11a

Translocation Proposal

Application form 11a

This application form is to be completed in consultation with a Translocation Case Manager. This application should only be completed after The Department has received and considered your Translocation Outline.

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai
New Zealand Government

Using this application form

Completing the application:

After DOC has provided feedback and consulted on your 'Translocation Outline', your Case-Manager will work with you and the other affected parties to develop a specific proposal and complete this application.

To be completed by the Applicant in consultation with the Translocation Case Manager

All blue sections must be completed, green sections are to be completed as required. Please delete any green sections which do not apply to your translocation proposal.

Application checklist

Have you included labelled attachments as required for your activities (including maps, testimonials, and consultations)?

SECTION 1 | SPECIES AND SPECIALIST ADVICE

[Case Manager to complete for full application]

x This species is covered by the Kiwi Recovery Plan 2018-2028 – State Plan Name

☐ This species is not covered by a recovery plan

[Case Manager to complete for full application *if there is a recovery plan*]

- Comment on whether the translocation is consistent with objectives listed in the latest published version or current draft of the recovery plan.
- The Technical Advisory Group for this species:
  - x supports the translocation proposal
  - ☐ does not fully support the translocation proposal but accept it may proceed
  - ☐ does not fully support the translocation proposal but accept it may proceed
- If they do not support the proposal, state what their concerns are.
- Attach relevant letters or emails from the recovery group leader and label these documents **Attachment C.**

SECTION 1 | (Continued) SPECIES AND SPECIALIST ADVICE

[Applicant to complete if required]

- If the Technical Advisory Group does not support the translocation, provide justification in Section 11 for continuing with the translocation.

N/A

- Specify whether any other specialist advice was sought on any aspects of the translocation (e.g., DOC science or technical advice or independent external advice).
- If **'YES'**, list who (including their position and organisation) and when. Include any documents provided as advice in **Attachment C**.
- If **'NO'**, briefly explain why no advice was sought.

Advice was sought on the Translocation Outline prepared for this translocation. In addition, the Kiwi Recovery Group was requested to support the transfer of Ponui kiwi to Waiheke Island (refer to Appendix 3) instead of Coromandel Brown Kiwi.

Section 2 | RELEASE SITE

Suitability of the release site for the species

[N/A if release site is a temporary holding area]

- Carrying capacity – How many breeding pairs (animals), or individual plants can the site support. If the release site cannot support 50 pairs (animals) or a self-sustaining population (plants): Provide justification in Section 11 for continuing with the translocation.
- If the population is isolated from others, what mechanism have you included to allow out-breeding; and are you able to maintain it long-term.
- Describe present and potential threats at the release site that could cause the translocation to fail. State how these threats are being managed at the release site. If any threats cannot be managed, provide justification in Section 11 for continuing with the translocation.
- Describe uncertainties about the suitability of the release site that could cause the translocation to fail. Where significant uncertainties exist, there should be research (Section 10) in place that addresses these issues.
- State whether the release population is likely to require ongoing long-term management to persist, and if so, state the nature of this management. If ongoing management is likely to be required, provide justification in Section 11 for continuing with the translocation, including evidence of a long-term commitment to the necessary management.

Context

This translocation proposal from Save the Kiwi, Ngāti Pāoa and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki describes an application for a Wildlife Authority to transfer North Island [Ponui hybrids] brown kiwi from Ponui Island to Waiheke Island.

Waiheke Island is approx. 9,200ha in size. The initial release site on Waiheke Island (Appendix 2) is a 160ha block of forest, regenerating forest and pasture, however it sits alongside a further 340ha block which together makes up a 500ha peninsula (Te Matuku). The expected carrying capacity for this site is 50 breeding pairs.

Te Matuku peninsula has received significant predator control for more than 35 years. The bait line work is managed on the online TrapNZ application. Furthermore, Te Korowai o Waiheke (Te Korowai o Waiheke) have also undertaken stoat suppression and is now aiming towards full eradication on the island.

The proposed release site is very similar to Ponui Island (the source site for this translocation). Te Matuku peninsula (-36.831530, 175.119115) is a combination of new, mature and remnant forest and pasture.

Ponui Island is located to the southeast of Waiheke Island and its close proximity to Waiheke (Appendix 1) means the climatic conditions are expected to be the same as well. There is year-round fresh water from wetlands and natural springs on the island.

The release of kiwi from Ponui Island to Waiheke Island will take some pressure off the Ponui population for now. All parties understand that a newly established population at Waiheke Island will at some point in the future reach its own natural equilibrium. The entire Waiheke Island could support in excess of 450 breeding pairs of North Island Brown Kiwi (accounting for an estimated half of the island providing habitat for kiwi).

Current management at the release site

- Describe any site management currently occurring, e.g., predator or weed control. Describe potential problems or benefits for the translocated species from current site management. If any problems are likely to be significant, justification must be given in Section 11 for continuing with the translocation and research might be appropriate (Section 10 to address these issues.

For over 35 years the peninsula has received intensive predator control (managed in TrapNZ). In addition, Te Korowai o Waiheke have undertaken stoat suppression and now has the aim of full eradication.

All predator control methods follow Best Practice techniques recommended in the Trapping guide Predator Free 2050.

https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/conservation/threats-and-impacts/pf2050/pf2050-trapping-guide.pdf

Dogs

Being an urban island Waiheke Island is high risk for dog threats to kiwi, however where kiwi are to be released there are restrictions on dog access (private land).

Farm and working dogs on properties that border the peninsula will be kiwi avoidance trained. Landowners are supportive of the planned kiwi releases and aware of the threat to kiwi from wandering/ roaming dogs.

In addition, a series of community workshops focused on education for dog owners are planned to take place closer to the translocation date.

SECTION 2 | RELEASE SITE (CONTINUED)

Between-species interactions

[For *introduction* and *re-introduction* translocations only]

- Comment on the likely interactions and impacts, both beneficial and negative, of the translocated species and other indigenous species at the release site.
- Why is the risk of hybridisation or competition with closely related species?
- Section 11 – Justification must provide good reasons for proceeding with the translocation if you think there could be significant negative impacts.

There are no negative interactions or impacts of the translocated kiwi and other indigenous species at the release site. The release site has wetlands which provide all year access to water. Weka have been thriving on the peninsula which is a good indicator for kiwi.

There is no risk of hybridisation as kiwi currently do not occur on Waiheke Island.

SECTION 2 | RELEASE SITE (CONTINUED)

Within-species interactions

[For *supplementation* translocations only]

- Comment on the likely impacts of translocating new individuals into the existing population.
- It may be appropriate to put research (Section 10) in place to assess the effect of the supplementation.

Translocation techniques for kiwi are well defined, and monitoring of released individuals has highlighted how potential negative within-species interactions can be avoided. This will include releasing individuals at appropriate times and selecting appropriate release areas.

All releases will adhere to guidelines outlined in the Kiwi Best Practice Manual (Robertson and Colbourne 2020) to minimise negative interactions.

SECTION 2 | RELEASE SITE (CONTINUED)

Impacts on eco-system function

[For *introduction* and *re-introduction* translocations only]

- Comment on the likely effect that the addition of the translocated species might have on the functioning of the ecosystem of the release site.
- If the species is likely to have a significant impact on the ecosystem, it may be appropriate to put research (Section 10) in place to assess the impact.

This translocation is unlikely to have a major negative impact on the ecosystem of the release site.

SECTION 2 | RELEASE SITE (CONTINUED)

Additional management requirements for other indigenous species

[For *introduction* and *re-introduction* translocations only]

- Comment on whether the release of the species will require additional management for other indigenous species, and if so, what that management will be. If such additional management is needed and will be ongoing or have significant negative impacts on the other indigenous species, provide justification in Section 11.

This translocation is likely to have some impact on North Island weka (*Gallirallus australis grey*) currently found on the peninsula, however kiwi and weka are known to co-exist on other islands (e.g., Kawau Island and Ulva Island) and the impact is therefore considered minimal. Māori middens have demonstrated presence of kiwi and weka on the neighbouring Ponui island as well.

Entomologists have been approached for comment of possible impact kiwi can have on known indigenous invertebrate species and none have been identified as being of concern.

SECTION 3 | SOURCE POPULATION/S

Preferred Source

- Specify which population has been selected and why this source is the most appropriate. State the origin of the source population, e.g., natural remnant, translocated from elsewhere, etc. Any translocation that involves the mixing of historically divergent populations must have strong justification in Section 11. When a species is sourced from captivity/cultivation state the wild origin. State if wild origin is not known.

Ponui Island is the source for this translocation.

Ponui Island received 14 kiwi in 1964, the make-up of the population was as follows:

Six kiwi from Hauturu-o-Toi (originating from Taranaki)
Eight kiwi from Waipoua Forest

The Ponui Island Kiwi population has been monitored and intensively studied for many years. This has resulted in an assessment that the hybrid population is highly successful in their island habitat (Undin, 2021). The island population has grown well and has reached a density (estimated to be more than 2,000 kiwi) where there will be benefit to the island to remove some birds from their breeding population, the number of kiwi to translocate to Waiheke would have little impact on this from a population perspective, however will have a positive impact on the individuals to be translocated.

Genetic diversity has been well studied at Ponui Island. These studies are able to provide support for the translocation, where we would be able to hand select birds which have the greatest diversity to establish a new population on Waiheke Island. This will mean that minimal intervention will be required going forward and the population will be expected to reach its own natural balance once the island is at carrying capacity.

Effects of Removal

- Comment on the effect that removing the transfer group is expected to have on the source population. If the source population will not remain viable after removal of the individuals being transferred, justification must be given in Section 11 for continuing with the translocation.
- If this is one of a series of species re-introductions, in what order will you reintroduce the species? Will this translocation restrict options for reintroducing other species in the future? [Refer to restoration plan if available.]
- State what options will be restricted. Provide justification in Section 9 for continuing with the translocation if it limits future options for restoration.

The source population at Ponui Island will experience a small temporary reduction of pressure which is normally experienced by high density populations (e.g., increase of deaths) as carrying capacity for the site has been reached. Removing some breeding birds will therefore be beneficial to the Ponui population, albeit very temporary. It will be very beneficial to the individual kiwi who are moved off Ponui.

SECTION 3 | SOURCE POPULATION/S (CONTINUED)

Weeds and animal pests

[For *introduction* and *re-introduction* translocations only]

- Will the translocation prevent or make difficult the control or eradication of problem weeds or animal pests at the site? If yes, what weeds or animal pests, and how?
- Comment on what has been done to minimise the risk of introducing weeds and animal pests to the release site. If nothing, explain why not.

The translocation will not add additional restrictions on the control of weeds and animal pests on Waiheke Island since management techniques to keep kiwi safe are already in place now.

Due caution will be taken during transfer, which will include the cleaning of boots and gear before moving between source and release site.

SECTION 4 | ENGAGEMENT WITH TANGATA WHENUA

- Update **Attachment A** to describe additional consultation that has been undertaken with the tangata whenua of the source and release sites and the outcome of these discussions. Highlight any further concerns that were raised and describe how they were/will be addressed. Include specific details of whānau/hapū/iwi that have been consulted, names of the individuals, date/s of consultation, topics covered, and any agreements reached. Include relevant letters/emails.
- Comment on whether the conservation translocation or the activity associated with undertaking the translocation is likely to affect plants, animals or sites of traditional importance to tangata whenua. Describe the proposed actions to be taken to avoid, remedy or mitigate those effects.

We are co-applicants with both Ngāti Pāoa and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki who support the proposal and both consider Ponui kiwi to be a taonga. Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki have an experienced operator s9(2)(a) who is well versed in the management of kiwi based on the work completed at Motutapu Island. The kaupapa at Waiheke Island and the collaboration between all parties is greatly valued by all.

- Comment on whether tangata whenua are participating in the transfer and monitoring and/or management.

Being co-applicants, tangata whenua will be participating in the planning of releases and will be involved with any requirements/ logistics and tikanga for the releases including post-release monitoring and ongoing management of the species.

SECTION 5 | COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholders

- Update **Attachment B** to describe additional consultation that has been undertaken with stakeholders and the outcome of these discussions. Highlight any concerns that were raised and describe how they were/will be addressed.

There are several community groups and stakeholders who have an interest in the proposed releases of kiwi from Ponui Island to Waiheke Island, these include:

- Ngāti Pāoa: co-applicant under this application
- Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki: co-applicant under this application
- Landowners on the peninsula: all have indicated their willingness to undertake any kiwi protection actions required. They have willingly agreed to both kiwi and weka aversion training for their dogs.
- Significant landowners beyond the peninsula: Support has been confirmed from s9(2)(a), The Eco Village and dialogue has begun with s9(2)(a) who is managing Man o War's environmental work.
- Landowners on Ponui island: have all been consulted and support is there to translocate some kiwi to Waiheke once all risks have been identified and correctly mitigated/ addressed.
- Te Korowai o Waiheke: supportive of the application and remain confident of stoat eradication on Waiheke being an achievable outcome in the future. Currently stoat numbers are very low and incursions are unlikely according to DNA analysis.
- Waiheke Collective: Currently being consulted.
- Forest and Bird: written support received but are interested in sighting the dog management plan.
- Massey University: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @massey.ac.nz
- Waiheke Vets
- Native Bird Rescue
- Auckland Council: in particular re assistance through their dog registration programme
- Department of Conservation

It is acknowledged that releases provide opportunities for stakeholders (volunteers, sponsors etc.) to be present and see a 'real' kiwi. Every effort will be made where appropriate to enable people to participate in releases and stay connected to this mahi.

A hui was held on 25th July 2023 where the main parties were present to discuss options around translocations for kiwi from Ponui to Waiheke. Attendees list:

Save the Kiwi:	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(a)
Ngāti Paoa:	s9(2)(a)
Ngai Tai ki Tamaki:	s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)
Ngāti Wai:	s9(2)(a), s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)
Landowner:	s9(2)(a)
Ponui stakeholders:	s9(2)(a)
	s9(2)(a) teams)
	s9(2)(a) (teams)
	s9(2)(a) (teams)
	s9(2)(a) (teams)
	s9(2)(a) (teams)
DOC:	Dave Wilson
Massey University:	s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)
Victoria University:	s9(2)(a) (teams)

SECTION 5 | COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Communication and community involvement

- Briefly describe plans for communication about your project (e.g., media).
- List opportunities for community involvement in this project and describe plans for involving the wider community.
- If community involvement is not appropriate, state why.

Communication about the kiwi releases will be to all community groups or stakeholders via email or newsletters.

Any media releases or opportunities will be agreed to by all parties involved.

SECTION 5 | COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Public issues management

[This section is particularly relevant to translocations that might have high public interest or contentious issues]

- List and comment on:
    - The key issues (positive and negative) of public interest
    - Possible risks (perceived and real)
    - Briefly state how the issues are going to be managed

Kiwi releases are typically supported by the public.

The key issues of public interest predominantly relate to education around dog management. In order to maximise protection from dogs, we will follow the dog management plan we have drafted as part of this proposal. This management plan will include community education events for dog owners. In addition, signage around the island will be investigated to reduce impact for those visiting the island with dogs.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN

Animal disease management protocols

- Attach the worksheets from the Translocation Disease Management Workbook to this proposal as **Attachment D** and refer to them here. State who you consulted with in development of this protocol.

The disease protocol for kiwi has worked out successfully based on extensive experience from translocations of kiwi over the years.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Best Practice

[For Conservation Translocations where a best practice manual is available]

- Are you following best practice for translocation of this species? If **'YES'**, name document/reference. If **'NO'**, why not?

Yes, the Kiwi Best Practice Manual (Robertson and Colbourne 2020).

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Animal disease management

[For all animals excluding invertebrates]

- Complete the hygiene checklist from the Wildlife Health Management SOP and attach as **Attachment E**.
- Using the Wildlife Health Management SOP (Sections 1.1 to 1.7), comment on what other measures you will take to reduce disease risk.

The following hygiene practices will be in place:

All cuts and injuries will be covered with Band-Aids before handling birds.

Hands and forearms will be washed thoroughly with disinfectant soap, such as Dettol, after handling birds.

Mouth and face will not be touched after handling birds until hands have been washed.

Alcohol swabs will be carried to clean scratches caused by the bird's claws.

All wounds inflicted by kiwi will be cleaned thoroughly and antiseptic applied.

All catching equipment will be disinfected with Trigene before and after use. Corflute or wooden transfer boxes will be thoroughly cleaned after use.

If any bird dies and cause of death is not obvious, the body will be sent to Massey University/Wildbase for necropsy.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Composition

- Describe the proposed composition of the plants or animals to be translocated including:
  - Age
  - Sex ratio
  - Singles/pairs
  - Total number of individuals

  If more than one source, state how many from each
- Explain the rationale for this proposed composition. Comment on how likely it is to produce a genetically diverse and viable population (if not viable, justify in Section 11).

Up to 50 individuals will be transferred for first year's releases to Waiheke Island. The carrying capacity (K) of the release site is approx. 50 pairs (100 individuals), so up to 50% of K are allowed under KRG recommendations. Further releases in future years could be more or less than 20, but this will be determined each year and will depend on availability of expansion of safe sites on Waiheke Island and how the previously translocated birds have settled in.

The kiwi will all be over 1000gr and so will be around 6 months to one year old, although some kiwi may be older.

It may not be obvious at the time of transfer, whether each kiwi is male kiwi or a female, and so a feather sample will be taken so that sex can be confirmed by DNA analysis

later. The composition and age of kiwi released to Waiheke Island is likely to vary from year to year to balance out the population on the island.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Timing

- Note the month(s) and year(s) the plants or animals will be translocated and the reasons why this timing is considered optimal. You may wish to propose an alternative or additional time in case the translocation cannot go ahead at the proposed time, or if you do not find or catch the proposed number of animals.

The preferred time for releasing kiwi is in autumn when the nights are longer and provide more time for them to forage for food. Based on this, the first transfers would ideally take place between March – May 2024.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Capture, collection, and transport

[For animals]

- Describe methods for capture and transport of the animals. Include how long the transportation will take, and provisions made to minimise stress and maximise the welfare of the transferred species.
- Note any departures from procedures that have been successfully used in previous translocations. Include any contingency plans or changes that might be implemented within this transfer in the event of possible problems.

Kiwi suitable for translocation (i.e., over 1kg and in good condition) will be located on Ponui Island in the weeks/months prior to transfer and temporarily fitted with a radio-transmitter. On the day of release, kiwi will be located, checked that they are in good health and fit for transfer and placed into an individual transport box.

Kiwi will either be flown by helicopter or taken by boat to Waiheke Island. At the release site, kiwi will be placed into their own individually prepared burrow in various locations on the peninsula.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Release and planting

- **[For plants]** Describe how the translocated plants will be planted.
- **[For animals]** Describe how the animals will be released, including time of day, distribution of individuals around the release site, and any temporary holding at the release site (i.e. delayed versus immediate planting/release).
- Note any departures from procedures that have been successfully used in previous translocations.

All individuals will have a transponder inserted prior to release if they don't already have one.

Kiwi will be released during the day into a suitable burrow in the forest to shelter until nightfall.

All releases will follow the Kiwi Best Practice Manual.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Dispersal from the release site

[For animal translocations to the wild where there is a risk of dispersal]

- Describe any measure you will put in place that may reduce dispersal or increase the likelihood of site fidelity (bonding to site). Cross reference other sections of this application as appropriate. Note any contingency plan for management of dispersed animals.
- Justification should be given in Section 11 for translocations where there is a significant risk of dispersal outside the target area, and it may be appropriate to put in place research (Section 10) aimed to improve methods for reducing dispersal.

There is the likelihood of dispersal from the immediate release sites. However, dispersal is likely to be within the larger managed area.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Short-term post-release management

[For animal translocations to the wild where short-term management is required to facilitate establishment]

- Describe any short-term management needed specifically for the transferred species at the release site to facilitate its establishment. Cross reference other sections of this application as appropriate.
- Describe any other post-release management needed for the species that has not already been mentioned.

No short-term management is planned as kiwi have been shown to adapt well to new locations.

SECTION 6 | TRANSLOCATION DESIGN (CONTINUED)

Contingency plans for unexpected results

- Can the translocated species be removed from the site in the future if its effects become unacceptable?
- **[For threatened species only]** Outline the contingency plan to be followed to salvage individuals if a threatened species is translocated to a new site but it is found that the species cannot persist there.

In the first 6 months, twenty kiwi will be monitored using mortality detecting radio-transmitters, following this 10 will have their transmitters removed after the 6 months, the remainder will stay on transmitter for a further 6 months. The signals will be checked monthly to determine whether the kiwi is alive or dead. Should more than 30% of monitored kiwi be killed by a predator during the year then further releases will cease. The remaining monitored kiwi may be uplifted if deemed to be at risk and returned to Ponui Island. If kiwi disperse too far away from the peninsula and there is concern for their safety, they will be uplifted and returned to the core release area.

Physical health checks of the birds and transmitter straps replacement will follow best practice. Save the Kiwi will supply the transmitters and provide support to monitor kiwi post release and hand over to selected local handlers to carry out the monthly routine signal roll call monitoring and health checks.

Kiwi have a proven record of successful transfer which means that in future years, individual kiwi will not be monitored once released unless there is an elevated level of risk to kiwi anticipated (e.g., drought season or stoat incursion) that cannot be mitigated, such as releasing to an alternative site.

SECTION 7 | CAPABILITY

Project Team

- Who will undertake the species movement and what are their relevant skills and experience in undertaking this or similar work?

All handling will be undertaken by Kiwi Approved Handlers(s) only. Approved handlers are registered on the DOC Accredited Handler database.

SECTION 7 | CAPABILITY (CONTINUED)

Financial Resources required

- Using the table below, complete a list of the resources required to undertake this project, the costs and the sources of funding.
- If volunteers are involved, include their time (at zero cost)

DOC proposals must include staff hours

Costs associated with the initial release of kiwi at the site are shown in Appendix 4.

SECTION 8 | RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Collection

[For applications where samples are to be collected, excluding samples collected for disease screening under Section 8]

- Describe what samples will be collected.

Pin feathers, blood, and faeces

- Describe the purpose of collecting the samples (the applicant may refer to other criteria in the application).

Genetic analysis, disease screening and DNA sexing

- Will any of the samples or genetic material derived from the samples be used for genetic purposes outside of gene sequencing? If **'YES'**, please describe the purpose. If the purpose is for [GMO] the application to Environmental Protection Authority must be included with this application.
- Will any of the material or its DNA be leaving New Zealand?
- If **'YES'**, where will the samples be sent and stored?
- Please list any DOC facilities that will be used.

No

SECTION 8 | RESEARCH AND MONITORING (CONTINUED)

Research

[For applications where research is the primary reason]

- Briefly describe the research programme and refer to the reason and objectives which are described in Section 3 – Purpose.

Research is not the primary reason for these translocations. Monitoring of kiwi for the first two years will provide information on survival and dispersal.

