

The story
of the
**Friends of
Nelson Haven**



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of the
**Friends of
Nelson Haven
& Tasman Bay**

by Michael North



First published 2007 by Friends of Nelson Haven & Tasman Bay, Inc.
PO Box 365, Nelson 7040, New Zealand
info@nelsonhaven.org.nz • www.nelsonhaven.org.nz

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All care has been taken to accurately report this history. Any additions, comments or corrections would be appreciated.

This project proved to be very interesting to me and I am grateful to Friends for the opportunity to have been involved with it.

Michael North, Nelson, 2006



Front Cover picture: Waimea Estuary (1978 - Original size 255 x 205mm available from Friends of Nelson Haven.) by Perrine Moncrieff (1893-1979), granddaughter of British painter John Millais.

Perrine Moncrieff was a foundation member of Friends of Nelson Haven (1973) and active committee member (1973-1979); foundation member of the Native Bird Protection Society (1923) which became Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society; foundation member of the Australasian Ornithological Society, writing the first popular book on New Zealand birds (1925); purchased and gave Haulashore Island to people of Nelson; purchased 500 acres opposite Adele Island and made it into a private scenic reserve (1936); inspired and named Abel Tasman National Park (1945).

Back Cover picture: Nelson Haven © Craig Potton

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. New Zealand Environmental Issues – Late 1960s, Early 1970s.....	3
3. Environmental Movements in the Early 1970s.....	4
4. Nelson Environmentalism.....	4
5. Nelson Haven Recent History.....	6
6. Save Nelson Haven Meeting 9 July 1973.....	9
7. Early Years 1973-1977.....	10
8. Estuary Infilling.....	11
9. Pollution in Tasman Bay.....	12
10. Kempthorne-Prosser.....	14
11. Fruitgrowers Chemical Company at Mapua.....	15
12. Boulder Bank.....	16
13. Sewage.....	17
14. Middle Years 1977-1987.....	18
15. Planning.....	19
16. Other Issues.....	20
17. A Quieter Time 1988-1994.....	22
18. Southern Arterial.....	22
19. Later Years 1993-2003.....	23
20. Resource Management Plans.....	24
21. Marine Farming/Aquaculture.....	25
22. Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry.....	25
23. Marlborough Sounds Aquaculture.....	26
24. Recent Years 2004-2005.....	31
25. Looking Back and Forward.....	32
Appendix A: Abbreviations.....	34
Appendix B: Matters Addressed.....	35



THE THREAT TO NELSON HAVEN

The campaign to save the Nelson Haven Tidal Flats will reach a decisive stage at the Public Meeting on the 9th of July at the Nelson School of Music.

The first public reaction to the plans for reclaiming part of the Haven was voiced by the Wakapuaka Ratepayers Association, who last year voted unanimously in general meeting to oppose reclamation. But concern is much more widespread – hence the Public Meeting.

On Monday evening a brief account will be given of the reclamation proposals so far as these are known, speakers will explain the overwhelming objections to them, and you will hear reasons why the proposals should be permanently withdrawn and the Haven saved. Finally you will be invited to support a motion calling for their abandonment.

WHAT IS AT STAKE

1. The Nelson Haven tidal flats represent a unique public amenity and asset, not only for Nelson but for New Zealand. They are now in serious danger of 'development' by speculators which will irretrievably alter their character. If the plans go through, the values of the Haven, which we have all come to take for granted, will be forever lost to us and our children.

2. For generations children have played, swum and sailed on the Haven. From time immemorial birds have bred and fish have spawned there. Encroachments have already been made on it. Now the peace and beauty of the tidal flats are in danger of destruction by moneygrubbers who want to develop by reclamation sites on an elite 'marina' for a few to turn into a playground for the rich.

3. Those familiar with the Haven know that the tidal flats, far from being dull 'mud-flats', present a scene of ever-changing interest and beauty. Nor is this all. They know too that the Haven is part of an irreplaceable and diminishing estuarine area of immense ecological and economic value. Some of us, for example, will have been surprised to learn from the series of articles last week in this paper that, by providing a rich feeding ground for fish, the Haven is far more valuable to us consumers than a comparable area of the best farm land.

4. In a letter to the Nelson Harbour Board the Minister for the Environment has implied that the unique Boulder Bank should be preserved. This protection should be extended to cover all of the Nelson Haven, if possible, and at least that part north of Cemetery Point.

5. The Nelson City Council and the Nelson Harbour Board have wide powers under the law to reclaim and develop this area. But they are not compelled to use these powers, and they have an overriding obligation to the people of Nelson to do nothing for speculative short-term gain which could ruin an irreplaceable natural asset. It is for us to show them that public opinion is solidly against their proposals.

THIS IS YOUR HAVEN

IF YOU WANT TO SAVE IT YOU MUST ATTEND THE MEETING

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| WHERE | – School of Music |
| WHEN | – Monday, July 9th, 8 p.m. |
| WHO | – You |
| WHY | – To save Nelson Haven |

REMEMBER

THIS IS NOT JUST THE CONCERN OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE AT ATAWHAI. IT AFFECTS EVERY NELSONIAN. IT CONCERNS THE FUTURE OF NELSON.

DON'T LEAVE IT TO THE OTHER FELLOW

Inserted by Friends of the Haven



1. Introduction

On the evening of 9 July 1973, over 400 people crowded to over-spilling into the Nelson School of Music to hear about the opposition to the City Council's plans to infill a large part of the beautiful Nelson Haven for industrial and residential development. By the end of the evening the now emotional and galvanised gathering was amazed to hear the Nelson City Council Mayor, Roy McLennan, declare that "the development as proposed would not proceed as long as he was mayor, and for a long time after". Flushed with such apparent success, Friends of Nelson Haven was born.

This might well be described as Nelson's defining moment in environmental politics – the first local issue that captured the public imagination on such a scale, catapulting environmental issues firmly into Nelson's political arena.

What was the consciousness of the times, that in 1973 led to such an outpouring of environmental sentiment, and what were the background issues and events that led up to it?

2. New Zealand Environmental Issues – Late 1960s, Early 1970s

The industrial growth of the post-war economy had put an increasing pressure on the natural environment. By the 1960s this necessitated increased power generation and the building of dams in the undisturbed eastern South Island rivers and the Waikato and the Tongariro in the North Island. Indigenous logging continued on a large scale, followed by exotic conversion or farm development. This culminated in 1971 in a massive 'beech scheme' that proposed the logging of 340,000 hectares of beech forest, including 80% of Nelson's lowland beech. Marine fish stocks were plundered, a carnage from which they have never recovered (although commercial whaling had ceased in New Zealand by 1964). The use of the persistent DDT, 2,4,5T and 2,4D was widespread and extensive on farm and horticultural lands throughout the country, and most municipal sewers continued to pour raw sewage into our inshore waters.

Such despoliation, typically repeated in most western countries at that time, was the background to a rapidly growing awareness of the impacts of human activity on the environment. "This expanding consciousness went beyond scenery and ecology, into economics, energy and the way we ran our lives" and was part of a "new and critical intelligence engaging western democracies". (David Young, 2004, 'Our Islands Our Selves') that swept through the 1960s and early 1970s.



The issue that catalysed New Zealand environmental activism on a national scale was the damming of Lake Manapouri in the wilderness fastness of Fiordland National Park. The proposal, developed through the 1960s, had met with increasing opposition, but it was not until 1972, when media coverage had become extensive and an unprecedented petition of 264,000 signatures was presented to parliament, that the campaign sensed victory in stopping the lake level being raised. The national outrage was a watershed in environmental politics in New Zealand and led the way into the modern environmental era in this country.

3. Environmental Movements in the Early 1970s

Around 1970 environmental pressure groups in New Zealand and around the world began to confront wider issues such as pollution and the negative effects of industrial development. Although publicly subscribed nature preservation groups had been in existence in New Zealand as early as the late 1880s (the scenery preservation movement) and the Forest and Bird Protection Society since 1923, their focus was much narrower. The now well known international activist groups Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace had their beginnings in 1969 and 1971 respectively, and the first international meeting on the environment, the UN Conference on the Environment, was held in Stockholm in 1972.

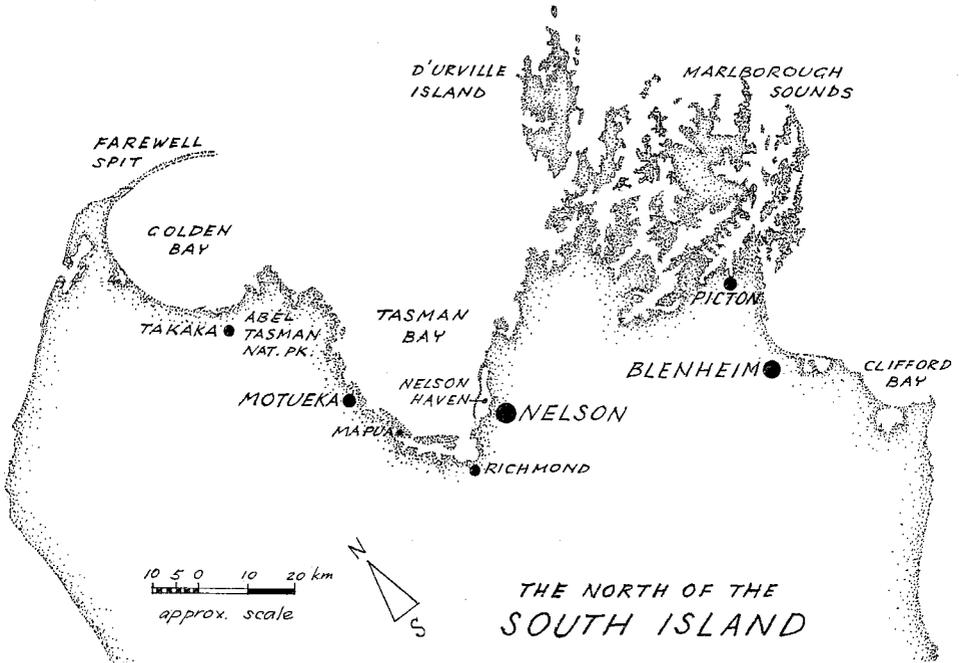
In the early 1970s locally based organisations began to spring up in New Zealand to confront pressing environmental problems in their neighbourhood that were largely outside the scope of such groups as Forest and Bird. For example, the Environmental Defence Society was formed in Auckland in 1971 as was Ecology Action in Christchurch. Burgeoning political consciousness also resulted in the emergence into the political arena of the Values Party in 1972, principally a party of social and environmental conscience. The Manapouri campaign fomented an activism and experience that was to continue on into such groups. Social and environmental protest had become almost respectable.

4. Nelson Environmentalism

Several key people were active around Nelson in the early 1970s prior to Nelson Haven infilling becoming an issue. Perrine Moncrieff, largely responsible for the successful protection of Farewell Spit and the creation of Abel Tasman National Park (Map 1), was very involved with the Nelson branch of Forest and Bird. One local issue being confronted was the protection of the Boulder Bank (which encloses the Haven, Map 2) from rock removal. Ecologists Gwen Struik and her husband Roger



Map 1



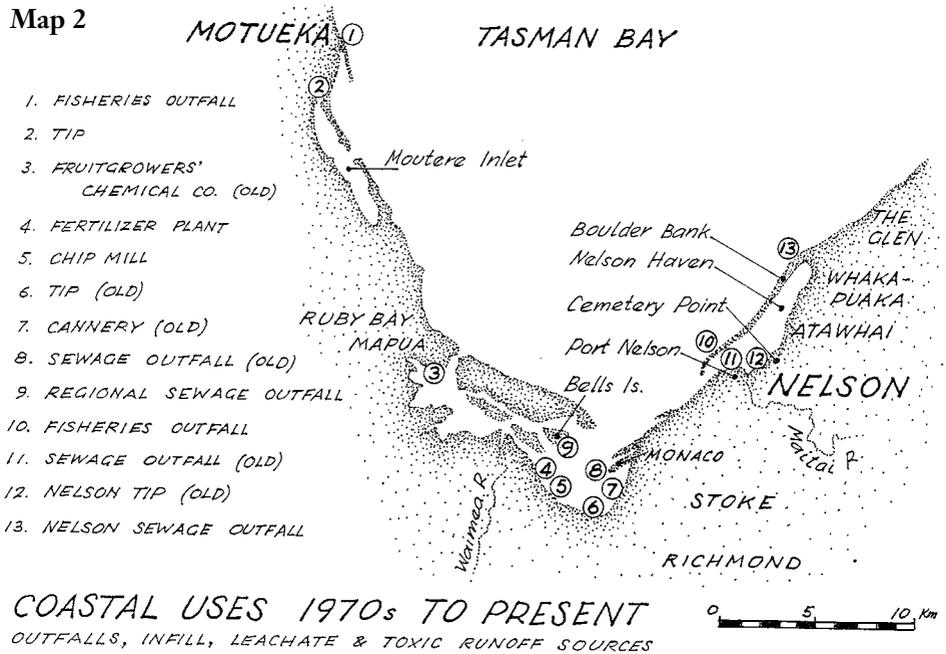
Bray took an early interest in the fragile ecology of the shallow waters of Tasman Bay, going back to the mid 1960s. Charles Guard, a fifth generation fisherman, was another key person with wide local environmental knowledge.

