

**Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika**

**Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board**

**Annual Report 2021-2022**



# Annual Report of the

## Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika

## Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board

For the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

*Presented to the New Zealand Conservation Authority / Te Pou Atawhai Taiao O Aotearoa  
pursuant to section 6O of the Conservation Act 1987*

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# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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

Tēnā koe Edward

E nga mana, e nga reo, e nga karanga maha o te motu, tena koutou katoa

As a new member to the Board and as a fellow Co-Chair, alongside Wallace Rivers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our valued retired members, Chris Jenkins, Waikarere Gregory, Sonny Christie, Gideon Porter and Rangitane Marsden. The Board acknowledges your invaluable contribution to build a strong foundation to progress the work of Board ahead.

We welcomed four new members in 2021, Mina Pomare-Peita, Tui Qauqau, Joanne Shanks, and myself.

Covid-19 continued to affect the Iwi of Te Hiku. DHB, health providers and Maori organisations worked together to ensure equity across Te Hiku. Runanga priorities were to support and provide for whanau. Marae in Te Hiku remained closed, venues for hire also supported the closures, therefore, restricting the ability to meet in person to enable robust engagements for the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS

The Te Hiku CMS gives effect to parts of the Te Hiku Treaty Settlement legislation. It is also unique in that it is co-authored by a collective of Te Hiku Iwi members, a community member, Te Papa Atawhai, and an independent writer to help weave the discussions, the korero, and the aspirations in terms of conservation in Te Hiku.

We also look forward to strengthening our relationships and building further relationships with the substantial number of Te Hiku Iwi conservation projects through the Jobs for Nature Fund.

To the Board and Te Papa Atawhai whanau, thank you for your dedication to your roles and your passion to achieve positive outcomes for conservation in Te Hiku.

Waitai Petera  
Co-Chair  
Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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This is the (6<sup>th</sup>) sixth Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board Annual Report. Section 6(O) of the Conservation Act requires conservation boards to provide the New Zealand Conservation Authority (**Authority**) with an annual report as soon as practical after 30 June each year. In recognition of this requirement, the Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board (**Board**) submits this Annual Report.

Most conservation boards are independent advisory bodies, established by statute – Section 6L (S6L) of the Conservation Act.

They represent the community and offer interaction between communities and Te Papa Atawhai (**Department of Conservation**) at a regional level. The Conservation Board's primary role is to advise Te Papa Atawhai and the Authority on conservation matters within their area of jurisdiction.

Conservation Boards contribute a local voice and perspective to the management of conservation areas. They provide a forum for seeking community views and relaying information back to communities of interest, as well as providing feedback on DOC's work in each Board rohe. Boards focus on matters of policy, strategic direction, and planning. Boards do not focus on day-to-day operations across the rohe; these are managed by DOC staff.

The Te Hiku O Te Ika Conservation Board is unique. It was created because of four (4) Iwi Treaty Settlements (Te Rarawa, Ngai Takoto, Te Aupouri and Ngati Kuri). Iwi requested for co-governance with the Crown on conservation administered areas within the rohe of the four previously mentioned Te Hiku Iwi.

Conservation board members are appointed by the Minister of Conservation under the relevant sections of (4) four Te Hiku Treaty Settlements. Board functions are outlined in section 6(M) and the powers, which enable the conservation boards to carry out those functions, are under 6(N) of the Act. The Board has several statutory roles under various Acts, including:

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

## 2. ROHE



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

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

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

The area also extends out to the 12-nautical mile limit with respect to coastal and marine issues, and out to the 200-nautical mile limit. with respect to protected species.

Approximately 0.33% of New Zealand's public conservation land and area lie within the jurisdiction of Te Hiku o Te Ika.

Public conservation land (47,760.71 ha) makes up 21.23% of all land In Te Hiku o Te Ika.

## **2.1 Tangata Whenua**

The four Iwi are:

- Te Rarawa
- NgaiTakoto
- Te Aupouri
- Ngati Kuri

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

## **2.2 Conservation Features of the Area**

The main features of public conservation land and waters within the Board's boundaries are:

- Raetea Forest – 6,600.36 ha
- Herekino Forest – 4,358.48 ha
- Warawara Forest – 6,886.59 ha
- Maunga Taniwha Forest – 61.76 ha
- 20 Scenic Reserves – 5,934.06 ha
- 2 Historic Reserves – 229.28 ha
- 5 Recreation Reserves – 14,704.53 ha
- 27 Stewardship Areas – 6,399.87
- 52 Marginal Strips – 320.54 ha



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

### 2.3 Conservation Issues in the Area

Approximately .33% of all public conservation land in Aotearoa lies within the region. The large number of issues which are of interest to the Board include:

- Inclusion of the Kermadec Islands (the Board acknowledges this anomaly)
- Supporting community initiatives to enhance conservation.
- Te Aupouri Aquifer – water take for commercial use.

## 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 an amendment of such plans, under the relevant enactments
- 3) To advise the Authority and the Director-General on the implementation of conservation management strategies and conservation management plans for the area within the jurisdiction of the Board
- 4) To advise the Authority or the Director-General on any proposed change of status or classification of any area of national or international importance
- 5) To advise the Authority or the Director-General on any other conservation matter relating to any area with the jurisdiction of the Board
- 6) To liaise with any Fish and Game Council on matters within the jurisdiction of the Board
- 7) To exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Minister under this Act or any other Act.

### 3.2 Board Power Under Section 6N of the Conservation Act 1987

- 1) Every Conservation Board shall have all such powers as are reasonably necessary or expedient to enable it to carry out its functions.
- 2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), each Conservation Board may –
  - i. Advocate its interests at any public forum or in any statutory planning process; and
  - ii. Appoint committees of members and other suitable persons, and delegate to them functions and powers.

