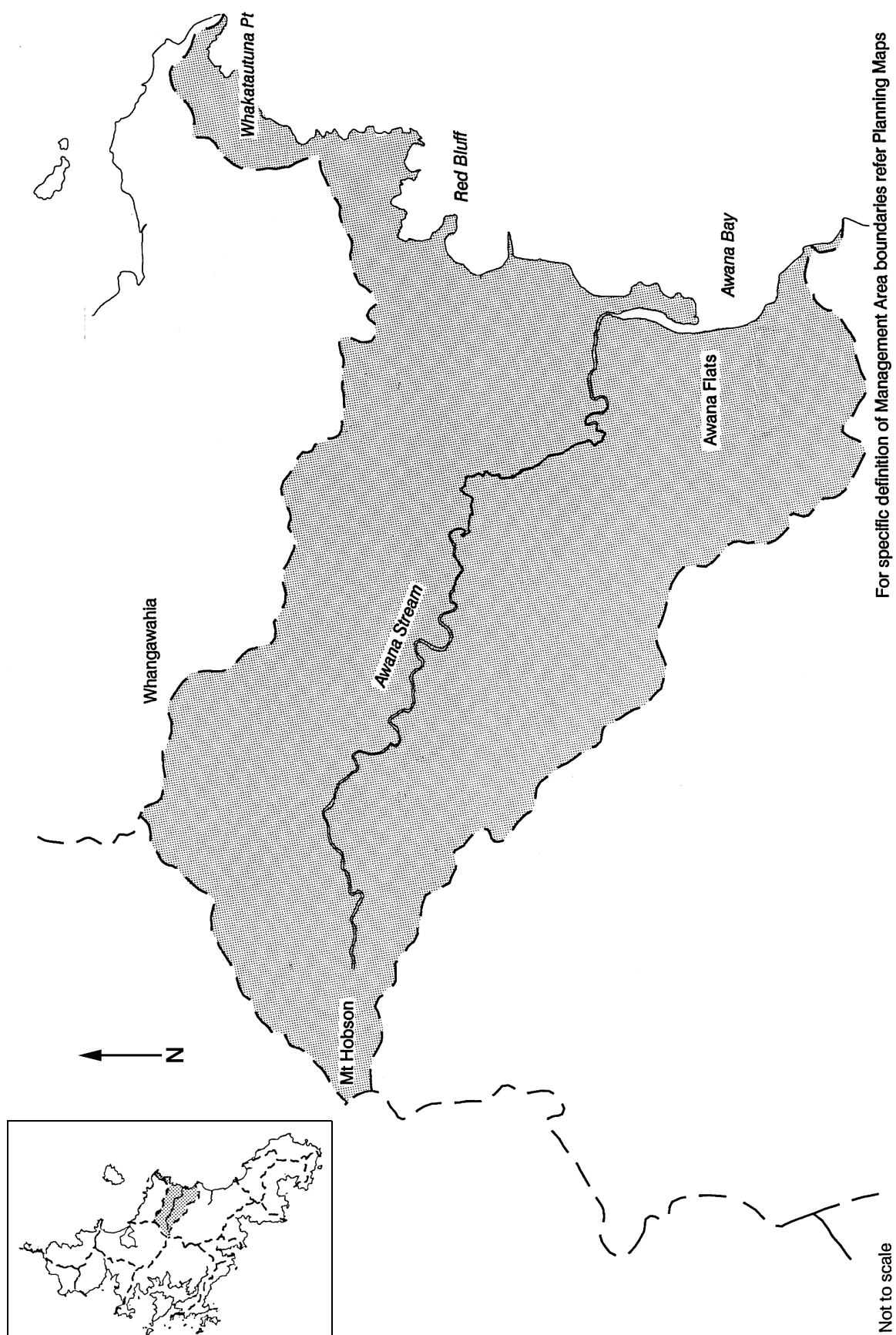


## Strategic Management Area 9 - Awana



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 9 : AWANA

### 5.9.0 DESCRIPTION

The Awana SMA is characterised by an enclosed valley system opening out to a series of alluvial flats and wetland systems and a sensitive coastal margin comprised of sand dunes. A number of smaller bays and headlands along the rugged coast to the north are also included within the catchment. Much of the area is in forest or regenerating shrublands with cleared areas in pasture confined to the foothills and alluvial flats in the lower catchment. A large portion of the flat land has a high water table and is prone to flooding. The dunes backing Awana Bay are exposed and subject to erosion, while parts of the surrounding hills have areas with significant erosion scars.

A number of smaller lots exist at the southern end of Awana Bay. While some of these are in private ownership and have dwellings built on them, several lots have a reserve status in view of their importance in providing public access to the beach and in protecting the sensitive coastal environment. The New Zealand Ministry of Defence has a research station on a prominent ridge overlooking Palmers Beach in the south of the catchment.

Much of the upper catchment is within the Department of Conservation Protected Area including portions of the Great Barrier Forest below Mount Hobson and also part of the Harataonga Forest adjacent to the Harataonga Scenic Reserve. These areas are important wildlife habitats. The lower reaches of the Awana Stream are also rated as an outstanding wildlife habitat particularly for brown teal and banded rail. The Department of Conservation have a campground adjacent to the sand dunes near the mouth of the Awana Stream.

Awana Beach is a popular recreational beach particularly for surfing and is also a common stop-off point for visitors touring Great Barrier. The area is also renowned for its historical and archaeological significance, as it contains a large number of sites related to Maori settlement of the area.

### 5.9.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The significant resource management issues affecting the Awana SMA include:

- Recognising the productive capacity of flat or gently sloping areas with good drainage.
- Management of wetland and riparian areas.

- Protection of significant wildlife habitats and ecosystems, particularly those sensitive to disturbance.
- Management and control over the location of buildings and structures in recognition of the propensity of low lying areas to flooding.
- Recognition of high water tables and the limited capability of areas of land for effluent disposal, together with the consequent implications for development.
- Protection of sensitive dune areas and management of recreational access and other activities likely to affect sand dune stability.
- Retention of vegetation and restrictions on land use activities in upper catchment areas.
- Management of the sensitive coastal environment.
- Pressure for further intensification of development as a consequence of existing subdivision patterns.
- Protection of archaeological and historic features.
- Visual amenity values.

### 5.9.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Awana SMA is aimed at ensuring the protection of the sensitive areas of the catchment and recognises the interrelationships between the various land units. The key sensitive areas in the Awana SMA are the forested upper catchment valleys and slopes, wetlands and riparian areas, the dune systems, headlands and coastal margins.

The resource management strategy seeks to ensure that there is a range of land use opportunities outside the sensitive areas. These opportunities are provided for subject to the physical constraints of any particular site and the nature of any proposed activity. As a consequence of the differing potentials and constraints, a limited range of activities is provided.

Management of the upper catchment valleys and slopes is aimed at protecting the vegetative cover and restricting activities that have the potential to impact on water and soil conservation or wildlife values. As a consequence, limitations are placed on the clearance of vegetation, on earthworks and the construction of buildings to protect these areas from more intensive development. The significant role of these areas in mitigating the flood hazard in the lower reaches of the catchment must also be protected.



## PART 5 - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREAS

Management of the coastal margins is based on protection of the sand dune systems and careful control of development along the coastline to the north of Awana Bay. The enclosed nature of Awana Bay and the orientation of the surrounding land forms mean that the dune systems are particularly prone to erosion. The strategy also limits development on the rugged coastline to the north and recognises that much of this area is contained within the Department of Conservation Protected Area.

Within the lower reaches of the catchment where there are extensive areas of Land Unit 3 and 5, the strategy seeks to maintain the productive capability of these areas. Further intensification of activities in these areas is limited to some extent by the existing patterns of development and the need both to recognise particular constraints such as the flood hazard and to protect wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas. The strategy also seeks to provide for continued recreational opportunities within the area.

### 5.9.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.9.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To provide for land use activities consistent with the productive capability of those land units in the lower part of the Awana SMA.*

##### Policies

- A. By providing for a limited range of permitted activities on existing lots.
- B. By recognising the limitations due to flood hazards and giving special recognition to the role of vegetated upper slopes, wetlands and natural drainage systems in minimising such hazards.
- C. By limiting the establishment of activities which will reduce the availability of potentially productive land.
- D. By carefully managing the effects of recreational activities on the natural environment.

#### 5.9.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To protect the upper catchment areas, the steep vegetated slopes, wetlands and the significant ecosystems and wildlife habitats of the Awana SMA.*

##### Policies

- A. By limiting the location, scale and intensity of land use activities which are likely to have a detrimental

impact on the natural environment and wildlife habitats.

- B. By using rules to control the removal of vegetation particularly within the upper catchment areas.
- C. By providing for a range of techniques and rules to encourage the protection of important identified vegetation features, wetlands and wildlife habitats.
- D. By carefully managing land use activities which may affect water quality or have an adverse effect on the functioning of water systems.

#### 5.9.3.3 OBJECTIVE

*To protect areas that may be vulnerable to flooding, erosion or other natural hazards and to restore or enhance degraded areas particularly where amenity values may be enhanced.*

##### Policies

- A. By strictly limiting land use activity and the erection of buildings within any defined hazard areas.
- B. By carefully controlling activities along the coastline to avoid adverse impacts on the marine environment and diminishing the high amenity value of these areas.
- C. By encouraging the rehabilitation of degraded areas such as unstable dunes, wetlands or areas prone to erosion.
- D. By restricting activities such as earthworks, vegetation removal, or other alterations to the landscape, which may lead to adverse effects on the natural environment, visual character or amenity.
- E. By ensuring effluent disposal systems are designed and installed to account for limitations in drainage capability.

