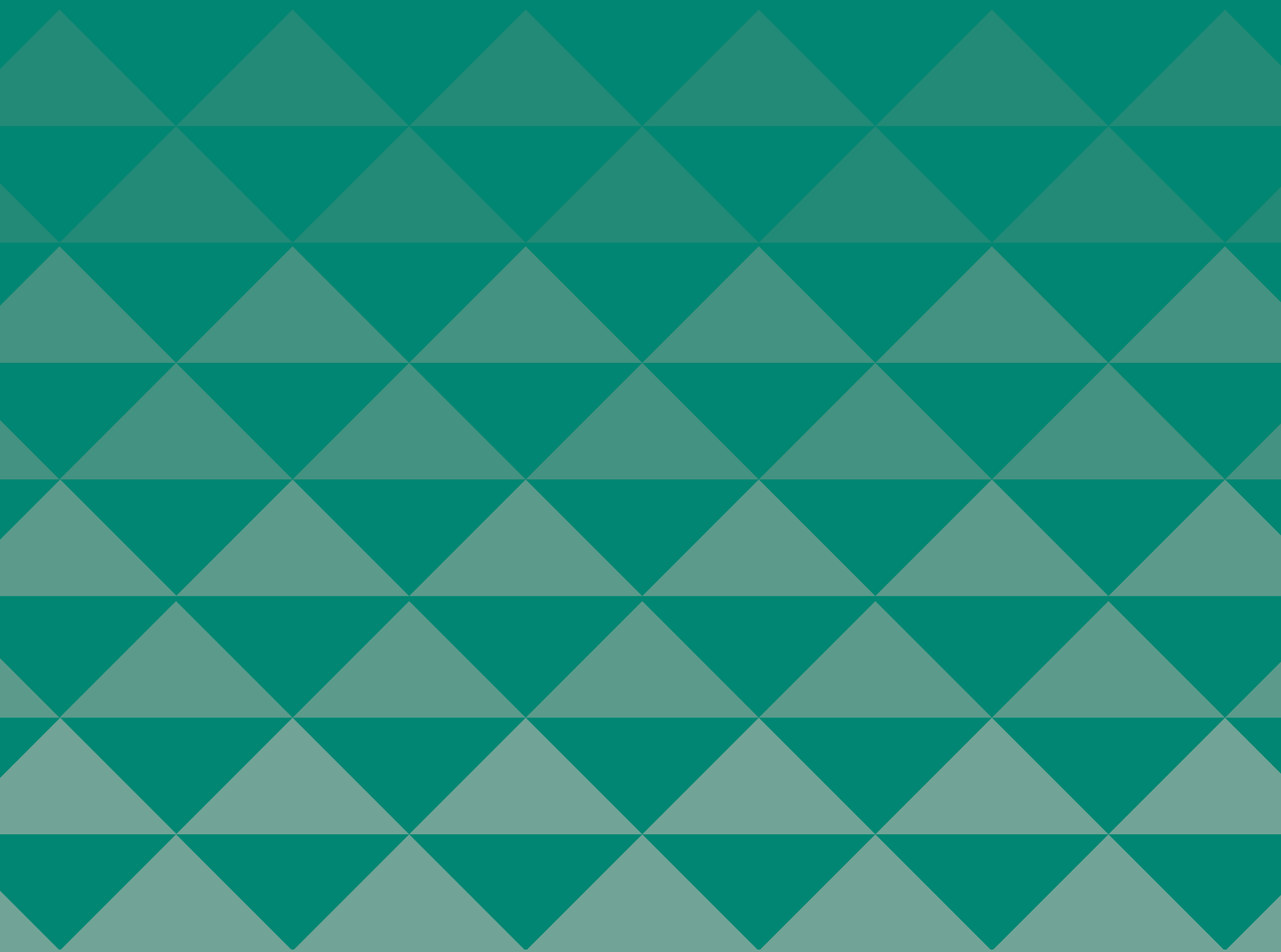


A Report to the House of Representatives on the implementation of Waitangi Tribunal Recommendations for 2024/2025



Presented to the House of Representatives
under Section 81 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975.

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Te Kupu Whakataki a te Minita

Minister's Foreword

E harikoa ana au ki te whakatakoto atu i te Pūrongo mō te Whakatinana Haere i ngā Tūtokinga a Te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi mō te tau 2024/2025. Kei tēnei pūrongo ka whakamāramatia ngā mahi a te Karauna ki waenga i te 1 o Hōngongoi 2024 me te 30 o Pipiri 2025, koia ka noho hei taputapu whai takohanga ki ngā whānau, Hapū, Iwi me te taupori whānui.

Ka tautoko te pūrongo i te piaritanga ki waenga i ngā Iwi rātou ko Ngāi Māori me te Karauna, māna ka taea te arotake te kaneketanga hei roto i ngā tau. Kitea ana te kaneketanga i ētahi wāhi maha, heoi ka tohu hoki te pūrongo tērā tonu ngā mahi kei mua i te aroaro hei mahi.

Kei te manawanui te Kāwanatanga ki te whakatutuki i āna kawenga Tiriti kia whai take, kia mauroa, kia aro hoki ki te hāpai hua. Kei tēnei pūrongo ka kitea he mea nui tonu te whakapau kaha, te whai takohanga mārama, me te aro ki te tipu. Kia angitu ai a Ngāi Māori, ka angitu ko Aotearoa.

I am pleased to present the 2024/2025 Report on the Implementation of Waitangi Tribunal Recommendations. This Report provides an update on the actions taken by the Crown between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025, and remains an important accountability mechanism for whānau, Hapū, Iwi and the wider public.

The Report supports transparency between Iwi and Māori and the Crown and enables progress to be tracked over time. While there has been progress in many areas, the Report also makes clear that further work remains.

The Government is committed to meeting its Treaty responsibilities in a way that is practical, durable and focused on improving outcomes. This Report shows that sustained effort, clear accountability and a focus on growth are essential. When Māori succeed, Aotearoa New Zealand succeeds.

Mauri ora,

Hon Tama Potaka
Minister for Māori Development



He pūrongo mō ngā mahi kua oti hei whakatinana haere i ngā tūtohinga a Te Rōpū Whakamana i te Tiriti o Waitangi ki te Karauna mō te tau 2024/25: He Tīmatanga Kōrero

Ka whakatakoto atu tēnei pūrongo i te whakahāngaitanga o ngā mahi a te Karauna ki te whakatinana haere i ngā tūtohinga a Te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi ki waenga i te 1 o Hōngongoi 2024 me te 30 o Pipiri 2025 ki te aroaro o te Pāremata, arā ko ngā mahi hei urupare, hei whakatinana haere i ngā tūtohinga o Te Rōpū Whakamana. Kei te Ture mō Te Tiriti o Waitangi 1975 ka whakaritea ngā āhuatanga o te whai me te whakaū i ngā mātāpono o Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Te Tiriti) mā te whakatūnga i Te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi (te Rōpū Whakamana). E whai mana ana Te Rōpū Whakamana ki te uiui haere i ngā kerēme mō te whakatinanatanga o Te Tiriti, ki te whakatau hoki mehemea tērā ētahi mahi, ētahi hapanga nā te Karauna ka kore e hāngai ki ōna mātāpono.

He nui ngā mahi a te Rōpū Whakamana kua aro ki ngā kerēme e pā ana ki ngā whakapae takahanga Tiriti a te Karauna i mua i te 21 o Mahuru 1992, te rā ka whakamahia hei whakawehe i ngā kerēme tuku iho me ngā kerēme o moroki noa nei. Ka tau ki te Minita Whiriwhiri Take Tiriti te haepapa ki te whiriwhiri whakataunga mō ngā kerēme tuku iho nei.

Hāunga ētahi okotahi ruarua,¹ kāore e herea te Karauna ki ngā tūtohinga a Te Rōpū Whakamana. I te nuinga o te wā, ka whai tikanga te Karauna ki te hāpai i aua tūtohinga, kāore rānei, me te korahitanga anō hoki o te hāpaitanga. Ahakoa tēnei, kei te āhukahuka te Karauna ki te wāhi nui ki ngā kitenga me ngā pūrongo a Te Rōpū Whakamana hei tārai i ōna hononga ki ngā whānau, Hapū, Iwi me Ngāi Māori whānui, hei whakamōhio hoki i te tukanga whakatau kerēme. Koia ka noho ngā mahi a Te Rōpū Whakamana hei tino pito tīmata mō te whiriwhiri kōrero ki waenga i ngā iwi rātou ko Ngāi Māori me te Karauna, e tautokona ana e ngā anga kaupapa here pēnei i *Te Tautuhi ō Rongo*. Ka aro tēnei momo kōkiri ki ngā tika, ngā take me ngā kawenga motuhake a Ngāi Māori, hei kāhui, hei kirirarau takitahi hoki, ka tautoko hoki i te taiao kaupapa here e āta pāhekoheko ana i ngā tirohanga, ārahitanga, oranga Māori ki ngā mahi whakatau take, tuku ratonga hoki.

Mō ngā kerēme tuku iho, ka whiriwhiria ngā whakataunga ki waenga i te Karauna me ngā rōpū kerēme, hei urupare ki ngā takahanga i Te Tiriti. Ka aro whānui ngā whakataunga ki ngā kitenga a te Rōpū Whakamana, tērā hoki ētahi ka aro whāiti ki āna tūtohinga, heoi hei te mutunga atu ka whakatutukitia ngā whakataunga i runga i ngā āhuatanga ka whakaaetia e ngā taha e rua. Koia ka waihangatia ngā whakataunga i runga i ngā mahi a te Rōpū Whakamana me ngā take, whakaarotau hoki a te hunga e whai wāhi ana ki ngā whakataunga.

Ka whakamārama tēnei pūrongo i te kōkiri haere a te Karauna i ngā mahi nei ki waenga i te 1 o Hōngongoi 2024 me te 30 o Pipiri 2025 mā te whakawhāiti mai i ngā kōrero a ngā tari kāwanatanga, ka whakarāpopoto hoki i te pēheatanga o ngā kerēme katoa ki te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

1 Kei te whai mana Te Rōpū Whakamana ki te tuku whakahau here e pā ana ki: te whenua ngahere Karauna e whai ana i te raihana ngahere Karauna; 'te whenua whai tohu', arā he whenua nō tētahi hinonga Karauna, nō tētahi whare wānanga, nō te Tari Rerewei i nāiane, i ōna wā rānei, e whai ana i te kupu tohu ki te taitara e kī ana ka taea e Te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi te tūtōhi kia whakahokia ki ngā ringaringa o te Māori.

A Report on the progress made on the implementation of Waitangi Tribunal Recommendations to the Crown 2024/25: Introduction

This report provides Parliament with an update on the Crown's progress implementing Waitangi Tribunal recommendations between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025 in responding to and implementing recommendations made by the Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal).

The Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 provides for the observance and confirmation of the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi | the Treaty of Waitangi (the Treaty) through the establishment of the Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal). The Tribunal has jurisdiction to inquire into claims concerning the practical application of the Treaty, and to determine whether particular actions or omissions by the Crown are inconsistent with its principles.

Much of the Tribunal's work has focused on claims of Crown breaches that occurred prior to 21 September 1992, the date commonly used to distinguish between historical and contemporary claims. Responsibility for negotiating settlements of these historical claims sits with the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations.

With a few exceptions,² the Tribunal's recommendations are not binding on the Crown. In most instances, the Crown retains discretion as to whether, and to what extent, it adopts those recommendations. Despite this, the Crown recognises that the Tribunal's findings and reports play an important role in shaping its relationship with whānau, Hapū, Iwi and Māori more broadly, and in informing the approach to resolving Treaty claims. In practice, the Tribunal's work provides a well-established starting point for engagement between Iwi and Māori and the Crown, supported by frameworks such as *Te Tautuhi o Rongo*. This approach acknowledges the distinct rights, interests and responsibilities of Māori, both as collectives and as citizens, while also supporting a policy environment in which Māori perspectives, leadership along with wellbeing are integral to decision-making and service delivery.

In relation to historical claims, settlements are negotiated agreements between the Crown and claimant groups, intended to address breaches of the Treaty. While settlements are generally informed by the Tribunal's findings, and in some cases give direct effect to its recommendations, they ultimately reflect what the parties are prepared to agree to. Settlements are therefore shaped both by the Tribunal's work and by the interests and priorities of those involved.

This report outlines the Crown's progress, between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025 drawing on contributions from a range of government agencies, concluding with a summary of the status of all Waitangi Tribunal claims.

² The Tribunal has the power to make binding orders with respect to: Crown forest land that is subject to a Crown forestry licence; 'memorialised lands', which are land owned, or formerly owned, by a State-owned enterprise or a tertiary institution; or former New Zealand Railways lands, that have a notation on their title advising that the Waitangi Tribunal may recommend that the land be returned to Māori ownership.

Kupu Whakarāpopoto Abbreviations

Government Departments and Entities

Acronym / Term	Agency / Entity	Māori Name
CLO	Crown Law Office	Te Tari Ture o te Karauna
Corrections	Department of Corrections	Ara Poutama Aotearoa
DoC	Department of Conservation	Te Papa Atawhai
HNZ	Heritage New Zealand	Pouhere Taonga
LINZ	Land Information New Zealand	Toitū te Whenua
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries	No longer exists independently
MBIE	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	Hikina Whakatutuki
MCH	Ministry for Culture and Heritage	Te Manatū Taonga
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Manatū Aorere
MfE	Ministry for the Environment	Manatū mō te Taiao
MfMD	Minister for Māori Development	Minita Whanake Māori
MHUD / HUD	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development	Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga
MLC	Māori Land Court	Te Kooti Whenua Māori
MoE	Ministry of Education	Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga
MoH	Ministry of Health	Manatū Hauora
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries	Manatū Ahu Matua
	Māori Broadcasting Agency	Te Māngai Pāho
	The Māori Language Commission	Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
TPK	Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry for Māori Development)	
TTW	Te Tari Whakatau (Office of Treaty Settlements, formerly Te Arawhiti)	
	Māori Television	Whakaata Māori

Other Terms

Acronym / Term	Meaning
ANZBS	Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy
ASA	Aquaculture Settlement Areas
BWP	Budgeted Work Programmes
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CMA	The Crown Minerals Act 1991
CMS	Conservation Management System
CODP	Corrections Officer Development Pathway
COP (WAI262)	Conference of the Parties
CPTPP	Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans Pacific Partnership
ECE	Early Childhood Education
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GBF	Global Biodiversity Framework
GRATK Treaty	Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge
ICA	Indigenous Collaboration Arrangements
ICT (WAI2336)	Information and communications technology
IGC	Intergovernmental Committee
IMPB	Iwi Māori Partnership Boards
IPLC	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
MACA	Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011
MPB	Māori Purposes Bill
NLC	National Learning Centre
NPS FM	National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management
NPS IB (WAI262)	National Policy Statement – Indigenous Biodiversity
ODG	Option Development Group's
Pae Ora Act	Healthy Futures Act
POA	Protected Objects Act
RMA	Resource Management Act
RSB	Regulatory Standards Bill
SNA	Significant Natural Areas
Te Ture mō te Reo Māori 2016	Māori Language Act 2016
UN	United Nations
VLN	Virtual Learning Network
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

Kuputaka Glossary

Kupu Māori	English Meaning / Explanation
Akoranga	Lesson; course of study
Aromatawai	Test; assessment; evaluation
Ākonga	Student; learner
Hakihea	December
Hapū	Sub-tribe; extended kin group
Hui	Meeting; gathering
Huitanguru	February
Iwi	Tribe; large kinship group descended from a common ancestor
Kaiako	Teacher
Kaimahi	Employee; worker
Kaimoana	Seafood
Kaitiaki	Guardian; caretaker; steward (of people, taonga, environment)
Kaumātua	Elder; respected older person of a Hapū/Iwi
Kaupapa Māori	Māori principles; Māori philosophical framework
Kōhanga reo	Māori language preschool/early childhood centre
Kōrero	Speech; discussion; to speak
Kuia	Female elder
Kura	School
Kura Kaupapa Māori	Māori immersion school
Mahi / Mahi	Work; task; activity
Mana	Authority; spiritual power; prestige
Mana Whenua	People with ancestral authority over a particular area
Manaaki	Support; care; hospitality; to uplift others
Marae	Communal meeting place; includes buildings and courtyard
Mātauranga Māori	Māori knowledge system; epistemology
Māori	Indigenous people of Aotearoa; Māori language

Kupu Māori	English Meaning / Explanation
Mauri	Life force; vital essence; energy
Mokopuna	Grandchild; descendant
Motu	Island; also used to mean ‘the country’ (Aotearoa)
Pāngarau	Mathematics
Pakihi Māori	Māori business or enterprise
Pānui	Notice; reading; bulletin; announcement
Pipiri	June
Pou	Post; pillar; support (literal or metaphorical)
Rangatira	Chief; leader
Tamariki	Children
Tangata Whenua	People of the land; local Māori with ancestral ties
Taonga / Taonga tūturu	Treasure; sacred or historically significant object
Tapu	Sacred; restricted; protected
Tau	Year; number
Te ao Māori	The Māori world; Māori worldview
Te reo / Te Reo Rangatira	The Māori language
Te Rohe Pōtae (WAI898)	Name of a large historical inquiry district in the Waitangi Tribunal (King Country region)
Tino Rangatiratanga	Self determination; sovereignty; autonomy
Tuakana/Teina	Senior/junior relationship; mentoring dynamic
Tuhituhi	Writing
Tūpuna	Ancestors
Wāhanga ako	Learning area; curriculum area
Whakapapa	Genealogy; lineage; connections
Whānau	Family; extended family group

Te Nekehanga o te Whakatinana i ngā Tūtohutanga mō te Tau 2024/25

Progress implementing recommendations 2024/2025

In accordance with Section 8I of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975, this section of the Report provides information on implementation progress of the Waitangi Tribunal recommendations by the Crown for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 (2024/2025).

This section of the Report provides the status of all Waitangi Tribunal reports that are being worked on. This includes reports from the Waitangi Tribunal with no specific actions, or those that are currently in negotiation (including those where negotiations are on hold because of litigation).

It covers all active claims and includes new Waitangi Tribunal reports released during the 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 period.

This section will be organised by inquiry type and presented in chronological order within the publication, from the most recent claims lodged to the most long-standing claims.

Status categories and definitions

Status Classification Work carried out by Crown to implement the Waitangi Tribunal recommendations

Status Category

- **In progress:** the work to action the Waitangi Tribunal recommendations is currently being undertaken by the Crown.
- **Completed:** indicates that the implementation of the Waitangi Tribunal recommendations has been completed by the Crown.
- **No further action:** indicates the at Crown has determined it is not required to take further action to implement recommendations. For example, the Waitangi Tribunal made no recommendations, the claim has been withdrawn, or the Crown has taken action to the extent that it considers appropriate.

Status Classification Status of the Treaty Claim

Status Category

- **Ongoing:** indicates that the Waitangi Tribunal is still hearing claims related to the inquiry or related to claims currently under active negotiation.
- **Partially settled:** indicates that a settlement has been reached with respect to some, but not all, claims inquired into by the Waitangi Tribunal in the report. However, the settlement of any outstanding claims is not currently under active consideration by the Crown.
- **Settled:** indicates that a settlement has been reached with a particular claimant group, even where recommendations do not immediately appear to have been addressed in the context of that settlement.

Note: Status of the Treaty Claim do not apply to contemporary Waitangi Tribunal claims.

If you are viewing this document digitally you can use Adobe Reader search function to look up your claim number or search using keywords.



In the top left hand corner of your browser you will see a set of tools like the ones to the left. Click on the magnifying glass to open the search dialogue box, then type your claim number or key word to locate in the document.

Urgent Inquiries

Wai 3400: The Takutai Moana Act 2011 Urgent Inquiry Stage 2 Report – Pre-publication Version, 2025**Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau****Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing****Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

This is the second report released for the Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Act Coalition Changes Urgent Inquiry (Wai 3400). The report considered claimant allegations that the Crown had breached Treaty principles through the mismanagement of the Takutai Moana Financial Assistance Scheme (the scheme), which supports applicants who seek to have their customary interests in the foreshore and seabed recognised under the Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (the Act).

The claimants alleged that the Crown failed to engage adequately with Māori in their process to review and amend the Scheme for the 2024/25 financial year. The claimants argued that the current scheme settings have meant that the funding available for applicants is inadequate. Other issues raised included delayed payments, the removal of funding for interested parties, and funding caps that create a one-size-fits-all model for funding allocation, regardless of the complexities of individual cases. The claimants say that they have been unable to progress applications under the Act due to current scheme settings.

While the Crown accepted that the July 2024 changes to the Scheme were challenging for the claimants, the Crown did not concede that there had been any breach of Treaty principles. It argued that its amendments to the Scheme addressed significant cost pressures that had arisen in the previous financial year, and it maintained that its process in amending the Scheme was reasonable in the circumstances and that it is not obliged under the Treaty to provide full funding to applicant groups.

The Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) found that elements of the Crown's process in reviewing and amending the funding scheme were flawed. The Crown should have been cognisant earlier of the likely increase on financial pressures on the scheme, and there were significant problems with the modelling used to calculate the annual appropriation required to fund the scheme. The Tribunal found that, in its process to review and amend the scheme, the Crown failed to meet its Treaty obligations to act reasonably and in good faith and to actively protect Māori interests. This was in breach of Treaty principles of partnership and good faith.

The Tribunal further found that aspects of the current funding scheme settings were in breach of Treaty principles. By declining the additional funding required to cover the forecast costs of the 2024/25 financial year without considering the impact of this on Māori applicants, Cabinet had not conducted a Treaty-compliant balancing exercise, in breach of the principles of partnership, good government, and active protection.

Several measures were introduced to deal with the shortfall in funding, including budgeted workplans, changing the funding available for lawyers, and introducing a funding cap for each application. The Tribunal commented that the way in which the budgeted work-plan requirement was introduced created significant confusion and disruption but did not find the requirement for a workplan to be inherently inconsistent with Treaty principles. However, the Tribunal found that the Crown did not undertake a proper balancing exercise when making changes to rates of funding for lawyers, in breach of its Treaty obligation to actively protect Māori interests. The Tribunal was concerned by the 'rudimentary' approach taken to funding caps, noting that the caps themselves were caused by Cabinet's decision to decline the additional funding needed.

The Tribunal found that significant prejudice had arisen due to the Crown's Treaty breaches. The funding changes were introduced quickly, without consultation, impacting applications on the verge of hearing. Applications were delayed while budgeted workplans were awaiting approval. Research for applications were delayed, and reduced funding for research undermined the strength of applications. Funding changes also limited applicants' access to legal representation.

Wai 3400: The Takutai Moana Act 2011 Urgent Inquiry Stage 2 Report – Pre-publication Version, 2025

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

To prevent similar prejudice being felt by applicants in the next financial year, the Tribunal recommended that the Crown engage meaningfully with Māori before decisions on funding are made. When making these decisions, the Crown must properly consider Māori interests and potential impacts on Māori in the wider context of the Act’s regime. In making decisions, the Crown must keep Māori informed and provide its reasoning. The Tribunal reiterated its recommendation in an earlier report that the statutory deadline for applications be removed from the Act, as this has put financial pressure on the scheme.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations In progress

The Crown has continued implementing measures that address many of the shortcomings identified in the Tribunal’s Stage 2 Report.

