

# **Taharoa Domain operations update for August 2019 to March 2020**

**Meeting:** Taharoa Domain Governance Committee  
**Date of meeting:** 28 May 2020  
**Reporting officer:** Hamish Watson, Parks and Recreation Manager

## **Purpose/Ngā whāinga**

To report the operational report for the Taharoa Domain (Kai Iwi Lakes) for the August 2019 to March 2020 period to keep the Committee well informed.

## **Executive summary/Whakarāpopototanga**

Below is a summary of activities, operations and maintenance work carried out over the months of August 2019 to March 2020.

## **Recommendation/Ngā tūtohunga**

That the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee:

- a) Notes the Taharoa Domain operations update report for August 2019 to March 2020.

## **Context/Horopaki**

The Kai Iwi Lakes are among the best-known dune lakes in New Zealand. It is the intent of the Kai Iwi Lakes (Taharoa Domain) Reserve Management Plan (RMP) to enable the Lakes and its surrounds to be enjoyed by all visitors while simultaneously enhancing the area and reducing risks through knowledge and active management.

## **Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero**

- Installed 16 new powered sites in the camping block behind the current powered sites. These were well used over the holiday season.
- New shade sails were installed over the playground.
- New signage and wayfinding markers have been installed on the walking/cycling tracks.
- 3 new recycling stations have been installed with 2 at Pine Beach and 1 at Promenade Point to encourage Domain users to recycle. These have worked well over the summer season.
- The rubbish collection area has been given a tidy up with a concrete floor and trellising erected to make this area tidy and helps contain loose material from being blown around the campground.
- Solar lights have been installed up by the main toilet block, this has helped campers at night to find their way to the toilets and has also helped with crime prevention through environmental design principles.
- Unfortunately, on Christmas day there was a drowning at Pine Beach, this was well handled by all involved. The family involved were well looked after and supported by campers and staff. Iwi responded and blessed the site and decided against a Rahui due to the number of people and the time it happened. As a result of this incident and other potential incidents that happened we have installed life rings at Pine Beach, Promenade Point and Lake Waikare
- Campground was fully booked from the start of Christmas to the end of Waitangi weekend, in general most campers were very well behaved and enjoyed their stay.

- The Whitebait Connection Educational Open Day has been postponed due to COVID-19.
- Staff are continuing to deal with dogs being brought to site, majority of these incidents are locals who should know better, although this is starting to get better and having in house Animal Management Officers has given staff better support also.
- Some boat and jet ski owners continue to break the rules, however staff have been busy educating these people on the rules, once spoken with most of them adhere, this will be an ongoing process. Jordan Soole has been appointed a Harbour Warden which gives him more authority to enforce the rules. Still working with NRC to get more support for this.
- Cash handling procedures have been implemented for all sales.
- The final review for the biosecurity area at the boat ramp has been received (**Attachment A**).
- Waste water resource consent parameters have been compliant; Resource consent allows for a discharge of 37.5m<sup>3</sup>/day. This year there is a notable difference in discharge volumes to previous years, previously we had a flows around 34m<sup>3</sup>/day, 2020 maximum flow was 25m<sup>3</sup>/day.
- Improved water take resource consent compliance; Consent requirements max daily take of 50m<sup>3</sup>/day, we had one exceedance on 25 December with a take of 52m<sup>3</sup>/day
- Water meters for online monitoring have been ordered, waiting on installation.
- NRC and KDC are working to together to develop a pest plant control plan and update the planting plan.
- General maintenance to keep newly planted trees clear of weeds has continued.
- Approximately 17,000 native plants were planted last season, unfortunately there was about a 30% loss ratio due to the drought.
- Opus were engaged to do a traffic study, below is a summary of the results.

### Kai Iwi Lakes Vehicle Movements Summer 2019

Table showing the average vehicle counts *per day*:

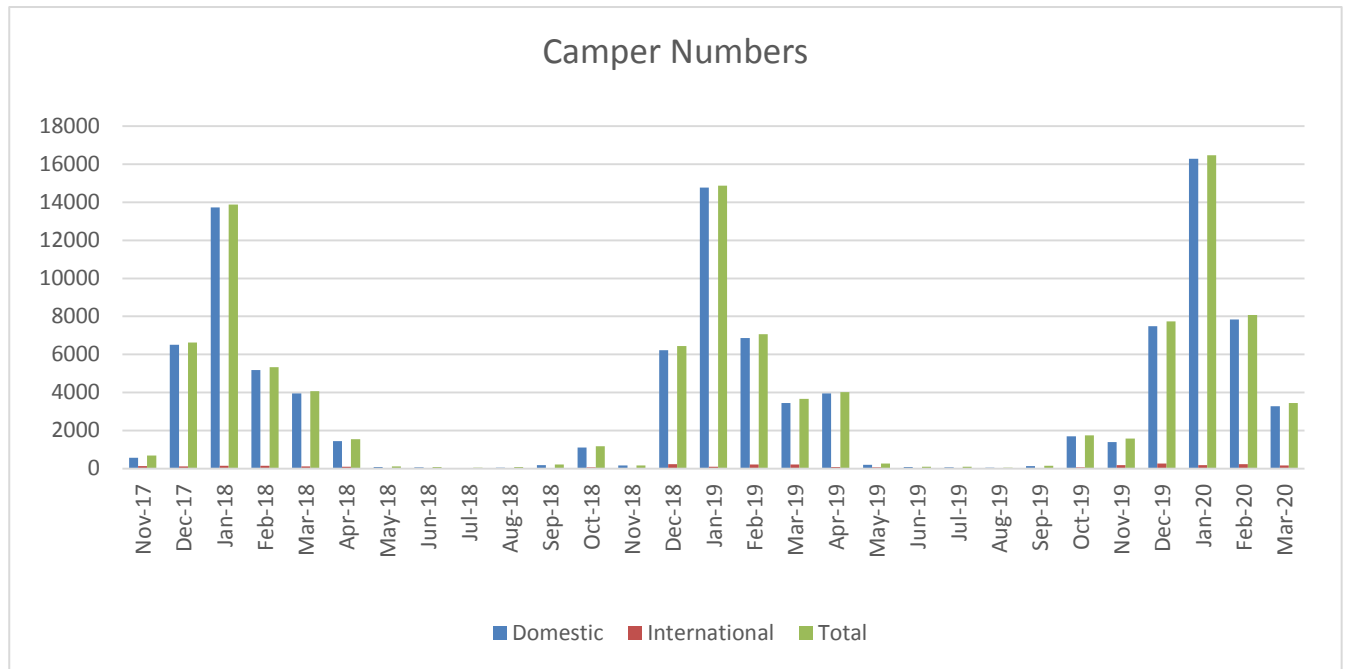
|                                 | Domain Road | Promenade Point | Kai Iwi Lakes Road |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Week 1 (19 Dec - 26 Dec)</b> | 523         | 122             | no data            |
| <b>Week 2 (26 Dec - 2 Jan)</b>  | 1167        | 140             | 233                |
| <b>Week 3 (2 Jan - 9 Jan)</b>   | 798         | 121             | 234                |
| <b>Average</b>                  | 829         | 128             | 233                |

Table showing vehicle speeds on Domain Road (speeding over posted speed limit of 30km/h):

| Domain Road Vehicle Speeds | Speeding | Not speeding | Average Speed | Maximum   |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| <b>Week 1</b>              | 89%      | 12%          | 42.3km/h      | 112.4km/h |
| <b>Week 2</b>              | 84%      | 16%          | 40.4km/h      | 94.6km/h  |
| <b>Week 3</b>              | 87%      | 13%          | 41.7km/h      | 86.7km/h  |
| <b>Average</b>             | 87%      | 13%          | 41.5km/h      | n/a       |

Peak vehicle movements for all sites were observed between 11am-6pm.

## Camper Numbers:



| Month          | Total visitors | Domestic visitors | International visitors |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| March 2020     | 3451           | 3284              | 167                    |
| February 2020  | 8081           | 7843              | 238                    |
| January 2020   | 16391          | 16209             | 182                    |
| December 2019  | 7744           | 7479              | 265                    |
| November 2019  | 1574           | 1397              | 177                    |
| October 2019   | 1752           | 1690              | 62                     |
| September 2019 | 141            | 138               | 3                      |
| August 2019    | 40             | 40                | 0                      |
| July 2019      | 90             | 66                | 24                     |
| June 2019      | 103            | 85                | 18                     |
| May 2019       | 269            | 201               | 68                     |
| April 2019     | 4,026          | 3,949             | 77                     |
| March 2019     | 3,658          | 3,451             | 207                    |
| February 2019  | 7,072          | 6,856             | 216                    |
| January 2019   | 14,880         | 14,778            | 102                    |
| December 2018  | 6,448          | 6,216             | 232                    |
| November 2018  | 170            | 160               | 10                     |
| October 2018   | 1,170          | 1,099             | 71                     |
| September 2018 | 209            | 175               | 34                     |
| August 2018    | 85             | 50                | 35                     |
| July 2018      | 43             | 31                | 12                     |
| June 2018      | 73             | 59                | 14                     |
| May 2018       | 109            | 78                | 31                     |
| April 2018     | 1,544          | 1,446             | 98                     |
| March 2018     | 4,066          | 3,953             | 113                    |
| February 2018  | 5,331          | 5,188             | 143                    |
| January 2018   | 13,884         | 13,739            | 145                    |
| December 2017  | 6,626          | 6,514             | 112                    |
| November 2017  | 689            | 561               | 128                    |

### **Policy and planning implications**

It is the Park and Recreation Manager's responsibility to ensure all operations are conducted within budget.

### **Financial implications**

The financial budgets are set within the Long Term Plan and respective Annual Plan.

### **Risks and mitigations**

The RMP was developed using a public process and reflects the views of the community and other stakeholders at the time of its development.

### **Significance and engagement/Hirahira me ngā whakapāpā**

The decisions or matters of this report do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via agenda on the website.

### **Next steps/E whaiake nei**

Council staff will continue to implement the RMP.

### **Attachments/Ngā tapiritanga**

|   | Title                       |
|---|-----------------------------|
| A | Bio Security options report |