Te Tāpui Tokotoru Conservation Management Plan

- Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve
- **Öhope Scenic Reserve**
- Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

2008 - 2018







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Te Tapatoru ā Toi (Joint Management Committee)

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1. Foreword

Manaaki whenua, manaaki tangata, haere whakamua. Care for the land, care for the people, progress into the future.

This conservation management plan helps to achieve the purpose of the Ngati Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 and meets the requirements for reserve management planning under the Conservation Act 1987.

As part of the Ngāti Awa settlement, the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 required the Minister of Conservation to delegate certain reserve management powers in order to recognise Ngāti Awa values and relationships with three places: Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve, Ōhope Scenic Reserve, and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve (collectively called Te Tāpui Tokotoru). Subpart 5 of the Act established a joint management committee representing the Crown, Ngāti Awa and the community. This committee, called Te Tapatoru ā Toi, is vested with management responsibilities for Te Tāpui Tokotoru, in accordance with the Conservation Act 1987 and the Reserves Act 1977.

The settlement legislation creates strategic management oversight and a number of decision-making functions for Te Tapatoru ā Toi. The committee's advisory function relates to the development of conservation policy and conservation management for Te Tāpui Tokotoru. It has been constituted to provide leadership and direction for the future conservation of the Moutohorā, Õhope and Tauwhare Pā reserves.

The committee's name, Te Tapatoru ā Toi, uses the symbolism of a triangle to acknowledge Te Tāpui Tokotoru's three management entities: Ngāti Awa, the Department of Conservation and the community. The name acknowledges the venerable ancestor Toi te Huatahi, who dwelled within the bounds of the land and sea encompassing the three reserves. It also recognises the three foundation articles of Te Tiriti ō Waitangi. Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve, Ōhope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve are three of the most beautiful places in the eastern Bay of Plenty Many people recognise and enjoy their

in the eastern Bay of Plenty. Many people recognise and enjoy their natural beauty and cultural significance. But some human activities have adversely affected the ecological tapestry of these places, particularly Moutohorā and Tauwhare Pā.

We acknowledge the Department of Conservation, Ngāti Awa and the community for their efforts to restore the ecological integrity and aesthetic coherence of these iconic sites, and to enhance appreciation of their cultural heritage and recreational values.

Te Tapatoru ā Toi presents a new and unique approach to bicultural partnership in the management of Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve and Ōhope and Tauwhare Pā scenic reserves - three of the Bay of Plenty's iconic sites.

Te Kei Merito

Chairman, Te Tapatoru ā Toi

Noho ora mai i raro i nga manaakitanga te Kaihanga

2. Vision/Tohu mõhukihuki

Mā te ngaruru õ te Tāpui Tokotoru ka noho momoho nga taonga tukuiho - taonga koiora hei painga huarahi mõ ngā whakatipuranga õ ināianei õ ake tonu ake.

Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve and Ōhope and Tauwhare Pā scenic reserves are managed to protect and enhance their ecological, historical, cultural, recreational and educational values.



PART I: CONTEXT

3. Introduction

3.1 Purpose and scope of this management plan

This plan, developed by Te Tapatoru ā Toi, provides the management framework for Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve, Öhope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve, together known as Te Tāpui Tokotoru.

Te Tapatoru ā Toi is a joint management committee established under subpart 5 of the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005. The committee includes representatives of the Minister of Conservation, Ngāti Awa, and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board and has various management responsibilities for Te Tāpui Tokotoru as set out in subpart 5 of the Act.

This conservation management plan:

- has been prepared in accordance with section 40B of the Reserves Act 1977. It is consistent with the Conservation Act 1987, the Reserves Act 1977, the Wildlife Act 1953, the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005, the Department of Conservation's Conservation General Policy 2005, and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy 2008-2018;
- recognises Ngāti Awa relationships, culture and traditions with Moutohorā Island Wildlife Management Reserve, Ōhope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve and provides for Ngāti Awa input into management of these reserves;
- is the overarching tool to achieve integrated conservation management of Te Tāpui Tokotoru. The Department of Conservation will comply with this plan and Te Tapatoru ā Toi will monitor the department's compliance;
- requires ongoing informed decision making and coordinated action to achieve integrated conservation management of Te Tāpui Tokotoru.

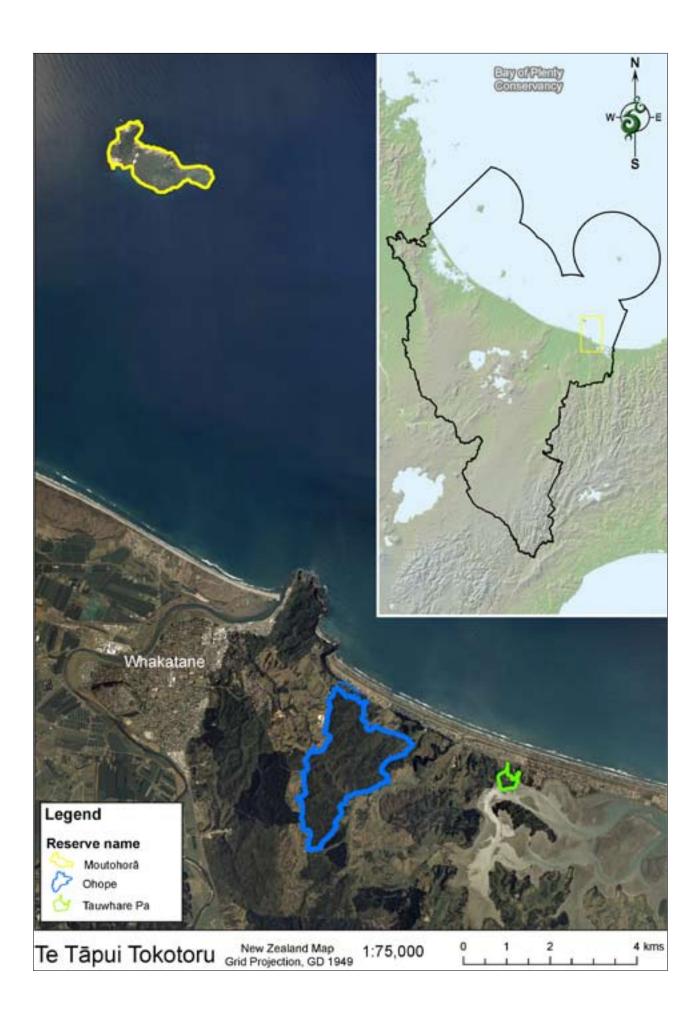
3.2 Overall approach to management

This plan takes an integrated approach to the management of the three places which form Te Tāpui Tokotoru. The plan contains separate objectives for each reserve and brings them together.

A key function of Te Tapatoru ā Toi is balancing the requirements of different statutes and policies and making informed decisions which positively affect the ecological, historical, cultural and recreational values associated with each reserve.

3.3 Legal requirements

Legislation requires conservation management plans to be reviewed every 10 years. This plan, once operative, will replace the current Moutohorā (Whale Island) Conservation Management Plan 1999-2009.



