



Northland Conservation Board
Te Runanga Papa Atawhai O Te Taitokerau

Annual Report 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019

Presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority
pursuant to Section 6 (O) of the Conservation Act 1987



Photographs

Front Cover: (left to right) Hamish Eglinton-DOC Statutory Manager, Willie Wright-Deputy Chair, Tania McInnes-member, Luana Pirihi-member, Adrienne Tari-Chair, Ayla Wiles-Ranger Biodiversity, Jaycee Thomas-member, Thalassa McMurdo Hamilton-PhD Researcher for Inst. -Zoological Society-UK
Back cover: pair of Tara iti / Fairy Tern photo taken by Malcolm Pullman

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1. Chairpersons Report

It has been a busy year for the Northland Conservation Board with Board Members dealing with a wide range of conservation issues and successes.

The Board was pleased to see that the Department of Conservation's annual budget was increased for the year.

A highlight of the year was an invitation and attendance to the Te Hiku Conservation Board's meeting with a wide-ranging discussion focused on developing a CMS for Te Hiku. It is important that Northland Conservation Board continue to grow this relationship as it is critical for increasing one's awareness of conservation issues in the Far North.

On the biodiversity front, the Board was thrilled to hear of the Bottlenose Dolphin Marine Mammal Permit Renewal Decision and the restrictions and conditions that have been put in place to protect the dolphins.

The Board commends all the community groups out there working hard to realise the Predator Free 2050 goal.

This year has seen some changes in Board members, and I would like to acknowledge all the work and wisdom of the members as we farewell Allan Martin, Bronwyn Bauer-Hunt and Nicole Anderson. I hope you have enjoyed your time working for conservation.

To Taipari Munro and Lydia Draper – our new members, and to the rest of the Board thank you for all the time and effort you have put in this year.

The Board was delighted to see our long-standing member Allan Martin keeping busy and travelling the length and breadth of NZ chasing new adventures and interests.

The Board acknowledges its ongoing relationship with Sue Reed-Thomas, the Operations Director for Northland and I would like to thank all the DOC staff who have worked with the Board over the year.

My special thanks to Hamish Eglington, and Robyn Stubbing for all their advice and skills that make the Board run smoothly.

Ngā mihi nui,

Adrienne Tari
Chair – Northland Conservation Board

2. Introduction

This is the 28th Northland Conservation Board Annual Report as required under Section 6 of the Conservation Act 1987.

The Northland Conservation Board had 7 members for the 2018-2019 year appointed by the Minister of Conservation under the terms of the Conservation Act 1987.

There were two appointments to the Board, Adrienne Tari was elected to Chair and Willie Wright elected as Deputy-Chair.

Conservation Boards are independent advisory bodies, established by statute. The Northland Conservation Board represents the community and offers interaction between communities and the Department of Conservation, within the area of jurisdiction of the Board.

The Board has several statutory roles under various Acts including:

- The recommendation of a Northland Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) to the New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) for approval
- Advising the Department of Conservation and the NZCA on how conservation management strategies and plans will be put into practice
- Reporting on the implementation of the CMS
- The approval of Conservation Management Plans
- Advising the Department of Conservation and NZCA on conservation matters, and proposed changes to status of land of national and international significance
- Liaising with Fish and Game Council on conservation matters

Carrying out other powers delegated by the Minister of Conservation, the Conservation Act or any other Act

Section 6(0) of the Conservation Act requires conservation boards to provide the NZCA with an annual report as soon as practical after 30 June each year. In recognition of this requirement the Northland Conservation Board submits this annual report.

The Northland Conservation Board is appointed by the Minister of Conservation under section 6(P) of the Conservation Act 1987. Board functions are outlined in section 6(M) and the powers, which enable the Board to carry out those functions, are under 6(N) of the Act.

The Conservation Act specifies that the Board's role is to:

- recommend the approval of conservation management strategies
- approve conservation management plans
- advise on how conservation management strategies and plans will be put into practice
- advise on proposed changes to the status of land areas of national and international significance
- liaise with Fish and Game Councils on conservation matters; and
- carry out other powers delegated to them by the Conservation Minister, the Conservation Act, or any other Act.

