



Lake Tekapo



Lake Tekapo Regional Park



Environment
Canterbury
Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

4490 ET/5/34



Finding your way

- Information
- Parking
- Toilets
- Toilets are closed from 1st May till 1st September
- Picnic area
- Lookout
- Passive boating area

- Township tracks
- Combined Walk & Bike Tracks
 - Easiest
 - Easy
 - Intermediate
 - Dog Park
 - Park Outline
 - Under construction

Caring for your Park

Please enjoy the park and its facilities.

Camping – there is no overnight camping allowed unless you are a member of NZ Motor Caravan Association and utilising their designated area.

Rubbish - Take home all rubbish you bring in to the Park.

Native Vegetation – Do not remove, disturb or damage plants.

Please report any issues, or suggestions for improvements to Environment Canterbury Customer Services **0800 324 636**, or ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz



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Environment Canterbury
PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140
P. 03 353 9007 or 0800 324 636
F. 03 365 3194 E. ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz

The Lake Tekapo Regional Park

Introduction

The 165ha exotic forest on the south east edge of Lake Tekapo was established as a Regional Park by Environment Canterbury in 2008. The area was designated a Soil Conservation reserve in 1963, and came under Environment Canterbury stewardship in 1989. The forest was established to control active soil erosion with plantings of mainly Corsican, Lodgepole and Ponderosa pine with some European larch. There are also plantings of amenity trees including oak and silver birch. These two species, plus the larch, provide the autumn colourings of the park and the colour contrast against the surrounding landscape. The purpose of the Park is to provide recreational facilities close to the township for locals, and the increasing number of visitors to the area, whilst recognising the soil conservation and environmental values within the Park.

Access

The Park flanks both sides of the southern end of Lilybank Road north of State Highway 8. The Park can be accessed by vehicles from Lilybank Road. There is also walking and mountain bike access from the Tekapo Village directly or via the Cowans Hill track.

What you can do here

Mountain Biking –

There are currently 24kms of shared use tracks under various stages of development. They have been graded easiest, easy and intermediate based on the national mountain bike track standards. Some of these shared use tracks are along formed vehicle access tracks, while others meander through the forest. Escape access points are marked along the track. These tracks are two way, and are shared with walkers and joggers.



Walking/Jogging – The 24kms of shared use tracks are available for walking and jogging. The Te Araroa Walkway which runs north to south through the Park, is part of the national Te Araroa Trail. This allows access to the southern Two Thumb Track and the northern end of the Tekapo-Twizel Track. Walking up to the lookout provides views over the forest to the Tekapo township and Mt John.



Picnicking – There are two formal picnicking areas with tables and seats, and unlimited areas for informal picnics with shade/shelter/water enjoyment opportunities.



Dog Exercise Area –

A fully fenced enclosure of 2ha is available to let your dog loose.

Orienteering Course – This course has been established by the Peninsula and Plains Orienteering Club. Details are available from the Tekapo Information Centre.

Swimming/Boating – Shallow water makes for safe swimming but take care at all times. There is a restricted speed zone for boats for safety reasons as illustrated on the map.

Safety

Fire – Fire is a constant potential threat to the Park and its users. If you smell smoke, please exit the trees immediately. Downhill or along the contour to a clear area outside the Park boundary is safest. **Do not** exit the forest area uphill. ▶

Please be careful and vigilant over the summer and autumn months especially, when the fantastic weather in Tekapo area also provides extreme fire danger conditions.

BBQs – You are welcome to bring a portable gas BBQ. However please use only on the beach area, where there is no vegetation.

Lake Levels – Lake levels fluctuate depending on electricity generation demand and lake inflows. The levels can impact access to the beaches.

Boating – There is a 5 knot speed limit for paddle, sail and power craft in the designated area. For more information visit www.ecan.govt.nz/advice/your-water/Pages/water-access-boating.aspx

Water Safety – More information about water safety please visit www.watersafety.org.nz

Rabbit Control – Rabbits are a constant threat to successful regeneration of plants and biodiversity plantings. Poisoning operations are regularly conducted east of Lilybank Road. The bait stations are clearly marked throughout the forest, and signage displayed at the entrances into the Park.



Lake Tekapo Recreational Park Inc. Society

The Society was formed in 2008, by the local community, to work with Environment Canterbury to establish a recreational area. Environment Canterbury designated the area as a Regional Park to allow for recreational facilities to be established while ensuring that the conservation values of the land are maintained.

The aims of the Society are to:

- Foster local community support for the establishment and development of the Lake Tekapo Regional Park
- Provide advice to Environment Canterbury on the management and ongoing maintenance of the Park
- Provide a community organisation that will work with Environment Canterbury and other advisory groups in establishing, developing and maintaining the Park
- Raise additional funds to establish recreational facilities and conservation initiatives for the Park
- Promote enhanced recreational opportunities for the wider community
- Provide advice to Environment Canterbury to ensure recreational opportunities are consistent with the protection of the natural setting
- Promote the Park as a working example of sustainable soil conservation and recreational management in the Mackenzie Basin.

The Society consists of volunteers who work regularly in the Park, maintaining and developing tracks, picnic areas, landscaping, the dog park and the NZMCA parking area. Environment Canterbury provides funding for the Park. The Society itself, receives further funding through local trusts and businesses. These funds provide equipment and supplies to help maintain and develop the Park.

To become a member, please contact the Secretary, PO Box 54, Lake Tekapo, 7945

Environment Canterbury, in partnership with the Lake Tekapo Recreational Park Society, is working to a 25 year and beyond vision for the Park, which includes:

- Protection of the forest asset and park facilities
- Increasing the recreational opportunities
- Increasing the plant biodiversity within the Park.

The Park Management Plan can be viewed here www.ecan.govt.nz/advice/recreation-and-parks/lake-tekapo/Pages/tekapo-regional-park.aspx