

Meeting Notes of the Sounds Advisory Group held in the Committee Room at Marlborough District Council On Monday 2 September 2019 at 9.30 am

Present

Clr Hook (Chair) (until 10.30 am), Clr Oddie (until 10.30 am) Clr Taylor, Monyeen Wedge, Rob Schuckard, Eric Jorgensen (until 2.35 pm), Ross Withell, Tim Greenhough, Judy Hellstrom, Vic Koller, Lynley Perkins, Ned Wells, Jodi Milne, Ken Roush, Dave Hayes, Linda Booth

Guest Speakers

Chrissy Powlesland, Tōtaranui 250 (11.00 am)

MDC Staff

Alan Johnson, Oliver Wade, Pere Hawes (for part of the meeting), Linda Craighead (for part of the meeting)

In Attendance

Rebecca Waldron (Council Secretary)

Apologies

Clr Taylor, Poneke Rene, Emma Hopkinson, Rick Osbourne, Lynley Perkins

Clr Hook/Clr Oddie: That the apologies be accepted.

1. Welcome

- Clr Hook welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was agreed that Eric Jorgensen would take over the Chair of the meeting at 10.30 am, as Clr Oddie and Clr Hook were required to attend the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP) deliberations.
- Clr Hook introduced Ned Wells, General Manager of the Marine Farming Association who is the new SAG representative for the organisation.

2. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes

- The notes from the meeting held on 20 May 2019 were taken as read.

3. Actions from the Previous Meeting – 20 May 2019

Action	Person Responsible
1. Ask MDC Holdings about plans to implement better environmental forestry practices – see below, completed	Councillors
2. Report back on outcomes of Biodiversity Forum – completed (see Item 10 below)	Judy
3. Provide an update on the SNA Programme and how to determine an SNA and the role of Council and DOC in relation to these areas – deferred to the next meeting	Oliver
4. Request Steve Murrin provides a response to the roading issues on Opouri Road and an indication of when repairs are going to take place - completed	Rebecca
5. Follow up on the Compliance issues on the Opouri Road - completed	Alan

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| 6. Follow up whether a map of Marlborough's Significant Wetlands can be added to an easily accessible area of the website – completed (additional question below) | Alan |
| 7. Circulate Anticipated Environmental Results (AER's) for the Coastal Domain to the group – completed | Alan |
| 8. Provide update on review process of NZCPS – summary provided below – completed | Dave Hayes |
| 9. Follow up with Marlborough Roads to have Moetapu Bay Road culverts and water tables cleared before winter - completed | Councillors |

Action Points:

Action Point 1:

- MDC Holdings is an independent board that doesn't report to Council. However there has been a recent push at Council to improve environmental outcomes in forestry and Councillors have asked for information on environmental matters and best practice to be fed back through the Board to forestry operations. SAG agreed it was important for them to receive this information as they represent community groups. Cllr Hook noted that the Smart + Connected Wood Sector would be an effective way of communication with the Forestry Sector. It was suggested that a representative from the Wood Sector group be invited to a SAG meeting to give a presentation.
- A topic for the agenda of the next meeting on the Pelorus Catchment Initiative was suggested.

Action Point 6:

- Judy raised an additional question on this Action Point: Although it may be on a map, people are still driving quad bikes on a marine protected wetland in Endeavour Inlet. She requested some education from the Compliance Department be sent to residents (added to Action Points).

4. Role of SAG – Cllr Hook

- Discussion on the role of SAG took place with Cllr Hook noting that bringing a topic to the table at the meeting and having a general discussion is not the most productive way to deal with issues.
- Members provided their views of the role of SAG. These views will be collated into a document for discussion. It was also agreed that members would provide feedback directly to Alan Johnson and this feedback will be included in the document for consideration.
- There is a protocol document from 2009 which outlines the role of SAG. It was suggested that this document be updated to reflect what SAG's role should be going forward. Cllr Hook noted that the protocol document was intended to deal specifically with the PMEP (the Plan) process, he also noted that community has now become as important as issues and that Industry, DOC and MBIE also need to be around the table. (*The protocol document was circulated to the group on 5 September 2019*).
- Cllr Oddie noted that he has received feedback by a representative that at times SAG is not having a balanced conversation between economic and environmental outcomes.
 - He also noted that the Integrated Management Group should be brought into Council and if this happens and Central Government is brought in to discuss issues then where does that leave some SAG members and the direction of SAG – given it was implemented to help direct the Plan?
- Cllr Oddie noted that SAG has been a good way to get information to communities.
- It was noted that Marlborough based people who don't own property in the Sounds such as boat owners have no representation on SAG.
- There is no iwi representation on SAG.
- Please provide feedback to Alan on the role of SAG before the end of September.

Action Points Cont'd

Action Point 8

Summary of review process of New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) – Dave Hayes

- In 2016/2017 DOC carried out a review on whether the NZCPS was effective on RMA decision making. Dave tabled two reports from the process which are both available on the DOC website.

<https://www.coastalrestorationtrust.org.nz/site/assets/files/1189/review-of-effect-of-nzcps-2010-on-rma-part-one.pdf>

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/conservation/marine-and-coastal/coastal-management/review-of-effect-of-nzcps-2010-on-rma-part>

- After review the Minister decided no changes would be made to the NZCPS but requested DOC focus on implementation guidance for councils. Guidance for Policy 13 (Preservation of Natural Character) and 15 (Natural Features) are still being refreshed.
- It was suggested that a member from Council's Policy team be invited to the next SAG meeting to provide a presentation on how the NZCPS links with protection in the coastal environment and decision making.

5. Freedom Camping Update – Linda Craighead

- Council has received funding from the Government's Tourism Infrastructure Fund to undertake a feasibility study to review Council sites and has also received a grant to improve monitoring, enforcement, education and training around freedom camping. This will enable an additional ranger to be employed and funding will be increased to the contractor who assists the Reserves Rangers. This will enable two people to be in a vehicle when monitoring sites. Council's Freedom Camping information will also be updated.
- The Council Bylaw on Freedom Camping is going to be reviewed. The Feasibility Study will help inform the bylaw process. Linda indicated that the first part of the bylaw review would start early next year.
- Central Government is also looking at Freedom Camping and Camp Ground Regulations.
- The Freedom Camping Act means you can't prohibit freedom camping in the whole region. There are 12 sites in Marlborough with a range from 4 – 50 vehicle sites.
- Freedom campers don't have to be self-contained but must comply with the rules at the campsite. Rangers monitor whether the campers are complying and will issue an infringement if necessary.
- Discussion followed on the effects of Freedom Camping on communities.

6. Tōtaranui 250 – Chrissy Powlesland

- Chrissy Powlesland made a presentation to the group on the upcoming Tōtaranui 250 event. (Appendix 1).
- Chrissy asked if anyone had input on how they could be involved in the celebrations or would like to volunteer, to get in touch. You can volunteer via the contact tab on the Tōtaranui 250 website.

<https://www.totaranui250.co.nz/>

Chrissy withdrew from the meeting at 11.15 am.

7. Fisheries Update – Jodi Milne

- The Minister will soon be making decisions on the total allowable catches (TAC's) for the coming year.
- A snapper review is going to be undertaken next year.
- Scallop Strategy consultation has closed. Submissions are being reviewed.
- Submissions on the Threat Management Plan are being reviewed.

Questions/Answers

- Jodi agreed to ask the Fisheries Policy team about the progress on the review of sec 360 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- Jodi advised the National Aquaculture Strategy will be finalised soon and suggested that a member of the MPI Aquaculture team could attend a meeting to give an update to the group.
 - SAG members agreed they would submit no more than six questions (with context) for Jodi by mid-October to pass on for the Aquaculture rep to discuss at the 18 November meeting.
- Jodi noted that Phase II of Sustainable Seas is looking to bring all the information streams together to start using as output tools.

Monyeen Wedge withdrew from the meeting for 30 minutes.

8. DOC Update – Dave Hayes

- Dave gave an update on items of interest to the group (Appendix 2).

