary Users and Activities, section 3.

## INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES

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Mount Iron Reserve contains structures, including:

- > Bench seats
- > Cell towers
- > Dog trials statue
- > Environmental monitoring sensor
- > Farm-related fences and gates
- > Parking
- > Signage
- > Wastewater pump station
- > Woolshed

Mount Iron Reserve contains services, including:

- > Toilets and drinking water are available at the adjoining QLDC Allenby Place car park.
- > Electricity to the environmental monitoring pole, wastewater pump station, woolshed and to the toilets.

There are several easements at the base of Mount Iron in favour of QLDC and other service providers to manage underground infrastructure.



*Sheep dog trial statue by SH84 carpark commemorating the world's first recorded sheep dog trials.*

# 3 Description of primary users and activities

Mount Iron Reserve, including both the previously farmed and the Public Conservation DOC land, have long been valued by mana whenua and for open space recreation and particularly the scenic views over the district.

The following descriptions are a general overview and not exhaustive.

## RECREATION

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Mount Iron Reserve has a 5km walking loop to the summit that is regularly and frequently used by residents and visitors for casual recreation, including walking, exercising, dog exercising and enjoying views.

Existing managed and maintained trails include:

- > Mount Iron Trail [*easeament portion*]
- > Mount Iron Loop Trail [*5km*]
- > Hidden Hills Trail
- > Mount Iron – Albert Town Link Trail
- > Little Mount Iron Trail

Mountain biking was allowed on Mount Iron in the past and there are informal trails on the north-west slopes of Mount Iron.

Horse riding was carried out on Little Mount Iron and the northern slopes of Mount Iron where there were fewer other users.

Paragliders use an established launch towards the western side of Mount Iron.

Rock climbers use five established climbing crags with multiple lines, ranging from beginner to advanced, near the Old Racecourse Road entrance to the Reserve.

Informal skiing has been carried out on Mount Iron Reserve and the ability to walk through snow is a valued experience.

## COMMUNITY / VOLUNTEER AGREEMENTS

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Several community and volunteer agreements are in place with DOC and with QLDC.

The Upper Clutha Wilding Tree Group have an agreement with QLDC for carrying out removal of some small wilding pines.

Predator Free Wānaka set up a Mount Iron Trapping Group in 2019 on DOC land. Since 2023 they have expanded their trap lines across Mount Iron Reserve, including Little Mount Iron.

Wānaka Rock Climbing Club has an agreement with DOC for the climbing lines located on DOC land.

## DOC CONCESSIONS & LEASES

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The current limited number of active DOC concessions are under DOC's statutory management. Based on a successful future land transfer to QLDC, they would then be subject to Reserves Act and QLDC processes, which include leases, licenses, permits and community / volunteer agreements.

There is a St John's lease with DOC for the defibrillator located at the summit of Mount Iron currently on DOC land.

## EVENTS

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In the past, there have been sheep dog trials and orienteering competitions.

# 4 Vision

The following vision is the community's overarching long-term outlook for Mount Iron Reserve:

Mount Iron Reserve is a revered Wānaka landmark where indigenous ecosystems thrive, providing outdoor recreation in the heart of an urban environment. It unites residents and visitors, bringing the community together to protect its recreation, scenic, cultural, ecological and geological values.

*View of Mount Iron  
from Three Parks.*

# 5 Objectives

The following objectives are provided to manage the Reserve and support the vision. They are overarching goals; succinct statements on the principal aims of this RMP.

## OBJECTIVES

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- 5.1** To preserve and prioritise the natural, open and informal recreation and scenic experience of the Reserve.
- 5.2** To enable active and passive recreation use, access, and enjoyment of the Reserve.
- 5.3** To retain the Reserve as a large natural 'slice of the outdoors' within a busy town, providing respite from the surrounding urban area.
- 5.4** To protect and enhance the Reserve's unique, special, and significant ecological values, (including SNAs).
- 5.5** To acknowledge the distinctive Mount Iron geology and geomorphology, recognising it is an Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF), which makes it a key landmark at the gateway to Wānaka.
- 5.6** To retain and encourage readily accessible connections to the Reserve.
- 5.7** To empower the community to participate in protection, preservation, and guardianship, to protect and enhance the Reserve.
- 5.8** To facilitate mana whenua participation to ensure Kāi Tahu whanui values are embedded in decision making in relation to the management of the reserve.
- 5.9** To provide for community non-profit events that align with the primary purpose (section 1.1) of the Reserve.
- 5.10** To protect the Reserve from cumulative adverse effects of use and development.
- 5.11** To endeavor to provide a safe and resilient reserve.
- 5.12** To recognise the Reserve's heritage values.
- 5.13** To 'tell the story' of Mount Iron.



