
Whitireia Park Board

Friday 1 December 2023, 9.30am

Titahi Golf Club, Gloaming Hill, Titahi Bay, Porirua

Members

Quentin Duthie

Chris Kirk-Burnnand

Hikitia Ropata

Jenny Ngarimu

Caleb Ware

Sharli-Jo Solomon

Whitireia Park Board

Friday 1 December 2023, 9.30am

Titahi Golf Club, Gloaming Hill, Titahi Bay, Porirua

Public Business

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Please note that the full minutes remain unconfirmed until the Board Meeting on 1 December 2023

SUBJECT **Whitireia Park Board Minutes 27 October 2023**

WHEN Friday 27 October 2023, at 9.30am

WHERE Titahi Golf Club, Gloaming Hill, Titahi Bay, Porirua

Present

Caleb Ware (Presiding Member)	Sharli-Jo Solomon
Quentin Duthie	Hikitia Ropata

Caleb Ware presided at the meeting in the absence of the Board Chair.

Caleb Ware welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the meeting with a karakia.

1 Apologies

Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Sharli-Jo Solomon

That the Board accepts the apologies for absence from Jenny Ngarimu and Chris Kirk-Burnnand.

2 Conflict of interest declarations

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3 Whakawhanaungatanga

New people to the meeting introduced themselves.

4 Public participation

Robyn Smith, spoke on the increased fire risk that El Niño poses.

Noted: The Board requested the fire management plan for Whitireia Park and requested a report on what staff are doing to prevent fires and manage fire risk, and to include what community engagement has and will be undertaken.

5 Confirmation of the minutes of 26 May 2023

Quentin Duthie provided an update on agenda item 8 from the meeting on 26 May 2023 regarding Jobs for Nature funding. Jimmy Young, Catchment Manager – Te Awarua-o-Porirua Catchment, provided an update on the progress for continuing the partnerships and work

when funding ceases under the Jobs for Nature programme. Jack Mace, Directory, Delivery, provided an update that this is an issue for all regional councils, and to roll the partnerships into day-to-day jobs/other contract work.

The Board discussed what its aspirations are for managing the park, and what skills, and contracts are needed. The Board confirmed that it would set timeframes and expectations, with Ngāti Toa agreement, on further Ngāti Toa management of Whitireia Park.

Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Quentin Duthie

That the Board confirms the minutes of the meeting of 26 May 2023.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted: The Board requested that it receive advice on how to develop and put into effect a transition plan, including any statutory requirements.

6 **Whitireia Park Board Accounts**

Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Quentin Duthie

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

7 **Whitireia Park Board Representation Letter from the Auditor-General**

Moved: Quentin Duthie / Hikitia Ropata

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Hikitia Ropata

That the Board:

3. *Agrees that a Board Member representative from Te Rūnanga o Toa and Board Member representative from Greater Wellington sign on Page 5.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

8 **Whitireia Park Board FY2022 Financial Statement**

Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Quentin Duthie

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Quentin Duthie

That the Board:

3. *Agrees that two Board Members sign on page 9.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

9 **Whitireia Park Board Auditor's Unmodified Opinion**

Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Quentin Duthie

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

10 **Whitireia Park Restoration Group update – June to October 2023**

Robyn Smith, Whitireia Park Restoration Group, spoke to the report.

The Board acknowledged the mahi that goes into caring for the Park.

Robyn advised the Board that some plants have received salt burn due to the high winds coming off the sea.

Robyn advised that the extra line of traps at Onehunga Bay appear to be working, as rare species have been observed in the area.

Robyn provided an update on the lizard monitoring programme. The programme has been revised as there were not enough control sites for a statistically robust study.

Robyn advised the Board that the Restoration Group would like the Board to consider spending some funds on dog control measures. The Board discussed the best measures for dog management measures, and noted that the Board will receive and approve the budget for signage by email and requested that this be reported back to the Board at its next meeting.

Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Sharli-Jo Solomon

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

Moved: Quentin Duthie / Caleb Ware

That the Board:

3. *Agrees in principle to fund a sign at Onepoto Estuary to educate users about the values of the estuary.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted: The Board requested a report for the next meeting on options for dog control and management at the park and noted that any decision will need to be carefully communicated to the public.

11 **Work Programme Update**

Gary Wheaton, Park Ranger, spoke to the report.

