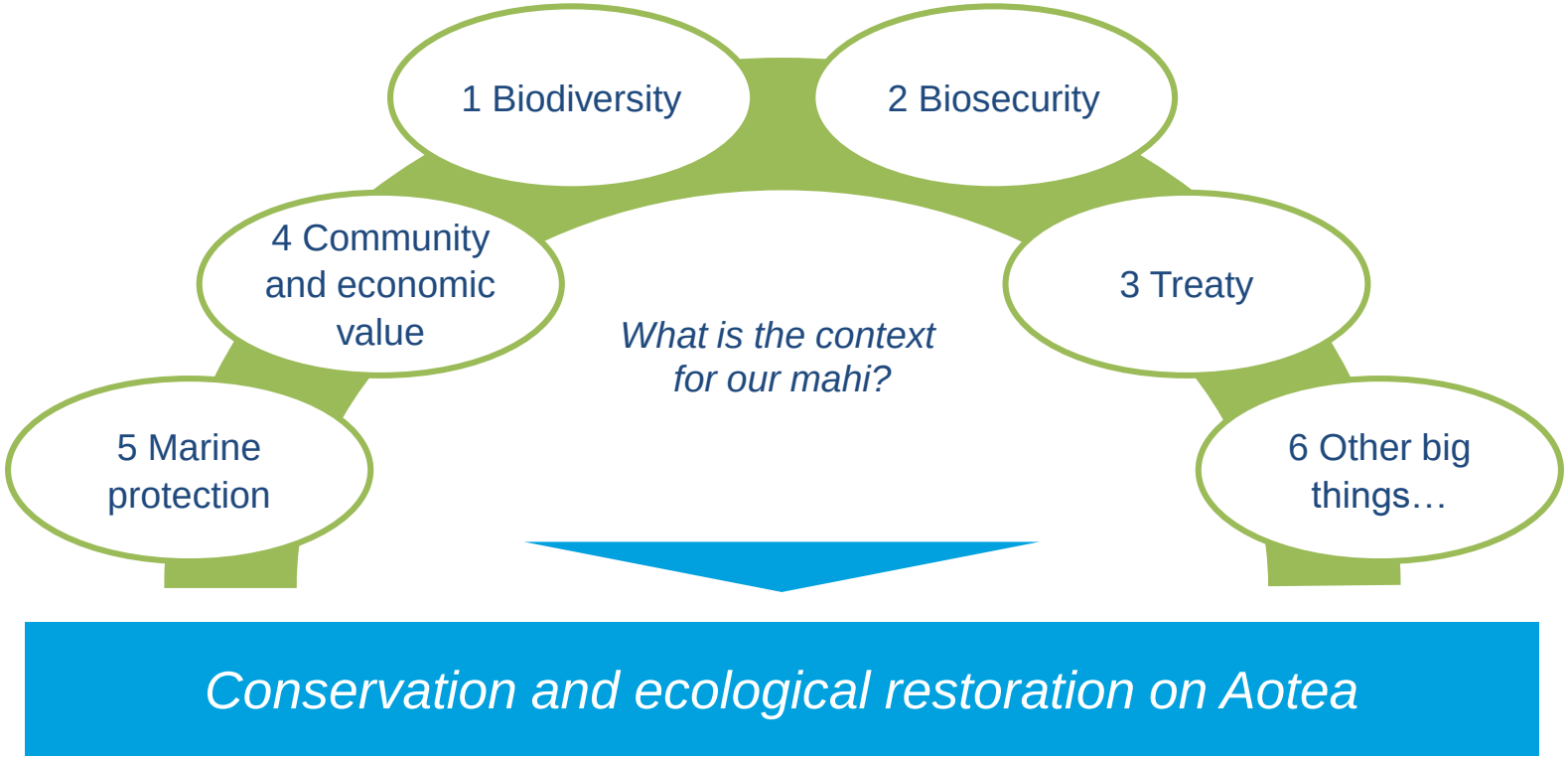
Aotea Conservation Workshop

18 November 2019

SESSION 1: CONTEXT

What did we consider?



1 BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity and conservation hot spots on Aotea

Te Paparahi
(largest stoat and possum free forest in NZ, dieback free, last kokako site)

Glenfern Sanctuary
(Northern pest management hub, Regional Park)

Motu Kaikoura
and Motuhaku
(predator free islands)

Hirakimata
(Taiko colony, national high biodiversity site)

Mahuki/Broken Islands
(*Gannet colony*)

Mt Young &
Te Ahumata
(national high biodiversity sites)

50+ Islets, 40+ rock stacks
(rare plants, lizards & seabird breeding)

Okiwi estuary& reserve
(Pateke, kakariki, kaka, community pest project)

Rakitu
(pest free tbc, potential seabird sanctuary)

Harataonga
(High biodiversity value scenic reserve)

East coast beach and dune systems
(Dotterel, banded dotterel, Caspian terns, Whangapoua, Awana, Kaitoke, Medlands)

Kaitoke swamp
(nationally significant wetland and biodiversity site)

Windy Hill Sanctuary
(Anchors pest control in intact coastal broadleaf and kanuka forests in south)

Note: Excludes private land under pest management

Aotea's biodiversity value in relation to government priorities is high…

Threatened Species Strategy (DOC)

- Of the 150 species (all types) listed as ***priority***, ***11 occur on Aotea***
- GBI has 6% of the most threatened 150 species, on 0.1% of the total area of NZ*
- Emphasises ***landscape scale and ecosystem management***, beyond the DOC estate and ***working in partnership*** to do so