3.4 Key relationships

Since 1866 Ngāti Awa have sought redress for past grievances including land confiscation by the Crown. That redress came with the Crown apology and settlement of grievances in 2005.

As part of the settlement it was agreed that Ngāti Awa would again engage in decision making for Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve, Õhope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve.

3.5 Treaty of Waitangi

Under section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987, that Act must be 'interpreted and administered to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi'.

The principles of the Treaty recognise a partnership between Māori and the Crown. The Treaty imposes on both partners the duty to act reasonably and in good faith and to offer each other the courtesy of consultation to ensure informed decision making. The principles provide the Crown with the freedom and authority to govern while requiring it to actively protect the rights of Māori people in using their lands and waters to the fullest extent practicable. The principles of the Treaty require the Crown to remedy past breaches such as those experienced by Ngāti Awa and recognise the right of Māori to rangatiratanga over their resources and other taonga.

In the context of the Ngāti Awa settlement with the Crown, Te Tapatoru ā Toi is the means through which Ngāti Awa and the Department of Conservation give effect to Treaty principles in relation to Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve, Õhope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve.

3.6 Other relationships

Te Tapatoru ā Toi will maintain relationships with other statutory and iwi agencies and will seek participation of those agencies when necessary. Other agencies include but are not limited to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Whakatāne District Council, New Zealand Historic Places Trust and Ngāti Awa hapū. Relationship management, based on conservation and kaitiakitanga ethics, is likely to include such things as information sharing, advice and support.

Te Tapatoru ā Toi will work towards positive relationships and a shared vision as it develops and enhances links with other stakeholders such as the Whakatāne Kiwi Trust, Ōhope Community Board, Ngāti Awa Farm Limited, landowners, residents and concessionaires.

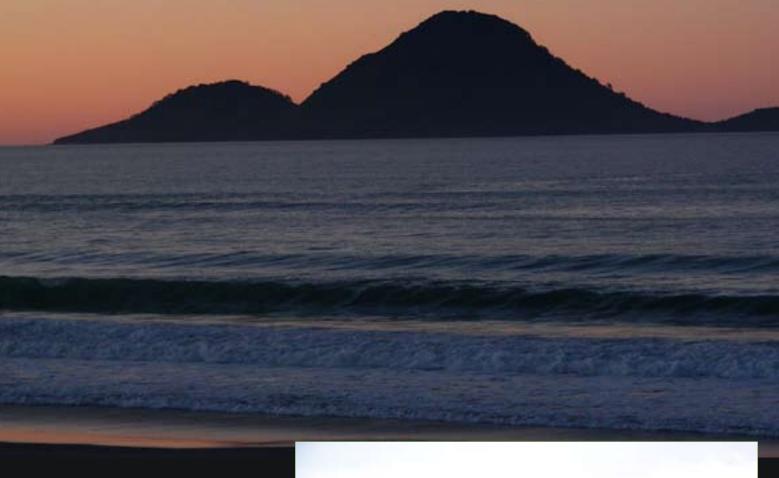
3.7 Linkages

Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve and Ōhope and Tauwhare Pā scenic reserves are strongly linked to each other through ecological, cultural and historical relationships and through the traditional practices of Ngāti Awa.

Moutohorā is linked with the mainland, particularly Kohi Point, which served as a lookout for those who lived on the island. Tauwhare Pā and

Öhope scenic reserves were linked with each other and to Moutohorā through Ngāti Awa's management of the resources they gathered and grew at these places. Kūmara, for example, were grown at all three locations in pre-European times.

Moutohorā, Ōhope and Tauwhare Pā reserves are important repositories of evidence of traditional practices. It is important that they continue to be managed and conserved as a set of resources which have strong relationships with each other. Further archaeological investigation is required to identify and map unrecorded cultural and historic sites of significance.





Rapata Kopae - member of Te Tapatoru ā Toi



Visitors at Tauwhare Pā

PART II: PLACES MANAGEMENT

4. Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve

4.1 Overview

Moutohorā derives its name from 'motu' (island) and 'tohorā' (whale). Over time the name was shortened to Moutohorā.

After discussions within the Department of Conservation and consultation with Ngāti Awa, Moutohorā became one of the first New Zealand offshore islands to be managed predominantly for restoration of ecological communities.

Moutohorā has been managed with an emphasis on restoration. A planting programme began in 1984; its goals were to accelerate rates of natural regeneration by reintroducing previously lost species, to increase the populations of existing species, and to expand the food resources and habitats for indigenous animals.



Moutohorā is currently free of introduced pest animals, except for wasps. Cats died out in the 1950s. All other species have been eradicated (rats, goats and rabbits) or removed (sheep). Vegetation and fauna have changed dramatically since the removal of these animals. To ensure that the significant investment made to date in restoring the island's natural values is not compromised or undermined by the desire of people to visit, active management of visitors is required.

Moutohorā is an important location for telecommunications coverage for the eastern Bay of Plenty: the communication facilities are important for emergency services. The ongoing need to maintain vegetation clearance, to ensure the reliability of these facilities, must be managed to reduce impacts on the cultural and natural landscape and the surrounding vegetation.

Some facilities are required for management and operational purposes, which are part of the annual work programme. These facilities range from the limited track network to helicopter landing pads, hut and toilets, and they need to be maintained in the foreseeable future.

4.2 Location

Moutohorā is 9.55km north-west of Whakatāne and 7.20km from the mainland. The nearest island to Moutohorā is Moutoki (7.15km to the west).

Moutohorā is in the White Island Ecological District which includes the Rūrima Islands, Whakaari (White Island) and Te Paepae o Aotea (Volkner Rocks).

4.3 Classification

Moutohorā (143 hectares) has Wildlife Refuge status under the Wildlife Act 1953. It is managed as a Government Purpose Wildlife Management Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. It was gazetted as a Wildlife Management Reserve in 1991. This means the primary purposes are to protect wildlife in the reserve and to provide wildlife habitat. All management decisions must be consistent with these primary purposes.

4.4 Ngāti Awa relationship

Ngāti Awa's enduring relationship with Moutohorā is now statutorily acknowledged by the Crown and described in schedule 7 of the Ngāti Awa Settlement Act 2005 and schedule 5.4 of the Ngāti Awa Deed of Settlement 2005.

4.5 Natural resources

Geology and soils

Moutohorā is a remnant volcanic cone which has been heavily eroded leaving two peaks - Motu Harapaki (Central Peak, 353m) and Raetihi (Pā Hill, 189m) - which fall away to cliffs on the north and north-east. Areas of sedimentary rock at Oneroa (Boulder Bay) and on the eastern terraces have eroded rapidly. Wind-blown sand has filled the valley behind Oneroa, creating a wetland area. The only sandy bays - Oneroa, Te Rātahi (McEwan's Bay) and Onepū (Sulphur Bay) - are all located on the southern coast. Geothermal activity occurs on five sites, in particular on

the western flanks of the central cone and at Waiariki (Sulphur Valley). There are some hot springs at sea level.

