

*Te Runanga Papa Atawhai o
Tāmaki Makaurau*

Auckland Conservation Board

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority pursuant to Section 6(O) of the Conservation Act 1987





COVER: Auckland Conservation Board members (L to R Nicola MacDonald, Nathan Kennedy, George Taylor (Operations Manager DOC), Andrew Baucke (Director of Operations DOC), Lyn Mayes, Andrew Jeffs, Fale Lesa, Robin Taua-Gordon, Zahra Champion, Joanne Ah Young (Board Support Officer) Glenn Wilcox, Malcolm Page, Miranda O'Connell (DOC Partnerships) at Aotea

*Tamaki Makaurau
Herenga waka
Herenga tangata
He waka eke noa
Mai i nga wai rere
aTopuni tae noa ki te
mahana o Pukoro.
Kainga nga ika katoa.*

PHOTOGRAPHS:
Cover: Auckland Conservation Board and Department of Conservation staff at Aotea February 2019.
Photos supplied by Board members.

PUBLISHED BY
Department of Conservation
Private Bag 68908
Newton, Auckland 1141

ISSN 1172-0514 (Print)
ISSN 1175-1851 (Online)

Table of Contents

4	1 Chairperson's Report
6	2 Introduction
6	3 Auckland Conservation Rohe
	3.1 Conservation features of the area
	3.2 Board functions under section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987
	3.3 Powers of the Board
	3.4 Board Functions under section 30 the National Parks Act
	3.5 Board Membership
	3.6 Members profiles
	3.7 Board meetings
	3.8 Attendance
	3.9 Board committees
13	4 Auckland Conservation Board Work Programme - Summary
	4.1 Threatened Species
	4.2 Management Plans
	4.3 Auckland Conservation Board Advocacy
19	5 Advocacy
	5.1 Community Advocacy and involvement
20	6 Auckland Conservation Board Financial Report



1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Tēnā koutou e ngā
rangatira e ngā whaea

During the report year, the Tāmaki Makaurau – Auckland Conservation Board submitted its review of the implementation of the Auckland Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) (2014–2024) to the New Zealand Conservation Authority. This review has informed the Board's work programme during the year having identified key focus areas and started the process of setting supplementary performance measures. We are pleased that this review has been well received by the New Zealand Conservation Authority.

To deliver its priorities, the Board has set up sub-committees for each priority activity to ensure that the work programme is delivered. In conducting this work, the breadth of experience and expertise across our Board is of immense value. Board members have individual experience in marine science, biodiversity, statutory process, cultural redress, international relations, tourism and communications and collectively bring a wealth of experience to our hui.

One of the key priorities for the Board is understanding and

monitoring the Department's work to assess the conservation status of species in the Auckland region. This fits with the Board's kaupapa that we must put all our efforts into conserving species and increasing populations sizes.

However, the variation in the availability of data has made it difficult for the Board to monitor population sizes and trends. To address this, the Board has received briefings from department scientists and experts at Auckland Botanic Gardens and Auckland Zoo to prepare a list of sixteen species incorporating birds, mammals, invertebrates, plants, arachnids and cetaceans. As well as the general briefing on threatened species from the Department at meetings, the Board will receive detailed information relating to the selected list which includes the fairy tern, Bryde's whale, wetapunga and chevron skink.

Kauri dieback remains one of the principal threats to our region and the Board receives an update on its impact and steps taken to mitigate its spread at each Board meeting.

In November 2018, Dr Andrew Jeffs and I attended the Environmental



Protection Agency hearing of an application from Coastal Resources Limited to dispose of dredged marine sediment east of Aotea – Great Barrier Island. The focus of our evidence related to the impact on marine mammals in and around the Hauraki Gulf from the proposed increased frequency of vessel movements and the potential effect of underwater sound pollution. We were disappointed that there did not seem to be real understanding about the impact of noise pollution and submitted further evidence outlining underwater acoustics modelling work. In our opinion it is unfortunate that the EPA decided to grant consent to the CRL application.

Whilst we decided not to appeal the decision, we have continued to advocate for a change to the policy of dumping dredged materials in the Hauraki Gulf. As part of this advocacy work, we met with Ports of Auckland's executive team to discuss the potential impact of their redevelopment.



Our relationship with Treaty Partners is foremost in all our work. In January I was privileged to attend the signing of the Conservation Relationship Agreement between Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and the Department of Conservation on Motutapu Island. Minister Eugenie Sage and James Brown representing Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki were joined by department staff and iwi and invited guests. To celebrate the occasion Minister Sage released a kiwi from the Kiwi for Kiwis programme onto the island.

