

# Hauraki Gulf Forum

Promoting and facilitating integrated management of the Hauraki Gulf - Tikapa Moana, Te Moananui-ā-Toi

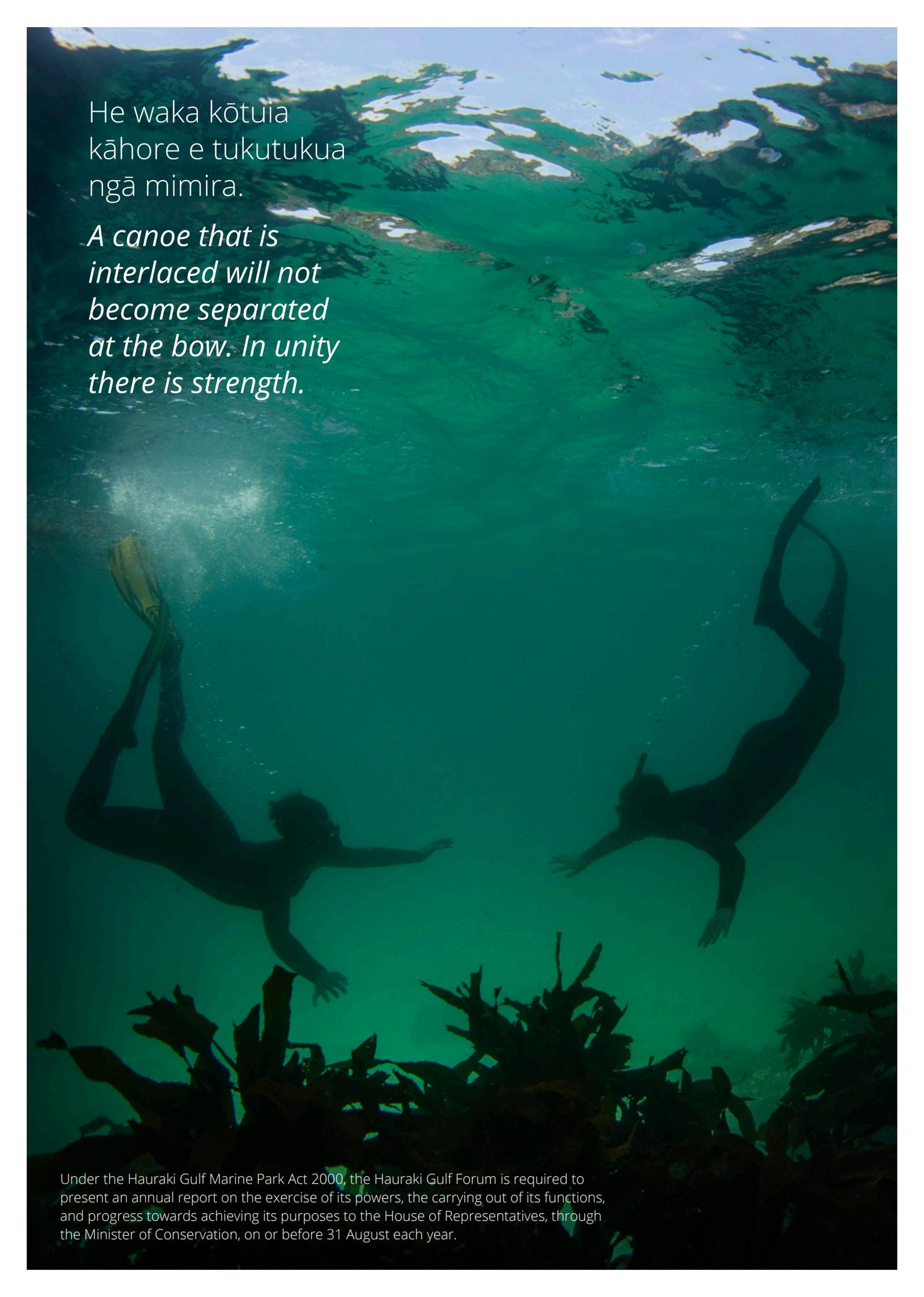
Annual Report 2019 / 2020



**Hauraki Gulf Forum**

Tikapa Moana

Te Moananui-ā-Toi

An underwater photograph showing two divers swimming in clear, greenish water. The divers are silhouetted against the light filtering down from the surface. They are positioned above a dense kelp forest. The water is very clear, and the light creates a shimmering effect on the surface.

He waka kōtuia  
kāhore e tukutukua  
ngā mimira.

*A canoe that is  
interlaced will not  
become separated  
at the bow. In unity  
there is strength.*

Under the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, the Hauraki Gulf Forum is required to present an annual report on the exercise of its powers, the carrying out of its functions, and progress towards achieving its purposes to the House of Representatives, through the Minister of Conservation, on or before 31 August each year.

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## KO Ō TĀTOU MOEMOEĀ

# Our Vision

Tīkapa Moana / Te Moananui-ā-Toi, the Hauraki Gulf is “celebrated and treasured”, is “thriving with fish and shellfish, kaimoana”, has a “rich diversity of life”, supports a “sense of place, connection and identity” and a “vibrant economy”.



**Hauraki Gulf  
Marine Park**  
Ko te Pātaka kai  
o Tīkapa Moana  
Te Moananui-ā-Toi

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## KO Ā TĀTOU WHĀINGA MAHI

# Our Mission

To promote and facilitate integrated and co-ordinated management of the Gulf’s environmental, cultural, economic and recreational resources.

