

Northland's Coast and Us



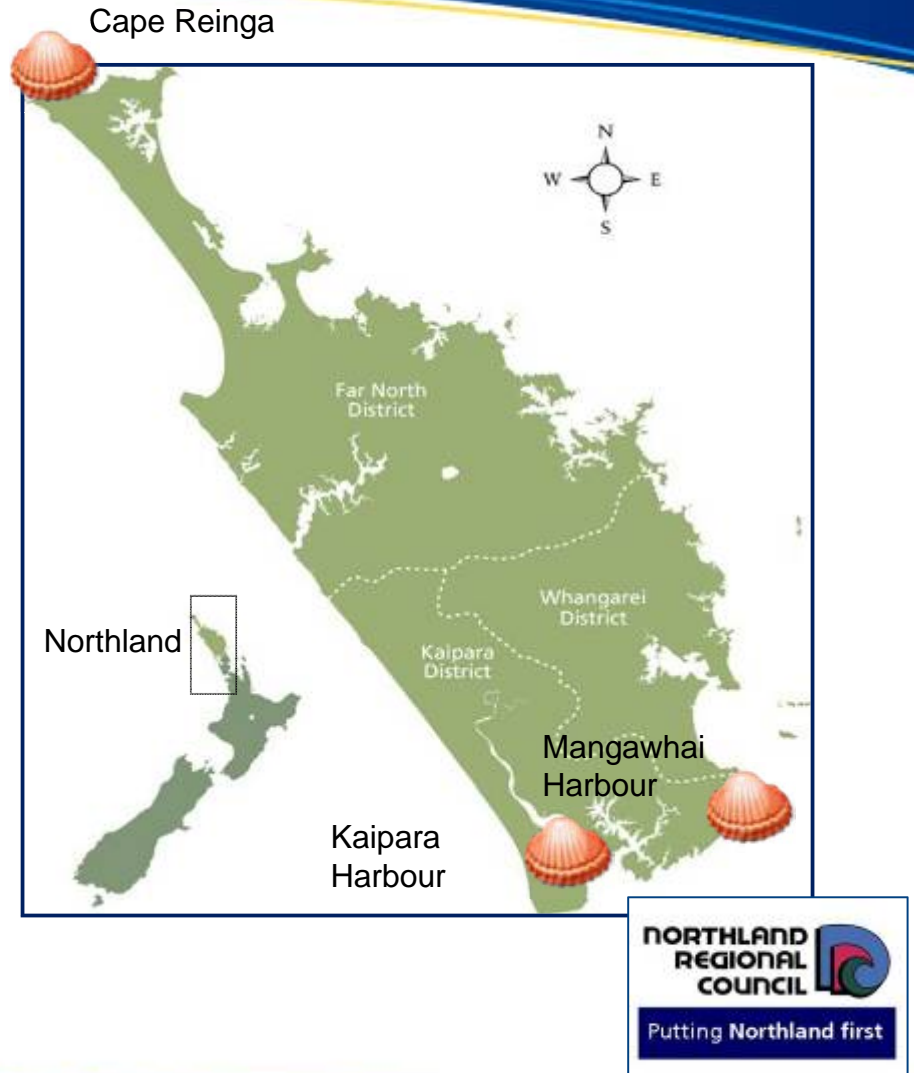
Our coast



Where is Northland's coast?

Northland extends from the Kaipara and Mangawhai Harbours in the south to Cape Rēinga in the north.

Find your favourite part of Northland's coast on this map.



What is Northland's coast?

Northland's coast is a 3200 kilometre zipper joining the land and the sea. It includes;

- inlets and estuaries
- sand dunes, rocky shores and sandy beaches
- two marine reserves and 17 harbours

Explore and describe the part of Northland's coastline near you.



Poor Knights Islands Marine Reserve

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Putting Northland first

What's special about Northland's west coast?

It is a place of wild beaches, spectacular coastline, stunning sand dunes, unique habitats, lighthouses, shipwrecks and many opportunities for recreation.



Describe the colours, shape and feel of a west coast beach near you.

