



I hereby give notice that a hearing by commissioners will be held on:

Date: 16, 18 & 19 August 2016
Time: 9.30am
Meeting Room: Council Chamber
Venue: Orewa Service Centre, Level 1,
50 Centreway Road, Orewa

HEARING AGENDA

TE MURI REGIONAL PARK

AUCKLAND COUNCIL REGIONAL PARKS

COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson	Barry Kaye
Commissioner	Sheena Tepania

Wendy Stephenson
DEMOCRACY ADVISOR HEARINGS

Telephone: 09 890 8159 or 021 708 832
Email: wendy.stephenson@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
Website: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE HEARING

At the start of the hearing, the Chairperson will introduce the hearing panel and council staff and he will briefly outline the procedure for the hearing. The Chairperson may then call upon the parties present to introduce themselves to the panel. The Chairperson is addressed as Mr Chairman.

If any party intends to give written or spoken evidence in Maori, the Democracy Advisor - Hearings must be informed of this at least 10 working days prior to the Hearing so that a qualified interpreter can be provided.

Catering: Morning and Afternoon Tea will be provided at the hearing for the public.

Scheduling submitters to be heard:

All submitters will have received an attendance form with their notification letter.

It is most important that after reading the report all submitters who stated they wish to be heard at the hearing confirm this by returning the attendance form to the Democracy Advisor.

Submitters will be given 10 minutes to present to the hearing panel.

Please only return the attendance form if you still wish to be heard at the hearing.

All submitters are of course welcome to attend the hearing even if they do not wish to speak.

Approximately two weeks prior to the hearing, a timetable for all submitters who have returned their hearing attendance form will be prepared. Please note that during the course of the hearing, changing circumstances may mean that the proposed timetable is delayed or brought forward. Submitters wishing to be heard are therefore requested to ensure that they can be available to attend the hearing and present their evidence, as and when they may be required. The Democracy Advisor - Hearings will advise submitters, at the earliest possible opportunity, on any changes to the timetable.

The Hearing Procedure:

The usual procedure for a Hearing (as specified in the Resource Management Act) is:

- The applicant will be called upon to present their case. In this instance the applicant being Auckland Council Regional Parks. After the applicant has presented their case, members of the Hearing Panel may ask questions to clarify the information presented.
- Submitters (for and against the application) are then called upon to speak. Submitters may also be represented by legal counsel or consultants and may call witnesses on their behalf. Each speaker may be questioned in turn by the Hearing Panel. The council officer's report will identify any submissions received outside of the submission period. At the hearing, late submitters may be asked to address the panel on why their late submission should be accepted. Only if the Hearing Panel accepts the late submission can the late submitter speak.
- Should you wish to present written information (evidence) in support of your application or your submission please ensure you provide the number of copies as indicated on your notification letter previously sent to you ie at least 10 copies.
- Only members of the Hearing Panel can ask questions about submissions or evidence. You may suggest questions for the panel to ask, however the panel does not have to ask them. No cross-examination - either by the applicant or by those who have lodged submissions – is permitted at the hearing.

- After the applicant and submitters have presented their cases, the chairperson may call upon council officers to comment on any matters of fact or clarification.
- When all those who lodged submissions and who wish to be heard have completed their presentations, the applicant has the right to summarise the application and reply to matters raised by submitters. Members of the Hearing Panel may ask further questions of the applicant at this stage.
- The chairperson then generally closes the hearing and the applicant, submitters and their representatives leave the room. The Hearing Panel will then deliberate “in committee” and make its recommendation by way of formal resolution.
- Decisions are usually available within 15 working days of the hearing.

**A REGIONAL PARKS MANAGEMENT PLAN VARIATION APPLICATION BY
AUCKLAND COUNCIL REGIONAL PARKS**

	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE NO.
	Reporting Officer's Report	1 - 99
Attachment 1	AMENDED MAHURANGI REGIONAL PARK DRAFT VARIATION – July 2016	100 - 115
Attachment 2	AMENDED TE MURI REGIONAL PARK DRAFT VARIATION – July 2016	116 - 131
Attachment 3	LEGEND	132 - 135
Attachment 4	MAHURANGI REGIONAL PARK WEST – MAP	136 - 139
Attachment 5	TE MURI REGIONAL PARK DRAFT VARIATION – January 2016	140 - 155
Attachment 6	TE MURI REGIONAL PARK - MAP	156 - 159

Reporting Officer, Annette Campion

Reporting on an application for the Draft Variation to the Regional Parks Management Plan
at Te Muri Regional Park.

APPLICANT: AUCKLAND COUNCIL REGIONAL PARKS

Te Muri

Regional Parks Management Plan Variation

Hearings Report

July 2016

Contents

1. Report purpose	1
2. Submissions overview	1
3. Questionnaire results	2
4. Submission summary / themes	4
5. Submission analysis	5
5.1 Park experience	5
5.1.1 Vision for Te Muri Regional Park	5
5.2 Access	9
5.2.1 Introduction	9
5.2.2 Upgrade of Hungry Creek Rd	9
5.2.3 Main arrival area off Hungry Creek Rd	12
5.2.4 Central Park Rd	13
5.2.5 Main arrival area at the beach	16
5.2.6 Te Muri Stream pedestrian and service bridge	18
5.2.7 Puhoi River crossing.....	20
5.2.8 Other suggestions/proposals relating to access to the park.....	23
5.2.9 Summary and recommendations.....	25
5.3 Natural Settings	28
5.3.1 Pest control	28
5.3.2 Fencing	29
5.3.8 Other suggestions/proposals relating to natural settings.....	30
5.4 Cultural and Historic Settings	34
5.4.1 Archaeological features.....	34
5.4.2 Further comments relating to archaeological features:	34
5.5 Farm Settings	36
5.5.1 Continued operation of farm.....	36
5.5.2 Woodlots	37
5.6 Recreation and Use Management.....	40
5.6.1 Track network	40
5.6.2 Horses.....	41
5.6.3 Biking.....	45
5.6.4 Te Araroa	50

5.6.5	Camping.....	51
5.6.6	Bach escapes	56
5.6.7	Interpretation.....	58
5.6.8	Education	60
5.6.9	Visitor facilities	61
5.6.10	Dogs.....	63
5.6.11	Events and commercial activity.....	65
5.6.12	Orienteering	66
5.7	Mana Whenua	68
5.8	Principal Relationships.....	70
Attachments.....		72
Attachment A - List of all submitters – alphabetically (383).....		72
Attachment B - List of all submitters – numerically (383)		82
Attachment C - List of submitters specifically supporting the Mahurangi Coastal Trial proposal – alphabetically (179)		92
Attachment D - Wider Te Muri area.....		98

1. Report purpose

This report provides a high-level analysis of submissions received on the draft variation to the Regional Parks Management Plan (RPMP) to include Te Muri Regional Park, and has been written to support the hearings process.

This report will be provided to the independent commissioners that have been appointed by the Parks, Recreation and Sport Committee, all submitters who will attend the hearing, and will be publically available on the Auckland Council website.

Hearings on the draft variation to the RPMP will commence in August 2016.

The draft variations for Te Muri and Mahurangi regional parks have been amended to reflect the staff recommendations outlined in this report. These are available as separate documents accompanying this report. This includes the original Te Muri variation so submitters are able to follow the recommended changes to the plan. The amended Te Muri variation does not include tracked changes due to the number of proposed amendments, but the few proposed amendments to the Mahurangi section have been shown as further tracked changes in blue.

The maps for Te Muri and Mahurangi West have also been amended to reflect the staff recommendations and some additional information has been added to the Te Muri map, such as the archaeological site reference numbers and all buildings. These maps are also available as separate documents accompanying this report.

2. Submissions overview

- The draft variation to the RPMP was notified for two months; from mid-January to 18 March 2016.
- An open day was held on 20 February on the park with over 50 people attending.
- 383 submissions were received in total, including one late submission.
- Ngati Manuhiri provided a Cultural Values Assessment and Ngati Whatua o Kaipara a formal response to the variation. A meeting with Ngati Manuhiri and Ngati Whatua o Kaipara in April 2016 provided a further verbal submission that was minuted.
- Council had included a questionnaire on Shape Auckland and received submissions from 165 people (43%) via this format.
- 102 (27%) of submissions were also received via email.
- Only one submission was received via mail.
- 170 submissions (44%) were submitted as proformas on behalf of Mahurangi Action, of these 131 sent in long-form proformas being a duplicate of the council's questionnaire with two additional questions relating to support for the Mahurangi Coastal Trail and an additional section for the Te Araroa walkway. 122 of these were received as hard copies and 9 were emailed. There were a further 39 short-form proformas, also received via email, which did not include the questionnaire. These proformas made up 47% of the emailed submissions.
- 7 submitters were found to have submitted both via the Shape Auckland questionnaire and email; while 3 submitters submitted via the Mahurangi Action hardcopy proforma

and emailed as well. These duplicates were combined, so not accounted for twice in the analysis. Two submitters have submitted twice either on behalf of two different groups or on behalf of a group and as an individual submitter.

- One submission included a petition with 46 signatories supporting the submission
- Submissions were received from the following groups:
 - Auckland Mountain Bike Club
 - Dune Restoration Trust of NZ
 - Friends of Regional Parks
 - Hibiscus Coast Branch, Forest and Bird Society
 - Manu Waiata Restoration and Protection Society
 - New Zealand Motor Caravan Association
 - NZ Horse Networking
 - New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)
 - Mahurangi Action
 - Mahurangi Coastal Trail Trust
 - Mahurangi Magazine
 - North West Orienteering Club
 - Orewa Sea Scout Group
 - Puhoi Canoes
 - Puhoi Community Forum
 - Puhoi Historical Society Inc.
 - Warkworth Area Forest and Bird
- 8 submissions were anonymous
- 121 people have indicated they wish to speak to their submissions – of these 75% oppose the development of the central park road and the creation of a parking area behind the beach. Forty one submitters wishing to be heard support Mahurangi Action's proposals.
- Lists of all submitters to the draft variation, ordered alphabetically and numerically, are attached as Appendices A and B.
- A list of all the submitters supporting Mahurangi Action's proposals is included in Attachment C. This identifies if the submitter has completed the long proforma, the short proforma only or supported this through an individual email. In the themed summary sheets these submissions are referred to as MAS (Mahurangi Action submissions).

3. Questionnaire results

Council's feedback form questions – Do you support...	% * support	% * oppose	% * unsure
Implementing pest plant and animal control programmes	97%	2%	2%
Implementing further fencing of the wetlands, riparian areas & coastal forest ecosystems	90%	5%	4%
Protecting archaeological features and pa sites	95%	2%	3%

Providing interpretation of the cultural, historic & natural heritage of the park	89%	5%	5%
Ongoing engagement with mana whenua to determine what they specifically value and how they can be involved with the park	81%	9%	10%
Developing a main arrival area at the park entrance at the end of Hungry Creek Rd, including: parking, toilets and visitor information	27%	70%	3%
Investigate with NZ Transport Agency and Auckland Transport the upgrade of Hungry Creek Road to provide safer access to the park	24%	72%	4%
Investigating the future improvement to the central road to enable safe public vehicle access through the park	13%	82%	4%
Preparation of a concept plan and development of a further arrival area set back from the beach with parking, toilets and visitor information	12%	83%	5%
Expansion of the existing campground and pulling this back from the beach	60%	31%	9%
Developing a network of tracks that cater for walking, running, biking and horse-riding	86%	9%	5%
Investigating the use of the houses, not required for operational purposes, as bach escapes	78%	15%	7%
Investigating the construction of a pedestrian bridge across the Te Muri Stream that would also provide for operational access	73%	21%	5%
Investigating options to provide access across the Puhoi River	75%	19%	6%
Maintaining the farm operation and infrastructure	88%	4%	8%
Determining the future use and management of the exotic woodlots	86%	5%	9%
Establishing and maintaining relationships with adjacent landowners, volunteers, recreation groups, schools and potential concessionaires to assist in the development, management and use of the park.	85%	5%	10%

* Note: % based on numbers that responded to the question and have been rounded off.

In addition, Mahurangi Action's long proforma added two questions to council's feedback form, being:

1. Do you support investigating the development of the Mahurangi Coastal Trail as the initial means of providing access to Te Muri?
2. Do you support investigating the development of the 'central road' to form the missing section of the Te Araroa, the national walkway, between Puhoi and Wenderholm connecting to the proposed Mahurangi Coastal Trail?

These were also included in the short proformas and supported by a further 9 submissions, so that a total of 179 submitters or 47% of all 383 submissions supported these two actions.

4. Submission summary / themes

To prepare a summary of the 383 submissions, these have been sorted into themes. Access to the park and the retention of the remote experience were by far the most prevalent themes in the submissions. The submissions have been analysed into these two predominant themes and headings based on the format of the Regional Parks Management Plan 2010, so covering:

1. Park experience
 - vision
 - management focus
2. Access
 - Hungry Creek Rd access and main arrival area
 - central park road and beach arrival area
 - Te Muri Stream crossing
 - Puhoi River crossing
 - Other access suggestions
3. Natural Settings
 - pest control
 - fencing
 - other
4. Cultural and Historic Settings
5. Farm Settings
 - woodlots
6. Recreation and Use Management
 - track network
 - horses
 - biking
 - Te Araroa
 - camping
 - baches
 - interpretation
 - education
 - visitor facilities
 - dogs
 - events and commercial activities
 - orienteering
7. Mana whenua
8. Principal Relationships

5. Submission analysis

5.1 Park experience

5.1.1 Vision for Te Muri Regional Park Relates to Section 17.24.2 Park Vision and Section 17.24.3 Management Focus	Page 7
Submissions relating to the quality and type of experience visitors seek at Te Muri	
291 submitters made comments relating to the park experience, making up 76% of all 383 submissions, being: 4, 6 – 8, 10 – 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 42 – 44, 49, 51, 54, 65, 66, 69, 76, 84 – 88, 90, 98, 102 -104, 106 – 124, 130, 133, 135, 136, 138, 141 – 148, 150, 156 – 161, 163 – 167, 169 – 171, 173, 174, 186, 193 – 197, 200 – 202, 206, 208 – 210, 213, 216, 217, 220, 223 – 227, 233, 234, 236 – 240, 242, 244 – 247, 249, plus MAS (Mahurangi Action submissions - refer to Attachment C for submitter numbers)	

These commented on the quality of experience they sought at Te Muri in some way. The majority of submissions showed or implied strong support for retaining the current type and quality of experience and levels of use.

The majority of submitters commented on the need to retain the existing quality of experience at Te Muri. They variously described Te Muri having a sense of “remoteness” and “tranquillity” and that this is a “special” and “unique” quality of this park that should be retained. Some submitters describe the “untouched serenity” of an “undeveloped and unspoilt” “natural beachscape” at Te Muri and made the point that “once these qualities are lost they are gone for ever”. Of note the Mahurangi Action submitters noted they greatly value the sense of splendid isolation that Te Muri currently affords and consider a coastal trail a reasonable means by which many more people could enjoy the new regional parkland, without losing this rare and precious quality.

Most saw the existing access to Te Muri beach by foot across the Te Muri Stream at low tide as contributing to its special character and was part of the experience of visiting or camping at Te Muri. As a corollary, they saw the proposal to bring vehicular traffic to a point behind the beach as a retrograde step that would destroy the special qualities of Te Muri.

Many, especially regular campers, commented that the sense of remoteness and the fact that people had to make the effort to get to the campground added to the camping experience.

Many argued that people seeking to drive close to a beach or to a campground can do this at many other locations in the region, including northern regional parks such as Long Bay, Shakespear and Wenderholm. They saw these qualities as the point of difference at Te Muri as opposed to other the regional parks on the north-east coast. Also they argued that not all regional parks provide for vehicular access to the far reaches of those parks, for example Atiu Creek and Duder Regional Parks.

Submission 98 (Mahurangi Action) - advocates rationalising Mahurangi, Te Muri and Wenderholm regional parkland as one, Mahurangi Regional Park. They also advocate that the beach and coastal terrace should be optimised predominantly for picnicking and other day use and that the “wilderness” camping opportunities, which are a unique feature of Te Muri should be maximised

Mana whenua response:

Ngati Manuhiri submitted a cultural values assessment describing their relationship to the land that is now Te Muri Regional Park. Refer to 'Cultural Values Assessment for Wenderholm, Te Muri and Mahurangi (West) Regional Parks'.

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust has a responsibility to maintain and protect the cultural landscape across its rohe and shared interest areas. Te Muri is part of Ngati Whatua o Kaipara historical association to the east coast area. They recognise Te Muri as a significant land mark of the east coast.

Staff comments:

One of the values people ascribe to regional parks is the fact that they offer visitors access to tracts of undeveloped coastline. This is an increasingly valued attribute of regional parks as the population of the region increases and more of the coastline comes under pressure for development. Once the northern motor way has been extended and access is improved, the regional parks on the north-eastern coast are likely to become more attractive to visitors. One of the reasons that the land behind Te Muri beach was purchased by council was in order to retain the special landscape qualities of the location and to prevent these being destroyed by residential development that would have inevitably occurred on the land over time.

Te Muri beach is unique in that while the public have had access to the beach since 1987 it has only been accessible by wading across the Te Muri Stream or by boat. This has meant that visit numbers have been relatively low, apart from those camping on the park during the summer months. This has engendered a level of exclusivity that is enjoyed by those prepared to make the effort to get there. Given that many of the other regional parks on the north-east coast are already accessible by vehicle, retaining Te Muri's relative remoteness would retain its point of difference and uniqueness.

On the other hand, it could be argued that there is a need to maximise the public investment in purchasing the hinterland behind Te Muri beach and to facilitate greater access to it. The alternative points of access to Te Muri have proved to be more problematic than first envisaged now that the wishes of the public for recreational access are known. Refer to the staff report on access issues.

On balance and taking into consideration the unique qualities of Te Muri, it is recommended that the vision for Te Muri is to retain its relative remoteness by limiting vehicle access to the western end of the park and providing pedestrian and cycling access across the Te Muri Stream from Mahurangi Regional Park. It is also recommended that the beach and flat lands behind the beach be made a Special Management Zone in terms of Section 7.5 of the RPMP 2010 in order to retain the intrinsic qualities of this area that submitters seek while allowing an appropriate level and types of activity.

The suggestion that Te Muri together with Wenderholm and Mahurangi West be integrated into a single park entity (Mahurangi Regional Park) raises issues. From an operational perspective they will all be managed in an integrated way from the park depot at Wenderholm. If Te Muri is to retain its unique sense of isolation then it would be more appropriate that it is identified under a separate identity. Also, historically Wenderholm was the first regional parks and should retain its separate identity. Furthermore, mana whenua have stated they would not like to see the loss of Te Muri as a name.

Staff recommendations:

Amend Section 17.24.2 'Park Vision' by adding the following statement after the first sentence;

'Te Muri retains its undeveloped natural character and offers visitors a relative sense of remoteness.'

Add the words *'and cultural'* after the word *'environmental'* in the last sentence.

Add the following statements after the first sentence of Section 17.24.3 'Management Focus':

'Public access to Te Muri Regional Park will continue to be provided by crossing the Te Muri Stream while boardwalks and a bridge across the stream will be investigated and, if appropriate and feasible, developed with supplementary parking provided at Mahurangi Regional Park. (Refer to Policy 12 in Section 17.7 Mahurangi Regional Park.) Vehicle access to Te Muri cannot be contemplated until Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with State highway 1 have been upgraded for the safe passage of park visitors. Once Hungry Creek Road is upgraded, an arrival area will be developed at the western end of the park.'

'Similarly, once the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points are operational and there is proven need for additional access, investigations may be undertaken to providing pedestrian, cycle and potentially horse access between Wenderholm, Puhoi Village and Te Muri. This may include boat access, land-based routes or a Puhoi River bridge crossing to form part of a Mahurangi Coastal Trail.'

'Given the need to resolve access issues, the need to develop infrastructure, such as a track network, and the need to protect sensitive ecosystems, habitats and archaeological sites, there will be a gradual and managed introduction of recreation activities, such as mountain biking and horse riding. Recreation infrastructure to support these will be developed as demand justifies the expenditure.'

Add the following bullet point as the first bullet point under Section 17.24.3 *Management Focus*:

'A remote experience in a natural and relatively undeveloped setting that is different to the type of experience offered at Mahurangi and Wenderholm Regional Parks'

Amend the 7th bullet point on page 4, which reads:

'developing the necessary infrastructure, such as roads, parking, tracks, visitor facilities for opening the park for public use'

to read;

'developing the necessary infrastructure, to facilitate access to the park, a track system and visitor facilities in order to progressively open the park for public use'

Replace the following 2nd bullet point on page 5 in relation to 5 year priorities, which reads:

'develop the main arrival area near the Hungry Creek Road entrance following Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with the State Highway being improved'

with the following:

'investigating, and if feasible and resources permit, developing boardwalks and a bridge across the Te Muri Stream estuary'

Add the following to the policy section:

Special Management Zone – Te Muri Beach

Te Muri beach is a picturesque sandy beach that is currently only accessible to the public by wading across the Te Muri Stream. It has become popular for visitors seeking as a remote and relatively undeveloped natural coastal setting. It contains a campground that has been enjoyed by the public as a remote campground since the 1980s.

The beach sits on a spit of land that contains an historic cemetery and a number of sensitive archaeological features of value to mana whenua. It is also the habitat of a number of endangered coastal birds. It is however vulnerable to the sea level rise as a consequence of predicted climate change. It is proposed that the Te Muri spit and beach be managed a Special Management Zone in order to maintain the qualities that park visitors seek and to manage the environmental challenges it faces.

- 44. Manage the Te Muri Beach SMZ for the following activities;*
 - a) picnicking*
 - b) beach related activities*
 - c) camping*
 - d) events during off-peak periods.*
- 45. Maintain the campground behind Te Muri Beach and, if demand establishes a need, expand the capacity of the campground as a series of intimate enclaves while recognising the coastal buffer zone identified below.*
- 46. Limit infrastructure to a level appropriate to serve the permitted activities, including toilets, walking tracks, visitor information, directional signage and shelters*
- 47. Restore and stabilise the foreshore dune systems through planting in appropriate native vegetation, weed control, removing unnecessary structures and managing pedestrian access.*
- 48. Create a buffer zone to allow for dune stabilisation and keep it free of infrastructure except that designed to protect the dunes.*
- 49. As existing infrastructure is upgraded relocate it away from the foreshore buffer zone.*
- 50. Remove the existing shed from the foreshore.*
- 51. Maintain the integrity of the whale urupa free from structures and activity likely to have a detrimental impact on it.*
- 52. Maintain the Te Muri cemetery in accordance with the approved conservation plan.*

Amend Map 24 to show the Te Muri Beach Special Management Zone (SMZ).

5.2 Access

5.2.1 Introduction

The main public access options at Te Muri are as follows:

- Vehicle, pedestrian and cyclist access via Hungry Creek Road
- Pedestrian and cyclist access across the Te Muri Stream from Ngarewa Drive (Mahurangi Regional Park)
- Pedestrian and potentially cyclist access across the Puhoi River from Wenderholm Regional Park
- Other access options, such by land-based routes, sea or public transport

The submissions showed overwhelming opposition to vehicular access to Te Muri and there is strong support for pedestrian access by bridges across either the Te Muri Stream or the Puhoi River. There is also a strong lobby for access for various recreational activities on the parks, including horse riding, all of which will require access either on foot and/or by vehicle.

Council invested \$15 million dollars in acquiring the additional land at Te Muri. While one of the reasons for this purchase was to protect the land, which forms the backdrop to Te Muri Beach, from future development, it is important that the people of the region are able to benefit from this investment for a range of recreational purposes. However, the level of use permitted must be balanced against the quality of experience that visitors want to have at the park and the protection and enhancement of the parks natural, mana whenua and heritage values.

There was strong support for keeping the intrinsic qualities that Te Muri currently has. That is, a relatively remote and untouched piece of coastline (Refer to the staff report on the Vision for Te Muri Regional Park). The majority of submissions therefore opposed the provision of vehicular access to the Te Muri beach utilising an upgraded central farm road and developing the main arrival area immediately behind Te Muri beach (82%). Only 12% of submitters supported developing the main arrival area immediately behind Te Muri beach. There was a varied level of support for the use of Hungry Creek Road as an access point but the majority (72%) oppose this as well, mainly for safety and cost reasons.

The following analysis looks at each of the access options in turn and a summary and recommendations are contained at the end of this section of the report.

5.2.2 Upgrade of Hungry Creek Rd Relates to Policy 20	Page 7
Q7. Support investigating with NZ Transport Agency and Auckland Transport the upgrade of Hungry Creek Rd to provide safer access to the park?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 301 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 71 (24%), No – 218 (72%), Unsure – 12 (4%), Blank - 81	
Submitters supporting – 24% 27, 52, 74, 82, 103, 106, 108, 109, 111, 124, 134, 139, 140, 145, 148, 149, 151, 152, 158, 161 – 163, 170, 173, 175 – 180, 183 – 189, 192, 196 – 199, 203, 205, 211, 212, 215, 219, 221, 223, 225, 226, 228, 233 – 235, 238, 241, 242, 244, 245, 251 – 260.	

Submitters opposing – 72%

17, 42, 51, 54, 77, 104, 105, 107, 110, 112 – 122, 125 – 133, 135 – 138, 141 – 144, 146, 147, 150, 153, 155 – 157, 159, 160, 164 – 169, 171, 172, 181, 182, 193 – 195, 201, 202, 204, 209, 210, 213, 214, 217, 220, 224, 227, 229 – 232, 236, 237, 239, 240, 243, 246, 247, 249, 250, MAS (long form submitters only, except for 27 which supported and 33 which was unsure)

Most submitters (218 = 72%) opposed the upgrade of Hungry Creek Road. The main reasons for opposing the upgrade of Hungry Creek Road were on safety and cost issues. Some of these submitting on this issue are residents on the road. A smaller number (71 or 24%) supported the use of Hungry Creek Road as the vehicular access to the park. A small number of submitters also suggested that Hungry Creek Road could be used for pedestrian, cycle and horse riding access only; one suggesting the construction of an access way running alongside the road.

A number of submitters, including a number of horse riders, supported the Puhoi Community Forum's (submission 59) proposal for a parking area on the western side of the current SH1 with a crossing to Hungry Creek Road for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders to service the park and the Te Araroa Trail.

Examples of opposing submission comments included:

142 – Opening up Hungry Creek Road to public vehicle traffic will negate most of the benefit of the Te Araroa Walkway proposal.

169 - Roothing in the Rodney area of Auckland is substandard and if money is to be spent upgrading roads I would rather see it going to roads that are regularly used in the area.

239 - I do NOT support the access via Hungry Creek Road. We bought our property on Hungry Creek for the reason that it is a very quiet road with very little traffic. If public access is via Hungry Creek Road, it would definitely NOT stay quiet. There will be greater noise pollution, which is NOT what we moved to the countryside for. There will be more dust pollution, due to cars going up and down. I already suffer from severe sinus, which will be exacerbated by the amount of dust from vehicles going up and down the road. Considering Auckland's extremely busy road network and high traffic congestion problems, I can hardly see that spending thousands or millions on upgrading Hungry Creek Road is a feasible or viable proposition. This would surely constitute an immense waste of ratepayers' money. There will also be a much higher risk of damage to our property, due to theft and vandalism, merely because of higher number of people passing by. Considering that there are 34 Regional parks in Auckland, I would consider that keeping this one pristine and only allowing access by foot, horse or bike, would surely protect the incredible nature, fauna and flora of this region.

249 - I strenuously oppose allowing free access from Hungry Creek Road and providing for parking there. The roading and parking proposals will allow many more people to visit Te Muri, but at the expense of the reason why it is so special now. We have many regional parks that one can drive into. We need places that one must take a little more effort to enjoy.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust noted that as they were not provided with detailed information and impacts assessments on the Hungry Creek Road access from State Highway 1 to be able to make an informed response.

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust advocates for –

- Restriction of vehicle access to Te Muri from SH1 to council staff, contractors and light vehicles (no buses or recreational vehicles) however supports parking area at the hungry Creek Road entrance to park subject to the upgrade of Hungary Creek Road.
- Retention of foot access to Te Muri via Te Muri o Taririrki Stream but designing crossings that are fit for purpose and prevent damage to streambed.

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust does not support –

- any further bridging options over the Puhoi River. They have suggested a bridge over the Te Muri Stream maybe an option if visitor pressure is having obvious adverse effects on the stream bed however acknowledges the potential difficulty given the many sights of significance around this stream and notes this option would require careful consideration.
- Horse trails or camping with horse floats as their main concern here is for the protection of archaeological sites.

Staff comments:

Hungry Creek Road is a narrow, winding, and in places, a steep gravel rural road and the intersection with State Highway 1 (SH1) is particularly hazardous for vehicles travelling north and turning into Hungry Creek Road. Discussions with Auckland Transport (AT) and the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) have confirmed that it would be unwise for the council to utilise Hungry Creek Road as an access point to Te Muri, especially for heavy vehicles such as horse floats, unless it was upgraded and the intersection made safer.

NZTA propose to construct a new highway north of the Johnson's Hill tunnel – as part of the Ara Tūhono project – Puhoi to Wellsford highway bypass. This will divert the bulk of traffic from the current SH1. The construction of the new highway is not programmed to be completed till 2022, at which stage the management of the old SH1 will be transferred to AT. AT advice is that while it would be possible to upgrade Hungry Creek Road to provide safe two-way traffic, it would necessitate sealing the road and would possibly cost in the order of 2 to 3 million dollars. The intersection can be improved by creating a right-turn lane and road reserve is wide enough to accommodate that. AT is responsible for the upgrade of Hungry Creek Road and points out that there are no current plans to upgrade Hungry Creek Road and that this work is not currently a priority for them given the small number of people currently serviced by the road. The upgrade of Hungry Creek Road and the options of providing a visitor arrival area on the park at the end on Hungry Creek Road could not therefore be realistically contemplated for at least 6 to 10 years and maybe even longer. In the longer term, the upgrading of this road will be necessary to enable vehicle access to an arrival area just within the park boundary as a means to activate the recreational potentials of the hinterland of the park. The upgrade of Hungry Creek Road and the intersection will need to be discussed further with AT at the completion of the Ara Tūhono highway project. Refer to further comments on these options below.

Private property owners on Hungry Creek Road have commented on “deviant behaviour” that has increased on the road since the park was purchased. Council will need to actively discourage public access off Hungry Creek Road until the upgrade is completed and will work with neighbours on any emerging issues relating to the park use, however, Hungry Creek Road is a public road and council’s powers are limited with respect to its use.

5.2.3 Main arrival area off Hungry Creek Rd Relates to Policy 21	Page 7
Q6. Support developing a main arrival area at the park entrance at the end of Hungry Creek Rd, including parking, toilets and visitor information?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 314 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 86 (27%), No – 219 (70%), Unsure – 9 (3%), Blank - 69	
Submitters supporting - 27% 4, 8, 10, 13, 27, 52, 62, 76, 81, 82, 84, 86, 96, 103, 106, 111, 134, 139, 140, 145, 148, 149, 151 – 153, 157, 158, 161 – 163, 170, 172, 175 – 180, 183, 185 – 190, 192, 194, 196 – 200, 203, 205 – 207, 211, 212, 215, 218, 219, 221 – 223, 226, 228, 229, 234, 235, 238, 241, 242, 244, 245, 248, 251 – 260, 383 (late submission)	
Submitters opposing - 70% 17, 42 – 44, 47, 49, 51, 54, 59, 91, 97, 98, 101, 104, 105, 107 – 110, 112 – 122, 124 – 129, 131 – 133, 135 – 138, 141 – 144, 146, 147, 150, 155, 156, 159, 160, 164 – 169, 171, 173, 181, 182, 184, 193, 195, 201, 202, 204, 210, 213, 214, 217, 220, 224, 227, 230 – 233, 236, 237, 239, 240, 243, 246, 247, 249, 250 plus MAS (long form submitters only, except for 27 which supported and 33 which was unsure)	

Reasons for opposition:

The majority of submitters (220) opposed the creation of an arrival area on the park at the end of Hungry Creek Road. The majority of this opposition did not specify why they opposed the creation of this arrival area but it can be assumed that it related in part to the opposition to the proposal to upgrade the farm track running through the park and the proposal to provide an arrival area behind Te Muri beach.

Examples of opposing submission comments included:

1 – I do not support vehicle access to Te Muri or development of parking infrastructure at Hungry Creek Rd. I believe that walking access only would help to retain the sense of isolation of this beautiful spot but walking bridges would allow easy access to the public wishing to experience this. Road access is an unnecessary and expensive proposal. The objectives of providing public access are better met by foot bridges.

50 - There exist well-resourced parks to the North (Sullivan’s Bay), and South (Wenderholm), providing extensive support for vehicular access and casual day use of the beaches. I think we have the opportunity with Te Muri to retain a more natural environment for non-motorised enjoyment. Other proposals in the plan, to allow a bridge access from Sullivan’s and the possibility of similar from Wenderholm across the Puhoi River, would allow adequate access for such use, within easy reach of existing car parks. Devoting scarce funds to the upgrading of the Hungry Creek access road, when many public roads in the region are still in a very primitive state, is unwarranted. Instead, I think available funds would

be better spent on developing usable tracks through the park for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. A cheaper, more appropriate and innovative, option would be to build further parking areas adjacent to SH1 and allow easy access via board-walks and tracks to the park from there.

