



01 July 2015

Holiday Parks Association Position of Freedom Camping

As an Association we support freedom camping in New Zealand in **appropriate locations**.

As part of local communities our members take an active part in the development of policies and bylaws which apply to freedom camping. Our members provide feedback on suggested freedom camping areas. In some cases we will support freedom camping areas and in others we will oppose them; these decisions will be linked to the appropriateness of the location and the mood of the community. In most instances we do not consider urban locations as being appropriate for free camping.

While we do not seek special protection for our members from the bylaws it is sensible that some buffer around commercial Holiday Parks be put in place. This can assist in discouraging the unlawful use of facilities e.g. showers toilets and dump stations, which occur at many parks, but also remove the inevitable tension that will arise from campers overnighting for free in close proximity to commercial holiday parks.

HAPNZ has been an active participant in the NZ Responsible Camping Forum and fully supports the key messages and information that has been agreed and promoted by group members. We believe that strong, consistent national messages, backed by comprehensive regional information will help remove much of the tension that has existed over vehicle-based camping and result in better experiences for campervan holiday-makers and communities.