



Mātauranga Māori Project

New Zealand
Sea Lion



He mea whakarite nā Rauhina Scott - Fyfe

A black and white photograph of a colony of seals on a grassy field. One seal is sitting upright in the center, looking towards the camera. Several other seals are lying down in the foreground and middle ground. A bird is visible in the sky above the central seal. The text is overlaid on the image in a serif font.

Whakahao?

Whakahau?

Pakake?

Kaki?

Rāpoka?

Photo credit: Helena Dodge

Project background

- New Zealand Sea Lion Threat Management Plan (NZSL-TMP)
- Ngāi Tahu whānui's relationship to the NZ sea lion
- Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1987: taonga species
- Treaty Partnership - DOC, Ngāi Tahu whānui as 'active participants' in the management of taonga species

Project purpose

- To capture perspectives and mātauranga from Ngāi Tahu whānui surrounding the NZ sea lion
- To provide recommendations on how to integrate mātauranga into the workstreams of the NZSL-TMP
- To strengthen the relationship between Ngāi Tahu and DOC in relation to the management and kaitiakitanga of the NZ sea lion

1. Ngāi Tahu's relationship with the NZ sea lion

Gathering and capturing perspectives:

- Historical (archival, oral accounts, archaeological)
- Current (oral interviews)
- Adapted [COMAR model](#)
- Some of this mātauranga may not be appropriate to be shared further

Key questions:

- How does Ngāi Tahu whānui describe its kaitiaki relationship to the New Zealand sea lion?
- What would a 'self-sustaining' population of New Zealand sea lions look like?

Bilingual resources produced

2. Informing the New Zealand Sea Lion Threat Management Plan (NZSL-TMP)

Under the NZSL TMP Ngāi Tahu will be **active in the management and decision making** in relation to the enhancement of the species, to ensure the flax-roots knowledge and the Ngāi Tahu voice is heard. Officials will **work with whānau, hapū and iwi to develop the appropriate mechanisms to ensure kaitiakitanga responsibilities for rāpoka are met.** These mechanisms for ensuring iwi engagement will be **further developed at the local level** , with the associated rūnanga, ensuring the structure and function of the relationship matches the Treaty partnership needs.’
NZSL-TMP, p6

Recommendations in final report

3. Strengthening the relationship between DOC and Ngāi Tahu

Mechanisms for kaitiakitanga responsibilities within the NZSL -TMP:

- Allowing both parties to understand the **perspectives** and **aspirations** of Ngāi Tahu whānui in regard to the NZ sea lion
 - Education: community engagement, kōrero, resources, recommendations
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Proposed Outcomes:

- Project ‘products’:
 - bilingual resources available to the public
 - reflect the perspectives of Ngāi Tahu whānui
 - draft end of May 2019, final end of June 2019
- Community engagement (April-June 2019, ongoing)
- Report: specific recommendations for NZSL-TMP workstreams

How is a Mātauranga Māori project different?

- Opportunity to enhance outcomes - kaitiakitanga / kaitiakitaka
- Treaty partnership
- Movement towards integrating Mātauranga Māori with scientific research, practice, resource management in Aotearoa New Zealand

e.g. New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research, vol 52, 2018

- Considering: Intellectual Property, iwi/hapū/whānau dynamics, Māori worldview, cultural practices, rights to manage resources, etc.

He pātai? / Questions?