

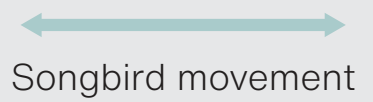
The forest fragments, existing corridors and proposed corridors in the Eastern Bays Songbird Project zone.



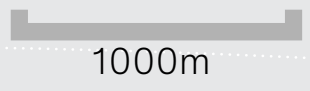
The pest-free islands of the Hauraki Gulf.



- Forest fragment
- Existing corridor
- Proposed corridor



Songbird movement



1000m





Saddleback / tīeke. Photo by Shaun Lee.

### Recommended next steps to implement the ecological corridors

The next steps towards implementing the ecological corridors outlined in this report are as follows:

- Launch education and advocacy campaign in the Eastern Bays on the negative impact of invasive plants, removal techniques and alternative native species
- Continue to promote pest control to residents in the Eastern Bays
- Encourage schools to promote habitat enhancement in their local communities
- Explore the potential for collaboration with the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei plant nursery to provide eco-sourced native plants to residents in the Eastern Bays
- Promote planting days within the Eastern Bays hosted by Auckland Council, Conservation Volunteers and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
- Investigate the potential for weed swap events, mothplant pod competitions etc in the area.
- Discuss limiting the sale of invasive plant species with commercial plant nurseries in and around the Eastern Bays
- Discuss the feasibility of road and rail corridor planting with Auckland Council, Ōrākei Local Board, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and relevant transport providers

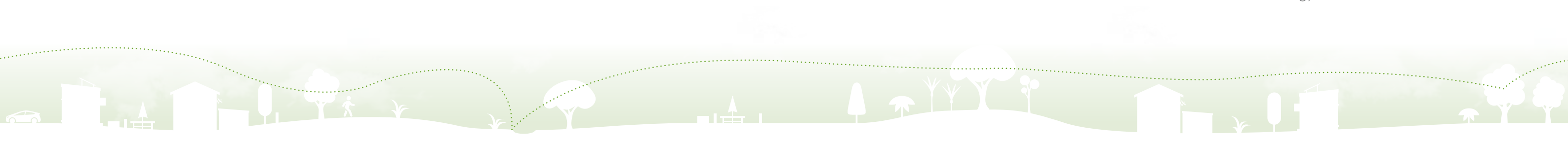


## Summary

The Eastern Bays are a popular destination for Aucklanders and visitors due to the natural geographic advantages of their coastal location. Given the Bays position, bounded by the waters of the Waitematā Harbour, Tāmaki Estuary and Pourewa Creek and mid-way between the city and the pest-free islands of the Hauraki Gulf, they also have the potential to become a jewel of biodiversity, vibrant with native bird, insect and reptile life, within Auckland City. With vision, commitment, and by harnessing the enthusiasm of the community, the Eastern Bays could become a place where iconic species such as tūī, kererū, kākārīki, bellbird and kākā, and also smaller native species such as fantail and grey warbler, forage in flocks among native trees in the backyards of residents. For this to become a reality, habitat for these species needs to be increased and better connected through revegetation efforts, and the abundance of mammalian predators reduced further. This report aims to identify strategic revegetation sites in the Eastern Bays to increase indigenous forest cover, improve the long-term viability of current ecosystems and restore ecological corridors to enable movement of native species.

Building on the ecological enhancements planned in parks and reserves by the Ōrākei Local Board and Auckland Council and on Māori land by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei <sup>[18-20]</sup>, a number of ecological enhancements have been proposed in this report which are critical to native biodiversity in the area. All existing forest fragments in the area on public, private and Māori land should be enhanced through weed removal and animal pest control. An increase in native vegetation will provide food and habitat for a range of native birds, insects and reptiles.

At present, roadside and backyard vegetation is primarily exotic grasses or trees that provide little to no ecological benefits for native species but to be effective, the forest fragments must be connected through appropriately vegetated corridors. To affect this, it is proposed that a diverse assemblage of native groundcovers, shrubs and trees be planted in backyards and on berms in key zones as defined in this report. Enhancing road corridors and backyards with native vegetation would significantly increase indigenous forest cover, enhance connectivity between forest fragments and help to create a pest-free urban sanctuary where populations of native species can flourish. It would also be a critical step in increasing canopy cover to 24%, as outlined by the Ōrākei Local Board <sup>[18]</sup> and towards facilitating the movement of biodiversity throughout the Eastern Bays and the wider Auckland region as envisaged in Auckland’s Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy <sup>[22]</sup>.



