



SERENA O'DONNELL
Heamana



MANA HAZEL
Trustee



SAVANNA HIHA
Assistant Trustee



HENARE JOHNSON
Assistant Trustee



TRELISE HAZEL
Executive Assistant

KIA ORA KOUTOU E TE WHĀNAU O TE AWAHŌHONU

I am excited to provide you with our raumati karere as we step into a new year.

We held our 2025 Hui-a Tau on Saturday, 18 October at Wharerangi Marae. It was an outstanding day with a record turnout, reflecting the strength and unity of our whānau. The event was filled with whakawhanaungatanga and whakangahau, highlighted by a delicious kai that everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Thank you to all who attended and thank you to Wharerangi Marae for hosting us. Next year our intention is to hold the Hui-a Tau at Omaha Marae and we look forward to seeing our whānau there.

A dividend of \$5.50 per share was confirmed at the Hui-a Tau and these were distributed in time for your xmas shopping and festive preparations. If you haven't yet received your dividend, please contact the office.

Te Awahōhōnu has had a massive year in looking after our taonga on behalf of you our whānau and growing the opportunities. A couple of years on from the devastation of cyclone Gabriel, we still have some remedial work to be completed but we are out of recovery and back into growth.

On behalf of the Trust, we look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our various kaupapa in 2026.

TE TEPU POARI

For those of you that missed the Hui-a-Tau, we proudly announce that Mana Hazel was elected a new Trustee. Mana has previously been an Assistant Trustee and until recently was the Chairperson of Ngāti Hineuru Iwi Trust. Mana is now the Chief Executive of Ngāti Hineuru and therefore the Trust looks forward to working closely with our key stakeholder Ngāti Hineuru.

The Trustees appointed two Assistant Trustees, Savanna Hiha and Henare Johnson. Savanna is the daughter of Heitia Hiha current trustee and her koroua Heitia Hiha Snr also served as a trustee for many years. Savanna is currently working as a lawyer for Crown Law in Wellington and the Trust looks forward to her contribution to the Trust direction.

Henare is part of the Sullivan Whānau and has a diverse background of senior national māori advisory appointments such as Air New Zealand and Callaghan Innovation. The Trust is excited to have Henare join the team with his multiple pukenga to assist in advancing our whakaaro and our mahi.



AWAHOHONU KI TE AO

The Trust is undertaking some assessment of opportunities to sell our product direct to overseas markets as a way of increasing our sales margins.

TRIP TO INDIA

On 15 November 2025, our Kaihautū, Shayne, joined a forestry delegation in India led by Minister McClay alongside other industry leaders. India, a major economic powerhouse, is experiencing rapid growth in construction and high-end furniture markets, creating strong demand for sustainable timber.

The delegation supported efforts to progress a Trade Free Agreement, aimed at removing tariffs on log and lumber exports. With China's market in decline, diversifying our export destinations is critical for long-term sustainability and growth at home.

GWAVAS WATER SUPPLY

After a long process of seeking consent to draw water from underneath Gwavas farm we were unsuccessful in our bid to the environment Court. We have at the same time been assessing the potential for a water storage facility that captures the rain water run off so we can store for irrigation purposes. This project assessment is nearing draft for the Trustees to consider the next steps.

DASHINE VISIT

From 1–3 December 2025, we welcomed Dashine, a leading food import and distribution company from Taiwan, on their first visit to Aotearoa. Dashine specialises in sourcing premium products for Taiwan's fine dining market. They currently purchase 1 tonne of tenderloin and 3 tonnes of lamb racks per month and are seeking reliable supply partners. Owner Jeffrey and colleague Natalie were formally welcomed with a pōwhiri at Wharerangi Marae, followed by their first in-ground hangi experience.

Over three days, they toured key sites:

- Progressive Meats
- Fresh Meats
- Visits to Gwavas Station and Ngaruru Station,
- Deer hunting in our forest

The visit exceeded expectations, deepening cultural and business connections. Dashine is committed to working with us, signalling a strong opportunity for future partnerships for direct export into Taiwan.

