

22 June 2026

REF: OIA 88552

Mark

By email: fyi-request-34683-f4f4e026@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe

Request for Official Information: information relating to Crown consideration of Wai 1896 in mandating and Treaty settlement processes

Thank you for your correspondence of 11 May 2026 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the **Act**):

"the records, assessments, analyses, correspondence and decision-making documents relating to Crown consideration of WAI 1896 in relation to overlapping settlement negotiations, mandate recognition processes, and territorial interests identified within the Statement of Claim."

On 27 May the timeframe for responding to your request was extended to 22 June under section 15(a) of the Act.

Response to your request

Please find attached at **Appendix One** a table of documents and information released in response to your request.

Some of this information has been withheld in part under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of a natural persons, including the deceased;
- 18(d) – information is already publicly available; and
- out of scope.

Documents 15 and 16 in the table of documents are not provided as they are publicly available on the Te Tari Whakatau website at [Tuhoronuku Deed of Mandate](#) and [Ngapuhi-Terms-of-Negotiation-20-May-2015.pdf](#).

Your request was considered for proactive release in line with The Te Tari Whakatau Official Information Act 1982 proactive release policy. Our assessment determined your request falls within the scope for proactive release as its contents are of interest to the wider public.

Our response to your request will be published in the next 20 days at [Te Tari Whakatau - Official Information Act responses](#) with your personal information removed.

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You have the right under section 28(3) to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about this process is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or phone 0800 802 602.

Should you have any queries or require further information, please contact Sonya Wynne, Senior Analyst, at Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leah Campbell', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Leah Campbell
Director

Appendix One: Table of Documents and Information for release

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information released	Reason for withholding information	Page number (s)
1.	14 December 2008-24 November 2009	Letter from AJ Packington-Hall to Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, 09 November 2009, attaching: - - Letter from AJ Packington-Hall to Mr Sonny Tau, 21 October 2009 - Power of Attorney from Denis Hanley to AJ Packington-Hall, 14 December 2008 Letter from Private Secretary for Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations to AJ Packington-Hall, 24 November 2009	Released in part	9(s)(a)	1 – 6
2.	17 November 2009	Cover email re Ministerial letter (MIN 2009 24902)	Released in full		7
3.	17 November 2009	Attachment - letter MIN 2009 24902 (A. J. Packington-Hall) [unsigned]	Released in full		8
4.	04 June 2010	G. Sharrock, memorandum of counsel relating to an application by Gregg McDonald to the Waitangi Tribunal on behalf of Wai 532	Released in full		9 – 11
5.	09 November 2011	G Sharrock, Memorandum of Counsel supporting application for urgent hearing by Michael Beazley and others on behalf of Nga Uri o Maki nui (Wai 2181)	Released in full		12 - 19

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information released	Reason for withholding information	Page number (s)
6.	08 December 2011	Letter to A.J. Packington-Hall [unsigned]	Released in full		20
7.	14 June 2011	Table – analytical table of Wai claims (pages)	Released in part	Out of scope	21-25
8.	05 July 2013	Ngāpuhi claims settled in full letters FINAL - Letter to Denis Hanley	Released in full		26 – 28
9.	31 July 2013	Letter to Denis Hanley resent	Released in part	9(2)(a)	29 – 31
10.	19 July 2013 – 05 August 2013	Te Puni Kokiri – Office of Treaty Settlements email chain with filenote - Tuhoronuku and Wai 1896	Released in part	9(2)(a)	32 – 33
11.	08 August 2013	1063 - Submission of AJ Packington Hall on behalf of Denis Patrick Hanley in the matter of Waitangi Treaty Claim Wai 1896	Released in full		34 – 35
12.	20 September 2013	Table of non-template submissions - #67 – Tony Pakington Hall	Released in part	9(2)(a) Out of scope	36 – 37
13.	22 October 2013	Table of submissions – historical elements	Released in part	Out of scope	38 – 39
14.	03 December 2013	Table of submitters requiring individual response re. Tūhoronuku mandate	Released in part	9(2)(a) Out of scope	40

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information released	Reason for withholding information	Page number (s)
15.	14 February 2014	Te Rōpū o Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate and appendices	Not released	18(d) – publicly available	-
16.	20 May 2015	Te Rōpū o Tūhoronuku Terms of Negotiation	Not released	18(d) – publicly available	-
17.	14 June 2017	Claimant definition database (groups in negotiation or pre-negotiation)	Released in part	Out of scope	41 – 44
18.	02 March 2026	Email re Wai 1896 – request for clarification of settlement pathway	Released in part	Out of scope g(2)(a)	45 – 46
19.	11 March 2026	Email re Wai 1896 - request for clarification of settlement pathway	Released in part	Out of scope g(2)(a)	47 – 48
20.	11 March 2026	Te Tari Whakatau summary document - Eruera Maihi Patuone group associations	Released in full		49 – 50
21.	24 March 2026	Email 24 March 2026 re Wai 1896: Non-Extinguishment and Discrete Settlement Request	Released in part	Out of scope g(2)(a)	51 – 54
22.	24 March 2026	Email re Wai 1896 - request for clarification of settlement pathway	Released in full		55
23.	01 April 2026	Letter Te Tari Whakatau to Mark Thomson re Wai 1896	Released in part	g(2)(a)	56 – 58

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information released	Reason for withholding information	Page number (s)
24.	1 April – 18 June 2026	Emails Mark Thomson – Te Tari Whakatau re Wai 1896	Released in part	9(2)(a)	59 – 66
25.	02 April 2026	Te Tari Whakatau summary document - Wai 1896 documents in the Wai 1040 Record of Inquiry	Released in full		67 – 72
26.	16 – 18 June 2026	Emails Mark Thomson re Wai 1896	Released in part	9(2)(a)	73 – 75

Reasons for withholding under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982¹

s 9(2)(a) – protect the privacy of natural persons, including the deceased.

s 9(2)(b) – protect information that would:

- (i) – disclose a trade secret;
- (ii) – unreasonably prejudice commercial position of subject.

s 9(2)(ba) – protect information where making it available would:

- (i) – prejudice the supply of similar information; or
- (ii) – likely otherwise damage the public interest.

s 9(2)(c) – prejudice to measures protecting health or safety of the public.

s 9(2)(d) – prejudice to substantial economic interests of New Zealand.

s 9(2)(f) – maintain the constitutional conventions which protect:

- (i) – communications by or with the Sovereign or their representative; or
- (ii) – collective and individual ministerial responsibility; or
- (iii) – the political neutrality of officials; or
- (iv) – the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and Crown officials.

s 9(2)(g) – maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through:

- (i) – the free and frank expression of opinions;
- (ii) – the protection from improper pressure or harassment.

s 9(2)(e) – prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public.

s 9(2)(h) – maintain legal professional privilege.

s 9(2)(i) – enable the Crown holding the information to carry out commercial activities.

s 9(2)(j) – negotiations sensitive.

s 9(2)(k) – prevent the disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage.

Reasons for refusing information under section 18 of the Official Information Act 1982ⁱ

s 18(a) – good reasons by virtue of s 6, 7 or 9 of the Act:

s 18(b) – the department or Minister or organisation neither confirms nor denies the existence or non-existence of the information:

s 18(c) – making the information available would –

(iii) – be contrary to a specified enactment; or

(iv) – constitute contempt of court or the House of Representatives:

s 18(d) – the information is, or will soon be, publicly available:

s 18(da) – the request is made by a defendant or person acting on behalf of a defendant and is –

(v) – information that could be sought under the Criminal Disclosures Act 2008; or

(vi) – information that could be sought under that Act and that has been disclosed or withheld under that Act:

s 18(e) – the information requested does not exist, or cannot be found:

s 18(f) – the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research:

s 18(g) – the information is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that it is:

(i) – held by another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority; or

(ii) – connected more closely with the functions of another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or local authority:

s 18(h) – the request is frivolous or vexatious or the information requested is trivial.

ⁱ Please see the Official Information Act 1982 for full version of sections 9 and 18 of the Act.

18 NOV 2009
003109
FY1

78a Bentley Ave.,
Glenfield,
North Shore City,
Auckland.

section 9(2)(a)

9 / 11 / 2009

Hon. Christopher Finlayson,
Minister of Treaty Settlements,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington.

Document 1

RE : WAI 1896 : POSITION STATEMENT

Dear Mr. Finlayson,

Please find a letter attached from this writer to Mr. S. Tau (Chairman, Te Runanga o Nga Puhi) on behalf of the above Waitangi treaty claim.

The attached letter is based on the instructions of the claimant (in consultation with his wider claimant group) as to the strict of the claim. I would be grateful if the Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) accepts the attached letter as a ' position statement ' on behalf of claim WAI 1896, and file it in such a manner as would make it available to OTS in their considerations regarding the matter to which it relates.

I would be grateful for an acknowledgement of receipt of this letter.

Thankyou for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully

(A.J. PACKINGTON-HALL)

OTS :

I don't think a
response is needed.

but no know if

you disagree.

MARIAN.

78a Bentley Ave.,
Glenfield,
North Shore City,
Aucklim Wai

21 / 10 / 2009

Mr. Sonny Tau,
Chairman,
Te Runanga o Nga Puhi,
16 Mangakahia Rd.,
Kaikohe,
Northland.

RE : WAITANGI TREATY CLAIM WAI 1896

Dear Sir,

I advise that I am the representative of the above Waitangi treaty claim during the claimants absence in Australia pursuant to a power of attorney (copy attached) executed by the claimant.

For your information, claim Wai 1896 was lodged by Mr. D. Hanly on behalf of his whanau (extended family) through their tupuna Hapiwaka and her parents Eruera Maihi Patuone (Patuone) and Te Hoia. This claim is concerned with the historic interests of Patuone within the Waitangi Tribunal Mahurangi & Gulf Islands Inquiry District south of the Tawharanui Peninsula. Wai 1896 has full recognition of the Waitangi Tribunal in that a Wai Number has been allocated, and a Section 44 report has been forwarded by the Tribunal to the Legal Services Agency for purposes of legal aid. Further, the claim is registered with, and is part of, the Mahurangi & Gulf Islands Claims Collective (MAGICC).

It is a fundamental objective of claim Wai 1896 that the issues with which it is concerned should be tested, and acknowledged, by a 'historic claims' hearing of the Waitangi Tribunal for the Mahurangi & Gulf Islands Inquiry District specific for it's needs. It is a particularly strong imperative for this claim that it should be heard in relation to the whenua with which it is concerned.

I have recently been verbally advised to the effect that Te Runanga o Nga Puhi is proceeding to settlement negotiations with Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) without hearings before the Waitangi Tribunal, and that such settlement is intended to include claims currently registered in MAGICC. Further, that mandating huis have previously been held for this purpose. I

would point out, in this respect, that as a representative for a relevant legally acknowledged Waitangi treaty claim I did not receive a panui to attend any mandating hui from the Runanga, and only heard of them 'after the event'. Further, that as the aim, as I understand it (above), is absolutely antithetical to a number of the principal objectives of claim Wai 1896 a mandate would not have been given on behalf of the claim for this purpose.

On this basis, Te Runanga o Nga Puhi cannot simply assume that it has a mandate to proceed to 'full and final' settlement with OTS on behalf of Wai 1896 (et al). The only course acceptable to this claim for any type of settlement remains through the claimant (or his legal representative), the claims solicitor and barrister, and expressed via MAGICC.

We would be extremely grateful for your urgent consideration and reply in respect of the foregoing. Meanwhile, we will obtain advice from our solicitor and barrister regarding the immediate issuing of instructions to them to urgently proceed with appropriate legal action in this matter.

Yours faithfully

(A.J. PACKINGTON-HALL)

Copied to ;
Hon. C. Finlayson, Minister of Treaty Settlements, Wellington
Hon. S. Power, Minister of Justice / Waitangi Tribunal, Wellington

DENIS HANLEY

in favour of

TONY PACKINGTON HALL

POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PURSUIT OF WAITANGI CLAIMS

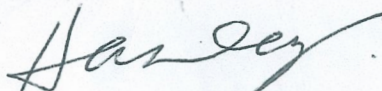
THIS IS A POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PURSUIT OF WAITANGI CLAIMS
by way of deed signed by me **DENIS HANLEY** of Northcote, Waitangi claimant on the
14th day of December 2008..

BACKGROUND

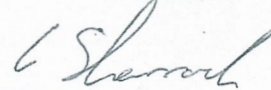
I wish to appoint an attorney to act for me from time to time in my name, on my behalf
and in my interests in specified matters.

BY THIS DEED

1. I appoint **TONY PACKINGTON HALL** of Glenfield, *archaeologist* to be my attorney for the following purposes:
 - 1.1 *To facilitate the administration and pursuit of the Waitangi claim on indigenous trading or any other proceedings or process related to my grievances as a First Nations people during my absence in Australia.*
2. MY attorney may execute on my behalf all necessary documents, instruments or deeds, or do any other acts that are necessary to effect the purposes set out in clause 1.1, including speaking on my behalf at any hui, hearing, meeting or similar situation. In the absence of my attorney or solicitor receiving instructions from me on a matter within 7 days or in a shorter time if needed urgently I authorise my attorney to give such instructions as he sees fit to successfully pursue the claim either to any solicitor or researcher.
3. I will confirm and ratify every act, matter or thing done by my attorney for the purposes set out in clause 1.1 and I will indemnify and keep my attorney indemnified with respect to any liability, charge, expense or loss which my attorney may incur through the lawful exercise of this power of attorney.

SIGNED by **DENIS HANLEY** in the presence of: 

Witness to above signature

GERARD SHARROCK 

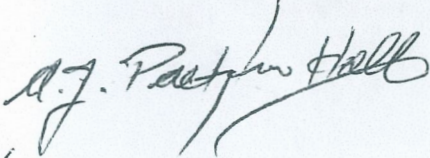
Full name of witness

SOLICITOR

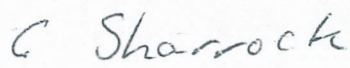
Occupation of witness

11 KAHU ST NORTHCOTE AUCKLAND N.Z.

Address of witness

SIGNED by **TONY PACKINGTON HALL** in the presence of: 

Witness to above signature

G. Sharrock 

Full name of witness

Solicitor

Occupation of witness

11 Kahu St Northcote

Address of witness

24 NOV 2009

A J Packington-Hall
78 Bentley Ave
Glenfield
North Shore City
AUCKLAND

Tēnā koe

On behalf of Hon Christopher Finlayson, Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, thank you for your letter dated 9 November regarding your position statement on Wai claim 1896. Your letter is with Minister Finlayson for his consideration.

Nāku noa, nā



Marian Smith
Private Secretary (Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations)

Reference: 003109

Sender: John Hutton
Date: 17/11/2009 7:10:00 p.m.
Subject: Ministerial - FINAL
Message Source: Incoming
Attachment Count: 2
Attachment #1: TEXT.htm
Attachment #2: MIN 2009 24902 (A. J. Packington-Hall).doc
Recipient Count: 1
Recipient: Cooke, Simon
Message Class: GW.MESSAGE.MAIL

Document 2

Message Body:

Hi Simon,

the ministerial is on your table ready to go out Wednesday morning, 28th. If there are any other further issues with it, attached is the FINAL electronic. (Maureen had further changes since last email).

Please check the paperwork inside - give date gone, etc.

Much appreciated.

Cheers,

John.

END OF ITEM #####

A. J. Packington-Hall
78a Bently Ave
Glefield
North hore City
AUCKLAND 0629

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your letter of 19 October 2009, where you seek advice on whether Wai 1896 qualifies under Crown policy to be negotiated as a single claim.

The Crown strongly prefers to negotiate Treaty settlements with large natural groupings, rather than with individual hapū or whānau within a tribe. There are good reasons for this: negotiations are easier to work through with larger groups, overlapping interests are better dealt with, and the costs to all parties are reduced. Accordingly, the Crown would want to negotiate the settlement of Wai 1896 alongside any claims that derive from the historical interests of the tupuna Patuone, and other claims of the hapū and iwi to which Patuone and his descendants affiliate.

Before such negotiations could take place, an organisation would need to demonstrate it has the support of those who would benefit from the settlement of those claims. As I understand it, the tupuna Patuone was of Ngāpuhi descent. You may be aware that Te Rūnanga-a-Iwi o Ngāpuhi has been leading a consultation process to generate discussion among Ngāpuhi about how they wish to be represented in Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown. It may be useful for you to contact the Rūnanga and participate in those discussions. The Crown has made no predetermination as to who should hold a mandate on behalf of Ngāpuhi. Ultimately it is for the people of Ngāpuhi to decide how they wish to be represented and when they wish to enter Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown.

I have also enclosed a copy of “Ka tika ā muri, ka tika ā mua: Healing the past, building a future”. You may find it helpful to read this guide for further information on Treaty settlement negotiations.