Section 6(0) of the Conservation Act 1987 requires conservation boards to provide the NZCA with an Annual Report as soon as practicable after the 30th June each year. In recognition of this requirement the Northland Conservation Board submits this Annual Report.

3. Conservation Board Region

The Northland Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers all public conservation lands, waters, and resources in Northland. 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.

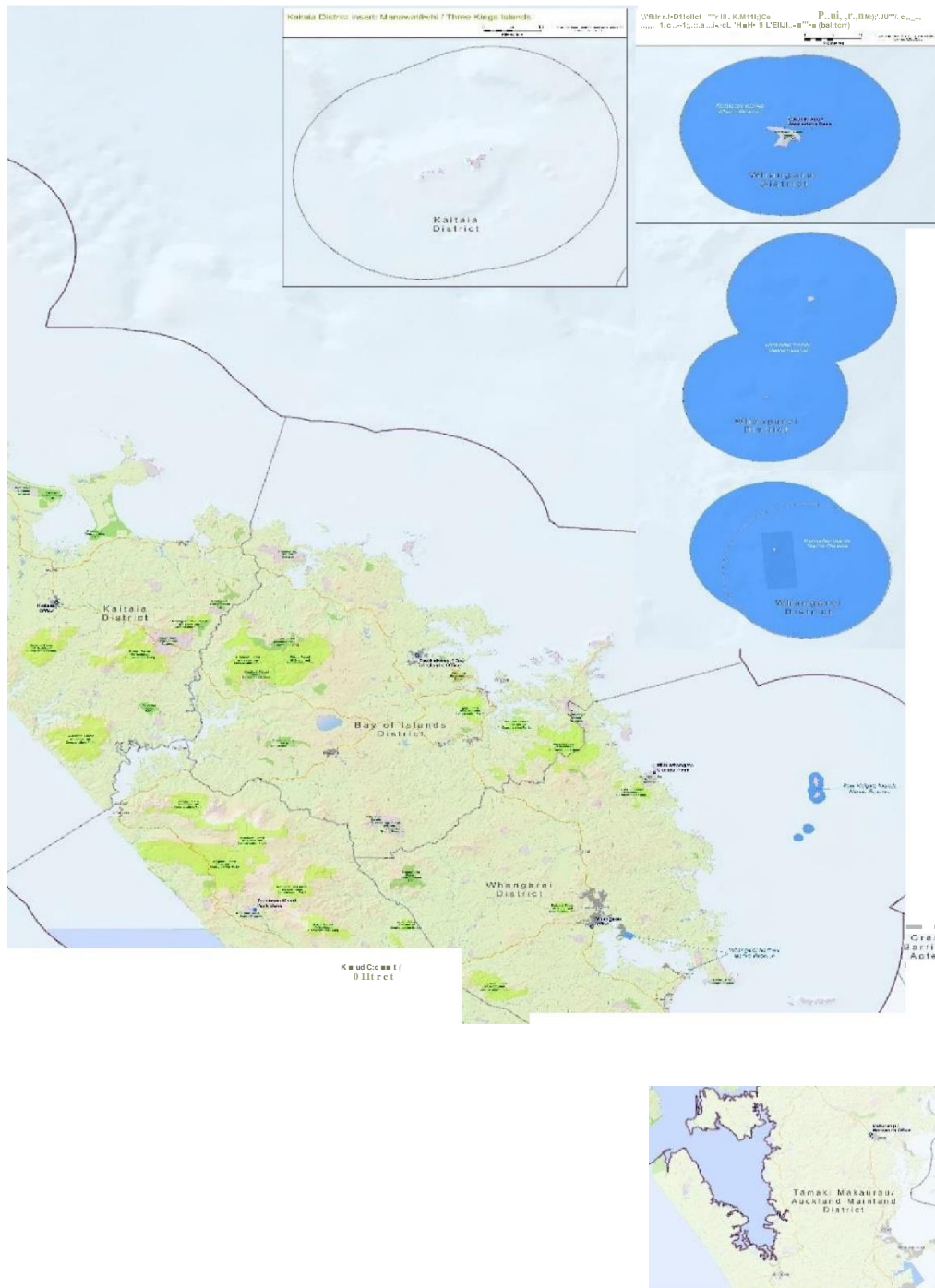


Figure I. Northland Conservation Board Jurisdiction

Northland's terrestrial area covers approximately 1 254 826 ha, with around 13-4% of this area (167 918 ha) designated as public conservation land.

