

## Appendix E Cooks Beach Lakes Draft Planting Plan

TCDC Parks and Open Spaces team will manage the planting and maintenance around the Cooks Beach Lakes Recreation Reserve and terrestrial portions of the Local Purpose (Utility-Drainage) Reserve as recommended in the report from Cooks Beach Lakes Riparian Restoration Plan (May 2023) developed by Submerged Environmental & Scientific Dive Services.

This restoration plan will need to be communicated to the lake side community and an education programme set up so that the community embraces and understands the benefits.

It is important to educate the community around the benefits of planting the lake side as it will help to improve water quality and eliminate odours.

Other actions to be taken that will improve water quality include:

- Educate public to not feed any of the bird life, and the reasons why
- Reduce geese and turtles numbers
- Reduce the use of fertilisers and pesticides and consider their impact on water quality
- DoC to provide support in this education campaign

The zones are divided to provide the same uses of the lake where possible and in some locations a compromise will need to be made. No plants zones have already sufficient planting, carex/amenity zones, amenity tree zones, wetland zones, wetted edge zones. Most plantings have low vertical scale.

Ways to communicate and engage with the public would be a public meeting of all adjoining and nearby residents, with targeted use of social media and flyers to affected parties.

## Programme of Work

**Year One:** Plant up to end of September and early October 2023 (depending upon climatic and ground conditions).

Both Lakes - plant the entire plant supply that is available from Mercury Bay Environmental Trust around the entire boundary of the small lake and big lake. These plants are all eco sourced. Species available are x, y, z and will cover approximately xxx linear metres of lakeside.

Undertake at least 2 releases prior to next planting season.

**Year Two :** May 2024 – August 2024

Plant the remainder of the carexes around Lake B and Lake A. Plant the tall shade trees in the amenity zones and the remainder of the recommended plantings suggested by Submerge.

Undertake at least 2 releases prior to next planting season.

**Year Three :** May 2025 – July 2026

Contingency planting year if remainder of plan is unfinished from previous year.

Infill plants required to ensure all areas are in a healthy condition

Risk – Supply of plants, attrition, vandalism and theft.

Undertake estimated 4 releases per year until canopy closure (year 3 to 5) and reduce maintenance from there

Monitoring – audit areas every quarter to ensure plants are being maintained, monitor attrition and identify any other risk eg greenwaste dumping.

The anticipated timeline to complete this project is October 2026