**Solo taxonomy rubric:** Student-led inquiry

**Field trip:** *Environmental guardianship in Tamatea Dusky Sound*

This rubric evaluates students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills in local biodiversity and conservation challenges, tracking their development from initial engagement and basic analysis to advanced critical thinking, comprehensive problem-solving, and innovative approaches with long-term considerations.

**Level 1: Prestructural**

* Yet to demonstrate engagement in critical thinking or problem-solving related to a biodiversity and conservation challenge in the local environment.
* Yet to identify any relevant questions or issues.

**Level 2: Unistructural**

* Attempts basic critical thinking but yet to demonstrate effective problem-solving skills in their local environmental inquiry.
* Identifies a biodiversity or conservation challenge with a basic analysis or proposed solution.

**Level 3: Multistructural**

* Engages in critical thinking by identifying and exploring a biodiversity and conservation challenge in the local environment.
* Attempts to address this challenge with a simplistic solution.
* Shows some connections between the challenge and their proposed solution.

**Level 4: Relational**

* Demonstrates strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills in their local environmental inquiry.
* Identifies and analyses a complex biodiversity and conservation challenge, considering both scientific and societal aspects.
* Provides a well-thought-out solution or strategy to address this challenge, demonstrating an understanding of potential impacts.

**Level 5: Extended Abstract**

* Excels in critical thinking and problem-solving, showing exceptional depth, creativity, and innovation in their local environmental inquiry.
* Identifies not only a challenge but also opportunities and an innovative approach to biodiversity and conservation in their local environment.
* Presents a comprehensive and well-supported solution that considers long-term consequences and the broader community impact.