

Access Permit for Akatarawa Forest

**Permit applications must be received by
Upper Hutt office no later than 12pm on Wednesday**

Description of Activities	
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Date			
Name			
Trip Leader / Club			
Concessionaire			
Address			
Suburb		City	
Daytime phone		Mobile	
Email			

Enter Forest : Valley View Puketiro (Cooks Gate) Mangakotukutuku

Exit Forest : Valley View Puketiro (Cooks Gate) Mangakotukutuku

Proposed Route:

PFO Forest Radio Borrowed

Drivers Licence (photocopy attached)

\$100.00 Key Bond (eftpos only)

Office use

Key(s) Issued

Hazards that may be Encountered in the Akatarawa Forest

Hazards		Suggested Action
Roads and Tracks		
a.	Winding Roads with blind corners and rough surfaces	Keep vehicle speed low and keep left on corners. 30 kph maximum speed limit
b.	Many roads and tracks are suitable for 4 wheel drive and motorbikes only.	Experienced & skilled drivers, well maintained & equipped 4WD vehicles.
c.	Other traffic and people using roads and tracks. Vehicles, horses, mountain bikers or walkers.	Keep speed low especially on corners. Be aware and expect other forest users at any time. 30 kph maximum speed limit
d.	Falling debris onto roads, washouts, windfalls.	Be aware road conditions may change at any time. Drive with caution
Topography & Weather		
a.	Steep country, slippery and unstable slopes. Bluffs.	Suitably experienced in back country travel. Appropriate clothing & footwear
b.	Rivers and streams – Rivers can rise rapidly during rainfall events Stones can be slippery. Waterfalls and deep pools are prevalent	Suitably experienced in back country travel. Appropriate clothing & footwear Obtain weather forecast information
c.	High winds may bring down trees or branches.	Avoid entry on extremely windy days. Obtain weather forecast information
d.	Heavy rainfall or snowfall making roads impassable	Obtain weather forecast information Suitably experienced in back country travel. Appropriate clothing & footwear
Other Forest Users		
a.	Hunters, trampers, picnickers etc may be encountered at any time.	Drive with caution. Be prepared to stop.
b.	Horse Trekkers and may approach rapidly	Drive with caution. Give a wide berth to horses and cyclists, preferably stop and let them pass you.
Pest control operations		
a	Animal pest control operations.	Do not touch or disturb traps or poisons.
b.	Pest plant spraying operations	Observe any instructions related to sprayed areas Obey all warning signage.
Isolation		
a.	Forest areas are isolated. Communication tools may be ineffective	Leave clear intentions Carry appropriate communication tools
b.	First aid response may be delayed	Carry a first aid kit. Have appropriate experience & training.
Quad/Four Wheel Bikes		
a.	Use of quad/4 wheeler bikes in the forest.	Always wear a helmet. Do not carry passengers. 30kph maximum speed.
Getting Lost		
a.	Becoming lost or overdue	Suitably experienced in back country travel. Leave clear intentions. Carry appropriate navigation & communication tools e.g. Cell phone.
Incident Reporting		
a.	Accidents and near misses may occur.	Report all incidents, near misses and hazards to the Park Ranger 027 248 1658.

Terms and Conditions

1. That The Users will comply with the Greater Wellington Regional Council Parks, Forests and Reserves Bylaws 2016. Copies are available at www.gw.govt.nz or at council offices
2. That The Users acknowledge the restrictions imposed by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) if it has authorised farm activity, earthworks, and logging or forestry operations on any part of the property. There may also be restrictions imposed after storm events: Obey all warning signs. Refer to GWRC Forest News weekly calendar for weekly updates
3. All key FOBs are to be returned by date stated on the approved permit form unless by prior arrangement
4. Vehicle Use. a) Vehicle speeds are maximum of 30k.p.h in all locations. Usual road rules apply b) Keep to formed roads, do not cut or open new tracks
5. Trip Leaders, Must conduct a risk analysis briefing with their party before entering the forest. Ensure current known hazards are referred too. Report any new unknown hazards encountered during their trip to GWRC. Ensure if traversing plantation forest compartments that one in the party has access to PFO1 radio frequency and is in use. Call procedures covered in PFO visitor induction form. Are responsible for access and exit using GWRC electronic locking system
6. The lighting of fires are prohibited in the Akatarawa Forest except in designated area that is Orange Hut BBQ and fireplace
7. Enter streams and rivers only to cross
8. No access to 'working' skid sites/ logging operations. Give way to all loaded logging trucks. Follow PFO radio procedures. Refer to PFO visitor induction form.
9. This permit is not transferable and must be surrendered on demand to any Authorised Council Officer and may at any time be cancelled by public notice issued by radio, website or published in local newspapers. Four wheel drive clubs trip leaders may transfer permit to another current credited trip leader. This is to be notified to GWRC prior to entering forest.
10. This permit does not entitle the holder to enter any area under control of or in the ownership of The Council already under license, lease, or permit to any other person nor does it confer a right to access except by way of defined legal roads or rights of way. Permission to cross any private land must be obtained from the owner or occupier.
11. This permit confers no right to fell or remove any trees, shrubs or other forest produce on council land.
12. GWRC requires permit holders either to hold unit standards 6197, 6196, 43 or to adhere to chainsaw use under the 4WD club's own health and safety policy to operate a chainsaw to facilitate/assist access along an authorised track. The chainsaw shall be equipped with an effective chain brake and trigger lock. GWRC requires that as a minimum requirement the following safety equipment be used:
 - Steel capped boots or shoes
 - Chainsaw chaps or trousers
 - Eye and ear protection
 - Safety mitt on the chainsaw
13. This permit is not a hunting permit. No firearm may be taken on to council land unless a specific hunting permit has been issued.
14. Dogs are welcome. Please keep them under control at all times.
15. All signage associated with any event is to be removed within two weeks.
16. Any damage caused as a result of The Users entry upon the property is to be made good or repaired to the satisfaction of the Manager, Parks or the reasonable costs of making good or repairing the damage will be paid.

I have read and understand the Terms and Conditions

I have read and understand the Hazards in the Akatarawa Forest

Signed (Permit holder)

**Signed on behalf of Amanda Cox
Manager, Park**

Date