

Date: Thursday 7 May 2015
Time: 5.15pm
Meeting Room: Oneroa Bowling Club
Venue: 100 Oceanview Road
Alison Park

Waiheke Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
9.1	Dog Access Rules - Merran Lawler	
	A. Presentation by Merran Lawler - Dog Access Rules	3
9.2	Review of Dog Access Rules - Sue Fitchett and Hue Ross	
	A. Presentation by Hue Ross - Dog Access Rules	5

Presentation to Waiheke Local Board

Dogs Access Rules (specifically relating to beach access)

CURRENT REGIME: On all 34 beaches	RECOMMENDATION: On ten selected beaches	OBSERVATIONS
Saturday of Labour Day weekend (mid to late October to 23 December) – before 10am and after 4.00pm		Reduction: One hour in morning (9am instead of 10am) Two hours in afternoon (6pm instead of 4pm)
24 December – 1 February – before 10am and after 6.00pm	Labour Day weekend (mid to late October) to 31 March – before 9am and after 6.00pm	Reduction: One hour in morning (9am instead of 10am)
2 February to Easter Monday (Mar/Apr) – before 10am and after 4.00pm		Reduction: One hour in morning (9am instead of 10am) Two hours in afternoon (6pm instead of 4pm)
Tuesday after Easter (Mar/Apr) to Friday of Labour Day weekend (mid-late October) at any time	1 April to Labour Day weekend (mid to late October) – at any time	No reduction except when Easter occurs earlier in March



A glass half full

Releases of native wildlife on our Hauraki Gulf islands have featured prominently in the past 25 issues of Weaving the Strands.

It's one of the great success stories of the marine park – hard working community groups, a committed Department of Conservation, engaged councils and supportive iwi.

When we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the marine park in 2010, the Hauraki Gulf Forum published the "Spreading Wings" map appended showing translocations to predator-free sanctuaries.

More species and islands have been added since: A snowball effect breathing life back into the park.

Of the 93 Gulf islands larger than five hectares, at least 43 are free of introduced mammalian pests. Rakitu (328 ha) and Great Mercury (1860 ha) will join the list shortly.

The return of native wildlife to these sanctuaries is often the 'icing on the cake' after years of hard work and investment by volunteers and agencies in re-vegetation and pest control. The release of kiwi, takahe, saddlebacks, tuatara and other endangered species, or reappearance of self-introducing bellbirds, gannets and brown teal, become wonderful vehicles for education and celebration.

How much potential is there to extend this mission, to create the protected, enhanced Hauraki Gulf anticipated by the marine park act?



Apart from Tiritiri Matangi, which is close to capacity, almost all the pest free islands of the Gulf could support further reintroductions of land birds.

Around 50 islands and adjacent mainland sanctuaries, like Tawharanui and Shakespear, have capacity to accommodate 10 or more species. Hundreds of smaller islands could provide habitat for one or more species.

Otata Island, a 15 ha forest-cloaked island in the Noises group, is a good example. It has been free of mammalian pests for over 12 years but has not yet received a single reintroduction. Red-crowned kakariki, diving petrel or pycrofts petrel, tuatara, Pacific gecko, Duvaucel's gecko, shore skink, wetapunga, flax weevil, and milk-tree are all likely to thrive in this environment.

While transfers of land bird have become common, efforts to re-establish bats, seabirds, reptiles, invertebrates and plants are rare. These taxonomic groups provide important ecosystem functions.

A goal to increase species translocation events several fold over the next 10 years is not unrealistic. A strategic plan to make it happen, a timely move.

The conservation story emerging from Gulf islands like Tiritiri Matangi has already inspired the world. Let's take the glass half full and make it runneth over.



Mayor John Tregidga,
Chair, Hauraki Gulf Forum