SECTION 8 | RESEARCH AND MONITORING (CONTINUED)

Monitoring programme

[For applications where monitoring is required by DOC]

- Outline the monitoring programme for the source and release populations and sites.
- Include
  - What will be monitored
  - How/by whom
  - When/how often
  - For how long

Described above. Success is attributed to the guidelines set out in the Kiwi Best Practice Manual (Robertson and Colbourne 2020) which describes how to minimise the impact of the transfer. These guidelines will be followed for these translocations.

SECTION 8 | RESEARCH AND MONITORING (CONTINUED)

[For proposals covering multiple transfers]

- State the process that will be used to review the results of each transfer before the next transfer is carried out

End of season reporting through authority requirements.

SECTION 8 | RESEARCH AND MONITORING (CONTINUED)

[For proposals that are a 'head starting programme' covering multiple transfers]

- State the process that will be used to review the results of all transfers covered by this proposal or refer to other documents that describe the process.

Waiheke translocations will be reviewed collectively by the authority holders in collaboration with DOC, and will be adjusted accordingly to plan for future years.

SECTION 9 | ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[For proposals where additional information is required to support proceeding with this application]

- If you have identified significant potential adverse issues under Section 4, 5, and/or 8, or other problems have not been recorded elsewhere in this application, please provide additional information to support proceeding with this translocation application.

None identified

SECTION 10 | REFERENCES

- List references cited in the text, such as scientific papers, restoration or management plans. References must be available to support this application (i.e., unpublished reports need to be accessible via the web or may need to be provided as an attachment to the application.

The Kiwi Best Practice Manual 2020: https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/science-publications/conservation-publications/native-animals/birds/kiwi-best-practice-manual/ The Kiwi Recovery Plan: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/tsrp64entire.pdf Malin Undin. 2021. Studies of how to improve translocation outcomes of *Apteryx mantelli* focusing on breeding, hybrids, diversity, and telomeres.

SECTION 11 | JUSTIFICATION

- Provide justification for continuing with the proposed translocation as requested throughout the text.

N/A

Appendices

Appendix 1 Demonstrating close proximity between Ponui and Waiheke Islands

Appendix 2 Proposed kiwi release area on Waiheke Island – Te Matuku peninsula

Appendix 3 KRG support for Ponui Kiwi to be translocated to Waiheke Island

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawbai

Our Ref: Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island

Reference: DOCCM-7236410

22 December 2022

TO: s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)

Cc: Nick Kelly
Kiwi Recovery Group
Matt Barnett

FROM: Emily King for the Kiwi Recovery Group

SUBJECT: Reconsideration of sourcing kiwi from Ponui to Waiheke

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Dear Emma, Lady Fenwick and Michelle,

The Kiwi Recovery Group previously provided advice for translocating kiwi to Waiheke, where Coromandel brown kiwi were recommended to be considered as a source site, rather than Ponui. However, Save the Kiwi have requested the Kiwi Recovery Group provide advice on releasing Ponui hybrid birds to Waiheke, as there is insufficient support from the Coromandel community to progress a translocation of Coromandel brown kiwi. Feedback from the Recovery Group is summarised below.

Summary

The Kiwi Recovery Group continues to see potential for Waiheke to hold a sustainable population of kiwi, starting with Te Matuku Peninsula, provided mana whenua are in support.

Since there does not appear to be a willing source site in the Coromandel, we do not object to sourcing kiwi from Ponui and recommend the following:

- Where possible individuals of the lowest relatedness are selected as founders.
- The natural process regarding density impacts of a closed population are socialised early with the Waiheke community to manage expectations.
- The Waiheke population, if successful, does not contribute to recovery programmes elsewhere.

The risks to kiwi on Waiheke and the associated recommendations from the Kiwi Recovery Group remain, particularly regarding dogs, traffic, and subdivision development, as outlined in the previous advice paper.

This technical advice does not incorporate iwi or te ao Māori perspectives, as these will be part of the translocation application and considered by the decision maker.

Role of the Kiwi Recovery Group

The Kiwi Recovery Group is an advisory group that supports the role of the decision-maker by providing advice regarding the conservation requirements for kiwi. We hope that this information is of use to help inform their decision and help inform the stage 2 translocation proposal.

Previous advice

Recommendations outlined in the previous advice paper, dated 4 August 2021 (DOC-6737709) remain the same, with the exception of the source location.

It was noted that kiwi will begin to disperse quickly, and that dogs will be the greatest risk to kiwi establishing. The following was recommended:

- Coromandel brown kiwi to be considered as a source site, rather than Ponui, to allow for future opportunities for birds to be able to go the mainland, should they reach carrying capacity
- A DOC Threats Advisor be included as a team member to review the stoat control being undertaken and provide recommendations once an application is received
- A dog management plan for the release site and neighbouring properties, including a response plan should a dog kill a kiwi
- A robust consultation process with the broader Waiheke community to ensure they are supportive of kiwi coming to the island, and measures that would be needed to protect them from resident dogs
- An assessment of other potential risks e.g., cars, cattle stops/troughs and any areas of concerns that could be modified to reduce risk.

Ponui as an alternative source site

The Ponui population of brown kiwi was founded in 1964 with six birds from Hauturu/Little Barrier Island and eight birds from Northland, well before anyone realised the level of differentiation between the four regional populations of brown kiwi (Northland, Coromandel, Western and Eastern). The Hauturu/Little Barrier population is also of mixed-provenance; primarily built up from a few Western birds introduced from Taranaki and Taupo, some Northland birds, and probably some original Northland-like kiwi surviving on the island since it was isolated from the mainland thousands of years ago.

The four "regional" populations are likely to have diverged from one another 50-200,000 years ago. In many species, isolation of this length of time leads to recognition of distinct sub-species. To preserve the genetic distinctiveness that has naturally developed in response to natural selection from local pressures, and random genetic drift, DOC's position is not to mix individuals from different regions unless absolutely necessary. Once populations or species are genetically mixed it is impossible to separate the different regional forms. This position is supported by geneticists within and external to DOC.

Therefore, if Ponui is used to establish kiwi on Waiheke, these birds would not be able to contribute to recovery programmes on the mainland. The rational for sourcing birds from Ponui is acknowledged as this population has been impacted by droughts, with several deaths observed, and it would relieve some carrying capacity issues. However, if successful on Waiheke, this approach may be recreating a similar situation with no recourse to move the birds. We recommend this is socialised early with the Waiheke community, so expectations are able to be managed. We are appreciative of Save the Kiwi already raising this outcome with Lady Fenwick and other interested parties.

We encourage selecting individuals from the Ponui population which are of the lowest relatedness, this could be obtained from the close order information currently available. This approach will help ensure founders are as genetically diverse as possible.

As the Coromandel community are not supportive of Coromandel brown kiwi being translocated to Waiheke, we are comfortable for Ponui to be used a source population.

I hope the information provided above is of value, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Ngā mihi nui,

Emily King
Kiwi Recovery Group Leader

Appendix 4 Costs associated with the release and monitoring of kiwi on Waiheke Island, Year 1.

Expense	No.	Estimated cost per unit	Estimated Total cost	Costs covered by	Comments
Costs associated with capture at Ponui	50	TBD	TBD	Save the Kiwi	
Transfer kiwi to Waiheke	3	$1,000	$3,000	Save the Kiwi	Via boat
Logistics associated with release	1	$2,000	$2,000	Applicants	
Transmitters (adult kiwi egg timers)	20	$364	$7,280	Save the Kiwi	
TR8 receiver	1	$3,400	$3,400	Save the Kiwi	
Monthly roll count monitoring, to determine population status	12	TBD	TBD	Save the Kiwi/ Applicants	
Health checks and transmitter changes	10	$400	$4,000	Save the Kiwi/ Applicants	
Total			**$19,680**		

Appendix 5 Letter of support Ngāti Pāoa

Ngāti Paoa
15 Queens Road
Panmure, Auckland

Pāoa ki uta, Pāoa ki tai, Pāoa ki tua o te pae o Matariki

Tēnā koe

Letter of Support – Kiwi Translocation

On behalf of the Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust (NPIT) I would like to express our support to the Translocation Application for the Pōnui Kiwi to Waiheke Island. Ngāti Pāoa also acknowledgesa Te Korowai o Waiheke in support of the community-wide effort to eradicate pests from the island, which creates the perfect environment for Kiwi to thrive.

Ngāti Pāoa acknowledges the long standing relationship with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, and an established relationship with Save the Kiwi in support of their passion in conservation, which aligns to our values as mana whenua. NPIT will support as co-applicant and look forward to this possibility becoming a reality to ensure that these manu are located in a safe environment.

I would also like to share this pūrākau about Kiwi:

I tētehi rangi i kōrero a Tāne ki tōna teina ki te tohutohu i ngā manu o te ngahere kia heke iho i te tuanui o te waoku, me te āta tiaki i ngā rākau. Kua hūri atu te whānau o Te Aitanga o Punga ki te kai i ngā rākau o te ngahere, nā whai anō te tono a Tāne ki a Kiwi. I te mutunga iho ko Kiwi anake te manu i whakaae mai ki tana tono, ahakoa ko te utu o ōna parirau. Mai i taua wā, tae noa mai ki ēnei rā, kua noho rangatira te Kiwi.

Kiwi, like many of our native manu has a chiefly role within the forest as a descendant of Tāne Mahuta. The protection of our taonga species is critical to their survival.

Please don't hesitate to contract me if you require any further information via email chair@paoa.co.nz or mobile s9(2)(a)

Ngā manaakitanga o te tauwhirotanga, hei manaaki, hei tiaki i ngā wā katoa

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)
Chair, Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust

Appendix 6 Email to demonstrate support Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 9 October 2023 12:02 pm
To: s9(2)(a)
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Kiwi application

Kia ora s9(2)(a)

Pls process application, we are comfortable if our whānaunga are.

Mauri kiwi!!

Sent while mobile.

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawbai

Permission Decision Support Document

Application Details	
Decision Maker	Katharine Lane, Operations Manager, Auckland Inner Islands
Applicants	The Kiwi Trust, Ngāti Paoa Iwi Trust, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki [originally s9(2)(a) Ngāti Paoa Iwi Trust]
Permission Number	98052-FAU
Permission Type	Translocation Decision (Stage 2) – Wildlife Act Authorisation

Key Dates	
Application received	16 October 2023
Task Assignment assigned	30 January 2024
Context Meeting	7 February 2024
Check-In Meetings	3 April 2024 [with applicant] 31 October 2024 [with applicant] 5 December 2024 [internal] 26 February 2025 [internal] Collated Notes from above meetings: DOC-7892604 27 March 2025 [internal] 1 April 2025 [internal]
Decision due	11 April 2025

Document Links	
Application	DOC-7488448
Supporting information	DOC-7771896 [community engagement & dog management plan]
Task Assignment	DOC-7488458
Cost Recovery Tool	

Resources	
Permissions Advisor	Alisha Nair, Hamilton
Case Manager	Laura Chartres, Community Supervisor, Auckland Mainland Sarndra Theobald, Community Ranger, Auckland Mainland [from March 2025]
District Office – source & receiving site	Leigh Joyce, Senior Ranger Biodiversity, Auckland Inner Islands David Wilson, Senior Ranger Biodiversity, Auckland Mainland [previously Senior Ranger Biodiversity Auckland Inner Islands]
Biodiversity	Rogan Colbourne, Technical Advisor Emily King, Technical Advisor

Cost Recovery

Function	Time (minutes)	Date
Capture Time	12	30/10/23
Summary Time	20	14/11/23
Assign Time	25	30/1/24

*Up to four hours of pre-application advice is provided free of charge – record all time in the table, but do not charge the Applicant for the first four hours.

1. Task Register

Tasks as set by the Decision Maker:

No.	Task description	Accountability	Estimated time req'd to complete task (minutes)	Timeframe (date due)	Date complete	Time taken to complete task (minutes)
1	Co-ordinate the processing of the application – including (but not limited to) communicating with the Applicant, managing the Permissions Database record, and co-ordinating the completion of the Decision Support Document	Case Manager	900 mins (15hrs)			
2	Undertake a statutory analysis of the application, attend check-in meetings and coordinating completion of document	Permissions Advisor	240 mins (4hrs)			
3	Undertake iwi consultation	Case Manager	60 mins	19/11/2024	19/11/2024	60 mins
4	Share the decision with the team members on behalf of the Decision Maker	Case Manager	10 mins			
5	Share the decision with those consulted with (including Treaty Partners and the Conservation Board)	Community Ranger/anyone who has consulted	30 mins			

2. Purpose

To make a decision on the full translocation proposal.

3. Context

Overview/Background

The Department has received a wild-wild translocation proposal from co-applicants The Kiwi Trust (trading as Save the Kiwi, hereon referred to as STK), Ngāti Paoa Iwi Trust and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki to introduce North Island Brown Kiwi from Ponui Island to privately-owned land at Te Matuku Peninsula on Waiheke Island in the Hauraki Gulf.

DOC approved a stage 1 translocation outline proposal in August 2023 (approval letter DOC-6975176), inviting a full Stage 2 proposal and advising the applicants the following:

- Recommendation for source population to be from Ponui Island, rather than Coromandel Brown Kiwi as per the original application;
- Robust dog management plan will be required
- Consideration will need to be given to predator control, release site vegetation including pest plants, other risks to kiwi on the island such as vehicles, and post-release monitoring.

Originally the applicant was the private landowner s9(2)(a) and Ngāti Paoa Iwi Trust. At Stage 2, the applicant is now STK with Ngāti Paoa Iwi Trust and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, both iwi with mana whenua on Waiheke Island.

The applicant has already discussed this proposal with the Kiwi Recovery Group (KRG), who had initial feasibility concerns. The applicant has wanted to pursue this proposal for a long time and has also engaged with District Office staff.

Subsequent discussions with Technical Advisors and District Office have confirmed the translocation to Waiheke Island will be managed as a closed population, with no kiwi released back to the mainland or other islands with, or without kiwi on them.

Source Site

The proposed translocation source is the kiwi population residing on Ponui Island in the Hauraki Gulf. Removal of kiwi from Ponui Island is not adversely impact the source population.

The Ponui population of brown kiwi was founded in 1964 with six birds from Hauturu/Little Barrier Island and eight birds from Northland. The Hauturu/Little Barrier population is also of mixed-provenance; primarily built up from a few Western birds introduced from Taranaki and Taupo, some Northland birds, and probably some original Northland-like kiwi surviving on the island since it was isolated from the mainland thousands of years ago. Once populations or species are genetically mixed it is impossible to separate the different regional forms.

Release Site

The proposed release site (Figure 1) is private land located at Te Matuku Peninsula, Waiheke Island. The initial release site is a 160ha forest block, of regenerating forest and pasture, which sits adjacent to a 340ha block. Predator control is undertaken on Te Matuku peninsula, including bait lines and stoat suppression.

The proposed release site has dog restrictions in place, and working dogs that surround the property will be kiwi avoidance trained, with neighbouring landowners supportive of the planned kiwi releases.

Figure 1: Private land located at Te Matuku Peninsula, Waiheke Island

The first release will occur within the site detailed in Figure 2. The yellow line dictates the northern boundary line. (Email correspondence on release sites: DOC-10234243).

Figure 2: First release site and northern boundary limit on the Te Matuku Peninsula, Waiheke Island.

Proposed number of releases

A total of up to 50 birds will be released onto private land on Te Matuku peninsula, Waiheke Island over a four-year term. The proposed releases are as follows:

- Year 1 – 10 kiwi released. All 10 birds to have transmitters attached and to be monitored for 48 months.
- Year 2 – 20 kiwi released. At least 20 birds in total (includes kiwi released in Year 1 and Year 2) to be monitored via transmitters for 36 months.
- Year 3 – 20 kiwi released. Monitoring of Year 1 and Year 2 cohorts to continue for a further 24 months. At least 20 birds in total are to be monitored, with monitoring to cease at the end of Year 4.

If any monitored birds die in any given year, then the number of monitored birds is to be topped up during the next release, to ensure at least 20 birds are monitored from Year 2.

Monitoring

Up to 20 kiwi will be monitored using mortality detecting radio transmitters. The signals will be checked monthly to determine whether the kiwi are alive or dead. If kiwi disperse outside of the release site and there is concern for their safety, they will be uplifted and returned to the release area.

Physical health checks of the birds and transmitter straps replacement will follow best practice guidelines. Save the Kiwi will supply the transmitters and provide support to monitor kiwi post release. Local handlers will carry out the monthly monitoring and health checks.

Save the Kiwi are to provide survival and dispersal monitoring details for each bird monitored. This is to include the date and details on:

- the release date,
- bird name,
- transponder number,
- band number (if banded),
- tx channel,
- morphometrics (prior to release and any other subsequent handling),
- handling dates and purpose (e.g. annual transmitter change and final tx removal date),
- death details (circumstances when found, date found, death date from tx code, postmortem reports, cause of death),
- GPS locations (for release site, handling, location of death, dispersal),
- bird and/or tx outcome (alive, dead, failed tx, dropped tx).

Dates are required to calculate annual survival, and the data will be used to calculate the average lifespan and to understand if the population can become self-sustaining. Location information will be used to understand dispersal and interaction risks.

Three strike rule

If kiwi disperse outside of the release site in Year 1, kiwi can be returned to the release site up to three times. No handling is to take place outside of the kiwi handling season (1 June to 31 January).

If kiwi travel outside of the release site more than three times, on the third time they are to be left to disperse and are to be monitored accordingly.

Death rate

If 30% or more of the kiwi die post release, then further translocations are to be paused, and a review undertaken on the threat to the kiwi that remain on Waiheke Island, including whether the remaining kiwi are to be uplifted if deemed to be at risk and returned to Ponui Island.

(Email correspondence on monitoring requirements: DOC-10234252).

4. Critical Issues

Context Meeting 7 February 2024

Present: Katharine Lane, Laura Chartres, Alisha Nair, Leona White, David Wilson and Rogan Colbourne.

1) **Ecological safety**

- HTU dog management plan will reduce impact for kiwi translocation? And if the Plan cover the whole island and not only peninsula?
- HTE Dog Management Plan is assessed and reviewed?
- HTE provisions are made for kiwi / dog signages and who is financing the signages?

- HTE number of birds to be translocated is appropriate?
- **Task- Katharine L to request the dog management plan from the applicant.**
- **Task- Katharine L to get information from applicant regarding provision of dog/kiwi signage.**
- **Task- Rogan to undertake technical assessment, including of Dog Management Plan and numbers to be released.**

2) **Cultural safety**
- HTU views of iwi on the application?

3) **Land tenure and role of external agencies/community**
- HTU views of Auckland Council around dog management and related signages?
- HTU land ownership situation?
- HTE this activity has landowner approval from Ponui Island (source site)
- HTE robust community consultation has been initiated?
- **Task- Katharine L to request information regarding Auckland Council's role in dog management from applicant.**
- **Task- Katharine L to request applicant to provide written support letter from landowners.**
- **Task- Katharine L to get information from applicant regarding Ponui landowner approval**
- **Task- Katharine L to request for proof of community consultation.**

4) **Long-term management**
- How to understand if there is capacity to monitor released birds to ensure that the translocation has been successful, number of experienced kiwi handlers, long-term on-going capacity to adhere to permit conditions etc.
- **Task- Katharine L to request an outline/plan from applicant.**

Tasks-
- Delete s9(2)(a) as applicant on the database and replace Save the kiwi as the applicant. **Task- Alisha** *Complete*
- Eradication programme status update from Te Korowai o Waiheke **Task- Leona** W
- Collate advice from Kiwi Recovery Group- **Task- Rogan**
- Check-in meeting to be scheduled by end of February (placeholder), once information is received from the applicant- **Task- Alisha** *Complete*
- Initiation of Iwi consultation. Task- **Laura Chartres** post check-in meeting *Complete see Section 5.*

Check-in meeting was held on the 26 February 2025. Meeting notes: DOC-10220387.

- Source site will be Ponui Island.
- It is recommended the release site is to be managed as a closed population.
- Monitoring in the first year will provide data on their dispersal patterns. Kiwi are not to be moved back to the release site during this time.
- First transfer proposed for May 2025.

5. Consultation with Treaty Partners

Auckland Office – Laura Chartres, Community Supervisor

SECTION A: Treaty Settlement implications
If you have any questions about Treaty Settlement implications of an application, contact the Treaty Negotiations Team.

1. Is any site subject to the application due to be **transferred to whānau, hapū, or iwi?** If no, delete questions 2-3 and go to question 4. If yes, identify the site.

N/A – both the source site and release sites are private land.

2. If your Treaty Partners have settlement legislation in place already, are there any specific post-settlement implementation obligations that relate to the site or proposed activity?

N/A

SECTION B: Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Area Act 2011
If you have any questions about the Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Area Act or the consultation required by this Act, contact your Team Leader.

1. Is the location subject to any applications or approvals for customary marine title or protected marine rights under the Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Act 2011? If no, delete question 2. If yes, identify the Treaty Partners who have either applied for or had approved customary marine title or protected marine rights at the location.

No

SECTION C: **Whānau, hapū, and iwi consulted**

Consultation Summary

Treaty Partner consulted with	Date Sent Out	Timeframe End	Method	# Attempts	Link to Response
Ngai Tai ki Tamaki	21/10/24	19/11/24	Email - DOC-7889628	One	DOC-7889633 (24/10/24)
Ngati Paoa Iwi Trust	21/10/24	19/11/24	Weekly email	Weekly for 20 WD	N/A - nil
Ngati Tamatera	21/10/24	19/11/24	Email - DOC-7889630	One	N/A - nil
Ngati Tamaoho	21/10/24	19/11/24	Email - DOC-7889629	One	N/A – nil
Te Patukirikiri	21/10/24	19/11/24	Email - DOC-7889627	One	N/A – nil

Ngaati Whanaunga	21/10/24	19/11/24	Email – DOC-7889631	One	DOC-7889632 (22/10/24)
Ngati Maru	21/10/24	19/11/24	Email - DOC-7889625	One	N/A – nil

Comments:

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki:
I ran it past s9(2)(a) *and I can confirm that Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki has no further comment to make at this point.*

Let me know if you need anything else from us

Mauri ora
s9(2)(a)

Ngaati Whanaunga:
Ngati Puku a hapu of Ngati Whanaunga who are a Mana whenua of Te Matuku would support our relatives on this kaupapa.

s9(2)(a)

6. Contributions

Rogan Colbourne, Technical Advisor

The following points are summarised by the Case Manager.

- Monitoring with transmitters is to be undertaken for 10 adult/subadult kiwi (both sexes) in the first release (May 2025) to determine annual survival.
- Monitoring is to occur for 4 years.
- Kiwi are not to be handled or relocated during the non-handling period (1 June to 30 January) should they wander outside of the release site. Data collected during monitoring will provide information on kiwi dispersal, and how kiwi adapt to a location where people and dogs are present. The data will also provide information on whether dog education is sufficient, which is important for birds without transmitters and any offspring who follow those dispersal patterns.
- All transmitter locations are to be GPS logged. Data is to be recorded in a spreadsheet and available for planning subsequent translocations in this type of environment.
- The monitoring data will only include information on adult survival. If information is required on chick survival, then an additional permit to monitor chicks is required.

