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

**Date:** Monday, 24 August 2020  
**Time:** 1.00pm  
**Meeting Room:** This meeting will be held remotely

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### Hauraki Gulf Forum

**OPEN AGENDA**

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#### MEMBERSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Co-chairperson</th>
<th>Co-chairperson</th>
<th>Tangata Whenua</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Cr Pippa Coom  | Ms Nicola MacDonald | | Auckland Council  
|                |                 | Tangata Whenua |
| Cr Donna Arnold | Mr Andrew Baucke | Matamata-Piako District Council |
| Cr Phillip Buckthought | Mr Joe Davis | Hauraki District Council |
| Cr Christine Fletcher | Mr Joe Davis | Auckland Council |
| Mayor Sandra Goudie | Ms Cath Handle | Thames-Coromandel District Council |
| Ms Cath Handle | Mr Terrence Hohneck | Waiheke Local Board (Auckland Council) |
| Mr Jacob Hore | Mr Paul Majurey | Tangata Whenua |
| Mr Paul Majurey | Mr Martin Mariassouce | Te Puni Kōkiri |
| Cr Rob McGuire | Mr Scott Milne | Orakei Local Board (Auckland Council) |
| Mr Dean Ogilvie | Cr Denis Tegg | Waikato Regional Council |
| Ms Valmaine Toki | Ms Valmaine Toki | Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board (Auckland Council) |
| Cr Wayne Walker | Cr John Watson | Auckland Council |
| Ms Amelia Williams | Ms Amelia Williams | Tangata Whenua |

(Quorum 11 members)
Selected extracts from the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000

3 Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to—

(a) integrate the management of the natural, historic, and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments:
(b) establish the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park:
(c) establish objectives for the management of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments:
(d) recognise the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of the tangata whenua with the Hauraki Gulf and its islands:
(e) establish the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

Part 1 Management of Hauraki Gulf

7 Recognition of national significance of Hauraki Gulf

(1) The interrelationship between the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments and the ability of that interrelationship to sustain the life-supporting capacity of the environment of the Hauraki Gulf and its islands are matters of national significance.

(2) The life-supporting capacity of the environment of the Gulf and its islands includes the capacity—

(a) to provide for—
   (i) the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of the tangata whenua of the Gulf with the Gulf and its islands; and
   (ii) the social, economic, recreational, and cultural well-being of people and communities:

(b) to use the resources of the Gulf by the people and communities of the Gulf and New Zealand for economic activities and recreation:

(c) to maintain the soil, air, water, and ecosystems of the Gulf.

8 Management of Hauraki Gulf

To recognise the national significance of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments, the objectives of the management of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments are—

(a) the protection and, where appropriate, the enhancement of the life-supporting capacity of the environment of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments:

(b) the protection and, where appropriate, the enhancement of the natural, historic, and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments:

(c) the protection and, where appropriate, the enhancement of those natural, historic, and physical resources (including kaimoana) of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments with which tangata whenua have an historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship:

(d) the protection of the cultural and historic associations of people and communities in and around the Hauraki Gulf with its natural, historic, and physical resources:

(e) the maintenance and, where appropriate, the enhancement of the contribution of the natural, historic, and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments to the social and economic well-being of the people and communities of the Hauraki Gulf and New Zealand:
the maintenance and, where appropriate, the enhancement of the natural, historic, and physical resources of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments, which contribute to the recreation and enjoyment of the Hauraki Gulf for the people and communities of the Hauraki Gulf and New Zealand.

Part 2 Hauraki Gulf Forum

15 Purposes of Forum

The Forum has the following purposes:

(a) to 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:

(b) to facilitate communication, co-operation, and co-ordination on matters relating to the statutory functions of the constituent parties in relation to the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments, and the Forum:

(c) to recognise the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of tangata whenua with the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and, where appropriate, its catchments.

16 Establishment of Forum

(1) A body called the Hauraki Gulf Forum is established.

(2) The Forum consists of the following representatives:

(a) 1 representative appointed by the Minister:

(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 boards.

(3) The representatives appointed in accordance with subsection (2)(d) or (5) must be members of the local authority elected in accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001.
17 Functions of Forum

(1) To promote sections 7 and 8, the Forum has the following functions in relation to the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments:

(a) to prepare a list of strategic issues, determine a priority for action on each issue, and regularly review that list:
(b) to facilitate and encourage co-ordinated financial planning, where possible, by the constituent parties:
(c) to obtain, share, and monitor information on the state of the natural and physical resources:
(d) to receive reports on the completion and implementation of deeds of recognition:
(e) to require and receive reports from constituent parties on the development and implementation of policies and strategies to address the issues identified under paragraph (a):
(f) to receive reports from the tangata whenua of the Hauraki Gulf on the development and implementation of iwi management or development plans:
(g) to 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):
(h) to promote and advocate the integrated management and, where appropriate, the sustainable management of the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments:
(i) to encourage, share, co-ordinate where appropriate, and disseminate educational and promotional material:
(j) to 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:
(k) to commission research into matters relating to the functions of the Forum.

(2) When carrying out its functions under subsection (1), 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.

18 Powers of Forum

(1) The Forum has the powers that are reasonably necessary to carry out its functions.

(2) The Forum’s powers include the powers—

(a) to consider issues related to its purpose; and
(b) to receive reports from constituent parties; and
(c) to make recommendations to constituent parties; and
(d) to advise any person who requests the Forum’s advice; and
(e) to commission or undertake those activities that are necessary to achieve its purpose.

(3) The Forum must not—

(a) appear before a court or tribunal other than as a witness if called by a party to proceedings; or
(b) take part in a decision-making process under any enactment other than to advise when requested to do so.
Karakia
Mihi Whakatau

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Apologies</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Declaration of Interest</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Confirmation of Minutes</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Public Forum</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Public Forum - Whole of Hauraki Plains mapping - Stepping up waterway restoration planning - Meg Graeme</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>Public Forum - Hauraki Gulf Watershed: One Drop at a Time</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Public Forum - The Waiheke Marine Project - Waiheke ki uta, Waiheke ki tai, Waiheke ki tua</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>Public Forum - Draft Waiheke Area Plan - outcomes and actions relating to the Hauraki Gulf</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Public Forum - Waitematā Local Board Notice of Motion</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Extraordinary Business</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Co-Chairs' Report</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Stocktakes on Riparian Planting and Marine Dumping</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Annual Report 2019 / 2020</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Executive Officer's Report</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Any Other Business</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Consideration of Extraordinary Items</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PUBLIC EXCLUDED

| 12   | Procedural Motion to Exclude the Public                                                                                                                                                                              | 103  |
| C1   | Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari Marine Spatial Plan - Government Response Strategy                                                                         | 103  |

Karakia
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, 25 May 2020, as a true and correct record.

4 Public Forum
4.1 Public Forum - Whole of Hauraki Plains mapping - Stepping up waterway restoration planning - Meg Graeme
Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report
1. Meg Graeme will present on the following:
   Water quality has become such a serious problem in the Hauraki Plains and Firth of Thames that urgent action is needed now. Our current incremental small-scale restoration efforts aren’t enough. This presentation suggests an initial step to help achieve the level of waterway restoration many have been calling for.

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
a) thank Meg Graeme for her presentation.

4.2 Public Forum - Hauraki Gulf Watershed: One Drop at a Time
Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report
1. Elisabeth Vaneveld will present on the following:
   As a Gulf Innovation Fund Together (GIFT) recipient, our presentation describes the two phases of Hauraki Gulf Watershed to date, our current work focus and how in coming months, Forum members can participate in our project feedback loops.

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
a) thank Elisabeth Vaneveld for her presentation.
4.3 Public Forum - The Waiheke Marine Project - Waiheke ki uta, Waiheke ki tai, Waiheke ki tua

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report
1. Dean Ogilvie will present on the following:

   The Waiheke Marine project is a collaborative iwi and community-led project, aiming to protect and regenerate Waiheke Island’s marine environment through the use of action-based kaitiakitanga (guardianship).

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) thank Dean Ogilvie for his presentation.

4.4 Public Forum - Draft Waiheke Area Plan - outcomes and actions relating to the Hauraki Gulf

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report
1. Michele Perwick will present on the following:

   Led by the Waiheke Local Board, the area plan is a 30-year vision to help shape the future of Waiheke and the other inner Hauraki Gulf Islands to ensure a more sustainable and liveable future. Having a shared vision will help support the key challenges of population growth, shared prosperity and environmental degradation at a local level, guiding future decision making and investments.

   While the wider Hauraki Gulf marine area is not part of the study area, its health and vitality is fundamental to the wellbeing of people and ecosystems. This close relationship is recognised throughout the draft area plan. The presentation summarises, in relation to the Hauraki Gulf, the key outcomes sought and actions to be delivered through the projects and initiatives identified in the plan.

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) thank Michele Perwick for her presentation.
4.5 Public Forum - Waitematā Local Board Notice of Motion

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose of the report

1. Alexandra Bonham, Waitematā Local Board member will present on the following:
   The Waitematā Local Board Notice of Motion was passed unanimously in June 2020 and other local boards in Auckland have since raised their own notices of motion. This presentation will demonstrate the widespread desire to protect and restore the Hauraki Gulf and the investment that is being put into this work by various council agencies and community groups. See Attachment A for Notice of Motion.

Ngā tūtohunga

Recommendation/s

That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) thank Alexandra Bonham for her presentation.

Attachments

A Notice of Motion.............................................................. 107

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.”
Co-Chairs' Report

File No.: CP2020/11274

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose of the report

1. To provide an update on progress from the Co-Chairs.

Whakarāpopototanga matua

Executive summary

2. Key actions since last meeting:
   - Hui with Minister of Conservation
   - Hui with Minister for Māori Development
   - Media engagement on Forum’s four big goals
   - Submission in support of rāhui proposal from Ngāti Tamaterā
   - Collaboration with Auckland Conservation Board
   - Enquiry to Auckland Council re Pākiri sand consent application
   - Visit to Waikato members

3. The past few months have been very positive, headlined by our meetings with the Minister of Conservation and Minister for Māori Development. Both Ministers were delighted to hear of our adoption a co-governance leadership model and four ambitious goals for the Marine Park.

4. Minister Mahuta has kindly invited the Forum to submit a Briefing to Incoming Ministers (BIM), a rare honour for an independent statutory body like the Forum. We will be working on this over the coming weeks and will circulate a draft for your input. We need to be ready to submit it to the incoming government after the general election.

5. It was great to get back out there while we were at COVID Level 1. From planting native trees at the launch of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki’s new ngahere on Motutapu, attending Ngāti Rehua – Ngātiwai ki Aotea and Minister Sage’s declaration of Rakitū as our latest pest-free motu in the Marine Park, and our visit to all five of our Waikato authorities, it has been wonderful to be out amongst it in contrast to the lockdown of the previous period. In all those interactions it has been notable how positive the feedback has been on the Forum’s recent developments. This is true too of media coverage on the Forum and its goals over the past few months. Co-Chair Nicola MacDonald is now a regular on radio as we continue to get the message out.

6. As of writing we are unsure if our meeting will go ahead in person in Te Aroha, as planned, or online due to developments with COVID-19. Highlights for this meeting include public presentations on community and local initiatives, and the stocktakes on riparian planning and marine dumping. But it is the item on the government’s draft response strategy to Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari which is likely to be the most critical. This strategy has the potential to transform the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park and will be a key consideration for us in the months ahead.

7. Following this meeting we will have one final hui this year on 30 November - hopefully in Miranda, hosted by Hauraki District Council. That will be a good time to reflect and plan, but also to look deeper at climate change and our threatened birds given the location.
8. As always, our correspondence through the last period is appended to this report. You will find our letters to Ministers, submission to MPI, letter to the Auckland Conservation Board, and letter to Auckland Council. See Appendices A-F. Some accompanying photos below.

(Top: meeting with Minister Sage. Left: declaring Rakitū pest free. Right: planting harakeke on Motutapu.)
Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) note the Co-Chairs’ report.
Ngā tāpirihanga

Attachments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Letter to Minister Sage</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Letter to Minister Mahuta</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Letter to Minister Nash</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Letter to MPI</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Letter to Conservation Board</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Letter to Auckland Council</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ngā kaihaina

Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cr Pippa Coom – Co-Chairperson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Nicola MacDonald – Co-Chairperson Tangata Whenua</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hauraki Gulf Forum Co-Governance, Ambitious Goals for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park

“He waka kōtuita kāhore e tukutukua ngā mīmīra.”

A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow. In unity there is strength.

29 May 2020

Tēnā koe e te Minita,

Thank you for your letters congratulating us on our appointments as the first Co-Chairs, and first wāhine, to lead the Hauraki Gulf Forum. The Forum’s recent move to a co-governance leadership model, cemented by our adoption this week of a new Governance Statement, demonstrates our commitment to operating more fully in partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

This week was also an important one for our vision for the future of the Hauraki Gulf. The Forum adopted a 2020-2022 Work Plan, which included an ambitious updated set of four big goals for the Marine Park:

1. At least 30 per cent marine protection (*up from the 20 per cent goal established in 2019)
2. 1000sqkm of shellfish-bed and reef restoration
3. Riparian planting of the Gulf’s catchment (new goal)
4. An end to marine dumping in or near to the Gulf (new goal)

These goals, together with our guiding strategic issues of integrated management, water quality, and marine ecosystems, foreshadow an action-oriented period ahead. As our latest 2020 State of our Gulf report states only too clearly, the time for action is now.

Minister, we will lead a Forum that is not shy to take a public stand on these issues. We will also do everything in our power to steer the waka forward on these long-running and complex challenges facing Te Moananui-ō-Toi, Tikapa Moana.