Woolshed by SH84.

# 6 Policies

The following policies are the actions that support the objectives. They outline how to achieve the goals. They are clear, informed, inclusive and achievable.

## 6.1 Commercial Activities

Commercial activities may include any for-profit or non-charitable activity, event or other use, including recreation related activities.

*Note: For community events see section 6.2*

### POLICIES

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- 6.1.1** Prohibit new commercial activity within the Reserve, except where required by policy 6.4.12.



*Shared pathway connecting Anderson Road and SH84 Mount Iron carpark built in 2024.*

## 6.2 Community Events

Community events refer to not-for-profit events, activities or gatherings for the community or organised by the community.

*Note: For commercial events see section 6.1.*

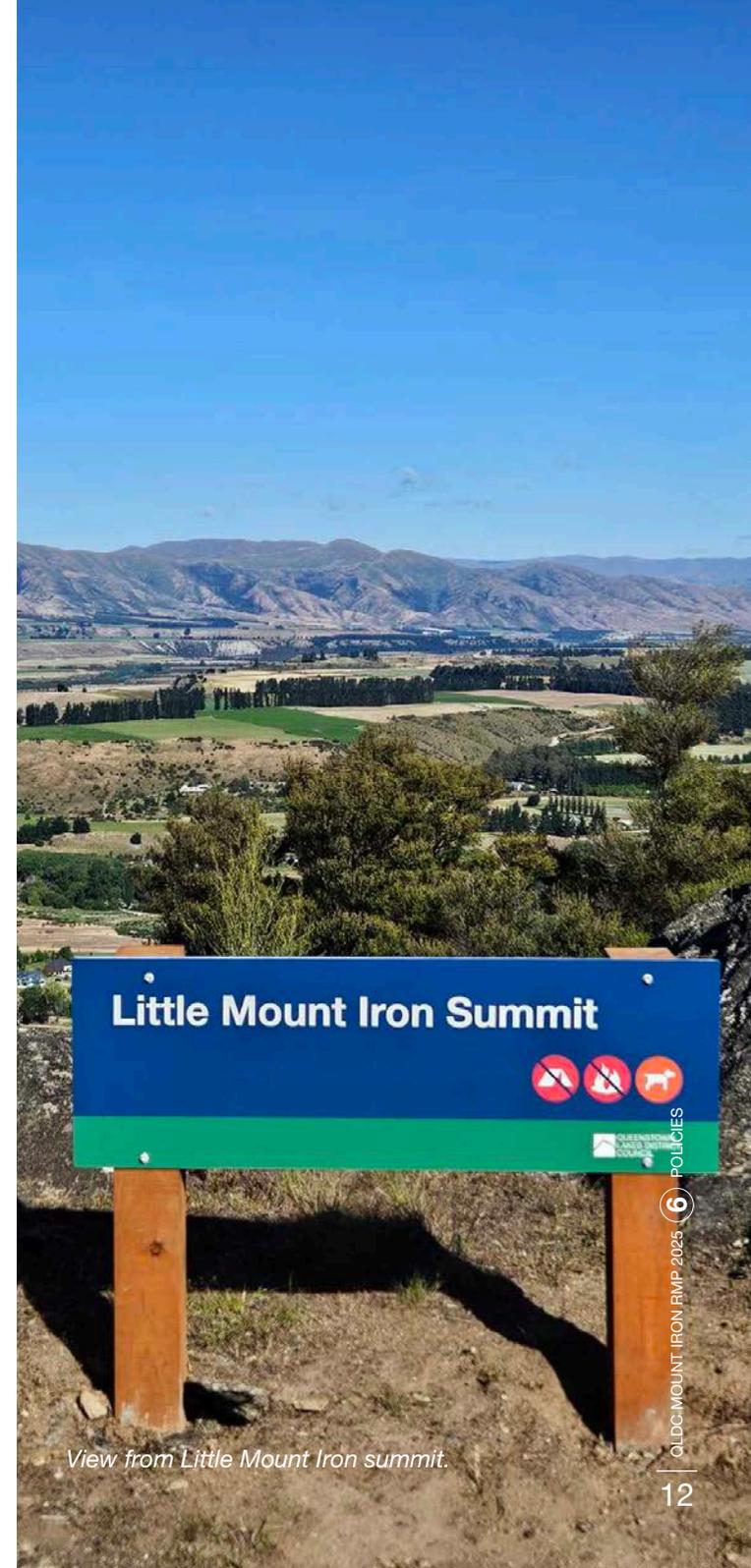
*Note: Events (short-term or one off) on reserve land require a QLDC Events Permit. Lodging a QLDC Events Enquiry Form starts this process.*

