



**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**30 MARCH 2000  
AT 9.15AM**

**PART B - REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

**6. TE RUNANGA O NGAI TAHU FRESHWATER POLICY**

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Corporate Plan Output: Environment Conservation Open Space Policy	

This document has been prepared by Ngai Tahu and states that it is considered to have the status of an iwi management plan. Section 74 (2) (b) of the Resource Management Act requires that, when preparing or changing a district plan, the Council shall have regard to relevant planning documents recognised by an iwi authority.

The document outlines in general terms:

- Ngai Tahu's association with freshwater resources;
- the ways in which Ngai Tahu want to participate in freshwater management; and
- the environmental outcomes they seek.

The main principles which Ngai Tahu believe should govern water policies and plans include the unique role which water plays in their traditional economy and culture. The document recognises water as a taonga and states that the complexity and interdependency of the hydrological system should be considered when developing policy and managing the resource. It also recognises water is a commodity which is subject to competition and states that changes are necessary in the management of the resource to provide for cultural and ecological values as priorities. The need to pass on healthy water to future generations is reinforced and it is stated that "Water should be managed at the local level because most threats to waterbodies are local." The delegation of management to organisations with a personal stake in the overall health and condition of the resources is supported.

Integrated management and co-ordination of all resource management agencies and the use of catchment management planning are also strongly supported. The document goes into some depth to explain the values Ngai Tahu associate with freshwater and the mauri of waterways.

Four objectives are set, with supporting policies, and these are supported with proposed performance indicators as a means of monitoring the implementation of the Policy Statement. The four objectives are:

- To afford total protection to waters that are of particular spiritual significance to Ngai Tahu;
- Restore, maintain and protect the mauri of freshwater resources;

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- To maintain vital, healthy mahinga kai populations and habitats capable of sustaining harvesting activity; and
- To promote collaborative management initiatives that enable the active participation of Ngai Tahu in freshwater management.

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.

**Chairman's  
Recommendation:** For information.