

Te Tapatoru-a-Toi (Joint Management Committee) Annual Report of the Committee to the Minister of Conservation and Te Rūnanga ō Ngāti Awa



The newly completed waharoa and parking lot at Tauwhare Pā

PHOTO: Neil Robert Hutton

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1. KUPU WHAKATAKI

Chairperson's Report – John Hohapata-Oke

Toi tū te kupu, toi tū te mana, toi tū te whenua, ka ora ai

Hold firm to our language, our mana, our land, they are our essence, and through them we will prosper

Ka nui te mihi ki ōu tātou tīpuna, ki te whenua e whāngaitia koutou, te whenua e tiakina mai nei e tātou, te Tapatoru-ā-Toi, Te Papa Atawhai, me ngā kaitiaki o te rohe nei.

Ki a koutou, ngā whanaunga kua rangona te karanga o te kuia, te kaitiaki o te pō, ko Hine-nui-te-pō, whāia te reo e pōwhiritia koutou ki te pō mōai rokiroki, ki te pū take o te Ao, haere atu rā, haere atu rā.

Ki a tātou, te hunga e tū mai nei i runga i te mata o te whenua, te hunga ora, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa

We acknowledge our ancestors and the lands that gave you life, that give us life, and that we, Te Tapatoru-a-Toi, the Department of Conservation and the communities of Whakatāne are guardians of for this brief time.

To those that have heard the call of our ancestress, the guardian of the night, follow her welcome to that place of serenity reserved for you, to the source of this world, we bid you farewell.

To you, for whom this world is home, welcome, welcome, welcome.

MIHI RANGATIRA – Acknowledgements

On behalf of Te Tapatoru-ā-Toi I would like to thank those that have supported this committee in protecting and nourishing the mauri of Moutohorā, Ōhope, and Tauwhare Pā. To Ngāti Awa tāngata, to the Minister of Conservation the Honourable Nick Smith, the Department's staff, the Whakatāne Kiwi Trust, the concessionaire's and contractors, and to those members of the community who contribute to the vitality of these special places, ka nui te mihi ki a koutou katoa.

On behalf of the committee I offer a warm mihi (acknowledgment) to the Minister of Conservation, the Honourable Nick Smith, and the Department of Conservation staff of the Eastern Bay of Plenty District, for your continued work in support of this committee, the ideals embodied in the Ngāti Awa Treaty Settlement, and the ideals of kaitiakitanga and conservation that the communities of the Whakatāne rohe share.

This past year has seen significant changes within the Department. The Department has undergone a major restructure with the creation of the 'Services' and 'Partnerships' divisions, and the district office has moved from Gisborne to Whakatāne. These changes undoubtedly provided major challenges to the Department, however these challenges were handled with assurance and composure, allowing the committee to continue in its work.

In this last year two wonderful structures were erected, the waharoa at Tauwhare Pā and the Education Whare at Ōhope Scenic Reserve. The committee tautoko the acknowledgements made by the Commissioner regarding these two projects. On behalf of the Ngāti Awa representatives on this committee we specifically acknowledge the tīpuna of Tauwhare Pā, particularly those embodied in the whakairo (carvings) of the waharoa, Te Keepa Toihau, Mereaira Rangihoea, Mereaira Koroahi, Te Pirini Tautini, Kape Tautini, and their descendents.

The passion and commitment of the Whakatāne Kiwi Trust and Whakatāne Rotary Club saw the opening of the Education Whare within Ōhope Scenic Reserve. This whare is connected to the Kiwi Tracker education trail, which together provide an amazing immersive educational experience for the tamariki and taiohi of Whakatāne and further afield. Although the whare was completed during this 2013-14 year, it will be opened to the public in the 2014-15 year, and we look forward to that event.

Finally, to my fellow committee members I acknowledge the contributions each of you have made during this past year. It has been a pleasure working with you, and I look forward to our continued work in 2014-15.

Te Kei Wilson Merito

On behalf of the Chairperson (John Hohapata-Oke)

Commissioner's Report – Mike Jones

He aha te mea nui o te ao?

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata!

What is the most important thing in the world?

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people!

It is with humility, that I write to you as the new Commissioner for the Department to Te Tapa Toru a Toi. It has been a year of change and it is with utmost gratitude that I firstly thank the Committee and the Chair, John Hohapata-Oke for their support as the Department has moved through the most significant changes in over 15 years of operations. They have welcomed and supported my team as we learnt about the kawa, protocols and visions for Moutohora, Ohope and Tauwhare Pa. Having first worked with this Committee when I first joined the Department in 2007, it really is a privilege that my journey has enabled me to again be supporting this very unique Committee.

On 3 September 2013, the Department went live on a new operating model, splitting what was previously known as operations into two business groups – Services (managing conservation assets) and Partnerships (growing conservation through working with others). Day to day support of Te Tapa Toru-a-Toi sits with the new Partnership team and has been picked up by Clint Savage and more recently Rob Whitbourne as the new Treaty Implementation Ranger based in Whakatane.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of the previous Department team, superbly led by Andy Basset, Area Manager of Gisborne/Whakatane and Hemi Barsdell, Iwi Relations Programme Manager. They ensured that the transition between teams was as seamless as possible and would not have been possible without the understanding of the histories and passion that John and the Committee have shared with me and my team.

I would also like to congratulate the Committee for their oversight of what has been the most significant capital upgrade to date across one of the jointly managed reserves between Ngāti Awa and the Crown, Tauwhare Pa Scenic Reserve. Luke Archbold as Project Manager for the Department very much appreciated the ongoing assistance of the sub-committee. The dawn karakia and associated speeches for the opening of the magnificent carved waharoa on 12 October 2013 was my first opportunity to formally work alongside Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and will be with me for years to come.

Finally, I would like to note the wonderful work that the Whakatane Kiwi Trust does alongside the Committee and the Department in pursuing the ongoing protection of kiwi throughout Whakatane, especially focussed in Ohope Scenic Reserve. The recently completed education whare shows how exciting the potential opportunities are in working in partnership for conservation and education gains – the coming together of people from many backgrounds with

one purpose to protect and enhance the local kiwi population and educate our tamariki is truly inspiring.

Ngā mihi, nui

Mike Jones

Commissioner

Eastern Bay of Plenty Conservation Partnership Manage

2. VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

The vision of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi is that the communities and agencies represented by Te Tapatoru ā Toi cherish the taonga entrusted to them and that they work together for the preservation and protection of the natural and cultural values that make those taonga significant, and promote them to all New Zealanders.