*Activities (longer duration, continuous or regular frequency) may require a lease or licence under the Reserves Act, which may also involve public notification.*

### POLICIES

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- 6.2.1** Ensure community events align with the primary purpose (section 1.1) and objectives (section 5) of the Reserve.
- 6.2.2** Require mitigation of event effects to minimise disruption to, and displacement of, other users of the Reserve.
- 6.2.3** Require activities and events to be organised in a manner that ensures ecological values, Kāi Tahu values and SNAs are protected, maintained or enhanced.
- 6.2.4** Consider the use of the Reserve for community, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and events.
- 6.2.5** Assess community event applications based on duration, frequency, scale and cumulative effects.
- 6.2.6** Consider temporary overflow parking on the Reserve for community events in limited areas under circumstances that are specific, infrequent and when conditions allow.
- 6.2.7** Consider the use of temporary signage in conjunction with community events, where it is also in accordance with the District Plan.



*View from Little Mount Iron summit.*

## 6.3 Community Partnering, Guardianship & Volunteering

Community may include a local incorporated society, schools, not-for-profit sports, Kāi Tahu whanui, small community business providers, art or cultural groups operating for charitable purposes.

*Note: Definition from QLDC Community Services Fees and Charges Policy.*

### POLICIES

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- 6.3.1** Encourage the community's active participation in planning, maintaining and enhancing the Reserve.
- 6.3.2** Enable community engagement and involvement in planting and caring for the ecological values of the Reserve.
- 6.3.3** Support establishment of a community guardianship group for the Reserve.
- 6.3.4** Support outdoor education on the Reserve, where it does not adversely affect public use of the Reserve.
- 6.3.5** Consider the use of temporary signage in conjunction with carrying out a community activity, where it is also in accordance with the District Plan.



*Members of Predator Free Wānaka check a trap on the Little Mount Iron trapline.*

## 6.4 Development, Infrastructure & Amenity

Infrastructure refers to development such as buildings, parking, fences, signage and services. Amenity refers to items or services that help to provide comfort, convenience and enjoyment of the Reserve. This may refer to planting, landscaping or recreation improvements.