Gary advised the change in hours is at request from park users for extended “summer” hours for recreational purposes. Changes to park hours are intended to align with New Zealand Day Light Saving time annually.

The Board discussed how to manage requests for memorial trees and benches and confirmed that requests would not be specifically granted but advised that a planting intention could form part of a planting day.

Moved: Sharli-Jo Solomon / Hikitia Ropata

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*
3. *Approves a change to the park opening hours to allow for increased recreational access to the park:*
 - a. *6am-9pm during Daylight Saving Time (Summer)*
 - b. *8am-6pm during New Zealand Standard Time (Winter)*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

12 **Whitireia Park Board Meeting Dates 2024**

Moved: Hikitia Ropata / Sharli-Jo Solomon

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Resolves its meetings schedule for 2024 as outlined in Section 2 of this report.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted: The Board requested that the Park Management Plan development be a standing item on the agenda.

General Business

13. **Fish passage at Titahi Bay Golf Course**

Sharli-Jo advised the Board that the fish passage tīma has met with Lynell Huria, President of the Golf Club, to provide for fish passage in the creeks. This would also involve beautification including new planting around the creeks.

14. Natural Resources Plan – Plan Change 1

Quentin Duthie advised the Board that Greater Wellington Regional Council has approved for consultation the Plan Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan. Quentin acknowledged the contribution of Ngāti Toa into this mahi. Quentin advised that this plan change has immense significance for the management of fresh water. Quentin acknowledged Hikitia’s involvement in this process from her position on Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara Whaitua committees, alongside her previous role on Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee.

15. Establishment of a Māori Constituency by Greater Wellington Regional Council

Hikitia Ropata advised the Board that Greater Wellington Regional Council agreed to the establish a Māori Constituency for the 2025 triennial local government elections. Hikitia acknowledged the support from Council’s six mana whenua partners, and advised that Council passed this decision unanimously. Hikitia acknowledged Ngāti Toa support for this decision.

In response to Caleb Ware’s invitation, Luke Barnsley closed the meeting with a karakia Whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 10.46am.

Jenny Ngarimu

Chair, Whitireia Park Board

Date:



SUBJECT: Whitireia Park Restoration Group – November 2023

AUTHOR: Chris Gibbons, Rob Hughes, Robert Statford, Angus Hulme-Moir, Robyn Smith, Lisa Casasanto, Niki Edwards, Edmund Stephen-Smith

DATE OF MEETING: 1 December 2023

SUBJECT: **Whitireia Park Restoration Group – November 2023**

1. Purpose

To advise the Whitireia Park Board on the activities of the Whitireia Park Restoration Group.

2. Work day at Onepoto

On 11 October 2023, a bunch of people from the Conservation Work Skills programme came and worked at Onepoto estuary. They worked really hard and planted 60 harakeke and mākaka/salt marsh ribbonwood in a wet area around the estuary. Robyn, Niki, Lisa and Jess from the Restoration Group were involved in this work day.

They cut mountains of gorse which was put around the new plants to keep dogs off the plants and they weeded around small plants and they picked up five bags of rubbish from the edge of the estuary. We hope they will come again.





3. Pest Control

There have been 135 catches for the year to date, 78 rats, 28 mustelids, 14 hedgehogs and 15 others.

The t22 A24 traps and 44 mouse bait station in the Onehunga Bay bush block have all been serviced. This is a big job.

Four more hedgehogs have been caught at the top of Thornley Street.

4. Porirua Harbour Trust

Rob Stratford, one of our organising group has recently become a trustee of the Porirua Harbour Trust.

5. 2024 Planting Sites

In the 2024 winter, the Whitireia Park Restoration Group will begin to plant the first area (A) over the saddle and into the Onepoto stream catchment. This work is funded from the Te Awarua o Porirua Community Environment Fund: A Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira and Greater Wellington partnership initiative and will carry on for another year. This funding has enabled control of gorse, liquorice plant, pampas and karo to be carried out a year prior to planting with some follow up and spot spraying prior to planting.

We also applied to the fund again this year for replacement baldes and some additional weed control tools for our dedicated weeders in the group. Additional funds were also applied for to plant 1,500 more plants which Luke's team will plant.



