

THE WORLD OF KAIPARA

INFORMATION REVIEW AND GAP ANALYSIS

Phase One

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



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Te kete kai o Ngāti Whātua, Te Wahapu Moana o Kaipara e
ngūngūru tonu nei, ko ngā ngāru o te moana e pāpaki ana ki
te takutai moana. Koina te mauri o te iwi nei, te aroha hoki
hei wairua mo te rohe nei.

No reira, e Kaipara Moana e horahia atu, e horahia mai,

Ko Pokopoko te taniwha ka mataara

Ko Rangiriri te rakau e ngāu i te ngāru

Ko Hoeroa te Ngāru

Ko Mahūhū ki te Rangi te Waka

Ko Ngāti Whātua te iwi

The World of Kaipara: Kaipara Harbour catchment.



Kaipara Harbour & Catchment

June 2010



Executive Summary

1. This document is an Executive Summary of a much larger report prepared by the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG). The larger document presents the background, history, methodology, and information review for six objectives that underpin the gap analysis and opportunities reached to achieve the vision of a healthy and productive Kaipara Harbour. This Executive Summary is only able to provide a brief overview of these more detailed investigations. Readers seeking the basis for conclusions presented in this Executive Summary are referred to the full report, which is available from the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group.
2. The purpose of the information review and gap analysis is to outline gaps within three knowledge-bases (biogeophysical, Mātauranga Māori (traditional Māori knowledge), socio-economic) which will assist with achieving the vision, guiding principles and long-term objectives of the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Project (IKHMP).
3. The long-term objectives are used to confine the scope of this analysis which have been identified by the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG) as vital to achieving the shared vision of a healthy and productive Kaipara Harbour and are based around the eight key issues affecting the health and productivity of the Kaipara.
4. The eight key issues for the Kaipara Harbour are:
 - Declining fish and shellfish stocks
 - Declining biodiversity
 - Increasing sedimentation and poor water quality
 - Increasing resource use and development pressure
 - Limited socio-economic opportunities
 - Limited opportunities to practice kaitiakitanga
 - Climate change impacts
 - Lack of integrated management and coordination of action
5. Based on these key issues six broadly based objectives have been identified by the IKHMG. They are:
 - Protecting and restoring native biodiversity
 - Restoring sustainable use of fish and invertebrate stocks
 - Protecting and restoring Mauri of the Kaipara
 - Responding to climate change impacts
 - Promoting socio-economic opportunities
 - Integrated and co-management of the Kaipara ecosystems, catchment and Harbour
6. The analysis aims to describe and integrate the information and knowledge that currently exists on the Kaipara and the issues that it faces: including both sources directly relating to the Kaipara; and where relevant, wider New Zealand and international sources which provide content currently missing for the Kaipara.

7. The report is comprehensive and weighty due to the integrated holistic nature of the analysis across the three knowledge-bases. A gap is sometimes spoken of as "*the space between where we are and where we want to be*". This report aims to explicitly identify what needs to be done to close that gap, including targeted research and management initiatives.
8. Key outputs of the Information Review and Gap Analysis are: **(1)** A Summary document **(2)** an Information Review and Gap Analysis report, and **(3)** The Kaipara Atlas: an Integrated Database.
9. Over 1000 references were entered into the reference manager Endnote. This included published reports, books, unpublished reports, peer reviewed papers and journal articles, electronic media (e.g. DVD, CDROM), legal proceedings, and maps.
10. A Geographic Information System (GIS) database (using ESRI ArcInfo) was established to store and organise all spatial information acquired. Associated with this, a Microsoft Excel database was developed to store and organise the associated metadata ("data about data", such as who owns it, how it was collected, attributes).
11. The Kaipara Atlas is composed of three knowledge-bases each containing spatial data, literary references and temporal/occurrence data.
12. This review and gap analysis supports the marine environmental information review for the Kaipara Harbour carried out by Auckland Regional Council and Northland Regional Council.

Gaps & Opportunities

13. The Kaipara Harbour is New Zealand's largest estuarine ecosystem. It is the receiving environment of a massive 640,000ha catchment. The Kaipara contains four broad ecosystems: forest, freshwater, shrublands, and the dunelands and estuarine ecosystem. The Kaipara also contains some of the most rare ecosystems in New Zealand namely sand dune, seagrass and, freshwater and estuarine wetland ecosystems. Evidence exists that the Kaipara Harbour plays a significant fisheries role in the wider west coast north island ecosystem as a nursery ground.
14. Socially and economically, the Kaipara predominantly supports farming, agriculture and fisheries. It is governed by seven government departments: Rodney District Council, Kaipara District Council, Auckland Regional Council, Northland Regional Council, Department of Conservation Northland and Auckland, and Ministry of Fisheries.
15. The iwi of Ngāti Whatua claim a long traditional relationship with the Kaipara Harbour and the many catchments of the rivers that enter the Kaipara. Ngāti Whatua has held mana over both land and water taonga through numerous generations of occupation.
16. Gaps and opportunities were identified in light of the two approaches to management of the Kaipara; one indigenous (kaitiakitanga) and the other derived from western knowledge.

17. A summary of the key gaps and opportunities for each of IKHM project objectives are highlighted below:

Objective	Gaps & Opportunities
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Systematic spatial strategies for conservation and restoration ➤ Robust freshwater ecosystem management ➤ Protected Area network for biodiversity persistence focused across all ecosystems (marine, terrestrial, freshwater, wetlands, and dunelands) ➤ Address sedimentation and eutrophication of aquatic and marine ecosystems
Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local management arrangements ➤ Pro-active spatial management and planning that will benefit local fish populations (or sub-stocks), fisheries habitats and shellfish. ➤ Understanding spatial and temporal extent of land-based stressors and impacts
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vulnerability assessments for Kaipara Harbour communities and ecosystems ➤ Adaptation strategies for Kaipara Harbour communities
Mauri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify sites of significance for the Ngāti Whātua ki Kaipara (hapū) ➤ Develop iwi management plan for Ngāti Whātua ki Kaipara (hapū) ➤ Develop and apply Ngāti Whātua ki Kaipara (hapū) based cultural health index
Socio-economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote tourism opportunities ➤ Refocus from short-term gain to medium and long-term ➤ Develop community environmental partnerships to support local economy and labour (e.g. Centre of Excellence in Land-Sea Restoration Practices)
Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop a Kaipara biodiversity policy statement ➤ Promote integrated catchment management ➤ Promote co-management initiatives



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