

TE RŪNANGA PAPA ATAWHAI O TE TAI TOKERAU
Northland Conservation Board

Annual Report 2023-2024



Annual Report of the Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau Northland Conservation Board

For the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

*Presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao O
Aotearoa pursuant to section 60 of the Conservation Act 1987*

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Back cover photo: sunrise overlooking the water at Paihia

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Edward Ellison
Chairperson
New Zealand Conservation Authority
PO Box 10420
Wellington 6143

Tēnā koe Edward

On behalf of the Board, it is our pleasure to present, in terms of section 6O of the Conservation Act 1987, the Annual Report of the Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau/Northland Conservation Board (the Board) for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

I wish to acknowledge the passion and dedication of our team. While Board members come and go, we always retain a fantastic, diverse group of people. All are juggling many other demands of their time yet still manage to contribute to our Board mahi and make a difference for conservation. We farewelled both John Tiatoa and Liam Ratana due to personal circumstances. We wish them well in their new endeavours.

Thanks to Sue Reed-Thomas, NNI Director, Operation Managers and the DOC whanau for their continual support as tough times continue for conservation. Finding the incoming government's 6.5% 'savings' is demanding hard choices. Biodiversity inevitably suffers, and for those of us who care we also feel that pain...

'Toitū te marae a Tane, Toitū te marae a Tangaroa, Toitū te iwi'
If the land is well and the sea is well, the people will thrive

While Board members come and go, the commitment and enthusiasm to make a difference for our whenua and taonga does not falter.

"Manawa mo te Taiao"
Hope for the natural world

Ngā mihi nui



Nyree Manuel
Chairperson
Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau/Northland Conservation Board

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1. INTRODUCTION

This is the 32nd Conservation Board Annual Report. Section 6(O) of the Conservation Act requires conservation boards to provide the New Zealand Conservation Authority (**Authority**) with an annual report as soon as practical after 30 June each year. In recognition of this requirement Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau|Northland Conservation Board (**Board**) submits this Annual Report.

Conservation boards are independent advisory bodies, established by statute. They represent the community and offer interaction between communities and the Department of Conservation (**Department**), within their area of jurisdiction.

Conservation board members are appointed by the Minister of Conservation under section 6(P) of the Conservation Act 1987 (**Act**). Board functions are outlined in section 6(M) and the powers, which enable the conservation boards to carry out those functions, are under 6(N) of the Act. The Board has several statutory roles under various Acts, including:

- the recommendation of the Northland Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) to the Authority for approval
- advising the Department and the Authority on how conservation management strategies and plans will be put into practice.
- reporting on the implementation of the CMS
- the recommendation of national park management plans to the Authority for approval
- advising the Department and Authority on conservation matters, and proposed changes to status of land of national and international significance
- liaising with the regional Fish and Game Council on conservation matters
- carrying out other powers delegated by the Minister of Conservation, the Conservation Act or any other Act.

Conservation boards also have several functions under section 30 of the National Parks Act 1980. These functions include recommending the review or amendment of national park management plans and recommending approval of these plans by the Authority.

2. ROHE

Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau|Northland Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers the area of 3,009,950.76 hectares. The jurisdiction covers the area south of Rangaunu Harbour to Hokianga Harbour, and down south to Kaipara Heads and across to Mangawhai Heads. It includes groups of offshore islands, Taranga, Marotiri and Tūturu / The Hen and Chickens and Tawhitirahi and Aorangi / Poor Knights. Although the Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board sits above it, Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau|Northland Conservation Board still manages the coastal area around the Te Hiku rohe. The area extends out to the 12-nautical mile limit with respect to coastal and marine issues and out to the 200-nautical mile limit with respect to protected species.



Figure 1. Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau|Northland Conservation Board Jurisdiction

2.1 Tangata whenua

Ngāti Kahu – Matarahurahu, Ngāi Tohianga, Ngāti Ruati, Ngāti Tara, Ngāti Taranga, Patu Koraha, Pikaahu, Pikaahu/Te Paatu, Te Paatu, Te Rorohuri, Te Tahawai, Te Whānau Moana, Whānau Pani/Ngāi Tauurutakaware

Ngāpuhi – Ngāti Hao, Ngāti Hau, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Kahu o Torongare, Te Kapotai, Te Parawhau, Te Patuharakeke, Te Uri o Hau, Te Uriroi, Ngāti Horahia, Ngāti Moe, Ngāti Te Rino, Ngāti Toki, Ngāti Whakahotu, Ngāti Whakaminenga, Te Kumutu, Te Parawhau, Ngāi Tāwake, Ngāi Tāwake ki te Waoku, Ngāitu te Auru (Ngaitu), Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Hinemutu, Ngāti Kura, Ngāti Māhia, Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Tautahi, Ngāti Ueoneone, Ngāti Whakaeke, Takoto Kē, Te Uri o Hua, Kōhatutaka, Ngāti Hao, Te Honihoni, Te Uri Mahue, Ngāi Tāwake ki te Tuawhenua, Ngāti Tāwake ki te Moana, Ngāti Korokoro, Ngāti Pakau, Ngāti Rauwawe, Ngāti Te Pou, Ngāti Toro, Ngāti Wharara, Te Hikutu, Te Māhurehure, Te Ngahengahe, Te Roroa, Ngāti Tupango, Ngāti Hineira, Ngāti Kawa, Ngāti Kirihi, Ngāti Korohue, Ngāti Kura, Ngāti Mau, Ngāti Miru, Ngāti Moko, Ngāti Rāhiri, Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Rēhia, Ngāti Tautahi, Ngāti Torehina, Ngāti Whakaeke, Te Māhurehure, Te Popoto, Te Uri Hoatau, Te Uri Taniwha, Te Whanauwhero, Whanautara, Ngāti Kuta, Ngāti Manu, Patukeha, Te Rauwera, Te Uni Ongaonga, Ngāti Kopaki, Ngāti Ngāherehere, Ngāti Te Ara, Ngāti Te Tāwera, Te Kau I Mua, Te Orewai

