

TE WAI MĀORI

QUARTERLY REPORT

1 JULY - 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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



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KARAKIA

Ko Rangī

Ko Papa

Ka puta ko Rongo

Ko Tane Mahuta

Ko Tangaroa

Ko Tumatauenga

Ko Haumietiketike

Ko Tawhirimatea

Tokona te Rangī ki runga

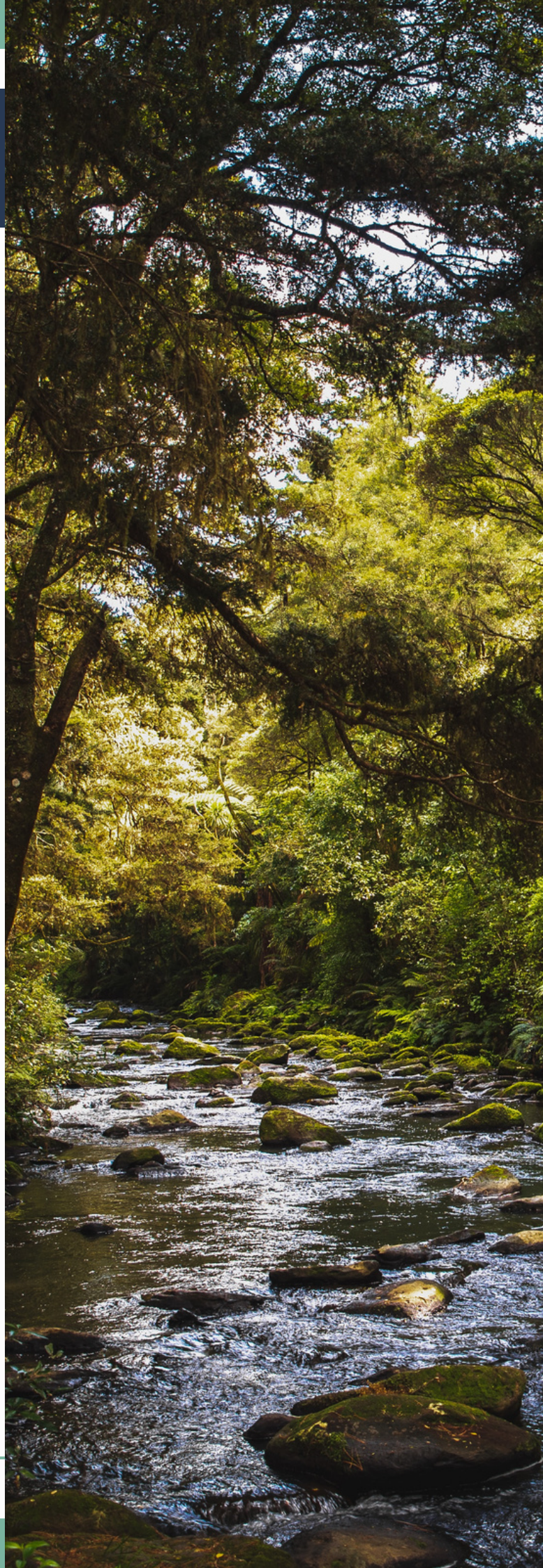
Ko Papa ki raro

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 four (Q4) report to iwi against the 2022/23 Annual Plan and covers the period 1 July to 30 September 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 fourth 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



NGĀTI APA HĪKOI TO THE NELSON LAKES

– WAKATŪ

In 2021, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Charitable Trust (Ngāti Apa) were awarded Tiaki Wai funding for a pilot study ('Phase 1') to investigate whether the customary harvest of tuna in Nelson Lakes National Park is sustainable. Ngāti Apa then received Wai Ora funding in 2022 to undertake 'Phase 2' of the project. This included monitoring tuna, and knowledge-sharing via wānanga and via the development of a short documentary on the project.

Rawiri, Carly and Vanessa met with Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō members at their Nelson tari on 16 August 2023 to whakawhanaungatanga and to learn about the Wai Ora project. Unfortunately, Ian's flight was cancelled so he couldn't join us.

The Ngāti Apa tīma were excited to share an update on their key findings, which included a private viewing of the completed tuna documentary and a hīkoi up to Lake Rotoiti. The Wai Ora fund has allowed Ngāti Apa to shift the focus from scientific monitoring to gathering and sharing cultural knowledge. Connecting to place, identity, and accountability to whānau are at the heart of this mahi. This was reflected in the short tuna documentary which concentrates on reconnecting rangatahi with tuna, including teaching traditional harvesting techniques, cooking and consumption.

