

# Thanks for your feedback on Auckland's Surf Breaks Survey...



Auckland Council would like to thank the surfing public for supporting the Auckland Surf Breaks Survey. The response was better than anticipated, with 1452 surveys completed over the seven week period that the online link was open.

The survey results highlight the importance of the region's surf breaks, and the value people place on them. The work provides an excellent body of evidence to support the development of planning controls to protect Auckland surf breaks from conflicting uses and developments.

The survey respondents were typically well experienced surfers, with 67% having surfed for more than 10 years. While the majority of participants listed Auckland as home, others came from places as far away as South Africa, China and Sweden.

In terms of breaks surfed in the last 12 months, Piha was the most surfed, followed by Te Arai, Forestry, Muriwai, and Maori Bay. These breaks also came out as the top five favourite breaks. The popularity of breaks more suited to learners or novices, such as Tawharanui, Omaha, and Orewa, was also evident in the results. The survey also showed that some breaks are valued for the lack of development or wilderness values, while others were valued for accessibility or amenities.

The survey question asking for further comments about Auckland's surf breaks and/or the Councils' planning controls was responded to by 66% of participants. The top three matters raised were: concern regarding further coastal development around surf breaks, appreciation or demand for further facilities at surf breaks, and concern around water quality and/or pollution.

Please contact Matthew McNeil ([matthew.mcneil@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:matthew.mcneil@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)) with any further questions around the survey or the results.