



**He Mahere moo
Maungatautari -
Maungatautari
Reserve
Management
*Plan***



Mihi

Tirohia atu nei te rerehu o te
tihi ki Maungatautari

Mahea mai ana kia miiharo ki te
taurikura o te riu o Waikato e hora nei

Huia, huia te whakaaro kia kotahi

Tuia, tuia te tangata me he kaakaa ki te wao

He maunga tuu noa etia nei he ipu
kura noo ngaa whakatupuranga e

We gaze on the clouded splendour
of Maungatautari

A clear view of the wonders
in the Waikato basin

Bring together our thoughts

Combine together as if a flock of forest birds

A mountain range, a valued treasure
from one generation to another.

*Linda Te Aho, Poto Davies and Thelma Reti
Reference Group, Ngaati Koroki Kahukura*

Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan - Foreword

I would like to acknowledge the generosity of spirit and the huge financial and physical effort of the many individuals and organisations involved in the restoration of the indigenous biodiversity on Maungatautari.

Firstly to Te Hapori o Maungatautari, the owners of the scenic reserve representing mana whenua - Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngati Hauaa, Ngaati Raukawa and Waikato Tainui and to all other land owners both multiple owned Maaori land and private landowners who have generously allowed their properties to be included inside the pest-proof fence to collectively create a 3400ha area of remnant indigenous forest, in Waipā District, which can be restored to as close as possible to its natural condition prior to human occupation.

Whilst this Reserve Management Plan technically only applies to the 2500ha of the Scenic Reserve to all intents and purposes the ongoing management of the total area of forest protected by the pest-proof fence is being treated as one contiguous area.

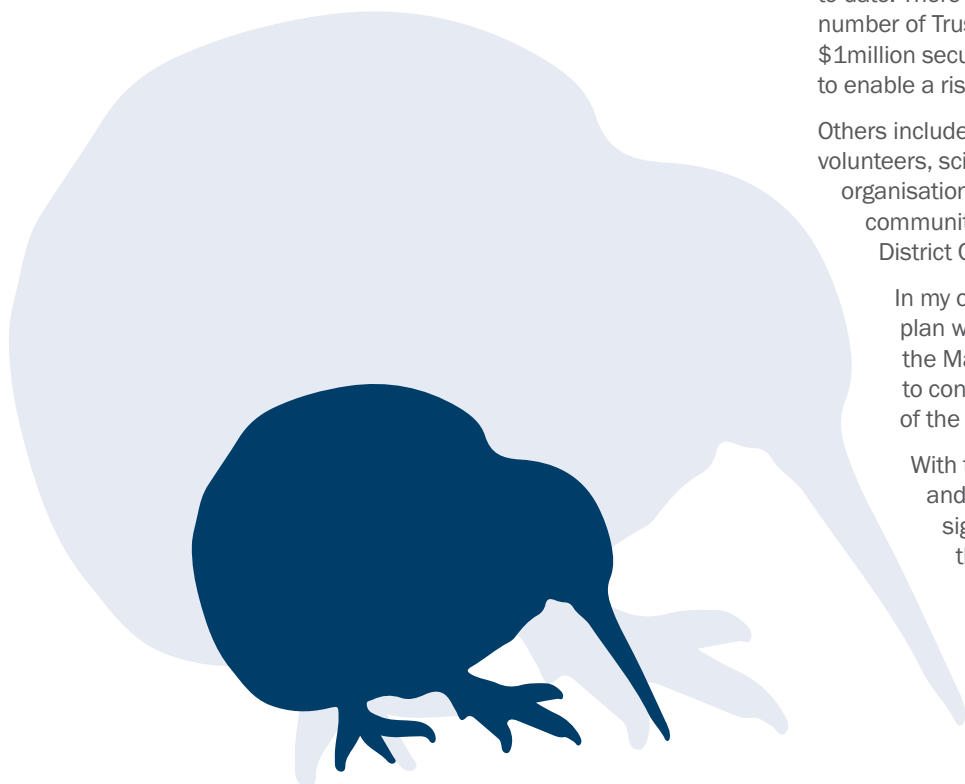
The inspirational and ambitious project established in 2001, to completely eradicate all introduced mammalian and other pests from inside the 42km pest-proof fence, was at the time, and probably currently, a world first and truly unique experimental project that required courage and commitment from a large number of individuals and organisations. To the Trustees and staff of Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust congratulations on your success and conviction to date. There are not many organisations where a number of Trustees would be prepared to guarantee \$1million secured against their own private properties to enable a risky project such as this to proceed.

Others included in this project are hundreds of volunteers, scientific advisors, multiple funding organisations and in particular the support from the community via ongoing rating support from Waipā District Council and the Waikato Regional Council.

In my opinion this Reserve Management plan will enable the work already started by the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust to continue with the resultant recovery of the biodiversity of this forest type.

With the continued threat to NZ's biodiversity and extinctions of our endemic and culturally significant species we cannot ignore the threats of introduced pests and must look to total ecosystem recovery rather than specific species management.

*J B Mylchreest
Mayor*



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***“When we
see land as a
community to
which we belong,
we may begin to
use it with love
and respect”***