#### 5.9.3.4 OBJECTIVE

*To preserve the natural character and amenity value of the coastal environment and to protect it from inappropriate development.*

##### Policies

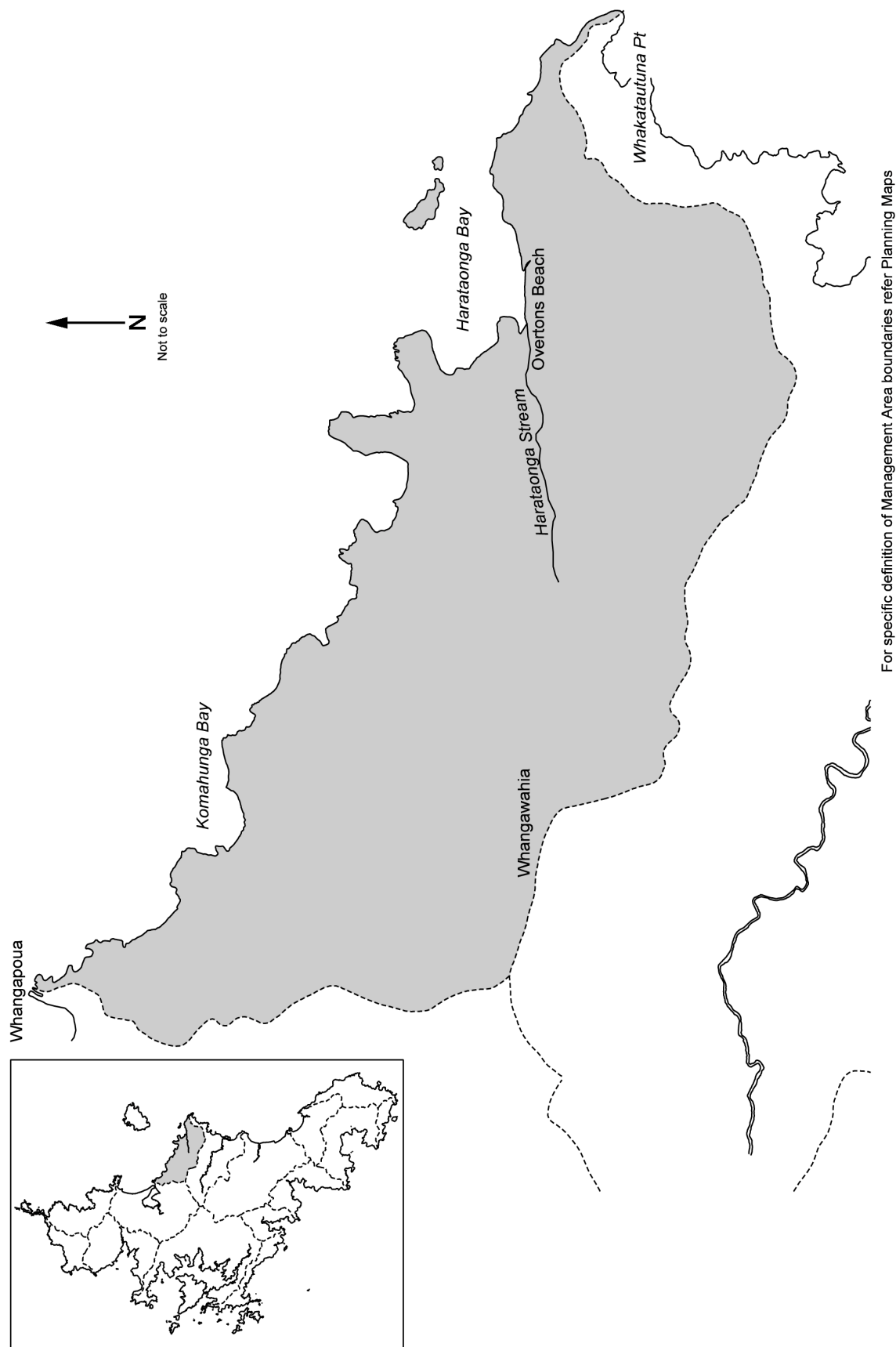
- A. By ensuring buildings are set back from the coast and are compatible with the characteristics of the area and limitations imposed by the physical environment.
- B. By restricting development activities within defined coastal hazard areas.



- C. By requiring appropriate landscaping to mitigate any adverse effects on the amenity of the area.
- D. By carefully controlling recreation and other activities within the coastal environment to avoid any adverse impacts.
- E By controlling the location and form of buildings on significant ridgelines to maintain visual amenity.



## Strategic Management Area 10 - Harataonga



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 10 : HARATAONGA

### 5.10.0 DESCRIPTION

The Harataonga SMA consists of the several smaller northward draining coastal valleys between Whakatautuna Point and Whangapoua. The largest of these valleys is the Harataonga SMA subcatchment which drains to Overtons Beach (Harataonga Beach), a popular recreational area. There are a number of smaller bays with sandy beaches but much of the coastline is rocky and there are few flat areas. The main exception is Overtons Beach where there is a relatively large area of flat and gently rolling pastured land.

Much of the area is in bush or regenerating shrublands. A large portion of the area is administered by the Department of Conservation although the Harataonga Scenic Reserve is administered by the Council. The few areas of privately owned land are generally large lots, in excess of 10 ha size. There are very few lots under 1 ha. As a consequence of the ownership pattern, there is no settlement area and only a few isolated dwellings.

Access to the area is limited as the main formed road between Okiwi and Awana is near the main ridgeline and the only other access is the road to Overtons Beach. Despite this the area is a popular recreational destination and the Department of Conservation provides a camp-ground at Overton's Beach.

### 5.10.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The significant resource management issues for the Harataonga SMA include the following:

- Protection of sensitive dune areas and careful management of recreational access and other activities that are likely to affect sand dune stability.
- Protection of the intrinsic values of the natural environment, including the preservation of vegetation and wildlife habitats.
- Difficulties associated with access.
- Maintaining high visual amenity.
- Management of adjacent land use activities consistent with the management of Department of Conservation Protected Area.
- Protection of water quality and the avoidance of adverse impacts on the adjacent marine environment.

### 5.10.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Harataonga SMA seeks to provide opportunities for land use activities which will not have an adverse effect on the natural environment and which are consistent with the management of the adjacent protected areas.

The strategy seeks to limit any activities which are likely to have an adverse affect on any protected area, sand dunes and wildlife habitats. Controls are imposed on activities particularly in the upper catchment areas to ensure minimal impact on the natural environment, in recognition of the land use capabilities and the potential for adverse impacts on downstream areas.

### 5.10.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.10.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To protect and preserve the intrinsic values of the natural environment of the area.*

#### Policies

- By controlling vegetation removal and any disturbance to the natural environment which may adversely affect natural ecosystems including sand dunes or wildlife habitats.
- By limiting the location, scale and intensity of land use activities including the erection of buildings which may have an adverse effect on natural ecosystems and wildlife habitats.
- By carefully managing land use activities which may lead to instability and erosion, or adversely effect water quality and water systems generally.
- By ensuring that the management of land use activities is consistent with the management of any adjacent protected areas.

#### 5.10.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To provide for a limited range of land use activities consistent with the protection of natural features,*



## PART 5 - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREAS

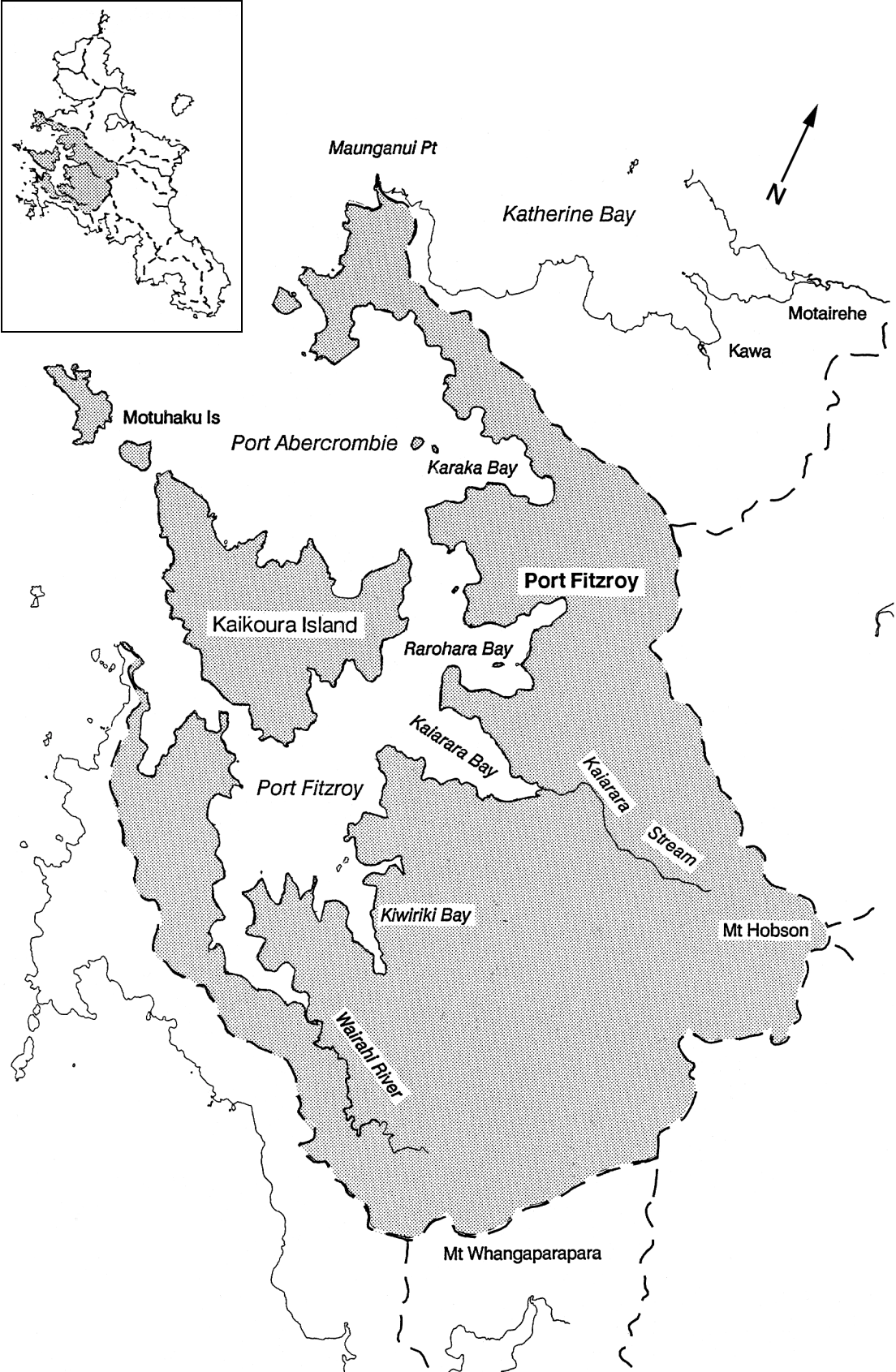
*visual amenity and the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment.*

### Policies

- A. By controlling the location, design and external appearance of buildings, particularly on ridgelines, headlands and along coastal margins.
- B. By carefully controlling activities near the coast to avoid adverse impacts on the marine environment and other areas of high amenity value.
- C. By restricting activities such as earthworks, vegetation removal, or other alterations to the landscape which may lead to adverse effects on the natural environment, visual character or amenity values.



Strategic Management Area 11 - Port Fitzroy



For specific definition of Management Area boundaries refer Planning Maps

Not to scale





## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 11 : PORT FITZROY

### 5.11.0 DESCRIPTION

The Port Fitzroy SMA is the largest catchment on Great Barrier Island. The catchment is characterised by a number of streams draining from steep forested hills into the drowned valleys and enclosed bays of the Port Fitzroy and Port Abercrombie harbours. A large portion of the catchment is in forest and is administered by the Department of Conservation. Small areas of flat and gently sloping land occur in the lower reaches of the main streams. The Wairahi-Castle Peak peninsula in the south and the Abercrombie-Nagle Cove peninsula in the north have pastoral farming and areas of regenerating shrublands.

The principal settlement areas are around Port Fitzroy in Rarohara Bay, Kaiarara Bay and the Orama Christian Community in Karaka Bay. There are few small lots under 2000m<sup>2</sup> with the majority of lots being between 1 and 10ha in size. There are also a large number of lots ranging from 10ha to more than 100ha.

The Port Fitzroy area is a popular recreational area. During summer months the area is a very popular boating destination and a large number of people also use the recreational facilities on land including the Department of Conservation camp ground at Port Fitzroy and several tramping huts within the Department of Conservation Protected Area.

The Port Fitzroy catchment contains a large portion of the Great Barrier Forest which covers much of the centre of the island. This forest is a significant wildlife habitat. The catchment includes habitat for a diverse range of species including black petrel, brown teal, banded rail and fernbird, as well as forest species.