AMO TĪTOKI / EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

We are excited to have welcomed our new Amo Titoki / Executive Assistant, Trelise Hazel in November. Along with her Ngati Ruanui whakapapa, Trelise brings a depth of executive support experience across the health sector and office management. Her appointment is a tohu of the direction the Trust is looking to take to grow the team along with the business so we are in a position to best serve the Trust and our owners.

TAIAO

The Taiao remains a key priority for the Trust. While this mahi does not generate direct financial returns, these investments are about future-proofing our whenua and supporting the wellbeing of future generations.

PEST CONTROL & BIODIVERSITY

Tipene and the taiao team have been busy strengthening pest control efforts across our ngahere and farms. The number of possum traps has been increased throughout the ngahere and across farm blocks. Deer numbers have increased, and these will be brought under control with the opening of hunting ballots across all blocks this month. The team has also been tackling wilding pines, which have the potential to overrun land, as seen in other parts of the country.

Following the application of aerial pest control, Tipene and the taiao team have been strengthening ground control efforts across our ngahere and farms.

PEKAPEKA & WHIO PROTECTION

Additional pekapeka roosts have been installed at Gwavas, and monitoring is underway to track activity. The whio population continues to increase, and to support this, stoat traps have been placed along the Toropapa to reduce predation risks.

LONG-TERM RESTORATION

Our taiao team continues to plant and release native trees as part of our 50-year environmental strategy, supporting biodiversity, whenua health, and long-term sustainability.

RESTORATION TOROPAPA PĀ

Planning for the restoration of Toropapa Pā is now underway and has formed part of the Wāhi Kura wānanga that took place on 6 February. What a meaningful way to celebrate Waitangi Day, connecting whānau to history, whenua, and future restoration mahi.

KOHERIKI – PROTECTING A TAONGA SPECIES

Koheriki is a special and endangered taonga plant, and we are currently exploring ways to better protect and restore this species. This mahi is still evolving as we work through the best long-term approach to ensure its survival for future generations.

NURSERY & WĀNANGA

Our nursery continues to thrive under the care and management of Sue. As part of this kaupapa, the Wāhi Kura wānanga began with seedling potting, giving whānau a hands-on opportunity to contribute to restoration efforts.

Tōtara and rimu native seedlings are being grown in the nursery alongside podocarp protection plants such as mānuka and other diverse native species.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Taiao mahi is exciting, and while there is still much to learn and much to do, we remain committed to restoring and protecting our taiao and taonga species for future generations. If whānau are interested in mahi within the taiao space, we encourage you to attend the next wānanga and kōrero with our team



ŌHU MANAAKI

Led by Trustee Myka Nuku, the Ōhu Manaaki komiti continues to be very active and focused on delivering meaningful benefits for owners. The komiti is currently progressing a number of kaupapa aimed at supporting whānau wellbeing and connection to whenua.

WĀHI KURA

Wāhi Kura is our kaupapa dedicated to identifying, researching, and protecting our wāhi taonga, wāhi tapu, and wāhi motuhake. This important mahi is being led by Myka Nuku and Tipene Cottrell, and we are grateful for the knowledge, experience, and leadership they bring to this kaupapa.

A wānanga was held over Waitangi Weekend (6 –7 February) at Tarawera Farm, beginning with a nursery planting session. Whānau then travelled up to Toropapa Hut for an overnight stay.

The wānanga included:

- A pā site visit
- Kōrero on historical significance
- Learning about local biodiversity

We received very positive feedback from whānau, many of whom are keen to attend more wānanga in the future. We look forward to continuing this important kaupapa and strengthening our connection to these special places.

FIREWOOD FOR OWNERS

We currently have firewood available for owners, with another firewood collection planned for early April.

Please keep an eye on our social media for details, and contact our office to register if you or your whānau require firewood.

Firewood collection will be available Saturday 18 April

HUNTING

Hunting ballots are now open for the season. If you are interested in applying, please contact our office for more information and ballot details.

