

RECREATION IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Planning in a data-deficient
environment

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Assoc.

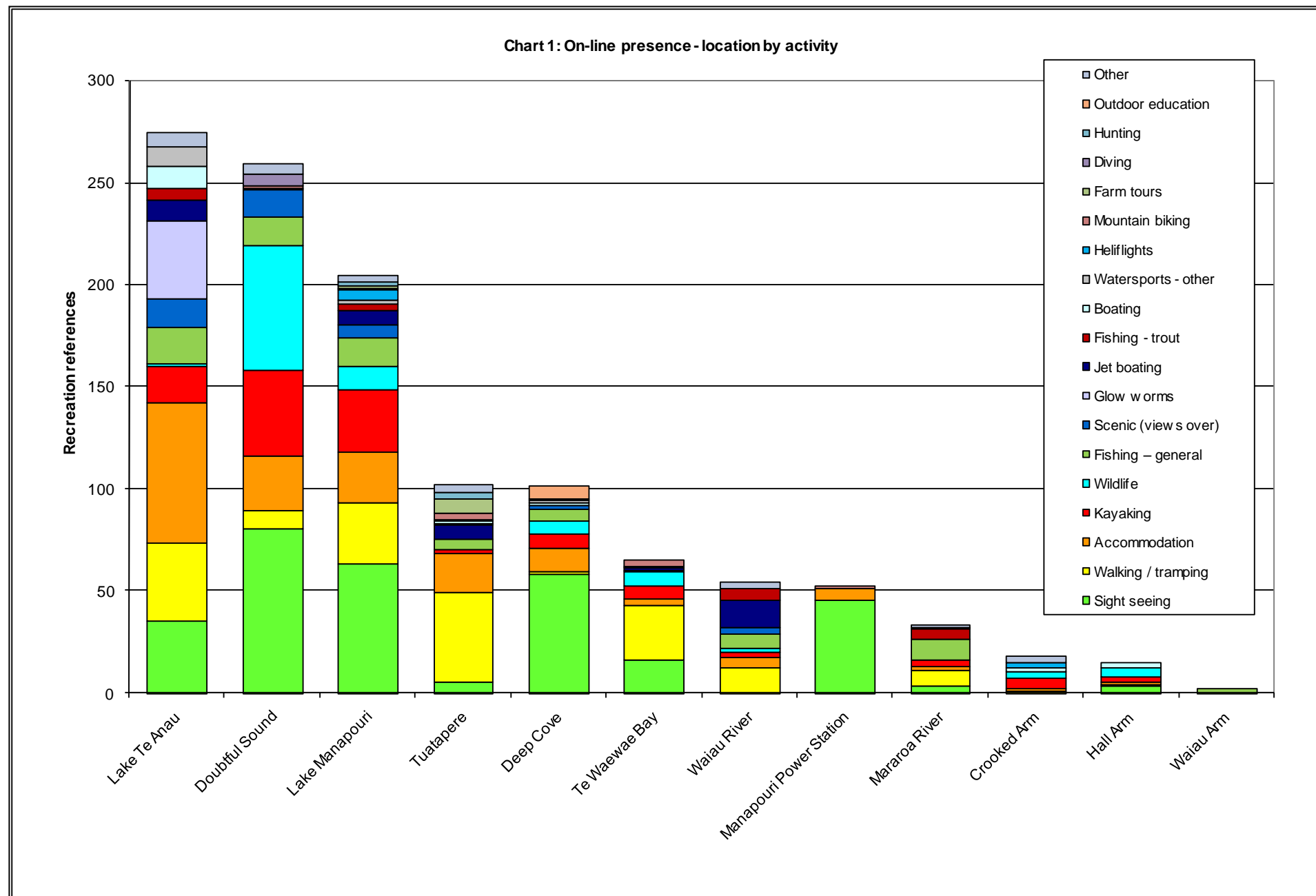
Recreation assessments in a data- deficient environment

- Changes in methods over time
- Contemporary data sources
- Integration with other specialities
- Data gaps
- Does it really matter?

Changes in methods over time

- Qualitative methods (the most important): no change – still hard
- Quantitative: lots of change – still hard

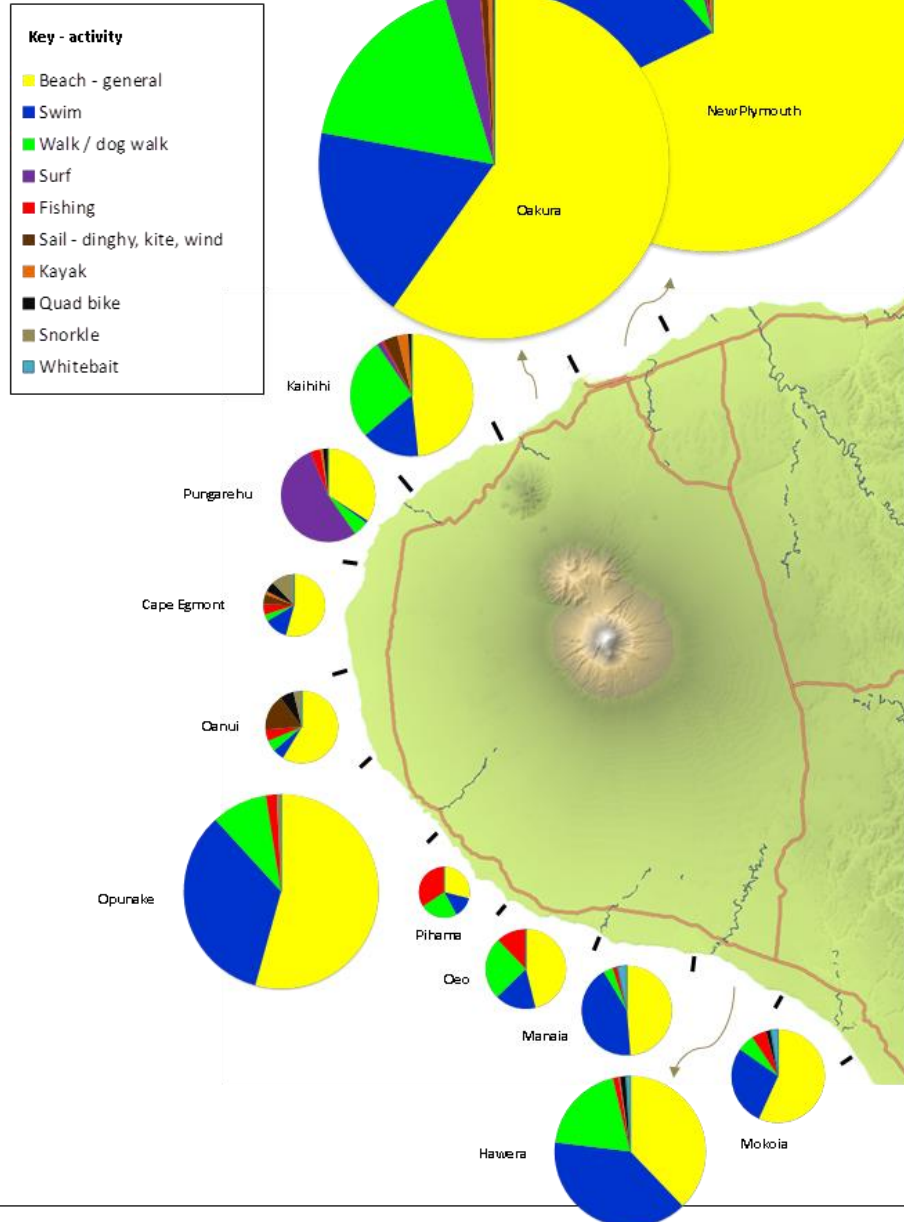
'On-line discourse analysis'