Moutohorā's soils are volcanically derived from a thin layer of ash, pumice or tephra over weathered andesite. Fertility is low, with the exception of the alluvial soils at Oneroa which have relatively high phosphorus levels. The soils have excellent physical properties for plant growth except on the northern seaward cliffs. Erosion is not severe.

Water

There are no permanent streams on Moutohorā. An ephemeral spring on Raetihi usually dries over summer. There are springs at Oneroa (called Te Puna Wāi) at tide level near the boulder bank and under the cliffs at the eastern end of the bay. The wetland in the western arm of Oneroa is the only permanent damp area and has a small stone-lined spring.

Fauna

The most significant features of Moutohorā's wildlife management have been the successful introductions of tuatara, North Island brown kiwi and tieke (North Island saddleback). Other significant wildlife includes a large breeding colony of kuia (grey-faced petrel), kākāriki, little blue penguin, northern New Zealand dotterel, variable oystercatcher and caspian tern. Common forest and marine birds are also present. Kākā and kārearea are regular visitors to Moutohorā. There are three species of lizard (common gecko, speckled skink and copper skink). The New Zealand fur seal uses the island as a resting and breeding area.

A 1995 survey of Moutohorā invertebrates identified more than 281 species (Patrick, 1995). For a small island, Moutohorā has diverse and abundant insect and other invertebrate populations. There are no known endangered invertebrates on the island.

Flora

The vegetation on Moutohorā has changed significantly over time (Ogle, 1989). There is little understanding of the island's ecology at the time of initial human occupation but it was probably dominated by a pōhutukawahardwood forest canopy with shrubby species around the margins.

Today, Moutohorā is covered by põhutukawa forest, mahoe forest, kānuka shrubland, bracken and pasture grasses. There is advanced natural regeneration of canopy species like põhutukawa, māhoe and kānuka. Grasslands have largely been replaced by kānuka, bracken and põhutukawa. Near Motu Harapaki and extending down the sides are areas of the stinging nettle ongaonga. New grasslands cover previously bare areas and regenerating põhutukawa shows through in these places. Several species, if not suppressed by indigenous vegetation growth or actively managed in some way, could become a problem in the future - for example, maize introduced by exotic pigeons.

Ecologically important stands of kānuka, located on the sand dunes in Oneroa, occupy approximately three hectares.

The fire hazard and risk is managed through the department's fire management system and the department's annual fire plan.

4.6 Ngāti Awa history and culture

According to Ngāti Awa, the first known occupation of Moutohorā was by Rongotauroa-ā-tai, a grandson of Toroa, commander of the Mataatua waka. Rongo built and occupied the pa which he called Raetihi Kāwatawata Kōangiangi (the summit of gentle breezes). Some of his descendants can be found among Ngāti Awa hapu today.

Taiwhakaea I, the ancestor of Ngāti Awa, occupied Raetihi Pā from time to time as did other Ngāti Awa chiefs including Te Ngārara, Tautumuroa (Taitumuroa) and Kakara.

The clean fresh water from Te Puna Wai was only able to sustain the people for short periods each year. Occupation of the island was therefore confined to times of seasonal harvesting. Travellers to the island tended to the kūmara garden at Te Rāwhiti and harvested foods such as the kuia (grey-faced petrel) and kaimoana including pāua, kina, koura and other popular shellfish and fish.

Motu Harapaki was used as a lookout point to detect intruders and to observe the sea and mainland.

There are a significant number of recorded archaeological sites. Evidence indicates that further investigation is required.

Ngāti Awa continue to use Moutohorā as a learning place. They wish to expand the learning experiences into the future.

Raetihi Kāwatawata Kōangiangi

"Ka põwbiri a Raetibi kāwatawata kõangiangi, ka karanga nā ngaru wbatiwbati õ Te Moana-Nui-ā-Toi, ka waiata mõteatea ngā põbutukawa õ Moutoborā ki te wbei Ao, ki te Ao mārama."

"The summit of gentle breezes beckons in welcome, accompanied by the call of the pounding surf of the mighty ocean of Toi, as the pōhutukawa of Moutohorā sings the lament of the ancient ones, behold there is enlightenment."

Kō te tino aburei o tenei pā tawbito, kei ōna wbaihanga tahataha kōhatu. Ko ngā wā i noho te tangata ki konei, kō ngā wā ō te huhuti Taikō, kuia (Tītī), te rukuruku kai moana, te hī ika, me te whakatipu, bauhake kumarai oti rā, i te māra kūmara ō Te Rāwbiti.

He ai ki ngā tobu ō tawbitoa nga tipuna, ko te rangatira tuatabi i nobo ki tenei pa tawbito ko Taurāroa-ā-tai (Rongo) be mokopuna nā Toroa, koia nei te rangatira ō te waka Mataatua i whakawbiti mai i Hawaiki i roto i te bekenga waka tini, ō te tau AD 1350. Ko etabi ō ngā rangatira o Ngāti Awa me ō rātou whānau, me ngā pōnonga kaitonotono i nobo ki konei, ko Taiwbakaea, Te Ngārara, Te Taitimuroa, me Te Kakara.

Wāhi tapu (sacred places)

- Te Pari Kawau (roosting place of the cormorant), at Oneroa, is an urupā hāhunga (temporary burial ground). Ngāti Awa expect the public to observe the tapu nature of this site and to stay away from it.
- Waiariki/Te One Pā, situated at Te Onepū, is significant to Ngāti Awa for its geothermal qualities and hot springs.

In 1908 volcanic activity caused an earthquake which modified these sites.

Wāhi taonga (special places)

- Māra kūmara (kumara garden), at Rawhiti. Ngāti Awa aims to protect this area, which was historically used to grow kumara.
- Te Puna Wai (water spring), at Oneroa, is the only known source of fresh water.
- Oneraki (Northern Bay), is considered by Ngāti Awa to be a mahinga mātaitai (seafood gathering place).
- Raetihi Pā, including the stone walls that form terraces.

The appendix on page 28 lists the places of significance to Ngāti Awa.

4.7 European history

Europeans first lived on Moutohorā in the 1830s, when an unsuccessful attempt was made to establish a shore-based whaling station. The venture failed: not a single whale was caught.

It was believed that Hans Tapsell bought the island from Ngāti Awa in 1867, although contemporary Ngāti Awa maintain that the island was never actually 'sold'.

Hans Tapsell's daughter Katherine and her husband George Simpkins operated a trading station on Moutohorā in the 1860s. In 1876 Simpkins leased Moutohorā and its mineral rights to Messrs Pond and Tunny, who operated a sulphur refinery in Auckland. The sulphur extracted from the island was of poor quality and in 1878 Pond and Tunny consigned their lease to Buckland, a stock auctioneer who used the island as a holding paddock to graze stock destined for the Auckland markets. Buckland continued to remove sulphur from Moutohorā. Fifty tons were shipped off in 1893. A party of men worked the deposits in Onepū until 1895 when the venture was abandoned.