Questions/Answers

- Dave clarified goat control programmes focus on the most at risk environmental areas.
- There are no immediate plans to put a toilet in the Mt Stokes area.
- Titirangi Farm Park is still open to the public and for camping.
- Foreshore Rental is under review. DOC is assessing sites and fees will be re-evaluated.
- Submissions close for The NZ Biodiversity Strategy at the end of September.

9. Plan Variation Aquaculture/NES Update – Pere Hawes

- Pere gave the group an update on the progress of the Aquaculture Review Working Group's recommendations.
 - Council has adopted the recommendations of the Aquaculture Review Working Group as the basis of a variation of the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP). Consultation with marine farmers and the wider community will take place.
- The Proposed National Environmental Standard (NES) for Marine Aquaculture has been released. Council is still consulting with the Government over some aspects of the NES. The NES should be finalised by Central Government in early 2020.
- Further discussion on the ARWG update, NES and biodiversity took place.
- Pere acknowledged the contribution of Judy, Rob and Eric in the ARWG.

The meeting adjourned at 12.45 am for 30 minutes for lunch.

10. Biodiversity Update

Biodiversity Forum – Judy Hellstrom

- Judy updated the group on the Marlborough Biodiversity Forum she attended recently in Picton.
 - The forums are probably going to be rotated between Blenheim, Havelock and Picton, with the next forum taking place in Blenheim on 20 October, the guest speaker will be a representative from the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance.

Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance – Alan Johnson

- Alan gave an update on the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance. DOC is leading the strategy with Top of the South councils and iwi being signatories to the Alliance. The Alliance is a non-statutory way for the different stakeholders to work together using a “mountains to sea” approach.
- Key goals in the Top of the South have been identified. A pilot project will be working on the Te Hoiere/Pelorus River Catchment.

Stoat Eradication – d’Urville Island – Dave Hayes

- Dave gave an update on the D’Urville Island Stoat Eradication Charitable Trust (DISECT). A proposal has been developed over the last 10 years for stoat eradication on d’Urville Island. DOC is still working with the Trust on the proposal to make sure there are only positive environmental outcomes. Funding for the project has been secured from Council, DOC and Predator Free New Zealand subject to technical matters.
- Linda noted that her community has had a problem with faulty A12 Good Nature traps which were not firing correctly and have had to be replaced. If others have the same problem they need to take a note of the serial number and contact Good Nature for replacement.

11. Coastal Science Update – Oliver Wade

NIWA Survey

- Oliver gave a presentation on the recent NIWA survey undertaken in the Queen Charlotte Sound/Totaranui and Tory Channel/Kura Te Au. The survey resulted in 58 linear kilometres of seabed floor video analysing 358 sites. The information adds value to the multibeam work highlighting a range of seabed habitats and living communities, some of which have only just been identified or found to be more extensive than first thought. Unfortunately, the survey has also provided further evidence of degradation of habitats as a result of human activities such as dredging and vessel anchoring.
- Three dimensional mosaics have been created which enable virtual exploration of the structures.
- A new species of sea cucumber was discovered during the project.
- Oliver noted that a report from NIWA on the project will be available within a few weeks and he will arrange for it to be circulated to the SAG members.

Multibeam Survey Update

- The Pelorus Sound/Te Hoiere Sound Multibeam Project collaboration with LINZ came in over budget resulting in a reduction in the area to be mapped and the decision to focus on data collection only. The new area will include Outer Pelorus from Clover and Beatrix Bay, Tennyson Inlet, Tawhitinui Reach and out to the Heads of the Sound. The project will begin this year and will take 9-12 months. Navigation routes will also be surveyed.

Questions/Answers

- Oliver agreed to send Linda information on the algal bloom that is occurring in Tennyson Inlet. The bloom has also been found in other parts of the coast stretching from Tasman Bay to Banks Peninsula.
- How marine farms would be monitored under the provisions of the PMP and where finances for monitoring would come from was raised. It was confirmed that monitoring provisions will be included in the PMP chapter on Aquaculture. There will be a chance for consultation at that stage.
- Discussion on effects on the marine environment took place.

