



# HE WHAKAMŌHOTANGA KŌRERO



—  
Q1 REPORT

1 October – 31 December 2025

# CONTENTS

---

## 3 HE KUPU NĀ TE MĀTĀRAE TAUPUA

---

## 5 TE WHAKATAIRITE KI TE MAHERE-Ā-TAU

- 6 Continued focus on core legislative duties
- 8 Providing expert technical advice
- 14 Advocate on behalf of iwi
- 16 Strengthening kāhui collaboration
- 17 Māori Fisheries Amendment Act (MFAA) transition
- 18 Development and wellbeing of kaimahi and directors
- 19 Visibility, trust and iwi confidence

# HE KUPU NĀ TĒ MĀTĀRĀE TAUPUA

Tēnā koutou e ngā Rangatira,

Welcome to the first of our quarterly reports for the 2025-2026 financial year, reporting our activities against the key priorities and key performance indicators set in this year's annual plan. This report covers activities that took place from 1 October to 31 December 2025.

## **Update on Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 (MFAA) work programme**

Work continues at pace to support iwi and our kāhui entities with the implementation of the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024. Our focus this quarter has been on progressing constitutional and governance changes, supporting iwi with compliance queries, and advancing policies and appointment processes to ensure a smooth transition ahead of the MFAA coming into force in July 2026.

Across February, Te Ohu Kaimoana will be circulating material for iwi to review and consider in relation to proposed future appointment models. An opportunity to discuss this material in an open forum will be provided in March at the Annual Iwi Wānanga.

Brianna Boxall  
Interim Chief Executive  
Te Ohu Kaimoana



## Iwi Wānanga and Hui-ā-Tau | Annual General Meeting – 18 & 19 March 2026

We look forward to welcoming iwi representatives to our Annual Iwi Wānanga on Wednesday 18 March and the Te Ohu Kai Moana Trustee Limited and Aotearoa Fisheries Limited Hui-ā-Tau | Annual General Meeting on Thursday 19 March 2026 at the Novotel Auckland Airport.

The two days provide an opportunity to reflect on performance, consider key resolutions, receive updates from across Te Kāhui o Te Ohu Kai Moana and workshop challenges and opportunities on our horizon. You are able to register for the Annual Iwi Wānanga [here](#), and our Annual General Meeting [here](#).

## Global Fisheries Scholarship – Japan

In December, representatives of Te Ohu Kaimoana travelled to Tokyo in Japan to attend the graduation of Adair Houia-Ashwell as part of the Global Fisheries Scholarship Programme.

Adair is the first lawyer to receive the scholarship in its 24-year history and completed a tailored six-month programme with Nissui Corporation and key fisheries institutions in Japan. Her achievement reflects the ongoing strength of the partnership with Nissui and our shared commitment to developing Māori capability and leadership within the global seafood sector.

Ngā manaakitanga,



**Brianna Boxall**

Te Mātārae Taupua | Interim Chief Executive

# TE WHAKATARITE KI TE MAHERE-Ā-TAU

2025/26



This report provides commentary on progress against the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and objectives set in the annual plan of Te Ohu Kaimoana from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.

These KPIs and objectives directly support the delivery of the four strategic pou established in our five-year strategy.

## Continued focus on core legislative duties

### KEY PRIORITY 01

Te Ohu Kaimoana will continue to focus on delivering its core legislative duties and functions as the trustee of the fisheries and aquaculture settlements, to support iwi and to assist the Crown to discharge its settlement obligations under the settlements.

By 30 September 2026, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

KPIs	Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025
<b>1.</b> Undertake October 2025 and April 2026 Annual Catch Entitlement allocations to iwi and funds on trust	As required under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004, we continue to discharge our duties and have completed the October 2025 Annual Catch Entitlement round.
<b>2.</b> Complete the distribution of historical funds held on trust for Mandated Iwi Organisations (MIO) where possible	We hold some historical settlement funds on trust on behalf of MIO. In previous reports we noted this has been a large, complex piece of work and this continues to be progressed as a matter of priority. The board has made determinations on several of these allocations and we will work with relevant iwi to allocate these assets as soon as possible. This remains a priority for Te Ohu Kaimoana.
<b>3.</b> Actively support Recognised Iwi Organisations (RIO) to become MIO	One final RIO remains. As such, progress is ongoing, and we remain closely involved in supporting the final RIO work towards meeting the requirements of the Maori Fisheries Act 2004.
<b>4.</b> Deliver tailored support to MIO to meet compliance obligations under the Maori Fisheries Act 2004	We continue to work closely with all MIO to support their compliance with the Maori Fisheries Act 2004 (MFA) and the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 (MFAA). This includes reviewing and assisting with governance documents, providing guidance on required amendments, and supporting preparation for upcoming AGMs where necessary.

5. Facilitate and support iwi to reach regional New Space and Reconciliation agreements with the Crown, and allocation agreements between iwi

See KPI 6 below for update.

## Providing expert technical advice

### KEY PRIORITY 02

Te Ohu Kaimoana will provide expert technical advice to iwi throughout Aotearoa, on fisheries, aquaculture, relevant matters affecting the marine environment and the settlements.

By 30 September 2026, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

#### KPIs

#### Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025

6. Ensure relevant iwi have the necessary information to inform decisions on aquaculture settlement obligations in regional settlements and reconciliations

##### Auckland

- › We facilitated discussions between IAO, and IAO and the Crown on the regional agreements.
- › We provided information to support iwi to iwi kōrero on the allocation of assets, resulting in an allocation addendum being drafted (with an expectation this will be finalised and executed in the next quarter).
- › We supported meetings with Crown officials and IAO to discuss the disputed interest period.

##### Bay of Plenty

- › Iwi of Te Moana a Toi signed a partial pre-commencement allocation agreement and memorandum of understanding. Although assets were not transferred this quarter, we anticipate this will take place next and upon each IAO requesting their portion of assets in line with the above noted agreement.
- › We have supported the Bay of Plenty Iwi Aquaculture Working Group and its engagement with Crown officials for the new space settlement.
- › We secured iwi agreement to an extension of the regional agreement deadline to ensure that all the administration steps could be completed in time.
- › We held a signing ceremony with iwi on 15 December in Ōpōtiki at Waiaua Marae. There were 10 iwi in attendance.
- › All 12 IAO signed a Partial Allocation Agreement alongside a memorandum of understanding. Following this, assets can be transferred upon receiving them from the Crown.

6. Ensure relevant iwi have the necessary information to inform decisions on aquaculture settlement obligations in regional settlements and reconciliations (cont...)

#### Waikato East

- › We worked alongside IAO and the Crown to finalise the Regional Agreement addendum. This addendum recorded a debit through the reconciliation process and was signed by Joint Ministers. We expect this addendum to be executed in the next quarter.
- › We have progressed a variation and addendum to the Regional Agreement for Waikato East to support an IAO to exchange new space settlement assets under the 2015 Waikato East Regional Agreement. We have worked alongside the Crown and IAOs to finalise the variation addendum, with final signatures expected in the next quarter.
- › We drafted and provided an Allocation Agreement addendum for the IAO to agree for the exchange of assets in Waikato East.
- › The Waikato Regional Council's decision on the Proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan was released, and Te Ohu Kaimoana reviewed and appealed the decision as it relates to aquaculture.

#### Waikato West

- › We engaged with the Crown on planned processes for the new space settlement with IAO, noting the current deadline for negotiations is at the end of the next quarter.

#### Wellington

- › We continue to hold pre-commencement and new space settlement assets on behalf of Wellington regional iwi, pending agreement on allocation.

#### Marlborough

- › We have facilitated monthly hui with iwi to kōrero about reconciliation, exposed coastal salmon obligations and other aquaculture settlement subjects.
- › We supported IAO to confirm next steps on Aquaculture Settlement Agreements (ASA) and write to MPI to request ASA be gazetted in Cloudy Bay and near Ngā Kiore/ Jag Rocks.
- › We commissioned Cawthron Institute to complete the ground truthing at the potential exposed coastal salmon sites.
- › We facilitated discussions between IAO, and IAO and the Crown on the Regional Agreement Addendum.
- › We signed the Regional Agreement addendum.
- › We provided information to support iwi to iwi kōrero on the allocation of assets and provided a draft Allocation Addendum for iwi review.

**6.** Ensure relevant iwi have the necessary information to inform decisions on aquaculture settlement obligations in regional settlements and reconciliations (cont...)

**Tasman**

- › We worked alongside IAO and the Crown to finalise the Regional Agreement addendum for Tasman. This addendum recorded a debit through the reconciliation process. We expect this addendum will be executed in the next quarter.

**Canterbury**

- › We facilitated discussions between IAO, and IAO and the Crown on the Regional Agreement addendum (to record the reconciliation findings and provide further settlement assets as appropriate) and adjusted clauses relating to interest on further settlement assets.
- › We signed the Regional Agreement addendum.
- › We have remained available to provide information to support iwi to iwi kōrero occurring on the allocation of assets.
- › We supported meetings with Crown officials and IAO to discuss the disputed interest period. Officials presented a Cabinet approved offer to satisfy the disputed interest period. We further facilitated IAO discussions to agree a response to the offer.

**Southland**

- › We reviewed proposed updates to the Southland Regional Agreement addendum and confirmed these with IAO. Awaiting final addendum for execution in the next quarter.

**7.** Provide iwi with guidance on the nature and utility of customary non-commercial fishing regulations

**Te Whata ā Ngāti Kahungunu**

- › We supported iwi to establish this pātaka within their rohe. In this period, the model was tested with success and the pātaka went live.

**Deepwater Pātaka Pilot**

- › We have been supporting iwi within Te Tai Hauāuru to establish and test a pilot pātaka. In this period, we hosted IkaNet training for kaitiaki and initiated the first authorisations for harvest. In the coming months, fish will be landed and prepared for distribution where the rest of the model can be tested.

**Ihu To Mai Pātaka**

- › We are in discussions to assess the revival of a pātaka for Te Tau Ihu.

8. Support iwi and kaitiaki to use Te Ohu Kaimoana administered products such as IkaNet for issuing customary authorisations, and pātaka

We are continuing to invest in the development and improvement of the IkaNet system. We have met with Fishserve twice to progress new reporting functions, and we have three improvement requests sitting with them for actioning.

Operationally, we have held three group training sessions around the motu and onboarded 31 IkaNet users this period, as well as responded to number of queries from existing users.

9. Deliver joint initiatives with iwi and kāhui that strengthen collective outcomes for Māori fisheries

#### **Warming waters, shifting stocks workshop**

- › Working in collaboration with Earth Science NZ (formally NIWA), we supported the facilitation of a 1-day workshop to discuss the integration of VAST modelling with historical fishing effort to better forecast fisheries abundance in climate change scenarios. This workshop was attended by kāhui kaimahi to gain early insights to this developing project.

#### **Toheroa revitalisation**

- › We provided a comprehensive policy analysis to Earth Science NZ (formally NIWA) to support their work on Toheroa revitalisation in the Horowhenua region. This analysis was presented back to NIWA's team via hui.

#### **Aotearoa Circle**

- › We continue to participate in the Seafood Adaptation Strategy Working Group alongside our kāhui and industry peers. We have been asked to review the draft Blue Economy Chapter of the Aotearoa Circles new Natural Infrastructure Plan.

#### **RMA Fast Track Approvals Regime**

*Taranaki VTM Project (Trans-Tasman Resources (TTR))*

- › Te Ohu Kaimoana filed a submission on the application and was involved as a party in the Fast-Track Panel's hearing under the Fast Track Approvals legislation.
- › We were asked to submit additional requests for Information to the panel during this period. In response, we filed further evidence in support of our submission, working alongside the kāhui whānau to ensure relevant evidence was identified, captured, and clearly communicated, including the impacts of the application on commercial operations.
- › Te Ohu Kaimoana participated in expert conferencing on the topic of Treaty Settlements and Cultural Effects. This resulted in a Joint Witness Statement being produced alongside iwi. This work resulted in Te Ohu Kaimoana being represented by our legal counsel at a Fast Track Panel Hearing in November.
- › We continue to actively engage with Ngāti Ruanui, Ngā Ruahine and Ngā Rauru as the application develops.

## Advocate on behalf of iwi

### KEY PRIORITY 03

Te Ohu Kaimoana will advocate on behalf of iwi, including monitoring and responding to matters in a way that reflects the relationship of iwi with their taonga, and that protects and enhances their rights.

By 30 September 2026, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

#### KPIs

#### Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025

**10.** Critically assess Government reforms and consultations on matters that affect commercial and non-commercial fisheries, the marine environment, and settlements, promoting options that advance iwi interests

We continue to be active participants in a range of industry forums including; Deepwater Council, Commercial Fishers Forum, Inshore Council, National Rock Lobster Advisory Group and Aquaculture New Zealand.

*Resource Management Reform (RM3)*

- › Consultation on the proposed Planning and Natural Environment Acts is underway. We have responded by reviewing and analysing the proposed details of the reform. Our response to the proposed reforms is due next quarter.

*Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and continental shelf (Environmental Effects-Permitted Activities) Regulations 2013*

- › We provided sent advice to the Ministry for the Environment on the review of this Regulation. Our advice specifically considers material jettisoned from space and landing in the ocean.

*Regulatory Standards Bill*

- › We continued to engage on this proposed Bill, and this quarter that included providing letters to Ministers seeking further clarifications (specifically in relation to clause 43 of the Bill).

*Fast Track Approvals Amendment Bill*

- › We responded to the Fast Track Approvals Amendment Bill and appeared before the Environment Select Committee to speak to our response. We also sent letters to two Ministers highlighting our concerns with the Bill.

**10.** Critically assess Government reforms and consultations on matters that affect commercial and non-commercial fisheries, the marine environment, and settlements, promoting options that advance iwi interests (cont...)

*Proposed Waikato Regional Council Coastal Plan*

- › A comprehensive analysis was undertaken on the proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan and its proposed fishing controls on commercial fishing. We have worked alongside Moana New Zealand and our industry peers to identify the impacts to commercial fishing, and a decision was made to appeal against the proposed plan.

**11.** Progress strategic litigation to protect settlements

We were awarded legal costs following our success in the High Court. We continue to be involved in the Court of Appeal process and have filed submissions as part of those proceedings. Work is ongoing to support the next stages of the litigation. In parallel, we continue to progress quantification and valuation work to ensure Te Ohu Kaimoana is well positioned as matters advance.

**12.** Develop and promote options to ensure current and future legislation upholds the intent of the Maori Fisheries Act 2004 and Maori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004, providing opportunities for iwi

**National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture (NES-MA)**

- › We wrote to two Ministers to express our support for the proposal outlined by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu in their 23 October 2025 letter to Hon Chris Bishop. In this letter, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu requested that the Minister consult on a proposed new National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture (NES-MA) regulation providing for a streamlined consenting pathway within Aquaculture Settlement Areas (ASA).

## Strengthening kāhui collaboration

### KEY PRIORITY 04

Te Ohu Kaimoana will strengthen coordination and collaboration across the kāhui entities

By 30 September 2026, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

KPIs

Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025

**13.** Convene regular hui of kāhui Chairs, CEOs, and governance representatives to identify shared priorities and endorse an annual kāhui strategy

Our Board has been meeting with kāhui entities (all of board, and management) to discuss upcoming directors appointment processes, implementation of the MFAA, and letters of expectation. Our December kāhui meeting was cancelled, and we will look to reschedule this for early 2026.

## Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 (MFAA) transition

### KEY PRIORITY 05

Te Ohu Kaimoana will manage the transition of functions, responsibilities, and arrangements required under the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024

By 30 September 2025, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

#### KPIs

#### Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025

**14.** Develop, consult on, approve and implement the changes to kāhui entities (including MIO) to give effect to changes under the MFAA

Work continues on updating kāhui constitutions to reflect the changes required by the MFAA. We also continue to work closely with MIO to support changes to their respective constitutional documents.

Draft appointment models and supporting policies and procedures for Te Ohu Kai Moana Trustee Limited (TOKMTL) and Aotearoa Fisheries Limited (AFL) have been completed and will be finalised following iwi consultation.

All milestones for the internal MFAA work programme quarter were delivered on time and under budget.

## Development and wellbeing of kaimahi and directors

### KEY PRIORITY 06

Te Ohu Kaimoana will continue to provide for the growth and wellbeing of kaimahi and directors

By 30 September 2026, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

KPIs	Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025
<b>15.</b> Implement a staff capability and development plan	Our Hauora (well-being) Framework was approved by the Board in November 2025 and will be implemented over the coming months.
<b>16.</b> Integrate Te Kawa o Te Moana principles into organisational culture and practice, ensuring it is reflected in relevant policies, engagement, and decision-making	Te Kawa o Te Moana has been incorporated into our internal Hauora Framework; providing a lens to inform and ensure principles from a te ao Maori view are reflected in how Te Ohu Kaimoana care for kaimahi.

## Visibility, trust and iwi confidence

### KEY PRIORITY 07

Iwi understand and have confidence in the role, performance, and value of Te Ohu Kaimoana

By 30 September 2026, Te Ohu Kaimoana will:

#### KPIs

#### Commentary for 1 October – 31 December 2025

**17.** Provide transparent, regular reports to MIO, RIO and Representative Māori Organisations on activities, outcomes, and statutory performance

We circulated six email campaigns to iwi throughout October to December, covering:

- The appointment of Lady Tureiti Moxon to Tapuwae Roa.
- The \$10,000 financial contribution payments from Te Ohu Kaimoana to Mandated Iwi Organisations to support MFMA related constitution amendments.
- Our fourth quarter report for the 2024-2025 financial year.
- Key updates on internal staffing changes.
- Notice of the Hui-ā-Tau | Annual General Meeting for Te Ohu Kaimoana and Moana New Zealand.

We also published 8 stories on our [website](#) and 33 posts across our social media channels ([LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)).

**18.** Undertake annual iwi engagement survey to measure trust, communication, and effectiveness, and publish the results

The annual iwi engagement survey is set to be undertaken in April to June of 2026.



TE OHU  
KAIMOANA

[teohukaimoana.nz](http://teohukaimoana.nz)