



TANGI TE KOUKOU

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Tēnā koutou e ngā uri morehu o Te Paatu!

E ngā hapū, e ngā whānau maha o te rohe o Muriwhenua, nei ra te mihi aroha, mihi māhāna ki a koutou katoa. Ka tangihia tonu ngā aitua kei waenganui i a tātou. Koutou te hunga kua mene ki te pō – moe mai, moe mai, e moe mai rā.

E mihi ana hoki ki ngā ringa raupā kei te tōhe tonu mō te oranga tonutanga o ō tātou whenua, wai, reo, me ngā tikanga tuku iho. Kia ū tātou ki te pae tawhiti - kia manawanui, kia pono, kia kotahi te hoe. Mā te mahi tahi ka tutuki ai ngā wawata mō āpōpō.

Rau rangatira mā huri noa, tenā koutou katoa.

Te Hiku Maiangi

Last month Te Hiku Maiangi was held at Kaitiaki College, transforming the school grounds into a vibrant outdoor festival of kapa haka. The open-air setting created a relaxed, whānau-friendly atmosphere as performers of all ages - from small tamariki to confident rangatahi and kaumātua, took the stage throughout the day. Congratulations to the event organisers, tutors, performers and whānau supporters for contributing towards the success of this cultural celebration!



Claimant Group Update

Earlier this month, claimants and counsel met online over two days to review the draft Te Paatu Customary Interests Report with historian Ben Leonard and Cultural Advisor James Eruera. Recommendations that emerged from the wānanga are now be incorporated into the second draft.

Claimants have also contributed valuable kōrero through tūpuna profiles and interviews, strengthening the depth and integrity of the report.

The draft is also undergoing an independent peer review by David Armstrong.

The next in-person wānanga to review the updated draft is scheduled for mid-December, with the final report to be filed with the Waitangi Tribunal early next year. Alongside this work, applicants of Ngā Hapu o Ngāti Kahu are reviewing the historical report that supports the Takutai Moana application.

The Ngāti Tara Customary Interests Report is also underway with claimants working alongside historian Bruce Stirling. Wai 295 is also participating in the development of a Ngāpuhi scoping report for inclusion in the Wai 45 Inquiry.

Wai 1670

The late Ricky Houghton filed Wai 1670 on behalf of Te Paatu and Te Uri o Ratima. On 25 July 2023, Emily Latimer became an additional named claimant, and Sharlene Peeni joined as a claimant on 2 May 2024. Wai 1670 joined the subcommittee in September 2023.

The full extent of the claim relates to the area that formed the traditional rohe of Te Paatu, including Ninety Mile Beach north of Hukatere, due east to Waihopo landing, proceeding east to Otaurango, turning

south to Rangiputa and proceeding along the eastern side of Roto Kauwau to Aurere and Taipa. Due west along the southern edge of the Maungataniwha ranges to Te Karaka in the Hokianga, turning west to the western shore of Lake Rotoroa thence to Waipapakauri Beach past Hukatere in a straight line to Waihopo.

Key issues include Crown actions since 1840 that have eroded Te Paatu's land, governance, and culture, leading to the loss of authority, economic independence, and cultural identity. Grievances included Crown land purchases, policies on land and education, and lack of consultation. Crown actions also led to Te Paatu's reliance on state support, which ultimately harmed Te Paatu's mana and well-being. Like Raetea Forest, land loss deprived Te Paatu of vital cultural and economic resources. Socioeconomic issues include poor health, housing, education, high unemployment, and language loss. The claimants seek the return of lands, control over resources, and cultural, social, and economic support.





Takutai Moana Update

Te Tari Whakatau has released its latest update on the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) kaupapa, following the recent passing of the Customary Marine Title Amendment Act, which came into force on 25 October 2025.

The agency confirmed that information webinars will be held in early December to help applicants understand the new legislative changes, funding options, and whether any evidence already prepared will need updating. Dates and registration details will be announced soon, with at least two weeks' notice promised to applicants.

Time-sensitive funding remains available for urgent mahi — including seasonal fieldwork, evidence collection from kaumātua and kuia, or any tasks where delay could disadvantage an application. All requests must be pre-approved through a Budgeted Workplan, and any approved costs will be deducted from applicants' Activity workstream balances.