Image above: Catching the water taxi at Lake Rotoiti – Nelson Lakes National Park

A two-day wānanga was held overnight in March so that participants could spotlight tuna and use fishing techniques like ripi, matarau, and aho. The wānanga included a facilitated discussion of tuna mātauranga and whānau kōrero. Participants also learnt a tuna karakia which was interwoven with their whakapapa, and this will be refined over time.

Our hīkoi to Lake Rotoiti was a highlight of the day, with Ngāti Apa generously sharing their time and mātauranga with us. We were also greeted by resident longfin tuna.

Preliminary data from Ngāti Apa monitoring has shown that longfin tuna growth rates at the lake average around 1.8cm per year, although this is based on a small sample size and work in this area is ongoing. This is relatively low and likely reflects the cold, clean lake water which has less excess nutrient supply. Data from temporary loggers installed by Dr Simon Stewart of Cawthron will be examined alongside the growth rates.

Sampling of tuna took place in late 2022 and it was agreed that only smaller tuna would be harvested. It was noted that male longfin tuna generally grow to a maximum of 750mm (about 1.25kg), so anything larger is a female. As a result, the government's allowance to take tuna up to 4kg in the settlement legislation is not being exercised and the iwi has made an internal decision to harvest tuna between 1.5–2kg, a decision based on the data available to date. The largest tuna captured (and released) during monitoring was 7kg.

While the lake looks pristine, it still has its challenges. The greatest threat to lake health has been the accidental introduction of *Lindavia intermedia* ("Lake Snow"), which is an invasive microscopic algae.

NEXT STEPS

Since our hīkoi Ngāti Apa has completed the short tuna documentary.



Checking out Whiskey Creek waterfall and creek



What a view!

WAI MĀORI AROUND THE MOTU

TE MANGĀTI PĀHAUWERA DEVELOPMENT TRUST HĪKOI – WAIROA AND NAPIER/HASTINGS

The Ngāti Pāhauwera rohe straddles the Wairoa and Napier/Hastings districts and encompasses the Wairoa and Mōhaka Awa and Putere Lakes. The lakes include Lake Rotonuahā, Lake Rotoroa, and Lake Rotongaio.

Vanessa and Carly attended a hīkoi/roadshow with Kathryn Gale, Theresa Thornton and others from the Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust (Ngāti Pāhauwera) on 10 August 2023. The kaupapa of the hīkoi was on whakawhanaungatanga and to get a sense of the altered landscape and mamae experienced by whānau following Cyclone Gabrielle. Ngāti Pāhauwera were keen for us to see the damage caused by the cyclone and the effects it has had on Wai Ora/Tiaki Wai project timeframes, key awa and taonga species. The roadshow included site visits along the Napier-Wairoa Road, to the Mohaka River mouth, Raupunga and the Putere Lakes.

CYCLONE GABRIELLE

Ngāti Pāhauwera members told us that the cyclone has had a massive impact on the Hawkes Bay. While whānau near the Mohaka, Raupunga and inland to Putere did not experience flooding, many whānau living in areas such as Wairoa, Tangoio and Napier had their homes and/or possessions destroyed by flooding. Within the rohe, the main effect was being cut off with no support for days because civil defence was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the event. The power and communications both went out, and whānau couldn't get into town to buy food or petrol for their vehicles and generators as the road was closed to the north and south. Marae became the civil defence hubs, checking in on everyone in the community and distributing supplies when they started arriving via helicopter.

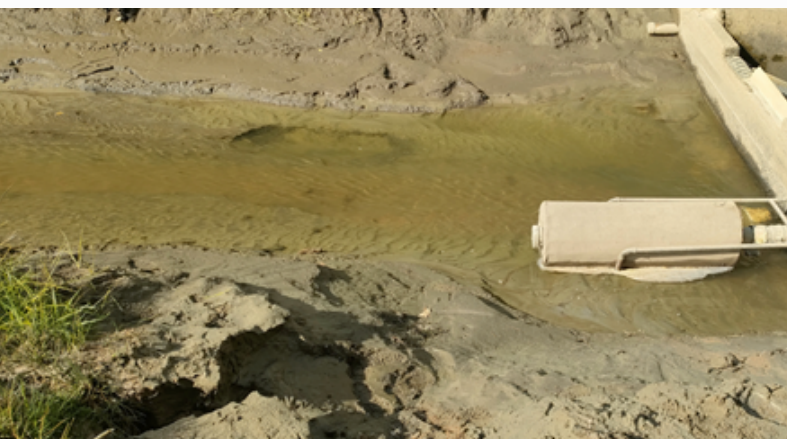


Mohaka River mouth directly following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Kathryn noted that now the emergency is over it is apparent that the taiao has been severely impacted by this event with rivers and their margins devastated and hills scarred with slips. The Mohaka River hasn't run clear since the cyclone and has heavy suspended and deposited sediment loads. Whānau don't know what effect this will have on mahinga kai and taonga species populations. It is possible that some have been completely wiped out. There is also a significant amount of slash that moved through the system and is now littering the beachfront.

