

Open Agenda

1 Apologies

No apologies had been received at the close of the agenda.

2 Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

- a) **confirm** the minutes of Hui 79 held on Monday, 12 September 2022, as a true and accurate record.

Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022 Report

Authors: Dominic Wilson Manager Co-governance and Nicholas Turoa, Kaiwhakahaere Te Waka Tairanga Whenua

<p>Purpose</p>	<p>This report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outlines the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022 process (Attachment A). b) outlines the themes covered in submissions received on the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022 and a proposed response (Attachment C). c) presents recommendations on submissions (Attachment D). d) seeks approval of the recommended Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022 (Attachment E).
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>That the Tūpuna Maunga Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) agree to accept the 31 late submissions received to the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022; b) agree to receive proposed recommendations in relation to submissions received which are set out in the document titled 'Proposed recommended changes to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022' (Attachment D); c) approve the tracked change version of the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022 (Attachment E); and d) delegate authority to the Head of Co-governance to approve any minor edits to finalise the document.

Background

1. Section 58 of the Nga Mana Whenua o Tamaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 ("Redress Act") required the Maunga Authority to prepare and approve an Integrated Management Plan (IMP) to apply to the Tūpuna Maunga, including Maungauika; the administered lands and any land for which any other enactment requires the Maunga Authority to be the administering body. The IMP had to comply with the requirements of s59 of the Redress Act and the Reserves Act, which included a 2-month period of consultation. The Maunga Authority approved the IMP at Hui 19 on 23 June 2016.
2. The Tūpuna Maunga Authority adopted the Tūpuna Maunga Strategies at Hui 50 on 25 September 2019 following a 6-week period of consultation. The Tūpuna Maunga Strategies is a companion policies document that provides guidance with regards to education, biodiversity, Tūpuna Maunga design, recreation, commercial activities and monitoring. Together with the IMP, these strategies inform, guide and manage the activities undertaken on the Maunga.

3. To further the aims of the IMP, various capital and other projects for restoration have been carried out on the Maunga. A project planned for Ōwairaka/Te Ahi Kā a Rakataura/Mt Albert (the Ōwairaka project) has been unable to proceed due to litigation opposing the project. The Court of Appeal has ruled that, due to its significance, the Ōwairaka project needed to be included in the Integrated Management Plan (Court of Appeal decision¹). Further background on this is set out in the Hui 77 report, including copies of the Court of Appeal and High Court decisions in relation to the Ōwairaka project.
4. At Hui 77 (25 July 2022), the Maunga Authority considered the next steps for the Ōwairaka project and unanimously resolved (Mana Whenua and Auckland Council members) to proceed with an amendment to the IMP to specifically provide for the Ōwairaka project and restoration projects on three other Tūpuna Maunga.

Statutory Context

5. All decisions of the Authority must take into account the legislative and policy framework.
6. The Authority administers the Tūpuna Maunga under the Reserves Act 1977 and pursuant to Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014. The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000 is also applicable in relation to Maungauika.
7. Section 109(2) of Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 requires the Authority to have regard to the spiritual, ancestral, cultural, customary, and historical significance of the Maunga to Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau and that the Tūpuna Maunga is held in trust for Ngā Mana Whenua and the other people of Auckland.
8. The Tūpuna Maunga Authority's Integrated Management Plan was unanimously adopted (Mana Whenua and Auckland Council members) by the Authority pursuant to the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 and Reserves Act 1977. The Integrated Management Plan describes a series of "Values" and "Pathways" that guide all activities on the Tūpuna Maunga.
9. The Tūpuna Maunga Authority (Mana Whenua and Auckland Council members) unanimously adopted the Tūpuna Maunga Strategies at Hui 50 on 25 September 2020. The Tūpuna Maunga Strategies are 7 key sections that outline the strategic direction with regards to education, Biodiversity, Tūpuna Maunga design, Recreation, commercial activities and monitoring. Together with the IMP, these strategies inform guide and manage the activities undertaken on the Maunga.

Proposed Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022

10. The Tūpuna Maunga (ancestral maunga) of Tāmaki Makaurau are sacred to Mana Whenua as taonga tuku iho (treasures handed down the generations). They are the embodiment of their Tūpuna (ancestors). Thus, associations with Maunga are imbued with mana and wairua that occupy the spiritual as well as the terrestrial realm. The Maunga express Mana Whenua's mana and identity. The mauri (life force) of people is intimately linked to the mauri of the environment through ancestral connections. The Tūpuna Maunga are also places where Mana Whenua's ancestors lived, gave birth and died.
11. Following generations of Crown Treaty breaches and harm to the Tūpuna Maunga and mana whenua themselves, the return of the Tūpuna Maunga through the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 to the thirteen iwi/hapū of Auckland (Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau) was of immense significance. As observed by the TMA Chair

¹ Norman v Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Authority [2022] NZCA 30

Paul Majurey in his High Court affidavit evidence², it meant mana whenua “were able to reconnect with our ancestors” and it marked “the start of a journey of tangibly and meaningfully reconnecting with the Tūpuna Maunga and directing providing for their care and wellbeing”.

12. Since the vesting and the establishment of the Tūpuna Maunga Authority, a wide range of projects and programmes have been undertaken to restore the mana and the wairua of the maunga that had been detrimentally affected by actions such as quarrying, deferred maintenance, minimal pest control and limited investment into tracks and education to protect archaeological features. Many of these projects and programmes have also focused on improving facilities and opportunities for all Aucklanders and visitors from outside the region to experience and enjoy the Tūpuna Maunga and learn more about its significance to mana whenua.
13. From the first year of its operation in Q3 2014-2015, the Tūpuna Maunga Authority has focused on enhancing the biodiversity of the Tūpuna Maunga through pest plant and animal and weed control. This expanded into planning a broader ecological restoration programme in line with the values and pathways set out in the Integrated Management Plan.
14. The Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Amendment 2022 (Proposed IMP Amendment 2022) is a new appendix (Appendix 5) that details proposed ecological restoration projects for:
 - Ōwairaka / Te Ahi-kā-a-Rakatuara / Mount Albert
 - Pukewīwī / Puketāpapa / Mount Roskill
 - Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond, and
 - Te Tātua-a-Riukiuta / Big King
15. These projects are a key step in healing the Tūpuna Maunga. The purpose is to facilitate the protection and restoration of the natural, spiritual and cultural landscape of the maunga through:
 - Planting of over 68,400 (21,980 to date) native species to increase the biodiversity, restore and sustain the landscape values, stabilise slopes, serve operational outcomes, enable cultural traditions, and create exemplar WF& Pūriri ngāhere in locations that recognise important views and the cultural landscape,
 - Removal of all pest plants in the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP)
 - Removal of non-native trees that negatively, or have the potential to negatively, impact cultural features of the Maunga,
 - Removal of non-native trees that block, or have the potential to block, sightlines from the Maunga to other Maunga/pā and other significant viewshafts,
 - Removal of non-native trees presenting health and safety risks,
 - Removal of non-native trees to create cultural landscapes, and
 - Ongoing pest plant, pest animal and weed control to protect new plantings, existing trees and fauna and prevent reinvasion and spread of pest plant and weed species.
16. The Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 was developed in accordance with the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014, the Reserves Act 1977 and the

² As outlined in the Court of Appeal decision, Norman v Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Authority [2022] NZCA 30 at para 17

Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000³. The background on the legislative requirements and approach is set out in the Hui 77 report.

17. At Hui 77 (25 July 2022), the Maunga Authority unanimously approved the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022.

Public Notification

18. At Hui 77 (25 July 2022), the Maunga Authority unanimously approved the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 and resolved to commence the statutory two-month public notification process.
19. The Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 was publicly notified on 3 August 2022 with the plan available for submission until 5pm, 8 October 2022. The public notice calling for submissions was widely published in national newspapers from 3 August 2022, and then with a follow-up on 3 October 2022.
20. Copies of the document were available for viewing at Auckland Council libraries and service centre sites and on the www.maunga.nz website.
21. Mana Whenua, the Minister of Conservation, Local Board chairs, and key interested parties, were also sent a copy of the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment 2022.

Submissions

22. The submissions period closed on 8 October 2022. In total 1,551 submissions were received on time. All submissions have been provided to the Authority members for review and have been read.
23. Groups from Ngā Mana Whenua that submitted were Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Trust and Te Patukirikiri.
24. Organisations that submitted included: Springfield Residents Association, The Tree Council, Parish of Holy Trinity Anglican Church (Otahuhu), Honour the Maunga (a group campaigning against the Maunga restoration), Te Hau Kapua/Devonport Peninsula Trust, Civic Trust Auckland, Centennial Park Protection Society Inc, New Zealand Archaeological Association, Respect Mount Richmond Ōtāhuhu community group and the Northern Car Sports Club.
25. Local boards that submitted included: Ōrākei Local Board, Howick Local Board, Albert-Eden Local Board, Papakura Local Board, Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board and Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board.
26. It is noted that 790 (nearly half) of the total submissions were sent from action@campaignnow.co.nz (which was able to be accessed from the Honour the Maunga website that was promoted via the flyer shown in **Attachment B** which included inaccurate information that was distributed to mailboxes in hard copy and through online channels). The material included a statement that the Authority proposed to remove "thousands of exotic and native trees". Management note that this is factually incorrect as the proposed restoration programme does not involve the removal of native trees.

³ The Tūpuna Maunga are within the catchments that support the Hauraki Gulf. The purpose of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000, among other matters, is to "recognise the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of the tangata whenua with the Hauraki Gulf".

Late Submissions

27. There were 31 submissions received after 5pm, Saturday 8 October 2022. This included submissions from Friends of Ōwairaka and Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board. All late submissions have been provided to the Authority members for review and have been read.
28. Although received after the close of the submission period, these late submissions were able to be incorporated into the process and considered along with the matters raised by the other submissions. The late submitters were also invited to attend the hearing. Waiving the timeframe for the acceptance of these late submissions does not unduly prejudice the process or the other submitters to the IMP. Therefore, it is recommended that the 31 late submissions be accepted for consideration.

Hearing Process

29. On Monday, 31 October 2022 and Friday 4 November 2022, a committee of the Tūpuna Maunga Authority comprising members Cr Bartley, Cr Filipaina, Mr Majurey, and Ms Papa. convened to hear submissions on the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022. They were supported by management who were also in attendance. Those Authority members can speak to the process and the verbal submissions made.
30. All persons who sought to present their submissions in-person were offered the opportunity to do so. With some persons subsequently unavailable, 103 of the 128 submitters that requested to present in-person were scheduled for the hearings. Of those 103 persons scheduled for the hearings, only 48 persons attended and spoke to their submissions. The opportunity was given to allow some submitters to present at a later time when they had missed their allocated time.
31. Auckland Council Democracy services staff provided advice on the hearing process. The process undertaken for the hearings was consistent with other Auckland Council processes of a similar size and met the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.
32. All of the submissions have been read, as well as analysed and themes identified.

Themes Raised in Submissions

33. Table 1 below summarises the responses from the total 1,582 (1,551 submissions plus 31 late submissions) submitters in relation to the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment 2022.

Support	Oppose in part	Oppose in full	Neutral	Fully out of scope ⁴
88	530	946	3	15

Table 1. Submission responses to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022

⁴ These submissions only addressed concerns about tree removals at Tūpuna Maunga not covered by the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment 2022.

34. While 1,476 submitters opposed tree removal, 631 noted their support for planting native species on the Maunga and 359 noted their support to fully restore the Maunga to native vegetation.
35. Table 2 below indicates the number of submissions (submissions plus late submissions) that covered all the Maunga within the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022, that focused solely on one Maunga and that focused only Maunga not included in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022.
36. Management remind that decisions are to be made on the merits, statutory decisions are not an opinion poll.

All four Maunga included in the Amendment	Ōwairaka / Te Ahi-kā-a-Rakataura / Mount Albert	Pukewīwī / Puketāpapa / Mount Roskill	Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond	Te Tātua-a-Riukiuta / Big King	Only Maunga not included in the Amendment
1,445	95	3	20	1	18

Table 2. Maunga that submissions applied to

37. One submission raised an international agreement, the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership 2021. Management note that the submitter was not considering the full restoration programme that includes significant Maunga planting. Indeed, the assessments of environmental effects for the restoration programme found net ecological benefits for each Maunga.
38. **Attachment C** summarises the themes from submitters and sets out proposed responses.

Recommended Decision and Amendments

39. Following the consideration of all submissions received to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 and the material presented at the Hearings, it is recommended that the Tūpuna Maunga Authority proceeds with the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 on the basis of the recommended changes below.
40. The reason for that recommendation is that the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 (as amended) meets the purposes of the Tāmaki Collective Redress Act and the Reserves Act. That includes restoring the indigenous vegetation cover of the Tūpuna Maunga which is so important to Ngā Mana Whenua for the reasons identified by Mr Majurey and Mr Turoa in the evidence referred to in the Ōwairaka decisions. Those objectives are open to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority, for the reasons explained by the High Court and Court of Appeal. It is to be recalled that the Court's did not uphold any of the challenges to the nature and methodology of the native restoration programme (for example the removal of non-native trees, the number of trees and the timing for their removal), rather as to statutory reserves process in the case of the Court of Appeal.

