

Western Springs Pine Tree Removal



LUC60321424 C16

Approved Resource Consent
Document

Land Management Plan

26/03/2021



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2. Primary goals

The pine trees on site have been identified to be in poor health and condition, removal of the pine trees has been proposed to manage and minimise any perceived and potential risks to people and property in and around Western Springs.

3. Improvements and structures

Existing buildings and structures within proximity to the pine trees includes various structures and enclosures associated with Auckland Zoo located to the west as well as Western Springs Stadium to the east and private properties to the north. Other features within the area includes bridges and stairs along the walking track, stormwater and wastewater infrastructure including underground services, open stormwater channel/streams, manholes and aboveground pipe bridging.

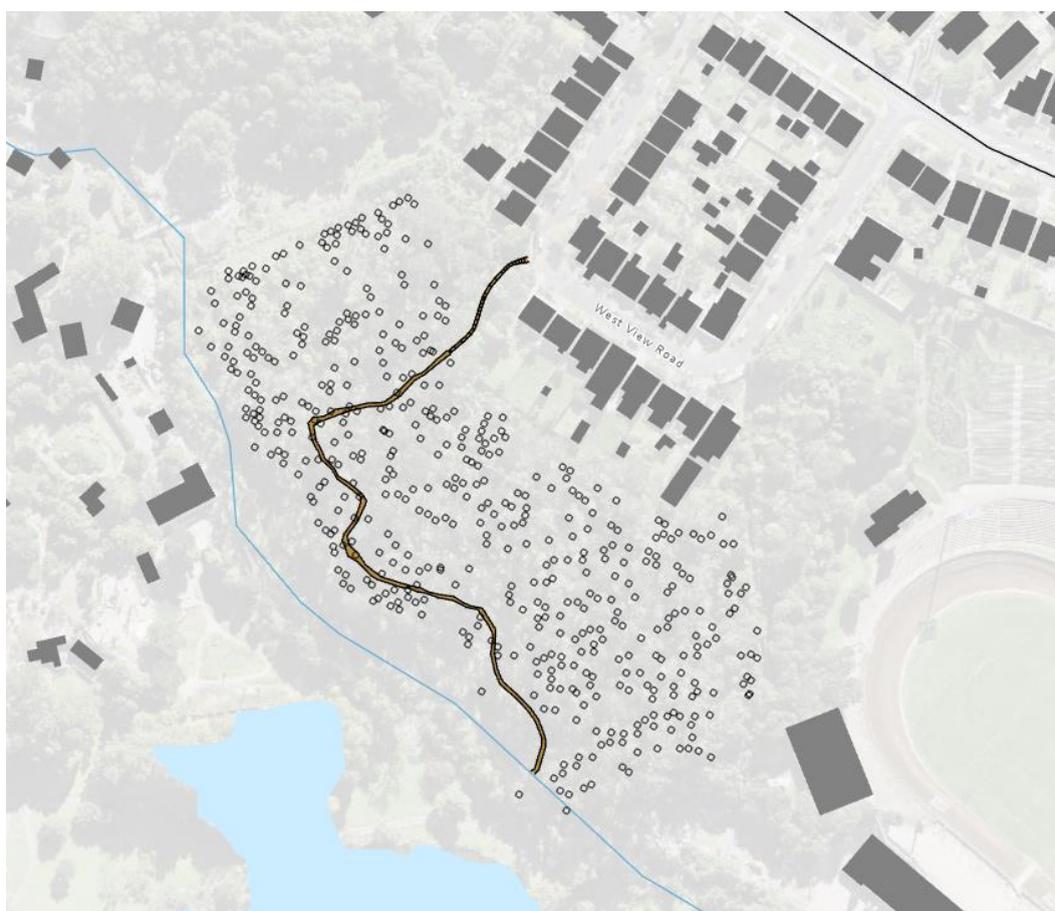


Figure 1: Western Springs pines and surrounding structures.

4. Current land use

Current land use is zoned Open Space Informal Recreation Zone, the area of pines covers approximately 3.5ha. Within the informal recreation zone where the pines are located is a public recreation area with formal and informal walking tracks throughout. The pines are within a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) with native bush regenerating in the understory. Public Access to the walking track is presently prohibited as a result of the high risk associated to falling tree debris.

5. Surrounding landscapes

South of the pines, the Informal Recreation Zone extends to the Western Springs Lakeside Park. The additional surrounding areas are zoned as Special Purpose Major Recreation Facility Zone (Auckland Zoo and Western Springs Stadium) and Residential Single House Zone (private properties on West View

Road). Within Auckland Zoo structures identified that are impacted by the works include the elephant enclosure and staff lunch area. One building within Western Springs Stadium (the public toilet facility) will be within the fall zone as well. The northern edge of the Western Springs Lakeside and Motions Creek is located at the bottom of the hillside where the pines are growing. Nine private properties located along West View Road (Nos 14-34) are adjacent to the works area.

6. Ecological issues on the property

The main ecological issues identified are the pines themselves that have been assessed to be in poor condition, posing a risk to park users and surrounding structures from potential tree failure. The removal of the pines themselves will affect the regenerating native bush that makes up the surrounding SEA and riparian zones along Motions Creek. Priority Areas for Protection (PAP) have been identified which contain high quality indigenous vegetation.

