



# Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Annual Report 2022-2023



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*



Bay of Plenty Conservation Board  
Te Poari o Te Papa Atawhai o te rohe o te Waiariki  
Annual Report

For the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

*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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Cover photo: Members of Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa, the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board,  
the New Zealand Conservation Authority and Department of Conservation at  
Mataarae Marae.

*Photographer:* Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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

Tena koutou e nga Rangatira e nga whaea

I submit, in terms of section 60 of the Conservation Act 1987, the annual report of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board (the Board) for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. The Conservation Act requires that the Board report each year to the New Zealand Conservation Authority on its operations.

On behalf of our Board, it is my pleasure to present this 2022-2023 Chair's report.

One of the highlights for this year has been the Board hosting the New Zealand Conservation Authority in Rotorua in April 2023. It was an informative day for all and we appreciated the warmth of the welcome on to the Mataare Marae in Reporoa, the rohe of Nga.ti Tahu- Nga.ti Whaoa.

As a region we face a range of challenges including the management of pest species and biosecurity risks including the protection of Kauri from dieback. The storm events early in 2023 also had a significant impact on access in the DOC estate and storm damage had a significant impact on our rare Hochstetter frogs.

The region has benefited from additional Crown funding from Jobs for Nature, these have both a social benefit in providing employment along with providing conservation benefits. The Board hopes to see steps put in place to extend the funding beyond the initial four years for these initiatives in our rohe.

Climate change will have an increasing impact on our biodiversity and the ability to reinstate and repair tracks and other infrastructure as storm events increase in intensity and frequency will become an increasing challenge for the Board.

In 2023 Dr Paul Kayes took responsibility for Chairing the Board and for a time I was the deputy chair. We again had challenges with retention with one new Board member briefly attending before resigning. Both Paul and I resigned from the Board in the middle of the year, with my intention to shift to Christchurch and Paul wanted more time with his grandchildren.

I would like to acknowledge the liaison work that Board members undertake with other groups the information that is shared between these groups is very valuable so thank you Dayle Hunia, Erin Green, Sara Carley and Julian Lee for your contributions to this engagement.

I would like to acknowledge the support of the Department of Conservation staff who support and administer the Board led by the Director of Operations Jade King Hazel. Kerry Brown provided some fantastic direction for the Board as the Statutory Manager prior to her leaving.

Heoi ano taku mo naiane

Rachel Pinn

Deputy Chair

No reira

*E* noho ora mai

Rachel Pinn

Deputy Chairperson

Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This is the 2022-2023 Conservation Board Annual Report. Section 6(0) 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 Bay of Plenty Conservation Board (**Board**) submits this annual report.

