

# TE WAI MĀORI

## QUARTERLY REPORT

1 OCTOBER 2022 - 31 DECEMBER 2022

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HE REO TŌ TE WAI  
HE REO TŌ TE TANGATA  
KOTAHI TONU TE WHAKAPAPA  
WHAKAKOTAHITIA!





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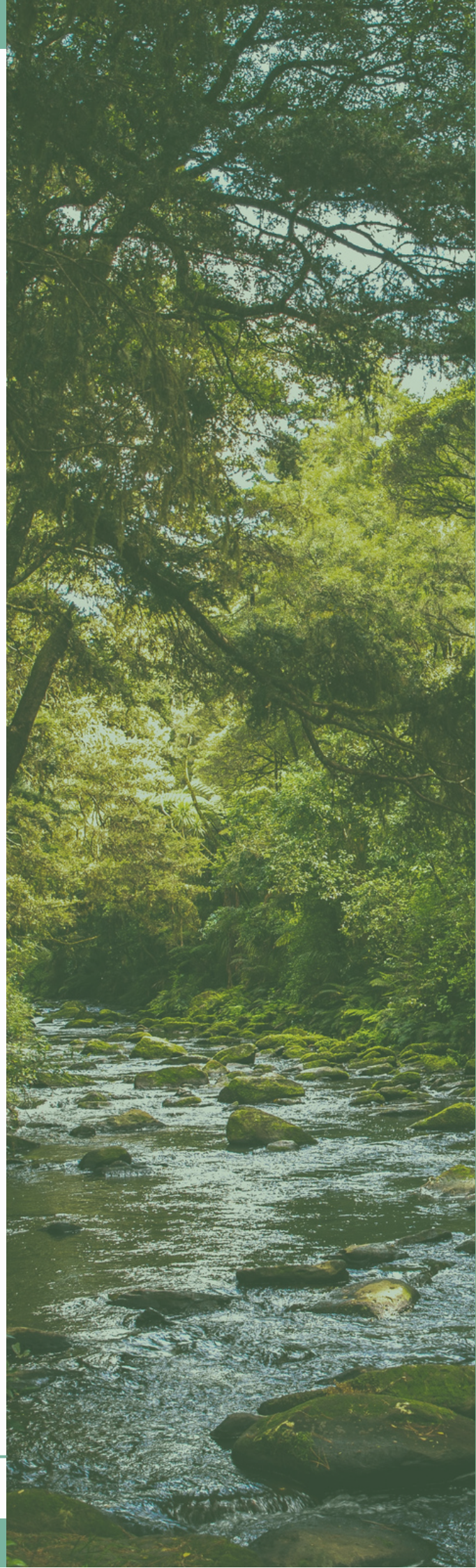
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# KARAKIA

Ko Rangi  
Ko Papa  
Ka puta ko Rongo  
Ko Tane Mahuta  
Ko Tangaroa  
Ko Tumatauenga  
Ko Haumietiketike  
Ko Tawhirimatea  
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!  
Hui e, Taiki e!





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



This is Te Wai Māori's quarter one (Q1) report to iwi against the 2022/23 Annual Plan and covers the period 1 October to 31 December 2022. As with our previous quarterly reports, this report has been developed to give regular insight into the work the Trust undertakes on behalf of Mandated Iwi Organisations.

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We are pleased to present to you our quarter one report of the 2022/23 financial year. This year's work programme supports the strategic priorities and long-term outcomes detailed in the Trust's Annual Plan. These include:

- Enhancing the health and wellbeing of indigenous fisheries and their habitat
- Enhancing the recognition and status of indigenous species
- Providing better opportunities for the participation of iwi and hapū in resource management decision making processes as they relate to freshwater fisheries and habitat
- Promoting and sharing indigenous fisheries expertise, knowledge and understanding
- Increasing the quality and range of information to iwi and hapū on freshwater fisheries and habitat
- Supporting iwi and hapū capacity and capability in freshwater fisheries.

