

Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board Annual Report 2020-2021



Te Kawenata – He Korowai Atawhai Mo Te Taiao o Te Hiku

Left to Right: Haami Piripi, Chairman-Te Runanga O Te Rarawa, Sue Reed-Thomas, NNI Director Operations-Te Papa Atawhai, Rhonda Kite, Chair-Te Runanga Nui o Te Aupouri, Wallace Rivers, Co-Chair-Te Runanga o Ngai Takoto

**Annual Report of the
Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board
Te Runanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika**

For the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

*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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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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

Tēnā koe Edward

I submit, in terms of section 60 of the Conservation Act 1987, the Annual Report for Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board (the Board) for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. The Conservation Act requires that the Board report each year to the New Zealand Conservation Authority on its operations.

Last year I reported on our Board's frustration with delays in progressing the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS. I am pleased to report that a suitable local planner (Steve Sanson of Sanson and Associates) has been engaged and has made good progress in drafting the Te Hiku CMS.

With Te Hiku CMS being the result of a request by Te Hiku Iwi for co governance in treaty settlements it is going to be critical that Te Hiku Iwi are both actively involved in drafting the CMS and have a genuine say in what goes into the CMS. The Board anticipates this may mean the Te Hiku CMS, while legally correct may be a little different to some of Te Papa Atawhai traditional CMS documents.

The Board received several documents for Te Papa Atawhai during the year that were of concern because they consistently failed to note the statutory differences between the Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board and other conservation boards. One document went as far as to suggest the Board was simply "advisory" to the Te Papa Atawhai! This statement by the Te Papa Atawhai given the co-governance desire of Te Hiku during treaty settlement negotiations, is of real concern. Similar errors existed even in the template used for this report. It is hoped these problems can be overcome before the Te Papa Atawhai faces a legal or other types of challenge from the Iwi over how it is operationalising the Board and CMS components of the Te Hiku Treaty Settlements.

On a more positive note, the Board believes Te Hiku CMS has the potential to enhance relationships between Te Hiku iwi and the Te Papa Atawhai and to also increase commitment to conservation in the Far North. To achieve these goals however the CMS must be based on conservation issues and priorities important to Iwi and the community and not just based on Te Papa Atawhai priorities. The Te Hiku CMS must belong to Te Hiku.

Haami Piripi, Chairman of Te Runanga o Te Rarawa described this situation when he said to the Board *You will know when you have got it right, when locals say of the CMS "this is us!"*. Those few words encapsulate the Boards goal in the coming year.

No reira
E noho ora mai



Chris Jenkins
Chairperson
Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board

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1. INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth Te Hiku o Te Ika 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 the Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board (**Board**) submits this annual report.

Most conservation boards are independent advisory bodies, established by statute. They represent the community and offer interaction between communities and Te Papa Atawhai (**Department of Conservation**), within their area of jurisdiction. The Te Hiku O Te Ika Conservation Board however is different having been created as a result of four treaty settlements (Te Rarawa, Ngai Takoto, Te Aupouri and Ngati Kuri). The Board was created as a result of Iwi requests for co-governance with the Crown on conservation administered areas within the rohe of the four previously mentioned Te Hiku Iwi.

Conservation board members are appointed by the Minister of Conservation under the relevant sections of four Te Hiku treaty settlements. 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 Te Hiku Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) to the Authority for approval
- advising Te Papa Atawhai and the Authority on how conservation management strategies and plans will be put into practice.
- reporting on the implementation of the CMS
- advising Te Papa Atawhai 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.

2. ROHE

The Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers the area of 224,991.85 hectares.

The jurisdiction extends from the northern side of Hokianga Harbour, north to Mangamuka then across to Kaitaia then to Rangaunu Harbour, right around the coastline back to Hokianga Harbour. The jurisdiction also includes the land areas within the Manawatāwhi/Three Kings Island group.

The area also 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.

Approximately 0.37% of New Zealand's public conservation land and area lie within the jurisdiction of Te Hiku o Te Ika.

Public conservation land (48,493.38 ha) makes up 21.55% of all land in Te Hiku o Te Ika.