2013 - Whareroa wastewater discharge

Aerial counts

Figure 1: Relative scale of recreation use of the Taranaki Coast from New Plymouth to Mangaroa by activity (aerial count data).



Intercept surveys

2016 - Hutt River corridor

2020 - Manuherekia River

Figure 1: Change over time (better, same, worse) by experience in years

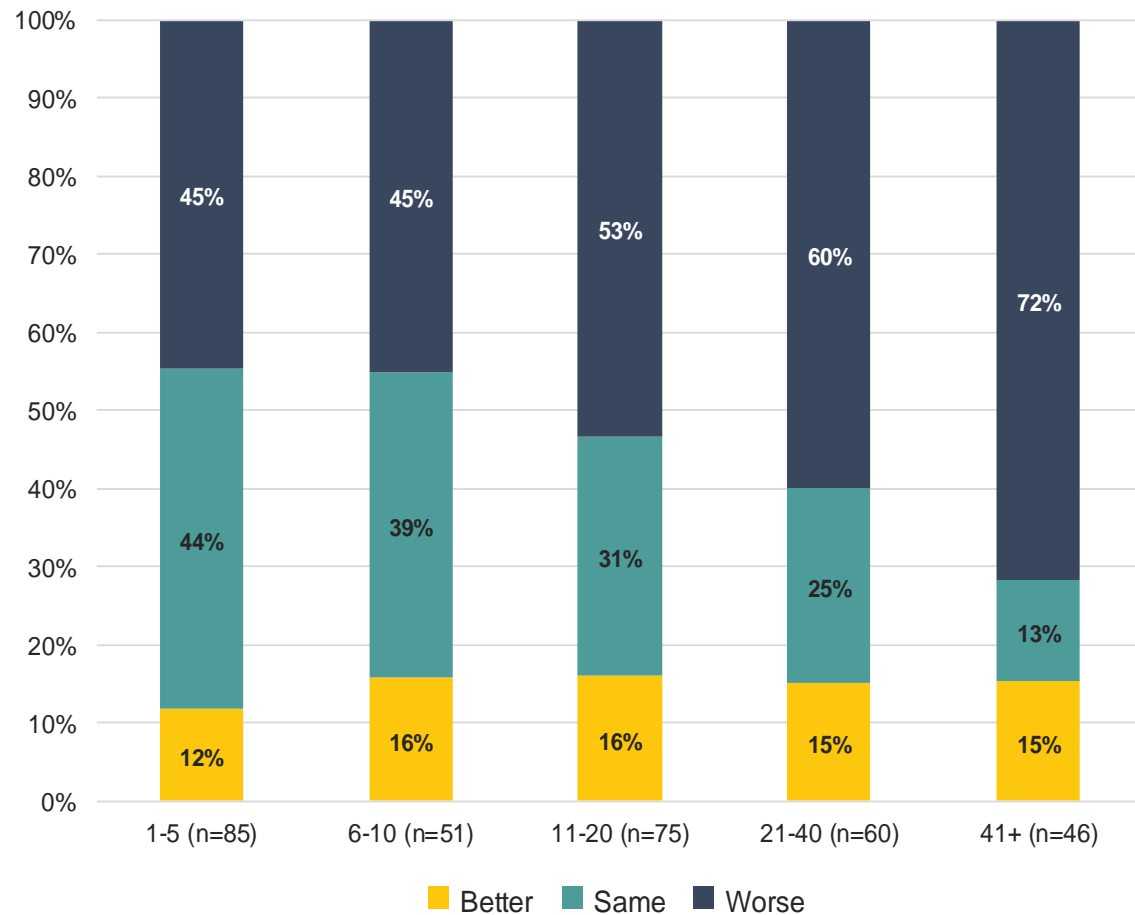
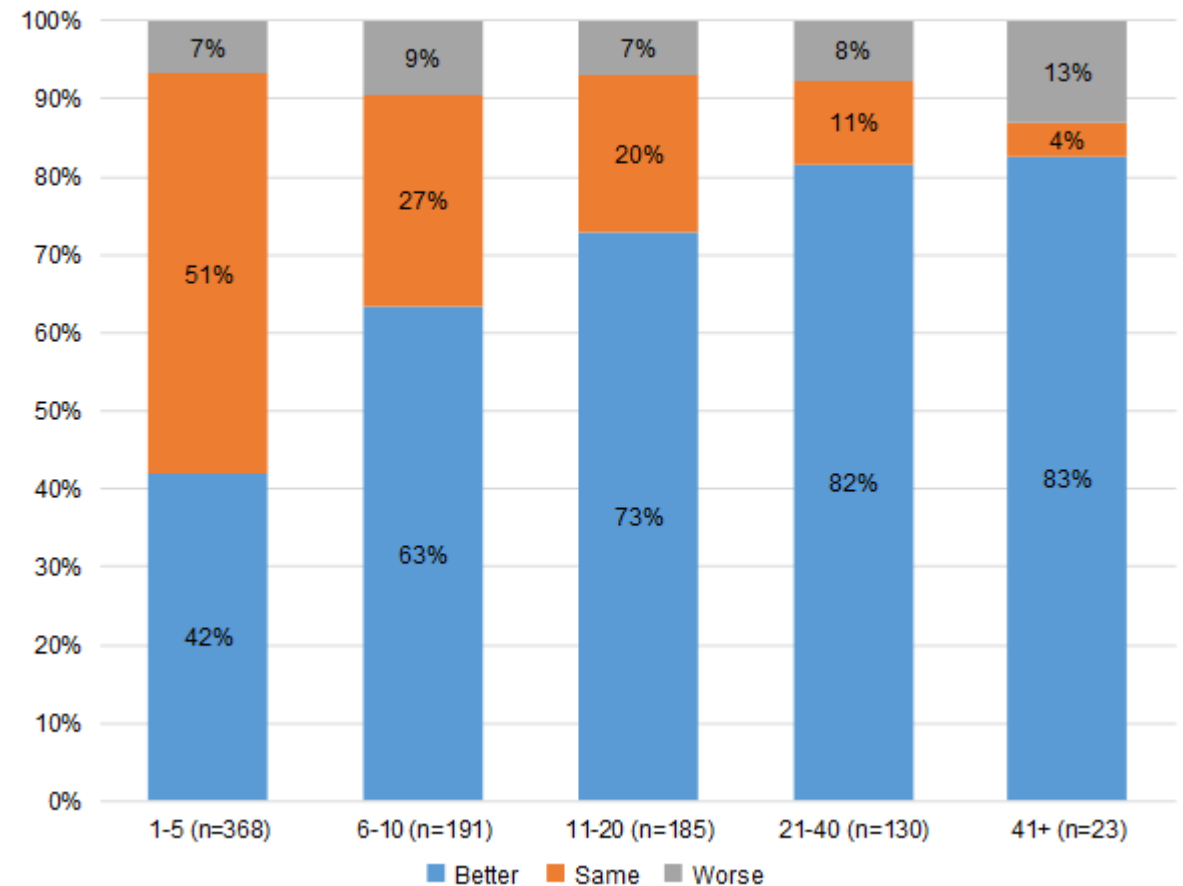
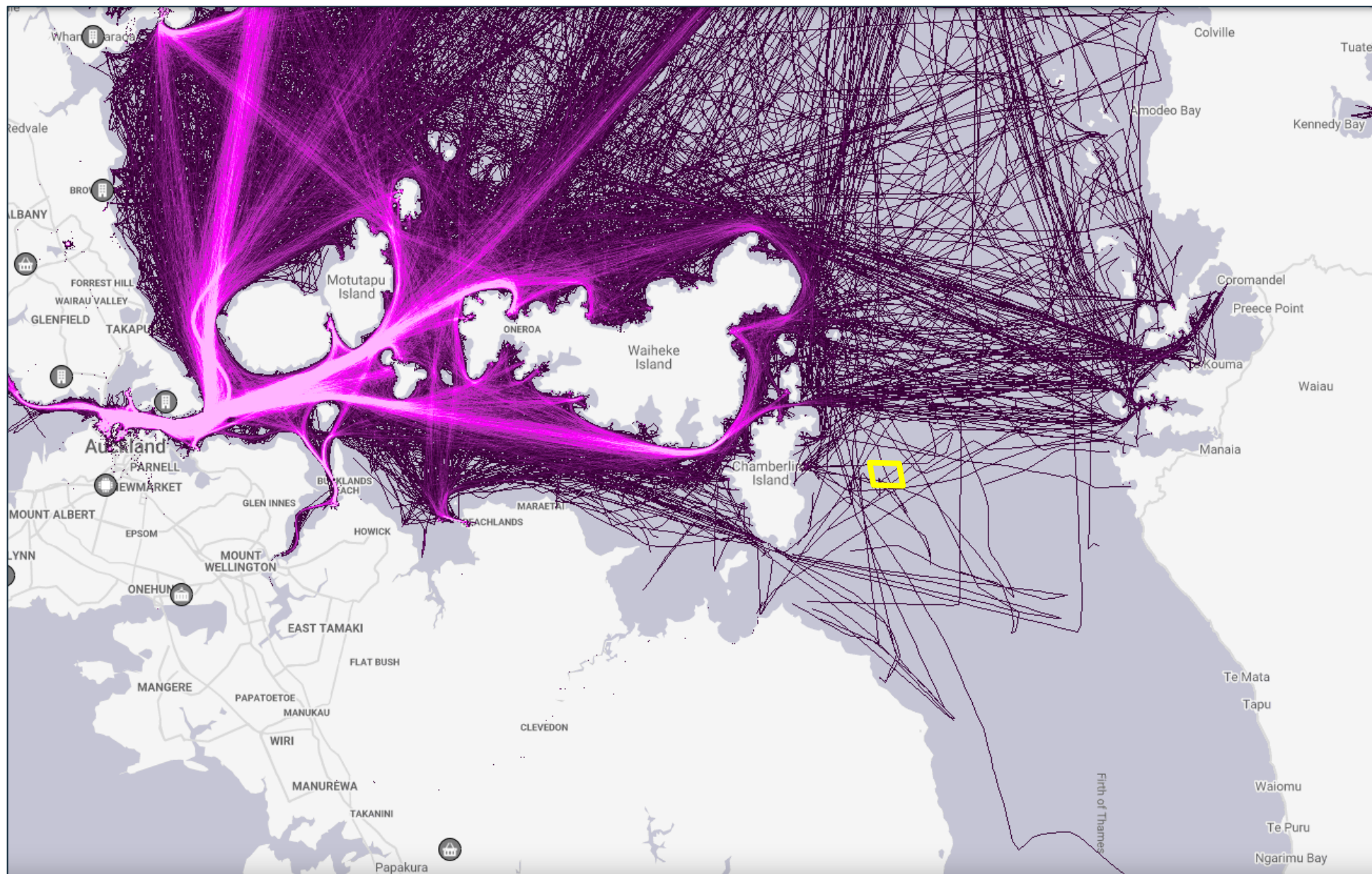


