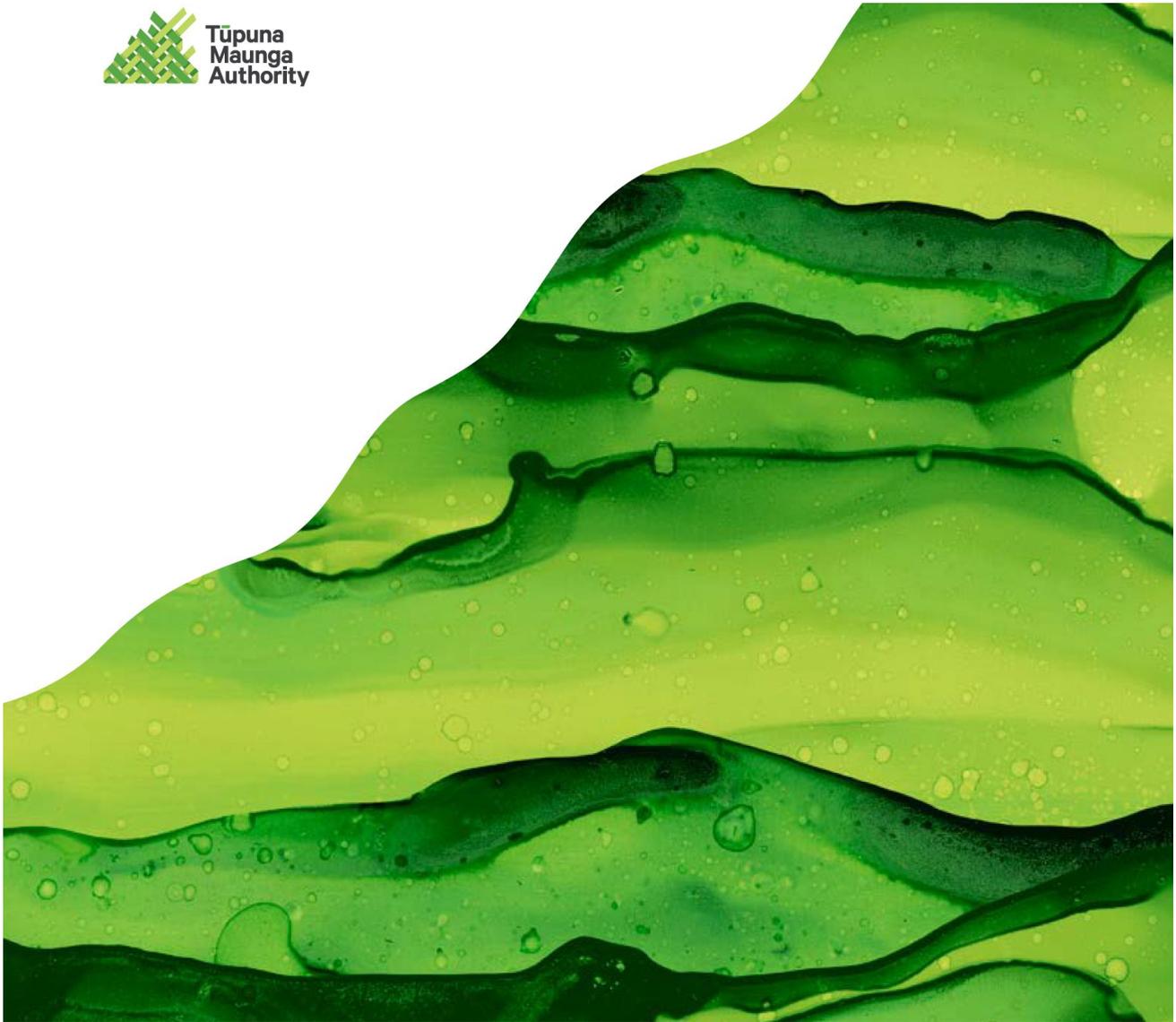


TŪPUNA MAUNGA AUTHORITY

**Puketāpapa–Pukewīwī/Mt Roskill - Vegetation restoration and
exotic vegetation removal works**

ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND STATUTORY ASSESSMENT



**Prepared by Richmond Planning Limited
For Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority**

October 2019

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This application for resource consent is made by Auckland Council on behalf of the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority (**Authority**)¹, who has governance and administration of 14 Tūpuna Maunga in the Auckland region.
- 1.2 The Authority has a revegetation programme that contributes to the restoration of the natural, spiritual and indigenous landscape of the Tūpuna Maunga and restoration and enhancement of the mauri and wairua of the Tūpuna Maunga. The programme gives effect to the Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan and is scheduled to occur over six years. Works have been successfully completed on or commenced on five of the Tūpuna Maunga. Included in the next stage of the programme is the removal of exotic vegetation and native revegetation on Puketāpapa–Pukewīwī /Mt Roskill (**Puketāpapa**).
- 1.3 The assessment of environmental effects and statutory assessment is prepared in accordance with the Fourth Schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**) and corresponds with the scale and significance of the effects that the proposed activity may have on the environment.
- 1.4 It concludes that the activity has potential to have less than minor adverse effects on vegetation and visual amenity and subject to specific measures that form part of the application, there are no adverse effects on archaeology and the outstanding natural feature (**ONF**). Positive effects will result from the activity including improved ecology, amenity and opening of viewshafts between the Tūpuna Maunga. Matters of relevance under the RMA have been considered, and the conclusion is that the application may be granted on a non-notified basis, subject to conditions.

¹ The Tūpuna Maunga Authority is the statutory authority established under Part 3 of the Tāmaki Collective Redress Act.

2. APPLICANT AND PROPERTY DETAILS

Table 1: Applicant and address for service

Applicant	Auckland Council
Address for service	Jodie Mitchell Richmond Planning Limited PO Box 25734 St Heliers Auckland 1740
Name and address for fees	David Bhana Tūpuna Maunga Authority c/- Auckland Council Private Bag 92300 Auckland 1141
Owner of land	Tūpuna Taonga Trust

Table 2: Property details

Tūpuna Maunga	Puketāpapa–Pukewīwī /Mt Roskill
Address	1109 Dominion Road Mount Roskill Auckland 1041
Legal description	Part Lot 1476 DP 22826, Lots 94 & 211 DP 42694, SEC 3 SO 430425, Lots 103, 106, 107 & 109 DP 41516
Site area	9.0714m ² (9 Hectares)

Figure 1: Location plan



Source: Auckland Council Geomaps

Table 3: Auckland Unitary Plan – Operative in Part (AUP) property summary

Zone	Open Space - Conservation Zone Strategic Transport Corridor ²
Overlays	Natural Resources: Quality-Sensitive Aquifer Management Areas Overlay [rp] - Auckland Isthmus Volcanic Natural Heritage: Outstanding Natural Features Overlay [rcp/dp] - ID 113, Mt Roskill volcano (Puketāpapa) Natural Heritage: Regionally Significant Volcanic Viewshafts And Height Sensitive Areas Overlay [rcp/dp] – Mount Roskill, Height Sensitive Areas Natural Heritage: Regionally Significant Volcanic Viewshafts And Height Sensitive Areas Overlay [rcp/dp] – Mount Roskill, Height Sensitive Areas – R1, R2 Built Heritage and Character: Historic Heritage Overlay Extent of Place [rcp/dp] - 1580, Mount Roskill/Puketāpapa R11_19 Volcanic cone pa site

² This zoning does not reflect the use of the land and ownership. This zoning is not included in the NZTA designation 6731 for State Highway 22.

Designations	Designations – 9437, Water Supply Purposes – Reservoir and Pump Station, Watercare Services Ltd Designations: Airspace Restrictions Designation – ID1102, Protection of aeronautical functions – obstacle limitation surfaces, Auckland International Airport Ltd
Modifications	Notice of Requirements, Auckland International Airport Ltd, NoR 7: Proposed Northern Runway Airspace Restriction Designations, Lodged, 15/02/2018
Controls	Macroinvertebrate Community Index [rcp/dp] – Urban

3. TŪPUNA MAUNGA AUTHORITY

Tūpuna Maunga governance and administration

- 3.1 In 2014, following five years of Te Tiriti of Waitangi settlement negotiations, 14 Tūpuna Maunga were transferred to the 13 iwi/hapū of Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau. The Tūpuna Maunga are held in Trust for the benefit of those iwi/hapū and people of Auckland.
- 3.2 Governance and administration of the Tūpuna Maunga is undertaken by the Authority. This is a co-governance body with equal representation from mana whenua and Auckland Council (together with a non-voting Crown representative).
- 3.3 In exercising its powers and carrying out its functions under the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014 (**Redress Act**), the Authority must have regard to the spiritual, ancestral, cultural, customary, and historical significance of the Tūpuna Maunga to Ngā Mana Whenua.
- 3.4 The Maunga are sacred to Mana Whenua as taonga tuku iho (treasures handed down the generations). The Authority has a direct interest in protecting views to, from and between the Tūpuna Maunga.

Integrated Management Plan

- 3.5 Section 58 of the Redress Act requires the Authority to prepare and approve an integrated Management Plan (**IMP**) for land under its administration. The purpose of the IMP is to establish how the Tūpuna Maunga will be cared for, managed and maintained both on an integrated basis while also identifying values specific to individual maunga.
- 3.6 Section 59 contains the requirements of the IMP including cultural activities and those that enable Mana Whenua to exercise their kaitiakitanga. A single IMP³ which sets out the foundations for

³ Approved 23 June 2016

how the Tūpuna Maunga values are protected, restored, enhanced and managed in the future, was approved 23 June 2016.

- 3.7 As it relates to this application, the IMP policies around use, aesthetic and access reflect that the Tūpuna Maunga are part of a broader volcanic field and see the protection and enhancement of the volcanic field in its entirety⁴. Enhancing this natural environment includes protecting, restoration, and enhancing the authenticity and integrity of this unique landscape through the progressive removal of structures and features that detract from the Tūpuna Maunga. Strategies that have guided the preparation of the activity are:

Spiritual

- The importance of the maunga as sites of cultural and spiritual significance to mana whenua is recognised and the relationship between the tangata and the whenua is restored;
- Establish an authentic Maori presence and remove impediment to mana whenua exercising their kaitiakitanga; and
- Protect, maintain and improve the visibility and undertaking of the natural, cultural, geological and heritage features of the Tūpuna Maunga⁵.