Objectives

- ▶ To fulfill the statutory functions and powers assigned under the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 in an open and transparent manner;
- ▶ To provide sound leadership, vision and strategic direction for the future cooperative conservation management of the jointly managed reserve areas;
- ▶ To recognise and respect the various interests and values that each member represents; and
- ▶ To support and encourage the development of relationships and appropriate management of the jointly managed reserve areas having regard to the regional and national ecological and cultural significance.



Moutohorā (Whale Island) as seen from Kohi Point

PHOTO: Neil Robert Hutton

3. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The authority and powers of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi arise from Section 5 of the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 and from specific delegations of authority from the Minister of Conservation under various sections of the Reserves Act 1977 (See Appendices for a full list of powers). The Committee may exercise its powers under these delegations or it may refer particular issues back to the Minister for consideration and/or decision when the nature of the issue has:

- ▶ Political implications
- ▶ Social implications
- ▶ Economic implications

Similarly the Committee may obtain legal advice involving such conservation, political, social and economic implications. It may also seek legal advice when proposing revocation, suspension or amendment of a permit, license, concession, consent, authorisation or other similar document that has not been requested or agreed to by an affected party.

The Committee is also empowered to act as the Conservation Board for the three jointly managed sites – Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve, Ōhope Scenic Reserve, and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve. This means they provide advice to the Minister of Conservation, the Director-General, the New Zealand Conservation Authority and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board in relation to the conservation of the jointly managed sites. The Director-General must consult with and have regard to the Committee’s advice in relation to the three sites.

The Committee comprises three representatives of Ngāti Awa and three appointed by the Crown. Te Tapatoru-a-Toi must be chaired by one of the Ngāti Awa members and comprised the following people during the 2013–2014 financial year:

John Hohapata-Oke	Ngāti Awa – Chairman
Te Kei Merito	Ngāti Awa
Rapata Kopae	Ngāti Awa
Ronald Russell	(appointed by the Crown)
Lynda Walter	(appointed by the Crown)
Derek Gosling	(Conservation Board Representative)

4. THE THREE JOINTLY MANAGED RESERVES



5. COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILES

John Hohapata-Oke

Ngāti Awa - Chairman



John holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies Degree from Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiarangi. John was Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Te Komiti Taiao o Ngāti Awa on which he served for more than seventeen years.

He also served as a member of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board where he made significant contributions to the development of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy, the Moutohorā (Whale Island) Conservation Management Plan, and

he continues to play an important role in the Whakatane Kiwi Project.

John served as the Ngāti Awa Representative to the Māori Regional Representation Committee and Māori Standing Committee at Environment Bay of Plenty for a period of more than seven years. John also chaired the Māori Working Party on Organochlorins for the Ministry for the Environment and the Māori Working Party on Contaminated Sites with the Environmental Risk Authority.

Te Kei Merito

Ngāti Awa



Former Deputy Chairman, and current Chairman of Te Runanga o Ngāti Awa, Hapu Delegate Rangataua Hapu of Ngāti Awa, former Chairman of Te Komiti Taiao o Ngāti Awa, Kaihautu Kaupapa Atawhai, Kahui Kura Taiao, Department of Conservation.

Te Kei Merito is a highly respected Kaumatua of Ngati Rangataua and is widely acknowledged as a Pukenga (Cultural Expert) of Ngāti Awa. Mr Merito served as Chairman of Te Komiti Taiao o Ngāti Awa for more than sixteen years.

Over that time he made significant contributions to the development of kaitiakitanga processes observed by Ngāti Awa hapu. Mr Merito continues to make contributions to kaitiakitanga within the takiwā of Ngāti Awa and throughout the Bay of Plenty.

Rapata Kopae

Ngāti Awa



Ngāti Rangataua/Ngāti Pukeko, former member of Te Kōmiti Taiao o Ngāti Awa.

Rapata Kopae has contributed significantly to kaitiakitanga of the Ngāti Awa takiwa, particularly within the Whakatane River and environs. He has been a member of Te Komiti Taiao o Ngāti Awa for more than eight years.

Rapata is a respected member of Ngāti Pukeko and is Chairman for the Rangataua Marae. He continues to invest his time and energy into the exercise of kaitiakitanga within the takiwa of Ngāti Awa.

Ronald Russell

Community Representative



Ron holds a number of qualifications from his long career as a manager in the Dairy Industry. Ron retired from the industry in 2001 but remains personally active and interested in conservation and management issues. Ron began his career in the dairy industry in 1957, showing an aptitude for management. He was also instrumental in designing technical improvements for plant. His expertise in these fields saw him spend periods of time on technical and research teams as well as leading a number of international scholarship and study tours for the Dairy Board. Ron has also spent many years at executive level of the Dairy Industry and was instigator of several cadet schemes and travel scholarships. In June 1997 he received the Dairy Association of New Zealand Distinguished Service Award for 40 years of service and contribution to the dairy industry. Ron continues to design leading edge technology and runs his own company to this day. In his spare time he is an active trustee on the Whakatane Kiwi Trust and has been running predator trap lines both as volunteer and contractor for over 5 years in the local reserves. Ron served as a Justice of the Peace for 21 years in Whakatane.

Lynda Walter

Community Representative

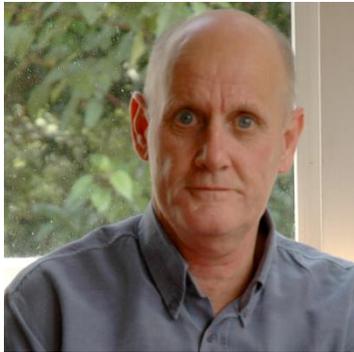


Lynda is a qualified and experienced Archaeologist, holding a Master of Arts (Hons) in Anthropology from the University of Auckland. Lynda has worked within the heritage sector in New Zealand for 25 years. She is currently one of two directors of Insitu Heritage Ltd. Lynda has extensive and varied archaeological field experience providing archaeological advice and project management services to a wide variety of clients. She has particular expertise in the preparation of conservation plans for archaeological sites, preparing these for many well-known historic places administered by the Department of Conservation, including Otatara Pa Historic Reserve, Heipipi Historic Reserve, Kororipo Pa Historic Reserve and Denniston. In 2006 Lynda was

appointed to the Historic Heritage Advisory Group to assist the Department with the management of the tentative list process for World Heritage. Lynda is a member of the NZ Archaeological Association Council, currently holding the position of Secretary. She is also a member and Treasurer of the Whakatane and District Historical Society Committee. Lynda lives at Awakeri in the Eastern Bay of Plenty.

