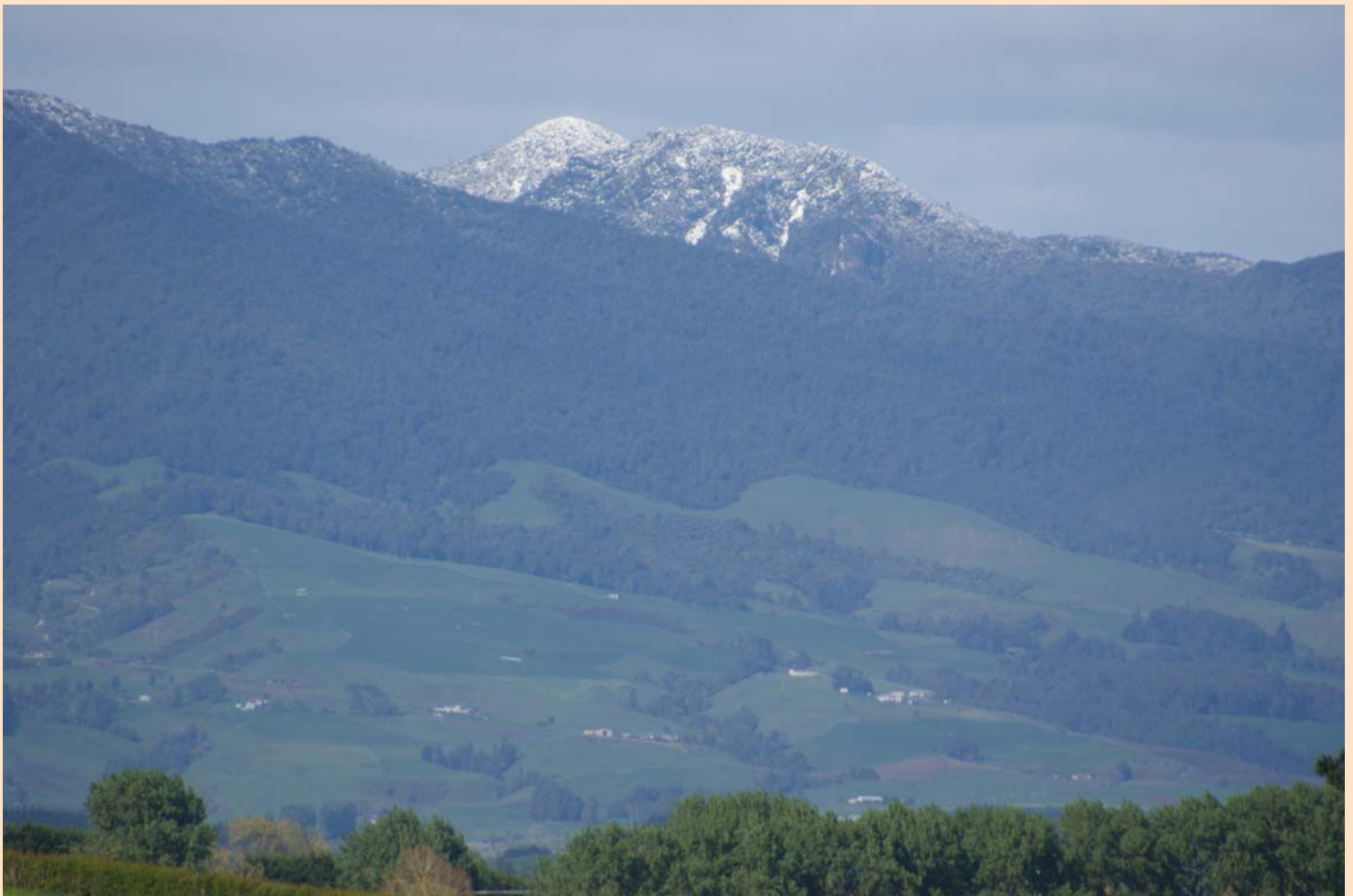


WAIKATO CONSERVATION BOARD

TE PAPA ATAWHAI O TE ROHE O TAINUI

Annual Report
For year ended 30 June 2011



FOR PRESENTATION TO THE
NEW ZEALAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Cover photo: Snow on Pirongia, 6 October 2009. (Des Williams/DOC photo)