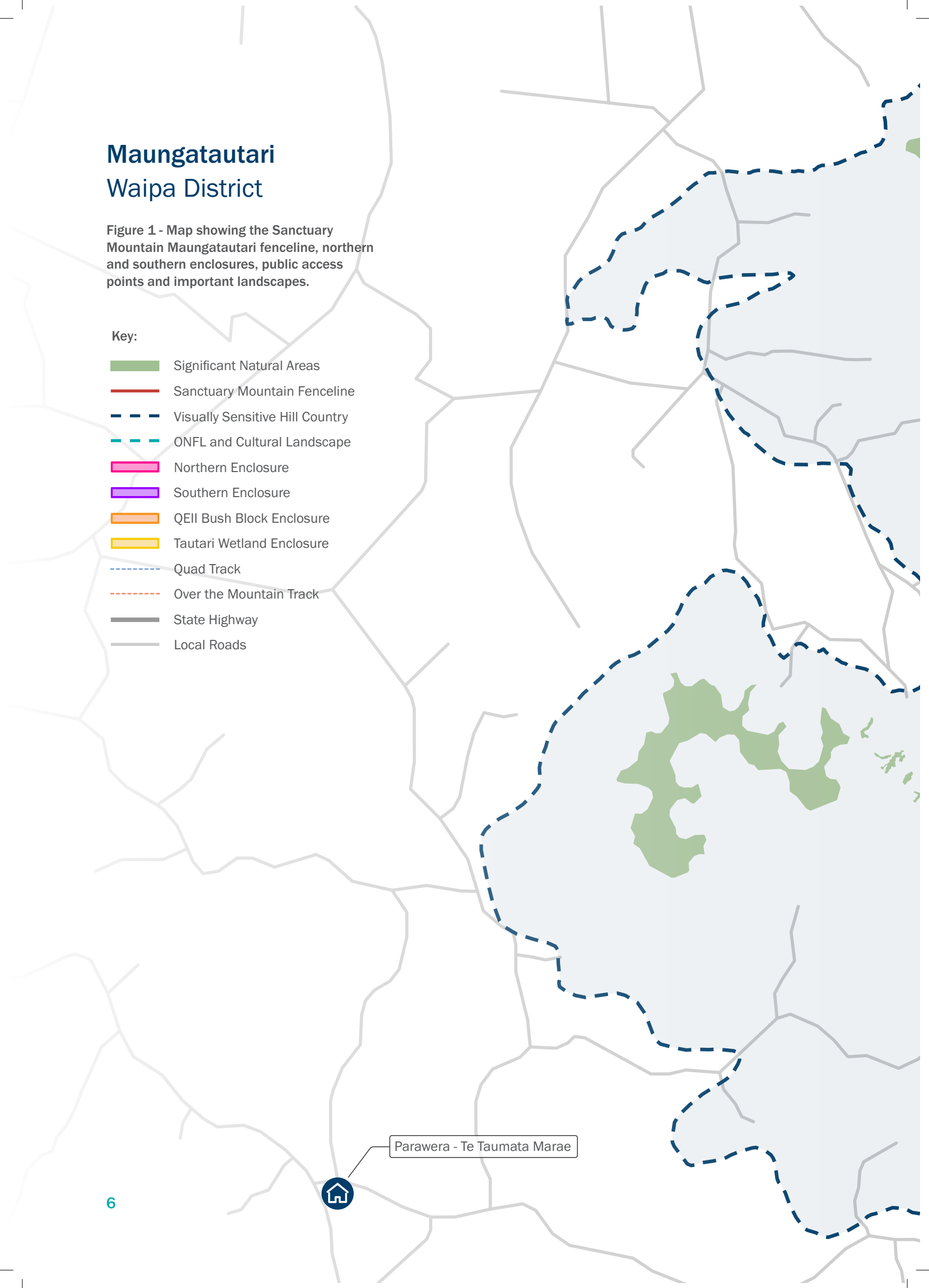
Aldo Leopold

Maungatautari Waipa District

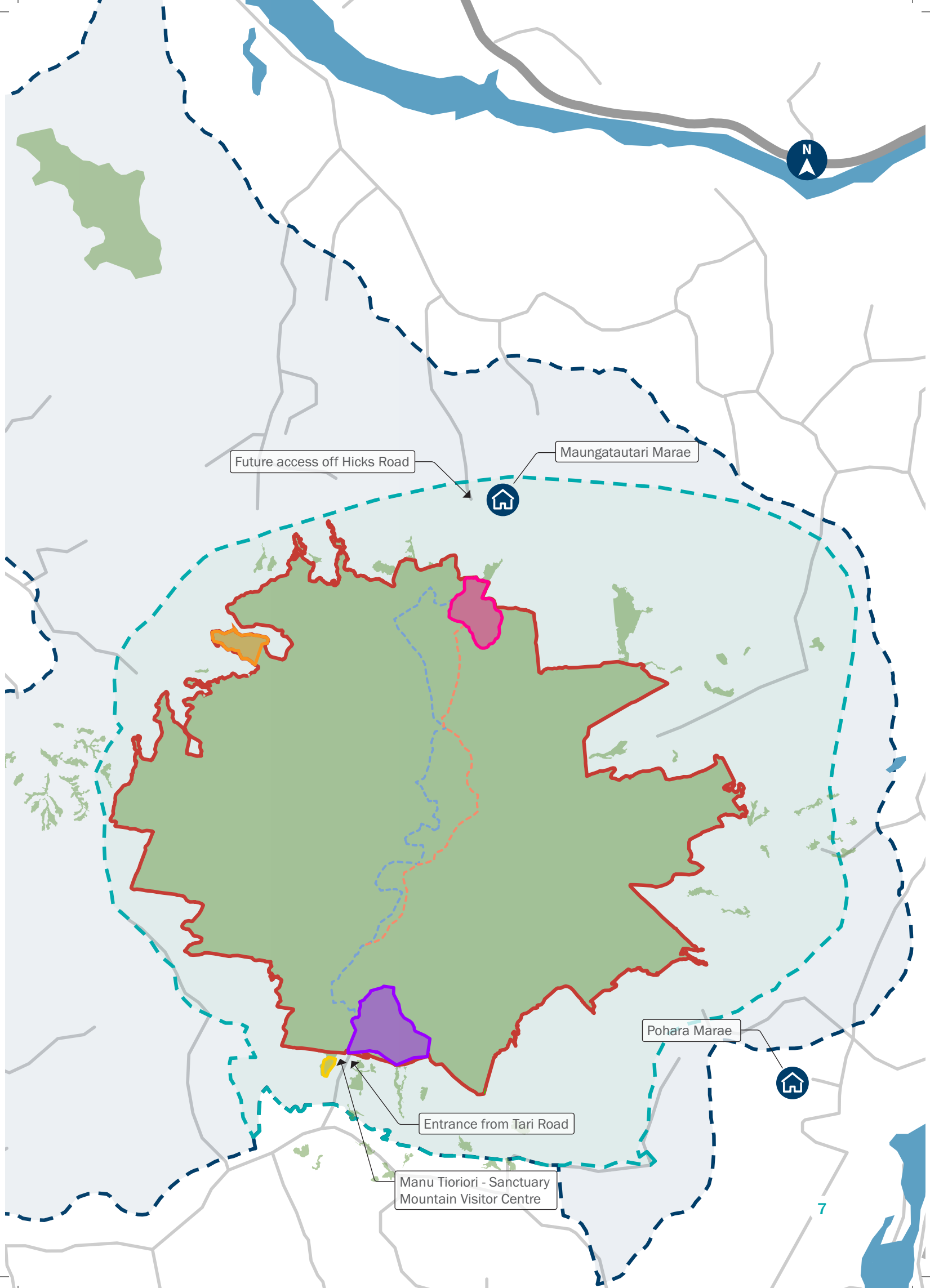
Figure 1 - Map showing the Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari fenceline, northern and southern enclosures, public access points and important landscapes.

Key:

- Significant Natural Areas
- Sanctuary Mountain Fenceline
- Visually Sensitive Hill Country
- ONFL and Cultural Landscape
- Northern Enclosure
- Southern Enclosure
- QEII Bush Block Enclosure
- Tautari Wetland Enclosure
- Quad Track
- Over the Mountain Track
- State Highway
- Local Roads



Parawera - Te Taumata Marae



Future access off Hicks Road

Maungatautari Marae



Pohara Marae



Entrance from Tari Road

Manu Tioriori - Sanctuary Mountain Visitor Centre

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He Kupu Whakataki: Ko Maungatautari he taonga tuku iho - Introduction: Maungatautari is a living treasure

Maungatautari is a volcano cloaked in indigenous forest that rises out of the central Waikato basin. To the east and north flows the Waikato River. From the summit of Maungatautari flows the Mangapiko Stream and the Mangaohoi Stream, which converge in Te Awamutu and then connect in to the Waipā River and eventually into the Waikato River.

Imagining Maungatautari prior to human contact brings to mind images of land cloaked in ancient native and endemic forest. Tall broadleaf canopy trees towering above younger trees, shaded ferns, moss and fungi on the forest floor. New growth emerged in the corridors of light as tall trees fell. Dark and dense, the forest was alive with birdsong, and teemed with insects, lizards and the myriad life throughout the ngaahere (bush).

Maungatautari has a rich human history. The mountain was named by Rakataura, a tohunga of the Tainui waka, who saw the mountain appearing to float above the fog and asked 'ko wai te maunga e tautari mai naa?' 'who is the mountain floating there?' The peoples of the Tainui waka have continued to live in and around the mountain and, for generations, have used its plants for food and medicine and hunted the birds. They developed an intricate knowledge of the natural world and fulfilled their role as kaitiaki of Maungatautari.

All living things were perceived to have mauri and mana, a life-force and authority in their own right. Incantations were recited and permission sought from spiritual guardians of the forests before undertaking tasks such as felling trees to build canoes and taking plants and birdlife for sustenance and healing properties. Accordingly, Maungatautari is viewed as an ancestor and a living treasure with its own life-force and vitality.

Maungatautari, like much of Aotearoa New Zealand, experienced the devastating effects of the influx of humans into this environment from the 1880s and the focus on felling forests to mill the wood and develop productive pastoral land. The extent of the once heavily forested habitats was significantly reduced in size and quality. Many of the native species of birds and insects that once inhabited Maungatautari became

locally extinct. Saddleback, North Island robin, and hiihii disappeared from the forest in the late 1800s or early 1900s, kiwi, kaakaa and kaakaariki disappeared by the mid 1900s and kokako disappeared in the 1980s. The mana and the mauri of this tupuna or taonga was severely impacted by these events.

The combined impact of confiscation and the alienation of land through Native Land Court processes resulted in iwi and hapuu becoming virtually landless by the end of the twentieth century. Mana whenua have always maintained ahi kaa and the lands have been central to the identity and mana of iwi and hapuu.

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- i. The ethic of protecting the environment for its own sake, as well as for present and future generations to use and enjoy is kaitiakitanga. The root word is 'tiaki' which means to care for, to foster, to nourish. The philosophy of kaitiakitanga is explained by the late Dame Nganeko Minhinnick (*Establishing Kaitiaki*, 1989, 5.),

The traditional Maaori system is an environmental management system that is holistic. It ensures harmony within the environment, measures, checks and balances daily, prevents intrusions that cause permanent imbalances and guards against ecocide. To recognise Te Ao Maaori... is to recognise Ranginui – the sky father and Papatuaanuku – the earth mother and their many children including Tane Mahuta (God of the forests).



Creation of the Scenic Reserve

In 1927 the Matamata, Waipā, and Waikato county councils, the Cambridge Borough Council and the Leamington Town Board joined forces to, with the help of a government subsidy, purchase 1,557ha of land on Maungatautari and gazette the land as a Scenic Reserve. At that time the Matamata County Council and the Waipā County Council managed the reserve jointly as the land straddled the boundary of the two counties.

Following this initial acquisition, the local bodies with management responsibilities for Maungatautari, including the Crown, continued to negotiate the purchase of privately-owned land on the mountain; managing to secure almost 80 per cent of the bush-covered land on the mountain as reserve. There are still, however, large tracts of private land on Maungatautari.

Today, following local government reorganization in the late 1980s, the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve sits wholly within the Waipā District, and Waipā District Council (Council) is the administering body responsible for administration and management of the Reserve.

In the late 1990s, concerned about the loss of wildlife on Maungatautari, members of the community, including local iwi, landowners and local residents, came together to restore and protect this precious ecosystem. In 2001 the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (MEIT) was formed with the support of mana whenua. MEIT is a private, non-profit making registered charitable Trust.

In conjunction with Waipā District Council, MEIT was responsible for development of the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve into an indigenous ecological mainland island and wildlife sanctuary. Central to this concept was the development of a 47km pest-proof fence which enclosed the approximately 3,400ha forest in 2006, and the construction of two fenced enclosures within the pest-proof fence called the Southern Enclosure (Te Tuui a Taane) and the Northern Enclosure. The pest-proof fence also encloses approximately 700 ha of private, non-reserve land which is integral to the success of the sanctuary. The enclosures are used for scientific research and provide a space where visitors can experience forest wildlife free from mammalian pests. Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari is New Zealand's largest mainland sanctuary and is surrounded by the world's longest pest-proof fence. All pest-proof fencing is owned and maintained by MEIT.

The map (see *previous pages 6&7*) shows the Scenic Reserve land, Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari fence line, northern and southern enclosures, public access points, important landscapes, local marae, and the Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari visitor centre. Access at the northern enclosure of the mountain is via private land, and at the southern enclosure is across Waipā District Council-owned land.

Maungatautari refers to the maunga as a landform.

Maungatautari Scenic Reserve refers to the land that is administered by Council under the Reserves Act and is subject to this Reserve Management Plan.

Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari refers to the land within the pest-proof fence (both the scenic reserve and privately-owned land) that is contracted to Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust to manage.

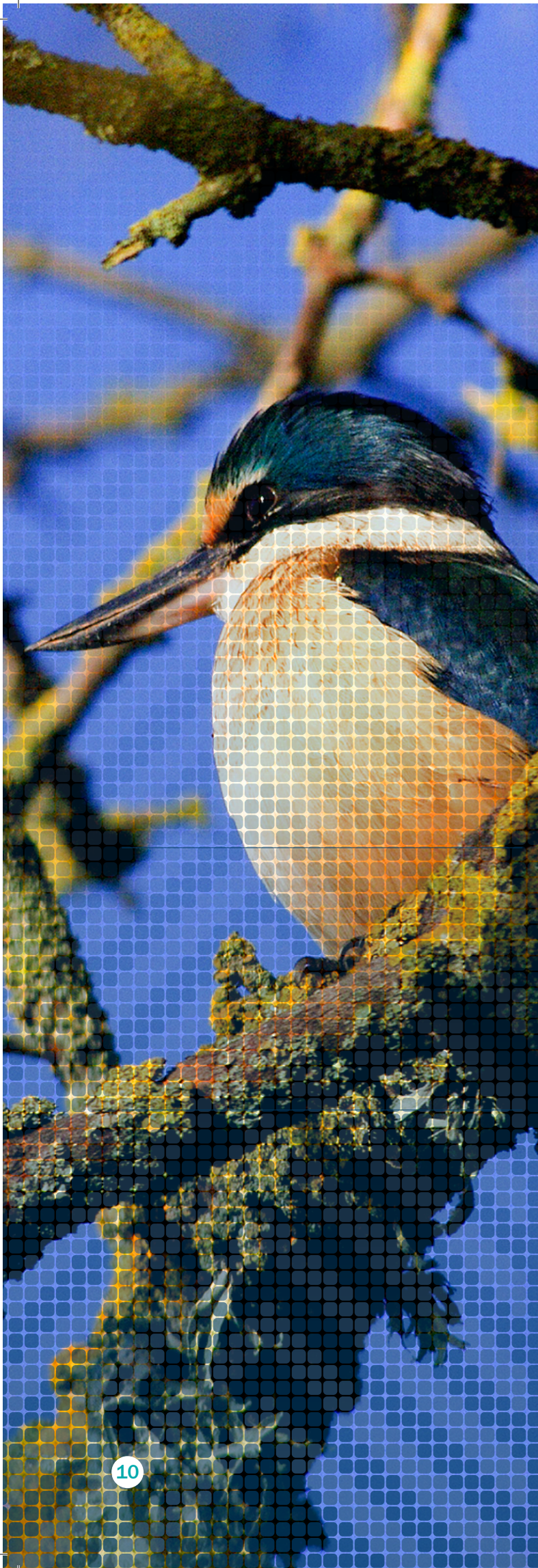
The Ngaati Koroki Kahukura Settlement

Loss of land and the inability to exercise kaitiakitanga have been the subject of many claims to the Waitangi Tribunal and, in turn, redress in Treaty Settlement processes. Negotiated settlement agreements often include the return of lands from the conservation estate subject to conservation covenants and relationship accords between the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai (DoC) and the claimant groups which set out principles for engagement, customary use, and dispute resolution.