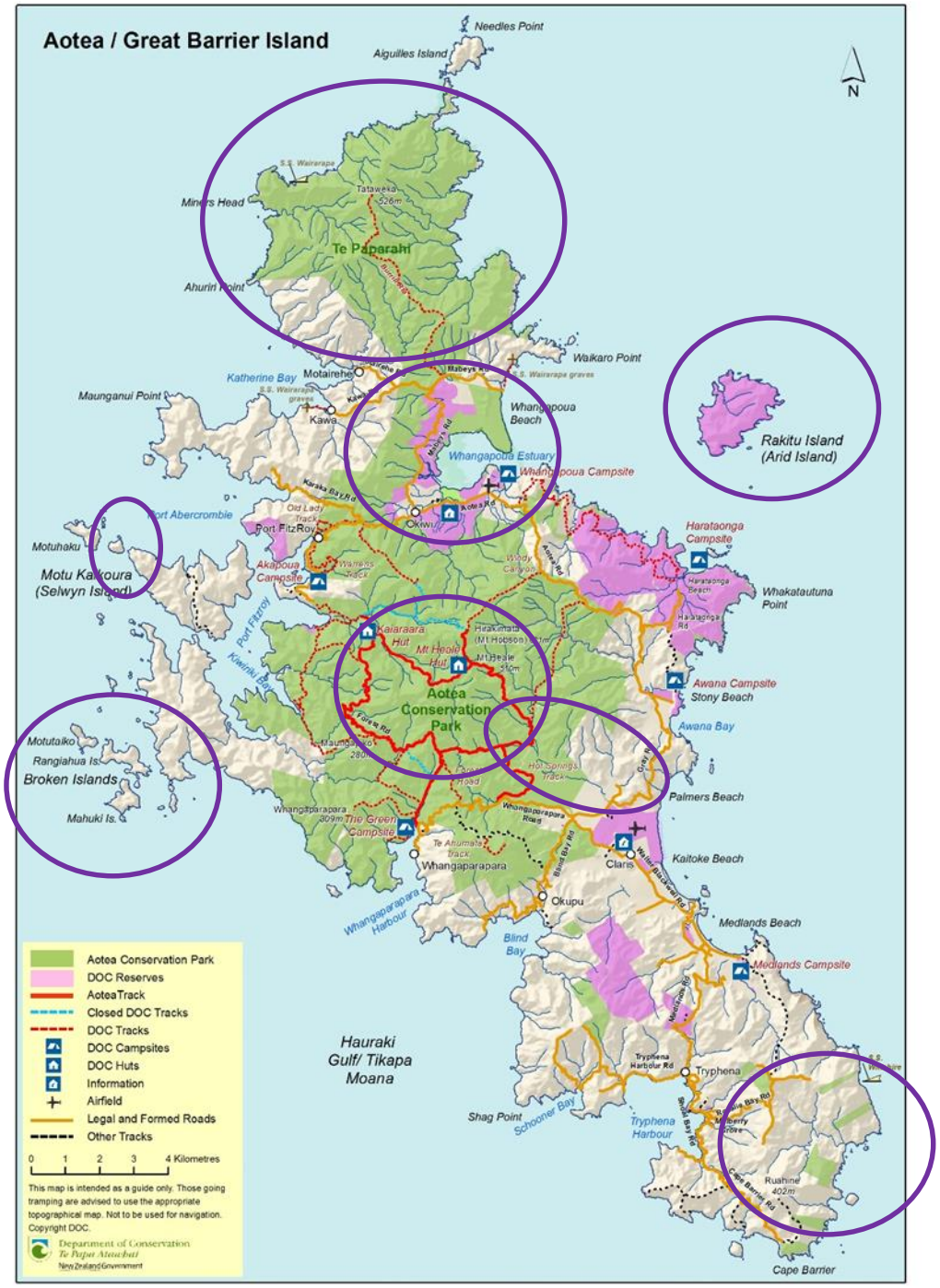
Taonga of an Island Nation (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, State of NZ birds)

- Report shows 80% of NZ birds are in some or serious trouble – ***20 of the most vulnerable are found on Aotea***, underlining our importance as a bird sanctuary
- Recommends prioritisation of large scale ecosystem-rich areas for eradication and creating regional biodiversity hubs – such as ***the Gulf Islands***

Predator Free NZ 2050

- Goal to rid NZ of possums, rats, stoats by 2050 (of these ***Aotea has only rats***)
- Large scale projects (eg Te Korowai o Waiheke) and ***innovation*** eg ZIP, non-toxin lures
- By 2025 eradicate all mammalian predators from offshore island nature reserves
  *(Note: there are at least **50 islets off Aotea's coast which are arks** for plants, lizard and bird life, especially seabirds and other species)*

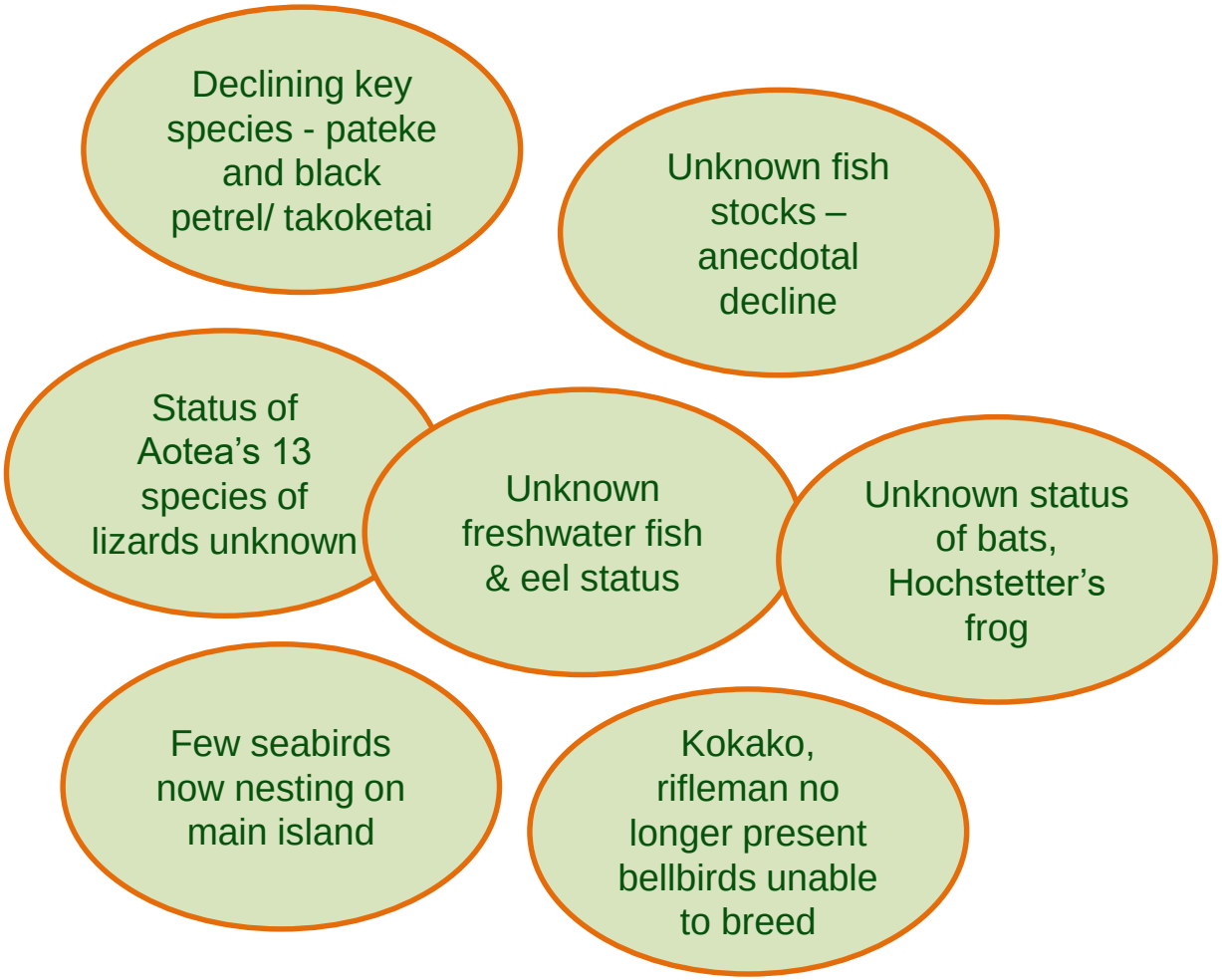
*Source: Prof. John Ogden analysis of Threatened Species Strategy



= *Indicative sites of BFAs (Biodiversity Focus Areas) - a new Auckland Council classification of priority ecosystems*

A story of slow decline

The abundance of some wildlife relative to the mainland hides long term declines in birds, reptiles, fish and invertebrates over a generation



Threatened by...