Derek Gosling

Community Representative



Derek trained as a NZ Forest Service Woodsman and worked for several years on an ecological survey of the North Island's high country forests, including the Raukumara, Te Urewera, Ruahine, Tararua and Haurangi Ranges. He has over 50 years' experience in all aspects of environmental land management. After employment with the NZ Forest Service, Fletcher Forests and the Department of Conservation he joined Wildland Consultants Ltd, an ecological consulting company and worked as an ecologist based in Whakatane. He carried out field work for Protected Natural Areas (PNA) of three ecological districts (Taneatua, Te Teko and Otanewainuku) and co-wrote two of the PNA reports. He and his wife also established a native plant nursery on their Wainui Property during this time. In 2002 he began working with the Tūhoe Putaiao Trust as an ecological consultant but later took on a full time position as the Trust's Environmental Manager. He continues to work for the Trust, but also carries out some private consultancy contracts and continues to operate his plant nursery.

6. MEETINGS DURING THE YEAR

Committee meetings are organized by Department staff in conjunction with the Chairman.

The committee met formally five times during the year:

- July 4th 2013
- August 14th 2013
- December 4th 2013
- March 18th 2014
- June 4th 2014.

There were also a number of field inspections, meetings of sub-committees and informal meetings held at other times including a trip to Moutohorā on July 5th 2013.

The Department of Conservation provides support for Te Tapatoru-a-Toi including but not limited to administrative services, operational delivery, report writing, logistical services for meetings, and field trips.

7. KEY ISSUES MANAGED BY THE COMMITTEE

Throughout the past financial year, Te Tapatoru-a-Toi has dealt with a wide range of topics with various degrees of complexities. A key function of the Committee has been general oversight of activities within the three reserves. This oversight has attempted to keep activities in the reserves aligned with the Te Tapui Tokotoru – Conservation Management Plan 2008 – 2018, the guiding document for all activities within the three reserves. The restructure of the Department in Sept. 2013 did upset some of the milestone completion goals as outlined in the CMP.

Some more notable examples of projects/issues that Te Tapatoru-a-Toi provided management oversight for in the past financial year are briefly detailed below.

Ngāti Awa Kuia Harvest

Following a successful harvest last year, Ngāti Awa again conducted a traditional harvest of kuia (juvenile grey-faced petrel - *Pterodroma macroptera gouldi*). This is only the second time in over fifty years in which the significant cultural occasion has been able to take place. Through Te Tapatoru-a-Toi's vision in previous years, information had been gathered to enable this harvest to occur at a sustainable rate. Twenty two tangata whenua participated during the event and 82 birds were harvested.

A TV crew was on hand to capture the harvest from the previous year and the footage was screened on Wakahuia TVNZ Sunday the 8th of December 2013. Te Kei Merito, the former chairman of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi, provided expert commentary during the filming. Widely acknowledged as a Pukenga (Cultural Expert) of Ngāti Awa, Mr. Merito's prominent role in the filming of the Wakahuia episode is an example of the good work Te Tapatoru-a-Toi is doing in order to highlight the regional and national importance of the three reserves it manages.

Tauwhare Pā Enhancement Project



Tauwhare Pā waharoa PHOTO: Neil Robert Hutton

The role of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi in the progression of the Tauwhare Pā Enhancement Project has been absolutely crucial in ensuring a successful outcome. Through the expertise and knowledge within the Committee, both Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and the Department of Conservation have been able to safely navigate through the planning, consultation, and realization phases of the project. A common theme among the three jointly managed reserves is a rich cultural history. Tauwhare Pā is no exception and it was an extremely significant pā for Ngāti Awa and Whakatōhea hapū in the past. With Tauwhare Pā's cultural importance comes a significant level of risk, with considerations such as wāhi tapū, urupā, and archaeological implications to consider. It is therefore important that the relationship with Upokorehe iwi, who are also affiliated with the area, be developed and fostered. The navigation through these issues has been assisted tremendously by the knowledge base held within the Committee.

