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

**Date:** Monday, 14 May 2018  
**Time:** 1:00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Reception Lounge  
**Venue:** Auckland Town Hall  
301-305 Queen Street  
Auckland

### Hauraki Gulf Forum

#### OPEN AGENDA

#### MEMBERSHIP

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<th>Chairperson</th>
<th>Hauraki District Council</th>
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<td>Deputy Chairperson</td>
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<td>Members</td>
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| Mayor John Tregidga          |                                 |
| Ms Liane Ngamane             | Tangata Whenua                  |
| Mr Andrew Baucke             | Department of Conservation      |
| Mr Jeff Cleave               | Great Barrier Local Board       |
| Cr Paul Cronin               | (Auckland Council)              |
| Cr Christine Fletcher        | Matamata-Piako District Council |
| Mayor Sandra Goudie          | Auckland Council                |
| Mr Steve Halley              | Thames-Coromandel District Council |
| Cr Richard Hills             | Ministry for Primary Industries |
| Mr Terrence Hohneck          | Auckland Council                |
| Cr Mike Lee                  | Tangata Whenua                  |
| Ms Nicola MacDonald          | Auckland Council                |
| Mr Paul Majurey              | Tangata Whenua                  |
| Cr Rob McGuire               | Thames-Coromandel District Council |
| Mr John Meeuwsen             | Waikato District Council        |
| Cr Dal Minogue               | Waiheke Local Board             |
| Mr Dean Ogilvie              | (Auckland Council)              |
| Ms Marty Rogers              | Waikato Regional Council        |
| Ms Moana Tamaariki-Pohe      | Tangata Whenua                  |
| Cr Wayne Walker              | Auckland Council                |
| Cr John Watson               | Auckland Council                |

(Quorum 11 members)

Mike Giddey  
Governance Advisor

8 May 2018

Contact Telephone: 027 221 7183  
Email mike.giddey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz  
Website: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

**Note:** The reports contained within this agenda are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Members require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
Terms of Reference

The Hauraki Gulf Forum is established under the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 with the following purpose, functions, powers and membership.

Purpose *(Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, s 15)*

- Integrate the management and, where appropriate, to promote the conservation and management in a sustainable manner, of the natural, historic and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people and communities of the Gulf and New Zealand
- Facilitate communication, cooperation, and coordination on matters relating to the statutory functions of the constituent parties in relation of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands and catchments and the forum
- Recognise the historic, traditional, cultural and spiritual relationship of tangata whenua with the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and where appropriate, its catchments

Functions *(Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, s 17)*

- Prepare a list of strategic issues, determine a priority for action on each issue, and regularly review that list
- Facilitate and encourage co-ordinated financial planning, where possible, by the constituent parties
- Obtain, share, and monitor information on the state of the natural and physical resources
- Receive reports on the completion and implementation of deeds of recognition
- Require and receive reports from constituent parties on the development and implementation of policies and strategies to address the issues identified under paragraph (a)
- Receive reports from the tangata whenua of the Hauraki Gulf on the development and implementation of iwi management or development plans
- Prepare and publish, once every 3 years, a report on the state of the environment in the Hauraki Gulf, including information on progress towards integrated management and responses to the issues identified in accordance with paragraph (a)
- Promote and advocate the integrated management and, where appropriate, the sustainable management of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments
- Encourage, share, co-ordinate where appropriate, and disseminate educational and promotional material
- Liaise with, and receive reports from, persons and groups having an interest in the Hauraki Gulf and business and community interests to promote an interest in the purposes of the forum
- Commission research into matters relating to the functions of the forum

When carrying out its functions, the forum must have particular regard to the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of tangata whenua with the natural, historic, and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments.
Powers *(Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, s 18):*

- Consider issues related to its purpose
- Receive reports from constituent parties
- Make recommendations to constituent parties
- Advise any person who requests the forum’s advice
- Commission or undertake those activities that are necessary to achieve its purpose.

The forum must not:
(a) appear before a court or tribunal other than as a witness if called by a party to proceedings
(b) take part in a decision-making process under any enactment other than to advise when requested to do so.

Joint committee *(Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, s 16)*

“(2) The forum consists of the following representatives:
(a) 1 representative appointed by the Minister of Conservation:
(b) 1 representative appointed by the Minister of Fisheries:
(c) 1 representative appointed by the Minister of Maori Affairs:
(ca) 7 representatives appointed by the Auckland Council:
(d) 1 representative appointed by each of the following local authorities:
   (iv) Hauraki District Council:
   (vi) Matamata-Piako District Council:
   (ix) Thames-Coromandel District Council:
   (x) Waikato District Council:
   (xi) Waikato Regional Council:
(e) 6 representatives of the tangata whenua of the Hauraki Gulf and its islands appointed by the Minister, after consultation with the tangata whenua and the Minister of Maori Affairs.

(2A) The representatives appointed in accordance with subsection (2)(ca) must—
(a) be members of —
   (i) the Auckland Council; or
   (ii) a local board of the Auckland Council elected in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001 and
(b) include 1 member of each of the Great Barrier Island and Waiheke Island local board”
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| 14   | Consideration of Extraordinary Items | }

Whakawātea
1 Apologies

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

2 Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

At the close of the agenda no requests for declarations of interest had been received.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on Monday, 19 February 2018, including the confidential section, as a true and correct record.

4 Public Forum

4.1 Public Forum - Peter Townend, Deputy Convenor, Long Bay Okura Great Park Society

Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report

1. Mr Peter Townend, Deputy Convenor, Long Bay Okura Great Park Society will present to members regarding the cockle and pipi die-off issues that the Society observes occurring in the Okura Marine Reserve.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s

That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) receive the presentation from Peter Townend regarding the cockle and pipi die-off issues observed in Okura Marine Reserve.
5 Extraordinary Business

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

(a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and

(b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public,-

(i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and

(ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

(a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if-

(i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and

(ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but

(b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”

6 Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.
Hauraki Gulf Forum – Chairperson’s Report

File No.: CP2018/07186

Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To provide an update from the chairperson on recent activities of the Forum.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
2. After 11 years, I present this as my last report as chairperson of the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

3. Over that period, the profile of the Hauraki Gulf Forum has increased markedly. The Forum now has an identity within the community, and at times that identity has not been popular, but that profile is important to give the Gulf environment a voice and enable us to advocate for change to damaging and harmful practices, and promotion of improvement initiatives.

4. Through successive State of the Gulf reports (four of which I have presented) we have raised awareness on the state of the Gulf and its challenges.

5. In my capacity as chairperson I have been fortunate to meet many incredible, passionate people who care for the Gulf and its precious environments. These people and their work have inspired me and provided me with energy for my role.

6. However, it is hard to stand down from the role of chairperson feeling it’s a job well done.

7. The pressure on the Gulf is increasing and investment in new infrastructure and new policy direction is not keeping pace. For that reason, I remain disappointed in what feels like little action from Central Government and Local Government to make meaningful and lasting change over the period that I have held this position.

8. My view is that, unless the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act is changed to provide the Forum with more teeth, the Forum’s efforts will continue to be limited to raising awareness and relying on collaboration efforts. In my view, these instruments alone are not enough to address the magnitude of the issues that the Gulf faces.

9. I wish to extend thanks to those who have supported me in my time as chairperson and in particular thanks to my deputy chair for the last five years, Liane Ngamane.

10. I will continue to participate in the Forum with interest.

Minister of Conservation
11. On Monday 12 March, along with Andrew Baucke, two senior DOC staff, Katina Conomos and Graeme Campbell, I met with the Minister for Conservation, Eugenie Sage.

12. It was a positive meeting. The Minister was well informed, well prepared for the meeting, and expressed a genuine interest in the work of the Forum.

13. I was able to discuss the State of the Gulf report with the Minister and also discuss the chair and deputy chair forward in some detail.

14. The Minister provided a follow up letter which was forwarded to members separately.

15. The Minister had planned to attend the Forum’s meeting on 14 May however regrettably has had to alter her plans. The Minister has expressed a desire to attend the next meeting of the Forum and the meeting dates have been provided to her office.
State of the Gulf Report

16. Following our last Forum meeting a media launch was held in Auckland on 2 March 2018 to publicly release the 2017 State of the Gulf Report.

17. There was reasonable take up of the report in the media which was pleasing.

18. Dr. Shane Kelly attended to present the report alongside me, and I wish to extend thanks to Dr. Kelly as well as to Auckland Council communications staff who provided support with the release.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s

That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) receive the Hauraki Gulf Forum – Chairperson’s report.

Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Mayor John Tregidga – Hauraki District Council</th>
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Hauraki Gulf Forum – Chairperson’s Report
Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To support the Forum to elect a new chairperson of the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
2. Current Forum Chairperson John Tregidga has signalled his intent to resign from the position of chairperson at the Forum meeting on 14 May 2018.
3. This report proposes a process for election of a new chairperson.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) receive the resignation letter from Chairperson John Tregidga.
b) elect a chairperson by using the voting system that requires a candidate to receive the most votes in order to be elected.
c) agree the term of office for this appointment.

Horopaki / Context
4. Section 25 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (the Act) provides for the Forum to elect its chairperson from amongst its members.
5. The chairperson holds office for the term that is agreed by the members at the time of the appointment.
6. Current Forum Chairperson John Tregidga signalled his intent to resign from the position of chairperson at the Forum meeting on 14 May 2018.
7. Chairperson Tregidga’s resignation will take effect when he tables his formal letter of resignation during the Forum meeting.
8. Section 22 of the Act set out which clauses in the Local Government Act 2002 apply to the Forum. This does not include the clause in the LGA 2002 which requires local authorities, when appointing committee chairpersons, to decide which voting system to use.
9. Nevertheless, the standing orders of the Forum include this provision and the Forum may choose to adopt the voting system in which a candidate for an election must receive a majority of votes rather than simply receive most votes. If there are two or more candidates, this voting system requires successive rounds of voting with the lowest polling candidate dropping off, until a candidate receives a majority of votes.
10. The Forum has previously used the voting system which requires a candidate to simply receive the most votes in order to be elected.
11. It is proposed that this system is used again.
12. The suggested process for the election of a new chairperson is:
   a) Current Chairperson John Tregidga submits his resignation letter.
   b) The Governance Advisor will then chair the meeting until a new chairperson is elected.
   c) The Governance Advisor calls for nominations for chairperson.
   d) If there is only one nomination, the Governance Advisor declares that person the chairperson.
   e) If there is more than one nomination, the Governance Advisor will call for votes in respect of each candidate and declare the candidate with the most votes the chairperson. If votes are tied then the result is determined by lot.
   f) In the event that the current deputy chairperson becomes the new chairperson, a similar process would then be used for electing a new deputy chairperson.
   g) The Forum members must then pass a resolution specifying the term of office.

Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments
There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Katina Conomos – Interim Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor - GM Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
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</table>
Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To provide an overview of recent activities undertaken by Forum constituent parties.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
2. This report describes recent activities undertaken by Forum constituent parties which address integrated management and prioritised, strategic issues.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
a) receive the Hauraki Gulf Forum – Constituent Party report.

Horopaki / Context
3. The strategic issues framework adopted by the Forum for focus and action identified the following management response areas:
   - regenerating green and blue areas
   - enhanced fisheries
   - mana whenua integration
   - active land management
   - knowledge utilisation (ecosystem based)
4. This report collates an overview of recent activities by Forum constituent parties to address these strategic issues.
5. The report is a regular means of meeting the Forum’s purpose of facilitating communication, co-operation and co-ordination among its members.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu / Analysis and advice
6. Input for this report was received from the Waikato Regional Council, Auckland Council, Fisheries NZ (Ministry for Primary Industries), Department of Conservation, Thames-Coromandel District Council, Waikato District Council and Hauraki District Council.
7. The information provided by the constituent parties is shown in the tables below. The left-hand column of the tables can be used to link activities to the Forum’s strategic issues response framework.
### Constituent Party: Waikato Regional Council

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<th>Policy and Plan Development, Regulation and Compliance</th>
<th>Regional Coastal Plan review</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Scoping and phasing of the review of the Waikato Regional Coastal Plan is well underway. Project governance was provisionally approved late 2017. It is intended that the Regional Coastal Plan and Regional Plan be reviewed concurrently and merged into a single plan: ‘Healthy Environments - He Taiao Mauriora’. The development of issues and options papers for various topics continues. It is expected that the first phase of the plan will be notified from late 2019 and will include mangroves and aquaculture topics.</td>
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### Sea Change Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan - Implementation

Since developing the its Draft ‘Sea Change’ Implementation Plan in June 2017 work has continued to integrate Sea Change actions across council business programmes as well as new funding initiatives through council’s Long Term Plan processes.

### Regional aquaculture strategy

Through the Waikato Regional Aquaculture Forum, work with stakeholders to develop an industry led strategy is progressing.

### Spat Catching Application

A resource consent application for a spat catching farm in Mercury Bay has been received in March 2018. The technical information provided with the application has been assessed and further information has been requested.

### Thames Coast Road Repairs

A storm in early January has resulted in significant damage at the Thames Coast Road between Thames and Waikawau. NZTA has engaged with the relevant regulatory team at WRC. It is expected that consent applications for emergency and schedule work will be lodged within the upcoming months.

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<th>Recreational water quality monitoring</th>
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<td>Last summer, the council re-activated a water quality monitoring programme at seven east coast and two west coast beaches, testing to see whether faecal bacteria levels were within suitable levels for contact recreation, such as swimming and surfing. It was the first such testing since 2009 and the re-activation was part of a council drive to gain better information about what’s happening in our coastal waters and to provide a community service. The programme has continued throughout this summer.</td>
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Between November and March, beach users can go to [www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/coastalresults](http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/coastalresults) to check what the latest results are for the targeted beaches.

This season we saw great success with the programme and strong collaboration and communication between Waikato Regional Council, Waikato District Health Board, and Thames-Coromandel District Council.

### Estuarine water quality monitoring for ecosystem health

From October 2017, WRC has been carrying out monthly water quality sampling in Whaingaroa (Raglan) and Tairua Harbours. This sampling will include a range of measurements to look at temperature, salinity, nutrients,
suspended sediment, phytoplankton, oxygen, pH, and bacteria, to inform us about the state of our region’s estuaries.

**Harbour and Catchment Management Plans (‘HCMP’)**

Harbour and Catchment Management Plans (HCMP) provide an integrated approach to the management of natural resources and the protection of community values. Development and implementation HCMPs is also an action identified in the Sea Change Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan. HCMPs seek to consider the values and uses of a catchment collectively in order to maximise long-term sustainability of our environment.

Waikato Regional Council has an ongoing commitment to prepare and implement HCMPs for all the major Coromandel Peninsula harbours and their surrounding catchments. There are four existing HCMPs for Whangamata, Wharekawa, Tairua and Whangapoua.