We look forward to discussing this with you at the earliest opportunity, in advance of the election.

Nā māua noa, nā
Item 6

Nicola MacDonald  
Co-Chair – Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom  
Co-Chair

Attachments:
- Hauraki Gulf Forum Governance Statement
- Hauraki Gulf Forum 2020-2022 Work Plan
Hon. Nanaia Mahuta
Minister for Māori Development
Parliament

Hauraki Gulf Forum Co-Governance, Ambitious Goals for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park

“He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira.”
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29 May 2020

Tēnā koe e te Minita,

This week the Hauraki Gulf Forum adopted a new Governance Statement, cementing our move to a co-governance leadership model and demonstrating our commitment to operating more fully in partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Your challenge to us in February 2019 to ensure that the Forum is delivering for Māori has remained a guiding light for us in this regard.

It was also an important week for our vision for the future of the Hauraki Gulf. The Forum adopted a 2020-2022 Work Plan, which included an ambitious updated set of four big goals for the Marine Park:

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Co-Chair – Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom
Co-Chair

Attachments:

- Hauraki Gulf Forum Governance Statement
- Hauraki Gulf Forum 2020-2022 Work Plan
Hauraki Gulf Forum Co-Governance, Ambitious Goals for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park

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Item 6

Nicola MacDonald  
Co-Chair – Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom  
Co-Chair

Attachments:
- Hauraki Gulf Forum Governance Statement
- Hauraki Gulf Forum 2020-2022 Work Plan
David Scranney
Manager
Customary Fisheries and Spatial Allocations
Fisheries New Zealand (Ministry of Primary Industries)

Re: Request for a temporary fishing closure of Te Mata and Waipatukahu, west Coromandel, to the harvest of pipi, cockles, mussels and oysters

“He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira.”
A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow. In unity there is strength.

12 June 2020

Tēnā koe David,

Thank you for the opportunity to be consulted on this request and to make a submission.

The Hauraki Gulf Forum fully supports the request by the Ngāti Tamaterā Treaty Settlement Trust, on behalf of Ngāti Tamaterā, for a two-year rāhui. This iwi-led closure will help restore the mauri of Tikapa Moana, Te Moananui-ā-Toi.

The Forum would welcome collaboration on all similar future developments in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park at the earliest possible stage.

Nā māua noa, nā

Nicola MacDonald
Co-Chair – Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom
Co-Chair
Lyn Mayes
Chair
Auckland Conservation Board

Re: State of our Gulf 2020 report

"He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira."
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12 June 2020

Tēnā koe Lyn,
Thank you for your very kind and supportive letter dated 20 May 2020. We deeply appreciate the leadership shown by you and all members of the Auckland Conservation Board in progressing our shared kaupapa of restoring the mauri of Te Moananui-ā-Toi, Tikapa Moana.

A few days after receiving your letter the Forum took its next step, adopting two significant documents:

1. A new Governance Statement, cementing our move to a co-governance leadership model.

With this new framework in place, we see many opportunities ahead to work together and leverage off our respective strengths to deliver lasting, positive change. In that regard we would be delighted to present on this at a future meeting of the Auckland Conservation Board if that would be welcome. In addition, given the Marine Park encompasses both the Auckland and Waikato marine areas, we are copying this letter to the Chair of the Waikato Conservation Board in the hope that a similar opportunity could be found with that Board – or even with both Boards together should that be possible.

Nā māua noa, nā

Nicola MacDonald
Co-Chair – Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom
Co-Chair
Item 6

Attachments:

1. Governance Statement
2. 2020-2022 Work Plan

Copy to:

Chair Alan Cockle, Waikato Conservation Board
Members, Hauraki Gulf Forum
Resource Consents  
Auckland Council  
enquiry@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

CC Kaipara Limited  
david@osbornehay.co.nz

Re: Resource Consent Application CST60343373 by Kaipara Limited to extract up to a total of 2,000,000m$^2$ of sand from an area of 44km$^2$ within the coastal marine area over a 20 year period.

"He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira."

A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow. In unity there is strength.

4 June 2020

Tēnā koe,

This application has been drawn to our attention as the area concerned falls wholly within the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, as defined by the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (HGMPA).

Under Section 9(4) "a consent authority must, when considering an application for a resource consent for the Hauraki Gulf, its islands, and catchments, have regard to sections 7 and 8 in addition to the matters contained in the Resource Management Act 1991”.

HGMPA Section 7 “Recognition of national significance of Hauraki Gulf” covers, inter alia, the life-supporting capacity of the Gulf, the historic, traditional, cultural and spiritual relationship of the tangata whenua of the Gulf with the Gulf, and the maintenance of the soil, air, water and ecosystems of the Gulf.

HGMPA Section 8 "Management of Hauraki Gulf" covers, inter alia, the maintenance, protection and where appropriate, enhancement of the natural, historic and physical resources of the Gulf.

In addition, under Section 10(1) “for the coastal environment of the Hauraki Gulf, sections 7 and 8 must be treated as a New Zealand coastal policy statement issued under the Resource Management Act 1991”.

Furthermore, it is our understanding that the special sand in the closed system around Pakiri is unique and finite, having come into the Gulf during the period prior to around 1800 years ago when the Waikato river historically discharged into the Firth of Thames. Associate Professor Dr Mike Hilton of the University of Otago is a leading authority on this.
This letter is not a formal submission on the resource consent but rather a request to the consenting authority to provide in due course a response which outlines how those sections of the HGMPA have been given due regard in the consideration of this application.

Nā māua noa, nā

Nicola MacDonald
Co-Chair – Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom
Co-Chair
Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report
1. To provide the Forum with stocktakes of the latest information and data relevant to its recently set goals of (i) riparian planting of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park catchment and (ii) ending marine dumping in or near to the Marine Park.

Whakarāpopototanga matua
Executive summary
2. Attached to this report are stocktakes on:
   • Riparian Planting (Attachment A – plus supporting attachments B to F)
   • Marine Dumping (Attachment G)

Riparian Planting
3. Key points are:
   • The Marine Park’s catchment is a significant area with extensive waterways.
   • We are seeing net gains of restored riparian areas year on year, thanks to a large group of committed stakeholders including iwi and hapū. But at the current rate of progress it could take 200 years to plant remaining waterways, and climate change will have an increasingly negative impact on progress.
   • Riparian planting is eminently scalable with further funding, labour, access to land and nursery production. It delivers good environmental, social and cultural outcomes.
   • The regulatory/policy landscape is shifting in favour of this goal at present, with central government reforms and regional plan changes placing more emphasis on riparian areas/waterway health.

Marine Dumping
4. Key points are:
   • Dumping consents currently exist for two sites near the Marine Park boundary: one off Aotea / Great Barrier (one consent, expiring 2032) and one off Repanga / Cuvier (one consent, expiring 2054).
   • Both dumping consents have corresponding dredging consents.
   • The current legislative framework is permissive of marine dumping and separates the dumping and dredging issues.

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
   a) note the Stocktakes on Riparian Planting and Marine Dumping report.
Ngā tāpirihanga

Attachments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Stocktake on Riparian Planting</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>WRC Map</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>AC Map #1</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>AC Map #2</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>AC Map #3</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>AC Initiatives</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Stocktake on Marine Dumping</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ngā kaihaina

Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Alex Rogers - Executive Officer Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor – General Manager Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
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Stocktake on Riparian Planting in the Hauraki Gulf Catchment

This stocktake provides a high-level snapshot of the extent of known riparian planting in the Marine Park’s catchment. It also puts some rough numbers around the forward commitment required to deliver the Forum’s goal of riparian planting of the whole catchment.

But first, two definitions.

1. When we say the *catchment*, we use the definition from the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000: “catchment means any area of land where the surface water drains into the Hauraki Gulf”. This is the shaded area below.

2. *Riparian planting* refers to planting of the riparian margin, which is the area of land immediately either side of a waterway. The size of the riparian margin can vary, depending on applicable regulation/policy, plus factors specific to the site in question such as slope and soil type, and the environmental outcomes sought.
The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park has a large catchment with a significant riparian area.

- Total area = 737,000ha. Split Waikato 72%, Auckland 28%. (Out of interest, population in the catchment is the inverse: Auckland 93%, Waikato 7%.)
- Waterways = over 1200km of waterways in the catchment (or in excess of 24,000km of riparian area, taking both sides of the waterway). Split Waikato 70% Auckland 30%.

Before we get further into the data, a few caveats:

- Data has been drawn from available sources but is incomplete particularly in respect of (i) privately planting on private land with no connection to one of the data sets, and (ii) planting less than 3m in height (this is not covered in the canopy cover datasets used here, which are derived from aerial surveys using laser sensors). This suggests that the data presented in this report may underrepresent the actual level of riparian planting.
- While riparian planting is occurring at an increasing pace, land clearance and felling of trees for development and other purposes also continues. Some of the data captures this net effect, while other data sets do not. In addition, exotic vegetation is on occasion cleared for the explicit purpose of replanting native vegetation and could initially show up in the data as a net loss when it is merely a transitional period.

What do we know?

Waikato Regional Council

WRC data details that from 2002 until end-June 2020, WRC funding achieved:

- 633,646 plants added to riparian areas in the Waikato part of the catchment, along with 679km of fencing
- 553km of streambank retired, and 1360 hectares of land retired

This is represented visually in the attached map (Appendix A).

Auckland Council

AC data reveals that:

- An estimated 52% of riparian areas in the Auckland part of the catchment (using a generous 20m width) either have native vegetation or have been planted.
- Total canopy cover is estimated at 41% (this includes riparian and non-riparian vegetation), though this is helped by the inclusion of the Gulf islands, in particular Aotea and Hauturu.
- The net change over the most recent 2013-2016 period is a small increase in the riparian area planted: around 3% up. This is despite significant growth and development over that period.

Maps to support these figures are attached (see Appendices B, C and D).

In addition, Auckland Council’s current initiatives table (Appendix E) gives a sense of the many and varied programmes in progress, led by the likes of the Mayor’s Million Trees initiative, Sustainable Business Network (Million Metres), Local Boards, Kāinga Ora, Panuku, Department of Corrections, Community Groups and Trusts, among others. This also reinforces the importance of structure and
area planning, stream protection, planting protection as part of rural land use, and other planning
tools available to regional authorities.

Trees that Count

Trees That Count is both (i) a conservation charity bringing together business, community and
everyday Kiwis, with the vision of helping plant 200 million native trees across the country and (ii) a
repository portal for logging planting efforts (even those not arranged through Trees that Count). It
therefore gives some useful additional overall data for the four years since the portal was
established in 2016.

For example, in the Waikato region (broadly, not just the Hauraki side of the catchment, nor just
riparian) there have been over 8 million native trees planted since 2016 that were subsequently
logged on the portal. WRC is recorded as having done nearly 1.3 million of those, while Comvita NZ is
by far and away the #1 planter of natives – specifically manuka – in the Waikato region.

Auckland Council leads the way in the Auckland region with around 900,000 logged, with Watercare
having done a further 400,000. Several Gulf restoration trusts including the Motutapu and Motuihe
ones also feature strongly.

The largest funder through Trees that Count is the Department of Conservation.

1 Billion Trees (Te Uru Rākau)

Aiming for 1 billion trees by 2028, this Forestry NZ-led initiative will see the estimated 500 million
trees to be planted by commercial forestry over this period matched by 500 million other trees –
with $240 million in funding to achieve this. Like Trees that Count this data covers both riparian and
other planting, but in the case of 1BT is also limited to trees that can grow over 5m in height.

As of 5 August 2020, Forestry NZ estimates that nationally from 2018 – end 2020, 248 million trees
will have been planted. In 2020 alone, an estimated 95 million seedlings will be planted, of which 34
million of them will be as a result of 1BT funding – with 58% of those being natives. The latest
update report suggests that Auckland and Waikato combined have been receiving about 10-15% of
the funding dispersed, with the largest percentages going Canterbury, Bay of Plenty and Manawatu.

In the Marine Park, the latest 1BT partnership to get underway is with Ngāi Tāi ki Tāmaki on
Motutapu. This was launched in July 2020.

Million Metres (Sustainable Business Network)

Million Metres is an initiative of the Sustainable Business Network, with the aim of restoring at least
one million metres of waterways across Aotearoa New Zealand (1,000km, divided by two for both
sides of the waterway = 500km of waterways). It has completed projects nationally, with around one
third of total effort in the Hauraki Gulf catchment.

To date 62 waterway restoration projects have been supported with fundraising of over $1.6 million.
This has enabled more than 67,000 metres (67km) of waterways to be replanted, with over 500,000
plants. Further projects, including in the catchment, are close to being launched. Million Metres is
also a partner for many of the other initiatives listed here.

Sustainable Business Network also has a Partnering to Plant program through which 11 jobs
have been created for wetland and waterway restoration in the catchment – an investment of nearly
$200,000.
Dairy NZ

Planting connected to Dairy NZ is also recorded on Trees that Count, with over 300,000 trees planted in the Waikato region in 2016. Dairy NZ runs the public The Vision is Clear campaign, which has broad aims around water quality improvement - though on-farm improvement is a particular focus, including planting and some wetland recreation.

Collaboration with Fonterra (see more below) and DoC through the Living Water programme has resulted in five focus catchments being selected, including one in the Marine Park's catchment at Pūkorokoro-Miranda, Hauraki District. Dairy NZ also has a riparian planner tool, which they note could be of broader benefit for use by others. Manaaki Whenua administers Dairy NZ's planting programme.

Fonterra

Fonterra has commitments in respect of water quality in both the Auckland and Waikato regions and tracks progress towards those. For Waikato, Fonterra farmers have fenced and excluded dairy from 100% of 'significant' waterways and 98% of farms collect nutrient management data. For Auckland, the Fonterra figures are 98% of waterways, with 97% of farms collecting data. (Note: 'Significant' is defined by Fonterra as a continuously flowing stream of more than 1m width and 30cm depth, which is narrower than the definitions used in the Council-led analysis above.)