- 3) The power conferred by subsection (2)(a) shall include the right to appear before courts and tribunals in New Zealand and be heard on matters affecting or relating to the Board’s functions.

### 3.3 Board Functions under Section 30 (s30) of the National Parks Act 1980

There are currently no National Parks within the area of jurisdiction for Te Runanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika.

## 4. MEMBERSHIP

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

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

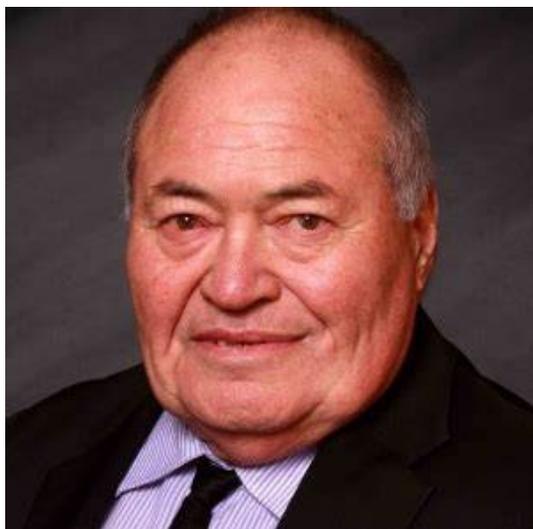
Board members are appointed for a 3-year term and may be re-appointed unless they are appointed in replacement of a prior member’s term. Wallace Rivers representing the Iwi of Ngai Takoto was appointed following the resignation of Rangitane Marsden from the Board and was elected as Co-Chair.

The following table lists the membership of the Board between 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Term Start</b>	<b>Term End</b>
<b>Waitai Petera-Te Aupouri (Co-Chair)</b>	Auckland	18 Nov 2021	30 June 2024
<b>Wallace Rivers-Ngai Takoto (Co-Chair)</b>	Auckland	16 Jan 2020	30 June 2024
<b>Tui Qauqau-Te Paa-Te Rarawa</b>	Ahipara	01 July 2021	30 June 2024
<b>Sheridan Waitai-Ngati Kuri</b>	Awanui	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2024
<b>Peter Furze</b>	Kaitaia	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2024
<b>Mike Finlayson</b>	Herekino	17 Dec 2015	30 June 2024
<b>Mina Pomare-Peita</b>	Panguru	2 July 2021	30 June 2024
<b>Joanne Shanks</b>	Kaingaroa	2 July 2021	30 June 2024

## 4.1 Members Profiles

### WAITAI PETERA: Co-Chair and Te Runanga Nui o Te Aupōuri Iwi Representative



Matua Waitai Petera nominated by Te Runanga Nui o Te Aupōuri to represent his Iwi, also has affiliation to Ngati Kuri and Ngai Takoto.

Matua Waitai is an oral historian and a native speaker of te reo Maori.

He is passionate about lifting Māori social and economic wellbeing, knowledgeable in tikanga Māori, and skilled in communications, negotiations, and relationship-building.

Matua Waitai Petera is the Principal Advisor Maori Engagement at Te Uru Rakau, MPI.

### WALLACE RIVERS: Co-Chair and Ngai Takoto Iwi Representative



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

**TUI QAUQAU-TE PAA: Te Runanga o Te Rarawa Iwi Representative**



*Ko Whangatauatia te Maunga.  
Ko Te Oneroa a Tōhe te Moana.  
Ko Wairoa te Awa  
Ko Roma te Marae.  
Ko Tinana te Waka.  
Ko Te Rarawa Kaiwhare te Iwi.*

Tui led the development of the Ahipara Takiwā Environmental Plan which will be used to inform and provide guidance in the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS

Tui has key competencies in understanding the RMA and skills that enable her to understand an application or issue, conduct hearings in an appropriate manner, and make good decisions.

**MIKE FINLAYSON: Community Representative**



Mike Finlayson has a keen interest in pest and predator control and has managed broad-scale wild ginger control projects through the Herekino Landcare Group. He has over 30 years of Board experience including a term as a Northland Regional Councillor representing the Te Hiku constituency. He enjoys engaging with young people and youth in enhancing native species. He enjoys tramping & camping, exploring new places, fishing, diving, and boating.

**MINA POMARE-PEITA: Community Representative**



Born and raised in the Te Rarawa rohe, beneath Panguru, Te Reinga, and Tauwhare maunga in a farming whānau, the importance of working hard for the betterment of her kāinga has always been instilled into her by her people. They led by example through their hard work and their unwavering sense of identity. Their teachings shaped the path of not only her career but her decision to dedicate herself to the pursuit of addressing the persistent power imbalance between Māori and the systems designed around us, the pursuit of getting our land back, and ensuring she contributes to growing and enabling more leaders.

Mina currently holds many roles in the community including Tumuaki of Te Kura Taumata o Panguru, Chairperson of Ngāti Manawa marae, a leader in Te Kupenga, a māmā, a mentor to other tumuaki, a board member on environmental boards, and a hapū leader.

Mina has a longstanding dedication to education and developing our future leaders using Mātauranga Māori.'