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

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

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

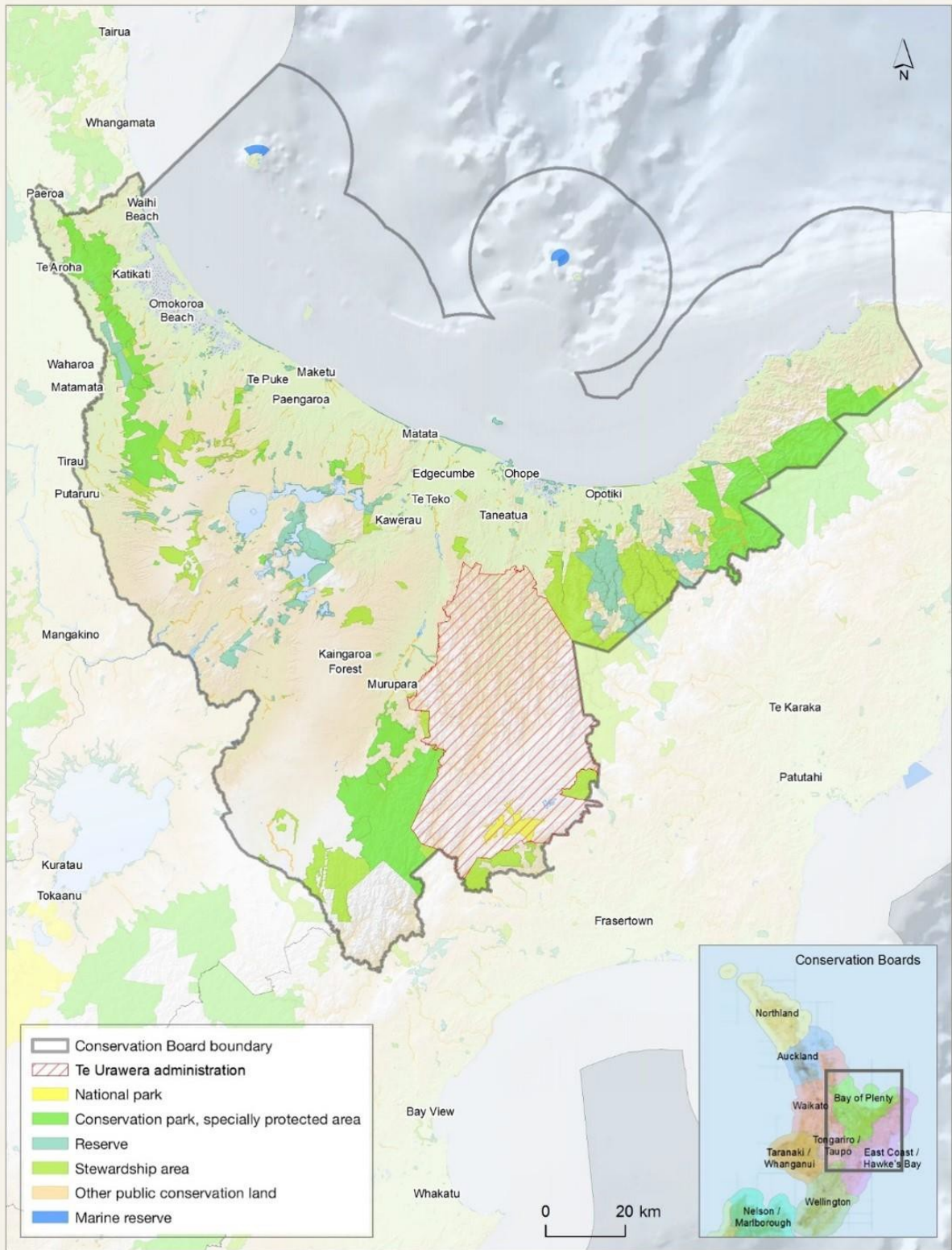
Conservation boards also have several functions under section 30 of the National Parks Act 1980. These functions include recommending the review or amendment of national park management plans and recommending approval of these plans by the Authority.

## 2. ROHE

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The Bay of Plenty Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers the area of 2,602,857 ha. 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.





## Bay of Plenty Conservation Board

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Figure 1. Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Jurisdiction

