



***Background information
for Applicants
December 2023***

Who are we?

KO RANGUIRU TE MAUNGA

KO KAITUNA TE AWA

KO TAPUIKA TE IWI

RANGIURU IS OUR MOUNTAIN

KAITUNA IS OUR SACRED RIVER

TAPUIKA IS THE PEOPLE

Te Takapū o Tapuika extends from Wairakei in the west to Little Waihi in the east and inland to Kaharoa. The land area is approximately 619 square kilometres. Around 8% of this area (4,900 hectares) is retained as Maori Land, only 3% of which remains in Tapuika ownership, and even smaller percentage of which is Iwi owned land.. Within Te Takapū o Tapuika there are 20 rivers. Many of the rivers are significant habitats for fish such as eel, inanga and kokopu. The coastal environment includes Ongatoro/Maketu Estuary, the Maketu Wildlife Management Reserve and Kaituna Sand Spit and Recreation Reserve, all significant habitats for shellfish, fish and birds.

A brief History

The Iwi of Tapuika is the tangata whenua of the Te Puke region and Tapuika refer to this area as Te Takapū-ō-Tapuika (Takapū). This rohe (tribal estate) was named by their ancestor Tia, who claimed the land for his eldest son, Tapuika.

Te Takapū o Tapuika (Tapuika tribal estate) begins with the arrival of Te Arawa waka (canoe) almost 800 years ago. As the waka journeyed down the east coast of the North Island, the tupuna (ancestors) on board the waka began to taumau (claim) certain places for themselves. The taumau or claiming of land by naming different areas after parts of the body made that land sacred and ensured that the taumau (claim) would be respected by others. As the Te Arawa waka traversed the coast, between Motiti Island and the Wairakei Stream, Tia stood to taumau (claim) the area between the range of mountains in the distance to the Papamoa Hills for his son Tapuika.

*“Mai i ngā pae maunga
ki te toropuke e tū kau mai ra
ki te awa e rere mai ana
waiho te whenua
ko te Takapū o taku tamaiti ā Tapuika”*

