



Manaaki Whenua  
Landcare Research

# Working with iwi/hapū Māori STEC programme (Smarter Targeting of Erosion Control)

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# Two main iwi/hapū STEC subcontracts – 2017-2023



1. Whanganui catchment – Tamaupoko (collective of 7 hapū, Te Rūnanga o Tamaupoko), Rawiri Tinirau, Te Aroha McDonnell (leads)
2. Manawatū catchment - Rangitāne Manawatū, Rangitāne Tamaki nui a rua, Ngāti Kahungunu, Arapera Paewai (lead)



# Whanganui river catchment





# Background – Whanganui catchment

- Te Awa Tupua-framework (Whanganui river claims settlement act 2017)  
*Whanganui river is managed as a whole - interconnected ecosystem)*
- Te Awa Tupua – is a living being. River is a legal entity (rights, powers, duties, liabilities of a legal person)
- Tikanga Maori /Maori law (lore) for guiding natural resource governance and management (started settlement/redress 1870)
- 2 human trustees act on behalf (one from Crown and one from iwi, Te Pou Tupua). *The role of Te Pou Tupua is to represent and advocate for the interests of the River*
- Ngā Tangata Tiaki (PSGE formal governance group/board of ~12 – iwi reps)  
<https://www.ngatangatatiaki.co.nz/>



# Te Awa Tupua

## The 4 core values of Te Awa Tupua:

- *Ko te Awa te mātāpuna o te ora*: the river is a source of physical and spiritual sustenance;
- *E rere kau mai te Awa nui mai i te Kāhui Maunga ki Tangaroa*: that it runs from the mountain to the sea and is indivisible;
- *Ko au te Awa, ko te Awa ko au*: that iwi and hapū have an inalienable relationship with the river, "I am the river and the river is me";
- *Ngā manga iti, ngā manga nui e honohono kau ana, ka tupu hei Awa Tupua*: that large streams flow into one another and form one river.



## Iwi/hapū needs – Whanganui/ Tamaupoko ngā hapū:

- Project support (resources, esp financial)
- Hapū and kaitiaki management plans (~7 hapū/pā/6 marae)
- Building Māori research capability/capacity
- Strengthening ngā hapū mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) (e.g., wānanga at marae, traditional knowledge, oral histories, cultural indicators, etc.)
- Options for restoration of culturally significant areas (e.g., marae, urupā, protecting and enhancing Moutoa Island, fishing areas)



## Whanganui Tamaupoko iwi/hapū work:

### Development and implementation of hapū/kaitiaki environment plans of the Tamaupoko tūpuna rohe

Rūnanga o Tamaupoko helped hapū collectives and marae communities develop and implement kaitiaki plans. Completed plans:

- Matahiwi Marae – Ngā hapū: Ngā Poutama, Ngāti Aohehu and Ngāti Tānewai
- Rānana Marae – Ngā hapū: Ngāti Hine ki Rānana, Ngāti Hinekorako and Ngāti Ruaka
- Patiarero Marae, Hiruhārama - Hapū: Ngāti Hau
- Paraweka Marae at Pipiriki (The hapū at Paraweka is Ngāti Kurawhatīa/Ngāti Kura)

Wānanga: continuing work with rangatahi/tamariki on customary fisheries practices, and connections to whenua and awa, developing environmental well-being indicators based on themes that came through wānanga





# Tamaupoko (Whanganui) iwi/hapū work – wānanga:

STEC meeting - Maori research





# Projects



- Learning tūpuna methods of gathering kai (foods)
- Understanding freshwater species: kākahi, tuna, kōura, atutahi (inanga, whitebait), ngaore (common smelt)
- Gathering local native seeds and growing tupu (plantlings)
- Reciting whakapapa (genealogies), karakia (incantations), waiata (songs)
- Practising tikanga (protocols) associated with marae
- Linking with other initiatives that align with our kaupapa

