



Scree skink



Australasian bittern male



Black fronted tern



Wrybill female with eggs

Source: Department of Conservation.

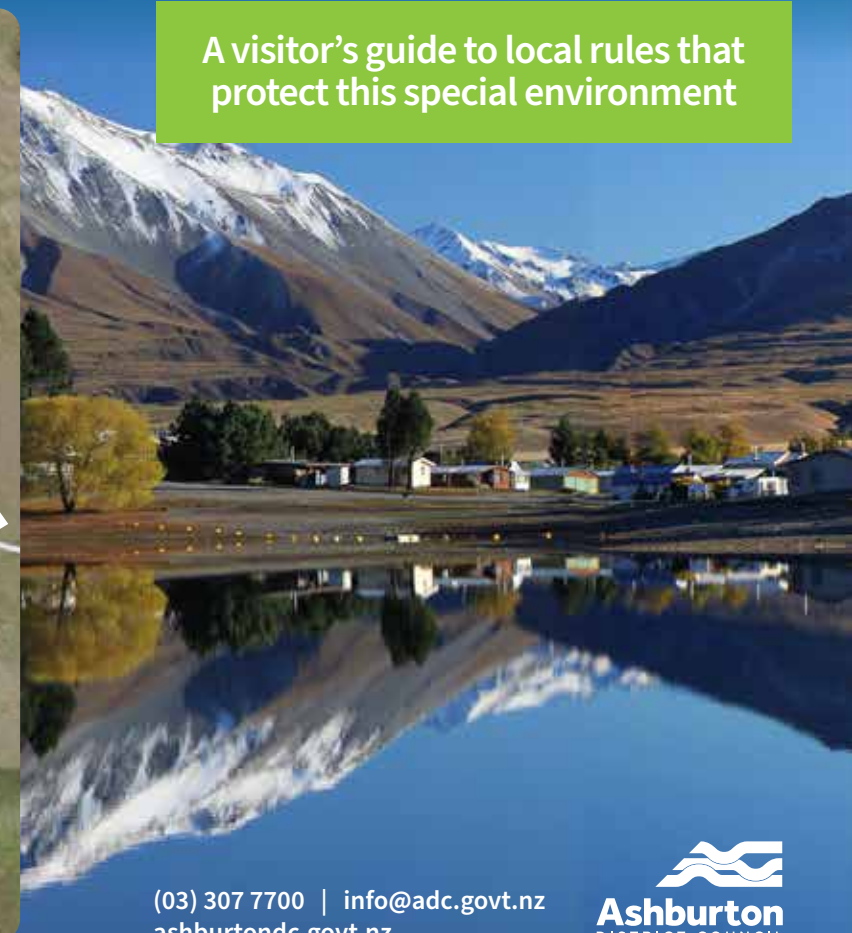
Cultural significance

Ōtūwharekai is the area known as the Ashburton Lakes, of which Lake Camp and Lake Clearwater are a part. Ōtūwharekai is an area of immense cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu Whānui, being both an important seasonal mahinga kai area and a major travelling route between the settlements on the eastern coast of Te Waipounamu (the South Island) and those on Te Tai Poutini (the West Coast).

For more information and to view our plan for the area, go to our website ashburtondc.govt.nz

Lake Camp & Lake Clearwater

A visitor's guide to local rules that protect this special environment



(03) 307 7700 | info@adc.govt.nz
ashburtondc.govt.nz



Introduction

Lake Camp (Ōtuatari) and Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) are part of a very special conservation area and we all have a role in making sure it is protected and, where possible, improved.

Council has a 30-year plan that recognises this sensitive environment and we want to make sure all those who use the area are aware of the rules and restrictions in place.

Why do we need rules?

Recent reports have shown that Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) is currently in a fragile state and its water quality is declining, meaning it's at risk of "flipping".



This means it could reach a point of degradation that could have severe impacts on biodiversity and the overall health of the area, which would be very difficult to reverse.

This would also have a significant effect on the recreational activities that we currently enjoy.

While the area around Lake Camp is a recreation reserve, it has important biodiversity values, and the water quality of this lake is also under threat.

We all want to see this area protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations, and this will require everyone to play their part, including local authorities and visitors.

Camping



Camping is permitted on the northern and eastern sides of Lake Camp, where there are existing public toilets. However **camping is not permitted on the southern side of Lake Camp.**

There is a camping ground near the boat ramp at the southern end of Lake Clearwater. Toilets and water (required to be boiled for drinking) are provided at the Lake Clearwater site but can be used by all campers. The Lake Clearwater Reserve has an honesty box provided.

No motorised craft are allowed on Lake Clearwater.

Recycling facilities



Please consider taking your rubbish and recycling home, however there are facilities available at the Lake Clearwater Huts.

If you are recycling larger volumes, recycling facilities are also available at Mount Somers (Ashburton Gorge Road) and at Staveley (Boyd's Road, behind the hall), and these are open every day for aluminium and steel cans, plastics and glass bottles.

Four wheel drives (4WDs) and All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)



No recreational driving (4WDs and ATVs) is allowed on the southern boundary of Lake Camp, including on the lake shores, and the whole lake bed itself. The shores are home to indigenous flora and fauna, and need to be protected from damage caused by motorised vehicles.

Unauthorised 4WDs/ATVs activity and/or any damage to the environment may be an offence under the Reserves Act, the Resource Management Act and Ashburton District Council's Open Spaces Bylaw.

No dogs



There are absolutely **no dogs allowed** in the area, including:

- ✗ Lake Camp Reserve area
- ✗ Lake Clearwater hut and campground areas
- ✗ Lake Clearwater shores
- ✗ Lake Heron shores
- ✗ Maori Lakes shores

Dog owners are liable under Section 20(5) of the Dog Control Act and are in breach of the Dog Control Bylaw. **Owners will be issued a \$300 fine if found with a dog in any of these places.**

Toilets



Public toilets are available at the huts, along the northern side of Lake Camp and at the southern end of Lake Camp. Additional toilets are planned for the western end of Lake Camp.