

# WHAT'S THE FUTURE FOR KINGSLAND FOREST IN RICHMOND?

**CONSULTATION OPEN 18 DECEMBER 2019 – 6 MARCH 2020**

A summary of the draft Kingsland Forest Development Plan

**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY**







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YOUR  
SAY**

## CONSULTATION CLOSES FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2020

We want to know what you think of the draft Kingsland Forest Development Plan.  
Here's how you can have your say:



Head to [tasman.govt.nz/feedback](https://tasman.govt.nz/feedback)  
to submit your feedback online.

This document contains a summary of the  
draft Kingsland Forest Development Plan.  
You can find a copy of the full plan online,  
or at any Council office or library.

### **Tasman District Council Offices:**

- Golden Bay: 78 Commercial Street, Takaka 7142
- Motueka: 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka 7143
- Murchison: 92 Fairfax Street, Murchison 7007
- Richmond: 189 Queen Street, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050



Fill in the submission form attached, scan  
and email it to [info@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:info@tasman.govt.nz) with  
'Kingsland Forest Draft Development Plan'  
in the subject line.

### **Tasman District Libraries:**

- Motueka: 12 Pah Street, Motueka 7120
- Murchison: 92 Fairfax Street, Murchison 7007
- Richmond: 280 Queen Street, Private Bag 3, Richmond 7050
- Takaka Memorial: 3 Junction Street, Takaka 7110



Fill in the submission form and post to:

### **Kingsland Forest Draft Plan**

Tasman District Council  
189 Queen Street  
Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050

Or drop it in to any Council office or library.



# ABOUT KINGSLAND FOREST

Kingsland Forest, on the flanks of the Barnicoat Range that forms the backdrop to Richmond, is a plantation forestry block that has become a popular recreation destination for bikers and walkers.

The 150-hectare forest is owned by Tasman District Council. Approximately two-thirds of the land within Kingsland Forest is in plantation forest and a third contains remnant and regenerating native forest. The plantation forest helps to generate revenue to fund Council activities, reducing the amount of rates income we need to collect.

Kingsland is the least profitable of the plantation forests the Council owns and manages. Harvest cycles impinge on recreational use of the area and on biodiversity. Harvesting can also present a downstream risk to the urban community of Richmond, particularly given the more frequent storms we are experiencing in the District.

The private owners of the neighbouring Silvan Forest are planning to transition from a commercial forestry operation to a large-scale arboretum of natives and exotic species to better complement the mountain bike park within the forest. There are potential future synergies for Kingsland and Silvan Forest, both for future replanting and the development of recreational links.

A new harvesting cycle is about to start in Kingsland Forest. That cycle will take the next 20 years to complete. We need to decide now whether to replant pines for future harvest or to manage the forest solely as a recreational and biodiversity asset for Richmond, replanting in either native or permanent exotic species.

That's where you come in – what's your vision for the future of Kingsland Forest?







# THE DRAFT KINGSLAND FOREST DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## KEY DIRECTION AND OUTCOMES

Over the next 20 years, we propose to gradually retire Kingsland Forest from commercial forestry operations as plantation forestry blocks mature and are harvested.

The forest will be replanted in a mix of native and permanent exotic trees, and recreational tracks will be progressively improved over time.

The draft plan aims to ensure:

- the protection of natural and heritage values.
- provide for a range of community uses of the forest while reducing the potential for conflict between different uses through careful design and management.
- the forest's contribution to the community is maximised by considering all potential benefits, including commercial, natural, cultural and recreational.
- a range of recreational opportunities that cater for people of all ages and abilities.
- opportunities for biodiversity and recreational connections with the urban area and the wider Barnicoat Range and beyond.
- partnerships with iwi and the community to build on the natural, cultural and recreational values of the forest.

## REPLANTING OPTIONS

We looked at four options for managing the forest:

1. Retain as plantation forest.
2. Retire from plantation forest and replant entirely in exotic species.
- 3. Retire from plantation forest and replant in a mix of natives and exotic species.**
4. Retire from plantation forest and replant in entirely native species.

The draft plan is based on option 3. It provides for the establishment of biodiversity corridors to link existing native plantings from the top of the Barnicoat Range to the backyards of urban Richmond. It also enables us to continue to develop a band of native vegetation on the lower slopes of the forest. Through the mid and upper parts of the forest an evergreen exotics woodland would provide permanent forest cover.

We did look seriously at replanting the entire forest in native species. However, the cost of doing so was significant – estimated at more than \$3 million to establish the plants over the next 10 years.

In comparison, the establishment costs for the preferred option are in the order of \$780,000.

The advantages and disadvantages of each option are fully explained in the full draft plan, which you can find on our website and at Council offices and libraries.



## OTHER KEY ACTIONS

The draft plan also sets out specific actions to protect the natural values of the forest and improve recreational use and enjoyment. Below is a summary.

### Biodiversity

- Maintain an active weed control programme.
- Work with volunteers to help enable and advocate for the important work they do.
- Work with neighbours to encourage the control of invasive weeds.

### Landscape protection

- Maintain the forest as a green backdrop to Richmond.
- Consider a common landscape development approach with neighbours.
- Limit new network utility development to existing areas.
- Create and maintain a range of viewpoints within the walking and biking track network.