Figure 1: Change over time (better, same, worse) by experience (years)

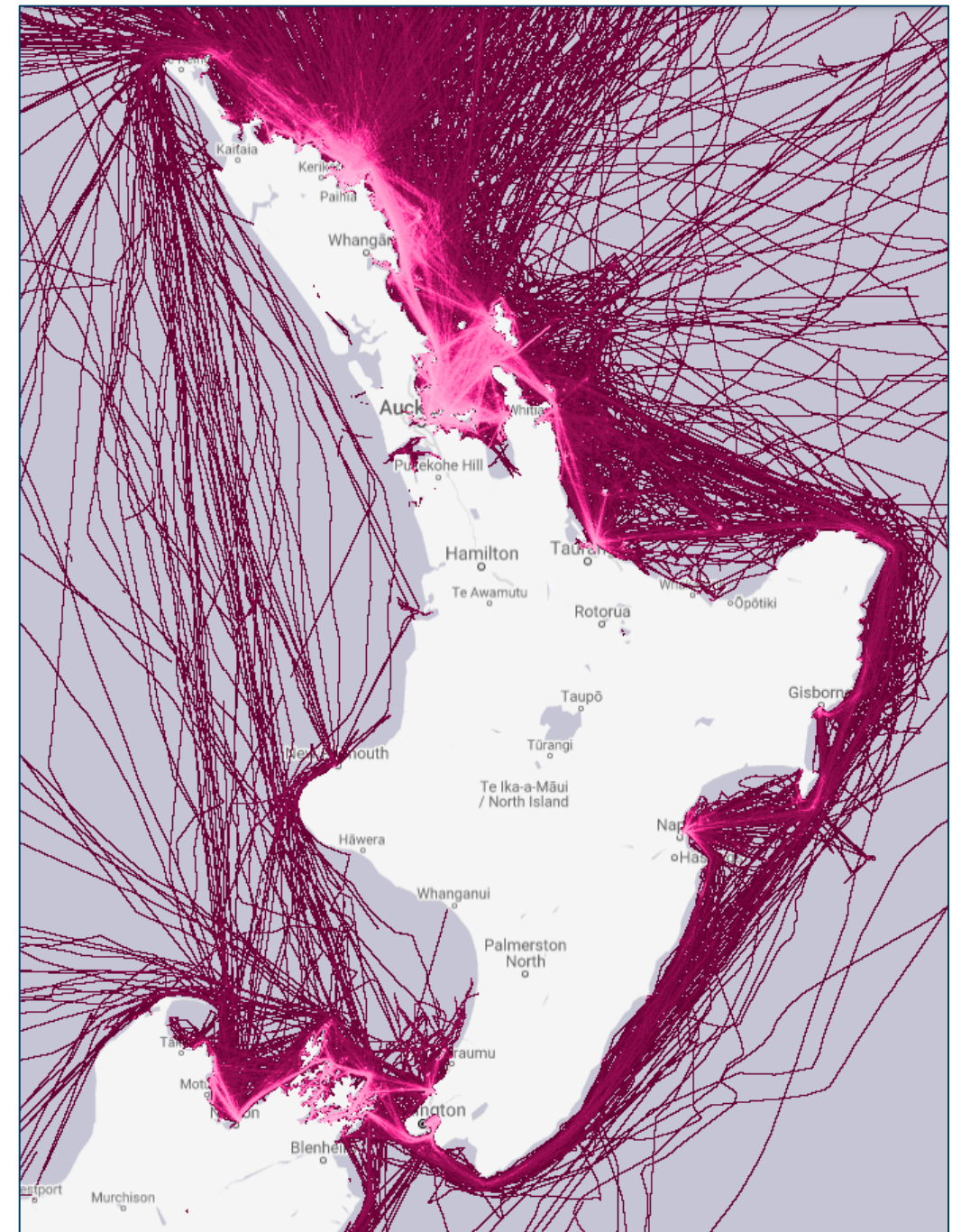
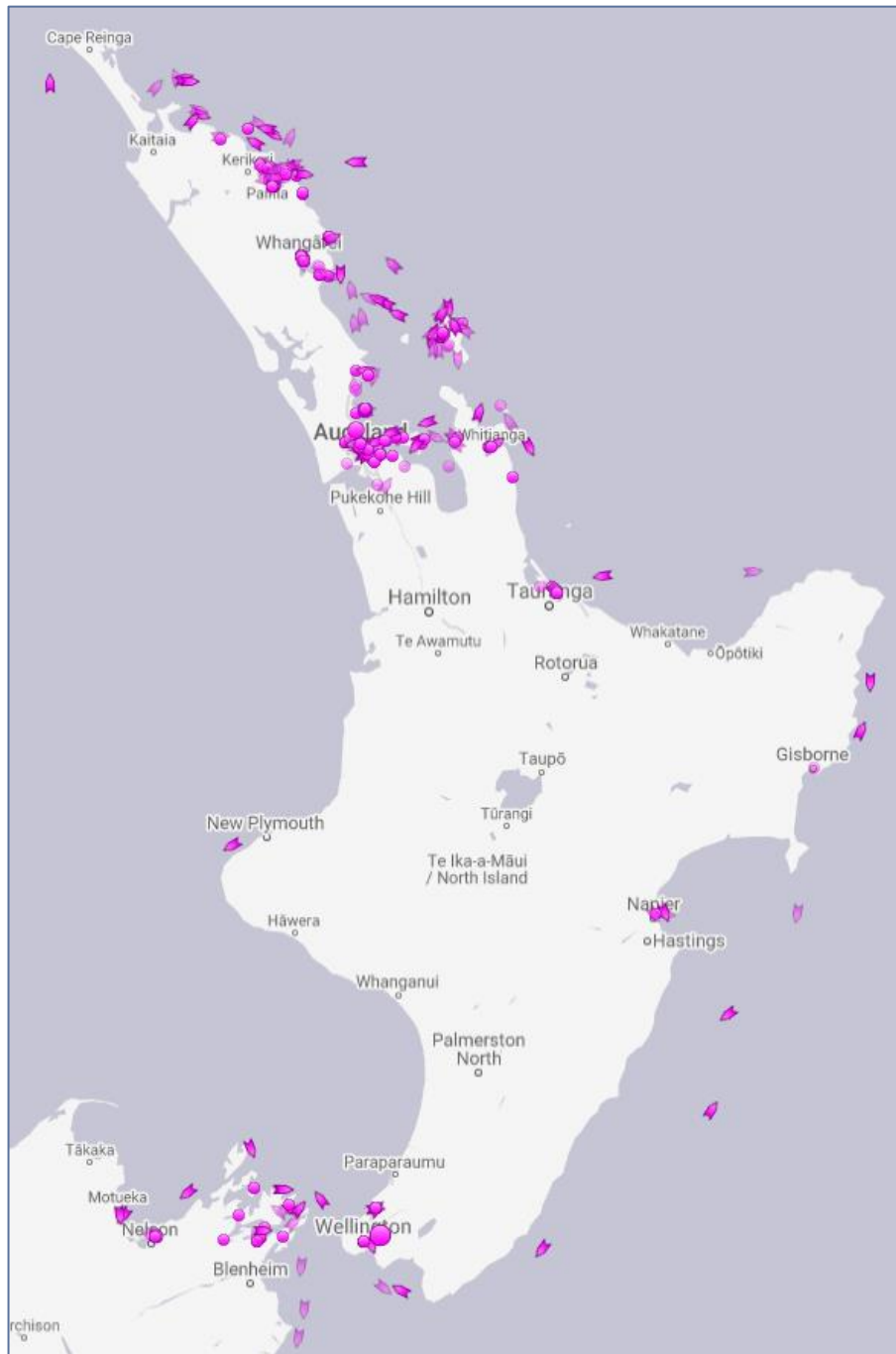