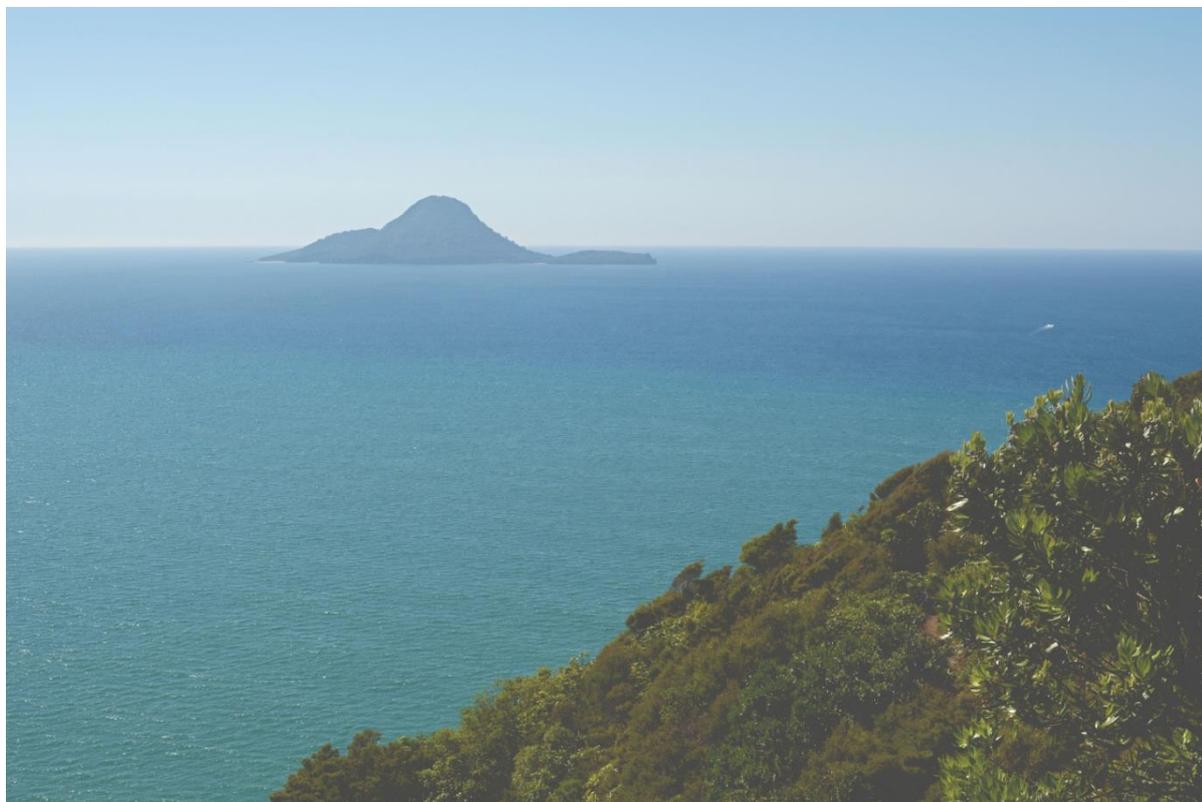
Kiwi Tracker Education Programme

Te Tapatoru-a-Toi received a request from the Whakatane Kiwi Trust and the Rotary Club of Whakatane West to develop a 'Kiwi Tracker' experiential learning programme in the Ōhope Scenic Reserve. This programme has established an education shelter to be used as an outdoor classroom, interpretation panels, listening posts, and upgrade of an existing track to achieve a learning experience for use by local school children and community groups. Te Tapatoru-a-Toi committee member Rapata Kopae conducted a whakanoa and whakawātea for the whare. The Te Tapatoru-a-Toi Committee visited the whare on March 18th 2014. Access to the whare across Ngāti Awa farmland was a point of uncertainty during the 2013-2014 year. The Committee and Ngāti Awa will continue to work at finding a mutually agreeable path forward.

8. OPERATIONAL REPORT

The Department of Conservation is responsible for carrying out all operational work tasks in the three reserves jointly managed by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi. The following is a summary of the more notable operational activities throughout the 2013-2014 financial year.

Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve



Moutohorā

PHOTO: Neil Robert Hutton

Moutohorā has a rich and interesting history both culturally and ecologically and is seen locally as a “jewel in the crown” by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi, Ngāti Awa and the Department of Conservation.

Moutohorā Visitor Facilities

Te Tapatoru-a-Toi was requested to give approval for the work to commence on the Moutohorā track upgrade. The upgrade involved track widening, installation of floating stairs, and a 5 metre long pedestrian bridge. The new track mitigates the potential for visitor injury and protects the archeological and environmental assets of the island. Work was also carried out on the bridge at Onepu (Sulphur Bay). With the majority of the work taking place in April 2013, with the track upgrade being completed in June 2014.

Biodiversity

Tuatara (*Sphenodon punctatus*) have been released onto Moutohorā on two separate occasions. The first release of 32 adult tuatara took place in 1996 followed by an additional 30 tuatara in 2008. From March 10th-14th 2014, the Department (with the support of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi) conducted a 5-year post-translocation monitor of tuatara on Moutohorā in order to determine

whether or not the 2008 release had been successful. Because this was the first survey since tuatara were originally reintroduced to the island the 'founder' tuatara from 1996 were also of special interest to the surveyors.

The tuatara monitor was considered a success. A total of 35 tuatara were captured over four survey nights including 10 tuatara from the 2008 relocation (signifying a survival rate of at least 33%). The tuatara showed significant growth, low parasite load, and good overall condition with very few missing digits. 13 untagged individuals (most likely juveniles) suggest breeding is successfully occurring on the island. The long-term self-sustainability of tuatara on the island (particularly Te Rātahi) is progressing positively.



PHOTO: Bridget Palmer

Pest Animal Control

Rodent contingency checks took place monthly with no visible rodent tracking or bait interference. The lack of rodent life on Moutohorā is a positive sign that the quarantine measures instituted by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi are effective, beneficial, and will continue to be monitored and audited by the Department. A feral pigeon shoot took place on the Eastern bluffs and Te Rātahi, in total 136 birds were destroyed.

Pest plants continue to be a concern on Moutohorā and ongoing attention will be required to limit their spread. Ground based weed control was carried out by DOC for pampas, formosan lilly, sea couch, and lupin. Aerial weed control took place as well with the utilization of Central Helicopters. Two loads were flown for pampas on the bluffs West of Oneroa (Boulder Bay) and one load for lupin in the clearings behind Te Rātahi (McEwan's Bay).

Fire Control

Fire is one of the most significant threats to the unique biodiversity and cultural values present on Moutohorā. The nature of the vegetation and climate on Moutohorā can result in extreme fire danger levels and for this reason the Department maintains a high level of readiness for fire on the island. Fire equipment was run/checked as per the schedule and a fire sprinkler system with foam fleck was installed on the island's hut.

Ōhope Scenic Reserve

The Ōhope Scenic Reserve is the largest of the three managed by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and the closest to residential housing. The reserve is an important landscape feature behind Ōhope and is increasingly used by regular and seasonal residents for recreation. It is also important for watershed protection and it has been a significant site for kiwi management since North Island brown kiwi were re-discovered there in 2000.

Visitor Facilities

The 2013-2014 financial year saw the completion of an educational whare which marks a significant milestone in the 'Kiwi Tracker' project. Expanding on the 2012-2013 installation of interpretation panels along the track, the educational whare serves as a focal point for the entire experiential learning trip. Work began in September 2013 and was completed February 2014.



PHOTO: Bridget Palmer

Te Tapatoru-a-Toi committee member Rapata Kopae conducted a whakanoa and whakawātea for the whare on Feb.28th, with the public opening taking place outside the 2013-2014 financial year. Construction of both the walk and the whare was made possible by funding from the Whakatane West Rotary Club, as well as the generous assistance with the build phase provided by the Department of Conservation and the Department of Corrections. The Te Tapatoru-ā-Toi Committee visited the whare on June 4th 2014 and it was agreed by all present that the structure would provide an important outdoor educational facility to be enjoyed by schools and to form a key part of the Kiwi Tracker educational resource.

Based on a cultural report initiated by the Whakatane Kiwi Trust, floating stairs (funded by the Ohope Lions) were installed in two different locations along the Kiwi Tracker walk. The stairs were installed as a requirement of the archaeological authority granted by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, and will serve to reduce erosion and human impact on Te Takapu-o-Toi Pā. The pā's presence on the Kiwi Tracker walk reinforces the significance of the area as a place rich in history for Ngāti Awa. Ngāti Awa and the Whakatane Kiwi Trust have a working relationship and have negotiated access across the Ngāti Awa Farm to join the Kiwi Tracker route. This is significant because it means school groups can readily access Ōhope Beach from the whare.



