

SHARED PATHWAYS PROJECT

Little Penguin Conservation Measures

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Eastern Bays Little Penguins
Harbour Islands Little Penguins

Preliminary Points

Win-Win not Win-Lose

My Credentials

Conservation

NZ Coastal Policy Statement

Actual Habitat Loss

Loss estimated as 34%

Actually 78%

Already Far Too high

Penguin Sanctuaries

Sanctuary = Protected from Human Activity

Sanctuaries = Penguin Havens

Model Haven at Days Bay

**Penguin Haven developed as a Safe Place
Not a place for scientific research**

Penguin Haven (Days Bay)



Security fence
Road protection
Overhead cover
Successful nesting
Model for other havens

NZ and Australian Clades

Clade = Group of organisms that evolved from a common ancestor

Wellington Penguin Colony = Pure NZ Clade

Confirmed in TWO independent studies

**Primarily North Island
Conservation (protection) is essential**

Preferred Nesting Habitat

South Island Study

Report in Notornis November 2019

Findings:

- Overhead cover essential
- Need soil as the base
- Sunlight reduces nesting success

Boxes are preferred

Harbour Islands penguin study confirms this

HCC Original Proposal

Add three penguin havens

Access to nest sites across road

Access to small number of drains

HCC Proposed Havens

HCC Proposed Sites (3):

- Point Howard = not an offset
- Clapham Rock = poor habitat
- Whiorau Reserve = OK but incorrect

Not considered/addressed:

- Model Penguin Haven (Days Bay)
- Shoreline areas outside shared pathway

Preferred Sites For Havens

- Days Bay Penguin Reserve (in place)
- Whiorau Reserve (corrected location)
- Bishops Park shoreline
- HW Shortt/Maire Street shoreline
- Promenade shoreline (possible)

Sea Walls

Access across Marine Drive
Ramps and steps access to road
Limited or no wall height?

Marine Drive is the current kill-zone

Remove gaps
Boxes on sea side of wall

Rip-Rap (Rock Walls)

**Access across Marine Drive
Limited or no kerb?**

Marine Drive is the current kill-zone

Keyholes in rip-rap

Concrete 'wall' >300-400 mm at top of rip-rap

Remove ramps where possible

Drains

Drains still accessible

Limited number (3)

Still nesting across Marine Drive

**Extend drains into sea
Board walks for fishermen
One-way flaps?**

Wider and Long-Term View

Single harbour community

Impact in one place affects others

Developing new nest sites takes years

Monitoring arrival/return is long-term

Need to avoid short-term solutions

Danger of missing long-term effects

Timing of Construction

No-go periods:

- ▣ **Penguin nesting July to January**
- ▣ **Penguin moult January and February**

Focus on March to May each year
Construction bay-by-bay

Penguin Risk and Mitigation

Need for a comprehensive plan covering:

- ▣ **Before, during and after construction**
- ▣ **Monitoring after construction**
- ▣ **Penguin detection dog**
- ▣ **Same for each bay**

Risk Management and Mitigation Plan before Consent

Roadside Signage

Both ends of each bay

Visible day and night

Signs on roads

Follow example of Golden Bay

Protection from Predation

Protection from:

- ▣ Dogs and cats
- ▣ Rats
- ▣ Stoats, etc
- ▣ Human interaction

Dogs on leads

Cats in at night

Long-term monitoring

Comprehensive Predator Monitoring Plan

A More Balanced View

- More and better penguin haven sites
- More penguin boxes
- No penguin access points in sea walls
- Boxes at base of sea walls
- Change design of rip-rap
- Nests as 'keyholes' in rip-rap
- Extend drains beyond shoreline
- Rubbish bins along pathway**
- Effective signage at each bay
- Construction bay-by-bay
- Restricted times for construction
- Predator monitoring programme
- Long-term monitoring for return
- Risk management and Mitigation Plan before Consent issued

Genuine changes and not more habitat loss

These changes will make a difference!!

Any questions?

Additional Slides

DOC Authorities

Current DOC Study Permit

Level 3 Handling and Banding Certificate

Responsible for penguin Conservation in study areas

Conservation

Definition:

“The protection of ... plants, animals, natural areas
... from the damaging effects of human activity”

NZ Policy Bottom Line

NZ Coastal Pathways Policy Statement 2010

- **Policy 11:**
 - ✓ Clause 11(a)(i)
 - ✓ Clause 11(b)(ii)
 - ✓ Clause 11(b)(iii)
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- **Policy 12:**
 - ✓ Clause 19(3)(a)
 - ✓ Clause 19(3)(b)

Point Howard

Looking North



Looking South



- Exposed shoreline?
- Interruption/Noise?
- Road protection?
- Flat ground?
- Overhead cover?
- Current nests?
- Debris?

Clapham Rock

View from South



View from North



Security?

Fishing Site?

Road Protection?

Flat Ground?

Overhead cover?

Successful nesting?

Exposed shoreline?

Whiorau Reserve

View from North



View from South



Road view from South

- Security?
- Interruption/Noise?
- Road protection?
- Flat ground?
- Overhead cover?
- Current occupants?
- Current nests?

Sea Wall Boxes



**One Example:
(Kaikoura Ocean Research Institute)**



Keyholes In Rip-Rap



**Images from breakwater
at St Kilda, Melbourne**

Penguin Haven (Days Bay)



Whiorau Reserve



Opposite Bishops Park



HW Shortt/Maire Street



Esplanade