The Board area is complex, diverse, and extensive in its land, marine and ecological morphology, and rich in history. The richness and values of the Public Conservation Land (PCL) within this rohe is reflective of the first inhabitants of the Mataatua, Tainui and Te Arawa waka that through to this day, continue to reside, harvest and utilise the resources of the environment. The Board's area of jurisdiction covers the area from Orokawa Bay in the west to Cape Runaway in the east and inland to the forests of Whirinaki Te Pua-a-Tane, Raukumara and Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Parks. These ancient ranges are connected intimately with significant coastal forest and dune-lands that lie at the fringes of the Board's area and continue into the depths of the marine world through to various islands and beyond. Whilst the boundary lines drawn on the map show the Board's area is quite stencilled in takiwa, rohe boundaries for iwi are a bit more complex. So, through an iwi generic landscape viewfinder, the broader area is defined as Mai Nga Kuri a Whareki Tihirau, from Waihi/Bowentown/ Western Bay of Plenty, to Cape Runaway, tae atu ki a Tuwatawata, Whirinaki Te Pua-a-Tane, through to Tuwatawata and the Whirinaki, mai Maketu ki Tongariro, from Maketu to parts of the Tuwharetoa, tae atu kite Pare Hauraki, and stretching over to Tokoroa, Matamata, Waharoa and Paeroa generally. This physical location represents our ongoing responsibility to iwi under the Treaty of Waitangi as the Board's area is homeland to the whanau, hapu and iwi of Pare Hauraki, Tauranga Moana, Te Arawa and Mataatua Waka. Within the region Treaty Settlements are at varying stages of pre-treaty settlement to post-treaty settlement. Department staff and iwi have been initiating discussions around co-governance of several significant areas of PCL in anticipation of these arrangements following settlement. Two marine reserves are located within the Board's rohe being Tuhua and Te Paepae o Aotea Marine Reserves. The area extends out to the 12-nautical mile limit with respect to coastal and marine issues, and out to the 200-nautical mile limit with respect to protected species. Wetland features, associated vegetation and the geothermal wonders of the Rotorua Lakes and surrounding reserve network also provide unique features to an area that is as diverse in species as it is in people groups and communities. From the many mountains, volcanoes, podocarp forests and hinterlands, from the freshwater tributaries, geothermal features, lakes and freshwater systems, through to the mangroves, estuaries and the great ocean of Toi, therein lies the diversity, complexities, and the richness of our Board's area. The Bay of Plenty region hosts a broad range of water catchments and lake reservoirs that flow out to the coastal ecosystems and the Pacific Ocean. Lastly, a significant boundary is shared with the East Coast/Hawkes Bay Conservation Board along the Raukumara Ranges. There are over fifty active community groups within the region who work alongside the Department and the Board, which adds an interesting complexity given the number of people contributing positively to conservation. Right across the Bay of Plenty, hundreds of volunteers gave up their time, during 2022/23, to support conservation efforts. These volunteers undertook more than the equivalent of around 2000 workdays of mahi during the year. We have been fortunate to have continued support from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, who also help much of the effort of our conservation groups.



## 2.1 Conservation features of the area

The main features of Public Conservation Land and Waters within the Board's boundaries are: The total area of the Bay of Plenty Region comprises 2,602,857 ha. Of this total, approximately 319,501 ha is contained within the boundary of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction.

The main features of PCL and Waters within the Board's boundaries are:

- Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park - 40,000 ha
- Whirinaki Te Pua-a-Tane - 56,000 ha
- Raukumara Conservation Park -59,312 ha
- Scenic Reserves - 47,381 ha
- Historic Reserves - 70 ha
- Recreation Reserves - 420 ha
- Ecological Areas - 312 ha
- Stewardship Areas - 108,413 ha
- Marine Reserves - 2,330 ha

## 2.2 Conservation issues in the area

The Bay of Plenty has a range of significant issues of relevance throughout the rohe that the Board maintains a keen interest in and monitors progress. In the absence of an up-to-date CMS which would provide a formal reporting mechanism, the Board's work programme has focused on progressing these priority areas:

- Progressing the reclassification of Stewardship Land in the Bay of Plenty rohe
- Effective engagement with the significant number of iwi/hapu/whanau in the Bay of Plenty rohe
- Progressing the protection of significant marine ecosystems throughout the Bay of Plenty rohe
- Management of pest species:
  - Deer, possums, pigs, goats
  - Dama Wallaby
  - Wilding pines
- Biodiversity and Biosecurity
  - Protection of Kauri from dieback
  - Ecosystem management
  - Threatened species management e.g. Kokako, Kiwi, Whio

### 3. FUNCTIONS

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#### 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 and 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 within 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.