Te Roroa – does not have hapu

Ngatiwai – Ngāti Korora, Ngāti Kura, Ngāti Manuhiri, Ngāti Rehua, Ngāti Taka, Ngāti Toki, Te Patuharekeke, Te Uri o Hikihiki, Te Whānau o Rangihuaakahu, Te Whānau Whero

Ngāti Whatua – Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Kaiwhare, Ngāti Kauae, Ngāti Mauku, Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Tāhinga, Te Uri o Hau

2.2 Conservation features of the area

The main features of Public Conservation Land and Waters within the Board's boundaries are:

- Hōuto Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 941.17 ha
- Hūkerenui Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 405.38 ha
- Kaihū Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 2,405.17 ha
- Kaiikanui Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 1,157.30 ha
- Marlborough Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 3,981.86 ha
- Mataraua Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 5,402.55 ha
- Maungataniwha Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 1,156.91 ha
- Ōmahuta Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 6,588.71 ha
- Ōpua Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 1,923.83 ha
- Pukenui Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 594.50 ha
- Puketī Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 7,325.26 ha
- Ruapekapeka Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 384.70 ha
- Russell Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 7,121.22 ha
- Tangihua Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 3,218.37 ha
- Waikino Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 973.95 ha
- Waimā Forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 4,352.23 ha
- Waipoua forest (Pt Northland Conservation Park) – 12,291.83 ha

- 1 Ecological Area – 33.54 ha
- 175 Scenic Reserves – 18,663.77 ha
- 18 Historic Reserves – 195.18 ha
- 42 Recreation Reserves – 1,672.15 ha
- 179 Stewardship Areas – 19,143.73 ha
- 324 Marginal Strips – 2,013.30 ha
- 1 Specially Protected Area – 547.60 ha
- 2 Marine Reserves – 2,161.8 ha
- 1 Sanctuary to protect Marine Mammals – 286,021.13 ha

2.3 Conservation issues in the area

Approximately 2.73% of all public conservation land in Aotearoa lies within the region. The large number of issues which are of interest to the Board include:

- Hokianga Harbour Wellbeing
- Kauri Ora / Kauri Dieback Disease
- Myrtle Rust Disease
- RMS Niagara Shipwreck
- Bay of Islands Marine Mammal Sanctuary
- Tara Iti (Fairy Tern) Conservation
- Stewardship Land Policy
- Biosecurity

3. FUNCTIONS

3.1 Board functions under section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987

The functions of the Board are:

- 1) To recommend the approval by the Authority of conservation management strategies, and the review and amendment of such strategies, under the relevant enactments
- 2) To approve conservation management plans, and the review an amendment of such plans, under the relevant enactments
- 3) To advise the Authority and the Director-General on the implementation of conservation management strategies and conservation management plans for the area within the jurisdiction of the Board
- 4) To advise the Authority or the Director-General on any proposed change of status or classification of any area of national or international importance
- 5) To advise the Authority or the Director-General on any other conservation matter relating to any area with the jurisdiction of the Board
- 6) To liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matter within the jurisdiction of the Board
- 7) To exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Minister under this Act or any other Act.

3.2 Board power under section 6N of the Conservation Act 1987

- 1) Every conservation board shall have all such powers as are reasonably necessary or expedient to enable it to carry out its functions.

- 2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), each conservation board may –
 - i. Advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process; and
 - ii. Appoint committees of members and other suitable persons, and delegate to them functions and powers.
- 3) The power conferred by subsection (2)(a) shall include the right to appear before courts and tribunals in New Zealand and be heard on matters affecting or relating to the Board’s functions.

3.3 Board functions under section 30 of the National Parks Act 1980

- 1) to recommend management plans, and the review or amendment of such plans, for parks within the jurisdiction of the Board in accordance with sections 45 to 47:
- 2) to consider and determine priorities for the implementation of management plans for national parks:
- 3) to make recommendations to the Minister for the appointment of honorary rangers under section 40:
- 4) to review and report to the Director-General or the Authority, as appropriate, on the effectiveness of the administration of the general policies for national parks within the jurisdiction of the Board:
- 5) to give advice to the Director-General or the Authority—
 - i. on the interpretation of any management plan for a park; and
 - ii. on any proposal for the addition of land to any national park or the establishment of a new national park; and
 - iii. on any other matter relating to any national park, within the jurisdiction of the Board.

4. MEMBERSHIP

The Minister of Conservation appoints Board members under section 6P of the Conservation Act 1987. The process of appointment ensures that a range of perspectives, life experiences, and knowledge contribute to the advice provided and decisions made by the Board.

Board members are appointed for 3-year terms and may be re-appointed unless they are appointed in replacement of a prior member’s term. There were seven Board members for the reporting year. Nyree Manuel was re-elected Chairperson and Robert Newport (Blue) was elected the Deputy Chairperson at a Formal Meeting 10 November 2023.

New Board Member appointments within the 2023/2024 year:

- Penny Smart
- Kārena Joyce-Paki

Robert Newport has been successfully reappointment for a 3-year term

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024:

Board Member	Area	Term start	Term end
Nyree (Nyze) Manuel - Chair	Kaeo	01 July 2021	30 June 2024
John Tiatoa — resigned	Kerikeri	01 July 2022	25 October 2023
Kayla Raines	Kawakawa	01 July 2021	28 June 2024
Robert (Blue) Newport - Deputy Chair	Ōkaihau	01 July 2020	11 July 2024
Liam Rātana – resigned	Whangārei	01 July 2022	26 June 2023
Penny Smart	Dargaville	01 July 2023	30 June 2024
Kārena Joyce-Paki	Dargaville	01 July 2023	30 June 2026

4.1 Members profiles

Nyree Porter (Chair): Nyze was appointed to the board on 1 July 2021 for a three-year term. Of Ngāpuhi ki Whangaroa, Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa, Te Arawa, and Ngāpuhi decent. She is on the Board of Te Runanga o Whāingaroa, Kaitiaki Whangaroa, and Karangahape Marae Trust. She is well-known in the community and offers an intricate knowledge of tikanga Māori. Nyree will be seeking re-appointment for a further 3-year term.

