

Date: Tuesday 12 December 2017
Time: 1.00pm
Meeting Room: Claris Conference Centre
Venue: 19 Whangaparapara Road
Claris
Great Barrier Island

Great Barrier Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Biosecurity Local Board General Update

Month/Year: 14th October to 14th November 2017

Officers name: Jeremy Warden

Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area- Great Barrier Island

Plague Skink Shoal Bay Wharf

In response to the 5 plague Skink captures during October (Orange circles) extensive trapping is being undertaken at Graham and Sarah Harrison's. The Plague Skink captures at Grahams & the one at Sarah's were all male. No further captures have been made.

Fence extensions

The green line on the map below depicts the route of the latest containment fence being installed in response to the October captures

Trap only cell

Top boundary of trap only cell is complete & 2nd quad track crossing has been installed. Trap only cell completed.

Chicken cell

Skink fencing has been installed around the chicken cell boundary and construction of coops has started.



- Trap only cell
- Chicken cell
- Graham Harrison wing
- Plague skink containment fencing completed by December 2017
- Gibbs landing extension (yet to commence)



Example of chicken coop fencing: chicken mesh above skink fencing

Argentine & Darwin's ants

Medlands Road

Second treatment carried out on the 6/11/2017 at 42 Medlands Road. This was carried out by a group of 6 warranted biosecurity officers 4 who travelled from Auckland for the operation.

The remainder of the Medlands Argentine ant site (12 & 44 Medlands Road, 46b Blackwell Drive, Allot SE13 Station Rock Road, Allot NW13 Station Rock Road, Lot 2DP129501 Station Rock Road) was treated by Envirokiwi on the 9 & 10/11/2017

Ocean view Road

Monitoring with the exception of a small area close to the dunes was completed on the 7/11/2017. The two isolated finds on the SW end of the site were treated on the same day.



Thomas Road

Monitoring of the site was completed on the 26/10/2017 with finds at the bottom of the site and along the road side.

Treatment was started the following day and completed at the beginning of the following week.

The monitoring and treatment was fast tracked due to road works needing to start and to minimise transferal of ants to dump sites. Contaminated fill taken from this site is being treated with insecticide sand and will be stockpiled within the site till monitoring deems it free of ants and safe to move.

Rivendell Nursery

Monitoring carried out by Biosecurity staff on the 9th November.

300 monitoring pottles placed out no Argentine ants detected.

Argentine Ant Surveillance

Surveillance was carried out on the 13th November on a Camerton Road property bordering onto the Okupu Argentine ant site. Baited pottles were placed across the site. Argentine ants were found in a couple of locations in relatively high numbers.

Feral Pigs

Footage from Station Rock trail camera reviewed with a number of feral pigs observed over a two week period. A mob of pigs were also sighted during the site visit.

Broken and Grey Group Islands

Service of motels carried out on the 7th November by Biosecurity staff

Rat Captured

- Rangiahua=23
- Mahuki =2
- Motu Taiko =2
- Little mahuki=0
- Grey Group
 - Saddle and outer Islands =0
 - Inner =6

Weed ControlTotal Control

Houttuynia (Pictured above) growing in a garden at Glen Fern Sanctuary identified by a visiting Biosecurity staff member.

Royal Fern- grid search of Sanderson site has been completed (Envirokiwi). No target weed species were found within the site.

Wharf and Airport Mustelid and Rodent Pest Surveillance (October)

- Port Fitzroy –35% Bait take, 1x kiore caught in DOC200, 3 x Wax tag=Rat
- Tryphena- 13% Bait take 3x Ship Rat caught in DOC200. 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Whangaparapara- 46% bait take 0 x Ship Rat in DOC200's. 5x Wax tag=Rat
- Okupu -0% bait take. 0 x Rat caught in DOC200, 0x wax tag=Rat
- Claris airfield environment – 37% bait take
- Claris residential-22% bait take

Bait Stations at Transfer Sites (October)

- Southern Stations- Medlands 0%, Okupu 30%, Puriri bay 0%, Mulberry grove 0%
- Northern Stations- Motairehe 100%, Okiwi 0% & Kawa 50%

Private Jetties & Boat Ramps

| Location | DOC200 | Bait Station | Wax tag |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------|---------|
| Yates | 0x Rat | 0% | 0 |
| Jetty | 0x Rat | 0% | 0 |
| Pickards | 1x Kiore | 0% | 0 |
| Stellins | 0x Rat | 0% | 0 |
| Whangapara Jetty | 0x Rat | 0% | 0 |
| Okupu Boat Ramp | 0x Rat | 0% | 0 |
| Mulberry Grove Boat Ramp | 0x Rat | 0 | 0 |
| Puriri Bay Boat Ramp | 0x Rat | 100% | 0 |

Conclusion: No new species of pest animals detected, bait consumption (Diphacinone) very low in most areas with the exception of Motairehe and minimal interceptions of rats in DoC200.

