

WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL

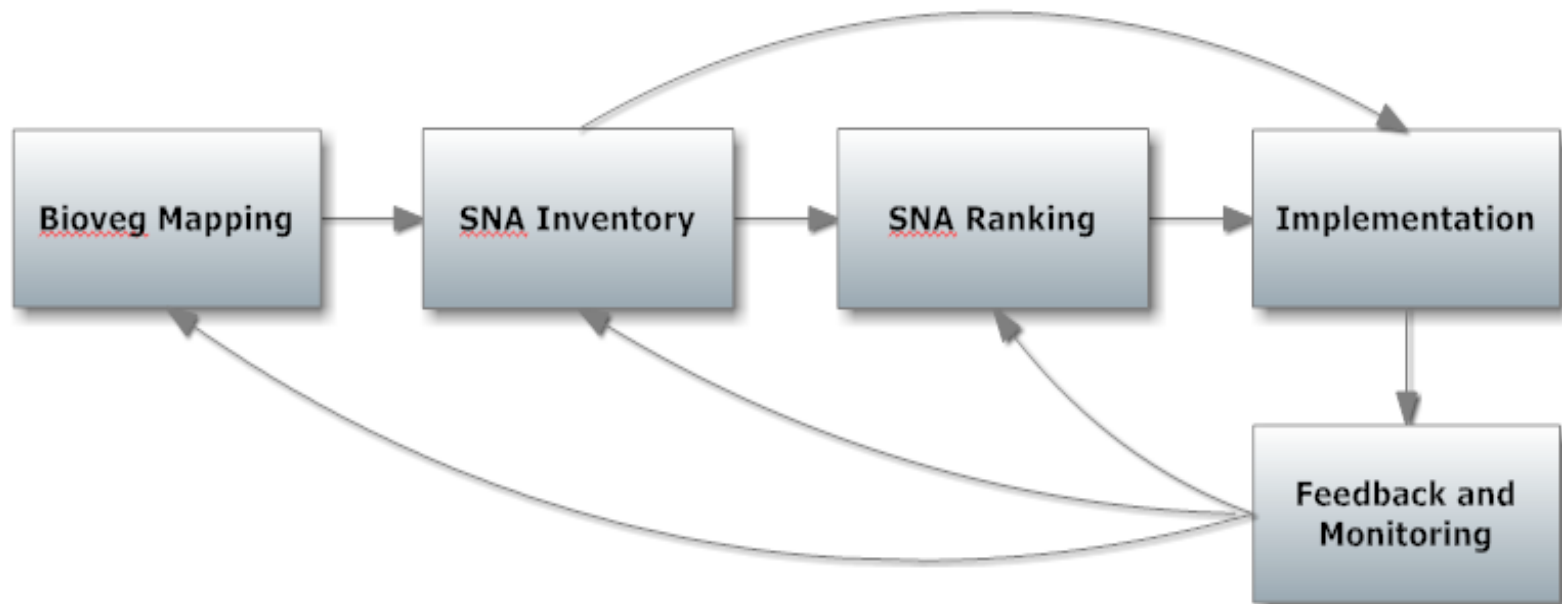
Hearing 21A: Natural Environments – Indigenous Vegetation and Habitats of the Proposed Waikato District Plan

