

## INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT: A COMMUNITY SOCIAL PROFILE FRAMEWORK

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## Overview

- Pest eradication successes on uninhabited islands mean inhabited islands and mainland areas are increasingly being proposed as targets for predator control.
- With progression to inhabited sites comes the need for better social engagement approaches than has occurred to date, including implementation of social impact assessments (SIA).



## A specialised social profile framework

- Focusing on rat eradication or control on inhabited islands, a framework of social aspects to consider within a SIA was developed and tested.
- The framework consisted of the seven categories below, with data sourced from published and online sources including government census















Geography & history

Governance & planning strategy

Infrastructure

Population overview

Visitor Overview

Influences & cohesion

Pest management attitudes

## Results and key themes

Tested on four inhabited islands in the Hauraki Gulf of New Zealand (Rakino, Kawau, Aotea, Waiheke), the social profile framework revealed the communities were diverse and should be treated distinctly in management plans with well-designed engagement processes. Although subtle differences among the islands were identified, four key aspects of social profiles vital to consistently include in planning are: values, livelihoods, collective action, and absorptive capacity



• Values residents attach to their physical, ecological, cultural and social environment

• Diverse economic base and livelihoods including self-sufficiency from the land and marine environment

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action

 Influence of internal conflicts / past negative experiences impinging on the ability to develop a cohesive approach to managing change capacity

Community capacity to accommodate or drive change towards leadership skills, social capital and organisational structures