



## Gulf Infrastructure

- A lot of issues are in over population. How do you manage population growth?
- To make change we need to face high level political decisions.
- Already policies in place around what can and can't be done – do we need more?
- Concerned about lack of integration (of SCTTTP?) with proposal for marina at port, case currently at Environment Court.
- Marina would have major effects – changes to scenery, water quality, structures etc.
- Impact on wealth of the Gulf. A lot of Aucklanders go to Waiheke.
- What would be put in writing in the MSP re marina?
- A marina would be detrimental.
- Have considerable coastal communities within Frankton – Manukau Harbour of course but also Hauraki Gulf.
- History being repeated – coastal erosion.
- One big issues which is downplayed by Auckland Council (AC) is sea level rise – what will it mean for us in 50-60 years? Lots of people don't want to talk about it, including AC.
- Need to identify risks as things to be considered.
- Maintenance of existing structures – ships, wharves, stormwater drains.
- MPI – craft risk management standard is robust but there is not enough infrastructure to support the level of regulation e.g. not enough dry docks for people to use to actually meet regulatory expectations.
- Practicability has to be considered.
- Development of ferries for moving people around – get people out of cars.
- Additional options e.g. hovercraft as they don't need expensive infrastructure.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Is SCTTTP consulting local board plans and talking to local boards? So much of the work has already been done – LBs have already consulted with a wide range of people and knowledge has been garnered/exists.
- Concerned that someone was ‘gatekeeping this event’ (i.e. Hauraki 100 meeting): another Waiheke local board member wished to attend but was told no.
- Climate change needs to be considered – seriously need to consider that there is effectively a body of water running through Clevedon to Manukau Harbour, over agricultural land.
- ‘100-year events’ are happening about every 10 years.
- Local government makes decisions but national government sets the tone.
- We’re seeing these massive new developments and they’ll be engulfed by water as sea levels rise – why allow the developments?
- Training area off coast of Whangaparoa, trying to reinstate through Unitary Plan.
- Things have improved – dry-docks, not so much discharge of sewage into Gulf any more.
- Telecommunications part of infrastructure – both as a physical thing but also they’re a connection thing.
- If people have telecoms infrastructure e.g. phones, fast internet they can connect without needing so much physical infrastructure e.g. ferries, roads.
- Good connection infrastructure reduces stress on travel infrastructure. [Comment enthusiastically affirmed by whole group.]
- Community needs direct access to public facilities / infrastructure that allows access when systems fails e.g. electronic key online. (?)
- Lot of people are working from home using tech.
- Not sure of applicability to every community though – do we really need ultrafast/fibre connections to be available in most houses?
- I use the Gulf a lot and for me the key issue is accessibility and affordability for everyone. We need to develop it, but in a way that we don’t leave a huge footprint.
- Need to educate people for the future, not just for now.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Rubbish and the need for rubbish barges needs to be a big focus.
- The topic of 'infrastructure' – does it include land-based infrastructure that impacts on the Gulf? Need to not lose sight of cross-boundary issues.
- What about buildings and view pollution? Other countries aren't allowed to build above certain levels.
- What are issues around view shafts from e.g. sea to island? Should they be considered?
- Gulf is a playground for many people, who don't always consider impacts.
- People leave a marina in Auckland, go to Kawau and just expect to be able to drop anchor wherever they like without paying. (Can't do that in Auckland!)
- Needs to be enough infrastructure for us to actually get boats into water e.g. carparks.
- Look at novel options e.g. boat stacks, alternative approaches.
- Novel systems around rubbish needed as well.
- Sometimes even infrastructure that isn't used as originally intended still has value, e.g. boat ramps that have proved hopeless for most boats are used by kids for fishing instead.
- What facets of infrastructure is SCTTTP considering?
- Need to also identify places where we put NO infrastructure – keep places free of pressure.
- More wharves these days have floating pontoons – significantly help with accessibility. Would like to see more of them.
- Waka ama and kayak crews want areas for them to pull up and shelter while they are out on the water, to go for a tramp for example.
- Areas needed for people to carry out manaakitanga.
- Need quotas of visitors to Waiheke – why get thousands on 24/12 each year and none other times, need to find a 'sweet spot'.
- Oppose proposed marine reserve on Northern side of Waiheke.
- If you put everything people want on beaches e.g. signage, wheelchair access they become less special.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Need to be guiding principles, e.g. no intensive tourist activities.
- Totally support SCTTTP help to identify places where more – and less – infrastructure will be needed.
- People don't come to New Zealand to see buildings: they come for undeveloped and unspoiled beauty.
- 'Spread the load' between ferry islands – take pressure off Waiheke by offering between-island ferries, more ferry terminals.
- Increase ferry operators.
- What about a classic steam ferry?
- In any marine farm (adverse effects will impact on shellfish and fish farming). Co-habit. Multi-culture aquaculture prevented by law before. Shellfish can clean up debris from finfish farming (in same vertical water column).
- In reply to observation that there were six RT categories – queried how world views and shifting cultural attitudes were incorporated?
- Effluent, externalities need addressing. 'Rural Delivery' TV programme – spokesperson for Rabobank. Dairy industry is subsidised because externalities are not included in policy.
- Questions tend to be framed outside of just science, but more a world view of values needed. The clash around this table is more a reflection of conflicting values.
- Political RMA question – this exercise needs greater awareness, economy vs environment argument – should not be cast in this way.
