



Tāiki ē: Te Tiriti Strategic Intent and Implementation Plan

Ngā tino kaupapa o te tau kua pahure

Highlights of the past year 2024/25



Karakia

Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mātaratara ki tai
E hī ake ana te atakura
He tio, he huka, he hau hū
Tīhei mauri ora!

*Cease the winds from the west
Cease the winds from the south
Let the breeze blow over the land
Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.
A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.*





Mihi

Tuia ngā pae maunga o tēnā kokonga, o tēnā kokonga
o ngā Tai o Tokerau,

Huihuia ō tātou mate kia mihia, kia poroporoakitia.

Anei rā ngā whakamānawatanga o te wā ki a koutou e
pānui mai nei.

Tēnei te mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.

Mā whero, mā pango, ka oti ai te mahi!

*Bring together the mountain ranges from all corners of
Te Taitokerau.*

*Assemble those who have passed on, to be
acknowledged and farewelled.*

We are greatly honoured to have you join us.

Greetings to you all.

Through collaboration, the work shall be achieved.



Nā Pita Tipene (iwi representative) and Tui Shortland
(council representative)

Co-chairs of Te Ruarangi (formerly known as TTMAC Māori
and Council Working Party)

September 2025





Kaupapa Purpose

“He iwi tahi tātou kia ora ai te taiao – Kawanatanga and Rangatiratanga work together for the wellbeing of the environment.”

Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Taitokerau / Northland Regional Council and Te Ruarangi are proud to present highlights of our mahi from the last year.

We invite you to explore the inspiring stories and significant work happening around the rohe as we continue to honour and give effect to our Te Tiriti commitments.

He Whakaputanga and Te Tiriti

The unique context of hapū autonomy in Northland is intertwined with views on He Whakaputanga and Te Tiriti. By He Whakaputanga, rangatira from Te Taitokerau declared their own independence and the independence of their country, and asserted their own sovereignty, independent of any other purported law-making power.

While He Whakaputanga is not referenced in Te Tiriti, the two documents together are an essential statement on the sovereignty of Māori in Northland. That position of sovereignty, as envisioned by the rangatira at the time He Whakaputanga was signed, is something that tangata whenua are still striving to achieve.¹

Tāiki ē Te Tiriti Strategic Intent 2021-2040

The Tāiki ē Strategic Intent acknowledges the relationship between He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni and Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which are together essential to understanding the position of tangata whenua in Te Taitokerau. The deep tangata whenua connection to the taiao is encapsulated in the vision, mission and values of the intent and council's commitment to building an enduring relationship that is a reflection of true partnership.

About Tāiki ē

He whenua haumoko, he wai mā, he iwi whai ora – Land that is bountiful, water that is pure and healthy, people that are flourishing. This is the vision for our future that guides Tāiki ē.

Tāiki ē is our Te Tiriti o Waitangi strategy and implementation plan. It is our roadmap towards fulfilling our Te Tiriti obligations, ensuring both council and Te Ruarangi are accountable in achieving these goals.

The vision and commitments within Tāiki ē influence all of council's mahi. From achieving better flood protection outcomes for communities to strengthening pest management and better water quality monitoring, Tāiki ē drives improved Te Tiriti partnerships across the work we do throughout the region.

In April 2024 an updated Tāiki ē was adopted by council to include more actions under the five focus areas – water, marine, climate crisis, and economic development. The stories we share here have been brought together under each of these focus areas.

The name 'Tāiki ē' itself is a unifying statement and a call to action, emphasising a shared commitment to collective work.

www.nrc.govt.nz/taiki-e

¹ Buddle Findlay, Tiriti Health Check 2022 & 2025

Te Ruarangi Māori representation

Te Ruarangi is a council working party which aims to reflect true partnership that respects the mana and authority of tāngata whenua and council. It is made up of twenty-one appointed iwi and hapū representatives plus all nine members of council.

Formerly known as TTMAC (Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party), Te Ruarangi is the group's new ingoa following a revision to the Terms of Reference for the rūpū. The ingoa represents 'an expression of the vision where the principles of Kāwanatanga and Rangatiratanga come together in a harmonious partnership for the benefit of te taiao.'

The rūpū meets 10 times per year, with formal meetings in council alternating with marae-based meetings around the rohe. Along with council-led kaupapa and priorities, the meetings are an opportunity to hear from and work with other organisations such as Northland Inc., DOC, Reconnecting Northland and other councils on regionally significant programmes and projects. Importantly, they are an opportunity for councillors and staff to experience first-hand marae-based hui and hear from the haukainga the issues and challenges they are facing to protect the taiao.



The April 2025 meeting of Te Ruarangi was held at Mōtatau Marae and hosted by Ngāti Hine.

“ Together, we are striving for positive outcomes for all people of Taitokerau and the environment through shared values and active partnership. ”

Ngā reo o Te Ruarangi

Voices of Te Ruarangi

In June 2025 several Te Ruarangi iwi and hapū representatives shared their whakaaro on Tāiki ē, Te Ruarangi, and the partnership between Kāwanatanga and Rangatiratanga.

Watch the full videos at www.nrc.govt.nz/taiki-e



"Tāiki ē is a journey we asked for as Māori - for representation and to have a voice around the table. Our voice wasn't being heard. We have different issues on whenua. They might be similar, but from the perspective of Māori. We wanted to do things our way and be about our mātauranga Māori.

"It's the learning of our young people. We want them to have the capabilities, the capacity. We wanted them to learn their connections to the whenua, their dreams for themselves on Māori whenua."

Nora Rameka, Ngāti Rehia

"I believe [Tāiki ē] brings massive value because we're at the decision-making table when it comes to our taiao.

"In the past you wouldn't see our whānau in this space because it was a system that was never designed for us to be in. Now that we sit in this space and we are working hand in hand, it works really, really well.

"The partnership itself — what we can learn is don't be afraid. You don't have to be afraid to look at Māori to participate."

Nyze Manuel, Te Rūnanga O Whāingaroa





"Honesty is the key thing for us. If we sign up to something, we want to achieve that. A partnership can't be formed by yourself; it takes two or three parties to make a partnership. We wanted to nail the partnership relationship, and we did that.

"To us, it means our aspirations are achieved... that's the importance of the relationship. If you're working together well, you can't stray too far. Everything's tika."

Niki Conrad, Te Aupōuri

"The value that I think Tāiki ē brings – and Te Ruarangi bring to the region – firstly, because it provides that network of hapū practitioners, people at the coalface.

"Being able to understand what council's processes are, where their plan making and policy making is at, learn about those things early so we can prepare ourselves, go back to the whānau and talk about what's going on.

**Juliane Chetham,
Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board**



"I think it's finally starting to uphold what was envisaged by our tūpuna when they put their tā moko on that parchment.

"While it's been lost over many a time, people have been struggling to see how it can actually work. But in this case, I think Te Ruarangi does work.

"And we've still got a long, long way to go, but hey – we've got a pretty good foundation now.

Pita Tipene, Ngāti Hine





Ngā whaingā

Desired goals

Tāiki ē sets out a strategic intent 2021-2040 for council to achieve its Te Tiriti o Waitangi commitments. The goals are realised through actions and resourcing that are embedded in council's Long Term Plan.

