



Date: Wednesday 20 November 2013
Time: 4.30pm
Meeting Room: Local Board Office
Venue: 2 Glen Road
Browns Bay

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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8.1	Pauline Smith - Hibiscus Coast Forest and Bird Protection Society	
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Pest Free PENINSULA



Our vision is "To provide healthy safe habitats for native birds, insects and reptiles on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula by eliminating feral predators. This will contribute positively to the North West Wild Link and Shakespear Open Sanctuary."

The Hibiscus Coast Branch of Forest and Bird will initiate and coordinate community involvement to achieve pest control on public and private land on the Peninsula. In the initial phase of the project our focus will be on predator control, specifically rats, possums, and mustelids (stoats, ferrets, and weasels). In the future if resources allow we will also encourage the control of weed pests.

Private Land

- We will encourage private landowners to undertake predator control on their properties. Our role will be to provide information, advice and materials for predator control in urban and semi-rural situations. Forest and Bird Auckland office have assisted with information about appropriate methods, and Health and Safety compliance issues based on their successful predator control projects on private land in Albany.

Public Land

- We have been liaising with the Biodiversity team of the Auckland Council to setup predator control on Public Reserves. Paul Duffy has provided invaluable support and guidance for this.
- Permission, funding, and a plan for trapping requirements at our first reserve **Karaka Cove** has been completed. F&B is getting a good response from local residents to be involved in trap monitoring, and trapping will begin in February 2014.
- Once Karaka Cove is setup and working well, we will use our experience to do predator control on other Public Reserves on the Peninsula.
- **What we want from the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board is support for implementing pest control when we are ready to work on additional areas of public land.**

Monitoring Progress

- We will encourage residents to participate in the **Landcare Garden Bird Survey** to monitor birds in private gardens (in response to our publicity 60 gardens on the Peninsula were surveyed this year).
- Each November, we will survey birds in Peninsula Reserves. The first survey of 43 sites is underway.
- **Paint the Peninsula Purple** is a web based map of land that is under active predator control.
- Publicise the project with a **Pest Free Peninsula** sign at properties with predator control.

It is clear from other sanctuary projects that "spillover" occurs naturally, when this starts to happen from Tiri and Shakespear we would love to provide a safe habitat on the Peninsula for our native birds to thrive.