If funded, our new site south of Kaiaua Bay will also have 500 plants planted between the coastline and track. This will create a buffer for the coast and we will plant harakeke, toetoe, toetoe upokotangata (umbrella sedge), kouka, karamu and some rare sedges – *Carex littoralis*. We would love to know if this bay has a name so we can refer to it instead of calling it “the bay south of Kaiaua.”

There is a very large area of seagrass in this bay as the current runs around a spit which is getting noticeably higher at the southern end of the bay. Most of the sediments in the water go straight past in the channel and the gravels are building on the spit. It’s a great place to see coastal birds.



6. Volunteer hours

Hours	Trapping	Lizard project	Planting	Maintenance	Promotion Admin
October to November 2023	87	60	75	25	33

7. Coming up over the Summer months

The following activities are planned over the Summer months:

- Weeding the small plants along the top of the escarpment
- Weed school planting site at Onehunga Bay yet again
- Seed collection in December and January
- Gorse busting days in strategic areas

8. Recommendations

That the Board:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the content.*

Report prepared by:

Chris Gibbons
Rob Hughes
Robert Stratford
Angus Hulme-Moir
Robyn Smith
Lisa Casasanto
Niki Edwards
Edmund Stephen-Smith

Whitireia Park Restoration Group Coordinators



SUBJECT: Report for Whitireia Park Board meeting

AUTHORS: Jeremy Patterson, Kaiwhakahaere Matua/Western Parks Team Leader,
Greater Wellington

Kim Broad, Kaitohutohu Matua Whakarauora Taiao/Senior Advisor
Environment Restoration, Greater Wellington

DATE OF MEETING: 1 December 2023

SUBJECT **Work programme update, and Staff warrant approval for park bylaw enforcement**

1. Purpose

To provide the Whitireia Park Board (the Board) with an update on the work programme at Whitireia Park.

2. Background

Programmes of work are continuing in line with the 2023/24 financial year budget allocations.

3. Park management

Transitioning Park management to Ngāti Toa

Greater Wellington Rangers and management have been working with Luke Barnsley and Aimee Bishop identifying all park management activities, from operations to administration, and forming a plan to transition this work to Ngāti Toa over time. This work is outlined in [Attachment 1](#), which shows the list of potential park management activities that could be transitioned from Greater Wellington management to Ngāti Toa, provided capacity, resources and fundamental desire from Ngāti Toa to take these activities on board.

As the work develops around identifying short, medium, and long term management handover opportunities, we will be in a better position to understand how to approach any necessary statutory authorising process required to enable the shift in management accountability. In the short term, it is likely that the “low hanging fruit” will be in the operational space that will not require any statutory authorisations, but rather a simple collaborative working culture across the two agencies.

Fire risk Management

Attachment 2 to this report is a memo detailing past work and planned work to reduce fire risk on the park. Further to the recent operational work noted around fire risk management, we are planning to engage a fire risk management consultant in early 2024 to prepare a up to date work plan for managing fire risk.

Bylaw enforcement warrants

Greater Wellington has employed a new Western Mobile Ranger, Jordan Clear to support work at Whitireia Park. This role along with the Western Parks Team Leader require a warrant to enforce park bylaws, to act on behalf of the Board when undertaking maintenance programmes, and to exercise the powers conferred by section 93 of the Reserves Act 1977.

Greater Wellington is also supportive of issuing warrants to two members of the Ngāti Toa Kaimahi team to assist with park bylaw enforcement, however that process will need to be confirmed through Ngāti Toa management.

A recommendation is below noting that the Board agrees with the warrant appointments noted.

Park maintenance update

Jordan Clear has been busy painting graffiti in the wharepaku block. Future inspections will occur regularly for any graffiti and repainting maintenance when required. Work is planned to trim the trees around the perimeter of the building to stop vandals from climbing up onto the roof and graffitiing the roof.

The new wharepaku has been delayed once again due to resource delivery constraints. Greater Wellington will work on design and consents for the new wharepaku over the next few months with the plan to construct the new septic system and toilet block later in 2024.

Coming into the busy season, Rangers have noticed an increase in the level of rubbish being left at the park. Ten bags of dumped rubbish have recently been collected but Rangers could not find any proof of identity.

On Saturday, November 11 2023, the Park Ranger stopped a group of 15 young men on dirt bikes. A verbal warning was issued. It is intended to organise more patrols utilising the Ngāti Toa Kaimahi team over the summer to have more presence on the park.