- Predation (rats, feral cats, pigs, dogs)
- Climate impacts eg on food, habitat and breeding
- Overfishing
- New invasive pests displacing them
- New pests predating them
- Pollution (plastics, landfill etc)

Source: GBIET

Extinct birds of Aotea and those at risk nationally but present here

Lost from Aotea (extinct)	Nationally Vulnerable but present on Aotea	Declining Nationally but present on Aotea	Uncommon in NZ but on Aotea
NZ Quail Shore Plover Hihi (Stitchbird) Kokako Tieke (Saddleback) Brown creeper Whitehead Rifleman (some recent reports unconfirmed) Yellow crowned parakeet (red crowned kakariki still present in low numbers) Black bellied storm petrel White-headed petrel NZ Falcon – not seen Bellbird – vagrant only Tomtit – unclear if surviving on Hirakimata	Kaka Bittern Black petrel / takoketai Grey duck NZ dotterel Banded dotterel Wrybill Reef heron Red billed gull Caspian tern Pied shag NZ Storm Petrel Pateke / Brown Teal Weka (on Rakitu, introduced)	Fernbird NZ Pipit Variable oystercatcher Pied oystercatcher Pied stilt White fronted tern Blue penguin	Long tailed cuckoo Banded rail Black shag Little black shag Little shag Fluttering Shearwater Bullers Shearwater Fairy prion Diving petrel

Abridged and updated from Chapter 13, Great Barrier Island State of Environment Report 2010

Prescription prioritisation

Management Units are ranked nationally, those ranked in the top 450-500 receive full funding

-Mokohinau Island Group #18

-Rakitu Island #456

-Mt Young #570

-Northern GBI #792

-Te Ahumata #826

-Hirakimata/Kaitoke #945

-Whangapoua Estuary &

Okiwi Station #1193

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawbai

New Zealand Government

CMS Auckland 2014-2024

Milestones–Outputs

Completed by the end of Year 3 after CMS approval (2017)

14.2.3.1 Scheduled outputs identified in approved work programmes for the following priority ecosystem units located in this Place: Mount Young and Northern Great Barrier.

14.2.3.2 Identification of sites for intensive pest management to ensure the recovery and persistence of threatened species.

14.2.3.3 Heritage assessments for all actively managed historic sites on Great Barrier Island. 14.2.3.4 Successful eradication of rats from Rakitu Island.

14.2.3.5 Notification in the New Zealand Gazette to reclassify 12,109ha of public conservation land on Great Barrier Island, as identified in the Aotea Conservation Park decision.

14.2.3.6 Report on the technical feasibility of returning kōkako to Great Barrier Island.

14.2.3.7 Establishment of a monitoring programme to assess the effects of camping activity in Te Paparahi.

Completed by the end of Year 5 after CMS approval (2019)

14.2.3.8 Return of North Island kōkako to Te Paparahi.

14.2.3.9 Sustained control of plant pests that disrupt ecosystem processes and threaten indigenous species in Te Paparahi.

14.2.3.10 Report on the outcome of monitoring programme on the effects of camping activity in Te Paparahi.

14.2.3.11 Mountain biking trial on Harataonga Track, with results of monitoring evaluated and decision made on whether mountain biking use will be permanently allowed.

Completed by the end of Year 10 after CMS approval (2024)

14.2.3.12 Report on the outcomes of monitoring programme and management actions identified to assess changes.

14.2.3.13 Extension of track network to coastal sites.

14.2.3.14 Reintroduction of threatened species to Rakitu Island, subject to restoration and species recovery plans.

14.2.3.15 Report on progress achieved from working collaboratively with Auckland Council and the island community towards protection of the values on conservation land from the effects of pests.

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

New Zealand Government

Steady conservation progress in the last 2 years….

What?	Activity includes…
Enabled community	• Participation in conservation issues increasing eg opposition to dredge disposal, marine protection, dogs on beaches, trapping, tree planting, Rakitu • New groups established: SPACE and Protect Aotea • Local Board funding Ecology Vision projects and range of community projects
Pest management/ restoration	• New Local Board supported projects in Okiwi and Medlands and Community Nursery in Tryphena • Trap Library ramping up in 2019 with AC funding • Regional Pest Management Plan increased focus and investment in Aotea • Landowner participation increasing – c.200 out of 1100+ actively doing this • Windy Hill continues to expand area under management • New managers and trust running Glenfern Sanctuary (now a Regional Park) • Motu Kaikoura lodge and visitor access reopened
Rakitu	• DOC completed rat eradiction - ecology already recovering naturally
Te Paparahi	• Feasibility study complete but not on target to meet CMS dates for return of kokako, to Te Paparahi; awaiting NRNWKA next steps
Hirakimata protection	• DOC cat control in progress, rat control beginning Dec 2019 (reuse of A24s from Windy Hill following GBIET/Local Board trial)
Alternative technologies	• Remote monitoring trials at Little Windy Hill, Glenfern, Okiwi continue • Options/technologies other than aerial/toxins available for trial

Source: GBIET

Feedback from the group….

Topic	*What would you add?*	*Questions*	*Comments*
1 Biodiversity	• BFAs – show Biodiversity Focus Areas (see map) • Freshwater ecosystems • Marine space - absent • Marine and freshwater are gaps • Protecting biodiversity in settlement areas • "At place" decisions on management with local influencers involved • Be @place • Collaboration between organisations when agreeing on biodiversity protection of ecosystem and species on Aotea – alignment needed • Treaty partnership needs improving • Consultation!!!	• How do Auckland Council and DOC work together?	• Data deficient – lack of up to date information on flora and fauna status • Ecosystems are all interrelated, not separate to terrestrial as in DOC stretch goals • "Blind spot" for fresh water • Biodiversity incudes all invertebrates, lizards not just birds • 50% of Aotea's natural ecosystems are benefiting from pest management – align DOC stretch goal • The language is important – eradication = toxins – can we talk about biodiversity goals?

2 BIOSECURITY

Biosecurity: an increasing threat from invasive species

Threats	Here	Eradicated	Never here
• Marine pests • Freshwater pest fish and weeds • Weed pests • Pest insects • New diseases eg Myrtle rust	• Ship rats • Feral cats • Rabbits • Kiore • Feral pigs • Many weed species • Fan worm • Sea squirt • Kauri dieback • Plague skinks • Argentine ants • Darwins ant	• Feral goats • Deer	• Possums • Stoats (or other mustelids) • Norway (Brown) rats • Hedgehogs • Freshwater pest fish

Which means…

Increasing risks to ecosystems and the biodiversity within them

NEVER FOUND ON AOTEA

Auckland Council

Biosecurity: What does the Regional Pest Management Plan mean for Aotea?

Some key objectives:

- **Prevent establishment of terrestrial and aquatic pest plants** that are damaging elsewhere but either absent from, or relatively low incidence on, Aotea (AC to undertake control throughout island as per Exclusion, Eradication and Progressive Containment programmes)
- **Prevent the establishment of mammals, birds, reptiles and fish not present already on the island** (achieved via pathway management, responsible pet ownership messaging and incursion response as required – combo of Hauraki Gulf islands site-led programmes and Aotea Exclusion programmes).
- **Manage established (pest) mammals at high value places** to provide integrated ecosystem protection (see Hauraki Gulf islands site-led programmes).
- Slow the further spread and impact of **kauri dieback disease**.
- Support/participate in **community conversations about the long-term vision** for management of established (pest) mammals on the island.
- **Slow the rate of spread of marine pests** (inter- and intra-regional pathway management, see also Marine).