TE RAUKAHA ME TE ĀHEITANGA CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

- 01 **Capability** Tāngata whenua are supported to give effect to their aspirations in council decisions and operations.
- 02 **Capacity** Tāngata whenua are adequately resourced to participate in council decisions and operations.
- 03 **Partnership** Tāngata whenua and council work in a Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership to achieve their shared goals.



TE KANOHI MĀORI MĀORI REPRESENTATION

- 04 **Te Tiriti o Waitangi** Is upheld and embraced.
- 05 **Decision making** Tāngata whenua are equitably represented in all council decisions and operations.
- 06 **Resourcing** Tāngata whenua are equitably resourced to contribute to council decisions and operations.



TE WAI / TE MOANA WATER / MARINE

- 07 **Mauri** The mauri of water is protected, restored and improved.
- 08 **Mātauranga** Information/knowledge is gathered and collated to better understand and improve the health of water.
- 09 **Mana o te Wai** Partner with tāngata whenua to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai.



TE TAIRARU ĀHUARANGI CLIMATE CRISIS

- 10 **Te Ao Māori** Te Ao Māori is inherent in mahi relating to climate crisis and its impacts.
- 11 **Advocacy** Tāngata whenua and council work together in the development of climate crisis policy.
- 12 **Implementation** Partner with tāngata whenua by providing support and resources to prepare for and address the effects of the climate crisis.



TE WHANAKETANGA OHAOHA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 13 **Whai Rawa** Council advocates for and supports economic development for tāngata whenua.
- 14 **Whai Mana** Tāngata whenua self-reliance and self-determination is supported by council.
- 15 **Whai Oranga** Economic growth is compatible with the protection and enhancement of ecological, spiritual and cultural values of tāngata whenua.



Ngā tino kaupapa o te tau kua pahure

Highlights of the last year

E tuari mātauranga, te whakanui i ngā ekenga angitu

Sharing mātauranga, celebrating success

Wānanga Waiora

The second Wānanga Waiora was held at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds on March 26 2025, as part of a commitment to wānanga that highlight the experiences of kaitiaki across the region and the partnership with council to enable a better understanding of the Resource Management Act and its functions.

Hosted by Whangaroa Taiao Ltd with support from Northland Regional Council (NRC), the event provided a unique opportunity for Te Taitokerau kaitiaki and hapū to come together and share te mātauranga o te taiao (knowledge of the environment).

Wānanga Waiora is about kotahitanga and having a measurable tool for understanding the relationships between wai and 'waitiaki', as well as council's operational capability and positive outcomes with tāngata whenua.

Among those sharing their knowledge and experience on the day were special guest Hokianga and māmataka tohunga Rereata Makiha; Ngāti Hine Manu Taupunga Roopu; Ngāti Rehia; Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa; Whangaroa Taiao Ltd CEO, Nyze Manuel and Taiao Advocate/Hearing Commissioner Dallas King; Oturu Marae; Ngāti Tara me Parapara Marae; Te Rūnanga o Te Aupōuri; Te Taumata Arowai; Te Uri o Hikihiki; Ngā Kaitiaki o Ngā Wai Māori; and Ngā Kaitiaki – ngā hapū me ngā hapori o Whangaroa.

This year's event highlighted how the relationship between council and the kaitiaki has grown. Enduring relationships ensure that these connections continue to achieve meaningful outcomes.

Overall, the kaupapa and the day were a great success with approximately 150 people in attendance.



E tuari mātauranga, te whakanui i ngā ekenga angitu Sharing mātauranga, celebrating success



Te Rūnanga Nui O Te Aupōuri's kaitiaki arm, Oranga Whenua Oranga Tangata Taiao, were the big winners at this year's Northland Regional Council Whakamānawa ā Taiao – Environmental Awards.

Te Aupōuri wins big at 2025 Whakamānawa ā Taiao – Environmental Awards

Te Rūnanga Nui O Te Aupōuri's kaitiaki arm, Oranga Whenua Oranga Tangata Taiao, were the big winners at this year's Northland Regional Council Whakamānawa ā Taiao – Environmental Awards.

The team took out not only the Kaitiakitanga award, but also the overall Te Tohu Matua- Supreme Award.

Held this year at Waitangi during Matariki, the spirit of collaboration and community leadership in the room was powerful and uplifting as rūpū from across the rohe came together to recognise and celebrate kaitiakitanga in action.

This year's awards saw many entries across different categories from iwi, hapū and kaitiaki groups, with marked increase in entries in the 'kaitiakitanga' category.

One of the powerful themes shared was of community groups increasingly strengthening their relationships and partnerships with iwi and hapū to drive better environmental outcomes for the whole community.

The Whakamānawa ā Taiao – Environmental Awards, held for the sixth time, recognise individuals, groups and organisations making a difference for te taiao.

Te raukaha me te āheitanga Capacity and capability



A previous scholarship recipient, Te Karira Ruakere-Norris (Te Parawhau, Ngāpuhi, Patuharakeke)

Tū i te ora Scholarships helping build Māori capacity and capability

The six recipients of this year's Tū i te ora Scholarships will receive financial support and paid work experience at council next summer.

The 2025 scholarship recipients are:

- **Aakash Chatterji**, from Whangārei (Te Uriroroi, Te Parawhau, Te Mahurehure ki Whatitiri, Te Taoū. Ngāti Whātua, Ngā Puhi, and Varanasi India).
- **Nehana Griffiths**, from Whangārei and Dunedin (Ngāti Wai, Ngāti Rehua, Te Rarawa, Te Waiariki, Ngāti Korora, Ngāpuhi).
- **Riana Lane**, from Whangārei.
- **Isaac Morrow**, from Kerikeri (Te Aupōuri).
- **Raine Ross**, from Mōtatau (Ngāti Te Tarawa, Ngāti Hine).
- **William Trubshaw**, from Whangārei.

Each receives \$4000 to assist with study costs, plus paid full-time work experience with council from mid-November 2025 to mid-February 2026.

The scholarships have a specific aim to build Māori capacity within Te Taitokerau, with three of the six scholarships earmarked for Māori who whakapapa to Te Taitokerau.

Now in its sixth year, the scholarships recognise, encourage and support students to undertake study that relates to council's environmental and regulatory functions.

www.nrc.govt.nz/scholarship

Te raukaha me te āheitanga Capacity and capability

Joint advocacy to Central Government

This action was established to develop an efficient process for responding and advocating on behalf of the region with Te Ruarangi on key priority areas. The subsequent change of government has been followed by a raft of legislative changes, many of which have raised significant concerns about the undermining of Te Tiriti obligations by iwi and hapū of Te Taitokerau.

As Tāiki ē provides a clear framework for joint advocacy around impacts for tāngata whenua, iwi and hapū representatives have worked diligently with council to reflect a commitment to joint advocacy to central government. Over the past year council's submissions to government have included:

- fundamental concerns with the attempt to re-define the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- strong opposition to changes requiring councils to hold a binding poll on the future of Māori constituency seats;
- strong opposition the limited ability for tāngata whenua affected by fast-track applications to participate in the decision-making process; and
- concern that the Regulatory Standards Bill does not recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi nor uphold its principles.

