

# Summary of Services provided in the 2005/06 Annual Plan

## Annual Programme Achievements 2005/06

### 1. Bridges

Our carpenters inspected all park structures every six months. All new or replaced structures met resource consent and Building Act regulations.

- A number of bridges in Battle Hill and Belmont were damaged by flood and storm damage during the year. These required rebuilding and associated track re-establishment.

### 2. Buildings

Buildings were maintained and serviced to the standard required. Ongoing maintenance was carried out on all rangers' houses;

- Landscaping work was carried out around the toilets at Queen Elizabeth Park;
- Building painting was carried out to design standards as required.

### 3. Utilities and Sanitary

Toilets and water supply systems were regularly serviced throughout the year. Contractors cleaned toilets at Queen Elizabeth Park, Belmont Regional Park and Kaitoke Regional Park to required standards. Staff serviced toilets at the other parks and recreation areas. Park Rangers, and occasionally contractors, collected and removed rubbish.

Water treatment was undertaken at all parks to water drinking standards. Issues regarding frequency of testing to conform to NZ drinking water standards have been resolved. Septic tanks were emptied and water pipes were replaced as required across the park network.

### 4. Grounds

Regular grass mowing was undertaken at all parks to required standards and the landscape team undertook tree planting, landscaping and spraying during the year. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- Amenity gardens were maintained;
- New trees were planted and redundant ones removed;
- Streams were kept clear of debris;
- Landscaping/seeding/fertilising was carried out;
- Tree surgery was carried out as required;
- Weed spraying was completed;
- Road edges were tidied and vegetation cut back;
- Gardens were mulched;
- Riparian planting was undertaken at QEP;

- Arbor Day plantings were undertaken at QEP and Battle Hill.

## 5. Facilities

All signage, park furniture, gates, bollards and barriers were maintained during the year to required standards. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- New picnic tables and seats were built and installed;
- New track markers, bollards and horse gates were installed;
- Picnic tables were water-blasted and repaired as required;
- Information panels and map boards were replaced at Belmont Regional Park, Akatarawa Forest, Tunnel Gully and Rimutaka Rail Trail in the Pakuratahi Forest.

## 6. Tracks

Maintenance staff carried out patching and repairs, regular vegetation cutbacks, mowing and weed eating throughout the track network as required. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- Tracks were metalled;
- Surfaces were repaired on all tracks;
- Directional signs were updated and renewed as required;
- Gorse was sprayed and vegetation cut back;
- Culverts were cleared on all tracks;
- Sections of the Hutt River Trail were re-metalled;
- New tracks were formed to extend the wetland walk at Queen Elizabeth Park;
- All tracks throughout East Harbour Regional Park were extensively cut back to bring them in line with New Zealand track standards;
- 300m of the McKenzie track was realigned and 1,124m of new track was formed at the Wainuiomata Recreation Area.

## 7. Land Management

Culvert and drainage maintenance was carried out. Boggy areas were targeted to improve access during wet periods and reduce pasture damage by stock.

Fences were maintained throughout the parks to required standards. Fences in grazing areas at Battle Hill and Queen Elizabeth Park were upgraded. New boundary fences were installed by Transit NZ at Poplar Avenue and State Highway 1 at Queen Elizabeth Park and at State Highway 2, Te Marua, Kaitoke Regional Park.

Ongoing pest plant removal was carried out at Te Marua bush remnants, the campground and Farm Creek area of Kaitoke Regional Park.

## 8. Roading

All roads and access ways were maintained to a safe and serviceable standard throughout the year. Roadside water tables were cleared and culverts re-opened and replaced as required. Potholes were repaired, bollards installed or repaired, and unsealed roads graded as required.

All road and traffic signage met Transit NZ standards and remain in good condition. All relevant work on the Rimutaka Rail Trail was granted consent by the Historic Places Trust.

Metalling, rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of roads in the Akatarawa and Pakuratahi Forests was completed in line with the staged maintenance programme. Clearing of roadside slips at Rimutaka Rail Trail and the Akatarawa forest were required as a result of the numerous high rainfall events experienced over the course of the year.