Scoping of the Whitianga/Mercury Bay plan commenced in November 2017. The Coromandel/Manaia HCMP may be progressed in parallel to the Whitianga/Mercury Bay plan in 2018, however this is subject to obtaining further funds through council’s long term plan process. The project management plan and communications plan have been drafted for both plans. Focus is on mapping, internal information gathering communications tools and recruitment.

**Coromandel Focus Catchment Project**

The Coromandel Focus Catchment Project is a primary outcome of Harbour and Catchment Management Plans. It looks at key methods of minimising erosion and resultant sediment deposition to sensitive receiving environments. The project focuses on a sub catchment scale, looking at a range of at risk areas and identifying land management actions. These include actions such as retiring vulnerable areas from grazing, riparian retirement and enhancement, wetland creation and restoration and enhanced sediment trapping.

Two catchments have been chosen, Wharekawa River, in the Wharekawa catchment and Waitekuri Stream, in the Whangapoua catchment, based on risk of sediment contamination, types of land use, and connections with the coast, community engagement and ability to view/demonstrate good practice.

WRC staff are working with local landowners/managers and the Coromandel Catchment Committee to identify potential management options and finalise project plans ahead of works commencing.

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**Constituent Party: Auckland Council**

*Policy and Plan Development, Regulation and Compliance*

The Auckland Council SeaChange – Tai Timu Tai Pari Political Reference Group has a purpose to ensure that Hauraki Gulf outcomes are further embedded in the work programme of the Auckland Council group and met for the first time in February 2018. The group is scheduled to meet again on 14 June with a focus on sediment and further departmental updates including feedback received through the LTP process.
### Auckland Unitary Plan

The only regional coastal plan provisions still subject to appeal relate to genetically modified organisms and two areas identified as Significant Ecological Area-Marine. It is expected that the Minister of Conservation will approve the plan in the next few weeks so that the parts not subject to appeal can become operative.

Auckland Council District Plan – Hauraki Gulf Islands Section – Operative 2018 became operative in full on 22 March 2018, view details [here](#).

### Auckland Plan 2050 and 10-year budget

Due for adoption by Auckland Council in June. 10 year budget includes targeted rate proposals for water improvements and natural environment initiatives.

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### Monitoring, Research and Investigations

**Recently published reports:**

**Climate change projections and impacts for Auckland**


This NIWA report was commissioned by Auckland Council, Auckland Transport, Panuku Development and Watercare Services to review climate change projections for the Auckland Region and potential impacts of climate change on some of Auckland’s environments and sectors. It addresses expected changes for 21 different climate variables out to 2120, and draws heavily on climate model simulations from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report.

Key findings in the reports are:

- Future climate changes are likely to be significant and will impact the entire Auckland Region.
- Auckland’s temperature is expected to increase by about 0.6°C by 2040 (compared to the late 20th century), 1.2°C by 2090, and 1.4°C by 2110. However, uncertainty about future concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, and differences in the way each climate model responds to those concentrations, mean warming projections span a wide range: 0.5-1.2°C by 2040, 0.3-3.3°C by 2090, and 0.4-4.0°C by 2110.
- Changes to extreme temperatures are likely, with the number of hot days (days > 25°C) in Auckland projected to double by the early 22nd century under a mid-range climate change scenario and more than triple under a business-as-usual scenario.
- Auckland is projected to be frost-free by 2110 under a business-as-usual climate change scenario.
- Spring rainfall will decline and autumn rainfall will increase, but annual total rainfall may not change significantly. Extreme rainfall is likely to increase.
- Drought is projected to become more common and more severe in Auckland due to changing rainfall patterns and temperature increases.
- Winds are projected to decrease in the region.

The above changes are likely to have significant impacts on different environments and sectors within the Auckland Region including the following:
- Rainfall and temperature changes may result in drier soils and changes to river flow (both low flows and floods), as well as an increase in the occurrence of slips.
- Uptake of increasing atmospheric CO$_2$ by the oceans is causing ocean acidification, impacting ocean productivity and the development of marine species.
- Increasing sea surface temperature is likely to encourage non-native marine species to establish and proliferate in Auckland.
- Sea-level rise will have major impacts on Auckland’s coastal communities, infrastructure and habitats.
- Changes to air quality in response to climate change are likely to impact the health of Aucklanders.
- Indigenous biodiversity will be affected both directly by climate changes (e.g. drought and increased temperature) and indirectly by pests and habitat loss.
- Auckland’s biodiversity, primary industries and communities may be at risk from future biosecurity issues such as plant and animal pests as well as disease vectors such as mosquitos.

The full report can be found here: [http://www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publication/?mid=1747&DocumentType=1&](http://www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publication/?mid=1747&DocumentType=1&)

**Monitoring our big blue backyard: Auckland Council’s marine monitoring programme**
The MRQ Monitoring Research Quarterly April 2018 edition features an article on Auckland Council’s marine monitoring programme which covers the Hauraki Gulf and also the Kaipara Harbour sediment mitigation study, which while outside the Hauraki Gulf, contains some relevant findings. The article can be found here: [http://www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/assets/publications/MRQ-04April-2018.pdf](http://www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/assets/publications/MRQ-04April-2018.pdf)

**RIMU climate change risk and vulnerability assessment**
- RIMU are presently preparing a risk and vulnerabilities assessment (RVA) for the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) which will be used as the underpinning evidence for their development of the Auckland Climate Change Action Plan (to be developed this year).
- The purpose of the RVA is to understand, and ultimately prioritise, the challenges and issues faced by Auckland due to climate change.
- The RVA will use the climate change scenarios and projections through to the early 22nd century provided in the recently released NIWA report “Auckland Region climate change projections and impacts”.
- The RVA will use the business-as-usual projections (RCP 8.5) as the climate change scenario to investigate Auckland-specific implications of climate change.
Investigation of cockle mortality event in Okura Estuary
- As mass mortality of cockles was reported in Okura Estuary over the Easter Break.
- RIMU is working with DoC and MPI to investigate potential causes.
- Samples have been collected and sent to MPI for testing for diseases.
- Existing marine monitoring data is being utilized as well as new additional samples being taken to aid in this investigation.

Constituent Party: Fisheries NZ (Ministry for Primary Industries)

**Enhanced fisheries**

Establishment of Fisheries New Zealand

As part of changes to MPI a new entity, Fisheries New Zealand, has been established from 1 May 2018. The organisational changes will increase focus and ensure clarity and unity of purpose. This will further support delivery of a fisheries change programme. The Minister is currently looking at a number of issues highlighted in recent years including fisheries information, ecosystem based management, scale of management and innovation.

Assessment of the stock status of Hauraki Gulf stocks

Each year, Fisheries NZ convenes a large number of Fisheries Assessment Working Group meetings that are open to everyone who wishes to attend. The results of scientific research are combined with catch and effort reports from commercial fisheries, data from our on-board observer programme, and other information to produce assessments of the status of NZ fish stocks. This information is summarised in two annual Fisheries Assessment Plenary Reports. Fisheries Assessment Plenary Reports to November 2017 are available here [Plenary docs](#).

Management reviews

Each year, Fisheries NZ reviews catch limits and other management controls for selected stocks. This occurs twice a year to inform decisions for the 1 April and 1 October fishing years. This is consistent with the requirement that Fisheries NZ ensures fisheries resources are used sustainably.

New science information from the Fisheries Assessment Working Groups contributes to determining which stocks are put forward for review.

**Rock lobster**

Changes to the management of the CRA 2 fishstock have been implemented for the 1 April 2018 fishing year. The CRA 2 fishery covers the Hauraki Gulf and the Bay of Plenty. Based on a scientific assessment of CRA 2, and after a management review, the Total Allowable Catch of 416.5 tonnes was reduced to 173 tonnes. Alongside this decision the total allowable commercial catch (TACC) was reduced from 200 tonnes to 80 tonnes; the recreational allowance from 140 tonnes to 34 tonnes; and the estimate for ‘other mortality’, such as theft and blackmarket activity, from 60 to 42.5 tonnes. The customary allowance of 16.5 tonnes was not changed and was not part of the review. The decisions are the first step in rebuilding
the fishery. Further work is currently occurring to consider other management measures including a review of the recreational daily bag limit.

Proposals for 1 October 2018
Fisheries NZ are currently confirming proposals for the upcoming October fishing year. Key stocks being considered that overlap with the HGMPA include TAR1 (tarakihi), FLA1 (flounders) and JDO1 (John Dory). New scientific information for all these stocks has recently been confirmed for these stocks, and indicates sustainability concerns.

New scientific information has also become available for longfin and shortfin eels in the North Island and an engagement process has been underway since 2017 to inform a management review this year.

Intertidal Shellfish
New information collected in the Fisheries NZ intertidal shellfish monitoring programme, which includes sites within the Hauraki Marine Park, will be evaluated this month. The results from the previous summer (2016-17) surveys are available at https://mpigovtnz.cwp.govt.nz/dmsdocument/21239.

Aquatic and Biodiversity Annual review
A focus of two science working groups, the Aquatic Environment Working Group and the Biodiversity Research Advisory Group, is to assess science about interactions between the seafood sector and the aquatic environment. A broad analysis of environmental considerations relevant to New Zealand seafood production is compiled each year in the Aquatic Environment and Biodiversity Annual Review (AEBAR). The report summarises available information on interactions under five themes:

- protected species
- other bycatch
- benthic effects
- ecosystem effects
- marine biodiversity


Seabirds
Fisheries NZ’s main focus has been on the review of the 2013 National Plan of Action for Seabirds (NPOA-seabirds) which commenced in May 2017 and will continue into 2018. The current NPOA will remain in effect until the review is complete and a revised NPOA-seabirds is in place.
Biosecurity

The Hauraki Gulf Forum has requested that MPI (as for Fisheries NZ a new entity Biosecurity NZ) report back to the May 2018 meeting on the marine invasive species infecting the waters of the Hauraki Gulf.

Biosecurity NZ is the lead agency for marine biosecurity (with other agencies, groups and all New Zealanders having roles) and is tasked with managing the risks posed by pests and non-indigenous marine species. Much like the terrestrial environment, multiple pathways provide ample opportunities for new species to arrive.

Non-indigenous marine species are a threat to New Zealand’s environmental, social and economic core values. Preventing the entry of these species is the most cost-effective option as eradicating established population is costly, time consuming and largely ineffective due to limited management options.

The Waitematā Harbour is susceptible to new marine species invasions, due to:
- the large number of vessel visits – both commercial and recreational that from overseas or other New Zealand ports,
- its large size and variety of natural and man-made habitats (e.g., ports),
- aquaculture activities that may facilitate species spread

Biosecurity NZ has been managing vessel risk by:
- Since 2000 requiring vessels to exchange their ballast water mid-ocean prior to discharge
- From 15th May 2018 all vessel entering New Zealand will have to have a “clean hull” as determined by the Craft Risk Management Standard for Vessel Bio fouling. New Zealand is a world leader in biofouling management and is the first country to in the world to do this. The CRMS will reduce the risk of introduction of new marine pests including several which are capable of causing significant impacts to NZ’s core values.

Biosecurity NZ contracts NIWA to survey 11 high-risk ports around New Zealand for new marine species twice a year – summer and winter; and this includes the Waitematā Harbour within the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. These surveys have been occurring since the early 2000s.

The overarching goal of these surveys is to facilitate early detection of invasions so that management actions are more likely to succeed; i.e., eradication or slowing the spread.

The Waitematā Harbour contains a high number of non-indigenous species (57 in total; see table below) including a number that are known to cause impacts to our environment, society or economy.
Table 1: List of non-indigenous marine species established in the Waitemata Harbour, 57 in total as of the December 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Species scientific name</th>
<th>Common name of high profile species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Acentrogobius pflaumii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Amathia gracilis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Amathia imbricata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Amathia verticillata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Amphibalanus amphitrite</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Amphibalanus variegatus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porifera</td>
<td>Amphilectus fucorum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Anguilluella palmata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Apocorophium acutum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mollusca</td>
<td>Arcuatula senhousia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Arenigobius bifrenatus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Asciella aspersa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Austromegabalanus nigrescens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entoprocta</td>
<td>Barentsia matsushimana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Botrylloides giganteum</td>
<td>Sea squirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Botryllus tuberatus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Bugula neritina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Bugulina flabellata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Bugulina stolonifera</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Buskia socialis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Caprella scauroides</td>
<td>Skeleton shrimp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porifera</td>
<td>Callyspongia (Toxochalina) robusta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Celleporaria sp. 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryozoa</td>
<td>Celleporaria umbonatoidea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Charybdis (Charybdis) japonica</td>
<td>Asian paddle crab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Ciona intestinalis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorophyta</td>
<td>Codium fragile ssp. fragile</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mollusca</td>
<td>Crassostrea gigas</td>
<td>Pacific oyster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ochrophyta</td>
<td>Cutleria multifida</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cnidaria</td>
<td>Ectopleura larynx</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mollusca</td>
<td>Ercolania boodleae</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Erichthionius pugnax</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porifera</td>
<td>Halisarca dujardinii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annelida</td>
<td>Hydrodes elegans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annelida</td>
<td>Hydrodes ezoensis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mollusca</td>
<td>Limaria orientalis</td>
<td>File shell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Metapenaeus bennettae</td>
<td>Greentail prawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Monocorophium acherusicum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mollusca</td>
<td>Nassarius burchardi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cnidaria</td>
<td>Obelia longissima</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For non-indigenous marine species present in New Zealand but not currently detected in the Hauraki Gulf – domestic pathway management plans as permitted under the Biosecurity Act 2012 is a mechanism that can be employed to protect local core values.

Biosecurity NZ is a member of the Top of the North Marine Biosecurity Partnership – other members of TON are Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Hawkes Bay regional councils, Gisborne District Council and Auckland Council. The partnership meets regularly and shares information on marine pest initiatives within their regions. The partnership has collaborated on initiatives to raise awareness about marine pests and the need to keep vessel hulls clean of biofouling. Auckland Council, together with NRC, WRC and BOPRC have proposed development of an inter-regional pathways management plan to help stop the spread of marine pests and MPI supports this initiative. We believe it will assist with managing issues related to vessels infested with marine pests.

Biosecurity NZ has made a submission to the proposed Auckland Council Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) in which we identified a number of marine pests that we consider should be included in the RPMP. Having those marine pests included will enable the Council to undertake action under the Biosecurity Act for situations like vessels whose hulls are infested with the listed marine pests. This will compliment any future inter-regional pathways management initiative. Including marine pests in the RPMP and would align with the Treasure Islands initiative which is currently focused only on the terrestrial environment.

Biosecurity NZ is collaborating with Auckland Council, Northland Regional Council and NZ Defence Force on developing bubble curtain technology to
inhibit the settlement of marine pests on man-made structures and vessel hulls. We have also invested in research about in-water cleaning systems and we are jointly funding PhD research along with Waikato Regional Council and the Coromandel Mussel Farmers Association into the growth and settlement of Mediterranean fanworm on mussel farms.