Fonterra also has Sustainable Dairying Advisors creating individualised Farm Environment Plans (FEP's) for Fonterra farmers. Through the FEP process, land or riparian areas for planting can be identified with information provided on planting options and different funding mechanisms that may be able to support them.

Iwi/Hapū

Mana whenua around Te Moananui-ā-Toi, Tikapa Moana have a variety of environmental programmes, many through a specific trust or entity for this purpose. Available data suggests that, conservatively, well over 1million native plants have been restored through iwi/hapū-led projects in the Marine Park's catchment since the Park was established. This planting effort is situated within a broader ki uta ki tai approach to te taiao and restoration of mauri. Iwi and hapū are also increasingly partners with those organisations profiled here.

Conservation Volunteers NZ

Since it was established in 2006, CVNZ has held planted over 1 million trees across Aotearoa, with over 500,000 seedlings raised in its nursery facilities, in addition to having significant rubbish collection and weeding programmes. Many of those planting efforts have been in the Auckland and Waikato regions, where CVNZ is often an implementing partner of other organisations listed here. CVNZ also partners with the Ministry for Social Development to upskill people in conservation and help them to obtain industry training, providing a pipeline of talent for this broader effort.

Overall picture?

The overall picture painted by this data is surprisingly positive. It suggests that despite extensive modification of the catchment, large areas of riparian planting remain or have been restored. And those areas are growing year on year - with more planting, fencing, funding and expertise. It also speaks to the growing social awareness of the importance of the health of our waterways to our whenua and our moana – and in turn to our cultural, social, environmental and economic wellbeing.
It is also important to note that it is a picture that is developing at pace, particularly in terms of relevant central government regulations with the recent release of the healthy waterways reforms that set national direction on stream and wetland protection, stock exclusion, as well as farm management plan use. This has implications for how councils map and monitor wetlands and develop monitoring for waterways. Further national policy changes are expected in 2021 with the anticipated National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.

**How to give effect to the Forum’s desire to see riparian planting of the catchment?**

The data suggests that we are roughly in the region of 50% of the Marine Park’s catchment where we have either (i) existing native riparian vegetation, or (ii) restored riparian planting.

The size of the task ahead is therefore around 6000km of waterways, less those that are either inaccessible, or otherwise unsuitable for riparian planting. For argument’s sake let’s say that leaves 5000km, doubled for both sides of the waterway – so 10,000km of riparian margin to be planted.

Again, for the sake of argument let’s say based on the available data we are progressing at roughly 50km of net riparian gain in the catchment per annum. It would therefore take us another 200 years to achieve the goal at the current rate.

We also know that riparian planting is not cheap. It costs in the ballpark of $50 per linear metre using just a 5m riparian margin: and that’s only the planting, not maintenance. The total cost to achieve the goal is therefore conservatively in the region of $500 million. More with a wider riparian margin. More still with the whole lifecycle priced in, plus use of employees/contractors vs volunteers. This will be difficult in the current fiscal climate and in the short-term a focus on removing barriers and enabling others might be the most productive.

Compounding the challenge further is the increasing impact of climate change with likely increased frequency of droughts and floods. In 2020, the impact of the severe drought in the catchment not only shortened the traditional planting season from May – September to July – September (the ground was largely too hard for planting in May and June) but according to some estimates resulted in a near 20% mortality rate for some plants planted. Current ‘1 in 100 year’ storms and droughts will become common place toward the middle of the century on current trends.

At the same time, riparian planting of the catchment is an eminently scalable challenge, and one that brings with it good employment, expertise and systems, and delivers environmental outcomes into the future. Riparian planting is without question an important part of the solution to two of the Marine Park’s greatest challenges – sediment and pollutants. Prioritisation of effort will be important. Regional councils have environmental management tools that can be used to help with this and ensure that riparian planting is the most effective environmental protection measure in that area.

Critical to achieving this goal will be:

- Partnership with mana whenua.
- Serious investment by central government, committed over the long-term.
- Willing private landowners (accepting that most of the remaining area is in private hands).
- Win-win collaboration, where all sides give and gain.
- Overarching coordination to ensure prioritisation of effort.

The Forum could do two things to help:
1. The Forum can start a conversation with the incoming government, in particular the Ministers of Environment, Forestry, Primary Industries, Māori Development and Conservation, about the scale of the challenge and central government’s necessary leadership role in a challenge of this size. (Government has recently announced a major investment in environmental improvement in the Kaipara Harbour, for example, and the new Jobs for Nature fund has unveiled some initial investments including one in Million Metres.)

2. The Forum can itself back those undertaking this mahi, e.g. by supporting their funding applications and providing a space for coordination. In addition, the Forum can ask its own members to look further into what additional support they can give to those already taking forward this goal, particularly mana whenua, scalable planting programmes, and industry bodies. This could include the identification of potential riparian planting programmes on the remaining public land which has unplanted waterways.
Hauraki Gulf Forum
24 August 2020

Stocktakes on Riparian Planting and Marine Dumping

Attachment C

Item 7
Stocktake of strategies, plans and initiatives with a focus on riparian planting of waterways in the Hauraki Gulf catchment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterway</th>
<th>Plan / Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awaruku Stream</td>
<td>Million Metres – Friends of Long Bay (‘Restore Hibiscus and Bays Stream Restoration Programme’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long Bay Okura Great Park Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awana Stream</td>
<td>Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botany Creek</td>
<td>Howick Local Board Plan and Greenways Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigham Creek</td>
<td>Upper Harbour Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Whenuaapai Structure Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campbell’s Bay Stream</td>
<td>Million Metres – Campbells Bay Stream Savers (‘Restore Hibiscus and Bays Stream Restoration Programme’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascades Stream</td>
<td>Waiheke Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coxs Creek</td>
<td>Waiatematā Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Creek</td>
<td>Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ecological Management Plan for Deep Creek and Waiake Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restore Deep Creek / Deep Creek Restoration Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duck Creek</td>
<td>Rodney Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyers Creek</td>
<td>Rodney Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eskdale Stream</td>
<td>Kaipātiki Local Board Plan and Connections Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaipātiki Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North-West Wildlink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellyers Creek</td>
<td>Kaipātiki Local Board Plan and Connections Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upper Harbour Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillcrest Stream</td>
<td>Kāinga Ora / Panuku – Northcote development (Awataha greenway)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunua Stream</td>
<td>Regional Parks Management Plan (Hunua)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Watercare’s Hunua Ranges regeneration project</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friends of Hunua Ranges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huruhuru Creek</td>
<td>Henderson-Massey Local Board Plan, Greenways Plan and Open Space Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project Twin Streams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Stream / Creek</td>
<td>Rodney Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Silverdale West-Dairy Flat Structure Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahika Stream</td>
<td>Kaipātiki Local Board Plan and Connections Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaipātiki Creek</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaitoke Stream</td>
<td>Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kohikohi Stream</td>
<td>Regional Parks Management Plan (Tapapakanga)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lignite Creek</td>
<td>Kaipātiki Local Board Plan and Connections Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Oneroa Stream</td>
<td>Waiheke Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project Little Oneroa – Waiheke Resources Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Creek</td>
<td>Upper Harbour Local Board Plan and Open Space Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahurangi River</td>
<td>Rodney Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warkworth Structure Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Million Metres – private land plantings (‘Mill Stream’ tributary)</td>
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<td>Mahurangi River Restoration Trust (note Jobs for Nature funding)</td>
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<td>Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan</td>
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<td><strong>Restore Hibiscus &amp; Bays</strong></td>
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<td>Mangemangora Creek, Howick Local Board Plan and Greenways Plan</td>
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<td>Friends of Mangemangora Reserve</td>
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<td>Manutewhau Stream, Henderson-Massey Local Board Plan, Greenways Plan and Open Space Network Plan</td>
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<td>Million Metres – Love Omaha Stream</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>Attachment F</td>
<td>Item 7</td>
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<td>Hauraki Gulf Forum</td>
<td>Stocktakes on Riparian Planting and Marine Dumping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 August 2020</td>
<td>Page 51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item 7</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Silverdale West-Dairy Flat Structure Plan</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Upper Harbour Local Board Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rawiri Stream Restoration project (Hobsonville)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Swanson Stream Henderson-Massey Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Project Twin Streams</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Taiaotea Stream Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Million Metres – Taiaotea-Rothesay Bay Catchment Custodians</td>
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<td>('Restore Hibiscus and Bays Stream Restoration Programme')</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ngā Puna Pūkenga programme ('skills for industry')</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Tāmaki Estuary Howick Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Māngere-Ōtahuhu Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Orākei Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Kainga Ora / Tāmaki Regeneration Company – Tāmaki development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Tāmaki Estuary Environment Forum</td>
</tr>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Tāmaki Estuary Protection Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>NZ Landcare Trust Volcano to Sea project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Tapapakanga Stream Regional Parks Management Plan (Tapapakanga)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Te Auaunga / Oakley Creek Albert-Eden Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Puketāpapa Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Waterview Precinct Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Te Auaunga / Oakley Creek Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Kāinga Ora – Roskill development</td>
</tr>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Friends of Oakley Creek / Te Auaunga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Te Matuku Wetlands Million Metres – Love Our Wetlands Waiheke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Te Muri O Takakiki Stream Regional Parks Management Plan (Mahurangi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Te Puru Stream Franklin Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Te Waio-Pareira / Henderson Creek Henderson-Massey Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>The Te Atatu South Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Panuku development plans – Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Project Twin Streams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Te Wharau Creek Upper Harbour Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Totara Creek Whenuapai Structure Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Totara Creek / Massey North Open Space project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Kopupaka Reserve and Westgate Town Centre masterplan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Tuna Mau (Western Park)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Waitematā Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Western Park Tuna Mau Development Plan</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Western Park Tuna Mau Development Plan (Waharau)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Waharau Stream Regional Parks Management Plan (Waharau)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Wai Tuhurangi / Avondale Stream Whau Local Board Plan and Open Space Network Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Panuku Development plans – Henderson and Avondale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>EcoMatters Waihaurangi Wildlink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Waiaorohia Stream Whenuapai Structure Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Waiaatarua wetland Orākei Local Board Plan</td>
</tr>
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<td>46</td>
<td>Waiaatarua Reserve Enhancement Plan</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Waikokopu Creek Rodney Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>Waitātiko / Meola Creek</td>
<td>Albert-Eden Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>Puketāpapa Local Board Plan</td>
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<td>Million Metres – Mount Albert Grammar School</td>
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<td>Henderson-Massey Local Board Plan, Greenways Plan and Open Space Network Plan</td>
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<td>Long Bay Okura Great Park Society</td>
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Stocktake on Marine Dumping

The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 defines the Marine Park’s marine area as the territorial sea of the Auckland and Waikato regions – out to 12 nautical miles past the last point of land. Beyond the Marine Park’s boundary, extending out to 200 nautical miles, is the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) governed by the EEZ and Continental Shelf Act 2012.

There is no marine dumping currently authorised within the boundary of the Marine Park. (Though there has been extensive dumping within the Gulf in the past.)

However, there is marine dumping authorised at two sites near the boundary of the Marine Park in the EEZ. The first is the consented site near Aotea / Great Barrier. The second is the legislated site off from Cuvier / Repanga. These are shown below in the graphic provided by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

Marine dumping in the EEZ is defined as “deliberate disposal or storage of waste or other matter”.

![Marine Dumping Consents](image_url)
In respect of each of those sites there is only one consent holder.

The consent holder for the site near Aotea is Marina Consultants Limited (the consent, originally obtained by Coastal Resources Limited, was recently transferred to MCL). MCL’s consent provides for up to 50,000m³ to be disposed per annum, and expires in 2032. The EPA have noted that MCL/CRL have not hit that cap in any given year to date, and the annual allowance cannot be carried forward if unused. CRL did apply for an additional consent for up to 250,000m³, which was granted, then contested through judicial review proceedings in the High Court, sent back to the EPA, and while it was being reconsidered the application was withdrawn. In both cases the consent was non-notified, meaning no submissions were invited. This is not something at the EPA’s discretion but rather because the dumping and disposal regulations categorise the type of waste being dumped and it is on that basis that the consents are either notified or not. In respect of the MCL consent there are corresponding consents for dredging of the coastal marine area authorised by regional authorities that provide much of the waste being disposed of through the EPA’s dumping consent. While legally separate, the two issues – dumping and dredging – are in practice two sides of the same coin.

The consent holder for the site near Repanga is Ports of Auckland Limited. POAL’s consent provides for up to 50,000m³ of maintenance dredging and up to 400,000m³ of capital dredging per annum, however the total capital dredging permitted to be dumped over the entire lifetime of the consent is capped at 2,000,000m³. The consent runs until 2054. The distinction between maintenance and capital dredging is twofold: (i) maintenance is to maintain the existing channel and port area vs capital which is new excavation/deepening the channel and (ii) consents for maintenance dredging must be granted vs capital dredging which is discretionary. The corresponding dredging consent – for both capital and maintenance dredging, subject to conditions – was granted and notified on 11 August 2020.

More information on both dumping consents, including the specific conditions surrounding them, can be found here: https://www.epa.govt.nz/industry-areas/eez-marine-activities/previous-applications-and-activities/dumping-of-waste-or-other-matter/

**How to give effect to the Forum’s desire to see an end to marine dumping?**

In short, you stop it at source, change where it goes, or remove the ability to do it.