As always, we welcome your feedback on the structure and content of our reporting.

Nāku noa, nā

Donna Flavell  
Chair, Te Wai Māori Trust







# WAI MĀORI AROUND THE MOTU

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## TUNA CULTURAL MONITORING LAKE ROTOROA, NELSON LAKES NGĀTI APA KI TE RĀ TŌ

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### OVERVIEW OF PROJECT

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō are the sole harvesters of tuna from the Nelson Lakes. As part of their settlement legislation, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō can apply for consent to take tuna from Nelson Lakes National Park for customary use for, “extraordinary cultural events” where, “there is no other reasonably accessible source of eels” and where, “the taking of the eels will not adversely affect the preservation of the eel population and habitat in Nelson Lakes National Park.”

In 2021, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust (the Trust) received Tiaki Wai funding for a pilot study (‘Phase 1’) to monitor the tuna population in Rotoroa to investigate the sustainability of customary harvest. The kaupapa also provided for sharing of mātauranga Māori and providing learning opportunities for rangatahi. The study provides a novel opportunity to gain information from harvested tuna that would otherwise not be available to science.



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## PHASE ONE

In January 2022, eight Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō rangatahi, as well as taiao and cultural specialists teamed up with Department of Conservation scientists to undertake a tuna survey and harvest.

Together, they experienced first-hand what science can tell us about tuna and discussed the role of iwi as kaitiaki of these taonga species and the roto they inhabit.

The roopu put out 14 fyke (eel) nets at different spots around the lake and caught around 1000 tuna. Most were longfin tuna, and the biggest was more than 6 kg and 1.5m long. The dominance of longfin tuna in Rotoroa was not unexpected given the elevation of the lake and its distance inland.

This is consistent with the recorded habitat preferences for longfin tuna; however, it was interesting to note that two shortfin tuna made the journey inland to Rotoroa.

### LAKE ROTOROA Nelson Lakes





## FEATURED FOR WORLD FISH MIGRATION DAY

This work was featured for [World Fish Migration Day](#) and was presented at the Te Wai Māori Freshwater Fisheries conference in Taupō on 31 August 2022.



## PROGRESS TO DATE

In late 2022, the Trust collated the data gathered and produced a final report titled Tuna Population Monitoring and Cultural Revitalisation. The report concluded that there is a healthy tuna population in the lake and that current annual harvest rates are sustainable. Growth surveys (assessed by analysing the otolith or ear bone of tuna) also indicated that tuna within Rotoroa are slow growing and that there are some very old tuna residing within the lake.

The tuna harvest provided a key opportunity to pass on mātauranga Māori regarding tuna harvest and to facilitate intergenerational knowledge exchange. Details of mātauranga were not included in the report, however, two visual documentaries have been recorded to share some of the cultural components of this kaupapa.

## PHASE TWO

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust received funding from Wai Ora in 2022 to undertake 'Phase 2' of this project.

This includes the monitoring of tuna, knowledge-sharing via wānanga and via the development of a short documentary on the project. As well as estimating growth rates, it is anticipated that the ongoing collection of age data from harvested tuna will inform knowledge about mortality rate, population age structure, age at recruitment, sexual maturity and longevity.



# OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

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ENHANCE THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF INDIGENOUS FISHERIES  
AND THEIR HABITAT.

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## FRESHWATER SPECIES SPECIFIC RESEARCH

This quarter saw mahi continue with Cawthron Institute on the multi-year 'Fish futures' research. The research will include three rohe case studies with iwi and hapū across the motu.

A key component of the project is the formation of a Policy Working Group that will include representatives from Te Wai Māori, DOC, Fish and Game, and rohe partners.

Following preliminary discussions with the working group members, work has begun on drafting a work programme to guide the mahi of the rūpū.

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ENHANCE THE RECOGNITION AND STATUS OF INDIGENOUS SPECIES

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## TE MANA O NGĀ TUNA

This quarter saw Te Mana o ngā Tuna and Te Wai Māori Trust staff undertake further review of the current draft of the much-delayed National Longfin Eel Strategy. Officials from the Ministry for Primary Industries advised the document is intended for release for public consultation early in the new year. As part of the development of the strategy a Longfin Eel Working Group was established to help guide the drafting of the document.

Te Mana o ngā Tuna Chair Ben Potaka, supported by Te Wai Māori staff has had several years of involvement in the Longfin Eel working group, seeking to ensure that te reo o te tuna is reflected in the strategy and the long-term health and abundance of the species is provided for. The strategy is intended to identify both fishing and non-fishing stressors affecting longfin eels and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders.

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## PROVIDING BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF IWI AND HAPŪ IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DECISION MAKING PROCESSES AS THEY RELATE TO FRESHWATER FISHERIES AND HABITAT

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### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REFORM

Te Wai Māori continue to work with the Freshwater Iwi Leaders Group and their technicians engaging with Crown officials on freshwater rights and interests, implementation, and resource management changes. This includes the pending Resource Management Act reform that will see three new pieces of legislation brought into effect: the Natural and Built Environment Act, the Spatial Planning Act, and the Climate Adaptation Act.

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### PROMOTE AND SHARE INDIGENOUS FISHERIES EXPERTISE, KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

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### WAI MĀORI SCHOLARSHIP

The inaugural Wai Māori Scholarship was established this year to strengthen the presence of Māori experts in freshwater and freshwater fisheries related fields of academic study and professional fields, contributing to the advancement of one or more of the following areas:

- Indigenous freshwater species research,
- Effects of climate change on indigenous freshwater species
- Kaupapa Māori freshwater research,
- Māori rights and interests in freshwater,
- Freshwater and/or freshwater fisheries/species management and protection
- Freshwater and/or freshwater fisheries/species policy, regulation, and development and;
- Building or strengthening connections of taura to their iwi/hapū

A total of \$30,000 in funds was made available for the scholarship.

### SUCCESSFUL RECIPIENTS

The scholarship was awarded to seven recipients.

#### **Serena Finlay, Whakatōhea, Ngāti Tuwharetoa, Ngāti Maniapoto**

Serena has an extensive background in supporting vulnerable communities and outdoor education. The scholarship funding will support Serena to cover costs for their 3rd year of study in Kaitiakitanga Pūtaiao at Te Wānanga o Raukawa.

#### **Ashleigh Taupaki Ngāti Hako**

Ashleigh has showcased their art at many exhibitions. Scholarship funding will support Ashleigh's research, presentation, and publication of their doctoral research and artwork regarding Ngāti Hako cultural narratives of three repo.



**Rangimarie Mahuta, Waikato**

Rangimarie has extensive experience in land and water rights in Aotearoa and overseas. Scholarship funding will support their current thesis – Wai ho a Waahi hei waiora mooku to “raise and remind our people of the cultural significance and importance that “wai” has in our lives.”

**Alyssa Thomas, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Wai**

Alyssa is studying a Masters of Indigenous Studies at Te Herenga Waka/Victoria University Wellington focussing on iwi perspectives on fresh water in Takahiwai, Te Tai Tokerau, mapping groundwater and freshwater flows and pathways, and engaging rangatahi. The scholarship funding will support their studies.

**Reuben Coffey, Te Atiawa**

Reuben is studying a graduate degree in Kaitiakitanga o te Pūtaiao (environmental management) at Te Wānanga o Raukawa. The scholarship funding will support their first-year course fees, or supplementary education in freshwater monitoring.

**Siobhan Nuri - Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Hauā, Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Pikiao, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Raukawa, Tarāwhai, Te Whānau-a-Apanui, Tūhourangi, Waikato, Whakatōhea**

Siobhan is a second year PhD student in freshwater ecology. The scholarship funding will support Siobhan’s course fees, annual stipend, a supplementary course in statistical methods, and/or attendance at the International Indo-Pacific Fish Conference.

**Jake Benny - Kāti Māmoe, Ngāti Tahu**

Jake is studying a graduate degree at Otago University, with plans to continue Master's study in Wildlife Management. The scholarship funding will support Jake to cover course fees and contribute more time toward study and a research proposal on freshwater kōura and freshwater invertebrate community composition.



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## SUPPORTING IWI AND HAPŪ CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY IN FRESHWATER FISHERIES.

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### WAI ORA FUND

This quarter the Trust continued working with five Wai Ora funding recipients to complete their project milestones for FY 21/22; Oturu Kaitiaki Limited (Muriwhenua Kaitiaki), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kea Ngāti Tuara Trust, Te Ani Waata Whānau Trust, Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority and Te Rākatō Marae.

The contract between the Trust and Te Rākatō Marae is still pending. Due to project delays over the past two years including COVID, these projects will carry on through FY 22/23.

### TIAKI WAI FUND

This quarter the Trust has continued to work with six Tiaki Wai funding recipients to complete their project milestones. Three being projects awarded funding under previous rounds; Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Rūnanga o Ngāti Mutunga and Te Aitanga o Ngā Uri o Wharekauri and three new recipients; Hokonui Rūnanga Floriculture, Ngāti Pāhauwera and Titirangi Waka Ama and Wellbeing Charitable Trust.





# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

## TE WAI MĀORI EXPENDITURE AGAINST BUDGET TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

The following table summarises each area of work identified in the 2022/23 annual plan by comparing actual to budgeted expenses for the quarter.

| AREAS  | ACTUAL         | BUDGET         | REDUCTION<br>(INCREASE) |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Responding to legislative reform and policy        | 3              | 1,251          | 1,248                   |
| Indigenous freshwater species                      | 4,055          | 13,752         | 9,697                   |
| Targeted research                                  | -              | -              | -                       |
| Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference              | 4,586          | -              | (4,586)                 |
| Supporting iwi and hapū through freshwater funding | 7,953          | 33,807         | 25,854                  |
| Cawthron Futures Research                          | 11,321         | 10,251         | (1,070)                 |
| Wai Māori Scholarship                              | 1,265          | -              | (1,265)                 |
| Outreach and relationship building                 | -              | -              | -                       |
| Facilities   | 18,246         | 18,246         | 0                       |
| Governance   | 30,159         | 34,719         | 4,560                   |
| Human Resources                                    | 147,806        | 151,786        | 3,980                   |
| Operations   | 25,046         | 11,874         | (13,172)                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                       | <b>250,441</b> | <b>275,686</b> | <b>25,245</b>           |

*NB: the figures shown in the tables above have not been audited.*

A vertical photograph of a mountain landscape. In the upper half, a dark, calm lake reflects the surrounding steep, rocky mountains. A small waterfall is visible on the left side of the lake. The lower half of the image shows a steep, rocky slope covered in green moss and small plants, with a small stream or waterfall flowing down it.

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## COMMENTS ON Q1 VARIANCES

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- The tables above compare actual costs against budget.
- Quarter One budget was \$25k or 9% underspent.
- Freshwater Funding projects were heavily impacted by weather events, leading to \$26k of unspent funding.
- Indigenous Freshwater Funds were also \$10k underspent at Q1, with costs incurred relating to travel and hui for Te Mana o Nga Tuna.
- A small amount of 2022 Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference costs spilled over into the 2023 financial year. With no further costs expected.
- Consultancy and additional Portfolio Management fees led to Operations Costs being \$13k above budget. Portfolio Management fees will be reducing later in the year due to the Investment Advisor RFP whilst consultancy overspend is offset by unspent funding elsewhere.
- Policy, Cawthron, Scholarship, HR and Governance are all tracked slightly under budget through quarter one but do not pose a material risk.