



Te Rūnanga Whakauka o Kahurangi ki Kaikōura

NELSON MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION BOARD

Herea kia Kōtahi - Working Together



**Nelson Marlborough
Conservation Board
Annual Report 2020-2021**

Annual Report of the
Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board
Te Rūnanga Whakauka o Kahurangi ki Kaikōura

For the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

*Presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao O
Aotearoa pursuant to section 60 of the Conservation Act 1987*

Cover photo: Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board with the NZCA at Pelorus Bridge

Photographer: Jacqui Irwin

Back cover photo: Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board at Kākā Pa Reserve, Kaiteriteri Beach

Photographer: Supplied by Jacqui Irwin

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Edward Ellison
Chairperson, New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10420
Wellington 6143

Tēnā koe Edward

Mihimihī

I te mihi tuatahi kia a Ranginui rāua ko Papatūānuku, tēnā kōrua

I ngā mate kua ngaro i te po, Corey McGregor rāua ko Ian McNabb moe mai rā, me ngā mate ki waenganui i a mātou, haere ki runga i te wheturangitia o Matariki, haere haere haere atu rā

Kia koutou te whānau whānui o Te Papa Atawhai, tēnā rā koutou kātoa

Kia koe a Gina Solomon te rangatira o Ngāti Kuri, tēnā rā koe mō tō mahi aroha ki te kaupapa nei

Te Minita o Te Papa Atawhai a Kiri, tēnā rā koe, kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui

Ngā mema o te Poari o Te Tau Ihu o te Waka ā Māui, tēnei te mihi kia koutou kātoa.

Nō reira, tēnā rā koutou kātoa.

I submit, in terms of section 6O of the Conservation Act 1987, the annual report of the Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board (the Board) for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. The Conservation Act requires that the Board report each year to the New Zealand Conservation Authority on its operations.

This year saw us adapting to the ‘post lockdown’ COVID-19 era and the attendant restrictions and re-assignment of resources. The increased focus within New Zealand had significant impact on the Department’s activities with increased resources for conservation (Jobs for Nature) and a change in visitor numbers and profile. This has occurred alongside strategic initiatives: the National Biodiversity Strategy Te Mana o te Taiao; Kotahitanga mō te Taiao; and development of the Tasman Biodiversity and Biosecurity Strategy with Board input.

Engagement with Te Tau Ihu iwi within the region has seen the Board meet on local marae (Te Hora and Te Āwhina), and in Ngāti Koata premises, combining these with informative visits to local sites (Pelorus in October 2020 and Motueka and Kaitereterē in April 2021). The Board continues to develop Te Ao Māori as an integral part of meetings, supported by input from the Iwi Komiti. Our knowledge and skill level in Te Ao Māori is improving and the Board views the importance of engaging with iwi as Treaty partners critical to its role.

Wider board activities include providing input for the Oparara re-development, via a Working Group comprising members from Nelson Marlborough and West Coast Tai Poutini Boards, and membership of the Molesworth Steering Committee and Tasman Environmental Trust. Submissions have been made on the Marlborough Environment Plan (on marine farming) and to the Tourism Futures Taskforce. The Board is also supporting the progress of the development of Te Pokohiwi Management Plan with Rangitāne.

DOC initiatives strongly supported by the Board include addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation and reducing wilding pines in the region. While reporting to the Board on management plans we are responsible for has been good, the development of contemporary plans and the CMS remains a source of concern for the Board.

The Board had a field trip with the New Zealand Conservation Authority in October. We were hosted by Ngāti Kuia at Te Hora Marae and visited the Te Hoiere/Pelorus project with Ngāti Kuia.

In July 2020 we said farewell to Katie McNabb, Bev Doole and Barbara Stuart; and welcomed Nick Eade, Trevor Hook and Emma Newcombe to the Board. Andrea Goodman left the Board in July 2021 when she was employed by the Department.

Gina Solomon has stepped down from the Board after contributing for 14 years as a Ngāi Tahu representative, most recently as Chair. Gina brought her iwi voice and conservation heart to proceedings based on her involvement in Kaikoura initiatives. We wish her well in her future challenges. In Gina's place we are operating a de-facto co-Chair arrangement, satisfying the statutory requirement to have a chair, and the Board's desire to move to a co-chairing arrangement - this will evolve as we develop the way the role(s) operate.

Thanks to the Board members for a constructive and productive year, to the efficient DOC support staff and the wider DOC staff - we are all on the same team and more importantly it feels that way.

Ka kitea a Matariki, ka maoka te hinu
When Matariki is seen, the fat is cooked.

Nō reira
E noho ora mai



Murray Poulter and Aneika Young
Chairperson and Deputy
Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board

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1. INTRODUCTION

Section 6(O) of the Conservation Act requires conservation boards to provide the New Zealand Conservation Authority (**Authority**) with an annual report as soon as practical after 30 June each year. In recognition of this requirement the Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board (**Board**) submits this annual report.

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

Conservation board members are appointed by the Minister of Conservation under section 6(P) of the Conservation Act 1987 (**Act**). 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. The Board has several statutory roles under various Acts, including:

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

2. ROHE

The Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers all of Nelson and Marlborough, with oversight of the whole of Kahurangi National Park. 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.

