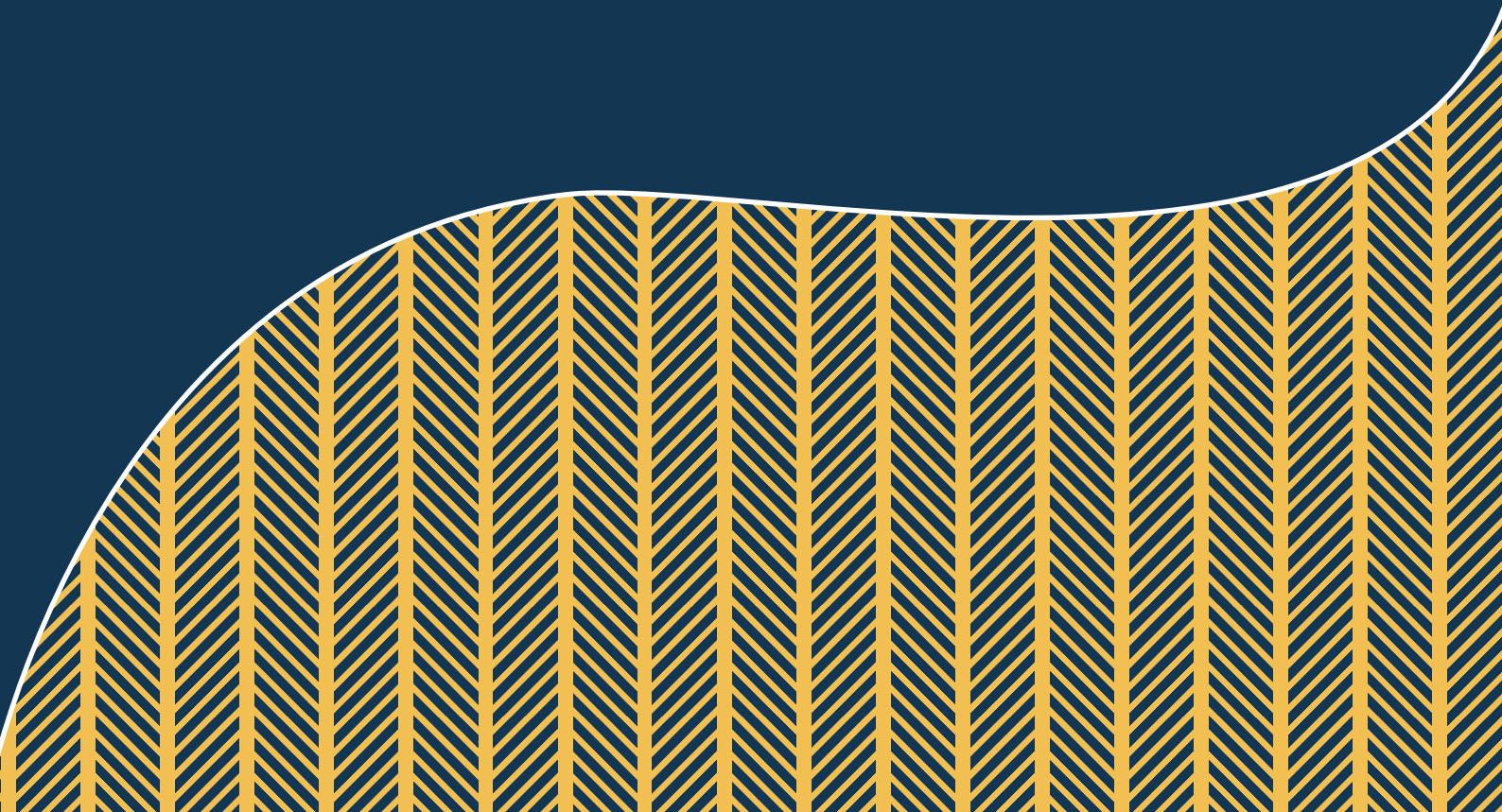




# Te Wai Māori

QUARTER REPORT THREE  
1 APRIL 2020 - 30 JUNE 2020



**He reo tō te wai**

**He reo tō te tangata**

**Kotahi tonu te whakapapa**

**Whakakotahia!**



## **Summary**

This briefing for Iwi provides an overview of Te Wai Māori's work against the 2019/20 Annual Plan and covers the period 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020.