At this time, estuaries were just beginning to be appreciated for their ecological and economic values. The prevailing attitude was that they were wastelands, waiting to be put to good use. Knowledge of their incredible productivity had been realised only some 20 years before, and it had only been known for five years that they were crucial spawning and feeding grounds for many commercial inshore fish species. Even the word 'ecology' was a new word to most people and the 'environmental movement' as we know it today was embryonic.

New Zealand planning law that related directly to the natural and human environment came into being in 1953 with the Town and Country Planning Act, and was amended in 1967. It was this and the Water and Soil Conservation Act of 1967 that guided the newly formed groups of the early 1970s when confronting local issues of pollution and development. In 1968 the first tribunal held under this Act was heard by the Nelson Catchment Board (NCB, the regional water board) over the



Map 2



town's proposed raw sewage outfall pipe at Whakapuaka (Map 2 (13)), to which Gwen Struik, Roger Bray and many others were objectors.

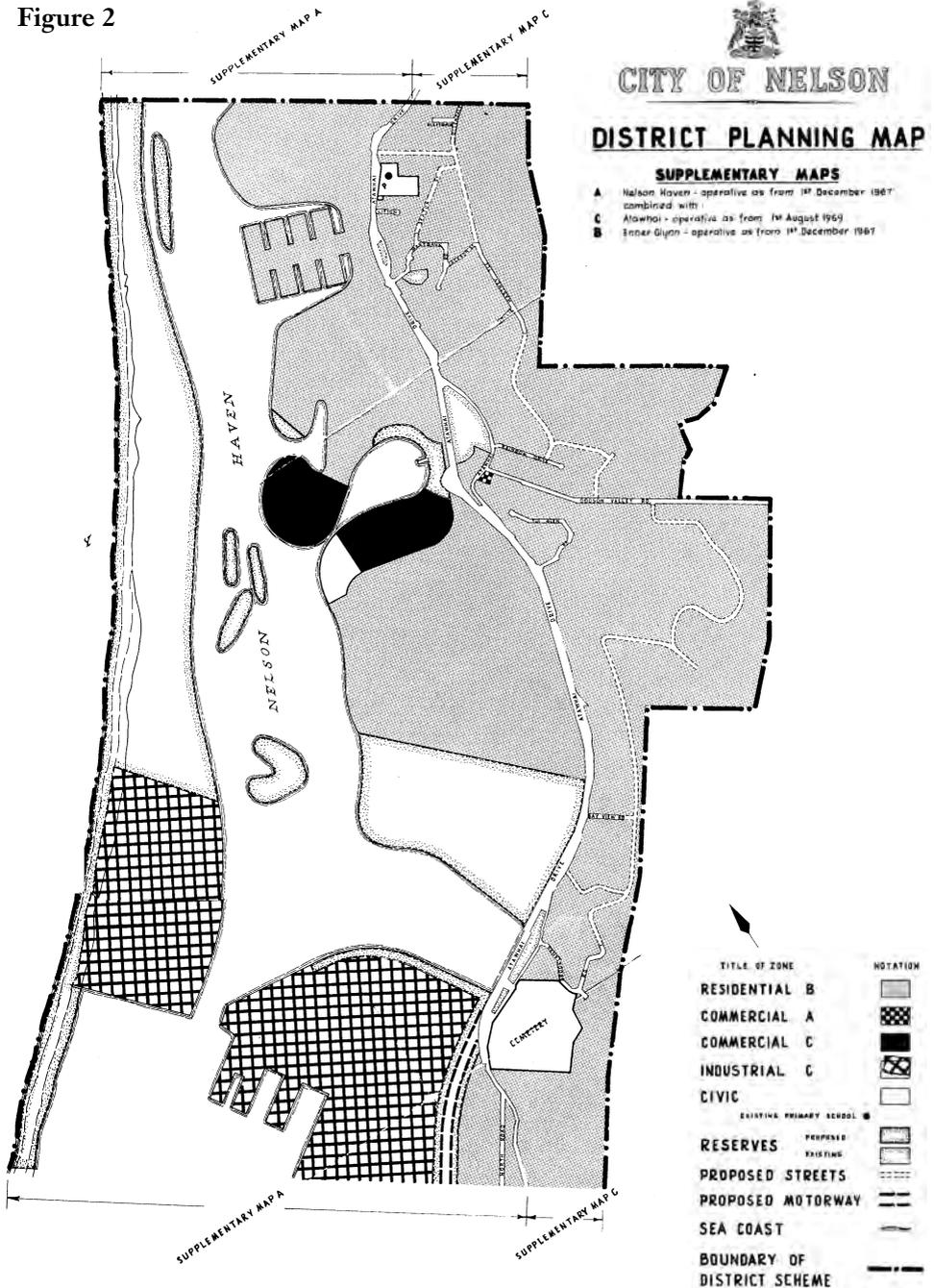
5. Nelson Haven Recent History

Nelson Haven is the estuary of the Maitai River, largely enclosed by a 13-kilometre boulder bank, providing sheltered waters and seafood – key reasons for the area being settled by both Maori and Pakeha. The Haven itself, other than for its margins, is unlikely to have been heavily affected much by Maori activity. With European settlement farming pressures in the early 1900s resulted in the drainage of large areas of wetland and saltmarsh at the shallowest northern end. The development of Port Nelson over the last 150 years has also encroached on hundreds of hectares of the Haven. In 1970 a road was built to the new sewage ponds that stopped the tidal flow at the northern end of the Haven. In all 900ha of the 2400ha of the Haven is now dry land.

Nelson Haven had long been vested in the Nelson Harbour Board (NHB) as part of its 17,280 hectares of endowment land. This comprised all the tidal land between Glenduan (The Glen) and Ruby Bay. In 1967 the Nelson City Empowering Act



Figure 2





enabled the Harbour Board to invest 150 hectares of the Haven in the Corporation of the City of Nelson. That year the Nelson City Council (NCC) made plans to house up to 18,000 people on 710 hectares of the remaining 1600 hectares of the Haven. A detailed map of the proposal was prepared in 1969 by NCC (Fig 2), which now also included a substantial area for industrial development and marina access to residential waterfront properties. The Harbour Board Empowering Act of 1970 empowered the Board to infill a further 260 hectares of Nelson Haven and 500 hectares of Waimea Estuary.

Only a trawl through the newspapers of that period would reveal what public response there was to this, but it is clear that the Nelson authorities were enthusiastically but quietly setting the scene for a very large development that would house the growing Nelson population and its industrial base. In June 1972 the *Nelson Evening Mail* reported on a joint NHB-NCC development plan for the Haven, with the first dissenting voice raised by Patrick McGrath, a local school teacher, in a letter to the paper. This elicited an immediate phone call from Peter Haig, a Nelson lawyer, and Gwen Struik was soon involved.

It was not until September 1972 however, when *Truth* newspaper ran a contentious article on alleged murky dealings between some members of NCC and a development consortium to expedite this development, that the public were truly roused. By this time the plan was for 160 hectares of industrial and port development by the NHB and 200 hectares of residential housing by a consortium. A flood of angry letters to the *Nelson Evening Mail* followed in the subsequent months. It appears that the article and letters were the catalyst for a rapidly growing public opposition to infilling the Haven.

Letters by Perrine Moncrieff to the *Nelson Evening Mail* in July and August 1972 canvassed the possibility of forming a watchdog group she tentatively named Friends of the Tidal Flats. She later started a petition against the infilling under the name of Friends of Nelson Haven Tidal Flats. People began to coalesce into an organised front, and on 8 April 1973 the first informal meeting was held, convened by Patrick McGrath with 14 people attending. From this meeting a loose 'interim committee' emerged. Perrine Moncrieff was approached to see if she could assist financially, which she did generously, to fund a leaflet, 'Save Nelson Haven' bumper stickers and advertising, ably organised by Andy Gregory, a local media person (Fig 1). Quite when the name 'Friends of Nelson Haven' was adopted is not now clear, but by the end of May the name appears in a press release with Peter Haig, the interim chairman, announcing a public meeting for early July.



6. Save Nelson Haven Meeting 9 July 1973

The meeting at the School of Music was so packed that many people stood outside. Presentations made by Frank Boyce (a retired banker and ornithologist), Gwen Struik, fisherman Charles Guard, and environment campaigner Guy Salmon were received enthusiastically. Frank Boyce's slides awakened the public to the beauty of the Haven. The mayor's astute stand-down was in retrospect not too surprising, considering the obviously huge feeling over the issue in his constituency. Such a showing of outrage and concern over an environmental issue had not been witnessed in Nelson before. A resolution was passed which read:

In view of the grave ecological, economic and aesthetic objections to the present plans to reclaim further large areas of Nelson Haven for industrial, commercial and residential development, this meeting calls on the Nelson City Council and the Nelson Harbour Board to abandon these plans for further reclamation unless for essential Port and Harbour purposes, so that the Haven may be allowed to remain in its natural state for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future residents of and visitors to Nelson. And to that end this meeting calls on the Nelson City Council to investigate the possibility of declaring at least the area of tidal flats north of Cemetery Point a reserve under the Reserves and Domains Act 1957, or other appropriate legislation.

A follow-up meeting was announced for 23 July. Meanwhile the mayor had to explain his announcement to the surprised councillors the next day, who until then had generally assumed that the development would go ahead, as it was in the District Scheme. In his own words, "I was lucky, Councils like to be led not pushed." On 19 July the full council of NCC met to discuss the development. On a casting vote of the mayor they made no policy decision against residential reclamation in the Haven but agreed to examine objections to the proposal when the town planning scheme was reviewed. Clearly the fight was not over.

The follow-up public meeting at Nelson Central School was held to form a group willing to take an active interest in the continuing campaign to save the Haven. It attracted more than 50 people. Much of the discussion was spent debating whether to expand the scope of the movement to include the protection of the whole of Tasman Bay. To change the name and scope so soon was judged premature, although it later came to pass. Proposals agreed to included having a presence at NCC and NHB meetings when Haven reclamation was being discussed, and to arrange for the circulation of a monthly newsletter to members. The existing interim committee became an elected committee, the numbers rising to 23 with the addition of ten further members.



In late July the Nelson Haven Seminar was held. This was organised by Victoria University as part of its adult education programme; there was no polytechnic in Nelson at that time. This was a very useful event as it covered all the issues that were facing the Haven and included speakers and attendees from all sides of the Nelson community including NCC and NHB and of course Friends. It was certainly an education on the environment for many public figures who had not given it too much thought.

7. Early Years 1973-1977



Within a few months the group had adopted its current name of 'Friends of Nelson Haven and Tasman Bay' and had started pursuing issues other than those directly affecting the Haven. The original single issue had snowballed into a concern for the whole of Tasman Bay and all that threatened it.