The Northland Protected Natural Area Programme (PNAP) has identified around 21.7% (272 176 ha) of important natural areas on the mainland, with 47% (129 057 ha) of these areas occurring on public conservation land. The large number of issues which are of interest to the Board include: e.g.

- ✚ Ecosystem management and management of plant and animal species,
- ✚ Management of recreational facilities
- ✚ Management of historic sites
- ✚ Concession activities, including those relating to recreation and tourism activities, grazing, industrial use, filming, and gravel extraction
- ✚ Mining and access arrangements
- ✚ Marine protection
- ✚ Biosecurity issues

Conservation Features of the Area

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

- ✚ The 16 harbours, numerous bays, inlets, and islands on the 3000 km long coastline are a primary attraction for residents and visitors to the region.
- ✚ Northland contains the largest area of relatively unmodified sand hills and dune lands (Pouto Peninsula), the largest manawa/mangrove (*Avicennia marina*) forest (Rangaunu Harbour) and one of the most biologically rich harbours (Parengarenga Harbour) in New Zealand.
- ✚ Kaipara Harbour is a dominant and unifying feature, as its catchment drains almost the entire southern half of the region as well as linking with the adjacent Auckland region
- ✚ Waipoua Forest
- ✚ Dune lands and wetlands on Pouto Peninsula
- ✚ A high number of threatened and at-risk endemic invertebrates, including land snails and insects, often with locally restricted distributions
- ✚ Home to over half of New Zealand's vascular plant species. Of the 804 species that are only found in New Zealand, 152 species only occur in Northland.
- ✚ Predator free islands
- ✚ Diverse and unique freshwater and marine habitats
- ✚ Birthplace of the nation.

4. Board Functions

4.1 Board Functions Under Section 6m of the Conservation Act 1987

The functions of the Board are:

- To recommend the approval by the Conservation Authority of conservation management strategies, and the review and amendment of such strategies, under the relevant enactments
- To approve conservation management plans, and the review and amendment of such plans, under the relevant enactments
- To advise the Conservation 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
- To advise the Conservation Authority or the Director-General
- On any proposed change of status or classification of any area of national or international importance; and
- On any other conservation matter relating to any area with the jurisdiction of the Board
- To liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matter within the jurisdiction of the Board
- To exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Minister under this Act or any other Act

4.2 Powers of the Board under Section 6n of the Conservation Act 1987

- 1) Every 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 Board may -
 - a) Advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process; and
 - b) Appoint committees of members and other suitable persons, and delegate to them functions and powers.

- c) 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.

4.4 Responsibilities under other Sections of the Conservation Act 1987

Nil

4.4 Board Functions under the National Parks Act 1980

There are no National Parks within the Board's region.

4.5 Board Membership

There were 7 Board Members for the reporting year appointed by the Minister of Conservation.

- Jaycee Thomas resigned to pursue other interests within conservation.
- Lydia Draper and Taipari Munro were appointed for a 3-year term.
- Adrienne Tari was elected as Chair and Willie Wright as Deputy Chair.

The following table lists the membership of the Northland Conservation Board between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019 and their term of office.