Our west coast has four harbours

- Herekino
- Hokianga
- Kaipara
- Whāngāpē

Locate these
harbours on a
map of
Northland.



Why are west coast harbours important?

West Coast harbours are crucial

- local character
- cultural value
- feeding grounds for migratory wading birds such as godwits
- snapper breeding grounds



Walk along the coast. What birds can you see feeding? Which tidal zone are they in and what are they eating?



What shapes Northland's west coast?

Continuous onshore oceanic swells and strong winds constantly shape and reshape Northland's west coast.

Observe and record how swells and wind have shaped Northland's west coast.



Poutō Peninsula

What lives on Northland's west coast?

Northland's west coast is home to several endangered plant species. They are important as roosting, nesting and feeding areas for coastal birds such as threatened New Zealand dotterels and fairy terns.

How can you help protect the endangered plants and birds along Northland's west coast?



What's special about Northland's east coast?

Northland's east coast is generally a place of gentle beauty. It is made up of rocky points with golden sandy beaches fringed by pohutukawa trees, secluded coves and tranquil harbours.



Mangawhai Harbour

How does Northland's east coast differ from the west coast?

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What's special about the east coast?

Much of Northland's east coast is washed by a warm subtropical sea current which carries the larvae of many sea species not found elsewhere in New Zealand.

Where does this subtropical current come from?



Oke Bay, Bay of Islands

Our east coast has 13 harbours



- Bay of Islands
 - Houhora
 - Mangawhai
 - Mangonui
 - Ngunguru
- Pārengarenga
 - Rangaunu
 - Tutukākā
 - Whananaki
- Whangamumu
 - Whāngārei
 - Whangaroa
 - Whangaruru



Locate these harbours on a Northland map.

The east coast has two marine reserves

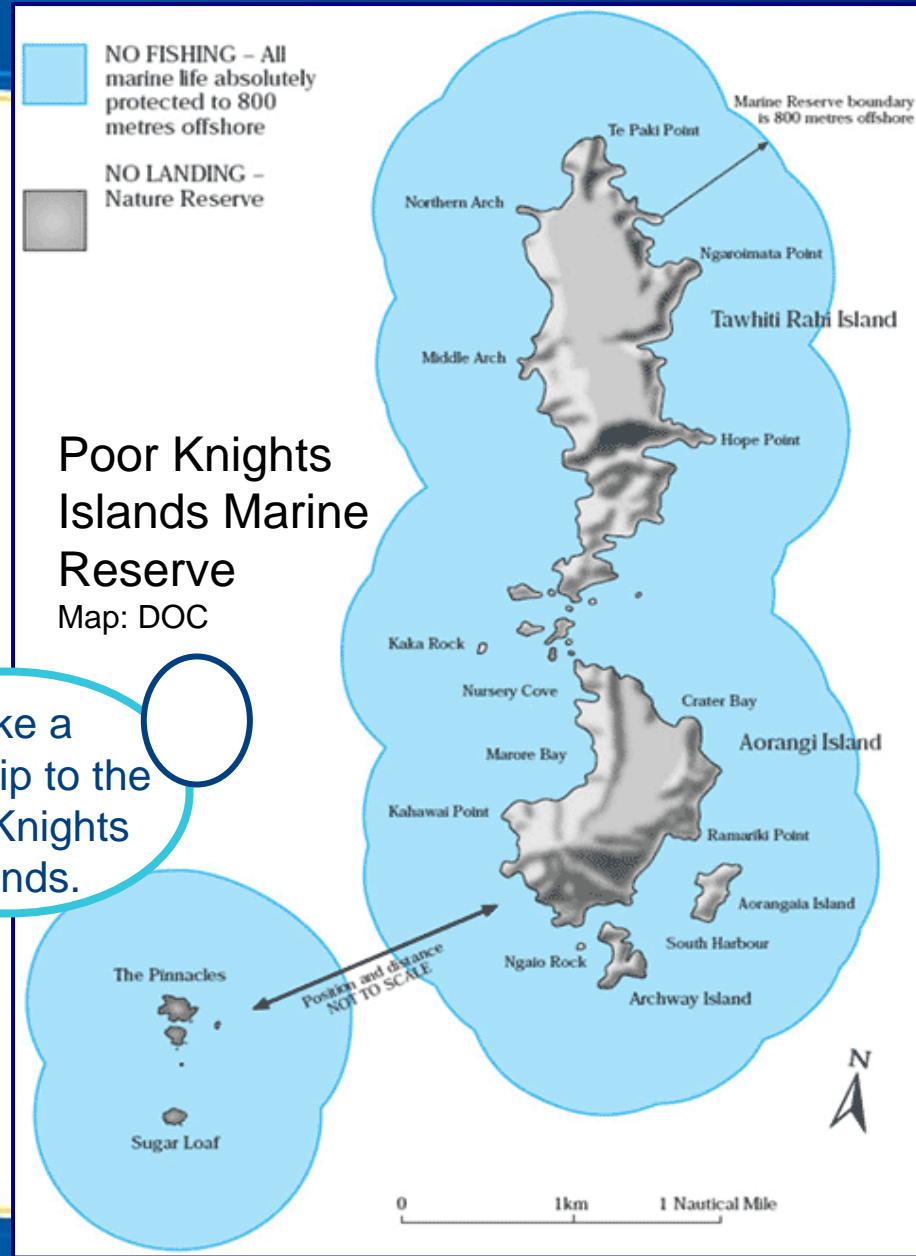
- Poor Knights Islands
- Waikaraka and Motukaroro/Passage Island in Whangarei Harbour

