



Waitapu Bridge recreational site

Waitapu Bridge recreational site has been removed from the Freedom Camping Bylaw. The site is being managed by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency in partnership with Manawhenua kī Mōhua.

To protect this culturally significant site and due to health and safety concerns, there is no overnight camping.

If you are looking to camp, there are a number of friendly camping parks in Golden Bay, which provide affordable camping options and would welcome your visit. For more information and bookings, contact the Golden Bay Visitor Centre in Tākaka – phone +64 3 525 9136 or visit www.goldenbaynz.co.nz

Our aim is to restore the river environment and the water quality at this site so that it is an area of pride, establishing a sense of renewal for everyone in Golden Bay/Mōhua.

The Tākaka River is fed by a number of streams and small lakes, including Te Waikoropupū Springs, which are famous for their purity and are a taonga (treasure) due to their cultural significance.

WAITAPU is wāhi tapu – a sacred place for Manawhenua kī Mōhua. The name Waitapu translates as ‘sacred waters’.

Ngāti Tama, Te Ātiawa and Ngāti Rārua are the kaitiaki (guardians) of all taonga in Mōhua. Waka Kotahi also has a responsibility to uphold the environmental integrity of this area.

Waka Kotahi and Manawhenua kī Mōhua will be working with the local community for their feedback on access issues and potential solutions. These ideas will feed into the longer-term plan for this area.

Thank you for respecting and caring for Waitapu.

For further information about the Waitapu Bridge recreational site, please contact 0800 44 44 49.