Nāku noa, nā

Hon Christopher Finlayson
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

BEFORE THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

under WAI 2191

Concerning

THE TREATY OF WAITANGI
ACT 1975

And

A number of claims
representing various
Nga Puhi interests in
Mahurangi and Tamaki
Makaurau on behalf of
Maori who wish to be
heard, and their
grievance aired on
behalf of whanau and
hapu,. including Wai
121, 654, 880, 941, 1055,
1129, 1313, 1460, 1896,
1941, 2191

AND

*Application for Urgent
hearing made by Gregg
McDonald on behalf of
Wai 532*

MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL RELATING TO APPLICATION
Dated 4th June 2010

Robert Barnes

Gerald Sharrock

Solicitors (solicitor acting)

PO Box 34-154 Birkenhead

17 Birkenhead Avenue, Birkenhead, Auckland

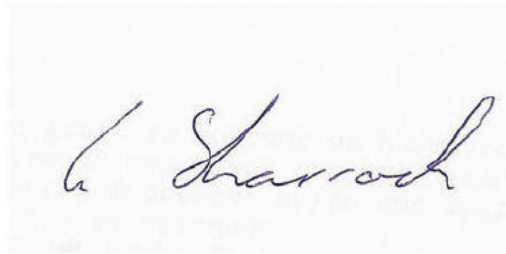
Phone: 09 418 0763, fax 09 4180332

5. We would wish to make full submissions in this matter but counsel as may be understood is in the middle of Wai 1040 hearings.

The address for service of Gerald Sharrock at Robert Barnes 17 Birkenhead Avenue, Birkenhead North Shore City phone 09 4180763. FAX 09 418 0332

Documents for service on Robert Barnes may be left at that address for service or may be posted to the solicitor at PO Box 34-154 Birkenhead.

DATED at Auckland this 4th day of June 2010

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. Sharrock', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

.....
Gerald Sharrock Counsel
for the claimants

BEFORE THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL
OF NEW ZEALAND

WAI 121, 654, 884,914,
1129, 1055, 1313, 1460,
1896, 1941, 1870, 2191,
and WAI 2309.

IN THE MATTER OF

THE TREATY OF
WAITANGI ACT 1975

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

An application for
urgency by William
Kapea and Michael
John Beazley on
behalf of themselves
and Nga Uri o Maki-
nui

AND

CLAIMS BY MARAMA
STEAD BAKER, GILBERT
PARKER, HOHEPA KINGI,
NAOMI EPIHA, RHODA
MAHANGA, ELIZABETH
WARREN, KINGI TAURUA
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
WHANAU

MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL SUPPORTING APPLICATION
FOR URGENT HEARING BY MICHAEL BEAZLEY & OTHERS
ON BEHALF OF NGA URI O MAKI NUI

9 November 2011

RightLaw

Barristers and Solicitors

Gerald Sharrock BSc LIB, Principal

11 Kaihu Street Northcote, Auckland 0627

phone +64 09 889 4468 mobile +64 21 303923

gsharrock@rightlaw.co.nz www.rightlaw.co.nz

MAY IT PLEASE THE TRIBUNAL

Background

1. Counsel has received instructions from the claimants that they have an interest in the application for urgency. Accordingly counsel respectfully seeks the Tribunal's leave to have the claimants added as a party with an interest in the urgency application and to have this document filed on the Wai 2181 Record.
2. Claimants were party to the prior Wai 532 application and repeat the issues raised in that proceedings
3. There will be no prejudice to any other party should the leave sought be granted.
4. The tragedy of this situation is that history is repeating itself.
5. The very basis of Crown purchase under the Mahurangi Purchase was a case where the Crown having failed to make proper inquiry purchased from those who did not control all or even a majority of the land interests. The Crown engaged with them because they were convenient and friendly.

6. The Crown has now chosen to reward a very small whanau/hapu group with substantial cash settlement which is then mainly converted into ownership of the most substantial Crown forest in the Mahurangi.
7. This process if allowed to continue will cause permanent irremedial damage to other claimants, and other hapu.

Diversity and Proportionality

8. It must be remembered that Mahurangi has a enormous number of hapu from very diverse iwi origins, reflecting the transit nature of the territory, as a way station between the far north, and points south including the isthmus, Hauraki, Waikato, and beyond.
9. Some of the more salient hapu include:

Ngati Paoa

Ngati Rahiri

Ngai Tawake

Teparawhau

Te Uri o Hua

Te Uri o Hau

Te Taou

Ngati Rongo

Nga Iwi

Nga Oho

Ngai Tahu

Ngati Whatua

Waiohau

10. These represent hapu from a wide range of confederations such as

Kawerau

Ngati whatua

Nga Puhi

Tainui

Hauraki

11. Few points in the country offer such tribal diversity. Few places require such care in determining settlement.

12. To precipitate a settlement for a minor whanau/hapu for substantial crown asset without full inquiry, is to the gross prejudice of other hapu unless the Crown is willing to accept that settlement for Mahurangi is likely to be proportionate to the population of Ngati Manuhiri as compared to the population of other hapu. If the approximate 200 of this group are to be settled with nine million dollars can we have a commitment that 30,000 Nga Puhi in the area will receive proportionate largesse.

Mandate Deficiencies

13. Roll of Electors

The efficacy of the roll has been challenged. Some have been enrolled that should not. Others have either been excluded or have chosen not to be included because they found the Roll to be deficient. Definition of class of enrollees is suspect. Many of the roll are recognised as having different affiliations and their connections were remote.

14. Mechanism of voting process

There have been misgivings about the process of recognising attendees at meetings, their publication, and the recording of the true intent of the meeting.

15. Conflict of Interest

Some of the principals have serious conflicts involving their positions over time in the Ngati Wai Trust Board.

16. Failure to acknowledge separation

The Haronga decision clearly denotes the rights for claimants to separate themselves from the settlement process. The Crown and the settling organisation has failed to acknowledge this.

Irrevocable Prejudice Arising from Allocation of Assets

17. The Crown in allocating one of the few and certainly the only substantial forest in the Mahurangi to a whanau/hapu which is one of the smaller in the region. They are not tangita whenua. Their interests can at best be described as parallel to other hapu interests.

18. This act effectively denies the other hapu the ability to retrieve a substantial forest. There is no comparable alternative available for other claimants. It is contrary to comparative interests.

19. The effect is to change the tribal landscape by providing one of the Crown's friends with disproportionate enrichment. This will lead to distortion in tribal affiliations. It creates an environment where there are financial advantages to associating with the Crown's friends and allies.

20. Loss of State Forest potentially eliminates the ability to receive funding from CFRT for the Mahurangi district. This would be a gross irrevocable prejudice to hearing of our claims in the hearing District.

21. Land is one of the few pieces of Crown land available for return in the Mahurangi. Its allocation to a minor whanau/hapu of a substantial piece of land with a considerable revenue earning potential.

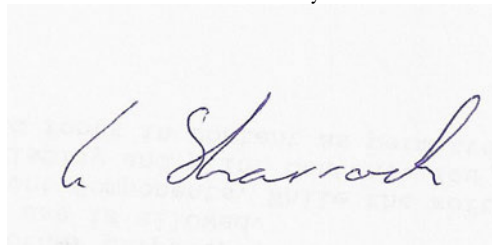
Conclusion

22. In an area of such hapu and iwi diversity to place such a material Crown asset into the hands of a small hapu/whanau grossly distorts the settlement process to the irrevocable prejudice of other claimants. It is more the egregious when the whanau/hapu is deeply divided on the process.

23. Fair and intelligent consent should be the basis for settlement that especially when there are so many competing/parallel interests of diverse hapu and iwi origins a hearing is the only way to determine the relative rights of the party. Settlement cannot arise from the Crown choosing the champions it wants to settle with to the prejudice and preclusion of others.

24. Counsel wishes to make further submissions viva voce

Dated this 9th Day of November 2011

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Sharrock', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Counsel Acting Gerald Sharrock

To: The Registrar of the Waitangi Tribunal
To: Counsel for the Crown
To: Counsel for claimants

8 December 2011

A J Packington-Hall
Unit 4
27-31 Greendale Crescent
Northcote
Auckland

Tēnā koe

Re: Te Rōpu o Tūhoronuku mandate process

Thank you for your letter of 27 September 2011 concerning the Tūhoronuku Te Rōpū o Tūhoronuku (Tūhoronuku) mandate process on behalf of Mr Denis Hanley. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you. I understand you have a number of concerns about the Tūhoronuku deed of mandate process and a strong desire to ensure your grievances are heard through the Waitangi Tribunal process.

The Crown is not in a position to make mandate decisions for Ngāpuhi, nor can the Crown prevent an entity from seeking a mandate from a claimant community. We understand there is a desire within Ngāpuhi to resolve issues around how to progress the settlement of their historical grievances while also considering how that process should involve Tribunal hearings. Representatives of Tūhoronuku and Te Kōtahitanga o Nga Hapū Ngāpuhi (Kōtahitanga) have formed a technical working group, Te Rōpū Whāiti, to work through these issues. We see this as a positive step towards a unified Ngāpuhi.

Tūhoronuku and Kōtihitanga are scheduled to report back to the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations in mid December on any progress made or at a later date if the groups decide they need more time. The Crown has undertaken not to take steps regarding mandate issues before that report back. The Crown is keen to see as much agreement as possible among Ngāpuhi on the best pathway forward for a unified Ngāpuhi settlement process.

Nāku noa, nā

Maureen Hickey
Negotiation and Settlement Manager

Row	Wai	Pend-ing claim ID	Old claim ID	Claim	Claimants	Group (on behalf of)	Concerning	
				Nature of claimant group				
1900	1896	5040	5040	Descendants of Patuone of	Denis Hanley	himself and the descendants of	Hapu/iwi	property rights, alienation of land, reducing tribal identity, loss of records, permitting inaccurate translations,

out of scope

Wai						New claims region:			Inquiry region:		Inquiry district:	
	Pend-ing claim ID	Named organisation(s)	Whanau	Hapu	Iwi	1	2	3	1	2	1	2

1896	5040					Far North			Te Raki		Hokianga	Whangaroa

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out of scope

Wai	Pending claim ID	3	4	5	6	7	Specific locality/ block	Postal town	Historical/ contemporary (pre/post 21 Sep 92)	To be settled/settled in other negs	Partly settled/or to be partly settled in other negs	On Tribunal list
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1896	5040	Whangarei	Bay of	Mahurangi			Yes	AUCKLAND	Historical			Yes
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Wai	Pend-ing claim ID	On Tuhoronuku mandate list	Constitution al issues	Constitutional only claim	Principal claim issues:											
					War/ raupatu	Crown purchasing	Land loss, NLC processes	Land admin & devt	Takings (PW, rates)	Env. Impact	Socio-econ services & impact	Political autonomy	Cultural loss	Conceptual	Other	
1896	5040				Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	

Wai	Pend-ing claim ID	Additional information: Notes on issues
-----	-------------------	--

[Redacted]

out of scope

1896	5040	
------	------	--

[Redacted]

5 July 2013

Denis Patrick Hanley
Wai 1896
C/o Jamaica Chambers
PO Box 7728, Wellesley Street
AUCKLAND 1141

Tēnā koe

Wai Claim: Wai 1896 – Notification of Te Rōpū O Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate for Ngāpuhi's Treaty of Waitangi Settlement Negotiations

I am writing to inform you Te Rōpū o Tūhoronuku (Tūhoronuku) have placed a Deed of Mandate before the Crown for consideration. The Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) is now publicly providing information on the Deed of Mandate and inviting public submissions, views or inquiries for a six week period from 8 July to 18 August 2013.

Tūhoronuku seeks to negotiate the full and final settlement of all historical Ngāpuhi claims. This includes **Wai 1896** in full.

In 2009 Tūhoronuku was established by Te Rūnanga Ā Iwi o Ngāpuhi (**the Rūnanga**) to progress negotiations with the Crown for a comprehensive settlement of all the historical Treaty of Waitangi claims of Ngāpuhi. Prior to this the Crown recognised Ngāpuhi as a large natural grouping for Treaty settlement purposes.

The Crown strongly prefers to negotiate settlements with large natural groups of tribal interests, rather than with individual hapū, whānau, Wai claimants or owners of particular land blocks within a iwi. This allows the claimant negotiators and the Crown to develop a settlement package that covers a wide range of redress. It can also reduce overlapping claim issues as these issues can be addressed internally within the group.

Tūhoronuku undertook its formal mandate process in 2011, holding hui throughout New Zealand and Australia, and conduct a mandate ballot. The outcome of the ballot was 76% of those who voted were in favour of the mandate. Over the last 18 months considerable effort has been put into addressing issues raised by members of Ngāpuhi during the mandate process regarding the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate.

As a result, since the 2011 vote, the Deed of Mandate has been amended and the four key changes are listed below.

- Tūhoronuku will transition into a new and separate legal entity to be known as the Tūhoronuku Independent Mandated Authority (Tūhoronuku IMA) and the Rūnanga will have no control over the Tūhoronuku IMA.
- Hapū-based representation on the new entity will increase from 7 to 15 members, with 3 members elected from each of the 5 identified Ngāpuhi regions (Hokianga, Kaikohe-Waimate-Taiāmai, Whangaroa, Te Pēwhairangi and Whangārei ki Mangakāhia).
- Rūnanga representation will be reduced to 1.
- An independent returning officer will be appointed to oversee the nomination and election processes for appointing representatives to the Tūhoronuku IMA, ensuring a fair and transparent election process.

Following these amendments, the proposed representative structure of the Tūhoronuku IMA is as follows:

Representative structure		
Membership		Total
Hapū-based	3 x positions per region (x 5 regions)	15
Urban	4 x independent (non-regional) positions- Auckland Central, Auckland South, Wellington and South Island.	4
Rūnanga	1 x independent (non-regional) position	1
Kuia/Kaumātua	2 x independent (non-regional) positions	2
	Maximum of	22

If the Deed of Mandate is recognised by the Crown, new elections will be held for all trustees of Tūhoronuku IMA. The Deed of Mandate states that Tūhoronuku IMA will appoint negotiators to undertake settlement negotiations with the Crown.

Tūhoronuku seeks to negotiate the full and final settlement of historical Ngāpuhi Wai claims. Further work has also been completed on the claimant definition. The advertised Deed of Mandate includes an updated list of Ngāpuhi hapū and Wai claims (please see list of hapū/ marae enclosed). This includes Wai 1896 in full. The settlement of all Ngāpuhi claims would settle Wai 1896 in full.

I would like to ensure that you have adequate opportunity to make a submission on the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate. Please find a copy of public notification for the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate attached for your information.

If you wish to make a submission regarding the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate and Addendum I invite you to send your submission to: The Director, Office of Treaty Settlements, SX 10 111, Wellington or via email to Tuhoronuku.Feedback@justice.govt.nz by 5pm 18 August 2013.

For more information and to download an electronic copy of the deed of mandate visit www.ots.govt.nz or www.tpk.govt.nz or www.tuhoronuku.com. Physical copies of the deed of mandate can also be obtained from Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK) offices (for locations of TPK offices visit www.tpk.govt.nz or call 04 819 6000).

All correspondence will be subject to the Official Information Act 1982 and a copy of your submission will be forwarded to Tūhoronuku.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maureen Hickey', is positioned above the printed name.

Maureen Hickey
Negotiation and Settlement Manager

31 July 2013

Denis Patrick Hanley
C/- Gerald Sharrock
PO Box 34-154
Birkenhead
NORTH SHORE CITY

Wai Claim: Wai 1896 – Notification of Te Rōpū O Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate for Ngāpuhi's Treaty of Waitangi Settlement Negotiations

I am writing to inform you Te Rōpū o Tūhoronuku (Tūhoronuku) have placed a Deed of Mandate before the Crown for consideration. The Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) is now publicly providing information on the Deed of Mandate and inviting public submissions, views or inquiries for a six week period from 8 July to 18 August 2013.

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I would like to ensure that you have adequate opportunity to make a submission on the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate. Please find a copy of public notification for the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate attached for your information.

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All correspondence will be subject to the Official Information Act 1982 and a copy of your submission will be forwarded to Tūhoronuku.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maureen Hickey', with a stylized, cursive script.

Maureen Hickey
Negotiation and Settlement Manager

section 9(2)(a)

67 R

[REDACTED] - Fwd: RE: FW: Filenote - Tuhoronuku and WAI 1896

From: Maureen Hickey
To: [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)
Date: 5/08/2013 5:35 p.m.
Subject: Fwd: RE: FW: Filenote - Tuhoronuku and WAI 1896
CC: Joshua Riddiford; Keri Mills

At this stage, I think the TPK response is sufficient. Let's see if we receive a formal submission and take it from there.

