



TE TŌPUNI NGĀRAHU TRUST

Jacqui King Chairperson  
Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust  
Level 4, Ngāmotu House  
139 Devon Street West  
New Plymouth

14 November 2025

Tēnā koutou e te Poari Matatau,

To the Expert Panel, we extend our greetings.

**RE: MINUTE 12 – FURTHER REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO IWI AND HAPŪ PARTICIPANTS – TARANAKI VTM PROJECT [FTAA-2504-1048]**

Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust has reviewed the current record of publicly available information provided as Appendix A and further information sought in Appendix B to Minute 12 (3 November 2025) for the Taranaki VTM Project. Following this review, we provide additional information to ensure the record accurately reflects relevant instruments and information for consideration by the Expert Panel.

This response should be read alongside the earlier comments of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust dated 6 October 2025.

In making this response Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust understands the indicative area of interest to be that shown in Minutes 14-17 and provided as Figure 1 of Appendix 1.

Whilst Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust may not be considered mana whenua on this matter, we are comprised of a collective of mana whenua and have a duty to advocate and promote the customary settlement rights of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki as defined in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo and Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025).

**Appendix B: Requested Information**

**Mana Whenua and Rohe**

- a. **Recognition Instruments:** *If your rohe is supported by a Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACA) application, Customary Marine Title or Protected Customary Rights order, please provide:*

Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust does not hold an application for Customary Marine Title, or a Protected Customary Rights order under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACA) within the project area. However, many of the Post Settlement Governance Entities and hapū of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki have active applications.

**Treaty Settlement Instruments**

- a. **Treaty Settlement Acts and Deeds (including any amended deeds):** *For the settlement instruments that apply to your rohe and are relevant to this project, please provide:*

Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo (Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Deed, 1 Sep 2023)

<https://whakatau.govt.nz/te-tira-kurapounamu-treaty-settlements/find-a-treaty-settlement/taranaki-maunga>

Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo – centres on the establishment of He Kawa Tupua – a framework to be given effect to by Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025),

- He Kawa Tupua: Framework underpinning redress arrangements under Part A, section 2 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

The purpose of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025, is amongst other things, to give effect to He Kawa Tupua, comprising –

- i. Te Mana o Ngā Maunga under Part B of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo; and
- ii. Te Mana o Te Kāhui under Part C of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

He Kawa Tupua also includes:

- Te Kāhui Tupua as a legal personality under Part B, section 5 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- Ngā Pou Whakatupua under Part B, section 6 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- The effect of Te Kāhui Tupua status and Ngā Pou Whakatupua under Part B, section 7 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī under Part B, section 8 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- The repeal of the Mount Egmont Vesting Act 1978 under Part B, section 4 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust was established by the Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust Deed dated 1 September 2023;
- Official geographical name changes under Part B, section 9 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- The vesting of land and certain minerals and industrial rocks in Te Kāhui Tupua under Part B, section 10 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki Management Plan under Part B, section 11 of Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo;
- Other matters contained in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo.

Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 (Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025)

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2025/0001/latest/LMS899476.html>

Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025 and Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo are clearly anticipated to be a consideration in the coastal environment as set out in section 15(3) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025<sup>1</sup> and outlined below:

*Without limiting subsection (1), nothing in this Act or in Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo applies to the coastal marine area, except as provided in the following provisions:*

- (a) [section 3](#) (Te Iho Tāngaengae); and
- (b) [section 17](#) (recognition of Te Kāhui Tupua); and
- (c) [section 19](#) (Ngā Pou Whakatupua); and

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<sup>1</sup> [15\(3\) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025](#)

(d) [section 53\(1\) and \(2\)](#) (standing of the trustees of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu and Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī under this Act).

It is considered that section 15(3) provides a strong requirement for the Panel to engage squarely with these arrangements where they overlap with the indicative area of interest shown in Figure 1 above.

