



TE RŪNANGA O WHAINGAROA  
TE ŪKAIPŌ  
IWI ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT PLAN  
2022 - 2027











# He Mihi

E mihi atu ki Te Matua, ki a Ranginui, ki a Rangiroa,

Tāwhirirani, Te Hauwhakaora, Te Hau e pāngia ngā kiri o te tangata.

E mihi atu ki a Papatūānuku, ki a Papatūārangi

Te Papa i takatakahia e ngā mātua tūpuna, te papa i waihotia e rātou mā

Te Papa e maroro ki te itingia, e maroro ki te opunga

Te Papa-awhi, e awhi ana i a tātou, o tēnā, o tēnā o ngā whakatupuranga e tupu ake nei.

Te Ūkaipō, Te Ūkaiaō o tātou katoa.

Greetings to the sky father, the great heavens, the expansive heavens,

The heavenly winds, the life-giving winds, the winds that caress the skin of all people.

Greetings to the earth mother, extending beyond the visible land and the visible heavens.

The earth mother trampled by our ancestors, the earth mother left in heritage by the ancient ones

The earth mother that stretches unto the sunrise, that stretches unto the sunset

The embracing earth mother, that embraces each of us from all generations sustained by her grace.

She that sustains us night and day.

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## Acknowledgment

We wish to acknowledge our Whangaroa marae and hapū and kaitiaki organisations within our rohe who have provided valuable input and feedback to development of this plan. Tēnā Koutou Katoa.



*\*Kauri is known to as Te Whakaruruhau - the great protector of the forest - referring to the many species that shelter in the arms of kauri.*



# Introduction

This Environmental Management Plan has been prepared by Te Ūkaipō – Iwi Environmental Management Unit at Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa in collaboration with other environment groups and Māori organisations within Whangaroa including Kaitiaki Whangaroa Incorporated, Whangaroa Papa Hapū and in consultation with marae from across the Whangaroa catchment.

## Purpose **The purpose of this plan is to:**

- Inform regional, district and central government authorities and agencies of our environmental management goals and objectives for the next five year period to 2027
- Influence plans, policies and strategies that impact the natural resources and environments in the Whangaroa catchment
- Inform developers and users of natural resources within the Whangaroa catchment about the kaitiakitanga role of Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa
- Help Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa in their monitoring and guardianship roles as kaitiaki of the natural resources and environments throughout the Whangaroa catchment
- Help Ngā Hapū and marae of Whangaroa to formulate their own environmental management plans
- Inform and educate the general public about the responsibility they share to ensure the protection and preservation of the natural resources and environments for future generations
- Provide a set of environment related goals and objectives for Whangaroa, to be achieved over the next five years through to 2027.



# Whangaroa

THE AREA OF WHANGAROA IS DEFINED AS THE LAND BOUNDARY COMMENCING AT THE RIVER MOUTH OF THE ORUAITI RIVER IN THE NORTH, MOVING IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION ENCOMPASSING THE PUKETĪ FOREST, AND THEN HEADING IN A NORTH-EASTERLY DIRECTION TO THE TAKOU RIVER AREA.

The coastal boundary commences at the mouth of the Oruaiti River, follows the eastern side of the Mangonui Harbour, then directly out to sea moving in a south-easterly direction along the coast to Ruapurapura (the Needles) off Purerua and includes the Whangaroa Harbour and any islands within the coastal boundary extending from the coastal lands to the furthestest seaward boundaries, and beyond the Kermadec shelf, as described in the kōrero and mātauranga of our Whangaroa Iwi and hapū.







## WHANGAROA IWI AND HAPŪ

Whangaroa Iwi and hapū includes all those hapū and whānau who have whakapapa and kinship ties to Whangaroa and are bound together by strong Ngāpuhi and Ngāti Kahu whakapapa.

## WHANGAROA – THE PEOPLE AND THE LAND

Whangaroa is a coastal area with a large water catchment area that flows into the Whangaroa harbour. The harbour is surrounded by steep rock and hill country with large river flats, estuaries and tidal mud flats where mangroves are self-seeding invading what were once popular beaches.

The Whangaroa catchment is subject to regular flooding and in recent times the small township of Kaeo that serves the rural residents of Whangaroa has been ravaged by floods to the point where discussions were being held about moving the town. The impacts of natural flooding had been exacerbated by human activities such as non-sustainable farming, forestry and marine farming over the years causing significant land erosion and the siltation of the river and harbour systems. Recent flood mitigation work around the township has alleviated much of the flooding problem in Kaeo but this still occurs further downstream

of the Kaeo river where farmlands and roads are now being affected. A Whangaroa water catchment project is responding to those issues.