- Recognition of inter-meshing between Clevedon oyster farms, co-existing with local communities. Are there things we should be aware of from this MSP process?
- Population growth is a concern. Loss of aesthetic views, creating jobs, depletion of filter feeders.
- Likes buying oysters at Clevedon or Piako Petes – having a local product instead of large scale production sent overseas, i.e., Quality of Gulf Product important.
- Noted visit to Whitianga Mussel Plant – 170 people, so important employment in Whitianga. Average worker may earn \$1000 p.w.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Packing and boxing finfish, which are airfreighted to Sydney. Communities relate to that as it has huge benefits for local communities. On Great Barrier there is no fish processing, so some fish freighted in from Auckland.
- Unitary Plan – putting up seawalls to stop sediment entering water – currently difficult to achieve from planning approval requirement.
- Kawau Island – not allowed to construct a seawall. One rule stops you from this, but could be beneficial to water quality.
- Stormwater from roads goes straight to sea. Coastal cliff erosion from stormwater is a big issue from Franklin LB.
- Between Whitford ⇒ Orere Point, Beachlands worst where stormwater drains erode cliff.
- Design of stormwater pipes on cliffs important
- Retain today and for the future, access to coastlines in a natural state without much infrastructure, boat ramps, signage or civilisation – peaceful need to ensure no control of access.
- Viable use of economic services. Tourism is an important and is the most clean part of economy – future newest industries – very keen to balance commercial interests and environment, reduce impact of human activity and make sure that the Gulf is valued.
- Good anchorages, so that yachters are not wrecking the environment when anchoring, agree with the discussions about importance of recreational activity.
- Concerned about the affordability of accessibility, and want to reduce the impact of human activity. We do not want private landowners to control access to Gulf.
- Use Kawau Island as accessibility example. The preservation of what is good. More accessibility reduces chance of sustainability. Tourism is important.
- We need a set of guiding principles for achieving future access due to greater loading on the environment. Tourism should have a dedicated person to preserve natural heritage assets, the preference would be for lower impact activities and increasing ferry access to control of the Gulf.
- Real time monitoring of human impact so that we can adjust thinking according to increased access.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Reduce impact of human visitors – be a tidy kiwi – teach schools about leaving no trace – kids need to know not to leave any trace, know where you put your feet. Keep to the tracks and educate the preschools and primary schools. Needs to start now.
- Don't kill the goose that lays the golden eggs re Waiheke Island developments. Tourism has a low impact and it is important that the structures are in place to support tourism activities such as kayaking and walking trips biking tours. There is some discretion over guidelines – Local Council to accept proposals.
- A 20% increase in Gulf island population will create conflict. We need guiding principles around access.
- Firm believer in sense of community comes from a love of the Gulf; we want people there who love the Gulf.
- Significant population numbers do not have accessibility through public transport. Water sports are too expensive – we should make them affordable for all the people of the Gulf.
- Encourage access for schools in lower decile areas.
- Users need to be respectful of existing communities. For example TCDC attitude to freedom campers. Newcomers need to respect local community's decisions.
- Mining policy of the National government, impacts on local communities, community values should be in spatial plan including DOC estate areas.
- RMA and bylaws process can reflect community's values on mining applications.
- I used to spend lots of time on the water as a kid – I love it.
- Retain land access – Queens's chain doesn't exist. As when development occurs people lose their riparian land. Landowners do not want people to access their land. Landowners have stock. Use Councils to bring huge access through Regional Parks by buying land for future generations – not necessarily access to every bit but good access though.
- On Waiheke Island everyone obeys the rules. The community sectors want access to private landowners through surveyed roads – can see both sides. What is reasonable is that regional parks give access from sea and land. Restrictions at Rotoroa give good balance. There is a mix of open areas and forestation.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Prime issue on Waiheke is the Marina proposal. Two values for same piece of land and a tension between world views. Tensions between Aquaculture and recreational boaters. Strong views are framed and \$1-2 million is spent upon legal fees discussing different views.
- Legal realm – most discussion will be around how ‘the commons’ are defined, what do they mean in law, how do we enter, interact impact on Sea bed. How do we administer this in law?
- There is no strategic plan to how Waiheke Island is developed. How would this work in the whole context – with trailers parked – so can go fishing and block access for others.
- What do people have to spend to get access? Affordability is an issue, who is then going to have to pay?
- Some people can’t get access because of affordability. Can’t get there as due to public transport costs. Boat clubs have paid for better access and infrastructure.
- Need to push commercial away from recreational areas.
- Not commerce at all costs.
- Make areas zoned for conservation or recreation a priority. Position the Coromandel as a recreational zone.
- Mimiwhangata shows that excluding commercial doesn’t always work. We need real time monitoring and responsive management.
- We are too money hungry – mining etc.
- The public doesn’t have a good idea of what is really going on
- Want to pass on information to the general public.
- How big a part do marine reserves play? Do they work? Are the ones that are here working?
- Artificial reefs as a solution to spilling? Information taken suggests the amount taken at a point of 40%. Mussel reefs are already showing improvements.
- What more can you say? Water quality, quota management, marine reserves!