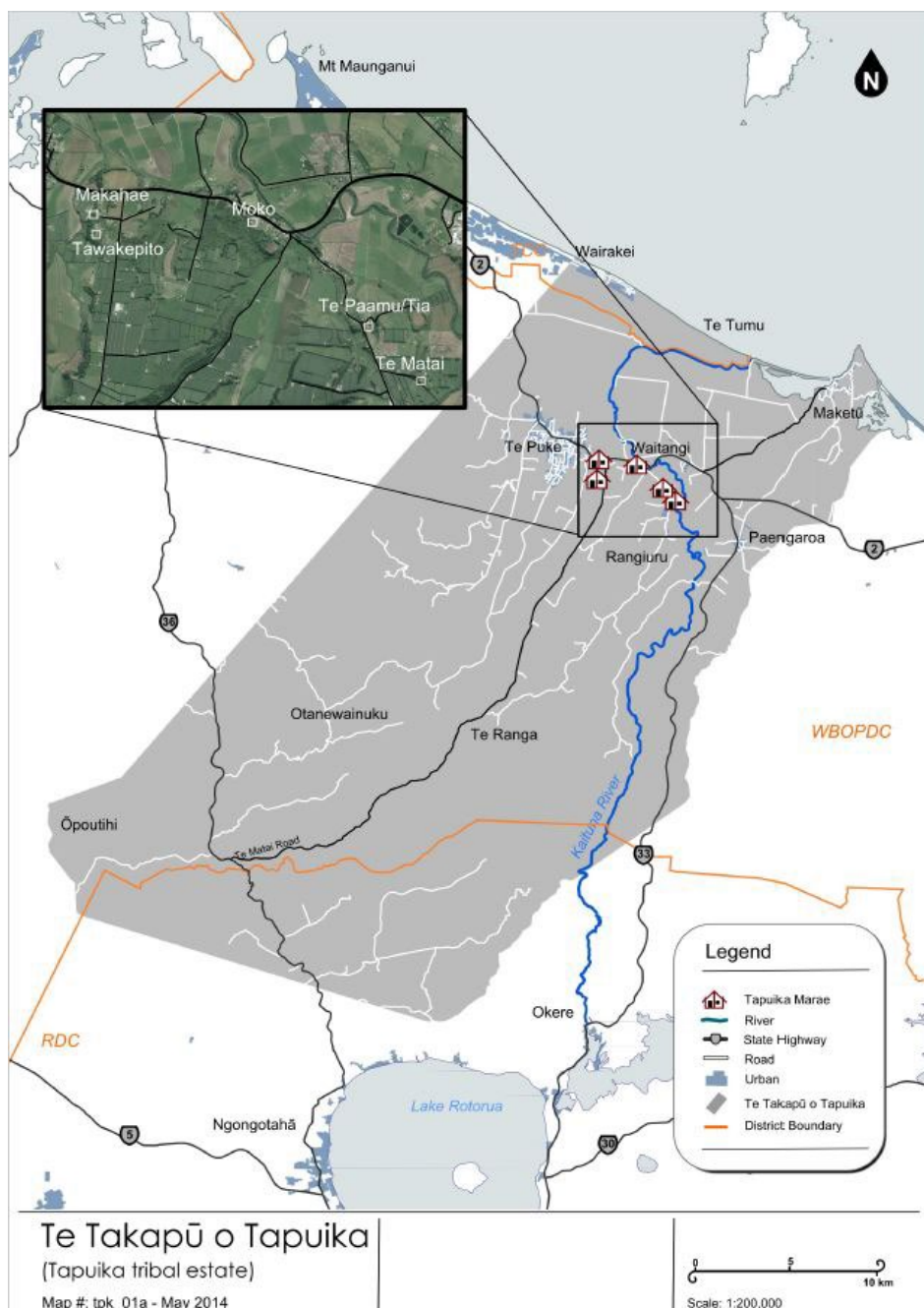
“From that range of mountains in the distance
to the hill that stands before me (Papamoa Hill),
to the river flowing towards me (Wairakei Stream),
I claim this land as the belly of my son, Tapuika”

- Tia

This claim persists today and intrinsically links Tapuika to the land, rivers and ocean here on the Te Arawa coastline.

When the Te Arawa waka made landfall at Maketū, Tapuika and his children settled on the lands radiating inland. Tapuika is buried in the ancient urupā of Koaretaia at the former mouth of the Kaituna at Te Tumu. The children and grandchildren of Tapuika settled on, and secured mana whenua, over Te Takapū o Tapuika, occupying and naming many places. Through chiefly marriages and alliances Tapuika, for the most part, established mutually beneficial relationships with neighbouring iwi.

During the 1830s, Maketū became a hub of early commercial and trading opportunities, leading to a struggle between Tapuika and other Māori over control over the area's coastal resources. These struggles culminated in protracted warfare and the temporary abandonment of the Maketū area, before Tapuika returned to their traditional coastal settlements.



Tapuika Today

The main hapū of Tapuika are Ngāti Tuheke, Ngāti Moko, Ngāti Marukukere and Ngāti Kuri. Our five marae are clustered between Te Puke and Rangiuuru.

According to the 2013 Census, 2,022 people affiliate themselves to Tapuika. There is one Regional Council (Bay of Plenty Regional Council), and 3 Territorial authorities in the Te Takapū O Tapuika (Tauranga City Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council & Rotorua District Council).

In 2014, Tapuika settled all of its historical Treaty claims with the Crown and the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act (2014) was signed at Moko Marae, Waitangi, Te Puke. Following the settlement, the Tapuika Iwi Authority (TIA) was endorsed by the Tapuika people to act as their Post Settlement Governance Entity. Governance of the Trust is through elected representatives comprising two hapū representatives from each of the four hapū. There are also three taurahere representatives from around Aotearoa (Northern, Central /Lower North, Southern).