Read council's submissions:
www.nrc.govt.nz/NRCsubmissions

Supporting environmental planning and monitoring

The development of Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plans (IHEMPs) in Te Taitokerau was boosted in 2025 through the latest contestable funding round. A total of \$30,000 of funding was allocated for environmental management plan development and updates by iwi, hapū, and other eligible tāngata whenua entities.

IHEMPs provide an important opportunity to influence resource management processes. These planning documents will help hapū/iwi become more involved in resource management processes by building their capacity and at the same time capturing their current environmental knowledge, passion and practice.

In the last three years three IHEMPs have been funded and submitted – by Ngāti Hine Tirairaka, Ahipara Takiwā and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa – supporting council to have a clear understanding of the environmental aspirations and implementation plans of iwi from across the region.

Meanwhile, the Tāngata Whenua Environmental Monitoring Fund saw a further \$130,000 allocated to support tāngata whenua to undertake their own environmental monitoring within Te Taitokerau. This has boosted opportunities for iwi and hapū to share their mātauranga with council enabling a more collaborative approach to protect indigenous species, flora and fauna, and monitor the benefits of restorative ecological programmes in the region.

www.nrc.govt.nz/funding



Te kanohi māori Māori representation



Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements with Ngāti Hine, Te Parawhau

Ngāti Hine and NRC signed the first-ever iwi-council Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe resource management agreement in Taitokerau at a large gathering at Otiria Marae in December 2024. This was recognised as a milestone of the ongoing relationship with Ngāti Hine; however, it was acknowledged that there were many hapū that aspire to have a Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe agreements with NRC.

While several Northland hapū-NRC agreements have already been signed, this most recent agreement is a first for a recognised iwi of Te Taitokerau.

Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements were introduced into the RMA in 2017 by the Crown to improve working relationships among tāngata whenua and councils, and to provide more opportunities for tāngata whenua involvement in RMA decision-making processes.

In April 2024 Te Parawhau ki Tai on behalf of Te Parawhau hapū joined an existing Mana Whakahono multi-hapū agreement that had previously been signed in December 2020 with Te Patuharakeke Iwi Trust Board and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rēhia.

Kimihia mōhiotanga anō: www.nrc.govt.nz/mwar

NRC has the highest number of Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe agreements in the country and have been working with Papa Pounamu (NZPI) to provide support and direction for other councils to implement these agreements.



Te kanohi māori

Māori representation

Te Tiriti health check and report

One of council's key performance measures is to complete and implement a two-yearly Te Tiriti 'health check' – an independent assessment of how council meaningfully upholds and implements its Te Tiriti obligations and in partnership with iwi and hapū.

The first comprehensive Te Tiriti health check was undertaken in 2022 by Buddle Findlay and Whaia Legal, identifying that while significant progress had been made, there remained "a long way to go to achieve genuine partnership in a way that reflects and respects Te Tiriti, He Whakaputanga, and the mana and rangatiratanga of iwi and hapū."

During 24/25 a second comprehensive Te Tiriti health check was commissioned, with findings formally received by council in September 2025.

Conducted by Buddle Findlay, the review assessed council's performance against Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations, progress on 2022 recommendations, implementation of Tāiki ē, and engagement with tāngata whenua and mana whenua. It also evaluated mechanisms supporting Māori participation, such as Te Ruarangi (formerly TTMAC), and provided further recommendations.

Key recommendations include:

- Continue to engage iwi on legislative and policy changes.
- Track and report Tāiki ē progress right across council; and review resourcing.
- Strengthen Te Ruarangi's partnership role and governance.
- Continue cultural competency training for staff and councillors.
- Create a council-wide policy for partnership-oriented engagement.
- Formalise leadership relationships with iwi leaders' groups.
- Clarify and support iwi/hapū resourcing.
- Continue to implement the action plan to improve participation in resource consent processes.

NRC's partnership with iwi and hapū is in a strong place compared with many other regions, with genuine leadership-level commitment. The relationship has developed significantly since 2014, with a huge amount of work from both partners to support the relationships and effective implementation of Tāiki ē to drive meaningful change.

Te kanohi māori Māori representation

Strengthening tāngata whenua voices

Te Ruarangi, formerly known as Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party is continuing to build enduring relationships between Māori and council. Although council acknowledges this does not represent all iwi and hapū in the region, Te Ruarangi has been pivotal in bringing tangata whenua voices to support and guide a shared understanding of the decisions being made in council.

Alongside Te Ruarangi there are iwi/hapū representatives that make up 50% of council's 'Natural Resources' and 'Biosecurity and Biodiversity' working parties, helping to provide insights and foster equitable and balanced decision-making. Independent tāngata whenua advisors with voting rights also sit on each of council's 'Infrastructure', 'Audit and Risk', and 'Investment' committees, further empowering Māori voices in council decision-making.

The Māori Technical Advisory Group (MTAG) is a subgroup of Te Ruarangi (formerly Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party, or TTMAC). Its primary role is to provide technical advice and guidance to the non-elected iwi and hapū representatives of Te Ruarangi. These mechanisms for tangata whenua voices to be heard at the governance level play important roles in developing strong relationships and fostering better understanding between council and iwi/hapū leaders.



Te kanohi māori Māori representation



Members of the working group for sika deer eradication in Russell Forest, at the 2024 project launch at Te Rāwhiti Marae.

Biosecurity partnerships

Across Te Taitokerau there are many biosecurity partnerships involving or led by hapū and kaitiaki, helping to get rid of pests and restore health to the ngahere and the rich biodiversity within.

Predator Free Pēwhairangi Whānui is one of these partnerships, spanning across three peninsulas in the Bay of Islands. This collaborative project works with community groups, hapū, and various agencies, with the goal of making these peninsulas predator free.

Another is the programme to eradicate wild deer from Russell Forest, in partnership with iwi and hapū, other agencies and landowners – a big job that council can't do alone.

For both of these examples, and the many other biosecurity partnerships council is involved in together with iwi, hapū and kaitiaki, success lies in leveraging the strength of unity and Te Tiriti-based relationships to achieve a shared vision.

Te wai / te moana Water/marine



NRC staff member Nicola Hartwell (front left) with Te Uri Hikihiki – Ngā Wai Tiaki o Tangaroa

Te Hā o Tangaroa Rāhui Tapu (Rākaumangamanga and Mimiwhangata Rāhui Tapu)

Implementing the region's newly established marine protected areas in partnership with local hapū is a great example of Tāiki ē working in practice.

The two rāhui tapu marine protected areas at Mimiwhangata and Rākaumangamanga (Cape Brett) were established in 2023 following concerns of local hapū Te Uri o Hikihiki and Ngāti Kuta about the impact of overfishing on local marine ecosystems.

Since then, council has been working with local hapū Te Uri O Hikihiki ki Whangaruru, Te Whānau Whero ki Whananaki, Ngāti Kuta, and Patu Keha to implement the new no-fishing rules.

Working together has been key to successful implementation of protection measures for these sensitive ecological and culturally significant areas.

