

**SPECIAL PURPOSE ZONES**  
**FNDC Proposed District Plan Hearing 15B - September 2025**  
**Statement by community groups Vision Kerikeri and Kapiro Conservation Trust**

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**Relevant submissions:**

- Vision Kerikeri fs569, s527, s522
- Kapiro Conservation Trust fs566, s442, s449

**1. About our community groups**

Vision Kerikeri, Carbon Neutral NZ Trust and Kapiro Conservation Trust are not-for-profit community groups. Our groups have numerous members with professional expertise covering many fields. Vision Kerikeri volunteers have contributed information to the Council and others for more than two decades, seeking improvements in urban and district planning and greater protection for the natural environments.

We represent residents and ratepayers who are deeply invested in the future of this community, not for personal gain, but for the wellbeing of our land, rivers, people, flora and fauna, and the climate.

Our motivation is simple: we see the immense potential in this district, and we care about wise governance and clear, consistent rules. We understand that developing a district plan is a complex task, requiring vision for years and decades ahead.

**Note:** When we propose amendments to PDP chapters, shown below, we will cross out deleted text and underline new text.

**COMMENTS ON THE LANDING PRECINCT CHAPTER**

**2. The Landing's policies on pets**

The Landing has adopted the following policies -

- Cats and dogs are prohibited - they cannot be kept by residential owners

- Working farm dogs are allowed

The Landing supports a more uniform approach to kiwi protection and improvement in dog ownership along the Purerua Peninsula.<sup>1</sup>

### 3. Proposed new policies and rules in The Landing Precinct

We seek new policies and rules in the Landing Precinct chapter to add specific protection kiwi and indigenous biodiversity –

**New policy TLP-Px:** Require active management and control of pest plants and pest animals, including possums, goats, mustelids, feral cats, feral dogs, and roaming or uncontrolled dogs.

**New policy TLP-Px:** Protect indigenous habitats and species particularly kiwi by avoiding the temporary or permanent introduction of dogs, cats or mustelids. *Working dogs* are exempt.

**New rule TLP-Rx:** Introduction of dogs, cats or mustelids on a temporary or permanent basis by residents, visitors, contractors or others (excluding *working dogs*).

Activity status: Prohibited.

**New rule TLP-Rx:** Vegetation clearance

Activity status: Discretionary

Before starting any indigenous or non-indigenous vegetation clearance, the area shall be monitored for kiwi and other vulnerable indigenous species by a certified conservation dog.

**New rule TLP-Rx:** Catteries and dog boarding kennels.

Activity status: prohibited.

**Revised objective TLP-O1:** Subdivision, use and development of The Landing that integrates limited low density development maximum 48 lots with restoration, and protection and enhancement of natural character, and landscape and coastal values, and ecological values.

### 4. Proposed interpretation of ‘working dogs’

We propose a new definition in the ‘Interpretation’ chapter to explain the meaning of *working dogs*, along the following lines –

**Working dog** means a working farm dog, certified Disability Assist dog<sup>2</sup>, or Conservation Dog certified by DOC<sup>3</sup> for detecting kiwi or other species. Such dogs must be kept under control at all times.

## COMMENTS ON MATAKA STATION PRECINCT

### 5. Mataka Station’s policies on pets

- Cats & mustelids are prohibited
- Dogs are limited to two per owner which must be confined (by way of an escape proof enclosure) to the owner’s exclusive use area, except when dogs are in the company of that owner (or other invitee) and then on a leash at all times.<sup>4</sup>
- Working farm dogs are allowed.

<sup>1</sup> Email from Peter Jones, Director of The Landing, to Andrew Mentor, August 2025

<sup>2</sup> <https://tikatangata.org.nz/resources-and-support/guidelines/disability-assist-dogs-and-rights-of-access>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-dog-programme/>

<sup>4</sup> Further details in Peter Hall’s planning evidence for Mataka Station, p.142.

Mataka Station website<sup>5</sup> states that:

“The conservation estate at Mataka provides a high degree of diversity and a haven for kiwi – one of the most iconic New Zealand birds at risk of extinction. The kiwi population of Mataka is one of the most significant in New Zealand and Mataka is a significant part of the campaign to protect kiwi and regrow the kiwi population.”

“The two main measures used at Mataka to protect kiwis are the control of dogs and the use of a long term consistent predator program. Dogs are generally not permitted and tightly controlled and the predator program makes extensive use of bait stations, traps and shooting to eradicate the predators which kill kiwi.”

## 6. Proposed new policies and rules in Mataka Precinct chapter

We seek new policies and rules in Mataka Station Precinct chapter to add specific protection kiwi and indigenous biodiversity –

**Revised policy PRECX-P4:** ~~Encourage and support~~ Require active management of pest plants and pest animals, including possums, goats, and mustelids, feral cats, feral dogs, and roaming or uncontrolled dogs.

**Revised policy PRECX-P5:** ~~Require landowners to manage pets to avoid risks to threatened~~ Protect indigenous habitats and species particularly kiwi by avoiding the temporary or permanent introduction of dogs, cats or mustelids. *Working dogs* are exempt

**New policy PRECX-Px:** Existing dogs shall be contained in an escape-proof enclosure (so that dogs and wildlife cannot pass through), and kept under control at all times to prevent any risk to kiwi or other vulnerable indigenous species.