Presentation of Dr Yanbin Deng

20 November 2020



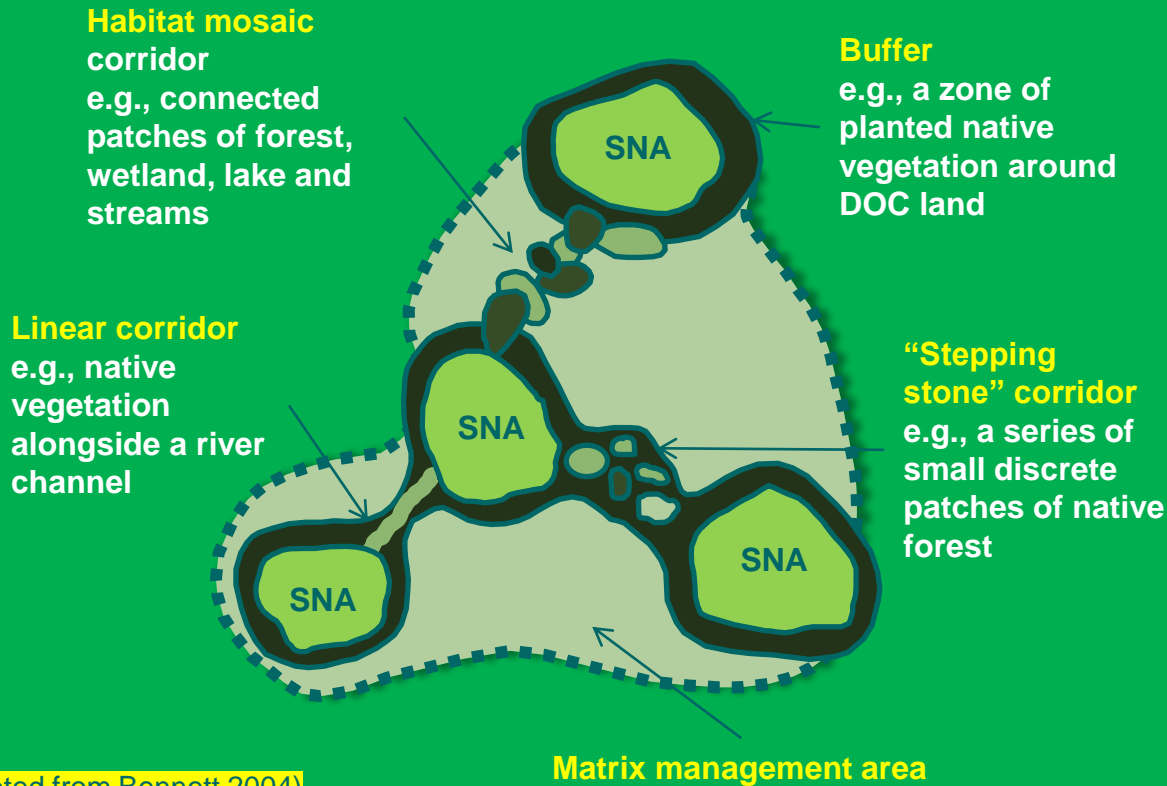
Overview of Significant Natural Area (SNA) Data Validation Process



Important things to know:

- The initial SNA mapped at a scale of 1:10,000 (not property scale).
- The initial SNA data is a desktop inventory.

Integrated Landscape Management



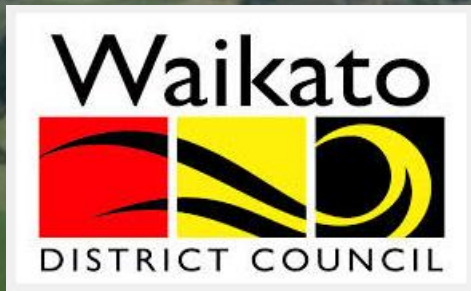
(adapted from Bennett 2004)

- Enhance the essential structure, processes and functioning of ecosystems
- Improve interactions between organisms and their environment
- Strengthen the resilience of ecosystems when responding to stress