41. Following the consideration of all submissions received to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 and the material presented at the Hearings, the following key amendments and additions to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 are recommended:
- Amend the introduction section to:
 - Clarify the purpose and scope of the programme.
 - Provide for the retention of representative mature, healthy and significant non-native trees in modified areas on the Maunga.
 - Amend the individual Maunga sections to:
 - Confirm the planting numbers are a minimum number.
 - Confirm the removal numbers are a maximum number and that not all non-natives will be removed on Ōwairaka / Mount Albert.
 - Include a section titled 'Non-Native Tree Retention' under each individual Maunga that outlines the non-native tree types to be retained as representative trees in modified areas.
 - Include mound planting as a key component of the programme on Te Tātua-a-Riukiuta / Big King.
 - Incorporate the artist impression of native restoration programme of Te Tātua a Riukiuta/Big King.
42. Management note that the restoration programme enabled by the IMP Amendment 2022 will be progressed alongside the annual operational plans.
43. The recommended changes to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 are set out in **Attachment D**. The tracked changes/black and white version of the IMP Amendment 2022 showing all proposed amendments and additions is also included in **Attachment E**.



Next Steps


44. As outlined in this report, the process set out in section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 has been followed in the development of the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022.
45. This has included formally notifying the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 for submission and holding a hearing to give submitters the opportunity to speak to their submissions (refer **Attachment A**).
46. All submitters will be thanked for their submissions and advised of the outcome of the submission process.
47. Copies of the updated IMP document incorporating any amendments agreed in the approved IMP Amendment 2022 will be available through the www.maunga.nz webpage and all Auckland Council libraries will receive a copy.


Attachments

Attachment A: Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 process  

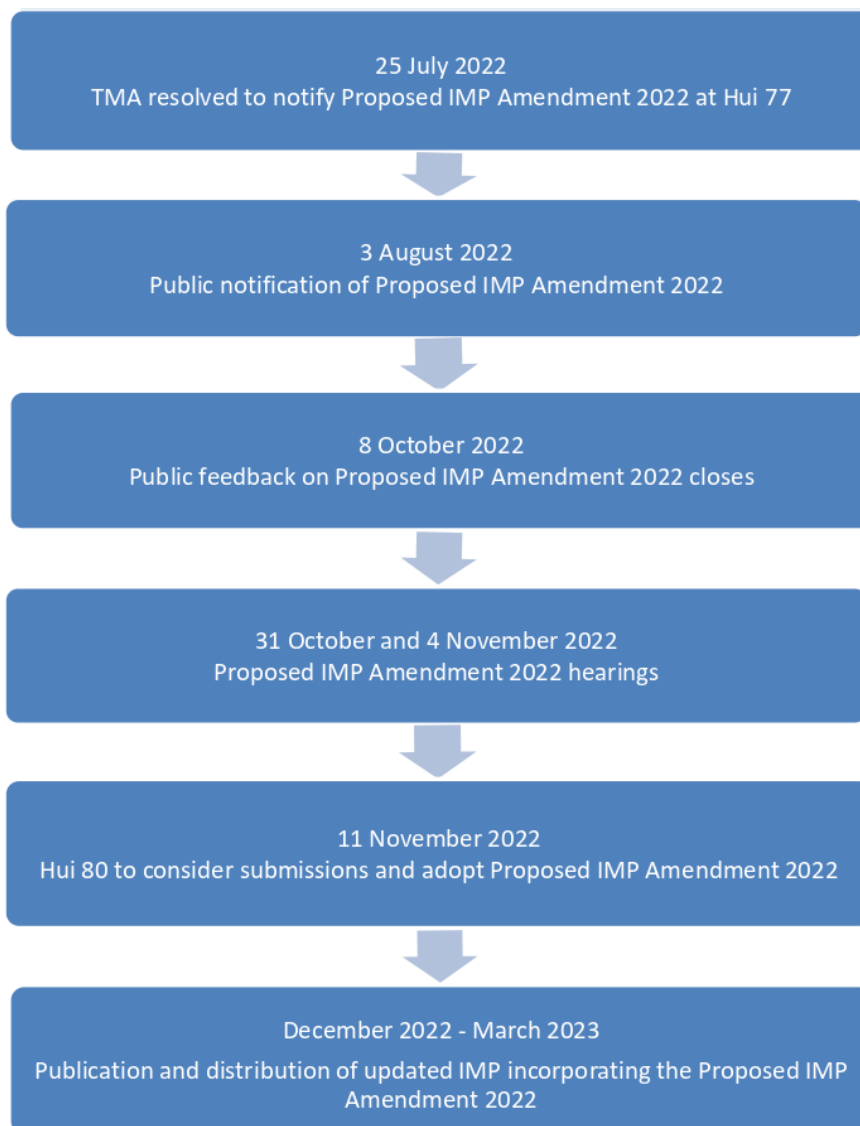
Attachment B: Honour the Maunga flyer  

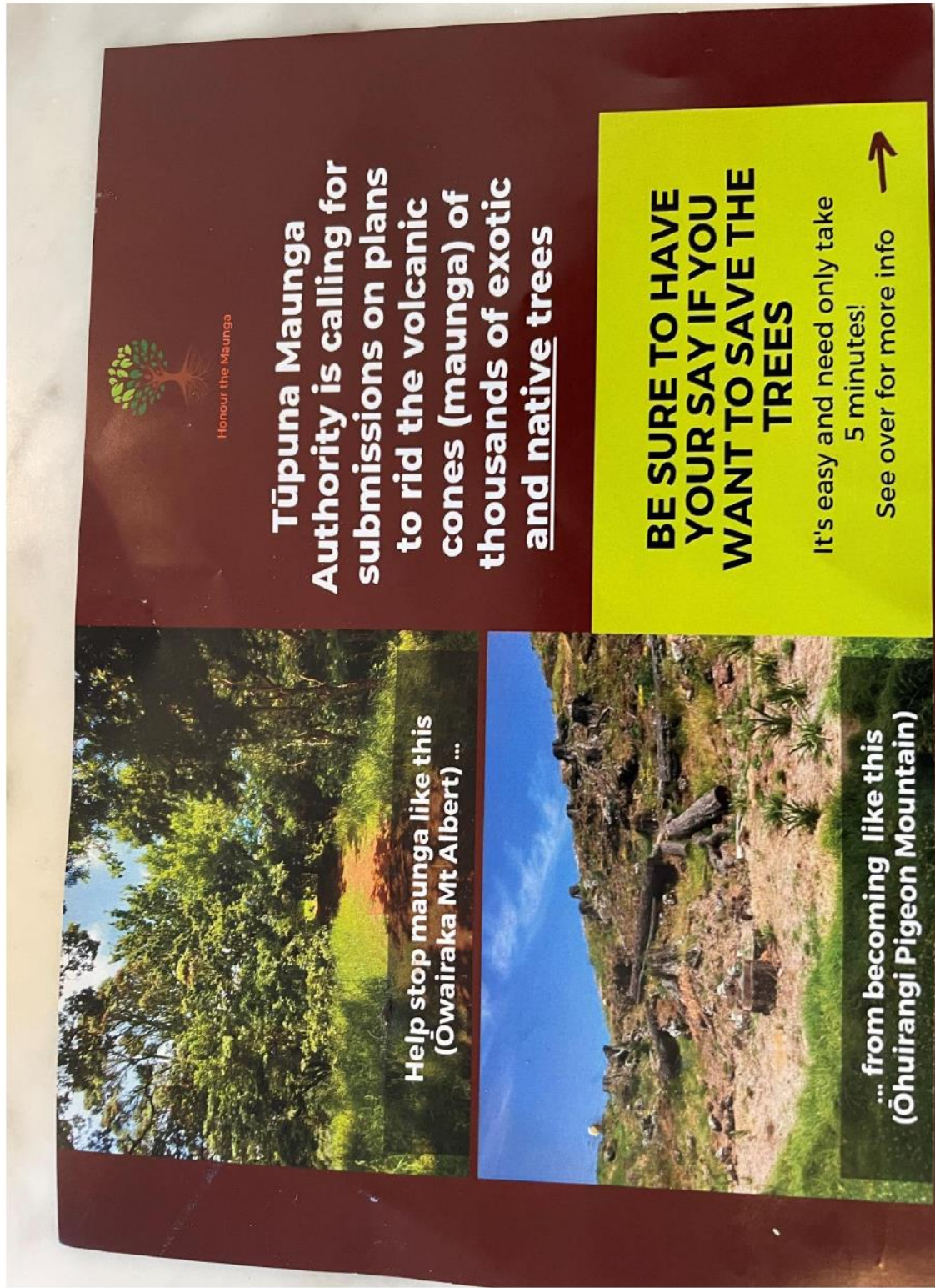
Attachment C: Summary of themes raised in submissions on the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 with proposed responses  

Attachment D: Recommended changes to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 [↓](#) 

Attachment E: Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 with track changes showing recommended changes [↓](#) 

Attachment A Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 process







Tūpuna Maunga Authority - a ratepayer funded co-governance body - wants to rid the city's volcanic cones (maunga) of the exotic and some native trees. Tree saving legal action was taken after it mass-felled trees on three maunga.

The Court ruled the Authority must consult with the public about its tree felling plans, so it is now calling for submissions.

This consultation is very important. It is vital that as many people as possible support keeping all native and non-native trees on Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland's maunga. Writing a submission is easy and only needs to take five minutes. All you need to do is write an email saying you don't want any trees to be cut down and briefly explain why you feel that way.

Email your submission to MaungaAuthority@aklc.govt.nz
by 5 pm, Tuesday 4 October 2022

Visit our website for more information about the issue and for ideas
about what to include in your submission:

honourthemaunga.org.nz/news/tree-submission

ATTACHMENT C

PROPOSED IMP AMENDMENT 2022 SUBMISSION POINTS AND PROPOSED RESPONSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The table below groups similar submission points made in written and oral submissions. Submission points are presented in summary or extract form. Not all submission points are included; generally points in support of aspects of the draft plan are included only where others have opposed the same matter to show there are a range of views on that point.