Explore one of Northland's marine reserves.



The east coast has two marine reserves

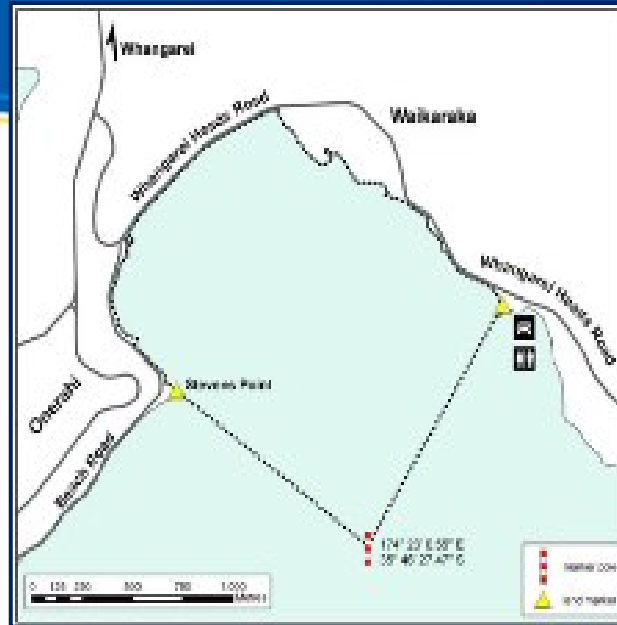
Poor Knights Islands marine reserve was established in 1981 as New Zealand's second marine reserve. The reserve covers approximately 1890 hectares. It extends 800 metres offshore from the islands into the surrounding ocean.



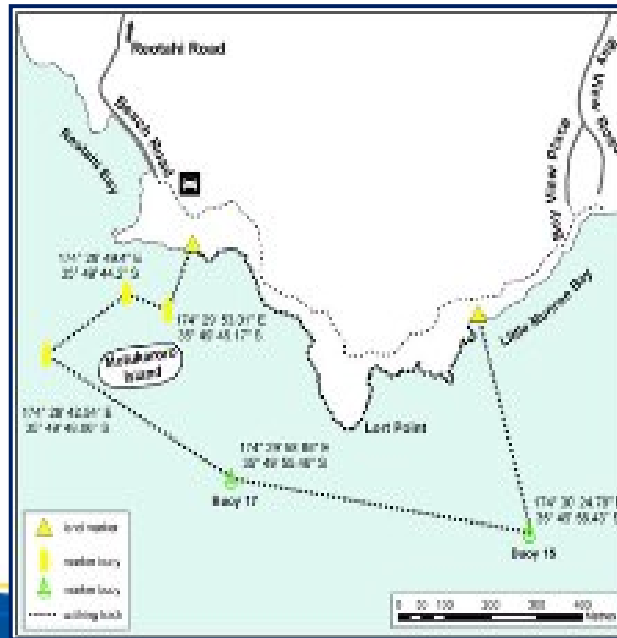
Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserve

This reserve made up of two sites: Waikaraka (in the middle of the harbour) and Motukaroro/Passage Island surrounding Reotahi (near the harbour mouth)

The reserve covers 253.7 ha or 2.54% of Whāngārei Harbour.



Waikaraka Marine Reserve
Whangarei Harbour
Map: DOC



Motukaroro Marine Reserve
Whangarei Harbour
Map:DOC

What do marine reserves do?

What shapes Northland's east coast?

The east coast usually has softer winds and oceanic swells than Northland's west coast.

Check out how wind and waves have shaped your nearest part of the east coast.



What lives on Northland's east coast?

Northland's east coast is home to:

- native birds and plant species
- aquaculture
- migratory birds
- a rich array of sea life
- marine mammals

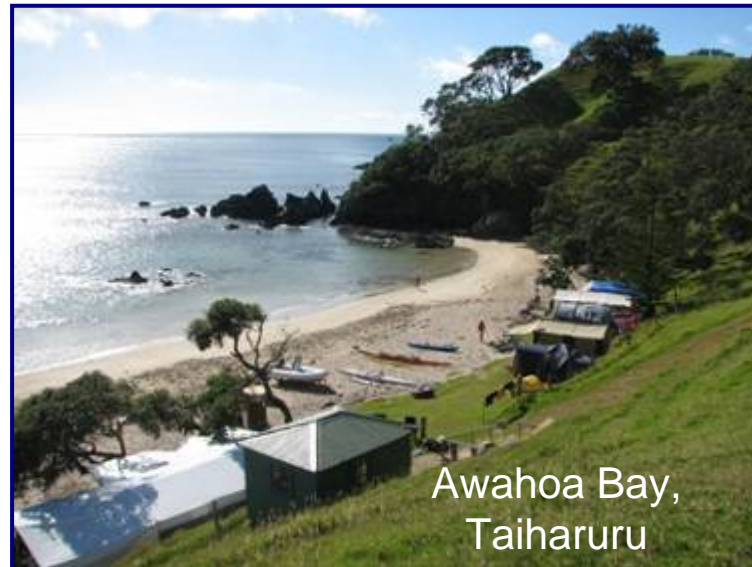


Discover what lives on Northland's east coast.

Who uses Northland's coasts?

Carry out a survey of who uses the east coast.

- Northlanders
- iwi
- tourists
- holidaymakers
- sailors and boaties
- scientists
- photographers
- business people



How do these people use our coasts?

- live / visit
- sightsee / photograph
- swim / snorkel / dive
- fish / collect kaimoana
- surf / sail / boat
- holiday / relax / camp
- picnic / walk
- run businesses



Find out how use of Northland's coasts has changed over time.

What threatens the coasts of Northland?

- extreme weather events
- marine pests
- introduced plant and animal pests
- resource exploitation
- erosion
- pollution
- climate change
- human activities

Identify local coastal threats. How can people help reduce these.



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Who looks after Northland's coast?

The Northland Regional Council (NRC) helps look after our coastal waters from high tide mark to low water mark onwards out to the 12 nautical mile limit.

How does the council look after our coast? Go to www.nrc.govt.nz to find out.



Who looks after Northland's coast?

Anywhere, anytime, Northland Regional Council staff are out there playing their part.



