



# LIVE OCEAN FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 01 APRIL 2020 - 31 MARCH 2021

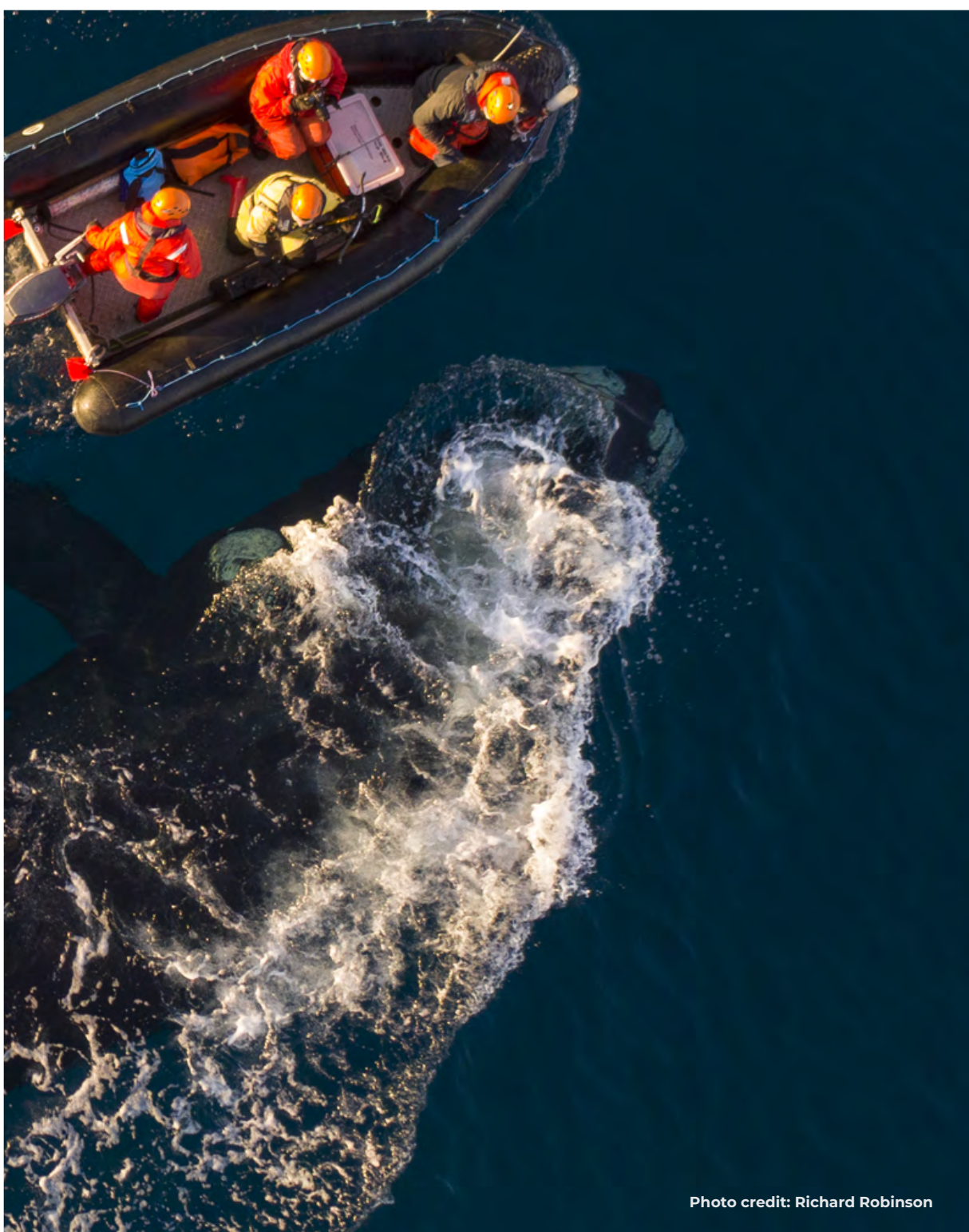
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**OUR MISSION**  
**AMPLIFY AND ACCELERATE**  
**POSITIVE OCEAN ACTION**

