

# Aotea Collaborative Conservation Workshop

Identifying shared priorities for conservation and ecosystem restoration on Aotea – summary of November 2019 workshop

## Value

### Biodiversity

- As a whole ecology (islands, seas)
- Variety of species and ecosystems
- Flourishing (relative to elsewhere)

### Aotea community

- He tangata
- Passion and capability
- Sense of community, values
- Connectedness with nature and each other

### Education/knowledge

- Awareness of value and threats
- Capability and expertise

### Māori/Mana whenua values

- All encompassing (see visual)
- Matauranga Māori, korero passed down from continuous occupation



Group 1 output

## Threats

### More damage to ecology

- Pests, existing and potential new pests
- Human impact on ecology – from more visitors, residents, pets, waste, carbon footprint
- Climate change effects on ecology

### Not enough funds/people to act

- Loss/lack of stable long term funding (ecology aligned to economy)
- Limited resources/capacity on Aotea

### Communication

- Lack of good information an education on value and the biosecurity/pest reality (community, visitors)
- Divided views persisting
- Lack of shared language

### Decision making

- Lack of island-based methods and decision making
- Not prioritising mana whenua world view
- Ineffective consultation increasing divisions/leading to poor solutions
- Band aid solutions (avoiding the real problems)



Group outputs – 4 groups



Windy Hill & Rosalie Bay Catchment Trust



## Shared priorities

### Communication and education

- On pests – the reality
- Including toolkits
- "Marketing" the problems
- Visits to pest free islands

### Community engagement

- eg via Ecology Vision
- Support new groups
- Commit to effective consultation (iwi, youth, community)
- Management tools

### Visitor impact

- Strategy and plan needed
- Education of visitors on how to behave on Aotea

### More suppression of rats

- Because "rats are specific to the issue"

### Biosecurity

- No new pests
- Conversation needed about domestic cats and dogs

### Progress marine protection

- Take action on this - iwi lead, community driven
- Sea Change and Motiti decision = opportunity
- Marine dumping

### More and better monitoring

- Freshwater, marine and land

### Set freshwater goals

- A gap

### Greater Mana Whenua role

- Progress DOC and NRNWA agreement
- Fund mana whenua capacity to engage with groups/projects

### Organisations collaborating

- More workshops like this
- Partnership with mana whenua
- Between organisations eg DOC/Auckland Council

### Funding and resourcing certainty

- More than 12 months
- Necessary for ecology projects – do this for infrastructure

### Carbon and ecological footprint

- Assess and respond



# AOTEA'S WILDLIFE

Aotea/Great Barrier Island is within the rohe of Ngāti Rehua Ngatiwai ki Aotea and is dominated by the Aotea Conservation Park (more than 12,000 hectares) and other scenic reserves.

The island is a stronghold of diverse habitat for significant conservation species, including ocean, beaches, estuaries, wetlands, streams and regenerating ancient forests. This is why wildlife thrives here.



## Te Paparahi

Large forest, possum and browsing animal free forest in NZ, kauri dieback free, last kōkako site on Aotearoa, Hochstetters frog, long tailed bat.



## Okiwi basin and reserves

Pākeke, kākāriri, kāka, banded rails, community pest projects



## Whangapoua Estuary

Insect dune system, dotted rail, banded dotted rail, Caspian tern, wrybill, migratory waders, pākeke, oystercatchers



## North east coast

Unique marine features and species including intact reefs



## Rakitu

Predator free, on Northern NZ seal-tail highways, kōru and other rare plants



## Harataonga

High quality forest, kauri dieback-free scenic reserve, dotted rail, kāka and pākeke



## Awana, Kaitoke and Medlands beach & dunes

Insect dune and estuary systems, dotted rail, oystercatcher, pākeke



## Windy Hill

This nationally recognised sanctuary anchors pest control in south - includes intact coastal broadleaf and karuka forests



## Te Ahumata (White Cliffs)

National high biodiversity area



## Kaitoke wetland

Nationally significant intact maunga to moara, fernbird, spotted crane, bittern



## Glenfern Sanctuary

Regional Park, and with Kotuku Peninsula, a pest management hub, home to 3 species of seabird and chevron skinks



## Motu Kaikoura and Motuhaku

Predator free island and ledge on Kaikoura



## Hirakimata (Mt Hobson)

Takatetai (black pebble colony) national high biodiversity site with North Island robin, tomtit, kāka, Kirk's pine and kanuka species



## Port Fitzroy

Marine mammals can often be seen - bottlenose and common dolphin, orca



## Mahuki/Broken Islands

Gannet colony



## Colville Channel

Marine mammals can often be seen - Bryde's whale, fur seal, a seabird hotspot



## Mt Young

Kauri and other forest types, a national high biodiversity site



## 50+ islets, 40+ rock stacks

Home to rare plants, lizards & seabird breeding areas

Hei tiaki i te whenua  
Hei tiaki i te moana  
Hei tiaki i te whanau  
Hei tiaki i nga mokopuna  
He kaitiaki koe  
He kaitiaki au

Look after the land  
Look after the seas  
Look after the family  
Look after the future generations  
You are a guardian  
I am a guardian

Ngāti Rehua - Ngātiwai ki Aotea 2013  
Nicola MacDonald