Kaikoura Island is included in the SMA. Containing an area of 564 ha, the Island is located at the harbour entrance to Port Fitzroy. It is an area of particular visual significance within an important recreational boating and visitor area. The triangular shaped Island features significant coastal cliff areas, north facing exposed slopes with little or no regeneration, and thin soils subject to wind erosion. Its south facing slopes comprise limited regeneration and areas of planted pine and wilding pine. The Island is significant in terms of being an area where deer have been farmed. Deer now roam freely on the Island with ongoing environmental consequences. No subdivision has occurred on the Island.

### 5.11.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The principal resource management issues for the Port Fitzroy SMA include the following:

- Management of a high seasonal peak in visitor numbers, particularly associated with recreational boating.
- The limited availability of land suitable for intensive development.
- Provision of access to coastal areas recognising physical limitations.
- The need for onshore facilities to support marine related activities such as marine farming, fishing and boating.
- Integration with the management of the Department of Conservation Protected Area.
- Provision for recreational activities.
- Management of tourism activities, and facilitation of a diverse range of land use activities relating to the visitor industry, including tourist accommodation.
- The maintenance of a high water quality within streams and the enclosed harbour waters of Port Fitzroy and Port Abercrombie.
- Control of developments in the coastal region including buildings and reclamation.
- Management of waste.
- Protection of wildlife habitats and ecosystems, particularly those outside the Department of Conservation Protected Area.
- Need for an integrated strategy for development of wharf facilities and surrounding areas through the use of the policy area process.

### 5.11.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Port Fitzroy SMA is based on the significance of the Port Fitzroy area for recreational activities and wildlife habitat protection, together with acknowledgment of the limited areas of land available for relatively intensive development. The importance of the marine area and the surrounding coastal margins is reflected in the need to maintain a high standard of water quality and to protect coastal margins from



inappropriate development. The strategy, therefore, seeks to foster the preservation, conservation and enhancement of steep areas of land in mature native vegetation, particularly those areas adjacent to the marine area, with no current protection status.

The strategy also limits activities in the upper catchment areas, coastal margins and in areas of high amenity. These limitations include strict controls on activities which may affect water quality such as vegetation removal and earthworks.

The resource management strategy also recognises the limited potential and environmental constraints of the lower land areas. Existing settlement patterns are recognised and opportunities for land use activity are provided, subject to site specific constraints. The strategy also recognises the sensitivity of the coastal edge and the function of the lower areas and headlands as the critical backdrop to the maritime area.

In addition to the matters outlined above, the strategy seeks to ensure that the existing character and amenity of the marine and coastal environment surrounding the wharf facilities at Port Fitzroy, are maintained and where possible enhanced. To achieve this end, the coastal margins of Rarohara Bay have been identified as a Policy Area to provide a more detailed management framework, through the identification of special objectives, policies and rules which will apply to activities within the Policy Area. (See Part 7: Policy Areas – Policy Area 4 : Port Fitzroy).

The resource management strategy for Kaikoura Island involves a recognition of the additional sensitivities of Kaikoura Island as a small island situated within a complex marine environment. Appropriate water and soil management is essential in order that the surrounding maritime environment is not compromised through continued sedimentation. Primary consideration must also be given to the detrimental impacts of uncontrolled deer on the whole of the Island.

In view of the popularity of the areas surrounding Kaikoura Island for recreational users and the nature of the landforms on the Island, any ridgeline development or other visually intrusive development is unacceptable.

### 5.11.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.11.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To recognise the sensitivity of the Port Fitzroy SMA as a high amenity, coastal and maritime environment.*

##### Policies

- A. By ensuring the maintenance of a high standard of water quality within the Port Fitzroy SMA and adjacent marine waters.
- B. By carefully controlling activities within the coastal environment to protect against inappropriate development.
- C. By limiting development of the coastal margins including controls on buildings and reclamations.
- D. By protecting wildlife habitats and ecosystems which lie outside the Department of Conservation Protected Area.
- E. By protecting areas of cultural, historic and archaeological significance.
- F. By implementing controls on activities which may have an adverse effect on the high amenity value of the catchment.
- G. By strictly controlling impacts resulting from the harvesting of pine trees.

#### 5.11.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To provide opportunities for the establishment of a range of activities related to maritime activity and the visitor industry.*

##### Policies

- A. By providing for a range of recreational activities and the provision of public access to coastal areas.
- B. By permitting a range of activities relating to the visitor industry including visitor accommodation.
- C. By giving special recognition to the area surrounding the Port Fitzroy wharf by defining this area as a policy area in the Plan.
- D. By carefully controlling the effects of marine related and visitor activities on both land and adjacent water areas.

#### 5.11.3.3 OBJECTIVE

*To enhance the natural environment and visual importance of Kaikoura Island.*

##### Policies

- A. By encouraging the removal or the controlled management of deer.
- B. By strictly controlling impacts resulting from the harvesting of pine trees.

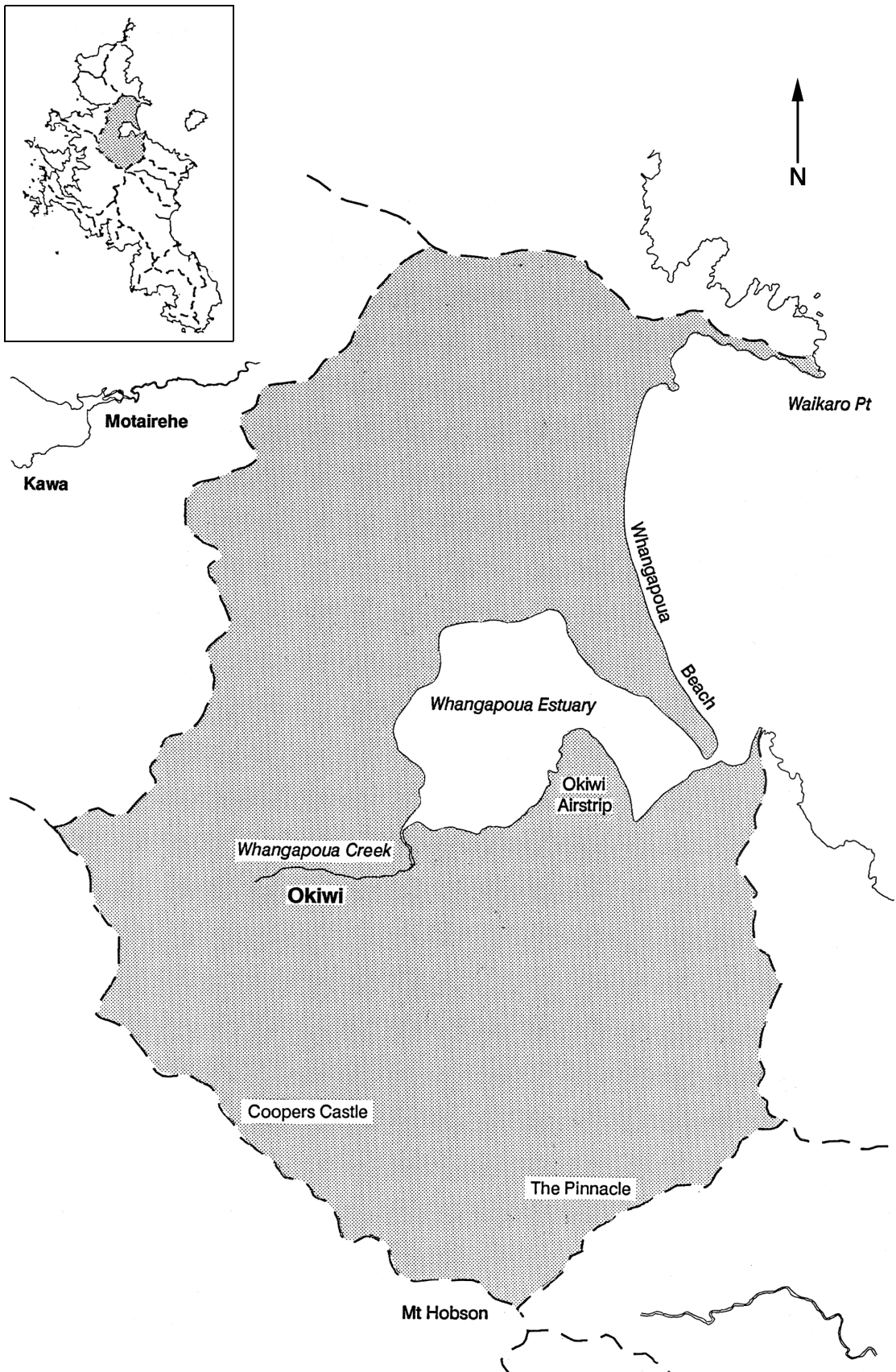


## PART 5 - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREAS

- C. By ensuring the carrying capacity of Kaikoura Island as a whole is considered when assessing any resource consent.
- D. By controlling the location, design and form of any buildings on the Island.
- E. By preventing the location of any buildings on important ridgelines.
- F. By preventing any alteration to natural landforms.
- G. By carefully controlling the effects of marine related and visitor activities on both land and adjacent water areas.



Strategic Management Area 12 - Whangapoua



For specific definition of Management Area boundaries refer Planning Maps

Not to scale



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 12 : WHANGAPOUA

### 5.12.0 DESCRIPTION

The Whangapoua SMA is a large, relatively open area with steep, forested slopes enclosing the Whangapoua estuary complex. (The Whangapoua estuary complex is defined as the Whangapoua estuary proper, wetlands, dunes and coastal margins). Between the Whangapoua estuary and the steep slopes is a broad band of gently sloping land primarily in pasture.

The Whangapoua estuary complex is a wildlife habitat of outstanding value representing the largest estuarine wetland on Great Barrier Island and ranked as an internationally significant habitat for a number of threatened species, including brown teal, New Zealand dotterel, banded dotterel, North Island fernbird and Australasian bittern. Together with the adjacent coastal areas, the estuary forms the basis of a marine reserve proposal for the north-eastern area of Great Barrier Island.

The Department of Conservation administers significant areas of land surrounding the estuary, including the dune areas and virtually all of the steeper, forested upper catchment slopes. Together with their value as wildlife habitats, these forest areas serve important water and soil functions such as controlling runoff and erosion, as well as forming an important visual backdrop to the catchment.

The more gently sloping pastured areas are primarily within two large farming units, one administered by the Department of Conservation, the other in private ownership. A small area of intensive horticultural activity also exists near the Whangapoua Stream.

Together with Port Fitzroy, Okiwi is one of the main service centres for the northern area of Great Barrier. The small Okiwi settlement is centred on the Okiwi school and the nearby airstrip. This settlement includes a number of recently subdivided, but currently undeveloped lots. Whangapoua catchment is characterised by the relatively small number of lots with the majority ranging in size from 1-50ha.

There is abundant evidence that the area was once more intensively populated by the Maori people and there are a number of important archaeological features.

### 5.12.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The significant resource management issues for the Whangapoua SMA include:

- Protection of wildlife habitat areas and ecosystems particularly within and adjacent to the Whangapoua estuary complex.
- Management of wetland and riparian areas.
- Management of sand dune areas including control of visitor and recreational uses of dune areas.
- Integration with the management of the Department of Conservation Protected Area.
- Protection of areas of historical or archaeological significance.
- Establishment of community facilities and servicing.
- Provision for recreational and tourist activities.
- Development opportunities and pressures resulting from the existing subdivision pattern.
- Maintaining the sustainable potential use of productive land.
- Maintaining an open rural landscape and the associated environmental and visual amenity of the areas surrounding the Whangapoua estuary.