**OUR VISION**  
**BE A WORLD LEADING**  
**CHAMPION IN OCEAN HEALTH**

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## WHAT WE DO

**OUR IMPACT IS  
DRIVEN THROUGH  
3 CROSS-CUTTING  
FOCUS AREAS:  
SCIENCE, OUTREACH  
AND INNOVATION**

We partner with exceptional local talent whose work has global implications for the restoration and protection of the ocean and the life in it. We use the power of sport to take their insights and the ambition for a healthy ocean to the world stage using the platform of global sailing events.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

**Tēnā koutou,**

This is Live Ocean's first annual report which sets out the foundation's impact, achieved through the magnificent support we've received. Our first full financial year saw the COVID 19 pandemic hit but despite the uncertainties, it was a year of steady growth with exceptional highlights. Our ability to grow in this difficult year was entirely through the belief of our supporters that we have a valuable contribution to make in the ambition for a healthy ocean.

Key organisational highlights include the excellence of the research, outreach and innovation work we supported, the growth of the team and the registration of Live Ocean in the US as a charity with tax deductibility. The 36th America's Cup over summer (and the win by Emirates Team New Zealand) was a moment where we came together as a country to focus on the impressive AC75's racing

above the waterline. We were able to leverage this moment and play a role in bringing the nation's focus on Tikapa Moana, Te Moananui-ā-Toi, The Hauraki Gulf and the ecological crisis it faces.

The foundation's revenue, including Live Ocean USA, was \$1,102,770 with 74.8% of our expenditure going to the programmes we support. This is a really significant achievement for such a young organisation.

**THE SUCCESS OVER THE YEAR CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE DEDICATION AND PASSION OF OUR FOUNDERS, THE BELIEF AND GENEROSITY OF OUR SUPPORTERS AND THE DEDICATION OF A SMALL AND DETERMINED TEAM.**

A special thanks to trustees Shelley Campbell and Jez Fanstone on the New Zealand board and Amanda Martin, Erin Miseralis and Jez

Fanstone who serve on our US board. Live Ocean has already benefitted enormously from your experience and commitment through our developing stages.

I invite you to share our immense pride in all that has been achieved over the year.

**Ngā mihi nui,**  
MIRANDA BURDON



**TO HAVE  
A HEALTHY  
FUTURE, WE  
MUST HAVE  
A HEALTHY  
OCEAN**





## A MESSAGE FROM PETER & BLAIR

Aotearoa New Zealand has one of the biggest and best ocean spaces in the world. Along with incredible talent who are committed to its restoration and protection. So many people have supported our journey with Live Ocean, from advice and kōrero right through to funding which enables us to get behind the committed talent and accelerate their work.

To be able to use our platform of sport and step up to these issues, which are so close to us as sailors and New Zealanders, has been a real highlight. We want to take a shared ambition for a healthy ocean to the world stage and shine the spotlight on the role a healthy ocean plays. To use our sport to reach new audiences with these messages.

Photo credit: Blair Millar

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

## Tēnā koutou,

It's hugely satisfying to reflect on the work that's been achieved in our first full financial year. Live Ocean was born out of our founders' huge concern for the ocean and the role a healthy ocean plays in a healthy future.

With your belief and support, the organisation has fledged. When we asked for the facts, perspective and advice, it was there. When we've bought forward exceptional work that needs support, you've said yes. Together we've surfed the wave that is Live Ocean.

In turn, we've worked hard to serve the needs of the sector and to support excellent local work with global implications. We've shown what agility and relatively small budgets can achieve if support is provided at the critical time. We've worked hard to bring people together around issues that are hard to see and often out of sight. We've seized the outsized

opportunity of the platform our founder's sailing provides and our ability to reach 'the middle'.

I'll always remember this year as the one where our small and talented team put our heads down and weathered the storm that was the first year of COVID 19.

### Key highlights for our team:

1) Joining the race to save the Antipodean albatross and seeing it move strongly into the public arena as a flagship species for our seabirds. With 90% threatened with or at risk of extinction (Ministry for the Environment, MFE), New Zealand has no time to waste.

2) Dr. Emma Carroll from the University of Auckland's first trip to the subantarctic to study the tohorā southern right whale. We watched the whales head in an entirely new direction as they adapt to climate change.

3) The contribution Live Ocean made, alongside many others, to the urgent need to prioritise the health of Tīkapa Moana, the Gulf.

4) The seed funding of Seascope, the pioneering underwater photogrammetry project led by New Zealand Geographic and watching that develop at pace over the year.

**WE HAVE SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY HERE IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND, HOW WE LOOK AFTER OUR OCEAN MATTERS ON A GLOBAL SCALE. IN THE WORDS OF PETER & BLAIR 'LET'S GO!'.**

**Ngā mihi nui,**  
SALLY PATERSON



# THANK YOU

The Live Ocean whanau have blown us away while we've navigated through our first year. Our founding partners and major supporters have been invaluable. These are the people and organisations that commit to us over a number of years. Who ask how they can help and lend their weight to the kaupapa. Who have trusted us to find our feet in our early days.

The wider community of ocean champions have really stepped up to the plate too. You've scrubbed the bottom of boats for us, classrooms have held bake sales, right through to people and businesses who've given us their time, expertise or gifted proceeds. Thank you. We're here because of your belief and support.

## FOUNDING PARTNERS

AKO Foundation

FORSYTH BARR

BAYLEYS

WHAKATUPU  
AOTEAROA FOUNDATION

## MAJOR SUPPORTERS

Generate

大成 DENTONS KENSINGTON SWAN

TAYLORmade

Joyce  
Fisher  
Charitable  
Trust

ASHLEY + BEN RENSHAW

SIR EION + LADY EDGAR  
CHARITABLE TRUST

THE LOU + IRIS FISHER  
CHARITABLE TRUST

THE MACE CHARITABLE  
FOUNDATION





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## THE PLAN TO SAVE THE OCEAN

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Peter and Blair met with Peter Thompson UN Special Envoy for the Ocean and Harry Burkhardt Ngāti Kuri Chair to discuss the global issues our oceans are facing.

As guardians of one of the most significant ocean spaces on the planet, Aotearoa plays a critical role in the restoration and protection of our oceans for future generations.

Photo credit: Nick Read



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# SCIENCE TO UNDERSTAND

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## TOHORĀ SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALES

This sentinel species for climate change was once decimated by whaling. The now recovering population faces a new threat, the changing ocean.

### IMPACT

This research programme provides essential data on how to look after our southern right whales for years to come. Initial tracking showed migrations that startled scientists. Led by Dr. Emma Carroll at the University of Auckland, this research will inform management actions to protect the whales, through increased understanding of where they go after they leave the safety of Maungahuka Auckland Islands.

## \$185k

### LIVE OCEAN SUPPORT

Crucial funding to allow the full two year voyage research programme to Maungahuka Auckland Islands to study how the healthiest right whale population in the world is responding to the changing ocean. Live Ocean provided \$185,500 in 2020-21.

## 30 TONNES OF CO<sub>2</sub>

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that each great whale sequesters on average 30 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, taking that carbon out of the atmosphere for centuries.


## 2b MATURE TREES

Whales fertilise phytoplankton. Even a 1% increase in phytoplankton productivity would be the equivalent to the sudden appearance of 2 billion mature trees.

## 1.5b TONNES OF CO<sub>2</sub>

The IMF also estimates if whales were allowed to return to their pre-whaling numbers 1.5 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> would be captured annually.



A large whale, likely a humpback whale, is shown swimming underwater. The whale's body is covered in a thick layer of yellowish-brown parasites, possibly leeches or barnacles, which are particularly concentrated on its head and back. The water is a deep blue, and the lighting is natural, highlighting the texture of the whale's skin and the parasites. The whale is swimming towards the left of the frame, with its head and front flippers visible.

## **SWIMMING 1/3 OF THE WAY AROUND THE WORLD**

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**Over the course of one year,  
Bill travelled 15,000kms,  
significantly through proposed  
Antarctic Marine Protected Areas.**



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# INNOVATE FOR SOLUTIONS

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# SEASCAPE

Live Ocean has supported the initial stages of Seascape, New Zealand Geographic's innovative approach to map sensitive areas of the Gulf's seafloor. Collaboration with the University of Auckland has opened up new possibilities for research on kelp forests and rocky reef communities.

## IMPACT

Seascape is pioneering photogrammetry innovations to transform our understanding of the marine realm through better visualisations and more accurate science. The result will be landscape-scale, photographic models of ecologically significant parts of the seafloor, providing high-quality data available to scientists, marine managers, and the public.