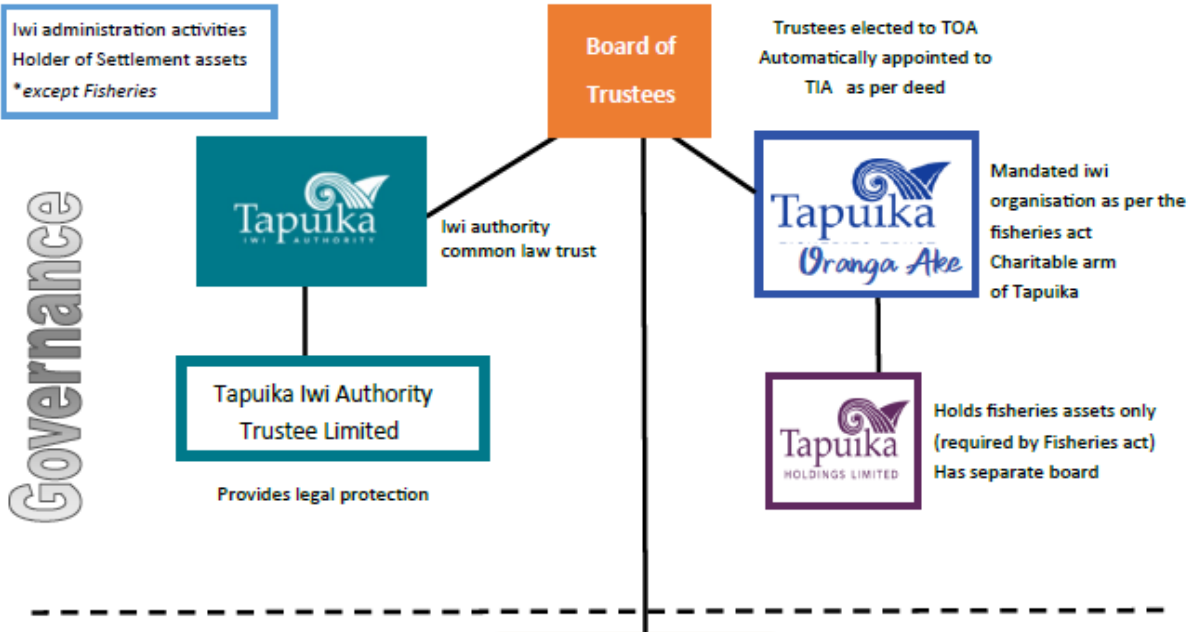
TIA also has a charitable arm called Tapuika Oranga Ake (TOA), which is also our mandated iwi organisation under the fisheries act. This trust is also responsible for undertaking all charitable activities on behalf of the Iwi. It has the same Trustees as TIA. As per the Māori Fisheries Act 2004, TOA cannot manage the assets, so these are actively management by Tapuika Holdings Ltd (THL).

During 2020 shortly after the COVID-19 lockdown, TIA/TOA entered into a brief hiatus due to financial constraints so that the organisation could regroup, reprioritise and ensure financial sustainability into the future. All paid staff left at this time other than the contractor looking after commercial & rental properties.