104 - no upgrades to any roading needed, therefore no car parks needed.

Anonymous - We definitely do not see the need to widen the road, make access easier etc. no way do we want to see parking lots at Te Muri! Te Muri is unique because of its "inaccessibility" and peacefulness. You have plenty of other parks for people to drive to. Leave this for the more adventurous to explore by foot, boat etc.

208 - I don't support road access or car park further in to the park and even not at end of Hungry Creek Rd.

Mana whenua response:

At the hui Ngati Manuhiri and Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust supported the creation of an arrival area at the start of the park off the end of Hungry Creek Road but would not support parking vehicles further into the park. Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust, further submitted that "...this option is supported in principle to encourage the public to walk the experience".

Staff comments:

Provision of an arrival area at western end of the park at the Hungry Creek Road entrance to can only be recommended if and when Hungry Creek Road is upgraded but is necessary in the longer term in order to provide the opportunity for visitors to access the park for a range of recreational purposes without the need to travel any distance into the park. This arrival area could be made the primary hub for the recreational trail network on the park and would thereby maximise the recreational potential of the park without detracting from the relative remote experience that most submitters say they would like to retain.

5.2.4 Central Park Rd Relates to Policy 22	Page 8
Q8. As resources permit and subject to Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with SH1 being improved, upgrade the central park road.	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 324 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 43 (13%), No – 267 (82%), Unsure – 14 (4%), Blank - 58	
Submitters supporting – 13% 27, 106, 109, 139, 149, 151, 152, 162, 175 – 179, 183 – 186, 188 – 190, 198, 203, 205, 207, 211, 212, 215, 219, 221, 228, 235, 241, 248, 251 – 260	
Submitters opposing – 82% 4, 6-8, 10 – 13, 15 – 18, 20, 21, 36, 42 – 44, 47, 49, 51, 52, 54, 59, 66, 69, 70, 84, 87, 88, 90 91, 97, 98, 101, 102, 104, 105, 107, 108, 110 – 122, 124 -138, 140 – 148, 150, 153, 155 - 161, 165 – 168, 170 – 173, 181, 182, 192 – 197, 200 – 202, 204, 206, 209, 210, 213, 214, 217, 218, 220, 223 – 227, 229 – 234, 236 – 240, 242 – 247, 249, 250, plus MAS (long proforma submitters only, not including submitter 33 who was 'unsure')	

Reasons for opposition:

The strong opposition to the upgrade of the central park road is clearly linked to the opposition to an arrival area behind Te Muri Beach. The reasons for opposing the upgrade of the central road were similar to those proffered for retaining the current character of Te Muri as a remote and undeveloped natural area. The upgrade of the road was seen as an unnecessary expense and that the resources would be better devoted to the conservation programmes on the park or on other council projects. Some submitters pointed to the fact that the central farm track would form the backbone of the recreational trail system and that vehicular traffic would be unsafe and would compromise park visitor enjoyment of the park.

Examples of opposing submission comments included:

4 - Having vehicle access to Te Muri will make it just like Long Bay, Wenderholm and Sullivan's on a weekend or on a holiday. A busy, noisy, crowded city-type beach. At present, the people who go to Te Muri are those who make the effort to walk there.

10 - Keeping cars out also keeps the essence of the farm intact.

11 - The concept of an arrival car park where Hungry Creek Road joins Te Muri farm is fine, as it is a beautiful walk from here to the beach. While 242 noted I do not support allowing cars any closer than the end of Hungry Creek Rd. It needs to be a wilderness destination.

18 - The idea of a road through to the beach is, in my opinion, a backward step in caring for this environment. Please keep some areas of New Zealand coastline clear of cars.

98 – The ridgeline route forms that backbone of a network of walkways, cycle ways, mountain-biking and horse-riding trails that encourage access and enjoyment of much of the 383ha Schischka farm. Relegating the role of the prime scenic ridgeline route to that of an eye-watering expensive driveway to the beach for private cars would degrade and restrict every other reasonable option for maximising use of the hill country flanks. Use by service vehicles, however, is not detrimental to its optimisation, including as part of the Te Araroa. Nor possibly would its use by a limited number of vehicle movements dedicated to the conveyance of disabled passengers.

112 - I don't support the idea to create access to Te Muri park by car as this will drastically destroy unique of campground itself. There is not many campgrounds that are so "remote" like Te Muri one. 159 noted - Please do not bring road access to Te Muri. Where else can you escape cars and allow your young children to speed around a campsite without fear of them being run over. While 236 noted a road into Te Muri would destroy the unique camping experience and endanger some of the historical and environmental aspects of the beach.

114 - I definitely DO NOT support developing the park to the extent of road access and car parking. There are sufficient beaches and reserves in the near vicinity with road access to cater for those who physically need a car to access our beautiful assets. We need to leave some areas "unspoilt". The walk to Te Muri is a major part of its current attraction for those of all ages.

115 - It will not significantly reduce pressure on other parks such as Wenderholm, Sullivan's or Tawharanui, but it will serve to destroy the unique heritage of this place.

147 - I'm completely against an access by car to this beautiful paradise. We need remote places that are difficult access. It makes a challenge, more organization and gives us the opportunity to escape more from the busy world we are living in. Our life is becoming too easy. Everything does not have to be easy. Nature does not need to be accessible everywhere.

150 - The money spent on upgrading road access would be far better utilised in building a bridge across Te Muri stream. While 166 suggested upgrade the access to Sullivan's Bay if you feel the need for those sorts of facilities, but let's keep Te Muri in its natural state.

170 - Vehicle access to the beach is too invasive and will have too much adverse environmental effect. The adverse effects will be far more than minor in terms of amenity, ecological values, the intrinsic values of the land and affecting the character of the landscape. Public access to the beach is great, it is something that defines New Zealand, but removing the sense of privacy, isolation and naturalness for eternity is not New Zealand like.

224 - Why does Te Muri need to be made more accessible when places such as Cathedral Cove, and other sites throughout New Zealand that have thousands of visitors every summer remain isolated and difficult to access?

245 - Te Muri is one of those rare wild places and should be preserved as such. Given financial constraints facing the region and the easy access of other parks, Te Muri should retain its remote, back country aspect, its low visitor numbers (partly to protect natural and cultural heritage values) and its relative inaccessibility. Part of the great fun, appeal and challenge of Te Muri is having to access across the stream and to walk there. Developing car access through the park to the beach will destroy the natural values of the area, both with noise, built elements and visual effects. Err on the side of development caution which is ecologically, socially and financially prudent.

While not specifically stating their opposition to the upgrade or the central road the submitters that put in the short proforma Mahurangi Action submissions noted - I consider that the highest quality use for the current Schischka farm road is as the missing terrestrial section of Te Araroa, the national walkway, between Pūhoi and Wenderholm.

Mana whenua response:

Ngati Manuhiri and Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development does not support public vehicle access across or through Te Muri Regional Park.

Staff comments:

The two rounds of public consultation have articulated strong opposition to public vehicle access through the park as being costly, unnecessary and that it would compromise park users' enjoyment by having traffic on the narrow central road which many saw as forming the backbone of the trail system within the park. While it would not be necessary to upgrade the road for visitor traffic it will nevertheless need to be maintained as a service road for the operation of the park, including the farming operations, such as the movement of stock trucks.

An outcome of this is that the proposed main arrival area behind the beach will not be required. This road will therefore form one of the main arterials for the track network.

177 (46%) submitters have supported the Mahurangi Action Groups (MAS) proposal for the Te Muri farm road to be made part of the Te Araroa Trail. This would necessitate providing safe crossing of SH1, perhaps with an underpass, and completing the link to Wenderholm across the Puhoi River via a bridge or along its southern banks. The Te Araroa currently traverses from Puhoi Village to SH1 where walkers must either kayak down the Puhoi River or use the state highway to join up with the trail at Wenderholm. The Te Araroa Trust has confirmed they are continuing to explore all possible options, including the trail traversing along the southern edge of the Puhoi River utilising private land and esplanade strips. There are however gaps in the esplanade strips along this route and some current land owners are not supportive of this action.

As a result of the strong opposition from both rounds of submissions to developing a main arrival area behind the beach it is recommended that the central park road not be upgraded for visitor traffic. There was however strong support for retaining this as the spine to the recreation trail network and it will need to be maintained as a serviceable road for park operations and farming purposes.

5.2.5 Main arrival area at the beach	Page 8
Relates to Policy 23	
Q9. Support preparation of a concept plan and development of a further arrival area set back from the beach with parking, toilets and visitor information?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 321 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 40 (12%), No – 265 (83%), Unsure – 16 (5%), Blank - 61	
Submitters supporting – 12% 27, 106, 139, 149, 151 – 153, 162, 163, 175 – 179, 183 – 186, 189, 198, 199, 203, 205, 211, 212, 215, 219, 221, 229, 235, 241, 251 – 255, 257 - 260	
Submitters opposing – 83% 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 – 18, 20, 21, 36, 42, 49, 51, 54, 65, 66, 69, 82, 86, 88, 90, 102, 104, 105, 107 – 122, 124 – 138, 140 – 148, 150, 155 – 161, 164 – 168, 170 – 173, 180 – 182, 192 – 197, 200 – 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 213, 214, 217, 218, 220, 223, 224, 226, 227, 230 – 234, 236 – 240, 242 – 247, 249, 250 plus MAS (long forma submitters only, except for 27 which supported and 33 which was unsure)	

Reasons for opposition:

There is overwhelming opposition to creating the main arrival area to the park behind Te Muri Beach. The reasons for this opposition, as outlined in the staff commentary on the park vision; relate to the desire to retain the existing quality of experience at Te Muri. Submitters variously described Te Muri having a sense of “remoteness” and “tranquillity” and that this is a “special” and “unique” quality of this park that should be retained. Some submitters describe the “untouched serenity” of an “undeveloped and unspoilt” “natural beachscape” at Te Muri and made the point that “once these qualities are lost they are gone for ever”. The introduction of vehicles this far into the park was seen as an intrusion that was costly, undesirable and unnecessary.

Examples of opposing submission comments included:

16 - There is a special appreciation of having the ability to go somewhere that is not overrun with campers and day visitors, so close to the city. It is a rare thing to find a relaxing space that doesn't have cars and a big car park next to the beach.

70 - The proposal for a main arrival area just behind the beach is a massive visual intrusion into the pristine landscape of the beach. This type of facility is already provided at Long Bay Regional Park and Wenderholm Regional Park and Sullivan's Bay. Parking for Te Muri can be provided in the vicinity of the Wenderholm Campground where it can service Te Muri via the Mahurangi Coastal Trail.

146 - I do not support the creation of a large car park and entrance area close to Te Muri beach. This would completely transform the back country character of this park, necessitate costly infrastructure investment and destroy the opportunity for Aucklanders to enjoy a more remote experience.

196 - I want to see the wilderness aspects of Te Muri retained as much as possible and protection of the wading birds particularly New Zealand Dotterels continued. A car park on or near the beach front will destroy these aspects and such a car park is not necessary since people who want such facilities can go to Wenderholm or Sullivan's beach, Mahurangi, both nearby.

209 - I am not in favour of large car parks close to the beach lest we end up with a horror like Long Bay. Some areas are precious and it doesn't hurt for people to have to make a small effort in order to access them. It makes the effort more worthwhile.

233 - This beach already has car parking; it's just some distance away, which I view as highly positive. People who wish to park cars right next to the beach are perfectly able to enjoy the 2 beaches on either side of Te Muri. I believe bringing vehicle access closer to the beach itself will decrease the diversity of beaches in the area and make this one the same as all the rest - please preserve its unique status as being within a one hour drive from Auckland city, yet feeling like you are in the middle of nowhere.

246 - Don't want parking lots spoiling the beautiful area. People can easily walk down from the round-about at the end of Ngarewa Drive.

8, 20, 36, 49, 69, 84, 86, 113, 124, 143, 166, 194, 196, 206, 209, 236 - all noted the need to protect the endangered dotterels or other sea birds that use the beach to nest, expressing concern these would be swamped by the additional visitors that would interfere with their tenuous habitat.

Mana whenua response:

At the hui Ngati Manuhiri and Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust would not support parking vehicles further into the park (and by inference the arrival area behind the Te Muri beach.)

Staff comments:

Due to the significant opposition to this proposal it is recommended that this policy be removed in line with the discussion above. There are other options available for people to access the park. These include access from Hungry Creek Road and across Te Muri Stream. Refer to the separate commentaries on these options contained in this section of the report.

5.2.6 Te Muri Stream pedestrian and service bridge Relates to Policy 25	Page 8
Q13. Do you support investigating the construction of a pedestrian bridge across the Te Muri Stream that would also provide for operational access?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 345 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 253 (73%), No – 74 (21%), Unsure – 18 (5%), Blank - 38	
Submitters supporting – 73% 4, 8, 11, 51, 54, 66, 104 – 109, 113, 117, 122 – 124, 129, 133, 138, 139, 142 – 145, 148 – 151, 154, 161, 163, 164, 169, 171 – 173, 175, 176, 178 – 183, 186, 188 – 191, 198, 199, 201, 203, 205, 209, 211, 212, 218, 219, 221 - 223, 225, 226, 230, 234, 235, 237, 239, 247, 248, 250, 252, 253, 255 - 260, plus MAS short and long proforma submitters	
Submitters opposing – 21% 10, 16, 17, 18, 20, 42 – 44, 49, 86, 110, 111, 115, 116, 118 – 121, 125 – 128, 130, 131, 134 – 137, 140, 141, 146, 147, 155 – 157, 159, 165 – 168, 177, 187, 192 – 197, 202, 204, 210, 213, 214, 216, 217, 220, 224, 228, 229, 231 – 233, 236, 238, 240 – 246, 249, 251, 383 (late submission)	

Of note the Mahurangi Action proposal for the development of the Mahurangi Coastal Trail that has received significant support in the submissions propose the development of a pedestrian bridge across the Te Muri as part of the trail. They note the lack of an all-tide access limits reasonable public access, particularly in winter when many walkers are unprepared or unwilling to wade the estuary. The Mahurangi Coastal Trail technical document outlines the options that have been explored by Mahurangi Action.

Examples of submitters' comments / reasons for opposition:

86, 220 – propose that the Te Muri Stream and Puhoi River not be bridged, to limit recreational impacts. They note the need to protect the birds that use Te Muri beach as a high tide roost and that the provision of a bridge or bridges may be incompatible with the intent to protect ecologically sensitive areas. 242 noted a board walk going around the Te Muri (Ngarewa Stream) River, rather than a pedestrian bridge would be far more appropriate. Thus avoiding the nest areas next to the mouth of the stream.

17, 42, 43, 44, 116, 157, 194, 196, 233, 245, 383 - stated variations on the fact that Te Muri's strength lies in its geography, working out when to cross the Te Muri stream adds to the fun and adventure of visiting the place and this would change the special character of this amazing beach. 187 noted I love that it's a little more difficult to access than some other campgrounds. Part of what makes it so unique. 383 noted we have boated and camped here for years and there is access to Te Muri at low tide and a walkway bridge is a waste of taxpayers' money.

17 - also noted after 20 years camping there I have not seen any hindrance to the staff for their duties because they do not have a bridge.

241 - Existing low tide access is sufficient, especially with the development of a new main arrival area at Te Muri.

246 - NO bridge across Te Muri stream, we can wade across, and any farm/service vehicles can use the existing Schischka access road. Keep our beautiful land beautiful and as

remote as possible. Those who truly care about it will make the effort to get there - and be sure to leave no footprint behind.

251 - We would like access across the Te Muri stream (walking) for horses.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust has been informed of the option for a pedestrian walk bridge between Tawharanui (sic. Mahurangi) and Te Muri, this is supported in principle only to encourage the public to hikoī – walk these parklands.

The proposal to construct a pedestrian bridge over the Te Muri Stream is supported by Ngati Manuhiri on the basis that continued and increased foot traffic across the stream may be more detrimental than building a bridge and a bridge would take this level of ongoing disturbance out of the stream bed. They, however, point out the need to protect the number of archaeological sites in the vicinity which will require careful consideration in the placement of any bridge. They also suggested this should not be developed until there was a proven demand for this.

Staff comments:

253 submitters supported a pedestrian bridge crossing of the Te Muri Stream, including mana whenua.

Te Muri beach is currently accessed by park visitors on foot by wading across the Te Muri Stream, usually at low tide. Many submitters see this as part of the charm of visiting the park and that it limited visitors to those who were prepared to get their feet wet and, as a consequence, maintained the sense of remoteness at the park. Access via the stream will however limit access for many visitors to 2 hours either side of high tide.

73 submitters however opposed the Te Muri bridge option, mainly on the basis that it is unnecessary and that having to cross the stream helps retain the sense of remoteness of the park and will help keep the number of visitors down. They also make the point that there are a number of other parks accessible for those park users wanting easy access to a beach, such as Long Bay and Wenderholm.

The Te Muri Stream is identified in the PAUP as highly ecologically significant estuary. It has Outstanding Natural Landscape, High Natural Character (north bank) and is a Significant Ecological Area –Coastal 1 and is recognised as an Outstanding Natural Feature. There are also a number of sites on either side of the estuary that are identified as ‘Sites of Value to Mana Whenua’ and would need to be taken into consideration in any development proposal. Any structure within the estuary would require resource consent for a non-complying structure. The Te Muri estuary is a relatively contained visual catchment. The crossing could be kept visually discrete using boardwalks through the mangrove wetland areas with a low level bridge across the open stream. It would be desirable to locate the crossing further up the estuary away from the stream mouth, away from the dotterel nesting areas and away from the navigable portion of the stream. It would also be less visually intrusive in this location.

Given the likely delay in gaining access to the park via Hungry Creek Road it would be desirable to develop, as demand increases, additional parking on the northern side of Te Muri Stream in order to facilitate pedestrian access to Te Muri. This will be necessary whether a bridge is constructed or not and, in the long term provides access for those

wishing to access the Te Muri beach environment without having to walk the length of the park from Hungry Creek Road.

5.2.7 Puhoi River crossing Relates to Policy 26	Page 9
Q14. Do you support investigating options to provide access across the Puhoi River?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 345 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 260 (75%), No – 64 (19%), Unsure – 21 (6%), Blank - 38	
Submitters supporting - 75% 51, 54, 66, 85, 87, 88, 104 – 106, 108, 109, 117, 123, 124, 126, 142, 144 – 148, 151 – 153, 157, 161, 169 – 179, 181 – 183, 186, 189 – 191, 196 – 199, 201, 203, 205, 207 – 212, 215, 218, 219, 221 – 226, 228, 229, 234, 235, 237, 239, 240, 243, 244, 247, 248, 250 – 253, 255, 257 - 260, plus MAS short and long proforma submitters	
Submitters opposing - 19% 17, 42 – 44, 86, 110 – 112, 115, 116, 118 – 122, 125, 127 – 131, 133, 135 – 141, 150, 154 – 156, 159, 160, 164 – 168, 180, 185, 192, 193, 195, 200, 202, 204, 206, 213, 214, 216, 217, 220, 230 – 233, 236, 238, 242, 246, 249, 383 (late submission)	

Mahurangi Action (98) argue that the creation of an east–west coastal walking route (the Mahurangi Coastal Trail), supplemented by bridle, mountain-bike and other parallel and loop trails, is the best way to optimise the recreational potential of the park. They see this as creating the missing terrestrial Pūhoi–Te Muri section of Te Araroa trail, and argue that private vehicle access along the central ridge of the park to Te Muri beach is incompatible with this role. They would like to see the council adopt the Mahurangi Coastal Trail as part of the Auckland Regional Parks 50th anniversary.

The Mahurangi Action proposal for the development of the Mahurangi Coastal Trail that has received significant support in the submissions propose the development of the ‘Judge Arnold Turner’ footbridge across the Puhoi River. They argue that a Mahurangi Coastal Trail should be developed immediately as the initial means of providing public access to the new Te Muri parkland, and that access by private vehicle should only be considered in the event the trail is little used. The Mahurangi Coastal Trail technical document outlines the options that have been explored by Mahurangi Action and provides some detail on their preferred option of this being developed upstream in the vicinity of Schischka House on Wenderholm Regional Park.

Examples of submitters’ comments / reasons for opposition:

17 - This special place that is within half an hour’s drive of Auckland is protected by the Puhoi river mouth to the south and the Te Muri estuary to the north. It does not need "bridging".

86 - propose that the Te Muri Stream and Puhoi River not be bridged, to limit recreational impacts. The provision of a bridge or bridges may be incompatible with the intent to protect ecologically sensitive areas.

111, 119 - noted that providing bridges along with roads would not fit in with this place and would destroy Te Muri by encouraging too many visitors. If people want crowds & ease of access they can go to Long Bay.

139 - I have concerns that bridge plan over Puhoi river from Wenderholm would jeopardise the scenic view from Wenderholm.

246 - No bridge/access across the Puhoi River from Wenderholm. Keep our beautiful land beautiful and as remote as possible.

383 - We are regular river users and we have views across the Puhoi River from our property. The river channel changes position through the seasons and a bridge won't work as the lifting part of the bridge wouldn't be in the right place through some parts of the year. We launch our boat from the bottom of our property and have done for years; the bridge will limit access to the sea as the river moves so much. This proposed bridge would have a huge visual impact on the untouched park, and all the people who stop to take photos from the lookout about Wenderholm would end up with a bridge in the middle of their stunning photos. What about the effects on the wildlife in the river. We understand that part of the reason for building the bridge is to access the other side of the park. This can be done at low tide from Wenderholm Regional Park and also from Hungry Creek Road. There is enough space at Hungry Creek Road to build a sufficient public car park and leave Wenderholm as the untouched beautiful space that it is.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust does not support any form of access option from Te Muri to Wenderholm and Ngati Manuhiri opposes any further crossing of the Puhoi River.

Staff comments:

260 submitters supported a pedestrian bridge across the Puhoi River. Most saw this as necessary component of creating the Mahurangi Coastal Trail being promoted by Mahurangi Action Group. They noted it would also provide the opportunity for the Te Araroa trail to complete its connection between Puhoi village and Wenderholm Regional Park. It is currently severed by the lack of links across private property on the southern edge of the Puhoi River. This would however necessitate walkers using Hungry Creek Road. (Refer to staff comments on upgrading Hungry Creek Road above).

64 submitters, including mana whenua, however opposed the proposal for a bridge across the Puhoi River. Most of the opposition relates to keeping Te Muri as a remote location with few visitors and the potential visual, environmental and cultural impacts of a bridge in this catchment.

There are a number of issues that need to be considered for constructing a bridge across the Puhoi River. These include issues relating to:

- a) demand for recreational access
- b) resource management and regulatory requirements
- c) build-ability, operational and maintenance issues
- d) climate change and related sea level rise
- e) river catchment conditions and flow dynamics, and
- f) council funding priorities

A bridge crossing has been proposed in the vicinity of the Schischka House on Wenderholm Regional Park. The river is approximately 255 metres wide at this point but Mahurangi Action Group preliminary proposals show a bridge of up to 480 metres in length with an opening section to allow the passage of boats. A proposal of this nature has significant visual, environmental, cost and operational implications.

The Puhoi River and estuary is a relatively pristine river system with minimal modification. As a consequence it is identified in the PAUP as having a number of protective overlays. It is identified as an Outstanding Natural Feature within an area of Outstanding Natural Landscape and contains areas of Coastal Natural Character. Any bridge proposal would have to demonstrate that it can meet the tests set down in the PAUP. As the river is within the Coastal Marine Area it would also have to satisfy the tests on of Policy 13 in the National Coastal Policy Statement 2010 relating to the preservation of the natural character of the coast. It cannot therefore be guaranteed that a bridge in this location would obtain resource consent.

The river is tidal and consists of braided channels and sandy shoals. This is a navigable river and provision would need to be made to allow the passage of boats and kayaks that are regular users of the river. While the bridge could be designed to allow kayaks and small craft to pass beneath it, an opening section would need to be constructed to allow the passage of larger craft. These considerations, coupled with tidal movements and anticipated sea level rise, would increase the height and bulk of the bridge. There is also the need to consider how the opening part of the bridge would be operated and by whom.

While the river channels appear to have been stable for a long period there is no certainty that they may not change in the future. The bridge approaches are likely to be located on low lying parts of Wenderholm Regional Park that are subject to potential sea level rise. The substratum of the river appears to be rock and there is a need for thorough geotechnical investigations to determine the foundation conditions.

As a public asset the bridge would need to be constructed to high public safety standards. Comparisons with other public footbridges constructed elsewhere in New Zealand indicate that the cost of the bridge could be in the order of \$9,000/m² to \$26,000/m² making the total cost between \$10M and \$20M. The council would also have to consider the ongoing maintenance and operating costs of such a bridge. The construction of a bridge would also have implications for increased vehicle parking at Wenderholm and Mahurangi Regional Parks.

At this stage, it is highly speculative as to the level of use this bridge would get. There is currently no demonstrated demand. Given the potential high initial and ongoing costs of a bridge, the question must be asked as to whether this would be a priority project for council given other needs for land purchase and other development proposals across the regional parks network.

Given the above uncertainties, and unless alternative funding can be found to cover these costs, the council is unable to confidently commit itself to this particular proposal. While the council would, in principle, support the concept of the 'Mahurangi Coastal Trail' its implementation depends of the construction of the footbridge across the Puhoi River or finding other means to cross the Puhoi River.

There are also a number of alternative ways of accessing Te Muri Regional Park from the south and west. Some submitters have suggested providing for boat access, including water taxis. Some of these may be dependent on private sector investment. Another possibility is the provision of a chain cable ferry. Such ferries are common throughout Europe. This could be self-operated by people wanting to access Te Muri from Wenderholm and could become a unique attraction in itself without the need for large infrastructure crossing the river. It may however be tide dependent. Other options exist for land-based easements along either side of the river linking Wenderholm, Puhoi Village and Te Muri. These may be a cheaper and a better use of public money without the need of a bridge structure.

Preliminary assessments of the Puhoi River footbridge suggest that the obtaining resource consent for this project cannot be assured and the bridge will be expensive and, even if the council does not pay for its construction, it would have ongoing maintenance and operational costs for council

Unless alternative funding can be found to cover these costs, the council is unable to confidently commit itself to this particular proposal. It would also have implications for vehicle parking at Wenderholm and at Mahurangi Regional Parks. While the council would, in principle, support the concept of the 'Mahurangi Coastal Trail' its implementation depends of the construction of the footbridge across the Puhoi River or the development of other means of access, such as by boat or land-based routes.

It is therefore recommended that the commitment to a bridge is delayed until the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points have been implemented and the level of use of Te Muri is better known. It is recommended that the variation retains the option to explore the bridge option further together with other options, such as boat and land-based options.

5.2.8 Other suggestions/proposals relating to access to the park

Boat access

A number of alternative or supplementary access options have been suggested by various submitters. These include provision for kayaking and other boating access, providing for public transport access, a water-taxi service from Wenderholm Regional Park, and for horse riders to utilise the "paper roads" in the vicinity of the park.

4, 21, 42-45, 47, 49, 59, 64, 69, 105, 107, 112, 122, 129, 134, 173, 181, 193, 195, 201, 220, 223, 226, 236, 238 and 240 all mentioned kayaking or boating access into the park.

91 - Water taxi service would be fantastic.

Concessions

57 - Council have a unique opportunity to make this Park petrol/diesel engine free by offering a tender operation to ferry visitors from the Hungry Creek road car park to Te Muri Beach using battery driven electric vehicles.

148 - In order that the campground gets the use it deserves, I would encourage the provision of a shuttle service from a car park right back at the entrance to the park to the campground so that families, in particular, could get all their kids and camp gear safely to the camping area. This could be booked along with the camp site and covered by a small fee. This could also be considered for the northern end of the park, Mahurangi East Road end.

Public Transport

45, 55, 70, 77, 88, 142, 201, 209 - mentioned the ability to get to the park by public transport with 55 noted maybe some public transport options could be provided since these are far less likely to lead to any pollution and other disturbances.

170 short and long proforma MAS submissions noted the widest range of public transport and non-motorised access to and between Mahurangi, Te Muri and Wenderholm regional parks should be encouraged and provided for, including bridle.

Alternative parking area off SH1

50, 54, 59, 91, 97 - suggested building a parking area adjacent to SH1 and build a bike / horse riding / walking access track from that parking facility to and up Hungry Creek Road that will encourage visitors to visit both the Puhoi Historic village and provide access to the Te Muri block. These submitters were from the Puhoi area and 50 in particular noted this would be a cheaper, more appropriate and innovative, option. 54 noted this will spread the visitors across the entire Park, provide tourism revenue for the Puhoi Historic Village and support the Te Araroa pathway by providing an off road walking trail from Puhoi to Wenderholm rather than encouraging more overcrowding with substandard infrastructure that can't cope on heavy busy days.

SH1 crossing or underpass

7, 76 82, 215, 222 - support working with Auckland Transport, and NZTA to create a crossing or underpass of SH1, suggesting this could be from Cook Road to Hungry Creek Rd for walkers, cycles, and horse riders from Puhoi to Te Muri.

Greenways and paper roads

82, 190, 215, 222, 251 - would like Regional Parks to work with Rodney Local Board, and the Greenways Plan to ensure that a network of trails (bridleways) allow for horse riders, and others to enter the park on horseback if desired.

Staff comments:

A number of submitters suggested providing for boat access to Te Muri.

It is already possible for kayakers and small hand-launched craft to access Te Muri Beach and to cross the Puhoi River from Wenderholm. An all-tide wharf exists at Wenderholm and a small landing area on the northern banks of the Puhoi River would help facilitate this but there would need to be a proven demand to justify such a facility. The steep climb up the slopes onto Te Muri may be a deterrent to people using this option.

A number of submitters suggested that public transport opportunities to and between the regional parks should be considered, including a water-taxis service across the Puhoi River. Some pointed to the fact that there is a public transport service to Waiwera. While public transport is a highly laudable objective there would have to be a demonstrable demand for such a service and it would have to be commercially or operationally viable. At this stage there is no evidence that people use the public services to Waiwera to visit Wenderholm which receives 230,000 visits each year. Furthermore, the evidence is that very few visitors use the bus services to Long Bay Regional Park which has a bus terminus located on the park.

The Puhoi Community Forum (Submission 59) and NZ Horse Network (Submission 82) noted that there are a number of unformed legal roads (“paper roads”) linking Puhoi village and a various pieces of publicly owned land (including NZTA land) in the vicinity and that they intersect with a number of the formed public roads, including Hungry Creek Road. (Refer Attachment D map). These offer possible routes for trail systems, including equestrian trails. The use of “paper roads” would have to be approved by AT. The council is currently developing “greenway plans” for the Rodney area. While these are currently focussed on existing settlements such as Warkworth, the potential exists to investigate the use of “paper roads” in the Puhoi-Mahurangi area as potential off-road trail links to the regional parks, including Te Muri.

Note that the Puhoi Community Forum also suggested the option of providing a parking area on the western side of the SH1. This could link with the “paper road” network mentioned above but would necessitate safe crossing of the SH1. It is unknown at this stage what impact the new motorway will have on the volume of traffic using the old SH1. While AT consider it will result in a decrease in volumes using the old SH1, this may change over time if people use it as an alternative route from Warkworth to Waiwera and Orewa. Options for a crossing could be explored further in consultation with AT once the level of use becomes clear.

5.2.9 Summary and recommendations

Some submitters have pointed to the fact that the first round of submissions, calling for issues to be covered in the drafting of the management plan, showed a strong bias against providing vehicular access to the park. They commented that these submissions appeared to have been ignored in the drafting of the plan. It should be pointed out that there was also strong indication from recreational groups, especially horse riders, for increased access to the park. The consultation had not been completed at that stage and the second phase of consultation on the draft plan was designed to elicit response to all the possible access options.

It is clear now that the majority of submissions received; both in the first round and in response to the draft plan proposals, favour retaining the relative remoteness of Te Muri Beach, however, most submitters also supported greater recreational access for walkers, mountain bikers and horse riders. It has become obvious that providing increased public access to Te Muri, apart from the current access across the Te Muri Stream, is problematic. Most options involving upgrading of roads and/or the building of bridges are likely to be costly and some have significant environmental impacts.

As noted in the discussion above, preliminary assessments of the Puhoi River footbridge, for example, suggest that obtaining resource consent for this project cannot be assured and the bridge will be expensive and, even if the council does not pay for its construction, it would have ongoing maintenance and operational costs for council. Unless alternative funding can be found to cover these costs, the council is unable to confidently commit itself to this particular proposal. It would also have implications for vehicle parking at Wenderholm and Mahurangi. While the council would, in principle, support the concept of the ‘Mahurangi Coastal Trail’ its implementation depends on the construction of the footbridge across the Puhoi River or the creation of land-based routes or the implementation of a ferry or water taxis to facilitate crossing the Puhoi River.

The upgrading of Hungry Creek Road will also be difficult and because this work is dependent on another agency, the timing is uncertain. Similarly, the upgrading of the central park road, which is 3.5 kilometres long, would be costly and would pose some environmental, engineering and traffic management challenges given its alignment along a narrow ridge. There has also been strong opposition to upgrading the central road on the basis that vehicle traffic would compromise the quality of visitor experience on the park. Neither of these options could be realistically implemented until the SH1 realignment has been completed in 2022 and the appropriate improvement made to the intersection with the old SH1.