WAIKATO CONSERVATION BOARD

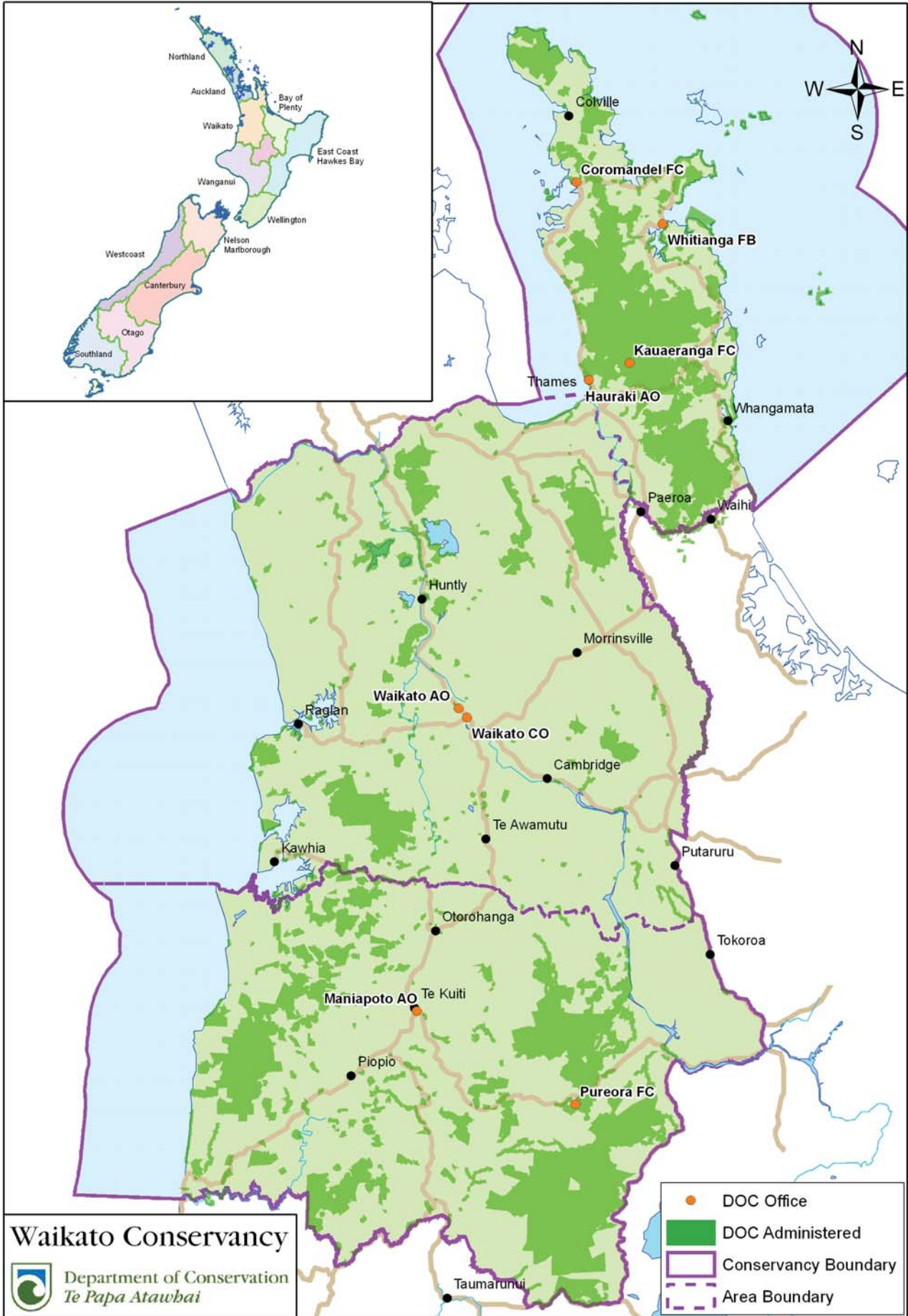
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Waikato Conservation Board
Private Bag 3072
Hamilton 3240



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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

In reviewing the past year on behalf of the Waikato Conservation Board, while I can say it has been an interesting year, it has also been a frustrating one. The drawn out CMS process contributed largely to this and, while excellent progress is now being made, it has taken too long to get to where we are.

