

**MAUAO - MOUNT MAUNGANUI,  
MAIN BEACH,  
MOTURIKI - LEISURE ISLAND,  
HOPUKIORE - MOUNT DRURY,  
WAIKORIRE - PILOT BAY  
RESERVES**

MANAGEMENT PLANS



*Strategic Planning Department*

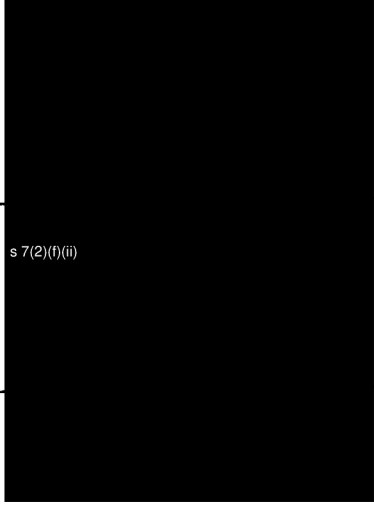
August 1998

**Tauranga District Council**

**MAUAO - MOUNT MAUNGANUI, MAIN BEACH, MOTURIKI -  
LEISURE ISLAND, HOPUKIORE - MOUNT DRURY, WAIKORIRE -  
PILOT BAY RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLANS**

This Management Plan has been prepared in compliance with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 and approved by Tauranga District Council Minute No. M98/87.14.

Given under the common seal of **Tauranga District Council** this day  
AUGUST 1998 in the presence of:



s 7(2)(f)(ii)


**MAYOR**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

## RESERVES ACT 1977

**MAUAO - MOUNT MAUNGANUI, MAIN BEACH, MOTURIKI - LEISURE ISLAND, HOPUKIORE - MOUNT DRURY AND WAIKORIRE - PILOT BAY RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### APPROVAL OF THE MINISTER OF CONSERVATION

Pursuant to Section 41(1) of the Reserves Act 1977, I  s 7(2)(f)(ii), acting under delegated authority for the Minister of Conservation, give final approval to the above Reserves Management Plan, as approved by Tauranga District Council's Corporate Strategy Committee on 20 April 1998.

Dated at ROTORUA this 28 day of July 1998.



s 7(2)(f)(ii)

*Address:*  
c/- Department of Conservation  
PO Box 1146  
ROTORUA

---

# CONTENTS

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## LOCATION

## LEGISLATION

- **Purpose of a Management Plan**
- **Reserves Act 1977**
- **Classification and Legal Description**
- **Resource Management Act 1991**
  - ⇒ ***District Plan Provisions:***
    - Mount Maunganui Borough – Transitional District Scheme
    - Tauranga Proposed District Plan
    - NZ Coastal Policy Statement 1994
    - Icomos New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural and Heritage Value

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- **Natural History**
  - ⇒ ***Geological Evolution***
  - ⇒ ***Coastal Processes***
  - ⇒ ***Vegetation***
  - ⇒ ***Fauna***
- **Cultural History**
  - ⇒ ***Maori History***
  - ⇒ ***European History***
  - ⇒ ***Recent Historical Synopsis***

## LEASE AND LICENCES TO OCCUPY

## USE AND USERS

- ⇒ ***Hopukiore***
- ⇒ ***Moturiki***
- ⇒ ***Main Beach***
- ⇒ ***Pilot Bay***
- ⇒ ***Public Toilets***
- ⇒ ***Events***
- ⇒ ***Mauao***

## **TRACKS, WALKWAYS AND ACCESS**

- ⇒ *Hopukiore, Moturiki and Main Beach*
- ⇒ *Mauao*
- ⇒ *Car Parking*

## **FIGURES:**

- Figure 1 Location Plan: Mauao – Mount Maunganui
- Figure 2 Classifications and Legal Description
- Figure 3 Recent Historical Synopses



# CONTENTS

## MAUAO

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Policies

#### 3.1 *To protect the Historical Values, Landscape Character and Ecological Values of the Reserve*

- 3.1.1 Vegetation
- 3.1.2 Fire Control
- 3.1.3 Fauna
- 3.1.4 The Summit
- 3.1.5 Buildings, Structures and Facilities

#### 3.2 *To Meet the Spiritual, Cultural and Historical Needs of the Tangata Whenua*

- 3.2.1 Place of Cultural and Spiritual Significance
- 3.2.2 Heritage Protection

#### 3.3 *To Continue to Meet the Appropriate Recreational and Amenity Needs of Residents and Visitors to the District*

- 3.3.1 Management
- 3.3.2 Amenity and Recreation Value
- 3.3.3 Campground
- 3.3.4 Grazing
- 3.3.5 Honorary Rangers

#### **Figures**

- Figure 1 Location Plan: Mauao – Mount Maunganui

#### **Plans**

- |        |  |             |
|--------|--|-------------|
| Plan 1 | Roads and Paths                            | End Section |
| Plan 2 | Location of Campgrounds in 1935            | End Section |
| Plan 3 | Historic Sites                             |             |
| Plan 4 | Structures and Navigational Beacons        | End Section |
| Plan 5 | Facilities in Existing Recreation Reserves | End Section |

# CONTENTS

## MAIN BEACH (including Mussel Rock Beach)

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Policies

#### **3.1 *A wide Sandy Beach at Approximately Current Dimensions***

3.1.1 Beach Replenishment

3.1.2 Rear Beach Stabilisation

3.1.3 Beach Monitoring

#### **3.2 *Enjoyment by Large Numbers of People of the Precinct for Beach-Side Recreation***

3.2.1 Beach Grooming and Cleaning

3.2.2 Shaded Grass Area Behind Beach

3.2.3 Commercial Activities

3.2.4 Special Events

3.2.5 Dogs

3.2.6 Public Toilets

3.2.7 Anti-Social Behaviour

3.2.8 Additional Buildings and Permanent Facilities

#### ***Figures***

Figure 1 Location Plan: Main Beach



# CONTENTS

## MOTURIKI – LEISURE ISLAND

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Policies

#### **3.1 *Maintain the Natural Character of Moturiki***

3.1.1 Reclassification

3.1.2 Vegetation

3.1.3 Animal Pests

3.1.4 Old Quarry / Marineland Area

3.1.5 Buildings and Permanent Facilities

3.1.6 Fauna

#### **3.2 *Provide a Rewarding Walking and Other Passive Recreational Experience of Moturiki to the Extent that is Compatible with Other Goals and Objectives.***

3.2.1 Walking Track

3.2.2 Interpretation and Information

#### **3.3 *Record and Protect Archaeological Features***

3.3.1 Archaeological Features

#### **3.4 *Significance to Iwi***

3.4.1 Iwi Consultation

3.4.2 Provision of Information

3.4.3 Dual Naming

#### ***Figures***

Figure 1      Location Plan: Moturiki – Leisure Island



# CONTENTS

## HOPUKORE – MOUNT DRURY

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Polices

#### 3.1 *A more Positive Connection Between the Town and the Beach Around the Base of Hopukiore*

3.1.1 Pathway between Main Street and Beach

#### 3.2 *Greater Enjoyment and Use of Hopukiore for Passive Recreation and as a Vantage Point*

3.2.1 Pedestrian Access to Hill

#### 3.3 *An Open Pastoral Landscape on Hopukiore with a High Level of Amenity*

3.3.1 Landscape

3.3.2 Buildings and Commercial Activities

3.3.3 Signal Station

#### 3.4 *Record and Protect Archaeological Features*

3.4.1 Archaeological Features

#### 3.5 *Reinstate the Visual and Physical Connection Between Hopukiore and Moturiki and Main Beach*

3.5.1 Soundshell

3.5.2 Moturiki-Hopukiore Connection

#### 3.6 *Continued Use of Flat Areas for Organised and Passive Recreation*

3.6.1 Playground

#### 3.7 *Recognise the Importance of Hopukiore to Iwi*

3.7.1. Iwi Consultation

3.7.2 Provision of Information

3.7.3 Dual Naming

#### 3.8 *Mount Drury Extensions*

3.8.1 Extension Investigations

### *Figures*

Figure 1 Location Plan: Hopukiore – Mount Drury

# CONTENTS

## WAIKORIRE – PILOT BAY

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Policies

#### 3.1 *Maintenance of a Stable Sandy Beach*

3.1.1 Beach Replenishment

3.1.2 Foredune Protection

3.1.3 Beach Monitoring

#### 3.2 *Provision for Beachside Recreational Use and Enjoyment*

3.2.1 Reserve Reclassification

3.2.2 Beach Grooming and Cleaning

3.2.3 Dogs

3.2.4 Shaded Grass Area Behind Beach

3.2.5 Commercial Activities

3.2.6 Special Events

3.2.7 Additional Buildings and Permanent Facilities

3.2.8 Launching Ramp

#### 3.3 *Recognise the Significance to Iwi and European*

3.3.1 Dual Naming

#### *Figures*

Figure 1 Location Plan: Waikorire – Pilot Bay



# CONTENTS

## APPENDICES

- A. Classifications Map and Further Land Status Details**
- B. Relevant Section of Transitional District Scheme – Mount Maunganui Borough**
- C. Proposed District Plan Extracts**
- D. NZ Coastal Policy Statement 1994**
- E. Icomos NZ Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural and Heritage Value**
- F. Strategies for Managing Physical Elements**
- G. Vegetation and Flora of Mount Drury, Moturiki, Ocean Beach, Pilot Bay and Mount Maunganui – (Beadel, 1995 – Mauao Draft Management Plan – 2.7 Vegetation)**
- H. Iwi Issues Reports – Mount Maunganui and Papamoa Coastal Reserves, Main Beach, Hopukiore and Waikorire Reserves – (Fisher, 1995 – Iwi Issues Report).**
  - Mauao Management Plan – Iwi Issues Report, Ngaiterangi / Ngati Pukenga, (Fisher, 1996).
  - Ngati Ranginui Issues Report – Mauao Management Plan (Piahana, 1995)
- I. Leased Areas and Licences to Occupy**
- J. Archaeological and Cultural Assessment**
- K. Reserves Act 1997 – Classifications**
- L. Park Use and Management**
- M. Public Survey and Feedback**
- N. Camping Ground Act**
- O. Fire Action Plan**
- P. Draft Concept Plan**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The reserves considered in this Management Plan are key natural, cultural and recreation resources in the Tauranga District.

Mauao is a conical, rocky feature at a height of 232 metres and is the remnant of an eroded volcanic table with its slower slopes at an easy gradient.

On the north western side of the peninsula are the sheltered waters of the harbour and Pilot Bay. The “Main Beach” fronts the coast with Moturiki and Hopukioire, being key landscape and recreation features.

All of these reserves are part of an integrated system which includes a natural setting and the built environment. It also depends on the intimacy of the narrow tombolo with different character beaches on either side. It depends on the enclosure provided by Moturiki and Hopukioire and also on the range of opportunities for recreation, from intense human activity on the Main Beach to the quiet retreat of Hopukioire.

The Management Plans for these reserves are therefore inextricably linked. Each Reserve has its own particular qualities and management issues, but they are each part of a system. Each reserve is managed to enhance “the Mount” as a whole.

Many of the management issues for Mauao – Mount Maunganui, Main Beach, Moturiki – Leisure Island, Hopukioire – Mount Drury and Pilot Bay are about balancing the community’s recreation needs and protection of the area’s natural and cultural characteristics.

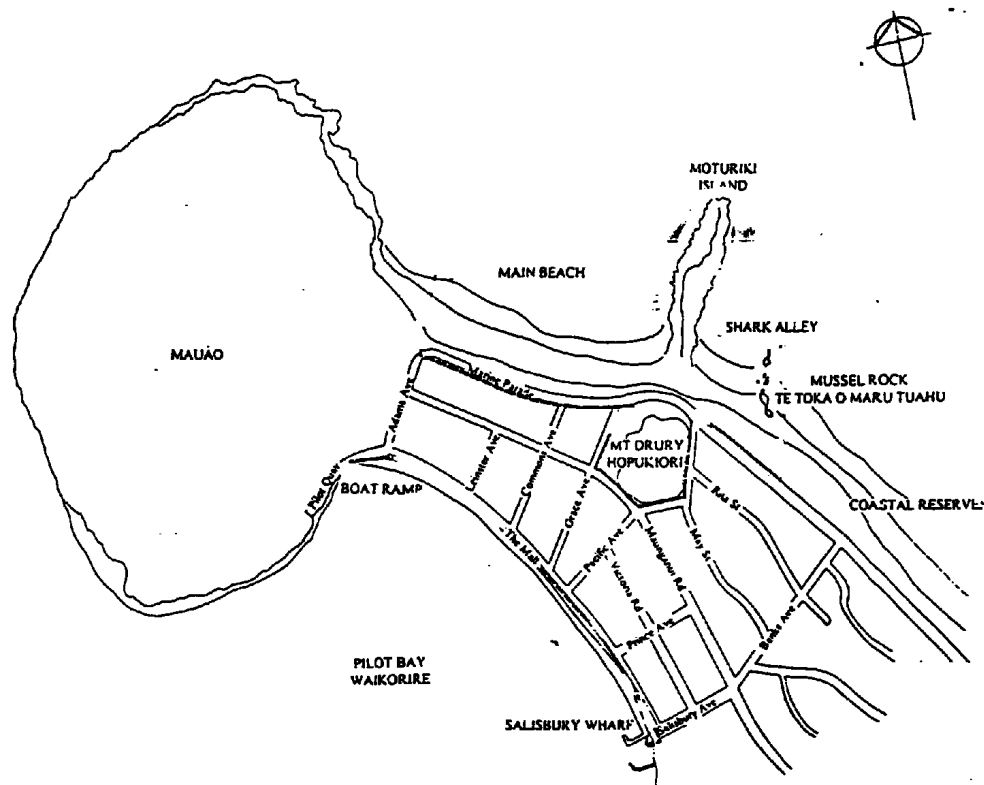
The priority and funding for works within the scope of the Management Plan will need to be considered through the Annual Plan process.

## LOCATION

These Reserve Management Plans cover reserve areas in the central Mount Maunganui area, including Mauao – Mount Maunganui, Main Beach, Moturiki – Leisure Island, Hopukiore – Mount Drury and Waikorire – Pilot Bay.

Mauao – Mount Maunganui stands at the northern extremity of a magnificent white sandy beach which stretches over sixty miles south eastwards to Ohiwa Harbour.

All the reserves in this Management Plan are on the narrow peninsula termed “Mount Maunganui”. It is bounded by Waikorire – Pilot Bay on one side and “the Mount” Main Beach on the other.



**Figure 1 – Mount Maunganui Area  
LOCATION MAP**

# LEGISLATION

## Purpose of a Management Plan

This Reserve Management Plan has been prepared to provide a unified vision for Mauao – Mount Maunganui, Main Beach, Moturiki – Leisure Island, Hopukiore – Mount Drury and Waikorire – Pilot Bay as they evolve into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, while at the same time providing flexibility to cope with changing circumstances.

The Reserve Management Plan is an important opportunity for Tangata Whenua and members of the public to contribute their ideas and participate in the decisions which will affect the future of the reserves.

## Reserves Act 1977

Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 sets out the purpose and procedure for preparing a Reserve Management Plan. The Reserve Management Plan must not be inconsistent with the Resource Management Act 1991.

The purpose of the Reserve Management Plan is as follows:

*“The Management Plan shall provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation, as the case may require and to the extent that the administering body’s resources permit, the development, as appropriate, of the reserve for the purposes for which it was classified.”*

Under the Reserves Act the following procedure is required for the preparation of Reserve Management Plans:

1. Publicly notify intention to prepare the Management Plan and invite interested persons / organisations to make submissions on the proposed plan within a minimum period of two months (optional).
2. The Draft Management Plan is prepared giving consideration to comments received.
3. The Draft Management Plan is adopted and advertised for submissions for a period of a minimum of two months (mandatory).
4. Consideration of submissions, objections and holding a Reserves Act Hearing (mandatory).
5. Appropriate changes are made to the Draft Management Plan.
6. The final Management Plan is adopted by Council and signed and sealed.
7. The final Management Plan is produced and implemented and all those who made submissions are notified that the Plan has been prepared and is available if they require a copy.
8. The final Management Plan is kept under continuous review.

## Classification and Legal Description

*Refer Appendix A – Classification Map and Further Land Status Details*

The Mount Maunganui Reserves are made up of a number of separate allotments of variable size. Their legal description and status are summarised below in Figure 2. Additional information on specific areas can be obtained through Council's Asset Management System (refer asset number). Reserve must be managed in accordance with the underlying classification.