Rangers are working with contractors to mow all fire breaks in the first two weeks of December 2023.

There has been a problem with four-wheel drive's getting onto the park. They are accessing the park by driving up a drain adjacent to Whitireia Road, just after the concrete pads. Plans are being made with the Greater Wellington Parks Maintenance works crew about squaring off the drains to block four-wheel drive access. This work is planned to be completed before Christmas. This will help mitigate the fire danger caused by this behaviour and minimise other vehicles accessing the grass areas.

4. Biodiversity – Key Native Ecosystem management

Ecological assessment and trend analysis

Greater Wellington has completed an assessment of the ecological state and trend of the Whitireia Coast Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) site (see [Attachment 3](#)). The assessment provides an observational snapshot of the ecological state of the KNE site and predicts the ecological trend of the site's ecology with reference to the management actions in place. Assessments draw on data from ecological monitoring undertaken and all other ecological knowledge currently held on the site.

The analysis for the Whitireia Coast KNE site shows that the ecosystems present are in various states of condition:

- estuary and wetlands - good
- dunelands - moderate, and
- forest and shrublands – poor

The trend for all areas is stable, neither improving nor declining, and the pressures on the ecosystems are decreasing under the current management actions. These assessments are completed every five years with this being the first to be done for this KNE site.

Biodiversity work programme

Pest animal control across the park is ongoing. The volunteer pest control group continues to operate the network of traps and bait stations and we are grateful for the effort that they put into this mahi.

We have started undertaking the planned weed control work for this year with work being undertaken in the Onehunga Bay dunes and along the top of the escarpment near Whitireia. We have started planning for the aerial weed spraying which we are likely to undertake from February. We have done further weed control work in the 2024 community planting site (towards the top of Te Onepoto valley) and we've started weed control work in the 2025 site to start preparing it well in advance of planting.

5. Recommendations

That the Board:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Approves** the content.
3. **Notes** that two Greater Wellington staff have executive approval to receive endorsement from the Board to have a warrant issued.
4. **Notes** the Chair, with agreement from the Board, may also issue warrants to Ngāti Toa staff as supported by Ngāti Toa management.
5. **Agrees** for a warrant to Jordan Clear, Western Mobile Ranger and Jeremy Paterson Western Parks Team Leader be issued in order to:
 - a. Enforce park bylaws, and
 - b. to act on behalf of the Board when undertaking maintenance programmes, and
 - c. To exercise the powers conferred by section 93 of the Reserves Act 1977
6. **Notes** the issue of these warrants will be finalised in writing by the Board Chair.

Writer	Jordan Clear, Western Mobile Ranger, Greater Wellington Jeremy Patterson, Western Parks Team Leader, Greater Wellington Kim Broad, Senior Advisor Environment Restoration, Greater Wellington
Approvers	David Boone – Manager, Ecosystems and Community, Greater Wellington Jack Mace – Director Delivery, Greater Wellington Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment, Greater Wellington

Attachment 1



Attachment 1

Working Draft – Park Activities list indicating Ngāti Toa interest in future management handover

Activity	short-term Ngāti Toa handover	Medium-term Ngāti Toa handover	Long-term Ngāti Toa handover	GW retain responsibility for foreseeable future
Park Management, Planning and Administration				
Public Enquiries and OIAs				
Compliance (bylaws, permits,)				
Concession applications - process and assess the application				
Property Management (fees, licences, leases, Fencing Act notices, etc)				
Community groups (relationship)				
Board Reporting				
Whitireia Park Management Plan - Plan review				
Park Operations and Maintenance				

Asset Management Plan				
Asset Inspection programme				
Asset maintenance workflow management				
Capital replacement programme (driven through asset management planning)				
Asset Revaluation				
GIS of assets				
Septic tanks programme				
Community Restoration				
Re cloaking paptuanuku programme				
Fire management programme				
Staff Health & safety planning reviewing				
Public visitor health and Safety management (Temp signage, closures)				

Proactive maintenance programme: - Park environs - Routine rubbish and dog poo empties - track maintenance, bridges, boardwalks, culverts - Fencing and gates - cleaning - roads and road culverts - mowing - spraying - signage - amenity areas - Park buildings cleaning, painting, upgrading specific components - Restocking consumables (toilet paper, handwash, brochures etc)				
Reactive maintenance: - Graffiti - removal of illegal dumping and vehicles - rubbish removal - facilities maintenance (e.g. clearing blocked toilets)				
Post natural event response				
Park Security				
Contract management and procurement				
Traffic management plans				
Pest animal Control				
Pest plant Control				
Consent Management - applications				