Local Biodiversity Strategies

Linkages = IMPROVED ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

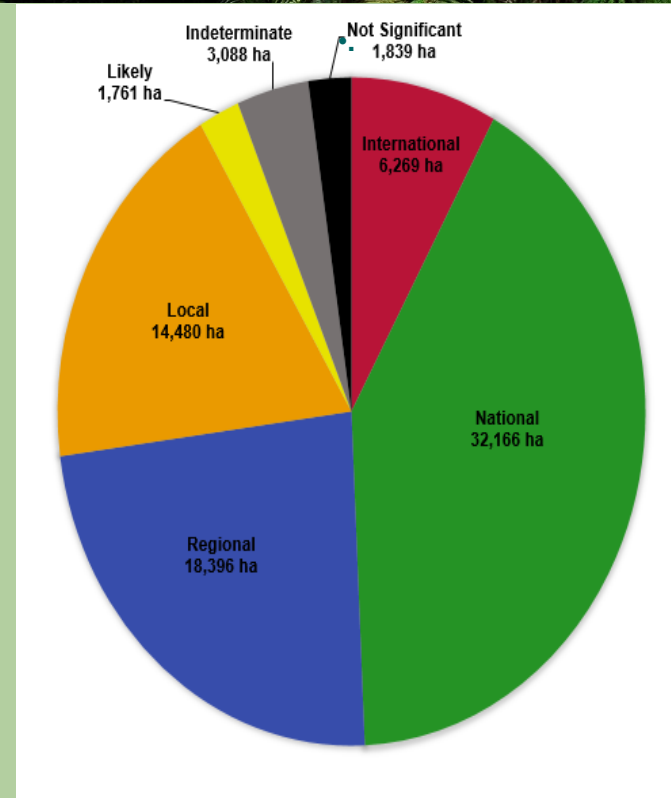
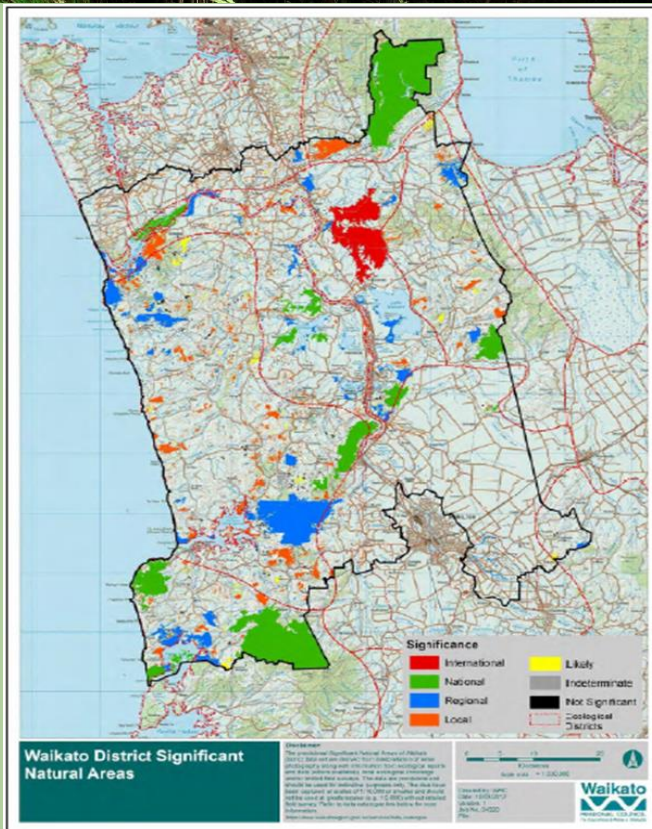
Point 3.4 - Work with key stakeholders



Waikato District Biodiversity Inventory and Significant Natural Areas (SNA) Workshop



Point 3.3 - Lack of Recognition of Provisional SNA Dataset and Mapping



698 SNA identified and ranked, Total SNA area = 71,312 ha, about 16.4% of the Waikato district (2017/18)



**A large number of
areas of exceptional
ecological significance
exist.**



Photo K Denyer

Point 3 - Lack of Robust SNA Technical Assessment

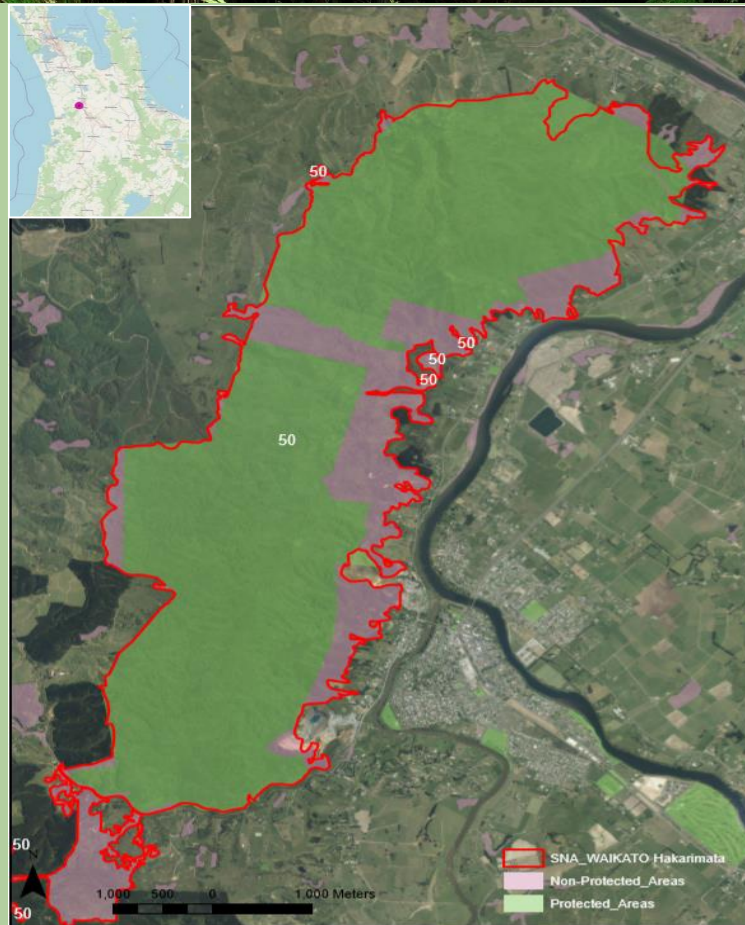
- Weeds issues have been fully addressed
- Not standard SNA assessment
- Previous SNA identification information wasn't utilised
- Site visits were undertaken of SNAs on 40 properties based on submissions received from landowners
- Not representative of the criteria in the Waikato Regional Policy Statement (RPS)
- Property scale vs. Ecological Unit