Finally, the Pest Management National Plan of Action (which was endorsed by Central and Regional CE’s when implemented in 2011) makes it clear that for ‘pests already present in NZ, and where there has been a decision not to eradicate or contain nationally’ (e.g. Styela clava and Sabella), that Regional councils are the ‘lead intervention decision maker responsible for bringing parties with the necessary powers, functions and resources together.’

**Constituent Party: Department of Conservation**

**Regenerating areas**

- **Rakitu Island pest eradication**

  The department has continued its planning and preparations for undertaking the eradication of ship rats and kiore from the island. The eradication will be undertaken in the coming winter by an aerial drop of brodifacoum. This is a proven option for removing populations of rodents from islands.

  Following expressions of concern about the use of toxin on the island, including the presentation by Elise Bishop to the February meeting of the Forum, the department has reviewed the possible methodologies for eradicating rodents on this particular island. Options such as setting a network of traps, like the self-resetting Goodnature traps, are unlikely to achieve full eradication due to the nature of the island’s topography which includes steep ocean cliffs.

  At the time of writing the first group of weka had been captured on the island and transported to avaiaries at Pukaha/Mount Bruce and a second group captured this week are in transit. They will be held at Pukaha/Mount Bruce until such time as they are either returned to the island after the aerial drop, or a decision is made to re-establish them elsewhere as a new population. The weka on the island are from a sub-species that is not native to the Hauraki Gulf region. They are an important population with a distinct genetic composition and need to be sustained as a distinct population.


- **Pest incursions on pest free islands**

  Over the past summer the department has had to respond to a series of reported pest incursions on to pest free islands in the Hauraki Gulf. These include a mouse on Tiritiri Matangi (unconfirmed), a rat on Tiritiri Matangi (confirmed), a cat on Motutapu / Rangitoto (unconfirmed), and a stoat on Motutapu (confirmed), plus a number of others.
<table>
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<th>Item 9</th>
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| The department has used these incidents to inform the public about the risks to pest free islands and reinforcing the need to always check for weeds and pests in clothing, materials and vessels being taken to islands. As an example see this media release about the stoat trapped on Motutapu: [http://www.doc.govt.nz/news/media-releases/2018/doc-traps-stoat-on-motutapu-island/](http://www.doc.govt.nz/news/media-releases/2018/doc-traps-stoat-on-motutapu-island/)

Each report of a possible sighting has to be responded to by the department. The high number of incidents over the past summer has impacted on our scheduled work programmes as staff and resources have to be diverted to each response. For many of the responses we call in the national conservation dog team, who deploy a dog and handler who specialize in detecting the particular pest. For more about the conservation dogs programme see here: [http://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-dog-programme/](http://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-dog-programme/)

- **One Billion Trees**

  The Government has an aspirational goal of planting one billion trees over the next ten years to create new forests. Planting will involve a combination of exotic and indigenous species, and permanent and harvestable forests.

  The department has been assessing opportunities for planting on public conservation land around the country, including any opportunities in the Hauraki Gulf. No decisions have yet been made about pursuing any projects in the Gulf.

- **Great Barrier plague skink project**

  Several years ago the department joined with Auckland Council on a project to try and eradicate plague skinks (also known as rainbow skinks) from a small part of Aotea/Great Barrier Island. Plague skinks had been detected in an area close to Tryphena wharf, in the south of the island. Eradication of plague skinks from an area had not been attempted in New Zealand previously, so this was a trial to test the feasibility of eradications.

  Plague skinks outcompete native lizard species for food and resources, as a consequence of their ability to reach high population densities in a relatively short period of time. They breed up to three times per year and reach maturity in half the time it takes for native species. For information about plague skinks see: [http://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/animal-pests/plague-skinks/](http://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/animal-pests/plague-skinks/)

  The project recently had a setback when skinks were spotted outside the containment fence that had been erected around the area thought to contain the population. This is one of the matters that has led to a re-assessment of the project which will determine if the current approach (containment followed by eradication) should continue or if any changes need to be made.
- **Marine reserves**

The department has again had to respond to a high number of reports of possible illegal activity in the five marine reserves located in the Auckland Region (Cape Rodney-Okakari Point, Tawharanui, Long Bay-Okura, Te Matuku and Motu Manawa/Pollen Island). Some of the marine reserves are more prone to instances of illegal behavior than others, which is a result of factors such as high visitor numbers, remoteness, and the degree of local community support. Each marine reserve has its own particular mix of factors.

As in other recent years, this summer the department employed a temporary ranger focused solely on monitoring compliance at marine reserves to boost staff presence. We also employed several temporary summer rangers who provided on-site information for the public at high use visitor sites. They included two based at Long Bay-Okura and Cape Rodney-Okakari Point) to support advocacy about marine reserves. They played an important role in deterring potential offenders who were unaware of the protected status of those places.

The department has also started to refresh its honorary ranger programme, with two members of the public appointed as honorary warranted rangers who supported the department at the Cape Rodney-Okakari Point Marine Reserve at Leigh. There were a further two honorary rangers for Tawharanui and one to be warranted for Long Bay-Okura. The department will continue to identify potential honorary warranted rangers to boost our ability to monitor compliance across the marine reserve network.

- **Marine mammals**

The department has been monitoring the two leopard seals that have taken up residence in the Waitemata Harbor. Local marina staff are supporting the department to ensure the public are safe, and disturbance is minimal.

This summer the department began trialing mitigation methods that could be used to deter leopard seals from high boat traffic areas. The leopard seals have now moved to the northern Hauraki Gulf/Whangarei area, as has been their pattern over the previous two winters.

- **Species translocations**

A number of translocations of species from Hauturu and Tiritiri Matangi were ongoing over the summer to support existing and new species populations on the mainland. These have included, hihi, kokako, tieke, and kiwi.

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**Active land management**

- **Myrtle rust**

The department remains deeply concerned about the potential impact of myrtle rust on native species in the Myrtaceae family and will continue to invest heavily in the programme. The recent
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The department has continued to maintain its national surveillance programme for the detection of myrtle rust on public conservation land in high risk areas, including the Hauraki Gulf. The department will also continue its seed collection programme, which aims to collect seed from all native species of Myrtaceae present in New Zealand, across the full natural range of each species. Seed has been collected from Myrtaceae species on the islands of the Hauraki Gulf, as well as from mainland sites.

Species of Myrtaceae present in the Gulf include pohutukawa, northern rata, ramarama, swamp maire, and a number of climbing ratas including the rare crimson rata. These are iconic species in the Gulf.

• Kauri dieback

Over the summer the department has continued its work to manage kauri dieback around the Hauraki Gulf. As a result of the publicity around the Waitakere Ranges, public awareness of kauri dieback is much greater than in the past.

The department continued its programme of track upgrades to mitigate against the spread of kauri dieback. The Okura Walkway track had requires additional works to ensure that it meets a sufficiently high standard to minimize the risk of kauri dieback spread. As the works will not be completed before the wet winter months, it will be closed over the winter.

Mitigation work on Aotea/Great Barrier Island has centered primarily on popular tracks. The Forest Road has had construction on barriers (to deter people entering Kauri areas), better drainage and track surfacing. Elsewhere, track surfacing has been the main focus. A first round of tracks identified for closure through Kauri Dieback risk has been done and the consultation process is about to get underway. These tracks are the Whangaparapara Peak track, the Pack track and a section of the Old Lady track.

The department has also developed a new type of cleaning station to replace the familiar brush and spray stations that have been in place in many locations for some years. These have been installed in a number of locations for trialing. Two will be installed at entrances to the Okura Walkway as part of the upgrade works on that track. See announcement about the new cleaning stations here: http://www.doc.govt.nz/news/media-releases/2018/rollout-of-innovative-kauri-dieback-cleaning-stations/
Over the summer the department employed several temporary rangers to act as “kauri ambassadors”, in a joint programme with Auckland Council. Our assessment is that this was a successful initiative to help raise awareness and boost compliance and behavior change.

- **Motutapu land stabilization**

  In early 2017 cyclone Debbie caused significant damage including large landslips on Motutapu Island. Work has been ongoing to assess the risk and develop a geological solution to stabilize these. Contractors are about to undertake significant works on the slips.

**Other items**

- **Long Bay-Okura Marine Reserve shellfish die-off**

  Concern among some members of the local community about sediment inflow into the Long Bay-Okura Marine Reserve was heightened by the discovery of a mass mortality event affecting cockles in the marine reserve in early April. Seemingly overnight large numbers of cockles located in banks at the entrance to the Okura River died.

  The cause of the mortality event is not yet known. The department is working with Auckland Council to try and determine the cause. Samples were sent for testing to try and identify if it was a disease. Large scale die-offs of shellfish from disease are not an uncommon phenomenon and may be triggered by water temperature or other environmental stressors. Often these are related to natural events and fluctuations. The investigation will hopefully determine what was the cause of this mortality event.


- **Fish passage guidelines**

  The Minister of Conservation recently released the first national fish passage guidelines which are aimed at improving how structures in waterways are designed to give native freshwater fish the best chance of moving freely past them. Some 70% of the 57 species of native freshwater fish are classified as threatened. A number of native freshwater fish species are found in waterways in the catchment of the Hauraki Gulf and its islands.

  Man made obstacles in waterways are one of the many threats that these species face. The life cycle of many species includes a stage when adults move to the ocean to spawn, with the young returning to the same waterway to grow into adults. Obstacles in waterways can prevent movement, especially if water flows are low.

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- **Rangitoto asbestos**

  The department has recently secured funding, including a grant from the Ministry for the Environment, to undertake a project to remove asbestos from the site of the WWII era Controlled Mine Base on Rangitoto Island. The facility was built during the early war years and was the base from which the controlled mine fields laid in the Whangaparaoa Channel and near Great Barrier Island were managed. Mines were constructed and stored at the site, along with associated equipment for the fields. After 1945 the site was used to store the Auckland Harbour Board’s anti-submarine harbour defence boom and gun mountings.

  The facility was closed in the 1970’s. In the 1980’s the buildings were demolished. The demolition and site clean-up was not well managed or thorough, and a lot of loose debris containing asbestos was left on the site. In recent years the site has been closed to the public. It is easily accessible to the public as the Rangitoto coastal track to Islington Bay passes nearby. The department plans to remove the debris containing asbestos from the site which will enable the site to be re-opened to the public to explore.

- **Revocation of old Hauraki Gulf management plan**

  The New Zealand Conservation Authority is a national body that provides advise on conservation matters to the Minister of Conservation and Director-General. It also has a range of statutory functions including some in relation to management planning. The Authority has recently requested that the department take steps to ensure that all out of date management plans have been formally withdrawn or revoked. This is important because until such steps have been taken, those old plans technically continue to have legal status.

  The department has identified that an old management plan prepared by the former Department of Lands & Survey for the former Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Board is one those old plans which may never have been formally withdrawn or revoked. This is likely to have been due to an administrative oversight at the time when it was replaced by conservation management strategies.

  The plan was approved in 1982. It applied to all reserves on islands in the wider Hauraki Gulf and beyond, stretching from the Poor Knights Islands in the north to the Aldermen Islands in the south, plus North Head. It contains policies that reflect the management approaches and issues current at the time. It is now well out of date and is inconsistent with more recent policy documents such as the Conservation General Policy and conservation management strategies, and developments such as Treaty settlements.

  The park the plan covered should not be confused with the more recent Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. The plan applied to the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park, which was created in 1967 and abolished in 1990.
The department will take steps to formally withdraw the management plan over the next few months.

### Constituent Party: Waikato District Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy and Plan Development, Regulation and Compliance</th>
<th>Waikato District Plan Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regenerating green and blue areas / Mana whenua integration / Active land management</td>
<td>A number of open days were held around the district during late November and early December 2017. The feedback received is being considered as part of the drafting of the Proposed District Plan. Council is also in the process of consulting with landowners on key provisions of the draft Plan. The draft plan is expected to be notified for public submissions mid-2018.</td>
</tr>
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### Constituent Party: Thames-Coromandel District Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other items</th>
<th>West Coast Tsunami Project</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Following on from the East Coast Tsunami Project and the development of community emergency response strategies, the focus will shift to the Firth of Thames/Tikapa Moana and the coastal communities likely to be affected by a maximum credible event centred on a rupture of the Kerepehi Fault. A contract has been let to consultancy firm eCoast to undertake a level four numerical modelling (flow depth/velocity and hazard risk) study. The project is a joint endeavour with WRC, Hauraki District Council, Thames Valley Civil Defence and Emergency Management, and TCDC. The results of the numerical modelling work are expected by the end of May 2018 which will be followed up with individual and/or community cluster meetings on both sides of the Firth of Thames/Tikapa Moana to develop community emergency response and evacuation plans for individuals, households, and commercial and public institutions. The results will also feed into risk reduction strategies via RMA and asset management plans.</td>
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### Constituent Party: Hauraki District Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy and Plan Development, Regulation and Compliance</th>
<th>Draft Growth Strategy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>After a period of low growth, Hauraki District is experienced some growth so a draft Growth Strategy is being prepared for consideration by the District Plan Committee. This Strategy will address the challenges of managing growth in a sustainable manner. The management of natural hazards and the effects of climate change are key considerations for the Strategy in planning for future development. The Strategy will provide a framework for guiding future growth decisions and define future areas for development within the District mainly around the towns of Paeroa and Waihi. The draft Growth Strategy will also aim to</td>
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provide certainty to the community and the market about the development of the District and allow Council to ensure efficient infrastructure provision. The draft Strategy process is commencing with consultation meetings with our Iwi and then other agencies like the Waikato Regional Council.

**District Plan Review**

The District Plan Committee has looked at possible zone changes in Waihi and a possible Rule Plan Change for Paeroa and Waihi that will allow infill housing. These possible Plan Changes are beginning with consultation with Iwi and then other agencies like Waikato Regional Council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operations and Asset Management</th>
<th>Kaiaua Landfill Foreshore Cleanup</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regenerating Areas</td>
<td>Soon after inheriting the Seabird Coast area from Franklin District Council (FDC), Hauraki District Council (HDC) became aware of an environmentally hazardous historic landfill site on the foreshore immediately south of Kaiaua township. Located on the foreshore, the landfill was within an area recognised as an internationally significant habitat for migratory birds by the Wetlands Convention, established at Ramsar in Iran in 1971. The rubbish, which included asbestos, was buried well before the area became part of the Hauraki District. As coastal erosion was causing ongoing problems with rubbish being washed down the beach and into the sea, HDC engaged contractors to clear the site and safely transport the rubbish to a more appropriate landfill site. The cost to HDC was considerable, but is easily outweighed by the environmental benefits of this project.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Whakatiwai**

HDC have been removing car bodies and the like as and when they are exposed on the foreshore at Whakatiwai. So far we have removed three truck loads. This will be ongoing as weather events expose more historic waste.

