

2023/24 Te Wai Māori Trust Q2 Report

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



Contents

- 1 Karakia
 - 2 Nau mai - introduction from the Chair
 - 3 Wai Māori around the motu
- Te Kaahui o Rauru
 - 4 Wai Māori around the motu
- Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust
 - 5 Performance against the 2023/24
Annual Plan
 - 6 Financial Performance
 - 7 Comments on Financial
Performance
-

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!

This is Te Wai Māori's quarter two (Q2) report to iwi against the 2023/24 Annual Plan and covers the period 1 January to 31 March 2024.

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We are pleased to present our second quarter report of the 2023/24 financial year.

In this report we highlight two roopu who received Wai Ora funds to support their aspirations for their freshwater aspirations. For Te Kaahui o Rauru this was about monitoring, and for Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust the ability to undertake earthworks at an estuary, improving the habitat for taonga species.

It's such an honour to be part of these stories. A tangible way to support mahi happening out across Aotearoa alongside our policy and research workstreams.

We have provided further detail of our work and progress towards our Annual Plan in this report. Our 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,



Rawiri Faulkner,
Chair Te Wai Māori Trust



Wai Māori around the motu



Te Kaahui o Rauru

Ngā Rauru Kītahi of Taranaki and Whanganui, received Wai Ora funding in late 2022 to undertake monitoring of fresh water in their rohe.

This was significant as there is currently very little monitoring data available from councils on ground and surface water, and it is unclear how and when monitoring is taking place.

A year later, Te Kaahui o Rauru have produced an extensive monitoring framework informed by extensive input from uri on Ngā Rauru Kītahi values and sites of significance, and expert consideration of existing kaupapa Māori freshwater monitoring tools.

The plan is characterised by three distinct pou:

- **Tiaki Whenua** for meaningful engagement in the resource consent process;
- **Ngaa Mahi a Ngaa Tuupuna** for nurturing wai and whenua, alongside Ngā Rauru Kītahi relationships with them;
- and **Mai Uta ki Tai** focused on painting a comprehensive picture of wai health in the Ngaa Rauru rohe.

The monitoring report reaffirms the status of Ngā Rauru Kītahi whānau and hapū and their status as kaitiaki by providing for the role of uri in organised and systematic monitoring within their rohe.

Pou Taiao lead, Jude Cornelius reflected on the wider benefits of the project. (The series of wānanga) "has not only strengthened Ngaa Raurutanga, but increased their awareness, capability and capacity of freshwater knowledge and management among our uri". The monitoring report is now also informing a review of Te Kaahui o Rauru's environmental management plan.

Te Kaahui o Rauru are now focussing on implementing their monitoring plan with monthly monitoring now being carried out at key sites across the rohe. Various site assessment tools have been developed for uri to monitor and measure data that councils use, but also capture the cultural, social and spiritual elements that are important to Ngā Rauru Kītahi.



Photo credit: Te Kaahui o Rauruu

Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust

Over seven days, Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust undertook significant earth works at the mouth of the Waitangi Estuary.

Over seven days, Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust undertook significant earth works at the mouth of the Waitangi Estuary (Hawkes Bay) as part of the Waitangi Īnanga Spawning Habitat Enhancement project. The Waitangi Estuary is a traditional mahinga kai harvest area for tuna and Īnanga.

The works included re-contouring fish passage for desirable spawning gradients, widening the mouth of outlets and grading for desirable spawning, and repair works on fish passage settling ponds. Hydroseed consisting of desirable spawning grasses, tall fescues, and creeping bents was then applied to all bare soil areas, with an additional layer on spawning areas.



Before



After

The earthworks were informed by traditional and current mātauranga about Īnanga spawning habitat, and local knowledge about the site. It's anticipated that this project will provide a blueprint for future enhancement projects of this kind.

Performance against Annual Plan



Enhance the health and wellbeing of indigenous fisheries and their habitat

Fish Futures Working Group hui

The Fish Futures Working Group are scheduled to meet in Wellington on 9 April 2024. A key component of the hui will be to give roopu members from DOC and Fish and Game space to discuss what their respective organisations are doing in the freshwater fish space, and to answer pātai from our rohe partners. There are lingering concerns about Fish and Game, particularly around continued stocking of trout in the Rotorua Lakes and the elevation of introduced fish species over native species.

In addition, the advent of the Fast Track Approvals Bill and looming RM reform are of significant concern. Both are likely to have serious implications for the group's ability to deliver what was initially intended around improved institutional and policy reform for fish management.



Enhance the recognition and status of indigenous species

Te Mana o Ngā Tuna

This quarter we have been focused on organising an ā-tinana hui and proposed agenda with the Te Mana o Ngā Tuna team. We have had trouble landing on a date that suits everyone. The initial date for April is now likely to be pushed out until late May, June. You will recall that the Board agreed to fund two streams of work at its meeting in December last year. The first was to develop best practice consent conditions for safe tuna passage and hydroelectric power stations and the second was to develop best practice guidelines to reduce the impacts of drain clearing on freshwater taonga.

