

# Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority

## Annual Activity Report for the 2023/24 year



Te Maru  
o Kaituna

### INTRODUCTION

[Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority](#) (TMoK) was established in 2014 as a co-governance entity in accordance with its enabling legislation, the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014 (the Act). The Authority is made up of members drawn from both local government and Te Arawa iwi organisations, as defined in s118 of the Act.

Schedule 5 Clause 10 of the Act states that TMoK: “...must report to the appointing organisations after the end of each financial year.” The report must:

- (a) describe the activities of the Authority for the financial year it covers; and
- (b) explain how the activities relate to the Authority's purpose and functions.

This report is intended to fulfil those requirements in a brief and functional manner for the 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 period, building on the mahi outlined in previous Annual Activity Reports. The Act requires appointing organisations with TMoK membership to review the performance of the Authority not later than one year after the Kaituna River Document is approved for the first time. Appointing organisations may make recommendations to the Authority. Schedule 5 Clause 11 of the Act specifies the scope of such reviews.

[Kaituna, he taonga tuku iho](#) – a treasure handed down (the Kaituna River Document) was approved 22 June 2018 and came into effect on 1 August 2018. [Te Tini a Tuna](#) (the Kaituna Action Plan) was approved in September 2019.

### PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS

TMoK's purpose, as defined in s115 of the Act, is:

- (1) *The purpose of the Authority is the restoration, protection, and enhancement of the environmental, cultural, and spiritual health and well-being of the Kaituna River.*
- (2) *In seeking to achieve its purpose, the Authority may have regard to the social and economic well-being of people and communities.*

TMoK's functions, as defined in s116 of the Act, are:

- (1) *The principal function of the Authority is to achieve its purpose.*
- (2) *In seeking to achieve its purpose, the other functions of the Authority are—*
  - (a) *to prepare and approve the Kaituna River document in accordance with sections 125 and 127:*
  - (b) *to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the Kaituna River document:*
  - (c) *to support the integrated and collaborative management of the river:*
  - (d) *to work with the local authorities and Crown agencies that exercise functions in relation to the Kaituna River—*
    - (i) *to monitor the state of the river environment:*
    - (ii) *to monitor the effectiveness of the management of the river:*
    - (iii) *to engage with iwi in relation to their interests in the river and to consult them on how to manage the river:*

- (e) *to provide advice and recommendations to local authorities—*
    - (i) *relating to projects, action, or research designed to restore, protect, or enhance the health and well-being of the river:*
    - (ii) *on the appointment of commissioners to hear and decide applications for resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 that affect the river:*
  - (f) *to facilitate the participation of iwi in the management of the river:*
  - (g) *to monitor the extent to which the purpose of the Authority is being achieved, including the implementation and effectiveness of the Kaituna River document:*
  - (h) *to gather information, to disseminate information, and to hold meetings:*
  - (i) *to take any other action that the Authority considers is appropriate to achieve its purpose.*
- (3) *The Authority may seek to obtain funds to enable it to perform its functions.*
- (4) *To avoid doubt, except as provided for in subsection (2)(a), the Authority has discretion to determine in any particular circumstances—*
- (a) *whether to perform any function specified in subsection (2); and*
  - (b) *how, and to what extent, any function specified in subsection (2) is performed.*

## HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY ACTIONS

This report outlines key activities fulfilled by Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority during the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

- Four Te Maru o Kaituna hui were held during the financial year on 4 August and 24 November 2023, and 23 February and 3 May 2024. The [agendas and minutes of the meetings are available here](#).
- Te Maru o Kaituna Annual Report 2022/2023 approved and released to TMoK appointing organisations for feedback.
- Adopted TMoK's 2023/24 budget.
- Made significant progress on projects in Te Tini a Tuna, as reported on in the biannual status reports, and through the Project Support contract with Tapuika Iwi Authority
- Contributed to the Maketū Climate Change Adaptation Project \$5,000
- Received and considered papers on:
  - Essential Freshwater Policy Programme (including NPS-FM)
  - at each hui
  - Bi-Annual Action Plan Status Reports about mahi being undertaken in the Kaituna catchment to implement Te Tini a Tuna (which present much more detail on the Authority's work, and are all available here).
  - Kaituna/Waiari River Access Project
  - Changing the Secretariat support funding to be used to fund one of the member organisation's (Tapuika Iwi Authority) to advance the delivery of unfunded or under-funded projects identified in Te Tini a Tuna
  - Bay of Plenty Regional Council Long Term Plan consultation
  - Updates from partners relevant to the Kaituna