**Wastewater Consents**

HDC is in the process of renewing their wastewater plants’ consents. The initial indications are that all plants will need to be upgraded to meet the requirements of the National Policy Statement Freshwater Management Standards in working to a better environment in the Firth of Thames.

### Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

### Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Katina Conomos – Interim Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor - GM Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To provide an update from the Hauraki Gulf Forum’s Interim Executive Officer.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
2. This report is prepared by the Hauraki Gulf Forum’s Interim Executive Officer to update Forum members on the delivery of the annual work programme, follow up actions from previous meetings, delivery of statutory requirements, and other matters of relevance since the last meeting.

3. In August 2017, the Hauraki Gulf Forum resolved that a work programme review be a standing item at every meeting (appended). Adjustments to the appended work programme are noted in strikethrough and/or red text. Additional commentary is provided in the analysis and advice section of this report. This report could be improved by covering more comprehensively the current work programme of the Forum. I welcome the opportunity to work with the incoming chairperson on this report prior to the next meeting.

4. Given the transition that the Forum is presently going through, support is being provided to ensure that the existing commitments of the Forum are met. No new initiatives or programmes are being developed or explored, and essentially the work of the Forum remains in a holding pattern based on the existing commitments.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) receive the Hauraki Gulf Forum Interim Executive Officer’s report.

b) nominate a working party (if desired) to work alongside the Executive Officer in curation of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Seminar.

c) delegate approval of the Holdaway award to the chairperson and deputy chairperson.

Horopaki / Context
5. Support is being provided to ensure that the existing commitments of the Forum are met.

6. The Forum may wish to provide further instruction regarding its work programme, and/or areas of focus for the time being.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu / Analysis and advice
Strategic Issues (Priority #2 as per work programme document)
7. A workshop has been planned for 14 May 2018 to commence the discussion on Strategic Issues. Helen Ritchie has been engaged as an independent facilitator to support the Forum in this workshop.
8. Helen Ritchie is an experienced facilitator and researcher with a background in community and environmental projects. She has led several action research projects about engaging rural communities in environmental management and conservation. She has been involved in the design and delivery of facilitation training for community members, local and central government staff, and the Enviroschools programme. Her own facilitation and research practice is focused on environment, agriculture and development issues. It includes helping groups and agencies with strategic planning, community involvement and adult learning.

9. I anticipate that further workshop time may be required as a result of this workshop and look forward to further instruction from the Forum chairperson and Forum members as to what assistance is required to support the continuation of this important work.

State of the Environment Report (Priority #3 as per work programme document)

10. The report was released publicly on Friday, 2 March 2018, with a media launch held at Auckland Council. Chairperson Tregidga and Dr. Shane Kelly presented the report to the media.

11. There was immediate take up of the release, with articles appearing in the NZ Herald, Newshub, TVNZ, Newstalk ZB and Waatea News.

12. Links to press articles regarding Report are here:
   - https://www.waateanews.com/waateanews/x_story_id/MTg1NjM.html

Other Press / Campaign activity

13. Forum members may be aware that Forest and Bird commenced a campaign in late March calling for the New Zealand government to save the Hauraki Gulf by putting SeaChange into action. http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/campaigns/sea-change. As at early May, Forest and Bird have advised that over 1000 people have joined the campaign and that the campaign is ongoing.

14. In late April, the Environmental Defence Society launched its latest publication ‘Voices from the Sea’ which is the result of an investigation into the operation of New Zealand’s inshore fisheries management system, authored by Raewyn Peart. The book attracted a critical press release from To Ohu Kaimoana, which the EDS chose to respond to by way of further press release. The three press releases are provided for information in the Attachments.
Technical Officers Group

15. A meeting of the Technical Officers Group was held on 5 April 2018. The minutes of the meeting are included as an Attachment to this report.

16. The Technical Officers present had a discussion regarding the roles and responsibilities of Technical Officers, as presently these expectations are neither clear nor consistent.

17. Overall, most Officers advised that their understanding of the role of Technical Officers was around communication, supporting/informing their elected representatives, briefing their wider organisations and maintaining an awareness of Forum activities, rather than actually ‘doing’. The ‘doing’ element has traditionally been the role of the Forum Executive Officer which is funded by the representative agencies. For Tangata Whenua representatives, their engagement is direct to their Forum Member.

18. The Technical Officers present discussed that the development of a clear forward work programme for the Forum (linked to strategic issues and endorsed by the Forum), would likely provide focus for the Technical Officers Group and the Forum’s Executive Officer, and that there would be merit in formalising the purpose and expectations of technical officers more, and that this should be led by the Forum, after the Forum has set its strategic issues.

Scoping Project / Review of Operating Model (Priority #4 as per work programme document)

19. In any review, form should follow function, therefore, when there is a clearer picture from the Forum regarding its Strategic Issues, the flow on impacts to the Forum's operating model will become clearer.

20. In the meantime, work has been undertaken on improving the operational support for the Forum, particularly regarding clarity of the Administering Authority role. This is addressed in a separate item on the agenda.

Standing orders, Governance Statement and delegation policy (Priority #6 as per work programme document)

21. The Forum has made previous resolutions regarding the review of standing orders, governance statement and delegation policy, which arose from a number of procedural meeting issues that the Forum was experiencing in 2017.

22. Staff would like to work with the newly elected Forum chairperson and deputy chairperson regarding these items on the work programme between now and the next meeting.

Gulf Journal

23. The next issue of the Gulf Journal and its associated e-newsletter is being compiled for publication this month.

24. As signalled at the last meeting, a contract writer has been commissioned to help prepare the Gulf Journal content. Delwyn Dickey, who has spent the last 10 years as a Senior Reporter for Stuff, will provide the contract writing support. Delwyn has been a keen follower of the work of the Forum, has a strong interest in the marine and coastal environments and has attended several Forum seminars.

25. The Technical Officer's Group requested that a call be put out to constituent parties for contributions to the Gulf Journal. This was done but there was no take up in this edition. The offer will continue to be made for future editions.
Holdaway Awards / Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Seminar (Priority # 7 as per work programme document)

26. Two dates have been tentatively held at the Auckland War Memorial Museum (5th and 19th September), for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Seminar.

27. Work must now commence urgently regarding the theme and programme for the Seminar.

28. The Auckland War Memorial Museum provide the event management of the Seminar, however, to ensure continuity of resources for the Forum with the Executive Officer arrangement currently being temporary, Delwyn Dickey who will provide contract writing support for the Gulf Journal will also provide support to curate and programme the Seminar. These two pieces of work are reasonably complimentary and draw on a similar knowledge and range of contacts.

29. If desired, the Forum may wish to nominate a working party to work alongside the Executive Officer, and Ms. Dickey in curation of the Seminar.

30. Preparation of for the Holdaway Awards will be undertaken alongside preparation for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Seminar.

31. As in keeping with past practice, it is recommended that the Forum delegate approval of the Holdaway award to the chairperson and deputy chairperson.

Tangata Whenua Input (Priority #8 as per work programme document)

32. This priority was to investigate options for improved tangata whenua input into the Forum and was to be led by the Forum deputy chairperson.

33. This item will remain on the forward work programme as this is a continuous item as the work programme for the Forum develops.

2018 Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Poster Series

34. To coincide with SeaWeek, the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park poster appeared in the New Zealand Herald on 3 March 2018, with a distribution of approximately 140,000 copies.

35. The insert was supported by a comprehensive marketing campaign (organised and funded by the New Zealand Herald) in the lead up to 3 March. The Marketing Campaign summary is included as an attachment to this report.

36. The poster invited readers to download the Young Ocean Explorer App to engage with the interactive content of the poster. Young Ocean Explorers report that within the first three days of the poster distribution, 544 installations of the app had occurred and their website traffic far exceeded that of the previous year, at one point receiving over 50,000 hits an hour.

Bryde’s Whale Ship Strike Collaborative Group

37. At the time of writing this report, the ship speed monitoring reports have not yet been received from the Ports of Auckland or the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). These should be available by the time the Forum meets.

38. IFAW currently undertakes daily monitoring of ship speeds. They have recently advised that the funding they have available to support daily monitoring expires at end of June 2018. The funding is raised philanthropically.

39. The daily monitoring costs IFAW approximately $7,000 (AUD) per annum.

40. IFAW are seeking direction whether there is an appetite to continue with the daily monitoring. Given the ship speeds have reduced since the protocol was introduced, spot-checking by IFAW may now be appropriate. I will raise this matter through the Ship Strike Group to determine the pros and cons of a change.
Black Petrel Working Group

41. The Black Petrel Working Group met on 10 April 2018, hosted at Auckland Council offices by the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

42. As a result of the efforts of the Working Group, there are a range of initiatives in place to help protect black petrels at sea, being seabird smart training, liaison role, seabird management plans, observer programme and electronic monitoring trials. The Group has been investigating whether these initiatives could provide the basis for an assurance scheme to increase transparency and recognition of seabird smart fishing. Work is ongoing to fully develop all of the elements of the scheme, and to cost the administration and ongoing management arrangements of the scheme.

43. A potential role for the Forum has been identified in the administration of the scheme, similar to the secretariat role provided for the Brydes Whale Ship Strike Group. The Group envisage that data collection and analysis will use existing central government mechanisms so the administration role (for the Forum) is anticipated to be modest; providing a central clearing house for information relating to the scheme and coordinating a working group to address any non-compliance.

44. The way in which the overall scheme would be funded (such as through a levy on quota holders) is a matter that is currently being worked through by the Black Petrel Work Group with representatives from MPI and DOC, which may yet take some time. As such, a soft-launch of the scheme is being considered for the end of 2018, working toward a full launch toward the end of 2019.

45. As has been demonstrated with the Bryde’s Whale Ship Strike Group, there is merit in the Forum being able to provide a coordination and accountability point for cross-agency and industry collaboration. It would be helpful for the Forum to consider whether it wishes to explore further collaborations of this nature when it discusses its strategic issues.

46. As the administration ask becomes clearer for the Seabird Safe scheme, further information will be provided to the Forum.

Office of the Auditor General Performance Review


48. Forum member, Councillor Dal Minogue brought to staff’s attention that there had been no formal communication to Forum members regarding this review. This report has been included on the Forum’s agenda for this purpose.

49. The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) developed a performance audit proposal in late 2017 and sought input regarding the scope from Auckland Council, Waikato Regional Council, Ministry for Primary Industries, Department of Conservation and the Ministry for the Environment.

50. The audit proposal developed by the OAG is included as an attachment to this report.

51. In brief, the overall focus of the audit is to consider the effectiveness of the process that was used to develop the Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan: Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari. In particular, how the processes provided for competing interests to be balanced.

52. The scope does not include analysis on the quality of the final marine spatial plan and whether or not it complies with the international marine spatial planning standards.

53. Fieldwork has been underway since March, with interviews having been conducted with participants and interested stakeholders. At the time of writing, the fieldwork and interviews are ongoing.
54. The outcome will be a report tabled in Parliament, and OAG advise that their likely reporting date is November 2018.

55. As information becomes available, this will be reported to the Forum.

Hauraki Gulf Forum Budget

56. Forum members have previously requested that a budget update be included as part of the Executive Officers report as standard. On this occasion, a financial report and forward budget has been included as a separate item on this agenda.

Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments

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Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

| Author          | Katina Conomos – Interim Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum       |
|Authoriser       | Jacques Victor - GM Auckland Plan Strategy and Research               |
Katina Conomos

From: EDS Office <fiona@eds.org.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 April 2018 11:00 AM
To: Katina Conomos
Subject: Media Release: New book concludes inshore fisheries need a radical shakeup

Media Release: New book concludes inshore fisheries need a radical shakeup

The Environmental Defence Society today launched its latest publication ‘Voices from the Sea’ which is the result of an in-depth investigation into the operation of New Zealand’s inshore fisheries management system. Authored by EDS Policy Analyst Raewyn Peart, the book evaluates whether the current approach is supporting thriving fisheries and communities, supported by healthy marine ecosystems, for the benefit of current and future generations of New Zealanders.

“There has been a lot of competing rhetoric about our fisheries management system and we were keen to find out what was actually happening on the ground,” said Ms Peart.

“We interviewed 60 people who were closely involved in coastal fisheries including independent fishermen, quota owners, fisheries managers, recreational fishers, scientists and environmentalists. This is the first book on fisheries management in New Zealand to record these views.

“Although there have been some notable successes, such as the recovery of snapper stocks, overall we found a fisheries management system that is failing to deliver in a number of important respects.

“EDS concluded that the problems are of such a serious and inter-connected nature to warrant a fully independent statutory inquiry into the fisheries management system.

“To start with, we are simply not managing most of our inshore stocks.

“It is over a decade since the total allowable harvest level has been adjusted for any finfish species in the Hauraki Gulf, for example, and species such as red gurnard, trevally and flatfish have not been attended to for over 30 years.

“This is largely due to a chronic lack of investment in relevant science. After more than 30 years of the quota management system, we still don’t know enough about most of our inshore fish stocks to make informed decisions – we are flying blind.

“This is compounded by the underlying fragmented structure of the management system. Inshore fisheries have been divided up into 400 individual ‘stocks’ which we try to manage separately - an impossible task in itself.

“But such a siloed approach is blind to interactions between species, and between species and the marine environment, thereby ignoring biological realities. This can be a particular problem with many inshore stocks.

“In addition, many of these stocks are spatially defined by large quota management areas which bear little or no relationship to actual fish populations or local communities of interest.

“Things can go badly wrong as a result. A case in point is the sad state of localised flatfish populations in the Kaipara Harbour, which are part of a quota management area encompassing the entire top half of the North Island.
“However, where the system has most grossly failed is in protecting the marine habitats essential for future fish production, as well as for the health of our marine environment more generally.

“When you look around the country there are multiple examples of the marked decline of fisheries, and in some cases total collapse, linked to habitat degradation and loss.

“The most stark example is the Challenger scallop fishery. Heavy scallop dredging of Tasman and Golden Bays, over many decades, has helped tip this once highly productive system into a muddy desert. A scallop industry, worth over $90 million per annum at its peak, has now collapsed.

“Nearby, land-sourced sediment continues to choke the Marlborough Sounds, and in combination with trawling and dredging impacts, is taking its toll on fragile stocks such as pāua and blue cod.

“Extensive kina barrens along the Northland coast are reducing once highly productive reef systems to comparatively barren wastelands. Associated crayfish stocks are now struggling.

“Such impacts will almost certainly become more marked in the future with the growing cumulative impacts of climate change and invasive species.

“Despite such concerning cases, there has been no discernible fisheries management response, and we still lack measures to avoid such habitat loss in the future. This is notwithstanding the many positive examples of such action being taken in other countries.

