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Report 00.412


Des Darroch
Senior Committee Secretary

Utility Services Committee

Minute extract from meeting held on 21 June 2000

Public Access to the Wainuiomata and Orongorongo Water Supply Catchments

Recommendation

That the restricted opening of the Wainuiomata and Orongorongo water supply catchments be approved in principle, and the Committee invites Water Group Officers to prepare a detailed proposal including the following Principles proposed by Cr McQueen, as amended:

Principles

- *Access to the catchment should be managed, in order to protect water quality and public health.*
- *Areas of the catchment above the intakes should be off limits to visitors at all times.*
- *All entry to the catchment should be by permit that will include a trip plan.*
- *Overnight stays for camping is not allowed.*
- *The existing unofficial access should be acknowledged as a potential risk, and reasonable steps taken to reduce this access to a minimum.*
- *A WRC staff member or an approved guide should accompany Open Day groups.*
- *The proposal may be for an initial schedule of one (weekend) day a month for Open Days.*
- *Individuals or groups wishing to undertake scientific study may be approved in terms of benefit to the catchment (e.g. greater botanical knowledge or for general scientific research).*
- *Police search and rescue exercises may be approved if requested but they will be encouraged to use other areas outside the catchment.*
- *Shooting of animals may be allowed on a permit/managed basis, recognising that culling is an important part of catchment management. Recreational shooting will not be allowed.*
- *Access may be allowed for an approved concessionaire in favour of a specific agreement as to area, route and maximum size of party.*
- *These guidelines will be monitored and reviewed annually to assess benefits/disbenefits and possible changes.*