

Mauao Operational Report October 2017

Nga Poutiriao o Mauao (Mauao Joint Administration Board)

3 October 2017

Objective ID No: A8205530



Tauranga City

Exec summary

Recommendation	That the Nga Poutiriao o Mauao: (a) receives the operational report for October 2017.
Summary of issue	This report identifies the key operational issues and achievements over the reporting period August - October 2017. It identifies up and coming work of interest to Nga Poutiriao o Mauao, including ongoing visitor records and an up to date events calendar for Mauao, Main beach and Pilot Bay Reserves.

Discussion

Update on base track temporary bypass

1. The temporary base track connection is working well. Handrail improvements and signage informing users of the steps have been installed to improve access and the awareness of the change in service. While much positive feedback has been received, the temporary steps are a definite barrier for less able-bodied visitors and strollers/push chairs.

Update on cyclone storm damage

2. This period, the vegetation debris below the Pilot Bay slip was dismantled and removed from the beach, to ensure visitor safety, and to prevent it from becoming a maritime hazard in the harbour. All the log wood was delivered to local Marae; Whareroa, Hungahungatoroa, and Huria, as requested by the Chairman of Nga Poutiriao o Mauao. The remaining debris includes the root ball of three large Pohutukawa and one large pine and the soil debris. These elements are not currently deemed a risk to the public or maritime safety, however they will need to be considered and moved in the long-term base track repair, pending the design.

New slip across the base track

3. A new slip occurred in the vicinity of NW rock following significant rain on Saturday 2nd of September 2017. The slip consists of predominantly alluvial material and a couple of large Pohutukawa, which originated in the forested area approximately 40 meters above the track. The slip material completely blocked the route and closed the track for the remainder of the weekend and the following week. The debris was cleared and inspected for safety by the following weekend to allow the track to be used, and repairs were completed the following week to the desired level of service. The slip site and debris was checked for evidence of archaeology and none was found.

Objective ID: A8205530

Pest control update

4. Ongoing pest control activities on Mauao are successful. Rabbit densities are still at the lowest they have been in years. The next round of rabbit monitoring is scheduled for late September, which will determine a new Estimated Population within Site (EPWS) and inform any change in tactics. A significant difference can be seen in the pasture and revegetation growth throughout the reserve.
5. No mustelids, cats or possums have been caught or sighted this period and low numbers of rats have been caught indicating a sustained low population.

Visitor numbers

6. Reporting period 1 July 2017 to 15 September 2017

Mauao Base track 55,869

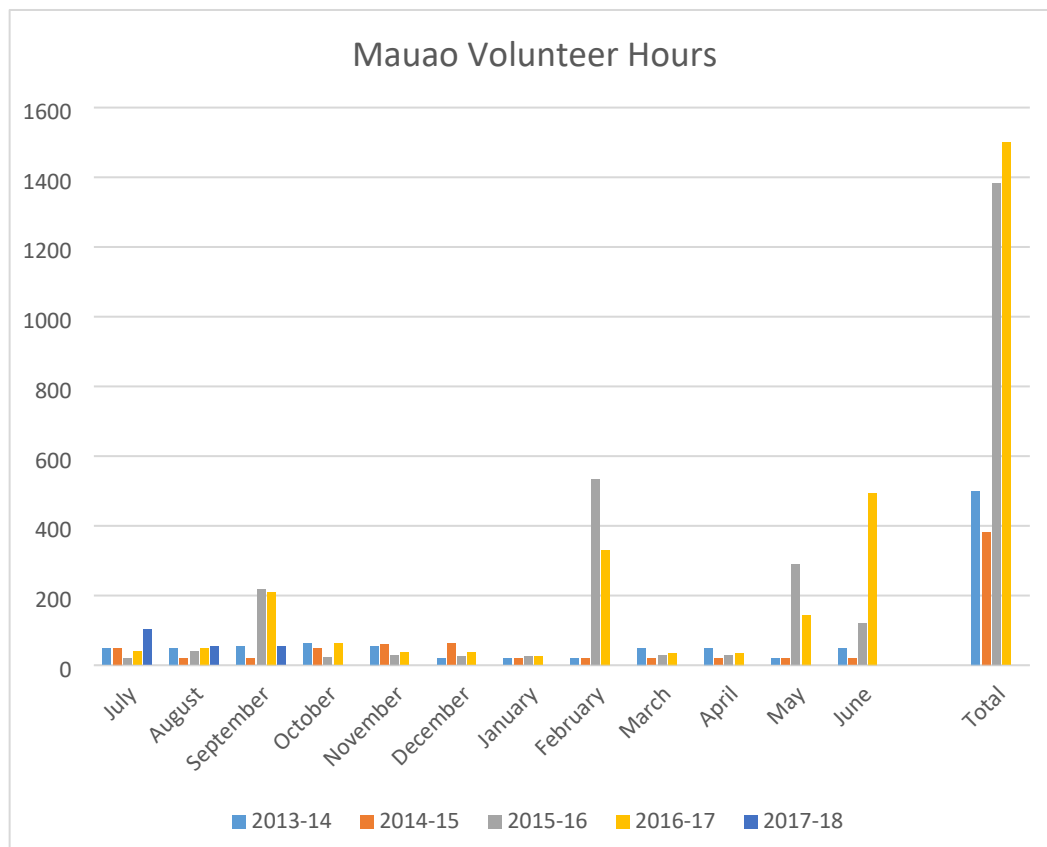
Mauao Summit (Calibrated) 142,890

(See the attached report **Appendix A** for specific details).