Landscape

- Increase biodiversity, structural diversity and native habitat values of the Tūpuna Maunga and their hinterland by enhancing plant health, soil health, native food resources and habitat connectivity through the development and implementation of an Ecological Restoration Strategy;
- Ensure planting and other landscape features are compatible with the protection of the natural and cultural features of the maunga; and
- Appropriately locate, design and construct new structures, services, areas of planting and facilities to complement the landform, reduce or minimise visual distractions and respect the cultural, historic and spiritual values⁶.

Biodiversity

- Protection and enhancement of indigenous species including threatened plant and animal species already present on the Tūpuna Maunga;
- Replanting and restoring the indigenous biodiversity of the Tūpuna Maunga, connections between the Tūpuna Maunga and the wider volcanic landscape;

⁴ IMP, page 66

⁵ IMP, Page 58

⁶ IMP, Page 58

- Replanting and restoring traditional indigenous mana whenua flora and fauna;
- A planting regime with plant choice based on use of appropriate and representative species; and
- Re-establishing the mana whenua role as kaitiaki of the ecology and biodiversity of the Tūpuna Maunga.

Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Strategies

3.8 To assist the Authority to fulfil its role of protecting the maunga and providing for their ongoing manaaki and hauora the Proposed Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan Strategies (**Strategies**) was adopted on 25 September 2019. Of relevance to this application are design elements for revegetation and planting, and biodiversity, specifically:

Revegetation and Planting

- restore and sustain landscape values of the Tūpuna Maunga to support a rich array of native species including māra kai, rongoa gardens and native uncultivated food gardens, and pa harakeke;
- restoration plantings to obscure quarry face scarring, for erosion management over geotechnical engineering solutions;
- direct visitors away from sensitive areas and disestablish desire lines with detract and compromise culturally significant area and contribute to erosion;
- avoid obscuring important views and recognition of the cultural landscape; and
- avoid weed reinvasion.⁷

Biodiversity

- restore areas of the maunga with indigenous ecosystems reconnecting ecological networks within and between the Tūpuna Maunga;⁸
- reintroduce and attract indigenous and culturally appropriate species;
- Identify, protect and enhance indigenous species including threatened plant and animal species;
- Incorporate remnant ecosystem features, and restore and enhance bush remnants to increase biodiversity and cultural values;

⁷ Strategies Plan, page 23

⁸ Strategies Plan, Page 29

- Incorporate traditional indigenous flora and fauna into restoration for increased biodiversity, cultivation and cultural harvesting of kai, medicinal and textile materials; and
- Promote Mana Whenua as kaitiaki through a biodiversity strategy to protect vulnerable species and remove predators;⁹ and
- 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 Archeological Features, or they impact on the cultural landscape and viewshafts. Any other tree removals will be assessed on a case by case basis¹⁰.

Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2019-2020 (Operational Plan)

- 3.9 For each financial year the Authority and Auckland Council must agree an operational plan. The plan outlines the work programme for the financial year, which comprises projects at regional and individual maunga level. The operational plan sets out how these individual projects contribute to delivery of the Authority's objectives and vision for the Tūpuna Maunga by linking them to one or more of the Tūpuna Maunga Values.
- 3.10 The work programme for the next three years identifies healing the maunga as one of the three priorities. This is achieved through projects including restoration of indigenous native ecosystems; reintroducing native plants and attracting native animal species; removing inappropriate exotic trees and weeds¹¹. Vegetation management specifically removing weed species, managing inappropriate exotics and revegetation of suitable areas will assist with Tūpuna Maunga Wairuatanga / Spiritual and Takotoranga / Landscape values¹².
- 3.10 A network-wide programme to remove vegetation and revegetate works at Puketāpapa are part of the Operational Plan capital works budget for 2019/2020¹³.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE TŪPUNA MAUNGA AND CONTEXT

History

- 4.1 Each iwi has their history and connections with the Tūpuna Maunga. The following paragraphs are provided to assist with a contextual understanding of the significance of the Tūpuna Maunga to Mana Whenua.
- 4.2 Human occupation of Aotearoa, including Tāmaki Makaurau dates back about 1,000 years with the arrival of the first tūpuna of the Māori people from Hawaiki. There were several great tribal

⁹ Strategies Plan, Page 30

¹⁰ Strategies Plan, Page 34

¹¹ Operational Plan 2019/20, page 8

¹² Operational Plan, Table 1 Tūpuna Maunga Work Programme 2018-28

¹³ Operational Plan 2019/20, page 59

migrations and originally tribal origins were formed identifying with waka in which the founding ancestors arrived. As new groups arrived and society developed, pressure on resources, defeat in war, disagreements on breach of custom, and mana caused larger hapū to break off into smaller groups. Iwi and hapū formed and larger groups had their own papakāinga (village settlement) or fortified pā.¹⁴

- 4.3 During this period, the Tūpuna Maunga were developed into the most extensive network of monumental and defensible settlements in Polynesia, supported by expansive areas of volcanic soils suitable for agriculture. They were significant areas of settlement, of agriculture, of battles, of marriages, of birth and burial.¹⁵

Significance

- 4.4 Mana whenua hold the Tūpuna Maunga as places to be honoured, respected and protected for those who have gone before and for the many generations to come¹⁶.
- 4.5 The Tūpuna Maunga are among the most significant spiritual, cultural, historical, archaeological and geological landscapes in the Auckland region and hold a paramount place in the identity of the 13 iwi/hapū of Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau. The landmark Redress Act marked an important milestone in the restoration of these iconic taonga. The maunga and the volcanic field are central to Auckland's identity. Auckland's key point of difference in the world is its unique Māori identity, with the Tūpuna Maunga being a tangible reminder of mana whenua occupation of Auckland over a millennia.
- 4.6 The Tūpuna Maunga have come to be treasured and celebrated by all communities for their striking landscape and heritage features, the distinct identity and sense of place they inspire and their value as open spaces for all Aucklanders to be active; and for respite, relaxation and escape from busy urban lives.¹⁷

Puketāpapa

- 4.7 The Tūpuna Maunga of Puketāpapa is in the suburb of Mount Roskill and covers an area of 9 hectares. The maunga is a simple scoria cone with an initial tuff ring almost buried beneath it. The cone originally had two shallow craters (now destroyed by a water reservoir).¹⁸ In the AUP it is scheduled as an ONF for its natural heritage values. A regionally significant height sensitive area traverses Puketāpapa and two regionally significant volcanic viewshafts relate to the northern and western portions of the maunga.

¹⁴ Rāwiri Taonui, 'Tribal organisation - How iwi and hapū emerged', Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/tribal-organisation/page-2> (accessed 1 August 2018)

¹⁵ about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/kaupapa-maori/comanagement-authorities-boards/tupuna-maunga-tamaki-makaurau-authority/Pages/tupuna-maunga-significance-history.aspx, <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz> (accessed 31 October 2018)

¹⁶ IMP, page 54, 57

¹⁷ IMP, page 4

¹⁸ AUP Schedule 6 – Outstanding Natural Feature Overlay, reference # 113 Mt Roskill (Puketāpapa) [sic], category V

- 4.8 The majority of Puketāpapa is a place of historic heritage significance for its history, knowledge (archaeological), and aesthetic landscape values.¹⁹ It is a place of significant value to Māori, with various iwi having occupied the land at various times. The Tūpuna Maunga is recorded as archaeological site R11_19 as a pa site with pits.
- 4.9 Vegetation includes a diverse mix of mature exotics and natives, growing on the north, north-western slopes and lower southern slopes. An avenue of Phoenix Palms is particularly visible on the lower north eastern slope from Dominion Road and surrounding streets. There are 185 native trees and 82 exotic species on the maunga.²⁰ The greatest concentrations of native trees are along the vehicle access road on the northern slopes from the tihi. None of the vegetation is recorded in the AUP as being of collective or individual significance. Unlike other maunga, none of the vegetation is within a significant ecological area.
- 4.10 Vehicle access from Dominion Road is along the northern slopes and winds its way to the tihi. A shared pedestrian/cycleway path traverses the lower northern slope adjacent to SH20 and connects with Roseman Avenue and Dominion Road. Pedestrian access is also available from two grassed entrances where houses have been removed and two additional former residential sites fronting Roseman Avenue are also included as part of the maunga.
- 4.11 Watercare services hold a designation for water supply purposes (#9437) at the tihi. Minor works are required within this area.

Surrounding context

- 4.12 SH20 adjoins the northern boundary and Dominion Road to the north east. In the 2000's, the motorway was extended, creating a cut through the northern lower flanks of the maunga.²¹ Surrounding land to the west, south and remainder of the eastern boundary is residential.
- 4.13 Surrounding environs are generally at a lower elevation than the maunga, but there are higher areas further to the north. The work within the north and north eastern portion of the site is well away from residential properties. Other works are generally away from residential properties aside from works on the lower south and south eastern slopes and along the western boundary.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

Background and purpose

- 5.1 Vegetation restoration represents a fundamental step in facilitating the protection, restoration and enhancement of the Tūpuna Maunga in an integrated manner.²² This activity is part of a wider

¹⁹ Schedule 14.1 - Built Heritage and Character: Historic Heritage Overlay, AUP reference #1589, Mount Roskill/Puketāpapa R11_19 (category A*) applying to the entire Maunga

²⁰ Treescape, 2019, page 4

²¹ AUP, Appendix 20, R01 viewshaft description

²² IMP, Page 67, 91

revegetation and weed management programme for all 14 Tūpuna Maunga. The first stage of the re-vegetation programme was for Maungarei and resource consent was approved non-notified. Subsequently, resource consent has been approved (also non-notified) for Māngere, Ohuiarangi, Owairaka and Te Tatua a Ruikuita all of which adopted the same compendium of methodologies as proposed with this application. Removals and planting has occurred on Maungarei, Mangere, Ōhuiarangi. To date, the Tūpuna Maunga Authority has complied with all conditions for tree removal and have begun replanting over 74,000 native trees and plants. Work is set to begin on Ōwairaka during the summer season. The positive effects of the project are beginning to be realised including better visibility of the archaeological features of the maunga and increase in native flora.

- 5.2 The purpose of the works is also to remove exotic trees on Tūpuna Maunga that are:
- causing damage to archaeological sites and evidence;
 - in poor health, form or decline and pose a risk of failure; and
 - pest species as identified by the Regional Pest Management Strategy or on the research list for unwanted organisms.

Trees to be removed

- 5.3 The proposal involves the removal, to stump, of 160 exotic trees within Puketāpapa.²³ These trees are identified on the Treescape itemised tree inventory list²⁴ and the location shown on Figure 1. All trees are over 3m in height, and a list of species and their numbers are in Table 1²⁵.