While we as a Board accept the logic of working within a standard template for consistency reasons (and the obvious need to get it right) we also need to ensure that "our" CMS is Waikato's and not Wellington's.

The recent restructuring following on from a Prioritising for the Future exercise two years ago has also caused the Board serious concern regarding the impact of this on conservation within New Zealand. The possibility of further staff losses due to earlier planned funding cuts accentuates our Board's concern. Added to this is an inability to impress upon our politicians the need to be aware that the conservation estate cannot operate efficiently if its funding is continually reduced as the size of the area managed increases.

The lack of a Chairpersons' Conference this year I see as an opportunity lost. The previous one in May 2010 was an excellent forum to link the conservancies, meet with Conservation Authority members and hear directly from the Director-General and the Minister of Conservation. I would urge the Conservation Authority chair to revisit this for the coming year.

On a much more positive note my thanks to our Conservation Board members for their involvement and the part they play in conservation. Our role is an important link between the community and the conservancy and I commend them for their commitment.

I would also acknowledge with gratitude the work of our Conservator, Greg Martin, and his very committed team in the Waikato Conservancy. In an increasingly challenging workplace they continue to live up to what we have come to expect of them. As New Zealanders we should be proud of what they achieve.

Arthur Hinds
Chairperson
30 August 2011



Arthur Hinds, Waikato
Conservation Board
chairperson 2010/2011

1.0 - INTRODUCTION

The Waikato Conservation Board is an independent advisory body established in October 1990 by the Minister of Conservation under Section 6L of the Conservation Act 1987 (as amended by the Conservation Amendment Act 1990, the National Parks Act 1980 and the Walkways Act 1990).

The Board is responsible, under this Act, for shaping conservation management through the development of a conservation management strategy (CMS) and conservation management plans (CMPs) for land administered by the Department of Conservation in the Waikato Conservancy. The Board provides advice to the Department on policy, acts as a liaison body between the Crown and the public, and advocates for conservation values on land not administered by the Department.

The Minister of Conservation appoints members to the Board for terms not exceeding three years. Members can be appointed for subsequent terms.

This Annual Report is submitted to the New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA), the national parent body for conservation boards, under Section 6 (O) of the Conservation Act 1987.

2.0 - BOARD MEMBERSHIP 2010/2011

The Minister of Conservation, by various notices in the New Zealand Gazette, appointed members to the Waikato Conservation Board as follows:

MARK BROUGH (appointed January 2011, present term expires 30 June 2013): Mark was raised on a King Country farm at Aria, and has been farming in his own right for the past 20 years. A keen outdoors person, Mark has a strong interest in conservation and native bush protection and has been involved in various conservation projects over the years, including Clean Streams and Greenplan forestry. He is a member of Environment Waikato's Central King Country steering group for pest control, has been a member of the Waitomo Search and Rescue organisation for many years and enjoys hunting, tramping and kayaking in his "spare time".

ALISON HENRY, Whitianga, (first appointed 2005, present term expires 30 June 2011): A former DOC staff member (Auckland Conservancy) Alison has a good knowledge of department structure and processes and has a special interest in building public consensus on important issues. Her conservation interests have included trusteeships with Project Crimson, Te Araroa (the Long Pathway) and Motutapu Restoration Trusts. Alison now lives at Cooks Beach and is the current chair of the Kauri 2000 Trust and is DOC's representative for the Coromandel Blueprint project.

ARTHUR HINDS JP, Whitianga (first appointed 2004, term expires 30 June 2013): Arthur Hinds is a farmer at Whitianga, with some 15 years experience as a director on dairy company boards, including the New Zealand Dairy Group 1991-2000. He is a former Environment Waikato councillor and, as chairperson of the Whenuakite Kiwi Care Group, a strong supporter of community conservation initiatives. Arthur was elected Board chairperson in August 2009.

DELL HOOD, Hamilton (first appointed 2006, present term expires 30 June 2012): Dell Hood is Medical Officer of Health for the Waikato District Health Board,

with long-time interests in tramping and voluntary conservation work, including membership (and past chairperson) of the Friends of Tiritiri-Matangi. Dell is a QEII covenantor (Coromandel property) and is involved in restoration work at local reserves such as Kakepuku and Whewell's Bush.