Board member	Area	Term Start	Term End	Term Served
Willie Wright	Kaipara	1 July 2014	30 June 2020	5 years
Luana Pirihi	Whangarei	1 July 2014	30 June 2020	5 years
Tania McInnes	Paihia	1 July 2017	30 June 2021	2 years
Jaycee Thomas - resigned	Whangarei	1 July 2017	11 Feb 2019	1yr 7 months
Adrienne Tari	Russell	1 July 2015	30 June 2020	4 years
Lydia Draper	Waipu	1 July 2018	30 June 2021	1 year
Taipari Munro	Whangarei	1 July 2018	30 June 2021	1 year

Table 1: Board Membership

4.6 Members Profiles

Adrienne Tari – Chair

Ms Tari is involved with several community groups in the mid Northland area.

She also has strong connections to local hapu. Her hapu connections include Ngāti Rangi, Te Uri Taniwha and Ngāti Hineira, and Ngāpuhi iwi.

Her outdoor interests include mountain biking and spending time with whanau.



Willie Wright – Deputy Chair

Mr Wright is the Programme Manager for the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group, a board member on the Co-Governance committee – Pou Tu o Te Rangi/Harding Park, Dargaville, and a negotiator for the Kaipara Moana remediation for Te Uri o Hau / Ngati Whatua. He has been a member of the Northland Conservation Board as Chair / deputy Chair for many years

He has vast knowledge and experience in the Treaty of Waitangi process and Treaty settlements. He has extensive iwi and cultural awareness skills, as well as governance and directorship skills having been a board member on many trusts and local community groups. He has a passion for ecosystem and co-management-based approach with a strong focus on community and Mana Whenua led initiatives.

His interests include fishing and family time.

He is of Ngati Whatua/Ngati Porou and Scottish descent.



Luana Pirihi

Luana left Patuharakeke Trust Board (PTB) to join the Board in 2014.

She has most Formal Board and Working Meetings, experiencing site visits such as Footprints Waipoua (Twilight Tour) to the Tara iti / Fairy Tern nesting site at Waipu.

She felt privileged to accompany Auckland Conservation Board on site visits to Motutapu Island, Auckland Zoo and Mansion House (Kawau Island).



Tania McInnes



Tania's professional knowledge and expertise is broad.

Her forte is in (servant) leadership, vision, and strategy.

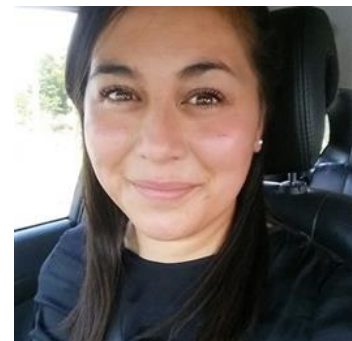
She is also gifted in ‘bringing people together’, community facilitation and project management.

From 2013 to 2019 she was Deputy Mayor in the Far North.

One of her favourite quotes is 'we do not inherit the earth from our ancestors - we borrow it from our children.'

Jaycee Thomas – resigned 11/2/2019

Jaycee brought an element of youth to the Board and had skills in RMA advocacy, environmental advocacy and added to the strong cultural awareness on the Board.



Lydia Draper

*Ko Piroa te maunga
Ko Ahuroa to awa
Ko Paepae-o-tū te moana
Ko Lydia Draper tōku ingoa*

Communications Officer for the Marine Megafauna Foundation (*a marine conservation charity based in Mozambique, Africa*),

Chairperson (*interim*) for the Waipū Community Led Fund Project committee, a supporter of the Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust and a member of the Waipū Playcentre.

Actively concerned with the state of Aotearoa’s waterways and the impact their degradation is having on our moana (and therefore all life on earth).

Of Pākehā lineage, writes poetry to be (and become) a conscious citizen of Aotearoa.



Taipari Munro

He has extensive iwi links across Northland the Coromandel, and brought skills in Māoritanga, governance and environmental management to the Board

Taipari was often a lead kaumatua for Māori advice in Whangarei for many events that required his expertise

- ❖ collaborated with local historian Mim Ringer to write his knowledge of local Māori history and protocol which was much sought after.
- ❖ unveiled the Waka and Wave sculptures at the end of the Hihiaua Peninsula (the stories on the panels were assembled by Taipari Munro in consultation with the Tangata Whenua of Whangārei)

Te Uriroroi / Te Parawhau / Ngati Wai / Ngati Te Tawera / Te Waiariki / Ngati Pukenga-ki-Te Tai Tokerau



4.7 Board Meetings

The Northland Conservation Board held four Formal Public meetings during the reported period. Venues for the Board meetings are varied each year to ensure a wide coverage to enable members of the public in the district to attend and access the Board.