Name	Legal Description	Class.	Owned By:	Administered By:	Gazette Notice	Asset No
Mauao	1. Part Section 1, SO 4802 Blk VI Tauranga Survey District	Historic Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1981 p.3065 Gazette 1889 p.116; Gazette 1894, p.1422 Gazette 1927, P.678 Gazette 1945, p.1368	9124-61 9140-21
	2. Section 12, SO 4802, Blk VI Tauranga Survey District	Historic Reserve	Crown	TDC		9124-61
	3. Section 3, SO 4802, Blk VI Tauranga Survey District	Historic Reserve	Crown	TDC		9124-61
	4. Section 19, SO 51477, Blk VI Tauranga Survey District	Recreation Reserve	TDC	TDC		9124-41 9124-51 1940-21 9144-71
Pilot Bay	5. The Mall	Public Road	TDC	TDC		
Main Beach	6. Section 13 SO 29094, Blk VI Tauranga Survey District	Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1941, p.2620	9135-61
	7. Part Section 15 SO 29094, Blk VII Tauranga Survey District	Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1941, p.2620	9135-61
Moturiki	8. Section 12, SO 28856, Blk VII Tauranga Survey District	Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1941, p.2620 Gazette 1981, p.2189	
Mt Drury	9. Part Section 15 SO 43316, Blk VII Tauranga Survey District	Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1941, p.2620 Gazette 1981, p.8	9135-61
	10. Section 142 SO 43316, Blk VII Tauranga Survey District	Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1941, p.2620 Gazette 1984, p.8	9135-61
	11. Section 1 SO 4802, Blk VII Tauranga Survey District	Reserve	Crown	TDC	Gazette 1941, p.2620 Gazette 1984, p.8	9124-71
24 Marine Parade	12. Lot 16 DP 13203	Recreation Reserve	TDC	TDC		9110-61
32 Grace Avenue	13. Lot 1 DP 29942	Fee Simple	TDC	TDC		9730-21
30 Grace Avenue	14. Lot 2 DP 29942	Fee Simple	TDC	TDC		9703-31
26 Grace Avenue	15. Lot 1 DP 26744	Fee Simple	TDC	TDC		9703-41
24 Grace Avenue	16. Lot 2 DP 26744	Fee Simple	TDC	TDC		9144-81
39 Maunganui Rd	17. Lot 3 DP 26744	Recreation Reserve	TDC	TDC		9121-41
Coastal Reserve SE Of Mt Drury (to Mussel Rock)	18. Section 135 Block VII Tauranga Survey	Reserve	TDC	TDC		9135-61

**Figure 2 – Classification and Legal Description (Refer Appendix K)**

# Resource Management Act 1991

## *District Plan Provisions*

- Mount Maunganui Borough Transitional District Scheme

*Refer Appendix B – Relevant Section of Transitional District Scheme – Mount Maunganui Borough District Scheme – Fourth Review, 3.8 Reserves Policy.*

All areas covered by this Management Plan except the Recreation Reserve occupied by the campground and hot pools and 24 Marine Parade are zoned Recreation A under the Operative Plan. The area occupied by the campground and hot pools is Recreation B. 24 Marine Parade is zoned Residential H.

- Tauranga Proposed District Plan

*Refer Appendix C – Proposed District Plan Extracts. Part A Policy Statements 4. Natural Resource 4.2 Issue: Coastal Margins and Sensitive Habits. Refer also to Part A Policy Statement 6. Hazards – Coastal Hazards. 22 Management Rules for Recreation and Leisure and Conservation Zones.*

All areas covered by this Management Plan are zoned Conservation except 24 Marine Parade, 32 Grace Avenue, 30 Grace Avenue, 216 Grace Avenue, 24 Grace Avenue and 59 Maunganui Road, which are zoned Recreation A.

It should be noted, however, that until the Proposed District Plan is finally adopted, the area is subject to the provision of both the Operative and Proposed District Plans.

- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 1994

*New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement  
Refer Appendix D – New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 1994*

“The Resource Management Act 1991 established a new coastal management regime based on partnerships between the Crown and the community through their regional and local authorities. The Act requires at all times there shall be a New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. The Policy will guide local authorities in their day to day management of the Coastal Environment.”

s 7(2)(f)(ii)

Management of the areas covered by this Reserve Management Plan must give consideration to the Coastal Policy Statement.

- Icomos New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural and Heritage Value

*Refer Appendix E – Icomos Charter*

The areas covered by this Management Plan have a great deal of heritage significance and therefore specific consideration needs to be given to the Historic Places Act 1987 and the Icomos Charter.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This background information is sourced primarily from the background reports in the appendices.

### **Natural History**

*Refer Appendix F – Resource Information – 2.5, 12.6, and 2.7 Strategic Plans for Managing Physical Elements Along Pilot Bay and Main Mount Beach, Mount Maunganui.*

Mount Maunganui (Mauao), Mount Drury, Moturiki Island, Mussel Rocks and Motuotau Island are the remnants of lava domes formed by up welling and out pouring of viscous rhyolite lava about four million years ago (moor, 1994; Gibb, 1995)

The rhyolitic masses of Mauao (232 metres) and adjacent Mount Drury, Moturiki and Motuotau Islands comprise the remnants of an eroded volcanic table land. The summit of Mauao is bounded by rocky precipitous cliffs and it actually comprises two domes with an undulating central area separating them, the highest point being to the south east.

Apart from Motuotau Island, the other volcanic outcrops are linked together by a sand plain that has been deposited over the last few thousand years. The resultant coastal landform is termed a tombolo (Gibb, 1995).

### **Geological Evolution**

In response to global warming of 4.5°C (from 14,000 to about 8,000 years ago) global sea level rose approximately 130 metres to reach the present sea level about 7,000 years ago (Gibb, 1996). As the rising sea invade the coastal valleys and basins in the Tauranga area, Mauao, Mount Drury, Moturiki and Mussel Rocks become islands separated from the mainland coast by the sea (Gibb, 1995).

### **Coastal Processes**

Coastal processes are the group of interacting land-sea-atmospheric influences responsible for the past and future evolution of the Mount Maunganui tombolo. The coastal processes operating today in Pilot Bay have many differences from those operating along the Main Mount Beach.

Pilot Bay is subject to the effects of tsunamis and storm surges. Although tsunamis seldom exceed one metre on the open exposed coastline (De Lange & Healey, 1986), storm wave run-up has reached 5.3 to 6.3 metres above MSL during the Wahine storm of April 1968 and wave storm of July 1978 (Gibb, 1994; Gibb, 1995).

Long term shoreline retreat between Adams Avenue and Commons Avenue poses a potential problem as do short term dune line fluctuations of the order of 10-20 metres (Gibb, 1994; Gibb 1995).

### **Vegetation**

*Refer Appendix 6 Vegetation and Flora of Mount Drury, Moturiki, Ocean Beach and Pilot Bay, Mount Maunganui (Beadel, August 1995 – Mauao Draft Management Plan – 1.7 Vegetation).*

The vegetation of the Tauranga ecological district has been substantially modified by humans since the fourteenth century (Stokes, 1980). Originally there was substantial sand dune system at Pilot Bay and Main Beach. The vegetation cover on these dunes may have been something along the following lines (Beadel, 1995).

#### Foredune

The original vegetation on the Fore dune would probably have comprised spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*) and pingao (*Desmoschoenus spiralis*) with local hinarepe (*Austrofestuca littoralis*) and scattered *Calystegia soldanella*, merging with *Isolepis nodosa* and *Muehlenbeckia complexa* on the crest or rear slope of the fore dune (Beadel, 1995).

#### Rear Dunes

*Isolepis nodosa* and *Muehlenbeckia complexa* would have been dominant behind the Fore dune with local *Carex testacea* and aute taranga (*Pimelea arenaria*) and scattered perehia (*Deyeuxia billardiarei*), *Oxalis rubens* and *Calystegia soldanella*, Pohutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*) forest with houpara (*Pseudopanax lessonii*), karo (*Pittosporum crassifolium*) taupata (*Coprosma repens*), kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides* var. *ericoides*) and possibly *Meliccytus novae-zelandiae* may have occurred on the stable rear dunes (Beadel, 1995).

It is likely that Pohutukawa forest was the original forest cover on Mount Drury, Moturiki Island and behind the Fore dune at Pilot Bay. Taupata, *Meliccytus novae-zelandiae* and karo may have been common around the margins of the Pohutukawa forest on Moturiki Island with *Sarcocornia quinqueflora*, *Poa anceps* subsp. *Anceps*, *Senecio lautus* var. *lautus* and New Zealand ice plant (*Disphyma australe* subsp. *Australe*) c.f. Vegetation of Motuotau Island [Clarkson and Spring-Rice, 1992] (Beadel, 1995).

#### Human-Induced Change

Historic photos from the early 1900s show that the original vegetation had been virtually removed from Mount Drury and Moturiki Island, Pilot Bay and the western half of Ocean Beach. The remaining sand dune vegetation has been subsequently modified and reduced in extent through clearance (including fires), grazing and mechanical removal of dunes. In more recent years other factors include trampling, vehicle use, planting of exotic species, spread of adventive species and erosion. The indigenous vegetation on the western half of Ocean Beach and at Pilot Bay has been totally destroyed. There have been numerous plantings of exotic and indigenous species in the reserves. Plantings include Pohutukawa on Mount Drury, probably by school groups in the 1940s or 1950s; karo, Pohutukawa and probably *Meliccytus novae-zelandiae* on Moturiki in about 1972-75; more recent plantings on Moturiki include New Zealand ice plant, Australian ngaio (*Myoporum insulare*) and harakeke (*Phormium tenax*); plantings on the sand dunes include ice plant, marram (*Ammophila arenaria*) and gazanias (*Gazania linearis*, *G. Rigens* and *G. Linearis* x *G. Rigens*) (Beadel, 1995).

#### Present Vegetation

Little indigenous vegetation remains. The Pilot Bay Reserve is grassed to the rear of the beach and includes a line of Norfolk pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Phoenix palms (*Phoenix canariensis*). The west end of Main Beach is also grassed to the edge of the beach sand with introduced ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) along a human-made low fore dune at the east end. Shark Alley dunes have retained some dune vegetation although adventives are common (species present include spinifex, *Calystegia soldanella*,

introduced iceplant, haretail (*Lagarus ovatus*), *Muehlenbeckia complexa*, gazania, and kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*).

## Mauao

The present day vegetation of Mauao is very diverse and not necessarily representative of what may previously have existed. Many of the low coastal cliffs carry Pohutukawa trees of various sizes, among which are small and, rather uniform areas of native coastal turf and scrub, and a general predominance of exotic grasses and other weed. The rabbit proof *scirpus nodosus* and *Muehlenbeckia complexa* are generally the most abundant of the natives, with the bushy gullies containing gorse, kawakawa and hawthorn. Kikuyu grass is often extensive. Pohutukawa regeneration is negligible, most plants, being eaten by rabbits.

A significant area of Mauao is pasture. This is comprised mostly of exotic grasses with some smaller common native rabbit-proof ferns, herbs and grasses such as bracken, bidibidi and meadow ricegrasses. There are a few karaka trees of quite good size.

A sector of the lower and slopes on the North West side of the carries a cover of large Pohutukawa trees. As for the coastal and summit Pohutukawa, these plants have healthy canopies, presumably as a consequence of recent possum control here. The trees are mostly 12-15 metres tall, multi stemmed and up to 1.5 metres or slightly more in basal diameter. The understorey is of 'fairly dense 2-5 metres tall kawakawa, mahoe and hangehange: the ground is mostly covered with leaf litter but where there is sufficient light, maidenhair fern (*Adiantum cunninghamii*) and rasp fern (*Doodia media*) are abundant.

A fire in 1986 swept through the scrub of the steep rocky slopes here, which the 1980 Management Plan describes as being mostly of pines, dense "manuka" (perhaps an error for kanuka) and gorse. The fire reached to the top of the mountain on this northern side. A few Pohutukawa skeletons can be seen towards the boundary with the un-burnt scrub on the eastern face.

The slopes are now dominated by 1.5 metre tall gorse and pampas grass, with a few emergent young pines. Along the footpath edges and where the vegetation was naturally low there exists a fair amount of native cover, especially of *Pomaderris phyllicifolia*, grasses (*Microlaena stipoides* and *Rytidosperma* spp.) and the sedge *Morelotia affinis*. The Australian wiregrass *Aristida ramosa* grows here in fair amount; this is its only New Zealand locality and an indication of the dry hot nature of this place. Among the near-vertical rocks above Oruahine Track in its western part there is an infestation of 2 metre tall bushes of bone seed and there are a few silver wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) here too. These latter two species should be eliminated, as should one remaining large radiata pine.

The south western and eastern middle slopes contain a variety of areas of differing composition. In general, mamaku tree ferns to c. 5 metres tall are abundant throughout and form a dense cover in some of the shallow gullies, standing over hangehange and kiokio or maidenhair fern. Secondary forest trees (mahoe, karamu, manuka and kanuka) are co-dominant with bracken. An area on the south west corner of the scrub has rabbit-induced grassy and weed-infested clearings among bracken, blackberry, and relict mahoe and mingimingi that bear tangles of bush lawyer.

Much of the area has had its pines removed in the last decade. Felled pines of up to 20 metres or so tall, 60 centimetres diameter, are beginning to rot. The areas they occupied are mostly healed over, either by the expansion of the trees and shrubs that grew under them

(mingimingi, hangehange) or by colonisation (karamu, pampas and blackberry). The areas under and around the larger pine trees often contain weedy species such as privet and pampas, as a legacy Of their use by blackbirds etc and also because pines tend to produce deterioration in the native communities that surround them Restoration of the scrub around pines would probably proceed more quickly if these weedy species were eliminated prior to the removal of the pines. Also, poisoning of the pines is much less damaging to their surrounds than felling them.

Towards the summit on the south western side the scrub is generally of relatively tall stature with Pohutukawa to c. 10 metres tall conspicuous along the bluffs, and scattered along northwards towards the end of the Oruahine track; there are also a couple of large Kanuka at the track junction near the 200 metre contour on the southern side approximately 80 years old. The under storey here too is relatively dense and diverse. Rewire to c. 8 metres tall, 20 centimetres diameter, are occasional but for the most part there are very few seedlings of this, possibly due to rabbit browsing.

A significant number of exotic species exist on Mauao, some of which are likely to significantly threaten the integrity of the native vegetation. These include *Acer pseudoplatanus* (sycamore), *Asparagus asparagoides* (smilax), *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* (boneseed), *Cortaderia jubata* and *C. Selloana* (pampus grass), *Crataegus monogyna* (hawthorn), *Erigeron karvinskianus* (Karvinsky's daisy), *Hedychium gardenianian* (Kahili ginger), *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuokie) and *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine). The present day vegetation cover is a mixture of indigenous and exotic species reflecting the disturbance history that the reserves have experienced.

## ***Fauna***

Mauao is one of the five known grey faced petrel nesting colonies in the Bay of Plenty area. It is the most accessible and easily managed site of the five. Blue Penguin also nest on Mauao, which is considered significant given they come ashore to breed.

Rabbits, hares, possums, rats, feral cats, ferrets, stoats, wasps, magpies and dogs are known to inhabit Mauao - Mount Maunganui , Main Beach, Moturiki - Leisure Island, Hopukiore - Mount Drury, and Waikorire - Pilot Bay . These pests can adversely affect the natural character, conservation and recreation values.

From a fauna perspective, predators of wildlife are more important to manage than herbivores. The removal of juvenile indigenous fauna (both birds and reptiles) by predators severely impacts on a population.

## Species List

<b><i>Native Birds</i></b>	<b><i>Introduced Birds</i></b>
Northern Blue penguin	Skylark
Australasian gannet	Hedge sparrow
Black shag	House sparrow
Sooty shearwater	Song thrush
Grey-faced petrel	Blackbird
White faced heron	Starling
Reef heron	Indian myna
Variable oystercatcher	Yellowhammer
Southern black-backed gull	Chaffinch
Red billed gull	Goldfinch
White faced storm petrel	Redpoll
Shining cuckoo	Greenfinch
Morepork	Rock pigeon
New Zealand Kingfisher	
New Zealand pipit	
Grey Warbler	
North Island fantail	
Silvereye	
Tui (occasional)	
Bellbird (occasional)	
Australasian harrier	
Welcome sparrow	
Common diving petrel	
<b><i>Lizards</i></b>	<b><i>Introduced Mammals</i></b>
Copper skink	Possum
	Feral cat
	Mouse
	Norway rat
	Ship rat
	Hedgehog

## CULTURAL HISOTRY

Refer Appendix H

- *Mount Maunganui and Papamoa Costal Reserves; Main Beach, Hopukioire, Waikorire Reserves Iwi Issues Report (fisher, 1995).*
- *Mauao Management Plan – iwi Issues Report Ngaiterangi / Ngati Pukenga (fisher, 1995).*
- *Ngati Ranginui Issues Report – Mauao Management Plan (Piahana, 1995).*

### Maori History

#### The Legend of Mauao

There was once a hill with no name among the many hills and ravine on the edge of the forests of Hautere. This nameless one was a slave to the great chief Otanewainuku, the forested peak to the south west of Tauranga. Further along from Otanewainuku was the shapely form of the hill Puwhenua, a woman clothed in all of the fine greens of the ferns, shrubs and trees of the forest of Tane.

The nameless one was desperately in love with Puwhenua. However her heart was already won by the majestic and chiefly mountain Otanewainuki. There seemed no hope for the lowly nameless slave to persuade her to become his bride. The nameless one sorrowed and in despair he decided to drown himself in the ocean. He called on the patupaiarehe, the people of the night with magical powers who dwelt in the forests of Hautere. They were his friends and agreed to help him drown himself.

The patupaiarehe dragged the nameless one from his place among the hills. They gouged out the valley where the Waimapu River now flows, the word Waimapu referring to the tears sobbed by the nameless one as he moved his way to the sea.

As the patupaiarehe dragged the nameless one to the sea, dawn began to break and the first rays of the sun lit up the summit of the nameless one, fixing him in that place. Because they were people of the night and could not be about in daylight, the patupaiarehe retreated to the forests of Hautere leaving the nameless one where he stood.

The patupaiarehe gave him a name, however, which is still used today by the iwi of Tauranga Moana when referring to him...

***Mauao... meaning caught by the dawn.***

Cultural Significance of Mauao to Ngati Ranginui, Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga

To Ngaiterangi, Ngati Ranginui and Ngati Pukenga, Mauao is a taonga which has immeasurable value and which symbolises the endurance, the strength, the identity and the uniqueness of each of the iwi. For each of them Mauao is a link between both the metaphysical and physical worlds, and between the past, the present and the future. The way that Mauao is managed, therefore, is of particular importance to the three iwi.

