



# Meeting of Owners

17<sup>th</sup> October 2009

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### **TRUST STRUCTURE & YOUR TRUSTEES**

#### LAND OWNER'S & BENEFICIARIES

CHAIRMAN Isaac Hunter



TRUSTEE Richard Steedman

TRUSTEE Mark Mako

TRUSTEE Winipere Mauger

CO-OPTED TRUSTEE Jenny Mauger

TRUSTEE Peter Steedman

TRUSTEE Tama Wipaki

CO-OPTED TRUSTEE Maria Taiuru

TRUST ADMINISTRATOR Soraya Peke-Mason JP



Back row : Peter Steedman, Richard Steedman, Tama Wipaki. Front row: Maria Taiuru, Winipere Mauger, Mary Mako, Jenny Mauger.

## **VISION STATEMENTS**

**Purpose Statement** 

"To administer the land on behalf of it's Owners as responsible Trustees."

**Mission Statement** 

"To protect & conserve on behalf of the Owners, the taonga tuku iho."

**Value Statement** 

"Uphold Tikanga & Whanaungatanga with trust and integrity, demonstrated by the conservation of the environmental values."

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

"He honore he kororia ki te atua i runga rawa He maungarongo ki runga te mata o te whenua He whakaaro pai ki nga tangata katoa".

E nga mana ki nga reo ki nga karanga hapu ki waenganui ia koutou tena koutou kia tatu mai nei ki tenei o tatou Hui. Tena ra koutou i kawe mai te pouritanga me te mamaetanga ki nga mate kua mene atu ki te po. He parekawakawa he hupe, he roimata ki te kanohi, kia turia te marae atea no reira haere e oti atu.

Maaku e mihi atu i runga i te kaupapa o tatou whenua ko Aorangi raua ko Awarua ranei. Anei ra te ripoata mo koutou nei,

Greetings everyone and a belated welcome to those who have travelled a long way to be at this Hui.

During the past 2 years sadly we lost two of our colleagues, Kingi Carroll and Rangipo Metekingi who passed away while in office as your Trustees. I wish to acknowledge them both for the contributions they made to the Trust for their experience will be missed. Nga mihi hoki e te tokorua, takoto ake ra te piringa a nga tupuna matua. Ma nga ariki hei manaaki hoki korua i nga wa katoa.

Later we will be calling for nominations from the owners to replace Kingi and Rangipo.

There were some major achievements made by your Trustees over the past three years and I want to highlight some of these. This will be expanded on later in the meeting by the trustees themselves.

Te Potae O Awarua is a joint partnership project between DOC and the Trust. In the past 3 years the project has focussed on endangered species, restoration of native snails, plants, trees and birds. The most recent project involves re-establishing the population of the North Island brown kiwi in the area, with the assistance of DOC the first step was to find out how many Kiwi were there. Initially three chicks were taken out of the Ruahine while they were still in egg and were hatched elsewhere and not released into the wild until they are big enough to fight off predators. Crucial to the Kiwi restoration is the eradication of stoats. Stoat trapping and bait laying will continue to become an on going activity.

Your Trustees gained first hand experience of this in February 2008 when they spent the weekend on the block.

Possum numbers have been the lowest for some time and our appreciation must go to the possum contractors who have made a significant contribution in reducing the numbers.

A comment made by one of our trustees at a meeting when he said he had never seen such an abundance of bird life on the block in all his years. This comment would have to be a reflection of the success of Te Potae O Awarua and our association with DOC

Hunting on the block is now being strictly controlled by a permit system operated by the trust. We are making it difficult for poaches and unauthorised hunters to enter trust lands.

Trust Investments are continuing to be managed prudently despite the downturn in the world financial market. Some belt tightening on our behalf was required that has resulted in a reduced number of trust meetings being held to save costs.

The Trust has made a loan of \$100,000 to the Mokai Patea Claims Committee to assist in the preparation of its treaty claims. The loan will have benefits to the owners and the greater lwi of Mokai Patea. The repayment of the loan will come from the settlement of the claims.

Last but not least I want to acknowledge and thank my fellow trustees who have committed their time and energy to ensure the best interest of the owners remain at the forefront in our trust business. Thanks also to Jenny Mauger and Maria Taiuru our two co-opted trustees who volunteered their time to help the Trust out.

To young Chrystal Wipaki and Hannah Rainforth we acknowledge and thank you for the good work as uri whenua, conservation scientists and our future generation.

Isaac Hunter Hemana.



Next generation Scientists, Chrystal & Hannah analysing rare plant species at Makirikiri tarns.