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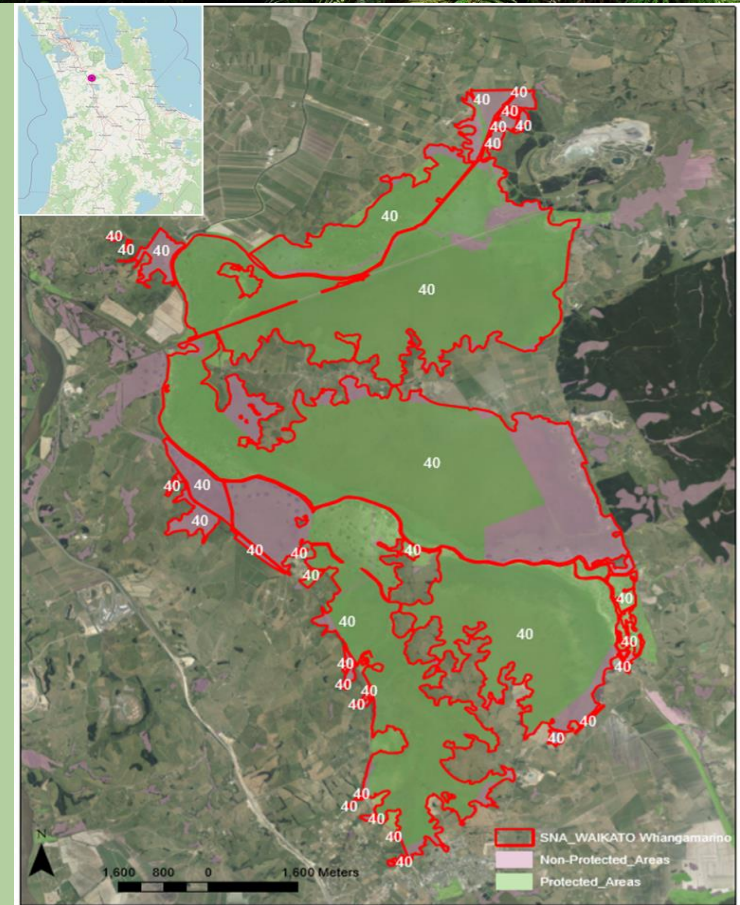
WAIKATO DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS ASSESSMENTS

17 OCTOBER 2020

Point 3.5 - Protected and non Protected Land are Contiguous and They Can Form a Single Ecological Unit or a Sequence of Interconnected Ecological Units



SNA 50 (Hakarimata Ranges)



SNA 40 (Whangamarino wetland)

Points 3.6, 3.7, and 3.8 - Some Specific Examples of Incorrect Changes to SNA Status

Deinde, assessment



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Date: 3/11/2020
Version: 1
Job No.:
File: SNA_60_MtKaiti.mxd