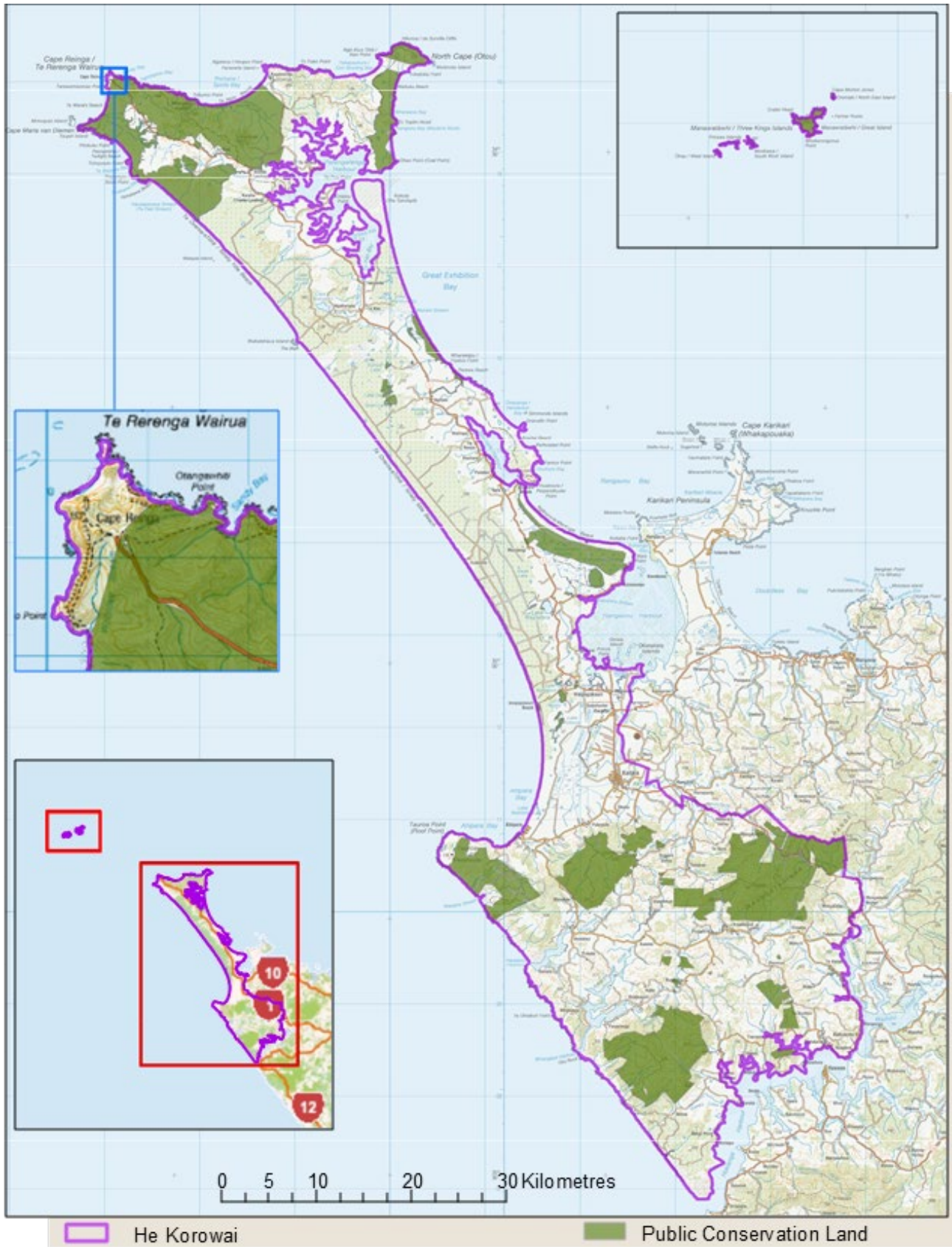


Figure #1: Te Hiku o te Ika Conservation Board Jurisdiction – Te Korowai area

There are no National Parks within the Boards' jurisdiction.

2.1 Tangata Whenua

The four Iwi are:

- Te Rarawa
- Ngai Takoto
- Te Aupouri
- Ngati Kuri

During treaty negotiations the four Iwi, amongst other requests, sought a great say in the work of Te Papa Atawhai in their rohe. Their desire was for co-management. After lengthy negotiations they agreed to a crown proposal for co-governance which involved establishing a Te Hiku Conservation Board and drafting a Te Hiku CMS for the combined rohe of the four Iwi.