Formal consultation with applicant groups and stakeholders on permanent scheme settings occurred between the July 2024 funding changes and the release of the Tribunal’s findings (December 2024–February 2025). The insights gathered through that process have directly informed ongoing improvements.

Interim measures introduced in July 2024, such as mandatory Budgeted Work Plans (BWPs), capped contributions for hearings, and alignment of legal funding rates with legal aid, remain in place to manage cost pressures and provide clearer expectations for applicants. The Crown has also refined the funding policy to give applicant groups access to funding for time-sensitive mahi (such as collection of evidence from kaumātua or kuia) to improve applicant access to funding.

Since the report, the Crown has driven continuous process improvements, including simplified requirements, clearer guidance, and faster turnaround times. Concerns about delays and backlogs have been addressed: there is now no backlog of funding requests, and processing timeframes for BWPs and reimbursements are below 20 working days, reduced from 45. The Crown has also provided detailed reasoning for funding decisions to applicant groups to strengthen transparency and engagement.

Work is underway to redesign the funding model for 2026/27 and beyond. Advice has been provided to Ministers in relation to the Tribunal’s recommendation to remove the statutory deadline to submit applications (a reiteration of the Tribunal’s recommendation in the Wai 2660 stage 1 report).

These steps represent significant progress toward addressing Tribunal concerns and will support further improvements in the next financial year to ensure Treaty-compliant processes and stronger protection of Māori interests.

Wai 3740: Interim Regulatory Standards Bill Urgent Report – Pre-publication Version, 2025**Responsible Agency: Ministry for Regulations****Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A****Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

This interim report concerns the then proposed Regulatory Standards Bill (the Bill). The Bill is derived from the commitment in the New Zealand National Party–ACT New Zealand coalition agreement to pass, as soon as practicable, a Regulatory Standards Act (the Act) to ‘improve the quality of regulation’. The Act was to introduce several principles of ‘good law-making’ by which future legislation and regulation would be measured. It also allows for prior legislation and regulation to be reviewed and examined for consistency with these principles.

The Crown accepted that its policy development and consultation process for the Bill occurred without targeted engagement with Māori. The Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) found that this was in breach of the Crown’s obligation to consult with Māori in good faith and therefore breached Treaty principles of partnership and active protection.

Regarding the substance of the Bill, the Tribunal found that, if it were to be enacted, it would be of constitutional significance, as it seeks to influence the way Parliament makes law, and therefore it is inherently relevant to Māori.

The Tribunal therefore found that, if the Bill were enacted without meaningful consultation with Māori, it would constitute a breach of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and specifically the principles of partnership and active protection. It also found the Crown would be in breach of Treaty principles if it were to introduce the Bill to Parliament without any further consultation with Māori.

The Tribunal found that these breaches have caused, or will cause, prejudice to Māori and that the Crown’s action in progressing the policy without engaging with Māori adequately has been damaging to the relationship between Māori and the Crown. The Tribunal also found that the absence of meaningful engagement with Māori on the potential, but unknown impacts of the legislation has caused stress and uncertainty, resulting in further prejudice.

The Tribunal recommended that the Crown immediately halt the advancement of the Bill to allow for meaningful engagement with Māori and the dialogue envisioned by Treaty partnership. In particular, the Crown should meaningfully engage with Māori on whether the proposed legislation is necessary, what further exemptions in the Bill may be required to protect Māori rights and interests, and the potential impact of the proposed ‘rule of law’ principle on Government measures in place to pursue equitable outcomes for Māori.

The Tribunal reserved its jurisdiction to reconsider these issues should the Bill be enacted.

Wai 3740: Interim Regulatory Standards Bill Urgent Report – Pre-publication Version, 2025	
Responsible Agency: Ministry for Regulations	
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
On 19 May 2025 Cabinet noted the findings and recommendations of the Waitangi Tribunal in its Wai 3470 interim report [CAB-25-MIN-0165]. The Regulatory Standards Bill (the Bill) had its first reading on 22 May 2025 and went through select committee scrutiny. In June 2025, the select committee process included written submissions over a four-week period resulting in 159,493 submissions being accepted and oral evidence heard from 204 submitters, including from Iwi, Hapū and other Māori groups. Changes to the Bill made at select committee included an amendment to the definitions of a “Treaty settlement bill” and “Treaty settlement Act” to include part of a bill or Act within the definitions. The amendments make it clear that part of a piece of legislation could fall within the exclusions in the Regulatory Standards Act (the Act) for Treaty settlement legislation. This amendment fits with the Act’s intent that legislation that provides for an agreement between the Crown and Iwi in a Treaty of Waitangi settlement deed and implemented in legislation would be excluded from the requirements set out in the Bill. An amendment was also made to include a clause, now s 10 of the Act, to clarify that the principles set out in what is now s 9 of the Act do not limit or affect any other principles, standards or guidelines in relation to the development of high-quality legislation. The Ministry for Regulation is progressing work to consider additional legislation for exclusion from the requirements in the Bill via a notice process provided for in what is now schedule 2 of the Act. The Bill passed its second and third reading in November 2025, and the Act came into force on 1 January 2026.	

Wai 3365: The Māori Wards and Constituencies Urgent Inquiry Report: Pre-publication Version, 2025

Responsible Agency: Department of Internal Affairs

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

On 17 May 2024, the Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) issued its report on its urgent inquiry into claims regarding the Crown’s proposed repeal of amendments made to the Local Electoral Act 2001 by the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2021 (the Amendment Act 2021). The Amendment Act 2021 removed the previous requirement that a binding local poll on the establishment of Māori wards be held if a petition of at least 5 percent of people on the council’s electoral roll requested it. The Government intends to reinstate the previous requirement for binding polls on Māori wards and require councils that have established or resolved to establish a Māori ward or constituency without a poll since 2020 to either disestablish them/rescind their resolutions or hold a poll.

The claimants and interested parties said that the 2021 amendments have significantly increased Māori representation in local government. They argued that the Government’s policy to effectively repeal the Amendment Act 2021 breaches the Crown’s Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Treaty) obligations. Moreover, they claimed, the proposed repeal would prejudicially affect Māori, by leading to a reduction in dedicated Māori representation, exposing Māori communities to racism and abuse and damaging their relationships with the Crown.

In its report, the Tribunal found that the Crown breached the Treaty principle of partnership by prioritising coalition agreement commitments and almost failing to consult with its Treaty partner or any other stakeholders. The Crown failed to adequately inform itself of its Treaty obligations and failed to conduct adequate Treaty analysis during the policy development process, in breach of its duties to act reasonably and in good faith. It inadequately defined the policy problem as restoring the right of the public to make decisions about Māori wards and constituencies, when no other type of ward or constituency requires a poll, in breach of the principle of equity.

In addition, the Tribunal found that the Crown failed to actively protect Māori rights and interests by ignoring the desires and actions of Māori for dedicated local representation, and it found breaches of the principles of mutual benefit and options. Combined, these Treaty breaches operate to cause significant prejudice to Māori.

The Tribunal recommended that the Crown stop the amendment process to allow proper consultation between the Treaty partners with a view to agreeing how Māori can exercise their tino rangatiratanga to determine dedicated representation at the local level. The Tribunal drew the Government’s attention to the existing provisions in the Local Electoral Act 2001 for representation reviews that would better enable councils to seek public views on a range of representative arrangements, including Māori wards or constituencies.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

Completed

On 30 July 2024, the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2024 received royal assent.

Wai 3300: Ngā Mātāpono/The Principles: Part II of the Interim Report of the Tomokia Ngā Tatau o Matangireia – The Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry Panel on The Crown’s Treaty Principles Bill and Treaty Clause Review Policies – Pre publication Version, 2024

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

This updated report responds to further evidence provided to the Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) on the policy development process for the proposed Treaty Principles Bill (the Bill) since May 2024, including the Cabinet paper on the proposed Bill.

The earlier findings and recommendations in the Tribunal’s initial interim report have not changed. Rather, this updated report consists of an additional chapter (chapter 6) that makes further findings on these specific matters.

Regarding the Crown’s policy development for the Bill, the Tribunal found the Crown’s process to develop the Bill purposefully excluded any consultation with Māori, breaching the principle of partnership, the Crown’s good-faith obligations, and the Crown’s duty to actively protect Māori rights and interests. The Tribunal also found this policy process to be in breach of the principle of good government, as Cabinet decided to progress the Bill despite it being a policy that is not evidence-based, has not been adequately tested, has not been consulted upon, and fails regulatory standards.

The Tribunal analysed how the proposed content of the Bill reflects the text or meaning of the Treaty/te Tiriti. The Tribunal commented that Principle 1 misinterprets the kāwanatanga granted to the Crown in 1840, which is not an unbridled power restrained only by its own sense of what is in the best interests of everyone. Cabinet’s approval of Principle 2 for introduction in a Bill was found to be a breach of the principles of tino rangatiratanga, kāwanatanga, partnership, and active protection. The Tribunal commented that Principle 2, if enacted, would revoke the promises and guarantees the Queen made to Māori in 1840. The Tribunal held that Principle 3 bears no resemblance to the meaning of article 3 and that Cabinet’s decision to introduce the principle in a Bill was a breach of the Treaty/te Tiriti principles of partnership, equity, and active protection.

The Tribunal found that these breaches caused significant prejudice to Māori. The Tribunal found that Māori would be particularly prejudiced by the extinguishment of tino rangatiratanga in a legal sense if the Bill were to be enacted. Among other effects, the new principles would apply to all legislation where the Treaty/te Tiriti might be considered relevant. The Tribunal also found that the new principles would advance the discredited agenda of assimilation, as they are designed to end the distinct status of Māori as the indigenous people of this country. The Tribunal commented that, even if the Bill were not enacted, Cabinet’s decision to introduce the Bill would prejudice Māori by further damaging the Māori–Crown relationship. Māori would also feel the brunt of the social disorder and division caused by the introduction of the Bill, including through the select committee process.

The Tribunal confirmed its previous recommendation that the Bill be abandoned. If the Government does not abandon the Bill, the Tribunal recommended that, given the constitutional significance of the issue, the Bill be referred to the Tribunal under section 8(2) of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975.

The Tribunal reserved its jurisdiction to hear further evidence and submissions concerning the Bill, should it be enacted.

Wai 3300: Ngā Mātāpono/The Principles: Part II of the Interim Report of the Tomokia Ngā Tatau o Matangireia – The Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry Panel on The Crown’s Treaty Principles Bill and Treaty Clause Review Policies – Pre publication Version, 2024	
Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice	
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	No further action

Treaty Principles Bill (the Bill)

The Crown did not adopt the Tribunal’s recommendation to abandon the Bill or to refer it to the Tribunal under section 8(2) of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975,

The Bill had its first reading on 14 November 2024 and was referred to Parliament’s Justice Select Committee for consideration. The Committee released its report on 4 April 2025.

The Bill was voted down at its second reading in Parliament on 10 April 2025.

Wai 3400: The Takutai Moana Act 2011 Urgent Inquiry Stage 1 Report, 2024

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Completed

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The report was the first report in a two-stage inquiry. This first stage considered the Treaty compliance of the policy development process that the Government followed in seeking to amend the Takutai Moana Act 2011 (the Act), along with the proposed amendments, and whether these caused prejudice to Māori. The second stage addressed the alleged mismanagement of funding for applications for customary marine title under the Act.

Overall, the Waitangi Tribunal found that the Crown’s actions are such a gross breach of the Treaty that it is an illegitimate exercise of kāwanatanga. The Tribunal found that the Crown’s disregard for official advice during the policy development process to amend the Takutai Moana Act led to key steps being missed, breaching the Treaty principle of good government and partnership. Furthermore, the Tribunal found the Crown breached the principle of tino rangatiratanga by asserting kāwanatanga over Māori rights and interests in te takutai moana without evidence to justify its claim that further public protections were needed. The Tribunal cautioned the Crown that, on the strength of the evidence it received, to proceed now on its current (at the time) course of amending the Te Takutai Moana Act would significantly endanger the Māori–Crown relationship.

To give effect to Treaty principles, the Tribunal recommended that:

- the Crown halt its efforts to amend the Takutai Moana Act
- the Crown make a genuine effort for meaningful engagement with Māori
- the focus of this engagement should be on the perceived issues of permissions for resource consents, rather than interrupting the process of awarding customary marine title.

The Tribunal emphasised that the recommendations should be implemented to restore a fair and reasonable balance between Māori interests and those of the public in te takutai moana.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

Completed

The Takutai Moana Act 2011 Urgent Inquiry Stage 1 Report (the Report) was released in September 2024. The Government was briefed on its findings and recommendations, and Cabinet was informed of the Report, prior to its decision to authorise the introduction of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) (Customary Marine Title) Amendment Bill (the Bill) to Parliament later in September 2024.

In December 2024, the Supreme Court issued its first decision on the test for customary marine title under the 2011 Act (*Re Edwards*).

Also in December 2024, the Justice Committee issued its report recommending that the Bill be progressed.

Subsequent to the review year, Cabinet decided – again in the knowledge of the Tribunal’s report – to progress the Bill to enactment which will take place in October 2025.

The matter is now complete.

Wai 3350: The Oranga Tamariki (Section 7AA) Urgent Inquiry 10 May 2024 Report, 2024**Responsible agency: Oranga Tamariki****Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A****Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

This report responds to claims inquired into by the Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) under urgency regarding the Crown's policy to repeal section 7AA of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989. Section 7AA imposes specific duties on the Chief Executive of Oranga Tamariki to provide practical commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi / te Tiriti o Waitangi. A key policy objective of section 7AA was to reduce the disproportionate number of Māori entering into care and to improve outcomes for those tamariki already in care.

Under section 7AA Māori or Iwi organisations may enter into strategic partnerships with the Chief Executive. There are 10 strategic partnership agreements under section 7AA currently in place, as well as nine relationships with post settlement governance entities, some of whom are also strategic partners.

Claimants and interested parties argue that the repeal of section 7AA and the absence of consultation with Māori and the Crown's strategic partners breached the Crown's Treaty duties.

In this report, the Tribunal found clear breaches of the Treaty article 2 guarantee to Māori of tino rangatiratanga over kāinga and of the Treaty principles of partnership and active protection. The Tribunal also found that prejudice will arise from the rushed repeal of section 7AA, not only due to a failure to fully analyse the likely downstream effects but also due to the significant risk of actual harm to vulnerable tamariki and the risk of erosion of trust amongst Māori, whānau and communities.

In the Tribunal's interim report, the Tribunal drew the government's attention to the periodic review of the legislation and policy provided under section 448B of the Oranga Tamariki Act. Such a review and report by the Minister is required in any event by July 1, 2025. Claimant counsel stated that this process would allow any concerns the minister may have to be the subject of a considered analysis within the broader context of the purpose, principles and imperatives of the act. The Tribunal recommend this option to government for consideration and recommended that the repeal of section 7AA be stopped to allow it to happen.

The Tribunal recommended that in the first step of the review, the Crown enters into good faith dialogue with all of its section 7AA strategic partners and Māori post settlement entities with whom it has established relationships under this section. They further recommended that the proposals for legislative amendments set out in their 2021 report also be considered as part of the review under section 448B.

Finally, the Tribunal recommended that the requirements under section 7AA(2)(b)³ to develop strategic partnerships with Iwi and Māori organisations and the requirements to focus on the reduction of disparities by setting and publicly reporting on expectations and targets be retained.

3 The Oranga Tamariki (Section 7AA) Urgent Inquiry 10 May 2024 Report, 7AA Duties of chief executive in relation to Treaty of Waitangi (Tiriti o Waitangi), pg. 6.

Wai 3350: The Oranga Tamariki (Section 7AA) Urgent Inquiry 10 May 2024 Report, 2024

Responsible agency: Oranga Tamariki

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

Section 7AA of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 was repealed on 7 April 2025 following the enactment of the Oranga Tamariki (Repeal of Section 7AA) Amendment Act 2025. The Crown, through Oranga Tamariki, remains committed to improving outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi Māori and their whānau.

Each year Aroturuki Tamariki – Independent Children’s Monitor report annually on outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi Māori and their whānau in the Oranga Tamariki system, and Oranga Tamariki is obligated to respond to this report to outline the actions we are taking in respect of the Monitor’s findings. Oranga Tamariki will continue to progress, monitor, and report on outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi Māori to support greater transparency and accountability in our work.

Under the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 (the Act), Oranga Tamariki has a number of legislative requirements that we must follow that are specific to tamariki and rangatahi Māori and their whānau.

Oranga Tamariki must be proactive in pursuing the safety and wellbeing of children and young people (and their families, whānau, Hapū, Iwi, and family groups), by providing a practical commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (section 4(1)(f) of the Act).

Sections 4, 5 and 13 of the Act require Oranga Tamariki to pursue and be guided by some Māori principles, particularly whakapapa, mana tamaiti and the whanaungatanga responsibilities of whānau, Hapū, Iwi, and Māori. Doing this reflects a commitment to Treaty obligations. This must all be done consistently with the paramount principle of the Act, which is the wellbeing and best interests of a child or young person (section 4A of the Act).

These duties span all activities and potential activities of Oranga Tamariki, including:

- Strategic planning
- Practice framework
- Social work decisions
- Reporting on outcomes for Māori
- Strategic relationship agreements.

Enabling Communities programme. In October 2024, Oranga Tamariki launched a new performance system, Hine Wawata, for outcomes-based reporting as part of its Strategic Intentions 2024-2030.

Hine Wawata was built with the voices of children and young people who have been in the children’s system. It incorporates key Te Ao Māori concepts, including He Ara Wairoa, to reflect the diverse aspirations of the tamariki in the children’s system.

Hine Wawata describes the tamariki and whānau outcomes Oranga Tamariki will contribute to and the key performance areas Oranga Tamariki will focus on to achieve this. These outcomes are:

- **Mana Whānau:** Empowered families
- **Mana Tamariki:** Confident children
- **Mana Hāpori:** Thriving communities.

From the 2024/25 financial year, Oranga Tamariki will report annually on performance against Hine Wawata.

Wai 2915: He Pāharakeke, he Rito Whakakīkinga Whāruarua: Oranga Tamariki Inquiry, 2021**Responsible Agency: Oranga Tamariki****Status of Treaty Claim: N/A****Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

The Tribunal concluded that the disparity between the number of Māori and non-Māori entering State care could be attributed in part to the effects of land alienation and dispossession, but also to the Crown's failure to honour its Treaty guarantee to Māori of the right of cultural continuity. This is embodied in the guarantee of tino rangatiratanga over their kāinga.

The Crown must actively protect the availability and viability of kaupapa Māori solutions in the social sector and in mainstream services, in such a way that Māori are not disadvantaged by their choice. The Tribunal considered that the legislative and policy changes introduced since 2017 will not be sufficient to realise the kind of transformation required to achieve a Treaty (Tiriti)-consistent future.

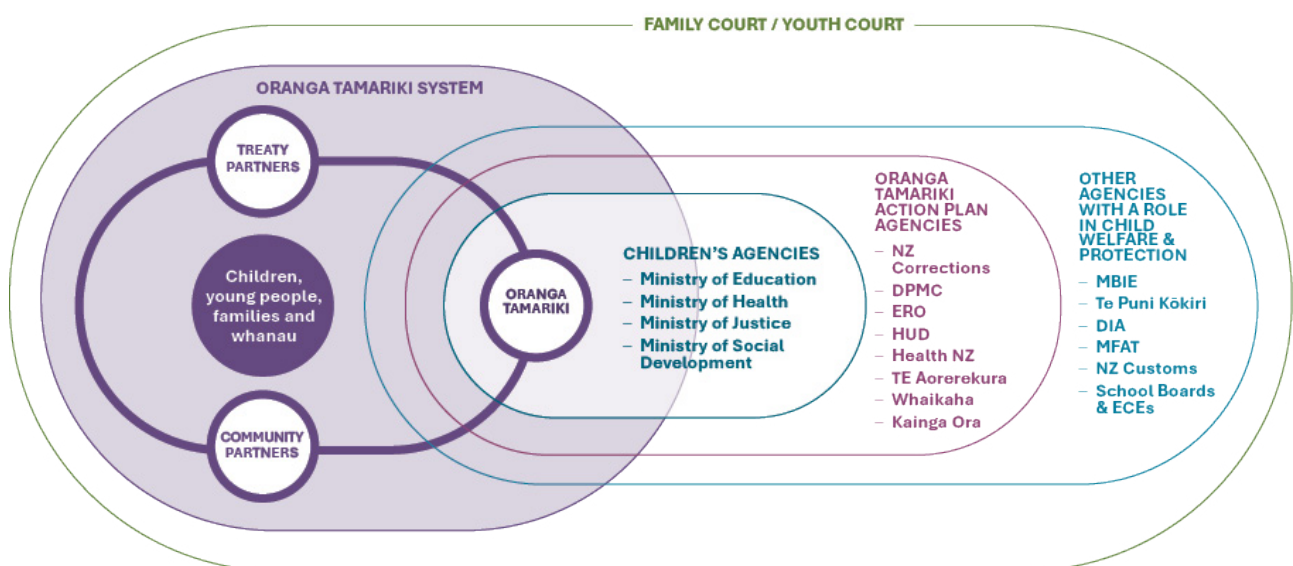
The Tribunal refrained from overly prescriptive recommendations. The Tribunal's primary recommendation is for the establishment of a Māori Transition Authority led by Māori with support from the Crown, to identify the changes necessary to eliminate the need for State care of tamariki Māori, and to consider system improvements, both within and outside of the legislative and policy settings for Oranga Tamariki.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations**In progress**

The Crown, through Oranga Tamariki, continued to work with the children's system to improve outcomes for tamariki and whānau Māori.⁴

As the diagram below illustrates, the system is wider than Oranga Tamariki (the government agency) and includes Iwi, Māori and community providers and other Children's agencies.⁵ In May 2025, the name of the Oranga Tamariki Action Plan was changed to the Oranga Tamariki System Action Plan (OTSAP).

The title places a stronger emphasis on the Oranga Tamariki system as a whole, and not just Oranga Tamariki as a single agency. OTSAP agencies and other government agencies also have important roles in child welfare and protection, as well as youth justice responses.



⁴ The system is defined in legislation under section 9 of the Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System Act 2022.

⁵ 'Children's agencies' as defined by the Children's Act 2014 are Oranga Tamariki, New Zealand Police, and the Ministries of Education, Social Development, Health, and Justice. Other agencies such as Health New Zealand, ACC, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People are not defined as children's agencies in legislation but play an important role in making the work of the Action Plan successful.