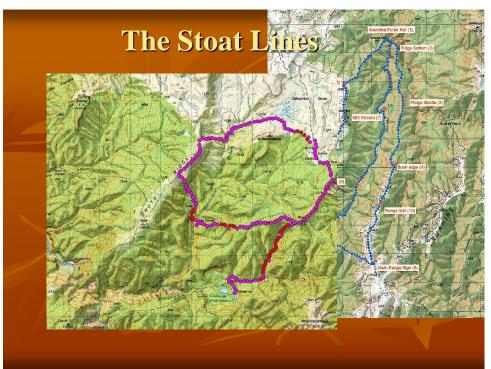
### LAND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

#### PREDATOR CONTROL WORK – Tama Wipaki

During the last five years this Trust has been actively involved in the possum control work with a strategic system of bait stations (three thousand stations) and a huge tracking system covering (2500 hectare area) into every corner of the block.

The planning by this Trust and the hard work and long hours by the Contractor each year has paid off with monitoring lines achieving excellent results and because we have developed a sound program to convince Animal Health Board and Horizon Regional Council they supported our efforts with funding hundreds of thousands of dollars to keep the project going. I am pleased to say that our ngahere has never been healthier with trees bearing lots of fruit and a definite increase in the bird life.

Today we now have a new challenge called **Te Potae o Awarua** pest control project operated jointly by this Trust and Department of Conservation in the North West Ruahine. This is designed to eradicate stoats, ferrets and rats endangering the native birds such as the Kiwi and blue duck (whio) in the area.



Map depicts layout of Stoat lines, taken from Department of Conservation presentation of Te Potae O Awarua project.

Thanks must go to Lotteries Commission and Horizon Regional Council who have provided funding and support during that time. The project started in

2007 as a research project to study the need for baiting stoat traps. This has gained immense community support from trampers and deerstalkers who volunteer to check the trap lines regularly.

Starting initially with 20 km of trap lines; the project has grown to 60 km covering part of the Trust lands and adjoining Ruahine Range with the goal of protecting the area and to help build kiwi numbers through the Operation Nest Egg programme.

Since the project began, volunteers have removed 92 stoats and 167 rats from the original trap line. Another 90 stoats and 172 rats have been cleared from the newer section already, which is a fantastic result considering you rarely get to see these pests.

The Trust now, has its own program running, where we check 85 traps every month along Ohuitu ridge to protect the native falcon (Karearea) and 30 traps along Ohuitu stream to protect the blue duck (whio).



Picture provided by Department of Conservation, Palmerston North of rare blue duck (whio) sighted on Trust lands.

Our goal is to increase the trap numbers and invite owners and descendants to get involved and experience their whenua. At the moment we have a leader for each trap line and they will each take a person and fly out by helicopter to work the traps and stay overnight in the huts, before being flown back out the next day. So far the idea is working brilliantly and if owners or descendants are interested, please give your details to the Administrator and we will get back to you.

#### HUNTING & FISHING - Peter Steedman

In 2008 after a lengthy process the Trust made the formal decision to take inhouse the management and control of hunting and fishing rights on the Trust lands.

Between November 2008 and February 2009 the focus was developing plans and processes to set up the commercial hunting programme. This is being managed in conjunction with other existing Trust Projects such as the conservation programmes being run on the lands. The blocks were divided into five hunting areas (see Figure 1 over page) with four huts and one camp site. A monthly day planner graph has been developed to keep track of bookings and ensure parties were not double booked in the same areas.

The first trial of commercial hunting parties went in during March 2009, in time for the Deer Roar season.

Date	Fees	No. of Deer Taken	Client No.
March	\$2,620.00	8	7
April	\$5,345.00	13	11
May	\$40.00	0	
Total:	\$7,445.00	21	19

#### Land use Hunting Permits:

#### Location Deer taken and gender:

Location	Older Stags	Yearlings	Older Hinds	Yearlings
Waiokotore	4	1		
Makirikiri	3	1		
Wipaki Hut	6			
Bivvy (narrows)	2			
Ohuitu	4			
Total :	19	2	0	0

#### Numbers of clients and where located:

	No. Clients
Waiokotore	4
Makirikiri	3
Wipaki Hut	6
Bivvy (narrows)	2
Ohuitu	4
Total:	19

Upto August this year no bookings have been received.

The outcome of the first trial will be used to further develop policies and fine tune the Commercial Hunting operation.

Bookings are now available by contacting Field Officer, Peter Steedman 06 3880851, cell 027 4988 910 or <u>peter.steedman@slingshot.co.nz</u>. Alternatively owners can contact the Trust Administrator.

### **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Reports available to Owner's upon request.

Please contact :

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info@aorangiawarua.maori.nz Ph: 027 2707763 Contact details :

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