

Mauao Operational Report April 2017

Ngā Poutiriao o Mauao (Mauao Joint Administration Board)

4 April 2017

Objective ID No: A7797282



Purpose

1. To inform Nga Poutiriao o Mauao (Mauao Joint Administration Board) of operational matters from June 2016 to April 4, 2017 and seek guidance from the board on operational matters for the coming period.

Executive Summary

2. This report identifies the key operational issues and achievements over the reporting period June 2016-April 2017. It highlights up and coming operational work of interest to the Board including ongoing visitor counter records and an up to date events calendar for Mauao, Main Beach and Pilot Bay Reserves.

Recommendation/s

- (a) That the Nga Poutiriao o Mauao receives the Operational Report for April 2017.

Discussion

3. Pest Control Feasibility Study

Staff are working with an external consultant to undertake an assessment of options to reduce pest animal damage on Mauao. The scope of this works includes assessing measures such as predator proof fence, more regular or intensive pest control and the viability of a pest free Mauao Objective. The assessment will take into account, current and historic animal pest populations on Mauao, initial and ongoing costs, environmental, cultural, heritage and landscape values, the Reserve Management Plan and the likelihood of achieving success.

This work is well underway will be presented to the Nga Poutiriao Mauao at the Nga Poutiriao o Mauao meeting 6th of June 2017.

4. Total Fire Ban

Recent fire weather conditions saw the NZ Fire Service and Pumiclands Rural Fire Authority advice TCC to implement a total fire ban for Mauao and the coastal margin of Mount Maunganui and Papamoa. This advised ban put in place at 12pm on Friday 26 January 2017. It will remain in place until the conditions improve significantly. Signs are in place at the two major entry points on Mauao and down the coast to inform reserve users and residents and the council website has been updated to provide further supporting information.

5. **Recent Successes**

- The December 2016 resurfacing of the Waikorire Track. This was a significant piece of work due to the difficult terrain and access, and the amount of material required to deliver the desired results. A heavy lift helicopter supplied the material to the track surface significantly reducing the programme of work and the costs associated with the alternative transportation methods. A great deal of positive feedback has been received since this work and the track conditions are holding up well at present.
- The replacement of eight vehicle and kissing gate / site combinations was completed prior to Christmas 2016 to provide better pedestrian access and improved stock management control.
- Five reserve entry signs have been replaced at the entrance points to Mauao. The new signs have dual logo's to reflect the partnership between TCC and the Mauao Trust and are of a wooden routed style to tie in with the significant natural landscape they introduce.
- Over 900 rabbits were shot in 2016 calendar year and more again were gassed and poisoned achieving a great pre summer knock down. Control will resume early in the 2017 year to further reduce the rabbit population within the vicinity of the reserve.

6. **Planned Work For The Coming Period**

- The replacement of walkway directional signage assets identified via the renewals programme will be produced and installed in batches before the end of June 2016 to improve the directional information on site.
- Planting preparation works will be underway in the coming months for the May/June 2017 planting programme. The opportunity will be extended to the Iwi partners of the Mauao Trust to get involved in conjunction with the many groups who assisted last year:

7. **Routine Maintenance Undertaken This Period:**

- Plant and animal pest control with particular focus on Rabbit control
- Revegetation maintenance and weed control
- Stock and pasture management
- Walkway maintenance
- Sign and structure maintenance
- Four wheel drive track maintenance
- Geotechnical rock stability monitoring and scaling work