Tree removal methodology

- 5.4 The overarching principles guiding the methodology relate to:
- avoiding ground disturbance to protect archaeology and the landform;
 - avoiding damage to native tree species;
 - minimising ecological effects on flora and fauna values;
 - limiting effects on sensitive noise receivers; and
 - protecting the public and workers whilst minimising disruption and closure of the Tūpuna Maunga to the public.
- 5.5 A collaborative approach has been adopted to inform the proposal using expert assessments to guide the methodology appropriate for this maunga. The archaeological restrictions map prepared by Mr Druskovich primarily directed the method of removal.²⁶

²³ Due to physical constraints, 25 exotic trees along the south-eastern boundary are not proposed for removal as part of this application.

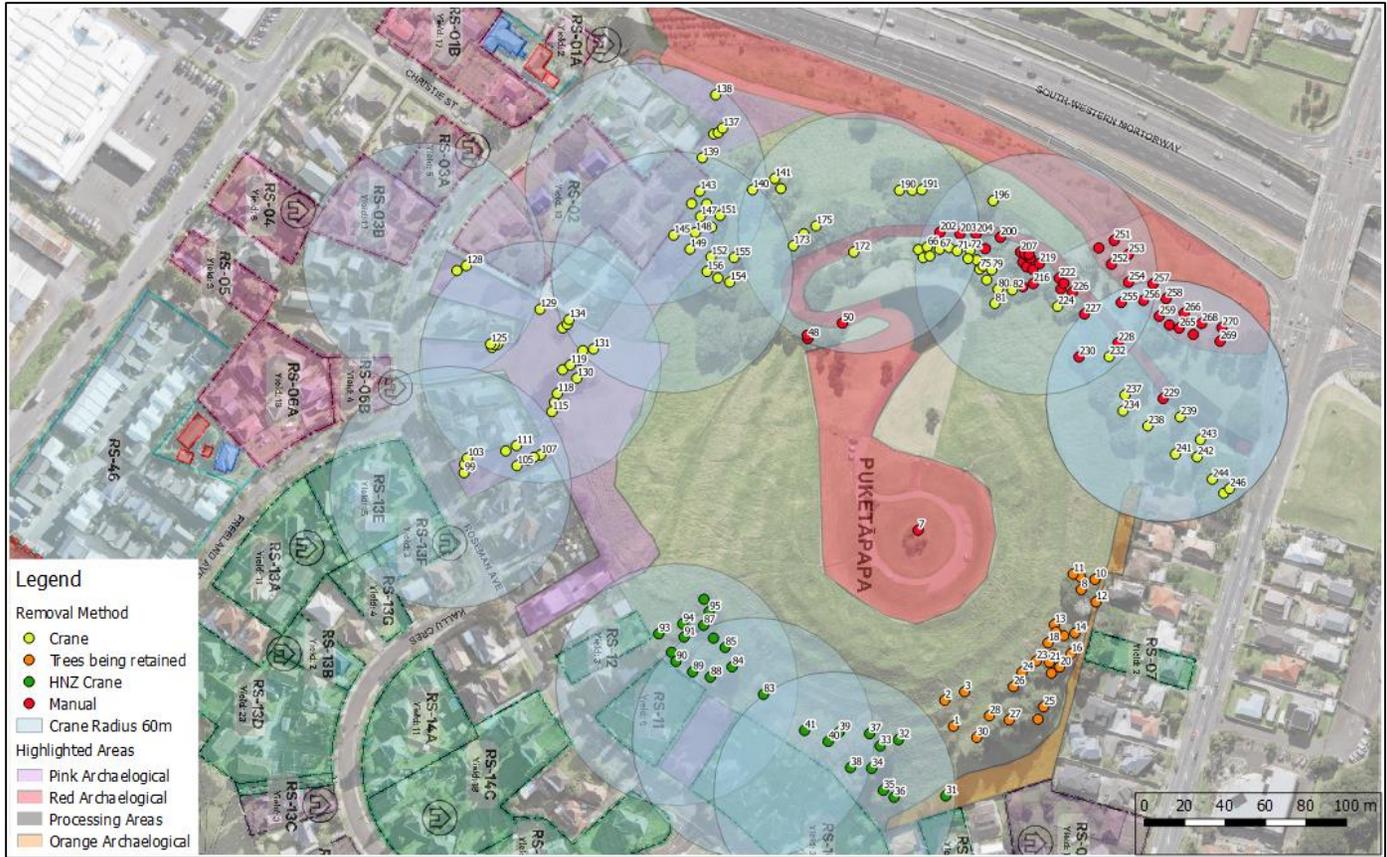
²⁴ Treescape, 2019, Appendix A

²⁵ Treescape, 2019, page 4

²⁶ Arborlab, Figure 3, Page 7

- 5.6 This includes tree protection measures for native trees and trimming branches of two Pohutukawa trees to provide crane access.

Figure 3: Aerial map of the subject site showing Operating Zones, Tree Locations and Removal Methods



Source: Treescape Ltd, 2019, Figure 4

- 5.7 Appendix A of the Treescape Report provides an itemised inventory of trees and proposed removal method for each tree. The majority of trees will be removed by crane assisted dismantling. The balance will be removed by a combination of manual/excavator/mobile elevated working platform (**MEWP**) methods.
- 5.8 Housing New Zealand (**HNZ**) are removing dwellings from several sites adjoining the southern boundary. During this process HNZ have agreed to crane access for 26 tree removals from 3-9, 11 and 55 Roseman Avenue. The sites are identified in Table 4.²⁷ While outside of the AUP historic heritage overlay, an archaeologist will be involved prior to crane set up on the HNZ sites as a precaution.

²⁷ Arborlab, page 9

Processing and disposal of vegetation

- 5.9 The processing areas will be mobile and generally follow areas where the machinery is being used to remove the tree, such as the crane.²⁸ The carparking area from Dominion Road has also been identified as suitable for processing.
- 5.10 A chipper will be set up next to the crane and while sporadic in nature, it is expected that the overall use of the chipper will be 20-30 minutes over a one hour period equating to three to four hours over an eight hour period. The duration of works in each location is limited to one to four days but will be up to eight days in the north eastern corner where the exotic vegetation is dense. To reduce noise levels on neighbouring residential receivers, the chipper will be positioned a minimum of 25m from these boundaries.
- 5.11 Except for specific logs suitable for carving and unless surplus to requirements, material will be mulched and retained on site. Limited processing of the phoenix palms will occur and only where necessary fronds will be mulched.
- 5.12 Surplus material for off-site disposal will be loaded into transport and removed from processing areas.

Duration of removals

- 5.13 Expected duration of the works is 24 days. The works will occur:
- in the drier summer months to avoid modification to the ground;
 - between the hours of 7.30am and 6.00pm, Monday to Friday; and
 - no works on Saturday, Sunday or public holidays.

Public access and traffic management during tree removal

- 5.14 Where practicable public access to the Tupuna Maunga will be maintained. This will largely depend on health and safety requirements, with a cautious approach taken for public access to ensure public and contractors are safe from harm.

Communications Plan

- 5.15 To inform public of the works areas of the park that will remain open, measures to prevent public harm, and areas that will be closed during the works, a comprehensive communication plan will

²⁸ Arborlab, Page 9

be finalised and implemented prior to commencement of the works. A draft of this document is contained in Appendix 7.

Acoustic management and mitigation for tree removal

- 5.16 An acoustic assessment has been prepared by Mr Jon Styles²⁹ for the noise from tree removals to inform and assess proposed methodology. Specific consideration has been given to the chainsaw and processing (wood chipper and excavators).
- 5.17 Noise levels generated by all activities except for the use of chainsaws and the chipper will comply with Rule E25.6.27 of the AUP for construction activities except for eight locations where the duration of non-compliance is for a very short period. The duration and extent of non-compliance varies depending on the receiver. For any one receiver Mr Styles states that the noise levels above 75dBA will be no more than 1-2 days within the 24 day period and relating only to the removal of trees closest to the outer perimeters of the maunga. As operations progress away from each dwelling and around the maunga, the noise levels experienced by each receiver will reduce with distance.³⁰
- 5.18 Included as part of the methodology is that where practicable processing machinery achieves a minimum separation distance of 25m or more from any occupied residential dwelling. This is recommended by Mr Styles as condition of consent which is offered.
- 5.19 For all receivers likely to be exposed to noise levels above 75dB Mr Styles recommends including a condition of consent which is offered, requiring that the owners and occupants of neighbouring buildings within a minimum of 25m of a tree to be removed, shall be advised of the works in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of works.
- 5.20 For the two properties³¹ where the location of the trees is such that the noise levels will be over 85dBA L_{Aeq} , as recommended by Mr Styles, a condition will be included requiring that at least 5 days prior to the intended removal of trees, consultation with the occupants of these two dwellings be undertaken to determine whether it is practicable to schedule the removals for a time when the occupiers are not home.

Archaeological management and mitigation for tree removal

- 5.24 Figure 3³² prepared by archaeologist Mr Druskovich identifies areas where past earthworks (some substantial) and quarrying will have destroyed any archaeological evidence. Areas have been colour coded reflecting restrictions on machinery and methodology that can be used for tree removals, processing and access. The proposed methodology for the removal works and revegetation have been developed to avoid any impact on archaeology.
- 5.25 The majority of trees on the southern and south eastern slopes are within areas of dense archaeological significance and removed by cranes from HNZ properties. Cranes operating

²⁹ Styles, 2019

³⁰ Styles, page 9

³¹ Styles, page 11, 59C and 31 Roseman Avenue

³² Treescape, Page 7

within the maunga will remove the majority of trees on the lower western portions and higher northern slopes. While less intrusive methods will avoid ground disturbance and archaeological damage Mr Druskovich recommends prior to crane and processing site setups an archaeological assessment be undertaken and areas of archaeological evidence be cordoned off or track mats used.³³ To avoid damage to intact unrecorded archaeology should it be present, archaeological inspection of the HNZ sites and crane and associated mobile processing areas not on the road surfaces are offered as conditions of consent.

- 5.26 For trees adjacent to the summit road Mr Druskovich recommends, directional felling towards the road. For trees near the edge of the previously bulldozed area protection such as tyres or track mats will be laid. As the potential for subsurface in situ archaeological evidence exists on the slope above the Phoenix Palm trees, directional felling towards the north is proposed.