#### The Importance of Mauao to the Lives of Ngati Ranginui.

Through the canoe traditions and the settlement of the District, Mauao anchors Ngati Ranginui's heritage and cultural rights as Tangata Whenua. Mauao was known as a marker to the Ngati Ranginui ancestors prior to the migration of the Takitimu canoe from Hawaii. Takitimu was the only canoe to settle the district. Mauao at the coast and Puwhenua inland mark the turangawaewae of Ngati Ranginui. Puwhenua is the name of the central log used in the construction of the Takitimu canoe.

When the Takitimu canoe arrived in Tauranga, the Ngati Ranginui ancestors completed the rituals of tukua mauri, of planting on the slopes and summit of Mauao, the mauri of their people and canoe; the essential elements of their identities, their ancestral achievements, traditions, heritage values, their life and customs

Balance in the natural and spiritual world was maintained by established and acknowledged customs and responsibilities. The customs of kaitiakitanga, Tangata Whenua, tapatapa whenua, turangawaewae, ahi kaa, whenua tupu, rahui, tapu, ohaki, kawa, mauri, that provide relevance to Ngati Ranginui in an ever changing world, pivot on Mauao.

This anchors Ngati Ranginui identity in the district and is a constant affirmation of the heritage and culture, a symbol of continuity, of strength, of stature and uniqueness, and of the responsibility to protect these heritage rights for future generations.

As long as Mauao stands with mana and integrity, so too will Ngati Ranginui stand with mana and integrity.

### **The Importance of Mauao to the Lives of Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga.**

For Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga, Mauao is the symbol that ties their respective iwi to Tauranga Moana. The history of Ngaiterangi, who link to the Mataatua waka, is one of an iwi which, after earlier being dispossessed of their lands, journeyed throughout the Bay of Plenty and East Coast regions over a number of generations in search of a place to settle. Mauao represents the end of that journey, the Ngaiterangi peoples having settled throughout the Tauranga Moana district from the Mauao and Mount Maunganui peninsula.

Mauao itself was central to Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga settlement here, significant events having occurred on and around maunga. Those events, which are not recounted in this report, can be viewed as markers' in the tribal history of the iwi. Mauao is therefore the visible marker that enables Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga to make the connections between the beginning of their history in Tauranga Moana - and hence their connections with the Ngati Ranginui Iwi - and their history prior to settling here.

Having established themselves in this district, Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga acknowledge Mauao as one of the main symbols of their identity and uniqueness as iwi of Tauranga Moana.

Ngati Ranginui, Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga all acknowledge the exceptional importance of Mauao, and the ways in which Mauao provides significance to the lives of individual, Whanau and Hapu of Tauranga Moana.

Each iwi traces a genealogy to Mauao that established their status as Tangata Whenua. This is the indelible mark of significance and belonging. While this is acknowledged, so too much the unique nature of the relationship each iwi has with Mauao. The nature and quality of the individual iwi should not be assimilated to a general one of 'Mauao has spiritual significance'

Iwi describe the relationship in terms of heritage rights, customary rights and Treaty rights. They consider the realisation of these as affirmation of their Tino Rangatiratanga.

Ngati Ranginui joined their relatives, Nga Marama and Waitaha people, living in Tauranga Moana. Ranginui and Kinonui of the Takitimu canoe established a Pa on Mauao, as did the Waitaha people. They occupied Mauao for centuries, later displaced by Ngaiterangi and Ngati Pukenga as they settled the area Waitaha moved to Te Puke, Ranginui peoples

moved inland to the estuaries and rivers of Tauranga Moana. No one occupied Mauao after Ranginui and Waitaha left.

From the linkages established through the canoe traditions, occupation and settlement, all iwi of the district consider themselves the appropriate guardians of the cultural treasure. In the view of iwi, the fundamental significance of Mauao would be dormant if the active relationship of Kaitiaki or guardian is not realised.

Ngaiterangi is one of three iwi in Tauranga Moana, the others being Ngati Ranginui and Ngati Pukenga, migrating to this area from Maketu. A number of Ngaiterangi hapu settled along the coast from Papamoa to Mauao, Matakana Island and Bowentown. Those hapu that occupied central positions had their kainga in strategic positions just back from the ocean foreshore, with their pa in elevated positions a little further inland. Pa sites were also established at some places along the Mount Maunganui peninsula, in particular at Hopukiore (Mount Drury) and Moturiki (Leisure Island / The Blowhole) (Fisher, 1995).

The sea and its immediate environs were a primary source of sustenance for Ngaiterangi, as indeed it was for other iwi who occupied the Tauranga area before Ngaiterangi. The Mount Maunganui/Papamoa coastal landscape therefore provided an ecosystem alongside and in which hapu and iwi co-existed in accordance with established and agreed custom, rights, and also responsibilities. These customs, rights and responsibilities included rights of control (or tangatairatanga); rights of access; and responsibilities of kaitiakitanga or guardianship. The kaitiakitanga or guardianship responsibility was practised through conservation and sustainable management ethics, and protection or defence (Fisher, 1995).

In pre-European times, and indeed up until around the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, The Tauranga, Mount Maunganui and Papamoa areas were particularly turbulent as a consequence of inter-tribal warfare. Major battles between tribes took place along almost the entire length of the coast from Mauao (Mount Maunganui) to Maketu (Fisher, 1995).

Apart from its significant settlement history in pre-European times, the Mount Maunganui/Papamoa coast is particularly sensitive in terms of battle sites and burial areas. In the majority of cases information about battle sites, burial areas and the like has been lost (Fisher, 1995).

European settlement and the rapid growth and development of Tauranga and Mount Maunganui have seen the loss, from customary whanau and hapu, of ownership of the majority of the Mount Maunganui and Papamoa lands. Notwithstanding this, however, the ethic of kaitiakitanga imposes upon the Ngaiterangi iwi an obligation to ensure that the mana and mauri of the iwi and of those iwi who were here before Ngaiterangi, is protected. The relationship of an iwi to its ancestral lands is one of the principal derivants of the mana and mauri of iwi (Fisher, 1995).

### ***European History***

Traditional Maori settlement reflects the opportunities provided by the open coast, estuary and harbour, wetlands, forests and defensible landforms. There is a strong relationship between the Papamoa Hills and the coastal beaches. Within the Mount precinct the features of Mauao, Moturiki and Hopukiore were all defended sites.

European settlement has responded to the natural form of the coastline. Pilot Bay provided sheltered deep water anchorage and the picturesque qualities of the Mount brought picnicker and campers.

Mauao, as the site of the first permanent Pilot and Harbourmaster Station, is closely linked to the early European maritime history of Tauranga and the subsequent establishment of the Port.

Mauao has been an important recreational amenity for a large number of people for a long period. In the late 19 and early 20 century people living in Tauranga travelled by boat for day and weekend trips to enjoy the beaches and natural setting. A holiday camp was located on Mauao in the early part of this century.

The location of Colonel Whitmore's troops on the lower slopes of Mauao at the time of the land confiscations is a reminder of the problems that occurred shortly after the arrival of Europeans to New Zealand.

The Bach culture began in the 1920s. Baches were small and light in construction, with a casual, temporary character. They sat low on the dunes. In about the 1960s baches began to give way to more permanent beach suburbs.

More recently the development of high rise has been developed along the Main Beach. The reserves have developed to meet a range of uses. Main Beach is the focus of attention. Its character derives from an outstanding natural setting, an intense urban environment, and a strong beach culture. Moturiki is an integral part of the Main Beach landscape. It encloses the bay and creates a picturesque natural outlook from the beach. It is also a destination in its own right.

Hopukioire 'anchors' the commercial centre of Mount Maunganui, Those people who venture onto Hopukioire commonly express surprise at the size of the hill, its rural character and the views from it. Pilot Bay has a somewhat historical flavour. It is associated with the signal station on Mount Drury and with the Port. There is also the old stone wharf at the Mauao end of Pilot Bay. It is an area of intense beachside recreation with a more family flavour than the Main Beach.

A summary of key events in the European history of the area are included in the following table:

MAUAO	HOPUKIOIRE	MOTURIKI	MAIN BEACH	WAIKORIRE
Early: Parts grazed since before 1835				
		1841: Deserted during visit to the area by Dr Earnest Dieffenback, surgeon and naturalist employed by the New Zealand company.		
	1842: Ensign Best entered the harbour on the <i>Victoria</i> and set up camp at the foot of Hopukioire (Mt Drury) where there was shelter from the winds. They enlarged one of the caves and used it as an ammunition store for their two 4-pounder guns.			

MAUAO	HOPUKIORE	MOTURIKI	MAIN BEACH	WAIKORIRE
		<b>1886-1940:</b> The Moturiki Pa terraces were clearly visible.		
				<b>1887:</b> The boulder pier was opened by the Mayor of Tauranga, Mr James Bodell.
				<b>1894:</b> On 17 January 1895 the Pilot Bay Wharf situated west of the boulder pier, was opened.
		<b>1910-23:</b> Rock was quarried from the southern edge of Moturiki on the site of the Moturiki Pa. Quarrying continued until the railway line was completed in 1923.		<b>1910-11:</b> Horseshoe Wharf was constructed. Mr J Brian was in charge of the construction of a wharf known as the Railway Wharf, the D Wharf because of its shape and the Public Works Wharf. The Railway Wharf was demolished in 1935 and the site now houses the Port of Tauranga Tug Boats.
	<b>1912:</b> A stone crushing plant was erected to deal with the stone quarried on Moturiki Island.			
			<b>1914:</b> First surf club was formed.	
<b>1915:</b> Stone cairn built on top of Mauao to celebrate the end of WWI.				
		<b>1926:</b> The quarry was closed.		
			<b>1920:</b> The Main Beach was busy and a major holiday destination. Between 1920 and 1930 the first lifesaving club building was constructed.	
			<b>1930:</b> Aeroplanes for hire on the Main Beach.	
			<b>1930s-40s:</b> During this time wave wash during storms occasionally crossed the sand spit.	

<b>MAUAO</b>	<b>HOPUKIORE</b>	<b>MOTURIKI</b>	<b>MAIN BEACH</b>	<b>WAIKORIRE</b>
<b>1935:</b> 3 camp-grounds. One to the west of the wharf and two on the eastern side.				<b>C 1935-38:</b> Salisbury Wharf constructed.
<b>1937:</b> Caretaker's house removed on the basis that no part of the reserve should be alienated from public use.				
	<b>C 1948-50s:</b> Pohutukawa planted on Moturiki side of Hopukiore (Mt Drury).			
			<b>1949:</b> A sand castle competition was organised by 5,000 Club of Mount Maunganui.	
<b>1951:</b> Domain Board requested permission from the Director General of Lands to establish a motor camping area.				
				<b>1952-53:</b> The concrete boat ramp was constructed as a 5000 Club project using volunteer labour.
<b>1953:</b> Domain Board applied to extend the motor camping area.				<b>1953:</b> Preliminary development work was completed on the port at Tauranga with the official opening on 3 December 1955.
	<b>1955-63:</b> Domain caretaker's house was removed.			
	<b>1958:</b> The Tauranga Harbour Board (now the Port of Tauranga) constructed the signal station on top of Hopukiore (Mt Drury)			
<b>1959:</b> Minister of Lands approved the issue of a 33 year lease for the hot pools.  Recognised the need to protect the grey faced petrel.				
<b>1960:</b> Lots of ideas about cable cars, etc. up the Mount.				

<b>MAUAO</b>	<b>HOPUKIORE</b>	<b>MOTURIKI</b>	<b>MAIN BEACH</b>	<b>WAIKORIRE</b>
<b>1962:</b> Harbour Board granted permission to erect temporary building for 6 months. Minister of Lands approved the appropriation of the site on the Domain for the caretaker's residence.				
			<b>1963:</b> Anzac War Memorial Cenotaph dedicated on 25 April.	<b>1963:</b> Queen Elizabeth II visited Tauranga aboard the Britannia.
			<b>C 1963-68:</b> High non-mountable kerbing including car parks and widening was installed along Marine Parade to Grove Avenue.	
<b>1964:</b> By 1964 a vehicular track had been constructed around the south west side.				<b>1964:</b> BOP Times reported that the Pilot Bay foreshore is being lost to the sea.
			<b>1965:</b> Marine Parade dunes were levelled.	<b>1965:</b> The Salisbury Wharf was rebuilt.
		<b>1966:</b> Marineland Ltd was built and operated as an aquarium for 15 years. Closing in May 1981.		<b>1966:</b> Timber groynes were constructed near Salisbury Wharf to trap sand and prevent beach erosion.
<b>1967:</b> Track bulldozed from the reservoir to the summit.	<b>1967:</b> The Soundshell was built by the Mount 5000 Club for \$18,534.29.			
	<b>1967-75:</b> The Lions Club of Mount Maunganui constructed and operated a children's miniature railway on a concrete track.			
				<b>1970-77:</b> 900m gabion baskets were constructed and installed using subsidised labour along the whole length of Pilot Bay.
	<b>1971:</b> The Mount Lions Club put forward a proposal to locate an old school house as a museum on the site of the Domain caretaker's cottage.		<b>1971:</b> 50m of gabion baskets were installed on the foreshore of the camp ground adjacent to the Mauao base track	

MAUAO	HOPUKIORE	MOTURIKI	MAIN BEACH	WAIKORIRE
<b>1972:</b> Hot pools enlarged to cater for 300,000 people per annum. Completed in 1993.				
			<b>1973-75:</b> Grove Avenue had high non-mountable kerbing including car parks and widening installed.	
				<b>1974-80s:</b> Various reclamation, boat harbour and marina proposals were mooted, but strongly resisted in the boat ramp corner of Pilot Bay between the stone jetty and Adams Avenue.
	<b>1976:</b> The Harbour Board access track was realigned.			
	<b>1978:</b> Council pursued a policy of acquiring properties on Grace Ave.			
		<b>1981-90:</b> Leisure Island in operation. Swimming pools, water slides, etc.	<b>C 1981-82:</b> Kerbing and cobblestone car parking was installed in two sections along Pilot Bay.	
	<b>1985:</b> The Rotary Club of Mount Maunganui constructed a track to the summit from the corner of Pacific Ave / Maunganui Rd			
				<b>1988:</b> Harbour Board ceases to control waters of harbour. Port of Tauranga enters into 21 year lease for use of land.
	<b>1989:</b> Tauranga District Council purchased the property at 23 Marine Parade.			
				<b>1990:</b> The Salisbury Wharf was refurbished again.
	<b>1992:</b> The Altrusa Club of Mount Maunganui built the Rose Garden as a Peace Project.			<b>1992:</b> Major dredge of channel undertaken to 13m. Toilet block was installed centre of Pilot Bay.

MAUAO	HOPUKIORE	MOTURIKI	MAIN BEACH	WAIKORIRE
				<b>1993:</b> The Mount Ocean Sports Club building was opened on 13 March by Barbara Kendall (Olympic Gold windsurfing champion).
<b>1994:</b> Tauranga District Council purchased 34 Grace Avenue.				
			<b>1995:</b> New Years Eve riots on Main Beach.	

**Figure 3 – Recent Historical Synopsis**

## **LEASES AND LICENCES TO OCCUPY**

*Refer Appendix i*

### **Mount Maunganui Surf Lifesaving Club**

The term of the lease is for 25 years from 1980, with the right of renewal for 22 years. The lessee may use the building on the land as the headquarters of the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service, including storing gear, operating clubrooms and liquor licence and, subject to Clause 34 of the lease, make the premises (or any part of them) available for hire to approved persons.

### **Mount Maunganui Domain Motor Camp and Hot Pools**

Council has a management contract for the Mount Maunganui Domain Motor Camp and the Hot Pools.

## **USEAND USERS**

The area's facilities have been developed over the years to suit the requirements rather than to enhance the natural environment and the various related recreational activities. The requirements are very seasonal and the facilities often do not meet demand during peak summer periods.

Additional facilities such as surf lifesaving launch ramps, events, venues, and amusements have been provided as needed. However, many of these facilities are dependent on changing social requirements and the relevance today needs to be reviewed. For example, the Soundshell, once a popular venue, is now rarely used. Both Marineland and Leisure Island ventures on Moturiki failed. Other facilities such as the launching ramp have little room to expand, causing parking problems and friction between boaties and other users.

Hopukioire, Moturiki, Main Beach, Pilot Bay and Mauao are popular attractions, especially during summer with up to 20,000 people visiting the Main Beach each day.

### **Hopukioire**

Although the view from the summit is superb, it has relatively few visitors as many people do not realise it is public land. The playgrounds on the north side of Hopukioire are well used as are the tracks connecting Maunganui Road with the beach.

Hopukioire is also home to the Soundshell. It was built in 1967 by the Mount 5000 Club and used to be a popular venue. Toilet blocks were added in 1970 and the Jaycees took over its management after the 5000 Club wound up in 1973. The number of events held in the Soundshell has declined to single figures over the last 3-4 years and the Soundshell is in poor condition.

There are two playgrounds on the northern side of Hopukioire, are designed for different age groups.

The Mount Maunganui Borough Council developed a policy in 1978 to acquire the properties on Grace Avenue as the owners decided to sell. Although it is still desirable to acquire the remaining properties, the cost would be considerable and Council needs to consider all options from rationalising its property holding along Grace Avenue.

The signal station on Hopukioire was built in 1958 by the then Tauranga Harbour Board. It monitors shipping and boating within the harbour and at sea. Using visual and radar equipment, it provides 24 hour communication. The station also houses a metrological unit and police search and rescue lifeguard communication facilities. The hill section of Hopukioire is fenced off and grazed by sheep because mowing is difficult on the uneven hillsides.

### **Moturiki**

During peak days up to 1,000 people may visit the island. The Shark Alley and Mussell Rock (Te Toka O Maru Tuahu) area is used as a safe family beach due to smaller waves and shallow water. Parts of the island have been significantly modified due to quarrying, Marineland and Leisure Island.

## **Main Beach**

The Main Beach is not easily measured for use but there is no doubt about its popularity over summer. Each summer the grass verge along Marine Parade is worn bare.