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## KO Ā TĀTOU RAUTAKI

# Our Strategic Issues

Centralised around three priorities:

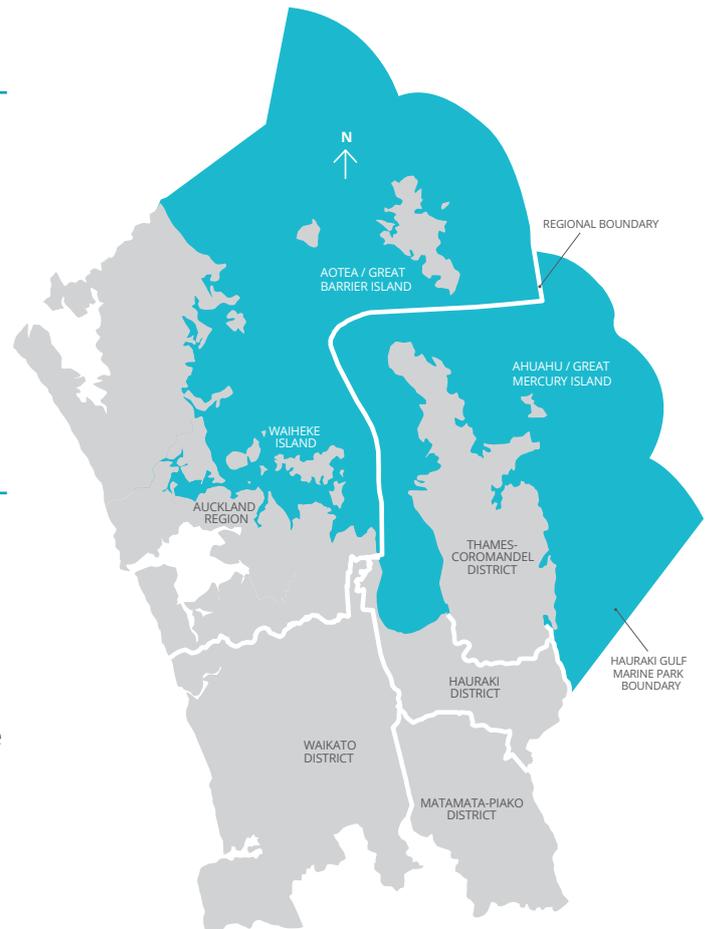
1. Improving integrated management through collaborative planning, informed decision-making and credible action.
2. Restoring water quality values through addressing land use activities that degrade those values.
3. Recognising those critical marine values and ecosystems through advocating for protection, restoration and enhancement.

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## KO Ā TĀTOU WHĀINGA NUI

# Our Big Goals

- At least 30% marine protection
- Restoration of 1000sqkm of shellfish-beds and reefs
- Riparian planting of the catchment
- Ending marine dumping near the Marine Park





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## HE KŌRERO NĀ NGĀ HEAMANA

# Message from the Co-Chairs

### Tēnā koutou,

2019–2020 was a historic year for the Hauraki Gulf Forum.

We saw several of the most significant developments in the Forum's 20 year history:

- the shift to a co-governance leadership model, and subsequent adoption of a new Governance Statement,
- adoption of the 2020–2022 Work Plan, including four ambitious goals for the Marine Park, and
- release of the groundbreaking State of our Gulf 2020 report, interweaving mātauranga with science.

In addition, the Forum has undergone a big refresh of its membership over the past year with 10 of the 21 members changing over.

But it has been the most unexpected of developments, a global pandemic, which remains front of mind. The COVID-19

pandemic has brought with it much pain and hurt, with more to come. It also resulted in a unique – perhaps once in our lifetime – chance to see a quiet, peaceful Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana / Te Moananui-ā-Toi, free from its usual pressures. We now know what that looks like, sounds like and feels like. While we know that the temporary pause under lockdown was not especially environmentally significant – as the changes were not sustained for long enough to reverse decades-long degradation – the COVID-19 experience has reinforced that we can indeed make quick and decisive change when required.

As the first Co-Chairs of the Forum, and the first wāhine to hold the leadership since the Forum was established in 2000, we are ambitious for progress. In short, we need more marine protection. We need more restoration. And we need to stop marine dumping near to the Marine Park.

It is time for action. Given this, it has been wonderful over the past year to see sustained action from all sides:

- mana whenua introducing rāhui to protect vulnerable species, and embarking on long-term initiatives to restore native ngahere and kutai-beds
- the Crown progressing its response strategy to the Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari Marine Spatial Plan, which has the potential to deliver some of the most significant changes in the Gulf's history
- local and regional government strengthening their management of land-based impacts and collaborating together to ensure coherence around the Marine Park
- communities, volunteers, philanthropic organisations, businesses, rangatahi and people of all backgrounds doing their part to take care of our big blue backyard.



The momentum around protecting and restoring the Hauraki Gulf is very heartening. It does feel like we are reaching a tipping point in favour of a healthier, more abundant ecosystem. It is our honour to be standing alongside all of you in this common endeavour.

At the same time, our State of our Gulf 2020 report reinforced the urgency of this effort, with kina barrens expanding, crayfish regarded as 'functionally extinct' in heavily fished areas, and sharp rises in the numbers of seabird and shorebird species under threat. If we are to reverse these trends we need serious, sustained action.

The following pages detail in more depth the Forum's achievements over the past 12 months and the road ahead. We hope that you find this useful, and wish to acknowledge the design work by Tracy and Shaun Lee and photography by Lorna Doogan.

Finally, we would like to record the Forum's deep appreciation to those members who departed over the past year: former Chair John Meeuwssen, former Chair John Tregidga, former Deputy Chair Moana Tamaariki-Pohe, members Steve Halley, Jeff Cleave, Liane Ngamane, Dal Minogue, Richard Hills, Michael Lee and Paul Cronin.



**Nicola MacDonald**  
*Co-Chair*  
*- Tangata Whenua*



**Pippa Coom**  
*Co-Chair*

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# HE AHA NGĀ MAHI KUA WHAKATUTUKIHIĀ E TĒNEI RŌPŪ?

## What we have achieved?

Since the commencement of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act, the Forum has shaped understanding and expectations about the way the Gulf should be protected, used and managed.

**1990** Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park disestablished as government reduces number of environmental and conservation 'quangos'.