Coastal Monitoring



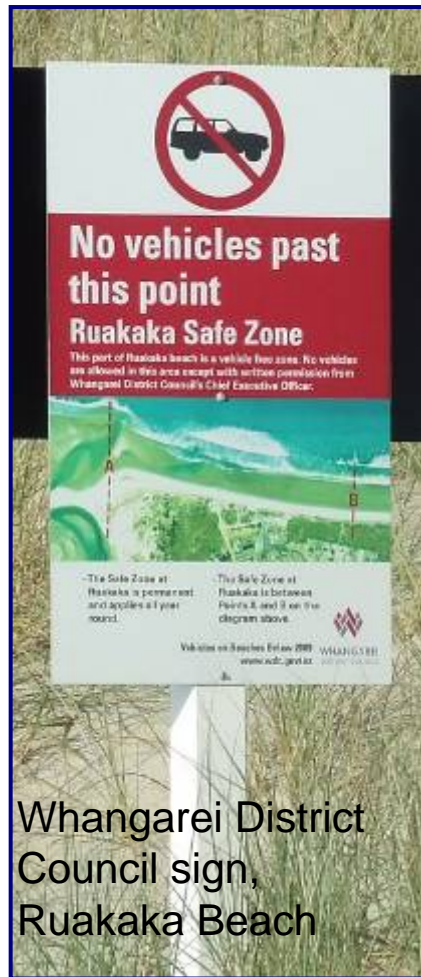
Coastal pest plant removal



Seaweed build-up

Who looks after Northland's coast?

What does your district council do to care for the coast? How can you help it look after the coast?



Whangarei District Council sign, Ruakaka Beach

District councils - Whangarei, Far North and Kaipara District Councils - have responsibility for the coastal land they own. They set bylaws managing coastal use down to the low water mark.

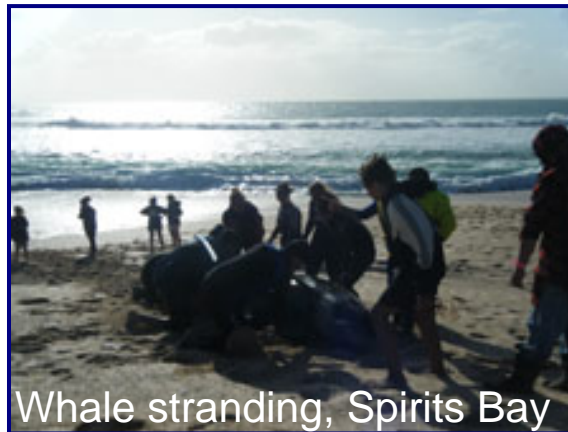


Who looks after Northland's coast?

The Department of Conservation helps

- protect native species on the coast
- manages marine reserves
- look after marine mammals and marine mammal strandings

How can you help DOC look after your part of the coast? Go to www.doc.govt.nz to find out.



Whale stranding, Spirits Bay

Who looks after Northland's coast?



Fish limits sign, Whangarei Harbour

The Ministry of Fisheries helps make sure everyone obeys the laws and regulations regarding fishing and shellfish gathering.

How many fish and shellfish are you allowed to collect each day in Northland? What size must they be?



Who looks after Northland's coast?

How can you make sure you and others enjoy the beach safely?

The New Zealand Police helps

- make sure people drive safely on beaches
- other organisations when needed



Who looks after Northland's coast?

We all do!

- get involved in local restoration projects
- stick to fishing and shellfish regulations
- keep vehicles off dunes
- If you must drive on the beach, then drive carefully
- take rubbish home
- use boats responsibly
- look after creatures and plants

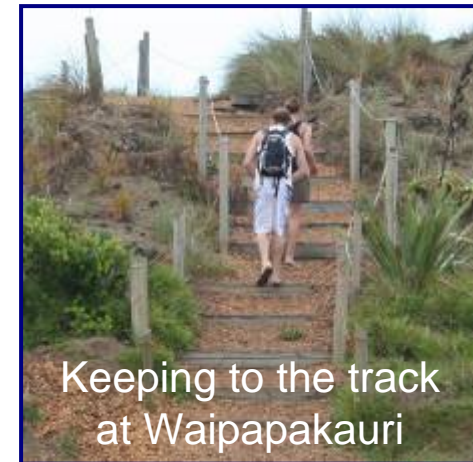
How can you help care for our coast?



Who looks after Northland's coast?

Check out the
CoastCare
Code and get
involved!