**JOANNE SHANKS: Community Representative**



Jo is the Environmental Manager/Educator at CBEC EcoSolutions and FNEC Manager (Te Pokapu Tiaki Taiao o Te Tai Tokerau Trust)

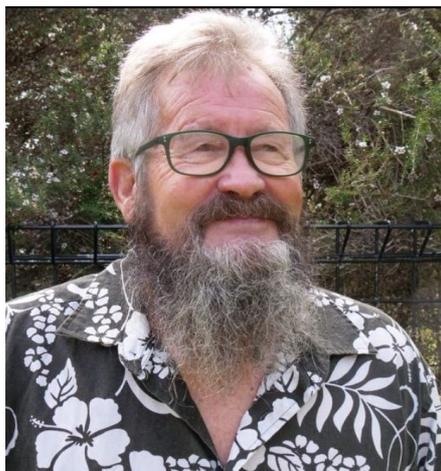
Jo enjoys natural plastering, foraging, surfing, walking, and living in nature. She has a vast understanding of environmental concerns and community needs in Te Hiku.

She has experience in collaborating with Te Papa Atawhai, Forest and Bird and some schools, on conservation actions such as possum and rate trapping, and propagating of natives using eco-sourced seeds and riparian plantings.

Jo has assisted Te Papa Atawhai to reduce waste and increase recycling rates at their campsites.

Jo co-ordinates an annual beach clean-up in November each year on Te Oneroa a Tohe, removing an average of 5 tonnes of waste in conjunction with local businesses and organisations.

**PETER FURZE: Community Representative**



Peter Furze is a community activist working as an advocate for the Te Hiku community - Nga Mahi Mo Te Tangata (Working for The People). Peter is a keen surfer and surfboard fabricator.

Peter has been part of the Board since its inception and wants to see the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS come to fruition.

**SHERIDAN WAITAI: Ngāti Kuri Representative**



Sheridan's tribal affiliations are Ngāti Kuri, Te Rarawa, and Tainui. Sheridan grew up in Te Hiku o te Ika. She has significant experience in legislation and the policy environment in relation to indigenous issues, she has contributed to environmental, social, education and health initiatives. She has participated in several boards and has experience in the management of forums, governance, and strategy groups.

She has been instrumental in the continuation of the WAI262 Fauna and Flora Claim for Ngāti Kuri. She has maintained the relationship with other claimant whanau and iwi over the many years that has resulted in a work programme nationally for Maori-to-Maori engagement.

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

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

She has repatriated taonga species and taonga back to Ngāti Kuri. She has led connections and work across the rohe including their Islands. She manages and coordinates a range of relationships and partners, to achieve shared prosperity, community resilience and mana motuhake for whanau, hapu and iwi.

*"I want to contribute in a meaningful way that supports Ngāti Kuri to have vibrant, whanau, hapu and iwi, through whanaungatanga, cultural revitalisation and kaitiaki of our taonga"*

## 5. MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

The Board held 7 meetings during the reporting period (2 Formal Public Meetings, 3 Working Meetings and 2 Field Trips). The venue for the meetings were held in Kaitaia to enable members of the public in the district to attend.

Meeting Date	Location/Venue
8 July 2021	Working Meeting – Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
14 July 2021	Induction & Training – DOC Office, Kaitaia
15 July 2021	Working Meeting – Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
18 October 2021	Working Meeting via MS Teams
4 November 2021 #16	Formal Meeting – Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
2 March 2022	THCB-NCB-ACB Invited to a Stewardship Land Reclassification Presentation
17 March 2022	Working Meeting – Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
18 March 2022	Site/Field Visit – Tauroa Point, Ahipara
5 May 2022 #17	Formal Meeting – Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
19 May 2022	Working Meeting – Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia
20 May 2022	Site/Field Visit – Te Rerenga Wairua/Te Arai/Oneroa a Tohe

### 5.1 Agendas

The Board hosted and heard from Speakers at its meetings:

2 March 2022 – a PowerPoint presentation by the Strategic Support Unit to three (3) conservation boards – Te Hiku, Te Tai Tokerau and Tāmaki Makaurau. Te Papa Atawhai is undertaking a review of the legislation relating to stewardship land, as part of the broader stewardship land reclassification project. Feedback was provided. A submission was lodged on behalf of the Board.

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 with their region.

- **18 March 2022** – site visit along Te Oneroa a Tōhē, starting at Waimimiha to Tauroa Point.

All Te Hiku o Te Ika Iwi have specific kaitiaki responsibilities associated with Te Oneroa a Tōhē.

The Board were privileged to be accompanied by Patau Tepania and Whaea Pare, starting their hikoi at Waimimiha.

Patau spoke about the Pou that have been erected.

“The Pou represent their acknowledgement and their korero for the area - hugely important to ensure the history is not lost or forgotten”.



*Whaea Pare Nathan, Patau Tepania.*



**Waimimiha Pou**

*Waimimiha and its environs was also an important source of food: fish, shellfish and birds were abundant and the areas has numerous ancient and not so ancient occupation by local hapū..*



*Left: Jamie Werner-DOC Senior Ranger Community, Peter Furze-Community, Mike Finlayson-Community, Waikarere Gregory-Te Rarawa Iwi Rep-Te Hiku CMS Working Group*

Each Pou depicts the five elements of:

- 1) Tino Rangatiratanga – Self-determination
- 2) Mātauranga Maori – traditional knowledge of the area
- 3) Whanaungatanga – forming and maintaining our relationships.
- 4) Mana Motuhake – our authority over the area
- 5) Kaitiakitanga – guardianship and protection