Still useful if Keri (or Kathy) evaluate the claim to check it should be within the Ngapuhi mandate

Thanks

Maureen

 **Maureen Hickey** | Negotiation & Settlement Manager | Office of Treaty Settlements
 DDI: +64 04 4949 832 | Ext: 50832 | Mobile: 027 3505 197 | www.ots.govt.nz
 Te Tari Whakatau Take e pa ana ki te Tiriti o Waitangi

section 9(2)(a)

>>> [REDACTED] 19/07/2013 3:02 p.m. >>>

Do we want to respond to this directly or are we happy with how TPK have responded to it?

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 19 July 2013 2:32 p.m.
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: FW: Filenote - Tuhoronuku and WAI 1896

section 9(2)(a)

Kia ora [REDACTED],

section 9(2)(a)

I am going to get some copies printed over here- when do you need them by?

Thanks,

section 9(2)(a)

[REDACTED] 19/07/2013 1:53 p.m. >>>

From: Jonathan Easthope
Sent: Friday, 19 July 2013 12:47 p.m.
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Paula Collins
Subject: Filenote - Tuhoronuku and WAI 1896

section 9(2)(a)

I called Tony Pakington Hall (referral from Paula who he called this morning) - Tony acts for the WAI 1896 claimant, Denis Hanley, pursuant to enduring powers of attorney while Mr Hanley is in Australia.

Mr Hall noted his client's WAI claim is listed in the Tuhoronuku Deed of Mandate advertisement, and lodged his and his client's objections as WAI 1896 nor the claimant have ever mandated Tuhoronuku to settle their claim. Two letters have been sent to OTS but no reply from that office. The claimant considers this is fraudulent, but he would prefer not to have to take this to Court of the Serious Fraud Office. Mr Hall has discussed the matter with SFO who have said the issue may fall within their purview and he should send them more details. The claimant wants WAI 1896 taken off the list; their view is that this is not a Nga

Puhi claim; the claim is based in southern Mahurangi and Nga Puhi have no business there; and there appears to be an ancient hapu re-emerging through the settlement process.

I started trying to explain the Crown's policy settling around settling all WAI claims within . but didn't really even get that far before Mr Hall responded a lack of interest in the Crown's policy, and reiterated that he and his client consider it to be a 'fraudulent mandate'.

I explained the current process underway and suggested Mr Hall send a submission to OTS as invited on the DOM, and also to contact Tuhoronuku directly (I referred him to their website and 0800 number). He was satisfied with this idea and noted that other claimants were in a similar situation. He also noted that WAI claimants need to have justice and a fair hearing (ie via the Tribunal) but if that didn't happen then the Maori Land Court and other courts such as the Supreme Court were options.

Mr Hall [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)



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- (2) do not act on this email in any other way.

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SUBMISSION

**OF : A.J. PACKINGTON-HALL ON BEHALF OF DENIS PATRICK HANLEY CLAIMANT
IN THE MATTER OF WAITANGI TREATY CLAIM WAI 1896**

TO : THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TREATY SERVICES

RE : TE ROPU O TUHORONUKU DEED OF MANDATE

DATE : 8 / 8 / 2013

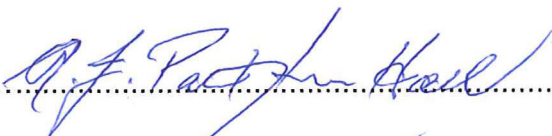
1. The submitter makes the following submission in the above matter on behalf of, and having been previously instructed by, Mr. Denis Patrick Hanley (hereinafter ' the claimant ') claimant in the matter of Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896 pursuant to a a power of attorney executed by him authorising this submitter to act on behalf of Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896 during the claimant's absence in Australia
2. The submitter advises that the address for service and all other correspondence related to this submission is that of the lawyer instructed by Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896, as follows :
Gerald E. Sharrock IIB BSc,
Right Law ((Sols. & Barrs.),
11 Kaihu Street,
Northcote,
Auckland.
3. The submitter refers in this submission to a number of documents published on the website of Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku, and, in particular, the ' Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku Notification of Mandate for Ngapuhi Treaty of Waitangi Settlement Negotiations ' published in the Western Leader newspaper in Auckland on 9th July 2013 claiming that Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku is mandated by Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896 to negotiate settlement with the Crown on it's behalf
4. The submitter advises that the claimant for Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896 reserves the right to mandate a body, group or organisation to negotiate settlement of the claim with the Crown solely to himself, and that he has *not* currently *nor* at any time in the past mandated Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku for this purpose
5. The submitter notes that in a document published on the Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku website listing the Waitangi Treaty claims that have mandated them claim WAI 1896 claimant group is described as ' Descendants of Patuone of Ngapuhi '. This is an extremely incorrect description
6. The submitter advises that in reality the claimant group involved in Treaty claim WAI 1896 are limited to *the descendants of Hapiwaka (daughter of Eruera Maihi Patuone and Te Hoia) and Horace Earl Hanley and include the descendants of Eruera Maihi Patuone and Riria Takarangi of Ngati Paoa*. On this basis Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896 is not properly a Nga Puhi claim, but rather represents the emergence of a different hapu, or large natural grouping, on the same traditional basis as the development of Te Uringutu from the intermarriages between Ngati Whatua and Te Wai-o-Hua, and the second Nga Oho under their rangatira Awarua from intermarriages between Te Kawerau and Ngati Whatua following the Tamaki raupatu in the second half of the 18th century. Many other, similar, examples of hapu differentiation could be quoted here. It would, therefore, obviously be highly inappropriate for Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku to negotiate settlement of Waitangi Treaty Claim WAI 1896 with the Crown, and would be extremely prejudicial to the objectives of the claim

1063
7. The submitter further notes that on 9 November 2009 he forwarded a position statement to Hon. Christopher Finlayson (Minister for Treaty Settlements) to the effect that the claimant for claim WAI 1896 had not at that time mandated any organisation to enter into negotiation for settlement on it's behalf with the Crown, and would be very unlikely to do so in the future

8. The submitter advises that the continued claims published by Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku that they are mandated by Waitangi Treaty claim WAI 1896 to negotiate settlement with the Crown are viewed by this claimant as *dishonest use of documents to obtain a pecuniary advantage* and constitutes *serious fraud* in terms of current legislation, and that the claimant is preparing to take such legal action to prevent further such claims being made by Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku in the future

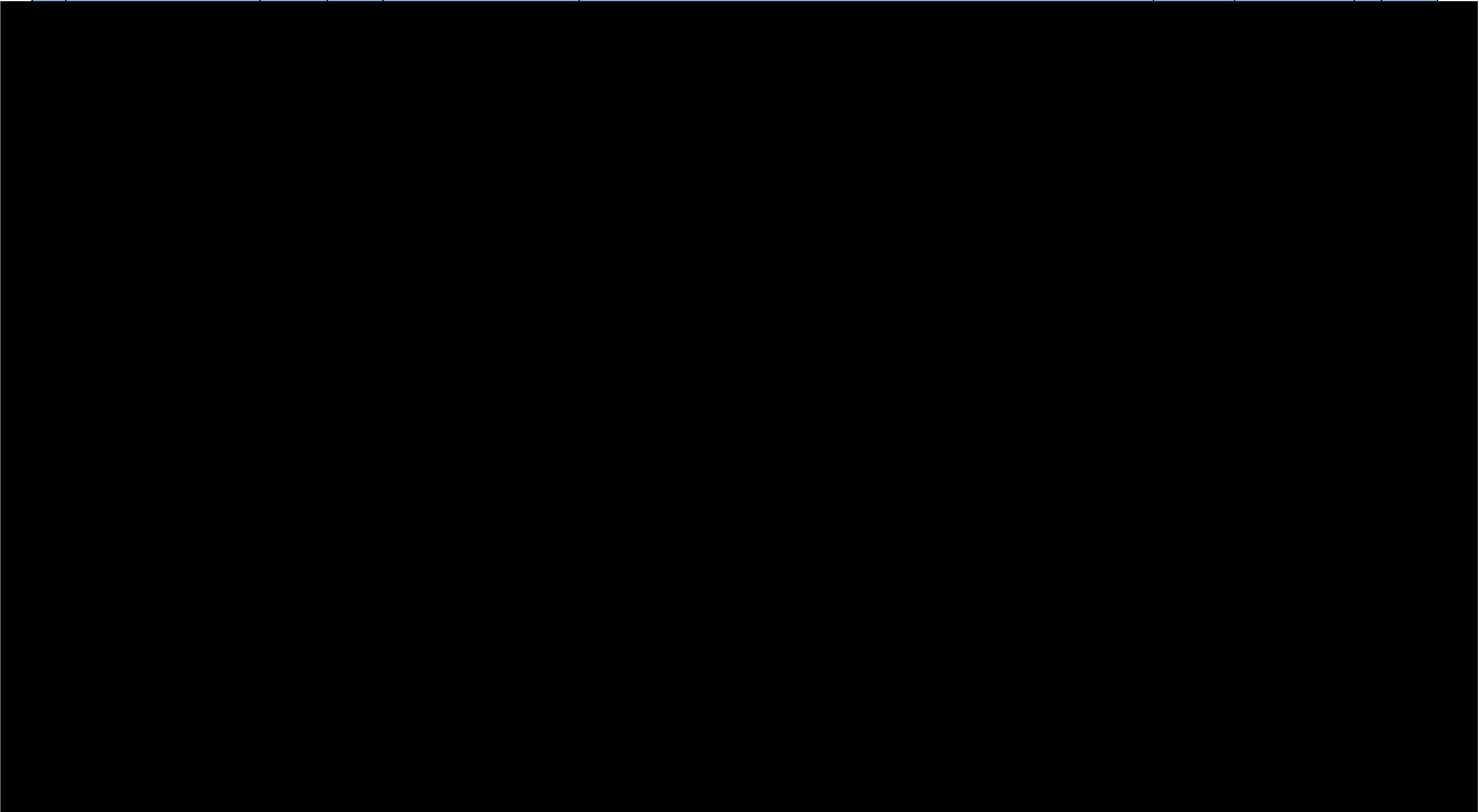
9. The submitter further advises that the claimant's lawyer has previous forwarded a letter to Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku advising them as above

10. The submitter asks on behalf of the claimant that the Office of Treaty Settlements rejects undertaking any settlement negotiations with Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku until this organisation has advised the WAI 1896 claimant in writing that this claim has been removed from their lists of mandating claims. Such notification should be addressed Attn. A.J. Packington-Hall, c/o Right Law (Sols. & Barrs.), 11 Kaihu Street, Northcote, Auckland

Signature : 

Date : 8/8/2013

File	Name of Author	Wai Claim	Iwi	Contact details	Issue Detail	Hapu/Marae	Region	Wai dispute	Comment
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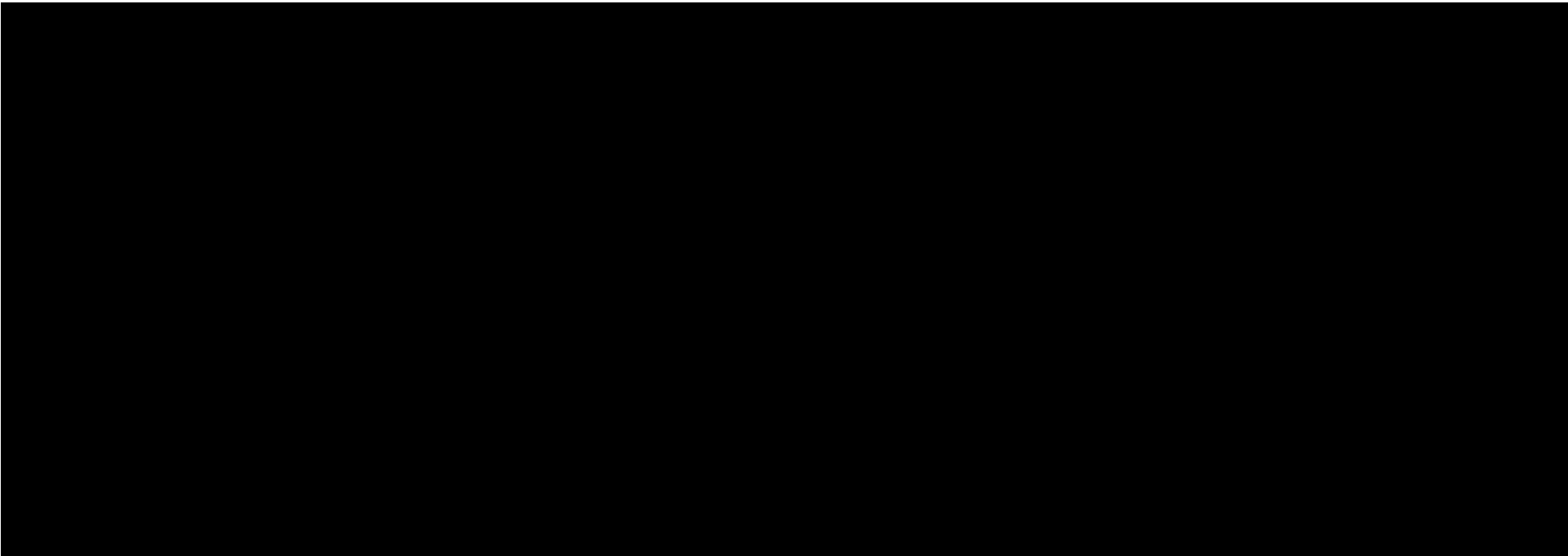


Non-template subs 2

67	Tony Pakington Hall	1896			I called Tony Pakington Hall (referral from Paula who he called this morning) – Tony acts for the WAI 1896 claimant, Denis Hanley, pursuant to enduring powers of attorney while Mr Hanley is in Australia. Mr Hall noted his client's WAI claim is listed in the Tuhoronuku Deed of Mandate advertisement, and lodged his and his client's objections as WAI 1896 nor the claimant have ever mandated Tuhoronuku to settle their claim. Two letters have been sent to OTS but no reply from that office. The claimant considers this is fraudulent, but he would prefer not to have to take this to Court of the Serious Fraud Office. Mr Hall has discussed the matter with SFO who have said the issue may fall within their purview and he should send them more details. The claimant wants WAI 1896 taken off the list; their view is that this is not a Ngā Puhi claim; the claim is based in southern Mahurangi and Ngā Puhi have no business there; and there appears to be an ancient hapu re-emerging through the settlement process. I started trying to explain the Crown's policy settling around settling all WAI claims within ... but didn't really even get that far before Mr Hall responded a lack of interest in the Crown's policy, and reiterated that he and his client consider it to be a 'fraudulent mandate'. I explained the current process underway and suggested Mr Hall send a submission to OTS as invited on the DOM, and also to contact Tuhoronuku directly (I referred him to their website and 0800 number). He was satisfied with this idea and noted that other claimants were in a similar situation. He also noted that WAI claimants need to have justice and a fair hearing (ie via the Tribunal) but if that didn't happen then the Māori Land Court and other courts such as the Supreme Court were options. Mr Hall: [REDACTED]			Y	
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Submissions with historical elements

<i>Submission number reference</i>		<i>Submission summary</i>
■ ■ 67 ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ 1063 ■ ■	Key elements: - There are few unifying elements among the historical submissions. 3/4 submissions argue that their hapū/whānau are not Ngāpuhi as their whakapapa diverges from or predates Ngāpuhi whakapapa. - The most important of these from a mandating perspective are those that indicate the claimants have stronger ancestry to another existing or potential non-Ngāpuhi “large natural grouping”. - Ngātiwai, Ngāti Whātua, Te Roroa and Ngāti Hako are among the other LNGs to which submitters (may) affiliate.
Comment: The submissions collated in this file mainly refer to whakapapa as a basis for wanting to be excluded from the list of wai claims, hapū and/or marae listed in the draft Tūhoronuku deed of mandate.		
Recommendation: - Write to all opposing submitters who could potentially settle their claims in other settlements to offer them that option, and - Possibly talk to Tūhoronuku representatives to discuss inclusion of Te Uri o Hawato, and - Amend the list of hapū, marae and wai claims accordingly.		