- All kiwi are to be banded, and reflective tape applied to the bands to determine breeding using trail cameras, and to determine rate of population growth.

Email correspondence: DOC-1022043

Kiwi Recovery Group advice

The Kiwi Recovery Group's preference has remained; that brown kiwi are sourced from Coromandel to establish a population on Waiheke, and in 2022 advice was provided based on the specific questions asked at the time. We continue to encourage the Waiheke community to work with Coromandel iwi and communities.

In 2021 the Kiwi Recovery Group (KRG) were asked to provide advice on the most suitable source to establish a brown kiwi population on Waiheke. The KRG advised Coromandel as the preferred option, to allow for future opportunities for birds to be able to go the mainland, should they reach carrying capacity. This aligns with the national kiwi recovery program, to grow all kiwi species and taxa, and maintain genetic diversity. Refer to the advice memo August 2021 DOC-6737709.

In 2022 DOC was of the understanding that sourcing from Coromandel was not supported by the Coromandel community, as the Coromandel brown kiwi kōhanga was being established on Motutapu (refer to email from Save the Kiwi in October 2022 DOC-10231962). Due to this the Kiwi Recovery Group were asked to provide advice on what would need to be considered if Ponui could be used as a source. The key consideration was that, if successful, a kiwi population on Waiheke would not be able to contribute to recovery programmes elsewhere, as the Ponui population is of mixed provenance. The national Kiwi Recovery Plan aims to preserve the genetic distinctiveness of the four brown kiwi taxa (Northland, Coromandel, Eastern and Western), which have naturally developed in response to natural selection from local pressures, and random genetic drift, DOC's position is not to mix individuals from different regions unless absolutely necessary. Once populations or species are genetically mixed it is impossible to separate the different regional forms. This position is supported by geneticists within and external to DOC.

The advice memo also noted another key consideration; that the Ponui population has been impacted by droughts, with several deaths observed, and translocating kiwi from this island would relieve some carrying capacity issues. However, if successful on Waiheke, this approach may be recreating a similar situation with no recourse to move the birds. Refer to the advice memo December 2022 DOC-7236410.

In 2024 the Kiwi Recovery Group were asked to provide advice on the preferred source from a variety of presented options (including Coromandel and Ponui). The KRG's preference remained to be the Coromandel taxa. DOC were also informed that Ponui may no longer be a feasible option due to the desires from the Ponui community (refer to email from Save the Kiwi in November 2024 DOC-10231990), and that sourcing from the Coromandel may now be supported by the community, as from 2025 kiwi will start to be returned to the Coromandel from the kōhanga on Motutapu (based on conversations between DOC and Save the Kiwi during November and December 2024). Refer to the advice memo December 2024 DOC-7854511.

The December 2024 advice memo from the Kiwi Recovery Group provided the following advice:

- *Moving kiwi outside of their historic range should only be done if there is a clear conservation value to justify it.*
- *Coromandel brown kiwi is considered the priority taxa to allow for future opportunities for birds to be able to go the mainland, should they reach carrying capacity, as per the advice provided in August 2021 (DOC-6737709).*
- *Although there is a conservation need to increase the Eastern brown kiwi population, we would still prefer Coromandel because they are the rarest of the brown kiwi taxa, and the nearest taxa to the island. Moving Eastern brown kiwi that far out of their historic range does not feel justified.*
- *The Northland brown kiwi was not supported due to the growth rate and recovery of this taxa, which means justification for establishing a population outside of their natural range was low.*
- *The hybrid populations of Ponui and Te Hauturu-o-Toi may be considered as a source if there are no other available options. In this situation the population on Waiheke would remain closed and would not contribute to recovery programmes elsewhere, as per our advice provided in December 2022 (DOC-7236410). We no longer support this as Coromandel brown kiwi appears to be viable option.*

The following additional comments were provided on whether the translocation would be successful:

"The risks to kiwi on Waiheke and the associated recommendations from the Kiwi Recovery Group remain, particularly regarding dogs, traffic, and subdivision development, as outlined in previous advice (August 2021 DOC-6737709). Since 2021, significant progress towards eradicating stoats from the island has occurred which, if successful, will benefit the establishment of a kiwi population. We would like to acknowledge the consultation process with the community at Te Matuku Penninsula, particularly the focus of dogs being the greatest risk to the population. We encourage preparing the wider community for the arrival of kiwi, as kiwi will disperse beyond the planned release area.

The impacts of drought should be acknowledged and considered as part of the application. Climate change modelling by NIWA predicts that the northern North Island is likely to experience droughts at a greater frequency and severity in the future. A recent Manaaki Whenua report, commissioned by the Department, highlights that drought will negatively impact kiwi on northern islands. This report includes data from the Ponui kiwi research led by s9(2)(a)

"As per previous advice provided in December 2022 (DOC-7236410) sourcing kiwi from Ponui, or other hybrid populations such as Te Hauturu-o-Toi, has limitations. If a translocation of hybrid kiwi on Waiheke was successful, the population would remain closed, meaning these birds would not be able to contribute to recovery programmes on the mainland, or potentially to other island populations. The rational for sourcing birds from Ponui is acknowledged as this population has been impacted by droughts, with several deaths observed, and it would relieve some carrying capacity issues. However, this approach may recreate a similar situation with no recourse to move the birds."

Auckland District Office: Laura Chartres, Community Supervisor

Consultation with Auckland Conservation Board

The activity meets the consultation triggers DOC-5646328 for the Auckland Conservation Board, being of a particular public/community interest and having a potential significant impact on conservation.

The application was circulated to the Board on 22/10/24, and comments received 4/11/24 (email: DOC-7889634).

The Board indicated **support** for the project:

Unless s9(2)(a) *and* s9(2)(a) *have further thoughts, my suggestion is that the Board supports this translocation. It is my understanding that this application has wide support from mana whenua and the community. If that is not the case then please advise us of any issues.*

Presuming this is supported as it seems to be, and a population of kiwi (albeit mixed heritage Ponui kiwi) can be established on Waiheke, then it could become an influential advocacy site for conservation near Auckland, with good public access.

s9(2)(a) *and* s9(2)(a) *please provide your thoughts and decision on this matter.*
s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
Concessions Sub-committee
Auckland Conservation Board

Kia ora koutou s9(2)(a)
Tautoko tou whakaro

Naku noa s9(2)(a)

Auckland District Office: Sarndra Theobald, Community Ranger

A site visit to the release site was undertaken by Leigh Joyce, Senior Ranger Biodiversity, and Katharine Lane, Operations Manager, Auckland Inner Islands in February 2025. Predator and weed control were discussed with the applicant.

The applicant advised that the community are undertaking pest control, and rules are already in place regarding dog advocacy. It has been highlighted that additional signage around Waiheke outlining the rules and requirements for dog owners would be beneficial.

Email correspondence: DOC-10220487

Dog Management Plan

A Dog Management Plan has been submitted by the applicant, and the following points on dog management at the release site have been highlighted (email correspondence DOC-10236550).

- *Save the Kiwi has been leading consultation on Waiheke regarding dog management and risks to kiwi, and the following programmes of work are underway:*
- *Auckland Council's Animal Management unit is supporting the release of kiwi on Waiheke Island in a number of ways, including the proactive engagement with Waiheke dog owners to remind them of their responsibilities under the Dog Control Act 1996 including to not allow their dogs to disturb or threaten any protected wildlife. All native species are protected, and Waiheke is already home to a number of 'Threatened' and 'At Risk' species with important roosting and breeding sites across the island.*
- *With the anticipated release of kiwi, the island's dedicated Animal Management Officer (AMO) has been visiting property-owners surrounding the area of the release, ensuring they are aware of the need to keep their dogs from roaming and directing them towards bird aversion training.*
- *Members of Council's Proactive Animal Management team have also been on the island giving educational talks in schools and at the recent Wilderfest event alongside Save the Kiwi, Te Korowai o Waiheke and others.*
- *At the time of and following the release, the island's AMO will be carrying out increased proactive patrols around the main kiwi release earlier. Specific areas on Waiheke island have designated rules for dogs, such as on leash requirements and prohibited zones to protect the community and wildlife.*
- *Save the Kiwi has also connected with Waiheke Tourism, who are helping reach out to accommodation providers and other stakeholders about the arrival of kiwi on Waiheke and what this means for responsible dog ownership. In addition, the Waiheke Pet Advocacy Group has now prepared this video for the ferries: Responsible Pet Ownership Video*
- *Auckland Transport is supportive and has agreed to install yellow kiwi road signs with the message "Caution at night" on key roads near the release site.*

Analysis of the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
Alisha Nair, Permissions Advisor

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 states 'This Act shall be so interpreted and administered as to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi'.

The key principles of the Treaty of Waitangi that apply to DOC's work are:

1. Partnership – mutual good faith and reasonableness: **The Crown and Māori must act towards each other reasonably and in good faith;**
2. **Informed decision-making: Both the Crown and Māori need to be well informed of the other's interests and views;**
3. **Active protection: The Crown must actively protect Māori** interests retained under the Treaty as part of the promises made in the Treaty for the right to govern;
4. **Redress and reconciliation: The Treaty relationship should include processes to address differences of view between the Crown and Māori.**

Discussion:

The Department consulted with the relevant seven treaty partners and invited these iwi/hapu/whanau to provide comments for consideration in the decision-making process. This step creates informed decision making and is linked with the principles of partnership and

active protection. Active protection requires informed decision-making and judgement as to what is reasonable in the circumstance.

The iwi consulted were Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust, Ngāti Tamatera, Ngāti Tamaoho, Te Patukirikiri, Ngaati Whanaunga and Ngāti Maru.
Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki responded to confirm they have no concerns or questions.
Receiving site: Ngaati Whanaunga, are Mana whenua of Te Matuku in Waiheke Island as receiving site iwi, responded with their full support for this translocation to progress.
The other iwi did not provide a response to Departments request for comments or concerns. It is considered that a response would have been provided if the iwi/hapu/whanau had any concerns. Thus, it is considered that those groups that did not respond have no objections to the proposed activity.

It is considered that effect has been given to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Statutory Analysis: Authorisation under the Wildlife Act 1953
Alisha Nair, Permissions Advisor

Context for location:

Source site: Ponui is a private land.

Release site: Waiheke Island falls under the co-management of Ngāti Paoa and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, both are co-applicants to the translocation application with Save the Kiwi. The main release site is on Te Matuku peninsula, specified in appendix 1 which is owned co-owned by s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a) The peninsula includes a mix of private land and covenant land (see DOC-5721196).

Consistency with conservation legislation

Conservation legislation assessed:

Wildlife Act 1953
Wildlife Regulations 1955
Conservation Act 1987

Criteria for decision:

- Is the activity consistent with the relevant conservation legislation?

  Yes

Discussion:

The application is considered to be consistent with the requirements of the Wildlife Act 1953.

Activities under section 53 – capture, handle, release, monitor

The Kiwi Trust propose to release kiwi bred in captivity or living wild in sanctuaries to the wild. The translocation involves handling, marking, and liberating absolutely protected wildlife.

Under section 53(2) of the Wildlife Act 1953, authorisation may be granted to "catch alive or otherwise obtain" wildlife, to have any such wildlife in his or her possession, and to liberate any such wildlife.

In *PAUMAC5 v Director-General of Conservation* [2018] NZCA 348 ("PAUMAC5") the court determined that for the department to be able to grant an authorisation under section 53, the proposed activity must come within the interpretation of catch alive or kill; and promote the wider purposes of the Wildlife Act. The court in PAUMAC5 defined catch alive as the intentional pursuit of an animal for the purpose of catching it alive. Although some kiwi may be already held in captivity, it is considered that the activity still fits within this definition. The applicant has not applied to kill any wildlife.

The judgements of the PauaMac5 case confirmed the purpose of the Act (essentially to protect wildlife and control game). This means that an activity authorised under section 53 must promote the wider purpose of the Act – that is, have *protective benefit*.

The main intention of the proposed translocation and associated activities is to increase the geographic distribution of the wildlife. This means, the chances of survival and wellbeing of the species are enhanced, which is considered to be in line with the purpose of the Act. The Technical Advisor considers that there is protective benefit to the translocation.

Consideration is also given to the protection of the individual birds proposed to be translocated. The personnel proposed to carry out the activity have years of experience in kiwi conservation and/or predator control and are considered by the Technical Advisor to be suitably experienced to carry out and oversee the translocation process.

The Kiwi Trust have stated in their application that they will adhere to best practice methods, and this is also recommended to be included as a special condition. There are potential concerns around predator control. To manage this risk, a special condition is recommended requiring the Grantor to review the results of each transfer, and use the trap catch data and survival rates of monitored kiwi to determine whether future translocations should be allowed.

Wildlife Regulations 1955

Sections 37 and 38 – marking of wildlife

The application is consistent with the Wildlife Regulations.

The application is considered to be consistent with the requirements of the Wildlife Regulations 1955.

Kiwi may be metal banded for identification and have transmitters and transponders attached for locating and distinguishing the birds. Banding permits and certification are with the DOC National Banding Office. All records of banding of kiwi are held in the database at DOC National Banding Office.

Marking falls under section 37 and section 38 of the Wildlife Regulations 1955.

Section 37 defines the term mark as *"any band, ring, clip, tag, or paint, or any other thing or method affixed or applied to any wildlife for the purpose of distinguishing any wildlife"*.

Section 38 states that a person *"must not mark any wildlife, other than unprotected wildlife* [...], *except with the prior written authority of the Director-General"*. No criteria exist for the Director-General to consider when authorising an application to mark protected wildlife, so it is suggested that the general purpose of regulation 37 is used as a guide. The purpose for marking under section 37 is *'for the purpose of distinguishing any wildlife'*, which is consistent with the reason for which the metal and coloured bands are attached.

The draft authority requires that the authority holder ensure that staff are suitably qualified to carry out marking of wildlife, and that best practice is followed. The banding conditions have been supplied by the Department's Banding Office.

Reserves Act 1977

The Minister may from time to time, under Section 51 (a) and (b) authorise to introduce indigenous fauna into the reserve, and also, to introduce exotic flora into the reserve. Any such authorisation may be subject to such conditions as the Minister may impose on that behalf.

The activity will not hinder providing for the preservation and management of areas for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, which is the general purpose of the Act. There is no threat to the survival of all indigenous species of flora or fauna, public access will be preserved, natural ecosystems and landscapes will be preserved, and the natural character of the coastal environment and the margins of lakes and rivers will also be adequately protected.

The release site is a Conservation Covenant, and the activity is consistent with the purpose of the Reserves Act 1977.

Consistency with statutory planning documents

Statutory planning documents assessed:

Conservation General Policy 2005
Auckland Conservation Management Strategy 2014-2024

Criteria for decision:

- Is the activity consistent with the relevant statutory planning documents including the Conservation General Policy?

  Yes

Discussion:

Conservation General Policy 2005

Controlled and Managed

The Conservation General Policy 2005 (page 8) states that *"This General Policy provides guidance for the administration and management of all lands and waters and all natural and*

historic resources managed for the purposes of the above Acts, excluding reserves administered by other agencies under the Reserves Act 1977."

The release site has been covered by a Conservation Covenant (see DOC-5721196) under section 77 of the Reserves Act. Therefore, these sites do not need to be assessed against the CGP.

The application is considered to be consistent with the requirements of the Conservation General Policy 2005.

Section 2 of The Conservation General Policy discusses the Departments Treaty of Waitangi responsibilities. 2(a) ensures relationships to be sought and maintained, and 2(e) discusses that tangata whenua will be consulted on specific proposals that involve resources of significance to them. Both policies have been addressed in acknowledging the principles of the Treaty and informing iwi of the proposed activities requesting them to provide feedback raise any concerns.
It is considered that the Treaty of Waitangi responsibilities have been met for the source site and receiving site.

Section 11 of the CGP regards activities requiring specific authorisation. The Conservation General Policy 2005 does not make specific comment on Wildlife Act authorities and the activities of catching alive, possession and liberation of wildlife.
11.1 (c) The Department and all concession and other authorisation holders should monitor the effects of authorised activities on natural resources [...].
Monitoring of success measures and pest levels are required under the draft permit conditions

Section 7 – Conservation beyond Public Conservation Lands and Waters

The translocation activity is not on Public Conservation Land, but the following conditions are relevant:
7 (a) The Department should work cooperatively to develop effective working relationships with people and organisations to protect natural resources [...].

7 (e) The Department may support the protection efforts and conservation advocacy of other people and organisations.

It is considered the Department has worked with Kiwi Trust, landowners and community of the release and source site towards forming an effective working relationship.

Conservation Management Strategy:
Auckland Conservation Management Strategy 2014-2024 (CMS)

Translocations are referenced throughout the Auckland CMS, but mostly regarding the availability of species on offshore islands as a source for translocations.

However, the application is consistent with objective 6.1.1.2: *"Contribute to efforts to ensure the persistence of nationally threatened species as listed in Appendix 6."* North Island brown kiwi are included in Appendix 6 and are 'Nationally Vulnerable'.

The CMS does not contain any direction or guidance in opposition to the activity.

Conservation Covenant & Management Plan:

The main release site is on Te Matuku peninsula. Since 2002 the release site has been covered by a Conservation Covenant (see DOC-5721196) under section 77 of the Reserves Act, for the purpose that the Land be:

> *"managed so as to preserve its natural environment, landscape amenity, wildlife, freshwater and marine life habitats, and historic values to safeguard the options of future generations".*

The Covenant requires a Management Plan (see DOC-5721197) for the site. The Management Plan (dated June 2002) notes the high potential of the land for nature conservation due to its size and native vegetation. The Plan contains the following relevant policy:

> *Policy 5.2.11: Prepare and implement a restoration plan, in consultation with relevant agencies, which integrates pest management, and programmes for planting, afforestation with native tree species and* ***translocation of indigenous fauna.***

Te Matuku Management Plan (002) - DOC-5721197.pdf

Section 4 discusses Conservation Management and states policies for pest management. Policy 5.1.3.4 relates to area subject to conservation covenant.

Section 6 discusses Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 and objectives to give effect to the purposes of the park. HGMPA is discussed below.

There is nothing in the conditions of the Covenant nor the objectives of the Management Plan that would preclude consideration of a translocation of kiwi to the land.

Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000

The Department is required under s13 of the HGMPA to have regard to sections 7 and 8 when making statutory decisions on locations in the Marine Park, which includes Waiheke Island:

Section 7. Recognition of national significance of Hauraki Gulf

(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:
Section 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—
(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:

Kiwis are a taonga species for tangata whenua and the co-applicant has mana whenua on the motu. The translocation proposal is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act.

Purpose for which the land is held

Criteria for decision:

- Is the activity consistent with s17U(3) of the Conservation Act? (That is, not contrary to the purpose for which the land is held).

  N/A

Discussion:
The application is not for Public Conservation Land, although see the section above re controlled and managed reserves.

Consistency with Departmental operational policy

Criteria for decision:

- Is the activity consistent with relevant operational policy documents?

  Yes - Translocation SOP
  Yes- Kiwi Best Practice Manual - Kiwi Best Practice Manual.

Discission:
Special conditions are recommended, including that collection must be undertaken according to the methodologies set out in the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual.

7. Proposed Operating Conditions

Conditions
Standard conditions applicable to the proposed activity:
As per Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Act Authority template.

Special conditions relevant to this application:

General conditions

1. All wildlife referred to under this Authority remains the property of the Crown. This includes any dead wildlife, live wildlife, any parts thereof, any eggs or progeny of the wildlife, genetic material and any replicated genetic material.

2. Unless expressly authorised by the Grantor in writing, the Authority Holder must not donate, sell or otherwise transfer to any third party any wildlife, material, including any

genetic material, or any material propagated or cloned from such material, collected under this Authority.

3. If required in writing by the Grantor, the Authority Holder must make such improvements to kiwi management techniques, and take such other steps as directed to ensure the welfare of the birds.

4. The Grantor may at any time terminate this Authority or may at any time review and/or vary the conditions pertaining to this Authority if any conditions contained in this Authority are breached or for any other reason that the Grantor may decide.

Translocation

5. The translocation of wildlife must be undertaken in accordance with the approved translocation proposal attached at Schedule 5, except where specified otherwise in this Authority document. The Authority Holder must ensure that all persons operating under this Authority, comply with the conditions of this Authority and the approved translocation proposal. If there is any conflict between the translocation proposal and the conditions of this Authority, the conditions of the Authority shall prevail.

6. The Grantor may require amendments to the translocation design and/or targets in the approved Translocation Proposal before further transfers are approved.

7. The Authority Holder must not transfer kiwi exhibiting any sign of illness or abnormality.

8. The Authority Holder may transfer up to 10 kiwi in Year 1. All 10 birds must be fully monitored for a minimum of 48 months.

9. The Authority Holder may transfer up to 20 kiwi in Year 2. Of the birds released in Year 2, at least 20 birds in total from Year 1 and Year 2 transfers must be fully monitored for a minimum of 36 months.

10. The Authority Holder may transfer up to 20 kiwi in Year 3. The total number of kiwi transferred at the end of Year 3 is not to exceed 50 kiwi.

11. The Authority Holder must not handle or relocate any kiwi during the non-handling period between the 1 June and 31 January should they wander outside of the release site.

12. The Authority Holder is to cease all future releases and inform the Grantor immediately if more than 30 per cent of kiwi die due to predation, human interference or human-related causes.

13. All transmitter locations are to be GPS logged. Data is to be recorded in a spreadsheet and all data must be electronically forwarded to the Grantor citing Authority number 98052-FAU if the Grantor so requests.

14. The Authority Holder must ensure that capture, handling, banding, transmitter attachment, transponder insertion, taking samples, holding, transfer and release follows the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual as provided online at: (https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf)

15. The Authority Holder must ensure that all kiwi are handled by persons who have been accredited in writing as kiwi handlers by the Department of Conservation, or are under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler trainer as per the Department of Conservation Kiwi Best Practice Manual provided online at: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf

16. The Authority Holder must provide the Grantor with evidence of the competency and qualifications of its employees/staff/volunteers/assistants if the Grantor so requests.

17. No manipulation or handling of the protected wildlife other than for husbandry and/or health or transmitter checks and/or welfare purposes is authorised without prior approval from the Department.

18. If required by the Grantor, the Authority Holder must make such improvements to kiwi management techniques (catching, handling and releasing), and take such other steps as directed to ensure the welfare of the birds, including improvement of predator control.

19. The Authority Holder must follow the Dog Management Plan submitted as part of the proposal.

Death of kiwi

20. If any kiwi die, the Authority Holders must inform the Department within 48 hours of the death or discovery of the specimen and send to where the Department directs, with full details of origin, date of death and circumstance of death where known. If required by the Grantor, cease the Authorised Activity for a period determined by the Grantor.

Trap data

21. The Authority Holder must record trap data as obtained throughout the release site on Waiheke Island and its surrounds. Trap catch data must be electronically forwarded to the Grantor citing Authority number 98052-FAU if the Grantor so requests, with stoat and ferret trapping results being of particular interest and importance.

Reporting

22. The Authority Holder must provide a report to the Grantor no later than 30 June of each year that includes:
    - Authority number 98052-FAU;
    - Research/Monitoring findings;
    - Any injuries or deaths resulting from implementation of the Authorised Activity;
    - Details of any transmitters not able to be recovered

- Any implications for conservation management; and
- The location of the storage facility of any feathers collected and details of the genetic register

23. Within 3 months of completion of each individual transfer the Authority Holder must provide a transfer report to the Grantor (forwarded electronically to aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz and Senior Ranger, Biodiversity, Auckland Inner Islands citing Authority number 98052-FAU) containing information to the satisfaction of the Grantor in respect of the translocation of any kiwi authorised by this Authority. An assessment of whether any further releases will go ahead will be made by the Grantor annually, on a case-by-case basis, after consideration of each transfer report.

24. All reports must follow the Grantor's reporting instructions for translocations or as agreed with the Grantor.

25. Upon expiry or termination of this Authority, the Authority Holder must forward a full, final report of this activity to the Grantor by within one month (forwarded electronically to aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz and Senior Ranger, Biodiversity, Auckland Inner Islands) citing:
    - Authority number 98052-FAU;
    - Research/Monitoring findings;
    - Any injuries or deaths resulting from implementation of the Authorised Activity;
    - Details of any transmitters not able to be recovered
    - Any implications for conservation management; and
    - The location of the storage facility of any feathers collected and details of the genetic register

26. The Authority Holder acknowledges that the Grantor may provide copies of these reports to tangata whenua and the general public if requested.

Cultural conditions

27. If any of the 'gifting' (source site) whānau/hāpu/iwi and/or 'receiving' (release site) whānau/hāpu/iwi have communicated that their whānau/hāpu/iwi be represented, and/or that specific tikanga and protocols observances be carried out during any of the stages of the translocations, then every effort must be made for this to happen in consultation with the affected whānau/hāpu/iwi.

Marking kiwi

28. Transmitters may be attached to up to 20 kiwi. The combined transmitter AND attachment must weigh:
    - <2.5% of the body weight of kiwi < 300 g;
    - <2% for kiwi weighing 300 - 650 g;
    - <13 g for kiwi weighing 650 - 1500 g; or
    - <26 g for kiwi weighing > 1500g.

29. During the Authorised Activity, any kiwi found to be injured or otherwise adversely affected by a transmitter must obtain veterinary care immediately where needed. A full report of the details of injury must be provided to the Grantor within 48 hours.

30. Every reasonable effort must be made to capture all individuals and remove transmitters at the conclusion of the Authorised Activity. Details of any transmitters not able to be removed must be reported to the Grantor within 2 weeks of the conclusion of the Authority.

31. Radio transmitter frequencies 160.6 MHz to 161.11 MHz (channels 48-99) must not be operated unless the Authority Holder is in possession of a separate sub-licence issued by DOC.

32. The Authority Holder must ensure that all handlers who attach transmitters or transponders have been approved as accredited for these activities by the Kiwi Recovery Group, or are under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler trainer as set out in the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf

Euthanasia

33. The Authority Holder must not euthanize any protected species unless the Authority Holder:
    - obtains the recommendation of a veterinarian where euthanasia is on animal welfare grounds and the consent of the Grantor, or
    - carries out the euthanasia under direction from the Grantor

34. Any euthanasia shall be carried out in accordance with the New Zealand Veterinary Association guidelines enclosed with this authority.

Blood, tissue, feather and cloacal samples

35. This Authority permits and requires the taking of pin-feathers from individual kiwi to form a genetic register of the founder population. The location of the storage facility and details of the genetic register will be reported to the Grantor annually.

36. Blood, feather and/or tissue collection must be undertaken according to the methodologies set out in the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual provided online at: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf

37. The Authority Holder must ensure that all handlers who take samples from kiwi have been approved in writing as accredited for these activities by the Department of Conservation, or are under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler trainer.

38. Any material not destroyed by analysis must be destroyed on completion of the research. Where there is surplus blood, feathers or tissue (and/or surplus extracted DNA) after the Authorised Activity is complete, this surplus material may be held. However, any new use for a purpose not covered by the Authority will require a new application, including transfer of material to another person, institute or researcher.

39. This Authority gives the Authority Holder the right to hold absolutely protected wildlife in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Authority. This includes any dead wildlife, live wildlife, any parts thereof, and any eggs or progeny of the wildlife.

Kauri dieback disease

40. The Authority Holder must comply with all guidelines and notices issued by the Kauri Dieback Programme (lead by Ministry of Primary Industry) to prevent and avoid the spread of the pest organism Phytophthora taxon Agathist (PTA) Kauri Dieback Disease as specified by the website http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/. The Authority Holder must comply with general guidelines and for specific activities the relevant guidelines as specified on http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/publications. The Authority Holder must update itself on these websites on a regular basis.

41. The Authority Holder must ensure that all vehicles and equipment are thoroughly cleaned of all visible soil and that footwear once cleaned is sprayed with SteriGENE (formerly know as Trigene) solution before entering and when moving between areas where there is kauri. Contact details for suppliers of SteriGENE may be obtained through the Department of Conservation.

42. The Authority Holder must ensure that footwear and any equipment that touches the soil is cleaned and sprayed with SteriGENE solution every morning before undertaking any work under this Authority and every time a public walking track is crossed. A spray bottle and brush must be carried by every person working under this authority to enable the required cleaning.

Myrtle rust biosecurity

43. The Authority Holder and members of their team shall know the plants that are affected by myrtle rust, and what the rust symptoms look like. This serious fungal disease only affects plants in the Myrtle (*Myrtaceae*) family which includes pohutukawa, manuka, kanuka, and ramarama. See http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/myrtle-rust.

44. The Authority Holder and members of their team shall not park vehicles under myrtle species where vehicles can easily be contaminated while undertaking the Authorised Activity.

45. The Authority Holder shall carry large black plastic bags and ties, 2% SteriGENE spray bottle and Isopropanol wipes while undertaking the Authorised Activity on Public Conservation Land where *Myrtaceae* are part of the flora.

46. If the Authority Holder or any members of their team believe they have seen the symptoms of myrtle rust, they are not to touch the plant.
    - Call the MPI Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline immediately on 0800 80 99 66.
    - If possible, take clear photographs, including the whole plant, the whole infected leaf, and a close-up of the spores/affected area of the plant.
    - Do not touch or try to collect samples as this may increase the spread of the disease.

47. If the Authority Holder or members of their team believe they are in an infected area, all team members must decontaminate with SteriGENE as per below:
    - Spray obviously contaminated clothing/hats and then place items in a large plastic bag;
    - Tie and spray the outside of the bag;
    - Mist spray other clothing being worn;
    - Clean and spray all footwear and equipment, including packs, phones, glasses, watches etc.;
    - Repeat decontamination steps again at 100m from the infected area and before entering a vehicle.

48. The Authority Holder and their team members shall have a hot shower and clean their hair as soon as possible to remove any spores (which may be invisible). Clothing worn while undertaking the Authorised Activity must be washed in a hot wash with detergent.

Caulerpa

49. The Authority Holder shall be aware of Controlled Area Notices in place for the exotic Caulerpa seaweed, and adhere to and follow the advice outlined by Biosecurity New Zealand with regards to these Notices as detailed on their website www.biosecurity.govt.nz/caulerpa including restrictions on fishing methods and anchoring and checking and cleaning anchors.

50. If the Authority Holder encounters suspected exotic Caulerpa, either in the water or washed up on the beach, they shall note its location and report it by phone 0800 80 99 66 or online at https://report.mpi.govt.nz/pest/

Monitoring
As outlined in special conditions

Term
4 years (1 May 2025 – 30 April 2029)

Fees
Fees are waivered for Wildlife Act Applications.

8. Decision Making

Recommendations

It is recommended that you approve this translocation for the following reasons:

- The activities are consistent with conservation legislation, Conservation General Policy & the Auckland Conservation Management Strategy;
- Iwi consultation has been carried out and those who have responded are supportive of the translocation;
- Due to genetic diversity of the source population, it is recommended that the release site is a closed population and no kiwi are translocated from the released site in the future;
- Special conditions have been included in the authorisation to provide for the eventuality of inadequate predator and/or dog control which could impact the success of the translocation.

Decision: Authorisation under the Wildlife Act 1953

1. Approve the granting of a Low Impact Wildlife Act Permit to The Kiwi Trust, Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki subject to the standard authorisation document and the special conditions listed below:

Approve / ~~Decline~~

Special conditions to be included: As above

Signed by Katharine Lane, Operations Manager
Pursuant to the delegation dated 9 September 2015

11 April 2025

Date

Decision Maker comments

Decision Maker to comment on the rationale behind their decision. If there is nothing contentious this can be brief, but if there are differing views between DOC staff and/or DOC and Treaty Partners, or there are multiple options available, or the decision made is different from what is recommended/requested, the rationale for the decision made must be clearly provided.

The Permissions Advisor will share the rationale for the decision with team members.

APPENDIX 1- Maps

Figure 1: Waiheke and Ponui Islands – highlighted in red is Te Matuku Peninsula

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Wildlife Act 1953 Authority For Wildlife Located On Public Conservation Land and Other Land

Authorisation Number: 98052-FAU

THIS AUTHORITY is made this 11th day of April 2025

PARTIES:

The Director-General of Conservation and where required the Minister of Conservation (the Grantor)

AND

The Kiwi Trust (the Authority Holder)

AND

Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust (the Authority Holder)

AND

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki (the Authority Holder)

BACKGROUND

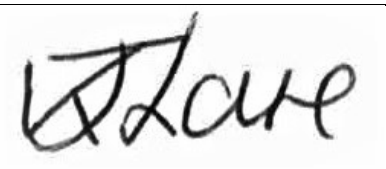
A. The Director-General of Conservation is empowered to issue authorisations under the Wildlife Act 1953.

B. Where the authorisation applies to wildlife located on public conservation land a further authorisation is required, depending upon the legislation applying to the public conservation land, from either the Director-General of Conservation or the Minister of Conservation.

C. The Authority Holder wishes to exercise the authorisation issued under the Wildlife Act 1953 and where applicable the authorisation issued under the relevant legislation applying to the public conservation land subject to the terms and conditions of this Authority.

OPERATIVE PARTS

In exercise of the Grantor's powers the Grantor **AUTHORISES** the Authority Holder under Sections 53 of the Wildlife Act 1953, and clause 38 of the Wildlife Regulations 1955; and **PERMITS** the Authority Holder pursuant to section 38 of the Conservation Act 1987, and **PERMITS** the Authority Holder pursuant to section 50 and 51 of the Reserves Act 1977 subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Authority and its Schedules.



_____

SIGNED on behalf of the Grantor by Katharine Lane as Operations Manager Auckland Inner Islands acting under delegated authority

in the presence of:

_____

Witness Signature

A copy of the Instrument of Delegation may be inspected at the Director-General's office at 18-32 Manners Street, Wellington.

SCHEDULE 1

1.	**Authorised activity** (Schedule 2, clause 2)	Species:	North Island brown kiwi (*Apteryx mantelli*).
		Activity:	Transfer (catch alive, liberate) wildlife from Ponui Island to Waiheke Island release site. Monitor (catch alive, liberate, take samples from) wildlife on Waiheke Island release site.
		Mark:	Apply bands, transmitters and transponders for the purposes of distinguishing and locating individuals.
		Quantity:	Up to 50 kiwi may be transferred from Ponui Island to the release site on Waiheke Island.
		Methodology:	Methods will follow Best Practice as outlined in Schedule 3.
2.	**The Land** (Schedule 2, clause 2)	Source site:	Ponui Island
		Release Site:	Private Land on Waiheke Island as detailed in Schedule 4
3.	**Personnel authorised to undertake the Authorised Activity** (Schedule 2, clause 3)	Registered and trained personnel authorised in writing by the Department or under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler or kiwi handler trainer.	
4.	**Term** (Schedule 2, clause 4)	Commencing on and including 1 May 2025 and ending on and including 30 April 2029.	
5.	**Authority Holder's address for notices** (Schedule 2, clause 10)	B:Hive - Smales Farm 72 Taharoto Road Takapuna	

		Auckland 0622 New Zealand Phone: s9(2)(a) Email: s9(2) @savethekiwi.nz
6.	**Grantor's address for notices**	The Grantor's address for all correspondence is: Permissions Team Department of Conservation Level 19/135 Albert Street Auckland 1010 Email: aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz

SCHEDULE 2

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AUTHORITY

1. Interpretation

1.1 The Authority Holder is responsible for the acts and omissions of its employees, contractors or agents. The Authority Holder is liable under this Authority for any breach of the terms of the Authority by its employees, contractors or agents as if the breach had been committed by the Authority Holder.

1.2 Where obligations bind more than one person, those obligations bind those persons jointly and separately.

2. What is being authorised?

2.1 The Authority Holder is only allowed to carry out the Authorised Activity on the Land described in Schedule 1, Item 2.

2.2 Any arrangements necessary for access over private land or leased land are the responsibility of the Authority Holder. In granting this authorisation the Grantor does not warrant that such access can be obtained.

2.3 The Authority Holder must advise the Department of Conservation's local Operations Manager(s) prior to carrying out the Authorised Activity in the District (where possible, one week prior), when the Authority Holder intends to carry out the Authorised Activity.

2.4 The Authority Holder and Authorised Personnel must carry a copy of this Authority with them at all times while carrying out the Authorised Activity.

2.5 The Authority Holder must comply with any reasonable request from the Grantor for access to any wildlife.

2.6 The Authority Holder may publish authorised research results.

2.7 The Authority Holder must immediately notify the Grantor of any taxa found which are new to science. In addition, the Authority Holder must lodge holotype specimens and a voucher specimen of any new taxa with a recognised national collection.

3. Who is authorised?

3.1 Only the Authority Holder and the Authorised Personnel described in Schedule 1, Item 3 are authorised to carry out the Authorised Activity, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Grantor.

4. How long is the Authority for - the Term?

4.1 This Authority commences and ends on the dates set out in Schedule 1, Item 4.

5. What are the obligations to protect the environment?

5.1 The Authority Holder must not cut down or damage any vegetation; or damage any natural feature or historic resource on any public conservation land being part of the

Land; or light any fire on such public conservation land; or erect any structure such public conservation land without the prior consent of the Grantor.

5.2 The Authority Holder must ensure that it adheres to the international "Leave No Trace" Principles at all times (**www.leavenotrace.org.nz**).

5.3 The Authority Holder must not bury:

(a) any toilet waste within 50 metres of a water source on any public conservation land being part of the Land; or

(b) any animal or fish or any part thereof within 50 metres of any water body, water source or public road or track.

6. What are the liabilities?

6.1 The Authority Holder agrees to exercise the Authority at the Authority Holder's own risk and releases to the full extent permitted by law the Grantor and the Grantor's employees and agents from all claims and demands of any kind and from all liability which may arise in respect of any accident, damage or injury occurring to any person or property arising from the Authority Holder's exercise of the Authorised Activity.

6.2 The Authority Holder must indemnify the Grantor against all claims, actions, losses and expenses of any nature which the Grantor may suffer or incur or for which the Grantor may become liable arising from the Authority Holder's exercise of the Authorised Activity.

6.3 This indemnity is to continue after the expiry or termination of this Authority in respect of any acts or omissions occurring or arising before its expiry or termination.

7. What about compliance with legislation and Grantor's notices and directions?

7.1 The Authority Holder must comply with all statutes, bylaws and regulations, and all notices, directions and requisitions of the Grantor and any competent authority relating to the conduct of the Authorised Activity. Without limitation, this includes the Conservation Act 1987, and the Acts listed in the First Schedule of that Act and all applicable health and safety legislation and regulation.

8. Are there limitations on public access and closure?

8.1 The Authority Holder acknowledges that the public conservation land being part of the Land is open to the public for access and that the Grantor may close public access to that public conservation land during periods of high fire hazard or for reasons of public safety or emergency.

9. When can the Authority be terminated?

9.1 The Grantor may terminate this Authority at any time in respect of the whole or any part of the Land, and/or the whole or any part of the Authorised Activity if:

(a) the Authority Holder breaches any of the conditions of this Authority; or

(b) in the Grantor's opinion, the carrying out of the Authorised Activity causes or is likely to cause any unforeseen or unacceptable effects.

9.2 If the Grantor intends to terminate this Authority in whole or in part, the Grantor must give the Authority Holder such prior notice as, in the sole opinion of the Grantor, appears reasonable and necessary in the circumstances.

10. How are notices sent and when are they received?

10.1 Any notice to be given under this Authority by the Grantor is to be in writing and made by personal delivery, by pre-paid post or email to the Authority Holder at the address, or email address specified in Schedule 1, Item 5. Any such notice is to be deemed to have been received:

(a) in the case of personal delivery, on the date of delivery;

(b) in the case of post, on the 3rd working day after posting;

(c) in the case of email, on the date receipt of the email is acknowledged by the addressee by return email or otherwise in writing.

10.2 If the Authority Holder's details specified in Schedule 1, Item 5 change then the Authority Holder must notify the Grantor within 5 working days of such change.

11. What about the payment of costs?

11.1 The Authority Holder must pay the standard Department of Conservation charge-out rates for any staff time and mileage required to monitor compliance with this Authority and to investigate any alleged breaches of the terms and conditions of it.

12. Biosecurity

12.1 The Authority Holder must take all precautions to ensure weeds and non-target species are not introduced to the Land; this includes ensuring that all tyres, footwear, gaiters, packs and equipment used by the Authority Holder, its staff and clients are cleaned and checked for pests before entering the Land.

13. Are there any Special Conditions?

13.1 Special conditions are specified in Schedule 3. If there is a conflict between this Schedule 2 and the Special Conditions in Schedule 3, the Special Conditions will prevail.

14. Can the Authority be varied?

14.1 The Authority Holder may apply to the Grantor for variations to this Authority.

SCHEDULE 3

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

General conditions

1. All wildlife referred to under this Authority remains the property of the Crown. This includes any dead wildlife, live wildlife, any parts thereof, any eggs or progeny of the wildlife, genetic material and any replicated genetic material.

2. Unless expressly authorised by the Grantor in writing, the Authority Holder must not donate, sell or otherwise transfer to any third party any wildlife, material, including any genetic material, or any material propagated or cloned from such material, collected under this Authority.

3. If required in writing by the Grantor, the Authority Holder must make such improvements to kiwi management techniques, and take such other steps as directed to ensure the welfare of the birds.

4. The Grantor may at any time terminate this Authority or may at any time review and/or vary the conditions pertaining to this Authority if any conditions contained in this Authority are breached or for any other reason that the Grantor may decide.

Translocation

5. The translocation of wildlife must be undertaken in accordance with the approved translocation proposal attached at Schedule 5, except where specified otherwise in this Authority document. The Authority Holder must ensure that all persons operating under this Authority, comply with the conditions of this Authority and the approved translocation proposal. If there is any conflict between the translocation proposal and the conditions of this Authority, the conditions of the Authority shall prevail.

6. The Grantor may require amendments to the translocation design and/or targets in the approved Translocation Proposal before further transfers are approved.

7. The Authority Holder must not transfer kiwi exhibiting any sign of illness or abnormality.

8. The Authority Holder may transfer up to 10 kiwi in Year 1. All 10 birds must be fully monitored for a minimum of 48 months.

9. The Authority Holder may transfer up to 20 kiwi in Year 2. Of the birds released in Year 2, at least 20 birds in total from Year 1 and Year 2 transfers must be fully monitored for a minimum of 36 months.

10. The Authority Holder may transfer up to 20 kiwi in Year 3. The total number of kiwi transferred at the end of Year 3 is not to exceed 50 kiwi.

11. The Authority Holder must not handle or relocate any kiwi during the non-handling period between the 1 June and 31 January should they wander outside of the release site.

12. The Authority Holder is to cease all future releases and inform the Grantor immediately if more than 30 per cent of kiwi die due to predation, human interference or human-related causes.

13. All transmitter locations are to be GPS logged. Data is to be recorded in a spreadsheet and all data must be electronically forwarded to the Grantor citing Authority number 98052-FAU if the Grantor so requests.

14. The Authority Holder must ensure that capture, handling, banding, transmitter attachment, transponder insertion, taking samples, holding, transfer and release follows the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual as provided online at: (https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf)

15. The Authority Holder must ensure that all kiwi are handled by persons who have been accredited in writing as kiwi handlers by the Department of Conservation, or are under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler trainer as per the Department of Conservation Kiwi Best Practice Manual provided online at: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf

16. The Authority Holder must provide the Grantor with evidence of the competency and qualifications of its employees/staff/volunteers/assistants if the Grantor so requests.

17. No manipulation or handling of the protected wildlife other than for husbandry and/or health or transmitter checks and/or welfare purposes is authorised without prior approval from the Department.

18. If required by the Grantor, the Authority Holder must make such improvements to kiwi management techniques (catching, handling and releasing), and take such other steps as directed to ensure the welfare of the birds, including improvement of predator control.

19. The Authority Holder must follow the Dog Management Plan submitted as part of the proposal.

Death of kiwi

20. If any kiwi die, the Authority Holders must inform the Department within 48 hours of the death or discovery of the specimen and send to where the Department directs, with full details of origin, date of death and circumstance of death where known. If required by the Grantor, cease the Authorised Activity for a period determined by the Grantor.

Trap data

21. The Authority Holder must record trap data as obtained throughout the release site on Waiheke Island and its surrounds. Trap catch data must be electronically forwarded to the Grantor citing Authority number 98052-FAU if the Grantor so requests, with stoat and ferret trapping results being of particular interest and importance.

Reporting

22. The Authority Holder must provide a report to the Grantor no later than 30 June of each year that includes:
    - Authority number 98052-FAU;
    - Research/Monitoring findings;
    - Any injuries or deaths resulting from implementation of the Authorised Activity;
    - Details of any transmitters not able to be recovered
    - Any implications for conservation management; and
    - The location of the storage facility of any feathers collected and details of the genetic register

23. Within 3 months of completion of each individual transfer the Authority Holder must provide a transfer report to the Grantor (forwarded electronically to aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz and Senior Ranger, Biodiversity, Auckland Inner Islands citing Authority number 98052-FAU) containing information to the satisfaction of the Grantor in respect of the translocation of any kiwi authorised by this Authority. An assessment of whether any further releases will go ahead will be made by the Grantor annually, on a case-by-case basis, after consideration of each transfer report.

24. All reports must follow the Grantor's reporting instructions for translocations or as agreed with the Grantor.

25. Upon expiry or termination of this Authority, the Authority Holder must forward a full, final report of this activity to the Grantor by within one month (forwarded electronically to aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz and Senior Ranger, Biodiversity, Auckland Inner Islands) citing:
    - Authority number 98052-FAU;
    - Research/Monitoring findings;
    - Any injuries or deaths resulting from implementation of the Authorised Activity;
    - Details of any transmitters not able to be recovered
    - Any implications for conservation management; and
    - The location of the storage facility of any feathers collected and details of the genetic register

26. The Authority Holder acknowledges that the Grantor may provide copies of these reports to tangata whenua and the general public if requested.

