



Te Wai Māori

QUARTER REPORT THREE
1 APRIL 2021 - 30 JUNE 2021

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 April 2021 to 30 June 2021.

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Karakia

Ko Rangi

Ko Papa

Ka puta ko Rongo

Ko Tāne Mahuta

Ko Tangaroa

Ko Tūmatauenga

Ko Haumia-tiketike

Ko Tāwhirimātea

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 second quarterly (Q3) report on the activities of Te Wai Māori against our 2020/21 Annual Plan, which covers the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021.

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

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,



Pahia Turia

Chair - Te Wai Māori

Our Board



Pahia Turia

Chair



Donna Flavell

Director



Rawiri Faulkner

Director



Ian Ruru

Alternate Director



Erina Watene-Rawiri

Alternate Director



Maria Nepia

Alternate Director



Operational performance against annual plan 2020/21

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 rights and interests and Resource Management reform

Te Wai Māori continue to work with Freshwater Iwi Leaders Group technicians engaging with Crown officials on freshwater rights and interests, freshwater allocation, implementation of Te Mana o te Wai, and resource management reform. This has involved contributing to policy discussions on resource management reform, and ensuring that Māori rights and interests in freshwater, and the relationship with of iwi and hapū with their taonga, including freshwater fisheries, is appropriately recognised in a new resource management system.

An exposure draft of the Natural and Built Environments Bill was released for public feedback in late June. The Trust will develop a response to this in Bill in conjunction with the Freshwater Iwi Leaders Group.

Department of Conservation work programme

The Trust continues to engage with DOC and MPI on a regular basis in regard to their freshwater species work programmes, in particular Piharau/Kanakana and whitebait.

In June, DOC announced changes to whitebait fishing regulations to make them more consistent across Aotearoa. The Trust responded to the Department noting our concerns about the implications of the regulations on customary fishing for whitebait, and the duplication of regulations that provide for fishing for hui and tangi. One of the primary concerns with the species is the lack of data on abundance, recruitment, extractions, and the effects of land-based activities on the health of the fish (juvenile and adult) and its habitat. We now await to see the final regulations, to ensure they have taken our feedback on board. We will also work with DOC officials on identifying data gaps for future sessions around the species.

During the period, the piharau/kanakana iwi steering group has continued to engage with DOC and MPI officials on a regular basis following the most recent mass mortality/Lamprey Reddening Syndrome (LRS) event in October 2020 in Southland seeking improvements to the way central government responds to mass mortality events and ensuring better service and outcomes for whānau who report incidents.

The Trust has also sought updates on DOC work programmes and research priorities that could advance research on and protection of the species and its habitat. Regular catch ups between the Trust, DOC and MPI on piharau/kanakana have been reinstated, now occurring monthly.

02

Seek better recognition and status for Tuna

Developing a national strategy for longfin tuna

The Trust is continuing to work with Fisheries New Zealand and other agencies and tangata whenua to develop a national strategy for longfin tuna, which aims to address fishing and non-fishing pressures on tuna and its habitat. This is based on work that the Trust and Te Mana o Ngā Tuna started following the 2017 Te Wai Māori tuna conference in Whanganui where iwi and hapū asked the Trust to look at ways to stop the decline of tuna, including fishing, habitat destruction, water quality, barriers to migration, and climate change.



03

Assist Iwi and hapū to develop and implement initiatives to enhance the status of taonga freshwater species

Piharau/kanakana

A half day piharau/kanakana iwi steering group hui was held on 17 June. The hui included a session reviewing strategic documents the rūpū has spearheaded, identification of new potential research priorities for the remainder of the financial year, and for the next annual plan.

The Trust continues to support a pheromone sampling project in Murihiku. Research field work has been completed and kaitiaki are now awaiting results from the samplers. Very few of the samplers deployed in the Mataura catchment have been damaged, and the results from them will be back shortly. Members of the Iwi Steering Group and the Trust will attend a wānanga later this year on findings from the Murihiku research.

01

Building and supporting iwi and hapū capability and capacity in freshwater fisheries

Kohunui Pilot Project

As noted in the previous report, Te Wai Māori have supported a research project with Kohunui Marae in South Wairarapa looking at Māori measures of freshwater health and identification of values as part of the NPS-FM process. The final 2-day weekend workshop was successfully held on 15 and 16 May at Pirinoa/Ōnoke with field work at Wairarapa Moana. The workshop included training on otolith processing and age determination of tuna and a pest fish survey at Wairarapa Moana looking at species composition as an indicator of health.

Wai Ora Fund

The Trust continues to work with 2019/2020 Wai Ora funding recipients to complete their project milestones. During FY19/20 Te Wai Māori supported eight projects through the [Wai Ora Fund](#). Q3 of this financial year saw the completion of the Aorangi Whānau Trust tuna monitoring project, bringing the total to seven completed projects. During the period, the Trust cancelled three funding contracts due to the applicants being unable to complete their funding milestones. The final project, Ngāti Tarawhai, is due for completion in August 2021.

The Trust opened the new funding round for the Wai Ora fund on 3 March 2021 and closed on 23 April 2021. The Trust approved five new projects with Muriwhenua Kaitiaki, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kea Ngāti Tuara Trust, Te Ani Waata Whānau Trust, Kaituna Kaiawa Working Group and Te Rākatō Marae Trust. Staff are working with successful applicants to finalise contracts for services.

The Trust is also exploring alternative sources of funding, e.g., DoC and the Mātauranga Kura Taiao Fund, to aid unsuccessful applicants to receive assistance to undertake projects in their rohe.