TOPIC / SUB-HEADING	SUBMISSION POINTS	PROPOSED RESPONSES
PLANTING		
Restoration to fully native vegetation	<p>Approximately 23 percent of submitters supported restoration to fully native vegetation.</p> <p>Submitters outlined that restoration to fully native vegetation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitates the restoration of the natural, spiritual, and indigenous landscape of the Maunga. - Enhances the mana and mauri of the Tūpuna Maunga and has the potential of being transformative for the whole of Auckland. - Supports the regeneration of indigenous flora and fauna on the Maunga for the benefit of all our mokopuna and generations to come. - Supports the biodiversity values of the Maunga and surrounding area by re-establishing the critically endangered pūriri forest ecosystem (WF7) on the Maunga. - Supports objectives of Auckland Council's indigenous Biodiversity Strategy; notably 	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The IMP describes a series of “Values” and “Pathways” that guide all activities on the Tūpuna Maunga. The primary focus of the IMP is to protect the health and well-being of the Tūpuna Maunga. This programme is one of the key initiatives to further the aims of the IMP.</p> <p>Auckland Council’s Environmental Services staff (Submitter 1500) support the restoration to fully native vegetation, noting: ‘Once a distinctive feature of Auckland’s volcanoes, the of pūriri forest ecosystem (WF7) ecosystem type is now identified as being critically endangered in the publication Indigenous terrestrial and wetland ecosystems of Auckland. The pūriri forest ecosystem variant WF7.2, characteristic of basalt volcanoes, is a rich and diverse broadleaved forest type capable of supporting a wide range of indigenous species. With careful restoration and ongoing pest management, its reestablishment will be of significant benefit to the biodiversity values of the Maunga and surrounding areas. Ecological restoration is consistent with protection and management of the geological values of the Maunga, which</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 1: Conserve the greatest number and most diverse range of Auckland's indigenous ecosystems and sequences; and</i> • <i>Objective 4: Sustain and protect the mauri of natural and physical resources in ways which enable provision for the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of Māori</i> <p>One submitter noted they "Support the proposed approach of providing for on-going pest control (both pest animals and plants), as this will be necessary to protect investment made in revegetation plantings. If not adequately managed, pests such as rabbits and climbing weeds pose a significant threat to the vision of ecological restoration on the Maunga."</p> <p>The reasons submitters opposed restoration to fully native vegetation, other than concerns raised under the tree felling which are addressed in detail below, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visual amenity benefits of exotic trees. - Ecological benefits of exotic trees in terms of food source throughout the year. - The connection exotic trees provide for people living in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland's who originate from the trees' country of origin or who have a cultural or spiritual connection to the trees. - The potential our flora and fauna may be evolving towards a mixture of both native and exotic species as our climate changes and new pests and diseases come to Aotearoa / New Zealand. - The belief that areas of the Maunga are too small to operate naturally as native only ecosystems and will require long term gardening using costly, high emission mowing and herbicides. 	<p>are identified as Outstanding Natural Features in the Auckland Unitary Plan. Removing trees in a way that avoids ground disturbance and has minimal impact on archaeological features is supported, as this will also protect the geological values of the Maunga.' They note the programme is aligned to Auckland Council's Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy.</p> <p>New Zealand Archaeological Association Incorporated (NZAA) (submitter 1487) supports the intention of the Native Restoration Programme to facilitate the restoration of the natural, spiritual and indigenous landscape of the Maunga, including the planting of native species in locations which will not affect archaeological features and the removal of non-native trees which are negatively impacting the cultural features of the Maunga.</p>
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Proposed planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The belief that with co-governance for our population being recommended that co-planting can be considered very desirable. <p>Approximately 39 percent of submitters supported planting native trees with many stating we need more trees to counter climate change and the loss of trees on private land and to enhance the ecology and ecosystem services of the Maunga and Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland’s biodiversity.</p> <p>Submitters noted that while they would like to see a lot more planting on the Maunga, they recognise the importance of preserving historic features and how that limits how much of the area can be planted.</p> <p>Submitters raised concerns about the proposed planting, with the majority of concerns focused on the proposed plantings’ ability to replace the trees proposed to be removed.</p> <p>Submitters noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need for a detailed plan of the planting and care of species to be planted that has been discussed with communities of interest on site. - Replacement plantings are mostly small, low-growing species and saplings that will take decades to look attractive, be self-sustaining, and provide food and shelter for birds. - Non-native trees need to be replaced with native trees of a similar size. - Current planting plans are inadequate to restore the ecological habitat if they do not replace the tree cover because they do not address all habitat niches. - The TMA attempts to suggest that its planting plans will ‘cloak’ Maunga in forests is demonstrably misleading and false. In large part, the plantings are 	<p>Recommend change to the bullet points under each individual Maunga section to note that the number of native plants to be planted are a minimum number as number of plants may increase if infill/enrichment planting required and if future areas for new plantings are identified.</p> <p>Recommend change to Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond to note Pōhuehue mound planting as a key component.</p> <p>Planting programme</p> <p>The planting programme has followed the recommendations of expert ecologist who have recommended the plant species, sizes, spacing and planting method. Typical with any replanting programme there is a mixture of pioneer species that are there to establish a canopy with understory specimen planting (and naturally seeding species such as puriri trees) occurring once canopy has established.</p> <p>Plant species are selected to support a thriving ecosystem of a more diverse range of biodiversity. The plants selected support not only a diverse range of bird species but also mokomoko/lizards, invertebrate and other plant species.</p> <p>While only a few years old we are already seeing great success with many of our plantings.</p> <p>Management has observed high survival rates of planting on all Maunga. Photos depicting successful planting on Māngere Mountain (Figures 1 and 2), Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond (Figures 3 and 4) and Ōhauirangi / Pigeon Mountain (Figures 5</p>
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	<p>of monocot species and low shrubs, with no specimen trees. Such trees that are planted are mound-planted with little to no mulch, do not follow best practice and as a result almost all die within a year. In the 50-100 years that is needed for a forest to develop, one can expect attrition rates to be well-nigh 100% yet there are no plans for further plantings. The density of planting also falls far very short of normal forestry practice (100,000 compared to the 13,000-odd of TMA plans.) The areas planted are tiny when compared to the huge size of the Maunga reserves and is extremely doubtful they will ever come close to replacing a fraction of the canopy lost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The planting undertaken on other Maunga has been substandard and had extremely high failure rates. Most of these plantings have not survived due to lack of planting knowledge, weeding, watering and mulching, as well as the harsh exposed conditions in scoria type soil. - The evidence of failure is visible to any visitor to TMA plantings. The IMP Amendments could have offered improvements in this area of operations but do not. Indeed, the Amendments perpetuate the myth that the plantings are ‘maturing well’ when in fact the attrition and mortality rate are far above acceptable, and tantamount to negligent waste of public funds, and of public trust. - New plantings will never work in a climate emergency. - Consideration must be given to the location and nature of plantings to ensure they don’t damage archaeological features or grow to block sightlines. 	<p>and 6) are included at the end of this table. Figure 6 is of the area shown in the Honour the Maunga flyer (attachment B). Management has taken a number of steps to ensure successful planting, such as planting in winter when ground conditions are best and rainfall likely to give the plantings the optimal opportunity to establish root growth into the ground. Where practical, sites have been mulched to help retain ground moisture levels during the summer period and reduce the need to apply agrichemicals to manage pest plants and weeds. On-going plant maintenance is scheduled post planting by planting professionals. During this time, plantings are monitored for health and survival purposes.</p> <p>The TMA has secured \$3,000,000 (plus GST if applicable) as part of the Jobs for Nature programme. This is a three-year conservation programme. This opportunity has established key resources (including 13 FTEs for the next three years) for the Authority’s revegetation and pest plant and pest animal control programmes.</p> <p>The time it takes for plants to grow depends on various influencing factors, weather, seasons, ground conditions and individual species. Generally, Management expects that within 5 years there should be visible canopy cover starting to form.</p> <p>In the past, dogs, human trampling and public vandalism have had some minimal impacts to the survival of plants. Fencing with clear signage is used in highly used public areas or where there is high dog activity to prevent people and dogs from walking through the planting.</p> <p>Where low survival rates have been experienced, management has undertaken interventions such as mulching, replacement planting, infill planting and summer watering to</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a lack of nursery knowledge and technology to deal with the production and establishment of native non woody species on the light soils of the Maunga where there are so many cultural and archaeological features. - Invasion of unwanted exotic species from neighboring properties will take place and emphasis must be on working with the community to reduce this "bio trespass". - Restoration planting must not block sightlines as the Maunga were historic important look-outs when my tūpuna lived on the Maunga. <p>Questions were asked about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the survival rate of plants, - the time it will take for replacement plantings to grow, and - what will happen if new plantings fail to grow. <p>Submitters sought maps to identify where planting will occur and lists of plants to be planted and voiced a desire for Individual Tūpuna Maunga Plans as outlined in section 2.19 of the Integrated Management Plan to be prepared as a matter of priority to better inform the proposed restoration programme for each of the Tūpuna Maunga outlined in Appendix 5.</p> <p>One submitter advocated that the individual Maunga plans should be prepared in consultation with Auckland Council Heritage Unit, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, Department of Conservation and ICOMOS to ensure that they follow best practice heritage management and further consenting and/or archaeological authority requirements are highlighted early in project planning stages. The submitter</p>	<p>increase the survival rates. Survival rates of trees are regularly monitored. Infill planting is also used to add diversity species into planting sites.</p> <p>Management has a continual improvement approach through reflecting on learnings, talking to experts and researching and trialling new methodologies.</p> <p>Maunga restoration planting is not defined by normal forestry practice as suggested.</p> <p>Extent of planting</p> <p>Maunga are largely intact archaeological sites of significance and large areas of each Maunga cannot be planted without impacting intact archaeology.</p> <p>The TMA's research policy promotes and prioritises research into methodologies or technologies that protect archeologic sites which can include research into native plantings and planting techniques that minimise impact of archaeological features.</p> <p>Management are actively seeking planting sites to plant that will not have an impact on archaeological features and in the future new planting areas beyond those already identified may be able to be planted.</p> <p>Replacement planting</p> <p>It is not always possible to replace non-native trees with native trees because some non-native trees are removed for archaeological impact reasons and planting cannot be done without modifying these significant archaeological and cultural features.</p> <p>Pest and weed control</p>
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<p>noted identification of archaeological evidence and values within each individual Tūpuna Maunga plan will guide ongoing restoration and development on the Maunga and that this planning approach will ensure that archaeological, cultural, geological, ecological and recreational outcomes are achieved holistically without compromising other values. More specifically, they stated that it will ensure that the proposed programme will not have a detrimental impact on archaeological and cultural features of the Tūpuna Maunga.</p>	<p>Maungakiekie Birdsong Project, Maungawhau Ecological Halo and Restoring Takarunga Hauraki are all examples of Halo programmes already running around Maunga. Halo/Buffer programmes are aimed to prevent the reinvasion of pest animals and invasive weeds to the Maunga by supporting residents, business owners and schools adjacent to Maunga to plant native plants, control predators and suppress invasive weeds on their private properties.</p> <p>Management are implementing halo/buffer programmes on other Maunga.</p> <p>Maunga pest control contractors undertake boundary control on Maunga to manage garden escapees, pest plant incursions from neighbouring properties.</p> <p>Sharing details of proposed planting</p> <p>The Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 sets out key components of the proposed planting and the artist impressions indicate the future visual amenity outcomes of this planting.</p> <p>The proposed planting plans are discussed at community planting days with community members/volunteers who attend.</p> <p>Archaeological considerations</p> <p>Management believes concerns about proceeding ahead of completing individual Maunga plans in order to ensure planting does not have a detrimental impact on archaeological and cultural features of the Tūpuna Maunga have been addressed by the involvement of qualified archaeologists in the project planning and implementation phases.</p>
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		<p>The restoration planting plans were developed with an archaeologist and took into consideration the archaeological and cultural features and the type of plant species planted.</p> <p>Prior to any new plantings, Management meet on site with an archaeologist to identify where archaeological features are and distinguish modified from unmodified areas where there is intact archaeology. Any plantings planted near unmodified areas are given a buffer. Only shallow rooted species are planted in the buffer so the impact to unmodified areas is minimal to none. Shallow rooted species are those listed in the Caring for Archaeological Sites: Practical guidelines for protecting and managing archaeological sites in New Zealand (Kevin L. Jones, 2007).</p> <p>Cultural Considerations</p> <p>In some instances, native species have also been selected for their cultural uses including rongoa plantings, traditional kai sources, and plantings for weaving and carving. While there has been criticism for planting low growing “shrubs and grasses” – some of these trees have been selected for cultural reasons. There are also considerable numbers of larger trees throughout each of the planting programmes including tree species such as Karamu, Mahoe, Karaka, Puriri, Totara, Manuka, and Kahikatea. In some instances, larger specimen trees have already been planted with more to come in future years when the canopy has formed.</p>
TREE REMOVALS		
Health and safety	There was wide support for trees that are diseased and/or unsafe to be removed, however, submitters wanted to see	Recommend minor change to para 6 on page 106 to confirm native trees won't be removed to protect the health and

	<p>more detail about these removals and to have the trees assessed by an independent qualified arborist.</p> <p>One submitter sought the following specific amendment to the right column, final point (4 Maunga, pages 107-110): “Ensuring that all trees that present a health and safety risk, as assessed by an independent qualified arborist, are removed.”</p>	<p>safety of people on the Maunga as part of the ecological restoration programme.</p> <p>These are operational decisions made in accordance with the TMA’s health and safety legal obligations and section 42 of the Reserves Act 1977.</p> <p>Refer to the response under sub-heading ‘Detail in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022’.</p>
<p>Pest plant control</p>	<p>There was wide support for the removal of all species listed as pest plants in the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030 (RPMP).</p> <p>On submitter noted the RPMP is a statutory plan, made by Auckland Council under the Biosecurity Act 1993. All pest species included in the RPMP have been through a rigorous risk assessment process and have been identified as having significant actual and/or potential impacts on one or more of: biodiversity or other environmental values; Māori cultural values; primary production; and/or health and safety.</p> <p>They noted that phoenix palms (<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>) pose a significant health and safety risk to visitors to the Maunga, as well as to kaimahi involved in restoration or other works on the Maunga. Removal of these species prior to commencing other restoration works will minimise the health and safety risk posed. They also noted that species such as loquat (<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>), monkey apple (<i>Syzygium smithii</i>) and tree privet (<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>) pose a significant threat to the restoration of indigenous vegetation as these species are shade tolerant and bird dispersed. All three are well documented invaders within Tāmaki Makaurau. Early removal of existing specimens is supported, to minimise on-going</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The RPMP recognises a site-based approach is the best approach for managing pest weeds because certain reserves or areas have certain values that need to be protected. For example, in some reserves it might be entirely appropriate for certain pest species to remain. However, it is not appropriate on the Maunga. The Maunga are some of the most significant archaeological sites in the country and are recognised internationally as an important component of our international heritage. They are also the most important cultural landscapes to Mana Whenua (and to Māori) and for that reasons it is entirely appropriate that all weed species recognised in the RPMP should be removed – not only to protect the cultural values but because of the symbolic nature of the Maunga as an exemplar for native restoration.</p> <p>Furthermore, there are weed species that continue to cause ecological harm even though they are not identified in the RPMP. Flame Trees, for example, continue to have weedy properties and need to be managed accordingly.</p> <p>Management note that submitters are correct that <i>Prunus serrulate</i> cultivars Shimidsu Sakura, Kanzan, Ukon, Tai Haku, Kiku Shidare Sakura, Shirotae and Amanogawa were issued an exemption on 1 April 2022 until 31 December 2030 or when</p>