While the range of access options cannot be ruled out at this stage, including a bridge over the Puhoi River, it is recommended that council continue to provide public access to Te Muri from Ngarewa Drive until the other access option(s) have been more fully examined and costed. This would also provide the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the level and types of recreational activity that can be accommodated at Te Muri and would not commit the council to options that on closer examination prove to be unviable and undesirable. The review of the Regional Parks Management Plan 2010 is due in 2020. This will provide the opportunity to further test the desirability of those access options that prove to be viable. In the interim the development of a track network and the other recreation, conservation and visitor programmes can continue on the park.

It is therefore recommended that the commitment to a bridge is delayed until the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points have been implemented and the level of use of Te Muri is better known. It is however recommended that the variation retains the option to explore the bridge option further together with other options, such as boat and land-based options.

Staff recommendations:

Amend Section 17.24.3 *Management Focus* by adding the following statement after the first sentence:

'Public access to Te Muri Regional Park will continue to be provided by crossing the Te Muri Stream while boardwalks and a bridge across the stream will be investigated and, if appropriate and feasible, developed with supplementary parking provided at Mahurangi Regional Park. (Refer to Policy 12 in Section 17.7 Mahurangi Regional Park.) Vehicle access to Te Muri cannot be contemplated until Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with State highway 1 have been upgraded for the safe passage of park visitors. Once Hungry Creek Road is upgraded, an arrival area will be developed at the western end of the park.'

Similarly, once the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points are operational and there is proven need for additional access, investigations may be undertaken to providing pedestrian, cycle and potentially horse access between Wenderholm, Puhoi Village and Te Muri. This may include boat access, land-based routes or a Puhoi River bridge crossing to form part of a Mahurangi Coastal Trail.'

Move Policy 25 to be first policy under Recreation and use management and amend to read:

'To provide improved access to the park, investigate and as resources permit, construct boardwalks and a bridge over the Te Muri Stream for the purpose of pedestrian, cycle and light utility service vehicle access.'

Move Policy 24 under this and reword to say:

'In conjunction with policy 19, investigate developing an arrival area on Mahurangi West to support access to Te Muri, in accordance with Policy 12 in the Variation to the Mahurangi Regional Park – Section 17.7.'

Add a policy below this stating:

'Park visitors will be actively discouraged from using Hungry Creek Road as access to the park and council will work with neighbours on any ongoing behavioural issues until such times as Hungry Creek Road is upgraded.'

Amend Policy 20 by the inclusion of the words, 'pedestrian and cycle' after the word 'vehicular'

Amend first part of Policy 21 to read:

'In the longer term, subject to policy 22, develop a main arrival node near the Hungry Creek Road entrance (refer to Map 24), that introduces visitors to the vistas and recreational opportunities throughout the park'

And amend sub-clause (e) to read;

'Subject to Hungry Creek Road improvements allowing the safe passage of horse floats and campervans investigate and, if feasible, develop parking for horse floats and a small self-contained campervan campground.'

Delete Policy 22 in relation to the upgrade of the central park road.

Delete Policy 23 in relation to the development of an arrival area behind the beach.

Amend Policy 26 to read:

'Once the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points are operational and if there is proven demand, investigate additional means of providing pedestrian, cycle and potentially horse access between Wenderholm, Puhoi Village and Te Muri including boat access, land-based routes or a Puhoi River bridge crossing. Investigations will need to take account of the following factors;

- a) demand for recreational access*
- b) resource management and regulatory requirements*
- c) build-ability, operational and maintenance issues*
- d) climate change and related sea level rise*
- e) river catchment conditions and flow dynamics, and*
- f) council funding priorities'*

Add a new policy under Principal Relationships to read:

'Work with Rodney Local Board, AT and the NZTA on matters relating to improving access to the park.'

Amend Map 24 to annotate the central road as being for service vehicles only and as part of the existing track network.

5.3 Natural Settings

5.3.1 Pest control Relates to Policy 1	Page 5
Q1. Do you support pest plant & animal control programmes	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 300 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 290 (97%), No – 5 (2%), Unsure – 5 (2%), Blank - 81	
Submitters supporting – 97% 17, 27, 42, 47, 51, 54, 55, 76, 77, 81, 91, 98, 103-140, 142-153, 156-174, 176-184, 186-204, 206-216, 218-220, 222-231, 233-256, 258 – 260, MAS (long form submitters only)	
Submitters opposing – 2% 141, 154, 175, 205, 232	

Only one submitter made a comment relating to pest control, being: 175 - I do not support the current Auckland Council policy of using 1080 to eradicate pests in Regional Parks- by using this in an area in which there are proposed horse riders, children and pets walking through, this leaves so many people vulnerable to this horrific poison. There are other alternatives that are not as horrific and devastating to people and animals.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust

- Supports any proposed pest and weed management programmes to maintain and enhance the proposed revegetation of native trees.
- Point to the need to adopt a zero risk to the Kauri grove on Te Muri from Kauri dieback and the Kauri trees sighted from the access way on Te Muri.

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust

- Noted they did not see any reference to pest control, although they assumed there was a pest management plan.
- Advocate for removal, eradication or control of exotic plants and animals that are damaging, destroying or competing with native species, or their ecosystems.
- Recommend a programme of long-term monitoring/recovery of local biodiversity in bush and streams is resourced and implemented.
- Point to the need to identify locations of Kauri and take measures to prevent the spread of Kauri Dieback disease by vehicle, cyclists and/or pedestrians.

Advocate for the avoidance of using chemical sprays, poisons and treatments as a means of weed and pest control where possible and practicable with preference for manual or alternative means.

Staff comments:

The protection and enhancement of natural and endemic ecosystems and wildlife habitats is a primary function of regional parks, including extensive re-vegetation enhancement programmes which results in over 80,000 plants being planted of regional parks each year.

The management pest animal and plant species on regional parks is governed by the general policies in Section 10.4 of the RPMP 2010.

Plant and animal pest control are essential elements of effective and efficient conservation, protection and enhancement programmes on regional parks. Part 10 of the RPMP 2010 sets out the general policies that govern the conservation programmes on regional parks. Conservation programmes on Te Muri fall within this framework. The use of poisons and pesticides on regional parks is an essential management tool and is carried out within the standards and conditions for agrichemicals and vertebrate toxic agents set out in the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan.

Section 10.4.4 *Pathogens, including kauri dieback*, in the RPMP 2010 sets out the council's policies and strategies for preventing the spread of kauri dieback disease on regional parks. These strategies will be applied at Te Muri, including the installation of phytosanitary stations at strategic locations on the park.

1080 poison is a legal form of pest control. It is only used on parks if it is an appropriate form of control and in accordance with NZ Standards for the Management of Agrichemicals (NZS8409-2004) by operators qualified and accredited by GROWSAFE and AIRSAFE as specified in the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan.

Staff recommendation:

No change as a result of the submitter's comments above.

5.3.2 Fencing Relates to Policy 1	Page 5
Q2. Do you support implementing further fencing of the wetlands, riparian areas and coastal forest ecosystems	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 298 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 269 (90%), No – 16 (5%), Unsure – 13 (4%), Blank - 83	
Submitters supporting – 90% 17, 27, 42, 47, 51, 54, 55, 76, 77, 81, 91, 98, 103 -140, 142-153, 156-174, 176-184, 186-204, 206-216, 218-220, 222-231, 233-256, 258 – 260, MAS (long forma submitters only)	
Submitters opposing – 5% 104, 115, 119, 121-123, 126, 129, 141, 153, 165, 176, 213, 228, 243, 246, 257	

Mahurangi Action (98) argue there is a need to protect and enhance the resilience of the dune system and argue that private vehicle access to the beach is incompatible with the duty to nurture the beach, dune system and coastal terrace in the face of anthropogenic sea-level rise. There is also a need to manage foot traffic between the beach and the terrace to protect dune vegetation and minimise wind erosion.

No specific reasons were identified by the submitters for opposing this policy.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust point to the need to retain and enhance the ecological habitats of the native vegetation and all living species across Te Muri and neighbouring parklands to contribute to the natural green corridors.

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust acknowledges the steep gullies across Te Muri which requires revegetation of natives in terms of minimising erosion. The native revegetation planting is endorsed and the use of exotic plants is not supported.

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust has been informed that the use of exotic plants may be required in the short term to achieve the growth of native vegetation. This approach should be monitored to ensure the exotic will not become the primary plants (overtime will be removed) and that planting of native plants on Te Muri mirrors Maungatahoro on the Wenderholm parklands.

Similarly, Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust endorses protection and enhancement of riparian margins and the re-vegetation programme. They have expressed a wish to see the exotic plantations replaced with native vegetation and that stock be kept out of the riparian areas along the streams and rivers.

Staff comments:

The protection and enhancement of natural and endemic ecosystems and wildlife habitats is a primary function of regional parks, including extensive re-vegetation enhancement programmes which results in over 80,000 native and eco-sourced plants being planted of regional parks each year. The management of natural ecosystems and habitats are managed in terms of the general policies contained in Section 10.3 of the RPMP 2010. The fencing of wetlands, riparian areas and coastal forest ecosystems is to prevent stock from accessing these areas.

The objective at Te Muri is to re-vegetation at least 60 percent of the land in native and eco-sourced vegetation to restore the viability of the native ecosystems and habitats are far as possible.

The council recognises that coastal dune systems are vulnerable to disturbance from pedestrian and other activity and that sea level rise further exacerbates this threat. The council has an active dune restoration programme operating on regional parks. This programme is guided by the policies contained in Section 8.4 *Natural Hazards*. It is also recognised that portion of the Te Muri dune spit are threatened by sea level rise within the next 50 years. It would be prudent to avoid long term investments within these areas.

It appears a few respondents may have selected 'no' on the online form in error as the only indication in written responses for not supporting further fencing of the wetlands, riparian areas and coastal forest ecosystems, was that some respondents wanted the park to remain unchanged. However, these comments appeared to be related to vehicle access rather than fencing and conservation.

Staff recommendation:

Clarify the wording in the last bullet point on page 4 in section 17.24.3 *Management Focus* by replacing the words 're-vegetation' with the words 'undertaking a re-vegetation programme'.

5.3.8 Other suggestions/proposals relating to natural settings

Dotterels and protection of birdlife

4, 8, 21, 109, 143 - noted Te Muri Beach fledges endangered dotterels every year and that this doesn't ever happen at nearby Sullivan's because the people pressure is too great. They

are concerned that the proposed car park will mean masses of people and in turn this will be another beach where people-pressure will stop these endangered birds from breeding.

42, 43, 44, 49, 64, 194 - Dotterels and Oyster catchers nest on Te Muri Beach, and by bringing vehicle access to the beach and the subsequent hundreds of people you will ruin the environment for these fragile nesters.

213, 236 – outlined that because Te Muri is still a relatively remote spot with limited visitor numbers (compared to other parks nearby such as Wenderholm or Sullivan's Bay) this helps to protect the endangered birds that live on the beach such as the Dotterels and the Godwits. They noted the more people & infrastructure the more challenging it becomes to protect species.

111, 113, 130, 194, 196, and 240 - all noted the need to continue the protection of the dotterels or other wading birds such as godwits. 124 – Questioned what DOC have to say about the development impact on the nesting dotterels? And that this also needs to be considered.

Marine Reserve

70, 98, 101, 145, 330 - indicated support for a marine reserve adjacent to Te Muri Regional Park.

70 – noted that little is said about the marine environment in the plan and outlined the marine environment is integral with the shore environment and also needs to be protected. They expressed that they would like to see the adjacent marine area protected in the same way as the marine reserves at Tawharanui and Goat Island.

98 - Mahurangi Action submits that iwi should be consulted regarding the possible establishment of a marine reserve off, part or all the coastline, of the Mahurangi, Te Muri and Wenderholm regional parkland, with the view to an investigation of Mahurangi marine reserve concepts forming part of the planning process, or of the general management plan review in 2020.

Arboretum

69 – proposed a very interesting and useful development in a park like this would be the establishment of an arboretum, ideally including a selection of exotic trees as well as one showcasing native trees.

Predator-proof fence

242 – suggested the thousands of dollars spent on infrastructure to create public access should perhaps be spent on a predator proof fence and re-vegetation programmes.

Restore the foreshore dunes

92, 98 - suggested restoring/stabilising the foreshore dune system.

Mana whenua response:

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust advocate for the following-

- Establishment and enhancement of ecological corridors
- A full assessment of all current native biodiversity within the park as a baseline measure for the health and capacity of various habitats and to inform future monitoring.

Support active translocations of locally extinct native species as appropriate.

Staff comments:

The protection of native wildlife and the enhancement of their habitats is a primary role of regional parks. The general policies contained in Section 10 of the RPMP 2010 sets out the policies that govern the protection of native wildlife and the enhancement of their habitats on regional parks.

A number of submitters have pointed, in particular, to the need to protect the coastal birdlife at Te Muri, especially the NZ dotterel that nest on the beach near the mouth of the Te Muri stream. It is standard practice on all regional parks to provide protection for shore bird habitats, especially during the nesting season when these areas are fenced off to protect them.

A number of submitters have requested the creation of a marine reserve off the coast of Te Muri. Marine Reserves are governed by the Marine Reserves Act which is currently under review by the Minister of Conservation. A marine reserve in this location must be viewed in the context of the region's coast as a whole and decisions must be made about whether this would be a priority location in that context. There is nothing in the management plan for Te Muri that would prevent the consideration of a marine reserve at a future date if this proved desirable and met the criteria set out in the reviewed Marine Reserves Act or similar legislation.

One submitter has suggested the creation of ecological corridors and the release of 'locally extinct native species'. The re-vegetation and habitat enhancement programmes are aimed at re-establishing the viability of the native ecosystems on regional parks. Collectively, the regional parks along the north east coast act as ecological corridors. The release of 'locally extinct' species would only be undertaken once a secure and stable environment has been established for them. This usually means establishing a predator proof environment such as those at Tawharanui and Shakespear Regional Park. It may not be practicable at Te Muri given its long boundaries adjoining private land.

One submitter has suggested the creation of an arboretum of exotic trees at Te Muri. As a general rule regional parks focus on restoring the native vegetation indigenous to that location and it has not been normal practice to plant exotic vegetation unless it is part of an existing historic context or for erosion control. The Auckland Botanic Gardens is more appropriate as a location for an arboretum of exotic plants.

One submitter has suggested the erection of a predator-proof fence at Te Muri. Predator-proof fences have been erected at Tawharanui and Shakespear Regional Parks which now operate as open sanctuaries for the number of rare and threatened native species. These parks are however located on relatively narrow peninsulas which has made the construction of such fences practicable. It would be far more difficult to achieve this at Te Muri given the rugged landscape and its relatively long northern boundary with adjoining private land.

Some submitters have raised the potential impacts of sea level rise and the need to stabilise and restore the foreshore dune systems. The council has an active programme involving the re-shaping and planting of the dunes in appropriate native vegetation to establish a stable profile to the dune so that the natural coastal dynamics will maintain the dune system. Such work has begun at Te Muri. (Refer also to staff report on the Management Focus and the introduction of a Special Management Zone for the foreshore areas.)

Staff recommendations:

Add a policy to the Natural Settings section as follows:

'Protect wildlife habitats and roosting and nesting coastal birds from undue disturbance and, in particular, NZ dotterels and other endangered shorebirds during the nesting season.'

Delete Policy 5 as the issue of protecting the dunes and foreshore is covered in the new Te Muri Beach –Special Management Zone (SMZ) section.

5.4 Cultural and Historic Settings

5.4.1 Archaeological features	Page 7
Relates to Policies 9 - 12	
Q3. Do you support protecting archaeological features and pa sites?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 298 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 283 (95%), No – 6 (2%), Unsure – 9 (3%), Blank - 84	
Submitters supporting – 95% 17, 27, 36, 42, 47, 51, 54, 59, 91, 97, 98, 103 – 115, 117 – 128, 130 – 158, 160 – 175, 178 – 184, 186 – 189, 192 – 202, 204, 205, 207 – 217, 219 – 221, 223 – 249, 251, 253 – 260, plus MAS (long forma submitters only, excluding submitter 50)	
Submitters opposing – 2% 129, 153, 176, 191, 203, 222	

No specific reasons were given to expand on the opposition to this policy

5.4.2 Further comments relating to archaeological features:

52 questioned why the Maori Pa sites on the headlands overlooking Wenderholm are not indicated on the map.

Mahurangi Action (98) argues there is a need to consider the long-term resting place for the human remains and memorials currently contained in the sandspit urupā of Te Muri as a result of potential sea-level rise.

Mana whenua response

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust advocates for –

- Protection of cultural landscapes and individual sites from unnecessary disturbance especially on ridgelines and features associated with Mana Whenua tupuna/ancestors.
- Early consultation with Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust with regard to archaeological sites, wahi tapu, sights of significance and taonga whether recorded or not, and the use of accidental discovery protocols and cultural monitoring in high risk areas for any ground disturbing works.
- Support for a cultural landscape assessment, on-going programme of protection and monitoring of archaeological and other heritage sites, including auditing of existing recorded sites, their locations, conditions and risks.
- Exclusion of all stock including horses from all cultural or wahi tapu sites.

Planting and heritage management plans are cross referenced to a) ensure vegetation does not impact archaeological sites and b) to capitalise on opportunities for careful selective planting as an interpretation mechanism on heritage sites.

Staff comments:

One of the primary roles of regional parks is to record, protect and interpret the cultural and historic settings contained within the parks and to tell the story of Auckland through them.

Part 10 and 11 of the RPMP 2010 sets out the general policies relating to the management of cultural sites on regional parks. The management of cultural sites at Te Muri falls within this framework.

All known archaeological sites at Te Muri have been recorded and are shown on Map 24. Further archaeological surveys will be undertaken if necessary, especially as part of development projects to ensure development and/or revegetation projects do not impact on significant sites. Archaeological sites will be progressively fenced off from heavy stock and the track network will be designed, in consultation with mana whenua, to avoid or minimise the impacts on these locations.

The council has an active on-site interpretation programme on regional parks which will be developed further at Te Muri in consultation with mana whenua and other stakeholders with an interest in the history of Te Muri (Refer comments on the interpretation issues raised by submitters). The Te Muri cemetery, which has a conservation plan, will be one of the foci of such interpretation.

There is no immediate threat from sea level rise for the cemetery but consideration will need to be given to this threat in the future in accordance with council policy. This issue has been referred to the council's Heritage Department.

The pa sites on Wenderholm Regional Park were not included on the Te Muri maps as Wenderholm has its own set of policies and maps and were not the subject of this variation to the RPMP 2010.

It was noted in verbal communications with a member of the Schischka family that Policy 12 refers to naming "a feature" of the park in acknowledgement of the family. This is inconsistent with the agreement reached with the family at the time of purchase of the land. It is recommended that the policy be amended to better reflect the wording of the agreement.

Staff recommendation:

Amend Policy 12 to read;

'Acknowledge the Schischka families historic ties to the land by naming a road or area on the park with a name associated with the Schischka family in consultation with the family.'

5.5 Farm Settings

5.5.1 Continued operation of farm Relates to Policies 13, 16 and 18	Page 7
Do you support maintaining farm operations and infrastructure?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 292 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 257 (88%), No – 12 (4%), Unsure – 23 (8%), Blank - 90	
Submitters supporting – 257 17, 27, 42, 47, 91, 98, 101 – 104, 106, 108 – 112, 114, 118 – 129, 131, 133, 135 – 137, 140, 142 – 145, 150 – 153, 155 – 159, 161, 163 – 165, 167 – 173, 175 – 179, 181 – 187, 189, 190, 193, 195 – 199, 201, 203 – 205, 207 – 209, 211, 212, 214 – 217, 219, 220, 222 – 226, 228, 232 – 241, 244 - 260, plus 130 long proforma MAS (except 50 who was unsure)	
Submitters opposing – 12 113, 115, 117, 132, 146, 147, 202, 213, 229 - 231, 243	

158 - noted support for continuing farm operations and also suggested increasing the beach reserve and selling the farm to pay off debt.

161 - also supported continuing farm operations in the short-medium term and proposed Te Muri have a very long term vision of replanting native forest to grow over the farmed areas. They also noted this could be a vision for work some decades from now when funding allows but would like to see it in writing.

173 - fully supports maintaining the farming operation and would not like to see it encroached upon. Similarly submitter 201 noted keep the park operating as a farm; re-vegetate only selected areas.

236 – Suggested the farm should be kept separate to the beach and that it could be used as its own park to showcase a wonderful New Zealand working farm.

240 - is happy to see that the farm behind Te Muri has been purchased by the Council and hopes council will protect it and enhances the native bush and wildlife on the farm as has been done at Tawharanui.

Examples of submitters' comments / reasons for opposition:

115 - Questioned why is it not proposed to develop the planting of trees, to develop the coastal forest, to develop and extend the pohutukawa trees along the foreshore or develop riparian areas by instigating better pest management systems and introducing endangered riparian species?

146 - Supports reforestation of the entire park and seeks the gradual transformation of the park from farmland and pastoral management to a coastal forest and wetland ecosystem. They suggest, as is evident elsewhere, there will be many willing volunteers ready to assist the council with this task. They also suggest removing the houses and farm buildings.

147, 230 - noted the need to plant more trees.

243 – Stated it is not just necessary but imperative that the natural environment is preserved in as close to its natural state as is possible.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust supports the existing facilities to be utilised for operational and maintenance purposes.

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust advocate for-

- Ceasing farming altogether or minimise the number of grazing animals
- Retiring steep, eroding or poor growing pasture and regenerate with natural bush.
- Exclusion of stock, including horses from all cultural or wahi tapu sites.

Developing a plan for the removal of all exotic trees within an achievable timeframe.

Staff comments:

The farming operations on regional parks are governed by the general policies contained in Part 12 of the RPMP 2010.

The re-vegetation of regional parks and the restoration of ecosystems and habitats is a primary role of regional parks and will be a major focus of the management of Te Muri. Currently approximately 124 hectares (c.32%) of the park is vegetated in native bush and plantation trees. The plan is to progressively double the amount native tree coverage through an active re-vegetation programme.

All archaeological sites will be fenced off and heavy stock will be removed from these locations. Recreational activity will be directed away from the sites and the track network will be designed, in consultation with mana whenua, to avoid or minimise the impact on archaeological sites.

The farming operations on regional parks have a number of functions. Farming provides an open space context for a number of open space recreational activities and it is the most efficient way to manage large tracks of pastoral open space while providing an economic return to the council. It protects open vistas for park visitors to enjoy - the panorama views across the Hauraki Gulf are a major feature of Te Muri - and the farming operations enable park visitors to experience Auckland's farming heritage in operation.

Te Muri was purchased as an operating farm and while the intention is to re-vegetate a large portion of the park in native vegetation, some areas of farmed land will be retained for the reasons outlined above. It will also enable the council to tell some of the farming history of Te Muri.

Staff recommendation:

Amend Policy 13 to read:

'Continue to sustainably farm those portions of the park not devoted to re-vegetation and archaeological protection as open pasture acknowledging the parks rural heritage, and the need to retain key views and vistas, and facilitate recreation and use of the park (including farm experiences).'

5.5.2 Woodlots

Relates to Policy 19

Page 7

Do you support determining the future use and management of the exotic woodlots?

<p>Submitter breakdown: (% of 294 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 254 (86%), No – 14 (5%), Unsure – 26 (9%), Blank - 88</p>
<p>Submitters supporting – 254 17, 27, 42, 47, 54, 91, 98, 101, 104 – 109, 115, 117, 118, 120, 122, 124, 125, 129, 135, 136, 138 – 142, 144 – 147, 149 – 153, 155, 157 – 159, 161 – 169, 171 – 173, 175 – 187, 189 – 195, 197 – 201, 203 – 205, 207 – 209, 211, 212, 215, 216, 218, 219, 222 – 224, 226 – 228, 230, 231, 233 – 236, 238, 239, 241, 242, 244, 245, 247 - 260 plus 131 long proforma MAS</p>
<p>Submitters opposing – 14 110, 113, 119, 121, 123, 137, 202, 213, 217, 229, 232, 237, 240, 243 and mana whenua</p>

98 - suggests the role for indigenous forestry should be investigated at Te Muri.

Most of the opposition to woodlots appears to be based on the desire to “keep the park as it is”.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust acknowledges the steep gullies across Te Muri which requires revegetation of natives in terms of minimising erosion. Native revegetation planting is endorsed and the use of exotic plants is not supported. They also noted that they have been informed that the use of exotic plants may be required in the short term to achieve the growth of native vegetation. This approach should be monitored to ensure the exotic will not become the primary plants (overtime will be removed) and that planting of native plants on Te Muri mirrors Maungatahoro on the Wenderholm parklands.

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust have also commented that their desire to see the existing exotic woodlots being replaced by natives.

Staff comments:

Woodlots, including native tree woodlots, on regional parks are governed by the policies contained in Section 12.4 of the RPMP 2010. Woodlots are not common on regional parks. Apart from the commercial forest in the Hunua Ranges, which is operated under licence by a private forester, most are small and are often for research purposes only. They also offer the opportunity for higher impact recreation, such as mountain biking that would not be appropriate in native forest.

Exotic trees, such as poplars, are valuable and proven tools in the control of erosion on farmland. They are usually faster growing than natives.

There are three significant areas of existing exotic woodlots on Te Muri. These will need to be managed until they mature and can be harvested. At which time, decisions must be made as to either replanting in harvestable trees or re-vegetating in native trees as part of the native habitat restoration programme. This decision will depend in part on market conditions at the time of harvest or whether there is value to the council in retaining exotic trees for its operational use, such as erosion control, or recreational purposes.

Staff recommendations:

Delete the word ‘*exotic*’ before the word ‘*woodlots*’ from the 9th bullet on page 4 in Section 17.24.3 *Management focus*.

Replace Policy 19 relating to woodlots with the following:

'At the time of the harvest of the existing woodlots, give consideration to the replacement with exotic or native woodlots, or with native vegetation; taking into account the following:

- a) market conditions for timber*
- b) operational needs, such as erosion control*
- c) recreational needs, and*
- d) conservation needs'*

5.6 Recreation and Use Management

5.6.1 Track network Relates to Policy 27	Page 9
Q11. Do you support developing a network of tracks that cater for walking, running, biking and horse-riding?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 310 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 266 (86%), No – 28 (9%), Unsure – 16 (5%), Blank - 72	
Submitters supporting – 86% 10, 21, 27, 31, 42, 47, 51, 54, 59, 66, 69 – 71, 74, 76, 82, 83, 85, 89, 91, 96 – 98, 103, 104, 106, 108, 109, 111, 114, 117, 118, 120, 122 – 129, 136, 138, 139, 142, 144 – 154, 157, 158, 161 – 163, 166, 168 – 183, 185 – 191, 194, 196 – 201, 203, 205 – 207, 210 – 212, 214, 215, 218, 219, 221, 222, 225, 226, 228, 229, 231, 232, 234, 235, 237 – 240, 242 – 245, 247 – 260, plus MAS (long proforma submitters only)	
Submitters opposing – 9% 110, 112, 115, 116, 119, 121, 130, 131, 133, 140, 141, 143, 155, 160, 164, 165, 167, 184, 192, 195, 202, 204, 213, 217, 220, 224, 230, 233	

Reasons for opposition:

131 – Sighted vehicle access to Sullivan's Bay is nearby; current walking tracks are sufficient to permit public access to the area and believes the area should be maintained in its current state.

167 - Leave Te Muri and all the coastline no more accessible than it is at present.

184 – Did not support making this an elitist area by taking care of horse riding, tramping groups, etc. instead of the general public.

192 – Suggested walking tracks are fine and that there should be no access to and no provision for bikes or horses. They also noted such parks are surely intended to help provide an ecological environment without excessive intrusion by people other than to enjoy the ecological factors and that there are plenty of other places for biking and horse riding.

202 - Didn't think there is a need to undertake any developments that aim to improve access to the park. They suggested the park is very accessible as it stands, and there is a lot of novelty and satisfaction in arriving at the park as it currently is.

204 - Cannot see how all 4 options of walking, running, biking and horse riding can be accommodated as they all have very different needs. They proposed that a plan of keeping this a pristine piece of coastal land would limit access to walking and running only - those engaging in these pursuits are more likely to be in tune with the environmental issues and respect the environment.

213 – Suggested providing easier access and more wildlife protection is a contradiction. The more people and infrastructure the more challenging it becomes to protect species.

233 – Noted the beach is already accessible to walkers, runners, bikers and horse riders (though bikers would need to carry their bikes across the estuary).

Staff comments:

There seems to have been some confusion in the answering of this question as some of the comments supported foot access to the park but others appear to oppose a track system. Other comments highlight a concern with safety on multi-use tracks.

Creating and maintaining a track network is essential in directing visitor activity and in protecting vulnerable features and ecosystems. They are also essential from a visitor convenience and safety perspective. Walking tracks are a standard feature on all regional parks. They enable people to enjoy the park to its fullest by directing them to key destinations and features of interest. The proposed draft variation makes provision for up to 15 kilometres of tracks which will offer visitors a range walking opportunities, including a number of loop routes. Refer also to comments on biking and horse riding.

Staff recommendation:

Amend policy 27 to read:

'Work with stakeholders and mana whenua to develop a walking and recreational biking track network that provides a diverse range of experiences as indicated on Map 24.'

5.6.2 Horses	Page 9
Relates to Policy 28	
90 submissions that specifically made reference to horses included:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 that were from horse riders in particular • 49 that did not specify they were riders but supported it as an activity • 7 that felt it needed to be restricted in some way. • 5 that opposed horse riding 	
Submitters supporting: 78 10, 45 - 47, 50, 54, 59, 64, 66, 71, 74, 76, 82, 83, 86, 90, 91, 95 – 98, 102, 103, 117, 124, 145, 148 – 150, 152, 153, 161, 169, 170, 173 – 180, 183, 185 – 191, 194, 197, 198, 200, 201, 203, 205, 207, 208, 211, 212, 215, 218, 219, 221, 222, 223, 228, 229, 235, 237, 239, 248, 251, 253, 254, 256 – 259	
Submitters seeking restrictions on horse riding: 7 21, 46, 70, 194, 209, 241, 260	
Submitters opposing: 5 144, 184, 192, 204, 227	

Access to the park and parking for horse-floats

46, 47, 66, 82, 90, 102, 148, 150, 169, 215, 222, 251 - suggested this be from Ngarewa Drive with horses accessing across the Te Muri Stream, either through the stream or over a bridge. 82 suggested the Mahurangi Woolshed could be utilised for horse float parking and a pole system used to mark the crossing of Te Muri Stream to ensure safety of riders and nesting birds.

64, 82, 103, 170, 173, 215, 251 - supported parking at the end of Hungry Creek Rd by the park entry. A couple of submitters suggested initially an automated stop/go traffic light system for the one lane sections of the road could be installed and that there could be a simple gravel parking area, limited to 4WD, with warnings to visitors of current conditions.

46 and 148 supported access from a bridge over the Puhoi as well. While 96 noted the historic access across the Puhoi Estuary should be maintained.

82, 190, 215, 221, 222 - suggested Regional Parks work with Rodney Local Board, and the Greenways plan to ensure that a network of trails (bridleways) allow for horse riders, and others to enter the park on horseback if desired.

54, 59, 71, 76, 82, 91, 97, 102, 251 - suggested that a new parking area off SH1, some mentioning connecting Cook Road, via an underpass or crossing to be developed with access up Hungry Creek Rd.

Within the park

82 - requested a more flexible policy of horse-riding on beaches - with summer time and nesting restrictions and availability in winter and access to water. This was also supported by 251.

174, 189, 253 - noted the need for horse riders to get as much consideration as bike riders and walkers - lately it seems as if the council is doing so much for cyclists and little for equestrians.

218 - noted equestrian tracks would need to be long enough and of sufficient interest to attract people to stay. Most of the Regional Parks have very limited riding for horses and are so far away as to be not worth the fuel and time to get there.

83, 96, 190, 191, 215, 218, 222, 229, 251, 257 - supported the provision of camping with their horses or having the ability to stay in the baches and have their horses in paddocks. It was suggested the woolshed could be used for group camping and that consideration be given to providing for riding events on the park.

Submitters also noted the need to provide fencing that had recreational access as a priority; should not 'fence off' but 'create paddocks'. And another noted the need for thoughtful consideration of the different user groups (particularly mountain biking, horse riding and walking) and how to best manage co-use by all groups. This may mean some shared paths and some paths that are designated single use only.

A number of submitters requested that horse riding be available all year round. Submitter 82 specifically objected to the activity table reference to riding being restricted during "ground conditions" / winter and questioned the need to 'check the council website'.

A couple of submitters mentioned the surface of the tracks was important for barefoot horses, without sharp or larger sized material that can cause lameness, like metal roads or gravel pathways. There was a request to initially leave trails as natural routes and manage bikers' expectations.

Mahurangi Park

74, 82 - requested access to ride in Mahurangi Regional Park as well.

Restricting areas

21, 46, 194, 209 - suggested horses should be excluded from the beach, with 209 noting horses could be damaging to these bird's environment.

241, 260 - noted horses and riders should not interfere with regular users and they must not disturb the quiet enjoyment of those on foot. While 70 noted there should be separate tracks from walkers.

