

HIKAROROA MT. WATKIN SCENIC RESERVE



Kanuka Hump Track Reopening Post Completion Report 2026

Hikaroroa / Mt. Watkin Scenic Reserve

Kanuka Hump Track

Reopening Post Completion Report

2026



Produced on behalf of the Dunedin City Council

by

Mammalian Corrections Unit Ltd.

Table of Contents

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Operation Overview | 2.4 Timing of Operation |
| 2.1 Location & GPX File | 2.5 Health and Safety |
| 2.2 Scope of Work | 2. Operational Maps |
| 2.3 Activities Undertaken | 3. Completion Photographs & Video |
| | 4. Acknowledgements |

Operation Overview: General Information

Location: Kanuka Hump Track, Hikaroroa / Mt Watkin Scenic Reserve

GPX File of Completed Track: [Link](#)

Scope of Work: Operation involved cutting back encroaching vegetation and clearing windfall trees from approximately 900 metres of existing vehicle track. The objective was to reinstate safe and reliable access along the track corridor.

Activities Include: Hand-cutting and trimming of overhanging and track-edge vegetation, scrub bar clearing of scrub and saplings on vehicle track, and chainsaw use to remove fallen trees and large windfall debris obstructing the track.

All work remained within the existing track footprint. No new ground disturbance or track formation was undertaken -- extra care was taken not to damage surrounding trees or significant vegetation.

Timing of Operation: Operation took place over two days from Wednesday-Thursday the 25 & 26th of Feb 2026.

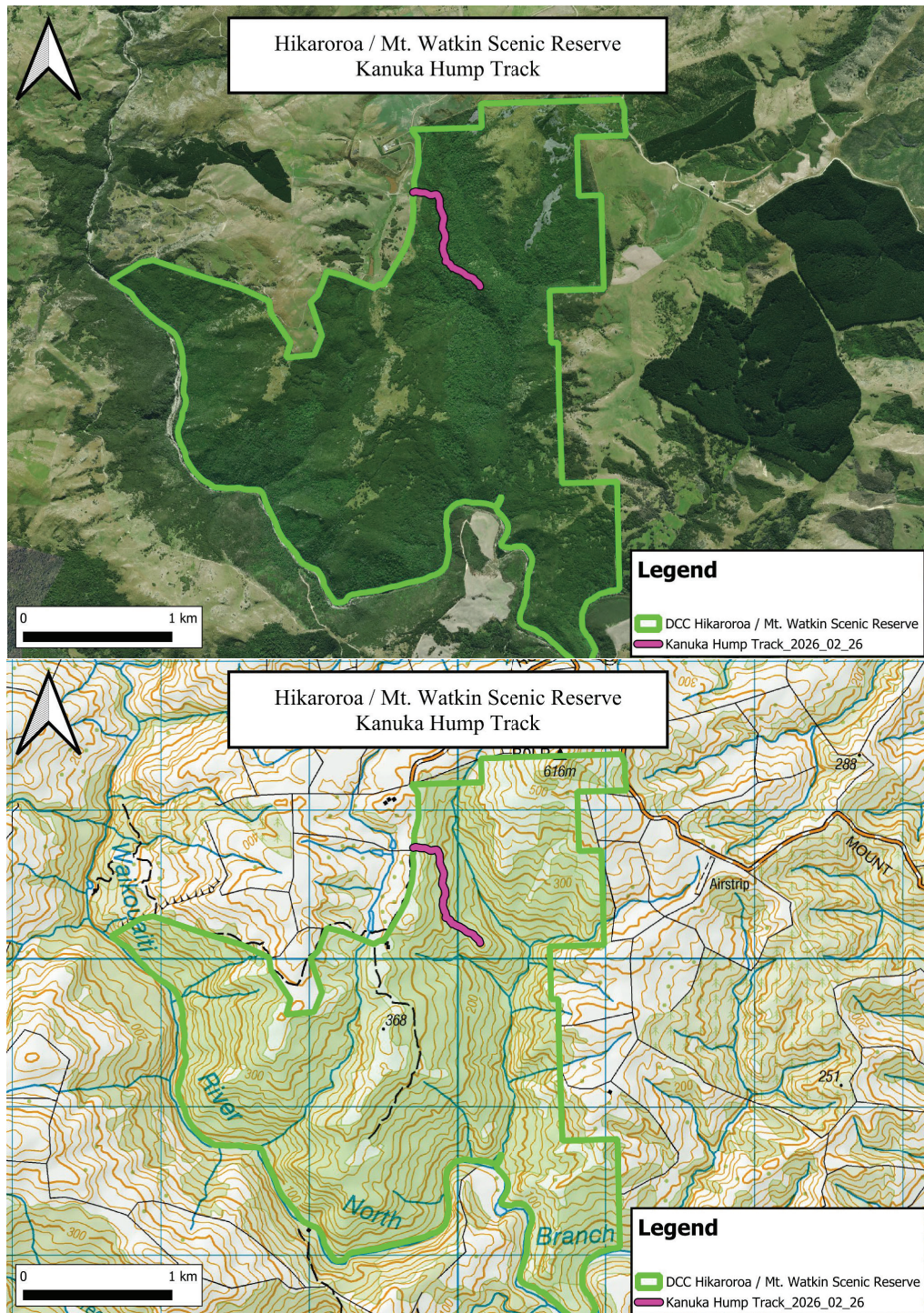
Standards, Procedures, & H&S:

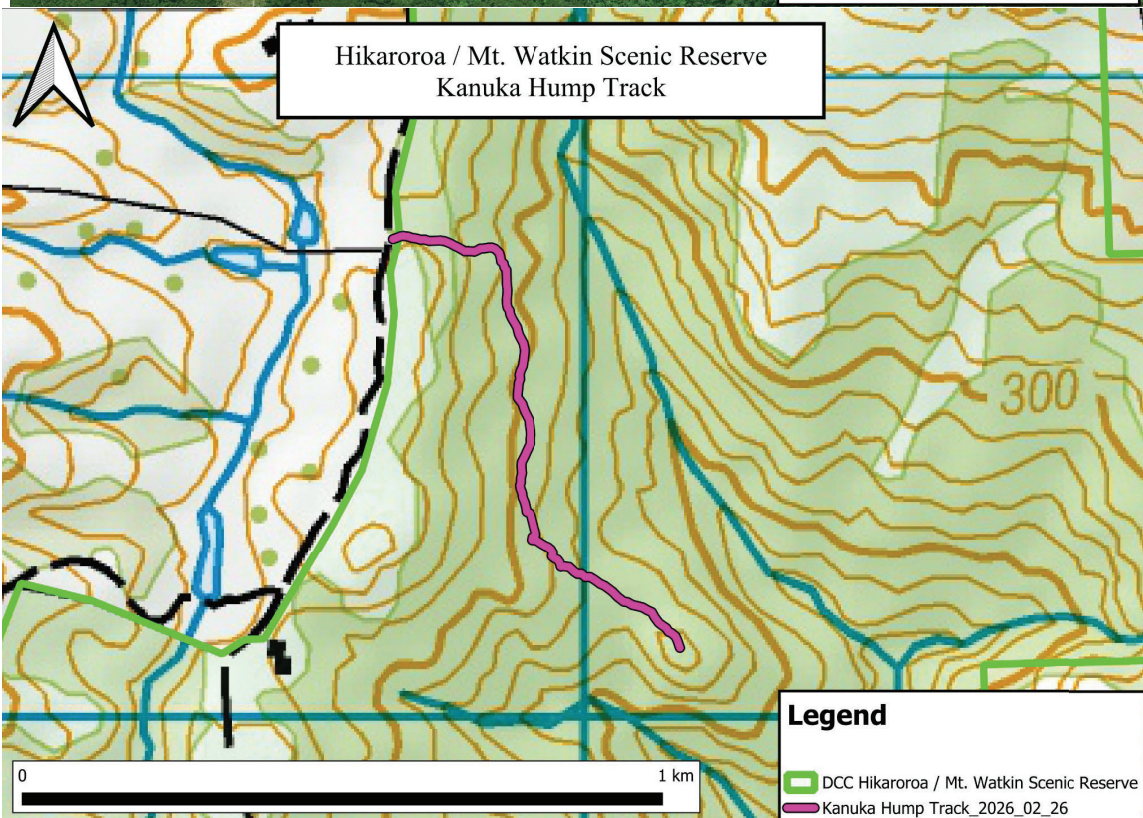
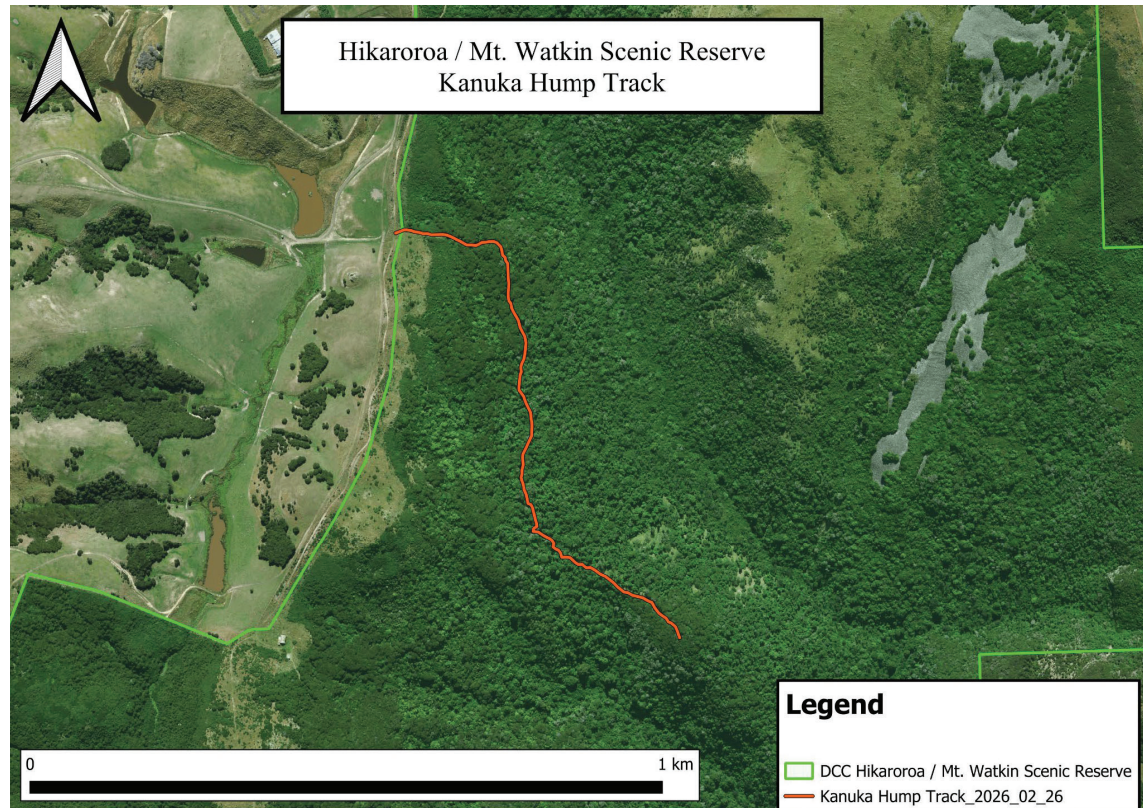
All general hazards, controls, and operational procedures associated with track cutting and vegetation clearance were managed in accordance with the *MCU Health & Safety Plan – Track Cutting Section*.

No additional hazards were recorded or added to the *Hazards Register* in association to this work. No H&S incidents occurred.

Maps:

The below maps show the location of the tracklog of the operation on Satellite and Topo50.





Completion Photos:

Before:



After:

Vehicle Access Video: [Link](#)











Waikouaiti School Field Trip on the freshly reopened Kanuka Hump Track

Acknowledgements

We thank the Mammalian Corrections Unit Track Cutting Team for the contribution of their time and effort to help facilitate track maintenance at the Hikaroroa / Mt. Watkin Scenic Reserve. This work was completed by MCU as a pro-bono contractor operation to help facilitate a publicly accessible and family friendly walking track at Hikaroroa / Mt. Watkin Scenic Reserve. This was equivalent to a \$4,750 donation to the DCC for completion of this track. MCU would like to thank [Kate Tanner](#) at the DCC for the opportunity to contribute to reserve track maintenance. MCU would like to additionally thank Joe Taurima for his ongoing maintenance work at the reserve, Waikouaiti School / Principle Stewart for his enthusiasm and commitment to getting the next generation to experience local wilderness, and to the Hikaroroa / Mt. Watkin Conservation Group for their efforts facilitating and hosting the school field trip.