In 2014, as a result of the Ngaati Koroki Kahukura treaty settlement, the Ngāti Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act ("the Act") was passed. In the Act, the Crown acknowledges the cultural significance of Maungatautari to Ngaati Koroki Kahukura which is regarded as a tupuna (*ancestor*) and living taonga (*treasure*). The active marae and papakainga of Ngaati Koroki Kahukura remain nestled against the backdrop of Maungatautari. The Crown acknowledges in the Act that Ngaati Koroki Kahukura is the iwi with dominant mana whenua rights and interests in respect of Maungatautari.

The Act also acknowledges that Maungatautari holds spiritual, cultural and historical significance to Waikato-Tainui, Ngaati Hauaa and Raukawa. This significance is demonstrated by the reference to the maunga by Kiingi Taawhiao in his famous maimai aroha (*lament*) as one of the hills of his inheritance. Te Rautaki Tāmata Ao Turoa o Hauā includes a statement of significance of Maungatautari to Ngaati Hauaa and the Raukawa Claims Settlement Act 2014 includes a statement of significance of Maungatautari to Raukawa.

The Crown, via the Ngāti Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act, established "*Te Hapori o Maungatautari*" as the symbolic owner of the reserve



lands in Maungatautari, replacing Queen Elizabeth II on the title. Te Hapori o Maungatautari includes Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa, Waikato-Tainui, Raukawa, and the community of Maungatautari represented by the Mayor of Waipā District.

Hon Nanaia Mahuta, recognized that:

There has been a very gracious acknowledgment made by Ngaati Koroki Kahukura to the people of the Waipā District and, in fact, to Aotearoa New Zealand for the future management of the Maungatautari maunga. I want to put on the record that that is huge and significant.

Under the Act, the Crown retains the rights and responsibilities of the holder of the fee simple estate in the reserve lands. There may be times when a transaction needs to occur involving Te Hapori o Maungatautari. For this to happen, the Mayor of Waipā and three of the iwi named in the settlement must agree.

The settlement legislation required that Council review the Reserve Management Plan for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and form a reference group with trustees to assist with the conduct of the review.

Through this Reserve Management Plan process, mana whenua recognise and welcome the contribution of all people involved in the ecological restoration project on Maungatautari and ongoing collaboration to restore and share in the mauri and mana of Maungatautari.

- ii. 'A Maungatautari, a Maungakawa, oku puke maunga, nga taonga tuku iho'. Maungatautari and Maungakawa, hills of my inheritance. Tawhiao, King or Prophet, (Mai Systems, 2000), VI.
- iii. 9 December 2014 parliament.nz/en-nz/pb/debates/debates/speeches/51HansS_20141212_00000016/mahuta-nanaia-ngati-koroki-kahukura-claims-settlement. Accessed 8 March 2016. Hon. Mahuta was sworn in as Minister of Māori Development in 2017. It is noted here that there are other iwi who have references to Maungatautari in their Deeds of Settlement and settlement legislation.

Te Whakapakari i te Taiao - Conservation in Action

What has been achieved?

Maungatautari is a volcanic cone cloaked in approximately 3,400ha of indigenous forest. It is the largest area of intact remnant indigenous forest remaining within the Waipā District and is a significant landscape feature for much of the greater Waikato basin.

When people arrived in the Waikato, it was almost entirely covered by a few massive tracts of native forest. Today, following land clearance, native forest covers only 20 per cent of the region. It has been fragmented into over 8,100 individual forest patches, separated by pasture, plantation forestry, orchards or urban areas. In the Waipā District, only 7.5 per cent of indigenous vegetation cover remains. Indigenous forests cover only 3.1 per cent of their original estimated extent, and these have been degraded by introduced plants and animals. Consequently, Council places a high priority on the restoration work being undertaken on Maungatautari.

Since the previous Reserve Management Plan (*RMP*) for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve was adopted in 2005, the following progress has been made:

- Completion of the 47km pest-proof fence and the two fenced enclosures to create the largest mainland island of its type in Aotearoa New Zealand. The island is a great asset for Aotearoa New Zealand and provides huge potential for species recovery on the mainland due to its size and indigenous diversity
- Elimination of mammalian pest species within the northern and southern enclosures, and all mammalian pest species except for mice from the wider fenced area
- Reintroduction of threatened species such as North Island brown kiwi, kookako, giant weta, tuatara, takahe, tieke / North Island saddleback, pitoitoi / North Island robin, and kaka
- Vesting of the Scenic Reserve land in Te Hapori o Maungatautari arising from the Ngaati Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act

- Significant landowner cooperation and support to make the mainland island a reality. This is being formalised through a legal process with covenants (*kawanata*) and access agreements to formally agree the location of the pest-proof fence on private and Maaori owned land, and access onto this land to undertake conservation activities for the benefit of the project
- Formalisation of access into the southern enclosure with the goodwill of landowners
- Significant support from the community through volunteer effort.

Who has been involved?

The ownership, governance, management and funding structure for restoration of Maungatautari is complex, with many parties involved.

Table 1 sets out the key parties and their roles.

Three-quarters of the land within the fenced area is classified as Scenic Reserve under the Reserves Act. The land is vested in Te Hapori o Maungatautari and administered by Council on behalf of the Crown in accordance with section 28 of the Reserves Act. The remainder of the land within the fenced area is owned by multiple Maaori and private landowners. The ongoing support of these landowners to the fence and to the project as a whole is fundamental to the success of the project.

The day-to-day administration and management of the reserve sits with Council. Council contracts 'on the ground' operations as required by the RMP to MEIT.

Volunteers are a significant part of the project. In 2018/2019 volunteers contributed just under 14,500 hours to the project.

There is a long history of support (both time and financial) from volunteers, Waikato Regional Council (*WRC*), DoC, Council, Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, and corporate and private sponsors who support the ecological restoration of Maungatautari.

MEIT holds a resource consent to operate guided tours within the Southern Enclosure. MEIT and Ngaati Koroki Kahukura also hold a joint concession within the reserve to provide value added, commercially operated activities, guided walks, educational tours and wildlife translocation events in the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

Table 1 - Roles of key parties involved in managing restoration at Maungatautari

Who	Role
<p>Mana whenua</p>	<p>Mana whenua, being Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa, Raukawa and Waikato-Tainui, hold customary rights and interests in the land. Mana whenua are represented in Te Hapori o Maungatautari.</p> <p>Mana whenua provide cultural support to assist MEIT to achieve the restoration goals, in a way that aligns with tikanga (protocols) to enhance the mauri and mana of Maungatautari.</p> <p>Ngaati Koroki Kahukura is recognised as dominant mana whenua.</p>
<p>Te Hapori o Maungatautari</p>	<p>The scenic reserve land, illustrated in Figure 1, is vested in Te Hapori o Maungatautari.</p> <p>The authorised representatives of Te Hapori o Maungatautari (s82(3) Ngaati Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement) are -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The chairperson of the Taumatawiwi Trust 2. The chairperson of the Ngaati Hauaa Iwi Trust 3. The chairperson of the Raukawa Settlement Trust 4. The chairperson of Te Arataura 5. The mayor of the Waipā District Council. <p>Te Hapori o Maungatautari may enter into a deed, contract, or instrument for the reserve, but may not transfer or dispose of Maungatautari Mountain Scenic Reserve or mortgage or give a security interest in Maungatautari Mountain Scenic Reserve.</p>
<p>Waipā District Council (Council)</p>	<p>The scenic reserve land, illustrated in Figure 1, is administered by Council in accordance with s28 of the Reserves Act.</p> <p>Council is a delegate of the Minister of Conservation as set out in the Instrument of Delegation for Territorial Authorities 2013.</p> <p>Council is responsible for preparing a Reserve Management Plan for the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve land.</p> <p>Council is responsible for establishing the governance body for the reserve.</p> <p>Council contracts MEIT to undertake operational activities as required by the RMP.</p>
<p>Reference Group</p>	<p>This group is made up of three representatives from Ngaati Koroki Kahukura and was established as required by the Ngāti Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act to assist Council with the review of the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve Management Plan.</p>


Who	Role
Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (<i>MEIT</i>)	<p>MEIT is a charitable trust. Its purpose is to protect and enhance the mauri of Maungatautari. The Trust currently has 9 board members comprising 3 mana whenua, 3 landowner representatives and 3 community representatives.</p> <p>MEIT is contracted to Council to manage the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve land.</p> <p>MEIT owns and maintains the pest-proof fence.</p> <p>MEIT operates Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari.</p> <p>MEIT owns and operates the education centre and nursery that is located outside of Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari.</p>
Waikato Regional Council (<i>WRC</i>)	WRC provides technical and financial support to assist MEIT in day-to-day management of the enclosures and implementation of the Reserve Management Plan.
Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai (<i>DoC</i>)	<p>DoC, on behalf of the Crown, has the rights and obligations of the holder of the fee simple estate.</p> <p>The Crown has vested administration of the reserve in accordance with s28 of the Reserves Act.</p> <p>DoC provides technical and financial support to assist MEIT in day-to-day management of the enclosures and implementation of the Reserve Management Plan.</p>
Private landowners and Maaori landowners	The pest-proof fence is located on some private and multiple-owned Maaori land. There is a legal process underway, through mechanisms such as deeds of covenants and access agreements, to formalise the location of the pest-proof fence on private and Maaori owned land and to formalise access onto this land to undertake conservation activities. The support of private landowners and Maaori landowners is fundamental to the success of the project.
Maungatautari Reserve Committee	This Committee brings together Council, WRC, mana whenua, MEIT, DoC and the public to facilitate effective and meaningful communication in relation to the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve. Its purpose is to advise Council on all reserve management issues as they relate to the reserve, the ecological restoration project, and the administrative requirements of the Reserves Act 1977, to oversee the services provided by MEIT for day-to-day management of the enclosures, and to oversee the Reserve Management Plan for the reserve.
Volunteers	Volunteers provide huge support to the project across many different roles including maintenance and labouring, planting and weeding, hosting visitors, aviary duty, nursery, pest eradication, administration and as tour guides. In the 2018/19 financial year there were over 200 regular volunteers and just under 14,500 volunteer hours (Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari Annual Report, 2018/19).