### Recreation

- Increase the number and quality of entrance points into the forest.
- Improve track naming, signage, and wayfinding.
- Improve car parking and provide toilets at Easby Park.
- Improve existing and develop new mountain bike tracks (full detail can be found on pages 35 – 38 in the draft plan).
- Improve existing and develop new walking tracks (full detail can be found on pages 39 – 42 of the draft plan).
- Provide seating and picnic tables at key sites within the forest.
- Provide toilets at the top of the Richmond Hill.

### Cultural, historical and archaeological values

- Ensure protection of the Reservoir Creek area as a registered historic site.
- Include rongoā (medicinal) and raranga (weaving) species in planting plans for native restoration areas so they are available for sustainable harvest.
- Reflect manawhenua iwi's association with the land on any new signage and provide partnership opportunities during forest development.

### Stormwater management

- Ensure best practice harvest techniques to manage runoff and sediment, limit the construction of new roads and consider debris barriers and extra detention areas if needed.
- Make sure active revegetation happens as soon as possible after forestry harvest using species with good erosion-control properties.

### Fire safety

- Consider using low-flammability species next to tracks.
- Maintain designated safe areas as evacuation points.

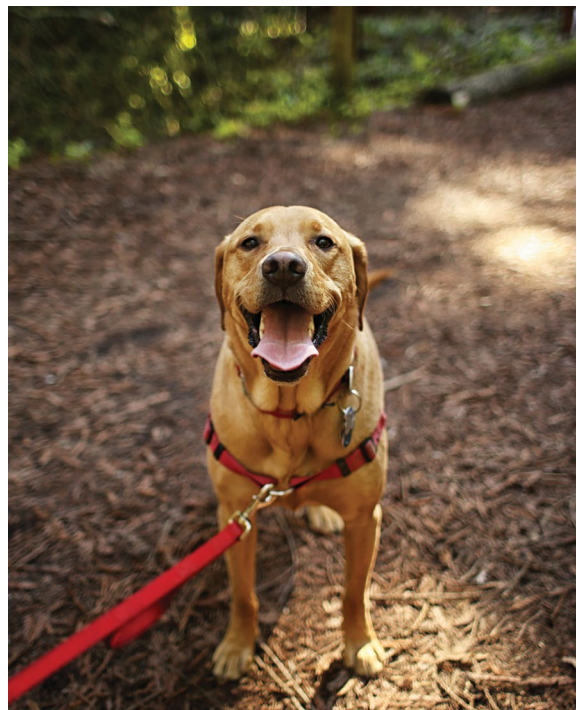
## DOG WALKING IN THE FOREST

We're keen for there to be places in Kingsland Forest where dogs are allowed, while making sure there aren't negative effects on other users and wildlife.

At the moment, Dellside Reserve, including a track up into the Richmond Hills, is a designated dog exercise area where dogs are allowed off the lead. This is a very popular area for dog walkers but it is also home to an increasing wildlife population (including weka) that is vulnerable to uncontrolled dogs.

At the moment we are not planning to change the existing rules for dogs in Kingsland Forest. However, the draft plan does propose we:

- Monitor issues associated with the current rules for dogs in Kingsland Forest.
- Consider future changes to the Dog Control Bylaw to require dogs to be on a lead within native forest restoration areas if required.



# DRAFT KINGSLAND FOREST DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## FEEDBACK FORM

### MAKE A SUBMISSION

**Submissions close Friday 6 March 2020**

- Head to [tasman.govt.nz/feedback](https://tasman.govt.nz/feedback) to submit your feedback online
- Post to Draft Kingsland Forest Plan, Tasman District Council, Private Bag 4, Richmond
- Email [info@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:info@tasman.govt.nz)
- Drop in to Tasman District Council offices and libraries

Tell us what you think about the proposals and actions in the plan.

#### FOREST – LAND USE

**1. Do you agree with the proposal to phase out production forestry in Kingsland Forest and replant in a combination of permanent native forest and exotic woodland?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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#### BIODIVERSITY

**2. Do you agree with the objectives and actions to protect and enhance the native areas and biodiversity of Kingsland Forest?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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#### LANDSCAPE PROTECTION

**3. Do you agree with the landscape protection and enhancement objectives and actions?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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## RECREATION

**4. Do you agree with the proposed objectives and actions for recreational use and supporting facilities?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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**5. Do you agree with the objectives and actions for mountain biking?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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**6. Do you agree with the objectives and actions for walking?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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**7. Do you agree with the objectives and actions for dog walking?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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## TOILETS

**8. Do you agree with the provision of a public toilet facility at the top of Richmond Hill?**

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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## CULTURAL, HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL VALUES

9. Do you agree with the cultural, historical and archaeological values objectives and actions?

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

10. Do you agree with the catchment management objectives and actions?

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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## FIRE SAFETY

11. Do you agree with the fire safety and management objectives and actions?

☐ Agree ☐ Neither ☐ Disagree

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## OTHER

12. Do you have any other comments you would like to make on the draft plan?

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## CONTACT DETAILS (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name ..... Organisation (if appropriate) .....

Address .....

Phone ..... Email .....

Tick box to select ☐ I/we wish to be heard in agree of my/our submission in Richmond on 16 March 2020

*Feel free to contact us:*



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