

Taharoa Domain operations update for July 2020 to October 2020

Meeting: Taharoa Domain Governance Committee
Date of meeting: 10 November 2020
Reporting officer: Hamish Watson, Parks and Recreation Manager

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To report the operational update for the Taharoa Domain (Kai Iwi Lakes) for the July 2020 to October 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 July 2020 to October 2020.

Recommendation/Ngā tūtohunga

That the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee:

- a) Notes the Taharoa Domain operations update report for July 2020 to October 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.

Operational activities include:

- The Kai Iwi Campground (KDC)
- Taharoa Domain (KDC)
- Northland Regional Council Activities
- DoC Activities

Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

Health and Safety:

- Staff are having to deal with multiple issues including dogs and Boats, we are discussing with our in-house staff, NRC and Police about providing more patrols for support.

Operational Activities

- The Taharoa Domain Operational management Plan and Management Zones for pest plants and predator control has been completed. (Attachment 1 & 2)

Improvement Programme:

- Work is continuing with the Te Tai Tokerau Redeployment package which will conclude mid-December. This work includes pest plant eradication across the Domain and revegetation, Council have contracted Te Roroa and Turf Tamer to complete this work. This has employed up to 12 people at its peak all though those numbers have declined as workers have left or

found other employment. A part of this employment package has also involved training for new staff including Growsafe and First Aid training that was completed in August and October respectively. Budgeted spend is approximately \$500,000, spend to date is \$295,000.

- Bollards have been installed at Lake Waikare.
- An independent security report has been commissioned which is reported in a separate paper.

Northland Regional Council (NRC):

- NRC have completed Stage 1 of the wilding conifer control. This has been a successful project and the evidence of the work can be seen with nearly all trees browning off at this point. Assessment is to be done with KDC staff on other areas on where wilding conifers can be targeted round the reserve.



- Predator trapping is continuing, and trap catch data is stored in the TrapNZ database.
- A possum and rat control operation has been completed with bait going in bait stations on the 14th October and a top up completed on the 28th October. Bait will remain in bait stations for a month after the top-up then any remaining bait will be pulled in at the end of November. A pre and post wax tag monitor will be completed to assess possum numbers.

Kai Iwi Campground

- Staff are preparing for the Holiday season.
- Interviews for summer casuals have been completed and appointments are being made.

Next quarter activity:

- Ongoing general repairs and maintenance.
- Continuing with Te Tai Tokerau redeployment work, this will be ending as of 20th December.
- Water meter data recording system to be installed.
- Summer holiday season duties as required.
- Continue with campground options review.

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 and agreed forward works plan.

Attachments/Ngā tapiritanga

	Title
A	Taharoa Domain Operational Plan
B	Taharoa Domain Management Zones