

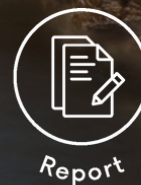
SUSTAINABLE
SEAS

Ko ngā moana
whakauka

Ngāti Rēhia, mai ki Tākou Bay Moana plan scoping report

Kiri Reihana, Kura Paul-Burke,
Nora Rameka & Clinton Rameka

June 2024



Report

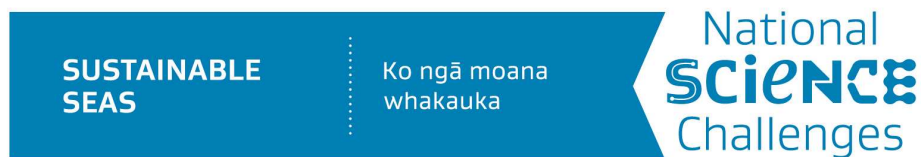
Report for Sustainable Seas National Science Challenge project streams EBM4 and Vision Mātauranga.

Authors

Reihana. K, Paul-Burke. K, Rameka. N, Rameka. C.

Date of publication

July 2024



About the Sustainable Seas National Science Challenge

Our vision is for Aotearoa New Zealand to have healthy marine ecosystems that provide value for all New Zealanders. We are a 10 year research programme that brings together scientists, social scientists, economists, and experts in mātauranga Māori and policy from across Aotearoa New Zealand. We are one of 11 National Science Challenges, funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment.

www.sustainableseaschallenge.co.nz

Cover image: Sustainable seas.

Acknowledgements

This research could not have taken place without the vision from the Ngāti Rēhia kuia Nora Rameka and her son Clinton, thank you for your generous manaakitanga and allowing us to come along in realising your vision for your rohe moana. It is a privilege. To all the whānau who attended the moana wānanga to support and add to the depth of the mātauranga shared we humbly thank you. To the Ngāti Rēhia trust and administration who helped in organising and the planning of this mahi our deepest gratitude to you.

Ngā mihi nui, ngā mihi aroha.

Contents

Executive summary.....	1
Ngāti Rēhia mai ki Tākou Bay, Moana plan scoping report.....	3
Introduction	3
Methods	4
Wānanga Kotahi	4
Wānanga Tuarua	6
Key overarching principles:	6
High-level outline:	6
: Korero.....	7
: Data and information	7
Wānanga Tuatoru.....	8
Summary	9
References	10



Photo: Kiri Reihana, Tākou Bay

Executive summary

Ngāti Rēhia Moana development plan

Ngāti Rēhia are the known kaitiaki of the Mataatua waka, our ancestors relay that its final resting place is in Tākou awa. Ngāti Rēhia hapū have clear visions and aspirations pertaining to active kaitiakitanga around their moana, this is already seen in their kaitiakitanga on the whenua, with the Kauri sanctuary. Ngāti Rēhia tikanga is key in enabling their Tino Rangatiratanga which is at the core of their future aspirations for their moana.

Historical species declines and quantities have been observed, however, without robust information from baseline monitoring and historical interviews to log the timelines and declines, future funding will be mired. This scoping report seeks to capture the desires of Ngāti Rēhia to strengthen the foundations required to develop and implement a comprehensive moana recuperation plan. Outlines of these desires and alignment to the current Ngāti Rēhia Hapū management plan values and objectives, have been identified and collated in this scoping report.



Photo: Kiri Reihana. Tākou Bay coastal shoreline (top) and estuary (below).

Ngāti Rēhia mai ki Tākou Bay, Moana plan scoping report.

Ngāti Rēhia matakaka

Ngāti Rēhia matamomoe

Tītiro ki ngā maunga, ngā awa, ngā moana, ngā whenua tapu o Ngāti Rēhia

Ngāti Rēhia the sleeping giant

Ngāti Rēhia when awakens faces all challenges

Ngāti Rēhia protects our sacred mountains, rivers sea and lands

(Munroe, 2018)

Introduction

Of significance in the Māori world is the waka (canoe) that our people arrived on, to this new found land, Aotearoa (NZ). For the tribes of Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Awa, Te Whakatōhea, Ngāi Tūhoe, Te Whānau a Apanui and Ngāi Te Rangi, Mataatua is their traditional tribal waka. For these tribes this waka carried their origin tupuna Chief Toroa, his sister priestess Muriwai, his younger brother Puhi, and his daughter Wairaka. These ancestors' voyages and exploration of the territories which have now become their tribal areas across the North Island are etched into the histories of all their living descendants today.