Attachment 1

- monitoring, and compliance with conditions and permitted activities				
Visitor/user counters - data collection and unit maintenance				



MEMO

TO David Boone, Manager, Ecosystems & Community

FROM Jeremy Paterson, Western Parks Team Leader

DATE 21 November 2023

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Whitireia Park – Fire risk control measures

Purpose

This memo outlines the actions taken to date by parks staff to mitigate the fire risk in and around Whitireia Park.

Background

Whitireia Park was previously grazed by stock. It has since been retired and is slowly being restored to its former natural bush state. The main ground cover on the park is grass which is a potential fire risk with a hot dry summer. This memo details how officers are managing the risk of potential fires.

It is important to note that fire breaks are not designed to stop a fire. Fire breaks are areas where a potential fire will move slower across the ground, making an area of defendable spaces where flames will be low.

Fire risk management actions

Short-term

A Contractor will continue monthly mowing of recreational areas and roadsides. During peak growth times (September – November & March - May) there will be 3 extra cuts. This work is currently done by Agricontracts with Ngāti Toa taking over in the near future.

An annual mow of fire breaks around neighbouring residential areas will be undertaken. Refer to the map below. These are marked with red lines, the green lines are the areas that are mown monthly.

Rangers are arranging work to square off roadsides drains in an effort to stop 4WD's accessing the tops therefore reducing any potential fire risk caused by vehicle use.

Activity controls

With a potential long dry summer ahead of us, Parks staff are expecting a heightened risk of fires within our previously grazed and plantation forestry areas.

Attachment 2

Parks have a responsibility to our staff, mana whenua, stakeholders and the public to make sure that we are minimising the risks that park activities start fires and that we don't grant access to parks when the conditions are unsafe.

We have sought advice from a fire risk specialist who has provided activity controls with location/vegetation specific trigger points.

These are implemented as follows:

- The controls look at the predominant vegetation type (for example Grass, scrub, slash), then consider the risk of a fire starting and being able to be controlled under specific weather conditions
- They then consider the risk of sparks being caused by the activity (for example motorised recreation has a lower threshold than walking)
- They also take into consideration visitor safety (how likely it is the user can get out safely should a fire start)
- Four staff have been trained in the NZ fire weather system and will be using this training, along with the specialists advice, to identify when site conditions reach trigger points and we need to stop certain activities within our parks that increase fire risk.
- In very high, or extreme fire conditions Parks may close access to certain tracks or whole parks.