Cultural conditions

27. If any of the 'gifting' (source site) whānau/hāpu/iwi and/or 'receiving' (release site) whānau/hāpu/iwi have communicated that their whānau/hāpu/iwi be represented, and/or that specific tikanga and protocols observances be carried out during any of the stages of the translocations, then every effort must be made for this to happen in consultation with the affected whānau/hāpu/iwi.

Marking kiwi

28. Transmitters may be attached to up to 20 kiwi. The combined transmitter AND attachment must weigh:
    - <2.5% of the body weight of kiwi < 300 g;
    - <2% for kiwi weighing 300 - 650 g;
    - <13 g for kiwi weighing 650 - 1500 g; or
    - <26 g for kiwi weighing > 1500g.

29. During the Authorised Activity, any kiwi found to be injured or otherwise adversely affected by a transmitter must obtain veterinary care immediately where needed. A full report of the details of injury must be provided to the Grantor within 48 hours.

30. Every reasonable effort must be made to capture all individuals and remove transmitters at the conclusion of the Authorised Activity. Details of any transmitters not able to be removed must be reported to the Grantor within 2 weeks of the conclusion of the Authority.

31. Radio transmitter frequencies 160.6 MHz to 161.11 MHz (channels 48-99) must not be operated unless the Authority Holder is in possession of a separate sub-licence issued by DOC.

32. The Authority Holder must ensure that all handlers who attach transmitters or transponders have been approved as accredited for these activities by the Kiwi Recovery Group, or are under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler trainer as set out in the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf

Euthanasia

33. The Authority Holder must not euthanize any protected species unless the Authority Holder:
    - obtains the recommendation of a veterinarian where euthanasia is on animal welfare grour and the consent of the Grantor, or
    - carries out the euthanasia under direction from the Grantor

34. Any euthanasia shall be carried out in accordance with the New Zealand Veterinary Association guidelines enclosed with this authority.

Blood, tissue, feather and cloacal samples

35. This Authority permits and requires the taking of pin-feathers from individual kiwi to form a genetic register of the founder population. The location of the storage facility and details of the genetic register will be reported to the Grantor annually.

36. Blood, feather and/or tissue collection must be undertaken according to the methodologies set out in the Department's Kiwi Best Practice Manual provided online at: https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sap262entire.pdf

37. The Authority Holder must ensure that all handlers who take samples from kiwi have been approved in writing as accredited for these activities by the Department of Conservation, or are under the direct supervision of an accredited kiwi handler trainer.

38. Any material not destroyed by analysis must be destroyed on completion of the research. Where there is surplus blood, feathers or tissue (and/or surplus extracted DNA) after the Authorised Activity is complete, this surplus material may be held. However, any new use for a purpose not covered by the Authority will require a new application, including transfer of material to another person, institute or researcher.

39. This Authority gives the Authority Holder the right to hold absolutely protected wildlife in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Authority. This includes any dead wildlife, live wildlife, any parts thereof, and any eggs or progeny of the wildlife.

Kauri dieback disease

40. The Authority Holder must comply with all guidelines and notices issued by the Kauri Dieback Programme (lead by Ministry of Primary Industry) to prevent and avoid the spread of the pest organism Phytophthora taxon Agathist (PTA) Kauri Dieback Disease as specified by the website http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/. The Authority Holder must comply with general guidelines and for specific activities the relevant guidelines as specified on http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/publications. The Authority Holder must update itself on these websites on a regular basis.

41. The Authority Holder must ensure that all vehicles and equipment are thoroughly cleaned of all visible soil and that footwear once cleaned is sprayed with SteriGENE (formerly know as Trigene) solution before entering and when moving between areas where there is kauri. Contact details for suppliers of SteriGENE may be obtained through the Department of Conservation.

42. The Authority Holder must ensure that footwear and any equipment that touches the soil is cleaned and sprayed with SteriGENE solution every morning before undertaking any work under this Authority and every time a public walking track is crossed. A spray bottle and brush must be carried by every person working under this authority to enable the required cleaning.

Myrtle rust biosecurity

43. The Authority Holder and members of their team shall know the plants that are affected by myrtle rust, and what the rust symptoms look like. This serious fungal disease only affects plants in the Myrtle (*Myrtaceae*) family which includes pohutukawa, manuka, kanuka, and ramarama. See http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/myrtle-rust.

44. The Authority Holder and members of their team shall not park vehicles under myrtle species where vehicles can easily be contaminated while undertaking the Authorised Activity.

45. The Authority Holder shall carry large black plastic bags and ties, 2% SteriGENE spray bottle and Isopropanol wipes while undertaking the Authorised Activity on Public Conservation Land where *Myrtaceae* are part of the flora.

46. If the Authority Holder or any members of their team believe they have seen the symptoms of myrtle rust, they are not to touch the plant.
    - Call the MPI Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline immediately on 0800 80 99 66.
    - If possible, take clear photographs, including the whole plant, the whole infected leaf, and a close-up of the spores/affected area of the plant.
    - Do not touch or try to collect samples as this may increase the spread of the disease.

47. If the Authority Holder or members of their team believe they are in an infected area, all team members must decontaminate with SteriGENE as per below:
    - Spray obviously contaminated clothing/hats and then place items in a large plastic bag;
    - Tie and spray the outside of the bag;
    - Mist spray other clothing being worn;
    - Clean and spray all footwear and equipment, including packs, phones, glasses, watches etc.;
    - Repeat decontamination steps again at 100m from the infected area and before entering a vehicle.

48. The Authority Holder and their team members shall have a hot shower and clean their hair as soon as possible to remove any spores (which may be invisible). Clothing worn while undertaking the Authorised Activity must be washed in a hot wash with detergent.

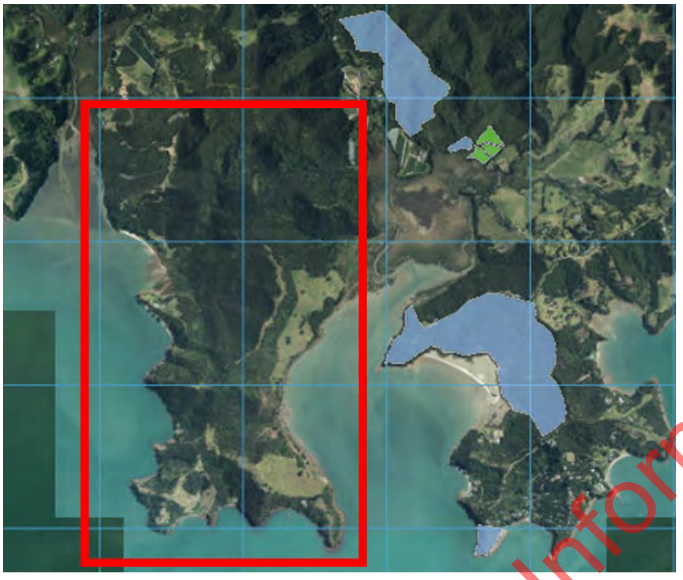
Caulerpa

49. The Authority Holder shall be aware of Controlled Area Notices in place for the exotic Caulerpa seaweed, and adhere to and follow the advice outlined by Biosecurity New Zealand with regards to these Notices as detailed on their website www.biosecurity.govt.nz/caulerpa including restrictions on fishing methods and anchoring and checking and cleaning anchors.

50. If the Authority Holder encounters suspected exotic Caulerpa, either in the water or washed up on the beach, they shall note its location and report it by phone 0800 80 99 66 or online at https://report.mpi.govt.nz/pest/

SCHEDULE 4

RELEASE SITE



SCHEDULE 5

PROPOSAL

Item 1d

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

DOC-10233251

11 April 2025

The Kiwi Trust trading as Save the Kiwi
Emailed: s9(2)(a)@savethekiwi.nz

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Re: WILDLIFE ACT AUTHORITY APPLICATION 98052-FAU APPROVAL

I am pleased to advise you that your Wildlife Act Application for authorisation to translocate North Island brown kiwi onto private land on the Te Matuku peninsula on Waiheke Island, in the Hauraki Gulf, under the Wildlife Act 1953 has been approved.

The authority document contains all the terms and conditions of your authorisation to undertake the activity and represents the formal approval from the Department for The Kiwi Trust to carry out the activity. Please read the terms carefully so that you understand your obligations.

The use of Ponui kiwi to establish a population of kiwi on Waiheke Island will be a closed population and are not to be used to contribute to recovery programmes on the mainland or any other island in the future.

All 10 birds released in year one are to be monitored, plus 10 more in year two, with at least 20 birds monitored at all times until the end of Year 4. If more than 30% of the birds die due to predation, human interference or human-related causes, then all releases are to cease immediately and a review undertaken. This 30% death rate does not include misadventure.

All handling is to align with best practice guidelines, and no handling is to take place between 1 June to 30 January.

The Authority has been granted for four years (1 May 2025 – 30 April 2029), and the Department has waived all fees for processing the application.

We wish you every success with this kiwi translocation. Please get in touch at any time if you have any questions regarding the translocation.

Naku noa, nā

Katharine Lane
Operations Manager, Auckland Inner Islands
kalane@doc.govt.nz

Maungauika/North Head Office
PO Box 32026
Devonport
North Shore 0744

Extracts from Context meeting notes 7 February 2024

Context:

- CIs from previous application: dog control across island; monitoring requirements will be important. Consultation with wider dog owner community. Other risks like cattle stops, swimming pools, cattle troughs.

Critical issues:

- Site suitability: main issue is dog control. Do we need to do invert surveys? RC thinks prob now, they're doing well on similar nearby islands (for food).
- Dogs: there's always going to be a clash. What mechanisms/controls available? E.g. can there be bylaw to not allow dogs off lead on island.
- HT understand views of AC as affected party (on dogs, on Ponui stock) *Kat to talk to AC*
- HT to ensure that robust community consultation has been undertaken including neighbouring landowners (e.g. re access) *Alisha to ask for info*
- HT ensure they've made provision for additional island signage *Alisha to askapplicant*

**HT = how to*

<u>Hui with Applicants – 3 April 2024</u>

DOC Office Albert Street

Attendees:

<u>In person</u>: Kat Lane, Operations Manager (DOC); Laura Chartres, Community Supervisor (DOC); Leona White, Kaiarahi Matua (DOC); s9(2)(a) (STK); s9(2)(a) (new landowners, Te Matuku); s9(2)(a) (landowner, Te Matuku/Trustee STK); Aaron Neary, Team Leader for Proactive Animal (AC); Jane Andrews, Biodiversity (AC)

<u>Online</u>: Jonathan Miles, Islands Team Manager (AC), Clarke Trethowen, Team Lead Animal Management West (AC); s9(2)(a), Deputy Chair Ngai Tai ki Tamaki; Exodus Letele, Senior Animal Management West (AC)

Kat opened the hui. Purpose is to refine the Stage 2 application received by DOC, identifying gaps and critical issues, specifically around:

- dog management
- landowner status/support
- monitoring

s9(2) started by providing some background on the proposal to bring everyone up to speed including how the project settled on using Ponui kiwi as source population. Offered as a kind of 'solution' to Ponui reaching its carrying capacity with no mainland transfer site suitable due to the hybrid status of the kiwi.

Dog management:

- STK see that dogs and kiwi can co-exist with proper education. They estimate a total carrying capacity of 450 pairs island-wide. Te Matuku, about 50 kiwi. Propose starting with 10-20 kiwi, all monitored, >1000g weight reducing immediate dispersal risk.
- Focus on community awareness. Have been attending community events so far, but have been keeping it fairly low key until after DOC decision is made so as to not raise expectations prematurely. Plan for higher level engagement post-approval, pre-first release. Messages are about driving responsible dog ownership in general.
- s9(2) is currently drafting a dog management plan and is keen to get input from the AC dog team. E.g. signage, social media/community comms, seeking to train someone locally to deliver dog aversion training, facilitating a responsible dog ownership workshop.

Landowner status / support:

- The initial release is intended for Lot 1 on Te Matuku Peninsula: 140ha of regenerating/remnant forest. Fenced.
- s9(2) has letters of support from neighbouring landowners.
- s9(2) and s9(2)(a) have taken responsibility for rat-baiting on the whole pensinsula over the years, including on neighbouring landowners' properties, with AC support.
- From now on s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) and s9(2) plan to keep on top of the trapping on the peninsula.
- Te Korowai o Waiheke is also doing stoat trapping on the peninsula.
- Pest weeds: three-year work plan tackling moth plant and asparagus, particularly on Lot 1.
- AC Clarke's team undertakes active management on the island of animals e.g. dog control and staff are aware of registered dog owners on the peninsula; can offer aversion training to those including working dogs if this would be helpful.

Community/Stakeholder Engagement:

- s9(2) mentioned that s9(2)(a) has already been visiting primary schools with 'kiwi ambassadors' messaging.
- Local Board engagement: s9(2)(a) been chatting with members of local board, but not approached formally. Kat would like them engaged sooner rather than later. Certain questions (e.g. potential consequences following kiwi deaths / dogs may be put down) need to be socialised early with the board and the community.
- Dog ownership advocacy: makes sense to coordinate with existing AC work in this space. Clarke suggests he could work with the project team to do some mapping of dog registration vs the peninsula, flag any 'problem' areas to help with targetting known problem owners who may be proximal to the release site. Clarke's team also has comms mechanism with registered dog owners (mailing lists) that can be used.
- Transport services: s9(2) is confident that Fullers / Island Direct / Sealink will get on board with supporting messaging.
- Board engagement: Aaron noted that bylaw and dog management policy is currently being reviewed. Submission process has just closed but Jane can liaise to provide appropriate contacts for the project team to get in touch and make recommendations.

s9(2) suggests sending the draft DMP to Clarke for review and ID'ing where AC can input.

Kat: how do you feel Clarke about inevitable increased pull on your team potentially? From increased public awareness/reporting? Clarke: not concerned at present. Don't actually get that many reports on birds.

Kat: how comfortable s9(2)(a) is about potentially being on the end of unhappy public following dog incidents? s9(2)(a) no issue.

Post-incident: where are kiwi to go (Ngati Paoa and NTKT to discuss).

s9(2)(a) – s9(2) not yet talked to her but she's on the stakeholder list. s9(2)(a) may have concerns. s9(2) and s9(2) are both s9(2)(a) s9(2) also has some other youths keen to become kiwi handlers; s9(2)(a) to get re-certified. Got really good people interested in getting trained. STK will provide training, also to iwi.

Jonathan – got bird aversion trainer on Aotea (s9(2)(a)). Looking to get him visiting Waiheke. Jonathan would also like to see the draft dog management plan.

Kat: Recommendation for some degree of consultation on DMP with board, AC and wider community. Would want to see info on public hui, info put in public comms channels.

Discussion on balance between community communications vs raising expectations/ starting the conversation prematurely.

s9(2)(a) had considered a kiwi-in fence on the peninsula, but it seemed unsustainable as there will be eventual dispersal. s9(2) is also working on fundraising with HNWI.

Jonathan is of the opinion that that release site is ecologically suitable.

s9(2)(a) would like to be invited to next meeting.

Extended monitoring would not be an issue (acc to s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)

Kat suggests a follow up check in meeting once the DMP is put together, scoping post-release actions e.g. monitoring.

s9(2) – background in animal interaction education with pet owners. Open invitation to site visit proposed release sites.

DOC to share the translocation application from s9(2)(a) application to s9(2)(a) as an example of the supporting information we would like to see. Would also like an updated map from s9(2)(a)

Check in meeting with Applicant – 31 October 2024

Attendees: s9(2) (landowner); s9(2)(a) Kat; Rogan; Emily; s9(2) (STK); Laura

Summary of where applicants are at:

- Have been meeting with variety groups (local board, community group meetings, pet advocacy group (vets, bird rescue etc). Generally very positive response, excited, awareness of legal ramifications of dog attacks. Spoken to hundreds of people. Open meetings with basically every township.
- Neighbours: still supportive/enthusiastic; asking about/pursuing KAT.
- Engaging with s9(2)(a) specifically; talking about how to manage incidents. Intially would go to Zoo rather than s9(2)(a)
- Lots of public/media interest to STK.
- KAT arranged 3/01 for peninsula owners, then expanding to the rest of the community.
- Seeking/planning further community outreach education/sessions re impacts of dogs.
- Dog Mgmt Plan:

- Auckland Council have a proactive dog mgmt on the island. Numbers of dogs on island: 1600-2000. Per capita relatively high for AKL. Seasonal increases. Spoken with Tourism Waiheke around public messaging/ signage. Rogan: note that most deaths will be from dogs being uncontained/outside overnight. Deaths will mainly occur on properties. A lot of the urban properties don't have fences anyway, so roaming dogs are already something AC control for.
- Dispersal: Rogan wouldn't be surprised to see more or less immediate dispersal (5km) from the peninsula. What is the outcome monitoring? STK: Tracking a subset; plan to initially try to bring them back if detected. Staged approach to releases vs training/responsible dog ownership - rolling out.
- Emily: awesome to see the messaging, community engagement, attitude awareness.
- AC are continuing reviewing their dog access rules around the island re: other species. STK are advocating with them around development of kiwi exclusion zones / dog-'safe' areas.
- Public comms: additional to signage, considering other campaigns e.g. pamphlets for holidaymakers. Bach owners. s9(2)(a) working with Tourism Waiheke on things like this e.g. island welcome packs. Reaching out to ferry companies, part. ones taking vehicles. Waiheke Responsible Pet Owners group is preparing a brochure/social media. Using community FB groups.
- Rogan - no matter how good the dog control, kiwi will stil walk through backyards and there will be collateral damage. It is likely to see population skyrocket, and then come down after interaction with dogs. s9(2)(a) being open with people about that.

Check in meeting – 26 February 2025

Attendees: Kat, Laura, Rogan, Emily, Alisha, Sarndra

- STK have confirmed Ponui landowner support for use as source site, rather than Coromandel Brown Kiwi (CBK). I.e. reverting to 'Plan A' for the source site.

- Context from Kat:
    - She's confident in the STK/Local Board Dog Management Plan, which includes a plan for injured kiwi (local rehab and uplifting to Zoo where needed); network of registered kiwi handlers; kiwi avoidance training in progress.
    - Waiheke Local Board are supportive; NTKT/NPIT are still keen.

Extracts

Waiheke [kiwi] Conversation updates [STK and DOC] – Email between DOC and STK

From: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 20 February 2025 11:21 am
To: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>; Leigh Joyce <ljoyce@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Waiheke Conversation updates

Kia ora Kat and Leigh,

Thank you again for your time the other day to discuss some of the things you picked up during your Waiheke visit. I have reached out to various parties and have a bit more detail for you about the topics you raised during our meeting:

6. Local Board chair s9(2)(a)) - queried who has the accountability for kiwi on the island once released - she expressed concern that birds would be taken to the island and left to fend for themselves. s9(2)(a) also wanted to know who is driving the dog advocacy etc.

s9(2)(a) advised during the meeting that we would be monitoring and training people on the island. If injured, move to Auckland Zoo until s9(2)(a) (Bird Rescue) is trained to handle kiwi. We discussed finding options to support s9(2)(a) training since she is swamped during the kiwi handling season. Re the dog advocacy, s9(2) expressed that we are in collaboration with the Council and the local pet advocacy group so DOC can remind her that we are not bringing new rules, the rules are already in place and should therefore be monitored by the council. In our meeting with the Local Board last year I had encouraged that more signs around the island would be useful to avoid confusion for dog owners around what the current rules and requirements are (e.g. this is a no dog zone, vs where to take dogs).

We have checked in with s9(2)(a) as well following our conversation and it appears that there may have been a bit of misunderstanding around what she discussed with you: "my concerns - are exclusively about comms and the need to nail the message re dogs wandering on Waiheke". "There's such a weird disconnect in the messaging - I've repeated the same concerns about public education in every space and opportunity". So from what I understand her concerns are not linked to the kiwi translocations and possible issues they may cause, but rather how they can progress the dog management on the island.

Ngā mihi mahana,

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Pou Matarau | Operations Manager

SAVE THE KIWI

s9(2)(a) s9(@savethekiwi.nz www.savethekiwi.nz

B:HIVE Building Smales Farm,
72 Taharoto Road, Takapuna
Auckland 0622

Private Bag 93504 Takapuna
Auckland 0740

Extracts Kiwi translocation to Waiheke – Emails between DOC and STK 21 Feb 2025

From: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 08:47
To: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @ponui.co.nz>; s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) ; s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) ; s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) >; s9(2)(a) @mercury.co.nz
s9(2)(a) @mercury.co.nz>; s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
Cc: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) ; s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) @massey.ac.nz>; s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @vuw.ac.nz>
Subject: Re: Kiwi Translocation to Waiheke

Kia ora koutou,

Some key points we agreed on:

4. Dog and visitor management – We'll work with ferry companies, Airbnbs, Tourism Waiheke and others to ensure visitors are aware of kiwi presence and the necessary precautions. Auckland Council's dog management team has also committed to increasing their presence during busy periods. The Pet Advocacy team on Waiheke (with representatives from across the island's pet community) are actively engaging with the community via brochures etc.

s9(2)(a)
Pou Matarau | Operations Manager
SAVE THE KIWI
s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)@savethekiwi.nz www.savethekiwi.nz
B:HIVE Building Smales Farm,
72 Taharoto Road, Takapuna
Auckland 0622
Private Bag 93504 Takapuna
Auckland 0740

Extract from *[Waiheke kiwi} comms plan* - Email between DOC and STK *31 March 2025*

From: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz>
Sent: Monday, 31 March 2025 8:28 am
To: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Comms plan

Thanks Kat - as part of our dog management plan - we are now also working on drafting the:

- how to respond when dogs are roaming
- how to respond when a kiwi is injured/ killed

Will draft these and get them to you for feedback,
s9(2)

s9(2)(a)
Pou Matarau | Operations Manager
SAVE THE KIWI
s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz www.savethekiwi.nz

B:HIVE Building Smales Farm,
72 Taharoto Road, Takapuna
Auckland 0622

Private Bag 93504 Takapuna
Auckland 0740

From: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 08:26
To: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz>
Subject: RE: Comms plan

No worries thanks s9(2)(a) Alex was particularly keen we have a plan around how we respond jointly when/ if incidents occur around kiwi deaths. One to perhaps discuss once the permit is issued.

Kat

Extract – Waiheke Kiwi Translocation – Email between DOC and STK

From: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz>
Sent: Monday, 31 March 2025 12:04 pm
To: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>; Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>; Emily King <eking@doc.govt.nz>; Sarndra Theobald <satheobald@doc.govt.nz>; Alisha Nair <anair@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Waiheke Kiwi Translocation

Kia ora Kat, and thank you for giving us to opportunity to provide feedback etc to the plan.

Please see my comments in red below.

I just wanted to thank you all for hanging in there - as we navigate a very tricky space around expectations and involvement. I am very glad to see this close to completion so I can go back to a life with some normality again.

