

**Te Mana o Ngati Rangitahi Trust**  
**Hui-a-Iwi**  
**1.00pm Sunday 21 August 2016**  
**Rangitahi Marae, Matata**

**Present:** Leith Comer, Ken Raureti, Tiipene Marr, Delwyn Rondon, Peri Perenara, Donna Semmens, Cathy Dewes, Dougal Stewart, Darcy Stoneham, Alana Hunter, Michael Perenara, Robert Dawson, Tunis Perenara, Fay Patrick, Monica Te Aonui, Orini Marr, Pia Mason, Nick Marr, Mere Butler, Tanira Raureti, Tracey Raureti, Henare Mason, Vanessa Allen, Shirley Marr, Kelley Marr, Taichi Playle, Rahera Falwasser, Gordon McIntyre, Janet Mason, Linda Bush-Mason, Lucy Mason, Maria Minarapa, Erana Tuna, Pep Raureti, Brendan Coffin

**Apologies:** Audrey Rota, Jimmy Rota, Rita Toko, Peri Marks, Maxine Marks, John Marks, Sandy Hata, Norma White Tito, Audrey Perenara Tito

**Karakia Timatanga:** 1.15pm

The Negotiators Leith Comer, Kenneth Raureti, Tiipene Marr, Peri Perenara and Delwyn Rondon introduced themselves.

Leith gave an outline of the Ngati Rangitahi Story, the Redress Package and the Wildlands Consultants restoration opportunities document.

Leith spoke on the PowerPoint Presentation:

- Agreement in Principle (AIP) by June 2017  
Where Ngāti Rangitahi and the Crown agree, in principle, to the redress package. We are working to have it agreed by June 2017, before the election, but we will not agree at any costs.
- Continuing Negotiations with regular Hui-a-Iwi  
As we develop the negotiation package with the Crown, there needs to be continual hui with the Iwi.
- Political decision  
The decision whether or not our redress package will be a political decision.
- The support and acceptance by the people of Ngāti Rangitahi  
If the politicians agree to the package, they will only accept it if there is majority support from the Iwi.

**Restoration of the Awa and Te Awa o Te Atua - Tiipene Marr**

Currently there is a MOU in place, which consists of the following groups: Norske Skog, Carter Holt Harvey, Ngāti Rangitahi, Tūwharetoa and Ngāti Awa. Norske Skog and Carter Holt Harvey agreed to put up \$100,000/year towards the restoration of the Awa. They have now reduced it to \$70,000/year because they closed down one of the paper machines. The Mills asked for a 35 year resource consent, but because of our opposition, it was reduced to 25 years. In negotiations with OTS, we want to see a co-governance of the Tarawera Awa, like that of the Rangitaiki, which is a binding document and is financed by the Regional Council. The Tarawera Awa has its own River Management Plan because of the level of pollution.

Robert Dawson asked Tiipene what the biggest pollution of the river is at the moment and what the \$70,000/year is spent on. Tiipene responded that it is the Mill and farm waste that pollutes the river, although the mill waste is at a lesser amount than before. The \$70,000 goes towards swamp restoration, new plants along the riverbanks to decrease the amount of farm waste going into the awa.

Pia asked how different the awa is now, compared to the 1950's and 1960's when whitebait was caught in kerosene tins. The rubbish from the Mills was in the awa then, but the whitebait was different and plentiful. Mere said that Regional Council structure has destroyed the natural structure of the awa trying to 'clean up' the awa and that it is up to us to tell them what we require to get the natural ecosystem up again.

Leith said that the Crown agreed that they have polluted the awa. There are many ideas in the Wildlands booklet but it lacks co-ordination. A co-management structure may be the first step.

Delwyn said we need to look at what we want to see in the future, for our tamariki, our mokopuna.

Henare asked about the Kohika Pa Site, building a three-way relationship between Ngāti Awa, Tūwharetoa and Ngāti Rangitahi. Delwyn said we need to go through the Treaty Settlement process first as Ngāti Awa and Tūwharetoa have already settled. Now it is our turn. Henare asked if we are running behind the other iwi. Tanira doesn't think we are behind them, but that we are doing it differently.

### **Restoration of Language, Culture and Taonga - Delwyn Rondon.**

Cathy added that we have lessons to learn from those who have settled and had the reo as part of their claim. We know now what a huge impact it has had on us and looking into the future it is essential to rebuild the house.

Rahera said the reo, the awa, etc. is all relative. We need to re-establish ourselves, move forward.