PAPAKĀINGA DEVELOPMENT – OMAHU

We are pleased to share that resource consent has now been submitted for the first stage of the Papakāinga development at Omahu.

This is an exciting milestone as we move forward with creating housing opportunities for our people. If you are interested in living at the Papakāinga or would like more information, please contact our office.

EDUCATION GRANTS

The Education Grant Panel received a strong number of applications and has awarded several scholarships for this year to the previous round in 2025. We acknowledge all applicants and thank you for the effort put into your submissions.

The current round of scholarship applications was announced on our social media on 13 February 2026.

Please keep an eye on our channels for updates and application details

MAHIA TE MAHI – EMPLOYMENT & PATHWAYS

We are currently developing a pathways strategy to support whānau into mahi with the Trust and across our projects. As part of this mahi, we have been updating our supplier list.

There will be opportunities coming up to:

- Work with the Trust
- Supply services
- Register your interest for future projects
- Please keep an eye on our website and social media, or register your interest directly with us.

DISCOUNTED TRADE CARDS

We have received our updated discounted trade cards, which are now available for collection from the office.

Expiry date: 28 February 2027

If you haven't picked yours up yet, please get in touch or visit us during office hours



As we enter a new year, it is important to reflect on the busiest period of the year for our farms. Late November and December saw an immense amount of activity, as we undertake the weaning, drenching, shearing, and dipping of all 21,000 lambs and the shearing of 7,650 ewes plus the crutching and dipping of a further 6,800 ewes and not to forget R2 cattle and cull ewes heading to the meat works.

Tarawera sent 6,500 lambs to Gwavas for finishing.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our farm staff for their dedication, hard work, and long hours leading up to Christmas. Their efforts have ensured that all vital tasks have been completed during this demanding period. We will be introducing our staff on facebook over the coming year.

TARAWERA STATION STAFF

Farm Manager:
Daniel Jordon

Experienced Shepherds:
Sam Kahaki and his partner Tui; Jack Blackley and his partner Nat

Vacancy:
We currently have an opening for an experienced shepherd

GWAVAS STATION STAFF

Farm Managers:
Marty & Mel van Heuckelum

Head Shepherd:
William McDonnell and his partner Hine

Shepherd:
Aaliyah Lockwood

Vacancy:
Gwavas will have a vacancy for an experienced shepherd shortly

Farming Update:

Our farming operations have continued much as they did last year, with stock prices remaining at record highs for both sheep and cattle, and even wool prices have improved to the point where ewe shearing costs are covered. We hope these positive trends continue well into the future.

Seasonal Conditions:

December brought significant heat, and our farms have felt the effects, particularly in terms of reduced soil moisture. However, thanks to the water system that has been installed over the years, our stock continue to have access to good water. We have enjoyed the rain falls over the summer break.

Season's Greetings:

On behalf of the entire farm staff, I would like to send our best wishes to you all for 2026.

Ngā mihi,

CARL READ-JONES
GM Farming



The nearly finished Waipunga hut (some painting required)

NGAHERE UPDATE

Harvest operations are progressing well now that the sun is shining and the log market has lifted somewhat in price. Over summer the road construction crew will start upgrading the roads we will use for the next 12 months

An unused single mans quarters from the farm has been moved into Waipunga forest to replace the very old forest service hut. This new hut is double glazed, insulated with a covered north facing deck to make stays far more comfortable

We had the HB Forestry Group and the HB Regional Council in the forest to view our recent harvesting operations. Both parties were impressed with the condition of the cutover (logged ground) after the harvesting was finished

UPCOMING DATES – ALL

Ballot reopened 13 February

Education Grants open Friday 13 February 2026, and will close Friday 13 March 2026. Successful applicates will be notified by Tuesday 31 March 2026

Please contact admin@teawahohonu.co.nz for all queries.



The Hawkes Bay Forestry group viewing harvesting on Kowaro Road



A harvesting processing site above Kuriwao road in the main block