Ecological Mitigation

- 5.27 An ecological assessment by Te Ngahere attached as Appendix 10 concludes an overall positive ecological effect on existing ecological values based on the proposed tree felling processing and biosecurity methodology, restoration planting, and subject to the following which are included in the offered conditions of consent:

- continue the existing environmental weed management programme;
- continue the animal pest control and include additional animal pest control for rats and possums if tree removals occur outside of August, November, January or April;
- limit works to outside the main bird breeding August – January.

Revegetation and ecological works

- 5.28 The planting plan by Te Ngahere comprehensively shows and describes the proposed native revegetation.³⁴ Objectives of the planting are to:

- avoid damage to archaeology;
- re-establish historic defence sightlines from the tihi and reveal archaeological evidence;
- enhance the cultural landscape with opportunities for māra kai and rongoā;
- restore ecological function and habitat enhancement;
- enhance, protect and preserve the small amount of native fauna on the maunga; and
- promote CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design).

³³ Druskovich, Page 27

³⁴ Te Ngahere, Page 17, community gardens are not part of this application

- 5.29 To limit ground disturbance and corresponding impact on heritage features, ecological restoration opportunities are primarily in previously modified and quarried areas, on the western and northern portions of the maunga. Buffer planting will include species that provide for viewshafts to the tihi. Planting of selected tree stumps on the northern quarry face is proposed as an option avoiding ground disturbance.

Amenity planting

- 5.30 To mitigate the visual amenity effects of the removal of the allée of Phoenix palm trees along the lower north eastern slope, five specimen Titoki trees will be planted. Two clusters totalling nine Nikau, and two kowhia trees are proposed for beside the avenue.³⁵
- 5.31 Climbers for the amenity roadside plantings in front of the quarry face where necessary will be planted into logs as a preventative measure given past erosion. Small specimen native trees under-planted with low growing plants will replace weeds in the concrete circles on the lower grass slopes above the motorway on-ramp. Given the exposed nature of the tihi, the inside of the concrete circle will be planted with dry and wet tolerant low growing native vegetation.

Archaeological mitigation for the planting

- 5.32 An Archaeological Works Plan is proposed to address general archaeological monitoring, recording, and reporting. Archaeological monitoring is of the buffer and amenity tree plantings. A further restriction is to limit planting within 10m of the downslope end of the quarry face to those specified in Jones 2007 or Mairs 2019.

Earthworks for the planting

- 5.33 The majority of planting involves small plants, seedlings, stump planting, and apart from the larger specimen trees requires minimal disturbance. As earthworks depends on plant spacings and root size, it is difficult to calculate the exact sum, but adopting a conservative approach earthworks are estimated to involve approximately 76.96m² and 13.88m³. As soil will not be left exposed and there will be minimal soil disturbance, silt and sediment controls are not warranted.

Management Plans

- 5.34 To provide flexibility in undertaking tree removal and revegetation works, a comprehensive management plan forms part of the application. This incorporates final versions of mitigation measures included as part of the application and time sensitive documents more appropriately prepared closer to commencement of works e.g. Health and Safety Plan. A condition to this effect is included as part of the suite of offered conditions in section 10 of this AEE.

³⁵ Te Ngahere, 2019, page 12

6. CONSULTATION

Iwi consultation

- 6.1 The Authority uses Tamaki Collective notices to consult with the iwi/hapū who have interests in this Tūpuna Maunga³⁶. One response was received from Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua who expressed support for the proposal.

Housing New Zealand

- 6.2 Crane access will be provided from six Housing New Zealand properties to assist with tree removal. On behalf of Housing New Zealand, Shannon Richardson, Planning Manager Piritahi provided written approval which is attached in Appendix 3.

Watercare –Requiring Authority

- 6.3 A small portion of the works at the tihi is within a Watercare designation (refer to Aerial below). A Cherry tree will be removed and replaced with 100m² of amenity planting. On behalf of the requiring authority Andrew Deutsche, Operations Manager, Watercare Services Ltd has provided written approval, attached as Appendix 4.

Aerial showing overlay of Watercare Designation at the tihi



Source: Auckland Council Geomaps

³⁶ As set out in the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014, the iwi and hapū who have interests in Puketāpapa are: Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki; Ngāti Maru; Ngāti Tamaoho; Ngāti Tamaterā; Ngāti Te Ata; Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei; Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara; Te Ākitai Waiohua; Te Kawerau ā Maki; Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua

7. REASONS FOR THE APPLICATION

7.1 Appendix 2 is an assessment of the AUP rules relating to this activity. Resource consent is required under the AUP for the following reasons:

1. D17.4.2 (A23) Conservation planting is a discretionary activity within the scheduled historic heritage place (category A*). Conservation planting will occur over an area of 590m² with 72.46m² over which planting will physically occur.
2. D17.4.2 (A26) Removal of trees greater than 3m in height or greater than 300mm girth is a discretionary activity in the scheduled historic heritage place (category A*). All 140 trees to be removed within the SHHP are greater than 3m in height.
3. E12.4.2 (A30) Land disturbance not otherwise listed greater than 50m² is a restricted discretionary activity in the SHHP where additional archaeological controls apply. Land disturbance within the SHHP is limited to the revegetation planting and is calculated at 72.46m².
4. E12.4.2 (A32) Land disturbance not otherwise provided for greater than 5m³ up to 250m³ is a restricted discretionary activity in the SHHP. The specimen tree planting requiring 5.4m³ of earthworks does not meet the PA standards of E12.6.2, (17)³⁷ and is a restricted discretionary activity.
5. E12.4.3 (A40) Land disturbance not otherwise permitted greater than 10m³ and up to 50m³ is a restricted discretionary activity in ONF – V1 (large volcanic landform) subject to meeting the standards outlined in E12.6.2. Land disturbance of works of 13.88m³ is required for revegetation works.
6. E16.4.1 (A6) Tree trimming or alteration that does not comply with Standard E16.6.1. is a restricted discretionary activity in the open space zones. Consent is sought for the removal of one branch each from two Pohutukawa trees greater than 100mm at severance as a restricted discretionary activity.
7. E16.4.1 (A7) Tree removal of any tree greater than 4m in height or greater than 400mm in girth is a restricted discretionary activity in the open space zones. Consent is sought for the removal of all 160 exotic trees as a restricted discretionary activity.
8. E25.4 (A2) Construction noise levels exceeding 75dB LAeq for activities sensitive to noise is a restricted discretionary activity. In specific areas identified, machinery will exceed the construction noise limit by between 16dBA and 1dBA for very limited durations.

The application is overall a discretionary activity for the matters specified in the AUP.

³⁷ Earthworks/land disturbance for the planting of any tree within the Historic Heritage Overlay must not be undertaken where additional rules for archaeological sites or features apply as listed in Schedule 14 Historic Heritage Schedule, other than as a replacement for a pre-existing tree; and, within the area previously occupied by the root plate of the pre-existing tree.

8. NOTIFICATION ASSESSMENT

Public notification of consent application (section 95A)

- 8.1 Section 95A of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**) sets out the steps to determine whether to publicly notify an application for resource consent. There are four steps to be addressed:

Step 1	It is not mandatory to notify this application as the applicant is not requesting notification.
Step 2	This application is not for an activity precluded from notification.
Step 3	<p>This application must be publicly notified if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. the application is for a resource consent for 1 or more activities, and any of those activities is subject to a rule or national environmental standard that requires public notification; andii. the consent authority decides, in accordance with section 95D, that the activity will have or is likely to have adverse effects on the environment that are more than minor.iii. There is no rule or national environmental standard that requires public notification of this application. <p>Consideration of whether the adverse effects are likely to be more than minor is addressed below.</p>
Step 4	A determination of whether special circumstances exist in relation to the application that warrant the application being publicly notified is addressed below.

More than minor adverse effects on the environment (Section 95D)

Effects to be disregarded

- 8.2 When determining if the adverse effects of the activity on the environment are more than minor, the following must be disregarded:
- a) 'Adjacent' land, which is not defined by the RMA, but takes into account the characteristics of the landform and surrounding environs. It is located within an urban environment and is surrounded by a mix of motorway, road, and residential frontages. Due to the physical attributes of the maunga noting topography, open space and orientation, adjacent land is considered to be the properties at:

- South Western Motorway and on-ramp (north and north east)
- Dominion Road (north east)
- 1370S – 1404 Dominion Road (east)
- 3-13 & 4-8 Youth Street, 1153, 1157a Dominion Road, 1-4 Freeland Avenue, 1-4A, 3-13 & 8-12 Roseman Avenue, and 2, 4 & 4A Kallu Crescent (residential properties to the south)
- 14-36 & 15-39A Roseman Avenue, and 94, 96 & 75 Freeland Avenue (residential properties to the east)
- 43-59C, 44-48 Roseman, 38, 38A & 21 Kallu Crescent, and 1 & 6 Christie Street (residential properties to the northeast)

Permitted baseline and existing environment

- 8.3 The existing environment, against which the effects should be assessed, is described in section 4 of this AEE.
- 8.4 Of relevance to the permitted baseline, is that:
- removal of trees less than 3m high is permitted; and
 - under the construction noise standards up to 100 days (20 weeks) at a level of 75dB L_{Aeq} at any receiver is permitted. This noise standard forms the permitted baseline from which the noise based amenity effects are assessed.

Landscape effects

- 8.5 The landscape and visual effects assessment prepared by landscape architect Rebecca Skidmore identifies Puketāpapa is one of Auckland's smaller volcanic features. Notwithstanding, it is a relatively prominent landmark in the local urban landscape. The maunga has a strong association with and contributes to the identity of the surrounding neighbourhood.³⁸
- 8.6 As described by Ms Skidmore, exotic species are at odds with natural vegetation patterns. The dark form of the Himalayan Cedars dominate the volcanic feature, and formal planting of the Phoenix Palms on the lower northern flank contradict the natural landform and vegetation patterns.
- 8.7 Ms Skidmore considers the removal of the exotic vegetation will restore the integrity of the Maunga and enable its mana to be better recognised and uplifted.³⁹ Ms Skidmore also considers

³⁸ AUP, Appendix 20

³⁹ Skidmore, Page 10

retention of large native specimens on the flanks will reduce perceived scarring and maintain a vegetated aspect.

