

TE WAI MĀORI

QUARTERLY REPORT

1 JANUARY 2023 - 31 MARCH 2023

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

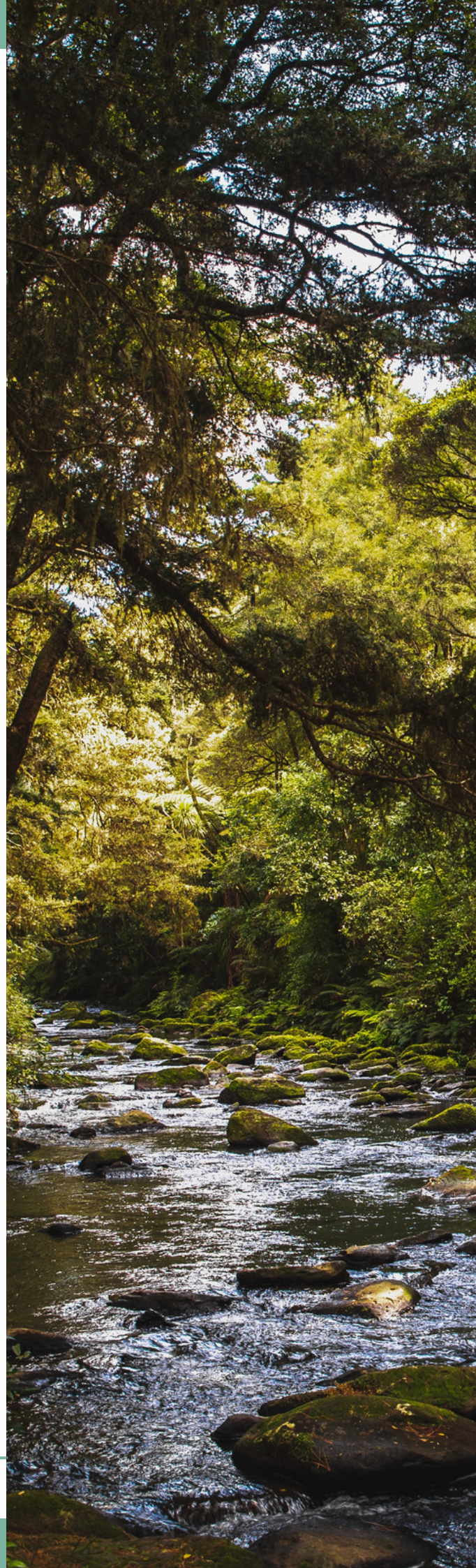


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KARAKIA

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 two (Q2) report to iwi against the 2022/23 Annual Plan and covers the period 1 January to 31 March 2023. 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 second quarter 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

KAI IWI STREAM - TE KAAHUI O RAURU

Te rohe o Ngā Rauru Kītahi spans from Patea in the Whanganui awa, and from the coast extending up into the Matemateaaonga Ranges. The rohe sits across two regional councils, Taranaki Regional Council, covering Patea to the Waitootara catchment, and Horizons Regional Council covering the Kai Iwi catchment, as well as the mouth of the Whanganui awa.

Despite having the resources of two regional councils and international interest on both sides (Taranaki maunga and the Whanganui awa), the rohe remains a blind spot for freshwater monitoring.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT

In 2022 Te Kaahui o Rauru received Wai Ora funding to undertake monitoring of fresh water in their rohe. This is significant as there is currently very little monitoring data available from councils on groundwater or surface water bodies, and it is unclear how and when monitoring is taking place.

The project includes researching and collating data on water quality and quantity, identifying sites and indicators to be monitored, and articulating Ngā Rauru kītahi values to inform regional planning and resource consent processes. This is significant because the findings will inform the wider discussion with councils regarding the implementation of 'Te Mana o te Wai' under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.



PROGRESS TO DATE

Te Kaahui o Rauru has undertaken a literature review of Ngā Rauru Kītahi values and reviewed existing kaupapa Māori freshwater monitoring tools. Kaupapa Māori assessment tools are essential when measuring tangata whenua values like mahinga kai, access and wāhi tapu.

The rōpū held its inaugural wānanga with hapū in March to consider how and where to monitor – aided by geographical information systems (GIS). A key focus of the wānanga was to stress the importance of identifying “must have” sampling points, getting a better understanding of catchment issues, and building the capacity and capability of rangatahi to participate in and lead freshwater management decision-making.

Whānau also conducted some preliminary testing of the Kai Iwi stream using a SHMAK kit1 - results are pending. This stream has been the focus of restorative work since 2017 - large tracts of willow have been removed and replaced with native trees and harakeke. The SHMAK kit testing was a perfect opportunity to gauge the current state of water quality and habitat in the stream to determine whether any improvements had occurred as a result of recent efforts to fence the stream from livestock.