## **Published by**

Te Wai Māori  
15 July 2020



# Contents

Karakia.....	4
Chair's kōrero.....	5
Our Board.....	6
Operational performance.....	7
Governance.....	11
Communications.....	11



# Karakia

Ko Rangi

Ko Papa

Ka puta ko Rongo

Ko Tāne Mahuta

Ko Tangaroa

Ko Tūmatauenga

Ko Haumia-tiketike

Ko Tāwhirimatea

Tokona te Rangi ki runga

Ko Papa ki raro

Ka puta te ira tangata ki te whai ao,  
ki te ao marama

E Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga, Kia Tina! Tina!

Haumi e! Hui e, Taiki e!



# Chair's Kōrero

Tēnā koutou,

I'm pleased to present the third quarterly (Q3) report on the activities of Te Wai Māori against our 2019/20 Annual Plan, which covers the period 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020.

This quarterly report has been developed to give Iwi more regular insight into the work the Trust undertakes on behalf of Mandated Iwi Organisations.

The key strategic priorities for Te Wai Māori Trust for the year are:

- Protect Māori rights and interests in freshwater and freshwater fisheries;
- Advance Māori interests in freshwater fisheries; and
- Build and maintain effective strategic relationships.

We welcome your feedback on the structure and content of our reporting.

Ngā mihi,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa te Heuheu'.

Lisa te Heuheu

**Chair - Te Wai Māori**



# Our Board



**Lisa te Heuheu**

Chair



**Miria Pomare**

Director



**Pahia Turia**

Director



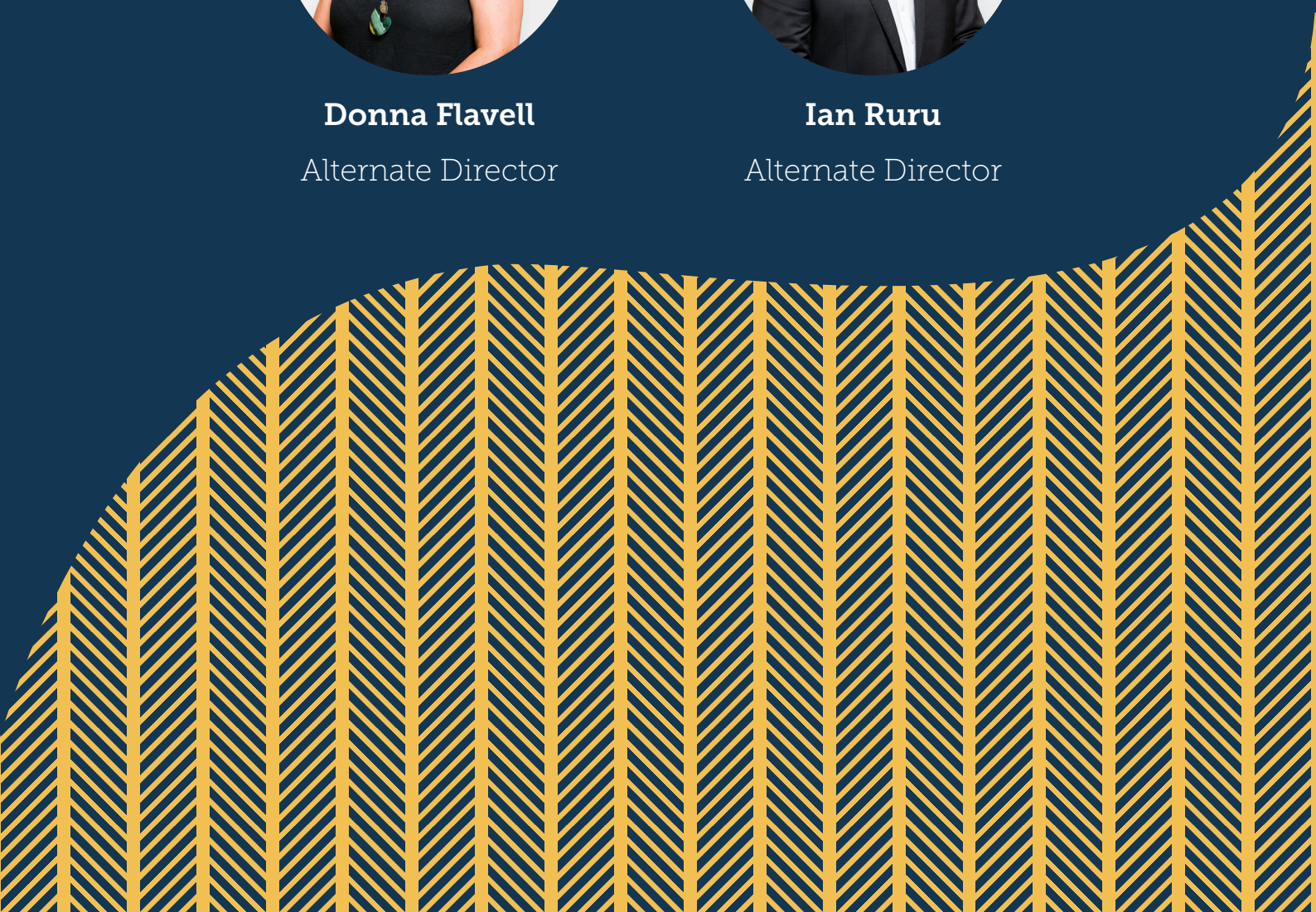
**Donna Flavell**

Alternate Director



**Ian Ruru**

Alternate Director



# Operational performance against annual plan 2019/20

## Protect and enhance Māori rights and interests in freshwater fisheries

01

### Supporting iwi and hapū to protect and enhance their rights and interests in freshwater fisheries

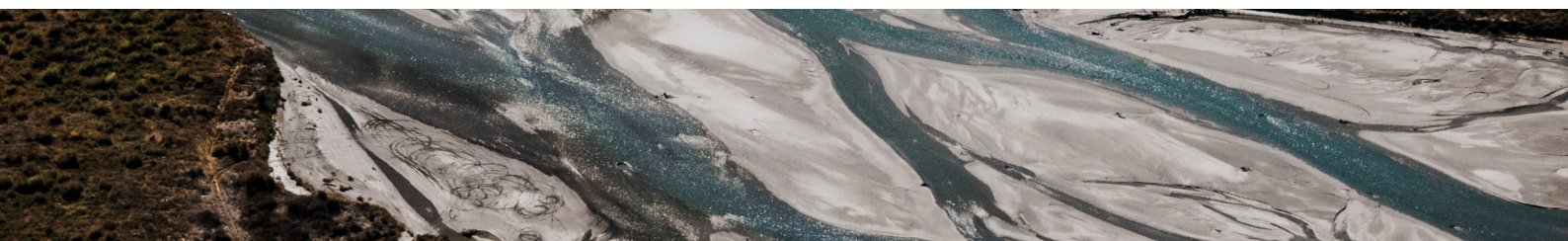
#### National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa - New Zealand

In May Te Wai Māori prepared joint feedback on behalf of Te Wai Māori and Te Ohu Kaimoana on the Ministry for the Environment's final draft of the 'National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa New Zealand – Te Tātai Tuwhera Huriārangi mō Aotearoa' prepared by Aecom consultancy.

