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# LINKONLINE

Short webinars for environmental policy-makers and practitioners

## Working with, not on, the land - Insights from landowners making decisions based on a Māori worldview

The following questions were asked during our live webinar with Nikki Harcourt but due to time restrictions, we were unable to answer these in the session.

**Building from the first question, do you know where people working the farming sector (e.g. farmers; farm advisors) could learn how to farm from a holistic/te ao Māori approach? Do you know of courses, learning opportunities?**

The short answer is no, there are people who have delivered the odd bespoke course, but no dedicated advisors (that I, nor my networks are aware of). MPI are exploring what a course for rural advisors might look like, and have indicated their interest in developing a specialised workstream for Te Ao Māori-driven approaches. I know this because I have been involved in this work through MWLR. I know John Roche (MPI) is cognisant of this need.

**Does this information (S-map) cover Urban/City areas?**

S-map is generally not at a scale that would be useful for urban situations and on the whole has focused on rural land.

**Kia ora Nikki, you referred at the start of your presentation to some background reading material. Could you provide some titles?**

Harcourt, N., Awatere, S., Hyslop, J. et al. Kia Manawaroa Kia Puawai: enduring Māori livelihoods. *Sustain Sci* 17, 391–402 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-021-01051-5>

Nichola Harcourt, Melissa Robson-Williams & Reina Tamepo (2022) Supporting the design of useful and relevant holistic frameworks for land use opportunity assessment for indigenous people, *Australasian Journal of Water Resources*, 26:1, 116-130, [DOI: 10.1080/13241583.2022.2031571](https://doi.org/10.1080/13241583.2022.2031571)

**Kia ora katoa. Are MWLR's databases 'active' or 'live', or updated on a time-specific basis? Ka mihi**

Many of our databases are active. S-map itself has two updates a year where new information is released. Our biodiversity collections and NVS are constantly being updated with new specimens and observations as well as the data that goes along with them. Some data are more of a point in time (e.g., a soil profile). We might add new data points but not necessarily update the data on the

existing data points. Other resources such as LCDB etc are only funded by MfE to be updated every few years.

**Isn't it erroneous to characterise science as only reductionist? While it is reductionist, it's also concerned with systems, models, whole databases etc (as your examples show)**

Please see the following papers that explore your question in more detail:

Harcourt, N., Awatere, S., Hyslop, J. et al. Kia Manawaroa Kia Puawai: enduring Māori livelihoods. *Sustain Sci* 17, 391–402 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-021-01051-5>

Nichola Harcourt, Melissa Robson-Williams & Reina Tamepo (2022) Supporting the design of useful and relevant holistic frameworks for land use opportunity assessment for indigenous people, *Australasian Journal of Water Resources*, 26:1, 116-130, [DOI: 10.1080/13241583.2022.2031571](https://doi.org/10.1080/13241583.2022.2031571)

**Tena koutou, appreciate the insights you have shared. How do you ensure the aspirations of Māori are being achieved in the collection and use of this land data? It has been my experience as a Kaupapa Māori analyst that these data sets are maximised and monetised for those who own the systems, this is not a driver under MDS (Māori data sovereignty). I was wondering what Landcare Research do to reconcile between the two worldviews in the way of operationalising matauranga in Crown space? Mauriora**

We have specific IP and data use agreements with the holders of mātauranga that they retain all ownership of mātauranga. This information cannot be shared by MWLR in any capacity unless endorsed by the Māori partners.

**How do you see this knowledge helping to combat GHG emissions, if at all?**

Please see the Māori Research Strategy for the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre: <https://www.nzagrc.org.nz/assets/Publications/NZAGRC-2022-2025-Maori-Research-Strategy.pdf>