**1991** Minister of Conservation Denis Marshall establishes working party, led by Jim Holdaway, which recommends creation of a Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

**1992** Many iwi of the Gulf meet to consider a marine park and ratify the Motutapu Accord asserting tangata whenua ownership of this taonga.

**1997** Auckland Regional Council establishes a Hauraki Gulf Forum of local and central government agencies to co-ordinate management of the Gulf.

**1998** The Waitangi Tribunal considers a claim on the proposed Hauraki Gulf Marine Park legislation lodged by the Hauraki Māori Trust Board.

**2000** Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act (HGMPA) comes into force, with purpose to integrate management and sustain the life-supporting capacity of the environment.

**2000** The Hauraki Gulf Forum established to promote HGMPA management objectives; with members from 13 local authorities within the Gulf's catchment, three ministerial representatives and six representatives of the tangata whenua of the Gulf and its islands.

**2000** Auckland Regional Council acts as administering authority and its Chairman Philip Warren is elected the first **Chairperson** of the Forum.

**2001** Waitangi Tribunal submits report (Wai 728) on the HGMPA

claim, encouraging all parties to focus on "the need for the Hauraki Gulf environment to be protected for future generations."

**2002** Tangata whenua representative Laly Haddon of Ngāti Wai / Ngāti Manuhiri is elected second **Chairperson** of the Forum.

**2002** Forum publishes first Strategic Issues paper, emphasising the importance of public access.

**2002** Forum endorses inclusion of 304 ha of covenanted private land on Waiheke Island within the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

**2003** Report on depletion of shellfish resources commissioned, leading to establishment of the Community Shellfish Monitoring Programme, which has continued since.

**2004** **First state of the environment report published, providing mixed report of environmental declines and improvements.**

**2004** External review of Forum recommends new governance statement, shared budget and dedicated executive support.

**2007** Hauraki Mayor John Tregidga elected third **Chairperson** of the Forum.

**2007** Conservation Minister Chris Carter attends Forum meeting and outlines pest eradication programme for Rangitoto-Motutapu.

**2007** Appointment of jointly-funded Forum Executive Officer.

**2008** Forum initiates *Weaving the Strands* quarterly newsletter.

**2008** Cross-boundary planning approach advocated within review of Strategic Issues paper, particularly by tangata whenua members.

**2008** **Second state of the environment report finds regulatory approaches and management arrangements may be inadequate to deal with pressures facing the Gulf. Launched with United Nations Environment Programme Executive Director Achim Steiner.**

**2009** *Governing the Gulf* published, to guide implementation of the HGMPA in Resource Management Act policies and plans.

**2010** *Fishing the Gulf* published, to guide alignment of fisheries management with the HGMPA.

**2010** Waitākere City Council reserves bordering the Waitematā Harbour and Forest and Bird covenanted land on Waiheke are vested in marine park.

**2010** 10th anniversary of HGMPA held on Motutapu Island. First Hauraki Gulf Marine Park seminar held with Auckland War Memorial Museum, becoming an annual event.

**2010** Auckland Council formed, with administrative authority responsibility for the Forum passing to it.

**2011** Marine park poster series initiated with *New Zealand Herald*, to be repeated in subsequent years.

**2011** *Spatial Planning for the Gulf* published, noting potential as process to integrate and improve management, consistent with HGMPA.

**2011 Third state of the environment report published, concluding incremental, ongoing decline off a low environmental base, with bold steps needed for change.**

**2012** REMAK Strategic Issues framework identified in response to state of the environment report.

<b>R</b>	<b>Regenerating areas</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Enhanced fisheries</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Mana whenua expression</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Active land management</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>Knowledge utilisation (ecosystem-based)</b>

**2012** Forum meets on Great Barrier Island. Visits Glenfern Sanctuary. Seeks to broaden involvement and ownership of stakeholders in resolution of Gulf issues.

**2012** Collaborative group initiated to examine ship strike, prompting Ports of Auckland transit protocol a year later, and progressive reductions in ship speed.

**2012** New community group formed to explore restoration of mussel reefs following Forum seminar.

**2012** Commissioned report indicates economic activities in the Gulf generate over \$2 billion annually and have “environment at the very core of their value proposition”.

**2012** Forum briefed on the significance of new legislation to settle the historical treaty claims of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and Ngāti Manuhiri and provide financial and cultural redress. Te Hauturu-o-Toi / Little Barrier returns to Ngāti Manuhiri and is then gifted back to the people of New Zealand as a nature reserve.

**2012** Meeting at Ōrākei Marae supports marine spatial plan project design with Forum role on steering group.

**2013** *Seabirds of the Hauraki Gulf* published, helping, along with other

initiatives, to promote the Gulf as a ‘seabird hotspot’.

**2013** Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari marine spatial plan process launched.

**2013** Auckland War Memorial Museum’s *Moana–My Ocean*, prompted by the Forum’s *State of our Gulf* assessment, becomes its most popular temporary exhibition.

**2013** Forum supports Southern Seabird Solutions Trust to promote seabird smart fishing in the Gulf.

**2013** Inaugural Holdaway Award for leadership introduced as part of marine park seminar.

**2014** Forum briefed on Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act which provides mana whenua with ownership and governance responsibilities for maunga and motu. Interests in harbours are signalled.

**2014 Fourth state of the environment report published, reiterating environmental decline and ongoing challenges for integrated management.**

**2015** Independent 10-year review challenges Forum to strengthen its influence in promoting Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act objectives.

**2015** Forum notes signing of Treaty settlement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki.

**2016** Online *Gulf Journal* initiated to support inspired management and action around the Gulf.

**2016** Forum draws attention to marked decline in crayfish within Cape Rodney – Ōkakarī Point Marine Reserve at Leigh.

**2016** Foundation North announces \$5 million Gulf Innovation Fund Together (GIFT) to respond to issues identified in State of our Gulf reports.