John Tiatoa John (Ngāti Awa ki Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Manaia ki Ngāpuhi, Uri o Pou ki Ngāpuhi) holds multiple chairperson and executive roles focusing on research and development for whānau, hapū and iwi trusts and charitable organisations. John is also a policy advisor for the Māori interest within Article 2 of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and oversees the implementation of that interest into New Zealand's domestic and international policy. Due to other commitments, John resigned from the Board 25 October 2023.

Kayla Raines: Kayla is a native nursery production worker. She has previous experience as a floriculturist within the horticultural sector. She has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Biodiversity Management. She is involved in several community conservation and Landcare projects involving species monitoring and restoration planting

Robert (Blue) Newport (Deputy Chair): He is currently Chair of the Pou Herenga Tai Twin Coast Cycle Trail Trust (Opuā to Horeke) and has chaired the Ōkaihau Community Association for the last 30 years. Recently retired from a 40 + year teaching career in tourism and social sciences, he is involved in the Ōkaihau community in various beautification and environmental maintenance projects. He is a Queen Elizabeth II National Trust covenant owner.

Liam Ratana: Liam (Ngāti Wairupe raua ko Ngāti Kuri ki Herekino) is currently the Chair of his whānau trust and on the Executive Committee for his hapū. He is self-employed, working with a number of regional and national governmental organisations, NGOs, not-for-profits, and even SMEs as a business and communications consultant. An internationally published journalist, Liam also studied towards a conjoint Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts at The University of Auckland. Due to significant personal circumstances Liam resigned from the Board 26 June 2023.

Penny Smart: Penny farms with her husband on the outskirts of Dargaville in Kaipara. She has an Agricultural Business Diploma and an Alternative Dispute Diploma. Penny has interests in governance and environmental roles. She served six years on the Northland Regional Council between 2016 and 2022. The family farm is a Navigator Farm for the Kaipara Moana Remediation Project and Penny is a Trustee of Rural Support Northland and the Northland Dairy Development Trust. Penny is seeking a renomination for a 3-year term.

Kārena Joyce-Paki: Appointed to the Board in 2023, having previously worked at Te Papa Atawhai for 14 years based in the Kauri Coast. Mokopuna o Te Aupōuri, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Whātua - living with her whānau in Kaihu just south of Waipoua Forest. Commits time working with youth as the Pou Whirinaki for Rangatahi Ora. A keen interest in governance previously with Kaipara District Council between 2016 – 2022, also holding Trustee roles in the community. Joined FENZ Local Advisory Committee in 2020, currently Vice Chair and a member of FENZ External Māori Advisory Roopū. Kārena is currently with Stats NZ, Tatauranga Aotearoa as the Regional Manager Te Tai Tokerau.

5. MEETINGS AND FIELDTRIPS

The Board held a total of 6 meetings (4 x Formal Meetings and 2 x Working Meetings) during the reporting period and 2 site visits. Meetings were held in a central location due to the vast jurisdiction area of the board.

Meeting date	Location/Venue
9 August 2023	#1 Formal Meeting via Microsoft Teams
5 October 2023	Te Ara Hou/New Pathway (Joint Hui), Kerikeri Session 1
25 October 2023	Te Ara Hou/New Pathway, Kaikohe – Session 2
10 November 2023	#2 Formal Meeting via Microsoft Teams
7 March 2024	#3 Formal Meeting via Microsoft Teams
24 April 2024	Joint Site Visit to Waipoua Forest
10 May 2024	#4 Formal Meeting, Te Kona, Kaikohe
7 June 2024	Joint Site Visit to J4N Projects in Te Kao, Te Aupouri

5.1 Agendas

The agendas and minutes from all Board meetings can be found on the Board’s webpage.

5.2 Field trips and site inspections

Field trips are an excellent opportunity for Board members to become more aware of conservation issues within their region.

25/4/2024 - Waipoua Forest – invitation extended to Te Hiku Conservation Board members. It was unfortunate members did not take up the opportunity to see the collaboration work between Te Papa Atawhai and Te Roroa Iwi.



The joint trip to Waipoua Kauri Forest hosted by Te Roroa was very positive – despite the low numbers of Board members who were able to attend there is great work and collaboration taking place.



Real merit in and support from Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau members for the Te Roroa and DOC initiative 'Rakau Rangatira'.

An excellent presentation by Phillip Goulter, Strategic Projects Manager - Raukau Rangatira. This initiative is designed to address Kauri Dieback, Visitor Safety, Insufficient/Aging Infrastructure and Adverse effects on the Environment. Funding has been put aside and is available for the initiative

Stephen Soole, Operations Manager, Kauri Coast and his staff provided an overview of their work at-place. Thank you for your manaakitanga.

7/6/2024 - J4N, Te Kao, Te Aupouri – we were invited by the Te Hiku Conservation Board to visit J4N work carried out in Te Kao. The weather was rough and wild, however the awhi and manaaki by Te Aupouri Iwi and Te Papa Atawhai was unwavering.

Te Arai Reserve – 1191.4 hectares

Te Arai is a hugely significant area of land for far north Iwi, Te Aupouri. It was formerly held by Te Papa Atawhai under the Conservation Act. It was returned to Iwi in 2012.

Eco-systems – Te Arai is the last remaining tupuna forest land and covers at least five different types of ecosystems including dune lakes and wetlands



Photograph: Karena Joyce-Paki (front left), Rober (Blue) Newport, Kayla Raines talking to Niki Conrad

Lake Wahakari - 248.45 hectares

Cultural - Initial results from the sediment core suggest that prior to human settlement the lake was surrounded by native forest abundant in podocarps, particularly Rimu. The lake serves as a water supply to the community of Te Kao. Te Aupouri Iwi, landowners and shareholders are facilitating a lake management plan to preserve native species of fish and plants and to protect future water quality.

Eco Systems - Lake Wahakari is a moderately large deep dune lake. The lake is ponded between dunes to the west and weathered hill country, with heavy clay soils to the east. The catchment is primarily plantation pine forestry, manuka/kanuka scrub and high producing grasslands.

There is an inflow at the north-western end of the lake, and the outlet at the south-eastern end passes through a raupo/flax swamp that discharges into Parengarenga Harbour via the Te Kao Stream.