# Tamaupoko desired outcomes (Rawiri Tinirau)

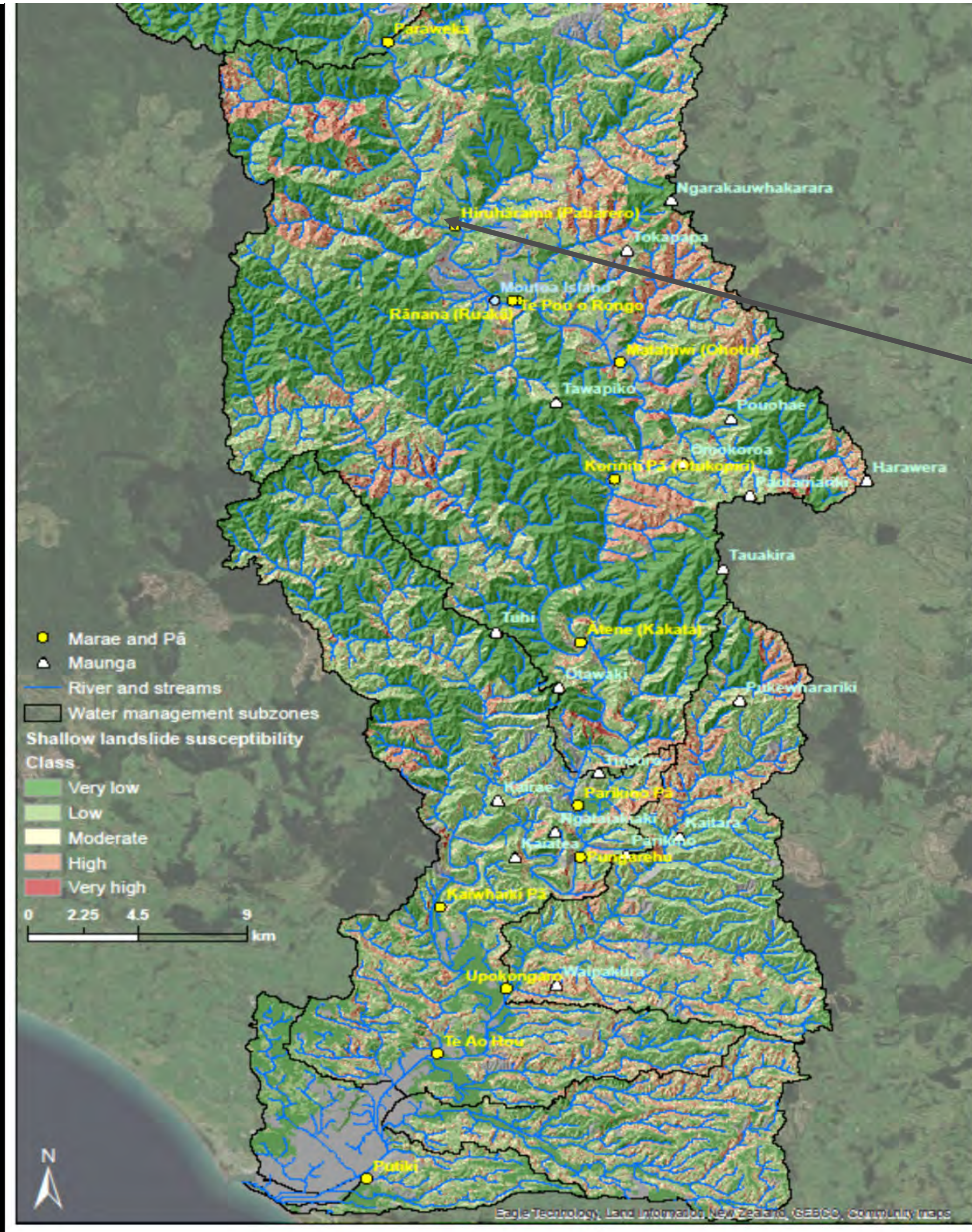
THEMES	OUTCOMES	INDICATORS
<b>Health of the Whanganui River</b>	A healthy, free-flowing Awa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher river levels, respecting its natural path and flows</li> <li>Increased number of fish, e.g. tuna, ngaore, kākahi</li> <li>Higher water quality, e.g. clean and clear, lower levels of silt</li> <li>Riparian planting activities</li> <li>Ability to swim safely</li> <li>Reduced pollution and toxins</li> </ul>
<b>Land custodianship and utilisation</b>	Sustainable development of ancestral lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active and capable governance and management</li> <li>Increased employment opportunities</li> <li>Increased benefits for hapū community and land owners</li> <li>Ahi kā is lit and alive</li> <li>Reduced pollution and use of chemicals</li> </ul>
<b>Taonga tuku iho (e.g. wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna)</b>	Protection of sites of significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wānanga held and research conducted on protecting sites of significance</li> <li>Increased hapū cultural capability and capacity</li> <li>Whānau re-engaging with wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna</li> <li>Mapping of wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna</li> <li>Creation of 'silent' files</li> <li>Increased respect and acknowledgement for hapū views on taonga tuku iho</li> </ul>
<b>Food sources and sustainability</b>	Well-fed whānau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wānanga held and research conducted on maramataka food sources and sustainability</li> <li>Increased whānau cultural capability and capacity</li> <li>Planting and stock rejuvenation activities</li> <li>Nourished whānau through sustainable Increased whānau engaged in food gathering and growing activities</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental impacts and threats</b>	Resilient, well-supported hapū community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wānanga held and research conducted on environmental issues, climate change and solutions</li> <li>Management plans developed and operationalised</li> <li>Reduced levels of pests, poisons and pollution</li> </ul>