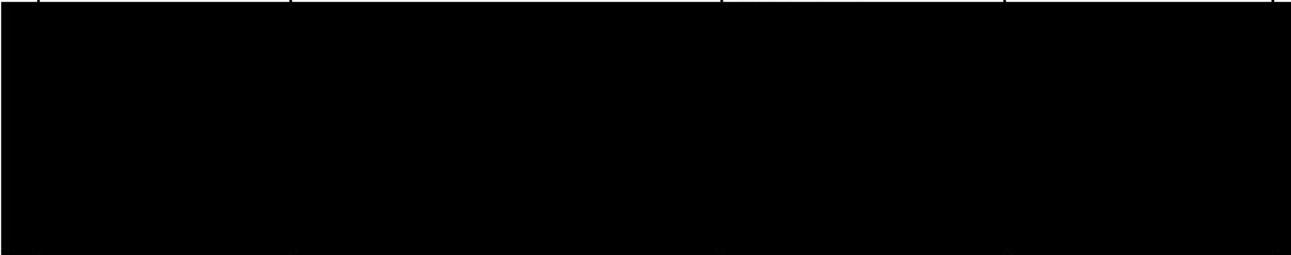


67 & 1063	A.J. Packington-Hall on behalf of Denis Patrick Hanley	Wai 1896	Objects to his claim being labelled a Ngāpuhi claim, says it is a large natural grouping that has branched off from Ngāpuhi.	Looked at the statement of claim and it is very clearly a Ngāpuhi claim. (at Wai 1040, #1.1.306 on the Paparahi files)		Out of scope
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Submitters requiring individual responses

Out of scope

Name	Contact	Submission Number	Main issue
			
Tony Pakington Hall	Mr Hall: 	67	Counsel for Wai 1896 claimant Denis Hanley who wants his Wai claim to be removed from the DoM.

section 9(2)(a)

out of scope

Claimant Definition database (groups in negotiation or pre-negotiation phase)

LNG	Current status	Hapū/whānau/groups	Active marae (TKM)	Exclusive Wai claims	Non-exclusive Wai claims	Tipuna/Tupuna
Ngāpuhi	Terms of Negotiation (22 May 2015)	Kai Tangata; Kaitore; Kohututaka; Matarahurahu; Ngā Uri o Te Puna; Ngāi Tai; Ngāi Tāwake; Ngāi Tū Pango; Ngāi Tupoto; Ngāi Tūteauru; Ngāre Raumatī; Ngāti Haiti; Ngāti Hao; Ngāti Hau; Ngāti Hine; Ngāti Hineira; Ngāti Hinemutu; Ngāti Horahia; Ngāti Hua; Ngāti Hurihanga; Ngāti Kaharau; Ngāti Kahu o- Torongare; Ngāti Kahuiti; Ngāti Kairewa; Ngāti Kawa; Ngāti Kāwau; Ngāti Kawhiti; Ngāti Kerewhiti; Ngāti Kiriahi; Ngāti Kohu; Ngāti Kōpaki; Ngāti Korohue; Ngāti Korokoro; Ngāti Kura; Ngāti Kuta; Ngāti Māhia; Ngāti Manu; Ngāti Mau; Ngāti Miro; Ngāti Miru; Ngāti Moe; Ngāti Moerewa; Ngāti Mokokohi; Ngāti- Ngāherehere; Ngāti Pākahi; Ngāti Pākau; Ngāti Pare;	Ki Whangarei Pehiaweri; Whakapara; Akerama; Ngāraratunua; Ōtetao Reti; Toetoe; Takahiwai; Mangakāhia Parakao; Te Oruru; Te Tārai o Rāhiri; Maungarongo; Parahaki; Te Kioe; Korokota; Tangiterōria; Hauāuru Pukerata; Kaingahoa; Ngāi Tāwake; Paripari; Te Huehue; Te Huruhi; Ōkorihi; Parihaka; Te Iringa; Kohewhata; Ururangi; Te Hungaiti; Te Maata; Te Kotahitanga; Ki te Raki Mangamuka; Te Arohanui; Mataitaua; Mokonuiārangi; Paremata; Piki te Aroha; Puketawa; Tauratumarū; Ngā Nauru Kokohuia;			Rāhiri

Ngāti Parenga;	Pākanae;
Ngāti Patutaratara;	Te Whaka-maharatanga;
Ngāti Pongia;	Waiwhatawhata;
Ngāti Pou;	Mahuri;
Ngāti Rāhiri;	Tāheke;
Ngāti- Rahuwhakairi;	Matai Aranui;
Ngāti Rangi;	Mōria;
Ngāti Rangihana;	Ōmanaia;
Ngāti Rauwawe;	Pā te Aroha;
Ngāti Rēhia;	Mataitaua;
Ngāti Ruamahue;	Mokonuiārangi;
Ngāti Taka;	Motukiore;
Ngāti Tautahi;	Rangatahi;
Ngāti Te Ara;	Tauratumaru;
Ngāti Te Rino;	Mahuri;
Ngāti Te Tārawa;	Moehau;
Ngāti Tipa;	Ōtatara;
Ngāti Toki;	Tuhirangi;
Ngāti Torehina;	
Ngāti Toro;	Taiāmai
Ngāti Tū;	Tauwhara;
Ngāti Tuapango;	Tākou;
Ngāti Ueoneone;	Parawhenua;
Ngāti Uru;	Rawhitiroa;
Ngāti Whakaeke;	Oromāhoe;
Ngāti Whakahotu;	Te Tii Waitangi;
Ngāti- Whakamaunga;	Ngāwhā;
Ngāti Whārara;	Mātauri;
Patuharakeke;	Waitangi National;
Patukeha;	Hiruhārama Hou;
Te Aeto;	Korokota;
Te Hikutu;	Mātoa;
Te Honihoni;	Maungārongo;
Te Ihutai;	Tākou;
Te Kapotai;	Whitiora;
Te Kumutu;	Wharengaere;
Te Māhurehure;	Kororareka;
Te Ngahengahe;	
Te Ngare Hauata;	Taumārere
Te Orewai;	Te Rāwhiti;
Te Parawhau;	Kāretu;
Te Pōpoto;	Pakaru-ki te Rangi;
Te Pōtai;	Kaingahoa;
Te Pouka;	Kororareka;
Te Rauwera;	Waihaahaa;
Te Tahawai;	Waikare;
Te Takoto Kē;	Te Rauwera;
Te Uri Kai Whare;	Waimango;
Te Uri Karaka;	
Te Uri Māhoe;	Ngāti Hine

;

Wai 1896;

Te Uri o Hua;	Horomanga;
Te Uri o Ratakitaki;	Kaikou;
Te Uri o Te Aho;	Kawiti;
Te Uri Ongongo;	Matawaia;
Te Uri Taniwha;	Maungārongo;
Te Urioroi;	Miria;
Te Wahineiti;	Mohinui;
Te Waiāriki;	Mōtatau;
Te Whānau- Whero;	Ōtiria;
Te Whiu;	Matawaia;
Tekau I Mua;	Tau Henare
Whānau Pani;	
Whānautara	

Claimant definition database: Full list of Wai Claims and full or partial settlements

Wai number	Claim details	Settled in-full
Wai 1896	Descendants of Patuone of Ngapuhi Claim	Ngāpuhi (ToN 22-05-15)

From: Mark Thomson [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:39 PM
To: OfficialCorrespondence@whakatau.govt.nz; contactus@tearawhiti.govt.nz <contactus@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā koutou,

I write as a named claimant for WAI 1896 (Descendants of Patuone of Ngāpuhi claim), recently amended and distributed to the Wai 1040 notification list on 3 February 2026.

I seek clarification from Te Tari Whakatau regarding the Crown's intended settlement pathway for WAI 1896.

Specifically:

1. Does the Crown consider WAI 1896 to fall within a proposed Large Natural Grouping (LNG) in Te Paparahi o Te Raki, and if so, which grouping?

2. Does the Crown consider WAI 1896 eligible for discrete negotiation, given that it concerns specific Crown-issued land grants and succession matters affecting defined descendants of Hapi Waka and Hohaia Patuone?

3. What steps are required from the claimants to progress toward settlement discussions?

The claim concerns identifiable Crown grants including Takapuna (Tāmaki Makaurau), Waitaroto, Tarakihi,

Wahamarangai (Blocks 1 and 2), Waihiri, Whakateterehia, and Whakatiwai, plus 7 others and relates to succession and record-alignment issues.

We are currently organising governance arrangements and mandate confirmation and wish to ensure alignment with the Crown's settlement framework.

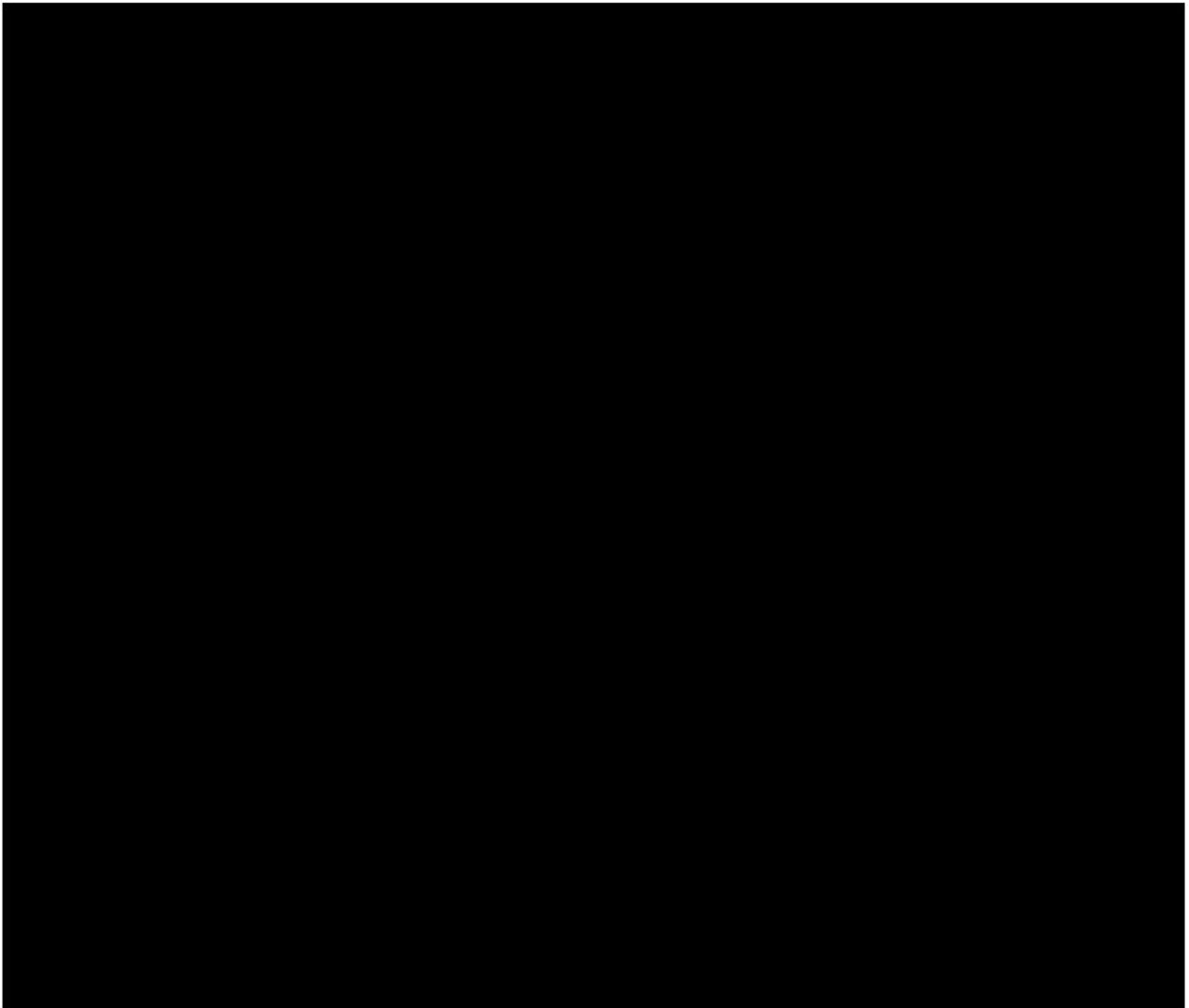
I would appreciate a written response outlining the Crown's position and next procedural steps.

Ngā mihi,

Mark William David Thomson

Named Claimant – WAI 1896

out of scope



From: Mark Thomson [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 11 March 2026 10:26 am
To: OfficialCorrespondence@whakatau.govt.nz; contactus@tearawhiti.govt.nz <contactus@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Following up on this...

Tēnā koutou,

I write as a named claimant for WAI 1896 (Descendants of Patuone of Ngāpuhi claim), recently amended and distributed to the Wai 1040 notification list on 3 February 2026.

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I would appreciate a written response outlining the Crown's position and next procedural steps.

Ngā mihi,

Mark William David Thomson

Named Claimant – WAI 1896

Eruera Maihi Patuone – Groups he is associated with

Peter Clayworth (Senior Historian)

11 March 2026

Patuone (?-1872) Birth date unknown- age at time of death on 19 September 1872 estimated between 96 and 112 years old. Note that Patuone took the names Eruera Maihi (Edward Marsh) when he was baptised as a Christian in January 1840.

Ngāpuhi groups

Patuone was eldest son of Tapua, leader of **Ngāti Hao** of Hokianga. Tamati Waka Nene was Patuone's teina (younger brother).¹

Through his mother, Te Kawehau, he was descended from Te Wairua, also an ancestor of Hongi Hika, Ruatara, Rewa and Hone Heke. Patuone thus had distant connections to;

Ngāi Tawake,

Patukeha,

Ngāti Torehina ki Matakā, and

Ngāti Tautahi among others.²

Patuone also related by marriage and descent to **Ngāti Pou** of Whangaroa.³

Patuone connected with **Ngāti Rangi**.⁴

Non-Ngāpuhi groups

Patuone related by marriage and descent to **Te Roroa** of Hokianga and Kaipara.⁵

In early 1830s Patuone married Takarangi (baptised Riria in 1840) of **Ngāti Pāoa**- her brother, Te Kupenga, was a rangatira based at Whakatiwai pā (near Maraetai) in the Hauraki Gulf. From this point on Patuone closely associated with Ngāti Pāoa, spending much of his time in Hauraki Gulf. Patuone lived in Te Kātū (harbour side of Takapuna) in the 1840s, then from 1849 (?) at Whawharariki on Takapuna Beach. (Area of land Governor Grey gifted to him, but granted only for Patuone's lifetime).⁶ After his death in 1872, Patuone was buried in the Mt Victoria cemetery, Devonport, Auckland.⁷

¹ Angela Ballara. 'Patuone, Eruera Maihi', Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, first published in 1990, updated November 2010. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/1p12/patuone-eruera-maihi> (accessed 10 March 2026).

² Patuone, Eruera Maihi | Dictionary of New Zealand Biography | Te Ara; J. Sissons, W. Wi Hongi, P. Hohepa, Ngā Pūriri o Taiamai: A political history of Ngāpuhi in the inland Bay of Islands, Reed Books: Auckland, 2001, pp. 16,17,19.

³ Patuone, Eruera Maihi | Dictionary of New Zealand Biography | Te Ara

⁴ Eruera Maihi Patuone | NZ History Signatories of Declaration of Independence (accessed 11 March 2026)

⁵ Patuone, Eruera Maihi | Dictionary of New Zealand Biography | Te Ara

⁶ Patuone, Eruera Maihi | Dictionary of New Zealand Biography | Te Ara

⁷ Patuone, Eruera Maihi | Dictionary of New Zealand Biography | Te Ara

Note that Takarangi was the third of Patuone's four wives.⁸ His first wife was Te Wheke, the second was Te Hoia and the fourth was Rutu. I have yet to ascertain their hapū/iwi connections.⁹

On Patuone's connection to **Ngāti Pāoa** and areas in Mahurangi and Tamaki Makau Rau:

From Peter Clayworth Memo 'Waitangi Tribunal Wai 1040 Stage 2 Report information Mahurangi area Hapū/Iwi interests- Summary', 4 May 2023 [Wai 1040 Stage 2 Mahurangi Hapū-Iwi interests summary.docx](#)

Around 1830, Ngāpuhi and Ngāti Paoa began negotiating a peace agreement, sealed in 1833 by the marriage of Patuone, of the Hokianga hapū Ngāti Hao, to Riria Takarangi, a high-ranking Ngāti Paoa woman.¹⁰ After the peacemaking Ngāti Paoa began to move back into Tāmaki and Mahurangi, while Patuone established kainga at Takapuna and Takarunga (Mount Victoria). In the late 1830s, a section of Ngāti Hao took up land at Te Ngāere, near Tāwharanui. Apparently the land was gifted by a section of Ngāti Rongo, although others from Ngāti Rongo contested this.¹¹

Note that the Crown has conceded that “in purchasing of the extensive area called ‘Mahurangi and Omaha’ in 1841 it breached Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles by failing to conduct any investigation of customary rights when it purchased these lands.”¹² I have yet to find any indication that Patuone had any role in this purchase or that it involved any land he had rights to.