The Whangaroa harbour with its many sheltered bays and a reputation for good fishing and a safe haven during stormy marine weather, is also a popular mooring place for many permanently resident craft. The marina has one hundred and nine plus berths and there are fifty permanent moorings on the eastern side of the harbour around the bays with some forty or more on the western side at Totara North.

A large oyster farm dominates the harbour seascape and restricts boating, swimming and fishing in the harbour to a major extent. Although the oyster farm operation provides jobs for a handful of locals and processing is done at a nearby plant at the southern end of the harbour, oysters are not readily available for sale or purchase and are simply transferred out of Whangaroa for processing and distribution elsewhere.

The coastal and marine areas of Whangaroa are characterised by a constantly changing landscape of beautiful white sandy beaches with excellent swimming, snorkeling and diving areas, to dramatic steep cliffs down to crashing waves and treacherous rock faces. The outer islands of Ririwha (Stephensons island), Motuekenui and Motuekaiti (Flat Island and little flat island) and the Cavalli's are rich in history and significance for our coastal iwi, hapū and marae. Customary fishing grounds are strewn along the Whangaroa coastline and out to the islands where traditional





practices such as harvesting titi (mutton birds) in season, diving for kina and koura, and fishing for certain species are part of the way of life for the people.

There are significant areas of regenerating native forests on public and private lands. However, the natural state of these forests has been severely impacted by the invasion of possum, goats, rats, stoats, ferrets and other invasive pests and plants. Forestry planted and milled by private companies has consumed large areas of Whangaroa hillsides and land areas over the years and recent milling has contributed to erosion and ultimately to the siltation problems that are being experienced in streams and rivers that feed into the Whangaroa harbour.

The main employment industries are farming, forestry, tourism, oyster farming and processing, fishing, health and social services, and small town support services for the local rural residents. Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa employs a growing number of people involved in providing wide range of services for Māori across Whangaroa.

State highway 10 runs through the main street of Kaeo. In the summer holiday season traffic travelling north brings with it a host of shoppers who make good use of the local four square and cafes on the main street. The Whangaroa village settlement further down the harbour hosts a growing marina, a game fish and sports club, a pub that is presently closed and several motel operations, all of which do a healthy trade in the holiday seasons but are generally quiet during the remainder of the year. Lifestyle blocks are an increasing part of the landscape occupied by retirees, professionals whose incomes are not locally based and people who prefer to live self-sufficient lifestyles on their own land. A growing number of holiday homes are being developed throughout Whangaroa and in particular those with beach access or coastal views.

The population statistics for Whangaroa show roughly 3,500 residents with half that number being Māori. It is estimated that there are approximately 17,000 Māori who whakapapa to hapū of Whangaroa.





Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa

## ENVIRONMENTAL POSITION STATEMENTS

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa declare the following positions concerning the Whangaroa catchment and coastal environments.





## WHANGAROA HARBOUR

Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa declares the Whangaroa Harbour to be a **tino taonga** of all iwi and hapū of Whangaroa.

Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa are opposed to contamination of any kind deliberately or accidentally being introduced into the harbour. This includes the impact of any development or activity including forestry, agriculture, horticulture, farming, commercial aquaculture, mining, pest control, domestic and commercial sewerage, stormwater run-off, marine commercial and recreational craft discharge and any other development or activity that may introduce harmful foreign bodies into the Whangaroa harbour.

## MINING IN WHANGAROA

Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa is fundamentally opposed to any form of toxic mining in Whangaroa. This includes tier one mining of any nature, seabed mining and petroleum exploration within the Whangaroa region and the surrounding exclusive economic zone EEZ.

## AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT AREAS (AMAS) IN WHANGAROA

Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa is opposed to the development of any new AMAs in Whangaroa extending to the traditionally recognised Whangaroa Mana Moana of Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa.

## MARINE PROTECTION AREAS IN WHANGAROA

Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa asserts the authority to manage its own quota management of fish take from within the traditionally recognised Whangaroa Mana Moana boundaries, including monitoring deep sea area 1 fishing. Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa supports the position of hapū to monitor and regulate the taking of fish and shellfish in their customary fishing grounds as they see fit.