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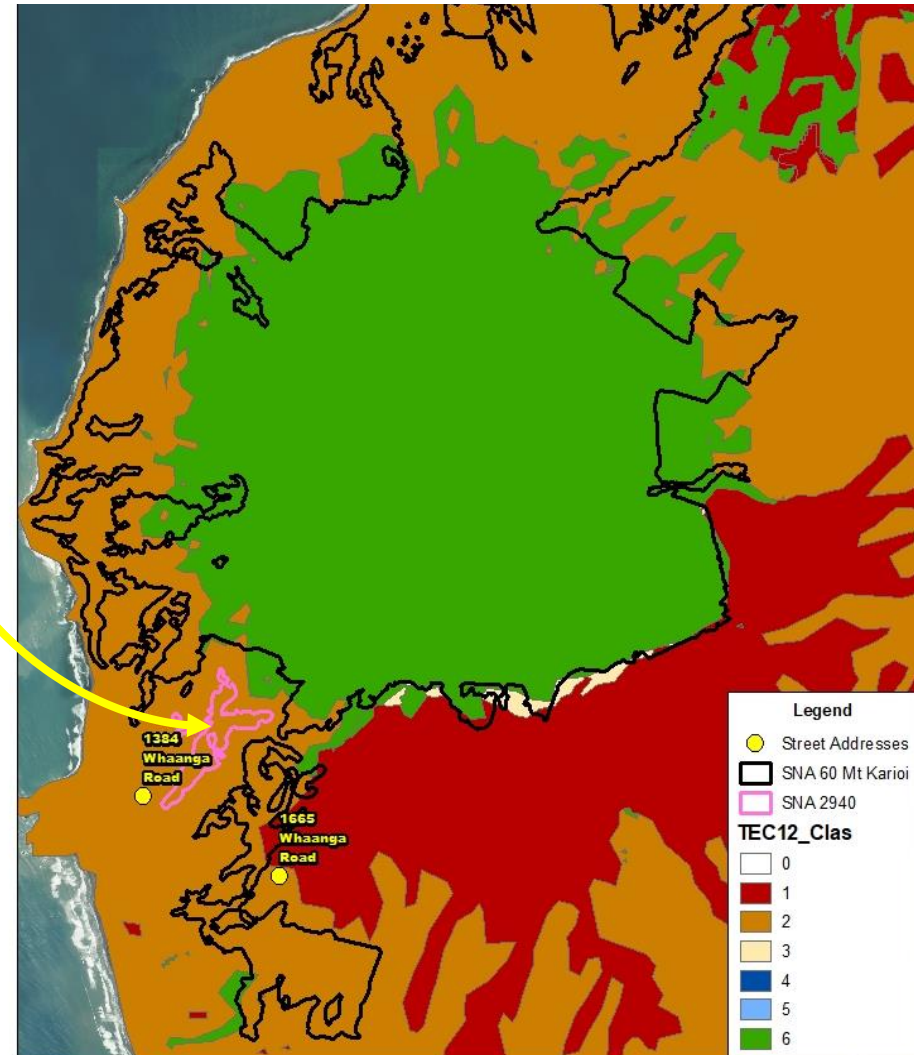
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1665 Whaanga Road



National Priority 1: To protect indigenous vegetation associated with land environments, that have 20 percent or less remaining in indigenous cover.



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**Waikato District SNA sites
60 and 2940**

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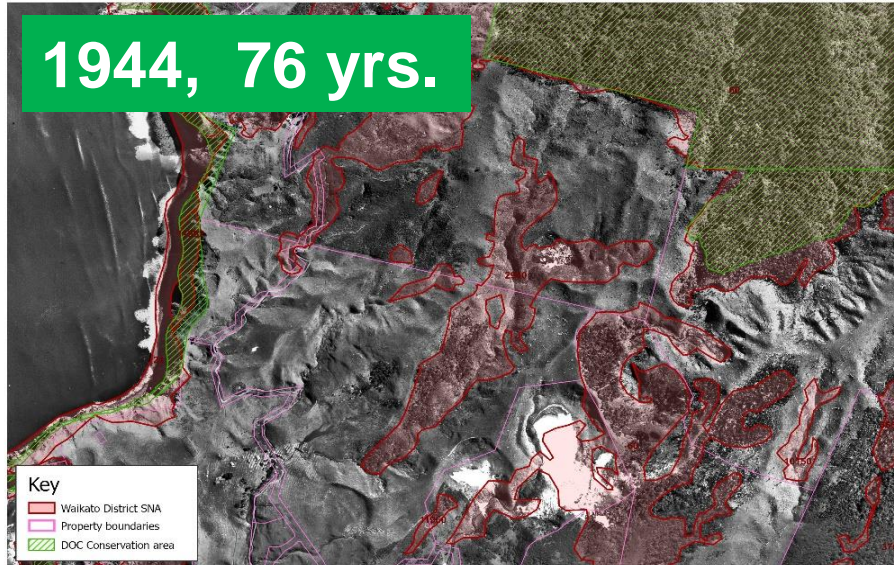
0 1 km
Scale at A4
= 1:40,000

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Te Kaitiaki o Te Whānau a Māori

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1944, 76 yrs.



