



Aotea Great Barrier
ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

Strategic Plan

From 2023 to 2025 inclusive





*Our vision is unchanged - is to see the return of
kōkakō, fīeke and other species lost to Aotea*



Our mission

Work with Aotea's mana whenua and community to protect biodiversity, re-introduce lost species, eradicate rats and feral cats and grow a sustainable, ecology-based economy.

Our values

Be a voice for biodiversity | Open communication | Evidence-based
Integrity | Respect for mana whenua | Inclusion
Commitment | Innovation | Trust



The context for our work is: an iwi-led vision for a restored island, which is of regional, national and international biodiversity significance in a warming climate

Our mana whenua are Ngāti Rehua Ngāti Wai ki Aotea. Their goal is to restore the mauri of the motu, this includes bringing back the kōkakō

High quality marine environment and more than 50 islets harbouring rare species

There are approximately 1,000 permanent residents and 1,100 landowners. Of whom >50% actively manage pests.

Aotea is NZ's largest tract of possum and stoat free forest

There is growing concern about marine protection, particularly in light of the caulerpa invasion, and also regarding protect fish stocks and stopping marine dumping

There has been growth in community participation in restoration and conservation activities

Aotea is an internationally significant biodiversity "ark" for seabirds and wetlands (Kaitoke and Okiwi)

Other high biodiversity sites are: Te Paparahi, Mt Young, Te Ahumata, Windy Hill and on Rakitū

In 2017, the Local Board's Ecology Vision project and PFNZ2050 outlined a roadmap to suppressing pests and a vision for a pest free island

Approximately 60% of Aotea is DOC administered land, including: Aotea Conservation Park, scenic reserves and islands

Hirakimatā is the site of the main tākoketai (black petrel) colony and cloud forest, unique in the region

Auckland Council's investment in biosecurity and conservation projects is in jeopardy - including directly through the Local Board

Several pest-free islands: Kaikōura, Motuhaku, Rakitū

Strong hold of pāteke, kākā, NZ dotterel, bittern, chevron skink, Caspian tern, banded rail, rare plants and many other species

The island has sources of key ecological expertise from: Windy Hill Sanctuary, Glenfern Sanctuary and Motu Kaikōura.

Our goals for 2023 - 2025



Strengthen our partnership with mana whenua as kaitiaki of Aotearoa



Strengthen and enable community and landowner action



Facilitate targeted research and information to support action



Educate and advocate for Aotearoa's taonga ecosystems and species

**Whatungarongaro te tangata,
toitū te whenua**

*As people disappear from
sight, the land remains*



*We will build strong, collaborative relationships to
achieve these goals*

We acknowledge the essential contribution our partners are making to these goals:



Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea



Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea, as mana whenua and kaitiaki of Aotea and its surrounds

Foundation North

Lotteries Commission

Aotea Great Barrier Local Board

Auckland Council

Department of Conservation

Our private donors

Our life members and our past Trustees

Our 1,300+ (and fgrowing) social media following

Our science volunteers, backstage supporters & on-the-ground people getting the work done.



Where we will focus our efforts from 2023 to 2025

Our key activities in 2023/25

GOAL

1. Strengthen our partnership with mana whenua as kaitiaki of Aotea

KEY ACTIVITIES

Supporting Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea to make Tū Mai Taonga a success

Work with community conservation projects to recognise te ao Māori and matauranga and respect hapu interests and values

2. Strengthen and enable community and landowner action

Continue to grow use of the Aotea Trap Library (ATL)

Enable and act as an umbrella Trust for community projects, including Oruawharo Medlands Ecovision (OME), the Awana Project, Okupu Community Trappers and others

3. Facilitate targeted research and information to support action

Coordinate the Aotea Bird Count

Provide environmental reporting (Aotea climate impacts, freshwater ecology, research repository)

“Aotea Seabird Island” kaupapa and events

Targeted responses (caulerpa, dogs, pigs, others) as required

4. Educate and advocate for Aotea’s taonga ecosystems and species

Develop and promote educational material on taonga of Aotea (lizards, freshwater)

Aotea Conservation Workshops

Publish and promote Environmental News twice annually

Prepare and promote submissions and advocate as required to Auckland Council, DOC, MPI and others

A photograph of a bird, possibly a frigatebird, perched on a branch. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent yellow filter. The bird is facing right, with its head slightly turned. The background shows other branches and leaves, also filtered with the same yellow color.