2.1. Tangata whenua

The Board area includes the rohe of the eight iwi of Te Tau Ihu - Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Kuia, Rangitāne, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, and Ngāti Tama - and Ngāti Kuri and Ngāti Waewae (Rūnanga of Ngāi Tahu). There are 11 Marae within the Board area.

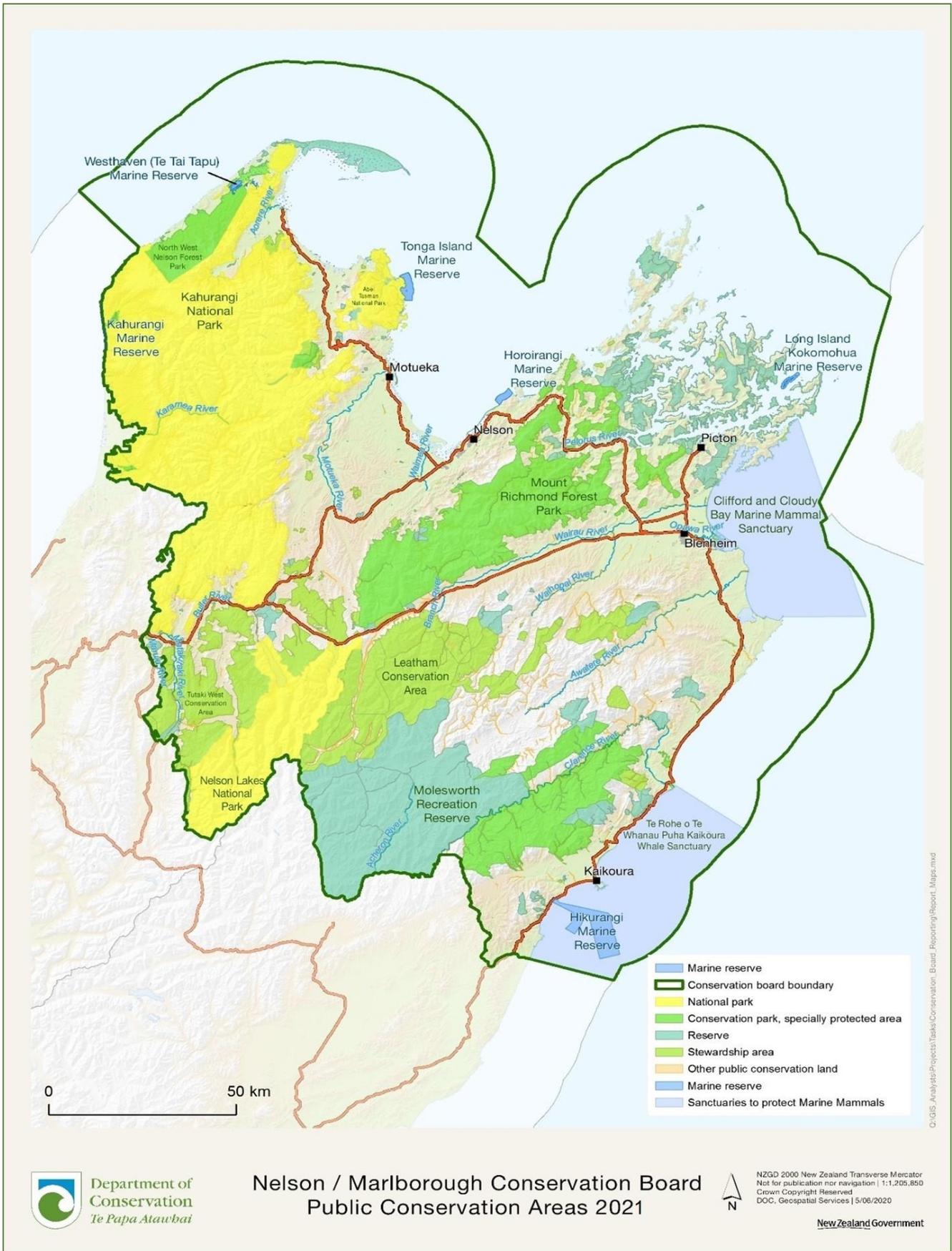


Figure 1: The Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board area of jurisdiction mostly aligns with the DOC Northern South Island region, above, with the addition of policy and planning responsibility for all Kahurangi National Park.

2.2. Conservation features of the area

The key features of public conservation land and waters within the Board's boundaries are:

- Kahurangi National Park
- Abel Tasman National Park
- Nelson Lakes National Park
- Mount Richmond Forest Park
- Ka Whata Tū o Rakihouia Conservation Park
- Rangitahi/Molesworth Recreation Reserve
- Significant sites: Te Waikoropupu Springs and Te Pokohiwi
- Nature reserves: Takapourewa (Stephens Island) and Onetahua Farewell Spit
- Marine reserves: Long Island Kokomohua, Westhaven Te Tai Tapu, Tonga Island, Horoirangi and Hikurangi.

There are about 750 heritage and cultural sites, both Māori and European, including archaeological sites, historic backcountry huts, a whaling station and cob cottages.