Volunteer support

7. Volunteer hours on Mauao are made up by a number of ongoing support groups and one off community events. The nature of the support includes the maintenance of animal pest control devices, revegetation planting, and rubbish removal. **Figure 1** shows the number of volunteer hours per month. The peaks are generally planting support and coastal clean ups.

8. Figure 1: Volunteer Hours Per Month



Upcoming events

9. The following table represents the calendar of events for the coming period on Mauao, Mount Main Beach, and Pilot Bay Reserves.

Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time	Location	Event Name	Organiser
16/09/17	10:30 AM	16/09/17	11:30 AM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	NZ Paddles Association & Mt Maunganui Lifeguard Service event	Mt Maunganui Surf Lifesaving Club
23/09/17	08:30 AM	23/09/17	03:00 PM	Pilot Bay Reserve	Mauao Ocean Series #2	Hoe Aroha Whanau o Mauao
23/09/17	08:30 AM	23/09/17	03:00 PM	Pilot Bay Reserve	Mauao Ocean Series #2	Hoe Aroha Whanau o Mauao
25/09/17	10:00 AM	25/09/17	12:30 PM	Mauao - Base Track	TGC Round the Mount Relay	Tauranga Girls College
26/09/17	05:00 PM	27/03/18	07:30 PM	Mauao - Base Track	Ocean Running	Ocean Running
30/09/17	02:00 PM	30/09/17	04:00 PM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach - Central	Walters and Inozemtseva	s 7(2)(a) - Privacy
01/10/17	08:00 AM	04/10/17	04:00 PM	Blake Park	NZ Teachers Games 2017	Sport Bay of Plenty
07/10/17	09:00 AM	07/10/17	06:00 PM	Gordon Spratt Reserve	Tauranga International Marathon 2017	Total Sport
14/10/17	08:00 AM	15/10/17	04:00 PM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	Mauao 1 - Beach Volleyball	Volleyball Bay of Plenty
17/10/17	05:30 PM	05/12/17	07:30 PM		Social Beach Volleyball 1	Volleyball Bay of Plenty
18/10/17	03:00 PM	04/04/18	07:15 PM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	Beach Soccer	All Stars Football Academy
21/10/17	10:00 AM	22/10/17	05:00 PM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	NZ Beach Tennis	Sport Bay of Plenty
05/11/17	09:00 AM	05/11/17	02:00 PM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	Tauranga City to Surf Fun Run 2017	Event Promotions
08/11/17	08:00 AM	08/11/17	06:00 PM	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	BOP Junior Secondary School Beach Champs	Volleyball Bay of Plenty

Renewals priorities for Mauao 2017

10. This year Mauao renewals items include:

- The Oruahine track steps and surface improvements
- The replacement of two seats that have reached the end of their useful life
- Fencing and gate replacement

Recent successes

Heritage New Zealand authority granted

11. The authority application for ongoing operational activities was granted by Heritage New Zealand (HNZ).
12. Staff are working with HNZ and the designated archaeologist to ensure the work activities are consistent with the authority conditions and the Heritage Management Specifications for Mauao Historic Reserve 2016 (InSitu Heritage Ltd), and to establish ongoing monitoring of heritage values. A site visit is planned for October to review the work plan for the next 12 months and to induct key staff and contractors to ensure the conditions of the authority are understood and adhered to.

Threatened plant baseline survey

13. A baseline monitoring survey of threatened plant species on Mauao including (*Psilotum nudum*, *Pimelea tomentosa*, *Zoysia pauciflora*, and *Tetragonia tetagonioides*) was commissioned this period to provide an understanding of the distribution, success and threats to known threatened plant species on the Maunga. This work will provide an understanding of threatened plants present and how well they are doing and what threats are affecting the plants survival.
14. The fieldwork component of this survey has been completed. An update on the findings will be included in the next operational report.

Planting plan completion for 2018 season planting

15. The key focus for this year's planting will be on the coastal margin between Main Beach, the ocean side of the Mount Beachside Holiday Park and the four-wheel drive track that leads to the northern pasture. This will connect the existing plantings right around the coast to the main forested area in the north, enhance existing penguin habitat and will remove the need for grazing and gates on the base track.
16. Planting is planned for the erosion prone areas around the base track and old slip areas also.

Planned work

17. Planned work for the coming period includes:
 - arborist assessment of large tree removal priorities for Mauao and planning for removal
 - herpetofauna (reptile) baseline survey to determine what species are currently present within the reserve and inform future management activities
 - coordinating plant supply and preparation for next seasons planting
 - planning for the delivery of renewals priorities
 - plant and animal pest control
 - stock and pasture management
 - walkway maintenance
 - sign and structure maintenance
 - four wheel drive track maintenance
 - geotechnical rock stability monitoring and scaling work

Appendices

No.	Title
A	Mauao visitor counter report October 2017 <i>Objective ID:A8205526</i>

Signatories

Authors	s 7(2)(f)(ii)	
Committee Lead Review		
Authorisers		