WYNE JOHNS, Hamilton (first appointed 2006, present term expires 31 August 2011): Wyne is a former (retired) lecturer in Amenity and Environmental Horticulture and has recently completed her Masters degree in Environmental Management through Lincoln University. Wyne has been a member of the Auckland Botanical Society for many years and is involved with several community conservation groups, including Tamahere Gully Care and Keep Hamilton Beautiful.

LOIS LIVINGSTON, Hamilton (first appointed 2008, present term expires 31 August 2011): Lois is a Hamilton-based Advocate and mediator and already has a lengthy association with the Department of Conservation, established during her 15 years as a Waikato Regional Councillor and chair of Council's Environment and Policy committees. A former teacher and broadcaster, Lois chairs the Hamilton East Community Trust and is a member of Lotteries Environment and Heritage. Lois also chairs Environment Waikato's Regulatory Committee.

SALLY MILLAR, Hamilton (appointment expired January 2011; replaced by Mark Brough): Sally Millar is a programme manager for the Animal Health Board, with strong links to the farming community, including family involvement in a QEII Trust covenant, and was environmental and resource manager for Federated Farmers. Previously she was an environmental consultant with biodiversity protection on private land being a key area of her work. Sally has a background in law and environmental and resource management policy development.

GAYLENE ROBERTS, Hamilton (first appointed 2007): Gaylene represents Kahui Ariki (the Maori Sovereign, King Tuheitia) on the Board in terms of the Waikato Raupatu Lands Settlement Act 1995. Of Ngati Raukawa and Ngati Mahanga affiliations, Gaylene is a strong advocate for Iwi involvement in environmental issues. She is currently a member of Te Kauhanganui o Waikato, Iwi Maori Council of the Waikato District Health Board, a member of the Waipa District Council Regulatory Committee, Waikato District Health Board Kaumatua Kaunihere chairperson, and Maungatautari Ecological Island Trustee. Gaylene is programme coordinator for environmental management studies at Te Wananga o Aotearoa.

DAVID TAIPARI, NGATEA (first appointed 2008, present term expires 31 August 2011): David is General Manager of the Ngati Maru Runanga and also has affiliations with Ngati Whanaunga, Ngati Tamatera, Ngati Paoa, Tumutumu, Ngati Awa and Te Patuwai. He is Ngati Maru representative on the Hauraki Maori Trust Board, and a trustee of Matai Whetu Marae. He is also a technical officer for the Hauraki Gulf Forum; manager for the Hauraki Collective and chairman of the Independent Maori Statutory Board for the Auckland region.

PHILIPPA (PIP) WALLACE, Cambridge (first appointed 2005, appointment expires 30 June 2013): Pip is a lecturer in environmental planning and resource management law at the University of Waikato, where she obtained her Law Masters Degree (Hons) in 2004. She is a member of several environmental groups and is involved with "hands-on" monitoring for the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust and the

Maungatautari Mountain restoration project. Pip is also studying for her Doctorate (part-time) on the subject of the protection of avian fauna in New Zealand.

LIZ WEDDERBURN, Raglan (first appointed 2008, present term expires 31 August 2011): A senior scientist with Agresearch, Liz has 11 years science management and strategy development experience related to water, biodiversity, climate change and soil within farm and catchment settings. She was a member of the Strategic Advisory Group for Biodiversity in 2003 and, more recently, an advisor to the Dairy Insight Sustainable Environmental Management Strategy. Liz completed her PhD at Glasgow University in 1980 before coming to work in New Zealand.

BRIAN WHITTINGTON, Hamilton, (first appointed 2009, present term expires 30 June 2011): Brian is a member of Environment Waikato's North Zone Regional Pest Management Advisory Sub-committee and a past-president of the Hamilton Acclimatisation Society (now Fish & Game Council) with a special interest in wetland restoration and management. He was an honorary wildlife ranger for 30 years. He spent much of his working career in the dairy industry and in later years operated his own company, a health and safety consultancy.

3.0 - INTRODUCTION TO BOARD DISTRICT

The Waikato Conservancy Office is situated in Hamilton, with overall responsibility for the administration of nearly 270,000ha of public conservation land (12% of the total area 2,250,000 hectares). The land is described in more than 500 separate parcels for various purposes, including forests, wetlands, caves, marine reserves, offshore islands, historic sites, wildlife protection and recreational areas.

