

**East Coast Hawkes Bay
Te Tairāwhiti ki Te Matau-a-Maui
Conservation Board
Annual Report 2019 - 2020**



East Coast Hawkes Bay Te Tairāwhiti ki Te Matau-a-Maui Conservation Board Annual Report 2019-2020

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1. Chairperson's report

It is a privilege to be writing this, my first Chair's annual report for the ECHB Conservation Board. I will start with noting the Government and ministerial priorities for the 2019-20 year:

- Enhance relationships with Treaty Partners; and
- Address the declining indigenous biodiversity; and
- Improve the protection of freshwater habitats and the marine environment; and
- Improve protection of land with conservation values.

I like to think that our rohe is thriving through active partnerships in conservation. Prior to the covid-19 movement restrictions, we actively participated in this work with our communities. We worked with iwi and hapū, and core groups such as the marine reserve committee, the Hawke's Bay Biodiversity Strategy implementation group, several large landscape scale restoration projects, Botanical Groups, HB Predator Free 2050, and conservation focused community groups such as Forest and Bird.

The new decade began with a drought on the East Coast, and weeks of hot days with record temperatures. The rivers were low, and the mast year produced an abundance of predators and disease. We aren't alone in climate change impacts! The last five years are on track to be "the warmest on record, natural disasters are becoming more intense and more frequent, and 2019 had unprecedented extreme weather throughout the world". We saw Australia suffer the biodiversity loss of their forests and fauna with the devastating fires of early 2020. Biodiversity loss has critical implications for humanity and makes the work of DOC and its conservation partners all the more important and urgent!

The Covid-19 Lockdown in March 2020 saw us finding new ways of living and working. We watched as nature started to restore itself once humans were out of the picture! We see how perceptions of the human/nature relationship have shifted! The impact of the pandemic on our work is reflected in the plan report this year as our engagement with our community networks took a change in direction over the last few months of the reporting year. However, the bringing forward of socially profitable green work is an unexpected conservation bonus and one that the board can look forward to continuing to support.

Our board's relationship with the NZ Conservation Authority is important and we have been extremely fortunate to have had Rauru Kirikiri - who was born in Te Kaha (Te Whānau ā Apanui) as our liaison contact for many years. Sadly, for us, Rau's tenure on the NZCA has ended. His insight and wisdom, and his unrequited knowledge in reo Māori, tikanga Māori, mātauranga Māori and environmental science, were all freely and kindly imparted. I am indebted to him for his counsel and mentoring and am forever grateful to have worked alongside him in this role. Aroha mai.

I've served on the Board since 2014 and have greatly appreciated the leadership and knowledge of my predecessors. I want to particularly recognise Penny Shaw, who has patiently mentored me into this role and continues to do so as the Deputy Chair. In regards board membership, it is wonderful to report that we reached a full team as we welcomed two new members! Wayne Taylor from Raupunga and Apenti Tamanui Fransen from the Tairāwhiti rohe have joined current members, Lucy Meagher and Sam Gibson. I thank our retiring member, Rapihana Te Kaha Hawaikirangi (TK), for the significant contribution he made during his term on the board. He brought a wide-ranging and in-depth conservation knowledge and mana with him and was

equally at home on the sea and the whenua! TK graciously and gently shared his skills in tikanga, te reo and te ao Māori with the board. It was a pleasure and honour to work with him and we wish him well with his next role. The board cannot function without a good team around it and I want to recognise the mahi of our board support officer, Sara Robinson; and key staff from the Department of Conservation: Chris Visser, Statutory Manager; Jenny Nelson-Smith, Operations Manager; and John Lucas. In addition, there were several field visits and communications that were greatly assisted by senior DOC rangers. Thank you!

Ehara takū toa
I te toa takitahi
He toa takitini

Finally, as I reflect on the year of turbulence and change, I want to thank my board colleagues for their support and for their active engagement into working remotely! It has been challenging but I believe one that will stand us in good stead as we navigate the new conservation management strategy for the rohe and with the community in the year ahead!!

Jo Blakeley



Chair
ECHB Conservation Board 2019/20

2. Introduction

This is the sixth East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Board Annual Report. Section 6(O) 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 East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Board submits this annual report.

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

- advising the Department and the Authority on how conservation management strategies and plans will be put into practice
- 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 30 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. Conservation board region

East Coast/Hawke's Bay Te Tairāwhiti ki Te Matau-a-Maui Conservation Board

The East Coast/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers the area of 3,268,295.98 hectares.

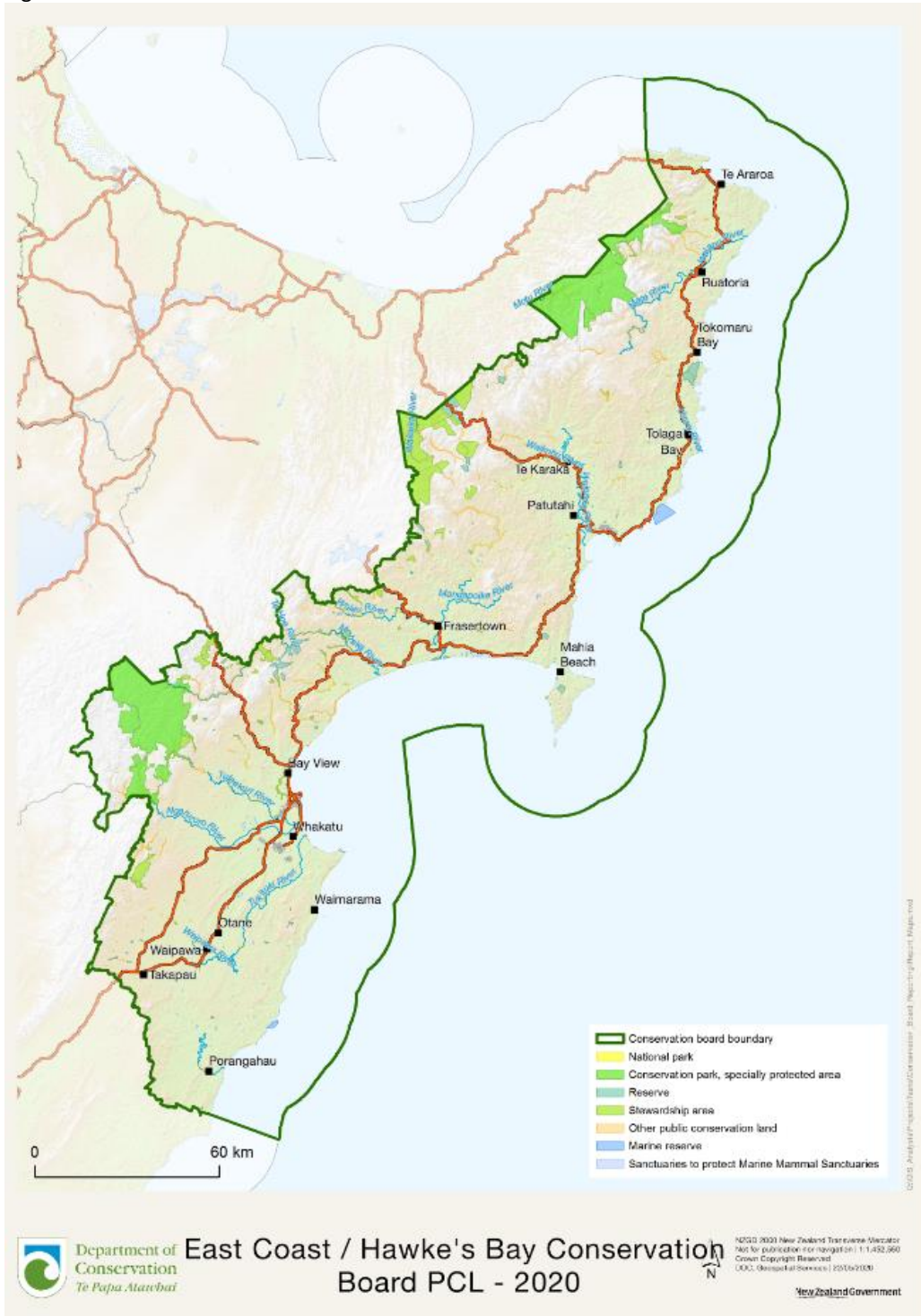
The jurisdiction extends from Te Araroa (north of Gisborne) to Mangaorapa (Central Hawke's Bay) on the East coast of the North Island. The area also extends out to the 12-nautical mile limit with respect to coastal and marine issues, and out to the 200-nautical mile limit with respect to protected species.

Approximately 1.37% of New Zealand's public conservation land and area lie within East Coast/Hawke's Bay's jurisdiction.

Public conservation land and areas make up 5.47% of all land in East Coast/Hawke's Bay. This consists of:

- 175,921.75 hectares of Public Conservation Land
- 2,916.6 hectares of Marine Reserves

Figure 1 East Conservation Board Jurisdiction



3.1. Conservation features of the area

- Ruahine Forest Park – 1.91 ha
- Raukūmara Conservation Park – 51,582.44 ha
- Kāweka Forest Park – 61,461.49 ha
- 9 Recreation Reserves – 82.28 ha
- 6 Historic Reserves – 1,578.06 ha
- 61 Scenic Reserves – 10,224.11 ha
- 2 Specially Protected Areas – 160.69 ha
- 150 Marginal Strips – 2,847.01 ha
- 89 Stewardship Areas – 47,306.27 ha
- 2 Marine Reserves – 2,916.60 ha

4. Board functioning

4.1. 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 and 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.

4.2. 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 –
 - a) Advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process; and
 - b) Appoint committees of members and other suitable persons, and delegate to them functions and powers.

- 3) 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.

4.3. Board membership

There were 7 Board members for the reporting year appointed by the Minister of Conservation. Jo Blakeley was appointed Chairperson and Penny Shaw was appointed Deputy Chairperson.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020 and their term of office.