Putting to one side for a moment the two existing consents, if regional authorities were to stop authorising dredging bound for marine dump sites, or central authorities were to stop authorising marine dumping in the EEZ, the clock would start until marine dumping near the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park was no longer occurring. But in both cases those authorities are acting in accordance with the current legislative framework passed by Parliament. Therefore, curtailing marine dumping will either require action by Parliament to change the applicable legislation, or a decision by the courts that the existing legislation is in fact inconsistent with other primary statutes or obligations, for instance the Treaty of Waitangi, or a commercial decision by the companies in question to change tack.

The Forum could do two things:

1. The Forum can start a conversation with the incoming government, in particular the Ministers of Environment and Local Government, about how we can achieve a future where barges are no longer running back and forward through the Marine Park en-route to dispose of waste near the boundary.
2. The Forum can ask its members to look further into marine dumping alternatives – e.g. land-based disposal. Though mindful that (i) this is looked at extensively during the consenting process and for those existing consents it was considered that there was no viable or economic land-based alternative and (ii) the companies themselves have said publicly they do land-based where possible (e.g. POAL turning it into mudcrete and using it for reclamations) and would do more if viable.
Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose of the report

Whakarāpopototanga matua

Executive summary
2. Section 31 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act requires the Forum to produce an Annual Report detailing progress against statutory objectives.
3. Resolution HGF/2020/23 in May 2020 noted the scope of this year’s report and requested that the Executive Officer prepare it.
4. A draft was circulated among Forum members for comment in early August. The final version of the Annual Report for 2019 / 2020 is attached to this report (Attachment A).

Ngā tūtohunga

Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
a) welcome the Annual Report 2019 / 2020 report.

Ngā tāpirihanga

Attachments

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<thead>
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<th>Page</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Annual Report 2019 / 2020</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ngā kaihaina

Signatories

<table>
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<th>Author</th>
<th>Authoriser</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Rogers - Executive Officer Hauraki Gulf Forum</td>
<td>Jacques Victor – General Manager Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
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</table>
He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua nga mimira.

A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow. In unity there is strength.
KO Ó TĀTOU MOEMOEĀ
Our Vision
Tikapa Moana / Te Moananui-ā-Toi, the Hauraki Gulf is “celebrated and treasured”, is “thriving with fish and shellfish, kaihoana”, has a “rich diversity of life”, supports a “sense of place, connection and identity” and a “vibrant economy”.

KO Ā TĀTOU WHĀINGA MAHI
Our Mission
To promote and facilitate integrated and co-ordinated management of the Gulf’s environmental, cultural, economic and recreational resources.

KO Ā TĀTOU RAUTAKI
Our Strategic Issues
Centralised around three priorities:
1. Improving integrated management through collaborative planning, informed decision-making and credible action.
2. Restoring water quality values through addressing land use activities that degrade those values.
3. Recognising those critical marine values and ecosystems through advocating for protection, restoration and enhancement.

KO Ā TĀTOU WHĀINGA NUI
Our Big Goals
- At least 30% marine protection
- Restoration of 1000sqkm of shellfish-beds and reefs
- Riparian planting of the catchment
- Ending marine dumping near the Marine Park
HE KŌRERO NĀ NGĀ HEAMANA
Message from the Co-Chairs

Tēnā koutou,

2019–2020 was a historic year for the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

We saw several of the most significant developments in the Forum’s 20 year history:

– the shift to a co-governance leadership model, and subsequent adoption of a new Governance Statement;
– adaption of the 2020-2022 Work Plan, including four ambitious goals for the Park, and

In addition, the Forum has undergone a big refresh of its membership over the past year with 10 of the 21 members changing over.

But it has been the most unexpected of developments, a global pandemic, which remains front of mind. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it much pain and hurt, with more to come. It also resulted in a unique – perhaps once in our lifetime – chance to see a quiet, peaceful Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana / Te Moananui-a-Toi, free from its usual pressures. We now know what that looks like, sounds like and feels like. While we know that the temporary pause under lockdown was not especially environmentally significant – as the changes were not sustained for long enough to reverse decades-long degradation – the COVID-19 experience has reinforced that we can indeed make quick and decisive change when required.

As the first Co-Chairs of the Forum, and the first whānau to hold the leadership since the Forum was established in 2000, we are ambitious for progress. In short, we need more marine protection. We need more restoration. And we need to stop marine dumping near the Marine Park.

It is time for action. Given this, it has been wonderful over the past year to see sustained action from all sides:

– mana whenua introducing rāhui to protect vulnerable species, and embarking on long-term initiatives to restore native ngahere and kūtai beds;
– the Crown progressing its response strategy to the Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari Marine Spatial Plan, which has the potential to deliver some of the most significant changes in the Gulf’s history;
– local and regional government strengthening their management of land-based impacts and collaborating together to ensure coherence around the Marine Park;
– communities, volunteers, philanthropic organisations, businesses, rangatahi and people of all backgrounds doing their part to take care of our big blue backyard.
The momentum around protecting and restoring the Hauraki Gulf is very heartening. It does feel like we are reaching a tipping point in favour of a healthier, more abundant ecosystem. It is our honour to be standing alongside all of you in this common endeavour.

At the same time, our State of the Gulf 2020 report reinforced the urgency of this effort, with kina barrens expanding, crayfish regarded as 'functionally extinct' in heavily fished areas, and sharp rises in the numbers of seabird and shorebird species under threat. If we are to reverse these trends we need serious, sustained action.

The following pages detail in more depth the Forum’s achievements over the past 12 months and the road ahead. We hope that you find this useful, and wish to acknowledge the design work by Tracy and Shaun Lee and photography by Lorna Doogan.

Finally, we would like to record the Forum’s deep appreciation to those members who departed over the past year: former Chair John Meeuwsen, former Chair John Tregidga, former Deputy Chair Moana Taanaariki-Pohe, members Steve Halliday, Jeff Cleave, Liane Ngamarie, Dal Minogue, Richard Hillis, Michael Lee and Paul Cronin.

Nicola MacDonald
Co-Chair
- Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom
Co-Chair
HE AHA NGĀ MAHI KUA WHAKATUTUKIHIA E TĒNEI RŌPŪ?
What we have achieved?

Since the commencement of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act, the Forum has shaped understanding and expectations about the way the Gulf should be protected, used and managed.

1990 Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park disestablished as government reduces number of environmental and conservation ‘quangos’.

1991 Minister of Conservation Denis Marshall establishes working party, led by Jim Holdaway, which recommends creation of a Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

1992 Many of the Gulf meet to consider a marine park and ratify the Motutapu Accord asserting tangata whenua ownership of this taiao.

1997 Auckland Regional Council establishes a Hauraki Gulf Forum of local and central government agencies to co-ordinate management of the Gulf.

1998 The Waitangi Tribunal considers a claim on the proposed Hauraki Gulf Marine Park legislation lodged by the Hauraki Moana Trust Board.

2000 Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act (HGMPA) comes into force, with purpose to integrate management and sustain the life-supporting capacity of the environment.

2000 The Hauraki Gulf Forum established to promote HGMPA management objectives, with members from 13 local authorities within the Gulf’s catchment, three ministry representatives, and six representatives of the tangata whenua of the Gulf and its Islands.

2000 Auckland Regional Council acts as administering authority and its Chairman Philip Warren is elected the first Chairperson of the Forum.

2001 Waitangi Tribunal submits report (Wai 728) on the HGMPA claim, encouraging all parties to focus on “the need for the Hauraki Gulf environment to be protected for future generations.”

2002 Tangata whenua representative Laila Haddon of Ngāti Wai / Ngāti Manuhiri is elected second Chairperson of the Forum.

2002 Forum publishes first Strategic issues paper, emphasizing the importance of public access.

2002 Forum endorses inclusion of 304 ha of covenanted private land on Waiheke Island within the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

2003 Report on depletion of shellfish resources commissioned, leading to establishment of the Community Shellfish Monitoring Programme, which has continued since.

2004 First state of the environment report published, providing mixed report of environmental declines and improvements.

2004 External review of Forum recommends new governance structure, shared budget and dedicated executive support.

2007 Hauraki Mayor John Tregidga elected third Chairperson of the Forum.

2007 Conservation Minister Chris Carter attends Forum meeting and outlines pest eradication programme for Rangitoto-Motutapu.

2007 Appointment of Jointly-funded Forum Executive Officer.

2008 Forum initiates Weaving the Strands quarterly newsletter.

2008 Cross-boundary planning approach advocated within review of Strategic issues paper, particularly by tangata whenua members.

2008 Second state of the environment report finds regulatory approaches and management arrangements may be inadequate to deal with pressures facing the Gulf.

2009 Governing the Gulf published, to guide implementation of the HGMPA in Resource Management Act policies and plans.

2010 Fishing the Gulf published, to guide alignment of fisheries management with the HGMPA.

2010 Waiuku City Council reserves bordering the Waiwatā Harbour and Forest and Bird covenanted land on Waiheke are vested in marine park.

2010 10th anniversary of HGMPA held on Motutapu Island. First Hauraki Gulf Marine Park seminar held with Auckland War Memorial Museum, becoming an annual event.

2010 Auckland Council formed, with administrative authority responsibility for the Forum passing to it.

2011 Marine park poster series initiated with New Zealand Herald, to be repeated in subsequent years.

2011 Spatial Planning for the Gulf published, noting potential as process to integrate and improve management, consistent with HGMPA.
2011 Third state of the environment report published, concluding incremental, ongoing decline off a low environmental base, with bold steps needed for change.

2012 REMAK Strategic Issues framework identified in response to state of the environment report.

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<td>E Enhanced fisheries</td>
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<td>M Mana whenua expression</td>
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<td>A Active land management</td>
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<td>K Knowledge utilisation (ecosystem-based)</td>
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2012 Forum meets on Great Barrier Island, visits Glenfern Sanctuary, seeks to broaden involvement and ownership of stakeholders in resolution of Gulf issues.

2012 Collaborative group initiated to examine ship strike, prompting Ports of Auckland transit protocol a year later, and progressive reductions in ship speed.

2012 New community group formed to explore restoration of mussel reefs following Forum seminar.

2012 Commissioned report indicates economic activities in the Gulf generate over $2 billion annually and have “environment at the very core of their value proposition”.

2012 Forum briefed on the significance of new legislation to settle the historical treaty claims of Ngāti Whāia Āōrēke and Ngāti Manuhi and provide financial and cultural redress, Te Hauturu-o-Tāt / Little Barrier returns to Ngāti Manuhi and is then gifted back to the people of New Zealand as a nature reserve.

2012 Meeting at Ōrākei Marae supports marine spatial plan project design with Forum role on steering group.

2013 Seabirds of the Hauraki Gulf published, helping, along with other initiatives, to promote the Gulf as a ‘seabird hotspot’.

2013 Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari marine spatial plan process launched.

2013 Auckland War Memorial Museum’s Moana-My Ocean, prompted by the Forum’s State of our Gulf assessment, becomes its most popular temporary exhibition.

2013 Forum supports Southern Seabird Solutions Trust to promote seabird smart fishing in the Gulf.

2013 Inaugural Holdaway Award for leadership introduced as part of marine park seminar.

2014 Forum briefed on Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act which provides mana whenua with ownership and governance responsibilities for māunga and mōu. Interests in harbours are signalled.

2014 Fourth state of the environment report published, reiterating environmental decline and ongoing challenges for integrated management.


2016 Online Gulf journal initiated to support inspired management and action around the Gulf.

2016 Forum draws attention to marked decline in crayfish within Cape Rodney – Okakari Point Marine Reserve at Leigh.

2016 Foundation North announces $5 million Gulf Innovation Fund Together (GIFT) to respond to issues identified in State of our Gulf reports.

2016 Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari plan released.

2017 Marine scientist tells Radio NZ “Hauraki Gulf Bryde’s whale crisis averted”.

2017 Fifth state of the environment report published, presenting a well-articulated, clear pathway for addressing some of the issues facing the Gulf.

2018 Mayor John Tregidga retires as Chairperson of the Forum after 11 years’ service.

2018 John Meeuwsen is elected fourth Chairperson of the Forum.

2018 Reset of Strategic Issues around three priorities:

- Forum Operations
- Water Quality
- Marine Ecosystems

2019 Recommendation of two Big Goals for the Marine Park: (1) at least 20% of the waters protected; (2) 1000sqkm of shellfish beds restored.

2019 Communications Strategy and Review.

2020 Sixth state of the environment report published, telling the 20-year story of the Marine Park, interweaving Mātauranga and science.

2020 20th anniversary held at the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron.

2020 Adoption of four Big Goals

- At least 30% marine protection
- Restoration of 1000sqkm of shellfish beds and reefs
- Riparian planting of the catchment
- Ending marine dumping near the Marine Park

2020 Adoption of new Governance Statement, including the appointment of Co-Chairs – one of whom will be from and decided by our tangata whenua members. Nicola MacDonald and Flippa Coom appointed.
TÍKAPA MOANA / TE MOANANUI-Ā-TOI
State of our Gulf 2020


The report provided a 20-year snapshot, rather than the usual 3-year assessment. Compared with when the Marine Park was established in 2000, the report found that:

There was some good news

Slower ship speeds have helped prevent ship strikes of Bryde’s whales. Pest eradication on the motu / islands of the Gulf, and native revegetation efforts, have been spectacularly successful – allowing the return of native species like the wetapunga, tutuara and many endangered birds like the kōkako, takahē and kiwi. Many more people from all walks of life are now playing an active role in restoring and protecting the Gulf. And much more is now known about the unique environment of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, thanks in part to State of our Gulf Reports by the Hauraki Gulf Forum – the 2020 edition is the sixth such report.