Wai 2915: He Pāharakeke, he Rito Whakakīkinga Whāruarua: Oranga Tamariki Inquiry, 2021
Responsible Agency: Oranga Tamariki
Status of Treaty Claim: N/A

In 2024, the Oranga Tamariki System Action Plan was refreshed and narrowed to focus on a smaller number of priority areas for the 2024/25 financial year. The priority areas and corresponding implementation initiatives are:

- *Health* – enhance visibility of children in care in the health system; implementing improvements to Gateway; ensure health and wellbeing guidance is easily accessible for caregivers; and develop guidance to support health professionals to provide more responsive health care.
- *Mental Health* – increase the mental health capability of Oranga Tamariki staff; and implement improvements of interagency collaboration at service, regional, and national levels.
- *Education* – develop a Memorandum of Understanding to define roles for student aides; and undertake a gap analysis for educational support to understand how many children in care are still not able to engage in full time education.
- *Housing* – improve transitions pathways from State Care; undertake a review of supported accommodation services delivered through the Transition Support Service; improve access to housing supports and services as an early intervention when housing instability is identified; and develop and implement guidance for young people leaving care about their responsibilities, obligations, and entitlements on accommodation support.
- *Information and data sharing* – improve information and data sharing across the children’s system; operationalise formal information sharing agreement with Ministry of Education, with a focus on regular reporting of attendance and enrolment data; establish data sharing with Corrections for transition support services for eligible young adults; and complete a Memorandum of Understanding outlining data and information sharing protocols with ACC.

Decentralising and devolving services to Iwi, Māori and communities is the long-term organisational direction of Oranga Tamariki.

During the 2024/25 year, among other initiatives, Oranga Tamariki has continued to support Enabling Communities prototype partners in order to shift decision making and resources closer to Māori and communities.⁶

One example comes from Waikato Tainui and their Mokopuna Ora project. Their 2024/25 end of year report included the following findings:

- 98 percent of mokopuna that Mokopuna Ora engaged with have successfully remained out of State Care.
- Of the 16 mokopuna who entered care, ten are with their whānau.
- Of the six that are not with whānau, Mokopuna Ora continues to support them, ensuring they remain connected to their whakapapa and cultural identity.
- There are benefits from co-location with Oranga Tamariki including improved information sharing, building trust, mutual learning opportunities for both parties, and greater numbers of whānau being referred to Mokopuna Ora.

6 Enabling Communities is a four-year programme of work, led by partners and supported by Oranga Tamariki to test and prototype opportunities to shift decision making and resources closer to Māori and communities. Partners own and lead the development, design, implementation and evaluation of their prototypes at their own pace. The role of Oranga Tamariki is to enable and implement the changes needed internally to support partner prototypes.

Wai 2915: He Pāharakeke, he Rito Whakakīkinga Whāruarua: Oranga Tamariki Inquiry, 2021**Responsible Agency: Oranga Tamariki****Status of Treaty Claim: N/A**

Improving outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi Māori remains a priority for Oranga Tamariki. Over the last year, Oranga Tamariki has:

- Worked with the other children's agencies⁷ to deliver on the Oranga Tamariki System Action Plan.
- Engaged with partners and Iwi Māori to ensure practice, policy and performance is focused on improving outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi Māori.
- Enabled more effective locally led services to provide early intervention leading to improved outcomes.
- The Implementation Plan, focusing on the organisation of core business, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of tamariki, rangatahi and whānau.
- Focused on reducing serious and persistent child and youth offending through the Reducing Youth Offending Programme. The programme is a governmental priority under third Government Target.
- Invested significantly in the Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU).
- Implemented tools and resources from the 'Practice Approach' trial to facilitate relational, inclusive, and restorative practice that benefits all Tamariki and whānau.

⁷ Oranga Tamariki, Ministry of Education; Te Whatu Ora; NZ Police, Department of Corrections, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Development.

Priority Inquiries

Wai 2200: He Kōpūtara Priority Report – Pre-publication Version, 2024

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana |
Te Tari Whakatau, Manatū Taonga

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The report concerns a claim about the Crown’s failure to grant title or access to claimants and claimant Hapū⁸ to the Kōpūtara reserve. The Kōpūtara reserve is made up of Carnarvon sections 382 and 383 and was vested in trustees (representing claimant Hapū) in 1969; the reserve is located at Lake Kōpūtara near Foxton and Hīmatangi Beach. It was set aside from the 240,000-acre Rangitikei–Manawatu purchase in 1870 but the claimants did not receive a title until 1964 or physical access until 2016. The Crown conceded that it breached the Treaty of Waitangi (the Treaty) when it failed to grant title in a timely manner, and the Tribunal also found other breaches of Treaty principles.

The Crown accepted that it failed to provide access to the Kōpūtara reserve when it granted all the land surrounding the reserve to private owners. The Crown also acknowledged that this impacted the claimants’ economic, social, and cultural well-being and their ability to exercise ownership and kaitiakitanga. Depriving the claimants of access also disrupted their cultural relationship with the lake and reserve.

The Tribunal found that the Crown’s failure to provide access, when it alone had the power to do so, was a breach of the principles of the Treaty. The prejudicial result was that the claimants had no legal access until 1998 and no physical access until 2016. The Crown covered the trustees’ legal fees in the 1980s in a long-running litigation to obtain access. The Crown accepted at that time that it should compensate the claimants and fund the construction of a right of way, but it failed to do either. The Tribunal found that this further breached Treaty principles.

The Crown also accepted that it negatively affected the environment of the reserve and Lake Kōpūtara while the claimants were locked out. The Hīmatangi Drainage Scheme was established and funded by the Crown. It over-drained the lake and contributed to serious sand drift. The Crown also accepted that the army’s use of the reserve as a live shell range in the 1940s and 1950s worsened the sand drift.

The Tribunal found that the army’s damage to the reserve, the deficient legislative framework, and the excessive drainage before, and by, the Hīmatangi Drainage Scheme were key factors in the degradation of the reserve and lake. The Kōpūtara owners were further disadvantaged because they had no title when the Hīmatangi Drainage Scheme was established and could not take action to stop sand drift even once they obtained a title due to their lack of access. The Tribunal found that the Crown failed to protect the reserve’s environment and contributed actively and significantly to the environmental degradation of the reserve and lake, which was in breach of Treaty principles.

The Tribunal found that the claimants suffered significant prejudice from these Treaty breaches. They lost access to the mahinga kai of the reserve and of Lake Kōpūtara, they lost their ability to act as kaitiaki, and they lost the ability to transmit customary knowledge to later generations. The claimants were also significantly prejudiced by the high degree of damage to the reserve and to their taonga, Lake Kōpūtara.

8 The Kōpūtara Priority Report (2024) by the Waitangi Tribunal identified the claimants as the five Hapū and marae of Ngāti Raukawa: Ngāti Parewahawaha (Ōhinepuhiawe Marae at Bulls); Ngāti Pareraukawa (Ngātōkōwaru Marae at Hōkio); Ngāti Kikopiri (Kikopiri Marae at Ōhau); Ngāti Tūranga (Paranui Marae at Foxton); and Ngāti Tukorehe (Tukorehe Marae at Kuku); see para 1.1.2.

Wai 2200: He Kōpūtara Priority Report – Pre-publication Version, 2024

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau, Manatū Taonga

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Overall, the Tribunal concluded that the Kōpūtara claim was well-founded. To remove or mitigate the harm caused by the Crown’s breaches, the Tribunal made the following recommendations:

- Limitations on access to the reserve and Laku Kōpūtara
- The Crown to take all necessary steps to enable the Kōpūtara Trustees to secure full and unrestricted access, for the entire Claimant group, to the Reserve over the adjoining lands
- The Crown to provide redress for its breach of the Treaty in not providing access by:
 - Assisting the claimants to investigate the reasons for the conditions that were agreed to back in 1998 (they may no longer apply) and whether those conditions can now be reassessed and amended by negotiation with the adjoining owner; and
 - Assisting with any negotiations by providing funding and mediation if necessary.

Remediating the environment

- The Crown meet with the claimants to discuss appropriate redress and work with them to establish a programme for restoring the environment of the reserve and of Lake Kōpūtara
- The Crown fund a joint Crown research institute, regional council, and claimant project to investigate the impacts of the Himatangi Drainage Scheme and advise on remediation for the lake.

Compensation and reimbursements

The Crown pay compensation; and reimburse Kōpūtara trustees for the costs of surveying, construction, and fencing of the accessway.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

The Crown has considered the Kōpūtara Report and its recommendations and is engaging with claimants to discuss potential next steps in addressing their grievances.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga has changed assessment processes related to section 56 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 to reflect the Tribunal’s recommendations. Other recommendations made by the Tribunal require legislative change.

Manatū Taonga is responsible for exploring possible legislative options to address any remaining issues and this could form part of a forward work programme in the future.

Wai 2575: Hautupua: Te Aka Whai Ora (Māori Health Authority) Priority Report, Part 1 – Prepublication Version, 2024

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Health | Manatū Hauora

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The report was the result of a priority inquiry granted in May 2024 into claims concerning the Crown’s disestablishment of Te Aka Whai Ora – the Māori Health Authority. These claims were previously the subject of an urgent inquiry that was vacated when the Crown introduced the Pae Ora (Disestablishment of Māori Health Authority) Amendment Bill on 27 February.

The Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) decided to inquire into and report on the priority claims in two parts: the first part concerns the disestablishment and its impacts only. The second part will focus on the Crown’s alternative plans for Māori health. Part 1 of the Te Aka Whai Ora (Māori Health Authority Health Authority) priority inquiry was conducted on the papers with no in-person hearing.

The Tribunal found that the Crown breached the principles of tino rangatiratanga, kāwanatanga, good government, partnership, active protection, and redress. The Crown did not act in good faith when disestablishing Te Aka Whai Ora as it did not consult with Māori. Without consulting its Tiriti/Treaty partner and without substantive advice from officials, the Crown decided that Te Aka Whai Ora was not required, despite knowledge of grave Māori health inequities.

Māori did not agree with the Crown’s decisions but were denied the right to self-determine what is best for them and hauora Māori. Instead, the Crown implemented its own agenda – one based on political ideology, rather than evidence – without even following its own process for the development and implementation of legislative reform. As the establishment of Te Aka Whai Ora was a form of redress for the Crown’s long-standing failure to reflect tino rangatiratanga in the health system, its unilateral decision to remove effectively took that redress away. The Tribunal found that these Tiriti/Treaty breaches caused significant prejudice to Māori.

The Tribunal recommended that the Crown commit to revisiting the option of a stand-alone Māori health authority, consult extensively with Māori in the development of any alternative plans, and always undertake proper regulatory impact analysis in matters that affect Māori health.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations No further action

On 29 November 2024, Health officials briefed the Minister of Health, Hon Dr Shane Reti, when the report was released. No further action has been progressed to date.

On the same day, the Prime Minister publicly advised that the Government did not propose to revisit the option of a stand-alone Māori health authority.

Part two of the priority inquiry focussed on the Crown’s alternative plans for Māori health. A hearing was held in May 2025 via Audio-Visual link. No report has been released as at June 2025.

Wai 2575: Haumaru: The Covid-19 Priority Report, 2021

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Health

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

In 2021, the Tribunal held a priority hearing into alleged breaches of Te Tiriti arising from the Covid-19 vaccination strategy and the early transition to the Covid-19 Protection Framework (the Framework).

The Tribunal found:

- Breaches of active protection and equity through insufficient data collection by the Crown
- Cabinet’s decision to reject its own officials’ advice to adopt an age-adjustment for Māori in the vaccine rollout breached active protection and equity
- The transition to the Framework breached the principles of active protection, equity, tino rangatiratanga, options, and partnership, and placed Māori at a disproportionate risk of contracting Covid-19
- The Crown did not co-design the vaccine strategy or the Framework with Māori, which further breached tino rangatiratanga and partnership
- Lasting and immediate prejudice to Māori due to these Te Tiriti breaches.

To amend the above breaches, the Tribunal issued a range of recommendations:

- The Crown urgently provide further funding, resourcing, Māori health and vaccination data, and other support to help Māori providers and communities address issues arising from the pandemic
- The Crown improve its collection of quantitative and qualitative ethnicity data relevant to Māori health outcomes, and (in partnership with Māori) in the quality of data on tangata whaikaha and whānau hauā
- The Crown strengthen its monitoring programme and partner with Māori to establish what should be monitored and how it should be reported
- The Crown partner with Māori to design and implement an equitable paediatric and booster vaccine sequencing framework for Māori
- Conduct future engagement with Māori and the national collective in accordance with specified, Treaty based principles.

The Tribunal concluded that until the Crown ensures an equitable vaccine rollout, it will remain in active breach of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Wai 2575: Haumarū: The Covid-19 Priority Report, 2021	
Responsible Agency: Ministry of Health	
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress

The phase one report for the Covid Commission of Inquiry was released in November 2024.

The report identified the lessons that can be learned from Aotearoa New Zealand’s response to Covid-19 between February 2020 and October 2022 and use these lessons to make recommendations for how the country should prepare for any future pandemic. They found 6 recommendations which are:

- Strengthen all-of-government coordination and accountability for pandemic preparedness
- Ensure an all-of-government pandemic plan, response structure and supporting processes are developed and ready for a pandemic response
- Strengthen the public health measures that may be required in a pandemic
- Ensure all sectors are prepared for a pandemic and ready to respond
- Ensure enablers are in place
- Implement the inquiry’s recommendations.

Phase two report and inquiry update

This phase is set to be completed in 2026 at which point a report will be released.

The New Zealand Pandemic Plan

The New Zealand Pandemic Plan (interim update) was published on 12 July 2024⁹ by the Ministry of Health.

The updated pandemic plan covers the health response. It does not cover the all-of-government or wider societal response to a pandemic. It is also one tool for developing the health system’s preparedness and complements preparedness work across health services and wider society.

The purpose of this plan is to outline the health system and wider all-of-government measures that relevant agencies will consider in response to a pandemic caused by a respiratory pathogen and to provide an overview of the activities they undertake to ensure New Zealand is adequately prepared for a pandemic or events with pandemic potential.

An enduring feature of all the actions identified within the plan will be a strong focus on Pae Ora, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, proportionality, equity and advice that is grounded in science.

9 [New Zealand Pandemic Plan: A framework for action.](#)

Wai 2200: Horowhenua: The Muaūpoko Priority Report, 2017

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal recommended that the Crown negotiate with Muaūpoko a Treaty settlement that will address the harm suffered, and that the settlement include a contemporary Muaūpoko governance structure with responsibility for the administration of the settlement.

The Tribunal further recommended that the Crown legislate as soon as possible for a contemporary Muaūpoko governance structure to act as kaitiaki for Lake Horowhenua and the Hōkio Stream, and associated waters and fisheries, following negotiations with the Lake Horowhenua Trustees, the lakebed owners, and all Muaūpoko on the detail.

The Tribunal recommended that the Crown provide to the new Lake Horowhenua Muaūpoko governance structure annual appropriations to assist it to meet its kaitiaki obligations in accordance with its legislative obligations.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

No progress update for the 2024/25 reporting year.

Wai 2336: Matua Rautia: The Report on the Kōhanga Reo Claim, 2013**Responsible Agency: Ministry of Education****Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A****Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

The urgent inquiry was triggered by the publication in 2011 of the report of the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Taskforce, which, the claimants said, they had not been consulted on and had seriously damaged their reputation. They argued that the report, and Government policy development based on it, would cause irreparable harm to the kōhanga reo movement.

The Tribunal endorsed the conclusion of the Wai 262 report that urgent steps were needed to address recent Crown policy failures if te reo Māori is to survive. The Tribunal noted that survival requires both Treaty partners – Māori and the Crown – to collaborate in taking whatever reasonable steps are required to achieve the shared aim of assuring the long-term health of te reo Māori as a taonga of Māori.

It recommended that the Crown, through the Prime Minister, appoint an interim advisor to oversee the implementation of the Tribunal's recommendations to redevelop the engagement between Government agencies and the Trust.

The Tribunal recommended that the Crown, through the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the independent advisor, oversee the urgent completion of a work programme addressing:

- A policy framework for kōhanga reo
- Policy and targets for increasing participation and reducing waiting lists
- Identification of measures for maintaining and improving the quality in kōhanga reo
- Supportive funding for kōhanga reo and the Trust
- Provision of capital funding to ensure that kōhanga reo can meet the standards for relicensing
- Support for the Trust to develop the policy capability to collaborate with Government in policy development for kōhanga reo.

The Tribunal further recommended that the Crown discuss and collaborate with the Trust to scope and commission research on the kōhanga reo model.

The Crown, through TPK, the Ministry of Education, and the Trust, must inform Māori whānau of the relative benefits for mokopuna in attending kōhanga reo for te reo Māori and education outcomes.

Finally, the Tribunal recommended that the Crown formally acknowledge and apologise to the Trust and kōhanga reo for the failure of its ECE policies to sufficiently provide for kōhanga reo. The Crown should also agree to meet the reasonable legal expenses of the Trust in bringing this claim.

Wai 2336: Matua Rautia: The Report on the Kōhanga Reo Claim, 2013	
Responsible Agency: Ministry of Education	
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
The Crown continues to support the kaimahi pay scheme and further strengthens this with Budget 2025 by providing \$4.1 million to help meet increasing ICT costs and to strengthen data capability. This initiative supports the sustainability and data capability of the Kōhanga Reo Network. 17% of all tamariki Māori attending early learning services are enrolled with Kōhanga Reo, equating to approximately 8,500 children. This funding equips Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust to assist Kōhanga with: · their mandatory data submissions · meeting the requirements of the kaimahi pay scheme · the transition to the Early learning Information System. In addition, improving the quality and consistency of data collection will strengthen the understanding of learner pathways through Kaupapa Māori Education settings. The Crown remains in discussions with Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust to advance matters related to the Wai 2336 claim.	

Remedies Inquiries

Wai 814: The Mangatū Remedies Report, 2021

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Mangatū Remedies Report concerns remedy applications filed by groups affected by Crown Te Tiriti breaches in the Tūranga (Poverty Bay) district. These breaches were earlier identified in the Tribunal’s 2004 Tūranga inquiry and included the Crown’s acquisition of parts of the land now comprising the Mangatū Crown Forest. At that time, the Tribunal made no recommendations, giving rise to the remedy’s applications.

In the 2021 Remedies Report, the Tribunal made an interim recommendation that the Mangatū Crown Forest licensed land be returned to Māori ownership under section 8HB of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 for claims throughout the district. Additionally, the Tribunal indicated the claimants should receive the entirety of the compensation available under clause 3, schedule 1 of the Crown Forest Assets Act 1989.

The Tribunal made general non-binding recommendations, including that the Crown issue a joint historical report and Crown apology and negotiate additional redress with the claimant groups.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

In this reporting period, the Court of Appeal had not yet issued its judgment on the Crown’s and other parties’ appeals of the High Court’s judgment.

Work in relation to the Tribunal’s recommendations is on hold pending the outcome of the judicial review proceedings.

Kaupapa Inquiries

Wai 3300: Ngā Mātāpono/The Principles: The Interim Report of the Tomokia Ngā Tatau o Matangireia – The Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry Panel on The Crown’s Treaty Principles Bill and Treaty Clause Review Policies, 2024

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

This interim report from the Waitangi Tribunal (the Tribunal) addresses urgent claims concerning two Crown policies: the Treaty Principles Bill and the Treaty Clause Review. These policies originate from coalition agreements between the New Zealand National Party, ACT New Zealand Party, and New Zealand First Party, dated 24 November 2023. They have since become formal Crown policy, with implementation directed by the Cabinet Office Circular of 25 March 2024.

The Tribunal found that both policies undermine the foundational Treaty relationship between Māori and the Crown. The Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi established a partnership between these two parties, recognising the spheres of tino rangatiratanga and kāwanatanga. The Cabinet Manual also acknowledges the Treaty’s constitutional significance. However, the Crown’s unilateral decision to pursue the Treaty Principles Bill disregards this partnership. The policy was developed without any engagement with Māori, despite its constitutional importance and widespread opposition from Māori communities.

The Tribunal concludes that the Treaty Principles Bill is based on a flawed rationale. It addresses a problem that does not exist, relies on a misleading historical narrative, and distorts the language and intent of the Treaty. The policy is discriminatory and breaches several Treaty principles, including partnership, active protection, good government, equity, and redress. It also violates the article 2 guarantee of tino rangatiratanga and the Crown’s duty to act honourably and in good faith.

Similarly, the Treaty Clause Review policy was found to be predetermined and likely to result in the repeal or amendment of Treaty clauses. This would reduce protections for Māori and limit their ability to access justice and realise their Treaty rights. The Crown failed to engage with Māori on this policy, breaching the principles of equity, redress, and active protection. Removing or limiting Treaty protections is a clear breach of the Crown’s obligations.

The Tribunal concludes that both policies are inconsistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi. When considered together, they reflect a concerning pattern of the Crown using policy and parliamentary processes against Māori, rather than upholding its Treaty obligations. The combined impact of these policies is highly prejudicial to Māori.

The Tribunal recommended that:

- the Treaty Principles Bill policy should be abandoned
- the Crown should constitute a Cabinet Māori-Crown relations committee that has oversight of the Crown’s Treaty/Te Tiriti policies and do not consider it appropriate that these matters are considered by the Social Outcomes Cabinet Committee
- the Treaty clause review policy be put on hold while it is re-conceptualised through collaboration and co-design engagement with Māori
- the Crown consider a process in partnership with Māori to undo the damage to the Māori-Crown relationship and restore confidence in the honour of the Crown.

Wai 3300: Ngā Mātāpono/The Principles: The Interim Report of the Tomokia Ngā Tatau o Matangireia – The Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry Panel on The Crown’s Treaty Principles Bill and Treaty Clause Review Policies, 2024

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations No further action

Treaty Principles Bill (the Bill)

The Crown did not adopt the Tribunal’s recommendation to abandon the Bill or to refer it to the Tribunal under section 8(2) of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975,

The Bill had its first reading on 14 November 2024 and was referred to Parliament’s Justice Select Committee for consideration. The Committee released its report on 4 April 2025.

The Bill was voted down at its second reading in Parliament on 10 April 2025.

Treaty Clause Review (the Review)

The Crown did not adopt the Tribunal’s recommendation to pause the Review and reconceptualise it in collaboration with Māori.

In September 2024, Cabinet agreed to progress the review, agreeing to its purpose and scope. In May 2025 Cabinet made further decisions relating to the Review’s scope, governance, and assessment framework.

Wai 1718: Kei Ahotea Te Aho Matua, 2025

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal found the Crown breached Treaty principles of partnership and active protection in several instances during the Tomorrow’s Schools review and reform. It found the Crown’s process throughout lacking – from the decision to initiate the review in 2018 through to the August 2022 education report that provided reform options for the Minister and Associate Minister of Education. These findings, and the relevant factual narrative, are set out in detail in chapters 4 and 5 of the report. A consistent theme the Tribunal found was insufficient involvement of the claimants in key policy development steps, and very poor communication from the Crown on the direction of policy work.

The Tribunal found that the Crown’s policy arrangements in the wake of the Tomorrow’s Schools reforms breach the Crown’s Treaty obligations to Kura Kaupapa Māori Te Aho Matua in two critical ways. Firstly, the Crown failed to implement bespoke policy and strategy to address the needs of Kura Kaupapa Māori. This was in breach of the principles of partnership, active protection, equity, and options.