### 5.12.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Whangapoua SMA is based on the need to ensure the protection of the Whangapoua estuary complex. The strategy acknowledges that the rules of the Plan must reflect this goal and the inter-relationships between the different areas within the catchment and the estuary complex. This means that the rules applying to the land units surrounding the estuary need to be different from those applying to the same land units in different locations.

The strategy seeks to promote the preservation, conservation and enhancement of the Whangapoua estuary complex through careful management of those activities which may impact adversely on the complex. The high environmental and amenity value of sand dunes, wetlands, wildlife habitats



and other sensitive or hazard prone areas are recognised in this strategy and reflected in the rules for the specific land units. The protection of habitats and the maintenance of high water quality are two key factors to be considered when assessing any land use applications within the catchment. Activities in areas within the Whangapoua estuary complex (e.g. the dunes and wetland margins) will be strictly limited. Activities in the upper catchment areas and areas adjacent to the Whangapoua estuary complex will be limited to maintain environmental quality and to ensure that there is no detrimental impact on the estuary. The strategy recognises the role that these forested areas play in protecting water and soil systems, wildlife habitats and areas of high environmental amenity.

The resource management strategy also recognises that significant parts of the catchment, particularly the lower slopes and flats, have a greater potential for development. While this potential is recognised, the proximity of these areas to the estuary complex, means that land use activities must be carefully managed. It is also recognised that these areas have significant amenity value in terms of the open rural character of the landscape. The nature and extent of activities which can establish within these areas will be determined by environmental constraints in relation to the Whangapoua estuary complex, the effect upon amenities and any site specific constraints.

The Council recognises the importance of maintaining the airfield serving the northern area of Great Barrier Island and has established special rules to protect the future use of the Okiwi airstrip. These special rules apply to Okiwi airstrip only and are included in the rules for Land Unit 3.

### 5.12.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.12.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To protect and preserve the Whangapoua estuary complex and the continuation of a rural landscape as key management elements of the Whangapoua SMA.*

##### Policies

- A. By ensuring through appropriate rules that any activity does not lead to adverse impacts or effects upon any of the natural habitats, ecosystems or other special features that are a significant part of the character of the catchment.
- B. By protecting and enhancing the quality of all streams, riparian areas, wetlands, estuarine and coastal margins, through limiting the nature, extent and potential impacts of any development or activities within or adjacent to such areas.

- C. By ensuring that any activities or developments do not reduce water quality or quantity, result in sedimentation, instability or erosion, or reduce the ecological amenity or visual values of the Whangapoua estuary complex.
- D. By requiring that any activity maintains or enhances water quality and quantity, and its availability and distribution.
- E. By protecting and preserving indigenous bush, trees and shrubs through the careful management of vegetation removal and alterations to the landscape.
- F. By carefully controlling earthworks and alteration to natural landforms and minimising the visual and off site impacts of such activities.
- G. By protecting and preserving the steeper vegetated upper slopes to ensure the protection of ecological values, visual amenity, water and soil conservation needs and values.
- H. By encouraging and facilitating the creation of linkages between natural habitats, bush areas and ecosystems through appropriate protection techniques and revegetation programmes.

#### 5.12.3.2 OBJECTIVE

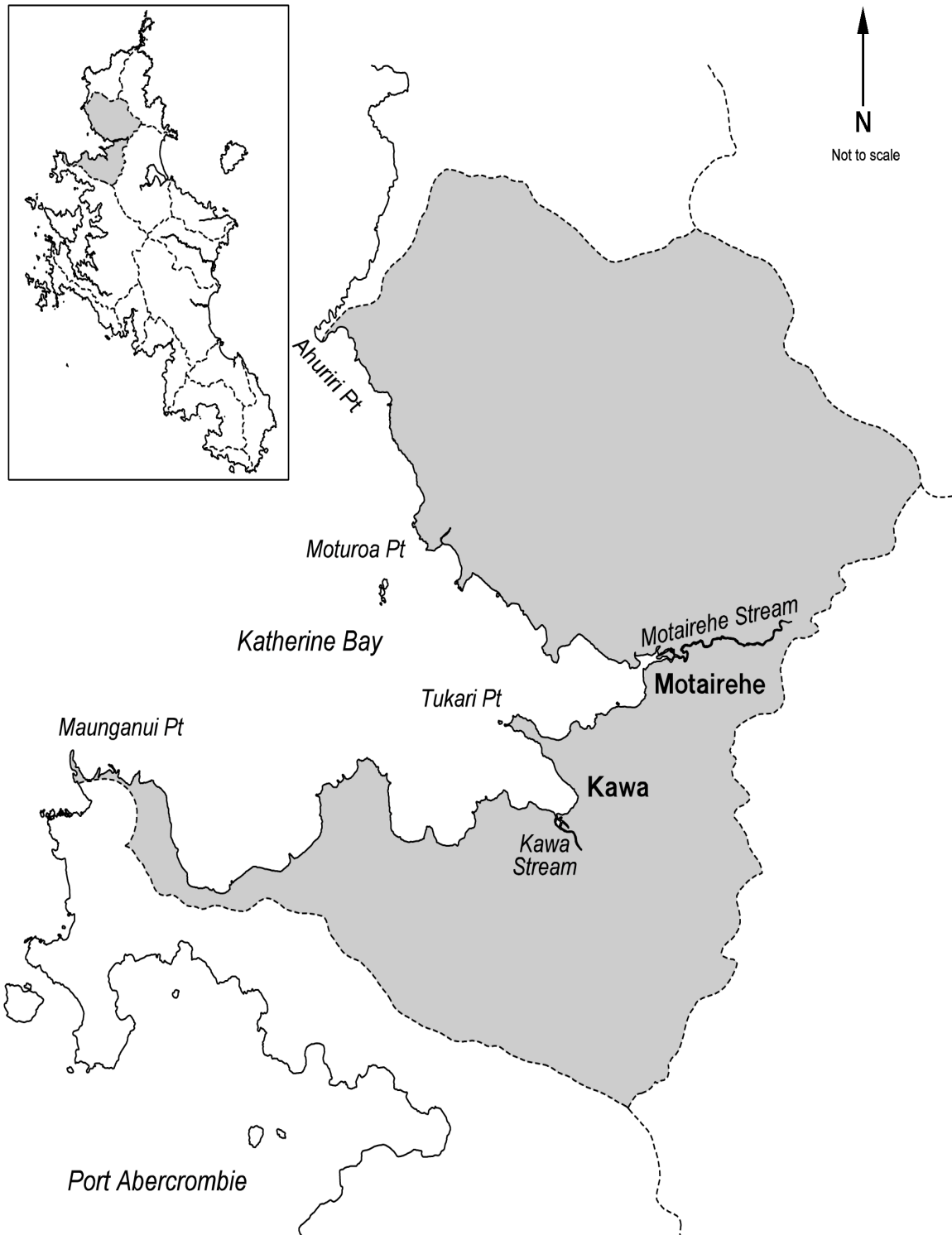
*To recognise that there are substantial areas within the Whangapoua SMA with potential for relatively intensive development, subject to the retention of high levels of amenity and environmental quality.*

##### Policies

- A. By providing for appropriate productive activities of a rural character that recognise the inherent physical and natural characteristics of the catchment.
- B. By preserving rural character through limiting the scale, form and location of buildings and by controlling modifications to the natural and physical environment.
- C. By discouraging the establishment of activities which will reduce the available area of potentially productive land.
- D. By ensuring any activity will not lead to a detrimental alteration to the natural patterns of the landscape and environment.
- E. By monitoring the effect of activities upon the Whangapoua estuary complex and rural landscape character.



## Strategic Management Area 13 - Katherine Bay



For specific definition of Management Area boundaries refer Planning Maps



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 13 : KATHERINE BAY

### 5.13.0 DESCRIPTION

Katherine Bay is a relatively large SMA containing extensive areas of forest and regenerating vegetation. The northern portion of the catchment is comprised of steep forested slopes, that are contiguous with forest in the Miners Head and Rangiwhakaea catchments. Together these areas comprise the area known as Te Paparahi or the Northern Bush. The southern catchment area comprises mainly regenerating slopes and reverting pasture, on steep coastal slopes extending out to Maunganui Point. There are small areas of flat land primarily in the lower reaches of the Motairehe and Kawa streams.

Much of the area is in Maori title administered by Ngati Wai through Maori incorporations. Two principal settlements are established around the marae at Motairehe and Kawa. The northern most areas of the catchment are administered by Department of Conservation and there are areas of private land in the south-west on the Port Abercrombie peninsular. The Te Paparahi area contains largely unmodified forest and is ranked as an outstanding wildlife habitat. The area is a notable habitat for Hochstetter Frog and the New Zealand lizard as well as supporting populations of red-craned parakeet and kaka. Brown teal are found in open areas such as around the wetland areas of the lower Motairehe Stream.

Since the area is primarily in the Maori title, with multiple ownership, the subdivisional pattern is somewhat different from other areas. There are a number of larger lots in excess of 50 ha comprising the Maori titles and the Department of Conservation Protected Area to the north.

### 5.13.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Resource management issues for the Katherine Bay SMA include:

- Recognition of the nature of Maori title in terms of multiple ownership.
- Aspirations of the Ngati Wai iwi for land use activities associated with their land.
- Integration of resource management objectives with traditional cultural concepts such as kaitiakitanga.
- Facilitating the use of productive land.
- Protection of wildlife habitats and ecosystems.
- Management of wetlands and riparian areas.

- Careful control over location of buildings and land use activities in respect to a potential for flooding.
- Expansion of existing settlements and provision for multiple dwellings on Maori land.
- Protection of sites of cultural, historic and archaeological interest.
- Management of steep areas that are prone to erosion or instability.
- Protection of the quality and availability of water resources.

### 5.13.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for Katherine Bay seeks to recognise and provide for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.

In addition to specific objectives and policies relating to areas currently in Maori title, general objectives and policies are included in the Plan, to address issues such as ancestral land, water, sites, and waahi tapu that are not currently in Maori ownership.

The strategy is based on recognising the existing settlements of Motairehe and Kawa and the desire to provide for further settlement of those areas in multiple ownership. The strategy also provides for economic independence of the Ngati Wai people by not placing unreasonable restrictions on the use of Maori land.

Provision is made for protection of particular items or features that are of significance to the tangata whenua. This is achieved through scheduling identified items or features. The strategy aims at using a variety of means to ensure protection of sites or features that are not identified through the schedules but are of significance to the Ngati Wai iwi.

As a general aim the strategy seeks to integrate concepts of Maori use and development of land and resources with the resource management objectives of the Plan. Significant areas of wildlife habitats and ecological value are protected while providing for traditional use of large areas of land in Maori ownership.





### 5.13.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.13.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To recognise and provide for the relationship of Maori, their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.*

##### Policies

- A. By giving special recognition to the multiple ownership status of Maori land particularly in relation to controls on subdivision and building development.
- B. By providing for a wide range of activities that do not place unreasonable restrictions on the use of Maori land.
- C. By protecting special features such as waahi tapu and carefully controlling land use activities which may affect such features.
- D. By recognising the existing marae at Kawa and Motairehe and providing for a range of marae related activities.
- E. By assessing any land use activity within the Katherine Bay SMA in relation to any iwi management plan or similar document for the area and in terms of its cultural impact.