Successful implementation is a direct result of the close collaborative partnership between the council and local hapū, including Te Uri O Hikihiki ki Whangaruru, Te Whānau Whero ki Whananaki, Ngāti Kuta, and Patu Keha. This collective effort signifies a commitment by council to support hapū and kaitiaki to work together for future generations.

Te wai / te moana Water/marine



*NRC staff and hapū kaimahi deploying a benthic mat in Omakiwi Cove as part of a trial for suppressing *Caulerpa* in the intertidal areas.*

Caulerpa response continues

A collaborative response to the highly invasive exotic caulerpa seaweed has seen the ongoing and tireless efforts of Ngāti Kuta and Patukeha hapū, who have worked closely with council and MPI since the invasive species was originally discovered in Northland.

Surveillance and community education have been critical throughout 24/25, to monitor for new locations and in urging boaties, fishers, and divers to check their equipment to avoid unintentional spread. Hapū have led much of this work, with support from council and MPI.

Funding was also secured from MPI to initiate trials of suction dredging to remove the seaweed, with a larger prototype currently in development.

The fight against caulerpa is an enormous challenge, but the partnership built between council and hapū throughout this response means we can face this – and future challenges – with strength and unity.

Te wai / te moana Water/marine



Collaborative efforts on water quality monitoring

Meaningful action continues on the ground to improve water quality monitoring across Te Taitokerau, driven by strong partnerships with tāngata whenua.

One example is a collaboration with Ngāti Kuri, who are leading water quality monitoring at six recreational bathing sites across three estuaries and three corresponding beach sites within their rohe.

This initiative aims to develop predictive water quality models for Safeswim (safeswim.org.nz), helping communities make informed decisions about when and where it's safe to swim.

Ngāti Kuri Kaimahi I Te Rohe (Wai) are at the heart of this mahi, carrying out field data collection. Council is supporting the kaupapa by funding laboratory analysis and model development.

Other examples include:

- Staff working closely with Kaitiaki ki Whangaroa, to integrate iwi/hapū monitoring data into council's environmental data portal.
- Through a partnership with Lake Ōmāpere Trust, council provided grant funding to support the purchase of a boat for kaitiaki to complete monitoring and surveys on Lake Ōmāpere.
- Kaitiaki from Ngati Rehia, Patuharakeke and Te Uri O Hau worked alongside council staff to complete 10-yearly estuary monitoring in the Kaipara, Ruakākā and Kerikeri harbours.
- Monitoring advice, funding options and water testing kits were provided to hapū and kaitiaki rōpū across Te Taitokerau via NRC's Environmental Monitoring Officer (Māori Relationships), who also attended over 25 hui during the 2024/25 financial year.

These partnerships reflect the power of working together – where council and tāngata whenua align their strengths to create locally-grounded approaches to water quality monitoring.

Te tairaru āhuarangi Climate crisis



Climate Resilient Communities Fund

Workshops and maara kai that integrate mātauranga Māori, sustainable, low-carbon and para kore practices, and intergenerational knowledge sharing to grow and feed local whānau are just some of the projects that have received funding through council's Climate Resilience Communities Fund.

The fund supports Te Taitokerau communities to build resilience in the face of our changing climate. Aimed at projects that connect communities, build capacity, and initiate action, the fund focuses on five impact areas: Food resilience (Te Kai), Water resilience (Te Wai), Energy resilience (Te Ngao),

Nature-based resilience (Te Taiao), and Planning for Resilience (Ngā mahi whakamahere).

Launched in 2024, the fund immediately connected with the community, with high interest from tāngata whenua. Twenty-two projects received a share in \$600,000 of funding, with the majority going to tāngata whenua groups.

A second funding round, which closed on 3 June 2025, has continued to attract lots of interest, with 75 applications. The fund, which opens annually, will invest \$9.2 million over 10 years, to support and enhance community resilience in Te Taitokerau.

Te tairaru āhuarangi Climate crisis



Partnership at heart of major flood protection project

“This is what genuine partnership looks like,” a hapū member said at the opening of the \$7M Otiria-Moerewa Spillway in August 2024. This award-nominated project is a powerful example of how co-design between Northland Regional Council and Ngāti Hine hapū – Ngāti Kōpaki and Ngāti Te Ara – can lead to transformative outcomes.

Originally met with some reservation, the project evolved over time through deepening relationships, wānanga, co-design and shared decision-making. The result is a community-led, culturally-aligned flood mitigation scheme that blends Mātauranga Māori with modern engineering.

The spillway has reduced flood severity by 75% through “re-wilding” waterways, restored natural flows, and has upheld Te Mana o te Wai – the intrinsic value of water. It has also empowered local hapū and whānau, setting a new precedent for ethical land use and indigenous-led infrastructure.

This initiative is more than flood protection – it’s a living example of what enduring Te Tiriti partnerships can achieve.

Te tairaru āhuarangi Climate crisis



Top – before the flood protection works; bottom – a new stop bank that’s helping to protect Matangirau.

Flood-resilient marae

A small, flood-prone Northland community withstood a major rainfall event for the first time in April, thanks to new flood protection works led by council.

Around 300mm of rain fell on the Matangirau catchment during Ex-Tropical Cyclone Tam, the most rain recorded in the area in a decade and almost twice the rainfall recorded across Northland.

Flood protection measures were installed last year at Matangirau as part of the region-wide \$5.735 million Flood-Resilient Māori Communities and Marae project.

The project (funded by the Local Government Flood Resilience Co-Investment Fund and NRC) aims to reduce flood risks for six flood-affected Māori communities (Kawakawa, Otiria-Moerewa, Kaeo, Matangirau, Whirinaki and Punuruku) and 35 marae across Te Tai Tokerau.

Te tairaru āhuarangi Climate crisis



Hapori heroes – the initial group whose work on the Whānau Oranga Framework and Te Taitokerau Resilience Plan carved the way for Hapori Resilience Action Plan.

Strengthening hapori Māori resilience

In response to community calls for readiness following Cyclone Gabrielle, the Hapori Resilience Action Plan – supported by funding from the Ministry for Social Development – delivered 250 survival bags and 500 whānau booklets across Te Taitokerau.

Designed with kaupapa Māori values and local knowledge, these resources empowered “end of the road” communities with practical tools and values, and ensured they resonated with the communities they served.

Across the rohe, whānau shared insights and experiences that revealed a shift in preparedness and mindset since Cyclone Gabrielle – including stocking emergency supplies, checking on kaumātua, and growing local kai.

This mahi directly aligns with the plan’s pillars: everyday resilience, resilience in emergencies, and climate adaptation. More than just resources, the initiative fostered connection, visibility, and proactive planning, supporting ongoing work of strengthening resilience at both the household and community levels across Te Taitokerau. The Hapori Māori resilience plan was endorsed by Te Ruarangi to support council’s broader strategy Ngā Taumata o te Moana and encompasses the voices of hapori Māori leaders and kaitiaki networks.

