



# The Vision for Waiuku Estuary.

## ACTIONS PROPOSED IN THE DRAFT PLAN

The Waiuku Estuary is a valued community asset with significant potential, but is subject to numerous natural and human induced pressures. The Draft Plan sets forward a vision with six key goals for the Waiuku Estuary:

**1. Manage mangroves in selected areas using environmentally appropriate and sustainable methods.**

The selected areas have been chosen because the mangrove encroachment is having adverse environmental effects. Selection of areas needs to balance the ecological benefits of mangroves, the adverse effects of mangrove expansion and the feasibility of removal activities. The maps on the next page show the areas where the Draft Plan recommends short, medium and long term mangrove removal including areas where it is recommended to continue hand removal of mangrove seedlings.

**2. Maintain and enhance the existing ecological, natural character, landscape, cultural and historic values of the wider environment, in and around the Waiuku Estuary.**

The Estuary has many features that contribute to its significance. The Draft Plan proposes a range of actions including: identifying and protecting cultural heritage sites; creating heritage trails; restoration plantings; and water quality improvements.

**3. Minimise the effect of catchment activities on sedimentation in the Estuary**

Like all estuaries, the Waiuku Estuary is experiencing a natural aging process which includes natural infilling and sedimentation. Changes in the development and land use surrounding the Waiuku Estuary has increased the rate of sedimentation. The Draft Plan recommends improvements in land management practices to reduce the sedimentation rate. These management practices include riparian planting, controls on earthworks and beginning to monitor the sedimentation rates.

**4. Enhance public access to the coastline and Estuary**

Improving access to the Estuary and coastline is something that is clearly important to the community. The Draft Plan includes evaluating the feasibility of channel dredging to provide for improved vessel access to Tamakae Reserve. The Plan presents four dredging options, ranging in possible size. Options 1 and 2 are shown on the maps opposite, Options 3 and 4 cover a greater area.\* It also recommends investigating the issues associated with the removal of pacific oyster shell accumulations in certain areas of the Estuary where the oysters are restricting boating and recreational activities. The next page has maps showing the recommendations for new walkways, boardwalks and viewing platforms to help provide better access.

**5. Protect existing and future coastal development from coastal hazards**

Coastal erosion and other coastal hazards have been identified as an issue in some parts of the Waiuku Estuary area covered by the Draft Plan. The objective of the Draft Plan is to manage these coastal hazards by monitoring the erosion rates and developing, over time, site specific erosion protection measures to respond to the risks.

**6. Provide for appropriate development opportunities in the Tamakae Reserve and Town Basin**

As a community you have expressed support for improvements around Tamakae Reserve to link the town to the wider Estuary, to create a focal point for the town and improve access to the Estuary. The Draft Plan wants to ensure that an integrated plan will guide the development opportunities proposed for the area and that any development supports the historical, cultural and environmental values of the site. At the open day you will have a chance to see some ideas that have been proposed for the area and to give feedback on these. The proposals include hard edging the wharf area, Glenbrook Vintage Railway terminus, a maritime museum, and commercial developments.

### Want to know more?

An open day will be held to display more information on the Draft Plan and the background to it. Officers from the FDC and ARC will be available at the open day to answer questions.

**So take some time to come along and learn more: Saturday 10 February 2007, 10am – 3.30pm**  
**FDC Waiuku Community Centre, King St, Waiuku.**