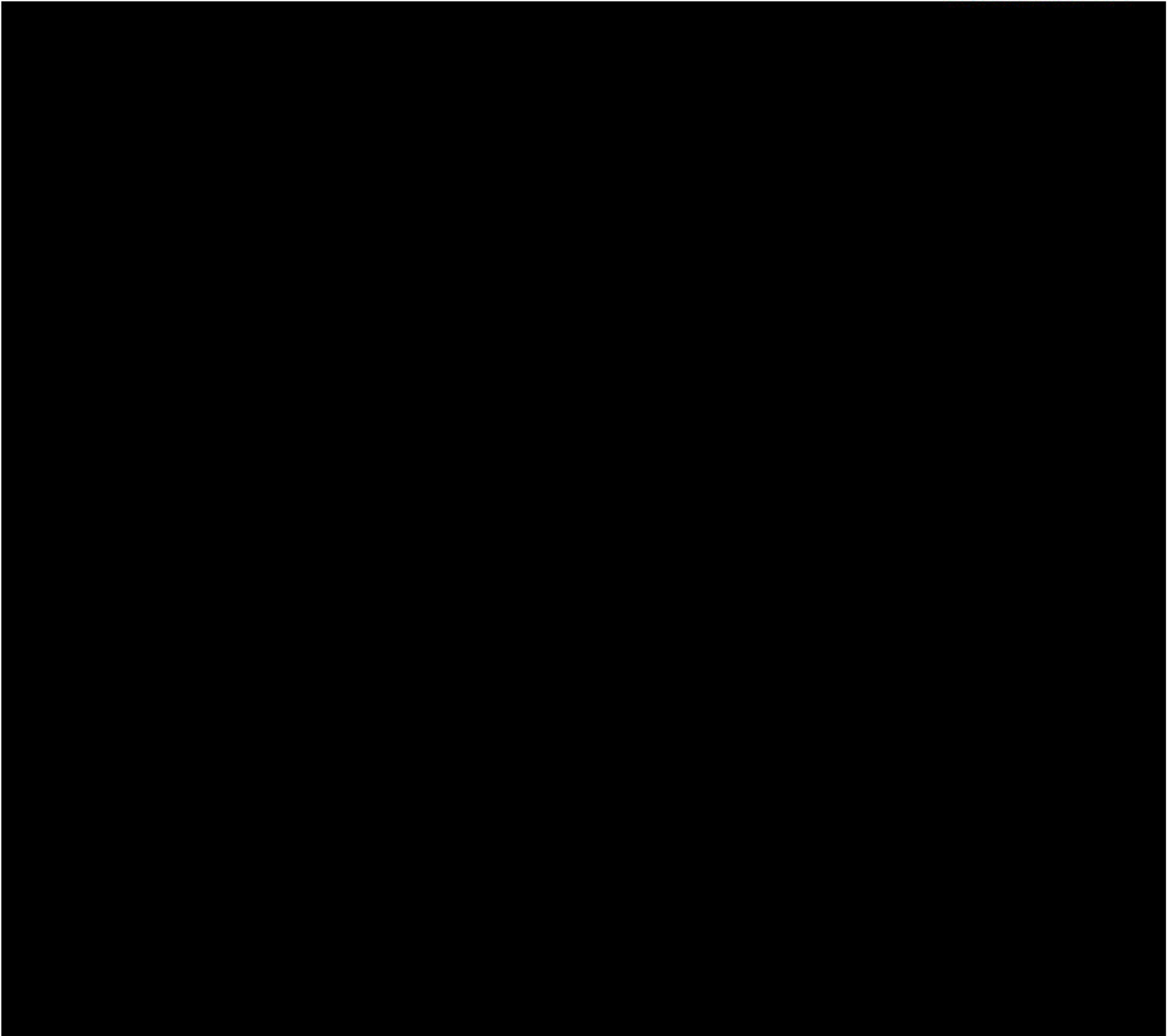
⁸ [Patuone - Whakapapa](#) accessed 11 March 2026; [Patuone, Eruera Maihi | Dictionary of New Zealand Biography | Te Ara](#)

⁹ C. O. Davis, *The Life and Times of Patuone, The Celebrated Ngāpuhi Chief*, Auckland: J.H. Field, 1876, pp. 24-25.

¹⁰ Wai 1040, Stage 2 Report, p. 158 [2022 prepublication version] [Wai 1040 Te Paparahi o Te Raki Stage 2 Pt 1 Report pre-publication version 2022.pdf](#). The Report does not give a name for the “senior Ngāti Paoa woman” Patuone married. DNZB gives her name as Takarangi and says she was sister of Te Kupenga- see [Patuone, Eruera Maihi – Dictionary of New Zealand Biography – Te Ara](#) accessed 2 May 2023; Davis gives her name as Riria Takarangi- see C.O. Davis, *Life and Times of Patuone*, 1876, p. 20, [ENZB - 1876 - Davis, C. O. The Life and Times of Patuone - \[Pages 5-50\] \(auckland.ac.nz\)](#)

¹¹ Wai 1040 Stage 2 Report, pp.158-159 [2022 prepublication version].

¹² Crown Statement of Position and Concessions, 6 July 2012, Wai 1040, 1.3..2, p.97.



From: Mark Thomson - Pono [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 24 March 2026 6:19 pm
To: Paul Goldsmith (MIN) <P.Goldsmith@ministers.govt.nz>
Subject: CORPG4448 / Urgent – Wai 1896: Non-Extinguishment and Discrete Settlement Request

Tēnā koe Mr Goldsmith,

I was told to forward this issue thru to you.

We had filed a claim in 2008 to the Waitangi Tribunal - WAI 1896 - it was joined with 1040 for investigation and we provided a great deal of evidence.

Our lawyer at the time was Gerald Sharrock who, although a good lawyer, did not follow whanau instructions which were to separate the claim from the Ngapuhi Iwi claim as together they are confusing - Wai 1896 is a whanau based claim; the Ngapuhi claim is Iwi based. Additionally we instructed him to only claim what was documented (to us, this was fair) not manawhenua/areas of influence which treas on other Iwi and thus, other claims. Muddying the waters further. Although he did not listen or act on our requests.

Gerald has since retired, and several generations of our whanau have died. I have recently been able to be added as a named claimant on Wai 1896 and also amended our statement of claim specifically for the lands we have clear title too. I have this documentation currently and have self-funded anthropological studies into processes and violations of the Treaty over the last couple of decades.

Nevertheless, we now find ourselves at an impasse with Central Government. We want to get the fastest way to a fair and equitable settlement so we can get to work and build jobs for future generations of New Zealanders. We are putting together a PSGE currently. But we cannot seem to avoid the Treaty Settlements Office wanting to lump us in with other groups in Whangarei of all places - so I am humbly asking for assistance to reach a discrete settlement.

Please find briefing below:
WAI 1896 – Briefing Note

What the claim is

Wai 1896 is a whānau claim, not an iwi-wide rohe claim. It is based on specific land blocks with documented ownership and succession issues, not on broad mana whenua assertions.

Why this matters

The claim is at risk of being absorbed into a wider Ngāpuhi/Large Natural Grouping settlement structure. That would create confusion and likely delay, because our claim is narrower and more specific than an iwi-level settlement process.

Why discrete settlement is appropriate

A separate pathway is appropriate because Wai 1896 concerns actual titled land blocks and identifiable ownership chains. It is not a general territorial claim. Treating it separately would avoid unnecessary overlap and allow the Crown to deal directly with the proven blocks and succession failures.

Key land blocks involved

The claim is being advanced on a land-block basis and includes, among others:

- Takapuna (110-acre Crown Grant to Patuone) – one of the most important blocks in the claim
- Waitaroto Block 1 – large Hokianga block
- Tarakihi (Te Kawakawa)
- Wahamarangai (Blocks 1 and 2)

Waihiri

- Whakateterekia
- Manga Karamu
- Te Toke (Waihou)
- Pukoro (Waihou)
- Waihou 2782 Tai Kawhanga
- Waikoropupu Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (Waihou)
- Kauri-roa / Kauriroa
- Moturoa Island
- Ponsonby / Section 48 Auckland lots connected with the Horace Hanley estate

Further archival title records are still being retrieved for some of these blocks.

Nature of the claim

The claim involves two related issues:

1. Succession failures in Crown-recognised titles - Lands held by Patuone, Hone Waka, Wiremu Waka Turau and related family lines were not properly succeeded within the whānau.

2. Colonial legal system failures affecting the Hanley/Hapi Waka line - In the Ponsonby lands, the surviving Māori mother, Hapi Waka, was effectively excluded from property control under the colonial legal system. European executors then mortgaged the estate while the principal heir was still a minor. The resulting court case provided only limited financial relief and did not restore the lands.

Why separation helps

Separation from a wider Ngāpuhi settlement pathway would:

- keep the claim focused on specific blocks
- avoid confusion with iwi-level mandate and rohe issues reduce overlap arguments
- allow the Crown to address the claim as a defined succession and title problem
- create a faster and cleaner route to settlement

What we are asking for

We are seeking support for:

- recognition of Wai 1896 as a distinct whānau-based land claim
- engagement with Te Tari Whakatau on a discrete settlement pathway

- progression of the claim based on the actual titled land blocks and documentary evidence, rather than folding it into a broader Ngāpuhi process

Ngā mihi nui,

Mark Thomson

Wai 1896 Claimant

From: [Mark Thomson](#)
To: OfficialCorrespondence@whakatau.govt.nz; contactus@tearawhiti.govt.nz
Subject: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway
Date: Tuesday, 24 March 2026 1:16:12 pm

Following up on this AGAIN!!...

Tēnā koutou,

I write as a named claimant for WAI 1896 (Descendants of Patuone of Ngāpuhi claim), recently amended and distributed to the Wai 1040 notification list on 3 February 2026.

I seek clarification from Te Tari Whakatau regarding the Crown's intended settlement pathway for WAI 1896.

Specifically:

1. Does the Crown consider WAI 1896 to fall within a proposed Large Natural Grouping (LNG) in Te Paparahi o Te Raki, and if so, which grouping?

2. Does the Crown consider WAI 1896 eligible for discrete negotiation, given that it concerns specific Crown-issued land grants and succession matters affecting defined descendants of Hapi Waka and Hohaia Patuone?

3. What steps are required from the claimants to progress toward settlement discussions?

The claim concerns identifiable Crown grants including Takapuna (Tāmaki Makaurau), Waitaroto, Tarakihi, Wahamarangai (Blocks 1 and 2), Waihiri, Whakateterekia, and Whakatiwai, plus 7 others and relates to succession and record-alignment issues.

We are currently organising governance arrangements and mandate confirmation and wish to ensure alignment with the Crown's settlement framework.

I would appreciate a written response outlining the Crown's position and next procedural steps.

Ngā mihi,

Mark William David Thomson

Named Claimant – WAI 1896

1 April 2026

Mark Thomson

Via email: [REDACTED] **section 9(2)(a)**

Tēnā koe,

WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Thank you for your emails of 2, 11, 28 March and 1 April, as well as your 24 March email to the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, requesting a response on an appropriate settlement pathway for the Wai 1896 claim.

Thank you for your understanding regarding our delayed response as we have considered the matters you have raised and reviewed documents related to Wai 1896. We have set out our responses to your questions below.

1. Does the Crown consider WAI 1896 to fall within a proposed Large Natural Grouping (LNG) in Te Paparahi o Te Raki, and if so, which grouping?

The Crown settles historical Treaty of Waitangi claims with LNGs. We would expect Wai 1896 will come within a Ngāpuhi hapū grouping to the extent the claim arises from Ngāpuhi descent lines or customary interests (that is, through any hapū Patuone affiliated with in relation to this claim).

To the extent the claim arises from Ngāti Pāoa descent or customary interests through Patuone's marriage to a Ngāti Pāoa woman then any claims will have been settled through the Ngāti Pāoa Claims Settlement Act 2025.

2. Does the Crown consider WAI 1896 eligible for discrete negotiation, given that it concerns specific Crown-issued land grants and succession matters affecting defined descendants of Hapi Waka and Hohaia Patuone?

No, the Crown negotiates all historical Treaty of Waitangi claims of an LNG together, including claims about specific land blocks made on a whānau basis.

Crown policy is to negotiate comprehensive Treaty settlement redress with LNGs and not individual whānau, hapū or claimants. This approach is generally supported by the Waitangi Tribunal, who has encouraged the Crown to apply the LNG policy practically and flexibly.

There are over 400 Wai claims in the Te Paparahi o Te Raki Wai 1040 Waitangi Tribunal Inquiry, including claims about specific local grievances, whānau and hapū claims as well as larger iwi-wide claims. Given the large size of the area, the number of claims and hapū, it is not practical to negotiate claim by claim or hapū by hapū.

Negotiating all the claims of an LNG together also enables a wider range of redress to be offered, ensures that overlapping interests can be managed effectively, and reduces costs. In the Crown's experience, overlapping interests become more challenging the more a group and the associated claims are fragmented.

3. What steps are required from the claimants to progress toward settlement discussions?

As a first step, we encourage you to discuss with your whānau and hapū how you want the Wai 1896 claim to be represented in historical Treaty settlement negotiations within a Ngāpuhi hapū grouping.

In 2019, the Crown discontinued its recognition of the Ngāpuhi iwi-wide mandate held by Tūhoronuku Iwi Mandate Authority. The current Ngāpuhi mandating process involves hapū coming together to form hapū groupings across regions. The hapū groupings are the equivalent of an LNG in the Ngāpuhi context.

There are active discussions across many Ngāpuhi hapū about the mandating process and several hapū groupings have been confirmed. Typically, hapū who are connected through whakapapa, local alliances and history will group together, although this is up to each hapū to consider. From the information you have provided, we note Hokianga hapū connections but there may be other groupings that would be suitable.

The first formal step in this process is for a group of Ngāpuhi hapū to submit a hapū grouping proposal to Te Tari Whakatau. These proposals need to include multiple hapū rather than a single hapū or whānau. Once confirmed by the Crown, the hapū grouping then works to seek a

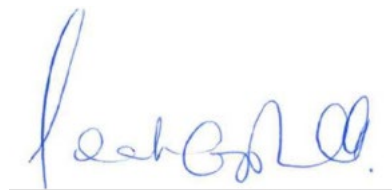
mandate from their claimant community to negotiate the settlement of all of their historical Treaty of Waitangi claims.

I would also encourage you to access the mandating information and tools on our website here: [Te Tari Whakatau - Mandate Toolkit for ngā hapū o Ngāpuhi](#).

We recognise the Treaty negotiations process raises many questions for hapū and whānau and would be happy to discuss this with you further.

Please contact Tania Anderson, Principal Advisor (Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz) or Morgan Hodgson, Acting Negotiations and Settlement Manager (Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz) if you have further questions.

Nāku noā, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leah Campbell', written over a horizontal line.

Leah Campbell
Director

From: Wynne, Sonya
 To: "Mark Thomson"
 Cc: Henderson, Rewi; Anderson, Tania; Mellows, Alexandria
 Subject: RE: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway
 Date: Thursday, 18 June 2026 5:03:00 pm

Tēnā koe Mark,

Thank you for your email of 27 May and the email of 16 June to the Waitangi Tribunal and Te Tari Whakatau. Please take this as our response to both emails.

To confirm our previous discussions and correspondence, it is very unlikely the Crown would agree to any bespoke Treaty negotiation and settlement for the Wai 1896 claim. The Crown strongly prefers to negotiate Treaty settlements with large natural groupings, rather than with individual hapū or whānau. There are good reasons for this: negotiations are easier to work through with larger groups, overlapping interests are better dealt with, and the costs to all parties are reduced. We encourage you to engage with Ngāpuhi mandated hapū groupings you affiliate with and, where there are no mandates yet, to engage in the pre-mandating discussions among hapū you have connections with.

We have previously provided you with information on the approach to mandating and Treaty negotiations through Ngāpuhi hapū groupings, as well as current mandating status, which we consider provides the mandating and settlement pathway you have requested information on. Please see below for further responses to your questions of 27 May.

Your 27 May email expressed concerns about the use of the term "Ngāpuhi claims" given Wai 1896 is a "whānau-based claim". To clarify, by "Ngāpuhi claims" we mean all the historical Treaty of Waitangi claims that are associated with whānau, hapū and iwi who affiliate to Ngāpuhi. Our understanding is that the Wai 1896 claim concerns the interests of Hapiwaka and Hohaia Patuone, children of Eruera Maihi Patuone and Te Hoia, and their descendants, and as such it is a "Ngāpuhi claim".