The feedback noted that the draft NCCRA fails to give adequate recognition to Te Ao Māori; mātauranga Māori; and the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. It stressed our disappointment at the lack of engagement on this important kaupapa, with Te Wai Māori only receiving the final draft, with no previous engagement or involvement in the process prior. It further noted that comprehensive consultation with iwi and hapū did not occur and that any window of opportunity to meaningfully influence the development, methodology and approach of the NCCRA had passed. To that end it was recommended that the Ministry commission a further independent risk assessment report, co-designed with Māori.

#### Essential freshwater

Delivery of the finalised freshwater reforms has been delayed as a consequence of COVID-19 and is now expected in late July/August. Te Wai Māori continues to actively seek to engage with the Ministry on the essential freshwater programme of work, in particular on the proposed Māori compulsory value for 'mahinga kai' and on the implementation of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

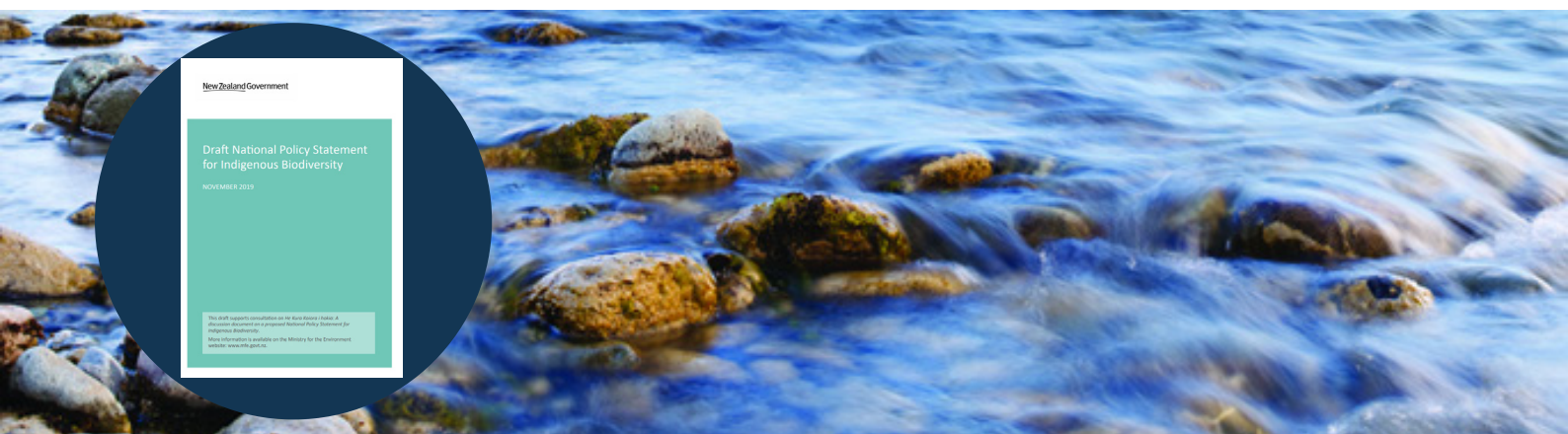


# Biodiversity

An early draft of the Department of Conservation's Biodiversity in Aotearoa – an assessment of state, trends and pressures report was provided to Te Ohu Kaimoana for peer review in May. The purpose of the report is to provide the Minister for Conservation with an overview of biodiversity state, trends and pressures and inform DOC's work programmes. A joint response was prepared by Te Ohu Kaimoana and Te Wai Māori focussing on the marine and freshwater aspects of the report.

Feedback was provided that while the assessment makes a good start there is more to do to amend and add to the report to more accurately describe the current biodiversity state, trends and pressures (particularly in the marine environment) and to improve the way Māori terms and concepts are incorporated into the report.

The Trust continue to monitor progress and to engage with officials to seek to influence the further development of the NPS Biodiversity Strategy, noting that the delivery of the NPS has been delayed from mid-2020 until April 2021 as a consequence of COVID-19.