**2016** *Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari* plan released.

**2017** Marine scientist tells Radio NZ

“Hauraki Gulf Bryde’s whale crisis averted”.

**2017 Fifth state of the environment report published presenting a well-articulated, clear pathway for addressing some of the issues facing the Gulf.**

**2018** Mayor John Tregidga retires as Chairperson of the Forum after 11 years’ service.

**2018** John Meeuwsen is elected fourth Chairperson of the Forum.

**2018** Reset of Strategic Issues around three priorities:

<b>Forum Operations</b>
<b>Water Quality</b>
<b>Marine Ecosystems</b>

**2019** Recommendation of two Big Goals for the Marine Park: (1) at least 20% of the waters protected; (2) 1000sqkm of shellfish-beds restored.

**2019** Communications Strategy and Review.

**2020 Sixth state of the environment report published telling the 20-year story of the Marine Park, interweaving Mātauranga and science.**

**2020** 20th anniversary of the Marine Park held at the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron.

**2020** Adoption of four **Big Goals** for the Marine Park

<b>At least 30% marine protection</b>
<b>Restoration of 1000sqkm of shellfish-beds and reefs</b>
<b>Riparian planting of the catchment</b>
<b>Ending marine dumping near the Marine Park</b>

**2020** Adoption of new Governance Statement, including the appointment of Co-Chairs – one of whom will be from and decided by our tangata whenua members.



**TAMURE (SNAPPER)**

In response to the 2013 tāmure assessment, the Minister:

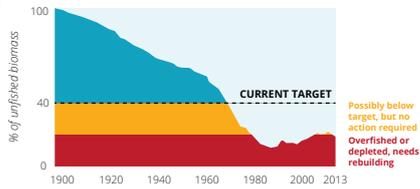
- adopted an interim target of 40% of the un-fished level;
- increased the total allowable catch of tāmure by 500 tonne;
- increased the recreational minimum legal size of tāmure from 27 cm to 30 cm; and,
- reduced the recreational bag limit from 9 to 7.

In addition, a SNA1 Strategy Group was set up and tasked with determining how the fishery should be managed. The tāmure (SNA1) management plan was released in 2016 and accepted by the Minister. No change to the total allowable commercial catch was proposed (it has not changed since before the Marine

Park was established), but a list of over 70 other recommendations on managing the fishery was provided, including changes to recreational bag and size limits.

An updated stock assessment for SNA1 is planned for 2020 and will include relative abundance estimates of juvenile snapper. If necessary, management options, including TAC changes, will be considered following that assessment to keep the rebuild of the stock on track to meet the targets set by the working group. Other actions taken by fisheries NZ include:

- production of an updated guide for responsible fishing and fish handling/release for recreational fishers; and,
- rolling out electronic reporting and GPS tracking on commercial vessels.



Change in Gulf sea life since human arrival

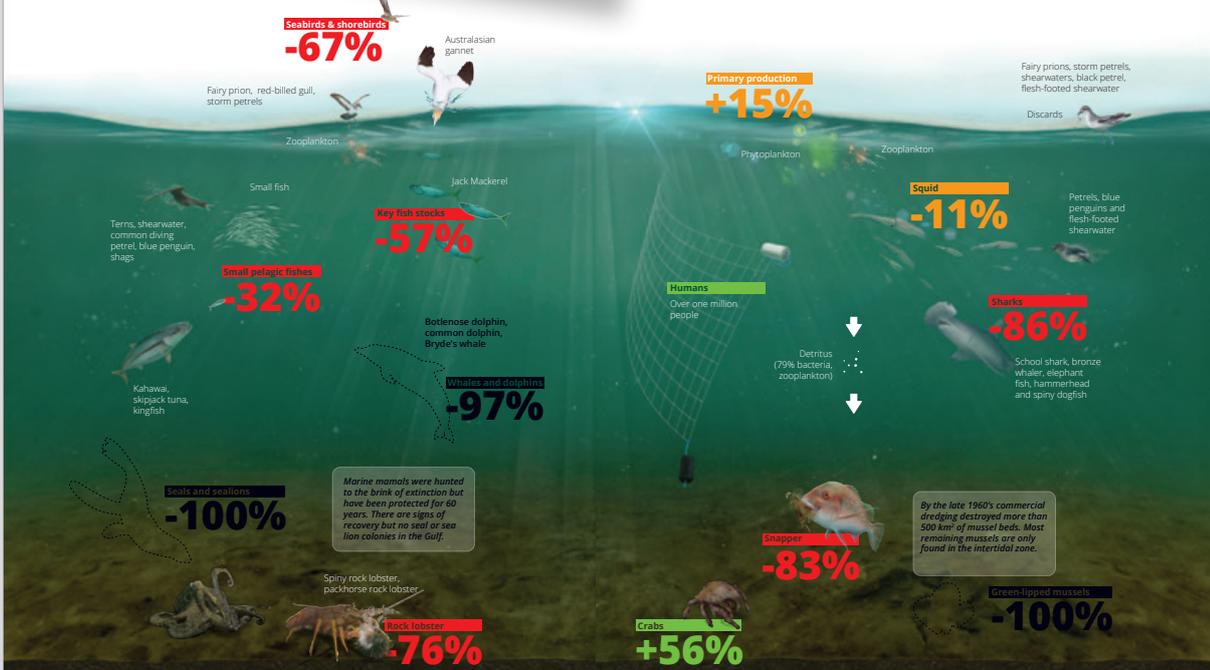


Figure 1. Pinkerton MH, MacDiarmid A, Beaumont J, et al. Changes to the food-web of the Hauraki Gulf during the period of human occupation: a mass-balance model approach. Wellington: Ministry for Primary Industries; 2015.

MacDiarmid AB, McKenzie A, Abraham ER. Top-down effects on rocky reef ecosystems in north-eastern New Zealand: a historic and qualitative modelling approach. Wellington: Ministry for Primary Industries; 2016.