Key challenges to be addressed in this RMP

Whilst great gains have been made towards restoring the ecological diversity of Maungatautari, there are following ongoing challenges:

1. The efficacy of the fence remains an ongoing challenge. The fence covers 47km over difficult terrain. Ensuring the fence remains effective and can withstand ongoing invasions from pest species is a critical consideration for the ecological restoration project.
2. There is a perception in Aotearoa New Zealand that conservation can operate without significant funding, however, the reality is that the cost of maintaining conservation land is comparable to other land uses such as farming. An ongoing challenge is obtaining sufficient funding to maintain the indigenous biodiversity on the maunga, and without relying on activities that are at odds with the ecological restoration purpose of the project or the cultural, natural and recreational values of the Reserve.
3. There is a process underway to formalise access agreements with private landowners to formally agree the location of the pest-proof fence on private and Maori owned land, and access onto this land to undertake conservation activities for the benefit of the project. Completing these agreements remains an ongoing focus area.
4. Providing public access at the northern end of the reserve remains a challenge. There has been considerable work towards this over the past few years, but this remains a key focus area until the access is agreed and opened.
5. The ecological restoration project relies significantly on volunteers and the wider community for support. This project came into being as a community driven project. Retaining volunteers and community involvement in the project is essential to the success of the project. This can be a challenge as increasingly, across our community, volunteer hours are decreasing.
6. Marketing the value of the project is a challenge. One factor in the success of the project is reaching out to people so that they can participate, appreciate, and learn about the place. With so much competition for activities to do, attracting interest can be difficult.





“The responsibility for safeguarding what is left falls to New Zealanders, because there is nowhere else that our indigenous species can be conserved. Anything lost here is also lost to the world.”

(Brown, M.A, et al, 2015)

He Kupu Whakamaarama moo te Mahere Whakahaere - About the Management Plan: What it is and what it is not

This Reserve Management Plan (*RMP*) sets out the history and importance of Maungatautari. It provides an overview of changes that have occurred in recent years as a result of Treaty Settlement legislation. It sets out the management structure of the reserve, the overarching vision, guiding principles and a policy framework for activities that may occur on reserve land. In doing so, it recognises the aims and roles of other parties and the need to work with partners where possible.

This RMP has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 and the Ngaati Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act 2014. It replaces the 2005 version and applies to the approximately 2530ha Maungatautari Scenic Reserve that is classified as a scenic reserve under the Reserves Act 1977, is vested in Te Hapori o Maungatautari and administered by Waipā District Council.

The Maungatautari Scenic Reserve land, as shown in Figure 2, covers approximately three-quarters of the land within the fenced area of Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. The remainder of the land within the fenced area is owned by multiple owners of Maaori lands and private landowners.

The Maaori owned lands and privately-owned lands do not form part of this Reserve Management Plan, however they are inherently connected through their location within the Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari fenceline, and together with the scenic reserve are managed as part of Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari.

The Reserves Act sets out the requirements for a scenic reserve. A scenic reserve is to be protected in perpetuity because it has been identified as a place that the community values for its beauty, because it is interesting and because it is in the public interest to preserve and protect all of their intrinsic values. Scenic reserves are to be administered and maintained to the extent that:

- Indigenous flora and fauna, ecology and the natural environment are preserved
- Exotic flora and fauna are exterminated
- The public have freedom of entry and access

- The public have amenities and facilities where necessary for their benefit or enjoyment
- Historic, archaeological, geological, biological or scientific features are protected; and
- The value as a soil, water and forest conservation area are maintained.

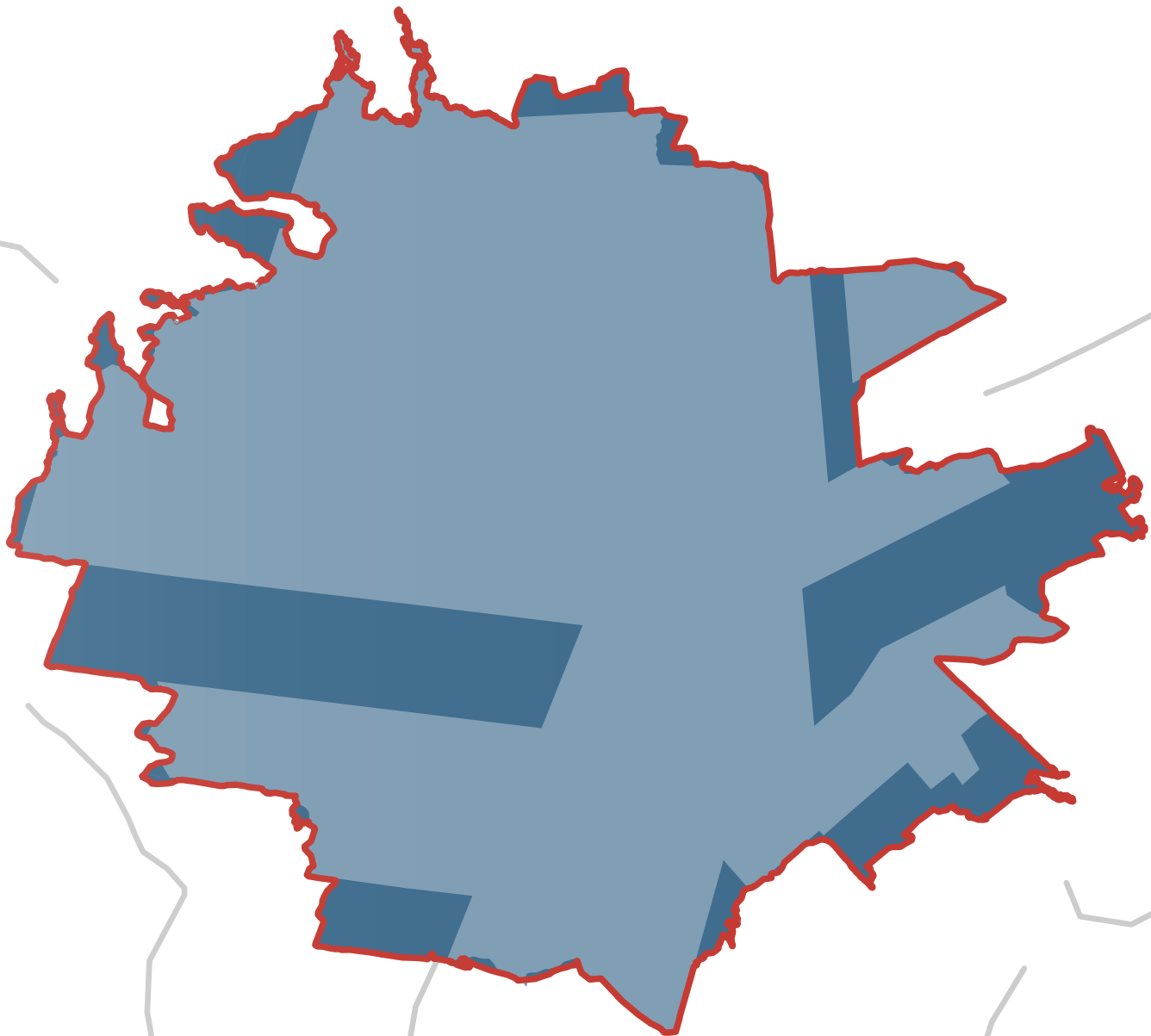
The Reserves Act sets out the functions and powers of Council in managing the reserve, including the process to prepare a Reserve Management Plan.

This RMP is also informed and supported by a range of legislation and policy documents such as those listed below. A summary of these is included in Appendix 1.

- Ngaati Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act 2014
- Reserves Act 1977
- Raukawa Claims Settlement Act 2014
- Ngaati Hauā Claims Settlement Act 2014
- Waikato Raupatu Claims Settlement Act 1995
- Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010
- Ngaati Tuuwharetoa, Raukawa and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010 (Upper River Act)
- Conservation Accord 2008
- Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan, Tai Tumu Tai Pari Tai Ao 2013
- Te Rautaki Taiao o Raukawa / Raukawa Environmental Plan 2015
- Te Rautaki Tāmata Ao Turoa o Hauā / The Ngaati Hauā Environmental Management Plan
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Waikato Regional Plan
- Waipā District Plan
- Waipā District Council's 10-Year Plan.

Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari

Figure 2 - Map showing the scenic reserve land, private landholdings and the Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari fenceline.



Key:

-  Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari Fenceline
-  Scenic Reserve Land
-  Private Landholdings
-  Local Roads

The key statutory and planning documents that influence this RMP are shown in Figure 3 below