## Īnanga Review and wider Department of Conservation work programme

In April the Board met with Minister Sage by Zoom to introduce the work of the Trust, signal the board's desire to establish a governance level relationship, and outline the Trust's frustration at the nature of the Department's engagement with Iwi and hapū on some significant recent issues including the review of whitebait and amending the Conservation Act. Since that time staff have met (by Zoom) with DOC officials to discuss a number of matters raised in the discussion with the Minister:

- We proposed that Te Wai Māori and Department officials jointly develop freshwater fisheries regulations that fall out of the amended Conservation Act (as a result of the Conservation (indigenous freshwater fish) Amendment Bill).
- DOC staff are keen to work with the Trust on exploring joint funding of freshwater fisheries research. DOC has been working internally with Kāhui Kaupapa Atawhai to develop better practice for engaging with Iwi and Māori.
- The Minister seemed interested in establishing a relationship with Te Wai Māori Trust and accepted the invitation to attend future board meetings for similar discussions.

The Minister seemed interested in establishing a relationship with Te Wai Māori Trust and accepted the invitation to attend future board meetings for similar discussions. Te Wai Māori will continue to assist Iwi and hapū with technical advice throughout the next stages of the Īnanga review process and regularly engage with officials on concerns raised.



## 02

### Develop and implement mechanisms that provide better recognition and status for tuna

#### Te Mana o Ngā Tuna

During this period, the Trust continued to work with Fisheries New Zealand and the Department of Conservation to progress the national tuna review. In mid-2019 Te Wai Māori proposed to those agencies a multi-agency review of the pressures and issues affecting the tuna fishery (barriers to migration, effects of fishing, habitat, water quality). It was our aspiration that the review would be led by Te Wai Māori Trust, and involve Iwi, Te Ohu Kaimoana, and those Crown agencies with responsibilities for the health and wellbeing of tuna.



## 03

### Assist Iwi and hapū to develop and implement initiatives to enhance the status of piharau/kanakana

The Trust continues to work with the piharau/kanakana iwi steering group to enhance the status of this ancient species. The Trust has prepared a communications strategy that seeks to achieve the following key objectives for piharau/kanakana:

- Increase the awareness of the species (piharau/kanakana).
- Broaden the awareness of the species (piharau/kanakana) beyond its current audience.
- Establish with our audience that piharau/kanakana is a taonga species in Aotearoa.
- Educate our audience on the threats that piharau/kanakana face and what action can be taken to assist the protection and growth of the population.

As noted in the previous report a project has been scoped with Southland kaitiaki to support their research on kanakana, however as a consequence of COVID-19, commencement of the project has been deferred until Summer 20/21.

# 01

## Building and supporting Iwi and hapū capability and capacity in freshwater fisheries

Te Wai Māori continued to work with 2019/2020 Wai Ora funding recipients to complete their project milestones and make necessary variations to contracts as a result of delays due to COVID-19. Two projects were completed, leaving nine that are being monitored against their timelines and milestones.

The Trust has approved two applications for funding through the Tiaki Wai Fund. Since Q2, Te Wai Māori has received two additional applications that are recommended for approval.



# 02

## Increasing the quality and range of information available to Iwi and hapū on freshwater fisheries and habitat

In 2019, Te Wai Māori engaged the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) to develop a literature review of all published research on the effects of a changing climate to freshwater fish species, then to develop assessments on the vulnerability of our taonga freshwater species to a series of climate change scenarios. The final research will be launched by the Trust later in the year.

## Strategic relationships

01

### Relationship building and reporting

Te Wai Māori is seeking to establish a pilot study using a kaupapa Māori based freshwater assessment framework, Wai Ora Wai Māori, and have engaged in preliminary hui with a Wairarapa marae group.

### Provide governance, oversight and resources to enable the Trust to operate effectively



The Te Wai Māori board maintain and regularly review a register of strategic and operational risks.