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

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

### 4- MEMBERSHIP

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

Board members are appointed for 3-year terms and may be re-appointed unless they are appointed in replacement of a prior member's term. There were eight Board members for the reporting year. Paul Kayes was elected Chairperson and Rachel Pinn was elected Deputy Chairperson. Note: Paul Kayes resigned from the Board ending July 2023.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Term start</b>	<b>Term end</b>
<b>Dr Paul Kayes</b>	Tauranga	01 July 2021	30 June 2024
<b>Rachel Pinn</b>	Tauranga	01 Aug 2018	30 June 2025
<b>Sara Carley</b>	Tauranga	01 July 2021	30 June 2023
<b>Erin Green</b>	Whakatane	01 July 2022	30 June 2025
<b>Julian Lee</b>	Opotiki	01 July 2014	30 June 2023
<b>Laura Crossan</b>	Te Puke	01 July 2022	30 June 2025
<b>Dayle Hunia</b>	Whakatane	15 Aug 2017	30 June 2023
<b>Fisher Wang</b>	Rotorua	01 July 2022	30 June 2025

*Table 1. Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Members*

#### **4.1 Members profiles**

##### **Dr PAUL KAYES**

Paul is a Professor at Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi and offers 30 years' experience in tertiary marine and environmental studies. In his academic roles, he has formed partnerships with Iwi and the Department of Conservation. He is also a Board member and Chair of numerous community and sporting governance boards.

##### **RACHEL PINN**

Rachel is an independent director with skills in strategic planning and policy development. She has a passion for the New Zealand environment and holds a Bachelor of Resource Management and a Master of Applied Science in Transport Science.

##### **ERIN GREEN:**

Erin provides experience in environmental science and policy, with expertise in marine science, conservation, and management. As Co-Founder of Te Puna Taiao Charitable Trust, she has excellent community engagement and advocacy skills, and an understanding of issues facing our children, communities, and planet as a whole.

##### **SARA CARLEY:**

Sara is semi-retired, with a background in the public service as an International Development Manager with experience in the Pacific Islands and Asia. She has strong policy, planning, and analysis skills, with strength in programme planning, financial management, and cultural awareness.

##### **LAURA CROSSAN:**

Laura works in the financial management sector providing assistance for rural land users including dairy, dry stock, and horticulture. She provides a perspective from rural and youth communities.

##### **DAYLE HUNIA:**

Ko Putauaki te maunga, ko Nga.ti Awa te iwi. Dayle Hunia runs an environmental consultancy and is based in Whakatane. She currently serves on a range of boards including the Environmental Defence Society and Te Tapatoru a Toi. Dayle is married to Hurricane, and they have three kids and one kiwi averted dog.

#### JULIAN LEE:

Dr Lee is now retired from a career in science with a biological chemistry background. A Massey University graduate, his career started with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. After the formation of the Crown Research Institutes, he had roles in Ag Research as a senior scientist and Group Leader, Chief Scientist at Crop and Food Research (2005-2007) and was a former Group Manager Strategy at Plant and Food Research (2007-2009). He has established university and CRI (Crown Research Institutes) science networks and wide experience in research leadership and governance, with skills in science in negotiation, consensus building and strategic thinking. His outdoor recreation interests are fishing, planting, gardening, and golf.

## 5. MEETINGS AND FIELDTRIPS

The Board held 5 meetings and completed 2 fieldtrips during the reporting period. Venues for the meetings vary each year to ensure a wide coverage and enable members of the public in the district to attend meetings and access the Board.

Meeting date	Location/Venue
27 OCTOBER 2022	Meeting - Online
01 DECEMBER 2022	Fieldtrip - Okere Falls & Zipline Rotorua
01 DECEMBER 2022	Meeting - Rotorua DOC office
09 MARCH 2023	Meeting - Online
24 APRIL 2023	Meeting - Tauranga DOC office
26 APRIL 2023	Fieldtrip - Mataarae Marae, Reporoa
22 JUNE 2023	Meeting - Whakatane DOC

Table 2. Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Meetings/Fieldtrips

### 5.1 Agendas

The Board hosted and heard from numerous speakers at its meetings, including:

- Rotoiti Scenic Reserve Board, December 1<sup>8</sup> 2022  
Okere Falls Scenic Reserve the Board were hosted by Rotorua district staff. Visiting a new zipline featuring Operator and Concessionaire Sam Sutton. Board members had shared interest in the project.
- Evelyn Forrest, Nga.ti Tahu-Nga.ti Whaoa, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
During the NZCA visit to the Bay of Plenty, Evelyn Forrest gave a presentation on the history of Nga.ti Tahu-Nga.ti Whaoa and iwi-led conservation projects including those done through Jobs for Nature.