“This is the element of our research that I found most alarming, because such habitat changes can be very difficult, if not impossible to reverse.

“Our study also investigated the structure of the commercial fishing industry. Inshore fisheries quota is now largely controlled by three corporate entities. This is associated with a range of economic drivers which is making it difficult for remaining independent harvesters to stay in the industry.

“The current system also incentivises bulk harvesting which can have high environmental impact whilst producing low grade fish.

“We are hopeful that Minister Stuart Nash will announce an independent inquiry and are keen to input the results of our research. We note the commitment in Labour’s election policy to ‘institute an independent review of the performance of both MPI and the Quota Management System.’

“We urgently need to rebuild our fisheries management system so that it serves the interests of all New Zealanders including future generations,” concluded Ms Peart.

More: Raewyn Peart
mobile: 021613379, landline: 098156082, email: raewyn@eds.org.nz

You can purchase a copy of the book here.

Share on Facebook.

SUPPORT THE WORK OF EDS. MAKE A DONATION.
Katina Conomos

Subject: FW: The Te Ohu media statement

Media Release, 29 April 2018

A proposal publicised by a non-government organisation to overhaul New Zealand’s Quota Management System for managing commercial fisheries could potentially cost the taxpayer hundreds of millions of dollars if taken to its illogical conclusion.

Te Ohu Kaimoana (Māori Fisheries Trust) says the book Voices from the Sea by the Environmental Defence Society (EDS) is misguided, confuses the role of the QMS and the Fisheries Act, and lacks credibility to be considered a meaningful report to improve fisheries management in New Zealand.

EDS claims in the book that the Māori Fisheries Settlement concluded more than 25 years ago “created a barrier for fishers and processors who wished to acquire more quota to support their businesses, and potentially for aspiring new entrants” to the industry. It adds that “perhaps more significantly, the settlement has potentially reduced the flexibility to adjust the fisheries management system over time.”

Te Ohu Kaimoana Chief Executive Dion Tuuta says the report is scaremongering, and the Crown can change the QMS in partnership with Māori. “If the QMS is fundamentally changed, it will therefore change the nature of the Māori Fisheries Settlement and the Crown may be forced to renegotiate the deal it reached in 1992, potentially costing the taxpayer hundreds of millions of dollars,” Mr Tuuta said.

To borrow a quote from former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating, the book by EDS is a shiver looking for a spine to run up.
The QMS divides New Zealand’s commercial fisheries into shares for each species of fish. It is a share of the total QMS that Māori received in return for full and final settlement of Treaty of Waitangi claims and to provide certainty to the fisheries management regime. It is the Fisheries Act that determines the Total Allowable Commercial Catch and provides the mechanisms for setting sustainability limits. EDS confuses the two.

When a resource is limited (or scarce), demand often exceeds supply and therefore affects the price of quota.

“Yet again we have another non-government organisation fundamentally misunderstanding the nature of the Māori Fisheries Settlement and the operation of the Quota Management System to the economic and social detriment of iwi organisations.”

“Māori support and have always supported changes to fisheries that take sustainable management forward positively as long as such changes are grounded in objective science and not emotive opinion. Far from being problematic as portrayed by EDS, the Fisheries Settlement confirmed Māori acceptance of the QMS and gave certainty to New Zealand’s fisheries management regime.”

On numerous occasions Māori, through Te Ohu Kaimoana, supported reductions in commercial catch to allow fish species, for example such as hoki and orange roughy, to recover. The Māori Fisheries Settlement has never prevented action being taken to ensure fisheries are managed at sustainable levels.

The EDS book purports to have spoken to 60 people involved in the fishing industry, but does not name those who are interviewed, and yet it asks the public to accept the credibility of its conclusions.

“A few years ago, it was the US-based Pew Environment Group and lobbying by its representative in New Zealand to override Māori fishing rights in its attempt to secure a no-take marine protected area in the Kermadec region. The EDS in part is blaming Māori fishing rights as contributing to what it sees as problems with the QMS.”

“Te Ohu Kaimoana does not agree with either the problem definition as expressed by EDS in *Voices from the Sea* nor many of the conclusions that it has reached and considers that it therefore lacks credibility,” Mr Tuuta said.

“Interestingly, the Pew Environment Group helped pay for the publication of the EDS document and the Department of Conservation paid for studies to be done for inclusion in the book as well as contributing to the book’s launch, despite that DOC is not responsible for fisheries management decisions in Aotearoa.”

Te Ohu Kaimoana recommends a more balanced view of New Zealand’s fisheries management can be found in the recently released report entitled *Learning from New Zealand’s 30 Years of Experience Managing Fisheries under a Quota Management System*, by The Nature Conservancy.
“The author of the EDS report was also one of the two New Zealand-based lead authors of the TNC review. But, despite that, she does not even reference the TNC report in either the footnotes or bibliography of her book. Is she now walking away from the TNC review and her work within it? Does she now accept its conclusions, which are markedly different from what's in the EDS book?” Mr Tuuta asked.
Katina Conemos

From: EDS Office <fiona@eds.org.nz>
Sent: Sunday, 29 April 2018 6:51 PM
To: Katina Conemos
Subject: Media Release: EDS disappointed at TOKM’s denial of problems in fisheries management

Media Statement: EDS disappointed at TOKM’s denial of problems in fisheries management

Te Ohu Kaimoana (TOKM) today released a media statement attacking the credibility of the recently released EDS book *Voices from the Sea: Managing New Zealand’s Fisheries*.

“We are disappointed by the approach taken by TOKM, which is highly defensive and strongly protective of the status quo,” said Environmental Defence Society Policy Director and book author Raewyn Peart.

“As an organisation which claims to work to advance Māori interests in the marine environment, I would have expected a more nuanced, constructive and progressive approach to environmental problems in our oceans.

“*Voices from the Sea* was based on 60 in-depth interviews with people closely involved with fisheries management. They included fishers from small to large companies, quota owners, processors, exporters, former fisheries managers, recreational fishers, scientists and environmentalists. Most of them had real issues with the fisheries management system.

“The book was widely peer-reviewed by many experts before publication and we have had overwhelmingly positive feedback on it. A copy of the draft was sent to TOKM in September last year for comment – but this personal attack is the first feedback we have received from them.

“TOKM questioned just two statements in our 160-page book which both refer to the impacts of the 1992 Māori Fisheries Settlement.

“The first relates to the greater difficulty it caused for fishers wanting to buy quota in order to enter the industry. It is self-evident that if you take out more than 30 per cent of quota from the market, access is more difficult and prices rise.

“The second statement relates to the settlement reducing flexibility to adjust the fisheries management system over time. This has been borne out by events, with no significant changes having been made to the fisheries management system since 1992. This is despite our understanding of marine science and the need for ecosystem-based management coming a long way since then.

“TOKM also points out the differences between *Voices from the Sea* and an earlier report published by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Such differences should come as no surprise as the two studies drew on different data sources. The TNC report was largely based on official data and reports at a national level whereas *Voices from the Sea* was based on regional case studies and in-depth interviews.

“There is a wealth of knowledge and wisdom to be garnered if you talk to people on the water who have first-hand experience with the system. This is what we did. The book reflects what they told me and that shouldn’t be ignored or diminished.

“The TOKM statement also claims that the TNC report is not referred to in *Voices from the Sea*. This is
not correct with several mentions contained in the footnotes.

“Frankly, anyone who thinks that fisheries management in New Zealand is in good shape is badly mistaken. TOKM’s stance reinforces the urgent need for an independent inquiry into our fisheries management system. Such an inquiry will enable us to find out who is right on these issues.

“Labour promised the electorate such a review and it now needs to do this,” concluded Ms Peart.

Copies of Voices from the Sea can be obtained from the Environmental Defence Society at eds.org.nz.

For more: Raewyn Peart; mobile 021613379; landline 09 8156082; email raewyn@eds.org.nz

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Hauraki Gulf Forum

Technical Officers Group Meeting

Date: Thursday, 5 April 2018

Venue: Torea Room, Manukau Service Centre, Auckland Council, 31-33 Manukau Station Road, Manukau

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Attendees:

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<td>Waikato Regional Council</td>
<td>Ben Bunting</td>
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<td>Thames-Coromandel District Council</td>
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<td>Matamata-Piako District Council</td>
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<td>Department of Conservation</td>
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<td>Ministry of Primary Industries</td>
<td>Graeme McGregor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tangata Whenua</td>
<td>Jamie Forsman, Nathan Kennedy</td>
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<td>Hauraki Gulf Forum</td>
<td>Katina Conomos</td>
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Apologies:

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<tr>
<th>Auckland Council</th>
<th>Sietsje Bouma, Nick Reid, Megan Carbines, Samantha Davison, Claire Webb, Melissa Foley, Sam Hill, Mark Ingles</th>
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<td>Tangata Whenua</td>
<td>Cayla Nilsen, Moana Waa, Clint Rickards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Conservation</td>
<td>John Gailiee</td>
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Draft Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

   Graeme McGregor requested skype for business be made available for future meetings.

2. Technical Officers Group purpose and expectations

   Officers discussed their understanding of the purpose and expectations of technical officers.
   - Experience and expectations of officers was varied.
   - Several attendees were present in an observer capacity to learn more.
   - Others had been in technical officer roles for 12-18 months.
   - None of the attendees could point to any guiding documentation for the technical officers group (such as a terms of reference).
   - Katina advised that the Governance Statement from 2011 sets out some roles and responsibilities for technical officers, but that this isn’t being applied in practice.
   - Overall, technical officers expressed that their expectations are not being met, in
terms of communication and supporting integrated planning between constituent parties. Several expressed that the group has been reactionary rather than anticipatory.

- It was noted that where integration is possible, constituent parties are already likely talking through other means.
- the role of technical officers in supporting their Forum Members in relation to the agenda isn’t clear.
- Technical officers requested longer lead times to discuss agenda items with their Forum members. It was discussed that ideally, the Forum agenda would be circulated a month prior to the meeting to allow for technical officers to work with their Forum members, however, this lead time is not easy to achieve.
- Katina tabled a draft Terms of Reference for the technical officers group to generate discussion on what the role of the group could be.
- This led to discussions regarding the capacity of technical officers. Tangata Whenua representatives advised that in their role they are allocated 150 hours per annum by way of support to their Forum members. Representatives from the Territorial Authorities advised that they don’t have time specifically allocated to be a technical officer, and in reality, this is just managed on top of other work. Auckland Council representatives are slightly different in that they have teams/departments of particular expertise, however, formally engaging with the Forum is not (yet) formally a part of anyone’s work programme, and they’d like to formalise it to be so. Other technical officers noted that they would be interested to have one point of contact for Auckland Council.
- Overall, most officers advised that their understanding of the role of technical officers was around communication, supporting/informing their elected representatives, briefing their wider organisations and maintaining an awareness of Forum activities, rather than actually ‘doing’. The ‘doing’ element has been the role of the Forum executive officer which is funded by the representative agencies.
- It was also discussed, that the development of a clear forward work programme for the Forum (linked to strategic issues and endorsed by the Forum), would provide focus for the Technical Officers Group and the Forum’s executive officer.
- Overall, noting the capacity constraints noted above, technical officers agreed that there would be merit in formalising the purpose and expectations of technical officers more, and that this should be led by the Forum, after the Forum has set its strategic issues.

Separate note to the minutes: Technical Officer David Taipari advises that the Technical Officers Group has not formal standing under the Act, and that officers are individual officers, not an officer group. As such, the next steps outlined in these minutes are contrary to the view held by Technical Officer Taipari and Forum Member Majorrey.

In relation to agenda processes, it was agreed that:
- Katina would soon circulate an indication of what was likely to be on the 14 May agenda and request/call for agenda items (i.e. technical officers to discuss this with their Forum members).
- Katina will then confirm the agenda with the Chair and Deputy Chair.
- If there are any items that need to be clarified/queried, the Chair would likely discuss these directly with the relevant Forum Member.
- The constituent party report template will be circulated now (ASAP).
Hauraki Gulf Forum updates - HGF resourcing arrangements

- Katina advised that her appointment is temporary.
- The Forum resolved to hold off appointment of an Executive Officer until after the May meeting. The expectation is that a draft job description would be circulated to Forum members for comment prior to the next meeting.
- Officers noted that it would be helpful to have one point of contact for HGF matters and that it has previously been unclear whether information should be requested through Auckland Council democracy staff, or the HGF Executive Officer.

Hauraki Gulf Forum updates - Matters arising from the last Forum meeting

- Katina to circulate a list of matters arising from the last Forum meeting relevant to each constituent party.

Hauraki Gulf Forum - ministerial direction

- Katina advised that a meeting with the Minister of Conservation occurred on 12 March and that the meeting was positive.
- The Minister’s staff have committed to provide a statement in writing from the Minister in advance of the next meeting, by 19 April.
- The Minister is planning to attend the next Forum meeting.

Hauraki Gulf Forum - Current work programme
The upcoming items on the work programme are:

- The Annual Report (due August).
- The annual seminar: Katina advised that dates have been held with the Auckland Museum, and that the intention is to seek a working party from the Forum to oversee the next seminar, and that a resource will be engaged to support the curation of the seminar.
- Gulf Journal: is published around the time of the Forum meetings. Katina advised that plans are being made to engage a resource to help pull the Gulf Journal together. Tim Higham has offered to stay on in an editor at large capacity. Officers suggested it would be useful to call for items from the constituent parties for consideration in the Gulf Journal.

4. Constituent party updates

MPDC

- Awaiting the outcomes of Plan Change 1, and in particular the development of Plan Change 2.
- Also monitoring the Hauraki Iwi settlement.

Auckland Council

- Coastal Plan going to be made operative.
- LTP and Regional Pest Management Plan consultation underway.
- Political Reference Group for Sea Change has been established.

MPI

- Minister made his first sustainability decision regarding Crayfish 2, and in doing so took the more conservative option. This will flow through to subsequent decisions.
<table>
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| on limits. |

**Nathan Kennedy**
- Hauraki and Tamaki iwi met a week ago with the Minister for Treaty Settlements regarding harbours / co-management settlements.
- Nathan also advised that in his role on the conservation board, a review of the conservation strategy is being undertaken and will consider how to leverage greater interagency effort and contribution.

**TCDC**
- Mangrove Management Bill select committee was held recently and the timeframe for the select committee to publish its report has been extended from 29 March to 22 June 2018.
- Coastal Management Strategy (non statutory) will go to Council in June for adoption.
- LTP consultation underway, some elements have implications in the Gulf (such as water standards, waste water upgrades, risk and resilience around the coast).