	<p>management of seedlings, which can be a significant additional maintenance burden.</p> <p>Submitters however raised the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater detail in the IMP Amendment 2022 regarding the rationale for tree removals included in the Biosecurity Strategy section of the IMP is needed. - None of the trees in the 2018-2019 reports for the 4 Maunga that are part of this proposed amendment, native or non-native, could have been assessed according to the criteria in the September 2019 Strategies document because this was approved after consents were lodged. - The TMA is careless about the designation of plant pests. In several places, TMA refers to certain trees as 'weeds' or 'weed species' in relation to the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) yet 'weed species' is not a term used in the RPMP. - Only acknowledged pest species such as Phoenix Palms should be removed. - Some non-native trees have received an exemption from the RPMP by Auckland Council, for example, Japanese cherry (<i>Prunus serrulata</i>) was issued an exemption on 1 April 2022, and should be removed from immediate consideration for removal. In relation to the cherries, submitters also noted that they are cultivars that do not freely seed and that while seeds are being produced on Ōwairaka / Mt Albert trees, and on Te Tātua a Riukiuta / Big King trees, there are no indications of germination occurring which is likely due to germination conditions not being met. 	<p>the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030 is replaced or revoked, whichever is the earliest.</p> <p>Refer to Management response under sub-heading 'Detail in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022' for response to requests for greater detail.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need for each and every pest tree to be evaluated by trained arborists. One submitter also noted that coast banksia (<i>Banksia</i> sp. [presumably <i>integrifolia</i>]) is not in Treescape report for Ōwairaka as a plant pest, but is now in the RPMP and that in the cost-benefit analysis for the RPMP (page 606) it has a value as: "Provides nectar for native birds." 	
<p>Protecting cultural features</p>	<p>Submitters supported tree removals to protect archaeological sites and/or cultural features (which was noted to also protect the geological values of the Maunga which are identified as Outstanding Natural Features in the Auckland Unitary Plan), however, the following points were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More detail is required to understand which trees would be removed for this purpose and what type of vegetation would be planted to replace the trees in these areas. - Reliance on DoC's 2007 "Caring for Archaeological Sites" needs to be reviewed especially now we are dealing with climate change, reduction of emissions and conversion to total native biodiversity. <p>Several submitters queried the impact of trees on archaeological features when the IMP outlines that the Maunga were extensively modified by quarrying and installation of assets such as roads and water reservoirs.</p>	<p>Recommend minor change to para 6 on page 106 to confirm native trees won't be removed to protect archaeological values as part of the ecological restoration programme.</p> <p>While large parts of the Maunga have been significantly modified, as outlined in the IMP under section 9.6 Mana Aotūroa / Cultural and Heritage Value, they are still of exceptional significance as some of the largest and most impressive archaeological site complexes in New Zealand. The majority of the Maunga are scheduled as significant historic heritage places in the Auckland Unitary Plan.</p> <p>The non-native trees are negatively impacting the cultural features of the Maunga through living root systems damaging archaeological sites and evidence. They also have the potential to damage archaeological evidence through impact damage when limb, branches and trees fall and/or by altering the terraces or other adjacent features should they be uprooted when they fail.</p> <p>The programmes have been developed with a qualified archaeologist to ensure tree removals occur in a way that avoids ground disturbance and has minimal impact on archaeological features.</p> <p>The Authority is in regular conversations with Auckland Council's Heritage Unit and Heritage NZ. Management will</p>

		<p>continue to work with each of those authorities (and Mana Whenua) as well as the NZAA into the future.</p> <p>Refer to Management response under sub-heading 'Detail in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022' for response to requests for greater detail.</p>
<p>Protecting and restoring sightlines</p>	<p>Submitters supported tree removals to enhance sightlines between Maunga, however, several other submitters questioned the need because of existing viewshafts at the top of the Maunga and prominent developments such as water towers and industrial areas between the Maunga compromising cultural and historical sightlines.</p> <p>One submitter requested clarification of which trees would be removed on Ōwairaka / Mount Albert for this purpose so that everybody knows what will happen in advance and so that goodwill and trust can begin to be developed.</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The TMA has undertaken significant works to protect the viewshafts. This includes working with Auckland Council to clarify approaches outlined in the Unitary Plan, working with developers to ensure that the sightlines are not breached and submitting on notified consent applications.</p> <p>The TMA has a policy of removing redundant infrastructure from the Maunga so while not imminent, the Authority will work with Watercare to remove water tanks from the Maunga if the possibility arises.</p> <p>Refer to Management response under sub-heading 'Detail in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022' for response to requests for greater detail.</p>
<p>Restoring cultural landscapes</p>	<p>Submitters questioned which historical point the Maunga are being returned to and raised a range of concerns, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The situation is complex, and it is completely fair to acknowledge that many of the plantings over past decades weren't done with the consideration of the cultural landscape that they would have had today. Yet to simply destroy 300 plus huge beautiful healthy trees will not suddenly return the Maunga to what it was. As with many other aspects of today's cultural landscape, the good and bad and the ugly, the clock can simply not be turned back. 	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The restoration of cultural landscapes is identified in the IMP and IMP Strategies.</p> <p>The IMP sets out the following pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect the tihī/crater as a significant geological and cultural landscape features from physical damage. - Preserve and enhance the authenticity and visual integrity of the Tūpuna Maunga so that they are markers in the landscape, and their cultural and natural features are visually apparent.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In attempting to correct the past with the present, TMA are losing the future. In its attempt to correct the injustices of the past, the TMA is creating new wrongs and missing an opportunity to add to (rather than detract from) Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland’s rich cultural, social, environmental and historic tapestries. - Why remove exotic trees when other pre 1850 features e.g. sportsfields, roads and toilets are being retained. - Trees should never be caught up in ideological battles. <p>Submitters in support noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Tūpuna Maunga are taonga tuku iho - Māori lived, gave birth and died on the Maunga so their history and culture is inextricably linked to the Maunga in ways no New Zealander of European ancestry can claim. - It is a reclamation of a more historic environment. - It rectifies the past destruction of the Maunga by a Pakeha controlled authority. - They support genuine decolonization initiatives that are led and supported by tāngata whenua. - The reindigenising of the Maunga supports native ecology and is empowering for them as an indigenous person - The Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 envisions that “Not all” non-native trees will be removed so there can still be some recognition given to European and other histories and interactions with the Maunga. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect the authenticity and integrity of this unique landscape feature and respect this important landscape through the progressive removal of structures and features that detract from the Maunga <p>The Biosecurity Strategy notes under the Vegetation Restoration section that removal of exotic trees will occur when they impact on the cultural landscape.</p> <p>The Design Strategy sets out that planting should recognise important views and the cultural landscape.</p> <p>It is also noted that the Court of Appeal (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30) judgement in paragraph 166 concluded that ‘...the project, including removal of the exotic trees, is a legitimate response to the objectives sought to be achieved by the Collective Redress Act’.</p>	Recommend no change.
Ecological impacts	Submitters raised concerns about the ecological impacts of tree removals. The majority referred to the removal of exotic		

	<p>trees only, however, many referred to the removal of any healthy native or exotic tree.</p> <p>Submitters noted a wide range of reasons for their opposition, including beliefs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The division between native and non-native trees is arbitrary, with scant foundation in science or matauranga Māori. - There is a wide range of insects and birds living in these mature trees and that these creatures have been part of the environment for hundreds of years and depend on the trees for their safety and reproduction. Insects are also an essential ingredient in the diets of our bird species. - The Government report Environment Aotearoa 2019* recognised that the Auckland Region’s biodiversity is in crisis. - Auckland is losing trees and green spaces at a rapid rate as it intensifies. This programme is contributing to that. - Throughout its documents, plans and reports the TMA counts one 3m tall sapling as one tree that is equal to a 150-year-old tree with a 30m diameter crown but when measured against ecosystem services a large mature tree cannot be replaced by even hundreds of stem plantings. - Clear felling is a sudden and drastic change to the ecosystem, it removes major ecological niches without providing alternatives. This does not allow species that currently occupy the environment to adapt. Transitioning eco-systems over time allows for species to acclimatize, adapt, or relocate. 	<p>Through a combination of site visits, review of available literature, review of past vegetation on this site, and site reports relating to threatened species, consultant ecologists established the ecological values of the Maunga overall and this was used to assess the impacts on these ecological values from the tree removal, and to ensure impacts sensitive flora and fauna and avoided or suitably mitigated. Furthermore, a herpetologist confirmed that the overall herpetological values of the Maunga will be increased subject through the programme if recommendations are included – which they were.</p> <p>The resource consent decision for Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond (LUC60384274) outlines under reasons that ‘ecological effects arising from the proposal can be appropriately managed as part of the works programme and will in time be at least remedied if not enhanced by the revegetation initiative’. The resource consent for Ōwairaka / Mount Albert (LUC60328646) and Pukewiwi / Puketāpapa / Mt Roskill (LUC60347931) outlines under reasons that ‘Ecological effects arising from the proposal can be appropriately managed as part of the works programme to ensure that any adverse effects are less than minor.’</p> <p>Food and habitat availability for birds</p> <p>Exotic trees can provide habitat and food resources for native birds and other fauna. Tall trees can be utilised by birds as a means of avoiding predators while roosting, and because they provide elevated observation points for hunting and asserting territorial dominance. Banksias, and some wattles and eucalypts, are winter-flowering plants and attract nectar-feeding birds, especially tui (Bergquist, 1987). Campbell et al (2008) found that introduced plants can be important food sources to kereru in human-modified landscapes, due to the</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trees are also an essential ingredient in the water cycle. Rain is absorbed by the trees and released back into the air through transpiration. - Court papers show that no research was undertaken into the holistic effects such as how the cumulative loss of thousands of trees across Auckland would affect ecology. - There is no evidence that the Authority has ever considered more efficient and effective methodologies to manage trees that do not lead to the short and medium term negative consequences to the reliant biodiversity currently living on the affected Maunga. <p>The alleged general impacts of the tree removals that submitters highlighted included that they will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change the Maunga’s own momentum and natural balance. - Negatively impact vertebrates (e.g. birds, lizards) and invertebrates (e.g. insects) as well as lichens and symbiotic fungi as the trees provide habitat, shelter and food source and other environmental services such as soil stabilisation and water retention. This was often highlighted to be increasingly important because climate change is resulting in more severe weather. - Likely displace native species relying on the mature trees. - Immediately stop pollination and natural seed dispersal by trees and birds. - Result in a massive loss of biodiversity caused by mulching. 	<p>greater availability of exotics relative to native species. However, banksias and wattles seed freely and are invasive in open sites (as an indication of this, both have established throughout existing plantings on Ōwairaka). Mature trees are not necessarily the predominant food source for frugivorous or nectar-feeding native birds. Campbell et al(2008) found that the foliage and flowers of broom and tree lucerne (two weedy leguminous shrubs) formed a large component of kereru diet on Banks Peninsula (along with kowhai, willow and some pohuehue) during winter and spring when fruit availability was low, while shrubs and small trees (poroporo, mahoe and ngaio) were important during summer and autumn (along with domestic fruit trees). In a Nelson study, Williams and Karl (1996) observed that endemic birds (tui, bellbird) showed a strong preference for indigenous fruits, especially karamu, and five-finger to a lesser extent (totara was also a key food source). Studies of habitat usage by native birds on Tiritiri Matangi Island (Graham et al 2013) found that all bird species readily utilised young revegetation plantings for foraging and nesting as the habitat developed, to the extent that birds were more abundant in replanted habitat in than forest remnants in the latter interval of the study, 20 – 25 years after planting commenced. Flax and karo were noted as important nectar sources on the island, along with pohutukawa.</p> <p>Preventing further spread of exotic trees and pest plant and weed species</p> <p>One of the reasons for the removal of pest plants and weeds is to prevent spread of these species on the Maunga which may impact archaeological sites, sightlines, cultural landscapes and native vegetation. Moreton Bay Figs’ seeds are for example bird dispersed and seedlings usually start as</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Result in a loss of leaf litter that protects roots, retains moisture, propagates seed, returns minerals to the soil and nurtures the aeration of soil by invertebrates such as earthworms. <p>In relation to birdlife, which many submitters referred specifically to, the following claims were often reiterated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Birds are kaitiaki of the Maunga and deserve proper consideration of their wellbeing. - Every mature tree within the Tūpuna Maunga Authority jurisdictions is helping to foster and promote the repopulation of native bird species in the wider urban context of the city. - Native birds do not care if the food/ shelter is native or non-native. - Exotics, such as banksias, often provide abundant nectar as well as berries. This often fills gaps when native food for birds is unavailable or unable to support the large number of birds currently there. <p>Our native birds will go hungry if all the non-native trees are removed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kākā (cavity nesters) have been seen on Mount Albert. - The tree removals on other Maunga have resulted in the displacement of birds, with moreporks on Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond and Te Ara Pueru / Te Pane-o-Mataaho / Māngere Mountain being not heard or seen since the removals. <p>One submitter raised concerns about impacts of tree removals on monarch butterflies that overwinter in mature trees and which are identified as threatened by the IUCN.</p> <p>Many submitters referenced the impacts of the “ecological restoration” or clear-felling of large numbers of mature on</p>	<p>epiphytes (so difficult to detect until well-established) and as they mature, they can overwhelm and kill the supporting tree.</p> <p>Impacts on other Maunga</p> <p>As noted in the response under the ‘Proposed planting’ sub-heading, the planting on the Maunga is actually very successful.</p> <p>Plants at the tīhi of Te Ara Pueru / Te Pane-o-Mataaho / Māngere Mountain were planted using a no-dig methodology. This included pinning pottles to the ground rather than planting. These plants were monitored and the pottles have been removed when it is deemed appropriate to do so. This innovative method which protects the cultural and archaeological fabric of the Maunga has had reasonable success and management continue to adapt the methodology to improve survival rates. Due to the exposed nature of the site at the tīhi and a significant drought that summer, there was a lower survival rate than normal which was consistent with what was happening elsewhere around the region during that period. Additional plantings, including infill plantings, will be undertaken after the track development which was completed earlier this year.</p> <p>Alignment with Council’s plans</p> <p>The Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 supports objectives of Auckland Council’s Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy; notably</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 1: Conserve the greatest number and most diverse range of Auckland’s indigenous ecosystems and sequences; and</i> • <i>Objective 4: Sustain and protect the mauri of natural and physical resources in ways which enable provision</i>
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	<p>Ōhuirangi / Pigeon Mountain, Maungarei / Mt Wellington and Te Ara Pueru / Te Pane-o-Mataaho / Mangere Mountain where they believe the tree canopies have been substantially destroyed and the biodiversity habitat devastated. These submitters felt this demonstrated that the replanting plans and methodologies are inadequate to restore the ecological habitat and ecosystem services in the short and medium term.</p> <p>Many submitters raised concerns about the impacts of removals at specific Maunga. One submitter noted the broad and un-nuanced classification of exotic trees to be removed raises concerns regarding a lack of understanding of the current ecosystems present on Ōwairaka / Mount Albert, noting examples of at-risk trees including the Macrocarpa and Banksia.</p> <p>Several submitters also alleged that the proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment 2022 conflicts with Auckland Council's plans and policies to nurture and grow Auckland's urban ngahere.</p> <p>A submitter in support of the tree removals noted that the vast majority of the exotic trees hold little or low value to the environment and their removal will support native regeneration of indigenous flora and fauna for the benefit of all of our mokopuna and generations to come. Another submitter in support of tree felling and significant replanting on Ōwairaka / Mount Albert noted that together with a community anti-predator programme, this could enable an amazing return of birdlife to the Maunga.</p> <p>Submitters raised concerns about the tree removals on climate change and global warming primarily because submitters noted the mature trees help absorb carbon in a</p>	<p><i>for the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of Māori</i></p> <p>The proposed IMP amendment supports principles and success factors in the Auckland's Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy notably:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The right tree in the right place • Preference for native species • Ensure urban forest diversity • Create ecological corridors and connections • Access for all residents <p>It is noted that the Urban Ngāhere Strategy is a non-statutory document. It also does not go into any detail as to how to manage vegetation on significant archaeological or culturally significant sites.</p>	Carbon sequestration/ climate change impacts	Recommend no change.
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	<p>way that the proposed replanting could not for many decades replace because of the composition and scale of the plantings and the length of time the plantings will take to mature.</p> <p>One submitter noted that while eventually reaching a plateau, larger trees store significantly more carbon than smaller trees as fifty percent of the biomass of the stems, branches, roots, and foliage of trees is made up of carbon absorbed from the atmosphere and provided the following source for this information https://www.treesthatcount.co.nz/media/1097/tc-carbon-sequestration.pdf.</p> <p>Other points raised in relation to climate change and carbon sequestration include claims that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exotic trees absorb more carbon than native trees. - There is no consideration of the carbon release consequences of clear-felling, nor the release caused by mulching large numbers of trees. - The best soils contain about 2% carbon. Trees contribute to the purification of soil by shedding their leaves which then decompose, contributing minerals to the soil. Through their roots trees pull nutrients from underground, once again improving our soil. - It is wrong that the Council is using ratepayers' funds via the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority to remove trees when we now understand the important role they play in carbon sequestration – this applies, in particular, to large trees. - The IMP doesn't reference climate change anywhere in the document. - The proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment 2022 conflicts with Auckland Council's climate emergency 	<p>Comparison of carbon sequestration rates between species is a complex matter, as factors to be considered are many and varied; for example, initial and long-term growth and biomass accumulation rates, longevity of each species and the decomposition rate once dead, leaf litter type and likely root/soil biomass are all relevant factors that may be “traded off” against one another. Nevertheless, in simple terms, trees that grow large, form dense wood, live for a long time, and have litter that accumulates on the forest floor are a good choice for long term carbon sequestration, and this category includes many native trees (e.g., karaka, totara, kohekohe etc). Fast-growing exotic species such as pines sequester more carbon initially⁴ but have a shorter lifespan than native trees (typically less than a hundred years), while growth rate and productivity declines prior to this (Ogden et al 1997). Early-successional plantings of shrubby hardwoods have a very rapid uptake of carbon, but plateau at 20 – 30 years, as rates for longer-lived native trees begin to increase⁴. Essentially, the greater overall density of plantings proposed for the Maunga relative to the number of trees to be removed will more than offset carbon losses. Some woody material from felled trees can be used as mulch or woody debris for invertebrate and lizard habitat enrichment.</p> <p>In relation to the submission on the <i>Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership 2021</i>, Management note that the submitter was not considering the full restoration programme that includes significant Maunga planting. Indeed, the assessments of environmental effects for the restoration programme found net ecological benefits for each Maunga.</p>
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	<p>declaration and its plans and policies to reduce carbon emissions.</p> <p>One submitter believes that the tree removals are in conflict with the United Nations <i>Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership 2021</i> which sets out that the signatories (of which New Zealand is one) will work collaboratively to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030 and strengthen shared efforts to conserve forests and other terrestrial ecosystems and accelerate their restoration.</p> <p>Submitters that supported tree removals noted that climate change impacts are negligible whereas planting thoughts of new trees will have significant benefits. It was also noted that opponents would be better placed to fight the removal of provisions in the Resource Management Act that protected large trees as this has resulted in the removal of trees without any plans for their replacement.</p>	
<p>Visual amenity and amenity impacts</p>	<p>Submitters raised concerns about the impacts of tree removals on the amenity and visual amenity of the Maunga.</p> <p>Submitters noted visual amenity benefits of exotic trees, including: visual interest, colour, scale, signalling of the change of seasons and beauty.</p> <p>One submitter requested that the holm oaks on the south-west side of the Ōwairaka be retained at a minimum because they are very large trees that are lovely in anyone's language and which blend in beautifully with the pōhutukawas in the surrounds.</p> <p>One submitter highlighted that the trees have outlived many residents and changed community perceptions regarding the well-being of natural assets within the local confines of</p>	<p>Recommend following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change to the bullet points under each individual Maunga section to note that the number of non-native trees for removal are a maximum number. - Make provision for retention of representative mature, healthy and significant non-native trees in modified areas of the Maunga, with tree types specified under individual Maunga sections and tree removal number confirmed as a maximum number. <p>As part of the process of assessing each of the restoration projects a landscape and visual assessment has taken place for each of the proposals for the projects. For each of the proposed projects the visual impacts have been assessed as low to moderate.</p>