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- We need to come up with a package of things that will occur in a way people can live with.
- For the boating fraternity, people leave the city, bring it all out with them and leave it. Kawau Island is punch in and punch out. How are we going to manage this? Is 70-80% of the time really okay?
- We need to think about how to manage people's future behaviour. We need to clean up what we've done and put together a guide for future use.
- Key word is 'identify' the impacts, then the users.
- Sediment in the rivers costs a lot of money for farmers who now have to fence / plant along streams to reduce sediment.
- Boards have plans and information on spots of concerns. Roundtable could zone into the hot spots, identify in Local Plans.
- Council's need to change, got to start taking action.
- Talking about Council's not doing things, there's been a ground swell of people, needs to be reflected in government.
- Over 100 years of taking, taking, taking. Time to make some tough decisions and these are largely financial.
- Awful how Waiheke has grown into a rich man's conurbation, with lack of access to the maritime area. Preserve the Islands as they were or are. Tiri is a great example. Decent ferry service to Islands needed.

## **Fish Stocks**

- Issues are clearly known – we catch too much, and pollute too much
- Worried about the ability to go fishing because the fish are no longer there.
- Need to manage fish stocks using good information. We know a lot about commercial fishing takes but not about recreational takes and we are having to guess.
- What does sustainability mean? Is this management at a level where we can continue to take fish? Again recreational is a black hole.
- How does fisheries management work? We are looking for a sweet spot but it is hard getting there. We are still having a tragedy of the commons.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- The way fisheries are currently managed, we are getting deeper in the hole.
- Over the last 50 years there has been a decline in the number of fish, with most of the species being regarded as at 20%. This has serious impacts on the ecology, for example, snapper as a predator, most obvious kina have multiplied, there is increased kelp cover and a loss of species diversity.
- Keen to find some way to return Gulf species to a level where they carry out their ecosystem function properly. The project of the green lip mussel is a good start.
- Marine reserves are needed to help restore the natural statement. May be used as benchmarks to measure other levels [outside the reserve areas]. There may be a spill-over effect from producing more larvae.
- We need a network of marine reserves and then a review of fish management to allow normal functions.
- We need a healthy and productive fish stock to be available for fishing [commercial]. It's not a matter of taking more than necessary but it is not possible to make a living if there isn't a healthy environment.
- We can't have a monoculture, it's the whole system. We should focus on more than just snapper.
- I want to continue as an extractor of fish and I want future generations to continue to be extractors of fish. The Gulf needs to be health and sustainable.
- Natural recruitment is huge. The biggest thing to think about is how to get the juveniles through.
- There was a snapper farm at Kawau but it closed as the Government made to too uneconomical to keep and industry won't fund it.
- Marine reserves can show us a natural balance. The cable lane that runs through the Gulf could be recognised as a reserve. Things have changed in that area. There is a hugely diverse population around this area because no fishing, commercial or recreational, is permitted.
- In Leigh, fishers have supported the reserve from the start and have seen to protect it. Human activity near the reserve has compromised how the fish behave and Leigh is not an example of fish in their natural environment.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Marine reserves lead to the growth in predator species. Seal populations for example. Do we now cull those to restore balance? Certain species are ballooning out.
- We need the facts on the table to make good decisions. Marine reserves are still a lot more natural than elsewhere in the Gulf.
- Marine reserves are still a lot more natural than elsewhere in the Gulf.
- With an Iwi owned company, we can't sell and we take the kaitiakitanga approach. We can afford to cut one year so let the fish stocks grow, if it's going to come back to us in 10 years' time. Other companies can't do that.
- Ministry of Primary Industries are putting snapper up to 40%. This provides an opportunity for greater yield, and the same philosophy needs to be applied elsewhere
- While I agree methods should be in place for rebuilding [of species] it should be at a faster pace. We need a new model. Toheroa has been banned for years. What has happened here, is this a good model?
- Need to bear in mind that if you alter the habitat, the species may not come back on its own. The restoration of the mussel beds post dredging for example.
- There is confusion about the snapper populations, are we saying there is more now?
- There are not the shoals of kahawai that there used to be.
- Fishing competitions are bringing in more kahawai than snapper.
- Crayfish numbers lower than have been for years.
- Need to push commercial away from recreational areas.
- Mimiwhangata shows that excluding commercial doesn't always work. We need real time monitoring and responsive management.
- As a Gulf user for over 35 years, I have seen the quality of marine life diminished. There are not as many sprats – never see a sprat catcher anymore! There are fewer seabirds
- How big a part do marine reserves play? Do they work? Are the ones that are here working?
- Improve the water quality – improve the fish.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- What is meant by enhancement? Are we focusing on harvested fish stocks?
- Used to always catch kahawai on way back in from fishing trip.
- Used to use bait traps, now we wouldn't have a chance. Could catch at Birkenhead before work. Not seeing terns.
- Shellfish are old and dead.
- What more can you say? Water quality, quota management, marine reserves!
- Technology for fishing is better. With this fishing is easier and we need tight restrictions.
- What about a dashboard of key facts for the public. Like, knowing about the impacts of taking big breeding snapper.
- The biggest marine reserve in the Gulf is the cable channel.
- Slot fishery system!
- I've seen the Gulf deteriorate over years. There is harmony with aquaculture, it's your best measure of water quality. Fin fish are not a cleaning system.
- Only current quotas are considered under conservation act.
- Feed 9 billion people – the low food chain species are good.
- I see the balances between wild fish and aquaculture uses as important for aquaculture.
- Packing and boxing finfish, which are airfreighted to Sydney. Communities relate to that as it has huge benefits for local communities. On Great Barrier there is no fish processing, so some fish freighted in from Auckland.

## **Biodiversity and Biosecurity**

- Everything stems from biodiversity.
- Concerned that biodiversity is under represented, as considered most important in at least half of the six topics.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Identify what has been lost on the islands, both above and below the water line
- Most important thing is fish stocks and biosecurity. Biggest threat to biosecurity is importation of baits, carrying disease. Proper screening is needed.
- Can migratory birds pose a threat to biosecurity by picking up and transporting disease back to NZ?
- Concerns regarding bio-fouling impacts and the ability to manage that.
- My point of view is that climate change is the least of our problems. Remove climate change from the scope.
- The word replenish should be changed to mean revert back to previous state.
- Shift abundance back to more natural state.
- Halt decline on species numbers.
- Replenish and restore shellfish beds and fish stocks to past levels.
- Maintain the biodiversity of Gulf island weeds and remove any toxic weeds/plant growth.
- There is not enough being done on biosecurity risks. We need to do a lot more to stop animals spreading disease, after coming into the country. E.g. the Fan Worm.
- Keen to find some way to return Gulf species to a level where they carry out their ecosystem function properly. The project of the green lip mussel is a good start.
- While I agree methods should be in place for rebuilding [of species] it should be at a faster pace. We need a new model. Toheroa has been banned for years. What has happened here, is this a good model?
- Need to bear in mind that if you alter the habitat, the species may not come back on its own. The restoration of the mussel beds post dredging for example.
- Crayfish numbers lower than have been for years.
- As a Gulf user for over 35 years, I have seen the quality of marine life diminished. There are not as many sprats – never see a sprat catcher anymore! There are fewer seabirds

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- How big a part do marine reserves play? Do they work? Are the ones that are here working?
- What more can you say? Water quality, quota management, marine reserves!
- The biggest marine reserve in the Gulf is the cable channel.
- Shoal Bay, on the southern side of Trypena in 1951 had clear clear sand. Now hundreds of septic tanks, houses. Now it's all eel grass, and mud. Used to be able to collect cockles.
- Willows are main cleaners of sides of rivers. Natives not as good for eel habitat. In the old days, had native forests as habitat.
- Only current quotas are considered under conservation act.
- Maui dolphin – commercial fishers 6 – 7 years ago was issue for their survival but they are targeted unfairly now. Bigger threat is water quality and murky water. Blunt Force trauma, Orca (Predator) in cloudy waters.
- Urban run-off is worse than rural. Toxoplasmosis lives in seawater 6 – 7 months. Bovine TB is in run-off from land. Closures related to Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP).
- Export Industry – US shipped from NZ: Marine farming Industry closed itself down as voluntary measure to maintain its reputation as high quality food product.
- Feed 9 billion people – the low food chain species are good.
- Packing and boxing finfish, which are airfreighted to Sydney. Communities relate to that as it has huge benefits for local communities. On Great Barrier there is no fish processing, so some fish freighted in from Auckland.
- China example: Locals scared birds away from buildings, then insects increased, then grass killed off, then soil affected. Shows chain of events that leads to adverse situation.
- Should have a planting programme along the beach to enhance it.
- Shellfish are old and dead.
- As a Gulf user for over 35 years, I have seen the quality of marine life diminished. There are not as many sprats – never see a sprat catcher anymore! There are fewer seabirds

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Used to use bait traps, now we wouldn't have a chance. Could catch at Birkenhead before work. Not seeing terns.
- Improve the water quality – improve the fish.

### **Accessible Gulf**

- Retain today and for the future, access to coastlines in a natural state without much infrastructure, boat ramps, signage or civilisation – peaceful need to ensure no control of access.
- Viable use of economic services. Tourism is an important and is the most clean part of economy – future newest industries – very keen to balance commercial interests and environment, reduce impact of human activity and make sure that the Gulf is valued.
- Good anchorages, so that yachters are not wrecking the environment when anchoring, agree with the discussions about importance of recreational activity
- The challenges of an increasing population and exclusive usage make the interconnections of accessibility important. The population increases on Great Barrier Island will be an issue. I want my kids and grandkids to be able to do what I did.
- Conservation Islands didn't have listening posts – absent communities are championing the Gulf Islands. Not very good accessibility to Motutapu for conservation – every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 100+ people on planting days – access poor on other days – Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands can absorb many more visitors – Need floating pontoons to extend the opportunity for visitors. Three day walk of Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands planned – Iwi have granted concession for walk.
- Concerned about the affordability of accessibility, and want to reduce the impact of human activity. We do not want private landowners to control access to Gulf.
- Meola Reef to Judges Bay is riparian rights and the boat sheds eliminate access to coast. We should tackle exclusive rights as the commons belong to all.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Awful how Waiheke has grown into a rich man's conurbation, with lack of access to the maritime area. Preserve the Islands as they were or are. Tiri is a great example. Decent ferry service to Islands needed.
- Access is important. Anchoring in a bay for a walk – obstacles now abound – gates, fences, locked, we have lost the Queen's Chain.
- Use Kawau Island as accessibility example. The preservation of what is good. More accessibility reduces chance of sustainability. Tourism is important.
- Hope to focus on accessibility to discrete areas. For example, at Mansion House and gardens, visitors who stray will mean that Kiwi are lost due to pressure on space. The challenge is to keep balance.
- We need a set of guiding principles for achieving future access due to greater loading on the environment. Tourism should have a dedicated person to preserve natural heritage assets, the preference would be for lower impact activities and increasing ferry access to control of the Gulf.
- Real time monitoring of human impact so that we can adjust thinking according to increased access.
- Again it is impossible to get access for wheelchairs over sand and boat ramps. In New Caledonia, there was a ramp into sand. You could wheel the chair down and just rest by sea edge. There are few beaches that we can get [wheel chair] access to. The Onetangi ramp cleared of debris and we were thanked by young mum as it also gave pram access to the beach.
- Don't kill the goose that lays the golden eggs re Waiheke Island developments. Tourism has a low impact and it is important that the structures are in place to support tourism activities such as kayaking and walking trips biking tours. There is some discretion over guidelines – Local Council to accept proposals.
- A 20% increase in Gulf island population will create conflict. We need guiding principles around access.
- Significant population numbers do not have accessibility through public transport. Water sports are too expensive – we should make them affordable for all the people of the Gulf.
- Encourage access for schools in lower decile areas.
- In Japan, walking trails are well defined and there is a culture of leaving nothing behind. Bring back what you take including dog poop bags.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Users need to be respectful of existing communities. For example TCDC attitude to freedom campers. Newcomers need to respect local community's decisions.
- Policy streams – a) Maritime Park Islands – Tiri Tiri – Motutapu – access is for 4 hours b) Bits where people live – different access rights.
- Rules need to reflect the four or five people out of a 1000 who won't comply and will devastate the environment therefore enforcement is required.
- Shoal Bay, on the southern side or Trypena in 1951 had clear clear sand. Now hundreds of septic tanks, houses. Now it's all eel grass, and mud. Used to be able to collect cockles.
- What would be put in writing in the MSP re marina?
- A marina would be detrimental.
- One big issues which is downplayed by Auckland Council (AC) is sea level rise – what will it mean for us in 50-60 years? Lots of people don't want to talk about it, including AC.
- Maintenance of existing structures – ships, wharves, stormwater drains.
- Practicability has to be considered.
- Development of ferries for moving people around – get people out of cars.
- Additional options e.g. hovercraft as they don't need expensive infrastructure.
- Things have improved – dry-docks, not so much discharge of sewage into Gulf any more.
- Good connection infrastructure reduces stress on travel infrastructure.  
[Comment enthusiastically affirmed by whole group.]
- Community needs direct access to public facilities / infrastructure that allows access when systems fails e.g. electronic key online. (?)
- Lot of people are working from home using tech.
- I use the Gulf a lot and for me the key issue is accessibility and affordability for everyone. We need to develop it, but in a way that we don't leave a huge footprint.
- 'Spread the load' between ferry islands – take pressure off Waiheke by offering between-island ferries, more ferry terminals.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Increase ferry operators.
- What about a classic steam ferry?
- Sailing ship access could be problematic in future.
- Public space was cared for by the people before those that have power could say piss off.
- Access to activities is an issue. As a coastguard on the water, I also want future generations to have what we had as kids, pipis on the beach, fish off the wharf. You can't do that now. Let's minimise barriers to the Gulf like riparian margins – when development occurs this should be removed.
- I used to spend lots of time on the water as a kid – I love it.
- Retain land access – Queens's chain doesn't exist. As when development occurs people lose their riparian land. Landowners do not want people to access their land. Landowners have stock. Use Councils to bring huge access through Regional Parks by buying land for future generations – not necessarily access to every bit but good access though.
- On Waiheke Island everyone obeys the rules. The community sectors want access to private landowners through surveyed roads – can see both sides. What is reasonable is that regional parks give access from sea and land. Restrictions at Rotoroa give good balance. There is a mix of open areas and forestation.
- The Maretai Boat club and marina upgrade has a pathway through the Marina for public access and spaces for dog walking. This doesn't seem to cause any problems.
- We can get the balance right.
- We need to educate people about different perspectives – need balance.
- Access to the water via wharfs, boat ramps, can create conflict between groups – services required to get access back.
- There is no strategic plan to how Waiheke Island is developed. How would this work in the whole context – with trailers parked – so can go fishing and block access for others.
- What do people have to spend to get access? Affordability is an issue, who is then going to have to pay?