Moutohorā had several owners until purchased by P. Orchard in 1915.

The next phase of industrial activity began in 1915, when quarrying provided rock for construction of the Whakatāne harbour wall. This activity continued until 1920. A total of 26,000 tons of rock was removed. Wharves, tramlines and houses were built in Oneroa and Te Rātahi.

In 1924, local fisherman Jim McEwan was the only resident on Moutohorā. McEwan is believed to have remained until the late 1930s.

Further investigation into sulphur extraction was carried out in the 1940s but the industry did not develop.

In 1965 Moutohorā, still in private ownership, was gazetted a wildlife refuge. The former New Zealand Wildlife Service of the Department of Internal Affairs, on behalf of the Crown, purchased the island from the Orchard family in 1984. It was gazetted as a wildlife management reserve in 1991.

Evidence indicates that further investigation and recording is required.

4.8 Visitors

Visits to Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve were restricted in 1992 through a prohibition of access pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977. Under

section 22(5) of the Act, this prohibition required an intending visitor to the reserve (but not the foreshore) to obtain an access permit from the Department of Conservation. The Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 delegates the permit-issuing power to Te Tapatoru ā Toi.

Topographical constraints make access to much of the island difficult. Several local commercial boat operators visit the waters around Moutohorā, especially during the summer months. They offer tours that circle the island without landing, and snorkelling trips that provide opportunities to view the diverse marine life around the island.

In early February the annual Whale Island Swim, a charity fundraiser, takes place. Participants swim from the island to Whakatāne.

In the past, several local schools and tertiary institutions have stayed overnight on Moutohorā to undertake research assignments and other studies. This practice is no longer common due to restrictions on overnight stays, fire risk and the significant contingency planning required.

Uncontrolled use/access could lead to negative impacts on the island's ecological and cultural heritage, such as accidental reintroduction of pests, unwanted organisms and fire. Guided tours provide the most appropriate way for people to visit Moutohorā. Concessionaire-led trips allow for control over the number and activities of visitors. The capacity of the island, in terms of visitors and concessionaires, needs to be ascertained.

4.9 Research

Moutohorā is of interest to researchers who have conducted various projects on the island's fauna, flora and ecosystems. There is no overall strategy to determine the direction of such studies. Te Tapatoru ā Toi will develop rigorous criteria to assess research requests. A research strategy is required.

4.10 Planned Outcomes for Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve

- 1. Moutohorā's natural, historical and cultural heritage is protected and enhanced.
- 2. Ngāti Awa's customary and traditional association with the island is
- 3. The community appreciates the island's natural and historical character.
- 4. Visitor access is sustainable.

4.11 Objectives for Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve

- 1. To protect and enhance the recovery of the island ecosystem, including wildlife and habitats.
- 2. To provide a haven for compatible threatened species that can be safely introduced to the island.
- 3. To maintain Moutohorā's pest-free status.
- 4. To increase scientific knowledge of the island's ecosystem.
- 5. To recognise and provide for cultural traditions and customary practices which are consistent with legislation.
- 6. To protect the culturally and historically significant sites.

- 7. To increase public understanding of the island's natural and historical values.
- 8. To provide for controlled and limited public access.
- 9. To allow for existing telecommunications facilities for essential and emergency purposes only.
- 10. To allow limited infrastructure to support management purposes.

4.12 Policies for Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve

- 1. Should allow natural processes to largely proceed without intervention.
- 2. Will assess any introduction of indigenous flora and fauna for compatibility with the island's existing and previous flora and fauna communities
- 3. Will actively manage natural processes where they threaten the integrity of cultural and historical heritage.
- 4. Will enhance and maintain biosecurity measures and should maintain a presence on the island, for compliance, during the peak summer season.
- 5. Will develop an appropriate research strategy and methodology.
- 6. Should avoid removal of vegetation associated with telecommunications sites and ensure that the scale and impact of existing facilities does not increase.
- 7. Will ensure protection of cultural, historic and natural landscape values when maintenance and management of telecommunications facilities occurs.
- 8. Will review site requirements and technological change, in association with telecommunications users, with the aim of relocating telecommunications facilities off the island.
- 9. Will avoid helicopter access to the island, except for essential management purposes.
- 10. Will protect and re-establish cultural sites and practices where appropriate, and where consistent with legislation and conservation values.
- 11. Will restrict public access to Te Pari Kawau.
- 12. Will provide limited accommodation for management purposes, which may include cultural and research purposes.
- 13. Will establish and maintain limited walking tracks that meet management and visitor needs, while protecting ecological and cultural values.
- 14. Will provide for controlled visitor access through appropriate concessions.
- 15. Will limit concessions to day visits.
- 16. Will establish concessionaire standards and undertake monitoring of concessions.
- 17. Will identify and manage the island's carrying capacity in terms of visitor and concessionaire numbers and will monitor the effects of human access.
- 18. Will review the reserve boundary from Mean High Water Springs to Mean Low Water Springs.
- 19. Will undertake further archaeological survey to identify and map unrecorded cultural and historic resources.

5. Ohope Scenic Reserve

5.1 Overview

Ōhope Scenic Reserve contains steep hillcountry extending south of the Ōhope escarpment. The reserve forms part of a significant coastal landscape and has outstanding scenic and conservation values. The reserve includes one of the country's largest remaining coastal pōhutukawa forests.

5.2 Location

Ōhope Scenic Reserve is located above Ōhope Beach on the Bay of Plenty coast behind the Ōhope residential area.

5.3 Classification

Öhope Scenic Reserve (483 hectares) is classified as a scenic reserve in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 and was gazetted as a scenic reserve in 1979. The primary purposes of scenic reserves are to protect scenic and natural values and to facilitate public enjoyment.

5.4 Ngāti Awa relationship

Ngāti Awa's enduring relationship with Õhope Scenic Reserve is now statutorily acknowledged by the Crown and described in schedule 7 of the Ngāti Awa Settlement Act 2005 and schedule 5.4 of the Ngāti Awa Deed of Settlement 2005.

5.5 Natural resources

Õhope Scenic Reserve is ecologically important, supporting nationally significant põhutukawa forest and North Island brown kiwi.

