

Memorandum



To: Mauao Project Steering Group

From: [Redacted] s 7(2)(a) - Privacy Park Ranger, Mauao

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

Date: 9th May 2013

The Purpose of this Report is to update the Mauao Project Steering Group on the operational activities on Mauao between February and May 2013.

The most significant issue over this time for Mauao, has been the large number of rabbits in the grassed paddocks and bush line. A pindone poisoning program has commenced, and the effects are now showing with a reduction in numbers. A medium/ long term plan is currently being worked on with Pest Control Officers from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council for the control of rabbits.

Visitors and Volunteers

No issues have arisen from the summer visitor season.

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

- April 2013- 94,624
- May 2013- To be reported at the Mauao Project Steering Group meeting.

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

- April 2013– 9,524
- May 2013- To be reported at the Mauao Project Steering Group meeting.

The number of volunteer hours contributed to Mauao during April and May 2013:

- April 2013- 20 Hours
- May 2013- To be reported at the Mauao Project Steering Group meeting.

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

Rena recovery application

An application for funding from the Rena Recovery Fund has been accepted. TCC has been awarded a grant of \$18,724.00 (excl. GST) for financial year 2013/14 to assist with pest control. Future funding will be applied for in early 2014 for the next financial year (2014/15).

Base Track

Fulton Hogan LTD were the successful contractor to complete the surface overlay on three sections of the Base Track on Mauao. Work has been completed and positive feedback has been received from users.

Storm event 20th April

There was a large rainfall event on the night of the 19th/20th April 2013. Mauao sustained little damage. The relic slip by the camping ground spilled a small amount of material onto the start of the Base Track. Smart Environmental LTD completed repair work on the 22nd April.

Mauao Care Group

The Care Group Working Bee scheduled in April was cancelled due to bad weather. Next working bee is 8th June.

The following activities are planned over the next 3 months

Mulching of tree waste from last years arboriculture work. (Pilot Bay side).
Removal of pines from the bush area above the water reservoir.
Fertilising of paddocks.
Summit Bluff weed spraying.

s 7(2)(a) - Privacy

Park Ranger, Mauao