Rabbits

Night shoots of Awana, (x35) Kaitoke (x12) and Okiwi township + Okiwi airstrip (1000+) completed by Goodwood Aotearoa.

DoC have recently contracted Coastal Pest Solutions to carry out a shoot on Okiwi station with a report approx. 5000 rabbits shot in the area.

Good Nature A24 Traps

The August service of the 290 A24's at big Windy Hill showed that 52 were out of service with the Auto lure on 43 not working.

Dog Surveillance

Moutahora (Whale Island), Moutoki and Rurima Island Rodent dog surveillance as part of the Doc/Auckland Council MOU.

Summary of Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*) surveillance at Great Barrier Island, December 2017

Surveillance outline

AC Marine biosecurity advisor Samantha Happy and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council dive team undertook marine surveillance operations the week of the 26th November to 1st December 2017. This surveillance was a follow-up to the initial Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*) response in April 2107.

The surveillance focussed on artificial marine structures (including wharves, jetties, moorings and marine farms). Artificial structures are considered high-risk being the common habitat for marine pest invasions. Boat hulls were also checked for marine pests, and random benthic searches were undertaken on the natural substrate.

Findings

Port Fitzroy: Mediterranean fanworm was observed to be restricted to the pontoon at Port Fitzroy, as previously found in April during the initial response operations. The fanworm population on the pontoon was found to be at lower numbers: from approx. 150 individuals in March, down to 10 individuals in December. Three individual fanworm were found on the natural substrate in relatively close proximity to the pontoon. All fanworm were controlled; removed by the divers and disposed of on land in an appropriate manner. No boats were found to have Mediterranean fanworm on their hulls at Port Fitzroy.

Tryphena Harbour: Previously, no fanworm was observed on structures in Tryphena. However two individual fanworm were detected (and controlled) on structures during the December surveillance. One individual was found within the natural soft sediment next to the wharf. This is more than likely due to being dislodged from a boat while being docked to the wharf. Fanworm is capable of reattaching in such circumstances.

The other individual was on a mooring block, more than likely being where one of the fanworm fouled boats was moored during the April surveillance.

A benthic survey was undertaken in the Tryphena area including near the mooring with the detected fanworm and the scallop bed. No fanworm were found during the benthic searches in Tryphena.

One boat was found to be infested with fanworm at Puriri Bay, Tryphena Harbour, and was controlled in situ. This boat is badly biofouled, and the harbour warden is assisting in finding the owner of the boat, to request the owner relocate the vessel back to the main land to be appropriately cleaned prior to returning to GBI.

Port Abercrombie and Katherine Bay: No fanworm was detected within these areas. Note this area was not included in the April surveillance.

Other marine pests: As previously found, the clubbed tunicate (*Styela clava*) was observed to be relatively wide spread at Port Fitzroy, with less abundant populations at other locations that were checked. Styela was controlled when found in Tryphena, but not Port Fitzroy due to its high level of establishment. No Styela was detected in the north western areas of GBI that were surveyed in December, being Port Abercrombie and Katherine Bay. Styela was detected (and controlled in most instances) on a number of boat hulls, in both Tryphena and Port Fitzroy. One boat owner was found to be unwilling to clean their hull with c. 50 x small styela on the keel, and remains anchored in Port Fitzroy. This boat is a potential vector of spread to areas that do not yet have styela present. Unfortunately AC Biosecurity currently has no powers to enforce the boat to move or clean their hull. We have issued a warning to our neighbouring regions and will continue to monitor the vessel.

The Asian kelp undaria (*Undaria pinnatifida*) is known to be present in a number of locations around GBI (refer to James et al reports). No other marine pests were observed.

Moving forward

The Mediterranean fanworm that was found at Port Fitzroy and Tryphena was controlled. At this stage it is considered to be a contained population. However, high risk vessels are highly likely to visit GBI, particularly over the warmer summer months. These boats could have marine pests on their hulls and introduce new populations of marine pests to GBI. The Biosecurity team are working with other agencies to investigate the development of policy that would provide a regulatory tool, including consistent vessel biofouling level rules.

We do not recommend the cleaning of the Port Fitzroy pontoon at this stage, due to the aforementioned risk of further introductions, and the relatively high costs associated with the cleaning process in-water.