## **Pilot Bay**

This area is also seasonal. Young families in particular enjoy it because the water is shallow and relatively safe for swimming. Salisbury Wharf and the Pilot Bay boat launching ramp are popular.

Pilot Bay provides the only launch ramp in the Mount Maunganui isthmus. Situated at the end of Adams Avenue, it provides a convenient launch and retrieves facility for small boats wanting access out of the harbour entrance.

Boat trailers parked along the Mall over peak periods, often for extended times, are a problem for local residents and casual visitors who cannot find parks.

## **Public Toilets**

Several public toilets service the Main Beach, Moturiki, Hopukioire and Marine Parade areas. For the oceanside, these are located in the Mount Maunganui Surf Lifesaving Club building, on the beach opposite Commons Avenue, and in the Soundshell on Marine Parade. To service The Mall and Pilot Bay there are toilets in the campground on The Mall extension, on the grass verge opposite Grace Avenue, and beside the Public Relations Office on Salisbury Avenue. The only Pilot Bay facility within the Management Plan area is opposite Grace Avenue - a modern (1992) facility in good condition. Marine Parade toilets are older concrete block facilities.

The number of toilet buildings needed and distance apart is debatable. Options range from a single large toilet facility to several smaller ones. It is more cost effective to build and maintain a single facility.

The use of the toilets over winter is average by district standards, but extremely high over peak times in summer.

## **Events**

An increasing number of quality events staged in the area, many regional and a few of national significance have contributed to the local economy and added atmosphere.

School and sports clubs use the beach and the sea frequently with a variety of recreational activities. A sample of events staged regularly in the area covered by the Management Plan area over the past few years follows:

- The King and Queen of the Mountain Race decided who can make it up and back down Mauao in the fastest time. Held every Boxing Day, it includes a junior and family event run as curtain raisers. The winning male "King" receives the Mellish Cup, while the winning female "Queen" receives the Prosser Cup. The record time starting from Nikau Crescent is 19 minutes and 37 seconds.
- The Pain in Paradise Ironman event involves 25 of New Zealand's top ironmen competing in four races each consisting of a surf ski, paddle board, swim, and a 150 metre soft sand run. When the first competitor finishes each race the clock starts a 20 minute countdown to the commencement of the next race. The last three competitors are knocked out to leave a 16 man final.

- New Year's Eve concert on Main Beach was trialled in 1994 on a temporary stage I organised by C (Community Alcohol Action Programme).
- The Miss Mount Maunganui Beauty Contest is probably the longest running beauty pageant of its type in New Zealand, with a rich history of winners. One went on to become s 7(2)(a) - Privacy The event is staged by the Mount Maunganui Jaycees at the Soundshell and the funds raised are put back into the community.
- The Pro Beach Volleyball Series is an international event hosted by Volleyball New Zealand nationwide during summer and includes Main Beach, Mount Maunganui. This is a major event with nearly 50 teams participating. Beach volleyball is now recognised at an Olympic Games sport for Atlanta in 1996.
- The Port of Tauranga Half Ironman is one of the biggest events held in terms of competitors, spectators and prizes, and also is one of the toughest. For almost \$12,000 in prize money, around 750 competitors register every year, many from overseas who recognise the importance of this event in the TRI New Zealand Long Distance Championships. The first section is a 2km swim beginning from Salisbury Wharf, followed by a flat 90km cycle ride around the Mount and Papamoa area, with plenty of vantage points for spectators. The event ends with a 21 km run section along Marine Parade and Oceanbeach Road, with all competitors finishing at the Port of Tauranga building at the end of Pilot Bay.
- The Coastline FM Ping Pong Drop was staged for the second time in 1995. Hundreds of ping pong balls are dropped from a micro-light, giving participants a good chance of winning one of the various prizes.
- The Harbour to Surf Swim is organised by the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service and is an event for fit swimmers. The 7.5km swim begins with a mass start at Salisbury Wharf and follows a favourable tide out the harbour entrance, around Mauao and past Moturiki before rounding Rabbit Island (Motuotau) and heading back to the Main Beach. Experienced swimmers take around one and a half hours to complete the course. There is a shorter 4km consolation course from Salisbury Wharf and around Mauao, which finishes straight onto the Main Beach.
- The Windsurf Coastal Classic includes the world's best riders (coincidentally a Kiwi) and is open to NZWA Class 42. The races are run over several days, and with the Coastline venue make for great spectator value.
- The Big Dig is a family treasure hunt where people dig for hundreds of buried markers which can be exchanged for prizes. All funds raised go to running the joint section of the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service.
- The Birdman Contest is another fun event, where any type of aircraft can be entered as long as it has equipment resembling wings. All sorts of imaginative entries are made which jump, soar or otherwise plummet off Salisbury Wharf into Pilot Bay.
- The Northern Regional Surf Lifesaving Championships is a major event, second on)y to the national championships. The events include beach sprint races, relays and flags, and in the water belt races, surf ski, paddle boards, canoes and boats. The big event is the Ironman.
- CAAP, in conjunction with Coastline FM and Lights, ran a series of beach concerts n a temporary stage located on Main. Beach near the Surf Club. These operated for two

weeks over Christmas and New Year, and featured some of New Zealand's top musical bands. The free concerts carried the "Moderation is the Key - Think before you drink ..... Before you drive" message.

## **Mauao**

### ***Open Space - Recreation***

The most predominant demand made on Mauao is for its use as an open space recreational area. It has long been associated with the use and enjoyment of other recreational resources here (ie the harbour and ocean beaches) and for passive recreational activities. These include picnicking, fishing, camping, walks up the paths to the summit or around the base, enjoyment of the magnificent views in all directions from the summit and also to a considerable extent from the lower slopes, scenic appreciation of the remaining native bush, enjoyment of the freedom of open space, and enjoyment of the peace and quiet.

Mauao is now also becoming the focus for a number of more active recreational activities. Para-gliders and hang gliders are regularly launched from the summit, with participants either carrying their equipment to the top or using 4-wheel drive vehicles to get there. More recently a mountain bike race has occurred from the summit to the base using the road. One of the older active recreational activities is the King and Queen of the Mountain Race which is held annually, in which a large number of men and women race up the mountain and down again using the quickest route in the fastest time.

More recently there have been a number of suggestions to turn Mauao into one of the top tourist destinations of New Zealand. Various ideas have included gondolas to the summit and a restaurant on the summit.

### ***Camping and the Camping Ground***

The 1950 Management Plan gives a detailed description of the history of the establishment of the camping ground. The camping ground that now exists incorporates Ocean Camp, Pilot Camp and Harbour Camp. The locations of these are shown in Plan 5 - Facilities In The Existing Recreation Reserve. The total area now occupied is 0.88 hectares, running as a strip across the base of Mauao adjacent to Adams Avenue. The Surf Life Saving Club and the Hot Salt Water Pools complex are separate from the camping ground.

Buildings in and associated with the camping ground include four ablution blocks, public toilets, a caretaker's residence and a camp kiosk.

The Harbour Camp was formerly occupied by tennis courts, bowling and croquet greens. The three camping grounds give ready access to beaches on both the ocean and harbour sides. Ocean Beach Camp is so popular that many campers rebook the same sites year after year, thus limiting the availability of these sites to the less frequent visitor. In summer the camping ground, with its caravans and tents, effectively cuts off physical access to Mauao.

The camping ground is currently run by a Manager under a contract with Tauranga District Council. The revenue from the camping ground is channelled into the general reserve account and is not necessarily used for the maintenance of Mauao.

### ***Hot Salt Water Pools Complex***

In 1959 the Minister of Lands approved the issue of a 33 year lease by public application for the construction of a public hot water swimming pool on the reserve between the two camping areas next to Adams Avenue. A bore was to be installed to tap natural supplies of underground hot salt water. However, the lease was never taken up and construction of a lido type pool was later carried out by the Borough Council as administering body, and assisted by Council funds. This pool was opened in January 1966 and has been operated by Council (as administering body) ever since.

In 1971 the Borough Council engaged its engineering consultants to redesign and enlarge the baths to cater for 300000 people per year. Work was started on pool extensions and was completed in 1993. This facility now offers a range of different sized pools of different heats and designs. Its location is shown in Plan 5 - Facilities in the Existing Recreation Reserve.

Tauranga District Council has recently re-negotiated the management contract for the Hot Salt Water Pools Complex. Further work is planned and will be implemented as warranted by future demand.

### ***Grazing***

The 1980 Management Plan gives details of the history of grazing on Mauao. Both cattle and sheep have been grazed here at various times, but problems have occurred particularly with the cattle. Damage to archaeological sites and grey faced petrel burrows have occurred. Past problems with lessees have led to Council managing the grazing directly. In association with grazing problems over the years has been the need to control noxious weeds.

Grazing is controlled with a network of fences, and yards and an implement shed are located in the farm service area behind the camping ground.

### ***Summit Works***

Over the years a wide range of suggested developments for the summit have been put forward. There are currently several structures and service utilities on the summit which have been on the reserve for years. These are:

- A navigational beacon for aircraft - Airways Corporation of New Zealand Ltd
- Two communications repeaters on Airways Corporation pole (service licences renewable annually by the Crown) - Coastguard and Surf Life Saving.
- A trig station and beacon - Department of Survey and Land Information
- A Peace Monument in the form of a stone cairn on the summit. The cairn was constructed by local residents to celebrate the ending of World War in 1918.
- Some timber picnic tables.

These are shown on Plan 4 - Structures and Navigational Beacons.

The combination of these elements on Mauao's summit has negative visual impacts. In addition, vegetation clearing and construction of footpaths, carried out by local people, have damaged both archaeological and natural features, and indigenous trees have been planted without full regard to future development of the summit.

### ***Other Works...***

In July 1939 the Town Board was granted permission by the Minister of Lands to erect a borough water supply reservoir on the slopes of Mauao immediately above the Harbour Camping area, which at that time was a bowling green. The reservoir site was 42.7 metres above sea level and was necessary for the purpose of maintaining pressure during periods of maximum draw-off and storage against extraordinary demand and possible failure of the pipe line. It was suggested that trees be planted so that any excavations and the reservoir itself would be hidden from below. To date this has not been effectively carried out. This reservoir is no longer used.

In 1956 the Minister of Lands granted the Borough Council an easement to erect and maintain a second reservoir in the Mauao Domain, this one to be situated at a height of not less than 61 metres above sea level with a capacity of 4.55 million litres (1 million gallons). Amongst the conditions attached to the approval was the requirement that the reservoir be sited so that it was not unsightly road. This was not achieved.

Later that same year the Tauranga Harbour Board was granted an easement over a portion of the domain to erect a navigational light on the summit, this being the logical place for such a necessary navigational facility. This required the formation of a track to the summit and the erection of power lines across the Domain.

Today the Port of Tauranga has coloured beacons on various parts of the reserve or foreshore for navigational purposes. These are:

- The Mount Navigational Light K3899 (northern slopes)
- North Rock Light K3899
- North West Rock Light 3899.2
- Stoney Point Beacon K3900

•

Three independent above-ground lines cross the Maunga: one to serve the summit navigational beacon, a second to serve a Port of Tauranga light on the north eastern slopes; and a third being a telecommunication line to the main reservoir by which the water level can be automatically checked. The main line to the summit beacon has involved the clearing of some native bush. Only the lowest and highest poles of this line are conspicuous because they both cross the skyline when viewed from either side of Mauao.

The Ranui Plaque is located on the northern side of Mauao and commemorates the shipwreck on 28 December 1950 in which 22 people were drowned.

These are shown on Plan 4 - Structures and Navigational Beacons.

# TRACKS, WALKWAYS AND ACCESS

Public access includes vehicles, pedestrians and all the associated roads, tracks, car parks and pathways. People use the most convenient means to access their destination and the subsequent result can be significant damage to the recreation resource. The balance between access and protection is paramount.

## **Hopukiore, Moturiki and Main Beach**

Walking tracks have been built on Hopukiore and Moturiki. The Hopukiore track is paved in 'Gobi Blocks' and doubles as a vehicle track to the signal station. The Moturiki track follows the ridge and has rudimentary drainage and shell surfacing. Grass verges are used extensively for walking along the Main Beach and Marine Parade.

These tracks are generally inadequate considering the area's popularity to both locals and holiday makers. The Hopukiore and summit tracks are difficult to find. On the corner of Pacific Avenue and Maunganui Road the track is largely hidden and overgrown, while the other entrance on the Port of Tauranga access road is dominated by a padlocked gate. While the Moturiki track is easy to find it needs some improvement in its surface and drainage.

Grass walkways following the length of Pilot Bay and Marine Parade are promoted to link Mauao, Hopukiore and Moturiki, these being the key natural features of the area. The treatment of these walkways is critical to the reserve appearance and impression. Either a full paved pathway with associated seating, lights, signage etc. or a grass path with marked routes would work.

## **Mauao**

An extensive footpath system has been established on Mauao leading around the base and to the summit. There is also 4-wheel drive access to the summit. Paths pass by and over many middens, terraces and the two pa, and have resulted in modification to some of these features. In the past shell from the middens within the reserve has also been used to surface the tracks in the area.

While it is still desirable to maintain footpaths in the reserve and provide access to all who wish to use the area, any upgrading or modification to the path system already in place is likely to affect archaeological features on the Maunga. Any changes to the path system must be done in consultation with Tangata Whenua and a qualified archaeologist.

If it is proposed to modify footpaths at any stage, the impact of this work on archaeological features must be assessed. If the route of any path is likely to change, the new route should be assessed for impact on archaeological features prior to any work commencing.

Signs should be erected at the beginning of the footpaths at the base of Mauao requesting that track users stay on the paths rather than walk on middens and cause more damage.

Since 1964 considerable debate has occurred about whether or not to have a vehicle track to the summit. The 1980 Management Plan details the history of this.

In 1968 an inspection revealed a need for maintenance on the track. Although no serious erosion had occurred, additional culverts and improvements to water tables were required to prevent serious erosion, and regular maintenance was necessary. The camber on the

bank above the water table was too steep and it had collapsed in places, and a number of “boil” holes had occurred in the water table. One corner of the track was very sharp and required more earthworks

Following the pressure from commercial interests to install a cable car service on Mauao, the then Borough Council introduced the summit passenger service as a means of testing the alleged demand for such transport facilities. This service commenced at Easter 1969 and later continued over the Christmas holiday period on a daily basis until the end of January, when it became a ‘weekend-only’ service up until Easter 1979. By 1971 the service was no longer regarded as a commercial enterprise because, even at the height of summer, the receipts did not cover wages and vehicle running costs, let alone interest on capital costs and vehicle depreciation.

The most recent problems concerning this road relate to inadequate stormwater disposal facilities and consequent damage to petrel burrows, slipping batters, and the obtrusive scar it imposes on the landscape. It is also quite hard to walk up the road at certain times of the year due to its loose surface material and irregularities.

### **Car Parking**

The demand for parking around Mauao has increased enormously in the past 15 years. Present car parking facilities for public use of Mauao are confined to The Mall, Adams Avenue and Marine Parade. The attractions of both beaches (harbour and ocean) and Mauao itself, together with public use of the marine facilities and camping grounds, produce traffic congestion in peak holiday periods, and parking is inadequate. The Hot Pools Complex has a small car park beside it, but it also contributes to this problem as the main use is in the holiday periods, with peak attendance in January each year. Various traffic calming techniques have been put in place over the past 10 years. The previous Borough Council’s widening of Victoria Road and the proposed car park on the corner of Prince Avenue and The Mall are not expected to significantly alleviate parking problems adjacent to Mauao. As these problems are generally on the roads outside the reserve, they are not considered further in this Management Plan.