**WRC**
- Sea Change implementation is noted in WRCs LTP. This includes proposed actions for water quality monitoring, sediment management and biosecurity.
- Review of regional coastal plan well underway with notification proposed in two topic clusters.
- Harbour and catchment management plans are being developed for Whitianga and Mania (Coromandel).
- Currently working on a fish passage strategy for migratory fish

**Constituent Party Reports**
- The report template was discussed. It was agreed that it is reasonable that some more substantial items from constituent parties may warrant a separate item on the agenda rather than being incorporated as part of the constituent party report.
- The way that the template is currently set up, with a column linking to the strategic issues is well intended, but given the lack of definition of strategic issues, most officers reported the template feels awkward to use, and would also appreciate more time to prepare the report content.
- Next constituent party report due Wednesday 2 May.
- Katina to circulate template now and call for separate items at the same time.

5. **State of the Environment 2017 report debrief and matters arising**
- Katina has circulated a questionnaire to gather feedback regarding the State of the Environment report. Due back on 27 April.
- Reference was made to a Technical Officers Group meeting that occurred late last year where substantial discussion was had regarding the State of the Environment Report. Katina does not have notes from this meeting. Jenny to check whether Sietse Bouma has notes from this meeting.

6. **Methodology and considerations for supporting Forum to identify its strategic issues.**
   The group had a discussion regarding the process for setting the strategic issues.
In relation to **desired improvements** the group agreed that the issues should:

- Be clearly defined
- Be linked clearly to the Sections 7 and 8 of the Act.
- Be evidence based where practicable.
- Facilitate discussions towards improving integrated management
- Be linked to the State of the Environment Report
- Have a clear action schedule against each strategic issue
- Have regular reporting, and
- Be more regularly reviewed by the Forum.

Jenny and Zoe advised that Auckland Council have been working on a gap analysis, using the summary document as a basis for developing that analysis. i.e. detail what is happening, and then look at what’s not happening, or where more could be happening. Jenny offered to circulate this work and it may be a useful exercise for others to do.

In relation to **process**, it was noted that the Act provides no prescription regarding the setting of strategic issues. Having an independent facilitator conduct a workshop was suggested. (Ben to send Katina some suggested names).

In relation to strategic issues the group discussed:

- The importance of (and difficulty of) gaining consensus. This can be further problematic when representative agencies may not have formed a collective position on issues or if Forum representatives views do not align with agency positions or if there are divergent or swinging positions among Forum members on issues/matters previously agreed.
- Given that the Forum has signed off the State of the Environment Report, and the 10 key issues outlined there, that may be a useful starting point for discussion.
- That the themes of Sea Change may be a useful starting point noting that each theme has been robustly discussed and stakeholder consensus reached during the development of the Sea Change plan.
- It was also noted that the current strategic issues are not broken / have not been resolved, and should be presented as an option, with more definition. And/or how to link back to the current issues?
- Acknowledge what the varies parties do as a matter of course.
- It may be useful to identify what isn’t happening.
- Katina to cross check what the Governance Review reports said about strategic issues.

In relation to **engagement**

- There is no legislative requirement for engagement.
- Officers discussed that external (public) engagement is probably not feasible or necessary.
- Expectations regarding engagement within agencies, and for Tangata Whenua representatives back to their constituents is not clear.
- How to ensure that those seated around the Forum table are able to make a decision on setting strategic issues? How do we appropriate acknowledge the difficulty and unique roles for each agency in this regard?

In relation to **monitoring**
• It was noted that some of the strategic issues are difficult to monitor, but that
doesn’t mean that they shouldn’t be a strategic issue. Ben emphasised that
discussions around integrated management are not easy discussions, but a
fundamental role of the Forum.
• It would be helpful to have a discussion regarding strategic issues as a regular
agenda item. At the moment, this is only reported back through constituent party
reports.
• Furthermore, the reporting has been backward looking, but more forward reporting
is desirable. i.e. how can we forecast opportunities for better integrated
management and ensure opportunities are created for collective discussion.

Katina had prepared a template for strategic issues, for discussion.
• Feedback included that outcomes for each of the strategic issues were desirable,
but having this conversation with the Forum and achieving consensus may be
difficult. We need to focus on articulating strategic issues first, and then this could
follow.
• It was also noted that defining priorities/actions is a lot of work, and that business
as usual activities of each agency should have a place.
• The group discussed that piloting a template with an issue that crosses all
constituent parties (such as water quality) would be a useful exercise, and that this
could be a topic for a future technical officers meeting.

It was agreed that there is value in canvassing Forum Members’ views ASAP.
Katina should prepare a discussion paper (to be first circulated to technical
officers) and then Katina to circulate to Forum members, to invite feedback from
members on the Strategic Issues to inform what process/support is required in
advance of the next meeting.

7. Matters for action before next Forum meeting (14 May)
   • Actions outlined in above minutes.

8. Items for next Technical Officers meeting
   • It was agreed to cancel technical officers meeting scheduled for 19 April. Officers
to communicate on email between now and then.
The posters translate the story of the Hauraki Gulf, its state and the opportunities for care and restoration into engaging artwork and text.

The 2018 poster invited readers to Dive into the Gulf. As well as immersion in compelling artwork by renowned wildlife artist Dave Gunson, the Young Ocean Explorer App revealed new video content linked to an interactive documentary.

The poster also encouraged exploration of dive locations around the Hauraki Gulf and consideration of some of the issues requiring greater awareness and care to maintain the Gulf in its current state.
MARKETING SUPPORT

The poster insertion was supported with a comprehensive marketing campaign including;

PRINT – NEWSPAPER: The print schedule included advertising space in The New Zealand Herald, Weekend Herald and Herald on Sunday. Value received: $31,660 (based on the casual direct ratecard value)

PRINT – GOODIE BOX EXPOSURE: Editorial pointers for the promotion ran in the paper on the day prior and on the front page ‘goodie box’ the day of the insertion. This space is not available to everyday advertisers. Value received: $21,921

RADIO: A radio advertising campaign ran across NZME radio brands in the week leading up to the insertion and on the publication date to encourage listeners to buy the paper. Value received: $91,872

ONLINE ADVERTISING: Banner ads ran across nzherald.co.nz/national news. The banner received 798,585 impressions and generated 772 clicks (0.10% CTR) Value received: $15,692
MARKETING SUPPORT CONT.

The poster insertion was supported with a comprehensive marketing campaign including:

**eDM:** The poster was promoted in the Herald subscriber email, Top Stories email and NZH Travel email.
Value received: $15,576

**NZME BILLBOARDS:** Billboards on Hardinge and Graham St (surrounding NZME Central) ran for the week leading up to the insertions.
Value received: $12,710

**INSERT – NEWSPAPER:** The poster was inserted into over 140,000 copies of The New Zealand Herald on Saturday 3rd March
Value received: $12,000

**TOTAL VALUE RECEIVED:** $201,431 (excl GST)
THE CREATIVE

Editorial Pointers and Goodie Box feature
THE CREATIVE

Print insertions in The New Zealand Herald
THE CREATIVE

FREE POSTER

LOOK OUT FOR OUR POSTER:
DIVE INTO THE GULF
SATURDAY 3RD MARCH

Billboards outside NZME Central on Hardinge and Graham Streets
AUDIT PROPOSAL: Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan: Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari

Recommendation

We recommend that the Leadership Team approve the proposed audit on the Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan: Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari.

Why we should do the audit

We see value in a performance audit that considers how effective the process was to develop and implement the first attempt at a marine spatial plan in New Zealand. It will provide assurance to Parliament about collaboration. Collaboration is advocated internationally as an (if not the) essential component to sustainable management of the coastal marine.

Our work will build on our co-governance report¹ and may provide timely and wide-ranging lessons on how to plan collaborative projects with stakeholders that have diverse and competing interests at both a specific marine level, and a more general level.

The audit will also enable us to learn about how to effectively incorporate tangata whenua values into the process.

In our conversations with staff at the Ministry of Primary Industries and Department of Conservation, they commented on the value they think the audit would provide from a public sector management perspective. In particular, assisting other public sector entities to understand the strengths and weaknesses of a collaborative approach undertaken in order to develop a marine spatial plan, and how that approach could be applied generally.

Auditing the process to develop a marine spatial plan aligns with what we want to examine under the Water management theme. In particular, the themes of balancing competing interests and priorities, how organisations work together, and working with Iwi/Māori.

What we should audit

The audit will examine how effectively the Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari process contributed to balancing competing interests in the Hauraki Gulf. As such, the audit question is: How effectively did the Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari process contribute to balancing competing interests in the Hauraki Gulf?

Both central and local government must balance competing interests and priorities when setting strategies and policies, and developing regulations. Striking this balance is particularly challenging when roles and responsibilities are spread between entities, and each entity has its

¹ Office of the Auditor-General (2016), Principles for effectively co-governing natural resources, Wellington
own statutory mandate. *Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari* provides a vehicle for the Office to audit how well public sector entities collaborated with each other, and others, to strike such a balance in the Hauraki Gulf.

The public sector entities involved in the development of the plan were the Ministry for Primary Industries and the Department of Conservation, along with Auckland Council and Waikato Regional Council. The Hauraki Gulf Forum and the various mana whenua in the region were the other partners.

The audit will focus on the process to engage parties and develop the plan. We will not be auditing the final product or action on the plan to date.

**Lines of inquiry and criteria**

We want to answer the audit question using the following lines of inquiry:

- Did the partners have a clear understanding of the process to be used for developing a marine spatial plan, including the role of each partner?
- Did the partners effectively implement the process for producing a marine spatial plan?
- What did the process for creating the marine spatial plan achieve?

See appendix 1 for the lines of inquiry, criteria and expectations.

**Audit timing**

We estimate that this audit will be a medium to large audit of 1,500 plus hours. The planning stage will commence in December. The likely reporting date is November 2018. The publication date will be confirmed through audit planning.
Context to the audit

Background

Under the proposed water theme for 2017/18, we were originally tasked with scoping a topic on aquaculture. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has the main responsibility for developing and enabling a strategy for aquaculture development. However, planning and consenting processes are administered primarily at a regional level.

MPI officials discussed with us the challenges for regional and unitary councils. In some cases, local authorities do not have the resourcing to investigate planning options to better provide for aquaculture.

It is also challenging that the marine environment changes. The required science is complicated and expensive; it is also constantly improving. The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA Act) requires an overall balancing approach, which is particularly complex in the coastal marine area where there are not isolated effects from activities. The interconnectedness of the environment presents legal, scientific and planning challenges. This makes it difficult to consider aquaculture in isolation from other activities. A big issue for central and local government is how to manage competing interests in the marine environment.

As a result of our initial scoping, we concluded that we would examine how public sector entities were trying to balance competing water issues in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, an area of national significance. In the Annual Plan 2017/18, we said that we intended to focus on how the entities and other stakeholders were attempting to balance environmental, recreational, social, cultural, and economic objectives by adopting a marine spatial plan process. The process was called Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari.

Marine spatial planning

Marine spatial planning is a proven methodology used around the world. It takes a collaborative “strategic planning approach” to sustainably managing the coastal marine. The approach focuses on the marine area as an integrated system that acknowledges the competing interests and pressures on an eco-system from various activities and environmental effects. An integrated eco-system approach does not consider one activity (and its environmental effects) in isolation. These are researched, considered and attempted to be balanced to get a more sustainable long term planning outcome, which includes spatially identifying the location of important values and resources and areas appropriate for different human activities.

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2 http://www.mpi.govt.nz/growing-and-harvesting/aquaculture/
An eco-system approach is held to be fundamental to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources” for sustainable development as sought by the Sustainable Development Goal 14.³

**Hauraki Gulf**

The Hauraki Gulf is a 1.2 million hectare coastal marine space that stretches from Mangawhai to Waihi, covering the entire east coast of the Auckland and Waikato regions. It generates more than $2.7 billion annually in economic activity⁴ and supports New Zealand’s biggest group of recreational fishers and boaters. It has a particularly rich diversity of seabirds, marine mammals, fisheries and marine habitats. There are numerous sanctuaries, marine reserves and islands.⁵ It is recognised as an area of national significance.⁶

The Hauraki Gulf is managed under the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (Hauraki Gulf Act), which distinguishes the governance and decision making in the Hauraki Gulf from any other coastal marine area in New Zealand. While the planning and consenting provisions under the RMA Act apply, any decisions made must take into account sections 7 and 8 of the Hauraki Gulf Act. In addition to other factors, these sections recognise:

- the national significance of the Hauraki Gulf; and
- the interrelationship between it, its islands, and catchments and the ability of the interrelationship to sustain the life-supporting capacity of the environment of the Hauraki Gulf and its islands.

The Hauraki Gulf Act established the Hauraki Gulf Forum as a statutory body with functions to support sections 7 and 8 of the Act. In summary, its functions are to:

- promote and advocate the integrated and, where appropriate, sustainable management of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments;
- facilitate engagement, co-operation and co-ordination; and
- recognise the special relationship of tangata whenua with the Gulf.

The forum consists of representatives from the Minister of Conservation, Minister of Fisheries, Minister of Māori Affairs, Auckland Council, Waikato Regional Council, four district councils, and tangata whenua from the Hauraki Gulf and the islands.

³ “What is Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pārari” factsheet, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical paper 604 (“FAO paper 604”), p 5-6; Sustainable Development Goal 14, Spatial planning for the Gulf: An international review of marine spatial planning initiatives and application to the Hauraki Gulf, 2011
⁴ Including aquaculture, fisheries, tourism, shipping and ferry transport.
⁵ Environmental Foundation, Environment Guide, Case study: Sea Change.
**Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari**

There is likely to be interest in marine spatial planning and *Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari* specifically, throughout New Zealand as a possible model for other coastal marine areas.

*Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari* addressed socially and technically complex issues with many stakeholders, including multiple central and local government agencies. It appears to have been driven from the ground up, at the community level. It also appears to have been a significantly resourced project with a set structure.

A Project Steering Group representing mana whenua, the Hauraki Gulf Forum, Auckland Council, Waikato Regional Council, Ministry for Primary Industries and Department of Conservation led the project.

A Stakeholder Working Group of 15 members was set up to represent a diverse range of interests including mana whenua, environmental and conservation, commercial and recreational fishing, aquaculture, land use, farming and infrastructure, and to draft the plan.