NEXT STEPS

Te Kaahui o Rauru will be holding three awa hikoi with uri and kaumātua throughout the remainder of the year to confirm monitoring sites, workshop monitoring techniques (with mātauranga input), and identify possible ways to mitigate issues as they arise.





MANGAWHERAWHERA CATCHMENT

– ĀTIHAU WHANGANUI INC

Āti hau Whanganui Incorporation (Āti hau) is owned by 9000+ shareholders and operates 40,000ha of Māori land in the Ruapehu/Whanganui area. Āti hau comprises eight sheep and beef farms, a dairy farm, a significant apiary operation and an Awhiwhenua Cadet School.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT

Āti hau secured Wai Ora funding in 2022 to implement a mana whenua-led cultural monitoring regime to understand the impact of current and historical land use on freshwater fisheries, taonga species, and their associated ecosystems. The focus is on the Mangawherawhera catchment running through Te Pā and Ohotu stations.

The project involved carrying out a Mauri Compass assessment of freshwater taonga species (historic, existing and aspirational) spread over an intensive four-day wānanga in March. The wānanga involved Āti hau staff, local kaumatua, Ngāti Rangi members, adjacent landowners, marae representatives, and some board members. The wānanga was led by Mauri Compass guru, Ian Ruru who shared [this video](#).

As the weather was rubbish it was a race against time to get eight hīnaki out at various locations across Te Pā.

Image opposite: Matauranga and mahinga kai: This hapū freshwater Kōura will have to protect her 200 fertilised eggs for a year until they hatch. They then cling to their Mum until they are big enough to defend themselves - taking another 4 years until they become adults and are able to complete their lifecycle. She was found living amongst huge female longfins and trout too.

A kōura pot was also used. When the nets were retrieved there were a number of tuna and kōura present, which is a fantastic indicator of water quality for mahinga kai species (and a relief to whānau present!) Kōura were plentiful and many were in berry (carrying eggs). All were released.

There was no certainty that tuna would be found in the catchment given the 'perfect storm' of obstacles for migrating tuna, like: the acidification of the Whangaehu River, inputs of industrial wastewater discharges, and the significant waterfall at the Mangawherawhera-Whangaehu confluence. Tuna really do have to run the gauntlet when moving upstream. It was also a powerful tohu to see a juvenile rainbow trout, tuna and a kōura in the same hīnaki.

WHERE TO FROM HERE

The wānanga (hosted in a local woolshed) included SHMAK kit testing of water quality. SHMAK results will be included in a final report due May 2023 that will assess the mauri of the catchment and include recommendations for how to achieve whānau aspirations for freshwater taonga species.

With the hands-on nature of the workshop, it is intended that Āti hau kaimahi will continue to use this mahinga kai-based monitoring approach across the incorporation as a whole.

Top and middle: whānau emptying nets and measuring, recording and releasing mahinga kai, including tuna.

Bottom: The tīma gathered in a local woolshed.



OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

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

FRESHWATER SPECIES SPECIFIC RESEARCH

This quarter saw mahi continue alongside Cawthron Institute on the multi-year 'Fish Futures' research, that will include three rohe case studies with iwi and hapū across the motu. As noted earlier a key component of the project is the formation of a working group that Te Wai Māori co-leads with Cawthron, and includes representatives from the Department of Conservation, Fish and Game, and rohe partners Arowhenua, Murihiku and Te Arawa Lakes

A draft work programme has been put together for the rūpū. Important themes include decolonising freshwater fish science and management and identifying alternative models and policies for fish governance. The Fish Futures Working Group will be meeting again next quarter and is likely to be hosted by one of our rohe partners.

ENHANCE THE RECOGNITION AND STATUS OF INDIGENOUS SPECIES

TE MANA O NGĀ TUNA

Te Mana o Ngā Tuna welcomed two new members Erina Wehi-Barton and Ngapera Rangiaho at the end of last year. Early this year the Department of Conservation shared two reports with the Trust on tuna passage and mass mortality events that were circulated to Te Mana o Ngā Tuna to provide feedback on. It was reiterated by Te Mana o Ngā Tuna to DOC that a stock-take is needed to ascertain how many tuna are being killed in flood pumps and at dam sites across the motu.

It was noted that the Pathways to Sea initiative in the Waikato is looking into the use of better flood pumps to support safe fish passage. Flood pumps are often developed for European markets and they don't cater for the size of our longfin tuna.

A further hui is planned next quarter where the rūpū will join whānau undertaking trap and transfer of tuna at Karapiro Dam.

NATIONAL LONGFIN EEL STRATEGY

This quarter saw the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries and Fisheries New Zealand discontinue the development of the National Longfin Eel Strategy and the Working Group.

The development of the strategy was being led by Fisheries New Zealand and was intended to identify both fishing and non-fishing stressors affecting longfin eels and sought to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders. However, Fisheries NZ have since determined that the harvesting of tuna is within their remit and the Quota Management System controls and ongoing research and monitoring of the longfin tuna fishery is sufficient. They go on to note that the management of longfin tuna and their stressors sits in the domain of multiple agencies and stakeholders and this constrains their ability to give direction to other stakeholders responsible for non-fishing related stressors.

They go on to note that given that the management of longfin eels and their stressors crosses the remit of many government agencies and stakeholders, they are constrained in their ability to direct other stakeholders who have responsibility for non-fishing stressors of longfin eels.

ĪNANGA

This quarter the Trust met with the DOC's newly appointed Freshwater Species Manager, Emily Funnell, who will be responsible for DOC's Īnanga work programme.

The Department has recently completed a two-year period of data collection on the Īnanga fishery with the intention of (subject to Ministerial direction) exploring the policy changes necessary to improve management of the fishery.

Monthly hui have been scheduled to ensure the Trust remains across the department's work programme for freshwater 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

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.

PROMOTE AND SHARE INDIGENOUS FISHERIES EXPERTISE, KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

MĀORI FRESHWATER FISHERIES CONFERENCE

Preliminary planning is underway for the 2023 Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference to be held in November, hosted by Ngāti Toa Rangatira.

SUPPORTING IWI AND HAPŪ CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY IN FRESHWATER FISHERIES.

WAI ORA FUND

This quarter, the Trust will enter into finalised funding agreements with our 2022 Wai Ora funding round recipients. They are: Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Charitable Trust; Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust; Te Kaahui o Rauru; Atihau Whanganui Incorporation; Te Waiau Mahika Kai Trust, and Tūhourangi Tribal Authority.

The Trust also continues to support four projects from the 2021 funding round that have experienced delays to their completion for a number of reasons including the impacts of the pandemic and Cyclone Gabrielle. The contract between the Trust and Te Rākato Marae remains pending.

TIAKI WAI FUND

This quarter the Trust has been working with three remaining Tiaki Wai funding recipients to complete their project milestones for FY 21/22: Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Rūnanga o Ngāti Mutunga and Te Aitanga o Ngā Uri o Wharekauri.

The Trust is also supporting three new Tiaki Wai projects recently awarded funding; Hokonui Rūnanga Floriculture, Ngāti Pāhauwera and Titirangi Waka Ama and Wellbeing Charitable Trust.



FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

TE WAI MĀORI EXPENDITURE AGAINST BUDGET TO 31 MARCH 2023

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	QUARTER TWO			YEAR TO DATE		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	REDUCTION (INCREASE)	ACTUAL	BUDGET	REDUCTION (INCREASE)
Responding to legislative reform and policy	302	1,251	949	306	2,502	2,197
Indigenous freshwater species	429	17,085	16,656	4,484	30,837	26,353
Targeted research	-	5,001	5,001	-	5,001	5,001
Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference	-	-	-	4,586	-	(4,586)
Supporting iwi and hapū through freshwater funding	32,210	31,877	(333)	40,163	65,684	25,521
Cawthron Futures Research	3,662	10,251	6,589	14,983	20,502	5,519
Wai Māori Scholarship	-	-	-	1,265	-	(1,265)
Outreach and relationship building	-	-	-	-	-	-
Facilities	18,246	18,246	0	36,492	36,392	0
Governance	29,854	34,719	4,865	60,012	69,438	9,426
Human Resources	133,682	130,245	(3,437)	281,488	282,031	543
Operations	18,126	11,918	(6,208)	43,172	23,792	(19,380)
TOTAL	236,510	260,593	24,083	486,951	536,279	49,328

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



COMMENTS ON Q2 VARIANCES

- Quarter Two underspend was \$24k or 9%, bringing YTD underspend to \$49k or 9%.
- Overall spending trends in quarter two were very similar to quarter one, with unspent funds accruing at approximately the same rate.
- Freshwater Funding to Iwi increased this quarter, landing very close to budget. The \$25.5k of unspent funding all relates to quarter one deliverables that were impacted by weather events.
- Indigenous Freshwater Species spend was minimal this quarter, continuing the trend through quarter one. Year-to-date underspend has increased to \$26k.
- Governance costs are also tracking behind budget due to low travel and no training requirements through the first half of the year.
- Operations continue to track above budget, due to consultancy earlier in the year as well as higher portfolio management costs. With the change of investment advisors in quarter two management fees will reduce through the rest of the year.