	<p>subdivided suburbia, including the aesthetic relief of Ōwairaka / Mount Albert.</p> <p>Submitters noted that seeing tree stumps and barren landscape as has been witnessed on other Maunga has been and will be upsetting. The purpose of leaving the stumps was questioned.</p> <p>Submitters also outlined that the removals will significantly impact their enjoyment of the Maunga by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - removing opportunities for recreation such as tree climbing, exploration and picnicking under trees, and - removing trees which they find life affirming and which bring them a sense of peace and tranquility and a feeling of delight and respite. <p>Submitters noted the removal of exotic trees would negatively impact shade and shelter provision for visitors and consequently this would negatively impact their experience on the Maunga.</p> <p>Some submitters noted that any transition should be achieved without ruining the experience for years and for generations in the interim.</p> <p>Specific trees referenced for their visual amenity and amenity benefits were:</p> <p><u>Ōwairaka / Te Ahi-kā-a-Rakatuara / Mount Albert</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Japanese cherry trees (<i>Prunus serrulata</i>) because they provide visual amenity and food source. - Holm oaks (<i>Quercus ilex</i>) on the south-western side of the Maunga which one submitter noted are very large trees that are lovely in anyone's language and 	<p>In the short to mid-term there may be some low effects however this is balanced out by the positive effects of the project.</p> <p>It is important to understand that one of the objectives is to create visual connections with the terraces and archaeological features which will be accentuated by the removal of non-native trees that hide these important taonga.</p> <p>Furthermore, over time the extensive plantings on each of the Maunga will provide positive visual effects.</p> <p>It is recognised that there are some non-native trees which some people value for their visual amenity value. Where these are located on modified areas of the Maunga, the retention of representative specimen trees while healthy will recognise this.</p> <p>The Native Restoration Programme will in Management's view enhance the amenity of the Maunga for all visitors in in accordance with spiritual, ancestral, cultural, customary, and historical significance of the Maunga.</p> <p>It is also noted that the Court of Appeal (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30) judgement in paragraph 159 '...the approach to the 'qualities of the reserve' referred to in s 17(2)(c) cannot be tethered to the existing state and nature of the vegetation on the Maunga and must be able to embrace revegetation which itself contributes to a pleasant, harmonious and cohesive natural environment. In this way the qualities of the reserve can be conserved and equally contribute to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve'.</p> <p>There will be some minor shade amenity effects from the removal of some of the non-native trees (noting that some trees are located on unmodified slopes that are not regularly</p>
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	<p>blend in beautifully with the pōhutukawas in the surrounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mix of eucalyptus which one submitter noted are magisterial and so tall that they would not block the line of sight to Ōwairaka from other Maunga in Tāmaki Makaurau. <p><u>Pukewīwī / Puketāpapa / Mt Roskill</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Phoenix Palms, Norfolk Pines and other large non-native trees which one submitter noted have been part of the mana of this Maunga for decades. <p><u>Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The grove of mature Morton Bay Fig trees because they provide the walker a moment of calm before the track opens up again to its view of factories. 	<p>traversed). However, the native trees located along tracks and in amenity areas will continue to provide shade cover. On projects to date the shade and shelter effects have been minimal. For example on Te Ara Pueru / Te Pane-o-Mataaho / Māngere Mountain there remains significant tree cover along the main walking route.</p> <p>On all Maunga there will remain significant tree cover by way of remaining native trees. Many of which are located on existing tracks or near existing amenity areas.</p>
<p>Soil stability and erosion impacts</p>	<p>Submitters raised concerns about soil stability and erosion impacts of exotic tree removals.</p> <p>Submitters outlined their views that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Maunga environments are harsh - being exposed to the elements - and have thin, almost non-existent topsoil. - What soil there is on the Maunga has been created by the existing trees and is kept there by them and their roots. - The trees and their inherent root systems are natural stabilisers of the land, particularly poorly consolidated volcanic slopes consisting of ash, scoria, and basalt lava formed by the explosive fragmentation of magma and/or existing solid rock during the pyroclastic volcanic eruptions of Ōwairaka 	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>Management has taken considerable steps to manage the risks of erosion. This includes regular conversations with the Auckland Council Geotechnical engineers and regular inspections and assessments. Geotechnical engineers assessed the risks against our project plans and have not highlighted significant risks with the proposed projects.</p> <p>A geotechnical survey of Te Pane a Mataoho/ Te Ara Pueru/ Māngere Mountain was conducted by Auckland Council Geotech engineers in 2019 after the removal of the non-native trees. The engineers concluded there is minimal risk of erosion at the tihī from tree loss.</p> <p>It is noted by Management that the impacts of off trail walking and desire lines is a significant cause of erosion on the Maunga. Desire lines and associated water scouring has led to erosion.</p>

	<p>/ Mount Albert. Although vegetation does add weight to a volcanic slope, its net effect is to generally stabilise slopes. Plant roots, especially those of trees provide a strong interlocking network to hold unconsolidated materials together and prevent flow. In addition, vegetation takes up moisture from the upper layers of soil and can thus reduce the overall moisture content of the mass, increasing its shear strength. Moisture loss through existing vegetation, including the trees now standing, by transpiration also helps to dry out sodden soil more quickly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The tree canopy protects the rock/soil from exposure to strong winds and heavy rainfalls. - The building up of the current environment has taken at least 100 years and, under current climate change, may never be achievable again. - The current ecological equilibrium would be destroyed by unnatural defilement involving the felling of present trees. - Re-direction of subsurface water drainage and weight relief by the loss of trees/vegetation can cause not only earthquakes but landslides too. <p>Submitters outlined their beliefs clear-felling will destroy the current ecological equilibrium and lead to rock/soil disintegration and destabilisation (chemical weathering, mechanical weathering, erosion, slips (mass traveling as a unit), slumps (mass moving in an incoherent jumbled mass flowing almost with the characteristics of a fluid) and mudflow (viscous tongues of mixed mud, soil/ash, rock and water).</p> <p>Submitters highlighted that this will in turn lead to:</p>	<p>This has been the case at the tīhi of Te Pane a Mataoho / Te Ara Pūeru / Māngere Mountain where erosion was noticed prior to the tree removals. Recent track upgrades and signage asking people to stick to the track have been successful in slowing down erosion on Te Pane a Mataoho / Te Ara Pūeru / Māngere Mountain and Maungawhau / Mount Eden.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Damage to adjoining properties and potential lawsuits. - Costs to undertake remedial action and warn people of hazards. - Sedimentation of water ways which will negatively impact our harbours. - The removal of soil for new plantings to grow in. <p>Many submitters referred to these impacts becoming an increasingly important consideration with climate change, with one submitter noting recent weather has shown that there is a destabilising effect from clear felling / impacting the root structure.</p> <p>With specific referent to Ōwairaka / Mount Albert, one submitter highlighted that 'Artificial reservoirs may change their character upon landscape change. As the reservoir fills, pore pressures in rock along the sides of the reservoir increase, and the strength of the rocks to resist shearing stress can be correspondingly decreased. Water reservoir levels also alternate displacement weight and if surface landform changes, that can effectively cause surrounding land to slow "creep" inducing significant instability, often incurring serious property damage once started. To not rid Ōwairaka / Mount Albert of existing trees would better protect nearby houses and municipal water reservoir on the steeply sloping flanks of the volcano presently built in potentially dangerous places where natural movements cannot be controlled.</p>	
<p>Water retention and runoff impacts</p>	<p>Many submitters noted the role exotic large trees play in water retention and stormwater runoff management and that their removals will exacerbate runoff, flooding, and sedimentation of waterways, reduce soil moisture and negatively impact aquifers.</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>It is noted that the new plantings on the Maunga and remaining native plantings will also play a role in water retention and storm water runoff.</p>