Photograph L-R: Phillip Brown-DOC Ranger, Mike Finlayson-Te Hiku CB-community, Kaio Hooper-J4N-Te Aupouri, Karena Joyce-Paki-Northland CB, Kayla Raines-Northland CB

Restoration – 4 Stage Eradication Plan

1. Remove wilding pine
2. Fencing & Pest Control
3. Riparian Planting
4. Wai Ora

Te Kokata Spit - 1261.33 hectares

Cultural- Parengarenga Harbour is a Pataka kai for the Iwi of Te Aupouri and has many shell banks and middens sites. It is sheltered from the sea by a 10-kilometre promontory of pure silica sand, called Kokota Spit. Parengarenga Harbour is an outstanding example of a largely unmodified northern estuary with a subtropical climate. Parengarenga is named after the corrugated sandbanks located at the harbour's entrance.

"Parenga" is a sandbank and "Parengarenga" means many sandbanks.

Eco Systems - Parengarenga Harbour is an outstanding example of a largely unmodified northern estuary with a subtropical climate. The Kokota Spit is a natural moving dune field. The native mangroves are home to invertebrates, fish and an extensive bird population.



Parengarenga is one of the world's wintering grounds for migratory bird species who congregate in vast numbers in autumn. Parengarenga is the first landfall in Aotearoa for southward bound migrating birds, especially the Kuaka (godwit)



Photo: sitting L-R: Annwyn Buchanan-BSO, Nyree Manuel-Chair, Te Tai Tokerau CB, Mina Pomare-Peita-Co Chair, Te Hiku o Te Ika CB, Phillip Brown-DOC Ranger, Waitai Petera-Co-Chair, Te Hiku o Te Ika CB, Michelle Waitai, standing R-L: Robert Newport (Blue), Te Tai Tokerau CB, Mere, Jo Shanks, Te Hiku o Te Ika CB, Heta Conrad-Kaumatua, Phelan Pirrie, NNI Statutory Manager, Kayla Raines, Te Tai Tokerau CB, Niki Conrad, Karena Joyce-Paki, Te Tai Tokerau CB, Back: L-R: Earl Murray-J4N kaimahi, Mike Finlayson, Te Hiku o Te Ika CB, J4N kaimahi

ORANGA WHENUA ORANGA TANGATA

5.3 Members' attendance 2023/24

Board Member	Formal Meetings (total 4)	Working Meetings (total 2)	Site Visits (total 2)
Nyree (Nyze) Porter	3/4	2/2	2/2
Kayla Raines	3/4	0/2	1/2
Robert (Blue) Newport	4/4	0/2	1/2
Liam Rātana	0/4	0/2	0/2
John (Hone) Tiatoa	0/4	0/2	0/2
Penny Smart	4/4	1/2	1/2
Karena Joyce-Paki	4/4	1/2	1/2

6. MAHI

6.1 Board Committees

The Conservation Act 1987 enables the Board to establish committees to carry out functions or tasks delegated by the Board. Committees that were active during the reporting period, and members involved in those committees.

- Communications Sub Committee – Nyree Manuel, Kayla Raines
- Permissions Sub Committee – Nyree Manuel, Kayla Raines, Robert Newport

6.2 Special events

NZCA Chairs Conference held in Waitangi 8 -10 September 2023

The theme of the conference – Being an Honourable Treaty Partner. What better place than the Waitangi Treaty Grounds – the birthplace!



*Photo taken outside Tahuaroa Conference Room, Waitangi Treaty Grounds
NZCA CB Chair's Conference Sept 2023*

A special guest, Minister Jean Willow-Prime announced the repeal of the Wildlife Act – it was out of date and not fit for purpose.

Acknowledgement and thanks for the support from nga Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika, Tāmaki Makaurau and members of our Board for their awhi.



NZCA Chair's Conference – Sept 2023 – presentation by Tame Malcolm-Deputy Director-General Treaty Relationships on Being an Honourable Treaty Partner

**5/10/2023 - Te Ara Hou / Strategic Pathway (Joint Engagement)
Session 1: Whanaungatanga**



Facilitator: Carolyn Smith-Woven Collaborations. Everyone engaging and focused



Photo: Nyree Manuel-Chair of Te Runanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau presenting her groups findings

A very beneficial day with the inclusion of the Te Hiku Conservation Board and DOC managers. A robust and enlightening discussion that was well facilitated by Carolyn Smith from Woven Collaborations resulting in very positive outcomes.

25/10/2023 - Te Ara Hou / Strategic Pathway

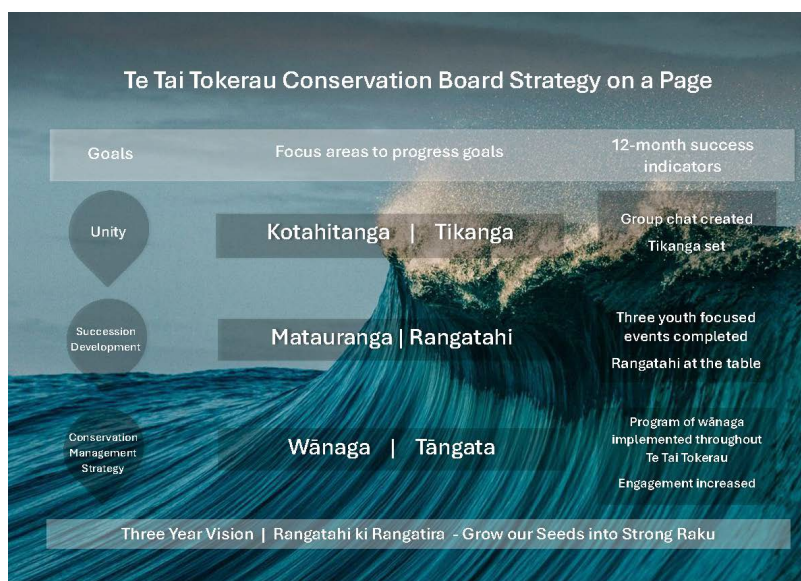
Session 2: Developed our vision - Rangatahi ki Rangatira

Following on from the joint strategy session with Te Hiku and DOC Managers the board attended another full day of planning and discussion which resulted in the following documents. The Board felt that Rangatahi were at times missing somewhat in the work that they wanted to do and were keen to make their inclusion a focus going forward as well as the review of the CMS.