Ngā mihi mahana,

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Pou Matarau | Operations Manager

SAVE THE KIWI

s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz www.savethekiwi.nz

B:HIVE Building Smales Farm,
72 Taharoto Road, Takapuna
Auckland 0622

Private Bag 93504 Takapuna
Auckland 0740

From: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Saturday, March 29, 2025 12:22
To: Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>; Emily King <eking@doc.govt.nz>; s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @savethekiwi.nz>; Sarndra Theobald <satheobald@doc.govt.nz>; Alisha Nair <anair@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Waiheke Kiwi Translocation

Kia ora koutou,

As we get closer to finalising a decision for the Waiheke kiwi translocation, we're understandably seeing an increase in interest from others. Therefore, I'd like to clarify the proposed plan and conditions which I will then share with the parties below if we are all in agreement:

- **If 30% of the kiwi die** post release we will pause further translocations, review the situation with all affected parties and consider moving kiwi off of Waiheke if there is significant threat to their survival.

The tricky part of us only moving 10 birds this season is that it doesn't take much to hit that number (e.g. we can only lose 3 birds out of 10). Can we note somewhere that a concerning cause (e.g. dog kills) should be linked to the cause of death? i.e. if we lose birds due to misadventure (e.g. falls down a hole/ off a cliff) or through disease that should not qualify the translocation as a fail and therefore stop the remainder of translocations/ or initiate the return of the rest? Also, if the requirement is that the birds are to be returned to Ponui, we need to ensure there is room for that in the permit please (so we don't need to apply to return them) and assuming that this is then supported outside of the handling season as well?

Kat

Katharine Lane
Operations Manager / Pou Matarautaki
Auckland Inner Islands
Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai
Mob: s9(2)(a)
Auckland Office - Tāmaki Makaurau
Email: kalane@doc.govt.nz

Item 7

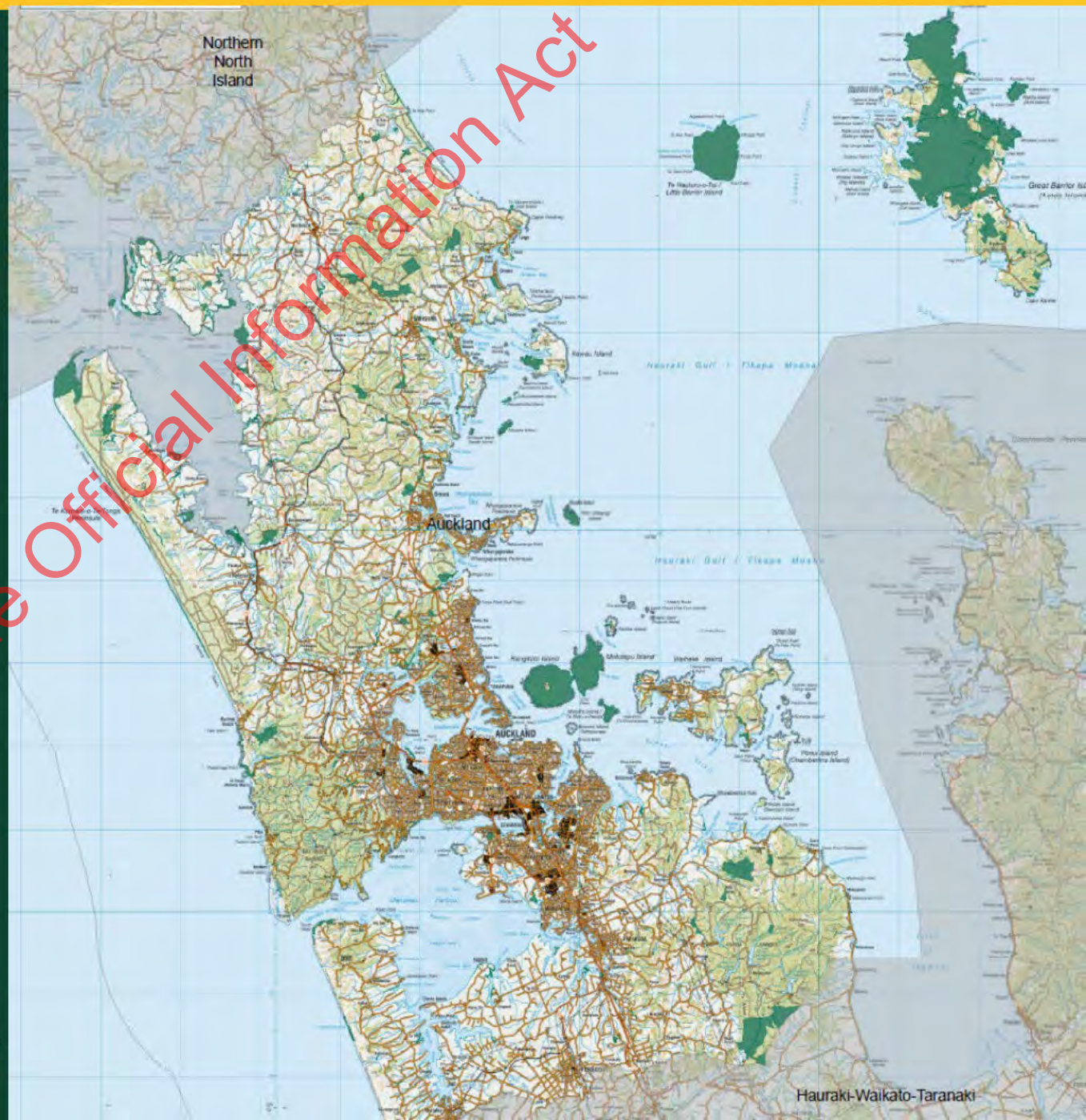
DOC Tāmaki Makaurau
Waiheke Local Board Update January 2025

Kirsty Prior, Operations Manager
Auckland Marine District

Kat Lane, Operations Manager
Auckland Inner Islands District

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government



Kiwi on Waiheke

Save the Kiwi, Ngāti Paoa and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki.

Te Matuku Peninsula release site.

Critical issues are dogs, traffic, sub divisions and support for kiwi care and compliance on island.

Wildlife Act protects kiwi and provides the ability for DOC to prosecute dog owners.

Save the Kiwi delivering Kiwi Avoidance Training.

Source site needs to be determined.

Source: Save the Kiwi

From: Hugh Robertson <hrobertson@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 2 August 2021 10:47 a.m.
To: Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>; Jessica Scrimgeour <jscrimgeour@doc.govt.nz>; L\Kiwi Recovery Group <L_KiwiRecoveryGroup@doc.govt.nz>; s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) @forestandbird.org.nz>
Subject: [External Email]RE: Waiheke Island

Hi All,

I agree with Rogan that kiwi are not going to remain in the release area, though a Mataia -style windcloth fence might help keep them there, at least during the establishment phase. Assuming that stoat eradication works, or at least keeps the density on the island extremely low, the main threats will be dogs and cats. Because Brown Kiwi are highly productive they can withstand a moderate level of chick mortality to maintain the population, but will remain highly vulnerable to dog predation – this will be the critical factor facing the release into a highly-populated island, though adult mortality from cars, cattle troughs, cattle stops and swimming pools will add extra mortality pressure that could tip the balance. I would like to see significant thinking about how dogs can be controlled across the whole island (e.g., dogs on lead only outside securely (kiwi and dog-proof) fenced properties) and public buy-in before a release takes place. I also think that an audit of threats is required, extending outwards from TMP, and measures put in place to reduce risks (e.g. cattle troughs should have rocks placed at each end to allow kiwi to clamber out, cattle stops should have escape routes if kiwi fall in, swimming pools should be kiwi-fenced, ie fences might need to be extended downward, signage regarding likely presence of kiwi on roads at night). It will also be interesting to see if kiwi can establish a population in the presence of a high density Weka population – I am aware that Weka and Brown Kiwi (even Little Spotted Kiwi) can happily co-exist with Weka, but the presence of a high density Weka population may make it difficult for Brown Kiwi to establish at a site - co-existence and establishment are two quite different things – this could be an interesting research question.

I think that the risk of failure is high, especially if many of the birds move away from the TMP, and because this will be a high profile translocation, failure may affect the public support for future kiwi translocations to the island and to other sites too. Because of the high risk, I do not think that Waiheke is a suitable site for Coromandel Brown Kiwi, our rarest taxon (conservation management unit) of Brown Kiwi, but could be a useful place to transfer some brown kiwi from Ponui if that island's population is at or near carrying capacity. Despite claims to the contrary, I do not think that Ponui birds have high genetic value, and so failure on Waiheke would not have the same impact compared with if Coromandel birds were used, and it could provide some neat research opportunities to measure responses by the remaining source population of Brown Kiwi to the removal of birds.

Cheers,

Hugh

From: Rogan Colbourne <rcolbourne@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 6 July 2021 10:04 am
To: Jessica Scrimgeour <jscrimgeour@doc.govt.nz>; L\Kiwi Recovery Group <L_KiwiRecoveryGroup@doc.govt.nz>; s9(2)(a) forestandbird.org.nz>
Subject: Waiheke Island

Things to consider:

- PROS Yes I think a self-supporting population of 300-400 kiwi could be established on Waiheke Island.
- Yes the peninsula they are going to looks safe and good habitat. A bonus getting rid of stoats.

However, the kiwi are not going to stay just in the area released. They and in particular their off-spring are capable of dispersing into the heart of Waiheke suburbia. Waiheke has a human population of 10000 and more in the tourist season. It is likely Waiheke has a population of over 1000-2000 dogs. Many of these houses when viewed on a satellite map are nestled in the bush so kiwi will be crossing through all these properties.
So it is not just a case of asking 2 or 3 landowners to mind their dogs but to consult with the whole population on Waiheke whether they want kiwi and are prepared to keep dogs fenced in (kiwi proof fences?) or undergo kiwi aversion training on a regular basis.

s9(2)(g)(i) [redacted]

[redacted] Waiheke Island could then be cropped, to reduce the density particularly in the western half of the island where most people live. Those birds could be used to repopulate the Coromandel peninsula. Not sure of the continuing role of Motutapu Island given stoats are proving difficult to get rid of.

From: Jessica Scrimgeour <jscrimgeour@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 2 July 2021 4:15 pm
To: L\Kiwi Recovery Group <L_KiwiRecoveryGroup@doc.govt.nz>; s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) forestandbird.org.nz>
Subject: FW: Te Matuku Predator Control

Hi everyone

Next translocation concept proposal – this time discussing Waiheke Island.

Proposed release site is 500ha peninsula (see attached map). Protected by baitstations

(brodifacoum) from June through to December. There is an island wide stoat eradication programme underway. Genetic analysis of the few stoats now being caught indicate they are all very closely related, indicating no incursions since the programme began. Only a couple of dogs on the peninsula owned by the landowners, and really tightly controlled.

Surrounding the peninsula are two or three influential landowners who are likely to influence the social pressure around dogs on the wider peninsula.

Although Ponui was initially the source site in question, they are happy to consider any appropriate source.

We've been asked by the decision maker (Kat) to provide our feedback on the concept and what would need to be considered in an application.

Have a read and I'll grab your thoughts on Wednesday

Cheers

Jess Scrimgeour
Technical Advisor Ecology - *Mātanga Mātai Hauropi*
Department of Conservation - *Te Papa Atawhai*
3 Town Centre, Turangi, 3334
Private Bag 2
DDI s9(2)(a)

Conservation for prosperity *Tiakina te taiao, kia puawai*
www.doc.govt.nz

From: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 28 June 2021 10:13 am
To: Jessica Scrimgeour <jscrimgeour@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Te Matuku Predator Control

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 4 June 2021 12:03 pm
To: Katharine Lane <kalane@doc.govt.nz>; Mark Fitzpatrick <mfitzpatrick@doc.govt.nz>; Lou Sanson <lsanson@doc.govt.nz>
Subject: Fwd: Te Matuku Predator Control

Dear Kat
A more complete version of earlier report and a map of the area .. really hope we can get this rolling !!

s9(2)(a)

August 2021

Waiheke

Quickly revisited the preferred source site for Waiheke Island – Ponui vs Coromandel. If POnui is considered, genetic issues might occur and we're recreating the same issue of not being able to put birds back to mainland, and eventually if all goes well, the island will fill up and overcrowding will happen. While if from Coromandel, could crop birds from urban areas for the mainland and support the wider recovery of kiwi.

Confirmed we don't require invert sampling because the island is very close to Ponui and therefore will be the same geologically and habitat wise.

Consistent approach to kiwi releases and dogs

The discussion around risk from dogs for kiwi in Waiheke triggered a question about how we can be consistent about future advice around kiwi releases where dogs are not immediately present but are close by. Agreed that if dogs are within 5km of the release site, we would require a dog management plan that covers three parts:

1. How to protect kiwi at the release site from dogs e.g. no dogs allowed, local dogs kept indoors or secured etc.
2. Protect wandering kiwi from dogs outside of the release site e.g. strong social process with the wider community and evidence of support for keeping dogs controlled, kiwi avoidance training
3. Response plan if a kiwi is found killed and how this will be managed

Confirmed that we don't want to introduce dispersal fences as a standard advice for keeping kiwi at a release site.

Action: Add to translocation guidelines

July 2021

The KRG have a number of translocations requests to consider, so they were pooled together for this meeting.

Waiheke

s9(2)(a) [redacted] Made a note that s9(2) [redacted] has not raised this as part of K4k, and they have been clear about keeping it separate.

Key points – habitat seems ok because it's covered in young forest, and evidence of kiwi doing well on nearby Ponui and Rotoroa Islands. Therefore invert sampling not required. Dispersal will start very quickly, and dogs in nearby suburbia will be the biggest issue. Will need strong social process with wider community, and decision maker would need to be convinced that there is strong community support and action to protect kiwi from dogs. Waiheke predator-free is exciting, so likely that other species will come too. So it'll be more than just kiwi that dogs might have an impact on. Genetic diversity is important because there isn't any immigration. Higher diversity than normal to start for founder population. It would be better to have Coromandel brown kiwi rather than Ponui so that birds could be taken back to mainland if it approaches carrying capacity. Otherwise recreating another Ponui issue.

Outcome of discussion summarised in the advice note:
https://doccm.doc.govt.nz/wcc/faces/wccdoc?dDocName=DOC-6737709

Save the Kiwi

Waiheke - Community Dog Management Plan

April 2025

s9(2)(a) – Operations Manager Save the Kiwi
s9(2)(a) – Dog Specialist Save the Kiwi

Table of contents

Background

Research on Northland brown kiwi (*Apteryx mantelli*) has shown dogs are the greatest threat to adult birds. Normally, kiwi live to be 40–65 years of age, but brown kiwi in Northland were reportedly experiencing a much shorter average life expectancy of just 13 years because of the impact of dogs. While young birds face predation from cats and stoats, the single greatest cause of adult mortality, even in managed populations, are ferrets and dogs. Because kiwi are New Zealand's national icon, protecting our country's *taonga* (treasure) motivates many people from all walks of life to keep kiwi alive.

New Zealanders own more pets per household than anywhere else in the world, apart from the United States.[1] Pets are our constant companions: in New Zealand, 31% of households include a dog.[2] Approximately 2.1 million of us care for at least one cat or dog.[3] Research conducted in Northland indicates 65% of kiwi deaths are caused by dogs: pet dogs, working dogs, pig dogs, farm dogs - dogs of all breeds, sizes, natures, and training. The dogs belong to an equally diverse range of owners: farmers, hunters, lifestyle-block owners, and town residents.

Most dog owners love and care for their animals. While a lot of dog owners ensure their animals are secure most of the time, lapses do occur. A gate may be left open, a dog chain may snap, or a child may inadvertently let the dog outside. Newspaper articles describing dog attacks on people and mauled livestock, are on the rise again, which remind us that wandering dogs are still a threat to our livelihoods and our native taonga.[4,5] Two pieces of legislation recognise that native fauna, particularly kiwi, are extremely vulnerable to dogs. These laws, the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Conservation Act Amendment 1996,[6] help protect native species and inform dog owners about their responsibilities.

Both registered and unregistered dogs can "roam", because all pets are attuned to their owners' moments of inattention and are often quite happy to make their escape. Their owners never intend that the dog will harm people or other animals. However, dogs on the loose can revert to wild pack behaviours. In 2004, for example, it only took three dogs one night to maul and kill over 70 sheep on a farm near Kāeo.[7] In 2023, in a period of 6 months, 29 kiwi were killed by dogs in Northland alone. [8] When a dog kills a kiwi, the incident can go undetected for some time, especially if the kiwi was not wearing a tracking device.

Why have a dog management plan?

Save the Kiwi is working in partnership with Ngāti Paoa and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki to bring kiwi to Waiheke Island. Dogs are a common sight there – with residents and/or visitors bringing dogs to the island. In addition to this, the island is home to other taonga species, such as pāteke (brown teal, *Anas chlorotis*); tūturiwhatu (dotterel, *Charadrius obscurus*); kororā (little blue penguin, *Eudyptula minor*); North Island weka (*Gallirallus australis greyi*), which all benefit from a well-executed dog management plan.

The proposed translocation involves moving kiwi from nearby Ponui Island to Te Matuku peninsula for release (Fig. 1). This initial site has been supported for release by all neighbouring landowners, and all of those who have dogs have agreed to complete Kiwi Avoidance Training. A proactive dog management team from Auckland Council has already been working on Waiheke for a number of years

– which is well received by the community. In addition to dog management, there is an active predator control plan in place through organisations like Te Korowai o Waiheke, progress towards elimination of stoats is underway with low numbers remaining currently.

Dog management activities are reported to relevant agencies, e.g. iwi, Auckland Council, DOC, and key stakeholders, to ensure dog management is effective enough to support the arrival of translocated kiwi.

While there are very effective ways of managing other animal threats (e.g., stoats, cats and ferrets), managing dogs is more complicated, because the cause and solution are one in the same - people.[9] A management plan involving all stakeholders, especially local dog owners, is therefore a prerequisite to successfully restoring any conservation area,[10] especially in places containing threatened species such as, pāteke/brown teal (*Anas chlorotis*), weka (*Gallirallus australis*) and/or shore birds.

Key objective

The objective of this plan is to provide guidance to landowners, key stakeholders (e.g., iwi/ hapū), involved government agencies and communities on Waiheke Island about dog management in the area. This plan describes specific ways to manage the impact of dogs. It involves a broad range of stakeholders in achieving conservation goals that are dependent on dogs being contained. The plan is based on existing and developing knowledge, local conditions and viewpoints, regional experiences and research.

This plan identifies dog-related conservation issues - and potential solutions - in the local community surrounding the release site. For example, bach owners might have a “dogs welcome” policy, but they could also provide messaging around keeping dogs on leads while on the island.

Issues and solutions will be priority ranked in this plan, because they cannot be addressed all at once (see “Community Engagement” section). Auckland Council already provides dedicated dog control advocates, this team will remain a consistent point of contact regarding dog management. In addition to this Save the Kiwi has attended a few community events to raise awareness of kiwi coming to Waiheke. Furthermore, Save the Kiwi are developing a dog owners’ resource, which community projects like Te Korowai o Waiheke, can roll out for different audiences. The Kiwi Avoidance Programme (KAT, a joint programme between StK and DOC) is working with individuals from the Waiheke community to find an appropriate candidate to work as an on-site KAT trainer. Having a variety of organisations (e.g., Auckland Council and Save the Kiwi) specifically tasked with the proactive dog management messaging on the island ensures that dog management work is appropriately addressed, questions are answered and interested local groups and individuals are involved.

Introduction

Our project

Waiheke Island falls under the co-management of Ngāti Paoa and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, both are co-applicants to the translocation application with Save the Kiwi. The main release site is on Te Matuku peninsula which is owned by Hinrich Voges and Kirstie Inglis.

Figure 1: Waiheke and Ponui Islands – highlighted in red is Te Matuku Peninsula

The island is approximately 9,200ha in size, whereas the peninsula is a 160ha block of forest, regenerating forest and pasture, however it sits alongside a further 340ha block. The proposed release site is very similar to Ponui island (the source site for the translocations). The expected carrying capacity for kiwi at the peninsula and the adjoining block combined is 50 breeding pairs although the entire island could sustain a population more than 450 pairs.

Te Matuku peninsula has received significant predator control for more than 35 years targeting stoats and rats. The bait line work is managed on the online TrapNZ application. Furthermore, Te Korowai o Waiheke have also undertaken stoat suppression on the wider island and are now aiming towards full

eradication on the island. Their next phase is to eradicate rats on the island as well. There are no other mustelids on the island.

Access to the main release site is limited to a few landowners, all of which have committed to undertaking regular Kiwi Avoidance Training for their dogs with an endorsed trainer.

Figure 2: Te Matuku Peninsula – the proposed release site for kiwi.

Our translocation goal

The overarching goal for this translocation is to establish a sustainable kiwi population on Waiheke Island while working with mana whenua, landowners, Auckland Council and DOC to promote a positive dog/ kiwi relationship.

The importance of dog management

To make a sustainable kiwi population on Waiheke Island a possibility, it is crucial to educate the community about the importance of looking after kiwi and dogs. The main audience for this management plan will be community projects and Auckland Council.

Plan review cycle

This document will be reviewed annually as progress is made on the translocation of kiwi. Currently Auckland Council already has a dog management plan in place – which is also aimed at pro-active

management of dogs on the island – the two plans will sit alongside each other with the Auckland Council one focused on their commitments under the Dog Control Act 1996 whereas this document is fully for the purpose of kiwi translocations and how responsible dog ownership can facilitate this. The main copy of this plan will sit with Save the Kiwi and regular reviews will be made by all authority holders, DOC, Auckland Council and community projects.

Plan input & signoff

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and Ngāti Paoa are both co-applicants under the application and both parties have been given the opportunity to comment on this management plan.
The Auckland Council pro-active dog management team is in support of the application and their management approach will be encapsulated in this document as well. In addition to this, community projects such as Te Korowai o Waiheke are fully supporting the application as well. All neighbouring landowners have provided written support to the proposed translocation.

Dog management

A combined approach will be implemented to minimise the risk of dogs attacking kiwi and other wildlife. This will have engagement and management components. A dedicated kiwi and dog specialist will be included in delivery of this plan. They will be familiar with key messages, have credibility in the community and clearly understand the Conservation Act 1987, the Dog Control Act 1996[10] and local council dog control bylaws.

Save the Kiwi has consulted with Auckland Council about the current commitment of the work already completed on the Island by their pro-active management team.

Save the Kiwi will have a close working relationship with council animal control officers/contractors, landowners and DOC. We will collaborate regularly with other community groups (not only conservation groups).