Eric withdrew from the meeting at 2.35 pm and Alan Johnson took over the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

12. Sounds Roading Update – Marlborough Roads

- Steve Murrin was unable to attend the meeting today but emailed an update to the group, it was decided that due to time constraints this update would be emailed to members after the meeting. *(Sent on 5 September 2019).*

13. Other Business

- The administration fees for monitoring consents was discussed. Until two years ago, administration fees had been paid through general rates with the Council adopting a user pays system to make the process fairer for rate payers.
 - The high cost of the monitoring fees for water consents for Duncan Bay and Okiwi Bay were discussed. Alan noted these costs are due to Government regulations. Council is looking at the cumulative takes and water use in catchments to make sure they are sustainable. All the data is analysed and passed on to the Government.
- The group agreed they would like a letter of appreciation to be sent to Clr Hook for all the work he has done for SAG. Alan will organise this.
- Mike Aviss will be asked to the next meeting to give an update on the SNA Project.
- Oliver attended the Open Water Aquaculture Symposium held in Nelson, which focussed on off-shore fish, shellfish and algae farming. The purpose of the symposium was mainly information sharing with experts from Denmark and Norway attending.

14. Positive Feedback

- The full agenda was appreciated by the group.
- The progress being made by the Smart + Connected Forestry group was noted.

15. Actions from the meeting

Action	Person Responsible
1. Provide an update on the SNA Programme and how to determine an SNA and the role of Council and DOC in relation to these areas – deferred to the next meeting	Mike Aviss
2. Invite a member of the Smart + Connected Wood Sector Group to a meeting	Alan
3. Provide feedback to Alan via email on the role of SAG.	Members
4. Arrange for education to about not driving across wetlands be sent to residents of Endeavour Inlet	Alan/Dave
5. Invite Policy team member to provide an update on NZCPS	Alan
6. Provide six questions by mid-October to Jodi Milne for the Aquaculture Representative, for the next meeting	Members

16. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for 18 November 2019 at Council.

The meeting closed at 2.55 pm.

Appendix 1

TUIA 250 FIRST ENCOUNTERS

“Tuia te muka tangata ki uta”
“Weaving people together for a shared future”

The ocean brought us here, it is our history, our heritage, our culture and our future.

Let us all to work together to ensure our connections to ocean, earth and each other remain strong.



Trustees

The Tōtaranui 250 Trust was established in 2016, with community volunteers and in partnership with tangata whenua Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Ngāti Kuia, Rangitāne o Wairau and Te Āti Awa o Te Waka-a-Māui. Representatives from MDC and DOC also sit on the Trust in an advisory capacity.



Tuia 250 ki Tōtaranui

The Trust represents one of four significant landing sites around Aotearoa where the Endeavour landed on its voyage to New Zealand 1769/1770.

2019 marks 250 years since the first onshore encounters between Māori and Pākehā, and the commemoration of this is called *Tuia – Encounters 250 (Tuia 250)*. It acknowledges all of our stories of arrival in Aotearoa New Zealand. It is a time when we can honour those who lost their lives during those first encounters, and reflect together on our many extraordinary stories of voyaging, navigation, landing and settlement.

Meretoto/Ship Cove holds a significant place in Māori and European history. Due to its remote location, the majority of events will be held on the Waitohi/Picton foreshore.



Dual Heritage Flotilla

Tuia 250 –Encounters - Tier One National Event

The dual heritage flotilla will be central to commemorations at the four landing sites (Te Hā, Te Whanganui o Hei, Taitokerau and Tōtaranui).

In Tōtaranui the flotilla will first arrive in Meretoto/Ship Cove greeted by tangata whenua at a Pōwhiri on 21 November. The flotilla will then voyage to Waitohi/Picton on the 22 November, and berth in the Port until 25 November.

The flotilla includes three waka hourua: Haunui from Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland, Ngahiraka Mai Tawhiti from Tauranga and from Pape'ete, Tahiti is the va'a moana, Fa'afaite i te Ao Mā'ohi. Historic tall ships include the Replica Endeavour and the Spirit of New Zealand



Tuia 250 Save the Dates

www.totaranui250.co.nz

Nov 21 Pōwhiri - Meretoto/Ship Cove

Cultural welcome to the Tuia 250 flotilla, led by Tangata whenua iwi. Limited public access.