Secondly, the Tribunal found current arrangements breach Treaty principles of partnership and active protection because power to make final decisions on policy settings affecting Kura Kaupapa Māori is not shared with Te Rūnanga Nui, who act on behalf of Kura Kaupapa Māori Te Aho Matua whānau.

The Crown’s breaches caused considerable prejudice to the claimants, including that the claimants do not have the powers they should, under the Treaty partnership, to shape policy applicable to Kura Kaupapa Māori Te Aho Matua.

To remedy this harm, the Tribunal made several recommendations, including that the Crown work with the claimants to develop specific policies for Kura Kaupapa Māori Te Aho Matua in areas like property, curriculum support, and network planning. In the longer term, the Tribunal recommended that the Crown commit to establishing a stand-alone Kaupapa Māori education authority, the precise scope and functions of which are to be developed with Māori stakeholders, including the claimants.

Wai 1718: Kei Ahotea Te Aho Matua, 2025**Responsible Agency:** Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga**Status of the Treaty Claim:** N/A**Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations****In progress**

Within the reporting year, the main contributing activities by the Crown included:

- Working on a process for restoring the relationship with Te Rūnanga Nui through regular engagement and a restorative process.
- Developing a shared work programme on an agreed set of priorities. The Minister of Education works with Te Matakahuki¹⁰ on the shared work programme while Te Tāhuhu officials engage directly with Te Rūnanga Nui.
- Working with Te Rūnanga Nui through the Kura Oversight Group on revising and updating the Kura Kaupapa Māori establishment service guide.
- Working on a tuakana/teina guide between kura; and are organising training for regional staff on how to interpret and utilise the revised Kura Kaupapa Māori establishment service guide information and guidance.
- Organising regional training for public servants on how to interpret and utilise the revised Kura Kaupapa Māori establishment service guide information and guidance.
- Collaborating with Te Rūnanga Nui on the design of fit-for-purpose classroom typologies and layouts. This collaboration ensures cost-effective, space-efficient teaching environments aligned with Kaupapa Māori education practice.
- By the end of Q4 2024/25, 50 Māori Medium Education/Kaupapa Māori Education projects had received construction funding to deliver 169 additional or replacement teaching spaces. 25 projects have been completed, delivering 59 new or replacement teaching spaces.
- \$45.5M was spent on the Māori Medium Education Programme in the 24/25 Financial Year.

Budget 2025 provided funding for Kura Kaupapa Māori through:

- \$50 million of capital funding to increase capacity within the Kaupapa Māori and Māori Medium Education network by up to 50 teaching spaces. This supports the Government's commitment to improving outcomes for Māori students through the Māori Education Action Plan. It will also provide access to immersion schooling for ākonga in areas not served by a complete immersion education pathway.
- \$36.136 million over four years to support five programmes of work to boost teacher skills and confidence in teaching redesigned curriculum content, support ākonga in Kaupapa Māori and Māori-medium education to have more meaningful engagement with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

The Crown continued to work with Te Rūnanga Nui to advance matters related to the WAI 1718 claim.

¹⁰ Te Matakahuki is a collective of organisations that includes Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust, Te Rūnanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa, Ngā Kura-ā-Iwi o Aotearoa, and Te Taihū o Ngā Wānanga. They have been collaborating since 2020 to address the future of Kaupapa Māori education. The collective has a history of exceeding expectations and producing quality learner outcomes through Kaupapa Māori education at all levels. They are committed to addressing the negative impact of western education on Māori people and their communities.

Wai 3060: Report on Whakatika ki Runga, a Mini-Inquiry Commencing Te Rau o te Tika: The Justice System Inquiry – Pre-publication Version, 2023
Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice
Relevant Agency: Ministry for the Environment
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal Report on Whakatika ki Runga is the result of a mini-inquiry into the Crown’s approach to funding the participation of claimants engaging in Tribunal proceedings. The mini-inquiry is the first stage of a larger inquiry into the justice system.

The Tribunal found that the Crown breached the principles of partnership, active protection, good government, and equity as it:

- Did not develop nor implement a robust funding model for claimant funding for kaupapa and urgent inquiries
- Has taken too long to address this issue
- Has failed to engage appropriately with Māori in developing a funding policy for claimants in the Tribunal.

The Tribunal additionally found that the Crown had breached the Treaty guarantee of rangatiratanga over taonga regarding translations from Te Reo Māori, and breached the principles of partnership, good government, and active protection as:

- The different and inconsistent rules leading agencies apply to funding claimants in kaupapa inquiries do not work for claimants. This has (and continues) to affect claimant participation. Funding claimants through lead agencies is ineffective and the Crown failed to fix this
- In the context of funding claimants in Tribunal inquiries, the Crown did not seek alternatives to payment by reimbursement regarding funding claims in inquiries
- Current processes do not support the ability of participants in inquiries to have their evidence and submissions translated without cost or inconvenience to them.

The Tribunal identified limitations that, collectively, adversely affect claimants’ access to justice and put the Crown in breach of the principle of active protection. Specifically, it found that:

- The financial requirements in the Legal Services Act 2011 are inappropriate for claimants in the Waitangi Tribunal jurisdiction, and may deter claimants who would be ineligible if those exacting requirements were applied
- Defining ‘legal services’ differently in the Tribunal jurisdiction is pointless and discriminatory, and could mean that claimants cannot get legal assistance in areas where they need it
- Reports under s 49 of the Legal Services Act 2011 are not in fact necessary for the commissioner to approve grants of legal aid in the Tribunal jurisdiction and the time they take causes unacceptable delays in decisions about grants
- Interim legal aid should be available for claimants in Tribunal proceedings
- It is unfair that the administrative effort required to apply for and manage legal aid in this jurisdiction is not reimbursed
- References in sections 11(3) and 16(4) of the 2011 Act to the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 are confusing
- The criteria for expert witnesses do not take into account the different circumstances of experts in te Ao Māori, and do not provide for the circumstances when persons may need to be regarded as expert witnesses even though they are associated with the claimants
- The guidelines for applying for and managing legal aid are inadequate and not comprehensive.

Wai 3060: Report on Whakatika ki Runga, a Mini-Inquiry Commencing Te Rau o te Tika: The Justice System Inquiry – Pre-publication Version, 2023

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice

Relevant Agency: Ministry for the Environment

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

In the long-term, the Tribunal recommended that the Crown and Māori engage in a process to design a suitable system to fund Tribunal claimants in inquiries where there is no other claimant funding.

In the short-term, the Tribunal recommended that the Crown urgently requires lead agencies to adopt a common set of protocols based on the Mana Wāhine General Claimant Funding Policy, with one minor variation; to develop arrangements that do not depend on claimants submitting receipts for reimbursement; and take all necessary steps to ensure that the Waitangi Tribunal Unit provides for all evidence and submissions filed in Te Reo Māori to be translated as of right without cost or inconvenience to the claimant or creator of the document.

The Tribunal have no recommendations in relation to the Legal Services Act 2011, however, the Tribunal has recommended that the commissioner:

- Examine and amend the documents *Granting Aid for Waitangi Tribunal Matters – Operational Policy and Legal Aid Services Grants Handbook* to make them comprehensive, and descriptive of the actual process for assessing eligibility and managing legal aid grants to Tribunal claimants.
- Work with the director of the Waitangi Tribunal Unit to streamline the production of section 49 reports (as far as possible within the present legislative settings) and develop the office's protocol on expert witness called by claimants to ensure that they are clear, culturally appropriate, and workable.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

Claimant Funding

Work to determine what next steps are required to design a long-term funding system is currently on hold. The interim claimant funding policy mandated by the previous Government remains in place and addresses the urgent need to have a consistent Crown approach to funding in place as many kaupapa inquiries are underway.

Legal Aid Services

On 19 August 2024, Legal Aid Services completed the full implementation of operational improvements in response to the Tribunal's recommendations. All recommended changes have now been put in place:

- A change in processes between Legal Aid Services, the lawyer, and the Tribunal to speed up the time taken to make a decision on a grant of aid.
- Amended the expert witness criteria to enable an expert witness who has provided evidence to the Tribunal in that capacity previously to be automatically approved, without seeking further information. This will reduce the administrative burden on the lawyer as well as expediting the grant. The legal aid lawyer will still be required to prove that the expert is necessary and relevant to progress the claim.
- The operational policy and the Legal Aid Services Grant Handbook have been updated to include the above changes and to reflect current practice. A separate factsheet has also been created to provide claimants with more information on how legal aid funding works for Waitangi Tribunal claims.

Wai 3060: Report on Whakatika ki Runga, a Mini-Inquiry Commencing Te Rau o te Tika: The Justice System Inquiry – Pre-publication Version, 2023
Responsible Agency: Ministry of Justice
Relevant Agency: Ministry for the Environment
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Te Reo Māori Translations

This recommendation has been implemented. In September 2024, funding was provisioned for translation of evidence and submissions from te reo Māori (and vice versa) in the Tribunal.

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) has responded to the short-term recommendations in Whakatika ki Runga by developing and implementing claimant funding policies to give effect to the Crown interim claimant funding policy published by the Ministry of Justice. The policies apply to all Tribunal inquiries that MfE is a lead agency for (Wai 2358, Wai 3325 and Wai 3450)

As recommended by the Tribunal, MfE covers actual and reasonable costs for travel, accommodation, meals and preparatory hui. MfE uses a travel management supplier so that costs can be covered upfront and funding does not depend on claimants submitting receipts for reimbursement.

Wai 2750: Kāinga Kore: The Stage One Report of the Housing Policy and Services Kaupapa Inquiry on Māori Homelessness – Pre-publication Version, 2024

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Relevant Agencies: Te Puni Kōkiri / Ministry of Māori Development, Ministry of Social Development, Statistics New Zealand, Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, Department of Corrections, Oranga Tamariki, Ministry of Health, The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Stage One report is limited to the issues contained in the statement of issues for Stage One, being the Crown's strategies and policies concerning Māori homelessness 2009-2021. The Tribunal described its analysis as "significantly constrained" by the interconnection of homelessness to many housing matters it had not yet inquired into. Nonetheless, the Tribunal made certain breach findings in respect of matters where there had been a clear picture of the Crown's actions and omissions.

Specifically, the Tribunal found as follows:

- The Crown breached its Treaty duty of consultation through Statistics New Zealand's failure to consult with Māori in the development of its homelessness definition in 2009. It also further failed to rectify this in the following years.
- The Crown failed to adequately collect data on homelessness in New Zealand, breaching both principles of good government and active protection.
- The Crown conceded it had breached the Treaty in the 'early part' of the inquiry period through its inadequate response to homelessness. The Tribunal considered that this concession covered the period till at least the first half of 2016. Specifically, the Tribunal found that the Crown breached the principle of active protection by not providing homeless Māori with housing that meets a range of basic standards in terms of amenities, comfort, and security. In addition, the Crown breached the principle of equity through the growing overrepresentation of Māori in the population of people with unmet housing needs, and the Crown breached the principle of good government by failing to implement or monitor progress with He Whare Āhuru (the Māori Housing Strategy).
- The Crown breached the principle of partnership by the narrowness of its consultation over the Homelessness Action Plan and the Māori and Iwi Housing Innovation (MAIHI) Framework.
- The ongoing fragmentation and congestion in the housing system were undermining Māori housing ambitions. The Tribunal found this to be a breach of good government for at least the majority of the period 2009-2021.
- As the Crown conceded in the Oranga Tamariki inquiry, it has failed over a long period to reform the welfare system in order to improve outcomes for Māori; at a minimum, the Tribunal found this to be a breach of the principle of good government.

With specific regard to rangatahi homelessness, the Tribunal found that the Crown had breached the principle of active protection in its failure to take vigorous action to protect this vulnerable group. The Tribunal also found that the Crown has breached the principle of good government through its failure to obtain adequate data on rangatahi homelessness.

Recommendation

The Tribunal made one recommendation: that the Crown and Māori should work together in partnership to co-design a new definition of homelessness.

Wai 2750: Kāinga Kore: The Stage One Report of the Housing Policy and Services Kaupapa Inquiry on Māori Homelessness – Pre-publication Version, 2024

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Relevant Agencies: Te Puni Kōkiri / Ministry of Māori Development, Ministry of Social Development, Statistics New Zealand, Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, Department of Corrections, Oranga Tamariki, Ministry of Health, The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations In progress

The Crown has developed advice on process options to address the Tribunal’s recommendation to review the definition of homelessness. Working collectively across Crown agencies – including Statistics New Zealand and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development – the Crown is developing an approach to undertake the review.

This work includes collaborating with Statistics New Zealand, which is establishing a Homeless and Transient Population Data Working Group to support HUD’s review of the homelessness definition and to inform future homelessness data collection and measurement approaches.

Wai 2870: He Aha I Pērā Ai The Māori Prisoners Voting Report, 2020**Responsible agencies:** Ministry of Justice, Department of Corrections**Status of the Treaty Claim:** N/A**Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

This inquiry related to three claims that sought the repeal of section 80(1)(d) of the Electoral Act 1993 and was heard under urgency in May 2019. The Crown accepted that the enactment of this section of the Act has had a significantly disproportionate impact on Māori since 2010 when it was amended to exclude sentenced prisoners from registering as an elector and extend an existing voting ban to include all prisoners incarcerated at the time of a general election.

The Tribunal found that the Crown had acted inconsistently with the Treaty principles of partnership, kāwanatanga, tino rangatiratanga, active protection, and equity, and that its actions prejudicially affected Māori.

Recommendations included:

- Urgent amendments to legislation to remove the disqualification of all prisoners from voting, irrespective of their sentence. A return to the law as it was before 15 December 2010 is not recommended because even that law disproportionately affected Māori.
- The Crown start a process immediately to enable and encourage all sentenced prisoners and all released prisoners to be enrolled in time for the general election in 2020. This process needs to include providing electoral information to all prisoners and, where possible, released prisoners through media accessible and appropriate to their needs, and in te reo Māori and English.
- A process is implemented for ensuring that Crown officials provide properly informed advice on the likely impact that any Bill, including members' Bills, will have on the Crown's Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations**Completed**

On 14 April 2025, the Government agreed to the introduction of a Bill to amend the Electoral Act 1993 to disqualify all sentenced prisoners who are detained in prison from enrolling and voting. Following a period of reform, this change represents a return to the policy and legislative settings that applied prior to 2020, which were the subject of an urgent Waitangi Tribunal inquiry in 2019 and found to be inconsistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The proposed amendments reflect the Government's commitment to placing greater emphasis on personal responsibility and accountability.

The disqualification of sentenced prisoners from enrolling and voting will not apply retrospectively. Sentenced prisoners who, immediately before the Bill commences, have a statutory right to enrol and vote will retain that right for the duration of their current sentence. Prisoners who are already disqualified from enrolling and voting under existing legislation will remain disqualified.

The amendments are expected to progress through the Electoral Amendment Bill 2025 in July 2025.

Wai 2575: Hauora Report on Stage One of the Health Service and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry, 2019

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Health

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The stage one report focuses on the legislative, strategic and policy framework that administers New Zealand’s primary health care system, including in particular the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000, the New Zealand Health Strategy, the Primary Health Care Strategy and He Korowai Oranga, the Māori Health Strategy.

The Tribunal concluded the primary health care framework fails to state consistently a commitment to achieving equity of health outcomes for Māori. The Tribunal was also critical of the ‘Treaty clause’ in the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and that the articulation of Treaty principles in health system documents was out of date.

In the context of primary health care, the Tribunal also found deficiencies in funding, data collection, performance, and accountability mechanisms, and in decision-making and Māori representation for the design and delivery of services. It found that the Act’s provision for Māori representatives on district health boards does not fully reflect the principle of partnership, and that some boards do not prioritise cultural competency as a skillset intrinsic to their governance processes and responsibilities.

The Tribunal made a number of recommendations. The two overarching recommendations were that the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act and its associated policies and strategies be amended to:

- Give effect to Treaty principles and ensure that those principles are part of what guides the primary health care sector; and
- Include an objective for the health sector to achieve equitable health outcomes for Māori.

In relation to structural reform of the primary health care system, the Tribunal made an interim recommendation that the Crown and the stage one claimants work together to develop terms of reference to explore the concept of a stand-alone Māori primary health care authority.

The Tribunal released an additional final chapter of the stage 1 Hauora report in 2021. The final chapter reviewed and finalised the three interim recommendations made when the stage 1 report was initially released in 2019.

In reviewing progress on these interim recommendations, the Tribunal noted the Crown’s health system reforms and the establishment of a Māori Health Authority earlier in 2021. It called on the Crown to keep working with Māori to create a health care system that aligns with tino rangatiratanga. However, on the second interim recommendation – relating to the development of a methodology to assess the extent of underfunding of Māori primary health organisations – the Tribunal noted a lack of progress which it said was compounding the prejudice Māori have suffered. It therefore reiterated the urgent need to agree an underfunding methodology without further delay.

Wai 2575: Hauora Report on Stage One of the Health Service and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry, 2019	
Responsible Agency: Ministry of Health	
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
No progress update for the 2024/25 reporting year.	

Wai 2540: Tū Mai te Rangi! Report on the Crown and Disproportionate Reoffending Rates, 2017

Responsible Agency: Department of Corrections

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

Among the Tribunal’s recommendations was that the Department of Corrections revise the Māori Advisory Board’s terms of reference to enhance the board’s influence in high-level discussions with the Department of Corrections concerning the protection of Māori interests. The Tribunal recommended that there should be a continuing focus on widening Iwi membership of this board.

It recommended that the department work with the enhanced board to design and implement a new Māori-specific strategic framework and that it set and commit to Māori-specific targets for the department to reduce Māori reoffending rates substantially and within reasonable timeframes. Progress towards this target should, the Tribunal said, be regularly and publicly reported on. The Tribunal also said the Crown must include a dedicated budget to appropriately resource the new strategic focus on Māori.

The Tribunal recommended that the department provide greater Treaty-awareness training for senior staff in order to incorporate mātauranga Māori into departmental culture, practice, and operations.

Finally, the Tribunal recommended that the Corrections Act 2004 be amended to state the Crown’s Treaty obligations to Māori due to their disproportionate presence in correctional facilities.

The Tribunal has recommended not only greater levels of partnership between the Department and Māori, but also a re-orientation of the Department’s approach to Māori re-offending.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

Cultural Capability Plan

The Department of Corrections (the Department) has a dedicated Cultural Capability team responsible for delivering the organisation’s Cultural Capability Plan (the Plan) in alignment with wider Justice Sector partners.

The Plan focuses on strengthening Māori–Crown relations capability across five competency areas and three competency levels. It also includes Pasifika and intercultural competencies, recognising Aotearoa New Zealand’s increasingly diverse population and the over representation of Māori and Pasifika in the criminal justice system.

The Plan is implemented across the Department through multiple delivery teams whose initiatives, activities, and capability products are anchored to the Plan to ensure a strategically aligned approach. In this way, the Crown strengthens cultural capability not only through training but also through the day to day operational practice of its staff.

The Department, acting on behalf of the Crown, maintains a nationwide workforce with strong cultural expertise. These staff operate using an integrated pathways methodology supported by the Manaaki Practice Tool, which is grounded in tikanga Māori and the Department’s values and is specifically designed to enhance practice with Māori.

The Crown also provides te reo Māori and tikanga training through the Department’s te reo Māori Language Strategy. This training is available to all staff, and frontline custodial and probation staff who are proficient te reo Māori speakers may receive a special allowance in recognition of their capability.

Wai 2540: Tū Mai te Rangi! Report on the Crown and Disproportionate Reoffending Rates, 2017**Responsible Agency:** Department of Corrections**Status of the Treaty Claim:** N/A**Te Ara Tika**

The Crown has recently completed a review of Ara Tika to refresh key content, including strengthening elements that reflect the Department's kaupapa Māori values and its history. As part of this review, the Crown has confirmed that all new staff must attend Ara Tika.

Corrections Officer Development Pathway

The Corrections Officer Development Pathway (CODP) commences post-Ara Tika and is the core training programme for Corrections Officers, a 10-week programme of learning hosted both at the National Learning Centre (NLC) and in prisons.

The programme involves classroom-based teaching combined with practical learning and observations, including a visit to a local marae.

Revised the terms of reference of the Māori Advisory Board

In April 2025, the decision was taken to disestablish Te Poari Hautū Rautaki Māori.

The Departments Chief Executive maintains a positive relationship with Iwi leaders. Through Te Ara Whakamua (department restructure) the Department has established an expanded regional network of senior leaders and specialist advisors to build stronger local-level relationships with mana whenua, Hapū and Iwi, Māori-led service providers and Māori communities. This approach is still bedding in, but the Department is already seeing the strong collaborations between mana whenua representatives and the department's operational leadership at sites such as Tongariro, Spring Hill, Ngawha, Arohata, Hawke's Bay and Waikeria.

The Department also has specialist groups who engage with Iwi on a range of other matters including environmental management and consenting, property development and other commercial ventures. Moreover, the Department participates in the Crown's Treaty of Waitangi claims negotiations as required with Iwi, and in Crown-Iwi post settlement relationship forums.

Include measurable targets in Hōkai Rangi and relationship agreements

Measuring and tracking progress is, and will continue to be, critically important to achieving the Departments strategic aspirations and organisational outcomes. The Performance Framework is a key organisational artefact the Department uses to drive delivery of Hōkai Rangi. It describes the connection between the Departments purpose, and what the Department does day to day, defines the outcomes they are working towards, and the supporting measures to assess achievement against those outcomes.

The Performance Framework enables the Department to measure, monitor and report on overall performance, uncovering insights about what's working well and where the need to adjust or direct more effort. Importantly, it also allows the Department to specifically track performance for Māori.

The Performance Framework is in the early stages of implementation with development and testing of new measures still required. The Performance Framework measures will be refined over time as part of assessing the Departments performance.

Wai 2540: Tū Mai te Rangi! Report on the Crown and Disproportionate Reoffending Rates, 2017

Responsible Agency: Department of Corrections

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

As outlined in the Departments Strategic Intentions 2025–2029, the Department measures outcomes and impact on reoffending at a high level, by the Rehabilitation Quotient, the Recidivism indices, the Reoffending Seriousness Measure, and the Proportion of people in management that identify as Māori. The Department also measures the performance of various important aspects of its core functions, against the expectations set out in the Estimates of Appropriations – Vote Corrections.

Settled

A refresh of Hōkai Rangi was completed in 2024. Hōkai Rangi remains the department-wide strategy and enables the Department to strategically focus on reducing Māori overrepresentation. It is envisaged that the entirety of Corrections budget is used to achieve the long-term goals of the strategy.

Hōkai Rangi is a long-term and ambitious strategy that cannot be achieved by the Department alone, given the various and complex reasons why individuals may come under its management. The strategy sets out the Department’s commitment to delivering improved outcomes with and for Māori and ultimately aims to reduce the proportion of Māori in its management to a level that reflects the Māori share of the general population. It was informed by staff, people with lived experience, Māori and Iwi stakeholder partners, and the recommendations and feedback of external monitoring agencies.

Six Pou remain at the centre of the strategy, setting out the Department’s vision for an effective corrections system – one that supports the realisation of the organisation’s outcomes and, in turn, the Department’s purpose.