## FRESHWATER IN WHANGAROA

Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa asserts that local, regional and national authorities should ensure that hapū and iwi of Whangaroa will have:

- Access to good quality freshwater for domestic use as a basic human right
- Reasonable access to good quality/quantity freshwater in Whangaroa for recreational purposes
- Confidence that the quality/quantity of freshwater in Whangaroa is guaranteed for future generations
- Confidence that natural aquifers in Whangaroa are not impacted by an activity and are protected from the impacts of climate change
- Confidence that any freshwater extracted for farming, business or commercial purposes shall be prohibited if this is deemed to impact negatively on the natural environment.



Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa expects relevant local government agencies and authorities to work collaboratively with Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and the Rūnanga to enforce laws and regulations designed to protect the quantity and quality of freshwater in Whangaroa and freshwater tributaries that feed into the Whangaroa Harbour. The protection and utilisation of riparian water rights to filter freshwater must be enforced to this end.

## FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT IN WHANGAROA

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa expects timely consultation to take place in advance of any proposed forestry development in Whangaroa and neighbouring regions and favours a regime of sustainable and collaboratively well-planned long-term management of forestry development. Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa supports indigenous forestry development and the creation of employment opportunities for local residents.

## FLORA AND FAUNA

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa is committed to the protection and preservation of native flora and fauna. Pest and weed control are a central concern. The Rūnanga expects to be consulted in a timely manner on any proposed development or activity that impacts on native flora and fauna. Furthermore, we expect appropriate measures to control pests and weeds will be addressed.

## BIO-SECURITY

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa is committed to bio-security and will enforce the provisions of the Bio Security Act 1993 to ensure the security of all environments within the Whangaroa and neighbouring regions.

## GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa is fundamentally opposed to GMO's being introduced into the Whangaroa and neighbouring regions. This includes any genetic engineering of organisms either land-based, freshwater or marine.

## AIR AND SOUND

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa asserts that:

- **The quality of air and sound is not to be compromised by:**
  - The effects of spray and fertiliser drift
  - The impacts of vegetation clearance through burning
  - The burning of rubbish
  - Car and truck emissions
  - Greenhouse gas emissions that directly or indirectly impact on the quality of air
  - Smells from landfills, sewerage treatment plants, effluent ponds, industrial and/or commercial activities
  - Noise levels that exceed acceptable standards.

## AIRSPACE AND AIRWAVES

Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa asserts that Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa have proprietary rights to the airspace and airwaves and any activity connected with the airspace and airwaves (including radio frequencies) within, across and over the Whangaroa catchment. Any activity related to airspace and airways is to be consulted on, in a timely manner, and discussed with Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa, prior to that activity taking place. Authorities are expected to establish, maintain and respect an on-going communication and relationship with Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa.







# The Management Plan

## FOR THE ENVIRONMENTS WITHIN WHANGAROA

The following section presents Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa 2022 -2027 environmental management plan for Whangaroa. The plan is concentrated on six priority areas we have identified as a work programme over the next five years.

The six priority areas relate to six specific environments we wish to focus this five year plan on.

- Marine and Coastal
- Freshwater, River, Stream and Estuaries
- Forest and Bush
- Land, Hill and Mountain
- Air, Sound, Light and Visual
- Political

We acknowledge that these six areas do not capture the full breadth of environmental management areas existing in the Whangaroa. The concentration is on six priority areas over the next five-year period. They have been identified for the purposes of confirming a management plan that can be operationalised and achieved by 2027.

### FORMAT OF THE PLAN

The following format has been applied to each of the six areas/environments that form the basis of the Environmental Management Plan:

- A brief description of each environment
- A description of the issues impacting the environment
- A list of the desired outcomes by 2027
- A description of the strategic objectives that will be operationalised to achieve the outcomes by 2027





## THE MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENT

Te Rūnanga of Whangaroa is concerned with the protection and preservation of the marine and coastal environments of Whangaroa.

In recent times, the human impact, economic imperatives, invasive marine plants, animals and global warming are significantly impacting on the marine and coastal environment. The following issues have been identified.