- 8.8 The amenity planting in the vicinity of the Phoenix Palms will make a positive contribution to the open space amenity, providing suitable mitigation without maturing to a scale that will obscure the volcanic landform.⁴⁰ Other mixed, low planting will assist with providing a transition of the maunga with the surrounding urban environs.
- 8.9 Ms Skidmore concludes that the exotic vegetation removal and enhancement planting will result in positive landscape effects.⁴¹

Visual amenity effects

- 8.10 As Puketāpapa is a prominent landmark in the local urban environment, the removal of exotic vegetation will be apparent from a range of locations. Ms Skidmore identified four viewing audiences. In her assessment she evaluated the degree of visual change and the effects of this change on each view audience. As these relate to effects on persons, they are discussed when assessing section 95B and Section 95E of the RMA.

Ecological effects

- 8.11 The ecological function of the exotic terrestrial habitats across the site and in the wider context is described in the Ecological Assessment prepared by Te Ngahere as overall not significant.⁴² The magnitude of ecological effects resulting from the removal of the exotic trees is assessed as being negligible to low.⁴³ Removal of 7 species (totalling 37 trees) identified in the Regional Pest Management Strategy (**RPMP**)⁴⁴ and native revegetation will have positive effects.
- 8.12 Subject to recommended avoidance, remediation or mitigation, overall there will be no adverse effects on the environment.

Archaeological (Heritage)

- 8.13 The HIA prepared by Mr Druskovich identifies that the heritage values of this place relate to history, archaeological evidence and landscape context. As stated by Mr Druskovich, the historical values will not be affected.⁴⁵ Effects relating to landscape have been addressed by Ms Skidmore and concluded to be positive or very low adverse. The focus of Mr Druskovich's assessment is the archaeological effects of the tree removal and the planting. For completeness, while Puketāpapa has also been listed for its Mana Whenua values (Place of Maori interest or Significance), the focus of the HIA is on archaeological values of the place. As outlined in section 6 above, the iwi that responded expressed support for the proposal and the works are giving effect to the IMP.

⁴⁰ Skidmore, Page 8

⁴¹ Skidmore, Page 8

⁴² Te Ngahere, Page 19

⁴³ Te Ngahere, Table 4, Page 21/22

⁴⁴ Te Ngahere, Page 16

⁴⁵ Druskovich, Page 33

- 8.14 A Tree removal methodology has been developed to avoid and minimise impact on archaeological features or unknown subsurface evidence should it be present with the majority of trees to be removed by Crane assisted dismantling. Archaeological inspection of unsealed crane and processing locations will guide methodology to protect the fabric of archaeological features from damage if present.⁴⁶ Manual tree removals involving use of the ground for lowering tree sections, machinery or access will be assessed by the archaeologist and the use of tyres or crash mats will be laid to prevent accidental damage and avoid adverse effects on archaeology.⁴⁷
- 8.15 The works methodology has been developed to avoid any ground disturbance where archaeological features are present or could exist. Nonetheless, the potential for archaeology to be encountered and damaged while low does exist and as outlined in Section 5 above, if unrecorded evidence related to early Māori occupation is encountered, appropriate Council Accidental Discovery protocol will be followed.
- 8.16 Earthworks are limited to those required for revegetation. The location of revegetation have been informed by the archaeologist to generally avoid areas of previously identified archaeological features, or to inform planting and in the majority of cases there are no archaeological constraints. Specific areas requiring archaeological monitoring are included as consent conditions.
- 8.17 On this basis, it reasonable to conclude that the tree removal and replanting works will have no more than minor adverse effects on the archaeology.

Mana Whenua values

- 8.18 The proposal implements directions in the IMP and Operational Plan, documents that have been developed with input from Mana Whenua. In addition, Mana Whenua were provided details of this project and the response received is positive. While it is for Mana Whenua to determine effects on their values, it is reasonable to conclude that there is no adverse effect on their values.

Earthworks and ground stability

- 8.19 The earthworks are for the planting. Effects usually associated with earthworks, such as sediment or erosion are therefore not relevant. Stumps will generally be retained on steep slopes to reduce the impact of soil erosion and potential ground instability.
- 8.20 Effects of earthworks within an ONF are discussed below.

Outstanding natural feature effects

- 8.21 There is no adverse effect on the geological values of Puketāpapa as the method of tree removal avoids ground disturbance and earthworks is limited to shallow planting within previously modified areas. Specimen tree planting involving deeper excavation is in the previously modified north eastern corner. Once planting is undertaken the landform will appear unchanged.

⁴⁶ Druskovich, page 34

⁴⁷ Druskovich, Page 27

- 8.22 Existing mature and dense exotic vegetation on flanks of the maunga obscures the natural landform. Some trees dominate or are at odds with the volcanic feature.⁴⁸ The removal of exotic trees and replanting of native species will enhance the natural landscape values. The works will also restore the integrity of the maunga and enable its mana to be better acknowledged and recognised. Overall, the proposal will result in positive landscape effects⁴⁹.

Noise effects

- 8.23 Effects of noise on fauna are discussed in the ecological assessment and concluded to be less than minor. Effects on persons are discussed when assessing section 95B and Section 95E of the RMA.

Traffic management during tree removal works

- 8.24 Trucks entering and leaving the site during the day will use the existing vehicle access located at the north eastern edge of the site. Small trucks will frequent HNZ properties along Roseman Road. The increase in traffic will result in no more than minor adverse effects as the trucks are small and consistent with the size of trucks commonly used for construction, maintenance works and earthworks for open space and residential areas. Where possible trucks will manoeuvre within the processing areas to avoid reversing onto the road.
- 8.25 The contractor will provide a detailed plan showing processes/ procedures to ensure appropriate traffic management systems are used to ensure work processes meet all legislative requirements for temporary traffic control.⁵⁰
- 8.26 Apart from pockets directly to the west and southwest along Roseman Avenue adjoining the maunga, generally the works are afforded generous separation to residential properties by roads, open space, topography and fencing. Any increase in traffic will be insignificant and easily absorbed into the surrounding road network.
- 8.27 Overall, any effects arising from traffic are considered negligible and temporary in nature being limited to the duration of works.

Public access during tree removal works

- 8.28 The tree removal works require parts of the reserve to be closed to the public. There may be some minor inconvenience to regular park users during the works, in particular those who use the walkway that traverses the northern slope. Where health and safety for contractors and public can be assured, public access can be maintained and it is anticipated that any disruption to pedestrians will be low level, minimal and limited to duration of works.
- 8.29 Disruption to the public will be minimised by implementation of a comprehensive communications plan to inform local community and nearby residents of the works with information on temporary closure of certain areas.

⁴⁸ Skidmore, Page 8

⁴⁹ Skidmore, Page 14

⁵⁰ Treescape, Appendix B: Recommended Operational Management Requirements: Traffic Management Plan.

Step 4 - special circumstances (sections 95A and 95B)

8.30 In this case, the proposal comprises restricted discretionary and discretionary activities and therefore activities envisaged by the AUP, and the individual components of the proposal are not unusual or collectively special. Removal of trees and planting within public open space zoned land and the urban environment are not unusual and as such it is considered that there are no special circumstances that would warrant the public notification or limited notification of this application.

Limited notification and affected persons (sections 95B and 95E)

8.31 Section 95B sets out the process for determining limited notification. Section 95E sets out the considerations for defining if a person is an affected person.

8.32 With respect to sections 95B(2) and (3), protected customary rights groups and statutory acknowledgements are not affected.

8.33 Limited notification is not required under section 94B(6) as the application is not subject to a rule or national standard that requires limited notification and nor is the application a controlled activity.

8.34 With respect to section 95B(7), the reasons for consent are not boundary activities. A wider consideration of persons affected by the activity, in accordance with section 95E, is therefore required.

8.34 As the application is overall discretionary, all effects on persons must be considered. Where a person has provided written approval, section 95(3)(a) deems that they are not then an affected person. In this case, given the minor nature of the works, limited duration and that there are no adverse effects, no persons are considered to be adversely affected to the extent that their written approval would be required.

8.35 Clause C1.13(4) of the AUP requires that when deciding whether any person is affected in relation to an activity for the purposes of section 95E of the Resource Management Act 1991, the consent authority will give specific consideration to the entities with responsibility for any natural or physical resources which may be affected by the activity, including:

(b) in relation to historic heritage, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga;

(e) in relation to sites of significance or value to Mana Whenua⁵¹, the iwi authority in whose rohe the proposal is located.

As the historic heritage values relate solely to archaeological features, an Archaeological Authority to modify will be sought if required. As detailed above in Section 6 feedback was sought from the relevant iwi groups. The one response received expressed support for the proposal with

⁵¹ AUP Schedule 14.1 Schedule of Historic Heritage ID 113, Mt Roskill volcano (Puketāpapa) identified as a place of Māori interest or significance.

no assessment on cultural values or on-going involvement considered necessary. It is reasonable to conclude that there is no adverse effect on Mana Whenua.

Street network users

- 8.36 Representative views are primarily from the local street network with glimpses from limited elevated locations in the wider environment. For those using local streets views are transient and obtained between dwellings with vegetation in the foreground. Removal of large dense exotic trees will improve visual connection with the maunga. This is with the exception of views from the east which due to technical constraints trees on the south-eastern flanks are being retained at this time.
- 8.37 From wider views, including Viewshaft R02 (AUP) and the Mt Roskill shopping centre, the exotic vegetation obscures the underlying volcanic landform. From elevated views to the south the maunga rises above the foreground of the suburban landscape. As described by Ms Skidmore, removal of the exotic vegetation will better reveal the profile of the volcanic landform enhancing its distinctive contrast and feature in the suburban environment.
- 8.38 Views are fleeting from SH20, however this high speed environment is identified in Viewshaft R01. Ms Skidmore concludes that the proposal will allow for a better appreciation of the maunga particularly for those travelling from the east along SH20.
- 8.39 Ms Skidmore concludes that the visual change from the works will be high from a number of locations in the surrounding street network with effects ranging from very low adverse to positive.

Users of the open space network

- 8.40 The maunga is not highly visible from many locations within the wider open space network with views limited to glimpses of the maunga including its attendant vegetation from local parks where it is seen in the context of the other vegetation and residential development. The magnitude of visual change will be low to moderate, and as with other locations, the proposal will allow for the landform to be better revealed enhancing its landmark function with a positive resulting change.⁵²

Visitors to the Tūpuna Maunga

- 8.41 The majority of visitors enter the maunga from the vehicular entry off Dominion Road. As this entrance is marked by large mature native trees and revegetation is proposed for this area, a strong vegetative quality will be maintained. Removal of trees along the entrance and the Phoenix Palms will be apparent for visitors arriving but a strong vegetative quality will be maintained. Over time proposed amenity planting will provide effective visual mitigation. A more open environment for those travelling up the maunga will enhance opportunities to view the wider landscape including visual connections to other maunga.