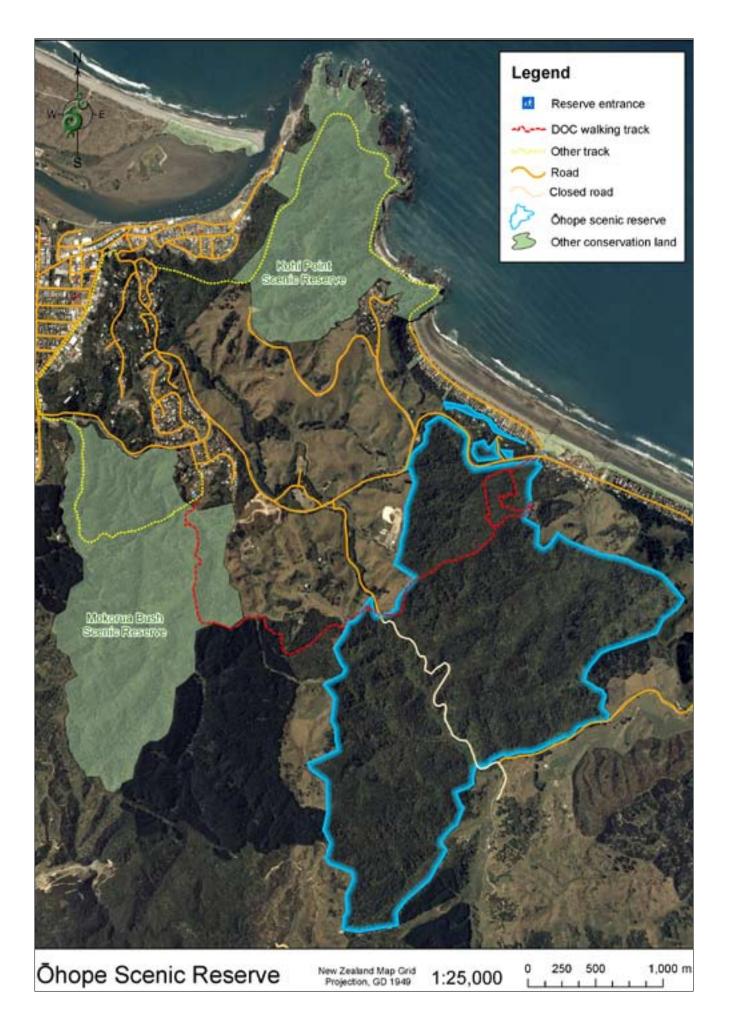
The reserve is in the Tāneatua Ecological District and supports one of the best examples of pōhutukawa forest on the New Zealand mainland.

It contains significant populations of the nationally threatened species *Pimelea tomentosa* and the at-risk or sparse *Peperomia tetraphylla* (Hitchmough 2007).

In addition to North Island brown kiwi, the reserve provides habitat for common native forest-dwelling bird species such as tui, bellbird, grey warbler, North Island fantail, silvereye, long-tailed cuckoo, shining cuckoo and morepork.

It is likely that native lizards such as common and forest geckos and copper and ornate skinks are present, but surveys are needed to confirm this.

The reserve is surrounded by land that is used for a variety of purposes including residential, landfill, road reserve and farming. Ongoing management of pest plants and animals in the reserve and on neighbouring private properties is needed to ensure that the health of the reserve is protected and enhanced.



There are four main streams and several tributaries within Ōhope Scenic Reserve, all of which have significant ecological values. The Maraetōtara Stream, for example, has been identified as a habitat for giant kōkopu, short-jawed kōkopu, short-finned eel, long-finned eel, red-finned bully, torrent-fish, common bully and common smelt. Te Hiku o te Tuna Stream, running adjacent to Ōhope Hill Road and discharging to the coast at Ōhope, contains banded kōkopu. Te Hiku o te Tuna Stream has been subject to significant erosion as a result of storm events in 2004 and 2005. If not properly managed, adjoining activities and natural events may continue to have adverse effects on water quantity and quality and the stability of stream banks.

The reserve, a popular walking and running area, is highly valued by the community for its recreational opportunities, and for the outstanding natural and cultural landscape which it provides so close to Whakatāne, Õhope and the coast.

5.6 Ngāti Awa history and culture

Ngāti Awa hapu occupied and established early relationships with the Ōhope area. In the late 18th century, Ngāti Hokopū and Ngāti Wharepāia hapū of Ngāti Awa were prominent within the reserve and surrounding areas, and they remain so today.

A number of pā sites near Õhope Scenic Reserve demonstrate the strong historical associations of Ngāti Awa with the area. Eastwards, near the coast below the reserve, are the two strategic pā called Maungateone and

Entrance to Ōhope Scenic Reserve





Te Paripari. Further along Ōhope escarpment were Mihi Marino and Raukawarua Pā. Particular stretches of Ōhope Scenic Reserve have their own traditions. East of Otumanu along the cliff face is the path known as Te Ara-aka, which means 'pathway of the vine'.

Öhope Scenic Reserve was rich in natural resources and provided an abundance of wildlife, food and medicinal resources for Ngāti Awa hapū. The area's use is evidenced by the discovery of artefacts along the creek bed of Te Hiku ō te Tuna.

Ngāti Awa have always maintained considerable knowledge of the lands of the reserve - their history, traditional trails, places for gathering food and other taonga, and ways in which to use resources. The ethics of sustainable resource management and conservation have always been, and continue to be, at the heart of the relationship of Ngāti Awa with Ōhope Scenic Reserve.

Ngāti Awa representation on the Whakatane Kiwi Trust and active involvement in animal predator control work on the adjoining Ngāti Awa Farm are two of the many activities that demonstrate the enduring relationship of Ngāti Awa with the Ōhope Scenic Reserve. Revival and expansion of this relationship is important to Ngāti Awa.

5.7 European history

The general Öhope area was accessed by Europeans and during the late 19th century a military track was constructed between Whakatāne and Öhope. Construction of the present Öhope-Whakatāne Road followed the approximate route of the old military track which bounds the reserve.

Initial settlement was focused on the Mair Block at the base of Öhope hill. When Europeans first began to settle Öhope in earnest, the hillcountry behind the escarpment was in regenerating bush and scrub (Grouden, 1993).

5.8 Visitors

Ohope Scenic Reserve is valued for its scenic and recreational qualities. The scenic reserve classification is consistent with passive recreation such as walking and jogging.

Öhope Scenic Reserve is an important recreational reserve for the adjoining Ohope community. Its connection to the other reserves via Ngã Tapuwae à Toi Walkway makes it regionally significant.

The reserve contains the very popular Fairbrother Loop walking track which is accessible all year round and, requiring a relatively low level of fitness, is available to many. School groups often use this track for day walks and indigenous plant studies. The Fairbrother Loop links the reserve with Ngã Tapuwae ã Toi Walkway which provides a much longer walking circuit of 18 kilometres, traversing the Mokorua Bush Scenic Reserve, Kohi Point Scenic Reserve and Ōtarawairere Bay. Improvements to the walkway and the information provided would enhance the visitor experience.

There is potential to increase signage and interpretation and to establish clearly defined entry and exit points to Õhope Scenic Reserve. Some residential access ways cross the entrance to the reserve at Õhope.

Whakatāne Kiwi Trust activities centre on Ōhope Scenic Reserve. The trust focuses on increasing the kiwi population, protecting and expanding kiwi habitat and promoting education about the kiwi and its habitat.

Seats have been installed to offer an opportunity to sit and listen to kiwi in their natural environment. Interpretation panels provide further information on kiwi in the local reserves.

The presence of kiwi within Ōhope Scenic Reserve provides a valuable opportunity for associated work with school groups. Ōhope Beach School, in particular, has an ongoing association with the kiwi project. There is, however, no long-term education programme for the reserve.