### ISSUES

- Absence of significant long term and spatial planning to meet the infrastructural needs of developments impacting on our marine and coastal environments
- Impact of invasive marine species on indigenous marine biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- Impact of mining and marine exploration for mineral extraction
- Impact of marine farming on indigenous marine biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- Impact of poor farming, forestry and residential development on indigenous marine biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- Impact of an increasing number of recreational leisure craft and users of marine and coastal environments
- Impact of commercial and recreational fisheries on the local fish stock supply
- Impact of fishing competitions on the local fish stock supply
- Impact of fish filleting waste and general rubbish
- Direct discharge of effluent, greywater, sewerage and on-board discharge into marine environments
- Absence of Iwi and Rūnanga involvement in the appointment of a Whangaroa harbour master and associated roles
- Access to kai moana and mahinga kai
- Access to and use of indigenous plants and animals for cultural purposes
- Water quality in many marine and coastal environments is unfit for recreational activity and gathering of food
- Threats to bio-security.

This Iwi Management Environment Plan 2022-2027 sets out to achieve the following outcomes with respect to the Marine and Coastal environments of Whangaroa.





## OUTCOMES

- Improved long term and spatial planning to meet the infrastructural needs of developments impacting on our marine and coastal environments
- Interventions are being implemented to help restore the mauri of the Whangaroa marine and coastal environment
- The onshore facilities and infrastructure to support recreational use is sufficient to meet current needs
- Iwi, acting through the Rūnanga has involvement in the appointment of a Whangaroa harbour master
- Marine and coastal environments are fit for recreational use and the gathering of kaimoana
- No Aquaculture Marine Area's are issued
- No mining of the marine environment
- The stocks of fish and kaimoana are enhanced through habitat restoration and protection
- An Iwi bio-security team is resourced and trained
- A well informed and resourced monitoring and kaitiaki team is in place
- Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa is actively involved and kept up-to-date with matters concerning Global Warming
- Improved knowledge and understanding of kaitiakitanga.



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- To establish a positive collaborative working relationship with NRC and other local authorities and agencies to address the issues listed above
- To complete work that contributes towards restoring a natural and sustainable environment in Whangaroa for our descendants
- To encourage an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment of Whangaroa and the heritage value of this taonga
- To ensure local, regional and national organisations, commercial enterprises, recreational users, residents and visitors to Whangaroa recognise their responsibilities to our natural environments
- To ensure local, regional and national organisations actively engage with Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa in a timely fashion, allowing for on-going participation from beginning to end, concerning any proposed activities that may impact on these environments
- To engage with national, regional and local government to develop and implement strategies, policies, regulations and standards that meet and address the outcomes, issues, and policies in relation to the marine and coastal environment
- To ensure the water quality of the marine and coastal environment of Whangaroa is of a standard fit for recreational activity and the gathering of food for human consumption
- To assert that Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa has authority to place rāhui -ban on an activity for a specific amount of time
- To ensure there are no new Aquaculture Management Areas (AMAs) within the defined Whangaroa Iwi Authority Mana Moana boundaries
- To ensure there are no new marine mining and mineral extraction ventures in Whangaroa
- To ensure local, regional and national organisations value Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa authority to input, and provide monitoring through Te Ūkaipo, for the quota management of fish-take from within the defined Whangaroa Iwi Authority Mana Moana boundaries , including deep sea area 1
- To ensure Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa is informed, by local, regional and national organisations of any marine or environmental impacts in the Whangaroa area, resulting from any incident, natural occurrence, development or other event in the area
- To ensure any impacts on the coastline including erosion caused by natural events or by human activity or intervention are identified and rectified with active participation by Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa
- To ensure Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa are actively involved in the development and implementation of measures to protect the marine and coastal environment from invasive marine plants and animals
- To support the training of an Iwi biosecurity team takes place and the team is able to support the Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa on biosecurity matters
- To enforce a policy of on-board sewerage/ greywater holding tanks
- To enforce a policy of emptying sewerage/ greywater holding tanks to appropriate discharge points or agreed upon off-shore locations
- To limit the number of moorings/marina berths within the harbour to a sustainable level e.g. numbers, visual impact traffic, on-shore infrastructure capability
- To ensure Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa has involvement in the appointment of a Whangaroa harbour master
- To ensure Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa are informed of relevant matters concerning Global Warming
- To actively enhance the capacity and capability of people within Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa to implement kaitiakitanga
- To establish a pool of trained and qualified honorary fishery officers
- To establish a number of fish filleting stations at appropriate locations around Whangaroa.





## THE FRESHWATER, RIVER, STREAMS AND ESTUARY ENVIRONMENTS

The impact of farming, forestry and horticultural activities on freshwater, river, stream and estuary environments has highlighted a range of issues that concern Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa.