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# TĪKAPA MOANA / TE MOANANUI-Ā-TOI

## State of our Gulf 2020

The *2020 State of our Gulf* report released in February 2020 put a spotlight on the ongoing environmental degradation facing the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

The report provided a 20-year snapshot, rather than the usual 3-year assessment. Compared with when the Marine Park was established in 2000, the report found that:

### There was some good news

Slower ship speeds have helped prevent ship strikes of Bryde's whales. Pest eradication on the motu / islands of the Gulf, and native revegetation efforts, have been spectacularly successful – allowing the return of native species like the wētāpunga, tuatara and many endangered birds like the kōkako, takahē and kiwi. Many more people from all walks of life are now playing an active role in restoring and protecting the Gulf. And much more is now known about the unique environment of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, thanks in part to State of our Gulf Reports by the Hauraki Gulf Forum – the 2020 edition is the sixth such report.

### However, environmental degradation has continued

Crayfish / kōura are now hard to find in heavily fished areas of the Gulf. Sediment, nutrients, chemicals and plastics continue to wash into the water, though efforts to improve water quality are gathering pace. Both seabirds and

shorebirds have seen sharp rises in the number of species classified as threatened. Cockles / tuangi numbers have declined in every area where gathering is allowed year-round. The number of marine pests has increased 600%, with the arrival of invasive species like the Mediterranean fanworm. Kina barrens are replacing once lush kelp forests. And urban and coastal sprawl has expanded, driven by higher than expected population growth, meaning wild places are harder to find.

### There was also some mixed news on the fishing front

Total commercial fishing catch in the Gulf has increased compared with

20 years ago, while total recreational catch has fallen. Fish stocks, overall, remain low though some are now being rebuilt such as snapper / tāmure and tarakihi.

You can download a copy of the report from [www.gulfjournal.org.nz](http://www.gulfjournal.org.nz)

### Media coverage

The State of our Gulf report received headline national and international coverage, and was even the #1 story worldwide on The Guardian's environment section shortly after its launch. The media interest reflects the growing public interest in the state of our moana and, in particular, the plight of the Hauraki Gulf as the most intensively used body of water in Aotearoa.



The Forum's 2020 Marine Park Poster, conveying the key messages of the *2020 State of our Gulf* report to tamariki.

# TAUĀKĪ KĀWANATANGA

## Governance Statement

This Governance Statement replaces all prior versions. It covers how the Forum works, and key roles and responsibilities. The Forum's purposes, membership, functions and powers are set out in detail in Part 2 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 (HGMPA) and are not repeated here.

***He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira.***

***A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow.***

***In unity there is strength.***

***In the highly developed craft of building ocean going waka the bow section was laced to the centre hull. The waka provides a metaphor for tangata whenua, in that a people interlaced will not be separated and through that unity we find strength.***

### **How the Forum works**

*Te whakahonore i o maatau hononga Tiriti hei painga mo Te Moananui-ō-Toi; Tikapa Moana; Hauraki Gulf.*

The Forum will to operate in partnership under the Treaty of Waitangi in accordance with the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act, including the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi under Section 6.

It will integrate and respect both Te Ao Māori and other world views.

The Forum's conduct, and all those that interact with it, will adhere to the intent of the following principles:

- **Aroha:** being considerate – having respect for relationships and being of service.
- **Openness and impartiality:** having an open mind when making decisions and listening to other points of view.
- **Tautoko:** supporting others by respecting and upholding others

mana, dignity, identity and unique perspective.

- **Manaaki:** caring for others by responsibly valuing others and ensuring they feel valued.
- **Stewardship:** using powers and resources prudently.
- **Awhi:** helping others by entering into effective engagements in the spirit of co-operation and good faith.
- **Leadership:** inspiring action toward achieving common goals.
- **Tika:** being responsible – doing the right thing with integrity and accountability.
- **Pono:** being effective – building credibility.
- **Ethics:** maintaining the highest standard of ethical conduct.

The Forum will endeavour to meet quarterly, with meetings split between the Auckland and Waikato regions. It will hold additional workshops and meetings as required.

## **Our Roles and Responsibilities**

### **• Co-Chairs**

- One Co-Chair is from and elected by the membership at large.
- One Co-Chair is from and decided by the Tangata Whenua members.
- Co-Chairs lead the Forum and are its spokespeople.
- Co-Chairs work in partnership with each other.
- Co-Chairs exemplify the principles by which we work.
- Co-Chairs chair Forum meetings, set strategic direction, support and work with all Members, and front public engagement.

*(A separate Co-Chairing arrangement records the practical aspects of Co-Chairing)*

### **• Members**

- Members support and work with the Co-Chairs and each other to take effective decisions and progress the agenda of the Forum.
- Members bring their expertise and mana to ensure quality decision making in the interests of the Marine Park.
- Members represent

their Constituent Party, as defined under the HGMPA.

- Members may send alternates to meetings they are unable to attend so long as this is notified in advance and in accordance with any applicable practice.

### **• Executive Officer**

- The Executive Officer functions as the Chief Executive of the Forum and is responsible for taking forward resolutions of the Forum, ensuring adherence to the HGMPA, supporting the Co-Chairs and all Members, preparing meeting papers, coordination with external partners, and the Forum's management, contracts, finance and administration.

- The Executive Officer chairs meetings of Technical Officers and works closely with the Governance Advisor.

### **• Governance Advisor**

- The Governance Advisor is responsible for collating and publishing meeting agendas, writing minutes and providing advice on process.

### **• Technical Officers**

- Members are encouraged to have

Technical Officers to provide them and the Forum with expert support and advice.

- Technical Officers will work with their Members, the Executive Officer and each other to progress the Forum's resolutions, as appropriate.

### **• Administering Authority**

- Auckland Council is the Administering Authority (for responsibilities see s28, HGMPA).

