

STATE OF OUR GULF

2014



Historical Context

Toitū he whenua, whatungarongaro he tangata – Land is permanent, people disappear

MĀORI INFLUENCE

- Māori arrived around 1200 to 1300 AD.
- Land rich in resources, but isolation meant endemic species poorly adapted to cope with humans or their animal companions
- Extinctions or drastic reductions in small birds, vertebrates and invertebrates - kiore
- Extinction of large birds such as moa through hunting.
- Impacts on marine mammals, fish and shellfish.
- Land clearance (fire) with consequential erosion effects.

EUROPEAN ARRIVAL



MINING



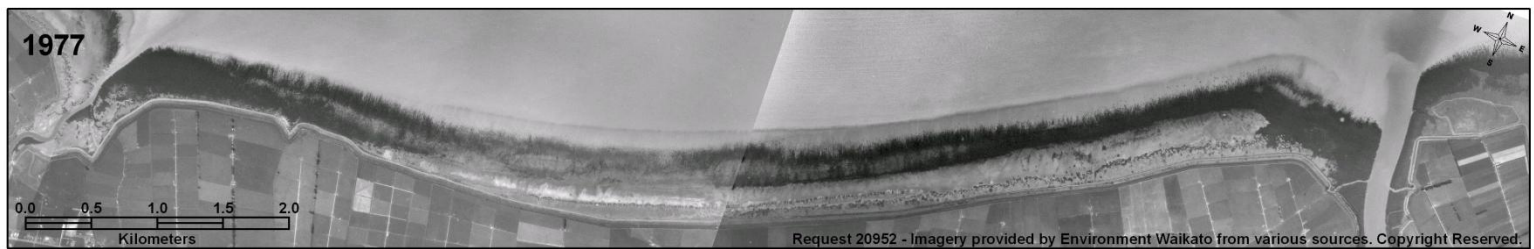
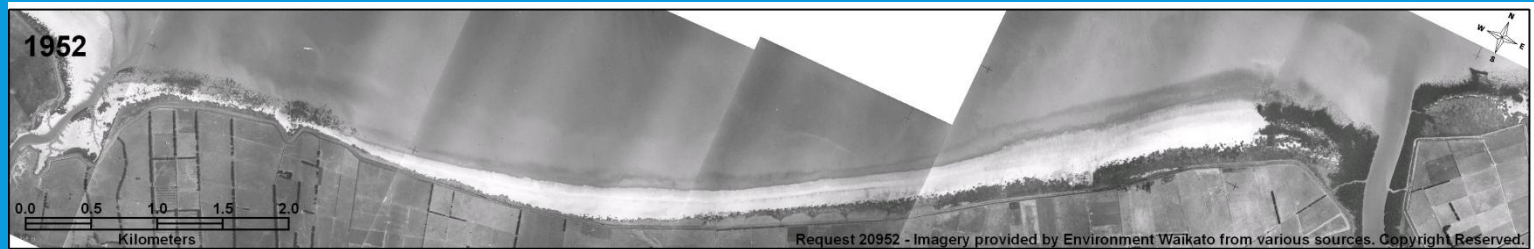
KAURI



FARMING



SEDIMENT AND MANGROVES



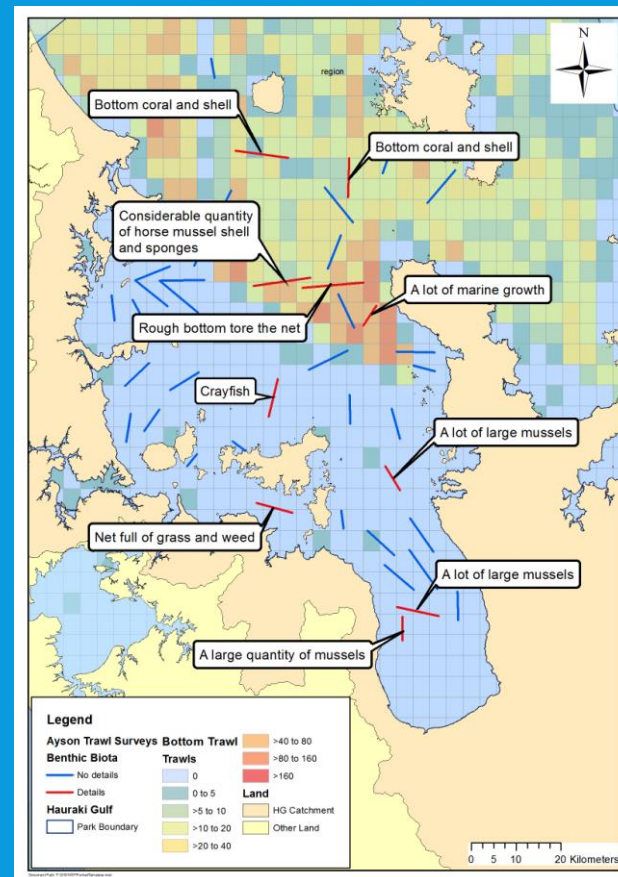
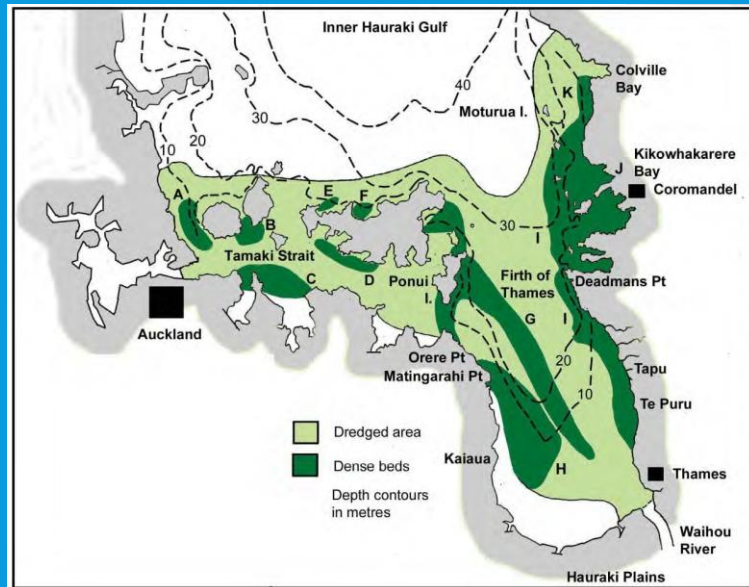
FISHING



A BIG CATCH: 1500 DOZEN FISH IN SANFORD'S FISHYARD, THAMES, AUCKLAND.
A. E. COURT. PHOTO.



SEABED



Submarine Forests Bay of Plenty Times, 19 June 1890

Another submarine forest is said to exist off Tolago Bay, also a well-known hapuka fishing ground. The trees there also bear fruit, and are known by the natives as kahikatea, for the specimens procured are of much the same appearance as the kahikatea tree on land, only differing in color.

A correspondent informs us that some five or six years ago, at a fishing party off Wellington Head, Port Abercrombie, Great Barrier Island, a famous hapuka ground, a dead branch of marine totara was hauled up from a depth of 18 fathoms. Two curious animals were attached to the branch. These had a set of arms, from 12 to 15 inches in length, radiating from the smallest of bodies. Their appearance was that of a small starfish without a body. The arms were twined spirally round the branch, and looked in this position like a set of india rubber washers placed round the wood, being of a greyish color, and of the consistency of india rubber.

The idea has been suggested to us that the wood from these submarine forests may be of great commercial value owing to its extraordinary toughness and hardness, and the forests being of considerable extent. If the trees could be brought to the surface whole, piece of wood at least 4 x 4 and 8 to 10 feet long might be got on each trunk. We would not be at all surprised to hear of some enterprising individual making an attempt in this direction, now that the matter has been brought before the public.

URBANISATION



COASTAL MODIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT



PRESSURES INCREASING AND CHANGE STILL OCCURRING