Conservancy boundaries extend from a point at the Waikato River mouth, north-east to Miranda, taking in the whole of the Coromandel Peninsula (including the Mercury and Aldermen Island groups and Cuvier Island), south to Waihi Beach, west to Paeroa then generally south following the Waihou River to Tirau.

The boundary then follows Highway One south to Atiamuri, the Waikato River west to Whakamaru, Western Bays Highway 32 to Kuratau, Highway 41 west to Ohura via Taumarunui; then north to Panirau before generally following the Mokau River west to the coast, and thence north to the Waikato River mouth. Waikato Conservancy also manages water-related issues for that part of the Waikato River catchment north of the Waikato/Auckland Conservancy boundary.

Culturally, the Conservancy falls mainly within the rohe of Tainui waka and the Hauraki, Tainui, Maniapoto and Raukawa Iwi/hapu.

The Conservancy is divided into three management Areas – Hauraki (office at Thames), Maniapoto (office at Te Kuiti) and Waikato (office at Te Rapa). Hauraki also contains Field Bases at Coromandel, Kauaeranga Valley and Whitianga, while Maniapoto has a Field Base at Pureora. The Conservancy employs 115 staff [2010 figures], of whom 34 are located in Conservancy Office, 27 at Waikato Area, 31 at Hauraki/Peninsula Field Bases, and 23 at Te Kuiti/Pureora. (Figures subject to slight variations.)

BRIEF SUMMARY BY AREA

Waikato:

The Waikato Area encompasses the geographical area from Port Waikato to Kawhia on the West Coast, east to Tokoroa and generally northwards following the Waihou River to Thames. Dominant features of the Area are:

- three internationally significant wetlands (Firth of Thames, Kopuatai Peat Dome and the Whangamarino Wetland) and an extensive network of wetland reserves within the Lower Waikato and Hauraki Plains;
- terrestrial forests associated with the Hakarimata and Hapuakohe Ranges, the volcanic cones of Maungatautari, Kakepuku, Pirongia and Karioi and the karst landforms of Te Kauri;
- coastline and estuarine areas of the Firth of Thames, Waikato River delta, Whaingaroa, Aotea and Kawhia Harbours on the Western Waikato coast.

There are large rural and urban centres (Hamilton, Te Awamutu, Morrinsville, Cambridge, Matamata, Raglan, Ngatea) within the Area supporting a regional population of nearly 400,000 people. Industrial development, intensive use of land for agriculture and increasing demands for outdoor and recreational opportunities and experiences from growing populations, pose challenges for the retention of indigenous character and biodiversity within the Waikato landscape.

Hauraki:

The Hauraki Area covers the scenic and wonderfully diverse Coromandel Peninsula. The Peninsula is traditionally known as Te Tara o Te Whai (the jagged barb of the stingray), and is the figurative ama (outrigger) that has Mt Te Aroha as its prow and Mt Moehau as its stern. The area is known for its kauri-cloaked volcanic ranges, rocky coastal headlands, sandy beaches, bays and estuaries. The coastline is dotted with islands and nationally significant sites for many of our threatened species. The area has a rich history dating back to early Maori settlement 800 years ago, followed by European settlement and with it the kauri logging and gold mining industries. The Peninsula is a popular weekend destination, especially for the exodus of people escaping Auckland to enjoy the natural and historic heritage that is “the Coromandel”.

Important features of the Area include:

- Coromandel Forest Park;
- Northern Coromandel Farm Parks;
- Te Whanganui-A-Hei (Cathedral Cove) Marine Reserve;
- Predator-free off-shore islands.

Maniapoto:

The Maniapoto Area encompasses the geographical area from Kawhia Harbour to Tokoroa and generally south following State Highway 32 to Kuratau and across to the Mokau River mouth. Important features of the Area are:

- nationally significant ecosystem restoration project within Waipapa ecological area;
- nationally important kokako management project at Mapara Wildlife Reserve;
- locally endemic Mahoenui giant weta and *Awaroa hebe* populations, and nationally important populations of *Dactylanthus taylorii*, long and short-tailed bats, kaka, kokako, Archey’s frogs, and tainui;
- Ruakuri Scenic Reserve site, Waitomo Caves and other nationally unique karst sites.

4.0 - CONSERVATION BOARD MEETINGS

The Board generally plans its meeting venues in order to cover as much of the Conservancy as possible. During this year, unusual difficulty was experienced in obtaining a quorum for meetings and just three one-day meetings were held. The Board now has a policy that two-day meetings involving an inspection on the second day will only go ahead if a quorum of members is available for the inspection.