We will support others to act

Our communication strategy underpins our goals

EDUCATE

- Key message: Aotea's treasures are unique and under threat - they need your protection
- Partner with others to build love of and connection to nature (in schools, via social & local media, events)
- Grow knowledge through increasing participation in pest management and restoration

ADVOCATE

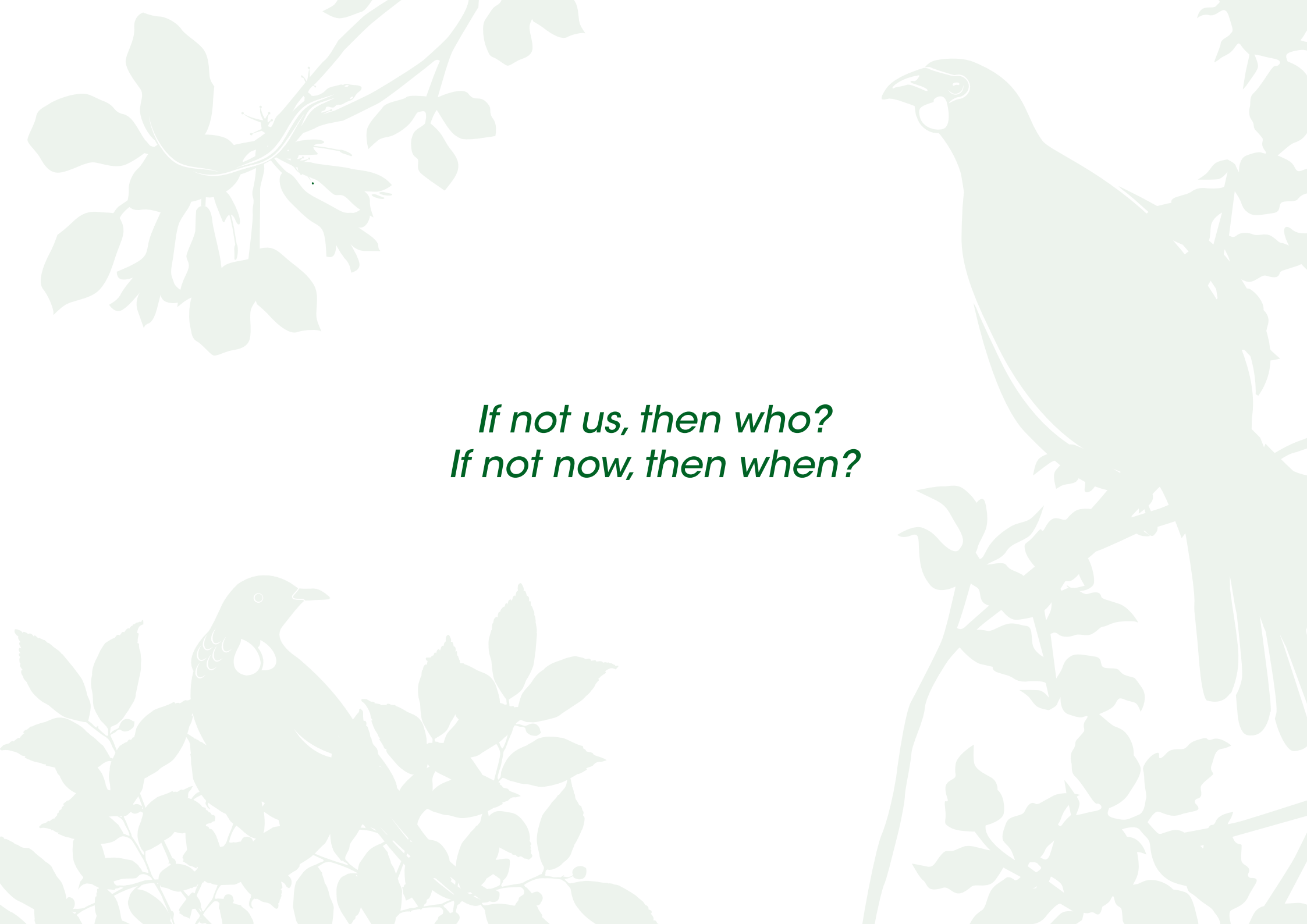
- Maintain relationships with iwi, agencies (e.g., DOC, Council) and other key stakeholders
- Ensure decision makers are provided with timely information about the state of ecosystems, key species and threats
- Be active in the submissions, planning, communication and other processes that relate to Aotea's ecology

CELEBRATE

- Share Aotea's biodiversity stories and images often and well via social and local media and other channels
- Help others to tell Aotea's biodiversity stories in season and "at place"
- Share stories about Aotea's conservation heroes at work and why they do what they do



*If not us, then who?
If not now, then when?*





Aotea Great Barrier
ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

love · protect · restore | aroha · tiaki · whakahou



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