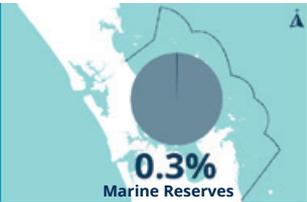
### **• Review**

This Governance Statement will be reviewed 1 year after its adoption.

# MAHERE MAHI

## Work Plan 2020–2022

STRATEGIC ISSUE	CURRENT STATE	KEY ACTIONS	FUTURE STATE
Integrated Management		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leverage our collective strength</li> <li>Partner, collaborate and coordinate</li> <li>Support iwi/hāpu and community-led efforts</li> </ul>	Long-term 
Water Quality		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flows of pollutants</li> <li>Highlight and help resolve water quality concerns</li> <li>Request and publish the latest data and information</li> </ul>	Long-term 
Marine Ecosystems		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for more marine protection and enhanced biodiversity</li> <li>Support biosecurity efforts</li> <li>Understand climate change risks/mitigation</li> </ul>	Long-term 

GOAL	CURRENT STATE	KEY ACTIONS	FUTURE STATE
At least 30% protection	 <p>0.3% Marine Reserves</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call on all sides to take less from the Marine Park</li> <li>Call for an end to fishing practices which destroy benthic habitat</li> <li>Support the use of indigenous tools and reform of the Marine Reserves Act</li> </ul>	Medium-term  <p>30% Protection</p>
1000 sqkm of restored shellfish-beds and reefs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call for a supportive regulatory framework</li> <li>Advocate for trials throughout the Marine Park</li> <li>Support the work of the Shellfish Coordination Restoration Group</li> </ul>	Long-term 

NEW GOALS	CURRENT STATE	KEY ACTIONS	FUTURE STATE
No marine dumping in the Marine Park or near its border	 <p>Marine dumping</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call for an end to the use of dump sites near the Marine Park</li> <li>Advocate to minimise marine dredging and promote alternatives</li> </ul>	Short-term 
Riparian planting of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park catchment	 <p>2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request and publish information on existing initiatives</li> <li>Support planting efforts and facilitate collaboration</li> <li>Advocate for a catchment-wide approach</li> </ul>	Long-term  <p>1906</p>

## The Forum adopted a new 2020–2022 Work Plan in May 2020.

The work plan, graphically represented on the opposite page, confirms an action-oriented model to deliver on the Forum's purposes, while recognising that in the current COVID-19 pandemic there is no business as usual and that all things will need to be regularly re-evaluated and assessed.

For the 2020–2022 period, the Hauraki Gulf Forum will:

1. Operate in partnership under the Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi, under the leadership of our Co-Chairs, in accordance with our Governance Statement. Te whakahonore i o maatau hononga Tiriti hei painga mo Te Moananui-ā-Toi, Tikapa Moana, Hauraki Gulf.
2. Advance progress under our Strategic Issues.
3. He Kaupapa Mana Motuhake: Advocate and lobby for our Big Goals, and for the removal of barriers to achieving them.

Ultimately, this work will be in service of the key aspects of the framework provided in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000: (i) having regard to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, (ii) recognising the national significance and the life-supporting capacity of the Marine Park, and (iii) collaboration, coordination and integration with regard to the management of the Gulf. This includes collaboration with other bodies working on similar issues, including the Manukau Harbour Forum, Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum, efforts in the Kaipara, Mahurangi, Coromandel, Whangapaoa, Whitianga and other harbours.

In addition, regarding the post-COVID-19 recovery, much of this work is employment heavy. Restoration work of the seabed, coastal areas, and our waterways has huge potential to provide many good, meaningful employment opportunities and in time to develop a whole system of restoration expertise. It is also important to

recognise that the Forum itself has quite limited resources, and that even those limited resources could come under strain in the period ahead. A key aspect of our forward work will therefore continue to be leveraging our collective strength and external partnerships, collaborating widely, and taking opportunities as they come to focus attention on the HGMP.

## Outcomes for 2020–2022

What will we have helped achieve by late-2022?

1. Five percent increase in marine protection in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, including through marine reserves, fishing controls, indigenous biodiversity protection, and the use of / support for customary tools.
2. 3 x 100 ton (~300sqm) restored shellfish beds, with practical and supportive approaches from relevant regulating authorities, and strong iwi / hāpu and community involvement.
3. Progress on riparian planting of major waterways and tributaries.
4. An end to marine dumping in or near the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park with alternatives promoted.

## 2019 Conference

Our 2019 Conference, 'Making Waves – Protecting and Restoring the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park', was held on 27 August 2019 at Tāmaki Paenga Hira / Auckland War Memorial Museum. The sold out event focused on advancing the Forum's goals on marine protection and shellfish-bed restoration. Participants were treated to a keynote address from the Minister of Conservation, Hon. Eugenie Sage, as well as a number of presentations and panel discussions on the issues. All participants also took part in a collective exercise, led by Nick Sampson from Principals, to tell the story of the Marine Park from its perspective. The resulting story – 'Healing the Hauraki Gulf – together' – took pride of place in the *2020 State of our Gulf report*.

In addition, two Holdaway Awards were presented:

- Betty Whaitiri Williams - Ngāti Huarere, Ngāti Pukenga, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Maru - a teacher, advocate, activist, and an inaugural member of the Hauraki Gulf Forum. Betty has devoted her life to the pursuit of justice for Māori.
- Posthumously to Dr Roger Grace - a marine biologist, conservationist and underwater photographer. Roger was instrumental in the creation of the Poor Knights Islands Marine Reserve, and the restoration of the Whangateau Harbour. In 2018, he wrote that after spending 40 years surveying the ocean for conservation groups, councils and commercial entities, he continued doing that work independently, "because I think it is important". Roger passed away at his home in Leigh earlier in 2019.

**Healing the Hauraki Gulf – together**

I am a living, breathing embodiment of mauri. The life force that connects us all, ki uta ki tai, from the mountains to the sea.