12 Month Action Plan for Te Tai Tokerau Conservation Board 2024

Goals	Initiatives	Actions	Timeframe	Responsible	Resources
Unity	Kotahitanga	Co-opt two members (Rangatahi)? Create Group Chat Do skills matrix Shoulder tap potential new members Attend Pukenga Atawhai course	TBC re feasibility By mid Nov 2023 By mid Nov 2023 Now and Dec 2023 Next 12 months	TBC Kārena Penny/Kayla Ali (Ngāire lead) Kārena	Messenger app Existing skills matrix
	Tikanga	Develop tikanga approach - consider code of conduct Induction on legislation and code of conduct	By Jan 2024 By April 2024	Kārena/Nyze Phelan/Annwyn	Bring in expertise Independent facilitator
Succession & development	Mātauranga	Identify, plan and deliver 3x youth focussed events using networks	Next 12 months	Kayla (lead), Penny, Kārena and Nyze	
	Rangatahi	ID some potential rangatahi & shoulder tap	By Jan 2024	Nyze and Kārena	
Conservation Management Strategy	Wānanga	Develop wānanga programme	Draft by 15th Feb 2024	Kārena and Nyze	
	Tāngata	Adopt comms plan Develop relationship approach with iwi Implement plan for site visits	Nov 2023 Draft by Feb 2024 Next 12 months	Penny Kārena Phelan/Annwyn	Draft comms plan Existing list of sites developed by Board



6.3 Training for members

No training scheduled for members.

7. STATUTORY ACTIVITY

7.1 Annual Work Plan

After receiving the Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation, the Board sets out its work plan for the upcoming year. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the full Board Annual Work Programme.

The Board reaffirmed their priorities as a Board – Te Ara Hou Session 1 provided the opportunity to collaborate with Operation Managers from all four regions and members of Te Hiku Conservation Board - to engage and share their vision for the future. Session 2 allowed the Board the opportunity to reaffirm their vision – Rangatahi ki Rangatira.

Arohatia Te Taio – In 2022 an independent initiative, sponsored by Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai O Te Tai Tokerau/Northland Conservation Board, supported by the Department of Conservation was led by a small Project Steering Group.

The two key aims were:

1. To identify key priorities and offer solutions, while articulating Northlander's aspirations for our 'home' – our natural world.
2. That the information collected provides a strong foundation and community voice for Te Tai Tokerau planning, strategy and action.

Click on the link below for the discussion on preliminary findings
[arohatia-te-taiao-discussion-document-preliminary-findings.pdf](#)

Click on the link below for the presentation of findings.
[doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/getting-involved/nz-conservation-authority-and-boards/conservation-boards-by-region/northland/arohatia-te-taiao-presentation-of-findings.pdf](#)

The information will be utilised when reviewing the Northland CMS in the future.

7.2 Northland Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

Implementation monitoring

The board continues to monitor the milestones in the Northland CMS. Rather than looking at all the milestones, the board has decided to concentrate on those milestones that are due or overdue for completion.

7.3 2023/2024 National Park Management Plan (NPMP)

There are currently no National Parks within the Northland Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction.

8. ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

All Board members have responsibility for liaising with other groups when opportunities arise, and some members have specific roles in liaison. All board members have responsibility to identify ways for the Board to engage with relevant Iwi/Hapu throughout Northland. The Board appointed various members to liaise with other groups and agencies: Once new board members have been appointed, the Liaison roles held by members who have resigned will need to be reviewed and allocated according to members' interests and skill.

Board member	Organisation/Group/Agency
Nyree Manuel (Chair)	Department of Conservation
	New Zealand Conservation Authority
	Fish and Game Council – Northern Branch (Eastern Region)
	Hector's & Maui Dolphin NI Stakeholder Forum
	Arohatia Te Taiao
	Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board Liaison
	Northland Regional Council
	Ministry for the Environment
Kayla Raines	Chairs' Steering Committee (appointed by DG)
	Urupukapuka
	Hikurangi Swamp Scheme
Robert Newport (Deputy Chair)	Urupukapuka
	Far North District Council
Liam Rātana	Whangarei District Council
	Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserve
	Hikurangi Swamp Scheme
Penny Smart	Auckland Conservation Board

	Kaipara Moana Remediation
	Fish and Game Council – Northland Branch (Western Region)
Karena Joyce-Paki	Kaipara Moana Remediation

8.1 Board and Authority liaisons

The Board holds a liaison relationship with neighbouring conservation boards. Liaison roles for the reporting year were held by:

- Penny Smart – Liaison to Auckland Conservation Board
- Nyree Manuel – Liaison to Te Hiku Conservation Board

We welcome Ina Kara-France in her first year as the Authority's liaison, not only for Tai Tokerau, but for Tāmaki Makaurau and Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Boards. Ina attends Board meetings, and reports to the full Authority on matters raised.

8.2 Advice to the Department

- Nil

8.3 Submissions

A joint submission by Te Tai Tokerau, Tāmaki Makaurau and Te Hiku Conservation Boards opposing the Fast Track Approvals Bill was lodged and is available on the website.

- Fast Track Approval Bill Submission – both written and oral submissions

8.4 Community advocacy and involvement

The Board believes that working with conservation organisations and members of the public is very important. Meetings were held in different parts of the Northland/Te Tai Tokerau region and opportunities for the public to attend Board meetings were advertised.

The Board has a practice of inviting representatives from community organisations to present at each meeting.

- Don Mckenize, Group Manager Biosecurity-NRC
- Paul MacDonald, Biking Northland

Voluntary groups carry out huge amounts of conservation work within the community. The Board acknowledges and appreciates volunteers and thanks them for the work done in this area.

8.5 Community visibility

The Board maintains a presence on the Department's website, and via the quarterly Conservation Board Newsletter.

Board members attend many community events in their own time, some of which are listed below

Fire and Emergency – (Quarterly) Local Advisory Committee (quarterly) Opportunity to provide two-way feedback around the NZ Levies consultation and Area Plans, Fire Plans etc. Focus on strengthening and maintaining a key relationship.