Since the cyclone local government work in the taiao space has been suspended while it focuses on economic recovery. The regional council has also been using its emergency powers to basically do whatever it wants. This has completely stalled as have many environmental kaupapa projects which has a disproportionate impact on Māori and their ability to exercise kaitiakitanga.

At Raupunga the domestic water supply for residents and the Marae has been contaminated by deposited sediment in the stream. There is currently no resourcing available to clean this up.



Raupunga Stream completely filled with sediment at water intake.



Whitebait wānanga held at the Mohaka Awa in late 2022

WAI ORA FUNDING FOR ĪNANGA WĀNANGA AT THE MOHAKA AWA

Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust secured both Tiaki Wai and Wai Ora funding in 2022. The Wai Ora project involves holding wānanga to gather ahuatanga Māori on ĭnanga and its habitat at the Mohaka River.

To date Ngāti Pāhauwera has held one wānanga with whānau to learn about whitebait in its rohe. This was held in October 2022 at Waipapa a Iwi Marae in Mohaka. Whānau gathered to learn about ĭnanga spawning, to share mātauranga and to consider restoration options. The kaupapa included reconnecting whānau with the awa. A common theme from the wānanga was that little is known about the taiao. Many of the waterways in this catchment are in remote conditions and are not easily accessible, and it is expensive to get experts out in the field.

Ngāti Pāhauwera plan to hold its second wānanga in April/May 2023 to identify and monitor īnanga spawning sites, but this has been delayed due to cyclone damage. Delivery dates have now been pushed out to April/May 2024. This final wānanga will include a collaboration with DOC staff to support whānau to identify spawning sites, which they can then actively protect.

TIAKI WAI FUNDING FOR WAIKŌURA WĀNANGA AT THE PUTERE LAKES

Tiaki Wai funding was also granted to Ngāti Pāhauwera so that it could hold a two-day wānanga with the Putere Lakes community to learn about waikōura populations and mātauranga monitoring.



Lake Rotonuihā with floating wetland and existing plantings

The two-day wānanga, which should have taken place late September will teach whānau how to monitor waikōura and gauge their distribution across the lakes. Being able to understand where populations are is the first step to protect them. The wānanga will use both standard scientific methods (fyke nets) and traditional methods (tau kōura) for monitoring populations.

CONNECTIONS TO OTHER PROJECTS

Ngāti Pāhauwera has received 'Jobs for Nature' funding to support native planting, weed control, pest control and riparian fencing at the Putere Lakes. Ngāti Pāhauwera also has MfE Te Mana o te Wai funding to work on the Mohaka Freshwater Plan and other smaller projects. Whānau have carried out planting projects, eDNA testing, kākahi surveys and trials around hornwort management at the lakes. Raupunga whānau have also established their own nursery to supply endemic native plants, like the ngutukākā.

The combined project funds help employ 11 staff, but they are fixed term projects tied to the funding, so none of the 11 staff have job security beyond 2024. The short-term nature of funding makes it challenging to get meaningful environmental mahi done because much of it needs to be ongoing. Pest and weed control are good examples, if you don't keep on top of them all your good work is undone. To address this Ngāti Pāhauwera To address this Ngāti Pāhauwera has applied for funding from several sources, so that cumulatively it gets heaps done – and the work at Putere is a good example. The Trust is very grateful for the generous support from Te Wai Māori!

OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

ENHANCE THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF INDIGENOUS FISHERIES AND THEIR HABITAT

FISH FUTURES WORKING GROUP HUI

Te Wai Māori Trust co-leads the Fish Futures Working Group, which is a policy group that supports the wider Fish Futures project. The working group met in Rotorua in late September and were hosted by Te Arawa Lakes Trust and its Te Komiti Whakahaere. The principal focus of the hui was to identify fish governance issues for the Trust, particularly regarding its 14 freshwater lakes and taonga species like kōura, tuna, kākahi, īnanga, kōaro and morihana and its ability to exercise mana motuhake like rāhui to protect the area from invasive introduced species.

Plans are underway for the next working group hui which will be hosted by Murihiku in Invercargill in December.

ENHANCE THE RECOGNITION AND STATUS OF INDIGENOUS SPECIES

TE MANA O NGĀ TUNA

This quarter Te Mana o Ngā Tuna has had its focus on a work programme and possible research initiatives. Te Mana o Ngā Tuna and Te Wai Māori staff met online late August to consider possible mechanisms to advocate for and protect tuna in Aotearoa.

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 continued to support the Freshwater Iwi Advisors Group in their engagement with the Crown on resource management and freshwater reform through the quarter.

