



April 4th 2016

Tauranga City Council

By email

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

Dear s 7(2)(f)(ii)

SUBMISSION FROM HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA ON THE POSSIBLE CONTENT OF THE PROPOSED MAUAO RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage New Zealand) is an autonomous Crown Entity with statutory responsibility under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 for the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of New Zealand's historical and cultural heritage. Heritage New Zealand is New Zealand's lead historic heritage agency.

Heritage New Zealand has had involvement with Mauao in a number of ways over the years, including but not limited to:

- **A Statutory role**, administering the provisions of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, through processing archaeological authorities,
- **Providing advice on the best practice management of the archaeological sites on Mauao**,
- **Confirming a Wahi tapu listing in 2009**. The listing area is described as including the peninsula and mountain known as Mauao and encompasses the land described as Pt Secs 1, 3 & 12 Blk VI Tauranga, South Auckland Land District including the rock outcrops. This highly revered mountain is a maunga korero (ancestral landmark) that is intrinsically connected to the iwi of Tauranga Moana. Mauao was traditionally occupied by the Ngamarama people then later by Waitaha, Ngati Ranginui, and Ngaiterangi. The physical evidence is extensive and complex.
- **Attending** the Mauao Joint Administration Board meetings.

In terms of background, with regard to Archaeology in particular, Heritage New Zealand comments as follows:

The Mauao Historic Reserve is considered to be of international significance, encompassing a complex of recorded and listed archaeological sites including three defended pa, terraces, pits, midden and historic stone steps, and stone and iron jetties. Numerous terraces have been recorded on the southern slopes, with site density decreasing towards the eastern slopes. However there is potential for subsurface archaeological features to be located throughout the reserve including midden and cultivated soils. The summit pa of Mauao (Ranginui's Pa) was one of the most strategically important locations in the Tauranga district, with commanding views. Secondary sources refer to a site on Mauao where the militia are said to have camped immediately following the Battle of Gate Pa and Te Ranga.

The archaeologist s 7(2)(a) - Privacy (2003) has noted that the significance of the archaeological resource on Mauao cannot be over emphasized and that this is derived from the collective components of the archaeological cultural landscape. The spatial organisation of the archaeological features on Mauao suggests a high level of social and political organization over a long period of time. It represents the physical remains of approximately 700 years of human occupation. The archaeological / cultural landscape constitutes the reserve's most important and non-renewable resource and is the reason for the reserve's 'Historic' status. The archaeological resource is fragile and can be seriously affected by

small changes in the management regime of the Historic Reserve. We reiterate the recommendations in the s 7(2)(a) - Privacy report that “Future management decisions regarding land-use and reserve development should be made with the primary consideration being the potential long-term impact of those decisions on the archaeological resource”.

General feedback

This important background informs the Heritage New Zealand comments regarding the proposed Mauao Reserve Management Plan. As an additional basis for comments Heritage New Zealand has also reviewed the existing Tauranga District Council, Mauao-Mount Maunganui, Main Beach, Moturiki-Leisure Island, Hopukioire-Mount Drury, Waikorire-Pilot Bay Reserve Management Plan-2008 (the Plan)

1. Heritage New Zealand understands that the proposed format of the new Mauao Reserve Management Plan is to be a stand-alone document of which Mauao is the focus, rather than the previous combined plans approach. Given the importance of Mauao, this approach is supported however consideration must be given to how the effects of surrounding activities on Mauao are managed. Heritage New Zealand is interested to understand how the new Mauao Reserve Management Plan and the surrounding reserve management plans will “speak to each other”, to minimise adverse effects on Mauao from adjacent activities.
2. Heritage New Zealand continues to support the Historic Reserve status of Mauao and seeks that its historic reserve status is recognised in the title of the new reserve Management Plan.
3. Heritage New Zealand considers that the Reserve Management Plan should be a very comprehensive over-arching document that addresses the wide range of significant matters that are part of the management of Mauao, which includes (but is not limited to): cultural matters, archaeology, ecology, pest control and visitor access. The reserve management plan review process is an opportunity to develop an integrated approach to the management of these complex issues. Heritage New Zealand is concerned as it understands there are a number of documents or studies in the process of being developed or reviewed that are likely to be important regarding the management of Mauao, which include a Conservation Plan, a pest study and a Mauao Trust Strategic Plan.

It will be important that any outcomes from the abovementioned documents contribute to, or are not contrary to the intentions of the proposed management plan, particularly in regard to possible impacts on the archaeology. Tauranga City Council needs to give consideration to how these various processes will be managed to ensure the best results for this iconic heritage place. It may be that the other documents are placed on hold until the overarching document is developed further. Once the documents are completed it will be important that there are clear linkages between the Conservation Plan for Mauao and the Reserve Management Plan for Mauao and those users are clearly guided as when to consult the Conservation Plan.

4. Heritage New Zealand seeks that the proposed Reserve Management Plan follows a layered approach in terms of vision statement, objectives, management statement and actions, as found in the current Tauranga City Council document the Coastal Reserves Management Plan 2013, as this layering of aspiration, advice and instruction offers a thorough level of guidance to those who are working and carrying out projects under the guidance of the Reserve Management Plan. Heritage New Zealand supports this approach of separating “actions” from management statements.

5. Heritage New Zealand notes that the current Reserve Management Plan does not contain a goal that separately considers the management of archaeology. While Heritage New Zealand recognises that the archaeology is part of cultural values and the landscape, given the importance of the archaeology on Mauao, the Reserve Management Plan should provide clear accessible guidance on this matter, which could be found more easily if contained under a separate goal. If the current approach of combined goals is maintained, a cross referencing system, or an instruction should be used to ensure the reader reads all the relevant material on any particular matter, be it cultural or archaeology.

Heritage New Zealand looks forward to further involvement in this important plan review process and is happy to answer any queries that you may have with regard these comments. Please contact s 7(2)(a) - Privacy s 7(2)(a) - Privacy in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

s 7(2)(a) - Privacy