

# **Chatham Islands Conservation Board Annual Report 2019-2020**





# Chatham Islands Conservation Board Te Pou Atawhai O Rekohu/Wharekauri

## Annual Report 2019-2020

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

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 Chatham Islands 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 the Chatham Islands, phone (03) 305 0098 or email: [chathamislandsconservationboard@doc.govt.nz](mailto:chathamislandsconservationboard@doc.govt.nz)

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## 1. Introduction

This is the 30th Chatham Islands Conservation Board Annual Report. Section 6(O) of the Conservation Act requires conservation boards to provide the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority) with an annual report as soon as practical after 30 June each year. In recognition of this requirement the Chatham Islands Conservation Board submits this annual report.

Conservation boards are 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 conservation boards to carry out those functions, are under 6(N) of the Act.

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

Conservation boards have several statutory roles under various Acts including:

- the recommendation of the Chatham Islands 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 approval of conservation management plans
- 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. Conservation board region

The Chatham Islands Conservation Board's area of jurisdiction covers the area in the map below (Figure 1). 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.

The Chatham Islands lie 860 km east of Christchurch, at 44° south in the path of the Roaring Forties and consist of eight islands of appreciable size. The total land area is 97,000 hectares of which main Chatham Island (90,000 ha) and Pitt Island (6,190 ha) are the largest. The Chatham's local time is 45 minutes ahead of the rest of New Zealand.

The Chatham Islands are an amazing collection of islands consisting of contrasts and extremes: beautiful still sunny days with magical blue skies through to raging 45 knot storms that in their own way are awe-inspiring. For much of the year the climate is temperate – temperatures in the low twenties in midsummer but can drop close to 0 degrees in the winter with scattered hail and sleet and occasional snow.

Generally main Chatham Island is low-lying and comprises flat to rolling topography. The highest point on the island is only 299m. There are many swampy valley floors and extensive peatlands. The catchments are generally small and shallow but there are a few incised streams in the south. Here the land is at a higher altitude forming a tableland of deep peat covering basalt with a fertile coastal clay region which ends abruptly at impressive basalt bluffs. In the north there are scattered volcanic peaks and long stretches of sandy beach while the island has a large central lagoon of 20,000 ha and there are many moderate sized lakes.

Both the natural vegetation and fauna are highly modified and are reduced to remnants as a result of human occupation. Low forest once covered most of the islands. Approximately 10% of the forest cover remains – most in the south of the main island.

Five main forest types are present featuring broad-leaved species and tarahinau (*Dracophyllum arboreum*). Much of the area has converted to bracken and shrubland and to a lesser extent pasture. There are extensive areas of restiad, sedge and heath wetlands.

The Chathams have the highest level of endemism of any New Zealand biogeographic region. Forty-one of the Chatham Islands 465 native plants, 18 of the 73 native birds and 8.5% of New Zealand's threatened freshwater fish are found nowhere else. About 20% of the 800 insect species and one reptile are also endemic to these islands. The New Zealand Geo-Preservation Inventory lists 31 sites of nationally important geological interest. 700 archaeological sites are recorded and many more unrecorded.

The Department of Conservation has an Office at Te One on main Chatham with 13 permanent staff, two of which are based seasonally on Pitt Island. Volunteers, staff and researchers are present on Rangatira (South East Island) and Mangere Island for periods during the year, undertaking species monitoring work during the breeding season of endangered bird species, and continuing with the habitat restoration programme.

The vast expanse of ocean surrounding these islands is rich in marine life and supports internationally significant populations of sea birds and nationally significant populations of whales, dolphins, seals and sharks.

The Chatham Islands Conservation Board represents a total island population of approximately 600 people (Chatham and Pitt Island) and has particularly close contact with the community. Chatham Islanders have very strong ties to their land and resources, reflected by their livelihoods of fishing, farming, and tourism.