- keep pollutants out of drains
- keep dogs on leashes, collect their waste and only take them to beaches if permitted
- keep beaches and dunes free of garden waste
- leave pebbles and shells on the beach
- fence stock in paddocks
- stick to tracks when walking
- keep horses off dunes
- surf the waves, not the dunes



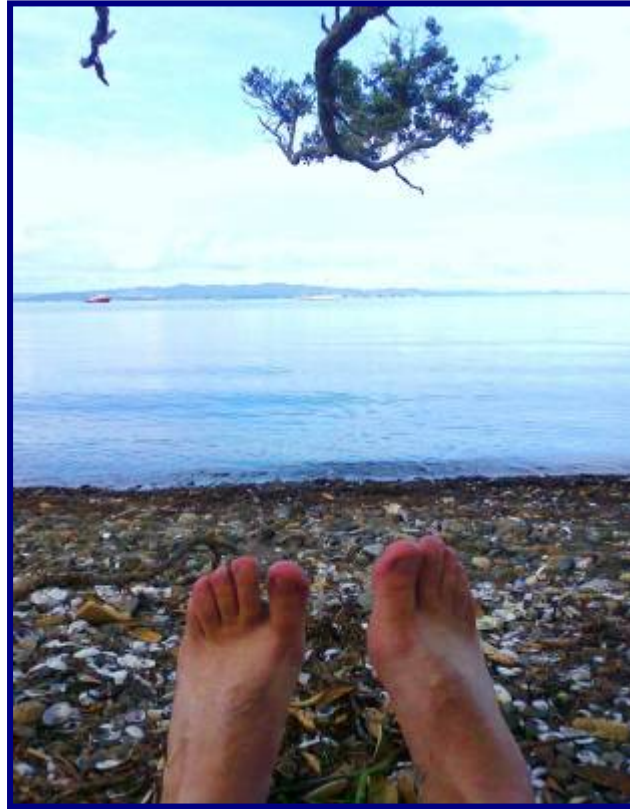
How do you look after yourself on the coast?

- swim between the flags and watch for rips
- stick to boating and fishing regulations and rules
- follow the road rules on the beach
- be water wise
- avoid cliffs and unstable banks / dunes

How can you help others to take these actions?



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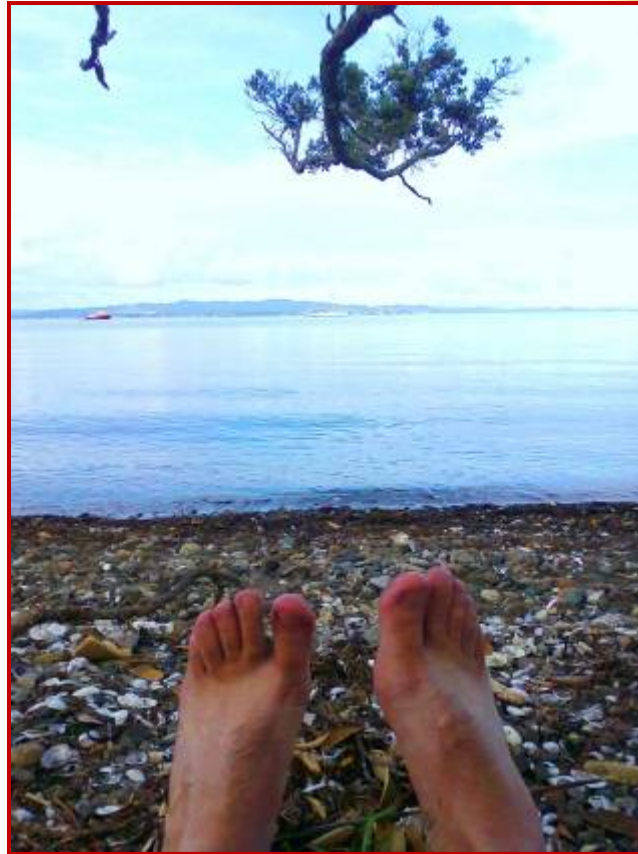


Our coast



have you clicked on yet?
www.nrc.govt.nz

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Our Coast