

## **Kaipupu Point Mainland Island Society Inc.**

### **Comments on Waitohi Picton Ferry Precinct Redevelopment Fast Track Application.**

The Society appreciates the opportunity to comment on this application.

Port Marlborough New Zealand is a part owner (with DOC) of the land on which our Sanctuary is located. Port operations are adjacent to the Predator Proof fence and the company is a valued sponsor of the Sanctuary and works closely with our management committee. We recently commissioned a survey of Kororā on the Sanctuary and in the Picton area which was carried out by personnel from the Kaikoura Ocean Research Institute. This survey established the location of Kororā in the ferry precinct.

We fully support the Avian Management Plan as outlined in Port Marlborough's 'conditions' document but would make the following suggestions.

1. Kororā breed and nest in the area. They are notorious for returning to a preferred area if translocated. There is a need for someone with broad experience of penguins to be involved.
2. We suggest that Alistair Judkins from the Kaikoura Ocean Research Centre, together with his specially trained penguin-locating dogs, would be a good choice as a suitably qualified expert.
3. Variable Oyster Catcher (Torea Tai) have been noted foraging on the shore-line (west side) but they nest on shingle-type beaches above high tide and are not much of a risk.
4. Caspian tern are seen less frequently in the area but they nest on shingle beaches so shouldn't be an issue.
5. Black-billed gulls (highly threatened), red-billed gull (declining) and white-fronted tern (declining).  
While these are seen feeding and roosting close to the construction area they do seem to tolerate humans. We suggest workers are made aware of them and treat them with respect.
6. Spotted shag (not threatened) forage and been seen nesting in the area (on eastern side of Kaipupu Point and should be treated with care.

23 February 2021.