Management of the pines including vegetation clearance for vehicle access and machinery required to carry out the works will be addressed with revegetation of all bare ground including the access track following the pine-felling operation as detailed in the Wildlands Ecological Management Plan (EMP).

7. Land management goals and practices

The overall goal associated with the pine tree felling and subsequent ecological revegetation is to return exotic pine-dominated forest to diverse indigenous mixed podocarp-broadleaf forest. Restoration in this area will enhance the ecological values and provide benefits to the SEA in terms of long-term canopy establishment by removing over-mature trees with a limited life expectancy. Protection of PAP and felling methodologies within these areas will minimise disturbance to the indigenous understorey to preserve high value ecological areas.

8. Implementation

Treescape as the contractor will undertake implementation of the proposed works, details of the project manager and community liaison person are provided below.

Function	Name	Phone number	Postal address	Email address
Project Manager	Brad Beach	M: 027 801 1434, DDI: 09 954 3669	21 Huia road, Otahuhu, Auckland	Brad.beach@treescape.co.nz
Community Liaison Contact	CLC	M: 027 2678818	TBC	clc@kotahiprojects.com

Implementation of the pine tree removal works will commence with a planning and management phase, which will involve meetings, consultation and liaison with stakeholders, submission of final documents and pre start meeting.

Notification to owners and/or occupants on properties adjacent to the works will be by letter drop prior to commencement of activities informing duration of works and identification of the potential effects associated with the activities (e.g. noise). Notice will be given to Auckland Zoo 15 days prior to works occurring in exclusion zones, specifically for the elephant enclosure and staff lunch area. MOTAT will be given at least 10 working days' notice prior to commencement of works however no significant impact on MOTAT's operation is expected from the proposed works.

The site establishment phase will occur over two weeks involving installation of silt fencing, protective security fencing. Site setup with signage, wash stations and site amenities will be located consistent with the Overall site Plan. Silt and security fencing will be transported into site from two entrances, one via the Motions Creek bridge via Western Springs Park and the other will be through the site access from

Western Springs Stadium grounds. Site sign in register, hazard board, COVID-19 and Kauri dieback wash stations will be established at the site entrance.

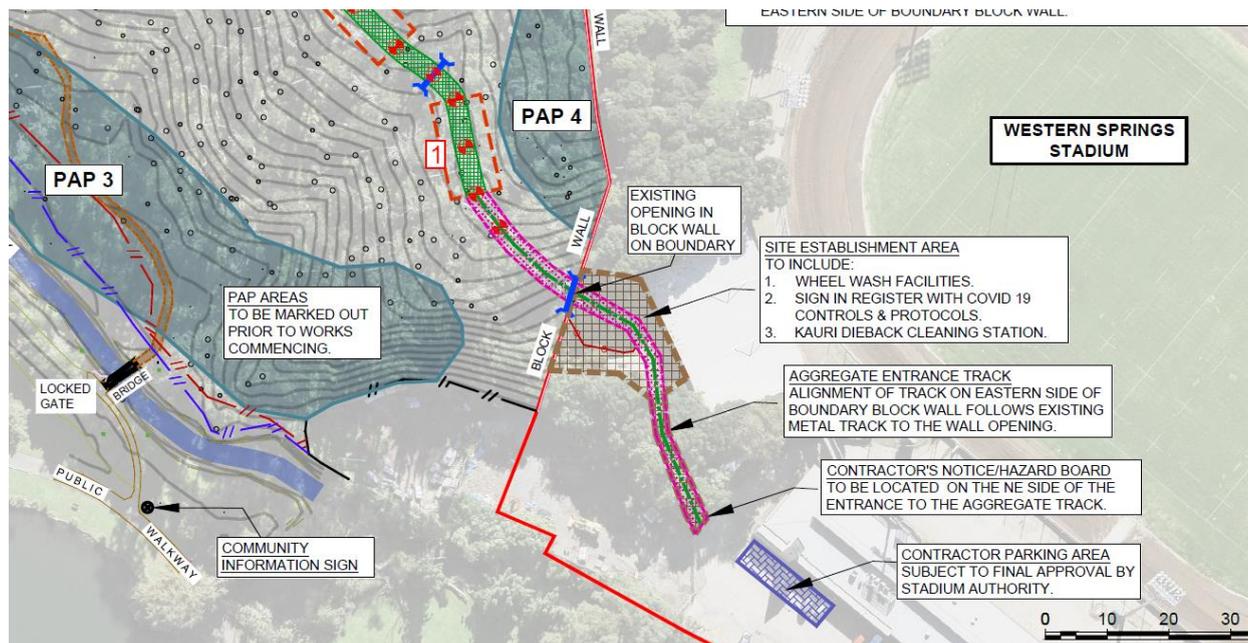


Figure 2: Site establishment area within Western Springs Stadium grounds

Tree felling will occur over six weeks commencing with access track construction prior to removals. Hours for tree felling activities will occur between 7:30am-6pm Monday to Friday excluding public holidays. Trees felled by the contractor will be supervised by an ecologist who will inspect vegetation and determine direction felling is to occur. After each tree is felled, the ecologist will instruct the contractor direction for management of the fallen tree.

9. Maps

Structures and services