Restricting timing

46 - who supported access from Ngarewa Drive, noted this should be managed to combat further council expenditure as well as peak season parking for Sullivan's Bay. They proposed:

1. Te Muri open to horses from Monday – Friday 7am – 8pm from Labour weekend to Easter; Full access from Easter to Labour Weekend.
2. Te Muri closed to horses during the Christmas holidays 24 December – 10th January (or whatever the official holiday period is over Christmas).

Reasons for opposition:

144 - noted they were not so keen on horses due to the mess they deposit and their heaviness damages paths.

184 - suggested opening it for everyone to enjoy instead of people who can afford horses.

192 - stated there should be no access and no provision for horses. Such parks are surely intended to help provide an ecological environment without excessive intrusion by people other than to enjoy the ecological factors. There are plenty of places for horse riding.

204 - stated cannot see how all four options of walking, running, biking and horse riding can be accommodated. They all have very different needs. In line with a plan of keeping this a pristine piece of coastal land would limit this to walking, running only - those engaging in these pursuits are more likely to in tune with the environmental issues and respect the environment.

227 - suggested adding horse float areas is not what the public who love Te Muri want.

Mana whenua response:

Ngati Manuhiri do not support horse riding on Te Muri on the basis that horse riders do tend to ride off-track and over open spaces which could have a detrimental effect on archaeological sites.

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust does not support the horse riding across Te Muri or in the waterways or streams, including the beach front of Te Muri.

Similarly Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust noted they are not supportive of horse trails/access to the park. Of particular concern is the potential for the many archaeological sites that could be disturbed/damaged if horses to explore off track.

Staff comments:

Part 13.4.6 of the RPMP 2010 sets out the general policies for the management of recreational horse riding on regional parks. Horse riding at Te Muri falls within this framework. However, access for horse riding at Te Muri Regional Park is dependent on how, where and when safe access can be provided. There are three primary options. These include:

- a) access via Hungry Creek Road
- b) access via Ngarewa Drive and crossing the Te Muri Stream

c) access via future 'greenways'

Option a) is dependent on the upgrading of Hungry Creek Road which, at best, will not be possible till post 2022 (Refer the staff report on access to Te Muri Regional Park).

Option c) is dependent upon the establishment of a network of 'greenways' utilising unformed legal roads (so called 'paper roads') and purpose-built trails through public and private land. Such initiatives are outside the scope of this variation. Greenway network plans are however being prepared for a number of locations around the region. There are however, no current plans for such a network in the vicinity of Te Muri and Puhoi. Until such a network has been established it will not be possible to facilitate access for horses to Te Muri using this means.

Option b) would utilise the current pedestrian route crossing the Te Muri Stream from Ngarewa Drive. This would necessitate building a horse float parking area somewhere on the northern side of the Te Muri Stream. This would need to be separated from other visitor vehicle parking in the locality. There are strong environmental reasons against utilising this area as a regular horse route.

The Te Muri estuary is identified in a number of planning documents, including the Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan Coastal as having high and sensitive ecological significance. It is identified in the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (PAUP) as an Outstanding Natural Feature, is within an area of Outstanding Natural Landscape and High Natural Coastal Character and is identified as a Class 1 Marine Significant Ecological Area.

It is a known feeding and roosting area for a number of coastal birds, including a nesting area for the threatened NZ dotterel on the beach at the stream mouth.

The PAUP statesⁱ:

Any livestock access in the CMA for droving of stock or horse riding must ensure:

- a. the droving does not occur in estuarine areas or areas of salt marsh or mangroves and no grazing of intertidal vegetation must be allowed to occur*
- b. the stock must be moved along at all times and not left unattended*
- c. horses must be kept under control at all times*
- d. horses must not graze on intertidal vegetation*
- e. horses must not be ridden or taken into bird breeding areas.*

Regular and uncontrolled horse riding in the vicinity of the estuary and beach would be incompatible with these rules.

Five submissions and mana whenua have questioned the acceptability of having horse riding on Te Muri at all, and seven have suggested that there is a need to impose conditions on the activity, including time and season constraints to avoid clashes with other park users.

Some submitters commented on the lack of access for horses on regional parks. Currently, horse riding is permitted on 11 regional parks. These are Ambury, Atiu Creek, Awhitu, Duder, Hunua Ranges, Muriwai, Te Arai, Te Rau Puriri, Waitakere Ranges (Pae o te Rangi), Whakanewha and Waitawa. Only two of these parks are located in the north of the region, although the opportunities for horse riding are likely to be increased at Te Arai in the future, these locations are some distance from the centroid of horse riding activity. While horse riding is also catered for in the north at Woodhill Forest and by a number of private

providers, given the lack of opportunities on the north-east coast, it would be desirable to be able to offer this opportunity at Te Muri.

However, with the current uncertainties about providing safe and acceptable access for horse riders, it would not be prudent to allow for horse riding on the park until Hungry Creek Road is upgraded. Following this upgrade it is recommended that horse riding be initially accommodated as a discretionary activity only; through a permit process utilising the formed farm roads. Once there is a proven demand, council would look to provide purpose-built horse trails and facilities and manage horse riding as a controlled activity. It is also recommended that regional parks work with the Rodney Local Board to establish a network of equestrian greenways in the vicinity of Te Muri and Puhoi.

¹ [PART 3 - REGIONAL AND DISTRICT RULES»Chapter 1: Zone rules»6 Coastal - General Coastal Marine zone»2. Land and water use controls»2.9 Livestock access in the CMA](#)

Staff recommendations:

Replace Policy 28 with the following:

'Horse riding will be permitted on the park once Hungry Creek Road has been upgraded and will be managed as a discretionary activity until demand establishes a need to develop dedicated horse trails and facilities; taking into account restrictions that will apply to protect sites of value to mana whenua and ecological areas, by:

- a) working with horse riding groups and other stakeholders to develop horse riding trails on the park utilising existing farm tracks and to develop a horse-float parking area near the Hungry Creek Road park entrance.*
- b) working with Rodney Local Board, AT and NZTA to investigate the creation of equestrian greenway trails and a parking area on the western side of State Highway 1.'*

Add a new policy under Principal Relationships to read:

'Work with Rodney Local Board, AT and the NZTA on matters relating to improving access to the park.'

Amend the 'Controlled activities' Section 17.24.5 relating to horse riding to add the following statement:

'Recreational horse riding will not be permitted until Hungry Creek Road has been upgraded. Initially this will be managed as a discretionary activity until demand establishes a need to develop dedicated horse facilities, at which time it will be managed as a controlled activity on designated routes and restrictions will apply to protect sites of value to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage, archaeological sites and ecological areas.'

5.6.3 Biking Relates to Policy 26 and 27	Page 9
66 submissions specifically made reference to biking including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">50 that supporting biking (1 from the Auckland Mountain Bike Club, 1 (submission number 59) which was from the Puhoi Community Forum had 46 signatories)	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 that felt it needed to be restricted in some way • 6 that opposed biking
Submitters supporting: 50 3, 10, 45, 47, 50, 54, 59, 62, 64, 70, 76, 85, 88, 91, 97, 103, 124, 144, 145, 148, 150, 161, 169, 170, 173, 180, 185, 188, 191, 197, 200, 201, 208, 218, 219, 221, 225, 227, 234, 235, 237, 239, 247, 248, 250, 251, 256, 259, 325
Submitters seeking restrictions: 10 21, 66, 70, 86, 90, 117, 189, 194, 223, 226
Submitters opposing: 6 174, 192, 916, 204, 241, 246

Access to park

47, 70, 148, 169 - supported making bridge over Te Muri usable by cyclists.

54, 48 - supported making bridge over Puhoi usable by cyclists.

54, 59, 76, 91, 97, 251 - supported working with Auckland Transport and NZTA to create a crossing of SH1 from Cook Road to Hungry Creek Rd for walkers, cycles, and horse riders in order to connect Puhoi Village to Te Muri Regional Park.

50, 54 - wanted limited funding prioritised to developing a track network (for cycling as well as walking and horse riding) rather than upgrading Hungry Creek Road.

62 - if Policy 20 left in (upgrading Hungry Creek Road), sought amendment to extend scope of this upgrade to include safe walking and cycling access as well as vehicular access.

64 - supported creating a car park for mountain biking and other activities such as horse riding off Hungry Creek Road at top of park.

325 - suggested integrating Te Muri with plans to develop cycle ways in wider area.

Within park

3, 10, 45, 47, 50, 54, 64, 70, 76, 85, 88, 103, 124, 144, 145, 148, 150, 161, 169, 170, 173, 180, 185, 188, 191, 197, 200, 201, 208, 218, 219, 221, 225, 227, 234, 235, 237, 239, 247, 248, 250, 251, 256, 259 - supported development of tracks that cater for cycling (policy 27)

90, 363 - supported non-motorised access (with specific reference to biking) rather than vehicle access within park.

47, 54, 71 - supported sharing bike tracks with horse riders.

31, 89 (Auckland Mountain Bike Club) - noted concern that only recreational cycling across paddocks and farm tracks may be catered for and they don't believe this will result in repeat visits. They would like to see 20km+ of dedicated mountain biking tracks to ensure repeat visits and sought change to policy 27 and Map 24 to reflect this. They noted that dedicated mountain biking trails should be designed by experienced mountain biking trail builders and that trails targeted at more experienced riders are desirable in this location. They suggested first time riders / beginners can be catered for too by developing easier trails and/or bypasses at the more challenging obstacles, and also noted that dedicated well-designed mountain biking trails can accommodate walking, trail running, dog walking and the like. They highlighted that the development of mountain biking trails does not need to adversely

affect water quality, ecology, amenity, archaeological sites or agricultural activities, if located, designed and constructed well. They noted riding links to other parks is highly supported. Sought amendment to Policy 27 to replace "as indicated in Map 24" with "with sufficient length of trail to ensure repeat visits as a mountain biking destination." Sought amendment to Map 24 by removing and /or adding trails for mountain biking or an annotation as to where mountain biking trails are not appropriate.

82 - requested that initially trails left as natural routes and that bikers' expectations be managed.

191, 251 - noted all fencing works should be performed by fencing contractors who are familiar with creating gates\gaps\stiles and fences that are horse\pedestrian\bike friendly.

218 - noted tracks need to be wide enough to allow safe passing and would like to see bike tracks suitable for families to do together.

234 - supported walking and biking tracks from Hungry Creek Road.

Restricting areas

21 - sought exclusion of horses and cyclists from the beach itself.

194 - supported tracks for walking, biking and horse riding but wanted these to be set back well behind beach.

86 - supported the variation's intention to prevent horse riding and cycling in ecologically sensitive areas and noted that the provision of a bridge or bridges may be incompatible with this intent.

117, 223, 226 - supported controlled cycle access in terms of where activity is allowed to avoid endangering others and harming the land.

Separate tracks

66, 70, 90, 223, 226 - supported mountain biking provided they have separate track network to walking tracks.

Timing of development

189 - supported biking but would like to see horse riding given greater focus and funding.

Reasons for opposition:

174 - opposed biking on the park because of impact on walkers (in terms of directing funding away from development and maintenance of walking tracks and conflicts between walking and cycling being co-located).

192 - noted walking tracks are fine but there should be no access to and no provision for bikes or horses. Believed that such parks are intended to help provide an ecological environment without excessive intrusion by people other than to enjoy the ecological factors. Noted that they thought there are plenty of places for biking and horse riding.

196 - opposed biking on the park as believes activity tends to be invasive.

204 - cannot see how all 4 options of walking, running, biking and horse riding can be accommodated. They all have very different needs. In line with a plan of keeping this a pristine piece of coastal land would limit this to walking , running only - those engaging in

these pursuits are more likely to in tune with the environmental issues and respect the environment

241 - concerned about developing a network of tracks that cater for walking, running, biking and horse-riding. Biking and horse-riding must not disturb the quiet enjoyment of those on foot.

246 - opposed biking or horse-riding trails and noted they thought there are plenty of other places to do that.

Mana whenua:

While Ngāti Manuhiri didn't voice a position on cycling per se, they recommended a thorough cultural landscape assessment and early involvement in the design of any new infrastructure. They also noted the need to have a representative on site to monitor any developments in high risk areas that is areas with a high probability of locating archaeological materials or near wāhi tapu or taonga.

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust does not support the mountain biking on Te Muri.

Staff comments:

Access to the park for cyclists

Many submitters supported bike access from Wenderholm, Mahurangi, Hungry Creek Road and/or from Puhoi Village via a proposed new track that includes an underpass under SH1. Until such time as the Hungry Creek Road access point is developed and opened and /or a bridge constructed across the Te Muri Stream, access for bike riders is limited to carrying bikes across the Te Muri Stream two hours either side of low tide. This is likely to be a reasonable barrier for many bikers. There is also currently relatively limited parking on Mahurangi Regional Park during peak season. Better accessibility to the park will result in greater demand for biking opportunities on the park. This is one of the reasons for the recommendations made in the hearings report on access. The timing of these access improvements will be an important consideration when determining the timing and staging of developing specialised tracks, other than walking tracks.

Recreational cycling and mountain biking

The majority of submitters that referenced biking supported the development of a track network that catered for walking and biking. These submitters tended to talk about biking in terms of 'recreational cycling' rather than purpose designed and built 'mountain bike' trails.

Recreational cycling in the Regional Parks Management Plan refers to relatively easy cycling that is undertaken at a leisurely pace on poled routes over farmland and shared use tracks and roads or in a designated area. This is the type of cycling that is largely envisaged on the indicative track network shown on Map 24.

There is a lack of longer (5km or longer) recreational biking tracks north of Shakespear Regional Park. Such tracks do however exist at Atiu Creek Regional Parks and are contemplated at Te Arai Regional Park. The indicative track network at Te Muri Regional Park would offer almost 15km of tracks but this could be extended in the future if connected to adjoining parks or to future greenways across private land. While demand may be initially low because of the above-mentioned access challenges, it will be important to progress the planning for the walking and recreational cycling track network in order to enable re-

vegetation and fencing decisions on Te Muri that are likely to be made prior to the actual construction of the track network.

Mountain biking in the Regional Parks Management Plan refers to more difficult cycling on purpose built single and shared used tracks. These range from relatively flat, wide, smooth tracks to narrow tracks with steep slopes and difficult obstacles as are found in the Hunua Ranges and at Waitawa Regional Park.

Auckland Mountain Bike Club contend that recreational biking alone is unlikely to offer quality, enriched experiences that will generate return trips and word of mouth recommendations. They think there is a significant opportunity to develop a destination mountain bike track network at Te Muri that would complement other opportunities in the Rodney Local Board area – including the existing tracks at Woodhill Forest and Riverhead Forest and those proposed at Weiti.

If better access to the park is developed in accordance with the recommendations contained in the hearings report on access, then opportunities to develop a destination mountain bike track network could warrant further consideration.

Impact of biking on mana whenua, heritage and environmental values

Several submitters raised concerns about the impact of biking on the park's environmental values. Mana whenua also noted concerns about the activity on sites of significance to them and to the environment. As noted in the Auckland Mountain Bike Club's submission, mountain biking trails can be located, designed and constructed to avoid adverse effects on water quality, ecology, amenity, archaeological sites or agricultural activities. The indicative track network shown on Map 24 will go through a detailed planning stage that will consider these matters and involve mana whenua input prior to construction. The construction will then be in accordance with the generic infrastructure policies in chapter 14 of the Regional Parks Management Plan. These policies specifically address the avoidance or mitigation of adverse impacts on these park values.

Given the number and extent of sites of significance to mana whenua it is considered that it is not appropriate to provide for cycling over open pasture areas. This activity is generally not highly sought after by park visitors anyway.

Impact of biking on other users

The nature of 'recreational cycling' means that it is generally raises fewer concerns for walkers sharing tracks than 'mountain biking'. Measures set out in policy 13.3.4.3 such as track design and developing one-way systems will be considered when the detailed planning is undertaken for the track network. Measures such as a code of conduct will also be utilised to encourage considerate conduct by users of shared tracks. These have proven to be effective tools to manage perceived and actual recreational conflicts and safety risks.

Motorbikes

3 submitters (3, 85, 87) noted that they opposed motorbikes being permitted on the park. The proposed plan does not provide for this activity and, in accordance with the Policy 13.3.5.2 of the RPMP 2010, will be prohibited.

Staff recommendations:

Amend Policy 25 to broaden the purpose of Te Muri bridge to include access for biking. Refer to staff recommendations under 5.2.9 above.

Amend Policy 20 to include making Hungry Creek Road safe for biking and pedestrians. Refer to staff recommendations under 5.2.9 above.

Add a new policy to read:

'Once Hungry Creek Road is upgraded and demand establishes a need, work with mountain bike interests and other stakeholders to develop a purpose-built mountain biking trail network.'

Amend the Permitted activities table under 17.24.5 Recreation and use activities to add 'recreational cycling' as well as mountain biking

Amend status/restrictions associated with this permitted activity to read:

'Permitted on designated tracks subject to restrictions to protect sites of significance to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage and archaeological sites, and ecological areas; or to enable park operations such as farming operations, track maintenance and pest control.'

Replace the term 'mountain biking' with 'biking' or 'recreational cycling' where appropriate throughout the document.

5.6.4 Te Araroa	Page 9 and 11
Relates to Policy 26, 27 and 43	
183 submitters specifically referenced Te Araroa; including: 51, 70, 88, 182 plus MAS (long and short proformas and other = 179) Mana whenua also commented on Te Araroa.	

175 MAS (with the exception of 54, 59, 91 and 97) - noted their support for the proposal to investigate the development of the central road to form the missing section of Te Araroa, the national walkway, between Puhoi and Wenderholm connecting to the proposed Mahurangi Coastal Trail.

54, 59, 91 and 97 - supported the submission of the Puhoi Community Forum which advocated development of Te Muri be integrated with the NZTA Ara Tuhono project, the Te Araroa, the Mahurangi Coastal Trail and the Historic Puhoi Village community. Noting integrated existing walkways in the Puhoi Pioneer Park, on the Te Araroa already connecting Moirs Hill and Wenderholm.

47 - supported creating the coastal walking trail as it will join up existing trails and could become part of Te Araroa.

50 - as a resident of Puhoi, the submitter noted that extending tracks back through to the village and joining with the Te Araroa walkway would be a welcome development for the village which will be somewhat cauterized by the building of the new toll motorway. They highlighted the opportunity to make Puhoi something of a hub for access to the wider natural area.

51 - suggested making a track through the park be part of Te Araroa.

70 and 88 - noted the Te Araroa has a missing link that forces its walkers to use SH1 motorway approach and the Hibiscus Highway road shoulder to get to Waiwera. The alternative of canoeing this section is tidal dependant and is often not practical for those

carrying heavy packs. This missing link can be closed by the Mahurangi Coastal Trail. The combination of the Te Araroa and the Coastal Trail provides direct access to existing campsites at Te Muri and at Wenderholm and all three Regional Parks become readily accessible to walkers instead of being bypassed. Any opening up of Hungry Creek Road to public vehicle traffic will negate the benefit of the Te Araroa Walkway proposal above.

182 - providing access across the Puhoi River could then be an alternative route for the Te Araroa, if foot access was allowed down Hungry Creek Road. Would it not be possible for the Te Araroa to assist with the finance of this project?

281 - noted that the highest quality use for the Schischka farm road is as the missing terrestrial section of Te Araroa, the national walkway, between Puhoi and Wenderholm. This would provide walkers with continual access options unlike the current tidal option of kayaking the Puhoi River.

Mana whenua:

Ngāti Manuhiri is not supportive of a bridge across the Puhoi River and as such doesn't support Te Araroa being realigned through the park unless an alternative option to cross the river is available.

Staff comments:

Te Araroa - New Zealand's national trail - is a continuous 3,000 km walking track from Cape Reinga to Bluff. At the present time, the walking route from Puhoi Village to Wenderholm Regional Park is incomplete. The only practical option is therefore to hire a kayak and on an outgoing tide make the downstream journey to Wenderholm Regional Park or use the public roads to access Wenderholm Regional Park.

The ability to realign Te Araroa through the park is dependent on the construction of a pedestrian bridge across the Puhoi River, the development of a land-based route or options such as a water taxi to connect Te Muri Regional Park to Wenderholm Regional Park. Should either initiative proceed, the policy framework enables council to work with the Te Araroa Trust and other stakeholders, such as Auckland Transport and the New Zealand Transport Authority, to investigate opportunities to develop a terrestrial link from the access point(s) to connect to the park trail network.

Staff recommendation:

Refer to Section 5.2 on access above, for recommendations in relation to Policy 26.

5.6.5 Camping	Page 9
Relates to Policy 31, 32 and 33	
Q10. Do you support the expansion of the existing campground and pulling this back from the beach?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 301 submitters that responded to the question)	
Yes – 180 (60%), No – 93 (31%), Unsure – 28 (9%), Blank – 81	
Submissions supporting – 60%	
27, 76, 81, 98, 101, 103, 104 – 106, 117, 122, 139, 142, 148, 149, 151, 162, 172, 175, 178, 179, 181, 183, 184, 186, 187, 189, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 209 – 212, 215, 218, 219, 221,	

222, 225, 228, 229, 248, 253, 255, 257, 259, 260, plus MAS (long proforma submitters only, excluding submitter 293)
<p>Submissions opposing – 31%</p> <p>17, 42, 43, 44, 47, 49, 51, 54, 91, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111 – 113, 115, 116, 118 – 121, 124 – 131, 133 – 138, 140, 141, 143, 145 – 147, 150, 152, 155, 156, 158, 159, 161, 164 – 171, 173, 180, 182, 185, 192, 194 – 196, 200, 202, 204, 206, 213, 214, 217, 220, 224, 230 – 234, 236, 238 – 240, 242 – 247, 249 – 251, 293.</p> <p>As the question had two parts to it, and the responses have covered other aspects about the provision of camping, the submissions have been broken into themes.</p>
<p>Other submissions making reference to camping included:</p> <p>10, 45, 46, 62, 65, 70, 81, 83, 84, 88, 102, 142, 162, 163, 190, 215, 218, 221, 222, 223, 229, 241, 257, 295</p>

Enlarging the camp ground on Te Muri beach and pulling it back from the beach frontage

42, 124, 135, 137, 145, 173, 195, 233, 251, 293 - specifically commented in opposition to enlarging the camp ground on Te Muri beach and pulling it back from the beach frontage.

124 - asked why move the campers back from the beach- that is part of the point of them going there!!

84, 135 - noted the "basicness" of the campground and park is ample and should be retained.

137 – did not support moving the campground back from the beach BUT IF it did go ahead then the consideration of having the park at one end of the beach and the campground at the other (close to the beach) would be appreciated.

42, 145, 173, 195, 233 – noted the existing camping ground facilities are fine and are enjoyed by many already and don't feel expansion is necessary.

293 – did not support the expansion of the camping area. We already have people dumping mattresses and other things at the beginning of Hungry Creek Road at the end of the Christmas period.

164 – suggested not allowing camping on the front dunes, so as to preserve these.

Retaining Te Muri's unique camping experience by maintaining walking access only

42, 43, 44, 84, 136, 137, 147, 159, and 213 - specifically commented on retaining walk-in access with regard to camping/camp ground.

Sense of safety

42, 43, 44, 84, 136, 137 specifically noted the Te Muri campgrounds current lack of cars makes for a safe campground for children and that campers, feel safe away from the type of campers that vehicle access bring in.

84 noted the atmosphere between all the campers has only been calm and responsible, often social and friendly, and never disruptive in any way and partially attribute this to the requirement of carrying in camping equipment.

Extra effort and adventure of walking in to campsite

42, 43, 44, 84, 136, 137 specifically noted the extra effort and sense of adventure of getting

to Te Muri is part of the unique experience and appeal of camping at Te Muri for the following reasons:

- They are quite happy carrying all their camping gear in and out.
- Walking access allows committed campers to enjoy remote like environment which is only 1 hour drive away from CBD.
- Te Muri is unique in its tidal access across the estuary and it gives us the opportunity to explain the tide for the crossing to the children.
- There are already car access campgrounds on beaches either side of this beach.
- There are plenty of busy campgrounds in the area so keep this one quiet and a reward for those who make the extra hard effort to get there. There are plenty more regional parks that offer drive to beach and camp experiences.
- Te Muri is a special place and one of the very few places close to Auckland City where people can go to really get away from cars, music, partying and noisy campers.
- There are plenty of people who already use the remote campground and they manage to get there by foot or boat and have a wonderful holiday in a style that is fast disappearing.
- The beach and campground will retain a special role as places that people need to go on a journey to encounter.
- It is essential that you do not destroy the option of offering people a more isolated, untouched camp ground that is still close to Auckland city.
- Part of the attraction of Te Muri is that it encourages people to only bring the bare minimum and to not bring in technology. This creates a great culture in the camp ground where kids spend time outdoors and campers get to know each other.

Isolation/remoteness

Submitters 47,112,126, 130, 137, 145, 147, 159, 213 - specifically noted Te Muri campgrounds quietness and sense isolation/remoteness forms its character and appeal for the following reasons:

- Te Muri strikes the perfect balance of being close to Auckland and very accessible to the public yet still feeling very secluded.
- Te Muri is a very quiet, family orientated camp ground.
- Feels very remote and benefit of not having to book far in advance, and also that it's never crowded.
- The campers can arrive at the camp ground, as they do now, via foot and boat. The campers who choose this camp ground do so for its isolation and natural beauty.

Submitter 148 proposed the provision of a shuttle service from the car park to the campground so that families, in particular, could get all their kids and camp gear safely to the camping area.

Various other submissions acknowledged the extra effort and sense of adventure of getting to Te Muri as being a valuable and unique to Te Muri and the value of the current sense of isolation and remoteness for reasons not specifically related to camping Refer to Access and experience sections of this report.

Caravans and campervans

45, 46, 65, 70, 81, 102, 162, 163, 223 all specifically commented on caravans, campervans motorhomes or self-contained vehicle camping.

45, 46, 70, 102, 223 – opposed provision for campervans/caravans noting a variety of other parks including both neighbouring Wenderholm and Mahurangi regional parks provide for campervans.

65- Felt the proposed car park and other developments for car and caravan access would completely spoil the beauty of the place.

162, 163 supported an area for self-contained campers. 162 wanted provision for self-contained campervans like it like Tawharanui Regional park.

81 – Suggested liaising with stakeholders and community groups (including the NZMCA) to develop and improve recreation opportunities on the park such as self-contained camping.

Provision for horse riders to camp with horses

83,190, 215, 218, 221, 222, 229, 251, 257 - supported access and further development to the park to allow us to ride and camp onsite overnight with their horses including provision for grazing.

98 - other camping areas should be by the park entrance which could service horse riders.

Other camping experiences

10, 62, 70, 88, 98, 142, 241, 251, 295 - specifically suggested other camping experiences that could be provided.

70, 88, 142 - noted that additional backcountry camps further back in the park would enable groups to progress from one camp to another in smaller groups and avoid crowding the beach side camp.

98 – suggested camping should be moved landward of the coastal terrace to allow for picnicking zone and other camping areas should be developed on the Nokenoke terrace beside the estuary and on the airstrip by the park entrance which could service the Te Araroa walkers and horse riders.

10 – suggested a second camping area further up on the farm.

62 - supports 'glamping' if implemented in a way that did not impact adversely on the general public's enjoyment of the park.

195 – suggested youth group camps where they either have to tramp in or boat in.

241 – sees no requirement for additional backcountry camping in this area when seaside camping is so popular however suggested a mix of three different camping options should be available including:

1. Seaside camp grounds accessible only by foot for those who wish quiet enjoyment of the environment away from motor vehicles.

2. Seaside camp grounds with vehicle access.
3. Seaside camp grounds only available to family.

Mana whenua:

Ngāti Manuhiri supported pulling back the campground and toilets from the beach and also suggested as there is already dedicated campervan sites at Mahurangi this should take pressure off having to provide this on Te Muri.

Staff comments:

Camping on regional parks is governed by the general policies under Section 13.4.2 of the RPMP 2010.

Camping at Te Muri beach has been officially permitted since about 1988 with foot access across the Te Muri Stream. Many submitters, including regular campers, have commented that its relative remoteness and the fact that campers have to make the effort to walk to the campsite is part of the charm and uniqueness of camping at Te Muri. Many submitters also commented that the relative isolation and lack of vehicles make this a very safe and pleasant campsite for the young and elderly alike.

Many submitters opposed enlarging the campground and pulling it back from the beach frontage. This proposal was part of the proposal to create the main arrival area in this location between the beach and the existing woolshed and to devote more of the beach frontage to picnicking and other activities. If the proposal to locate the main arrival area in this vicinity does not proceed (refer discussion on access) then it will be unnecessary to consider the relocation of the campground.

Enlarging the campground will depend on demand. The campground currently caters for up to 80 persons as dictated by the toilet capacity. While the campground capacity is currently reached for a couple of weeks during summer between Christmas and new year, the campground is generally under-utilised.

One submitter supported the proposal to allow 'glamping' at Te Muri. Others questioned the wisdom of this. Such a venture would be dependent on private investment by a commercial concessionaire and would be subject to the policies that relate to commercial activity of regional parks. Refer to Section 13.5 and in particular section 13.5.2 of the RPMP 2010. It is recommended that reference to 'glamping' be removed as this would be inconsistent with retaining the remote feeling of Te Muri.

A number of submitters have suggested that small remote campsites be established at other locations within the park, such as along the streams and estuaries. Some have suggested that campsites could be established for horse riders and in relation to other recreational activities. This would however require the construction of toilet facilities and water supply, with vehicle access to service these sites, e.g. to pump out vault toilets. Furthermore, experience on other regional parks has shown that isolated campsites are not used unless they are part of a multi-day trail such as the Hillary Trail in the Waitakere Ranges. Te Muri is considered too small to warrant consideration of additional campsites.

A number of submitters requested or supported access for self-contained campervans and caravans. This would depend on providing vehicular access to and within the park. Refer to the discussion on access. As a general policy the council permits self-contained campervans to over-night (currently a maximum of three nights) at suitable parking areas on regional parks. Unless and until vehicular access and parking can be provided at Te Muri this

proposal cannot be entertained. Also specific facilities for campervans are to be provided as part of the proposed upgrade of the arrival area at Sullivan's Bay on Mahurangi Regional Park and are permitted within the car parking areas at Wenderholm.

Staff recommendations:

Delete Policy 31 and add the following policies to the new Te Muri Beach SMZ section.

- b) Maintain the campground behind Te Muri Beach and, if demand establishes a need, expand the capacity of the campground as a series of intimate enclaves while recognising the coastal buffer zone identified below.*
- e) Create a buffer zone to allow for dune stabilisation and keep it free of infrastructure except that designed to protect the dunes*

Delete Policy 32 relating to 'glamping'.

Amend Policy 21 e) to read:

- e) subject to the Hungry Creek Road improvements allowing the safe passage of horse floats and campervans, investigate and if feasible, develop parking for horse floats and a small self-contained campervan campground.*

5.6.6 Bach escapes	Page 10
Relates to Policy 34	
Q12. Do you support investigating the use of the houses, not required for operational purposes, as bach escapes?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 294 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 228 (78%), No – 45 (15%), Unsure – 21 (7%), Blank - 88	
Submitters supporting – 78% 27, 47, 51, 54, 62, 98, 101, 103, 108, 109, 111, 117, 120, 122 – 124, 129, 134, 137 – 139, 141, 142, 144, 145, 148 – 150, 153, 154, 156, 158, 161, 163, 164, 168 – 173, 175, 177 – 184, 186, 189 – 191, 193 – 199, 201, 204, 207 – 210, 212, 215, 217 – 219, 221 – 223, 226, 227, 229, 232, 234, 238, 240 – 242, 244 – 248, 250, 251, 253, 255 - 260, plus MAS (long proforma submitters only)	
Submitters opposing – 15% 104, 106, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 121, 125 – 128, 130, 131, 135, 136, 140, 146, 147, 152, 155, 160, 165 – 167, 176, 185, 192, 200, 202, 203, 211, 213, 214, 220, 224, 225, 230, 231, 233, 235 – 237, 239, 243	

Submitters' comments included:

62 – noted use of houses for baches should not imply vehicle access other than to service the accommodation. Submitter 90 also noted the farm road should only be used to service the baches.

240 -suggested a few baches are a great idea however only if they are set well back and out of view of the beach and only provide on foot access to Te Muri beach.

82, 83, 190, 191, 215, 222 – supported baches with provision for horse riders to also camp\stay onsite

Reasons for opposition:

106 - would not like to see "holiday" baches etc.

126 – doesn't support road access or housing because they think it will destroy the feel of the campsite and make it less unique.

166 – noted Te Muri beach and surrounding farmland is a relatively unspoilt area within a short distance of the city and wants to keep it that way. They don't want, or need, this area to be opened up by the addition of car parks, sealed roads, buildings and holiday homes.

185 – is concerned the beach/park will not be as beach like with all bach houses on site, causing others to want to build there.

192 – stated there should be no houses or baches in this area.

225 - strongly thinks that using the land to develop bach escapes is an awful idea. This land and the adjacent coast is a place to escape to and relax. It is also a place to explore and having buildings will remove the natural amenity that this stunning place provides. It would be nice to have a beach within an hour from the CBD that won't be developed for housing.

235 - doesn't believe that bach housing is appropriate as I see this as a wilderness recreational area for all to enjoy not just those who can afford it.

236 – proposed if bach escapes are put on the farm these should be on the Puhoi River side of the farm and kept separate to the beach.