You also asked for clarification on whether:

1. any settlements have addressed, extinguished, or otherwise dealt with the specific interests asserted through WAI 1896 and "Are you saying no claims have been settled that encompass any of these rohe?"
2. any recognised mandate structures presently claim authority over those interests;
3. and how the Crown presently intends to accommodate historically documented and geographically dispersed whānau-based interests which do not fit neatly within a conventional rohe-based framework

Our responses as follows:

1. There have been settlements in the Auckland area and Kaipara with groups who are not Ngāpuhi. No 'Ngāpuhi claims' have been settled and accordingly no settlements have addressed the specific interests that are asserted in Wai 1896.
2. There are no mandated entities yet for hapū you have identified connections with in previous correspondence. We understand some hapū members in the upper Hokianga are in early discussions about forming a grouping that could potentially include Ngāti Hao, Ngāti Toro and neighbouring hapū. You may be interested to join the facebook page [NGA-URI-A-IWI-O-TE-POROTO | Facebook](#) which has notices of hui. We are not aware of any 'recognised authority' for Ngāti Hao. The table below (sent to you previously on 1 April) has been updated to note other hapū you have identified (highlighted bold). This is the current status of mandating among Ngāpuhi hapū.
3. Ngā hapū o Ngāpuhi are forming into a number of hapū groupings which will seek mandates. The areas to which those settlements relate (also known as an Area of Interest) is for the hapū grouping to determine based on the claims to be settled - areas of interest are able to address geographically diverse areas and groups based on interest and claims.

Mandating status table

Hapū grouping	Hapū grouping proposal	Mandate strategy	Deed of Mandate	Website	Contact details	Hapū
Te Whakaaotanga	Confirmed	Endorsed	Recognised	Kāneka / Te Whakaaotanga	Admin@tewhakaaotanga.com	Ngāti Mamu, Ngāti Torehina ki Matakā, Ngāti Kuta, Pahukeha
Ngā Piriri Pūman o Te Waimate me Takatū Moana	Confirmed	In progress	Not yet started	-	TeWaimateTalamai-Secretary@outlook.com	encompassing Te Whiu – Waiheiti, Ngāti Tāwaka ki Te Tuarāwhenua, Ngare Hauata, Te Uri Taniwha, Ngāti Hineira, Ngāti Korohue, Te Whānau Whero of Te Ahuahu, Ngāti Rangī of Ngāwhā, Te Whānau Wai, Te Matarahurahu, Ngāti Mau and Ngā Kiriahi
Ngāti Hine	Confirmed	Endorsed	Not yet started	Te Tu o Ngāti Hine	admin@ngatihine.nz	-
Whangaroa Papa Hapū	Confirmed	In progress	Not yet started	Whangaroa Papa Hapū	kahwhakahaero@whangaroapapahapu.org.nz	encompassing Kaitore, Ngā Uri o Te Pona, Ngāi Tu Pango, Ngāti Hāiti, Ngāti Kahuiti, Ngāti Kawau, Ngāti Kāwhiri, Ngāti Kōhu, Ngāti Kura, Ngāti Miro, Ngāti Mokokoiti, Ngāti Pakahi, Ngāti Ruamahue, Ngāti Uru, Te Aeto, Te Uri Kairāwhare, Te Uri o Te Aho, Ngāti Pou, Ngāti Tū, Ngāti Miro, Ngāti Torehina, Ngāti Tūmuri, Ngāti Rangimatakaka, Ngāti Teketamūia, Te Uri Putete, Te Taharua, Te Whānau Pahi, Whānau Pahi and Kai Tangata
Ngāi hapū o te Takatū Moana	Confirmed	In progress	Not yet started	-	Aroha.Horwini@kaupara.co.nz	-
All other groups	In progress	Not yet started	Not yet started	-	-	-

Please let us know if there are points of clarification needed on the above and we can discuss by video call if that suits.

Ngā mihi, nā



Sonya Wynne
 SENIOR ANALYST
 Tel: 04 914 3070
 Email: sonya@whakatau.govt.nz
 Office of Treaty Settlements and Takatū Moana—
 Te Tari Whakatau
 Level 2, Justice Centre, 59 A then Street, Ōtautahi, Wellington 6011

From: Mark Thomson [mailto:mark.thomson@waitangi-tribunal.govt.nz] section 9(5)(a)
 Sent: Wednesday, 27 May 2026 4:27 pm
 To: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>
 Cc: Henderson, Rewi <Rewi.Henderson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Mellows, Alexandria <Alexandria.Mellows@whakatau.govt.nz>
 Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā koe Sonya,

Thank you for your response.

However, I must respectfully clarify that WAI 1896 has never been presented by the claimant group as a generic Ngāpuhi rohe claim. I am happy to send you a copy of the claim for your review.

The claim is fundamentally a whānau-based claim brought on behalf of the descendants of Patuone and is specifically tied to identified land interests, succession interests, Crown grants, waterways, and traditional take extending across multiple regions.

Accordingly, repeated statements that "no Ngāpuhi claims have been settled" do not sufficiently answer the specific concerns being raised regarding WAI 1896 and the identified interests within the claim itself.

The original Statement of Claim expressly references:

- Mahurangi;
- Tamaki Makaurau;
- North Shore interests;
- Kaipara interests;
- Takapuna;
- and other areas where traditional take and associated interests of Patuone were exercised.

Are you saying no claims have been settled that encompass any of these rohe?

The claim also expressly raises concerns regarding the reduction or delimiting of rights through simplistic rohe-based frameworks.

Accordingly, I seek direct clarification as to whether:

- any settlements have addressed, extinguished, or otherwise dealt with the specific interests asserted through WAI 1896;
- any recognised mandate structures presently claim authority over those interests;
- and how the Crown presently intends to accommodate historically documented and geographically dispersed whānau-based interests which do not fit neatly within a conventional rohe-based framework.

I also note your recommendation that we engage with Northland marae and community discussions.

With respect, WAI 1896 is not simply a marae-based participation issue. The claim concerns identified historical land interests, Crown-recognised grants, succession matters, and legally documented claimant interests extending beyond a conventional Northland rohe framework.

At present, no clear explanation has been provided regarding:

- who, if anyone, presently holds recognised authority regarding Ngāti Hao structures;
- whether WAI 1896 may participate in shaping or leading any future grouping discussions;
- or how the Crown intends to ensure that the claimant group's interests are not subsumed, diluted, or overlooked within broader regional negotiations.

These issues remain unresolved despite WAI 1896 having been active since 2008.

Ngā mihi,

Mark Thomson

Named claimant – WAI 1896

On 27 May 2026, at 3:21 PM, Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx> wrote:

Kia ora Mark,

Thank you for your email below of 11 May.

To confirm, no Ngāpuhi claims have been settled yet. Mandating for Ngāpuhi hapū groupings is ongoing and in some areas such as the Hokianga is still at a very early stage.

We recommend you engage with marae and communities to which you whakapapa and to ensure any claims, including Wai 1896, are a part of pre-mandating/mandating discussions now happening.

We think early engagement is preferable for building connections, identifying potential issues and solutions concerning representation and mandate structures.

The community pages in the Hokianga we have provided can be a good source of information about such meetings.

We would be happy to discuss this with you further at your convenience.

Ngā mihi, nā



Sonya Wynne

SENIOR ANALYST

CEL: 04 914 3070

WEB: <https://www.tehaki.govt.nz>

Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana—
Te Tari Whakatau

Level 2, Just ce Centre, 39 Aitken Street, SX10111, Wellington 6011

From: Mark Thomson <[REDACTED]> section 9(2)(a)

Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 7:04 pm

To: Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx>

Cc: Henderson, Rewi <xxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx>; Anderson, Tania <xxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx>; Mellows, Alexandria <xxxxxxxxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx>

Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Kia ora,

Thank you for your correspondence to date.

I write further regarding WAI 1896 on behalf of the descendants of Patuone.

I wish to state respectfully but clearly that the responses received thus far have not substantively addressed the central issues raised.

WAI 1896 is not a newly emerged or speculative claim. The Crown has been aware of the descendants of Patuone, the nature of the grievances, and the identified overlapping land interests for many years prior to formal filing in 2008, and formally since the claim was lodged.

The claim itself specifically identifies documented ancestral and historical interests associated with Patuone and his descendants across Mahurangi, Tāmaki Makaurau, the North Shore, Whenuapai/Hobsonville, Riverhead, Ōrākei, Hokianga, and associated northern systems, supported by Crown grants, Native Land Court material, title history, and identifiable historical occupation and take.

Importantly, the descendants of Patuone have deliberately approached these matters conservatively and reasonably by focusing primarily on documented land interests and Crown-recognised title histories rather than asserting broad speculative customary claims.

Despite this, multiple surrounding Treaty settlements have proceeded over the same period involving areas and interests overlapping those expressly identified within WAI 1896, including matters associated with Te Roroa, Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Pāoa, and wider Tāmaki/Hauraki settlement processes.

At the same time, WAI 1896 appears to have remained procedurally sidelined without any clearly articulated pathway for substantive participation, recognition, or protection of overlapping interests.

Your correspondence states that settlements proceed through mandated large natural groups or recognised hapū structures rather than individual Wai claims. However, your own response also acknowledges that no recognised Hokianga grouping currently exists.

This gives rise to a fundamental procedural contradiction:

- WAI 1896 has not been recognised independently for negotiation purposes;
- no alternative recognised Hokianga structure presently exists;
- overlapping settlements have nevertheless continued;
- and no clear mechanism has been identified by which the descendants of Patuone were expected to protect or advance their interests during those processes.

To date, no substantive explanation has been provided regarding:

1. why WAI 1896 has remained effectively unresolved and procedurally marginalised for such an extended period;
2. how overlapping settlements involving lands expressly identified within WAI 1896 were assessed against our interests;
3. whether overlap reports, consultation assessments, or representation determinations were undertaken concerning the descendants of Patuone;
4. whether any groups settling overlapping interests purported to represent or extinguish interests associated with the descendants of Patuone;
5. or what practical pathway now exists for WAI 1896 to obtain meaningful recognition or engagement.

I also wish to raise a further issue regarding the Crown's repeated references to "mandated large natural groups" and recognised hapū structures.

As part of our ongoing research, we have identified archival Native Land Court ownership material relating to Waikoropupū No. 1 at Waihou in Hokianga identifying:

"Hohaia Patuone and 26 other members of the Ngatitōre Hapū"

as the recognised ownership collective associated with the block and associated pā interests.

This material is significant because it demonstrates that the descendants and connected whānau of Hohaia Patuone were historically recognised collectively through the hapū identity of Ngāti Tōre within formal Crown and Native Land Court processes.

Importantly, the descendants of Ngāti Tōre are, in substance, the descendants of Patuone and his connected whānau lines operating under a recognised collective hapū identity.

This gives rise to a further question which has not yet been addressed clearly:

If documented historical collective ownership, recognised hapū identification, identifiable descendants, continuing claimant structure, surviving land interests, and longstanding Wai claim status are still considered insufficient to constitute a meaningful basis for engagement or recognition within the modern settlement framework, then what exactly does the Crown consider necessary to constitute a "modern negotiating mandate" in practical terms?

This question is particularly important given that:

- no recognised Hokianga mandate structure currently exists;
- WAI 1896 has existed formally since 2008 and informally much earlier;
- the descendants of Patuone remain identifiable and connected through both whakapapa and documented land interests;
- and historical collective recognition through Ngāti Tore is demonstrably recorded within Crown-recognised ownership systems themselves.

In those circumstances, it is difficult to understand what additional threshold the descendants of Patuone are expected to satisfy before substantive recognition or engagement becomes possible.

These concerns are serious and longstanding. They relate directly to procedural fairness, consistency of Crown process, recognition of overlapping interests, and the ability of longstanding claimant groups to meaningfully participate within the Treaty settlement framework.

Accordingly, I respectfully request a final substantive response addressing the matters raised above, including a clear explanation of what procedural pathway the Crown considers available to WAI 1896 moving forward.

In the absence of a clear and workable pathway, and absent substantive engagement with the issues identified, the descendants of Patuone will have little option but to consider seeking further review and intervention through other legal avenues concerning the procedural treatment of WAI 1896 and the handling of overlapping settlement interests.

I would appreciate a detailed response within a reasonable timeframe.

Ngā mihi nui,

Mark Thomson
WAI 1896

On 11 May 2026, at 4:07 PM, Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx> wrote:

Kia ora Mark,

Thank you for your email and please see our responses below:

1. We acknowledge the concerns you have expressed about entering mandating discussions and understand why this feels uncertain.
2. Mandates are built from the ground up through discussions between uri and hapū members choosing to form an entity and seeking the mandate of the wider group.
3. It is usual not to have all the answers in the early stages of discussions and it is a matter of going step by step.
4. We encourage you to contact communities on the ground for the hapū to which you and your whānau can whakapapa.
5. We do not have a contact to provide for Hokianga as there is no hapū grouping yet proposed, but we note the community pages we have recommended joining.
6. Other than Te Whakaaetanga Trust which is mandated to represent Ngāti Manu, Ngāti Torehina ki Matakā, Ngāti Kuta and Patukeha, no other mandates have been recognised.
7. Wai claims (or aspects of those Wai claims) can be settled across multiple settlements (and different areas).
8. The Crown negotiates and settles with an entity that has received the mandate of the large natural group (or in the Ngāpuhi context, hapū groupings) rather than Wai claimants - this is in part because in most cases, a Wai claimants is not the only one impacted by acts or omissions of the Crown which gave rise to the grievance.
9. We do not know the specifics of the claim in detail but that would be addressed via negotiations with the appropriately mandated group.

Happy to discuss by Teams call if needed, please let us know if you would like a further discussion.

Ngā mihi, nā

<image001.jpg> Sonya Wynne
SENIOR ANALYST
CEL: 081 914 3070
WEB: <https://baibatai.govt.nz>

Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana—
Te Tari Whakatau
Level 2, Justice Centre, 39 Arken Street, SX0111, Wellington 6011

From: Mark Thomson <[REDACTED]> section 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 6 May 2026 5:18 pm

To: Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx>

Cc: Henderson, Rewi <xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx>; Anderson, Tania <xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx>; Mellows, Alexandria <xxxxxxxxxx.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx>

Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā koutou,

Thank you for your detailed response and for clarifying the Crown's current position regarding hapū grouping and mandating processes.

We acknowledge the Crown's preference to negotiate through large natural groupings and understand that many questions relating to representation and internal structure are intended to be addressed through the mandating process itself.

However, our concerns remain substantive and unresolved.

WAI 1896 is a defined claimant group associated with specific and documented land interests connected to the descendants of Eruera Maihi Patuone. These interests are not confined to a single locality or simple rohe structure, but instead extend across multiple identified land blocks and associated waterways.

At present, we remain unclear on several critical matters, including:

- which grouping or groupings the Crown considers relevant to WAI 1896
- whether any authority presently exists that is intended to represent Ngāti Hao interests in this process
- whether WAI 1896 claimants may participate in initiating, forming, or helping develop any future Ngāti Hao grouping or mandate structure
- how claimant groups with land interests extending beyond a single hapū rohe are intended to be accommodated
- how our claimant group's defined land interests will be specifically recognised, tracked, and protected within any future mandated structure
- how the Crown intends to ensure that formally registered claimant groups are not subsumed, overlooked, or diluted within broader negotiations before representation arrangements are settled

For the avoidance of doubt, WAI 1896 has not provided mandate or authority to any entity to represent its claimant interests to date. Infact we have been ignored, minimised and sidelined for 18+ years, trust in this system is not something we have any more.

We note your advice encouraging engagement with hapū and community discussions. We are willing to engage constructively and in good faith in any future discussions relating to hapū grouping formation and representation.

However, given that no confirmed Hokianga grouping presently exists, and no representative authority for Ngāti Hao has yet been identified to us, we respectfully seek clarification regarding how our claimant group is expected to participate meaningfully and safely within a process that remains structurally undefined at this stage.

For the avoidance of doubt, our engagement in any discussions should not be interpreted as agreement:

- to any particular grouping structure
- to any assumption regarding representation of WAI 1896

- to any extinguishment, limitation, or subsuming of our defined claimant interests
- or to any waiver of the rights and interests associated with WAI 1896 and the land interests identified by the claimant group

Our objective remains to ensure that WAI 1896, and the specific land interests associated with it, are appropriately recognised and carried through any future process in a transparent and accountable manner.

We look forward to your clarification on these matters and remain available to engage further.

Ngā mihi,

Mark Thomson

On behalf of WAI 1896 claimant group

On 6 May 2026, at 4:42 PM, Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx> wrote:

Kia ora Mark,

We understand there are concerns from whānau about representation in any mandated entity and how interests will be negotiated.

We recognise these questions arise for all hapū groupings in the mandating process and they are largely a matter for the hapū grouping itself to work through and decide collectively.

We suggest the best way to approach this is for you to discuss these matters with relevant hapū and engage with others in forming a grouping.

For future hapū hui, we recommend you join relevant marae and hapū facebook pages. E.g. Nga Uri A Iwi o Te Popoto, Hokianga community page, Mangamuka notice board, Hokianga Community News, Horeke Noticeboard, Hokianga Hard. There are just a few of the community pages that feature hapū hui and updates from the kāinga.

Please see our detailed answers below.

– How WAI 1896 will be formally identified and recognised within the hapū grouping framework

All Wai claims are formally identified in the hapū grouping they are included in through the mandating process:

- the Wai claims potentially included are recorded in the hapū grouping proposal, mandate strategy, and draft deed of mandate.
- The Crown expects the hapū grouping to engage with Wai claimants and the Crown writes to all Wai claimants about their potential inclusion in a grouping.
- During the mandating process this engagement and communication is ongoing.
- The final deed of mandate records all the Wai claims included in the grouping.