We have nineteen Wai claims, two of them are Taonga claims. As part of the settlement with the Crown, we asked the Semmens whanau to meet with the Crown Negotiator at the Rotorua Museum to speak on the taonga 'Te Kahumamae o Pareraututu'.

Mere said the reason why the Semmens whanau asked to speak with OTS, was because of the journey her dad took to try and get Pareraututu back. The whanau appointed Sandy Hata to be the spokesperson, to take the Crown through a journey, letting them know the impact it had on the whanau. The whanau were thankful to Te Mana for the opportunity.

There is also revitalisation through health, housing and economic initiatives. Delwyn said we have put in a tonono for papakāinga development in Matata and Tarawera. There are cultural and tourism opportunities including ecotourism in Tarawera and Matata.

Peri spoke on Ngāti Rangitahi in Matata, that there is no immediate relief for them. The Negotiators have spoken to Whakatāne District Council (WDC) about the Water Reticulation System. WDC asked if Ngāti Rangitahi could ask about getting funding for the system from the Crown.

Pep said there should be more consultation with the people in Matata first. The system will become a financial burden on those living in Matata, not only from the rates but a reticulation system would mean alienation of land; sections could be divided and sold in order to afford rates, and that will eventually push the locals out of their own homes.

Leith said that Katherine Gordon from OTS asked to speak to the WDC and that we are not negotiating the reticulation system with the Crown.

Mere said that at the Council meetings, it's usually the new Matata residents that attend, a very small percentage, as the locals have had enough of the Council. Sixty percent of attendees voted in favour of the system at a Council meeting (that is 60% of those who voted, not everyone in Matata).

Rahera said that something needs to be done, but there will always be consequences.

### **Various Land Blocks around Matata – Tiipene Marr**

Tūwharetoa and Ngāti Awa received a thirty hectare block each on the reserve behind Matata and a one hectare nohonga on the Matata side of the river mouth in their claims and he wants Ngāti Rangitihī to seek the same.

We will look at claiming the Wildlife Reserve, from the river mouth through to Murphy's Camp and beyond, and the Pikowai and Matata Campgrounds.

Tiipene asked if the people knew of any other lands in and around Matata we could claim, please let the negotiators know.

Leith asked the people that, if we had to choose, which lands should be prioritised for negotiation.

Tanira asked why we couldn't claim it all back. Leith said that there are DOC policies in place, relativity clauses, value of claim etc. that they will use to contain us in terms of what they will give back. Delwyn said that there are a lot of different government agencies that own or have management over the different land blocks.

Linda asked if anyone can look at the list of land blocks. Leith said it can be viewed at the office.

In the redress package, a key priority is the restoration of the awa and Te Awa o Te Atua and that we want more than just an MOU.

We want the Crown to help establish a whare taonga in Matata and to help us get back our taonga, either on loan or to keep.

Cathy asked if we could get the land where the tall pine trees are situated, as the Ngati Rangitihī part of the Reserve. Tiipene replied that we can't as it is privately owned land.

### **Restoration of Mauri of Mountain, Lands and Lakes – Kenneth Raureti**

Kenneth spoke on the Tarawera area, where we have mana whenua. There are some blocks already in Ngati Rangitihī ownership in some form: Crater Block, Onuku, and Rerewhakaaitu 1A 2B. We are claiming the land towards the Tarawera catchment, referred to as the Lake Tarawera Scenic Reserve, which includes Te Pūha, Te Kanaihapā. Tūhourangi have a whenua rāhui on the land. Moura is a principle part of Ngāti Rangitihī and we are claiming it back. We are claiming Waimangu, we are claiming a package to help us clean up our lakes (Okaro, Rerewhakaaitu, Rotomahana and Tarawera). Tapahoro is another significant pou for us. We are claiming a strip of land on both sides of the awa to re-establish our place at Tarawera. Te Ariki was a principle Ngati Rangitihī settlement prior to the eruption and there is a 100 acre estate there. Te Pumautanga (TPT) settled the 100 acres on the basis of 50/50. Ken has no knowledge of any consultation that made it 50/50. Prior to that there

was already a 72/28 Ngāti Rangitihi/ Tūhourangi split. Cathy asked if we could ask for monetary value for the other 22 acres we lost in the TPT settlement. Leith said it was in legislation and can't be changed but we can leverage with the Crown.

Delwyn pointed out our burial sites around the lake.

### **Other Redress Items – Leith Comer**

The Crown said we won't get much quantum because we got it in the CNI. We disagree with this but may need to find other ways to get quantum. It could be through building a whare taonga, papakāinga etc.