Kaipara Hapū Advisory Committee (Bi-monthly) opportunity to share kōrero about what's happening around the region that may be relevant. Interest in the Northland Conservation Management Strategy review.

Whangarei Networkers Hui (Bi-monthly, every 2-months) – Opportunity to talk about events, volunteering and understanding the conservation work in the district. Tracks and campgrounds, green prescription – well-being.

Rangatahi Ora Charitable Trust (Monthly) – Ongoing mentoring and support to young people, utilising the taiao, our natural environment to grow their knowledge and understanding of Te Ao Māori. Recent Kaitiaki Ranger (Fixed Term) roles advertised for Northland Offices, opportunity for young people to engage in conservation management. I spoke about the mahi and offered support for aspiring youth to apply for the roles across Aotearoa.

Project Island Song – we acknowledge Richard Robyns who retired. You have shown the model of how positive change can be achieved with community involvement and opportunities for like-minded people to serve and feed their passion.

8.6 District and regional council advocacy and advice

The Board appreciates the opportunities to meet with representatives of the four local Councils as there are several regional issues in which it is interested.

The Waitangi Tribunal released the Te Paparahi o Te Raki Stage Two during term. This is quite significant to the future possible engagement between the Department of Conservation and Northland iwi.

9. FEES AND ALLOWANCES

Fees and allowances are paid in accordance with the Fees and Travelling Allowances Act 1951. The chairperson receives a daily meeting fee of \$330, and other Authority members receive a daily meeting fee of \$250.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Finally, the Board would like to acknowledge the following people for their support, advice, and friendship in 2022 - 2023:

- Department of Conservation – Sue Reed-Thomas, Director of Operations NNI
- Department of Conservation – Bronwyn Bauer-Hunt and Staff, Operations Team, Bay of Islands.
- Department of Conservation – Joel Lauterbach and Staff, Operations Team, Whangarei
- Department of Conservation – Stephen Soole and Staff, Operations Team, Kauri Coast
- Department of Conservation – Phelan Pirrie, Statutory Manager, NNI Region
- New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) – Ina Kara-France – NZCA Liaison for the Northern North Island Region.

- Tāmaki Makaurau Conservation Board – Nicola MacDonald-Chair, and Kate Waterhouse-Board Member/Liaison.
- Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board – Waitai Petera- Co-Chair and Mina Pomare-Peita-Co-Chair/Board Liaison.
- Northland Regional Council - Don McKenzie, Marty Robinson, Tui Shortland
- Department of Conservation – Annwyn Buchanan, Conservation Board Servicing Officer (CBSO) - Āpiha Tautoko Poari

Annual Work Programme 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Overview

This Work Programme has been developed in response to the Letter of Expectation from the Hon. Jean Willow-Jean Prime, Minister of Conservation dated 1 May 2023.

It is structured in three parts, namely:

1. GOVERNMENT & MINISTERIAL PRIORITIES

- 1) Support the implementation of Te Mana o te Taiao – The Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy.
- 2) Embed the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in accordance with the obligations of section 4 of the Act in all aspects of work.
- 3) Support the transition to a lower-carbon conservation delivery model, having regard to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019

2. BOARD-SPECIFIC PRIORITIES

- 1) Continue to use and share learnings from the Board’s Arohatia Te Taiao initiative in your Strategic Plan
- 2) Maintain strong working relationships with whanau, hapu, iwi and mana whenua
- 3) Continue to increase Board engagement and networking with community, to understand and reflect their interest in the work of the Board
- 4) Work collaboratively with the neighbouring Te Hiku and Auckland Conservation Boards
- 5) Support the Native Predator Control Programme to actively promote pest management.
- 6) Proactively advocate support for conservation-based recovery work in the cyclone-affected areas.

ADDITIONAL BOARD PRIORITIES

- 7) The pre-CMS consultation project, preparing for the CMS review, and CMS milestone implementation, monitoring and reporting
- 8) Manawa mo te Taiao: Angi, Wai (from Awa to Moana) and whenua

3. REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME PRIORITIES




Planned Board activities to meet statutory requirements and act on regional advocacy priorities:

- 1) **Resources**
- 2) **Your community**
- 3) **Mahi Tahi** / Working with Te Papa Atawhai.
- 4) **Mahi Kotahitanga** / Working with other Conservation Boards and the NZCA
- 5) **Communication & Advocacy** – “No Surprises” policy – could include but are not limited to, imminent media coverage of any activities that could attract

critical media comment or any matters on which I could be asked to express a view.

- 6) **Understanding Conservation Boards' Legal Obligations** – an expectation that all conservation board members fully understand their legal obligations under conservation law, including the hierarchy of priorities that should be considered when making decisions. Conservation boards' legal obligations are covered in section 5 of the Conservation Board Manual.
- 7) **No surprises** – to be informed well in advance of any material or significant events relating to the board, whether positive or negative. Examples of matters that could fall within the “no surprises” policy could include, but are not limited to, imminent media coverage of any activities that could attract critical media comment, or any matters on which I could be asked to express a view.
- 8) **Planning and Reporting** – with the Director Operations, finalising your work plan in the near future. Your work plan should align with your statutory obligations under the Act, the National Parks Act 1980, and the Reserves Act 1977. The finalised work plan would include measures and milestones, a demonstration of what success will look like for each priority, and how your board will be able to support the Department's priorities.




Status indicator

Colour	Indicates
	Completed
	Started - Ongoing
	Not started yet

GOVERNMENT AND MINISTERIAL PRIORITIES

The basis for the Ministers expectations originates in the statutory functions set out in section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 (the Act), section 30 of the National Parks Act 1980, and the Reserves Act 1977. As reflected in these statutes, the focus of conservation boards is policy issues, strategic direction, and planning, not the day-to-day operations of the Department.

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones.