# CONTENTS

## MAUAO

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Policies

#### 3.1 *To protect the Historical Values, Landscape Character and Ecological Values of the Reserve*

- 3.1.1 Vegetation
- 3.1.2 Fire Control
- 3.1.3 Fauna
- 3.1.4 The Summit
- 3.1.5 Buildings, Structures and Facilities

#### 3.2 *To Meet the Spiritual, Cultural and Historical Needs of the Tangata Whenua*

- 3.2.1 Place of Cultural and Spiritual Significance
- 3.2.2 Heritage Protection

#### 3.3 *To Continue to Meet the Appropriate Recreational and Amenity Needs of Residents and Visitors to the District*

- 3.3.1 Management
- 3.3.2 Amenity and Recreation Value
- 3.3.3 Campground
- 3.3.4 Grazing
- 3.3.5 Honorary Rangers

#### **Figures**

- Figure 1 Location Plan: Mauao – Mount Maunganui

#### **Plans**

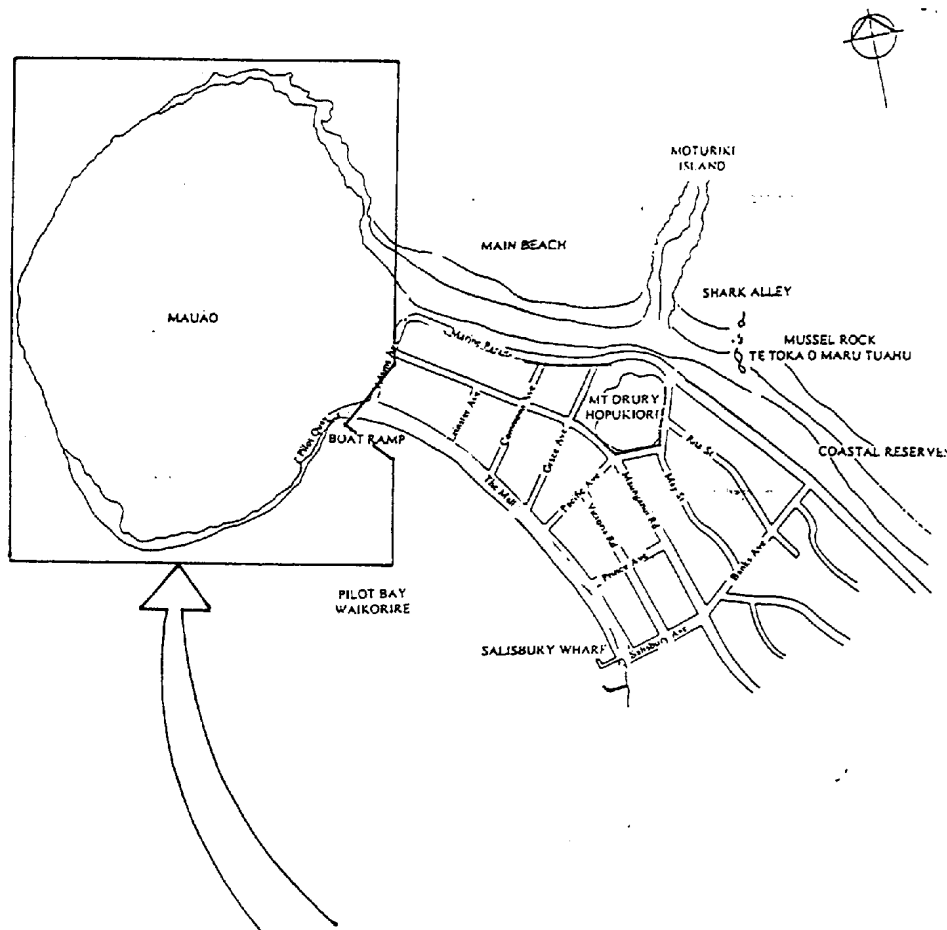
- Plan 1 Roads and Paths
- Plan 2 Locations of Campgrounds in 1935
- Plan 3 Historic Sites
- Plan 4 Structures and Navigational Beacons
- Plan 5 Facilities in Existing Recreation Reserves

# MAUAO

To Ngaiterangi, Ngati Ranginui and Ngati Pukenga, Mauao is a taonga which has immeasurable value and which symbolises the endurance, the strength, the identity and the uniqueness of each of the iwi. For each of them Mauao is the link between both the metaphysical and physical worlds, and between the past, the present and the future. The way that Mauao is managed, therefore, is of particular importance to the three iwi.

Mauao has also been an important recreational amenity for a large number of people for a long period. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, people living in Tauranga travelled by boat for day and weekend trips to enjoy the beaches and natural setting. A holiday camp was located on Mauao in the early part of this century.

The management of Mauao must recognise its significance to the Tauranga district.



**Figure 1 • Mauao - Mount Maunganui  
LOCATION MAP**

## **1. VISION**

All historic resources conserved and effectively managed and woven into the conservation of natural features.

A place where people may visit to admire and enjoy some of the special gifts and cultural history, provided impacts are minimised.

## **2. GOALS**

- To protect the landscape character, ecology and historic values of the reserve.
- To meet the spiritual, cultural and historical needs of Tangata Whenua.
- To continue to meet the appropriate recreational and amenity needs of the residents and visitors to the District.

### 3. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 3.1 GOAL 1

*To protect the historical values, landscape character and ecological values of the reserve.*

##### 3.1.1 Objective 1

###### Vegetation

To restore the “cloak of Mauao” whilst sustaining the ecological integrity of Mauao.

###### Consideration

The present day native vegetation and flora area of limited diversity. The goal for this Management Plan is to restore native vegetation within the reserve to the extent that is practical given the wealth of archaeological sites and recreational usage.

###### Policy

- 3.1.1a Preserve and protect the existing continuous areas of indigenous vegetation forest and encourage its growth and predominance except where archaeological and other considerations may be paramount.
- 3.1.1b Develop new areas of indigenous vegetation where this will result in the improvement of water quality (springs) and otherwise enhance the habitat value of existing vegetation.
- 3.1.1c Carry out a controlled programme over a period of time to eradicate the *Pinus radiata* and *Ulex europaeus* (gorse) with the main area of the indigenous forest and replace this loss with indigenous species.
- 3.1.1d Selectively preserves exotic trees in appropriate locations.
- 3.1.1e Develop wahi rongonui (groves of coastal vegetation).
- 3.1.1f Ensure that all new plantings of indigenous vegetation are of stock that has been propagated from plants that have evolved genetically in the Tauranga ecological district.
- 3.1.1g Allow sheep to graze parts of Mauao to ensure that grass growth is adequately controlled whilst the public’s use of the area is not unduly impeded.
- 3.1.1h Review the need for stocking all grassed areas of the reserve and the options for retiring land from grazing. Planting and fencing of retired areas should be carried out only in consultation with iwi and an archaeologist to ensure that the integrity of archaeological sites is not compromised. If planting is to occur on archaeological sites it will be necessary to apply to the Historic Places Trust for authority to modify sites under Section 11 of the Historic Places Act 1993.

3.1.1i To control weeds in accordance with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Plant Pest Strategy.

3.1.1j To eliminate all gorse within the existing grazed areas so as to reduce the fire hazard.

3.1.1k To restore and develop additional planting on Mauao.

- Restore and add to the coastal vegetation around the base of Mauao, particularly Pohutukawa.
- Care should be taken to ensure good view corridors are maintained.

3.1.1l To continue to plant indigenous vegetation through gorse areas.

### **3.1.2 Objective 2**

#### **Fire Control**

The Council will take all practicable precautions to protect the natural and cultural features of Mauao from fire risk and damage.

#### **Consideration**

Fire has raged through part of the vegetation on Mauao some years ago and also in December 1997. This led to a Fire Plan being devised which has set out the actions to be carried out in the event of a fire. The Fire Action Plan is attached in Appendix "O". This plan is currently being updated and should be included in this Management Plan once finalised.

#### **Policy**

3.1.2a The Fire Plan should be used as an action plan in the event of a fire.

### **3.1.3 Objective 3**

#### **Fauna**

- To take all necessary measures to protect and enhance the native fauna on Mauao, including the nesting areas of the grey faced petrel and little blue penguin. Consideration will also be given in due course to the release of threatened species on Mauao if consultation determines this is appropriate.
- To produce and implement an integrated pest control programme on Mauao for predators and browsers, including ongoing control of the rabbit population.

#### **Consideration**

There are important grey faced petrel and little blue penguin nesting colonies within the reserve. These are uncommon occurrences on the mainland and an important consideration in the management of Mauao. The nesting areas are threatened by stormwater from the track to the summit and by predators. Certain parts of the reserve are infested with rabbits, which cause significant damage to the habitat. Other pests such as possums, cats and rats have detrimentally impacted on the petrel's nesting success and have the potential to harm both native vegetation and native wildlife.

### ***Policy***

- 3.1.3a To continue the annual monitoring programme for the grey faced petrel and implement appropriate protective measures.
- 3.1.3b To complete, as soon as possible, a comprehensive assessment of the density, diversity and distribution of the fauna.
- 3.1.3c To continue the existing possum, rabbit and cat control programme, to modify it as required in accordance with the Bay of Plenty's Animal Pest Management Strategy, to carry out an annual review and to monitor progress.
- 3.1.3d To annually monitor and if necessary, to control the populations of other introduced fauna that may threaten the vegetation, wildlife or archaeological sites.

### **3.1.4 Objective 4**

#### **The Summit**

- To prohibit further development or the provision of utilities of any kind on the summit. Maintenance and improvement of existing facilities is acceptable but must be in accordance with Objective 5 of this Management Plan and approved by Council.
- To protect and preserve the summit's historic and archaeological features.
- To retain its character as a natural lookout.
- To retain its open space character and peaceful atmosphere.

#### **Consideration**

A number of structures and service utilities have been sited on the sacred summit of Mauao over past years. This collection of structures detracts from the landscape character and visual qualities of this lookout. (Refer Plan 4 – Structures and Navigational Beacons.)

### ***Policy***

- 3.1.4a Redesign (if removal is not practical or appropriate) the existing man-made utilities to blend into the landscape as unobtrusively as possible.

### **3.1.5 Objective 5**

#### **Buildings, Structures and Facilities**

- The following existing buildings, structures and facilities on Mauao should be retained: The Hot Salt Water Pools, the Surf Lifesaving Clubhouse, the Farm Service Area, the Public Toilet and the Camping Ground Facilities. Any changes to existing facilities or proposals for new facilities not included in this Plan must be approved by Council following public consultation, if deemed appropriate by Council.

- To limit the utilities on Mauao to the existing cairn, reservoir communications repeaters and overhead wires. Navigational structures including lights and beacons may be maintained, improved or relocated to meet navigational requirements. Except for those required to ensure public safety, no additional structures or facilities that provide for activities other than recreation or maintenance of the reserve shall be placed on the reserve.
- To continue to allow use of the Pilot Bay Wharf by commercial fishers at the present level.

### **Consideration**

The recreation reserve along the eastern side of Mauao is cluttered with buildings which reduce the open space and landscape character of the reserve. There are also a range of utilities on the summit of Mauao which, in general, detract from the scenic qualities of Mauao. (Refer Plan 5 – Facilities in Recreation Reserve).

- 3.1 .5a To actively seek the removal of the abandoned reservoir from the lower slopes provided that an assessment of environmental effects is undertaken to prove that the actions do not compromise the cultural, spiritual and ecological values of Mauao and it is deemed to be practicable.
- 3.1.5b Other facilities to improve public enjoyment of the reserve, such as seats, direction and information signs, and rubbish bins may be provided. These shall be appropriately designed and sited.

## 3.2 GOAL 2

*To meet the spiritual, cultural and historical needs of Tangata Whenua.*

### 3.2.1 Objective 1

#### **Place of Cultural and Spiritual Significance**

To recognise and provide for the special cultural and spiritual relationships that Tangata Whenua have with Mauao.

#### **Consideration**

The Advisory Group (Refer 3.3.1) and the Officers of the Tauranga District Council will determine what activities are appropriate within the reserve given its unique values. Such management will, in some cases, require guidance from Tangata Whenua.

#### **Policy**

- 3.2.1a Determine what cultural, heritage and traditional rights or ceremonies are associated with Mauao, eg Waitangi Day.
- 3.2.1b Determine a mechanism for implementing the above (3.21a) consistent with the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.2.1c Document a consensus as to the events that would initiate rahui se/f imposed prohibition and to make provision, eg for conservation purposes.
- 3.2.1d Determine a mechanism for implementing the above consistent with the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.2.1e To limit the occupancy of Mauao to the public utilities, including the Trig Station, because they are necessary for the health, safety and amenities of the community.
- 3.2.1f To recognise and protect the sanctity of archaeological sites and, in particular to ensure that the iwi determine whether information is released or sought by way of digs on such sites or from silent files.

### 3.2.2 Objective 2

#### **Heritage Protection**

- To manage the reserve with due recognition to the archaeological significance of Mauao.
- To manage the reserve and all sites of cultural significance located within the reserve so that they are protected for the long term.
- To carry out specific measures to ensure the long term conservation of the significant sites and areas Mauao.

- To interpret pails of Mauao in consultation with iwi.
- To carry out all conservation work in accordance with regard to the guidelines of the IC.OMQS New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value (ICOMOS New Zealand Charter).

### **Consideration**

The main objective is for the management of historic resources on Mauao is for long term protection. Such management practices should ensure that the sites are not adversely affected by development and use of the reserve. Management and conservation of sites on Mauao should follow the guidelines set down by the Historic Places Act 1993 and the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter.

The Historic Place Act 1993 provides protection for historic places, historic areas archaeological and waahi ta.pu.sites from future damage. It is also necessary to establish a management regime to ensure that historic resources survive the effect of past modifications, recreational use and natural processes. Refer Plan 3 - Historic Sites.

### **Policy**

3.2.2a Carry out a detailed historical assessment of Mauao to provide information on the development and use of sites and area. This information will be available for Conservation Plans (see below) and interpretation of the history of Mauao, in consultation with iwi.

3.2.2b Prepare a Conservation Plan for the archaeological features and historic areas located in the reserve, commissioned in consultation with the iwi. Such a plan is to include:

- An inventory of all sites, accurately mapped, described and recorded on a plan. This would be limited to those sites that are already a matter of public record and would not include sites about which the iwi does not wish to divulge information.
- The condition of each site and the presence of vegetation, together with options for its management.
- An historical assessment of the sites.
- A review of all documentation and records of existing sites.
- Detailed policies for the conservation of all sites.

3.2.2c A specialist in vegetation management of archaeological sites currently prone to erosion to be consulted during production of a Conservation Plan.

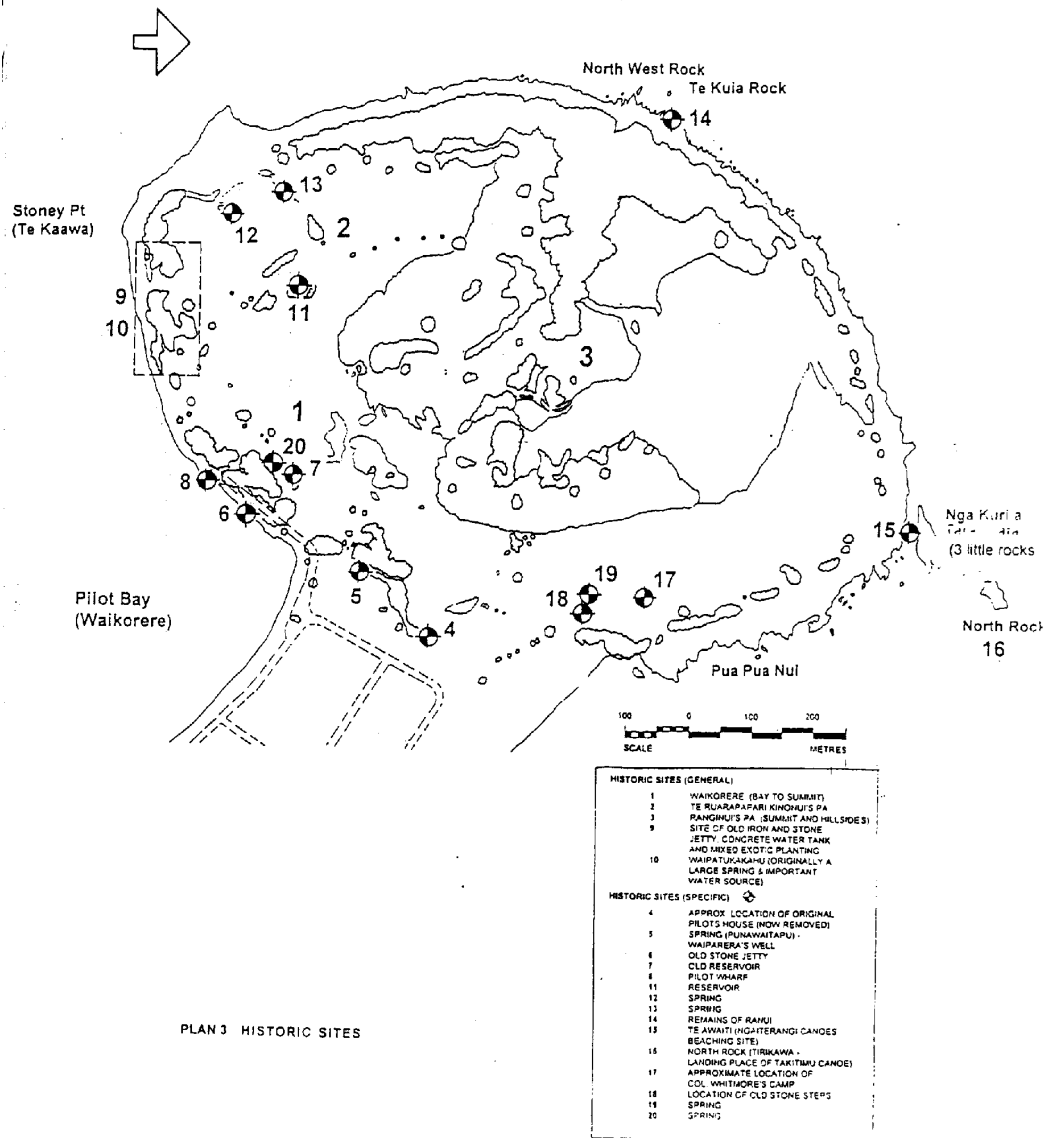
3.2.2d A survey of the area's exotic plants and vegetation detailing the types of plants should be carried out, along with documentation of the history. Any work carried out should make reference to recommendations for these planted areas.

3.2.2e Prepare a Conservation Plan for the Stone Steps. This would document the history, record their current condition, determine the cultural

significance of the steps and enable development of conservation policy and actions to ensure their long term retention.