The Friends logo (left) was also developed at this time when they adopted the open hands motif, 'New Zealand is in our hands' used by the Conservation Week Committee of the Nature Conservation Council, and substituted a map of New Zealand with that of Tasman Bay. Surviving documentation of this period is scant, with most minutes of meetings, and all but a couple of annual reports, now lost. Over this period, Frank Boyce replaced Peter Haig as chair with Patrick McGrath as treasurer. Duncan Harris, a Nelson medical doctor, and Doris Reynolds joined the committee and remained, often as office holders, for the following 30 years. In early 1976 the Friends became an Incorporated Society and membership of the society stood at 180 in April that year.

One of the difficulties Friends faced at this time was one of recognition. As an objector to any proposal that fell either under the Water and Soil Conservation Act, the Harbour Act or the Town and Country Planning Act, Friends had first to demonstrate that they had sufficient 'standing' to do so. With Peter Haig's experience as a solicitor and professional contacts, this was achieved. In presenting cases at hearings and appeals, there was often an implicit underlying tone of condescension along the lines of 'who are you, who do you think you are - a bunch of do-gooders, and how many members do you have anyway?' Environmental lobby groups were almost an unknown entity at the time, and the establishment wasn't used to such activists muscling in on their deliberations. And Friends had no track record.

Friends soon became involved in a wide range of issues facing Tasman Bay, which were broadly of two themes, threats to water quality and threats of infilling with subsequent loss of estuarine habitat.



8. Estuary Infilling

Although the residential development championed for the Haven was dropped by the City Council, the Harbour Board continued to pursue its development plans. By July 1975 these entailed the infilling of 50 hectares of the Haven east of the existing port, and a re-routing of the mouth of the Maitai River, to accommodate port and industrial activity, and a marina. Friends opposed this on principle: the Harbour Board should not be destroying parts of the Haven on speculative development that had nothing to do with the actual needs of the port. They claimed that the environmental impact report made no reference to informed local opinion. By February 1977 the development plans had been reduced to 24ha of marina and infill for industrial use.

In 1979 the Harbour Board was finally given approval by NCC for a reclamation - 14.5 hectares at the mouth of the Maitai River that was to create a boat harbour east of the port, and an area of land from the dredgings for industrial development. These works were completed by 1984. While this work was underway, the Harbour Board produced a development plan in late 1979 for the future needs of the port that included a number of possible other reclamations, including a 28 hectare island inside the Boulder Bank, and up to 7 hectares in the Main Wharf area. Bill Moore's 1990 book on the port *Shaping Up and Shipping Out* reveals that, 'the environmental society FNH&TB accused the board of delusions of grandeur. Friends' chairman Mr. Noel Matheson said the lighthouse reclamation and bridge to it "represents a gross interference with the natural environment and a threat to all recreational users of the harbour" .' The plan was dropped a year later by the Board.

However, they pursued the idea of reclamation in the powerhouse area west of the port only to run into staunch opposition not only from Friends but also from a vocal group of people, some of whom were to eventually form Nelson Harbour Watch in 1986. The media spats that followed were often vociferous. The Board put forward instead a waterfront development for the city that included a possible restaurant, extensive wooden decking, some of it floating, kiosk type shops and jetties. By March 1985 the board had changed tack and instead begun to focus on a further 4-hectare extension to the Maitai reclamation. In July 1986 when the board applied for ports authority approval, the Wildlife Service, Forest and Bird, Nelson Harbour Watch and Friends all submitted their opposition to it. In the same month a Cawthron Institute study was released that stated that this was the third most ecologically damaging of six possible reclamation sites, recommending that all future reclamations be of sub-tidal rather than inter-tidal areas.



In the end the board did not go through with their final application, citing costs as the reason. It seems likely that finance was always a stumbling block in the Harbour Board's development plans, but that the considerable opposition to reclamation beyond the core needs of the port had an equal part to play.

In 1979, Friends made a submission to the Local Bills Committee of Parliament to repeal the Nelson Harbour Board Empowering Act 1970, and the Nelson City Council Empowering Act 1967, but this was unsuccessful. Although made virtually redundant by subsequent legislation, these Acts theoretically at least, still left the way open for substantial infilling of the Haven. And so it proved. In October 1980 the Waimea County Council's objectives and policies relating to its District Planning Scheme revealed plans for a vast infilling of Waimea Estuary within part of the area covered by the 1970 Act. Thankfully, however, this never eventuated.

Friends were not able to bring a halt to further infilling of the Haven around the port, but were successful in greatly limiting it. The Harbour Board was keen to infill for industrial development as this would generate it much revenue. Friends established that only essential port related development was acceptable. The rate of infilling had also slowed after the Ministry of Transport adopted more stringent policies aimed at preventing estuaries and intertidal areas being destroyed.

However, Friends was unable to stop the infill of smaller areas of the Waimea estuary at this time, such as a large bark dump of some hectares at the Forest Products chipmill (Map 2 (5)), and an illegal 2.8-hectare infill by a road building firm at Monaco that was stopped but could not be reversed.

9. Pollution in Tasman Bay

By the mid 1970s largely untreated effluent still continued to pour into Tasman Bay – an estimated 14 million litres a day into Waimea Estuary in 1976. This included wastes from two piggeries, the Apple and Pear Board cannery, Nelson freezing works, Nelson Pine Forests chipmill, and the Stoke and Richmond sewage outfalls (Map 2, page 6). Extensive beds of sea lettuce had developed on the tidal flats, possibly as a result of over enrichment of the waters. At Mapua, the Fruitgrowers Chemical Company discharged pesticides into the Waimea Estuary from three sources: the factory, leachates from their tip and run off from their herbicide depot. This has resulted in New Zealand's most polluted site.

For a variety of reasons, the regulatory environment was tightening up. Public expectations were changing, fuelled by activist groups like Friends. Councils and catchment boards began to implement stricter regimes locally, with support from



Figure 3 Nelson Mail, 17 May 1976

Waimea inlet tidal exchange limited

Nelson Mail
May 17, 1976

The ecology of the Waimea Inlet could be in the balance if more wastes are poured into it. Signs are that the tidal exchange of sea water is not as great as previously thought.

Recent dye tests conducted by the Nelson Catchment Board suggest that a far greater proportion of the inlet water returns with the next tide than thought.

The tests could have a bearing on the siting of the discharge pipe from the proposed regional sewage treatment plant on Bells Island. They could also have a bearing on the discharge of effluent from the proposed fertiliser works at Richmond.

Kempthorne Prosser and Company Ltd has advised the board that its effluent would not be acceptable to the sewage scheme because of the high fluoride content which could poison the ponds.

The board's water committee has recommended that the staff assist the company in making further investigations and dye tests.

The recent tests suggest that any discharge from the eastern tip of Bells Island at the top of the tide may return almost to the same area, while discharges later in the falling tide tend to flow back toward the Richmond tip and the freezing works areas.

COMPLEX FLOW

The board's chief engineer, Mr W.R. Green, said the flow of water in and out of the inlet was very complex. The tests had shown that the water exchange rate with the tides was not nearly as great as had been thought previously.

The board's tests were made through the use of a jet boat. A red dye, rhodamine B, was mixed with methylated spirits which was fed into the water through the impellers of the jet boat. This ensured that the dye penetrated to a depth of two metres.

The boat stayed with the dye patch during each test, and aerial photographs were taken at intervals to record its progress.

As the dye cloud faded in the water during the day, it was recharged from the boat.

This method of conducting the dye tests was devised by the board's staff. As far as is known it has not yet been used elsewhere.

Mr Green told the board's water committee this week that the results of the tests would require some re-thinking. Previous tests had been made by a firm of consultants for the

sewage scheme, but they had shown the rate that a given quantity of test fluid had dispelled rather than its course during a tidal period.

CRUX OF PROBLEM

In Tasman Bay, beyond the mouth of the inlet, the tidal flow was north eastwards along the outside Boulder Bank. The problem facing the board was how far out toward the bay a discharge point should be located so the ebbing tide from the Waimea Inlet would carry effluent to a point where it would not return with the rising tide.

Mr Green said the tests had been concentrated on one part of the dye cloud as it gradually dispersed. If it had been possible to recharge the whole of the fading dye cloud, it might have shown that some of the fluid from the original point at Bells Island had been dispersed

into the main channel and carried out past the Tahuna spit and into the main tidal flow.

Future tests will be concentrating on this aspect and dye will be released closer to the sea. In this way there should be some indication of how much is carried into the main offshore tidal current.

The map shows the paths of dye clouds released from the south-eastern tip of Bells Island at full tide and half tide.

Another test, not shown, was made at dead low water and the dye was released in the main channel opposite the golf course. This dye cloud followed the course of that released at half tide but was carried closer to the Richmond dump and the Stoke freezing works area of the inlet at the bottom of the map.





changing national environmental policies. Authorities had been operating on the basis of ‘dilution and dispersion as the solution to pollution’ – assuming that the tidal cycle would take all discharges away and out to sea where they would be diluted to safe if not undetectable concentrations. But was this valid in the case of the Waimea Estuary? NCB’s own circulation study, funded by the joint councils in 1976 showed that 30 per cent of water washed out on the outgoing tide from the estuary returned on the next incoming tide (Fig 3). In response to growing concern, Cawthron Institute published a paper in 1977 (Updegraff et al. *New Zealand Journal Marine and Freshwater Research*, 11:559-75) measuring the water quality of Waimea Inlet and Nelson Haven. They found high contamination of water near outfalls, and also in the sediments of the mud flats in the two estuaries, but off-shore areas had normal seawater. They hoped these baseline studies would be used for future assessments.

Tackling these pollution issues became the focus of the Friends’ activities, involving them in lengthy submissions, hearings and lobbying, particularly at tribunals of the Nelson Catchment Board. It was largely Gwen Struik, Roger Bray, Peter Haig (and later Frank Boyce) who researched and/or presented these cases at this time, their effectiveness due to a combination of ecological knowledge and legal expertise. This was a very steep learning curve for the group – becoming au fait with hearing procedures, and the need for rigorous presentations. They also had to become conversant with the three Acts that related to, or affected, the coast, namely the Town and Country Planning Act, the Harbour Act and the Water and Soil Conservation Act. They had the good fortune to have two very useful contacts who furnished them with a great deal of information and advice. Patrick McCombs from the Ministry for the Environment was visiting regularly from Wellington, surveying Tasman Bay’s water pollution issues and discharge consents, with a view to persuading the Councils to improve their performances. The other was John Maslin, the District Land Registrar who advised them on legal matters and procedures, and who was treated with great respect by opponents’ lawyers, because of his position.

The cost of commissioning their own water quality tests however was a major frustration, and it meant that the Friends were often unable to back up their cases with the necessary evidence.

10. Kempthorne-Prosser

The great success story at this time was preventing the discharge of fluorosilicic acid into the Waimea Estuary by the fertiliser company Kempthorne-Prosser (Map 2 (4)). The company had applied for a water right to discharge this byproduct of superphosphate manufacture created when rock phosphate is treated with sulphuric acid.



Objectors included Friends, and two other groups plus Nayland College Ecology Action students who correctly analysed the chemistry to identify precipitated fluoride as potentially harmful to biota both in estuarine sediments as well as receiving waters. In March 1974 the Nelson Catchment Board tribunal granted a water right, with conditions, allowing 1600 ppm of the acid to be discharged, despite international standards recommending less than 10 ppm. Friends, along with Charles Guard of the Nelson Fishermen's Association appealed the decision. The Town & Country Planning Appeal Board hearing was held in May 1975, adjourned *sine die*, although the company failed to appear or give evidence to the Court. Judge Treadwell never made a judgement – an extraordinary event. During this period, staff of the NCB did an experiment to understand estuarine water movement. They put dye on a parcel of water on the outgoing tide, at the site of the proposed discharge, using a boat and spotter plane to trace the dyed water through a complete tidal cycle. The water left the estuary, but returned on the incoming tide (Fig 3). This demonstrated why estuaries are both nutrient and pollutant traps, and therefore both highly productive and vulnerable. With this evidence, plus new overseas evidence supplied by Friends, the NCB was able to negotiate with the company, which withdrew its application to discharge in 1977 and agreed to incorporate the fluoride into its fertiliser so that it was released back to land in the most dilute form achievable.