	Action	Status	Progress commentary - we know we are on the right track when...
1	Support the implementation of Te Mana o te Taiao - The Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy		Board oversight of the CMS to ensure the protection of species.
2	Embed the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in accordance with the obligations of section 4 of the Act in all aspects of work		Te Tiriti principles and articles guide our work and engagement.
3	Support the transition to a lower-carbon conservation delivery model, having regard to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019		



BOARD SPECIFIC PRIORITIES

Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the letter:

Objectives:

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones.

	Action	Status	Progress commentary – we know we are on the right track when...
1	Continue to use and share learnings from the Board's Arohatia Te Taiao initiative in your strategic plan		Refer to detail in the Annual Report.
2	Maintain strong working relationships with whanau, hapu iwi and mana whenua		
3	Continue to increase Board engagement and networking with community, to understand and reflect their interests in the work of the Board		Have developed a comms plan as a medium to engage. Refer to Community Engagement in the Annual Report.
4	Work collaboratively with the neighbouring Te Hiku and Tāmaki Makaurau Conservation Boards		Refer the Annual Report
5	Support the National Predator Control Programme to actively promote pest management		Support and advocate J4N mahi, Rakau Rangatira programme for Waipoua Forest.
6	Proactively advocate support for conservation-based recovery work in the cyclone-affected areas		Board member P Smart also a Trustee of the Rural Support Trust Northland who was a major support organisation to the ag sector affected by the cyclone
ADDITIONAL BOARD PRIORITIES			


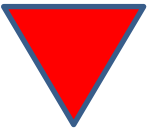
7	The pre-CMS consultation project, preparing for the CMS review, and CMS milestone implementation, monitoring and reporting.		Strategy day held with Te Hiku Conservation Board and DOC-Operation Managers (4 regions)
8	Manawa mo te Taiao: Angi, Wai (from Awa to Moana) and whenua		

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

RESOURCES

The Department services conservation boards in accordance with section 6V of the Act. This includes providing resources developed by the Department to help boards achieve the highest standards of conservation leadership. These are published and updated as appropriate at: www.conservationboards.org.nz

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones




	Action	Status	Progress commentary
1	Conservation Board Manual		All members have access to technology and have the capability to view the Conservation Board Manual online and links to legislation (when needed)
2	Communications Plan		The board budget needs to provide provision for a communications person/contractor to carry out the role as outlined in the Communications Plan A plan has been completed ready to implement when funds become available


YOUR COMMUNITY

Objective

As board members, you represent the public interest in conservation. It is integral that you are active and visible in your communities, so that you bring a well-informed community voice to the table. New Zealand communities are becoming increasingly engaged with conservation and are increasingly aware of the importance of preserving and protecting our natural environment. I expect your board to continue to encourage, nurture and facilitate this interest.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
1	Work with community groups		Refer to Item 3
2	Participate in conservation with community funding discussion		<p>The Board advocates and supports communities with their funding applications.</p> <p>Very disappointing that applicants weren't successful in applying for the DOC Fund considering the vast region.</p>
3	The board will proactively promote and advocate its position on 'Hokianga Harbour Wellbeing' – supporting their community, 'Tara Iti', 'RMS Niagara Shipwreck', 'Kauri Ora' and 'BOI Marine Mammal Sanctuary'.		<p>RMS Niagara Shipwreck –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09/07/2022 - Letter of concern sent to Ayesha Verrall, Kiri Allan, and Michael Wood (from Tania McInnes on behalf of NCB). 05/11/2022 – Follow-up email sent to Huia Lloyd (from Hamish Eglinton). 30/11/2022 – Follow-up email sent to Huia Lloyd (from Carla Dixon-West on behalf of NCB). 07/12/2022 – Letter received from Huia Lloyd advising that this has been referred to MfE, and stating she will confirm MfE receipt and preparation of a response. 10/05/2022 – Follow-up email sent to Huia Lloyd requesting a response. <p>Tara Iti –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Season since 2013-2014. Mangawhai producing 7 of the 8 chicks fledging from the wild. Te Ārai captive rearing trials successfully fledged 3 chicks. Highlight - Papakānui chick fledged this season. The last time this happened was in 2016. <p>Kauri Ora –</p>




			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New rules effective 15/12/2022. Hokianga Harbour Wellbeing – BOI Marine Mammal Sanctuary –
4	The board will continue to support & promote community events.		Kaitiaki Whangaroa Noho Taiao – Te Tai Tokerau Tiakina Kauri – Kauri Protection Programme Arohatia te Taiao

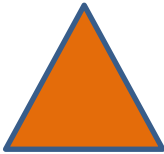
MAHI TAHI/ WORKING WITH TE PAPA ATAWHAI

Objectives

The Department is focused on the delivery of quality conservation work, which aligns with the conservation leadership role you play within your local communities. I expect you to work collaboratively with the Operations Director and Statutory Manager to maintain a strong working relationship with the Department. This relationship is important in providing advice to the Department on conservation matters within your area. I expect you to report on what is working well for you, and areas that require improvement.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
1	Meet with Te Papa Atawhai staff at meetings and elsewhere and ensure a professional relationship is maintained.	 	Board Members will maintain a good working relationship and open dialogue with the Director, Managers, staff and the Board Support Officer to engage strategically in conservation for the region. The Board will continue to work positively with Te Papa Atawhai but will also reserve the right to question.
2	Embed the principles of whakawhanaungatanga and manaakitanga in the working relationship between the Board and Te Papa Atawhai		Te Tiriti principles and articles guide our work and engagement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> partnership – active strategies to work together, to engage and consult with Māori, to consider all perspectives and have meaningful representation from Māori protection – ensuring that decisions made are tika (right) and follow kawa (protocol), ensuring implementation Māori values. eg.