Species protection programmes in the area cover Hector's dolphin, tuatara, endemic frogs, Powelliphanta snails, great spotted kiwi, takahē, Hutton's shearwater, tītī/Hutton's shearwater, weka, kākā, black fronted tern and whio (blue duck) and include a 'mainland island' at Nelson Lakes, the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project.

The Board's area also covers some of New Zealand's best-known and most-loved visitor sites, including Kaikōura Peninsula, Abel Tasman Coast Track, Heaphy Track, Wharariki Beach and Queen Charlotte Track. There are over 300 other walks and tracks totalling more than 1,950 kilometres.

2.3. Conservation issues in the area

The issues that are of key interest to the Board include:

- Protecting and restoring terrestrial, freshwater and marine biodiversity
- Climate change and sustainability
- The future of visitors and tourism
- Ecosystem management and management of plant and animal species
- Marine protection
- Management of recreational facilities
- Management of heritage and cultural sites
- Permissions activities, including those relating to visitors and recreation activities, grazing, baches, filming, and other commercial uses of public conservation land.

3. FUNCTIONS

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

3.2. Board powers 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 –
 - i. Advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process; and
 - ii. 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.

3.3. Board functions under section 30 of the National Parks Act 1980

- 1) to recommend management plans, and the review or amendment of such plans, for parks within the jurisdiction of the Board in accordance with sections 45 to 47:
- 2) to consider and determine priorities for the implementation of management plans for national parks:
- 3) to make recommendations to the Minister for the appointment of honorary rangers under section 40:
- 4) to review and report to the Director-General or the Authority, as appropriate, on the effectiveness of the administration of the general policies for national parks within the jurisdiction of the Board:
- 5) to give advice to the Director-General or the Authority—
 - i. on the interpretation of any management plan for a park; and
 - ii. on any proposal for the addition of land to any national park or the establishment of a new national park; and
 - iii. on any other matter relating to any national park, within the jurisdiction of the Board.

4. MEMBERSHIP

The Minister of Conservation appoints Board members under section 6P of the Conservation Act 1987. The process of appointment ensures that a range of perspectives, life experiences, and knowledge contribute to the advice provided and decisions made by the Board.

Under Section 6P of the Conservation Act, a Board whose area of jurisdiction is partly within the Ngāi Tahu claim area must consist of no more than 12 persons, with at least one person appointed on the nomination of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. The Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board currently has two members who were appointed on the nomination of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

Board members are appointed for three-year terms unless they are appointed in replacement of a prior member's term and may be re-appointed. There were eleven Board members for the reporting year. Andrea Goodman resigned early in the year, with the Board carrying this vacancy through the rest of the year.

Gina Solomon began the year as Chair, with Murray Poulter as Deputy. In June 2021, Murray Poulter was elected Chairperson and Aneika Young was elected Deputy Chairperson.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021:

Board Member	Area	Term start	Term end
Gina Solomon (Chair) (Ngāi Tahu nominee)	Kaikōura	16/10/2006	30/06/2021
Murray Poulter (Deputy)	Motueka	01/07/2016	30/06/2022
Ian Alach	Takaka	01/07/2018	30/06/2024
Nick Eade	Marlborough Sounds	01/07/2020	30/06/2023
Andrea Goodman (resigned July 2020)	Motueka	01/07/2017	30/06/2022
Lorraine Hawke (Ngāi Tahu nominee)	Kaikōura	01/07/2019	30/06/2022
Trevor Hook	Marlborough Sounds	01/07/2020	30/06/2023
Emma Newcombe	Nelson	01/07/2020	30/06/2023
Rima Piggott	Motueka	01/07/2017	30/06/2022
Harvey Ruru	Nelson	01/07/2018	30/06/2024
Aneika Young	Nelson	01/07/2018	30/06/2024

4.1. Members' profiles



Ian Alach is a self-employed small farmer and conservation consultant. He has extensive experience supervising contractor projects on conservation land. He has been carrying out wilding conifer control voluntarily on Molesworth and at Beeby's Knob in Mt Richmond Forest Park for many years. He is a member of the Golden Bay Alpine Tramping Club, secretary of the Takaka Dog Trial Club and co-president of the Takaka Badminton Club.



Nick Eade of Marlborough Sounds currently combines guiding work in Totaranui/Queen Charlotte Sound, with work on several conservation and restoration projects. She previously worked as an Environmental Scientist with a focus on biodiversity and land management. She has significant experience in consultation, advocacy, research and publication, and cultural awareness. She has a Masters in Resource Management.



Andrea Goodman of Ngatimoti, near Motueka, was appointed to the Board in July 2017. Andrea has worked in community engagement and human-wildlife conflict for the Kea Conservation Trust. She has a BSc in Zoology, MSc in Ecology and Post-Graduate Diploma in Wildlife Management. Her interests include tramping, walking, gardening and Enviroschools. Andrea left the Board in July 2020 when she commenced working for DOC.



Lorraine Hawke (of Ngāi Tahu o Ngāti Kūri me Ngāi Tuahuriri, Ngāti Waewae, Ngāti Irakehu, Ngāti Mamoe me Waitaha, Rangitāne) is nominated by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. Lorraine is a former Māori Response Counsellor with a strong interest in Māori workforce development and Māori health. Lorraine has a background in governance, policy, and whānau development. Her interests are varied; however she is particularly drawn to kaupapa relating to cultural creative arts, rongoa, writing and composition.