However, environmental degradation has continued

Crayfish / koura are now hard to find in heavily fished areas of the Gulf. Sediment, nutrients, chemicals and plastics continue to wash into the water, though efforts to improve water quality are gathering pace. Both seabirds and shorebirds have seen sharp rises in the number of species classified as threatened. Cookies / tuao numbers have declined in every area where gathering is allowed year-round. The number of marine pests has increased 600%, with the arrival of invasive species like the Mediterranean fanworm. Kina bars are replacing once lush kelp forests. And urban and coastal sprawl has expanded, driven by higher than expected population growth, meaning wild places are harder to find.

There was also some mixed news on the fishing front

Total commercial fishing catch in the Gulf has increased with 20 years ago, while total recreational catch has fallen. Fish stocks, overall, remain low though some are now being rebuilt such as snapper / tāmaru and tārākiri.

You can download a copy of the report from www.gulfjournal.org.nz.

Media coverage

The State of our Gulf report received headline national and international coverage, and was even the #1 story worldwide on The Guardian’s environment section shortly after its launch. The media interest reflects the growing public interest in the state of our moana and, in particular, the plight of the Hauraki Gulf as the most intensively used body of water in Aotearoa.
TAUĀKĪ KĀWANATANGA

Governance Statement

This Governance Statement replaces all prior versions. It covers how the Forum works, and key roles and responsibilities. The Forum’s purposes, membership, functions and powers are set out in detail in Part 2 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (HGMPA) and are not repeated here.

He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira.

A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow.

In unity there is strength.

In the highly developed craft of building ocean-going waka the bow section was laced to the centre hull. The waka provides a metaphor for tangata whenua, in that a people interlaced will not be separated and through that unity we find strength.

How the Forum works

Te whakahonore i o maatau hononga Tiriti hei painga mo Te Moananui-a-Toi; Tikanga Moana; Hauraki Gulf.

The Forum will operate in partnership under the Treaty of Waitangi in accordance with the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act, including the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi under Section 6.

It will integrate and respect both Te Ao Māori and other world views.

The Forum’s conduct, and all those that interact with it, will adhere to the intent of the following principles:

- **Aroha**: being considerate – having respect for relationships and being of service.
- **Openness and impartiality**: having an open mind when making decisions and listening to other points of view.
- **Tautoko**: supporting others by respecting and upholding others mana, dignity, identity and unique perspective.
- ** Manaaki**: caring for others by responsibly valuing others and ensuring they feel valued.
- **Stewardship**: using powers and resources prudently.
- **Awhi**: helping others by entering into effective engagements in the spirit of co-operation and good faith.
- **Leadership**: Inspiring action toward achieving common goals.
- **Tika**: being responsible – doing the right thing with integrity and accountability.
- **Pono**: being effective – building credibility.
- **Ethics**: maintaining the highest standard of ethical conduct.

The Forum will endeavour to meet quarterly, with meetings split between the Auckland and Waikato regions. It will hold additional workshops and meetings as required.
Our Roles and Responsibilities

· Co-Chairs
  – One Co-Chair is from and elected by the membership at large.
  – One Co-Chair is from and decided by the Tangata Whenua members.
  – Co-Chairs lead the Forum and are its spokespeople.
  – Co-Chairs work in partnership with each other.
  – Co-Chairs exemplify the principles by which we work.
  – Co-Chairs chair Forum meetings, set strategic direction, support and work with all Members, and front public engagement.

(A separate Co-Chairing arrangement records the practical aspects of Co-Chairing)

· Members
  – Members support and work with the Co-Chairs and each other to take effective decisions and progress the agenda of the Forum.
  – Members bring their expertise and mana to ensure quality decision making in the interests of the Marine Park.
  – Members represent their Constituent Party, as defined under the HGMPA.
  – Members may send alternates to meetings they are unable to attend so long as this is notified in advance and in accordance with any applicable practice.

· Executive Officer
  – The Executive Officer functions as the Chief Executive of the Forum and is responsible for taking forward resolutions of the Forum, ensuring adherence to the HGMPA, supporting the Co-Chairs and all Members, preparing meeting papers, coordination with external partners, and the Forum’s management, contracts, finance and administration.
  – The Executive Officer chairs meetings of Technical Officers and works closely with the Governance Advisor.

· Governance Advisor
  – The Governance Advisor is responsible for collating and publishing meeting agendas, writing minutes and providing advice on process.

· Technical Officers
  – Members are encouraged to have Technical Officers to provide them and the Forum with expert support and advice.
  – Technical Officers will work with their Members, the Executive Officer and each other to progress the Forum’s resolutions, as appropriate.

· Administering Authority
  – Auckland Council is the Administering Authority (for responsibilities see s28, HGMPA).

· Review
  This Governance Statement will be reviewed 1 year after its adoption.
# MAHERE MAHI

## Work Plan 2020–2022

### Integrated Management

**Strategic Issue:**
- Leverage our collective strength
- Partner, collaborate and coordinate
- Support initiatives and community-led efforts

**Current State:**
[Image of dolphins]

**Key Actions:**
- Advocate for more marine protection and enhanced biodiversity
- Support biosecurity efforts
- Understand climate change risks and mitigation

**Future State:** Long-term

### Water Quality

**Strategic Issue:**
- Reduce flows of pollutants
- Highlight and help resolve water quality concerns
- Request and publish the latest data and information

**Current State:**
[Image of water]

**Key Actions:**
- Call on all sides to take less from the Marine Park
- Call for an end to fishing practices which destroy benthic habitat
- Support the use of indigenous tools and reform of the Marine Reserves Act

**Future State:** Medium-term

### Marine Ecosystems

**Strategic Issue:**
- 1000 sqkm of restored shellfish-beds and reefs

**Current State:**
- [Image of restored shellfish-beds]

**Key Actions:**
- Call for a supportive regulatory framework
- Advocate for trials throughout the Marine Park
- Support the work of the Shellfish Coordination Restoration Group

**Future State:** Long-term

### New Goals

**Current State:**
- [Image of marine dumping]

**Key Actions:**
- Call for an end to marine dumping in the Marine Park or near its border
- Advocate to minimize marine dumping and promote alternatives

**Future State:** Short-term

### At least 30% protection

**Current State:**
- 0.3% Marine Reserves

**Key Actions:**
- Support the use of indigenous tools and reform of the Marine Reserves Act

**Future State:** 30% Protection

---

The Forum adopted a new 2020-2022 Work Plan in May 2020. The work plan, graphically represented on the opposite page, confirms an action-oriented model to deliver on the Forum’s purposes, while recognising that in the current COVID-19 pandemic there is no business as usual and that all things will need to be regularly re-evaluated and assessed.

For the 2020-2022 period, the Hauraki Gulf Forum will:
1. Operate in partnership under the Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi, under the leadership of our Co-Chairs, in accordance with our Governance Statement: Te whakahonoria o Te Haumata o Horoaka, Te Tiriti he paihia no Te Moananui-a-Toi, Tikapa Moana, Hauraki Gulf.
2. Advance progress under our Strategic Issues.
3. He Kaupapa Mana Motuhake: Advocate and lobby for our Big Goals, and for the removal of barriers to achieving them.

Ultimately, this work will be in service of the key aspects of the framework provided in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000: (i) having regard to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, (ii) recognising the national significance and the life-supporting capacity of the Marine Park, and (iii) collaboration, coordination and integration with regard to the management of the Gulf. This includes collaboration with other bodies working on similar issues, including the Manukau Harbour Forum, Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum, efforts in the Kāpiti, Mahurangi, Coromandel, Whangaparapara, Whitianga and other harbours.

In addition, regarding the post-COVID-19 recovery, much of this work is employment heavy. Restoration work of the seabed, coastal areas, and our waterways has huge potential to provide many good, meaningful employment opportunities and in time to develop a whole system of restoration expertise. It is also important to recognise that the Forum itself has quite limited resources, and that even those limited resources could come under strain in the period ahead. A key aspect of our forward work will therefore continue to be leveraging our collective strength and external partnerships, collaborating widely, and taking opportunities as they come to focus attention on the HGMP.

Outcomes for 2020-2022
What will we have helped achieve by late 2022?
1. Five percent increase in marine protection in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, including through marine reserves, fishing controls, Indigenous biodiversity protection, and the use of / support for customary tools.
2. 3 x 100 ton (~2000sqm) restored shellfish beds, with practical and supportive approaches from relevant regulating authorities, and strong iwi / hapū and community involvement.
3. Progress on riparian planting of major waterways and tributaries.
4. An end to marine dumping in or near the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park with alternatives promoted.

2019 Conference
Our 2019 Conference, ‘Making Waves – Protecting, and Restoring the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park’, was held on 27 August 2019 at Tamaki Paenga Hīra / Auckland War Memorial Museum. The sold out event focused on advancing the Forum’s goals on marine protection and shellfish-bed restoration. Participants were treated to a keynote address from the Minister of Conservation, Hon. Eugenie Sage, as well as a number of presentations and panel discussions on the issues. All participants also took part in a collective exercise, led by Nick Sampson from Principals, to tell the story of the Marine Park from its perspective. The resulting story – ‘Healing the Hauraki Gulf – together’ – took pride of place in the 2020 State of our Gulf report.

In addition, two Holdaway Awards were presented:
- Betty Whitiri Williams - Ngāti Huamere, Ngāti Pukenga, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Maru – a teacher, advocate, activist, and an inaugural member of the Hauraki Gulf Forum. Betty has devoted her life to the pursuit of justice for Maori.
- Posthumously to Dr. Roger Grace – a marine biologist, conservationist and underwater photographer. Roger was instrumental in the creation of the Poor Knights Islands Marine Reserve, and the restoration of the Whangape Harbour. In 2018, he wrote that after spending 40 years surveying the ocean for conservation groups, councils and commercial entities, he continued doing that work independently, because ‘I think it is important’. Roger passed away at his home in Leigh earlier in 2019.

Hauraki Gulf Forum
24 August 2020

Attachment A

11
KO WAI TĀTOU?
Who we are

Nicola MacDonald
(Co-Chair)
Tangata Whenua

Pippa Coom
(Co-Chair)
Auckland Council

Cr Donna Arnold
Matamata-Piako District Council

Andrew Baudé
Department of Conservation

Cr Christine Fletcher
Auckland Council

Mayor Sandra Goudie
Te Hauraki Coromandel District Council

Cath Handley
Waikato Local Board
Auckland Council

Terence Hohneck
Tangata Whenua

Jacob Hone
Fisheries New Zealand

Paul Majure
Tangata Whenua

Martin Maraisouce
Te Puia Rākaiti, Ministry of Tourism

Cr Rob McGurre
Waikato District Council

Scott Milne
Te Arawa Local Board
Auckland Council

Dean Ogilvie
Tangata Whenua

Cr Anne Marie Spicer
Hauraki District Council

Cr Denis Tegg
Waikato Regional Council

Valmai Te Tai
Arataki / Great Barrier Local Board
Auckland Council

Cr Wayne Walker
Auckland Council

Cr John Watson
Auckland Council

Appointment Pending
Tangata Whenua

Appointment Pending
Tangata Whenua

Hauraki Gulf Forum
Annual Report 2019 / 2020
E TITIRO WHAKAMUA ANA
Looking ahead

2020 / 2021

The current COVID-19 pandemic makes the road ahead less certain. In addition, the Forum took a decision in May 2020 to approve a reduced budget of $292,500 for the 2020 / 2021 year reflecting the economic reality that all budgets are under considerable pressure. These two factors have resulted in a decision not to hold a public conference in the year ahead, and to end the production of the annual marine park poster – at least for now.

At the same time, the year ahead brings great promise as the Forum beds in its new co-governance leadership model, with some specific communications projects planned. Furthermore, the 36th America’s Cup will bring renewed global, national and local attention to the Hauraki Gulf – presenting an opportunity to highlight the Forum’s strategic issues and big goals. In addition, the anticipated release of the government’s response strategy to the Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Parē Marine Spatial Plan will mark an important moment for the future trajectory of the manaia.

Green the School. Photo by Sophie Jannone.
KO TE PŪTEA UTU WHAKAARE
Funding and administrative support

Auckland Council kindly fulfills the role as the Administering Authority of the Hauraki Gulf Forum (see section 28, Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000).

It employs the Executive Officer and provides governance, finance and admin support functions. Forum members are individually supported by Technical Officers (normally staff from the constituent party and, in the case of tangata whenua members, appointed by the tangata whenua member).

The Forum’s $333,722.50 budget in 2019 / 2020 was met through a shared funding formula adopted by the Forum, as outlined in the table below. Additional funding toward the tangata whenua members and their technical officers is met by the Department of Conservation. This amounted to $31,059.23 in 2019 / 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 / 2020 Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding contribution per sector</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal (MFN, DoC, TPK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>33.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal (Regions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal (Selected TLAs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Item 8</td>
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### 2019 / 2020 Expenditure

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Forecast ($)</th>
<th>Actual as of June 20</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
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<td>$59,264</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative requirements</td>
<td>$194,204</td>
<td>$170,471</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training and travel expenses</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$740</td>
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<tr>
<td>HR and administration</td>
<td>$205,600</td>
<td>$161,371</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>$456,704</strong></td>
<td><strong>$391,791</strong></td>
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### 2019 / 2020 Revenue

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<th>Item</th>
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<th>Actual as of June 20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constituent party contributions</td>
<td>$180,683</td>
<td>$181,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auckland Council contribution</td>
<td>$140,900</td>
<td>$161,371</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$327,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$342,416</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Forecast revenue less expenditure**

- ($129,204) ($49,373)

**Accumulated surplus balance as at end of June 2019**

- $144,261 ($144,261)

**Forecast revenue less expenditure 2019 / 2020**

- ($129,204) ($49,373)

**Accumulated surplus balance as at end of June 2020**

- $15,057 ($94,881)

All costs are presented exclusive of GST.
Attachment A

Item 8

Councils must give effect to the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act’s management objectives in regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans as if they were a National Policy Statement or New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

Consent authorities must have regard to these management objectives when considering an application for resource consent within the Gulf, its Islands and catchments.

