



# Submission on Reserve Reclassification for Crawfords Quarry

To: Waikato District Council  
Private Bag 544  
Ngaruawahia 3742

[consult@waidc.govt.nz](mailto:consult@waidc.govt.nz)

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Submitter: Tamahere Community Committee  
Contact: Charles Fletcher - Chair  
Address: Tamahere Community Committee  
for Service: [TamahereCommunity@gmail.com](mailto:TamahereCommunity@gmail.com) and [charlesnz@me.com](mailto:charlesnz@me.com)  
Phone: 021 964 000  
Email: [TamahereCommunity@gmail.com](mailto:TamahereCommunity@gmail.com)

The Tamahere Community Committee [TCC] was established by the Waikato District Council [WDC] to support the Councillors representing the Tamahere Ward, being part of the new Tamahere-Woodlands general ward. TCC members are publicly elected triennially and governed by the Council protocols for Community Boards and Committees.

This submission is made by TCC representing the wider interests of the Tamahere Community and its population of approx 7,000 living in a rural/country living environment. Tamahere ward ratepayers are one of the largest financial contributors of rating income to the Council.

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Submission on: **Reserve Reclassification for Crawford's Quarry**

Closing date for Submission: 12 noon on 18 March 2024

ECM Project number:

TCC **does wish to be heard** in support of this submission.

TCC is making this submission as a Community organisation.



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TCC submits:

### How TCC is affected?

1. The Reserve is in the heart of Tamahere and over many years Tamahere community volunteers have restored this abandoned weed infested environment into something which is used and safely visited by the Public constantly.
2. The Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust now leads the volunteer efforts, in this Reserve and elsewhere in the 'Tamahere Ward', and reports to TCC every month

### Does TCC support reclassification to Ecological Reserve?

3. No, but TCC agrees that the Reserve needs reclassification.
4. Over a number of years TCC and Council have had discussions as to the options.
5. What TCC seeks, for the community, is **guaranteed access for the public** without arbitrary closure by WDC or DoC for 'nanny state' reasons as has happened in the past.
6. The community has taken a strong interest in this site and turned it from a jungle of weeds to an attractive environment and walking adventure.
7. WDC and DoC have funding constraints and have not shown a desire to fund the work needed for this site, so the community has done the work.
8. The community has the capacity to manage this site going forward, with Council support.
9. The current state of the Reserve is attributable to the volunteers of Tamahere and the Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust – the Council cannot claim any credit nor can Council or DoC direct the future of this land without direct input from the community of Tamahere, knowing its current use and amenity value is solely due to the work of Tamahere volunteers.

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TCC seeks the following decision/s from the WRC (precise details, including any parts that should be amended and the nature of any conditions sought):

1. As an Ecological or Scientific classification (both having limitations) the Council **MUST GUARANTEE community and public access** to this reserve without intervention or red tape interference.

2. If Council or DoC consider there is a problem in the Reserve, that view must be promptly supported with a plan and budget for an immediate solution in consultation with TCC - which must allow for community intervention with a solution.
  3. TCC considers Tamahere Mangaone Restoration Trust has a superior ability to (Council or DoC staff) respond to a problem in the Reserve, and/or to supervise a solution.
  4. This is based on performance by community volunteers over many years and **the complete FAILURE of stewardship** and funding by Council and/or DoC over the years resulting in the jungle of undesirable weeds, no native plant/tree survival and loss of amenity value to the public.
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This submission is filed electronically with the WDC on 18 March 2024.

Charles Fletcher – Chair, Tamahere Community Committee