Education whare PHOTO: Neil Robert Hutton

Looking to the future, the Whakatāne Kiwi Trust is exploring the possibility of further enhancement of the educational whare through the inclusion of information panels, cultural

interpretation, and a composting toilet. These developments will require the continuation of the close relationship between the Whakatāne Kiwi Trust and Te Tapatoru-ā-Toi.

Rangatahi (Youth) Involvement

The Kiwi Tracker is an educational facility that is available free of charge to institutions providing biodiversity education to children such as: local schools, conservation groups, and non-profit organisations. This program serves to endorse Te Tapatoru-a-Toi aims to increase rangatahi (youth) involvement on the three reserves. Indeed, since the walk and shelter were completed, approximately 600 school children have completed the walk and outdoor education experience. An initial call was put out to all Whakatane/Ohope area schools. Schools such as Allendale, Awakeri, and Ohope Beach have since successfully utilized the walk. Given its initial successes, the Kiwi Tracker walk has the exciting opportunity to broaden the scope of the education program to the Bay of Plenty Region and perhaps eventually the whole of New Zealand. This would mark significant positive exposure for the excellent conservation work being done in all three reserves managed by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi.

Fairbrother Loop Interpretation Panels

Work continued on the Fairbrother Loop upgrade as per the CMP milestones. Significant work on the track upgrade took place during the 2013-2014 financial year. Interpretation panels were installed by the Department, with local contractors employed to assist with track work. All work has been carried out in compliance with the requirements of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust .

Bird Management

Sixteen kiwi chicks were monitored this season within the Ōhope Scenic Reserve. Of those 2 were predated, 2 died due to misadventure, and 1 due to coccidiosis (a soil-born parasite which disrupts digestion with deadly effect). The remaining 11 chicks are being monitored with special attention given to weight and microchipping.

A robin (toutouwhai) translocation program has been signed off and the Wildlife Act Handling Permit application was processed in Hamilton. Although the bulk of the planning and preparation for the robin translocation took place in the 2013-2014 financial year, the actual robin transfer from Mokoia Island has been moved to August 2014 on the recommendation of the Department. An August transfer will give the new robins the best possible chance to successfully adapt to their new surroundings in the Ōhope Scenic Reserve.

Pest Management

The Whakatane Kiwi Trust manages nearly 400 stoat and rat traps in and around the 489 ha reserve. The traps are serviced by a bimonthly team of volunteers. Annual possum and rat control is managed by the Whakatane Kiwi Trust on behalf of the partners to the Whakatane - Ohope Sites Biodiversity Management Plan, and is carried out by contractor Rapaera Black Ltd. This work is crucial to the continued health of the Ōhope Scenic Reserve's large kiwi population.

Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve



Tauwhare Pā looking to Ohiwa

PHOTO: Neil Robert Hutton

The Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve is a place rich in history for Ngāti Awa and was established by the ancient tribe Te Hapuoneone. The vegetation of Tauwhare has been substantially modified through natural processes and human intervention but the historical character is strong. Over the last 20 years, work in the reserve has concentrated on weed control, grass-mowing on the pā site and basic access to the reserve from the Ōhope to Ohiwa road.

Visitor Facilities

The most significant operational work at Tauwhare Pā in the 2013-2014 financial year was the completion of 'Stage 1' of the Tauwhare Pā entrance upgrade project. The project, which involved a number of different people and organisations, aims to enhance the public appeal and awareness of the iconic pā. Stage 1 of the project involved the creation of improved public car parking (including tour bus parking) and access from the highway, a waharoa (carved archway), and appropriate interpretation panels. The completion of the waharoa helps unify the Tauwhare Pā with the Ōhope Scenic Reserve which had a waharoa installed in 2009. The existence of waharoa at both sites will encourage locals and tourists alike to utilize the reserves and brings a certain amount of continuity to the jointly managed spaces. The whakairo (carvings) on the Tauwhare Pā waharoa represent Te Keepa Toihau, Mereaiara Rangihoea, Mereaira Koroahi, Kape Tautini, Te Pirini Tautini. The lower figures (Ko Ngā Uri a Te Keepa) represent the descendants of the tīpuna portrayed on the waharoa.

Part of Te Tapatoru-a-Toi's work facilitating the entrance upgrade project involved holding a consultation with Upokorehe iwi. This consultation was held in order to offer recognition of Upokorehe iwi's significant historical affiliation with the pā site. The consultation took place in July at the Kutarere Marae.



The entrance upgrade project was officially opened on October 12th 2013. A dawn karakia was held at 6am followed by a public opening at 9am. Formal invites were sent to members of the Whakatane District Council, Upokorehe iwi, Ngāti Awa iwi, Opus, Fulton Hogan, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Ohope Beach Community Board, and the Whakatane Kiwi Trust.

Tauwhare Pā Opening

PHOTO: Mike Jones

The completion of the work and continued maintenance, while led by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and the Department, also involved collaborative work with Transit NZ and the Whakatane District Council. The Whakatane District Council has kindly agreed to help with the maintenance of the upgrade by way of rubbish removal and mowing. In his letter of thanks to the Whakatane District Council, Te Tapatoru-a-Toi's Chairman John Hohapata-Oke noted: "We commend the joint approach to maintaining the site going forward recognising the unique location of this truly iconic site steeped in cultural richness on the outskirts of our beautiful town. This is a great example of government departments collaborating resources for the benefit of our local community and in particular the many visitors and tourists that visit our town."

The successful completion of the first stage of the Tauwhare Pā entrance upgrade project paved the way for Te Tapatoru-a-Toi to pursue stage 2. The key aspects of stage 2 are the further development of interpretation panels around the site, installation of a street light in the carpark, and a lighting feature for the waharoa (archway). The lighting has the added benefit of discouraging vandalism such as graffiti. Such vandalism has already taken place this year and the issue is being monitored by the Department.

Pest Control

Other operational work at Tauwhare Pā involved the continuation of pest plant control.

Like the other two reserves under Te Tapatoru-a-Toi's management, controlling and containing pest plants / weed species will be an ongoing effort.

