

Environment Canterbury Regional Council Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

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Waimakariri River Regional Park















Walking only track

Stopbank route (shared cycle/walking track)



Road



Facilitating sustainable development in the Canterbury region

Waimakariri River Regional Park - Baynons Brake

"Brake"... An area overgrown with dense brushwood, briers, and undergrowth; a thicket an area thickly overgrown, usually with one kind of plant ... a dense growth of bushes ...

Introduction

Baynons Brake is a section of the Waimakariri River Regional Park, covering approximately five kilometres of river side land between the Eyre Diversion River and Kaiapoi Island. A night gate is in operation on Baynons Road and is opened at 7am daily and closed at 10pm during daylight savings hours, or 7pm outside this time.

The main purpose of Baynons Brake is to provide recreational horse riding opportunities, however other recreational activities are also allowed for. There is a mountain bike link from the end of Baynons Road downstream to the shared use track at Kaiapoi Island and fishing access, picnicking and walking are always welcomed.







What you can do here



Horse Riding – Baynons Brake provides approximately 10 kilometres of marked horse trail. This one directional trail meanders through mixed forest and caters to most riding abilities. There are several horse styles along the trail that allow horse and rider to access the river.



Mountain Biking – There is a link from the end of Baynons Road, along the top of the stopbank, downstream to the Kaiapoi Island shared use trail. People can ride mountain bikes in the Baynons Brake area but are asked to keep off the horse trails.



Fishing – Salmon and Trout can be fished with a current license from Fish and Game New Zealand. There is a public car park area in Baynons Brake and a short trail that leads directly out to the river.





Walking/Jogging – While there are no set walking trail at Baynons Brake, apart from a short walk to the river this type of activity is always welcomed. Please note that horses have right of way.

Safety

Flooding - Baynons Brake is part of the main channel of the Waimakariri River. River levels sometimes rise rapidly after northwesterley weather and the tracks will sometimes flood. Please be wary if dirty water on tracks as it may be deeper than it looks. Stopbanks are a safe way of quickly evacuating the area if you get caught out.

Fire – Fire is a constant threat within our Parks. Lighting fires is prohibited year round. If you see smoke or fire call 111 immediately and leave the park. The stopbank is a good way of quickly exiting the park.

BBQs - Only gas BBQ's are permitted within Baynons Brake. They should only be used where there is a minimum two metre clearance to any vegetation.

Water safety – Swimming spots are great during summer, however they can be dangerous. Pick your spots carefully and check each time you swim there.

Caring for your Park



Dogs – Dogs are permitted but must be under control at all times. It is important not to spook horses and endanger their riders. It is your responsibility to remove dog feaces.



No camping – Camping is not permitted at Baynons Brake.



Native vegetation – Do not remove, disturb or damage plants or animals.



No fires – Light no fires. You are welcome to bring a portable gas BBQ.



Rubbish – Take home all rubbish you bring in and recycle where possible.





Biodiversity

Downstream (east) from the car park an area known as Baynons Bush is being gradually enhanced with native plantings.

A section of the horse trail winds through Baynons Bush and riding this trail is a great way to spot some of the regenerating native plants. If you look carefully you may see Lemonwood (Pittosporum eugenioidies), Titoki (Alectryon excelsus), Wineberry (Aristotelia serrata,) the New Zealand Fuchsia (Fuchsia excorticate), five finger (Pseudopanax arboreus) and several Coprosma species.

Some New Zealand bird species can already be seen in the forest at Baynons Brake including Fantail (Powakawaka), Bellbird (Korimako), Grey warbler (Riroriro) Kingfisher (Kotare), and occasionally Tomtit (Miromiro). In Spring NZ Pipit (Pihoihoi) may visit and Marsh Crake (Koitareke) a secretive and rarely seen bird can sometimes be heard at night. And if you head out to the river take a moment to stop and look for our unique riverbed birds such as Wrybill (Ngutuparore), Black Billed Gull, Black and White Fronted Tem (Tarapirohe and Tara) and the Banded Dotterel.