AIS data
2020 - Ponui
Marine Farm

‘pleasure
craft’



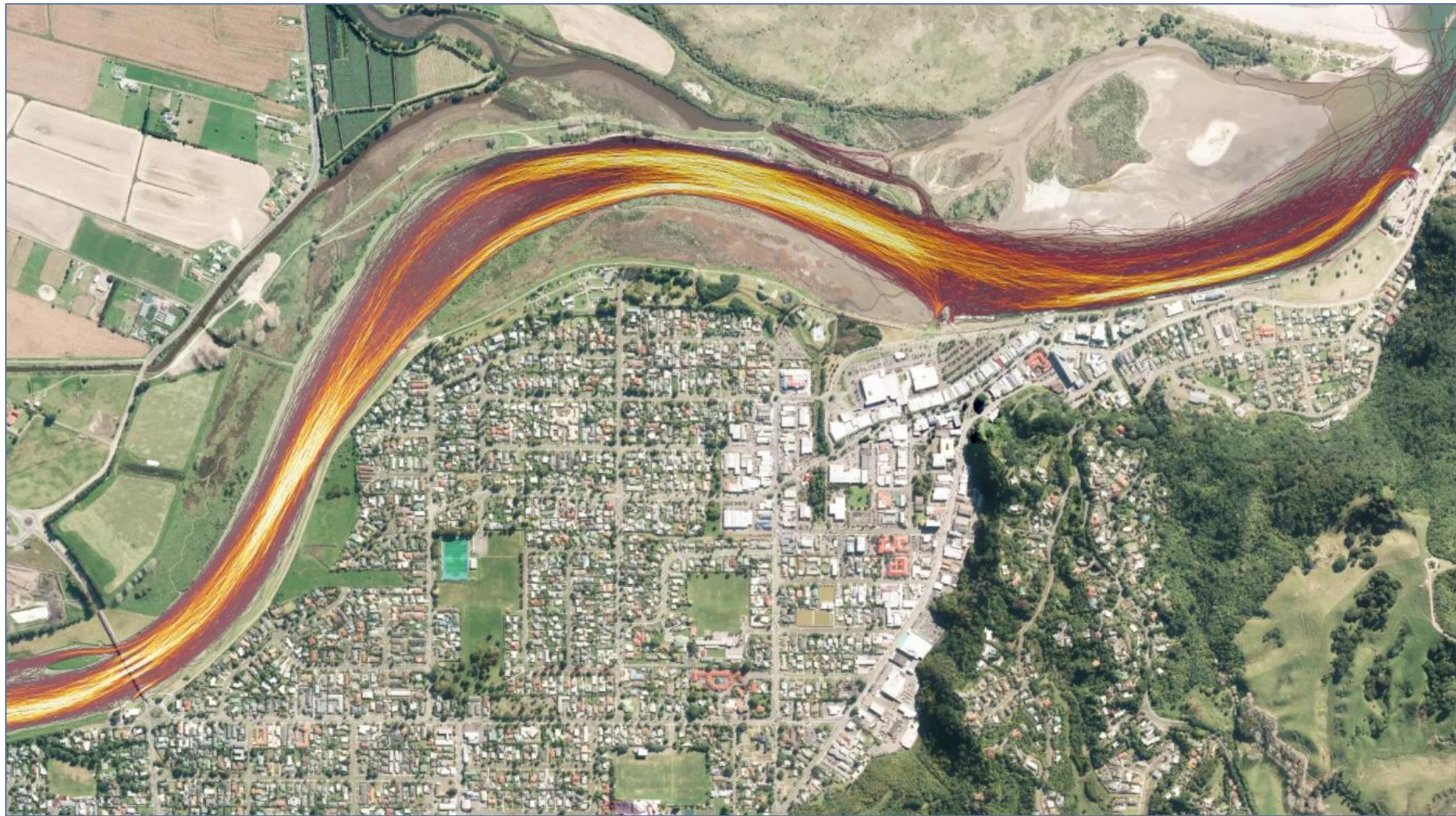
AIS data -
live
positions of
pleasure
craft, 7 April
2021 and
cumulative
tracks 2019