9. RESEARCH

The research projects active in the reserves in the 2013–2014 financial year:

- I. Tuatara research: Moutohorā (Whale Island) Tuatara population survey. Mithuna Sothieson
- II. Tieke (Saddleback) research: Moutohorā (Whale Island) Tieke survey. Preparation work through 2013-14, with fieldwork conducted July 2014. Mithuna Sothieson

10. CONCESSIONS

Moutohorā

- ▶ Diveworks Charters and White Island Tours concessions to each take a set number of visitors to Moutohorā every day. Both expire 1 December 2015.
- ▶ Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa: Cultural guided walks. Expires 2022.
- ▶ Whakatane Radio Telephone Users Association: Transmission mast and equipment for radio/telephone communications. The term of this concession expires 2017.
- ▶ Institute of Geological Sciences Limited. Water and steam sampling at Onepu (Sulphur Bay). Expires 31st May 2023.
- ▶ Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS Science): Construction of an earthquake recording facility adjacent to the Radio Users Group building on Moutohorā for the purpose of monitoring earthquakes in the Bay of Plenty. Equipment includes seismic monitoring equipment and associated power and telemetry systems. Expires 2031.
- ▶ Sarah Wells: Research permit for tūi on Moutohorā and Ōhope. Expires 9th June 2014.

Ōhope Scenic Reserve

- ▶ Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa: Cultural guided walks. Expires 2022.
- ▶ Whakatane Athletics and Harrier Club, permit to conduct Toi's Challenge race annually in November. Expires 30th September 2014.
- ▶ Learning Journeys Ltd: Guided walks. Expires 19th August 2014.
- ▶ Walking Legends (Hilary Sheaff and Robert Franklin): Guided walks. Expires Nov. 2023

Tauwhare Pā

- ▶ Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa: Cultural guided walks. Expires 2022.

11. BUSINESS PLAN FOR 2014-2015

The purpose of the annual business plan is to ensure the Committee and the Department achieves the milestones defined within the Te Tapui Tokotoru – Conservation Management Plan 2008–2018 document. These milestones were developed by Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and define the key deliverables for the three reserves within the 10 year timeframe.

The business plan is developed by collaboration between the Department and Te Tapatoru-a-Toi during committee meetings in the first half of each calendar year. The business plan also defines relevant work within the three reserves that is not directly related to the milestones but is still important from a management perspective.

The business plan developed for 2013-2014 had minimal input from the Committee due in part to the major restructuring of the Department in September 2013. Standard operational activities will continue to be a major focus on the three reserves in the 2014-2015 financial year. Important proposed projects for the 2014-2015 year include:

- Stage 2 of the Tauwhare Pā entrance upgrade
- Completion of the Moutohorā Ecological Restoration Plan
- Translocation of kuia (grey-faced petrel) from Moutohorā and toutouwai (robin) to Ōhope Scenic Reserve

12. CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN MILESTONES

The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) 2008–2018 is a document which provides direction for Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and the prioritization of work on the three reserves. There was a renewed emphasis on the importance of the CMP during the 2013-2014 year and special attention was placed on CMP milestone monitoring. The CMP milestones are divided into 3 year, 5 year, and 10 year completion goals. This being the 2013-2014 period the 5 year milestones are of special interest. For a more detailed evaluation of CMP Milestones please see Appendix I.

Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve

3 Year Milestones	
1. Island restoration/recovery plan and operational programme completed.	
2. Biosecurity plan in place and operational.	
3. Fire protection measures in place and operational.	
4. Ngāti Awa cultural visit protocol completed and operational.	
5. Visitor monitoring programme developed.	
6. Reserve boundary changed to Mean Low Water Springs.	

5 Year Milestones

1. Historic and cultural heritage assessment completed.	
2. Assessment of telecommunications needs and alternative technologies represented	

Ōhope Scenic Reserve

3. Interpretation developed concession
4. Research strategy
5. Visitor carriage

5 Year Milestones	
1. Operational plan for pest plant and animal programmes completed.	
2. Interpretation and visitor information package developed and implemented.	
3. Improved visitor facilities completed.	
4. Fairbrother Loop Track redevelopment completed.	
5. Neighbour and boundary management protocol developed and agreed.	

10 Year Milestones

1. Research strategy developed and implemented.	
2. Historical and cultural assessment completed.	
3. Conservation plan for culturally significant sites completed.	

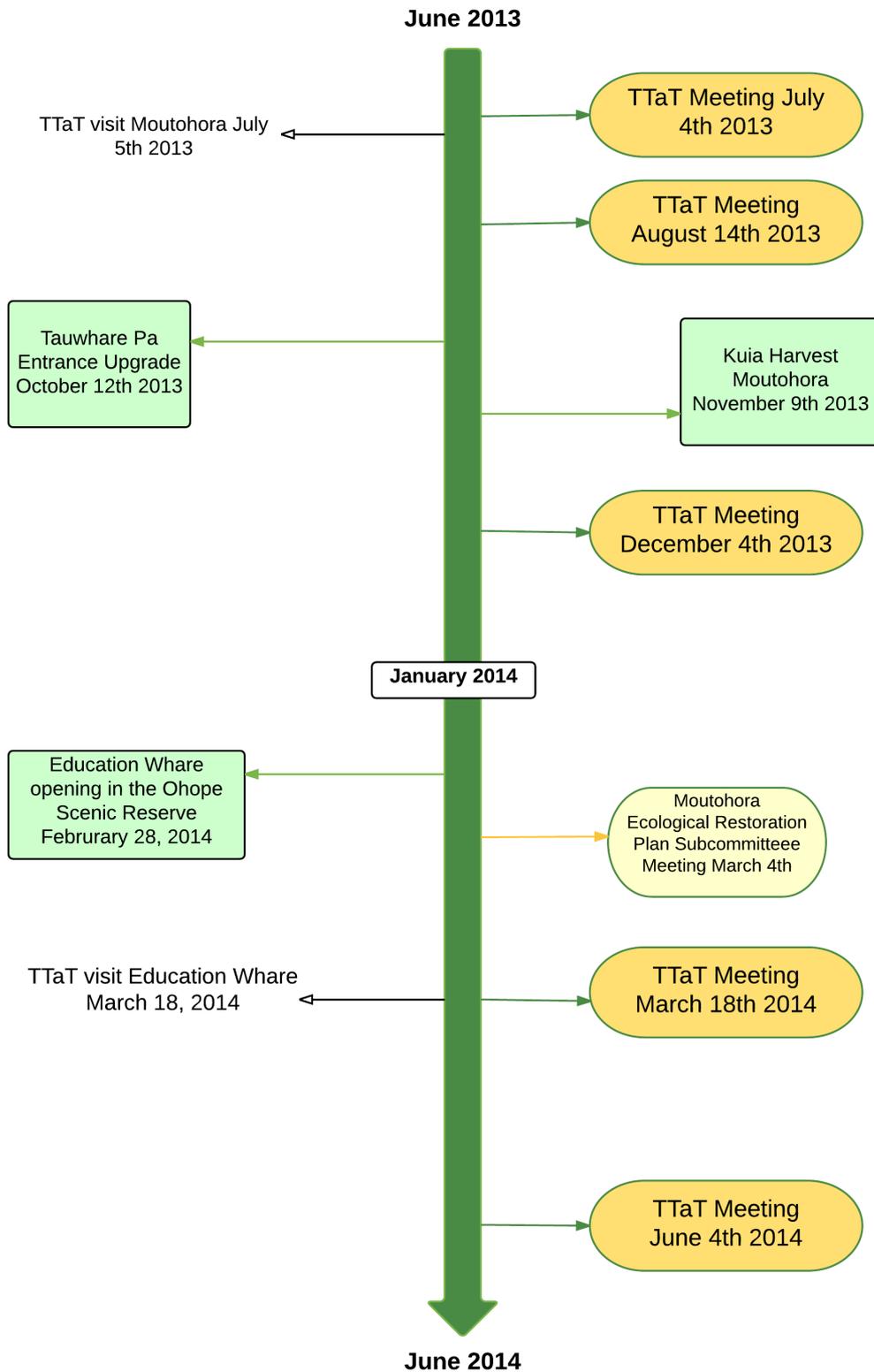
Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