Source: Auckland Council Biosecurity

Mahere ā-Rohe Whakahaere Kaupapa Koiora Orotā mō Tāmaki Makaurau 2019-2029

Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029

Auckland Council

1 Kupu Whakataki / Introduction

1.1 Kaihora me ōna tikanga / Proposer and purpose

The Auckland Council has a regional leadership role under the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Biosecurity Act), and intends to establish a regional pest management plan (RPMP). The purpose of the RPMP is to outline the framework to efficiently and effectively manage or eradicate specified organisms in the Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland region. Doing so will:

- minimise the actual or potential adverse or unintended effects associated with those organisms; and
- maximise the effectiveness of individual actions in managing pests through a regionally coordinated approach.

Many organisms in the Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland region are considered undesirable or a nuisance, but not all can be effectively managed, mainly due to resource constraints and limitations with pest control methods. The Biosecurity Act has prerequisite criteria that must be met to justify intervention using the regulatory powers of the Act. This Proposal identifies those organisms classified as pests to be managed through the RPMP.

Once operative, the RPMP will empower the Auckland Council to exercise the relevant strategic, advisory, service delivery, regulatory and funding provisions available under the Biosecurity Act to deliver the specific objectives identified in Part Two: Pest Management.

Section two of this document sets out the broader context of managing pests in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland, including an overview of the regulatory and non-regulatory actions of the Auckland Council which support the provisions of the RPMP.

Section four of the RPMP sets out the outcomes sought by the plan, and describes the high-level groups of programmes that work together to achieve these outcomes.

Section seven sets out the statutory programmes themselves, and accompanying objectives and interemediate outcomes for each programme.

1.2 Uhinga / Coverage

The RPMP will operate within the administrative boundaries of the Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland region and covers a total area (land and sea) of 1,615,972 ha (see Map 1).

2.1.2 Ture Tiaki Rawa Taiao 1991 / Resource Management Act 1991

Regional councils also have responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to achieve integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the region, including the Coastal Marine Area (CMA). These responsibilities are driven by the purpose and principles of the RMA set out in Part 2. These include the requirement to sustain the potential of natural and physical resources, safeguard the life-supporting capacity of ecosystems and protect environmentally significant areas and habitats (ss5(2), 7(d) and 6(c) of the RMA).

The RMA sets out the functions of Regional councils in relation to the control of the use of land for the purpose of maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems, water bodies and coastal water (s30(1)(c)(iiia)), the control of actual or potential effects of use, development or protection of land (including the CMA) in the region (s30(1)(d)(v)) and the establishment, implementation and review of objectives, policies and methods for maintaining indigenous biological diversity (s30(1)(ga)).

The focus of the RMA is on managing adverse effects on the environment through regional policy statements, regional and district plans, and resource consents. The RMA, along with regional policies and plans can be used to manage activities so that they do not create a biosecurity risk or those risks are minimised. While the Biosecurity Act is the main regulatory tool for managing pests, there are complementary powers within the RMA that can be used to ensure the problem is not exacerbated by activities regulated under the RMA, and which promote positive biosecurity actions.

Mahere ā-Rohe Whakahaere Kaupapa Koiora Orotā mō Tāmaki Makaurau 2019-2029

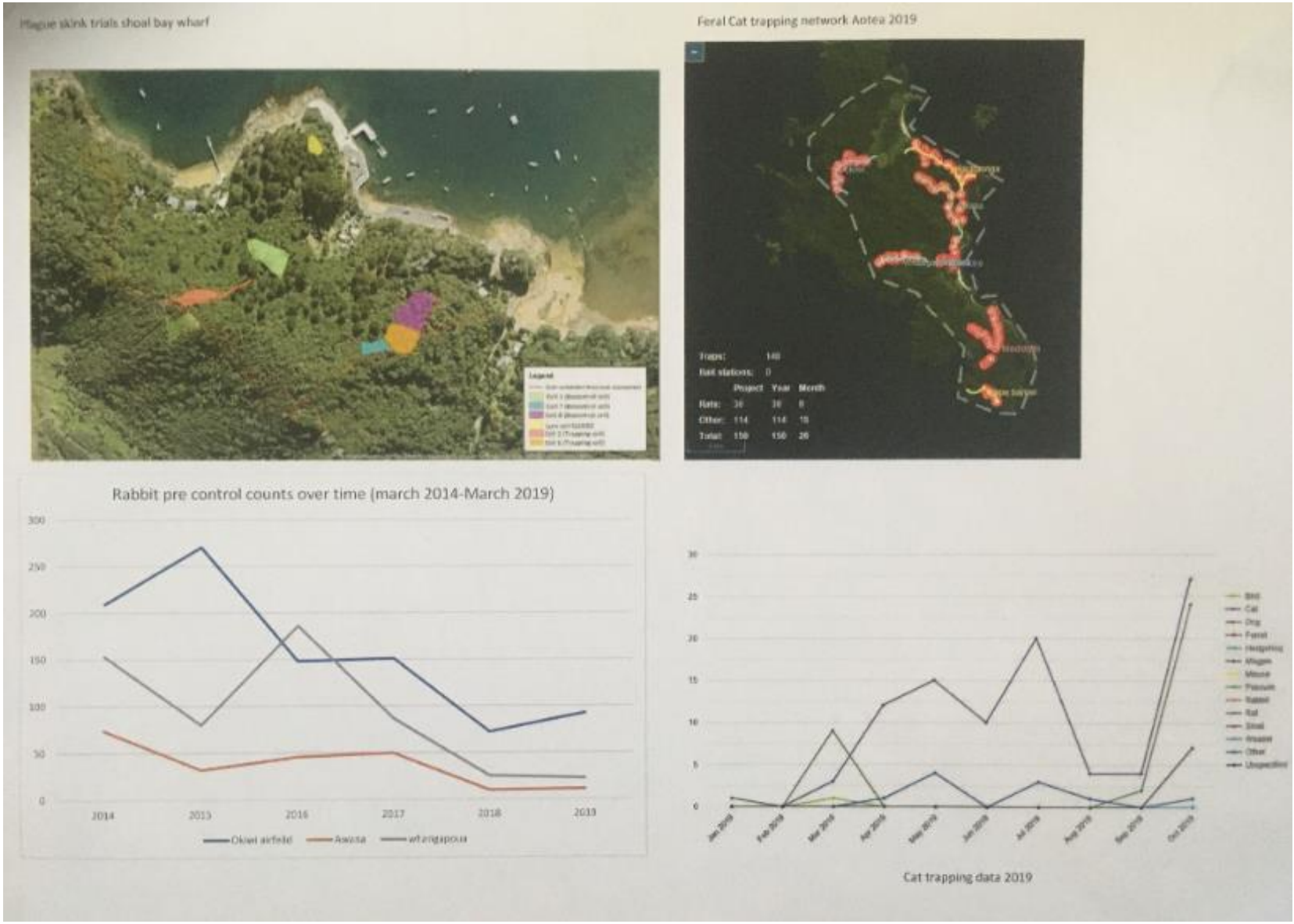
Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029

The council's primary resource management tool is the Auckland Unitary Plan which includes the Regional Policy Statement, the regional coastal plan and district and regional plans (with the exception of the district plan for the Tīkapa Moana / Hauraki Gulf Islands, where the Auckland Council District Plan (HGI Section) still applies until the AUP is amended to include this area).

