



Tēnā tātou. As the first six months of the year pass, Te Taiao mahi across our rohe continues at pace. Currently, this has largely been driven by the coalition government's response to the Resource Management Act (RMA) reforms. A flurry of change is happening at central government, and the filtering-down process sees us responding via submissions to these proposed changes. Heather Bosselmann, our RMA Policy Technician, has been reviewing large volumes of documents to provide a summary of the proposals.

Several hui have been held here in Heretaunga and Tamatea during July to engage with and gather feedback from our Marae and Hapū for this submission process, and we extend our thanks to those whānau who have attended. Te Mana Taiao o Heretaunga Tamatea rōpū meets every month and consists of dedicated Marae representatives from across each of the 23 Marae of Tamatea Pōkai Whenua, who represent the 43 Hapū. These representatives play a vital role as Taiao advisors to Tamatea Pōkai Whenua by bringing their unique perspectives and lived experiences to the table. It is a powerful way for our Marae and Hapū to be involved in shaping the Taiao future together.

Mauri ora,

Di (Te Mātai Ao General Manager)

TAIAO RŌPŪ DISCUSSION SUMMARY

This month has been focused on the Resource Management Reforms. The Government have hit us with four significant reform packages all at once with submissions due by 27 July. We have met with both Taiao Rōpū and also opened the conversation up to anyone in our hapū who wanted to contribute. The key parts of the reforms we have focused on are:

- **Papakāinga NES:** the government wants to make it easier for hapū to develop papakāinga on their own whenua, including removing the need to obtain a consent for development of up to 10 homes. Overall we are supportive of the changes.
- **Natural Hazards NPS:** Given the current situation with natural hazards, especially in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle, this proposal does not come close to improving the situation. Focused on new development, it only seeks to manage the risks associated with that particular development without considering wider impacts, or tackling the more important issue of how we manage the risks we are already exposed to in our homes.
- **Freshwater Reform Package:** This is a significant reform, focused on removing or restricting the impact of Te Mana o Te Wai. The proposals seek to rebalance the scale in favour of economic growth and at the expense of environmental protection. They also seek to remove the compulsory hierarchy that Te Mana o Te Wai established with the health of water at the top, followed by drinking water, and then other needs. Without this we will return to the insufficient protections for water that have lead us to water's current degraded and damaged state.

For more information you can read the discussion documents [here](#).

You can read our [draft submission here](#). We would love to hear your feedback so please send it through to taiao@topw.iwi.nz by 5pm Thursday 24 July so we can include it in our final submission.

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS WĀNANGA

This month we also hosted HBRC and WSP who have carried out hydrological modelling in parts of the Upper Tukituki and Ngaruroro Catchments to explore how nature-based solutions — like wetlands and riparian planting — could help reduce flood risks during heavy rain events. Stephanie Dijkstra (Ngāi Tahu, Storm Environmental) lead two wānanga to walk through the modelling results. These sessions support the identification of sites of significance, the setting of aspirations, and the development of mātauranga-based solutions, including possible trial sites for wetland restoration and groundwater recharge.

There was great attendance and whānau were able to both learn about the modelling of their awa and provide input into the next steps which includes the Reimagining Flood Resilience Project that HBRC have begun in partnership with Mana Whenua.



taiao@tpw.iwi.nz

KAIMAHI NEEDED

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

**Te Mana Taiao o
Heretaunga Tamatea
advisory positions**

- Taraia Marae
- Te Awhina Marae

[Click here for more info](#)



Te Mātai Ao

Since our last pānui..

- **Development site visits at:**
 - Omāhu Quarry Site
- **Te Mana Taiao hui focussing on:**
 - Fresh water Reforms
- **Nature - Based Solutions Hui**
 - With Stephanie Dijkstra (Ngāi Tahu, Storm Environmental)
- **CHBDC Waste Minimisation Hui**
 - With Rob Hon (Waste Lead)

Important Dates

26
Jul

Ōmarunui Landfill Visit

Book your seat on the bus at taiao@tpw.iwi.nz

26
Aug

TPW Board Meeting 5:30pm:

Please reach out to your TPW Trustee for updates

Upcoming Mahi

We're looking for whānau to be a part of the Waipawa Stopbank Mana Whenua advisory group. More information will be posted onto our website shortly.

GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

The priority projects for our Te Mātai Ao team over the next 6–12 months are major pieces of work that will enhance our Treaty settlement rights within the RMA system.

Heather Bosselmann is undertaking the formulation of the Tamatea Pōkai Whenua Hapū Management Plan (HMP). Plans such as this are key environmental management planning tools. They express cultural and environmental aspirations and interests regarding the management of natural and physical resources within our rohe. An HMP will identify resource management issues and guide local territorial authorities on how we wish to be involved in the decision-making that affects our ancestral whenua and wai. Keep an eye out for upcoming engagement opportunities.

Nia Belcher is our Principal Resource Consent Planner. Nia will be leading the Wāhi Taonga Project over the next 12 months. This project will see the identification of sites and areas of cultural significance to Māori within the Heretaunga and Tamatea rohe for registration in the District Plans. It has been over 20 years since any sites of significance have been registered in the Heretaunga District Plan by Heretaunga Marae, and in 2023 a small number were registered in the Central Hawke's Bay District Plan. With the RMA reforms, it is imperative to register these culturally significant sites to provide a layer of protection against future development. There is more information to come as we firm up plans for this project — so watch this space!

WAIPAWA STOPBANK PROJECT

The Waipawa Stopbank Upgrade Project remains underway. Hawke's Bay Regional Council is actively engaging with the community every second Thursday from 11am - noon at the Waipawa Library. Staff will be there to answer any questions that whānau may have.

SH2 WAIKARE BAILEY BRIDGE

Work begins later this month (from Monday 28 July) preparing to replace the temporary Bailey bridge on State Highway 2 at Waikare Gorge, with a wider, stronger temporary bridge. SH2, between Pūtōrino and the northern side of Waikare Gorge, will close for a 24-hour period from 10am Saturday 30 August to 10am Sunday 31 August while the Bailey bridge is removed and the new bridge is lifted into place. See the [TREC newsletter](#) for more info!

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Check out the [Environmental study](#) options available at EIT!