Ngāti Rēhia are a tribe in the rohe (area) of Ngāpuhi, they are known as the kaitiaki (stewards) of the remnants of the waka and its final resting place, where a dedicated memorial has been erected as a reminder of its prominence. Tākou Bay is a coastal area, where the Tākou awa (river) runs out from the land, to meet the ocean. This river is where the Mataatua waka now resides at a place known as *Kopua Kawai Rangatira o Te Whakaheke* (the spring (or source) of noble descent). Other names for the sacred resting place of the Mataatua waka are Te Kopua Kawau o te Rimariki, Te Okiokitanga o Mataatua (HeiHei et al., 2012).

As the kaitiaki of the Mataatua waka, Ngāti Rēhia desires to develop a moana plan to strengthen kaitiakitanga in their rohe moana. This report is a summary of the development that occurred to help scope their visions for their rohe moana and future generations.



Photo: Kiri Reihana. Mataatua monument with (left) Professor Kura Paul-Burke and (right) Kuia Nora Rameka, June 2024.

Methods

A series of co-developed wānanga (meetings) were held to identify the aspirations and visions of Ngāti Rēhia in their active kaitiakitanga at Tākou Bay. An outline of objectives was identified for the development of a moana management plan.

The first two-day wānanga invited the wider community and neighbouring hapū to the hui so that they could participate and be informed on the aspirations of the whānau who reside at Tākou Bay and the connection to the neighbouring coastal shoreline.

The second wānanga was held with the core whānau working group to identify, what a moana plan would look like from a Ngāti Rēhia perspective.

The third wānanga involved mātauranga mapping of traditional intergenerational kaimoana species, distribution, abundance and sizing across time and space (Paul-Burke et al. 2018). This was achieved with identified hapū diver practitioners, who had lived and dived the waters for over 30 years. It was anticipated that the mātauranga mapping would provide historical and cultural baselines to assist future moana management efforts.

This report is a summary of the findings from the wānanga (workshops).

Wānanga Kotahi

The first wānanga included representatives from neighbouring hapū Ngāti Kura (Matauri bay) and Ngāti Rēhia Te Tii as well as the local (Tākou Bay) whānau, kaitiaki and hapū rangers, that currently work on the whenua for their hapū.

Key notions we wanted to document included:

What are the:

- Issues:
- Aspirations
- Priorities
- Current capacity

Key concepts identified by the hapū were collected in an infographic presented in Figure 2.



Photo; Kiri Reihana. Whānau Wānanga

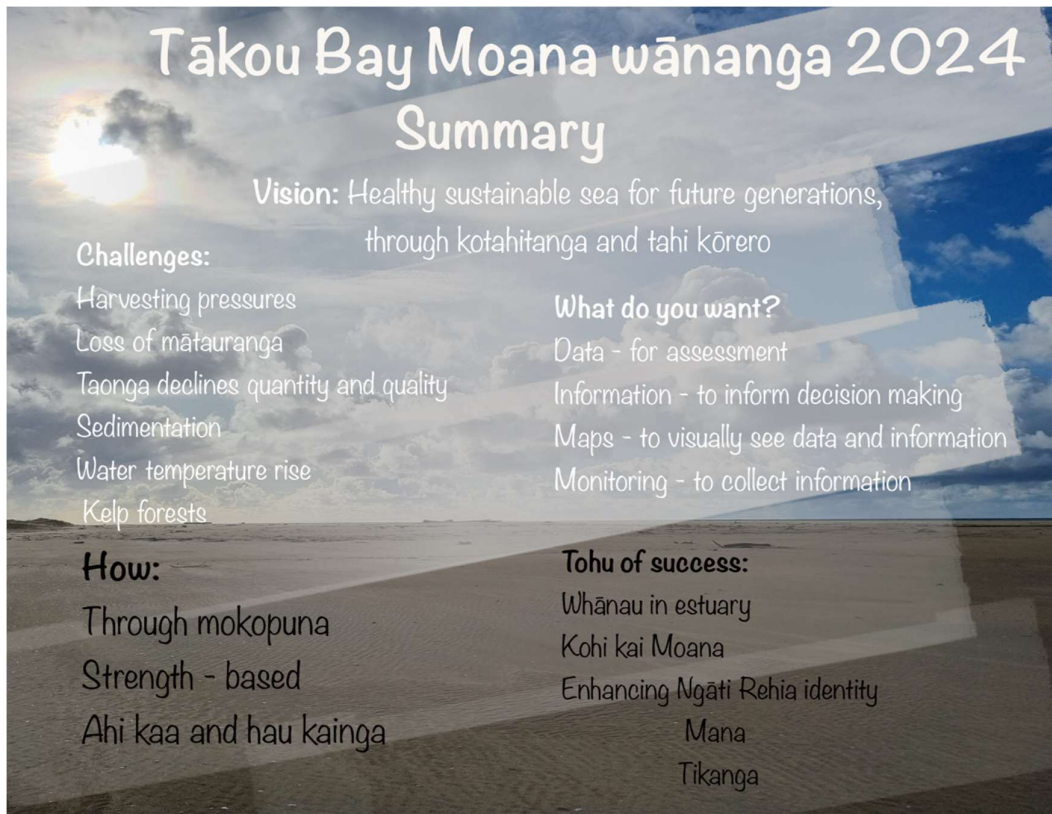


Figure 2: Infographic summary of key concepts, as described by Ngāti Rēhia Whānau

A table of considerations associated with these identified aspirations, how they understood these aspirations, and what considerations may be needed in actioning these for the future are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Aspiration, description and consideration in implementing into an action plan.

Aspiration	Description	Consideration
Rāhui	To protect areas for restoration: depletion of tāonga e.g. kina on the coastline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reseeding kina from local kina barren - Is there food for the kina - Environmental capacity to sustain kina - What is the current state of the environment? - Legislative - Localised employment - Rāhui under lore, what are the implications
Tikanga	Setting a Ngāti Rēhia tikanga along the coastline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taiao centric setting for take limits - Is it existing/new/bit of both? - How to inform <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Whānau 2) Public
Data	Collected by whom? Collected for whom?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to collect information and data - Who can do it? - What do they need to do it? - How to store information once its collected - Capacity to analyse and understand the information

Wānanga Tuarua

A hui was held with key whānau of Ngāti Rēhia to develop an outline for the moana plan.

Key questions to elucidate their visions were:

What does a moana management plan look like for Ngāti Rēhia?

What do you want in it?

What do these aspects look like for you?

There are three main area's that may be governed under a moana plan, these are;

- 1) Moana - coastline
- 2) Wahapū, estuary – transition between the river freshwater and open coast
- 3) Awa, river – freshwater river / salt wedge limits (considerable way up the awa).

Key overarching principles:

- Ngāti Rēhia tikanga established along the coast – recognised and compliance by whānau.
- Lore of Rāhui set up by Ngāti Rēhia – outside and above common law.
- Need an understanding of legislation – Taiāpure, Mātaitai and Mahinga kai and their subsequent implications on Ngāti Rēhia whānau tikanga and kaitiakitanga.

High-level outline:

- Korero: Historical narratives to help identify, traditional tikanga, changes over time of the species and environment, the state of it then to now.
- Current Baseline data: to inform,
 - Seasonal patterns of taonga species: spawning, nursery, juvenile stages and adults.
 - Understand ecology of the coastline.
- Education of the whānau – for rāhui and tikanga implementation.
- Map out use of current economic areas,
 - 10 hectares of marine aquaculture space outside Te Tii marae.
 - Is there encroachment from the current oyster farm across from marae.
 - What can be developed here in the future? (aquaculture - mussel, oyster).
- Access to coastline – Te Tii and Matauri bay.
- Signage with information for whānau and wider public for,
 - Educational purposes
 - Information on tikanga, rāhui, limits etc
- Ngāti Rēhia setting limits based on te taiao (environment).

: Korero

The recording of historical narratives is seen to be very valuable for whānau understanding of current state of the moana, as a precursor to participation in actions and decisions for future management programmes.

Identified are some key whānau who need to be interviewed for the historical narratives around the changes over time in the moana.

The Hapū environmental management plan 2018, has several key concepts which govern Ngāti Rēhiatanga in action in their taiao, these are understood as:

- ❖ **Whakawhānaungatanga** is overarching to all the following cultural tenets:
- ❖ **Kaitiakitanga** – enabling Ahi Kaa, responsibility of hapū/whānau, are responsible to the natural, physical, heritage and cultural resources of our rohe.
 - Answerable firstly to the relationships our tupuna forged with all the children of the atua and to the relationships our mokopuna need to have with Te Ao Mārama.
 - Will seek to protect taonga of value to past, present and future generations and seek best practices when consulting is actively recognised and practiced by all participants.
 - As kaitiaki we need to do all we can to ensure our mokopuna inherit the best options we can provide them.
- ❖ **Kaupapa** – to develop sustainable economic, social and cultural base for the continued growth of hapū and whānau
- ❖ **Sustainable economic development** – Aquaculture, indigenous forestry, eco and cultural tourism

Values which enact their tikanga are:

- ❖ **Tino Rangatiratanga** – rights and responsibilities through whakapapa
- ❖ **Mana Tangata/Whānau**– mana whenua/whakapapa
- ❖ **Kotahitanga** – kia Kotahi te mahi o te katoa, mo te katoa. Working together for the benefit of the hapū collectively

: Data and information

3 coastal areas were identified for restoration pilots and key areas of interest along the coastline.