- 3.2.2f Prepare a Conservation Plan for the Iron Wharf area. This should document the site's history including construction of the wharf, water storage tanks and planting of exotic trees, record the site's condition and layout, establish the cultural significance and develop policy for the long term conservation. The New Zealand Archaeological Association recorded the site's layout in 1981. This information will be useful in the Conservation Plan's preparation.
- 3.2.2g Prepare a Conservation Plan for the Stone Jetty documenting the history, including construction of the wharf and its use, recording the structure and developing policy for its long term conservation.
- 3.2.2h Assess the degree to which stock is damaging archaeological sites with special attention to be paid to the midden sites on the south western side. If it is found that erosion of the sites is intensified by stock, alternative management should be examined. This could include allowing areas to revert to native bush.
- 3.2.2i The Pilot Reserve area is a site of significance from the post contact period. An assessment of the whole area should be carried out to determine the extent of significant material still on the site from this period, both built structures and occupation of the site. If the terraced area where the cottage stood has not been modified to any great extent, i.e. the ground surface disturbed to the point that there is no longer any subsurface cultural deposit relating to the occupation of the cottage, the area should be managed as an archaeological site. If the area is shown to be of archaeological interest, it is recommended that no development which is likely to disturb the area is allowed to occur. An explanation of the historic significance of this site should be included in any other interpretative information located on Mauao together with its relation to other sites.
- 3.2.2j No work should be carried out on Mauao which is likely to destroy, damage or modify an archaeological or historic feature. No development (i.e. development of tracks, underground services, fencing, vegetation management such as replanting areas around archaeological features etc) should be undertaken unless an impact assessment of the proposed activity on the archaeological and historic features is carried out by a qualified archaeologist and Tangata Whenua are consulted. Any activity will require an Authority to Modify Sites from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, under Section 11 of the Historic Places Act 1993.
- 3.2.2k Prior to any planting works being carried out on the lower slopes of Mauao, consultation with iwi and an archaeologist is to be undertaken. This consultation will allow for advice on areas of archaeological and cultural sensitivity which should not be planted. Planting should not take place on archaeological features. If sites are to be included in areas for planting it will be necessary to apply to the Historic Places Trust for Authority to Modify Sites, under Section 11 of the Historic Places Act 1993.
- 3.2.2l Further recording and historical research of the disused paths and tracks on the south western slopes of Mauao should be undertaken to reveal any heritage values these tracks may have. When this has been completed,

policy should be developed with regard to the long term retention or otherwise of these features in consultation with iwi.



### 3.3 GOAL 3

*To continue to meet the appropriate recreational and amenity needs of the residents and visitors to the District.*

#### 3.3.1 Objective 1

##### **Management**

To manage the reserve under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 whilst recognising and giving effect to the special status and position of the Tangata Whenua and to the mana of Mauao.

##### **Consideration**

The primary management goal is to achieve the objectives of the Management Plan under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977. The reserve is already gazetted under this legislation.

The Management Plan recognises more appropriately the special relationship that exists between Tangata Whenua and Mauao, The actions expressed below are intended to acknowledge and implement that relationship.

Mauao consists of an area of Historic Reserve and an area of Recreation Reserve (hot pools, campground). These areas should be managed to allow for their inherent differences - commercial vs. historic.

3.3.1a Formally rename the reserve as Mauao - Mount Maunganui.

3.3.1b Retain the current classifications for Mauao, namely Recreation Reserve and Historic Reserve (refer to Figure 2, page 22 and Appendix K).

3.3.1c Nominate Mauao for registration by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust as an historic area and waahi tapu.

3.3.1d Include all of Mauao in the reviewed District Plan's Schedule of Historic Features with individual areas and sites highlighted including those identified in the Resource Information to this Management Plan.

3.3.1f Establish an Advisory Group for the Historic Reserve being representative of the Crown, District Council, iwi and community.

- Establish performance objectives for each year of operation.
- Annually assess the readiness of all relevant agencies to action the agreed fire plan should the need arise.

3.3.1g The Advisory Group for the Historic Reserve shall make application to the Annual Plan for funding works on Mauao.

3.3.1h Representation on the Advisory Group shall be determined at least every five years and each organisation shall renominate their representative.

- 3.3.1i The Recreation Reserve, including the hot pools, campground and surf lifesaving club shall be administered by the Council with the various operating conditions determined by the Council.
- 3.3.1j Recognise the different management techniques applicable to the Recreation Reserve and the Historic Reserve.

### **3.3.2 Objective 2**

#### **Amenity and Recreation Value**

To manage the reserve with due recognition of the historical and recreational significance of Mauao and of the reserve as a calm and peaceful environment for retreat and reflection.

#### **Consideration**

Mauao has become the focus for a range of recreation activities including passive recreation pursuits such as walking, picnicking and fishing, and the more active pursuits of running, paragliding, hang gliding and mountain bike racing. Some of these activities are causing damage to the vegetation and archaeological sites.

The Council will allow particular activities on Mauao provided that the objectives and policies of the Management Plan are adhered to. The Council will require, in accordance with this Plan, activities and general public use to have respect for the cultural and spiritual significance of the area and the calm and peaceful ambiance.

#### **Policy**

- 3.3.2a To take a precautionary approach by promoting low impact, pedestrian, passive recreational activities and amenity values in the reserve. (Ref. S 2.3.4 Bylaw, Part 2 - Resource Information.)
- 3.3.2b To ensure all activities are conducted in a manner that respects the mana of Mauao, e.g. minimising impact on the natural, cultural and spiritual significance of Mauao.
- 3.3.2c All organised recreational events approved by the Council are required to use only the developed public paths and the western outlook as marked on Plan 1 - Roads and Paths.
- 3.3.2d To maintain the roadway to the summit as a safe pedestrian path capable of use by emergency and service vehicles or ceremonies of national significance only, in a manner which arrests further erosion. The use of Mauao for search and rescue practice shall be approved annually by the Council. The road will not be used for general public vehicle access.
- 3.3.2e The landing of helicopters at the summit is to be permitted for emergency rescue purposes only and other purposes as approved by Council.
- 3.3.2f No new long term commercial activities will be permitted on Mauao. Short term one-off commercial activities would be considered by Council before being approved.

- 3.3.2g To maintain existing paths for pedestrian use, as identified on Plan 1 - Roads and Paths. All maintenance and upgrading of paths must be proven to be necessary and in accord with the objectives and policies of this Plan.
- 3.3.2h Paths should be surfaced with rhyolite chips, pipi shells - materials that are appropriate to Mauao,
- 3.3.2i Rest areas and seats are to be located at suitable places and safety features will be incorporated where necessary so that the majority of people have access to the majority of paths.
- 3.3.2j No biking is permitted on roads or paths unless authorised (Refer Policy 3.3.2c.)
- 3.3.2k No additional roads or paths will be permitted on Mauao unless promoted by a formal change to the Management Plan under the Reserves Act 1977. Paths associated with improving access to Mauao via the campground will be permitted (refer 3.3.3).
- 3.3.2l To prohibit all vehicular access over Mauao except as provided for in Policy 3.3.2d.
- 3.3.2m To prohibit dogs from the entire reserve in accordance with the Tauranga District Council's general bylaw.
- 3.3.2n Create a main pedestrian entry, main gate and interpretation structure in which various aspects of Maori culture and history of Mauao will be displayed. The main entry will include a large open grassed area in front of the main gate with, in future, an interpretation information structure.

### **3.3.2 Objective 2**

#### **Campground**

To retain the camp in general on its current site with the following amendments.

#### **Consideration**

The existing campground now occupies almost all the Recreation Reserve across the base of Mauao. It physically and visually blocks access to the Historic Reserve of Mauao. It also acts as a psychological barrier to access. (Refer Plan 2 - Location of Campgrounds in 1935.)

However the campground provides low cost holiday accommodation and is an extremely popular facility that is reflective of the traditional New Zealand beach-side holiday. It is acknowledged that there are a number of management issues that need to be addressed to improve the camp and its relationship with Mauao.

#### **Policy**

- 3.3.3a Improve access to Mauao along the back of the camping ground and along the beach front; improve signage; improve visual amenity.
- 3.3.3b Implement a flexible plan in the camp to allow for camping on the grassed areas at peak times and other recreational uses at off-peak times.
- 3.3.3c Allow only “temporary living places” to be established in accordance with the Campgrounds Regulations 1985 - Appendix N.
- 3.3.3d That the Management Agreement or any other agreement for camp management be in accordance with the Campground Regulations 1985 - Appendix N.
- 3.3.3e Remove all “permanent” and “semi-permanent” structures that are not in accordance with the Campgrounds Regulations 1985 - Appendix N.
- 3.3.3f No new permanent awning structures should be permitted to be built and all old awning structures are to be removed over a period of 12 months after the adoption of policy.
- 3.3.3g Redefine the management agreement for the campground to reflect the above.
- 3.3.3h Undertake a concept plan which addresses amenity issues and access along the front of the camp and behind the camp. Refer Appendix P - Draft Concept Plan.

#### **3.3.4 Objective 4**

##### **Grazing**

- To graze parts of Mauao to ensure that grass growth is adequately controlled and public use of the area is not unduly impeded. Only sheep will be used.
- To review the area of grazing on the reserve as alternative pasture management measures are successfully trialled.
- Implement more appropriate management alternatives if alternative pasture management measures become available.

##### **Consideration**

Grazing by sheep over parts of Mauao will continue as it controls the weed growth without excessive damage to archaeological sites. However, experiments are currently being carried out in other parts of New Zealand into ways in which alternative pasture management of volcanic cones can be carried out.

### ***Policy***

3.3.4a Review the need for stocking all grassed areas of the reserve. If areas of the reserve can be retired from grazing they should be. Planting in these areas should be carried out only in consultation with iwi and an archaeologist to ensure that the integrity of archaeological sites within them is not compromised.

3.3.4b To retain areas for sheep grazing as the most suitable way to maintain the mid slopes of Mauao at present.

### **3.3.5 Objective 5**

#### **Honorary Rangers**

The Council is to appoint honorary rangers as and when may be considered necessary for the better management, protection and recreational enjoyment of Mauao.

#### **Consideration**

It is considered important that some form of regular monitoring activities on Mauao would be beneficial. Honorary Rangers are one way of ensuring regular supervision.

# CONTENTS

## MAIN BEACH (including Mussel Rock Beach)

### 1. Vision

### 2. Goals

### 3. Objectives and Policies

#### **3.1 *A wide Sandy Beach at Approximately Current Dimensions***

3.1.1 Beach Replenishment

3.1.2 Rear Beach Stabilisation

3.1.3 Beach Monitoring

#### **3.2 *Enjoyment by Large Numbers of People of the Precinct for Beach-Side Recreation***

3.2.1 Beach Grooming and Cleaning

3.2.2 Shaded Grass Area Behind Beach

3.2.3 Commercial Activities

3.2.4 Special Events

3.2.5 Dogs

3.2.6 Public Toilets

3.2.7 Anti-Social Behaviour

3.2.8 Additional Buildings and Permanent Facilities

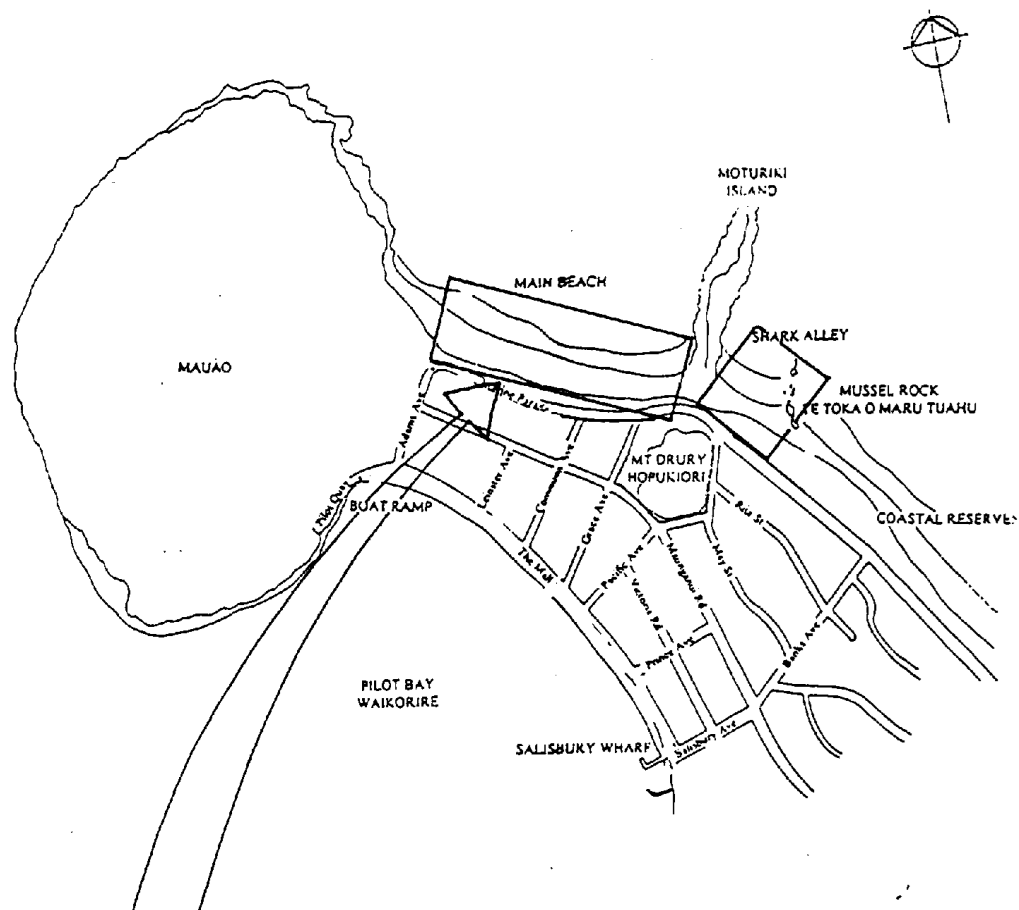
#### ***Figures***

Figure 1 Location Plan: Main Beach

# MAIN BEACH

Main Beach is one of the most intensively used beaches in New Zealand. It is one of the recreation showpieces of Tauranga District.

The Marine Parade is becoming increasingly urban in response to its intense recreational use. However the foundation of this is an outstanding natural setting. Main Beach is a well defined bay, anchored at one end by Mauao and enclosed at the other end by Moturiki and Hopukiore. The outlook from the beach is the natural rocky promontory of Moturiki, open sea and off-shore islands.



**Figure 1 – Main Beach**  
LOCATION MAP

## 1. VISION

The main aim for the Main Beach reserve is to provide for intense beach-side recreation within a setting that integrates natural and urban character.

## 2. GOALS

- A wide sandy beach at approximately current dimensions.
- Enjoyment by large numbers of people of the precinct for beach-side recreation.
- An exceptional level of amenity integrating both natural and urban character.

## 3. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### 3.1 Goal 1

#### ***A wide sandy beach at approximately currently dimensions.***

The Main Beach is an eroding beach to the North West and an accreting beach to the south east. Erosion reduces the valuable area of sand for beach recreation and potentially threatens the rear beach area. To maintain the beach at its current dimensions requires regular replenishment with sand. Replenishment carried out by Port of Tauranga Ltd since 1990 has proved successful.

The removal of the foredune in the north western part of the beach in the 1960s has exacerbated wind erosion of sand from the rear beach area. This is causing a problem with sand blown onto Marine Parade and beach front properties and the reduction in grassed area available for recreation. The retention of the foredune in the south eastern part of the beach has reduced the effects of wind erosion in that part of the beach by trapping wind blown sand. The existing foredune and grassed area are subject to stress and damage by intense pedestrian use.

The intensity of pedestrian use in this area requires alternative rear beach stabilisation techniques to those used in less intensely used areas.

### 3.1.1 Objective 1

#### **Beach Replenishment**

The beach should continue to be replenished at the rate sufficient to retain the beach at its current dimensions.

#### **Consideration**

To maintain the beach at its current dimensions requires regular replenishment with sand.

### **3.2.1 Objective 2**

#### **Rear Beach Stabilisation**

To stabilise the rear beach area with techniques that also provide for intense recreational use and ready access to the beach.

#### **Consideration**

Main Beach can be divided into areas in which different dune stabilisation techniques are appropriate. In the south east end of the beach (near Hopukiore and Moturiki) the foredune is relatively intact and lends itself to restoration with natural dune vegetation and controlled pedestrian routes to the beach. The foredune in the central part of Main Beach, however, is less intact and subject to more intense human traffic. An engineered solution is more appropriate in this area.

#### **Policy**

3.1.2a That a range of rear beach stabilisation techniques be trialled including planting, boardwalk structures, timber retaining and others as may be deemed appropriate by Council Officers.

3.1.2b Monitor the impacts of each of the rear beach stabilisation techniques.

3.1.2c Report back to Council with a comprehensive implementation strategy and preferred options.

### **3.1.3 Objective 3**

#### **Beach Monitoring**

The beach profile should be monitored regularly to check effectiveness of management methods and to enable changes to be made to methods if required.

#### **Consideration**

A monitoring programme provides background information on the dynamics of the coastal system, against which to test the effectiveness of management policies and to enable changes to be made to methods if required.

3.1.3a Establish beach profile sites for the entire beach between Mussel Rock and the west end of the Motor Camp at approximately 200m intervals.

3.1.3b Survey each profile every 6 months across the grass verge, foredune and beach out to the 8m depth contour below MSL.

3.1.3c Quantify volumetric changes along the beach from the profile data including the foredune and changes both above and below MSL.

3.1.3d Monitor changes in the horizontal position of MHWS and the seaward toe of the foredune.

## **3.2 Goal 2**

***Enjoyment by large numbers of people of the precinct for beach-side recreation.***

*The Main Beach area is a 'stage' for informal beach-side activities for large numbers of people. This level and type of use requires large flat areas of sand and grass, areas of both sun and shade, and functional amenities such as car parking, toilets, and provision of food and other commercial activities that enhance the enjoyment of the beach.*

### **3.2.1 Objective 1**

#### **Beach Grooming and Cleaning**

A wide smooth and clean beach will be provided to enhance enjoyment of the beach and to enhance its visual amenity.

#### **Consideration**

Grooming and cleaning make the beach more attractive and safer. It has proved popular according to surveys.

#### **Policy**

- 3.2.1a Continue to groom beach ensuring sand movement is minimised.
- 3.2.1b Develop a beach grooming regime that takes into account weather conditions and patterns of use.
- 3.2.1c Continue to clear rubbish from the beach regularly. Install temporary rubbish bins during peak periods.

### **3.2.2 Objective 2**

#### **Shaded Grass Area Behind Beach**

A wide open grassed area with ample shade will be provided at the back of the beach for recreation.

#### **Consideration**

There is increasing demand for shade identified in surveys. This is partly because of awareness of health hazards of excessive sun.