- a. **Formal explanatory material:** *Any relevant Select Committee reports or Hansard extracts (links are sufficient).*

N/A

- b. **Protocol operation:** *Examples of Fisheries Protocol engagement with Crown agencies relevant to your rohe moana (for example, notices, consultation letters). Links or short extracts are sufficient. If none, state "not held."*

N/A

#### 4. Iwi and Hapū Planning Documents

- a. Iwi Management Plan, Hapū Environmental Plan, or PSGE planning document (relevant to your rohe moana or the project area):

N/A

- b. Status

N/A

#### 5. Tikanga and Kaitiakitanga Practice

- a. Kaitiakitanga practice and indicators:

- *Provide material that shows how kaitiakitanga is exercised in your rohe moana (for example monitoring approaches, indicators, MoUs or hui records).*
- *Note where any monitoring information is held.*

N/A

- b. **Projects:** *Provide brief notes or links on current kaupapa, projects or agreements that demonstrate these practices in action (for example mauri restoration, marine species management, customary take management).*

N/A

#### 6. Customary Fisheries and Rāhui

- a. Customary fisheries (documents or brief note):

- *main species, areas and seasons of importance for customary fishing;*
- *a summary table of customary fishing authorisations relevant to the project area or near it;*
- *how harvesting and allocation operate in practice, and any interface between*
- *customary take and commercial harvest (for example, commercial vessels*
- *harvesting to meet authorisations or involvement of Licensed Fish Receivers);*
- *any pātaka whata (pātaka) or similar formal customary fisheries frameworks*

- *operating in or near the project area, including how they are established and notified (if applicable);*
- *any planned pātaka or similar frameworks in or near the project area, and their current planning status. Indicative information is fine.*

Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust does not hold or exercise customary fishing rights, nor does it have any gazetted closures, mātaihai reserves, or taiāpure in place. However, the Trust strongly supports Post Settlement Governance Entities and hapū of Ngā Iwi o Taranaki who exercise these rights.

- b. Rāhui and temporary closures:** *Outline any rāhui or tikanga-based restrictions within or near the project footprint. If applicable, identify any temporary closures under s 186A Fisheries Act 1996 (name and dates are sufficient).*

As above.

- c. Mātaihai reserves and taiāpure:** *Identify any existing or proposed mātaihai reserves or taiāpure-local fisheries within or near the project area, and state their status (for example: concept, application with Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ), consultation underway, or gazetted). Include a coarse-scale map if available.*

As above.

## **7. Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture**

### **a. Commercial fisheries (forward planning):**

- *state whether your iwi fishes its own quota, leases Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE) to others, or both;*

N/A

- *provide an indicative split of quota holdings by origin (Māori Fisheries Act 2004 (MFA) settlement vs other acquisitions) and an indicative split of catch by fisheries category (inshore, deepwater, and, if applicable, highly migratory species). Simple percentages or “mostly inshore / mixed / mostly deepwater” are sufficient;*

N/A

- *indicate whether catch against those stocks is ordinarily taken in or near the project area, and, if known, name the relevant Fisheries New Zealand statistical reporting areas or general grounds (indicative information is fine);*

N/A

- *note any practical or tikanga constraints that would limit shifting commercial fishing between statistical reporting areas, between methods, or beyond your rohe moana.*

N/A

- b. Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act (MCACA):** *Provide any material or a short note on your MCACA interests, including any forward planning for potential use or development and the status of that planning if relevant. Indicative information is fine.*

N/A

## 8. Relationships/Partnerships

### a. Existing arrangements:

- *Provide copies/links to any partnership agreements or MoUs relevant to the rohe moana or coastal environment, and note whether each is public, confidential, or draft.*

To give effect to *Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025* and *Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo*, Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust is establishing a range of relationship agreements, co-management, and co-governance arrangements. While these arrangements are still being finalised, they are outlined below:

#### Formal Relationship Agreements

- Te Ahi Ngārahu - Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust, the Minister of Conservation and the Director-General will form a positive and enduring partnership based on the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi; and work together to ensure that the integrity of He Kawa Tupua is upheld, and that those arrangements are successfully implemented under section 16.1 of *Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo*<sup>2</sup>.
- He Takapou Tupua – Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust's partnership with the Crown through *Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo* supports the agreement He Takapou Tupua between Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī and the Minister of Conservation to support the effective functioning of Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī under section 29(e) of *Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025*<sup>3</sup>.
- *Identify any co-management, co-governance or joint-management arrangements, and where possible provide the documents or basis establishing them.*

#### Co-Governance

- Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust is the collective governance entity for Ngā Iwi o Taranaki, while Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī acts as the statutory body. Both collaborate with the Director-General of Conservation on managing Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki and implementing He Kawa Ora mō Te Papa-Kura-o-Taranaki, the new national park management plan being developed.