# Whanganui Tamaupoko iwi/hapū work (hapū plans):

## Marae and Pā

- Putiki
- Te Ao Hou
- Upokongaro
- Kaiwhaiki Pā
- Pungarehu
- Parikino Pā
- Ātene (Kakata)
- Koriniti Pā (Otukopiri)
- Matahiwi (Ohotu)
- Rānana (Ruakā)
- Te Pou o Rongo
- Hiruhārama (Patiarero)
- Paraweka Marae at Pipiriki



Ngāti Hau,  
Hiruharama  
ūrupa,  
instability, erosion  
at side of river







## Whanganui Tamaupoko iwi/hapū work:

### Development and implementation of hapū/kaitiaki environment plans of the Tamaupoko tūpuna rohe:

- Ngāti Hau at Hiruharama – Jerusalem: *Ngāti Hau Kaitiaki plan and a project which has seen part of an embankment erode and is getting dangerously close to the ūrupa nearest Upokotauaki.*
- Ngāti Ruaka, Ngāti Hine ki Ranana and Ngāti Hinekorako *continue to work collectively in respect of the erosion and sediment at Moutoa Island amongst other taiao projects.*
- Ngāti Taanewai, Ngāti Aokehu and Ngā Poutama have completed their kaitiaki plan with *plans to establish a nursery of locally sourced seed from the native bush to contribute towards a planting plan for wetlands and erosion prone areas of Matahiwi.*



## Background – eastern Manawatū catchment :

- Manawatū catchment - **Manawatū river accord** (signed **2011** between iwi, the Crown, and other agencies – action plan developed 2011, 2016-2021)  
<https://www.manawaturiver.co.nz/>
- 11 hapū, TE KĀURU EASTERN MANAWATŪ RIVER HAPŪ COLLECTIVE
- **Kāuru Taiao strategy 2016** (guide decision-making)
- Goal to restore the mauri/health of the river/awa (mauri, Te Mana o Te Wai) - strengthen the connection to the river

## Te Kaurū Hapū Collective

*Te Kāuru (Manawatū River) Hapū Collective* was formed in 2010 and since over 10 hapū projects have been established and supported.

Hapū have reconnected with their whenua, each other and their mātauranga. Their role as kaitiaki have been supported by connecting them with the tools and training to be in charge of their own māna motuhake



**Hapū Wānanga**



# Iwi/hapū needs – eastern Manawatū catchment:



- Project and capability support (resources, esp financial)
- Hapū and kaitiaki management plans (~11 hapū)
- Building Māori research capability/capacity
- Strengthening ngā hapū mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) (e.g., hui/wānanga, fieldwork, traditional knowledge, oral histories, cultural indicators, etc.)
- Cultural monitoring – frameworks, actions
- GIS mapping (cultural heritage sites, placenames)
- Restoring ecological and culturally significant areas