**“Adapting photogrammetry technology for use underwater will give us the view of our marine habitats that satellite imagery provides on land. Our hope is that this insight leads to better decision making, more robust science, and a public more engaged in the fate of the marine space.”**

JAMES FRANKHAM | NZ GEOGRAPHIC

# 6

## MINUTES

The time required to capture the imagery for a 200m patch of seabed. Traditionally an area this size would have taken scientists weeks to document.

# 2.6

## THOUSAND SQ.M

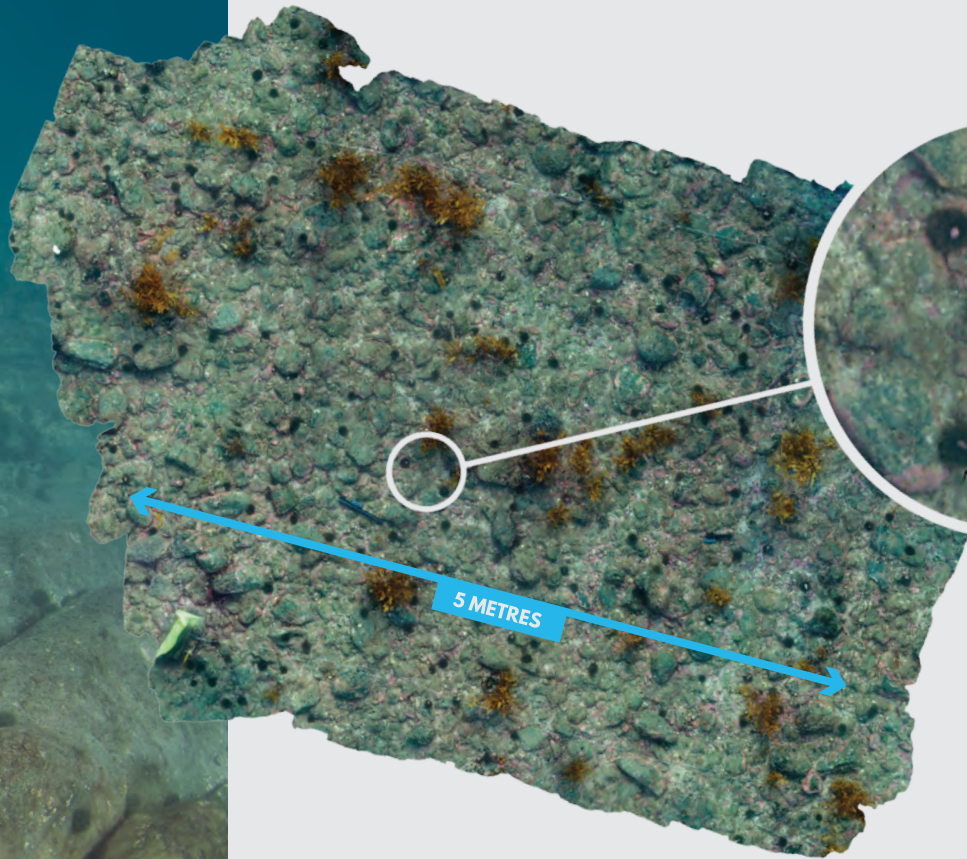
2600 m<sup>2</sup> - Total seafloor mapped to date across three locations within the Hauraki Gulf.

## POWERFUL NEW RESEARCH TOOL

Accurate and expansive images can be a powerful new research tool documenting the state of the seafloor at point in time allowing questions to be raised after image acquisition.



Photo credit: Paul Caiger



“The problems faced in New Zealand’s marine estate are beyond urgent. Half of the reefs in the Gulf and much of the Northland coast are now urchin barrens - evidence of trophic collapse. Understanding the path to recovery is critical to a coherent and rapid response.”

JAMES FRANKHAM | NZ GEOGRAPHIC

**2719**  
SEA URCHINS

2719 sea urchins counted in 514 sqm at the Noises.

**751**  
MINUTES

751 minutes have been spent underwater developing and implementing Seascape technology.