Trevor Hook of Marlborough Sounds is a resort owner in the Marlborough Sounds and an RMA Commissioner. He has 30 years of experience in public life in various community, local government, and national body positions. He has previously been a Councillor for Marlborough District Council and has a Masters in Environmental Management.



Emma Newcombe of Nelson is a Coastal Ecologist at the Cawthron Institute where she works on seabed and water column health, frequently as part of consenting processes under the RMA. She has a PhD in Marine Ecology and explores the marine environment as a kayaker and diver. Emma is familiar with conservation lands as a trumper and occasional hunter. She is also a student of Te Reo Māori.



Rima Piggott of Motueka is affiliated to Ngāti Rārua, Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Toa Rangitira, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāiterangi and Ngāti Tūwharetoa. Rima is a home health support worker and has a certificate in Horticultural Management. Rima has broad community involvement and is a Trustee for Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua and a member of the Manawhenua ki Mohua Trust. She enjoys tramping, fishing, hunting, diving, gardening and gathering kai moana.



Murray Poulter lives in Tasman and was formerly Chief Scientist with NIWA overseeing the atmospheric, climate and hazards research activities. He is the Board's representative on the Tasman Environmental Trust. Murray enjoys walking, hiking, cycling, canoeing and fishing and is part owner of a QEII covenanted section of native bush. Murray was Deputy Chair for most of this term and elected as Chair in June 2021.



Archdeacon Emeritus TeHawe (Harvey) Ruru QSM of Nelson is affiliated to Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Kati Mamoe and Moriori. Harvey is a Trustee of Te Ātiawa o te Waka a Māui Trust and has had a long involvement as a claims negotiator in the Waitangi Tribunal Claims settlement process. In 2016 he retired after 14 years as NZ Police Iwi Liaison Officer and Coordinator. Harvey is also an Anglican priest. He has wide ranging governance experience.



Gina Solomon of Kaikōura connects through whakapapa to Ngāi Tahu, Kurahaupō, Ngāti Koata, Te Ātiawa and Ngāti Toa, and has been a Ngāi Tahu representative on the Board since 2006. She is a member of the NZ Institute of Directors. Gina is a member of many groups including Nature Heritage Fund Committee and Kaikōura Marine Guardians. Gina was Chair for most of the year, standing down in June 2021.



Aneika Young of Nelson has iwi affiliations with Ngāti Rārua ki Motueka, Te Ātiawa ki Te Tau Ihu, Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Koroki Kahukura, and Waikato Tainui. She is Kaiāwhina Māori, and an environmental scientist and researcher for Cawthron Institute in Nelson. She has a background as a consultant in Māori Resource Management and wide interests in outdoor recreation. Aneika is an iwi representative on several organisations. She was elected Deputy Chair in June 2021.

5. MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

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

Meeting date	Location/Venue
27 August 2020	Motueka / Kaitereterere Reserve Function Room
16 October 2020	Blenheim / Quality Hotel Marlborough
10 December 2020	Nelson / Ngāti Koata Trust
18 February 2021	Nelson / Fairfield House
8 April 2021	Motueka / Te Āwhina Marae
17 June 2021	Nelson / DOC office

5.1. Agendas

The Board hosted and heard from numerous speakers at its meetings, including:

- Tina Porou provided an update on Te Pokohiwi and the Boulder Bank Historic Reserves Management plan process (October)
- Dan Moore provided an update on the Moawhiti wetland restoration project on Rangitoto ki te Tonga (D'Urville Island) which is a DOC and Ngāti Koata partnership project. (December)
- Catherine Brosnahan provided a presentation on the story of Fairfield House and the Friends of Fairfield who have been involved with the house for over 40 years. (February)
- Eric van Eyndhoven made a presentation about the work of The Nature Conservancy and Kotahitanga mō te Taiao, including Jobs for Nature in Te Tau Ihu. (June)

Department staff also attended throughout the year.

- Operations Director Roy Grose presented an introduction to the Papatūānuku Thrives Kaupapa (August)
- Treaty Settlement Ranger Aroha Gilling presented to the Board on section 4 and Treaty settlement instruments. Michelle Hippolite, Deputy Director-General Kahui Kaupapa Atawhai Michelle Hippolite was present for the presentation (October)
- Operations Director Roy Grose provided information on the Department's Business Plan priorities for 2021-22 (December)
- Acting Chair Murray Poulter presented on the science of Climate Change, and Mark Townsend (Operations Manager Motueka) provided information on the local impacts and response to climate change. (February)
- Operations Director Roy Grose provided information on the outcomes to date from the Jobs for Nature initiative (February)
- Stewart Robertson, Marine Reserves Ranger, presented on compliance and monitoring activities in the Tonga Island and Horoirangi marine reserves (April)
- Shannel Courtney, Technical Advisor Flora, presented on his secondment to Wakatū Inc. where he carried out the first stage of a project to document all the indigenous biodiversity of Te Tau Ihu (April)
- Barney Thomas, Pou Tairangahau, presented on customary use and cultural harvest (April)
- Brooke Cox and Sam Parsons made a presentation on the developing climate change strategy for the Department (June)
- Roy Grose provided a strategic overview of priorities for the Minister, the Department and the region. (June)