Strava data 'all
activities'
2021 -
Northport



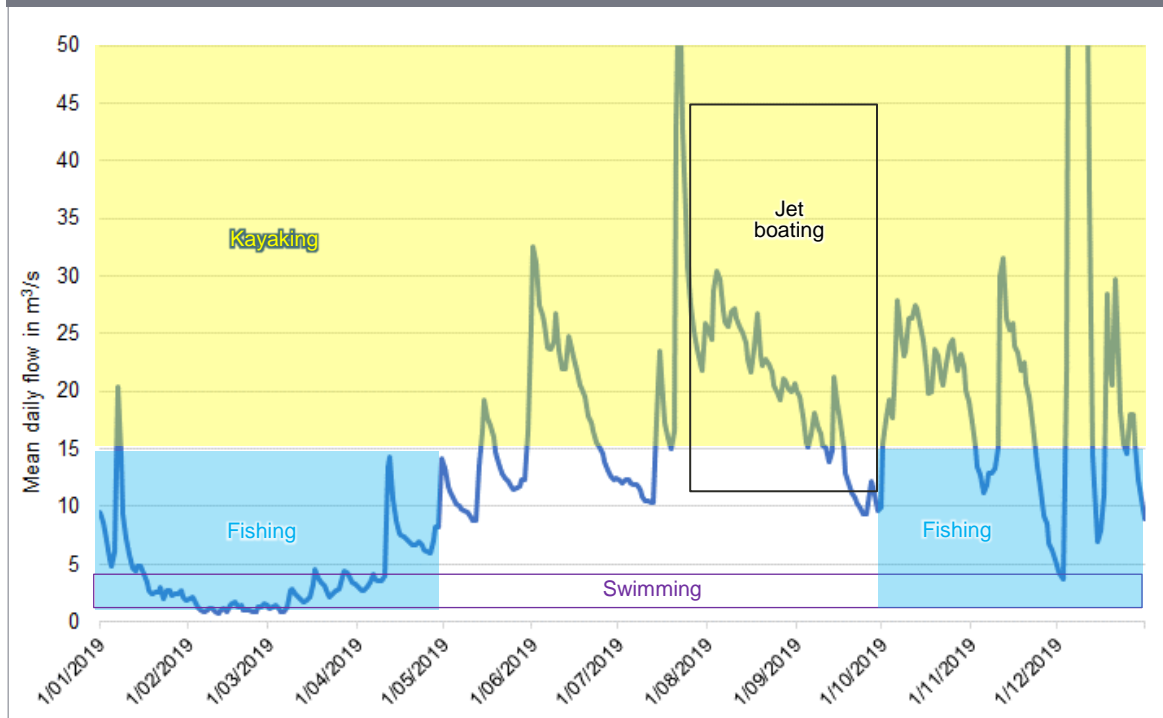
Strava data
'watersports'
2022 -
Whakatāne



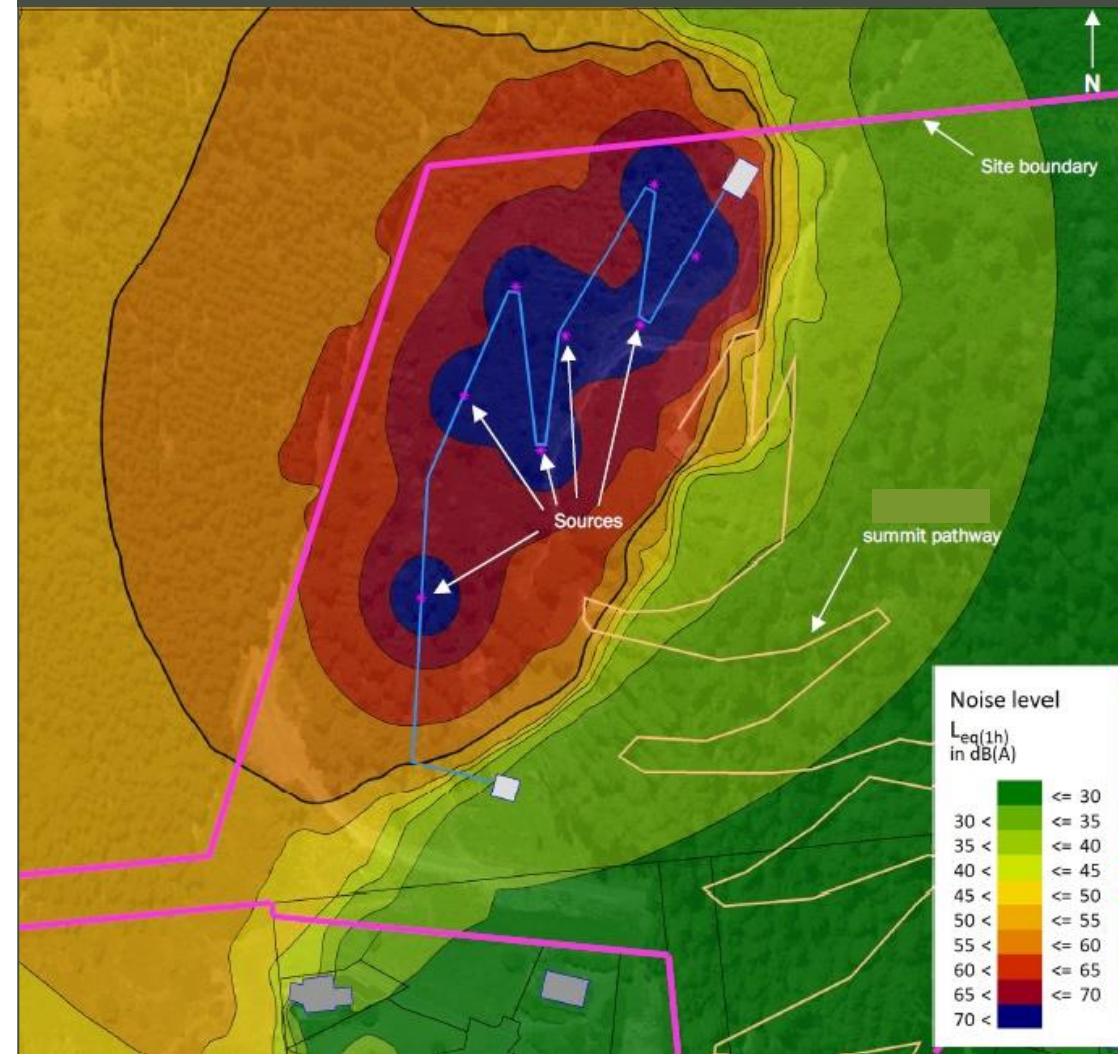
Integration with other specialities

- No 'social impact assessment'
- Relevant technical assessment focuses on their effects on the community (cultural, traffic, noise, dust, light, vibration, groundwater, landscape, etc)
- Recreation dependent on many of those specialities (ecology, noise, navigation, hydrology, landscape, etc)
- AEE report is the SIA