# Chatham and Pitt Islands

Table 5  
Date: 11/08/2009

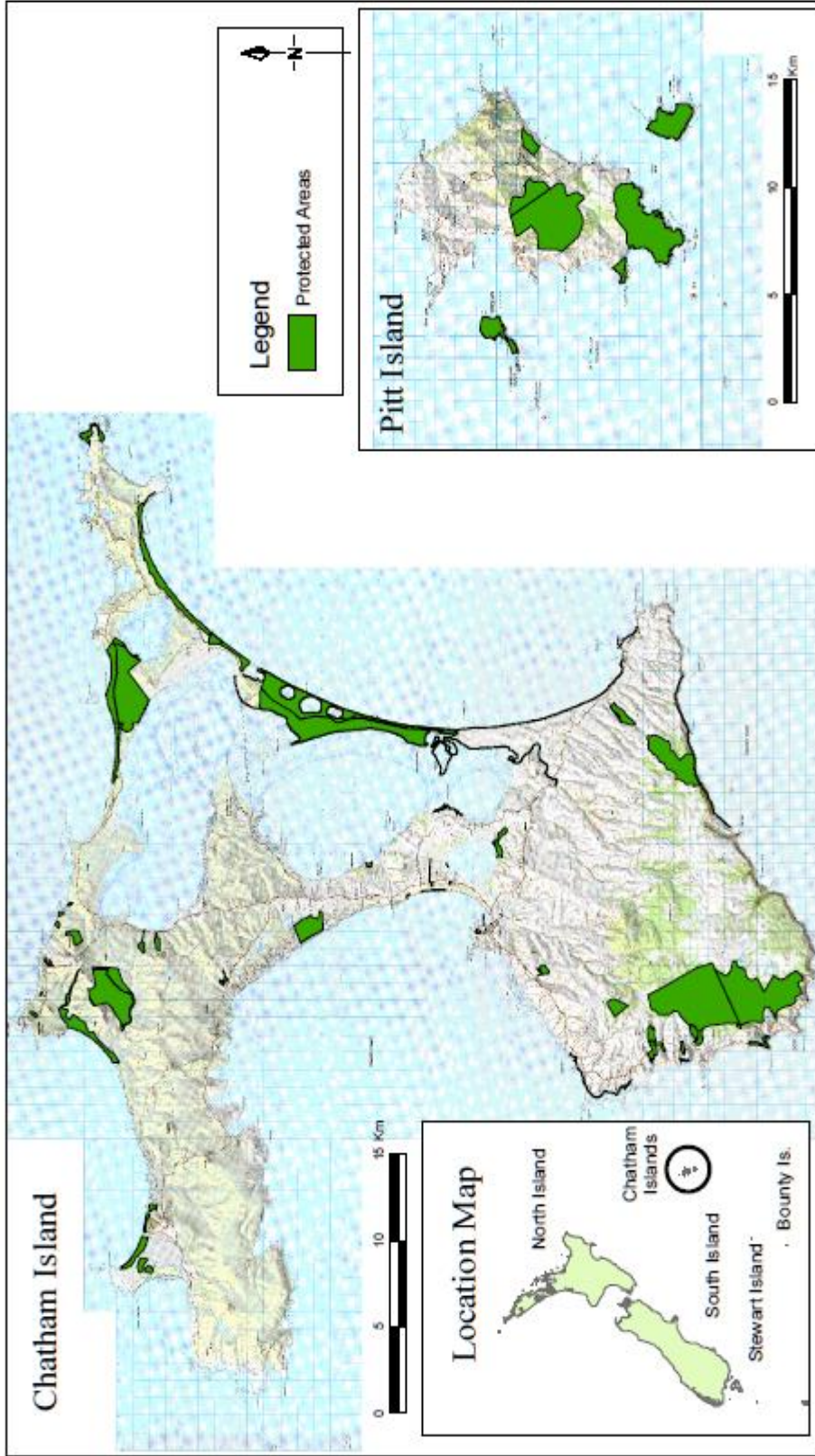


Figure 1. Chatham Islands Conservation Board Jurisdiction

For simplicity and for consistency this report will use the English names and/or official Nature Reserve names. Some of these names will change through Moriori Settlement legislation. The DOC District Office has adopted the practice of using English, Moriori and Māori names for the islands out of respect for the two island Treaty partners and as a way of helping our community understand the importance of place-names. These include: Rēkohu/Wharekauri/Chatham Island and Pitt Island/Rangihauite/Rangiauria. Most of the smaller islands and reefs will also have dual names confirmed or recognised through relationship redress in the Settlement legislation.

Table 1: Chatham Islands Conservation feature names

<b>Official name - post Moriori Deed of Settlement</b>	<b>Unofficial original Moriori name</b>	<b>Other names</b>
Waikokopu (Canister Cove) Scenic Reserve		
JM Barker (Hapūpū) Historic Reserve		
Manaua (Ocean Mail) Scenic Reserve		
Waipāua Scenic Reserve		
Waimihi/Point Alison		
Tamarau Point		Napper Point
Whenuahau Point		Red Bluff
Tapuika		Taupeka
Pana (Blind Jim's Creek)		
Mangere Island	Maung' Rē	
South East Island (Rangatira)	Hokoreoro	
Little Mangere (Tapuaenuku)		The Fort
Rangiweoa (The Castle)		
Star Keys	Motchu Hopo	Motuhope
The Sisters (Rangitahi)	Rakitchu	
Motuhara	Motchu hara	The Forty Fours or Bertier Rock
The Pyramid (Tarakoioia)	Tcharako or Tcharok'	Terekoekoe
Waitangi	Waiteki	
Cape Pattison	Tapuaki-o-Hiti	

The large number of issues which are of interest to the Board include:

- Island Biosecurity
- Landscape Restoration
- Landscape Regeneration
- Biodiversity Protection
- Freshwater and Coastal Lagoon Ecology

## 2.1 Conservation features of the area

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