Table 1: Board membership

Board member	Area	Term start	Term end	Term served
Jo Blakeley (Chair)	Hastings	01/07/2014	30/06/2021	3
Penny Shaw	Gisborne	01/07/2014	30/06/2021	3
Lucy Meagher	Havelock North	01/07/2016	30/06/2022	2
T K Hawaikirangi	Napier	01/07/2017	30/06/2020	1
Sam Gibson	Whāngārā	01/07/2017	30/06/2020	1
Wayne Taylor	Raupunga	01/07/2019	30/06/2022	1
Apenti Tamanui-Fransen	Gisborne	19/11/2019	30/06/2022	1

4.4. Members profiles

Jo Blakeley (Chairperson)

Jo has worked in the senior leadership team of the Eastern Institute of Technology since 2003 and lives in rural Hawke's Bay. In addition to extensive experience in tertiary education management and quality within New Zealand, Jo is trained in horticultural science and has a passion for environmental education. Her outdoor recreation interests include tramping and land restoration.

Penny Shaw (Deputy Chairperson)

Penny is a life member and president of Tourism Eastland. She has detailed knowledge of the tourism industry on the East Coast and is experienced as a member, president and secretary of boards and committees. Currently also Group Welfare Manager for Tairāwhiti Civil Defence. Her outdoor recreation interests are gardening, hiking, cycling and travel.

Lucy Meagher

Lucy is a science teacher at Havelock North High School. She has a degree in agricultural chemistry and has been employed previously by the US Department of Agriculture, Fonterra and AgResearch. She has prior experience as a technical member of the Food Standards ANZ board. Her outdoor interests are in tramping, fishing, and helping in the restoration of wetlands for native birds.

Rapihana Te Kaha (TK) Hawaikirangi

TK has been a Project Manager for the Tutira Lake restoration project, an Oiled Wildlife Regional Co-ordinator, and a DOC ranger. He has been a marae and hapū representative on environmental matters and serves on the Waiohiki Marae Committee and Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust. Iwi affiliations: Ngāti Kahungungu, Waitaha, Ngāti Māmoe, Ngāi Tahu.

Sam Gibson

Sam describes himself as a hunter/conservationist. Having a wealth of experience with predator control in some of NZ's most rugged environments including Fiordland, Rakiura, Te Urewera and areas closer to home Sam has helped entities such as DOC, Goodnature and a multitude of Iwi and community groups achieve their conservation goals. Sam is active in the ecosystem management and education spaces he is an advocate for allowing people to access the most remote parts of public conservation land. He believes strongly that we are all public landowners and through utilising the back country we as public have a better chance of protecting it.

Wayne Taylor

Wayne is a current member of the Wairoa Waikaremoana Māori Trust Board. He has land environmental management experience and is familiar with the Conservation Act and the RMA. He has affiliations to Ngāti Pāhauwera and Ngāti Aonui.

4.5. Board meetings

The Board held four out of six meetings during the reporting period, this was due to the outbreak of Covid-19. 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.

Table 2: Board meeting dates and location

Board meeting date	Meeting location and venue
19-20 July 2019	EIT, Taradale Napier
1-2 November 2019	Department of Conservation, Gisborne
28-29 February 2020	Department of Conservation, Napier
4 June 2020	Zoom CMS meeting
26-27 June 2020	Department of Conservation, Napier

4.6. Attendance

The table below summarises the number of Board meetings attended by members out of the total number of meetings held during the year.

Members also attended CMS working group meetings organised by the Department, subcommittee meetings and representative roles.

Table 3:

Board member	Board meetings	Special events
Jo Blakeley	4/4	
Penny Shaw	4/4	2
Lucy Meagher	3/4	
TK Hawaikirangi	4/4	
Sam Gibson	3/4	1
Wayne Taylor	3/4	
Apenti Tamanui-Fransen (started in Dec 2019)	2/4	

