

13. GROYNES RECREATION RESERVE PROJECT

Officer responsible Senior Park Ranger	Author John Ward, DDI 323 7609
Corporate Plan Output: Parks and Waterways	

The purpose of this report is to request funding for a community project located at the Groynes Recreation Reserve.

Located beside the Waimairi Walkway, the project area comprises of an island of approximately two hectares and also 0.6 hectares of surrounding riparian margins.

Local community organisations including the Girl Guides, Scouts, Te Kupu Ora Trust, Trees For Canterbury, North West Truency Services, Papanui Corrections Services Periodic Detention Workers, Community Service Workers and Taggers have been approached, and are willing to volunteer their services towards enhancing the ecological and recreational values this land possesses.

It is planned to involve eight community groups on this site, to plant native trees, and provide on-going care for them. A Girl Guide and Scout operated nursery, dedicated to training children on environmental issues when earning their badges, will grow genetically sourced native seeds.

The proposed area to be planted initially covers over 4000m². With eight groups, each will plant approximately 500 seedlings, making a total of 4000 trees. Also, potting mix (4cm³) would allow around 500 seedlings to be raised by the Girl Guides and Scouts. The total cost I am seeking from the Community Board is \$7000.

Community Board funding is being sought for the following reasons.

Due to current budget resources being committed this financial year, we are unable to commence the project this year.

Community enthusiasm for this project may dissipate the longer it is left, as our window of opportunity to plant during this winter is closing.

To avoid noxious weeds taking hold of the site.

To promote this community project, we plan to install a 3m by 2m display board on the Waimairi Walkway, overlooking the island. Please refer to the sample on the display board.

Experts, from botanists to planners from the Parks and Waterways Unit, agree that this island project is unique and deserves more attention.

John Ward, Park Ranger, Western Regional Parks will be presenting to this report.

Recommendation: That the Board consider funding for this project.

Chairperson's

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Board provide \$5,000 from the 2001/2002 Discretionary Fund for this project, and any further funding be considered during Project Fund allocation.
 2. That the Parks and Waterways Unit look at purchasing plants from other sources such as Wai-Ora Trust.
 3. That other groups in the community be invited to become involved in the project.