Activity flow bands by mean daily flows at Manuherekia 'Campground' for 2019



$L_{Aeq(1h)}$ of screams from riders over a 1 hour duration at 1.5m height



Data gaps

Little appetite for quantitative research at national and regional levels – besides NZ Fish & Game Council and Sport NZ (cf MPI and marine fisheries)

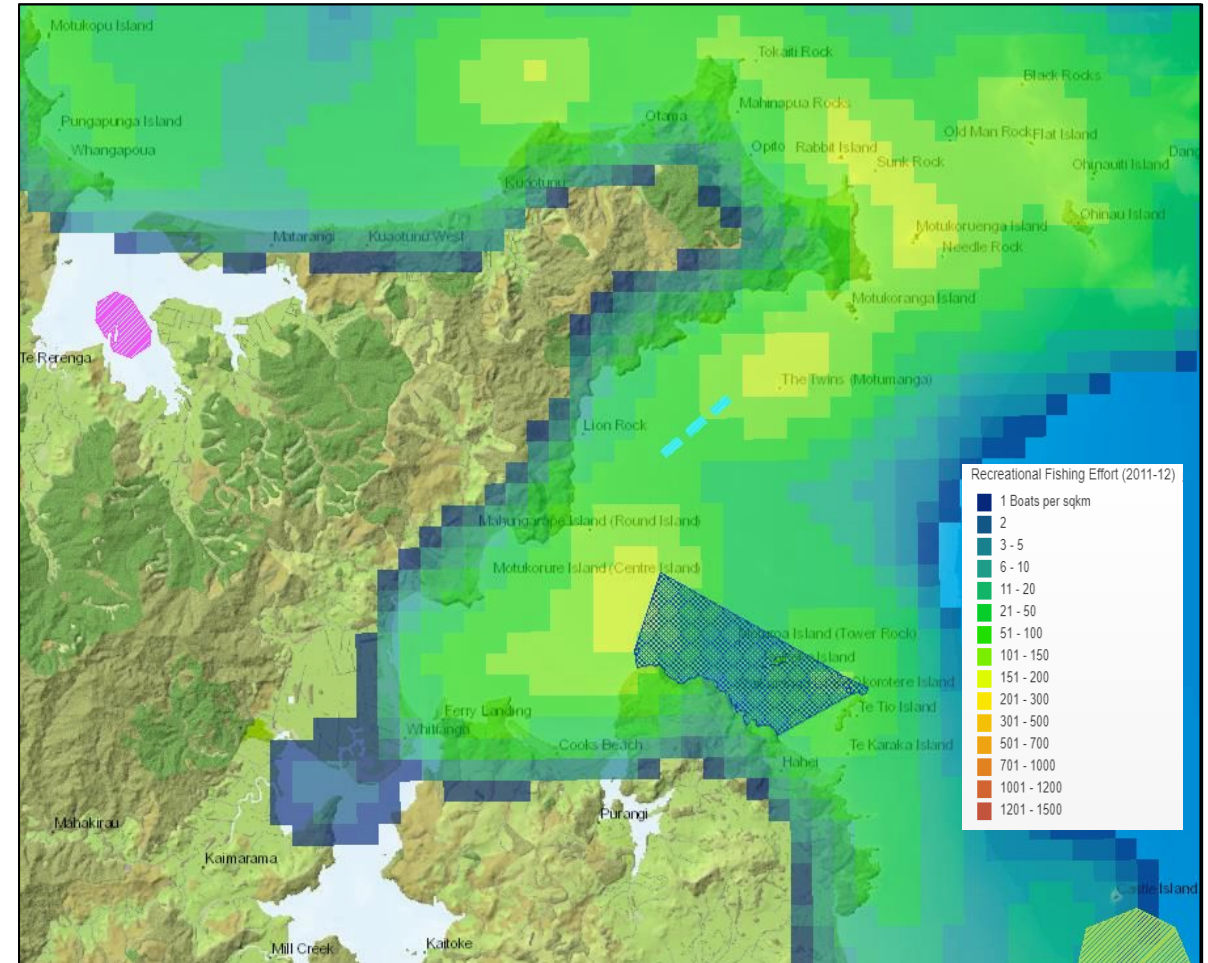
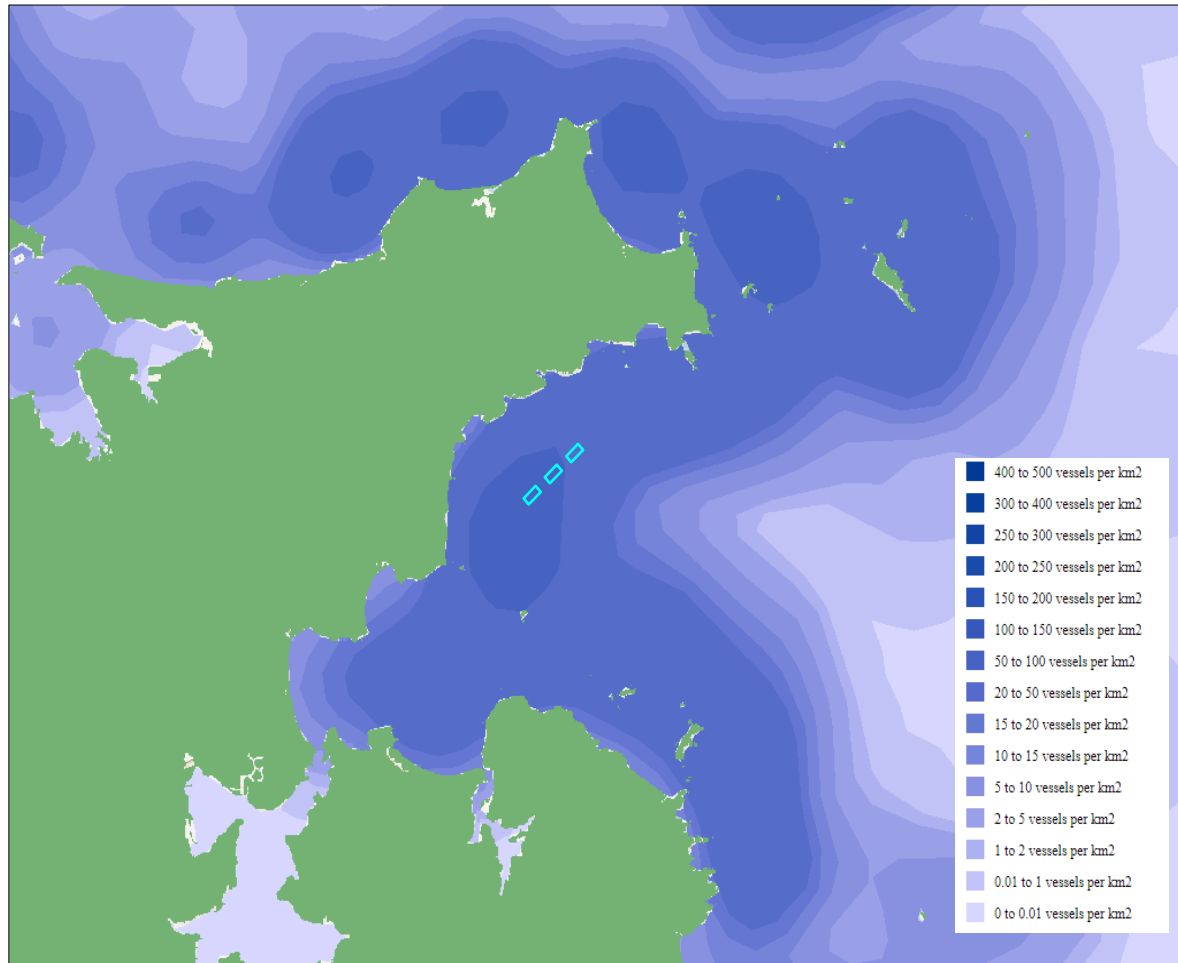
Sport NZ Active NZ 2019 :Proportion of those who have participated in each sport or activity in the 12 months prior among adults in 2019.