Provisions in the AUP promote effective biosecurity management through:

- identification of the threat of pests to the maintenance of indigenous biodiversity
- requirements for pest control as a condition of resource consents affecting natural resources, including requirements to address existing pests at a site, or through the use of measures to reduce the likelihood of pests establishing (e.g. requiring certain procedures are followed in revegetation programmes to address Myrtle rust)
- provisions which facilitate and promote the removal of pests
- land disturbance and vegetation removal rules relating to the movement of soil and kauri material to reduce the risk of spreading kauri dieback pathogen (*Phytophthora agathidicida)*
- requirements relating to the level and cleaning of hull fouling on boats
- linking of biosecurity considerations to the provision and management of aquaculture, marinas and other activities.

Example cat, rabbit and plague skink control data



Source: Auckland Council Biosecurity

Feedback from the group….

Topic	*What would you add?*	*Questions*	*Comments*
2. Biosecurity	• Marine biosecurity • Climate change implications • Good communication on what is happening, where and why – with boaties, community and visitors • Great focus on flora values and threats to these • Rules around cats, dogs and responsible pet ownership , visitor cats • Myrtle rust pathogens • DOC/Council collaboration • Communication of biosecurity activities/rules	• What is happening nationally around marine biosecurity? • What type of inspection is carried out on nursery loads coming on the barge (rainbow skink, argentine ants)? • How is tourism being managed in relations to biosecurity? • Quarantine areas – mainland/Tryphena? • Biosecurity FROM the island?	• Tourist numbers and tourism education need management • Rats and cats are the number 1 an 2 problems!! • Rabbits need more focus – reduction •

3 TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

Treaty of Waitangi *Te Tiriti o Waitangi*

- Ngati Rehua Ngatiwai ki Aotea are the **mana whenua** of Aotea
- The Ngati Rehua rohe (tribal area) includes seas and islands around Aotea
- There are two marae – one at Motairehe and one at Kawa
- Most of the hapu do not live on Aotea
- There is a **settlement process** underway - unusual because Ngati Rehua is a hapu group (not an iwi group), affiliated to Ngati Wai, Kawerau a Maki, Waikato Tainui and Ngati Manuhiri
- The crown recognises that **a number of other iwi have interests in Aotea**, and these other iwi may also have some redress on Aotea
- Aotea was heavily populated in pre-European times and there are hundreds of **significant sites** across the island including pa, gardens, middens, urupa and battle grounds
- The **Department of Conservation and Auckland Council partner with mana whenua** when making decisions on public conservation land and council reserves as they are required to under legislation
- Elsewhere in Aotearoa, **matauranga Māori** (knowledge) is being used in conservation and science, including ways to identify plants to combat kauri dieback and historic distribution of plants and wildlife

Aotea and Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea

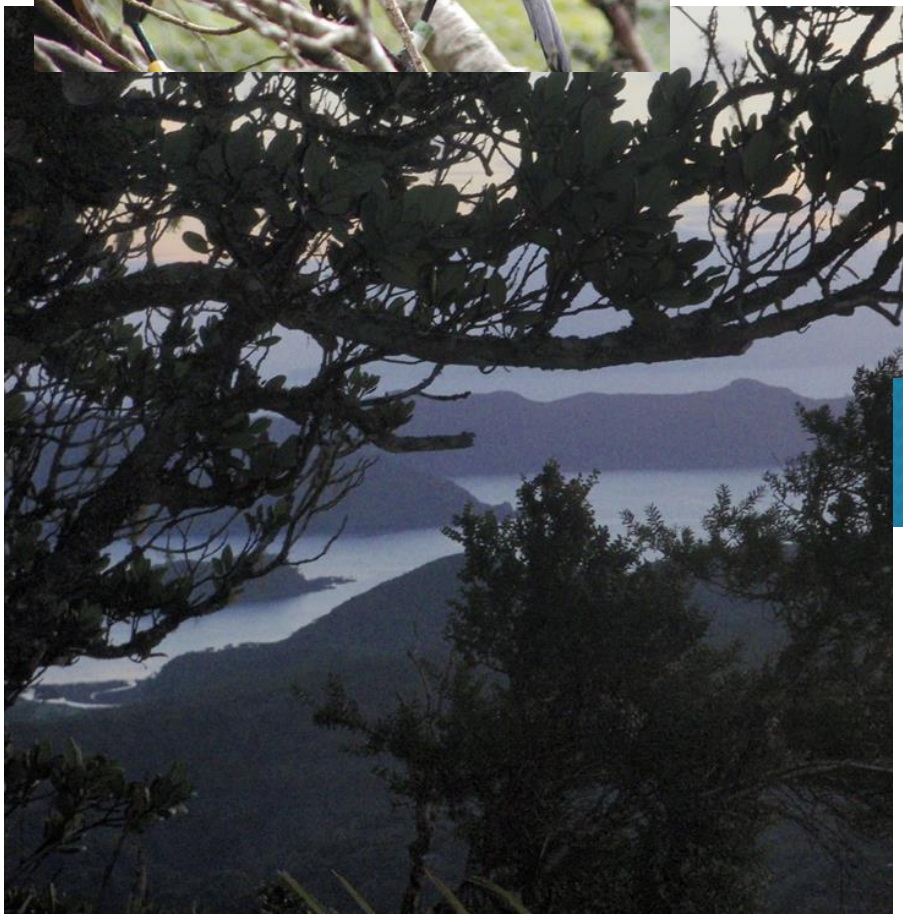
Aotea (Great Barrier Island) is the ancestral land of Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea. Although each of the 52 islands, islets and rocks has its own individual character and identity, Aotea is viewed as a single physical and spiritual entity over which a 'spiritual grid' lies. At its centre stands Hirakimata (Mt Hobson), the maunga tapu of Ngāti Rehua. To the north of the island is Nga Tara Tara o Toi (Needles Point). To the west is Rangiahua Island (Flat Island) and Mahuki Island (Anvil Island). To the east is Kaitoke Kohatu, with Motu Tohora to the south. The southernmost landmarks of Ngāti Wai are the Manaia and Ruahine mountains that stand above Rangitāwhiri/Tryphena. The memories, traditions and identity of a people with one thousand years of ancestral associations are captured in this pepeha/proverb, which dates back to the early arrival of the Aotea waka.

Aotea whakahirahira
Aotea taonga maha
Aotea utanganui
Aotea the island of renown
Aotea the island of many treasures
Aotea of the bountiful cargo

Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea's Hapu Management Plan identifies the tribe's environmental, economic, social and cultural policies and objectives for Aotea. The plan is explicit and inspirational in its aspirations for the restoration of the whenua and the taonga within it. Exercising kaitiaki over and restoring significant ecological and cultural locations such as Hirakimata and Te Paparahi will contribute significantly to the wellbeing of Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea people.

Source: DOC and NGNWKA Hapu Management Plan

Bring Back Kokako Hui, 2012



GULF JOURNAL
KŌRERO O TE MOANA
2017 SEPTEMBER
Supporting inspired management and action around the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park/ Tīkapa Moana/ Te Moananui-ā-Toi

BRING BACK KŌKAKŌ

By ***Guest Author*** 2017 SEPTEMBER

Ngāti Rehua is leading a project to eradicate pests from the Te Paparahi block at the north end of Aotea/Great Barrier, with the ultimate objective of seeing the return of kōkakō to the island.

The last kōkakō were removed in the early 1990s and transferred to Hauturu/Little Barrier.

The Department of Conservation is supporting the project through the DOC Community Fund. A feasibility study confirmed that the concept was achievable.

Planning work is currently underway to establish monitoring lines in the block and to assess the methodology for pest eradication.