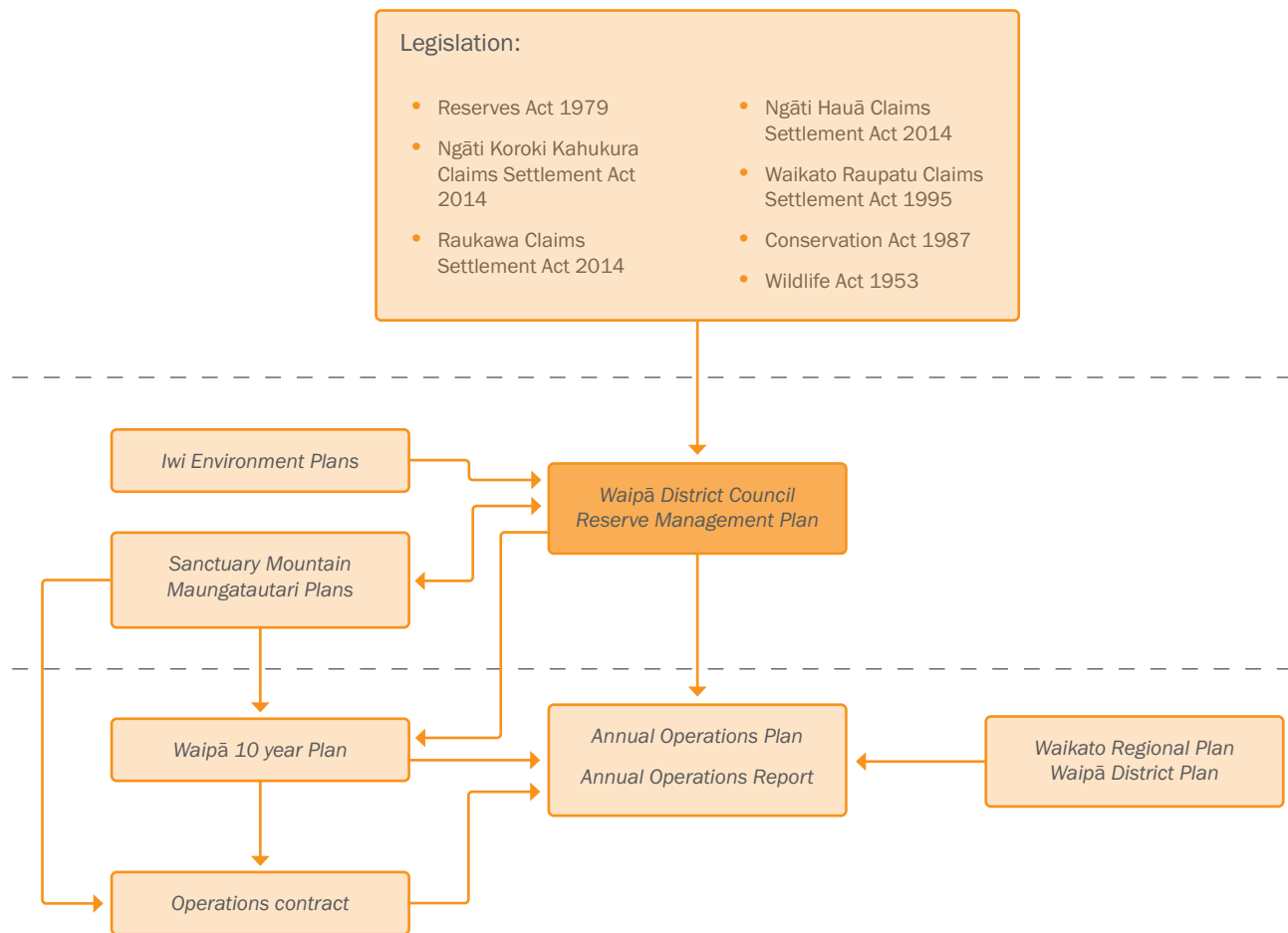


Figure 3 – Key statutory and planning documents that influence and are influenced by the RMP

Te Whakakitenga - Vision

*He taonga tuku iho a Maungatautari,
He whenua taurikura, he pae haumako,
He kura tangihia moo te maataamuri.*

Maungatautari Scenic Reserve is a living treasure, a place where our cultural and natural history are respected, enjoyed and enhanced, where people work together as guardians of this legacy for future generations.

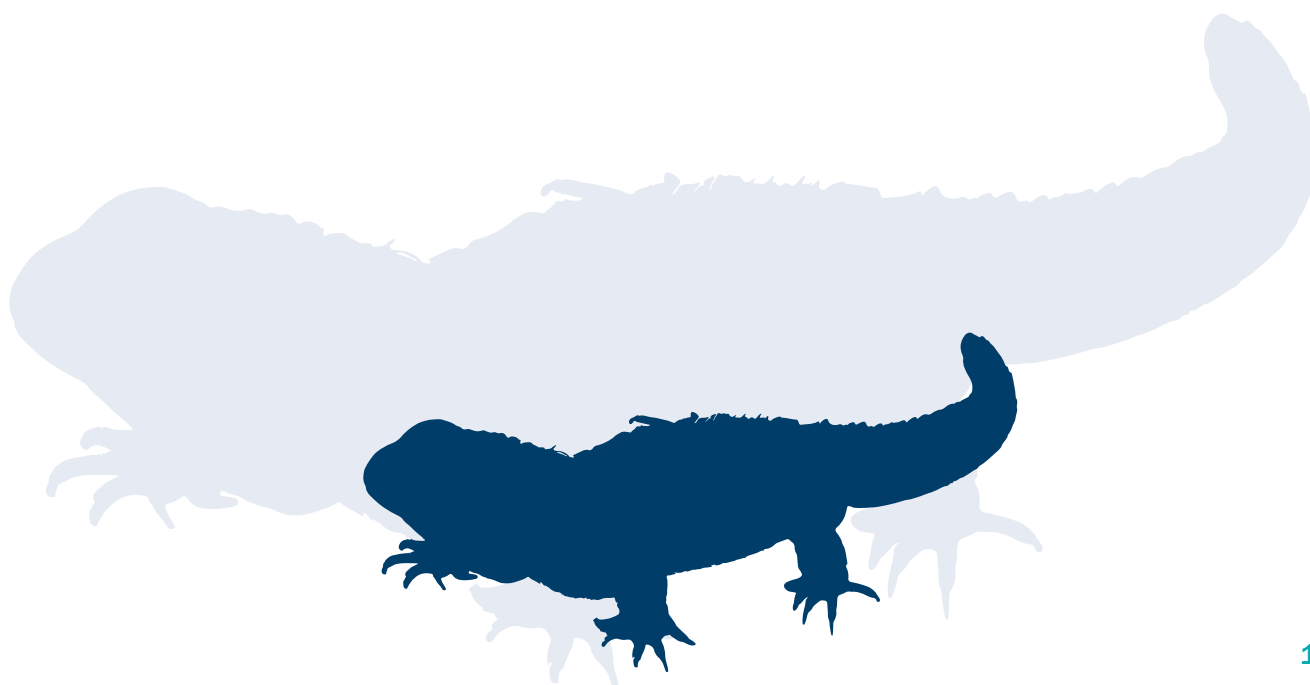
- Mana whenua: enabling and empowering mana whenua to exercise mana whenua and kaitiakitanga in respect of their ancestral lands and waters. The principle of “dominant mana whenua” recognises the particular status of Ngaati Koroki Kahukura
- Ahi kaa: acknowledging that tangata whenua who have always lived on their tuurangawaewae, their tribal lands, are repositories of tribal history, genealogy, traditions and customs
- Whanaungatanga: Maintaining relationships between and amongst iwi, hapuu, Council, stakeholders and the community built on mutual respect and acceptance of each other’s interests and values
- Manaakitanga: Encouraging behaviour and activities that are mana enhancing toward others including generosity, care, respect and reciprocity
- Mahi ngaatahi, Pono me te Tika: sharing knowledge and working in good faith, with respect and collaboratively together
- Kotahitanga: Pursuing a unity of purpose and direction.

Ngaa maataapono - Principles

- Taonga tuku iho: Acknowledging Maungatautari is a living treasure
- Kaitiakitanga: The responsibility to care for and protect the health and wellbeing of Maungatautari and the life within
- Wairuatanga/Mauri: Acknowledging and understanding the existence of mauri and a spiritual dimension to Maungatautari requires attention and nourishment

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

This section sets out the Vision for the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and the RMP. The principles are intended to guide how all the people, organisations and groups who are involved in Maungatautari Scenic Reserve work together and make decisions, to deliver successful actions.







Kaupapa Here - Policy Section

*“Korihi ake ngaa manu,
taakiri mai te ata
Ka ao, ka ao, ka awatea!
Tiihei mauri ora.”*

*“The birds call, the day
begins. And I am alive.
With the dawn comes a
sense of well-being and
optimism.”*

Mana Hautuu - Governance

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Maungatautari Scenic Reserve has effective management and governance arrangements in place that reflects the importance of the maunga to many communities, the treaty settlement, and facilitates ongoing cultural, recreational and spiritual connection to the maunga.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Work in an open and transparent manner with Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa, Raukawa, Waikato-Tainui and Te Hapori o Maungatautari.
2. Provide an ongoing collaborative forum for governance and management of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve that reflects the interests of mana whenua and the wider community.
3. Approve, as the administering body for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve, long term and annual work plans.
4. Involve the ongoing collaborative forum in decision-making on the day-to-day operations for the reserve.
5. Explore opportunities for the community to be involved in the ongoing collaborative forum.
6. Ensure all deeds, contracts, or other instruments are executed by the authorised representatives of Te Hapori o Maungatautari as required by the Ngāti Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act 2014.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

There has been significant political change in the Maungatautari landscape since the construction of the pest-proof fence around the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and privately-owned land. Since that time, the Crown has endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and has made formal written apologies to iwi including Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa, Raukawa, and Waikato-Tainui in their Treaty settlement deeds and resulting Settlement Acts.

In light of these significant developments, new governance and management frameworks are required for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve that reflect the rights and responsibilities of Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa, Raukawa and Waikato-Tainui and the interests of the wider community connected with Maungatautari.

Council is the administering body for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve in accordance with the Reserves Act. Council currently meets the policies set out above through the Maungatautari Reserve Committee which includes elected representatives from Council, and representatives from mana whenua, MEIT, DoC, WRC, a consultant reserves planner, and landowners. The Committee's current purpose is to facilitate effective and meaningful communication between Council, tangata whenua, MEIT, WRC, DoC and other agencies and the public around the administration and management of the Reserve; provide advice to Council on all operational management needs and requirements of the Act, oversee the activities of MEIT, oversee the review of the RMP, and provide an avenue for adjoining landowners and stakeholders to express their support, concerns or views.

Whilst Council retains its roles and responsibilities as the administering body, and its responsibility to make funding decisions as set out in the long term plan, these policies encourage the involvement of the ongoing collaborative forum to have a role in decision making about day-to-day activities in the reserve.



