



Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua January 2023 Update (1)

Te Puna Wairora o Nukutaurua

Freshwater is a taonga that sustains our place, our taiao and our people.

Over time the quality of our freshwater has been in getting worse. The water in some places is not clean and does not support our living things. The freshwater does not always meet the needs of our people.

People in future generations now depend on us to make changes. Changing this means getting pristine water in our streams and wetlands that support our precious eels and fish, birds, bush and forest. This means improving the places to swim, water we drink, kai from streams and water for farming.

Without better water we wont have a place for our kids to love and be proud of.

Our freshwater project, Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua, is our chance to make this happen.

Whats happening

Over the last few months we have been meeting with people. We have been listening to what water was like, what it is like now and what it should be like in future.

We are starting to get people to think more deeply about this with events like the Whangawehi "Walk the Wai".

This is when we really hear what's important. This mahi will keep going.

We have been looking at all the great mahi that is already happening.

Some of us are doing the boring stuff of measuring how clean the water is and what is happening to the fish.

What we are hearing

There are a lot of discussions. People are telling us what's wrong, like the mud in the streams. They are telling us they want more kai from our streams and less silt in the ocean where they use to collect kai.

They are telling us plants are not growing like they use to and there are to many pests. They are telling us they cant swim in the streams and sometimes at our beach's.

The people are worried about forest pine trees and wilding pines.

Our people want to work together to make change happen fast.

What we will happen in January to February

Te Puna Wairora o Nukutaurua shifts up a gear this year.

We will be getting the ideas opportunities to make change.

We will get people to look at our special streams like Kōpuawhara, Whangawehi, the little streams, wetlands, Maungawhio Estuary, farming lands, where we have homes to tell us what improvement they we want to see.

We will be thinking about the people, knowledge, experts and money to make happen now

Everyone in Mahia can be involved in this.

When will we finish

We want action for Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua to start now. These can be little things.

In March to April we will be bringing all this mahi together to write our plan for the future.

This will guide the action for the next 3 years, the next 10 years and next 100 years. Our report in June the report will tell us what action we plan, new rules and how to do this.

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