

Protecting

our marine environment

E tiaki nei tō tatou taiao moana



Collaboration on new dune monitoring study

Sand dunes are a precious part of Northland's ecosystem: they provide a habitat for native plants and creatures, are culturally significant, and are an important line of defence against coastal inundation.

We're collaborating with Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board and Northtec on a pilot study to come up with methods others can use to monitor and protect their local sand dunes.

The study involves assessing the general health of a dune system and the life in it, then measuring how effective various interventions are. It monitors the presence of native vegetation, butterflies, birds, insects and invertebrates, including the rare Northland katipō.

Getting accurate data about dune health is vital so we can learn the best ways to protect them.

Find out more: www.nrc.govt.nz/our-northland

Local elections

Kōwhiringa Pōti ā-rohe

Keen to make a difference and help continue to make Te Tai Tokerau a great place to live?

If that sounds like you, you may want to consider running for a seat on the Northland Regional Council at this year's local body elections.

In a change from previous elections, this year will be notable because as proposed it will see voters elect a nine-strong council that will include two Māori councillors representing Te Raki, a new region-wide Māori constituency.

The proposed changes have yet to be formally signed off by the Local Government Commission but include a specific Māori constituency designed to ensure Māori are at the decision-making table itself when the new council takes office later this year.

As proposed seven general councillors will be elected from seven general constituencies (one from each) and two Māori councillors elected from the region-wide Māori constituency (Te Raki), the latter with an electoral population of approximately 48,000.

The general constituencies will be Far North, Coastal Central, Coastal South, Kaipara, Mid North, Whangārei Central and Bay of Islands-Whangaroa.

Information for would-be candidates is expected to be released by the council over the next several months.

Take our residents survey

We'd love to hear from you about the work we do, what's important to you and how we can do better. Follow the link or scan the code to share your views with us.



www.nrc.govt.nz/residentssurvey

P: 0800 002 004

W: nrc.govt.nz/rates

24/7 Environmental Hotline 0800 504 639

Working

for a thriving Northland

Te Taitokerau, ka whai hua



April Paenga-whāwhā 2022

Northland
REGIONAL COUNCIL 
Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Taitokerau

Protecting our native taonga

E Tiaki Nei i ā Tātou Taonga



To help protect our native taonga species, we have various predator suppression and eradication programmes in place. This is as a result of growing interest and support from Northlanders to see our flora and fauna thrive once again.

In Whangārei we have a 9,000ha possum eradication project happening at the Whangārei Heads peninsula, as well as an urban pest control programme called Tiakina Whangārei. In the Mid north we have Pēwhairangi Whānui (Predator Free Bay of Islands) and a Kaipara Moana programme will begin soon too.

Furthermore, we work closely with local conservation groups in our region, such as Kiwi Coast, to support their mahi.

Find out more about our Biosecurity programmes at www.nrc.govt.nz/environment/weed-and-pest-control/biosecurity-programmes/

Your rates at work

Ki hea āu reiti whakapaua ai

Council services rate This rate funds a wide range of activities including: planning, consents and monitoring; governance and engagement; economic development; customer services, transport, harbour safety and oil pollution control; corporate services and other activities.

Land and freshwater management rate This rate funds land management activities and activities to improve freshwater quality in local waterways, such as erosion control, landowner advice, water quality monitoring and water allocation. **Pest management rate** This rate funds pest plant and animal management activities on land and in the water and supports community-led pest control projects.

Flood infrastructure rate This rate fully or partially funds the development of flood protection infrastructure and other minor river works in communities across Northland.

Emergency and hazard management rate This rate funds Civil Defence emergency management, natural hazard management activities and climate change adaptation planning activities.

Emergency services rate This rate provides funding for organisations whose primary purpose is to save lives that are in immediate or critical danger, or to respond to serious injury.

Regional sporting facilities rate This rate contributes funds towards the development of sporting facilities across Northland that are of regional benefit.

Regional economic development rate This rate funds activities which support economic wellbeing in Northland and community infrastructure.

Find out more Information on instalment dates, penalties and discounts can be found on your rates assessment. To view the full rates policies, visit www.nrc.govt.nz/rates

Resilient communities

Ngā Hapori Manawaroa



More than \$5 million of long-awaited staged works designed to substantially reduce the flood risk to Otiria and Moerewa are under way partially funded by a via a local rate on about 2300 properties in the affected area.

About \$5.1 million of works will be carried out in three stages, starting with a \$500,000, 150 metre lower spillway from Pokapu Road to where it meets the Waiharekeke River.

In a big flood, about 80 percent of the water from the Otiria Stream spills over nearby land as does 70% from the Waiharakeke Stream.

Council plans to restore the streams' natural flows by replacing the existing Pokapu Rd Bridge and building a new three-span, 60-metre-long single-lane bridge.

While the works will not stop flooding altogether, they will reduce the severity of a typical flood by about 75%.

About \$2.8M of the project cost will be met by central govt via Kānoa - Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit, another \$1.6M from the NRC and the balance –about \$600,000 – via a local rate on about 2300 properties in the affected area.