5 Year Milestones	
1. Restoration plan and culturally significant sites identified, including vegetation management.	
2. Visitor information developed and implemented.	
3. Neighbour and boundary protocol developed.	
4. Historic and cultural heritage assessment completed.	
5. Conservation plan for culturally significant sites completed.	

10 Year Milestones	
1. Natural character and landscape setting understood by the community.	

13. TIMELONE 2013-2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

The following graphic is a timeline of significant events in the 2013-2014 financial year for Te Tapatoru-a-Toi.



14. OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE

As Te Tapatoru-a-Toi looks ahead the Committee is hopeful that the 2013 restructuring of the Department will have a positive impact. Of special note is the creation of a 'treaty implementation ranger' dedicated to the Committee. This new position will provide a consistent support role for Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and promises to bring continuity and clarity to the ongoing relationship between Te Tapatoru-a-Toi and the Department. Further benefits of the restructure may emerge as the embedding process continues.

The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) is set to expire in 2018. The long term milestones of the plan carry a 10 year completion goal and are quickly approaching.

APPENDIX I

MILESTONES of Conservation Management Plan 2008-2018

Moutohorā Wildlife Management Reserve

1. **Island restoration/recovery plan and operational programme completed.**
 - a. Subcommittee 2013/2014
 - b. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED
2. **Biosecurity plan in place and operational.**
 - a. 2009/2010
 - b. 2010/2011 quarantine signage installed
3. **Historic and cultural heritage assessment completed.**
 - a. Nga Tapuwae Tatai Hiko Hiko 2009/2010
 - b. Historic Heritage Protection Procedures 2010
4. **Fire protection measures in place and operational.**
 - a. 'Moutohorā Fire Response Plan' 2010/2011
5. **Assessment of telecommunications needs and alternative technologies and sites completed with user representatives.**
 - a. 'Moutohorā Telecommunications Facilities and Services Review Project' 2010
6. **Ngāti Awa cultural visit protocol completed and operational.**
 - a. 'Moutohorā Visitor Assessment' 2012/2013
 - b. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED
7. **Interpretation and educational plan and programme developed and implemented, including standards for concessionaires.**
 - a. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED
8. **Research strategy completed.**
 - a. 'Moutohorā Research Strategy' 2011/2012
9. **Visitor monitoring programme developed.**
 - a. In lieu of a specific Moutohorā visitor monitoring programme, Departmental standard operating procedures for island reserve visitation have been utilized.
10. **Visitor carrying capacity assessed.**
 - a. 'Moutohorā Visitor Assessment' 2012/2013
11. **Reserve boundary changed to Mean Low Water Springs.**
 - a. 2009/2010

Ōhope Scenic Reserve

- 1. Operational plan for pest plant and animal programmes completed.**
 - a. 'Biodiversity Management Plan' July 2011
- 2. Interpretation and visitor information package developed and implemented.**
 - a. No single package has been developed.
 - b. Whakatane Kiwi Trust has developed 'Kiwi Tracker' educational programme.
- 3. Improved visitor facilities completed.**
 - a. Waharoa 2009/2010
 - b. Interpretation panels 2012/2013
- 4. Fairbrother Loop Track redevelopment completed.**
 - a. Interpretation panels 2013/2014
- 5. Research strategy developed and implemented.**
 - a. 10 year milestone
- 6. Neighbour and boundary management protocol developed and agreed.**
 - a. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED
- 7. Historical and cultural assessment completed.**
 - a. 10 year milestone
- 8. Conservation plan for culturally significant sites completed.**
 - a. 10 year milestone

Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

- 1. Restoration plan and culturally significant sites identified, including vegetation management.**
 - a. No single plan has been developed.
 - b. Yearly Department business plan details vegetation management.
- 2. Visitor information developed and implemented.**
 - a. Waharoa 2013
- 3. Neighbour and boundary protocol developed.**
 - a. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED
- 4. Natural character and landscape setting understood by the community.**
 - a. 10 year milestone
- 5. Historic and cultural heritage assessment completed.**
 - a. 'Tauwhare Pā Conservation Plan' 2000
 - b. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED
- 6. Conservation plan for culturally significant sites completed.**
 - a. No single plan has been developed.

b. MILESTONE NOT ACHIEVED

APPENDIX II

TE TAPATORU-A-TOI FUNCTIONS UNDER SUBPART 5 (SECTIONS 71–77) OF THE NGĀTI AWA CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 2005 “NACSA”).

71 Interpretation

- In this subpart, unless the context otherwise requires,—
Bay of Plenty Conservation Board means the Conservation Board established under [section 6L](#) of the Conservation Act 1987
Commissioner has the same meaning as in [section 2\(1\)](#) of the Reserves Act 1977
joint management committee means the committee appointed in accordance with this subpart
jointly managed sites means—
 - (a) Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve; and
 - (b) Ōhope Scenic Reserve; and
 - (c) Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve**Minister** means the Minister of Conservation
Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve means the island described by that name in attachment 5.2 of the Ngāti Awa deed of settlement
Ōhope Scenic Reserve means the land described by that name in attachment 5.2 of the Ngāti Awa deed of settlement
Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve means the land described by that name in attachment 5.2 of the Ngāti Awa deed of settlement.

