

# Te Wai Māori



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 2020/21 Annual Plan and covers the period 1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020.

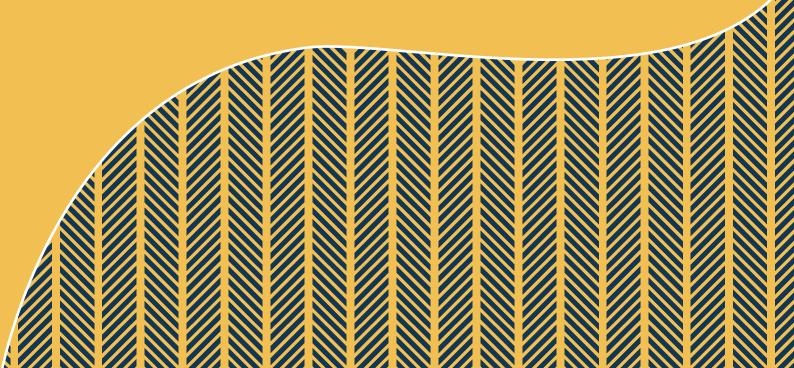
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# Karakia

Ko Rangi

Ко Рара

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 Korero

Tēnā koutou,

I'm pleased to present the first quarterly (Q1) on the activities of Te Wai Māori against our 2020/21 Annual Plan, which covers the period 1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020.

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



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



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

# Freshwater Reforms and Freshwater Rights and Interests

Provision has been made in this year's annual plan for the Trust to support the work of the ILG relating to addressing Māori rights and interests in freshwater, seeking a Te Tiriti compliant resource management framework and equitable allocation of freshwater resources, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our taonga. The Freshwater Iwi Leaders Group, Te Wai Māori Trust, Federation of Māori Authorities, Kāhui Wai Māori and the New Zealand Māori Council (the Collective Rōpū) have committed to jointly work together in order to engage with the Crown and advance both the Resource Management and freshwater reforms. The Trust is actively contributing to the Collective in internal discussions, and external engagement with Crown officials.

# Department of Conservation work programme

Staff have continued to engage with DOC and MPI on a weekly/fortnightly basis since the mid-October Lamprey Reddening Syndrome mass mortality event in Southland, seeking progress on commitments made in 2017 by the Department and action on developing a regional response plan and process for any future events.

# Te Wai Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference

In light of ongoing alert level changes, the Trust has decided to postpone the Te Wai Māori conference to November 2021. Preparations will continue up until then.





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

# Te Mana o Ngā Tuna

The Trust continues to participate in the pre-establishment committee for the Long Fin Eel Strategy development being led by Fisheries New Zealand which aims to develop a strategy addressing all of the fishing and non-fishing pressures facing this taonga species.

# National Review for longfin tuna

Te Wai Māori Trust continues to support the national body for tuna – Te Mana o Ngā Tuna. During Q1, members of Te Mana o Ngā Tuna met to discuss the establishment the group as an advisory committee to the Trust, and how to support the tuna work programme for FY20/21.

## Tuna Documentaries

In October, the Trust launched the second short documentary which highlighted some of the issues that habitat modification and degradation have on the health and wellbeing of tuna. The docu-series aims to raise awareness of some of the issues facing tuna, including declining water quality, habitat destruction and barriers to migration.





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

As noted in the previous report a project has been scoped and funded with Southland kaitiaki to support their research on Kanakana, however, as a consequence of COVID-19, commencement of the project was delayed. The Trust remains committed to supporting this research which is now scheduled to be undertaken in late summer/autumn 2021.

# Advancing Māori rights and interests in freshwater fisheries



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

## Wai Ora and Tiaki Wai funds

Trust staff continued to work with 2019/2020 Wai Ora funding recipients to complete their project milestones. During FY19/20 Te Wai Māori supported 11 projects through the Wai Ora Fund. Q1 of this financial year saw the completion of four projects by Te Whenua Tomuri, Muriwhenua Kaitiaki, Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board and Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa bringing the total to six completed projects.

The Trust continued to work with 2019/2020 Tiaki Wai funding recipients to complete their project milestones. During FY19/20 Te Wai Māori supported four projects through the Tiaki Wai Fund with one project completed in Q1 by Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board.

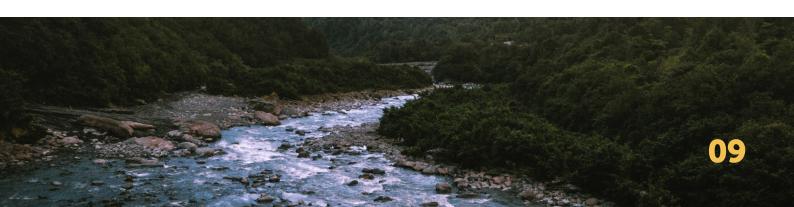
The Trust opened the new funding round for the Wai Ora fund on 3 March 2021 and are monitoring incoming applications. The Trust also plans to re-open the Tiaki Wai fund with an addition in priorities to include projects seeking to develop detailed project plans for future applications.