Waikato District Council SNA Review

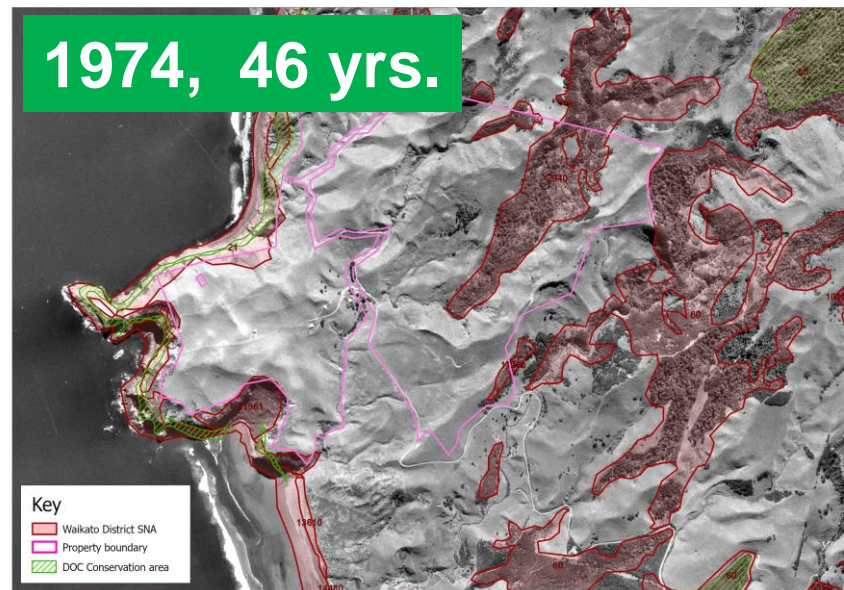
SNA 2940 Whaanga Road Raglan (1944 Aerial Imagery)

Date: 19/10/2020
Job No.: REG/18623

Scale = 1:10,000



1974, 46 yrs.



Waikato District Council SNA Review

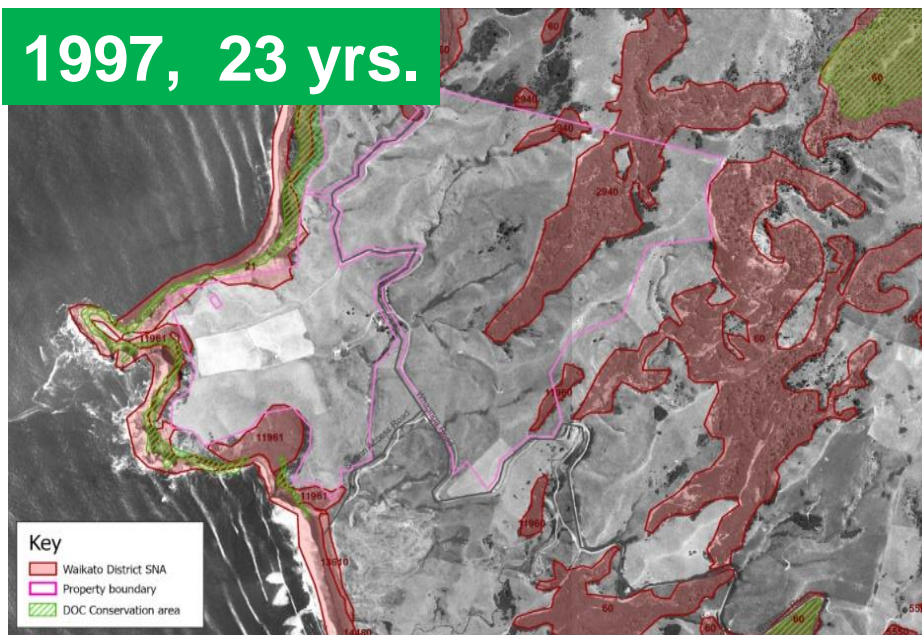
SNA 2940 Whaanga Road Raglan (1974 Aerial Imagery)

Date: 19/10/2020
Job No.: REG/18623

Scale = 1:10,000



1997, 23 yrs.