How a Wai claim is recognised within the hapū grouping framework is a matter for discussion and agreement within the hapū grouping.

Hapū groupings set up a variety of representative structures through a process of discussion and engagement with the claimant community.

– Whether our claimant group will be recorded as a distinct group within any grouping we participate in

Similar to the above, all Wai claims included are recorded in a Deed of Mandate. How representation is organised is a matter for the hapū grouping to discuss and agree.

– How our specific land interests, including those listed in our correspondence, will be tracked and addressed within that structure

This is a matter for the hapū grouping to consider and agree on.

The Crown's experience is that typically mandated entities seek to negotiate a range of redress to address both particular and shared concerns.

– How the Crown will ensure that our claim is not subsumed or overlooked within broader group negotiations

As above, the structure of the the entity and how it will approach questions of redress and representation is a matter to discuss during the mandating process and is for the group to determine.

There is a robust mandating process required through which the the claimant community confers a mandate to negotiate with the Crown on its chosen entity.

The Crown encourages any group seeking a mandate to engage with Wai claimants on how claims are represented, and has obligations in this process to ensure transparency, accountability and appropriate representation for any mandated structure.

After a mandate is recognised, there are requirements to maintain the mandate throughout the negotiations and the mandated entity reports on how it is engaging the claimant community. The Crown has a monitoring role to ensure accountability provisions in the deed of mandate are being fulfilled and any issues arising are being identified and dealt with. This process includes ongoing reporting to the Crown by the mandated entity to ensure it is making best efforts to maintain the confidence of its claimant community through regular updates, hui and other forms of engagement.

Again, happy to discuss further.

Ngā mihi,

From: Mark Thomson [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 1 May 2026 2:29 pm

To: Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Cc: Hodgson, Morgan <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Henderson, Rewi <xxxxx.xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; Anderson, Tania <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>

Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā koutou,

Thank you for your response and for outlining the Crown's current position.

We acknowledge the Crown's preference to negotiate through large natural groupings. However, our primary concern remains unchanged.

WAI 1896 is a defined claimant group, supported by identified land interests and whakapapa connections. To date, our claimant group has not been identified, assigned, or formally recognised within any hapū grouping process (18+ years)

Before we engage with any grouping discussions, we require clarity on the following:

- How WAI 1896 will be formally identified and recognised within the hapū grouping framework
- Whether our claimant group will be recorded as a distinct group within any grouping we participate in
- How our specific land interests, including those listed in our correspondence, will be tracked and addressed within that structure
- How the Crown will ensure that our claim is not subsumed or overlooked within broader group negotiations

We note your comments regarding Takapuna land interests. Given that the Crown has not yet confirmed how these interests are to be addressed, this reinforces our concern that our claimant group has not yet been properly identified or considered.

We are willing to engage constructively in hapū grouping discussions. However, we require assurance that our claimant group and our defined land interests will be clearly recognised and carried through the process.

We look forward to your clarification on these points.

Ngā mihi,

Mark Thomson

On 1 May 2026, at 2:19 PM, Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx> wrote:

Kia ora Mark,
This email is to follow up on our conversation on 13 April, your email below, and the previous correspondence on 1 and 8 April to us (and the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations).
I hope this answers some of your questions and we are happy to set up another Teams hui to discuss.

On Monday 13 April, we discussed that:

1. Wai 1896 claimants have not engaged with any groups on mandating to date;
2. the Crown preference is to settle with large natural groupings (LNGs); and
3. Wai 1896 claimants were seeking clarification on the next steps for a settlement pathway, including whether:-
 1. the Crown would recognise Wai 1896 as its own LNG.
 2. if the Wai 1896 claim could be represented through one hapū grouping; or if
 3. the Wai 1896 claim would be settled in more than one hapū grouping, given the wide spread of the claim to land blocks across several different regions and hapū.
4. The Wai 1896 claim included claims about Takapuna land interests and you seek clarification on how these would be dealt with in Treaty negotiations (and your email below on the same).

We have set out our answers below.

Would the Crown would recognise Wai 1896 as a single LNG?

1. To confirm our discussion, this is unlikely as the Crown does not negotiate with a single Wai claimant. Through the hapū grouping approach, the Crown has developed an inclusive approach to including all claims associated with a group so all the historical claims of the hapū grouping are settled together, including whānau land claims.
2. This approach is for practical reasons (to manage overlapping interests processes) and also to avoid creating new Treaty grievances through inadvertently excluding hapū members who may also have historical claims.
3. The Crown is also concerned to have Ngāpuhi hapū groupings of reasonable size and the Crown's preference is for no more 8 to 10 total groupings across Ngāpuhi.

Can the Wai 1896 claim be represented through one hapū grouping or would it be in more than one hapū grouping, given the wide spread of the claim to land blocks across several different regions and hapū

1. We cannot say definitively at this stage if Wai 1896 would be in one hapū grouping or more than one.
2. Ngāpuhi hapū grouping discussions in many areas are at an early stage, including in Hokianga - there are no confirmed hapū groupings in Hokianga.
3. Whānau with multiple lines of descent might be in more than one hapū grouping (and Treaty settlement), if they affiliate to more than one hapū and the claims arise from a connection to different hapū.
4. Now is very good time to engage in those discussions and we would encourage you to engage with Ngāti Hao and potentially other hapū that you have connections with.
5. We have included a link for a short animated video on mandating that whānau might find useful: [\[100\] Mandate process - YouTube](#) and there are more resources on the Te Tari Whakatau website: [Te Tari Whakatau - Mandate Toolkit for ngā hapū o Ngāpuhi](#) that might be useful.
6. Other information can be found on [Whangaroa Papa Hapu](#) website (contact details and information on their mandating process) and in Te Pewhairangi: [Kāinga! Te Whakaatanga](#) website (details of the Te Whakaatanga Trust process). We do not have contact details for a hapū grouping at this stage in Hokianga as there has not yet been one formed.

Clarification on the status of the Takapuna land interests, including which settlement they may have been addressed through and how descendant interests were considered

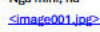
1. While at this early stage we can't confirm the Crown's position on any claims in Takapuna, in general terms, any Ngāpuhi claims arising from acts or omissions of the Crown that breached the Treaty will be settled via a Ngāpuhi Treaty negotiations process to the extent that they arise from Ngāpuhi descent lines or customary interests (as set out in our letter of 1 April).
2. Aspects of Wai 1896 claim relating to Takapuna will be a matter for further consideration in this process.

Ngā mihi, nā

 Sonya Wynne
SENIOR ANALYST
C/O: 04 914 3070
[www.whakatau.govt.nz](https://whakatau.govt.nz)
**Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana—
Te Tari Whakatau**
Level 2, Just ce Centre, 19 Atkien Street, SX0033, Wellington 6011

From: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 13 April 2026 4:49 pm
To: Mark Thomson <[REDACTED]> section 9(2)(a)
Cc: Hodgson, Morgan <Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Henderson, Rewi <Rewi.Henderson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Kia ora Mark, it was good to meet you and thank you for the discussion.
This is just to acknowledge receipt of your email below and we will come back to you with a more detailed email as discussed.
Ngā mihi, nā

 Sonya Wynne
SENIOR ANALYST
C/O: 04 914 3070
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**Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana—
Te Tari Whakatau**
Level 2, Just ce Centre, 19 Atkien Street, SX0033, Wellington 6011

From: Mark Thomson <[REDACTED]> section 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 13 April 2026 2:00 pm
To: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>
Cc: Hodgson, Morgan <Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Henderson, Rewi <Rewi.Henderson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Ngā mihi for the kōrero.

My understanding is that our claimant group can be recognised within a Ngāti Hao large natural grouping structure, and that our next step is to understand how our specific whānau interests are defined and represented within that framework via existing networks whose contact details are forthcoming.

We would also appreciate clarification regarding the status of the Takapuna land interests, including which settlement they may have been addressed through and how descendant interests were considered.

Ngā mihi

Mark

On 8 Apr 2026, at 10:57 AM, Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Mark,
Thank you for the email and noting the points you raise below for discussion on Monday – have just resent the appointment.
Ngā mihi, nā
Sonya

From: Mark Thomson [redacted] [section 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Wednesday, 8 April 2026 10:48 am
To: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>
Cc: Hodgson, Morgan <Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Henderson, Rewi <Rewi.Henderson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā kōrua Tania rāua ko Sonya,

Ngā mihi nui ki a kōrua mō te whakarite wā kia kōrero āpōpō. I appreciate the opportunity to discuss this further.

Can we please schedule for Monday at 1pm?

Ahead of our call, I thought it may be useful to outline the areas I am currently working through, to help guide our discussion and ensure I am approaching this in a way that aligns with the mandating framework.

In particular, I am looking to better understand:

- The potential scope for a hapū grouping centred on Ngāti Hao and Ngāti Rangī within the current Ngāpuhi mandate landscape;
- How to appropriately manage any overlap considerations, particularly in relation to Ngāti Miru and Ngāti Pou and their alignment with the Whangaroa Papa Hapū process;
- Whether there is any expectation or opportunity for a grouping to emerge within the Hokianga and adjoining mid-North areas, where a grouping has not yet been confirmed;
- How whakapapa-based connections that extend across multiple rohe are best reflected within a grouping that still aligns with Crown expectations;
- What key elements Te Tari Whakatau would expect to see at this stage for a hapū grouping proposal to be considered credible and able to progress.

My intention is to approach this in a way that is constructive, avoids duplication or conflict with existing groupings, and ensures appropriate representation for our whānau.

I look forward to our kōrero.

Ngā mihi nui,
Mark Thomson

On 8 Apr 2026, at 10:14 AM, Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Mark, apologies but due to illness we need to reschedule for tomorrow or Friday if that is ok?
Would 1pm still suit?
Ngā mihi, nā
Sonya

From: Mark Thomson [redacted] [section 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 April 2026 3:43 pm
To: Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Cc: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>; Hodgson, Morgan <Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Henderson, Rewi <Rewi.Henderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Ka pai.
My phone number is [redacted] [section 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Ngā mihi nui
Mark

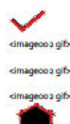
On 7 Apr 2026, at 2:30 PM, Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora anō Mark

I am in catch up mode today after the long weekend but how are you placed tomorrow at 1pm? If this suits I will send a MTeams invitation.

E mihi ana
Tania

[image001.jpg](#) Tania Anderson [image001.jpg](#)
PRINCIPAL ADVISOR | TE KAHUI WHAKATAU
027 324 9054
<https://whakatau.govt.nz>
The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana:
Te Tari Whakatau
Level 3, Justice Centre, 99 Aikien Street, SKAOS, Wellington 6011
Working from Te Nōta



From: Mark Thomson [redacted] [section 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Thursday, 2 April 2026 4:58 pm
To: Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Cc: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>; Hodgson, Morgan <Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā koe Tania,

Ko Mark Thomson ahau. He uri nō Ngāti Hao, Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Miru, Ngāti Pou hoki. E mihi ana ki a koe mō tō imēra me tō tautoko i tēnei wā.

Ngā mihi nui for reaching out and for the opportunity to kōrero. I would welcome the chance to discuss the development of a hapū grouping proposal and to better understand how this can align with the current mandating framework.

I am available at the following times:
- Tuesday through Wednesday from 10am - 3pm

I am happy to speak by phone if that works for you.

I look forward to our discussion.

Ngā mihi nui,
Mark Thomson

On 2 Apr 2026, at 2:33 PM, Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz> wrote:

Tēnā koe Mark

Ko Tania tēnei. Kei te noho au i te Nōta i Kawakawa. Ko Ngāti Manu, Te Mahurehure, Ngāti Toro āku hapū i Ngāpuhi. Kia ora.

I work for Te Tari Whakatau, based in the North. My primary role is in the mandating and pre-mandating programme with Ngāpuhi hapū who are in the development of hapū grouping proposals, mandate plans and/or who are active in mandate activity.

If you have some time to chat early next week, I can set up a Microsoft Teams meeting, or we can talk on the phone. Let me know a few times and dates that work for you.

Ngā mihi

Tania

 Tania Anderson (she/her)
PRINCIPAL ADVISOR | TE KAHUI WHAKATAU
027 324 9054
Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz
The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana:
Te Tari Whakatau
Level 2, Just ce Centre, 19 Aitken Street, SK2022, Wellington 6021
Working from Te Nōta






From: Mark Thomson <> section 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 April 2026 4:45 pm
To: Wynne, Sonya <Sonya.Wynne@whakatau.govt.nz>
Cc: Hodgson, Morgan <Morgan.Hodgson@whakatau.govt.nz>; Anderson, Tania <Tania.Anderson@whakatau.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Kia ora,

Thank you for your response and for providing the current overview of hapū groupings and their respective mandating progress. I appreciate the clarity this brings to the wider Ngāpuhi settlement landscape.

Having reviewed the information, I note the advancement of several groupings across Te Tai Tokerau, and in particular the absence of a confirmed hapū grouping within the Hokianga region. This is helpful context as we consider our position.

I am writing to express my intention to explore the development of a hapū grouping aligned through shared whakapapa, specifically involving Ngāti Hao and Ngāti Rangī, with consideration also given to Ngāti Pou and Ngāti Miru as these are all our hapū by whakapapa. The intent of this grouping is to ensure that the interests of our whānau and associated hapū are appropriately represented within the settlement framework.

However, I acknowledge that Ngāti Pou and Ngāti Miru appear to be associated with the Whangaroa Papa Hapū process currently in development. As such, I am mindful of the potential for overlap in claimant definition and representation.

Given this, I would appreciate guidance on the following:

1. Whether there remains scope within the current framework to establish a new hapū grouping centred on Ngāti Hao and Ngāti Rangī, particularly in relation to the Hokianga and adjoining mid-North areas;
2. How best to approach situations where hapū or whānau whakapapa connections extend across multiple proposed or developing groupings;
3. Any expectations or considerations Te Tari Whakatau would advise to ensure alignment with the Mandate Toolkit and avoid duplication or conflict with existing processes.

Our intention is to proceed in a way that is constructive, respectful of existing groupings, and consistent with Crown expectations, while ensuring our people have a clear and appropriate pathway for representation.

I would also note that the basis of this proposed grouping is primarily whakapapa-driven, reflecting descendant relationships across Ngāti Hao, Ngāti Rangī and related whānau, rather than being strictly defined by rohe or manawhenua boundaries. This is intended to ensure that whānau with shared ancestry—whose interests may not sit neatly within a single geographic grouping—are able to engage meaningfully within the settlement framework.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further or to be directed to any relevant guidance or contacts who can assist as we consider next steps.

Ngā mihi nui,
Mark Thomson

On 1 Apr 2026, at 4:15 PM, Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxx xxxx.xx> wrote:

Kia ora Mr Thomson,
Thank you for your email which has come through to the Ngāpuhi negotiations team.
In response to your query, below is a table showing where hapū groupings are on their mandating journey and includes relevant details for each confirmed grouping. I note a hapū grouping has yet to be confirmed in the Hokianga.

Hapū grouping	Hapū grouping proposal	Mandate strategy	Deed of Mandate	Website	Contact details
Te Whakaetanga	Confirmed	Endorsed	Recognised	Kāinga Te Whakaetanga	xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx
Ngā Piriri Pūmāu o Te Waimate me Taiārai	Confirmed	In progress	Not yet started	-	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx
Ngāti Hine	Confirmed	Endorsed	Not yet started	Te Tu o Ngāti Hine	xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xx
Whangaroa Papa Hapū	Confirmed	In progress	Not yet started	Whangaroa Papa Hapū	xxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx
Ngā hapū o Te Takutai Moana	Confirmed	In progress	Not yet started	-	xxxxx.xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xx.xx
All other groups	In progress	Not yet started	Not yet started	-	1.

You can find out more about the hapū grouping proposal step online in the [Ngāpuhi Mandate Toolkit](#).

I hope this information addresses your query – but don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi, nā

<image001.jpg> Sonya Wynne
SENIOR ANALYST
CEL: 04 914 3070
web <https://whakatau.govt.nz>

Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana—
Te Tari Whakatau
Level 2, Justice Centre, 39 Aitken Street, SK10111, Wellington 6011

From: Mark Thomson <[REDACTED]> section 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 April 2026 2:23 pm
To: <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.xx>; <xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxx.xx> <xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx xxxx.xx>
Subject: WAI 1896 – Request for Clarification of Settlement Pathway

Tēnā koe,

Can you provide a list of currently recognised or proposed Ngāpuhi hapū groupings in Hokianga and Bay of Islands, and contact points for engagement?

Ngā mihi

Mark.