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# OUTREACH THAT CONNECTS

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Photo credit: Charlie Barnett



# TOROA ANTIPODEAN ALBATROSS

Aotearoa is the albatross capital of the world. These great ocean voyagers are loved by sailors the world over and are the most threatened group of birds internationally. The main threat to them is accidental capture by fishing vessels. Live Ocean, working closely with Southern Seabirds has championed the plight of the Antipodean albatross, which is on the fast track to extinction.

## IMPACT

Live Ocean supported the 2020-21 voyage to Antipodes Island by Dr Kath Walker & Dr Graeme Elliott from Albatross Research. This voyage saw the largest ever deployment of satellite trackers on an albatross population in this country. This vital data provides the conservation focus for urgently needed action by showing which fleets are overlapping with the birds, both within our waters and on the high seas.

**“Over all the decades since we became aware this species was being caught as bycatch in Southern Ocean fisheries, the problem has remained out of sight. Somehow, in the most difficult year possible, Live Ocean put this problem out to a huge international audience who previously had never thought about it. What’s more, Live Ocean made them care about fixing it.”**

DR KATH WALKER | DR GRAEME ELLIOTT



Research shows if tuna fleets set their lines at night, use weights to sink their hooks and fly a bird scaring line, albatross deaths will be almost eliminated.

# 2.3k

## DYING EACH YEAR

It's estimated we're losing 2,300 of these birds a year. The population is in freefall. Unless we act immediately we could lose this incredible bird.

# 530k

## VIEWS

'The Sentinel' video with 530,000 views, translated into Te Reo and Mandarin and finalist in MY HERO awards for Sylvia Earle Conservation Award.





## TRACKING A JOURNEY

Antipodean albatrosses range across the South Pacific, from Chile to Australia. Bycatch in fisheries on the high seas is considered to be the number one threat to them. Tracking helps identify where they're going and which fleets are overlapping with them. This is a global issue that needs an urgent global response.

Albatross map credit: Samhita Bose, Dept of Conservation



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# TĪKAPA MOANA TE MOANANUI-Ā-TOI THE HAURAKI GULF

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The Gulf is Aotearoa's only marine park, stretching over 1.2 million hectares with over 50 islands. While there has been significant progress with island restoration, the State of the Gulf 2020 report paints a grim picture for the Gulf below the waterline and the life in it.





# SONGS OF THE SEA

Most of us can't remember the former abundance of Tikapa Moana, or what has been lost. Songs of the Sea is an innovative multi-media series using archival photography, film and audio to tell personal stories of past abundance, highlighting what has been lost over time. This series aims to inspire a new generation who are tasked with the collective responsibility to be the guardians of one of Aotearoa's most remarkable ecosystems.

PUBLISHED IN THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD  
ON 27 FEBRUARY 2021

## Dear New Zealand,

Shortly, we'll be part of a team defending the America's Cup on the Hauraki Gulf. It's an exciting time after a huge amount of work. It represents some of the things we like about ourselves as a nation, it's a symbol of innovation, focus and a small team taking on some of the best in the world. For us personally as sportspeople, we represent Aotearoa New Zealand with pride.

But this letter isn't about boats or racing... it's about a big ambition for the Hauraki Gulf. It used to be one of the great coastal marine ecosystems of the world. It's special. It's home to whales, dolphins, sharks, seabirds and a huge range of fishes and shellfish. But the impact of the large and growing human population has shifted the balance for the health of the Gulf and the life in it.

In 2019 we launched marine conservation charity Live Ocean. Our passion for the ocean has been supported by people who have spent their lives and careers understanding and working around it, including marine scientists. We've learnt a huge amount and while Live Ocean has a national focus, we've heard loud and clear that the Gulf is in serious trouble. That we're not keeping up with the changes, not even close.

The issues are complex but for too long we've had a blind spot when it comes to the ocean. We've taken too much and haven't looked after it. Run off from land (both urban and rural) is causing sedimentation. We're still using destructive practices like bottom trawling and dredging and we're taking too many fish and shellfish. On land we protect roughly 30% in national parks and we understand the value to us all and to our native species. Yet in the Gulf we only protect 0.3%, despite respected scientists and the Hauraki Gulf Forum, calling for 30% marine protection by 2030.