Te whanaketanga ohaoha Economic development

Taitokerau economic wellbeing pathway released

The economic wellbeing pathway for Te Taitokerau, 'Te Rerenga', was released in late 2024. Led by Northland Inc – Northland's economic development agency which is jointly-owned by all four Northland local authorities – the strategy was developed with guidance from Te Kahu o Taonui, business and industry, and many others, including Te Ruarangi.

Co-designed through a collaborative process, Te Rerenga sets a vision for a sustainable, innovative, and prosperous economy focusing on the wellbeing of people, the economy, and the environment. Te Rerenga acknowledges the historical and cultural significance of He Whakaputanga and Te Tiriti o Waitangi and stands as a model for future economic development strategies that prioritise holistic wellbeing alongside traditional economic measures.

Recognising its consistency with the desired goals and values of Tāiki ē, it was endorsed by Te Ruarangi.

Te Rerenga will help guide council's economic development activities, including those undertaken by Northland Inc. For example, it was key input in drafting the light-touch regional deal proposal – Igniting Northland's Potential – submitted by the four councils to central government in February 2025.

The conversation around Te Rerenga also marks the beginning of a deeper dive as Te Ruarangi seeks to 'make the waka go faster' in economic terms, recognising that further discussion and potentially dedicated budget is needed to continue progressing actions under the 'economic development' whaingā of Tāiki ē.

Find out more: www.northlandnz.com/tererenga



Te whanaketanga ohaoha Economic development



Empowering jobseekers, restoring te taiao

Te Ohonga o Mahuri is a newly launched five-year restoration project spanning 1200 hectares of whenua Māori near Kaikohe.

Led by Te Korowai Arahi Trust, the kaupapa employs former jobseekers to restore te taiao through pest control, weed management and biodiversity monitoring and is supported by council, Ministry for Social Development and SkyCity Trust.

Working under the guidance of Trust kaimahi, ten former jobseekers are in full-time employment - helping to restore te taiao (the environment) while gaining skills such as chainsaw operation, track and

infrastructure construction and maintenance, pest control, and tikanga Māori.

Council is supporting this kaupapa with funding, pest control and biodiversity monitoring expertise, training, and mapping.

It builds on the success of the recent multi-agency Punakitere Tumaha project, which offered ten local jobseekers the opportunity to enter a six-month river restoration contract to clear pest plants from the banks around the confluence of the Otatau River, Punakitere River and Tāheke River.



Ngā putanga o te mahere mahi

Action plan outcomes

Our vision for the future is only as good as the actions we set in place to achieve it.

Tāiki ē contains 31 actions, and this section covers how council is tracking against each of these actions, recognising that many actions span a longer time period than the one-year focus of this annual report.

Ngā putanga o te mahere mahi Action plan outcomes

Action	Status	Commentary
1 Establish Te Tiriti o Waitangi Health Check and Review Framework by: a. carrying out an independent review of council's obligations and performance against Te Tiriti o Waitangi performance standards utilising the Te Arawhiti Framework in a Taitokerau context; b. identifying and implementing priority areas for improvement based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi Health Check; c. reporting to and seeking views and input of Te Ruarangi and councillors as part of the review; d. reviewing the implementation of the recommendations annually; and e. undertaking a full Te Tiriti o Waitangi Health Check every two years.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Good progress made on identified areas of improvement from 2022 report and relationships largely positive, but still lots of work to be done. Two-yearly Te Tiriti o Waitangi Health Check formally received by council in September 2025, with recommendations for ongoing improvement.
2 Continue developing a Tāiki ē (NRC Te Tiriti o Waitangi Strategy and Implementation Plan) that includes, as a minimum: a. what it means for NRC to uphold its Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations (e.g., what will success look like) and how NRC will live them through decision-making and operations; b. NRC's overarching positions are clearly articulated on important matters such as transfer of powers under the resource management legislation, payment for kaitiaki, recognition of mātauranga Māori and tāngata whenua participation in decision making; and c. incorporate the findings and recommendations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi Health Check.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Revised Tāiki ē adopted April 2024, with additional actions relating to Water/Marine, Climate Crisis and Economic Development whainga and encompassing Te Tiriti o Waitangi Health Check recommendations. Revised Te Ruarangi terms of reference adopted February 2025, regarding meeting frequency and attendance, and a new name, Te Ruarangi.

Action	Status	Commentary
3 Support and increase the uptake of the development of Iwi and Hapū Environmental Management Plan (IHEMP) by: a. allocating existing staff time towards assisting iwi and hapū with b and c below; b. developing a bespoke communication plan for increasing awareness and visibility of existing or future funding and support for IHEMPs, including targeting communications to iwi, hapū and whānau networks (including reaching out to specific iwi and hapū who may need extra support); and c. increasing the amount of funding and staff capacity in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan to respond to the potential increase in shared work programmes.	ON TRACK	Targeted communications and dedicated staff time ensured a successful funding round. There was an increase in applications received from the previous year and the \$30,000 funding pool for 2025/26 has been fully allocated. Additional staff capacity in place to support increase in shared work programmes. www.nrc.govt.nz/ltp2024
4 Support and increase the uptake of Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe agreements and commitments made within them by: a. allocating existing staff time towards assisting iwi and hapū with b, c and d below; b. making it clear that NRC is open to receiving invitations and having discussions regarding entering into a Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe process with iwi and hapū; c. developing a bespoke communication plan for increasing awareness and visibility of existing or future funding and support for Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe, including targeting communications to iwi, hapū and whānau networks (including reaching out to specific iwi and hapū who may need extra support); and d. increasing the amount of funding and staff capacity in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan to respond to the potential increase in shared work programmes.	ON TRACK	In April 2024 Te Parawhau ki Tai on behalf of Te Parawhau hapū signed a Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe agreement with council. In December 2024 Ngāti Hine became the first iwi in Northland to sign a Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe agreement with council. A total of four hapū and iwi have signed agreements in Te Taitokerau. Formal requests have been received by other hapū and these are being considered.
5 Support and increase the number of Māori Resource Management Act Hearing Commissioners by: a. developing and implementing a consistent process and policy for: i. the identification of suitable candidates by tāngata whenua to become certified resource management hearing commissioners; ii. establishing when Māori commissioners will be utilised in council RMA resource consent and plan change decisions and operations; iii. how iwi and hapū will be consulted on the appointment of hearings commissioners within their rohe; and b. provide a dedicated funding stream to support the formal certification of Māori commissioners; c. identifying external funding sources (e.g. central government or territorial authorities) to maximise opportunities for tāngata whenua; and d. identifying cohorts of whānau, hapū and iwi to complete the training to encourage a supportive learning experience.	ON TRACK	There are now 13 newly-accredited RMA commissioners from November 2024 cohort as a result of providing a dedicated funding stream to support formal certification of Māori commissioners. A guideline has been drafted for the identification and appointment of suitable Māori hearings commissioners seeking expert advice from qualified and experienced hapū commissioners.

