



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



TE RARAWA



TE AUPŌURI

Draft Te Hiku o Te Ika-a-Māui Conservation Management Strategy

Public submissions open from
5 August to 11 October 2024



Te ara hou

A new pathway

People and organisations are invited to have their say about the future of public conservation lands and waters in Te Hiku o Te Ika-a-Māui by making a submission on the draft Te Hiku o Te Ika-a-Māui Conservation Management Strategy (Te Hiku CMS).

The draft Te Hiku CMS outlines how the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai will care for these special places in partnership with iwi.

The draft Te Hiku CMS is part of the settlement redress of Te Hiku o Te Ika-a-Māui iwi (Te Hiku o Te Ika iwi). Together, Te Aupōuri, NgāiTakoto, Te Rarawa and Te Papa Atawhai, with the support of the Te Hiku o Te Ika-a-Māui Conservation Board, have developed the draft Te Hiku CMS.

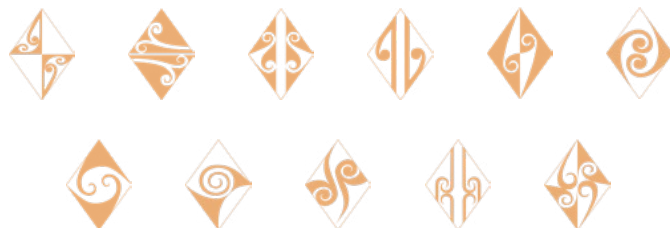
To find out more, including how to view the document and make a submission, visit www.doc.govt.nz/te-hiku-draft-cms



Why is the draft Te Hiku CMS important?

The draft Te Hiku CMS sets the aspirations of iwi, Te Papa Atawhai and the community for the region over the next 10 years by providing:

- an overview of conservation issues
- direction for the management of public conservation lands and waters, and native plants and animals
- desired outcomes for Places that are special to communities and tangata whenua (whānau, hapū, iwi)
- guidance on applications for activities on public conservation lands and waters.



The CMS reflects a new pathway for the Te Hiku region in managing public conservation lands and waters, including:

- **Tikanga Māori** – It recognises tikanga Māori practices and processes that connect people to their ancestral lands and waters.
- **Co-governance** – The draft Te Hiku CMS has a definition for co-governance that is consistent with the Treaty settlement legislation.
- **Climate change** – It recognises climate change as a significant challenge. It also outlines how to adapt to and mitigate climate change to increase resilience.
- **Preference** – It identifies circumstances where a reasonable degree of preference should be given to iwi when allocating opportunities or making decisions on concession applications. This is consistent with legislation.

The draft Te Hiku CMS is across three volumes: Volume I – the main policies, Volume II – appendices and Volume III – maps. You can comment on anything in all three volumes.

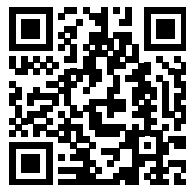
Why is this relevant to me?

In addition to managing and protecting the natural, historic and cultural heritage of Te Hiku, the draft Te Hiku CMS covers recreational, tourism and business activities on conservation public lands and waters. It has rules on where people, businesses, animals and vehicles are allowed to go and how they must operate.

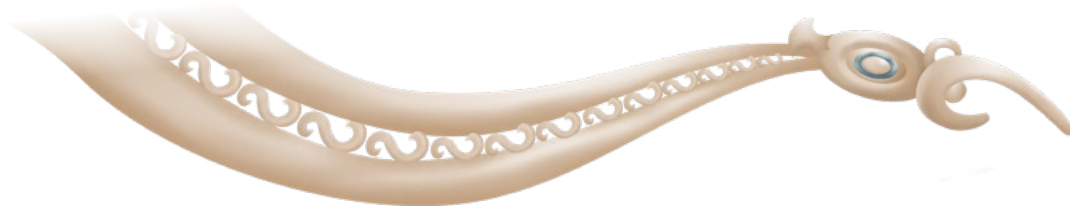
- Do you care about natural heritage or climate change?
- Are you passionate about historic places or cultural heritage?
- Do you enjoy walking, hunting, biking, sightseeing or any other recreational activity?
- Do you run a business?

If your answer to any of these is 'yes', then you might agree or disagree with some of the ideas in the draft Te Hiku CMS. Please make a submission to have your say.

www.doc.govt.nz/te-hiku-draft-cms



We look forward to hearing from you.



Places focus

Tirohanga whanui o Te Hiku Te Hiku overview

Te Hiku iwi throughout the region have strong ancestral links to the moana and whenua. Te Papa Atawhai manages some of these rare ecosystems and unique habitats that are found in Te Hiku region and are home to many taonga and endemic plants and animals, including nationally threatened species.