Mana i te whenua - giving effect to tikanga and matauranga Maaori

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Mana whenua customary relationships with Maungatautari are recognised and provided for.
2. Matauranga Maaori and tikanga are integrated into the governance and management of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

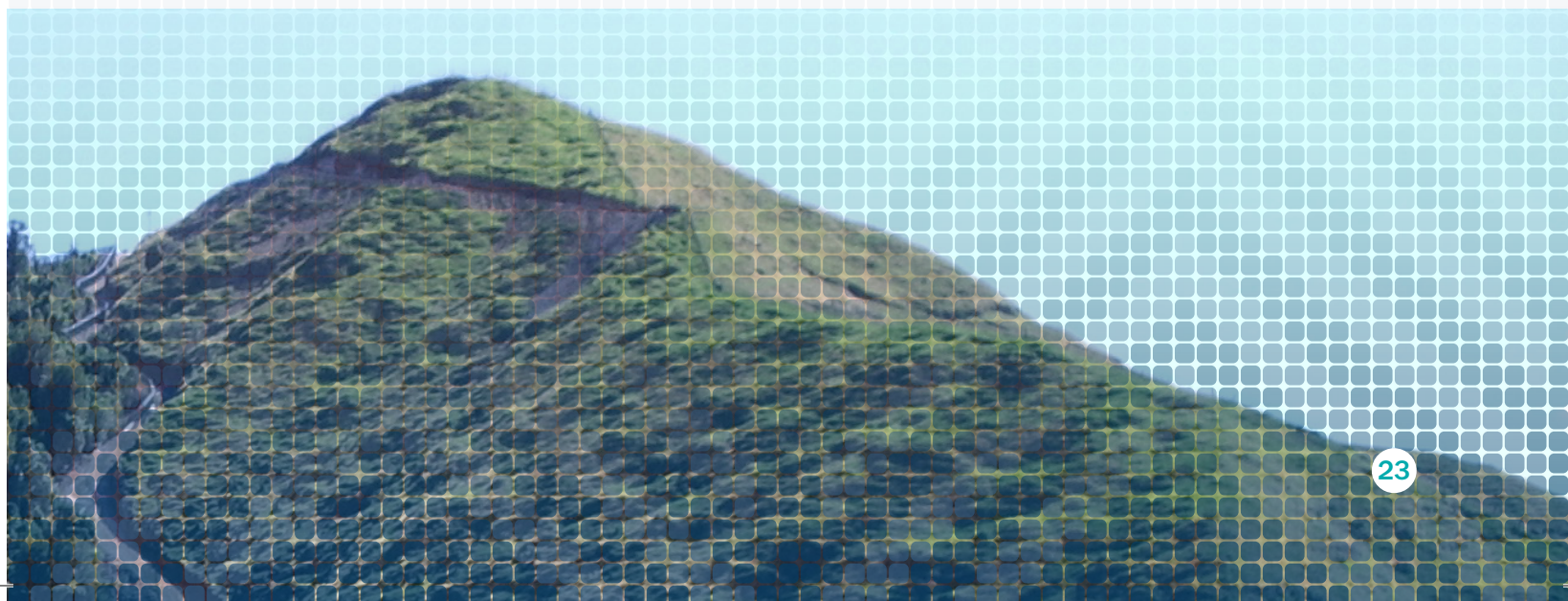
1. Acknowledge the spiritual, ancestral, cultural, customary, and historical interests of Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa, Raukawa, and Waikato-Tainui in the land within Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
2. Enable mana whenua to have a living connection with their maunga through cultural activities and to exercise their kaitiakitanga over this sacred maunga.
3. Partner with mana whenua to understand, value and apply Matauranga Maaori and tikanga.
4. Value intergenerational knowledge and world views held by mana whenua.
5. Support mana whenua presence through cultural infrastructure.
6. Seek and take into account input from mana whenua on concession requests, infrastructure plans and future management arrangements.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Mana whenua have a long history of association with Maungatautari. Maungatautari holds spiritual, cultural and historical significance to Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Waikato-Tainui, Ngaati Hauaa and Raukawa. The Crown, through the treaty settlement legislation, has acknowledged the cultural significance of Maungatautari as a tupuna and living taonga and the injustices that have occurred that have affected the spiritual relationship of mana whenua with their ancestral maunga. Treaty settlement legislation also recognises that Ngaati Koroki Kahukura is the iwi with dominant mana whenua status in respect of Maungatautari.

The Conservation Act requires that decision makers give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi which are said to include active protection and partnership between the Crown and Maaori. Aotearoa New Zealand's national biodiversity strategy established under the Conservation Act 1987 calls biodiversity a living treasure for future generations. It is an example of how concepts from a Maaori world-view and the commitment to future generations are being incorporated into law and policy.

This RMP seeks to recognise the history of association between mana whenua and Maungatautari, and looking to the future, seeks to work in partnership with mana whenua in management of the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.



Te Mahi Ngaatahi - Partnerships

Whaainga - Objectives:

1. Management of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve demonstrates productive partnerships in action.
2. Residents and businesses connect with and contribute to the restoration of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

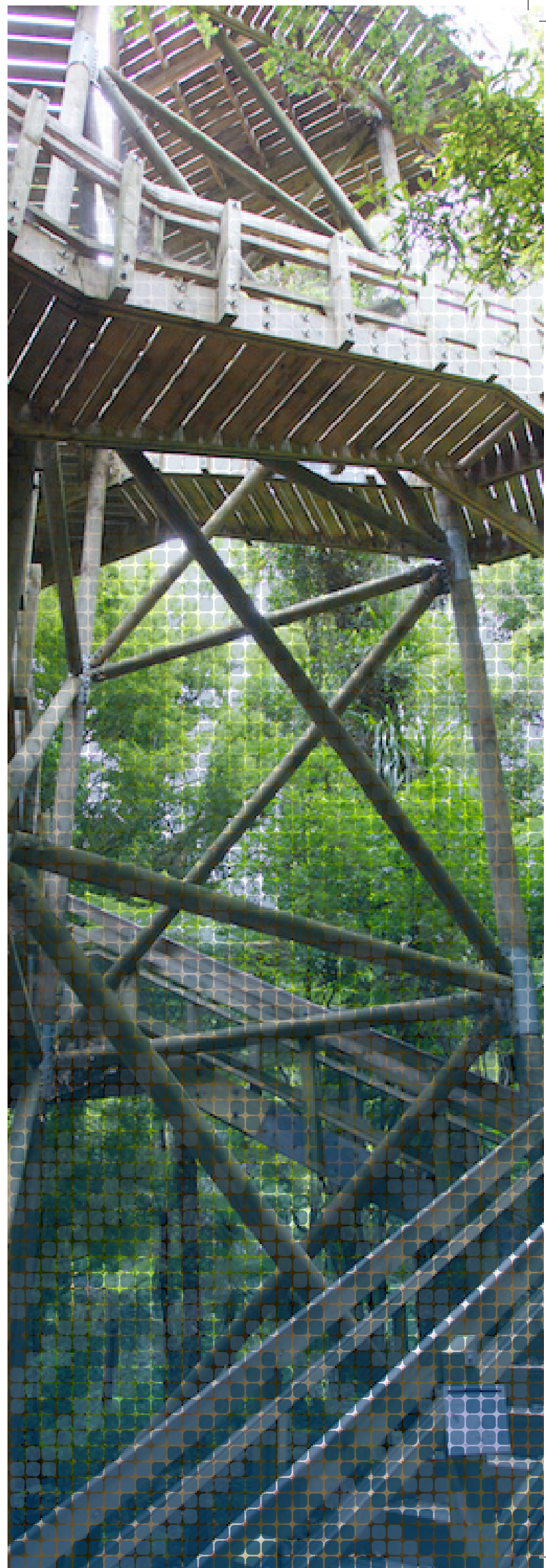
1. Work collaboratively with iwi and hapuu, adjacent landowners, MEIT, government agencies, and the community to achieve the vision for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
2. Provide opportunities for more people to be engaged in and connected with Maungatautari through volunteer involvement and recreation.
3. Ensure best practice induction, training and support for volunteers.
4. Increase community understanding of, and support, for conservation in Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Maungatautari has a long history of successful partnerships that have all contributed to the development and success of the mainland island. This includes mana whenua, neighbouring landowners, Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust, volunteers, WRC, DoC, business sponsors, funding agencies, and visitors to Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari.

This RMP recognises that maintaining these strong relationships and partnerships underpins the on-going successful management and enhancement of the reserve.

This RMP recognises those landowners whose land is co-located within the fence and work to date to achieve mutual aims. The support of these landowners is fundamental to the success of both the pest-proof fence and the restoration objectives for the reserve.



Te Aarai Taiao - Ecological diversity

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Maungatautari Scenic Reserve is a successful, thriving indigenous ecosystem, free from introduced pests, that enhances Waipā's biodiversity.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Maintain and restore ecosystems by removing threats by:
 - a. Supporting the owner of the pest-proof fence to maintain its functional integrity;
 - b. undertaking pest control; and
 - c. working with adjacent landowners to progress access agreements and covenants related to the pest-proof fence.
2. Increase indigenous dominance and species occupancy by:
 - a. Actively supporting reintroduction of breeding populations of native species; and
 - b. Prohibiting, unless written approval is given by Waipā District Council, the taking of any domestic and farm animals onto Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
3. Allow seeing eye dogs being used by the blind, dogs trained for search and rescue purposes, security or pest control, and dogs which meet the national standards for threatened species management within Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
4. Allow removal of indigenous vegetation where required for:
 - a. Essential operational purposes such as track maintenance
 - b. preservation of identified panoramic vistas;
 - c. development of park facilities provided for by this RMP
 - d. public safety; and
 - e. revegetation and ecological restoration initiatives.

5. Where indigenous vegetation is to be removed in accordance with policy 4, ensure:
 - a. Only the minimum vegetation necessary for the purpose is disturbed or removed; and
 - b. the disturbance or removal shall not have long term adverse effects on the environment.
6. Actively support initiatives that extend ecological corridors to and from Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
7. Actively grow the volunteer base contributing to participative restoration activities.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Maungatautari Scenic Reserve, as part of the wider Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari, is a significant conservation resource in the regional, national and international context. It is a special place to visit due to the extraordinary pest-proof fence and the diverse number of native species living in their natural habitat. The reserve is predominantly tawa and podocarp forest and is now home to many reintroduced threatened species including kiwi, kookako, giant weta, tuatara, and takahee.

This RMP recognises the importance of the conservation work undertaken within the reserve, the work that is undertaken to maintain the integrity of the pest-proof fence and the ongoing work to ensure this mainland island remains pest free. The pest-proof fence is owned and managed by MEIT. It is a huge investment and within the next 20 years the fence will need to be renewed. Council signals through this RMP that it intends to support MEIT where possible to maintain the functional integrity of the fence.

Council contracts management of the day-to-day operation of the reserve to MEIT to ensure the efficacy of the fence, pest monitoring and response, and maintaining the network of tracks. MEIT works with partners, such as DoC, to continue species reintroductions and breeding programmes to create biodiversity in a sound ecological environment.

MEIT is responsible for providing Council with their annual work plan of activities. MEIT has a number of plans, such as a Strategic Plan and Restoration Plan 2019 – 2029, which inform their activities both within the reserve land and outside of reserve land within Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. The vision and goals set out in these documents are complementary to this RMP and help to inform activities undertaken under the contract.