### POLICIES

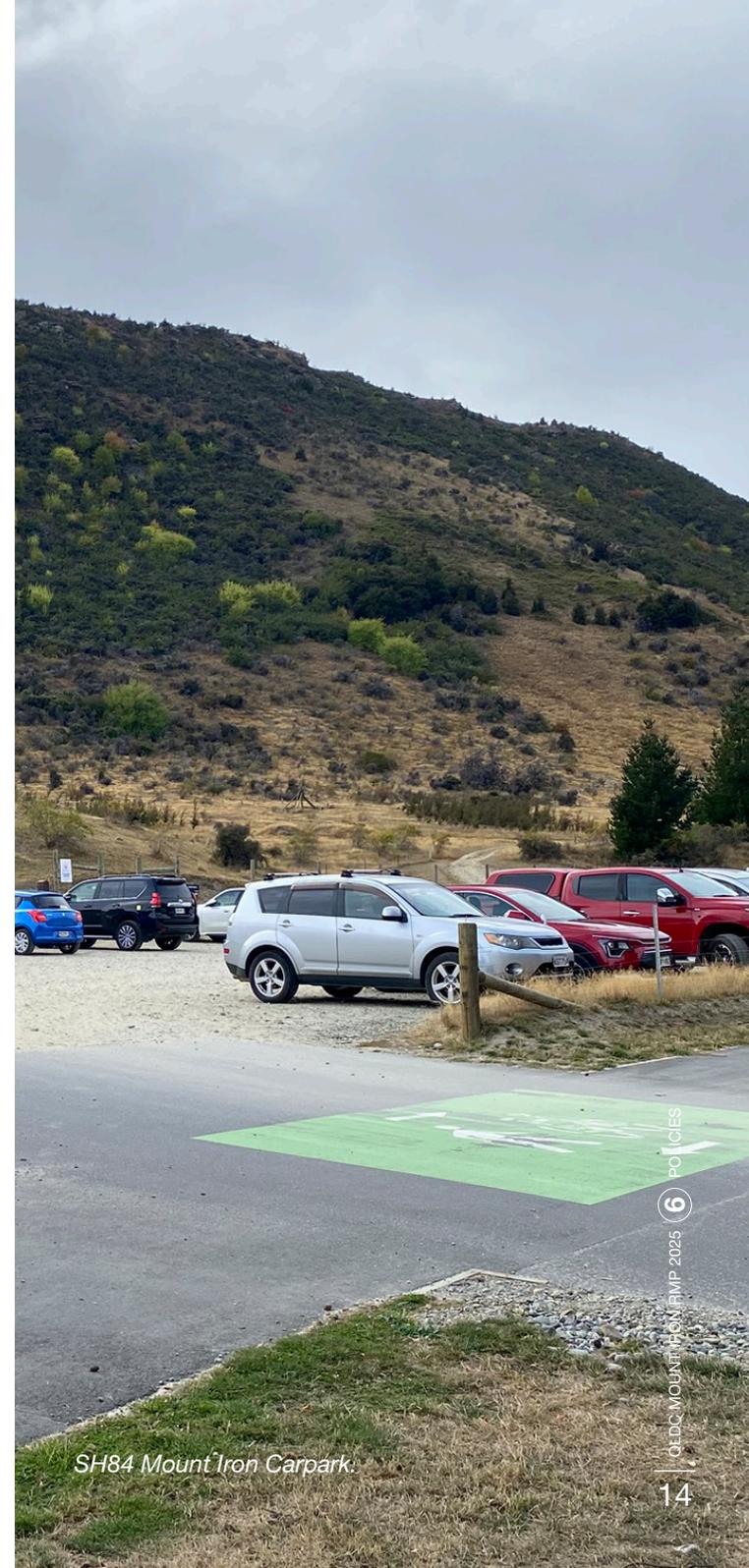
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#### Access

- 6.4.1** Maintain the convenience of accessing the Reserve from the adjoining urban areas.
- 6.4.2** Provide paths and recreation infrastructure close to arrival areas that cater to people with limited mobility.
- 6.4.3** Identify and establish a main arrival area for visitors.
- 6.4.4** Provide strong connections to active transport and public transport networks to reduce the need for parking.
- 6.4.5** Allow parking only for use and enjoyment of reserve.
- 6.4.6** Limit parking to main arrival areas.
- 6.4.7** Support the gateway experience into Wānaka, such as by minimising or screening parking areas.
- 6.4.8** Allow for the establishment of regional trailheads and promotion, if appropriate.
- 6.4.9** Allow for campervan specific parking spaces to improve safety of car parks where there is space.
- 6.4.10** Allow for bus specific parking spaces where there is space if needed.
- 6.4.11** Maintain established informal vehicle access to farm trails for emergency service response and maintenance of the Reserve.

#### Public Services/Utilities

- 6.4.12** Discourage new commercial and public infrastructure, such as cell towers, transformers and underground infrastructure unless there is significant benefit to public health and safety, and when all other options have been considered and found unsuitable.
- 6.4.13** Consider amenity lighting only where necessary at the base of the Reserve.
- 6.4.14** Consider temporary and permanent accessible public toilets, shelters and storage where necessary at the base of the Reserve to meet the needs of Reserve users.