We need to act with urgency and in unity. We all want the same thing, a healthy Hauraki Gulf where our kids will see the species their great grandparents did. Where we can gather food, play and swim. Where we value a marine ecosystem full of life. Alongside mana whenua and scientists, we can come together to make changes that make a difference.

So we're asking you to come around a big ambition... protecting 30% of the Hauraki Gulf to ensure future generations inherit a healthy and productive ocean. The race for a live ocean is on. Are you in?

Respectfully,



Peter Burling  
Sailor and Live Ocean Founder



Blair Tuke  
Sailor and Live Ocean Founder

*Today we're launching a multi-media series through Live Ocean called Songs of the Sea. It uses archival photography, film and audio to tell personal stories of the Gulf's past abundance, and highlight what has been lost. These stories aim to inspire a new generation who are tasked with the responsibility of restoring the vitality—the mauri—of the Hauraki Gulf. The series asks the question, what future do you want for the Hauraki Gulf? Tell us @itsliveocean on Instagram or Facebook.*

**LIVE OCEAN**



**357k**  
VIEWS

4 Songs of the Sea videos connecting people to the issues around the Hauraki Gulf with total views of 357,887.

**1123**  
COMMENTS

Over 1000 incredible public comments on the 4 stories.

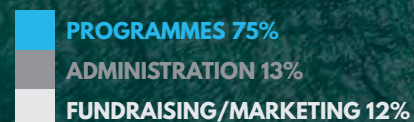
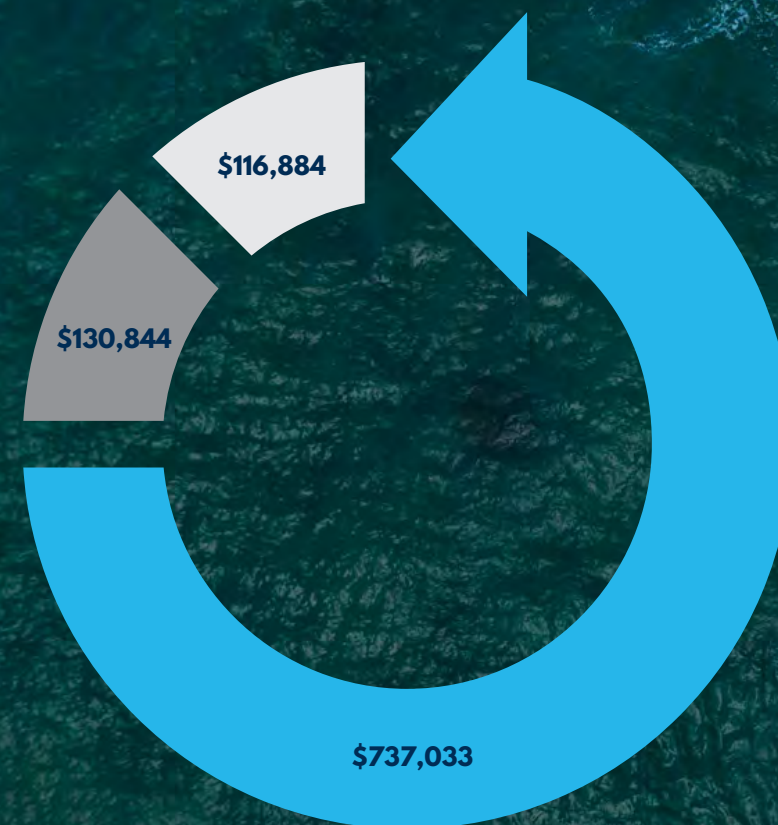


# CONSOLIDATED FINANCIALS 2020-21

<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,102,770</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
<b>PROGRAMME</b>	<b>\$ 737,033</b>
<b>FUNDRAISING / MARKETING</b>	<b>\$ 116,884</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 130,844</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 984,761</b>
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 118,009</b>

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 189,220</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 38,073</b>
<b>NET ASSESTS</b>	<b>\$ 151,147</b>

Consolidated financials for Live Ocean (New Zealand) and Live Ocean (USA) for 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021. Full audited 2020-21 financials for Live Ocean Charitable Trust Group (NZ) are available on our website. Live Ocean USA granted 501(c)(3) status during 2020. Form 990 submitted to the US Inland Revenue Service.







**LIVEOCEAN**

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