

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Hauraki Gulf Forum will be held on:

Date: Monday 24 March 2014
Time: 1.00pm
Meeting Room: Reception Lounge
Venue: Auckland Town Hall
301-305 Queen Street
Auckland

Hauraki Gulf Forum

OPEN ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENTS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

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Strategic Issues framework

The Forum is required - HGMPA 17 (1) (a) - "to prepare a list of strategic issues, determine a priority for action of each issue and regularly review that list."

- In March 2012 – in response to the State of the Gulf report - the Forum passed the following resolution (HGF/2012/10):
- That management response areas identified in the State of our Gulf: Tikapa Moana – Hauraki Gulf State of the Environment Report 2011 (Section 7.11.1 – page 145) be adopted as a strategic issues framework for focus and action by the Hauraki Gulf Forum.
- That urgent progress be made by agencies, including through collaboration, to develop, goals, strategies, implementation programmes and performance monitoring in these response areas, and that progress in these areas be reported to each subsequent meeting of the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

A new management response

The vision for Tikapa Moana Hauraki Gulf established by the Hauraki Gulf Forum refers to a place which is "celebrated and treasured", which is "thriving with fish and shellfish, kaimoana", which has a "rich diversity of life" and which supports a "sense of place, connection and identity" and a "vibrant economy". So what might a management response look like if the Forum's vision is to be achieved?

It is likely to include at least the following five elements:

Tangata whenua relationships are acknowledged and reflected in resource management practice: There is growing appreciation of the Maori world view of connectedness between humans and the natural world, strengthened roles for tangata whenua in decision making backed by settlements of historic treaty claims, and traditional knowledge and tikanga find application in the way resources are managed, with resulting protection and enhancement of culturally important environmental resources and values.

A flourishing "green-blue network": The Gulf has a network of restored island sanctuaries and protected, regenerating areas within the marine area. The network will provide places where biodiversity thrives, where the ecological health and productivity of the marine area is enhanced and where the resilience of these natural systems is strengthened. The network will be the focus of community engagement in caring for the Gulf and will support diverse recreational opportunities and thriving low-impact business opportunities.

Enhancement of fisheries: Fishing activity is carefully managed to ensure that important marine species, habitats and ecological processes are not damaged. Alternatives to the maximum sustainable yield are more widely implemented to improve ecosystem outcomes, while also providing thriving fish stocks that support a prosperous local fishing industry, and generously provide for cultural, subsistence and recreational harvests.

Sediment and contaminants kept on the land: Effective catchment management will ensure that the input of sediment, nutrients and other contaminants to the Gulf is minimized, and levels do not exceed ecological limits. The Gulf's harbours and estuaries will be healthy and teeming with life. They will support thriving shellfish beds and a rich fauna of bird life. They will also provide safe nursery areas for juvenile fish thereby contributing to fisheries productivity. Mangroves will no longer be expanding into new intertidal areas.

Knowledge generation occurs within an eco-system-based management framework: Only intact, healthy ecosystems can provide the complete range of benefits that humans want and need over long period of time. Research therefore focuses on ways of preventing the environmental costs of current activities being passed to future generations. Economic opportunities are identified, which provide for sustainable growth while halting the serial depletion of natural resources. Ways for protecting and restoring marine ecosystems, and the services they provide, are developed and implemented.

State of the Environment report 7.11.1