Ngāti Awa history, values and practices are important educational components of Õhope Scenic Reserve. Concessionaire-guided tours provide opportunities to share this knowledge with the public.

5.9 Planned Outcomes for Ohope Scenic Reserve

- 1. The forest ecosystem, including coastal pohutukawa forest, is healthy and supporting indigenous fauna.
- 2. Ngāti Awa customary relationships with the reserve are enhanced.
- 3. Natural, scenic, cultural and historical values are protected.
- 4. The community enjoys, appreciates and respects the reserve.

5.10 Objectives for Ohope Scenic Reserve

- 1. To protect and enhance the reserve's scenic, historical and natural character and setting.
- 2. To protect and enhance the indigenous flora, fauna, water quality and stream habitat.
- 3. To improve knowledge of the reserve's ecology.
- 4. To minimise threats to and impacts on the reserve caused by neighbouring activities.
- 5. To recognise and provide for cultural traditions and customary practices which are consistent with legislation.
- 6. To protect culturally significant sites.
- 7. To increase awareness and appreciation of the reserve's natural, historical and cultural significance.
- 8. To encourage appropriate recreational activities.

5.11 Policies for Öhope Scenic Reserve

- 1. Will avoid threats to indigenous flora and fauna posed by pest plants and animals and human activities by:
 - advocating awareness of the need for tighter control of domestic pets and pest plants on adjoining land
 - encouraging integrated management of adjacent areas on private and public land by working co-operatively with neighbours.
- 2. Will provide interpretation of the reserve.
- 3. Will provide improved visitor access and facilities including well-defined entry and exit points for walking opportunities.
- 4. Will work with adjoining landowners and authorities for integrated management.
- 5. Will develop an appropriate research strategy and methodology.
- 6. Will undertake a cultural assessment of the reserve.
- 7. Will re-establish and restore cultural sites and practices where appropriate, and where consistent with legislation and conservation values.
- 8. Will protect culturally significant sites.
- 9. Will establish concessionaire standards and undertake monitoring.
- 10. Will undertake further archaeological survey to identify and map unrecorded cultural and historic resources.

6. Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

6.1 Overview

Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve contains a complex of pā collectively known as Tauwhare and is located on a large headland jutting into the Ōhiwa Harbour. The pā have been cleared of vegetation and maintained in mown grass.

The reserve is a significant natural and cultural landscape. It is frequently used by visitors as a place from which to view Ōhiwa Harbour and the surrounding coastline.

6.2 Location

Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve is situated adjacent to Ōhiwa Harbour Road, nine kilometres east of Whakatāne.

The reserve's three pā once formed part of a wider pā system which extended south, west and east of the reserve.

Tauwhare Pā provides panoramic views of Ōhiwa Harbour and the eastern Bay of Plenty.



6.3 Classification

Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve (11.4 hectares) is classified as a scenic reserve in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 and was gazetted as a scenic reserve in 1985. The primary purposes of scenic reserves are to protect scenic and natural values and to facilitate public enjoyment.

6.4 Ngāti Awa relationship

Ngāti Awa's enduring relationship with Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve is now statutorily acknowledged by the Crown and described in schedule 7 of the Ngāti Awa Settlement Act 2005 and schedule 5.4 of the Ngāti Awa Deed of Settlement 2005.

6.5 Natural resources

Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve contains a good example of pōhutukawa forest which grades into estuarine vegetation.

Common forest-dwelling bird species in the reserve include the grey warbler, silvereye, New Zealand kingfisher, tui and kereru. Native lizards are likely to be present.

6.6 Ngāti Awa history and culture

Oral traditions are retained in the patere below (Te Pātere nā Te Kaporangi).

E nobo ana ki te koko ki Ōbiwa As I sit on the beach at Ohiwa Whakarongo rua aku taringa My ears hearken to the waves beating over the sandbar Ki te tai o tua rā ō Kanawa At Kanawa against the foreshore E aki ana mai ki te whānau a The home of my ancestor Tairongo Tairongo Ko Tauwhare kōpū ō Te Ururoa My mind wanders back to Tauwhare, the birthplace of the shark Ko te kai rari noa mai o And to the food basket of te rangatira. many hands.

Tauwhare is one of the oldest pā in the area. It was built by Te Hapuoneone, an ancient tribe from which many of today's iwi descend. The name Tauwhare implies 'the village suspended in space'. When viewed from the bottom of the southern end of the pā, the village gives this impression.

Tauwhare is located close to Ōhiwa, the open coast and the forest. Its proximity to abundant food resources made it an extremely valuable site.

6.7 European history

During the 1950s, Tauwhare Pā was part of a wider privately-owned area of land. The property owner proposed developing the land for residential use and he bulldozed a track. However, the proposed subdivision did

not proceed. Tauwhare Pā was used for pastoral farming until the Crown purchased part of the block in 1980, and the rest in 1985. By then the area had been subject to invasion by scrub, wattle and other pest plants for at least a decade and many features of the pā were obscured.

In 1988 the Department of Conservation concluded that the reserve was suitable for interpretation and public visits and began to manage it accordingly.

6.8 Visitors

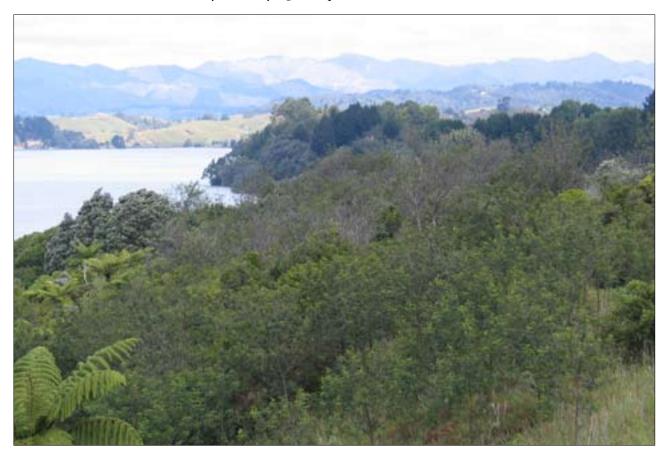
Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve is protected for its scenic, historical and public enjoyment values.

The climb to Tauwhare Pā is easy to moderate. The pā is enjoyed by locals and passers-by as a place to walk, relax and contemplate history while enjoying panoramic views across Ōhope and Ōhiwa Harbour to the ocean.

School groups frequently visit Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve. Interpretation panels provide a comprehensive history of the site.

Visitor behaviour and activity have the potential to adversely affect Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve. There is an opportunity, however, to enhance visitor experience through appropriately guided tours. The reserve offers scope for guided cultural trips; visible archaeological features provide an insight into the lives of past inhabitants. Concessionaire-guided tours provide opportunities to share this knowledge with the public.

View from Tauwhare Pā to Ohakahana Island There is an opportunity to create a 'sense of arrival' within the car park, clearly identifying the place from the road.