However, it is disappointing again to report that we have not made any progress in the report year towards the development of a CMP for the Hauraki Gulf – Tikapa Moana inner motu of Rangitoto, Motutapu and Motuihe – Te Motu-a-Ihenga. Delivery of a CMP in consultation with Tūpuna Taonga o Tāmaki Makaurau Trust which represents the interests of ngā mana whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau is one of the critical milestones within the Auckland CMS.

This has been a priority for our Board since I joined in 2014 and representatives from Nga Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau were appointed to the Board as part of the redress process. It is a major concern to us that we have not been able to make any progress because the Trust does not have access to the necessary resources required to develop a CMP for Rangitoto, Motuihe and Motutapu. The Board has asked the Minister and the Department to urgently find a resolution. We welcome the commitment of the department to considering alternative ways to break this impasse.

I appreciate the support given by Board members past and present and I acknowledge the work of Board members Emma Eichbaum, who resigned from the Board in December 2019, and Rodney Ngawaka, Zahra Champion and Alec Hawke whose terms came to an end.

The work of the Board would not be possible without the

Department of Conservation staff who support and administer the Board led by director operations Auckland Andrew Baucke, statutory manager John Galilee and Board Support Officers, Laura Chartres and Joanne Ah Young. My role as Chair is made much easier from having a dedicated and diligent Department team and I learn much from our weekly meetings.

I look forward to the coming year and delivering on the priorities which we have set out for the Board.

Ngā mihi maioha

Lyn Mayes
Chair

2 INTRODUCTION

The Tāmaki Makaurau – Auckland Conservation Board Annual Report has been prepared by Board members. Section 6O of the Conservation Act requires conservation boards to provide the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority) with an annual report as soon as practical after 30 June each year. In recognition of this requirement the Auckland Conservation Board submits this annual report.

Conservation boards are appointed by the Minister of Conservation under section 6P of the Conservation Act 1987. Board functions are outlined in section 6M and the powers, which enable the conservation boards to carry out those functions, are under 6N of the Act.

Conservation boards are independent advisory bodies, established by statute. They represent the community and offer interaction between communities and the Department of Conservation (the Department), within their area of jurisdiction.

Conservation boards have several statutory roles under various Acts including:

- the recommendation of the Auckland Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) to the Authority for approval
- advising the Department and the Authority on how conservation management strategies and plans will be put into practice

- reporting on the implementation of the CMS
- the approval of conservation management plans
- the recommendation of national park management plans to the Authority for approval
- advising the Department and Authority on conservation matters, and proposed changes to status of land of national and international significance
- liaising with the regional Fish and Game Council on conservation matters
- carrying out other powers delegated by the Minister of Conservation, the Conservation Act or any other Act.

Conservation boards also have several functions under section 3O of the National Parks Act 1980. These functions include recommending the review or amendment of national park management plans and recommending approval of these plans by the Authority.

3 AUCKLAND CONSERVATION ROHE

The Auckland Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction extends from the west coast to the east coast in the narrowest part of New Zealand. The entrance to the Kaipara Harbour marks the north western corner of the region and Mangawhai Heads the north eastern point. In the south west the boundary follows the north bank of the Waikato River and the south eastern boundary is on the

