

Memorandum



To: Mauao Project Steering Group

From: s 7(2)(f)(ii)

Subject: **MAUAO OPERATIONAL UPDATE – MAY 2013**

Date: 1st May 2013

The Purpose of this Report is to update the Mauao Project Steering Group on the operational activities on Mauao up until May 2013.

The most significant issue at this time for Mauao, is the large number of rabbits in the grassed paddocks and bush line. A pindone poisoning program has commenced, and the effects are now showing.

A medium/ long term plan is being worked on with Pest Control Officers from the Regional Council.

No issues have arisen from the summer visitors.

The number of people walking around the Base Track during April and May 2013 are:

- April 2013- 94,624
- May 2013- Not known at this time.

The number of people walking to the summit during April and May 2013 are:

- April 2013– 9,524
- May 2013- Not known at this time.

The amount of volunteer hours and volunteer group involved during April and May 2013 are:

- April 2013- 20 Hours
- May 2013- Not known at this time.

The volunteer group that have worked on Mauao over this period are: the New Zealand Forest and Bird Society, who manage the rodent pest bait station lines.

Pest control

Working with regional Council to target the large numbers of rabbits on Mauao. A pest control officer is writing a plan on how to gain a successful outcome and reduce rabbits numbers to an acceptable number.

Rena recovery application

Application for funding from the Rena Recovery Fund has been accepted. TCC has been awarded \$18,724.00 (excl. GST) to assist with pest control.

Base Track

Fulton Hogan were the successful contractor for completing the overlay on three sections of Mauao. Work has been completed. Good feedback from users.

Storm event 20th April

There was a large rainfall event on the night of the 19th/20th. There was little damage to Mauao. The slip by the camping ground spilled a small amount of material onto the start of the Base Track. Smart Environmental completed repair work on the 22nd April.

Mauao Care Group

The Care Group had to be cancelled due to weather. Next working bee is 8th June.

The following activities are planned over the next 3 months

Base track Capital projects to be completed.

Mulching of tree waste from last years Arborist work. (Pilot Bay side).

Removal of pines in bush above reservoir.

Fertilising of paddocks.

Summit Bluff weed spraying.