Look at me on a good day and all seems well. But the truth is I've been hurting. Shellfish beds decimated. Fish stocks low. My seabed suffocating with plastic and sediment. A mighty ecosystem brought to its knees.

The healing process will take time, hard mahi, and co-operation.

And it will also take more than just aroha. I need a true, unrelenting partnership. One of protection and active restoration. Every one of us has a role to play in this, but we'll also need to work as one.

Only when my mauri is fully restored will this journey end. Back where it all began. A healthy, teeming, abundant taonga, with kaimoana and opportunity for all. Mauri ora!

I can be healed. I need you all by my side. Working together, our future looks bright.

Hauraki Gulf Marine Park  
Ko te Pūtaiao Kōi  
o Te Hāpu Whānau  
Te Moananui-ā-Toi

Story inspired by the 2019 Making Waves Conference.

# KO WAI TĀTOU?

## Who we are



Nicola MacDonald  
*(Co-Chair)*  
Tangata Whenua



Pippa Coom  
*(Co-Chair)*  
Auckland Council



Cr Donna Arnold  
Matamata-Piako  
District Council



Andrew Baucke  
Department of Conservation



Cr Christine Fletcher  
Auckland Council



Mayor Sandra Goudie  
Thames-Coromandel  
District Council



Cath Handley  
Waiheke Local Board,  
Auckland Council



Terrence Hohneck  
Tangata Whenua



Jacob Hore  
Fisheries New Zealand



Paul Majurey  
Tangata Whenua



Martin Mariassouce  
Te Puni Kokiri, Ministry of  
Māori Development



Cr Rob McGuire  
Waikato District Council



Scott Milne  
Ōrakei Local Board,  
Auckland Council



Dean Ogilvie  
Tangata Whenua



Cr Anne Marie Spicer  
Hauraki District Council



Cr Denis Tegg  
Waikato Regional Council



Valmaine Toki  
Aotea / Great Barrier  
Local Board,  
Auckland Council



Cr Wayne Walker  
Auckland Council



Cr John Watson  
Auckland Council



Appointment  
Pending  
Tangata Whenua



Appointment  
Pending  
Tangata Whenua



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## E TITIRO WHAKAMUA ANA

# Looking ahead

### 2020 / 2021

The current COVID-19 pandemic makes the road ahead less certain. In addition, the Forum took a decision in May 2020 to approve a reduced budget of \$292,500 for the 2020 / 2021 year reflecting the economic reality that all budgets are under considerable pressure. These two factors have resulted in a decision not to hold a public conference in the year ahead, and to end the production of the annual marine park poster – at least for now.

At the same time, the year ahead brings great promise as the Forum beds in its new co-governance leadership model, with some specific communications projects planned. Furthermore, the 36th America's Cup will bring renewed global, national and local attention to the Hauraki Gulf – presenting an opportunity to highlight the Forum's strategic issues and big goals. In addition, the anticipated release of the government's response strategy to the Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari Marine Spatial Plan will mark an important moment for the future trajectory of the moana.



Greenhithe School. Photo by Sophie Journee.



## KO TE PŪTEA UTU WHAKAHAERE

# Funding and administrative support

Auckland Council kindly fulfils the role as the Administering Authority of the Hauraki Gulf Forum (see section 28, Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000).

It employs the Executive Officer and provides governance, finance and admin support functions. Forum

members are individually supported by Technical Officers (normally staff from the constituent party and, in the case of tangata whenua members, appointed by the tangata whenua member).

The Forum's \$333,722.50 budget in 2019 / 2020 was met through a

shared funding formula adopted by the Forum, as outlined in the table below. Additional funding toward the tangata whenua members and their technical officers is met by the Department of Conservation. This amounted to \$31,959.23 in 2019 / 2020.

2019 / 2020 Budget									
Funding contribution per sector	Authority	Population in the Gulf catchment (2006)	Population	Share	Land area in the Gulf catchment (ha)	Land area (%)	% contribution per project	% population: % land area (60:40 weighting)	Contribution to budget
33.3%	MFish DoC TPK			11.10% 11.10% 11.10%			11.10% 11.10% 11.10%	11.10% 11.10% 11.10%	\$37,043.20 \$37,043.20 \$37,043.20
<b>Subtotal (FNZ, DoC, TPK)</b>				<b>33.30%</b>			<b>33.30%</b>	<b>33.30%</b>	<b>\$111,129.59</b>
33.4%	WRC AC	89,781 1,169,136	7.1% 92.9%	2.38% 31.02%	585,501 218,875	72.79% 27.21%	24.31% 9.09%	11.15% 22.25%	\$37,222.89 \$74,240.42
<b>Subtotal (Regions)</b>		<b>1,258,917</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>33.4%</b>	<b>804,377</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>33.40%</b>	<b>33.40%</b>	<b>\$111,463.32</b>
33.3%	AC WDC HDC TCDC MPDC	1,169,136 1,272 19,836 29,466 33,531	93.3% 0.1% 1.6% 2.4% 2.7%	31.07% 0.03% 0.53% 0.78% 0.89%	218,875 14,648 123,590 219,169 161,360	29.67% 1.99% 16.75% 29.71% 21.88%	9.88% 0.66% 5.58% 9.89% 7.28%	22.59% 0.28% 2.55% 4.43% 3.45%	\$75,392.90 \$950.37 \$8,503.13 \$14,775.33 \$11,507.87
<b>Subtotal (Selected TLAs)</b>		<b>1,253,241</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>33.30%</b>	<b>737,641</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>33.30%</b>	<b>33.30%</b>	<b>\$111,129.59</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>100.00%</b>			<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$333,722.50</b>



## 2019 / 2020 Expenditure

	Forecast (\$)	Actual to end of June (\$)
Communications	\$60,000	\$59,204
Legislative requirements	\$184,204	\$170,475
Training and travel expenses	\$7,500	\$740
HR and administration	\$205,000	\$161,376
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>\$456,704</b>	<b>\$391,796</b>

