

Te Hika o Pāpāuma Mandated Iwi Authority
Greater Wellington Regional Council Natural Resources Plan oral submission dated 25 May 2017

Tēnā koutou katoa

This oral submission is made on behalf of Te Hika o Pāpāuma Mandated Iwi Authority and our 850 registered members. Our population indications are around 5,000. Te Hika o Pāpāuma traditional land consists of 485,000 acres. Pāpāuma our ancestress was born circa 1500 and she is a direct descendant of Kupe who discovered New Zealand. Pāpāuma herself does not descend from either of the two larger Wairarapa tribal groups' eponymous ancestors; namely the ancestors Rangitāne and Kahungunu.

Te Hika o Pāpāuma Mandated Iwi Authority support and acknowledge an interest in the specific provisions, objectives policies and maps identified.

However our experience to date with the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region Council ("Natural Resources Plan") has been a lack of, and a lost opportunity to:

1. Recognise Te Hika o Pāpāuma as mana whenua
2. Consult effectively with Te Hika o Pāpāuma
3. Provide representation for Te Hika o Pāpāuma
4. Contribute to and be contributed to by Te Hika o Pāpāuma
5. Acknowledge the relevance and role of traditional relationships/alliances.

Te Hika o Pāpāuma is recognised as Kaitiaki and mana whenua of the Castlepoint Purchase Block of which is partly within the Greater Wellington Regional Council area; despite this **we have not been able to actively participate in planning and decision making**. Regardless Te Hika o Pāpāuma Mandated Iwi Authority support and acknowledge an interest in the specific provisions, objectives, policies and maps identified in our written submission.

Te Hika o Pāpāuma request an opportunity to participate and contribute to Wellington Regional Council decision making processes. Under the Treaty of Waitangi we note that the Local Government Act 2002, Part 1 section 4 states that in order to recognise and respect the Crown's responsibility to take appropriate account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi **and to maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to local government decision-making processes**, Parts 2 and 6 provide principles and requirements for local authorities that are **intended to facilitate participation by Māori in local authority decision-making processes**.

In our written submission we also requested representation for Te Hika o Pāpāuma to contribute to decision making processes on the Greater Wellington Regional Council. The Local Government Act 2002, Part 2 section 14 (d) also states that **local authority should provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to its decision-making processes**.

Throughout our written submission we requested involvement to assist the Greater Wellington Regional Council planning. We note that Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002, which refers to **Planning, decision-making, and accountability** - section 75 (b) states the **obligations of local authorities in relation to the involvement of Māori in decision-making processes**.

Section 77 Requirements in relation to decisions

Within our written submission we provided maps which show our traditional land and coastline. We have also filed a Marine and Coastal application for the area outlined. We request that we are involved in decisions that take into account our traditions and culture of our traditional land and coastline. The Local Government Act 2002, Part 6 section 77 (1) (c) states that if any of the options identified under paragraph (a) **involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water, sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga**.

Our written submission also requested an opportunity to contribute to and be contributed to by Te Hika o Pāpāuma. We note that within the Local Government Act 2002, Part 6 section 81 (1) A local authority must—

- (a) **establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority**; and
- (b) **consider ways in which it may foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority**; and
- (c) **provide relevant information to Māori** for the purposes of paragraphs (a) and (b).

We request the Greater Wellington Regional Council:

1. Recognise Te Hika o Pāpāuma as mana whenua within our traditional lands and to be represented by Te Hika o Pāpāuma Mandated Iwi Authority
2. Consult effectively with Te Hika o Pāpāuma to collate Te Hika o Pāpāuma content to be incorporated into the Natural Resources Plan including:
 - Identification of Sites of Significance to Te Hika o Pāpāuma; and
 - Identification of values assigned to Sites of Significance.
3. Provide representation for Te Hika o Pāpāuma on:
 - Aratahi
 - Te Upoko Taiao
 - Wairarapa Coast Whaitua
 - Other forums where appropriate.
4. Support Te Hika o Pāpāuma Mandated Iwi Authority to undertake the following activities on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council:
 - consultation and representation activities as previously noted
 - ongoing participation in relevant consent processes
 - preparation of cultural impact assessments as required
 - preparation of Iwi management plan
 - other activities as required.
5. Consider how traditional relationships/alliances can continue to play an active role today in sustaining and supporting the Wairarapa coastline and its communities by including the following key coastal groups/notifying authorities:
 - Te Hika o Pāpāuma
 - Ngāi Tūmapūhia-ā-Rangi
 - Ngāti Hinewaka.

We note that this would be dependent on each of the above groups' willingness and ability to participate in such an arrangement

We end with the ōhākī (or final wish) of our ancestor Pāpāuma.

“Poua te whenua kia mau tonu”

“Assert yourself upon the land and hold onto it forever”.

We are here today to stand for her ōhākī, and honour her final wish.

No reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

Time permitting, we are happy to answer any questions the Council may have.