A six member project board representing the partner organisations was also set up to provide resources and practical support to the project (see appendix 2).
### Item 10

#### Appendix 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line of inquiry</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Expectations</th>
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</table>
| Did the partners’ have a clear understanding of the process to be used for developing a marine spatial plan, including the role of each partner? | Were the partners clear about the process and outcomes they wanted to achieve, and the length of time it would take? | The partners had a clear purpose.  
The partners had a clear understanding about the marine spatial planning process.  
The partners had a realistic understanding of the timeframe. |
| Was the governance model appropriate for developing and implementing a marine spatial plan? | The governance model was clearly defined.  
People were clear about the respective roles of the project steering group, stakeholder working group and the project board.  
There was a clear and transparent process for selecting people for the project steering group, stakeholder working group and the project board. |
| Did the process receive the financial and administrative support needed? | The partners provided the financial and administrative support needed to carry out the process. |
| Did the partners effectively implement the process for producing a marine spatial plan? | Did the partners engage effectively with the various sectors, community, iwi and other stakeholders? | There was a range of ways that people could provide their opinions and experiences to inform the development of the plan.  
People’s opinions and experiences, including mana whenua, were fully considered and incorporated into the process, where appropriate.  
Best available information was taken into account. |
| Did people carry out their respective roles and responsibilities effectively? | The project steering group, stakeholder working group and the project board carried out their assigned roles and responsibilities effectively.  
The partner agencies were fully involved throughout the process.  
There was regular and transparent reporting on the progress of the project by the stakeholder working group.  
The progress of the project was effectively monitored by the project steering group. |
| What did the process for creating the marine spatial plan achieve? | What lessons are there for other entities in balancing competing interests and working together? |

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7 Partners refer to the key members of the process – Auckland Council, Waikato Regional Council, Department of Conservation, Ministry for Primary Industries, Hauraki Gulf Forum and mana whenua.
## Appendix 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members of the Project Steering Group:</th>
<th>Stakeholder Working Group:</th>
<th>Project Board:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liane Ngamane: mana whenua</td>
<td>Paul Beverly: Independent Chair (from mid 2015)</td>
<td>Jim Quinn: Auckland Council (Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Majurey (co-chair): mana whenua</td>
<td>Jake Bartrom: Coromandel, youth and recreation</td>
<td>Tracey May: Waikato Regional Council (Deputy Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penny Webster (co-chair): ex- Auckland Council</td>
<td>Matt Ball: Auckland, Ports of Auckland</td>
<td>Paul Majurey: Mana Whenua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pihipira Kaio: mana whenua</td>
<td>Laurie Beamish: Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki, manawhenua</td>
<td>Sean Cooper: Department of Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shane Ashby: mana whenua</td>
<td>Conall Buchanan: Paeroa, farming</td>
<td>Steve Halley: Ministry for Primary Industries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terence Hohneck: mana whenua</td>
<td>Joe Davies: Ngāi Hei, manawhenua</td>
<td>Tim Higham: Hauraki Gulf Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodi-ann Warbrick: mana whenua</td>
<td>Katrina Goddard: Waipu, environmental</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Manukau: mana whenua</td>
<td>Alison Henry: Whitianga, community</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Wilson: mana whenua</td>
<td>Scott Macindoe: Great Barrier Island, recreational fishing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayor John Tregidga: Hauraki Gulf Forum</td>
<td>David Kellian: Warkworth (commercial fisher)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cr Mike Lee: Auckland Council</td>
<td>Callum McCallum: Papakura, aquaculture</td>
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<td>Cr Tipa Mahuta: Waikato Regional Council</td>
<td>Raewyn Peart: Point Chevalier (EDS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luke Southorn: Ministry for Primary Industries</td>
<td>Dirk Sieling: Whitianga, farming and recreational fishing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hilary Aitken: Department of Conservation</td>
<td>Tame Te Rangi: Ngāti Whata, manawhenua</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lucy Tuku: Ngāti Paoa, manawhenua</td>
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</table>
Legislatively required activities of the Forum under the HGMPA 2000 include:

1. Annual report to the Minister on Forum Activities for FY17 (due 31 August 2017)
2. Prepare a list of strategic issues, determine a priority for action on each issue, and regularly review the list
3. State of the Environment report on the Hauraki Gulf, including information on progress towards integrated management and responses to the issues identified in the Forum’s List of Strategic Issues (Priority 2 above)

Priorities for 2017 will be on initiatives which:

4. Scoping project – resolution HGF/2017/18
5. Development of a work programme (this document)
6. Review of Standing orders and Governance Statement (TBC)
7. Holdaway Award

In accordance with the HGMPA 2000, the work of the committee will:

- facilitate and encourage co-ordinated financial planning, where possible, by the constituent parties;
- obtain, share, and monitor information on the state of the natural and physical resources;
- receive reports on the completion and implementation of deeds of recognition;
- require and receive reports from constituent parties on the development and implementation of policies and strategies to address the Forum’s List of Strategic Issues (Priority 2);
- receive reports from the Tangata Whenua of the Hauraki Gulf on the development and implementation of iwi management or development plans.
- promote and advocate the integrated management and, where appropriate, the sustainable management of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments;
- encourage, share, co-ordinate where appropriate, and disseminate educational and promotional material;
- liaise with, and receive reports from, persons and groups having an interest in the Hauraki Gulf and business and community interests to promote an interest in the purposes of the Forum;
- commission research into matters relating to the functions of the Forum;
- in performing the above, the Forum must have particular regard to the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of Tangata Whenua with the natural, historic, and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority #</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>Area of work</th>
<th>Reason for work</th>
<th>Committee role (decision or direction)</th>
<th>Budget/ Funding</th>
<th>Expected timeframes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Exec Officer</td>
<td>Annual report to the Minister on Forum Activities for FY17</td>
<td>Legislative requirement</td>
<td>Direction and Approval</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 2018 Draft for subsequent approval in August 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Exec Officer</td>
<td>List of strategic issues</td>
<td>Legislative requirement</td>
<td>Direction and Approval</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 2018 workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Exec Officer</td>
<td>Scoping Project</td>
<td>Resolution HGF/2017/18</td>
<td>Direction and Approval</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>EO to work with incoming Chair to consider scope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Governance Advisor</td>
<td>Standing orders, Governance Statement and delegation policy (TBC)</td>
<td>To update the forum’s governance framework and related policies</td>
<td>Direction and Approval</td>
<td></td>
<td>EOO and Democracy Staff to work with incoming Chair and Deputy Chair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Priority #</th>
<th>Lead</th>
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<th>Budget/Funding</th>
<th>Expected timeframes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Exec Officer</td>
<td><strong>Annual Seminar / Holdaway Award</strong></td>
<td>Selection of the award winner in 2018 and planning for 2018</td>
<td>Direction and Approval</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar planning to occur, and nominations for 2018 award will be called for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Deputy Chair</td>
<td><strong>Tangata whenua input</strong></td>
<td>Investigate options for improved tangata whenua input into the forum</td>
<td>Update</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TBC</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To provide clarity regarding the Hauraki Gulf Forum Administering Authority arrangements, and to present a new draft Service Level Agreement between the Hauraki Gulf Forum (the Forum) and the Auckland Council for consideration.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
2. The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act requires that one of the constituent parties must be appointed as the Administering Authority for the Forum.
3. The Auckland Council currently fulfils the Administering Authority role.
4. A current agreement between the Forum and the Administering Authority dates back many years and does not reflect the services provided or needed at present.
5. To provide greater clarity regarding services, and roles and responsibilities, the Forum’s Executive Officer in conjunction with Auckland Council staff, has prepared a draft for a new Service Level Agreement that sets out the arrangements between the Forum and the Administering Authority.
6. The new Agreement presents what the Auckland Council, as the current Administering Authority, provides by way of support to the Forum, and also sets out what the obligations are of the Forum in this relationship.
7. The draft Service Level Agreement is being presented to seek feedback from Forum members.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) provide feedback on the draft Service Level Agreement between the Hauraki Gulf Forum and Auckland Council as the Administering Authority.

b) delegate authority to the chairperson and deputy chairperson to prepare a final Service Level Agreement for adoption at the next Forum meeting.

Horopaki / Context
8. Section 28 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (the Act) establishes that one of the constituent parties must be appointed as the Administering Authority for the Forum. The Administering Authority must administer and service the Forum and ensure as far as practicable that the functions, powers, and duties set out in Part 2 of the Act are carried out.
9. The Auckland Council currently fulfils the Administering Authority role, having assumed the functions of the previously appointed Auckland Regional Council, in the reorganisation of local government in Auckland.
10. In June 2005, the then Auckland Regional Council and the Hauraki Gulf Forum entered into an Agreement to formalise the accountability between the Hauraki Gulf Forum and the Administering Authority. This is the last such agreement. Consequently, there is currently inadequate documentation regarding the agreement between the Forum and the Auckland Council in its role of Administering Authority.

11. In practice, this means that the range of services the Auckland Council should provide the Forum is unclear, the level of funding required is not transparent and roles and responsibilities are blurred.

12. The purpose of an Agreement is to make the service obligations of the Administering Authority clear for all concerned as well as to provide appropriate accountability between the Forum and its Administering Authority.

13. In relation to costs, the Act provides for the Forum to agree costs associated with the administration and servicing of the Forum as well as costs associated with undertaking the Forum’s powers.

14. Section 19 of the Act outlines that:

   (1) The administrative and servicing functions of the Forum and the costs of those functions must be agreed from time to time by the Forum.

   (2) Unless the constituent parties agree otherwise, the costs agreed under subsection (1) must be divided equally among the constituent parties and each constituent party must pay 1 share of the costs.

   (3) Administrative and servicing costs are not payable by constituent parties who are tangata whenua representatives.

15. Historically, the Administering Authority has not transparently presented the full costs associated with supporting the Forum and has in practice been absorbing the costs associated with democracy services, financial and communications support.

16. This matter is discussed further in a separate report on this agenda regarding the Forum’s 2018/2019 budget.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu / Analysis and advice

17. Staff have prepared a new draft Service Level Agreement to clarify the arrangements between the Forum and the Administering Authority.

18. The Agreement presents what the Auckland Council, as the Administering Authority, provides by way of support to the Forum, and also sets out what the obligations are of the Forum in this relationship.

19. The Agreement describes the services associated with meeting administration and governance, as well as communications and finance. It also provides a service description of the services provided by the Executive Officer.

20. The Agreement has been prepared based on what services the Forum currently receives from the Administering Authority, as well as a small number of services that haven’t been consistently provided to the Forum previously but should be (such as financial reporting).

21. Section 28(1) of the Act states that the Administering Authority should be appointed for a minimum of three years. This appointment should be considered at the beginning of each electoral term, when the Forum meets for the first time in that term.

22. The Service Level Agreement has a term of three years from adoption, with an option to renew for a further three years.
23. The Auckland Council will continue as the Administering Authority for the Forum until at least the end of this electoral term.

24. This Agreement does not stipulate key performance indicators for the services provided by the Administering Authority, instead, the Agreement places the requirement on the Forum chairperson to undertake a review of effectiveness every three years. Development of key performance indicators could be an area for improvement in future if desired.

25. This Agreement, along with a refreshed Governance Statement (or similar) will guide the operational mechanics of the Forum (HGF/2017/32).

26. The draft Service Level Agreement is being presented to seek feedback from Forum members. The Executive Officer will then work with the chairperson and deputy chairperson to prepare a final Service Level Agreement for adoption at the next meeting of the Forum.

**Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea / Financial implications**

27. The costs associated with the Administering Authority function are articulated as part of the Forum’s forward budget. A separate report on the agenda deals with the forward budget.

**Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Draft Service Level Agreement - Hauraki Gulf Forum and Administering Authority</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ngā kaihaina / Signatories**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Katina Conomos – Interim Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authorisers</td>
<td>Jacques Victor - GM Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phil Wilson - Governance Director</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

Between

Auckland Council (the Administering Authority)

And

Hauraki Gulf Forum (the Forum)

Background

Section 28 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (the Act) establishes that one of the constituent parties must be appointed as the administering authority for the Hauraki Gulf Forum (the Forum). The administering authority must administer and service the Forum and ensure as far as practicable that the functions, powers, and duties set out in Part 2 of the Act are carried out.

For administrative purposes, the Forum is to then be treated as a committee of the administering authority (s.28(5)).

The purpose of this agreement is to formalise accountability between the Hauraki Gulf Forum and the administering authority (as per section 28 of the Act). This Agreement provides clarity regarding the range of support required to support the Forum, including democracy and meeting services, management services, financial services and communication services. The extent of these services should be agreed between the Forum and the administering authority, during approval of the annual work programme and budget.

Section 27 of the Act requires that the Auckland Council must store the Forum’s records and make them available when the Forum requires.
The Administering Authority will:

1. Provide **democracy services** for Hauraki Gulf Forum meetings and workshops, including:
   a. Preparation of a schedule of Forum meeting dates, and agenda deadlines, prior to the commencement of each calendar year.
   b. Developing with the Chair, a meeting forward work programme (to be tabled at every meeting) to support the members of the Forum to direct the nature and the purpose of their meetings for the year.
   c. Providing for meetings with the Chair and relevant support staff/providers ahead of Forum meetings to ensure meetings are effective and productive.
   d. Preparation and distribution of the agenda as directed by the Chair.
   e. Provision of secretarial and democracy support to the Chair and the Forum meetings to ensure that resolutions are run effectively, and decisions are recorded correctly.
   g. Providing governance advice regarding conduct of Forum meetings and develop or review any policy or standard of the Forum that supports effective interaction between the members of the Forum and also any interaction with the public at a meeting.
   h. Arranging an effective and safe meeting venue for Hauraki Gulf Forum meetings and workshops.
   i. Arranging any catering services required by the Chair.

2. Provide **general management** support, including:
   a. Being the first point of contact for Forum inquiries and work closely with the democracy services provider, the financial services provider, and the communications service provider to ensure meetings cover the relevant matters.
   b. Supporting the Chair and the Forum to develop an annual staff work programme, a meeting forward work programme and an annual budget, for approval at Forum meeting.
   c. Keeping the Chair updated of any variances to the annual budget and report half yearly to the Forum on actual and forecast expenditure.
   d. Leading, coordinating and project managing the successful delivery of agreed Forum projects.
   e. Managing contracts/contractors to support the delivery for the Forum’s work programme.
   f. Supporting the Forum to deliver its statutory reporting obligations, including the Annual Report and State of the Environment report.
   g. Coordinating constituent party reporting in a manner that supports the Forum to co-ordinate activity and budget across jurisdictional boundaries.
   h. Meeting with constituent party bodies at least once annually to inform them of the work of the Forum.
   i. Coordinating the Technical Officers Group meetings, including scheduling, hosting, preparing agendas and minutes as required.
   j. Providing technical and governance advice and input to the Forum, Forum members, consistent party representatives, stakeholders and the general public.
3. Provide **financial management** support, including:
   a. Administering the member contributions.
   b. Producing financial reports as required, but not less than biannually.
   c. When directed, seeking funding contributions from other funding agencies and
      administering these funds in a transparent manner.
   d. In conjunction with the Forum Chair, set internal policies for the oversight and
      management of the Hauraki Gulf Forum revenue and expenditure.

4. Provide **communications management** support, including:
   a. Development of press releases to support the effective work of the Forum.
   b. Management and use of any logo or proprietary material developed by the Forum.
   c. Co-ordination with other agencies (including individual Forum constituent parties)
      on the public release of documents or media announcements including the use of
      their logos.