Action	Status	Commentary
6 Ensure the delivery of targeted educational noho (training programmes) on resource management processes by: a. developing and implementing a programme in particular areas of interest with TTMAC (e.g. Ngā Whaingā o TTMAC Strategic Intent); and b. allocating existing or new staff time towards delivering the programme and providing targeted assistance to whānau, hapū and iwi through council's RMA processes.	ON TRACK	Led through Te Ruarangi representatives, the second Wānanga Waiora held in March 2025 provided a forum for kaitiaki to share mātauranga (knowledge). Additional council kaimahi are providing assistance to whānau, hapū and iwi to navigate council's RMA and consent processes.
7 Taking into account the existing tools and models available, develop and fund a culturally appropriate council environmental monitoring programme that: a. addresses iwi and hapū interests and concerns in the monitoring of the environment; b. includes the incorporation of mātauranga Māori, tikanga Māori and recognition of the role of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki; c. recognises and provides for any cultural monitoring tools endorsed by iwi and hapū; d. is consistently implemented as a component of NRC environmental monitoring and reporting practices and processes; and e. is reviewed and updated every three years for its effectiveness and efficiency.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Work on an independent review of current monitoring approaches initiated to address iwi and hapū concerns. Examples include working with Ngāti Kuri to support monitoring programmes, and engaging Ngā Kaitiaki Ngā Waimāori to undertake fish passage monitoring. Kaitiaki network identified and established through Wānanga Waiora.
8 Taking into account the existing tools and models available, develop and fund a culturally appropriate programme that enables and supports tāngata whenua to undertake their own freshwater monitoring aspirations that: a. addresses iwi and hapū interests and concerns in the monitoring of the environment; b. includes the incorporation of mātauranga Māori, tikanga Māori and recognition of the role of tāngata whenua as kaitiaki; c. recognises and provides for any cultural monitoring tools endorsed by iwi and hapū; d. is consistently recognised and incorporated where appropriate as a component of NRC environmental monitoring and reporting practices and processes; and e. is reviewed and updated every three years for its effectiveness and efficiency.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Tāngata Whenua and Catchment Fund - \$500,000 per year to support freshwater initiatives led by community groups, catchment group entities or tāngata whenua entities. Tāngata Whenua Environmental Monitoring Fund - \$130k per year to support hapū/iwi led monitoring programmes. Increase in council kaimahi to support hapū and iwi initiatives. Work underway to better support kaitiaki network. Support for kaitiaki and hapū sharing at Wānanga Waiora.

Action	Status	Commentary
9 Review, update and embed how NRC delivers its regulatory services to ensure regulatory activities (e.g. resource consents and compliance monitoring) are undertaken in a culturally appropriate manner and seek to include iwi and hapū to the greatest extent possible, including by: a. developing an efficient and consistent framework for notifying and involving iwi and hapū with resource consent applications; b. providing suitable opportunities for iwi and hapū to provide feedback within statutory timeframes; c. taking into account the following: i. The legislative constraints of the RMA; ii. Where legislative conflicts arise, advocate for change to central government in accordance with Action 12 of this Implementation Plan. d. committing funding to consistently resource iwi and hapū for undertaking this work.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action A review of council's resource consents processes was completed and a 12-month Action Plan was received in March 2025. Work to continue with council's Māori Technical Advisory Group to implement the action plan over the next 12 months. Internal GIS system for identifying interested iwi and hapū groups nearing completion. Ongoing collaboration with FNDC consultants on external public facing GIS viewer to identify consent applications for both councils to facilitate better and more accurate engagement.
10 Advocate to, and where appropriate, actively support, local and regional education providers, businesses and institutions to address existing skills shortages by: a. engaging with tāngata whenua involved in existing projects to identify skills shortages in priority areas for NRC and TTMAC to focus on (e.g., planning, environmental monitoring); b. identifying programmes and opportunities that deliver education programmes in priority areas for NRC and TTMAC; and c. identifying opportunities to develop work programmes that fill skills shortages in priority areas for NRC and TTMAC.	ON TRACK	Making Good Decisions RMA 101 course completed by 30 whānau, iwi and hapū. Webinar support provided for the NZ Planning Institute for Mana Whakahono ā Rohe.
11 Ensure tāngata whenua are consistently resourced to participate in governance, decision-making and operational activities by: a. reviewing different funding models used elsewhere in Aotearoa that could be applied, adapted and enhanced in Te Taitokerau; b. taking into account the findings of (a), develop and implement an agreed methodology and policy regarding consistent resourcing of tāngata whenua.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Council's governance working parties include 50/50 representation of tāngata whenua. Council's committees include independent tāngata whenua members with voting rights. Council's procurement policy factors in equitable fees for technical expertise and operations. Te Ruarangi and Māori Technical Advisory Group include hapū and iwi representation from across Te Taitokerau. Work underway to establish a youth voice mechanism to express voices of young people at governance level.

Action	Status	Commentary
12 Support iwi and hapū in their endeavours to obtain further funding and support through external sources (e.g. central government or territorial authorities). Specific actions could include: a. allocating existing staff time and resources towards assisting iwi and hapū in applying for funding; and / or b. creating a new role and employing someone dedicated to assisting iwi and hapū in applying for funding.	ON TRACK	Council kaimahi resourcing in place to assist iwi and hapū to apply for funding.
13 Undertake joint advocacy to central government on agreed priorities and interests, including on new legislation and initiatives such as the Future of Local Government Reforms, by: a. establishing the agreed priorities areas with TTMAC (e.g. water/ marine, climate crisis and economic development); b. developing and implementing an agreed process with TTMAC to effectively and efficiently respond and advocate on behalf of Te Taitokerau on the agreed priority areas identified in (a).	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Updated Tāiki Ē adopted April 2024 to include Water/Marine, Climate Crisis and Economic Development whainga. Advocacy for the interests of our Te Tiriti partners across council submissions including the future of Māori seats, Fast Track processes, Te Tiriti principles, regulatory standards and MACA changes. Commenced development of a clear process to ensure alignment with hapū and iwi priorities.
14 Collaborate with, and advocate to other territorial authorities (such as Auckland Council and Whangārei, Kaipara and Far North district councils) where there are cross-boundary overlaps and duplication for iwi and hapū to improve and streamline engagement processes and resourcing where possible. Note: For example, Kaipara Moana Remediation	ON TRACK	External funding sources identified, in collaboration with FNDC. Climate Resilience Wānanga held in May 2025 by Te Taitokerau councils. Relationships established with senior kaimahi Māori across regional and territorial authorities to collaborate and advocate for the work being done in this area. NRC, FNDC and iwi technical representatives continue to collaborate to support Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Board and the implementation of the beach management plan. Strategic priorities established for the ILGACE partnership.
15 Identify opportunities within legislation for tāngata whenua members of TTMAC to: a. join or participate in other council governance structures; and b. where appropriate, have formal voting rights on sub-committees.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Independent tāngata whenua advisors appointed to council's Audit Risk & Finance committee. Te Ruarangi members represented in council's Long Term Plan deliberations.

