



MOTUTAPU
outdoor education camp

Motutapu Outdoor Education Camp Trust
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Charities Commission Reg. CC25572

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Department of Conservation
Concession Applications
Email: permissions@doc.govt.nz

Andrew Baucke
Director Operations
Department of Conservation

Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust Concession Application.

Dear Andrew and Concessions Officer

Thank you, Andrew for your letter of 24th August 2022 regarding the requirements and timelines for a Concession Application relating to the Motutapu Outdoor Education Camp which detailed this process and legal requirements for both for a new applicant and the incumbent.

This included acknowledgement of the DoC recommended engagement between Ngai Tai ki Tamaki (Ngai Tai) and the Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust (MOET) toward a Ngai Tai held Concession and MOU between them and the Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust for the operation of the facility. This proposes a model where MOET continues to deliver the services it has successfully for the past 23+ years. We have been proactive in this area and believe we are well advanced in achieving a very positive relationship with Ngai Tai.

Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki Trust and MOET have agreed in principle a Management Agreement under which MOET will operate the camp under the Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki Trust concession (once granted by DOC).

MOET has held the Concession AK 002 to operate the Motutapu Outdoor Education Camp (MOEC) at Administration Bay / Raupoiti, Motutapu Island since 1999 fulfilling all Concessional Obligations and delivering on DoC CMS, KPI's etc. This Concession expires on 30 June 2023.

This is an independent application by the Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust **specifically and only** to comply with / enabling section 17ZAA of the Conservation Act 1987 taking effect as you have advised, and to provide an interim arrangement pending the completion of the Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki Trust concession.

We have discussed a Joint Application with Ngai Tai however given numerous complexities beyond the actual concession this is not the preference of either party.

Continuity of operation is paramount to ensure ongoing viability of the camp. The past five and a half years have seen significant disruptions due to the floods of 2017 and 3 years of Covid 19. Further disruptions would have a significantly negative impact on the viability of the camp.

We have been advised Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Trust will shortly lodge a concession application for the MOEC site. MOET is a strong supporter of that application and the associated MOU which we have made you aware of.

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Trust and MOET have agreed in principle a MOU under which MOET will operate the camp under the Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki Trust held concession (once granted by DOC).

In terms of the health and safety procedures, extent and nature of programmes, client base offered by MOET at the camp, there will be substantial similarities to the current operation.

However, there will be some important changes which will significantly increase the focus on the cultural elements of the operation of the camp, and MOET the entity. This will include, among other things:

- cultural induction of all staff and trustees;
- educational and oversight training by Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki of the broader MOET team;
- a big focus on Matariki in the middle of the year;
- opportunities for more in-depth cultural programmes at the camp.

Andrew, the only reason MOET is making this interim application at this stage is being conscious of your caution to us in your letter of 24th August 2022. In that you said that if we, the incumbent concession holder did not lodge a concession application by the end of December 2022, that there would not be the opportunity to extend the operation of the camp beyond 30 June 2023. It is for this reason and this reason only that we are lodging this concession application. The particular part of your letter is referred to below:

I acknowledge your queries about the potential continuation of activities under the current concession beyond its expiry on 30 June 2023. Under section 17AA of the Conservation Act 1987, a concession may continue after expiry, but only if the concessionaire has applied for a new concession for the same activity at least six months before the existing concession expires. Under your current proposed operating model of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki applying for the new concession, this section would not be in effect,

Once the new concession is confirmed we will ask DOC to cease work on this concession application. We would then operate under the new concession and associated MOU once this is granted.

We have been in close communication with Rewa / Billy Brown of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki.

I have been advised the lodgement of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki concession is imminent.

For the avoidance of doubt, MOET is fully committed to the arrangements it has with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. MOET will operate the camp in accordance with its current Outdoors Mark and all other regulatory safety requirements under MOU to the concession holder and operating in terms of the requirements of that concession which DOC imposes as well as the cultural dimensions that will be agreed with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Ngā mihi



John Duthie
Chairperson