Feedback from the group….

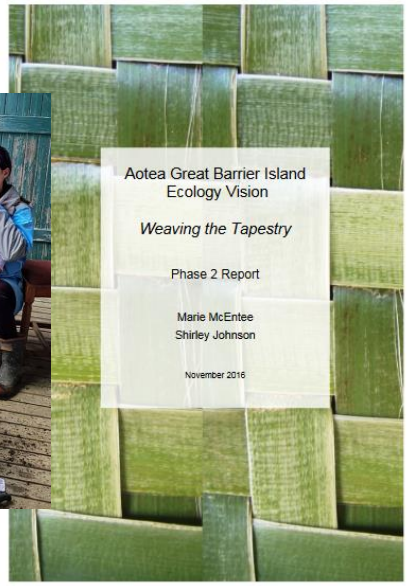
Topic	What would you add?	Questions	Comments
3. Treaty / Te Tiriti o Waitangi	• NRNWKA Hapu Management plan due for review • Interim trustees have until June 2020 to hold an AGM for new trust • Contact Interim Trustees for all iwi issues eg permits	• Do our local environmental groups reflect Treaty concerns in their decision making? • What level of engagement is ok? How to reach a sensible balance without overloading representatives	• Capacity of mana whenua is a constraint – unpaid roles • MOU between Windy Hill and NRNWKA has been very useful over many years

4 COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC

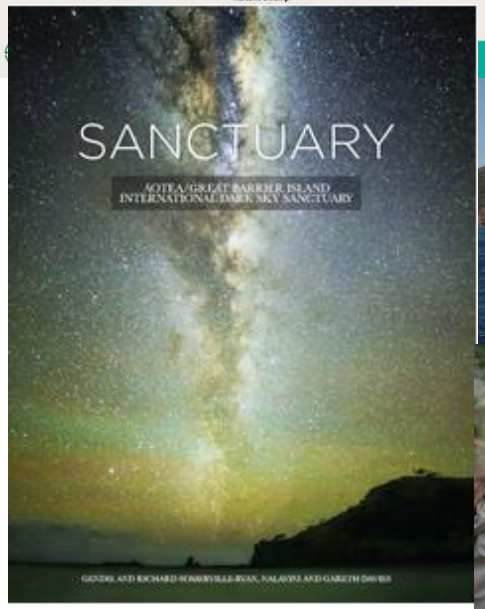
Community and economic value on Aotea from the ecology and conservation is significant

- Ecology Vision expresses community desire to protect and restore the island
- Wellbeing effects of nature very important, including as a food source
- Visitor data shows value of natural environment to tourists reflected in the Visitor Strategy
- Dark Sky sanctuary a further boost
- Significant economic value from conservation and restoration eg direct employment, project investment/funding – public and private, and tourism
- High landowner participation in pest management – at least 200 properties where pests managed
- Considerable debate about Rakitu eradication
- Growth in community restoration projects continues,, supported by Local Board, Council, DOC CCF and funders


GREAT WILDLIFE
Aotea/Great Barrier Island is dominated by the Aotea Conservation Park which spreads over more than 12,000 hectares.
The island is still largely undeveloped and contains diverse habitats for significant conservation species including beaches, estuaries, wetlands, streams and regenerating ancient forests.
Aotea
GREAT BARRIER ISLAND
greatbarrier.co.nz
Te Paparahi
Kotuku Peninsula Sanctuary
Gannet colony
Hirahimata (Mt Hobson)
Kaitoke Swamp
Windy Hill Sanctuary


Aotea Great Barrier Island
Ecology Vision
Weaving the Tapestry
Phase 2 Report
Marie McEntee
Shirley Johnson
November 2016


Aotea Great Barrier Island
Driving map
Te Paparahi
Motairehe
Kawa
Okiwi
Port FitzRoy
Aotea Conservation Park
Broken Islands
Whangaparapara
Claris
Claris Airport
Okupu
Medlands
Mountain bike trail grades
Great Barrier Local Board


SANCTUARY
AOTEA/GREAT BARRIER ISLAND
INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY SANCTUARY

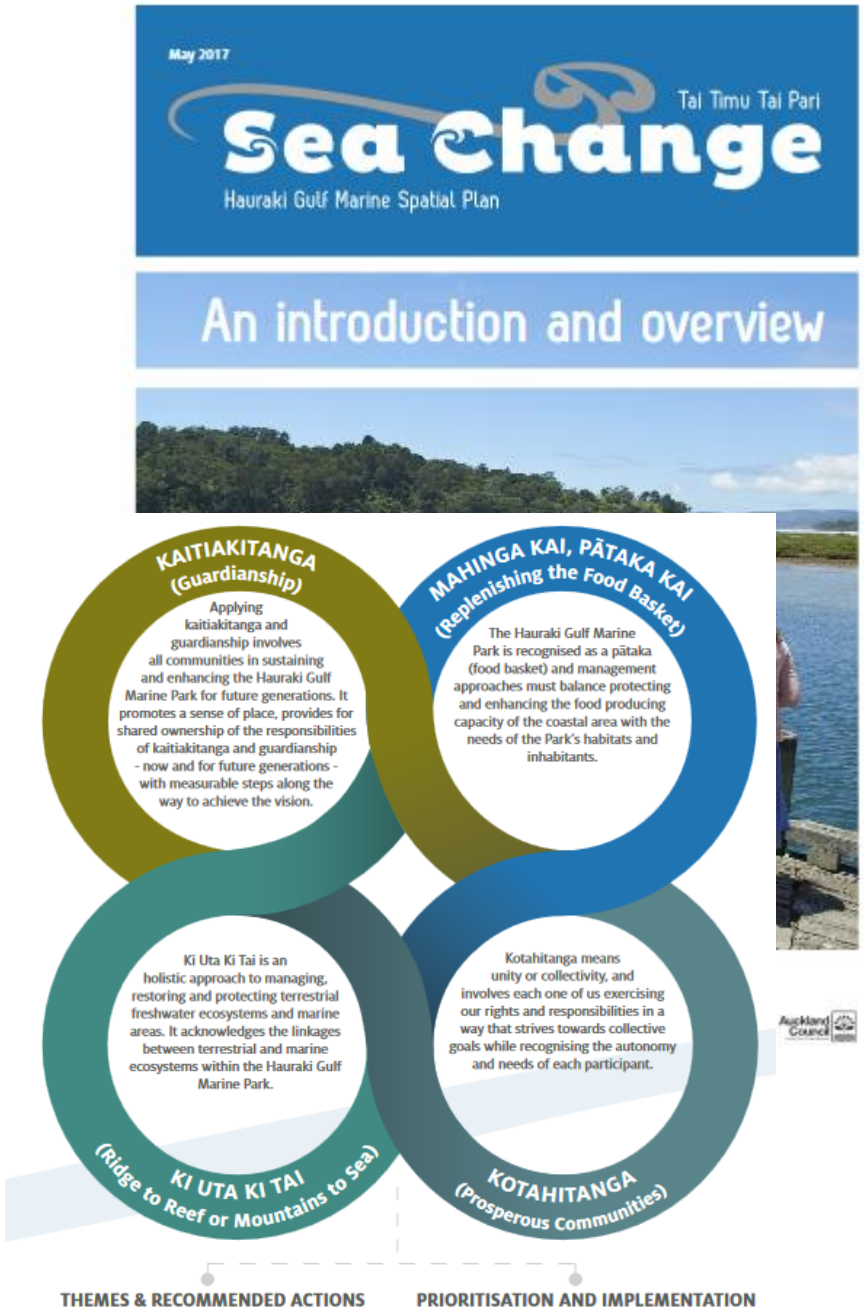
Feedback from the group….