- 3.2.2a Maintain grass area with intensive turf management techniques as indicated under Policy 3.1.2 'Rear Beach Stabilisation'.
- 3.2.2b Establish Pohutukawa trees in the grass verge area to provide shade at regular intervals.

3.2.2c Remove rubbish frequently, especially during peak holiday periods, to maintain a clean appearance.

### **3.2.2 Objective 3**

#### **Commercial Activities**

Commercial activities that enhance enjoyment of beach-side recreation will continue to be permitted by Council on the basis of concessions issued by DoC and foreshore licences..

#### **Consideration**

Commercial activities include provision of refreshments, hire of beach-side equipment, and amusements. These are controlled by concessions for Crown owned reserve, 'foreshore licences' for areas on the beach reserve and 'street trading licences' for street reserves.

Commercial activities provide services which contribute to enjoyment of the beaches and add colour. They also have potential adverse effects. They can use car park spaces, colonise areas of grass or beach, generate noise and odour, damage areas of turf, and unfairly compete with local retailers.

3.2.3a Continue to provide limited number of Foreshore Licences and Street Trading Licences with appropriate conditions to ensure adverse effects are minor.

3.2.3b Monitor effects of commercial activities. Restrict numbers of licences or impose additional conditions where necessary to ensure adverse effects remain minor.

3.2.3c Arrange with the Department of Conservation a mechanism for issuing 'concessions'.

### **3.2.4 Objective 4**

#### **Special Events**

Special events which enhance the Mount as a beach resort will be encouraged and controlled by Council to maximise benefits and minimise adverse effects.

#### **Consideration**

The Mount is a venue for an increasing number of special events. These add to the atmosphere, economy and mana of the District.

However, special events also have potential adverse effects such as nuisance and congestion, damage to the natural and built environment, or the compromising of special and sacred sites.

## ***Policy***

3.2.4a Applications to hold special events will be assessed by Council on the following criteria:

- That the event benefits the District.
- That effects on the community, the natural and built environment are no more than minor.
- That concerns of iwi are considered.

3.2.4b Vehicles on grassed areas will not be permitted and alternative arrangements should the need arise for specific events.

### **3.2.5 Objective 5**

#### **Dogs**

Dogs (except for companion dogs) will not be permitted on Main Beach, Mussel Rock Beach or Marine Parade opposite those beaches.

#### **Consideration**

The intense use of the area for activities such as picnicking, sunbathing and swimming, especially by children, means dog excrement is an unacceptable health hazard and detracts from enjoyment of the beach. Dogs may also intimidate beach users.

Most of the other coastal reserves are available to exercise dogs.

3.2.5a Retain and enforce bylaw prohibiting dogs in this precinct. Install signs prohibiting dogs.

### **3.2.6 Objective 6**

#### **Public Toilets**

High quality toilets will be provided so that they are convenient for beach users and are constructed and located to have as little visual impact as possible, and take account of the cultural wishes of iwi.

#### **Consideration**

Public toilets are contentious. The intense use of the beach creates a necessity for public toilets. Toilets need to serve the full length of Main Beach and adjacent Mussel Rock Beach (Shark Alley). However locating these toilets is fraught with difficulties. Any location on Marine Parade is likely to cause some adverse effects on properties opposite and opposition from residents. At the same time Hopukioire and Moturiki (and the landscape connection between them) are regarded as inappropriate locations by iwi for landscape reasons. Locating toilets in foredune areas can reduce visual effects on residents but increases potential damage to the dunes, while locating toilets on the Marine Parade grass berm reduces effects on dunes but increases adverse visual effects on residents. Locating toilets away

from the beach (for instance in the reserve adjacent to Hopukiore) increases the distance people need to walk from the beach.

The toilets in the Surf Club building can be upgraded and extended as public toilets to serve the north western end of the beach.

The toilets at Commons Avenue can be rebuilt as near as possible to their existing location. Moving them to one side of Commons Avenue will remove them from the view shaft down the street. These will serve the middle of Main Beach.

New toilets could be built on flat land on Hopukiore Reserve North West of the existing Soundshell toilets. These would serve the south eastern end of Main Beach and Mussel Rock Beach, as well as people using the playground in Hopukiore Reserve and people on Moturiki.

### ***Policy***

- 3.2.6a No new additional toilets should be built on Moturiki or Hopukiore, or on the connection between Moturiki and Hopukiore.
- 3.2.6b Enhance toilets on existing Surf Club building at the northern end of Main Beach as a public facility.
- 3.2.6c Replacement of existing toilets should be built as near as possible to their existing location opposite Commons Avenue to ensure a higher standard of amenity, improve visual quality, and to mitigate existing erosion of sand dune.
- 3.2.6d Where there are reasonable alternatives, new additional toilets should not be built on the beach.
- 3.2.6e Build new toilets on the flat area of Hopukiore Reserve away from Hopukiore itself to replace the existing Soundshell toilets. Locate to serve the south eastern end of Main Beach, Mussel Rock Beach and Hopukiore Reserve. Mitigate any adverse visual effects on nearby residential properties.
- 3.2.6f Public toilets should be located as near to their current locations as practicable.

### **3.2.7 Objective 7**

#### **Anti Social Behaviour**

Measures will be taken to avoid anti social behaviour at Main Beach.

#### **Consideration**

The Mount is a focus for socialising at New Year and an apparent magnet for those inclined to anti-social behaviour. At other times of the year Marine Parade can become a night time racing strip and a focus for anti-social groups within the community. Often this behaviour is exacerbated by alcohol.

A task force has been operating to control anti social behaviour in the short term.

Other efforts, such as redesign of Marine Parade precinct as a slow-way and an expression (through design) of a greater pride in the area, may help in the long term removal of the problem.

### ***Policy***

- 3.2.7a Council will coordinate a 'task force' to maintain strategies to prevent anti-social behaviour at New Year and other potential occasions.
- 3.2.7b The 'task force' should include Council staff and bylaws officers, community representatives, liquor suppliers, police and others who may be co-opted.
- 3.2.7c Strategies may include liquor bans, traffic control, police presence and lighting.
- 3.2.7d Remodel Marine Parade to discourage use as a 'drag strip'. Install permanent lighting along the beach.
- 3.2.7e Install lighting to illuminate the grass berm and beach area in a way that contributes to the visual amenity of the area and use of the beach at night.

### **3.2.8 Objective 8**

#### **Additional Buildings and Permanent Facilities**

New buildings, permanent structures or activities will only be permitted where they contribute to the enjoyment of the beach and have no more than minor effects, as deemed appropriate by Council.

#### **Consideration**

The intensity of use of Main Beach results in pressure to provide facilities. Some of these, such as toilets and lifesaving facilities, are necessary to the principal purpose of the beach. Many, such as permanent 'amusements' and 'attractions', are not. Alternative locations include the south side of Marine Parade and the flat areas of Hopukiore Reserve (although not Hopukiore itself).

A proliferation of buildings and facilities would destroy the open sweep of beach and its landscape character. Additional buildings and permanent facilities should be added only with extreme reluctance and after careful consideration of their need, alternatives and mitigation of adverse effects.

New buildings and permanent facilities should be publicly notified to ensure scrutiny of need, location and effects.

### ***Policy***

- 3.2.8a Proposals to develop new buildings, permanent structures or permanent activities will be evaluated on the following criteria:
  - The need for the facility to be located in the reserve including consideration of alternatives.

- The degree to which the facility is situated and designed to minimise adverse effects on the environment and to celebrate' the natural coastal landscape.
- Consistency with the principal purpose, objectives, other policies and Concept Plans included in the Management Plan.
- Effects on dunes.
- Effects on landscape character.
- Consultation with iwi.

3.2.8b Proposals should be publicised to ensure public scrutiny.

3.2.8c Temporary buildings require approval of Council.

# CONTENTS

## MOTURIKI – LEISURE ISLAND

### 4. Vision

### 5. Goals

### 6. Objectives and Policies

#### **3.1 *Maintain the Natural Character of Moturiki***

3.1.1 Reclassification

3.1.2 Vegetation

3.1.3 Animal Pests

3.1.4 Old Quarry / Marineland Area

3.1.5 Buildings and Permanent Facilities

3.1.6 Fauna

#### **3.2 *Provide a Rewarding Walking and Other Passive Recreational Experience of Moturiki to the Extent that is Compatible with Other Goals and Objectives.***

3.2.1 Walking Track

3.2.2. Interpretation and Information

#### **3.3 *Record and Protect Archaeological Features***

3.3.1 Archaeological Features

#### **3.4 *Significance to Iwi***

3.4.1 Iwi Consultation

3.4.2 Provision of Information

3.4.3 Dual Naming

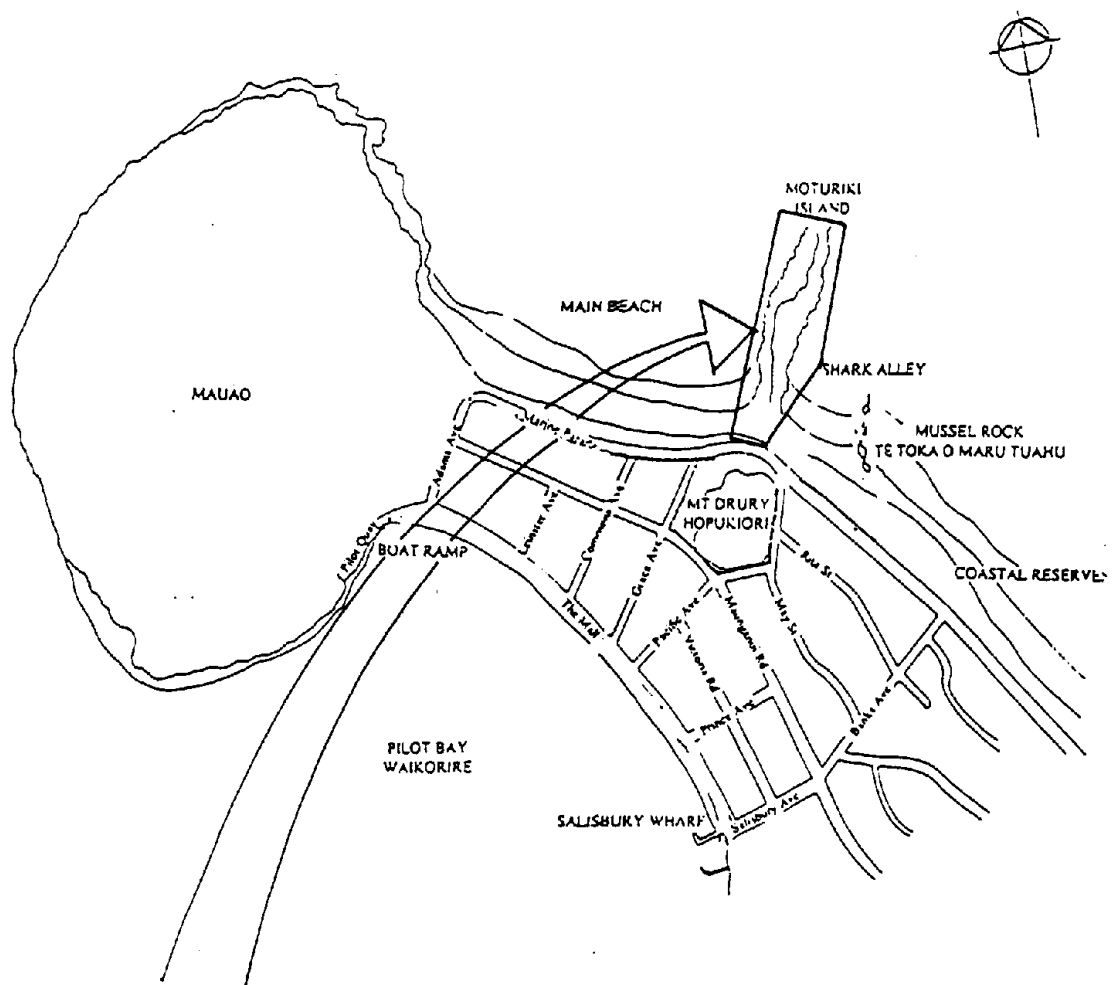
#### ***Figures***

Figure 1      Location Plan: Moturiki – Leisure Island

# MOTURIKI - LEISURE ISLAND

Moturiki is the promontory at the eastern end of Main Beach. It is visually prominent, intensively used for recreation (mainly as a walking destination) and has historical and traditional significance.

Moturiki plays an important landscape role. It encloses the Main Beach bay and, together with Hopukiore, defines the Main Beach part of the Mount Maunganui peninsula. Its appearance is a vital element in creating the natural character of the outlook from Main Beach and providing a natural context for the built urban environment.



**Figure 1 – Moturiki  
LOCATION MAP**

## 1. VISION

The main aim of the reserve is to provide a natural landscape feature, preserving heritage elements and indigenous vegetation. The secondary aim is to provide for low impact passive recreation.

## 2. GOALS

1. Maintain natural character of Moturiki.
2. Protect archaeological features.
3. Provide rewarding walking and other passive recreational experiences of Moturiki to the extent that it is compatible with other objectives.
4. Recognise the importance of Moturiki to iwi.

## 3. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### 3.1 GOAL 1

***Maintain the natural character of Moturiki***

#### 3.1.1 Objective 1

##### **Reclassification**

Moturiki Reserve will be reclassified as 'Scenic Reserve'.

##### **Consideration**

At present Moturiki is classified 'Recreation Reserve'. This classification was gazetted in order to allow construction of the former 'Marineland' complex on Moturiki. Such developments are no longer considered appropriate on the island.

The purpose of Moturiki is better described by the 'Scenic Reserve' classification. This recognises the principal purpose of Moturiki's natural landscape role, while also providing for passive recreation and ensuring protection of heritage features:

*"For the purpose of protecting and preserving in perpetuity for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public, suitable areas possessing such qualities of scenic interest, beauty, or natural features or landscape that their protection and preservation are desirable in the public interest."* (S 19 (1 ) (a) Reserves Act 1997).

and

*"...the indigenous flora and fauna, ecological associations, and natural environment and beauty shall, as far as possible, be preserved..."* (S 19 (2)(a) Reserves Act 1997).

and

*“The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve .....“*  
(S 19 (2)(b) Reserves Act 1997).

and

*“Where historic, archaeological, geological, biological and other scientific features are present in the reserve, those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve.”* (S 19 (2)(d) Reserves Act 1997).

### **Policy**

**3.1.1a** Reclassify Moturiki as Scenic Reserve (S19 Reserves Act 1977) and notify in the New Zealand Government Gazette.

### **3.1.2 Objective 2**

#### **Vegetation**

Plants not indigenous to the Tauranga Ecological District will be removed and replaced with indigenous species as a matter of high priority.

#### **Consideration**

The existing character is largely natural consisting of rock outcrops and mostly native coastal plants. The botanical conservation values of Moturiki are moderate to high. However, the vegetation includes a wide range of species which are not indigenous to the area and which, therefore, compromise the natural character of the island. Some of these exotic plants are invasive weeds which replace indigenous plants and some may hybridise with local plants.

### **Policy**

**3.1.2a** Engage a contractor to eradicate weed species. Prior to work commencing, carry out an inspection by the contractor, a field botanist and the supervising officer from the Tauranga District Council. The inspection should include:

- identification of problem plants;
- location of problem plants; and
- agreement on appropriate methods of control on each site.
- The degree to which the facility is situated and designed to minimise adverse effects on the environment and to ‘celebrate’ the natural coastal landscape.

**3.1.2b** Inspect Moturiki every 6 months to monitor reoccurrence of weed species. Establish a recording system to map the location of new weed species. Carry out follow up control work to ensure new weed growth is eradicated.

3.1.2c Plant the following threatened species on Moturiki:

Sicyos australis (mawhai)  
Pisonia brunoniana (parapara)  
Lepidium oleraceum (nau, Cook's scurvy grass)

Note: refer to Appendix 2 - Beadel.

### **3.1.3 Objective 3**

#### **Animal Pests**

Animal pests will be monitored and appropriate action taken to protect natural plants and animals.

#### **Consideration**

From time to time animal pests, including rabbits, rats and cats, may threaten natural values of Moturiki.

#### **Policy**

3.1.3a Continue existing arrangement whereby Environment BOP monitors animal pests and engages contractors to exterminate pests.

3.1.3b Continue to liaise with Environment BOP and offer assistance, where appropriate.

### **3.1.4 Objective 4**

#### **Old Quarry I Marineland Area**

The old quarry I Marineland area will be restored to a more natural appearance.

#### **Consideration**

The natural character has been compromised significantly by the quarrying and subsequent Marineland Leisure Island complex in the landward end of the peninsula. This has left an unsightly scar.

#### **Policy**

3.1.4a Remove sea wall, fill depression and recontour area to marry in with adjacent natural contours in a way that ensures satisfactory surface drainage. Retain existing quarried rock face.

3.1.4b Top soil recontoured area, sow grass and plant Pohutukawa grove to form a picnic area.

3.1.4c Protect the location of and access to the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd (NIWA) and the Port of Tauranga Ltd (POTL) monitors situated on Moturiki.

### **3.1.5 Objective 5**

#### **Building and Permanent Facilities**

New buildings, permanent structures and facilities will not be permitted on Moturiki, except for minor structures which might be built as part of the path or interpretation in accordance with Policies 3.1.1 and 3.1.2.

#### **Consideration**

Buildings, commercial activities and permanent facilities are not appropriate on Moturiki. They would detract from the principal purpose of the reserve. They are against the wishes of iwi.

