

0.0 Operational Report**File Number:****Author:****Authoriser:**

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PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. This report identifies the key operational issues and achievements over the reporting period September 2020 – November 2020. It identifies up and coming work of interest to Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao, including ongoing visitor records and an up to date events calendar for Mauao, Main Beach and Waikorire (Pilot Bay) Reserves.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ngā Poutiriao ō Mauao:

- (i) Receives the operational report for August 2020.

DISCUSSION**Visitor Numbers**

2. Total visitor numbers:

Table 1: Total year to date visitor numbers.

	Summit (calibrated) visits	Base Track visits	Total visits
2016	876,297	419,588	1,295,885
2017	903,604	339,031	1,242,635
2018	702,661	489,667	1,192,328
2019	796,671	544,912	1,341,583
2020 (YTD)	473,383	418,784	892,167

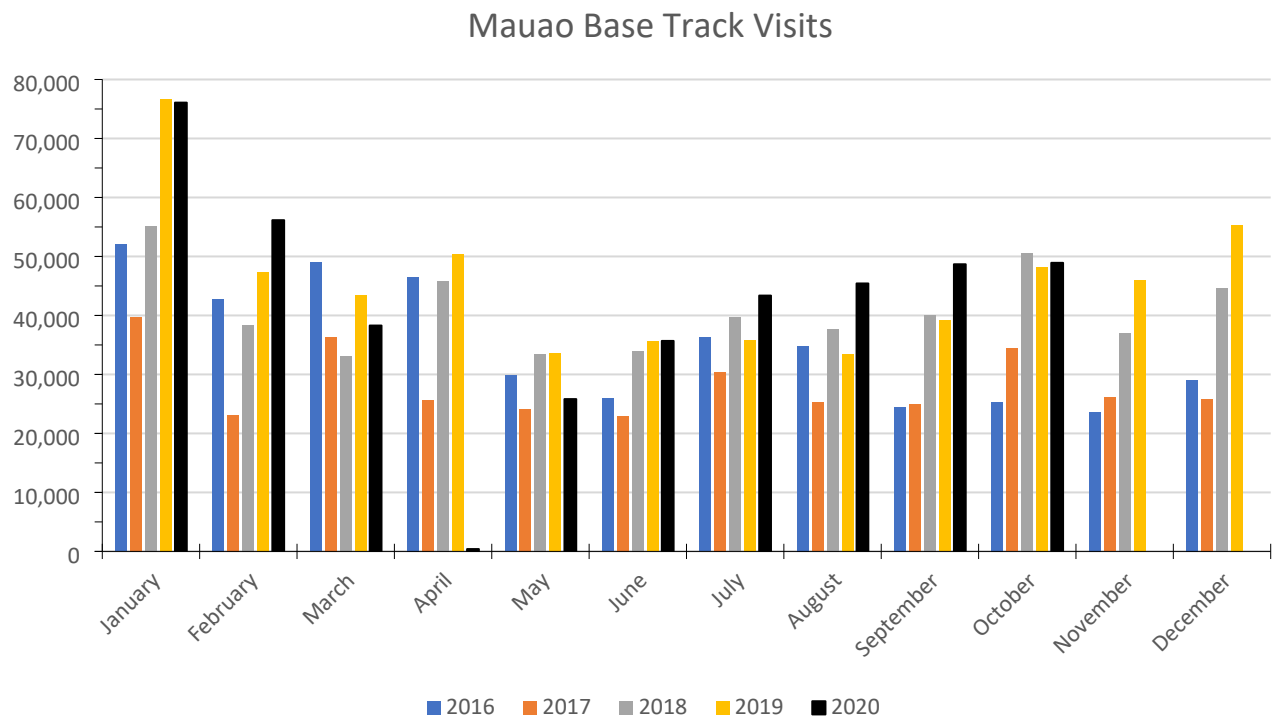


Figure 1: Base track numbers over this year, compared to previous years.

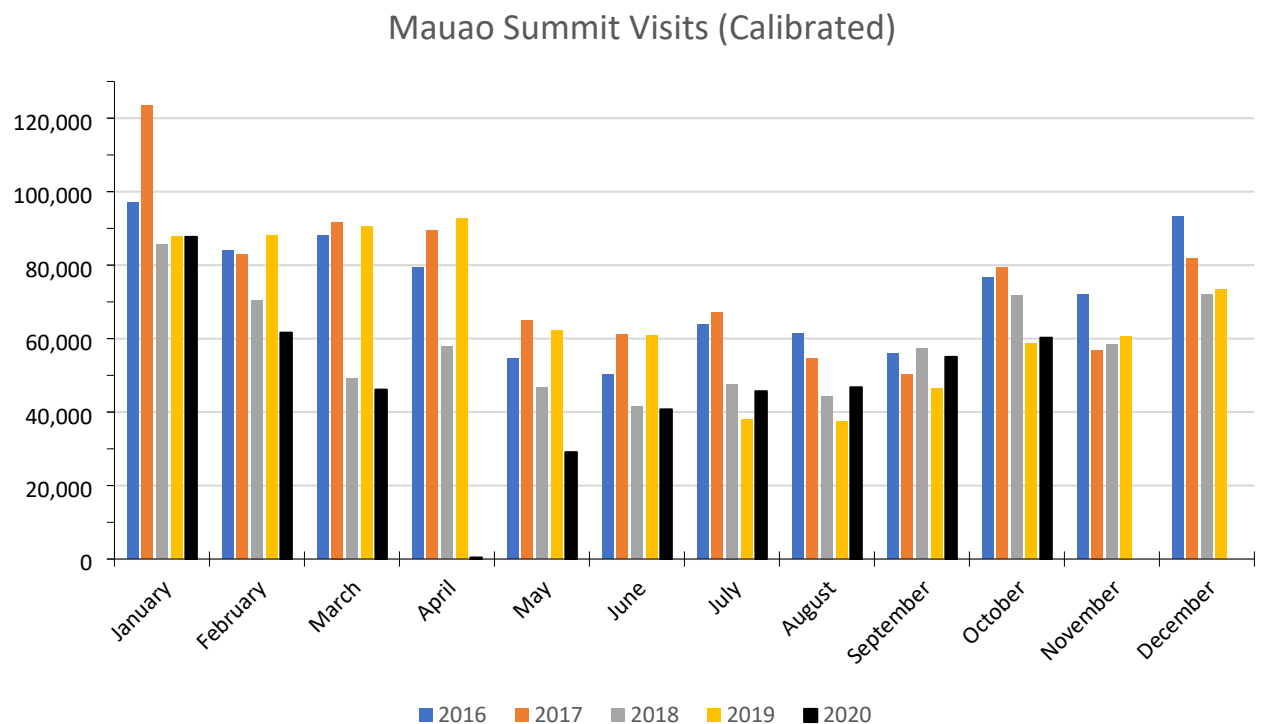


Figure 2: Calibrated summit numbers over this year, compared to previous years.

3. Please refer to the appendix for full walkways report.

Volunteer Support

- Volunteer support on Mauao again consisted mainly of Forest and Bird volunteers who service a portion of the bait lines.

Talks have begun with 'Pips' around seed sourcing from Mauao to be grown by local Kura and planted back on Mauao. This program is similar to our current 'Trees for survival' program and will see an even greater volunteer involvement on Mauao in the planting season.

Events

- Events at and around Mauao for the period of December 2020 to June 2021

Description	Start date	Start time	End date	End time
King and Queen of the Mount 2020	26/12/20	10:30 AM	26/12/20	12:30 PM
Mount Festival of Multisport	23/01/21	06:00 AM	23/01/21	05:00 PM
New Zealand Home Loans XRACE Tauranga 2021	14/02/21	10:00 AM	14/02/21	02:00 PM
Generation Homes Women's Triathlon 2021	21/02/21	08:30 AM	21/02/21	01:00 PM
Foundation Clinic Half Marathon 2021	06/03/21	07:30 AM	06/03/21	12:00 PM
Marra Sprint Triathlon 2021	14/03/21	07:00 AM	14/03/21	01:00 PM
Superhero Walk for Waipuna Hospice 2021	27/03/21	09:00 AM	27/03/21	12:30 PM
New Zealand Ocean Swim Series - Sand To Surf 2021	03/04/21	07:00 AM	03/04/21	03:30 PM
Mount Runners And Walkers Half Marathon 2021	06/06/21	08:00 AM	06/06/21	01:00 PM

Recent Success

- The fumigation of rabbit burrows is continuing.
- Night shooting that took place on the 22nd of September saw 9 out of 20 rabbits controlled. Furthermore, approximately 25 rock pigeons were controlled.
- The small possum monitoring trial resulted in no possum detection. To gain more certainty around this a more robust monitoring will take place in the coming months.
- The Tracking Network installation was postponed in this period due to the need to speak with Heritage NZ with respects to the effects the tracking lines will have. This conversation has now been had and Heritage NZ are happy for this to proceed.
- The first detection dog survey on Mauao for Kororā and Oi has taken place, we now have a baseline data set for comparing in the future. This has also allowed us to map the walkway culverts, this will help avoid conflict when clearing the walkway drainage.
- More days of pest plant control have taken place on Mauao. These have targeted Buckthorn, Bone-seed, Climbing asparagus, Gorse, and Japanese Honeysuckle. Japanese Honeysuckle is an issue on Mauao due to its number and growth speed. Options such as large-scale control and bio-agents are being investigated.
- The Waikorire track upgrade has been completed and was a success. This greatly improved surface will be an appreciated asset over the coming summer months.
- The scaling of rocks identified in the 6 monthly stability monitoring report have been completed by Avalon. This controlled work has sped up the natural process of rocks falling from the Oruahine bluffs and has created a safer environment for walkway users.
- Two local kura (Maungatapu school and Te Wharekura o Mauao) have successfully had their end of year ceremonies at the summit of Mauao. For this Kaumatua were transported up and down the maunga.
- A temporary electric fence has been erected around a midden on the upper slopes to allow the grass to regrow and stop further damage.

Planned work for the approaching period

16. Have the installation of the Tracking Network quoted and potentially begin with the installation.
17. Undertake a longer trial monitoring of possums to gain more certainty.
18. Undertake more Pest plant control of noxious plant species and investigate bio-agents for Japanese Honeysuckle.
19. Price up resurfacing work to the 4x4 track and look to have it completed this summer.
20. Organise the removal of the temporary stairs.

Ongoing Maintenance

21. Ongoing maintenance continues on the following aspects of the reserve:
 - pest plant and animal control
 - stock and pasture management
 - walkway maintenance
 - sign and structure maintenance
 - four wheel drive track maintenance
 - geotechnical rock stability monitoring and scaling to maintain visitor safety.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Nil
2. Mauao Track Counter Data August 2020 to November 2020
Objective: A12040741