Table 2: Chatham Islands Conservation features

Frequency	Section	Recorded Area (Hectares)
2	Administration Purpose - s.60 Conservation Act 1987	3
24	Conservation Covenant - s.77 Reserves Act 1977	2182
3	Conservation Covenants entered into under both the Conservation and Reserves Act	80
15	Fixed Marginal Strip - s.24(3) Conservation Act 1987	206
1	Government Purpose Reserve - s.22 Reserves Act 1977	1
3	Historic Reserve - s.18 Reserves Act 1977	1303
1	National Reserve - s.13 Reserves Act 1977	30
3	Nature Reserve - s.20 Reserves Act 1977	1579
9	Scenic Reserve - s.19(1)(a) Reserves Act 1977	2926
9	Stewardship Area - s.25 Conservation Act 1987	2053
11	Nga Whenua Rahui kawenata	691

## 3. Board functioning

### 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
- 5) On any proposed change of status or classification of any area of national or international importance; and
- 6) On any other conservation matter relating to any area with the jurisdiction of the Board
- 7) To liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matter within the jurisdiction of the Board
- 8) To exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Minister under this Act or any other Act.

### **3.2. Powers of the Board 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 –
  - 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.
- 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 the National Parks Act 1980**

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

### **3.4. Board membership**

There were 7 Board members for the reporting year appointed by the Minister of Conservation. Judy Kamo was re-elected as Chairperson with Amanda Seymour remaining as Deputy Chairperson. Trescia Lawson joined the Board with the ministerial appointments while Di Gregory-Hunt and Susan Thorpe were reappointed.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020 and their term of office.