The six Pou are:

- Partnership and leadership
- Whakapapa
- Humanising and healing
- Whānau
- Incorporating a te ao Māori worldview
- Foundations for participation.

The Pou help guide staff to do things differently, and provide the foundations for change by:

- Shaping the way the Department works, partner, and deliver services that are intentional, people-centred, and strengths based
- Recognising Māori culture, people, and perspectives
- Treating people humanely and improving their physical and mental wellbeing
- Recognising the importance of culture and identity to wellbeing, connection, and participation
- Setting the standards and holding the Department accountable for what people will see and experience.

Amendments to the Corrections Act

Work on the Amendments to the Corrections Act was completed in 2024.

Wai 2417: Whaia te Mana Motuhake/ In Pursuit of Mana Motuhake: Report on the Māori Community Development Act Claim, 2015

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal recommended that any future review of the Māori Community Development Act be led by Māori – specifically the New Zealand Māori Council, in coordination with regional and urban Iwi authorities, and bodies like District Māori Councils, Māori Wardens, the Iwi Chairs Forum, Māori Women’s Welfare League, and the Kiingitanga.

The Tribunal suggested that the review take the Kōhanga Reo review model, and through this report, could recommend the future directions of the New Zealand Māori Council (NZMC) and the institutions and kaupapa it is responsible for.

The Crown’s role would be to resource the review process and support the amendment process to the 1962 Act. It would also need to ensure that the review led by the New Zealand Māori Council was robust and the reforms were widely supported.

The Tribunal found that all reasonable costs flowing from the review and consultation process should be met by the Crown. The Crown should commit, through legislative amendment, to reasonable funding to give effect to the resulting strategic direction and to maintain the structure of the representative national body that is determined through the consultation process.

The Tribunal further recommended that the Māori wardens project continue but that an interim advisory group or governance board be appointed from among the New Zealand Māori Council and Māori wardens to provide Māori community oversight of the funding, training, and other support delivered under the project.

The Tribunal also recommended that the Crown enter discussions with the New Zealand Māori Council for reimbursement of legal costs incurred by the New Zealand Māori Council that have not been covered by legal aid.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

A Māori Purposes Bill (the **Bill**) was introduced on 9 December 2024 and proposes minor, technical and non-controversial amendments to legislation relating to Māori affairs, including the Māori Community Development Act 1962 (the **Act**). These amendments were developed in consultation with the New Zealand Māori Council.

On 12 February 2025, the Bill was referred to the Māori Affairs Committee (the Committee) for their consideration. The Committee will present their report on the Bill in July 2025.

Wai 2358: The Stage 2 Report on the National Freshwater and Geothermal Resources Claim, 2019

Responsible Agency: Ministry for the Environment

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal’s stage 2 report covered both Resource Management Act (RMA) and policy reforms between 2009-2017. It recognised that the Crown’s efforts to acknowledge and provide for Māori rights and interests through “Te Mana o te Wai” in the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management, and the ‘Mana Whakahono ā Rohe’ mechanism in the RMA, while being good first steps, do not go far enough.

The Tribunal noted that the Crown and claimants agreed on a number of key points, however despite this, the Crown’s position continued to be that ‘no one owns the water’.

The report goes on to make several recommendations:

- Amendments to the principles that govern how decisions are made under the RMA (Part 2 of the Act)
- Crown establishment of a national co-governance body with Māori and that co-governance agreements should be provided for in all Treaty settlements
- The Crown should ensure that Māori are properly resourced to participate effectively in RMA processes
- Amendments to the water quality standards in the national policy statement, the introduction of long-delayed stock exclusion regulations and the commitment of long-term funding to restore degraded water
- Stronger recognition of Māori values in the national policy statement itself
- ‘Urgent action’ to develop measures of habitat protection and habitat restoration
- The continuation of Crown-Māori co-design in policymaking where Māori interests were concerned.

Any new allocation regime included regional allocations for Iwi, Māori land, and for cultural purposes.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

The Crown is in the process of reforming the resource management system and replacing the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). It aims to introduce the Natural Environment Act and the Planning Act in late 2025 and pass these Bills into law by mid-2026.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

Wai 262 claims are about Māori participating in decisions about taonga Māori. These encompass legislation, Crown policy and practices relating to intellectual property, indigenous flora and fauna, resource management, conservation, the Māori language, arts, culture, heritage, science, education, health and the making of international agreements.

In summary the Tribunal recommended:

- Establishment of new partnership bodies in education, conservation, and culture and heritage.
- A new commission to protect Māori cultural works against derogatory or offensive uses and unauthorised commercial uses; a new funding agent for mātauranga Māori in science.
- Expanded roles for some existing bodies including Te Taura Whiri (the Māori Language Commission), the newly established national rongoā body Te Paepae Matua mō te Rongoā.
- Māori advisory bodies relating to patents and environmental protection.
- Improved support for rongoā Māori (Māori traditional healing), te reo Māori (language), and other aspects of Māori culture and Māori traditional knowledge.
- Amendments to laws covering Māori language, resource management, wildlife, conservation, cultural artifacts, environmental protection, patents, and plant varieties.

Following a comprehensive report on progress on Ko Aotearoa Tēnei in the 2017/18 Section 8I Report, the sections below focus only on the recommendations for which agencies have reported progress in the 2020/21 year.

The Tribunal's recommendations relating to Plant Variety Rights included legislative amendment to the Plant Variety Right Act to provide for:

- The commissioner to have more control over plant variety names
- The clarification that discovered varieties do not qualify for a plant variety right
- A power to refuse a plant variety right on the ground it would affect kaitiaki relationships with taonga species.
- The commissioner to be supported by a Māori advisory committee.

Note that further details on Plant Variety Rights can be found under Wai 2522.

The Culture and Heritage recommendations included that Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK), and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) take leadership roles to improve coordination and collaboration between themselves over mātauranga Māori and forming a Māori Crown partnership entity for the culture and heritage sector.

The Tribunal's recommendations relevant to rongoā Māori included:

- Recognising that rongoā Māori has significant potential as a weapon in the fight to improve Māori health. This will require the Crown to see the philosophical importance of holism in Māori health, and to be willing to draw on both of this country's two founding systems of knowledge.
- Identifying and implementing ways of encouraging the health system to expand rongoā services.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

The Tribunal’s recommendations for the Ministry of Education (MOE) include establishing a Crown Māori partnership entity in the education sector, and developing specific indicators for mātauranga Māori (language, culture, and knowledge).

In respect of the Protected Objects Act, the Tribunal recommended that:

- Prima facie Crown ownership of newly discovered protected objects remain in place as a matter of practicality, but be statutorily renamed ‘interim Crown trusteeship’
- A body of Māori experts share in decision making with the Chief Executive of the MCH on applications for export of Māori objects; customary ownership of newly found taonga; and whether individual examples of ‘scientific material’ should qualify for protection as taonga tūturu
- The Act be amended to exempt kaitiaki who reacquire taonga from having to register as collectors with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage
- The Crown establish a restitution fund to help kaitiaki to reacquire their taonga on the open market. Iwi may wish to contribute to such a fund as their resources permit.

Te Papa Tongarewa develop best-practice guidelines for private collectors of taonga who are willing to involve kaitiaki in their care of the objects they own.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations In progress

The Crown continues to work alongside Iwi and Māori on regulatory recognition of taonga and mātauranga Māori. Technological advancements and increasing global interest in culture continue to create new, and exacerbate existing, challenges. This includes the use of Māori cultural intellectual property in artificial intelligence-based products and online art.

The Tribunal’s 2011 report Ko Aotearoa Tēnei, reporting on the Wai 262 inquiry, highlighted the shortcomings and failures of policy and regulatory settings to adequately protect taonga, including mātauranga Māori. This report and the broader claim provide an understanding of key issues for work across government, including intellectual property, indigenous flora and fauna, resource management, conservation, the Māori language, arts, culture, heritage, science, education, health, and the making of international agreements.

Te Puni Kōkiri is the government system lead on matters relating to the appropriate use of mātauranga Māori as the government’s principal policy advisor on Māori wellbeing and development. A key component of this responsibility is about enabling Māori to appropriately leverage the use of mātauranga and Māori brand distinctiveness in the global marketplace. Te Puni Kōkiri has a dual role relating to these matters:

- Leading, both domestically and internationally, in the development and stewardship of policy on cultural and intellectual property relating to mātauranga Māori
- A system leadership role in leading and driving a cross-government approach to matters relating to mātauranga Māori.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Aotearoa holds immense cultural and natural capital – from rich Māori knowledge systems and traditions to unique biodiversity and landscapes. The challenge and opportunity ahead is how to unlock this capital and translate it into meaningful economic outcomes for whānau, Hapū, Iwi, Māori, and all of New Zealand.

The kaupapa that Te Puni Kōkiri lead have a particular focus on where the biggest benefits are for Māori, balanced with the need for foundational policies that are durable over time. Globally, we're seeing a shift toward the knowledge economy, where intangible taonga – such as mātauranga Māori, storytelling, design, and innovation – are increasingly recognised as powerful drivers of value. Te Puni Kōkiri sits within this context, aiming to position Māori enterprise at the forefront of this transformation.

Recognising the complexity of issues outlined in the Wai 262 report, Te Puni Kōkiri alongside other agencies continue to address the tenets of the report in key kaupapa listed below.

System levers

Cultural intellectual property

Development of a bespoke Intellectual property (IP) policy

Te Puni Kōkiri is exploring options to enable cultural intellectual property to be appropriately utilised, including across government in key industries such as tourism, creative sectors, emerging technologies and the Government's Māori economic development strategy, Tōnui Māori.

Domestically, Te Puni Kōkiri works across priority areas of government to provide advice and support on issues, opportunities and recognition of cultural intellectual property. This includes the provisions of mātauranga Māori in the delivery of the Gene Technology Bill and the cross-government programme and approach to addressing artificial intelligence (AI) in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Furthermore, the advice of Te Puni Kōkiri has contributed to inclusions in New Zealand's overarching cultural strategy – "Amplify: A Creative and Cultural Strategy for New Zealand 2025–2030" to increase opportunities for creative and cultural organisations, support the growth of cultural exports and cultural tourism and ensuring appropriate use and protecting cultural intellectual property from exploitation under action 1.4 of the Strategy.

Internationally, Te Puni Kōkiri leads the New Zealand delegation to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Intergovernmental Committee (IGC), supported by the Minister of Business, Innovation and Employment, to advance negotiations on a new global legal instrument(s) to protect Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions. Te Puni Kōkiri have participated virtually in IGC sessions 48, 49, and 50, and attended IGC 51 in Geneva. A key outcome of IGC 51 was agreement by all member states to continue negotiations for another biennium.

Preparations are underway for the next biennium of WIPO IGC negotiations, scheduled through mid-2027. If successful, these negotiations will culminate in a Diplomatic Conference to establish a global legal instrument(s) setting minimum international standards to protect Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions from commercial misappropriation.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Domestic levers

Convention on Biological Diversity

Article 8j Subsidiary Body

At the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-16) in 2024, a significant decision was made to establish a new Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The establishment of a permanent Subsidiary Body under the CBD affirms the importance of Indigenous Peoples and their lands and resources in the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. It recognises Indigenous Peoples as actors, decision-makers, and knowledge-holders, integral to the work of the CBD.

The first meeting of the Article 8(j) Subsidiary Body was held in Colombia, in October 2025. The meeting sought to:

- Operationalise the new 12-task programme of work, including traditional territories, funding mechanisms, and participation models.
- Develop procedures (modus operandi) that will determine how Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) engage with and influence biodiversity decisions at global and national levels.
- Influence implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), which includes targets on Indigenous knowledge and equitable benefit-sharing.

The meeting marked a significant shift – embedding Indigenous issues as a permanent and equal part of the CBD agenda through to 2030 and beyond. It reflects the aspirations Indigenous Peoples have been working towards for generations – for their knowledge systems, rights, and governance to be recognised and respected at the highest levels.

Te Puni Kōkiri supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in the preparations for the meeting, providing agency advice on negotiating positions. Regional kaimahi also supported several Māori stakeholders to apply for UN accreditation and funding to attend the meeting.

Biodiscovery Framework

Te Puni Kōkiri is continuing to lead the development of a domestic biodiscovery framework. An effective and efficient biodiscovery framework for New Zealand will enable New Zealand and Māori to capture benefits from biodiscovery for commercial settings, enable innovation within the biotechnology sector, while also protecting mātauranga Māori and kaitiaki relationships with taonga species.

Throughout the end of 2024 and beginning of 2025, Te Puni Kōkiri undertook a targeted engagement period with Iwi, Hapū, Māori, Crown agencies, Crown research institutes, independent science entities, biotech industry representatives, and universities to build a better picture of how biodiscovery currently looks in our domestic context.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Targeted engagement with stakeholders and Government agencies helped us understand one of the biggest challenges for those undertaking biodiscovery activities in New Zealand is identifying a pathway to commercialisation which appropriately recognises kaitiaki relationships with taonga species and associated mātauranga Māori and enables benefits to be captured and shared. It also shows that commercial biodiscovery with taonga plant species and associated mātauranga Māori should be the first priority for a biodiscovery system that could build and grow over time.

The next steps for this mahi are to begin policy development of mechanisms to support a domestic biodiscovery system in New Zealand. This includes considering becoming a contracting party to the World Intellectual Property Organisation's Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge (GRATK Treaty) and implement a disclosure of origin mechanism within our domestic patent application process.

Exploring biodiversity incentives to support Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand

Biodiversity 2020

In June 2025 Minister Hoggard announced Government support for a voluntary nature credit market through privately funded pilot projects being run across Aotearoa. The pilot projects will test how the nature credit market could work. Part of this test will be understanding what the role of government might be in terms of setting standards and a framework that could build market confidence.

National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity

The Government has committed to pausing the identification of new Significant Natural Areas under the NPS-IB, and reviewing the operation. Mapping of new SNAs was paused for three years under the Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Act. Changes to the NPS-IB are being considered as part of the resource management reform programme.

ANZBS Implementation plan

Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 (ANZBS) sets the strategic direction for biodiversity in Aotearoa. The current ANZBS implementation plan was published in 2022. It comprises more than 200 actions under way or planned by nine central government agencies, Ngā Whenua Rāhui, and local government, that contribute to the ANZBS objectives and 2025 goals, including for:

- Objective 2: Treaty partners, whānau, Hapū, Iwi and Māori organisations are rangatira and kaitiaki.
17 actions
- Objective 5: Mātauranga Māori is an integral part of biodiversity research and management.
11 actions
- Objective 9: Collaboration, co-design and partnership are delivering better outcomes.
16 actions

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Annual progress reports on the implementation plan are publicly available on DOC’s website. Agencies have continued to deliver these actions during 2024/2025. However, a formal progress assessment was not done this year as DOC is coordinating the preparation of New Zealand’s 7th national report under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This report is due in February 2026 and will set out the actions and achievements of central government agencies, Ngā Whenua Rāhui and Te Uru Kahika for 2020–2025. It will be available through the CBD website.

During June–December 2024, DOC undertook engagement with Iwi, Hapū and Māori organisations, followed by public consultation in May–July 2025, on the proposed actions for the next implementation plan. These actions are designed to improve the way the Government protects and restores biodiversity by improving coordination, bringing in new investment, and mobilising support for biodiversity across the country.

DOC received feedback from 12 Iwi and three Māori Roopū (Ngā Whenua Rāhui, Predator Free 2050 Kaitiakitanga Roopū, and Kaitiaki Roopū ki Murihiku) during early engagement and 15 submitters identified as Māori in public consultation.

Overall, feedback from Iwi, Hapū and Māori organisations indicated general support for the proposed actions but concern about the lack of Treaty Partnership reflected in their development and implementation. There was a call for more ambitious and legally supported measures to protect biodiversity, with rangatiratanga recognised as central to achieving biodiversity outcomes.

Māori feedback also emphasised the need for co-development of biodiversity priorities, sustained investment in relationships, and for Māori-led initiatives to be supported by the government as part of broader cultural and community wellbeing; saw mātauranga Māori and western science as complementary knowledge systems of equal mana; and identified Māori data sovereignty as essential for ethical collaboration.

The new implementation plan is intended to be further developed and published in 2026.

Rebalancing Te Mana o Te Wai in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

Please see the above update regarding the enactment of the Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Act and the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Act, the Government’s intention to rebalance Te Mana o Te Wai in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM), and the public consultation on replacing freshwater national direction.

Voluntary Nature Credit Markets

The Government is backing the expansion of a New Zealand voluntary nature credits market. Further details on the Government’s role and the design of the expanded market will be announced in the coming months.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Partial review of the National Parks and Conservation General Policies

In November 2024, the Government released the *Modernising Conservation Land Management* discussion document. This discussion document sought feedback on proposed updates to DOC's concessions and planning system to make it more efficient and responsive. Submissions closed in February 2025.

To streamline the management planning system, the Government proposed to replace the existing Conservation General Policy and the General Policy for National Parks with the National Conservation Policy Statement. The purpose of the partial review of the general policies, and the independent Option Development Group's (ODG's) recommendations on them, are being considered when developing the first National Conservation Policy Statement.

Other changes were also proposed to address some of the ODG recommendations around how the concessions system provides for tangata whenua interests and clarifying engagement with Iwi and Hapū in the planning system.

During consultation on the discussion document, DOC held 25 regional hui with Iwi and Hapū. These hui provided an overview of the proposals in the discussion document and an early opportunity to provide feedback. Engagement with Treaty Partners is ongoing to ensure that changes to the conservation system will uphold the intent of Treaty settlement commitments.

The Government has since decided to progress with these changes and drafting of the Conservation Acts (Land Management) Amendment Bill is underway. It is anticipated that the Bill will be introduced to Parliament in March 2026.

Review of the Wildlife Act 1953

Progress on the broader Wildlife Act review was delayed this year to enable the Government to make urgent targeted legislative amendments to fix legal uncertainties following a High Court decision in March 2025.

The Wildlife (Authorisations) Amendment Act 2025 restored DOC's ability to issue permits to authorise and appropriately regulate the incidental killing of wildlife. This is unintended but foreseeable and often unavoidable harm that can occur during activities such as construction (e.g., for housing, transportation, or energy infrastructure), research, and pest control.

The amendments were designed to protect the viability of affected wildlife populations, and to protect individual animals as much as practicable. They also support best practice approaches for managing wildlife.

The repeal and replacement of the Wildlife Act is continuing. However, work on the Amendment Act and other conservation priorities mean DOC is unlikely to be able to finalise a draft public consultation document this Parliamentary term.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Biosecurity Act Amendment Bill

MPI is leading targeted improvements to the Biosecurity Act to modernise the Act, so it remains resilient and able to adapt to evolving biosecurity risks. Cabinet approved policy proposals in September 2025, and an Amendment Bill is anticipated to be introduced in early 2026.

The biosecurity regulatory framework applies across New Zealand, and the impacts of biosecurity risk management measures affect all New Zealanders, whether directly or indirectly, to varying degrees. We understand Māori rights arise from whakapapa, the articles in the Treaty of Waitangi, and subsequent Treaty settlements. Māori have significant economic interests in primary industries and have a strong cultural connection to taonga species. Māori rely on a robust biosecurity system to protect the biodiversity with which they have a whakapapa connection.

We consider Māori will benefit from proposed amendments to strengthen the biosecurity system, as part of the larger New Zealand population. Specific changes that relate to Wai262 recommendations include:

- Streamlining long term pest management measures – this will enable more efficient and effective pest management so taonga species and New Zealand’s natural biodiversity is better protected.
- Clarifying the relationship between the Biosecurity Act and the Marine Mammals Protection Act and Marine Reserves Act so unwanted organisms (organisms that threaten New Zealand’s native species and biodiversity) can be swiftly eradicated or managed.

The proposed changes are informed by Treaty and Treaty Settlement analysis, feedback via targeted engagements with Treaty partners, Iwi, Māori interest forums and Māori interest groups during public consultation during September – December 2024. Following public consultation, MPI undertook further targeted engagement with Māori submitters to clarify points raised in submissions. We note that the Act is enabling, and the amendments will retain that feature. This means regulation can be adapted to support whānau, Hapū and Iwi in different areas, recognising that relationships with whenua across the country differ.

Amendments to laws covering Resource Management

The Government is progressing changes to reform the resource management system.

The Government has agreed to replace the RMA with two new Acts in line with the expert advisory group’s recommendations.

- The Planning Act will focus on regulating the use, development and enjoyment of land.
- The Natural Environment Act will focus on the use, protection and enhancement of the environment.

Officials are preparing policy advice assuming the two RMA replacement Bills being introduced into the House by the end of 2025.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

The Government is also progressing a suite of amendments to the RMA and national direction to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the resource management system. This includes:

The Fast Track Approvals Act 2024

Two RMA amendment bills:

- The Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2024 was enacted in October 2024.
- The Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill will make targeted changes to unlock development in infrastructure, housing and primary industries. The Environment Committee reported back on 11 June, the Bill is expected to be enacted mid-2025.
- The National Direction amendment includes updates to national direction for infrastructure, development and the primary sector, to amend freshwater national direction, and test how housing proposals could fit into the new RM system. Public consultation began on 29 May and will close on 27 July (just over eight weeks).

The freshwater changes include the proposal to amend the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) 2020.

Proposed freshwater changes included:

- Rebalancing freshwater management through multiple objectives
- Rebalancing Te Mana o te Wai
- Providing flexibility in the National Objectives Framework
- Enabling commercial vegetable growing
- Addressing water security and water storage
- Simplifying wetland provisions
- Simplifying the fish passage regulations
- Addressing remaining issues with the farmer-facing regulations (ie, synthetic nitrogen fertiliser)
- Including mapping requirements for drinking water sources.

Targeted engagement with Māori across the whole National Direction work programme was sought prior and during the public consultation period.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Aquaculture Policy

Changes to support Marine farming and the aquaculture industry include the proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standard for Marine Aquaculture alongside the wider resource management reform.

Proposed aquaculture changes included:

- Released Aquaculture Development Plan in early 2025.
- Supported the passing of the Resource Management (Extended Duration of Coastal Permits for Marine Farms) Amendment Act 2024.
- Consulted on amendments to National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture.
- Supported the passing of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, which includes seven listed aquaculture projects.
- Aquaculture settlement: in mid-2025, reached agreement with Bay of Plenty Iwi on quantum for settlement.
- Aquaculture settlement: in late 2024, established aquaculture settlement areas to support settlement negotiations for Otago and Southland.

The proposed changes to the RMA were informed by targeted engagement with Iwi and Māori and informed by Treaty and Treaty Settlement analysis. Following consultation MPI have engaged with Māori submitters to further clarify and consider additional matters.

Te Ara Taonga

Te Ara Taonga, the collective of culture and heritage agencies and institutions, continues to work in collaboration to support whānau, Hapū, Iwi and Māori to:

- Access the broad suite of the Crown’s collections and holdings and undertake research;
- Enhance the descriptions of the collections to enable easier and accurate identification of whānau, Hapū and Iwi relevant taonga;
- Develop plans with them for the ongoing care of their taonga and mātauranga, including those in the Crown’s collections;
- Support them to identify areas of natural and cultural significance on their whenua; and
- Tell their cultural histories and narratives in their own way.

