

Strategic plan 2021-26

Empowering communities, restoring nature



About Bay Conservation Alliance

Bay Conservation Alliance (BCA) was founded in 2017 and is an Incorporated Society and Charitable Trust. Founded by community for community and with a big drive to change the paradigm for community-led conservation.

STRATEGY RATIONALE

Now more than ever we need to restore our natural environment, to provide positive well-being outcomes for all.

BCA recognises that to achieve our vision it is essential to work collaboratively with government, business, funders, iwi and other community partners. Our role is to strengthen the collective contribution to restoring biodiversity, through collaborative partnerships.

Our alliance members value the support we provide to better enable them to do more of the things they love, in restoring biodiversity.

Our strategy and focus is shaped by the size of the biodiversity challenge, climate change, an aging volunteer force, an increasing administrative and bureaucratic burden, and opportunities arising from increased government and regional investment.

This strategy sets out how we develop and support members, community and partner capability to enable greater collective impact on biodiversity restoration.



Our Vision

Through collaboration the natural ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity of the Bay of Plenty are restored.

Our Purpose

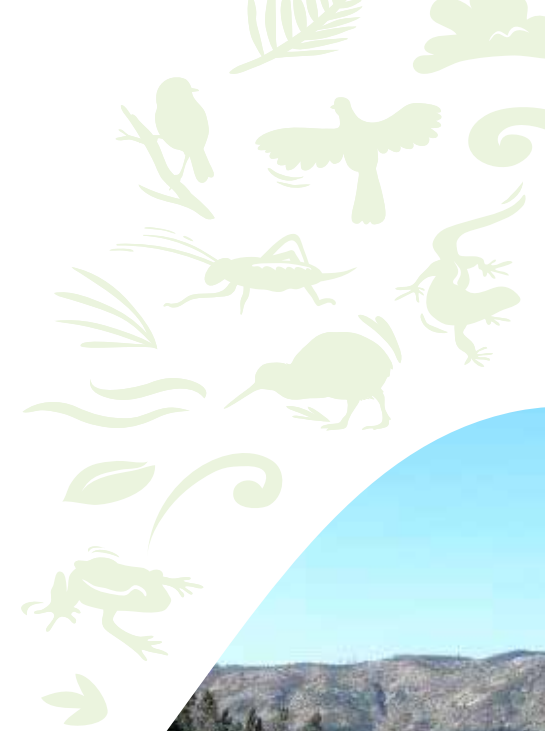
To support and grow the capability and impact of our communities and partners, to restore and preserve natural ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity.

Our Objectives - 2026

1. To expand and strengthen the support services for our network members.
2. To grow and develop the Bay of Plenty conservation volunteer base.
3. To improve the capability and impact of the community conservation network.
4. To support and strengthen relationships with our partners.
5. To support landscape-scale biodiversity restoration projects.
6. To improve the sustainability of the BCA network.

E hara taku toa
i te toa takitahi,
he toa takitini

My strength is not
as an individual,
but as a collective



Our Objectives - the detail

SUPPORT SERVICES

Objective 1: To expand and strengthen the support services for our network members.

We will deliver practical backbone support for our members and partners to be more effective:

Member needs

- Regularly review member's needs.

Field support

Examples include:

- Technical advice and support.
- Project planning and management support.
- Promotion of technology and new solutions.
- Consenting processes i.e. DOC permits.

Administrative support

Examples include:

- Legal requirements.
- Provide guidance for new group establishment.
- Communications and marketing.
- Financial management system support.
- Volunteer engagement and management.

Funding support and fund holding

- Seeking and coordinating funding.
- Funding application support.
- Explore our role as a fund holder to enable larger collaborative projects across the region through our ability to access and manage funding and project responsibilities.



Our Objectives - the detail

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

Objective 2: To grow and develop the Bay of Plenty conservation volunteer base.

Many of the volunteers in community led trusts and groups have been active in conservation for many years. This experience adds to the effectiveness and strength of community leadership.

We will increase the volunteer base and offer a development programme:

- Growing the number of volunteers, of all ages, across the region.
- Sharing and developing common approaches and standards to facilitate shared knowledge and efficiencies across groups (i.e. H&S, policies etc.).
- Creating a network of paid professional roles across the region to act as “multipliers” on the impact of community-led conservation in the Bay of Plenty.
- Provision of advice and guidance on engaging and managing volunteers.



Our Objectives - the detail

CAPABILITY AND IMPACT OF OUR NETWORK

Objective 3: To improve the capability and impact of the community conservation network and partnerships.

One of the benefits for the members of the alliance is learning from one another and enabling members to support one another.

We will strengthen our network by:

- Maintaining a programme of regular events to enable members to meet, learn and network.
- Running an active communication programme.
- Advocating for the network.
- Supporting iwi led conservation where invited.
- Managing a cadet programme to strengthen the sector capability.

- Managing a schools education programme at member group sites.
- Develop a science/monitoring programme to help measure and report impact.
- Link members up to a centralised GIS system to house data.



Our Objectives - the detail

STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARTNERS

Objective 4: To support and strengthen relationships with our partners.

BCA success is dependent on providing effective services to members and developing strong relationships with government, business, funders, iwi and other community partners and other regional conservation hubs.

