



Project Brief: Inland Waterways: Cultural Perspectives

Inland Waterways: Historical

Crown Forest Rental Trust has agreed to commission research for the Porirua ki Manawatu Inquiry, 11 December 2015 – 12 May 2017



Tihei mauri ora! E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e rau rangatira mā Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

We are pleased to let you know that a team has been brought together to help your hapū and whānau within the Porirua ki Manawātū claimant community, to undertake research of importance for your rohe.

The two technical reports our teams are undertaking are:

1. **Inland Waterways: Cultural Perspectives [PkM_IW_CP]**
(Duration: 30 weeks until 26 August 2016)
2. **Inland Waterways: Historical [PkM_IW_HIST]**
(Duration: 65 weeks until 12 May 2017)

Ōhau 'loop',
2014

Kuku Stream by former Kuku
Dairy Factory, 2014

Ōhau River towards the Kuku
Ōhau estuary to sea,
2015

Other outputs with reports include:

- Large-scale maps for cluster groups
- IBooks that document the 40+ interviews either as one-on-one, or in small groups sessions.

Inland Waterways: Cultural Perspectives [PkM_IW_CP]

Our teams are committed to helping you...
Awhina mai hoki

Both research teams are made up of predominately Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga and ART (Te Ātiawa, Raukawa and Toarangatira) confederation researchers. Our research expertise covers Māori approaches to environmental, marine, freshwater, whenua, natural resources and land use issues, as well as intricate understandings of ecology and other sciences. We are well versed in ethical research guidelines, use of consent forms and interview questionnaires for iwi and hapū participants. We aim to gather oral narratives with a high level of integrity according to tikanga and kaupapa tuku iho.

PkM_IW_CP will seek oral narratives that examine the:

- Customary use of and significance of waterways, including the ancestral relationships and use rights of iwi and hapū to waterways in their rohe
- Impacts of colonisation on PkM inland waterways upon customary use
- Loss of essential resources through drainage
- Retaining control of, and access to, the inland waterways in the district
- Ownership issues in the PkM rohe over inland waterways
- Relationships iwi/hapū have had with the Crown and local government with respect to management of waterways
- Restoring the health and wellbeing of various waterways
- Loss of freshwater species and habitat
- Hapū and Iwi perspectives on species and habitat loss
- Impacts on species and habitat
- Range of prejudices Māori women faced in early colonial encounters and ongoing impacts in terms of Māori womens' leadership today.

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2. Inland Waterways: Historical [PkM_IW_HIST]

The **PkM IW-Hist** project will focus on a range of generic and technical written sources that document and chronicle impacts upon an extensive range of inland water bodies flowing from mountains to sea within the Porirua ki Manawatū (PkM) enquiry region from 1840 to present.

The **PkM IW-Hist** will also use innovative, illustrative software and related expertise alongside CFRT's Mapping Facilitator to create a series of maps (both large print and digital) for each of the nine cluster regions, if hapū groups want them. With willing iwi and hapū input, each map is a tangible research output that will encompass all water bodies in the designated region. Each will focus on water bodies that hapū and whānau are interested in highlighting. Another very large map (print and digital) shall encompass the whole region.

Data is collated from existing data sets available from Councils, research entities like Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research and other water body sources like Freshwater Environments of New Zealand (FWENZ), Land Environments of New Zealand (LENZ), the River Environments Classification (REC), the New Zealand Freshwater Fish Database (NZFFD), Wetlands of Ecological and Representative Importance (WERI), and many more sources and repositories. Graphic data can be transferred onto aerial photographs or used as graphics to carefully illustrate a research region. This approach engages the hapū groups within the clusters to better understand changes made over time and the decline in waterway health, from mountains to sea. Our teams will ensure the production of high quality maps that are useful for the research process and for the final report.

As the research progresses, the **PkM IW-Hist** team, our Mapping Expert and CFRT Mapping Facilitator will continue to work closely with the hapū and whānau to create a selected overview of a significant water body or a range of water bod(ies) in their distinct regions. This mapping approach creates land and water block studies, which illustrate key aspects of the research findings.

Themes and Topics for PkM_IW_HIST

The detailed maps (as research outputs within the final report) aim to not only help identify key sites and the relationships between these natural areas to hapū, but also document the range of impacts created by the following:

- Engineered channel modifications
- Gravel extraction sites in larger rivers
- Siltation and run off from quarries adjacent to water bodies
- Installed barrages on a range of streams
- Severing of river meanders from main river flows
- Water races
- Treatment and reference to natural stream systems as drains.

The PkM IW-Hist Report will examine the:

- *Impacts of colonisation on PkM inland waterways, particularly at the time of European settlement and expansion of the economic and farming frontier.*
- *Extractive industries such as gravel extraction have also been a concern in past decades.*
- *Post-colonial impacts on lakes, river systems and tributaries through aggradation, erosion, water quality, wetlands drainage, physical changes in riverbeds and gravel extraction, and the impact these changes have had on the Māori communities in the district.*
- *Title and ownership with legal issues for water bodies will be addressed according to the *ad medium filum aquae* (to the middle line of the water) rule.*
- *Water power uses for particular water bodies such as hydro schemes or irrigation schemes.*
- *Water quality issues including general pollution, industrial and urban waste discharges, dairy farm run-off, wetland drainage impacts on water quality, etc.*
- *Flood protection work took place from the 1960s for many water bodies in the inquiry region, which had a huge impact on taonga species and other natural resources.*
- *Fisheries were vital for iwi and hapū wellbeing, based on various research activities on environmental impacts on fisheries undertaken overtime.*