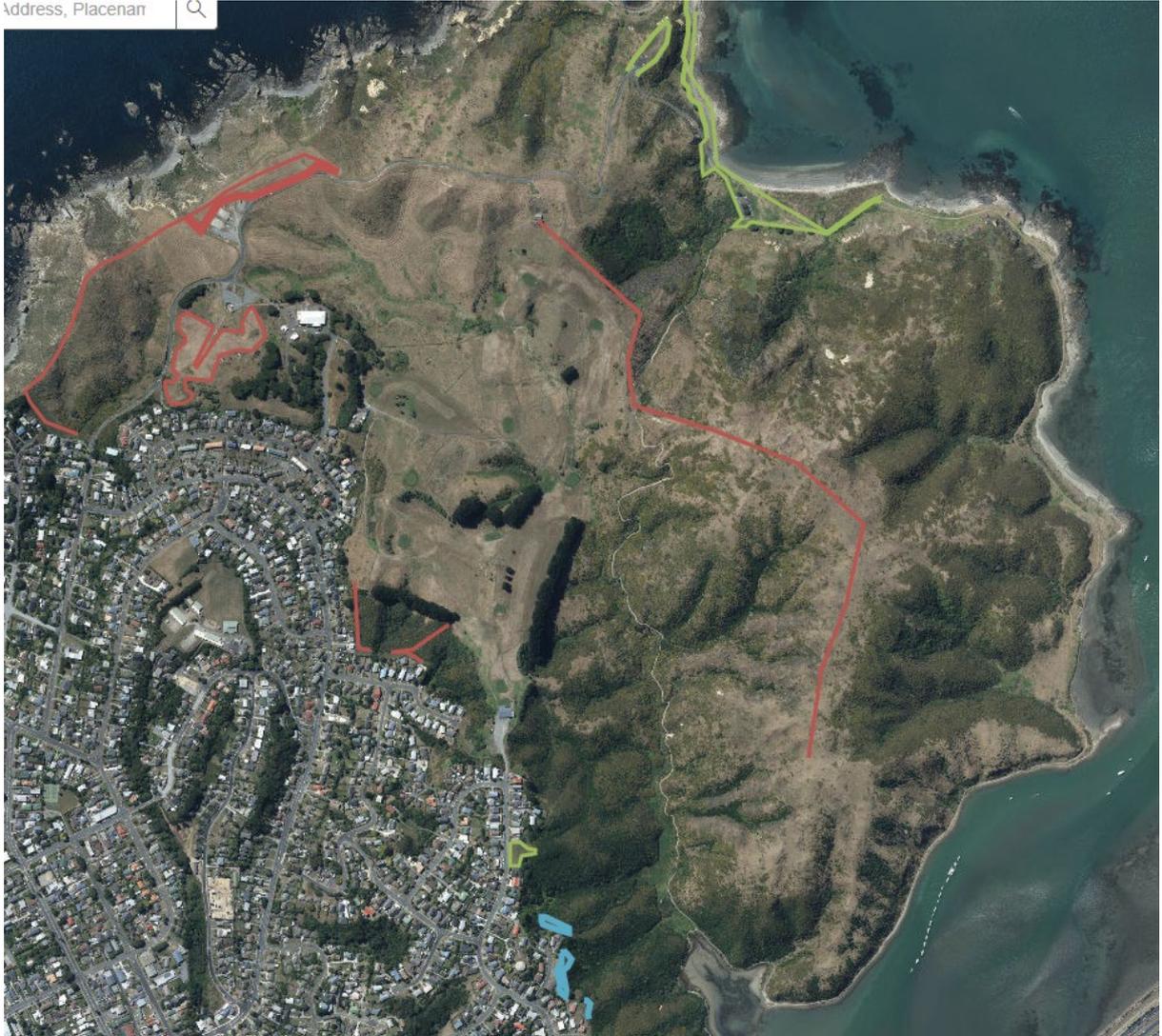
We are currently preparing media releases that we intend to be pre-approved so that we can move quickly when trigger points are reached and require swift action. We are expecting that there may be closures/restrictions on certain activities in the park network over this summer.

Longer-term

To reduce the amount of mowing needed to create fire breaks a series of green fire breaks will be planted using native low-flammable trees. These are identified on the map below in the blue boxes at the bottom of the map around Gloaming Hill.

Map 1

Address, Placenan



Whitireia Coast KNE site – Ecological Assessment and Trend analysis

Attachment 3
Key values trend assessment



Whitireia Coast KNE site captures a landscape of recovering forest, duneland, estuaries and wetlands at the mouth of Te Awarua-o-Porirua / Porirua Harbour, providing indigenous biodiversity, recreational and scenic values.

Ecological Integrity [comprised of ecosystem representation, indigenous dominance, species occupancy and ecosystem function] NOTE: partially informed by monitoring and survey information below.

Ecological Integrity scoring key

Current ecosystem condition	Trend in ecosystem condition	
Good		Improving
Moderate		Unchanged
Poor		Declining