### ***O Haungenge Pou***

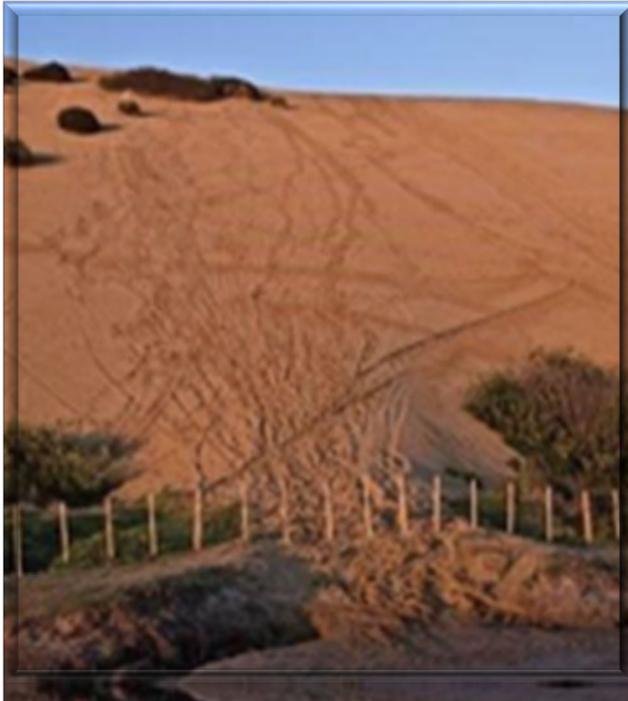
*This area known as “Haungenge” is one of those places, where conflict occurred, and a battle fought between two warring factions.*

Each Pou has visibility to each other along the trail – depicting the significance of Kotahitanga (standing together) and Mana (making them stronger and supporting each other).

There are 14 – 15 more Pou still to be erected.

**Tauroa:** is reference to Kahutianui the daughter of Tumoana. She waited in grief for her father to send word of his safe return to Hawaiki.

The rāhui at Otia is a customary conservation practice put in place to protect species. There is a rāhui placed on the taking of kai moana, or seafood in this designated area between the two pou - *Te Omu* at the northern side, to protect the rejuvenation of the reef and *Te Aho* at the southern end.



**NO VEHICLE ACCESS FOR 4WD  
OR MOTORBIKES ON THE  
DUNES AT TAUROA**

Four-wheel drives, motorbikes and pests cause damage to the sensitive dune habitats.

Fences have been erected to stop vehicle access to protect the dunes, wetlands, and the whenua. Hopefully in the future, the fences will be taken down and there is a mind-shift in the way we look after our whenua.

The Board offered to sponsor a sign to be erected to educate the Public to keep off and away from the middens and areas of cultural significance.

On behalf of the Te Hiku Conservation Board, we respectfully thank Patau for leading and guiding us with his mātauranga starting at Waimimiha to Tauroa Point and Tanutanu Beach. We also acknowledge Whaea Pare for accompanying us on this hikoi. We pay special acknowledgement and thanks to Te Runanga o Te Rarawa for supporting this event.

- 20 May 2022 – Te Rerenga Wairua/Te Arai/Oneroa a Tohe Kaumatua, members of the Te Hiku CMS Working Group and Te Papa Atawhai staff were invited to join the hikoi up SH10 to Te Rerenga Wairua and down Te Oneroa a Tohe. Commentary from our bus driver and kaumatua, not only on the history of the places, but the cultural significance was much appreciated. It was a good opportunity to look at conservation areas.

### 5.3 Members' Attendance 2021-2022

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Formal Meetings (2)</b>	<b>Working Meetings (5)</b>	<b>Field Trips (2)</b>
<b>Name</b>	<b>#</b>		
Waitai Petera	2/2	5/5	2/2
Sheridan Waitai	0/2	0/5	0/2
Wallace Rivers	0/2	0/5	0/2
Tui Qauqau-Te Paa	2/2	5/5	2/2
Mina Pomare-Peita	2/2	4/5	0/2
Peter Furze	1/2	3/5	2/2
Mike Finlayson	2/2	4/5	2/2
Joanne Shanks	2/2	4/5	2/2

## 6. MAHI

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### 6.1 Board Committees

The Conservation Act 1987 enables the board to establish committees to carry out functions or tasks delegated by the board.

Membership of Board Committees was reviewed in July, at the beginning of the Board year. A Communications Sub-committee was confirmed with the following members, Joanne Shanks, Mina Pomare-Peita and Tui Qauqau.

### 6.2 Special Events

The Board did not attend any special events for the reporting period however we wish to acknowledge the ongoing work and achievements by our new board member, Mina Pomare-Peita

#### **2021 Prime Minister's Excellence Award - Excellence in Engaging (Te Kura Taumata o Panguru)**

Connecting the community for the great good is inspiring ākonga at Te Kura Taumata o Panguru. From mountains to sea, Panguru is collaborating with regional and national agencies to support learning in te taiao.

#### **Noho Taiao founder and leadership member**

[Noho Taiao, Te Rarawa Anga Mua: Kaitiakitanga on Vimeo](#)



**Noho Taiao** is a unique, marae-based initiative that uses cultural identity linked to science to inspire and empower young Māori. Using mātauranga Māori also supports job enrichment for students in environmental sciences. Tiakina te taiao, tiakina te Iwi *“If you look after the environment, the environment will look after you”*.

An initiative that saw it judged winner of the Kaitiakitanga award at the Northland Regional Council’s Inaugural 2019 [Environmental Awards](#)



[Te Noho Taiao o Te Rarawa | Korou Kore Marae | English Subtitles - YouTube](#)

The main aims of this four-day hands-on learning intensive were to strengthen whanaungatanga (connectedness), to give rangatahi a positive experience of pūtaiao (science with mātauranga Māori) and to connect them to their people and local environment.