SH84 Mount Iron Carpark

## Fencing, Routing & Signage

- 6.4.15** Allow for removal of unnecessary fences, gates and signage.
- 6.4.16** Allow for signage on the Reserve to identify the Reserve, facilities, interpretive information, wayfinding and natural hazard risks, such as fire.
- 6.4.17** Establish environmental and cultural interpretive signage and seek opportunities to partner with mana whenua to do so.
- 6.4.18** Allow structures or signage only where they enhance the ecological, educational, landscape and recreation experience of the Reserve.
- 6.4.19** Allow pest control fencing for strategic pest control where it aligns with the primary purpose (see section 1.1) of the Reserve.

## Amenity Planting

- 6.4.20** Establish amenity trees to provide shelter and shade where appropriate, such as along shared active travel paths and for parking. This may include appropriate indigenous or exotic planting.

## Heritage

- 6.4.21** Consider opportunity for adaptive reuse of woolshed building, prioritising community, education and recreation uses.

## Kāi Tahu Values

- 6.4.22** Allow Kāi Tahu cultural representation, interpretation and expression, such as sculptures and art, where it is relevant to the Reserve and where it sits within its landscape context.

*Note: QLDC Plaques and Memorials Policy applies to all QLDC land including Mount Iron Reserve. Due to the significance and visibility of Mount Iron to many people the application process will be subject to elevated requirements. (These elevated requirements are under review through the QLDC Plaques and Memorials Policy review).*



Toilet block at the Allenby Place Carpark.

## 6.5 Ecology

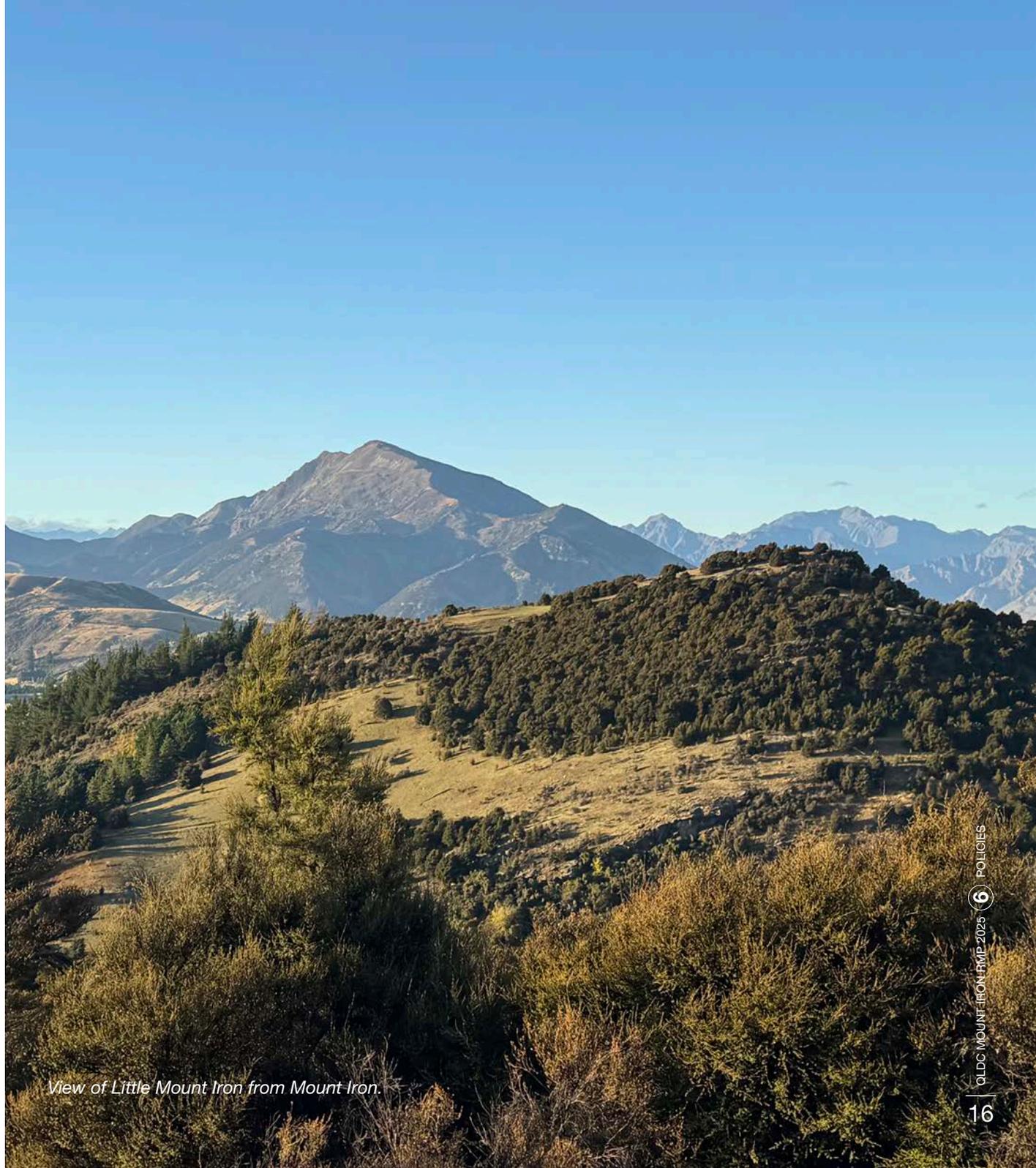
Ecology refers to thriving indigenous ecosystems of indigenous living organisms in their physical environment.