Table 3: Board membership

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Term start</b>	<b>Term end</b>	<b>Term served</b>
<b>Mana Cracknell</b>	Chatham Island	01 July 2014	30 June 2020	6 years
<b>Di Gregory-Hunt</b>	Pitt Island	01 May 2014	30 June 2022	6 years
<b>Judy Kamo</b>	Chatham Island	01 April 2015	30 June 2020	5 years
<b>Peter de Lange</b>	Auckland	01 July 2018	30 June 2021	2 years
<b>Trescia Lawson</b>	Chatham Island	01 July 2019	01 July 2022	1 year
<b>Amanda Seymour</b>	Chatham Island	01 April 2015	30 June 2021	5 years
<b>Susan Thorpe</b>	Chatham Island	01 May 2014	30 June 2021	6 years

### 3.5. Members profiles

#### **Judy Kamo (Chairperson), of Chatham Islands**

Judy of Ngati Mutunga and Ngai Tahu descent, is a member of the Hokotehi Moriori Trust and a Pitt Islander descendent raised on Rangiauria (Pitt Island). Judy and her husband farm sheep and cattle on their Wharekauri properties. She is actively involved in conservation projects and enjoys collecting and propagating seeds to help with the restoration of the Island's ngahere. Whanau, rongoa, farming and gardening are important in her life.

#### **Mana Cracknell, of Kaingaroa, Chatham Islands**

Mana is a retired university academic with a background in teaching and learning, culture and language, matauranga maori, leadership and management, business development, strategic planning and project management. He has been involved in environmental research projects on Mainland NZ and in the Chatham Islands looking at biodiversity. His outdoor recreation interests are gardening, fishing, beekeeping and native tree propagation and planting. Mana is of Rongomaiwahine, Ngati Kahungunu, Rangitane and Rongomaiwhenua-Moriiori descent.

#### **Dianne (Di) Gregory-Hunt, of Pitt Island**

Di is involved in farming. She has been a member of the Pitt Island Reserves Committee and the Pitt Island Reserves and Conservation Purposes Trust. Di has been active in many of the conservation projects on Pitt, including monitoring of nesting albatross and Chatham Island snipe. Di and her family have land protected under conservation covenants and are active in habitat restoration projects. She would like to continue to participate in conservation areas and projects.

### **Peter J. de Lange, of Owairaka (Mt Albert), Tamaki Makarau (Auckland)**

Peter is an Associate Professor in the School of Environmental & Animal Sciences, Unitec Institute of Technology - teaching biosystematics, ecology, environmental sciences, and learning from his students daily. A Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, Peter holds degrees from the University of Waikato (B.Sc., M.Sc. (Hons)) and PhD from the University of Auckland. Peter first visited the Chatham Islands in 1996 and has continued to do so regularly ever since. Peter has written many papers on the Chatham Islands Flora and together with colleague Dr Peter Heenan described a number of new endemic species including Chatham Island scurvy grass (*Lepidium rekohuense*) and swamp akeake (*Olearia telmatica*). Born at Kirikiriroa (Hamilton) in 1966 Peter is of Dutch descent (his whanau hail from the province of Zeeland, Netherlands) with his parents emigrating to Aotearoa / New Zealand in 1960.

### **Trescia Lawson, of Chatham Islands**

Trescia is the General Manager for Ha O Te Ora O Wharekauri Trust. She has local knowledge and experience in management, policy writing and planning. She has affiliations to Ngāti Mutunga O Wharekauri / Rekohu and Moriori O Rekohu / Wharekauri.

### **Amanda Seymour, of Chatham Islands**

Amanda is a Chatham Island born farmer raising her young family on the Chathams. She has been active in many conservation projects, including the covenanting of forest areas on her farm, tree planting on Mangere Island, plant nursery work and supporting the local school tree planting projects in local reserves.

### **Susan Thorpe, of Owenga, Chatham Islands**

Susan is a director of a heritage consultancy company. She has research experience in archaeology, cultural heritage, and the environment, and enjoys being involved in ecological restoration projects. Her outdoor recreation interests are water sports, sailing, fishing, tree planting and gardening.