Existing dog control measures

Overview

The translocation of kiwi is planned to take place on Te Matuku Peninsula, which is located on the least populated area of the island, however, there are a number of dogs present at this part of the island, with varying uses. Working dogs are used for livestock management on adjacent farmland. There are also some hunting dogs known to reside on the island. Some of these dogs have undergone kiwi avoidance training already, and others are planned to attend future training sessions. Other dogs are pets kept on either suburban sections or lifestyle blocks. Some of these have received kiwi avoidance training. It is important to note that avoidance training may not, in fact, work on all pet dogs, especially those who have previously been allowed to chase animals e.g., birds on the beach. For these owners we are developing dog ownership guidelines – which is a series of workshops aimed to educate owners about their dogs.

Databases will be managed which tracks all dog management activities such as:

- Sightings of wandering dogs and action taken (Auckland Council)
- Kiwi avoidance training sessions (Save the Kiwi)
- Activities undertaken when implementing this plan (Save the Kiwi)
- Dogs caught (Auckland Council and Save the Kiwi)
- Kiwi attacked or killed (Save the Kiwi and DOC)

Council bylaws

The Auckland Council Dog Management Bylaw 2019 currently stipulates the following regulations and expectations from dog owners. The bylaws:

- Regulates the public places where dogs may be taken by their owner
- Requires owners to obtain a licence to keep more than two dogs in an urban area
- Requires owners to pick up after their dog when it defecates in any public place
- Enables council to make temporary changes to where you can take your dog
- Prohibits the owner of any female dog in season to take that dog into any public place
- Requires owners to neuter their dog if it not has not been kept under control on more than one occasion
- Provides a review process for owners of dogs classified as menacing due to behaviour.

Appendix 2 shows the Dog Bylaws for the Waiheke Local Board Areas. These specify exactly where owners are allowed to take their dogs (on and off leash) and where dogs are prohibited. There are several dog exercise areas on the island, which will be good locations for dog and kiwi messaging.

Proposed new measures

Community response procedure

A local response plan will be developed in collaboration with council dog control officers/contractors and DOC, so all stakeholders familiar with the local area and dog control issues can respond rapidly and appropriately if a dog is seen roaming in a kiwi zone, or if a dead kiwi is found. Response procedures will include a response team with skills in community engagement, dog catching, dog trapping and possibly DNA specimen collection.

Appendix 3 shows an example of a response plan information flier. This plan when fully developed will be shared with the community through public meetings and localised points of contact.

Local council animal control

Auckland Council has a designated proactive animal management team who offer Dog Safety Talks and promote responsible dog ownership and education. They are the organisation who can offer additional on-the-ground dog patrols, or even dog capture and despatch services. They have the responsibility under the Dog Control Act 1996 and local bylaws to address the issue of uncontrolled dogs. In addition, they may have information about nearby dogs frequently found roaming, which can provide Save the Kiwi with areas to target for further messaging.

It is important to note that dangerous or menacing dogs should not be approached by anyone except enforcement officers trained in dealing with such animals. Any animal control undertaken on council-managed lands must be vetted by the appropriate council prior to commencement.

Dog control hotline

More information about getting help with a roaming dog is contained in Appendix 3. Council animal control officers/contractors are usually the first port of call when a member of the community observes a dog roaming.

Animal Control Auckland can be contacted via the Auckland Council's Customer Services department on 09 301 0101. If animal control officers cannot be reached, and concerns are present for wildlife, the reporting person should phone DOC on 0800 DOC HOT.

It is important to provide a description of the dog (breed, colour, sex and approximate age), registration tag number and where the dog was last seen if you are reporting either a lost or a found dog.

Dealing with dead kiwi

Note that if any dead kiwi are found, it is a legal requirement to report them to DOC. Appendix 4 describes what to do in these situations. Reporting the dead kiwi to DOC and Auckland Council may help determine the cause of deaths and if suspected dog kill, could also lead to finding the dog responsible and removing the dog as a threat. Please note, roaming dogs are a DOC responsibility if the animal is on PCL, or if the dog is at large and an immediate disturbance or threat to any protected wildlife. Roaming dogs in other situations are Auckland Councils' responsibility.

Trapping

Dogs are notoriously difficult to trap, however this method should still be deployed if dogs are found to be roaming in kiwi areas. Camera traps can be effective at keeping tabs on the dog(s), and can also give a clear picture of breed and size etc. Any actions taken will be humane and legal. Auckland Council

already has active dog management on the island. Save the Kiwi's National Predator Control Advisor is able to provide further support around best methods for catching/baiting dog traps.

Trail cameras

Trail cameras will be deployed for the purpose of monitoring areas – with approval of the landowners.

Dog exclusion

There are a number of sites around Waiheke which have restrictions for dogs already – either through prohibiting access, or as a requirement for dogs to be on-leash. All neighbouring landowners are comfortable to restrict access to their properties to only dogs who have completed KAT, considering this is on private land they are able to exclude dogs at any time, as no Auckland Council law or bylaw places restrictions on private prohibitions. It is worth noting that under the Dog Control Act, dog owners are obligated to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, or cause distress to any protected wildlife, regardless of who owns the land that the protected wildlife is occupying.

In addition to this, we are also working with accommodation providers and Waiheke Tourism around advertisements to exclude dogs or effective messaging around dogs and kiwi on the island to their customers.

New signage

Sings displaying "Kiwi Live Here" will be placed on the island (Fig. 3) starting in the areas in the immediate release area. In addition, there will be some further consideration given to placing signs as kiwi disperse away from the release site. This may include sites such as track entrances, kiosks, or near toilet areas, picnic areas and carparks.

Auckland Transport is placing kiwi road signs with the message "Caution at Night" along Awaawaroa and Orapiu Roads.

Community engagement

General

Appendix 5 has general information about reaching out to dog owners. This will be used as a guide for our dog management activities. Some of the key messages are listed below:

Main messages

- Any dog can kill a kiwi.
- Kiwi need help to be safe from dogs.
- Kiwi can live an average of 40–65 years, but in Northland, the average age is just 13 years because of dogs.
- Be a proud dog owner and avoid your dog contributing to this statistic.
- Get your working dog(s) to regular kiwi avoidance training — once is not enough. Be aware that kiwi avoidance training is not perfect — some dogs are not trainable.
- Pet dogs are best kept on a lead and prevented from roaming - A controlled dog is a safe dog, which helps make kiwi safe.
- It only takes one dog. Keep your dog under control.
- Be a responsible Kiwi. Know where your dog is at all times.
- It is not necessarily someone else's dog ... it could be yours!
- Do exercise dogs in designated exercise areas — avoid the bush.
- Train, restrain and contain (ensure your dog has good recall, walk them on a lead and have them in a kennel or in the house at night).
- Avoid using possum-hunting dogs in kiwi areas.
- A dog may be caught in traps or may eat toxin in kiwi release areas — it is safer to keep your dog at home.
- Kiwi and dogs can work well together – it takes a community to ensure that kiwi (and other wildlife) are kept safe from dogs.

Participants to be engaged

- Mana whenua
- Individual farmers, especially those within or adjacent to the project area
- Lifestyle block dog owners
- Occasional or absentee landowners
- Schools, including children and their parents
- Visiting pet dog owners
- Community conservation groups
- Auckland Council
- Waiheke Local Board
- DOC
- Local vets
- Bird Rescue

Methods for engagement

There are a number of methods which are/ will be applied by Save the Kiwi and other community projects. Some of these include in person interactions (e.g. community talks) and others may be more distanced (e.g. posters, newspaper articles).

Leaflet drops, posters & fliers

- Auckland council messaging and brochure about dogs and wildlife, these could be adjusted to include kiwi messaging and could be included in council dog registration email notifications.
- Save the Kiwi branded brochures are made available to community projects for distribution.
- Posters in public areas, e.g. shops, or places dog owners are likely to go (vet clinics, dog obedience venues, dog exercise areas, parks where people walk their dogs, ferry terminals).
- Notices in local newspapers around caring for your dog and kiwi.
- Sharable content on relevant social media platforms.

Signage

In consultation with the appropriate landowners, we will place signs with the "kiwi live here" message (see figure 3) in areas where kiwi are released and as we learn more about their distribution around the island. In addition to these, there will be signs placed at ferry terminals to remind people coming to the island about the rules around dogs on the island.

Research has found that positively framed marketing language is more effective when the recipient has time to ponder, but negatively framed messages work best when time is tight.[11] Our messaging is heavily focused on the positively framed messaging and how dogs and kiwi can both benefit from keeping dogs under control. We are also discussing the messaging the ferry services can provide (e.g., on their on-board tv notices). The Waiheke Pet Advocacy Group have developed a video which will be displayed on the ferries first and Save the Kiwi will aim to follow this up with a second video.

Figure 3: "Kiwi live here" signs will be erected on Waiheke Island

Local talks/hui

Save the Kiwi have already attended a number of community events between 2023 and 2025. This will increase as the permit application progresses. In addition to this, we will be offering dog ownership workshops for community projects to use in their messaging to the public as well (Save the Kiwi will lead some of these workshops initially to cover a large number of residents). Part of the focus of these hui will be to create an understanding of what it means to have kiwi and dogs in the same place, and a culture of allowing kiwi to thrive in the presence of dogs.

Kiwi avoidance training

Kiwi Avoidance Training has been managed in partnership between DOC and Save the Kiwi. The coordination for this programme sits with Save the Kiwi. We currently have several trainers who are keen to support KAT on the Island.

The best way to protect kiwi from dogs is to ensure they never meet. In some cases, this is unavoidable, e.g., for farm dogs, police dogs, professional hunting dogs, service dogs or threatened species dogs. "Dogs without jobs" — lifestyle or pet dogs — may not respond to kiwi avoidance training as well as working dogs, depending on their training history, especially if they are not under control or are travelling in packs of two or more.

Kiwi avoidance can be a win–win for everyone because dogs receive expert training, and the occasion provides an opportunity to network with dog owners. KAT will be set up as a regular occurring event

to ensure that local dogs will undertake avoidance training before and after the translocation. We have flyers which can be distributed to neighbouring properties; however, the large majority of immediate neighbours have already contacted Save the Kiwi to confirm their willingness to complete KAT for their dogs and many of them have now already completed KAT.

Newspaper articles

Local newspapers are already covering the translocation and we will be continuing to work with them more closely to help inform the community about upcoming community events and training sessions as well as general messaging around kiwi and dogs. Our in-house marketing and comms personnel will help write articles for these news outlets.

Social media initiatives

Social media is already covering the translocation of kiwi to Waiheke, and the feedback on posts around this are generally of a supportive nature. Community social media pages are already a tool for reporting wandering dogs on the island.

Working with iwi

Mana whenua have been involved with the kiwi mahi not only as co-applicants, but also by supporting the community events where Save the Kiwi has been present.

Working with schools

All schools have been visited by Ruud Kleinpaste (Save the Kiwi board member) as part of their curriculum where students have been engaged to support the protection of biodiversity including kiwi. All junior school kids have been dubbed kiwi rangers, and schools have been visited again by Save the Kiwi in 2024.

Kiwi releases or other translocation events

The first kiwi release is expected to become a big community events, allowing people to connect with kiwi will in turn help increase the protection kiwi receive on the island. Monitoring (radio tracking cameras and call surveys) will be completed in part by mana whenua (with initial support and training by Save the Kiwi) as well as local supporters and landowners. These activities will allow us to tell the story of tracked kiwi as they move around, nest etc. through our social media channels, newsletters and community updates.

Management

Kiwi will use any type of vegetation for their habitat, and it will be expected that in due course, kiwi will move away from Te Matuku Peninsula to other areas on the Island. The peninsula is at the least

populated part of the island, which limits the number of visitors with dogs. The main release site is under QE2 covenant.

Animal control measures

All dogs in the main release site will undergo Kiwi Avoidance Training regularly to ensure effective form of control. In addition to this – landowners will be requested to lock dogs away at night to prevent roaming and keep pet dogs on a leash when taken out.

Key specific action points

Action	Status	Stakeholder(s)
Erect signs about bylaw-prohibited areas (available from council if needed). Project-related signs may also need to meet council signage bylaw requirements.	In progress	Auckland Council/ Save the Kiwi
Engage with Community groups that are established on the island already.	In progress	Save the Kiwi/ Te Korowai o Waiheke/
Share information about kiwi with people adjacent to the kiwi zone so they have a connection with the birds.	In progress	Save the Kiwi
Engage with Waiheke Primary School and Waiheke High School teachers and principal to provide research opportunities for students.	In progress	Waiheke Primary School Waiheke High School
Develop a local community response plan for what to do when wandering dogs (or a dead kiwi) are encountered.	In progress	Save the Kiwi
Drop dog control pamphlets to key residential letterboxes in the management zone (after consultation with Auckland Council) to describe the project, the threat dogs pose to kiwi, and what to do if a wandering dog is seen.	Ongoing	Save the Kiwi
Identify volunteers willing to take part in monitoring activities.	In progress	Save the Kiwi
Arrange kiwi avoidance training for all working dogs in the management zone.	Ongoing	Save the Kiwi/ Kiwi avoidance trainers/ dog owners

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Appendix 1: Key stakeholders

Group name/key contact name
Save the Kiwi
Ngāti Paoa
Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki
Local Board
Auckland Council
Department of Conservation
Te Korowai o Waiheke
Bird Rescue
Waiheke Collective
Waiheke Tourism
Auckland Transport

Appendix 2: Waiheke Local Board Areas

Waiheke Local Board Area

(1) **Dogs are allowed under control off a leash** on all park, beach and foreshore areas not specifically identified as a prohibited or under control on a leash area, including –

(a) on the following beach and foreshore areas west of Piemelon Bay and Omiha Bay –

(i) Anzac Bay - Natzke Road Foreshore
(ii) Blackpool Beach eastwards of Moa Avenue
(iii) Causeway Beach (Wharf Road)
(iv) Hooks Lane Beach (Surfdale)
(v) Omiha Bay (known as Rocky Bay)
(vi) Owhanake Beach: from the southern point of the beach below the access track off Delamore Drive to the point adjacent to the northern edge of Owhanake Reserve (the northern edge of the grass area)

Explanatory note: The beach areas listed in (a) above is not a complete list of under control off a leash areas. The list was made to assist readers and compiled from areas identified during a review of dog access rules in 2015.

(2) Dogs are allowed as follows on the following beach and foreshore areas west of Piemelon Bay and Omiha Bay –

From 1 December to 1 March. On public holidays and weekends between Labour weekend and Easter weekend	
10 am to 6 pm	Before 10 am and after 6 pm
Prohibited	**Under control off a leash**
All other times	
Under control off a leash	

(a) Big Oneroa Beach
(b) Enclosure Bay
(c) Little Oneroa Beach
(d) Onetangi Beach: from rocky outcrop at western end of beach to eastern end of the beach area
(e) Palm Beach (including Little Palm Beach)
(f) Shelley Beach/Shelley Bay (Putaki Bay)
(g) Sandy Bay
(h) Surfdale Beach east of Blake Street (excluding Hooks Lane Beach)

(3) **Dogs are allowed under control on a leash** on all beach and foreshore areas west of Piemelon Bay and Omiha Bay not specifically identified as a prohibited, time and season or an under control off a leash area to support the protection of wildlife. This includes –

(a) Blackpool Beach westwards of Moa Avenue
(b) Church Bay
(c) Hitapa Bay
(d) Hekerua Bay
(e) Island Bay
(f) Kennedy Point Wharf Beach
(l) Picnic Bay (Beach area accessed from Esslin Road Reserve)
(m) Piemelon Bay
(n) Putiki Bay
(o) Repo Bay
(p) Surfdale Beach west of Blake Street

Waiheke Local Board Area

(g) Kauakarau Bay (known as Rocky Bay) (h) Matiatia Bay (i) Oakura Bay (j) Okoka Bay (k) Owhanake Beach: from the point adjacent to the northern edge of Owhanake Reserve to the northern headland	(q) Skeleton Bay (r) Takirau Bay (s) Te Miro Bay (t) Te Whau Bay (u) W Bay/Fossil Bay (v) Waiheke Bay (w) Wharetana Bay
(4) **Dogs are allowed under control on a leash** in the following parks to support public safety and comfort – (a) Fourth Avenue Reserve (b) Little Oneroa Beach Reserve	(c) Ostend Domain (d) Palm Beach Reserve (e) Surfdale Hall Reserve and Foreshore (f) Tawaipareira Reserve
(5) **Dogs are allowed under control on a leash** in the following parks to support the protection of wildlife: (a) Anzac Bay Reserve (b) Church Bay Esplanade Reserve (northwards of Cable Bay Lane to Matiatia Bay) (c) Hekerua Bay Reserve (d) Kennedy Point Reserve (e) Korora Road Reserve (f) Newton Reserve (g) Okoka Bay Dead Dog Walkway (h) Putiki Reserve - all reserve areas to the north of Shelly Beach Road from the access track adjacent to 31 Shelly Beach Road.	(i) Te Aroha Avenue/Te Aroha Reserve Access Way (j) Te Huhuri Bay Reserve between the beach and the boundary of the Marae (k) Te Whau Esplanade Reserve 1 (l) The Esplanade Reserve Blackpool eastwards of Moa Avenue (m) Watters Glen (n) Waiheke Island Sports Club (o) Wharf Reserve (p) Wharf Road Wilma Road Walkway (q) Wilma Foreshore Reserve
(6) In the area of **Whakanewha Regional Park** – (a) **Dogs are allowed under control on a leash** in areas of the park on the landward side of Gordons Road. (b) **Dogs are prohibited** in all areas of the park and associated beach and foreshore areas on the seaward side of Gordons Road.	
(7) ***Dog owners require a permit*** *throughout the year with conditions for management and/or recreational hunting in the following areas –* (a) *Browns Island Recreation Reserve[3] (DOC Map 7.1).* (b) *Motuihe Island Recreation Reserve[3] (DOC Map 7.6).*	(c) *Motutapu Island Recreation Reserve[3] (DOC Map 7.8).*

Waiheke Local Board Area

(8) **Dogs are prohibited** from the following park, beach and foreshore areas to support the protection of wildlife –

(a) Te Matuku Bay Esplanade Reserve
(b) Beach and foreshore area between eastern end of Little Oneroa Beach and the western end of Skeleton Bay
(c) Belle Terrace Foreshore Reserve and adjacent foreshore area (between Onetangi Beach and Piemelon Bay)
(d) Cable Bay
(e) Great Barrier Foreshore Reserve (Between Enclosure Bay and Palm Beach)
(f) Matarahui Bay
(g) Onetangi Beach - westwards of rocky outcrop at northern end of beach
(h) Opopoto Bay to western end of Onetangi Beach
(i) Park Point Walkway
(j) Seaview Esplanade Reserve A
(k) Te Wharau Bay

Explanatory note: Te Ara Hura – Walk Waiheke - between Trig Hill Road and Awaawaroa Road and between Awaawaroa Road and Orapiu Road is associated with private land, is prohibited to dogs, and included here for completeness.

(l) *Rangitoto Island Scenic Reserve and adjacent Crown Foreshore[1,2] (DOC Maps 5.63, 6.44).*
(m) *Crown foreshore around Browns Island[2] (DOC Map 6.4).*
(n) *Crown foreshore of Motuihe Island Recreational Reserve[2] (DOC Map 6.27).*
(o) *Crown foreshore of Motutapu Island Recreational Reserve[2] (DOC Map 6.28).*

Appendix 3: Template response plan & information flier

Community response plan for uncontrolled dogs

Call <insert contact name here>, dog management advocate for <insert group name here>, on <enter phone number here>. Alternatively, ring animal control on 09 301 0101. Get a 'request for service' number. Your request will be tracked and followed up.

If you see a roaming dog:

- Take a photo of the dog and record where it is.
- Take a photo of any car registration if a vehicle is parked nearby.

If you can safely catch the dog (never put yourself in a dangerous situation):

- Contact local animal control on 09 301 0101. Advise that the dog has been caught and ask for them to come and pick it up.

If you are unable to catch the dog:

- Obtain a good description of the dog (and get a photo)
- Contact the owner, if known, advise them when and where you have seen their dog, and ask them to catch it immediately.
- And phone local animal control, give them the description of the dog (colour, sex, approximate age and breed) and tell them that it is roaming in a kiwi area.
- Phone your neighbours to advise them that there is an uncontrolled dog in the area.

If the above plan does not work:

- Phone your local Department of Conservation (DOC) office.
- If you are calling outside of office hours, please leave your contact details with the 0800 DOC HOT answering service and tell them that dogs are roaming in a kiwi area. They will pass this on to DOC staff, who will then contact you for more details.

If the dog is seen roaming again:

- Take a photo, preferably depicting where it is. Use public places and social media to raise the alert.
- Phone local animal control to inform them this dog has been seen repeatedly roaming. Request action be taken.

If your dog goes missing:

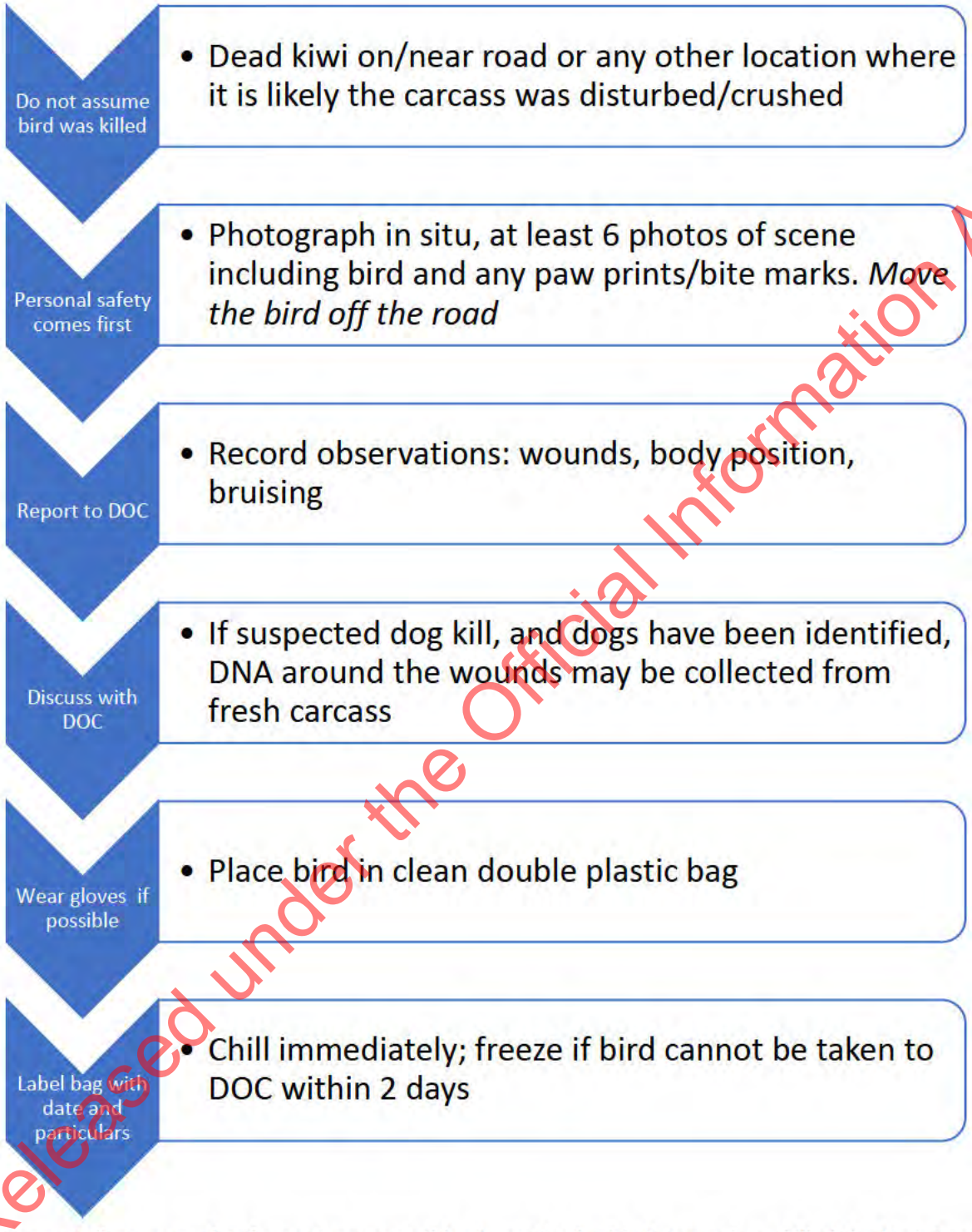
- Make a concerted effort to find your dog ASAP.
- Phone your neighbours (including DOC) so they can keep a look out.
- Phone local animal control — they may already have your dog.
- Remember to let your neighbours know when you have recovered the dog.
- Take steps to avoid it roaming again.
- Remember that the best solution is prevention – always keeping your dog under control, contained at night, and walking in on a lead will all go a long way towards not having a roaming dog in the first place.