Te Ara Taonga agencies and institutions include the Ministry of Culture and Heritage Manatū Taonga, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision, the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, and Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Over this period Te Ara Taonga have:

- Continued their support of a series of Iwi Archivist symposiums aimed at strengthening Iwi capability to care and preserve their own taonga and documents. These symposiums were held across the motu and involved specialist experts working closely with Iwi archivists.
- Worked with Iwi through the Treaty Settlement process to develop relationship agreements for the ongoing care and preservation of Iwi taonga.
- Supported Iwi in the development of their own culture and heritage strategies and development plans.
- Hosted Iwi (trust members, researchers, kaumatua) across the agencies to engage with relevant collection items, conduct research, and identify Iwi specific collection items in the Crown's collections.
- Worked with Iwi to develop their own treaty settlement histories.
- Provided oral history training.
- Continued to develop learning resources to support kura Māori and schools in exploring New Zealand's histories, the Treaty Settlement process and students own connections to te ao Māori.
- Supported Iwi to identify relevant funding opportunities for the development of culture and heritage strategies, conservation of marae and Iwi taonga and protection of sites of cultural significance.

Taonga tūturu and the Protected Objects Act 1975

Taonga tūturu are protected objects that whakapapa to te ao Māori and embody mana, tapu, and mauri. Manatū Taonga administers the Protected Objects Act (POA) 1975 which sets out the process of publicly notifying newly found taonga tūturu, ensuring their interim care and custody while in prima facie Crown ownership, working with interested parties and claimants, and seeking orders to determine actual or traditional ownership through the Māori Land Court.

Specialised conservation allows for the stabilisation of at-risk wet organic taonga tūturu (wood, fibre, and textile) while in prima facie Crown ownership. Since 2020, Manatū Taonga has evolved and decentralised the conservation services model for taonga tūturu, to ensure that projects are designed and decided by whānau, Hapū and Iwi, and that conservation projects can take place close to the find rohe of the taonga. Iwi and Hapū may choose to conserve taonga through indigenous methods (such as reburial or submersion), or through established museum conventions via a national network of conservation service providers. Some Iwi and Hapū are now working with these providers to incorporate mātauranga Māori into the conservation methodology for their taonga.

Manatū Taonga continues to embed processes to seek Iwi, Hapū and/ or whānau input on export applications for protected New Zealand objects that are not taonga tūturu but nonetheless carry an identifiable Iwi/Māori interest (a scenario which the Act does not contemplate). This most commonly occurs in respect of documentary heritage objects, or for art objects (for example, portraiture depicting identified tūpuna, such as works by CF Goldie or Gottfried Lindauer).

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Revitalisation of te reo Māori

Te Whare o te Reo Mauriora

Te Whare o te Reo Mauriora (the house of the living language) is an active partnership between the Crown, and Iwi and Māori (represented by Te Mātāwai), established by Te Ture mō Te Reo Māori 2016 (the Act) to revitalise te reo Māori. The vision for Te Whare o te Reo Mauriora is *Kia Mauriora te Reo*. Te Whare o te Reo Mauriora is considered the first partnership model that goes some way to addressing the recommendations in the Ko Aotearoa Tēnei (Wai 262) report.

Within the framework of Te Whare o Te Reo Mauriora, Te Puni Kōkiri has continued to work in close partnership with Te Mātāwai and with the other Māori language entities (Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori, Te Māngai Pāho and Whakaata Māori) to progress kaupapa to protect, promote and revitalise te reo Māori.

Amendments to Te Ture mō Te Reo Māori 2016 | Māori Language Act 2016 through the Māori Purposes Bill

Throughout 2024/25, Te Puni Kōkiri worked in partnership with Te Mātāwai to progress several amendments to Te Ture mō Te Reo Māori 2016, resulting from the review of the Act in 2022. The proposed amendments will improve and strengthen the scope of Te Mātāwai to further support te reo Māori revitalisation efforts. Examples of the changes include:

- Amending the Act to align Te Mātāwai with governance practise through a co-chair arrangement
- Providing a new regulation-making power to enable Te Mātāwai more flexibility to make changes to the kāhui of Iwi in the Act
- Removing barriers to decision making via electronic means
- Clarifying the purpose of Te Mātāwai

We successfully facilitated the translation of the amendments into te reo Māori, undertaken by Māori language experts and Parliamentary Counsel Office. This is the first time amendments have been made to a dual language act with new legislative processes and wording being developed and adopted by the Parliamentary Counsel Office. The Māori Purposes Bill (the legislative vehicle through which the amendments are being progressed) passed its first reading in Huitanguru 2025.

Specialist Advisory Group – Māori Language Sector

During 2024/25, the Minister for Māori Development engaged with Te Mātāwai and the Māori language entities on the best way to progress te reo Māori revitalisation. In Hakihea 2024, Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Mātāwai commissioned the Specialist Advisory Group – Māori Language Sector, to provide advice on options to maximise leverage and efficiencies from the Crown’s current investment in the operations of the Māori languages entities, with a view to improving te reo Māori revitalisation outcomes. The advice was guided by the shared ambitions of the Minister for Māori Development and Te Mātāwai for:

- More whānau Māori speaking Māori and increasing intergenerational transmission to achieve that goal
- Restoring Māori as a nurturing first language within Māori homes and communities supported by positive broader societal attitudes to achieve that impact.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

In Pipiri 2025, a report identifying issues across the Māori language sector was finalised and provided to the Minister for Māori Development and co-chairs of Te Mātāwai. The report's actions will guide further policy work.

Maihi Karauna refresh | The Crown's Strategy for Māori Language Revitalisation 2019-2023

The refresh of the Maihi Karauna, jointly led by Te Puni Kōkiri and Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori, entered its early development stages at the end of Pipiri 2025. The refresh of the Maihi Karauna will be progressed as part of a wider te reo Māori work programme which may include recommendations and future mahi that arises from the report of the Specialist Advisory Group – Māori Language Sector. The current Maihi Karauna strategy remains active and in place until a refreshed strategy replaces it.

International levers

The Wai 262 claim and subsequent Waitangi Tribunal report, *Ko Aotearoa Tēnei*, examined the Crown's role and responsibilities in negotiating and implementing international instruments and associated impacts on Māori rights and interests.

Te Puni Kōkiri provides advice and recommendations across government on Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi implications associated with relevant international instruments and fora. Additionally, it is the lead administering agency for the Indigenous Collaboration Arrangements (ICAs) and has a key role in negotiations at the World Intellectual Property Organisation Intergovernmental Committee.

Indigenous Collaboration Arrangements

Aotearoa New Zealand has two existing ICAs with Australia (signed in 2020) and Canada (signed in 2022). The ICAs are nonbinding bilateral arrangements which formalise our governments' mutual commitments to priority Indigenous issues.

The instruments enable work to be progressed between governments and Indigenous peoples that deliver mutual economic, cultural, social, and environmental benefits. Te Puni Kōkiri meets regularly with its counterpart agencies in Australia and Canada to deliver its work plan and explore opportunities aligned to our governments' priorities.

Across this reporting term, Te Puni Kōkiri supported Justin Mohamed on his first trip to Aotearoa New Zealand in his capacity as Australian Ambassador for First Nations People in late February 2025. The intent of the trip was to engage with Government and pakihi Māori to share knowledge on Indigenous trade, economic development, and treaty. This included a First Nations trade and economic policy roundtable, hui with Te Puni Kōkiri Officials and with the Minister for Māori Development Hon. Tama Potaka.

Te Puni Kōkiri built stronger relationships, awareness, and involvement in the ICAs across teams and agencies who hold similar responsibilities within Māori foreign policy, including Te Puni Kōkiri Regional Offices, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and New Zealand Māori Tourism. This is to ensure the ICAs are comprehensive, aligned to relevant mahi being undertaken across government and are responsive to the needs of communities.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

India Free Trade Agreement

In March 2025, Aotearoa New Zealand and India jointly announced the commencement and intent to establish a comprehensive free trade agreement. Te Puni Kōkiri has been working closely with MFAT as lead agency to support the ongoing negotiations and development of the India – New Zealand Free Trade Agreement. Negotiations will continue throughout the remainder of 2025.

Malaysia Engagements

Te Puni Kōkiri supported a delegation from its Malaysian counterpart, the Department of Orang Asli Development, in April 2025 to undertake a fact-finding mission, in particular discussing whenua, economic development, cultural and intellectual property and language revitalisation.

Additional updates

Monitoring Dashboard

Te Puni Kōkiri has developed an internal dashboard, as a building block, to monitor government effectiveness and support for outcomes related to mātauranga Māori across the value chain. With a focus on the social, cultural, environmental, and economics domains; two indicators have been confirmed for each step of the value chain to provide insight into where mātauranga is currently thriving, and where policy interventions may be required to ensure that opportunities are appropriately identified, utilised, and actively protected. Noting that data points are evolving, when data points with clear links to mātauranga Māori have not been found, national statistics relating to areas of focus for Māori have been used as an interim measure until specific data can be collected regularly.

The Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga (Te Tāhuhu) contributes to the Tribunal’s findings and recommendations in Wai 262, Te Tumu mō te Pae Tawhiti. Primarily to the cultural outcome “upholds tikanga, revitalises te reo and strengthens Aotearoa New Zealand’s understanding of te ao Māori and its role in society”.

The main contributing activities by Te Tāhuhu, include:

- Introducing new tools and resources in curriculum
- Increased investment in Māori Education through Budget 25.

New Resources and Tools:

During the reporting year, new resources and tools were developed to support teaching and learning through te reo Māori, including:

Hihira Weteoro – first time developed standardised phonics check for those teaching and learning through te reo Māori. It will help kaiako focus on what mokopuna need most to become strong, confident readers.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Hihira Weteoro is made up of several aromatawai tasks:

- After 20 weeks at kura: Te Mōhiohio Oro covers phonological and phonemic awareness. It measures ākonga ability to distinguish sounds.
- After 40 weeks at kura: Te Mōhiohio Pūriki focuses on alphabetic principle. It assesses ākonga ability to identify lowercase letters.
- After 55 weeks at kura:
 - Te Mōhiohio Arapū focuses on identifying lowercase and uppercase letters
 - Te Mōhiohio Kupu focuses on reading basic words
 - Te Mōhiohio Tuhi Oro focuses on precise writing of graphemes and phonemes.

In year 2 at kura:

- Te Mōhiohio ki te Pānui Rerenga Kōrero is focused on reading sentences.

In addition, there are guidance books and administration manuals available online to support kaiako and leaders for each of the 20-, 40-, and 55-week checks.

Rangaranga Reo ā-Tā

Rangaranga Reo ā-Tā sits within Te Ara Tohu, a structured approach to te reo matatini developed for te reo Māori settings. Rangaranga Reo ā-Tā has been developed specifically to support the work of kaiako teaching in and through te reo Māori. It includes an extensive set of ready to use classroom resources that contribute to the teaching of pānui, tuhituhi, and kōrero, as well as appropriate aromatawai tools and tasks that facilitate the on-going monitoring of mokopuna progress.

To support kaiako and leaders, the following resources have been developed:

- A linguistic handbook to support Rangaranga Reo ā Tā, Tau 4-8. The handbook provides a visual framework of key linguistic items (morphology, syntax, and semantics) aligned to Tau 4–8 of the Rangaranga Reo ā Tā programme. It supports explicit teaching of linguistic knowledge critical for progression in Te Reo Rangatira, particularly in pānui and tuhituhi, with links to kōrero.
- Structured te reo matatini starter kits (Tau 0-8). These include guidance books, lesson plans, and classroom resources (e.g., flashcards, posters) aligned with Rangaranga Reo ā-Tā.
- 10 new decodable texts in the Ngā Kete Kōrero instructional reading series have been developed, with a further 10 new texts being made available in the second half of 2025.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Poutama Pāngarau

Poutama Pāngarau is a structured pāngarau approach that has been developed to support kaiako teaching pāngarau in and through te reo Māori. The approach is informed by the science of learning and aligned with the updated pāngarau wāhanga ako. The approach is structured in Mata Ako – the key foundational knowledge at each Tau from 0 to 8.

To support kaiako and leaders, the following resources have been developed:

- Poutama Pāngarau resource packs for each of Tau 0 to 8. These packs include ready to use teacher guidance and akoranga (lessons) activity cards that cover all Mata Ako.
- Pāngarau curriculum resources that have been refreshed and updated to align with the updated pāngarau wāhanga ako. These are He Pīpī Pāngarau (Tau 0-1), Tihei Pāngarau (Tau 4-8), and He Tau Anō Te Tau (Tau 2-5). The resources have guidance for kaiako, learning activities, and include aromatawai tasks and recording sheets, to help assess ākongā against the updated pāngarau wāhanga ako.
- New pāngarau resource, Taku Whare Pāngarau for Tau 7-8, which uses pāngarau in everyday activities mokopuna are involved in.

All te reo Māori resources are available on Tāhūrangi and as hard copies which have been delivered to all kura and settings delivering learning in te reo Māori at least 51 percent of the time.

Wai 262: Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting, 2011

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Conservation, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries, Statistics New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Investment in Māori Education

The Government is delivering over \$100 million in investment through Budget 2025 to ensure more tamariki Māori thrive at school and to place emphasis on the value of te reo Māori for all learners in education. These investments aim to drive student achievement for our tamariki Māori so they thrive in the classroom.

The Budget 2025 Māori education package delivers on the commitments through our Māori Education Action Plan, which takes a practical approach to strengthening outcomes for ākonga Māori. These investments support every child, so they get the very best start and grow the New Zealand of the future, and include:

- \$10 million to launch a new Virtual Learning Network (VLN) for STEM education (Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics) subjects in Kaupapa Māori and Māori Medium education settings, addressing the shortage of qualified STEM teachers proficient in both subject matter and te reo Māori.
- \$4.5 million to develop comprehensive new te reo matatini and STEM curriculum resources and teacher supports for approximately 2,000 Year 9–13 learners in Kaupapa Māori and Māori Medium education.
- \$2.1 million to develop a new Māori Studies subject for Years 11–13.
- \$14 million into training and support for up to 51,000 teachers/kaiako in Years 0–13 schools to learn te reo Māori and tikanga as appropriate benefiting over 560,000 students.
- An additional \$50m of ring-fenced funding for Māori Medium and Kaupapa Māori Education property, which will deliver up to 50 new classrooms to support the network.
- \$4.8 million to appoint seven new curriculum advisors for Kaupapa Māori and Māori Medium education to support kaiako in implementing the redesigned Te Marautanga o Aotearoa.
- \$4.1 million to support the sustainability and data capability of the Kohanga Reo Network.

Wai 796: The Report on the Management of the Petroleum Resource, 2011

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal found that there are systemic flaws in the operation of the current regime for managing the petroleum resource. Its recommendations included that:

- Settlement packages include petroleum assets for affected Iwi.
- Petroleum royalties be used to establish a fund to assist Iwi and Hapū to participate in petroleum management processes.
- The Crown produce National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards to provide guidance to territorial authorities on enhancing and protecting taonga and wāhi tapu.
- Joint consent hearings by local authorities be put to greater use.
- The Resource Management Act 1991 be amended to require decision-makers to act consistently with the Treaty principles.

The Crown Minerals Act 1991 be amended to require decision makers to act consistently with Treaty principles and provide greater protection to Māori land through compulsory notifications for applications concerning Māori land.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

The Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment have suggested quite heavy changes in here, including for material (Crown Minerals Amendment Bill, Crown Minerals Amendment Act 2025 | [New Zealand Legislation](#), Crown Minerals Amendment Act 2025 | Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment)¹¹ that wasn’t initially included.

Those changes are not in response to the Tribunal’s recommendations but may engage the Tribunal’s recommendations and provide context for the later comments.

We suggest you take these edits back to MBIE for their review and approval.

The Crown Minerals Amendment Act (the Act) was introduced in September 2024 and received royal assent on 5 August 2025. The Act introduced a package of changes to the Crown Minerals Act 1991, including:

- Removing the 2018 ban on new petroleum exploration outside of onshore Taranaki.
- Making adjustments to the petroleum decommissioning regime.
- Allowing for ‘priority in time’ applications for petroleum exploration permits.
- Establishing a new ‘Tier 3’ permit category for small-scale, non-commercial gold mining in beaches and rivers.

The CMA and Minerals Programme for Petroleum include processes for engaging with Iwi and Hapū. These remain unchanged. The Crown also maintains Relationship Agreements and Crown Minerals protocols with some Iwi, which include dedicated annual meetings to discuss matters related to petroleum exploration and mining activities.

The Crown maintains Relationship Agreements and Crown Minerals protocols with some Iwi, which include dedicated annual meetings to discuss matters related to petroleum exploration and mining activities.

Advice on progressing the use of petroleum royalties for petroleum management processes has been provided to previous Ministers of Energy, Resources and Economic Development first in 2013 and again in 2017. This has not been taken forward.

11 Crown Minerals Amendment Bill, Crown Minerals Amendment Act 2025 | [New Zealand Legislation](#), Crown Minerals Amendment Act 2025 | Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment.

Wai 953: Ahu Moana: The Aquaculture and Marine Farming Report, 2002	
Responsible Agency: Ministry for Primary Industries	
Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A	
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal	
The Tribunal recommended that: • The period before the introduction of the new Bill be used by the Crown to establish a mechanism (resourced by the Crown) for consultation and negotiation with Māori. • The consultation should focus on the existence of Treaty rights in the coastal space, which include rights (the extent of which are yet to be determined) to aquaculture and marine farming.	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
Negotiations towards regional agreements in Otago, Bay of Plenty and Waikato West are progressing. The Bay of Plenty agreement will be concluded in the next 3-4 months. Iwi Aquaculture Organisations and the Crown have agreed on the findings of the first regional agreement reconciliation process. New Aquaculture Settlement Areas (ASA) to support space settlements have been gazetted in the Bay of Plenty, Otago and Southland. Additional ASAs are being identified in Marlborough.	

Wai 789: The Mōkai School Report, 2000

Responsible Agency: Land Information New Zealand

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal made specific recommendations concerning the reopening of Mōkai School. The Tribunal, however, put the onus on the community to ensure a stable and viable school roll.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

The Crown, through Land Information New Zealand, has completed significant maintenance works on the property on behalf of the Ministry of Education (MOE) including a full exterior paint for the school building and house, and a new roof for the house.

New property titles for Mōkai School were issued on 21 October 2024. On 28 November 2024, the Māori Land Court issued a memorandum confirming the vesting order and title transfer to the trustees as Māori Freehold Land.

The contract to administer MOE properties transferred from Land Information New Zealand back to the Ministry of Education in November 2024. The MOE has remedied vandalism and damage sustained while the house was vacant.

District Inquiries

Wai 2180: He Whenua Karapotia. He Whenua Ngaro. Priority Report on Landlocked Māori Land in the Taihape Inquiry District – Pre-publication Version, 2023

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau; Land Information New Zealand, the Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Defence

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

Landlocking affects Māori land nationally but is a particularly acute problem in Taihape, where more than 70% of remaining Māori land holdings are landlocked – exceeding 50,000 hectares. Māori have no legal or physical access to these lands, despite retaining ownership of them. In its report, the Tribunal found that the Crown allowed Māori land in Taihape to become landlocked and has failed to remedy the problem, breaching Treaty of Waitangi (the Treaty) principles and causing long-term prejudice.

The Tribunal concludes that flaws in the legislation caused landlocking in the inquiry district. In the decades before 1912, when most landlocking in Taihape occurred, native land legislation of the time did not require the Native Land Court to preserve access to Māori land as it was partitioned. Upon the sale or lease of a partition with road access, therefore, blocks of Māori land lying beyond it usually became landlocked. From 1886, Māori landowners could apply for access to their lands as they passed through the court or within five years thereafter. These provisions were ineffective in practice, however, as they still gave the court discretion on whether to grant access and required Māori owners to pay the significant cost of creating any access granted.

The Tribunal found that the Crown’s general failure to address the risk of landlocking in its native land legislation before 1912 breached the Treaty principles of active protection, partnership, and equity. Moreover, the Crown’s expectation that Māori landowners apply to the court to retain access to their own land, and pay for it, undermined the Treaty guarantee of ‘full exclusive and undisturbed possession’ of land. Māori should not have had to take such steps to retain access, the Tribunal found, because the risk of landlocking arose from legislation imposed on them, not actions they had taken.

The Tribunal also found that the Crown’s attempts to remedy landlocked Māori land through legislation have been flawed and ineffective, breaching Treaty principles. From 1912, the Native Land Court (and later Māori Land Court) could order retrospective access to landlocked Māori land. However, if the neighbouring land to be crossed had left Māori ownership before 1913, the court had no power to order access or could do so only with the neighbouring owner’s consent. This restriction in the law effectively removed the court’s ability to restore access to landlocked Māori land in Taihape, which had almost entirely become landlocked – as neighbouring land was sold – before 1912. As a result of these measures, Māori in the Taihape district had no legal avenue to unlock their land for over sixty years. The Crown conceded that its remedies in this period were ineffective and prioritised European landowners’ interests to the disadvantage of Māori landowners, breaching Treaty principles.

Since 1975 the Crown has tried to improve its remedies, but they have remained ineffective for owners of landlocked Māori land in Taihape, the Tribunal finds. From 1975, Māori owners could seek access via the Supreme Court (now the High Court) without the need for any other landowner’s consent, but this remedy was very costly to pursue. In 1993, Te Ture Whenua Maori Act provided a less expensive pathway for Māori landowners to seek access via the Māori Land Court but reimposed a requirement for the neighbouring landowner’s consent. This requirement was removed in 2002, but the neighbouring owner could simply appeal to the High Court. From 2020, appeals could finally be heard in the more accessible Māori Appellate Court. Despite these changes, no Māori landowners in Taihape have successfully used these remedies to unlock their land. The Crown’s longstanding failure to provide effective remedies breaches several Treaty principles, including the principle of redress, the Tribunal finds.

Wai 2180: He Whenua Karapotia. He Whenua Ngaro. Priority Report on Landlocked Māori Land in the Taihape Inquiry District – Pre-publication Version, 2023

Responsible Agency: Te Puni Kōkiri

Relevant Agencies: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau; Land Information New Zealand, the Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Defence

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

The Tribunal concludes that the key flaw in the Crown’s remedies is that they have continued to place the huge cost of restoring access on the owners of landlocked Māori land themselves. Not only being ineffective, this approach has also treated owners of landlocked Māori land no differently than owners of general land seeking to access landlocked land they have purchased. In this respect, the Crown’s remedies breach the principle of equity.

The Tribunal found that lack of ready access to much of their remaining land base has caused significant prejudice to whānau and Hapū of the Taihape district, undermining their opportunities for economic development, ability to exercise kaitiakitanga, and intergenerational transmission of mātauranga relating to these lands.

To remedy landlocking in the Taihape district, the Tribunal recommends the Crown establish a contestable fund to which Māori owners of landlocked land can apply to achieve access. The fund would pay for access that may be granted by the Māori Land Court, including any compensation payable to neighbouring landowners. The Tribunal stresses that funds for this purpose should not be taken from the sum set aside to settle the district’s historical claims.