Department staff also attended throughout the year.

<b>Who?</b>	<b>Role</b>
<b>Kerry Brown</b>	Statutory Manager
<b>Ayla Jack</b>	Business Support Officer
<b>Catherine MacDonald</b>	Acting Business Support Officer
<b>Jade King-Hazel</b>	Eastern North Island Director of Operations
<b>Raponi Wilson</b>	Operations Manager - Whakatane/Tauranga
<b>Jeff Milham</b>	Operations Manager - Tauranga
<b>Zane Jensen</b>	Operations Manager - Rotorua
<b>David Beattie</b>	Operations Manager - Whakatane, Whirinaki, Opotiki (WVO)

*Table 3. Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Members*

Department staff who attended to consult or present throughout the year:

- Jamie Fowler, Conservation System Reform Manager, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022  
Jamie presented an overview of a review of the Wildlife Act 1953
- David & Glynn, DOC Management Planning Team, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022  
Attended to give an update of the status of the CMS following its revocation status. They provided insight into the process of review.

The Board has a practice of inviting representatives from community organisations to present at each meeting. Speakers this year have represented:

- Michelle Elborn, Bay Conservation Alliance, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Michelle presented an overview of the BCA, its inception, organisational structure, cadetship programme and relationship with the Department of Conservation.
- Linda Conning, Chair of Eastern Bay of Plenty Forest & Bird, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022  
Ms. Conning shared frustrations with the Board regarding the development on a CMS. She presented to the Board on Forest & Birds achievement to recognise plant pests which will support DOC with restoration projects.

These were predominantly voluntary groups carrying out huge amounts of conservation work within the community. The Board recognises and appreciates volunteers and thanks them for the work done in this area.

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

## **5.2 Field trips and site inspections**

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

2023 April 26<sup>th</sup> - Field trip facilitated by ENI Department of Conservation team in collaboration with local iwi. Further details of the event in section 6.2.

2023 June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Field trip to a newly installed Rotorua zipline. The Board had been following the process of this install and were able to take a look at it in action.

### 5.3 Members' attendance 2022/23

Board Member	27OCT22 Meeting	01DEC22 Meeting	01DEC23 Field Trip	09MAR23 Meeting	24APR23 Meeting	26APR23 Field Trip	22JUN23 Meeting
Paul Kayes	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Rachel Pinn		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sara Carley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Julian Lee	0.5	✓	✓	0.5	✓	✓	✓
Dayle Hunia	✓						
Fisher Wang	0.5						
Laura Crossan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Erin Green	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 4. Board member attendance

## 6. MAHI

### 6.1 Board Committees

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

#### Conservation Management Strategy Sub-Committee

Paul Kayes	Julian Lee
Rachel Pinn	Erin Green

Table 5. Conservation Management Strategy Sub-Committee

### 6.2 Special events

On 26th April, The Bay of Plenty Conservation Board hosted the New Zealand Conservation Authority in Rotorua. The Board and Authority were welcomed onto Mataarae Marae in Reporoa, the rohe of Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa. The Board facilitated engagement between Department staff, members of the Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa Rūnanga Trust and the Authority, on matters of Honourable Treaty Partnerships, Equity and Te Papa Atawhai, and the Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy. Speakers included both Erin Green on behalf of the BOPCB and Director Operations for Eastern North Island, Jade King-Hazel. Evelyn Forrest facilitated the greater part of NZCA's visit,



guiding the ropu through Wai o Tapu Scenic Reserve displaying examples of collaborative projects between iwi, crown and government. It was an enjoyable and informative day for all, and a conclusive representation of iwi-led conservation management at place.