### 6.3 Training For Members

**14 July 2021** - New Board Member inductions were held at the Te Papa Atawhai Office-Te Hiku (Kaitaia) conducted by Hamish Eglinton, Statutory Manager and supported by the Board Support Officer. The following members completed the induction – Joanne Shanks, Tui Qauqau and Mina Pomare-Peita. A Conservation Board Induction presentation is also available for all members to view via their MS Teams Channel. The full Conservation Board manual is available on the Te Papa Atawhai website [Conservation Board Manual: Conservation Boards \(doc.govt.nz\)](https://www.doc.govt.nz)

## 7. STATUTORY ACTIVITY

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### 7.1 Annual Work Plan

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

Given the statutory importance of the Te Hiku CMS and its critical importance to Iwi and the Board, it continues to be the focus of the Annual Work Plan and subsequent Board activity.

### 7.2 Te Hiku Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

Te Hiku CMS is a unique process in developing a conservation management strategy (Te Hiku CMS) that gives effect to parts of the Te Hiku Treaty Settlement legislation.

It is co-authored by a collective of Te Hiku Iwi members, a community member, Te Papa Atawhai, and an independent writer to help weave the discussions, the korero, and the aspirations in terms of conservation in Te Hiku.

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

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

### 7.3 Te Hiku CMS - Implementation

The Board intends to adopt a more robust reporting mechanism for setting performance targets using the *Results Based Accountability* (RBA) technique. If applied, this simple technique should ensure the Te Hiku CMS has relevant, meaningful, and well targeted measures to monitor and assess progress.

### 7.4 2021-2022 National Park Management Plan (NPMP)

There are currently no National Parks within the Te Hiku region.

## 8. ADVICE AND ADVOCACY

Board members hold active roles and responsibilities with other groups and are not necessarily appointed through the Board. We acknowledge and thank our members for their commitment to the Iwi of Te Hiku.

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Organisation/Group/Agency</b>
Tui Qauqau-Te Paa	Ahipara Takiwā
	Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa
Wallace Rivers	Te Rūnanga o Ngai Takoto
Waitai Petera	Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupouri
	Te Oneroa a Tohe Beach Board
	Ministry of Innovation (MPI)
	Te Korowai Trust
Peter Furze	Nga Mahi Mo Te Tangata
	Far North Environment Centre
Sheridan Waitai	Ngāti Kuri Trust Board Incorporated
Joanne Shanks	CBEC
	Far North Environment Centre
	Para Kore
	Schools/Kura
Mina Pomare-Peita	Tumuaki of Te Kura Taumata o Panguru
	Noho Taiao
	Chairperson of Ngāti Manawa marae
	Te Kupenga

## 8.1 Board and Authority Liaisons

The Board held a liaison relationship with the neighbouring conservation board for the reporting year:

- Waitai Petera – Liaison to Northland Conservation Board. Attended meetings via MS Teams.

Nicole Anderson - 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.

## 8.2 Advice to Te Papa Atawhai

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

- Feedback on the draft Te Hiku CMS – Part 1

## 8.3 Submissions

- Stewardship Lands Reclassification

## 8.4 Community Advocacy and Involvement

The Board believes that working with conservation organisations and members of the public is important. Opportunities for the public to attend Board meetings were advertised not fewer than five days before the meeting.

## 8.5 Community Visibility

The Board maintains a presence on the Te Papa Atawhai website and the quarterly Conservation Board Newsletter.

The Board is slowly growing their social media presence through Facebook – 124 followers. The audience is predominantly woman (76.6%), between the following age groups 35 – 44 (22.6%) and 45– 54 (23.6%). The Board will look to increase their followers by improving engagement and content. Click on the link: [Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board | Facebook](#)

## 8.6 District and Regional Council Advocacy and Advice

The Board will engage and develop a better working relationship with representatives from local council as there are several regional issues that are of interest.

## 8.7 Iwi Liaison and Advocacy

The Board made a submission to the Department of Conservation on Stewardship Land Reclassification. The Board’s key points in the discussion document:

- Decisions on the use, ownership, and conservation protections for 2.5 million hectares of Stewardship land across Aotearoa will have significant

implications for our future. It is unacceptable that the public kōrero on this topic has been initiated by Te Papa Atawhai in isolation from whānau, hapū and iwi across Aotearoa. Given the scale and nature of these future land use decisions, the process to date fails to fulfil DOC's Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations.

- We ask that Te Papa Atawhai work in partnership with whānau, hapū and iwi across Aotearoa to develop processes for decisions on the future ownership and use of Stewardship Lands that reflects mana whenua aspirations and their Treaty of Waitangi obligations.
- The review should recognise the treaty settlements and we reject the divestment approach held in the Te Papa Atawhai culture; if stewardship lands need to be divested, they should be prioritised to Tangata Whenua and Iwi i.e. finding and returning lands to the original owners.

## 9 FEES AND ALLOWANCES

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Fees and allowances are paid in accordance with the Fees and Travelling Allowances Act 1951. The Co-Chair receives a daily meeting fee of \$330, and Members receive a daily meeting fee of \$250. In addition to the meeting fee, Board Members are also entitled to be reimbursed for mileage, reading time and other associated meeting costs e.g., accommodation.

