

Memorandum



To: Mauao Project Steering Group
From: [REDACTED] s 7(2)(f)(ii)
Subject: MAUAO OPERATIONAL UPDATE – APRIL/MAY 2011
Date: 18th May 2011

The Purpose of this Report is to update the Mauao Project Steering Group on the activities on Mauao from April/ May 2011

The most significant issue during this period has been managing the repair and reopening of Mauao following the storm event that closed the mountain on 29th January 2011.

On the 25th April, further heavy rain caused additional damage including a medium size slip just beyond Sandy beach on the Harbour side of the base track, there was a rock fall on the Oruahine track; the camp ground slip also reactivated; and the 4x4 track slip reactivated. The Mauao Trustees and Steering Group member were informed by email of the new slips on the 26th March.

On the 8th May heavy rain caused the slip number 6 (just past the start of the very steep goat track at the harbour entrance on the base track) to reactivate.

Work is continuing with the slip repairs, including the design and consent process for the most significant of the sites. Security fences and signage are still in place to restrict access to areas still closed.

The prognosis is that these areas will remain closed for a number of months while the agreed repairs are designed, consented and constructed.

The Summit project:

The remaining work for the Mauao summit upgrade involves joining up the loop track and tidying up the edges (open clay areas) where the 4x4 track has been converted to a pedestrian walkway. Ready lawn will be laid over open clay areas narrowing the track to restrict vehicle access to the summit.

Planting of a 'soft' barrier will occur around new tracks on the summit to guide and encourage pedestrians to stay on the tracks. This methodology has proved very successful where the work has already been undertaken, and is expected to be completed by June 30th.

Visitors and Volunteers

The number of people walking around the base track:

- April 52486
- May Not known at this time

The number of people walking to the summit:

- April 10262
- May Not known at this time

The amount of volunteer hours:

- April 32 hours
- May Not known at this time

The only Volunteer group to work on Mauao over this period are the Forest and Bird Society who manage the rodent pest bait station lines.

Slips from the 25th April and the 8th May

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Iwi monitor inspected the new slip by Sandy beach on the Harbour entrance side of the Base Track on Monday the 2nd May. Security fences were moved back to encase the slip. This slip was cleared mechanically on the 4th May.

Avalon Industrial Abseilers scaled a rock fall area above the Oruahine track. The rock fall had caused more damage to the track. Avalon Industrial Abseilers removed 4 rocks the size of basketballs. This was completed by levering them off with steel bars.

The 4x4 track maintenance contractors (Downer EDI Works Ltd) cleared the slip, which was a continuation of the original January slip on the 4x4 track.

Ross Philips Contractors have cleared what is known as slip 6 around the corner from the goat track.

Mauao Care Group

The first of this year's Mauao Care groups will be held on Saturday the 4th June. 10am till noon. The group will meet by the boat ramp Pilot Bay side of Mauao.

Kaumatua Forum

A presentation was given to the Kaumatua Forum on giving an update on the slips on Mauao.

300 donated Pohutukawa's

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has again donated 300 Pohutukawa's which will be planted on the slip sites.

Easter Cross

A cross was erected on the summit of Mauao again this year over Easter. TCC staff have found one of the people responsible for putting the cross up on Mauao's summit which has occurred every Easter for the last 3 years. Staff have outlined the process the group need to follow to obtain permission to carry out this activity. Communication has started with the person and the Mauao Trust Chairman, who invited them to come and talk to the Trustees.

The following activities are planned over the next 3 months

Continuation of slip repair work, including preparing consent applications for the slip that removed the base track on 29th January.

Mulching of tree waste from last years Arborist work. (Pilot Bay side).

Start of Winter/ Spring weed control.

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