## 7. STATUTORY ACTIVITY

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### 7.1 Annual Work Plan

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

### 7.2 Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

The sub-committee worked closely with Statutory Manager Kerry Brown to identify and explore pathways for the board to collectively agree to following the revocation of the drafted CMP 2020. Now resigned, Statutory Manager, Kerry brown prepared a document for the Board to consider leading into 2023.

## 8. ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

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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:

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Organisation/Group/Agency</b>
<b>Erin Green/Dayle Hunia</b>	Te Tapatoru A Toi
<b>Sara Carley</b>	Eastern Fish and Game Council
<b>Sara Carley</b>	Dama Wallaby Programme Forum
<b>Laura Crossan</b>	Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku Project
<b>Paul Kayes</b>	BOP Wetland Forum

*Table 6. Liaisons*

### *Te Tapatoru A Toi*

Board member Dayle Hunia served in the assigned BOPCB seat for the year 2022-2023, before submitting her resignation in 2023 after years of service. During her tenure, Dayle made a significant contribution to the komiti with her extensive matauranga and passion for taiao. Following Dayle's resignation from the BOPCB, new member Erin Green was elected to take the seat. During the year, the komiti began planning work for review of the Conservation Management Plan, which will replace the 1994-2004 CMP. This work was started with a facilitated wananga by Koro Te Kei Merito to develop a framework for the new document, starting with an introductory engagement plan with stakeholders and the community. The committee aims to work more collaboratively with Nga.ti Awa and DOC in the year, as well as stakeholders to ensure development of a CMP that is fit for purpose and honours the vision of the wananga.

### *Eastern Fish & Game Council*

Regular liaison with the Eastern Region Fish & Game Council continued in the form of the sharing of meeting agendas, minutes, and reports. Sara Carley attended a Council meeting to provide an update on the status of the Conservation Management Strategy, and other priorities in the Board's workplan. Council noted their interest in community-based pest control operations. Council consulted BOPCB on a partial review of regional sports fishing regulations (Anglers Notice) and on their draft operational workplan priorities for 2023-24.

### *Dama Wallaby Programme Forum*

Sara Carley was the Board's liaison for the Wallaby Coordination Group. A significant development during the year was construction of a 12.5km fence along the edge of SH5 from Waipa to Lake Rotokakahi. This resulted from a partnership of central and local government, iwi, farmers, landowners, and agencies focused on ridding New Zealand of pest wallabies. The aim is to minimise the risk of wallabies dispersing from Whakarewarewa forest, buying time while researching ways to control wallabies within the forest and reduce re-infestation of land to the south where wallaby control operations are being carried out.

The group visited Lake Okataina wallaby and deer exclosure plots which were established in 1984. It was interesting that while there was an increase in saplings, indicating that seedlings were no longer being eaten by wallabies, there were few new seedlings. Evidently, damage done some decades ago was now flowing through to there being few surviving adult trees to produce new seeds, while older trees were no longer productive.

A major focus in 2023 was to raise awareness and encourage the public to report wallaby sightings so that prompt action could be taken if any wallabies were sighted outside the containment area. Consultation on the 23/24 workplan showed a need for more engagement with iwi, who advocated for work on eradication as well as containment.

### *Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku Project*

Regular liaison with the Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku charitable trust on the basis of mutual interest including community awareness, support, funding, Jobs for Nature and coordinating conservation action. There were several events held over the last 12-months where DOC has aided such as the Mana o te Taiao Are Exhibition and the Kaimai Mamaku Kiwi Survey. Work projects also collaborated with DOC to maintain walking tracks, clear vegetation, assess track condition and ensuring proper drainage. The Trust is able to do an enormous amount of work across the rohe of 300k hectares and 5 territorial authorities it spans. Continued collaboration between DOC and the Trust will continue to make a positive impact.

## **8.1 Board and Authority liaisons**

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

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Board</b>
<b>Paul Kayes</b>	Waikato Conservation Board
<b>Julian Lee</b>	East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Board
<b>Erin Green</b>	Tongariro Taupo Conservation Board

*Table 7. Liaisons Roles to neighbouring Conservation Boards*

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. Takurua Mutu was the Authority's liaison for the reporting year.

#### ***East Coast Hawkes Bay Conservation Board***

Julian Lee provided liaison to the board. No meetings were attended by Bay of Plenty Conservation Board in 2022/2023.

#### ***Tongariro Taupo Conservation Board***

Following a gap in a liaison to the Tongariro Taupo Conservation Board, member Erin Green picked up the role in February 2023. The Board has a huge amount of experience, expertise and matauranga around the table, and includes representatives from the four iwi with mana whenua to the rohe. The Board is experiencing similar obstacles as the BOPCB when it comes to review of their Conservation Management and have been exploring pathways for a way forward. They have also had significant work around the current and future plans for the maunga and township of Ohakune in light of the receivership of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts, and the withdrawal of leases of the Tongariro Chateau and its associated buildings.

#### ***Waikato Conservation Board***

The Waikato Conservation are expecting to have new support staff come on board. Their CMS is current however they are aware that it is due for renewal in the coming year. They are in the process of discussion into how best to approach this particularly now that Ngati Maniapoto have settled and the entity have the right to appoint a representative to the Conservation Board.

## **8.2 Public forum/discussion**

The Board believes that working with conservation organisations and members of the public is very important. Meetings were held in different parts of the Bay of Plenty region and 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 and responded by letter with a response to questions asked or concerns raised.

Public forum issues raised were:

- Ben Banks, Al Environmental, December 1<sup>8</sup> 2022

Mr. Banks presented on extensive damage on DOC managed land in the Eastern BOP. Based on his observations, Mr. Banks raised concern for the lack of purposefully allocated tracks and signage with which visitors may use rather than accessing spaces via areas with vegetation intended to protect from erosion. In response to Mr. Banks

concerns a meeting was arranged for him to discuss in better detail with DOC operations staff.

- Nina Tumata, Advisor to Advisor Te Puni Kokiri, October 2ih, 2022  
Ms. Tumata attended public forum to bring awareness to Maori issues and to see how TPK could support concerns the Board identify in relation to Maori.

## **g. FEES AND ALLOWANCES**

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

## **10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF DEPARTING MEMBERS**

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### ***Dr Paul Kayes* 01/07/2021- 17/07/2023 resigned**

Dr Paul Kayes served as Chair to the board from February 2022 through to his resignation in July 2023. His membership began shortly after the revocation of the drafted Conservation Management Strategy in 2020. For the Board this was quite a trialling time, the Board was seeing a lack of attendance and some disconnection from purpose following the CMS outcome. He managed members and worked strategically with Statutory Manager Kerry Brown to develop pathways for the next steps in CMS review.

### ***Dayle Hunia* 15/08/2017 - 09/03/2023 resigned**

Dayle Hunia gave 5.5 years to the Bay of Plenty Board of Conservation. She sat as the BOPCB representative to Te Tapatoru A Toi Joint Management Committee where she worked as the Deputy Chairperson. During her service as liaison, she provided valuable connectivity with local iwi and insight into the application of Te Tiriti.

### ***Julian Lee* 01/07/2014- 30/06/2023 term ended**

Longstanding member Julian Lee served as member to the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board from 2014 to 2023. His tenure and dedication offered a wealth of knowledge which he invested into the Boards conservation management of the region. Julian's departure from the board came after his decision not to seek renewed membership in 2023, he took with him experience that current members can only aspire to.

# Appendix 1

## Bay of Plenty Conservation Board Work Programme 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

	Priorities	Strategies / Actions	Milestones / Performance Indicators
1	<b>Stewardship Land</b>	<p>Gain further understanding on the status of the processes for management and reclassification of stewardship land.</p> <p>Actively pursue a higher level of protection for the parcels of stewardship land that the board has classified as high value.</p> <p>Continue the process to designate sites identified as having significant value with new reclassifications.</p> <p>Investigate further Stewardship land areas at risk, or deteriorating from existing use</p>	<p>Regular updates provided by department staff on the status of specific Stewardship Land parcels and reprioritisation work.</p> <p>Specific threatened sites in the BOP have been submitted for reclassification.</p>
2	<b>Conservation Management Strategy</b>	<p>Work with the Department to connect with the community throughout the community engagement process</p> <p>When enabled, pursue the process of notification, public submissions and final draft working towards completion.</p>	<p>Iwi/hapu conversations are strengthening and ongoing</p> <p>Notification is carried out Submissions are received Hearings are arranged</p>
3	<b>Marine and coastal advocacy</b>	<p>Form subcommittee to promote marine and coastal issues.</p> <p>Understand and advocate the key issues impacting and threatening biodiversity in the Marine and Coastal areas of the Bay of Plenty.</p> <p>Commence discussions with regarding a Ministry for Oceans.</p>	<p>This information is used in an advisory and advocacy capacity to the NZCA and Minister to highlight the environmental state of our marine and coastal environment.</p> <p>Engagement with other Boards, Minister, NZCA.</p>
4	<b>Relationship with iwi</b>	<p>Strengthen relationships with iwi/hapū/whānau through the board's rohe.</p>	<p>Strong relationships with iwi partners.</p> <p>Local iwi attend Board hui and relationships are established throughout the Board rohe</p>
5	<b>Biodiversity and Biosecurity</b>	<p>Support the Department in conversations around pest control actions.</p> <p>Ensure the Kauri Dieback threat to the Northern Kaimai area is actively</p>	<p>A greater acceptance in the community of the necessity to undertake aerial pest control to protect the biodiversity in our rohe</p>

		<p>managed by the department. Advocate for resources as required.</p> <p>Advocate for a deer monitoring programme to determine problem areas and ways these populations can be controlled.</p> <p>Advocate for eradication of Wallaby in the BOP. Advocate for resourcing an intergeneration eradication programme for Wallaby in BOP</p> <p>Support the Department in the implementation of Te Mana o Te Taiao</p>	<p>Northern Kaimai's remain free of Kauri Dieback</p> <p>DoC and NZDS working together to target concentrated deer populations.</p> <p>Movement from containment dialogue to eradication. Agencies, iwi/hapu, NGOs and land owners are working collaboratively with eradication vision.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Liaison roles – other boards, statutory relationships; Fish &amp; Game etc.</b>	<p>Appoint Board Members to Liaison roles;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighbouring boards,</li> <li>• Te Tapa Toru a Toi</li> <li>• Fish and Game</li> </ul> <p>Maintain regular liaison with NZCA liaison representatives</p>	<p>Regular updates to the boards from those in Liaison roles, and Hui arranged where applicable where matters of mutual interest are being considered The Board is kept well informed through regular updates from liaison representatives and maintains a strong relationship with the NZCA.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Working with the Department</b>	<p>Advocate for the environment locally and nationally.</p> <p>Provide advice to the Department on any Concessions or issues they require consideration from the Board</p> <p>Advocate and challenge the Department to deliver on our work programme</p>	<p>The Board contribution is valued by the Department and we have a supportive working relationship.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Global Oversight</b>	<p>Keep a watching brief on global influences and targets that impact on the CMS especially:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government's Climate Change Response</li> <li>• Pandemics</li> </ul>	<p>CMS Objectives and Department direction are supportive of a lower carbon environment.</p> <p>The Department and Board work together to understand impacts of changing visitor numbers to specific sites within the Board rohe.</p> <p>Regular updates to the board where applicable.</p>

Board Work Plan Accepted by resolution at 05th April Board meeting.





Kerry Brown, Statutory Manager Eastern North Island and Julian Lee on the Rotorua Zipline Boardwalk in Ōkere Falls Forest | Photo by Ayla Jack (DOC)

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 Bay of Plenty Conservation Board please see the website [www.conservationboards.org.nz](http://www.conservationboards.org.nz) or contact the board support officer, at the Department of Conservation in Whakatane on phone (027) 201 6706 or e-mail [bayofplentyconservationboard@doc.govt.nz](mailto:bayofplentyconservationboard@doc.govt.nz)