#### 5.13.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To integrate Maori concepts of the use and development of land and resources with the resource management objectives of the Plan.*

##### Policies

- A. By providing opportunities for uses and activities that are important to the economic and cultural welfare of the Ngati Wai people, and are consistent with resource management objectives.
- B. By requiring that land use activities be assessed in terms of their cultural impact.
- C. By establishing procedures for consultation with tangata whenua when assessing the impact of activities.

#### 5.13.3.3 OBJECTIVE

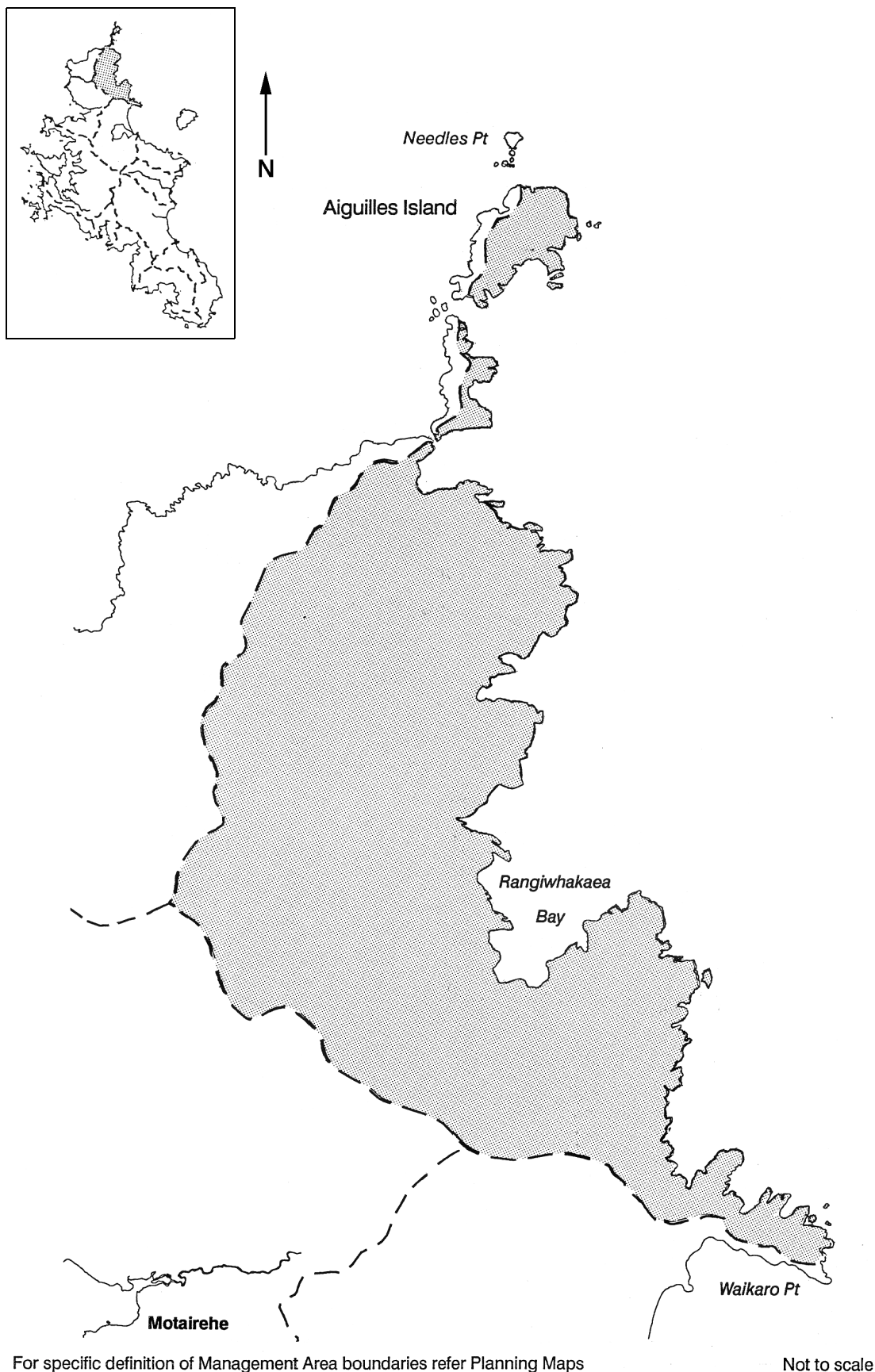
*To protect the sensitive areas of the catchment including steep coastal slopes, wildlife habitats and forest areas.*

##### Policies

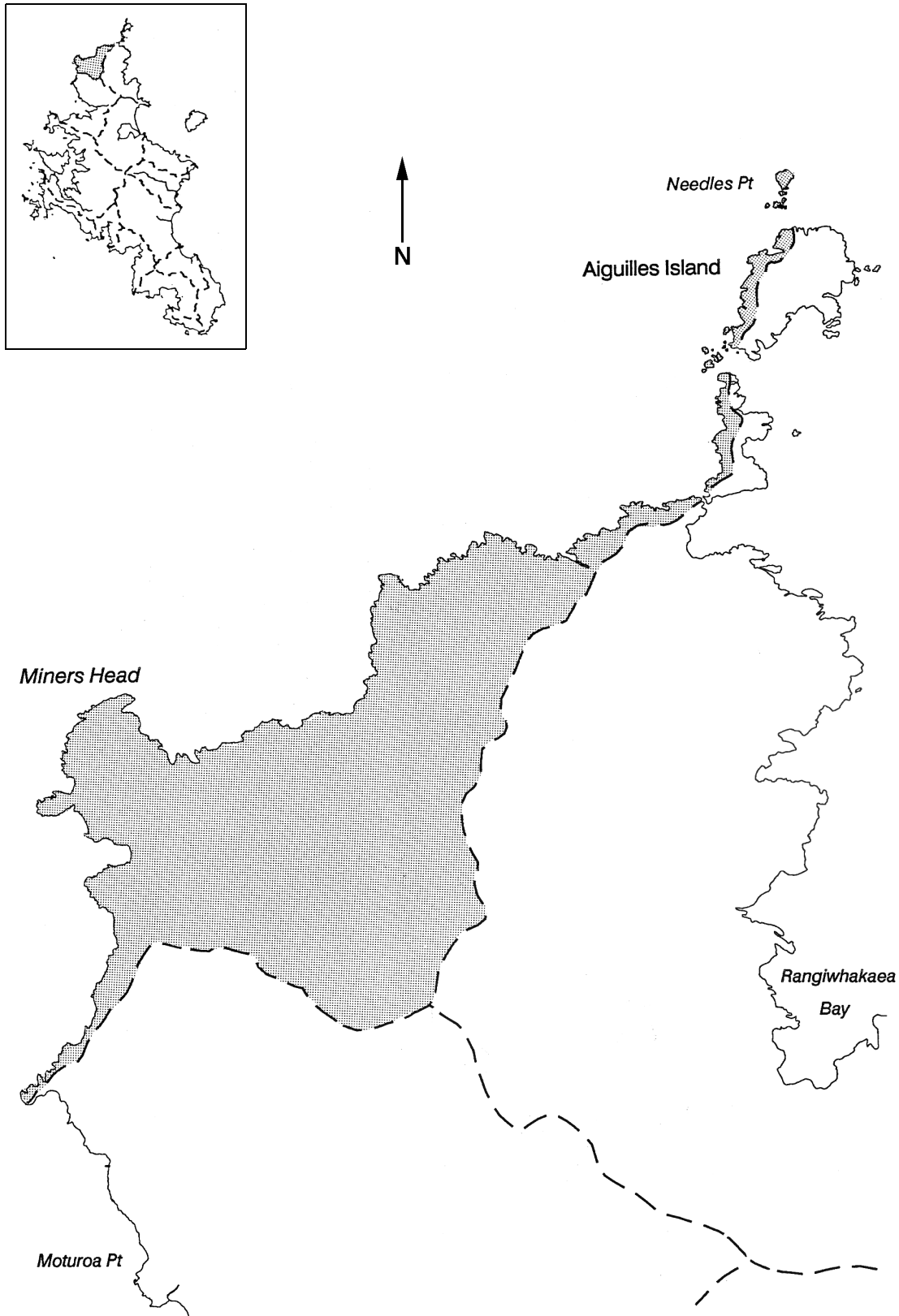
- A. By using rules to limit removal of vegetation, particularly on steep infertile slopes and in important habitat areas.
- B. By limiting the location, scale and intensity of any land use activities, including the erection of buildings, where any detrimental impact upon wildlife habitats or ecosystems is likely.
- C. By carefully managing land use activities that may affect water quality.
- D. By requiring a discretionary activity application for any activities or work which may directly affect any ecosystem or wildlife habitat.



## Strategic Management Area 14 - RANGIWHAKAEA



## Strategic Management Area 15 - MINERS HEAD



For specific definition of Management Area boundaries refer Planning Maps

Not to scale



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 14 AND 15 : RANGIWHAKAEA AND MINERS HEAD

### 5.14.0 DESCRIPTION

These two adjoining areas have similar characteristics and are comprised of largely the same land unit. In recognition of the similarities between these areas and the fact that they are generally managed in the same manner, the Rangiwahakaea and Miners Head SMA's have been dealt with together in this section. Accordingly, a common strategy and set of objectives and policies have been developed for these areas.

The Rangiwahakaea and Miners Head SMA's incorporate the rugged area of northern Great Barrier Island and include Aiguilles Island and Needles Point. This area, known as Te Paparahi, consists of steep forested slopes, deeply dissected valleys and high coastal cliffs and bluffs. Virtually all of the area is administered by the Department of Conservation although Aiguilles Island is in Maori ownership and the southern portion of the Rangiwahakaea SMA is part of an adjacent pastoral farm.

There is no formed road access to this area. The area is divided into several large lots and there is no settlement. The area also has historic significance with the remains of the mine at Miners Head and as the site of the shipwreck S.S. Wairarapa.

### 5.14.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The principal resource management issues relate primarily to the management of the Department of Conservation Protected Area and include:

- Wild animal control
- Protection of the natural environment and wildlife habitats.
- Limitations on access and development.

### 5.14.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Rangiwahakaea and Miners Head SMA's is to recognise the significance of conservation of this area. That part of the SMA which is administered by the Department of Conservation as a

Protected Area will also be subject to any approved Conservation Management Strategy prepared by the Department.