<p>Kikuyu grass and other non woody non-native ground covers</p>	<p>Many of the submitters from action@campgainnow.co.nz noted that it is ironic that the TMA's stance against exotics will result in exotic invasive kikuyu taking over.</p> <p>Submitters also raised concerns about the fire risk kikuyu grass presented and the long-term sustainability, costs, and environmental impacts of the current approaches – mowing, weed eating and herbicides - to managing kikuyu grass and other exotic non woody ground covers such as European gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>) and white flowered blackberry bramble (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>).</p> <p>One submitter noted that the understorey covers more than grasses and in the methodology sections that state "<i>Retaining the tiki in grass and native species</i>" the term "<i>non woody species</i>" should be used. The submitter also recommended adding... "<i>kikuyu will be controlled with a renewed series of trials in areas shown on plans to show the public environmental methods to replace with non woody exotic species with native species.</i>" This will also meet policies elsewhere in the IMP regarding the control of kikuyu</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>Pest plant management is undertaken across the Tūpuna Maunga network seasonally throughout the year; typically, in the spring, summer and autumn months the teams are out daily.</p> <p>The Jobs for Nature funding will enable an increased focus on pest, weed and kikuyu grass control.</p> <p>In line with the IMP, Management intends to continue to explore management options that will enable a phased reduction in the use of herbicides and pesticides and resource intensive manual control options.</p> <p>Refer to response under sub-heading 'Proposed planting' regarding inclusion of Pōhuehue Mound Planting which is in part to respond to kikuyu grass impacts.</p>
<p>Fire risk impacts</p>	<p>Submitters raised concerns about increased fire risk, with this generally being linked to kikuyu grass invading areas where trees are removed.</p> <p>One submitter asserted that failed plantings created a fire hazard, which led to two of the deforested Maunga having fires that threatened nearby houses.</p> <p>A submitter in support of the tree removals noted that some trees, such as the Eucalyptus trees, are a dangerous source of fire.</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>Management have taken steps from the very beginning of operation to manage fire risk on the Maunga to protect the Maunga and neighbouring properties. This includes extensive firebreaks at critical areas of the Maunga (for example adjacent to buildings), regular catch ups with FENZ who audit our processes, closure of the Maunga during the Guy Fawkes season and operational protocols for contractors when operating during the fire season.</p>

		<p>There have been no fires associated with any of the planted areas. All fires have been attributed to illegal fireworks and arson caused on the Maunga. Management is working to reduce these risks and there have been no fires on the Maunga during the Guy Fawkes period since the closures were instituted</p>
<p>Air quality impacts</p>	<p>Submitters noted that exotic trees provide improved air quality by removing pollutants and carbon dioxide and providing oxygen. Concerns were raised that felling 'air-purifying trees' contravenes Auckland Council's recently approved emission reduction plan.</p>	<p>Recommend no change. It is noted that the plantings on the Maunga will also play a role in removing pollutants and carbon dioxide and providing oxygen. It is also noted that the wider work programme has seen the removal of vehicles from tahi of the Maunga and improving the air quality from the tahi of the Maunga.</p>
<p>Wellbeing impacts</p>	<p>Submitters highlighted that the proposed tree removals would have wellbeing impacts, that they would find the removals very upsetting and distressing and/or that it would negatively impact their connection to nature. Submitters' comments in relation to these impacts included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People have spiritual and/or deep personal connections to the Maunga, the trees and the wildlife they support. - People that have grown up close to the Maunga have their own histories. No one has the right to extinguish that history. - There are significant physical and mental wellbeing benefits of visiting the Maunga particularly in a highly industrialised area like Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond, in an increasingly developed urban landscape and/or in lower socio economic areas like Ōtāhuhu where it is hard for its residents to travel. 	<p>Recommend no change. The TMA notes the significance of the Maunga to Aucklanders and the aroha they have for the Maunga. They understand the value people place on them as places for quiet reflection and respite, connection, and recreation. The TMA has taken a number of actions to enhance the visitor experience and the community's connection to the Maunga and their understanding of the spiritual, ancestral, cultural, customary and historical significance of the Maunga to Mana Whenua. This has included improved maintenance, stopping vehicle access to the tahi, track improvements, the provision of other recreational opportunities such as play, the facilitation of leases and events and volunteering opportunities.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The felling is disrespectful to trees and other life-forms. - Seeing what happened to the trees at Ōhuirangi Pigeon Mountain, Maungarei Mt Wellington and Te Pane o Mataoho Mangere Mountain was very upsetting and I would not like to see that happen anywhere else. - This issue has been divisive, taking the wairua, mana, and mauri from each of us. - If the Amendment in its current form went ahead, many people would be deterred from going up the Maunga because the proposal's effects would become another spiritual scar on the mountain that would overpower the enjoyment from going there. <p>A submitter in support of the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 outlined their belief that while work commences on projects the initial negative impacts are front of mind and the approval for the ultimate vision is forgotten. But that when a successful plan is finalised and people can enjoy the improvements and see the benefits, the pain is forgotten. The submitter believes this will be the case for this native restoration programme.</p>	<p>Hundreds of people have been involved in the native restoration programme and we are seeing a growing number of people involved in the native restoration programme adding to their wellbeing.</p> <p>While there will be some short-term minor impacts such as disruption to access and visual amenity impacts, the ecological restoration programme will create an environment that supports community wellbeing. Visitors will experience thriving indigenous biodiversity and the other many benefits of healing the Maunga, the ancestral mountains for Tāmaki Makaurau's iwi/hapu. As noted in the Court of Appeal judgement (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30) in paragraph 157, 'Everyone benefits from the implementation of legislative measures designed to provide redress for historical breaches of the Treaty.'</p>
<p>Environmental stewardship impacts</p>	<p>Many of the submitters from action@campgainnow.co.nz raised concerns about what children will learn about environmental stewardship when they witness the tree removals.</p> <p>One submitter also noted that the trees currently thriving on Ōwairaka / Mount Albert still enthrall and have much to teach.</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The TMA has an education strategy to help grow understanding of the cultural landscape and the importance of maintaining heritage and archaeological sites alongside the benefits of native restoration projects.</p>

<p>Loss of trees that have historical or heritage value</p>	<p>Submitters noted that exotic trees have significant heritage and historical value to local people and/or that they are part of our shared heritage. Submitters noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Auckland is a multinational city. We have welcomed many races. The immigrants planted these trees. They are also part of the history of the city. - The trees are vital to fully appreciate the history and legacy of the early settlers, they are part of our New Zealand history and must not be destroyed. - The trees represent a historic connection to our forebears and their removal would be an insult to their memories. - There is a lack of recognition of European and other histories and interactions with the Maunga. - There is evidence that many of the trees were planted in accordance with plans rather than randomly planted as suggested in the IMP Amendment e.g. cherry trees on Ōwairaka / Mount Albert’s regular spacing and similar height and crown coverage indicates they were planted intentionally rather than self-seeded. - The desire to reindigenise or decolonise the Maunga and is not sufficient justification to fell mature healthy trees. <p>One submitter advocated that any memorial tree planting on the Maunga should be managed with the Tūpuna Maunga Memorials and Plaques Policy which stated that the Authority will consider any pre-August 2014 memorials and plaques on a case-by-case basis and in discussion with the Tūpuna Taonga o Tāmaki Makaurau Trust.</p>	<p>It is noted that there are no scheduled trees on any of the Maunga however Management recommend the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amend paragraph 1 on page 106 to note trees weren’t randomly planted. - Change to the bullet points under each individual Maunga section to note that the number of non-native trees for removal are a maximum number. - Making provision for retention of representative mature, healthy and significant non-native trees in modified areas of the Maunga, with tree types specified under individual Maunga sections and tree removal number confirmed as a maximum number. <p>It is acknowledged that there are Aucklanders who seek retention of trees they believe have historical or heritage value. As there are Mana Whenua who strongly support the overall native restoration programme. The proposed amendment will enable this to be investigated further and for selected representative trees to be retained.</p> <p>This aligns with the “recognise European and other histories and interaction with the Maunga” pathway in the IMP under the Mana Aotūroa/Cultural and Heritage Value.</p>
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	<p>Another submitter noted the importance of preparing individual Maunga plans to ensure exotic plantings that may also have heritage value are not inadvertently affected or removed.</p> <p>Specific trees referenced for the heritage value: <u>Ōwairaka / Mount Albert:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The olive grove planted with seeds sent home by Jack Turner from Palestine during World War II which Jack's family planted in honour and memory of him, not then knowing whether he lived 	
<p>Tree removal methodology</p>	<p>Submitters raised concerns about the impacts of clear-felling mature trees (particularly if healthy and non-invasive). Many advocated instead for a more gradual and gentle approach over several decades so that nature and the community can adapt. The approach submitters advocated included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritising the removal of trees that are identified pest plants in the RPMP, that threaten the physical integrity of archaeological sites and/or that are a health and safety risk. - Underplanting the existing canopy with native species, - Planting other suitable areas with native species, - Removing trees when new native plantings had reached an appropriate stage of maturity, and/or - Removing trees only when they are diseased or reach the end of their natural life and become a health and safety concern as assessed by an independent qualified arborist. <p>Submission points in support of a staged approach were:</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The methodology for removals is not the focus of the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022. The methodology is an operational decision as was reinforced through the Court of Appeal decision (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30).</p> <p>Management determined the implementation approach through a detailed, collaborative and iterative process with tree removal methodology experts, ecology experts, an expert in landscape architecture, an expert archaeologies and expert resource management planners.</p> <p>It is noted that Auckland Council's Environmental Services staff (Submitter 1500) outline that 'While ecological restoration planting may be carried out successfully under exotic vegetation in some circumstances, the approach proposed here of removing exotic species first is supported. This avoids the damage to plantings that would be caused by the need to remove exotic species in future for arboriculture and health and safety reasons. If old trees were retained, their removal is likely to be necessary eventually, as large old trees</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It recognises that the ecologies of various Maunga represent complex interrelationships developed over many decades and gives the ecosystem (and particularly the fauna) a chance to adapt. - It respects the natural cycles of te taiao - working with its timeframe rather than imposing our own - and will also be sympathetic to the interconnectedness and complexity of the ecosystems of our Maunga. - It utilises the current mixed overstory of native and non-native trees to provide shade, soil stability, soil water retention and a microclimate that will support restoration planting and lead to higher survival of the new plantings and the self-seeded natives already growing under the canopy. The importance of this has been highlighted by the high failure rates of plantings on other Maunga. - Examples such as Maungawhau / Mt Eden and Craigavon Park were referenced to highlight the success of programmes involving under-planting with native seedlings and replacement planting at the natural end of the exotic tree's life. - Climate change will make it increasingly difficult to establish new plantings without the habitat and shelter provided by the existing mature trees. - It reduces the risk of invasive weed species such as kikuyu grass, gorse and blackberry invading the Maunga and requiring extensive chemical application as have been observed where tree removals have already occurred. - Nature is already transitioning with evidence of native trees self-seeding and flourishing under the protective canopy of the existing trees. 	<p>deteriorate and falling branches pose a danger to visitors in such well-used reserves as the Maunga. The removal of exotic species is also consistent with the ecological objective to restore indigenous vegetation to the Maunga.</p> <p>It is also noted that the new plantings are thriving without a canopy cover, that Management use a wide range of techniques to manage pest plant and weed invasion and that new plantings are generally expected to have achieved canopy cover within five years of planting.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It avoids devastating what is underneath the trees. - It avoids a long interim period, at least 10 plus years, until new plantings mature enabling the Maunga to continue to be enjoyed as they are by everyone for the duration of the programme. - It reduces the costs of the programme by avoiding expensive tree removals and retaining self-seeded natives and reducing the need for regular watering, replacement plantings for those that die off. - It would enable the use of lower impact tree removal methodology and techniques such as habitat pruning to support biodiversity and through this approach show leadership and to work at a timescale appropriate to te taiao. - It increases the ability for the TMA to address any negative impacts such as erosion at a smaller scale. - It is aligned to both European science, matauranga Māori and tikanga Māori. - It will enable the TMA to achieve its outcomes without destruction and will represent a win for all – the Maunga and its lifeforms, the Tāmaki Collective and the other people of Auckland. <p>One submitter questioned whether the statement in Paragraph 6 on page 106 of the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022, “As a matter of priority, non-native trees on the outer slopes of the Maunga will be removed to emphasise and protect the cultural features of the Maunga such as terracing and rua.” means that for the Ōwairaka project that the proposed removal of non-native trees will be staged, rather than all removed at once as stated to the community in November 2019.</p>	
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	<p>A submission was received acknowledging that while ecological restoration planting may be carried out successfully under exotic vegetation in some circumstances, the approach proposed here of removing exotic species is appropriate because it avoids the damage to plantings that would be caused by the need to remove exotic species in future for arboriculture and health and safety reasons.</p> <p>Other reasons given for supporting the immediate removal of trees include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It immediately removes trees that are invasive, diseased, that present health and safety risks, that are damaging or have the potential to damage cultural features, and that are dangerous as a source of fire. - It creates room for natives to be planted and flourish. - There are enough native trees remaining to still provide good coverage whilst the new native vegetation grows. - It is more practical. - Support the TMA working on the basis of the best evidence as to effective ecosystem restoration. - Support the TMA's right to exercise tino rangatiratanga over the Maunga. - Trust the TMA as the best kaitiaki of the Maunga. - It is consistent with the ecological objective to restore indigenous vegetation to the Maunga. 	
<p>Tree removals not in alignment with IMP values and pathways</p>	<p>Submitters raised concerns that the proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment 2022 is contrary to the following values and pathways outlined in the IMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wairuatanga/Spiritual Value: submitters noted that large-scale felling of exotic trees breaches the 	<p>Recommend no change other than recommended change set out under sub-heading 'Loss of trees that have historical or heritage value'</p>

