

Appendix 5

Environmental and Archaeological Reports

Environment

Taonga Tū engaged heritage management consultant, John Coster, to provide valuable insights into the protection and management of the natural environment in the Bay of Plenty.

He notes that identification and evaluation of environmental heritage within the sub-region has been undertaken by the Department of Conservation, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, various iwi groups and academic researchers – primarily related to publicly owned land. Privately owned property is less certain.

John's report provides a useful and thorough overview of the current environmental heritage situation in the Western Bay of Plenty.

You can read the full report, including explanatory maps, [here](#).

Archaeology

John Coster was also engaged to provide an overview of the archaeological resources within the Western Bay of Plenty, review existing protective measures and to provide valuable insight into issues around the protection of archaeological sites.

In this report he references the 2009 Smart Growth report, and the Sub-Regional Heritage Strategy. The Smart Growth strategy covers at length the threat to cultural heritage sites from urban growth and development. As a means of protecting cultural heritage, it identifies a potential partnership between Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Tauranga City Council and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. The recommendations of the report were never adopted.

John's reports include recommendations for the protection and preservation of our archaeological sites. These have been adapted and included in the Heritage Strategy. Of particular note is his thorough inventory of archaeological resources in the Western Bay of Plenty and his redefining of sites of significance:

1. Places known in Māori tradition and kōrero.
2. Places associated with the land wars and the subsequent bush campaign in Tauranga Moana, including contemporary kainga.
3. Places associated with other historical events, including early European settlement.
4. Places, particularly pā, of high aesthetic appeal or visibility in the landscape (landmarks).
5. Early Māori settlement sites.
6. Sites likely to provide significant archaeological, scientific, technological or environmental information.
7. Well-preserved sites, typical of their type.
8. Unusual or unique sites.
9. Other.

Thanks to John Coster for this significant piece of work. You can read the full report [here](#).