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 concluded funding agreements with Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō and Atihau Whanganui Incorporation. The Trust continued to support the remaining projects funded in 2022: Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust; Te Kaahui o Rauru; Te Waiau Mahika Kai Trust, and Tūhourangi Tribal Authority.

Of the remaining three projects from earlier funding rounds, the funding agreement with Te Maru o Kaituna has concluded, and the funding agreement with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kea Ngāti Tuara is on schedule for conclusion in November this year. Staff are working with Te Ani Waata Whānau Trust to amend the contract to account for a missed milestone for gorse spraying. This funding agreement is scheduled for conclusion in December this year.

In September, the Trust began drafting six new funding agreements for new projects awarded funding through the 2023 Wai Ora funding round.

TIAKI WAI FUND

This quarter, the Trust concluded the funding agreement with Hokonui Rūnanga Floriculture. The agreement with Titirangi Waka Ama and Wellbeing Charitable Trust is progressing as scheduled, for completion in December. Deliverables for the agreement with Ngāti Pāhauwera are scheduled to commence in April 2024. The Trust is also seeking to support funding recipients to complete their project milestones for FY 21/22: Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Mutunga and Te Aitanga o Ngā Uri o Wharekauri.



WAI MĀORI SCHOLARSHIP

A total of \$30,000.00 was made available for the 2023 Wai Māori scholarship. A total of eight applications were received, with five awarded funding:

- **Mariah Montagnani:** Bachelor of Science (Environmental Management) at Massey University, awarded \$4,000.00.
- **Indi Novak,** PhD at Waikato University investigating how freshwater macroalgae can treat nutrients, human pathogens, and emerging contaminants in primary wastewater using high-rate algal ponds at Waikato University, awarded \$15,000.00.
- **Siobhan Nuri,** PhD at Waikato University in freshwater ecology looking at insights into early life histories of NZ tuna, awarded \$6,000.00.
- **Shannon Henare,** Diploma in Kaitiakitanga Pūtaiao at Te Wānanga o Raukawa, awarded \$1,000.
- **Aria Ngarimu,** Bachelor of Science (Environmental Studies and Māori Resource Management) & LLB at Victoria University of Wellington, awarded \$4,000.00.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

TE WAI MĀORI FINANCE REPORT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The following table summarises each area of work identified in the 2022/23 annual plan by presenting the forecasted year-end position and comparing actual to forecasted expenses for the year to date.

AREAS	YEAR TO DATE			FULL YEAR		
	ACTUAL	FORECAST	VARIANCE	FORECAST	BUDGET	VARIANCE
Projects						
Responding to legislative reform and policy	1,706	4,943	3,237	4,943	5,000	57
Indigenous freshwater species	22,486	57,234	34,748	57,234	65,004	7,770
Targeted research	-	9,999	9,999	9,999	15,000	5,001
Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference	21/017	22,600	1,583	22,600	0	(22,600)
Supporting iwi and hapū through freshwater funding	150,339	189,857	39,518	189,857	240,927	51,070
Cawthron Futures Research	27,406	52,549	25,143	52,549	41,000	(11,549)
Wai Māori Scholarship	31,265	31,265	0	31,265	30,000	(1,265)
Outreach and relationship building	2,579	11,253	8,674	11,253	11,253	-
MFE Essential Fisheries Fund	362,820	14/800	(348,020)	14,800	0	(14,800)
Operations						
Facilities	38,387	62,712	24,325	62,712	72,984	10,272
Governance	130,079	137,451	7,372	137,451	138,875	1,424
Human Resources	442,534	410,349	(32,185)	410,349	564,062	153,713
Operations	80,680	119,389	38,709	119,389	53,540	(65,849)
TOTAL	1,311,297	1,124,401	(186,896)	1,124,401	1,237,645	113,244

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

COMMENTS ON Q3 VARIANCES

- Te Wai Māori finished 2023 with \$1.311m of expenditure, compared with \$1.237m budgeted at the start of the financial year.
- The main reason for this increase is \$350k of payments on the MfE contract, without which expenditure was \$276k under budget.
- Full year operating costs were \$37k or 5% behind forecast or \$138k behind budget. These cost savings were largely due to vacancies, although backfill arrangements in Q4 utilised some of the unspent funding from earlier in the year.
- Freshwater funding to iwi through the Wai Ora and Tiaki Wai funds remained the largest unspent fund at \$40k, a decrease from \$60k in Q3. Weather events have had a significant impact this financial year, affecting multiple projects.
- Indigenous Freshwater Species spend landed at \$22k, which is behind the \$57k forecasted and \$65k budgeted.
- Governance costs ended reasonably close to budget.
- Scholarships of \$30k were paid out in the final quarter, also \$21k of preliminary conference costs – which were covered by unspent operational budget.