Action	Status	Commentary
16 Deliver specific projects within agreed priority areas of interest (e.g. water/marine, climate crisis, economic development) to tāngata whenua and NRC by: - undertaking a stocktake of existing projects and work programmes being progressed with the agreed priority areas of interest; - establishing and implementing a joint TTMAC and NRC work programme that identifies new opportunities for joint projects; and - seeking resourcing through the 2024 – 2034 Long Term Planning cycle.	ON TRACK	Working on a series of collaborative projects with iwi and hapū, including initiatives such as rāhui moana, caulerpa management, marae preparedness, and flood mitigation.
17 Develop and embed a cultural awareness and competency framework for councillors, staff and relevant consultants and contractors that includes, at a minimum: - creating an induction process that explains the cultural context of Te Taitokerau, recognising that each hapū have their own tikanga; - presents the importance of Te Tiriti o Waitangi / and He Whakaputanga / The Declaration of Independence to NRC in all activities; and - provides an understanding of and empathy for tikanga Māori (e.g., mauri, kaitiakitanga and mātauranga).	ON TRACK	Managers wānanga was held in May 2025 at Ngaio tonga marae focussing on Te Tiriti o Waitangi frameworks. Councillors' wānanga was held at Kawiti Marae to focus on Te Tiriti competencies with experts presenting on the benefits and opportunities of the Māori economy. All staff undertake an induction that includes basic te reo Māori and tikanga to support their roles. Development of a Māori Employment Framework underway to ensure responsive and inclusive employment processes.
18 Invest in building tāngata whenua capacity and capability, by: - reviewing council's existing scholarship/internship programme to ensure that it supports the following outcomes: - tāngata whenua undertaking their role as kaitiaki; or - Increasing tāngata whenua participation in jobs that are directly relevant to council's activities; or - Includes governance training, such as associateships. - maintaining and increasing where appropriate in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, scholarship/internship programmes for tāngata whenua who whakapapa to Te Taitokerau iwi/hapū.	ACHIEVED	Successful implementation of this priority has resulted in scholarship recipients moving into paid employment in their fields. There were 58 applicants for the Tū i te Ora 2025 scholarship. The scholarship also includes the opportunity to gain work experience in different parts of the organisation.
19 Develop an engagement policy and framework that formalises engagement procedures with iwi and hapū on Annual Plan, Long Term Plans, Regional Planning, and Regional Policy Statements.	ON TRACK	Work towards formalising the successful involvement of iwi and hapū in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan and 2025/26 Annual Plan has begun. Recommendations from the Stage 2 Te Tiriti Health Check to inform the development.

Action	Status	Commentary
20 Develop and maintain a digital tāngata whenua contacts database that spatially identifies indicative iwi and hapū rohe boundaries that can be utilised to guide engagement processes (e.g. resource consents), that: a. takes into account overlapping iwi and hapū boundaries; b. recognises the sensitivity and accuracy of information; and c. uses the best available information (e.g., within IHEMPS); and mātauranga).	ON TRACK	Ongoing as part of the resource consents review action plan – see Action 9.
21 Investigate and identify opportunities for the transfer or delegation of decision-making powers or operations (e.g., pursuant to section 33 of the Resource Management Act 1991) in areas of interest/concern to iwi and hapū, by: a. identifying actions needed by NRC to implement the transfer or delegation and how these will be implemented; and b. providing assistance (e.g. staff assistance or funding support to engage an independent facilitator) to the iwi or hapū that are seeking the transfer or delegation.	ON TRACK	Development of council position regarding transfer of powers is being impacted by central government overhaul of RMA currently underway.
22 Ensure the successful ongoing implementation of Māori constituencies by: a. promoting and raising awareness of Māori seats and encouraging Māori to stand for local government; and b. engaging with iwi and hapū to undertake a review of Māori constituencies within the first triennium following implementation to measure success and the representativeness of the constituencies.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Council made a submission to central government opposing changes to the Local Electoral Act which would require a referendum on Māori constituencies. Council required to run a poll on the future of Māori constituency seats alongside the 2025 triennial council elections.
23 Providing ongoing support to ensure an equitable and culturally safe working environment for councillors.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action First formal council meeting held September 2024 at Mokau marae. Two marae-based workshops held and hosted by Te Ruarangi at Motatau Marae (Ngāti Hine) and Tākou Bay (Ngāti Rehia). Translation of te reo Māori for council by qualified translator. Use of karakia and reo practiced at every council meeting. Councillors' wānanga was held at Kawiti Marae to focus on Te Tiriti competencies.
24 Review council procurement policies and processes to ensure fair and equal opportunities for tāngata whenua consultants and contractors to obtain council contracts.	ON TRACK	NRC has registered with Amotai (a supplier diversity intermediary) to connect to more Māori and/or Pasifika owned businesses who service Te Taitokerau. A review is in progress of the Māori Expertise Procurement Policy.

Action	Status	Commentary
25 Identify opportunities in council activities for tāngata whenua consultants and contractors to apply for council contracts.	ON TRACK	See also Action 24. Progressive procurement to be explored and benefits for tāngata whenua and council under the economic whaingā.
26 During each review of the Annual Plan or Long Term Plan, consider and implement appropriate financial and other support for specific actions outlined in this Implementation Plan.	ACHIEVED	Priority 1 action Long Term Plan 2024–34 process complete and significant effort and resource allocated to the implementation of Tāiki ē. Additional kaimahi and budgets are now starting to positively influence the pace and scale of council's ability to implement the actions contained within Tāiki ē.
27 Continue to support the active involvement of tāngata whenua in the Freshwater Planning Instrument for Te Taitokerau under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management by: a. acknowledging the special relationship tāngata whenua have with wai, and te mana me te mauri o te wai; b. ensuring that NRC exercise its role and functions to give effect to this special relationship; and c. giving effect to the recommendations in Ngā Roimata o Ngā Atua Report.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Incorporation of Ngā Roimata o Ngā Atua Report into the draft Freshwater Plan. Ongoing advice and technical expertise of Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group to address challenges faced as a result of central government changes to the National Freshwater Policy Statement on Freshwater and the Freshwater Farm Plans.
28 Support tāngata whenua to address the effects of the climate crisis and strengthen the resilience of their communities to natural hazard events by: a. identifying opportunities for tāngata whenua led approaches to: i. mitigating the adverse effects of the climate crisis; ii. immediately respond to adverse weather events and natural hazards within their rohe; and iii. recover from adverse weather events and natural hazards within their rohe; and b. implementing priority actions in Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan (www.nrc.govt.nz/CC-implementation-plan) and Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (www.ttcn.nz/resources/ttcas/); c. supporting advocacy associated with the Taitokerau Resilience Action Plan (www.nrc.govt.nz/ResilienceActionPlan); and d. providing resources and mandate for local Māori leaders to support community safety and wellbeing before, during and after natural hazard events.	ON TRACK	Priority 1 action Kaupapa Māori resilience plan is being implemented to support rural and isolated communities through staff relationships with communities and provision of resources such as Whanau and Whenua Activation Plans. Response and recovery programme includes work to fund and support 35 flood resilient marae (plus CDEM group plan marae preparation). Funding through the Climate Resilient Communities Fund to support hapū planning in response to climate adaptation strategies.

Action	Status	Commentary
29 Ensure strong tāngata whenua self-reliance and self-determination through sustainable economic development by: a. supporting tāngata whenua to develop and implement their own economic development plans; and b. co-designing regional plans for economic development in Te Taitokerau (e.g. Te Taitokerau Economic Action Plan, and Te Rerenga) and ensuring that these include clear, measurable and achievable actions.	ON TRACK	A Te Ruarangi workshop held to explore future principles and opportunities to partner with tāngata whenua to guide and support council in responding to iwi and hapū economic wellbeing. Iwi and hapū representatives reiterated the Te Rerenga Strategy encapsulates iwi and hapū aspirations. Further discussions with Northland Inc and potentially additional budget may be required to fully implement this action. Discussions underway regarding a Māori economic development wānanga (similar to Wānanga Waioira).
30 Support tāngata whenua aspirations associated with marine environmental protection and economic development opportunities by: a. Identifying opportunities for tāngata whenua-led approaches (e.g. customary practices such as rāhui) within Taitokerau to: i. Identify and implement marine protected areas; ii. Undertake restoration and enhancement programmes within the coastal marine areas; iii. Review and implement marine biosecurity policies and measures; and iv. Progressing with culturally and ecologically appropriate economic development opportunities within the coastal marine area (e.g. aquaculture activities).	ON TRACK	Several reports have been presented to Te Ruarangi and interest has been received from iwi and hapū representatives to progress this action. Current budget and staff capacity is focused on implementation of the new marine protected areas. The outcome of the current RM reform package needs to be known before progressing this action further.
31 Develop, monitor and report on a key performance indicator framework to assess NRC delivery of outcomes for tāngata whenua against Ngā Whaingā within the Strategic Intent.	ON TRACK	Annual report developed to monitor and report on key performance indicators within Tāiki ē.



About the unaunahi design which appears throughout this document

Te unanunahi I whakapiripiri ki te Ikanui ā Maui

The scales that cling to the Great Fish of Maui

Te Unaunahi is a whakairo (carving) design originated from the descendants of Manaia and shared widely throughout Tai Tokerau.

This Tai Tokerau whakarei (surface pattern) represents fish scales, and also symbolises safety and protection. The extended name of the unaunahi design (above) refers to the deeper mātauranga carried in the symbol. The unaunahi is represented by four scales that each represent an aspect of the physical world.

Te Unaunahi Tuatahi refers to the minerals and substances which make up the earth and sky.

Te Unaunahi Tuarua refers to the flora which cloak the earth.

Te Unaunahi Tuatoru refers to the animal world.

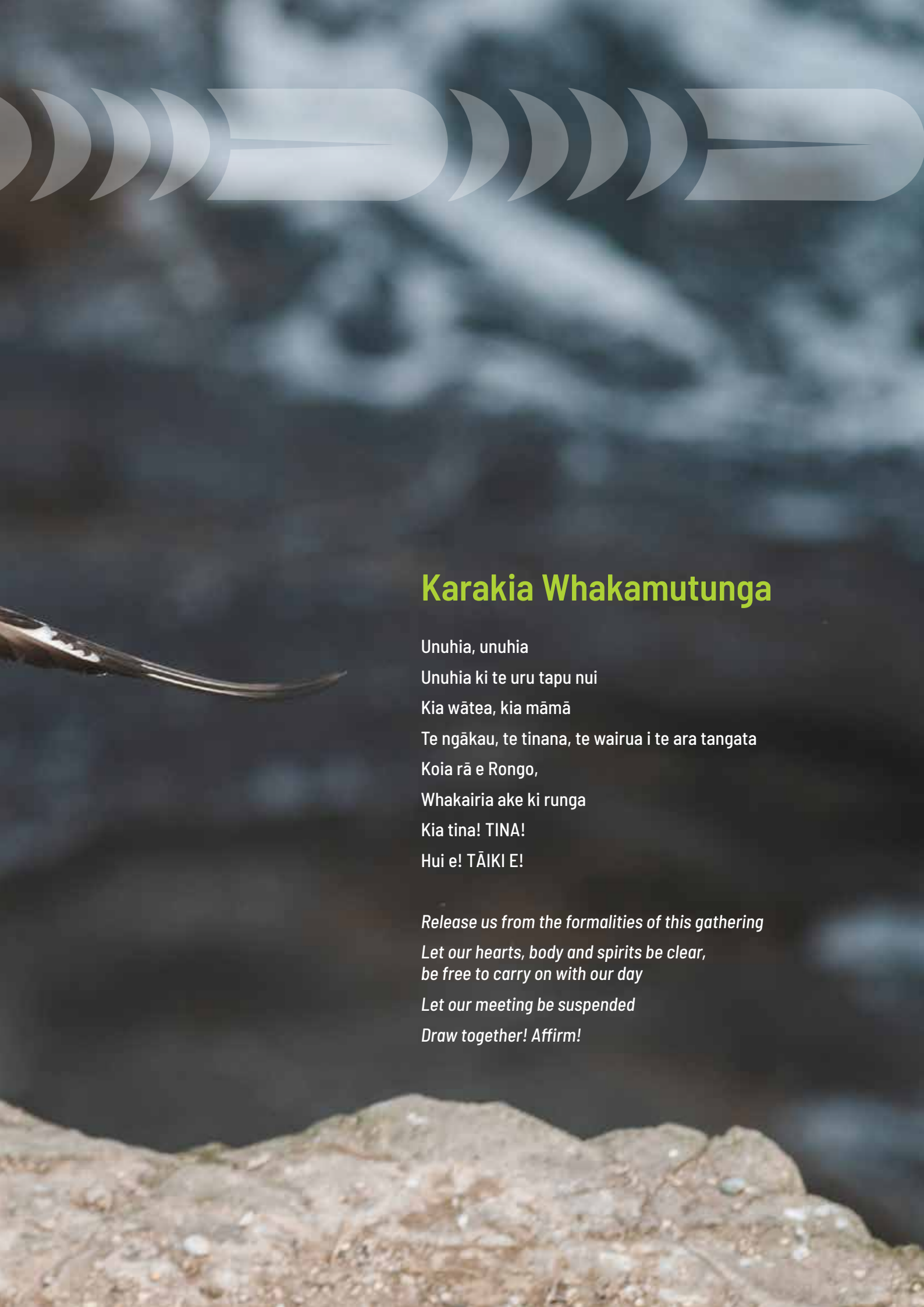
Te Unaunahi Tuawha refers to the human elements.

The fifth line of the unaunahi pattern represents the aho tapu connecting the physical world and humanity to a higher spiritual energy. Te aho tapu as it appears in the unaunahi is an element that threads through each aspect of the physical world, but is visually connected to the scale representing humanity. Humanity is depicted by the fourth scale to remind us we are teina to all of the physical world. The aho tapu is connected to humanity to remind us of our responsibility to protect our environments.

This pūrākau is shared with the approval of Tohunga Whakairo Te Warihi Hetaraka.







Karakia Whakamutunga

Unuhia, unuhia

Unuhia ki te uru tapu nui

Kia wātea, kia māmā

Te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua i te ara tangata

Koia rā e Rongo,

Whakairia ake ki runga

Kia tina! TINA!

Hui e! TĀIKI E!

Release us from the formalities of this gathering

*Let our hearts, body and spirits be clear,
be free to carry on with our day*

Let our meeting be suspended

Draw together! Affirm!



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