



Bay of Plenty Conservation Board


Annual Report

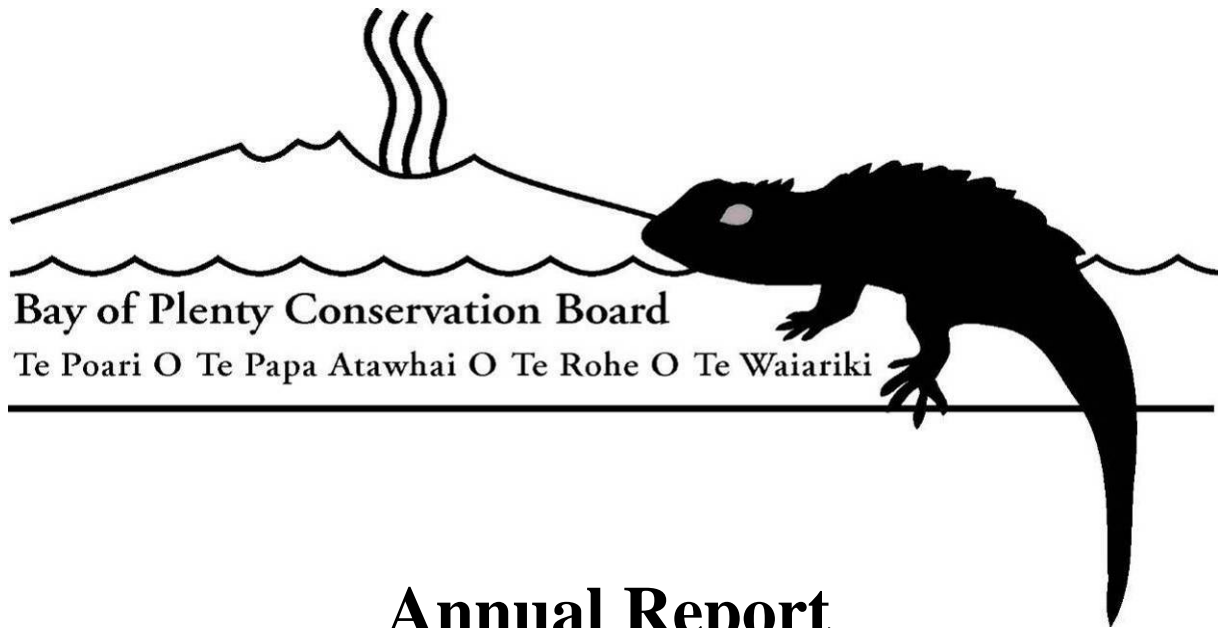
To the New Zealand Conservation Authority



1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007

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Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

Te Poari O Te Papa Atawhai O Te Rohe O Te Waiariki

Annual Report

1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007

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

**Serviced by the Department of Conservation
Bay of Plenty Conservancy
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Front cover: DOC staff, Board members and their families on a field trip to Lake Tarawera. Photo: DOC.

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Chairperson's Report

Tena koutou katoa,

It gives me great pleasure to present the Bay of Plenty Conservation Boards Annual Report for 2006-2007 but before I start I would like to acknowledge the sudden and sad loss of one of our valued Board members, Gil George, who passed away in May this year. Gil will be remembered for his humour, his humility and his passion for Conservation. He willingly offered the Board his skills and extensive experience in marine issues, business management, strategic planning, and research and project analysis. He was a true gentleman in every sense of the word and he will be dearly missed.

Once again this has been an interesting and productive year for the Board. As in previous years the Board looked to continue and enhance the traditions that have been established over the years, particularly its close working relationship with Bay of Plenty Conservancy staff, and in particular with the Conservator Henry Weston and its role of providing constructive support for the work of the Department.

The regular CMS Monitoring and Review processes were key aspects of the Board's relationship that ensured that the Board remained focused and in touch with the relevant operational issues of the Conservancy. Our role as advocates of Conservation has certainly been enhanced by the knowledge we have gained through the Boards direct involvement in the CMS review process.

Team spirit continues to be one of the key characteristics of the Board and so it was with a sense of sadness that we farewelled Heather McKechnie in April 2006. Heather's passion, enthusiasm and dedication was without question. We once again acknowledge the excellent support and service we have had from key Conservancy staff. Particular thanks must go to Mark Davies, the Boards Support Manager for his guidance and unwavering commitment and finally special thanks to Leilani Fraser the Boards Support Officer.

As with the previous years, the Board appreciates the involvement and insights from the NZCA. As the NZCA's liaison person, Linda Conning continues to provide valuable input and guidance.

In closing I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to my fellow Board members for their dedication, passion and commitment throughout the year.

Heoi ano,



Laurence Tamati
Chairman
Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

1.0 Introduction

The Bay of Plenty Conservation Board is one of the fourteen statutory bodies appointed by the Minister of Conservation under Section P of the Conservation Act 1987.

The functions and powers of the Board are outlined in Section 6M and 6N respectively. The role of the Board as laid out in the Act is as follows:

- To recommend the approval of Conservation Management Strategies;
- To approve Conservation Management Plans;
- To advise on how Conservation Management Strategies and Plans are being put into practice;
- To advise on proposed changes to the status of land areas of national and international significance;
- To advise on proposals for new walkways;
- To liaise with Fish and Game Councils on conservation matters;
- To carry out the other powers delegated to the Board by the Minister of Conservation, the Conservation Act or any other Act;
- To advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process.

These functions and powers, where exercised, are reported on separately within this report.



*Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, members of the public and DOC staff on a field trip to Lake Tarawera.
Photo: DOC.*

2.0 Board Membership

Members of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board are appointed by the Minister of Conservation. Board members represent a wide variety of interests and geographic spread across the Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

Appointed Members of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

Appointed Members	Home Location	Meetings Attended
Laurence Tamati (Chair)	Rotorua	5
Alison Anderson	Paeroa	0
James Carlson	Murupara	4
Neil Clarke	Mount Maunganui	6
John Coster	Tauranga	4
Gil George	Tauranga	5
Alf McCausland	Tauranga	5
Rosemary Michie	Rotorua	5
Anthony Olsen	Matata	6
Stephen Parr	Tauranga	5
Margriet Theron	Rotorua	5
Suzanne Williams	Tauranga	4

Sub-Committees of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

Issue	Board Member(s)
National Issues	Laurence Tamati
Pest Management Issues	Neil Clarke
Biodiversity	Stephen Parr
Section 4	James Carlson, Laurence Tamati, Alf McCausland, Anthony Olsen
Strategic Planning	Margriet Theron, Anthony Olsen, Laurence Tamati
Kaituna Issues	Anthony Olsen, Stephen Parr, Rosemary Michie, Laurence Tamati
NZCA Liaison	Laurence Tamati
Eastern Region Fish and Game Council Liaison	Suzanne Williams
Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board Liaison	Anthony Olsen
East Coast/Hawkes Bay Conservation Board Liaison	James Carlson
Waikato Conservation Board Liaison	Stephen Parr

2.0 Board Membership (continued)

Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy Review Subcommittees

Places section	Board Members
Offshore Islands	Neil Clarke, Alf McCausland, Margriet Theron, John Coster
Kaimai-Mamaku Forest	Neil Clarke, Stephen Parr, Suzanne Williams, Margriet Theron
Whirinaki Forest	James Carlson, Alf McCausland, John Coster, Margriet Theron
Marine Reserves	Neil Clarke, Alf McCausland, Margriet Theron, Suzanne Williams, Anthony Olsen
Wetlands	Rosemary Michie, Anthony Olsen, Laurence Tamati, Margriet Theron, Suzanne Williams
Volcanic and Geothermal Landforms, Lakes and Associated Forests	Rosemary Michie, Anthony Olsen, Laurence Tamati, Margriet Theron

Suzanne Williams and John Coster were appointed to the Board in September 2006 and attended Board meetings since then.

On 22 March 2007, Alice Anderson resigned from the Board. The Board wished her well for the future.



Gil George (left), Craig Summers (Acting Technical Support Officer Recreation) and Phil Alley (Area Manager Rotorua Lakes) enjoying a field trip to Lake Tarawera. Photo: DOC.

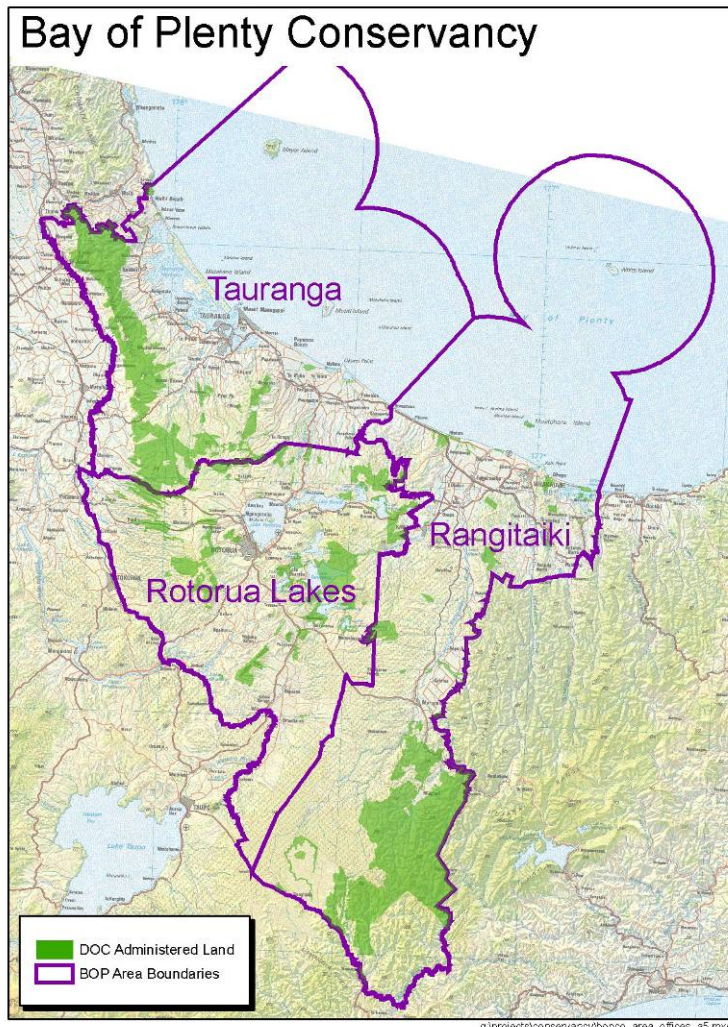
On 21 May 2007, Gil George passed away suddenly at his home in Tauranga. Gil was a valued member of the Board and will be remembered for his extensive knowledge of marine issues.

Gil also offered the Board his skills and experience in business management covering marketing, strategic planning, research and project analysis.

Gil's love for the environment and enthusiasm will be greatly missed by members of the Board.

3.0 The Board's Area

The Board's area of responsibility is the same as that of the Bay of Plenty Conservancy. The Department administers 178,000 hectares of public conservation land in the Bay of Plenty



Conservancy which is split between three Area Offices: Rotorua Lakes, Rangitaiki and Tauranga.

The Rotorua Lakes Area includes 13 major lakes, scenic reserves and several geothermal areas of international and national importance.

The Rangitaiki Area includes the Whirinaki Conservation Park and the Whakatane coastline from Otamarakau to Ohiwa and Te Paepae Aotea-Volkner Rocks Marine Reserve.

The Tauranga Area encompasses the Kaimai-Mamaku Park and includes the long coastal strip running from Waihi to Otamarakau and Tuhua Marine Reserve.

The most dominant characteristic of the Bay of Plenty is its volcanic and geothermal history and landscapes including active volcanism. There are 182

significant landform and geological sites within the region of which 35 are internationally important and an additional 66 of national importance.

The region also includes four internationally ranked geothermal fields: Rotorua, Waimangu, Waiotapu and Whakaari/White Island; 11 geothermal features of international importance and a further eight of national importance. Adjoining the coast line are large alluvial plains near Whakatane, Te Puke and Little Waihi with a narrow strip of dunes between.

The area is steeped in Maori history and tradition with many historic sites and waahi tapu. It was the landing site of three waka during the great migration from Hawaiki to Aotearoa. The Bay of Plenty hosts 36 iwi organisations and over 200 marae committees. Two large, natural harbours - Tauranga and Ohiwa - have important ecological values in the Bay of Plenty region.

4.0 Board Meetings and Field Trips

Meetings of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board are usually held on the first Friday of every second month in February, April, June, August, October and December. Board meetings are advertised in Bay of Plenty newspapers and members of the public are encouraged to attend. Six Board meetings were held during the course of the year.

Date of Meeting	Meeting Venue	Location
4 August 2006	Sudima Hotel	Rotorua
6 October 2006	Murumurunga Marae	Te Whaiti
1 December 2006	Braeside Resort Motel	Rotorua
9 February 2007	Bay of Plenty Conservancy Office	Rotorua
12 April 2007	Ngati Tuwharetoa Settlement Trust Office	Kawerau
1 June 2007	Future Te Aroha Community Centre	Te Aroha



*Steaming, red earth at the Wairakei Geyser Valley near Rotorua.
Photo: DOC.*

The Board had the following field trips:

Saturday, 7 October 2006:

Hosted by Area Manager Rangitaiki, John Sutton, the Board visited the Whirinaki Ecological Management Zone (WEMZ) located within the Whirinaki Conservation Park. Points of interest and discussion included visitor facilities and future development opportunities, the potential for the community to add value to visitor experiences and the new Whirinaki Mountain Bike Track.

Saturday, 10 February 2007:

Hosted by Area Manager Rotorua Lakes, Phil Alley, the Board visited Lake Tarawera and were briefed on the Lakes Walkway and Tarawera Trail project. Points of interest and discussion included national and regional opportunities and context, tangata whenua partnership and relationships, and complementary developments, facilities and services needed by visitors and provided by land owners.

Thursday, 12 April 2007:

Hosted by Mighty River Power and Ngati Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau representatives, the Board visited the Mighty River Power Kawerau site and Parimahana Scenic Reserve in Kawerau. Points of interest and discussion included the Kawerau geothermal field and new developments on site, consent monitoring programme and relationship management.

4.1 Board Sub-Committee Meetings

Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy Review Sub-Committee Meetings



Board members and others at a fieldtrip to Lake Tarawera. Photo: DOC.

The Board and CMS Review Subcommittees have been actively working with DOC staff on the review of the CMS. During 2006, the Board and the Department of Conservation agreed on the draft locations of 'Place' within the Bay of Plenty Conservancy and workshops began in late 2006 to progress the thinking around this.

31 October 2006 - Offshore Islands

Board members, DOC staff, Tuhua/Mayor Island Trust Board members and Ngati Awa representatives gathered to discuss offshore islands at the Tauranga Area Office.

9 November 2006 - Kaimai Mamaku Forest

Board members and DOC staff gathered to discuss the Kaimai Mamaku Forest at the Tauranga Area Office.

16 November 2006 - Whirinaki Forest

At Murumurunga Marae in Te Whaiti, DOC staff, Ngati Whare representatives and Board members met to discuss the Whirinaki Forest.

29 November 2006 - Marine Reserves

DOC staff and Board members met at the Tauranga Area Office to discuss marine reserves.

12 December 2006 - Wetlands

Bay of Plenty Conservancy Office hosted Board members and DOC staff for discussions on wetlands.

19 December 2006 - Volcanic and geothermal landforms, lakes and associated forests

DOC staff and Board members were hosted at the Bay of Plenty Conservancy Office to discuss volcanic and geothermal landforms, lakes and associated forests.



Lake Tarawera, near Rotorua. Photo: DOC.

4.2 Other Meetings and Activities attended by Board Members



Moutohora/Whale Island. Photo: DOC.

Joint Management Committee - Te Tapatoru o Toi

A Joint Management Committee (JMC) was established over three reserves as part of the Ngati Awa Treaty Settlement. The Joint Management Committee or Te Tapatoru o Toi was established for Moutohora/Whale Island Wildlife Management Reserve, Tauwhare Pa Scenic Reserve, and Ohope Scenic Reserve.

This committee has representatives nominated by Ngati Awa, the Department of Conservation and the Bay of Plenty

Conservation Board. Anthony Olsen is the Board's representative on the JMC. When the committee was established in April 2006, the Board ensured that a standing item on its agenda would cover the work of this Committee. At each Board meeting, Anthony Olsen provides an update to the Board on the work of the JMC.

Joint Advisory Committee

A Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) was established as part of the Ngati Awa Treaty Settlement. The committee has advisory and consultative roles with regard to Whakapaukorero, Matata Scenic Reserve and Te Awa a Te Atua (Matata Wildlife Refuge Reserve). The six member committee is made up two members nominated by the Director-General of Conservation, two members nominated by Ngati Awa and two members nominated by Ngati Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau.

The term of appointment is five years and the committee meet twice a year and regulates their own procedure with regard to management plans and annual planning. The JAC is working closely with the Department and inputting into the CMS review and the Wetlands 'Place' section.

Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve - Signing of Memorandum of Understanding

The Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council, the Department of Conservation and the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve on 30 August 2006. The day was particularly special for the Board as it played a major role in moving the issue forward, in terms of the need for integrated management for the reserve.

Opening of the Te Paepae Aotea/Volkner Rocks Marine Reserve

Te Paepae Aotea/Volkner Rocks Marine Reserve was officially opened on 12 October 2006. The Associate Minister of Treaty Settlements, Mita Ririnui (who attended on behalf of the Minister of Conservation, Hon Chris Carter), was present at the opening, along with members of the Board, DOC staff and other invited guests.

4.2 Other Meetings and Activities attended by Board Members (continued)



Board members, DOC staff and members of the public on a field trip to Lake Tarawera. Photo: DOC.

New Zealand Recreation Summit - Mountains to the Sea

The New Zealand Recreation Summit was held on 16-17 September 2006 and hosted by the Minister of Conservation at Te Papa, the national museum of New Zealand.

The event was sponsored by the Department of Conservation and Sport and Recreation New Zealand to look at the challenges, opportunities and trends that will help set the direction for outdoor recreation on public conservation land for the

next 20 years. Rosemary Michie attended the summit on behalf of the Board and provided a debrief at the Board's October 2006 meeting.

Rosemary Michie reported to the Board that the general feeling at the end of the conference appeared to be that this was just the start and that research was needed to find out what people wanted and especially how children and young people could be encouraged to participate in outdoor activities. She also noted her concern at the lack of Maori representation at the summit.

Opening of the Violet Bonnington Reserve

The opening of the Violet Bonnington Reserve, which is owned by the Rotorua Forest and Bird Society, took place on 28 October 2006. Hon. Chris Carter, Minister of Conservation opened the reserve giving much better access to the historic Jubilee Track which lies on public conservation land.

Attendees included Steve Chadwick MP for Rotorua, a number of council representatives, Department staff and approximately 200 people. Margriet Theron and Rosemary Michie also attended the opening. Rosemary is a trustee and Chairperson of the Trust and Margriet is a friend. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the Mount Ngongotaha Bush Restoration Trust was signed and witnessed by the Minister.

Department of Conservation's 20th Birthday

One of the events celebrating the Department's 20th Birthday on 1 April 2007, was a family day at the Violet Bonnington Reserve which was organised by the Department in conjunction with the Mount Ngongotaha Bush Restoration Trust. Some highlights of the day included the high number of youth participating in the opening and the Department's contribution to the work of the Trust.

5.0 Board Functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987

5.1 Section 6M 1(a): To recommend the approval by the Conservation Authority of Conservation Management Strategies, and the review and amendment of such strategies, under the relevant enactments

As discussed in 4.1 Board Subcommittee Meetings, the Board met to discuss the review of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy and to decide the concept of 'Places'.

The Bay of Plenty Conservancy is the first to review its CMS and support is being provided by Head Office to assist with the new format and template.

On 31 May 2007, the full Board met at Te Aroha for a one-day workshop focusing on the review of the CMS.



View of the Kaimai-Mamaku ranges from Matamata. Photo: DOC.

The workshop was facilitated by Clint Cameron (Community Relations Officer, Planning), supported by Briony Dyson (Senior Planner, Head Office) and Mark Davies (Community Relations and Technical Support Manager). The Board reviewed the draft outcomes, objectives and policies for Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park 'place' and Wetlands 'place'.

The main thrust and purpose of the workshop session was to gauge whether the desired general intent and direction of conservation work over the next 10 years for each 'Place' is reflected in the suite of outcomes, objectives and policies.

The Board discussed the Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park 'place' in detail and suggested changes to wording to ensure clarity and better readability. All recommendations from the Board were noted by Clint Cameron and will be incorporated into a final draft document.

The Board look forward to receiving the first draft Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy at its August 2007 meeting for consideration. The timetable agreed to by the Board and the Department is for the draft to be publicly notified in late 2007.

5.0 Board Functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 (continued)

5.3 Section 6M 1(d) (ii): To advise the Conservation Authority and the Director General on any other conservation matter

Conservation Board Funding

The Board wrote to the Chair of the NZCA regarding Conservation Board funding. At the Board's 6 October 2006 meeting, the Board agreed the following for submission to the Authority:

1. That Boards should be funded at a national level and not from their Conservancy's budget:

Boards are tasked to function independently and should therefore control their own budget within funding limits. It does not enhance the important Conservancy/Board relationship for the funding to be drawn from its own Conservancy, possibly at the cost of other operational funding. (Note - this submission reflects comments made on page 17 of the report by Carla Wilson, 'Role and effectiveness of Conservation Boards as a community voice in conservation management', under 4.5 Relationship with DOC)

2. That Boards should be funded for Subcommittee work:

For Boards to be proactive it is inevitable that such work be undertaken in order to progress significant issues. This work is shown to be productive in achieving outcomes and merits appropriate recognition of Board members' input at a level commensurate with Board meeting payments. This is particularly relevant now that the CMS review is imminent and will be superimposed on other strategic subcommittee requirements. This will entail a considerable additional workload on Board members.

The Board received a response from the Chair of the NZCA, Kerry Marshall, on 25 January 2007. He advised that the most likely scenario is that in order to establish a centrally controlled fund for Board budget allocations, the current funding would be removed from the conservancies and then simply redistributed.



*Aerial view over Lake Rotorua and Mokoia Island.
Photo: DOC.*

Allocating funding to Boards from a central point may also prove to be more rigid than the current system. It would be difficult to develop a formula which provided a fair and equitable distribution of funding between the Boards. Kerry agreed that the work of sub-committees should be funded, particularly in relation to statutory functions such as the development and revision of conservation management strategies and national park management plans.

5.0 Board Functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 (continued)

5.3 Section 6M 1(d) (ii): To advise the Conservation Authority and the Director General on any other conservation matter (continued)

However, this may necessitate a reallocation of existing resources allocated to the Board or a change in the Board's modus operandi, eg. fewer full Board meetings and field trips.

Kerry Marshall recommended that the Board discuss the situation with the Conservator as, in his judgement, that is more likely to yield positive results for the Board than the establishment of a central funding pool for Conservation Boards. The value of Conservation Boards is best understood at the Conservancy level where their contribution is made, rather than at the national level. In any event, an increase in Board funding at the present time would likely be met by cuts in other areas of conservation funding.

Upper Kaituna Scenic Reserve Submissions

On 26 February 2007 the Board wrote to the Department with a submission in relation to the Department's interim decision to approve in principle the application by Bay of Plenty Electricity Limited for a concession to occupy approximately 0.7 hectares of land within the Upper Kaituna Scenic Reserve for the purpose of hydroelectric generation.

The submission by the Board was that:

1. The Board support the Department's approval in principle for the concession sought by Bay of Plenty Electricity for the proposed Upper Kaituna Hydroelectric Power Scheme provided that Bay of Plenty Electricity adheres strictly to its commitments as cited in paragraph 4 below.
2. The Board noted the significant effects outlined on pages six and seven of the First Determination report to the General Manager Operations Northern of the Department on the application for concession by Bay of Plenty Electricity Limited (Lease) dated 17 November 2006.
3. The Board also noted the measures that Bay of Plenty Electricity has proposed and that the company believes will avoid, remedy or mitigate the effects of the scheme.
4. The Board noted that Bay of Plenty Electricity had made commitment that the company will, in consultation with the Department:
 - a) minimise the effects of the construction by working strictly to an agreed management plan
 - b) minimise vegetation clearance and replant to retain the natural character of the Reserve
 - c) design and construct a weir with natural features to blend in with the character of the landscape
 - d) provide easier pedestrian access (if desired by the Department and/or Rotorua District Council) for walkers, anglers and recreational kayakers

5.0 Board Functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 (continued)

5.3 Section 6M 1(d) (ii): To advise the Conservation Authority and the Director General on any other conservation matter (continued)

- e) replant suitable natives along the river margins and on the weir structure to improve the habitat for native birds in the Reserve
 - f) work to preserve the king ferns in the Reserve and on private land across the river
 - g) develop and complete a pest eradication management strategy to protect king ferns and enhance the scenic values of the Reserve
 - h) remove invasive plant species such a willows.
5. The Bay of Plenty Conservation Board regards it as vitally important that the Department implements a strict monitoring regime to ensure that Bay of Plenty Electricity meets all the commitments it has made in respect to the Upper Kaituna Reserve during the construction and operation of the proposed scheme.
6. The Bay of Plenty Conservation Board did not wish to speak in support of this submission.

The Board received a note from the Department confirming receipt of its submission.

Overall, the Board supports the proposal in principle but sought the inclusion of conditions to avoid, remedy or mitigate the effects of the scheme on the river.

The submission process regarding the Bay of Plenty Electricity Concession was still underway and no decision reached at the time of printing this report.



Upper Kaituna river, Rotorua. Photo: DOC.

5.0 Board Functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 (continued)

5.4 Section 6M 1(f): To liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matters within the jurisdiction of the Board

On 30 August 2006, the Board were invited to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding approved by the Department, Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council.

The three agencies worked together cooperatively and developed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve as well as an Operational Management Action Plan.

Information from the previous Draft Conservation Management Plan for the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve was used as the basis for the Operational Management Action Plan.

Suzanne Williams has taken on a liaison role between the Board and the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council.



Entrance to the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve. Photo: DOC.

6.0 Powers of Board under Section 6N of the Conservation Act

6.1 Section 6N 2(a): Each Board may advocate its interest at any public forum or in any statutory planning process



Kokako from the Kaharoa Ecological Area, near Rotorua. Photo: DOC.

Submission to Environmental Risk Management Authority (ERMA) - Reassessment of 1080 poison

On 15 January 2007, the Board lodged a submission with ERMA supporting the reassessment of 1080.

The Board understands the concerns of groups who oppose the continued use of 1080 to control possums, but for economic and trade protection reasons, the Board favours the continued use of 1080 as the prime method of pest control.

Where the use of other means of control can be demonstrated as being effective and of comparable cost, they should be considered for use.

7.0 Liaison

7.1 New Zealand Conservation Authority

The Board welcomes its liaison with NZCA member Linda Conning and her attendance at meetings as well as regular email correspondence. This link with the NZCA has proven very useful in keeping up-to-date with national issues and informing the NZCA of issues important to the Board.



Board members on a field trip to Lake Tarawera. Photo: DOC.

Regular correspondence from NZCA Chairperson Kerry Marshall is also greatly appreciated as a means of keeping the Board up to date on NZCA meetings and activities. The minutes and meeting agendas of the NZCA are also received by the Board from Katrina Edwards (Senior Statutory Bodies Officer in Head Office).

On 31 May and 1 June 2006, the NZCA hosted the Maori Conservation Leadership Hui held in Wellington. The Board's Maori members, Alf

McCausland, Alice Anderson, James Carlson, Anthony Olsen and Laurence Tamati attended the hui. The attendees found the networking aspect very valuable. On 19 April 2007, the Board received a memo from the NZCA Chair, Kerry Marshall, regarding the NZCA's follow-up of the 17 key messages that were recorded at the hui. The NZCA gave careful consideration to the key messages and also sent them to the Director-General and the Minister of Conservation.

The Board discussed the NZCA responses and passed a resolution at its 1 June 2007 meeting held at Te Aroha.

Resolved: That the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board's representatives have reported back on the hui and that they have expressed some disappointment at the accuracy of the NZCA responses to the key messages as published and that the Board recognises the importance of and benefits to Maori members of Conservation Boards meeting and strongly recommends that consideration be given to holding an early hui to discuss the issues raised at the previous hui. This resolution will form part of a letter to Kerry Marshall and will be copied to the other Conservation Boards.

**Moved: Neil Clarke
Seconded: Suzanne Williams
Carried**

7.0 Liaison (continued)

7.2 Other Conservation Boards

A number of Conservation Boards around the country are looking to the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board as it is one of the first to review its CMS and is setting the platform and leading the way with both process and format. The current Bay of Plenty CMS expires in December 2007.

Taranaki/Wanganui Conservation Board

Members of the Taranaki/Wanganui Conservation Board attended the Board's 1 December 2006 meeting to discuss the CMS review process. Karen Schumacher (Chairperson), Barney Haami and Rachel Steele are members of Taranaki/Wanganui Conservation Board's CMS review subcommittee. Karen advised that the Taranaki/Wanganui Conservation Board had only just touched on the CMS review process and looked at 'places' within the Wanganui



Wairakei Geysers Valley. Photo: DOC.

Conservancy to focus on. Karen added that the Board were keen to gain an insight into the Bay of Plenty Conservancy's CMS review process and discussed the partnership between the Board and the Department.

Prior to attending the Board meeting, Karen, Barney and Rachel met with Mark Davies (Community Relations and Technical Support Manager) and Clint Cameron (Community Relations Officer Planning) for a formal presentation which involved going through the CMS review process and discussing how the CMS review in the Bay of Plenty Conservancy had started. Nga Puia Ariki Matakiirea, the Bay of Plenty

Conservancy's strategic direction, was also discussed. The first part of the CMS review involved a design and build process with workshops being held to collate ideas. Mark reiterated the importance of starting conversations about places in the Wanganui Conservancy with the Wanganui Conservator.

Wellington Conservation Board

Laurence Tamati attended the Wellington Conservation Board's 27 April 2007 meeting with Clint Cameron to discuss the Bay of Plenty Conservancy's CMS review process and how it is progressing. The Wellington Conservation Board had lots of questions and Clint's presentation was well received. The Wellington Board were given an insight into the Bay of Plenty Conservancy's strategic planning process.

Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board

Sue Carson, member of the Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board, attended the Board's CMS Review Workshop held on 31 May 2007. Sue advised that she found the workshop very useful and would take her findings back to the Tongariro Taupo Conservation Board for discussion.

7.0 Liaison (continued)

7.3 Iwi Authorities and Tangata Whenua



View of Moutohora from Thornton near Whakatane. Photo: DOC.

Ngati Awa

Ngati Awa is an iwi of the Eastern Bay of Plenty descended from Awanuiarangi II of the Mataatua waka.

Ngati Awa has approximately 13,000 members and 22 hapu.

As part of the Deed of Settlement between the Crown and Ngati Awa, recognition of Ngati Awa's traditional, historical, cultural and spiritual associations to places and sites, within their area of interest, was acknowledged by the Crown.

Part of the cultural redress of the Ngati Awa settlement included the establishment of two joint committees, one advisory and one management. The new joint management committee structure has a strategic management role with express delegated powers under the Reserves Act 1977 pertaining to:

- Moutohora/Whale Island Wildlife Management Reserve
- Ohope Scenic Reserve
- Tauwhare Pa Scenic Reserve.

Funding from the Crown reflects the importance of this committee's statutory role. Conservation Management Plans will continue to be completed for these areas by the Department. The Joint Management Committee (JMC) now has the role of approving Conservation Management Plans. The six member committee has two members nominated by the Director-General of Conservation, three members nominated by Ngati Awa and one member nominated by the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board. The term of appointment is for five years and the committee meets twice a year and regulates its own procedures. At the Board's October 2005 meeting, the Board nominated Anthony Olsen to be its representative on the JMC.

There are new statutory obligations to consult and have regard to the views of the JMC for the Minister of Conservation, Department of Conservation, NZCA and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board. The committee is also involved in conservation matters generally and in the development of conservation policy and annual business planning. The JMC have specific delegated powers from the Minister of Conservation and has a statutory function in place for the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board for the three Reserves. The fundamental change is the approval role of the JMC for Conservation Management Plans of the Reserves.

7.0 Liaison (continued)

7.3 Iwi Authorities and Tangata Whenua (continued)



*Tauwhare Pa and Ohiwa Harbour.
Photo: DOC.*

The JMC was formally established in April 2006, and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board has a standing item on its agenda regarding the JMC. At each meeting of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, Anthony Olsen provides an update to the Board on the work of the JMC.

The JMC is currently working with the Department on a new Conservation Management Plan for the three Reserves under its management.

The Board is fortunate to have this important link with the Joint Management Committee and Ngati Awa.

Ngati Whare and Ngati Manawa

The Board was hosted by Ngati Whare and Ngati Manawa representatives at its 6 October 2006 meeting, held at Murumurunga Marae in Te Whaiti. Some members of the iwi were present at parts of the Board meeting and gained an insight into the work of the Board and vice versa. An

overnight stay was also arranged for the Board and DOC staff at Murumurunga Marae as the Board had a field trip to the Whirinaki Ecological Management Zone the following day. The Board is grateful for the hospitality received from Ngati Whare and Ngati Manawa and is fortunate to have a link with both iwi through James Carlson, current Board member, who organised the marae venue and overnight stay at Te Whaiti. During the field trip, he also provided the Board with an insight into the views of tangata whenua on 1080 poisoning and other conservation matters.

Te Arawa

On Saturday 10 February 2007, the Board was hosted by the Area Manager Rotorua Lakes, Phil Alley and members of Te Arawa iwi during its field visit to Lake Tarawera and the area set aside for the Lakes Walkway and the Tarawera Trail project. Discussions included tangata whenua partnership with the Department and complementary developments, facilities and services needed by visitors and provided by land owners and local tangata whenua.



*Board members & DOC staff waiting to go on to
Murumurunga Marae at Te Whaiti.*

7.0 Liaison (continued)

7.3 Iwi Authorities and Tangata Whenua (continued)

The Board is fortunate to have established links with representatives of various Te Arawa hapu including Tuhourangi/Ngati Wahiao, Ngati Rangitahi and also Ngati Pikiāo through Laurence Tamati, Chairperson of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board and Chief Executive at Te Runanga o Ngati Pikiāo.

Ngati Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau

On Thursday 12 April 2007 the Board held its meeting at the Ngati Tuwharetoa Settlement Trust Office in Kawerau and was fortunate to have a trust member, Elaine Savage, in attendance at the full Board meeting.

The Board were then hosted by Mighty River Power and Ngati Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau representatives during its visit to the Mighty River Power Kawerau site and Parimahana Scenic Reserve in Kawerau. The Board is fortunate to have established this link with Ngati Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau.

The Board remains in contact with its former Maori members and these individuals remain important liaison points for the Board.



Parimahana Scenic Reserve, Kawerau. Photo: DOC

7.0 Liaison (continued)

7.4 Other Organisations

Various Board members are able to promote the work of the Board through their own involvement in groups such as the Royal New Zealand Forest and Bird Protection Society, the Mount Ngongotaha Bush Restoration Trust, the Rotary Clubs of Rotorua, the Tauranga Environment Centre, various Landcare groups, the Rotorua District Council's Bright Economy Advisory Board, various Iwi Trusts and the Rotorua Chamber of Commerce.

The Board encourages members of the public and community groups to provide presentations to the Board at its meetings to assist in increasing public awareness of the Board and its role in the Bay of Plenty.

At the Board's 6 October 2006 meeting, Jill Parry, member of The SANDYWALKER Group was given an opportunity to speak to the Board. The presentation initiated some debate and discussion.

The Board encourages members of the community to express their concerns and issues on conservation matters and to keep the Board informed of activities in the community.



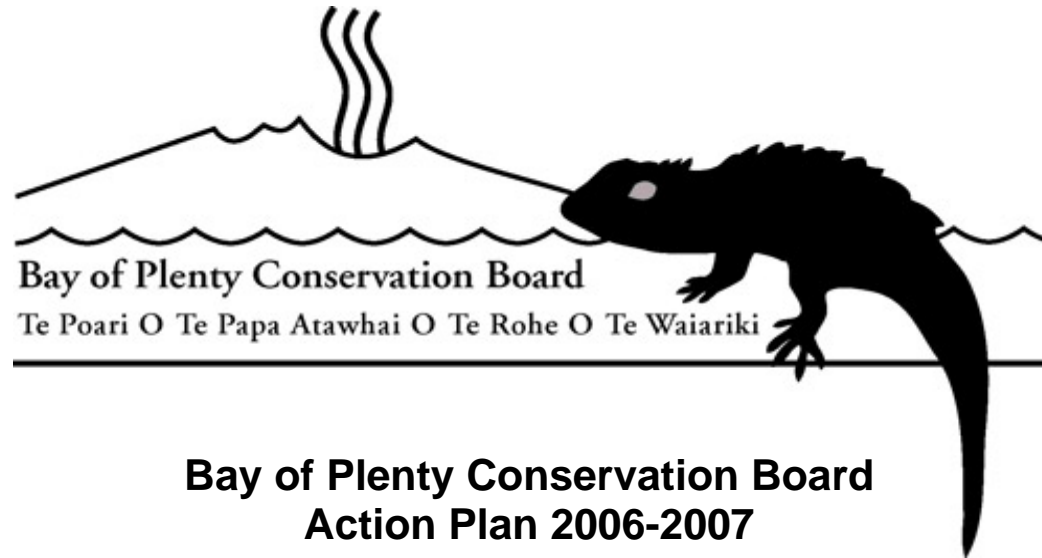
Members of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, family members and DOC staff at a field trip to Lake Tarawera. Photo: DOC

Appendix 1

Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Action Plan 2006-2007



Members of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board on a field trip to the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve in 2006. Photo: DOC.



**Bay of Plenty Conservation Board
Action Plan 2006-2007**

Board Priorities	Actions from Strategic Plan	Progress to June 2007
Coastal / Marine and Off Shore Islands	<p>Marine Protected Areas</p> <p>1. Ensure the Board has input into the options and gap analysis exercise and selection of suitable options for further coastal marine protected areas in the Bay of Plenty Conservancy.</p>	<p>1. Technical Support Officer (TSO) Marine to ensure this happens. This work by the conservancy is now rescheduled for 2007 / 2008.</p>
	<p>2. Clarify the role of the Board in relation to the management of Mokoia Island, as there will be more examples of the type of governance provided by the Mokoia Island Trust Board.</p>	<p>2. No progress on this to date. An invitation need to be made to the Rotorua Lakes Area Manager to brief the Board on the island's management and the department's relationship with the trust board. Leilani to arrange.</p>

Coastal / Marine and Off Shore Islands (continued)	3. Invite the Mokoia Island Trust Board to make a presentation to the BOPCB, so that we can express our support for the work being done, and discuss cooperation.	3. As above. This needs to happen after the briefing to the Board by the Rotorua Lakes Area Manager.
	4. Marine farms: keep a watching brief on Environment Bay of Plenty zoning and mapping processes and make submissions on proposed variations on coastal plans.	4. Ongoing. Community Relations Officer Coastal Planning Chris Staite to keep the Board informed.
	5. Mangroves: develop an agreed Board view on estuary management and mangroves.	5. Board briefed with a presentation by Chris Staite in December 2006. Board endorsed the approach being taken by the Department. Board to maintain an interest in this matter.
	6. Vehicle access to dunes: make contact with groups who are protecting local dunes, and express support for their work.	6. Chris Staite briefed the Board in December 2006 on this matter. Board endorsed the approach being taken by regional council and supported by the Department. Board will remain interested in this matter.
	7. Proposed coastal property developments: Maintain a watching brief for RMA applications and plan changes, and make suitable submissions.	7. Ongoing.
	8. Ensure the Board actively encourages community groups to make submissions.	8. Currently on hold. This is dependant on the conservancy completing the above work and briefing the Board before public will be invited to submit on any Marine Protected Areas proposal.
	9. Ensure that the Board is actively engaged in discussions about the coastal systems through its representative on the Ngati Awa/Department of Conservation Joint Management Committee.	9. Ongoing. Anthony Olsen is the Board representative and he attends all JMC meetings and reports back regularly.

Kaimai-Mamaku	1. The Board is briefed by DOC staff on the range of developments (biodiversity, recreation and historic) in the Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park.	1. Board inspection of Kaimai-Mamaku in June 2006. The board were impressed with the targeted developments; agreed with the concept of far fewer entry points, each with a sense of arrival; appreciated first-hand the need for close co-operation with Waikato Conservation Board.
Volcanic and geothermal landforms, lakes and associated forests	1. International recognition of geothermal resources in the Bay of Plenty Conservancy is sought.	1. Ongoing. Board and Department to maintain a watching brief on this. Timing is dependant on a number of external factors. Agreed the board and or Department are not the right lead agency on this.
	2. Actively advocate for protection of geothermal resources in the Bay of Plenty Conservancy and keep informed on the health status of the lakes.	2. Good outcomes achieved from Environment Waikato Geothermal Regional Policy Review exercise. Board needs to maintain a watching brief. Board inspection and briefing on the Mighty River Power Geothermal developments in Kawerau in April 2007.
	3. Pest control and biodiversity management. The Board receives regular updates from Departmental staff regarding pest control and biodiversity management.	3. Ongoing. Nothing specific in past year.
	4. Kokako. The Board investigates how corridors could be set up to link kokako populations.	4. Board has been briefed on the proposed Kaimai to sea corridors. Board to progress thinking via CMS review process.
	5. The Board shows active encouragement and support to the Mount Ngongotaha Bush Restoration Trust.	5. Ongoing

Whirinaki Forest	1. Promoting Whirinaki as a destination and contribute to the balance between biodiversity and tourism.	1. Department has begun working on its thinking for a Whirinaki Marketing and Promotion Plan. Department has commissioned economic assessment report of the Whirinaki visitor developments. This will be available in June 2007. Board will be briefed and asked for feedback once this thinking has developed further.
	2. The Board visits the Whirinaki Ecological Management Zone and is briefed on the Department's priorities.	2. Board inspection in October 2006. Range of presentations given by area staff.
Wetlands and Freshwater	Wetlands: 1. Promote active and integrated management.	1. Board inspections and briefings from staff at Matata and Kaituna during 2006. Board involved in CMS review and wetlands place outcomes drafting.
	2. The Board appoints or co-opts one of its members to liaise with the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council.	2. No progress as yet.
	3. At each meeting of the Board, the appointed member reports on discussions held with Fish and Game and brings issues to the attention of the Board.	3. No progress as yet.
	4. The Board invites Fish and Game representatives to provide an update to the Board twice a year.	4. No progress as yet.
	Freshwater: 1. The Board makes submissions where water use may have an impact on migratory paths of fish.	1. Board to maintain a watching brief. Department to alert the board when or if necessary of any applications.

Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity	Biodiversity: 1. The Board is briefed and visits areas where there is both intensive and extensive pest management occurring to ensure balance and completeness is being achieved over time including areas where no work is being carried out.	1. Board inspections to Whirinaki and Kaimai in 2006.
	2. The Board is briefed on the inter agency approach and out year programmes of the Department and other agencies like AHB and Regional Councils.	2. Board has been partially briefed. Complete briefing and presentation is necessary. Community Relations and Technical Support Manager to schedule for agenda during 2007.
	3. Resource Management Act and biodiversity issues: The Board scans the environment for relevant forums and RMA applications and ensures the Board is represented at public forums and takes the opportunity to make submissions.	3. Ongoing. Department staff to keep board informed.
Protection and Enhancement of the Coastal and Marine Environment	1. Establish the role of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board in the North-Eastern Biodiversity Group by attending meetings on the work of the Group and receiving briefings from the Department. 2. Organise a field trip with East Coast Hawke's Bay and Waikato Conservation Boards once a year to network and discuss associated projects and matters of mutual interest.	1. Technical Support Officer Marine to consider and discuss with board during 2007. 2. This may need to be deferred to 2008 as the 2007 board field trip programme is already fully committed.
The Protection and Restoration of Historic Heritage	Northern Kaimai Heritage Plan: 1. The Board supports the plan and keeps a watching brief on progress.	1. Ongoing. Further field trip planned for 2008.

Appreciation	Concessions process: 1. The Board has input into major and high impact concessions via Board meetings, field trips and feedback and advice to the Conservancy.	1. Board had a field trip and briefing on Kaituna and Hamurana during 2006.
	2. The Board takes an active interest in concession applications for Mount Ngongotaha.	2. Pending.
	3. Tracks and visitor facilities: Make contact with other stakeholders regarding the Rotorua Lakes Walkway concept.	3. Field trip completed in February 2007. Board to maintain a watching brief as this project progresses. Department staff to keep board informed.
Community Relations and Public Awareness	1. The Board encourages the communities it represents to take a greater interest in conservation management.	1. Ongoing.
	2. The Board progresses its Public Relations Strategy and actions.	2. Ongoing.
	3. The Board sponsors a Conservation Award during Conservation Week.	3. Planned for latter in 2007.
	4. Members of the Board actively encourage members of the public or conservation-minded groups with a particular interest in upcoming Board discussions to attend Board field visits, meetings and do presentations.	4. Ongoing. This is the responsibility of each board member.
CMS Monitoring	1. The CMS is fully reported on over a three year period.	1. Ongoing. A section is reported on at each second meeting.
	2. Three reports will be completed per year (i.e. one every second meeting of the Board).	2. On target for 2006 / 2007.
	3. Gaps that have been left during previous reviews will be covered first.	3. Now completed.

CMS Review	1. Refer CMS Review Project Plan and timeline	1. CMS Review Project Plan and timeline approved by board in June 2006. Work is progressing and board updated at each meeting by Clint Cameron.
Give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi	1. Monitor the way in which the Bay of Plenty Conservancy is giving effect to Section 4 of the Conservation Act.	1. Ongoing. This is done via CMS Monitoring reports and Board's direct engagement with tangata whenua. Board committed to effective engagement of tangata whenua in CMS Review.
	2. Actively engage in discussions on Treaty of Waitangi issues through its representative on the Ngati Awa/Department of Conservation Joint Management Committee and other forums with tangata whenua.	2. Ongoing. Board has a representative on the JMC.
	3. Hold meetings on marae and have field trips and inspections and engage meaningfully with iwi representatives and local hapu.	3. Ongoing. Board meeting schedule to include these opportunities.
	4. Ensure that it has meaningful processes for tangata whenua input to its work.	4. As above. Each board member and especially tangata whenua members need to ensure this happens.
	5. Support the Conservancy with settlement implementation where it can.	5. Ongoing.
Provide advice on proposed changes of status or classification of areas of national or international importance	1. Work with the Department in both the CMS review process and in an ongoing manner to ensure a mechanism for review and reclassification of land and rationalism.	1. Board and Department have agreed that this will be a component of the CMS Review and public consultation process.

Provide advice on proposals for new walkways	1. Work with the Department within the CMS review process to progress improved connection of current walkways to the broader track network.	1. Will be part of “places” discussions and feed into CMS Review exercise.
	2. Explore additional walkway opportunities with the assistance of the Department	2. As above.
Liaison with Key Communities and Stakeholders	1. Use its Public Relations Strategy (Appendix 4 of Board’s Strategic Plan) as a means of engaging appropriately with its stakeholders and communities of interest.	1. Ongoing. Each board member has the responsibility to engage with their representatives, community of interest and constituents.
	2. Identify key communities and stakeholders during its annual work planning and review processes.	2. Board has yet to complete this exercise. This needs to be done during 2007.
	3. Facilitate community meetings and other forms of consultation where conservation communities cannot agree or where the Department is being perceived to be ineffective in attaining acceptable conservation outcomes.	3. Board members to maintain environmental scan and bring to the Board table any matters they see meet this criterion.
Submissions	1. Make submissions on broad-based government discussion documents when this is in keeping with its advocacy role and priorities.	1. Ongoing on an as required basis.
	2. Make submissions on regional plans and where required by statute. An example is the General Policy for National Parks.	2. Ongoing on an as required basis.
Discussion papers	1. Prepare discussion papers where an advocacy priority does not currently have an appropriately high profile within the BOP conservation community.	1. Ongoing. Each board member needs to maintain an environmental scan and bring to the board agenda when they see it necessary. Each board member to discuss with chair.
Review of the Strategic Plan	1. Review its strategic plan once a year in June.	1. Scheduled for June 2007 agenda.

Public Relations Strategy	1. Identify target groups relevant to each agenda item and invite interested parties to attend Board meetings.	1. Ongoing. Each board member has this responsibility to engage with their community of interest and constituents and promote agenda items.
	2. Have diverse knowledge and networks.	2. Ongoing. Each board member responsible to maintain their networks.
	3. Adopt a target group and report on communication with that group.	3. Each board member to be assigned a specific group. Exercise needs to be done during 2007.
	4. Considers a wide range of issues directly relevant to communities.	4. Ongoing. Each board member to maintain an environmental scan and promote appropriate issues for the board's agenda.
	5. Ensure target groups are engaged in relevant discussions.	5. Ongoing. Each board member has responsibility to ensure appropriate engagement with target groups is achieved during the year.
	6. Undertake liaison with neighbouring boards and provide them with the Strategic Plan.	6. Ongoing. Board members assigned liaison roles to maintain communication links.
	7. New Board members, ensure they complete a thorough induction process to understand their role	7. Chair, Community Relations and Technical Support Manager, Board Support Officer, Suzanne Williams and John Coster completed inductions during 2006.
	8. Be clear about their role and responsibility and how they communicate these to target groups	8. Ongoing. Each board member is responsible for collective views of the board and the collective responsibility.
Local conservation awards	1. Board to sponsor one conservation award	1. Awards scheduled for 2007
Regular press releases	1. Board Chair and Executive Officer to draft and make a media release after every meeting highlighting key matters under consideration	1. Ongoing. Executive officer and Community Relations and Technical Support Manager to draft after each meeting.

Annual Board newsletter	1. This is to be produced with stories summarizing the Board's Annual Report and included in the Conservancy Conservation Korero	1. Scheduled for latter in 2007. Executive Officer to coordinate.
Board member profiles in DOC and other publications	1. Once per year Board members profiles included in Conservation Korero	1. Not as yet completed. Executive officer to coordinate with Community Relations Officer Public Awareness.
Regular advertising of who Board members are and who they represent	1. Three members per issue of Conservation Korero.	1. As above
Website information	1. Board members profiles and contact details on the www.doc.govt.nz	1. Completed.
An activity run by the Board during Conservation Week	1. Within the programme one event hosted and run by the Board	1. Scheduled for August 2007
Annual public forum	1. One public forum on a regional conservation issue to be hosted and run by the Board	1. As yet not scheduled. Board have not as yet identified a suitable topic.
Community and target groups presentations	1. Board members to work with Executive Officer to ensure appropriate opportunity on meeting agendas and field trips for community group presentations and discussions.	1. Ongoing. Each board member responsible to liaise with Chair and Executive Officer and promote opportunities.
The role of Board members covered during their induction.	1. Half day induction and orientation session for all new board members completed by the Executive Officer and the Community Relations Manager.	1. Completed in 2006 for two new members. Scheduled for latter 2007 when required for new members.