4.7. Field trips and site inspections

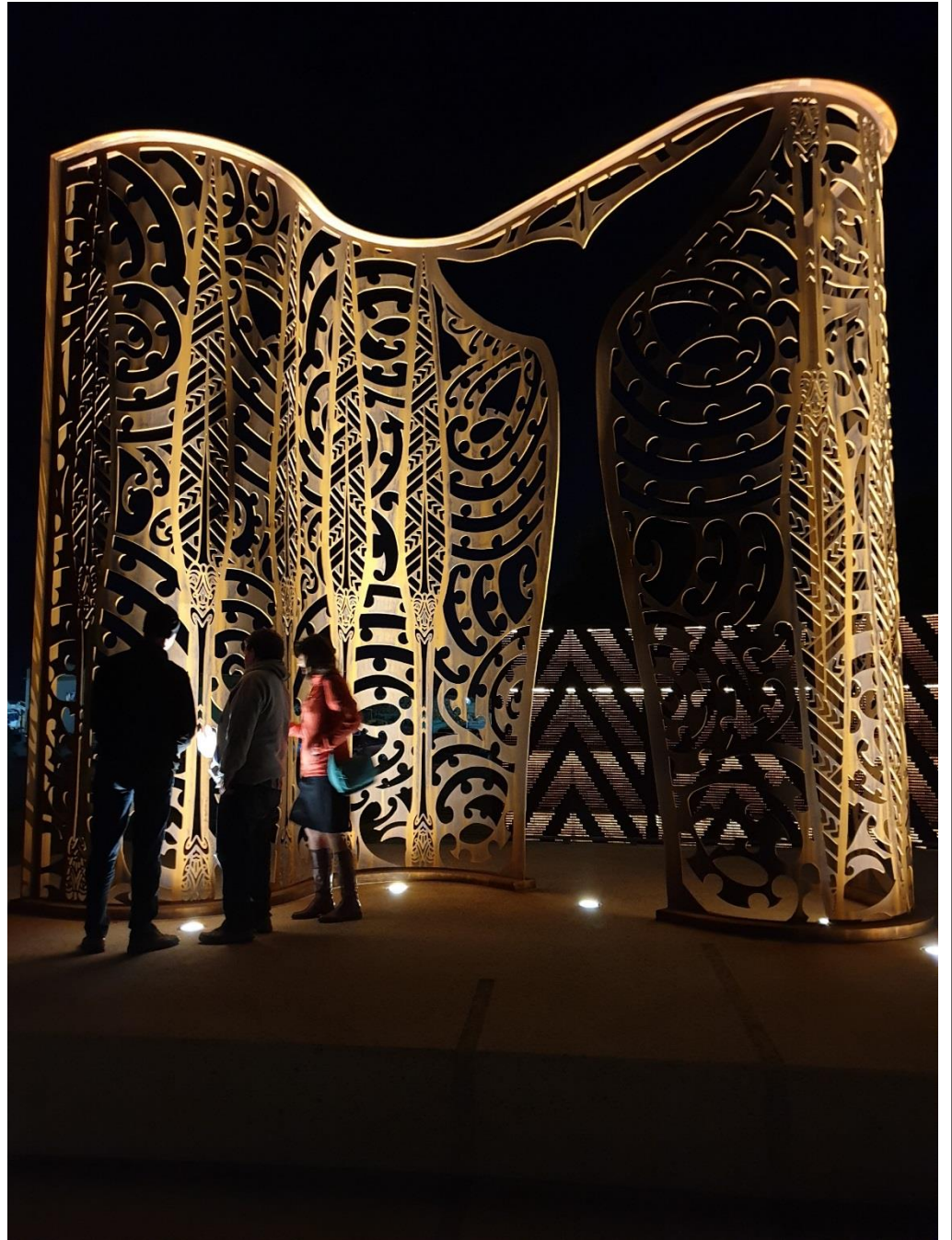
Field trips are an excellent opportunity for Board members to become more aware of conservation issues within their region.

Table 4: Field trips and site inspections

Field trip date	Field trip destination and purpose
19 July 2019	<p>Site visit to Cape Sanctuary & Kotahi Shore plover/Tūturuatu enclosure to see established conservation partnerships.</p> 

1-2
November
2019

Day & Night visit to Puhi Kai Iti/Cook Landing Site National Historic Reserve following the redevelopment and launch for Tuia 250.



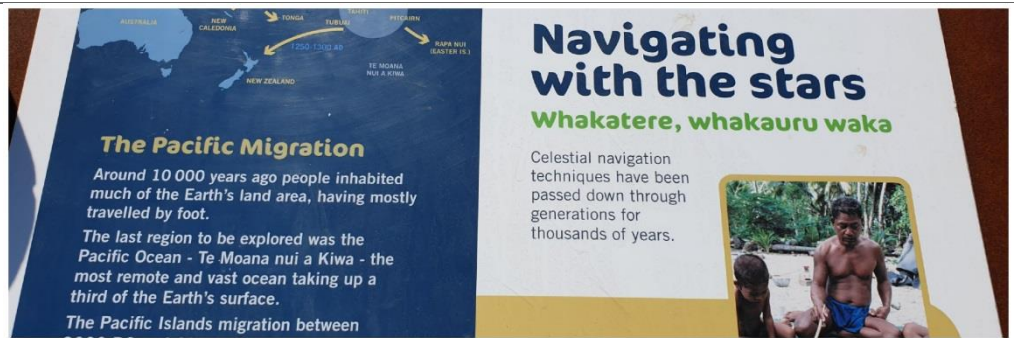
Site visit to Whāngawehi, Mahia Peninsula to view two DOCCF projects, Pahnui Station with their riparian planting for Kōpuawhara Stream and Whāngawehi Conservation Management Agreement.



28-29
February
2020

Site visit to Waitangi Reserve and Wetlands; and to Cape Kidnappers

Waitangi Park links Tukituki, Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī Rivers, and Karamū Stream-Clive rivers. Our visit started at the Star Compass, Ātea a Rangī, which symbolises the navigational skills of early settlers. This dramatic circle of pou (posts), stones and a whaharoa (gateway) has been developed by the Ātea a Rangī Educational Trust was explained to the board by TK. Local carvers including Phil Belcher, have created the pou, representing the points of the compass.



Across the road from the star compass is the Horseshoe Wetland which is home to many wading birds. A new wetland constructed by Hawke's Bay Regional Council was finished in 2019. This highly valuable biodiversity 'hot spot' area is the result of a partnership with Te Wai Mauri Trust, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc, and Napier Port. Whitebait spawning enhancement was explained to us by HBRC staff as the new wetland will provide even more habitat for the key freshwater species in Hawke's Bay.

The board visited the largest accessible mainland gannet/tākapu (*Morus serrator*) nesting colony in the world. Access is across a privately owned sanctuary at Cape Kidnappers, Hawke's Bay founded by Andy Lowe, Julian Robertson and their families. The Board had a stop on the way at a spectacular cliff top with panoramic views of Hawke's Bay right across to the Mahia Peninsula. From this vantage point the earlier rock fall from the cliffs into the ocean could be viewed. This site view was a follow up to early visits to archaeological excavation sites and the shore plover breeding programme at Te Kauwae-a-Māui.

4.8. Learning for members

In addition to the regular updates on the Department's activities provided in the status report, which is considered at each meeting, the following was also covered this year.

- Briefing from Timoti Gallagher and Matt Russell on the Te Whanau a Apanui AIP
- Presentation on Provincial Growth Fund
- Learning introduction to navigation by star compass
- Interpretation of the redeveloped Puhi Kai Iti / Cook Landing National Historic Site
- Board Member attended Te Pukenga Atawhai (DOC in-house training)

4.9. Department involvement in Board meetings

Department staff also attended throughout the year.

Reg Kemper, Regional Director, LNI attended meetings and provided a Director's update.

Chris Visser, Statutory Manager, LNI attended meetings.

Jenny Nelson-Smith, Operations Manager (Hawkes) Bay and John Lucas, Operations Manager (East Coast) attended meetings when they took place in their operational District to provide District Context and District Operations Report.

Administrative Support is provided to the Board by the Board Support Officer (Sara Robinson) who arranged, attended and provided administration services to all Board meetings.

In addition to the above the following DOC Staff also attended meetings:

Timoti Gallagher and Matt Russell on 19 July to provide briefing on Te Whanau a Apanui.

Nicki Davies to provide update on Provincial Growth Fund

4.10. Special events

The Board has shown commitment to supporting relationship development, including attending iwi engagement hui at:

- Raukūmara Road Show – Ruatōria
- Te Hao Te Rangatahi Programme
- Blessing of Puhi Kai Iti/Cook Landing Site National Historic Reserve
- Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve 20th anniversary celebration.

4.11. Annual Work Plan

Please refer to Appendix 1 for the full Board Annual Work Programme.

5. Statutory activity

5.1. East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

The draft CMS has been reviewed in consultation with the Department in preparation for public notification in 2021.

6. Advice and 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. *Ref Section 6 of the Work Plan for more information on advocacy outcomes.*

Table 5: Board liaisons and representatives

Board member	Group/agency/organisation
Sam Gibson	Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve
Te Kaha Hawaikirangi	Hawkes Bay Regional Council
Penny Shaw	Gisborne District Council

6.1. Other conservation boards liaison

The Board allocates liaison roles with their immediate neighbouring Boards.

Jo Blakeley – Wellington Conservation Board

Apenti Tamanui Franssen – BOP Conservation Board

Lucy Meagher – Tongariro/Taupo – Conservation Board

6.2. Authority liaison

Rauru Kirikiri is the NZCA member liaison with the Board. Rauru has attended some of the Board meetings during the year and updated the Board on the activities of the NZCA.

The Board received the agenda, papers and minutes of the NZCA meetings, and the Board Chair received regular communication from the NZCA.

6.3. Department advice

The Board provided advice to the Department on the following issues:

- Jo Blakeley and Penny Shaw represented the Board at the DOC Community Fund meeting to assist the department on selecting possible recipients for the Lower North Island region. 100 projects have been approved for \$4.6m of funding of which 18 are in the LNI region with six of those being in the region covered by East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Board
- Received and read the Draft Heritage and Visitor Strategy and provided feedback. 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 East Coast/Hawkes Bay region and opportunities for the public to attend Board meetings were advertised.

Members of the public attended the Public Forum at several of the year's meetings and a range of issues were raised. The Board appreciated their input and efforts made to attend the meetings and responded by letter with a response to questions asked or concerns raised.

Public forum issues raised

- During the 2019/2020 year there were no public forum issues raised.

These were predominantly voluntary groups carrying out huge amounts of conservation work within the community. The Board recognises and appreciates volunteers and thanks them for the work done in this area.

6.4. Community visibility

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

6.5. District and regional council advocacy and advice

The Board appreciates the opportunities to meet with representatives of the two local Councils as there are several regional issues in which it is interested.

6.6. Iwi liaison and advocacy

In addition to Board meetings, board members work closely with iwi and hapū in the rohe. Ref Work Plan for further information.

7. Acknowledgements

Board members worked with a variety of community networks, including the **Waimata Catchment Restoration Project**.

Jamie Quirk, Senior Ranger and Heritage Advisor in East Coast office for his involvement in the redevelopment of **Puhi Kai Iti / Cook Landing National Historic Site** over many years' consultation with Ngāti One One, Rongawhaakata and Historic Places Tairāwhiti and Heritage Aotearoa.

8. Appendix I – Annual Work Plan

East Coast Hawke's Bay Te Tairāwhiti ki Te Matau-a-Māui Conservation Board

Work Programme 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

Work Programme overview

This Work Programme was developed in response to the Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation dated 5 September 2019.

It comprises three parts, some of which contain overlapping objectives:

Part A: Planned Board activities aimed at meeting the Board's strategic priorities and its core statutory functions:

1. Develop strong Treaty Partner relationships
2. Ensure there is better biodiversity protection in a changing climate
3. Review, develop and monitor statutory management plans including Conservation Management Strategies (CMS)
4. Provide advice relating to stewardship land and classification
5. Fulfil the Board's other statutory functions
6. Provide advocacy on strategic conservation mahi in the region

Part B: The Minister's fundamental priorities as set out in the Letter of Expectation:

1. Enhance relationships with Treaty Partners
2. Address the crisis of declining indigenous biodiversity, and improve the protection of freshwater habitats and the marine environment
3. Improve protection of land with conservation values.

Part C: Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the Minister's Letter:

1. Take account of DOC priorities (contained in its Four-year Plan)
2. Increase engagement with the community, including raising the profile of the Board to achieve the Board's objectives
3. Align the Board's conservation leadership role with DOC by maintaining a strong working relationship with DOC and providing strategic advice
4. Work closely with adjoining conservation boards, the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority, NZCA) and other conservation boards
5. Understand the Board's contribution to giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
6. Monitor and self-review.

Part D: Risks/issues from the Board's perspective, and opportunities for conservation growth that are not covered above.

PART A: KEY PRIORITIES AND CORE FUNCTIONS

1 Develop strong Treaty Partner relationships

1.1 **Board objective:** to work with DOC to further develop relationships with Treaty Partners.

Planned Board activities, measures and milestones

	Actions	Outcome
1.1	Nurture relationships with Treaty Partners by participating in hui and actively looking for opportunities to engage	Board has shown commitment to supporting relationship development, including attending iwi engagement hui at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raukūmara Road Show – Ruatōria • Te Hao Te Rangatahi – tutoring, conservation leaders debates and graduating. • Met with the Wairoa Waikaremoana Trust Board • Met with Ngāti Pāhauwera re ongoing relationship
1.2	Contribute to co-design, co-approval and implementation processes with Treaty Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board advice on Stewardship Land re-classification. • Actively participated in the Raukūmara for its ongoing management
1.3	Actively support DOC cultural advisors and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy to the Minister and attendance at Board Chairs' conference August 2019. • Good relationship with district DOC members
1.4	Annual updating of Board on s4 and related obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 2019 agenda of Board. • Nov 2019 agenda of Board - presentation from Operation Managers on Wai 262 given to Board • Board Chair attended 5-day Te Pukenga Atawhai in December.

2 Ensure there is better biodiversity protection in a changing climate

2.1 **Board objective:** to support initiatives to protect indigenous biodiversity freshwater, marine and on land – both with DOC and in the community.

Planned Board activities, measures and milestones

	Action	Outcome
2.1	Engage with communities, strengthen connection and understanding of biodiversity protection on land, rivers and in the sea	<p>Engaged with regional and national work that promotes ecological integrity of aquatic and marine ecosystems, eg whitebait plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shore plover aviary at Cape kidnappers - field visit July 2019 • Forestry slash impacts especially along East Coast coastline. <p>Landscape scale initiatives promoting local ecological networks (core areas, corridors, and buffer zones) and strengthening biodiversity in PCL supported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predator Free NZ 2050 projects (PF2050 Hawke's Bay) • management of wilding pines in the Kawekas • regional management plan for effective ungulate control on PCL publicly visible. • Implementation of stoat control networks in upper Waioeka and Ruatāhunga catchments protecting Whio. • Implementation of adequate aversion training for dogs in the region.
2.2	Opportunities taken to support North Island community conservation targeting kiwi	<p>Partnerships with kiwi targeted community funded projects.</p> <p>Raised profile of kiwi conservation practice within the community where appropriate</p>
2.3	Board input to management plans includes biodiversity focus	Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve Committee Management Plan Review 2020
2.4	Ensure importance of tikanga and mātauranga is reflected in DOC strategies and plans	Board advocates for inclusion of tikanga and mātauranga when providing feedback on management plan monitoring reports, and when contributing to reviews and developing plans.
2.5	Strive for sustainability – board seeks to reduce our emissions and impacts	<p>Car-pool for travel, increasing use of teleconferencing for committee work, electronic document sharing of board plans.</p> <p>Provide re-usable options to support board members to minimise waste and contribute to climate change mitigation.</p> <p>Covid-19 resulted in Board workshops in May replacing meetings.</p>

3 **Review, develop and monitor statutory management plans including conservation management strategies (CMS)**

- 3.1 **Board objective:** to develop, monitor and review statutory management plans and conservation Management strategies in the Board's area of jurisdiction

Planned Board Activities

	Action	Outcome
3.2	Review and confirm the draft CMS in conjunction with the Department in preparation for public notification in 2020.	update to Board on February 2020 meeting. board [Skype] workshop with doc planner May 2020 agenda Board Jun 2020
3.3	Determine the timeline with DOC for the CMS final draft, its public consultation, and NZCA approval [in 2020].	As above.
3.4	Ensure engagement of key stakeholders at critical stages of the CMS consultation.	Reports received and feedback given on the CMS at each Board meeting. Board participation at relevant hui
3.5	Determine priorities for implementation of the draft CMS, in conjunction with DOC.	Ref 10.1

4 **Advice on stewardship land and classification**

- 4.1 **Board objective:** to provide sound advice to DOC on the stewardship land reclassification process

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
4.2	Committee meetings held with DOC staff - progress towards increased protection of stewardship land	Awaiting national office direction to progress this work regionally.

5 Other statutory functions¹

- 5.1 **Board objective:** To build and maintain positive ongoing working relationships with the Fish and Game Council representatives and provide sound advice to DOC on other conservation matters relating to areas in the Board's jurisdiction.

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
5.1	Advice on any other conservation matter relating to any area in the Board's jurisdiction	Matters presented to Board at meetings for comment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft Heritage and Visitor Strategy ● Impact of wilding pines ● Draft NZ Biodiversity Strategy ● Biodiversity HB 2050 implementation strategy launched. ● Aversion Training for dogs in Gisborne region. ● Water Conservation Order continuation in HB
5.2	Provide advice on proposed changes of status of nationally or internationally important areas	Supported the community to engage with DOC on areas of potential international and national interest, such as the Ahuriri Estuary (potential RAMSAR site) and the Puhi Kai Iti / Cook's Landing Site National Historic Reserve:
5.3	Liaise with Fish and Game	Fish and Game presentation programmed for 2020.
5.4	Provide advice to the Department on the Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve.	Annually appoint a member to serve on the Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve committee. Report on the Marine Reserve Committee's activities identified risks and opportunities received at each Board meeting.

¹ Under section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987

6 Advocacy

6.1 **Board objective:** To take all reasonable opportunities to advocate for conservation and biodiversity protection at public forums and statutory planning processes.

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
6.1	DOC advised of Board's concerns as they arise	Regular contact between staff and Board Chair and Deputy, also with board members at meetings and field trip and informal hui.
6.2	Support biodiversity improvement actions for and in our region.	<p>ref also to 2.1</p> <p>Landscape scale initiatives promoting local ecological networks (core areas, corridors, and buffer zones) and strengthening biodiversity in PCL supported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Predator Free NZ 2050 projects (PF2050 Hawke's Bay) ● management of wilding pines in the Kawekas ● regional management plan for effective ungulate control on PCL publicly visible. ● Actively implementing large landscape stoat control to protect Whio on the East Coast. ● Engagement in the Waimata River Catchment project. ● Successful nomination of East Coast Biodiversity hero for Loder Cup 2020 <p>Engaged with regional and national work that promotes ecological integrity of aquatic and marine ecosystems, eg shore plover populations</p>
6.3	Board updated on DOC's regulatory framework including any RMA advocacy actions.	<p>Planning update presented at every Board meeting to keep members informed on progress.</p> <p>DOC staff provided expert advice to the Board on statutory responsibilities, including rules for historic icon sites and visitor experiences.</p> <p>TANK draft plan reported on.</p>

PART B: MINISTER'S PRIORITIES 2019-20

7. Enhance relationships with Treaty Partners

Addressed in Part A, section 1

8. Address the crisis of declining indigenous biodiversity, and improve the protection of freshwater habitats and the marine environment

Addressed in Part A, section 2

9. Improve protection of land with conservation values

Addressed in Part A, sections 2-6.

PART C: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

10 Aligning with DOC Priorities

10.1 **Board objective:** To provide sound and timely advice on DOC's regional priorities

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
10.1	Provide governance level advice to DOC on its priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board responded to briefings from DOC staff during meetings and field trips. Identified priorities from the CMS development process are incorporated by DOC into its planning. [Process for monitoring and reporting on CMS priorities is determined with DOC]. Chair part of DOCCF application analysis committee.

11 Community engagement

11.1 **Board objective:** To build and maintain strong community networks and invite community involvement in Board meetings to build understanding of conservation matters and to represent iwi and community values in the Board's decisions.