## **3.6. Board meetings**

The Board held 5 meetings 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. Six meetings were scheduled as per the Ministers request, however one meeting had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 lockdown restrictions.

Table 4: Board meeting dates and location

<b>Board meeting date</b>	<b>Meeting location and venue</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	The River Onion Gallery
<b>20<sup>th</sup> September 2019</b>	DOC Office, Te One
<b>13<sup>th</sup> November 2019</b>	DOC Office, Te One
<b>28<sup>th</sup> January 2020</b>	Whakamaharatanga Marae
<b>18<sup>th</sup> June 2020</b>	DOC A-Frame

### 3.7. Attendance

The table below summarises the number of Board 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 subcommittee meetings and representative roles.

Table 5: Board meeting attendance

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Board meetings</b>
<b>Mana Cracknell</b>	4/5
<b>Di Gregory-Hunt</b>	5/5
<b>Judy Kamo</b>	5/5
<b>Peter de Lange</b>	5/5
<b>Trescia Lawson</b>	3/5
<b>Amanda Seymour</b>	5/5
<b>Susan Thorpe</b>	2/5

The Board also held a one-day workshop at Kopinga Marae where they formalised their approach to work planning. This workshop was attended by a majority of members, both in person and over conference call.

### 3.8. Field trips and site inspections

Field trips are an excellent opportunity for Board members to become more aware of conservation issues within their region. Due to weather and other factors, no field trips were undertaken in the reporting period. The Board have flagged this as an area of focus for the upcoming year.

The November meeting scheduled to be held on Pitt Island had to be rescheduled to main Chathams due to the inability to travel in the weather conditions.

An overnight trip to South East and Mangere Islands was cancelled due to Covid-19.

### 3.9. Board Committees

During the reporting period the Board had one formalised subcommittee. The purpose of this subcommittee was to receive scientific papers calls for submissions and provide the Board with advice on further action required. The subcommittee was composed of Susan Thorpe.

### 3.10. Training for members

The Board receives regular updates on the Departments activities provided in the Departmental report which is delivered by the Operations Manager at each meeting. Topics covered this year include:

- Pitt Island
- Predator Free 2050
- Biosecurity Incursion Response

### 3.11. Department involvement in Board meetings

Department staff also attended throughout the year. Chatham Islands Operations Manager Dave Carlton attended all meetings until he relocated in December and Interim Operations Manager Brent Swanson attended the January meeting. The Board welcomed newly appointed Operations Manager, Tryphena Cracknell at the June meeting.

Following invitations from the Board, Rikard Kamo (Ranger Biodiversity/Historic/Recreation) attended the July meeting to meet with the Board to present his DOC story and recent work achievements while Bridget Gibb (Ranger), attended the September meeting and discussed with the Board her work in the nursery. Following this, the Board visited the nursery with Bridget.

In January the Board were joined by Dave Houston (Technical Advisor, Ecology) who gave a presentation on the Torea/Chatham Island Oystercatcher recent work program and management.

Levi Barton who had recently been appointed Community Ranger attended the June meeting to meet the Board. A majority of the local office staff then joined the Board for lunch.

### 3.12. Annual Work Plan

Please refer to Appendix 1 for the full Board Annual Work Programme.

## 4. Statutory activity

### 4.1. Chatham Islands Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

There is one CMS for the Chatham Islands area which was approved and published in August 1999. The Board are currently awaiting planning capacity and support to progress with updating the current CMS.

## 5. Advice and advocacy

The Chatham Islands Conservation Board have a strong focus on advocacy.

In the past year the Board have published several articles about Chatham Islands Conservation features in local publications as well as on the website [www.chathams.co.nz](http://www.chathams.co.nz)

All Board members have a responsibility and take the opportunity to liaise with other groups organisations and community members when opportunities arise.

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.

Table 6: Board liaisons and representatives

<b>Board member</b>	<b>Group/agency/organisation</b>
<b>Judy Kamo</b>	Tourism Chatham Islands
<b>Amanda Seymour</b>	Landscape Restoration Group



### **5.1. New Zealand Conservation Authority liaison**

The Chatham Islands Conservation Board regularly receive the NZCA Chairpersons letter as well as NZCA meeting agendas and minutes.

Some Board members had the opportunity to informally meet with NZCA liaison Edward Ellison while he was on the island.

### **5.2. Department advice**

The Board provided both formal and informal advice to the Department on the following issues:

- Oystercatcher monitoring and management
- Species translocations
- Pukenga Atawhai training
- Community advocacy
- Islands biosecurity

### **5.3. Community advocacy and involvement**

The Board believes that working with conservation organisations and members of the public is very important. Meetings were held in different parts of the Chatham Islands region and opportunities for the public to attend Board meetings were advertised. The Board aim to hold one meeting a year on Pitt Island, however due to weather conditions this scheduled meeting had to be held on main Chathams and the Pitt meeting to be deferred until more favourable weather.

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.

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

- ECAN

### **5.4. Community visibility**

The Board maintains a presence on the Department's website. Updates from the Board were provided throughout the year on activities undertaken in the quarterly Conservation Boards newsletter.

Regular articles were also published in the Chatham Islander publication and contributions were made to the website [www.chathams.co.nz](http://www.chathams.co.nz)

### **5.5. Imi/iwi liaison and advocacy**

As many Chatham Islands Conservation Board members have affiliations to both imi and iwi, they liaise/advocate when occasions arise.

## 6. Conclusion

The Chatham Islands Conservation Board has worked cohesively and efficiently as a team and as a result have had a productive year. In spite of uncertainty and disruptions arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and transitions from interim operations managers to a permanent Operations Manager and other staffing changes in the local DOC office, the Board feel positive and enthusiastic about adding value to Island conservation programs going forward into a new reporting year.

The Board met with Lou Sanson (DOC Director General) during his visit in December. The Board also enjoyed meeting and engaging with Eugenie Sage (Minister of Conservation) during her visit to the Island in January. Board members feel these visits provide an opportunity to advocate on behalf of the Islands unique flora and fauna.

Having a representative from ECAN, and local DOC staff to provide feedback, reports and project updates at board meetings has been constructive, beneficial and stimulating for Board members. The Chatham Islands Conservation Board appreciates that initiating, developing, upholding and strengthening internal and external relationships is critical to achieving results for conservation in the longer term.

## Appendix I –Annual Work Plan

# Chatham Island Conservation Board Work Programme 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

### Work Programme overview

This Work Programme has been developed in response to the Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation dated 5 September 2019. It is structured in three parts, namely:

- Part A: Planned Board activities aimed at meeting the regional Work Programme contained in the letter:
  - review/development/monitoring of statutory management plans including Conservation Management Strategies (CMS)
  - advice relating to stewardship land
  - other statutory functions for the Board
  - advocacy.
- Part B: Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the letter:
  - working with the Department of Conservation (the Department)
  - taking account of the Ministerial priorities for the Department as contained in the Department's Four-year Plan
  - working with adjoining conservation boards and the New Zealand Conservation Authority (the Authority)
  - understanding the Board's contribution to giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
  - general engagement with the community, including raising the profile of the Board.
- Part C: Risks/issues from the Board's perspective, and opportunities for conservation growth that are not covered above.

### Status indicator

Colour	Indicates
Green	Completed
Yellow	Started and is ongoing
Red	Not started yet

## PART A: REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

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

#### 1.1 Board objective:

*The Board will review the revised Chatham Islands CMS draft and will recommend the approval of the draft by the Authority with or without amendments*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
<b>A</b>	Review CMS and relevant species management documents	Completed	Reports all reviewed
<b>B</b>	Updated draft to be circulated	Ongoing	Process halted because of lack of planning resources. Advised that our CMS will be pushed further down the track til 2022 at earliest
<b>C</b>	Continue to update content	Not yet started	Concern continued to be expressed over delays as Board sees CMS review as a priority. However, timing fortuitous with Treaty settlement negotiations – as results will be incorporated into CMS review

#### 1.2 Board objective:

*In conjunction with the Department, the Board will determine priorities for implementation of the approved Chatham Islands CMS*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress Commentary
<b>A</b>	Work with Dept on a system to implement CMS commitments via business planning	Ongoing	Board advised to wait until Treaty settlements completed but we are of a view that this should not be the reason for a delay in securing planning assistance. The Moriori settlement is complete and Ngāti Mutunga is in progress. There are important conservation priorities affected by the settlement negotiations eg shared management of Te Whanga – there is a risk these will fall into limbo in the interim
<b>B</b>	Monitor delivery of CMS commitments through Dept reports	Ongoing	Department reports provided for each meeting but the Board requires more detailed information on conservation priorities for future meetings

## 2 Other Statutory Functions

### 2.1 Board objective:

*The Board will advise on national strategies and recovery plans*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Board to respond to papers and requests from DOC	Responses provided as required	Responded to draft Shore Plover recovery plan and Pārea translocation to Pitt Island as well as White Faced Storm Petrel translocation to Mana Island (x 2)

### 2.2 Board objective:

*The Board will pursue all reasonable opportunities to advocate for conservation*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	The Board will strengthen public awareness of current conservation matters	Ongoing	Regular features and articles in the monthly Chatham islander and public sessions in all Board meetings
B	The Board will advocate for integrity of PCL and ensure conservation outcomes are provided for	Ongoing	Board has reviewed a concession application and proposals for uses of PCL such as freedom camping

## 3 Advocacy

### 3.1 Board objective

*The Board will maintain good working relationships with staff, managers and Board support in order to engage strategically in conservation for the region*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress Commentary
A	In order to better understand the roles of the Department the board invites staff to participate in meetings and speak on their work areas	Ongoing	These engagements are productive and the Board hopes to have more of these opportunities with the new Area Manager in place
B	Board liaises with the Area Manager for all meetings	Ongoing	This occurs consistently and effective working relationships are in place
C	Board members present at relevant large-scale conservation project initiatives	Ongoing	Board participated in meetings on Chathams landscape rehabilitation and Predator-Free 20250 meetings

## PART B: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

### 4 Working with the Department

#### 4.1 Board objective:

*The Board will support Ministerial and local priorities*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
<b>A</b>	The Board will support local initiatives for Predator Free 2050 and 1BT initiatives	Ongoing	Local efforts are progressing towards appointment of a co-ordinator. The Board will have a representative on the governance group
<b>B</b>	In terms of freshwater conservation the Board considers that the ecology of Te Whanga needs to be better understood and that more work is needed for riparian protection and management of black swan populations	Ongoing	The Chathams Council has delegated freshwater monitoring to ECAN. Only surface water testing is carried out. More work is needed to bring about a more comprehensive understanding of our whole systems. Hokotehi has produced a freshwater management plan which has a statutory function.
<b>C</b>	The Board will enhance relationships with Treaty partners	Ongoing	The Board engages with Treaty partners regularly. Meetings are often held at marae, attendance at tangata whenua events and support for use of Moriori and Māori language and place names are all important priorities for the Board
<b>D</b>	The marine environment is the life-blood of the island and its conservation is a high priority for the Board	Ongoing	No formal marine conservation areas exist on the island but we have mataitai and rāhui areas that are carefully managed by island kaitiaki. The Board continues to advocate for their maintenance and also for monitoring recreational harvest
<b>E</b>	The Board will adhere to the guidelines for Boards and provide advice at a governance level	Ongoing	The Board uses the Guidelines for Boards