Waikato District Council SNA Review

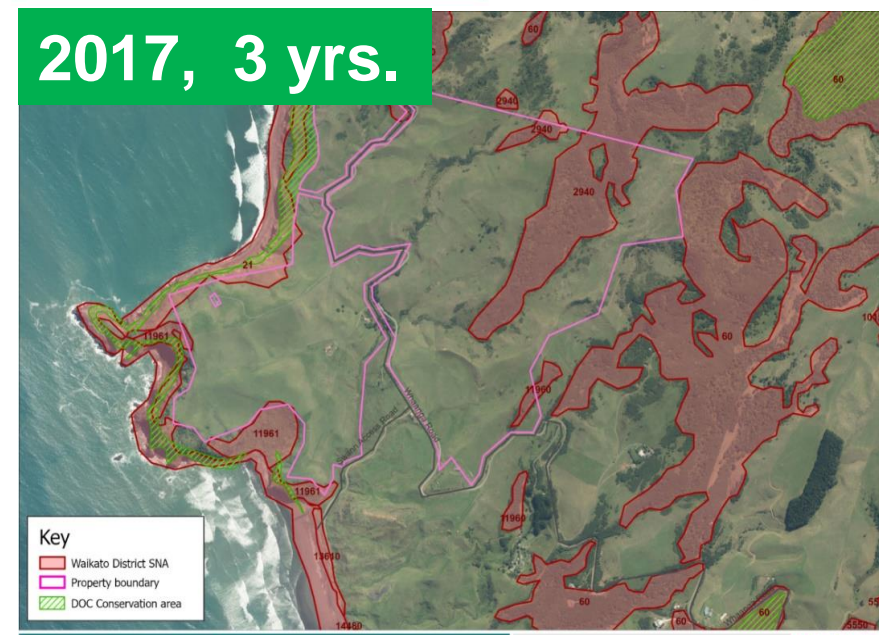
SNA 2940 Whaanga Road Raglan (1997 Aerial Imagery)

Date: 19/10/2020
Job No.: REG/18623

Scale = 1:10,000



2017, 3 yrs.



