



Dogs and Horses on the Rail Reserve

This reserve was gazetted for Conservation and Recreation and the Committee of Management (COM) must ensure the safety of all users, and be considerate of the adjoining landholders.

This COM discourages track users from taking dogs on the track however It cannot police this and is reliant on cooperation from users.

Should you take a dog on the track we cannot ensure its safety, and recommend that at a minimum it be on a leash. Other track users such as cyclists and family groups can also then enjoy the use of the Reserve without concern.

Similarly, adjoining landowners need not be anxious about free running dogs finding their way through side fences and harassing stock.

Should dog owners be inconsiderate and not respect other users or adjacent farmers, serious issues may arise. The Committee cannot give any guarantee as to the safety of any dogs present on the Reserve and will take no responsibility for the consequences. Furthermore any owner allowing a dog to trespass on to an adjacent property must be prepared to face serious consequences.

Horses are not permitted on the Reserve.

This is in line with the decision by the Department of the Environment biodiversity officers regarding conservation status as a flora reserve AND also specifically disallowing cattle (similar large animals) to access the Reserve, even for temporary grazing purposes. The infrastructure of the track has not been formed to be suitable for horses, and there are also safety concerns for walkers and cyclists mixing with horses or cattle.

The Hamilton – Coleraine Rail Reserve Committee of Management.