### POLICIES

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- 6.5.1** Encourage the community to work in partnership with council to restore and enhance ecological values and manage pest species.
- 6.5.2** Ensure planting, and other activities, do not have adverse effects on the SNA and Kāi Tahu values.
- 6.5.3** Encourage and support regenerative practices.
- 6.5.4** Control pest plant and animal species.
- 6.5.5** Protect habitat for indigenous animals including lizards, moths and other invertebrates.
- 6.5.6** Protect and enhance waterways within the Reserve.
- 6.5.7** Identify and protect view shafts when planting areas near viewpoints.
- 6.5.8** Require ecological assessments prior to development or planting when appropriate, which will be in most instances.
- 6.5.9** Ensure planting avoids high and moderately high flammability species, where it is outside the SNAs and close to residential areas.

*Note: Fire and Emergency New Zealand provides a 'Flammability of indigenous plant species' guide.*



*View of Little Mount Iron from Mount Iron.*

## 6.6 Landscape & Geology

Landscape and Geology refers to the natural landform and all its features and natural processes over time and currently. This includes landscape character, ephemeral, physical, visible and non-visible elements and cultural landscape. It also refers to geomorphology and other earth-related disciplines.

### POLICIES

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- 6.6.1** Promote the significance of Mount Iron as an example of a roche moutonnée (sheep back) landform.
- 6.6.2** Locate and construct trails in a manner to avoid adverse effects on the landform and cultural landscape.
- 6.6.3** Maintain and enhance the landscape values of the ONF and the cultural values identified by Kāi Tahu in the District Plan.



*Mount Iron cliffs used for climbing on the eastern side of Mount Iron.*

## 6.7 Natural Hazard Risks

Natural hazard risks on Mount Iron Reserve include fall from heights, rock fall and wildfire.

Risks to people, property and the environment can be exacerbated by human actions.

Individuals are responsible for looking after their own welfare and use reserves at their own risk.

*[Hazard risk mitigation aims to be consistent with regional and central government].*

### POLICIES

- 6.7.1** Actively implement and regularly review the QLDC 'Activity controls to manage wildfire risk within reserves' guide.
- 6.7.2** Allow for reserve closures to mitigate risk for reserve users.
- 6.7.3** Identify risks when QLDC becomes aware of them and mitigate them in a non-invasive way and communicate them to Reserve users.
- 6.7.4** Encourage resilience to withstand and recover in a timely and efficient manner from adverse conditions.
- 6.7.5** Mitigate risk to, and from, organised events.
- 6.7.6** Mitigate hazard risks, such as rock fall and fall from heights, in a minimal and visually sensitive way to protect the landform and landscape.