Board Meeting Dates	Meeting Location and Venue
10 August 2018	DOC, 150 Colville Road, Kauri Coast
09 November 2018	Waipu Surf Club, Cove Road, Waipu
23 March 2019	The Duke of Marlborough, Russell
21 June 2019	DOC, 2 South End Ave, Raumanga, Whangarei

Table II Board meeting dates and location

4.8 Attendance

The table below summarises the number of Formal Meetings attended by members out of the total number of meetings held during the year.

Members attended other meetings and events in their role as Board members, including representative roles.

Board Member	Formal Meetings
Willie Wright	3/4
Luana Pirihi	3/4
Adrienne Tari	3/4
Jaycee Thomas – resigned 11/2/2019	0/4
Lydia Draper	4/4
Taipari Munro	2/4
Tania McInnes	4/4

Table III: Member attendance.

4.9 Board Committee and Representation

Membership of Board committees was reviewed in July, at the beginning of the Board year. No subcommittees were appointed.

4.10 Training for Members

The Board undertook an induction workshop in July 2018 which provided background information on the region, the role of conservation boards and local issues.

Adrienne Tari and Luana Pirihi attended the EDS Conference. The theme: Green Light or Light Green.

In addition to the regular updates on the Departments activities provided in the status report which is considered at each meeting, the Board received additional briefings and updates. Topics covered this year were:

- ❖ Permissions & Statutory Land Management Processes
- ❖ Bottlenose Dolphin Marine Mammal – permit renewals and restrictions
- ❖ Kauri Dieback Updates
- ❖ Myrtle Rust Updates
- ❖ Niagara Vessel
- ❖ Purpose and implementation of Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 and the Treaty of Waitangi
- ❖ CMS review process

The Department also provided an update on conservation activities within the local area at each meeting location.

4.11 Community and DOC Involvement in Board Meetings

Public forums are offered at each Board meeting for members of the community to raise conservation issues with the Board.

Public Attendees	Date	Issue
Joce Yeoman, NRC Coastal North	10/8/2018	Presented long term plan – pest management, land management-erosion, proposed regional plan – fencing waterways, focus on water management.
Kipa Munro, Chair Te Runanga o Ngati Rehia	10/8/2018	Outbreak of Myrtle Rust in Kerikeri MPI withdrawn support to eradicate
Rick Stolwerk, NRC	9/11/2018	NRC Coastal North Rep. President of Waipu Surf Club. Restriction of vehicles on beaches needed.
Angela Stolwerk, Waipu Cycle & Walkway Trust	9/11/2018	They showed a map of the current track and future options for extensions. The aim is for a track from Waipu to Waipu

Ann Neill, Waipu Cycle & Walkway Trust	9/11/2018	Cove. The Trust raised funds for building the initial stage and WDC take care of maintenance. Stage 2 will be commenced shortly from Waipu Cove towards Waipu. The Trust is working with landowners, DOC, NRC, WDC and Iwi.
Maggie Wistrand	9/11/2018	showed photos of stairs built going down a cliff face and a three-layer viewing platform. She felt these should not have been built and wondered if there was anything the Board could do about it. It was suggested she contact the council and ask for a request for service and attach her photos


4.12 Field Trips and Site Inspections

The Board aims to visit at least two sites each financial year. Site visits serve multiple goals including public exposure and support for community groups that are doing work related to the CMS milestones.

Date	Purpose/Location
8/11/2018	Fairy Terns, Waipu – critically endangered
21/3/2019	Russell Forest with Robert Willoughby
12/6/2019	Taronui Beach with Kipa Munro-Chair Te Runanga o Ngati Rehia

4.13 Special Events

Special events attended by members.