#### Co-Management

- Annual planning meetings between Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust, Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī, and the Director-General set priorities for implementing He Kawa Ora (the national park management plan) so that operational activities uphold Ngā Pou Whakatupua.
- *Identify any transfer or delegation of functions or powers to your iwi, hapū or PSGE by a local authority or Crown entity (for example under RMA ss 33 or 36B), noting the context and outcome.*

N/A

## 9. Governance and Information-Sharing

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<sup>2</sup> [Te Ruruku Pūtakerongo](#)

<sup>3</sup> [section 29\(e\) of Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua](#)

*Provide protocols, terms of reference, data-sharing agreements, template reporting or similar documents that describe roles in monitoring, decision-making and mātauranga-based indicators, including any data guardianship arrangements.*

Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangī holds primary responsibility for statutory decision-making, while Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust contributes by reviewing concession applications under Schedule 4 of Te Ture Whakaturua mō Te Kāhui Tupua, and providing advice to the Director-General to ensure activities uphold the health and well-being of Te Kāhui Tupua in accordance with Ngā Pou Whakaturua.

### **Supporting Material**

*If there are any additional documents, technical reports, maps or data tables that were referenced in oral evidence, formal comments, submissions, statements of evidence or presentations to the Panel but are not on the public record (as identified in the attached Collation Table), please attach them or indicate where they can be accessed.*

N/A

Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust appreciates the opportunity to provide this additional information to the Expert Panel, to ensure the record reflects the current Treaty settlement instruments and statutory context relevant to the Trust in relation to the Taranaki VTM Project.

Nāku noa, nā



Jacqui King  
Chairperson of Te Tōpuni Ngārahu Trust

Appendix 1.

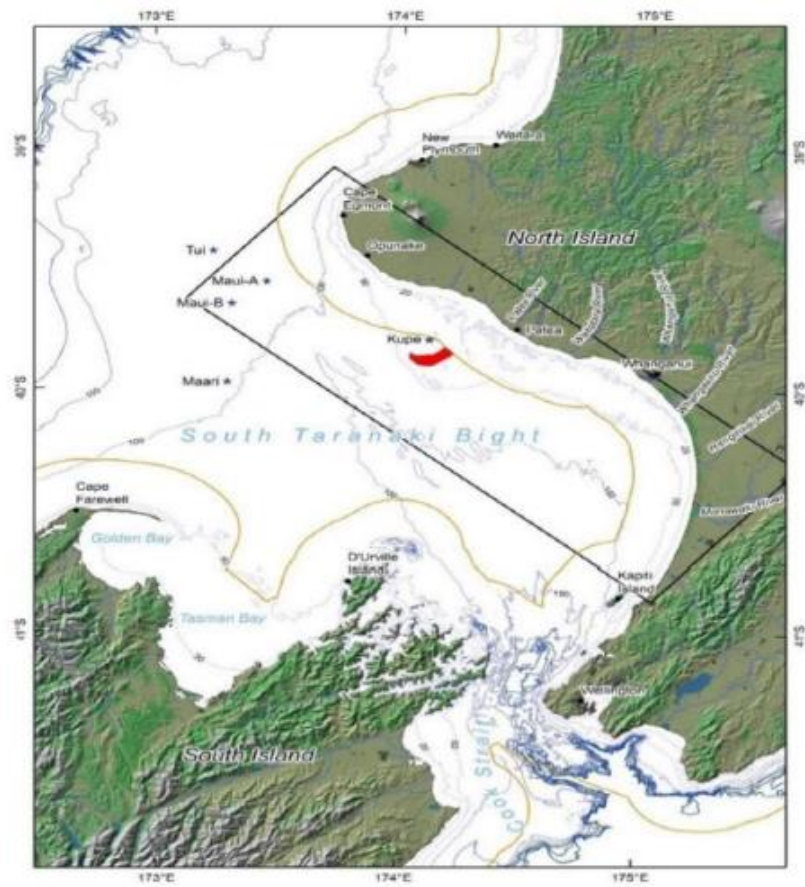


Figure 1. Indicative area of interest for this RFI (black shape). Source: Figure 5.1 of the TTR Application.