

Report to: Wellington Regional Council  
From: Councillors Margaret Shields and Ian Buchanan

## **Ara Tahi Meeting – 17 April 2002**

### **1. Purpose**

To report to Council the proceedings at the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 17 April 2002.

### **2. Background & Comment**

Oral reports were provided on the following Iwi projects, as a supplement to the summary information provided in **Report 02.200**.

#### **2.1 Wellington Tenths Trust – Inventory of Maori Heritage Sites and Values**

It was reported that work was progressing. The initial phase of the project involves preliminary research and training associated with the use of GIS. The research phase of the project will also need to tap into the resources of a wide range of public bodies including, the Wellington Regional Council, the Department of Work and Income, Te Puni Kokiri and the Wellington, Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt City Councils.

As understanding of the project develops the complexity, extensiveness and expense of the task ahead is being realised. There is also potential for all information relating to the Trust's Waitangi Tribunal Claim (Wai 145) to be scanned into the GIS system. This would provide a vast resource of information. This project will therefore significantly improve the Trust's ability to interact with local councils in a more comprehensive and robust manner (e.g. when dealing with resource consents).

The Tenths Trust has employed two full-time researchers to source information and records to be added to the GIS system. The GIS training for two people has so far cost \$1,500 each (for a two day course) and the purchase of capital equipment \$18,000.

## **2.2 Ngati Raukawa ki te Tonga – Tikanga Maori Report on the Otaki River and its Catchment**

It was reported that this project was similar to that being undertaken by the Wellington Tenth Trust. The first stage of the project is focussing on the Otaki River, identifying old land titles to identify kainga and to compile a map of waahi tapu. The second phase of the project is likely to involve the engagement of consultants to assist with inputting data onto a GIS database system.

It was agreed that the technical workshop scheduled for 15 May would be an appropriate time for a GIS workshop, dependent on the availability of WRC officers.

## **2.3 Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika a Maui – Te Ati Awa Iwi Environmental Management Plan**

It was reported that progress was being made in the development of an Iwi Environmental Management Plan (IMP). The aim of the project is to protect and enhance the resources within the rohe. Studies of customary fishing have commenced with an investigation into the tuna (eel) fishery. This has particular relevance at present as the Ministry of Fisheries plan to introduce a quota system for this fishery. It was also noted that the project was only four months into the planned three-year process of development.

## **2.4 Rangitaane o Wairarapa**

It was reported that the Taueru Urupa Committee will be erecting a covered gateway. Councillors will be invited to attend the re-dedication ceremony.

It was reported that in May a new project will commence to compile information on waahi tapu sites. Rangataane and the WRC will develop the appropriate protocols for data sharing.

## **2.5 Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa – Homewood Wetland Project**

The project aims to preserve the last significant stand of Kahikatea on the East Coast. The intention is to ensure that the Homewood wetland retains the necessary water to keep the Kahikatea alive. A tree nursery is being developed together with the Department of Conservation and the WRC in order to grow native plants and make these available to farmers in the area. The work to fence off the Marae is nearing completion and a photographic record of progress will be produced.

## **3. Parks and Forests Management Plan Reviews**

A draft of the Parks and Forests Management Plan will be sent to Iwi by 7 June 2002. The usual contract between WRC and Iwi for the supply of comments will apply. Feedback from Iwi will be incorporated into the report back to Landcare Committee on 9 July 2002.

## **4. General Business**

Wayne Hastie reported that the Iwi Budget had almost been used with a number of

outstanding projects and requests amounting to \$55,000.

**5. Recommendation**

*That the report be received and the contents noted*

IAN BUCHANAN  
Chairman, Environment