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
11.1	Board members engage in relevant community and DOC events – See also 2.1	Regular attendance by board members at community and DOC events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raukūmara Road Show Te Hao Te Rangatahi Program Blessing of Puhi Kai Iti/Cook Landing Site National Historic Reserve prior to Tuia 250 Commemorations. Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve 20th anniversary celebration 19 November 2019. Historic Places Tairāwhiti
11.2	Other conservation entities from the community are invited to Board meetings.	Not yet programmed but planned entities interested include QEII Trust, Nga Whenua Rāhui. OSPRI, Fish & Game, Forest & Bird, Marine Reserve Committee and those interested in ungulate management.
11.3	Programme regular Board field trips and meetings across its area of jurisdiction	Planned field trips – 3-4 per year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nov 2019 Puhi Kai iti/Cook landing national historic reserve AND Mahia to visit 2 DOCCF project sites.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feb 2020 track through Cape Sanctuary/access to Cape Kidnappers AND Waitangi Reserve and Wetlands. • Jun 2020- [postponed] Ahuriri wetlands
11.4	Identify opportunities for better engagement with youth on conservation issues	<p>Initiative with Kiwi conservation Club and/or EnviroSchools to be determined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Hao te Rangatahi actively engaged. • Engaging youth in trap layouts, maintenance and education when young people identify themselves.

12 Working with DOC

12.1 **Board objective:** To maintain strong working relationships with DOC staff at all levels, to contribute to regional financial priority setting and to support the work of DOC.

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
12.1	Engage regularly and constructively with key DOC staff and discuss mutual concerns when opportunities arise, including by attending events at DOC offices and training opportunities, and in occasional informal meetings in DOC offices.	<p>Chair provided feedback at annual Chairs' conference.</p> <p>Director Operations maintains regular contact with chair and attends meetings.</p> <p>Regular contact between Chair, Board members and local Operations Managers and other key staff.</p> <p>Field trips to sites of DOC operational interest- ref 11.4</p>
12.2	Board members attend local events and opportunities with staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trapping workshops • Raukūmara Road Show • Te Hao Te Rangatahi Program • Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve 20-year celebrations. • Conservation Week activities • Seaweek • Blessing of Puhi Kai Iti/Cook Landing Site National Historic Reserve.

13 Working with adjoining conservation boards and the Authority

- 13.1 **Board objective:** To build and maintain strong working relationships with adjoining conservation boards, other conservation boards and the NZ Conservation Authority

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
13.1	Identify Liaison roles and identified and maintain regular contact.	Most liaison roles identified, and contact maintained. Gaps occurred when board vacancies were not filled in a timely manner. Jo Blakeley – Wellington Conservation Board (through to June 2020) Apeni Tamanui-Fransen – BOP Conservation Board Sam Gibson – Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve Lucy Meagher-Tongariro/Taupo -Conservation Board
13.2	Cross boundary conservation matters are raised and addressed.	Wellington Conservation Board Chair attended July 2019 meeting in Napier.
13.3	Chair and Deputy attend annual NZCA and Chairs' conference	New Chair attended 2019 conference.
13.4	Invite NZCA representative to Board meetings	NZCA liaison attended meetings and planned Feb 2020 meetings.

14 Understanding the Board's contribution to giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi

- 14.1 Addressed in Part A, section 1.

15 Monitoring and Self-review

- 15.1 **Board objective:** To regularly monitor and review the Board's performance and effectiveness.

Planned Board activities

	Action	Outcome
15.1	Annual reviews of Strategic Plan and priorities	Strategic plan and priorities reviewed September/October 2019, adopted in November 2019.
15.2	Governance workshop for Board	Investigating options to provide workshop for Board in 2020.

Review and updates

This document will be reviewed and updated at each Board meeting, as a living document.

PART D: OPPORTUNITIES and RISKS

10 Opportunities for conservation growth

	Increased alignment between work of DOC and partners (education organisations, conservation groups, councils, farmers, OSPRI).
	Advocacy for improvement in aquatic management
	Good treaty partner relationships – working more closely with whanau, hapū, and iwi.
	Increased biodiversity through community partnerships on pest management and including urban conservation activities,
	Securing and developing partnerships for biodiversity improvements with businesses and landowners in the rohe.

11 Risks and Mitigations

	Risk	Mitigation
A	Implementation of Treaty Settlement and S4 obligations. Treaty partner relationships are at risk – care and work needed	Openly engage with DOC on S4 obligations. Board to have regular report on agendas.
B	CMS Statutory and planning processes are delayed – climate adaptation and planning falls behind the rate of change	Maintain dialogue with DOC. Keep close to community understandings of conservation priorities during CMS process.
C	Board not visible to community.	Implement work plan. Complete media releases regularly. Encourage public participation at conservation board hui.
D	Succession – late appointments of Board members by Minister	Chair, along with other Chairs, Liaise with Minister’s office.

Risks and opportunities were reviewed at the July and November 2019 conservation board hui.



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 East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Board please see the website www.conservationboards.org.nz or contact the board support officer, at the Department of Conservation in Palmerston North phone 027 611 2442 or e-mail [Sara Robinson sarobinson@doc.govt.nz](mailto:Sara.Robinson@doc.govt.nz).