The Minister of Primary Industries shall have regard to the management objectives when setting or varying a sustainability measure under the Fisheries Act.
The Hauraki Gulf Forum is a statutory body charged with the promotion and facilitation of integrated management and the protection and enhancement of the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana. The Forum has representation on behalf of the Ministers of Conservation, Fisheries, and Māori Development, elected representatives from Auckland Council (including the Auckland Great Barrier and Waitakere local boards), Waikato Regional Council and the Waikato, Hauraki, Thames-Coromandel and Matamata-Piako district councils, plus six representatives of the iwi/tribes of the Hauraki Gulf and its islands.

Private Bag 92300
Auckland 1142
www.haurakigulfforum.org.nz
info@haurakigulfforum.org.nz

Cover photo: Snorkelling at Te Haururu-o-Toi / Little Barrier Island
Photography by Lorna Doegan www.enr.org.nz
Executive Officer’s Report

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose of the report

1. To provide an update from the Executive Officer.

Whakarāpopototanga matua

Executive summary

2. The re-emergence of community transmission of COVID-19 as of the writing of this report reinforces how lucky we have been over the past few months to be able to freely move around the country and interact with people face to face. We certainly made productive use of that window, with visits to different parts of the Gulf and engagements with a broad range of stakeholders. A personal highlight for me was the opportunity to go to Ahuahu / Great Mercury Island. Ahuahu is a place of incredible beauty, history and cultural significance. It is also a conservation success story, and at our next meeting we will all get to learn more about Ahuahu and the challenges it faces going forward.

3. Key pieces of work in recent weeks have been the two stocktakes presented today (on which I am very grateful for the support from your Technical Officers), the 2019 / 2020 Annual Report, and engaging two communications specialists: one to run scientific comms on the State of our Gulf report on social media (underway); the other to explore themes of co-governance and highlight local success stories and challenges from around the Marine Park (still being scoped). I would like to acknowledge and thank the Administering Authority – Auckland Council – for ensuring that the Forum was able to continue to progress budgetary and financial arrangements despite a very challenging broader fiscal environment at present.

4. On 20 July we had another great Forum Technical Officers’ hui, the notes of which are attached (see Attachment A). Among the issues covered was the need to operationalise the Forum’s 2020 – 2022 Work Pan. I have suggested that between this and our November meeting we seek input from all Constituent Parties to an operationalised version of the Work Plan which lists against the Forum’s goals and strategic issues the things that members will seek to deliver within the three year period which will help progress Forum objectives. I am also conscious of the need to put timelines around a few of the key goals in the Work Plan, and suggest we also tackle that in November.

5. At our last meeting in May one member asked whether there had been reports on certain topics in the past. Attachment B captures all recent reports from Constituent Parties, arranged by topic.

6. Looking broader, it has been a busy time with a range of developments of note:
   
   • Release of the government’s freshwater reforms, climate risk analysis, and biodiversity strategy. The freshwater reforms have significant implications for management of the catchment. The climate risk analysis lists the 10 most significant risks, all of which have application to the Marine Park. And the biodiversity strategy specifically references the Marine Park Act and has application to the protection and restoration of biodiversity in the Gulf (an implementation plan for the biodiversity strategy will now be produced).
   
   • Release of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment’s report on estuary management, which contains a section on the Marine Park Act and the Forum, and draws from the State of our Gulf 2020 report.
• The Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum released its annual report (see Attachment C). I am a regular participant in TEEF meetings and work closely with the TEEF and Manukau Harbour Forum coordinators.

• Waikato Regional Council’s transfer of water quality monitoring to Ngāti Tūwharetoa – a first under the RMA – and the next steps in their Wellbeing Project.

• Auckland Council’s launch of its new conservation portal – Tiaki Tāmaki Makaurau. The State of our Gulf 2020 report features in the marine section.

7. A common theme among those developments is a renewed appreciation for ki uta ki tai / mountains to sea management of environmental challenges.

8. Members will also be pleased to see the latest ship speed data from the Ports of Auckland (see Attachment D) which shows that the average speed is now below the 10-knot target. There have been no reported fatalities of Bryde’s Whales due to ship strike since this protocol was introduced over five years ago. This is an enduring voluntary success story and there are lessons from this for other aspects of the Forum’s work.

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:

a) note the Executive Officer’s report.

Ngā tāpirihanga
Attachments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Notes from Technical Officers’ Meeting - 20 July 2020</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Record of and links to past reports</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum Annual Report</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Ship speed report</td>
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Ngā kaihaina
Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Alex Rogers - Executive Officer Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor – General Manager Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hauraki Gulf Forum – Technical Officers’ Hui 20 July

In attendance were:
Sonja Austin, FNZ; Puti Wilson, AC; Sietse Bouma, AC; Stephanie Robinson, AC; Rebecca Forgesson, AC; Sultana Shah and Gareth Read, WRC; James Fuller, WDC; John Galilee, DoC; João Paulo Silva, MPDC; Leslie Vyhuys, TCDC; and Alex Rogers, HGF.

Notes
Karaka – the Executive Officer led a karaka

1. Updates

- **Appointment of 2 new Tangata Whenua members.** It was noted by DoC that the Ministers of Conservation and Māori Development were currently liaising on the appointments and it was hoped they would go through Cabinet in early August to allow for those individuals to attend the Forum’s next hui on 24 August in Te Aroha.

- **Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari.** A significant amount of work by DoC and MPI, including remote consultation with mana whenua and other stakeholders through the lockdown period, was now concluding with finalisation of the draft Government Response Strategy to Sea Change. Good feedback had been received, including from iwi and hapu. The Ministerial Advisory Committee is providing advice on the draft Response Strategy. The latest timeline was to present the final draft to Ministers by end-July. This would include a draft of the Hauraki Gulf Fisheries Plan. In addition, Sustainable Seas – the National Science Challenge – would be doing a case study on Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management in the Gulf. The resourcing challenge around implementation of the Government Response Strategy was noted, as well as necessary comms work. DoC and MPI would update the Forum on all of this at the next hui in Te Aroha on 24 August.
  - Comments were made about the importance of a wellbeing framework (noting the Treasury is in the process of updating its one), liaison with Treaty partners, and local/regional government collaboration.

- **Executive Officer (EO) update.** The EO noted a recent positive meeting with Minister Sage and the Co-Chairs, and a forthcoming one with Minister Mahuta. An update was also provided on communications work, and potential political lobbying around the Forum’s goals.

2. 24 August HGF hui

- **Agenda.** The Executive Officer ran the group through the intended draft agenda for the Forum’s next hui, noting a focus on local issues, Sea Change, stocktakes on riparian planting and marine dumping, and presentation of the Annual Report. Several public forum
presentations were also expected. Matamata-Piako District Council were commended for their efforts to prepare the ground for an excellent day in Te Aroha.

- **Stocktake on riparian planting.** AC, WRC and the EO updated the meeting on work towards a stocktake of riparian planting in the catchment. In the Waitaki, for example, an estimated 679km of riparian areas had been fenced and planted, while in the Auckland region urban forest cover had increased from 2013 – 2016. Analysis was ongoing and inputs also awaited from the farming sector and other groups undertaking planting.
  
  - A comment was made about the need to try and identify specific gaps and priority areas for the Forum to focus on.

- **Stocktake on marine dumping.** The EO updated on information received from the Environmental Protection Authority. The stocktake on marine dumping was straightforward compared with riparian planting, as there were only two dump sites near the park with only one user for each.

- **Operationalising the 2020-2022 Work Plan.** The EO led an initial conversation around operationalising the Work Plan, to allow each constituent party to add into the work plan key deliverables that it was working toward in the 2020-2022 period that would also deliver on the Forum’s issues and goals. This will be raised at the August Forum hui, for completion by the November hui.

3. **Consents** – how to ensure HGF notified of relevant applications

- A short discussion was had on ensuring the Forum had visibility of relevant consents. It was suggested that the Executive Officer meet with consenting departments of constituent parties to raise the profile of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act and its intersection with consenting processes.


Karakia – the Executive Officer led a karakia
Constituent Party Reporting History 2020-2018

- Forum’s Strategic Issues [19 August 2019] [20 May 2019] [19 February 2018]
- Impacts of COVID-19 [25 May 2020]
- America’s Cup [19 August 2019]
- Kauri Dieback [19 August 2019]
- Fisheries [19 November 2018]
- Sediment [20 August 2018]
Healthy Waters, Auckland Council

Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum: End of Year Report 2019-2020

Prepared by Fraser Stobie, Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum Co-ordinator
Table of Contents

FOREWORD ........................................................................................................... 2
GENERAL OVERVIEW .......................................................................................... 3
Key Achievements & Activities ........................................................................... 3
Some Key Statistics .............................................................................................. 4
Participating Organisations 2019-2020 ............................................................... 5
Clean Streams Project Proposal .......................................................................... 5
Covid-19 Impact & Response ............................................................................... 6
COORDINATOR UPDATE ................................................................................... 8
HEALTHY WATERS, AUCKLAND COUNCIL .................................................... 10
LOOKING FORWARD .............................................................................................. 11
Foreword

Vision
The Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum (TEEF) has a long term vision "to see Te Wai o Taiki (the Tāmaki Estuary) as a thriving, dynamic and healthy ecosystem that is loved and used by the community and which positively enhances and connects with the Manukau Harbour, the Waitemata Harbour and the Hauraki Gulf.”

Role of the Forum
The role of the Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum is three-fold:

1. To host meetings; facilitate events and generally engage in activities that help to identify and problem solve issues relevant to the life and health of the Tāmaki Estuary (including its catchments, local communities and flora and fauna).
2. To encourage information sharing and promote collaboration between Auckland Council departments, council-controlled organisations, central government agencies, iwi, environmental groups, businesses and members of the local community to improve the health of the Tāmaki Estuary.
3. To initiate and enable community led advocacy and responses to issues adversely affecting the health of the Tāmaki Estuary.

2019-2020 Budget
The Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum would like to acknowledge the following Local Boards for their ongoing support of the Forum and its work to restore the estuary:

- Ōtara Pāpatoetoe
- Ōrākei
- Howick
- Māngere-Ōtāhuhu
- Maungakiekie-Tamaki

The table below highlights the financial commitment from each Local Board over the past year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Board</th>
<th>2019-2020 Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ōtara Pāpatoetoe</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ōrākei</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howick</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Māngere-Ōtāhuhu</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maungakiekie-Tamaki</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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General Overview

Key Achievements & Activities

Events
- TEEFF's first presence at Parnuree Basin Fun Day (2020) – creation of promotional material (brochure) in support.
- 5 Forum meetings held.
- Collaborated with Conservation Volunteers NZ to run a series of clean ups across the Estuary.
- Collaborated with Conservation Volunteers NZ to undertake native planting around Omuru Creek.
- Held regular Forum Executive Group meetings.
- Regular attendees at Otau Waterways and Lake Trust meetings.
- Several micro-plastic clean up events, and education at community events.

Advocacy
- Provided promotional and networking support to the Ulbrich Art Centre – Estuary Art Award.
- Submitted on:
  - The Stormwater consent submission
  - The Trade Waste Bylaw
  - Submission on healthy waterways
  - Letter to Mayor about plastics
  - Submission to RIMM (monitoring request letter)
  - Deputations to each of the five Local Boards (2020)
  - Supporting letter for CVNZ’s Local Board Grant.
- Emergency Budget:
  - Continued to maintain and grow an online presence through Facebook.
  - Explicitly mentioned in four of the five Draft 2020 Local Board Plans.
  - Successfully lobbied Local Board for new threatened shorebird signage at Tahuna Torea Reserve.
  - Successfully lobbied Local Board for improved mowing regime in important shorebird nesting zones.
  - Released promotional video for Forum (visible on Facebook Page).

Biodiversity
- Supported Post-Acre initiatives around the estuary (Hawick, eastern Songbird Project, Stonefields, Point England Bird Sanctuary).
- Participated in Annual Estuary Bird Count with the Ornithological Society of New Zealand.
- Undertook pest control (trapping) at several locations around the estuary.
- Collaborated with Saint Kentigern College to protect threatened New Zealand Dotterel chick and adult nesting pair.
- The Tāmaki Regeneration Company (TRC) have recommitted to pest plant removal programme; pest plant removal has been done on 25 properties so far.
- TRC re-committed to providing prize money for a moth plant pod competition in their area.

Other
- Continued to build strong relationships with Hauraki Gulf Forum and Manukau Harbour Forum Coordinators.
- Established an Events Coordinator position (community volunteer).
- Welcomed a new Local Board Co-Chair (Bruce Kendall), Hawick.
- Continued to host high quality guest speakers at Forum meetings.
- Continued collaboration with Enviroschools – education on microplastics issue.
Some Key Statistics

Below are some quick figures from a few of our key contributors:

- **7,400 Plants**
- **4 locations**
- **8 Stream Team Sites**
- **376 Volunteers at 29 Events**
- **199 Homes Participated in 2 Neat Street Events**
- **27.7 tonne landfill, 3 tonne wood, 2.2 tonne of e-waste collected**

**Repair Café Every First Friday of the Month**

**4 “Environmental Club” Zoom Lectures**

On composting, native gardening, waste management, ecology

**707m Planted**

At Omaru Creek

**2 Rubbish Clean Ups**

At Pt. England Reserve & Ngati Otaara Park
Participating Organisations 2019-2020

2019-2020 Participating Organisations / Groups¹:

Tamaki WRAP
Conservation Volunteers NZ
Otara Waterways & Lakes Trust
Forest & Bird
Enviro Schools
Chinese Conservation & Education Trust
Eastern Bays Songbird project
Sustainable Business Network
Our Seas Our Futures
Hauraki Gulf Forum
Tamaki Regeneration Company
Ornithological Society of New Zealand
EV Maritime
Pest Free Howick
Tasman Gillies (Manukau Harbour Forum Coordinator)
Plastics NZ
McMullen & Wing
LegaSea

Clean Streams Project Proposal

In early 2020 TEEF Forum Executive developed a project proposal to deliver a community-led stream monitoring programme within the Tamaki Catchment.