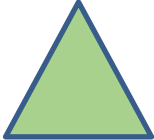
			<p>language is protected, whenua (land) is protected, fisheries are protected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participation – similar to partnership, application of this principle can mean to encourage meaningful dialogue and relationships in decisions that could affect them.
3	Maintain regular feedback and monitoring of the Board's progress towards implementation of its Annual Work Programme including regular review of the Board during the year supported with advice from Te Papa Atawhai support staff		<p>Acknowledge the presence of Te Papa Atawhai management at every Formal Meeting and when required.</p> <p>Annual Plan reviewed at every Board meeting with progress updates provided</p>

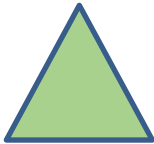







WORKING WITH OTHER CONSERVATION BOARDS AND THE NZCA

Objectives

Conservation is a nationwide challenge, and work on conservation matters, management strategies and plans frequently requires working across boundaries with other conservation boards. I encourage you to continue to develop effective ways of working together with other conservation boards to establish a consistent and efficient approach and avoid a duplication of efforts. The New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) is a source of support for conservation boards to draw upon in relation to the national and policy context for conservation issues.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
1	Work with Te Hiku CB.	 	<p>Liaise effectively with Te Hiku Conservation Board, to engage strategically in conservation and to progress cross-boundary CMS issues and other matters of mutual interest eg. opposing the Fast Track Bill.</p> <p>Nyree Manuel has been newly appointed as the Te Hiku Conservation Board liaison. This role is reviewed annually.</p>

			Mina Pomare-Peita, Co-Chair for Te Hiku CB is the liaison to the Northland Conservation Board.
2	Work with Auckland CB.	 	<p>As the Chair and the liaison, Nyree Manuel has continued to strengthen relationships between the two Boards. Both boards are eager to continue this journey and work together on all appropriate issues eg. Niagara, joint submission opposing the Fast Track Approvals Bill.</p> <p>Pippa Coombe is the liaison for Auckland CB.</p>
5	Maintain effective communications with the NZCA.	 	<p>Currently communication is received monthly via the NZCA Chair's letter and copies of minutes from NZCA meetings.</p> <p>The NZCA liaison, Ina Kara-France attends our formal meetings and provides support and guidance to the Board.</p> <p>The NZCA Chair's Conference for 2024 was held 17-18 August in Wellington and attended by the Chair.</p>
6	Develop working relationship with relevant conservation-based councils, advisory groups such as Fish and Game, Forest & Bird, NRC etc	  	<p>Penny Smart is the appointed Board Liaison for Fish & Game on the west coast and Nyree Manuel for the east coast</p> <p>Nyree Manuel is the appointed Board Liaison for Forest & Bird</p> <p>Penny Smart is the appointed Board Liaison for the Auckland Conservation Board</p> <p>Penny Smart and Karena Joyce-Paki are the liaisons for Kaipara Moana Remediation</p>

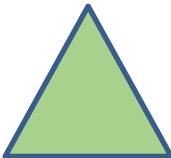

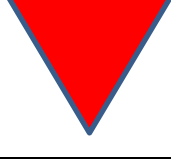

COMMUNICATIONS AND ADVOCACY

Objectives

I expect to be informed well in advance of any material or significant events relating to the board, whether positive or negative. Examples of matters that could fall within the 'no surprises' policy could include, but are not limited to, imminent media coverage of any activities that could attract critical media comment, or any matters on which I could be asked to express a view.

"No Surprises" policy - could include, but is not limited to, imminent media coverage of any activities that could attract critical media comment or any matters on which we could be asked to express a view.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Implement the Board's Communications Strategy on a suite of platforms including maintaining the Board's Facebook page, developing broader web-based communications, and issuing media releases on important subjects, to engage a wider audience and position the Board as a trusted and independent conservation advocacy body		The Communications Plan has been approved by the Board.
			The Board to identify stakeholders.
			The Board are seeking to contract a communication person to support their comms strategy.
B	Support public awareness and implementation of cross-agency efforts to manage the ongoing threat of Kauri Dieback (Kauri Ora),		To be included in the Comms Plan





UNDERSTANDING CONSERVATION BOARDS' LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

Objectives

I expect that all conservation board members fully understand their legal obligations under conservation law, including the hierarchy of priorities that should be considered when making decisions. Conservation boards' legal obligations are covered in section 5 of the Conservation Board Manual.¹

The Board will undertake a full understanding of their legal obligations under conservation law, including the hierarchy of priorities that should be considered when making decisions. The Conservation Board's legal obligations are covered in Section 5 of the Conservation Board Manual.

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary - <i>we know we are on the right track when...</i>
1	Increase awareness of and develop Tiriti o Waitangi knowledge competencies of Board members, including but not limited to understanding Section 4 of the Conservation Act, decolonisation, co-governance, basic beginners guide such as pepeha, karakia, language familiarisation.	  	<p>Members are keen to register for Pukenga.</p> <p>The Board's ongoing intention is to appropriately reflect tikanga in its meetings and practices and aims to include matauranga maori in every meeting and workshop with the guidance from the maori board members.</p> <p>The Board want to hold at least one hui at a marae (marae noho) and incorporate cultural competency elements in all Board work for the year.</p>
2	Continue to engage with Te Papa Atawhai to understand the Boards roles and responsibilities to guide the Board's mahi.		<p>Proposing to lengthen the induction for new members (to include existing members) to ensure a good understanding of legal obligations by the Board. Eg. Board seeking a presentation on the Treaty of Waitangi and s4</p>

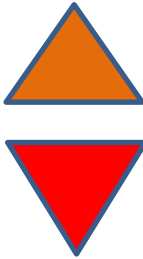
PLANNING AND REPORTING

Objectives

Your work plan should align with your statutory obligations under the Act, the National Parks Act 1980, and the Reserves Act 1977, and the Te Hiku Treaty Settlements Act.

To support Te Papa Atawhai in achieving their stretch goal: New Zealanders lives are enriched through their engagement with our nature and heritage.

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
1	How will the Board support Te Papa Atawhai to reach their stretch goals?		<p>The Board are keen to understand their stretch goals through continual engagement.</p> <p>To share the Boards 3-year plan with Te Papa Atawhai and support their refreshed strategy for Te Papa Atawhai “Nature is Thriving in Aotearoa Te Oranga o te Ao Tūroa” – mahi tahi</p>



This report is presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority as required by the Conservation Act 1987 and distributed to interested parties.

If you would like more information on the Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Tai Tokerau (Northland Conservation Board), please see the website

www.conservationboards.org.nz

or contact the

Board Support Officer, at the Department of Conservation
on (027) 268-3179 or e-mail northlandconservationboard@doc.govt.nz.