6.9 Planned Outcomes for Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

- 1. The reserve's scenic values and natural character are protected and enhanced.
- 2. The reserve's historical and cultural values are protected and expressed.
- 3. Ngāti Awa traditions and customary practices are recognised and provided for, where consistent with legislation.
- 4. Visitors enjoy, appreciate and respect the reserve.
- 5. Ngati Awa are actively involved in the management of the reserve.

6.10 Objectives for Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

- 1. To protect culturally and historically significant sites.
- 2. To protect the reserve's natural, scenic and landscape values.
- 3. To minimise the threats that human activities pose to the reserve.
- 4. To recognise and provide for cultural traditions and customary practices which are consistent with legislation.
- 5. To increase understanding of the reserve's values, including being part of the Ōhiwa Harbour environment, leading to greater community appreciation.
- 6. To actively manage vegetation where necessary to protect scenic, historical and cultural values and panoramic views.

6.11 Policies for Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

- 1. Will provide appropriate visitor facilities and walking tracks while protecting natural, scenic and historical values.
- 2. Will develop a research strategy.
- 3. Will provide greater appreciation and understanding of the reserve through education and interpretation opportunities for the public.
- 4. Will encourage sympathetic management of adjacent areas on private and public land by working co-operatively with neighbours.
- 5. Will advocate for complementary management of the surrounding land.
- 6. Will provide for Ngāti Awa involvement in interpretation and education which may include the construction of replica pa while minimising any adverse effects on cultural and historic resources.
- 7. Will provide an easily identifiable entrance to Tauwhare Pā, including the car park.
- 8. Will provide for appropriate concessions that enhance visitor experience and include a strong cultural component.
- 9. Will actively manage and encourage visitor access to historic sites.
- 10. Will control significant pest plants and animals that threaten the reserve's natural, scenic and historical values.
- 11. Will establish concessionaire standards and undertake monitoring of concessions.
- 12. Will undertake further archaeological survey to identify and map unrecorded cultural and historic resources.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, REPORTING AND MAJOR MILESTONES

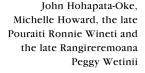
7. Implementation Strategy

The objectives of this conservation management plan will be implemented through:

- the Department of Conservation's annual reporting on implementation and milestones
- establishment of operational plans for work programmes for each reserve
- Te Tapatoru ā Toi's annual review of management implementation to ensure that the objectives and policies of this plan are achieved.

The implementation strategy will:

- note that Ngāti Awa planning instruments will have implications for each place
- involve the Whakatāne Kiwi Trust in management of Ōhope Scenic Reserve.





8. Milestone monitoring

8.1 Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve

Mile	estone	3 years	5 years	10 years
1.	Island restoration/recovery plan and operational programme completed.	✓		
2.	Biosecurity plan in place and operational.	✓		
3.	Historic and cultural heritage assessment completed.		✓	
4.	Fire protection measures in place and operational.	✓		
5.	Assessment of telecommunications needs and alternative technologies and sites completed with user representatives.		✓	
6.	Ngāti Awa cultural visit protocol completed and operational.	✓		
7.	Interpretation and educational plan and programme developed and implemented, including standards for concessionaires.		✓	
8.	Research strategy completed.		✓	
9.	Visitor monitoring programme developed.	✓		
10.	Visitor carrying capacity assessed.		✓	
11.	Reserve boundary changed to Mean Low Water Springs.	✓		

8.2 Ohope Scenic Reserve

Mile	stone	3 years	5 years	10 years
1.	Operational plan for pest plant and animal programmes completed.		✓	
2.	Interpretation and visitor information package developed and implemented.		✓	
3.	Improved visitor facilities completed.		✓	
4.	Fairbrother Loop Track redevelopment completed.		✓	
5.	Research strategy developed and implemented.			✓
6.	Neighbour and boundary management protocol developed and agreed.		✓	
7.	Historical and cultural assessment completed.			✓
8.	Conservation plan for culturally significant sites completed.			✓

8.3 Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

Mile	estone	3 years	5 years	10 years
1.	Restoration plan and culturally significant sites identified, including vegetation management.		✓	
2.	Visitor information developed and implemented.		✓	
3.	Neighbour and boundary protocol developed.		✓	
4.	Natural character and landscape setting understood by the community.			✓
5.	Historic and cultural heritage assessment completed.		✓	
6.	Conservation plan for culturally significant sites completed.		✓	



John Hohapata-Oke, member of Te Tapatoru ā Toi, addresses visitors at Tauwhare Pā

9. Appendix

Places of significance to Ngāti Awa: Moutohorā

Place	Location and description	Values					
		Ko tera wāhi taonga ranei he wāhi tapu, ara, he tino whakahira-hira ki nga tikanga, ki nga pupuri mahara, me nga wairua ô te iwi a Ngāti Awa.	Ko te mauri me te mana o te wāhi, te taonga ranei. e ngakaunu-itia ana e Ngāti Awa.	Ko tēra waahi e ngakaunuitia ana e Ngāti Awa ki roto i ona korero tuturu.	He wāhi tēna e kawea ai nga rawa tuturu â Ngāti Awa.	He wāhi tēra e eke ai ngā hiahia hinengaro tuturu ō Ngāti Awa.	He waahi rongonui tera ki ngā hapū ō Ngāti Awa, arā he whakaahuru, he whaka- waihanga, me te tuku matauranga.
		The place or resource is a wahi tapu of special cultural, historical and spiritual importance to Ngati Awa.	The mauri and mana of the place or resource hold special significance to Ngāti Awa.	The place has special historical and cultural significance to Ngâti Awa.	The place provides important customary resources for Ngati Awa.	The place or resource is a venue or repository for Ngāti Awa cultural and spiritual values.	The place has special amenity, architectural (eg stone walls) and educational significance to Ngâti Awa.
Raetihi Pā	Western summit		•	•	•	•	•
Te Pari Kawau	South-western peninsula upon which boulders are laid	•	•	•	•	•	•
Waiariki Ngawhā	Te Onepū - Sulphur Bay		•	•	•	•	•

Te Onepū	Sulphur Bay	•	•	•	•	•
Te Rāwhiti	A place on the eastern end of Moutohorā	•	•	•	•	•
Māra Kai	Kumara gardens at Rawhiti	•	•	•	•	•
Te Puna Wai	The only known freshwater spring on Moutohorā is at Oneroa at the west end of the island	•	•	•	•	•
Oneroa Oneraki	Landing bay close to hut Known as	•	•	•	•	•

10. Glossary

Animal: Any mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish (including shellfish) or related organism, insect, crustacean, or organism of every kind; but does not include a human being (section 2, Reserves Act 1977 and section 2, National Parks Act 1980). Any member of the animal kingdom other than a human being (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Biodiversity: The variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and ecological complexes of which they are part. Includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

Biosecurity: The exclusion, eradication or effective management of risks posed by pests and diseases to the economy, environment and human health.

Concession: A lease, licence, permit or easement, granted under Part IIIB of the Conservation Act 1987, to enable the carrying out of a trade, occupation or business on areas managed by the Department of Conservation.