Meeting Date	Place	Field Inspection
03 August 2010	Hamilton	No
09 December 2010	Hamilton	No
17 February 2011	Hamilton	No

4.1 Members attendance record at meetings 2010-2011

Member attendance at the three meetings held during the year was as follows: Mark Brough (1) (appointed January 2011); Alison Henry (3); Arthur Hinds (3); Dell Hood (3); Wyne Johns (3); Lois Livingston (3); Sally Millar (1) (appointment expired January 2011); Gaylene Roberts (1); David Taipari (3); Pip Wallace (2); Liz Wedderburn (1); Brian Whittington (3).

4.2 Meeting Summary

4.2.1 - Meeting 03 August 2010:

The August meeting included a discussion about shabby and objectionably-worded signs which had been proliferating along public highways and major roads in the Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel Districts. Many were anti-DOC and anti-1080 containing factually incorrect messages. The Board corresponded with both local authorities about the issue.

DOC staff member Garry Hickman spoke to the Board about a recent census of Maui's Dolphin being undertaken off the Waikato west coast by scientists from the University of Auckland, on behalf of the Department. The census involved taking DNA samples from dolphin skins by way of low-impact darts. Other monitoring techniques such as photographing fins did not generally work for Maui's dolphins because of their general lack of nicks and marks that tend to characterise other marine mammals.

DOC's Chris Berry provided a report on mining activity presently happening in the Waikato Conservancy. Activity ranges from prospecting, mining and exploration permits. Chris reported that Broken Hills Gold Company runs a small-scale active mine for both prospecting and mining, while Newmont Gold has an access agreement allowing the company to drill in isolated spots and rehabilitate them under guidance of DOC's Area staff.

The Board received an update on the Waikato River Accord signed between Waikato/Tainui and DOC, with a draft implementation strategy then nearing completion.

4.2.2 - Meeting 09 December 2010:

The December meeting featured a major presentation from DOC's North Island CMS Implementation team, Matt Ward (Auckland) and Marie Long and Sarah Bagnall from Wellington's National Office. The new generation CMS documents will be 10-year regional strategies, designed to implement General Policies and establish objectives for the integrated management of conservation lands.

Marie Long explained to the Board that the Director-General had become concerned during the previous CMS review process at the lack of national consistency, lack of strategic direction, and documents being drafted were too long, contained too much detail and not enough flexibility. The review team had addressed those concerns to the extent that the new model CMS would be succinct, though detailed enough to guide decision-making, would be place-based and simple to use.

They would meet all legal requirements while coordinating corporate, statutory and business planning. Several major reviews within the department had taken place since the original CMS review process was initiated [for example, Prioritizing for the Future (PftF), Natural Heritage Management System (NHMS), Destination Management Framework (DMF) Concessions review], and these would all be taken into account with the new CMS.

The creation of the new model had involved workshops with the New Zealand Conservation Authority, consultation with Boards, trialing of the new approach with the draft Auckland CMS and a communications workshop in August. The new model will contain Conservancy-wide Vision, Description of themes and values, Objectives and Treaty of Waitangi provisions. Places information will include a description of each place, with measurable outcomes, policies and milestones.

The Board also received a very interesting presentation from Dr Tim Haggitt, marine scientist of Auckland. Dr Haggitt told members there were some changes that occurred pretty quickly following the establishment of a marine reserve, particularly an increase in popular “fishing” species, but other indirect changes may take 10 or 15 years to become obvious. For instance, Hahei has a significant lobster population; lobsters feed heavily on urchins and urchins are really important for maintaining kelp forests. “If you get increased predation of urchins you are going to get significant changes to the kelp forest.”

Monitoring of lobsters and reef fish began at Hahei in 1996, [the reserve was established in 1993], benthic monitoring of the rocky reef began in 2000. A new ecosystem design for monitoring was produced in 2006. Ten sites are monitored within the reserve at Hahei and 10 sites outside the reserve boundaries. Today the population within the reserve is equivalent to about 54km of fished coastline. Data from Hahei is compared with that from Leigh Marine Reserve which is also monitored. The lobster population dropped at Leigh between 1996 and 2000 for reasons unknown. Therefore comparisons between Hahei (which has a stable lobster population) and Leigh are very useful to examine trends over larger spatial areas.