⁵² Skidmore, Page 11

8.42 Any temporary closure of parts of the park will be communicated in advance. The need to close parts of a park for operational or maintenance works is not an uncommon occurrence. There may be some minor inconvenience to regular park users during the works, in particular those who use the shared cycle/walkway along the lower northern slope. Where health and safety for contractors and public can be assured, public access can be maintained. It is anticipated that any disruption to pedestrians will be low level, minimal and limited to the duration of works.

Residents and users of the surrounding residential, commercial and community-use properties

8.43 The majority of surrounding properties to the south, west and east are residential, as are those on the northern side of SH20. For immediately adjoining residential properties, removal of trees will improve outlook and visual connection with Puketāpapa. This will be particularly so for 55 and 59C Roseman Avenue as large exotic trees are located in close proximity to and overhang their boundaries. For residential properties to the west there will be a considerable visual change resulting in an improved appreciation of the maunga. Overall for these properties, visual effects will be positive.

8.44 Occupiers of the elevated residential properties immediately to the north of SH20 and street users as described by Ms Skidmore, will readily perceive the resulting change from vegetation removal. Retention of native trees and replanting better complementing natural and cultural values of the maunga will provide for enhanced appreciation of the volcanic cone.⁵³ Visual effects for this audience will be positive.

8.45 Although a considerable distance from the maunga, glimpses are available from the education hub to the northeast. Industrial and commercial activities (situated along Stoddard and Carr Roads, and around the Dominion and Albert Road intersection) have a transient population less sensitive to change. As with other viewing locations, the visual change will be low to moderate. Removal of the attendant vegetation will result in an approved appreciation of the maunga and visual effects on these audiences will be positive.

8.46 Both positive and adverse visual effects have been identified by Ms Skidmore in assessing the magnitude of visual change. The magnitude of visual change experienced may be high as the tree removals particularly initially will be apparent, in the majority of instances visual effects are at worst very low adverse initially⁵⁴, through to primarily positive visual effects at the end of the project.

8.47 Short term effects relating to the introduction of machinery are anticipated, particularly for a small number of immediate neighbours. Visually, given the scale of the works and elements relative to that of the Maunga, any adverse visual effects will be low level and limited in duration. For some the operation may be of interest with no negative effects.

8.48 In terms of noise effects, the use of the chainsaw and chipper close to residential buildings will infringe the permitted noise levels for generally short durations over the total 24 day period of

⁵³ Skidmore, Page 12

⁵⁴ Skidmore, Page 13

works. This is specifically the case in relation to two receivers where trees are located closer than 25m to residential dwellings.⁵⁵

- 8.49 Mr Styles confirms that although the noise from the proposed machinery exceeds the permitted noise levels by a maximum of 16dBA, the receivers will only be exposed for a very short period and overall consider that the noise levels arising from the works will be reasonable at all receivers.⁵⁶ Notwithstanding, opportunities may exist to avoid some of the adverse effects in the two closest dwellings at 59C and 31 Roseman Avenue. A condition is offered requiring consultation with the occupants of the two dwellings to determine whether it is practicable to undertake the works while they are not home. While this will avoid exposure to the highest noise levels, Mr Styles concludes that even if the dwellings are occupied noise levels will remain reasonable.
- 8.50 As described by Mr Styles, the duration of the 24 day project that will generate noise levels over 75dBA are likely to be no greater than 1-2 days at any one receiver, with noise levels between 50-75dBA at other areas of the site for the remaining days. In the opinion of Mr Styles, this constitutes a considerably lower degree of overall effect than what is permitted by the AUP, being up to five times the project duration (100 days or 20 weeks) at a level of 75dB L_{Aeq} at any receiver.⁵⁷
- 8.51 I concur with the opinion of Mr Styles⁵⁸, that subject to methodology including locating processing equipment a minimum of 25m from the façade of occupied residential dwelling, and where this cannot be avoided advising all owners and occupiers of all neighbouring buildings within 25m of the tree removal(s) in writing at least (10) days prior to the commencement of works, the effects of noise levels on nearby persons will be reasonable.
- 8.52 As outlined in the attached draft Communications Plan, all audiences, including nearby residents, will be provided with accurate information of the scope of the proposed works. Nearby residents will be provided information on temporary closure of certain areas and proposed works in advance of the tree removal works. Consultation shall take place at least ten days before commencement of works and shall set out a brief overview of the works, including its expected duration, mitigation measures, availability of monitoring where concerns are raised, and a contact phone number for any concerns regarding noise.
- 8.53 Based on the above assessment, no persons are considered to be affected beyond the less than minor threshold provided for in the RMA.

Notification conclusion

- 8.53 That this application be processed without public or limited notification because:
- there are less than minor adverse effects of the activity on the environment;

⁵⁵ Styles, 2019, Page 11

⁵⁶ Styles, page 10

⁵⁷ Styles, 2019, Page 10

⁵⁸ Styles, Page 12

- there are no special circumstances to warrant notification or limited notification;
- there are no protected customary rights groups or marine title groups in the region adversely affected by this proposal; and
- no persons are adversely affected by the activity.

9. SECTION 104 ASSESSMENT

Statutory matters

- 9.1 Subject to Part 2 of the RMA, when considering an application for resource consent and any submissions received the consent authority must, in accordance with section 104(1) of the RMA have regard to; any actual and potential effects on the environment of allowing the activity; any relevant provisions of a national policy statement, a New Zealand coastal policy statement; and a regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement; a plan or proposed plan; and any other matter the Council considers relevant and reasonably necessary to determine the application.
- 9.2 When considering discretionary activities, the consent authority must consider all adverse effects. Those matters that are relevant to the assessment of this application are considered in the following sections of this AEE.

Actual and potential effects on the environment - section 104(1)(a) and (ab)

- 9.3 An assessment of adverse effects has been set out at section 8 of this AEE where it was concluded that parts of the activity would have less than minor adverse effects on the environment.
- 9.4 Significant positive effects will result from the activity and these include:

Ecological

- removal of 37 trees which are classified as environmental weed species with an RPMP status on Puketāpapa, reduce competition with native plants and reduce seed source of RPMP weed species;⁵⁹
- revegetation will increase diversity and connectedness of native plant habitat and a native seed source for the surrounding area values, and have positive effects on the fauna values at the site;⁶⁰

⁵⁹ Te Ngahere, Assessment of Ecological Effects, Page 16

⁶⁰ Te Ngahere, Assessment of Ecological Effects, Page 19

- the proposed native planting of over 8991 species will increase the habitat availability for native fauna including birds and invertebrates including low open habitat preferred by some species of invertebrates (such as native butterflies) and skinks;⁶¹
- introducing wider range of native plant species will increase phenology diversity (fruiting and flowering seasons);⁶²
- providing more weed management and animal pest control throughout wider site will restore and enhance habitat, enabling a better growing environment for native species;⁶³ and
- the pest control programme will reduce predation pressure on native birds, chicks and eggs.

Landscape and visual amenity

- improve visual amenity of the volcanic cone when viewed from the two protected viewshafts;⁶⁴
- enhance amenity for those visiting the Maunga and viewing it from surrounding locations;⁶⁵ and
- further contribute to enhancing the natural landscape aesthetics and generating positive landscape effects.

Archaeological

- visible archaeological features will be more readily identifiable and viewed, as large dense canopies will be removed that tend to conceal and confuse opportunities for visual appreciation of the landscape;⁶⁶
- views from the pa in the contextual landscape will be better visible providing opportunities for its relationship to the land and other maunga to be appreciated⁶⁷;
- historic heritage values of the Tūpuna Maunga will be protected through long-term preservation of Puketāpapa, by removing trees that are getting towards the end of their natural life and susceptible to failure or natural weather events that may tear the rootplate from the ground;⁶⁸

⁶¹ Te Ngahere, Assessment of Ecological Effects. Page 19

⁶² Te Ngahere, Assessment of Ecological Effects. Page 19

⁶³ Te Ngahere, Assessment of Ecological Effects. Page 23

⁶⁴ Skidmore, page 14

⁶⁵ Te Ngahere, Planting Plan, page 6

⁶⁶ Druskovich, Page 34 & 35

⁶⁷ Druskovich, Page 35

⁶⁸ Druskovich, page 35

- removing trees without causing any physical impact, except in locations where earlier earthworks have already modified the form and archaeological features;⁶⁹
- potential to impact surface features or sub-surface material whether identified or unrecorded will be avoided and the fabric of archaeological features will be protected from damage;⁷⁰ and
- proposed plantings have been designed to remedy erosion issues currently evident along the road to the tihī assisting with protection and conservation.⁷¹

Cultural

contributing to the cultural restoration and healing of the Tūpuna Maunga through implementation of policies in the IMP.

- 9.5 Overall, the proposal will result in continued public enjoyment and appreciation of the heritage, natural and Māori values of the Tūpuna Maunga.

Planning documents – section 104(1)(b)(vi)

Introduction

- 9.6 There are no appeals to the AUP that trigger consent under the operative planning documents. The focus of this assessment is therefore on the AUP. The many overlays applying to the land seek similar outcomes – primarily the protection of the feature from use and development. As a discretionary activity overall, the objectives and policies form the basis for the assessment. Assessment criteria relevant to restricted discretionary activities are addressed only where the criteria raise matters not otherwise addressed in the objectives and policies.

Open Space zones (Chapter H7)

- 9.7 There are two broad objectives applying to all open space zones⁷². These relate to the provision of a range of quality open spaces and that adverse effects of the use and development of open space on residents, communities and the environment are avoided, remedied or mitigated. This proposal supports the continued provision of quality open space within Puketāpapa through the enhancement of the vegetative aesthetic and landscape amenity. For reasons detailed in section 8, while there are adverse effects on the environment from this activity, these effects are no more than minor, and primarily potential effects, risk of which can be avoided or mitigated by methodologies.