Waikato District Council SNA Review

SNA 2940 Whaanga Road Raglan

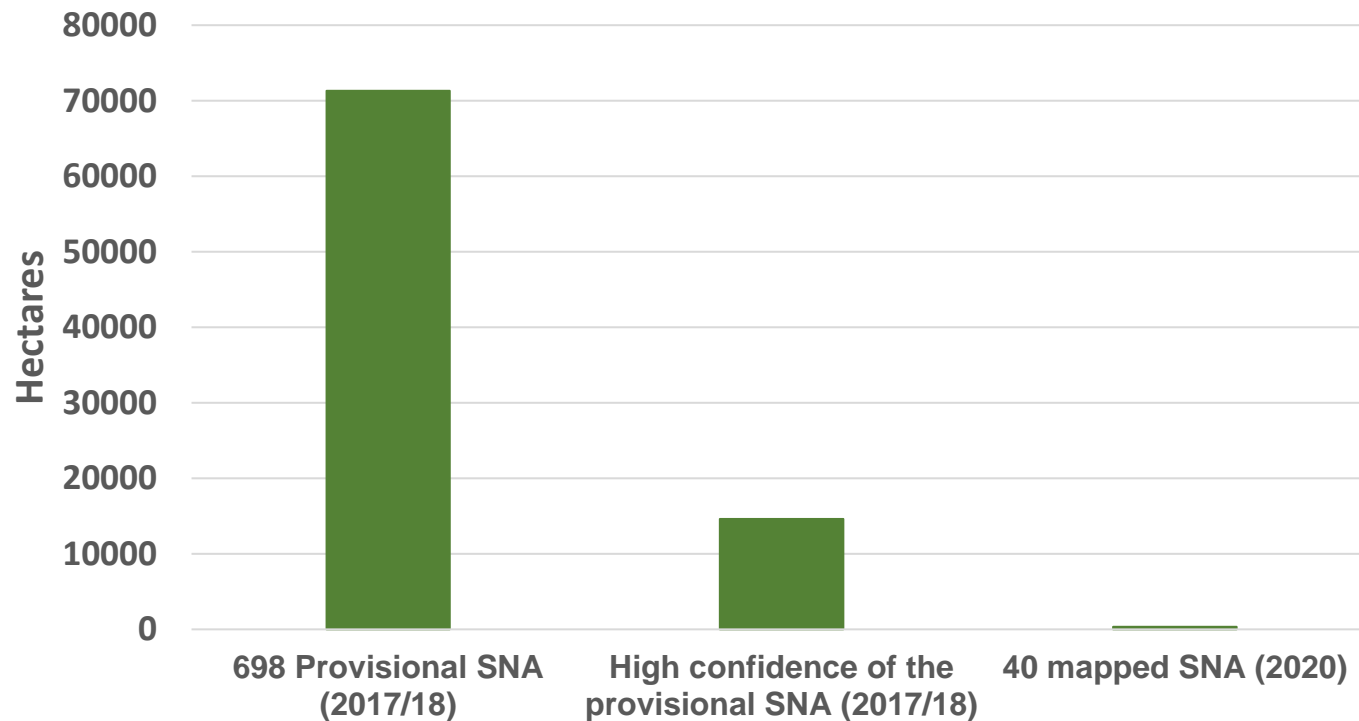
Date: 19/10/2020
Job No.: REG/18623

Scale = 1:10,000



4. Conclusions:

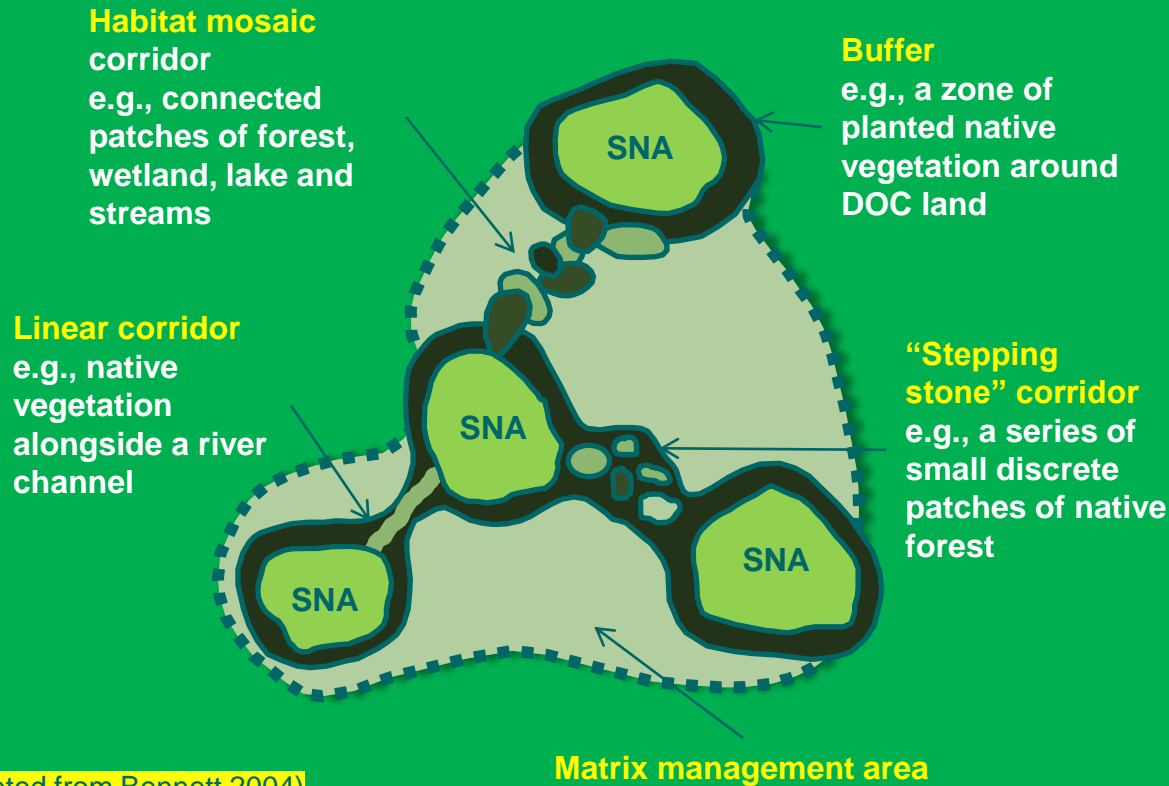
4.2 Mapping only a small number of sites as part of Option 5 represents a critical lack of protection and expected significant biodiversity loss in the district; including rare ecosystems, threatened species and their habitats



40 mapped SNA (2020), only cover 0.5% of the provisional SNA areas.

Point 4.3 SNA Assessment Report (2020) has failed to Consider the Comprehensive Provisional SNA Dataset and Maps Provided by WRC. Integrated landscape management should be reflected in the District Plan for the Long-term Management on the biodiversity.

Integrated Landscape Management



(adapted from Bennett 2004)

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- Improve interactions between organisms and their environment
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Local Biodiversity Strategies

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