We have contracted Vaipuhi Consulting to provide the best practice consent conditions for hydroelectric power stations. Jacques' report was initially due in February but has been delayed.

We are also working with consultants and iwi partners to begin developing guidance on drain clearing.



Provide 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 have worked this quarter with the Freshwater Iwi Advisors Group (FIAG) to develop a response to the Fast Track Approvals Bill, which was introduced on 7 March 2024.

The Freshwater Iwi Advisory Group distributed a Memorandum to Iwi Chairs on 21 March providing an initial assessment of the Bill and its key points. A submission template for use will be available mid-April.

There is currently little guidance on what the wider RM reform might entail, but it is likely to include an overhaul of the NPSFM and Te Mana o te Wai.



Promote and share indigenous fisheries expertise, knowledge and understanding.

Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference

Delays have been experienced with the videography from last year's conference, but we hope to be able to share the presentations to our website soon.

Preliminary planning is underway for the next conference. The tono to host the next conference was taken up by Maniapoto, with the mauri stone transferred to them at the close of the conference.



Support Iwi and hapū capacity and capability in freshwater fisheries.

Wai Ora Fund

This quarter, the Trust entered into its sixth and last contract of the 2023 funding round with Hokonui Rūnanga Floriculture Limited. The Trust continued to support the remaining projects from the 2023 funding round: Tuawhenua Trust; Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated; Maungataniwha ki Rangaunu Trust; Te Wai Mauri Charitable Trust; and Waikawa Lands Trust.

The Trust continued to support the remaining projects funded in 2022: Ngāti Pahauwera Development Trust; Te Kaahui o Rauru; and Tūhourangi Tribal Authority.

The last remaining funding recipient from the 2021 funding round - Te Ani Waata Whānau Trust - is set to conclude this next quarter.

Tiaki Wai Fund

This quarter, the Trust concluded the funding agreement with Titirangi Waka Ama and Wellbeing Charitable Trust. Deliverables for the agreement with Ngāti Pāhauwera are scheduled to commence in April 2024. The Trust continues to seek to support one funding recipient from FY 21/22 to complete their project milestones -Te Aitanga o Ngā Uri o Wharekauri.

MfE Essential Freshwater (Tangata Whenua) Fund

The Trust continued to work alongside Poipoia to progress the development and launch of the Te Mātāpuna o te Wai fund. This newly established grant has a pool of \$12.8 million to develop the capability and capacity of hapū and iwi in their aspirations for their freshwater taiao.

Te Mātāpuna o te Wai offers a three-year investment through planning support for Te Mana o te Wai/Taiao System approaches and supporting the capacity of hapū and iwi by resourcing kaimahi (full time employees).

Te Mātāpuna o Te Wai Grant is presented by Te Pou Taiao. The Grant was provided to Te Pou Taiao – the Freshwater Iwi Leaders Group from The Ministry for the Environment as part of the Essential Freshwater Fund.

The Grant will be delivered with support from Te Wai Māori Trust and Poipoia Ltd, who are responsible for administering, managing and distributing funds.

Financial performance against plan

The following table summarises each area of work identified in the 2023/24 annual plan by presenting the forecasted year-end position and comparing actual to forecasted expenses for the year to date.

Te Wai Māori Finance Report to 30 September 2024

	YEAR TO DATE			FULL YEAR		
	ACTUAL	FORECAST	VARIANCE	FORECAST	BUDGET	VARIANCE
Projects						
Responding to legislative reform and policy	880	1,248	368	2,500	2,500	-
Indigenous freshwater species	4,098	10,002	5,904	52,891	52,891	-
Targeted research	8,141	15,199	7,058	41,202	49,999	(8,797)
Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference	165,346	167,720	2,374	167,720	160,000	7,720
Supporting iwi and hapū through freshwater funding	121,958	135,996	14,038	323,951	323,951	-
MfE Essential Freshwater (Tangata Whenua) Fund	344,526	307,000	(37,526)	672,000	672,000	-
Outreach and Relationship Building	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	-
Operations						
Governance	66,474	64,391	(2,083)	141,524	141,524	-
Operations	222,557	298,644	76,087	564,521	564,521	-
TOTAL	933,979	1,000,200	66,222	1,986,309	1,987,386	(1,077)

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

Comments on financial performance

- ▶ Te Wai Māori have incurred \$934k of costs to 31 March, which is 47% of the budgeted full year spend.
- ▶ A partial reforecast was performed across the fisheries conference and research, which show minor variances after Q1. A comprehensive reforecast has been completed at mid-year, which will be reported on once approved by the board.
- ▶ The mid-year / ytd result is a \$66k underspend against forecast, which are largely operational savings from unspent consultancy.
- ▶ Freshwater funding to iwi through the Wai Ora and Tiaki Wai funds is \$14k / 10% underspent against forecast. Updated project details and milestone dates have been re-assessed at mid-year.
- ▶ Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference costs are close to budget, with a slight overspend forecasted and the final costs paid in April.
- ▶ Governance costs are slightly over budget (\$2k).