	<p>“tread gently” pathways and will harm the ecosystems and wairua of the Maunga Mana Aotūroa/Cultural and Heritage Value: submitters noted that felling substantial numbers of exotic trees breaches the “recognise European and other histories and interaction with the Maunga” pathways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauri Pūnaha Haurōpi/Ecology and Biodiversity Value: submitters noted that removing hundreds of mature trees and replacing them with mostly grasses, flaxes and shrubs contradicts the “Maunga tū mauri ora, Maunga to Makaurau ora/”if the Maunga are well, Auckland is well” and “Restore the biodiversity of the Tūpuna Maunga” pathways. - Mana Hononga Tangata/Living Connection Value: submitters noted that felling the exotic trees against strong ongoing community opposition contradicts the ‘Actively nurture positive relationships’ pathway and that the loss of mature trees and birdlife that supports connection to the Maunga would negatively impact the ability to achieve the ‘Rekindle the sense of living connection between the Maunga and the people’ pathway. - Takotoranga whenua/Landscape Value: submitters noted that the tree removals and likely resulting erosion impacts and failed plantings are not aligned with the pathways ‘Protect the integrity of the landscape of the Tūpuna Maunga and ‘Active restoration and enhancement of the natural features...’ 	<p>Part 8 of the IMP contains the IMP’s provisions for Values and Pathways. Each “Value” is followed by several “Pathways” which provide the tangible expression for each Value. It is a matter of interpretation as to whether it is consistent or not.</p> <p>This was comprehensively considered by the Court of Appeal who set out the ways in which the ecological restoration project was aligned to the IMP values and pathways. The Court of Appeal judgement (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30) determined that the planting of indigenous flora was consistent with, and in fact would implement, many of the policies in the IMP [para 94].</p> <p>As set out in responses under other sub-headings the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - will be undertaken in a way that ensures the Maunga are not negatively impacted, - has been confirmed to have a net ecological benefit, and - will involve significant opportunities for community involvement in the healing of the Maunga through volunteer opportunities.
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<p>Tree removals not in alignment with tikanga Māori and mātauranga Māori</p>	<p>Submitters raised concerns that that they believe the proposed clear-felling is not aligned with tikanga Māori and mātauranga Māori, noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Papatūānuku has grown and nurtured everything on the Maunga and should be respected. - It disregards the values and interconnectedness of all trees and the fauna they support which some submitters referred to as tūpuna and/or tuakana. - A phased multigenerational strategy would be more aligned to New Zealand’s indigenous culture. - Mātauranga Māori and Tikanga Māori must stay intact through this process, and never be compromised for the sake of a few. - Mātauranga Māori does not differentiate species in the environment we treat the environment as a whole. When species of trees or birds are valued, based on a native vs exotic narrative, this is a non-Māori construct. Tūpuna Maunga Authority is using a non-Māori construct to fell perfectly healthy trees that Papatūānuku has allowed to grow. This is changing our Mātauranga Māori narrative, and breaking Tikanga Māori. <p>Several submitters highlighted that the whakatauki in the IMP ‘Maunga tū Maunga ora, Maunga ora Tāmaki ora – If the Maunga are well, Tāmaki Makaurau is well’ has been manufactured for the convenience of the TMA and that the traditional whakatauki is: Ka ora te Whenua, ka ora te tangata – If the Earth is healthy, the people are healthy. One submitter noted that the traditional whakatauki highlights caring for the whenua is the first priority and that everything else must be measured against this. They outlined that the TMA’s tree removals are harmful to the whenua and a</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The purpose of the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau act is to restore ownership of the Maunga to Mana Whenua of Tāmaki Makaurau and provide mechanisms by which Mana Whenua may exercise Mana Whenua and Kaitiakitanga over the Maunga.</p> <p>The removal of the trees is in line with the Mana Whenua world view.</p> <p>The submissions on the whakatauki are out of scope (and is not in line with the direction set by Mana Whenua who sit on the Authority or with the views of the Tūpuna Taonga Trust).</p>
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	<p>betrayal of all the kaitiaki of birds, plants and other life on the Maunga.</p> <p>One submitter explained that Ōwairaka is the sacred mountain and the sacred portion of the earth mother Papatūānuku where 345 sacred trees of Tāne Māhuta are living, exist and are providing life to all living things in the environment located in this place. The submitter believes that all things in the universe, in the sky, in the earth, in nature, in the trees, in rocks, in birds, in fish, in all animals in the sea and on the land, in minerals, in water ways, in the mountains, in the geothermal vault line, in earthquakes, in islands, in the atmosphere, in space, in the stars, in the moon, in the sun and humans have one universal life force that binds all things together as one collective energy across space, time, location and dimensions. The submitter notes they are committed to ensuring the life force of the 345 trees are looked after and protected at Ōwairaka as this has an impact on the entire mauri and mana of the mountain and environmental system of Papatūānuku.</p>	
<p>Costs associated with the programme</p>	<p>Submitters raised a range of concerns about the costs of the programme, primarily focusing on the cost of tree removals. Submission points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The needless and harmful destruction of mature exotic trees is an extreme waste of ratepayer funds in a time of climate crisis and economic hardship. - Auckland Council is heavily in debt and there are a plethora of other more important human and environmental needs that this money could be spent on. 	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The budget for the programme is not set by the Integrated Management Plan. The budgets have been agreed to by Auckland Council and the TMA through successive TMA annual operational plans and Auckland Council long term plans and annual plans.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unhappiness at paying for perfectly good trees to be felled, while at the same time being charged a Climate Levy by Auckland Council. - A staged approach to transitioning to fully native vegetation would alleviate the significant costs to taxpayers of removal of non-native trees by spreading the costs out over decades and sharing the cost in an ongoing way with those who will enjoy the mountain later. - The risk of funding changes on the successful implementation of the programme given the long-time replanting and maintenance to achieve replacement of the canopy/shelter/biomass of the soon-to-be-removed exotic trees. 	
<p>Mix of trees represents community</p>	<p>Submitters noted that Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland has a very diverse range of ethnicities and cultures and that the exotic trees are from countries that residents are from and have heritage with.</p> <p>One submitter noted their ancestors on both sides of the culture planted these trees and advocated that both cultures can live in the trees as they have done for many years. This was echoed by a range of submitters who noted that native trees and exotic trees should be able to co-exist as we do as New Zealanders.</p> <p>Another submitter noted that the TMA must recognise that the funding for the ongoing maintenance to achieve the outcomes sought in the Native Restoration Plan and through the annual Vegetation Maintenance Programme comes from the diverse cultural population through the Auckland Council.</p> <p>This position was contested by a submitter who claim this is an attempt at making a foreign land more like the home</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>Refer to responses under sub-headings 'Proposed planting' and 'Loss of trees that have historical or heritage value'.</p>

	<p>European colonisers came from and imposing a foreign culture onto an existing one.</p>	
<p>Community impacts</p>	<p>Submitters noted that the project, and more specifically the clear-felling of exotic trees, is causing deep divisions within the community. This is evidenced by this statement by one submitter: 'I would strongly encourage you to implement a strategy that fulfills not only the goals of the Tūpuna Maunga Authority as stated above (and in the Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan) but which also doesn't alienate the many people in this city who are in agreement with the ideals of the plan but don't want to see large scale ecological disturbances such as the removal of whole stands of healthy trees from Maunga.'</p> <p>These submitters encourage working with the community in a positive and constructive way, listening to the community's concerns and suggestions, utilising local advocates and sharing more information about the Maunga with visitors and the community.</p>	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>Management have worked closely with various community groups to further the work to protect the health and well-being of the Maunga, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ōwairaka Rat Baggers o Friends of Maungawhau o Restoring Takarunga Hauraki – Ngā Manu Maungauka, Takarunga Trappers o Matukūruru – work with the Corrections Department on pest control o Te Pane a Mataaoho/ Te Ara Pueru/ Māngere Mountain – working with Māngere Mountain Education Trust on exploring various education and mara kai opportunities o Maungakiekie Songbird <p>Management has also hosted 17 volunteer days in the last TMA term and is planning many more to undertake much of the planned planting and ongoing maintenance.</p>