Nov 22 Community Welcome

Witness the exciting arrival of the Dual Heritage flotilla into Waitohi/Picton harbour.

Nov 23 Meet, Explore, Live Music

Free 'Fly My Pretties' concert follows a day of exploring the flotilla vessels, cultural entertainment and delicious kai.

Nov 24 Dual Heritage Shared Future

Explore the flotilla vessels, meet crews, star navigation, roadshow, experiences and films.

Nov 25 Port Marlborough Schools' Day

An exclusive day for school students.

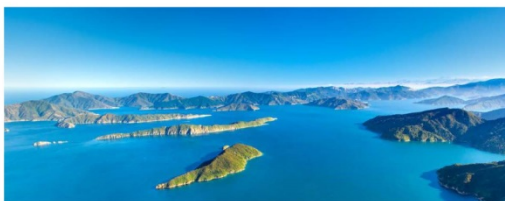
Nov 27-28 First Voyagers

Celebrate the first voyagers Maui, Kupe and the Tahitian Navigator Tupia.

Dec 1-3 Encounters & Exchanges Conference

Exploring the history of science, technology, medicine, and mātauranga.

@totaranui250



PŌWHIRI – THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER – MERETOTO/SHIP COVE

The Tōtaranui 250 Trust, Te Taihū iwi, the Department of Conservation and Marlborough District Council are working together to welcome the crew of the Tuia 250 flotilla to Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka-a-Māui (Top of the South Island) when they arrive at Meretoto/Ship Cove on 21 November.

The Pōwhiri will be led by tangata whenua iwi, and dignitaries representing the New Zealand Government, local government, media and other key stakeholders will be invited.

Four waka tangata will approach the flotilla on water, then the Pōwhiri will be held on shore.

We are expecting hundreds of private vessels will be moored off shore, and restrictions will be managed by the Harbour Master.

The DOC Reserve Meretoto/Ship Cove will be closed to the public.





COMMUNITY WELCOME – FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER – WAITOHI/PICTON

The Marlborough region will gather together to witness the arrival of the flotilla, and offer a warm South Island welcome at the Waitohi/Picton Foreshore.

We are expecting a few thousand people to participate.

10am visible from Picton foreshore ; approach will take approx 1 -2 hours

Community Welcome on foreshore with mihi whakatu, kapahaka, music and speeches.

Events



EXPLORE, EDUCATE AND ENGAGE – SATURDAY TO SUNDAY NOV 23, 24 - WAITOHI/PICTON

Throughout the weekend exploring the vessels in the flotilla will be a highlight for many.

Centred around the foreshore, there will be dedicated education and cultural exhibitions including themes of conservation, environment, navigation and voyaging.

Saturday: Free entertainment on stage
Visit the vessels
Workshops on navigation and sailing
Kai Reka Food Market
Free concert

Sunday: Visit the vessels
Workshops on navigation and sailing
Conservation groups



KAI REKA FOOD MARKET HIGH STREET – SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23 - WAITOHI/PICTON

Get your taste buds ready for the best of Marlborough kai, using fresh and local ingredients, there will be traditional Māori ingredients and dishes, alongside other cultures from around the region.

A contemporary Pa will be recreated on Picton High Street. Elements of te ao Māori will be brought into this space so visitors can experience the manaakitanga that is so important to Māori. Over 25 stalls are expected.

The market will be set up in the High Street of Picton from 3pm to 7.30pm, which will have road closure up to Waikawa Road.

Alcohol-free event.





FREE ENTERTAINMENT – SATURDAY, NOV 23 - WAITOHI/PICTON FORESHORE

A huge stage will be on the Waitohi/Picton foreshore on Saturday. This will feature cultural performances throughout the day, with local contemporary performers until early evening. Footage of the Pōwhiri and the flotilla sailing through Tōtaranui/Queen Charlotte Sound will play between acts.

Early evening the Interislander Light Show will entertain the crowd, followed by a FREE concert by iconic New Zealand band, Fly My Pretties. A collaboration of 15 of New Zealand's best musicians will be on stage. There will be something for everyone, from young to old, during their performance. Alcohol-free event.