This was the first time Friends had appealed an NCB tribunal decision, and the outcome was favourable. Lessons learned included:

- appeal periods give time for new evidence and rethinking to occur
- Friends' actions put the NCB in a strong negotiating position
- Friends' status was demonstrated as being useful
- byproducts produced on land must not go into water, but best remain on land
- the company could take credit for environmental sensitivity
- most importantly, no toxic fluoride entered the estuary.

11. Fruitgrowers Chemical Company at Mapua

The legacy of the mixing and storage of highly toxic pesticides at this site (Map 2 (3)) over several decades continues to vex the country to this day – with remedial works now underway that will cost many millions of dollars. It is considered New Zealand's most toxic site. At the time however the prevailing view – at least by industry and some government authorities – was that these chemicals were not dangerous if used properly, and that the discharges and any spills would all wash away out to sea, sufficiently diluted – a stunning combination of wishful thinking and wilful ignorance.



In November 1974 Peter Haig wrote to the NCB urging them to re-examine their discharge permits, which had been granted years before under now superseded legislation. Furthermore the permits did not cover the pesticides that were being ground and mixed at the plant – 139 chemicals in all. The result of this was that in October 1976 a NCB tribunal was held to hear the Fruitgrowers Chemical Company's (FCC) application to discharge stormwater and washings into the Waimea Estuary. This was opposed by Friends with Gwen Struik and Frank Boyce presenting their case, as well as 14 other groups and individuals including the Wildlife Service. It seems incredible now that the NCB granted a consent for FCC to discharge their effluent into the estuary – a veritable cocktail of biocides.

Friends appealed this decision, the appeal being heard in March 1978 by the Town and Country Planning Appeal Board. Based substantially on the advice of the Cawthron Institute and Prof. George Knox that dilution was sufficient, and that invertebrate marine life in the vicinity was largely unaffected, the consent was upheld. The water right was not granted until early 1983, and not issued until a year after that, when FCC had to comply. The company subsequently changed hands several times, thus avoiding responsibility for environmental damage.

The dumping and leaching of herbicides and pesticides into the estuary continued until 1988. Part of the site (former Harbour Board endowment land) was then inherited by Tasman District Council (TDC) in 1989. The remainder was transferred in 1990 with a contribution from the owners towards facilitating a cleanup. Currently (2006) an \$8 million cleanup of nearly 40 years' contamination is underway financed by ratepayers and taxpayers, an example of privatised profits and socialised environmental costs.

12. Boulder Bank

The protected status of the Boulder Bank (Map 2, page 6) that encloses Nelson Haven is taken for granted today, yet until 30 years ago it was hardly recognised by the public as a rare geomorphological structure whose origins are still being debated. Gwen Struik recalls that in the 1970s after she had given a talk to some 600 pupils at Nelson Girls College, both teachers and students said they had never heard of the Boulder Bank or Nelson Haven.

When the Nelson Harbour Board administered it, the Boulder Bank was under constant threat. By 1970, thousands of cubic metres of boulders had been removed for infill by the NHB for wharf construction. In 1972 hundreds of tons of boulders were bulldozed for farm buildings at the Glen by the adjacent farmer and NHB



chairman. The free-for-all removal of rocks by the public at large was, however, stopped. Forest and Bird commissioned a booklet by scientists, and published by Cawthron Institute (1976), and began to campaign for the bank's protection. The issue was also taken up by Friends, in particular Frank Boyce. Long articles in the *New Zealand Woman's Weekly* (1975) and the *Nelson Evening Mail* (24 April 1976) detail further damage, with unrestricted vehicle access carving out deep ruts through the lichen-encrusted boulders, the burning of dunnage (offal), and the regular dumping of rubbish. Although a vehicle barrier was installed this was soon bypassed by vehicles and the NHB was resistant at first to protect the Boulder Bank in any way.

Despite setting up a Boulder Bank Advisory Committee in 1978 with scientific and public representation, and part of the Boulder Bank becoming a Special Conservation Zone, under NCC's third District Scheme review in 1981, the area was still vulnerable. It was not until 1989 that it became fully protected when the newly formed Department of Conservation pushed for management of it under local government reorganisation to be vested in the Nelson City Council. It is now a Scenic Reserve.

13. Sewage

In the late 1960s, central Nelson's industrial and domestic sewage was discharged directly into the mouth of the Maitai River (Map 2 (11), page 6) where it entered the Nelson Haven. The Health Department found this unacceptable and a pipe was planned to take the sewage through the Boulder Bank to Tasman Bay. Drogue tests showed the effluent would head to Tahuna Beach, arguably Nelson's most important recreation and tourist site. The pipe was therefore redesigned to go north to include Atawhai sewage and to discharge into Tasman Bay via an outfall pipe through the Boulder Bank at Whakapuaka (Map 2 (13), page 6). The 1968 Nelson Catchment Board tribunal hearing had many objectors to the discharge of raw sewage into the productive fishery of the Bay. The outfall was approved, with the condition that if pollution were found then treatment would be implemented. Coliform counts in Tasman Bay receiving waters jumped dramatically after the pipe was installed and by 1979 oxidation ponds were operating. Unfortunately, the road constructed to build and service the pipe stopped tidal flow to over 120 ha of Nelson Haven, part of which is now sewage oxidation ponds. The treatment ponds have 'crashed' numerous times, despite expensive remedial work, and are still on the verge of overload in 2006. A major upgrade is underway with a wetland final treatment scheme proposed by iwi with support from many groups, including Friends. Discussions with NCC staff have resulted in the wetland being likely to be built without community input. However



one positive outcome is the excellent 'Cultural Impact Assessment of the Nelson Sewage Scheme and Ponds' prepared by Dean Walker et al in 2003 for local iwi, in support of their wetland proposal.

As early as 1973 a regional sewage scheme for the Waimea Estuary was considered. The scheme was to include NCC's Stoke/Tahuna sewage, plus that of Richmond Borough Council (RBC), plus industrial effluent pip food processing, the meat works and a chip mill in Waimea County (WCC). Friends was involved in hearings and negotiations were delayed, in part, because the meat works installed their own nutrient recovery facility thereby reducing its BOD, nutrient loading and financial contribution. Compost, sold from site, became an excellent example of an industry turning 'waste' into a saleable asset, when circumstances made it advantageous.

In early 1976 *Truth*, then the most widely read newspaper in New Zealand, ran a hard hitting article on the polluted state of the Waimea Estuary. The *Nelson Evening Mail* gave good press coverage, there were long articles interviewing Gwen Struik in the *New Zealand Woman's Weekly* (and another women's magazine) and even a television news item on the state of the estuary. Certainly the growing public recognition of the polluted state of coastal waters and pressure from central government on local authorities to upgrade their sewage treatment was the impetus behind the 1976 tribunal hearing on the Regional Sewage Scheme. Friends supported the upgrade, of course, with Gwen Struik, Roger Bray and the chairman Frank Boyce giving evidence. They objected to the continued discharges into coastal water instead of to agricultural land and pine plantations. The hearing imposed conditions on marine discharges that were a marked improvement on the original proposal. The scheme was finally commissioned in 1983 (Map 2 (9), page 6).

14. Middle Years 1977-87

In 1977 Noel Matheson, retired head of the English department at Nelson College, joined Friends and took over the chair from Frank Boyce. He was to hold this position for over a decade and dedicated much of this time to campaigning on local environmental issues under the banner of the Friends. Friends' growing influence and successes over this time owes much to his determined efforts alongside stalwart committee members A.E. (Tony) West, Henk Heinekamp, Pam Neville and Lois Morgan. Noel was involved with many of the above issues including the Regional Sewage Scheme, Boulder Bank, Fruitgrowers Chemical Company, Kempthorne-Prosser and harbour reclamation issues. Membership hovered between 120-200 through this time, a not inconsiderable number for a group pursuing often unglamorous environmental issues in a small city.



Informative and often detailed updates of Friends' activities were published quarterly in the *Nelson Environment Journal* throughout this time. Published by the Nelson Environment Centre, this magazine ran from 1977 until 1999, and carried a piece by the Friends in almost every issue up until 1987. From June 1978, Friends rented office space in Alma St. alongside the Nelson Environment Centre. This provided office space for Noel since he was committing so much of his time to Friends' activities. This space was rented until Noel stepped down.

By the end of the 1970s, Friends had found their place as an assumed part of the regional environmental planning process. Noel noted in early 1980 that "we are finding that we are now receiving more information in the form of preliminary reports and surveys, often well in advance of firm decisions being taken". Not only was there increasing recognition of the group, but in his words, "increasing public consciousness of the need for greater care to be taken for developments in the Nelson area has had an effect on most local authorities and some companies as well as government agencies". The very presence of the Society (Friends) in Nelson had undoubtedly helped to raise the public environmental consciousness. Newspaper exposure of coastal issues was certainly helped by some sympathetic people in the local media.

National legislation and attitudes of parliamentary departments were also having a good effect. By the mid 1980s the rate of estuary infilling had slowed, largely as a result of the Ministry of Transport adopting more stringent policies aimed at preventing estuaries and intertidal areas from being destroyed. In general, government agencies such as the Ministries of Works and Transport were much quicker to recognise the value of recent scientific information on the coastal environment than local authorities who are subject to different pressures for development.

By 1985 Noel observed that, "I think the Friends have been particularly effective in the field of pollution clean up, raising public awareness of coastal values, encouraging better planning of the coastal resource and slowing down infilling, but we are still meeting a certain amount of resistance which is often due to ignorance of the ecological processes involved."

15. Planning

Friends took an early interest in helping to shape local government attitudes and activities with regard to the coast, with strong submissions and appeals on a wide range of planning documents. Initially there was no regional governance, rather



the Tasman Bay coastline was administered by autonomous local councils, these being Nelson City Council, Richmond Borough Council, Waimea County Council and Motueka Borough Council. In 1978 Nelson Bays United Council came into being, the first regional council for the area. Then in 1989 with local government reorganisation, Tasman Bay fell under the jurisdiction of Tasman District Council (TDC) and Nelson City Council, which were under the umbrella of Nelson–Marlborough Regional Council. Things changed again when in 1992 residents voted to opt out of a regional authority, an option offered by parliamentary legislation, so that from that date, Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council have been two of only five unitary authorities in the country, the others being Marlborough, Gisborne and the Chatham Islands.

Much consultation and paperwork were necessitated by these changes, on top of that generated by councils having to produce changing policies that reflected the thinking of the times. When Friends first became active, local councils were guided by their District Schemes which came up for review every five years. These schemes dealt largely with land issues as there was almost no coastal policy at this time.

Perhaps the first opportunity to make environmental gains came with the formation of the Nelson Bays United Council, and its regional planning scheme that was put together through 1982-86, as this would set the framework for the district authorities to operate under. Noel Matheson became a member of the United Council's regional planning committee – a reflection of the regard with which the Society and Noel were held. Unfortunately, only section 1 and 2, Coastal Zone Management of the Regional Planning scheme, were completed before the scrapping of the United Council and the abandonment of its incomplete scheme.

16. Other Issues

There were many other issues that Friends was involved with at the time (see Appendix), but some loomed larger than others and warrant a mention here. One long term battle was in trying to stop the Sealord fishing company from discharging poorly treated effluent directly into the Haven. In 1977 Sealord applied for a permit to discharge 'treated factory effluent' off the port and a little later for a water right to discharge emergency overflow effluent into the stormwater drains. Friends was concerned that a full environmental impact assessment be carried out before any decisions were made, regardless of whether it was to discharge into the Haven, through a pipe offshore through the Boulder Bank, or into the city's sewage system. For a time their effluent did go into the sewer, with the result that the newly made Nelson North sewage ponds at Whakapuaka were overloaded. An outfall pipe



through the Boulder Bank (Map 2, page 6) was eventually constructed, later falling under city council ownership and control. Friends lobbied and submitted whenever the opportunity allowed to improve the quality of the discharges and the level of monitoring, with some success. For example, Friends successfully appealed aspects of the consent renewal in 1995 to the planning tribunal. To this day the outfall pipe continues to discharge vast quantities of only partially treated fish effluent from the plant into Tasman Bay at a level that Friends does not find acceptable. Friends made submissions at the latest 2005 consent renewal application to advocate an environmentally acceptable discharge and found the company more concerned and knowledgeable about effluent matters than in previous decades. A 35-year permit to discharge has been granted, with monitoring and five-yearly reviews of the effluent impact on the receiving environment. Nelson iwi, again, produced a cultural impact assessment about this outfall.