2.2 Conservation Features of the Area

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

- Raetea Forest – 6,603.57 ha
- Herekino Forest – 4,358.62 ha
- Warawara Forest – 6,886.71 ha
- Maunga Taniwha Forest – 61.76
- 20 Scenic Reserves – 5,934.06 ha
- 2 Historic Reserves – 229.28 ha
- 5 Recreation Reserves – 15,431.0 ha
- 27 Stewardship Areas – 6,403.81
- 52 Marginal Strips – 320.34 ha



Figure #2: Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board Jurisdiction

2.3 Conservation Issues in the Area

Approximately .37% of all public conservation land in Aotearoa lies within the region. The large number of issues which are of interest to the Board include:

- Inclusion of the Kermadec Islands (the Board acknowledges this anomaly)
- Supporting community initiatives to enhance conservation.
- How does the Board help the community achieve the outcomes it wants?

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 matters 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.

4. MEMBERSHIP

The Minister of Conservation appoints four community Board members and Iwi nominate their representatives under S85 of the Te Aupouri Claims Settlement Act (2015), s95 of the Te Rarawa Claims Settlement Act (2015), S80 of the Ngai Takoto Claims Settlement Act and s83 Ngati Kuri Claims Settlement Act (2015).

The process of appointment ensures that Iwi are properly represented. The Board has a range of perspectives, life experiences, Te Ao Māori - mātauranga māori, knowledge and contributes to the advice provided and decisions made by the Board.

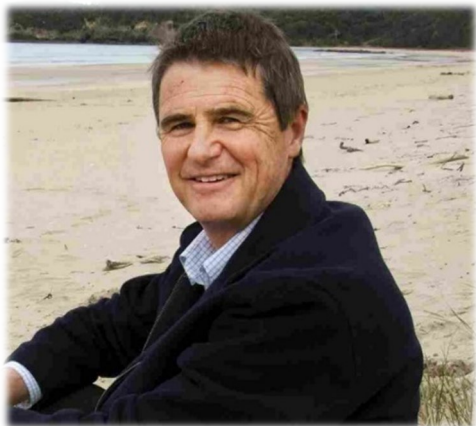
Board members are appointed for a 3-year term and may be re-appointed unless they are appointed in replacement of a prior member's term. Wallace Rivers representing the Iwi of Ngai Takoto was appointed following the resignation of Rangitane Marsden from the Board and was elected as Co-Chair.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021:

Board Member	Area	Term Start	Term End
Chris Jenkins (Co-Chair)	Whangarei	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2021
Wallace Rivers-Ngai Takoto (Co-Chair)	Auckland	16 Jan 2020	30 June 2021
Waikarere Gregory-Te Rarawa	Kaitaia	01 July 2019	30 June 2021
Sonny Christie-Te Aupouri	Kaitaia	01 July 2018	30 June 2021
Sheridan Waitai-Ngati Kuri	Awanui	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2021
Peter Furze	Kaitaia	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2021
Mike Finlayson	Kaitaia	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2021
Gideon Porter	Ahipara	1 July 2019	30 June 2021

4.1 Members Profiles

CHRIS JENKINS: Co-Chair and Community Representative



Chris Jenkins worked for the Department of Conservation from its formation in 1989 until 2015. The last eleven years of this time was in Northland as Conservator. Since leaving Te Papa Atawhai he has been providing advice and assistance to a variety of conservation projects. He is a Trustee on the Ipipiri Nature Conservancy Trust and Acting Chair on Reconnecting Northland.

WALLACE RIVERS: Co-Chair and Ngai Takoto Representative



Wallace (Ngai Takoto) is nominated by Te Runanga o Ngai Takoto. He has 35 years' experience in the steel industry, providing knowledge and perspective of primary industry to the Board. He is the Chair of Te Runanga o Ngai Takoto and offers extensive knowledge of tangata whenua.