### 5.14.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.14.3.1 OBJECTIVE

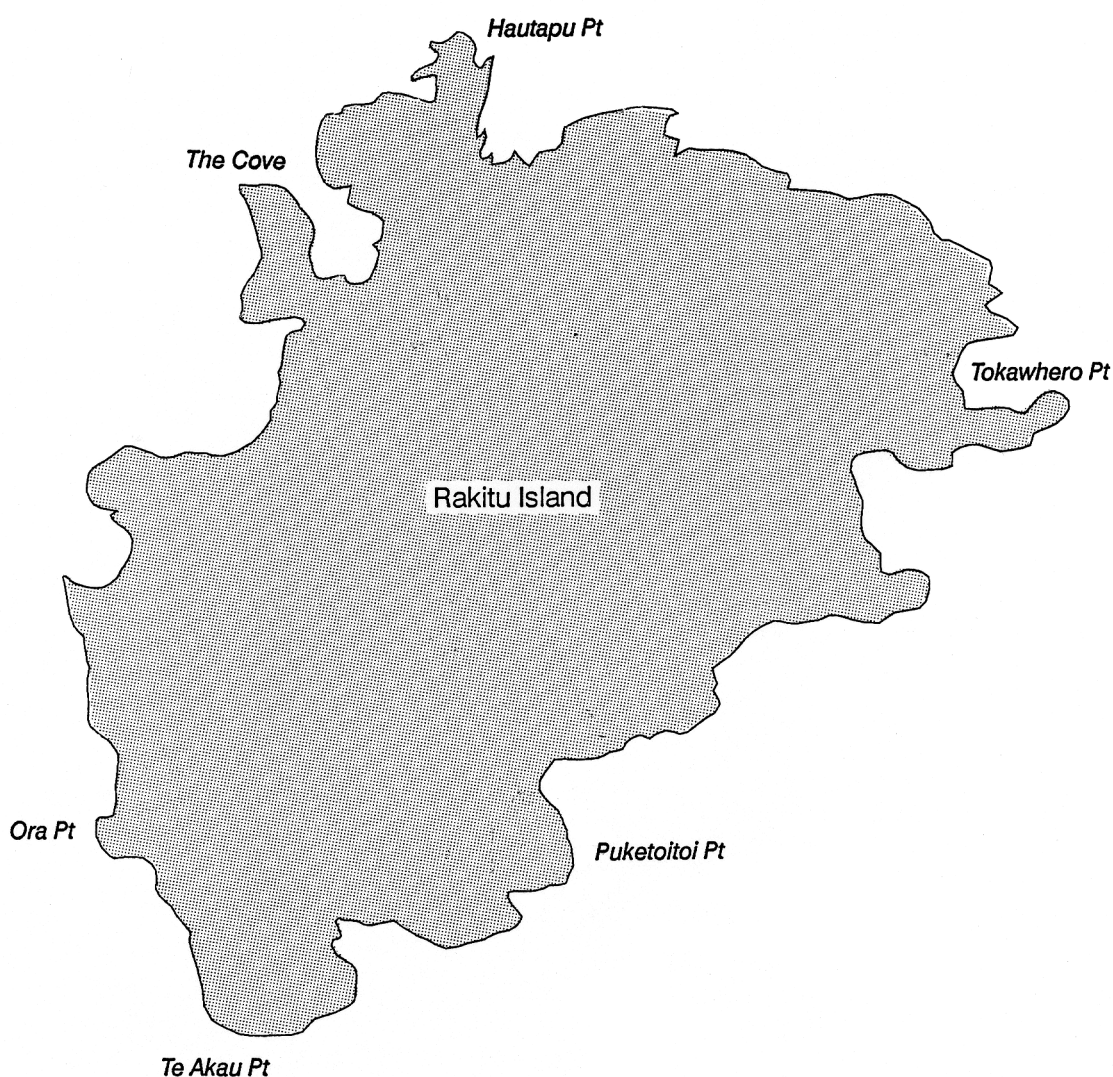
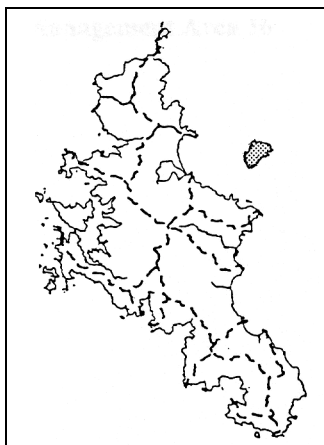
*To preserve and protect the natural environment of Te Paparahi.*

#### Policies

- A. By opposing any activities, likely to be detrimental to the intrinsic values of these areas.
- B. By limiting buildings to those required for passive wilderness recreation or maintaining the natural environment.
- C. By providing for activities for the purpose of conservation or enhancement of the natural environment.



## Strategic Management Area 16 - RAKITU ISLAND



For specific definition of Management Area boundaries refer Planning Maps

Not to scale



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 16 : RAKITU ISLAND

### 5.16.0 DESCRIPTION

The Rakitu Island SMA contains a distinctive island located approximately 2.5 km off Great Barrier's eastern coast. It is distinctive as a rugged island landform of 334 ha with prominent vertical cliffs accessed only by a protected western inlet. The island is the eroded remains of a volcano.

The vegetation component of Rakitu is broadly composed of pasture (50%) with manuka and kanuka forest covering about 25%. The remainder of the island is pre-European coastal forest, shrubland and small swampy areas.

### 5.16.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The significant resource management issues for the Rakitu Island SMA include:

- A distinctive landform with ecological and visual significance.
- Isolation and the need for sea and air transport and associated infrastructure.
- The particular ecosystem sensitivity of a small island.
- The water quality of the Island's streams.
- Heritage values.

### 5.16.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for Rakitu Island principally involves the maintenance of the distinctive natural landforms of the island and the maintenance and enhancement of the ecological integrity of the island.

While a substantial area of the island is covered in mature or regenerating native bush, a significant area is in pasture and therefore suffers the consequential impacts of sedimentation and pollution. The strategy is to recognise those potential impacts and to mitigate where feasible. This involves consideration of the effect of activities on the island's main stream and associated wetlands which flow through the centre of the island to The Cove on the western side of the island.

### 5.16.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.16.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To maintain and enhance the natural landforms and visual significance of Rakitu Island.*

##### Policies

- By preventing the form, scale and location of dwellings or any other buildings on ridgelines, or on any other usually prominent locations on the island.
- By strictly limiting earthworks in accordance with the rules.
- By maintaining vegetation cover.

#### 5.16.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To enhance the natural environment of Rakitu Island.*

##### Policies

- By ensuring the carrying capacity of Rakitu Island as a whole is appropriately considered when addressing any resource consent.
- By maintaining and enhancing the water quality of the main stream and associated wetlands through appropriate land management techniques and rules.

#### 5.16.3.3 OBJECTIVE

*To recognise the need for infrastructure to service transport requirements for the island.*

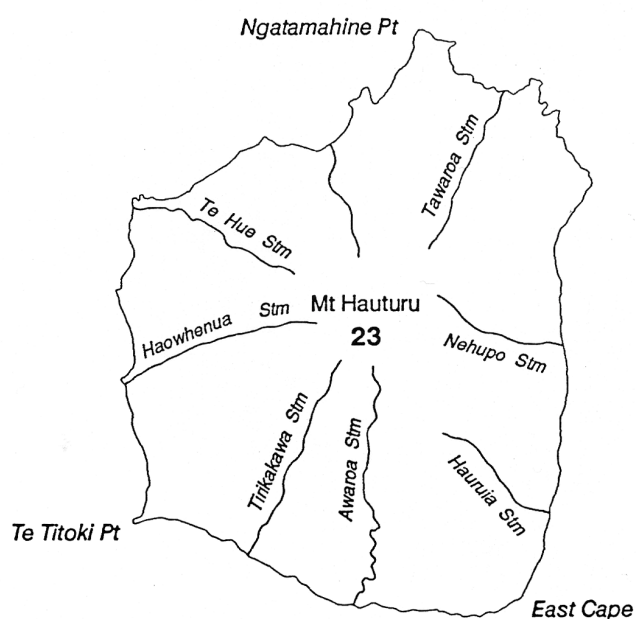
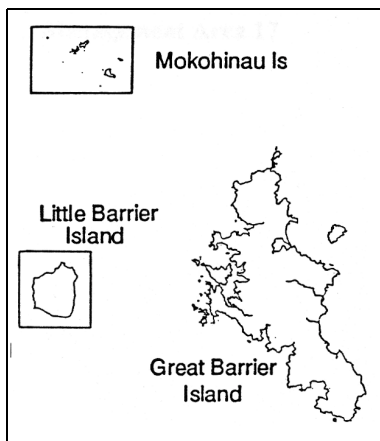
##### Policies

- By providing for facilities for transport on land providing they do not compromise the integrity of that environment.





# Strategic Management Area 17 - LITTLE BARRIER ISLAND AND THE MOKOHINAU ISLANDS



Not to scale



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 17 : LITTLE BARRIER ISLAND AND THE MOKOHINAU ISLANDS

### 5.17.0 DESCRIPTION

Little Barrier Island and the Mokohinau Islands are nature reserves administered by the Department of Conservation. The islands are remote and a permit is needed for landing.

Little Barrier Island is an important reserve area for many rare and endangered species, because of the absence of predators and the natural state of the Island's environment. The Island has a variety of habitats and is characterised by a steep rugged coastline and forested valleys rising to a central volcanic peak.

The Mokohinau Islands are a group of small low lying islands to the north-west of Great Barrier Island. The vegetation of the Islands is fairly stunted as a result of natural fires and the low rainfall. The Islands provide a significant habitat for wildlife, particularly several lizard species.

### 5.17.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The resource management issues for these islands relate to their continued protection and management by the Department of Conservation. They include:

- Prevention of predator species from reaching the islands.
- Controlling human access to the islands.
- Management of wildlife habitat and wildlife species.
- Management of adjacent marine areas.

### 5.17.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for Little Barrier and the Mokohinau Islands is to recognise the importance of the areas as wildlife sanctuaries and to ensure the Plan provisions are consistent with the management of these areas by the Department of Conservation. As part of the Department of Conservation Protected Area, these areas will be managed in accordance with the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Management Plan.

### 5.17.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.17.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To ensure the preservation and enhancement of the natural habitats of the Islands.*