Research on reef fish (snapper) indicates there are more fish in the reserve than outside, and there are more “legal-sized” snapper in the reserve than outside, which is just a reflection of fishing pressure outside the reserve and the benefits of marine reserve protection. This trend is repeated with other fish species in the reserve, for example spotty, banded wrasse and scarlet wrasse.

Dr Haggitt told members how algal communities within the reserve are of much higher density now than they were in 2006. Sediment levels are monitored because of the afforestation taking place in the Whitianga catchment. Levels were high in the reserve in 2006 but low outside, whereas the 2009 survey showed high levels both inside and outside the reserve.

The Board then heard from Avi Holzapfel (DOC's Kiwi Recovery Group leader) who provided a summary of the Group's work. He explained his role as "working with the people who work with kiwi", with his own background being in botany and work with species such as dactylanthus.

Avi said some \$9 million is provided annually for kiwi recovery work, from both government and private sources such as the BNZ, and local communities. It is the largest "recovery programme" presently operating in New Zealand. There are five different species of kiwi, all presenting different challenges, and each with their own recovery programme.

Avi said the first phase of the recovery plan had taken place in the early 1990s with the realization that kiwi numbers had been declining, perhaps since the 1970s. Research since then at places like Waikaremoana on brown kiwi (John McLennan et al) was "incredibly sobering" as only 5% of kiwi chicks born were surviving to adulthood. Stoats were established as the killer of kiwi chicks and dogs and ferrets were bad news for adult birds. The death of one adult bird has a similar impact on the population as the death of 10 chicks.

People woke up to the fact that kiwi were in trouble and the second phase recovery plan was established, assisted by funding from BNZ. Five sanctuaries were established for intensive management – Whangarei, Moehau, Tongariro, Okarito and Haast. Moehau was a key area among them, with 17,000 hectares (half conservation land, half privately owned) being controlled for predators with a network of 1500 traps.

Avi said the present changing landscape may be regarded as phase three, with the department having a better understanding of what is required, and communities and industries sponsoring projects on a national scale and programmes like kiwi aversion training for dogs making a huge difference. Present work is being carried out in accordance with the most recent recovery plan which was published two years ago.

4.2.3 - Meeting 17 February 2011:

The February meeting included a major discussion on aquaculture issues, with Arthur reporting on his meeting with Hon Sir Doug Kidd and Justine Inns of the Aquaculture Ministerial Advisory Committee for discussions regarding fish farming proposals in the Firth of Thames. The Board had several areas of concern about the proposals, including: taking of fish from the cage to the port to export will provide little benefit to local economies; infrastructure requirements could be costly; fish feeding could pose possible risks to the mussel industry; potential problems with disease and use of antibiotics, and who cleans up if it all goes wrong?

In summary, the Board has some major concerns about the whole proposal and would support a robust process under the Resource Management Act before final decisions or approvals are granted.

The February meeting included a joint presentation (with Environment Waikato) of the Stella Frances Memorial Scholarship to Renee Foster. Greg Martin explained the background to the scholarship (now in its sixth year), noting that Stella Frances had been his predecessor as Waikato Conservator and had previously been an elected Environment Waikato councillor. After her death the department and EW had come

together and established the scholarship to encourage research in environmental issues. In accepting the scholarship Renee thanked the Council and Department for the opportunity she had been given and she looked forward to coming and reporting back when her study on coastal changes at Pauanui has been completed.

4.3 Other Board Activity

4.3.1 National Wetland Trust (Wyne Johns):

Wyne Johns provides updates at each meeting on progress being made by the National Wetland Trust to establish a national wetland centre at Lake Serpentine, south of Ohaupo Village.

4.3.2 Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (Arthur Hinds):

Arthur Hinds served as Board representative on the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust and provided regular updates on this internationally significant project.

4.3.3 Ballance Farm Environment Award Trust (Sally Millar / Mark Brough):

The Board continues to take a keen interest in the Ballance Farm Environment Awards – an initiative that was first introduced by the Waikato Conservation Board (in conjunction with Environment Waikato) in 1993.

5.0 - BOARD FUNCTIONS SECTION 6M CONSERVATION ACT 1987

Section 6M (1) (a) Approval of conservation management strategy (CMS): The Board welcomed a resumption of the CMS review process. The original document (1996-2006) has long been out of date.