PETER FURZE: Community Representative



Peter furze is a community activist working as an advocate for WINZ, District Court, ACC, Immigration and Kaitaia Crime Watch which is a community-based initiative working under Nga Mahi Mo Te Tangata (Working for The People). Peter is a keen surfer.

WAIKARERE GREGORY: Te Rarawa Representative



Waikarere Gregory represents her Iwi, Te Rarawa. Born and bred in Pukepoto beside her wharenuī, Te Rarawa Marae, Waikarere had the privilege of a rich upbringing amongst her people – hearing local stories, growing up with tikanga and traditional arts.

As tangata whenua, Waikarere sees her connection to the whenua as what guides her every day and in her mahi – ensuring we leave the whenua fit for our tamariki and mokopuna.

SONNY CHRISTIE: Te Aupouri Representative



He is a Trustee of the Te Nui o Te Aupouri Trust. He has over 30 years' experience in all tiers of education with a passion for Māori education.

He has a close association with many influential kaumatua within Te Aupouri and uses his role on the Board to act as a conduit between them and Papa Atawhai.

GIDEON PORTER: Community Representative



Gideon has been a journalist for over 20 years, covering local politics and Māori issues. He is a member of the Ahipara Takiwā (a Hapu-driven environmental watchdog) and is active in caring for Te Oneroa-a-Tohe (90 Mile Beach) which he lives close to.

His main northern iwi affiliations are Te Rarawa (although he has links to all Te Hiku Iwi) and Ngāpuhi and Ngai Tuhoe through his mum.

SHERIDAN WAITAI: Ngāti Kuri Representative



Sheridan has become a resource person to people and initiatives for biodiversity across the country and has inherited her late grandmother Saana Waitai-Murray's passion for the welfare of Ngāti Kuri, Whenua and Whakapapa.

Over the past few years Sheridan with others has developed the Ngāti Kuri Environmental Management Plan and has implemented several actions, events and initiatives relating to the environment for protection and restoration.

Her passion is to build up and grow the future generation of Ngāti Kuri. She coordinates a range of activities to bring our people home to help with biological audits on the land that includes our schools, whanau and hapū working together to reconnect with our natural world and taonga.

She has repatriated Taonga species and Taonga back to Ngāti Kuri. She has led connections and work across the rohe of Ngati Kuri including the Islands. She manages and coordinates a range of relationships and partners, to achieve shared prosperity, community resilience and Mana Motuhake for Whanau, Hapu and Iwi.

MIKE FINLAYSON: Community Representative



Mike Finlayson has a keen interest in pest and predator control and has managed broad scale wild ginger control projects through the Herekino Landcare Group. He has over 30 years Board experience including a term as a Northland Regional Councilor representing the Te Hiku constituency. He enjoys getting out "into the wild" in various recreational pursuits, tramping and fishing being two of his favourites.

5. MEETINGS AND FIELDTRIPS

The Board held 3 Formal Meetings, 3 Working Meetings and were privileged to meet twice with the Minister of Conservation, Minister Kiritapu Allen during the reporting period.

Meeting date	Location/Venue
7 August 2020	Working Meeting - Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
04 September 2020 #13	Formal Meeting - Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
6 November 2020	Working Meeting - Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
04 December 2020 #14	Formal Meeting - Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
6 February 2021	Meeting with MOC - Copthorne, Waitangi
25 February 2021	Invited to meet with MOC - Te Kura o Pukemiro, Kaitaia
3 March 2021	Working Meeting - Far North REAP, Kukupa Room
6 May 2021 #15	Formal Meeting - Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia

5.1 Agendas

Rundown of the year - who attended, presented, what, when – what were the areas of focus for the Board etc.

The Board hosted and heard from Speakers at its meetings:

- **4 December 2020 #14**

The Board invited Haami Piripi, Negotiator/Chairman-Te Runanga o Te Rarawa to share his korero on the background of the Korowai – the vision, the aspirations of Te Hiku Iwi and the desire to develop their own Te Hiku CMS.

“The decisions you make as a Board are critical to the existence of the Korowai. The appointment of iwi representation on the board is about protecting our interests - this is the defining difference between excellence and mediocracy. We must move beyond and into excellence to achieve the introduction of cultural capital.”