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Some people can't get access because of affordability. Can't get there as due to public transport costs. Boat clubs have paid for better access and infrastructure.
- I would like walking tracks improved on Waiheke and Great Barrier Islands as the population increases.
- We need to adequately maintain the current wharfs and boat ramps we have now.

## Aquaculture

- Many in conservation are against aquaculture.
- One of those tough decisions will presumably be an increase in aquaculture.
- Keen to find some way to return Gulf species to a level where they carry out their ecosystem function properly. The project of the green lip mussel is a good start.
- Need to bear in mind that if you alter the habitat, the species may not come back on its own. The restoration of the mussel beds post dredging for example.
- Need to push commercial away from recreational areas.
- Shellfish are old and dead.
- From an aquaculture perspective, and I'm not advocating it, but we are one way of filtering the Thames.
- I've seen the Gulf deteriorate over years. There is harmony with aquaculture, it's your best measure of water quality. Fin fish are not a cleaning system.
- We need clean water, nutrient rich waters (phytoplankton), and pollution free.
- Marine farm products are monitored for health reasons, so indicative of good water quality.
- In any marine farm (adverse effects will impact on shellfish and fish farming). Co-habit. Multi-culture aquaculture prevented by law before. Shellfish can clean up debris from finfish farming (in same vertical water column).
- Scallops are filter-feeders and clean up from any fish farming undertaken above.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Glass of water test – mussel cleaned murky glass of water in front of audience.
- Filtration by bi-valves recognises value as ecosystem services (mussel beds-wild).
- Urban run-off is worse than rural. Toxoplasmosis lives in seawater 6 – 7 months. Bovine TB is in run-off from land. Closures related to Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP).
- Export Industry – US shipped from NZ: Marine farming Industry closed itself down as voluntary measure to maintain its reputation as high quality food product.
- Questions tend to be framed outside of just science, but more a world view of values needed. The clash around this table is more a reflection of conflicting values.
- Get rid of mangroves? Sediment comes first (rather than mangroves), and then acidification is a concern in coastal waters. What are the future impacts on oyster farms (e.g. pH levels)
- US researcher suggests that our isolation and oceanographic position will minimise impact but we can't control global ocean acidification
- Look at the greater good of aquaculture with 52% of seafood in retail market derived from aquaculture and it's steadily growing.
- Feeding protein to make protein (salmon farmers) is not productive. Accept that filter feeders are OK.
- Aquaculture is important food source. But we need to look at what we feed our fish. Fish farming on farm rather than wild harvest?
- Yachter's value sheltered bays, so placement of marine farms has been an issue.
- Some marine farms voluntarily have moved mussel lines out from shallow areas, to allow for boat passage and anchorage.
- Feed 9 billion people – the low food chain species are good.
- Need better water quality as underlying concern for aquaculture etc.
- Aquaculture is not a threat to the Hauraki Gulf. It has been given environmental issues.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Environment Waikato decisions in Firth of Thames
- Mussel farming not fully taken up given lack of water quality
- If aquaculture not going to grow, why do this? We need to use the collaborative process to resolve these issues.
- I see the balances between wild fish and aquaculture uses as important for aquaculture.
- Recognition of inter-meshing between Clevedon oyster farms, co-existing with local communities. Are there things we should be aware of from this MSP process?
- Population growth is a concern. Loss of aesthetic views, creating jobs, depletion of filter feeders.
- Likes buying oysters at Clevedon or Piako Petes – having a local product instead of large scale production sent overseas, i.e., Quality of Gulf Product important.
- Noted visit to Whitianga Mussel Plant – 170 people, so important employment in Whitianga. Average worker may earn \$1000 p.w.
- Packing and boxing finfish, which are airfreighted to Sydney. Communities relate to that as it has huge benefits for local communities. On Great Barrier there is no fish processing, so some fish freighted in from Auckland.
- Believes aquaculture industry that is there (Mahurangi area) should stay.
- If the water quality isn't there, then it's no good for aquaculture.
- No feedback on aquaculture issues have been received from local community – it is an activity that is considered part of community
- What is the role of aquaculture in Gulf?
- Restore adult mussels to restore prospect of wild fishing for mussels. E.g. could have aquaculture in areas where they fall into wild area.
- Point is that aquaculture industry can help restoration aims.
- Balance of good Environmental Services and production as well.

