6. Acknowledgements

The exposed soft shore sampling project was one of many that required great physical input and assistance from keen volunteers. Over 15 tonnes of sand was put through 5 mm and 1 mm sieves. Gathering the raw data within the allotted time frames was only made possible through the actions of a core of regulars and those that gave of their time as it permitted. We would like to thank Stew Robertson, Brett Sutton, Federico Simon, Katie Franks, Nancy Van Nieuwenhove, Faust Vercetti, Nathan Capper, Mark Clayson, Ben Robinson, Luke Jacobs, Alice Morrison, Alice Podziewska, Aroha Hughes, Kelly Maxwell, Graham McCormack, Anton Williams, Stephanie Bathgate, Rob Bathgate, Dudley Bell, Nick Ling, Conrad Pilditch, Warrick Powrie, Kevin Eastwood, Rebecca Gladstone-Gallagher, Jen Blair, Bex Eivers, Ashlee Webby, Nick Macdonald and Christine Ulrich. We would also like to extend our gratitude to Tuihana Pook, Tumuaki of Te Kura Mana Māori o Whangaparaoa, and members of the Iwi for their hospitality and field assistance during the winter and summer East Coast Waihau and Whangaparaoa Bay soft shore sampling visits. The report has benefitted from review by Conrad Pilditch and Chris Battershill and editorial review by Kim Pritchard.