PORT MARLBOROUGH SCHOOLS DAY – MONDAY, NOV 25

Tuia 250 – First Encounters curriculum has been taught through all New Zealand schools. Locally, this has been fully embraced with field trips, art classes, multimedia, museum visits and more. The arrival of the flotilla will be a wonderful experience for Marlborough's young people to fully realise this curriculum.

The Trust, alongside major sponsor Port Marlborough, has invited schools from across the region to visit Picton on Monday 25 November to have an exclusive experience with the flotilla vessels and crews.

Schools will receive assistance with transport, and the Trust is providing an awesome educational programme to accompany the day's activities.



Events

Kia ora

We are proud to base ourselves at the Tuia 250 Hub, next door to the Edwin Fox Museum.



Chrissy Powlesland – General Manager
021 331 396 | chrissy@totaranui250.co.nz

Follow us on social @totaranui250
Website: www.totaranui250.co.nz



Tuia Hub/Office is next door to Edwin Fox, sponsored by Port Marlborough



Appendix 2

Department of Conservation Activities and Issues of Interest.

Recreation

Queen Charlotte Track

- The decision was made and relayed that the track was not chosen as a Great Walk. The report did acknowledge the contribution of all landowners toward making the track a success already.
- The Schoolhouse Bay to Meretoto /Ship Cove track upgrade is nearing completion (200m to go). This has involved 6 kilometres of new track being formed with the major contributors being the NZ Cycle Trails Trust and Marlborough District Council.
- Consideration is now being given to branding the section of the track from Endeavour Inlet to Meretoto as one of a national series of Day Hikes.

Motuara Island

- Interpretation signage that was sponsored by Totaranui 250 Trust has been installed

Oruawairua/Blumine Island

- The Home Bay campsite is to be closed following another slope failure in the catchment above. Slip material is currently diverting water into the camp. An assessment will be made of the potential for further slips before committing to continuing with the camp.

Historic

- Staff have been supporting the Tōtaranui 250 Trust with planning for the approaching commemoration event at Meretoto/Ship Cove in late November. There will be access restrictions to the reserve in place on the day to allow for a large powhiri.

Biodiversity.

Te Pakeka/Maud Island Mice

- The control work was completed according to plan and we are now in the phase of monitoring to verify if the programme has been a success or not. So far, the situation is looking positive.

Large Animal Control

- At the last meeting we reported that there were still some deer to be removed from Blumine Island. A total of 30 deer were removed over a 12-month period. It shows that deer are frequently swimming between Blumine and Arapaoa Islands and in much higher numbers than before.
- Our hunters also recently removed 5 sheep from near the top of Mt Stokes.
- Goat control has been carried out at Tennyson Inlet, Cannibal Cove, Meretoto/Ship Cove and in the Kenepuru Sounds area.

Te Hoiere/Pelorus River Restoration

- MDC, Ngati Kuia and DOC are working closely together to scope out a potential river restoration project which would involve the whole of the catchment and with the purpose of improving freshwater values. One meeting has been held with a group of stakeholders so far and this has indicated a high level of interest and support. Further work is planned to contact other interested parties and to decide how best to proceed further.

Weed Control

- Extra Budget 2018 funding meant that we were able to achieve more weed control toward the end of the financial year. This include periwinkle on Oruawairua/Blumine Island and climbing asparagus at Moawhitu and a couple of other sites.
- Large trees have been felled at two sites in the Pelorus Sound; Waiona Bay and on Te Pakeka/Maud Island. This also involved the training of more staff in safely felling large trees.

King Shags

- More work has been done on trying to understand the lives of King Shags. There have now been approximately 50 birds banded (juveniles and some adults) plus 6 birds that have had GPS trackers attached. The data will now be analysed to get a better idea of feeding patterns and even diving depths.

Community

- The Marlborough Biodiversity working group are developing future opportunities for conservation community groups to get together and to share knowledge.

Staff

- The new ranger for Takapourewa/Stephens Island was delivered to his new home with his family last week.
- Applications close today for the Biodiversity Supervisor vacancy. This position supervises the island staff and overseas programmes such as the districts quarantining operation.
- Interviews have been completed for the Senior Ranger/Supervisor Community position