- 1) Pipipi to Taronui (Southern end)
- 2) Taumatangi (Northern end)
- 3) Tākou beach/estuary/river mouth (middle)

These areas are known koanga for several tāonga species.

Revival of these tāonga species for their pātaka kai is seen as essential for the mana and ora of the Ngāti Rēhia whānau.



Photo: Kiri Reihana. Taumatangi Beach

Wānanga Tuatoru

The third wānanga consisted of mātauranga mapping of the areas of interests for Ngāti Rēhia which had been identified previously, in Tākou Bay.

Whānau who grew up in Tākou Bay and traditionally harvested kaimoana in the area were invited to the Mātauranga mapping hui by Clinton Rameka. Large scale maps were then provided and historical kaimoana species and spaces were identified and mapped.

A natural part of the discussion, was the time periods within which declines were observed. These time periods pertained to species abundance and harvest bed extent, as well as the size decrease of the various species. Mapping wānanga shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Photos: Kiri Reihana. Mātauranga mapping wānanga, June 2024

Summary

Ngāti Rēhia have identified their vision and pathways to future proof kaitiakitanga of their rohe moana as part of this scoping report activity.

Future proofing actions have been identified as the next steps, including:

- Interviews, research and information gathering (what information is required? historical interviews and contemporary data from council, possible other sources)
- Base line population dive surveys and monitoring plans – to collect current in-water information, (where and what - locations and prioritised taonga species identified)
- Information sharing with wider whānau and neighbouring hapū to assist each other and inform next steps
- Decision making – moving forward; what actions will be required to enhance the mauri and health of te taiao (based on the information given by te taiao)
 - Understanding the data
 - Identifying the trends and patterns or ngā tohu o te taiao.

Ngāti Rēhia Moana Development Action Plan

- Develop action plans – what action in what order will restore the mauri of the moana?
 - Long term monitoring plans; best information for decision making
 - Setting take limits
 - Initiating Rāhui
 - Understanding limitations
 - Training taiohi next generation kaitiaki

As with all visions of this magnitude funding will ease or hinder this pathway. However, the strong local support and keen participation of the wider community will ensure kaitiakitanga, and actively returning the pristine moana, that used to be here, is motivation enough.



Photo. Clinton Rameka. Taumatangi beach.

References

HeiHei, A., Ngata, T., & Stirling, B. (2012). *Te Kopua Kawai o te Whakaheke*.

Munroe, K. (2018). *Ngāti Rēhia hapū environmental plan 3rd edition*. Ngāti Rēhia.

Paul-Burke, K., O'Brien, T., Burke, J., Bluett, C. (2020). Mapping Māori knowledge from the past to inform marine management futures. *Journal of New Zealand Science Review*. V.76 (1-2) 2020.

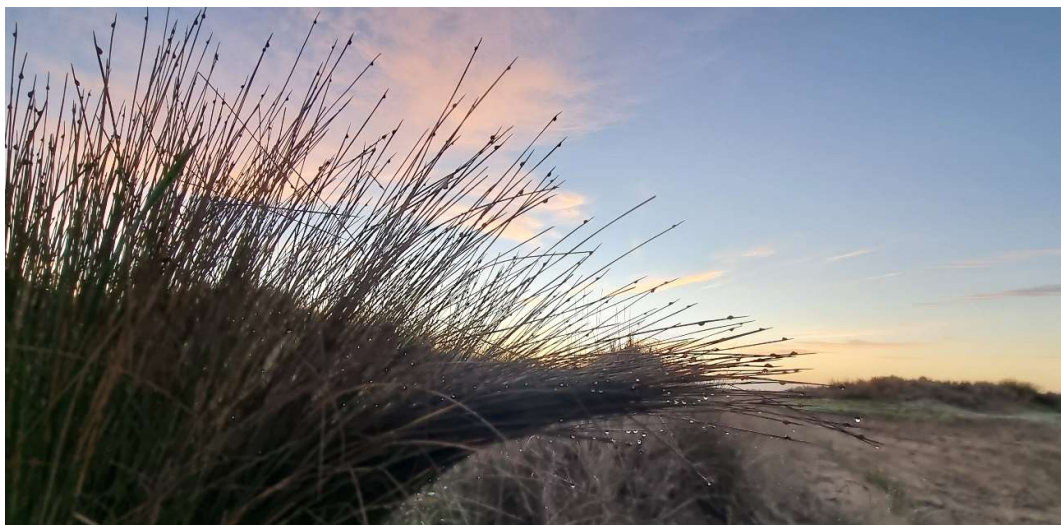


Photo: Kiri Reihana: Tākou Beach