## 10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Finally, the Board would like to acknowledge the following people for their support, advice, and friendship in 2021 - 2022:

- Tania McInnes, Chair - Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Taitokerau
- Sue Reed-Thomas, Director Operations - Te Papa Atawhai, NNI-Whangarei
- Meirene Hardy-Birch, Operations Manager - Te Papa Atawhai, Te Hiku
- Abraham Witana, Te Hiku Treaty Settlement Implementation Advisor - Te Papa Atawhai, Te Hiku
- Nicole Anderson, NZCA Liaison - NNI-Aotearoa Conservation Authority (NZCA)
- Hamish Eglinton, Statutory Manager - Te Papa Atawhai, Whangarei. Hamish worked consistently with the Board providing advice and assistance especially with the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS.
- Fiona Watson, Statutory Manager - Te Papa Atawhai, Whangarei

## 11. APPENDIX 1

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### **Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku O Te Ika**

### **Te Hiku O Te Ika Conservation Board**

### **Annual Work Programme**

### **1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022**

#### **Overview**

This Work Programme has been developed in response to the Letter of Expectation from the Minister of Conservation dated 11 November 2021. It is structured in three parts, namely:

#### **1. PART A: REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME**

*Planned Board activities to meet statutory requirements and act on regional advocacy priorities:*

- A. Encourage and monitor the 'Parties' (the Department and iwi) as they complete the draft Te Hiku CMS, including encouraging the development of quality-at-place milestones (if possible, using the Results Based Accountability process)
- B. Monitor (by participating) in a robust community engagement program in the development of the Te Hiku CMS
- C. Begin developing a robust CMS implementation monitoring regime for the Te Hiku CMS.

#### **2. PART B: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

*Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the letter:*

- 2.1 Resources**
- 2.2 Your Community**
- 2.3 Mahi Tahi / Working with Te Papa Atawhai.**
- 2.4 Mahi Kotahitanga / Working with other Conservation Boards and related groups.**
- 2.5 Communication & Advocacy – “No Surprises” policy – could include but are not limited to, imminent media coverage of any activities that could attract critical media comment or any matters**

on which I could be asked to express a view.

- 2.6 Understanding Conservation Boards' Legal Obligations** – I expect that all conservation board members fully understand their legal obligations under conservation law, including the hierarchy of priorities that should be taken into account when making decisions. Conservation boards' legal obligations are covered in section 5 of the Conservation Board Manual.<sup>2</sup>
- 2.7 Planning and Reporting** – I expect you, with your Director Operations, would be finalising your work plan in the near future. Your work plan should align with your statutory obligations under the Act, the National Parks Act 1980, and the Reserves Act 1977. I expect that your finalised work plan would include measures and milestones, a demonstration of what success will look like for each priority, and how your board will be able to support the Department's stretch goals.

### **3 PART C: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

- 3.1** Risks Identified from The Boards Perspective
- 3.2** Opportunities for conservation growth

#### **GOVERNMENT AND MINISTERIAL PRIORITIES**

- A.** Support the implementation of Te Mana o te Taiao – The Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy
- B.** Contribute to any reviews of National Park Management Plans and Conservation Management Strategies (CMS's) and support their progress effectively to promote strong conservation outcomes.
- C.** Embed the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in accordance with the obligations of section 4 of the Act in all aspects of work.
- D.** Support the transition to a lower-carbon conservation delivery model, having regard to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019

**MINISTER'S PRIORITY FOR TE HIKU CONSERVATION BOARD IS:**

- E. Support Tiakina Nga Manu – to actively promote pest management.

**Status Indicator**

<b>Colour</b>	<b>Indicates</b>
Green	Completed
Yellow	Started and is ongoing
Red	Not started yet

## PART A: REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

### 1. Review/Development of the Te Hiku Conservation Management Strategy (CMS)

*Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the letter:*

#### 1.1 Whāinga roa / Objectives:

**Toitu Te Whenua**  
**Toitu Te Tangata**

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

**Kaihautu:** Wallace Rivers

**Rōpū Tautoko:** All Members

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones.

	Action	Status	Progress commentary - <i>we know we are on the right track when...</i>
A	Encourage and monitor the 'Parties' (the Department and Iwi) as they complete the draft Te Hiku CMS, including encouraging the development of quality-at-place milestones (if possible, using the Results Based Accountability process)		There is regular dialogue between the Board and the Te Hiku CMS Working Group. The draft Te Hiku CMS is discussed at working and formal meetings.
B	Monitor (by participating) in a robust community engagement program in the development of the Te Hiku CMS		Robust engagement has been difficult due to covid and other Iwi priorities. We acknowledge their commitment to supporting their whanau/hapu/iwi
C	Begin developing a robust CMS implementation monitoring regime for the Te Hiku CMS		The Board intends to adopt the RBA process closer to the completion of the draft.

D	Advocate for a CMS that is statutorily correct and meets a standard that will achieve the goals and aspirations of Te Hiku Iwi as set out in their Te Hiku Treaty Settlements.		Achieving this goal will require changes from the standard DOC CMS format.  Provide support and recommendations to the TH-CMS Working Group as the opportunities arise.
E	In conjunction with Te Hiku Iwi and Te Papa Atawhai, the Board supports and advocates priorities for implementation of the approved Te Hiku CMS		The process is complex and new. It requires support by all parties involved in the creation and drafting of the Te Hiku CMS.

### ADDITIONAL REGIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

Re-classification of Stewardship Land  
*Planned Board activities from 2020 – 2021 Work Plan*

#### 1.2 Whāinga roa / Objectives

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

**Kaihautu:** Wallace Rivers / Waitai Petera / Tui Qauqau-Te Paa  
**Rōpū Tautoko:**

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Advise Te Papa Atawhai/Minister of any issue that would require increased conservation protection ( <i>and cultural protection</i> ) of stewardship areas	 	Presentation by DOC Policy Team 9/3/2022  Reclassification of Stewardship Land Submission due 17/3/2022
B	Monitor Te Papa Atawhai engagement and consultation with Treaty Partners and Treaty Settlement's Post Governance entities.		Engagement and consultation have not taken place in Te Hiku.