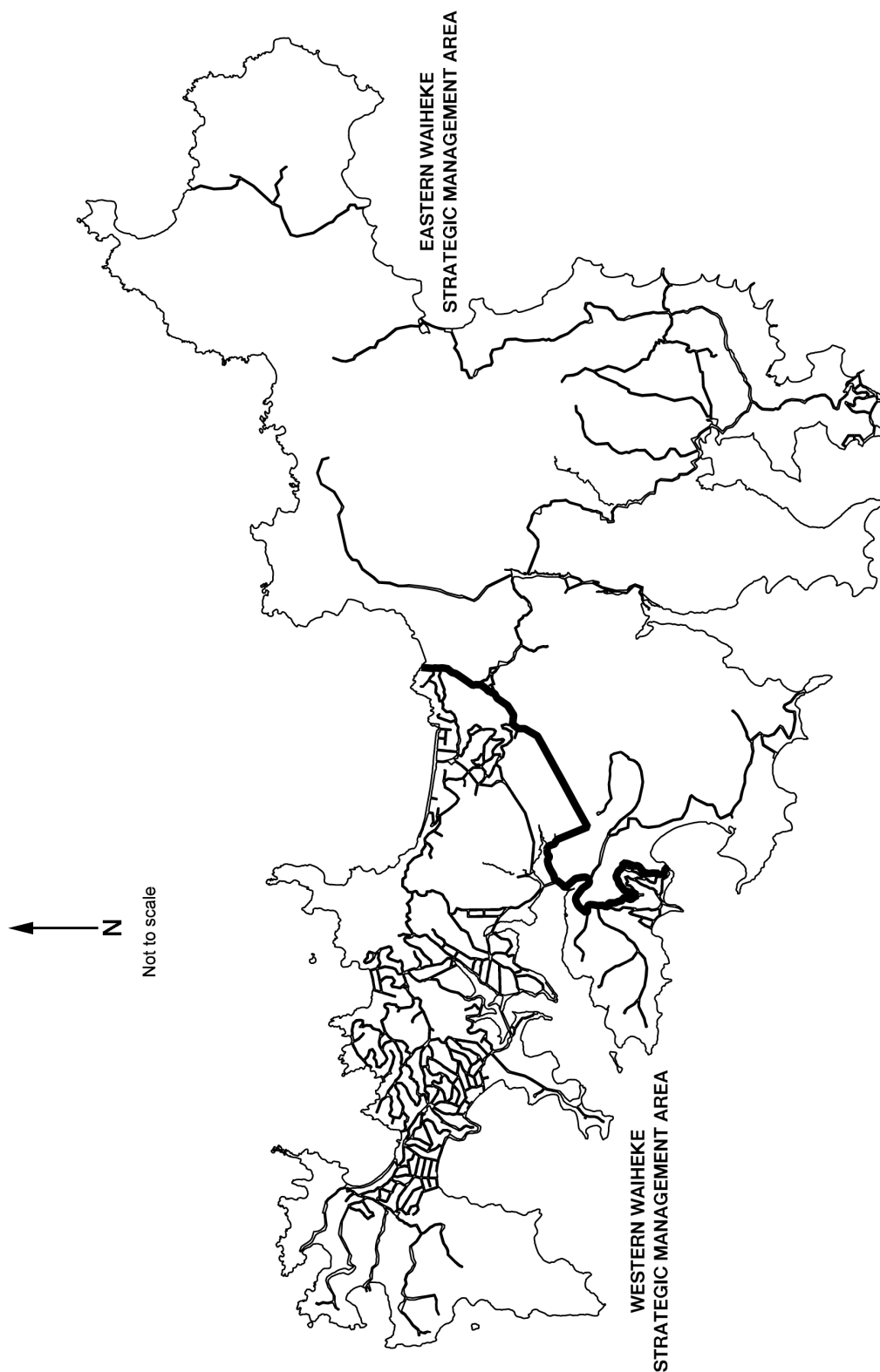
#### Policies

- A. By prohibiting development on the Islands except for activities relating to the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats.
- B. By ensuring activities are in accordance with the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Management Plan for the islands.





## Strategic Management Areas 18 & 19 - Western and Eastern Strategic Management Area



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 18 : WESTERN WAIHEKE

### 5.18.0 DESCRIPTION

This strategic management area (SMA) consists of that portion of Waiheke Island which stretches from Te Whetumatarua Point at Matiatia Bay in the west, to an eastern boundary defined by a line joining the eastern end of Onetangi Bay on the north coast with the eastern end of Omiha (Rocky Bay) on the south coast (refer Figure 7 Part 4). The area contains most major areas of settlement in the Inner Islands and the Hauraki Gulf Islands. It is characterised by a pattern of village settlements and allied activities comprising a mix of land uses separated by areas of rural land. These areas of rural land, which comprise Land Units 20, 21 and 22, fulfil a strategic function in terms of ensuring the retention of a pattern of settlement typified by urban type developments separated by land retaining a predominantly rural character and having a high visual amenity value. A low density of development in those rural land units is considered necessary to secure sustainable development and to retain the high amenity values which are seen as vital by the residents.

The eastern boundary of the Western Waiheke SMA defines the separation between the major areas of urban and rural activities on Waiheke Island. The boundary distinguishes that part of Waiheke where urban-type activities have developed and will be provided for in the future (Western Waiheke SMA) from that part which has historically supported rural-type activities which will continue to be the principle land use activity (Eastern Waiheke SMA).

In physical terms, Western Waiheke is characterised by an indented coastline offering a mixture of sandy beaches, wetlands, estuaries and steep cliffs and headlands. Inland, the principal features of the landscape are ridges and valleys overlain in an irregular pattern with re-generating and small remnant stands of indigenous bush, interspersed with areas of open pasture of rural character.

The Western Waiheke SMA has historically been the subject of residential, retail and industrial development. This development has occurred in a series of small settlements which have evolved around nodes offering shelter, access to the coast and access to each other. Residential development has evolved at locations such as Oneroa, Ostend, Palm Beach, Surfdale and Blackpool. Contained within these primarily residential areas are small areas of retailing and industrial activity, which form the focus of business on Waiheke Island.

The Western SMA includes a number of important coastal headlands. These headlands need careful management of

any land use activities and subdivision in order to ensure that no detrimental visual or environmental impacts arise.

The emergence of this urban landscape has been established on a traditional pattern of land subdivision. The settlements at Oneroa, Surfdale, Blackpool, Palm Beach, Ostend and Onetangi have generally been subdivided into conventionally urban lots, of smaller size and shape. Such subdivision has led to some development being located on steep slopes and on geologically sensitive coastal landforms, such as cliffs and coastal terraces.

In parallel with the pattern of subdivision and the location of development, the nature and type of infrastructure has had a fundamental role in shaping development within Western Waiheke. Methods of water supply and effluent disposal have principally consisted of individual water supply, (by way of underground bores or roof collection and tank storage), and septic tanks as the principal form of sewage disposal.

The pattern and process of growth set by the above factors has continued over recent years and the Western Waiheke SMA has been where most of the recent population growth has taken place. Steady growth in residential development and in associated business and retail activity has occurred at Oneroa, Palm Beach and Surfdale. Notwithstanding this concentration of growth at particular locations, the western end of Waiheke Island retains a relatively low density of population (compared to the Isthmus).

The Western Waiheke SMA coincides with that area of Waiheke Island identified in Regional policy as the preferred location for future growth on Waiheke. The Regional policies are aimed at securing the better use of existing resources and, in the particular instance of Waiheke Island, contains policies aimed at limiting further urban development to those areas already zoned for such uses.

It is the intent of the resource management strategy for the Western Waiheke SMA to secure the present open pattern of development in the future and thereby retain the identity and character of Waiheke. The dispersed form of development contributes much to the overall character of the area and is, to a large extent, shaped by the natural features of the island. Accordingly, the existing villages will not be permitted to merge and thus produce a continuous urban-type landscape as this is considered to be in conflict with the resource management strategy of the Hauraki Gulf as a whole. Rather, the future emergence of additional land use activity will be centred on the existing nodes where sufficient land is available for foreseeable development without further spatial dispersion of activities, except where the creation of new nodes is justifiable and will sustain the natural environment.



### 5.18.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The context of Western Waiheke for which the provisions of the Plan have been formulated gives rise to a number of resource management issues.

- The capacity of the natural and physical landscape to sustain further urban development and intensive land use activities.
- The protection of those identified qualities of the natural environment that constitute the special character of this area in particular those associated with rural land and open space character.
- The recognition of the constraints on development arising from the existing pattern of subdivision and the need to ensure land use activities are compatible with land capabilities.
- The need to provide for sustainable systems of effluent disposal in a manner which does not compromise the qualities of the natural environment, including wetlands, estuaries and streams, and coastal waters.
- The need to ensure that development within the strategic management area makes effective use of the existing roading system.
- The need to ensure the retention and enhancement of the physical nature and amenity of the built environment.
- The maintenance of discrete urban type settlements separated by areas of land having a predominantly rural open space character and a consequential low density of buildings in the landscape.
- The need to provide opportunities for the economic and social growth of the residents.
- The protection of the main rural headlands as a means of enhancing urban character and visual amenity values.

### 5.18.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Western Waiheke SMA is based on the resource management issues identified. The strategy is to direct further urban growth to land within the village type settlements, and to maintain the open rural landscapes which surround them, along with the protection and enhancement of the coastal environment.

The landscape qualities of the Western Waiheke SMA are worthy of protection and enhancement. Landform features, vegetation and rural areas constitute elements of the natural

environment that give this part of Waiheke Island its essential character. The future integrity of the landscape could be compromised by unsympathetic development that fails to recognise these qualities or fails to accommodate them.

The strategy enables development to take place in a manner which does not compromise the valued qualities of the natural and physical environments and which over time leads to the improvement and enhancement of these qualities. Continued urban development will be enabled within existing areas, at a scale and in a style which complements the natural qualities of the area. Open landscape areas contained within Land Units 20, 21 and 22 comprising land capable of rural land use activities and development will secure an open rural landscape as a means to achieve environmental, social and economic goals and objectives. As a result, the existing patterns of development will continue to retain the environmental qualities which make the area attractive for living, working and recreation and ensure that sustainable land use occurs.

### 5.18.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.18.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To protect and enhance the natural and physical environment when providing for the future growth in the Western Waiheke SMA.*

#### Policies

- A. By requiring appropriate landscaping in association with all new development and re-development.
- B. By managing the scale, form and location of buildings so that these do not detrimentally affect the natural environment or visual amenity.
- C. By managing alterations to the natural environment to minimise negative impacts of land use activities.
- D. By requiring all public buildings to be constructed in accordance with the recommendations and conclusions contained within the Waiheke Characteristic Study (Hauraki Gulf Islands Area Office, August 1992).

#### 5.18.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To enable continued urban growth within the existing urban areas.*



**Policies**

- A. By providing for a range of land use opportunities within urban land units subject to meeting environmental standards and limiting off-site impacts of development.
- B. By establishing specific rules related to particular Policy Areas to secure appropriate land use activities in key areas.
- C. By relating development potential to the land use capability of land units in order to avoid cumulative negative development impacts.

**5.18.3.3 OBJECTIVE**

*To maintain the existing pattern of urban type settlements, separated by rural open space.*

**Policies**

- A. By using rules for the subdivision of rural land which secure the continuation of rural open space between urban areas.
- B. By using land units 20, 21 and 22 to create rural buffers and green belt areas between separate village forms of urban type development.
- C. By protecting and seeking the enhancement of the landscape and amenity values of the natural environment.

**5.18.3.4 OBJECTIVE**

*To ensure that the future scale and intensity of land use activities and development does not compromise the natural environment.*

**Policies**

- A. By using performance standards to manage the effects of activities within land units.
- B. By controlling the density and scale of buildings.
- C. By ensuring that the scale and intensity of development is compatible with the carrying capacities of the strategic management area and individual land units.
- D. By securing the retention of rural open space buffers between urban areas.



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 19 : EASTERN WAIHEKE

### 5.19.0 DESCRIPTION

The Eastern Waiheke SMA consists of all that land to the east of a line drawn from Onetangi in the north to Omiha in the south as shown on Figure 7 Part 4. This part of Waiheke primarily contains rural land and is characterised by an indented coastline of high amenity value.

Under the 1991 Operative Waiheke Transitional District Plan the resource management strategy for this area was subject to the Regional Plan policies which sought to contain urban development to land west of the line described above (and as described in the Western Waiheke SMA). This strategy continues that policy. Exceptions are however, the area of Orapiu which contains a small existing residential settlement, the development historically known as the Blue Heron Lodge contained within Land Unit 14. The Eastern Waiheke SMA contains land of a predominantly rural character having varied characteristics and in the Plan is divided into a number of land units. These land units are common to the Outer Islands. In terms of the Hauraki Gulf Islands overall, this part of Waiheke Island fulfils a significant function in terms of resource management and provides for a range of opportunities of a rural character.

