

KIA ORA ISLAND RESIDENTS AND VISITORS!



Use a certified Pest Free
Warrant operator!

Here are some things you need to know before you go ashore

It is much more difficult and expensive to eradicate a pest than it is to stop it arriving in the first place. By following these simple steps, you can help keep our islands pest free.



Tēnā koe i tō tiaki i ō tātou
moutere o Tikapa Moana
Thank you for looking after
our Hauraki Gulf islands

Our islands are precious places. Some of them are free of pests and others are working hard to be! Everyone coming to the islands has an important role in protecting the island environment from biosecurity risks.

1. Check your gear and equipment before you visit the island!

While it's unlikely you'll have a feral goat hiding in your back-pack, unfortunately seeds, ants, invasive skinks and even the occasional mouse have been known to hitch a ride. So check everything, no matter how big or small!



2. Clean anything dirty!

Give shoes, wheels and equipment a good scrub to remove all dirt before you leave home and again when you see a cleaning station. Stay on tracks and off kauri roots.



3. If you bring a pet, please make sure you know the rules.

Pets are not allowed at all on some islands. In the places you can take them, they must be on leash except in designated off-leash areas. Find out about pets on islands and where you can exercise your dog at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



4. Going in the sea?

Avoid locations where exotic caulerpa has been found and check your gear for seaweed before you move! If you find any weed on your kayak, anchor, dive or fishing gear please put it in a bag and dispose of it in the rubbish.

5. Keen gardener?

Ideally, only purchase plants on the island or from a Plant Pass Nursery. If not grown on the island, these should be screened before arrival



Check, Clean, Close!

Pack your food into sealed containers to keep pests out and check all gear for other pests too.



If you are bringing any plant or animal onto an island, first check that it's not a known pest at tiakitamakimakaurau.nz. It's an offence to move known pests so if in doubt, check with us – we are here to help. If you do spot something you think could be a pest please let us know.

Top island biosecurity risks are:



Possums, stoats, feral goats and pigs

These pests are absent from most Hauraki Gulf Islands, which is great because they are very damaging to native places and wildlife.



Rats and mice

These omnivores eat birds, seeds, snails, lizards, fruit, weta, eggs, chicks, larvae and flowers and compete with native wildlife for food sources.



Argentine ants

Aggressive ants that can kill native insects, and birds. Known to swarm and bite. Take over large areas and are costly to eradicate.



Plague skinks

Breed prolifically and displace native skinks. Easily transported in potted plants, compost and even known to hide in backpacks.



Weeds and their seeds

Weeds can hide in dirt, camping gear, shoes and wheels and quickly dominate and smother existing plants.



Kauri Dieback

Dirt and soil can contain plant diseases including Kauri Dieback. Most islands don't have Kauri Dieback disease.



Dogs and other pets

Disturb and harm wildlife. Even leashed animals can stress birds and affect their nesting. Some pets, like turtles, lizards, fish birds and pigs may be considered pests – so check the rules before you travel.



Marine pests

Marine and aquatic pests can spread on boat hulls and boating equipment like dive gear, fishing gear, anchors, and even shellfish.

*Source: inaturalist, Nastya Klimova



Moana o Tikapa

Every visitor plays a part!

Get full info and advice
aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/pestfreehaurakigulf



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Ngā moutere i raro i te maru o Tiakina Tō Tātou Moana o Tikapa
PROTECT OUR HAURAKI GULF ISLANDS