What you can do to help save kiwi and other wildlife species

- Encourage and promote controlled dogs in your community.
- Always keep your dog under control. This means when your dog is not working or being directly supervised — kennel it or tie it up (e.g. when working outside, don't allow your dog to wander).
- Keep your dog well contained (ideally in a run, or inside) at night.
- Walk your dog on a lead.
- Follow any local bylaws about where you can and can't take your dog.
- Take the pledge to not let your dog roam https://savethekiwi.nz/wheres-your-dog-at/, and if you do see a roaming dog report it to the council.
- If you have a dog that works (e.g. hunting or farming) in an area that kiwi live, put it through regular Kiwi Avoidance Training with an endorsed trainer.
- Require contractors or visitors to leave their dogs at home.
- Do not encourage your dog to hunt for possums or rabbits — they live in the same places kiwi do, and there are better ways to control these pests. Talk to Te Korowai o Waiheke, Auckland Council, or DOC.
- Inform visitors coming into the area that they are in a kiwi zone and tell them about the threats that dogs pose to kiwi survival.

Image: Dog roaming campaign 2024

Appendix 4: Reporting a dead kiwi



Notes. Collect as much information as possible about the dog(s) that may have killed the kiwi. Record breed of dog, colour, size, identifying marks or tags, and owner, if known. Take photos of the dog and follow it a safe distance to see where it goes. Take photos or registration number of the dog owner's car.

Appendix 5: Kiwi avoidance information

Avoidance training for dogs

The best way to protect kiwi is to keep dogs out of kiwi habitat, however, if it is unavoidable to take a dog into a kiwi area, it should always be on a lead or contained. If dogs have to be taken into kiwi habitat for work, kiwi avoidance training is one tool that can help reduce the threat that hunting and farming dogs pose to kiwi in the wild. It is not a silver bullet, however, and does not make a dog "kiwi proof".

Before a dog can be trained to avoid kiwi, it must have been taught basic obedience, so it does what the owner asks. Avoidance training is ideally undertaken before they have developed habits like chasing birds. Refresher training is held every 6, 12 or 24 months, depending on the outcome of the first training, to make sure the dog remembers what is has learnt.

Pet owners should be aware that kiwi avoidance training may be less successful for pet dogs because these animals are not target-specific like working dogs. If owners have encouraged their pets to chase everything (in particular, a range of live things), kiwi avoidance training may not work. Upbringing of pets is therefore crucial to the outcome and requires honest evaluation by the owner before being undertaken for a pet.

Growing demand

Demand for avoidance training is growing as more people hear about it. As well, more and more landowners are only providing access to hunters with trained dogs, and in some areas, DOC will only provide hunting permits to people whose dogs have been certified as showing avoidance behaviour at the training courses.

How it works

Before a dog can be trained to avoid kiwi, it must have been taught basic obedience so that it does what its owner asks.

As part of the training, dogs are walked, usually not on a lead, past a few different props — things such as a stuffed kiwi or kiwi nesting material. If the dog shows an interest in these objects, it gets a correction from the trainer, via an e-collar. The dog quickly learns that these objects are something to stay away from. The dog is then walked past similar props and, if it avoids them, is certified as having shown consistent avoidance behaviour. Refreshers are held after 6, 12 or 24 months, to make sure the dog remembers what it has learnt.

More information on kiwi avoidance training can be found here:
https://www.kiwiavoidancetraining.nz/

Does it work? [2]

In 2006, staff at DOC's Hauraki Area initiated informal research on dogs they had put through avoidance training to see how well it was working. Results suggest that avoidance training is a useful tool to help kiwi. In 2013, formal research with 55 hunting dogs found that 87% of dogs avoided kiwi props (dead or stuffed kiwi) 1 year after initial avoidance training.[1] Among other things, the combined research found:

- Every dog showed avoidance to a prop it had been corrected on immediately after the correction.
- All dogs remembered after one month, and 87% remembered after one year.
- Dogs trained every year consistently showed avoidance, while those trained every three years did not.
- Dogs of different genders, ages and sizes reacted the same way.
- Some dog breeds showed more interest in props than others, especially terriers.
- Pet dogs showed more interest in the props if the owner was not present — reinforcing the fact that dogs should never be allowed to roam uncontrolled.
- Dogs in packs behaved differently to dogs on their own.
- Avoidance training may be more effective on target-specific working and hunting dogs.

Not a silver bullet

Avoidance training is not a silver bullet. Even after it has been trained, an uncontrolled or roaming dog may still attack kiwi, especially if it is not regularly re-trained. Dogs roaming in packs will pose additional risks and previous training is likely to be less effective.

Please visit the following site to book a KAT session: https://www.kiwiavoidancetraining.nz/book/

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Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawbai

Our Ref: Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island

Reference: DOCCM-7236410

22 December 2022

TO: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)

Cc: Nick Kelly
Kiwi Recovery Group
Matt Barnett

FROM: Emily King for the Kiwi Recovery Group

SUBJECT: Reconsideration of sourcing kiwi from Ponui to Waiheke

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Dear Emma, s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a),

The Kiwi Recovery Group previously provided advice for translocating kiwi to Waiheke, where Coromandel brown kiwi were recommended to be considered as a source site, rather than Ponui. However, Save the Kiwi have requested the Kiwi Recovery Group provide advice on releasing Ponui hybrid birds to Waiheke, as there is insufficient support from the Coromandel community to progress a translocation of Coromandel brown kiwi. Feedback from the Recovery Group is summarised below.

Summary

The Kiwi Recovery Group continues to see potential for Waiheke to hold a sustainable population of kiwi, starting with Te Matuku Peninsula, provided mana whenua are in support.

Since there does not appear to be a willing source site in the Coromandel, we do not object to sourcing kiwi from Ponui and recommend the following:

- Where possible individuals of the lowest relatedness are selected as founders.
- The natural process regarding density impacts of a closed population are socialised early with the Waiheke community to manage expectations.
- The Waiheke population, if successful, does not contribute to recovery programmes elsewhere.

The risks to kiwi on Waiheke and the associated recommendations from the Kiwi Recovery Group remain, particularly regarding dogs, traffic, and subdivision development, as outlined in the previous advice paper.

This technical advice does not incorporate iwi or te ao Māori perspectives, as these will be part of the translocation application and considered by the decision maker.

Role of the Kiwi Recovery Group

The Kiwi Recovery Group is an advisory group that supports the role of the decision-maker by providing advice regarding the conservation requirements for kiwi. We hope that this information is of use to help inform their decision and help inform the stage 2 translocation proposal.

Previous advice

Recommendations outlined in the previous advice paper, dated 4 August 2021 (DOC-6737709) remain the same, with the exception of the source location.

It was noted that kiwi will begin to disperse quickly, and that dogs will be the greatest risk to kiwi establishing. The following was recommended:

- Coromandel brown kiwi to be considered as a source site, rather than Ponui to allow for future opportunities for birds to be able to go the mainland, should they reach carrying capacity
- A DOC Threats Advisor be included as a team member to review the stoat control being undertaken and provide recommendations once an application is received
- A dog management plan for the release site and neighbouring properties, including a response plan should a dog kill a kiwi
- A robust consultation process with the broader Waiheke community to ensure they are supportive of kiwi coming to the island, and measures that would be needed to protect them from resident dogs
- An assessment of other potential risks e.g., cars, cattle stops/troughs and any areas of concerns that could be modified to reduce risk.

Ponui as an alternative source site

The Ponui population of brown kiwi was founded in 1964 with six birds from Hauturu/Little Barrier Island and eight birds from Northland, well before anyone realised the level of differentiation between the four regional populations of brown kiwi (Northland, Coromandel, Western and Eastern). The Hauturu/Little Barrier population is also of mixed-provenance; primarily built up from a few Western birds introduced from Taranaki and Taupo, some Northland birds, and probably some original Northland-like kiwi surviving on the island since it was isolated from the mainland thousands of years ago.

The four "regional" populations are likely to have diverged from one another 50-200,000 years ago. In many species, isolation of this length of time leads to recognition of distinct sub-species. To preserve the genetic distinctiveness that has naturally developed in response to natural selection from local pressures, and random genetic drift, DOC's position is not to mix individuals from different regions unless absolutely necessary. Once populations or species are genetically mixed it is impossible to separate the different regional forms. This position is supported by geneticists within and external to DOC.

Therefore if Ponui is used to establish kiwi on Waiheke, these birds would not be able to contribute to recovery programmes on the mainland. The rational for sourcing birds from Ponui is acknowledged as this population has been impacted by droughts, with several deaths observed, and it would relieve some carrying capacity issues. However, if successful on Waiheke, this approach may be recreating a similar situation with no recourse to move the birds. We recommend this is socialised early with the Waiheke community, so expectations are able to be managed. We are appreciative of Save the Kiwi already raising this outcome s9(2)(a) and other interested parties.

We encourage selecting individuals from the Ponui population which are of the lowest relatedness, this could be obtained from the close order information currently available. This approach will help ensure founders are as genetically diverse as possible.

As the Coromandel community are not supportive of Coromandel brown kiwi being translocated to Waiheke, we are comfortable for Ponui to be used a source population.

I hope the information provided above is of value, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Ngā mihi nui,

Emily King
Kiwi Recovery Group Leader

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawbai

Our Ref: Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island

Reference: DOCCM-7854511

19 December 2024

TO: Kat Lane

Cc: s9(2)(a)
Nick Kelly
Kiwi Recovery Group

FROM: Emily King for the Kiwi Recovery Group

SUBJECT: Source site options to translocate brown kiwi to Waiheke

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Dear Kat,

The Kiwi Recovery Group has reviewed and discussed the proposed brown kiwi taxa options for translocation to Waiheke, as presented by Save the Kiwi The options included two hybrid populations (Ponui and Te Hauturu-o-Toi), Coromandel brown kiwi, Eastern brown kiwi, and Northland brown kiwi (Tāwharanui or other islands). Save the Kiwi have expressed a desire to translocate kiwi to Waiheke in 2025; feasibility of achieving this is outside the scope of this advice. The Kiwi Recovery Group advice is summarised below.

Summary

The Kiwi Recovery Group continues to see potential for Waiheke to hold a population of kiwi, starting with Te Matuku Peninsula provided mana whenua are in support. There appears to currently be insufficient support from the Ponui Island community to progress a translocation from this hybrid population. We recommend the following for the proposed options:

- Moving kiwi outside of their historic range should only be done if three is a clear conservation value to justify it.
- Coromandel brown kiwi is considered the priority taxa to allow for future opportunities for birds to be able to go the mainland, should they reach carrying capacity, as per the advice provided in August 2021 (DOC-6737709).
- Although there is a conservation need to increase the Eastern brown kiwi population, we would still prefer Coromandel because they are the rarest of the brown kiwi taxa, and the nearest taxa to the island. Moving Eastern brown kiwi that far out of their historic range does not feel justified.
- The Northland brown kiwi was not supported due to the growth rate and recovery of this taxa, which means justification for establishing a population outside of their natural range was low.
- The hybrid populations of Ponui and Te Hauturu-o-Toi may be considered as a source if there are no other available options. In this situation the population on Waiheke would remain closed and would not contribute to recovery programmes elsewhere, as per our advice provided in December 2022 (DOC-7236410). We no longer support this as Coromandel brown kiwi appears to be viable option.

Role of the Kiwi Recovery Group

The Kiwi Recovery Group is an advisory group that supports the role of the decision-maker by providing advice regarding the conservation requirements for kiwi. We hope that this information is of use to help inform the decision and help inform a suitable source site for the proposed translocation to Waiheke.

This technical advice does not incorporate iwi or te ao Māori perspectives, as these will be part of the translocation application and considered by the decision maker.

Additional considerations for translocation success

The risks to kiwi on Waiheke and the associated recommendations from the Kiwi Recovery Group remain, particularly regarding dogs, traffic, and subdivision development, as outlined in previous advice (August 2021 DOC-6737709). Since 2021, significant progress towards eradicating stoats from the island has occurred which, if successful, will benefit the establishment of a kiwi population. We would like to acknowledge the consultation process with the community at Te Matuku Penninsula, particularly the focus of dogs being the greatest risk to the population. We encourage preparing the wider community for the arrival of kiwi, as kiwi will disperse beyond the planned release area.

The impacts of drought should be acknowledged and considered as part of the application. Climate change modelling by NIWA predicts that the northern North Island is likely to experience droughts at a greater frequency and severity in the future. A recent Manaaki Whenua report, commissioned by the Department, highlights that drought will negatively impact kiwi on northern islands. This report includes data from the Ponui kiwi research led by s9(2)(a) .

Kiwi taxa and clarity of purpose

As per previous advice provided in December 2022 (DOC-7236410) sourcing kiwi from Ponui, or other hybrid populations such as Te Hauturu o-Toi, has limitations. If a translocation of hybrid kiwi on Waiheke was successful, the population would remain closed, meaning these birds would not be able to contribute to recovery programmes on the mainland, or potentially to other island populations. The rational for sourcing birds from Ponui is acknowledged as this population has been impacted by droughts, with several deaths observed, and it would relieve some carrying capacity issues. However, this approach may recreate a similar situation with no recourse to move the birds.

Therefore, as Ponui appears to no longer be a feasible source population, we recommend that Coromandel brown kiwi be re-considered to allow for future opportunities and long-term growth of this taxa. This is the Recovery Group's preferred option and would meet the protective benefit threshold by increasing the smallest brown kiwi taxa.

Given the substantive progress to establish a kohanga kiwi on Motutapu, we recommend this island as the source for Coromandel brown kiwi, rather than via ONE. This genetically diverse population is already close to reaching carrying capacity with the first releases to the Coromandel mainland planned for next year. The Recovery Group advise that there should be enough kiwi available to enhance kiwi populations on the Coromandel Peninsula, while establishing a population on Waiheke. Additionally, this approach would be logistically easier and more cost effective than the proposed use of ONE. As the community and iwi are already in support of establishing and protecting a kiwi population on Waiheke this may prove to be a timely opportunity.

We agree that the costs associated with ONE to establish a second Eastern brown kohanga kiwi would be high, as outlined by Save the Kiwi. There is a conservation need to support the brown kiwi taxa which is still declining. An additional kohanga kiwi to enhance areas that are beyond the genetic reach

of the kohanga kiwi at Cape Sanctury may be beneficial. However, similar gains may be achieved via in-situ management and without the need to move kiwi outside of their historic range. We therefore recommend that Waiheke is an unsuitable location to establish an Eastern brown kiwi population.

Translocating Northland brown kiwi to Waiheke is not supported by the Recovery Group. The Northland brown kiwi taxa are doing well and due to this it will be challenging to meet the protective benefit threshold under the Wildlife Act.

I hope the information provided above is of some value, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I'm more than happy to talk through these points.

Ngā mihi nui,

Emily King
Kiwi Recovery Group Leader

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawbai

Our Ref: Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island

Reference: DOCCM-6737709

4 August 2021

TO: Kat Lane

Cc: Kiwi Recovery Group
David Wilson
Mark Fitzpatrick

FROM: Jess Scrimgeour for the Kiwi Recovery Group

SUBJECT: Kiwi to Waiheke Island

Dear Kat

I have circulated the documents outlining a proposal to t anslocate kiwi to Waiheke Island with the Kiwi Recovery Group. We discussed the information in our July monthly meeting, and again this morning to finalise some discussion points around preferred taxon of kiwi. I have collated the group's feedback, which I have summarised below.

Summary

The Kiwi Recovery Group sees potential for Waiheke Island to hold a sustainable population of kiwi, starting with Te Matuku Peninsula. We note that kiwi will begin to disperse quickly, and that dogs will be greatest risk to kiwi establishing. We recommend the following:

- Coromandel brown kiwi to be considered as a source site, rather than Ponui Island.
- A DOC Threats Advisor be included as a team member to review the stoat control being undertaken and provide recommendations once an application is received
- A dog management plan for the release site and neighbouring properties, including a response plan should a dog kill a kiwi
- A robust consultation process with the broader Waiheke community to ensure they are supportive of kiwi coming to the island, and measures that would be needed to protect them from resident dogs
- An assessment of other potential risks e.g. cars, cattle stops/troughs and any areas of concerns that could be modified to reduce risk.

Role of the Kiwi Recovery Group

The Kiwi Recovery Group is an advisory group that support your role as decision-maker by providing advice regarding the conservation requirements for kiwi. We hope that this information is of use to help inform your decision whether to invite s9(2)(a) and her team to submit a Phase 1 translocation proposal. This advice might also be useful to inform the application itself.

Kiwi species

The initial proposal listed Ponui Island as the source site. The Ponui population of brown kiwi was founded in 1964 with six birds from Hauturu/Little Barrier Island and eight birds from Northland, well

before anyone realised the level of differentiation between the four regional populations of brown kiwi (Northland, Coromandel, Western and Eastern). The Hauturu/Little Barrier population is also of mixed-provenance; primarily built up from a few Western birds introduced from Taranaki and Taupo, some Northland birds, and probably some original Northland-like kiwi surviving on the island since it was isolated from the mainland thousands of years ago.

The four "regional" populations are likely to have diverged from one another 50-200,000 years ago. In many species, isolation of this length of time leads to recognition of distinct sub-species. To preserve the genetic distinctiveness that has naturally developed in response to natural selection from local pressures, and random genetic drift, DOC's position is not to mix individuals from different regions unless absolutely necessary. Once populations or species are genetically mixed it is impossible to separate the different regional forms. This position is supported by geneticists within and external to DOC.

Therefore, if Ponui is used to establish kiwi on Waiheke, these birds would not be able to contribute to recovery programmes on the mainland. It may relieve some of the carrying capacity issues being experienced on Ponui Island. Although if successful on Waiheke, we may be ecreating a similar situation with no recourse to move the birds.

We therefore recommend that Coromandel brown kiwi be considered instead to allow for future opportunities for birds to be able to go the mainland, should they reach carrying capacity.

Considerations for translocation success

Habitat suitability

The habitat is likely to be suitable, since much of the area is covered by young forest. The Kiwi Recovery Group has developed some translocation guidelines to ensure consistency with assessment of applications. Within it we recommend that any site where kiwi have not previously been present, or have disappeared more than 100 years ago, that a habitat assessment and food availability is required. In this instance, given the proximity to Ponui and Rotoroa Island where kiwi have done well, we do not think an invertebrate assessment is required.

Management of threats - stoats

The proposal to eradicate stoats from Waiheke is promising, but we did not have enough information to comment on timeframes and feasibility. The 500ha of the peninsula appears to be well defended, but we recommend that a DOC Threats Advisor be included in the assessment of the application. They will have more know edge to provide you with the confidence you need regarding the efficacy of the network.

For the translocation proposal, evidence will need to be provided that stoats are supressed to low levels, and that the site has had stoat control in place for at least 3 years. It would be good to get more clarity about when stoat control will extend into the wider area to get some sense of future potential.

Management of threats - dogs

Dogs will be the key threat to the success of a thriving population establishing on the island. With the ability to kill adult kiwi, dogs have reduced the expected lifespan of kiwi from 30+ years down to only 12. Assessment of a translocation proposal looks at 1. the ability to keep wandering dogs controlled/managed within the immediate release site, and 2. looking at keeping wandering kiwi safe from dogs in the wider population footprint.

At the release site, there appears to be a good ability to limit the presence of dogs around kiwi. As part of the application, a dog-management plan for the site would be needed, including a response plan should a dog kill a kiwi.

However, kiwi will quickly disperse from the release site. They, and in particular their offspring, are capable of dispersing into the heart of Waiheke suburbia. Waiheke has a human population of 10,000 and significantly more in the tourist season. Many of these households will have dogs. Many of these properties are nestled in the bush, so kiwi will be regularly crossing through these.

More and more kiwi will be killed as they disperse in increasing numbers from the Matuku Peninsula, which presents an ethical and social risk. Robust consultation will be needed for the whole population on Waiheke to gauge their support for kiwi coming to the island, especially their willingness to establish a range of measures to protect kiwi from dogs e.g. kiwi and dog proof fences, walking dogs on leads, kiwi avoidance training programmes etc. Strong support would be needed from the community to ensure a new population can establish and grow, and this would need to be demonstrated in the application.

Management of threats – other
Based on what we have seen from kiwi near urban areas in Northland, we note there may be some deaths from other factors such as cars, cattle troughs, cattle stops and swimming pools. There are simple steps that can be taken to minimise these e.g. road signs warning drivers about kiwi, cattle troughs and stops in high-risk areas provided with escape routes for kiwi to climb back out. We consider these to be smaller risks, but worth consideration for the release site to assess any areas of concerns that could be modified.

Genetic diversity
Founder selection should aim to provide adequate gen tic diversity. Based on genetic diversity considerations, the optimum number of founders the KRG recommends for translocation is 40 sub-adult/adult birds that are not known to be related, transferred over a short period – 2 to 3 years. The ideal is to successfully add 1-2 additional unrelated founders every generation (10-20 years) to isolated populations to maintain its genetic diversity. The odds of translocation success increase with the number of individual birds released, but this needs to be balanced against impacts on source populations.

Monitoring
Depending on the more in-depth assessment of risk during the application phase, there may be a recommendation to monitor dispersal towards high-risk areas and how well they establish on the island. The details around what this might look like will occur as the application moves through to Phase 1.

I hope the information provided above is of some value, but please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I'm more than happy to talk through these points.

Best regards

Jess Scrimgeour
Kiwi Recovery Group Leader