Leith ran through the Settlement process steps; our negotiations have just begun, we aim to bring back an agreement in principle before June 2017. We will have another 3 or 4 hui-a-iwi before then. If there is no majority agreement by the iwi, the process will stop.

This is a political decision that the Minister of Treaty Settlements takes to his colleagues. Our redress package needs agreement from them.

Neighbouring iwi need to agree with any claims that may be overlapping. We need Tūwharetoa and Ngāti Awa to agree to overarching governance for the restoration of the awa and Te Awa o Te Atua and to agree on the reserve lands we are claiming in Matata.

We need to be mindful of the public. Tapahoro is a campground. DOC do not give back campgrounds. We want to get it back but will allow public access under our conditions.

Once the settlement is ratified it will be confirmed in legislation.

We need to think about whether we want to stay with Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihi or look at a new Post Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE) to receive the land, money, and exercise the authority for Ngāti Rangitihi. We need to look at whether other Ngāti Rangitihi entity that would be better managed collectively. One option may have been to combine Te Mana and Ruawāhia 2B. Ruawāhia 2B Trustees said no, so it has been taken off the table.

Taichi asked about where Tūhourangi have the whenua rāhui, would we have a slim change getting it back. Leith said we could still get it back but talk to Tūhourangi about a trade-off.

There are 100 acres below the Tarawera Falls administered by Te Arawa Lakes Trust. Ngāti Rangitihi doesn't have any representation on Te Arawa Lakes Trust, so we want the 100 acres back.

Cathy asked if other iwi have been reimbursed because of legislation being wrong.

Monica said that Hauani and Kopuatawhiti were not mentioned. Delwyn said Hauani and Kopuatawhiti are already in Maori ownership and we can't claim back the privately owned land.

Linda was looking through the Wildlands Report and asked how Ngāti Rangitihi will look at consulting with Tūwharetoa and Ngāti Awa. Leith said that tomorrow, Ngāti Rangitihi will be meeting with Tūwharetoa. Meetings with Ngāti Awa and Tūhourangi have been requested.

Linda asked if the meetings between the iwi are open to the public. Tiipene said that anyone can attend the co-governance of Rangitaiki meetings as they are Council funded. If they want something bought up, they can get the delegate to speak for them. Linda asked if they can be put up on Te

Mana website. Tiipene said they haven't got to the co-governance stage for Tarawera but in the future they can be advertised.

The next hui-a-iwi will be held in late October or early November.

Leith asked if there was anything that the people are dead against. There was no response.

Cathy asked who would be putting the research in te reo. Leith said that hasn't been looked into yet.

Henare heard that our boundary wasn't extended to Walker's access. Tiipene said our area of interest extended to the Rangitaiki but the land along the coastline is all private property.

Linda asked what Ta Mana is trying to do with the Great Walk. Leith said there are a lot of international, national and local people who want to walk over our maunga and hear our stories. It would be beneficial for us. Rahera said she knows of at least one benefit, we are not the 'owner' we are the custodian. With an educated person to take the tour, why can't we tell everyone our story?

Delwyn spoke in support of the great walk concept. She reported that after the boat trip with the Minister, some of us took Katherine and her team back to the Museum. As we were going back up the hill, we stopped at the Tūhourangi pou. There was a tour van and someone was giving a korero about the Tarawera area. Ngāti Rangitihi was not mentioned once. We need the opportunity to tell our story.

Tiipene said this concept was talked about 20 years ago and tourism is a huge part of the New Zealand economy. Eco-tourism is huge, not only will it keep the natural state of the area, it will give our people jobs.

Erana said it is a fair enough concern and wants to be reassured that proceeds come back to the people and the maunga is kept in a pristine condition.

Taichi believed there will be no significant benefit to Ngāti Rangitihi because the current tourist operators on the maunga are not Ngāti Rangitihi. Delwyn said he was right and that if we did the great walk, we want to own the boats to take people across the lake, for our people to tell our story.

Nick said the continuation of these hui, being transparent and keeping the information flowing is the best way to do find our mana. Kotahitanga is what we need.

Pep said we are probably missing a lot of knowledge without engaging with the research in te reo Maori. She asked if Pokohu is owned by us. Delywn said it is under Maori Investment Ltd.

### **Other Business**

A couple of years ago, Ngāti Rangitihi was going to host Te Papa Tākaro but it did not happen. We have been asked if we want to host in 2017. If there was agreement, we need to start working on it now. There was implication from this hui-a-iwi that Ngāti Rangitihi wants to host in 2017.

**Karakia Whakamutunga** 3.57pm