The Tribunal made the following recommendations:

- Take an active, not passive, role in solving the problem – the Crown take additional active steps to resolve landlocking in the Taihape district in partnership with the Hapū and Iwi of the area.
- Focus on solutions specifically targeted at this inquiry – the Crown focus any efforts to resolve the issue of landlocked land in the Taihape inquiry district.
- Partner with tangata whenua when developing solutions – the Crown should seek the agreement of tangata whenua of the inquiry district in its response to the recommendations they made in the report and any other steps the Crown takes to resolve landlocking in the district.
- Do not take funding for solutions from funds for general treaty settlements – the Crown develop its solutions without diminishing the funds that would otherwise be used for the settlement of the historical Treaty claims of this district.

Establish a contestable fund to assist Māori with the costs of achieving access – the Crown establish a contestable fund, allocated by a komiti or board and supported by a commission, dedicated to achieving lasting legal access solutions for landlocked Māori land in the Taihape district.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

Mōkai Pātea and the Crown have continued to work towards an Agreement in Principle (AIP).

In December 2024, the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations agreed to seek Cabinet approval to include a Crown commitment to explore avenues for securing reasonable access to landlocked land in the Mōkai Pātea area of interest (commitment to explore). Te Tari Whakatau worked with Te Puni Kōkiri on how the Crown should approach aspects of the proposed commitment.

Wai 2660: The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 Inquiry Stage 2 Report – Pre-publication Version, 2023

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act (the Act) was enacted in 2011 to replace the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004. the Act restores customary interests extinguished under the 2004 Act, provides statutory tests and awards by which to recognise customary interests, and provides for public rights of access, navigation and fishing. Under the Act, Māori (whānau, Hapū, Iwi and Māori) can obtain legal recognition of their customary interests in the form of either customary marine title or protected customary rights. the Act provides two application pathways for this purpose. Applicants can apply to the High Court for a recognition order or to engage directly with the Crown for a recognition agreement. In each pathway, applications for customary rights had to be filed by the statutory deadline of 3 April 2017.

The Stage 1 report, which was released in 2020, found that aspects of the Crown’s funding regime for applicants under the Act and its policy and processes breached the Treaty and prejudicially affected Māori.

The Stage 2 report, released in 2023, contains the Tribunal’s findings on whether the Act itself breaches Treaty principles and causes prejudice to Māori. In this report, the Tribunal found the claimants have been, and will likely continue to be, prejudiced by aspects of the Act. In particular, the Tribunal finds that the Act is in various respects inconsistent with Treaty principles because (among other reasons):

- The Crown failed to allow properly informed and meaningful participation for Māori during the consultation process.
- The Act does not provide for a fair and reasonable statutory test for customary marine title (an interim finding, as the Court of Appeal was, at the time, considering how the relevant provisions should be interpreted).
- The statutory deadline was not, and is not, justified by any policy considerations that meet the standard of acting reasonably and in good faith toward Māori.
- The Act gives Māori no choice between having their applications under the Act heard in the High Court or in the Māori Land Court.
- Certain exceptions to the scope of protected customary rights are unreasonable.
- The exceptions of accommodated activities and deemed accommodated activities undermine the permission rights (certain regulatory rights available to customary marine title holders)
- The wāhi tapu protection right does not allow Māori to effectively protect wāhi tapu and wāhi tapu areas.
- The Act vests reclaimed land in the Crown, thus extinguishing customary marine title and protected customary rights without compensation.

Overall, the Tribunal finds that the rights under the Takutai Moana Act do not sufficiently support Māori in their kaitiakitanga duties and rangatiratanga rights and fail to provide a fair and reasonable balance between Māori rights and other public and private rights. Consequently, the Act is in breach of the Treaty.

Wai 2660: The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 Inquiry Stage 2 Report – Pre-publication Version, 2023

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

To give effect to Treaty principles, the Tribunal recommends that the Crown make targeted amendments to the Act based on the claims that have been heard and upheld. Specifically, the Tribunal recommends that the Crown (among other points):

- Improve the statutory test for customary marine title including by removing the aspect of the test that requires occupation ‘without substantial interruption’ (subject to the outcome of appeals following the High Court’s Re Edwards (*Te Whakatōhea No 2*) judgment).
- Repeal the statutory deadline.
- Allow applicants the ability to transfer their applications between the High Court and the Māori Land Court with both having concurrent jurisdiction.
- Repeal specific exceptions to the scope of protected customary rights.
- Repeal specific exceptions to the scope of permission rights.
- Increase the scope of the Act’s compensation regime for exceptions to permission rights under Schedule 2 of the Act.
- Decouple the wāhi tapu protection right from the customary marine title regime.
- Compensate affected whānau, Hapū and Iwi for all reclaimed land vested in the Crown.
- Add the ability to impose temporary rāhui following death at sea to the award of protected customary rights.
- Engage in a longer conversation with Māori in order to mitigate the unequal treatment of Māori under the Takutai Moana Act as opposed to the Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019.

The Tribunal emphasises that all recommendations should be implemented as a package to restore a fair and reasonable balance between Māori interests and those of the wider public in te takutai moana. It warns against ‘cherry-picking’ recommendations, as this will not restore the balance required by the principles of the Treaty.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations In progress

Cabinet decided, in the knowledge of the Tribunal’s report, to progress the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) (Customary Marine Title) Amendment Bill, which was enacted October 2025.

While legislative changes recommended by the Tribunal, such as removing the statutory application deadline, have not yet progressed, advice on policy options has been provided to Ministers for consideration.

Wai 2521: Motiti: Report on the Te Mouhere o Motiti Inquiry, 2022

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Relevant agency: Department of Conservation

Status of the Treaty Claim: Settled

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Wai 2521 Report focuses on the kinship review undertaken by the Crown in 2015 and 2016, and through that review whether the Crown properly informed itself of the identity of the tangata whenua of Motiti Island. A secondary focus of this report is the Tribunal’s findings as to who the tangata whenua of Motiti Island are. The third issue addressed is whether the tangata whenua of Motiti Island are a separate tribal entity, or whether the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act settled their claims.

Regarding the kinship review process, the Tribunal did not find any breaches of Te Tiriti. It did, however, find that aspects of the review process were initially flawed, but corrected during the course of the review.

The Tribunal found that Te Patuwai are tangata whenua of Motiti Island and that they affiliate to Ngāti Awa. Therefore, the Tribunal found that the Ngāti Awa Claims Settlement Act 2005 did settle the historical claims of Te Patuwai – including of Te Hapū descendants – in relation to Motiti Island. The Tribunal also found that Te Whānau a Tauwhao, a Hapū of Ngāi Te Rangī, are tangata whenua of Motiti.

As the Tribunal did not find any breaches of Te Tiriti, no recommendations were made. However, the Tribunal suggested the Crown should initially engage with Te Patuwai Tribal Committee on future issues regarding Motiti and made suggestions on how the Crown should approach disputes about tribal identity in general.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

Completed

The Crown, through the Department of Conservation (DOC), is progressing changes to its management planning system through the Conservation Acts (Land Management) Amendment Bill (the Bill). The Bill proposes replacing the Bay of Plenty Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) with an Area Plan. While this policy process has been underway, DOC has not initiated any new CMS review processes (including that of Bay of Plenty).

Following the Bill’s planned enactment in 2026, the Crown will ensure that any future Bay of Plenty Area Plan includes engagement with mana whenua at place, including Mōtiti Island, in accordance with the Tribunal’s guidance that the Crown should engage with the Te Patuwai Tribunal on issues relating to Mōtiti Island.

Wai 2200: Waikanae: Report on Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa Claims – Pre-publication Version, 2022**Responsible Agency:** The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau**Relevant Agency:** Department of Conservation**Status of the Treaty Claim:** Ongoing**Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

The Porirua ki Manawatū inquiry heard 17 claims on behalf of Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa whānau, Hapū, and Iwi over 2017–2018. These claims related to the Crown’s alleged interference with and diminishment of Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa and their tino rangatiratanga, loss of land, degradation of the local environment, and the desecration of their cultural sites and wāhi tapu.

Recommendations:*Public Works Act 1981*

The Tribunal recommended that:

- The Public Works Act 1981 urgently be amended to include a Treaty of Waitangi clause and give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
- The offer-back provisions of the Public Works Act 1981 be amended to provide for offering land back to successive generations of descendants (not limited to immediate successors), and (if they do not or cannot take the offer), a second offer be given to Hapū or Iwi.
- The Tribunal noted that they may have more specific recommendations on reform of the offer-back regime and other aspects of the Public Works Act in a later volume of the report and urged the Crown to undertake the recommendations of the Wairarapa Tribunal, the Te Tau Ihu Tribunal, the Tauranga Tribunal, and the Te Rohe Pōtae Tribunal regarding reform of the Public Works Act.

Hemi Matenga Memorial Park

The Tribunal recommended that the Wi Parata Waipunahau Trust (the landowner of Ngarara West C41 lots 1–3), be consulted in any about the ownership and/or management of the Hemi Matenga Memorial Park.

As in the Horowhenua volume, the Tribunal recommended that the numerous findings of Treaty breach and prejudice found in this report make it urgent for the Crown to negotiate a Treaty settlement with Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa. The Tribunal noted that the parties may want to consider whether they await findings and recommendations on issues excluded from this volume (such as environmental claim issues).

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations**In progress**

The Crown is awaiting the commencement of Treaty settlement negotiations for these claims, at which point the resolution of all matters – including the issues relating to Hemi Matenga Memorial Park (REC 10.9.2) – will be addressed. As a Crown agency, the Department of Conservation (DOC) currently maintains a watching brief while awaiting Te Tari Whakatau to initiate negotiations.

DOC has undertaken ecosystem management at Hemi Matenga Memorial Park, with the support of Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa ki Kāpiti.

The historical claims of Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa ki Kāpiti remain unsettled, and settlement negotiations have not yet begun.

Wai 1040: Tino Rangatiratanga me te Kāwanatanga: The Report on Stage 1 and 2 of the Te Paparahi o Te Raki Inquiry – Pre-publication Version, 2022

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

This report covers 415 Te Paparahi o Te Raki (Te Raki) claims that were submitted under the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975. The first part of the stage 2 report into Te Raki claims primarily considered the interactions of Te Raki Māori with the Crown over the period from 6 February 1840 until the close of the nineteenth century.

The Tribunal recommended that:

- The Crown acknowledge the Treaty agreement it entered with Te Raki rangatira in 1840, as explained in the stage 1 report.
- The Crown make a formal apology to Te Raki Hapū and Iwi for its breaches of te Tiriti/the Treaty and its mātapono/principles for:
 - Failing to recognise and respect the tino rangatiratanga of Te Raki Hapū and Iwi.
 - The imposition of an introduced legal system that overrode the tikanga of Te Raki Māori.
 - The Crown’s failure to address the legitimate concerns of Ngāpuhi leaders following the signing of te Tiriti, instead asserting its authority without adequate regard for their tino rangatiratanga.
 - The Crown’s conduct during the Northern War.
 - The Crown’s imposition of policies and institutions that were designed to take control and ownership of land and resources from Te Raki Māori and effected a rapid transfer of land into Crown and settler hands.
 - The Crown’s refusal to give effect to the Tiriti/Treaty rights of Te Raki Māori within the political institutions and constitution of New Zealand, or to recognise and support their paremata and komiti despite their sustained efforts in the second half of the nineteenth century to achieve recognition of and respect for those institutions in accordance with their tino rangatiratanga.
- All land owned by the Crown within the inquiry district be returned to Te Raki Māori ownership as redress.
- The Crown provide substantial further compensation to Te Raki Māori to restore the economic base of the Hapū, and as redress for the substantial economic losses they suffered due to the breaches of the Crown.
- The Crown enter discussions with Te Raki Māori to determine appropriate constitutional processes and institutions at national, Iwi, and Hapū levels to recognise, respect, and give effect to their Tiriti/Treaty rights. Legislation, including settlement legislation, may be required if the claimants so wish.

The Tribunal reserved the right to make further recommendations on the matters addressed in this part of the report in subsequent volumes.

Wai 1040: Tino Rangatiratanga me te Kāwanatanga: The Report on Stage 1 and 2 of the Te Paparahi o Te Raki Inquiry – Pre-publication Version, 2022	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
For Ngāpuhi, the Crown continues to engage with Hapū groupings on mandate development. The Crown’s preferred approach remains to engage in a practical discussion on how tino rangatiratanga might be expressed in the 21st century as part of Treaty settlement negotiations. For Ngātiwai, the Crown has made funding available for groups to address issues raised in the Wai 2561 Ngātiwai Mandate inquiry. Ngāti Kahu claimants are currently participating in the Renewed Muriwhenua inquiry.	

Wai 2660: The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 Inquiry Stage 1 Report, 2020

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The inquiry was held in two stages. In stage 1, the Tribunal prioritised hearing issues of Crown procedure and resources under Te Takutai Moana Act 2011 (the Act), particularly applicant funding. The Tribunal reported on stage 1 on 30 June 2020.

The Tribunal found that aspects of the procedural and resourcing regime did fall short of Treaty compliance. Among other things, the regime failed to:

- Provide cultural competency training for registry staff, to improve the experiences of Māori interacting with the High Court, both on marine and coastal matters and more generally.
- Provide adequate and timely information about the Crown engagement pathway for applicants to seek recognition of their customary rights in the marine and coastal area.
- Provide adequate policies to ensure that the High Court pathway and the Crown engagement pathway operate cohesively.
- Actively and practically support efforts to resolve overlapping interests in the marine and coastal area.
- Cover 100 per cent of all reasonable costs that claimants incur in pursuing applications under the Act.
- Manage real or perceived conflicts of interest in the administration of funding.
- Provide sufficiently independent, accessible, and transparent mechanisms for the internal reviewing of funding decisions.
- Enable timely access to funding for applicants in the Crown engagement pathway.
- Fund judicial review for Crown engagement applicants and Māori third parties.

The Tribunal found that, in these respects, Māori had been and remained significantly prejudiced. However, it said that other deficiencies in the regime had not ultimately prejudiced the claimants.

The Tribunal urged the Crown to remedy the shortcomings identified in the report. It said that Māori would continue to be prejudiced until the Crown took steps to make the Act’s supporting procedural arrangements fairer, clearer, more cohesive, and consistent with the Crown’s obligations as a Treaty partner.

Wai 2660: The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 Inquiry Stage 1 Report, 2020	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress

The Crown has continued to implement measures aimed at addressing the shortcomings identified by the Tribunal in its Stage 1 Report.

Formal consultation with applicant groups and other stakeholders on permanent scheme settings was carried out between December 2024 and February 2025, following the July 2024 funding changes. Insights gathered during this consultation period have informed ongoing refinements to the scheme.

Interim measures introduced in July 2024, such as mandatory Budgeted Work Plans (BWPs), capped contributions for hearings, and aligning legal funding rates with legal aid, remain in place to manage cost pressures and provide clearer expectations for applicants. Funding policies have also been adjusted to improve access to support for time sensitive tasks, including the collection of evidence from kaumātua and kuia.

Since the Tribunal’s report, the Crown has undertaken further process improvements, including simplifying requirements, providing clearer guidance, and reducing turnaround times. Concerns about delays and backlogs have been addressed: it was reported that there are no current backlog of funding requests, and processing timeframes for BWPs and reimbursements have been reduced from 45 to fewer than 20 working days. Additional reasoning is now provided in funding decisions to enhance transparency and strengthen applicant engagement.

Work is underway to redesign the funding model for 2026/27 and future years.

Decision-making processes about addressing overlapping claims on proposed redress for Hauraki Iwi on Aotea (Great Barrier Island) is complete). Decision-making processes in relation to redress in the Tauranga area are ongoing.

Wai 2200: The Kārewarewa Urupā Report, 2020

Responsible Agency: Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage

Status of the Treaty Claim: N/A

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

In the Kārewarewa Urupā Report, the Tribunal found that Treaty principles were systematically breached in relation to the exploratory authorities (those that conduct an invasive investigation of a site) and the requirements of section 56 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

In respect of section 56 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, in order to prevent the recurrence of prejudice in the event of future applications relating to the Kārewarewa urupā or to other wāhi tapu, the Tribunal recommended that:

- Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga should undertake a review, led by the Māori Heritage Council (Te Kaunihera Māori o te Pouhere Taonga), of the assessment process for section 56 applications concerning sites of interest to Māori. The Māori Heritage Council should then recommend a more Treaty-consistent timeframe for the evaluation and determination of those applications, so that the Crown’s Treaty obligation of active protection of taonga can be met. Heritage New Zealand should then make the recommendation to the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage.
- The Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage should introduce legislation as soon as possible to amend the timeframe in section 56 of the Act, in accordance with any recommendations from the Māori Heritage Council and Heritage New Zealand.
- In the case of applications relating to wāhi tapu including urupā (gravesites), section 56 should be amended to require applicants to provide an assessment of cultural values and the impact of proposed work on those values, in the same manner as for section 44 applications.
- These should regard the relationship of Māori with their culture and traditions with their wāhi tapu.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

No progress update for the 2024/25 reporting year.

Wai 898: Te Mana Whatu Ahuru: Report on Te Rohe Pōtae Claims, 2020**Responsible Agency:** The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau**Relevant Agency:** Ministry for Primary Industries**Status of the Treaty Claim:** Partially Settled**Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal**

Parts I and II of Te Mana Whatu Ahuru: Report on Te Rohe Pōtae Claims were centrally concerned with the negotiations between the Crown and leaders of Te Rohe Pōtae – especially Ngāti Maniapoto (Maniapoto) – regarding land, land laws, the extension of the North Island Main Trunk Railway into their district, and the respective spheres of Crown and Māori authority within the district. These negotiations, and the agreements that resulted, are known by Te Rohe Pōtae Māori as Te Ōhāki Tapu. This term is derived from Te Kī Tapu (the sacred word), a phrase Maniapoto leaders used to describe the conduct they sought from the Crown.

Parts I and II also reviewed numerous other aspects of the Crown's actions in Te Rohe Pōtae before 1905. The Tribunal found the claims covered in parts I and II of the report to be well founded. In summary, the Crown chose not to give practical effect to the Treaty principle of partnership in Te Rohe Pōtae from 1840 to 1900. It failed to recognise or provide for Te Rohe Pōtae Māori tino rangatiratanga before and during the negotiations collectively described as Te Ōhāki Tapu. This failure resulted in multiple breaches of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and Te Rohe Pōtae Māori have suffered significant and long-lasting prejudice as a result.

The Tribunal therefore recommended the Crown take immediate steps to act, in conjunction with the mandated settlement group or groups, to put in place means to give effect to their rangatiratanga.

The Tribunal said that how this can be achieved will be for the claimants and Crown to decide. However, it recommended that, at a minimum, legislation must be enacted that recognises and affirms the rangatiratanga and the rights of autonomy and self-determination of Te Rohe Pōtae Māori.

In the case of Ngāti Maniapoto, or their mandated representatives, the Tribunal recommended that legislation must take into account and give effect to Te Ōhāki Tapu, in a way that imposes an obligation on the Crown and its agencies to give effect to the right to mana whakahaere.

In Part III of Te Rohe Pōtae Māori report the Tribunal recommended that during settlement negotiations with Te Rohe Pōtae Māori, the Crown should discuss a possible legislative mechanism (should they wish it) that will enable Iwi and Hapū to administer their lands, either alongside the Māori Land Court and Te Tumu Paeroa (the Māori Trustee) or as separate entities.

The Tribunal released part IV of Te Mana Whatu Ahuru in 2019 which looked at how the rapid alienation of Māori land affected tribal authority and autonomy in the district. Part V, released in 2020, examined the effects of Crown policies and actions on health, education and te reo Māori in Te Rohe Pōtae. In Part IV of the report, the Tribunal found that the Crown failed to sustain Te Rohe Pōtae self-government in a Treaty compliant way. While Te Rohe Pōtae Māori participated in a succession of representative structures and institutions expected to provide them with at least a form of mana whakahaere, these spheres of influence were limited, and many did not prove enduring.

Wai 898: Te Mana Whatu Ahuru: Report on Te Rohe Pōtae Claims, 2020

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Relevant Agency: Ministry for Primary Industries

Status of the Treaty Claim: Partially Settled

The Tribunal found a number of Treaty breaches including:

- The Crown’s failure to ensure structures within local government enabled Te Rohe Pōtae to exercise their mana whakahaere and tino rangatiratanga.
- The compulsory taking of Māori land for public works development purposes alienated large tracks of Māori land and Te Rohe Pōtae tribal authority. Without meaningful consultation or meeting tests of last resort, the Crown undertook the largest individual takings for public works in New Zealand history in the inquiry district during the twentieth century.
- Crown regulation of the natural environment further diminished Te Rohe Pōtae Māori tribal authority over many taonga and sites of significance, and Crown regulation and mismanagement of the natural environment likely resulted in significant damage to many of these important sites.

Based on its findings of Treaty breach in these areas, the Tribunal made recommendations to restore or better enable Te Rohe Pōtae Māori mana whakahaere, including amending the legislative and policy frameworks associated with each area under review and by accounting for identified breaches in any Treaty settlement processes with claimants.

In Part V of the report, the Tribunal found that breaches of the Treaty of Waitangi have led to long-term and ongoing poor health and wellbeing outcomes for many Māori in Te Rohe Pōtae.

The Tribunal found that Crown policies relating to land contributed to the erosion of the economic and resource base that could otherwise have been drawn upon to provide for Te Rohe Pōtae Māori experiencing hardship. As a result, Māori were disadvantaged within the local economy, earned less than other population groups, had worse health and lower quality housing, migrated away from the district out of necessity, had an often-fragile hold on employment, and for many years were unable to exert social autonomy over the health and well-being of their communities, including on matters such as alcohol use and regulation.

In the areas of education and te reo Māori the Tribunal found that the declining use of te reo Māori in the district throughout much of the twentieth century was clearly linked to the large-scale alienation of Te Rohe Pōtae land and the associated erosion of Māori mana whakahaere, customary ways of life and social organisation, as well as the spread of state-administered native and board schooling throughout the district.

Part VI – Take a Takiwā was released in 2020 and is an inventory of all the claims in this district inquiry and of the Tribunal’s claim specific findings.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

Maniapoto Hapū continue to be very active participants in the Ngā Hapū o Te Uru Iwi Fisheries Forum and provide input into the development of sustainability measures for their fisheries in Te Rohe Pōtae.

Wai 2840: Hauraki Settlement Overlapping Claims Inquiry Report, 2019

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal found that the claims of Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki were not well founded, but upheld the claims of Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Ranginui, and Ngātiwai. It found the Crown had breached its Treaty obligations to the iwi in several ways and criticised the policies and processes guiding the Crown’s actions.

The Tribunal recommended the Crown halt progress of the legislation giving effect to the Pare Hauraki Collective settlement deed, and individual Hauraki iwi settlement deeds, until the contested redress items have been through a proper process to resolve overlapping claims.