8. **Event Calendar 2016/17 Summer Period**

Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time	Anchor Venue	Description
07/12/16	06:30 p.m.	07/12/16	07:30 p.m.	Mauao	The Kids Can Great NZ Santa Run 2016
26/12/16	01:00 p.m.	26/12/16	04:30 p.m.	Mt Maunganui Main Beach - East	King and Queen of the Mount
06/01/17	05:30 p.m.	08/01/17	05:30 p.m.	Coronation Park	Mount Festival of Multisport (MFOM) 2017
07/01/17	06:00 a.m.	07/01/17	03:00 p.m.	Pilot Bay Reserve	MFOM - Port of Tauranga Half 2017
07/01/17	01:30 p.m.	07/01/17	03:00 p.m.	Mauao	MFOM - Under Armour Mount Run 2017
08/01/17	12:00 a.m.	10/01/17	12:00 a.m.	Mauao	360 Filming on Mauao
07/02/17	09:00 a.m.	07/12/17	02:30 p.m.	Passive Reserves	Learning Through Discovery Children's Education Programme
10/02/17	03:30 p.m.	10/02/17	05:00 p.m.	Mauao - Shelley Beach	James and Ellery Wedding
11/02/17	07:00 a.m.	11/02/17	11:30 a.m.	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	Foundation Clinic Half Marathon 2017
13/02/17	01:00 p.m.	13/02/17	04:00 p.m.	Mauao - Base Track	ISS Mckay - Fun run
17/02/17	12:00 a.m.	07/04/17	12:00 a.m.	Mauao	Mount Everest Challenge 2017
18/02/17	10:30 a.m.	18/02/17	12:30 p.m.		Mele and Oseias
18/02/17	01:00 p.m.	18/02/17	02:00 p.m.	Mauao - Shelley Beach	Frances & Dias
26/02/17	08:30 a.m.	26/02/17	10:30 a.m.	Pilot Bay Reserve	Generation Homes Women's Triathlon 2017
12/03/17	07:30 a.m.	12/03/17	12:00 p.m.	Pilot Bay Reserve	Marra Sprint Triathlon 2017
24/03/17	07:00 a.m.	24/03/17	09:00 a.m.	Mauao - Oceanside Paddock	Mudford & Hawkes ceremony
26/03/17	02:00 p.m.	26/03/17	05:00 p.m.	Mt Maunganui Main Beach	New Zealand Home Loans XRACE Series
02/04/17	08:30 a.m.	02/04/17	12:00 p.m.	Mauao	Run For Life (PINC & STEEL Cancer Rehab Trust)
10/04/17	10:00 a.m.	10/04/17	12:30 p.m.	Mauao - Base Track	TGC Round the Mount Relay

9. Visitor Numbers

The new counters on Mauao are working well and are showing some clear trends in the visitor use at this site. See the attached counter report in attachment A

Note the current figures below demonstrating more visits to the summit than around the base track

Note the visitation to the summit is particularly busy during February and March due to the Everest challenge event. This event requires participants to climb to the summit of Mauao (232m) 38 times in 50 days (the equivalent distance in climbing Everest's 8848m)

Total visitor numbers for the reporting period 1 Jan 2016 – 31 – December 2016 are:

Base track – 419,588

Total number of visitors to the summit – 876,093

01/01/2016 - 31/12/2016	Mauao 4wd Track	Mauao Base Track	Oruahine Track	Waikorire Track
Total	227520	419588	341865	763213
Peak Day	Tue 6 Dec 2016 (1,856)	Wed 2 Mar 2016 (4,074)	Sun 17 Jan 2016 (3,422)	Fri 30 Dec 2016 (5,407)
Minimum Day	Thu 5 May 2016 (0)	Sun 25 Sep 2016 (2)	Thu 14 Jan 2016 (1)	Mon 18 Jan 2016 (5)
Max Day of the Week	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday	Saturday
Hourly Average	26	48	39	87
Daily Average	622	1146	934	2085
Average Workday Traffic	565	1008	828	1969
Average Weekend Traffic	763	1491	1197	2375
Weekly Average	4351	8025	6538	14597
Monthly Average	18921	34894	28430	63471

10. Heritage

The operational team will be applying for a 10-year authority with Heritage New Zealand (HNZ) to cover all of the routine operational and maintenance activities within the Historic Reserve. This application will require consultation with Iwi.

