

Waiheke Island, New Zealand residents protest the construction of two buildings on a historic burial site, 2012

- [\(mainly or initiated by\) indigenous participants](#) [1]
- [local community or neighborhood-level campaign](#) [2]

Timing

Time period notes:

The first and only known action in this case occurred on 1 October.

October

2012

to:

October

2012

Location and Goals

Country:

New Zealand

Location City/State/Province:

Waiheke Island, Wharetana Bay

Location Description:

a historic Maori burial site

[View Location on Map](#)

Goals:

To stop the construction of two buildings on Wharetana Bay

Methods

Methods in 1st segment:

- 171. Nonviolent interjection>protesters stood in line on shore to keep a barge from unloading

Methods in 2nd segment:

- 171. Nonviolent interjection>protesters stood in line on shore to keep a barge from unloading

Methods in 3rd segment:

- 171. Nonviolent interjection>protesters stood in line on shore to keep a barge from unloading

Methods in 4th segment:

- 171. Nonviolent interjection>protesters stood in line on shore to keep a barge from unloading
Methods in 5th segment:

- 171. Nonviolent interjection>protesters stood in line on shore to keep a barge from unloading
Methods in 6th segment:

- 171. Nonviolent interjection>protesters stood in line on shore to keep a barge from unloading
Segment Length:
Less than one hour (exact length of campaign unknown, but it was less than one day)

Classifications

Classification:

Defense

Cluster:

Environment

National/Ethnic Identity

Group characterization:

- local residents

Leaders, partners, allies, elites

Leaders:

Local residents of Waiheke Island

Partners:

Community board member Paul Walden, Councilor Mike Lee, Green MP Denise Roche

External allies:

Not known

Involvement of social elites:

Community board member Paul Walden, Councilor Mike Lee, Green MP Denise Roche

Joining/exiting order of social groups

Groups in 1st Segment:

- Councilor Mike Lee
- Green MP Denise Roche
- community board member Paul Walden
- local residents of Waiheke Island

Groups in 2nd Segment:

Groups in 3rd Segment:

Groups in 4th Segment:

Groups in 5th Segment:

Groups in 6th Segment:

Segment Length:

Less than one hour (exact length of campaign unknown, but it was less than one day)

Opponent, Opponent Responses, and Violence

Opponents:

Auckland Council, Scott Holyoake

Nonviolent responses of opponent:

Not known

Campaigner violence:

Not known

Repressive Violence:

Not known

Success Outcome

Success in achieving specific demands/goals:

0 points out of 6 points

Survival:

0.5 points out of 1 point

Growth:

1 point out of 3 points

Total points:

1.5 out of 10 points

Notes on outcomes:

Growth is given a score of 1 because although actual growth in numbers is unknown, the campaign did gain the support of three local government officials

On 1 October 2012, residents of Waiheke Island, New Zealand, protested against the installation of two pre-constructed buildings in Wharetana Bay, a historic site over 170 years old that is home to a Maori burial ground. This burial ground makes the bay a site of both archaeological and cultural importance.

Ongoing construction work had stopped in June 2012 when the excavation unearthed archaeological artifacts. Construction continued again on 20 September after Scott Holyoake, the nephew of Prime Minister Sir Keith Holyoake and orchestrator of the construction, requested landowner access to the natural reserve property from the Waiheke Community Board, and the Board approved the request. This decision also made trespassing on the property illegal.

Local residents had expressed concerns that the construction of the two buildings would ruin the natural beauty of the bay and foreshore reserve. Residents urged the Board to not grant landowner access and stop construction at the 20 September Community Board meeting. They also argued that the construction was an issue of transparency as well because the Auckland Council did not consult the residents about the construction. However, no nonviolent actions were found prior to the 1 October action.

On 1 October at 7 am, local residents attempted to physically stop the unloading of the barge carrying a pre-fabricated boatshed and pavilion by standing in line along the shore of the bay. Police carried protesters away, arresting seven for trespassing including local community board member Paul Walden. Councilor Mike Lee and Green MP Denise Roche also participated in the protest. After the police removed the protesters, the two

buildings were unloaded and constructed with no further disruptions. Police later released the seven who were arrested and cleared their charges.

Research Notes

Sources:

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Name of researcher, and date dd/mm/yyyy:

Iris Fang, 03/12/2012

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[1] <https://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/category/pcs-tags/mainly-or-initiated-indigenous-participants>

[2] <https://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/category/pcs-tags/local-community-or-neighborhood-level-campaign>