#### 4.2 Board objective:

*The Board will help identify opportunities and support research initiatives to better understand the Chatham Islands environment and conservation priorities*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	The Board will seek opportunities for research and further information on conservation matters. Changes in dune systems and concerns regarding beach erosion are priorities	Ongoing	The Board supports good science and research initiatives as well as engagement in collaborative conservation research and is responsive to high level permit applications.  The Board has requested feedback from researchers along with easily digestible reports on outcomes

### 5 Taking account of Ministerial priorities for the Department<sup>1</sup>

#### 5.1 Board objective:

*The Board will develop a relationship with the Conservation Authority and maintain an awareness of Authority matters*

#### Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	The Chair will liaise with the NZCA	Ongoing	The Board is kept up to date with regular Authority correspondence and reports and attend NZCA meetings when appropriate
B	The Board will engage with the NZCA liaison member	Ongoing	The Board has not had a meeting with our NZCA liaison member but has met with the Authority Chair (Jan 2020)
C	The Board will be responsive to opportunities to connect with other Boards in mainland NZ as budgets permit	Ongoing	The Board is open to visits with NZ Boards and to sharing our island conservation work

### 6 Understanding the Board's contribution to giving effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi

#### 6.1 Board objective:

*The Board will support the Department's engagement with and obligations to tangata whenua and work actively to promote a strong Treaty of Waitangi partnership.*

## Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
<b>A</b>	The Board will support the training and upskilling of our island people in conservation work in keeping with the Treaty principles to grow our people	Not yet started	This has been identified as a Board priority and more work is required on this action point to ensure that our island people become specialists and skilled workers
<b>B</b>	To have all members attend a Pukenga Atawhai course	Not yet started	This is a Board priority but has not occurred to date
<b>C</b>	To continue meeting at the two marae	Ongoing	Meetings at the marae are regularly held
<b>D</b>	As conservation kaitiaki we need to ensure that we are well informed and upskilled in terms of keeping current knowledge up to date	Not yet started	This is a priority for the next year

## 7 Engaging with our community, including raising the profile of the Board

### 7.1 Board objective:

*The Board will maintain and foster effective working relationships with our Council, with ECAN, and other organisations such as the Crown Research Institutes.*

## Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
<b>A</b>	The Board recognises that there is a strong conservation overlap with the work of the Department and other government agencies and our CRIs and attempts to strengthen information flow and reporting framework	Not yet started	This is an area that needs to be more effectively developed
<b>B</b>	The Board holds public for a in all meetings and invites members of ECAN, Council and the Tāiko Trust to attend meetings when possible	Ongoing	These engagements and reports from other agencies are valuable resources for the Board



## PART C: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### 8 Risks from the Board's perspective

<b>A</b>	The Board has noted that opportunities for field trips and engagement with private landowners carrying out conservation work has lessened this year. We feel this is vital for us to remain well-informed
<b>B</b>	The Board has noted that meetings with DOC staff and hearing reports (eg. island rangers) have lessened. These are vital for us to be able to keep on top of conservation work programmes and potential conservation problems or risks
<b>C</b>	The Board meetings are well advertised but not well attended by the public despite meeting in different areas in the community. Finding ways to encourage community participation ought to be explored. Is there a DOC staffer with responsibility for community engagement?
<b>D</b>	Changes in DOC staffing and budgets can result in risks if the Board is not well informed about these areas
<b>E</b>	The age of the CMS and delays in getting the planning assistance for a review are of concern
<b>F</b>	The Board is conscious that there are risks in attracting suitable staff to a remote location. Increased training and upskilling for locals could be a risk-management method

### 9 Opportunities for conservation growth

<b>A</b>	We need to have more community events, eg. planting days, school programmes
<b>B</b>	Encourage connectivity with private landowners with kawenata to help with access to funding etc
<b>C</b>	Improve awareness of the various funds for 1BT and Predator-Free 2050 initiatives. We are a small community so effective community should not be difficult
<b>D</b>	The Board will look at inductions and governance refreshers for new members