### ISSUES

- Excessive taking of fresh water from natural waterways for farming, agriculture, horticulture, viticulture, and industry for example the impact of bores on aquifers/ water table
- Point discharge from milking shed, commercial operations and residential developments
- Non-point discharges from farming, forestry and horticultural activities through stock waste and the application of fertilisers, herbicides and insecticides
- Stormwater run off from roads, commercial and residential developments
- River, estuary and harbour siltation through land erosion caused by natural events, poor land use management practices, including poor exotic forestry management practices
- Poor to non-existent riparian management reducing water quality through erosion and siltation of waterways

- Damage to puna primarily through poor farming and forestry practices
- Concern around biosecurity for Whangaroa.

This Iwi Management Environment Plan 2022-2027 sets out to achieve the following outcomes with respect to the freshwater, river, stream and estuary environments of Whangaroa.

### OUTCOMES

- Positively contribute to restoring the mauri and life supporting capacity of water in the puna, rivers, streams and estuaries in Whangaroa
- Direct discharges to freshwater, river, stream and estuary environments are nil or significantly reduced
- Riparian planting alongside rivers, streams and estuary environments has improved the quality of freshwater
- There is an acceptable level of access to good quality freshwater for domestic use



- There is reasonable access to good quality freshwater in Whangaroa for recreational purposes
- There is confidence that the quality of freshwater in Whangaroa is guaranteed for future generations
- The Rūnanga can be confident that any freshwater extracted for farming, business, industrial, commercial or domestic purposes is prohibited if this is deemed to impact negatively on the natural environment
- There are no new bores impacting on aquifers and no planned extraction from water tables that might jeopardise them for future generations
- Improved knowledge and understanding of kaitiakitanga
- An Iwi biosecurity team is resourced and trained
- A well informed and resourced monitoring and kaitiaki team is in place.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- To concentrate to the restoration of a natural and sustainable environment in Whangaroa for our descendants
- To encourage an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment of Whangaroa and the heritage value of this taonga
- To engage with national, regional and local government to develop and implement strategies, policies, regulations and standards that meet and address the outcomes, issues, and policies in relation to forest and bush environments

- To ensure local and regional authorities are operating effectively to monitor and enforce regulations and rules concerning point discharge from milking sheds, commercial operations and residential developments, non-point discharges from farming, forestry and horticultural activities involving stock waste and the application of fertilisers, herbicides and insecticides to ensure that these activities do not negatively impact on the freshwater, river, stream and estuary environments of Whangaroa
- To ensure local and regional authorities are operating effectively to monitor and enforce regulations and rules concerning the taking of freshwater so that aquifers are safely protected and bore placement is appropriately planned to sustain the natural water table
- To review existing consents that approve the taking of freshwater from aquifers and the natural water table to ensure new applications meet sustainable standards
- To encourage farmers, users of water for commercial purposes, and homeowners to capture and store rainwater for their specific purposes
- To ensure the negative impacts of stormwater run off from roads, commercial and residential developments are mitigated as best as practicably possible
- To actively enhance the capacity and capability of Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa Rūnanga to implement biosecurity and kaitiakitanga.







## THE FOREST AND BUSH ENVIRONMENTS

This Iwi Management Environment Plan 2022-2027 sets out to achieve the following outcomes with respect to the forests and bush environments of Whangaroa.

### ISSUES

- Impact of pest and weeds on indigenous biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- Impact of poor farming and forestry practice on indigenous biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- Impact of sub-divisions and earthworks on indigenous biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- Loss of access to important indigenous forests, trees, plants and animals for food, medicinal and other cultural purposes
- Loss of mātauranga
- Declining numbers of native birds
- Infestation of animal pests such as possum, goats, feral cats, rats and other rodents
- Declining health of native forests
- Declining harvesting and use of rongoa Māori
- Biosecurity for Whangaroa

### OUTCOMES

- Engagement with national, regional and local government concerning the development and implementation of strategies, policies, regulations and standards that meet and address issues in relation to forest and bush environments in Whangaroa is strengthened
- Restoration of the mauri of indigenous biodiversity and related ecosystems and habitats
- The development and implementation of a pest management strategy
- An improvement in forestry, farming practices and activities by homeowners and the general public to address indigenous biodiversity and impact on related ecosystems and habitats
- The establishment of education programmes concerning conservation and management of indigenous biodiversity
- The establishment of programmes to promote economic development and



employment through sustainable forestry and the utilisation of native flora and fauna for cultural, medicinal and other purposes

