



"Kia u ki te whakapono me aroha tetahi ki tetahi"

"Holdfast to what we believe with love and respect for each other"

# RAHUI

## "Ma mahi te kai" TRADITIONAL CUSTOMARY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



### Welcome to Tauroa, nau mai haere mai ki Tauroa,

The Tauroa peninsular is a public fishing, diving and a recreational resource. Te Rarawa hapu are establishing kaitiakitanga mechanisms over the peninsula in order to manage takutaimoana resources.

### History

The area of Tauroa is steeped in Kupe and Te Rarawa history.

The takutaimoana (seaward) was named Te Maara a Whaaro (the gardens of Whaaro) after Kupe's sister who exercised mana over the very important food and cultural resources.

But it is the Tinana Waka which features most in the significance and cultural importance of the area. It is this waka that carried paramount Chief Tumoana and made landfall at Tauroa and departed on its journey back to Hawaii from Tauroa.

Oral history describes the landfall of the Tinana being treacherous as the waka had become damaged.

The discovery of the channel that enabled the safe landing of the waka became known as Whakaora (harboring of life) and the site where the waka was repaired named Otia after the finishing of the work.

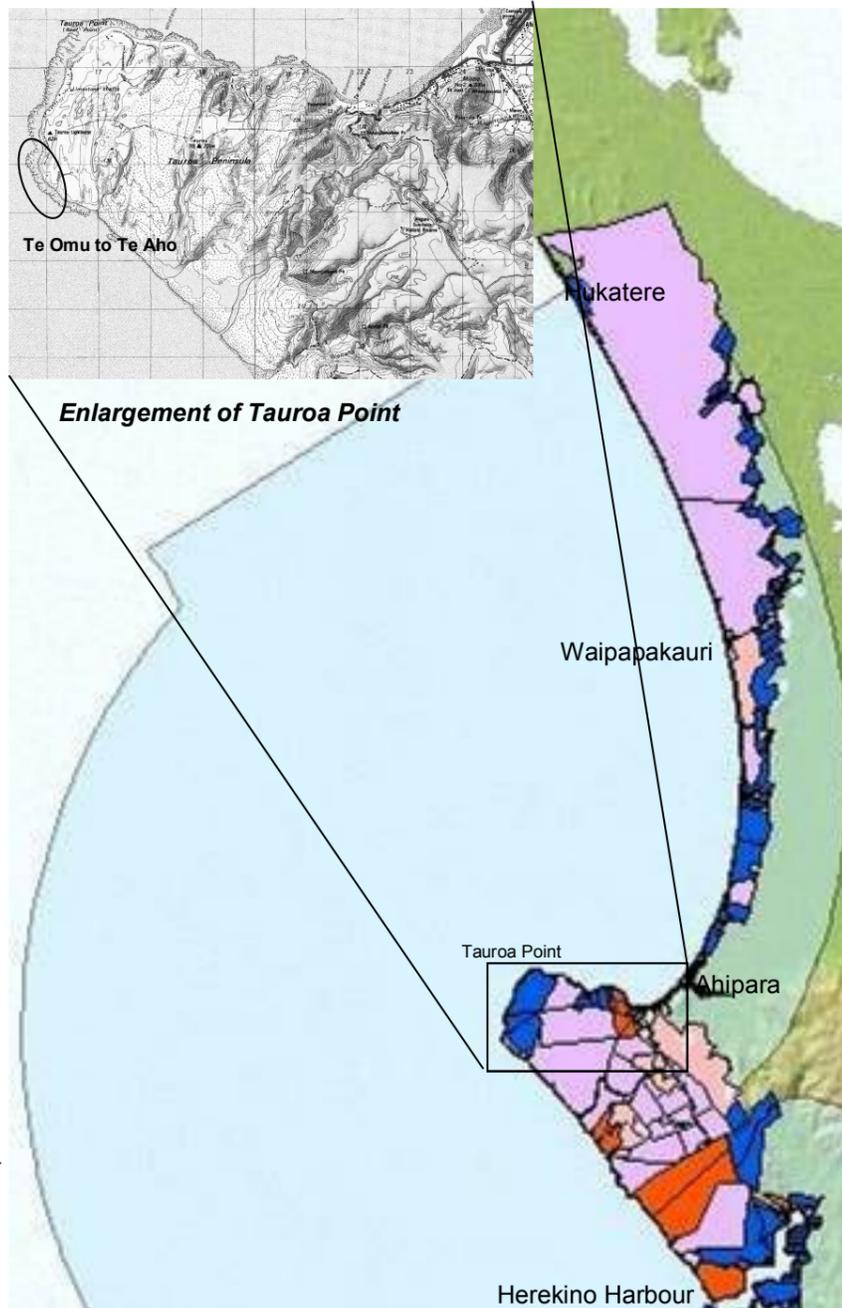
These oral accounts have since been collaborated by the excavation of two very important archeological sites where evidence indicates that a waka has been worked on about six hundred years ago.