## Water Quality & Catchments

- Issues are clearly known – we catch too much, and pollute too much
- Water quality should progress well due to Tuhituhi decision.
- A massive amount of mangroves are starting to over-grow areas of Puhoi River. Mangrove build up is natural, but due to silt/sedimentation levels, created by an un-natural build up in certain areas due to land clearing and other human activity on land.
- Bon Accord Harbour, Kawau Island, is a haven for yachts to shelter from bad weather, which results in a lot of waste being discharged, which fouls water/beaches. Also dogs and other animals roaming around island, unleashed. There are so many boats and no policing in place.
- Stop the pollution on Waiheke from sewage.
- Artificial reefs as a solution to spilling? Information taken suggests the amount taken at a point of 40%. Mussel reefs are already showing improvements.
- Improve the water quality – improve the fish.
- Shellfish are old and dead.
- What more can you say? Water quality, quota management, marine reserves!
- Catchment area is almost to Rotorua. Being in the Gulf, at the receiving end, how do we reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Gulf? One way to look at it would be to split it in to zones.
- Need to filter out whatever farming or other from sources puts in, to the end point, to reduce the impacts.
- The source of the Taitea is way up in the hills, the planting done has improved the water quality.
- Going down the street in Brown's Bay, the grates say on them 'to the sea'. I image all the rubbish from cars going down and littering Browns Bay.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- They used to do underwater testing. You could get school kids to do it, monitoring the water quality.
- Wai Care Org, are collecting water quality data from 26 streams on the Shore, every fortnight to collect water quality results. They concentrate on streams that empty into the Gulf.
- Talked about cities and streams that are the worst, Whau Creek, Cox Creek that run into the Harbour.
- Can't just blame the farmers. As we've seen in the media in the last few months. Smaller farms have sewerage systems that probably aren't up to much.
- Got to be careful we look at everything. The sedimentation in the Clevedon River has increased from 50-60 years ago when they were no mangroves in the river. Now there are big trees up the river.
- Testing water quality for agricultural farmers. How the heck can it be as bad as they say it is?
- On our side of the firth, we are very very low. A lot of water sitting on the land. So it's; hard to identify where it comes from.
- Looked at the impacts on users but we need to look at the impacts of users.
- When there are no people were we are, the water is beautifully clear. Over Xmas holidays the water changes. Can't see the bottom, can't catch fish.
- What is particularly important is how we are farming, not just that we are farming. With over fertilisation of the land, organic matter levels are now high, e.g. 6 vs 16 element soil testing.
- Acidification in the firth of Thames, nitrification and depletion of ecosystems.
- We don't want sewerage point sources spilling into the Gulf.
- Key word is 'identify' the impacts, then the users.
- Sediment in the rivers costs a lot of money for farmers who now have to fence / plant along streams to reduce sediment.
- Shoal Bay, on the southern side or Trypena in 1951 had clear clear sand. Now hundreds of septic tanks, houses. Now it's all eel grass, and mud. Used to be able to collect cockles.
- We're poisoning the Gulf from lots of places. Is it too late to stop that?