Section 6M (1) (b) Conservation management plan approval, review and amendments: No amendments or reviews were undertaken during the year.

Section 6M (1) (c) Advice on the implementation of CMS and CMP: No action.

Section 6M (1) (d) (ii) Advice to the New Zealand Conservation Authority or the Director-General on any other conservation matters: The Board's concerns about delays in the CMS process are known to the NZCA.

Statutory Land Management: The Board was not asked to provide the department with advice on any land exchange proposals during the year.

Resource Management Issues: The Board maintained an on-going interest in the wind farm developments at Taharoa and Huarau, as well as the Shore Futures (Waikato District Council) and Blueprint (Thames-Coromandel District Council) Projects.

Section 6M (1) (e) Advice on proposals for new walkways: The Board made no recommendations to the department regarding new walkway proposals, though it notes the progress being made on the Central North Island Rail Trail proposal (Ongarue-Pureora).

Section 6M (1) (f) Liaise with Fish and Game Council on Board-related matters: The Board continues to send meeting agendas and minutes to the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council, and receives copies of Council minutes in return. Further informal contact (and occasional attendance at Council meetings) is maintained by Board member Arthur Hinds.

6.0 - POWERS OF BOARD SECTION 6N CONSERVATION ACT 1987

6N(2)(a) Advocate interest at public forums and statutory planning processes: The Board made no formal submissions during the year.

6N(2)(b) Appoint committees and delegate them functions and responsibilities: The Te Whanganui-A-Hei (Cathedral Cove) Marine Reserve Committee was established in 1993 and functions as a sub-committee of the Waikato Conservation Board under section 6Nb of the Conservation Act 1987.

A Charitable Trust (Friends of Te Whanganui-A-Hei) is also in operation, with the role of promoting the reserve and gaining access to private sector funding (e.g., proceeds from court convictions against reserve offenders) for reserve projects.

7.0 - OTHER BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 6Q (1) Conservation Act 1987: Co-opting Members: The Board does not presently include any co-opted members.

Section 17G Conservation Act 1987: Procedure for preparation and approval of conservation management plans: The Board did not consider any conservation management plans this year.

8.0 - LIAISON

With the Public: The Board had no formal opportunities for liaison with the public during the year, with only three meetings held and all being one-day meetings in hamilton.

With Auckland / Waikato Fish and Game: A report on Fish & Game Council meetings is given by Board liaison member Arthur Hinds at Board meetings. The Waikato Conservation Board's agenda and minutes are sent to the executive officer, who similarly provides the Board with agendas and minutes.

With other Boards / organisations: The Board maintains contact with neighbouring Conservation Boards through the exchange of meeting agendas and minutes. A report on each neighbouring board's minutes is given at each Board meeting. Liaison members during the year under review were: Bay of Plenty – Wyne Johns; Taupo / Tongariro – Dell Hood; Auckland – Lois Livingston; Taranaki / Whanganui – Sally Millar / Mark Brough.

With the Ballance Waikato Farm Environment Awards: Sally Millar (and latterly by Mark Brough following Sally's term of appointment expiring. **With the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society:** Brian Whittington. **With the National Wetland Trust:** Wyne Johns. **With the Hauraki Gulf Forum and Thames Coast Protection Society:** David Taipari; **with Thames Coromandel District Council/Blueprint Project and QEII Trust:** Alison Henry; **With the Waikato District Council Shore Futures Project:** Pip Wallace and Wyne Johns; **with the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust:** Arthur Hinds.

With the New Zealand Conservation Authority: Minutes of the New Zealand Conservation Authority meetings are circulated to members with the Board's own meeting agenda papers and are commented on by the Board/NZCA liaison member at the meeting. In 2010/2011 Arthur Hinds was the liaison member with

the NZCA. Basil Morrison of Paeroa is the NZCA's Waikato liaison member and receives copies of Board agendas and meeting minutes. Basil attended the Board's December meeting

With Iwi Authorities, Maori Trust Boards and Tangata Whenua: Meeting minutes and agendas are circulated to the Maori Trust Boards. Kahui Ariki (The Maori King) is represented on the Waikato Conservation Board (presently by Gaylene Roberts) as a condition of the Waikato Raupatu Lands Settlement Act 1995.

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