George Riley, member of the Options Development Group (ODG) provided a brief update on the partial review of General Policy. The ODG commenced in October 2020. Over the next 6 months, the ODG are developing options to better reflect Treaty principles in the Conservation General Policy and General Policy for National Parks (the general policies). Examples of tasks at hand - identify TOW responsibilities framework, identify all aspects of General Policy, set criteria for analysis of options, and consider approach to engage. There is much work to be done.

-

- **6 February 2021** – met with Hon. Kiritapu Allan, Minister of Conservation. The Minister is wanting a better understanding of our challenges with drafting the Te Hiku CMS. Personally, encourages us to develop a CMS that reflects the aspirations of Te Hiku Iwi.

“Going fast, going slow at the same time. Some things are critical and require action now!”

“Some things will take time – relationships - that needs to go incredibly slow”.



Welcomes our thoughts on challenges and opportunities for conservation in Northland. What can our Conservation Boards do, is there a leadership role? Resourcing is required to do the work and there’s a lot of work to be done. Who could be that facilitative entity to ensure the various conservation groups come together, that there is visibility across each other? A collative, cohesive approach.

- **6 May 2021 #15**

In the Public Forum, Reece Burgoyne – Kaumatua from Te Taumata Kaumatua o Ngati Kuri Research Unit presented documents and concerns in relation to activities in the Far North. The Board were encouraged not to dismiss the information - there is often information of merit in amongst his documents.

Te Papa Atawhai staff also attended throughout the year.

- **4 September 2020**
 - SH1 Mangamuka Gorge Slip Emergency Work PowerPoint presentation – presented by Meirene Hardy-Birch
 - DOC Community Fund Final Decision Results – presented by Hamish Eglinton
 - Te Hiku CMS Update – presented by Abraham Witana/Hamish Eglinton
 - Operations Update in NNI – presented by Sue Reed-Thomas
- **4 December 2020**
 - Te Hiku CMS Update – presented by Steve Sanson
- **6 May 2021**
 - Partial Review on Conservation General Policy and Management Planning presented by the ODG Team and Te Papa Atawhai staff.
 - PowerPoint Presentation on Permissions presented by Hamish Eglinton.
 - Te Hiku CMS Update – presented by Steve Sanson on behalf of the THCMS Working Group

- Te Hiku CMS Status Report and Media Release Te Hiku CMS Begins – presented by Abraham Witana on behalf of Sue Reed-Thomas.

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

5.2 Members’ Attendance 2020/21

Board Member	Meetings (total #)
Name	#
Chris Jenkins	3/3
Sheridan Waitai	0/3
Wallace Rivers	0/3
Waikarere Gregory	3/3
Sonny Christie	3/3
Peter Furze	2/3
Mike Finlayson	3/3
Gideon Porter	2/3

6. STATUTORY ACTIVITY

6.1 Annual Work Plan

The Board has set out its work plan for the upcoming year. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the full Board Annual Work Programme.

Given the statutory importance of the Te Hiku CMS and its critical importance to Iwi and the Board, this became the focus of the Annual Work Plan and subsequent Board activity. Pleasingly the Board met its targets for this work including having input into the work on Conservation General Policy.

6.2 Te Hiku Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

The Boards focus on developing Te Hiku CMS has three main streams of work:

1. Advocating and supporting work to draft a Te Hiku CMS
2. Proving feedback and input into the revision of Conservation General Policy
3. Advocating to key decision makers (NZCA and Minister of Conservation) the critical importance of ensuring Te Hiku CMS reflects Te Hiku conservation priorities even if this means the Te Hiku CMS looks a little different to other CMS documents.

To the relief and pleasure of the Board all these targets were met in part or in whole during the year.

In April 2021 Board Representatives attended the signing of the Te Kawenata – He Korowai Atawhai Mo Te Taiao O Te Hiku between Te Papa Atawhai and Te Hiku Iwi.

Implementation Monitoring

The Board did not monitor the existing Northland CMS as the targets have largely been met already and of the targets not met, some of the previous reports have been out of date or inaccurate. Overall, the reports failed to add value to the Boards work.