⁶⁹ Druskovich, Page 34

⁷⁰ Druskovich, Page 35

⁷¹ Te Ngahere, Planting Plan, page 10

⁷² Objectives H7.2 (1) & (2)

- 9.8 General policies to give effect to the open space objectives are set out at H7.3 and the activity is consistent with these as:
- The proposal reflects the natural, heritage and landscape values of the area;⁷³
 - Open space is developed in such a way to reflect Mana Whenua values⁷⁴ specifically through restoring and enhancing ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity;⁷⁵
 - Opportunities for residents and visitors to experience Māori cultural heritage are provided, while protecting these sites and features⁷⁶ through mitigation for erosion and facilitating legibility of a heritage landscape.
- 9.9 Specific objectives and policies for Open Space Conservation zones are set out at H7.4.2 and H7.4.3. Relevant to this application, the activity is consistent with this framework as the natural, ecological, landscape, Mana Whenua, historic heritage and conservation values are protected from adverse effects⁷⁷. Use of the open space is managed in a way that enhances Mana Whenua values and re-establishes their relationship and their culture and traditions to their ancestral lands, sites and taonga⁷⁸.

Treaty Settlement Land (Chapter E21)

- 9.10 The Tūpuna Maunga fall within the AUP definition of Treaty Settlement land. As a discretionary activity, the objectives and policies in Chapter E21 can be considered as part of the assessment of this application. These provisions recognise the importance of the relationship of Mana Whenua with land acquired through the Treaty settlement process, and the desire of Mana Whenua to re-establish ahi kā on lands within their ancestral rohe.⁷⁹
- 9.11 Objective E21.2(4) is particularly relevant to this application.
- Mana Whenua use and develop Treaty settlement land in areas where there are natural and physical resources that have been scheduled in the Plan in relation to natural heritage, Mana Whenua, natural resources, coastal environment, historic heritage and special character, provided that adverse effects on those values are avoided, remedied or mitigated.*
- 9.12 Removal of exotic species, native revegetation on the Tūpuna Maunga and improving sightlines of the tihi are key strategies in the IMP to enhance ecological values and respect the sacredness of the tihi. For reasons detailed earlier, the effects of the works are primarily positive rather than adverse. Where there is the potential for adverse effects on natural resources and historic heritage, these have been avoided or mitigated by the methodologies included in the scope of the application.

⁷³ H7.7(1)(f)

⁷⁴ H7.3(2)

⁷⁵ H7.3(2)(a)

⁷⁶ H7.3(2)(c)

⁷⁷ H7.4.2(1) & (2)

⁷⁸ H7.4.3(1), (2) & (3)

⁷⁹ E21.1 Background

Conservation planting, tree removal and earthworks in an archaeological site (chapter D17)

- 9.13 Objectives and policies for scheduled historic heritage places (**SHHP**) are at Chapter D17. In the context of what is proposed, the proposal is consistent with the objectives and policies for the reasons that:
- the protection and conservation of the scheduled historic heritage place is supported and enabled;⁸⁰
 - the SHHP is protected from inappropriate use, including inappropriate modification;⁸¹
 - the activity will not result in any adverse effects on the significance of the historic, knowledge (archaeological) and context values of the place;⁸² and
 - the proposal will contribute to the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the historic heritage values of the place, particularly as it will reveal the natural landform of the maunga and supports the long-term viability and ongoing use of the place without leading to significant adverse effects on the surrounding area⁸³.
- 9.14 Special Information Requirements are outlined at D17.9 and requires that works affecting scheduled historic heritage places must be accompanied by a heritage impact assessment commensurate to the effects of the proposed works on the overall significance of a historic heritage place and taking into account whether the works affect a primary, non-primary, non-contributing or excluded site or feature.
- 9.15 In his assessment Mr Druskovich outlines at 8.1 and 8.2 the historic heritage value and corresponding assessment of effects. There are no historic heritage values relating to the trees to be removed and the works methodology, and management of processing outside previously earthworks areas, will avoid impacts to surface features and sub-surface archaeological material. Earthworks is limited to the revegetation. The conservation plantings are within areas where the mountain has already been modified by earthworks or if present has already been compromised and damaged.⁸⁴ Archaeological monitoring and definition of planting where necessary will avoid effects on archaeology.⁸⁵
- 9.16 Assessment criterion at D17.8.2 (d) requires consideration of whether the proposed works, including those of a cumulative nature, will result in adverse effects on the overall significance of the scheduling to such an extent that it no longer meets the thresholds for which it was scheduled. As the proposal enhances the values for which Puketāpapa was scheduled, the works are consistent with this criterion.

⁸⁰ Objective D17.2(1)

⁸¹ Objective D17.2(2)

⁸² Policy D17.3 (9)(a)

⁸³ Policy 17.3(b), (c) & (e) and 17(9)(a), (c), (e) & (f)

⁸⁴ Druskovich, page 36

⁸⁵ Druskovich, page 29

- 9.17 Restricted discretionary activity criteria for earthworks in the SHHP is contained at Chapter E12. Land disturbance. The small nature of the earthworks is consistent with the criteria as it has been designed to be located on previously modified land and to provide for the maintenance and protection of the historic heritage.⁸⁶

Land disturbance in an Outstanding Natural Feature, (Chapter D10)

- 9.18 Objectives and policies in Chapter E12 Land disturbance are focused on ensuring, where land modification is necessary, that it protects the safety of people and avoids, remedies and mitigates adverse effects on the environment. Policy 12.3(1) is particularly relevant to this application as it is about avoiding where practicable, and otherwise, mitigating adverse effects of land disturbance on scheduled places e.g. natural heritage, and Mana Whenua. Policy 12.3(4) which seeks to manage the impact on Mana Whenua cultural heritage that may be discovered during land disturbance through protocols including accidental discovery and undertaking specific measures to avoid adverse effects⁸⁷ are also of relevance and have been discussed above.
- 9.19 As the trigger for earthworks is in the ONF it is appropriate to consider the objectives and policies contained in D10. Objective D10.2 requires that ancestral relationships of Mana Whenua with ONF's are recognised and provided for. Policies including the protection of the physical and visual integrity and avoidance of adverse effects on the qualities that contribute to the values of the ONF⁸⁸ are relevant. Specific mention to volcanic cones in protecting the integrity of ONF is made at D10.3(3), including avoiding adverse effects on the natural characteristics, qualities and Mana Whenua. Protecting the value of the ONF in its wider historic heritage, cultural, landscape, natural character and amenity context is also outlined.⁸⁹
- 9.20 Restricted discretionary activity assessment criteria for earthworks is set out at E12.8.2(2)(d) for the ONF. General restricted discretionary assessment criteria including for earthworks is listed at E12.8.1. The matters of discretion are largely effects based and have therefore been addressed in section 8 where it was concluded that effects would be less than minor. Suffice to note that:
- earthworks will comply with the standards and managing and monitoring will be undertaken where necessary to ensure the sensitivity of the maunga is protected;
 - there will be no impact on the stability/safety of the surrounding area as the earthworks are minor in nature, shallow, and occur within areas of the site already modified;
 - given the minor nature of the earthworks no stockpiling is anticipated;
 - the duration of the earthworks is expected to be less than two months; and

⁸⁶ E12.8.2 (b)(i)

⁸⁷ Policy E12.3(4)(a) and (c)

⁸⁸ Policy D10.3(2)

⁸⁹ Policy D10.3(4)(a)

- land disturbance cannot be avoided as it is necessary to undertake revegetation and protect and enhance the identified archaeological, natural and ecological values of the maunga.

Tree Works and Removal in Open Space zones and Scheduled Historic Heritage Place (Chapters E16 and D17)

- 9.21 The trigger for tree removals relates to the SHHP (where additional archaeological controls apply), and the open space zone. The objectives and policies relating to the SHHP are discussed above. Given the nature of the tree works, limited to exotic species and native revegetation offered with only insignificant potential adverse effects, the proposal is considered consistent with the objective and policy framework outlined in E16 as trees that contribute to cultural, amenity, landscape and ecological values are protected⁹⁰ and the use of indigenous trees and vegetation for planting to recognise and reflect these values is encouraged⁹¹.
- 9.22 Assessment criteria for restricted discretionary activities for trees in open space zones is outlined at E16.8.2. Being largely effects based and relating to vegetative, ecological, and habitat values of trees, the criteria has been addressed in Section 8. For completeness, in response to the criteria, the following comments are made:
- no alternatives are available that could result in retaining the trees as the work is necessary to remove exotic trees from the tupuna maunga;⁹²
 - methods to control plant pathogens and diseases will be in place for the safe disposal of plant material;⁹³
 - the need for direction and supervision of the works by a project arborist has been identified to avoid adverse effects on native trees to be retained and forms part of the methodology;
 - a planting plan has been prepared to address the effects of the tree removals on ecological values; and
 - the activity is consistent with the framework of E20 in that it contributes to and encourages, the long-term viability and/or ongoing functional use of the Tūpuna Maunga, facilitating development in accordance with mātauranga and tikanga to support the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of Mana Whenua thus providing for tikanga values.

⁹⁰ Objective E16.2(1)

⁹¹ Policy E16.3(3)

⁹² E16.8.2(d)

⁹³ Te Ngahere, Ecological assessment of effects, pages 15 & 20

Noise (Chapter E25)

- 9.23 Objectives and Policies for noise are contained at E25. Given the minor nature of the infringement to the noise standards, the proposal is considered to be consistent with the objective and policy framework relating to noise.
- 9.24 The practicability of complying with permitted noise standards is a significant factor in this application. As outlined by Mr Styles the majority of the proposed tree removals will be undertaken in accordance with the permitted activity noise limits⁹⁴ provided equipment achieves a separation distance of 25m or more from any occupied dwelling. However, for a small number of trees located closer than 25m of occupied dwellings, this methodology cannot be adopted. Primary mitigation includes advising neighbours of the works, including information on duration and a contact person's details. Whilst if possible the contractor should endeavour to undertake these works when the house is unoccupied, if this is not feasible the noise effects on receivers will remain reasonable. If the dwellings are unoccupied there would be no effects. Where practicable, the noise has been minimised to mitigate adverse effects on the adjacent sites⁹⁵ thereby having regard to the sensitivity of the residential receiving environment⁹⁶.
- 9.25 Based on the assessment of Mr Styles, people and the amenity values of residential zones will be protected from unreasonable noise⁹⁷ and the adverse effects of the works unable to meet the permitted construction noise levels are managed by the short durations and timing⁹⁸.

Macroinvertebrate Index

- 9.26 The Macroinvertebrate Urban Index applies to the site. This requires consideration of the objectives and policies as outlined at E1.2 where the proposal may have ecological effects. Objectives seek to maintain and improve the quality of fresh and coastal water. Managing discharge and other indicators of water quality and ecosystem health by appropriate use and development will assist with achieving the desired outcomes. It is considered that the works as they relate to water quality are relevant insofar as there will be no ground disturbance relating to the tree removal. Additional planting, in particular ground cover and weed control will assist with filtration and minimise run-off of sediment. No new paved surface is proposed. The proposal is therefore consistent with the objectives and policies.