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- When we look at Auckland, it's a narrow isthmus with not a lot of space to manage contaminants.
- Lots of source of poison, car pollution becomes ocean acid.
- Water quality is the most important thing. Get the water quality right and everything else will look after itself.
- I've seen the Gulf deteriorate over years. There is harmony with aquaculture, it's your best measure of water quality. Fin fish are not a cleaning system.
- Willows are main cleaners of sides of rivers. Natives not as good for eel habitat. In the old days, had native forests as habitat.
- We waste 90% of water. Damming of rivers to make dairying available? I don't think that is a good day.
- Things have improved – dry-docks, not so much discharge of sewage into Gulf any more.
- I work in waterways, Waihou River, soil management and testing, looks at organic matter levels. Have a place on Waiheke which I call 'home' but not often there because of work. Cleaning the rivers that feed into the Gulf has to be a focus – I do long hours on what I do so when I retire I can enjoy a lovely Gulf.
- We need clean water, nutrient rich waters (phytoplankton), and pollution free.
- Marine farm products are monitored for health reasons, so indicative of good water quality.
- Shellfish can clean up debris from finfish farming (in same vertical water column).
- Scallops are filter-feeders and clean up from any fish farming undertaken above.
- Glass of water test – mussel cleaned murky glass of water in front of audience.
- Maui dolphin – commercial fishers 6 – 7 years ago was issue for their survival but they are targeted unfairly now. Bigger threat is water quality and murky water. Blunt Force trauma, Orca (Predator) in cloudy waters.
- Urban run-off is worse than rural. Toxoplasmosis lives in seawater 6 – 7 months. Bovine TB is in run-off from land. Closures related to Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP).

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

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- Get rid of mangroves? Sediment comes first (rather than mangroves), and then acidification is a concern in coastal waters. What are the future impacts on oyster farms (e.g. pH levels)
- US researcher suggests that our isolation and oceanographic position will minimise impact but we can't control global ocean acidification
- Feed 9 billion people – the low food chain species are good. [Toxins].
- Need better water quality as underlying concern for aquaculture etc.
- Mussel farming not fully taken up given lack of water quality
- In Mahurangi, the silt from the land is going into river (e.g. Warkworth).
- Unitary Plan – putting up seawalls to stop sediment entering water – currently difficult to achieve from planning approval requirement.
- Kawau Island – not allowed to construct a seawall. One rule stops you from this, but could be beneficial to water quality.
- If the water quality isn't there, then it's no good for aquaculture.
- Sediment from 1970s Snells Beach subdivision
- Stormwater from roads goes straight to sea. Coastal cliff erosion from stormwater is a big issue from Franklin LB.
- Between Whitford ⇒ Orere Point, Beachlands worst where stormwater drains erode cliff.

## Comments of Implementation

- Political RMA question – this exercise needs greater awareness, economy vs environment argument – should not be cast in this way.
- Already policies in place around what can and can't be done – do we need more?
- Need to identify risks as things to be considered.
- Practicability has to be considered.
- Concerned that someone was 'gatekeeping this event' (i.e. Hauraki 100 meeting): another Waiheke local board member wished to attend but was told no.
- Local government makes decisions but national government sets the tone.
- Look at novel options e.g. boat stacks, alternative approaches.
- Need to educate people for the future, not just for now.
- We need to come up with a package of things that will occur in a way people can live with.
- We need to think about how to manage people's future behaviour. We need to clean up what we've done and put together a guide for future use.
- Boards have plans and information on spots of concerns. Roundtable could zone into the hot spots, identify in Local Plans.
- What more can you say? Water quality, quota management, marine reserves!
- We need a set of guiding principles for achieving future access due to greater loading on the environment. Tourism should have a dedicated person to preserve natural heritage assets, the preference would be for lower impact activities and increasing ferry access to control of the Gulf.
- Real time monitoring of human impact so that we can adjust thinking according to increased access.
- Rules need to reflect the four or five people out of a 1000 who won't comply and will devastate the environment therefore enforcement is required.
- We need to educate people about different perspectives – need balance.

## Hauraki 100+ Forum Notes By Category – July 2014

- Questions tend to be framed outside of just science, but more a world view of values needed.
- Balance of good Environmental Services and production as well.

### **General Comments**

- We need to manage the Gulf better.
- Just DO IT NOW! Not in two years down the track.
- At the end of this process, we want to see clear decisions and strong a commitment from groups, that things are going to change [for the better].
- Measureable outcomes.
- If we manage to keep what we have today, that will be a bonus in itself.
- We all agree, the overall view of the ecology, is at an unacceptable level.
- The most important thing to do is to look at everything.
- Hasn't a lot of this been done before? SoE report covers this already. It clearly states what the problems are.
- We're poisoning the Gulf from lots of places. Is it too late to stop that?
- "It's all connected." Everything is linked.
- Green knowledge could be promoted within project.
- Need to educate people for the future, not just for now.
- People don't come to New Zealand to see buildings: they come for undeveloped and unspoiled beauty.
- Queried whether the Marine Spatial Plan was going to be a fobbing off exercise or are you calling a spade a spade?