The Board has however been working with Te Papa Atawhai in advocating for a more robust mechanism for setting performance targets using the *Results Based Accountability* (RBA) technique. If applied, this simple technique should ensure the Te Hiku CMS has relevant, meaningful, and well targeted measures for future Boards to assess progress against.

7. ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

All Board members have responsibility for liaising with other groups when opportunities arise, and some members have specific liaison roles. The Board appointed various members to liaise with other groups and agencies:

Board Member	Organisation/Group/Agency
Chris Jenkins	Northland Fish and Game Council
	Northland Conservation Board
Waikarere Gregory	Ahipara Coastal Patrol
	Te Oneroa-a-Tohe Beach Management Board
	Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa
Gideon Porter	Ahipara Takiwā
Wallace Rivers	Te Rūnanga o Ngai Takoto
Sonny Christie	Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupouri
Peter Furze	Working for The People (Crime Watch)
Sheridan Waitai	Ngāti Kuri Trust Board Incorporated

7.1 Board and Authority Liaisons

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

- Chris Jenkins – Liaison to Northland Conservation Board. Attended a field trip to Ruapekapeka and had several conversations with Tania McInnes the Chair of the Northland Conservation Board.

The Authority has a liaison member with the Board to facilitate communication. The Authority liaison attends Board meetings, and reports to the full Authority on matters raised. Nicole Anderson was the Authority's liaison for the reporting year.

Chris Jenkins was unable to travel to Wellington because of last-minute flight cancellations (due to covid-19) but was able to join part of the of the NZCA Board Chairs Conference via MS Teams link and participated in discussion on conservation management strategies. Chris Jenkins also participated in a few Boards Chair teleconferences during the year.

7.2 Advice to Te Papa Atawhai

The Board provided advice to Te Papa Atawhai on the following issues:

- *Draft Conservation Board Manual*
- *Draft Conservation Board Code of Conduct*

The Board was concerned by the number of inaccuracies in these documents particularly as these documents related to how the Board was established and its functions.

7.3 Submissions

The Board advocated its interests during the reporting period through several submissions, available to read on its webpage:

- *Climate Change Action for Aotearoa*. February 2021
- *Te Oneroa-a-Tohe Management Plan*. October 2020
- *Tourism Future*. September 2020

7.4 Community advocacy and involvement

The Board believes that working with conservation organisations and members of the public is important. Opportunities for the public to attend Board meetings were advertised.

Members of the public attended the Public Forum at several of the year's meetings and a range of issues were raised. The Board appreciated their input and efforts made to attend the meetings.

Public forum issues raised were:

- Proposal for restoration of the lower Awanui River.
- Concerns about how some issues were being handled by an Iwi (not directly related to Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board).
- Board representatives attended the launch of the Te Oneroa-a-Tohe Beach Management Plan in April 2021.

7.5 Community Visibility

The Board maintains a presence on the Te Papa Atawhai website, and via the Board Facebook page.

8. 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 Board Members receive a daily meeting fee of \$250. In addition to the meeting fee, Board Members are also entitled to be reimburse for mileage and other meeting associated costs e.g., accommodation.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Finally, the Board would like to acknowledge the following people for their support, advice, and friendship in 2020 - 2021:

- Tania McInnes, Chair-Te Runanga Papa Atawhai o Te Taitokerau
- Sue Reed-Thomas, Director Operations-NNI Te Papa Atawhai
- Meirene Hardy-Birch, Operations Manager-Te Papa Atawhai, Te Hiku
- Abraham Witana, Te Hiku Treaty Settlement Implementation, Te Papa Atawhai, Te Hiku
- Nicole Anderson, NZCA Liaison-NNI-Aotearoa Conservation Authority (NZCA)
- Hamish Eglinton, Statutory Manager-Te Papa Atawhai who consistently works with the Board providing advice, assistance and has worked in the background to finally get the CMS moving.
- Annwyn Buchanan, the Board Support Officer who consistently provides high quality service and support for the Board.

Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board Work Programme 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

Work Programme Overview

This Work Programme has been developed in response to the Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation. It is structured in three parts, namely:

- Part A: Planned Board activities aimed at meeting the regional Work Programme contained in the letter:
 - review/development/monitoring of statutory management plans including Conservation Management Strategies (CMS)
 - advice relating to stewardship land
 - other statutory functions for the Board
 - advocacy.