The other midden site is over one thousand years old confirming Te Rarawa's ancient occupation of the area.

In the early 1800's the mana of Te Rarawa was consolidated under the leadership of Poroa who became reknown as a peacemaker.

### Nga Hapu Marae o Te Rarawa ki Ahipara

Roma, Wainui, Korou kore are the recognized coastal Ahipara marae that hold the mana of their taonga. They recognize and provide for the interests of Te Rarawa, Te Uri o Hina, Manukau, Rangikohu and Owata .



### Vision

"To exercise Tino Rangatiratanga and Kaitiakitanga within our Rohe Moana"

### Ahipara Komiti Takutaimoana

The Komiti is the mandated group of Tangata Kaitiaki who manage the Customary Fisheries interests of Nga Hapu o Ahipara. The area of interest is from Hukatere south to Titahi just north Herekino Harbour.

### Purpose

To build and develop Te Rarawa Hapu ability and capacity to ensure the sustainable use and protection of the Takutaimoana for both present and future generations.

### Role

The Role of the Komiti can include but are not limited to the following:

The protection and maintenance of wahi tapu and other cultural/ heritage sites;

The placing of rahui during the event of a death or drowning within the Takutaimoana;

The placing of rahui to allow replenishment of harvested resources;

Directing development in ways which are in keeping with the environment;

Implementing Tikanga associated with traditional practises;

Providing for the needs of both present and future generations.

### Objectives

To preserve the natural character of the Takutaimoana including protection from inappropriate use and development.

Prevention of damage to and loss of traditional fisheries habitats and taonga of significance to Te Rarawa Hapu.

Maintenance and enhancement of public use, enjoyment of and access to the takutaimoana.

To minimize conflicts between uses in the Takutaimoana and the effects on public health and safety.

### Purpose of the Rahui

The purpose of a Rahui is to conserve the resources and ensure their replenishment and sustenance in accordance with tikanga or custom of Rahui a prohibition or ban instituted to protect resources. This Rahui prohibits the taking of Kaimoana and fishing between the areas of Te Aho and Te Omu as marked by traditional pouwhenua for a period of six months.

### What is under Rahui

The gathering of kaimoana and fishing is under Rahui and therefore prohibited from being taken. Swimming is not prohibited.

### What is Rahui?

Rahui is a traditional Maori environmental management tool used to protect and conserve the resources of Mother Earth. In order to conserve the resources and ensure their replenishment and sustenance tikanga or custom of *Rahui* was a prohibition or ban instituted to protect resources. When the resource was considered to have regenerated itself, then the *Tapu* is lifted and that area restored to general use. Another area might be placed under the tapu of rahui in order to allow it to regenerate. Thus the rotation method ensured a constant and steady source of supply.

### Other Rahui?

This type of rahui must not be confused with another form which was applied when an *aitua*, misfortune resulting in death occurred. If a person was drowned at sea or in a harbour, that area was placed under a rahui because it had become contaminated by the tapu of death. After a certain period of time when those waters were deemed to have been cleansed then the rahui was lifted and those waters opened for use.

### Rahui Tapu

When anybody person drowns within the Hapu Takutaimoana there will be a need to put a Rahui in place and within the affected area.

Where the body is recovered immediately

Where the body is recovered after 3 or 4 days

Where the body is not recovered

The death of a person on the beach

requires a 3 day rahui

requires a 9 day rahui

requires a 21 day rahui

requires a 1 day rahui

Rahui Tapu will be advertised over the Radio, where possible advertised in the local paper, through hapu and marae networks including panui on the Te Rarawa website.

### Notification of Rahui

Within the Hapu Takutaimoana a certain area would be placed under Rahui and posted as being out of bounds to hunters, fishers, harvesters etc.

Other areas would remain unaffected by the Rahui and open for use.

Rahui will be publicly advertised over the Radio, where possible advertised in the local paper, through hapu and marae networks and panui on the Te Rarawa website.

A purpose made notice board for the Tauroa peninsula will also provide public with notices to areas under Rahui and an indication of where these areas are located and how they are recognised.

Sponsored by:

Na Te Runanga o Te Rarawa



Te Kaupapa i Awahina

### AHIPARA KOMITI TAKUTAIMOANA

Should you have any questions and or queries please do not hesitate to contact any of the following:  
Phone (09) 409 4776 Patau Tepania, Chairperson  
Phone (027 408 0100) Abe Witana, Runanga Kaiarataki  
Phone (09)406 7403 Laurie Austen, Research Observer  
Phone (09) 409 2100 Dan Graham, Honorary Fisheries Officer