

The North Barrier Residents and Ratepayers Association (Inc.)

The Secretary
Box 47, Okiwi Post
Great Barrier Island
17th September 2018

Great Barrier Island Local Board

Dear Board Members,

The issue of Marine Biosecurity has raised its head here with the discovery of Mediterranean fanworm in Port FitzRoy harbour. Luckily the outbreak has been contained and the Auckland Council Biosecurity Team are monitoring the sites on a regular basis.

Given that the inner Auckland harbour is heavily infected with Mediterranean fanworm the potential for transmission to Great Barrier by the thousands of visiting boats each summer is real. If any of these boats clean their hulls while in our waters, the risk is hugely increased.

The Webster Family Trust's Smokehouse Bay facility in FitzRoy Harbour has poles placed in the tidal zone which are used by visiting yachts for maintenance and cleaning. Although this is not a permitted activity in these waters, the facility has no oversight by any agency or even signage warning boaties of the threat.

As the local ratepayer organisation we are looking at any measures that will reduce the risk of this invasive species getting established here. It is clear that this a marine pest invasion accident waiting to happen.

We have started correspondence with the Webster Family Trust on this matter and requested that we have dialogue. We will keep the Local Board informed of our suggestions to the Trust and any outcomes from the dialogue.

Yours sincerely

David Speir

Secretary

NBR&R