Manaakitanga - Experiencing Maungatautari

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Visitors to Maungatautari Scenic Reserve are enriched by inspiring enjoyable outdoor experiences, with an emphasis on:
 - b. Protecting the natural resources and historic and cultural values
 - c. Providing physically accessible, affordable, quality experiences
 - d. Expressing the significance of the area to mana whenua; and
 - e. Expressing the significance of the area to restoring Waipā and Aotearoa/ New Zealand's biodiversity.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Protect the calm and peaceful environment of Maungatautari for retreat, reflection and connection with nature.
2. Inspire reverence, aroha, respect and awareness of Maungatautari as a taonga tuku iho.
3. Encourage people to enjoy and experience Maungatautari in a way that recognises the mana of and does not pose a risk to ecological restoration and species diversity or compromise park values and the visitor experience.
4. Investigate new infrastructure and/or improvements to existing infrastructure required to support recreational and educational activities on the maunga.
5. Maintain legal public access points through the pest-proof fence to the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
6. Work with private landowners to agree a legal public access point at the northern side of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and at other locations as the need arises.
7. Provide free public access into Maungatautari Scenic Reserve, over the mountain track and access to tracks within the enclosures, unless charging is authorised through a concession for 'value added' experiences.
8. Enable charging of fees for access to, or the use of, structures, sites or places or carrying out an activity, in accordance with the Reserve Act.
9. Restrict public access via the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve onto

private land outside the fenceline.

10. Require all waste taken into the reserve by visitors to be taken away by visitors.
11. Give particular regard to the following when considering applications seeking approval to carry out or renew concessions, leases and licences or permits:
 - a. The degree to which the proposal is consistent with the vision, objectives, and policies outlined in this RMP
 - b. Whether the proposal is consistent with Te Ture Whaimana, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River
 - c. Whether the proposal is consistent with the scenic reserve classification under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977
 - d. Whether the proposal recognises the significance of the area to mana whenua, supports the wellbeing of mana whenua, and enables their role as kaitiaki
 - e. Whether the proposal is consistent with other approved consents, concessions, leases and licences active in the area of the reserve under consideration
 - f. The adverse effects of the proposal on the reserve values, infrastructure, approved activities and the enjoyment on other park users, with particular emphasis on significant natural areas and threatened or unique species and ecosystems
 - g. The level of additional council services required, taking into consideration but not limited to administration, monitoring and evaluation
 - h. Potential to set a precedent that could give rise to similar activities which in combination may result in adverse cumulative effects on the reserve in the future
 - i. The degree to which any exclusion of the public is necessary for the protection of public safety, the security or competent operation of the proposed activity
 - j. The benefits to the local and regional community and mana whenua
 - k. The degree to which persons affected by the proposal, including mana whenua, supported the application through any relevant oral or written submissions received
 - l. The duration and timing of activities; and
 - m. Whether the proposal could reasonably be undertaken in another location which is not a reserve, where the potential adverse effects would be significantly less.

12. Prohibit the following activities that are not in keeping with the purpose of the Reserve:
 - a. The use of vehicles including mountain bikes except for reserve management and search and rescue purposes
 - b. Overnight camping, unless ancillary to a conservation activity and a permit has been issued
 - c. Parties and loud music
 - d. The use of drones, unless ancillary to conservation, promotional filming or search and rescue activities and a permit has been issued
 - e. Damage to, and the taking of, any flora and fauna, unless ancillary to conservation or cultural activities and a permit has been issued
 - f. The scattering of human ashes
 - g. The use of alcohol and smoking
 - h. Mining activities.

13. Monitor the impact of recreational activities on Maungatautari Scenic Reserve's values and apply adaptive management where risks of negative impacts are identified.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Management of activities on the maunga is focused on protecting the maunga's values and creating a visitor experience that allows people to connect with the maunga and nature and understand the significance of the maunga. Some activities are not compatible with this, and this RMP seeks to clarify expectations about the types of activities that are appropriate in the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve. Passive recreational activities that do not pose a risk to ecological restoration and conservation goals are encouraged. Activities that do not align with the goals of ecological restoration and conservation are discouraged.

Maungatautari Scenic Reserve is intended to be enjoyed by the public. The Ngaati Koroki Kahukura Settlement Act 2014 sets out that 'Maungatautari Mountain Scenic Reserve is held for the use and enjoyment of the people of New Zealand.' The Reserves Act also requires that scenic reserves are managed so that the public has freedom of entry

and access to the reserve. There are circumstances through the Reserves Act where fees can be charged for access to facilities, or for carrying out an activity. The Reserves Act also allows restriction on access to be applied for the protection and wellbeing of the reserve. This RMP seeks to achieve a balance between ensuring freedom of entry and access is maintained, while also allowing fees to be charged for specific activities authorised through a concession and access to be limited in specific circumstances as allowed by the Reserves Act.

Access into the reserve is limited to pest-proof security gateways so that the ecological restoration aims for the reserve and Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari are not undermined. The main gateway into the reserve is provided at the end of Tari Road in the south. Council is working towards securing public access across private land from Hicks Road in the north. Direct access into the southern enclosure from Tari Road requires a facilities fee or a guided tour to be paid to Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari as per their concession. These fees support the work undertaken within the enclosure. Free public access into the southern enclosure can be obtained from within the reserve via the over the mountain track.

Maungatautari is held by the community as a Scenic Reserve, with the Crown continuing to have rights and obligations, powers and functions under the Act as if it were reserve vested in the Crown. However, when read in conjunction with the Instrument of Delegation for Territorial Authorities 2013, the Council may receive and consider applications for concessions in relation to the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve. The Reserves Act enables concessions, leases, licences and permits to be issued for activities within a Scenic Reserve. The objectives and policies in this RMP provide guidance for the preparation and consideration of new concessions, leases, licences, and permits and the type of activities that are encouraged within the reserve.

MEIT holds a resource consent to operate guided tours within the Southern Enclosure. MEIT and Ngaati Koroki Kahukura also hold a concession within the reserve to provide value added, commercially operated activities, guided walks, educational tours and wildlife translocation events in the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve. Permits for research activities, events and filming and photography are also sought from time to time. Fees paid by visitors to the reserve for these activities directly supports conservation work. Visitors to the reserve are largely from within Aotearoa New Zealand and particularly the North Island, however 19% of visitors come from overseas.

Ngaa Mahi Rangahau, Maatauranga hoki - Research and education

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Research and education programmes increase understanding of ecological restoration, conservation management, and the processes and functions of indigenous ecosystems.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Support the use of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve for on-site education.
2. Inspire rangatahi to learn about our natural world through the work occurring at Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
3. Work with partners to provide educational material that fosters an increased understanding of the ecological aims and achievements within Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
4. Support research and education institutions to conduct research and education programmes that support the primary purpose of the Reserve.
5. Raise awareness of the importance of intact, healthy, functioning ecosystems in Maungatautari to the wellbeing of residents of Waipā, and the Reserve's contribution to the economic prosperity of the region.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Maungatautari provides an important resource to researchers, being a unique environment located close to the University of Waikato. Scientific research plays an important role in ecological restoration and conservation. The Maungatautari ecological restoration project has benefited from the expertise

of countless academics and scientists to date and a continuation of this learning is strongly supported.

The Council holds a delegation from the Minister to issue concessions for various activities, including research permits. Concessions for research purposes may be sought and where research has a beneficial outcome for Maungatautari and national conservation generally, this is likely to be supported. This RMP does not duplicate the controls of the Reserves Act and Wildlife Act regarding the taking of flora and fauna for study purposes.

This RMP acknowledges Council's desire to support future research by having no fees for research partners. It is acknowledged however that depending on resourcing that a cost neutral approach to processing applications for research concessions may need to be applied in the future. Fees and charges will apply to research conducted for 'commercial gain' to recognise the private benefit generated off public land.

This RMP also supports on-site education at Maungatautari and the need to raise awareness about the importance of intact, healthy, functioning ecosystems in Maungatautari, the role this plays in the wellbeing of residents of Waipā, and the reserve's contribution to the conservation and economic prosperity of the region.

We encourage you to read some of this interesting research, as it further explains the complexity, species diversification and translocations that have occurred in the last decade. Some referenced material is included in the reference list at the back of this RMP.



Waihanga Matua - Infrastructure

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Provide and maintain infrastructure, tracks, and structures that support the visitor experience in the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve without having an adverse effect on the amenity, ecology and landscape values of the Reserve.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Plan and build new infrastructure, such as tracks, huts, shelters, telecommunications and wayfinding, identified as necessary by Council to support the visitor experience and education and restoration based activities where it does not undermine the amenity, ecology, cultural and landscape values of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.
2. Any new infrastructure that has been approved by Council shall be sited and designed to be:
 - a. Appropriate for the needs of the intended and future user
 - b. Appropriate to facilitate public recreational use and experiencing the scenic qualities, and indigenous flora and fauna of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve
 - c. To an acceptable standard for a public structure including the use of durable and sustainable materials; and
 - d. In scale with and suited to the character of the reserve with the least impact on flora, fauna, waterways and visual amenity.

3. Undertake maintenance of existing infrastructure, tracks and structures to maintain a high level of safety for visitors to the reserve in a manner that has the least impact on flora and fauna.
4. Existing structures that are no longer required shall be removed from the reserve.
5. Allow for the re-routing and installation of the pest-proof fence within the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve boundary from private land if required.
6. Prohibit the use of permanent artificial lighting within the reserve.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Good facilities provide a rewarding experience for staff, volunteers and visitors to Maungatautari. Our community has signalled that the current level of development is adequate, although some enhancements would improve the experience. An increased passive recreational user base provides an opportunity for connecting with future researchers, volunteers, sponsors and donors to promote the work being achieved at Maungatautari. This RMP makes a deliberate attempt to encourage visitor support and enhance the visitor experience, provided it does not compromise the intrinsic qualities, cultural, historic and archaeological values of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

These objectives and policies support the provision of infrastructure, tracks and structures that support the visitor experience, and requires that development minimises effects on the environment of the reserve. The policies support appropriate new infrastructure, the maintenance of existing infrastructure, and sets out an expectation of the way in which development is to be undertaken.

This RMP recognises that the fence line for Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari does not follow the boundaries of the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and in many cases crosses private land, which is outside the remit of this RMP. Negotiations have and are being undertaken to formalise the fence on private property, however if agreement is unable to be reached, the policies outlined above support relocation of the fence within the reserve if required.



Ngaa taonga tuku iho, ngaa waahi tapu, ngaa waahi tuupuna - Cultural, historic and archaeological values

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Protect, restore and enhance sites of cultural, historical and archaeological significance.
2. Enable mana whenua to have a living and enduring presence on Maungatautari.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Identify and map unrecorded cultural sites with mana whenua.
2. Protect, restore and correctly interpret the cultural, historic and archaeological values and features in partnership with mana whenua.
3. Ensure all development in the reserve and associated earthworks are located to preserve and protect sites of cultural, historic and archaeological value.
4. Enable archaeological and other research to better understand the former settlement pattern and lifestyle of mana whenua's ancestors who resided at Maungatautari.
5. Subject to the agreement of Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, allow for the taking of taonga including fallen trees, logs, birds, and feathers for customary purposes, in accordance with the Waikato Tainui Cultural Materials Plan, Conservation Accord 2008 and relevant Iwi Environmental Plans.
6. Enhance the amount and diversity of rongoa plants on Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

For mana whenua, Maungatautari is a significant ancestral mountain, containing significant and sacred sites. To ensure that significant sites are preserved and not subject to inappropriate development, this RMP recognises the importance of documenting cultural, historic and archaeological values, being fully aware of their place in the Maungatautari landscape and respectful of their importance to Iwi.

Iwi have particular customary rights, as agreed by the Crown and provided for in various legal instruments. For example, the Conservation Accord signed by the Crown and Waikato-Tainui in 2008 ensured that a territorial authority must have particular regard to the Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan Tai Tumu Tai Pari Tai Ao (2013). This RMP recognises the importance of enabling customary activities, such as:

- Whakamahi rawa - the gathering and use of resources such as wood for carving, harakeke for kaakahu (clothing) or whaariki (mats)
- Wairua - the use of water bodies for spiritual and cultural health purposes
- Hauanga kai - customary and contemporary gathering and use of naturally occurring and cultivated foods; and
- Raahui - the imposition of restrictions on all or part of an activity for conservation, spiritual wellbeing or other purpose from time to time.



Ka maatakitaki iho ki te riu o Waikato - Protection of landscape values and viewshafts

Whaainga - Objective:

1. Protect and enhance the scenic and landscape values of Maungatautari Scenic Reserve.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Ensure activities are managed and facilities are designed and located to avoid any loss of identified landscape values and viewshafts.
2. Actively manage vegetation where necessary to protect scenic and panoramic views.
3. Strongly advocate for the protection of viewshafts to Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and developments that are in keeping with its status as an Outstanding Natural Feature and Landscape as defined in the Waipā District Plan.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Maungatautari visually dominates the landscape of the central Waikato basin. It is integral to the identity of mana whenua and to many Waipā residents.

The Waipā District Plan identifies Maungatautari as being part of the Maungatautari cultural landscape, as an Outstanding Natural Feature and Landscape, and as a Significant Natural Area. It also identifies the need to maintain viewshafts to Maungatautari.

The Waipā District Plan accordingly manages activities within these landscapes and within the viewshafts. This RMP is consistent with the Waipā District Plan policy direction on landscapes and viewshafts.



Te Whakamahi i te Mahere - Implementation of the Plan

Whaainga - Objective:

1. The vision for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve is achieved through Council's active involvement, alongside mana whenua and Te Hapori o Maungatautari, in the implementation of this Plan.

Kaupapa here - Policies:

1. Manage and administer Maungatautari Scenic Reserve in a way that recognises Council's ongoing commitment to Maungatautari, gives effect to this RMP and meets legislative obligations and responsibilities.
2. Provide an appropriate and consistent level of resourcing that facilitates the implementation of this RMP and recognises the significance of the maunga to mana whenua and our wider community in terms of biodiversity, cultural and recreational values.
3. Actively encourage partners to provide an appropriate and consistent level of resourcing that facilitates the implementation of this RMP.
4. Identify, investigate and pursue opportunities to increase revenue streams over the long term to support the Maungatautari ecological restoration project.
5. Develop an annual operations plan outlining the day-to-day operations of the reserve including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Activities to manage and maintain the pest-proof fence
 - b. Monitoring of mammalian and weed pests
 - c. Maintaining assets and recreational infrastructure
 - d. Engagement activities with the communities of Maungatautari
 - e. Maintaining the biodiversity advisory committee
 - f. Reporting to Waipā District Council; and
 - g. Any planned new activities.

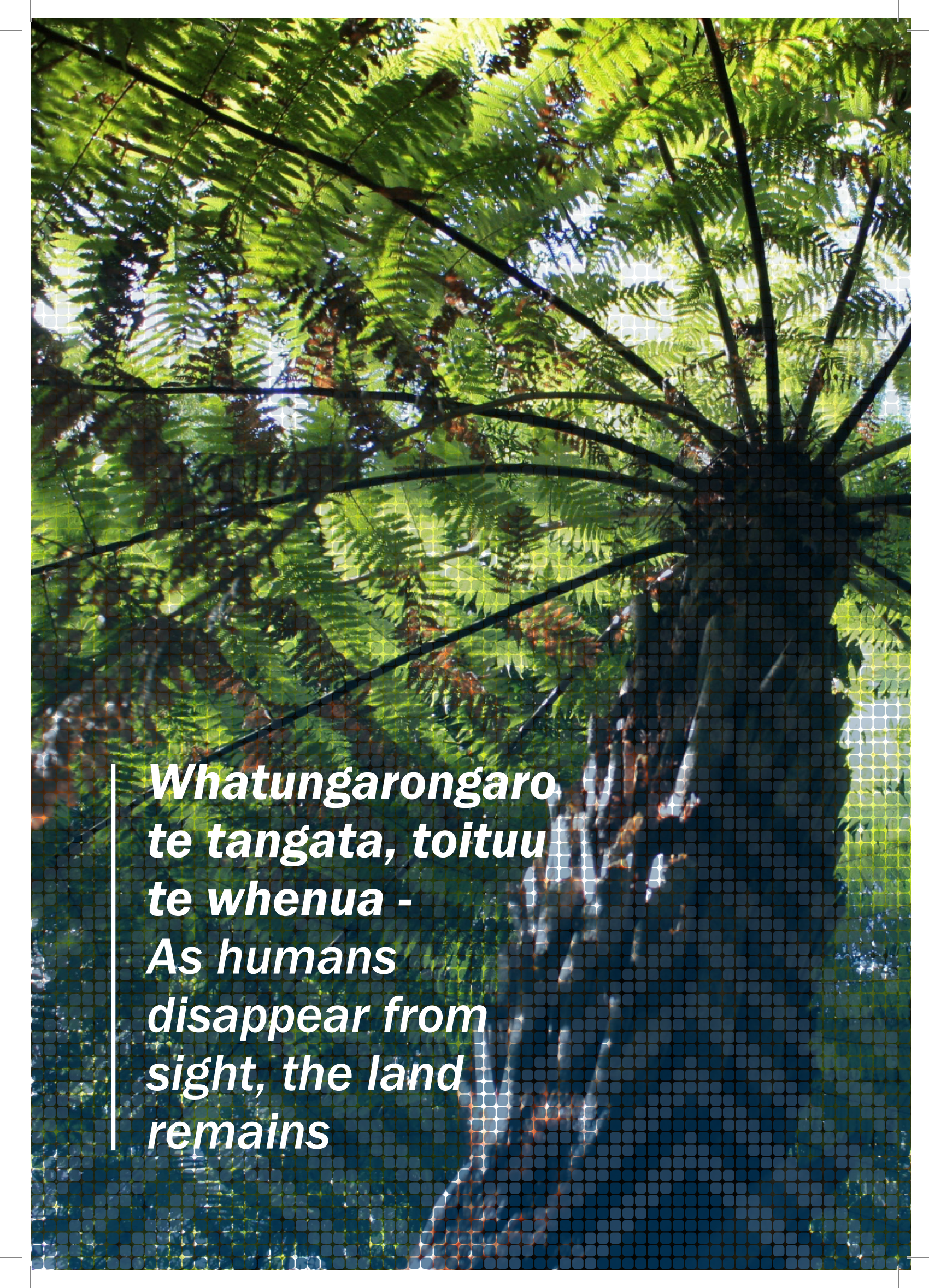
6. Develop an annual report outlining the following matters:
 - a. The number of pest mammals, other than mice, detected and trapped inside the pest-proof fence
 - b. The area (*hectares*) in the reserve dominated by adventive plant species
 - c. The number of pest plant species in the reserve
 - d. The proportion of species present as self-sustaining populations relative to a hypothetically fully-occupied ecosystem
 - e. The number of species translocated into the reserve and the number of these species that have achieved self-sustaining populations
 - f. The number of visitors to the maunga annually
 - g. The number of volunteers
 - h. The number of students that visit the maunga for educational purposes; and
 - i. The number and nature of concessions applied for and granted.

He kupu whakamaarama - Explanation:

Council is committed to Maungatautari Scenic Reserve. The forest on Maungatautari represents the largest area of intact remnant indigenous forest remaining within the Waipā District. It is a place of spiritual, cultural and historical significance to Ngaati Koroki Kahukura, Waikato-Tainui, Ngaati Hauaa and Raukawa. It is a special place for landowners, volunteers, and our community.

Council is committed to managing and administering the reserve in accordance with legislative requirements and in the interests of mana whenua and the wider community. Regular and transparent operational planning and reporting will facilitate this.

A key challenge for implementation of this RMP is obtaining a consistent and appropriate level of funding to support the operational and capital investment required to run the ecological restoration project. Funding is currently provided by Waipā District Council, WRC, DoC, iwi partners, MEIT, and a wide range of corporate and non-corporate sponsors. The success of the project relies on a continuation of this support, as well as identifying, investigating and pursuing other funding opportunities.



***Whatungarongaro
te tangata, toituu
te whenua -
As humans
disappear from
sight, the land
remains***

Ngaa kupu Maaori - Glossary

Ahi kaa - burning fires of occupation, continuous occupation

Kaitiaki - based on whakapapa, kaitiaki are tribal custodians, guardians and protectors over tribal lands and waters, and the life within

Maimai aroha - lament

Mana - authority, prestige

Mana whenua - based on tikanga such as ahi kaa roa and whakapapa, tangata whenua who have the authority to make key decisions within their tribal territory

Maungatautari - a mountain in the Waikato region

Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (MEIT) - a trust established to manage the ecological restoration project branded as Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari

Maungatautari Scenic Reserve (the Reserve) - this applies to land vested in Te Hapori o Maungatautari, administered by Council and classified as scenic reserve under the Reserves Act

Mauri - life principle

Ngaahere - bush

Rangatahi - the younger generation

Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari - is an ecological restoration project which aims to continue the species re-introductions and breeding programmes to create bio-diversity in a sound ecological environment. Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari is governed by a trust made up of members from the community, landowners and local iwi representatives

Te Hapori o Maungatautari - this term is used in the Ngāti Koroki Kahukura Claims Settlement Act 2014 and refers to the Maungatautari community as defined in the Act

Tangata whenua - the first peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand - who belong to a particular place

Taonga - treasure

Taonga Tuku Iho - treasures handed down by our ancestors

Tupuna - ancestor.



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