The agendas and minutes from all Board meetings can be found on the Board's webpage: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/statutory-and-advisory-bodies/conservation-boards/nelson-marlborough/>

5.2. Field trips and site inspections

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

- Pelorus Bridge (October)
- Motueka / Kaiteretera tour of cultural sites (April)

5.3. Members' attendance

Board Member	Meetings (total #)	Fieldtrips (total #)
Ian Alach	5	2
Nick Eade	6	2
Andrea Goodman	0	0
Lorraine Hawke	4	2
Trevor Hook	4	1
Emma Newcombe	5	2
Rima Piggott	5	2
Murray Poulter	6	2
Harvey Ruru	5	1
Gina Solomon	3	1
Aneika Young	6	2

6. MAHI

6.1. Standing Committees

The Conservation Act 1987 enables the Board to establish committees to carry out functions or tasks delegated by the Board. Committees that were active during the reporting period, and members involved in those committees included:

Stewardship Land Reclassification Committee - To advise the Department on matters relating to stewardship land reclassification

- Members: Harvey Ruru, Aneika Young, Ian Alach, Gina Solomon

Permissions Committee - To advise the Department on policy matters associated with concessions and enable feedback on concession applications within the limited timeframes allowed for Board input. The committee is only formally involved in the concessions process when one of the agreed trigger points is activated, most often being a new type of activity.

- Members: Gina Solomon (convenor), Murray Poulter, Ian Alach, Rima Piggott

Iwi Komiti – To progress and advise on iwi matters and/or relationships

- Members: Aneika Young (convenor), Gina Solomon, Rima Piggott, Harvey Ruru, Lorraine Hawke

Molesworth Management Plan Review Committee – To advise the Department on matters relating to the Molesworth Management plan review

- Members: Nicky Eade, Ian Alach, Lorraine Hawke

Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee – To monitor and review health and safety matters including the Board’s Health and Safety Policy

- Members: Gina Solomon, Emma Newcombe and Murray Poulter

6.2. Representatives and Board appointees

The Board provides representation on two entities in the region. Board members are also co-opted onto the DOC Community Fund panel.

- Molesworth Steering Committee – Nick Eade (Ministerial appointment)
- Tasman Environmental Trust – Murray Poulter
- DOC Community Fund panel 2020 – Andrea Goodman, Murray Poulter, Aneika Young

6.3. Liaison roles

Sally Gepp is the NZCA liaison person for the Board. Copies of all agendas and minutes are exchanged between the Board and NZCA.

Board members were also appointed to liaise with adjoining conservation boards. The Board also exchanges copies of all agendas and minutes with these neighbouring boards.

- West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board liaison – Harvey Ruru
- Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board liaison – Lorraine Hawke

6.4. Current working groups

Short-term working groups are set up to respond to specific tasks

- Ōpārara – Murray Poulter (Convenor), Aneika Young, Trevor Hook
West Coast Tai Poutini Conservation Board representatives on this working group: Neil Silverwood, Suzanne Hills
- Board work plan 2020-21 – Gina Solomon, Murray Poulter, Emma Newcombe, Lorraine Hawke

6.5. Other events and training

Board Chairs’ conference – Gina Solomon and Murray Poulter as Deputy Chair attended the August 2020 Conference in Wellington.

7. STATUTORY ACTIVITY

7.1. Annual Work Plan

After receiving its Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation, the Board sets out its work plan for the upcoming year. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the full Board Annual Work Programme.

7.2. Nelson Marlborough Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

The Board continued to express disappointment and frustration to the Department over the year that the anticipated CMS review continued to be delayed. The CMS is considered to be critical to strategically guiding the work of the Department in the region and the current CMS, which was approved in 1996, is long overdue for review.

The Board considered an implementation report on the CMS which was introduced at the August meeting and discussed at the October meeting.

7.3. Management Plans

Te Pokohiwi and the Boulder Bank Historic Reserves

The Department continued its work jointly with Rangitāne o Wairau on developing a draft management plan for Te Pokohiwi and the Boulder Bank historic reserves. This plan will be jointly approved by the Conservation Board and Rangitāne. Updates on this process were provided to the Board at meetings, but the process is moving very slowly.

Rangitahi/Molesworth Recreation Reserve

The Board has been kept informed about the work DOC and Ngāti Kurī are doing to review the future of Molesworth Recreation Reserve and progress the management plan review. Recent delays arising from insufficient planning capacity have been disappointing.

Implementation monitoring

The Board considered implementation reports on:

- Te Waikoropupu Springs Scenic Reserve Management Plan (December)
- Rangitahi/Molesworth Recreation Reserve Management Plan (June)

8. ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

The Board provides advice and advocacy within the region and nationally.