# Rangitāne iwi/hapū work – Cultural monitoring and indicators

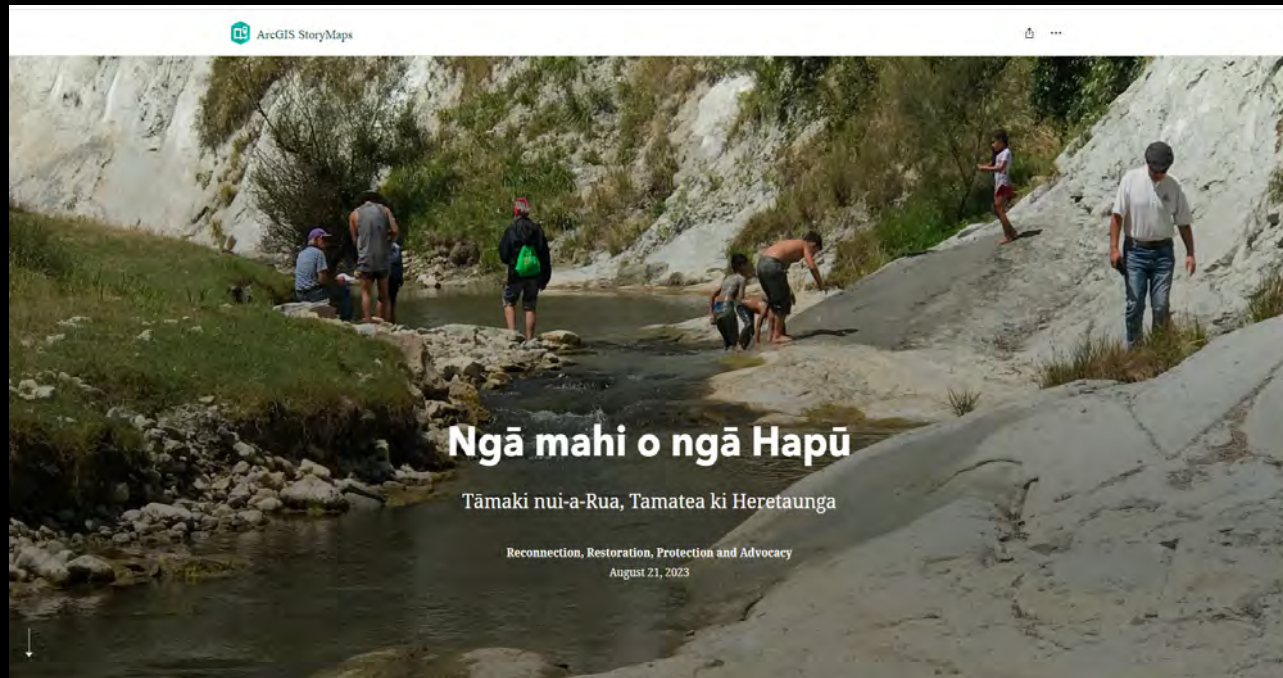






## Rangitāne iwi/hapū work – GIS mapping:

- Manawatū catchment - Kāuru strategy, restoration projects
- Arc GIS storymap presentation (Arapera Paewai)
- Cultural health mapping
- GIS 3D landscape mapping, placenames







## 1 Ngāmoko Whare

*This whare is located at Ngāmoko, or Norsewood, alongside the Manawatū River. The site and area take their name for the two grandchildren of Rongotautāwhi. The two big hills directly above the whare are brother and sister, known together as Ngā Mokopuna o Rongotautāwhi.*







# Mauri Oho Achievements

2021-2025



**Mauri Oho**  
Whāngai Kōwhiri | Environmental Services  
Whāngai Kōwhiri | Environmental Services

Traps Serviced 9,182    Traps Made/Deployed 1,225    Kills 2,355



Pest Control Area 47,880 ha



Riparian Restoration  
8.9 ha

Weed Control  
18.2 ha



Riparian Planting







## Findings/Results

- Meaningful relationships with two main iwi over the last 6 years (ongoing contracts with Tamaupoko Whanganui, and Taiao consultancy, Rangitāne) – used STEC programme support
- Built relationships with the STEC programme
- Identified Māori research priorities and needs
- Continuation of iwi/hapū led projects and joint projects
- Built Māori research capacity in two catchments (Whanganui and Manawatū)
- support for advancing mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge)