

Tai Timu Tai Pari

Sea change

Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan

HAURAKI GULF MARINE SPATIAL PLAN

LAND USE

Land use is important as the type of land cover and activities that take place on it can impact on freshwater and coastal water quality.

Much of the Hauraki Plains, which links to the Hauraki Gulf through the Piako and Waihou rivers, have been drained for pastoral farming. Land in this area is typically used for urban and rural settlement, surrounded by farmed lowlands that support dairying, horticulture and cropping. In contrast, the Coromandel is one of the most extensively vegetated parts of the Waikato region. About 60 per cent of the peninsula is clothed in native vegetation, much of it recovering from over a century of logging, mining and farming activities.

Many islands in the Hauraki Gulf also have a high level of native bush cover. Little Barrier Island is almost fully forested, while 86 per cent or more of Great Barrier Island and Kawau Island are covered by native forest. Most of the islands around the Coromandel Peninsula are also covered in native vegetation, except for Great Mercury and Slipper islands. Rangitoto Island is all covered in native forest.

Other islands are being restored to native forest, with volunteers planting 206,000 on Motuora and 280,000 trees on Tiritiri Matangi.

Forty-seven per cent of the Hauraki Gulf's mainland bays and beaches (named on topographical maps) are fully urbanised, intensively developed or moderately developed. Thirty-eight per cent of land surrounding bays and beaches is undeveloped or contains only scattered buildings. The Waikato region has more undeveloped bays and beaches than the Auckland region, with 36 per cent undeveloped in Waikato compared to 5 per cent in Auckland.

There was a steady increase in the number of dwellings in east coast settlements on the Coromandel Peninsula between the 1991 and 2006 censuses, with holiday homes responsible for a large proportion of development. In 2006, 48 per cent of dwellings in the Thames-Coromandel district

were unoccupied, with most of these consisting of holiday homes and/or baches.

A third of the commercial holiday parks on the Coromandel Peninsula closed between 1996 and 2006.

Auckland region's central isthmus is all urbanised. Livestock grazing is another significant land use. There is some dairying and forestry in the region, particularly in the northern part of Auckland. The Hunua Ranges forms a large block of native forest to the south of Auckland, bordering with Waikato.

Several coastal zones bordering the Hauraki Gulf have been earmarked for future greenfield development.¹ These are Riverhead at the far northern reaches of the Waitemata Harbour, Silverdale and Beachlands/Pine Harbour.

Type	WAIKATO		AUCKLAND	
	Hectares	Per cent	Hectares	Per cent
DAIRY	210150.72	38.8%	7783.82	4.7%
FORESTRY	29918.48	5.5%	28347.61	17.0%
HATCHERIES FISH	3.45	0.0%	99	0.1%
HORTICULTURE	5154.91	1.0%	1469.47	0.9%
LIFESTYLE BLOCK	9177.37	1.7%	16127.97	9.7%
LIVESTOCK	119613	22.1%	94574.72	56.8%
NATIVE BUSH	153435.56	28.4%	14102.2	8.5%
OTHER	13265.86	2.5%	2894.75	1.7%
OTHER FARM TYPE	16.68	0.0%	195.55	0.1%
TOURISM	394.14	0.1%	88.92	0.1%
VITICULTURE	17.85	0.0%	690.55	0.4%
GRAND TOTAL	541148.02	100%	166374.6	100%

¹ Auckland Plan Section D

Information sourced from Tikapa Moana – Hauraki Gulf State of the Environment Report 2011.

Maps produced by Waikato Regional Council and Auckland Council using Agribase 2012.



Whangarei

Tikapa Moana Te Moananui ā Toi Hauraki Gulf Marine Park

Mangawhai

Northland

Pacific Ocean

Hauturu/Little Barrier Island

Great Barrier Island (Aotea Island)

Tamaki
Makaurau

Auckland

WAITAKERE RANGES

Rangitoto Island

Waiheke Island

Ponui Island

Cape Colville

MOCHAU RANGE

Mercury Islands

Coromandel Peninsula

Whitianga

Firth of Thames

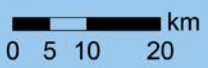
Waikato

Hamilton

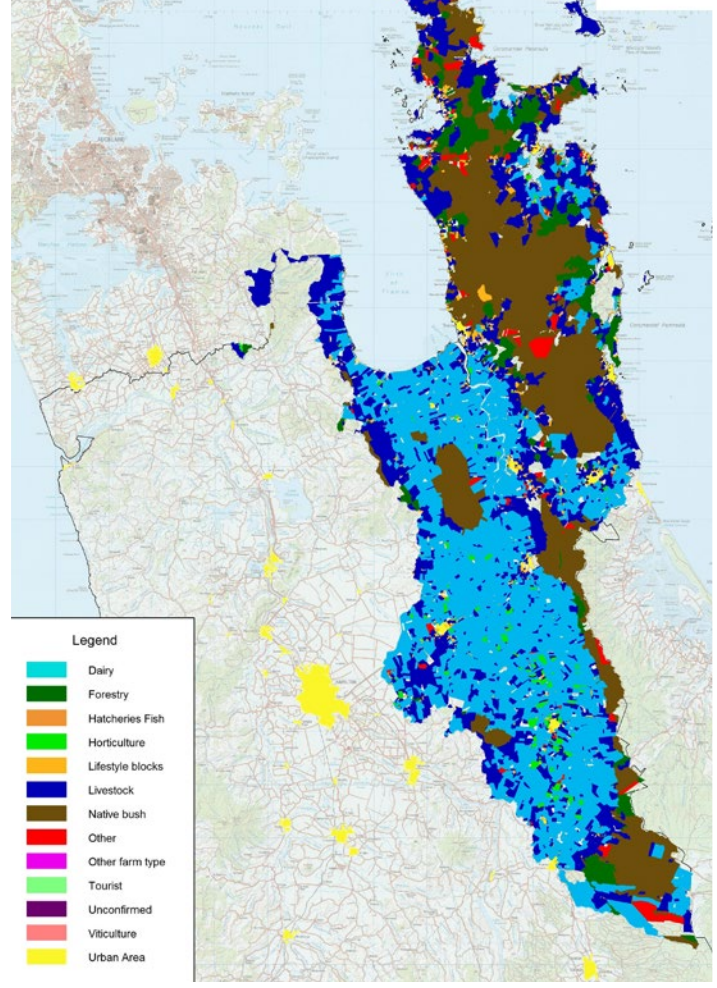
Tasman Sea

Legend

- Auckland Council Boundary
- Livestock
- Horticulture
- Other farm type
- Dairy
- Other
- Fish
- Forestry
- Lifestyle blocks
- Native Bush
- Tourism
- Viticulture



Hauraki Gulf Marine Park catchment land use



Legend

- Dairy
- Forestry
- Hatcheries Fish
- Horticulture
- Lifestyle blocks
- Livestock
- Native bush
- Other
- Other farm type
- Tourist
- Unconfirmed
- Viticulture
- Urban Area