Topic	What would you add?	Questions	Comments
4. Community and economy	• Mana whenua is missing • Matauranga Maori • Community education – "nexus centre" – train locals as ambassadors • Aotea visitor levy for conservation • Visitor tax • Sustainable tourism – ecotourism, carbon offset • Potential tools for controlling visitors – visitor levy, landing fees for boats/cars • What next for Rakitu? More transparency, independent monitoring • Community nursery for biosecurity • Language use – Maori • More community education and involvement somehow	• Rakitu is a seabird sanctuary? • What is the pest management on the 200 properties (undertaking it) and is it monitored? • What are the pressures from tourism (waste, housing, travel)? • How to maximise information sharing? • What is the America's Cup and APEC plan?	• Treaty partnership – not woven in • Language used is really important for understanding in community • Lack of understanding of delicate balance between flora and fauna, dogs, cats as pets etc • Recognising diversity • Everyone struggles with communication • Toursim is not THE answer, it might be an important part of the answer – controlled • Lack of understanding of biodiversity value, what we have and why we need to all engage and be active • Conflation of Community and Economy is really unhelpful • Separate Community and Economy

5 MARINE PROTECTION

Marine protection: an overview

- Aotea waters include some of the least modified and unique marine environments in NZ and are home to a highly diverse range of species
- Protection first mooted 34 years ago in 1985 but has been a rocky road, leading to no protection
- Sea Change identifies spatial goals, backed up by 20% Hauraki Gulf Forum marine protection target
- Ministerial Advisory Committee working on recommendations
- Aotea not included in proposed marine protected areas – not clear to observers if the island wants this
- Many stories of areas being stripped, overfishing by commercial and rec fishers, noticeable declines in abundance
- Strong opposition to marine dumping of dredge spoil highlights value to mana whenua and community
- On-island research in 2016 showed support for a voluntary fishing code and many people express the feeling that some action is needed – *“something’s got to be done”*
- A number of legislative tools and other mechanisms available for use on Aotea – including customary, special legislation and RMA (via Auckland Council)



Sea Change: Government steps up process to save 'desperate' state of Hauraki Gulf as snapper, crayfish stocks in peril

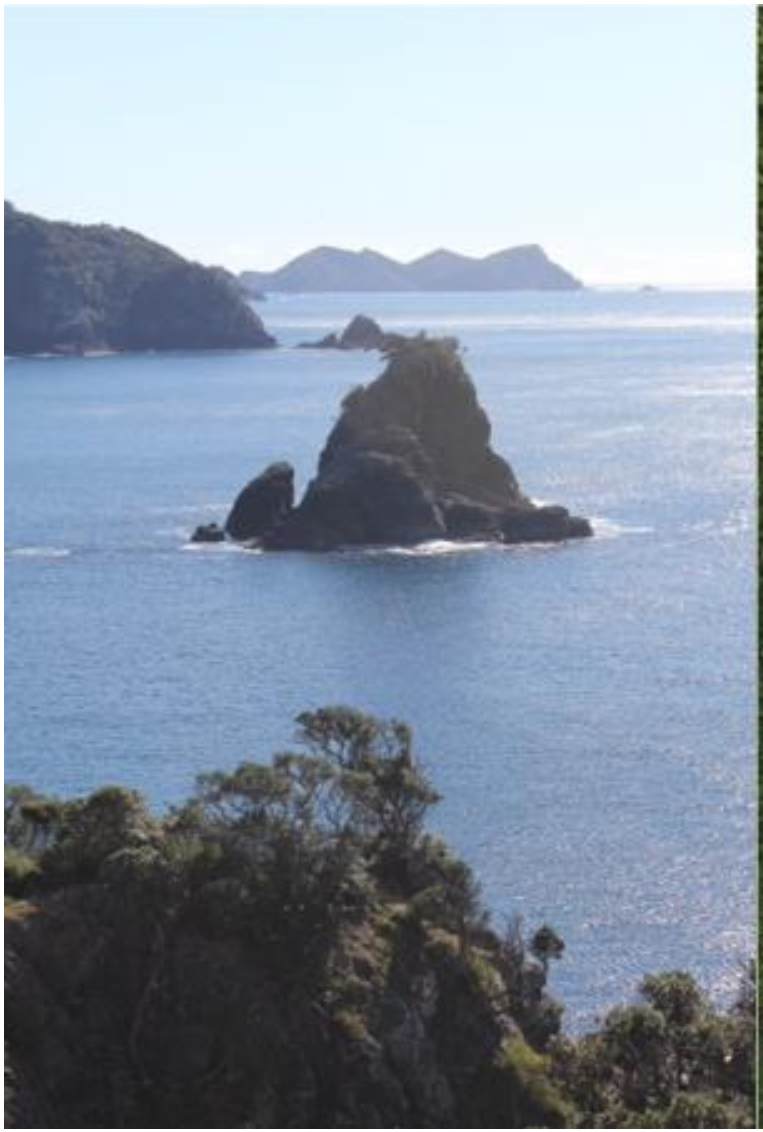
2 Jul, 2019 5:52pm

4 minutes to read

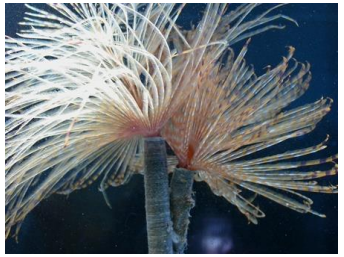
The Hauraki Gulf looks good on the surface, but below is a story of declining fish stocks, and rising levels of pollution and sediment. Photo / Michael Craig

By: **Michael Neilson**
General/Māori Affairs reporter, NZ Herald
michael.neilson@nzherald.co.nz

A plan to turn around the desperate state of the Hauraki Gulf has taken a major step forward with the Government unveiling its expert advisory panel.



Marine protection: the RPMP and pests under the water



- The RPMP sets out an intention to work with other regions to progress an Inter-regional Marine Pest Pathway Management Plan to regulate the spread of marine pests.
- Marine pests may be added to the RPMP, with pathway-style rules, as part of the Environment Court appeals process.
- Either way, Auckland Council can use instrument(s) under the Biosecurity Act & RMA to manage pathways, prioritising

  1) preventing new marine pests from entering the region and

  2) preventing marine pests from spreading to high value sites such as Aotea.

Source: Auckland Council Biosecurity

Feedback from the group….

Topic	What would you add?	Questions	Comments
5. Marine	• Baseline data – lack of • More monitoring of marine ecosystems eg shore monitoring, tag and release • Education • Ahu moana - not just "pakeha lines on the map" • Ki uta ki tai – moana as part of the whole • Fish stock needs more management • Replace QMS • Greater presence of MPI Fisheries Officers • Great community education on the threats of marine pests and the damage of overfishing (eg crayfish in Gulf) • Make use of iwi protection (rahui, taiapure, maitatitai, assessment tools) • Continue and increase communication between stakeholders and community	• What methods of protection are available? • Motiti Island decision – implications for Aotea? • Is there marine monitoring around Rakitu?	• Band-aiding the problem • Use legislation eg Motiti decision • Legisaiton – (EEZ Act) doesn't protect the oceans • Need a wider definition of marine protection • Needs to be iwi lead

6 OTHER BIG THINGS

What other big things will influence Aotea?