Impacts on the wider Auckland urban ngahere	<p>Submitters noted that Auckland is rapidly losing green spaces and trees through urban intensification and poor tree protection policy and that meaningful "green space" (e.g. recreational reserves, parks, private covenants) has been relegated to fractionated plots sprinkled here and there.</p> <p>One submitter noted that some Auckland suburbs lost 35% of their urban forest between 2006 and 2016 and that the impact is especially significant for taller trees, with less than six per cent of the canopy surface occupying heights 20 metres and above for all 16 local boards.</p> <p>Submitters voiced their concern that the proposed tree removals will exacerbate this issue.</p> <p>Several submitters opposing removals at Ōtāhuhu / Mount Richmond noted the suburb of Ōtāhuhu already has the lowest tree canopy of any Auckland suburb (under 8% according to the submitter) and the removal of 75% of the canopy cover would have a significant ecological impact.</p>	<p>Management is also working closely with immediate neighbours through a number of halo projects and a number of local schools.</p> <p>The Matariki activities, Love your Maunga ki Maungauika and Love your Maunga events are other initiatives where the TMA connects with the community.</p>
		<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 supports the objectives of Auckland Council's Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy; notably</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objective 1: Conserve the greatest number and most diverse range of Auckland's indigenous ecosystems and sequences; and</i> • <i>Objective 4: Sustain and protect the mauri of natural and physical resources in ways which enable provision for the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of Māori</i> <p>As reported on 23 May 2022 (Hui 75), the planned planting of 31,448 plants on a number of Maunga in 2022 will take the total number of plants planted on the Maunga since the 2019 planting season to approximately 134,317.</p> <p>This planting together with the future planned planting will result in the Tūpuna Maunga making a significant contribution to the protection and restoration of Tāmaki Makaurau's indigenous biodiversity.</p>
Detail in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022	Submitters voiced their desire for greater detail in the plan in relation to proposed tree removals, noting:	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>Reserve management plans are not generally specific about particular management decisions which may be proposed.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The documents on the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority website are hard to read, and their intentions are deliberately obtuse. - The lack of cohesion and clarity has led to a lot of the fear/confusion and subsequent strong reactions from members of the public. - The IMP should provide details of the numbers of exotic trees on each Maunga which meet each criteria for removal to provide greater clarity to the wider Auckland community and enable a better understanding of the Native Restoration Program and how best to achieve this outcome. - If the final version of the Plan is to be the basis of an agreement with the community, then it needs to be specific rather than vague. - From the generalised Plan wording it is difficult to envisage exactly what might be legally attempted on each site. The nearest to a detailed depiction are the artists impressions. If these have any legal standing and the TMA is bound to reasonably follow to the very long term, then the site users and others interested have some firm proposal on which to base their comments. The depictions if proscriptive may reasonably satisfy the doubts of some. But if the Plan words can trump, many Maunga users would have continuing strong reservations relying on just the words of the basic Plan plus Amendment. - There are material inconsistencies between various TMA reports as to the number of trees to be removed from Ōwairaka – some say 345, others say 298. This further indicates hasty, imprecise operational management that – when TMA is responsible for the enormous value of trees as ecosystem resources, 	<p>The majority of contemporary reserve management plans set out vision, principles, objectives and policies. They would typically not include detailed action plans or maps identifying actions in detail.</p> <p>This was confirmed by Mace Ward who was the General Manager, Parks, Sport and Recreation for Auckland Council at the time the Court of Appeal case was heard. In paragraph 193 of the Court of Appeal judgement (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30) it is outlined that Mr Ward confirmed 'he would not expect a reserve management plan to identify that particular trees were proposed to be removed even if they were relatively large in number.'</p>
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	<p>holders of amenity values and stores of carbon capital – are indicative of lax stewardship and <i>kaitiakitanga</i>.</p> <p>Specific detail requested included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How, when and by whom assessment of the contribution to the value of the Maunga by exotic trees (Table 1: Tūpuna Maunga Features p21 Tūpuna Maunga Strategies) would be carried out and how the findings and recommendations would be translated into action. The importance of collecting as much background information as possible in assessing the significance of exotic tree planting was noted to be amply demonstrated in the recent High Court case (Norman v Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority [2020] NZHC 3425) and subsequent Appeal Court case. - Percentage of canopy, numbers of each species (named) status of health and reasons given for removal. - A breakdown of how many of the proposed tree removals on Ōwairaka are weeds, pose a health and safety risk, are a risk to archaeological features or impact on the cultural landscape and viewshafts. - A detailed plan outlining a gradual removal of sections of trees in each Maunga that has been discussed with communities of interest on site. - A timeline for the proposed removal of trees. - A tree map that specifies the position and species of each individual tree to be removed, and specifies what species will replace it to match its mature bulk dimensions, as much as practical. 	
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	<p>- Confirmation about whether the proposed amendments to the IMP will be extended to all the remaining Maunga covered by the IMP and whether or not additional amendments to the IMP that provide details of tree removals across the other Maunga will be released by the TMA. The second added sentence to 10.2 -- "The detail of the programme is set out in Appendix 5." -- is misleading, as Appendix 5 does not give details of the full programme. Some details are provided for only 4 Maunga, not all Maunga.</p> <p>One submitter suggested the addition of the following text as an amendment after "Removing trees in a way that avoids ground disturbance and has minimal impact on archaeological features." in each individual Maunga section: <u>"Detailed plans will be produced outlining the sequential removal and replacement of trees.</u></p> <p>Logs and fallen wood will be stacked where possible and left on site to return carbon to the ground and increase fungal and invertebrate life."</p> <p>In addition to specific requests related to details about tree removals, submitters also noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the language in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 is vague and open to interpretation e.g. spiritual, indigenous, cultural landscape, mauri and wairua, and - detailed plans also need to show the view shafts, the official walking routes, type of vegetation, park furniture sites and special recreation areas, Water Care and easements, any former quarries and 	
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Native tree removals	<p>unstable areas and any "cultural" or commercial structures.</p> <p>Submitters noted they oppose the removal of native trees as well as exotic trees for largely the same reasons as set out above.</p> <p>Several submitters queried the inconsistency between the statement in paragraph 6 on page 106 of the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga IMP Amendment where it states, "To protect the archaeological values and the health and safety of people on the Maunga and non-native trees may also need to be removed" and the individual plans for the four Maunga on pages 107 to 110 which explicitly state for each of the Maunga "All native trees will be retained."</p> <p>One submitter noted that native trees must be removed or trimmed to create views to the surrounding city, harbour, and distant horizon.</p>	<p>Recommend minor change to paragraph 6 on page 106 to confirm native trees won't be removed to protect archaeological values and the health and safety of people on the Maunga as part of the ecological restoration programme.</p> <p>Native trees will only be removed where they present a health or safety risk. Removals in these circumstances are an operational decision made in accordance with section 42 of the Reserves Act 1977 and health and safety legislation.</p>
PROCESS AND DECISION MAKING		
Consultation and engagement	<p>Submitters raised concerns about consultation undertaken to date and this consultation process. Concerns centred around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The lack of depth or extent of consideration, debate or consultation with the community that went into the initial policy to remove non-native trees. - The timing and secrecy of decisions and actions. - A significant amendment preceding the preparation and adoption of individual Maunga plans in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977 with community engagement. 	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The consultation for the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 has followed the process set out in the Reserves Act.</p> <p>The artist impressions in the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022 depict the outcomes of the tree removals and planting.</p> <p>There has been significant engagement to date through various mechanisms including consultation on the IMP, consultation on the Strategies, consultation on successive operational plans, consultation on Auckland Council's Annual Plan. The topic of the Authority's restoration programme has been thoroughly aired in the media for some years.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The lack of genuine engagement opportunities for stakeholders and communities to have input as envisaged in the IMP and input being ignored. - The TMA approach to working with the 8 Local Boards which have Maunga in their areas which was seen as a device to obtain consent to their plans without actually engaging with the Maunga local communities as required by the Authority's governance documents and Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977. - The failure of the TMA to be inclusive and as a result its actions being profoundly divisive. - The TMA's presentation of the plantings 'cloaking' the Maunga being misleading and no individual Maunga plans to understand the full impact on the Maunga. - The need for authorities to bring as many people as possible together and move along a common path given we are in a period of rapid anthropogenic evolution fuelled by climate change and social disruption. - The missed opportunity to lead the community – all the peoples of Auckland – to celebrate the city and the country's shared love and appreciation of the Maunga and to unite, invigorate and give life to all Aucklanders' links with each other through a shared love of ngā Maunga. <p>Submitters noted their hopes that this matter can be resolved in a spirit of positive partnership, with an appreciation of everyone's values being acknowledged, to bring people together in a peaceful and constructive co-existence. This sentiment was captured by one submitter who stated, 'Ultimately we simply need the best solution for the long</p>	<p>The High Court Decision noted that the draft Annual Operational Plan for 2018/2019 had also been the subject of consultation, and it had included references to the restoration of native ecosystems, reintroducing native plants and "removing inappropriate exotic trees and weeds".</p> <p>Management will continue to engage with the community through community planting days, Love Your Maunga Events and through the website – where details of plantings plans can be made available.</p>
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	<p>term future of the Maunga, the environment and all the people of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.’</p> <p>One submitter noted they hoped the TMA understand that people who really care for the Maunga are an asset to it and that if the TMA keeps good communication, they will do their best to work for it in a positive way. They encouraged the TMA to build the trust.</p> <p>Another submitter noted the volcanic cones are held in trust for all the people of Auckland, because the Maunga treaty settlement recognises that they hold a special place in all Aucklanders’ hearts. They encouraged the Authority to take account of this when reviewing the submissions and deciding its response.</p>	
<p>TMA decision making</p>	<p>A range of concerns were raised about the TMA’s decision making in relation to the Proposed IMP Amendment 2022. Submitters’ concerns included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The removal of certain trees was made without debate of any documented kind by person or persons unqualified to make them and that subsequently have not been supported either by <i>matauranga Māori</i>, basic <i>kaitiakitanga</i> or science. - The quality of research, the hasty presentation, the poor accuracy, and the evidence of lack of knowledge indicate an Authority not in full grasp of its responsibilities to operate to the highest standards of probity. - The decision for extensive tree removal goes far beyond the ‘routine management’ envisaged in the annual operational plan and would be expected to part of an Individual Maunga Plan as set out under 10.32, page 96 (previously 9.32, page 92). This was 	<p>Recommend no change.</p> <p>The TMA, the IMP and the annual operational plan drive the operational management of the Tūpuna Maunga, as the strategies and plans come into effect over time, those will further inform and guide the management of the Tūpuna Maunga. The strategies and individual plans are not a pre-condition to undertaking operational work, which has been underway since the establishment of the TMA in 2014.</p> <p>The findings set out in the Court of Appeal judgement (CA21/2021 [2022] NZCA30) are noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - [Para 157] ‘we are not persuaded it can have been Parliament’s intention that s 41(2) of the Collective Redress Act should be applied so as to require the maintenance of exotic trees on the Maunga. We can see nothing in that Act justifying such an approach, which would certainly derive no support from the statement of legislative purpose in s 3. And we

	<p>implied by the then Deputy Chair under "1. HE KŌRERO WHAKAPUAKI" in her "MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY CHAIR", page 5 (previously "Foreword", page 1). "Future individual Maunga plans will provide an opportunity for us to work closely with the Local Boards and diverse communities to produce plans that capture and enhance the unique qualities of each Maunga."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Failure to take serious consideration or any consideration of the views of the other peoples of Auckland as they are required to do by sections 41(2) and 109 of Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act. - The way mana whenua has been determined as a co-governance framework. - Te Tiriti o Waitangi lays a foundation of mutual respect for and between Māori and non-Māori - this duality of respect must underpin the way in which the Maunga Authority and Auckland Council express kaitiakitanga of the taonga that is our Maunga. - A lack of democracy with submitters believing the Authority must follow the will of the people and give weighting to the views of the views of the very many "others" who actually utilise the Maunga. - A lack of openness and transparency that has produced a significant lack of public trust in the Authority. - The issue is being treated as a contest between two groups, TMA and HTM, and that the initial aims and values have been set aside. As a result, decision making is about a power struggle and not what will 	<p>consider it can properly be said that there is a common benefit in achieving the purpose of the Act, as well as a particular benefit to mana whenua. Everyone benefits from the implementation of legislative measures designed to provide redress for historical breaches of the Treaty.'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - [Para 168] 'We think it is sufficient to say at this point that the project, including removal of the exotic trees, is a legitimate response to the objectives sought to be achieved by the Collective Redress Act.' - [Para 168] The argument that the decision to remove the exotic trees was made without having regard to the mandatory consideration of common benefit under s 42(2) of the Collective Redress Act also cannot be sustained for reasons already addressed.
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	<p>create the best outcomes for the Maunga or the people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The decision was through a decision of a committee rather than in accordance with tikanga. - The impacts of the proposed tree removals on the co-governance model, with some raising concerns about the impacts on support for the co-governance model more generally. - Timing of decisions that have a significant impact on individual Maunga ahead of the development of individual management plans. - TMA's failure to produce Individual Maunga Plans in breach of its duties under the Reserves Act. - The draft Strategies document for Ōwairaka was not released for public comment until 6 July 2019 – on the TMA agenda for Hui 49, 5 August 2019, with approval of TMA members at Hui 50 on 25 September 2019. Yet Resource Consent for the removal of 345 trees was granted four months earlier, on 24 February 2019. None of the trees in the 2018 reports on which the Resource Consent relied were assessed according to the criteria in the September 2019 Strategies document. At best, this is procedurally inept, but other interpretations are available. - No tree, native or non-native, has been assessed according to the criteria promulgated in the IMP Strategies document. - There are inconsistencies between proposals passed in Hui 77 regarding amendment of the IMP and the amendments presented for consultation. This includes the proposal to remove native as well as exotic trees, the omission of certain individual 	
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	<p>Maunga Plans and it remains the case that non-notified Resource Consents obtained are not compliant with the Biodiversity Strategy of 25 September 2019. The issue at governance is whether or to what extent the variations between proposals passed by TMA and documents now published were fully considered by TMA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need to put Papatuanuku or Mother Earth and all the life-forms she supports at the front and centre of decision making by respecting the environment and everything that lives in it. - How particular iwi representatives are appointed and how their accountability to iwi is reflected in practice. Many local Māori, including members of Ngāti Whātua, have gone to the media saying that the destruction of exotic trees is actually against their principles. <p>One submitter noted it would be good for decisions to be made at the Maunga themselves in the presence of the trees which the Maunga have hosted and nurtured as natives or as manuhiri exotics over many decades. They also hoped that those who make these decisions would visit the Maunga that have already experienced a mass-felling policy and consider whether that policy as applied so far has really served the aspirations of the Maunga Authority to enhance the mauri of the tūpuna Maunga.</p> <p>Submitters in support of the TMA noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They are confident in the TMA and believe in their right to manage the Maunga as they see fit, for the benefit of future generations. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They support without hesitation the tino rangatiratanga of the Tūpuna Maunga Authority over all the ancestral Maunga in Tāmaki Makaurau. - The TMA has sole discretion on how the Maunga are to be managed and developed, aided by Auckland Council in implementing these plans. - Against historical background and the Redress Act this consultation is itself a watering down of the rights already granted to the TMA because the choice to fell a tree, or any number of trees, falls within the scope of mana whenua and kaitiakitanga. You should not have to listen to me, or anyone. As the living relatives of these Maunga, you have the right to make decisions on their future. You have the right to make mistakes, because as kaitiaki you will need to learn from these and put them right again. All this will take time, and you have the right to take perhaps 160 years before the wider community judges whether your work is successful or not. - Their desire to fully honour the 2014 Tiriti settlement between the Crown and Tāmaki Collective, including honouring the TMA plans for the ecological and cultural restoration of the Maunga. - The Tāmaki Collective have received the 14 Tūpuna Maunga as compensation for generations of land theft and abuse, which was completely contrary to the Treaty of Waitangi and standards of human decency. To stand in the way of kaitiaki restoring and protecting these taonga for everyone's future benefit, as they have planned, would result in another generation of land theft and abuse of indigenous people. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In exercising your rights, please do be patient with myself and with Pākeha and other Tangata Tiriti. We do genuinely care about the Maunga, but understanding the nature of the Treaty of Waitangi and the need for collective redress is not our strong suit. 	
SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS REQUESTED BY SUBMITTERS		
<p>General amendments not already covered in sub-headings above</p>	<p>Specific changes requested include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amend Page 88, "10. DELIVERING THE VALUES AND PATHWAYS", 10.2 (previously 9.2, page 84) to "An ecological restoration programme will assist the cultural and spiritual and ecological restoration of the Tūpuna Maunga, including the planting of native species and removal of non-native trees." as it is already stated to be an ecological restoration. - Page 106, Appendix 5, Paragraph 1, line 2, change "trees" to "tree". - Paragraph 1, 3rd sentence, Change "Non-native trees have been randomly planted without any comprehensive plan for their future management or consideration of the cultural landscape." To "<u>Trees have been randomly planted ...</u>" Native trees have also been similarly planted, not just non-native trees. - Amend any reference to "exotic" throughout the Amendment to "non-native". - Amend any reference to "Weed species identified in the RPMP" throughout the Amendment to "<u>plant pest</u>" as this is the terminology used in the RPMP. 	<p>Recommend minor changes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change "trees" to "tree" in para 1, sent 2 on page 106 - Amend paragraph one on page 106 to include pest plant species. - Amend 'exotic' to 'non-native' throughout the Proposed IMP 2022 except for where it directly quotes the Biosecurity Strategy. <p>It is noted that Pg 34 section 6 of the Biosecurity Strategy states: Removal of exotic trees will occur when there is a health and safety risk, they are identified as a weed species, there is risk to archaeological features, or they impact on the cultural landscape and viewshafts. Any other tree removals will be assessed on a case by case basis.</p>
<p>Ōwairaka / Te Ahi-kā-a-Rakatuara / Mount Albert</p>	<p>Specific changes requested include:</p>	<p>Recommend minor changes to:</p>