- Received presentations from Kaituna kaitiaki including:
  - Local Community Climate Change Adaptation Planning at Maketū
  - Ngā Ahi Kaa Maketū and treaty settlement landscape around the Maketū Estuary
  - Waka Landing Project
  - Kaituna River Re-diversion Project
  - Bluehaven’s plans for urban development at Wairakei South near Bell Rd
  - Bathing Water Quality
  - Makahae Marae project
  - Progress report from Tapuika Iwi Authority on the Project Support contract (Pataka Kai, Kaituna River Symposium, Tangata Whenua Members Forum)
  - Dissertation on Te Maru o Kaituna River co-governance

### THE FOCUS FOR 2024/25

- Progressing and monitoring implementation of Te Tini a Tuna – the Kaituna Action Plan 2019 – 2029.
- Work with Tapuika Iwi Authority to organise and hold a Kaituna River Symposium, re-start the TMOK Tangata Whenua forum, and support the delivery of contracted projects.
- Actively progressing TMoK led Kaituna Action Plan projects:
  - Project 3. Consented takes and discharges project (co-led with councils)
  - Project 9. Pataka kai project
  - Project 10. Kaituna community connection project
  - Project 13. Kaituna cultural and historical heritage project.
- Continue a governance role in the Kaituna freshwater policy work Toi Moana are progressing to implement the NPS-FM, noting that a draft new Regional Natural Resources Plan will be developed during the year, and that this document will have a major bearing on the speed and extent to which TMoK’s vision, objectives and desired outcomes are achieved.
- Work with the Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme Advisory Group and Regional Council staff to maximise the alignment between the scheme’s asset management / operations and TMoK’s objectives, desired outcomes and projects.
- There is land in the Kaituna catchment that is currently or may in future be considered for urban development. This includes the Wairakei South area proposal, for which planning is understood to be at a relatively early stage. The timing for lodgement of any private plan change proposal for the relevant land is not yet known. Council staff will be involved in any private plan change processes, including for Wairakei South. Council will have a particular interest in assessing whether any proposal is able to adequately address flooding / hazard risk both on and from the area (noting the recent updated flood maps presented on 16 August 2024) and ecological and water quality effects in the river and wider catchment. TMOK is also expected to have a significant interest in these matters and to want to be able to input into and influence any such proposals from an early stage. To that end, we recommend a sum of \$20k is budgeted for the upcoming year for independent planning assistance associated with this and any other urban development proposals within the catchment.
- Work with member Councils to ensure continued resourcing of projects in Te Tini a Tuna through Council’s Long Term Planning processes.
- Work with iwi to ensure engagement and where possible alignment of available resources with Te Tini a Tuna.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

As part of its establishment, TMoK was provided a putea of \$250,000 by the Crown to fulfil its purpose and functions, particularly the preparation and approval of the Kaituna River Document.

Schedule 5 Clause 9(3) of the Act states that the Bay of Plenty Regional Council must, on behalf of the Authority,— (a) hold any funds belonging to the Authority; and (b) account for the funds in a separate and identifiable manner; and (c) spend the funds in accordance with any direction given by the Authority.

A summary of financial transactions for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 is included below.

### Statement of Financial Position for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

	Amounts (\$) excl GST	
Opening Balance - 1 July 2022		192,413.59*
Total Expenses:	-10,000.00	
Total income:		10,623.22
Closing Balance – 30 June 2023		193,036.81

\*Note that the 2022/23 Annual Report showed the Authority's closing balance as \$191,318.02, but that record was subsequently updated with one cost transaction journalled to another more appropriate BOPRC project code.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority is grateful to its member organisations for resourcing and support to achieve its vision, objectives, desired outcomes and projects as specified in He Taonga Tuku Iho (the Kaituna River Document) and Te Tini a Tuna (Kaituna River Action Plan). All members have contributed time and many have dedicated financial resources to the kaupapa. Bay of Plenty Regional Council covered the administrative costs for the three meetings held. These contributions have meant that the Authority still has 72% of the \$250,000 granted by central government in 2014 through the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act.

On behalf of Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority

