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Legislative Statement: Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Bill – First Reading

Overview

Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Bill (the Bill) gives effect to specific cultural redress shared between Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-ā-Rua (Ngāti Kahungunu), Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua (Rangitāne) and provided for in their respective Deeds of Settlement. Enacted legislation is required in order to implement the shared redress.

A brief overview of the provisions of the Bill are detailed below.

Cultural Redress

Cultural redress is intended to recognise the cultural, historical and traditional associations of Ngāti Kahungunu and Rangitāne within their areas of interest. The Bill provides for the implementation of the following cultural redress instruments:

Overlay classification

The Bill provides for an overlay classification over Castlepoint Scenic Reserve listed in Schedule 2. The overlay classification recognises the Ngāti Kahungunu and Rangitāne statements of association with this land, describes the underlying values and principles associated with this land, and identifies actions to protect the land.

Customary fishing

The Bill provides for the making of regulations for management of customary fishing in Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamahanga River catchment.

Vesting of cultural redress properties

The Bill jointly vests the Mataikona property in fee simple in Ngāti Kahungunu and Rangitāne. The Bill also jointly vests the Crown owned parts of the Wairarapa Moana property in fee simple, as tenants in common, in shares of 90% in Ngāti Kahungunu and 10% in Rangitāne, to be administered as the Wairarapa Moana Reserve. The Bill vests the Mākirikiri property in fee simple in the tīpuna, Te Rangiwhakaewa, to be jointly administered as a reserve. These properties are specified in Schedule 3.

Wairarapa Moana framework

The Bill establishes the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board (the Board). The Bill sets out the functions, membership, procedure and committees of the Board in Part 3, Subpart 1. The Bill also sets out the preparation and approval requirements of the Wairarapa Moana document (Part 3, Subpart 2 of the Bill), comprised of a vision and statement of desired outcomes for Wairarapa Moana, a reserve management plan for the Wairarapa Moana

reserves and a natural resources document for Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamahanga River catchment.

Part 3, Subpart 3 of the Bill provides for the Wairarapa Moana reserves and marginal strips (set out in Schedule 1), including:

- the Board's powers as administering body of Wairarapa Moana reserves;
- existing interests and improvements;
- liability of the Crown, Board, trustees and Councils for Wairarapa Moana reserves;
- operational management of Wairarapa Moana reserves and marginal strips; and
- fishing in Wairarapa Moana reserves.