- Part B: Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the letter:
 - working with Te Papa Atawhai (the Department of Conservation)
 - taking account of the Ministerial priorities for Te Papa Atawhai as contained in their four-year Plan
 - working with adjoining conservation boards and the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority)
 - understanding the Board's contribution to giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
 - general engagement with the community, including raising the profile of the Board.

- Part C: Risks/issues from the Board's perspective, and opportunities for conservation growth that are not covered above.

Status indicator

Colour	Indicates
	Overdue
	Completed
	Started and is ongoing
N/A	Not Yet Started





PART A: REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

1 Review / development of statutory management plans including conservation management strategies (CMS)

1.1 Board Objective:

The Board will advocate and comment on draft sections of the Te Hiku CMS. The Board will also review the revised Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS draft and when appropriate will recommend the approval of the draft by the Authority with or without amendments.


Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	The Kawenata sets out a collaborative working arrangement between Te Papa Atawhai, Iwi whanau and hapū. This is a new concept that allows for tangata whenua perspectives, practices, and people to pervade the workings of Te Papa Atawhai – from the Minister to the regional conservancy.		On the 28 th of April 2021 the Kawenata was signed, and the drafting officially commenced
B	Work to get Te Papa Atawhai and Iwi to start drafting the CMS.		TH-CMS Working Group meet monthly initially following the signing. In order to meet the draft deadline of 31 July, the frequency increased to fortnightly.
C	Seek update reports on drafting the CMS and ability to comment on any draft CMS material.		CMS updates are provided to the Board every Formal meeting.
D	Advocate for a CMS that is statutorily correct and meets a standard that will achieve the goals and aspirations of Te Hiku Iwi as set out in their Te Hiku Treaty Settlements.		Achieving this goal likely requires some changes from the standard DOC CMS particularly in the “Vision” and “Places” sections along with tighter milestones that allow for effective monitoring of implementation.

1.2 Board Objective:

In conjunction with Te Papa Atawhai, the Board will determine priorities for implementation of the approved Te Hiku O Te Ika CMS.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones




	Action	Status	Progress Commentary
A	N/A		The Board is awaiting the completion of Te Hiku O Te Ika CMS and until this is complete there is little to monitor. NB the sections of the existing Northland CMS are not tight enough and were drafted years before the treaty settlements and hence are not a good basis for monitoring implementation of the CMS.

2 Stewardship Land

2.1 Board Objective:

The Board will provide the Minister and Te Papa Atawhai with advice on priorities for reclassification of stewardship areas that require increased protection because of their significant conservation values

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones


	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Advise Te Papa Atawhai/Minister of any issue that would require increased conservation protection (<i>and cultural protection</i>) of stewardship areas		
B	Monitor Te Papa Atawhai engagement and consultation with Treaty Partners and Treaty Settlement's Post Governance entities.		
C	Ensure any stewardship areas are not reclassified without Iwi consultation.		

3 Other Statutory Functions¹

3.1 Board Objective:

The Board will nurture ongoing working relationships with the Northland Fish and Game Council regarding issues of mutual interest within the rohe of Te Hiku.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Encourage Fish and Game Council input into the CMS.		Board Co Chair liaises two times a year with the Northland F+G Manager and meets Fish and Game Councillors each year. He however cannot do much until the CMS gets drafted.

3.2 Board Objective:

The Board will advise on proposed changes of status for nationally and internationally important areas, when sought by Te Papa Atawhai.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones


	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	N/A		This work has been superseded by the Te Hiku Treaty Settlements and decisions on land made in these settlements.

4 Advocacy

4.1 Board Objective

The Board will pursue opportunities to advocate at public forums and in any statutory planning processes.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress Commentary
A	The Board will monitor RMA work by DOC to ensure it is consistent with the outcomes and place-based targets in the CMS.		Again, until the CMS is drafted this work is at best tentative.