## 2019 / 2020 Revenue

	Forecast (\$)	Actual to end of June (\$)
Constituent party contributions	\$180,640	\$181,047
Auckland Council contribution	\$146,860	\$161,376
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$327,500</b>	<b>\$342,423</b>

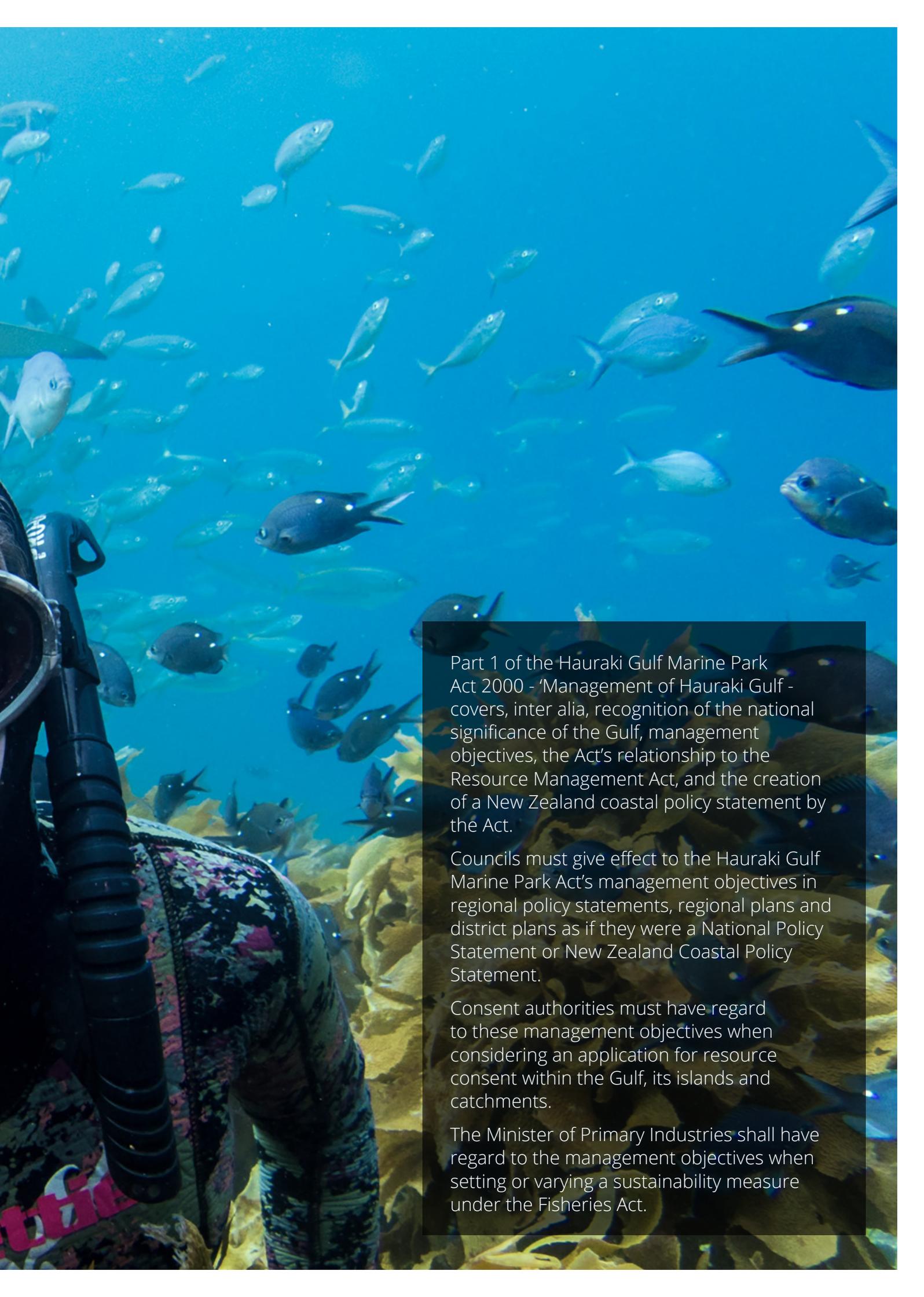
Forecast revenue less expenditure	(\$129,204)	(\$49,373)
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Accumulated surplus balance as at end of June 2019	\$144,261	\$144,261
Forecast revenue less expenditure 2019 / 2020	(\$129,204)	(\$49,373)
Accumulated surplus balance as at end of June 2020	\$15,057	\$94,888

All costs are presented exclusive of GST.



Photography by Lorna Doogan



Part 1 of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 - 'Management of Hauraki Gulf - covers, inter alia, recognition of the national significance of the Gulf, management objectives, the Act's relationship to the Resource Management Act, and the creation of a New Zealand coastal policy statement by the Act.

Councils must give effect to the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act's management objectives in regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans as if they were a National Policy Statement or New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

Consent authorities must have regard to these management objectives when considering an application for resource consent within the Gulf, its islands and catchments.

The Minister of Primary Industries shall have regard to the management objectives when setting or varying a sustainability measure under the Fisheries Act.



*The Hauraki Gulf Forum is a statutory body charged with the promotion and facilitation of integrated management and the protection and enhancement of the Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana. The Forum has representation on behalf of the Ministers of Conservation, Fisheries and Māori Development, elected representatives from Auckland Council (including the Aotea Great Barrier and Waiheke local boards), Waikato Regional Council and the Waikato, Hauraki, Thames-Coromandel and Matamata-Piako district councils, plus six representatives of the tangata whenua of the Hauraki Gulf and its islands.*

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Cover photo: Snorkelling at Te Hauturu-o-Toi / Little Barrier Island.  
Photography by Lorna Doogan [www.emr.org.nz](http://www.emr.org.nz)



**Hauraki Gulf Forum**

Tikapa Moana

Te Moananui-a-Toi