Total fire ban sign at the Old Racecourse Road entrance

## 6.8 Recreation & Enjoyment

Recreation refers to activities carried out for enjoyment.

Active recreation refers to organised, formal uses, such as activities that require gear/kit/tools or specific-use facilities, such as courts, fields and spaces.

Passive recreation refers to informal uses that require none, or limited, supporting infrastructure.

### POLICIES

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#### Trails

- 6.8.1** Maintain and upgrade the current walking trails for the continued use and enjoyment of the Reserve by the community and visitors as a natural walking trail.
- 6.8.2** Enable the implementation of new well-designed walking, biking and active commuter trails that meet the needs of a range of trail users and skill levels.
- 6.8.3** Ensure trail design considers effects on other reserve stakeholders and users, Kāi Tahu values, and ongoing maintenance and safety requirements.
- 6.8.4** Provide for separated walking and biking trails, unless shared use is deemed appropriate and safe in some areas.
- 6.8.5** Ensure the impact of any trail planning, building and maintenance in the SNAs is appropriately assessed and mitigated, and leads to enhancement in the SNA.
- 6.8.6** Encourage viewing areas within new trail development.

- 6.8.7** Consider suitably qualified peer review of proposed trail development if appropriate.
- 6.8.8** Maintain trails to provide a natural experience.
- 6.8.9** Actively discourage unauthorised trail building and use.
- 6.8.10** Remove and rehabilitate unauthorised trails.
- 6.8.11** Ensure trail planning, building and maintenance identifies and considers Kāi Tahu values.
- 6.8.12** Allow urban-grade trails only around the base of the Reserve.
- 6.8.13** Prohibit motorised and throttle-only bikes, including E-moto bikes, other than approved mobility devices, where they assist people with disabilities.

*Note: e-bikes or 'power assisted cycles' are defined by Waka Kotahi | NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) as, "a power assisted cycle that has an auxiliary electric motor with a maximum power output not exceeding 300W and is designed to be primarily propelled by the muscular energy of the rider".*

#### Other Recreation

- 6.8.14** Enable active and passive open space recreation in defined areas for access, use and enjoyment of the Reserve.
- 6.8.15** Consider new recreation opportunities where they do not conflict with existing uses and are consistent with the character of the Reserve.

- 6.8.16** Facilitate reasonable access to as many areas of the Reserve as possible for persons with restricted mobility, balanced with maintaining and enhancing the naturalness and values of the Reserve and the cultural values identified by Kāi Tahu.
- 6.8.17** Support the use and extension of the existing and future climbing crags within appropriate areas, mitigating risk for other users of the Reserve.
- 6.8.18** Support the use and improvement of the existing paraglider launch area.
- 6.8.19** Support use of the Reserve for non-motorised recreational paraglider and parapent takeoff and landings.
- 6.8.20** Prohibit a formal playground. However, can allow for some informal or temporary nature play.
- 6.8.21** Prohibit the operation and take off/ landing of UAV/Drones and model aircraft on, or from, the Reserve, unless otherwise specifically enabled by relevant Council policies and permissions.
- 6.8.22** Consider helicopter landings for emergency, civil defence or park management purposes only.
- 6.8.23** Support an efficient planning framework by updating the district plan zone to Open Space & Recreation, with sub zone informal recreation and, or nature conservation.

# Appendix 1 Mount Iron Reserve Map

- Recreation Reserve
  - DOC / Scenic Reserve
  - Local purpose reserve
  - Outstanding Natural Feature
  - Land parcels
  - Significant Natural Area (SNA) Kanuka Woodland
  - Wet gully
- 
- 1 SH84 Access  
Car park
  - 2 Allenby Place Access  
Car park, toilets
- 
- Shared path
  - Cleugh's Access Way track
  - 5km loop
  - Hidden Hills track
  - Little Mt Iron track
  - Mt Iron-Albert Town link track
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- Dog trials statue
  - Dog waste bins
  - Environmental monitoring sensor
  - Seat
  - Wastewater pump station
  - Water storage tank
  - Woolshed
  - Defibrillator
  - Viewpoint
  - Climbing crag
  - Paragliding launch