The CMS identifies these public lands and waters as four different 'Places' with shared conservation values:



Manawatāwhi/Three Kings Islands.



Sand dune at Tauroa Point.



Lake Ngātu.



Bracket fungus in Herekino Forest.
Photos: Department of Conservation

Ngā Moutere O, Ngā Moutere Ki The Islands

This place includes the Manawatāwhi/Three Kings Islands archipelago and the surrounding coastal waters where Te Tai-o-Rehua/the Tasman Sea and Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa/Pacific Ocean meet. It also includes Motuopao and Murimotu islands and the Simmonds Islands, which include the Terakautuhakahaka and Motu Puruhi islands.

The marine habitat around Manawatāwhi is one of the most diverse in the world. Many coastal areas have resources that tangata whenua (whānau, hapū, iwi) choose to leave undisturbed. The rare ecosystems and habitats of this Place are home to high numbers of endemic species, including a diversity of nationally threatened species. Many of these species require intervention to bring their populations back to healthy levels.

A focus of this Place is to enhance the health of the environment and species of Manawatāwhi by not allowing unauthorised access by people, reducing pest plant and animal and biosecurity threats, and minimising harmful human activities.

Ngā Onepu O, Ngā Onepu Ki The Dunes

Extending from Te Rerenga Wairua in the northwest and North Cape/Otou in the northeast down towards Rarawa Beach in the south, this Place includes Pārengarenga Harbour and a stretch of Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe/Ninety Mile Beach, parts of which are managed by Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Beach Management Board.

The history of this Place is strongly influenced by habitation by Ngāti Kuri, Te Aupōuri and Ngāi Takoto. Its significance is expressed in many stories and there are numerous recorded archaeological sites from the earliest periods of human occupation in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Two of the most outstanding harbour and estuarine habitats in Aotearoa are in Te Hiku: the drowned river valley of Pārengarenga Harbour and the shallow Rangaunu Harbour.

This Place is rich in natural values and supports rare ecosystems and habitats that are home to high numbers of endemic species, including a diversity of nationally threatened species. Many of these species require intervention to bring their populations back to healthy levels, and this is a priority for this Place.

Ngā Wai O, Ngā Wai Ki The Waters

This Place includes Houhora Harbour, Rangaunu Harbour and a stretch of Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe on its western boundary, parts of which are managed by Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Beach Management Board.

The waters in this Place provide an important food basket and harvest area for cultural materials such as kuta/tall spike sedge (*Eleocharis sphacelata*) for Te Hiku iwi. The culture and history of this Place have been strongly influenced by early Māori habitation and later by Europeans seeking kauri resin.

Kaimaumau wetland is the third largest peat bog system in Aotearoa, and its bed of ancient kauri roots provides an important habitat for a variety of threatened ferns, mosses, orchids, birds and freshwater fish. However, this unique environment is particularly susceptible to the threat of fire.

The white sandy beaches of this Place, and the easily accessible fishing spots on the coast, are popular with both locals and visitors, as are the facilities and walking track at Lake Ngātu.

There are additional recreational opportunities across private land, cultural redress land, and public conservation lands and waters. Working to identify these, particularly where they support the tourism-focused economic aspirations of Te Hiku iwi, is an exciting opportunity to explore together.

Ngā Ngahere O, Ngā Ngahere Ki The Forests

This Place extends from Hokianga Harbour in the south towards Ngā Wai O, Ngā Wai Ki in the north across to the Pairatahi River in the east and down towards Mangataipa Scenic Reserve, extending back to Hokianga Harbour, including Kohukohu and a range of coastal settlements on the northern part of Hokianga.

The prominent Warawara, Raetea and Herekino forests in this Place contain examples of significant ecological areas, including remnants of mature kauri, broadleaf and podocarp forests.

These areas provide habitat for many endemic and unique species but are vulnerable to pest and biosecurity threats. Many of the locations have unique cultural values and associations with both tangata whenua and the community.

In addition to these large forests, this Place also contains some of the best examples of estuarine and coastal habitats in the region.

Recreation in this area reflects its two greatest assets: pristine, undeveloped coastal areas and dense, inland bush populated with a diversity of species. Despite this, backcountry tramping has been reduced over time owing to the effects of kauri disease and tangata whenua (whānau, hapū, iwi) concern over the adverse effects on flora and fauna in this Place. Pests and other threats are also a major concern to the ongoing viability of ecosystems.



Ruru/morepork chick. Photo: Department of Conservation

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All knowledge, artwork, whakataukī, stories and narratives provided by Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri, Ngāi Takoto and Ngāti Kuri.

Artwork commissioned from Richard Murray, a graphic designer, by the CMS Working Group.

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