



Report	11.6
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Committee	Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee
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Progress with cultural values assessments

1. Purpose

To update Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee on progress with recognising, assessing and providing for Iwi values and interests in natural resource management within the Wellington Region through the Regional Plan.

2. Background

At its meeting of 24 November 2010, Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee endorsed an approach to assist the mana whenua Iwi Authorities in engaging with Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee in the plan development process.

This approach was described in report 10.589 and specified the following ‘next steps’:

- *“Undertake a review of all existing information, including Waitangi Tribunal reports and other historical information and reports regarding Māori environmental values within each Iwi rohe and provide this to the relevant mana whenua Iwi authorities*
- *Collate and identify priorities identified by Iwi during the recent Natural Resource Plan Workshops*
- *Collate relevant scientific and other council information on natural resources within each Iwi rohe, and work with the relevant Iwi to interpret this information in a way that supports the Iwi understanding of both the state of their environment and the likely cause and effect of any changes*
- *Support Iwi authorities in identifying their expected environmental outcomes and priorities, including engaging with their communities, and also to develop necessary levels of understanding regarding the role of Greater Wellington and the natural resource plan*

- *Work with Iwi to identify where there are common outcomes/objectives shared with other parts of the community; and where there are outcomes and objectives specific to Iwi”.*

This paper gives an update on progress with the first of these steps.

3. Iwi resource database project

The most efficient way to achieve the first of these steps to produce a resource (database) of information held by Greater Wellington that has been received over time. A project has been initiated with the objectives of researching and collating information pertaining to Iwi cultural values that has been previously provided to Greater Wellington, and to design a resource database and enter all of this information.

Sources of this information identified to date include:

- Responses to resource consents
- Submissions to plans
- Cultural impact reports
- Environment Court evidence
- Consultation processes
- Council minutes
- GW publications
- Ara Tahi reports and minutes from meetings and technical workshops
- Iwi project proposals and reports
- Memoranda, agreements and contracts between Greater Wellington and Iwi

The database will also be used to support all Greater Wellington engagement with Iwi, and would not be limited to engagement on the Regional Plan review process. The database will need to be easy to use and access, with links through the Greater Wellington internal intra-net, website and to GIS. Whilst initially the database would be for the benefit of Greater Wellington staff and Iwi, there is potential for it to be used by the public and external agencies in the future. It is anticipated that use of the database would be supported by a staff Iwi engagement guideline.

Clearly any external user would not be bound by the guideline, therefore, before making the database accessible outside of Greater Wellington we would provide Iwi the opportunity to sensor their information. We may have different levels of access for different users.

Although utilisation of this material does not in any way reduce our responsibility to consult, it is expected that increased access to and familiarity with Iwi information will enhance and focus future consultation processes.

4. Communication

Staff will continue to provide regular updates to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee as progress is made on the database project, in particular as we reach stages which require engagement with each of the seven iwi authorities and validation of the data. An initial target for completion of the first stage of the project is May 2011.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

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