### **3.1.6 Objective 6**

#### **Fauna**

- To take all necessary measures to protect and enhance the native fauna on Moturiki, including the nesting areas of the grey faced petrel and little blue penguin. Consideration will also be given in due course to the release of threatened species on Moturiki if consultation determines this is appropriate.
- To produce and implement an integrated pest control programme on Moturiki for predators and browsers, including ongoing control of the rabbit population.

#### **Consideration**

There are important grey faced petrel and little blue penguin nesting colonies within the reserve. These are uncommon occurrences on the mainland and an important consideration in the management of Moturiki. Certain parts of the reserve are infested with rabbits, which cause significant damage to the habitat. Other pests such as possums, cats and rats have detrimentally impacted on the petrel's nesting success and have the potential to harm both native vegetation and native wildlife.

#### **Policy**

- 3.1.6a To continue the annual monitoring programme for the grey faced petrel and implement appropriate protective measures.
- 3.1.6b To complete, as soon as possible, a comprehensive assessment of the density, diversity and distribution of the fauna.
- 3.1.6c To continue the existing opossum, rabbit and cat control programme, to modify it as required in accordance with the Bay of Plenty's Animal Pest Management Strategy, to carry out an annual review, and to monitor progress.
- 3.1.6d To annually monitor and, if necessary, to control the populations of other introduced fauna that may threaten the vegetation, wildlife or archaeological sites.

### **3.2 Goal 2**

***Provide rewarding walking and other passive recreational experience of Moturiki to the extent that it is compatible with other goals and objectives.***

*Moturiki naturally draws people to the end of its promontory. It provides vantage points to look back at the Main Beach and Mount Maunganui across the bay, provides close views of Motuotau, and takes people to rocks rising from deep water. The picturesque rock outcrops, wild vegetation and archaeological features add to the interest of the walk.*

*However, uncontrolled access over the island threatens its plant life and archaeological features.*

#### **3.2.1 Objective 1**

##### **Walking Track**

A high quality walking track to the end of Moturiki will be built in a way that provides a rewarding experience and protects natural and heritage features.

##### **Consideration**

Moturiki is a natural destination providing a dramatic walking experience. At the same time there are sensitive features on Moturiki. A high quality path will enhance the walking experience, enable the natural landscape to be restored and enhanced, and protect sensitive features.

##### **Policy**

- 3.2.1a Upgrade existing path using natural materials. Natural materials included compacted shell (eg. from beach grooming) and local stone.
- 3.2.1b Design path to respond intimately to natural contours and features and to avoid archaeological features (see Goal 3.3). Use steps, handrails and platforms, where appropriate, but design these to have a low impact. Use local stone for steps.
- 3.2.1c Incorporate lookouts into the path at strategic points.
- 3.2.1d Design works to encourage people to remain on the path.
- 3.2.1e The redesigned path is indicated on the Concept Plan.

#### **3.2.2 Objective 2**

##### **Interpretation and Information**

To interpret natural and human history of Moturiki.

##### **Consideration**

Providing information will enhance the experience of Moturiki. However, signs should be low key in order to maintain its natural character.

3.2.2a Install information boards on the following subjects:

- traditional history;
- archaeological features (including remains of quarry, Marineland);
- recent history; and
- natural history.

3.2.2b Design information boards to coordinate with signage in other parts of the Mount Maunganui area.

3.2.2c Design and install signage in a way that is unobtrusive and does not detract from natural landscape qualities.

### **3.3 Goal 3**

#### ***Record and protect archaeological features.***

*Moturiki was an important occupation site. Although the quarrying removed significant fortifications as the landward end, many archaeological traces remain including terraces, midden, obsidian flakes, petroglyphs, and cultivated soil. There was also a waahi fapu which appears to have been partly destroyed by the previous quarry. Some of these features are under threat from foot traffic, particularly from information tracks criss-crossing the peninsula.*

#### **3.3.1 Objective 1**

##### **Archaeological Features.**

Archaeological features should be recorded, protected from damage, and monitored.

##### ***Policy***

3.3.1a Commission a digitally based archaeological survey of Moturiki.

3.3.1b Design paths so as to avoid damage to archaeological features.

3.3.1c Limit informal tracks on Moturiki where these might damage archaeological features. Use planting and other discreet barriers where practicable.

### **3.4 Goal 4**

***Recognise the importance of Moturiki to iwi.***

*Moturiki is important as a site and as the site of waahi tapu.*

#### **3.4.1 Objective 1**

##### **Iwi Consultation**

Iwi will be consulted regarding any works, interpretation, change in management regime or consent application regarding Moturiki.

##### **Consideration**

The site is important because of its traditional occupation and wahi tapu on the island. The iwi has stated that toilets, commercial activities and service structures are seen as inappropriate.

##### **Policy**

3.4.1a Establish appropriate contacts and lines of communication with iwi.

3.4.1b Consult when the following matters arise:

- Consent application.
- Works or change to management regime.
- Interpretation

3.4.1c Toilets, commercial activities and service structures are inappropriate on Moturiki.

#### **3.4.2 Objective 2**

##### **Provision of Information**

Public awareness on the significance of Moturiki to iwi should be enhanced through appropriate forms of information sharing.

##### **Consideration**

Sharing of information about Moturiki should enhance the experience of those using the island.

##### **Policy**

3.4.2a Provide information in a manner approved by iwi.

3.4.2b Ownership and management of information on tribal history as it relates to Moturiki should remain with respective iwi of Tauranga Moana.

### **3.4.3 Objective 3**

#### **Dual Naming**

It is important that reserves are known by both their Maori and European name to increase public awareness and recognise the significance of the areas to Maori and European.

#### ***Policy***

3.4.3a Formally rename with dual names Moturiki – Leisure Island.

# CONTENTS

## HOPUKORE – MOUNT DRURY

### 4. Vision

### 5. Goals

### 6. Objectives and Polices

#### 3.1 *A more Positive Connection Between the Town and the Beach Around the Base of Hopukiore*

3.1.1 Pathway between Main Street and Beach

#### 3.2 *Greater Enjoyment and Use of Hopukiore for Passive Recreation and as a Vantage Point*

3.2.1 Pedestrian Access to Hill

#### 3.3 *An Open Pastoral Landscape on Hopukiore with a High Level of Amenity*

3.3.1 Landscape

3.3.2 Buildings and Commercial Activities

3.3.3 Signal Station

#### 3.4 *Record and Protect Archaeological Features*

3.4.1 Archaeological Features

#### 3.5 *Reinstate the Visual and Physical Connection Between Hopukiore and Moturiki and Main Beach*

3.5.1 Soundshell

3.5.2 Moturiki-Hopukiore Connection

#### 3.6 *Continued Use of Flat Areas for Organised and Passive Recreation*

3.6.1 Playground

#### 3.7 *Recognise the Importance of Hopukiore to Iwi*

3.7.1. Iwi Consultation

3.7.2 Provision of Information

3.7.3 Dual Naming

#### 3.8 *Mount Drury Extensions*

3.8.1 Extension Investigations

### *Figures*

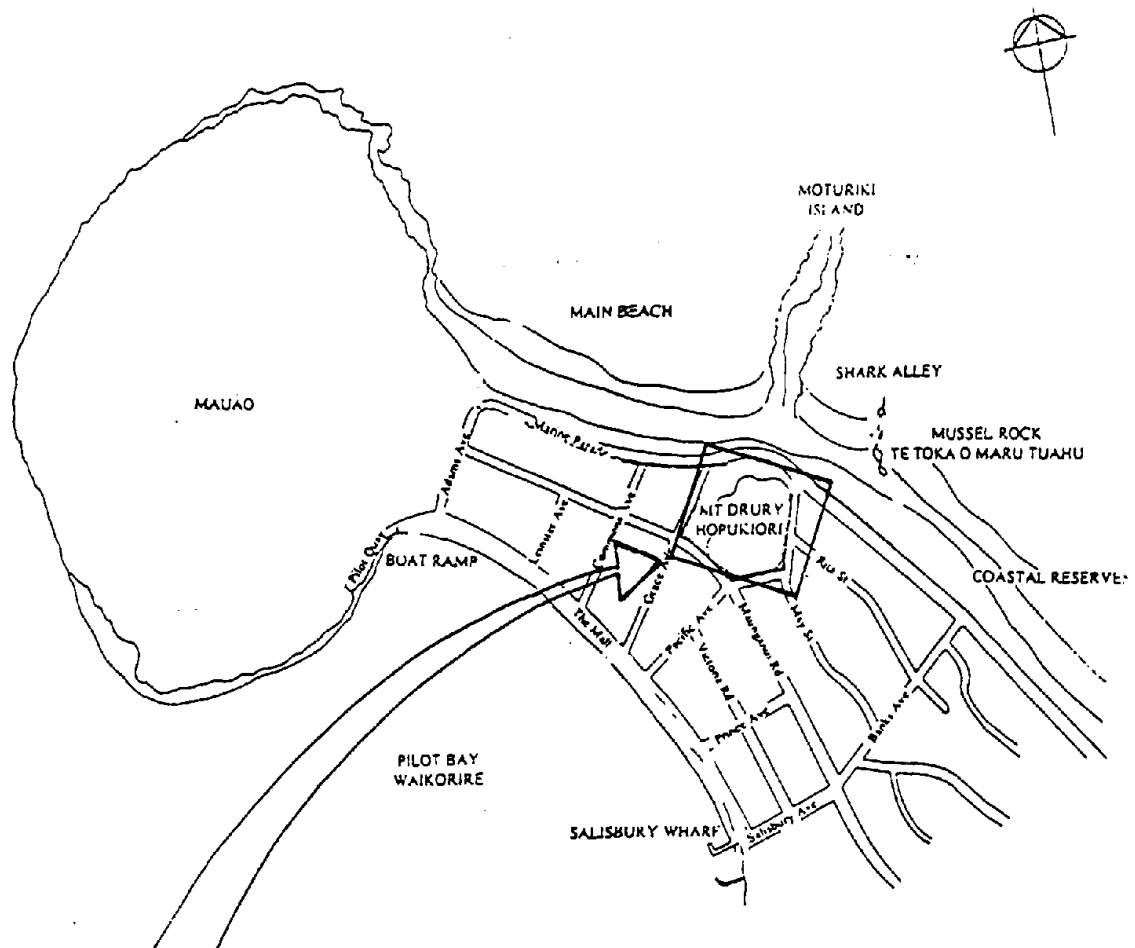
Figure 1 Location Plan: Hopukiore – Mount Drury

# HOPUKIORE - MOUNT DRURY

Hopukiore, or Mount Drury, occupies a strategic position on the Mount Maunganui peninsula. Although small, Hopukiore is prominent because it rises immediately from the flat tombolo and because of its proximity to both the Main Beach and the main Street.

It is a feature whose potential and significance is largely unrealised.

It has important traditional and historical values which are not widely known. It has high values for passive recreation and affords excellent views and these are also under utilised. It also forms a potential connection between the Main Beach and the main street of Mount Maunganui, which is currently more of a barrier than a link.



**Figure 1 – Hopukiore – Mount Drury  
LOCATION MAP**

## 1. VISION

Hopukiore Reserve has two zones with different aims:

The main aim of the flat land to the north of the hill is to provide a positive link between Main Beach and Mount Maunganui town centre.

The main aims of Hopukiore (the hill) itself is to provide passive recreation in a way that protects its landscape, archaeological and traditional values.

## 2. GOALS

1. A more positive connection between the town and beach around the base of Hopukiore.
2. Greater use of the hill for informal recreation including enjoyment of views.
3. An open pastoral landscape on Hopukiore with a high level of amenity.
4. Protection of archaeological features.
5. Reinstatement of the visual and physical connection between Hopukiore and Moturiki and Main Beach.
6. Use of flat areas around Hopukiore for passive recreation and suitable forms of organised recreation.
7. Recognition of importance of Hopukiore to iwi.

## 3. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### 3.1 Goal 1

***A more positive connection between the town and beach around the base of Hopukiore.***

*Hopukiore Reserve occupies the strategic connection between the Main Beach and the main street, however, that link is presently very poor. The path is narrow, it has poorly defined entrances at either end, the connection is not signposted or visually apparent, and there is a lack of lighting.*

### 3.1.1 Objective 1

#### **Pathway between Beach and Main Street**

A path will be built which has stronger connections to the beach and town, is wide enough to accommodate couples passing each other, has better lighting and better signage.

## **Consideration**

A redesigned path is vital to establishing a stronger connection between the Main Street and Main Beach.

## **Policy**

- 3.1.1a Build a replacement path(s) between the western end of the main street and Main Beach opposite Moturiki.
- 3.1.1b Build the path wide enough for couples to walk abreast and for couples to pass each other (in the order of 2,400mm).
- 3.1.1c Link the ends of the path positively to beach and town, for instance through the use of paved thresholds.
- 3.1.1d Detail entrances to the path to provide visual presence. Provide signs and other visual clues indicating destination of path.
- 3.1.1e Install lighting to provide safe use of the path at night.
- 3.1.1f Build a path to a high standard of construction and detail.
- 3.1.1g A strengthened link between the main street and Main Beach is illustrated in the Concept Plans.

## **3.2 Goal 2**

***Greater enjoyment and use of Hopukiore for passive recreation and as a vantage point.***

*Hopukiore provides a picturesque pastoral setting with groves of Pohutukawa, Karaka and other trees presently under-grazed by sheep. From the upper slopes there are views which take in the harbour, the isthmus, the Mount, the Bay of Plenty, Moturiki and the sweep of open beaches to the east.*

*However, these assets are largely unrealised. Entrances to the hill itself are poorly defined. Fences and padlocked gates suggest the hill is, in fact, not a public domain. And tracks on the hill are poorly defined.*

### **3.2.1 Objective 1**

#### **Pedestrian Access to hill**

Clearer, More positive pedestrian access will be provided to Hopukiore.

#### **Consideration**

Pedestrian access is unclear and weak. Hopukiore is under appreciated.

## **Policy**

- 3.2.1a Build higher quality gateways and entrance paths to Hopukiore.
- 3.2.1b Details gateways to indicate public ownership and right of access.
- 3.2.1c Remove some vegetation to provide open sightlines along paths and to remove heavy shade in order to encourage use of paths.
- 3.2.1d Retain and reposition pedestrian gateway opposite Moturiki.
- 3.2.1e Remove fences and remove stock from hill and open Hopukiore to the public.
- 3.2.1f Improve and provide better access around the base of Hopukiore.
- 3.2.1g Incorporate some form of viewing platform, if appropriate.

### **3.3 Goal 3**

***An open pastoral landscape on Hopukiore with a high level of amenity.***

## **Landscape**

The existing landscape on Hopukiore should be retained and enhanced to provide a wild grass landscape studded with groves of trees.

## **Consideration**

Maintenance of a grass surface with groves of trees will help ensure personal safety, views, and appreciation of archaeological features.

Sheep require fences which act as a barrier to people using the hill. The hill is small enough for a wild grass cover to be maintained by 'weed eaters'. The Pohutukawa are relatively recent plantings. The trees should be pruned to ensure views are realised.

- 3.3.1a Remove sheep and trial mowing with 'weed eaters' on a regular programme to maintain a rough grass cover.
- 3.3.1b If successful, remove sheep permanently and remove fences.
- 3.3.1c Remove some planting on the south and west faces of Hopukiore to create more open slopes and to improve sightlines around the western perimeter of Hopukiore.
- 3.3.1d Remove and prune some trees on the summit of Hopukiore to maintain views toward Tauranga Harbour, Mount Maunganui, Moturiki, Motuotau and the sweep of beaches to the west.
- 3.3.1e Install occasional seats on Hopukiore to take advantage of views.

### **3.2.2 Objective 2**

#### **Buildings and commercial Activities**

New buildings or major structures will not be permitted on Hopukiore (ie. the hill itself) or on the connection between Hopukiore and Moturiki.

Proposals to construct new buildings, permanent structures or permanent activities on the flat parts of Hopukiore Reserve will only be permitted where they contribute to the use of the tombolo reserves and where the effects are minor.

#### **Consideration**

New buildings, commercial activities and permanent facilities are not appropriate on Hopukiore. They would detract from the open pastoral parkland landscape and principal purpose of passive recreation. They would be against the wishes of iwi.

However, the flat area within the reserve at the base of Hopukiore is appropriate for some facilities, such as playground and replacement of the existing Soundshell toilets.

#### **Policy**

3.3.2a Proposals to develop new buildings, permanent structures or permanent activities will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- The need for the facility to be located in the reserve, including consideration of alternatives.
- The facility is situated and designed to minimise adverse effects on the environment.
- Consistency with the principal purpose, objectives, other policies and Concept Plans included in the Management Plan.
- Effects on landscape character.
- Consultation with iwi.
- Buildings and commercial activities are considered inappropriate on Hopukiore itself and on the connection between Hopukiore and Moturiki.

3.3.2b Proposals to replace the Soundshell toilets should be in accordance with the relevant sections of 3.2.6 - Main Beach of this Plan.

### **3.3.3 Objective 3**

#### **Signal Station**

Retain signal building on summit, but remove fences and ancillary structures.

#### **Consideration**

Many would like to see the signal building removed from Hopukiore because it compromises the natural qualities of the landscape and the sense of public ownership of Hopukiore. Technology is available which would enable shipping control and coastal safety functions to be carried out from other locations.

However, the signal building also expresses the traditional role of Hopukiore as a lookout and has side benefits in maintaining a human presence on the reserve, Redesign of the surrounds of the signal station would increase public access to the top of Hopukiore and the sense of public ownership of the hill.

***Policy***

3.3.3a Redesign fence surrounds (to a standard agreed between Tauranga District Council and the Port of Tauranga Limited) to achieve visual improvements.

**3.4 Goal 4**

**Record and protect archaeological features.**

*Hopukiore was an important occupation site. Many archaeological traces remain including caves which were used for burial and subsequently modified to store materials.*

**3.4.1 Objective 1**

**Archaeological Features**