Duneland	Estuary & Wetland	Forest & Shrubland
Low indigenous dominance High ecosystem representation Medium species occupancy	High indigenous dominance High ecosystem representation High species occupancy	Low indigenous dominance Medium ecosystem representation Low species occupancy
Active and stabilised coastal dunelands, as found at this site, are both nationally Threatened: Endangered rare ecosystems. Bound by coastal cliffs with recovering indigenous plant communities the dunelands at this KNE site have some natural buffering. Like most dunelands around the region, the plant community is dominated by exotic species, mostly pasture grasses. However, there are many indigenous species, like kōwhangatara/spinifex (<i>Spinifex sericeus</i>), pingao/golden sand sedge (<i>Facinia spiralis</i>) and tātarakeke/sand coprosma (<i>Coprosma acerosa</i>) that are typical of these dunelands and have been promoted through supplementary planting.	Estuaries are nationally Threatened: Vulnerable ecosystems, while wetlands are nationally Threatened and regionally Significant ecosystems. The site buffers the Onepoto arm of the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Estuary including its tidal flats and small saltmarsh communities, and encompasses the Kaitawa Point and Te Onepoto wetlands.	The site has remnant and recovering areas of the regionally Threatened: Endangered kohekohe/tawa forest (MF6 - Singers et al. 2018). The forest remnant contains regenerating lower tiers and is buffered by native scrub. The regenerating areas are mostly dominated by gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>). Consequently, the bird community is dominated by exotic species with a few, predator-hardy, indigenous species away from the coast – see further detail on birds and lizards below. Amongst the cliff-side shrublands are populations of regionally Threatened plants, including the regionally Critical Cook Straight melicytus (<i>Melicytus orarius</i>) and pigmy button daisy (<i>Leptinella nana</i>), and regionally Vulnerable kurikuri/speargrass (<i>Aciphylla squarrosa</i> var <i>squarrosa</i>).
There is a good diversity of indigenous coastal birds at this site, including: karoro/southern black-backed gull (<i>Larus dominicanus</i>), tākapu/Australasian gannet (<i>Morus serrator</i>), taranui/Caspian tern (<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>), tarāpunga/red-billed gull (<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae scopulinus</i>), tōrea pango/variable oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus unicolor</i>), South Island pied oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus finschi</i>). All five local shag species occur at the site, including: kāruhiruhi/pied (<i>Phalacrocorax varius varius</i>), kawau tikitiki/spotted (<i>Phalacrocorax punctatus</i>), kawau tuī/little black (<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>), kawaupaka/little (<i>Microcarbo melanoleucos brevirostris</i>), and māpunga/black (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae</i>). The grasslands support the regionally Threatened: Endangered hīoi/New Zealand pipit (<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>) and the regionally Threatened: Vulnerable koroātito/North Island fernbird (<i>Poodytes punctatus vealeae</i>) has been recorded from the wetland above the Onehunga Bay carpark. Lizards recorded at the site include moko pāpā/raukawa gecko (<i>Woodworthia maculata</i>), and copper (<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>), and northern grass (<i>Oligosoma polychroma</i>) skinks. Based on their distribution and suitable habitat, other species expected at the site include, northern spotted (<i>Oligosoma kokowai</i>) and ornate (<i>Oligosoma ornatum</i>) skinks.		

Monitoring and survey information:

Duneland	Estuary & Wetland	Forest & Shrubland
The KNE site is monitored as part of the Duneland Health monitoring programme, on a five-year rotation, including duneland conditions, pest animals, and vegetation. Birds are surveyed every five years as part of the coastal bird survey, next due in summer of 2023/24.	There is one Wetland Health monitoring programme plot monitored in Te Onepoto Wetland (WL098).	There is no forest or shrubland monitoring at this KNE site.

Ecosystem pressures

Ecosystem pressures scoring key

Current level of pressures	Trend in control of pressures
Low	 Improving
Moderate	 Stable
High	 Declining

Duneland	Estuary & Wetland	Forest & Shrubland
		
Access control of pedestrians and dogs is a problem as are pest plants, notably kikuyu (<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>) and other pasture grasses.	Some pest plants continue to threaten the estuary and wetlands (blackberry (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) and water celery (<i>Helosciadium nodiflorum</i>)).	Unplanned fires have set back forest restoration by burning areas of shrubland. Some weeds are spreading aggressively.
Revegetation projects and natural recruitment are enhancing native plant communities, pest animals are being very well controlled, and some gains are being made in controlling priority weeds.		

Biodiversity management priorities

- Continue with the current weed control strategies:
 - Controlling weeds to protect high value ecosystems and threatened native plant species.
 - Controlling weed species that pose a large threat and are currently sparse in coverage.
- Continue to undertake surveillance and control for possums and rabbits to keep the site free of possums and keep rabbits suppressed to a very low level.
- Continue predator control through the support and guidance of volunteers undertaking this work.
- Continue to provide funding to volunteers undertaking intensive predator control to protect lizard populations.
- Continue to support and help fund restoration planting activities undertaken by volunteers.
- Continue to plant Threatened and uncommon plant species to increase the abundance of these.

Other considerations:

- Explore the remediation of the fish barrier at the bottom of Te Onepoto Stream.
- Consider improving the control of public access with rope barriers in the dunes to reduce tracking and erosion.