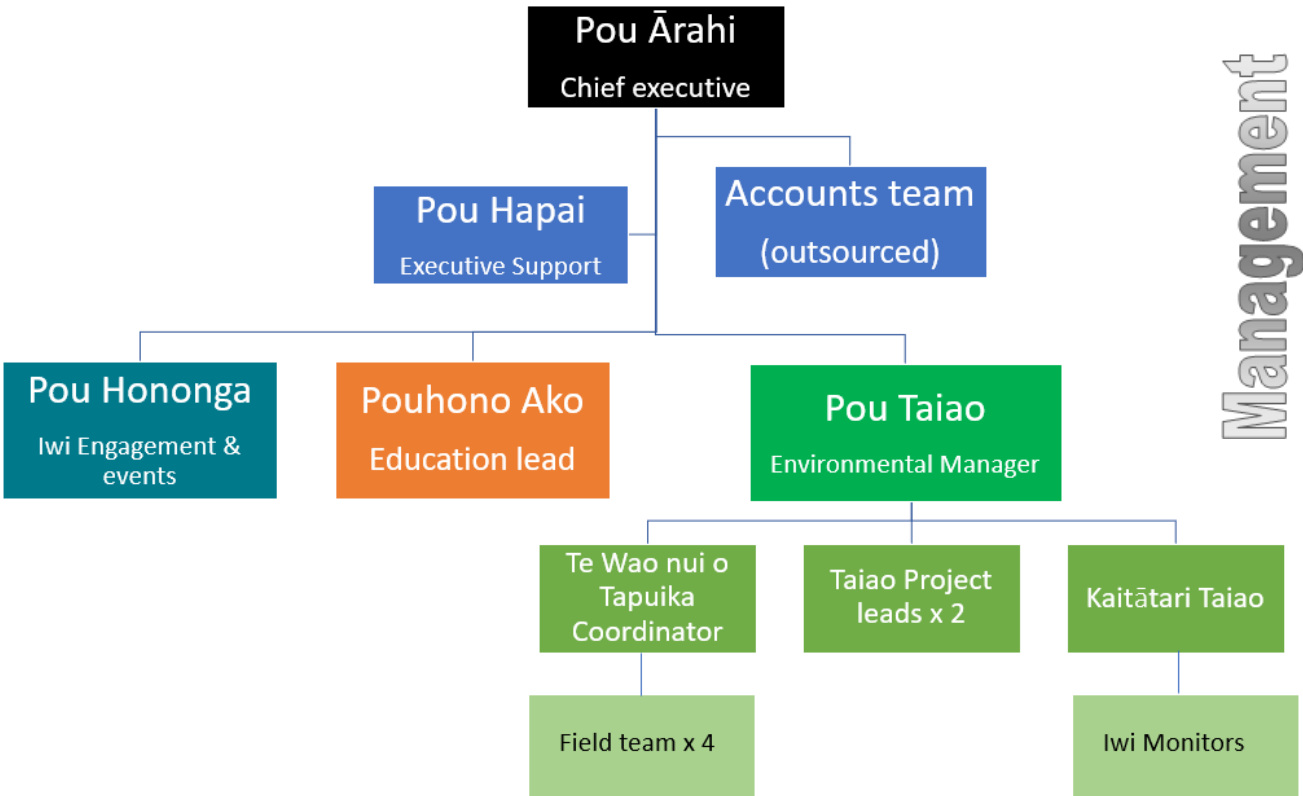
A new Pou Ārahi (Chief Executive) was appointed in September 2021 to lead the re development of the Tapuika Group, and a new team followed shortly after. We currently have approx. 10.5 FTES working mostly in the Taiao, Education, events and general administration spaces. See the organisational chart on the following page



Governance



Management



The role

Pou Hapai (Executive Support Officer)

This role is a critical support role for the Pou Arahi – Chief Executive as well as the wider operations team and is to replace the role of Pou Awhina which had lesser responsibilities and was no longer meeting the needs of the organisation which is in a growth phase. It has both an executive assistant and key financial administration component as well as information and general office management.

See the JD attached for more information Including personal specifications.

How to apply

A suitably experienced candidate is now being sought for this critical role . A market comparable salary will be offered for this position. It is being offered To apply simply fill in an application form, write a covering letter and attach your up-to-date CV

Then submit to: Pouarahi@tapuika.iwi.nz

Applications close at 5pm on Friday 12nd January 2024

Anyone who wishes to have a confidential chat about this position is welcome to ring Andy on 027 230 4888