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

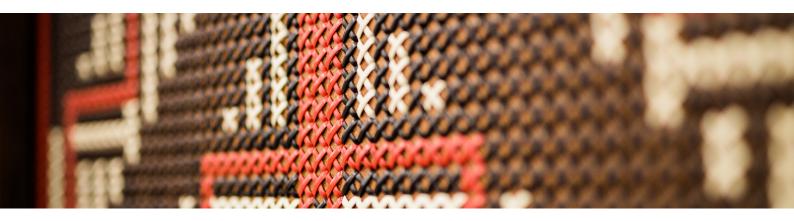
# Cawthron Institute Endeavour Bid

The Trust continues to liaise with Cawthron Institute on a multi-year research programme proposal. The research will look at understanding how freshwater fish (including introduced/pest species) are valued across Aotearoa and how fish, their ecosystems, and our relationships with them might change into the future.



# Bioheritage National Science Challenge

The Trust continues to liaise with Dr Maria Bargh in relation to her role as co-lead for the Biological Heritage National Science Challenge and partnering with Te Wai Māori on the governance and policy strategic outcome component of the research. The Trust is scoping the commissioning of a report that will be co-funded through the challenge looking at legislative and policy development by Crown entities and implications for iwi and hapū aspirations and environmental outcomes.



# Strategic relationships



# Relationship building and reporting

As noted in the previous report Te Wai Māori have established a pilot study using a kaupapa Māori approach to freshwater assessment with a Wairarapa marae group; Kohunui marae.

The workshops, facilitated by project researcher and Te Wānanga o Raukawa lecturer Caleb Royal will be held in February/March 2021. The workshops will focus on the development of a training programme for the monitoring of mahinga kai and stream health, centred around the collection and processing of tuna and a pest fish monitoring exercise.

# 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.

# Communications



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

Over the first quarter the Trust promoted a wide range of news stories across its digital channels. Topics the Trust covered in its coverage were:

- The release of the Trust's tuna resources for habitat testing.
- Scholarship opportunities from the New Zealand Freshwater Science Society.
- New bylaws by Te Arawa Lakes Trust to protect their taonga ika.
- The release of the National Wetland Trust's national wetland map.
- Southland kanakana tracking worrying signs in sickness of the species.
- The Trust's second trailer and tuna documentary release from Taranaki.
- Job opportunities at Environment Canterbury.
- Historic signings between iwi authorities Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board, Te Rūnanga o Nāgti Waewae, Te Rūnanga Makaawhio and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and regional councils in regard to the RMA.
- A rāhui put in place by Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Mutunga over two awa in Taranaki.
- The untimely passing of Te Tai Tokerau's Matua Allan Halliday.
- The advertising of Te Wai Māori's vacant director roles.

The Trust released the trailer and <u>full second tuna documentary</u> in October. The documentary was filmed in Taranaki and featured the korero of Tihikura Hohaia around Waitekaure manga and the critical threats the habitat is facing. Tihikura covered impacts such as water extraction, wetland destruction and effluent. The trailer and documentary reached over 50,000 people and had over four and half-thousand people engage with them through comments, shares or reactions. The third tuna documentary was filmed in Waikato in December and will be released early next year.



<u>Te Wai Māori's Freshwater Fisheries Conference</u> will be held in November with co-hosts Ngāti Tūwharetoa in Taupo's Great Lake Centre. The theme of next year's conference will be Ngā Waiherehere – the binding waters.

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

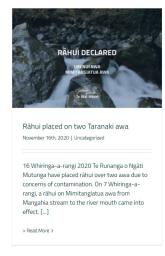
The Trust had two media enquiries in October. The first being the Otago Daily Times sought comment in regard to fish passages in Wānaka and the involvement of Contact Energy, the second being Māori Television in regard to the release of the Trust's tuna documentaries.

#### Grow the awareness and influence of Te Wai Māori

The Trust published <u>four stories on its website</u> in the first quarter covering rāhui declared, agreements between iwi and regional councils, director vacancies at the Trust and also our end of year messaging and office contact details. The Trust has started recording how many downloads are occurring from our public website. In the first quarter we've had over 400 downloads of our resources, responses and reporting.









### Keeping stakeholders involved and informed

The Trust sent three pānui to iwi over the first quarter with content such as our annual plan and budget, our tuna documentaries and our end of year messaging to iwi. Our e-pānui continue to perform well with 45% of recipients opening our messaging and with 8% of those clicking through to links, documents and stories.

Our fourth quarter report was sent to iwi in October and is available for under the Publications – Reporting section on our website, or you can <u>click here to download a copy</u>. The Trust also sent its new Annual Plan and Budget for 2020/21 to iwi in October and a copy of its Briefing to the Incoming Minister in December. To view these documents, click here.

The Trust presented at Te Ohu Kaimoana's Special General Meeting, held at Wellington's Te Wharewaka in December. For a copy of this presentation which covered a review of 2019/20, a current status update and plan for 2020/21, please contact Bede Dwyer at <a href="mailto:bede.dwyer@waimaori.nz">bede.dwyer@waimaori.nz</a>

Te Wai Māori is a member of, and has been attending, weekly Iwi Communications Collective hui, held via Zoom. The collective is made up of communications practitioners working for iwi, hapū, private companies, media outlets and government organisations/entities. We also attended the inaugural national hui ā-tinana hosted by Waikato-Tainui in November.