5. Provide adequate records to the Auckland Council to enable the Auckland Council as the
   Administrating Authority to meet its records requirements as set out in Section 27 of the
   Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act.

**The Hauraki Gulf Forum members agree that:**

6. On an annual basis at a Hauraki Gulf Forum meeting, the Forum will formally agree the work
   programme and associated budget for the following financial year including:
   a. The quantum of membership contribution payable for the following financial year.
   b. The costs of administrative and servicing functions of the Forum, to be supplied by
      the Administrative Authority in accordance with this agreement.

7. On an annual basis when formally agreeing the budget for the following financial year,
   consider appropriate allocation of any accumulated funds.

8. A review of the effectiveness of the Administrating Authority support will be undertaken at
   least every three years as directed by the Chair.

**Agreement term**

9. The term of this agreement is from date of resolution and will expire on date of resolution
   plus three years (as per section 28(1) of the Act, a minimum of three years), with an option
   to renew for a further three years.

10. The Forum acknowledge that the administering authority employs staff to fulfil the
     Administrating Authority functions, and therefore, should there be an intention not to renew
     this decision, will take into account the employment arrangements of the Auckland Council.

**Date adopted**
Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To provide analysis of the Hauraki Gulf Forum’s 2017/18 budget, and
2. To present a proposed 2018/19 budget for consideration.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
3. The financial year for the Forum is July to June, therefore it is necessary that the Forum considers its 2018/19 budget at its meeting on 14 May.
4. This report presents an interim forward budget and recommends that the Forum revisit the budget once there is greater clarity regarding its strategic issues and forward work programme.
5. This report also presents a financial report for the 2017/18 year (to end of March 2018).
6. The Forum hasn’t previously received detailed financial reports and in preparation of this report, staff have identified a number of areas for improvement. This report makes recommendations to address these.
7. An area for improvement relates to the historical practice of Auckland Council absorbing some costs associated with servicing the Forum, particularly regarding democracy services and financial services. This is estimated to be approximately $27,250 per annum. This report recommends that these costs be funded through constituent party contributions from hereon.
8. The Forum also has an accumulated surplus as at end of April 2018 of $125,523. The Forum presently has no guidance regarding the use of accumulated surplus. This report provides for the Forum to consider whether it wants to use a portion of the accumulated surplus to offset the 2018/19 interim budget.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) receive the Hauraki Gulf Forum 2017/18 budget analysis and 2018/19 budget report.

b) in accordance with Section 19 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, fund the full costs associated with the Administrative Authority support as part of its forward budget, on the proviso that these costs are presented and agreed as part of the Forum’s forward budget.

c) adopt the 2018/19 interim budget.

d) agree to revisit the 2018/19 budget following the setting of the Forum’s strategic issues and more detailed work program.

e) fund the 2018/19 interim budget in accordance with its agreed funding formula (detailed in Attachment A – Appendix B).

OR

f) agree to use $100,000 of its accumulated surplus to fund the 2018/19 interim budget with the balance of the interim budget being funded in accordance with the agreed funding formula.
Horopaki / Context

9. The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (HGMPA) provides for the Hauraki Gulf Forum to agree costs associated with the administration and servicing of the Forum as well as costs associated with undertaking the Forum’s powers.

10. Section 19 of the HGMPA 2000 outlines that
   (1) The administrative and servicing functions of the Forum and the costs of those functions must be agreed from time to time by the Forum.
   (2) Unless the constituent parties agree otherwise, the costs agreed under subsection (1) must be divided equally among the constituent parties and each constituent party must pay 1 share of the costs.
   (3) Administrative and servicing costs are not payable by constituent parties who are tangata whenua representatives.

11. Section 20 of the HGMPA 2000 states that
   (1) The Forum may undertake an activity under section 18(2)(e) if—
       (a) a majority of the representatives agrees to undertake the activity; and
       (b) 1 or more of the constituent parties (other than tangata whenua representatives) agree in advance to pay the costs of the activity.
   (2) If the costs of an activity are not agreed in advance, the Forum must not proceed with the activity.
   (3) Section 18(3) does not affect the powers of a constituent party to take proceedings and, in particular, does not affect the powers of a constituent party to enforce an agreement made in accordance with subsection (1).
   (4) This section does not apply to the administrative and servicing functions in section 19.

12. In its Governance Statement (last adopted March 2011), the Forum agreed a methodology for apportioning the Forum’s budgets amongst the constituent parties.

13. The financial year for the Forum is July to June.

14. The budgets adopted by the Forum have previously been adopted alongside a work plan, and the most recent budget/work plan was adopted at the Forum’s meeting of 15 May 2017 for the 2017/18 year.

15. The 2017/18 work plan and budget adopted in May 2017 was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of the Gulf assessment (annualised contribution)</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications (annual report, web site, seminar, award and education initiatives)</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitation of responses to issues (including whale strike and seabird capture)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating model changes*</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$150,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive support</strong></td>
<td><strong>$125,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The $40,000 for operating model was approved at a special meeting of the Forum on 29 June 2017 (resolution HGF/2017/21)
16. The funding formula for the 2017/18 budget was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Contribution per Sector</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Population in the Gulf Catchment (2006)</th>
<th>Percentage Population</th>
<th>Percentage Contribution per Project</th>
<th>Land Area in the Gulf Catchment</th>
<th>Percent Land Area</th>
<th>Percentage Contribution per Project</th>
<th>% Population: % land area (60:40 weighting)</th>
<th>Contribution to a $275,000 budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>MFish</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>$30,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DoC</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>$30,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TPK</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>$30,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>EW</td>
<td>75,624</td>
<td>7.13</td>
<td>2.36</td>
<td>566,137</td>
<td>72.25</td>
<td>24.13</td>
<td>11.08</td>
<td>$30,473</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AC</td>
<td>985,029</td>
<td>92.87</td>
<td>31.02</td>
<td>217,890</td>
<td>27.75</td>
<td>9.27</td>
<td>22.32</td>
<td>$61,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>AC</td>
<td>985,029</td>
<td>92.87</td>
<td>30.93</td>
<td>217,890</td>
<td>29.45</td>
<td>9.81</td>
<td>22.48</td>
<td>$61,816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WDC</td>
<td>1,775</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>15,051</td>
<td>2.04</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>$840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HDC</td>
<td>17,757</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>124,355</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>5.02</td>
<td>2.58</td>
<td>$7,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TCDC</td>
<td>25,944</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>218,980</td>
<td>29.71</td>
<td>9.89</td>
<td>4.45</td>
<td>$12,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MPDC</td>
<td>30,147</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>161,567</td>
<td>21.62</td>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>3.49</td>
<td>$9,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,952,653</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>727,932</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. There has previously been no regular financial report presented at the Forum’s quarterly meetings and the Forum has requested a more detailed breakdown of expenditure against budget be provided within the Executive Officer’s report from now on.

18. In preparation of this financial report staff, have identified a number of areas for improvement with the presentation of the current budget being:

   a) The treatment of GST was not stated clearly.

      Consequently, the 2017/18 budget presented above has been invoiced inclusive of GST in error, providing a cash shortfall of $31,000 in the 2017/18 budget.

   b) Historically, the Auckland Council contribution has been treated differently to other constituent party contributions. The Auckland Council contribution is not invoiced as per the agreed funding formula and is the case with other constituent parties, but instead the costs associated with the employment of the Executive Officer, as incurred by Auckland Council, have been considered to be the Auckland Council contribution. This practice has occurred for many years and (as shown in the budget above) is itemised separately as ‘Executive Support’ at a set amount of $125,000 per annum.

   c) The Auckland Council has not been presenting the full costs associated with supporting the Forum, and has in practice been absorbing the costs associated with democracy services and meeting support, financial and communications support, likely in order of $27,250 per annum.

   d) Forum members will be aware that it has been common practice to accumulate funds in advance for the State of the Environment report, through an annualised contribution of $50,000 per annum, rather than constituent parties contributing a larger contribution once every three years.

      The Forum has accumulated a surplus over a number of years. As at end of April the accumulated surplus is $125,523.

      The Forum presently has no agreed guidance or policy on the treatment of accumulated surplus.
2017/18 budget analysis

19. A report of revenue and expenditure to end of April 2018, expenditure against budget for the 2017/18 year is included as Attachment A - Appendix A.

20. Revenue from constituent party contributions is shown $31,000 lower than forecast, due to an invoicing error regarding the treatment of GST.

21. Despite this, the overall position of the 2017/18 budget is still favourable, due to the State of the Gulf report expenditure being $23,000 under budget, and the $40,000 assigned for an operating model review not being utilised.

2018/19 proposed budget

22. The Forum is currently reconsidering its strategic issues, from which the forward work programme of the Forum will be determined.

23. There are a number of activities on the current work programme that are continuous. These include statutory requirements such as the production of the Annual Report, and existing commitments including the Gulf Seminar and Gulf Journal as well as the administrative costs associated with servicing the Forum.

24. A 2018/19 budget has been prepared for consideration, and this is being presented as an interim budget.

25. The interim budget includes funding more fully the services currently provided by the Administrative Authority. The Executive Officer contribution has historically been $125,000 per annum. Staff propose that this be kept constant for the 2018/19 until greater clarity regarding a permanent appointment is known. $20,000 has been budgeted to cover costs associated with meeting support services (four x meetings and two x workshops). A 5% overhead has then been applied as a contribution to financial, HR and communications services (total $7,250).

26. This budget does not include funds for an operating model review (as per the 2017/18 budget).

27. Staff recommend that the budget be revisited when the Forum has an agreed set of strategic issues and then undertake further work to determine its forward work programme.

28. As an interim budget, staff propose the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2018/19 interim budget (excluding GST)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of the Environment report (annualised contribution)</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications (includes annual report, web site, seminar, awards).</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education project – Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Poster</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitation of responses to issues (including whale strike and seabird capture)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative authority expenses (including Executive Officer, financial and secretarial services)</td>
<td>$152,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$262,250</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

29. With regards to funding formula, staff have not recommended any adjustments at this point in time.
30. The proposed interim budget against the funding formula is presented as Attachment A - Appendix B.

31. Given that the Forum currently has an accumulated surplus of $125,523, the Forum has the option to not request constituent party contributions at this time, but fund the interim 2018/19 budget from the accumulated surplus.

Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments

<table>
<thead>
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Hauraki Gulf Forum - Budget report</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Katina Conomos – Interim Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor - GM Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix A: Hauraki Gulf Forum Financial Report to end of April 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Forecast</th>
<th>Actual to end of April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of the Environment report (assume 3 x annual contributions of $50,000)</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$126,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications (Annual report, web site, seminar, award and education initiatives)</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$45,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitation of response to issues (including whale strike and seabird capture)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$15,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating model changes</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive support</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>$120,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>$510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>$375,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$309,994</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Forecast</th>
<th>Actual to end of April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constituent Party contributions (2017/18)</td>
<td>$151,806</td>
<td>$131,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auckland Council contribution (2017/18)</td>
<td>$123,194</td>
<td>$120,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship (2 x $10,000 towards the Gulf Posters project)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue in advance for State of the Environment report</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$375,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$372,558</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Forecast revenue less expenditure**                                         | $-        | $62,564                |

**Accumulated surplus balance as at end of April 2018**                      | $125,523  |

All costs are presented exclusive of GST
### Appendix B: Funding model for 2018/19 interim budget of $262,250

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Population in the Gulf catchment (2006)</th>
<th>Percentage population</th>
<th>Percentage contribution per project</th>
<th>Land area in the Gulf Catchment</th>
<th>Percent Land Area</th>
<th>Percentage contribution per project</th>
<th>% population: % land area (60:40 weighting)</th>
<th>Contribution to a $262,250 budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mfish</td>
<td>33.30%</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.10%</td>
<td>$29,188.34</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.10%</td>
<td>$29,188.34</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPK</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.10%</td>
<td>$29,188.34</td>
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Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report
1. To provide an update regarding the Interim Executive Officer arrangements.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary
2. Ms. Katina Conomos is providing temporary coverage of the Executive Officer role.
3. The Forum continues to be in a transitory and evolutionary phase with the pending resignation of the Forum chairperson, and the Forum being in the process of setting its Strategic Issues.
4. On this basis, staff recommend continuing with the temporary coverage of the Executive Officer role for the time being.
5. However, if the Forum makes progress on its Strategic Issues and work programme in the coming months, and the chairperson and deputy chairperson, along with Auckland Council determine that there is enough certainty to recruit, that recruitment could occur. Delegation is therefore being sought for the chairperson and deputy chairperson to work with Auckland Council in recruitment of a permanent Executive Officer if required.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
   a) note the Hauraki Gulf Forum – Executive Officer Recruitment report.
   b) delegate the chairperson and deputy chairperson to support Auckland Council recruit an Executive Officer for the Hauraki Gulf Forum, if the chairperson, deputy chairperson and Auckland Council deem it appropriate to commence recruitment between now and the next Forum meeting.

Horopaki / Context
6. As reported to the Forum in February 2018, the Auckland Council have engaged Ms. Katina Conomos to provide temporary coverage of the Executive Officer role.
7. At the meeting on 19 February 2018, the Forum resolved to postpone the recruitment of an Executive Officer for the Hauraki Gulf Forum until May 2018 (resolution number HGF/2018/8).
8. The arrangement made with Ms. Conomos is flexible, whereby, her support is available to the Forum and the Auckland Council until a permanent arrangement is put in place.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu / Analysis and advice
9. Staff’s observation is that the Forum continues to be in a transitory and evolutionary phase, both with the pending resignation of the Forum chairperson, and the Forum being in the process of setting its Strategic Issues.
10. A new chairperson and a new set of Strategic Issues is likely to have an impact on the forward work programme of the Forum.

11. For the time being, Ms. Conomos is providing support to ensure that the existing commitments of the Forum are met, and until such time as there is a clearer strategic direction from the Forum no new initiatives or programmes are being developed or explored. The work of the Forum remains in a holding pattern.

12. As a separate item on this agenda, the Forum is being asked to consider adopting a Service Level Agreement with the Auckland Council as the Administering Authority. This Agreement sets out broadly the responsibilities and expectations of the Executive Officer and has been used to prepare an updated job description for the Executive Officer role.

13. However, it may yet take some time for the Forum to agree its new Strategic Issues and forward work programme.

14. Until there is a clearer forward work programme for the Forum, staff suggest continuing with the current temporary arrangement, of an Interim Executive Officer.

15. If the Forum makes progress with its Strategic Issues and forward work programme in the coming months, it may be desirable to recruit an Executive Officer between now and the next Forum meeting. Given this, it is recommended that the chairperson and deputy chairperson be delegated to work with Auckland Council regarding the recruitment of an Executive Officer, if required, between now and the next Forum meeting.

Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments
There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Katina Conomos – Interim Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor - GM Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
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