



Comments on Draft DOC Land Exchange Report

Tukituki Water Security FTAA-2603-L003

Contact Details	
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Introduction

1. On 16 March 2026, Tukituki Water Security Ltd (Applicant) lodged a land exchange application with the Department of Conservation (DOC) for the Tukituki water storage project (Project) under section 33 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTA Act). On 20 April 2026 DOC determined that the application meets the requirements in section 34(2) of the FTA Act.
2. On 28 April 2026 HNZPT was invited to give comments on the Application. On 1 May 2026 HNZPT provided comment.
3. On 15 June 2026 the Panel Convenor directed DOC to prepare a land exchange report under section 35(3) of the FTA Act.
4. On 14 September 2026 DOC circulated the draft land exchange report in accordance with section 35(5) of the FTA Act, inviting comment from parties, with any response due by 5 October 2026.

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5. HNZPT has reviewed the draft land exchange report, and in particular Appendix 4B Heritage, prepared by Richard Nester dated 3 September 2026 (Nester Statement).
6. The following comments are made in relation to HNZPT's role as administering agency for the HNZPT Act, when an archaeological authority is applied for in order to implement the Project (either under the FTA Act or the HNZPT Act 2014).
7. HNZPT agrees with the Nester Statement that:
 - There are no recorded archaeological sites on the DOC give land;
 - There are no recorded archaeological sites on the DOC get land;
 - There is potential for unrecorded sites and places of cultural significance to be located within the exchange land parcels;
 - It would be beneficial to investigate Parcel A in order to have a more fulsome understanding of any in-situ heritage fabric prior to any earthworks commencing for the Project.
8. Again, HNZPT extends its invitation to the Applicant if it wishes to discuss any of the comments above, or any other aspects of archaeological authority requirements in relation to the Project.