# Appendix

## The scientific and Māori names of plant and animal species mentioned in-text. (\*) denotes exotic species.

Common name	Māori name	Scientific name
Swamp harrier	Kāhu	<i>Circus approximans</i>
Silvereye	Tauhou	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>
Grey warbler	Riroriro	<i>Gerygone igata</i>
Kingfisher	Kōtare	<i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>
Morepork	Ruru	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>
Shining cuckoo	Pīpīwharau	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidas</i>
Whitehead	Pōpokatea	<i>Mohoua albicilla</i>
North Island robin	Toutouwai	<i>Petroica longipes</i>
Saddleback	Tīeke	<i>Philesturnus rufusater</i>
Stitchbird	Hihi	<i>Notiomystis cincta</i>
NZ falcon	Kārearea	<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i>
Long-tailed cuckoo	Koekoeā	<i>Eudynamys taitensis</i>
Tomtit	Miromiro	<i>Petroica macrocephala</i>
Kōkako	Kōkako	<i>Callaeas wilsoni</i>
Bats	Pekapeka	<i>Chalinolobus tuberculatus</i> and <i>Mystacina tuberculata</i>
Huhu beetle and grub	Huhu	<i>Prionoplus reticularis</i>
Banded kōkopu	Kōkopu	<i>Galaxias fasciatus</i>
Eels	Tuna	<i>Anguilla spp.</i>
Auckland green gecko	Moko kākārīki	<i>Naultinus elegans elegans</i>
Forest gecko	Mokopirirakau	<i>Moko</i>
Pacific gecko	Mokopāpā	<i>Dactylonemys pacificus</i>
Copper skink	-	<i>Oligosoma aeneum</i>
Ornate skink	-	<i>Oligosoma ornatum</i>
Moko skink	-	<i>Oligosoma moco</i>
Shore skink	-	<i>Oligosoma smithi</i>
Rainbow skink*	-	<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>
Rats*	Kiore	<i>Rattus spp.</i>
Mustelids*	-	<i>Mustela spp.</i>
Possum*	-	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>
Cat*	-	<i>Felis catus</i>
Fig wasp*	-	<i>Leistodontes froggatti</i>
Miro	Miro	<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>

Common name	Māori name	Scientific name
Taraire	Taraire	<i>Beilschmiedia tarairi</i>
Hīnau	Hīnau	<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>
Tawa	Tawa	<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>
Rātā	Rātā	<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>
Brush cherry*	-	<i>Syzygium australe</i>
Gum*	-	<i>Eucalyptus spp.</i> , <i>Corymbia spp.</i> , <i>Angophora spp.</i>
Flame tree*	-	<i>Erythrina x sykesii</i>
Norfolk pine*	-	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>
Climbing asparagus*	-	<i>Asparagus scandens</i>
Mothplant*	-	<i>Araujia hortorum</i>
Jasmine*	-	<i>Jasminum polyanthum</i>
Ladder fern*	-	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>
Woolly nightshade*	-	<i>Solanum mauritanum</i>
Tradescantia*	-	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>
Bolivian fuchsia*	-	<i>Fuchsia boliviana</i>
Wild ginger*	-	<i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i>
Chinese privet*	-	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>
Tree privet*	-	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>
Brush wattle*	-	<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>
Agapanthus*	-	<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>
Evergreen buckthorn*	-	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>
Pampas grass*	-	<i>Cortaderia seloana</i>
Bangalow palm*	-	<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamian</i>
Phoenix palm*	-	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>
Queen palm*	-	<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i>
Chinese windmill palm*	-	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>
Moreton Bay Fig*	-	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>
Bamboo*	-	<i>Pseudosasa spp</i>
Kikuyu*	-	<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>
Couch grass*	-	<i>Elytrigia repens</i>
Convolvulus spp.*	-	<i>Convolvulus spp.</i>
Japanese honeysuckle*	-	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Madeira vine*	-	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>
Eucalyptus*	-	<i>Eucalyptus spp.</i>
Poplar*	-	<i>Populus spp.</i>
Willow*	-	<i>Salix spp.</i>
Jerusalem cherry*	-	<i>Solanum spp</i>

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