Walking	85%
Gardening	46%
Running / jogging	39%
Individual workout using equipment	38%
Swimming	34%
Playing games (eg, with kids)	32%
Day tramp	24%
Group fitness class (eg, aerobics, crossfit)	19%
Yoga	17%
Marine fishing	13%
Canoeing / kayaking	11%
Golf	11%
Road cycling	10%
Dance / dancing (eg, ballet, hip hop and so on)	10%
Surfing / body boarding	10%
Tennis	8%
Table tennis	8%
Overnight tramp	8%

MPI NABIS data: recreational fishing effort 2004/05 and 2011/12

Hartill, B.; Bian, R.; Armiger, H.; Vaughan, M.; Rush, N. (2007). *Recreational marine harvest estimates of snapper, kahawai and kingfish in QMA 1 in 2004-05*. New Zealand Fisheries Assessment Report 2007/26.

Hartill, B.; Bian, R.; ; Rush, N.; Armiger, H. (2013). *Aerial-access recreational harvest estimates for snapper, kahawai, red gurnard, tarakihi and trevally in FMA 1 in 2011-12*. New Zealand Fisheries Assessment Report 2013/70.



4. Did the OFWB project produce a list of outstanding NZ water bodies?

No. It was never contemplated that this project would identify freshwater bodies which are outstanding in New Zealand. The project solely focused on developing a set of usable criteria which could then be used by councils to identify OFWB in their region.

Ultimately, if developed, each individual council can choose to use (or not) the criteria and associated methodology to identify which water bodies are outstanding (if any) for the purposes of the NPSFM within their own region. This allows councils to accommodate exceptions to the criteria or undertake further data collection if necessary, or apply discretion to suit their own local circumstances and communities.

Belinda Harper, Senior Planner at Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Community Environment Fund

Outstanding Freshwater Body Project

RiVAS

Final Project Report
May 2017

HBRC Plan Number: 4931
HBRC Report Number: RM17-09

Does it matter?

Port Gore 2012

depending on what it is being used for⁶⁵. We are very conscious of those criticisms and record that we always find Mr Greenaway's references to and reliance on the "recreational opportunity spectrum" quite difficult. However, the basic concept(s) that there are varieties of types of recreational experience which, in part, depend on the setting in which they occur is, we suppose, a first step towards being consistent in analysis and comparisons. Further, as we shall see, the now operative New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 expressly contains an objective⁶⁶ requiring maintenance and enhancement of "recreational opportunities" of the coastal environment. So with caution we are prepared to rely on Mr Greenaway's evidence since it was not challenged by opposing evidence to any degree. Nor was it really damaged by specific cross-examination.

[183] We consider Mr Greenaway accurately reflected the evidence when he wrote²⁷⁹:

The focus by the Council and the [a]pplicants has tended to be on recreation use rather than the value of the area in terms of remote experience recreation and remote experience from a wider cultural perspective.

Since the council and applicants' evidence was simplistic and less comprehensive than Mr Greenaway's, we prefer the latter.

Port Gore 2017

[242] Whilst Mr Greenaway was the only specialist witness called on the topic of recreational amenity, we say with the greatest respect that we do not find his evidence assists us to any great extent. The difficulty with it is it was based on Mr Greenaway's presumption that a prudent recreation manager would seek to ensure the spectrum of recreation opportunity that he has described. By giving priority to recreational opportunity, Mr Greenaway has not approached his evaluation in accordance with pt 2 or relevant directions under the various statutory instruments. For example, he does not appear to have considered whether enhancing recreational opportunity at Port Gore would be at the cost of causing greater disturbance to the Threatened King Shag. The ecology evidence suggests it could well be. That brings us back to the proper means by which