Mana whenua response:

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust supports the existing accommodations/baches to be utilised as a community facility for a visitors centre to drop in and seek information and interactive mediums on the cultural, historical and environmental features on the broader parklands; Tawharanui (*sic. Mahurangi*), Wenderholm and Te Muri.

Staff comments:

The utilisation of existing houses on regional parks for 'kiwi-experience' bach holiday stays has become one of the main ways, in addition to camping, that people can stay on a regional park. These have proved very popular and have seen under-utilised assets put to fuller use. The use of existing park dwellings as baches is governed by Section 13.4.4 of the RPMP 2010.

There is no intention to build new dwellings as baches at Te Muri. The policy is to utilise the existing dwellings that are not being used for operational uses, such as resident rangers and temporary accommodation for volunteers working on the park or dedicated for a relevant recreational use or educational purposes.

Staff recommendations:

Amend Section 17.24.2 'Park Vision' by replacing the words '*a kiwi bach escape*' with the words '*opportunities for kiwi bach escapes*' and add the word '*remote*' before the word '*camping*' and delete the word '*area*'.

Add to the 5th bullet point on page 5 the words '*for operational, cultural, educational or bach experiences*' after the word '*houses*'

Amend Policy 34 relating to the use of the existing houses as baches by adding the words: '*educational and/or cultural*' after the words '*recreation-oriented*'.

5.6.7 Interpretation Relates to Policy 29	Page 9
Q4. Do you support providing interpretation of the cultural, historic and natural heritage of the park?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 394 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 263 (89%), No – 15 (5%), Unsure – 16 (5%), Blank - 88	
Submitters supporting – 89% 17, 42, 47, 51, 54, 91, 98, 103, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 111 – 115, 117 – 120, 122, 123, 125, 128, 129 – 131, 133 – 140, 142 – 151, 155, 157 – 161, 163, 164, 168 – 172, 174 – 183, 185 – 190, 192 – 197, 200 – 202, 205, 207 – 209, 211 – 217, 219 – 221, 223 – 237, 239 – 251, 253, 255, 256 - 259, plus MAS (long forma submitters only, excluding submitter 50)	
Submitters opposing – 5% 27, 104, 110, 121, 124, 126, 153, 165 – 167, 191, 199, 203, 210, 222	

No specific reasons were given to expand on this opposition to this policy.

Further comments relating to archaeological or historical aspects:

72 - I am a descendant of the Sullivan's mentioned and the detail I read there does not match what I know from my family and have researched. Our most widely accepted spelling of "Meremai" is Merehai, although there are some others and they do not have the second 'm'. Her second name has more variations, but the one that I think is most likely is Kaipaka. We are able to date their arrival at Otawao in 1844, and I believe the house they built burnt down sometime between April 1892 and May 1893. I would appreciate comparing my notes with the source of the details in the Mahurangi Park Values document so that what is recorded is as accurate as can be determined. I know getting this clarified won't affect the management of the park, but the document can be viewed by researchers as containing accurate historical information. If it is of any help to your planning and actions I have a plan of the Te Muri cemetery with the plots numbered and some of the interments names. A fence erected around the cemetery in 1982 encompassed 4 graves that were once on the outside of an earlier fence.

240 – suggests it would be great to know more about Te Muri's cultural, historical and natural history, and that it is also important that the dotterels, godwits and historical sites such as the pa sites and old grave yard are protected.

Mana Whenua response:

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust advocates for –

- The use of mana whenua place names for and within the Park
- Bi-lingual signage throughout the park
- Direct involvement and resourcing of Ngati Manuhiri in design and interpretation opportunities through pou, art, design elements, signage or other interpretive means of reflecting Ngati Manuhiri's cultural footprint.
- Opportunity for council to work with Mana Whenua in the future to develop a cultural trail including the incorporation of markers (poles) with Ngati Manuhiri's logo signalling the different tracks across Wenderholm, Te Muri and Mahurangi Regional Parks (similar to the markers being installed at Tawharanui Regional Park).

Staff comments:

One of the primary roles of regional parks is to record, protect and interpret the cultural and historic settings contained within the parks and to tell the story of Auckland through them.

Part 10 and 11 of the RPMP 2010 sets out the general policies relating to the management of cultural sites on regional parks. The management of cultural sites at Te Muri falls within this framework.

The number of relatively intact pa sites, the cemetery and the farming history at Te Muri lend themselves to the development of a heritage trail, which coupled with the interpretation of the natural features and wildlife, would offer the opportunity to run education programmes for school aged children from the park.

The council has an active on-site interpretation programme on regional parks which will be developed further at Te Muri in consultation with mana whenua and other stakeholders with cultural, historic and natural features of Te Muri. Bi-lingual signs are frequently used on regional parks, especially in relation to cultural interpretation.

Interpretation is an important part of managing sensitive features and ecosystems on regional parks. Pamphlets and site specific interpretation will be developed at features of interest and especially features that require protection, such as shore nesting seabirds, such as NZ dotterel.

The issues raised by Submitter 72 have been further investigated and it is recommended that the introductory commentary on park values for the Mahurangi Regional Park, Section 17.7 of the RPMP 2010 be amended.

Staff recommendations:

Delete the following statement contained in Section 17.7.1 Park Values to the Mahurangi Regional Park:

“The sea captain, John Sullivan married Meremai Kaipuke and they settled at Sullivan's Bay in the 1870's. Their descendants farmed the land for nearly a century and built the historic Sullivan Homestead in 1875. Both Māori and Europeans are buried at the historic Te Muri cemetery (urupa) on the park. Scott Point, with the Georgian styled homestead built in 1877, was the location of thriving timber milling, boat building and firewood cutting industries and coastal trade.”

and replace with:

‘The sea captain, John Sullivan, born in London in 1810, settled at Otawao (Sullivan's Bay) in 1844 and married Merehai Kaipaka, possibly of the family of Makoare Ponui.¹ From 1842 till his death in 1883 he was the owner and skipper of a number of coastal trading ships. His descendants farmed the land for nearly a century and built the historic Sullivan Homestead in 1875. Scott Point, with the Georgian styled homestead built in 1877, was the location of thriving timber milling, boat building and firewood cutting industries and coastal trade.’

¹ Based on Jade River – a history of Mahurangi by Ron Locker

Add the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph under Te Muri cultural significance section on Page 1:

‘Both Māori and Europeans are buried at the historic urupa’.

5.6.8 Education Relates to Park Vision, Recreation and Use Management and Principal Relationships	Various pages
10 submissions mentioned the potential for educational opportunities on the park	

33 - noted importance of educating visitors about protecting birdlife and nature and how to have a low impact footprint.

45 - noted potential to become a centre for environmental education.

69 - suggested that instead of developing the beach to create yet another beach park, the area of land close to State Highway 1 should be used to create a farm or forest park. Natural features such as streams or stands of bush, and also parts of the area's farming history like agricultural buildings and dams, could be highlighted as points of interest on a colourful map with a network of walking and perhaps biking tracks. This would provide educational as well as recreational opportunities for locals and tourists alike.

70 (Warkworth Area Forest and Bird), 88, 142 - noted the Park is ideally suited to educational opportunities, tramps and camps. Facilities such as strategically placed open shelters as virtual classrooms would provide a place to focus the children and shelter from sun and rain thus providing schools with security in arranging events in our inclement weather. 212 also mentioned having public areas set up for school trips etc. separate from other user groups if possible (i.e. separate parking and picnic areas, a toilet). While 64 noted there are many people who kayak to this beach including school groups because of the park's uninhabited feeling.

195 – supported use for youth group camps where they either have to tramp in or boat in with an education session on preservation of the environment and cultural history. More information on site on what is currently there is required.

90 - noted that current farm road should be limited to service road only, servicing the farm, baches and occasional support vans for school groups.

Mana whenua:

Ngāti Manuhiri advocated for:

- resourcing of heritage site celebration and/or interpretation
- working with Ngāti Manuhiri to incorporate and/or reflect their culture into the future management of the park through for example:
 - cultural walks/tourism/gardens/events
 - cultural art or other interpretation
 - bi-lingual signage through the park
- education and partnership with the public with regard to protecting and enhancing biodiversity

Staff comments:

The draft vision sets out that *'the park is rich in cultural heritage and natural values and is an outstanding example of best practice land management which provides a context for environmental education and demonstrates effective conservation strategies.'*

Generic policies contained within 13.2.4 set out the opportunities and programmes that will be investigated and facilitated by council. Refer also to staff reports on 'Mana whenua', 'Interpretation' and 'Visitor Facilities'.

Staff recommendation:

Amend Policy 43 to read:

'Continue to liaise with stakeholders, mana whenua and community groups to develop and improve recreation, educational and cultural opportunities on the park'.

5.6.9 Visitor facilities	Pages 7 - 10
Relates to policies in Recreation and Use Management	
Various submissions relating to infrastructure on parks	

Toilets – 15 submissions mentioned toilets, including: 3, 47, 82, 85, 87, 102, 104, 113, 119, 123, 131, 185, 212, 217, 227, and 236.

3, 102 - noted there was no need to provide further facilities that the current ones serviced the campers.

113, 119, 123, 131, 217, 227, 236 - noted they did not support developing public facilities such as toilets. 123 noted cars and toilets at Sullivan Bay are enough. Not everywhere needs to be civilised and homogenised. 227 noted I know the family who sold this land to you never intended there to be toilet blocks and parking lots, meaning high volumes of cars passing through the farm and the land being destroyed in the long run!

82 – noted they would visit more often if there were more rider/horse friendly facilities – including toilet facilities.

85 - I like the rudimentary facilities, which are just right for campers, although there is a case for upgraded, ecological toilets. While 47 noted long drop toilets with the modern composting systems should be available and serviced regularly. 104 suggested more walkers will mean we need toilet facilities. No problem with that. The new systems can pump waste into surrounding gardens and grounds.

87 – noted the very thing about Te Muri at present is its perfect for campers and to those wanting to go somewhere peaceful and quiet. Although thinks that building a small toilet block would be very helpful.

87, 185, 212 - supported provision of more toilets.

Rubbish Bins

112 - suggests installing recycling and waste bins ,173 suggest adopting the 'pack-in pack-out' policy

Shelters

70,88,142 - suggest providing shelters.

Visitor information

227, 279, 326 - suggested having information stations or signs on the park. While 119, 223 opposed having visitor information or signs on the park

Visitor centre

224 - opposes a visitor centre on the park, 236 suggests a visitor centre at Sullivan's Bay, Mahurangi.

Staff comments:

The role of regional parks is to provide people access to natural setting with minimal development. The construction of infrastructure and facilities on regional parks is governed by the policies set out in Part 14 of the RPMP 2010. These policies ensure that development on the parks is only necessary to serve the informal recreation use of the park, such as toilets and water supply for visitors, or an activity specifically approved in the management plan for the park, such as arrival areas and campgrounds.

Visitor facilities, such as car parking and toilets, are kept to the minimum necessary to serve the number of park visitors but in some cases has been restricted in order to limit the number of visits to some locations. Car parking is usually located and distributed to minimise the visual impacts of parked vehicles on the park environment. See also, staff reports on access and arrival areas.

Toilets

Facilities, such as toilets, are kept to the minimum necessary for the convenience of park visitors, for health reasons and because they must be serviced for cleaning. The type of toilet used, whether a vault or a flushing toilet, will depend on the ability to service it with water supply or the ability of the location to provide for the safe on-site disposal of effluent. Composting toilets are provided in some locations but these require regular and steady use to maintain their ecological systems. They are not suitable in very remote locations or where loading is sporadic.

There are currently two toilets blocks servicing the campground at Te Muri. These are currently vault-type toilets. The location and type of toilets will be reviewed when they require upgrading. Additional toilets will be considered at new arrival areas.

Rubbish bins

Council has successfully operated a 'rubbish free' policy on regional parks for over 20 years in which park visitors are encouraged to take their rubbish home with them and recycle it at home. Refer to Section 8.2 of the RPMP 2010 (Policy 8.2.2.1). The only exception to this is campgrounds where large numbers of people are staying for extended period (up to two weeks) and where recycling bins can be provided. The need for such facilities at campgrounds is kept under review and will be actioned if necessary.

Shelters

Sun shelters for campers and visitors are provided at some regional parks in accordance with Policy 13.1.2.2 in Section 13.1.2 of the RPMP 2010. These can be considered on a case by case basis as the needs arise, for instance in parks with limited natural shade. They are not usually provided in remote locations or where adequate tree-canopy coverage is available.

Visitor information and visitor centres

Visitor information takes a number of forms on regional parks. It includes published material, such as pamphlets, as well as onsite facilities, such as directional signs, warning signs,

notice boards and interpretation panels. The policies in Section 13.2 of the RPMP 2010 outline the range of visitor information available on regional parks. Visitor information is critical in informing visitors of what is available on the park, managing sensitive environments and ensuring park visitor safety. Notice boards are the main means of introducing visitors to the park and are usually located at the main arrival points on the parks.

Visitor centres are only provided where there is a need to provide more assistance to visitors than can be provided by other means, such as notice boards. Visitor centres will usually require staff to service them. There are no plans to create a visitor centre at Te Muri or at Sullivan's Bay.

Staff recommendations:

That the general policies contained in the RPMP 2010 be relied upon at Te Muri for the provision of appropriate visitor infrastructure on the park.

Amend Policy 30: to read:

"Install information hubs and way finding signs to orientate visitors and facilitate visitor access to the recreation destinations within the park, including the key views and vistas."

5.6.10 Dogs	Page 12
Relates to 17.24.5 Recreation and Use Activities	
8 submitters that specifically made reference to dogs included:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 that supported prohibition of dogs • 4 that opposed the prohibition of dogs and sought the ability to take dogs (that were under control) on trails with them while walking or horse riding. • 1 that noted that well designed mountain bike trails can cater for dog walking 	

33, 194 - supported no dogs.

196 - supported no dogs in order to continue the protection of the wading birds particularly New Zealand Dotterels.

46 - sought designated dog walking tracks and/or a designated off-leash area

71 - supported a network of trails for all users; including dogs provided they are under control

89 - noted dedicated well designed mountain bike trails can accommodate walking, trail running and dog walking and the like

180 - supported a network of trails for all users; including dogs. Noted there is nowhere available on the east coast where you can ride, walk, walk your dogs without being told "you're not allowed". Suggested that dogs could be restricted at certain times of the year e.g. lambing

205 - supported dog walking and horse riding and thought it was compatible with protecting the natural beauty of the park.

Staff comments:

Opportunities for park visitors to bring dogs that are under the owner's control on to regional parks are considered where this does not unduly compromise the park values, other approved activities and the visitor experience.

Policy 13.3.3.2 of the RPMP 2010 states that dogs will generally be excluded from the following areas:

- a) scenic reserves,
- b) wetlands,
- c) nesting, roosting, feeding and species recovery areas of threatened indigenous fauna,
- d) designated sites, picnic areas, campgrounds, huts, residential lodges, baches and meeting rooms,
- e) farm settings during lambing and calving, and
- f) licenced areas.

Dog walking opportunities are currently provided on the 3km Cudlip Loop Track on Mahurangi Regional Park and on Wenderholm Regional Park on both the walking track to Waiwera estuary and Kokoru Bay and the farmed area adjoining the Puhoi River north of the Schischka Campground access road up to the campground.

Dogs have historically been prohibited from Te Muri Beach because of the presence of nesting seabirds and the location of the campground. These two factors and the likelihood of increased picnicking along the foreshore are the main reasons for continuing the prohibition of dogs along the coastal edge of the park.

For the foreseeable future, the only access to the park for dogs would be through Te Muri Stream. Given the high natural values in this area, which contains an extensive wetland, it isn't considered appropriate to permit dog walking until such time as alternative public access to the park from either Wenderholm Regional Park or off Hungry Creek Road is developed.

Should either of these alternative public access points be developed, restricted dog walking opportunities on the proposed track network in the park hinterlands could be reconsidered in future reviews of the Regional Parks Management Plan. Note that dog control policies and bylaws are subject to the procedures set out in the Dog Control Act 1996.

Staff recommendations:

Delete reference to dogs in 17.24.5 Permitted activities table.

Add the following words to 'Prohibited activities table';

'Dogs are prohibited from Te Muri Regional Park as dog access is permitted at Wenderholm and on Cudlip Point on Mahurangi Regional Park. Note that dog control is subject to the Dog Control Act 1996 and is subject to change – refer to the council website for current dog control bylaws.'

5.6.11 Events and commercial activity	Page 10
Relates to Policy 35	
6 submissions supported the use of the park for events	
5 submission mentioned commercial activities	

Events

82, 215, 221, 222, 229 – requested provision to hold horse riding events (clubs and groups).

98 – Suggests investigating Te Muri host a week- long Mahurangi Regatta Week big campout.

Commercial

278, 362 - specifically opposed any sort of commercial activity on the park.

33 – suggested investigating the potential for developing some commercial operations that include food, drink, toilets, and lodge and backpackers' accommodation, and wifi service, provided by suitable franchisee.

98 - Suggest investigation into establishment of the camp store and that the park be used for "a weeklong Mahurangi Regatta Week big campout".

148 - encouraged the provision of a shuttle service from the car park to the campground so that families, in particular, could get all their kids and camp gear safely to the camping area. This could be booked along with the camp site and covered by a small fee.

Glamping - refer also to staff report on camping.

Mana Whenua response

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust advocates for –

- All concession opportunities are presented to Ngati Manuhiri
- The Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust tender for specific types of work in order to provide opportunities for the iwi's rangatahi, potential opportunities include – planting, animal and weed pest control.
- Ngati Manuhiri are contracted to maintain cultural sites (pa, midden, terraces etc.).

An on park internship is offered to Ngati Manuhiri rangatahi on an annual basis specifically for Wenderholm/Te Muri/Mahurangi (and others from Shakespear to Pakiri).

Staff comments:

Events and commercial activities on regional parks are governed by the general policies contained in Section 13.1.7 and 13.5 of the RPMP 2010 relating to discretionary activities. Each application for an event or commercial activity is assessed on a case by case basis and against the policies set out in Section 13.5. These policies are designed to ensure that the events or commercial activities are appropriate to the setting and do not interfere with the enjoyment of casual parks users and do not detrimentally impact on the park environment.

Given the recommendation that the relative remote ambience of Te Muri should be retained (Refer to staff report on the Vision for Te Muri), the idea of 'glamping' would be inappropriate in this context.

Proposals such as horse riding events, regatta festivals, food and beverage sales could be considered under the general policies as discretionary activities. However, ventures that result in permanent structures on the parks, such as lodges or back-packer accommodation, would have to be considered as part of a formal variation to the RPMP 2010.

Staff recommendation:

Delete Policy 32 relating to 'glamping'.

<p>5.6.12 Orienteering</p> <p>Relates to Management Focus, Policies 35, 43, and 17.24.5 Permitted activity table</p>	<p>Various pages</p>
<p>One submission received that specifically related to orienteering.</p>	

151 – noted orienteering is recreational sport that combines a physical challenge with the mental challenges of navigation. The sport caters for all age groups and the North West Orienteering Club has many school age members.

The club strongly supported the development of Te Muri as a regional park. It is a significant area of coastal land that can be used for a variety of recreational activities. The listing of orienteering as a permitted activity (17.24.5) is welcomed and strongly supported by the club; as are the proposals for a multi-use track network and managing the park for a range of recreational activities.

The club noted a desire to develop, in consultation with parks management, an orienteering map for the park once the park is opened.

Mana whenua's position:

While mana whenua didn't raise any matters specifically related to orienteering, their comments related to directing pedestrians and other recreational activities away from their sites of significance and managing the impact of these activities on sites with high natural values are relevant to orienteering.

Staff comments:

Orienteering and similar activities like rogaining are becoming increasingly popular; both as formal events and as informal recreation. Information provided by Visitor Solutions in August 2015 noted that between 2011 and 2014 there was a 39% increase in secondary school students participating in orienteering.

As with the development of other orienteering courses on regional parks, mana whenua will be involved in the development of an orienteering course to ensure that the course directs participants away from sites of significance to mana whenua and that information provided to orienteers raises awareness of and respect for these sites.

In accordance with policy 13.3.2.3 of the RPMP 2010, any orienteering that involves more than 75 people will be treated as a discretionary activity, that is, the applicant will need to seek approval for the event and this approval if granted may have conditions attached to it to manage the impacts of the event.

Staff recommendation:

Add the following policy to the '*Recreation and Use Management*' section;

'Develop an orienteering course in consultation with interested parties, mana whenua and other relevant stakeholders.'

5.7 Mana Whenua

Mana Whenua Relates to Policies 36 - 39	Page 10
Q5. Do you support ongoing engagement with mana whenua to determine what they specifically value and how they can be involved in the park?	
Submitter breakdown: (% of 296 submitters that responded to the question) Yes – 240 (81%), No – 26 (9%), Unsure – 30 (10%), Blank - 86	
Submitters supporting – 240 (81%) 17, 42, 47, 51, 59, 91, 97, 98, 103, 105, 108, 109, 111, 115 – 120, 123, 125, 126, 128, 130, 132 – 136, 138, 140 – 151, 157, 159 – 165, 167 – 173, 175, 176, 178, 180, 181, 183, 185, 186, 188, 193 – 197, 200 – 202, 204, 205, 208 – 213, 215 – 217, 219, 223, 225, 226, 229, 230, 232 – 235, 238, 239, 241, 242, 244, 245, 247 – 251, 253, 254, 256 - 259, plus MAS (long forma submitters only, excluding submitters 33 and 50)	
Submitters opposing – 26 (9%) 33, 54, 104, 106, 110, 121, 122, 124, 129, 131, 153, 155, 158, 177, 182, 184, 191, 192, 199, 203, 218, 222, 228, 236, 240, 255	

159 and 216 noted there particular support for on-going engagement with iwi.

98 noted iwi should be consulted regarding the possible establishment of a marine reserve off the Mahurangi coastline.

54 - I do not support any engagement with mana whenua with any decisions or management of this park or any other public park land. We are all one New Zealanders and encouraging racial divisions should not be encouraged.

106 - I don't think Iwi need to have any extra input into this development.

184 - When consultations are made with mana whenua why does this not include the Sullivan family. My grandfather, great grandmother and other family are buried in the urupa at Te Muri. Our grandfather's mother was Ngati Whatua from there.

Mana whenua response:

Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust submitted a Cultural Values Assessment describing their attachments to the land that forms Te Muri Regional Park. Refer to Attachment Report entitled '*Cultural Values Assessment For Wenderholm, Te Muri & Mahurangi (West) Regional Parks*'

Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust submitted that it:

- is recognised as the legal entity that governs the operations and management of Ngati Whatua o Kaipara, and has responsibilities to uphold the cultural heritage and values of Ngati Whatua o Kaipara
- has a responsibility to maintain and protect the cultural landscape across its rohe and shared interest areas. Te Muri is part of Ngati Whatua o Kaipara historical association to the east coast area. They recognise Te Muri as a significant land mark of the east coast.

- encourages Auckland Council to be familiar with the Ngati Whatua Settlement Act 2013 and the Deed of Settlement in order to gain an appreciation of the aspirations laid down in 1840 (working collaboratively) and that have been repeated continuously since then. They acknowledge the intention of Auckland Council to meet their statutory obligation and to ensure the cultural heritage and values of Ngati Whatua o Kaipara are a key consideration.
- proposes a Treaty partnership approach, a co-management between Auckland Council and the iwi of this area to ensure that cultural and historical interests are upheld in the future management of these parklands, Tawharanui (*sic. Mahurangi*), Te Muri and Wenderholm.

Both iwi have drawn attention to the fact that there is a traditional 'Whale Urupa' located on the site.

Staff comments:

Engagement with mana whenua is a Treaty of Waitangi obligation for council. Part 9 of the RPMP 2010 sets out the council's commitment to tangata whenua with respect to the development and management of regional parks. The development and management of Te Muri falls within these obligations. While these policies do not provide for co-management they do strongly point to the involvement of mana whenua and the decisions on management of cultural features and associations at Te Muri. This does not preclude engagement with other parties with an interest in the future of Te Muri and especially those with an historic association with the property, such as immediate and wider Schischka family.

Staff recommendations:

Add the following policy to the new Te Muri Beach SMZ section;

'Maintain the integrity of the whale urupa free from structures and activity likely to have a detrimental impact on it.'

Add the words '*mana whenua*' where appropriate to policies throughout the document that refer to involvement with stakeholders or interest groups, such as the 11th bullet on page 4.

5.8 Principal Relationships

Principal Relationships	Page 11
Relates to Policies 40 – 45	
Do you support establishing and maintaining relationships with a range of stakeholders to assist with the development, management and use of the park?	
<p>Submitter breakdown: (% of 296 submitters that responded to the question)</p> <p>Yes – 251 (85%), No – 16 (5%), Unsure – 29 (10%), Blank – 86</p> <p>5 other submitters made specific reference to the importance of continuing and expanding existing volunteering on the park.</p>	
<p>Submitters supporting – 251</p> <p>17, 27, 47, 51, 54, 70, 81, 82, 91, 98, 101, 103 – 105, 107 – 109, 115, 117, 118, 120, 122, 123, 126, 129 – 131, 135, 138 – 140, 142, 144 – 153, 156 – 159, 161, 163, 164, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175, 178, 179, 181 – 189, 191, 193 – 197, 199 – 201, 203 – 205, 207 – 209, 211 – 213, 215, 216, 218 – 229, 231, 233, 235, 238, 239, 242 – 260 plus 130 long proforma MAS (with the exception of 50 who was unsure)</p>	
<p>Submitters opposing – 16</p> <p>110, 112, 121, 125, 137, 141, 155, 165, 167, 173, 192, 202, 214, 217, 230, 236</p>	

119 - noted involving the locals is important, as is involving the people who go to this area.

Some submitters specifically referenced volunteers.

4, 8, 11, 109 - noted strong concern that their initial feedback to council's notification of its intent to prepare a management plan for the park was ignored and questioned how council expects to establish and develop relationships with adjacent landowners and volunteers with this sort of approach. It was noted that the many people in the local community regularly volunteer at Mahurangi Regional Park to help with planting and clearing trap lines and that it is locals who gather litter and report dogs on Te Muri Beach.

70, 88, 142 - mentioned volunteer groups are a major contributor to the Regional Park in donating their time as volunteer hours and their expertise, they deserve to be treated as stakeholders in a true partnership. Volunteers are passionate about their parks and are the best representatives of the public and the ratepayers. Volunteer partnership is essential.

While no specific reasons for opposition to the question were given, the tenor of these submissions suggests the opposition was focused on the 'development, management and use of the park' rather than 'establishing and maintaining relationships with a range of stakeholders'. These submitters all voiced strong opposition to park developments (particularly the proposed central road and main park arrival area) which they felt would detract from the perceived current remote wilderness experience that they strongly value.

Staff comments:

Council acknowledges the significant role that volunteers and other stakeholders play in developing, managing and activating regional parks and in particular the environmental stewardship role that the local community has played to date at Mahurangi Regional Park. Council will look to build on these existing relationships when establishing a volunteer programme for the park.

Some submitters (4, 8 and 11) have pointed to the fact that the first round of submissions, calling for issues to be covered in the drafting of the management plan, which showed a strong bias against providing vehicular access to the park, appeared to be ignored in the drafting of the plan. Refer to Staff Report on Access to Te Muri Regional Park.

Policy 41 mentions the need to ensure bylaws enable the effective management of the park but does not mention planning policies and rules.

Staff recommendations:

Amend Policy 41 to include the words ‘and *planning policies and rules*’ after the word ‘*bylaws*’

Amend Policy 43 by adding the words ‘*mana whenua*’ after ‘stakeholders’ and the words ‘*education and cultural*’ after ‘recreation’.

Amend Policy 45 by replacing the word ‘Establish’ with the words ‘*Maintain and expand*’

Attachments

Attachment A - List of all submitters – alphabetically (383)

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
375	Aaron Owston-Doyle	
298	Adele Down	
285	Adrian Clark	
250	Alice Grayson	
199	Alison Fellman	
164	Amanda Lees	
244	Andrea Sulikosky	
193	Andrew C Cave	
293	Andrew Lee	
222	Andy Parker	
109	Ann Cook	
74	Ann Milne	
150	Anna Brooker	
95	Anna Bryant	
6	Anna Dangerfield	
305	Annelise Poorter	
90	Annemarie Farrell	
223	Annie Graham	
307	Any Hamilton	
216	Arapeta Hamilton	Ngati Rongo o Mahurangi
320	Becky Hancock-Sims	
189	Bernadette Heibner	
239	Bev Cooley	
134	Bevan Woodward	
323	Beverly Cheesman	
94	Bill Burrill	Friends of Regional Parks
300	Bill Burrill	
182	Bill Marcroft	
274	Borislav Peucher	
383	Tracey Brackebush	
27	Brenda Reading	
100	Brett Finlayson	
238	Brett Lewis	
158	Brian Ladyman	
368	Brian Mooney	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
57	Brian R J Dangerfield	
286	Bridget Rowsell	
290	Brigitte Horsley	
201	Bronwen Turner	
243	Brooke Lewis	
44	Bruce Parker	
41	Bruce Robinson	
350	Bryon Wright	
176	C Bradburn	
235	C Dollimore	
372	Caitlin Owston-Doyle	
251	Carolyn Melrose	
65	Catherine Nota	
25	Charles Pope	
226	Charlie Graham	
227	Charlie Graham	
295	Charlotte Berger	
314	Chris Eddy	
245	Christine and Stephen Rose	
56	Christine Glasgow	
51	Christine Major	
13	Christine Mundell	
96	Christine Schischka	
312	Christopher Lee	
93	Cimino Cole	Mahurangi Magazine
98	Cimino Cole	Mahurangi Action
208	Clare Drury	
272	Colin Boyd	
35	Colin Christie	
43	Craig and Katherine Parker	
37	Craig Powell	
67	Crispin Caldicott	
330	Dan Salmon	
12	David and Lynne King	
11	David Herrick	
64	David Mooney	
363	David Stevens	
249	David V Williams	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
17	David Woolley	
214	Dean Lewis	
333	Debi Bottema	
381	Deborah Clarke	
219	Deborah Potter	
343	Dennis Peat	
382	Diana Meiklejohn	
36	Diana Winter	
15	Diane Wilson	
42	Dianne and Roger Parker	
264	Dominic Gornakov	
345	Dot Macfie	
365	Drury Stephen Parsons	
59	Dustyn O'Leary	Puhi Community Forum + 46 signatories
373	Dylan Owston-Doyle	
108	Earl Berry	
89	Edd Ballinger	Auckland Mountain Bike Club
355	Ehsa Duder	
292	Emil Penev	
28	Emma proctor	
324	Ethne Richards	
71	Eva Farrand	
205	Fern Dickinson	
309	Fin Finlayson	
347	Fiona Alexander	
204	Fiona McKechnie	
78	Frances Bell	
68	Frances Eden Hall	
252	Francesca	
380	Frank	
232	Frauke Mayer	
339	Gareth Owston-Doyle	
53	Gary Heaven	
268	Gary Marshall	
278	Gary Morris	
168	Gay Noyer	
151	Geoff Mead	North West Orienteering Club
301	Geoffrey Wilding	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
371	Gillian Cossey	
140	Giselle Susan Sellars	
379	Glenn Campbell	
277	Glynn Sergeant	
135	Graham Burrell	
376	Graham Morrison	
356	Grant Cossey	
92	Greg Bennett	Dune Restoration Trust of NZ
178	Hailey Nasmith	
225	Hannah Berger	
126	Helen Chambers	
266	Helen Johnson	
143	Hilary Heron	
378	Howard Lush	
102	Hugh Graham	
183	Huia Minogue	
230	Hyun Jin Yun	
321	Ian Cheesman	
69	Irene De Haan	
33	J Barry Ferguson	
217	Jaci Gwaliasi	
1	James Buttle	
81	James Imlach	NZ Motor Caravan Association
47	Jane Lobb	
362	Janeann Freeman	
160	Janene Sutton	
359	Janet Cole	
77	Jason Stewart	
79	Jeffrey Dougal	
120	Jeni Nicholls	
18	Jenni van der Schoot	
335	Jenny Neel	
341	Jill Gibbs	
273	Jill Knight	
366	Jill Parson	
170	Jo Hopkins	
340	Joan Campbell	
271	John & Judy Miocevic	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
338	John Cambridge	
297	John Canfield	
377	John Duder	
317	John McClenaghan	
105	John McQueen	
52	John Simmons	
31	Jon Kearins	Auckland Mountain Bike Club
196	Jonathan Baskett	
121	Judith Hurcomb	
364	Judith Stowers	
97	Judith Williams	(supported Puhoi Community Forum' submission)
311	Judith Wilson	
215	Judy Grieve	
296	Julia Carrington	
200	Julie Barclay	
198	Julie Chamberlain	
360	Justine Gager	
328	K W Salmon	
177	Karen Richardson	
110	Kat Cooper	
119	Kate Nuttall	
306	Kate Sherland	
54	Kathryn Mankelow	Puhoi Canoes (supported Puhoi Community Forum)
260	Kathy Nustrini	
46	Kathy Walker	
342	Katie Peat	
48	Kay Thexton	
361	Kelly Grove-Hills	
348	Kelly Mills	
256	Kelly Watson	
237	Kelvin Cooley	
275	Kevin Ebbitt	
32	Kim Buchanan	
261	Kris Penev	
58	Laraine Gray	
30	Laura Carson	
240	Laura de Haan	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
153	Lauren Simpson	
20	Lee Chisholm	
117	Lex Marshall	
152	Lindsey field	
209	Lisa West	
10	Liz Cole	
4	Liz Light	
276	Lloyd Farrand	
202	Logan Williams	
165	Loralie Sheppard	
229	Louise Gee	
155	Lucy Farrell	
247	Luke Grayson	
148	Luke Williamson	
124	Lynda Terry	
62	Lyndell and Ralph Lyon	
184	Lynne Ram	
147	Melanie Duplain	
123	Maggie Isaac	
322	Mandy Cunningham	
369	Maree Owston-Doyle	
34	Marg Hargreaves	
63	Margaret Faed	
220	Margaret Lewis	
7	Maria Radic	
166	Marie-Louise Ward	
138	Marion Fraser	
180	Marj Marks	
344	Mark Allen	
280	Martin & June Robertson	
112	Martin Slizik	
66	Mary Hart	
106	Mary O'Connell	
308	Matt Jones	
370	Maureen Morrison	
133	Maureen Mulholland	
197	Megan Horsburgh	
329	Megan Ware	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
203	Melanie Baker	
174	Merilyn Chambers	
310	Meryl Finlayson	
288	Michael Berger	
80	Michael C Gordon	
231	Michael Mayer	
207	Michelle Amery	
211	Michelle Behr	
141	Michelle Craig	
83	Michelle Rohleder	
22	Mike Neil	
374	Mike Owston-Doyle	
50	Mike Swain	
144	Miles Ashworth	
87	Milly Farrell	
262	Mirah	
246	Monica de Ment	
315	Monika Zarska	
255	Monique Masoe	
224	Moragh Graham	
269	Nadya Minkova	
175	Natasha Jones	
258	Natasha Milne	
337	Neil Williams	
72	Neville Jackson	
212	Nicky Turnbull	
76	Nicola Marie Barnes	
14	Nikki Lines	
55	Oliver Hoffmann	
354	Oliver Vincent Clapham Sergeant	
129	Owen Sprosen	
194	Pat Baskett	
16	Pat Curtis	
111	Patrick Cotton	
104	Paul Jamieson	
24	Penina MacPherson	
91	Peter Cooley	(supported Puhoi Community Forum's submission)