- Area Plan – will define the future planning rules for Aotea
- The progress of pest free projects on other inhabited islands – Waiheke, Great Mercury, Kawau, Rakiura, Lord Howe
- Technology and innovation in pest management
- Climate impacts – sea levels, warmer sea temperatures, rain events, fire risk, carbon reduction
- Fire risk – due to drier climate and vegetation change eg kanuka/manuka/hakea

What else?

How the Aotea Great Barrier Area Plan relates to other plans and projects

We have heard your views on a range of topics in recent years. Feedback from previous consultation, along with our current research, will be used to inform the draft area plan.

Here's how the Aotea Great Barrier Area Plan relates to other plans and projects:

Council documents and projects, including:

- Aotea Great Barrier Local Board Plan 2017
- Auckland Plan 2050
- 10 year budget 2018-2028
- Auckland waste management and minimisation plan 2018
- Proposed regional pest management plan
- Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in Part)
- Auckland Council District Plan - Hauraki Gulf

Mana whenua

- Ngāti Rehua-Ngātiwai ki Aotea: Hapū Management Plan and Strategic Plan 2013-2018
- Treaty Settlements

Aotea Great Barrier Area Plan

Department of Conservation

- Conservation Management Strategy 2014-2024
- Hauturu-o-Toi Little Barrier Island Nature Reserve Management Plan 2017

Previous studies including

- Aotea Great Barrier Island community's Ecology Vision 2016
- Housing feasibility study 2015
- Dark Sky Sanctuary accreditation

How can I stay informed?

If you have any questions or comments, or would just like to stay informed as the project progresses, please email: greatbarrierareaplan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or leave your name, contacts and comments at the Service Centre, Claris.

Find out more at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Great Barrier Local Board

Aotea Great Barrier Area Plan

November 2018

Great Barrier Local Board

Introducing the Aotea Great Barrier Area Plan project

Great Barrier Local Board and Auckland Council have started preparing an area plan for Aotea Great Barrier, including Hauturu-o-Toi Little Barrier and the Mokohinau Islands. This newsletter is to let you know what we are doing, the information we are using, and the timetable for completing it, including opportunities for your input next year. Overleaf we set out the emerging themes coming through from our research to date.

The Aotea Great Barrier Area Plan will present a 30-year vision for the future of the islands. It will bring together previous studies, plans and existing knowledge of the islands to identify key matters to be addressed. The completed area plan will set out key outcomes and actions to achieve the vision.

We will be consulting with the wider community and working with mana whenua. Look out for the public consultation happening in March - April 2019.

Project timeline

- **START** July 2018 — Project establishment
- **August – November 2018** — Review existing information and carry out in-house research
- **November 2018** — Letting you know about the project and how to be involved
- **November 2018 – March 2019** — Draft area plan preparation
- **March – April 2019** — Public consultation on the draft area plan
- **FINISH** September 2019 — Area plan adopted

Let's keep in touch

If you have any questions or comments, or would just like to stay informed as the project progresses, please email: greatbarrierareaplan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or leave your name, contacts and comments at the Service Centre, Claris.

Key emerging themes from previous consultations & studies include:

- Open space and recreation opportunities
- Health & education needs of the community
- Unique and valued environment and landscape
- Rich cultural history and built heritage
- The resilience, self-sufficiency and sustainability of the community
- Different ways to access and get around the island
- Biosecurity risks and responses
- Housing affordability, availability and quality
- Local job creation and employment opportunities for islanders
- Needs, opportunities and impacts of tourism
- Risks from the effects of climate change to the environment
- Community facilities and buildings
- The character of different settlements
- Differing visions for the future of the island

The study area includes all islands within the Local Board area

Questions, comments or just want to stay informed?

Email us: greatbarrierareaplan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Source: Auckland Council Plans & Places

Other island communities taking action…

Waiheke

- Te Korowai o Waiheke seeks to eradicate stoats and rats
- Large community lead multi-agency project funded by Auckland Council and PFNZ2050
- Employs 4 staff to work with residents
- Marine protection and regeneration conversations begun

Rakiura

- MOU signed by iwi, DOC, community, councils, hunting and tourism groups to develop predator free strategy
- Goal to remove rats, possums, feral cats and hedgehogs
- Home to unique endemic plants and wildlife eg Rakiura tokoeka kiwi, Stewart Island Robin, Harlequin gecko

Kawau

- Proposing combined wallaby eradication with same for possums, rats and stoats
- Feasibility and community consultation underway

Great Mercury

- Resident, owner and iwi driven rat eradication to address “rat plagues”
- Entire Mercury group now pest free
- Will reach 5 year milestone next year – seeing increases in pateke,kereru, seabirds, kaka, kakariki, dotterel, bittern
- Visible forest recovery

Lord Howe

- Eradication of rats took place in winter 2019 after extensive community debate over more than two decade
- Community expecting reduced impacts of “plagues” of rats on homes and business and on 207 bird species and other wildlife

Source: GBIET summary from published data

AOTEA COLLABORATIVE CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

Summary of Current and currently developing pest management tools

November 2019

Pest	***Current tools***	***Current research – looking for better tools…***
Feral Cats	Kill Traps : Timms, Conibear, DOC 150 – 200, etc Live traps : Leg holds, Cages Sensored cage traps Poison : PredaSTOP (PAPP) Trained dogs	Camera Triggered kill traps More effective Lures – pheromones Wireless technology Research into animal behaviour PAWS – detect, identify & kill PAPP - toxin
Rats/Mice	Snap Traps : a wide range Toxins : anticoagulants & rodenticides A24 Good Nature Traps – self-setting Long Life lures : variety Trained dogs	Automated gas traps Wireless technology Walk through poison stations – Spitfire Long Life Lures –food based attractants, eg soy bean oil, liquorice Lures – pheromones Gene Editing PAWS – detect, identify and kill Research into animal behaviour Thorbormide – toxin Drone bait deployment

Source: Sanctuaries New Zealand data

Feedback from the group….

Topic	What would you add?	Questions	Comments
6. Other big issues	• Waste resources; septic tanks, pollution, imports, landfill • Okiwi School long running Port Fitzroy waste removal project as a benchmark • Pre-summer survey of Port Fitzroy harbour floor and again after to gauge effects of new waste management arrangements on island • Water quality – swimming. river connectivity, shellfish gathering, tourism • Drinking water supply and quality • Increased population expectation (effect) on lifestyle • Tourism • Freshwater ecosystems • Toxins and medicines – effects on the environment from industry and pharmaceuticals • Housing – no locals left as properties to sell to off-island people • Native planting – infill regenerating manuka/kanuka areas with more diversity of plants – especially pest managed areas to speed up restoration Carbon footprint of people and freight getting to Aotea • Carbon credits from travel providers for local food production • Climate emergency – context for this on island	• What climate mitigation is in place? • Why are we so far behind other islands? (see list going pest free) • Climate change influence on biodiversity – from sea level to mountain tops	• Be careful what you wish for – ecotourism means more pressure on beaches, roads, facilities and biodiversity • Example of Maui (in Hawaii) – rapid tourism development and impacts • Planting planning – trees for specific sites, needs education • Providers of mature native plants – carbon and climate impact?