The primary purpose of this project is to provide residents living within the locality of an urban stream with the technology, capability, and training to remotely manage real-time continuous stream monitoring.

¹ List does not include individual non-affiliated community members, or Local Board members.
monitoring\(^1\) and effectively report pollution events. Through this monitoring TEEF will develop a data set of stream water quality across five key streams in the local wards bordering the estuary.

The project also seeks to establish more widespread (greater coverage of the catchment), consistent and robust pollution event reporting methods so Auckland Council can more efficiently and effectively respond and prevent pollution events from re-occurring.

Streams within the Greater Ōtakou Catchment have high levels of environmental pollutants due to contamination by heavy metals, toxic household chemicals, and inorganic nutrients. This has led to degraded local waterways, threatening the health and function of natural ecosystems, and inhibiting safe recreational use\(^2\). Understanding the patterns of pollution events within the catchment is an important way in which groups like TEEF can assist Auckland Council and Local Boards in managing these issues.

The Clean Streams project will engage with existing groups in the catchment to ensure stream monitoring initiatives are established in collaborative and co-operative ways, and integrated with existing programmes when possible. Community monitoring compliments (does not replace) the State of the Environment scientific monitoring carried out by Auckland Council’s Research Monitoring Unit (RMU).

*The Forum has requested local board funding for Clean Streams and are awaiting decisions for the 2020/2021 budget.*

**Covid-19 Impact & Response**

TEEF like many other groups was not immune to the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown imposed in Q3 and Q4. Although the Forum was impacted, there were several areas in which the Forum coped well. These included:

- Good communication and regular ZOOM meetings held between TEEF Executive Group – these enabled TEEF initiatives to continue to be progressed to varying extents.
- Attendance of webinars (external to TEEF) enabled participants to continue to be engaged in environmental affairs.
- Opportunities to put extra mahi into online platforms and to develop advocacy.
- Continued development of project proposals.
- More opportunities for participants to investigate/patrol their local areas while exercising.

*Lessons learnt:*

- Webinars provide an excellent way to remotely engage people in matters of interest, and to enable elements (e.g. guest presentations) of regular meetings to continue.

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\(^1\) Continuous on-line monitoring of urban streams by volunteers is now economically, technically and logistically achievable due to the development of ‘open source’ user-friendly water quality monitoring units built by Innovate Auckland.

Online platforms provided a key mechanism through which advocacy could continue.

Regular TEEF Executive meetings were critical to ensure Forum interests were kept fresh in mind.

Having remote environmental/water sensing (and data collection) capability would have afforded many opportunities without having to be in public spaces.

In summary, TEEF responded as well as could have been expected given the uniqueness of the situation. Digital communication methods were critical to the continuity of the Forum.
Coordinator Update

Role & Responsibilities

Fraser Stobie (Envirosstrat Ltd) was engaged as the TEEF Coordinator in 2018, completing on average 8hrs a week for this role.

The Coordinator continues to provide administrative support, and project identification and management services to the Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum. The Coordinator facilitates the development of new projects including assistance with funding applications, project identification, relationship management, and project oversight with the aim of helping the forum achieve its goals.

Overview of 2019-2020

TEEF has achieved several great outcomes for the Tamaki Estuary and the surrounding catchment over the past year, despite encountering challenges associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Forum continues to meet every two months at Local Board offices with consistently strong turnouts. Future meetings will cycle around the various Wards, following positive feedback from the Forum to the idea. The calibre of the meetings is much improved, with engaging speakers from a variety of backgrounds stimulating constructive conversation.

New organisations / community members have joined TEEF in the past 12 months, however, more could be done to increase the TEEF network – the Forum is looking at new ways to reach and engage community members; the Facebook platform continues to be an effective way to reach the public and build presence.

The Forum welcomed the new Local Board Co-Chair Mr Bruce Kendall MBE in early 2020, alongside the Incumbent Community Co-Chair, Julie Chambers – Mr Kendall has shown keen interest in a variety of issues and has hit the ground running. The Forum participants also elected community volunteer Beth Evans to the role of Events Coordinator – a position she was instrumental in forming.

With the support of Healthy Waters, Auckland Council, TEEF has started to have a presence at community events (e.g. Panmure Basin Fun Day). These are important calendar events, and are key opportunities to TEEF to boost recognition, as well as demonstrate visible partnerships with various organisations.

The Forum is increasingly active in the advocacy space, submitting on a variety of different public consultations. The TEEF Community Co-Chair has been an asset to the Forum, furthering TEEFs’ interests, and taking a leading role in presenting to the various Local Boards.

Although Covid-19 had a material effect regarding TEEFs’ on-the-ground activity level during lockdown, participants were still able to create a variety of opportunities for tangible work to occur outside of the restriction period. Stand-out work includes a variety of shorebird-related conservation activities, micro-plastic clean up and education, pest control, and planting efforts.

Importantly, 2019-2020 marked a key transition period for the Forum and Executive Group, where participants / paid staff have been able to take a longer-term approach to future planning in light of...
new confidence and growing momentum. This has manifested primarily through the creation of flagship project proposals (and funding applications) and development of strategically important relationships with the Executive officer / Coordinator of both the Hauraki Gulf Forum and the Manukau Harbour Forum.

To improve:

- The promotion of TEEF (TEEF participant) events on relevant Local Board Facebook pages / Council portals.
- Identification of other organisations active in the area.
- Attracting greater public awareness / participation of events.
- Coordination with Pest-Free initiatives.

**TEEF Executive Group Report**

As of 1/07/2020 the TEEF Executive Group consists of:

- Dr Julie Chambers (Community Co-Chair)
- Bruce Kendall (Local Board Co-Chair)
- Fraser Stobie (TEEF Coordinator)
- Stephanie Robinson (*Healthy Waters* Specialist)
- Beth Evans (Events Coordinator)

The TEEF Executive Group has proved to be a valuable resource over the past 12 months. Regular meetings (including remotely during lockdown) have been useful check-in points and opportunities to discuss matters pertinent to the Forum.

Julie Chambers has been a key driver of the Forums’ interests; representing TEEF at deputations to the Local Boards, providing strategic guidance, networking at events, and developing project concepts. Julie volunteers significant amounts of personal time and effort to the Forum.

Bruce Kendall is new to the Forum; however, he has shown great commitment to the group. Bruce has taken an active role in networking with community groups / members and helping to ensure that TEEF is aware of key opportunities that arise.

Beth Evans is new to the Forum Executive Group, joining in Q3. As an already highly active volunteer, she is well-positioned to step into the Events Coordinator role (a volunteer position). Beth is motivated to improve the way the Forum promotes and coordinates events in the catchment.
Healthy Waters, Auckland Council

TEEF’s relationship with the Healthy Waters division of Auckland Council is integral to its mission to restore the health of the Tamaki Estuary. The Forum is proud to be partnered with Auckland Council and is motivated to continue building this relationship.

Healthy Waters and Infrastructure and Environmental Services staff have continued to provide critical assistance across many of the Forum’s activities / interest areas, governance processes, and supporting the Coordinator, as well as individual participants. The positive progression of the Forum can be partly attributed to the mahi of these staff.

Interaction with Council staff provides TEEF with a direct line of communication to local government, enabling TEEF to act in an informed manner, develop projects that are aligned with local government outcomes, and stay abreast of any key developments or opportunities.

The Freshwater Management Tool (FWMT) currently being developed by Auckland Council has the potential to provide significant benefit to groups like TEEF. Being able to map out and prioritise areas through a data-driven spatial lens will offer enable TEEF participants to achieve the ‘greatest bang for their buck’ – a critical factor for groups with limited financial resources. The Forum is following the progression of the FWMT with great interest.

The TEEF Executive Group anticipates that in the coming months / years the Forum will become an even more important platform for the community, organisations, and NGOs to advocate for, and lead action on environmental issues in this catchment. Given the successes to date, and the positive future expectations, the Forum is motivated to continue building relationships with Auckland Council.
Looking Forward

The Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum is highly optimistic for the future. Growing appreciation at various levels of government for the need to allocate more resources to environmental issues in the Auckland Region, and nationally, reflects strong public awareness for the protection of nature.

TEEF is in a position now to actively develop and seek funding for projects that will enable participants to be more effective kaitiaki (stewards) of the environment, and create initiatives that are complementary to the efforts by local government organisations. As TEEP participants increasingly step up to take an active role in addressing environmental matters affecting the Estuary, the Coordinator is able to reallocate time from things like administration and project identification, into more strategically important activities like relationship management, and project oversight.

New partnerships with organisations like LegaSea provide the Forum with novel project opportunities on key issues (e.g. fisheries education) and open up new communication channels to reach different sections of the community. The Forum is continually looking to expand its network and identify new collaborative opportunities – this can be enhanced through the assistance of Local Board members who maintain connections with their respective communities, in addition to the work of other Forum participants and paid staff.

A key strategic partnership opportunity exists between the Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum, the Hauraki Gulf Forum, and the Manukau Harbour Forum. The coordinators / executive officers of these Forums already meet regularly to provide updates and share potential opportunities. Although the respective Forums are different in make-up, governance, and have no official relationship, there is strong alignment of aspirations.

TEEF will continue to develop strategic alignment and identify collaborative opportunities with these groups. The coalition of Harbour Forums is also interested in connecting with the Kaipara Harbour Forum in the future.

"The Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum (TEEF) is local leadership in action. The mahi that TEEP does at a community level to restore one of the most degraded parts of the Hauraki Gulf is critically important to the broader ecosystem. The Hauraki Gulf Forum is proud to be involved with TEEP and acknowledges the commitments made to TEEP by communities, Local Boards, and Auckland Council."

Alex Rogers, Executive Officer, Hauraki Gulf Forum

Hauraki Gulf Forum
Tikapa Moana
Te Moananui-a-Toi
"There is considerable potential for collaboration between the Manukau Harbour Forum and the Tamaki Estuary Environmental Forum (TEEF). The commonality between the Forums and the existing membership overlap of Local Boards offers up an opportunity to share knowledge and leverage resources while achieving outcomes for the Manukau Harbour, the Tamaki Estuary and the surrounding communities. The work of TEEF to restore and enhance the health of the Tamaki Estuary is important and mutually beneficial to the Manukau Harbour and the Manukau Harbour Forum."

Tasman Gillies, Manukau Harbour Forum Coordinator
Quarterly Ship Speed Report

April to June 2020

The average quarterly speed has continued to decrease in 2020 Q2 to 9.69 knots, with all average quarterly vessel speeds during April, May, and June remaining well below 10.0 knots. The number of vessels recorded this quarter was significantly lower than previous quarters due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The average quarterly speed in Q1 2020 was 9.69 knots.

The monthly averages between January and March ranged from 9.44 to 9.95 knots. The lowest average of the quarter was June with 9.44 knots. Overall, approximately 68% of speeds were 10 knots or less each month of the quarter, with no months recording speeds higher than 16.0 knots.
Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report
1. An opportunity for Forum members to raise any developments of importance for the Marine Park not covered by other agenda items.

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s
That the Hauraki Gulf Forum:
a) note the report and receive any verbal updates from members.

Ngā tāpirihanga
Attachments
There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina
Signatories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Alex Rogers - Executive Officer Hauraki Gulf Forum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authoriser</td>
<td>Jacques Victor – General Manager Auckland Plan Strategy and Research</td>
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</table>
Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

That the Hauraki Gulf Forum

a) exclude the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C1</th>
<th>Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari Marine Spatial Plan - Government Response Strategy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</td>
<td>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)</td>
<td>s7(2)(c)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied. In particular, the report contains information on the non-public draft government response strategy to Sea Change, which includes potential policy and/or regulatory changes. This information is held in confidence by central government until such time as Ministers and Cabinet take necessary decisions on it. To release this publicly would be to prejudice that process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</td>
<td>s48(1)(a) - The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</td>
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ATTACHMENTS

Item 4.5  Attachment A  Notice of Motion  Page 107
Notice of Motion – Member A Bonham to Support Biodiversity in the Hauraki Gulf

In accordance with Standing Orders, please place the following Notice of Motion on the agenda for the Waitematā Local Board meeting being held on 16 June 2020:

Ngā tūtohunga

Recommendation/s

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the Notice of Motion

b) notes with concern the findings in the Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana / Te Moananui-Toi State of the Gulf Report 2020:

(i) the reduction of kōngō (kauri), terākīhi, john dory, tūwhang (cockle), taiko (black petrel), fāyā tāmārā (snapper) amongst other species.

(ii) kina barrens, toxic algal blooms, acidification of the oceans, marine levels of nitrogen and mercury, commercial fishing methods that cause damage to the sea floor, water pollution, habitat degradation from sediment, stormwater events, disease and marine pests.

(iii) and the limited progress in the restoration of shellfish to the Gulf with 10 recorded mass mortality events in the Marine Park in the last ten years.

c) acknowledges the complexity of the issue and supports the work done by Auckland Council in its sustainable approach to procurement, for investing in the Central Interceptor, and for developing the Strategic Approach to Sediment programme and urges the Governing Body to incorporate recommendations from this programme, the State of the Gulf Report and other relevant environmental reports into the Auckland Unitary Plan so as to reduce sediment, chemicals and pollution from urban development, industry and agriculture from flowing into the Hauraki Gulf.

d) urges the Governing Body to continue funding environmental research on Auckland’s coastlines and develop strategies for environmentally sustainable growth.