PART B: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

5 Working with Te Papa Atawhai

5.1 Board Objective:

Board Members will maintain good working relationships and open dialogue with Directors, Managers, and the Board Support Officer to engage strategically in conservation for the region.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones



	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Meet with Te Papa Atawhai staff at meetings and elsewhere and ensure a professional relationship is maintained.		The Board will continue to work positively with Te Papa Atawhai but will also reserve the right to question and if required work with Te Papa Atawhai for significant failures such as the ongoing failure to meet statutory deadlines to draft the CMS.

6 Taking Account of Ministerial Priorities for Te Papa Atawhai²

6.1 Board Objective:

The Board will identify opportunities to support Te Hiku community conservation projects and programmes.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones




	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Climate change initiatives		This is a factor the Board will need to carefully consider as it reviews the CMS and works with Te Hiku Iwi
B	Biodiversity Strategy (weeds/ kauri ora (dieback)/myrtle rust)		The Board will consider the biodiversity strategy as the CMS is drafted.

7 Working with Adjoining Conservation Boards and The Authority

7.1 Board Objective:

Board Members will liaise with neighbouring conservation boards to progress cross boundary CMS issues and other matters of mutual interest.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones


	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Work with Northland CB.		The Board has an ongoing positive relationship with the Northland CB. NB: The two Boards need to work closely on the development of the Te Hiku CMS as this has an impact on the existing Northland CMS.
B	Work with Auckland CB.		In future, the Board will need to hold discussions with Auckland CB over the Kermadec Islands as two Te Hiku Iwi have statutory acknowledgments in their treaty settlements.
C	Work with Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Beach Board		Open lines of communication

8 Understanding the Board's Contribution to Giving Effect to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi

8.1 Board Objective:

The Board will understand and support the Board's and Te Papa Atawhai obligations under Treaty Settlements as well as principles under section 4 of the Conservation Act.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones




	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Ensure the intent and statutory requirement for conservation of four Te Hiku Iwi as reflected in their separate Deeds of Settlements (DoS) and legislation.		A key role for the Board and every board member is to be acutely sensitive in all discussions and specifically on the overdue CMS.

9 Engaging with the community, including raising the profile of the Board

9.1 Board Objective:

Board Members liaise with other conservation entities, such as District and Regional Councils, NGOs, and community groups, in order to enhance the profile of the Board and pursue good working relationships on issues of mutual interest and concern.

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Work with the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Beach Board		The Board is keen to build a relationship with the Beach Board. To be a meaningful relationship however the Board needs the CMS to progress so it can ensure plans the Board are developing are, as far as possible, co-ordinated, and meeting Iwi aspirations.
B	Work with community groups		The Board is keen to work with community groups and AGAIN needs the CMS progress to ensure this work can be backed with action and certainty.
C	Participate in conservation with community funding discussion.		Board Members participate on committees recommending funding for community conservation and encourage Te Papa Atawhai to support Te Hiku initiatives particularly those that (will) align with the CMS objectives and place-based milestones.

PART C: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

10 Risks from the Board's Perspective

A	The Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS is not drafted, and this is treated as a contemporary treaty breach.
B	The Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS is tied to (non-statutory) templates, guidance, and requirement of the NZCA/Te Papa Atawhai/Minister to the point Iwi aspiration for conservation cannot be met and this becomes a source of conflict.
C	Te Hiku whanau/hapū and community groups become disillusioned with the lack of progress on creating the Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS and disengage and in some cases go into conflict with Te Papa Atawhai.

11 Opportunities for Conservation Growth

A	A truly co-drafted CMS reflects the desires of Te Hiku Iwi, and its successful implementation (shown by regular monitoring) leads to strong enduring relationships and collaborative conservation on co-managed lands and beyond.
B	Drafting a great CMS is an opportunity to create a model for other unsettled (TOW) Iwi and to also test ways forward on some tricky issues such as issuing concessions where Iwi have an interest.

This Work Programme was developed in October 2021 by Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika (Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board). It is designed to give effect to Board functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 and other statutory requirements of conservation boards. It will be reviewed when the Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation is received.



This report is presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority as required by the Conservation Act 1987 and distributed to interested parties. Members of the public are welcome to attend conservation board meetings.

If you would like more information on the Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board, please see the website www.conservationboards.org.nz or contact the Board Support Officer, at Te Papa Atawhai via e-mail tehikuconservationboard@doc.govt.nz