Section 104(1)(c) Other matters

- 9.27 The IMP is a statutory document that replaces Reserve Management Plans. For reasons detailed above the proposal is consistent with the IMP, and considerable weight should be given to achieving the outcomes of this document as another matter under section 104(1)(c) of the RMA.

⁹⁴ Styles, Page 12

⁹⁵ Policy E25.3(2)

⁹⁶ Policy E25.3(10)

⁹⁷ Objective E25.2(1) & (2)

⁹⁸ Objective E25.2(4)

9.28 Puketāpapa is also subject to the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977. Section 53(1)(d) allows the administering body of a recreation reserve to close the reserve for a maximum of 40 days as follows:

(1) The administering body of a recreation reserve may from time to time, in the exercise of its functions under section 40 and to the extent necessary to give effect to the principles set out in section 17,—

(d) prescribe, as to not more than 40 days in any year as it thinks fit, that the public shall not be entitled to have admission to the reserve or to any part or parts thereof set apart for a particular purpose or purposes unless on payment of a charge or charges as hereinafter mentioned.

9.29 Duration of the works is 24 days. As outlined above in Section 5, where practicable public access to the Tupuna Maunga will be maintained. This will largely depend on health and safety requirements. Given the short duration of the works, the proposal will not be contrary to the Reserve Act provisions.

Part 2 of the RMA

9.30 Recent case law confirms⁹⁹ and with a recently operative planning document, there is no need to refer to Part 2 of the RMA.

9.31 Notwithstanding, and in support of the proposal, this activity enables continued public enjoyment and appreciation of the heritage, natural and Māori values of the Tūpuna Maunga. The proposal will assist with protecting and maintaining visibility and understanding of the natural and heritage features of the place through enhanced legibility of the feature and planting.¹⁰⁰ The Authority, who through Treaty settlement, is responsible for governance and administration of the land seeks to enable the relationship of the iwi and hāpu with its whenua and exercise kaitiakitanga.¹⁰¹ The proposal gives effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi by enabling iwi and hāpu, through the Authority, to give careful consideration to management of their ancestral land.¹⁰²

⁹⁹ R J Davidson Family Trust V Marlborough District Council [2018] NZCA 316 [21 August 2018]

¹⁰⁰ Part 2, section 6

¹⁰¹ Part 2, section 7(a)

¹⁰² Part 2, section 8

10. OFFERED CONDITIONS

- 10.1 Specialists have included recommendations to inform specific elements of the works. These recommendations are included in the offered condition below with modification where necessary to meet Section 108 requirements.

Pre-commencement Conditions

Pre-Commencement Meeting with Compliance and Monitoring Staff

1. Prior to the commencement of tree removals, the consent holder shall provide notice of the pre-commencement meeting that:
 - (i) is located on the subject site;
 - (ii) is scheduled not less than 5 days before the anticipated commencement of tree removals;
 - (iii) Compliance Advisor and relevant other specialists (e.g. Ecologist/ Archaeologist) at the Council's discretion are invited;
 - (iv) includes the Project Manager and supervising Archaeologist; and
 - (v) includes representation from the contractors who will undertake the works.
2. The following information shall be made available at the pre-commencement meeting:
 - (i) Finalised Communications Plan including copies of letters to residents;
 - (ii) Finalised Planting Plan;
 - (iii) Finalised Traffic Management Plan;
 - (iv) Finalised Health and Safety Plan;
 - (v) Archaeological Works Plan.

Finalised Management Plans to be provided

3. A minimum of 5 working days prior to the commencement of the vegetation removal approved by this resource consent, the consent holder shall submit to the Council (Monitoring Team Leader Central) for approval in writing, final versions of the following management plans:
 - (i) Finalised Communications Plan;
 - (ii) Planting Plan;
 - (iii) Finalised Traffic Management Plan;
 - (iv) Health and Safety Plan; and
 - (v) Archaeological Works Plan addressing monitoring, recording, and reporting for tree removals and planting.

Development in Progress Conditions

Implementation of Management Plans

4. No vegetation removal approved by this resource consent shall commence until written confirmation is provided by the council that all of the submitted final management plans are acceptable and that all measures identified in these plans, as necessary to be put in place prior to commencement of works, have been undertaken.
5. The consent holder shall ensure that all the actions within the Planting plan approved under the conditions of this consent are undertaken as proposed and submit a written record to the Council (Monitoring Team Leader Central) confirming compliance within 15 days of the completion of the work identified within the Planting plan.

Use of processing equipment

6. The Communications Plan shall require that owners and occupants of all neighbouring buildings within a minimum of 25m of tree removal(s) shall be advised of the works in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the commencement of works on site. Written advice shall include:
 - (i) a brief overview of the construction works and its expected duration;
 - (ii) mitigation measures to be implemented;
 - (iii) working hours; and
 - (iv) contact phone number(s) for any concerns regarding noise.
7. In addition to condition 6, at least 5 days prior to the intended removal of trees 135 – 138 adjacent to 59C Roseman Avenue, and trees 99 – 111 adjacent to 31 Roseman Avenue, the contractor shall consult with the occupiers of the dwellings in an effort to schedule the tree removals at a time when the occupiers are not at home, where this can be accommodated within the overall programme schedule.
8. Any processing equipment shall be a minimum of 25m from the façade of any occupied residential dwelling.

Ecology

10. All vegetation shall be removed outside of bird breeding season (September to January inclusive), except where a suitably qualified ecologist has confirmed that woody vegetation is clear of nesting native birds, eggs, or chicks.
18. The finalised Planting Plan shall be prepared by a suitably qualified ecologist and provided to Auckland Council for approval prior to tree felling, for all restoration areas within the site. The final Planting Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (i) Plant species, spacing, planting zones (if required), plant numbers and specification on plant size as described in this assessment report;

- (ii) Planting methodology, including any staging (required for the effective control of weeds prior to planting, and enhancement species to be used for infill planting once initial planting has established) in order to promote a WF7 rock forest habitat type;
 - (iii) Plant maintenance and weed management until canopy closure (minimum of five years); and
 - (iv) Monitoring and reporting.
19. Continue the existing environmental weed control programme currently undertaken.
20. Continue the Animal pest control throughout the site and including:
- (i) Rabbit control on as need basis (one night shoot and fumigation);
 - (ii) Possum control using tree-mounted timms traps as services by contractors (August, November, April and June);
 - (iii) Rat control as undertaken by contractors; and
 - (iv) Additional animal pest control for rats and possums if tree removal occurs outside the months of August, November, January or April.

Historic Heritage (archaeology)

14. Should ground disturbance on the site result in the identification of any previously unknown archaeological site, the land disturbance – Regional Accidental Discovery rule [E12.6.1] set out in the Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in part (November 2016) shall be applied.
15. In the event that any unrecorded historic heritage sites are exposed as a result of consented work on the site, then these sites shall be recorded by the consent holder for inclusion within the Auckland Council Cultural Heritage Inventory. The consent holders' project archaeologist shall prepare documentation suitable for inclusion in the Cultural Heritage Inventory and forward the information to the Team Leader (for the Manager: Heritage Unit, heritageconsents@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) within one calendar month of the completion of work on the site.

Tree Removals

16. That each of the HNZ sites are inspected prior to Treescape setting up and if archaeological evidence is found those parts of the sections are temporarily fenced off to exclude them from the areas of operations, or if this is not practical other forms of protection such as track mats be used.
17. That any machinery involved with the removal of the Phoenix Palms should approach them from the northern side, if directional felling is to occur it should be designed to fell the trees to the north.
18. All processing of the Phoenix Palms should occur in the area between the cycleway and SH20.

19. Should vehicles not be able to enter the area between the cycleway and SH20 from Dominion Road, any movements across the land to the south of the cycleway should only occur when ground conditions are dry and across a route laid out with track mats.
20. Crash mats, tyres or similar should be laid beneath any trees to be felled with significant dead limbs.
21. Crane locations and associated processing sites that are not on the road surfaces should be archaeologically inspected prior to set up and if areas are deemed to have archaeological evidence they should be temporarily fenced off to exclude them from the areas of operations, or if this is not practical other forms of protection such as track mats be used.
22. Areas of high movement, such as where the excavators may operate within a processing site may require the laying down of track mats for them to operate on.
23. Trees that are to be manually dismantled may be on the edge of earthworked and original ground or archaeological features. Any trees that are to be directionally felled should be felled towards the summit roading.
24. Trees that are to be manually dismantled should be assessed on an individual basis to determine whether tyres or track mats should be laid beneath them to protect the ground surfaces.

Conservation Planting

25. That the buffer plantings/rongoa (within the Historic Heritage Overlay area) and the nikau/kowhai trees (as depicted in Figure 11 of the Archaeological Assessment) have an archaeologist monitor their planting.
26. That plants that are not defined as suitable for planting on archaeological sites by either Jones (2007) or Mairs (2019) should be excluded from the lower 10m of the roadside plantings in front of the quarry face area.
27. That the project archaeologist is involved in the layout of the “roadside plantings in front of the quarry face” area.

Post Development Conditions

Maintenance of Restoration Planting

28. Once the work is completed, the consent holder shall maintain the site as per the requirements of the approved Restoration plan to the satisfaction of Council, including the removal of any weed species and the replanting of native plant cover to ensure canopy closure occurs (or once bare ground is covered for low growing plants).

11 CONCLUSION

- 11.1 Auckland Council, on behalf of the Authority is seeking resource consent for works to carry out native revegetation and the removal of exotic trees at Puketāpapa. The application is overall assessed as a discretionary activity.
- 11.2 Subject to the methodologies and offered conditions that form part of the proposal, the potential for adverse effects are limited to no more than minor effects from tree works and those temporary in nature during the works period.
- 11.3 The proposal will result in significant positive effects on the environment through cultural and ecological restoration, enhanced landscape aesthetics and opening of historic defensive sightlines and views between the Tūpuna Maunga. Spiritual associations with the Tūpuna Maunga including culture and traditions will be re-established. Improved legibility of the heritage features will enrich the visitor experience through enhanced understanding and appreciation of the heritage, natural and Māori values of the place.
- 11.4 Overall, it is considered that the proposal meets the overriding sustainable management purpose of the RMA and the application may be granted, subject to the offered conditions.

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24 October 2019

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