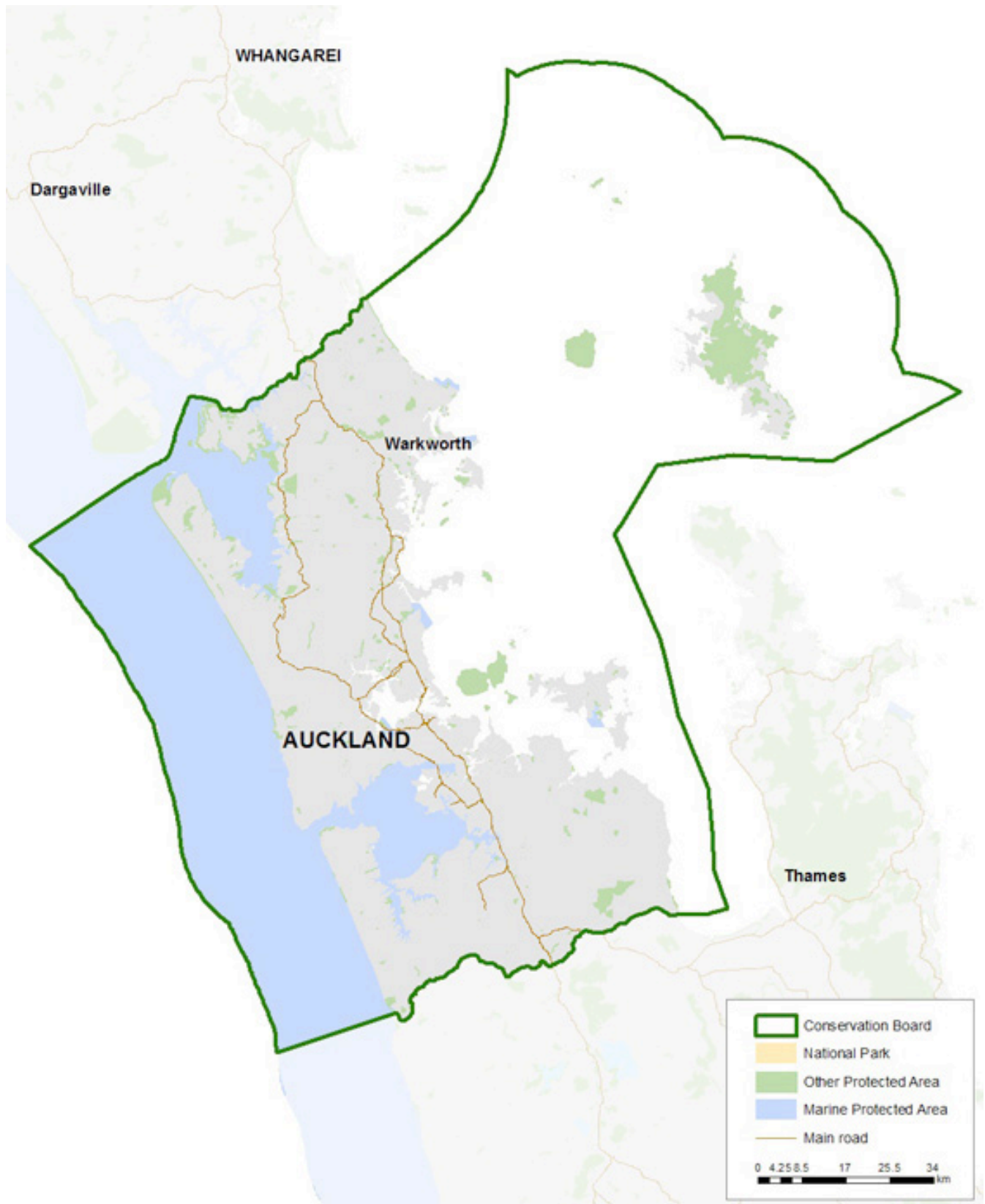
Firth of Thames at Miranda. Public conservation lands also include Hauraki Gulf Islands. The largest of these is Te Motu Aotea – Great Barrier Island, where about 60% of the land area is administered by the Department of Conservation. In 2016, The Aotea Conservation Park Advisory Committee was established comprising representatives from iwi and the Aotea – Great Barrier Island community. In 2016 the Minister for the Environment also announced plans for a Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary which will ultimately see the transfer of the Board's responsibility for the Kermadec Islands.

3.1 Conservation features of the area

The Board's district is a unique one in that it comprises the highly urbanised environment of the Auckland metropolitan area with one third of New Zealand's population, as well as extensive rural areas and remote offshore islands. The Board recognises the importance of making conservation real for the 1.53 million people living in Auckland and delivering a first class conservation experience for the 5 million domestic and international visitors to Auckland each year.

The Tāmaki Makaurau – Auckland region encompasses areas of very significant European historical importance as well as areas of ecological, natural, and amenity value such as the Firth of Thames, Kaipara Harbour, Te Hauturu-o-Toi – Little Barrier Island, Tiritiri Matangi and Motuora, the inner Gulf Islands, Mansion House and the coastal defence installations

Figure 1 Conservation Board Jurisdiction





Board members on site tour at
Auckland's Botanic Gardens

at Maungauika - North Head, Fort Takapuna and Stony Batter. Maungauika was transferred to the management of the Maunga Authority during the year in accordance with a Treaty settlement. The Board has visited Stony Batter – Waiheke Island and held meetings at Aotea and the Auckland Botanic Gardens during the report year.

The area also extends out to the 12-nautical mile limit with respect to coastal and marine issues, and out to the 200-nautical mile limit with respect to protected species. The marine environment is an important part of the Board's district and areas of interest. The Board's policy jurisdiction includes the Cape Rodney to Okakari Point Marine Reserve (New Zealand's first marine reserve), Motu Manawa – Pollen Island Marine Reserve in the Waitematā Harbour, Long Bay-Okura Marine Reserve and Te Matuku Marine Reserve on Waiheke Island. Tawharanui, on the eastern coast of the Rodney district was gazetted in August 2011. The Board met at the Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre in Leigh in August 2018.

3.2 Board functions under section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987

The functions of the Board are:

1. To recommend the approval by the Authority of conservation management strategies, and the review and amendment of such strategies, under the relevant enactments
2. To approve conservation management plans, and the review an amendment of

such plans, under the relevant enactments

3. To advise the Authority and the Director-General on the implementation of conservation management strategies and conservation management plans for the area within the jurisdiction of the Board
4. To advise the Authority or the Director-General
5. On any proposed change of status or classification of any area of national or international importance; and
6. On any other conservation matter relating to any area with the jurisdiction of the Board
7. To liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matter within the jurisdiction of the Board
8. To exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Minister under this Act or any other Act.

3.3 Powers of the Board under section 6N of the Conservation Act 1987

1. Every conservation board shall have all such powers as are reasonably necessary or expedient to enable it to carry out its functions.
2. Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), each conservation board may –
3. Advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process; and
4. Appoint committees of members and other suitable persons, and delegate to them functions and powers.
5. The power conferred by subsection (2)(a) shall include

the right to appear before courts and tribunals in New Zealand and be heard on matters affecting or relating to the Board's functions.

3.4 Board Functions under section 30 the National Parks Act 1980

1. to recommend management plans, and the review or amendment of such plans, for parks within the jurisdiction of the Board in accordance with sections 45 to 47:
2. to consider and determine priorities for the implementation of management plans for national parks:
3. to make recommendations to the Minister for the appointment of honorary rangers under section 40:

4. to review and report to the Director-General or the Authority, as appropriate, on the effectiveness of the administration of the general policies for national parks within the jurisdiction of the Board:
5. to give advice to the Director-General or the Authority—
 - i. on the interpretation of any management plan for a park; and
 - ii. on any proposal for the addition of land to any national park or the establishment of a new national park; and
 - iii. on any other matter relating to any national park,
 —within the jurisdiction of the Board.

TABLE 1 BOARD MEMBERSHIP

BOARD MEMBER	AREA	TERM START	TERM END	YEARS SERVED
Lyn Mayes	Albany	2014	2020	5
Zahra Champion	Kumeu	2016	2019	3
Emma Eichbaum	Newmarket	2015	2018*	3
Alec Te Aroha Hawke	Orakei	2014	2019	5
Andrew Jeffs	Auckland	2016	2019	3
Nathan Kennedy	Marutūāhu ropu; Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau	2014	2020	5
Fale Lesa	Auckland	2018	2021	1
Nicola Macdonald	Auckland	2018	2021	1
Rodney Ngawaka	Te Motu Aotea	2014	2019*	4
Malcolm Page	Botany	2017	2020	2
Robin Taua-Gordon	Tāmaki Waiohua ropu; Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki	2017	2020	2
Glenn Wilcox	Ngāti Whatua ropu; Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki	2014	2020	5

*resigned

3.5 Board membership

There were 12 elected Board members for the reporting year appointed by the Minister of Conservation. Lyn Mayes was elected Chairperson and Emma Eichbaum was elected Deputy Chairperson and replaced by Nathan Kennedy following Emma's resignation from the Board in December 2018.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019 and their term of office.

3.6 Members profiles

Carolyn (Lyn) Mayes is a company director and founder of Mad World Ltd in 2001 which is an environmental consultancy dedicated to building networks and collaboration to improve New Zealand's environmental performance through best practise best cost outcomes. She is a strong advocate for wider industry engagement in conservation programmes, her recreational interests include Olympic Weightlifting. Lyn is a New Zealand Masters Olympic Weightlifter holding national records in the sport and competing for New Zealand internationally.

Dr Zahra Champion is a scientist with experience in the government sector and has a strong focus on research, innovation, commercialisation, policy and planning. She is passionate about science, innovation and business growth, with experience in presenting new ideas and gaining buy-in to these and setting up rigorous frameworks to support their success.

Emma Eichbaum is an executive director at Kantor TNS, one of the world's largest market research agencies. She is an experienced researcher who works closely with clients in the tourism sector to help them understand how to grow the high value visitor market to New Zealand, and to continue to deliver outstanding visitor experiences. Her interests include travel and photography.

Alec Hawke is an event director and organises Māori cultural involvement for events in Auckland. He is of Ngāti Whatua Ōrakei, Ngāti Whatua Runanga, Tainui and Ngāti Whatua Kaipara iwi.

Dr Andrew Jeffs is a marine scientist with the University of Auckland with a strong interest in the sustainable management of the marine and coastal environment. He has an extensive knowledge of the New Zealand marine environment, especially in the Auckland region, through his scientific research, recreational activities and previously working for the Department of Conservation on coastal protection more than 25 years ago.

Nathan Kennedy is of Ngāti Whanaunga and Marutūāhu descent, and was appointed to the Board as a representative for Marutūāhu. He has been the environment officer for Ngāti Whanaunga for the last 17 years, and is a passionate advocate for iwi participation in environmental management. An historic geographer by background, Nathan has been heavily involved in the development and application of Māori cultural and environmental indicators. He is also a geo-spatial analyst, and has worked for the

Crown Forestry Rental trust over the last eight years providing GIS support and sites of significance mapping for the Hauraki and Te Rarawa Treaty of Waitangi claims, and for Auckland Council mapping tribal rohe.

Fale (Andrew) Lesā is a youth adviser at UNESCO and the vice chairman of Manurewa High School. He studied environmental management at the University of Auckland and worked on a marine biodiversity project with the World Wildlife Fund. In 2009 he was elected to the Manukau City Council. He takes great pride in helping to revive Waka Ama in South Auckland and offers a unique perspective as a New Zealand Samoan.

Nicola MacDonald of Ngāti Rehua and Ngāti Wai descent, is a current member of a number of governance bodies, including the Hauraki Gulf Forum, Aotea Conservation Park Advisory Committee, and the Māori Women's Welfare League. She has experience in leading environmental programmes such as the Restore Rakitū and Bring Back Kōkako projects

Rodney Ngawaka is a treaty negotiator for Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai Ki Aotea and kaumatua / kaitiakitanga environmental advisor for the Ngāti Wai Trust. He has represented iwi in many conservation programmes and is committed to iwi development. He is of Ngāti Rehua Ngāti Wai iwi.

Malcolm Page has held positions in parks operations, planning, policy and strategy, and has a range of management experience in recreation and access, heritage and landscape protection,

ecological restoration, and environmental education and community engagement.

Robin Tauga-Gordon is an educationalist passionate about sustainable, environmental education who is currently working as environment and heritage officer for Te Kawerau a Maki. Robin works with stakeholders within the rohe to achieve outcomes while maintaining kaitiakitanga responsibilities to the area's heritage and environment. Her tribal affiliations are with Te Kawerau a Maki, Tainui and Te Rarawa.

Glenn Wilcox is the Ngāti Whatua appointee to the Board, an outcome of the Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Settlement. He was part of the Ngāti Whatua o Kaipara Treaty Negotiation team. Glenn is the deputy chair of the Independent Maori Statutory Board of Auckland and Chair of the Committee of Management for the Otakanini Topu Farm.

3.7 Board meetings

The Board held four meetings during the reporting period. Venues for the meetings vary each year to ensure a wide coverage and enable members of the public in the district to attend meetings and access the Board.

3.8 Attendance

The Table 3 summarises the number of Board meetings attended by members out of the total number of meetings held during the year. Members attended other meetings and events in their role as Board members, including subcommittee meetings and representative roles.

TABLE 2 BOARD MEETINGS, TRIPS & WORKSHOPS DATE AND LOCATION 2018-2019

A	8 August 2018 Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre, Leigh
B	14 November 2018 Waiheke Sustainability Centre, Waiheke Island
C	14 November 2018 field trip - Stony Batter
D	12 February 2019 DOC, Okiwi Station, Aotea
E	11 February 2019 field trip - Aotea
F	15 May 2019 Auckland Botanic Gardens, Manurewa
G	15 May field trip - Botanic Gardens
H	Total Board attendance
I	Total Board field inspections
J	12 April 2019 CMS Priorities Workshop
K	26 June 2019 Threatened Species Workshop

 ATTENDED

TABLE 3 ATTENDANCE

	Mayes	Champion	Eichbaum	Hawke	Jefferies	Kennedy	Leslie	Macdonald	Ngawaka	Page	Tauga-Gordon	Wilcox
A												
B												
C												
D												
E												
F												
G												
H	4	3	2	2	3	3	4	3	0	4	3	3
I	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	2	0	3	2	2
J												
K												



3.9 Board committees

Membership of Board committees was reviewed in July, at the beginning of the reporting year.

TABLE 4 COMMITTEES

Communications	2015*
Lyn Mayes Alec Hawke Emma Eichbaum Fale Lesa Nicola MacDonald	
Concessions	2016*
Malcolm Page Emma Eichbaum Robin Taua-Gordon Glenn Wilcox	

* Date committee commenced

Communications committee

The purpose of this subcommittee is to identify communications opportunities for the Board and to maintain a media presence.

Concessions committee

The purpose of this subcommittee is to assess all notifiable applications for concessions and to provide advice to the Department.

4 AUCKLAND CONSERVATION BOARD WORK PROGRAMME - SUMMARY

Colour	Indicates
■	Completed
■	Started and ongoing
■	Not yet started

#	Priority	Strategies/Actions	Performance Indicators	Activity by Board 30.6.19	Status
1	Threatened species	Support predator free programme in Auckland region	Communications plan active	Predator free stories promoted on Facebook Promotion of predator free Islands	
		Continually monitor threatened species in Auckland region	Report on 2018/ 2019 status of threatened species in the region and agree action programme with DOC	Board has developed a priority list of threatened species (birds, cetaceans, plants, invertebrates, arachnids and mammals). DOC have provided baseline information.	
2	Freshwater habitats	Commission / request full assessment of stream and lake ecology across Auckland Council and DOC estate including a stock take of native fish levels	Board to report on the state of native freshwater fish species in Auckland and whether further measures to protect and restore their populations is required	Board received update on Auckland Council's Research and Evaluation Unit (RIMU) work on native freshwater fish. Two of the Department's 50 priority catchments are in the Auckland rohe – The Hoteo and The Mahurangi.	
3	Marine habitats and ecosystems	Develop a strategic plan or pathway to reverse a decline in species	Develop supplementary performance measures to better assess performance against CMS	This work is incorporated in Priority 1	
		Ensure that our marine reserves and conservation land are not comprised by rapid housing development and construction	Advocacy	Letters to Minister and Mayor re sediment discharge into Long Bay Okura Marine Reserve Meeting with Councillor Hulse to discuss Auckland Council's strategic approach to sediment	

3 Marine habitats and ecosystems	Continue to seek progress of the marine protection measures proposed to government agencies through Sea Change Process	Advocacy	Letters to Minister and mayor re sediment discharge into Long Bay Okura Marine Reserve Letter to Minister re decline of crayfish in the Cape Rodney–Okarakari Point and Tawharanui Marine Reserves	
	Continue to seek action to address the threat of oil from the RMS Niagara shipwreck	Advocacy	Continued work with Northland Conservation Board to maintain pressure Media coverage – Newshub Nation report	
	Support and promote initiatives to protect marine mammals including Maui dolphin and Bryde’s whale	Advocacy	Submission on the Coastal Resources Ltd consent application Meetings with Ports of Auckland	
4 Treaty partners	Develop new milestones which reflect the range of CMS objectives and incorporate protection of cultural and historical resources and heritage	Board to develop supplementary measures	Board reviewing the new Wellington CMS milestones	
	Advocate for progress to the CMP for the inner motu islands of the Hauraki Gulf	Commence work on Motu Plan	Board expresses strong disappointment with lack of progress. Board has written to Minister and Director General however there has been no resolution to the impasse.	
	Continue to work with Ngati Manuhiri to deliver the Hauturo-Toi – Little Barrier Island CMP	At least one meeting to have been held with Ngati Manuhiri	Meeting is being organised by the Department Work continues to deliver the CMP	

5 Ecosystems	Prioritise an acceleration programme for addressing kauri dieback in the Auckland region, where there is the largest estate of kauri	Board to develop new supplementary performance measures to better assess performance against CMS milestones which relate specifically to ecosystems with measurable milestones.	The CMS needs to reflect the importance of Auckland Council's role in conservation. Advocacy - the Board has written to Mayor to discuss Social media – Facebook promote news about kauri dieback Written to all concessionaires to advise of protocols for access to forest areas
	Establish a sub committee to ensure oversight of DOC and Council plans for kauri dieback	Board has agreed that all members are part of this committee	Update on kauri dieback is included in every Board meeting
	Ensure there is an appropriate strategy to address myrtle rust and other diseases impacting native flora	Advocacy	Report to Board on strategy for myrtle rust and decision making re new incursions
6 People connecting with nature	Work with iwi and hapu, Auckland Council, NGOs and other organisations to ensure that indigenous plants and wildlife thrive and their habitats are restored and regenerated	Board to develop new supplementary performance measures to better assess performance against CMS milestones	Meeting held at Botanic Gardens for briefing on indigenous plants
	Promote recreational benefits of conservation	Develop engagement measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and monitor visitors to top five visitor attractions on public conservation land • Number of people linked to the Board's Facebook page • Number of communications put out by the Board • Attendance by the public at Board meetings • Number of groups who have presented to the Board • Number of nominations to join the Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 177 followers on Facebook • Media releases – CRL • 10 letters sent • 6 public attendees at 4 board meetings • 2 groups presented to the Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Nick Shears – University of Auckland (November 2018 meeting) • Nigel Ironside – Ports of Auckland (February 2019 meeting)



Harakeke

Phormium tenax

This Pā harakeke (harakeke collection) contains numerous varieties selected by Māori for weaving, extracting muka (fibre) and medicinal properties.

A rich resource

Harakeke was the most important plant to pre-colonial Māori. Harakeke is variable with some individual plants exhibiting clearly superior qualities for weaving or extracting muka. Māori began selecting and naming their favourite harakeke plants and growing these by division so that their useful qualities were retained. Our original collection was donated by the late Buckley Fyres of Tuakau. Māori used harakeke to make many important everyday items. Europeans incorrectly called harakeke 'flax'. The name stuck!



Pupua (flax skin).
Māori weaving.



Kete Harakeke (flax basket).
Lugh Māori weaving.



Harvesting harakeke

Traditionally a karake (preyer) avoided harvesting. Māori think of harakeke as whānau (family). The youngest three central leaves (top and saw) were never cut and harakeke was never cut when flowering. If you are interested in harvesting harakeke, please speak to our staff.

Whakatauaiki (proverb)

Poiipola te rito o te harakeke
Kia whakakaha
Ka whenera te tuitui o ngā iwi
Kia whakakotahi

Nurture the young
So the family stays strong
That we may be woven
Together as one people.

Whakatauaiki
By Rosemary Ross, Te Aho

Educating at Auckland Botanic Gardens

Release of kiwi from the Kiwi for Kiwis Programme on Motutapu Island January 2019



4.1 Threatened species

During the report year, the Board has dedicated significant resource to working with the Department to identify the species most at risk in the Auckland Region. At our May hui, the Board visited the Auckland Botanic Gardens and the site tour of the “threatened species” gardens clearly demonstrated the impact of urban life on our plant species and the challenge of how to educate the population about their role.

This visit was a further step in the Board’s own education about threatened species with two separate workshops. The Board has received presentations by Department scientists to agree the species (birds, plants, mammals, invertebrates and amphibians) which are most at risk in Auckland.

The Board will continue to receive Department briefings on nationally critical species but will closely monitor the Department’s activities with regards to sixteen specific species.

4.2 Management plans

A major priority for the Auckland Conservation Board is to develop in partnership with the Trustees of the Tūpuna Taonga Trust a Conservation Management Plan for the Hauraki Gulf Tikapo Moana Inner Motu. This is a challenging issue for our Board and in particular for representatives from Nga Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau who were appointed five years ago to the Board as part of the redress process.

The Board expresses its strong disappointment that there has been no resolution to the resourcing of the Trust and continues to seek a resolution with the Department.

TABLE 5 AUCKLAND THREATENED FAUNA AND FLORA

SPECIES	COMMON NAME	LOCATION
Bird	Matuku Australasian bittern	Found throughout NZ. Papakanui
Bird	Taraiti, tara teoteo, fairy tern	Kaipara/ Auckland
Bird	Tuturuatu New Zealand shore plover	A small population has recently been established on Motutapu Island in the Hauraki Gulf (4 pairs breeding in 2015/16)
Bird	Taiko, black petrel	Te-Hauturu-o-Toi
Bird	NZ storm petrel	Te-Hauturu-o-Toi
Cetacean	Bryde's whale	Hauraki Gulf
Cetacean	Maui's dolphin	Most likely to be found between Manukau Harbour and Port Waikato
Cetacean	Kera wēra, orca	Hauraki Gulf
Plant	Kōwhai ngutu-kākā, kākābeak	Auckland; Motuihe/ Rangitoto
Plant	Veronica jovellanoides	Riverhead Forest
Plant	Veronica speciosa	South Kaipara Covenant
Invertebrates	Wetapunga	Te-Hauturu-o-Toi; Tiri Tiri Matangi, Motuohe
Arachnids	Katipo	Port Albert; Pakiri Beach
Mammals	NZ long tailed bat Chalinolobus tuberculatus	Te-Hauturu-o-Toi; Aotea
Mammals	Short tailed bat Mystacina tuberculata	Te-Hauturu-o-Toi
Reptile	Chevron skink	Aotea

4.3 Auckland Conservation Board Advocacy

Impact of urbanisation

One of the major concerns for the Auckland Conservation Board is how Auckland balances the growth of housing stock whilst protecting our conservation values.

The Board has continued to advocate its concerns about the ongoing and increasing contamination of the Long Bay-Okura Marine Reserve. The development in Long Bay has been and continues to discharge sediment into the Karepiro stream and tributaries that flow to Karepiro Bay in the Marine Reserve. The Board has raised this issue with Auckland Council and looks forward to seeing the council's strategic review on sediment.

Marine protection

The Board submitted to an EPA hearing against the application for a consent to dump up to 250,000 cubic metres of dredged materials per year at sea. The Board submitted against the CRL application because the vastly increased barge movements across the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park to the dumping ground on the continental shelf beyond Aotea – Great Barrier Island presents in our Board's view a significant and clear threat to the marine ecosystem in the park, especially the marine mammals.

The Bryde's whale for example is a national critical species which spends a lot of time on the surface, even "sleeping" on the surface at night, when these dredging vessels will be passing through. Professor

Andrew Jeffs, Board member and marine biologist asked the panel to impose safeguards on vessel speeds and limits on underwater noise outputs noting that sound travels long distances underwater and whales and dolphins live in an acoustic world which is under threat

Following the granting of the consent to CRL, the Board expressed its profound disappointment that the potential impacts on the remarkable range of whales and dolphins in the Hauraki Gulf have not been taken into account. It noted that the Hauraki Gulf is an internationally outstanding habitat for whales and dolphins that deserves a higher standard of care.

The Board has also raised concerns about the decline of crayfish in the Cape Rodney – Okakari Point and Tawharanui Marine Reserves in the Hauraki Gulf following a presentation of research conducted by Auckland University.

5 ADVOCACY

All Board members have responsibility for liaising with other groups when opportunities arise, and some members have specific roles in liaison. The Board appointed various members to liaise with other groups and agencies.

5.1 Community advocacy and involvement

The Board believes that working with conservation organisations and members of the public is very important. Meetings were held in different parts of the Auckland region and opportunities for the public to attend Board meetings were advertised.

The Board maintains a presence on the Department's website. Updates from the Board were provided throughout the year on activities undertaken.

The Board maintains an active Facebook page.

TABLE 6 BOARD LIAISONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

BOARD MEMBER	GROUP AGENCY ORGANISATION
Alec Te Aroha Hawke	Northland Conservation Board
Andrew Jeffs	Auckland/Waikato Forest & Game Council
Nathan Kennedy	Waikato Conservation Board

6 AUCKLAND CONSERVATION BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

The table below outlines the Auckland Conservation Board budgeted and actual spending for 2018-2019. To 30 June 2019.

ITEM	ACTUAL \$ YTD	BUDGET \$ YTD	VARIANCE	FULL YEAR BUDGET
Board fees	8,936	14,500	5,564	14,500
Advocacy Fees	448	0	(448)	0
Consultancy & Professional Services	5,329	0	(5,329)	0
Travel & Accommodation	6,907	7,500	593	7,500
Hospitality & Events	3,390	3,000	(390)	3,000
Printing & Publication	1,055	0	(1,055)	0
Education & Training	0	0	0	0
Total	26,064	25,000	(1,064)	25,000

This report is presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority as required by the Conservation Act 1987 and distributed to interested parties. Members of the public are welcome to attend conservation board meetings. If you would like more information on the Auckland Conservation Board please see the website conservationboards.org.nz or contact the board support officer, at the Department of Conservation in Auckland at +64 9 307 9279 or email jahyoung@doc.govt.nz



Conservation of wetapunga
at Auckland Zoo