Conservation: The preservation and protection of natural and historic resources for the purpose of maintaining their intrinsic values, providing for their appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public, and safeguarding the options of future generations (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Conservation management plan: A plan for the management of natural and historic resources and for recreation, tourism and other conservation purposes, which implements a conservation management strategy and establishes detailed objectives for integrated management within a place or places specified in a conservation management strategy (section 17E, Conservation Act 1987).

Consultation: An invitation to give advice, and the consideration of that advice. To achieve consultation, sufficient information must be supplied and sufficient time allowed by the consulting party to those consulted to enable them to tender helpful advice. Consultation involves an ongoing dialogue. It does not necessarily mean acceptance of the other party's views, but enables informed decision-making by having regard to those views.

Customary use: Gathering and use of natural resources by tangata whenua according to tikanga.

Ecological integrity: The full potential of indigenous biotic and abiotic factors and natural processes, functioning in sustainable landscapes, ecosystems and habitats.

Ecosystem: A biological system comprising a community of living organisms and its associated non-living environment, interacting as an ecological unit.

Effect: Any positive or adverse effect; and any temporary or permanent effect; and any past, present or future effect; and any cumulative

effect which arises over time or in combination with other effects regardless of the scale, intensity, duration or frequency of the effect; and any potential effect of high probability; and any potential effect of low probability which has high potential impact (section 3, Resource Management Act 1991).

Environment: Includes (a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and (b) all natural and physical resources; and (c) amenity values; and (d) the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect those matters (Resource Management Act 1991).

Facilities: Facilities that enable people to enjoy a range of recreational opportunities including (but not limited to): visitor and information centres, camping areas, tracks and walkways, bridges, backcountry huts, roads, car-parking areas, toilets, picnic areas, signs and interpretation panels, viewing platforms, wharves and boat ramps.

Habitat: The environment within which a particular species or group of species lives. Includes the physical and biotic characteristics that are relevant to the species concerned.

Historical and cultural heritage: Any building or other structure, archaeological site, natural feature, wāhi tapu, or object associated with people, traditions, events or ideas that contribute to an understanding of New Zealand's history and cultures.

Historic place:

- (a) Means
- i. any land (including an archaeological site); or
- ii. any building or structure (including part of a building or structure) or
- iii. any combination of land and a building or structure that forms part of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand and lies within the territorial limits of New Zealand; and
- (b) includes anything that is in or fixed to such land (section 2, Historic Places Act 1993).

Historic resource: Means a historic place within the meaning of the Historic Places Act 1993; and includes any interest in a historic resource (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Indigenous species: Refers to plants and animals that have established in New Zealand without the assistance of human beings and without the assistance of vehicles or aircraft. Includes species that are unique to New Zealand as well as those that may be found elsewhere in the world. The words 'indigenous' and 'native' have the same meaning in this plan.

Integrated conservation management: The management of natural resources, historical and cultural heritage and existing or potential activities in a manner which ensures that priorities are clear and that the effects of each activity on others are considered and managed accordingly.

Intrinsic value: A concept which regards the subject under consideration as having value or worth in its own right, independent of any value placed on it by humans.

Natural character: The qualities of an area which are the result of natural processes and taken together give it a particular recognisable character. These qualities may be ecological, physical, spiritual or aesthetic in nature.

Natural resources: Plants and animals of all kinds, and the air, water and soil in or on which any plant or animal lives or may live, and landscape and landform, and geological features, and systems of interacting living organisms, and their environment, and includes any interest in a natural resource (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Objective: A clear and specific end result sought in terms of its nature, extent or scale.

Outcome: A goal or end result of a conservation action or series of actions. The outcome sets the foundation for how a place should be managed.

Partnership: The relationship between individuals or groups that is characterised by mutual cooperation and responsibility for the achievement of a specific goal.

Pest: Any organism, including an animal, plant, pathogen or disease, capable or potentially capable of causing unwanted harm or posing significant risks to indigenous ecosystems, habitats and species or freshwater fisheries.

Place: An area identified in a conservation management strategy or plan for the purposes of integrated conservation management. It may include any combination of terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas and may be determined by a range of criteria including but not limited to: ecological districts, geological features, catchments, internal departmental, regional or district council or rohe/takiwā boundaries, land status, major recreation or tourism destinations, commonality of management considerations, unique management needs.

Policy: A statement of the way things will be done and in some situations what will be done, or the general approach to be taken in future decision-making.

Preservation: In relation to a resource, means the maintenance, so far as is practicable, of its intrinsic values (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Protection: In relation to a resource, means its maintenance, so far as is practicable, in its current state; but includes (a) its restoration to some former state, and (b) its augmentation, enhancement, or expansion (section 2, Conservation Act 1987).

Reserve: Has the meaning given in the Reserves Act 1977 and includes the following reserves: recreation, historic, scenic, nature, scientific, government purpose, local purpose (section 2, Reserves Act 1977).

Restoration: The active intervention and management of modified or degraded landforms and landscapes, ecosystems and habitats, in order to restore their indigenous natural character, ecological and physical processes and cultural and visual qualities, or, for historic heritage, to return a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state.

Rohe: Geographical territory of an iwi or hapū.

Site: A defined area within a wider place.

Species: A group of organisms which has evolved distinct common inheritable features and occupies a particular geographical range, and which is capable of interbreeding freely but not with members of other species.

Tangata whenua: Iwi or hapū that has customary authority in a place.

Taonga: Valued resources or prized possessions held by Māori, both material and non-material. This is a broad concept that includes tangible and intangible aspects of natural and historical resources of significance to Māori, including wāhi tapu and intellectual property.

The Crown: Her Majesty the Queen acting through ministers and departments of state.

Tikanga: Māori custom, obligations and conditions.

Wāhi tapu: Place sacred to Māori in the traditional, spiritual, religious, ritual or mythological sense (Historic Places Act 1993).

Wild animal: Has the meaning set out in the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 and includes possums, deer, wallabies, tahr, wild goats, wild pigs and chamois (section 2, Wild Animal Control Act 1977).

Wildlife: Any animal (as defined in the Wildlife Act 1953) that is living in a wild state; and includes any such animal or egg or offspring of any such animal held or hatched or born in captivity, whether pursuant to an authority granted under the Wildlife Act 1953 or otherwise; but does not include wild animals subject to the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (section 2, Wildlife Act 1953).

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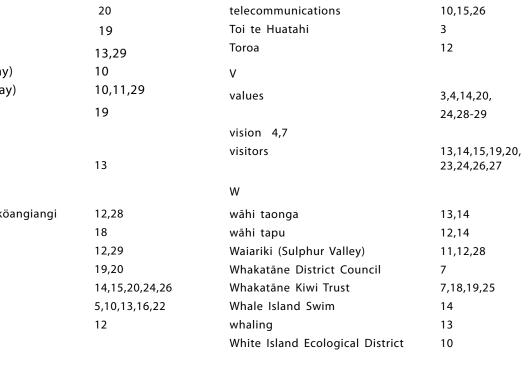
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