

Point England Reserve

Kia ora all

I have always voted Green and I have donated to your campaigns in the past. Like you I love our green spaces and most weekends (like many of your voters) you can find me trapping, weeding and planting trees at my local reserve.

That's about to change tho as my local reserve is at Point England and Nick Smith wants to build houses on it. I look after the endangered birds that roost and nest at Point England. Lots more info about the birds [here](#) and in my submission opposing the Point England Development Enabling Bill [here](#).

The Bill helps Nick Smith look like he is solving the housing crisis, but it's a small temporary fix that doesn't address the underlying problems and I agree with [Forest & Bird](#) it sets a dangerous precedent. Nick Smith says the Bill is part of a treaty settlement. However there is no treaty settlement or iwi mentioned in the Bill. As [Auckland Council point out](#) the land could easily be sold to another developer including the TRC who are mentioned in the Bill. If you vote for this Bill I think you are endorsing the sale of public reserves that have important conservation functions.

I personally think we should give the whole reserve to Ngāti Paoa but not change the zoning and retain the reserve status. They should not have to buy the land and they deserve fair redress for their settlement with the Crown. If they want to move into the area they should be sold housing land. I think TRC own most of the neighbourhood. It would be great to have more kaitiaki in the area.

I was very impressed with Labours stance on the Bill it must have been hard to oppose anything dressed up as settlement. It is important to me that Ngāti Paoa are compensated for historical losses and if the Greens become part of Government this year I urge you to seek a better deal for Ngāti Paoa. One that doesn't pit them against environmental and community values.

In the meantime please do not support this Bill, we can and must do better. I have joined [Save Our Reserves](#) and we will be emailing the thousands of people who have already signed our petitions to stop the Bill and stop the sale of other special nature reserves for housing.

Cheers

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