A proposed CSR/Baigent pulpmill at Eves Valley attracted the attentions of Friends for a time in 1980-81. This was to be a massive complex, and of course generated much interest and concern. The Society was totally opposed to the proposed effluent discharge into the Waimea Inlet that would carry a cocktail of processing wastes from the factory. Friends maintained that the environmental implications for discharging pulpmill effluent were too great. The hearing on the application for discharge rights by CSR/Baigent gave approval only for a sawmill, and this decision was not appealed.

Municipal rubbish tips (Map 2) were also a target of Friends' scrutiny. The region's tips could not have been more poorly sited, since they filled in and leached into the estuary margins of Nelson Haven, Waimea estuary, Moutere Inlet and beside the Waimea River at Appleby. The Nelson City Council was the first of the local councils to move their tip directly away from the coast at Nelson Haven. In 1987 Pascoe Street transfer station and York Valley landfill were opened. Richmond Borough Council and Waimea County Council were slower to change. They both applied for more land to extend their sites beside the Waimea Estuary and the Waimea River in the early to mid 1980s, which Friends vigorously opposed. With the Appleby tip leaking into the Waimea River, Friends considered taking legal action. It was not until 1989 that these tips were closed and a transfer station and the Eves Valley landfill opened.

During this period some industries were using the estuaries as convenient tips for solid wastes and making new land for themselves. This included Sealord, the freezing works, the chip mill and Fruitgrowers Chemical Co., which have all ceased these practices, but kept the land (Map 2). What leachates have settled in the estuarine sediments has not been studied.



17. A Quieter Time 1988-1994

In 1987 the Department of Conservation (DoC) was formed. There was perhaps an unrealistic expectation that coastal protection would now be greatly enhanced, eclipsing the need for an active Friends to take on every coastal threat. Partly because of this, and after he had put in a decade of his time, Noel Matheson resigned from the chair and active participation. There followed a quieter period in the affairs of Friends, with no one able to put in the hours necessary to sustain the past level of activity. The committee membership was stable between 60-80, and at times almost in recess. One *Nelson Environment Journal* entry put it as “keeping a watching brief on coastal issues”. No annual reports survive from this time, and existing minutes of many meetings are now lost. Entries to the *Nelson Environment Journal* were also few and brief.

The passing of the Resource Management Act (RMA) in 1991 resulted in a major change in the regulatory environment, and brought together under one Act a large number of now superseded Acts relating to development and the environment. It put the concept of sustainable development into law and changed planning into a law largely based on controlling the effects of development rather than controlling development per se.

The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, also issued in 1991, was the first, and to date, the only national policy statement issued by government to local authorities as guidance in formulating policy outside the RMA itself. Although weak and narrow in its focus, it has since been used and cited in numerous cases by Friends regarding coastal development issues. It is up for a major review in 2006.

Inevitably a number of issues arose in this period that potentially threatened to impact on the already heavily compromised Tasman Bay.

18. Southern Arterial

In the early 1990s Whakatu Drive, otherwise known as the Stoke Bypass, had become a necessity if the prevailing means of transporting people and goods was to continue without spectacular gridlock in the future. The most readily available land was along the shoreline of the Waimea Estuary. Friends was anxious to see that no inter-tidal and estuary margin habitat was lost, as stated in their submission to the Ministry of Works in 1988. However they were unable to achieve this, as the road touched the water margin in two places, and the authorities were not prepared to bridge these sections. This resulted in some loss to the marginal vegetation of estuary tussock and marsh ribbonwood shrubland.



19. Later Years 1993-2003

After years of reasonably low key activity, things changed enormously with arrival in 1993 of Russell Fenney, a coastal engineer with international experience. His active participation was soon to become full time. For the following nine years he effectively dedicated his life to pursuing the Society's agenda of coastal protection. His capacity for work was staggering, and often single-handedly he represented Friends through years of appeals at Environmental Court hearings, myriad meetings and council hearings.

Such levels of work demanded resources that Friends was barely able to provide, despite their efforts, particularly so from 1999 onwards when financial requirements increased dramatically, largely due to the number and complexity of Environment Court hearings with which they were involved. At any one time, 10-15 references (appeals to a Plan) might be before the Environment Court. Being an advocacy group, Friends did not qualify for grants from the Lotteries Commission or many charity granting sources for court cases. Eventually Friends put out a special appeal for funds to their membership. Appeals for corporate sponsorship failed, but several local businesses and organisations have been supportive, including the Community Trust, Nimbus Software Ltd, New Zealand Nature Co., Konica-Minolta and Waikawa Boating Club. By 2001, Friends was able to apply to a newly established legal aid fund created by the Ministry for the Environment that enabled community groups to hire legal and expert assistance when appealing a case to the Environment Court.

Much of their work would have been impossible without the enormous generosity of legal experts who often worked *pro bono* or at reduced rates. Jon Jackson represented Friends on many occasions up until 1996 when he left to become an Environment Court judge, and Warwick Heal did likewise on Marlborough matters from the late 1990s onward. Expert witnesses in areas as diverse as landscape, planning, marine farming, marine navigation, ornithology and tourism gave their time freely or at reduced rates. This enabled the Society, with Russell's adept legal mind, to present formidable cases at court hearings. Testimony to this is that Friends never had court costs awarded against them, for their appeals were always legitimate and sound. Friends had become widely respected due to their informed participation at council hearings. They were taken seriously because they were prepared to go to court and appeal bad decisions.

Two broad and often overlapping issues dominated these years. The first District and Coastal Plans required under the new Resource Management Act (RMA) of 1991 were being drawn up by the local councils, and aquaculture emerged to dominate all other coastal issues.



20. Resource Management Plans

The Nelson-Marlborough Regional Council was abolished in 1992 by a majority vote by ratepayers. This created three local unitary authorities, Tasman, Nelson and Marlborough. With the preparation from 1994 onward of Regional Policy Statements and new District and Coastal Plans, Friends became involved with the process to get strong environmental protection in this first round under the RMA. The first set of plans would be operative for at least 10 years and set the standard for subsequent plans in any new legislation. This was the first time Friends had ventured into Marlborough and they decided to do so as the first of the local Proposed Regional Coastal Plans was notified there. They believed it would set a precedent for other councils and wished to ensure that strong environmental protection provisions were established. Many marine farm applications were also in the pipeline for the Marlborough Sounds, which would set precedents for Nelson and Tasman.

Thus, Friends embarked on a process that was envisaged to last a few years, but which in 2006 the Society is still pursuing. From the beginning, Friends were dismayed that each of the councils was combining their District and Coastal Plans into one document, as Resource Management Plans (RMPs). No other councils with coastlines were doing this and it was feared that coastal protection would be the weaker without a stand-alone document.

Comprehensive submissions were made on coastal issues to all the proposed RMPs, with common concerns including the lack of coastal protection zones, lack of controls on aquaculture in estuaries, and the defining of port limits.

With the subsequent Sounds and Wairau-Awatere plans the concerns were largely with the tardy use of ‘avoidance of adverse effects’ (the plans being very keen instead on ‘mitigating effects’), marine farming prohibition zones, and public access. These issues formed the basis of Friends’ appeal lodged with the Environment Court after having gone through an involved hearings process with Marlborough District Council (MDC).

By contrast Plan hearings with NCC were abandoned as the council appeared to take little or no notice of Friends’ submissions. Friends saved their energies for their appeal to the Environment Court. The threat of it appeared to force NCC to negotiate with the result that reasonable coastal protection measures emerged insofar as is possible under the RMA.

With Tasman District Council (TDC), meanwhile, aquaculture and marine farming were highly contentious matters, with some 17 or so hearings. When the final ‘coastal plan’ sections of the Tasman Resource Management Plan were released,



it was immediately clear that TDC had produced what Friends consider to be some of the least effective coastal protection measures of all the New Zealand coastal plans. An appeal to the Environment Court was lodged, primarily in regard to coastal protection, public access and of course aquaculture.

21. Marine Farming / Aquaculture

The first moves in the Tasman region toward establishing an aquaculture industry occurred in 1993 with a Pacific oyster proposal for Mapua Estuary, followed by marine farm applications for sea space in Golden Bay and Delaware Bay in 1994. Applications for sea space for mussel spat-catching were proposed in Golden Bay the following year. These were the beginnings of an avalanche of often competing proposals that covered many thousands of hectares of Golden Bay and the Marlborough Sounds (which already in the 1970s had extensive mussel farms). If approved, these left very little scope for any other activity in these areas by effectively privatising what was public space. The territorial authorities were quite unprepared for the level of applications, with the industry exploding into the region in so short a space of time. They simply didn't have a regulatory framework in place that could adequately address the demands of the industry, the need to preserve the ecology and natural character of these beautiful areas, the interests of commercial and recreational fishing, and the need for safe navigational passage and recreational enjoyment of inshore waters.

There followed a number of moratoria, putting developments on hold whilst regional rules and national legislation caught up with this otherwise near-uncontrolled development. Thus TDC imposed a moratorium from 1994-2004, and national moratoria ran from July 1996-July 1999, and November 2001-December 2004. The Friends involvement in marine farm applications was to become the single biggest issue that the Society tackled and it is still involved to this day.

22. Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry

From 1995, Friends began its opposition to mussel spat and mussel farm applications in Golden Bay, at council hearings and as party to appeals where applications had been granted. By 1997 this was taking up a great deal of Russell's time. TDC's proposed Tasman Resource Management Plan provided for aquaculture beyond three nautical miles as discretionary, effectively opening the way for the privatisation of large areas of offshore Golden Bay. This was considered inadequate to deal with this seaspace bona New Zealanda, and references (appeals) were filed to the Environment Court in 1999, along with concurrent appeals by the industry. This



became known as the long running Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry (TAI), adjudicated by Judge S.E. Kenderdine. The interim decision of April 2001 for Tasman and Golden Bays allowed for a multi-million dollar expansion, largely confined to three offshore zones. Friends, represented by Russell, had been fully involved for all of the 15 weeks of the inquiry. This was followed by further meetings, mediations and hearings, and a second interim decision in early 2002, instructing parties to move from stage 1 (zonings), to stage 2 (coastal plan provisions), in preparation for stage 3 (monitoring of effects). Negotiations between parties continued through 2003, and by March 2004 TDC were preparing a draft plan that could finally allow aquaculture to proceed.

The inquiry was the first thorough scrutiny of marine farming issues in a Regional Coastal Plan undertaken by the Environment Court. It set the precedents for future marine farming throughout New Zealand, and had a significant influence on the aquaculture legislation review. At the time Russell stated that this was the single most important matter addressed by the Friends since the RMA came into force. The Society's role was of considerable importance, as essentially they were the only party pressing for a limited expansion of offshore farming, by taking the middle road. Other parties such as DoC, Forest and Bird, and Friends of Golden Bay sought protection (and gained it) for inshore and near shore areas, but did not pursue the issue in offshore Golden Bay.

23. Marlborough Sounds Aquaculture

At the same time applications were proceeding in the Marlborough Sounds. Aquaculture had begun here much earlier, with the very first mussel farm being established in 1973, and by the time the Friends became involved in the Sounds in 1996 the industry was already well established with ribbons of inshore farms lining many of the western bays. MDC's proposed Marlborough Sounds Plan was released for comment in 1996, and was contested by the Friends, largely on aquaculture grounds, taking them on a process that was to last over a decade. It was not until early 1999 that the aquaculture consent order was finalised. This put significant areas of the Sounds off-limits to aquaculture, but allowed for, effectively, a permissive regime elsewhere. With the lifting of the national aquaculture moratorium in mid 1999, a flood of applications, totalling over 10,000 hectares by 2001, were lodged. These were for extensions to existing inshore farms, large mid-bay farm first-time proposals, and some huge offshore farms up to 1400 hectares. Map 4, showing applications made in Admiralty Bay, gives an example of the intensity and nature of these applications. Had these all come to fruition and some are still not resolved (4 & 5), Admiralty Bay



would have been transformed from having a ribbon of inshore farms (6) to being dominated by marine farming.