Management and Directors receive regular reports on the performance of Te Wai Māori funds managed by Portfolio Management Services Limited and Cambridge Associates.

The Trust has sought to meet with Minister Sage in April 2020 to establish a relationship and avenue for ongoing dialogue on the Trust's aspirations and the Department's work programme.

## Communications



### Provide regular quarterly updates to Iwi and other stakeholders on the work of Te Wai Māori Trust

The Trust's second quarter report against the 2019/20 Annual Plan was sent to Iwi during the month of June. This report can be found on our website in our publications sections, under reporting – or by [clicking here](#).

The Trust is working with our communications team on our first contribution to the kāhui's upcoming e-magazine, 'Te Korowai o Tangaroa'. The magazine will be published quarterly and will present the Trust and its work alongside the rest of the kāhui to a broader audience.

## Promote Te Wai Māori as a source of expert advice and information

The Trust sent four pānui to Iwi during the third quarter, covering Lisa te Heuheu's appointment as Chair, our media release responding to the Ministry for the Environment on 'Our Freshwater 2020', the Tiaki Wai Fund and our second quarterly report.

The Trust published one response during the third quarter in regard to the Ministry for the Environment's draft National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa New Zealand – Te Tātai Tuwhera Huriārangi mō Aotearoa. You can read a copy of this [here](#) or by visiting the responses section on our website.

The Trust has published ten stories on its website in the third quarter, covering; rāhui, Lisa te Heuheu's appointment as Chair, media appearances, engagement with Government, our response to MFE's report on freshwater, Te Arawa Lakes Trust, reporting and our response on the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.

## Grow the awareness and influence of Te Wai Māori

The Trust increased its interactions with posts on social media by over 200% against the second quarter and increased our reach by 37%. This was largely due to a sponsored post announcing our new Chair, Lisa te Heuheu.

Our website had a 36% increase in the amount of users in the third quarter and a 27% increase in sessions on the site. The Trust published two media releases over the course of April. The first was regarding the appointment of Lisa te Heuheu as the Trust's new chair, which resulted in interviews on Radio New Zealand and Radio Waatea.

The screenshot shows the RNZ website interface. The main article is titled "Te Wai Māori appoints first wahine chair" and is dated 9:17 pm on 2 April 2020. The sub-header is "TE AO MĀORI / ENVIRONMENT". The article text states: "Ensuring Māori get a say on the management of tāonga species like inanga (whitebait) is a priority for the first wahine chair of the Māori freshwater fisheries trust." Below the text is a large portrait of Lisa te Heuheu. To the right, there are "RELATED STORIES" including "New whitebaiting rules proposal includes phasing out exports" and "West Coast whitebaiters wary of restrictions as gov denies ban". At the bottom of the article, there are "TE AO MĀORI" news items such as "Time to review colonial monuments' place in society - artist Nick Tupara".

The second release was following an interview with Radio New Zealand regarding the lack of consultation on the Ministry for the Environment and Stats NZ's 'Our Freshwater 2020' report. Lisa spoke to NewsHub Radio, Radio Waatea and Te Hiku Radio regarding this.

The screenshot shows the Waatea news website interface. The main article is titled "New chair for Te Wai Māori Trust" and features a portrait of Lisa te Heuheu. The article text states: "Lisa te Heuheu has been appointed chair of the Māori Freshwater Fisheries Trust." Below the text, there are several promotional banners for "TE REO MATAIAPA" and "WAIATA TELEVISION".

The screenshot shows the RNZ website interface. The main article is titled "Māori frustrated by freshwater report process" and is dated 12:44 pm on 16 April 2020. The sub-header is "ENVIRONMENT". The article text states: "Our Freshwater 2020, released today, finds more than three-quarters of Aotearoa's freshwater fish are threatened or at risk of extinction and says climate change is set to make things worse." Below the text, there are "Tags: environment" and "Embed Share this" options.