<p>11/7/2018 – Blessing at Tane Mahuta</p>	
<p>On behalf of the Board, Willie Wright was invited by Te Roroa for the blessing at Tane Mahuta.</p> <p>The blessing was in relation to Kauri dieback that had been detected close to Tane Mahuta and Te Iwi o Te Roroa wanted to take a cultural position to mitigate Kauri dieback from Waipoua forest especially the giant Kauri Tane Mahuta.</p>	

Photograph: Willie Wright – Deputy Chair and Stephen Soole – DOC Kauri Coast Area Manager

23/5/2019 - Inaugural NRC Environmental Awards

A wonderful evening for three of our Board members, celebrating the Inaugural Northland Regional Council Environmental Awards. 93 applicants, 39 finalists!

It was incredibly inspiring to hear of the many wonderful initiatives been undertaken in the North.

Huge congrats to Comrie Park Kindergarten for taking out the supreme award.

Special mention to Willie Wright, our Deputy Chair, who is heavily involved with the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group, who received a Highly Commended.



Photograph (left to right) Luana Pirihi, Willie Wright, Tania McInnes, Sheryl Mai, Mayor

4.14 Community Activities supported by the Board

Board members attend various community groups and organisations to show their support for a variety of activities.

Event	Purpose
13/7/2018	Luana attended together with landowners of the northern side of the Takahiwai hills met with NRC Councillor, Kane McElrea to discuss the incursion of wild pigs in forest and the effect that the pigs were having on farm pastures and effects that the pigs could have on the Kauri trees
15/7/2018	Luana attended - Bream Bay Coastal Care AGM. Guest Speaker Tony Beechem talked about the importance of mangroves and the survival of the banded rail bird species in the Ruakaka Wildlife Refuge.
17/7/2018	Luana attended a meeting whereby Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust met to discuss the terms of the Volunteers Agreement between DOC and BBCCT, whether the trust was agreeable to working to its requirement.

1-2/8/2018 – Millennium Hotel Auckland	Luana attended the Environmental Defence Society Conference
8/8/2018 Warkworth Marine Reserve	Luana attended the Auckland Conservation Board meeting held at the Warkworth Marine Reserve
8/11/2018 –Site Visit, Waipu	visiting the critically endangered tara iti / ferry terns – their population is down to about 45 individuals!!! (more info here: https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/birds/birds-a-z/nz-fairy-tern-tara-iti/)
23/11/2018 DOC Whangarei Office	Lydia attended the 1080/Safety and Wellbeing Workshop. The purpose of these workshops is to provide information to staff and stakeholders on the use of 1080.
8-9 May 2019 DOC BOI Office	Lydia was a member of the DOC Community Fund Panel.
12/6/2019 Taronui Bay	to grow our understanding around the call for better public access to the beach.



Photograph taken at Taronui Bay: (front) Kipa Munro-Chair Te Runanga o Ngati Rehia, Clare Redward-Community Ranger, BOI, Taipari Munro-member, Adrienne Tari-Chair, Willie Wright-Deputy Chair, Fleur Corbett-Senior Ranger/Supervisor Community BOI, (back) Tania McInnes-member, Marty Akroyd-Ops Manager BOI

4.15 Annual Work Plan

- Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Northland CMS
- Liaising with relevant bodies (e.g. Fish & game) pertaining to interests within the NCB Jurisdiction
- Maintaining and improving relationships with other Conservation Boards; Te Hiku, Auckland.
- Actively promote pest management
- Advocate for the containment of Kauri Dieback, Myrtle Rust
- Advocate for marine protection
- Proactively work with agencies to improve water quality
- Proactively advocate programmes related to war on weeds
- Proactively look to increase the Board's profile by exploring new mediums for message delivery.

4.16 Financial Report

NORTHLAND CONSERVATION BOARD COSTS (12 MONTHS) 2018-2019			
	June-19 YTD Costs	June-19 Variance +/-	June-19 Full Year Budget
Expenses			
Board fees	6,905	+9,095	16,000
Office Costs	414	+586	1,000
Consultants Prof. Serv.	913	+87	1,000
Travel	1,472	+528	2,000
Printing/Communication Strategy	4,657	+343	5,000
Training-Education Refund	(260)	+1,260	1,000
Hospitality	1,902	-902	1,000
Total	16,003	+10,997	27,000

4.16 Health & Safety

No health and safety incidents were reported by the Board in this financial year.

5. Statutory Activity

The Board made no submissions this financial year

5.1 Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

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 that are due or overdue for completion.

5.2 Management Plan

No CMP's reviewed by the Board in this financial year.

6. Advice and Advocacy

All Board members have responsibility for liaising with other groups when opportunities arise, and some members have specific roles in liaison

The Board appointed various members to liaise with other groups and agencies.

Liaison Person	Group, Agency, Organisation
Taipari Munro	Fish & Game Council
Not assigned	Quarry Gardens, Whangarei
	Pukenui Western Hills Forest Charitable Trust
	Friends of Matakohe Limestone Island
	Whangarei Native Forest and Bird Protection Society
	Chamber of Commerce
Willie Wright	Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group
	Northland Regional Council
	Auckland Conservation Board
	Northland Regional Council Ngunguru Catchment Group
Luana Pirihi	Auckland Conservation Board
	Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust
	Ruakaka Ratepayers Association
	Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserve Advisory Committee
Adrienne Tari	Te Hiku Conservation Board
	Twin Coast Cycle Trails

Table IV: Liaison persons

6.1 Other Conservation Boards Liaison

- The Board has continued to strengthen its relationship with the Auckland Conservation Board and is looking to work together on certain aspects of conservation.

- The Board looks forward to continuing to strengthen a working relationship with Te Hiku.

6.2 New Zealand Conservation Authority (NZCA) Liaison

The NZCA Liaison Nicole Anderson, keeps the Board updated on many issues including but not limited to:

- Predator Free 2050
- NZCA Issues and content

6.3. Department of Conservation Advice

The Board provided advice to the Department on the following issues:

- Opening Taronui Beach Recreation Reserve to public vehicle access.
- The Ruakaka Dune lake.
- DOC Community fund applications.
- Niagara shipwreck.
- The continuing relevance of some of the Northland CMS milestones.

6.4. Community Visibility

The Board's Facebook Page is managed by Lydia Draper (effective 25/2019)
Here's a link: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthlandConservationBoardNZ/>

The Board maintains a presence on the Departments' website. Information on being on a Conservation Board was also developed, advertised and displayed at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/statutory-and-advisory-bodies/conservation-boards/northland/>

6.5 District and Regional Councils Advocacy and Advice

The Board appreciates the opportunities to meet with representatives of the four local Councils:

- ❖ Northland Regional Council Members – Rick Stolwerk & Penny Smart
- ❖ Far North District Council

6.6 Iwi Liaison and Advocacy

The Board receives Iwi advice from a multitude of sources on a consistent basis.

7. Acknowledgements

Finally, the Board would like to acknowledge the following people for their support, advice, and friendship in 2018 - 2019:

- ✚ Robyn Stubbing, Minute taker
- ✚ Glen Wilcox and Alec Hawke, Auckland Conservation Board
- ✚ Louise Wilson, Policy Planner, FNDC
- ✚ Rick Stolwerk, NRC Councillor
- ✚ Penny Smart, NRC Councillor
- ✚ Chris Jenkins, Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board
- ✚ Department of Conservation Operations Managers and Staff
- ✚ Bill Mallet, Greg Innes and Rod, Bream Head Conservation Trust



Photograph taken by Malcolm Pullman of Tara iti / Ferry Tern pair on beach

This report is presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority as required by the Conservation Act and distributed to interested parties. Members of the public are welcome to attend Conservation Board meetings. If you would like more information on the Northland Conservation Board, please:
click on the link below:
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/statutory-and-advisory-bodies/conservation-boards/northland/> or
contact the Board Support Officer, at the Department of Conservation, Whangarei Office –
Ph: (09) 4703-3300 or email northlandconservationboard@doc.govt.nz.