It also recommended that the Crown, when undertaking overlapping engagement processes during settlement negotiations, fully commits to and facilitates consultation, information-sharing, the use of tikanga-based resolution processes at appropriate times, and for the Red Book (a guide to the Treaty of Waitangi claims settlement process) to be amended accordingly.

The Tribunal set out substantive new recommendations on the use of tikanga-based processes to resolve overlapping interests.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

Decision-making processes about addressing overlapping claims on proposed redress for Hauraki Iwi on Aotea (Great Barrier Island) are complete. Decision-making processes in relation to redress in the Tauranga area are ongoing.

Wai 2561: The Ngātiwai Mandate Inquiry Report, 2017

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal recommended that the negotiations process be paused, and that the following steps be undertaken:

- Mediation or facilitated discussions be held to debate the unsatisfactory elements of the Deed of Mandate.
- In the event these mediated discussions were rejected by the parties, the Tribunal recommended withdrawing the mandate and setting up of a new entity such as a rūnanga or taumata (congress).

In the event these mediated discussions proposed changes, the Tribunal recommended that these would need to be put to Hapū for approval.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

In progress

The Crown has made funding available for groups to address issues raised in the Wai 2561 Ngātiwai Mandate inquiry.

Wai 903: He Whiritaunoka: Whanganui Land Report, 2015	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Partially settled	
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal	
He Whiritaunoka: Whanganui Land Report identified a large number of Treaty breaches by the Crown, relating to issues including the Crown’s military conduct between 1846 and 1848, its purchase of the Whanganui Block in 1848 and the Waimarino Block in 1887, the operation of the native land laws, the acquisition of Whanganui lands for scenic reserves, and the development of native townships. The Tribunal described the serious economic, social, and cultural damage that these breaches caused the Iwi of Whanganui and recommended that the Crown take this serious prejudice into account when it negotiated Treaty settlements.	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
Whanganui Land Settlement Negotiation Trust, representing Whanganui South, is working towards initialling a deed of settlement in December 2025. The Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Claims Settlement Bill had its third reading on 6 March 2025 and gained royal assent on 12 March 2025. Ngāti Hāua Iwi Trust, representing Ngāti Hāua in the northern Whanganui region, signed a deed of settlement in March 2025. The Ngāti Hāua Claims Settlement Bill was subsequently introduced in April 2025 and passed its first reading on 14 May 2025. A report was due back from the Select Committee in November 2025.	

Wai 2490: The Ngāpuhi Mandate Inquiry Report, 2015

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Tribunal identified flaws in the structure and processes of the Tūhoronuku Independent Mandated Authority (IMA) and found the Crown to have breached the Treaty. It did not, however, believe that the Crown should withdraw its recognition of the mandate and require that a new mandate process take place. The Tribunal recommended that the Crown halt negotiations with the Tūhoronuku IMA until the Crown could be satisfied:

- That Ngāpuhi Hapū had been able to discuss and confirm whether they wanted the Tūhoronuku IMA to represent them in negotiations.
- That Ngāpuhi Hapū who did want to be represented this way had been able to confirm (or otherwise) their Hapū kaikōrero (speaker) and Hapū representatives on the board.
- That Ngāpuhi Hapū had been able to discuss and confirm whether there was appropriate Hapū representation on the board.
- That there was a workable withdrawal mechanism.

The Crown should also make it a condition of its recognition of the mandate that a majority of Hapū kaikōrero remain involved in Tūhoronuku. Finally, the Tribunal also recommended that the Crown support those Hapū who did withdraw to enter settlement negotiations as soon as possible.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

Completed

Since the previous update:

- Te Whakaaetanga drafted and sought submissions on their deed of mandate, which was expected to be recognised by the Crown in July 2025.
- Four additional groups submitted mandate proposals for consideration by the Crown.
- Engagement on mandate development continues in all other Ngāpuhi areas (Hokianga, Kaikohe, Mangakāhia and Whangārei).

Wai 1130: Te Kāhui Maunga: The National Park District, 2013	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing	
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal	
The Tribunal noted that the Treaty principles of dealing fairly and with utmost good faith have been breached, that substantial restitution is due, and that the quantum should be settled by prompt negotiation. The Tribunal recommended that the Crown undertake further research on the Ōkahukura 8M2 acquisition to ascertain whether compensation was ever paid to the owners. The Tribunal recommended an expression of recognition and respect for the spiritual regard that the claimants express for Tongariro as a special maunga (mountain), in the form of joint management of the Tongariro National Park by the Crown and the former owners. It should be taken out of DOC control and managed jointly by a statutory authority of both Crown and Ngā Iwi o Te Kāhui Maunga representation. Title should also be held jointly between these two groups, in a new form of ‘Treaty of Waitangi title’. The land used for quarrying and metal extraction should not only be returned but be made clear and safe: returned in a usable condition at no cost to the former owners or their successors. The Tribunal further recommended that there be compensation for the damage and destruction caused to the land and ancestral remains. Finally, the Tribunal recommended that waterways of Te Kāhui Maunga, including Lake Rotoaira, should be monitored, and the Crown should fund this research.	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
The Crown has expressed a willingness to enter into negotiations. There has been recent Iwi correspondence to the Crown indicating that they are mindful of the future negotiations but are not ready at this time. The commencement of the negotiations is dependent on all participating Iwi indicating readiness and developing their negotiating team that will engage with the Minister of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations and Te Tari Whakatau.	

Wai 215: Te Raupatu o Tauranga Moana: Report on the Tauranga Confiscation Claims (2004), Tauranga Moana, 1886-2006: Report on the Post-Raupatu Claims Vol 1 & 2 (2010)	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Settled	
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal	
The Tribunal found that the Crown was not justified in taking military action against Tauranga Māori in the 1860s. Tauranga Māori suffered considerable prejudice as a result of breaches of the principles of the Treaty arising from the Crown's confiscation, return and purchase of Māori land in the Tauranga district before 1886. The Tribunal recommended that the Crown move quickly to settle the Tauranga claims with generous redress.	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	Completed
Royal assent was given to the Ngāti Ranginui Claims Settlement Act on 21 May 2025. The Tauranga Moana Iwi Collective Settlement Bill and the Ngāi Te Rangī and Ngā Pōtiki Claims Settlement Bill had their first readings.	
Wai 145: Te Whanganui a Tara me ōna Takiwā Report on the Wellington District, 2003	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing	
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal	
The Tribunal's main finding was that the Crown seriously breached the Treaty in the Port Nicholson block causing prejudice to Te Atiawa, Ngāti Toa, Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Rangatahi, Taranaki and Ngāti Ruanui. The Tribunal recommended that, given the relative complexities of the issues and the interrelationships of these groups affected by a number of Treaty breaches, the parties should clarify matters of representation and enter negotiations with the Crown.	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
No progress update for the 2024/25 reporting year.	

Wai 45: The Muriwhenua Land Report, 1997	
Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana Te Tari Whakatau	
Status of the Treaty Claim: Ongoing	
Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal	
This report covers seven claims in Muriwhenua, the country’s most northerly district. The Tribunal concluded that the Muriwhenua claims were well-founded. The claims relate to: • The disposal of the pre-Treaty transaction land by grant or the presumptive acquisition of the scrip lands and surplus. • Land purchases by the Government. • Impacts in terms of land tenure reform and disempowerment.	
Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations	In progress
Treaty settlements have been enacted for Ngāti Kuri, Te Aupōuri, Ngāi Takoto, Te Rarawa and Ngātikahu ki Whangaruru. The Tribunal has initiated a renewed Muriwhenua Land Inquiry to hear in full remaining claims in the Muriwhenua inquiry district (Ngāti Kahu and Ngāpuhi). It expects to begin hearings in 2027.	

Wai 143: The Taranaki Report: Kaupapa Tuatahi, 1996

Responsible Agency: The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana | Te Tari Whakatau

Status of the Treaty Claim: Settled

Summary of Findings and/or Recommendations by Waitangi Tribunal

The Taranaki Report – Kaupapa Tuatahi dealt with 21 claims relating to issues including the Crown's purchase of land in Taranaki, the Taranaki land wars, the confiscation of 1.2 million acres of land under the New Zealand Settlements Act 1863, the Crown's invasion, and destruction of Parihaka in 1881, and the placement of reserves under the administration of the Public Trustee. The Tribunal described the history of Crown actions in Taranaki as “the antithesis to that envisaged by the Treaty of Waitangi” and found that the Taranaki claims could be the largest in the country. The Tribunal recommended reparations that reflected not only the scale of land loss, but the destruction of Taranaki society and culture, economic destabilisation, personal injury, and the denial of rights over generations.

Status of Progress Implementing Recommendations

Completed

Te Pire Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua / Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Bill had its third reading in January 2025 and gained royal assent on 1 February 2025. All Taranaki negotiations are now complete.

He whakamārama i te āhua o ngā Kerēme katoa o te Taraipiunara o Waitangi

Status Update for all Waitangi Tribunal Claims

This final section lists all reports that have been released by the Waitangi Tribunal. It allows progress with implementation of recommendations to be tracked over time.

The table below lists the Crown's position on the status of the reports according to the categories in the previous section. Some reports have changed their status since 2023–24 because of new information.

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
Urgent Inquiries				
2025	3400	The Takutai Moana Act 2011 Urgent Inquiry Stage 2 Report	In progress	Ongoing
2025	3740	Interim Regulatory Standards Bill Urgent Report	In progress	N/A
2025	3365	The Māori Wards and Constituencies Urgent Inquiry Report	Completed	N/A
2024	3300	Ngā Mātāpono/The Principles: Part II of the Interim Report of the Tomokia Ngā Tatau o Matangireia – The Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry Panel on The Crown’s Treaty Principles Bill and Treaty Clause Review Policies	No further action	N/A
2024	3400	The Takutai Moana Act 2011 Urgent Inquiry Stage 1 Report	Completed	Ongoing
2024	3350	The Oranga Tamariki (Section 7AA) Urgent Inquiry Report & 10 May 2024 Report	In progress	N/A
2021	2915	He Pāharakeke, he Rito Whakakīkinga Whāruarua: Oranga Tamariki Urgent Inquiry	In progress	N/A
2012	2235	The Port Nicholson Block Urgency Report	Completed	Settled
Priorities				
2024	2200	He Kōpūtara Priority Report	In progress	Ongoing
2024	2575	Hautupua: Te Aka Whai Ora (Māori Health Authority) Priority Report, Part 1	No further action	N/A
2021	1750	The Priority Report on the Whakatōhea Settlement Process	Completed	Settled
2021	2575	Haumaru: The Covid-19 Priority Report	In progress	N/A
2017	2200	Horowhenua: The Muaupoko Priority Report	In progress	Ongoing
2016	898	The Priority Report concerning Māuis Dolphin	Completed	N/A
2015	663	The Te Aroha Maunga Settlement Process Report	No further action	N/A
2013	2336	Matua Rautia: The Report on the Kōhanga Reo Claim	In progress	N/A
2007	785	The Ngāti Maniapoto/Ngāti Tama Settlement Cross claims Report	Completed	Settled
2003	996	The Ngāti Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau Settlement Cross-Claim Report	Completed	Settled
2002	958	The Ngāti Awa Settlement Cross Claims Report	Completed	Settled
2001	788 800	The Ngāti Maniapoto/Ngāti Tama Settlement Cross claims Report	Completed	Settled

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
Remedies				
2021	814	The Mangatū Remedies Report	In progress	Ongoing
2013	45	The Ngāti Kahu Remedies Report	In progress	Ongoing
1998	84	Turangi Township Remedies Report	Completed	Settled
Kaupapa				
2024	3300	Ngā Mātāpono/The Principles: The Interim Report of the Tomokia Ngā Tatau o Matangireia – The Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry Panel on The Crown’s Treaty Principles Bill and Treaty Clause Review Policies	No further action	N/A
2024	1718	Kei Ahotea Te Aho Matua	In progress	N/A
2023	3060	Report on Whakatika ki Runga, a Mini-Inquiry Commencing Te Rau o te Tika: The Justice System Inquiry	In progress	N/A
2023	2750	Kāinga Kore: The Stage One Report of the Housing Policy and Services Kaupapa Inquiry on Māori Homelessness”	In progress	N/A
2022	2358	Interim Report on Māori Appointments to Regional Planning Committees	No further action	N/A
2021/22	2522	Report on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement	No further action	N/A
2020	2870	He Aha I Pērā Ai The Māori Prisoners Voting Report	Completed	N/A
2019	2575	Hauora: Report on Stage One of the Health Services and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry	In progress	N/A
2017	2540	Tū Mai te Rangi! Report on the Crown and Disproportionate Reoffending Rates	In progress	N/A
2016	2478	He Kura Whenua ka Rokohanga: Report on Claims about the Reform of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993	Completed	N/A
2015	2417	Whaia te Mana Motuhake/ In Pursuit of Mana Motuhake: Report on the Māori Community Development Act Claim	In progress	N/A
2015	2391	The Final Report on the MV Rena	No further action	
2015	2393	Motiti Island Claims	No further action	
2019	2358	Stage 2 Report on the National Freshwater and Geothermal Resources Claim	In progress	N/A
2012	2358	Stage 1 Report on the National Freshwater and Geothermal Resources Claim	unknown	N/A
2011	262	Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: A Report into the Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting	In progress	N/A

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
2011	796	The Report on the Management of the Petroleum Resource	In progress	N/A
2006	262	The Interim Report of the Waitangi Tribunal in Respect of the ANZTPA Regime	No further action	N/A
2006	262	The Further Interim Report of the Waitangi Tribunal in Respect of the ANZTPA Regime	Completed	N/A
2005	1298	The Report on the Aotearoa Institute Claim concerning Te Wānanga o Aotearoa	Completed	N/A
2004	1177	The Interim Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Te Tai Hauāuru by-election	No further action	N/A
2004	1071	Report on the Crown’s Foreshore and Seabed Policy	Completed	N/A
2005	1024	The Offender Assessment Policies Report	Completed	N/A
2005	893	The Preliminary Report on the Haane Manahi Victoria Cross Claim	Completed	N/A
2003	796	The Petroleum Report	Completed	N/A
2002	953	Ahu Moana: The Aquaculture and Marine Farming Report	In progress	N/A
2001	790	Taranaki Māori, Dairy Industry Changes, and the Crown	Completed	N/A
2001	728	The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Report	Completed	N/A
2000	789	The Mōkai School Report	In progress	N/A
1999	776	Radio Spectrum Management and Development, Interim and Final Report	Completed	N/A
1999	718	The Wānanga Capital Establishment Report	Completed	N/A
1998	414	Te Whānau o Waipareira Report	No further action	N/A
1995	449	Kiwifruit Marketing Report	No further action	N/A
1994	413	Māori Electoral Option Report	Completed	N/A
1994	176	Report on Broadcasting Claim	Completed	N/A
1993	350	Māori Development Corporation Report	Completed	N/A
1993	212	Te Ika Whenua – Energy Assets Report	Completed	N/A
1992	321	Appointments to the Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries Commission Report	Completed	N/A
1992	307	The Fisheries Settlement Report	Completed	N/A
1992	72 121 276	Interim Report on Sylvia Park and Auckland Crown Asset Disposals	Completed	N/A

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
1991	202	Report on the Tamaki Māori Development Authority Claim	No further action	N/A
1990	26 150 776 2224	Radio Frequencies	Completed	N/A
1990	13	Report on Fisheries Regulations	Completed	N/A
1990	5	Report on Imposition of Land Tax	No further action	N/A
1987	25	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on a Claim Relating to Māori Representation on the Auckland Regional Authority	Completed	N/A
1987	15	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Te Weehi Claim to Customary Fishing Rights	Completed	N/A
1986	22	Interim Report to Minister of Māori Affairs on State- Owned Enterprises Bill	Completed	N/A
1986	11	Te Reo Māori Claim	Completed	N/A
1985	19	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on a Claim Relating to Māori 'Privilege'	No further action	N/A
District				
2023	2180	He Whenua Karapotia. He Whenua Ngaro. Priority Report on Landlocked Māori Land in the Taihape Inquiry District	In progress	Ongoing
2023	2660	"The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 Inquiry Stage 2 Report"	In progress	Ongoing
2022	2521	Motiti: Report on the Te Moutere o Motiti Inquiry	Completed	Settled
2022	2200	Waikanae: Report on Te Ātiawa/Ngāti Awa Claims	In progress	Ongoing
2022	1040	Tino Rangatiratanga me te Kāwanatanga: The Report on Stage 2 of the Te Paparahi o Te Raki Inquiry	In progress	Ongoing
2020	2660	The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 Inquiry Stage 1 Report	In progress	Ongoing
2020	2200	The Kārewarewa Urupā Report	In progress	Ongoing
2020	898	Te Mana Whatu Ahuru: Report on Te Rohe Pōtae Claims (Parts I – VI)	In progress	Partially Settled
2019	2858	The Maniapoto Mandate Inquiry Report	Completed	Settled
2019	2573	The Mana Ahuriri Mandate Report	Completed	Settled
2019	2840	Hauraki Settlement Overlapping Claims Inquiry Report	In progress	Ongoing
2018	2662	The Whakatōhea Mandate Inquiry Report	Completed	Settled

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
2017	894	Te Urewera (8 Volumes)	Completed	Settled
2017	2561	The Ngātiwai Mandate Inquiry Report	In progress	Ongoing
2015	903	He Whiritaunoka: The Whanganui Land Report	In progress	Partially Settled
2015	2490	Ngāpuhi Mandate Inquiry Report	Completed	Ongoing
2013	1130	Te Kāhui Maunga: The National Park District Inquiry Report	In progress	Ongoing
2010	863	The Wairarapaki Tararua Report (3 volumes)	Completed	Settled
2010	215	Tauranga Moana, 1886–2006: Report on the Post- Raupatu Claims volume 1, volume 2	Completed	Settled
2010	863	The Wairarapaki Tararua Report (3 volumes)	Completed	Settled
2010	2190	East Coast Settlement Report	Completed	Settled
2009	655	Report on Aspects of the Wai 655 Claim	Completed	Settled
2008	1200	He Maunga Rongo: Report on Central North Island Claims: Stage One (4 volumes)	Completed	Settled
2008	785	Northern South Island Claims	Completed	Settled
2007	1362	The Tāmaki Makaurau Settlement Process Report	Completed	Settled
2007	1353	The Te Arawa Settlement Process Reports	Completed	Settled
2007	785	Te Tau Ihu o te Ika a Maui: Preliminary Report on Te Tau Ihu Customary Rights in the Statutory Ngāi Tahu Takiwā	Completed	Settled
2006	686	The Hauraki Report (3 volumes)	Completed	Settled
2006	674	The Kaipara Report	Completed	Settled
2005	1090	The Waimumu Trust (SILNA) Report	Completed	N/A
2005	1150	Te Arawa Mandate Report: Te Wahanga Tuarua	Completed	Settled
2004	1150	The Te Arawa Mandate Report	Completed	Settled
2004	201	Mohaka ki Ahuriri Report	Completed	Settled
2004	814	Turanga Tangata Turanga Whenua: The Report on the Turanganui a Kiwa Claims (2 volumes)	Completed	Settled
2003	411	The Tarawera Forest Report	unknown	unknown
2003	145	Te Whanganui a Tara me ona Takiwa: Report on the Wellington District	In progress	Ongoing
2002	674	The Kaipara Interim Report	Completed	Settled
2001	692	The Napier Hospital and Health Services Report	Completed	N/A

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
2001	64	Rēkohu: A Report on Moriori and Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri claims in the Chatham Islands	Completed	Settled
2000	142 758	The Pakakohi and Tangahoe Settlement Claims Report	Completed	Settled
1999	167	Whanganui River Report	Completed	N/A
1999	46	The Ngāti Awa Raupatu Report	Completed	Settled
1988	212	Te Ika Whenua Rivers Report	Completed	Partially Settled
1997	45	Muriwhenua Land Report	In progress	Ongoing
1996	143	Taranaki Report: Kaupapa Tuatahi	Completed	Settled
1995	84	The Turangi Township Report	Completed	Settled
1995	55	Te Whanganui-a-Orotū Report	Completed	Settled
1995	46	Report on Disposal of Crown Land in the Eastern Bay of Plenty	Completed	Settled
1995	27	The Ngāi Tahu Ancillary Claims Report 1995	Completed	Settled
1994	315	Te Maunga Railways Land Report	Completed	Settled
1993	322	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Tuhuru Claim	Completed	Settled
1993	304	Ngāwhā Geothermal Resource Report	Completed	Settled
1993	273	Report on Tapuwae 1B and 4 Incorporation	Completed	Settled
1993	264	Report on South Auckland Railway Lands	Completed	Settled
1993	212	Interim Report on the Rangitaiki and Wheao Rivers Claim	Completed	Settled
1993	167	Interim Report and Recommendation in Respect of the Whanganui River Claim	Completed	Settled
1993	153	Preliminary Report on the Te Arawa Representative Geothermal Resource Claims	Completed	Settled
1993	33	The Pouakani Report 1993 Part 1, Part 2	Completed	Settled
1992	264	Report on Railway Land at Waikanae	Completed	Settled
1992	264	Report on Wellington Railway Lands	Completed	Settled
1992	264	Report on Auckland Railway Lands	No further action	N/A
1992	119	The Mohaka River Report	Completed	Settled
1992	67	Report on the Oriwa 1B3 Block	No further action	N/A
1992	38	The Te Roroa Report 1992	Completed	Settled

Year	Wai#	Report	Recommendation status	Claim Status
1992	27	The Ngāi Tahu Sea Fisheries Report 1992	Completed	Settled
1991	261	Interim Report on the Auckland Hospital Endowments Claim	Completed	Settled
1991	45	Report on Kaimaumau Lands	No further action	N/A
1991	27	Ngāi Tahu Report (3 volumes)	Completed	Settled
1991	27	The Ngāi Tahu Claim: Supplementary Report on Ngāi Tahu Legal Personality	Completed	Settled
1990	103	Report on Roadman’s Cottage, Mahia	Completed	Settled
1990	34	Report on Proposed Sewage Scheme at Kakanui	No further action	N/A
1990	32	The Ngāti Rangiteaorere Claim Report 1990	Completed	Settled
1990	14	Report on Tokaanu Building Sections	No further action	N/A
1990	3	Report on Proposed Discharge of Sewage at Welcome Bay	No further action	N/A
1989	83	Report on the Waikawa Block	Completed	Settled
1988	22	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Muriwhenua Fishing Claim	Completed	Settled
1988	17	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Mangonui Sewerage Claim	Completed	Settled
1987	10	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Waiheke Island Claim	Completed	Settled
1987	9	Ōrākei Claim	Completed	Settled
1986	18	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on Lake Taupo Fishing Rights	Completed	Settled
1985	12	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on a Mōtitī Island	Completed	Settled
1985	8	Manukau Report	Completed	Settled
1984	4	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Kaituna River Claim	Completed	Settled
1983	6	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Motunui– Waitara Claim	Completed	Settled
1978	2	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on the Waiau Pa Power Station Claim	No further action	N/A
1978	1	Report of the Waitangi Tribunal on a Claim by J P Hawke and others of Ngāti Whātua, concerning the Fisheries Regulations	Completed	N/A

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