Tiaki Wai Fund

The Trust continued to work with the remaining three 2019/2020 Tiaki Wai funding recipients to complete their project milestones. The Trust also added an additional funding priority for the [Tiaki Wai Fund](#), to provide funding to iwi, hapū and Māori groups to support wānanga or facilitated hui to develop project plans for freshwater fisheries related projects. This new funding purposed was launched in March.

Q3 saw the completion of two of those projects with Ngāti Tuera Ngāti Hinearo and Te Atawhai o te Ao. This leaves one outstanding project with Ngāti Mutunga which was due for completion in May 2021 but encountered issues. Staff are working with Ngāti Mutunga to progress this project.

One further application from Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa was approved during this quarter. The focus of this project is to collate existing kōrero and data on what is known about Lake Koitiata, review that kōrero, and finalise a monitoring plan for implementation.

Strategic relationships



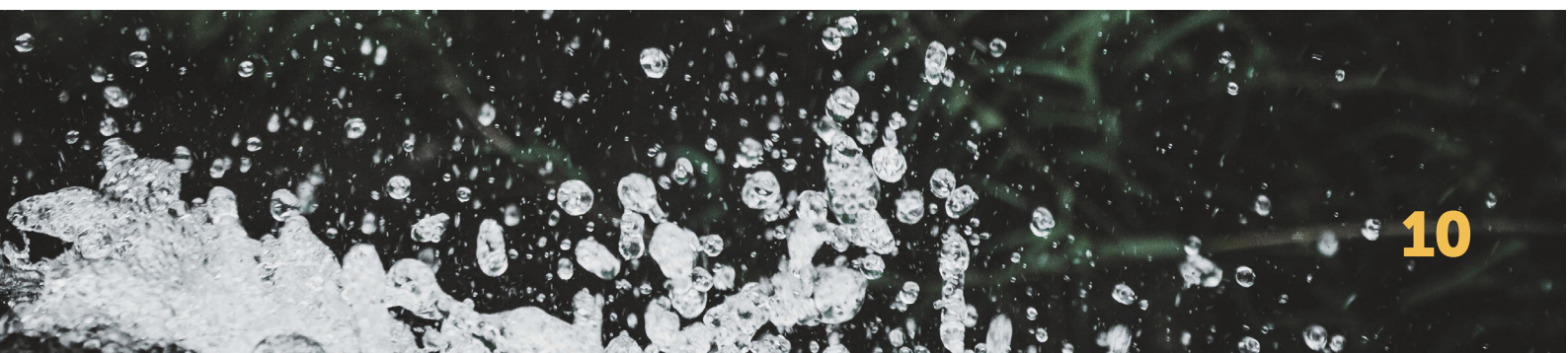
Relationship building and reporting

Te Wai Māori staff and directors continue to work with the Freshwater Iwi Leaders Group and ILG technicians engaging with MFE officials on the reform of the resource management system. During the period, the Trust's chair and members of the Iwi Leaders Group met with the Labour Māori Caucus to discuss our aspirations for iwi and hapū in the new resource management system. In late May the chair and ILG then met with the Minister for the Environment David Parker to discuss the inclusion of Te Oranga o te Taiao and appropriate Tiriti o Waitangi clauses into the drafting of the Natural and Built Environments Bill and seeking feedback on Cabinet's position on addressing Māori rights and interests in freshwater.

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

Promote the work of the Trust and our stakeholders and educate our audience on freshwater fisheries

The Trust has contributed to Te Ohu Kai Moana Group's new magazine, [Te Korowai o Tangaroa](#). The magazine will be produced quarterly and aims to tell stories, educate, and profile work happening around the motu. Te Wai Māori will have a two-page spread in each edition, with [the first story focussing on our tuna documentaries and also featuring a small interview with Pahia Turia](#).

Over the course of the third quarter, we advertised the availability of the Wai Ora Fund and Tiaki Wai Fund which reached over 30,000 people on social media. We've also posted a number of articles of interest including; iwi rangatahi wānanga on tuna and waterways health, changes to whitebait management, the release of the Ministry for the Environment's 'Our Land 2021' report. Please [visit our facebook page](#) to see more.

The Trust has been continuing work on preparations for the upcoming [Te Wai Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference](#) for 2021, which will be held on the 2nd and 3rd of November at the Great Lake Centre in Taupō.

The Trust has partnered with The Spinoff who have contracted kaituhi Māori to write two articles on behalf of and with direction from the Trust. The first article will focus on the plight of piharau/kanakana in Aotearoa and will be informed by the views of Sam Tamarapa, Dr Jane Kitson, Ben Potaka and Trust staff. This article is due for publishing in August. The Trust's second article will focus on the effects of a changing climate on our freshwater taonga. Dr Erica Williams, a representative from Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Trust staff will inform this article, which is due for publishing in September.

Grow brand awareness and audience

The Trust has a slight decrease in its downloads of resources, reports and materials and video views in the second quarter, with 549 downloads of documents (e.g. tuna resources) and 270 video views (e.g. tuna documentaries).

We increased our following on social media with 195 new followers in the third quarter. This was a 38% increase in followers than the second quarter which is a great result for the Trust.

Keeping stakeholders involved and informed

The Trust is keeping a high level of engagement with its stakeholders via its e-campaigns (e-newsletters) with a 44% open-rate and 11% click-through-rate. The average rates for similar sized and type of organisations are a 25% open rate and a 2% click through rate. The Trust published its report against the second quarter in June and a copy of this report can be found in the resources section of our website, under reporting: waimaori.maori.nz

We continue to attend fortnightly kāhui communications meetings with Te Ohu Kaimoana, Te Pūtea Whakatupu, Moana New Zealand Sealord to advise of news from the Trust and keep connected with the kāhui. It also continues to attend weekly national Iwi Communications Collective hui to report the Trust's news and opportunities to iwi and hapū representatives.