2 The loss of some species is substantial, for example, kōngō (kauri), terākīhi, john dory, tūwhang (cockle), taiko (black petrel), fāyā tāmārā (snapper) amongst other species. Stark, dolphin, whales, seals and seabirds numbers have been decimated in numbers since humans arrived. Green-lipped mussels have all gone. Panton SH, MacDiamond A, Branch MA, et al. Changes to the food-web of the Hauraki Gulf during the period of human occupation: a mass-balance model approach. Wellington: Ministry for Primary Industries, 2015. MacDiamond A, McKenzie A, Abraham EK. Top-down effects on rocky reef ecosystems in north-eastern New Zealand: a historic and qualitative modeling approach. Wellington: Ministry for Primary Industries, 2016.
e) urges the Planning Committee to use their discretionary powers to develop a policy for development and urban growth that ensures better water quality outcomes, improving water capture and disposal, and improves biodiversity in our waterways and harbours.

f) seeks the Governing Body to use their Resource Management Act powers to increase (from the current 0.3%) to at least 30% by 2030 (with staggered targets in between) the proportion of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park reserve that is protected and to support the restoration of 1000 square metres of shellfish beds and reefs, as recommended by the Hauraki Gulf Forum Political Reference Group on 25 May 2020.

g) recommends the Governing Body in collaboration with the Hauraki Gulf Forum to develop a business case for an expanded marine reserve, a networked protected area that is likely to restore the biodiversity of the gulf and open up new opportunities for Māori, New Zealanders and visitors to connect with the natural environment, enable comparative research and research into regenerative aquaculture.

(h) resolves to continue to support local programs to eliminate mammalian pests from Waitematā and endorses programs in other appropriate mainland areas and the Gulf Islands

(i) resolves to play its part alongside Healthy Waters, Community Facilities, Watercare and Auckland Transport (and fund local programs) as appropriate to improve the health of waterways and the harbour, through stream and beach clean ups, plantings, park management, natural and engineered systems to reduce sediment, and contaminated storm water flows into the Hauraki Gulf.

(j) resolves to support the Hauraki Gulf Forum in meeting their goals and collaborating with stakeholders as appropriate.

(k) resolves to support local strategies to reduce emissions and draw down carbon to keep climate heating below 1.5 degrees to prevent acidification of the ocean.

(l) supports the speedy removal of harmful debris in the ocean and harbour – for example plastic waste, car tyres – and the development of strategies to reduce the practice and impact of marine dumping.

(m) advocates to the Ministry of Primary Industries and law enforcement agencies to adequately resource the consistent enforcement of regulations by fishery officers to discourage illegal practices, including taking fish illegally, and using Danish Seine sets and tawling where it is illegal in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park to do so.

(n) advocates to the Ministry of Primary Industries that they explore setting up a registration system for recreational fishing boats or fishermen, and introduce an effective system of reporting of the recreational fishing catch so as to improve data around fish populations.

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1 https://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/20200523/HGF_20200523_AGN_0630_AT_WEB.htm
2 Fishery officers may include members of the NZ Defence Force and the police as laid out in the Fisheries Act 1996 c.196.
(e) requests that these resolutions be forwarded to the Environment and Climate Change Committee, the Hauraki Gulf Forum, the Planning Committee, the Governing Body, Auckland Transport, Healthy Waters, local boards, and the Sustainability Office, for their consideration.

Horopaki Context

1. The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park was set up in 2000 to restore and protect it (covering the area below).

2. The Hauraki Gulf Forum as laid out in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act does research, provides a forum for collaboration and gives advice, including a three-yearly report on the State of the Gulf 2020 but do not have the decision-making powers to restore the health of the waters of the Gulf. This is in the hands of Auckland Council and Central Government.
3. The establishing of the marine park has had some positive effects but there are still serious problems. The 2020 State of the Gulf Report notes that there is less fish, less keep and more kina barren. While species levels are constantly in flux, and species move around, there is some evidence that without key species playing their role the ecosystem may be out of balance. Since human arrival to the Gulf, research done for the Ministry for Primary Industries estimates shark numbers are down 86%, crabs down 96%, lobsters down 78%, seals and sea lions almost 100% and green lined mussels 100%. Seabirds and shorebird numbers have reduced by 67%.6

4. Stocks of some fish species have needed rebuilding. Fisheries regulations have used mechanisms effectively to restore stocks to a sustainable level but sustainable fishing may involve taking 30-60% of stocks. Sustainable fishing does not equate to an abundant natural eco-system. Over-fishing is not the only stress put on fish stocks in the Hauraki Gulf. Degraded habitats and insufficient food for fish are also a problem. Environmental stress can also be caused by changes in temperature, salinity and high levels of silt discharged into the oceans.

5. Data collection is incomplete, particularly around the recreational take. Recreational fishing boats are not registered. NIWA boat ramp estimates and aerial surveys are outlined in various Fisheries Assessment Reports, and summarised in the MPI Stock Assessment Plenary Reports).

6. There is increasing concern by scientists, naturalists, and communities within and outside New Zealand around the health of oceans (or lack of) and the need for urgent action at a local, national and international level. A 30% no-take area has been recommended to protect and restore ocean biodiversity and health by marine conservation scientists internationally7 and in New Zealand. The key goal of 30x30 (30% marine reserves by 2030) was originally adopted by a range of scientists at the 2014 World Parks Congress in Sydney.8 This was later endorsed by the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress, which NZ is a member of through the Department of Conservation.9 Dr Tom Trnski, Head of Natural Sciences at Auckland Museum and a senior marine scientist in NZ, recorded his call for 30% marine protection in the Hauraki Gulf last year.10

7. There are many complex factors at play. The Hauraki Gulf is affected by what happens on land as much as it does at sea. The Auckland Unitary Plan is designed to support growth and it may be that coastal and other environmental outcomes are insufficiently monitored and reviewed. In the meantime council is being critical of some departments for not acting in a sufficiently precautionary way as it approaches development and asset renewals (eg, stormwater, sewage).

8. The management of the gulf is a complex issue and involves the Hauraki Gulf Forum, Governing Body, mana whenua, communities, government ministries and agencies, council staff across departments, and non-government organisations working together collaboratively. The Gulf is of huge importance to many stakeholders with

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6 Pinkerton, Macedmond, Beumont et al. 2015. Changes to the food-web of the Hauraki Gulf during the period of human occupation. Wellington: Ministry of Primary Industries
8 https://novoesnewsopenaustralia.org/news/mgp-news/world-parks-congress-recommends-target-30-no-take-
9 https://novoesnewsaustraliand.org/news/mgp-news/world-parks-congress-recommends-target-30-no-take-
10 https://novoesnewsaustralian.org/news/mgp-news/world-parks-congress-recommends-target-30-no-take-
different interests and a collaborative approach is being taken to work across council, and with the recreational fishing sector, the tourist sector, iwi and hapū to enhance sustainability of recreational fishing activity; implement seasonal or other rūhū closures and develop other appropriate mechanisms to reduce waste and enhance stewardship of marine life in the Gulf.

9. There are many legislative bodies and enforcement agencies with shared responsibility for the Gulf. They include mana whenua, Auckland Council, Waikato Regional Council, territorial authorities, the Department of Conservation, Ministry for Primary Industries and the Hauraki Gulf Forum. Most aspects of their roles are different, to avoid duplication and confusion over responsibilities. However both central government and regional authorities may play a role in protecting biodiversity and ensuring a healthy marine environment as a cultural and environmental asset.

10. A stakeholder working group supported by the Hauraki Gulf Forum, the Auckland Council Hauraki Gulf Political Reference Group (previously Auckland Council Sea Change Political Reference Group) with some input from government agencies and council staff produced Sea Change: Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan14 to set a strategic vision at a regional and national level. Central government is also working on a strategy with reference to Sea Change and other plans.

11. Sea Change (the Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan) is a non-statutory document. It does not contain any rules and it is not legally binding in itself. It provides integrated management approaches and recommended actions. While the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park is incredibly resilient, so much has been lost, destroyed or damaged and very little recovery has been achieved to date. The Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan sets out a roadmap to restore and rebuild its values — to return it to the national taonga of the utmost importance to all New Zealanders. The plan is underpinned by four values: Kaitiakitanga — shared responsibility and guardianship; Mahinga Kai, Pataki Kai — replenishing the food basket; Ki Uta Ki Tai — holistic ecosystem approach; Kotahitanga — unity of vision, individual agency, prosperity.

12. Commercial and recreational fisheries have been breaching regulations and some people claim catch is customary Maori when no kaitiaki authorisation has been given. The number of permanent fishery officers15 may not be sufficient to protect the Hauraki Gulf and more support and education for people is required.

13. Dredging, trawling and use of Danish seine sets can damage the sea floor and reduction of this practice has been helpful. Dredging continues at 49% of the previous level, while around 22% of Danish Seine sets occurred in 300km² where regulations prohibit this practice.

14. The status of scallop beds is unknown. With regards to cockles the only areas where there are increases in harvestable cockles is on monitored sites where seasonal harvesting bans are in place. Land development, sediment and pollutants may be to blame for lack of cockle recruitment in historic shellfish beds like Cheltenham Beach.

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15 Staff suggest the current number is twice.
15. The koura (crayfish) population has been substantially reduced and are now at levels similar to those in unmanaged areas in the mid-1990s and in the Hauraki Gulf report they were considered functionally extinct. In 2018, large cuts in catch allowances were made to allow the stock to rebuild towards target levels. In April 2020, the recreational bag limit was reduced from six to three, to further help the rebuild of the CRA2 stock.

16. Sustainable Science Challenge projects meanwhile have identified kelp as potentially a very useful fertilizer as well as being essential for feeding other fish in the gulf.13

17. A shifting ocean eco-system is of deep significance to everyone, and that of the Hauraki Gulf to Māori and all New Zealanders for many reasons that include but go far beyond recreational and economic opportunities.

18. The American Blue Parks reported this year that fisheries working outside of Papahanaumokuakea, a marine park near Hawaii that is larger than Texas, have not suffered a reduction in take since the expansion of the park. Expanding the Papahanaumokuakea was hugely controversial with the fishing industry in 2016.23 The peer-reviewed study published this year has shown that "catch per unit effort has increased overall" Professor John Lynham, Department of Economics, University of Hawaii24. Instead of being contrary to fishing interests including indigenous fishing rights, an expanded no-take zone, and seasonal restrictions can support more fishing-long-term.

19. The spat from snapper in Goat Island spill over into other parts of the gulf distributed by currents. This video link demonstrates the importance of the Goat Island sanctuary for snapper: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VtqBZ7tPOO3cMtRXON- mfYvN6gvyka/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VtqBZ7tPOO3cMtRXON-mfYvN6gvyka/view). The view of Nick Shears and Tim Haggitt of the Institute of Marine Sciences is that no-take areas offer hope, but are currently too small to address the systemic decline of fish stocks across the gulf.25

20. The benefits of (no-take) marine reserves for education, data collection and revenue generation from visitors can be achieved with little direct cost, a 2008 study of the reserve at Leigh indicated it generated $18.6 million a year for the local economy at a cost of around $70,000 for DoC. A no-take area is likely to have 50-200% more fish than sustainably fished waters.

21. A collaborative approach to encourage slower speeds by ships entering the port has been successful and there has been a reduction in the number of Bryde's whales injured and killed, but the health of the whale population is still of concern. Measured levels of metals, particularly of zircon and mercury, remain high. Nitrate levels are still increasing in some areas, as is the amount of soil run off and siltation, at the expense of both land and sea. Toxic algal blooms are relatively frequent in the Gulf.

22. The abundance of shellfish can be an indicator of sea health, as Shellfish populations can be decimated by water quality. This can be affected by what happens on land and upstream. NIWA recommendations to improve the water quality of harbours include focus on the following:
- Nutrients - reduce inputs of nitrogen and phosphorus (fertiliser and industrial run-off) into waterways from surrounding land use activities.

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13 Dr. Nick Lewis and Jason Mika spoke at the Maritime Museum, 17 June 2019, about the opportunities and challenges to substantially increase the Blue Economy.
Water quality - improve stream/river water quality to improve inner harbour water quality, as the two are intimately connected.

Riparian planting - fence waterways to prevent stock access to stream banks, and create and maintain a vegetated riparian buffer that can greatly reduce the damaging effects of sediment and nutrients.  

23. Council staff and elected members have identified that current efforts to protect the gulf could be improved and are working with council departments to develop a strategy and improve environmental protections in the Auckland Unitary Plan. Auckland Council are also inputting into a government response strategy to improve marine protection and fisheries management.

24. Some fishing, biodiversity and pollution effects can potentially be addressed through regional council plans. The Court of Appeal recently found that the Resource Management Act (RMA) does not prevent regional councils from controlling fisheries resources including creating marine reserves through their RMA functions, provided they are not doing so for Fisheries Act purposes. This offers up an opportunity for Auckland Council to take action.  

Signatories

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25. [Source URL]  

27. The Court of Appeal found that there is an overlap in the functions of regional councils under the RMA and those of the Minister of Fisheries under the Fisheries Act. The two statutes complement and “look at” each other. It concluded that biodiversity functions of the RMA were much broader than those of the Fisheries Act. The RMA “protects indigenous biodiversity not just as a resource but for its intrinsic value and for its ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values”. The Court also noted that regional councils were assigned the primary governance role in maintaining indigenous biodiversity, stating: “This brings us to a significant point, which is that the legislative history records that a choice was made not to establish this important function under the Fisheries Act for the coastal marine area but rather to assign it to regional councils under the RMA.”


NDCA 332 – cited in the State of the Gulf Report 2020