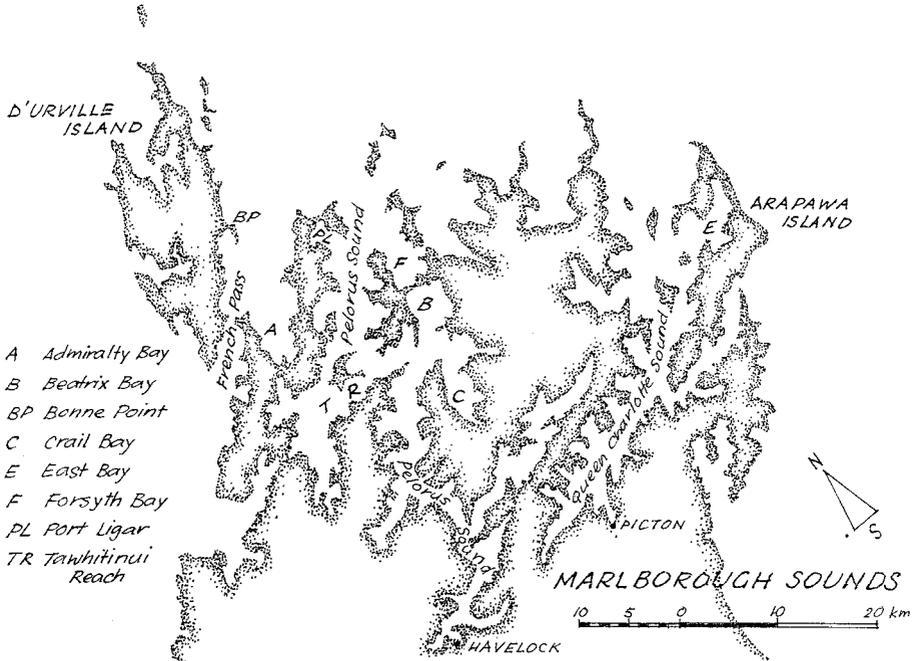
For inshore farms, of which 2350 hectares already existed, the area designated for discretionary development was widened 50 metres seawards under the new plan with development beyond that area designated as non-complying. However, the non-complying zone “lacked clear objectives and policies, such that it became effectively discretionary” according to a later judgement by Environment Court Judge Craig Thompson, supporting a previous comment by Judge Shona Kenderdine, and paving the way, inadvertently, for extensive mid-bay farms for the first time. The consequences of this failure to make clear rules were alarming for navigation, fishing, landscape and ecology, and the Friends decided to target key mid-bay farm proposals, as well as some critical inshore extensions. It was these mid-bay proposals, in particular Beatrix Bay, Admiralty Bay and Forsyth Bay (Map 3, page 28) that were to fully engage the Friends over the following years into the present (2006).

The Kuku Mara (KM) consortium bore the brunt of the Friends’ desire to set legal precedents to stem mid-bay farm developments. In 2000, Kuku Mara applied for farms in the centre of four bays and they were the first mid-bay applications to be heard. MDC refused five of six Kuku Mara applications, largely due to the Society’s input. Kuku Mara appealed the declined five, and Friends appealed the granting of the sixth in Beatrix Bay West (Map 3 (B), page 28).

The Friends’ first Kuku Mara appeal hearing supported MDC’s declining of KM’s Forsyth Bay application (Map 3 (F)). Friends were concerned about king shag habitat, navigational safety and visual effects, as well as sustainability within the food chain. They teamed up with other groups including Marlborough Environment Centre Inc (MEC), Central Sounds and Kenepuru Residents, and the Marlborough Sounds Trust (representing existing ribbon development mussel farmers). The latter were particularly interested in sustainability with some existing farms already reporting declines in production of up to 50%. The 2001 appeal took several weeks, with legal aid granted to the Society by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) for the first time, under a new scheme to assist communities in legitimate Environment Court litigation against well resourced developers. This was largely used for Warwick Heal (legal counsel) and landscape and RMA expert witnesses. The ensuing victory for the Friends was of national importance in setting legal precedent, and with other successes following, it resulted in 1600 hectares of applications being withdrawn. It was won on wildlife and land and seascape (visual effects) grounds. The threat to king shag through disruption of habitat was an important aspect of evidence with Friends’ member Rob Schuckard giving expert evidence.



Map 3



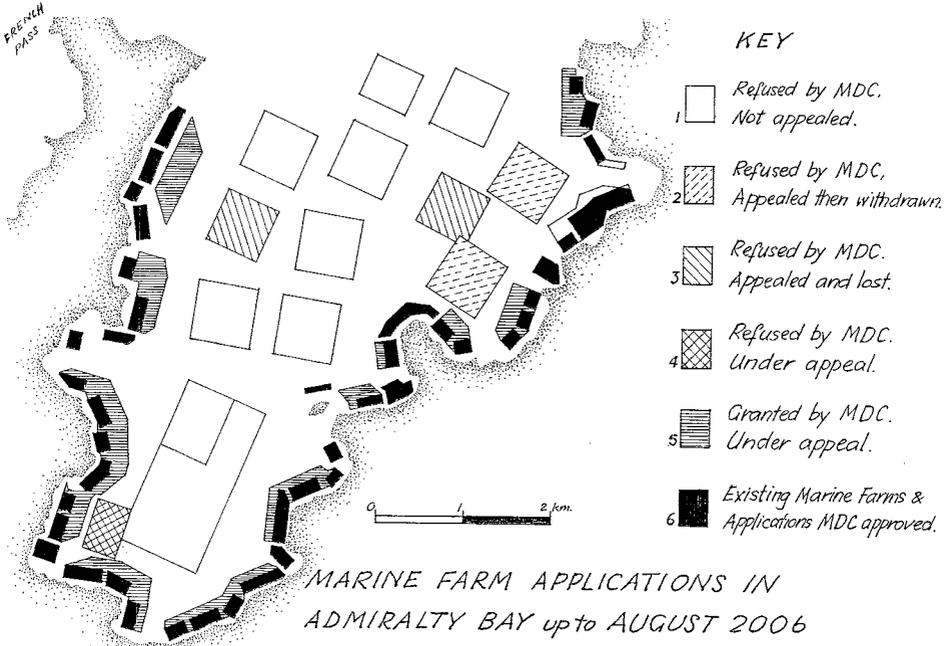
In July 2002 the Environment Court declined KM's Beatrix Bay East appeal and declined the previously approved Beatrix Bay West site as well. This was another huge victory for Friends, but this time the sustainability argument was not accepted, although many existing farmers opposed Kuku Mara as their yields had been dropping around this time. Rather, they were declined due to adverse effects on amenity value, landscape, seascape, navigation and natural character. Again such legal precedent reverberated around the Sounds and nationally.

Judge Kenderdine noted at the time that "the Friends are well known to the Court. They are a serious coastal 'watchdog' advocating for the best interests (as they understand them) of the coastal environment of this region".

Kuku Mara appealed MDC's 2000 decision to decline their two Admiralty Bay (Map 3 (A), detail Map 4 (3)) applications to the Environment Court with DoC entering the mid-bay fray in support of MDC and Friends. The appeal was not heard until 2004, and in May 2005 another victory was achieved with the case won on the grounds of potential effects on Dusky dolphins, natural character, and navigation. Judge Craig Thompson's decision was unequivocal, and the consensus was that the threat of mid-bay farms had probably come to an end. This was critical as further



Map 4



industry appeals to the Environment Court were pending including sites in East Bay, Arapawa Island (Totaranui Ltd), Port Ligar (KM), Forsyth Bay (MacLab), and Admiralty Bay (Map 3 & Map 4).

Friends has been deeply involved with several other key aquaculture proposals. After appealing, with DoC and MEC, a large offshore farm in Clifford Bay (Map 1), the Friends withdrew because of lack of resources, but they did secure certain conditions. This farm was subsequently approved on the condition that the effects on Hector’s dolphin were studied.

The Wakatu Inc. application for two huge ~700 hectare offshore farms west of French Pass was partly resolved through negotiation after being opposed by the Friends at the council hearing, thus deferring a possible environment court appeal hearing. One of the farms is to go to appeal or mediation pending the results of two 200-metre submerged trial lines and extensive ecological monitoring. The other, declined by MDC and appealed by Wakatu, had the appeal withdrawn by Wakatu during negotiations. Ministry of Fisheries now has final say, with commercial fishermen opposing the farm.



Friends also contested, with DoC and in support of MDC, the appealing of a declined farm proposed by Elkington Family Trust & Te Kawau A Toru Ltd off Bonne Point (Map 3 (BP)), D'Urville Island. This again was won on issues of landscape, natural character and amenity with Friends playing a major role.

A Forsyth Bay (Map 3 (F)) farm proposed by the Oldham family was agreed to by Friends in September 2005 under negotiation to avoid an Environment Court hearing as the resources were not there to cope with another hearing at this time. The farm was slightly reduced in size and \$20,000 was to be put into king shag research as a result, should the farm achieve its Ministry of Fisheries permit and proceed. This was a disappointing outcome considering the amount of work that had been put into opposing the proposal.

Other Environment Court cases in which Friends was involved included opposing the appeals against MDC in declining farms in Crail Bay (MacLab later withdrew), Port Ligar (Kuku Mara later withdrew), East Bay Arapawa Island (Totaranui Ltd later withdrew), and Tawhitinui Reach (MacLab lost due to navigation issues, with Friends having minor participation). Refer Map 3.

The four Environment Court victories over mid-bay farms and Wakatu negotiation are a considerable achievement for an environmental watchdog group (albeit sometimes in partnership with DoC or MDC). This has been achieved through the determination and commitment of Russell Fenney, and later Steffan Browning, Rachel Reese and Margot Syms, who prepared for and stood at the Environment Court, and made successful funding applications to the MfE for payment of legal counsel and expert witnesses. The extremely generous and effective partly *pro bono* representation given by Warwick Heal, and later Julian Ironside, Kate Mitchell and Lauren Wallace was just as important. Others such as landscape architect Di Lucas, and planner Dennis Nugent gave their time at reduced rates. Important voluntary expert witnesses were tourist operator Danny Bolton, ornithologist Rob Schuckard, Master Mariner Ashley Wagg, and Neville Wills of Yachting New Zealand. Co-operation with other groups and bodies such as MEC, DoC, MDC, JGM Ltd and the Marlborough Sounds Trust (the latter two being marine farmer groups) was also a very important ingredient to success.

The Aquaculture Act passed in December 2004 has charged all coastal territorial authorities to establish aquaculture management areas (AMAs). The legal precedence set by these mid-bay victories will have great bearing upon where these areas established in the Sounds and elsewhere, and will inevitably set a better balance between aquaculture and other interests.



24. Recent Years 2004-2005

Russell Fenney, who had run all the Marlborough aquaculture cases for the Friends from 1993, wound down his involvement through 2003, finishing all work for Friends by March 2004. Now without Russell's knowledge and experience, Friends continued on with the legal cases with which they were still involved. Co-operation with the Marlborough Environment Centre and their marine farming spokesman Steffan Browning, who joined the committee, was extremely successful. Helped by Steffan's expertise and enthusiasm the Friends were able to concentrate on the remaining mid-bay appeals as described above. One or two cases were outstanding with applicants later withdrawing, and some cases that Friends had dropped were now led by MEC.

Those appeals still pending are one MacLab off shore application, Admiralty Bay Consortium's large extensions (Both Map 4 (5)), the 700ha Wakatu application, and the Marlborough Sounds RM Plan shipping wake wave rules. Some Wairau Awatere RMP coastal references are also being negotiated.

The committee was able to enlist several new members and continue with the legal cases underway and raise funds. Margot Syms became treasurer, Pam Lambert handled the huge mail and files tasks, Sigi Kirchmair set up a Friends website, www.nelsonhaven.org.nz New Zealand, Pam Frahm produced the Friends first newsletters and other committee members such as Tom Kennedy and Rachel Reese made major contributions. Gwen Struik, now co-chair with Steffan Browning, was the only remaining founding member. The Society continued to have representatives on the Port Nelson Environmental Consultative Committee, Nelson Airport Committee, the Fisheries Liaison Committee of the Ministry of Fisheries, Monaco Residents Association, and the Marlborough Sounds Fisheries Management Group.