**New rule PRECX-Rx:** Introduction of cats, mustelids or new dogs on a temporary or permanent basis by residents, visitors, contractors or others (excluding *working dogs*).  
Activity status: Prohibited.

**New rule PRECX-Rx:** Vegetation clearance.

Activity status: Discretionary

Before starting any indigenous or non-indigenous vegetation clearance, the area shall be monitored for kiwi and other vulnerable indigenous species by a certified conservation dog.

**Revised policy PRECX-P3:** Limit development within the precinct to a maximum of 30 lots to protect natural character and the characteristics, qualities and values that make ONL outstanding.

## 7. Missing elements in Mataka Precinct chapter

The Precinct chapter refers to Areas 1, 2 & 3 in the Precinct plan, however the plan provided by s42 report does not show Areas 1, 2 & 3.

Draft rule PRECX-R8 in the precinct chapter refers to standard PRECX-S3. However, PRECX-S3 is absent from the draft chapter.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.mataka.co.nz/conservation/>

## BIODIVERSITY OVERLAY FOR PURERUA PENINSULA

### 9. Proposed biodiversity overlay

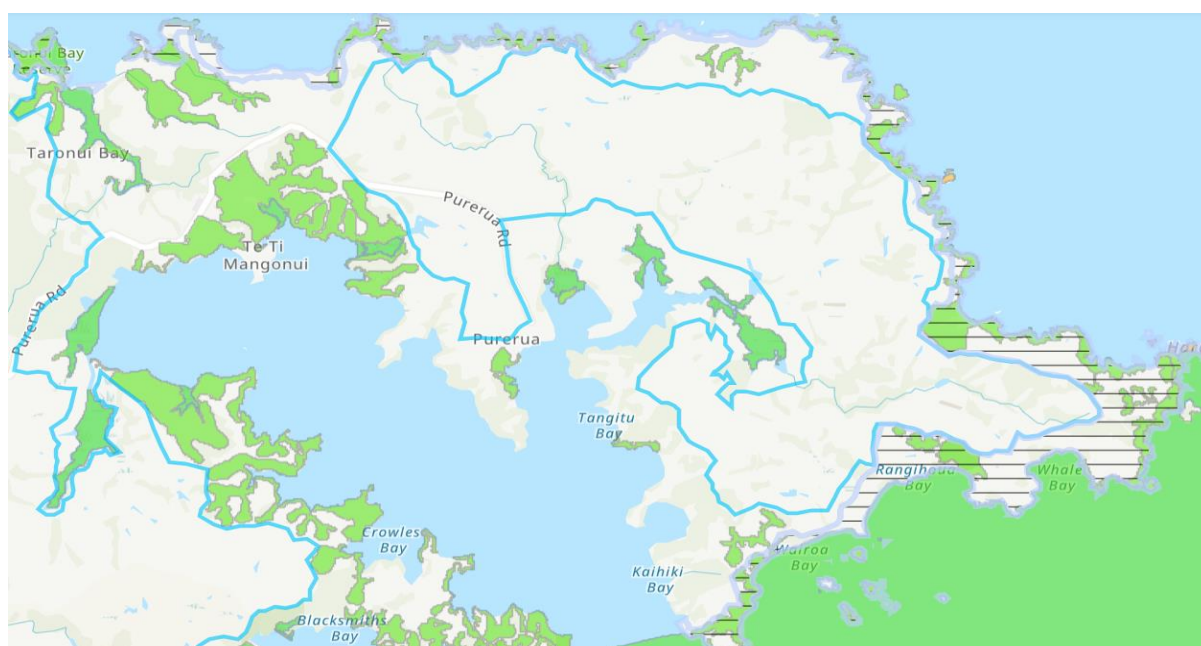
As noted in the evidence of Kiwi Coast, Purerua Peninsula has special features that deserve particular protection. The density of kiwi is unrivalled anywhere in New Zealand, therefore this peninsula is considered Nationally Significant. In addition, species seen or heard over the project area include kukupa, Australasian bittern, spotless crake, fernbird, NZ pipit, red knot, whimbrel, kororā, grey-faced petrel, NZ dotterel, pied stilt, oystercatcher, gecko (Northland green, Pacific and Woodworthia), flax snail, moko skink.

**We urge the hearing panel to recommend to Council that additional protection be extended to the Purerua Peninsula as a specific overlay to recognise this peninsula as a nationally significant area for kiwi and the wider indigenous biodiversity.**

We note that the area of Purerua has a particularly large area of Coastal Environment mapped by Northland Regional Council – shown in Figure 1. (In fact, the entire Purerua Peninsula is 100% surrounded by Coastal Environment.)

An overlay could provide for the protection of important areas of kiwi habitat and indigenous biodiversity, including the large area of Coastal Environment, and avoid the introduction of predators in the area except where special circumstances exist (such as working farm dogs that are kept under control at all times).

**Figure 1: Large area of Coastal Environment at Taronui & Purerua Peninsula**  
Regional Policy Statement map



#### Legend

Coastal Environment 	Outstanding Natural Landscapes 	High Natural Character 
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Source: NRC Regional Policy Statement map, accessed august 2025,  
<https://localmaps.nrc.govt.nz/localmapsvviewer/?map=f75ef7386f8f49d5bf4b0b89305d48e7>