8.1. Advice to the Department

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

- Proposal to change the land status of the Motueka sandspit (August)
- Proposal for a land exchange in the Braeburn, Moutere Highway area (June)

8.2. Submissions

The Board advocated its interests during the reporting period through several submissions, available to read on its webpage:

- Submission to the Tourism Futures Taskforce on the future of tourism (September)
- Submission to the Marlborough Environment Plan variations for marine farming and fin fish farming (February)

8.3. 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 Nelson Marlborough 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 were:

- Control of wilding conifers, particularly in the Branch Leatham area was raised by South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust. The Board wrote to Ministers and a substantial effort is now going into wilding pine control in this area.
- Issues around vehicles on Marfells Beach and the proposed council bylaw to ban vehicles on east coast beaches, were raised by the East Coast Protection Group and Forest and Bird. The Board has been closely monitoring notifications from Marlborough District Council and is considering submitting to the bylaw.
- NZ Speleological Society and Forest and Bird have raised concerns about the Ōpārara development proposal. The Board's Ōpārara Working Group continues to have active engagement with the process.
- Kelly's Conservation Forest expressed concern about possible impacts from a proposed subdivision adjacent to the property. Harvey followed this up with DOC staff.

Forest and Bird representatives provide a regular update of their activity in the region.

Fish and Game representatives were invited by the Board to present at the December 2020 meeting. Discussion covered climate change impacts including severe flooding, how Fish and Game prioritises its restoration projects and how the two entities can work together.

8.4. Community visibility

The Board maintains a presence on the Department's website, and via the quarterly Conservation Board Newsletter.

Board members were invited to a guided tour of the Takaka Hill karst landscape by the Nelson Speleological Society. Murray Poulter and Ian Alach attended and enjoyed the experience. Individual board members attended Biodiversity Forums, provided input to the Tasman Biodiversity Strategy, attended a range of events including bird translocations and are active in range of community trapping, weeding and planting activities.

8.5. District and regional council advocacy and advice

As noted above the Board made a submission to the Marlborough Environment Plan variations on marine farming and fin fish farming this year.

8.6. Iwi liaison

The Iwi Komiti takes the lead with iwi liaison and upskilling Board members in Te Reo and tikanga. There are iwi representatives on all Board committees. Board meetings have been held at Ngāti Koata's Office in Nelson and at Te Hora marae.

9. FEES AND ALLOWANCES

Fees and allowances are paid in accordance with the Fees and Travelling Allowances Act 1951. The chairperson receives a daily meeting fee of \$330, and other Authority members receive a daily meeting fee of \$250.



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 Nelson Marlborough Conservation Board please see the website www.conservationboards.org.nz or contact the board support officer, at the Department of Conservation in Nelson phone (03) 546 3298 or e-mail nelsonmarlboroughboard@doc.govt.nz.

Progress on Board Work Plan 2020-21

Conservation Board Strategic Priority / Core Function	Relates to all Board priorities and core functions. In NMCB Work Plan 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 DOC-6419777
Section 4 Conservation Act considerations Settlement instruments	The Iwi Komiti of the Board was involved in finalising the work plan and ensured a Te Ao Māori lens was applied across the Board’s planned actions for the year. The Work Plan is a key tool for the Board in giving effect to Section 4.
Recommendation or Action Required	It is recommended that the Board: a) receives the update and provides feedback or additional comments on the Board’s progress against planned actions.
Context / Purpose	This report updates progress on the Board’s work programme for 2020-21. It provides commentary on the actions completed since 1 July 2020 to achieve the Board’s priorities to enable the Board to reflect on progress to date, and to monitor the Board’s performance. This report, together with additional information on the measures and milestones, will form the basis for the Board’s Annual Report on the 12 months to 30 June 2021.
Agenda status	Standing Item / Routine Business
Prepared by	Kath Inwood and Jo Gould

Key: Means...

	Action under way and on track, ongoing or completed.
	Potential for concern, not yet initiated, early flag.
	Risks identified, delay or concern.

Note: Performance measures and milestones are included here with the relevant actions and will be reported in the Annual Report based on the recorded progress notes, below, as reviewed at each meeting.

Key Board and Ministerial Priorities

1. Develop genuine Treaty Partner relationships		
1.1	Strengthen relationships with Treaty Partners by participating in hui and actively looking for opportunities to engage	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div> <p>The Board's October field trip began at Te Hora Marae with Ngati Kuia, the NZ Conservation Authority and representatives of Forest and Bird and the Marlborough District Council to discuss Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance and Te Hoiere project.</p> <p>The December 2020 meeting was held at Ngāti Koata Trust offices.</p> <p>The April 2021 meeting was held at Te Āwhina Marae, including a noho Marae. Local iwi members were invited to dinner for informal interaction. The field trip was a tour of Motueka culturally significant sites to local iwi.</p> </div> </div>
1.2	Host he hui-a-iwi to bring the nine iwi and the Board together, Ngahuru 2021 (Autumn)	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div> <p>All nine iwi and Board representatives were present at the hui at Te Āwhina Marae on 24 May 2021 to discuss the review of the General Policy and other matters.</p> </div> </div>
1.3	Enhance iwi role as kaitiaki, to elevate mana - whakamana	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div> <p>The Board is contributing to and supporting the Te Pokohiwi Management Plan and Molesworth Management Plan Review preparation processes.</p> <p>Board members attend in support of pou whenua and bird release events with manawhenua iwi as kaitiaki for those areas and taonga species.</p> <p>There was a presentation at the April 2021 about a secondment to Wakatū Inc. to collect information on the flora of Te Tau Ihu. Information was also provided about the processes for customary use.</p> </div> </div>

			In June there was a presentation about the work of Kotahitanga mō te Taiao and their work with The Nature Conservancy to provide Jobs for Nature
1.4	Actively seek advice to assist Board in understanding and implementing Treaty Principles and Conservation Act section 4 obligations in its mahi and decision-making	😊	A paper on Treaty Settlement Instruments was presented to the Board's October 2020 meeting. The Iwi Komiti produced <i>Tikanga mō te Poari</i> to assist the Board in giving effect to its section 4 obligations and implementing the Treaty Principles.
1.5	Te Ao Māori incorporated in Board meetings and mahi, includes iwi history, whakapapa of places across the rohe, noho marae, pōwhiri for new members, kawa, tikanga, karakia, waiata, Te Reo Māori and other iwi related issues.	😊	All these elements of Te Ao Māori are woven throughout Board meetings and our mahi. Karakia, waiata and Te Reo Māori are a prominent feature of every Board meeting. The April 2021 meeting included a pōwhiri and noho marae at Te Āwhina Marae in Motueka. From June 2021, sharing the background of local place names has broadened out to a wider sharing of history, stories and other aspects of Te Ao Māori.
1.6	Advocate for a Te Waipounamu iwi conservation board members' hui	😊	The Iwi Komiti discussed this, and the idea has been raised with DOC's Governance team. Needs to be progressed next year.
2. Encourage and support improved protection for te taiao (the natural world / biodiversity)			
2.1	Ensure importance of tikanga and mātauranga is reflected in conservation strategies, plans and embedded in <i>Tikanga mō te Poari</i> .		<i>Tikanga mō te Poari</i> was initiated by the Iwi Komiti in September 2020 and presented to the full Board at the October meeting.
2.2	Engage with communities to strengthen connections and understanding of biodiversity protection for marine, freshwater and terrestrial environments: te mana o te taiao, te mana whenua, te mana moana.	😊	Nick Eade is the Board representative on the Molesworth Steering Committee. Murray Poulter is the Board representative on the Tasman Environmental Trust. Emma Newcombe is a board appointee to the Tasman BioStrategy working group. Aneika Young is also involved in this group. Board members regularly attend Tasman, Nelson, and Marlborough Biodiversity Forums. DOC staff presentations at the April 2021 meeting included marine reserve management and a secondment to Wakatū Inc. to capture information on the flora of Te Tau Ihu.

			A presentation on Kotahitanga mō te Taiao and The Nature Conservancy took place at the June 2021 meeting.
2.3	Ensure management plans have a strong biodiversity focus aligned with Te Mana o te Taiao, the NZ Biodiversity Strategy		Te Mana o te Taiao/NZ Biodiversity Strategy was published in August 2020 and has been circulated to Board members. Science and biodiversity / te taiao are central to the Board's thinking when reviewing management plan implementation reports.
3. Advice on DOC climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives			
3.1	Strengthen the Board's understanding of climate change implications for conservation of te taiao		A presentation on climate change was made at the February meeting to enhance the understanding of all board members of what it is, as well as mitigation and adaptation. A further presentation on climate change and the actions being undertaken by the Department was made at the June 2021 meeting.
3.2	Strive for sustainability – continue to reduce the Board's emissions and impacts and monitor DOC's reduction of carbon emissions		Car-pooling and DOC transport is provided for each Board meeting, and there have been some virtual meetings, particularly for the Board's committees. Next steps would be to increase car-pooling and monitoring of DOC carbon emissions. Members have been advised monitoring of personal carbon emissions is possible through the Toitu Envirocare website, which DOC is using for its organisational assessments.
3.3	Ensure climate change adaptation is integrated/embedded in management plans and DOC operational plans		The Board is beginning to scrutinise DOC plans and operational work for alignment with climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Board's thinking includes consideration of climate change adaptation.
4. Review, develop and monitor statutory management plans including the conservation management strategy (CMS)			
4.1	Enable and contribute to co-design, co-approval, co-management and plan implementation processes with Treaty Partners, and acknowledge the goal of iwi governance		The Board is involved in Te Pokohiwi and Molesworth management plan processes in partnership with manawhenua iwi. The Iwi Komiti has been established to provide cultural expertise and support for iwi matters in relation to management planning processes.
4.2	Begin preparatory work with the Department to initiate CMS and Kahurangi National Park management plan reviews		The Board has sought guidance on the type of preparatory work it could begin in anticipation of the review process, which is understood to be two years away. At the October meeting it agreed to set up a document to capture preparatory thinking.

4.3	Contribute to the revised draft of the Molesworth Management Plan		The Board's Molesworth Management Plan Review committee is in place to work on developing the revised draft plan.
4.4	Contribute to the development of the Te Pokohiwi management plan with Rāngitane		Update on the development of Te Pokohiwi management plan was provided at the October meeting. The Board has a close interest in the progress of this plan.
4.5	Review management plan implementation monitoring reports		The implementation monitoring report on Te Waikoropupū Springs Management Plan was presented for feedback at the December 2020 meeting. The implementation monitoring report on the Molesworth Management Plan was presented for feedback at the June 2021 meeting.
5. Other statutory functions of the Board			
5.1	Advice on any other conservation matter relating to any area in the Board's jurisdiction		The Board has resolved to advocate (is advocating?) for the protection of the coastal areas south of Marfell's Beach and supports the Marlborough District Council in establishing a bylaw to reduce the impact of vehicles on the environment. Advice also provided to DOC on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional business plan priorities • Endangered spiders in Crazy Paving Cave, Ōpārara • The Jobs for Nature initiative • A proposed land transfer near the Moutere Highway • Status reports at each meeting • Planning updates at each meeting
5.2	Provide advice on proposed changes of status of nationally or internationally important areas		The Board provided advice on the proposed protection status for the Motueka Sand Spit at its August 2020 meeting. This issue is likely to come back to the Board later in the future.
5.3	Enhance relationships with Fish and Game on matters of mutual conservation interest		A Fish and Game presentation took place at the December 2020 Board meeting in Nelson. The focus was on conservation issues of mutual concern and enhancing the relationship between Fish and Game and the Board.
6. Advocacy and involvement, kanohi ki kanohi			

6.1	Advise DOC on conservation concerns and successes in their local communities - what's happening on the ground / the local flavour		Each meeting agenda provides an opportunity for board members to report on their networking activities.
6.2	Support and strengthen the activities of, and collaboration between, local conservation groups		Board members are involved in the creation of a BioStrategy for the Tasman District. Forest and Bird, NZ Speleological Society and representatives of Kelly's Conservation Forest spoke to the Board at the December meeting, along with a presentation on the Moawhiti project. Forest and Bird attended the February 2021 meeting. Board members are active in local groups in their rohe, including the Kaikōura Marine Guardians, Tasman Environmental Trust, wilding conifer control and biodiversity forums in Tasman and Nelson.
6.3	Provide comment or submissions on policy or strategic consultations in line with Board priorities		The Board lodged a submission on the Future of Tourism consultation in September 2020 and a submission on the Marlborough Environment Plan Variations for Marine Farming and Aquaculture in February 2021.
7. Board performance and hauora, wellbeing			
7.1	Review overall Board performance annually and following Board meetings		Some Board members and key staff completed a NZNavigator assessment in September 2020 which provided a baseline for the Board's self-evaluation. This will be repeated in September 2021. A review opportunity is included on the agenda for every meeting.
7.2	Board leadership team and DOC Operations Director meet at least annually to review and provide feedback on Board performance		A meeting between the Board leadership team and the Operations Director was held on 22 April 2021.
7.3	Monitor the health, safety, hauora, wellbeing and workloads of Board members		Each Board meeting begins with a check in with board members. Iwi Komiti members support each other and are aware of the pressures of mahi and expectations. Cultural safety will also feature in our Health and Safety plans. The Board's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy was reviewed in September and minor amendments were approved at the Board's October meeting. Wellbeing of board members is included in the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy and is a priority in the Board's Work Plan for 2020-21.

The milestones and measures as at the end of year, 30 June 2021.

Milestones – are significant steps towards achieving priorities

Milestone	Date(s) achieved and commentary
Board advised on its s4 Conservation Act 1987 and Treaty Principles obligations and how the Board can give effect to these in its work.	Presentation on Treaty Settlement Instruments 16 October 2020 meeting.
Board adopts a set of principles to guide its implementation of Conservation Act s4 Treaty responsibilities.	<i>Tikanga mō te Poari</i> created by Iwi Komiti and presented to Board 16 October 2020.
Board Chair and Deputy attend annual Chairs' Conference and report back to the Board	Gina Solomon and Murray Poulter attended the Conference in Wellington 22-23 August 2020 and reported at the 27 August Board meeting in Kaitereterē.
Annual review of Strategic Plan and Priorities.	Completed by 30 September 2020 and sent to Governance Unit and Minister.
Review of Board's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy at least annually.	Reviewed in September/October 2020 by Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee and amendments approved 16 October 2020.
Governance Workshop for Board	This did not take place.
Meeting with Fish and Game to discuss issues of mutual conservation interest	Took place at December 2020 meeting.

Measures - assess performance quantitatively and qualitatively

- Number of Board members attending Pūkenga Atawhai programme.
- Number of Board submissions or comments provided on policy or strategic consultations in line with the Board's conservation priorities. *Two this year.*
- Number of community group presentations at Board meetings. *Three presentations and five different groups at public forums this year.*
- Number of Management Plan/CMS implementation monitoring reports received. *Three this year (CMS, Waikoropupū Springs, Molesworth)*
- Permissions Committee considers applications that meet the Board's triggers for consultation and provides advice to DOC. *The Permissions Committee reviewed the triggers for notification in December 2020, and continues to receive a monthly print out of decisions on all concession applications in the region. It provided advice on two applications, one for canyoning in Kahurangi National Park and one for a swim race from Totaranui.*
- Planning update provided at each Board meeting. *Has been presented at each Board meeting.*
- Timely provision of Board advice on regional expenditure priorities. *Roy Grose provided information at the December 2020 and the June 2021 meetings.*