



Hauraki Gulf Forum

Tikapa Moana

Te Moananui a Toi

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Alastair Cameron
Manager, CCO/External Partnerships team
CCO/External Partnerships
Auckland Council Governance

RE: Hauraki Gulf Forum resolution

Dear Alastair

As you will be aware the Hauraki Gulf Forum convenes as a special joint committee of the Auckland Council to promote the management objectives of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000.

These objectives include seeking protection, and where appropriate, the enhancement of the life-supporting capacity of the environment of the Hauraki Gulf.

The Forum's functions include preparing every three years, a report on the state of the environment in the Hauraki Gulf, including progress towards integrated management and responses to prioritised issues.

Those reports have drawn attention to declines in environmental quality in areas of the Gulf bordering Auckland's urban areas, particularly the Tamaki Estuary and parts of the Waitematā Harbour.

The poor condition and current trends in these areas are of particular concern to community groups, who have recently raised them with the Forum and sought assistance. See for example the submission of the Tamaki Estuary Protection Society in the agenda and minutes of the Forum's June 20 meeting.

As part of its Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act-defined functions the Forum has identified improved land management as a priority issue for the Hauraki Gulf and sought that inputs of sediments, nutrients and contaminants are minimised and do not exceed ecological limits. It has also asked agencies to regularly report progress in these prioritised issue areas to the Forum.

The Forum's 2014 State of our Gulf report in Section 7.1.3 (page 168 at <http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/environmentwaste/coastalmarine/Documents/stateofourgulf2014.pdf>) analysed the emerging policy environment in relation to land management as it affects water quality.

I would like to invite a representative of your committee to present progress to the next meeting of the Forum on September 12, in response to the following resolution:

That the Hauraki Gulf Forum request an update from Auckland Council's CCO Governance and Monitoring Committee regarding responses to the environmental state of Tamaki Estuary as per previous 'State of the Environment' reports.

Yours sincerely

Tim Higham
Executive Officer
Hauraki Gulf Forum