By 2005, Friend's 32 years of archives, contained in 55 linear metres of files posed a considerable storage problem. The Provincial Museum agreed to take the archives and transfer has begun, in stages. Preparing these records for transfer is a big job, but will result in the files, which cover a vast number of environmental issues, being available for public use. Lottery Environment and Heritage has given financial assistance towards this task.

Work continues on Port Nelson with pollution issues at the slipway resolved by negotiation. The potential health implications of methyl bromide fumigation at the port became a national issue, largely through the activities of a new group, Campaigners Against Toxic Sprays (CATS), with some input from Friends.

As a result of an appeal undertaken by Friends to the Environment Court, TDC gave a commitment in 2002 to notify a variation to its Resource Management Plan



to identify coastal landscapes of outstanding value. This matter was extremely slow to progress, with Friends the only group with legal rights to pressure the Council. In July 2005, Frank Boffa, commissioned by TDC, issued his Landscape Character Assessment that classed large coastal tracts of Tasman District as meriting Outstanding Landscape designation. Public consultation followed, with TDC still (2007) in negotiation with interested parties.

25. Looking Back and Forward

What then can be said of Friends' impact on the inshore waters and coastal environment of the top of the South Island over the last 33 years? When the Society began in 1973 there were minimal controls on infilling of estuaries and on the coastal discharge of effluent, and there were effectively no limits to fishing. The environmental regulatory regime today has changed. Friends has been a product and part of, and a contributor to, the development of an environmental ethic that was lacking when it began. The review of its activities and achievements described above indicates that in a local, regional and national context it has had a significant effect on attitudes and outcomes that pertain to the coast over this time.

Regionally the Society has long been a force to be reckoned with when developers and regulatory authorities make proposals that will impact upon the coastal environment. Friends has confidently pursued its agenda at hearings, tribunals and ultimately in the courts to safeguard the coast. Often the work has been done at pre-hearing meetings when the worst effects of a proposal can be mitigated. Indeed there have probably been more than a few plans that were made more acceptable environmentally simply because of Friends' existence.

In the author's view, the most impressive gains that Friends has achieved have been in several areas:

Nelson Haven and large parts of Waimea Inlet that we might take for granted today are only there, undeveloped and largely of natural character, because of the successful campaigns of Friends in slowing infilling and effluent pollution.

The successful campaigns of Friends on slowing infilling and pollution has helped ensure that the remaining natural areas of Nelson Haven and Waimea Estuary have survived. In particular its effect upon the aquaculture content of the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP) that is currently operative, in regards to aquaculture, stands out.

With regard to industry, Friends has had the greatest effect upon aquaculture by helping to win a series of key precedent-setting Environment Court test cases over



mid-bay farms. A huge amount of evidence on marine farm affects has been acquired, which is now publicly available. The decisions have effectively halted mid-bay aquaculture in the Sounds, provided information relevant to expansion elsewhere in New Zealand, and affected the drafting of the new Aquaculture Act 2004.

The Society has exerted considerable pressure on coastal authorities and industry to seriously consider the aesthetic and ecological values, and fragility, of the coastline in their planning and activities. It does what it can to stop, slow or mitigate some of the continual development pressures until stronger legislation is in place for coastal landscape, inshore pollution and truly sustainable management practices.

The threats to the coastline continue unabated, but so long as there is local enthusiasm, Friends will continue to fight for a cleaner Tasman Bay that abounds with fish and other sealife, and for the protection of the natural character of the coastline from unnecessary or inappropriate development.



APPENDIX A

Abbreviations

AMA	Aquaculture Management Area
DoC	Department of Conservation
EC	The Environment Court
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
FCC	Fruitgrowers Chemical Company
KM	Kuku Mara
MDC	Marlborough District Council
MEC	Marlborough Environment Centre
MfE	Ministry for the Environment
NCB	Nelson Catchment Board
NCC	Nelson City Council
NEJ	Nelson Environment Journal
NEM	Nelson Evening Mail
NHB	Nelson Harbour Board
RBC	Richmond Borough Council
RMA	Resource Management Act
RMP	Resource Management Plan
TAI	Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry
TDC	Tasman District Council
WCC	Waimea County Council
Friends, the Society FNH&TB	Friends of Nelson Haven and Tasman Bay Inc



APPENDIX B

Matters Addressed

The following list has been compiled from a range of sources. The years 1993-99 were recorded by Russell Fenney at the time and covers all matters. Years prior to that are taken from surviving minutes of meetings, annual reports (that combine years, hence the uncertainty with regard to precise year for some entries), and entries in the Nelson Environment Journal over 1977- 1992, and will not be exhaustive. For the years 1973-76 and 1989-92 there are undoubtedly omissions due to the dearth of surviving records for these times. From 2000-05, the list is taken from the full set of minutes and chairman's reports. Many of these files are being inventoried and housed at the Nelson Provincial Museum. They will be available for public use.

1974

- Kempthorne Prosser granting of water right appealed

1974-75

- Local body candidates questionnaire
- Pah Point deviation road
- Sealord's box net at Okiwi Bay
- D'Urville Island powerline

1975

- Nelson Pine Forests Ltd bark infilling of Waimea Estuary

1975-76

- Kempthorne Prosser appeal hearing
- NHB 'island reclamation'
- Highways Construction Company illegal tidal flat infilling
- Motueka sewage disposal
- Mariri Tip
- Tasman Bay Maritime Park Board creation 1976
- Fruitgrowers Chemical Company effluent/ storm water right
- Regional Sewage Scheme hearing

1976-77

- Nelson Haven infilling for housing development: application
- Golden Bay Cement Group and Tarakohe berthing facilities

1977

- Sealord 'treated factory effluent' water right application
- Boulder Bank reserve and NHB (and

earlier?)

- Regional Sewage Scheme; water right tribunal hearing
- Kempthorne Prosser water right appeal tribunal hearing
- Fruitgrowers Chemical Company; NCB tribunal hearing
- Talleys Fishery scallop shell dump
- Kaiteriteri Domain Board septic tank discharges

1978

- Nelson Harbour Board fishing berthage discussions
- Sealord 'emergency discharge,tribunal hearing
- Seabrook By-Products piggery effluent; tribunal hearing
- Nelson Harbour Board Maitai reclamation proposal
- Atawhai Drive road plan
- Wakapuaka Flats management
- Boulder Bank protection
- Regional Sewage Scheme, EIA
- Kempthorne Prosser water right application
- Fruitgrowers Chemical Company: Appeal Board case heard
- Kaiteriteri Sewage Scheme
- Abel Tasman National Park access road, Marahau
- Kaiteriteri Domain Board septic tank discharge tribunal hearing

1979

- Atawhai Drive discussions with NCC
- Sealord



- fish waste overload of Wakapuaka Ponds
- Boulder Bank effluent pipe application
- Kaiteriteri Domain Board Sewage Scheme discharge permit
- Moutere Inlet embayment weirs
- Fruitgrowers Chemical Company water right
- NHB Maitai reclamation plan
- Richmond Tip extension
- Kempthorne Prosser dust/air emissions

1980

- Repeal of 1967 & 1970 Empowerment Acts, Re: Waimea Estuary/Nelson Haven reclamation
- NHB
 - 'lighthouse reclamation'
 - objection to Ministry of Works
- Skeggs Food water right application
- Nelson Forest Products effluent pond leachate
- CSR/Baigent thermochemical pulpmill proposal
- Nelson Pine Forests Ltd MDF plant discussions

1981

- Nelson Bays Regional Council: Planning Committee & Scheme
- NHB Maitai reclamation proposal: NCC conditions
- Radio Rhema aerial at Wakapuaka
- Cement silo proposal on NHB land
- Sealord/NCC water right discussions
- Boulder Bank protection: NCC District Scheme review
- WCC proposed reclamations of Waimea Estuary
- CSR/Baigent pulpmill tribunal hearing of water right

1982

- Boulder Bank protection: NCC/NHB discuss to avoid tribunal
- Airport/golfcourse 'Blind Channel' rubble dump/sea wall
- Oyster Island protection
- Moutere Inlet embayments EIA
- Baigents sawmill seawater log-sprinkling discharge

- Talleys discharge of vegetable/fish washings, Port Motueka
- Richmond Tip extension application, RBC

1983

- Nelson Airport Authority discussions re. rubble dumping
- RBC District Scheme re. Waimea Estuary margins
- Talleys discharge application
- Bells Island causeway

1984

- Airport Extension, Jenkins Creek
- Bells Island causeway
- Nelson Pine Forests Ltd leachates
- WCC rock dumping, Rabbit Island shoreline
- WCC District Scheme
- Piggery waste discharge application, Maiseys Rd

1985

- Nelson Civic Trust projects
- NHB 4ha Maitai reclamation
- NCC transfer station
- Richmond Tip
- Appleby Tip
- Bells Island causeway
- Zoning of Nelson Pine Forests Ltd land

1986

- Nelson Bays United Council Regional Planning Scheme: Coastal Zone Management
- NHB Maitai reclamation
- Wakapuaka Flats wildlife reserve proposal
- NCC proposed transfer station at Trafalgar Park
- Bells Island causeway
- Appleby Tip leachate into Waimea River
- Richmond Borough Council gravel extraction application
- WCC District Scheme Review: Appeal lodged; withdrawn

1987

- Conservation quangos – submission to DoC
- Southern Arterial: submission to Ministry



of Works

- NCC District Scheme Review
- Back Beach, Tahuna: rubble proposal
- Appleby Tip water right for leachates
- Mapua Leisure Park marina
- Motueka Estuary development plans
- Talleys water right renewal hearing

1986-88

- Richmond Tip
- Talleys water right application: planning tribunal appeal

1988

- Marlborough timber export through Nelson
- Waimea County Council re coastal survey
- Toxic anti-fouling paint
- Cable Bay toilets

1988-89

- Resource management law reform
- NHB marina proposal

1989

- Nelson Civic Trust: Maitai River beautification

1989-90

- Queens Chain
- Wakapuaka Wildlife Reserve
- NHB report: water quality of Port Nelson
- NHB marina

1991

- Challenger Fisheries management plan
- Nelson Haven margin subdivision, Wakapuaka
- NCC District Scheme Review
- Back Beach, Tahuna: rubble proposal
- Southern Arterial / Stoke bypass
- Nelson Pine Industry industrial park proposal
- Owen River Agro-forestry timber treatment plan
- Kaiteriteri subdivision proposal

1993

- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement
- Port Nelson dredging and spoil proposal

- Nalder and Biddle marine railway proposal
- Nelson Marina development
- Nelson Regional Sewage Authority effluent discharge to Waimea Inlet (Bell's Island)
- Bells Island sewage sludge disposal
- Athol Products/Mapua Seafoods proposal (Pacific oysters)
- Port Motueka development proposal

1994

- Port Nelson dredging and spoil proposal
- Donker Marine Wharf
- Nelson Marina developments / Haven Holes reclamation
- Sewage bund, QEII Drive
- Corder Park Pond
- Port Nelson appeal on dredging
- Port Kakariki proposal
- Fisheries outfall
- Proposed Regional Policy Statements (Nelson and Tasman)
- Trailways proposal, then appeal
- Fisheries outfall appeal
- Rabbit Island biosolids proposal
- Aquaculture proposals:
 - First Wave – Golden Bay and Delaware Bay
 - Tiostria – Golden Bay (oysters)

1995

- Regional Policy Statements & Coastal Plans
- ANZECC Maritime pollution
- Atawhai sewer upgrade
- Port Kakariki proposal
- Nelson Marina / Haven Holes reclamation
- Trailways appeal
- NCC Draft environmental monitoring strategy
- Investigation into Mean High Waters at Nelson
- NCC Draft Annual Plan
- Landcorp subdivision
- NCC Reference on Regional Policy Statement
- Gaire Thompson proposal for coastal protection
- Collingwood Marina
- ENZA (pipfruit processors) discharge, Waimea Inlet
- Abel Tasman moorings