The geography of the area is diverse and includes landscape and environmental attributes ranging from sensitive coastal edges through to pastured areas with a propensity towards erosion and includes significant wetland systems. There are also large areas of significant native bush. The existing uses in the area having a non-rural character are limited by the provisions of Section 10 of the Resource Management Act.

### 5.19.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

For the purpose of establishing appropriate rules in the Plan, a number of resource management issues have been identified for the Eastern Waiheke SMA. These include:

- The protection and enhancement of the natural environment.
- Retention of rural character and high visual amenity values.
- Maintaining productive land use opportunities.
- Protection of native bush, shrubland and landforms and landscape.
- The protection of wetlands, ecological corridors and

wildlife habitats.

- Containment of urban forms of development to the western end of Waiheke Island.
- Recognition of impacts from water-based activities such as recreational boating.
- Need for public access to the coastline.
- Provision for alternative lifestyle opportunities.
- Recognition of Maori interests and the principles contained within the Treaty of Waitangi.
- Recognition of Regional policies and strategies.
- Recognition of and the continuation of existing land use activities in the strategic management area.
- Provision for activities which facilitate the economic and social well-being of the community.

### 5.19.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Eastern Waiheke SMA is to provide a diverse range of land use opportunities that are compatible with a sensitive rural/coastal environment.

There are also some existing land use activities in the area which have an essentially urban form and character.

Similar to Great Barrier Island and for the Outer Islands of the Hauraki Gulf overall, the resource management strategy is based upon the utilisation of rules related to discrete areas of land in a manner where controls on activities and development relate specifically to the land use capability of each land unit.

The resource management strategy for the area seeks to provide a framework and the means by which activities within the smaller land units can be integrated into a wider framework, to ensure that interactions between land units are addressed and properly managed. In that way the cumulative effects of activities can be addressed.

The main components of the resource management strategy are:

- To provide in the Plan for the maintenance and continuation of a predominantly rural/coastal landscape and character.
- To minimise the intrusion and environmental impact of buildings in the rural landscape.



- To facilitate the productive use of the area's better soils.
- To protect sensitive areas and ecosystems, such as wildlife habitats and wetlands from the impact of land use activities and development and to encourage the improvement and enhancement of their natural qualities.
- To provide for a diverse range of opportunities for land use activities, in a manner compatible with the capability of the area overall as well as specific land units.
- To use subdivision rules as a means of ensuring that density of buildings in rural areas is compatible with maintaining a rural landscape and character.
- To provide for the continuation of existing land use activities where they exist at Orapiu within the constraints of sustainable land use and appropriate resource management objectives and policies.
- To provide opportunities for the community to enhance their social and economic well-being.

### 5.19.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.19.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To foster the continued use of rural land for rural land use activities.*

##### Policies

- By using rules to provide opportunities for land use activities which are appropriate to the land use capability of specific land units.
- By ensuring that the use of productive or potentially productive land is limited to those land use activities which achieve long term sustainability of the resource.
- By ensuring that the location, scale and arrangement of buildings do not prejudice sustainable rural land use opportunities or reduce visual amenity values.

#### 5.19.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To manage the coastal environment so that natural resources and environmental values are protected, preserved and enhanced.*

##### Policies

- By preventing or controlling land use activities and development where natural hazards exist.
- By controlling land use activities in the coastal environment so that the protection, preservation and enhancement of significant areas of native bush, shrublands, wetlands, ecological systems and wildlife habitats are assured.
- By using rules to ensure that land use activities and development in the coastal environment secure the maintenance and/or creation of high visual amenity.

#### 5.19.3.3 OBJECTIVE

*To protect the physical and natural environment to facilitate sustainable land use.*

##### Policies

- By requiring the protection of significant ecosystems and wildlife habitats.
- By minimising the disturbance to existing natural land forms and landscape through appropriate controls to ensure that land use activities foster protection, preservation and enhancement of landscape and environmental values.
- By controlling buildings in the rural/coastal environment so that visual impacts and effects on the natural environment are minimised.
- By using discretionary activity resource consent application procedures for identified land use activities to ensure that any areas of high environmental value and significance are protected
- By ensuring all public buildings are constructed in accordance with the recommendations and conclusions contained within the Waiheke Characteristic Study (Hauraki Gulf Islands Area Office, August 1992).



## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREA 20 : OTHER ISLANDS

### 5.20.0 DESCRIPTION

The Other Islands SMA contains those islands previously administered under the Operative 1991 Waiheke Transitional District Plan, other than Waiheke Island. The SMA includes islands such as Rangitoto, Browns, Motutapu, Rotoroa, Motuihe, Ponui, Karamurumu, Pakihi, Rakino, Pakatoa and a number of other smaller islands.

These islands are diverse in terms of landscape and environmental values, as well as the range of existing land use activities found on them. The range of activities includes farming on Motutapu and Ponui Islands, outdoor recreation activities on Rangitoto Island, a special rehabilitation facility on Rotoroa Island, residential uses on Rakino Island, visitor facilities on Pakatoa Island and conservation activities on many of the smaller islands.

Within the Gulf Islands part of the District Plan, strategic management areas have been identified and used as a means of facilitating integrated resource management. Because of their particular characteristics, size, location, and most importantly their conservation and amenity values, these islands are contained within a particular strategic management area for the purpose of the Plan and resource management.

The islands within the strategic management area can be grouped into two categories;

- a) those islands where conservation and/or recreation activities dominate, and
- b) those islands where more intensive and particular activities are in existence or provided for but only in association with protection of the natural and physical environment.

The SMA contains a number of different land units each of which recognises and provide for land use activities appropriate to the nature of the islands.

### 5.20.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

For the purpose of establishing appropriate rules in the Plan the following resource management issues have been identified for the Other Islands SMA:

- Preservation of high landscape, environmental, recreation, tourist and heritage values.
- Provision and management of public access.

- Limitations on development opportunities to facilitate sustainable land use and conservation.
- Controls on buildings to minimise visual impact.
- Appropriate revegetation of islands using indigenous species.
- Management of impacts arising from intensive recreational boating.
- Increased environmental sensitivity of smaller islands.
- Coordinated approach to reserve management and land acquisition.
- Management of residential activities on Rakino Island.
- Facilitation of appropriate economic opportunities.
- Recognition and management of diverse range of conservation areas.

### 5.20.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The resource management strategy for the Other Islands is to ensure their long term preservation and conservation in recognition of their high environmental and heritage value. Within that framework it is recognised there are variations in terms of the degree to which the islands should and can be conserved. In that regard, some of the existing uses modify the extent to which this basic strategy can be employed. In particular it is recognised that Pakatoa Island, which has a history of use for tourist and visitor related activities should continue to fulfil that function, whilst at the same time it is recognised that it would be desirable to facilitate some enhancement of the physical and natural environment of that island. Similarly, Rotoroa Island, which has been used by the Salvation Army since 1907 for the treatment and rehabilitation of people with addiction problems, is expected to continue in that role, whilst continuing to protect and conserve the physical and natural environment of the Island.

The continuation of the existing quarrying activity at Karamurumu Island is recognised but modified by the fact that such activities must ultimately terminate and at that time enhancement of the island must occur. Also, development on Rakino Island is recognised as having the potential to detrimentally affect environmental qualities and visual amenity in particular if not carefully managed. Some of the islands are currently farmed and the strategy recognises the need to provide for farming activities where these do not conflict with conservation objectives. At the other end of the spectrum, there are some islands where the resource



management strategy is to ensure that conservation activities are the only permitted land use activity. In between those two extremes there are other islands where varying degrees of conservation, protection and recreational use are appropriate. In that regard it is also recognised that recreational use opportunities are part of a visitor activities strategy for the Hauraki Gulf Islands as a whole. The outcomes sought for visitor activities in the Hauraki Gulf Islands must therefore be recognised in the Plan rules relating to the Other Islands SMA.

This strategy, while establishing a framework within which any land use activity can be managed on any of the islands also recognises that where applicable, the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Management Plan of the Department of Conservation will apply. It is considered necessary and appropriate for the Plan to provide rules related to land use activities in those places on the basis that ownership of land can change. A particular emphasis of the strategy is to ensure that recreational activities on these islands are at a scale and intensity of use appropriate to conservation objectives. In some cases, for particular islands that means no recreation or visitor activities should be permitted. On other islands it may mean that there is a need to carefully monitor and manage the day to day level of use and impacts, in order to ensure that the balance of the natural environment is not adversely altered. In some situations where this may have already occurred, there is a need to facilitate enhancement.

The main purpose of the resource management strategy for the Other Islands is to ensure that key landscape and environmental values found in those areas are protected, preserved and conserved as a long term resource for the City, region and nation and that short term use opportunities and activities do not lead to a failure to achieve that goal. For that reason the strategy also seeks to facilitate the acquisition of a diverse and representative range of reserves within these islands, by those agencies with different responsibilities in the Hauraki Gulf area.

In terms of existing activities, the resource management strategy will be implemented by ensuring that particular identified activities are managed through the discretionary activity resource consent processes in the Plan.

In recognition of existing and likely future impacts arising from recreational boating in the Hauraki Gulf, and in particular those affecting the islands contained within the Other Islands SMA, the strategy seeks to minimise any detrimental impacts by facilitating opportunities providing for the establishment of appropriate facilities on land.

## 5.20.3 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### 5.20.3.1 OBJECTIVE

*To conserve, protect and enhance those landscape and natural environmental features which contribute to the natural character of the islands.*

#### Policies

- A. By generally limiting future development on the islands to activities compatible with conservation and enhancement of the physical and natural environment.
- B. By ensuring that the Plan is compatible with the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Management Plan for land owned and administered by the Department of Conservation.
- C. By restricting earthworks and the removal of native bush and trees.
- D. By ensuring that rules facilitate water and soil conservation techniques.

### 5.20.3.2 OBJECTIVE

*To protect and maintain the landscape and visual qualities of all significant coastal features, including small bays, headlands and beaches.*

#### Policies

- A. By managing the location, design, scale and use of buildings so that they are in harmony with the natural landscape of the islands.
- B. By recognising the regional value of significant and special land forms found on the islands and protecting them accordingly.
- C. By carefully managing the erection and location of jetties and other buildings in the foreshore area.

### 5.20.3.3 OBJECTIVE

*To recognise the high amenity value of the islands and to provide for their continued use as a recreational resource.*

#### Policies

- A. By limiting development on those islands with a particularly high conservation value, such as Rangitoto, to those activities associated with conservation, recreation and tourism and only then, at a scale and intensity compatible with the capacity of the island.
- B. By limiting the scale of permitted activities on the islands to those associated with sustainable





## PART 5 - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AREAS

conservation, recreation, tourism and protection of the natural environment.

- C. By facilitating through rules the provision of facilities associated with recreational boating, where they will help to reduce detrimental impacts on the natural environment, including coastal waters and wetlands.

### 5.20.3.4 OBJECTIVE

*To provide for the continuation of existing land use activities in conjunction with a recognition of the need to facilitate environmental enhancement and conservation objectives.*

#### Policies

- A. By providing for rural land uses only where they are appropriate and do not conflict with conservation objectives.
- B. By providing for the continuation of appropriate recreational, tourist, educational and institutional activities on the islands.
- C. By requiring any land use activities to maintain or enhance the quality of the natural environment.