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
85	Peter Farrell	
234	Peter Johnston	
19	Peter Mayo	
242	Peter Pearce	
116	Peter Ridgeway	
162	Phelan Pirrie	
191	Phil Proctor	
287	Phil Rayment	
336	Philip Beech	
86	Philip Wrigley	Hibiscus Coast Branch, Forest & Bird Society
173	Sheryll Titford	Puhi Historical Society Inc.
303	R Gilhooly	
346	R R Pearce	
137	Rachel Freestone	
270	Rachel Williams	
157	Raewyn Morrison	
73	Rakad Jaffar	New Zealand Transport Agency
319	Rebekah Dangerfield	
128	Regan James	
49	Rhonda Pike	
206	Richard Chambers	
146	Richard Griffiths	
282	Richard Peat	
122	Rob Nicholls	
304	Rob Platt	
2	Rob Thexton	
118	Robert Davies	
236	Robert MacGregor	
40	Robert McConnell	
84	Robin de Haan	
358	Robin J Yates	
351	Robin L Yates	
316	Robyn Agnew	
299	Robyn Choulton	
142	Roger & Patte Williams	
192	Ron Cooper	
267	Rosemary Gibbons	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
60	Roy Hyslop	
167	Russell Ward	
326	Ruth Wilson	
367	Sabina Balch	
253	Sabine Hogguer	
70	Sally Richardson and Roger Williams	Warkworth Area Forest & Bird
284	Sam Rutherford	
21	Sam Tracy	
125	Sarah Albom	
254	Sarah Hamilton	
5	Sarah Ransom	
9	Sarah Standbrook	
357	Sasjidah Shabnam	
131	Shannon Gee	
113	Shelley Anderson	
169	Shelley Hackett	
190	Shelley Stevens	
45	Shelley Trotter	
283	Shirley Peat	
210	Simon Fraser	
23	Sisi MacPherson	
195	Sonja brown	Orewa Sea Scout Group
156	Sophie Roberts	
187	Sorella	
115	Sorrel O'Leary	
145	Stacey Johnston	
103	Stephanie McLeod	
257	Stephanie Mcmanus	
8	Stephen Cook	
294	Stephen R Ullrich	
233	Steve Hardwick	
3	Steve Reid	
313	Steve Rowsell	
334	Stewart Walker	
26	Stuart Charlton	
352	Stuart Farmer	
61	Stuart Webb	
114	Susan Fulton	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
181	Susan Marcroft	
171	Susan Mitchell	
136	Susan Nicholls	
325	Susan Stevens	
259	Susan Tailby	
218	Susan Townson	
186	Susie McLeod	
99	Suzana Shipton	
291	Svetlana Pencheva	
221	Sylvia Shepherd	
213	Sylvie	
127	Taine Mowat	
159	Tanya Langenbach	
101	Temepara Morehu	Mahurangi Coastal Trail Trust
353	Terry Dunn	
289	Tessa Berger	
139	Tina Power	
327	Tim Cooper	
39	Tira Cole	
281	Tony Walton	
130	Tracey Borgfeldt	
383	Tracey Brackebush	
248	Trish O'Callaghan	
228	Trish Thompson	
263	Vladimir Mikov	
332	Valerie Clapham	
318	Valerie Lee	
279	Vic Wilson	
29	Victoria Christie	
82	Viv Dostine	NZ Horse Networking
349	Vivienne Paterson	
331	Vladimir Minrov	
88	Warwick & Hueline Massey	
161	Wayne Erb	
241	Wayne Huggard	
75	Wayne Mackenzie	
188	Wendy Mayson	
38	Wendy Pond	Manu Waiata Restoration & Protection

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
		Society
265	William Counce	
302	Yanny Seppin	
107	Anonymous	
132	Anonymous	
149	Anonymous	
154	Anonymous	
163	Anonymous	
172	Anonymous	
179	Anonymous	
185	Anonymous	

Attachment B - List of all submitters – numerically (383)

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
1	James Buttle	
2	Rob Thexton	
3	Steve Reid	
4	Liz Light	
5	Sarah Ransom	
6	Anna Dangerfield	
7	Maria Radic	
8	Stephen Cook	
9	Sarah Standbrook	
10	Liz Cole	
11	David Herrick	
12	David and Lynne King	
13	Christine Mundell	
14	Nikki Lines	
15	Diane Wilson	
16	Pat Curtis	
17	David Woolley	
18	Jenni van der Schoot	
19	Peter Mayo	
20	Lee Chisholm	
21	Sam Tracy	
22	Mike Neil	
23	Sisi MacPherson	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
24	Penina MacPherson	
25	Charles Pope	
26	Stuart Charlton	
27	Brenda Reading	
28	Emma proctor	
29	Victoria Christie	
30	Laura Carson	
31	Jon Kearins	Auckland Mountain Bike Club
32	Kim Buchanan	
33	J Barry Ferguson	
34	Marg Hargreaves	
35	Colin Christie	
36	Diana Winter	
37	Craig Powell	
38	Wendy Pond	Manu Waiata Restoration & Protection Society
39	Tira Cole	
40	Robert McConnell	
41	Bruce Robinson	
42	Dianne and Roger Parker	
43	Craig and Katherine Parker	
44	Bruce Parker	
45	Shelley Trotter	
46	Kathy Walker	
47	Jane Lobb	
48	Kay Thexton	
49	Rhonda Pike	
50	Mike Swain	
51	Christine Major	
52	John Simmons	
53	Gary Heaven	
54	Kathryn Mankelow	Puhoi Canoes (supported Puhoi Community Forum's submission)
55	Oliver Hoffmann	
56	Christine Glasgow	
57	Brian R J Dangerfield	
58	Laraine Gray	
59	Dustyn O'Leary	Puhoi Community Forum + 46 signatories

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
60	Roy Hyslop	
61	Stuart Webb	
62	Lyndell and Ralph Lyon	
63	Margaret Faed	
64	David Mooney	
65	Catherine Nota	
66	Mary Hart	
67	Crispin Caldicott	
68	Frances Eden Hall	
69	Irene De Haan	
70	Sally Richardson and Roger Williams	Warkworth Area Forest & Bird
71	Eva Farrand	
72	Neville Jackson	
73	Rakad Jaffar	New Zealand Transport Agency
74	Ann Milne	
75	Wayne Mackenzie	
76	Nicola Marie Barnes	
77	Jason Stewart	
78	Frances Bell	
79	Jeffrey Dougal	
80	Michael C Gordon	
81	James Imlach	NZ Motor Caravan Association
82	Viv Dostine	NZ Horse Networking
83	Michelle Rohleder	
84	Robin de Haan	
85	Peter Farrell	
86	Philip Wrigley	Hibiscus Coast Branch, Forest & Bird Society
87	Milly Farrell	
88	Warwick & Hueline Massey	
89	Edd Ballinger	Auckland Mountain Bike Club
90	Annemarie Farrell	
91	Peter Cooley	(supported Puhoi Community Forum's submission)
92	Greg Bennett	Dune Restoration Trust of NZ
93	Cimino Cole	Mahurangi Magazine
94	Bill Burrill	Friends of Regional Parks
95	Anna Bryant	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
96	Christine Schischka	
97	Judith Williams	(supported Puhoi Community Forum's submission)
98	Cimino Cole	Mahurangi Action
99	Suzana Shipton	
100	Brett Finlayson	
101	Temepara Morehu	Mahurangi Coastal Trail Trust
102	Hugh Graham	
103	Stephanie McLeod	
104	Paul Jamieson	
105	John McQueen	
106	Mary O'Connell	
107	Anonymous	
108	Earl Berry	
109	Ann Cook	
110	Kat Cooper	
111	Patrick Cotton	
112	Martin Slizik	
113	Shelley Anderson	
114	Susan Fulton	
115	Sorrel O'Leary	
116	Peter Ridgeway	
117	Lex Marshall	
118	Robert Davies	
119	Kate Nuttall	
120	Jeni Nicholls	
121	Judith Hurcomb	
122	Rob Nicholls	
123	Maggie Isaac	
124	Lynda Terry	
125	Sarah Albom	
126	Helen Chambers	
127	Taine Mowat	
128	Regan James	
129	Owen Sprosen	
130	Tracey Borgfeldt	
131	Shannon Gee	
132	Anonymous	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
133	Maureen Mulholland	
134	Bevan Woodward	
135	Graham Burrell	
136	Susan Nicholls	
137	Rachel Freestone	
138	Marion Fraser	
139	Tina Power	
140	Giselle Susan Sellars	
141	Michelle Craig	
142	Roger & Patte Williams	
143	Hilary Heron	
144	Miles Ashworth	
145	Stacey Johnston	
146	Richard Griffiths	
147	Melanie Duplain	
148	Luke Williamson	
149	Anonymous	
150	Anna Brooker	
151	Geoff Mead	North West Orienteering Club
152	Lindsey field	
153	Lauren Simpson	
154	Anonymous	
155	Lucy Farrell	
156	Sophie Roberts	
157	Raewyn Morrison	
158	Brian Ladyman	
159	Tanya Langenbach	
160	Janene Sutton	
161	Wayne Erb	
162	Phelan Pirrie	
163	Anonymous	
164	Amanda Lees	
165	Loralie Sheppard	
166	Marie-Louise Ward	
167	Russell Ward	
168	Gay Noyer	
169	Shelley Hackett	
170	Jo Hopkins	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
171	Susan Mitchell	
172	Anonymous	
173	Sheryll Titford	Puhoi Historical Society Inc.
174	Merilyn Chambers	
175	Natasha Jones	
176	C Bradburn	
177	Karen Richardson	
178	Hailey Nasmith	
179	Anonymous	
180	Marj Marks	
181	Susan Marcroft	
182	Bill Marcroft	
183	Huia Minogue	
184	Lynne Ram	
185	Anonymous	
186	Susie McLeod	
187	Sorella	
188	Wendy Mayson	
189	Bernadette Heibner	
190	Shelley Stevens	
191	Phil Proctor	
192	Ron Cooper	
193	Andrew C Cave	
194	Pat Baskett	
195	Sonja brown	Orewa Sea Scout Group
196	Jonathan Baskett	
197	Megan Horsburgh	
198	Julie Chamberlain	
199	Alison Fellman	
200	Julie Barclay	
201	Bronwen Turner	
202	Logan Williams	
203	Melanie Baker	
204	Fiona McKechnie	
205	Fern Dickinson	
206	Richard Chambers	
207	Michelle Amery	
208	Clare Drury	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
209	Lisa West	
210	Simon Fraser	
211	Michelle Behr	
212	Nicky Turnbull	
213	Sylvie	
214	Dean Lewis	
215	Judy Grieve	
216	Arapeta Hamilton	Ngati Rongo o Mahurangi
217	Jaci Gwaliasi	
218	Susan Townson	
219	Deborah Potter	
220	Margaret Lewis	
221	Sylvia Shepherd	
222	Andy Parker	
223	Annie Graham	
224	Moragh Graham	
225	Hannah Berger	
226	Charlie Graham	
227	Charlie Graham	
228	Trish Thompson	
229	Louise Gee	
230	Hyun Jin Yun	
231	Michael Mayer	
232	Frauke Mayer	
233	Steve Hardwick	
234	Peter Johnston	
235	C Dollimore	
236	Robert MacGregor	
237	Kelvin Cooley	
238	Brett Lewis	
239	Bev Cooley	
240	Laura de Haan	
241	Wayne Huggard	
242	Peter Pearce	
243	Brooke Lewis	
244	Andrea Sulikosky	
245	Christine and Stephen Rose	
246	Monica de Ment	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
247	Luke Grayson	
248	Trish O'Callaghan	
249	David V Williams	
250	Alice Grayson	
251	Carolyn Melrose	
252	Francesca	
253	Sabine Hogguer	
254	Sarah Hamilton	
255	Monique Masoe	
256	Kelly Watson	
257	Stephanie Mcmanus	
258	Natasha Milne	
259	Susan Tailby	
260	Kathy Nustrini	
261	Kris Penev	
262	Mirah	
263	Vladimir Mikov	
264	Dominic Gornakov	
265	William Caunce	
266	Helen Johnson	
267	Rosemary Gibbons	
268	Gary Marshall	
269	Nadya Minkova	
270	Rachel Williams	
271	John & Judy Miocevic	
272	Colin Boyd	
273	Jill Knight	
274	Borislav Peucher	
275	Kevin Ebbitt	
276	Lloyd Farrand	
277	Glynn Sergeant	
278	Gary Morris	
279	Vic Wilson	
280	Martin & June Robertson	
281	Tony Walton	
282	Richard Peat	
283	Shirley Peat	
284	Sam Rutherford	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
285	Adrian Clark	
286	Bridget Rowsell	
287	Phil Rayment	
288	Michael Berger	
289	Tessa Berger	
290	Brigette Horsley	
291	Svetlana Pencheva	
292	Emil Penev	
293	Andrew Lee	
294	Stephen R Ullrich	
295	Charlotte Berger	
296	Julia Carrington	
297	John Canfield	
298	Adele Down	
299	Robyn Choulton	
300	Bill Burrill	
301	Geoffrey Wilding	
302	Yanny Seppin	
303	R Gilhooly	
304	Rob Platt	
305	Annelise Poorter	
306	Kate Sherland	
307	Any Hamilton	
308	Matt Jones	
309	Fin Finlayson	
310	Meryl Finlayson	
311	Judith Wilson	
312	Christopher Lee	
313	Steve Rowsell	
314	Chris Eddy	
315	Monika Zarska	
316	Robyn Agnew	
317	John McClenaghan	
318	Valerie Lee	
319	Rebekah Dangerfield	
320	Becky Hancock-Sims	
321	Ian Cheesman	
322	Mandy Cunningham	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
323	Beverly Cheesman	
324	Ethne Richards	
325	Susan Stevens	
326	Ruth Wilson	
327	Tim Cooper	
328	K W Salmon	
329	Megan Ware	
330	Dan Salmon	
331	Vladimir Minrov	
332	Valerie Clapham	
333	Debi Bottema	
334	Stewart Walker	
335	Jenny Neel	
336	Philip Beech	
337	Neil Williams	
338	John Cambridge	
339	Gareth Owston-Doyle	
340	Joan Campbell	
341	Jill Gibbs	
342	Katie Peat	
343	Dennis Peat	
344	Mark Allen	
345	Dot Macfie	
346	R R Pearce	
347	Fiona Alexander	
348	Kelly Mills	
349	Vivienne Paterson	
350	Bryon Wright	
351	Robin L Yates	
352	Stuart Farmer	
353	Terry Dunn	
354	Oliver Vincent Clapham Sergeant	
355	Ehsa Duder	
356	Grant Cossey	
357	Sasjidah Shabnam	
358	Robin J Yates	
359	Janet Cole	
360	Justine Gager	

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation
361	Kelly Grove-Hills	
362	Janeann Freeman	
363	David Stevens	
364	Judith Stowers	
365	Drury Stephen Parsons	
366	Jill Parson	
367	Sabina Balch	
368	Brian Mooney	
369	Maree Owston-Doyle	
370	Maureen Morrison	
371	Gillian Cossey	
372	Caitlin Owston-Doyle	
373	Dylan Owston-Doyle	
374	Mike Owston-Doyle	
375	Aaron Owston-Doyle	
376	Graham Morrison	
377	John Duder	
378	Howard Lush	
379	Glenn Campbell	
380	Frank	
381	Deborah Clarke	
382	Diana Meiklejohn	
383	Tracey Brackebush	

Attachment C - List of submitters specifically supporting the Mahurangi Coastal Trial proposal – alphabetically (179)

Note: the submission type refers to submissions being received via the long proforma (long), short proforma only (short) or via a personalised email or online submission (other).

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation	Submission type
375	Aaron Owston-Doyle		long
298	Adele Down		long
285	Adrian Clark		long
293	Andrew Lee		long
305	Annelise Poorter		long
307	Any Hamilton		long
320	Becky Hancock-Sims		long
323	Beverly Cheesman		long

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation	Submission type
94	Bill Burrill	Friends of Regional Parks	other
300	Bill Burrill		long
274	Borislav Peucher		long
27	Brenda Reading		short
100	Brett Finlayson		short
368	Brian Mooney		long
57	Brian R J Dangerfield		short
286	Bridget Rowsell		long
290	Brigitte Horsley		long
41	Bruce Robinson		short
350	Bryon Wright		long
372	Caitlin Owston-Doyle		long
25	Charles Pope		short
295	Charlotte Berger		long
314	Chris Eddy		long
56	Christine Glasgow		short
312	Christopher Lee		long
93	Cimino Cole	Mahurangi Magazine	short
98	Cimino Cole	Mahurangi Action	other
272	Colin Boyd		long
35	Colin Christie		short
37	Craig Powell		short
67	Crispin Caldicott		short
330	Dan Salmon		long
64	David Mooney		long
363	David Stevens		long
333	Debi Bottema		long
381	Deborah Clarke		long
343	Dennis Peat		long
382	Diana Meiklejohn		long
264	Dominic Gornakov		long
345	Dot Macfie		long
365	Drury Stephen Parsons		long
59	Dustyn O'Leary	Puhoi Community Forum	other
373	Dylan Owston-Doyle		long
355	Ehsa Duder		long
292	Emil Penev		long
28	Emma Proctor		short

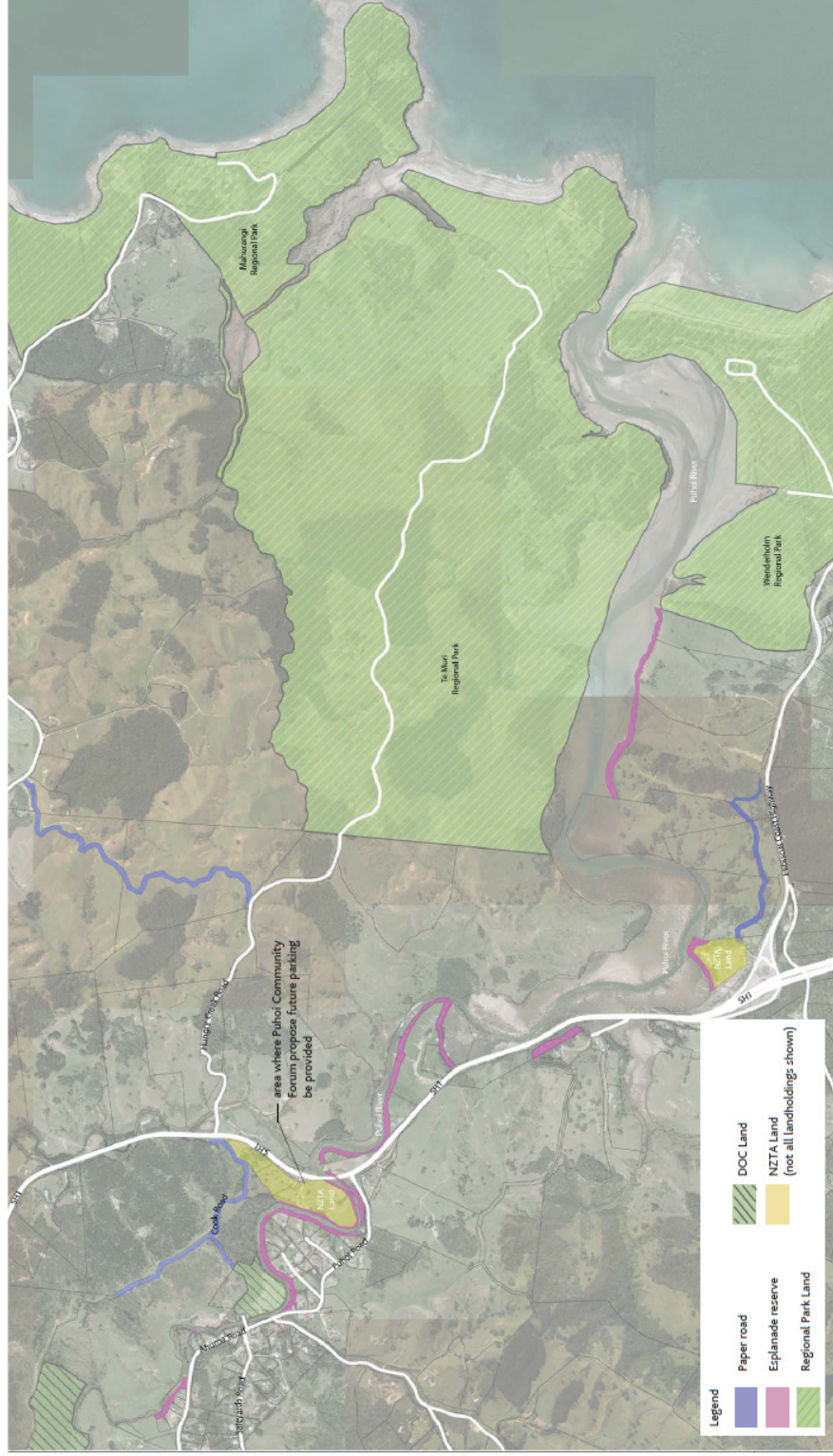
Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation	Submission type
324	Ethne Richards		long
309	Fin Finlayson		long
347	Fiona Alexander		long
78	Frances Bell		short
68	Frances Eden Hall		short
380	Frank		long
339	Gareth Owston-Doyle		long
53	Gary Heaven		short
268	Gary Marshall		long
278	Gary Morris		long
301	Geoffrey Wilding		long
371	Gillian Cossey		long
379	Glenn Campbell		long
277	Glynn Sergeant		long
376	Graham Morrison		long
356	Grant Cossey		long
266	Helen Johnson		long
378	Howard Lush		long
321	Ian Cheesman		long
33	J Barry Ferguson		long
1	James Buttle		long
47	Jane Lobb		short
362	Janeann Freeman		long
359	Janet Cole		long
79	Jeffrey Dougal		short
335	Jenny Neel		long
341	Jill Gibbs		long
273	Jill Knight		long
366	Jill Parson		long
340	Joan Campbell		long
271	John & Judy Miocevic		long
338	John Cambridge		long
297	John Canfield		long
377	John Duder		long
317	John McClenaghan		long
364	Judith Stowers		long
97	Judith Williams		other
311	Judith Wilson		long

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation	Submission type
296	Julia Carrington		long
360	Justine Gager		long
328	K W Salmon		long
306	Kate Sherland		long
54	Kathryn Mankelow	Puhoi Canoes	other
46	Kathy Walker		long
342	Katie Peat		long
48	Kay Thexton		short
361	Kelly Grove-Hills		long
348	Kelly Mills		long
275	Kevin Ebbitt		long
32	Kim Buchanan		short
261	Kris Penev		long
58	Laraine Gray		short
30	Laura Carson		short
276	Lloyd Farrand		long
62	Lyndell and Ralph Lyon		other
322	Mandy Cunningham		long
369	Maree Owston-Doyle		long
34	Marg Hargreaves		short
63	Margaret Faed		short
344	Mark Allen		long
280	Martin & June Robertson		long
308	Matt Jones		long
370	Maureen Morrison		long
329	Megan Ware		long
310	Meryl Finlayson		long
288	Michael Berger		long
80	Michael C Gordon		short
22	Mike Neil		short
374	Mike Owston-Doyle		long
50	Mike Swain		long
262	Mirah		long
315	Monika Zarska		long
269	Nadya Minkova		long
337	Neil Williams		long
14	Nikki Lines		short

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation	Submission type
55	Oliver Hoffmann		long
354	Oliver Vincent Clapham Sergeant		long
24	Penina MacPherson		short
91	Peter Cooley		short / other
19	Peter Mayo		short
287	Phil Rayment		long
336	Philip Beech		long
303	R Gilhooly		long
346	R R Pearce		long
270	Rachel Williams		long
319	Rebekah Dangerfield		long
282	Richard Peat		long
304	Rob Platt		long
2	Rob Thexton		long
40	Robert McConnell		short
358	Robin J Yates		long
351	Robin L Yates		long
316	Robyn Agnew		long
299	Robyn Choulton		long
267	Rosemary Gibbons		long
60	Roy Hyslop		short
326	Ruth Wilson		long
367	Sabina Balch		long
70	Sally Richardson and Roger Williams	Warkworth Area Forest & Bird	other
284	Sam Rutherford		long
5	Sarah Ransom		long
9	Sarah Standbrook		short
357	Sasjidah Shabnam		long
45	Shelley Trotter		short
283	Shirley Peat		long
23	Sisi MacPherson		short
294	Stephen R Ullrich		long
3	Steve Reid		long
313	Steve Rowsell		long
334	Stewart Walker		long
26	Stuart Charlton		short
352	Stuart Farmer		long

Submitter No.	Name	Group affiliation	Submission type
325	Susan Stevens		long
99	Suzana Shipton		short
291	Svetlana Pencheva		long
101	Temepara Morehu	Mahurangi Coastal Trail Trust	other
353	Terry Dunn		long
289	Tessa Berger		long
327	Tim Cooper		long
39	Tira Cole		short
281	Tony Walton		long
263	Vladimir Mikov		long
332	Valerie Clapham		long
318	Valerie Lee		long
279	Vic Wilson		long
29	Victoria Christie		short
349	Vivienne Paterson		long
331	Vladimir Minrov		long
75	Wayne Mackenzie		short
38	Wendy Pond	Manu Waiata Restoration & Protection Society	short
265	William Counce		long
302	Yanny Seppin		long

Attachment D – Wider Te Muri area



ATTACHMENT 1

AMENDED MAHURANGI REGIONAL PARK DRAFT VARIATION – July 2016

17.7 Mahurangi Regional Park

17.7.1 Park values

Mahurangi Regional Park is a collection of coastal park locations that define the entrance into the Mahurangi Harbour, totalling 245 hectares. The park consists of three distinct areas with two coastal peninsulas that contain a range of sheltered sandy bays backed by bush covered coastal cliffs and overlooking the scenic Mahurangi Harbour. The park is made up of:

- a) Mahurangi West; consisting of Tungutu Point overlooking the sheltered popular sandy Sullivan's Bay (Otarawao) and the secluded Mita Bay (Otuawao) to the north, and Cudlip Point overlooking the ~~relatively isolated open flats of Te Muri Bay across the~~ Te Muri o-Tarariki Stream-Estuary to the south and Te Muri Regional Park. The geological exposures around Cudlip Point and the relatively unmodified east coast estuary are of regional significance. The council manages an esplanade reserve along the northern side of the Te Muri RiverStream. Sullivan's Bay has a vehicle-based campground and there ~~are-is a~~ back-country campgrounds at ~~Te Muri and Mita Bays. Puhoi Cottage, at the Puhoi River Mouth, was built as an early holiday home.~~
- b) Scott Point; lying at the end of the bush covered Te Kapa peninsula in the Mahurangi harbour, contains two baches and the historic Scott Homestead which fronts onto a secluded sandy bay. The peninsula also contains a Department of Conservation reserve and a wharf and boat ramp managed by the local authority that serves recreational boating and the local shellfish industry. The Department of Conservation managed Casnell Island lies just off the headland.
- c) Mahurangi East; which is isolated on the eastern peninsula, separated by the Te Kapa river estuary and the Mahurangi harbour, is accessible only by boat. It contains two baches, one on the west side of the peninsula fronting the tidal Lagoon Bay (Vine House), and one the eastern side in the secluded and sandy Big Bay. It also contains an historic and restored woolshed and a small campground.

Areas of coastal forest dominated by mature pohutukawa and regenerating bush, including kauri, are dotted throughout the park. The best preserved examples are on many of the headlands, such as Cudlip point, ~~Te Muri Point~~ and overlooking Sullivan's Bay. The Mahurangi harbour and coastline hosts a variety of sea birds such as the threatened NZ Dotterel which nests ~~at Te Muri beach and~~ on Mahurangi East, and little blue penguin which nest all along the Mahurangi coast.

The Mahurangi area has a long history of occupation, favoured for its plentiful, seasonal food supplies and natural resources; fishing grounds in the sheltered tidal waters between the islands and the bay, shellfish gathering on the rocky and sandy shores, eels in the streams, birds in the bush inland, and kumara cultivation on the better drained soils on the slopes and alluvial beach flats. The Mahurangi sea area was also a prized shark fishing ground for tangata whenua of Tāmaki, which were dried for winter food and the collection of shark liver oil (which was mixed with pigment for paint and as a body adornment). The descendants of Ngawhetu and Maki (Ngāti Rongo & Te Kawerau) claim the right of kaitiakitanga over this park land including the fortified pa at Opahi and Otawhāo, the places known as Tungutu, Nokenoke, Orokaraka, Puhoi and the Te Muri.

The sea captain, John Sullivan [born in London in 1810, settled at Otawhāo \(Sullivan's Bay\) in 1844 and married Merehai Kaipaka, possibly of the family of Makoare Ponui.¹ From 1842 till his death in 1883 he was the owner and skipper of a number of coastal trading ships. His descendants farmed the land for nearly a century and built the historic Sullivan Homestead in 1875](#)

~~married Meremai Kaipuke and they settled at Sullivan's Bay in the 1870's. Their descendants farmed the land for nearly a century and built the historic Sullivan Homestead in 1875. Both Māori and Europeans are buried at the historic Te Muri cemetery (urupa) on the park.~~ Scott Point, with the Georgian styled homestead built in 1877, was the location of thriving timber milling, boat building and firewood cutting industries and coastal trade.

There are a number of off-shore islands close to the Mahurangi coast. These include Te Haupa (Saddle), Motuora, Motutara, Moturekareka and Kawau Islands. The area is very popular for recreational boating and for activities such as sea kayaking. The park receives between 60,000 to 100,000 visits each year. A popular annual event, the Mahurangi Old Timer Regatta for classic vessels, is often held at Sullivan's Bay and the regatta ball held at the Scott Homestead. The parks are particularly popular with families holidaying in the baches and campgrounds on the parks. Sullivan's Bay is particularly popular, where people compete for space for picnicking, swimming, camping and staying in campervans during the peak of the summer season. In contrast, more remote experiences are offered ~~at Te Muri, which has no road access and is separated by the Te Muri River estuary, and~~ Mahurangi East, which is separated by the Te Kapa River estuary and Mahurangi Harbour, and is only accessible by boat.

¹ [Based on Jade River – a history of Mahurangi by Ron Locker \(1994\)](#)

Mahurangi Regional Park was progressively acquired for regional park purposes ~~between from 1966 and 1979~~. The park land was developed in the late 1970s and its patterns of use are now well established. The small campground at Sullivan's Bay is very popular and the park is an increasingly popular destination for campervans, which currently park in the foreshore parking area in the main arrival area. There are growing concerns about the visual impact of campervans on the park and views from the sea.