- Aquaculture:
United Fisheries spat-catching, Golden Bay
Westhaven cockle harvesting/enhancement,
Golden Bay
Wainui Green
- Rabbit Island biosolids proposal
- Collingwood moorings
- Nelson Pine Industries – discharge to air
- Select Committee – Port Tāraohe
reclamation validation
- Marlborough Sounds Resource
Management Plan

1996

- Select Committee; RM Amendment Bill
No.3
- Parliamentary Commissioner for
Environment; public participation in
environmental decision making
- NCC Draft Annual Plan
- NCC Dixon Basin marina/Haven Holes
- NCC temporary sewage bund extension
- NCC submission on Combined Plan
consultative draft
- NCC tandem skydive
- Port Nelson – Environmental Management
Plan
- Stoke bypass – variation to landscaping
- Wakefield Quay proposals
- Port Nelson Main Wharf S development,
dredging
- CDL subdivision, Songer St.
- Fishing platform extension
- TDC Reference on Regional Policy
Statement
- TDC Motueka groyne variation
- TDC – draft coastal management plans
- Dynochem resin plant
- Motueka Power Boat Club
- Port Tāraohe development plan
- Bells Island discharge monitoring
- Abel Tasman NP management plan
- Dynochem appeal
- Golden Bay Aquaculture proposals; Kwon,
Sealife, Chione, Waitapu-Wainui
- Nelson Pine Industries – discharges to air
- Talley's Fisheries discharges
- Collingwood moorings
- Clifford Bay application

- Motueka Power Boat Club proposal
- Marlborough Sounds RMP

1997

- MfE; notification/non-notification
procedures
- Resource Management amendment Bill
No.3
- Challenger Scallop Enhancement Co spat-
catching application
- Southland Regional Coastal Plan
- Wakefield Quay developments
- Hurricane Wire site proposal
- Port Nelson environmental management
plan
- NCC Draft Strategic Plan
- Nelson Proposed RMP
- Port Nelson lay-up berths
- Variations to Nelson marina/Haven Holes
consent
- Nelson/Tasman draft air quality document
- Port Motueka development plan
- Mapua site remediation hearing
- ENZA industrial plan change
- Motueka Powerboat club development
proposals
- Tasman Proposed Management Plan
- Reference on Tasman Regional Policy
Statement
- Talley's Fisheries discharges, Port Motueka
- Nelson Pine Industries applications for
discharges
- Port Tāraohe development proposals
- Golden Bay Aquaculture proposals;
Kwon, Chione, Waitapu-Wainui
- Tasman water quality/classifications
- Marlborough Sounds RMP hearings
- Wairau Awatere RMP
- Clifford Bay hearing

1998

- RMA; Marine Farming and Heritage
Bill, Transport and Environment Select
Committee
- Owen McShane “thinkpiece” on RMA
- Southland Regional Coastal plan – hearings
- Nelson RMP – hearings; reference to EC
- Hurricane Wire site development proposal
- Nelson marina variation
- Port Nelson – layup berths; main wharf S



- extension proposal
- Nelson Regional Airport Authority – consultation
- Nelson 10 year financial plan
- Sealord discharges to air
- Nelson Regional Sewerage Authority – biosolids disposal
- Tasman RMP; hearings; reference to Environment Court
- ENZA plan change
- Talley's Fisheries – appeal on discharges at Port Motueka; spill at Port Motueka; discharges to air; Port Tarakohe developments
- Tasman stormwater policy
- Kahurangi National Park draft management plan
- Tasman 10 year financial plan
- Mapua contaminated site clean-up
- Abel Tasman National Park foreshore investigation
- Lower Queen St. bark salvage proposal, Richmond
- Golden Bay aquaculture; Onekaka Offshore Consortium; Waitapu Fishing Co., Waitapu/Wainui, Golden Bay Mussels, Golden Bay Farmers Consortium
- Tasman Bay aquaculture – Tasman Mussels
- Marlborough Sounds plan – reference to EC and proceedings
- Wairau Awatere plan – reference to EC

1999

- MfE - proposals for amendment to RMA
- Southland Regional Coastal Plan – hearings
- Draft NZ Biodiversity Strategy
- Nelson RMP-reference and proceedings to EC
- Haven Holes variation
- North Nelson Marine Reserve proposal
- Delaware Bay Taiapure proposal
- Sewage systems - Kaiteriteri/Stephens Bay; Wakapuaka, Nelson Regional Sewage Authority
- Tasman RMP - reference to EC including aquaculture
- ENZA plan change - reference and proceedings to EC
- Talley's Fisheries appeal on discharges at

- Port Motueka
- Ruby Bay bypass proposal
- Lower Queen St. bark salvage proposal
- Golden Bay aquaculture appeals - Waitapu, Wainui, Onekaka Offshore Consortium, Golden Bay Mussels; Golden Bay Marine Farmers Consortium
- Tasman Bay aquaculture – Tasman Mussels
- Marlborough Sounds Plan - EC hearings
- Wairau Awatere plan - references and proceedings to EC

2000

- Resource Management Act proposed amendments
- Marine Reserves Act review - submission
- Ministry of Fisheries and Environment: Aquaculture discussion paper
- Nelson RMP – Coastal Plan reference, airport mediation
- Nelson Airport noise advisory committee
- Wakapuaka Ponds discharge consent
- Seafarers Memorial Trust proposed wharf/sculpture
- NCC Wakefield Quay developments
- Port Nelson development proposals
- Cable Bay submarine cable hearing
- Tasman RMP– EC hearings/proceedings and TAI
- ENZA plan change - meetings
- Commercial cockle harvesting–Talleys/Westhaven Fisheries
- Motueka Power Boat Club hearing
- Golden Bay Marine Farmers Consortium; emergency spat-catching EC appeal
- TDC/Wakatu Inc: Marahau coastal protection works
- Waimea Inlet jetboat tours discussions
- Ruby Bay coastal protection hearing
- Marlborough Sounds Plan - EC proceedings
- Wairau Awatere Management Plan - EC proceedings
- Marlborough Sounds aquaculture
 - Kuku Mara hearings
 - Wakatu Inc.application submission,
 - MacLab
 - Aquaculture hearings.
- MDC navigation bylaw 2000 – submission



2001

- TV1 documentary on marine farming issues
- Nelson RMP-EC proceedings, Coastal Plan reference, airport provisions mediation
- Port Nelson stormwater application – submission
- The Wood stormwater proposal – discussions
- Gepp Developments village proposal – submission
- Tasman RMP-EC Commissioner mediation
- TAI –EC hearing and further mediation
- Motueka Power Boat Club mediation
- Ruby Bay coastal protection – mediation
- TDC/Wakatu Inc Marahau coastal protection – submission
- ENZA submission
- Tapu Bay sewage submission
- Marlborough Sounds Authority–comments on draft proposal
- Marlborough Sounds Plan–EC proceedings
- Wairau Awatere RMP – EC proceedings
- Marlborough Sounds aquaculture pre-hearings, hearings Maclab, Admiralty Bay Consortium, Kuku Mara (Forsyth Bay) appeal hearing, Oldhams–appeal filed, Clifford Bay–appeal filed
- Awarded Trust Power Environmental award

2002

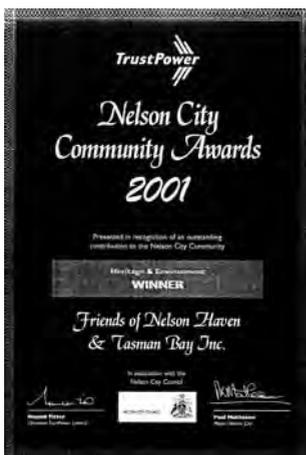
- Oceans Policy second stage briefing
- Aquaculture Moratorium Amendment Bill – submission
- Tahunanui Beach protection – comments
- Nelson Regional Sewage discharge – submission
- Nelson Coastal Plan mediation meetings
- Nelson Marina and Haven Holes
- Nicholson Marine & Nelson Ship Repair Group hearings
- Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry Stage 2 hearing
- Motueka Power Boat Club appeal resolved
- Tasman RMP reference proceedings
- Marlborough Sounds Aquaculture – Totaranui hearing, Heberd hearing, Kuku Mara proceedings,
- Beatrix Bay appeal, Kauauroa Bay Consortium hearing

2003

- Nelson RMP reference proceedings
- Port Nelson issues
- Nelson Marina variation, Haven Holes
- Haven Holes submission to invest in DoC
- Port Nelson slipway prehearing conference; hearing
- Nelson marina variation appealed
- Tasman RMP reference proceedings
- Tasman Plan proposed Rural 3 zone submission
- Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry – AMAs
- Marlborough Sounds aquaculture – Kuku Mara (Beatrix Bay) appeal hearing Clifford Bay Marine Farms appeal hearing Kauauroa Bay Consortium hearing Maclab (Crail Bay) prehearing, mediation hearing Wakatu Inc (D'Urville Is) hearing; appeal, experiment lines Admiralty Bay Consortium mediations; callover Ngati Koata Fishing Co/Elkington Family Trust (Bonne Pt)
- Wairau Awatere RMP reference proceedings

2004

- RMA-Environment Court meeting
- Sealord outfall pipe meeting





- Nelson RMP reference proceedings
- Monaco road upgrade meetings
- Nelson North sewage plant hui, hearing; Wetlands Working Party
- Port Nelson slipway mediation
- Tasman RMP reference proceedings
- TDC Significant Natural Landscapes
- TDC archaeological sites meeting
- Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry meetings
- Waimea Inlet walkway meeting
- Motueka Autoparts hearing
- Marlborough Sounds Aquaculture- Wakatu Inc (D'Urville Is) negotiations Kuku Mara (Admiralty Bay E&W), mediation; hearing Elkington Family Trust (Bonne Point) mediation Sanford (Melville Cove) 271A to MDC Maclab (Forsyth Bay) teleconference
- Clifford Bay watching brief
- Wairau/Awatere Resource Management Plan EC meeting

2005

- Southern Scallop management plan submission
- Nelson North sewage plant Wetlands Working Party
- Nelson Haven Holes
- Sealord/NCC Fisheries outfall consent hearing
- Port Nelson methyl bromide
- Nelson Haven marina infilling plans
- Airport Noise Committee
- TDC Significant Natural Landscapes, Boffa Miskell Report
- TDC marine farming applications under new Plan
- Tasman Aquaculture Inquiry
- Collingwood, ten offshore marine farms
- Marlborough Sounds aquaculture –
 - Admiralty Bay-MacLab, King-Turner, Kuku Mara (EC hearing), Admiralty Bay Consortium
 - Bonne Point, D'Urville Island EC hearing
 - Forsyth Bay-Oldham negotiations
 - Tawhitinui Reach
- Clifford Bay marine farm
- East Bay, Awapawa Island marine farm
- Wakatu Inc.- east Tasman Bay marine farm negotiation
- Toll/Tranzrail – ferry wake hearings

- Wairau Awatere RMP mediation and consent orders

2006

- N.Z. Coastal Policy Statement review
- Questionnaires-ECO SeaNet; Otago U.Political Studies Dept.
- Port Nelson fisheries outfall
- Port Nelson auditing
- Nelson North sewage treatment plant time extension
- TDC RMP coastal landscape references and EC mediation
- Abel Tasman Park management plan submission
- Waimea Inlet management plan (or lack of)
- Collingwood, ten offshore marine farm applications
- MDC marine farms Admiralty Bay - MacLab, Adm.Bay Consortium, dolphin study by Bernd Würsig, U. Texas
- Wakatu Inc. east Tasman Bay marine farm
- East Bay, Arapawa Island marine farm
- Clifford Bay signed off
- Port Gore and AMA prohibited area
- Tory channel salmon farm
- Picton Port noise
- Toll/Tranzrail ferry speed/wake



Friends of Nelson Haven & Tasman Bay Membership Application

Single member \$12

Two in a household \$15

Single unwaged \$5

Family unwaged \$8

Group membership \$50

Donation (tax deductible) \$_____ Tax deductible receipt? Yes No

Amount enclosed \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Occupation _____

Friends of Nelson Haven & Tasman Bay Inc.

PO Box 365, Nelson 7040

New Zealand

info@nelsonhaven.org.nz

www.nelsonhaven.org.nz