<b>C</b>	Ensure any stewardship areas are not reclassified without Iwi consultation.		Iwi Representatives on the Board will report to their respective Iwi.
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## **PART B: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

*Planned Board activities aimed at general expectations contained in the letter:*

### **2.1 RESOURCES**

#### **Whāinga roa / Objectives**

Mate kahukura ka rere te manu

*The bird has to have feathers to fly*

**Kaihautu:** Mike Finlayson

**Rōpū Tautoko:** Jo Shanks

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
<b>A</b>	Computer Hardware and Technology		All members must have access to technology and have the capability to participate electronically.
<b>B</b>	Develop website and communications plan		Work in progress with the newly appointed Comms. Sub-Committee.  Budget constraints also need consideration.
<b>C</b>	Te Hiku CMS Drafting		Mike Finlayson is the appointed Board Liaison Representative to the Te Hiku CMS Working Group. All expenses are borne by the Board budget.

## 2.2 YOUR COMMUNITY

### Whāinga roa / Objectives

**He tawhiti rawa tā mātou, kia kua e haere tonu**

*We have come too far not to continue*

Ensure Iwi of Te Hiku connect with and appreciate nature through increased awareness of the Board and its role in representing Te Hiku Iwi and Community voices.

**Kaihautu:** Mina Pomare

**Rōpū Tautoko:** Peter Furze / Jo Shanks

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
<b>A</b>	Work with community groups		The Board is keen to work with community groups and AGAIN needs the CMS to ensure this work can be backed with action and certainty.
<b>B</b>	Participate in conservation with community funding discussion		Board Members participate on committees recommending funding for community conservation and encourage Te Papa Atawhai to support Te Hiku initiatives particularly those that (will) align with the CMS objectives and place-based milestones

## 2.3 MAHI TAHI/WORKING WITH TE PAPA ATAWHAI

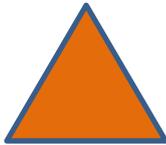
### Whāinga roa / Objectives

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

**Kaihautu:** Tui Qauqau-Te Paa

**Rōpū Tautoko:** Jo Shanks

### Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Meet with Te Papa Atawhai staff at meetings and elsewhere and ensure a professional relationship is maintained.		The Board will continue to work positively with Te Papa Atawhai but will also reserve the right to question.
B	Embed the principles of whakawhanaungatanga and manaakitanga in the working relationship between the Board and Te Papa Atawhai		We acknowledge the continual attendance by Te Papa Atawhai staff through regular attendance to Board meetings.
C	Maintain regular feedback and monitoring of the Board's progress towards implementation of its Annual Work Programme including regular review of the Board during the year supported with advice from Te Papa Atawhai support staff		Acknowledge the presence of Te Papa Atawhai management at every Formal Meeting and when required, especially in regard to the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS.

## 2.4 MAHI KOTAHITANGA /WORKING WITH OTHER CONSERVATION BOARDS AND RELATED GROUPS

### Whāinga roa / Objectives:

Liaise effectively with other Conservation Boards and related groups to engage strategically in conservation and to progress cross-boundary CMS issues and other matters of mutual interest.

**Kaihautu:** Mike Finlayson / Waitai Petera

**Rōpū Tautoko:**

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Work with Northland CB.		The two Boards will need to work closely on the development of the Te Hiku CMS as this has an impact on the existing Northland CMS.
B	Work with Auckland CB.		The Board will need to hold discussions with Auckland CB over the Kermadec Islands as two Te Hiku Iwi have statutory acknowledgments in their treaty settlements.
C	Work with Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Beach Board		<p>The Board is keen to build a relationship with the Beach Management Board. To be a meaningful relationship however, the Board needs the CMS to progress so it can ensure that plans the Board is developing are, as far as possible, coordinated, and meeting Iwi aspirations.</p> <p>Our Co-Chair, Waitai Petera is also a member of the Beach Management Board.</p>
D	Board representatives are nominated as Liaison Members to neighbouring Conservation Boards (Northland and Auckland).		<p>Waitai Petera is the appointed Board Liaison for the Northland Conservation Board.</p> <p>Will be looking to appoint a Board Liaison for the Auckland Conservation Board.</p> <p>These roles will be reviewed annually.</p> <p>The Board will endeavour to develop a Liaison Policy and Template to provide guidelines and expectations in the role.</p>
E	Maintain effective communications with the NZCA.		Currently communication is received monthly via the NZCA Chair's letter and copies of Minutes from NZCA meetings.

F	Develop working relationship with relevant conservation-based councils, advisory groups such as Fish and Game, Forest & Bird, NRC etc		Although liaison members have been identified, due to the disruption with covid, they have not actively participated in this financial period.
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## 2.5 COMMUNICATIONS AND ADVOCACY

“No Surprises” policy - could include, but is not limited to, imminent media coverage of any activities that could attract critical media comment or any matters on which we could be asked to express a view.

### Whāinga roa / Objectives:

**Kaihautu:** Joanne Shanks  
**Rōpū Tautoko:** Mina Pomare / Tui Quaqua

Planned Board Activities, Success Measures and Key Milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	Implement the Board’s Communications Strategy over a suite of platforms including maintaining the Board’s Facebook page, developing broader web-based communications, and issuing media releases on important subjects, to engage a wider audience and position the Board as a trusted and independent conservation advocacy body.		The Communications Plan is being developed.
B	Support public awareness and implementation of cross-agency efforts to manage the ongoing threat of Kauri Dieback (Kauri Ora), Myrtle Rust by including it as a focus in the Board’s Communications Plan for 2021/2022.		To be included in the Comms Plan

## 2.6 UNDERSTANDING CONSERVATION BOARDS' LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

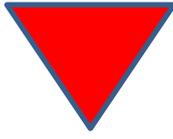
### Whāinga roa / Objectives:

The Board will undertake a full understanding of their legal obligations under conservation law, including the hierarchy of priorities that should be taken into account when making decisions. Conservation Board's legal obligations are covered in Section 5 of the Conservation Board Manual.

**Kaihautu:** Tui Qauqau-Te Paa / Waitai Petera / Mike Finlayson

**Rōpū Tautoko:**

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary - <i>we know we are on the right track when...</i>
A	Increase awareness of and develop Tiriti o Waitangi knowledge competencies of Board members, including but not limited to understanding Section 4 of the Conservation Act, decolonisation, co-governance, basic beginners guide such as pepeha, karakia, language familiarisation.		Guidance and understanding is provided by respective board members.  Francis Toko is the Pou Tairangahau for Te Papa Atawhai in the NNI region.
	Hold at least one hui on a marae and incorporate cultural competency elements in all Board workshops for the year.		Board members are very respectful in following and understanding tikaanga protocols during meetings.
B	Continue to engage with Te Papa Atawahi and Te Hiku Iwi to understand co-governance to guide the Board's mahi.		
C	One-day workshop on Tiriti o Waitangi		

## 2.7 PLANNING AND REPORTING

Your work plan should align with your statutory obligations under the Act, the National Parks Act 1980, and the Reserves Act 1977, and the Te Hiku Treaty Settlements Act.

### Whāinga roa / Objectives:

To support Te Papa Atawahi in achieving their stretch goal: New Zealanders lives are enriched through their engagement with our nature and heritage.

### Kaihautu:

### Rōpū Tautoko:

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones

	Action	Status	Progress commentary
A	How will the Board support Te Papa Atawahi stretch goals.		

## GOVERNMENT AND MINISTERIAL PRIORITIES

The basis for the Ministers expectations originates in the statutory functions set out in section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 (the Act), section 30 of the National Parks Act 1980, and the Reserves Act 1977. As reflected in these statutes, the focus of conservation boards is policy issues, strategic direction, and planning, not the day-to-day operations of the Department.

Planned Board activities, success measures and key milestones.

	Action	Status	Progress commentary - <i>we know we are on the right track when...</i>
A	Support the implementation of Te Mana o te Taiao - The Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy		Board oversight of the CMS to ensure the protection of species.

<p><b>B</b></p>	<p>Contribute to any reviews of national park management plans and Conservation Management Strategies (CMSs) and support their progress effectively to promote strong conservation outcomes.</p>		<p>There are no National Parks in the Te Hiku area.</p> <p>The Board will continue to advocate for the iwi of Te Hiku</p>
<p><b>C</b></p>	<p>Ensure the intent and statutory requirement for conservation of four Te Hiku Iwi as reflected in their separate Deeds of Settlements (DoS) and legislation</p>		<p>Ensure the content is including the drafting of the Te Hiku CMS</p>
<p><b>D</b></p>	<p>Support the transition to a lower-carbon conservation delivery model, having regard to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019</p>		<p>The Board will need to carefully consider when reviewing the draft Te Hiku CMS.</p>
<p><b>E</b></p>	<p>Support Tiakina Nga Manu - to actively promote pest management</p>		

### 3 PART C: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

#### 3.1 Risks Identified from The Board's Perspective

<b>A</b>	Board function is affected by the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on face-to-face meetings and effective interactions between members and the iwi of Te Hiku
<b>B</b>	The Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS is still being drafted, and this is treated as a contemporary treaty breach.
<b>C</b>	The Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS is tied to (non-statutory) templates, guidance, and requirement of the NZCA/Te Papa Atawhai/Minister to the point Iwi aspiration for conservation cannot be met and this becomes a source of conflict.
<b>D</b>	Te Hiku whanau/hapū and community groups become disillusioned with the lack of understanding of the Te Hiku o Te Ika CMS and disengage, in some cases, go into conflict with Te Papa Atawhai.

#### 3.2 Opportunities for Conservation Growth In The Board's Rohe

<b>A</b>	A truly co-drafted CMS reflects the desires of Te Hiku Iwi, and its successful implementation (shown by regular monitoring) leads to strong enduring relationships and collaborative conservation on co-managed lands and beyond.
<b>B</b>	Drafting a great CMS is an opportunity to create a model for other unsettled (TOW) Iwi and to also test ways forward on some tricky issues such as issuing concessions where Iwi has an interest.
<b>C</b>	Support Te Papa Atawhai to work effectively with the iwi of Te Hiku to achieve their stretch goal
<b>D</b>	Develop the Board's effectiveness and capability in working with iwi to further achieve conservation goals through meeting the requirements of Section 4 of the Conservation Act
<b>E</b>	Advocate for and support community-centric conservation and engagement with te taiao through breakthrough projects with diverse communities across Te Hiku (e.g. Jobs For Nature projects, Kaitiaki Rangers).

This Work Programme was developed in September 2022 by Te Rūnanga Papa Atawhai o Te Hiku o Te Ika (Te Hiku o Te Ika Conservation Board). It is designed to give effect to Board functions under Section 6M of the Conservation Act 1987 and other statutory requirements of conservation boards.



*Shipwreck Bay (Te Kōhanga in Māori), at the southern point of Ahipara Bay, contains a number of wrecks visible at low tide. Ahipara Bay was once well known for its toheroa shellfish, but gathering these is restricted due to their near extinction.*

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

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