- An on-going effective partnership relationship with Department of Conservation
- On-going exploration of the economic potential and possible ventures concerning the forest and bush environments
- An Iwi biosecurity team is resourced and trained
- A well informed and resourced monitoring and kaitiaki team is in place
- A strong kaitiaki relationship, knowledge and understanding of Te Waonui ā Tane.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- To develop a plan to restore a natural and sustainable forest and bush environment in Whangaroa for our descendants
- To encourage an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment of Whangaroa and the heritage value of this taonga
- To engage with national, regional and local government to develop and implement strategies, policies, regulations and standards that meet and address the outcomes issues, and policies in relation to forest and bush environment
- To encourage farmers, homeowners and the general public to adopt practices that support indigenous

biodiversity and positively impact on related ecosystems and habitats

- To work with relevant stakeholders to develop and implement a pest management strategy
- To promote education programmes with key agencies that lead to the establishment, conservation and management of indigenous biodiversity
- To develop an effective partnership relationship with Department of Conservation to ensure the kaitiakitanga role of iwi and hapū is acknowledged
- To establish initiatives for the retention and development of mātauranga Māori of Te Waonui ā Tane
- To establish programmes to promote economic development and employment through sustainable forestry and the utilisation of native flora and fauna for cultural, medicinal and other purposes
- To actively enhance the capacity of Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa to implement biosecurity and kaitiakitanga
- To explore other potential economic ventures related to forests and bush environments
- To support initiatives for the use of rongoa Māori in accordance with tikanga
- To establish a set of community possum pluckers stationed at various locations including marae.







## THE LAND, HILL AND MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS

This Iwi Management Environment Plan 2022-2027 sets out to achieve the following outcomes with respect to the forests and bush environments of Whangaroa.

### ISSUES

- Impact of farming, agriculture, horticulture, viticulture and the growing bee industry on the land, hill and mountain environments e.g. poor pastoral practices, ineffective land use capability, lack of future planning
- Impact of farming, agriculture, horticulture, viticulture and the growing bee industry on natural water systems
- Impact of mining and mineral extraction in Whangaroa
- Impact of subdivision, housing developments, commercial and industrial developments on the environment e.g. waste management, earthworks, siltation, installation of power supply, storm-water management and related work
- Absence of long term spatial planning and/or a 'master plan' for the Whangaroa catchment by local and regional authorities
- Impact of pests and weeds on land, hill and mountain environments
- Concern around biosecurity for Whangaroa
- Impact of earthmoving and the taking of metal e.g. aggregate (tier 2) for foundation work for roads
- Impact of the building of structures such as transmission towers on tapu mountains and sights of significance
- Impact of building structures and the planting of trees that restrict or block the direct line of sight to maunga from marae and papakainga
- Infrastructure such as roading, power supply, both public and private land can cause long-term damage to soil systems. Roads are necessary but proper consideration as to their effects on soil systems needs to be considered



- The degradation of healthy soil systems because of unsustainable land practices including impacts from farming, forestry and horticulture leading to soil nutrient depletion
- Impacts of mineral extraction and use of minerals and other resources on soil systems
- Ownership of minerals and other resources on the exercise of kaitiakitanga.

## OUTCOMES

- Increased and positive engagement with national, regional and local government concerning the development and implementation of strategies, policies, regulations and standards that meet and address issues in relation to land, hill and mountain environments in Whangaroa
- Engagement with national, regional and local government concerning long term planning for infrastructure to keep pace with growth and development in Whangaroa
- Improved farming, agricultural, horticultural, viticultural and bee industry practices and planning
- There is no Tier 1 mining or mineral extraction in Whangaroa
- Properly planned subdivision, housing development, commercial and industrial development to mitigate negative impacts on the environment e.g. waste

management, earthworks, siltation, installation of power supply, storm-water management and related work

- Tier 2 mining will follow a protocol agreement with Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa
- Pest and weed free land, hill and mountain environments in Whangaroa
- An Iwi biosecurity team is resourced and trained
- The approval of building of structures such as transmission towers on tapu mountains and sights of significance is at the discretion of the relevant hapū.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- To contributing a restoring a natural and sustainable land, hill and mountain environment in Whangaroa for our descendants
- To encourage an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment of Whangaroa and the heritage value of this taonga
- To encourage farmers, agricultural, horticultural, viticultural and bee industry developers to implement good land use practices and planning to support the natural environment
- To engage with national, regional and local government to develop and implement strategies,

policies, regulations and standards that meet and address the issues and outcomes above

- To engage with national, regional and local government to develop long term plans for infrastructure that will keep pace with growth and development in Whangaroa
- To enforce the inclusion of Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa positions that no tier one mining or mineral extraction will be carried out in Whangaroa
- To implement a weed and pest eradication plan, including a monitoring, maintenance and enforcement programme
- To actively enhance the capacity and capability of Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa to implement biosecurity through kaitiakitanga and the exercise of mātauranga Māori
- To ensure the approval of building of structures such as transmission towers on tapu mountains and sights of significance is at the discretion of the relevant hapū.





## THE AIR, SOUND, LIGHT AND VISUAL ENVIRONMENT

This Iwi Management Environment Plan 2022-2027 sets out to achieve the following outcomes with respect to the air, sound, light and visual environments of Whangaroa.

### ISSUES

- The effects of spray and fertiliser drift
- The effects of airborne transfer of natural and chemical pollutants on the environment
- The impacts of vegetation clearance through burning
- The burning of rubbish and the issuing of fire permits for Whangaroa
- Car and truck emissions
- Greenhouse emissions that directly and indirectly impact on the quality of the air
- Smells from landfills, treatment plants, effluent ponds, industrial and/or commercial activities
- Noise levels should not exceed acceptable standards
- Lack of information relating to any flying activity planned for Whangaroa
- Developments, structures and activity that adversely impact on access to aspects of light and the natural landscape
- Developments, structures and activity that adversely impact on visual aspects of the natural landscape.

### OUTCOMES

- There are effective controls, monitoring and regulating to address the issues above
- There is a mutually respectful relationship with authorities involved with the issues above and positive outcomes are being achieved.

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Positive and helpful relationships are formed with key stakeholders related to the issues above in order that the desired outcomes are achieved
- A record of the issues and how these are addressed in collaboration with various organisations and those involved, is developed and maintained as reference material for future concerns
- Statistical data and information is collated to help monitor progress.





## POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

The purpose of this section is to describe the range of relationships Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa environmental management unit -Te Ūkaipō will have for the purposes of carrying out this plan. Associated with this is a brief description of the nature and focus of those relationships with each organisation.

### FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL (FNDC)

- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa expect to participate, in a timely manner, in the development, review and discussion that may lead to a 'change' in any FNDC strategy, policy, programme or project that may impact on the natural resources, lifestyles, cultural, social and/or economy of Whangaroa and its people
- In regard to resource consent applications, Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa expects to receive a copy of all resource consent applications related to Whangaroa including those that may have implications for Ngā Hapū o Whangaroa, in a timely manner allowing sufficient time to consult with affected parties
- We encourage FNDC to invite Resource Consent applicants to consult with us in the first instance and before commencing the formal application, in order to ensure that Māori cultural concerns are addressed
- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa will assist the FNDC to direct resource consent applications to the appropriate hapū or whānau representative/s for their input and feedback. However, Te Ūkaipō will not be responsible for ensuring that this happens and it is expected that the FNDC will take a pro-active approach to develop meaningful relationships with hapū. It is expected that the FNDC will maintain a list of Ngā Hapū O Whangaroa and ensure that the contact details for each hapū are up to date
- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa environmental management unit -Te Ūkaipō will supply information relating to sites of cultural significance to the FNDC to ensure that any proposed activity or application for development is aware of these sites. We expect and encourage FNDC to advise applicants for developments proposed in Whangaroa to contact Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa environmental management unit -Te Ūkaipō if this is to impact on one (or more) of these sites.



## NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

- In a similar way to the relationship with FNDC Te Ūkaipō expect to participate in the development, review and or alteration concerning any NRC strategy, policy, programme or project that may impact on the natural resources, lifestyles, cultural, social and/or economy of Whangaroa and its people
- In regard to resource consent applications, Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa expects to receive a copy of all applications within the rohe of Whangaroa including those where they may have implications for the Ngā Hapu O Whangaroa
- We encourage NRC to invite Resource Consent applicants to consult with us in the first instance and before commencing the formal application, in order to ensure that Māori cultural concerns are addressed
- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa will assist the NRC to direct resource consent applications to the appropriate hapū or whānau representative/s for their input and feedback. However, Te Ūkaipo will not be responsible for ensuring that this happens and it is expected that the NRC will take a pro-active approach to develop meaningful relationships with hapū. It is expected that the NRC will maintain a list of Ngā Hapu O Whangaroa and ensure that the contact details for each hapū are up to date
- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa environmental management unit -Te Ūkaipō will supply information

relating to sites of cultural significance to the NRC to ensure that any proposed activity or application for development is aware of these sites. We expect and encourage NRC to advise applicants for developments proposed in Whangaroa to contact Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa environmental management unit -Te Ūkaipō if this is to impact on one (or more) of these sites

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (DOC)

- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa expect to participate in the development, review and alteration concerning any Department of Conservation (DOC) strategy, policy, programme or project that may impact on the natural resources, lifestyles, cultural, social and/or economy of Whangaroa and its people.
- We encourage DOC to invite Resource Consent and Concession applicants to consult with us in the first instance and before commencing the formal application, in order to ensure that Māori cultural concerns are addressed.

## MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

- Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa expect to participate in the development, review and alteration concerning any Ministry of Fisheries strategy, policy, programme or project that may impact on the natural resources, lifestyles, cultural, social and/or economy of Whangaroa and its people.



- We encourage MPI to invite Resource Consent applicants to consult with us in the first instance and before commencing the formal application, in order to ensure that Māori cultural concerns are addressed

### MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa expect to participate in the development, review and alteration concerning any Ministry for the Environment strategy, policy, programme or project that may impact on the natural resources, lifestyles, cultural, social and/or economy of Whangaroa and its people.

### HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND

- Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa expect to participate in the development, review and alteration concerning any Heritage New Zealand strategy, policy, programme or project that may impact on the natural resources, lifestyles, cultural, social and/or economy of Whangaroa and its people.







DIRECTORY FOR INFORMATION  
RELATING TO THIS  
IWI ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## Photo references

Front cover	<i>Aotearoa neineikura (Tree Fern) closeup. This species has a fast growth rate and grows to about 6m tall. Common to bush areas in Whangaroa.</i>
Inside Cover	<i>Whangaroa Harbour, view from Kairara or 'The Duke's Nose'. Pekapeka Bay, Whangaroa Harbour.</i>
Page 3	<i>Kauri Tree: 'Kauri is known to as Te Whakaruruhau - the great protector of the forest - referring to the many species that shelter in the arms of kauri.</i>
Page 4	<i>Whangaroa Harbour.</i>
Page 5	<i>Top: Te Ngaere Bay, Headlands to the north and east make Te Ngaere one of the most sheltered and safe swimming beaches in the Far North.</i> <i>Middle: Kaeo River</i> <i>Bottom: Sunset over the Whangaroa Harbour Oyster Farm within the sheltered harbour waters.</i>
Page 6 & 22	<i>Selection of native Tree Ferns. Including Ponga, can be identified by the white tinge of their fronds' stalks. The fronds are covered with small scales, in contrast with the hairs as in other species. Commonly found in shadowed bush areas of Whangaroa.</i>
Page 7	<i>Toetoe in the wind at Taupō Bay, Whangaroa.</i>
Page 8	<i>Tāmure also known as snapper, silvery pinkish to golden fish with numerous bright blue spots over upper sides. The most abundant coastal species known in the waters that surround Whangaroa.</i>
Page 9	<i>Pahuhu Stream, Whangaroa.</i>
Page 10	<i>Oyster beds, Kingfish (Kotare) Cove, Whangaroa Harbour.</i>
Page 12 & 24	<i>Coastline view from Tauranga Bay, southern end.</i>
Page 15	<i>Top: The banded kokopu is a member of the whitebait family. Found in Whangaroa fresh streams and estuaries. Photo credit Science Learning Hub</i> <i>Bottom: Streams and rivers provide habitat for plants, invertebrates, fish and wildlife. Harakeke (flax) shown growing on the Kaeo river bank.</i>
Page 17	<i>Top: Tui, favourite foods include Kowhai and Harekeke seeds.</i> <i>Bottom: Fore, viewed leading to Pukete Forest on the Whangaroa inland western boundary.</i>
Page 23	<i>Landscape of Whangaroa farming land during dusk.</i>

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