11. Significant Tree Removals

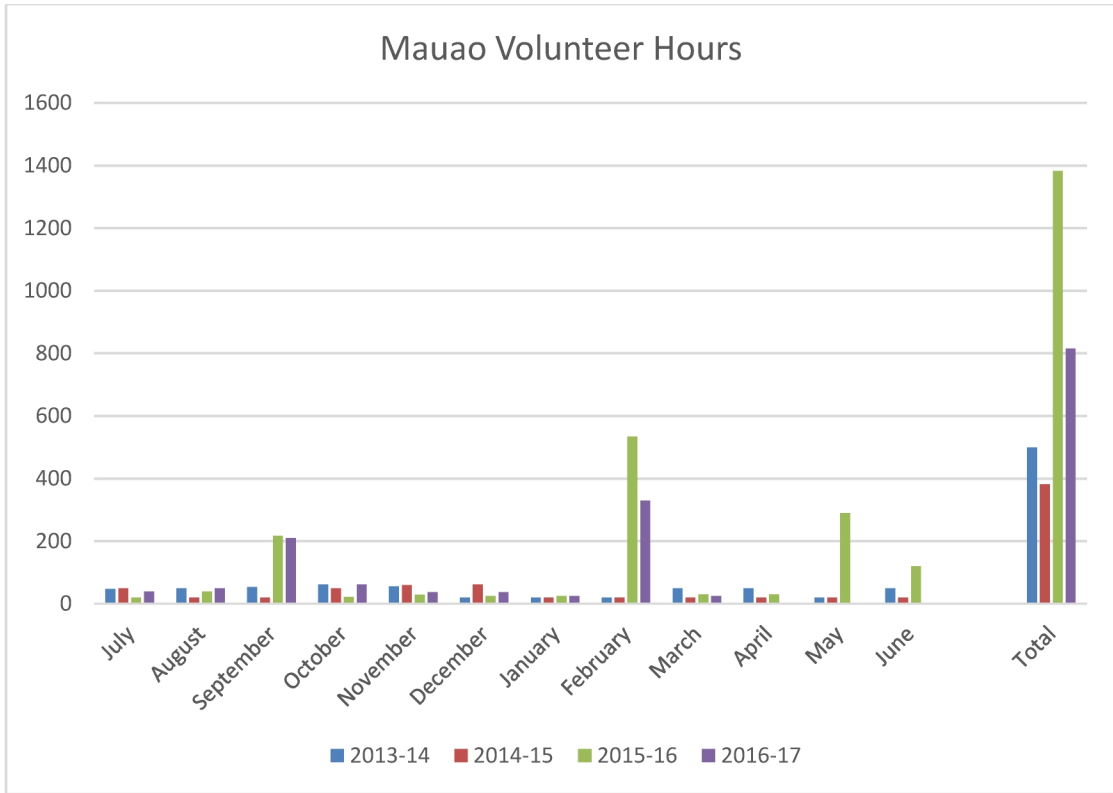
Significant tree removal priorities have been identified with support from the city arborist. Advice and support has been received from HNZ to ensure the best possible protection of significant Archaeology on site. This work will require an Authority from HNZ and this work will not be undertaken until this is in place. Pending the timing of the authority this work will be planned for delivery during the quiet winter months as some short term track closures will be required.



The above image shows the locations of the significant tree removal priorities. The trees include large Oldman Pine, Macrocarpa, Eucalypts, and Elms. All of the trees removals identified are due for removal due to their condition, potential for failure and damage to archaeology and walking tracks, and for public safety reasons. The removals are also consistent with the Conservation Management Plan for Mauao Historic Reserve 2015.

12. **Volunteer Hours**

Volunteer hours on Mauao include the efforts of a number of ongoing support groups, passionate local walkers and one off community events. The support effort includes the maintenance of animal pest control devices, revegetation planting, rubbish removal and ecological monitoring work in conjunction with the Toi Ohomai (Windermere Polytech). The peaks are September revegetation work, February clean up events and the May/June planting support.



Attachments

No.	Title
A	<i>Nga Poutiriao o Mauao Counter Report February 2017</i> Objective ID: A7674610
B	
C	

Signatories

Authors	s 7(2)(f)(ii)
Authorisers	