Wai 1896 documents in the Wai 1040 Record of Inquiry

Statements of Claim

Wai 1896 Statement of Claim = Wai 1896, 1.1.1 (Wai 1040, 1.1.306), 26 August 2008
[Wai 1040, 1.1.306.pdf](#)

Claim refers to “the descendants of Patuone of NGA PUHI” (p. 1) but does not mention Hapi Waka or Hohaia Patuone.

Claim refers to “Patuone’s grant at Mahurangi”, which presumably refers to a Crown grant, but does not give any further details on Crown grants. (p.14)

Claim makes a number of allegations regarding succession. The Crown is alleged to have allowed “Loss of records associated with their heritage, property rights, interests and succession of Nga Puhi as an iwi” (p. 3) “Generation or acceptance of inaccurate and misleading records and evidence associated with the heritage, property rights, interests and succession of Nga Puhi as an iwi” (p. 3), “Loss of records associated with the heritage, property rights and succession as rangatira of the iwi Nga Puhi” (p. 7) and “Generation of inaccurate and misleading records and evidence associated with the heritage, property rights and succession of the iwi Nga Puhi” (p. 7).

The claim also alleges the Crown has lost records and not properly inquired into other records presented in relation to Ngā Puhi claims.

No specific evidence (i.e. reference to primary documents or oral history) is presented to support these allegations.

No specific evidence (i.e. reference to primary documents or oral history) is presented on named blocks.

The Statement of Claim includes an appendix that sets out ten specific examples of the claimants' grievances. The Crown is stated to have:

- Confiscated land during the Waikato War in which Ngāpuhi had interests (It is not clear which areas are being referred to but this may be referring to South Auckland lands);
- Felled and extracted timber from Kaipara, Riverhead Forest and the upper Waitemata without proper compensation;
- Acquired or authorised the transfer of land from Patuone’s Mahurangi grant, despite land having inalienable status (Statement of Claim refers to this as ‘the Napier purchase’ but I have yet to locate any details on any purchase identified by this name);
- Allowed the removal and transfer of graves from Orakei;
- Polluted land, water, rivers and seabeds throughout Auckland and the North Shore;

- Desecrated pā and other settlement sites and denied Ngāpuhi presence- including at Stokes Point, Onewa pā and North Head;
- Compulsorily acquired Whenuapai and Hobsonville and sold parts of the land;
- Denied access to Te Onewa pā and other sites within Kauri Point Naval Reserve;
- Denied Ngāpuhi rights to land arising from their occupation of the Tamaki Makau Rau isthmus ‘as recognised by Tainui and other tribes’;
- Alienated land in which Ngāpuhi had interests and disposed of it to statutory bodies and agencies of the Crown. (P. 14)

Closing Submissions

Wai 1040, 3.3.262 G. Sharrock, Closing submissions of eleven Wai claims including Wai 1896, 19 May 2017. [Wai 1040, 3.3.262.pdf](#)

Contains the following on pp. 62-62:

“Wai 1896, Denis Hanley. The clear interests of Ngāpuhi in the Central and Southern Mahurangi have been overridden by the Crown and the Crown has instead chosen to recognise Ngāti Whātua as the pre-eminent entity with, Ngāti Paoa, Ngatai, and Kawerau being recognised to a lesser extent. The fact that Patuone lived on land at Takapuna at Waiwhariki for many years, along with his kāinga opposite Kawau Island and in addition to the other places he resided in, including Waiheke and the Southern Coromandel as well as the Bay of Islands, has grievously prejudiced the Ngāpuhi/Ngai Te Wake/Ngāti Hau interests in Mahurangi. The Crown has very specifically chosen to engage with its champion Ngāti Whātua and sold land in Mahurangi to Ngāti Whātua while the hearings for Mahurangi are continuing.”

No other evidence is presented to support these allegations.

Wai 1040, 3.3.324 G. Sharrock, Closing submissions of eleven Wai claims including Wai 1896, 30 June 2017. [Wai 1040, 3.3.324.pdf](#)

Nothing specific on Patuone descendants, land blocks, Crown grants or succession.

Briefs of Evidence specifically relating to Wai 1896:

Wai 1040, K15 (b), Brief of Evidence (no. 2) of Dr. Anthony John Packington-Hall, 2 February 2014, [Wai 1040, K15\(b\).pdf](#)

Evidence for Wai 1896

States of the claimant, Denis Hanley, “Claimants descent from Hapiwaka daughter of Patuone of the Ngati Hao hapu of Nga Puhi and Te Hoia”. (p.1)

Focuses on Patuone’s association with the Waiwharariki Block, central Takapuna.

Wai 1040, K15 (c), Suggested Sites for Tribunal Visits, Dr. Anthony John Packington-Hall, 3 February 2014 [Wai 1040, K15\(c\).pdf](#)

Sites suggested include Waiwharariki = Patuone's pā in Takapuna.

Wai 1040, AA10(a), List of Appendices to Evidence of Dr. Anthony John Packington-Hall, 25 October 2016: [Wai 1040, AA010\(a\).pdf](#)

Includes Appendix 7 (3 pages) Wai 1896 (Denis Hanley) *Draft Brief of Evidence Patuone and the Crown in the Southern Mahurangi & Gulf Islands Inquiry District* by A.J. Packington-Hall.

Inquiry hearing transcripts:

Wai 1040, 4.1.12, Hearing Week 7, Held at North Harbour Stadium, Albany, Mahurangi, 10 to 13 February 2014. [WAI 1040, 4.1.12.pdf](#)

Evidence of A. Packington-Hall pp. 811-829.

Other witnesses at this hearing who discuss Patuone in North Shore Auckland include:

Peter McBurney, Pierre Lyndon, Robin Whanga, Rihari Dargaville and Rhoda Hohepa

Research Reports:

For further information on Patuone in North Shore Auckland see:

Wai 1040, A36, P. McBurney, Traditional History Overview of the Mahurangi and Gulf Islands Districts, Mahurangi and Gulf Islands Districts Collective Committee/CFRT, 2010, Chapter 8. [Wai 1040, A036.pdf](#)

More recent amendments:

Wai 1040, AA170 (Wai 1896, 1.1.1[a]) Amended Statement of Claim for Wai 1896, submitted by Mark Thomson, 4 December 2025. [Wai 1040, AA170.pdf](#)

Notes:

“This Amended Statement of Claim is submitted for WAI 1896 by Mark Thomson, a direct descendant of Hapi Waka, daughter of Eruera Maihi Patuone, and member of the wider whānau of Patuone, Tamati Waka Nene (Hapi Waka and her brother Hone Waka were whangai to Nene as he could have no children), and their brother Wiremu Waka Turau (Died without issue).”

The descendants of Hapi Waka have been excluded from succession to the interests of:

- Hone Waka (died without issue)
- Hohaia Patuone
- Wiremu Waka Turau
- Eruera Maihi Patuone (Takapuna Grant)

And from the following blocks:

Takapuna (110-acre Crown Grant) – Tāmaki Makaurau

- Waitaroto – Hokianga
- Tarakihi (Te Kawakawa) – Hokianga
- Wahamarangai (Block 1) – Hokianga
- Wahamarangai (Block 2) – Hokianga
- Waihiri – Hokianga
- Whakateterekia – Hokianga
- Whakatiwai (ancestral pā of Te Kawehau) – Hauraki / Marutūāhu rohe

Further information from emails:

Email: Mark Thomson-Pono to Minister Goldsmith 24 March 2026

Includes the following:

The claim is being advanced on a land-block basis and includes, among others:

- Takapuna (110-acre Crown Grant to Patuone) – one of the most important blocks in the claim
- Waitaroto Block 1 – large Hokianga block
- Tarakihi (Te Kawakawa)
- Wahamarangai (Blocks 1 and 2)
- Waihiri
- Whakateterekia
- Manga Karamu
- Te Toke (Waihou)
- Pukoro (Waihou)
- Waihou 2782 Tai Kawhanga
- Waikoropupu Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (Waihou)

- Kauri-roa / Kauriroa
- Moturoa Island
- Ponsonby / Section 48 Auckland lots connected with the Horace Hanley estate

Land blocks mentioned in the Wai 1896 claim: locations and documents relating to connections with Patuone

Block	Location of block	Documentary evidence of connection to Patuone
Takapuna	North Shore, Auckland	Info relating to Lots 29, 30, 31, 32 granted to Patuone (including correspondence from Patuone) in Archives NZ at R24599897.
Ponsonby / Section 48 Auckland lots connected with the Horace Hanley estate	Ponsonby Auckland	No information located as yet.
Waitaroto	Western Whangaroa/Eastern Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285210- Eru Patuone and Tamati Waka Nene among the seven owners named. CT issued 1875.
Tarakihi	Te Kawakawa (Te Pēwhairangi), Northland	CT in Archives NZ, R25285003- One of four owners on CT is Wiremu Waka Turau. Issued 1867.
Wahamarangai (565 acre block)	Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285183. Wiremu Waka Turau, Hone Waka and Tamati Waka Nene are among the seven owners on the CT, Issued 1865.
Wahamarangai (2 acre block)	Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285186 Tamati Waka Nene and Wiremu Waka Turau the two owners. Issued 1866.
Waihiri	No info found	No info found
Whakateterekia	Western Whangaroa/Eastern Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285214 Tamati Waka Nene and Wiremu Waka Turau among the six owners listed. Issued 1867.
Manga Karamu	Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285201. Wiremu Waka Turau sole owner. CT issued 1866.
Te Toke (Waihou)	Eastern Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285219. Wiremu Waka Turau sole owner. CT issued 1868.
Pukoro (Waihou)	Eastern Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285216. Wiremu Waka Turau sole owner. CT issued 1868.

Waihou 2782 Tai Kawhanga	No info located as yet	No info located as yet
Waikoropupu No.1	Eastern Hokianga	Archives NZ, R23280801. Crown purchase deed issued 1879 for Waikoropupu no.1 to Hohaia Patuone and 26 others.
Waikoropupu No.2	Eastern Hokianga	Archives NZ, R23280802. Crown purchase deed issued 1879 for Waikoropupu no.2 to Hohaia Patuone and 10 others.
Waikoropupu No.3	Eastern Hokianga	Archives NZ, R23280801. Crown purchase deed issued 1879 for Waikoropupu no.1 to Hohaia Patuone and 7 others.
Kauri-roa	Hokianga	CT in Archives NZ, R25285205. Tamati Waka sole owner. Issued 1866.
Moturoa Island	Bay of Islands?	No info found

From: [Mark Thomson](#)
To: [Wynne, Sonya](#)
Cc: [Registrar, WT: ~~XXXX~~](#)
Subject: Re: WAI 1896 – Request for Tribunal Direction Regarding Ongoing Prejudice and Settlement Progression
Date: Thursday, 18 June 2026 5:26:08 pm

Ano, Sonya,

This response continues the pattern of non-answers that has characterised our engagement with Te Tari Whakatau.

You continue to direct us to engage with emerging Ngāpuhi structures while simultaneously confirming that:

“We are not aware of any recognised authority for Ngāti Hao.”

This raises an obvious question.

How exactly are we expected to engage with a recognised Ngāti Hao authority when Te Tari Whakatau itself confirms no such authority presently exists?

You continue to tell us to participate in a process without identifying who we are supposed to engage with, who represents our interests, or where WAI 1896 sits within that process.

You state that WAI 1896 is a Ngāpuhi claim.

We have never disputed our whakapapa connections to Ngāpuhi.

The issue is that WAI 1896 is a whānau claim concerning specific descendants, specific interests, and specific lands. Simply relabelling it a “Ngāpuhi claim” does not answer any of the questions we have repeatedly asked regarding representation, settlement pathway, or treatment of those interests.

You state that no Ngāpuhi claims have been settled.

That was not the question.

The question was whether settlements have occurred in areas expressly identified within WAI 1896, including Auckland, North Shore, Takapuna, Mahurangi and Kaipara interests.

You acknowledge that settlements have occurred in Auckland and Kaipara.

You do not explain how WAI 1896 interests within those areas were considered.

You do not explain whether WAI 1896 was consulted.

You do not explain whether WAI 1896 was assessed.

You do not explain how those interests are now intended to be addressed.

You state that geographically diverse interests can be accommodated within Areas of Interest.

Again, that was not the question.

The question was how WAI 1896’s geographically dispersed interests will actually be accommodated in practice.

No answer is provided.

You state that Ngāpuhi hapū are forming into a number of groupings.

Again, this does not answer the question.

Which grouping does the Crown presently consider WAI 1896 belongs within?

No answer is provided.

Which grouping does the Crown consider represents the descendants of Patuone?

No answer is provided.

Can descendants of Patuone participate in forming or leading a grouping?

No answer is provided.

How are Takapuna interests intended to be addressed?

No answer is provided.

How are North Shore interests intended to be addressed?

No answer is provided.

How are Mahurangi interests intended to be addressed?

No answer is provided.

What concerns us most is that Te Tari Whakatau continues to insist that WAI 1896 must engage with a process while being unable to identify who represents us, where we belong, how our interests will be addressed, or how our claim fits within the framework being proposed.

That is not a settlement pathway.

It is simply a direction to enter an undefined process and hope our interests are dealt with at some future date.

After more than eighteen years since WAI 1896 was filed, that is not an adequate answer.

Given the length of time WAI 1896 has remained unresolved, and given that many of these questions have now been asked repeatedly over a number of months, we request a substantive response to each of the matters raised above within five working days.

If Te Tari Whakatau is unable or unwilling to provide direct answers, please identify the individual, office, or decision-maker responsible for providing those answers.

Should a substantive response not be received within that timeframe, we will proceed on the basis that Te Tari Whakatau is either unwilling or unable to address these matters and will place this correspondence, together with the ongoing absence of answers, before the Waitangi Tribunal and any other appropriate oversight, legal, or review processes available to us.

We consider these matters fundamental to the future treatment of WAI 1896 and believe they require urgent clarification rather than further generic references to developing processes and future engagement.

Ngā manaakitanga

Mark

On 18 Jun 2026, at 5:08 PM, Wynne, Sonya <xxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx> wrote:

Tēnā koe Mark,

Thank you for your email below which we have responded to in detail in a separate email.

Ngā mihi, nā



Sonya Wynne
SENIOR ANALYST

CEL: DDI 04 914 3070

WEB: <https://whakatau.govt.nz>

Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana—
Te Tari Whakatau

Level 2, Justice Centre, 19 Aitken Street, SX10111, Wellington 6011

From: Mark Thomson [REDACTED] section 9(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 5:26 pm

To: Wynne, Sonya <[REDACTED]>; Registrar, WT <wt.registra@[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]

Subject: WAI 1896 – Request for Tribunal Direction Regarding Ongoing Prejudice and Settlement Progression

Tēnā koutou,

I am increasingly concerned that despite repeated correspondence with both the Tribunal and Te Tari Whakatau, fundamental issues affecting WAI 1896 remain unresolved while the Crown publicly confirms that Ngāpuhi settlement negotiations continue to advance.

I note recent public statements by Treaty Negotiations Minister Paul Goldsmith that ten groups representing northern hapū have now been earmarked to join settlement negotiations.

This raises a serious concern for WAI 1896.

Since filing in 2008, WAI 1896 has remained an active registered claim. The claimant group has repeatedly sought clarification regarding:

- * how WAI 1896 is intended to be addressed;
- * whether WAI 1896 is considered represented within any settlement structure;
- * who, if anyone, the Crown considers represents Ngāti Hao interests;
- * how the Crown intends to address interests identified in WAI 1896 extending beyond a conventional Ngāpuhi framework;

* and how the claimant group's interests are intended to be protected as settlement negotiations progress.

Those questions remain unanswered.

I must also note that my recent correspondence to the Tribunal has not received any substantive response. At the same time, Te Tari Whakataua continues to provide process-based responses without addressing the specific concerns raised by the claimant group.

The result is that a registered claim filed in 2008 remains without a clearly articulated settlement pathway while public statements indicate negotiations are progressing elsewhere.

The claimant group considers this situation unacceptable.

The claimant group is increasingly concerned that WAI 1896 is being left without clarity regarding representation, settlement pathway, recognition, or treatment while decisions affecting the wider settlement landscape continue to be developed.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Tribunal advise:

1. What procedural avenue is available to WAI 1896 to formally raise concerns regarding ongoing prejudice arising from the Crown's treatment of the claim;
2. Whether the Tribunal considers it appropriate for a registered claimant group to remain without clarity regarding its place within the settlement framework while negotiations continue to progress;
3. What mechanism exists for WAI 1896 to seek urgent consideration of these issues before further prejudice occurs.

This correspondence is intended to formally record the claimant group's position that the continued absence of clarity, engagement, and resolution is itself becoming a matter of prejudice to WAI 1896.

I request that this correspondence be placed on the WAI 1896 record.

Nāku noa, nā

Mark Thomson

Named Claimant
WAI 1896