

## Joint media release – TCC and Mauao Trust

### Restoration of Te Uru Karaka historical grove on Mauao to begin later this month

In order to preserve archaeological sites within Te Uru Karaka on Mauao, 18 trees will be removed later this month.

Te Uru Karaka, a historic Pā site that once housed a terraced living area, is situated on the Te Ara Motukauri track (4WD track) and is surrounded by ancient karaka trees. The exotic trees that share the site are threatening the archaeology and karaka trees.

“The trees sit on sensitive archaeological sites and are showing significant signs of deterioration which, if left unattended, could jeopardise the site,” said Tauranga City Council Manager s 7(2)(f)(ii)

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

To ensure the protection of the site during the removal process, specialists will be using specific methods including the use of a helicopter.

The trees will be lifted out in pieces by the helicopter. This means no wood will be cut down onto the site and the culturally significant karaka trees under these exotics, will be able to be preserved”, says Warren.

Ngā Poutiriao o Mauao chairman, s 7(2)(f)(ii) said as representatives of the traditional owners and guardians of Mauao we care deeply for the maunga and want to maintain the land and its history.

“The restoration of this site will allow us to protect and enhance the natural landscape and ecological values of the maunga”, says s 7(2)(f)(ii)

“We want to the enhance knowledge

“The area will see some development a notable place with placemaking to signify and explain its importance.

“Restoring this site is a nod to the future of retaining the cultural significance. Due to the importance of this historic site and to”, says s 7(2)(f)(ii)

*Enhance knowledge through signage*

In order for these works to take place, there will be

#### Closures:

- **Full closure of Mauao** - from 7am Tuesday, 31 May until 5pm Wednesday, 1 June 2022.
- **Pilot Bay boat ramp and car park closure** - Monday, 30 May until Wednesday, 8 June 2022 (may open earlier depending on progress of works).
- Access to the maunga from Pilot Bay will be maintained from Thursday 2 to Wednesday 8 June 2022.

#### Notes to the Editor:

Mauao Historic Reserve is private land owned by the Mauao Trust, that is available and enjoyed by all as a public space. Ngā Poutiriao o Mauao is the joint management board for Mauao made up of representatives of the Mauao Trust and Tauranga City Council. The joint management of Mauao is guided by the 2018 Mauao Historic Reserve Management Plan, which was created through public consultation and through the aspirations of the Mauao Trust. In line with the 2018 Mauao Historic Reserve Management Plan, exotic trees are to be progressively removed from Mauao given its status as a special ecological area.