5.1 People Partnership

5.1.1 Introduction and Overview

People partnership encompasses all the activities aimed at increasing people's knowledge and understanding of and support for both conservation and the Department.

The Department is required to interpret and administer the Conservation Act 1987 to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. It is essential that the Department recognises and understands Māori conservation concepts. Ngāi Tahu is the iwi holding mana whenua status in the Canterbury Conservancy and it wishes to have its tradition of resource tikanga incorporated into the Department's decision-making process. Ngāi Tahu also wishes to strengthen the relationship with te taiao – the natural world. This will give a Māori dimension to the Department's decision-making.

The overall goals for raising public awareness of conservation are to have:

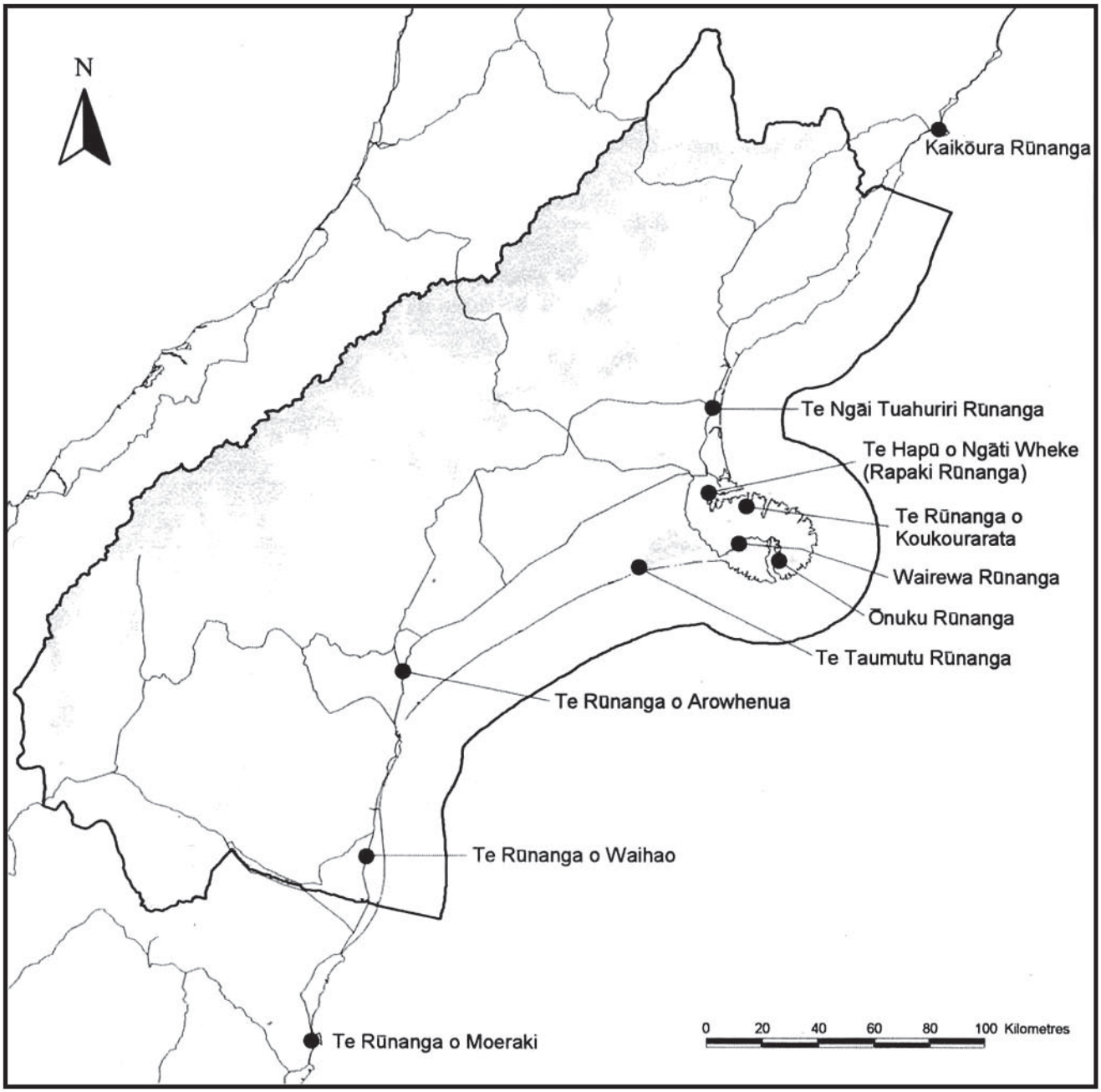
1. A high proportion of the public enjoying and appreciating the value of New Zealand's natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources and understanding the need for their protection.
2. Rūnanga, community groups, volunteers and other public agencies involved with the Department in achieving conservation objectives and projects, on and off land managed by the Department.
3. Individuals, rūnanga, community groups and other agencies initiating their own conservation objectives and projects on land not managed by the Department.
4. Systems and processes in place to ensure the Department's public awareness efforts are effective.

Some of the major issues are:

- how to develop a Ngāi Tahu perspective in management
- ensuring all Department staff have a good knowledge of natural, historic and recreation issues and are able to pass their knowledge on
- how to effectively involve associates and the public in Department decision-making
- the need to share conservation, increase volunteer opportunities and work more closely with key groups and agencies
- the provision of education resources
- the need to create awareness of particular ecosystems and their management issues
- the provision of quality interpretation

The Conservancy's Public Awareness (DOC 1995) and Interpretation (DOC 1991) Strategies detail future directions. Over the next ten years the Department will give its attention to a number of issues. A Ngāi Tahu perspective will be reflected in Department decisions. Sponsorship opportunities will be identified and developed. Groups such as pastoral lessees and other landowners will be a main focus, as will significant ecosystems. The Department will continue to work with educators and interpreters, including concessionaires, to further develop awareness. Important natural and historic sites with high visitor usage will have quality interpretation.

Map 14
Papatipu Rūnanga



● Marae location of Papatipu Rūnanga
State highway
Land managed by the Department
Conservancy boundary

5.1.2 Treaty Partnership

Treaty partnership involves interpreting and administering the Conservation Act to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi with Ngái Tahu.

Ngāi Tahu

Ngái Tahu is the iwi holding mana whenua over the Canterbury area. Ngāi Tahu has established a tribal structure for Ngái Tahu Whanui (tribal members). This body (Te Rúnanga o Ngāi Tahu) is made up of 18 Papatipu (traditional) Rúnanga. Each rūnanga has a defined takiwá (area). Table 13 and Map 14 name and describe the rūnanga located in the Canterbury CMS area. They are the kaitiaki rūnanga for their takiwá.

The concept of kaitiakitanga is fundamental to Māori in relationship to the management of natural resources. It is defined in the Resource Management Act as 'the exercise of guardianship by the tangata whenua of an area in accordance with tikanga Māori in relation to natural and physical resources, and includes the ethic of stewardship.'

Table 13: Papatipu Rūnanga and Their Takiwā

Papatipu Rūnanga	Takiwa	DOC Area
Kaikōura Rūnanga	The takiwā of Kaikōura Rūnanga centres on Takahanga and extends from Te Parinui o Whiti to the Hurunui River and inland to the Main Divide	North Canterbury
Te Ngāi Tuahuriri Rūnanga	The takiwā of Te Ngāi Tuahuriri Rūnanga centres on Tuahiwi and extends from the Hurunui to Hakatere, sharing an interest with Arowhenua Rūnanga northwards to Rakaia, and thence inland to the Main Divide.	North Canterbury Waimakariri Raukāpuka
Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rapaki Rūnanga)	The takiwā of Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke (Rapaki Rūnanga) centres on Rapaki and includes the catchment of Whakaraupo and Te Kaituna.	North Canterbury
Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata	The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata centres on Koukourarata and extends from Pohatupā to the shores of Te Waihora including Te Kaituna.	North Canterbury
Wairewa Rūnanga	The takiwā of Wairewa Rūnanga centres on Wairewa and the catchment of the lake Te Wairewa and the hills and coast to the adjoining takiwā of Koukourarata and Onuku Rūnanga.	North Canterbury
Te Rūnanga o Ōnuku	The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Ōnuku centres on Ōnuku and the hills and coasts of Akaroa to the shores of Te Waihora.	North Canterbury
Te Taumutu Rūnanga	The takiwā of Te Taumutu Rūnanga centres on Taumutu and the waters of Te Waihora and adjoining lands and shares a common interest with Te Ngāi Tuahuriri Rūnanga and Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua in the area south of Hakatere.	North Canterbury Raukāpuka
Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua	The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua centres on Arowhenua and extends from Rakaia to Waitaki, sharing interests with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tuahuriri ki Kaiapoi between Hakatere and Rakaia, and thence inland to Aoraki and the Main Divide.	Raukāpuka Aoraki/Mount Cook Twizel
Te Rūnanga o Waihao	The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Waihao centres on Wainono, sharing interests with Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua to Waitaki, and extends inland to Ōmarama and the Main Divide.	Raukāpuka Twizel
Te Rūnanga o Moeraki	The takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Moeraki centres on Moeraki and extends from Waitaki to Waihemo and inland to the Main Divide.	Twizel

Source: Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996

Treaty Principles

Section 4 of the Conservation Act requires the Department and persons acting under the Conservation Act to give effect to the Treaty of Waitangi. The Treaty is also a founding document of New Zealand.

The Court of Appeal has determined that the Department's obligation to give effect to the principles of the Treaty extends to the Acts in the First Schedule of the Conservation Act except where it is inconsistent with the specific Act. The principles include notions of reasonableness, awareness of other Treaty partners' views, willingness to accommodate those views, fairness and good faith. The principles are still evolving through the pronouncements of the courts and the Waitangi Tribunal in particular cases. The case law (included as Appendix 1) has thrown light on aspects of the following principles:

The Essential Bargain

Principle 1: To recognise the Crown's authority to make laws for the good order and security of the country and for conservation-related purposes.

Principle 2: To recognise the right of Māori to exercise iwi authority and control over their own land, resources and taonga.

Principle 3: To recognise the right of Māori and non-Māori alike to equality of treatment and privileges of citizenship.

Partnership

Principle 4: To act reasonably and in good faith.

Duty to be informed

Principle 5: To make informed decisions.

Active Protection

Principle 6: Where appropriate and to the fullest extent practicable, to take active steps to protect Māori interests.

Avoid Prejudicial Action

Principle 7: To avoid action which would create new Treaty grievances.

Principle 8: To avoid actions which would prevent the redress of claims.

Resolution of Treaty Claims

The Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 is the significant outcome in the settlement of the Ngāi Tahu Claim, Wai 27 (see Waitangi Tribunal, 1991). Conservancy staff will work with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and other Crown agencies to implement the Settlement Act.

The Act contains statutory instruments such as Tōpuni, deeds of recognition, statutory advisor, statutory acknowledgement, protocols, nohonga and Fenton entitlements.

Relationship

The Courts have indicated that the Treaty has created between the Crown and Māori a relationship, akin to a partnership. Each party is obliged to act towards the other in good faith, fairly and honourably. The Crown must make informed decisions to protect Māori lands and resources and to avoid actions that create further grievances and prevent redress. The Treaty partners must act co-operatively.

In the past, Ngāi Tahu involvement in the management of land managed by the Conservancy has been limited. Similarly, the interpretation/recognition of their culture and traditions has also been limited. Current programmes that involve Ngāi Tahu Rūnanga include:

- representation on Conservation Boards
- involvement with Te Ngāi Tuahuriri Rūnanga in the restoration of Ōtūkaikino (Wilsons Swamp)
- consultation on concessions applications
- consultation on significant consent applications under the Resource Management Act.
- consultation and involvement over management programmes for Kaitorete Spit with Te Taumutu and Wairewa Rūnanga

Important areas where there will be more involvement with Ngāi Tahu in the future include:

- implementing the Crown's settlement of the Ngāi Tahu claim
- comprehensively recording sites, their values and tikanga, where jointly agreed
- ensuring that Ngāi Tahu tikanga is incorporated into management and advocacy

In all these undertakings the Conservancy will be aware of the application of Article One of the Treaty, which confers on the Crown the exclusive right to make laws for the good governance of the country.

The Department is seeking a co-operative relationship with Ngāi Tahu, recognising both kawanatanga (the authority vested in the Crown; in the modern context, the process of Government) and tino rangatiratanga (the authority vested in tribes). Such a relationship requires agreement by both parties to the conditions to be applied.

The Department is seeking a relationship with Ngāi Tahu in which:

- both parties act independently
- both parties are committed to a co-operative relationship
- the relationship is based on a shared understanding
- the relationship is based on a common goal
- both parties engage in purposeful activity
- the relative roles and responsibilities of both parties are clear and agreed
- the respective capabilities of the two parties are recognised
- the actions of both parties are co-ordinated

All of these factors indicate a common agenda that requires time and space for the relationship to develop and grow.

Consultation with Ngāi Tahu on major issues of common concern is fundamental to the maintenance of a good relationship. The Conservancy is striving to develop positive working relationships by maintaining consultative networks for the purposes of information sharing and to facilitate the active participation of Ngāi Tahu in conservation management at both a Conservancy and national level.

Statutory Framework

Conservation Act

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 states that 'this Act shall be so interpreted and administered as to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi' and places a responsibility and obligation on the Department and Conservation Boards to act in accordance with those principles. The Treaty principles also apply to the administration of other legislation in the First Schedule. The Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 places additional obligations on the Department.

In Canterbury, the Crown's Treaty partner with respect to the Conservancy is Ngāi Tahu. The Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act 1996 established a body known as Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu for the benefit of the members of Ngāi Tahu Whanui. It defines the takiwā (area) of the Ngāi Tahu Whanui (the collective individuals) and its constituent Papatipu Rūnanga. Importantly, the Act notes that where any enactment requires consultation with any iwi authority, it is to be held with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

The Department must always consider the application of the principles of the Treaty and decide how they are to be weighed in making a particular decision. The decision must also always promote the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic resources, which is the primary purpose of the Act.

Settlement Mechanisms

Mechanisms established in the Deed of Settlement (1997) and Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 place a number of specific obligations on the Conservancy, in addition to the general duty imposed by section 4 of the Conservation Act.

Tōpuni

The concept of Tōpuni derives from the traditional Ngāi Tahu tikanga (custom) of persons of rangatira (chiefly) status extending their mana and protection over a person or area by placing their cloak over them or it. In its new application, a Tōpuni confirms and places an 'overlay' of Ngāi Tahu values on specific pieces of land managed by the Department. A Tōpuni does not override the existing status of the land (for example, National Park status), but ensures that Ngāi Tahu values are also recognised, acknowledged and provided for. Three Tōpuni have been declared in the Canterbury Conservancy:

- Ripapa Island
- Kura Tāwhiti (Castle Hill)
- Aoraki/Mount Cook

Each Tōpuni involves three levels of information:
- A statement of the Ngāi Tahu values in relation to the area
- A set of principles aimed at ensuring that the Department avoids harming or diminishing those values
- Specific actions which the Director-General of Conservation has agreed to undertake to give effect to those principles.

The Canterbury/Aoraki Conservation Board and the New Zealand Conservation Authority are required to have particular regard to the Ngāi Tahu values and specific principles in relation to each Tōpuni, and to consult with and have particular regard to the views of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu in the preparation of conservation management plans and national park management plans in relation to these areas. The specific actions may change over time as circumstances change.

Protocols

Pursuant to s. 282 of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act, the Minister of Conservation has issued Protocols in relation to the Department's relationship with Ngāi Tahu. In this context, s. 281 of the Act provides: *"…the term 'protocol' means a statement in writing, issued by the Crown through the Minister of Conservation to Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, which sets out:"*

(a) How the Department of Conservation will exercise its functions, powers, and duties in relation to specified matters within the Ngāi Tahu claim area; and
(b) How the Department of Conservation will, on a continuing basis, interact with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and provide for Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu's input into its decision making process.

The 'specified matters' dealt with in the Protocols are:
- Cultural materials
- Freshwater fisheries
- The culling of species of interest to Ngāi Tahu
- Historic resources
- Resource Management Act involvement
- Visitor and public information

The Protocols, which are enforceable against the Minister of Conservation by way of public law action (s.285), make general statements about how the Department should conduct its business in these areas. The Protocols also establish a process whereby Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu can have input into the Department's business planning processes, and identify specific projects to be pursued, subject to available funding.

The Conservancy is also required to implement a number of other provisions of the settlement, including deeds of recognition, nohoanga and taonga species acknowledgement, as well as supporting Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu's management of areas formerly under its control.

Objectives

- To assist with the implementation of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 and Deed of Settlement 1997.
- To ensure that future relationships do not breach the Settlement Act and *Deed of Settlement* and statutory instruments or create new grievances.
- To recognise the mana whenua of Ngāi Tahu and consult with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and its Papatipu Rūnanga to maintain positive relationships, as provided in the Settlement Act or as otherwise agreed with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.
- To be responsive to Ngāi Tahu interests in all relevant aspects of the Department's work.

Implementation

The Conservancy will, within the framework of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act:

1. Assist with the implementation of the Crown's settlement of the Ngāi Tahu claim.
2. Give effect to statutory instruments contained within the Settlement Act relating to the Conservancy.
3. Implement the protocols (see 2.3.5 National Protocols) issued by the Minister.
4. Develop mutually agreed mechanisms and/or guidelines for undertaking liaison and consultation between the Conservancy and Ngāi Tahu.
5. Consult with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and the respective Papatipu Rūnanga in the Conservancy as outlined in Table 13 and as agreed with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.
6. Ensure that staff liaise with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Papatipu Rūnanga in regular meetings over relevant matters of mutual concern.
7. Ensure that Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and relevant Papatipu Rūnanga are consulted, and seek to reach agreement, when considering any proposals to significantly affect or use any land managed by the Conservancy.
8. Develop and implement a process for including Ngāi Tahu perspectives in the management of the national parks, reserves, conservation areas and species managed by the Conservancy.
9. Identify and develop appropriate opportunities for Ngāi Tahu and the Department to work together on collaborative management projects.
10. Involve Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Papatipu Rūnanga in the protection and interpretation of natural and historic resources of significance.
11. Support Ngāi Tahu in interpreting their traditional relationships and cultural values to visitors.
12. Assist each Papatipu Rūnanga (if they agree) to develop a database on their cultural values and traditions of relevance to this Conservation Management Strategy. Guidelines for consultation and use of the databases will be established at a Conservancy level.
13. Include appropriate Ngāi Tahu tikanga in the management of land and species, through agreed consultation mechanisms including, but not limited to, guidelines.
14. Monitor the Department's progress annually through the Kaupapa Atawhai Strategy (DOC 1997; see 2.3.3 Atawhai Ruamano) that sets out objectives and monitors progress in the development of the partnership across all the Department's expected outcomes.
15. Refer the interests of other Māori groups (Iwi Māori Katoa) to the appropriate Papatipu Rūnanga in the first instance.
16. Consult with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and each Papatipu Rūnanga as part of the process of business planning to discuss projects within the takiwa of each rūnanga.
17. Actively seek the views of Ngāi Tahu on Resource Management Act issues, conservation management strategy and plan reviews and amendments, and other appropriate planning matters.
18. Undertake, with Ngāi Tahu involvement, training hui for Māori perspectives and wananga tikanga Māori (classes in Māori protocol and language) to assist in developing staff understanding and confidence in consultation with Ngāi Tahu.
19. Inform Ngāi Tahu about, and seek their participation in, Conservancy activities. This is to provide for the relationship of Papatipu Rūnanga with their culture and traditions.
20. Pursue increased awareness of Treaty principles and responsibilities, Ngāi Tahu perspectives, the

Settlement Protocols and other protocols.

See also: 5.1.4 Communication and Liaison
5.4.5 Traditional Māori Uses.

Priorities

Primary

The implementation of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act will have the highest priority for the Conservancy. This is a commitment that the Crown has negotiated with Ngāi Tahu. Regular consultation with Ngāi Tahu will remain a high priority.

Secondary

Jointly developing guidelines for the preparation of a database on Ngāi Tahu sites and values on lands managed by the Conservancy will be an important secondary priority. This will allow the Conservancy to incorporate local tikanga into the management of natural and historic resources, and visitor impacts. This is subject to rūnanga agreement and approval, and consistency with the Settlement Act.

Place Priorities

While the above priorities apply across all the Conservancy, key priorities of significance to Ngāi Tahu have been identified in a number of places. These include:

- Aoraki/Mount Cook
- Weka Pass
- Waimakariri Basin and Pareora rock art sites
- Te Waihora
- Kaitorete Spit
- Wainono Lagoon
- Ripapa Island protection and restoration
- Kura Tāwhiti Conservation Area

Less Achievable Tasks

Tasks the Conservancy may not be able to undertake or complete include consultation on all Resource Management Act consents assessed by the Conservancy.

Table 14: Key Treaty Partnership Priorities

Theme	Issue	Method	Results Sought	Place
Treaty settlement	To resolve Ngāi Tahu Treaty grievances	Assist with the implementation of the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act	1. Mana restored 2. Ngāi Tahu tikanga incorporated 3. Appropriate access to mahinga kai provided	All
DOC/Ngāi Tahu partnership	To implement DOC/ Ngāi Tahu protocols	Follow procedures established by the protocols	Agreements on joint actions and communication met	All
Database	To increase DOC's knowledge of sites important to Ngāi Tahu	Assist rúnanga in the preparation and maintenance of cultural site database	Sites of cultural importance and their value to Ngāi Tahu recorded.	All
Ngāi Tahu consultation	To ensure both Ngāi Tahu and the Conservancy meet regularly to discuss matters of mutual concern	1. Protocols 2. Hui, regular consultation	Regular consultation at both Te Rúnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Papatipu Rūnanga levels	All
Ngāi Tahu tikanga	The management of lands in the Conservancy in accordance with local tikanga	Hui, regular consultation, information recording and staff training	Ngāi Tahu tikanga incorporated into conservation management and advocacy	All

5.1.3 Community Participation

Providing support and opportunities for people to become involved in 'hands-on' natural and historic resource protection.

Current Situation

Background

The Conservancy encourages people to take part in natural and historic enhancement or protection projects and provides participation opportunities to meet an increasing demand. Projects increase participants' understanding of conservation aims and issues, strengthen community links, help the Department to achieve CMS goals and enhance the environment. Community involvement provides an ideal opportunity for sponsorship from the business and other private sectors.

Community involvement projects have developed on an *ad hoc* basis without regard to the threat to natural values in Canterbury. Given the scope of the opportunities for the protection of Canterbury's indigenous biodiversity and historic resources it is necessary to concentrate on projects where the threats to natural and historic values are highest. Public demand for opportunities to be involved in projects is steadily increasing.

Current Conservancy projects include:

- Tū Kakariki – the New Zealand Tree Programme
- support for two Canterbury-based New Zealand Conservation Corps projects (administered by the Ministry of Youth Affairs)
- work experience for secondary and tertiary students
- Rūnanga projects
- projects for schools, youth organisations, periodic detention and prison groups

National and local sponsorships are already in place for three ongoing Tū Kakariki programmes, where businesses support native-tree plantings by schools and community groups on public lands. One major long-term local project is Mau Mahara, the Living Memorial Programme in which the Department, in partnership with a local funeral director and Te Ngāi Tuahuriri Rūnanga, is restoring a wetland.

Future

Areas where potential for expansion of community participation activities exists include:

- increasing and fostering opportunities for community participation on land managed by the Department, and in other areas of the Department's responsibility
- increasing and fostering opportunities for schools and community groups
- increasing sponsorship opportunities from private enterprise

Statutory Framework

Section 6(c) of the Conservation Act enables the Department to promote the benefits of the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historic resources to present and future generations.

Objective

- To foster the participation of individuals and community groups in appropriate natural, historic and recreation projects.

Implementation

The Conservancy will:

1. Continue to develop programmes and opportunities for community involvement in urban and rural areas by working with local communities and other agencies, landholders, local communities and outdoor recreation groups.

   The criteria for determining community participation projects are:
   - availability of appropriate supervisors, within and outside the Department
   - availability of resources to support the project such as time, materials, accommodation and transport
   - the project's ability to increase natural and historic awareness and recreational opportunities, and to achieve significant gains in protecting Canterbury's natural and historic diversity
   - safety; ensuring all projects can be managed safely for the participants, staff and leaders

2. Encourage, support and train volunteer leaders where needed and involve a wider range of staff in volunteer activities.
3. Emphasise positive and rewarding experiences for volunteers, with proper recognition of their contributions. This may include certificates and log books, media coverage and volunteer newsletters.
4. Ensure all community participation events include an element of conservation education, particularly indigenous biodiversity.
5. Identify new opportunities for volunteers as part of annual project planning. These will focus on specific ecosystems such as tussock grasslands, dry plains savannah, braided rivers, estuaries, wetlands and marine areas and on involving groups such as landcare groups. The Conservancy will develop guidelines to facilitate community initiatives and sponsorships that would rank highly on indigenous biodiversity criteria at a district and regional level.
6. Support, train and warrant volunteer groups and individuals who assist with protection, management and compliance; such as honorary rangers, Marine Watch and High Country Fire Teams.
7. Maintain a programme for Christchurch volunteer participation in co-operation with Landcare Research, Christchurch City Council, Travis Wetland Trust, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Summit Road Society and other interested associates. A similar programme for Timaru will be investigated.
8. Support community and individual initiatives, where appropriate, with advice and assistance.
9. Support Papatipu Rūnanga-based projects that rank highly on indigenous biodiversity or historic criteria.
10. Continue to support and recognise present sponsors.
11. Work with amateur clubs and organisations promoting recreation, safety and education on land managed by the Department.
12. Liaise with the Arthur's Pass and Aoraki/Mount Cook communities to encourage their support for and participation in conservation projects.

Priorities

Primary

The ongoing priority for community participation is to provide safe and rewarding projects for the public on lands managed by the Conservancy. Support for volunteers and others working in the areas of fire control, protection and compliance assistance are also high priorities.

Secondary

The secondary priority is to foster community participation in conservation projects on other lands.

Less Achievable Tasks

Tasks the Conservancy may not be able to undertake or complete include running conservation volunteer holidays from each Area office.

Table 15: Key Community Participation Priorities

Theme	Issue	Method	Results Sought	Place
Ōtukaikino revegetation	Mau Mahara sponsorship by Lamb and Hayward. Major restoration project of wetland close to Christchurch	Volunteers to support DOC staff, work schemes and Ngāi Tuahuriri Rūnanga involvement	1. Exotic plants are removed 2. A sustainable indigenous wetland community is re-established with associated recreation and interpretation	Plains (Ōtūkaikino – Wilsons Swamp) 4.6
Quail Island restoration (See also 5.2.3 Land Ecosystems)	Quail Island has significant potential for island habitat and historic site restoration using Christchurch community support	1. Investigate feasibility of habitat restoration 2. Plan for restoration 3. Establish community trust and implement programme	If feasible, a plan for habitat restoration and historic site restoration is implemented, in conjunction with a community trust	Banks Peninsula 4.4
Kirkliston, Mackenzie, Craigieburn, Hanmer wilding tree control (see also 5.2.9 Weeds and Exotic Plants)	Wilding tree control requires extensive community and landowner support	Work with local groups, communities, agencies and land owners on long-term wilding tree control projects	Wilding trees removed from sites of high natural value, and elsewhere contained	Hurunui 4.2 Waimakariri 4.7 Waitaki 4.10
High Country Fire Team (see also 5.2.10 Fire Management)	Control of fire on DOC and adjacent land requires the support of trained volunteers	Provide logistical support and training to the High Country Fire Team	Trained and motivated High Country Fire Team available for call out	All places
Honorary rangers (see also 5.5.3 Compliance and Enforcement)	Encouraging compliance with statutory controls requires public support. A key element in this is the honorary ranger system	Licence, train and warrant officers to undertake compliance work	Honorary rangers are available to assist DOC staff with priority compliance functions	All places
Marine Watch	Marine mammal protection and strandings require the support of trained volunteers	Assist and support Marine Watch	Trained and motivated Marine Watch volunteers available	Banks Peninsula 4.4 Plains 4.6

5.1.4 Communication and Liaison

Communicating and liaising is necessary with agencies, groups and individuals the Department works with, and the public.

Current Situation

The protection of natural and historic resources cannot be achieved by one organisation alone. Many groups have a role and the Department needs to work in close co-operation with groups and individuals and the wider public.

The Conservancy has prepared a Public Awareness Strategy (DOC 1995) that sets immediate priorities for communication and liaison based on the National Public Awareness Strategy 'Conservation Connections' (DOC 1994).

Associates

Associates with whom the Department works most effectively include Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporated, Federated Mountain Cubs of New Zealand Incorporated, Conservation Boards, regional and district councils, Ngāi Tahu, landowners/runholders and interest groups. These are generally known as the Department's 'key' associates and protocols have been established with some of them (see 2.3.5 National Protocols). Partnership with Ngāi Tahu needs further development (see 5.1.2 Treaty Partnership). Campaigns such as Conservation Week, Arbor Day and Sea Week are run in conjunction with other agencies and groups.

Media

Media opportunities are used to promote specific topics, issues and policy, and to encourage individuals, groups and the public to play their part in achieving natural and historic goals and to raise awareness of the Department's role.

Participation

Many of the Department's decisions benefit from input from outside organisations and individuals. This may range from statutory planning documents to liaison on issues that affect local communities.

Awareness

Personal experiences of natural areas stimulate awareness; however, resource constraints and the size of the task mean that the Department must work in with other groups, teachers, leaders, educational institutions and concessionaires to seek the most effective ways of raising conservation awareness. Information provided needs to be focused on significant ecosystems such as tussock grasslands and wetlands.

The Conservancy contains almost 400 schools, one College of Education, two universities, two polytechnics and numerous environmental groups and concessionaires, and liaises regularly with these educators.

As part of their day-to-day work, Department staff need to be well informed about a broad range of issues so that they can contribute to raising public awareness.

Publications

A major component of the Conservancy publication programme is the preparation of recreation brochures (see 5.3.6 Interpretation) and reports on conservation issues, plans and research. Another facet is the production of information sheets in support of environmental education topics.

Statutory Framework

Section 6(b) of the Conservation Act enables the Department to advocate for conservation, 6(c) to promote the benefits of conservation to present and future generations, and 6(d) to prepare, provide, disseminate, promote and publicise education and promotional material relating to conservation.

In addition, many Department functions involve or require liaison or consultation outside the Department. Where consultation is required, recent case law has defined the elements of successful consultation (see glossary).

Objectives

- To enhance relationships with key associates to promote natural and historic values, foster recreation, advise of priorities and programmes, achieve effective consultation, exchange information and viewpoints, and enhance common goals.
- To increase public understanding of, support for and involvement in the protection of natural and historic resources and the Department's mission.

Implementation

The Conservancy will:

1. Implement and update the Canterbury Conservancy Public Awareness Strategy (1995) in accordance with the CMS and the Department's National Public Awareness Strategy (1994).
2. Set priorities consistent with the above strategy that will:
   - focus on major issues such as indigenous biodiversity, visitor servicing and historic sites
   - allow a clear exchange of information on issues between the Conservancy and associates
   - maximise the public audience for information on natural and historic resources and the work of the Department
3. Maintain and enhance liaison with key Canterbury interest groups through regular meetings.
4. Foster public and associate involvement in departmental decision-making through statutory processes (e.g. planning and concessions) and generally through consultation with affected and interested parties.
5. Improve liaison with landholders and local communities through greater information sharing, personal approaches, consultation and regular meetings.
6. Work more closely with pastoral lessees to develop ecologically, economically and socially sustainable land use.
7. Maintain and enhance relationships with the Conservation Boards to ensure that they can fulfil their roles of monitoring and advising on policy and implementation.
8. Maintain and enhance relationships with the North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game Councils, in particular to focus on maintaining and enhancing freshwater ecosystems in Canterbury.
9. Inform associate groups by regular contributions to their newsletters.
10. Produce a regular Conservancy newsletter.
11. Encourage staff to attend relevant seminars and meetings run by associates.
12. Consult with conservation groups, Fish and Game Councils, conservation boards and Ngāi Tahu on Resource Management Act advocacy issues, where practicable.
13. Encourage regional and district councils to include methods and conditions in plans, plan changes and consents (with significant effects on natural and historic values) to:
    - safeguard the life-supporting capacities of air, water, soil and ecosystems
    - identify and protect significant areas of indigenous vegetation and wildlife habitat
    - identify and protect habitats of indigenous and sports fish
    - preserve the natural character of wetlands, lakes and rivers, and their margins
    - identify and protect outstanding natural features and landscapes
    - maintain and enhance public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers
    - identify and protect the relationship of Ngāi Tahu and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga
14. Provide and share natural, historic and recreational information with regional, city and district councils.
15. Ensure campaigns are jointly co-ordinated, planned, promoted and evaluated.
16. Share planning of campaign events with community groups and local authorities, to ensure that there is a range of opportunities for community participation.
17. Use campaigns and events such as Conservation Week, Sea Week, Arbor Day and Motukarara Nursery Open Day as a focus for increasing public understanding of indigenous biodiversity.
18. Focus media releases and features on major issues, areas, campaigns and opportunities for public participation.
19. Ensure that media releases and features are responsive to Ngāi Tahu knowledge and tikanga (custom).
20. Maintain frequent contact with journalists through a regular supply of information on local issues, story ideas, campaigns and Department initiatives.
21. Co-operate with other environmental groups to ensure that the media have a balanced view of environmental issues, and that the environmental movement as a whole gains more media skills.
22. Respond quickly and efficiently to news media information requests.
23. Ensure staff are aware of media opportunities, and provide appropriate training.

24. Continue to monitor media, and respond to issue coverage where appropriate.
25. Support opportunities to raise awareness of natural and historic values in natural areas, especially for young people, using the concept of indigenous biodiversity and working with the education sector.
26. Liaise with and support educators to increase the conservation component in 'Education Outside the Classroom' programmes, and through the Canterbury Environmental Education Support Group.
27. Develop targeted resource material in association with education and conservation groups.
28. Focus on major issues and ecosystems for resource material, e.g. indigenous biodiversity, visitor impacts, impacts of weeds and pests, tussock grasslands, marine conservation, wetlands and dry plains.
29. Where possible, provide resources free, especially to libraries, resource centres, schools and conservation groups. A minimal copying charge will be applied where needed.
30. Support the Christchurch Environment Centre, Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Centre and the Environment Education Centre of New Zealand based at Craigieburn Forest Park.
31. Encourage sponsorship to fund management and advocacy programmes where:
    - projects can be funded that would not normally be funded from Crown outputs
    - projects enhance the strategic direction of the Conservancy and the Department
    - there is no conflict between the activities of the sponsor and the activities of the Department
    - the sponsorship proposal is detailed and includes a public awareness plan
    - promotion and publicity are proportional to the value of the sponsorship

    Nationally significant sponsorship proposals must be approved by the Department's Head Office. Any publicity relating to sponsored projects must be approved by the Department.
32. Produce quality technical reports, plans and other policy documents for effective public information and participation.
33. Produce and update a series of recreational brochures and leaflets that concentrate on high-use visitor areas and provide coverage of key sites.
34. Provide other products and information where the Department is the primary source of such information.
35. Recover costs from products and publications except where there is a need for easy access to information or public participation justifies discount pricing or the distribution of free copies.
36. Take action on the protocols with Local Government New Zealand, Ministry of Fisheries, Fish and Game Council, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

Priorities

The five major priorities for communication and liaison are to:

- maintain close working relationships with Conservation Boards, key associates and community groups
- consult with affected parties and interest groups when reaching decisions
- effectively use plans and other opportunities to encourage regional and district council commitment to protect natural and historic resources
- maintain a positive profile within the media of the Conservancy's activities
- target the education sector for the transmission of ideas with a focus on major issues and outdoor opportunities

Priority Actions

Areas in which important communication and liaison initiatives have begun, and which will continue to require a significant portion of available resources in the immediate future, are outlined in Table 16.

While the above priorities apply across the Conservancy, additional priority areas for public involvement have been recognised in other activity and place sections. These include marine reserve and marine mammal sanctuary consultation, tenure reviews, land status investigations, water conservation orders, management plans, regular NGO meetings in Timaru and Christchurch and support for the Christchurch Environment Centre.

Less Achievable Tasks

Tasks that may not be undertaken or completed include:

- producing resource material and kits for the full range of conservation subjects
- visiting schools other than those few in communities close to land managed by the Department
- producing new books on Canterbury natural, historic and recreational topics
- producing regular feature articles for media
- advertising in media
- producing videos
- statutory advocacy on all resource consents that have adverse effects on natural and historic resources and recreational values
- meeting regularly with all key associates and community organisations

See also
5.1.2 Treaty Partnership
5.3.5 Visitor Centres
5.3.6 Interpretation

Table 16: Key Communication and Liaison Priorities

Theme	Issue	Method	Results Sought	Place
Landowner/lessee liaison	Protection of indigenous biodiversity is dependent upon land managers' support and understanding of its significance	1. Regular meetings with Federated Farmers, Landcare groups, and other groups 2. Participation in field days 3. Conservation awards 4. Newsletters 5. Media articles 6. Resource kits 7. RM planning and negotiation 8. Tenure review	Commitment by more land managers to the protection of indigenous biodiversity on their properties	All places
Liaison with Ngāi Tahu, Conservation Boards, key associates, community and interest groups and affected parties	Mutual support on agreed objectives is important	1. Regular meetings, e.g. Christchurch, Timaru 2. Participation in departmental planning and policy processes 3. Liaison on submission (e.g. RM planning) 4. Sharing of information 5. Joint campaigns 6. Liaison with Fish and Game Councils. 7. Conservation Board involvement	1. Strengthened advocacy for conservation in external forums 2. Greater support for departmental priorities and policies	All places – Christchurch and Timaru in particular
Regional and district council liaison	To encourage council and ratepayer support through planning, council operations and public relations programmes	1. RMA advocacy 2. Input into annual plans and management plans 3. Regular meetings with councillors and staff 4. Information exchange 5. Joint programmes	Greater council and ratepayer commitment to conservation and sustainable management of resources	All places
Education Material	Lack of resource material for schools on key issues	1. Develop resource sheets and kits in conjunction with Head Office, other organisations and educators	Increase knowledge and understanding of natural and historic issues by students	All places
Campaign/Event focus	Need to focus DOC special events, e.g. Sea Week, Arbor Day, Conservation Week, and Motukarara Nursery Open Day	1. Provide an annual focus for events on issues such as indigenous biodiversity, visitor services and historic sites	1. Reinforce messages on key themes 2. Co-ordinate advocacy with other DOC work	All places