Biosecurity plan to continue to monitor the Mediterranean fanworm population at GBI, and will reassess the situation as it unfolds.

There will be some communications to the public in the near future to raise awareness of the issue, and encourage boaties to only visit the barrier (and other areas) if they have a clean hull.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries or comments.

Regards

Samantha

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**Clean below?
Good to go**

Working together to stop the spread of marine pests



Consultation document

Local board priorities

This section sets out the key local priorities, including the key advocacy project, for each local board area for 2018/2019. We are seeking your feedback on whether we have got these priorities right.

For more information about the priorities for your local area, please see section XX of the supporting information for this consultation document.

| Local Board | Key priorities |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Great Barrier | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continuing to support community initiatives including the Life-long Learning strategy, Dark Sky Sanctuary and grants funding.• Continuing to support environment initiatives such as funding a biosecurity/biodiversity officer, water quality monitoring and Ecology Vision stage 3.• Providing subsidies for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Baby and child burials (0-12years)○ herbicide-free weed management in the road corridor• Continuing to invest in infrastructure including the Tryphena Coastal Trail stage 3, investigations into sites for central and northern cemeteries, a research and education centre investigation, and completing an island 10-year infrastructure plan.• Continuing to seek funding for our key advocacy project to implement a solar micro grid with electric vehicle chargers for the council buildings at Claris |

Supporting information - local board priorities

Each year we plan the projects and initiatives we will deliver in your local board area. These are based on our 2017 Local Board Plan. We are seeking your input on our proposals for the 2018/2019 financial year.

3.1 Great Barrier Local Board

Message from the Chair

This is the first year of our new local board plan 2017 and council's 10-year Budget 2018-2028. We aim to deliver projects you've told us at recent consultations are important. These include cemetery site investigations, water quality monitoring and biosecurity initiatives, delivering a Life-long Learning strategy, and providing community grants funding. One big project we are getting off the ground is providing alternative energy for council facilities at Claris.

We also want to investigate establishing a research and education centre, and to make baby and child burials free.

We already control weeds in our parks without herbicides but we may need to pay extra to extend that to road corridor weed management.

Along with the 10-year Budget, council is also consulting on some other regional plans including the Auckland Plan refresh, Regional Pest Management Plan, and Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

They're all important, so please get involved in helping us decide our funding priorities. We look forward to hearing your views.

What we propose in your Local Board Area in 2018/2019

In 2018/2019 we plan to invest \$310,000 to renew and develop assets in your local board area and \$2.5 million to maintain and operate assets and to advance other local initiatives you've told us are important, including:

- Continuing to support community initiatives including the Life-long Learning strategy, Dark Sky Sanctuary and grants funding.
- Continuing to support environment initiatives such as funding a biosecurity/biodiversity officer, water quality monitoring and Ecology Vision stage 3.
- Providing subsidies for:
 - Baby and child burials (0-12years)
 - herbicide-free weed management in the road corridor
- Continuing to invest in infrastructure including the Tryphena Coastal Trail stage 3, investigations into sites for central and northern cemeteries, a research and education centre investigation, and completing an island 10-year infrastructure plan.

Local board priorities 2017

- Continuing to seek funding for our key advocacy project to implement a solar micro grid with electric vehicle chargers for the council buildings at Claris

Our key advocacy project

One of our main goals is to focus our efforts on being a community that embraces, showcases, celebrates and lives sustainably off the grid - an aspiration our people fully supported during the local board plan consultation.

This year our key advocacy project is seeking funding to implement a solar micro grid with electric vehicle chargers for the council buildings at Claris. That would mean full solar power for Claris airport, Service Centre, Health Centre and the Local Board office. Council would walk the talk!

The project is being scoped and the budget is estimated at \$300,000. We hope to be solar powered in 2018.

What do you think?

Have we got our priorities right?

Do you agree we should continue to support community initiatives including Life-long Learning strategy, Dark Sky Sanctuary and grants funding?

Do you agree we should continue to support environment initiatives including funding the biosecurity/biodiversity officer, water quality monitoring and Ecology Vision stage 3?

Do you support the provision of subsidies for:

- Baby and child burials (0-12years)?
- herbicide-free weed management in the road corridor?

Do you agree we should continue to invest in infrastructure including the Tryphena Coastal Trail stage 3, investigations into sites for central and northern cemeteries, a research and education centre investigation and the completion of a 10-year infrastructure plan?

Do you agree we should continue to seek funding for our key advocacy project to implement a solar micro grid with electric vehicle chargers for the council buildings at Claris?

Auckland Councils 10-year budget 2018-2028