Situation Report: Aotea and Ahuahu Island exotic Caulerpa Delimitation (MPI Response Panel Contract)

Co-ordinated by:	NIWA						
Report Number	#003						
Date and time	21 July 2023						
Period covered	20 July 07:00-19:00						
Summary of day's activities	 0700-0730 Breakfast at Coralie Bay, toolbox meeting set up gear and move onto site for the first dive in the bay. 0730- 0930 Five fifteen-minute dive transect searches in the Coralie Bay area (COR129-COR133). No exotic Caulerpa detected (Table 1, Figure 2). 0945- 1030 transit from Coralie Bay to Peachgrove Bay, remobilise dive team. 1030- 1330 Seven fifteen-minute dive transect searches in the Peachgrove Bay area (PEA120-125 & PEA127). No exotic Caulerpa detected (Table 1, Figure 2). 1345- 1450 Three fifteen-minute dive transect searches in the Southern bays of Ahuahu (MOM126, BUM183-BUM184). No exotic Caulerpa detected (Table 1, Figure 2). 15:30-16:10 Two fifteen-minute dive transect searches in Huruhi Harbour toward the North of Mercury Cove (MCC180-181). No exotic Caulerpa detected (Table 1, Figure 2). 1615-1800 Anchor at Mercury Cove for the night, debrief day, set up and test boxfish ROV and make a plan for diving tomorrow. The dive team updated the project manager of the daily activities and sent the data through for SitRep 1730 to 1900 Complete SitRep and collate data. 						
Actions carried out	 17 dives around Ahuahu/Great Mercury Island. Set up and text Boxfish ROV Data collation, mapping and SitRep. 						
Plan for tomorrow	 Complete 10 fifteen-minute dive searches in Mercury Cove area. Transit to Aotea if weather conditions allow (it is forecast to be high winds tomorrow) 						

Table 1: Transect locations, substrate, depth and presence of exotic Caulerpa (in yellow) completed duing the delimitation survey in July 2023 by NIWA divers

Site ID (i.e. Dive01/Rov 01)	Start Coordinates		End Coordinates		,1	temp	epth	+:	e ₂	(E)	в
	Lat	Long	Lat	Long	Depth	Water ter	Мах dep	Transect width	Substrate ²	Approx. Visibility (1	Caulerpa (Y/N)
COR130	175.7911917	-36.6053839	175.7937502	-36.60452066	M	14	8.8	8	3	8	N
COR129	175.7945999	-36.60603201	175.7926257	-36.60523752	M	14	5.6	8	3-8	8	N
COR132	175.7965816	-36.60249932	175.7949351	-36.60331176	D	14	16.4	8	3-8	10	N
COR133	175.7948411	-36.60335785	175.793752	-36.60481019	М	14	9.4	8	3-8	8	N
PEA121	175.8100564	-36.64071132	175.8128688	-36.63995294	D	14	15	8	3	10	N
PEA123	175.812833	-36.63994655	175.8108433	-36.63904752	D	14	15	8	3-8	10	N
PEA125	175.8108317	-36.63876708	175.8077144	-36.63813313	D	14	10	8	3	10	N
PEA120	175.8064631	-36.64071132	175.8070928	-36.63920556	М	14	8.5	8	7	8	N
PEA127	175.8071356	-36.63920122	175.8071187	-36.63812019	M	14	10	8	3-8	8	N
PEA122	175.8028698	-36.63999051	175.8045694	-36.63980877	М	14	8.5	8	3-7	8	N
PEA124	175.792371	-36.64098786	175.7938831	-36.63971889	D	15	12.9	8	3-8	10	N
MOM126	175.7915333	-36.63982269	175.7907355	-36.63785381	D	15	11.1	8	3-8	8	N
BUM183	175.7816705	-36.63825583	175.782961	-36.637507	D	15	10.1	8	8-3	8	N
BUM184	175.7789755	-36.637535	175.7788921	-36.64007757	D	14	10.5	8	3-8	8	N

1Depth Category codes (NS <2m, S 2-5m, M, 5-10m, D >10m)

2Substrate codes: 1- Sandy mud, 2- Muddy sand, 3- Sand, 4- Sandy gravel, 5- Shelly gravel, 6- Sand foul, 7- Sand reef, 8- Reef, 9- Other (Please state), 10 - Mud can have multiple codes ADD COMMENTS

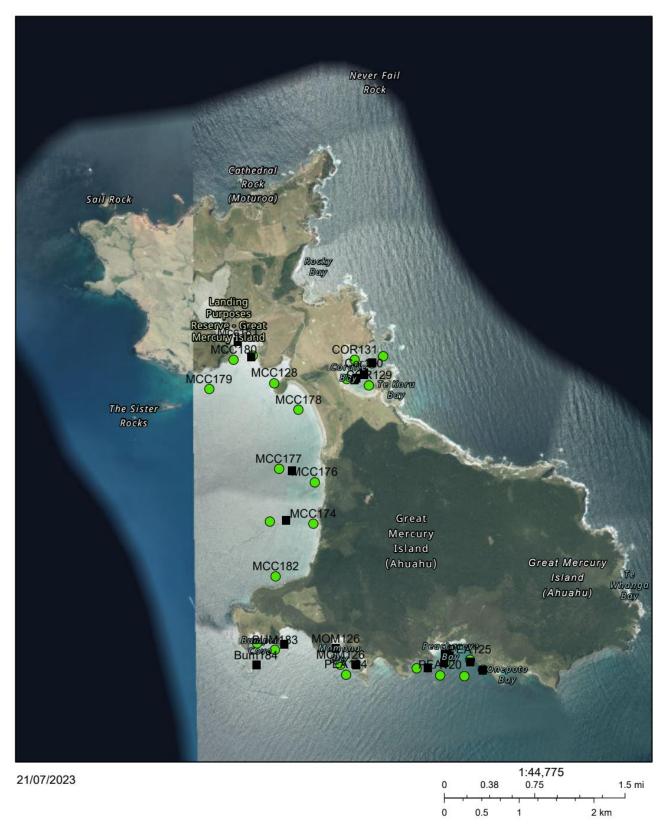


Figure 2: Start (Green circles) and end (black squares) points for the dive searches completed around Ahuahu/Great Mercury Island on 20 July 2023. Note: MCC176 and MCC174 were searched the morning of 21-07-23 and will be reported in sitrep 4.