Membership of joint management committee

72 Appointment of members of joint management committee

- (1) The Minister must appoint the members of the joint management committee in accordance with [section 73](#).
(2) Every member of the committee is appointed by notice published in the *Gazette*.
(3) A member takes office for a term of 5 years from the date specified in the notice of appointment, and may be reappointed.
(4) The Minister may, from time to time, appoint additional members and remove members (including individuals nominated by other claimants).

73 Constitution of joint management committee

- (1) The joint management committee must consist of:
 - (a) 2 members nominated by the Director-General to the Minister;
 - (b) 3 members nominated by the Ngāti Awa governance entity to the Director-General;
 - (c) 1 member nominated by the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board to the Director-General.
- (2) Unless all members of the committee agree otherwise, members must appoint a chairperson.

74 Powers and functions delegated to joint management committee

- (1) The Minister must delegate to the joint management committee the Minister's powers and functions under the [Reserves Act 1977](#) as set out in attachment 5.3 of the Ngāti Awa deed of settlement.

(2) The Minister and the Commissioner must delegate to the committee their powers and functions under [section 22\(5\)](#) of the Reserves Act 1977 in respect of the Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve.

(3) The powers and functions delegated under subsection (2) include the power to grant a permit to members of Ngāti Awa to enter the Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve for the purpose of collecting relevant hangi stones in accordance with [section 86](#).

(4) The delegations under subsections (1) and (2)—

- (a) must be in writing; and
- (b) may be revoked by the Minister in accordance with [section 84](#).

(5) The delegations by the Minister under this section do not prevent the Minister from exercising the powers and functions concerned.

75 Functions of joint management committee

- The functions of the joint management committee are to—
 - (a) exercise the delegations referred to in [section 74\(1\) and \(2\)](#); and
 - (b) advise the Minister, the Director-General, the New Zealand Conservation Authority, and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board in relation to the conservation of the jointly managed sites.

76 Advice on conservation matters

- The Minister, the Director-General, the New Zealand Conservation Authority, and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board must consult with, and have regard to the advice of, the joint management committee in relation to the conservation of the jointly managed sites and, in particular, concerning the following:
 - (a) the development of conservation policy;
 - (b) conservation management;
 - (c) annual business planning.

77 Committee to be Conservation Board for jointly managed sites

- (1) The joint management committee has, for the purposes of [section 40B](#) of the Reserves Act 1977, all the powers and functions of a Conservation Board established under [section 6L](#) of the Conservation Act 1987 in relation to the jointly managed sites.
- (2) To avoid doubt, the relevant Conservation Board must not exercise any of the powers and functions referred in subsection (1) in relation to the jointly managed sites.

APPENDIX III

DELEGATED POWERS AS IN KAWA ME NGA TIKANGA DOCUMENT

Schedule (Attachment 5.3 of Ngāti Awa Deed of Settlement dated 27 March 2003)

Powers and functions delegated in respect of the Ōhope Scenic Reserve and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

Sections of the Reserves Act 1977	Summary of Powers	Limitation of Powers
S42(1)	<p>Give or decline to give express written consent to the cutting or destruction of trees and bush on the Reserve.</p> <p>Determine terms and conditions subject to which consent is given.</p>	The delegation applies only to exotic trees and bush.
S45	<p>Give or decline to give prior approval; to the Commissioner to erect, or authorise any voluntary organisation or educational institution to erect shelters, huts, cabins, lodges and similar resting or sleeping accommodation on the reserve.</p> <p>Determine terms and conditions as to location, structure, custody, use or otherwise as the Joint Management Committee approves.</p>	The delegation applies only where the use is provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan for the Reserve.
S46(2)	Grant or decline to grant, by notice in the Gazette, the right to bury or inter the remains of deceased Māori in a place in the Reserve to be specified.	

S50(1)	<p>Authorise or decline to authorise any person to take and kill any specified kind of fauna that may be found in the Reserve.</p> <p>Impose conditions on giving the authorisation.</p> <p>Authorise or decline to authorise the use of firearms, traps, nets, or other like objects within the Reserve for the foregoing purposes.</p>	The delegation is for non-protected exotic fauna only.
S51(1)	<p>Authorise or decline to authorise in writing the Commissioner to introduce indigenous flora or fauna into the Reserve.</p> <p>Impose conditions on giving the authorisation.</p>	Authorisations can only be given if provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan for the Reserve.
S51(1)(a)	Grant or decline to grant prior approval to the Commissioner to any planting of trees or shrubs on the Reserve.	Only exercisable where the planting is provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan for the Reserve.
S55(2)	Give or decline to give prior consent to the Commissioner to carry out any of the matters specified in sections 55(2) (a), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of the Reserves Act 1977.	Only exercisable where the matter is provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan for the Reserve.
S74(1)(b)(ii)	Consent or decline to consent to the Commissioner granting a license in respect of the Reserve.	Only exercisable where the activity is provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan for the Reserve or the activity is an existing use and the effects of the use will be the same in similar character, intensity and scale.

Powers and functions in respect of Moutohorā (Whale Island) Wildlife Management Reserve, Ōhope Scenic Reserve, and Tauwhare Pā Scenic Reserve

Sections of the Reserves Act 1977	Summary of Powers	Limitation of Powers
S49	<p>Grant or decline to grant in writing the right to any qualified person to take specified specimens of flora or fauna or rock mineral or soil from the Reserves.</p> <p>Form an opinion as to whether a qualified person has the necessary credentials.</p> <p>Impose conditions on the grant in writing.</p>	
S59A(1)	In accordance with Part IIIB of the Conservation Act 1987, grant or refuse a concession in respect of the Reserves.	Only exercisable where the activity is provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan for the reserve or the activity is existing use and will be the same or similar in character, intensity and scale.

General Powers

Sections of the Reserves Act 1977	Summary of Powers	Limitation of Powers
S121	Where, under any delegation provided for in parts A and B of this <i>Attachment 5.3</i> , the consent or approval of the Joint Management Committee is required, the Joint Management Committee may give its consent or approval subject to such conditions as it thinks fit.	