We will strengthen our relationships by:

- Building respectful relationships with iwi.
- Continuing to grow the network of diverse groups across the region.
- Growing partnerships with funders and local and national government agencies.
- Continuing our contribution to the development of a national network of regional conservation hubs.



Our Objectives - the detail

LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

Objective 5: To support landscape-scale biodiversity restoration projects.

- Identifying and supporting high impact landscape-scale projects.
- Encouraging and supporting our members to strengthen or expand their operation, including where desired the employment of trained conservationists to accelerate progress.
- Encouraging the development of new groups and environmental restoration projects.



Our Objectives - the detail

BCA NETWORK SUSTAINABILITY

Objective 6: To improve the sustainability of the BCA network.

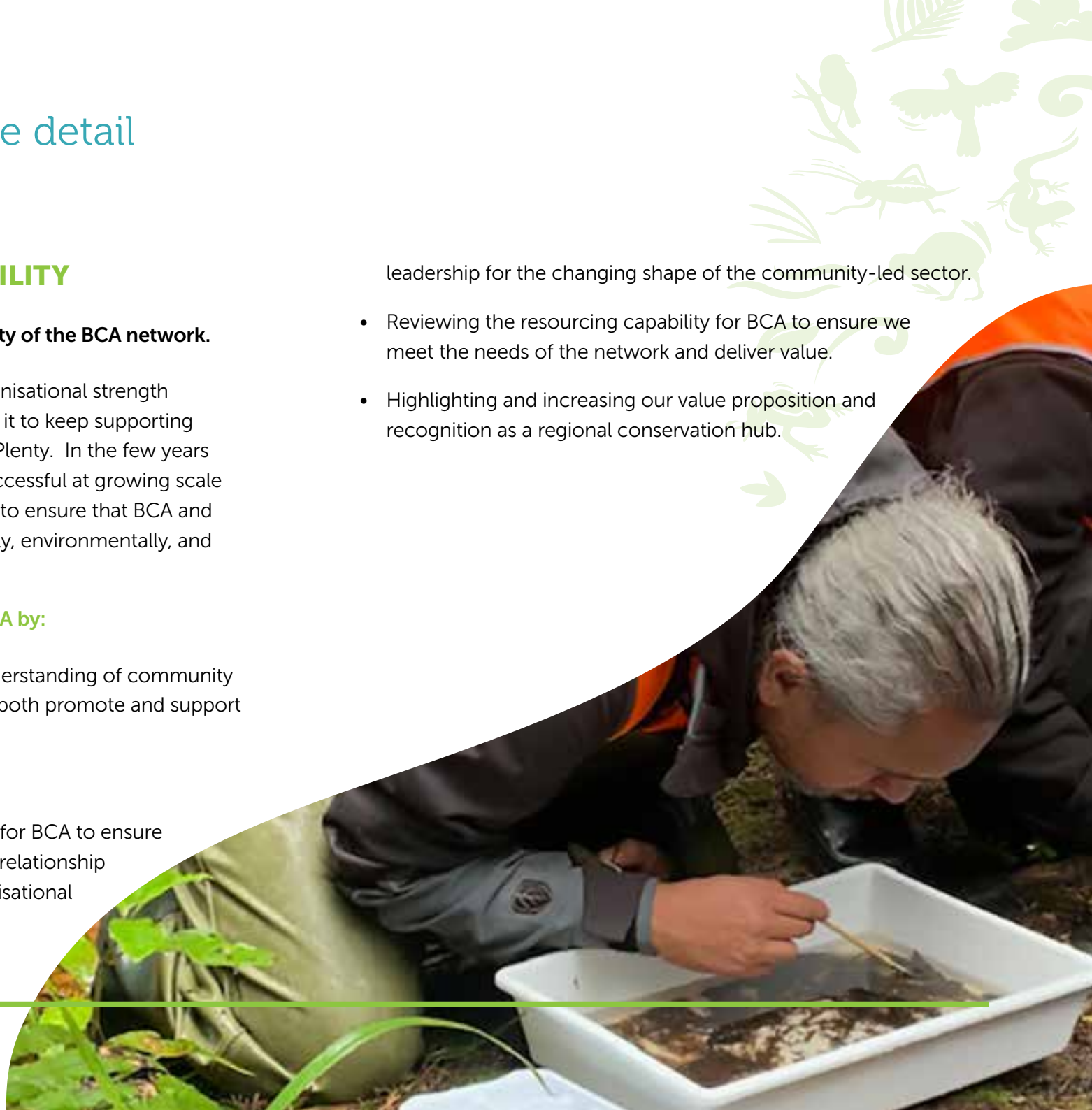
Building the long term financial and organisational strength and resilience of BCA is critical to enable it to keep supporting communities and partners in the Bay of Plenty. In the few years since its establishment BCA has been successful at growing scale and programmes. The challenge now is to ensure that BCA and its members can be sustainable financially, environmentally, and socially.

We will improve the sustainability of BCA by:

- Building and maintaining a strong understanding of community led activities and needs, to be able to both promote and support this activity.
- Building multiple funding sources.
- Reviewing governance arrangements for BCA to ensure it reflects accountability to members, relationship with iwi and providing effective organisational

leadership for the changing shape of the community-led sector.

- Reviewing the resourcing capability for BCA to ensure we meet the needs of the network and deliver value.
- Highlighting and increasing our value proposition and recognition as a regional conservation hub.



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