17.7.2 Park vision

Mahurangi Regional Park is a set of separate locations on the beautiful Mahurangi Harbour, with isolated destinations only accessible by foot ~~at low tide~~ or by boat. They offer superb swimming on sandy beaches, views of the coastline and off-shore islands and unrivalled kayaking and boating. Camping is provided at beachfront camp sites and overnight stays are possible at superbly located baches. ~~The rich Māori and settler history of the Mahurangi is protected, in particular at Te Muri cemetery and at Scott's Homestead.~~

17.7.3 Management focus

Over the long term, Mahurangi Regional Park will be managed as a Class II park (refer to section 7.1), with Sullivan's Bay and Scott Point managed as a Special management zones. The park will provide:

- Protection of the outstanding headland landscapes at the mouth of the Mahurangi harbour and enhancement of the coastal forests by protecting and enhancing the biodiversity values of the park including the restoration of the coastal forests containing pohutukawa and stands of mature puriri.
- Opportunities for tangata whenua to strengthen their connection to the land, to provide for their hauora, and to be involved in the park management processes in ways which have particular regard to the practical expression of kaitiakitanga.
- The opportunity to learn about the rich Māori and European history of the locality.
- Opportunities for people to enjoy an overview of the entrance to the scenic Mahurangi harbour, and a key access point to the Mahurangi Harbour for water related recreation, such as sea kayaking, by promoting the park as a maritime-oriented park.
- Opportunities for people to enjoy tramping, walking and picnicking at a number of beach locations.

- Intimate and isolated camping and bach stay opportunities on the park.

Over the next 10 years the management of Mahurangi Regional Park will focus on:

- maintaining, protecting and enhancing the coastal forest, with an emphasis of protecting and replacing pohutukawa, protecting stands of puriri and the habitats and populations of indigenous fauna,
- establishing tangata whenua for the park, identifying, mapping and assessing tangata whenua values associated with the park, and creating processes and opportunities to increase tangata whenua involvement with regional parks,
- enabling people to learn about the rich maritime history of the locality by interpreting the significant heritage stories, including people, places, milestones and events,
- protecting the historic Scott Homestead and establish appropriate community uses for it,
- integrating the management of regional, local authority and Department of Conservation park land and reserves in the locality, and
- rationalising the day use and camping arrangements at Sullivan's Bay and make provision for campervans in a way that does not detract from the visual amenity of the park and views from the sea, the amenity of the existing campground and the enjoyment of day visitors.

Over the next five years the council will give priority to;

- reviewing the configuration of the arrival area at Sullivan's Bay and upgrading this; including relocating the campervans at Sullivan's Bay away from the beach frontage to improve the visual amenity of the park,
- constructing a designated ~~CCSCC~~ campground ~~ervan area~~, and
- reducing the size of the Sullivan's Bay campground and developing additional camping opportunities to the west of the existing campground.

17.7.4 Management policies

IMPORTANT: The following management policies must be read in conjunction with the relevant principles, objectives and policies contained in parts 6 to 16 of this plan.

Natural settings

1. Complete the coastal forest enhancement revegetation programme with supplementary planting of pohutukawa, where appropriate, while retaining the views and vistas.
2. Manage recreational activity, especially dogs, in the coastal areas so that they do not unduly disturb the birdlife, such as nesting little blue penguins and NZ dotterels.
3. Maintain pest animal and plant control on the park to prevent incursions onto the off-shore islands in the vicinity.
4. Implement measures in areas of kauri to reduce the risk of spreading kauri dieback, in accordance with section 10.4.4.

Cultural heritage settings

5. Resurvey and update information on archaeological sites on the park land and implement the Archaeological Site Management Actions identified in the Cultural Heritage Inventory.
6. Develop an interpretation trail using existing tracks at Sullivans Bay to assist management and understanding of the cultural heritage significance of the park and surrounding.
7. Manage the historic buildings in accordance with the following heritage conservation plans:
 - a) Sullivan Homestead Conservation Plan 2003,
 - ~~b) Schischka Cottage Conservation Plan 2002,~~
 - ~~c) Vine House Conservation Plan 2001 (which includes the Lagoon Woolshed),~~
 - ~~d) Scott Homestead Conservation Plan 2000.~~
8. ~~Formalise the management of the historic Te Muri Cemetery with Rodney District Council.~~
9. ~~Prepare and implement, in consultation with descendants and Rodney District Council, a management plan for the Te Muri cemetery, as shown on Map 7.2.~~

Farmed settings

- ~~108.~~ Continue to farm the majority of the park as open pasture on Mahurangi West to recognise its rural heritage, retain key views and vistas, and facilitate recreation and use (including farm experiences).
- ~~119.~~ Retain trees in grazed areas and, where necessary, plant further trees for shade and shelter for farm stock consistent with the Regional Parks Livestock Shelter and Shade Management Guidelines.

Recreation and use management

- ~~12. Upgrade and manage the Puhoi cottage as overnight accommodation as part of the bach escapes programme.~~
- ~~1310.~~ Maintain the informal lay-by at Tungutu Point to provide access to a major vantage point.
- ~~1411.~~ Reconfigure the car parking at the park entrance to Sullivan Bay to improve security, and maintain the service road access to Te Muri Regional Park and facilitate pedestrian access to Te Muri beach.
- ~~1512.~~ Maintain Te Muri beach as a remote location and Te Muri Campground as a backcountry campground with pedestrian and boat access only. Investigate and if feasible and resources permit, develop an arrival area-car parking area on the north side of the Te Muri Stream, off the service road access, as shown on Map 7.2 involving;
 - a) a car vehicle parking area off the service road
 - b) a boardwalk and bridge providing for pedestrian, cycle and light service vehicle access only
 - c) visitor information and emergency phone
 - d) public toilets and water supply.
- ~~1613.~~ Seek amendments to the dog control policies and bylaws to prohibit dogs from Mahurangi East in order to protect breeding shore birds.

Tangata whenua

- ~~1714.~~ Recognise the special relationship of tangata whenua with the Mahurangi Regional Park through:

- a) acknowledging the relationship through a range of visitor services and infrastructures such as interpretation and tohu tangata whenua,
- b) consulting on the planning, protection, development and management of the park and the tangata whenua values they contain,
- c) investigating options with tangata whenua to enable them to exercise their role as kaitiaki over sites of significance, and
- d) supporting tangata whenua to undertake activities which enable them to provide for their hauora while sustaining the mauri of the park's natural and historic resources (refer to Part 9).

~~18~~15. Ensure senior staff responsible for managing the park meet at least once a year with tangata whenua appointed kaitiaki (representatives) to discuss the annual work programme and the management actions outlined in Part 9.

Note: For an up to date list of iwi, hapū and/or marae contacts please refer to the council website.

Principal relationships

~~19~~16. Liaise with Rodney ~~District Council~~Local Board, adjoining landowners and the local community to ensure the planning, development and management of land adjoining Mahurangi Regional Park:

- a) protects and enhances the park values,
- b) provides an integrated approach to pest animal and plant control programmes, ecological restoration programmes and recreation activities, and
- c) improves the access to the park.

~~20~~17. In addition to the matters outlined in policy 19, liaise with Rodney ~~District Council~~Local Board specifically in relation to boating access and dog control.

~~21~~18. Liaise with the licensee of Vine House to ensure it is managed in accordance with the Vine House Conservation Plan 2001; and make it available to the public as part of the bach escape network.

~~22~~19. Support the Ministry of Fisheries, the Department of Conservation and tangata whenua in promoting and enforcing fisheries regulations and enforce any council's control~~ban~~ of set netting from regional parks (refer to policy 13.6.1.5).

Special management zones

Sullivan's Bay

Sullivan's Bay is the main arrival area on the park. It is a small and constrained bay containing the main car parking, visitor facilities, a campground and the historic Sullivan Homestead which acts as a ranger residence and park depot. It is very popular with campers and as a destination for caravans. There is a need to rationalise the arrangement of facilities within the bay to accommodate the range of activities, and not detract from its natural charm as a beach location, including the visual impacts from the sea.

- 230. Manage Sullivan's Bay as a main arrival area for the park.
- 241. Review, in consultation with key stakeholders, the configuration and use of the arrival area at Sullivan's Bay, in relation to car parking, camping, day use activity and provision for campervans and caravans, as shown on Map 7.2 including:
 - a) rationalising and upgrading the toilets facilities at Sullivan's Bay.
 - b) managing the Sullivan's Bay campground and car parking areas to maintain the foreshore areas as open areas for communal use and reduce the visual impacts on the coastline and from the sea,
 - c) reducing the capacity of the existing Sullivans Bay campground to 30 persons while investigating options to accommodate additional camping on the hill above the current campground and, once established, reduce the existing Sullivan's Bay campground to 20 persons.
 - d) developing ~~designated areas for~~ for a SCC campground ~~ervans~~ and in the short term, moving campervans away from the foreshore parking spaces.

Scott Point

Scott Point, at the end of the Te Kapa Peninsula, contains land owned and managed by three public agencies; the council, Department of Conservation and Rodney District Council. It contains a wharf and landing and a boat ramp used by recreational boating and the shell fishing industry. The regional park land also contains the historic Scott Homestead and two houses, Ferguson House and Bailey Cottage, which are available for holiday rental as part of the bach escapes programme. The location acts as an access point for visitors to Mahurangi East.

Scott homestead was built by Thomas Scott jnr. in 1877-81. This former hotel and boarding house dates from a time before road access was developed to the Mahurangi, when the harbour was a hub of shipbuilding and timber milling activity. Today the Scott homestead is one of the heritage icons of the Mahurangi area, with which the local community has developed a strong sense of attachment.

Finding an appropriate use for the Scott Homestead that is consistent both with the retention of its heritage value and setting, while allowing public access to the grounds, has been an ongoing challenge. Fire egress and protection, structural issues and protection of the heritage fabric are amongst the constraints that restrict use of the upper level of the building. The limited car parking capacity in the locality also limits use options.

- 225. Manage Scott Point as an arrival area for Mahurangi East.
- 236. Prepare and implement a conservation plan for the setting of Scott Homestead, including the heritage fruit trees associated with the homestead.
- 247. Manage the Scott Homestead in accordance with the conservation plan and investigate appropriate public use for the homestead, including its possible use for overnight accommodation.
- 258. Formalise, in consultation with Rodney ~~District Council~~Local Board and Department of Conservation, the integrated management of the Department of Conservation land (including Casnell Island), local reserves at Scott Point and the use of Mahurangi East, with respect to pest animal and plant control, and the provision of recreational opportunities.
- 269. Investigate, in association with Rodney ~~District Council~~Local Board, the provision of additional car parking and toilet facilities to meet use at Scott Point and to service the Scott Homestead.
- 2730. Investigate removing the aging pine trees on the regional park land along the western side of Ridge Road and replace with appropriate species, following consultation with the Heritage New Zealand ~~Historic Places Trust~~ regarding archaeological sites in the area.
- 2831. Maintain public walking access along the beach to Scott Homestead and sign post and improve walking access between the Ferguson house, Bailey Cottage, the Scott Homestead and the adjoining Mahurangi Scenic Reserve (DOC).

17.7.5 Recreation and use activities

Permitted activities

The table below shows the permitted activities that are allowed on Mahurangi Regional Park, as outlined in section 13.3. It also outlines any permanent restrictions that will be applied to the permitted activities for this park. The council may also apply temporary restrictions to any permitted activities (refer to policy 13.3.1.2). Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

If an activity is not listed in this table, it may be allowed as a controlled (see table below) or discretionary activity in terms of section 13.5, unless they are prohibited in terms of section 13.6 of this plan.

Permitted activities	Status and restrictions
Barbecues	Permitted at either facilities provided at Sullivan's Bay or portable gas barbecues subject to fire restrictions that may apply from time to time.
Boat access	A boat launching ramp and trailer parking is available at Scott Point. Small craft, such as kayaks, can be hand launched at Sullivan Bay. Navigational Safety Bylaw 2008 applies.

Permitted activities	Status and restrictions
Dogs	<p>Dogs are permitted on a lead;</p> <p>a) On the Cudlip Point Loop Track, except during lambing season (July, August and September inclusive).</p> <p>b) On Mita Bay beach and the coastal area around to Opahi Bay. Dogs can only access Mita Bay by boat, or by foot from Opahi Bay.</p> <p>c) At Scott Point and adjoining beaches: except between 9am and 7pm from the first Sunday in October to the 3rd Sunday in March.</p> <p>d) Mahurangi East park land and adjoining beaches.</p> <p>Temporary restrictions may apply.</p> <p>Dogs are prohibited from park land at Sullivans Bay and Te Muri <u>estuary and foreshore</u> and adjoining beaches at all times.</p> <p>Council will seek to have these policies amended (refer to policy 16 above).</p> <p>Dogs are subject to local authority dog control policies and bylaws which are subject to change. Reference should be made to the council's website.</p>
Informal individual, family or group activities.	<p>Informal groups are limited to 75 persons in order to manage conflict with other recreation activities. Groups larger than 75 must obtain a discretionary activity consent.</p>
Recreational cycling	<p>Permitted on designated poled routes across farm land and park roads (refer to Maps 7.1 and 7.2) but temporary restrictions may apply on sites of significance to tangata whenua, sensitive archaeological sites and ecological areas; or to protect park values and to enable park operations such as pest control and lambing. Phytosanitary measures may be required when using tracks within kauri zones.</p>
Walking, tramping, running and orienteering	<p>Permitted on designated tracks (refer to Maps 7.1 and 7.2) and council approved orienteering course) and open pasture areas but temporary restrictions may apply to:</p>

Permitted activities	Status and restrictions
	protect sites of significance to tangata whenua, sensitive archaeological sites and ecological areas; or to enable park operations such as lambing and pest control. Phytosanitary measures may be required when using tracks within kauri zones.

Controlled activities

The table below shows the controlled activities that are allowed on Mahurangi Regional Park, as outlined in section 13.4. It also outlines where information on permanent restrictions to controlled activities can be found. The council may also apply temporary restrictions to any controlled activities (refer to policy 13.4.1.2). Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

Controlled activities require prior booking through the council.

If an activity is not listed in this table, it may be allowed as a discretionary activity in terms of section 13.5, unless they are prohibited in section 13.6 of this plan.

Controlled activities	Description of site (if applicable)	Restrictions and conditions
Baches	<p>Scott Point: Baileys Cottage (6 people) and Ferguson House (8 people).</p> <p>Mahurangi East: Vine House (6 <u>8</u> people) and the Big Bay Bach (8-6 people).</p> <p>Subject to completion of improvements, Puhoi Cottage will be available at the Puhoi River entrance (across from Wenderholm Regional Park)</p>	<p>Conditions on booking confirmation.</p> <p>Note the Vine House is available for hire by the general public and is under licence to the Auckland Canoe Club.</p>
Campervans and caravans	Sullivan's Bay arrival area (10 vehicles) until a SCC Vehicle Campground has been constructed with capacity for	Requires self-containment certificates in car parks.

	no more than 20 vehicles. SCC campervans and caravans will not be allowed along the foreshore in the Sullivan's Bay car parking area.	Further conditions on booking confirmation or camping passes.
Camping	Vehicle based campground: Sullivan's Bay (30 people), Back-country campgrounds: Te Muri (80 people) , Mita Bay (40 people) and Lagoon Bay (20 people).	Conditions on booking confirmation or camping passes.
Meeting venues	The Scott Homestead and grounds are available for meetings, weddings and other celebrations, by arrangement with the council	Listed in Recreation Conditions on booking confirmation. Note: special conditions apply to the Scott Homestead because of its heritage values. 100 people can be booked in during the period March to November inclusive and 30 people during the peak summer period December to February inclusive.

Leases and licenses

The table below identifies the leases and licenses operating on Mahurangi Regional Park when this management plan was adopted.

Licences may be surrendered and new ones may be created during the term of this plan. For an up to date list of leases and licences please refer to please refer to the council website.

Holder	Type	Expiry date	Notes
Auckland Canoe Club	Licence to occupy Vine House	2014	Occupation limited to specific days of the year.

17.7.6 Monitoring

The council will monitor aspects of Mahurangi Regional Park in accordance with section 7.7. In addition to the standard monitoring programme, the council will undertake specific monitoring as follows:

1. Monitor the viability of the coastal birdlife, such as NZ dotterels and little blue penguins.

ATTACHMENT 2

AMENDED TE MURI REGIONAL PARK DRAFT VARIATION – July 2016

17.24 Te Muri Regional Park

17.24.1 Park values

1.1 Land Form

Located 46 kilometres from central Auckland on the region's north eastern coast, the 407 hectare park extends three kilometres inland from Te Muri Beach and is bounded by Te Muri-O-Tarariki Stream (Te Muri Stream) in the north and the Puhoi River to the South. Te Muri is situated between Mahurangi Regional Park (West) across the Te Muri Stream and Wenderholm Regional Park across the Puhoi River.

The Te Muri beach portion of the park which was acquired in the 1970s was originally managed as part of Mahurangi Regional Park, until the Te Muri variation was prepared covering the entire park. This original 20ha portion of the park which fronts Te Muri beach has been open to the public since the late 1980s, being only accessible by foot across the Te Muri Stream.

The park consists largely of open pasture with a central east-west ridge. The highest point is 130 metres above sea level. The ridge culminates in a large area of flat land in the east behind the sandy Te Muri Beach. A series of minor ridges fall away from the central ridge to the north to the Te Muri Stream and to the south to the Puhoi River. Areas of native and exotic forests are dispersed along and between these ridges. The valleys and flats contain a number of small streams and wetlands.

1.2 Cultural significance

The land has a long and rich pre-European history involving multiple inter-tribal events, battles and marriages dating back to the mid-1600s. The peoples of Ngati Manuhiri, Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua have continued association with the land through this history and the fact that tupuna are buried at the Te Muri urupa on the park. Significant and highly valued sites include a number of prominent and reasonably intact pa, kianga sites, such as a Nokenoke, and the Te Muri urupa (cemetery), including a burial site for taonga, such as the tohora (whales)¹. Both Māori and Europeans are buried at the historic urupa.

The land has been farmed since the 1820s. Successive generations of the Schischka family have farmed the Puhoi block from 1885 till the sale of the 387ha farm to the Auckland Council in 2010. Owing to its isolation from roads stock were forded over the Puhoi River at low tide whilst fertiliser and building materials were bought to Te Muri Beach by barge. The original Schischka cottage at the south end of the beach has been removed. However, a garage, a cottage made available as a retreat for Franciscan friars and a small cottage on the bank of the Puhoi River remain. The land also contains an historic woolshed and two houses.

¹ Maori histories and statement of the cultural values associated with Wenderholm, Te Muri and Mahurangi (West) Regional Parks can be found in more detail in a Cultural Values Assessment prepared by the Ngati Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust, October 2015.

1.3 Natural heritage

Natural heritage of the park is characterised by a diverse range of native ecosystems types. These include coastal pohutukawa forest, kauri-podocarp-broadleaved forest, scrub, freshwater wetlands, dunes and extensive estuarine areas with mangroves, saltmarsh and salt meadow. There are also several streams with connectivity to the marine environment. One of the most significant features from a natural heritage perspective is the intact ecological sequence which extends from the Te Muri beach to the Te Muri estuary and upstream to freshwater wetlands and the Te Muri Stream. There are few remaining examples of this type and quality in the Auckland region. To date 348 plant species have been recorded and ten of these are nationally or regionally threatened plant species.

Existing vegetation and wetlands have been extensively modified through logging, farm conversion and on-going farming activities and have until recently been grazed by stock. The property has, however, potential for extensive restoration of these ecosystems through protection and re-vegetation programmes, which can be achieved without compromising the land's recreation potential or spectacular views.

A range of common native and exotic birds have been recorded. Threatened bird species known to utilise habitats within the park include an estimated three to five pairs of Northern New Zealand dotterel and two to three pairs of variable oystercatcher. Both species nest each year on Te Muri beach. A flock of up to 40 godwits arrive each summer and Caspian terns are occasional visitors. Paradise shelduck and mallard duck also inhabit the estuarine areas. Kaka appear as seasonal visitors to the park. Australasian bittern, banded rail and spotless crane were recorded during the 1980s 'NZ Wildlife Service Sites of Special Wildlife Interest' surveys of the Puhoi River and the Te Muri Stream. There are potentially populations of Hochstetter's frog and wetland bird, gecko and skink species within the park given the suitable habitat available.

1.4 Recreation potential

The parkland has significant recreation potential for a range of active outdoor pursuits, such as tramping, biking, horse riding, camping and beach related activities. The land directly behind Te Muri Beach, contains a remote campground catering for 80 persons. This campground is currently only accessible from Mahurangi West by crossing the Te Muri Stream on foot at low tide. It is intended that all land south of the Te Muri Stream that is currently managed as part of Mahurangi Regional Parks (West) will be formally incorporated into the new Te Muri Regional Park.

17.24.2 Park vision

Together with Wenderholm and Mahurangi Regional Parks, Te Muri forms a strategic coastal park network on the north eastern coast of the region. Te Muri retains its undeveloped natural character and offers visitors a relative sense of remoteness. As a farmed park it offers a wide range of individual and group-orientated active outdoor recreation pursuits in a picturesque setting with panoramic views over the Hauraki Gulf and islands. The park contains opportunities for kiwi bach escapes and remote camping close to

a sandy beach offering safe swimming, kayaking and other beach related activities. The park is rich in cultural heritage and natural values and is an outstanding example of best practice land management which provides a context for environmental and cultural education and demonstrates effective conservation strategies.

17.24.3 Management focus

Over the long term, Te Muri will be managed as a Class II park (refer to section 7.1) with a special management zone along the beach foreshore.

Public access to Te Muri Regional Park will continue to be provided by crossing the Te Muri Stream while boardwalks and a bridge across the stream will be investigated and, if appropriate and feasible, developed with supplementary parking provided at Mahurangi Regional Park. Vehicle access to Te Muri cannot be contemplated until Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with State Highway 1 have been upgraded for the safe passage of park visitors. Once Hungry Creek Road is upgraded, an arrival area will be developed at the western end of the park.

Similarly, once the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points are operational and there is proven need for additional access, investigations may be undertaken to provide pedestrian, cycle and potentially horse access between Wenderholm, Puhoi Village and Te Muri. This may include boat access, land-based routes or a Puhoi River bridge crossing to form part of a Mahurangi Coastal Trail.

Given the need to resolve access issues, the need to develop infrastructure, such as a track network, and the need to protect sensitive ecosystems, habitats and archaeological sites, there will be a gradual and managed introduction of recreation activities, such as mountain biking and horse riding. Recreation infrastructure to support these will be developed as demand justifies the expenditure.

The management of the park will recognise the strategic location of Te Muri and its relationship to the Mahurangi Harbour, Puhoi River, Hauraki Gulf islands and adjoining regional parks by providing;

- A remote experience in a natural and relatively undeveloped setting that is different to the type of experience offered at Mahurangi and Wenderholm regional parks.
- A sustainably farmed and forested setting with enhanced biodiversity and cultural landscape values; through the protection and restoration of riparian areas, wetlands, native forest and cultural sites; which will enable the public to enjoy a wide range of recreation activities and expansive views of the Hauraki Gulf.
- Opportunities for mana whenua to strengthen their connection to the whenua, to provide for their hauora (long term wellbeing) and to be involved in the park management processes in ways which have particular regard to the practical expression of kaitiakitanga.

- A place to learn about the Maori and European history of the park and the surrounding area.
- Providing a network of land and water trails.
- A range of settings for a variety of active and passive recreation activities, including but not limited to traditional regional park activities, such as walking, tramping, and orienteering, as well as biking and horse riding.
- Access to a safe sandy beach for swimming and beach-related activities such as picnicking, and to the coast for water-based recreation, such as kayaking.
- Overnight accommodation opportunities in the form of:
 - camping close to a sandy and safe swimming beach
 - bach escapes

The management of Te Muri will focus on:

- protecting, restoring and enhancing the wetlands, riparian areas, coastal forest ecosystems by fencing, implementing pest plant and animal management and a re-vegetation programme
- protecting threatened and uncommon native species and maintaining the integrity of their habitats
- protecting and interpreting the historic heritage and archaeological features of the park
- identifying and recording mana whenua values associated with the park, and creating opportunities to increase mana whenua involvement with the park
- developing the necessary infrastructure, to facilitate access to the park, a track system and visitor facilities in order to progressively open the park for public use
- re-vegetating eroding slopes and fencing waterways and enhancing native bush areas
- determining the use and management of the woodlots for land management purposes, such as erosion control
- managing various sustainable farming operations and infrastructure in order to maintain the open vistas and to provide a context for outdoor recreation activities
- developing and strengthening partnerships with mana whenua, recreation groups, schools, concessionaires and licensees, and
- establishing and maintaining relationships with adjacent landowners and volunteers to assist in the development and management of the park.

As a priority over the next five years the council will focus on the following park developments:

- completing fencing and continuing enhancing the native bush, fresh water and wetland habitats, including inanga breeding areas

- managing erosion prone areas through fencing and undertaking a re-vegetation programme
- protecting archaeological sites and installing necessary signs and interpretation
- investigating, and if feasible and resources permit, developing boardwalks and a bridge across the Te Muri Stream estuary
- developing recreational trails for walking and biking, linking to existing trails systems and including, where appropriate multi-use tracks, with associated recreation facilities and structures
- removing the shed on the foreshore and upgrade camping services as necessary
- maintaining and where necessary upgrade the existing park houses for operational, cultural, educational or bach experiences
- upgrading the existing central barn as the park depot and workshop
- managing and improving the farming infrastructure, including maintaining the existing farm tracks as gravelled tracks
- installing kauri dieback hygiene measures in vicinity of kauri-podocarp-broadleaved remnants, and
- removing invasive and unnecessary infrastructure off historic heritage and archaeological sites (for example the fence through the central pa site).

17.24.4 Management policies

IMPORTANT: The following management policies must be read in conjunction with the relevant principles, objectives and policies contained in Parts 6 to 16 of this plan.

Natural settings

1. Protect, restore and enhance the wetlands, riparian areas, coastal forest ecosystems by fencing, implementing pest plant and animal management and a re-vegetation programme in the areas identified on Map 24, through a series of re-vegetation plans developed in accordance with policy 7.2.2.2 with an emphasis on:
 - a) preventing stock access
 - b) protecting water quality of the rivers and streams through fencing riparian and wetland areas and planting appropriate native species
 - c) preventing erosion on steep slopes

While;

 - d) protecting the views and vistas of the Hauraki Gulf, including those identified on Map 24
 - e) protecting the integrity of cultural sites, and
 - f) being cognisant of future track developments.

2. Protect wildlife habitats and roosting and nesting coastal birds from undue disturbance and, in particular, NZ dotterels and variable oystercatchers during the nesting season.
3. Protect stands of kauri from the threat of kauri dieback disease by avoiding locating track systems close to kauri, through appropriate track design and maintaining kauri dieback hygiene measures and encouraging implementation by all park users.
4. Replace Tasmanian ngaio from re-vegetation and amenity plantings and remove willow from the Te Muri Stream.
5. Undertake further surveys of the fauna to confirm the presence of indigenous species formerly identified in the locality and any new species, implementing management necessary to ensure their protection.
6. Complete an assessment of all online stream culverts to ensure they provide for the passage of native fish.
7. Rehabilitate potential inanga spawning habitat situated on the edge of the Te Muri estuary and in the low lying basin northeast of the woolshed by widening and benching the excavated drains to optimise their bank profile and maximise the cross-sectional area for spawning fish.

Cultural and historic settings

8. Protect and enhance the cultural values in accordance with the policies in Part 9 Mana whenua and Part 11 Cultural heritage settings (see also policies 36 to 38 below).
9. Record and map cultural and historic heritage sites on the parkland and develop methods for the protection and interpretation of sites of significant cultural and heritage value, in conjunction with mana whenua.
10. Prepare a conservation plan and seek the statutory approvals to maintain historic heritage and archaeological sites on the park, including: the ridge pa site CHI, R10/164 (plan to re-align the fence that currently bisects the site and remove grazing cattle) and other sites being, midden, terraces, logging chute R10/248, burial ground/ururpa R10/243, settlement (historic) R10/323 and pa headland R10/91.
11. Acknowledge the Schischka families historic ties to the land by naming a road or area on the park with a name associated with the Schischka family in consultation with the family.

Farm settings

12. Continue to sustainably farm those portions of the park not devoted to re-vegetation and archaeological protection as open pasture acknowledging the parks rural

heritage, and the need to retain key views and vistas, and facilitate recreation and use of the park (including farm experiences).

13. Progressively replace, relocate and improve fences to facilitate the development of a track network outlined in policy 25 below.
14. Protect native forest, waterways and wetlands and erosion prone areas from livestock intrusion through fencing, retirement and re-vegetation.
15. Retain appropriate trees in grazed areas and, where necessary, plant further trees for shade and shelter for farm stock in accordance with the Regional Parks Livestock Shelter and Shade Management Guidelines.
16. Continue pasture weed management to reduce significant weed issues.
17. Maintain and improve livestock support and handling facilities.
18. At the time of the harvest of the existing woodlots give consideration to the replacement with exotic or native woodlots, or with native vegetation; taking into account the following:
 - a) market conditions for timber
 - b) operational needs, such as erosion control
 - c) recreational needs, and
 - d) conservation needs

Recreation and use management

19. To provide improved access to the park, investigate, and if feasible and as resources permit, construct boardwalks and a bridge over the Te Muri Stream for the purposes of pedestrian, cycle and service vehicle (light utility vehicles) access only.
20. In conjunction with policy 19, investigate developing an arrival area on Mahurangi West to support access to Te Muri in accordance with Policy 12 in the variation to Mahurangi Regional Park - Section 17.7.
21. Park visitors will be actively discouraged from using Hungry Creek Road as access to the park and council work with neighbours and Auckland Transport (AT) on any ongoing behavioural issues until such times as Hungry Creek Road is upgraded.
22. Work with AT and New Zealand Transport Authority (NZTA) to promote the upgrading of Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with the State Highway to make it safe for vehicular, pedestrian and cycle traffic to the park.
23. In the longer term, subject to policy 22, develop the main arrival area near the Hungry Creek Road entrance (refer to Map 24), that introduces visitors to the vistas and recreational opportunities throughout the park,, including;
 - a) an automatic park gate

- b) vehicle parking
 - c) visitor information and emergency phone
 - d) public toilets and water supply, and
 - e) subject to the Hungry Creek Road improvements allowing the safe passage of horse floats and campervans, investigate and if feasible develop parking for horse floats and a small self-contained campervan campground.
24. Once the Te Muri and Hungry Creek Road access points are operational and if there is proven demand, investigate additional means of providing pedestrian, cycle and potentially horse access between Wenderholm, Puhoi Village and Te Muri including boat access, land-based routes or a Puhoi River bridge crossing. Investigations will need to take account of:
- a) demand for recreational access
 - b) resource management and regulatory requirements
 - c) build-ability, operational and maintenance issues
 - d) climate change and related sea level rise
 - e) river catchment conditions and flow dynamics, and
 - f) council funding priorities.
25. Work with stakeholders and mana whenua to develop a walking and recreational biking track network that provides a diverse range of experiences as indicated on Map 24.
26. Once Hungry Creek Road is upgraded and demand establishes a need, work with mountain bike interests and other stakeholders to develop a purpose-built mountain biking trail network.
27. Horse riding will be permitted on the park once Hungry Creek Road has been upgraded and will be managed as a discretionary activity until demand establishes a need to develop dedicated horse trails and facilities; taking into account restrictions that will apply to protect sites of value to mana whenua and ecological areas by:
- a) working with horse riding groups and other stakeholders to develop horse riding trails on the park utilising existing farm tracks and to develop a horse-float parking area near the Hungry Creek Road park entrance.
 - b) working with Rodney Local Board, AT and NZTA to investigate the creation of equestrian greenway trails and a parking area on the western side of State Highway 1.
28. Develop heritage interpretive features or a trail which includes areas;
- a) with significant ecological values, and
 - b) with significant archaeological, cultural and historic values, in consultation with interested mana whenua.

29. Install information hubs and way-finding signs to orientate visitors and facilitate visitor access to the recreation destinations within the park, including the key views and vistas.
30. Support Te Muri being included in a sea kayak trail which incorporates the offshore islands.
31. Develop an orienteering course in consultation with interested parties, mana whenua and other relevant stakeholders.
32. Investigate, and if feasible, permit the use of existing houses not used for operational purposes as bach escapes or for other recreation-oriented, educational and/or cultural purposes.
33. Facilitate opportunities to cater for recreation and social events on the park, as controlled or discretionary activities, which align with the vision and values outlined above, and including but not limited to concessionaires and mana whenua groups who can facilitate recreation and cultural activities on or from the park.

Mana whenua

34. Recognise mana whenua through:
 - a) acknowledging the relationship of mana whenua to the park through a range of visitor services, such as interpretation and tohu mana whenua
 - b) consulting on the naming, planning and management of the sites of value to mana whenua
 - c) investigating options with mana whenua to enable them to exercise their role as kaitiaki over sites of significance and involvement in the design of features on the park, and
 - d) supporting mana whenua to undertake activities which enable them to provide for their long term health and well-being while sustaining the mauri of the park's natural and historic resources (refer to Part 7 of this plan).
35. Ensure senior staff responsible for managing the park meet at least once a year with mana whenua appointed kaitiaki representatives to discuss the annual work programme and the policies outlined in Part 9 of this plan.²
36. Where appropriate use te reo on information relating to the parks, including signs and marker posts.

Principal relationships

37. Liaise with adjoining landowners and the local community to ensure the planning, development and management of land adjoining the parkland at Te Muri:

² For an up to date list of iwi contacts please refer to the iwi engagement section of the council website.

- a) protects and enhances the park values, and
 - b) provides an integrated approach to pest animal and plant control programmes, ecological restoration programmes and recreation activities.
- 38. Liaise with Auckland Council planning and regulatory teams to ensure the council bylaws, planning policies and rules facilitate the effective management of the park.
- 39. Work with Rodney Local Board, AT and the NZTA on matters relating to improving access to the park.
- 40. Support the Ministry of Fisheries, the Department of Conservation and mana whenua in promoting and enforcing fisheries regulations and enforce any council control of set netting from regional parks (refer to policy 13.6.1.5).
- 41. Continue to liaise with stakeholders, mana whenua and community groups to develop and improve recreation, educational and cultural opportunities on the park.
- 42. Establish a friends group for the park and wider Mahurangi network of regional parks.
- 43. Maintain and expand a volunteer programme to increase community engagement and support park outcomes, in accordance with section 13.2.6.

Special Management Zone

Te Muri Beach

Te Muri beach is a picturesque sandy beach that is currently only accessible to the public by wading across the Te Muri Stream. It has become popular for visitors seeking as a remote and relatively undeveloped natural coastal setting. It contains a campground that has been enjoyed by the public as a remote campground since the 1980s.

The beach sits on a spit of land that contains an historic cemetery and a number of sensitive archaeological features of value to mana whenua. It is also the habitat of a number of endangered coastal birds. It is however vulnerable to the sea level rise as a consequence of predicted climate change. It is proposed that the Te Muri spit and beach be managed a Special Management Zone in order to maintain the qualities that park visitors seek and to manage the environmental challenges it faces.

- 44. Manage the Te Muri Beach SMZ for the following activities;
 - a) picnicking
 - b) beach related activities
 - c) camping
 - d) events during off-peak periods
- 45. Maintain the campground behind Te Muri Beach and, if demand establishes a need, expand the capacity of the campground as a series of intimate enclaves while recognising the coastal buffer zone identified below.

46. Limit infrastructure to a level appropriate to serve the permitted activities, including toilets, walking tracks, visitor information, directional signage and shelters.
47. Restore and stabilise the foreshore dune systems through planting in appropriate native vegetation, weed control, removing unnecessary structures and managing pedestrian access.
48. Create a buffer zone to allow for dune stabilisation and keep it free of infrastructure except that designed to protect the dunes.
49. As existing infrastructure is upgraded relocated it away from the foreshore buffer zone.
50. Remove the existing shed from the foreshore.
51. Maintain the integrity of the whale urupa free from structures and activity likely to have a detrimental impact on it.
52. Maintain the Te Muri cemetery in accordance with the approved conservation plan.

17.24.5 Recreation and use activities

Permitted activities

The table below shows the permitted activities that are allowed on Te Muri Regional Park in accordance with section 13.3 of this plan. It also outlines any restrictions that will be applied to the permitted activities for this park.

If an activity is not listed in this table, it may be allowed as a controlled or as a discretionary activity in terms of section 13.5, unless they are prohibited in terms of section 13.6 of this plan. The council may also apply temporary restrictions to any permitted or conditional activity (refer to policy 13.3.1.3). Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

Permitted activities	Status/restriction
Barbecues	Portable gas barbecues are permitted but fire restrictions may apply over the summer period.
Boat access (including sea kayak/waka)	Beaches suitable for launching small craft such as kayaks. Bookable camping facilities are available for people arriving by kayaks or waka.
Informal group activities	Size of groups is restricted to 75 persons in order to manage conflict with other recreation activities. Groups larger than 75 must obtain a controlled or discretionary activity consent. Informal group activities generally include, picnicking, walking, tramping, and informal games (refer to section 11.3 and Glossary).
Recreational biking and mountain biking	Permitted on designated tracks subject to restrictions to protect sites of significance to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage and archaeological sites, and ecological areas; or to enable park operations such as farming operations, track maintenance and pest control.
Walking, running and orienteering	Permitted on designated tracks and open pasture areas but restrictions may apply to protect sites of significance to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage and archaeological sites and ecological areas; or to enable park operations such as farming operations, track repair and pest control.

Controlled activities

The table below shows the controlled activities that are allowed on the parkland at Te Muri, as outlined in section 13.4. It also outlines where information on permanent restrictions to controlled activities can be found. Note: controlled activities require prior booking through the council.

If an activity is not listed in this table, it may be allowed as a discretionary activity in terms of section 13.5, unless they are prohibited in section 13.6 of this plan.

The council may also apply temporary restrictions to any controlled activities (refer to policy 13.4.1.2). Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

Controlled activities	Description of site (if applicable)	Restrictions/conditions
Baches	Puhoi Cottage is available for hire. Other baches may become available once road access is improved to the park And subject to policy 32.	Baches must be booked through the council call centre. Check the council website for availability. Conditions and fees apply.
Campervans/ Caravans	Self-contained campground opportunities may become available once access to and through the park has been improved.	Subject to Hungry Creek Road being made safe for the passage of campervans. Requires self-containment certification. Conditions and fees apply.
Camping	Back-country campground (initially a maximum of 80 people). Vehicle-based camping may become available once road access is improved.	Camping must be booked through the council call centre. Check the council website for availability. Conditions and fees apply.
Recreational horse riding	Recreational horse riding will not be permitted until Hungry Creek Road has been upgraded. Initially this will be managed as a discretionary activity until demand establishes a need to develop dedicated horse facilities, at which time it will be managed as a controlled activity	Subject to Hungry Creek Road being made safe for the passage of horse floats. Riders must obtain an annual horse riding pass. Access may be denied for periods because of park operations, such as farming operations, track repair and pest control or poor ground

Controlled activities	Description of site (if applicable)	Restrictions/conditions
	on designated routes. Restrictions will apply to protect sites of value to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage, archaeological sites and ecological areas.	conditions. Check the council website.

Prohibited activities

Activities listed in section 13.6 of this plan are prohibited on Te Muri Regional Park.

Dogs are prohibited from Te Muri Regional Park as dog access is permitted at Wenderholm and on Cudlip Point on Mahurangi Regional Park. Note that dog control is subject to the Dog Control Act 1996 and is subject to change – refer to the council website for current dog control bylaws.

Leases and licences

No leases and licences were operating on Te Muri Regional Park when this management plan was adopted. However, new licences may be created in terms of section 13.5 'Discretionary Activities' of this plan during the term of the plan. For an up to date list of issued licences please refer to the council website.

17.24.6 Monitoring

The council will monitor aspects of the Te Muri regional Park in accordance with section 7.7 of this plan.

ATTACHMENT 3

LEGEND

LEGEND

	Existing Auckland regional boundary		Water catchment land
	Auckland Council regional boundary		Leased / licenced area
	Regional park boundary		Department of Conservation land
(2b)	Management policies		Public open space or local reserve
	Road or carpark	<div>Land subject to the Reserves Act 1977</div> <div> Council land</div> <div> Crown land administered by the Council</div> <div> QEII Trust land administered by the Council</div>	
	Park track		
	Hillary Trail		
	Montana Heritage Trail		
	Tracks outside regional parkland		Toilet
	Proposed track		Parking
	Proposed kayak trail		Information
	Proposed road		Camping
	Roads to be closed		Park House
	Recreation cycling and mt biking track		Wildlife area - Bird roosting area
	Horse riding track		Picnicking
	Tracks with limits on discretionary use		Barbecue
	Building		Playground
	Proposed infrastructure		Canoeing/Kayaking
	Fence		Phone
	Pest-proof fence		Boat launching - Boat ramp
	Campground		Visitor information shelter
	Boat ramp, wharf or jetty		Outdoor Education Centre
	Sand		Fishing
	Wetland		Equestrian area
	Stream		Wheelchair access
	Lake or dam		Restaurant
	Marine reserve		Shower
	Proposed marine reserve		Drinking water - Tap
	Existing vegetation		
	Exotic tree planting		
	Revegetation area		
	Habitat management area		
	Ark in the Park / Kokako Block		
(SMZ)	Special management zone		
	Capped discretionary activity area		
	Geological feature		
	Cultural Heritage Inventory site		
	Archaeological site		
	View points and vistas		

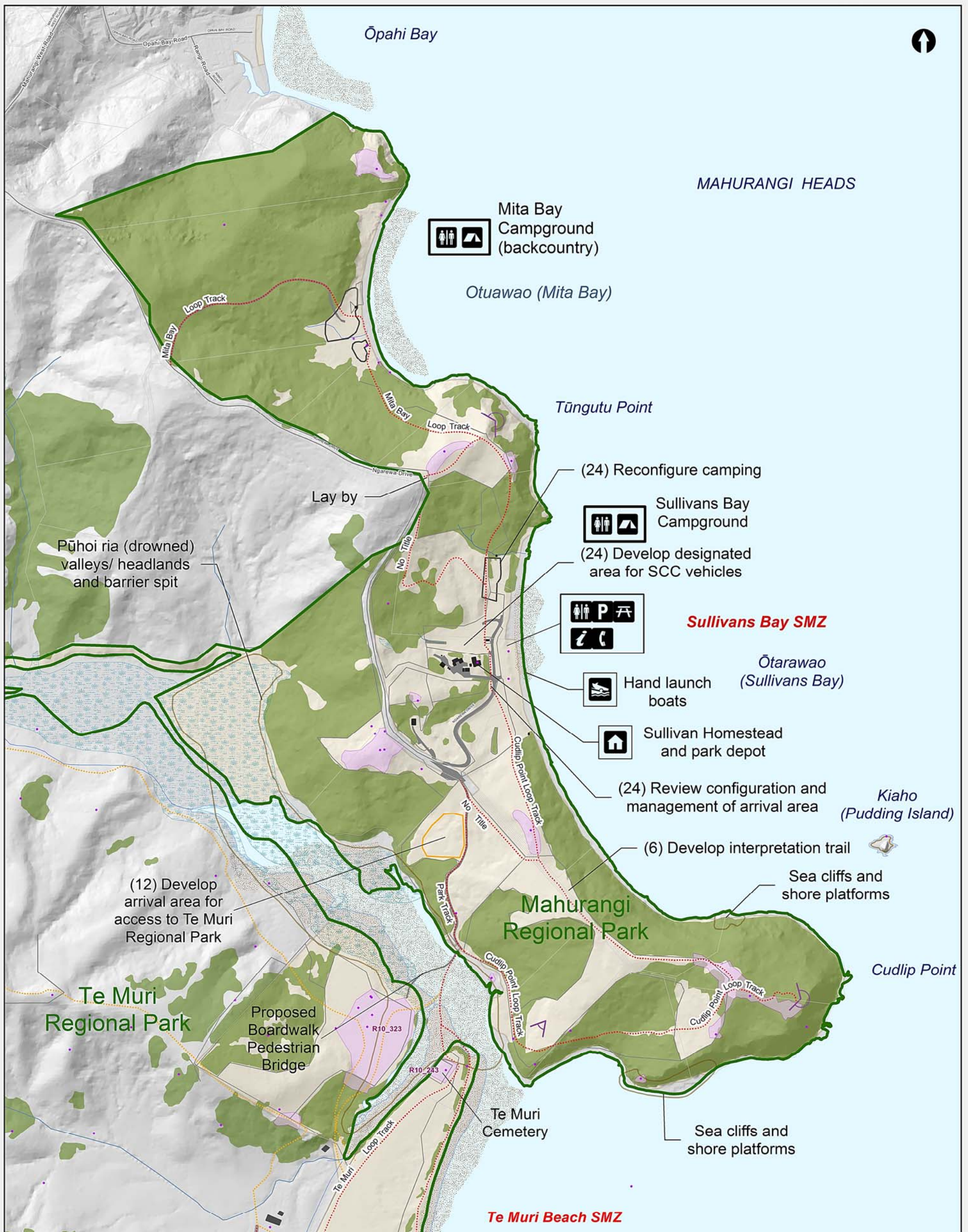
AUCKLAND REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Legend

This document is not to be reproduced or replicated in any way.
Coastline sourced from the Digital Cadastral Database, LINZ.
Crown Copyright Reserved.
Road network composite from NRCO (Terralink Ltd)
and Street Centrelines (LINZ).
Crown Copyright Reserved.
Information Services, Auckland Regional Council
August 2010

ATTACHMENT 4

MAHURANGI REGIONAL PARK WEST - MAP



AUCKLAND REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mahurangi Regional Park - West

Map 7.2

0 80 160 320 480 640 Meters

Scale @ A1 = 1:4,000

This document is not to be reproduced or replicated in any way. Coastline sourced from the Digital Cadastral Database, LINZ. Crown Copyright Reserved. Road network composite from NRCD (Terralink Ltd) and Street Centrelines (LINZ). Crown Copyright Reserved. Information Services, Auckland Regional Council, August 2010



ATTACHMENT 5

TE MURI REGIONAL PARK DRAFT VARIATION – January 2016

17.24 Te Muri Regional Park

17.24.1 Park values

1.1 Land Form

Located 46 kilometres from central Auckland on the region's north eastern coast, the 387 hectare park extends three kilometres inland from Te Muri Beach and is bounded by Te Muri-O-Tarariki Stream (Te Muri Stream) in the north and the Puhoi River to the South. Te Muri is situated between Mahurangi Regional Park (West) across the Te Muri Stream and Wenderholm Regional Park across the Puhoi River. The Te Muri beach portion of the park is currently managed as part of Mahurangi Regional Park. This part of the park which fronts the Te Muri beach is currently open to the public who can access it on foot across the Te Muri Stream. It contains a remote campground, and the Te Muri urupa and cemetery.

The land consists largely of open pasture with a central east-west ridge. The highest point is 130 metres above sea level. The ridge culminates in a large area of flat land in the east behind the sandy Te Muri Beach. A series of minor ridges fall away from the central ridge to the north to the Te Muri Stream and to the south to the Puhoi River. Areas of native and exotic forests are dispersed along and between these ridges. The valleys and flats contain a number of small streams and wetlands.

1.2 Cultural significance

The land has a long and rich pre-European history involving multiple inter-tribal events, battles and marriages dating back to the mid-1600s. The peoples of Ngati Manuhiri, Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua have continued association to the land through this history and the fact that tupuna are buried at the Te Muri urupa on the park. Significant and highly valued sites include a number of prominent and reasonably intact pa, kianga sites, such as a Nokenoke, and the urupa, including a burial site for taonga, such as the tohora (whales)¹.

The land has been farmed since the 1820s. Successive generations of the Schischka family have farmed the Puhoi block from 1885 till the sale of the land to the Auckland Council in 2010. Owing to its isolation from roads stock were forded over the Puhoi River at low tide whilst fertiliser and building materials were bought to Te Muri Beach by

¹ Maori histories and statement of the cultural values associated with Wenderholm, Te Muri and Mahurangi (West) Regional Parks can be found in more detail in a Cultural Values Assessment prepared by the Ngati Manuhiri Kaitiaki Charitable Trust, October 2015.

barge. The original Schischka cottage at the south end of the beach has been removed. However, a garage, a cottage made available as a retreat for Franciscan friars and a small cottage on the bank of the Puhoi River remain. The land also contains an historic woolshed and two houses.

1.3 Natural heritage

Natural heritage of the park is characterised by a diverse range of native ecosystems types. These include coastal pohutukawa forest, kauri-podocarp-broadleaved forest, scrub, freshwater wetlands, dunes and extensive estuarine areas with mangroves, saltmarsh and salt meadow. There are also several streams with connectivity to the marine environment. One of the most significant features from a natural heritage perspective is the intact ecological sequence which extends from the Te Muri beach to the Te Muri estuary and upstream to freshwater wetlands and the Te Muri Stream. There are few remaining examples of this type and quality in the Auckland region. To date 348 plant species have been recorded and ten of these are nationally or regionally threatened plant species.

Existing vegetation and wetlands have been extensively modified through logging, farm conversion and on-going farming activities and have until recently been grazed by stock. The property has, however, potential for extensive restoration of these ecosystems through protection and re-vegetation programmes, which can be achieved without compromising the land's recreation potential or spectacular views.

A range of common native and exotic birds have been recorded. Threatened bird species known to utilise habitats within the park include an estimated three to five pairs of Northern New Zealand dotterel and two to three pairs of variable oystercatcher. Both species nest each year on Te Muri beach. A flock of up to 40 godwits arrive each summer and Caspian terns are occasional visitors. Paradise shelduck and mallard duck also inhabit the estuarine areas. Kaka appear as seasonal visitors to the park. Australasian bittern, banded rail and spotless crane were recorded during the 1980s '*NZ Wildlife Service Sites of Special Wildlife Interest*' surveys of the Puhoi River and the Te Muri Stream. There are potentially populations of Hochstetter's frog and wetland bird, gecko and skink species within the park given the suitable habitat available.

1.4 Recreation potential

The parkland has significant recreation potential for a range of active outdoor pursuits, such as tramping, mountain biking, horse riding, camping and beach related activities. The land directly behind Te Muri Beach, which is currently managed as part of Mahurangi Regional Park (West), contains a remote campground catering for 80 persons.

This campground is currently only accessible from Mahurangi West by crossing the Te Muri Stream on foot at low tide. It is intended that all land south of the Te Muri Stream that is currently managed as part of Mahurangi Regional Parks (West) will be formally incorporated into the new Te Muri Regional Park.

17.24.2 Park vision

Together with Wenderholm and Mahurangi Regional Parks, Te Muri forms a strategic coastal park network on the north eastern coast of the region. Te Muri is a farmed park that offers a wide range of individual and group-orientated active outdoor recreation pursuits in a picturesque setting with panoramic views over the Hauraki Gulf and islands. The park contains a kiwi bach escape and a camping area close to a sandy beach offering safe swimming, kayaking and other beach related activities. The park is rich in cultural heritage and natural values and is an outstanding example of best practice land management which provides a context for environmental education and demonstrates effective conservation strategies.

17.24.3 Management focus

Over the long term, Te Muri will be managed as a Class II park (refer to section 7.1). The management of the park will recognise the strategic location of Te Muri and its relationship to the Mahurangi Harbour, Puhoi River, Hauraki Gulf islands and adjoining regional parks by providing;

- A sustainably farmed and forested setting with expansive views of the Hauraki Gulf that enhances the biodiversity values and cultural landscape of the wider area by protecting and restoring riparian areas, wetlands, native forest and cultural sites which the public can enjoy while undertaking a wide range of recreation activities.
- Opportunities for mana whenua to strengthen their connection to the whenua, to provide for their hauora (long term wellbeing) and to be involved in the park management processes in ways which have particular regard to the practical expression of kaitiakitanga.
- A place to learn about the Maori and European history of the park and the surrounding area.
- Providing a network of land and water trails
- A range of settings for a variety of active and passive recreation activities, including but not limited to traditional regional park activities, such as walking, tramping, and orienteering, as well as mountain biking and horse riding.

- Access to a safe sandy beach for swimming and beach-related activities such as picnicking, and to the coast for water-based recreation, such as kayaking.
- Overnight accommodation opportunities in the form of:
 - Camping close to a sandy and safe swimming beach
 - Bach escape

The management of Te Muri will focus on;

- protecting, restoring and enhancing the wetlands, riparian areas, coastal forest ecosystems by fencing, implementing pest plant and animal management and a re-vegetation programme
- protecting threatened and uncommon native species and maintaining the integrity of their habitats
- protecting and interpreting the historic heritage and archaeological features of the park
- identifying and recording mana whenua values associated with the park, and creating opportunities to increase mana whenua involvement with the park
- developing the necessary infrastructure, such as roads, parking, tracks, visitor facilities for opening the park for public use
- re-vegetating eroding slopes and fencing waterways and native bush areas
- determining the use and management of the exotic woodlots for land management purposes, such as erosion control
- managing various sustainable farming operations and infrastructure in order to maintain the open vistas and to provide a context for outdoor recreation activities
- developing and strengthening partnerships with recreation groups, schools, concessionaires and licensees, and
- establishing and maintaining relationships with adjacent landowners and volunteers to assist in the development and management of the park.

As a priority over the next five years the council will focus on the following park developments;

- complete fencing and continue enhancing the native bush, fresh water and wetland habitats, including inanga breeding areas
- manage erosion prone areas through fencing and re-vegetation

- protect archaeological sites and install necessary signs and interpretation.
- develop the main arrival area near the Hungry Creek Road entrance following Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with the State Highway being improved
- develop recreational trails for walking and cycling, linking to existing trails systems and including where appropriate multi-use tracks, with associated recreation facilities and structures
- remove the shed on the foreshore and upgrade camping services as necessary
- maintain and where necessary upgrade the existing park houses
- upgrade the existing central barn as the park depot and workshop
- manage and improve the farming infrastructure, including maintaining the existing farm tracks as gravelled tracks
- install kauri dieback hygiene measures in vicinity of kauri-podocarp-broadleaved remnants.
- remove invasive and unnecessary infrastructure off historic heritage and archaeological sites (for example the fence through the central pa site)

17.24.4 Management policies

IMPORTANT: The following management policies must be read in conjunction with the relevant principles, objectives and policies contained in Parts 6 to 16 of this plan.

Natural settings

1. Protect, restore and enhance the wetlands, riparian areas, coastal forest ecosystems by fencing, implementing pest plant and animal management and a re-vegetation programme in the areas identified on Map 24, through a series of re-vegetation plans developed in accordance with policy 7.2.2.2 with an emphasis on:
 - a) preventing stock access
 - b) protecting water quality of the rivers and streams through fencing riparian and wetland areas and planting appropriate native species
 - c) preventing erosion on steep slopes

While;

- d) protecting the views and vistas of the Hauraki Gulf, including those identified on Map 24
 - e) protecting the integrity of cultural sites.
- 2. Prior to harvesting exotic woodlots, identify the areas to be re-afforested based on consideration of carbon sequestration needs and liabilities, as well as providing for recreation opportunities.
- 3. Protect stands of kauri from the threat of kauri dieback disease by avoiding locating track systems close to kauri, through appropriate track design and maintaining kauri dieback hygiene measures and encouraging implementation by all park users.
- 4. Establish plan to replace Tasmanian ngaio from revegetation and amenity plantings and remove willow from the Te Muri Stream.
- 5. Maintain dune ecosystem to ensure it remains weed-free and public access is managed as required to protect dune vegetation.
- 6. Undertake further surveys of the fauna to confirm the presence of indigenous species formerly identified in the locality and any new species, implementing management necessary to ensure their protection.
- 7. Complete an assessment of all online stream culverts to ensure they provide for fish passage.
- 8. Rehabilitate potential inanga spawning habitat situated on the edge of the Te Muri estuary and in the low lying basin northeast of the woolshed by widening and benching the excavated drains to optimise their bank profile and maximise their cross-sectional area for spawning fish.

Cultural and historic settings

- 9. Protect and enhance the cultural values in accordance with the policies in Part 9 Mana whenua and Part 11 Cultural heritage settings. (See also Policies 36 and 37 below)
- 10. Record and map cultural and historic heritage sites on the parkland and develop methods for the protection and interpretation of sites of significant cultural and heritage value, in conjunction with mana whenua.

11. Prepare a conservation plan and seek the statutory approvals to maintain historic heritage and archaeological sites on the park, including: the pa site CHI 6799, R10/164 (plan to re-align the fence that currently bisects the site and remove grazing cattle) and other sites being, midden, terraces, logging chute R10/248, burial ground / ururpa R10/243, settlement (historic) R10/323 and pa headland R10/91.
12. Acknowledge the Schischka families historic ties to the land by naming a feature on the park in consultation with the family.

Farm settings

13. Continue to sustainably farm areas of the park as open pasture acknowledging the parks rural heritage, retain key views and vistas, and facilitate recreation and use of the park (including farm experiences).
14. Progressively replace, relocate and improve fences to facilitate the development of a track network outlined in policy 27 below.
15. Protect native forest, waterways and wetlands and erosion prone areas from livestock intrusion through fencing, retirement and re-vegetation.
16. Retain appropriate trees in grazed areas and, where necessary, plant further trees for shade and shelter for farm stock in accordance with the Regional Parks Livestock Shelter and Shade Management Guidelines.
17. Continue pasture weed management to reduce significant weed issues.
18. Maintain and improve livestock support and handling facilities.
19. Investigate the potential for additional woodlots or the expansion of existing woodlots.

Recreation and use management

20. Work with Auckland Transport and NZTA to promote the upgrading of Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with the State Highway to make it safe for vehicular traffic to the park.
21. Subject to Policy 20, develop the main arrival node near the Hungry Creek Road entrance (refer to the options for the location of this shown on Map 24), that introduces visitors to the vistas and opportunities on offer, including;

- a) an automatic park gate
 - b) vehicle parking
 - c) visitor information and emergency phone
 - d) public toilets and water supply, and
 - e) subject to the Hungry Creek Road improvements allowing the safe passage of horse floats and campervans, develop parking for horse floats and a small temporary self-contained campground.
22. As resources permit and subject to Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with the State Highway being improved, upgrade the central park road.
23. In conjunction with the central park road upgrade, prepare and implement a development plan for Te Muri Beach, in accordance with Section 7.3, incorporating the relocation of the campground and providing an arrival area set back from Te Muri beach as shown on Map 24, involving;
- a) vehicle parking
 - b) visitor information and emergency phone
 - c) public toilets and water supply, and
 - d) investigate, and if feasible, provide a self-contained campground
 - e) investigate, and if feasible, provide a back-country campsite in the wider Mahurangi Regional Park area.
24. Investigate, and if feasible and resources permit, develop a car parking area on Mahurangi Regional Park on the north side of the Te Muri Stream as shown on Map 24 involving;
- a) vehicle parking
 - b) visitor information and emergency phone
 - c) public toilets and water supply.
25. Investigate, and if feasible and as resources permit, construct a bridge over the Te Muri Stream for the purposes of pedestrian and service vehicle (LUV) access only.

26. Investigate, and if feasible and resources permit, develop design options to enable pedestrians and cyclists to cross the Puhoi River, linking the Wenderholm and Te Muri track systems; taking into consideration the following factors:
 - a) the environmental, heritage, cultural and landscape impacts
 - b) impacts on the river and estuarine hydrodynamics
 - c) the impacts of the river flow dynamics
 - d) the impact on the navigability of the river
 - e) build-ability (geotechnical considerations)
 - f) what options are available, including, but not limited to: a bridge crossing, barges and water taxis, and
 - g) what alternate means or routes are available that don't require a crossing.
27. Work with stakeholders to develop a walking and mountain biking track network, including where appropriate multi-use tracks, that provides a diverse range of experiences and challenge levels as indicated on Map 24.
28. Subject to Hungry Creek Road and the intersection with the State Highway being improved to allow the safe passage of horse floats, work with horse riding groups and other stakeholders to develop horse riding trails on the park utilising existing farm tracks.
29. Develop heritage interpretive features or a trail which includes areas;
 - a) with significant ecological values
 - b) with significant archaeological, cultural and historic values, in consultation with interested mana whenua.
30. Install way finding signs to orientate visitors and facilitate visitor access to the recreation destinations within the park, including the key views and vistas.
31. Maintain and enlarge the campground on Te Muri Beach, pulling it back from the beach frontage in accordance with the Te Muri Beach development plan (See policy 23 above).
32. Investigate, and if feasible, provide for 'glamping' opportunities on the park by way of concessionaires.

33. Support Te Muri being included in a sea kayak trail incorporating the offshore islands.
34. Investigate, and if feasible, permit the use of existing houses not used for operational purposes as bach escapes or for other recreation-oriented purposes.
35. Facilitate opportunities to cater for recreation and social events on the park, as controlled or discretionary activities, which align with the vision and values outlined above, and including but not limited to concessionaires and mana whenua groups who can facilitate recreation and cultural activities on or from the park.

Mana whenua

36. Recognise mana whenua through:
 - a) acknowledging the relationship of mana whenua to the park through a range of visitor services, such as interpretation and tohu mana whenua,
 - b) consulting on the naming, planning and management of the sites of value to mana whenua,
 - c) investigating options with mana whenua to enable them to exercise their role as kaitiaki over sites of significance and involvement in the design of features on the park, and
 - d) supporting mana whenua to undertake activities which enable them to provide for their long term health and well-being while sustaining the mauri of the park's natural and historic resources (refer to Part 7 of this plan).
37. Ensure senior staff responsible for managing the park meet at least once a year with mana whenua appointed kaitiaki representatives to discuss the annual work programme and the policies outlined in Part 9 of this plan.²
38. Maintain, in association with mana whenua, the Te Muri urupa and cemetery.
39. Where appropriate use te reo on information relating to the parks, including signs and marker posts.

² For an up to date list of iwi contacts please refer to the iwi engagement section of the council website.

Principal relationships

40. Liaise with adjoining landowners and the local community to ensure the planning, development and management of land adjoining the parkland at Te Muri:
 - a) protects and enhances the park values,
 - b) provides an integrated approach to pest animal and plant control programmes, ecological restoration programmes and recreation activities.
41. Liaise with Auckland Council planning and regulatory teams to ensure the council bylaws facilitate the effective management of the park.
42. Support the Ministry of Fisheries, the Department of Conservation and mana whenua in promoting and enforcing fisheries regulations and enforce any council control of set netting from regional parks (Refer to policy 13.6.1.5).
43. Continue to liaise with stakeholders and community groups to develop and improve recreation opportunities on the park.
44. Establish a friends group for the park and wider Mahurangi network of regional parks.
45. Establish a volunteer programme to increase community engagement and support park outcomes, in accordance with Section 13.2.6.

17.24.5 Recreation and use activities

Permitted activities

The table below shows the permitted activities that are allowed on Te Muri Regional Park in accordance with section 13.3 of this plan. It also outlines any restrictions that will be applied to the permitted activities for this park.

If an activity is not listed in this table, it may be allowed as a controlled or as a discretionary activity in terms of section 13.5, unless they are prohibited in terms of section 13.6 of this plan. The council may also apply temporary restrictions to any permitted or conditional activity (refer to policy 13.3.1.3). Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

Permitted activities	Status/restriction
Barbecues	Portable gas barbecues are permitted but fire restrictions may apply over the summer period.
Boat access (including sea kayak/waka)	Beaches suitable for launching small craft such as kayaks. Bookable camping facilities are available for people arriving by kayaks or waka.
Dogs	Dogs are not permitted on the park. Note that dog control is subject to the Dog Control Act 1996 and is subject to change – refer to the council website.
Informal group activities	Size of groups is restricted to 75 persons in order to manage conflict with other recreation activities. Groups larger than 75 must obtain a controlled or discretionary activity consent. Informal group activities generally include, picnicking, walking, tramping, and informal games (refer to section 11.3 and Glossary).
Mountain biking	Permitted on designated tracks and open pasture areas but restrictions may apply to protect sites of significance to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage and archaeological sites and ecological areas; or to enable park operations such as farming operations, track maintenance and pest control.

Permitted activities	Status/restriction
Walking, running and orienteering	Permitted on designated tracks and open pasture areas but restrictions may apply to protect sites of significance to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage and archaeological sites and ecological areas; or to enable park operations such as farming operations, track repair and pest control.

Controlled activities

The table below shows the controlled activities that are allowed on the parkland at Te Muri, as outlined in section 13.4. It also outlines where information on permanent restrictions to controlled activities can be found. Note: controlled activities require prior booking through the council.

If an activity is not listed in this table, it may be allowed as a discretionary activity in terms of section 13.5, unless they are prohibited in section 13.6 of this plan.

The council may also apply temporary restrictions to any controlled activities (refer to policy 13.4.1.2). Any temporary restrictions will be advertised in park brochures, signs or using other media.

Controlled activities	Description of site (if applicable)	Restrictions/conditions
Baches	Puhoi Cottage is available for hire. Other baches may become available once road access is improved.	Baches must be booked through the council call centre. Check the council website for availability. Conditions and fees apply.
Campervans/ Caravans	Self-contained campground opportunities may become available once access to and through the park has been improved.	Subject to Hungry Creek Road being made safe for the passage of campervans. Requires self-containment certification. Conditions and fees apply.
Camping	Back-country campground (initially a maximum of 80 people). Vehicle-based camping may become available once road access is improved.	Camping must be booked through the council call centre. Check the council website for availability. Conditions and fees apply.

Controlled activities	Description of site (if applicable)	Restrictions/conditions
Recreational horse riding	May be permitted on designated routes and open pastures but restrictions apply to protect sites of value to mana whenua, sensitive historic heritage, archaeological sites and ecological areas.	Subject to Hungry Creek Road being made safe for the passage of horse floats. Riders must obtain an annual horse riding pass. Access may be denied for periods because of park operations, such as farming operations, track repair and pest control or poor ground conditions. Check the council website.

Prohibited activities

Activities listed in section 13.6 of this plan are prohibited on Te Muri Regional Park.

Leases and licences

No leases and licences were operating on Te Muri Regional Park when this management plan was adopted. However, new licences may be created in terms of section 13.5 'Discretionary Activities' of this plan during the term of the plan. For an up to date list of issued licences please refer to the council website.

17.24.6 Monitoring

The council will monitor aspects of the Te Muri regional Park in accordance with section 7.7 of this plan.

ATTACHMENT 6

TE MURI REGIONAL PARK - MAP



AUCKLAND REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Te Muri - Map 24

This map/plan is illustrative only and all information should be independently verified on site before taking any action. Copyright Auckland Council. Land Parcel Boundary information from LINZ (Crown Copyright Reserved). Whilst due care has been taken, Auckland Council gives no warranty as to the accuracy and plan completeness of any information on this map/plan and accepts no liability for any error, omission or use of the information. Height datum: Auckland 1946.

